



Lazarus Code

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"I am Ryder of the Pentimalli, a member of the first families and Captain of the deep space exploration vessel, Serendipity." In the centuries since our forefathers tamed an uncivilized land and revolted against a King we had grown complacent. When our government waged cyber war on us the spirit of those long dead patriots was ignited, sparking a second revolutionary war. It was then that the First Families were born. Genetically enhanced humans who carried within our blood stream nano-bots that repair and regenerate. We were meant to be the record keepers. The vanguard of our species as we spread across time and space. I have returned home after a decades long mission to find Earth devastated by the Weeping Death. A disease that has made it possible for the dead to rise. With the help of my brothers and my crew we will find who is responsible. They expected us to be complacent. They were wrong.

Lazarus Code Details

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Author : Sharon Van Orman

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From Reader Review Lazarus Code for online ebook

Nancy Jones says

Gifted a copy for honest review.

I really enjoyed Lazarus Code. The characters and story were great. This is a mix of science fiction and zombies. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys science fiction and/or zombies.

Paul Freeman says

Lazarus Code is a marriage of sci-fi and horror. Does this union work? In one word, absolutely!

I've read some sci-fi books, I've read a few zombie apocalypse books. I've never read one that's both. From the very beginning I was hooked. Ryder waking from a prolonged sleep after her exploration ship arrives back to Earth after being away for years, to the switches in points of view as the virus is unleashed on the world and the dead begin to walk again. The smoothness Sharon Van Orman blends the hard science and the fantastical story is really compelling.

There are a lot of very well written action scenes in this book and that's what you want from a zombie apocalypse novel. You want to feel the panic, the mayhem, to taste the fear as people the world over are suddenly running for their lives. Add to that, Ryder and her team of marines suited up in mech-suits cutting a swath through the undead horde. Yes, this book ticks the boxes for a gung-ho fix. But, there is so much more, to both the story and the starship captain. You want strong female characters? You have them, and not just the main character. There are others, the book gives us the points of view of several different characters which allows us to see the impact of the virus through eyes other than the heroes of the plot.

What I really liked about Ryder was the depth to her character and personality. Yes she is an all action hero, a member of the first families, a starship captain... pretty much the saviour of mankind. But she has a human side. We can see how the death and devastation affects her. She can stand shoulder to shoulder with her hard-faced marines. Fight, drink and curse with the best of them, but when she's alone, she's not afraid to shed a tear, to lament her own loss and that of the world.

Ivan Amberlake says

Sharon Van Orman's Lazarus Code is a new, original take on zombies, called weepers. I loved the main character and how the mystery of weepers' appearance (and how one could deal with them) was shown and solved in the novel. If you enjoy sci-fi and zombie novels, I totally recommend reading Lazarus Code: A First Family Saga. Can't wait to read the next book in the series.

Ceh131973 says

The [Lazarus Code] by [Sharon Van Orman] is a futuristic take on zombies. She combines the typical zombie apocalypse with space travel and nanobots. The main character is a female which is always enjoyable having seen way too many princesses. If you are a fan of any of the above mentioned genres or action adventure this book is a must read.

Jim says

I went back and forth on my star review of this. Is it 3? Or a 4? How I wished I could give it 3.5, but since that isn't an option, I opted to round up.

Lazurus Code is first and foremost a work of science fiction; set in a future where man has achieved faster than light travel, mastered genetic manipulation, and colonized other planets in other star systems, as well as our own. But, while definitely sci-fi, Lazarus Code is also a tale that weaves in it's own style of zombie horror. Overall it was an engaging story, some interesting premises, intriguing mysteries, and quick pacing. However, as my initial statement indicates, it also had problems.

Some of the problems were the sorts of things that a decent editor should have fixed, misspellings, grammatical errors, incorrect word usage, and punctuation. Nothing to criticize the author for, they are all the simple sort of mistakes that every writer makes, but they are absolutely the sorts of things that an editor should catch and correct. After all, that is what they are paid to do. The errors were frequent enough that it bugged me a bit, but this is not why I considered giving it a 3 instead of a 4.

Where I struggled to decide if this was just average or notably above average (though not a 5 star exceptional) book is that there are a fair number of stereo-typical, one dimensional characters, and predictable scenarios and outcomes. It's not entirely stereotypes and predictable plot, or it would clearly be a 3 star book. It has some unique characters and unpredictable turns in the plot. It's on the edge between being pulp sci-fi verus something more original and unique.

I have nothing against pulp sci-fi, the key factor being does the story, characters and plot suck me in and make it hard for me to put the book down or not. There were points in Lazarus Code where I had to keep reading, but then there were lulls in the story. Points where either the story-telling answered the questions before starting new mysteries or where the writing allowed me to forget the mystery becoming to focused on action or events that didn't really keep me engaged in the suspense and wanting more.

If I had the option, it would've been a definite 3.5 stars. Without that option, I rounded up to a 4 for this reason: In the end it was a fun and enjoyable book, it is clearly the first in a series. While it wrapped up the story it opened up a lot of avenues for sequels and I want to read the next book, that was the determining factor for me. I want to see where the story goes next.
