



Wasteland

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Billions were infected. Nations fell. The evacuation failed.

Bill Wright's journey has only one destination, the research facility that created the virus. As he meets other survivors in his struggle across the wasteland to reach it, he discovers that it is not just the undead who need to be feared.

This is the second volume of his journal.

Wasteland Details

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Author : Frank Tayell

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From Reader Review Wasteland for online ebook

Tracy says

Not as good as the first one but still enjoyable. Bill meets some people. Some of them are assholes. I didn't find him as focussed in this one and I felt like the ending was really contrived. Actually half a star off for the ending. Three and a half stars.

Anna says

[a Star Wars revelation (hide spoiler)]

Christy says

Book Two: Wasteland directly books up where book one left off. It is written in first person journal format as with the first, but has entries from a second voice, Bill's new companion Kim. The first book is solitary, with introspection and musings, but also with a lot of survival and mundane descriptions of finding food and learning to kill. I actually enjoy that part of zombie fiction, the little details that make me consider what I would do in the same situation. This book deviates from that and is more about what has happened to other people, and how the survivors now interact with each other.

After rescuing Kim and setting out to head back to the safety of the Abbey, they first pick up Annette and Daisy, a young girl and a baby who have managed to survive against all the odds. Later on they rescue a small group of people, and some of them aren't so nice. Finding food and safety for a large group is a lot more challenging than for one - but most of all the struggle is clashing personalities.

Finally this book contains the over arcing continuation of the political plot. We find more information about who engineered the virus, and the mysterious Sholto who was communicating with Bill when the outbreak happened. It does end on a bit of a cliffhanger as self published series so often do, but overall I enjoyed the read. Simple, but as a big fan of zombie and post apocalyptic fiction, it ticks all the boxes for me. Perhaps not the newest or most innovative story out there, but with characters that I care about, and enough mystery to keep me wondering, I've already bought book three.

Dave says

Similar "problems" to the first in terms of the authors abilities but once again an eminently readable book despite its many flaws. Very tense ending as well with a group of characters the author really inspired me to hate.

I would add another frustration on top of the attempts to make the plot more than it needs to be. The author seems to "dodge" really dark or emotional moments this is down, I'm assuming, to his limited skill but this is frustrating all the same.

Still I will be purchasing the next.

Rinny Rainwind says

This is the second book of the series. The main character, Bill, is starting to take responsibility for the things that are happening around and to him. He was the one who mAded up the evacuation plan. Then it went all wrong. Now he has other survivors to look after. A teenager and a baby and Kim. This book delves more into Bill's psyche and how he perceives the situations they are in. I recommend this book and this series.

carol. says

It went in an entirely different direction than I expected, which wouldn't have been terrible if the characterization of Bill would have stayed the same. I feel like he's turned into some kind of sap, ineffective with his self-preservation (ie., forgetting to sharpen his blade, losing his balance, etc) and guiltily over the evacuation when I don't see how/why he should. Then there's the obsession over the hill... yeah, not working, but I had to know the end.

Hayat says

Things are really picking up in this second instalment. There are new characters, interesting complications, more action and revelations. The slow and steady beginning in the first book was different, and surprisingly intriguing. I really like the plot, setting, main character and how this series is coming along.

Nicola says

Not as strong as the first. Some of the plot feels shoehorned in, and the hijinks are a little less plausible, which was one of the strengths of the first book. Still eminently readable and has me listening out for unidentified noises in the night.

Must stop reading zombie novels after dark.

Shana Festa says

Wasteland picks up right where London left off, continuing in journal entry format, new arrival Kim picking up the slack at times. Poor bill is surrounded by estrogen! Bill and Kim rescue a teenage girl, Annette, and infant, Daisy. Annette lost her parents in the evacuation of London. She finds Daisy and is bitten by the infant's brother. I would have liked to hear more about this encounter. It was just kind of brushed past as matter of fact. The first book was the all Bill show. Wasteland's addition of new characters changes the tone of the book. I found I enjoyed Wasteland much more than London.

