



GodBomb!

Kit Power

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Somebody wants answers.

North Devon, England. 1995. A born-again revival meeting in a public building. The usual mix of the faithful, the curious, and the desperate. And one other – an atheist suicide bomber. He's angry. He wants answers. And if God doesn't come and talk to him personally, he's going to kill everyone in the building...

GodBomb! Details

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From Reader Review GodBomb! for online ebook

Nev Murray says

A copy of GodBomb! was sent to Confessions of a Reviewer by the author Kit Power in exchange for an honest review. This is said review. This book is published by Sinister Horror Company.

OK so I know Kit Power. I worked with him for a while on another website, I have read two of his previous stories Lifeline and The Loving Husband and The Faithful Wife. He has also provided a guest review of a book on this very blog.

I am admitting this because there may be some people who would say I am only doing this review because I know him and think he is a top bloke. Totally untrue. He is a top bloke though! I am a reviewer first and foremost and I think most people who would follow my reviews know that the biggest thing for me when giving my thoughts on a book is honesty. Kit knows this more than most. He knows how I operate and knows that if I thought this book was pure crap, I would say so. By the way he has no idea what is in this review either so at this point in time he is as blind as you are reading it.

A preacher is conducting a Sunday morning service when a young man in the congregation stands and asks him simply, “Do you believe God is really real”. The preacher sees an opportunity to convert someone and bring him into the flock and asks the young man to come to the front.

When the young man approaches, something about his demeanour doesn’t seem right. What transpires from this point is a day spent locked inside a small community centre filled with sheer, unadulterated horror and terror for all involved.

It is a simple question. A simple answer should suffice.

And that, my friends, is all I am prepared to divulge from this story.

It's been a while but it's two for one review day.

Review One: Un-put-down-able! Even if it's £40 (or your currency equivalent), you must buy this book!

Review Two: I have been waiting on this coming out for a long, long time. After reading Mr Power's previous stuff, I was anxious to see if he could pull off the big one, his first full novel. By the gods, has he ever!

On reflection, I am struggling to put this book into an actual specific genre. I would call it horror, a thriller, a psychological horror, a psychological thriller or even an examination of the world's impressions of religion and the big question – does God actually exist. For myself it's an interesting question. Many close to me would know my own beliefs. I would say they aren't that far removed from the young man in this story. He is looking for undeniable proof of existence. A sign. Anything. This book, unfortunately giving today's society, is an example of what could possibly happen when someone, who is clearly deranged, asks the same question.

That is what makes it so terrifying.

Although there are about eighty people in the congregation in this story, we only have about ten main characters who you get to meet and live the horror with, through their eyes. There is of course the young man himself. You never learn his name. This adds a certain mystery to him. You also know nothing about his past. He flips between tears of sadness to moments of madness and sometimes you cannot quite follow whether he has the Cajones to follow through with his threats. He has moments of sweetness and moments of utter nastiness. You need to make your own mind up on him.

The other main people in this (named in a sort of cast list at the beginning of the book) are a mismatch of people from all walks of life. Deborah, a young woman in a wheelchair who, to me, doesn't really know her path in life. Chris, a nervous and slightly deranged young man who can never make his mind up whether to go it alone or be a sheep. Twitch, an alcoholic who really just needs his next fix. Katie, a sweet, young, innocent girl who grows up very quickly when she is thrown into situations that she never dreamed she would be part of. Alex, another young girl who seems to have the opinion that if anyone is going to put a stop to the madness, it will be her. Mike, a member of the church band who has more life experiences than probably anyone else in the congregation and seems prepared to team up with Alex to try and save the day. Finally we have Emma and Peter. Husband and wife, patiently waiting on the imminent birth of their first child.

The one thing that every one of these characters have in common? The way they are absolutely, beautifully written. They are all so different and yet all the same. You feel like you know them all as soon as you read their names. You can empathise with them. You can sympathise with them. You can love them. You can hate them. One minute you are on their side, the next, totally against them. They ebb and flow across the pages and you see so many different aspects of the story from so many different angles.

