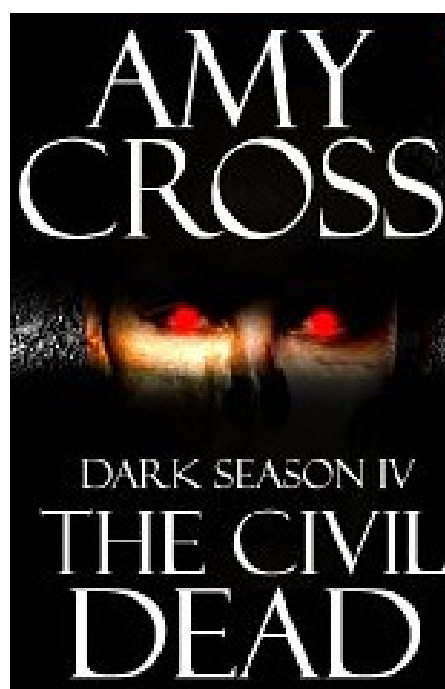




The Civil Dead

Amy Cross

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The Civil Dead

Amy Cross

The Civil Dead Amy Cross

Sophie's life is falling apart. First, she makes a frightening discovery about her health. Then she learns that her father has been murdered. And finally, she can't find Patrick, the vampire who might be the only one who can help her.

Sophie has fallen victim to a Tenderling, a vicious creature that intentionally causes pain and misery so it can feed off its victim's emotions. Manifesting as the ghost of Sophie's father, the Tenderling is determined to push Sophie to the brink of madness.

Patrick realises that there is only one way he can save Sophie. But first, he has to confront a figure from his past. Deep within an underground chamber, a man known only as The Lock is the only one who can help. But the price for his assistance might be too great...

The Civil Dead is the fourth volume in the Dark Season series. It's a standalone story, so you don't need to have read the previous volumes.

The Civil Dead Details

Date : Published December 16th 2011 by Dark Season Books

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Author : Amy Cross

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Paranormal, Vampires, Fantasy, Horror

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From Reader Review The Civil Dead for online ebook

Sharon says

Ouch

Lily's says

wow I was cringing when Sophie was cutting herself up. I don't think that was healthy or right. She didn't know what she was doing but she kept cutting and cutting oh my goodness. Wouldn't that hurt, but it seemed like that never happened cus she never mentioned it again, this girl was cutting into herself wouldn't that leave a painful wound. Anyway that was crazy.

The whole Tenderling thing was creepy. Imagine not knowing there's a creature attacking you while you sleep. And that there's nothing you can do about it.

Patrick is still a mystery to me. We get to read his POV but I don't know, I don't feel that connection with him. It's all one tone. But I do want to get to know him more. And like Sophie, I do want him to be there all the time but man that girl really is too depended on him. She's always looking for him, running off into the forest by herself. She's getting too obsessed with him showing up.

Any who, this series is interesting, so I'll keep reading :)

BookNerdette says

Sophie has a tenderling creature sucking life from her in this book. This book was a wee-bit wack for me. It was different, I think Amy Cross's stuff is sorta like Twilight Zone... or Dark Shadows. It is out there.. you know what i mean?

So this creature is creating havoc in Sophie's life ... distress that she misses Patrick, Misses her dad, then her dad is murdered, she seen a ghost, she found a lump so she is stressed about her health.

Finally she see's the creature and is able to fight it with Patrick's help it is now dead.

We learn of a man changed in a dungeon and he is the key somehow to this prophecy with Sophie. I have read Cassandra's name a few times but still not sure who she is... and when we have the glimpse's of another part of a story there is a female preparing for a party. She can see the lights outside.. the lights are ghosts or spirits ... I'm not sure. Until she sends out a maid and the lights ascend on her and kill her. So now we know they are dangerous.

How does this woman know others are coming? Is she dangerous? Friend or Foe?

