



Rise of the Dead

Stephen Knight

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A new miniseries set in the time of THE GATHERING DEAD!

The dead have risen, and all across the United States, cities are becoming hunting grounds. New York, Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles...all are falling victim to hordes of carnivorous corpses who want only one thing: to devour the living.

Single Tree, California is a small resort town in Inyo County. Between Los Angeles and Las Vegas, it's easy to overlook. And that's exactly what the citizens of Single Tree want, for the stenches and those fleeing them to ignore the town long enough for it to be transformed into a desert fortress at the foot of Mount Whitney.

But time is not on their side. Not only do they have to worry about the dead...they have to fear the living.

Rise of the Dead Details

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Author : Stephen Knight

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From Reader Review Rise of the Dead for online ebook

Jamie Eastman says

Not bad

we're off to a good start here, the only complaint I have is all the gun lingo, everyone in these types of books seems to know the names of every gun, and it seems to me that a regular joe isn't going to know that stuff, that and hopefully the next is longer.

Jaime says

Review coming soon!

Jessica Kong says

Stephen, you're killing me!

The Last Town by Stephen Knight is another example of a talented author. I have been a fan of Stephen since I read The Gathering Dead series. My only pet peeves is that his great stories are too short!

MJ Roark says

The beginning of the zombie apocalypse

The first page grabbed me, an hour and a half total read and you can not stop...on to book 2.

NightReader says

This is an intro to a serial, more than a "book".

Starts with a cop and a guy who ate his baby. Take the guy to a hospital that seems to know nothing about infectious disease control for the inevitable outcome. Add some rich people, a little town with a big airport and a lot more people who eat each other.

Then...see book 2, where presumably all of these people will make a stand against the zompocalypse.

Might bother, might not. Not the best, not the worst.

Rose says

A good start...

This first book in the series ends rather abruptly and just when things start to get hairy. Expect to get the second book to really get into the meat of this series.

Len White says

I don't really want to call it a short story because shorts do have an ending which this one doesn't. My fault for not looking closely enough in the first place to realize that this was not an entire novel, but rather a first installment of what will be a much longer piece. I already have part 2 so I will continue on; I just can say yet if I'll carry on all the way to the end.

It looks now that further parts of this series are not being given separate distinction from the overall title of 'The Last Town' since I've read parts 2 and 3 but don't find them listed on their own. I'm not a fan of serialization of novels ('The Green Mile' is one of my all time favorites but I waited until the parts were released as one novel) so I wish I had waited here as well. It's not bad or anything, and seems pretty typical of this author's work, so I'll stay with the 3 star rating for the 'series' overall.

Margaret Newton says

Best intro book

Really liked this book. Mr knight packed a lot of players in this short story. Ready for the next one.

Joyce Stokley says

Interesting

Like the way main characters are give background and the way the Apocalypse is starting a quick read but it is good

Marie says

Don't understand why authors are publishing 6 novella - short stories instead of ONE big book of 350 pages....

Hopefully I got the 6 books to read otherwise I'd miss a good zombie story.

Matthew Andrus says

Part 1 of Who Knows How Many West Coast Dead Stories

I'm a fan of Stephen Knight. Haven't read everything he's published but the majority of his zombie apocalypse stories are well written and highly entertaining.

The Last Town seems to take place in his shared universe asking with his other Waking Dead novels. It's a quick read with some pretty straight forward character introductions and world building.

Some of the other reviews are fairly negative due to the lack of completion. I think many are a bit unfair and have rated to low, however, Knight does end this story rather abruptly so I understand where their angst I'd coming from. Being the first act in a larger novel I'm sure the decision to end this where it does makes sense (and I've read enough Knight to trust him on this)

but without being able to read on it seems like a strange place to stop the narrative.

Overall I enjoyed the intro this story provided, and being from the west coast it was nice to see Knight's world ripping apart a familiar city with familiar people. Nothing against New York but L.A. being overrun by Zeds is more my cup of tea.

Four stars for a good start. Minus one star for the strange cut location.

Pam says

Talented author. Read through this first one and onto the next immediately. Lots of characters, yet good character development. The writing flows well. Good original take on the zombie apocalypse. Preparation ahead of time! Can't wait to see how this spins.

susan herrmann says

Last town #1

It's fast paced and I can't wait to see how all of the characters come together. I'm looking forward to the rest of the series

chucklesthescot says

When people see a two star rating they might think 'meh, she hated it'. Well in this case I think 2.5 would be a more accurate rating. I didn't dislike the book but I didn't love it either.

On the plus side, I thought the writer was obviously good at what he does. I had no issues with the way he

put the story together or with the actual plot. It is very much readable and if you were reading this in omnibus form, reading it in one sitting, I think the author had a good chance of drawing the reader into the story and getting us caught up in what is going to happen in this isolated little town.

However I'm sad to say that this author has decided to join the new trend of the serial novel, which as I reader I hate. Authors are chopping up what would be a full length novel into small chunks and expecting the reader to pay a fair whack for each small part. And once you start following it, you have no idea when it will end or how much overall it is going to cost. The other minus of a serial novel is that each part ends abruptly and by the time you get the next part, you've lost any effect or tension that the author has built up over the previous segment. That's why it can be hard to get into a serial novel. At least in a full novel you can get right into the story and just keep reading!

This 48 page offering basically just introduces what I expect are going to be the main characters: the grizzly marine vet who is a rich man and town bigshot, the female soldier who lost a leg in combat, the corporate rich boy and the jaded cop who wants to retire. We don't get much chance to meet Danielle, who I thought was the most interesting. We spend most time with the cop who is the least interesting because he is in denial about what is happening. When his own cops are telling him about zombies he refuses to believe them and his sarky put downs are quite annoying. Even when the military tell him the same, he won't believe it despite investigating one of the crimes. I do find that annoying.

There isn't really anything wrong with this...I just found it too short to get into. Had this been a full novel or decent sized novella I would have read on to see what happened but as it is in serial form I'm afraid I won't be carrying on with it. It's a pity because there could have been potential for this story if it was presented in a different manner.

NB: I might continue with it at a later date based on the other zombie series by the author that I'm reading now and enjoying. If *The Last Town* is released in omnibus form, I will read on.

Abbie says

Actual rating - 2.5

This started out okay, but unfortunately, it went downhill.

It wasn't awful, but it was full of info dumps, and a short read felt like a really long one.
