



## Out of the Dark #1

*Claire C. Riley*

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**Out of the Dark #1** Claire C. Riley

We are temporary. Finite.

The choices we've made, the people we have loved. Who we used to be no longer matters.

Because now it is all about the ending. And the ending always comes too soon.

There's fear in the dark. And behind every drop of light, the shadows creep and the darkness comes in the form of clawing, red-eyed monsters. They hunt us—stalk us...they are desperate to destroy us.

But I have a reason to fight the darkness and everything in it. A small glimpse of light that lives within my golden-haired daughter, Lilly. She is my strength. She is my everything.

Every life is an untold story, each scene unfolding until the final act. But our ending has yet to be written, and I will continue to protect us, until I cannot.

AUTHOR NOTE: This book was previously titled Into the Light.

## Out of the Dark #1 Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : Claire C. Riley

Format :

Genre : Horror, Dark, Apocalyptic, Post Apocalyptic, Adult, Science Fiction, Dystopia



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## From Reader Review Out of the Dark #1 for online ebook

### K Dz says

Get your flashlight and candles ready. Claire takes you on an emotional roller coaster with this one. Monsters, love, hate, dark, light, and more. Lilly is a small girl that is found by "Mama", and together they survive the nights, the darkness that the monsters rule over and hunt in. Be prepared to experience every emotion possible while reading this one. Especially if you are a mother, it will hit you in the gut and stay with you for a long time.

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### Lo Bookfrantic says

#### **WATCH BLOG VIDEO TRAILER OF THIS BOOK ON OUR TOP READS MAY'S TOP READS TRAILER**

#### **5★★★★ Powerful & Emotional Ride Stars**

**Genre:** Post-Apocalypse/Paranormal

**Type:** Book 1 of Out Of The Dark/Into The Light Series

**POV:** First Person – Female

*"Death is chasing us down, and I can't let it win...The sun sleeps and the monsters come alive, stalking and chasing us through the night..I don't want to die."*

Once upon a time a woman finds herself happy with a husband and a lovely child but in a blink of an eye her life changes. Her loving husband becomes a monster; he gets the virus that is spreading and killing the entire world. The husband is now dangerous and kills their only child the woman has no choice but to save herself by killing the one she loved. There was a disease that evolved and infected more and more people until they infected the world, until no one was safe.

*"The end is inevitable. It is death, and one way or another, it will come for us."*

Out Of The Dark is an emotional, heart whelming, powerful story about a woman; a mother; fighting for survival when there is no hope. When she was finally given up and decided there was no one and nothing to live for anymore she finds a little angel. This woman finds her reason for living; her reason for being. A blonde child, with beautiful curls is hiding in a field of yellows, oranges, greens of sunflowers. This girl was LILLY; she was hiding from the monsters and this woman finds her and decides that she will LIVE for this

child; she will do anything in her power to keep this child alive even if deep inside she knew it was most likely impossible that they will survive this horror.

The days are not long enough when they need the light; the monsters only come out at night. They are loud, have red eyes, claws and are animals but in a human figure. In this dangerous life the only hope they have is to live one day at a time hoping that one day they'll find a safe place. Traveling on foot, finding whatever they can eat to survive and sometimes not even eating for days was a nightmare in itself but if they still could breathe there was still hope. They will find happiness on the simple things like water and vegetables and anything worth it.

***"I want to see this smile on her face every day for as long as I can. Because all we are left with at the end is a handful of memories to brighten the darkness."***

This book gutted me; broke me; it left me breathless. It was such an emotional, heart breaking roller coaster ride. The writing was incredible and phenomenal! I felt like I was this mother from the beginning to the end. The deep writing on this book was just an amazing ride and was just WOW. You will not find a love romance in this book but instead a love between a mother and a daughter during post-Apocalypse times. I promise once you read this book you will never forget it. It's taking everything I have to finish this review as for I have cried on every paragraph and quote I have written; the pain in my chest is so much and strong I don't think it will ever go away. I finished this book with lots of tears and knots in my throat and a stabbing pain in my chest. But I regret nothing, this book was amazing and now I am looking forward to reading book two as soon as it comes out.

