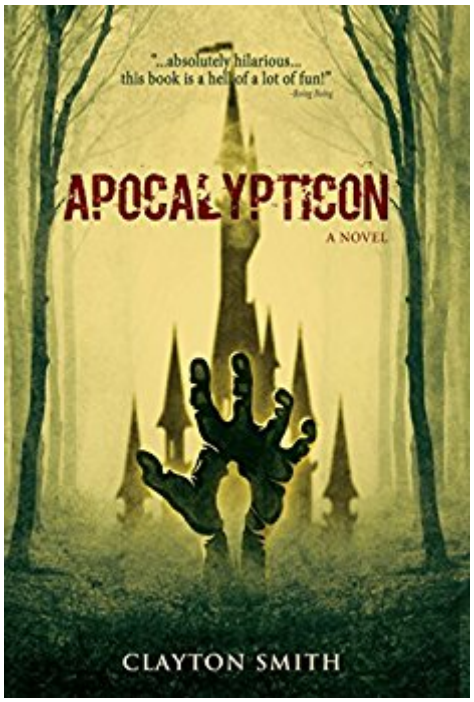
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Apocalypticon



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Synopsis

Welcome to a whole new kind of apocalypse...a dark, hilarious, and heart-wrenching tale of machetes, adventure, friendship, and pudding. "The best post-apocalyptic story ever written. Period.""...absolutely hilarious...this book is a hell of a lot of fun!" - Boing Boing"...it's what a post-apocalyptic novel would look like if written by Joss Whedon." - CCLaP"Equal parts Mad Max and Monty Python...one hilarious, harrowing and heart-wrenching tale." - Steven Luna, Author of the Joe Vampire series.What readers are saying:"This book deserves a movie""I'll carry this book's memory into all other books as an expectation to be met""A real gem in the Apocalypse genre!"Three years have passed since the Jamaicans caused the apocalypse, and things in post-Armageddon Chicago have settled into a new kind of normal. Unfortunately, that "normal" includes collapsing skyscrapers, bands of bloodthirsty maniacs, and a dwindling cache of survival supplies. After watching his family, friends, and most of the non-sadistic elements of society crumble around him, Patrick decides it's time to cross one last item off his bucket list. HeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s going to Disney World.This hilarious, heartfelt, gut-wrenching odyssey through post-apocalyptic America is a pilgrimage peppered with peril, as fellow survivors Patrick and Ben encounter a slew of odd characters, from zombie politicians and deranged survivalists to a milky-eyed oracle who doesn't have a lot of good news. Plus, it looks like Patrick may be hiding the real reason for their mission to the Magic Kingdom...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Equal parts Mad Max and Monty Python, Apocalypticon is a brilliantly self-aware post-doomsday road trip adventure with a river story feel that blends all of the sweetest storytelling magic into one hilarious, harrowing and heart-wrenching tale. The nutshell: Best friends Patrick and Ben meander through the wasteland of America on a quest to reach Disney World and learn in vivid terms that the road is littered with leftover souls, each of whom has their own take on what "survival" actually means. This gives Smith the opportunity to skewer so many wonderful apocalypse archetypes with sharp absurdist wit and dark whimsy, while still creating wholly likable, relatable main characters. From a reader’s perspective, his masterful writing overflows with fun pop culture references (Muppets! Hipsters! The Warriors!), seriously dark tension, intelligently-developed action, and genuine, punch-in-the-gut tenderness. From a writer’s perspective, the non-linear story structure speaks of a far more seasoned author than one presenting his debut novel. The core characters have a soft-centered, lived-in feel, and the dialogue between them is spectacular; beneath their hilarious snark-and-sarc banter, there’s a distinct thread of deeper connection that shines through in surprising moments of emotional depth. In my opinion, a perfect story features characters grounded enough in reality to be perceived as real-life human beings thrown into a fantasy world imaginative enough for the reader to be swept up in without losing touch with those characters’ hearts and souls. It’s a credit to Smith’s striking talent that Apocalpyticon so richly captures that balance; it’s as fun, funny, tense and touching a story as you’ll find anywhere. And when the significance of the cover and the meaning of the title come into view, it’s like an inside-joke bow tied around a grand package of fantastic. I hope he makes so much more magic like this, and I hope it happens soon.

Read it!This coming from a girl who is happy reading To Kill A Mockingbird, watches too much HGTV and can’t get through The Lord of the Rings no matter how many times I tryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â‖ say this to point out there is something for everyone! Once I started I couldn’t put it down; pour a glass of wine (a big glass of wine) and block out the afternoon for a truly enjoyable experience. The story moves fast, so you’ll find that there’s never a good break in the story to put it down - that is a

good thing. I’m not a zombie/apocalypse kind of reader normally, but this book did it for me! Think about itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦if you aren’t a dungeons and dragons kind of person naturally, but can’t get enough of Game of Thrones, then this is for you!Enjoy.

There’s some potential but I just couldn’t get into it. I found the back-and-forth between the two characters inauthentic and not really all that funny. Snarky and cheeky, sure, but it just didn’t resonate with me. I thought it was a pretty cool world but it just didn’t quite come together. I honestly put it down without finishing it. I think the snark was just so dominant that it had a distancing effect on my engagement with the story. I dunno, different strokes, I guess. I’ll still keep my eye out on this author as the book definitely showed some potential - it just didn’t quite pan out for me.

After much laziness, I finally read the book and thoroughly enjoyed it. I kept starting the book and didn’t get very far. Truth be told, I was burnt out on books, having torn through several in a row. And so, I retreated and watched the days/weeks/months pass by. Finally, I picked it back up. The book was already bearing a black mark of my indifference. (Had to be the book’s fault, right). Nope, not the book’s fault. The story is smart with witty dialogue and fun characters including (but not limited to) its two lead players (Patrick and Ben). Their relationship and dynamic exchanges come to life as they work their way from Chicago to WDW, meeting numerous wacked out people. I can hear (with my inner ear) their sharp exchanges as they harass each other through their journey. I literally "LOL" (which was annoying for my wife as I usually read at night while she was sleeping). Clayton Smith is going right up their with other compelling horror-humorists authors that I like, like Grady Hendrix, David Wong, Erik Gumeny, Do this book a better solid than I did. Read it straight through and really enjoy it.

My favorite part of the book was the ending, and no, not because it was over. Sadly, that does happen sometimes while reading.It was a beautiful ending. I like when books have good endings.Also...fortunately Apocalypitcon didn’t have one of those endings where I’m left thinking..."That was such a great ending...too bad the rest of the novel was crap in comparison.No, this book is good all the way through.The writing is great.The book is exciting.There’s a good amount of humor.Pop culture references.... I like that.I would recommend this novel to people who like things such as Zombieland, Sean of the Dead, and This is the End. It’s that kind of story.This is kind of strange, but I’d also compare it to the TV show The New Girl. The banter between the two characters in the novel (Patrick and Ben) remind me a lot of the banter between Nick, Winston, and

Schmidt.

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Apocalypticon

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