



Love and Decay, Episode Eight

Rachel Higginson

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Zombies- as if that wasn't enough to ruin any girl's dream of a happily ever after.

Tyler Allen was a victim of the Zombie Apocalypse just like everybody else. But unlike most people, Zombies were just the start of her personal hell. As Feeders ran wild in every other part of the country, she lived a relatively Zombie-free life, but one in which the infection threat was traded for the loss of her freedom and the man she loved.

Tyler's dad is Matthias Allen, leader of The Colony. And a man Tyler would do anything to escape. When she hitched a ride with the Parkers, she knew it would be temporary. Like her dad, she knew how to use a means to get to a better end. She would learn to survive from them, learn to fight, but in the end she would take her brother and leave. They weren't part of her bigger picture.

As the group takes their time in Tulsa, stocking up on supplies and resting for a bit, Tyler reluctantly begins to feel attached to Page and her brothers as well as Reagan and Haley. If it weren't for her dislike of Vaughan, her life would be as close to perfect as it had been in a long time.

Still she's wary to trust people and anxious to be on the run again.

When Feeders wander too close to home, Tyler learns just how much she's grown to care for this brave group of people and how much hope and belonging a few trustworthy souls can make her feel.

Until an unwanted visitor shows up, desperate for help and needing refuge. The group agrees to help him, because what else can they do? But Tyler has to wonder if she can ever really escape the nightmare of her past.

Love and Decay, Episode Eight, is the eighth in a novella series in a Dystopian Romance about Zombies, the end of the world and finding someone to share it with.

This story takes place over multiple episodes, with a release date every two weeks. Approximately 20,000 words.

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From Reader Review Love and Decay, Episode Eight for online ebook

Kat Nichols says

This time we get to hear Taylor's point of view. Normally I don't like to read stories with multiple POVs, but since these are novellas it just seems to work. I enjoyed hearing what it had been like for her since the Zombie virus spread. And the end??? Couldn't believe it. I am waiting, impatiently, for Episode Nine!!!

Cheer Papworth says

One thing I really love about the Love and Decay novella series is the different POV's. In Episode 8, we get Tyler's POV and finally hear some of the sad details of her life in the commune under her father Matthias' control. I like Tyler, but her backstory really helps shed some light into her snotty ways and you begin to really get why she doesn't trust very easily. I also like the friendship that is blossoming between Tyler and Vaughan. They can keep denying their attraction for each other, but get real. We know the truth.

Kane's reappearance and his need for rescuing should lead to some great drama. Counting down the days until the release of episode Nine. So far, this is a fun series!

Theresa says

Ever since Tyler joined the crew, I haven't known quite what to think about her. I've gone back and forth from disliking her to just feeling "meh" about her, but this episode convinced me to actually like her. Tyler is whiny, scared and a bit pampered, but she sticks up for what she believes in (even if it's Dolly Parton) and tries her best to fit into her new world. There had been a few little references to her past, but this episode revealed that although she's been fed, clothed and housed, she's still been through some terrible things. There wasn't as much action in this episode, because Tyler is better at hiding than fighting, but there's quite a bit of emotion here. The group's "finding" at the end left me REALLY anxious for the next episode.

Deanna says

Tyler's POV this time!

Who expected that? Not me. I never even thought of getting a book from her POV since she's so new to the group. But with my changed opinion of Tyler after the last episode, I wasn't too mad that she was this week's center of attention.

I LOVED getting a better perspective of what life at The Colony was like for her. Because let's be real, we only saw a glimpse of it when Reagan and the older Parker boys were there. I knew that The Colony was fishy, but I never really understood why Tyler hated it so much and why she was so determined to leave. Now I **totally** understand why Tyler hated her life there and why she wanted to leave her father and brother

behind. (Her father really is one messed up dude. I see that more clearly now.)

In this episode, I had a mixture of feelings about Tyler. Yes, in the last episode I actually started to like her though I wanted not to, and in this episode, my like for her continued. Arg! If I decide to hate a character, then why can't you just let me hate that character instead of making them all relatable and likable?!

But even though I like Tyler now (Gah, I don't like saying that!), I was still frustrated with her sometimes. The sad girl is broken and kinda pathetic.

The odds against everyone making it out of this group were not good. So if I had to be the victim of the group I could at least also be the sacrifice. If someone was going to die, it might as well be me.

You guys! She has a martyr complex! Someone needs to watch Tyler very carefully or she's gonna do something stupid like get herself killed.

(view spoiler)

Cora says

I can't help but like Tyler. She is a fighter in her own way and this episode is done in her POV. I don't mind seeing things from her side and learning more about her, but can't wait to get back to our main leading lady :)

Krista says

Meh.... I mean I admit I never cared for Tyler much but I could start to sympathize and like her I'm this episode. That wasn't the issue. The story was just a little boring and anticlimactic. Also too short. These episodes just keep getting shorter and shorter it seems.