F(BR) with Riley's Reads here on GR  
<https://www.goodreads.com/topic/show/...>

Book Series Order:

Purchase Links:  
Amazon US  
Amazon UK

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**Lauren R. says**

*I haven't read a book in this genre in a long time & boy why the heck have I not?*

*This book just totally gave me chills, unconditional love, the mystery of wanting to know what will happen next all in one.*

*Seriously, I sooo missed reading books that grab me into the world of paranormal unknown.*

*This story of a mother and daughter love of being there for one another thru a world domination of monsters and disease, I was captivated of how the authors story was soo descriptive and had "us" the readers feeling and seeing everything they went thru in this adventure of finding out whether they will survive or not.*

*Yes I did cry at points because the bond between mother and daughter was soo overwhelming beautifully written.*

*Go 1 click! It's a must read & get ready for Book#2!*

**\*\*ARC kindly provided by publisher in exchange for an honest review\*\*\***

**5 Cherries Popped**

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**Shannie says**

Omg ClaireBear! You did it again (duh lol) I couldn't stop reading. Such a beautiful & tragic story!! This needs to be a movie! I would be on the edge of my seat. Can't wait to read the next story in this series!!!

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**Betul says**

**\*\*Received ARC in exchange for an honest review\*\***

**"When the world went to hell, the planet rocked, reeling from the realization that such evil could live among us in plain sight."**

Out of the Dark is about a woman and a child that are trying to survive in a world filled with monsters. There is no food, no water and no protection. They only have each other and try to live to see another day. They survived because they had each other. They were each other's light! Out of the Dark is not your typical/traditional zombie/post-apocalyptic story, it is so much more and Claire has come up with a very

original story. The monsters in this book are very refreshing to read about.

**"Every breath feels like it is poison, the stench of the monsters hanging thick in the air, so much so that I can taste them in my mouth, on my tongue, bitter and vile and evil."**

I finished this book at 4:30AM, because I just couldn't put it down. This book wrecked me and turned me into a zombie because only one thing was on my mind and that was finishing this book. I was hooked and I couldn't do anything else. This book is everything! I was on one crazy emotional rollercoaster that I couldn't get enough of. It was like I was teleported into the book and I was one of the main characters. All the emotions the characters were feeling were REAL to me. I was on the edge of my chair from beginning to end. It was like I was dangling over a cliff and could fall any time.

**"Waiting, always waiting for them to fins us, to catch us, to kill us. Waiting. It's a cruel torture."**

This book was heartbreak, full of action, emotional and scary. This book was PERFECT. I needed so many tissues because I was crying my eyes out. Claire is a writing genius and knows perfectly how to touch the reader. I loved every word in this book and it has become one of my favorites this year. The ending was fitting and I am dying to know what will happen next. I NEED book #2 ASAP.

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### **A. Walters says**

This book needs to be a movie! One of the most exquisite stories of unconditional love, desperation, and survival I have ever read. Don't be scared to branch out and try a different kind of book with this one. You will be glad you did!!!!

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### **Gail says**

Where do you begin to review a book that has left you so emotionally drained? I felt as if I had been on an amusement park worth of rides after reading this book. I did the reading in two separate nights, all the while I did not know how I could read the next chapter, even though I also did not know how I could not. Every page, every paragraph, all I wanted to know was will they, could they survive this world, could they survive the monsters, could they survive each other. How do you have hope against what is growing inside of yourself every day. How do you love someone you know can be changing in to something that may be the end of you? You live in the light. You live for the light. You love and hope because that is all there is to keep you alive. Love. Maybe even a monster can love.

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### **Claire Riley says**

OUT NOW!

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## **For the Love of Books & Alcohol Blog says**

I think I may have actually squealed when this book showed up on my kindle. I honestly had no idea what it was about, but it didn't matter, it was from Claire. She is one of the best horror writers out there right now. This book, however, is also a love story.

A love so deep, so unconditional, so unselfish, that it made my heart hurt. It is the story of a mother's love for her child. Her sole reason for living is because of her daughter. Their world is completely horrifying, and there really is no reason for her to continue on other than to protect her. She is her reason for even breathing. The sacrifices that she makes for her are amazing.