British writing has a lot of words we don't use in the States...nappies, pram, lorries, chip shops, buggies. I had to really stretch my deductive reasoning to get an idea what these words meant. Each time I came across

a new word, it took me out of the moment and became a bit distracting at times.

The survivors return to the abbey, but they're not alone. Now, just outside the walls, hundreds of the undead await them and the inevitable moment they will need to venture out. With the addition of new mouths to feed (there are nine of them at final count), their situation becomes bleak.

On a side note, what is it about a diary that brings out the inner sleuth of even the most angelic souls? Bill's poor luck has everyone and their brother invading his personal thoughts and feelings. And even worse, his role as the architect of the evacuation plan.

Argh Frank, you're killing me! Now, in addition to having to know what became of Jen, I need to know about Thompson. Are the immune carriers? The words "to be concluded" end this installment of Surviving the Evacuation; remind readers this is a trilogy. I'm waiting with baited breath in hopes all my old and new questions will find themselves answered.

There was a great plot reveal (in addition to the tangled web that's already been weaved) at the end. The pacing of Wasteland out lapped its predecessor. While Book one earned a solid 4 stars, Wasteland's twists and turns, and conspiracy wrapped in conspiracy, lands this book FIVE stars from The Bookie Monster. Tayell will have to put everything he's got into completing the series and satisfying my appetite. Thankfully, I feel confident that he will succeed. More, please!!

Visit www.bookie-monster.com to read the full review!

Leanne says

I bought the second one based on the good writing in the first one. Now I'm a believer.

This guy is publishing his work all by himself and frankly is a better proofreader than most of the big publishing houses. He could benefit from a savvy editor, but since they apparently can't be bothered, I'll skip the awkward parts and concentrate on this guy's writing talent, skill in storytelling, and ability to use the English language in a coherent and interesting way.

My only query is, "What happens next???" (translation: buying all the rest of the series of 12)

Terry Tyler says

4.5 stars

Yes, the second of the series read in 24 hours, too! In which Bill Wright's leg gets better enough for him to move around a bit, he travels south, meets people, abandons old plans, makes new ones, gets betrayed, discovered - oh, look, it's another page turner, right? Put it like this - husband and I were watching a good film and he fell asleep; I very quietly turned the sound down to low and picked up my Kindle so I could read as much of this as possible before he woke up again....!

Bill and Kim's experience is a lot more terrifying than in other zombie apoc books I've read, or indeed The Walking Dead. In Frank Tayell's books there are hardly any survivors and a hell of a lot more zombies; I notice that each person who writes these stories has a slightly different take on how the infection spreads.

We discover more in this part about Sholto and the Prometheus project - all good stuff. I found the ending a little bizarre, and not quite in keeping with the realism of the rest of the book, which is why I have knocked half a star off an otherwise fab second episode. And I've already bought the other three.

Jason Bradley says

This story continues to keep me enthralled. I will definitely keep reading.

Lorraine Southern says

8/85, 4 stars ****

I do like these Surviving the Evacuation books - pretty good dystopian fiction that doesn't focus on zombies or blood and gore so much as it does on human nature and the struggle for survival. It's a series I'll look forward to continuing! :)

Kristin says

Terrible, terrible confession: Somehow I missed something in my reading of the first book, and it wasn't until about 23% through this one that I realized the narrator was male. I swear I thought we were reading about a woman. I don't know why. So, when I realized that, I had to re-imagine a whole lot of scenes in my mind.

On to this book. I liked it a lot. There was a bit of a lull in a couple of spots, but man, the action through almost the end of the book was amazing. My heart was racing just a little bit. Tayell has a talent for keeping things moving.

I really am enjoying his zombie lore. I love the idea of Bill's being immune. I LOVED the explanation of why zombies focus on hearing things rather than seeing. I'm just a fan of this universe. I love all things zombie, and this is one of my favorites. It is an easy, enjoyable read. Go for it.

Mona says

3.5

Mostly dull and seemingly predictable with some dislikeable secondary characters until the last third of the book.

The action in the last third plus the stunning surprise ending..which totally blindsided me..rescued the book from oblivion.