This is essentially a story of someone trying to prove a point. A point that there is ultimately no proof for. Or is there? Seeing the story through the eyes, and more importantly the minds of the people involved, you start to doubt whether it is just a ridiculous quest for answers or whether the proof may be forthcoming. Some things happen that are just inexplicable and make you question your own beliefs and what you have as your mind-set. Now for someone like me that is a huge thing to be able to do in a story. Let's face it, it's make believe so for a writer to be able to convince you that you are actually living in the moment, in the story, and to question yourself, that takes talent that not a lot of writers possess. To be able to trick the reader in this way is an extraordinary feat that has to be applauded in the biggest possible way.

There is one scene in this book where someone is dying. There is a bit of weirdness going on at the same time but the writing in this scene is sublime. You read it from the mind of the person who is dying. It is written in such a way that you share every single experience they are going through from their mixed up thoughts to the realisation that their body is shutting down and they are losing the fight. I quite honestly don't think I have ever read a death scene from the perspective of the dying person that has touched me so much, nearly to the point of tears, at what they were going through. It is both horrendous but beautifully serene.

There is a lot of horror in this. Horror of the mind. I'm slowly learning that this can be the worst kind. There is blood. There is death. You share in one of the most beautiful things that could ever happen to a human being. There are a lot of questions. Some you get the answers to and some that will remain unanswered for centuries. There is total devastation.

I could go on and on about this book for hours and hours but alas I want to keep you interested, not bore you to tears.

To summarise: Honestly? Just buy it. This is one you absolutely need to have on your shelf.

General rating:

★★★★★ A perfect debut novel.

Horror rating:

★★★★★ Perfect.

John says

Overall - 4.5 stars

Story - 4.5 stars

Narration - 4.5 stars

Exceptional and powerful! Religious insanity at its finest with an end that you need to think about.

The narrator spoke with an Scottish accent and it took some getting used to, but it was ok after a while.

Disclaimer - This book was given by the author, narrator, or publisher at no cost in exchange for an unbiased review.

Ginger Nuts says

As plots go, it's a deceptively basic one. In the summer of 1995, at a church 'revival' meeting in North Devon (though I was picturing Glasgow for some reason), an un-named young man separates himself from the congregation to approach the minister. It quickly becomes apparent - in fact, this is the purpose of the opening chapter - that this young man is very, very angry, and the source of his anger is that he wants God to appear before him, in order to prove himself. As an incentive, the young man has rigged himself a vest of explosives and states that if God does not prove himself, he'll detonate and kill everyone in the building. What follows is seen from the perspective of a diverse group of characters who have their own varying approaches to faith.

So far, so intense.

As a first novel - or certainly a début, I have no idea how many novels Kit may have written prior to this - it is certainly impressive, both in its aspirations and its execution (although I did have some minor issues with this, but we'll get to that). By restricting the 'action' to a set of limited perspectives - interspersed with the occasional 'overhead' view - we are kept constantly on the hop as to the 'true' nature of this potential suicide bomber; this is compounded by the subtly different interpretations each character has about this individual. It also puts us, essentially, in the audience as one of the helpless congregation. And this is one of the most interesting and impressive aspects to the book; each character is vividly drawn and distinct, with believable histories and consistent behaviours. I did feel that the exposition of some of these individuals was perhaps a

shade too long in places, especially at the beginning of the book, but this is a minor thing and may also have been exacerbated by a couple of personal issues I had when I started reading. You see, the book is written entirely in present tense and I have to say, I have real difficulties with this stylistic choice in a novel; this is a personal thing, by the way, and in no way am I marking the book down for it - simply saying that it needs to be a damned good story to get me fully past this. GodBomb! just about achieves this, though I did struggle a little in the early stages. Partly, this was also because the e-reader on my laptop was absolutely garbage, causing some formatting issues; chief among these was the insertion of a space between each paragraph, something I detest in books (the author assures me this is not how the final product will appear, so I can only rage at the deficiencies of Book Bazaar Reader). However, again, this is not a criticism as such and not the author's fault at all, simply an explanation for why it took me a few chapters to get into the rhythm of the story. What wasn't a formatting issue though, was the initial jump from one character to the next, following a similar template of one person being described with their internal third person voice, noticing another character and then the narrative jumping to that character. I felt that the book would have been better served had these chapters/sections been interspersed more with observances as to what the 'bomber' was up to, and indeed, this begins to happen as the book progresses.

