



The Horribles

Nathaniel Lambert

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Since witnessing the brutal death of his parents, Sheldon Delaney swore to never step foot outside again. The Horribles are out there. They're everywhere, threatening the residents of Poe's Creek. Sheldon's life changes again when a savage motorcycle gang parades through town with a deafening roar, leather, chrome, and evil. They're here for the children. Nothing will get in their way. The Horribles have arrived for real this time and for Sheldon to do anything about it, he has to confront every fear he's ever had or risk being choked by his poisonous memories.

The Horribles Details

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Author : Nathaniel Lambert

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From Reader Review The Horribles for online ebook

Nick Cato says

After watching the gruesome murder of his parents by a strange creature, young Sheldon Delaney becomes an agoraphobic, afraid to go outside and encounter a similar fate.

Now, haunted by the ghosts of his parents and the continual threat of running into one of The Horribles, Shedlon is a work-at-home adult, his only friend a young neighbor named Evan. Their semi-peaceful existence turns around when their entire town receives fliers announcing a family-fun motor parade. Sheldon knows this must be an elaborate attempt by The Horribles to get him out of the house...and despite his knowledge, he's forced to leave the safety of his home when the parade manages to kidnap all the children of Poe's Creek (including Evan) while killing all the adults; all the adults, with the exception of Sheldon.

THE HORRIBLES is a decent little horror yarn, although I couldn't see why Sheldon had become an agoraphobic; while his dad had been killed in their backyard, his mother was killed--right before his eyes--in the kitchen; why Shedlon felt safe inside OR outside is anyone's guess. But this secondary issue aside, Lambert's novella reads like a solid b-movie that manages to work, from the nifty half mechanical/half flesh creatures to the PSYCHOMANIA-esque motor cycle gang to the PINOCCHIO-type terror aimed at the town's youngsters. There's also a side-plot dealing with Sheldon and his shrink, bringing a couple other issues into question (is all this actually happening, and/or was Sheldon the one truly responsible for his parent's murders?).

Lambert's novella may be a tad off key, but horror fans will still enjoy the thrills and eat it up nice and quick.

C.V. Hunt says

A story filled with the horrors of the unknown. Follow Sheldon as he battles the demons within and an evil that will kill everyone.

Gail Ritter says

Sheldon is a broken man, having witnessed the brutal murder of his mother and father when he was 8 years old. As an adult, he is unable to leave his house, and seems to be paranoid and delusional. When I started this small book, I thought it would be about Sheldon's fragile state, and what happens to him. In one way it is, but it changed (surprisingly, for me) into something else. I won't reveal what happens (it would be a HUGE spoiler), but I will say that Sheldon ends up a happy man. (Caution: this book does rate high on the goryness scale.)

Sam says

I loved this book, the opening scenes where Sheldon loses his parents to what he later calls a Horrible are

graphic yet touching in his responses and the way he deals with the events in his young mind. As Sheldon grows up, refusing to leave his home and the (imagined?) ghosts of his parents events take a turn for the worst as a motorcycle parade unlike any other travels through the town, bringing death and destruction with them. We travel with Sheldon as he finally leaves home to save his only friend and take on the Horribles.

Lambert has a superb knack for balancing the blood and gore with a brilliant story and well developed characters and as we progress with Sheldon we feel his every doubt, moment of terror and periods of absolute elation. The insights provided by Evan's (Sheldon's young friend) are a fabulous addition to the work and add a certain depth to the story and Sheldon's character that may otherwise have been lacking.

This is a superb read that crams a big story and characters into a small book, a must must read.

William Pauley III says

Engine-powered zombie freaks! Need I say more?

Chris Bowsman says

All the Grindhouse Press books have amazing covers. I think this one is the best yet. Great story, great characters, great ending. I really, really liked the ending. Fast paced without being brainless. Very easy to shut off the critic and just enjoy.

I read this on my iPod, and will likely reread it once I get a print copy.

Whitney says

This book takes the reader down a road of paranoia, fear, horrible imaginative monsters and a mans struggle to overcome his debilitating fears. This quick read is filled to the brim with action and I finished it one sitting because the plot was pretty unique and I wanted to see what the author imagined up next.

Jo says

This was a bit of a departure from my usual reading material so I wasn't sure what to expect. The characters were well thought out and very convincing. The storyline kept up the pace and there were some twists that I didn't really expect. It's a fairly short story which in some ways was good as the you didn't get the chance to be sidetracked from the plot but I was also left at then end wishing there had been a bit more. Overall and enjoyable read with believable characters.