Joshirl says

Good book! I just wish Patrick would say something! Damn

Lisa says

even though they say you don't need to read the other ones i think its best to read them in their order so you get a full background on the characters.

Mossie Sweet says

Meh? This review is for the series as a whole. Had a distracting number of typos and no character development to speak of - just a disjointed series of events happening to an unworthy character. Kept referring to a prophecy but never actually disclosed it or built towards it. Never set out what was special about Sophie. Never explained the wild improbability of the last installment - a perpetually uninterested mother somehow cares enough to commit Sophie for no good reason to the same facility as some unethical doctors who for some unspecified reason insist on trying to give Sophie electroshock therapy? Writing style was easy to read, but I won't get more by this author - very unsatisfying to put that much time into stories that go nowhere in particular.

Beth Roberts says

I have not as yet written a review of these novellas, but halfway through the first series of Dark Season, I finally have to comment.

Amy Cross is a prolific self-published author. I have faithfully been collecting her works for some time now, and as of this writing I have recently acquired the completed Broken Blue.

I am just now starting to actually READ her writing. I have to say I always read some of the reviews, usually the more negative ones, before purchasing any indie books (or any book, for that matter!). I see a lot of complaints for "poorly edited e-books", and I do have to agree, most, including this series, would benefit from a serious house-cleaning session. However, I recently purchased a trade paperback for \$16. The stories in it ranged in the 3-to-5 star category and I enjoyed it immensely overall. However, for \$16 and a major publication, I EXPECTED it to be well-edited. It was not, and in fact, had several serious editing oversights throughout. This has been true of some more recent library loans, as well. The point I am trying to make here is that I have decided to remove editing as a whole out of my reviewing process. Is it annoying while reading to come across these errors? Absolutely. I consider myself blessed, then, to be able to overcome those minor errors, no matter how frequent, and still be drawn fully into the tale the author is trying to tell.

The first novella in The Dark Season was about a 3-star read. It was pleasantly enjoyable, nothing too different than a million paranormal books out there. The only thing I found remotely annoying about the editing of it, aside from the myriad typical errors, is the author's placement of the novella in a place called Dedston, New Jersey, USA, while using standard British colloquialisms and references. I have not been to Jersey, but I am pretty sure cookies there are not referred to as "biscuits". THOSE errors were a bit jarring, but even after awhile you just think, "Oh, yeah, Amy Cross is British. Why DID she place these in New Jersey, then?" But, never mind all that.

This fourth installment exceeded my expectations. Yes, the errors are there - no point to rehash that. In the the third segment, we were introduced to the obligatory werewolves. Ho-hum. But she turned them around and I found myself completely entertained by "Army of Wolves" enough to give it a 4-star rating. In "The Civil Dead", we are given a Tenderling. And kudos to Amy Cross, for evolving this storyline into something engrossing and complex!!! Literally, her concept of "books as tv" is taking shape before my eyes and I am thrilled and delighted by her abilities as a writer to pull this difficult concept into fruition.

For someone as young and prolific as Amy Cross, I can only say "thank you" for providing me with as many hours of entertainment as she has all for the major cost of "FREE". Yes - that's correct. I have all of her series to date, complete. And all of them, FREE.

To the naysayers of indie authors who want to do nothing but complain about the poor, substandard quality, I have to say "get a grip". Let yourself be carried away by the fresh, young imaginations and talents to be had out there. These are authors on the cutting edge of a new dawn in publishing history, and they are putting themselves out there at personal cost to themselves not just financially but also artistically and in terms of their personal time and freedom. Amy Cross and others of her ilk will stand the test of time, and years from now, I believe people will hail them as pioneers and the editing glitches will be cleaned up and forgotten.

I realize I am only halfway through the first series of Dark Season, but seeing the evolution of the story, as a reader I can only believe it will evolve and grow. Obviously, Ms. Cross has many tales to tell. I look forward to sharing her imagination with her.