However these are minor issues and I did find myself getting more caught up in the action as I passed the midway point. Part of this is the escalation of the terror - and the horror here is a very realistic one, rooted in similar events that we're peripherally aware of happening all over the world - and the reactions of the characters to this; part of it is the intriguing 'experiment' behind the antagonist's actions. There are also a few neat surprises which serve to keep the narrative from stagnating into the same repeating pattern. I would have liked to have had more in the vein of theological/political debate, but I accept that this isn't necessarily the point of the book. Despite the fact that the bomber is, in essence, a non-believer, and this is a situation that is not highly likely to occur (someone threatening death and violence in the absence of faith), I feel he really represents that anger that some people - believers and non-believers alike - experience with regards to a God that would seemingly allow a world to exist with the cruelty it does. Similarly, while it isn't a book railing against faith, it isn't advocating faith either. It is simply presenting a series of ideas and concepts, and allowing each individual character to arrive at their own personal interpretation of the world, which should give us, the reader, something to ponder. In effect, it's really about showing us that people can exist on different sides of a given divide and yet have similar fears and outlooks; and that empathy - or, at the very least, sympathy - should be a given, not something dependant on whether you 'relate' to someone else (this is something very close to my heart and thinking, especially where fiction is concerned). And it's also a pretty damn effective thriller/horror. In fact, coupled with the excellent design job that The Sinister Horror Company have done, I could easily see this sitting next to stuff by Christopher Brookmyre or early Ben Elton; it has a similar social/political undertone as their works, if not the sardonic, absurd humour. But hey, this book is all about the darkness.

And there are definitely some dark scenes - violence, death, the seedy desperation of human nature. There are also scenes of fragile beauty, of very human pain and suffering. In fact, it felt as though the book were more a series of short episodes, tied loosely with an overarching narrative; a narrative that I felt should have been just a shade more to the fore, a touch more authoritative with regards to the momentum of the novel. It's not a massive problem, it just brings the book down a couple of tiny notches for me.

Still, as I say, an impressive *début* and one which shows that Kit absolutely knows how to write. The sentence structure is superb, for the most part, and even a few awkward phrases here and there, and the slight overuse - in my view - of long, run-on sentences in block paragraphs, do little to diminish someone who clearly has a very good grasp of poetic prose and word choice.

So, whilst it's not quite up there in my estimation with the very best of works - and really, that's not a

criticism at all, very little is - it's still a solid piece of work which is ambitious and actually has a few things to say. I'll be very, very interested to see what Kit does next.

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Michael Hicks says

This one's a toughie for me to review. I guess I'll point out that three stars is a *good* rating, and according to Goodreads metrics it indicates that I liked the book, which is true enough, but I was also slightly let down in the end, which prevents me from going any higher than three stars. Little of this disappointment, though, has to do with the material or Kit Power, who proves himself to be a very capable author and one I plan on reading more of in the future. Rather, I think some of the disappointment stems from my own expectations and mood, and both of these issues are entirely on me. Your mileage may vary, certainly.

So, what does *GodBomb!* have to offer? A heck of lot of wonderfully realized characters with strong backgrounds, plenty of powerful and violent moments, a fair share of surprises, and a madman in a suicide vest. And while the mad bomber has taken over a church revival, demanding God to prove his existence, Power is blessedly not the religiously preachy sort (or at least not in print; I have no way of knowing his religious inclinations in real life, of course). If you're worried about this book being akin to those annoying folk pounding on your door in the early weekend hours trying to save your soul before you've even gotten in your first cup of coffee, fear not. Power isn't here to tell you how awesome god is or isn't, but he is here to tell a kick-ass story that often feels like a sucker punch.

Kit Power has a strong authorial voice, and in this audiobook his words are made all the more powerful by Scottish narrator Chris Barnes. This is my first outing with both of these gentlemen, and I'm already eager to see what other works they have. Barnes has a thick, charming brogue that serves this story well, set in the UK circa 1995 before pesky cell phones were everywhere, and listening to him was a delight. There's a wonderful synchronicity at work between author and narrator here, with the words lulling you in before delivering some mighty powerful action sequences. I might have to give this another listen over a pint or two, because, under Barnes' narration, it just seems like that kind of audiobook.

