



Evolution

Bryan James

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The dead have risen. A lethal virus has decimated millions, turning the infected into the walking dead.

Society has crumbled, cities are in flames, and the human race is on the verge of extinction.

Somehow, Mike McKnight has survived. So far. From his cell in a mental institution, he battled the ghosts of his past and the throngs of undead to uncover and retrieve the last vestige of mankind's hope to fight the deadly plague.

Now, from the deck of an aircraft carrier, to the farmlands of the Eastern Shore and the very heart of the nation's capital, Mike carries the hope of an entire race. With him rides the only chance at fighting the spread of the virus, and turning back the tide of infection.

But the undead are changing. They are evolving. Hunting in larger groups and banding together to track their prey, that are more dangerous predators than ever before. To survive, he will have to learn to adapt, and to come to grips with the most important evolution of all: his own.

Evolution Details

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Author : Bryan James

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From Reader Review Evolution for online ebook

Liza says

In lieu of summary, I'll let my mid-reading commentary stand:

28.0% "This is a man who thinks he's funny but really just isn't. I want to tell him to shut up and smack him in the back of the head a la Gibbs and DiNozzo."

28.0% "Seriously, I just don't have a lot of sympathy for the main character in this novel. His asshole quotient has been upped exponentially since the last book, and he is a deeply flawed character that I just can't relate to. (By which I mean he makes a lot of shitty decisions, the repercussions of which have gotten a lot of people killed.)"

88.0% "I don't even know why George got out of the damn bus."

And that really sums it up. I don't even know why George got out of the damn bus.

Sadly, if the third book were free (or at my library), I'd still read it. Also: I dreamed of zombies last night. :p

Patrick Gibson says

SPOILER ALERTS if you haven't read the first book so stop, purchase it, read it, and then come back here...

Did you read the first one yet? Ok... then you can continue on...

Mike, our main character, is a former movie star/action hero who had been lead to believe that he had murdered his wife and then was sentenced to a mental hospital. There, he was kept so drugged that he had gaps in his memory as to what actually happened. When the apocalypse breaks out, he escapes from the facility with Dr Kate (a pyschiatrist)and some other patients (Pancake!). The first book details their adventures--to not only survive but get to the facility where his wife worked to try to find a cure or vaccine for the infection.

When this book starts, he wakes up in blank white room and wonders if it is all just another drug induced dream but nope, safe on a ship, with the vial of the vaccine. He and Kate are trying to decide who they should give the last remaining vial of vaccine to in order to help save the rest of the survivors in the US. The rest of the book follows their struggles to get to the Pentagon. Of course, just because they are safe when they start doesn't mean that they will stay that way :-)

The characters are highly developed and the type that you would like to have over for drinks. Very likable, very funny, very snarky (which is my favorite type of person) and best of all, not the "super hero can do anything personality" that you often find in these types of books. Mike is very self depreciating and has a great sense of humor and Kate keeps up with him the entire way. We get to meet new people that are as highly developed as characters which is very nice - many times, the secondary cast in a book are just that - secondary. Not in LZR.. And don't worry - there is plenty of gore, cool weapons, and action scenes - something for everyone. As a plus, although no one is asking for the "line" that Mike is famous for like in the first book, the author does manage to slip it in once ..

The author's sense of humor is refreshing and not forced. It flows naturally within the book and each of the

circumstances that the characters encounter. The dialogue is written so realistically that you feel like you are actually in the same room taking place in the conversation.

If you are still undecided, make sure you download the sample - Mike's awaking in the ship and his subsequent discovery by Kate (and the mishap that occurs) sets the tone for the entire book and gives you a great look into what to expect in the chapters ahead. Personally, I am just trying to decide when to mourn the death of the family cow (and you have to read the book to get that reference).

The Cats Mother says

I read the first book in the series a couple of years ago and remembered quite enjoying it, and the sequel, which was also free from Amazon, has been sitting on my Kindle ever since. Being on holiday, I'm using the Kindle more than usual, so it has been an opportunity to pick out some different books. I couldn't remember much of what had happened but the author fills in enough backstory that it wasn't a problem: (spoilers in case you have not read it) Movie star Mike McKnight, who had found himself incarcerated in a psychiatric hospital for the murder of his scientist wife at the start of the zombie apocalypse, and escaped alongside a beautiful doctor, had a series of adventures and near misses on his way to meeting up with the scientist who created and released the virus. It turned out his wife had the vaccine against it, and injected him with it, but only after having turned into a zombie herself. That book ended on a cliffhanger with the heroes in a helicopter crash.

Book two, Evolution, begins with Mike waking up on board an aircraft carrier where he and other survivors have been taken by the military. Mike has discovered that the vaccine has made him immune to zombie bites, and given him and Kate, who also received it, accelerated healing powers. His friend Hartliss, was gravely wounded in the accident, and Mike knows that the vaccine, of which he holds the only remaining vial, is the only thing that can save him. It does, but things go wrong and the ships captain gets hold of the vaccine, and orders it to be given to everyone ASAP. Unfortunately it turns out that in the wrong circumstance, it actually turns people, and the release of new undead in the ship has catastrophic consequences. The friends only just escape, and decide to travel to the Pentagon in the hope that their blood can save humanity, picking up some new friends along the way, including a 12 year old orphan called Ky. (Why you would name a character after a brand of personal lubricant I have no idea.)

