



Corre hasta el fin del mundo

Adrian J. Walker

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#1 International Bestseller

"A fresh and frighteningly real take on what 'the end' might be...quite an exciting and nerve-wracking 'run', with characters you believe in and feel for." **New York Times bestselling author Robert McCammon**

Perfect for fans of *The Martian*, this powerful post-apocalyptic thriller pits reluctant father Edgar Hill in a race against time to get back to his wife and children. When the sky begins to fall and he finds himself alone, his best hope is to run – or risk losing what he loves forever.

When the world ends and you find yourself forsaken, every second counts.

No one knows this more than Edgar Hill. Stranded on the other side of the country from his wife and children, Ed must push himself across a devastated wasteland to get back to them. With the clock ticking and hundreds of miles between them, his best hope is to run -- or risk losing what he loves forever.

Corre hasta el fin del mundo Details

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From Reader Review Corre hasta el fin del mundo for online ebook

Emma says

I'm DNFinng this book because the main character is a whiny man child and I can't listen to him any longer.

Michelle Morrell says

A normal fellow finds himself a country and an apocalypse away from his family, with time running out. What will one person do to fix the mistakes of the past and have a chance at a future?

I think this does a good job of contemplating the differences between living and surviving, and how what seems muddled in one state is crystal clear in another.

I read this from start to finish in one day. Partially as a palate cleanser after the megathon that was Dragonbone Chair and partially because I found it quite engaging. (Good apocalypse, too!)

Annet says

Looking backthis was a pleasant surprise, good quality apocalyptic read....

Imagine your country (in this case the UK) is hit by a catastrophic asteroid strike. By chance you realize this in time, take your wife and two kids into the cellar, grab some food and water, and survive. And when you finally get out, the world is full of death and destruction. And then a long road of survival begins in a desolate and destroyed country, you meet some people along the way and form a team, and head for Cornwall where supposedly, ships leave for parts of the world where there is still a life possible. Along the way, you and your family get separated. The world is dark, some people you meet are good, some are bad. Food is scarce.

And you start running to find your family again and make it in time and reach the ships

That's about the story of The end of the World Running Club. Not a pretty story, but truly intriguing. Kept me reading on and on from start to end. Great read. Makes you think what you would do in these circumstances. Some tears even at the end....

"A vivid, gripping story of hope, long-distance running and how we break the limits of our own endurance, just lung-burstingly good"...

Mark Matthews says

(Review originally from my blog: <http://www.markmatthewsauthor.com/201...>)

I don't really do running clubs. I run as I dream—alone. But if I did join a club, it would certainly be to run through a post-apocalyptic wasteland with some new found mates, trying to reach my family before they

shipped off forever. This is part of the scenario in the book, "The End of the World Running Club," a novel by Adrian Walker. The novel is a wonderful, harrowing, epic, witty, and emotional story of the apocalypse and one man's attempt to be the father he wanted to be after the world ends.

I almost cried at the end of this book. Well, I did cry, but nobody saw. If a tear falls in the forest....

The main character, Edgar, is a more than a tad lazy, not a terrible man, but on a scale of 1 to 10 his parenting efforts stop at a 6. One morning after a bit too much to drink, the apocalypse starts to rain down, and he is forced to rise to the occasion. It's time to bunker down. Throughout his adventures, he encounters others who are doing their best to survive, and of course many who have turned savage. Sometimes there is a great notion in the moral decay, but often there are hidden and deadly motives. I couldn't help but imagine the cast of The Walking Dead in comparison journeying through this land. In other ways, this is a UK version of "The Road." It is told with a dry wit, more stoic, almost darkly comedic at times. The philosophical interludes of the main character reflecting on the human condition were told with such unique insight I could have listened all day.

This book is probably 75% apocalyptic story, and 25% running tale, but there is endurance and perseverance inherent in every move. You'll spend time trapped in a cellar gasping for air and water and smelling the stink of your own body. You'll spend time in ravaged cities with scavengers and in military bases trying to salvage something out of the wreckage. But you'll also find great passages of running, most of which focused on the mental aspect of running. You'll want to meet Jesus, you'll want to holler at the rising sun, and you may highlight a ton of passages on your kindle, like I did. Take this one for example:

"That other beast inside you, the one you rarely see? You have it tethered tight. It watches and waits while you mess up your life, fill your body with poison and muddy your mind with worry. For some it takes just one call to free it. For others it takes five hundred miles of agony. But mine was free now, for the first time since I was a boy, running with a grin like a wolf through moonlit bracken. Pain ran alongside me, kindred and beautiful and garinning my grin. I'll always be here, it said. Always, but now we're friends."

