



## New Zed Order: Survive

*Todd Sprague*

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The dead have risen, and they are hungry. They are tough, they are lethal, and they are everywhere. Savage packs of the undead wander the world, feeding on the living. And they are getting stronger... In Brattleboro, Vermont, John Mason and his beautiful young wife Sara believe that family can survive anything. When the apocalypse arrives they pack food, clothing, and weapons, then hit the road with their dog seeking refuge in the mountains of John's youth. There John and Sara, together with family, friends, and neighbors, build a stronghold against the encroaching mass of the dead. The mindless walking dead are only the beginning of their troubles in this new, violent world. Something darker still is moving, and John, Sara, and the other survivors must unite and fight together or be torn apart by this New Zed Order.

## New Zed Order: Survive Details

Date : Published February 1st 2011 by Permuted Press (first published September 1st 2009)

ISBN : 9781934861691

Author : Todd Sprague

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## From Reader Review New Zed Order: Survive for online ebook

### **Matt says**

New Zed Order was a pretty good zombie novel. There wasn't anything new in it from other zombie novels i have read, but it was well written enough and was entertaining from beginning to end. I enjoyed reading about the characters and all the situations that they got into. The only thing that I would say against the book is that the main characters had abnormally good luck when it came to gaining supplies, but that's nothing really bad and didn't effect overall how i saw the book.

Overall great book. I look forward to a sequel if Todd Sprague ever gets around to writing one.

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### **Grep says**

Well, like in the movie Bad Santa when the kid opens up a window on his Advent Calendar, finds a candy corn and Billy Bob states, "They can't all be winners kid". Well, that advice reflects my feelings about this novel.

The characters are wooden, predictable and one dimensional. If this was even your first venture into the undead world of literature, I believe you would find yourself unimpressed. I found myself praying that the dogs would re-enter the story to bring a smile to my face, at least Mr. Sprague knows canine emotion and behavior.

John Mason just has no range, he ended up making me think that the author got too wrapped up reruns of American Dad and inserted Stan Smith into the story, since he is just so tough and can do no wrong. He is so awesome, that after he punches someone in the face repeatedly, the victim approaches him the next day and apologizes to him.

Naming guns and ammunition over and over and over again brought nothing to the table. Hey, I can open up a gun website and insert names of rifles and handguns into a book myself. How about the weight, the preferences, the accuracy, the "kick"? That is what I care about. I did go target shooting this weekend before I read this.

I knew I was in for a doozy when the main character's wife Sarah Mason took some time out of soaking in a hot tub, to get out to mix and bake brownies for John. Seriously?

I can only surmise that Sarah Mason embodies all that is perfect in woman to this author, high sex drive and the ability to throw kick-ass picnic parties.

Repetitive cookie-cutter kills of zombies are peppered throughout the book. How the hell did Sarah's brother become a some bad-ass Mad Max, samurai hero?

The Tom Clancy back-story of mysterious "camouflaged" men killing off John Mason's underground survival associates was just plain weak.

In the crowded genre of modern Zombie Survival tales, you just have to bring more to the table than a

predictable, unoriginal story with a half-assed suspense story.

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### **Tracy says**

Fun! I believe this is the first book in the Zombie genre I have read/listened as a stand alone.

Good character development interspersed with a nice amount of zombie action.

Nice book for fun, action packed few hours of escapism!

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### **Julian says**

Yawn... Very wooden characters, very predictable story line, a lot of the book filled with dull pages about characters spending time building fences, digging trenches, intermixed with the odd zombie horde attacking or a minor character getting picked off on a trip to the supermarket. Early on, one character gets bitten and immediately suicides but shooting himself in the head, all without a second thought. I know it is a little silly to be saying such a word in the context of a zombie book, but it wasn't realistic enough. It certainly was not deep or even that exciting. Again, I have said this before, but there are so many thrilling, scary, nail biting books in this genre to spend to much time on this one

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### **Laurie says**

Great zombie survival book. I love these types of books, and this one was good. Good characters, solid storyline, and interesting ending. The two main characters, John and Sarah, are a married couple; I do have to admit, their conversations were cloyingly sweet at times, but other than that, the dialogue between characters was really good. Definitely recommend this book for any zombie fiction lovers.

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### **Marla says**

This wasn't bad, but it was very predictable and left the reader hanging.

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### **Felicia A says**

Listing this here for the folks who are always looking for good zombie stuff. I read the original self published version, loved it, and ended up editing the Permuted Press re-release. It is available now on Amazon, and every zombie lover should pick up a copy. :-)

Here is my original review:

I LOVED this, August 10, 2010

By Felicia A. Sullivan

I finished this book in one day - found it hard to put down. Finally, someone has gotten it right. This one was GREAT. Good progression, good storylines, believeable characters (though not all of them were well developed), and plausible scenarios.

I LOVED how this group came together to survive. I love how John researched and planned and prepared and CARRIED OUT his plans, ensuring the survival of many of his own family and scores of others, strangers, who'd somehow survived.

I love his (actually Sprague's, of course) ideas about how to get things accomplished when the zombies really do come (heh). Some of his ideas were things that I had not thought of doing, but were great ideas and I need to hang onto that info for the inevitable zombie uprising. I'm not crazy, I'm just sayin'.

I cannot wait for the next installment of this. Loved it, and cannot recommend it enough.

