



Cost of Survival

Bonnie R. Paulson

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My dad predicted World War III would happen in our lifetime. He was right.

Mom's bleeding in my arms right now. She could die any moment, but not before she's made me promise three things:

Pray.

Don't trust anyone.

Stay alive.

I promised, but I don't know if I can keep them. Not surviving World War III doesn't scare me, it's surviving it that does.

If you're looking for a great dystopia romance, this book is for you

From the bestselling dystopian fiction author with over 2000 reviews and ratings of her dystopic books across Goodreads, Amazon and other retailers.

Cost of Survival Details

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Author : Bonnie R. Paulson

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From Reader Review Cost of Survival for online ebook

Antionette says

Wow. That book completely surprised me. As always, I don't read the whole story line before I read a book. I think it's more fun that way. So, Kelly is a 17 year old teen who is in the beginning of world War III. Her parents have been prepping her since all the signs were there. They had hoped it wouldn't come as soon as it did, but bombs started to hit this town like rain drops. Kelly happened to be at school but made it home safely. She finds her mom ready to go. Her dad and brother had died a few months earlier so it was just the two of them. They were those serious survival people. Prepped big time. Gun lessons, how to dress. Always packed. Their adventure if b you want to call it that is nothing but fast paced and intense. No one knows who bombed them to make matters worse. A must read!

I was given this book to read and review with my honest opinion. And now you have it.

Jessica Bronder says

Kelly's father knew that World War 3 was going to happen and prepared his family. But he dies before WW3 hits. One day at school, bombs are dropped and Kelly rushes home to her mother to find her calmly drinking tea. Kelly and her mother gather their things and head to the co-op that they are part of but upon arrival they learn there is a new leader and new rules. It's not so safe at the co-op and they have to go on the run again. Kelly does meet up with a kid from school, Bodey and his father. Together they are going to try and survive.

I love apocalyptic stories and this is one of my new favorites. There is lots of action and great characters. Kelly questions her strength and faith as she tries to survive the attack and the evil of people and as she was thinking of all of these things it made me wonder if I am strong enough to be in her place, what I would do and such. I love her relationship with Bodey. You can tell they are getting close through survival but that a true relationship is forming.

It was easy to get sucked into this story. I planned on reading a couple chapters and ended up reading until the early hours of the morning to find out what was going to happen next. I loved how this story ended and I can't wait to see what happens in the next book, Exchange Rate. If you like apocalyptic stories look no further, you will NOT be disappointed in this one.

I received Cost of Survival from Amazon Kindle for free and am reviewing it for Candid Book Reviews.

Simone says

I received a free copy of this novel in exchange for my honest review.

Cost of Survival is book one in The Worth of Souls series. The story begins with Kelly feeling tremors from bombs being dropped outside her school. She witnesses many frightened teachers and students trying to escape the onslaught. Kelly rushes home with the hope that her mother and their home is still in tact. She arrives to see her mother casually drinking a cup of tea as she her surroundings get bombed. Kelly knows her mom is cool and collected because she's been expecting this, it's written about it in the Bible and they have

been preparing for years. Kelly is sent to pack her "bug out" bag with essentials and they begin their journey to the co-op that has been preparing for this day. Things don't go as planned when they arrive and learn there's a new leader and also all of the rules have changed. What will they do now? Where is Bodey?

As always, Bonnie Paulson has written yet another wonderful Dystopian novel. There's nonstop action from the very beginning of the book, and keeps you completely engrossed. I lost track of time reading it; yes, it's that amazing. You could feel Kelly's emotional struggle as she ran home, she had no one but her mother. What would she do if she got home and she had gotten hit? This is one of the best novels I have read all year and I am anxious to read book two!

Kathryn Svendsen says

The day the bombs started to fall, Kelly was at school. Her dad had predicted World War III would happen during his lifetime, but he and his son had died two years ago from the plagues.

Racing home to meet her mom Megan, and collect her go-bag so they could find their place of refuge, Kelly finds her calmly drinking a cup of tea. Before they leave, she reminds her for the umpteenth time to remember the rules: 1. Pray 2. Trust no one 3. Stay Alive. But Kelly doesn't have the faith her mother does.

Once they reach the camp that Megan had invested time and money into in the event of this war, they find things have changed and this is where all the twists and turns in the story begin. Nothing goes as Megan and Kelly expected. Before long it's just her with her mother's rules on the run being hunted by the men from the camp.

This was an amazing novel. I loved it! Bonnie Paulson's writing simply improves with every book she writes.

Paulson knows how to keep the suspense going in her books with just enough clean romance to balance it so we don't have to bite all our fingernails off. I liked how she brought Kelly and Bodey together and admitted that they had feelings for each other. I also appreciated how John tried to keep the sleeping arrangements as separate as possible given their crazy situation.

