



## Trapped

*Jack Kilborn , J.A. Konrath*

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TERRIFIED...

It was supposed to be a harmless camping trip. Six wayward teenagers who'd run into trouble with the law, and their court-appointed guardians, Sara and Martin Randhurst. Three nights on a small, deserted island off of Michigan's upper peninsula. A time to bond, to learn, to heal. Then Martin told a campfire story about the island's history. Of the old civil war prison hidden in there, and the starving confederate soldiers who resorted to cannibalism to stay alive. Everyone thought it was funny. They even laughed when Martin pretended to be dragged off into the woods. But Martin didn't come back. And neither did Sara when she went in search of him. Then the laughter stopped.

...TO DEATH

The group soon began to realize that this deserted island wasn't so deserted after all. And perhaps Martin's ridiculous story had more truth to it than anyone thought. What's the most horrifying thing you can imagine? This is a hundred times worse...

## Trapped Details

Date : Published June 26th 2010

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Author : Jack Kilborn , J.A. Konrath

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## From Reader Review Trapped for online ebook

### Veronica Morfi says

Rating: 4.5/5

This story was such a thrill. So many bad guys in such a tiny island no wonder things got pretty gory and terrifying. Full review to come...

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### Moxie says

#### Wonderfully Disturbing

After reading *Endurance: A Novel of Terror* (which I loved and you should read as well), I just had to pick up other reads from this author. Seriously, this guy can write horror like you wouldn't believe.

Shocking, disgusting, horrific. All in a good way. An unforgettable read that will stay with me for a long time. It had me going one way and then pulled a 180. I'll admit something. I squirmed in my seat on more than one occasion. My stomach even did some acrobatics. That never happens.

There are two versions of this story. The original/uncut and the rewrite. I've read both and I'm here to tell you, the uncut version is the way to go. It's more raw and in your face. Of course, some prefer the newer version but to each their own. You can't lose either way. What you really need to do is read both.

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### Bark says

Grab it while it's FREE !

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### Rebecca McNutt says

*Trapped* combines classic campsite horror with civil war history and it's a very original and well-written novel.

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### Kaisersoze says

Though commencing as a fairly straight forward riff on the cliched theme of "pack of people in a remote location being picked off one by one by some form of unseen assailant", Kilborn quickly ratchets up the crazy (and inventiveness) in introducing threat after threat that the beleaguered band of protagonists must contend with to survive.

Think **Wrong Turn** mixed with **The Island of Dr Moreau** and you'll be somewhere near the mark of what Kilborn has dreamed up from the depths of his (interestingly disturbed) subconscious. So be warned, there is torture, cannibalism, and murder aplenty. This is not the kind of book you pick up for a feel good weekend read.

But it is the type of book you go to for a tightly structured, well-written horror novel. Kilborn wastes very few words in the 300 plus pages on offer in **Trapped** and he knows exactly how to coax his readers along. One of his greatest strengths as a writer is how to tease a relevant plot point or important character beat from their history, allude to it a few times, and then reveal it when it will have maximum impact. This works infinitely better than the tendency that lesser writers have to info-dump everything in the opening pages of their books and hope readers remember it all when it comes time for an aspect of that history to pay off.

Overall, I didn't like this one *quite* as much as *Afraid* though, perhaps because the characters were not as compelling for me. But I have no hesitation in recommending this to fans of the first novel in this (so far) loosely connected series, and I'm looking forward to getting to the other four books that comprise it in due time.

3.5 to 4 Neatly Placed Skewers for **Trapped**.

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## **Redemption Denied says**

I'm insane. Honestly. This is the second book I've read by the author (consecutively) - and it was just as good as the first book (*Afraid* #1), but it loses a star, due to the typos and the way it was formatted. There were times, when one characters' narrative, ended, and then it switched to another, without starting a new paragraph, at the very least - so that was a little annoying. I liked the back-story to each of the characters, though. That was intriguing.

Six troubled teenagers: Meadowlark Purcell, Cindy Welp, Tom Gransee, Laneesha Simms, Tyrone Morrow, Georgia Dailey - and their two court-appointed caregivers, Martin and Sara Randhurst (with their three-month-old baby, Jack, in tow), descend on Rock Island - aka Plincers Island, Lake Huron.

