



Geddy's Moon

John Mulhall

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Tyler is an amnesiac, drifting aimlessly across the country, struggling to regain his lost memories. When he arrives in Geddy's Moon, a sleepy town in the middle of the Kansas wheat fields, fragments of his past begin to resurface. But as he establishes new relationships in town, and spends time with the local librarian and her son, he finds himself tormented by nightmares that grow more unsettling each night. What horrific events took place before Tyler arrived in Geddy's Moon? And could he have brought a terrifying – and possibly supernatural – danger along with him? As the pieces of his fractured memory begin to fall into place, he fears that it may already be too late to keep himself, and those he's begun to care about, safe from a vicious evil.

Geddy's Moon Details

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Author : John Mulhall

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From Reader Review Geddy's Moon for online ebook

Blayne Alexander says

I don't read a lot of fiction. I used to, but after falling head first into true crime books, rock star autobiographies and forensic medicine, fiction just never felt real anymore. (Same reason I can't watch dramas on TV). But Geddy's Moon has changed that. With very minimal exception John Mulhall is effortlessly able to put you in a scenario regardless of how awkward, uncomfortable or horrible with such realistic precision, that I can't even number how many public outburst this book caused. It takes everything I used to enjoy about horror / thriller fiction and wraps it in a new face, dripping in fresh blood, waiting for the lights to go out. But it's more than just horror / thriller. This book is so genre bending that even the slightest description of it feels like you're spoiling something. Don't ask anyone what it's about, just read it. If you're a fan of this kind of book then you won't be let down. If you're a fan of reading, then you won't be let down, simply because it's apparent all the way through that John Mulhall is LOVING that he's able to tell you this story. You can literally hear and feel the excitement in his words. That's the trademark of an epic storyteller.

When I finished 'Geddy's Moon' I picked up the next book on my list; "Just Kids" by Patti Smith. A rock star autobiography of sorts, and realized that I couldn't do it. I need some time. I am probably going to find another work of fiction first.

Just as Danny Elfman needs to look over his shoulder these days to keep an eye on what Trent Reznor is up to...so should the Stephen Kings and Dean Koontz' of the world. Watch out all you Robert McCammons, Peter Straubs, and Richard Mathesons - John Mulhall is at the party...and he brought treats.

Lauren Scharhag says

My husband grew up in a series of small Kansas towns very much like the fictional town of Geddy's Moon. In one town, there was a nice, elderly man who lived on his street who liked to fix kids' bicycles for them. The man mostly kept to himself. He had no family. Everyone assumed he was retired. Then he died.

His death made local news. It turned out that the man was a multi-millionaire. He left a sizeable endowment to the local Ursuline Academy.

All this by way of saying that Mulhall's repeated and rather tiresome assertion that "there are no secrets in a small town" is utter bullshit. I don't believe Mulhall has ever spent a day in his life in a small town, much less one in Kansas. (Which, by the way, is not referred to as "the Wheat State." Yes, it's true that Kansas is considered the bread basket of the country. Yes, there's a website out there that refers to it as such. But trust me, no one around here calls it that, and it's not on any sign I've ever seen. Its official nickname is the "Sunflower State.") Having spent my fair share of time in small towns, not only do I disagree that they can't harbor secrets, but I find it scarier to think that you do not, in fact, have any idea what might be going on right next door.

In fact, Mulhall proves that very point when a werewolf comes to town in a 1980s California suburb.

Don't get me wrong. Geddy's Moon is not a bad book. It is competently written, though it does not have what I would call sparkling prose. Mulhall is frequently repetitive (after the fifth time or so that one of the characters intoned, very ominously, "There are no secrets in small towns," I was close to turning it into a drinking game. It might've made getting those first 100 pages more palatable for me.) I was constantly

distracted by Mulhall's poor attempts at Midwest speech patterns. I was also put off by the cardinal sin so many writers commit -- having the characters call each other by name repeatedly in conversation -- that never ceases to make me gnash my teeth.

He also has a slight tendency to tell and not show, and to tell the reader things that we are perfectly capable of figuring out for ourselves. For example, the character Taryn is a single mom. We know this about her. She takes her parenting role very seriously. But he sees fit to underscore it for us by saying, "After all, she was a single mom in a small town. And Jonah was her number-one priority." Thanks for that sledgehammer to the noggin. I would never have gotten it otherwise. And by the way, does it make a difference, being a single mom in a small town vs. the big city?