Any complaints I have about the material are purely subjective and largely emotional, so take this with a grain of salt. *GodBomb!* is dark; like, seriously dark. There's a lot of misery going on in this book and when those few moments of hopefulness shine through, Power stuffs it in a burlap sack and beats the ever living shit out of it. I certainly have no problem with dark fiction, but because of personal reasons I also was not perhaps in the best mindset to explore this work. I needed a sliver of goodness and maybe even a dash of sunshine and hope after all the real-life darkness, and I wasn't able to find that here. Power puts his characters through plenty of nasty trials and tribulations, which is fine but I needed something a little less gloomy and chaotic. Again, purely subjective and all on me.

I just wasn't in the right frame of mind for this book. Wrong place, wrong time sort of stuff (a predicament the characters within this book can relate to, I'm sure, albeit with far less sympathy for me than I had for them). I certainly understand why it's gotten so much praise from various corners, and it is definitely a powerful work of fiction. But, at the moment, it feels like a "it's not you, it's me" kind of book. I do believe, though, that this is a work I need to return to in the future, with expectations firmly in check and my head set bit more rightly than it currently is. Again, possibly, with a pint or two...

I received a complimentary copy of this audiobook from the author, who is sponsoring the January 2017 promotional group read/listen over at Horror Aficionados.

Ctgt says

Many thanks to the author for providing a free copy of his book.

An interesting premise, a young man walks in to a small church service with a suicide vest strapped to his chest demanding answers from God. Is he mentally unstable? Flat out evil just looking to take lives? Or is there another unseen angle here? What appears to be a fairly obvious motive at the beginning slowly morphs and changes as the story unfolds. We jump around multiple POVs within the group to discover various levels of personal belief and or skepticism as the author explores the many possible shades of faith. Now before some of you go running through the streets, hands in the air, screaming "no religion in my books" just let me say this isn't a "religious-come to Jesus" book. It's just a story about what might happen to people of varying degrees of religious belief-or no belief when confronted with a stress filled situation.

Oh and there are several twists that add a nice bit of spice to the story. And the ending? Didn't see that coming so I was pleasantly surprised.

7/10

Marvin says

Have you ever started reading a fictional suspense novel and the world slaps you in the face with reality?

That is what happened when I started reading *GodBomb!* by Kit Power. The novel, which I picked up due to a rave review by a friend despite what to me seemed to be a turn-off title, occurs in the year 1995 in a North Devon church during a evangelical revival meeting. A young man steps up to the pulpit to testify and reveals he is wearing a bomb. In the next few hours, he wants to talk to God and have God talk to him. The people in the audience need to pray to make this happen or he will detonate the bomb, killing not only himself but the more than 70 people in the church.

Power's novel got to me in the first few pages, It is the epitome of a page turner as we meet the people in the audience and watch them confront this mad suicidal seeker who hold their lives literally in his hands holding down the red button that, if released, will unleash the blast. But I was listening to the news in the background that day while reading. "Breaking News: Gunman kills nine in Oregon college shooting." It was later reported even though the details are still somewhat vague, that the shooter asked his victims if they were Christians and then shot them. It was also reported that he stated before shooting them, "I will see you soon". Whether the accounts were totally accurate is moot. What it does tells us is that the shooter, while obviously mentally ill, was also a confused and troubled man burdened by his own hatred and doubt. He was so caught up in his own suffering that he was cold and heartless to the suffering of others, just like the protagonist in *GodBomb!*. It is too easy to label one a sociopath in each rather sterile times yet I am not sure that explains much. Is the protagonist in *GodBomb!* a sociopath? That will be for the reader to decide.

The news troubled me so much that I had to delay reading any more of *GodBomb!*. When I picked it up a day

or two later I started over, knowing this book was no longer just a thriller. I also quickly realized that Kit Power clearly didn't think of it as just a thriller either. The novel's unnamed protagonist is also a man with deep questions and a perverted and sinister way to get the answers. The characters in the captive audience all have their own questions and issues. We learn about them through their thoughts, interaction and responses that ranges from brave to cowardly and everywhere in-between. The unnamed bomber's question to some, "Did God speak to you?" becomes a terrifying mantra with varying replies and results. The main characters that interact with the bomber equal about seven or eight yet they are in essence the representatives of the entire audience and their fears.

Power walks a tightrope in these pages. The problem is that the story can be bogged down in biases and assumptions. It can easily turn into a propaganda piece for either the believer or the unbeliever. The author deftly avoids this. We are caught up not in finding the answers but in how the characters react and survive while being placed in a life and death situation involving an unanswerable question. It occurred to me that we are already in that dilemma. We struggle overtly or covertly with the question of Life's meaning. We wait calmly for some, but in anxiety, fear, and chaos for others, for the point where our own bomb explodes and we may decide on our answer at that time or perhaps after that time. All the author is really doing is placing that existential dilemma in a nutshell of a few hours.

