



Zombie Tales from Dead Worlds

Rhiannon Frater

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...ZOMBIES, INFECTED, DEADERS, BLIGHTERS...

Zombie Tales from Undead Worlds contains three exhilarating short stories and three white-knuckle novelettes set in alternate versions of an Earth inhabited with frightening variants of zombies to haunt your waking hours and fill your nightmares.

In The Blanket, a little boy hides as the end of the world enters his home...

In The Scavengers, two unique survivors struggle to carve out a life for themselves while being threatened by the most frightful beings of all: humanity...

In The Building, a teenage girl lives in a walled-in neighborhood and hopes to escape to the luxury of the high-rise apartment building that towers over it. But to reach it, she must risk the Deaders that roam the streets...

In The Necromancer, a Cleric must deal with hordes of the destructive undead as they threaten a settlement in a futuristic world... (prequel to The Hidden Necromancer series)

In The Race, seven friends scramble to reach the safe zone while evading the dangers of the murderous Blighters and each other...

In The False Start, a young couple is torn apart as the undead plague begins to take hold of Austin, Texas...

Zombie Tales from Dead Worlds Details

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Author : Rhiannon Frater

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From Reader Review Zombie Tales from Dead Worlds for online ebook

Abbie says

Actual rating - 3.25

This was an okay collection of short stories, but a couple of them bored me.

The most enjoyable one in the collection for me was the race, and the least enjoyable one was the necromancer.

Elisa says

This little book of zombie shorts was really great. All very different with extremely different characters. Lots of fun. I liked them all.

AH says

10/31/15 - Kindle free download.

Lindsay says

Just... *sob*

Rhiannon Frater has created a series of stories that are so emotionally charged and heartbreakingly real, they left me reeling for days. I'm harboring a lot of resentment, for all that that condensed death. In short stories like this, there isn't time for hope and happiness. Just lots and lots of zombies and death. And yet... Rhiannon also manages to create full worlds, complete story lines and robust characters in such a small number of pages.

I don't usually read short stories. I don't know if it's because they usually end on a cliffhanger, or if it's because it's only enough to whet my appetite. In either case, I made a special exception just for Rhiannon. I have always been a huge fan of her work, but now I can be described as a DIE HARD fan!! You can tell that when she writes a story, she does it for herself. It comes from somewhere deep inside, and no matter what, she stays true to her vision. Rhiannon's stories invoke such a visceral reaction in me. I am reduced to base emotions; love, hate, fear.

The series starts off with the shortest story, The Blanket, and it perfectly sets the tone for the book. The Scavengers was probably the cheeriest of the bunch. The Building is the one that will keep me awake at night, haunting even my waking hours. The Necromancer was, by far, my favorite! It has such a complete world and I wish desperately that there was more to that story! The Race is dripping with poetic irony, and

the book wraps up with The False Start which has connections to other stories in Rhiannon's library, which I am now desperate to dig into.

For Frater fans, for zombie fans, or just someone looking for a good scare, I can't recommend this collection of zombie short stories enough.

A copy of this book was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Erin Hayes says

I had the pleasure of beta reading this collection of zombie tales, and I wasn't disappointed. Rhiannon Frater has managed to examine zombies from six wholly different angles. As a reader, it keeps you interested in what's next, because none of these stories are the same. Some are so...intense...I had to step away because it leaves you so shaken. Fans of Frater's previous books know she's not afraid to "go there" when it comes to her characters, and this book is no exception.

The zombies themselves are different across these six visions of the apocalypse. It's interesting to see their differences and see how scary they are.

While it's hard to choose a favorite because the stories are so different, my favorite out of this collection was The Necromancer. Frater had previously combined zombies and science fiction in the awesome The Last Bastion of the Living - she combines zombies and fantasy for an entirely imaginative take on zombies. And it's awesome.

Any one of these stories will whet your appetite for a good ole brain-eatin' time, although be prepared. A huge five stars from me.

Mary says

Zombie Tales from Dead Worlds is the best set of zombie short stories / novellas that I've read. In most collections, you get some great ones, some that are okay and others that are just plain stinkers. Not so with Zombie Tales. Every story is unique and each one is a winner.

"The Blanket" - 5/5 stars - a little boy hiding during a zombie attack. A great start to the book. I was left with one word: "Whoa"!