Make no mistake; this is also a very scary book, actually one of the most intense books I've read in a long time. I was really terrified in some moments and had a tough time letting go of the story when I had to put it down. This book will suck you in from the first page and never let up until the last word. It is an intense ride, any time I thought I could breathe for one moment I was sadly mistaken. I actually felt like I was having chest pains at some points.

***"Waiting, always waiting for them to fins us, to catch us, to kill us. Waiting. It's a cruel torture."***

Claire's writing is unparalleled. Only she can deliver the most beautiful love story and one of the most terrifying at exactly the same time. I really can't do this book any justice. It needs to be read immediately. In a brightly lit room.

**5 stars and a bottle of whatever you have lying around ( you'll need it!)! Enjoy!**

## **Buy the Book!**

*Out of the Dark* - <http://amzn.to/1sAGfBA>

## **Other Books by Claire C. Riley**

*Odium (Dead Saga Book 1)* - <http://amzn.to/1TGqxhb>

*Odium II: The Dead Saga* - <http://amzn.to/1TLvgj7>

*Odium III: The Dead Saga* - <http://amzn.to/1U9dl1C>

*Limerence (The Obsession Series Book 1)* - <http://amzn.to/1TGqG4f>

*Limerence 2 (The Obsession Series)* - <http://amzn.to/1TLvzdy>

*Twisted Magic: The Witching Hour Collection (Raven's Cove Series Book 1)* - <http://amzn.to/1sAH11a>

### **Books by Claire C. Riley & Madeline Sheehan**

*Thicker Than Blood* - <http://amzn.to/1sAH39p>

*Beneath Blood and Bone (Thicker Than Blood 2)* - <http://amzn.to/20GfS8c>

*Shut Up & Kiss Me* - <http://amzn.to/1sAH2SV>

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### **Shantell Harmon says**

\*I received this kindle book for free in exchange for my honest review.

An interesting story about the power of love and survival. It was a fast read, very descriptive. I loved the ending and will be reading the next book in the series.

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### **Carol (StarAngel's Reviews) Allen says**

OK...so I have been waiting forever for Into The Light to be released...not knowing that Out Of The Dark was released last year as the first story to this series. What a doofus I am for not realizing this sooner and experiencing the emotional meltdown I just had in the past few hours.

Ms Riley is one of my favorite "one-click" authors and her stories all end up part of my "all time favorite" reads.

Well, Out Of The Dark definitely didn't let me down even though it fell a bit outside of Ms Riley's normal writings.

Oh, we still have the monsters and the horrors but add to that the unconditional love of a mother and a child trying to survive not only from the monsters but from themselves...I can't go deeper than that without giving away too much of the story...just trust me when I share that you will NOT be able to finish this book with dry eyes.

Absolutely captivating and "breath holding" delight.

Now...when is *Into The Light* being released?

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### **Becky Stephens says**

*Out of the Dark*, while a post-apocalyptic horror, is a very intimate love story. Not a typical love story though. This is the love story of a childless mother and a motherless child, one who is still willing to give unconditional love and protection, the other desperate to receive love and protection.

This duo, the main characters in the book--and nearly the only two characters in the book--journey toward living another day in the sun. They rely on each other so much so that it is inconceivable that they are not related by blood. It is immense love that keeps them together. As a parent, I understood that feeling of love, and the urge to protect. I felt it deep in my soul, and I only hope that I would sacrifice my own needs for my child--or any child--in the same situation.

With limited dialogue, we are in the main character's head almost constantly. And I didn't realize it until the end that I didn't even know her name. How could I get to know someone so well and not know her name?

We journey with "Mama" and Lilly as they desperately search for food and water and try to stay alive during the long nights when the monsters hunt them. While reading, I felt that these creatures made me think of those in *I Am Legend*, the Will Smith movie. I loved them in that movie, and here as well! And by love, I mean I am in awe of their creepy aggressiveness and frightening appearance. It's a love/hate relationship, really.

The main character tells another woman that "hope is what gets you killed," yet she finds herself hoping to find food. Hoping to see the light of another day. Hoping, hoping, hoping. Even though it pains her to do it, she realizes that hope seems to be the only thing left. That's sort of how I felt while reading this book. I wanted to hope for the best outcome for her and her Honeybee. Yet, as the creatures close in on them, it was hard to keep feeling that hope. Desperation clawed its way in, and I kept expecting to see her end their hunger and thirst, and their one-day-at-a-time lives.