The trip was planned a month in advance, and they get to the island via a charter-boat, captained by Edward Prendick, which is reminiscent of a character in an old H.G. Wells' horror novel, apparently. Anyway, he doesn't want to take them to the island. He wants to take them, somewhere closer, than their original destination, but he relents when they allow him to bring his extra hand-held marine radio along - in case of emergencies. Not sure why he'd need their permission, though - but, whatever.

When they reach the island, Martin tells the group a story, around the campfire, about an old, secret Civil War prison, starving Confederate soldiers, and of cannibalism. As he's concluding his story (his act) - he falls back off the log he'd been sitting on - then screams. Despite being in close proximity, no-one saw where he disappeared to - he just went - POOF!! Everyone thinks it's part of the act - to scare them. When he doesn't return, Sara (Jack) and a reluctant Laneesha, go searching for him, in the dark woods.

The island is supposed to be uninhabited, but they'll soon find out, they're not the only one's on the island.

In conclusion: I'm not sure what to make of Sara and Martin, both psychologists, bringing a three-month-old baby along for the trip, though it was Martin, who insisted; stating the fresh air would do him good. A few characters from the previous book, are resurrected, which was a surprise; especially when I found-out who Subject 33 was. I guessed one of the twists, in relation to one of the characters, due to that persons,

disposition. As with the first book; there's a lot of blood, guts and gore, flying around - and I wish I hadn't eaten a lasagne, forty minutes, before reaching the gridiron scene. Bad idea.

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### **Jordan Anderson says**

Proof is in the evidence as they say in a court of law and the proof that Kilborn may be one of the most underrated, yet most talented author today, is in the fact that this was my 3rd book from him in 9 days. Seriously, one book every 3 days from the same author is truly a testament to how great a great a writer Mr. Kilborn is.

Trapped may not have been as great as "Origin" (published under J.A. Konrath) but it is easily a far darker, gorier, and gruesome novel. And I loved every single moment I spent frantically turning pages, just to see what terror awaited the unlucky campers on the island.

Maybe I'm a bit of a sadist, or a sicko, or whatever words you want to use to describe me, but I immediately ignored the rewrite and skipped straight to the back of this ebook to the first, uncut, and obviously unrefined draft. Kilborn himself says in the afterword that the 2nd draft is better, but how could you top what is one of the most gruesome novels ever published. True, it isn't as descriptive as some other, even more depraved works of fiction (Ed Lee anyone?), but upon recollection, I think that's what made this such a creepy, yet fascinating read. Kilborn let's your mind conjure up the more violent and bloody scenes, and to me, that's scarier than putting all the descriptions right on the page. Maybe we are just as sick as the Level 6 individuals of Dr. Pincers...

Complaints? Well there aren't many when a book is as great as "Trapped" was. I'll admit, Tyron and Laneesha's slang speech was a minor annoyance after a while, and there were some major typos (which I guess is to be expected in an ebook, never having gone across an editors desk), but the speed and excitement of this book far overshadow those minor problems.

Now my only problem? Deciding which Kilborn/Konrath novel to read next...

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### **Cynthia (Bingeing On Books) says**

Konrath does it again! I fell in love with Afraid and this one was almost as good. It was so creepy and disturbing and totally violent and gory. I absolutely loved this one and the characters and the plot. The plot was so crazy with the cannibals and the doctor. There were also a couple of twists towards the end that I did not see coming. I can't wait to read the next one in the series!

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### **Katie says**

Just finished reading Trapped and I cannot get over how excellent it was. Dark horrifying terror. Non-stop adrenaline ride. Intricately weaved plot that provided several surprising twists. I don't know about you but I love plots that realistically curve and twist so that you anticipate something happening then read a bit further and change your mind and then when you least expect it it pops back up in different way. I was squealing in surprise until the very end and I won't share how many "holy f\*ck" exclamations I made while reading this. I also loved how the material was SO horrifying, but not explicitly stated (i.e. the story had me actually

gagging at one part from the thoughts in my brain of what was happening--not at a detailed description of the action. That is skillful writing). Loved the strong characters and their development.