One of the things that intrigued me was Power's setting of 1995. This was before the Dunbane school shooting that had the result of banning most guns in England. The U.K. does not have the dubious honor of regular mass shootings. I couldn't help thinking if this is why the author appears to have what I would call a healthy detachment to this story's events. I would think an American writer might be to tempted to lean into either political or religious meanderings. Powers resists these traps and his tale is better and more powerful without them. It is a suspense thriller and an damn excellent one. But it is also a story of seekers and their emotions and of the challenges of birth, life and death. It may be one of the most powerful novels you will read all year.

The Behrg says

I'm going to separate my high-level from my low-brow thoughts on this book with two sentences. First, the former: GodBomb packs one hell of a heavenly punch, delivering apocalyptic fun (without the apocalypse) in an intricately woven setting.

And now, the latter: Reading (or listening) to GodBomb is like getting emotionally punched in the gnads over and over, then nodding, smiling, and asking for more.

If you really need more than that, God help you.

Okay, so the beauty of this little gem begins with the simplicity of its premise -- a potential suicide bomber drops in on a church revival, demanding to speak with God or else, you know, ka-boom. Believers, doubters, sinners and saints; they're all trapped together, and as soon as you think you know where the story's going, Power turns things on its head for a course correction.

Despite it's seemingly action-packed premise, this is a character-driven story at its heart, and we dive-bomb into several different point-of-views of many of the characters inhabiting this church. I have to admit I often wondered if the proof our bomber was searching for wasn't found in the omniscient point-of-view of the narrator, taking a "God-like" role in jumping into so many "souls" rather than telling the story from one

person's perspective. While this was certainly part of the book's charm, I also felt at times this turned the story into more of a stage play, with little asides and micro-scenes set apart from the rest of the narrative. While many of these moments were some of my favorite and extremely emotionally charged, I couldn't help from wondering what the rest of this large crowd was doing while some of these played out. A few of these scenes, in particular, I couldn't imagine people just sitting by and casually observing.

Like some of the best fiction, this novel isn't about the answers, it's about the questions, and from its quick opening to its powerful conclusion, there are plenty of questions to be discovered for believers or non-believers alike.

Much thanks to the author who kindly offered a free copy of the audible version of his book, this in no way influenced my thoughts or review.

Bill says

**I received an audio copy of this work from the author in exchange for an honest review. This is it.*

This was not my first audiobook by narrator Chris Barnes, having listened to the first two in the High Moor series. The dude definitely has some chops and is a hell of a narrator. I must admit though, it took a few minutes for his thick Scottish accent to settle with me on this one, but once it did, I couldn't picture it any other way. Very well done.

As for the story itself, GodBomb! by Kit Power is an extremely engaging and well written, edge of your seat thriller that packs quite a punch. The characters are fleshed out extremely well and there is a palpable building sense of dread right up until the satisfying conclusion. A very good debut novel from an obviously up and coming author. I have a feeling I will be thinking about this one for a while. Highly Recommended!

Benoit Lelièvre says

My second run at Kit Power's fiction left me divided again: the closed door concept is interesting, yet feels a little gimmicky and, perhaps the only "major" problem the novel has, the antagonist feels like a little bit of an empty gun. He's got a bomb, he's threatening to blow the helpless believers into oblivion, but we know he's not going to do it until the very end because there wouldn't be any story otherwise. So, GODBOMB! has an artificial drama problem.

What I liked, though. What I was pleasantly surprised with was the philosophical debate orchestrated by Kit Power. Enough to get a kick out of it even. The antagonist (the atheist bomber) was an interesting problem of its own, asking for a face to face discussion with God (the personal relationship born again Christians refer to), and really demanding things that are the antithesis of faith demanded by religion. I thought Power handled the "divine intervention" really well too, in a way that reminded me somewhat of Paul Thomas Anderson's The Master.

I liked GODBOMB! It had some structural issues, but it was a terrific improvement from Power's first publication LIFELINE. Not exactly the horror novel it claims to be. It's more of an existential thriller, but if

you like your reads more on the philosophical side, you might want to consider this one.