Any club that helps a runner make a friend of the pain and sets their beast free is right on.

When I wrote On the Lips of Children and The Jade Rabbit, I was trying to depict running a marathon as more than just running, but as a harrowing adventure of endurance and proving your strength for that which you love. It's a good thing I hadn't read this book first, for I would have found that the story I wanted already had been written. I stumbled upon it by accident as part of the incredible Kindle Unlimited program and am glad I did.

Reading Corner says

[Grimes was my favourite character but her death was ridiculous to me because she was a skilled soldier but managed to be the only one killed by some strongmen with guns. (hide spoiler)]

Mel (Epic Reading) says

The first four chapters would make an amazing short story about an asteroid(s) impact on Earth. I rate those four chapters 5 out of 5. And then the rest of the book comes... and ruins the magic.

The world is scorched, people die, horribleness ensues, and through it all our annoying, whiny lead character (an overweight, disengaged father of 2) leads us on his painfully boring trek.

I'm actually not sure why I kept reading *The End of the World Running Club* to the end. So let's look at what was good and what was bad.

The 4 Great Things

- 1) Like I said the first four chapters are fantastic. I absolutely loved them. Read them and make up your own ending.
- 2) The title, *The End of the World Running Club*, is clever given where the book heads. I do appreciate the sarcasm and irony that is used throughout the world ending story.
- 3) I loved that the lead character is an average 30-something man, Edgar. A father to two small children, with a wife, a moderate house, and a job he goes to because he must. He's the archetype of the regular middle class Joe existing in a first world society.
- 4) The end is a perfect combination of victory and sadness. A way to resolve a story such as this without coming out too optimistic is difficult and I do appreciate that Adrian J. Walker resisted the urge to tie it all in a bow.

The 4 Awful Things

Are you ready for this? The four things that were great are also the same four things I hated. Let me explain:

- 1) It is so frustrating to read four chapters of brilliance and then wait for that magic during the last 3/4 of the book. Only to realize as you approach the end that his boring, annoying dribble of a story is all you're going to get after the amazing start. Makes the rest of the book feel worse than it probably is.
- 2) In most running clubs you, you know, run. While a small part of this book is certainly about running (and it's clear our author has experienced a runners wall, high and all the emotions and pains that come with it); the reality is it's really just your average the world went to hell the moment we lost amenities book. The attempted scary, philosophical mini side stories fall flat. It's so sad to me that Walker created a world where so many things could be done and instead there is no depth to these events.
- 3) Edgar is the most annoying man ever. He constantly complains, gives up and is really lucky to have people with smarts and perseverance around him. I guess while I think I want books about regular people in extraordinary situations maybe I'm totally deluding myself. Maybe I read a lot of sci-fi and fantasy because I want exceptionally competent and capable characters..? All I know for certain is that Edgar made me want to throw him off a cliff; instead of cheering him up the cliff.
- 4) I am not a fan of a book that has you believe one premise throughout the entire book; only to throw that away at the end. There was absolutely no reason for the moment of possible uncertainty that was written in. It's like it was put there because book clubs would salivate over it; not because it made sense to the story or added to the ending in any way. Additionally it felt forced and that is a huge pet peeve for me. Endings

should make sense. There can be twists or reveals, of course, but they need to make sense and feel natural.

Just read Station Eleven instead

Maybe I've just read too many post apocalyptic books lately... or maybe I've just read the best of the best and now no one will ever measure up to Station Eleven (read it if you haven't; amazing piece of literature!). I was moved by Station Eleven, excited to tell everyone I knew about it and loved the side stories and philosophy. In this book the most moved I felt was to close the book and do something else.

Overall I'm not convinced that Edgar ever felt a genuine emotion towards anyone in his family, running club or whatnot. I'm not even sure he felt emotions about himself. When I should have been crying over events that happened I just felt 'meh'. When I should have felt joy and awe, I felt 'meh'. And when I should have been afraid for our characters and their safety I mostly wanted to cheer for the crazy people they were encountering because then maybe the story would end sooner. This just didn't do it for me. Call me out for being a hypocrite, I'm okay with that. Apparently a story about a boring person who barely feels emotions himself meant I just never had any emotions either (except ones that involved being frustrated and annoyed).

But seriously read the first four chapters and then imagine your own end; because they are brilliantly put together. And because the actual journey to the end is just a bunch of running, crazies and a whole mediocre mess of nothing.

To read this and more of my reviews visit my blog at [Epic Reading](#)

Please note: I received an eARC of this book from the publisher via NetGalley. This is an honest and unbiased review.

Dannii Elle says

I received this in exchange for an honest review from NetGalley. Thank you to the author, Adrain J. Walker, and the publisher, Ebury, for this opportunity.