This is a must read book. One of his best yet. Don't put off reading it.

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### **Tressa says**

OK. Two things are bugging me about this book.

THESE COMMENTS WERE MADE AS I FINISHED PARTS OF THE BOOK, NOT COMPLETED IT.

1) Sara and Martin have a newborn. They have been running, fighting, and screaming away from these nutball cannibals. The baby has not been fed or changed in all this time, and as far as I can remember has not cried out once. Does Mr. Kilborn have children? If so, he'd know newborns have to be fed every two hours and changed often. I don't understand why the baby is even in the picture.

2) If this cannibal stuff has been going on since the Civil War, and hundreds of people have gone missing, as is evident with the huge pile of bones, have the authorities never questioned this oddity? Loved ones go missing, last headed to the campgrounds, and no one investigates? If someone investigates and they go missing, is it not a big deal? I just don't see how something like this has gone on for so long. Yes, I know people don't stand a chance once they enter the campgrounds, but at some point something's got to give!

Finished Trapped a few days ago. While this isn't my favorite Kilborn--that would be Afraid and his short stories--it's a pretty good story. You not only get a tribe of cannibals on the island, but you get a Dr. Moreau-type doctor who likes to experiment on the trickle of visitors to the island. When there are no visitors, kidnapping a cannibal and going to town on it works just as well.

If you've read books like Laymon's The Island, then you know the story about a group of people who get taken one by one until there's a few characters the author just can't kill off.

Worth a read if you like blood and guts. After reading Trapped and Endurance, it dawned on me that there are things far worse than the sweet, peaceful fade-to-black of death. Much, much worse.

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### **Marvin says**

Far be it for me to tell an author what to write but I feel an obligation to point out three facts of nature...

1) When confronted with attacking cannibals and screaming people, babies tend to cry not sleep or "gurgle happily".

2) No matter how stupid he is, a social worker would never take a gun on a camping trip, especially when his teenage wards include one ADHD kid, a sociopath and two rival gang members.

3) People taste like pork, not chicken.

That last bit of info is not personal experience. But I have read accounts with persons who lived with cannibals and the research is clear. Pork, not chicken.

Despite the author's violation of these laws of nature...Actually, number two was rectified but I won't say how ...this is the best cannibal novel I've read since *Off Season*. It definitely belongs in the category of "Ewww! Gross! (giggle)" horror. Kilborn places two social workers and six not-so-innocent teenagers on an island that makes Dr. Moreau's Island look like Gilligan's Island. This book may be pure pulp entertainment but it is perfect for the type of escape reading that the real horror fan craves.

But please remember. Pork, not chicken.

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## Caroline says

AHOY!!! AND BAD LANGUAGE AHEAD

I usually enjoy Mr Kilborn's work, but this one, way too contrived. Like some terrible B-lister low budget film.

First off Mr Kilborn, as a Black person who grew up in a middle class multicultural neighborhood and attended a white liberal college, I know nothing about ghettos or gangs (no, I'm not about 'that life' nor do I know anyone who is), but I DO know you sound like some white guy who watched a single (cheap budget) 1990s BET movie (eg: Leprechaun: In the Hood) and tried to base urban youth and slang off of that. Presumptuous and slightly offensive (by slightly I mean 'gotdammit, I'm not reading a single word more of this, the nerve of this guy!' offensive). It was fucking awful and a horrible miss. In your defense, you did make Tyrone likable. That Laneesha/Shaneesha/Kaneesha (whatever) was okay too. It's the only reason I didn't request my lil .99\$ from Amazon (it's not the money, it's the principle).

Second, that twist with Martin? Was kinda lame... Slightly unexpected but I know you were going for shock value.

Who the hell wants to hold hands and make out when people are trying to EAT YOU ALIVE? Who wants to talk about signing divorce papers??

Something about this one had a different feel from the others.