"The Scavengers" - 5/5 stars - such a different take on the zombie story. What is a zombie? Do they have feelings? Can they be a part of the new world?

"The Building" - 5/5 stars - another with a young protagonist. While Letty wasn't easy to like (what teenage girl is?), you could put yourself into her shoes and feel her struggle with this life. An unexpected ending that is pretty realistic when you think about it.

"The Necromancer" - 5/5 stars and my favorite of the group - Necromancers help control the zombies in this world. When Fabiola is called to assist a settlement that has been attacked, she finds more than she bargained for. Tons of character development with a little bit of a love story within 29 pages. I was left wanting more.

"The Race" - 4/5 stars - while this was my least favorite, it was still solid. Again, think about what would happen in the real world of the zombie apocalypse. It brings out the best and the worst of people. This story showcases some of the worst. Not overtly evil people. Just normal people who don't choose to do the right thing and then pay for it.

"The False Start" - 5/5 stars - a look at the beginning of a zombie apocalypse. Lots of running.

If you are into zombie stories, you cannot go wrong with this one. Highly recommended.

Thank you to the author for providing an e-copy in exchange for an honest review.

Netanella says

A collection of six zombie-themed stories that are some of the best I have read in a long, long time. Ms. Frater is incredibly good.

Lori says

Once again I had the pleasure of reading advanced copies of these stories by Rhiannon Frater. They are by far some of her best work, and hands down some of the coolest fucking zombie stories I have ever read. Each story is so totally different from the next, yet the thread of the undead ties them together. The zombies are unique throughout. Most are not your traditional zombies, but there are a few peeks at those dead things we have all come to love!!! I don't want to say anything really specific about the stories, because I don't want to give anything away. Let's just say that after reading two of the stories back to back I had my first zombie nightmare in YEARS!!!

The thing that I love the most about Rhiannon and her work, is that her stories don't shy away from being real. She doesn't force a happy ending where there isn't one. She doesn't force anything about her writing. So all you HEA lovers be warned there are some truly heart breaking moments in this book.

If you like to be scared, if you like rooting for kick ass heroines then pick up this book.

Karen says

The short story Necromancer is amazing and adds so much insight into the world of the Unblessed Dead. I also enjoyed the stories The Race and The Building. The collection includes a varied selection of zombie worlds and is sure to please any fan of the zombie genre.

Toni says

While I own several anthologies, I haven't bothered to read many. Something about the skipping from story to story within the same book makes me edgy. I know, I'm weird. I've come to terms with it. This is one I couldn't pass up, though, being about zombies and written by Rhiannon Frater. There are six stories in this gem and each one is distinctive. Not just the characters, but the type of hell they were in and creatures they faced. This is the perfect smorgasbord of horror!

The shortest of the six is the first story, **The Blanket**. While it wasn't lengthy, it was just as terrifying as the rest. The scene that plays out in this is one of my biggest fears as I fall asleep each night. It short, to the point, and will properly mess with your head and your heart.

The Scavengers was odd and creepy, and probably the most unique of the stories. It was certainly a brand new view of "life" in the zombie apocalypse.

In the third story, **The Building**, we learn that perhaps we should just be happy with the grass in our own damn yard, even though it seems much greener on the other side of the wall. Zombies are scary, but even if you make it beyond them, people can be more deadly than the monsters.

The Necromancer.. now this was one of my favorites, which surprised me. After reading the first couple of pages I didn't think it was going to be my thing, but the plot reaches many different levels, which seems an impossible feat for being a short story, and the setting is brilliant.

The Race.. I love the ending! That's all I'm going to say. :D

And finally, **The False Start**. Around the half way mark I realized where this story had originated -- *The Living Dead Boy!* I just read it a few days before reading this. When it finally dawned on me I thought, "Oh, hey, Jamie.. I know you! Yes, you should have listened to your son, Josh." Heh. It was really cool getting a glimpse at what he was up to while away from his family, smack dab in the midst of another storyline. Super cool.

As with all of Rhiannon's books, there's not a darn thing I can complain about. I always know I'm in for one helluva ride. This is a fabulous collection of true horror that all fans will love!