I was so excited to begin this book. A dystopian fiction without a teenage girl protagonist, you say? Count me in. Unfortunately, what inspired me to read this also became the reason for my dislike. I found it so hard to connect with this story when faced with my own hatred of the protagonist.

The protagonist in question, Edgar Hill was basically a slob of a human. He did the bare minimum for his wife and children, and spent the whole novel lamenting his current unfortunate predicaments. The entirety of this was concerned more with his character progression than the actual end of the world, where my own interests lay. When you hate someone as much I did, it is hard to care about his alterations or his progress. It literally took the world ENDING to get him to think about becoming the husband and father his family deserve and desire, and I found this pretty unforgivable.

The writing was beautiful and the plot was enticing, but Edgar just ruined this for me.

Liz Barnsley says

Before reading "The End of the World Running Club" I'd heard a few things about it, both good and bad, turns out that it gets points from me mostly for addictive quality and for its main character, Edgar, who seems to have divided opinion - but who I loved because he was so utterly whiny yet absolutely determined.

Poor Edgar. Really. He drinks a fair bit and is not that fit, he's not particularly happy with his lot in life, finding family life somewhat mundane. Cue fiery asteroids from outer space decimating the UK and elsewhere, enforcing upon him some kind of actual responsibility.

The beginning of this novel was superbly engrossing, as things go pear shaped in spectacular fashion, descriptively you are right in there with the desperate survivors, I read the first 25% of this novel in record time. Then things settle down somewhat with more introspection from Edgar when his family are swooped away and he has little time to do anything except, well, run after them.

Teaming up with a hotch potch of other survivors a kind of twisted type of road trip begins as Edgar attempts to catch up to his family before they are beyond his reach. Literally by running after them. Across destroyed landscape, facing down danger and erm ok he's still a bit whiny really. But it is SO ENGAGING. The rest of the story also encompasses a sort of coming of age for Edgar as he realises what is actually important, hey it doesn't matter how old you are you can still suddenly come into your own. I liked this aspect of the story very much.

As for Bryce well. I'm not even going to go into that, he was our light relief and our conscience in a lot of ways - definitely a character I'd like to know more about away from the rest. Little small request to the author there perhaps?

Overall I really enjoyed this one, I read it over 2 sittings whilst gulping down lots of cups of tea, it is one of those books that you just bang through because you have to know where the journey ends. I was rooting for Edgar and wanting to slap him for the majority of the time, equalling a recommended tag from me.

Tracey the Lizard Queen says

Originally reviewed here: <http://thequeenofblades.blogspot.co.uk>

3.75 Stars

*I received an e-copy from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Ok, so you are an overweight, lazy, almost alcoholic 35 year old father of two. Your kids annoy you, your wife tolerates you - god knows why - and you are a failure. A failure as a man, a failure as a father and not much of a husband either. And then the worlds ends.

Well that escalated quickly.

Naturally, I disliked Edgar from the very start. He is a lazy, drunk, fat slob. A crappy father and even worse husband. But he grew on me, my initial dislike evolved into something akin to sympathy. It really sucks being a modern man. I'm a woman and even I can see that.

I recognized parts of Edgar in some of my male friends, and even in my own husband. They are all drifting around not knowing their place in the world. Their role was always to protect and provide, but these days most women are capable of protecting and providing for themselves and their kids. I'm not suggesting we all go back to the 50's, I like my freedom, thanks. I'm just saying I get it.

So anyway, the world ends, and Edgar is forced to step up and take care of his family. So does he? Will he protect his wife, their little girl and infant son? Well, not quite. He tries, he really tries. When he's not avoiding them. Maybe not them, but the responsibility they bring along with them. All he wants to do is play boy scout while the army takes care of everything.

After one of his scouting missions in Edinburgh goes wrong, he returns to the army base, along with a few others, to discover that his wife and kids are gone. They were evacuated in helicopters along with everyone else. The helicopters are coming back, but they can't stay at the base. Some of the inhabitants of the city are not so friendly, and now they know where they are, thanks to Edgar. They decide to head south, there are boats leaving in a few months, taking people away from the ravaged country they once called home.

Along the way they encounter some very difficult circumstances. Being at the army base they have been pretty shielded from the worst of it. Once they leave they see what has really become of the country, and its citizens. They have all had to do things to survive. Bad things. Violent things. Selfish things. None of them have lasted this long without acquiring some taint on their souls.

It's not until about halfway through that the 'running' actually begins. They soon discover that the roads are totally impassable by car. Every road is a wasteland of craters and wreckage. And so they plan on running. All the way from Carlisle to Cornwall. If you are not familiar with English geography, it's about 450 miles.