At the best, I'd say the SyFy Channel, with their fucking awful terrible movies (the makers of greats like Sharknado, Sharktopus, Piranaconda) would LOVE to take their fucking HORRENDOUS CGI skills and make this a movie. And I'd watch it, damn straight I would, and complain about how shitacular the CGI effects are.

I'm sorry for using fucking so much.

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## Shelby \*trains flying monkeys\* says

Perfect Halloween reading. This book is going to give me nightmares for years! ..and what do I do?? Give the sucker 4 stars..I'm sick like that!~

## Kelly (and the Book Boar) says

Find all of my reviews at: <http://52bookminimum.blogspot.com/>

*“You one of the bad guys, ain’t you?”*

*“Bad as they come, brutha.”*

(A request before I begin, if you will humor me for a moment. If you’re gonna troll me for reading this wrong at least come up with a quotable quote my friends can berate me with for eternity. I’m looking at you, “You Suck Turtles” lady – you done good.)

Now on with the show. In case you aren’t already aware, I are quite horrible . . . .

I truly don’t intend to be contrary to popular opinion and, believe it or not, often go with the flow and fall right in line with the masses when it comes to reading things rightly or wrongly. This time, however? I am forced to go against even my fave lil’ witch. I was secretly hoping for this kind of reaction to the news that I downstarred one of her recommendations . . .

If only so I could throw the nervous pisser dog at her and lock the door pronto, but alas she is not of the butthurt variety and didn’t even get annoyed. (She is obviously turrrrrrrible at this interweb thing and should probably read the handbook on how to act a dumbass.)

Alright, so about this book I didn’t like. *Trapped* is the story of a camping trip from hell. A group of six juvies and their court-appointed guardians have gone to be one with nature and experience some group therapy. It doesn’t take long before you find out the kids ain’t alright . . . .

And for them to meet the locals . . . . .

If you’re looking for gross, this one delivers in spades. It’s gory and there’s also some of this for the iron-stomached . . . . .

This is a true blue “B-Movie” grade slasher tale in written format designed to make you cringe while reading . . . . .

So what was my problem? Well, the author decided to (1) give these future murder victims backstories which I could have given a shit about (I mean really, does anyone care about the home lives of people in films like *I Know What You Did Last Summer* or *Wrong Turn*???? Hell no, we just want to see them get the stabby stabby); and (2) he made them all speak ebonics. Now, I am not one who minds reading slang or accents, but this was obviously the whitest human in America (aside from Richard Spencer, of course) who was trying to be real “down” with how the urban youths speak today. And it was super annoying.

Anyway, everyone else loved this so read it. You’ll probably like it just like all my friends did. Don't want to roll the dice, but still want to read about a camping trip you'll never forget (without years of psychotherapy that is)???? Opt for *The Troop*.

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## **Desert Rose says**

Trapped by Jack Kilborn (J.A. Konrath)

Year Published: 2010

My Rating: 5 stars

322 pages

I bought this book from Amazon when it was on offer for \$.99 for the kindle edition a while back.

First of all I would like to say that there are 2 versions of this book and they are both included in this ebook version.

One is the edited/published edition and the other is the original/uncut version.

The differences between them are very important in my opinion, because what was left out in the original is what I was objecting on in the edited version.

The uncut was more original and believable. I loved it to pieces.

I just wish that the author will not listen to his editors and go on and publish his books as he writes them, because the original was amazing!!!

The story..

Six wayward teenagers and their court-appointed guardians Martin and Sara Randhurst went on a camping trip to an isolated island. Then when they were all around the campfire, Martin decided to tell a campfire story.. a SCARY one. A story that ends with Martin being dragged into the woods.. It was okay until Martin was dragged into the woods and didn't come back. Then Sara thought to go look after him with one of the kids.. When they didn't come back it started to get serious.

You will find that there are definitely things worse than death. When torture and pain is so horrific that they wish that life would just simply end so that the pain will just stop.

A mixture of cannibals, a crazy doctor and some evil subjects make a great mix in this story..

Full of surprises and flashbacks into each characters background to give you a feel for all the characters and to make you understand what they are doing and why.

This is the most disturbing book I have ever read. It really made me queasy.. It was that believable!!

To read the spoilers and what really bothered me check it on my blog

