



Ashes of the Unspeakable

Franklin Horton

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Jim and his group are still struggling to reach home. While just a few days have passed since the initial attack, the group finds that their country is quickly descending into a vicious, chaotic landscape where nothing comes easy. While they fight to close the distance between them and their loved ones, they cannot avoid the steadily growing number of people who have realized that they can get away with whatever they want in a world where there are no longer any legal consequences for their actions.

At home, Jim's family is basically forced into lockdown after a local jail discharges its starving inmates, leading to the arrival of new, extremely violent presence in their valley. The stranger sets his sights on driving other families from their homes and taking what they own. As Jim races home, his wife Ellen struggles to keep her family safe, while each night a neighbor's home is burned to the ground.

Ashes of the Unspeakable Details

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From Reader Review Ashes of the Unspeakable for online ebook

Laura Altom says

So, so GOOD--but in a horrifying way. This author makes it all too easy to understand how fast the world as we know it could end. I'm really hoping he has more books planned for the series. Funny, I'm a huge fan of The Walking Dead, but while reading found myself thinking, I'd be less scared of zombies than monsters like Charlie...

Ravi Mikkelsen says

While I don't think the US would completely fall apart like this as the rest of the world would need to step in and save us to keep the global economy going forward, I'm really enjoying the continuing storyline and the character developments.

Great look into preparedness and change in human psychology due to trauma and continued hardship.

Trisha Perry says

Jim and his friends are still trying to get home, the women that chose the FEMA camp are now understanding what Jim was talking about and wish they had gone with him. Jim's family are also realizing Jim's views were not so far off and are toughening up, but do they actually see the real danger before their eyes, will Jim make it home in time to help them?

This book is so suspenseful and action packed you can't help but become entranced. I had the audio and with the awesome narrator Kevin Pierce saying the ongoing mantra of "I've got to get home" throughout the book, so what is not to love. Mr. Pierce does a great job voicing all of the characters, but with Jim all I picture is a teddy bear of a man that will do anything for his friends, but will also do anything to get home to his family, so you better not stand in his way. This was such a wonderful listen I can't wait to hear what happens next to Jim, his family and the gang.

Diane says

Very well done. There are lots of survivalist prepper bug-out emp solar flare type stories, but this one is worth your while. Not a how-to (although helpful), but a real story, filled with characters you love and hate.

Bruce says

This series rocks! I blasted through book 2, as I was always eager to get back to the story. The only negative, was just a minor annoyance. Compared to other books I've read recently, there was way too much recap of book 1 stuff during the first part of this book. I'm really hoping that doesn't continue. That said ... on to book

3!

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

4 Stars

What happens when the government is rendered impotent? What happens when there's no electricity and food and gas run out? What happens when the military and law enforcement desert their posts to save themselves and their family?

As society devolves and reverts back over a 100 years into the past, the true mettle of man shows horrifically through, where desperation shapes actions.

Just as scary and sobering as the first, this continues to follow Jim and various other characters, as they struggle to survive by any means possible. You've got released prisoners, the mentally ill without their meds, people meting out their own brand of justice, all fighting to live another day. Again, this is definitely a conversation starter, if not to urge one to contemplate their own fragility in a world dominated by technology and the vulnerability wrought should it no longer be available.

James Maxon says

The series goes from following two main groups of people in book 1, to four groups in book 2. Despite that, I never found the story jarring nor the transitions too abrupt. My mind never drifted with boredom and I always looked forward to the next scene. The author took this in a new direction without eliminating the former—more like complementing it. I enjoyed this book as much, if not more, than the first and look forward to reading the 3rd sometime soon.

Paige Doty says

Food for thought

This book was even better than book one. Really makes you re-think your overall preparedness for any type of disaster and all very real. Great read and very thought provoking.

Stephen says

The character development adds to the drama of the book. You actually care about the characters. Our heroes actually make it home in this book (Knowing it was a trilogy--so far--I was surprised). The situation at home is not much better than on the road. It will be interesting how the characters deal with the new issues they have walked into.

Andrew Smith says

So, I'd realised book one was a con-job (how else can you describe a book who's last sentence leaves it's hero in mortal danger) but couldn't really do other than to hurriedly purchased book two. It seamlessly picked up the story as the (metaphorical) axe was about to fall and charged on with barely a pause for breath.