Anyway. Stephen King's influence is painfully apparent in these pages, which may or not be a bad thing—in fact, the parts of the book that I find to be the strongest seem to owe the most to *It*, *The Body*, *The Talisman*, and other King stories that feature children protagonists. But then . . . there's the rest of the book to contend with. Again, it's not a bad book. But it is a deeply flawed book, and sometimes that's even more frustrating.

Another thing Mulhall and King have in common—Mulhall says he started writing this book when he was 19. King began penning his *Dark Tower* opus at that age.

But Mulhall is not King. Not yet. I would like very much to see a mature work from him.

The description of *Geddy's Moon* is somewhat misleading. Yes, it starts off with a man named Tyler, who is suffering from amnesia. He's working in the titular small town as a hired hand on a wheat farm. He begins to remember things. But that's only the beginning.

Tyler remembers that his real name is Joel S. Logan. He is a horror author-- another King conceit, one that was worn out even when King was doing it back in the 80s. (I find writers writing about writers to be incredibly self-indulgent.) He recalls growing up in Fairview Park, California, the summer before he and his best buddies entered high school. The summer of '83.

I wish I had known going into it that this was a werewolf story. I'm not overly fond of the hairy brutes. I find them to be very limited in terms of character potential, and Mulhall did little to dispel that belief. In this book, there is a good werewolf and a bad werewolf. They are brothers named Seth and Simon, but they might as well be Cain and Abel, Jacob and Esau, perhaps even Goofus and Gallant. Mulhall goes to considerable effort creating a mythos for these two, dating back to the 12th century, which I did not find particularly believable. (Literacy in 12th century England? Doubtful. Studies of Greek mythology? Even more unlikely. Arabian alchemy? Oddly, that was the only thing I didn't have trouble swallowing.) Seth is Evil with a capital E. He's a treacherous, murdering, usurping bastard. He's bad to the bone. Always has been. I don't find that sort of villain particularly interesting. I like motives, you see. And Seth in the modern-day, terrorizing women and children, spitting playground curse words, just made him that much more tiresome. But you can imagine how just such a person would behave if they have gained the power to turn into a vicious, razor-clawed beast.

One thing that the Simon and Seth backstory does not make clear is how they have not managed to find a way to kill each other. Simon alludes to this centuries' long struggle between the two of them in which they have, occasionally, neutralized each other. But how is it that, after eight or nine hundred years you haven't come up with a more permanent solution? How is it that no one else has? Supposedly, Seth has been pillaging and terrorizing all this time. Why hasn't someone taken a rocket launcher to his ass, a la *Buffy*?

This is a common problem with immortal characters—you see it with vamps all the time. When you've been around for so long, you have a tendency to get static. And static characters are boring.

Which brings me back to the scenes in California from Joel's youth. The characters and the era really come to life—mainly Joel and his friends, of which, Richard was especially intriguing in a Daryl Dixon sort of way. Parents, siblings, and neighbors put in appearances, but I thought the female characters fell a bit flat. Perhaps werewolves are a metaphor for male rites of passage, but for me, that didn't excuse the way that Joel's sister and one of Seth's female victims (called a "whore") come off as bimbos, or that Joel's wife was described as having "remarkably smooth skin" for 34. Because I guess 30 is over-the-hill for women, and we should just expect to become shriveled up old prunes?

The parts where the boys confront Seth was absolutely thrilling—though I couldn't help but think of the scene in *It* where the Losers confront Pennywise in the abandoned house. And no one but the kids know that this supernatural evil is going on because you never really do know what might be going on right next door. Like many King protagonists, a psychic bond is formed—not amongst themselves, but between the boys and Simon, who exists . . . er, somewhere, in some form of astral limbo.

In another section of the book, there's a rather misguided foray into a military subplot in which the US government investigates beasties and unwittingly resurrects Seth. It's not that I don't think that the government wouldn't have such a division, but the fact that it took up such a chunk of the book and didn't add much had me skipping some pages. Why couldn't Mulhall just have shown a single scene in which the scientists reassemble Seth's skeleton and move on?

I'm happy to report that the ending indicates that Mulhall is planning some upcoming adventures around Richard, who, I believe, came off as the real hero, both in Joel's youth and in the story overall. I'd be on board for that, though please, no werewolves.