Steve says

I was provided this audiobook at no charge by the author in exchange for an unbiased review via Audiobook Blast.

4 stars: 4 stars for the writing, 4 stars for the narration.

I was surprised by this book, and I am happy that I bought it (in addition to receiving the Audible edition from the author last week, I purchased it through Kindle First a few months back). This book “reads” a lot faster than the number pages indicates; there is an emotional roller coaster crammed into this book. It will grab hold of your attention and your heart, refusing to let go until the very end.

The subject is extremely difficult: A young man, lost, desperate for answers, and desperate to hear God's voice, turns violently on a church congregation. As the story progresses, the author creates unexpectedly well-developed characters, all of whom have a vital part to play in this tragic story.

The story also has a level of technical difficulty, as he changes perspective with each chapter, from the troubled young man, to a heroin addict, to the pastor, to a woman in labor, to a crippled woman, and many more. The potential to confuse and frustrate the reader is very high, but he accomplishes this feat like a master. The pacing is brilliant, and it oftentimes felt like a stage play. This narrative technique was incredibly effective at highlighting all of the perspectives as the story progressed in the small sanctuary.

I also appreciated the use of the Books of the Bible as chapter titles, using the main topics of those books as a way to declare a "topic" for each chapter. It was a good exercise for me in trying to follow his train of thought, since I'm head deacon at my church, and I preach every Sunday afternoon at an assisted living facility. I would say without a doubt that this is NOT a Christian book, but even still, the topics addressed are inherently Christian in nature. I did read some reviews that took it that way, and some of those readers were "offended" by that.

The narration by Chris Barnes did take some getting used to. Lately, I've been listening to audiobooks set in and around London, England, with English narrators. This story is set in North Devon, England, and the accents are much different there, much thicker, which the narrator expertly captures. It did take me about a half hour or so to understand it well enough to keep moving forward without having to rewind or slow down. Overall, he did an outstanding job, and I was able to tell who was talking/thinking without any trouble whatsoever.

If you like debating the theological argument of whether God hears (and responds) to prayer, if you like good, solid writing and character building, or if you like a good, well-written book, then check this one out!

Frank Errington says

Review copy

Kit Power lives in the UK and writes fiction that lurks at the boundaries of the horror, fantasy, and thriller genres, trying to bum a smoke or hitch a ride from the unwary.

In his secret alter ego of Kit Gonzo, he also performs as front man (and occasionally blogs) for death cult and popular beat combo The Disciples Of Gonzo, www.disciplesofgonzo.com.

I've been lucky enough to be reading Kit for a couple of years now. Admittedly, I have not always given him the most positive of reviews, but he's always been gracious and has continued to work diligently on his craft. I have to say his perseverance has paid off.

I think I've just read the best book I'm likely to read in 2015. *Godbomb!* is that good. No, not just good. It's great. Kit has written a story that takes the reader into the heart of the kind of story we see every day on the news. The kind of story that leaves us shaking our heads at how crazy this world we live in has become.

The story takes place in North Devon, England. 1995. A born-again revival meeting in a public building. The usual mix of the faithful, the curious, and the desperate. And one other – an atheist suicide bomber. He's angry. He wants answers. And if God doesn't come and talk to him personally, he's going to kill everyone in the building.

I found *Godbomb!* to be a totally engrossing read from the very first word. The more I read, the more I thought to myself how I'd love to see this on the stage. In a way, this book even reads a bit like a play with several key players playing major roles. Aside from the suicide bomber and his accomplice, there's a disabled woman, an alcoholic, a dirty old man, a sax player, a sixteen-year-old girl, a woman ready to give birth any day, and each one plays a major role.

This can easily be a career defining book for Kit Power. It's a book I think everyone should read, just so you can say you were among the first.

Godbomb! is available now in both paperback and e-book from the Sinister Horror Company. If you subscribe to Kindle Unlimited, you're in luck as you can read this one at no additional charge. Also, if you have Amazon Prime you can read it for FREE as your monthly selection in the Kindle Owners Lending Library.

If you only ever read one book I recommend, make *Godbomb!* the one.

Eat.Sleep.Lift.Read. says

A good read but something didn't quite click with me on this one.

My take on this yarn - it's about decisions people make under a high pressure (life or death) situation; the setting in the church and thus the 'religion' sit backseat and never encroach on the main theme.