In truth, having been somewhat sceptical about the way life had rudely accelerated to jungle law within minutes of the lights going out, I was now fully into the flow of it and living each moment with the small cast of survivors I'd been following. Jim still hasn't smiled – well, there's not a lot to smile about – and his pal Dave is, if anything, an even more dour and somber character. There is a little light relief from the female cast but let's not worry too much about that – this is the apocalypse and it's all about survival of the fittest.

The adventure races on as we continue to alternate between Jim and his small gang's efforts to get home and the plight of Jim's family as they attempt to secure their property against a grim group of lowlifes who have there eyes on the supplies they've stored. And then we re-discover two of Jim's female colleagues who had decided to accept transport to a government camp rather than risk a 'Mad Max' road trip. They're already regretting this choice and are now planning to attempt a dash of their own.

It is very well done and the further I get into this mini-series the more realistic the scenario seems to become, though prevailing thoughts are:

1. Would America really sink so low, so quickly? Surely other countries would come to their aid to some extent... wouldn't they?
2. What would happen if these circumstances were to be transported to the UK? Much of the text is centred on the guns and ammo everyone carries and just about all of the unpleasant encounters feature guns being used in anger. How different would this play out in a country without a huge supply of such weapons?

My concerns aside, this is great escapist stuff and having gobbled up book two I'm already a third of the way through book three. Tells you something, I guess.

Amy says

They really need to upgrade the rating system. The first of the series and this one should have been a single book. There was no reason to have two separate novels. NONE! The first doesn't tell a complete story, but by the end of the second, there is a decent ending/pause before the third segment begins. I will give the series one more shot, because I bought the first three.

N.W. Wisniewski says

Book Two of The Borrowed World series. You continue follow Jim and his coworkers on their long journey home. Made long because of a coordinated terrorist strike that has destroyed fuel, refineries, nuclear plants and the power grid. At this point the world has descended into chaos. Looters, robbers, murderers and thugs are running wild with no one to stop them. At home, Jim's wife has realized just how crazy the world has become. Her and Jim's oldest child has had to kill someone already. He's not even a teen yet.

To make things even worse for the good folks the government has release all "LOW" risk inmates. One such

man is Charlie. In for petty crimes Charlie is actually a murderous psychopath. Then, to top it off, it was his brother that Jim's son killed. Now this man is wreaking havoc on Jim's family. Will he make it home in time to save them? Will Jim's mother get the medical help she needs before the pneumonia takes her? Will Jim even survive the trip home?

I absolutely love this series and this book. I have always been a hard core fiction, monster zombie book person. This book brings to light the real monsters in the world. Horton has developed amazing characters that you can relate to. Coupled with a suspenseful story line you just don't want to put it down!

Geoffrey says

(Copied and pasted from original Amazon Review) I just started Borrowed World ,book one in this 5 book series, a week ago and just now finished Ashes of the Unspeakable, tonight. I feel as if I've been traveling right along with Jim's group from the very beginning because it's that well written. Plenty of action and suspense to keep interested in the story and deadly realistic situations they must face along the way as they must travel endless miles thru a world gone to hell just to make it back home to their loved ones and in one piece. Normally I would write a better review but I'm too wound up and excited to dive into book #3! Lol..Yes,it's that good. Do yourself a favor if you like dystopian apocalyptic survival type stories and buy this book now! I personally prefer immersion reading and purchased the audio books to go with these as well. It makes it so much more enjoyable?

Joel Brow says

Amazing!!!

This series is amazing! For a post apocalyptic nut like myself, this book seriously makes you think. Most dystopian reads are far fetched, near impossible to believe. This, However; is extremely realistic while being entirely entertaining. These books are increasingly difficult to put down. By FAR the best dystopian/post apocalyptic stories I've ever read! Just, AMAZING! Thank you Franklin Horton!

Nolan Lyautey says

He does it again

Franklin Horton continues his Borrowed World Series. This time giving a bad guy. And by bad I mean evil. Charlie Rakes is plain evil. No spoilers but dang that guy is bad. I hated reading about him because it gave me anxiety. Who's he gonna kill next? It gave me mass amount of anxiety. But it was a great book 5/5