C.K. Webb says

GEDDY'S MOON was written by debut novelist John Mulhall and was published by Blanket Fort Books in February 20th, 2013. You can learn more about John by visiting his website at www.johnmulhall.com

Geddy's Moon can be described with only one word... Masterpiece! The characters are full of life and can be seen by the reader as clearly as if they were standing right in front of you. The level of emotion achieved by the writer is a true thing of beauty and not something you easily find amongst debut novelists. I fell in love with the characters and found myself twisted up with every emotion they felt... I had to know more, I had to take that journey with them. I am so glad I did.

'Geddy's Moon' is a quaint little town in Kansas. Like so many small towns, Geddy's Moon has a few secrets of its own and doesn't plan on keeping them hidden for long. Tyler has been trying to recover his memory for some time when he finds himself in the windswept wheat fields of Geddy's Moon; a new life ahead of him. He meets a woman and begins spending time with her and her son. On the surface, everything seems great, but it is what's just beneath the surface that's got Tyler on edge.

As each night in Geddy's Moon brings more and more vivid nightmares, Tyler is unsure if those around him are safe; unsure if he is even who he thinks he is. As the dreams become more real, so do the childhood memories that began to race back in; memories that can't possibly be real... or can they?

The story is complex, but well thought out. There are some horrifying moments, some brilliant twists-&-

turns and the ending is, for lack of a better word, perfect!

I have seen so many readers comparing Geddy's Moon to the likes of Stephen King and even Dean Koontz (a pretty sweet comparison might I add?), BUT...

I WILL NOT BE DOING THAT...

However, I will tell you that Geddy's Moon is a book unlike any you have read and though the narrative feels familiar, like an old friend whose face has faded in memory over time, but whose voice stays with you and lingers, John Mulhall has stood up and screamed to the rafters and he has done it with a voice ALL his own! A truly new voice has emerged... Horror fans take notice!

I am giving Geddy's Moon a much deserved 5-spider rating and recommending it to anyone who isn't afraid of the dark!

CK Webb for WebbWeaver Reviews <http://bit.ly/HWQKW>

Michael Kundin says

Geddy's Moon is a tightly woven novel containing the perfect mixture of mystery and suspense. The deftly placed horror and paranormal scenes are guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat. I couldn't put the book down, every spare moment was dedicated to the next page until the climax which, manages to satisfy and leave the reader wanting more. I sincerely hope there is a sequel in the works. Mulhall is a word smith worthy of a position in the horror genre next to Clive Barker and Stephen King.

Bob Milne says

Amnesia. It's one of the most overused tropes in entertainment history, overplayed to the point that it has become a soap opera punch line - and rightly so. While it can be effective when resolved in the right way, all too often it's drawn out for the sake of dramatic effect. Juliette's prolonged amnesia on Grimm is a perfect example of where a desperate attempt to generate a little genre fails miserably.

Tie that amnesia to the proverbial drifter, and you've dug yourself a literary hole that many readers won't care to escape.

Fortunately, John Mulhall understands the risk involved in building a story around a drifter's amnesia. While it launches Geddy's Moon, the amnesia here is exploited just long enough to help establish some mystery, and then promptly resolved. It ends up being one of those rare instances where the trope works, and where the story is stronger for using it wisely, allowing for a very nice narrative reveal. There's such a sense of anticipation created through Tyler's dreams and his snippets of memories, we not only care what's happened to him, we're desperate to understand just what he's tried so hard to forget . . . and why.

Mulhall's work here reminds of Jonathan Mayberry, a literary nod to the likes of King and Koontz, but one that stops short of being a homage or an imitation. It's more an acknowledgement of just how effective, how narratively compelling those older stories are, updated for a new generation of readers.

There's a great story here, built upon a solid mystery and a truly chilling sense of horror. It's a story with several twists and turns, many of them surprising, some of them even shocking, but all of them consistent

with the progression of the story. There are no cheap twists here, and no forced gotcha moments. Mulhall evokes strong emotional reactions on the part of the reader, but does so fairly. More than that, it's a story driven by great characters, men and women who are already being developed the moment they first appear on the page. It's hard not to become connected to these characters, to identify and sympathize with them, which is (of course) key to making us care about those narrative surprises.