Kit builds the tension well and has some excellent characterization. In a few pages, he fleshes out characters that would take some writers a few hundred. A good writer, no denying that. And this is a good book: visceral, edgy and in your face. I dig all those appurtenances.

But, some of the motivations of the characters didn't sit right with me. Especially the last scene. Maybe I missed a subtle reference or caveat, but. .No. For me, it did not work.

Maxine (Booklover Catlady) says

I have had to take 24 hours to write this review, simply because if I did it yesterday after reading it cover to cover in just under 3 hours all it would say is **OMG! You HAVE to read this book if it's the last thing you ever do!**, on repeat. Yes. I am going to RAVE about this one so get ready.

Kit Power's book **GodBomb!** launches today, Monday 28th September 2015 and I was lucky enough to get an ARC and get a peek at it before the masses. I was not disappointed. I had waited for months for a book that engaged me from the first sentence, stole me away, kept me on edge and spat me out the other side wondering what on earth I had just been through. I literally did nothing else but read this book on a Sunday afternoon, took me just under 3 hours to finish it. Captivating is an understatement.

I have got to share the synopsis with you in case you missed it, I read this and knew I had to get my hands on this book no matter what!

Somebody wants answers.

North Devon, England. 1995. A born-again revival meeting in a public building. The usual mix of the faithful, the curious, and the desperate. And one other – an atheist suicide bomber. He's angry. He wants answers. And if God doesn't come and talk to him personally, he's going to kill everyone in the building...

So I started reading and pretty soon this was me:

I found I was holding my breath at one point, never a good idea. So you are getting the picture now that **I LOVED this book.** The plot is just brilliant and what makes this book so clever is that Kit tells the story from the perspective of 10 different people in the church going through the drama, each one having their own perspective on things, there is even a very easy list of who each of the main players are in the front of the book which I found to be brilliant for immediately picturing the characters clearly and knowing where they were coming from. Simplistic genius.

Nobody is leaving the building alive until God speaks to the suicide bomber, he is willing and ready to blow them all up sky high into small particles of flesh and bone, or even really big chunks of flesh and bone. The big question is whether God is going to turn up and speak or not. This is not a book full of Atheist propaganda either, I have to make that really clear. I am a Christian, I used to be very active in church so don't let your own religious perspective put you off this one.

It's so easy to read, yet is a complex book in so much as the deep issues it tackles. There are some scenes in this book that *simply took my breath away* including a scene where a person is dying and the book is sharing with us what they are seeing/sensing as she departs this lifetime. It is my favourite scene, it's so powerful and

emotive I think many might shed a tear.

Our antagonist is brilliantly written, just when you think you have this suicidal bomber lunatic all worked out he does something that just flips you on your head and you have moments of "what the?.. a LOT. A character I loved to hate and hated to love. You have to read it to see what I mean.

I loved being in the head of all of the characters, it was so engaging to be able to see the same situation from so many angles, and each character was tangible and realistic which is important, not for a second did I think that this scenario would never happen somewhere or was over the top and that in itself is kind of scary.

I can't even get this review to do the book justice. This book is certainly in my **Top 5 reads of 2015** and once I let the dust settle that I whirled up flicking the pages at high speed yesterday and reflect back on 2015 at the end of this year this one may very well get pride of place as my Top Read of 2015. It just blew my mind and tested it at the same time whilst entertaining me with every single word.

Kit has written horror shorts before, but this is not a traditional pure horror book despite the entire scenario being horrific, it's hard to put in a genre but it's a mix of thriller, psychological thriller and more. It's readable by anyone who just likes a darn good read. For a debut novel the concept, the delivery and the emotion in this book is just a cut above. **Kit Power IS an author to watch and I for one am hoping this book climbs the charts.** Some people are just born to write, Kit is one of them. GodBomb! exceeded all expectations even though I had read some early reviews of it from friends in the reviewing community that also raved about it.

A quick mention of how it ends. I can't tell you obviously but it left me spending quite some time contemplating both the final outcome and the events that went before. It's an ending that each reader may take away something different from and if you read this book I would love to hear your take on things.

The characters in this book will stay with me like friends for a long time, unforgettable people. Some of the scenes in this book will stay with me FOREVER as all-time favourite book moments. Oh, and please can one of the TV stations pick this up and make it into a British mini-series? It's primed for it.