This is not great literature but it is a rollicking adventure with nearly constant action, a fair bit of sarcasm, and it stays true to the classic zombie mythology (as far as I know, it's not a genre I've read a lot of, but we do watch the Walking Dead, and there are a lot of similarities.) I liked the characters, especially George and Romeo, and probably will continue with the series now, once I reduce the TBR pile a little...

Irma Hernandez says

Excellent story telling

Great characters

Great story telling and excellent attention to detail, I felt that I was fighting right along side them.

James says

Great book. Just as good as the first one.

Michelle Willms says

Unrelenting action

Follow former actor and convicted murderer as he and his friends battle hordes of zombies as they try to get a vaccine for the virus to the remaining government. Great reading!

Bob Yates says

Good book

Interesting take on zombies and how they might arise and how to defeat them. A a a a a

Debra says

Entertainment not great art. That's awesome.

Second book is about as good as the first. Well described scenes give it a feel of reading a comic book. I like the main character and don't hate the female lead for a change. They introduced a kid this time and I didn't hate her either.

I was pretty ill when I read this book and it was still easy to follow. The internal dialogue feels natural and often very funny.

I will be purchasing the next book.

Cristy Bullard says

Couldn't put it down!

I loved the first book, and was skeptical when author stated he enjoyed writing the 2nd book even more than the first. Usually the second in a series is more back story and less exciting with less forward movement. I enjoyed reading the 2nd even more than the 1st! Characters are great, & personable. While zombies are the new beasties being bombarded on the messes, replacing the vampire, these first two are a great start in a series that should be a must read for anyone reliving into this genera or that reads it regularly. Fine work Mr. James, & thank you for not making me regret continuing after the end of the first book that made me want to throttle you! Turns out it was a very clever trap that thank God really didn't have me till chasing the man in black after all!

Faye, la Patata says

I thought the first book was better.

Honestly, I didn't feel like finishing this novel. But I did. I tried. I struggled. It was okay, but I felt there were a lot more to be desired. First of all, I have issues with the two main characters ALWAYS on the run. Like seriously, they keep on getting rescued, and each time they're rescued, the rescuers die after, and they survive, and always manage to find something/someone else to rescue them. Even *I* would get tired of that, if I were in the main character's shoes. I felt like being dragged here and there and not given the chance to rest and catch my breath. :(

And oh my dear lord, can the main guy please just stop saying that he finds the main girl beautiful??!! Like we get it already - she's hot, she's sexy, she's downright beautiful, but it is ALWAYS mentioned, ALWAYS referenced. Is that just necessary? And there were times such mentions were made while they were on a run. They're running from zombies, soldiers are after them and then boom - "Oh God, she's beautiful."

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And I found it truly weird that the two main characters find it so easy to move on. One of their friends they helped escape from the ship got KABOOMed and then after a few running here and there, they flirt with each other like nothing happened?! He'd rather say "She's beautiful (again)" than at least grieve a little? Sure, everybody has different tastes, but this one bit just strikes a bit odd to me.

Overall, it's okay. But not as good as the first book. Hell, even perspectives was better, and that was less than 50 or so pages. ¬_¬

DruidGirl says

Awesome action packed book

I never knew what was going to happen next. I expect the worst, then something good would happen. Love it

Michelle Gardiol says

Great books

This is the 3rd or 4th story I've read in this series and they are great though I still for some reason missed out the 1st book. I think its because the order they came in doesn't show on the front of the book as the name mainly, stays the same but half changes so it's a little confusing but the stories are good enough to re-read.

Brad DeLorme says

Definitely an awesome take on the zombie apocalypse

Santana says

I loved the second book in this series. Lost a lot of sleep that's for sure. I could not put it down, it was very entertaining. I would definitely recommend it. There is a part in the story that gave me the chills big time!! I can't wait for a third one!! :)

Dianne says

Evolution means change, evolving into something different, sometimes good, sometimes bad and for our hero, Mike the ex-movie star, his evolution is amazing, from pampered star to insane inmate to post-apocalyptic hero on a mission, just short of being a super hero, his sense of timing is still amazing. The evolution of the zombies, seeming to be smarter, more organized and now banding together, is not so good for our hero or humanity. The virus that claimed them is decimating the world population and the cure is running for his life trying to get to a safe haven.

Who can be trusted? Can Mike make it to the people who will help him save the world? Is it possible that a man used to playing the action hero may have become one in reality? Will he get the girl in the end? Will he survive to the end?

Bryan James is back with **Evolution** and the action is just as intense, the gore is just as gross and the political intrigue is getting even more twisted as truths are found and more questions are raised as what is left of humanity gets a little more feral with each passing day. Follow Mike and Kate as their guardian angels must be working overtime to get them to safety and the scientists they think can use their secrets to save the world.

Let go of reality once again, prepare for humor in the strangest of circumstances and know that heroes will die in an effort to end the zombie foodfest.

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