Michelle says

Once again I have had the privilege of reading another fantastic piece of work by Rhiannon Frater. *Zombie Tales from Dead Worlds* is a book of zombie short stories, but these stories are quite powerful. This is what I love about her writing. It has a tendency to grab your attention from page 1 and doesn't let go ever. Years later you will still remember her written words and they will still have the same effect they had on you when you first read it.

Randy Harmelink says

Wow. I can't remember the last time I read an anthology and loved every single story. So often, short stories don't tell a complete story, but are just an excerpt of a larger story. Which too often means that the excerpt doesn't stand well on its own. I especially hate when the "short story" is basically just the start of a novel and has no resolution of its own. Having said that, I would like to read more about Hank and Patsy. :)

I picked up this one when it was free. I'll definitely be taking a look at the author's other books.

Ines says

Molto molto belle questi piccoli racconti Zombie, mi hanno preso e quasi mi dispiace che nn siamo stati sviluppati a romanzo. Molto coinvolgente l' ultimo della raccolta a cui si collegano altre opere della Frater, che personalmente cercherò appena possibile di leggere.

Kristin (Blood,Sweat and Books) says

Zombie Tales from Dead Worlds is a book that I went into reading with much excitement and anticipation. Not only was the author returning to the Zombie genre that I love but also the book was anthology so that meant plenty of Zombie goodness to read about and that's just the way I like it!

One of the things I noticed right off the bat when reading this anthology was how perfectly paced the stories were. None felt too long nor too short. I never felt rushed and the buildup to the big climaxes in each while not always surprising were at least satisfactorily done.

So how did I like the stories individually? Well read on to find out!

The Blanket – This story was short but packed quite a punch in the gut. It reminded me of the scene with those ten tiny fingers all those years ago and I wasn't expecting that. Very well written but a sad story indeed.

The Scavengers – Now this was a story I think would make a great full length novel. Not only were the characters very unique but also the idea of family units forming amongst the dead while bizarre was kinda cool to see. Plus that ending, I must know more!

The Building - Out of all the stories this was probably the one I struggled with the most. Don't get me wrong it was well written and all but I just found it to be a bit too predictable and that did lessen the enjoyability factor a touch for me.

The Necromancer – I haven't read many stories with necromancers so it was hard for me to sort of grasp all the goings on in the story. Once I did get a foothold however whew boy was this a good story. I won't give away the ending but the character deserved it is all I'm saying.

The Race – If any story had me rooting for the deaths of the characters this was the one. Survival is the name of the game and Laurie surely wanted to win at all costs. However, even in a Zombie apocalypse one should

remember not to be selfish as the term what goes around, comes around applies heavily here. Great story though, especially the end.

The False Start – This story felt probably the closest to a full length novel and I believe this was the longest story in the anthology as well. The build up was fantastic, the middle action packed and thrilling, even the ending was great (for some of the characters anyway...).

Final Thoughts

Overall, I really have no complaints with this anthology. The stories as mentioned above were properly paced. I never felt like I was reading something incomplete. Plus, the writing and the quality of the stories were what I'd come to expect from this author. I highly recommend checking out this anthology once you get the chance.

With that being said, I'll be rating *Zombie Tales from Dead Worlds* by Rhiannon Frater **★★★★**.

Reviewed originally @ Blood,Sweat and Books

Lorre says

I'm usually not a big fan of short stories not related to series, but I loved this collection of shorts!

The Blanket is a very short but very sad story of a little boy named Milo.

The Scavengers was my favorite story in this collection! I fell in love with Patsy and Hank! Who would've thought 2 zombies could be so adorable!

The Building... Letty is a 16-year-old girl who was separated from her mom during the zombie outbreak and she wants nothing more than rejoining her mom.

Loved the story but the ending was so very sad!

The Necromancer is about Aura, a 14-year-old girl living in the Bridgetown Settlement. Although I had a feeling Aura was "one of them" from the start, the ending took me by complete surprise.

The Race is about Laurie and some of her college friends trying to survive. This had a great, very ironic ending!

The False Start... loved that story! I didn't realise till the end of the story that Jamie was "the Jamie", as in Josh's dad from Rhiannon Frater's *The Living Dead Boy* and we also got a glimpse of Bonnie, the dog, from *Stop Requested* (a short story at the end of *The Living Dead Boy* book).