I truly loved this story. And while I did have a moment where I cried in the cafeteria at work, hunched over my book and hiding my face so that others couldn't see my tears, I completely understand the ending. "Mama" protected Lilly until she couldn't. I can't wait to see what Riley as in store for us in Book 2!

I received this book for free in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

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## **San says**

This story is very different from many others I've read. Even though it's a post apocalyptic story within a vast world, it's very personal and intimate. Anyone who has a small child or someone they truly love in their lives this story will resonate with you in a very personal way.

The mother daughter dynamic in this is so pure. You feel the love, hope and protectiveness someone has for someone they love, that unconditional love.

It reminded me of my relationship with my four year old niece. I felt every moment of joy, the cuddles of protection, the hugs of hope, the laughing, the pain in your heart when you see they are sad and the worries for their future, all these emotions and more are felt throughout the journey in this story.

The story is so well written. You feel the darkness of the monsters within this very personal journey. A journey of a relationship fighting against the odds and continually surviving.

The ending is heartbreak but uplifting, it shows the true power of unconditional love and with that love you'll always stay in the light.

This is a must read. It will hit you hard but it'll remind you how powerful fighting for the ones you love really is. Read it, feel it and remember it!

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## **dreamerinexile says**

Inevitable 10 million stars for Mama and Lilly

Imagine a world without any humans, well almost, a world full of monsters. Monsters with black skin, red glowy eyes and razor sharp talons and teeth. Imagine them screeching and screaming in the dark, hunting for you the very human that is going extinct.

Now imagine that from the perspective of a tiny five or six year old girl. Imagine the terror, the fear, the cold sweat breaking out on her tiny little body. What would you do to protect this tiny human? Would you scavenge every town that you pass or walk through? Would you put yourself in front of danger just to save a tiny life? Imagine all that and more and that is what you discover when you read *Out of the Dark* by Claire C. Riley.

Words cannot express my emotions right now. I am yet again blown away by Claire C. Riley's mind. *Out of the Dark* was not what I expected and yet it was so much more. Yes, it is another story about a post-apocalyptic world where monsters take over everything but the one thing that makes it different from the rest, even one of Ms. Riley's books, was the tiny little bundle called Lilly and her brave and fierce, Mama.

Lilly and her Mama battle the evil that surrounds them with little to no help, because help means people and people means harm. No one can be trusted. Nowhere was safe. The dark is to be feared. And daylight was your only friend. They forge onwards without any food, water or protection, all they had was each other and Lilly's Mama loved her fiercely, she would turn the world upside down to keep her safe. As the story unfolds we find out more about the world that has become and why it became like that and then the truth about

people and the infection spreading and the inevitable truth completely wrecked me. My heart hurts and my soul was crying, I wanted to climb inside the book and give them the light.

This story was different but I loved the heartbreak isolation. I love her mother's fierce devotion, a love only someone who loves you unconditionally can give you. Lilly's mother's fear that she is failing her little girl. This story literally screamed every emotion known to man out of it.

I took my time reading it because I was incredibly fearful of the ending, I resisted going to the very end of the book and finding out what transpires in the end. I was dying to know yet I was scared about the truth. This book was the feels as I call it. Out of the Dark was not your typical Riley post-apoc story, it will have your emotions running amok, fear will grip your heart and make you breath catch and the ending will leave you lifeless and unable to comprehend the world that we live in. To say I loved this story would be an understatement.

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### **Jessica Austin Gudmundson says**

There are times in a reader's life when they know they've read That Book. The book that they will never forget, the book they know were they to read again, it would be just as devastating as the first time. This is one of those books for me. The relationship between the MCs, Mama and Lilly, is a real one, complicated, made of love, guilt, fierceness, and even cowardice. Beautiful and ugly with a string of Riley's feminist strength woven throughout. And the world she's placed them in is well thought out and scary AF.

These 2 characters, this book, (so well written) and Claire Riley personally reached in and took a piece of me and changed it. I cannot for a second imagine having to write and then read this over and over again. She's an amazing person. And this is an amazing story.

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