That said....I'm already looking forward to episode 9.

Caylie says

So.... I really didn't like Tyler much before this book. I mean, she just never clicked with me.

But you find out so much about her in this episode. You find more out about The Colony. You find out why she was hell bent on leaving that place.

And even though they say there is nothing between them, Vaughan and Tyler are going to get married and have babies one day... Just saying. :)

Also, again with the twists. I just KNEW it was going to be him! I JUST KNEW IT!

With only 4 more episodes left for this 'season', I'm quite scared where Rachel is going to leave us off. So

much has happened and so much needs answers...

Seriously - PANIC ATTACK waiting to happen. Thanks Rachel.

Karla says

Have to read this zombie series it's epic. I ignored the call of Spain's sea and sand to read this brilliant series. Kindle one click made me read the entire series while on holidays in Spain. An epic adventure filled with lust, love, blood, kisses, zombies, action, suspense, intrigue, fear and resilience.

Cassandra Mello says

bigger review to come, I'm a bit behind on writing these, but I did love this one (one of the best action scenes!!) even though I'm still 50/50 on Tyler, I want so badly to like her and Rachel does such an amazing job swaying me, but part of me is still holding back, I don't know why!
gah, the ending of this one too! I don't think I've ever wanted "the next one" so badly. I'm glad I'm at Disneyland and then on vacation for the next week as some sort of distraction! ;)

Mandy (I Read Indie) Anderson says

This time we get a chance to hear from Tyler as she is coming to terms with being with the Parker brothers, Haley and Reagan. Their lives are totally different than it was when they were living at the Colony with her overbearing father and brother. A brother that is still a threat to her and the crew. Will he be able to track them down and take them back? Or would he even bother...maybe he would just kill them on site? These are the fears that Tyler lives with every day.

Tyler and Vaughan are trying to work things out and get along as well as they can. Tyler would love to if only to calm Miller's nerves about being left behind. But with Vaughan and Tyler's short history, it is going rather slow. Both have such similar attitudes and it is constantly igniting fights between the two. And you can be sure that Tyler is going to mess up sooner rather than later and Vaughan is going to be there to tell her she did. I really wish these two would just get together already. But I sure am enjoying the build up to what is sure to be an epic love story. At least I am crossing my fingers that is where Higginson is taking it.

Another perfect addition to the LOVE AND DECAY series. It was actually really great getting to hear Tyler's back story and why she acts the way she does. I have now softened to her and look forward to hearing more stories from her POV. Like always...this series is an absolute must read!

Sara says

This episode is in Tyler's viewpoint. She has not been my favorite so far, but she grew on me a bit in this one. I guess she has some untapped potential. And then the surprise person at the end...Excited to see where this takes us in the next episode.

Shannon Deberry says

***amazing*

This series grabs you right from episode one and leaves you anticipating each episode to come. In this episode we get Tyler's point of view. Relatively new to the Parker group everyone pretty much tolerates her. Well in these pages we see a break in Tyler's brick wall. While trying to learn to shoot so she can contribute with zombie encounters her wall comes down a bit as she confides to Vaughan her past her horrible controlling father and the heart breaking death of her high school sweet heart. Another zombie encounter ensues as Tyler is determined to help, she has come to care for everyone, and while she doesn't care if she dies she will not see the people she cares about hurt. Once outside shooting zombies she encounters one of her family, she wants to run but stays to help. Can't wait to read the next episode.

Lenore Kosinski says

4.5 stars -- I was really starting to get curious about Tyler's story, so I think her POV came at just the right time. And her story seriously broke my heart.... To have to watch your own Father systematically become horrifically evil...ugh, no words. And I'm in love with Logan too....:(Seriously, it was the perfect background to explain a bit more of who Tyler is, and why she behaves the way she does.

As usual, had some HILARIOUS little bits, mostly with Reagan and then Harrison and King. I seriously love those boys. And while I knew we would see Kane again in this series, I found his appearance somewhat surprising, and not at ALL how I expected him to come back in this story.... INTRIGUED!!

Kitlina says

I loved that we got to hear something in Tyler's POV because I really didn't care for her that much previously.

Now though, I kinda get her and I am beginning to not want her dead or gone.

I think that she went through more than she is telling at the hands of her evil demonic father.

I can't wait to see what's next, what with Kane being in the picture again.

Kathy Harrington says

I loved Tyler's story. It was great to get a real feel of why, what and who she was and what made her that way. She slowly has started to drop her facade and show who she really is.