This book is as much about the world ending and the things people will do to survive as it is about Edgar's battle with his own personal demons. He is constantly assaulted with his own shame and failure as a person. If only he had been better. If only he had helped out more. If only he didn't spend every evening scoffing a bottle of wine. If only he'd been prepared.

I'd like to take this opportunity to point out the unsung hero of this book. His wife. She was dealing with exactly the same thing as Edgar, even before the world ended. It's just as tough being a modern woman, and yet she got on the chopper. She saved herself and her kids.

Ellie Reynard says

The only good thing about this book is that it had spectacular pace and I only wasted around 5 hours of my life reading it. And yeh I am going to give it a whole two stars because it is at least semi exciting and zombie-run esque.

The characters are paper thin wispy shreds of dialogue some of which have beards. Most of which are men. In fact I wouldn't say there are any "characters" who are women. Even the protagonist Ed's wife Beth who occupies his thoughts in a tiringly circular manner (and only so he can agonise over what a terrible father and man he is) has a list of plot points including "breast feeding" "breast feeding" "not standing up for herself" and [SPOILER] "abandoning her husband to certain death". Really I can't blame her for the last one because Ed is a dull, selfish, misogynistic loser and the only arc he travels in the whole damn novel is that he loses a bit of weight.

I mean good god I wasn't expecting a marvel in gender politics but Walker has Ed lamenting about how he "didn't even know how his house worked" like that's a major failing in the Man qualification checklist, a bunch of guys being surprised when a woman drinks whisky without flinching, and having a hierarchy of fitness classes which go like this:

- 1) Fit men
- 2) Extraordinarily out of shape men
- 3) Women & Young Boys

At one point a guy in group two who can't do a sit up gets DEMOTED to the women's group. Token woman Grimes (of military ranking that I forget) is immediately and meekly thrust aside when the men's running club is launched into peril that you'd think she'd be the most qualified to handle but what can we do. It's a man's world even in the apocalypse apparently.

Marianne says

The End of the World Running Club is the first novel by British author, Adrian J. Walker. Edgar Hill is a husband and father of two, albeit not a very good one. He is quick to shift responsibility for care of Alice and Arthur on his hard-working wife, Beth. Ed is pretty lazy, if he can get away with it; he also drinks too much, eats too much and he definitely does not like running or, for that matter, physical exertion of any sort. But now he is running. He is running from Edinburgh to Cornwall.

Ed and his family were very lucky (no real thanks to Ed) to survive the apocalyptic event that ravaged Edinburgh, Britain, and probably much of the Northern Hemisphere. And now everything is different. There is some sort of rescue imminent, but somehow Ed and a few others miss out. His family is on the other side of the country, and he is desperate to join them. A group of seven set out: three soldiers, who seem to take charge, and four men from very different backgrounds. They soon realise that no vehicle is going to get them where they need to be. But can a grossly unfit man, even with the best of intentions and the most fervent encouragement, run there?

While the post-apocalyptic novel has been done many, many times, Walker's take on it is a good one. As well as the tensions within the group, there are the encounters with other survivors. Of course, the extremes of human behaviour are exhibited: the group do their best to maintain decency, but there are those whose focus on their own survival leads them just one tiny step short of cannibalism. Gross cruelty, selfishness, cowardice and a hunger for power are countered with valour, incredible kindness, amazing generosity and altruism.

Walker is skilled at portraying the sort of hopeless, sort of misfitting male, as readers of *The Last Dog on Earth* will know, and although Ed Hill is nothing like Reginald Hardy, there are similarities. He gives them both wise observations: "I believe what I believe to make life less terrifying. That's all beliefs are: stories we tell ourselves to stop being afraid. Beliefs have very little to do with the truth." Certainly, Ed does have some insight: "I was no hunter, no engineer, no fighter. I was nothing the world needed me to be. Nothing that my family needed me to be. I did what my body wanted me to do: eat, sleep, stay still, fuck, eat, sleep."

Walker's descriptive prose is often gorgeous. On a glass of whiskey: "I took a particularly large mouthful. It

was glorious, nothing short of it. The way I was feeling – bone soaked and frozen – a capful of cheap supermarket rum would have done the job, but this was something special. I could taste it immediately, as if a door I'd never seen had been flung open onto a long, wide landscape of forest, earth and ocean, tall stone pillars clawed with brine and weed, cold starry skies, ancient, candlelit rooms, deep eyes, short lives and whispered promises. I felt as if somebody had filled my head with a thousand years of secret, guarded memories.” A superb debut novel.