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\*\*Edited 3/3/11: So....I wound up editing Permuted Press's edition of this book. Having read it now three times, I still would wholeheartedly and enthusiastically recommend this book to zombie lovers everywhere.

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### **Beth says**

Loved this book!! Am so looking forward to the sequel! You can see yourself in this family and facing these decisions, that's how realistic the emotions and actions are! Highly recommend to all!!

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### **Henrik Rostoft says**

A bit right wing, but otherwise a standard zombie novel, nothing new.

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### **Faye says**

Really loved this book , plenty of action. The apocalypse starts straight away with a bang and things quickly degenerate... In fact it takes under 72 hours for the world to end ! Plenty of world building and zombie gore to satisfy anyone's blood thirst. Little twist thrown into the mix as well. Hoping the second book will not be too long in coming.

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### **Eva Leger says**

When I first picked this up I didn't expect to like it, honestly I didn't expect to even finish it even though all of my friend Felicia's recommendations have been on point. The cover is hideous and that's saying it lightly and covers are somewhat important to me. So that was my first impression. The second impression (sometimes just as important as the first) was the obvious lack of editing. Another important factor in a book for me. One other "problem" (you'll see why the quotations are needed) was the amount of characters in the

beginning. I had trouble keeping them straight most of the time yet somehow, by the middle-late middle, when there were *more* characters I had everyone straight. I don't get that but it worked out so in the end it's all good.

So I started with two (three?) strikes against the book in my mind. Then, before I knew it, it was over and I was still breathing hard. When you read a zombie book and have to watch your breathing you know something was done right. There are some unanswered questions and even with books where I know another is coming this tends to bother me. It didn't here for some unknown reason. I can't figure that out either.

*Todd Sprague* is quite obviously talented. I have no doubt he'll be writing many more books and that they'll only get better and better with time. I'm definitely looking forward to the sequel for this and for me to say that speaks volumes since I'm in the midst of hating all series/sequels/prequels.

The main characters are such that you're sucked right in and rooting for them the entire time. John and his wife were a little too mushy for my taste, especially for what they were going through but that's almost too minor to even mention.

The editing mistakes aren't so bad that they glare up from every page so it can be worked around but I do sincerely hope the next one is edited.

\*\*Note - I'm not going to change my review but I did just look and see that his wife edited the book. And I feel like of bad now. But I'm sure Mrs. Sprague isn't an editor and that she did this for her husband for whatever reason which is admirable. Hopefully they'll decide to keep her creative input and not editing abilities for the next book.\*\*

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### **Mike says**

[ the hero and his whole extended family survived the initial onslaught of zombies. Really?!? Thirty plus people all survived. (hide spoiler)]

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### **Grammar\*Kitten says**

Finally - a zombie book that calls a zombie a zombie, pretty much straight away. This alone endeared me to the author and his work, just 10 pages into the fray. All too often novels seem to pretend that they are the first to come up with the idea, that the characters within it have never seen a zombie movie or read a zombie book. It was refreshing that this novel didn't even try for that - it said it how it is.

Action packed from the first few pages onwards, the novel is set in a conveniently gun-loving America, at the onset of a zombie outbreak. One family (give or take) holes up in Canada, hoping to be able to outlast the pandemic, however long it should last. Zombies ensue.

There were quite a few little themes I enjoyed in this novel - one being that enough people died. Proper, important characters. Unfortunately, the remaining living characters seemed to be a bit shallow, and didn't mourn the dead in a realistic way (even if they were occupied with Zeds at the time. You'd still mourn.).

The nice little nod to the 'love triumphs all' theme was good too - this is by no means a love story, but the love between John and his wife is pretty sweet, as is the 'survival of live and it's blossoming in a landscape of death' thing that was going on too.

Lastly.... (view spoiler) Need I say more?!

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### **Loopy says**

@ 47% Very similar to Joshua Guess' "Living with the dead" series but nowhere near as good. Having read the reviews that say it ends with a cliff hanger, I don't know if I'll bother slogging through the rest of this book ..... I just can't seem to care enough to continue, knowing that there will be lots of unanswered questions.

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Update:

I've read some great books recently and there are still a lot waiting to be read, so I've decided not to waste any more time on this one

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### **Felicia A says**

And actually would give it 4.5, but not quite 5 stars. I finished this book in one day - found it hard to put down. Finally, someone has gotten it right. This one was GREAT. Good progression, good storylines, believeable characters (though not all of them were well developed), and plausible scenarios.

I LOVED how this group came together to survive. I love how John researched and planned and prepared and CARRIED OUT his plans, ensuring the survival of many of his own family and scores of others, strangers, who'd somehow survived.

I love his (actually Sprague's, of course) ideas about how to get things accomplished when the zombies really do come (heh). Some of his ideas were things that I had not thought of doing, but were great ideas and I need to hang onto that info for the inevitable zombie uprising. I'm not crazy, I'm just sayin'.

I cannot wait for the next installment of this.

And sigh....now for the bad news. You guessed it. NEEDS AN EDITOR. Thankfully there were not the amount of mistakes that horribly take away from a story for me, but Mr. Sprague definitely needs to seek out the services of a good editor, or an anal friend (like me, LOL) to edit for him.

Loved it, though, and cannot recommend it enough.

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