The pacing, for the most part, is excellent, with only the ending coming across as a little rushed. There's a lot of detail, and a lot of time invested in developing scenes and settings, but it all flows well. While I sometimes found myself impatient to get on with the story, to find out how it was all going to be resolved, that's not a comment on the pacing or the level of detail, but on my investment in the fate of the world created.

I hate to keep making comparisons, but if you're a fan of the 'classics' of King, Koontz, Straub, McCammon, and their peers, where the supernatural element is just as important, just as well-developed, and just as entertaining as the character element, then you are definitely going to enjoy the read.

Originally reviewed at Beauty in Ruins

Audra Ely says

What more could you ask for in a book? I cried, got angry, laughed, and thought my heart would beat out of my chest on several occasions. Geddy's Moon was amazing from start to finish and was full of suspense that kept me wanting to continue reading to see what could possibly happen next! Just when I thought I knew the outcome, author John Mulhall found a way to surprise me and pull me in deeper. If you are going to read this phenomenal book make sure that you designate time because you will not want to put it down. I can not wait for the next book from John Mulhall. He will be an author that I will await anxiously for the next book to be released!!!

Christopher Depalma says

So.....I have really worked hard over the past few years at being as honest as I can be, both with myself, and with others. I have come to realize the tremendous value in doing so. While reading this book, I found myself feeling very open to the idea that I was going to be as real as possible about my feelings, and Interest that occurred throughout the story. I started the book with no pre framed period of time that I was going to read it in, and found myself Naturally and organically re drawn to reading this book over and over again, to the extent that I finished the 469 pages in less then 48 hours. What I think that John has done Masterfully here, is bring the reader's to a story that at many times can seem very familiar, borderline Nostalgia , but deliver's such a great combination of twists, originality, and timing, which really ties this book into something very special. Reading this book can really give you a vacation from the daily grind, and set you down into a trip through an edge of your seat, rich in story and context, Horror/Suspense Thriller. Great Job!

Shannon says

Geddy's Moon is so much more than just a supernatural thriller, it's a study of relationships and the lengths we will go to in order to protect them. I found myself in constant awe of the twists and turns that John Mulhall took me on as the reader, and the genres the book straddled. Every time I thought all the questions had been answered and that there was nowhere else to possibly go, the author took me around another bend. I first read this book in pieces but found myself rereading it again after I finished, this time in just a few hours, still devouring every detail and picking up clues I somehow missed the first time. I was wrapped up in each character's story and wanted to know more....How? What??? Why??? Even after reading the book two times, I find myself wanting to read it again to find anything else I may have missed, and to revisit the characters I grew to love and care about. I can only hope that there is a sequel coming. This is truly an amazing book and it is hard to believe that John Mulhall is a first time author. Don't judge this book by its cover, it is so much more, let it take you on a journey you won't soon forget.

Dianna D says

Geddy's Moon, Kansas is a cozy little town far away from big cities like Los Angeles figuratively and literally, and a place some folks settle down for that very reason. Maybe that's why the town's sheriff is not as welcoming as some of the townsfolk when Tyler, a drifter who can't remember who he is or where he came from, wanders in to work as a laborer at a local farm. While the sheriff has a hunch he's hiding something and perhaps running from trouble, Tyler gains the friendship and trust of others as he begins to unlock his troubling dreams. The trickle of memories becomes a flood that cannot be stopped and brings him back to the start of a nightmare his mind had allowed him to forget so long ago. The suspense and horror start on page one and don't let up for a moment. Whomever or whatever terrorising this town and Fairview Park before it has no mercy on adults and children alike. And it will not stop, just like Geddy's Moon does not stop bringing the chills. Readers who grew up in the 70s/80s will be pleased over and over at the memories of their own childhood that are evoked just as Tyler's begin to resurface. However, any fans of horror or an exceptionally well told tale will enjoy this walk - or run - through the woods. The author John Mulhall brings each character, of this world or any other, to life and does the same for their surroundings without sacrificing the fast paced action. Highly recommended, although doors, windows and noisy back gates should be secured before reading. Maybe leave a light or two on as well.

Babus Ahmed says

The book starts with the unearthing of something that should have stayed buried. A spate of murders, a trio of boys charged with stopping them. The story goes beyond just the overcoming of an evil entity and provides a history which is totally enthralling. I loved the fact our curiosity was satisfied within this book and yet there is still a place for a sequel and loose ends to be tied up. I make no apologies for being cryptic as you need to read the twists and turns without it being ruined by spoilers.