Buy it, read it, review it and tell me what you think. GodBomb! blew me away (pun intended) and gets 6 out of 5 paw prints from me, the Booklover Catlady. Thank you Kit for giving me my first read in a long while that I got lost in from start to finish, the world just stopped.

To follow my reviews: <https://www.facebook.com/BookloverCat...>

To follow me on Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/promotethatbook>

Thank you to Kit Power for providing me with an ARC of his novel in exchange for a fair and honest review. It was so good I've bought the paperback to keep.

Edward Lorn says

Exceptional. Far beyond all expectations I might have had regarding quality. I know most of my friends have given this novel high praise (that's how I came to read it), so I was expecting it to be good, but the writing herein is well above your average small-press or indie author. I'd even risk saying that Kit Power is one of the best writers working today, at any level of publishing. I'd have to read more of him, of course, but right now, I'm very impressed.

What Kit Power was able to accomplish with character development in such a short period of time matches the skills of Stephen King and Herman Koch. Power is not afraid to look deep into the hearts and minds of those he writes about. While the book reminded me a small bit of one of King's early novels, his Bachman book *Rage*, *GodBomb* stands on its own legs. I would even say that Power's novel is better than *Rage* and *Rage* is one of my favorite Stephen King books.

The ending was the highlight of the book for me. Those who know me will understand why. I don't want to give even the subtlest of hints, because, while it's not necessarily a twist ending, it did shock me. I thought for sure we were headed one way, and Power took me a completely different direction. I can't say whether or not you'll be shocked, but that was my experience.

Being a opioid junkie of ole, I especially liked Mike's history. I did heroin in the late 90s and early 2000s, before I met my wife and managed to kick the illegal stuff, and currently am what they call a "functioning addict" because of my need for high-dose narcotic pain medicine due to a chronic back condition. I'm not sure if Kit Powers ever chased the dragon, but he sure nailed the character of Mike. Bravo.

I don't know nor will I theorize about Power's religious beliefs, or if he has any at all, but I believed that his characters were devout. If he's not a practicing Christian, I commend him for making these characters believable. It's hard to be respectful of characters with this level of faith if you're not a believer yourself. I know how hard that is. I ran into problems while writing one of my books, trying to make a Christian woman believable while keeping her from feeling overly silly. It's a testament to the power of this book that I found it so engaging when in reality I hate religion of any form. I don't mind religious people as long as they don't try to convert me every time we see each other, but I do hate the gimme-gimme structure of Christianity.

"Lord, please let my sports team win the big game."

"Lord, please let me win the lottery."

"Lord, gimme, gimme, Amen!"

Oh, and I can't forget the pastors and preachers of the world. But their gimme-gimme is called tithing. Then they can be like Joel Osteen in his million dollar mansion and say "These are just blessings! God is GOOD!" When translated, that statement reads "My congregation is GULLIBLE! Praise the Almighty Dollar!"

I've lost some of you, and that's okay. That means you won't be around for me to offend later. If you're still here, high five. Good job thinking for yourselves. *smooches*

In summation: Kit Power is a talented dude. While he reminds of the best, he's definitely got his own style. A style I image will be a pleasure to read for years to come.

Final Judgment: What a blast!

Kindle Unlimited Money Saved: \$31.93

Quality of books: \$6.98

Bill says

First of all, this is probably the most ridiculous title/cover I've seen on a book, and it just smacks of a suggestion of primary grade writing.

Not so. I've never heard of Kit Power before but the man can write. This is a very polished 190 page tale of a man who shows up at a Christian revival wearing a suicide vest, and demands proof of God's existence. If it's not delivered, well, he'll blow everyone to smithereens and they'll all find out together one way or another. What a premise, and the story unfolds with enough suspense to warrant a single sitting.

This is a novel I would never have heard of if not for my Goodreads friends. This is a great thing because otherwise some authors would struggle to get exposure. I'm glad this is happening for this book which deserves to be read as much as any bestseller out there.

I did enjoy this quite a bit, and, stuck reading rut, it was nice to read something short and engaging to help get me out of it.

Having said that, I have issues with this bit:

(view spoiler)

I'm all about realistic reactions and motivations by characters, so little things like that will get to me.

Other than that, I enjoyed a lot of this and it's certainly worth the read. GODBOMB!