Taylor says

I won a copy of this through First Reads. I'll read and review it when I get it

Padre says

It's ok, but I would recommend it only if you have nothing better to read. I like the eerie mood, reminding me of the Phantasm movies, but there are flaws in narration and plot. Remember the golden rule: "Show, don't tell"? Well, there's too much "telling" and not enough "showing". We spend too much time in the characters' heads and not enough time seeing them actually react. It's a bit absurd, but judging by the pacing and focus of the book, meeting a possible murderer and witnessing slaughter of a whole town is less thrilling than riding your dad's motorbike. Well, I've never seen a mass murder scene, but I imagine it beats the fuck out of my daily ride home. At least story-wise.

Sarah says

When Sheldon Delaney was a child, he found the bodies of his slaughtered parents. Now he is agoraphobic and has cut himself off from the rest of the world, with the exception of a young deaf boy named Evan. When a strange parade comes to town, Sheldon is forced to face his fears to save his only friend. This is a terrific novella that is captivating and horrifying. This story explores the grip of fear and what it takes to overcome it. It's also about a beautiful friendship between two unlikely people who find solace in each others differences from the world around them. This story is graphically violent and suspenseful. From the heartbreaking first chapter to its satisfying conclusion, "The Horribles" is a fantastic reading experience.

Tabitha Rowland says

I found this book to be enjoyable, yet very odd. It opens with Sheldon witnessing his parents death by an odd creature. This leads him to be a severe agoraphobic, consistently worrying about the "Horribles" that lurk outside, waiting to kill him as they did to his parents. He must not let the creatures in the house, and a strict routine will make sure he is safe.

The only person that seems to understand him is a deaf boy that delivers his groceries. Evan has his own struggles as a deaf kid, and finds solace in Sheldon's home from the kids that make fun of his disability. Although Sheldon loves his comfort, when a flier comes around for a parade, he convinces Evan to go and be a kid.

Then it takes a turn for the worst, and Sheldon is faced in an all out war against these odd creatures while dealing with his agoraphobia. He has to face the demons from both outside and in. Will Sheldon be able to get over the past and fight?

This book is indeed unique. I quite honestly fluctuated between: liking it, being confused by it, finding the Horribles to be very weird antagonists, and yet I could not put the book down. I kept wondering if this was Sheldon's psychosis in overdrive.

I give this three stars because it was an enjoyable read, and I grew a connection with Sheldon and Evan. However, I think too much "strange" can spoil a good plot, and although very descriptive, I found the descriptions of the Horribles to be a bit repetitive with each battle. Also, where did the Horribles come from? How did the machines come alive?

I would recommend to those that:

1. Love free Kindle books that are short reads
 2. Like stories dealing with creatures (and don't mind not knowing how they came about or why they exist)
 3. Enjoy protagonists with mental issues.
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Lou says

"I'll never leave again. No go outside. Never again. Never leave. No more. It's safe in here. Outside is bad. Is Wicked. Evil. The Horribles."

That's the thoughts of the main protagonist in this story of survival against odds of mayhem where a horror comes to town this guy has problems of his own as it is already, things are going to get worser. Will he prevail?

It was a good page-turner a not too short and not too long story.

"There were no oil-slick tentacles slapping against the upholstery, no metal clockwork crammed into neurotic tissue, no jagged teeth and, more importantly, no sign of an animated, combustion engine living inside a human host."

Or was there?

Christa says

Comparable to early Stephen King. A good read for a summer afternoon!

Steve Lowe says

Dammit, I've tried to write this review three times now, and something keeps interrupting, so I'm going to speed review this sucker before we get an earthquake or something...

OK, so Sheldon is an agoraphobe - he's afraid to go outside because of what he thinks is out there, which are these Horrible little dudes that he saw kill his parents at a young age. (Sheldon was at the young age, not his parents... that could have been explained better... Oh well! No Time! Onward!) I personally don't have phobias and struggle to even fathom what it would be like to be so scared of something that affects every aspect of your existence, but Lambert does a crack up job of getting me in Sheldon's head and making me feel as nervous and uncomfortable as Sheldon does anytime someone comes to his front door.

This is what makes this book a success and a good read. (Ha! Goodread! Look at me being clever! Yay clever me!) Sheldon is a good protagonist who I care about, so when a parade of these Horrible little bastards come motoring into town on their hogs and the body count shoots up, I'm rooting for Sheldon and his buddy

Evan all the way. The Horribles are a unique "monster" that plays on the Terminator idea of bad machines with human tissue, and the only critique I have is that we never really find out exactly where they came from or why they're here, being all Horrible and shit. This could have easily gone on another 124 pages.

So, good book, I suggest you check it out, and it's a good price for the Kindle if you have one of those doo-dads. Read it, dog.

There, made it through. And just in time, too - the kids are waking up. Here comes that earthquake...