I thought that much of the chaos and mayhem that went on in the book was probably fairly realistic. Already in real life we see evidence of it in a smaller scale in the riots and looting when there is a breakdown in government, so in a world-wide event, I'm sure the chaos would be even more widespread.

I thought the characters in Cost of Survival were realistic. There will always be people like Charlie who want all the power and control and are willing to do anything to get it. There will also, thankfully, be people like John, who care about others, and will help those in need.

I liked reading the book from Kelly's point of view which was written in first person. We get her thoughts on what is going on, how she feels about the faith that sustained her mother and why she doesn't embrace it like her mother does. Knowing her thoughts helps us to see who she is and how she changes and grows throughout the book.

Cost of Survival was definitely worth taking the time to read. Dystopian and post-apocalyptic readers alike will enjoy it. I highly recommend this romantic suspense novel. I gave it 5 stars out of 5.

Thank you to the publisher for providing a copy of the book in exchange for a fair and honest review. A

positive opinion was not required. All thoughts are my own.

To see my complete review, visit Shelf Full of Books <http://kathrynsshelffullofbooks.blogspot...>

Dee/ bookworm says

Good story. Mom's values and advice did seem a little liquid. Story was grittier than I expected, but considering the subject, I am glad it wasn't portrayed as sunshine and daisies....

Andrea says

Dystopian books are not necessarily my favorites. I often feel like I am reading the same story again and again. Yet, if Bonnie R. Paulson writes it, I am compelled to read it. There is something about her voice and her style that sucks you in and makes each one of her stories unique. I was relaxing in a hot tub on vacation and read the whole book at once. And now I desperately need to get my hands on Book 2.

Kelly is already having enough difficulty, being 17 years old and having lost her father and her brother. Now with WWII starting up, she and her mother now have to race for their lives. She is torn between what she thought was real and what her beliefs were and what her mother is telling her she needs to do. She has a very real struggle with faith, whereas her mother is unwavering in hers. I truly love how Kelly comes home from school once the bombings start, already in fight or flight mode, and her mother is just calmly drinking a cup of tea. That one scene toward the beginning says so much about their characters.

Kelly's mom is strong. She has been trying to teach Kelly to be strong. Kelly doesn't think she is really strong, but I think quickly finds out that she has strength she had never imagined. She grows in that respect, plus in her ideas about faith. Some of the questions that she asks herself as she ponders her existence and the state of the world actually made my brain start to spin. Would I have any faith if I were in the same situation? How would I feel if confronted with people wanting to kill me or hurt me, with betrayal, with the evil of this Third World War? I always say it is a good sign if a book keeps you glued to the pages AND makes you think while you are reading it.

Even without reading the descriptions of the next two books, I can tell that the next two books are destined to keep those wheels spinning while glued to my Kindle. An emphasis is placed on the importance of women, but not in a good way. Men are fighting to be the ones in charge and to hell with the consequences. How does this society go so far backwards from where we have gotten? What is it that makes one life more valuable than another? Who gets to make those decisions? And can your faith really get you through everything?

I will note that while faith is a strong force in this book, it is by no means anything overtly Christian nor preachy in any way. I think readers of any faith are going to relate to the moral questions being raised in this book and will ponder their own beliefs as they pertain to their own practices.

Another great read by Paulson. Just love her books and highly recommend them to readers of all ages!

I received a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Gina's Library says

I received this book in exchange for a fair and honest review. All opinions in this review are 100% my own. In this book the world as we know it does not exist. The government controls every aspect of a person's world. World War 3 is happening. You don't know who to trust.

Kelly's world is literally torn upside down. She loses everyone close to her. She remember the 3 rules her mom has drilled into her; don't trust anyone, pray, stay alive.

How would you survive if everything you ever known is suddenly gone? Kelly finds refuge with a boy she barely knows and his dad. Is that a good idea or will it ultimately cost her, her life?

I've read many books by this author. I always think they can't get any better. Each book I read becomes my favorite. This is definitely one of my favorite authors.

I can't wait to read book 2 Worth of Souls.

Aj says

This is a YA Dystopian romance where the heroine is trying to survive world war 3. I don't want to tell you details, you should read them yourselves. But the writing is great, the characters well developed, and the action was well done. I will enjoy seeing how the character and the story grow from here.

Some of the subjects within the storyline of the book are definitely better suited to mature readers rather than younger.

Loved this one and will enjoy reading more of this series.

*kawehi.reviews says

? I received an ARC via Mandy from Promotional Book Tours in exchange for an honest review. Thank you!
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A tale of unquenchable love in the most wretched of places and the paramount power of will and perseverance in the darkest and unlikely of times.

In a world falling apart at the seams, and the only family you've got left is bleeding out right in your arms, ***Cost of Survival*** centers around the ultimate plight of survival.

With everything you hold most dear to you rapidly slipping away, fear, distrust, suspicion a constant norm of day to day life, and everything you know in chaos--- Kelly, the book's main protagonist, experience's the optimum price of what you can lose and what it's like to hope for something more even when everything seems at lost.