This generally well-written and action packed novel is fresh, atmospheric and delivers. Not one to miss!

Darin White says

Mr. Mullhall deftly weaves a plot that is clearly palpable. Through masterful character development, the reader is drawn into the reality that this novel generates with thoughtful (dare I say), wicked intent. I found myself so completely drawn into the plight of the book's protagonist, I felt as though I were recalling events

from my own past. The supporting characters receive sufficient development for the reader to feel them, but not so much that they detract focus from the work's hero - a delicate balance to achieve.

As a fan of the horror/thriller genre all of my life, I rarely discover material that departs from "tried and true" formulae. Geddy's Moon is an intelligent redux of stories so many of us fans of horror love so well. With painstaking attention to detail, Mr. Mulhall introduces us to new and fascinating theories based on legendary themes. The descriptions of the settings and locations within the novel's plot momentarily pull the reader into a fantasy world, only to crash them unapologetically back into the world of horror. It is an e-ticket ride that I enjoyed from start to finish.

It has been stated elsewhere in other reviews, but I'll say it again here: This work does NOT possess the attributes of a Freshman effort. Let's just hope that whatever nightmares Mr. Mullhall experienced to inspire this novel are not finished with him yet - we want more.

eReaderPerks says

Wow! Ok, I am not just excited about the total gem of a book called Geddy's Moon. I am even more excited because I have found an amazing talent in a brand-new-to-me author named John Mulhall and can't believe this is his debut novel. Yay! A fabulous new author to read! My review of this book is up on my site at www.ereaderPerks.com. This is a can't miss Horror story and right this minute it's free on Amazon!

Lia Burres says

Spoiler Alert!:

A wonderful horror book with lots of Stephen King type writing. It didn't take much to grab me into this book. (Even though I'm not really suppose to read horror books as a rule from my husband, after watching Stephen King's The Mist and he said I slugged him... still don't think I did, really. If I had, my hand would had known it.)

Tyler, which didn't know anything of his past due to having amnesia, was in a town very far away. He had no idea how he got there, who he was, where he was from or anything else. All he knew is that he was trying very hard to remember who he was or even a simple part of his past. He was hired on as a farm hand on a farm that grew wheat. He had boarding at a cafe that offered a room to him. The old woman that ran it couldn't believe that he had done anything bad, but knew she felt sorry for him and allowed him to have a room above the cafe.

Soon, Tyler started seeing a girl from the local library that had a son that was about 10 years old. She tried to help by bringing him books that would help him learn about amnesia and even some things that she enjoyed reading. One of the books that she took to him to read, ended up recovering his memory. It was a book that he had written many years before and realized that his real name is Joel. The book was written as a fiction book, but in reality is was a non-fiction that he'd written about many years before in California as he was a child and so were his friends.

As a child, Joel and his two friends Richard and Tommy had to stop a serial killer. He was back and tracking Joel and he had to warn his lady friend that her son and her had to leave that they were in danger. The killer were coming for them due make Joel suffer.

You have got to read this if you're a fan of Stephen King or love wacked out horror stories. Very well written and on a scale of 1 to 10, certainly a 10!

LadyCalico says

I usually avoid paranormal novels, thinking them to be paranormal romances, the dumbest literary idea anyone ever cooked up. However, when you dream up a really cool old fashioned monster instead of just making werewolves and vampires the greatest lovers in the history of the world--you can end up telling a pretty amazing tale. Mr. Mulhall accomplishes that feat and then some. Here's to a well constructed tale, that builds like great architecture, and doesn't have a leaky roof.

Megan S Spark says

Well rated first novel-- & I found myself suspicious. Would this be a teen romp?? Reading the introduction, I found the author shares many of my own thoughts on reading and libraries, so that heartened me to dive in. Wow... What a wild ride this story is! I liked the characters, the sojourns to the past (oh I remember those 1980's too, ha) and I especially loved those scrappy kids. The literary quotes to introduce each chapter were well chosen, setting the mood to perfection. And we've a villain that is a villain through and through, with all of the terrors and ego that should come with the package. I enjoyed this, recommend it, and hope to read more from Mr. Mulhall.