F.R. says

The apocalypse has arrived and a man is forced to run (pretty much) from Scotland to Cornwall to find the family which has been evacuated ahead of him.

There's a decidedly metropolitan middle-class viewpoint to this end of the world story. I suppose I should have expected that from the title, as a running club is a particularly middle-class pursuit. It's made more noticeable though by the fact all the human threats they face come from either the working class or country folk. They come from the 'other' as seen by a middle-class man who had a nice house in the suburbs. The argument could be made that the book tries to mitigate against this by having two of the running club be from working class backgrounds, but when filtered through the viewpoint of our middle class narrator, they remain different and other to him. It doesn't matter if he somewhat bonds with them, if a certain reliance does build up over the course of the tale, they're still not really his type of people.

Much more than a book about the end of the world, this is a story about an inadequate husband and father who is trying to improve himself. But the apocalyptic scenario offers a number of scary, thrilling and inspiring moments to complement the navel gazing.

Stevie O'Connor says

A really fantastic book that I would highly recommend. I don't want to spoil it, but this is a really emotionally intelligent book, full of dark humour, excellent plot twists and a certain kind of empathy and sweetness. If I hadn't been summer gallivanting, I'd have read this in a day. Defo going to check this author out for his other books....

Andrew Smith says

Ed was asleep when it started, still feeling the effects of a drink it two too many, and by the time he worked out what was going on it was already almost too late. Grabbing the only shelter he could think of he secreted his family (he, wife and their two children) away into their cellar while asteroids worked their horrors.

I must admit that I was drawn to this book by its title: apocalyptic events and running had ticked a couple of boxes before I got to page one. I also liked the fact that it was set in the UK. I've read quite a few books in this genre, but none set on these shores. Alas, from the start this one provided a somewhat rocky ride (apologies for the pun). The early events were well written but didn't convince. Would it really happen like this? I didn't think so. Then the account of the initial aftermath for Ed and his crew hit a few false notes for

me too – the behaviours just didn't feel quite right.

I don't wish to give too much away so I'll be a bit sketchy from here. At some point after the asteroid strikes, Ed finds himself part of a small, dysfunctional group which included:

- A huge man who moaned and shouted a good deal and clearly disliked Ed.
- A small military woman who the huge bloke also disliked, though not half as much as she disliked him.
- An Aussie who claimed to have once run the breadth of Australia. Needless to say, the big guy didn't believe a word of it.
- A posh-boy ex-banker. I don't need to tell you what the moaner thought about him.

Events from this point seem to lurch from one set-piece to another, with dull interludes breaking up the action. At times I thought it read like a cheap television series, full of scenes that didn't quite fit together and full of characters I struggled to feel any empathy for. There were very few nice or helpful people here, instead the world now seemed to be populated by buffoon caricatures, weird cult groups and vicious gangs. Where did all the normal people go?

Then I had a couple more specific grumbles:

1. There is some running here but the detail wasn't quite right. Some long distances were covered but there was little to no reference to the struggles and strains of such an endeavour, over and above some general complaints regarding tiredness. What about the blisters and muscle strains? What about looking for some helpful footwear to make life a bit easier? I know this is delving into the micro detail, but any book purporting to cover long distance running should at least nod its head to some basic, associated issues.
2. Moany Man's constant shouting got right on my wick! It might have been bearable if it were on a printed page but on audio I was forever being assaulted by the narrators voice hollering in my ear! Be forewarned if you decide to go this route.

On the upside, towards the end I did start to care a little about a couple of the survivors. But really only a smidgen. In summary, I found this to be over-long and poorly conceived. If you're a fan of this type of tale then take it from me, there's much better stuff out there. About two and a half stars but rounded down due to the hollering.

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Gertie says

This book was a little surprising - it starts out with a bang, a character who is a bit miserable, yet relatable, who is struck by tragedy along with his family.

For a short period in the book (say 30% in?) I started to lose interest, thinking it was going to be a run of the mill post-apocalyptic book.

But then shit goes down. It's one thing after the other - and as most fans of post-apoc fiction will admit, we kind of like that sort of thing. Having the SHTF is a *good* thing in these kinds of stories.

By the time the title makes sense, the novel is more than half way through, and the gang is hit by still more obstacles — despite our penchant for the whole shit-hitting-fan business, I think most of us do want our main characters to overcome those obstacles. :-) Waiting to see what crazy challenge was going to come up next was part of what made this novel interesting; every time you think they've caught a break, something else comes up.

Many people would say this is a character driven novel. I'd have to agree, to an extent. While we don't really get too deep into the thoughts of our main character Edgar, nor the other characters who surround him, this story is very much about how the end of the world changes one man.
