



Periphery

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There is an old Victorian house posing as an office in "The Burned-Over District." In that office, a giant, a waif, and a child wait for someone who can be shown the true nature of the world.

John is a man with a talent to see what is not there, or, at least, what was not there until that fateful day when a want-ad caught his eye and sent him into the depths of the woods... into the periphery. -- In a break in the trees above the street, a start to the sky, there is glowing in the aether. The sky is now a fading yellow as he watches the winged shapes perform delicate motions upon the horizon. He sees a singular bird amongst the flock, appearing more mammalian than avian. A bird falls to his right, bouncing slightly upon impact with the street. He looks disturbed as a black shape bounces stiffly on the sidewalk. Startled, he watches as another falls. His nerves run electric as yet another bird drops from the sky, and another, and another. It rains birds...

Periphery Details

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From Reader Review Periphery for online ebook

David Gurzynski says

Not a favorite, nor what i expected

I would have liked less poetry and metaphor and more story.. It was the phrase "Burned Over District" which attracted me and which appeared to have no connection at all with the mundane historical use of that term.

I'm sure some will like this and appreciate it for what it is, I did not. It was a real struggle to finish and i don't think i'll care to ever re-read it.

Maria says

Endearing debut novel filled with metaphor and symbolism

Martin says

This book will change you. You may question your sanity before the end, and you will certainly question the author's.

Periphery is a complicated book, but therein lays its charm. Alexx Bollen is a masterful wordsmith, and the prose of this story is surpassed only by its, sometimes very subtle, layering. The use of metaphor and the duality of, not only the language, but the very nature of this world, creates a compellingly weird drama with the central theme that all experience is dependent on the perspective of the observer.

Small orange plastic dinosaurs notwithstanding, there is much you can miss if you lack the correct vision.

Tara Sager says

A top notch first novel. Story is gripping and layered and I look forward to future readings and making new discoveries.

Rose says

I have read some really weird stories in my life but this one is the weirdest. I didn't even know how to rate it but I think 'I liked it' works. The writing style is unlike anything I've read before. It was disjointed and confusing, but beautiful at the same time. This isn't a book for everyone. In fact, I would say it's not a good fit for most but some will love it.

John stumbles across an ad for a job. When he goes to the office to apply, that's when things start getting strange. The office exists here in our perception normally but in the periphery, it is slightly different. This is like a different universe layered on ours but not really. It was complicated, hard to understand and even harder to explain. John ends up being drawn into a battle to fix a kind of rift in the world.

If you think of most writing as art, think of this story as an abstract.