She embarks on a tumultuous, yet unforgettable journey, of trials, discoveries that rapidly test her at every second and every moment; as well as, drives home some of her greatest challenges and most heartbreaking revelations of all--- letting go of the past, praying for a better future, and staying alive.

#A thrilling, fast-paced first installment of a three part series!! Can't wait to see how part 2 & the final books

unfold!!

Allie Rashkow says

It's more than I had hoped for

Cost of Survival surprised me on more ways than one. I was expecting your typical end of the world type story, and while yes, I did get an end of the world story, it wasn't your usual. From the start you find out that the world in this book is much different from ours. WWII hasn't officially started prior to this book but the collapse of humanity had. Disease had broken out killing 2/3s of humanity. The ones left began to fight for everything. That's where we come in. Bombs falling. Our protagonist, Kelly, dealing with the second beginning of the end. We follow her and her mother alone for a good part of the first half of the story. That's when we get the history of what has been going on, or lack thereof because all records of history prior to a certain year have been erased. The first two world wars, the civil war, etc, it's all been wiped from new eyes. The internet is controlled and history classes are limited to current events. This fact carries throughout the book as Kelly wonders at what is going on and how (and i

Hannah says

Cost of Survival was fantastic! My favorite genre is dystopian fiction and this one was just plain awesome. I really enjoyed the different take on surviving in the end of the world.

Kelly's dad predicted World War III shortly before he died. Her mom started making preparations with food, water and all necessities, including a place to go, should anything happen. When Kelly starts hearing bombs drop outside of her school she knows the drill. Run home, grab her pack and leave with her mom. From the start things don't go as planned. Men kidnap her mom in the woods and when she is forced to shoot someone, she knows nothing will be normal again. All she can do is listen to the rules her mom has been chanting for years. Pray, trust no one, and survive.

Though I love dystopian fiction, they seem to all have the same story. Bonnie R. Paulson, however, has a completely new take on surviving the end of the world. I thought it was extremely well written and, with just a touch of a love story, made for a very riveting read. Can't wait for the next one!

Sue Brooks says

WOW - B R Paulson has done it again!!! Written another amazing book/series!!! Cost of Survival is the 1st book in the Worth of Souls series - and OMG it is so good!!!

Kelly and her Mom are on the run trying to survive World War III . They run from their home with what they have packed for survival and head to the camp that her Mom helped fund. Things don't go entirely as planned!! Kelly's Mom does remind Kelly that in order to survive she must do 3 things: 1) Pray; 2) Don't trust anyone and 3) Stay alive!! I don't write spoilers -- but OMG this is an amazing beginning to an amazing series!!!

This series is a definite MUST READ!!!

scott scheffel says

Definetly kept my attention

Kelly is 17 and trying to survive the beginning of world war III. As we'd like to assume that if bombings are occurring all around us; people will work together and help each other. In the middle of war that is not the case. Kelly and her mom are forced to leave their home and head to a camp her mom had bought into before the war had started. Camp is not what it seems and staying there is not an option.

This was the first book I have read from this author,I'm looking forward to starting the second book

Lindy Lu Reviews says

Kelly's dad predicted World War III but he died before it came to be. On the run after the bombing Kelly and her mom fight to survive in a world that has changed overnight. Fleeing to a camp they thought was safe they ended up fleeing from there too. You can trust no one, and her mother drilled the rules to survival in her head for years. As she lies bleeding her mother reminds her.

Pray.

Don't trust anyone.

Stay alive.

How long can Kelly survive in this world? This world turned upside down when the saying keep your enemies closer does not apply, you have no idea who your enemies could be. Being hunted by psycho men she stumbles upon and old friend/crush from school, Bodey and his father. Together they embark on a journey of survival.

I really loved this story! It is a fast paced apocalyptic thrill ride. A post apocalypse minus the zombies (I love zombies though), but sometimes maybe the zombies would be good than having to deal with real life monsters. Kelly was likable, a little awkward at first and the way she pushes her mom put me a little on edge. In the end though that's what made her stronger, tougher. I loved Bodey him and his father were very protective of Kelly and you could tell he had a sweet, caring personality. They had a sweet relationship that grew everyday they were out surviving among the fittest.

This story did not have any explicit scenes or bad language just very intense. A lot of intensity with a sweet romance of childhood love. It will keep you on your toes and keep you turning the page or in my case swiping the ereader.

Jessica Mitchell says

One minute it's peaceful the next, it's total chaos, mayhem, looting, shoot outs and killings. All in the name of survival!

Kelly's mom Megan has always had a plan in place even when her dad and brother never returned from their short trip to another city. Picking up only what they can carry on their backs they pack up and leave everything else behind. Nowhere is safe. Not even what was suppose to be safe is.

Remember there are three rules to survival

Pray, Trust No One and Stay Alive!
