



Hot Zone

Steven Konkoly

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HOT ZONE: Book One in THE ZULU VIRUS CHRONICLES

SOMETHING INSIDIOUS HAS ARRIVED—RIGHT IN THE HEARTLAND OF OUR NATION.

Dr. Lauren Hale, a new hospital resident, is nearly killed by a raving mad emergency room patient, in a senseless, unprovoked attack.

Officer David Olson, veteran cop and former Marine, returns from a father-son camping trip to discover that his ex-wife has vanished under bizarre circumstances, and his police department is on the verge of collapse.

Jack and Emma Harper, a young, upwardly mobile couple, find their hip city neighborhood rapidly descending into madness.

Dr. Eugene Chang, a research scientist for a major pharmaceutical company makes a shocking discovery that might explain the spreading wave of illness and violence gripping the city.

Eric Larsen, leader of a top-secret, rapid-response unit, circles high above the Midwest, in an unmarked military transport. Mission still unknown, his team waits to parachute into the night.

WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, complete strangers from different walks of life will be forced to join together to survive the LIVING NIGHTMARE that has been unleashed on their city—AND THEIR COUNTRY.

This is their story.

WELCOME TO THE HOT ZONE!

Hot Zone Details

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Author : Steven Konkoly

Format : Kindle Edition 375 pages

Genre : Horror, Zombies, Fiction, Thriller, Science Fiction, Apocalyptic, Post Apocalyptic

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From Reader Review Hot Zone for online ebook

RedemptionDenied says

This is gratis in the UK, States and Canada, until the end of New Years Day!

Rachael Ashak-Benson says

Different in a Great Way! Open to Page #1 Now!!.....

Not your typical “zombie” book. Fresh infected person perspective - that’s gripping, and fun! The characters are interesting, and the charactdevelopment is solid. My only slight annoyance is the amount of men. All the names are tough to keep track of at times. Especially as the author constantly switches between using some first and last names, adding to the number of names to decipher. Perhaps if he stuck to one or the other it would have solved the issue??

The characters’ storylines are engrossing, capturing you from page #1! Thinking back now, the flow of how everyone eventually comes together is perfectly natural and not clunky or forced. Brilliant!

The settings and scenes are well crafted. I’d say above average as far as helping the reader become immersed in the world of the story. Not the greatest, but absolutely far, far from the worst. I definitely felt like I “was there” for most of the book.

The plot is not uncommon to the genre. But the way it unfolds within each character’s story helps to make it feel unique. Add in the different approach to the infected, and you feel like you’re reading something fairly different!

Overall, Hot Zone (The Zulu Virus Chronicles Book I) is worth a read by hardcore fans of the (zombie) apocalypse genre. Especially those who enjoy books which include the military, AND as a special plus - a medical or scientific aspect. This one has it all. (And this is my PERFECT combination for the genre, in books and movies!)

I can’t wait to read the next, and I’m already mourning the fact that this series is still in its infancy. As I much prefer those series which have 6 or 9 books already under their belt. I’m not very patient! Lol

Definitely worth your time! You’ll love it!!

And — for sure keep crafting this tale Mr. Konkoly!

Matthew FitzSimmons says

I knew Konkoly owned me when I started planning bug out routes from my hometown. Scary good just not scary real (I hope).

Lynn Hallbrooks says

Imagine you are just coming back from vacation and things look okay on the surface. You go about your routine and something isn't right about the people around you. What do you do?

Now imagine you are an intern (novice doctor) and your patients are progressively getting worse despite your best effort. Worse, there are more of the same kinds of patients flooding the hospital and no one else

knows what to do. Where do you get answers?

These are just a couple of scenarios that play out in this aptly named book. Can you guess why?

Personally, I think this new series will become a national maybe even an international bestseller. Now is your chance to say you were there before the bandwagon started rolling.

Disclaimer: I was provided with an Advanced Reader's Copy and the opinion expressed above is mine and freely given.

BookLoversLife says

A virus has been unleashed and is causing people to turn violent. What would you do if you don't know what is happening and the government have closed the roads? There's no way out and things are getting worse. Well Hot Zone tells us what some of the people do and how they manage to end up meeting.

This was seriously good!! When you finish a book, and still thoroughly enjoy it, even though you don't know what or how the virus came to be, you know you have found a winner!! We get an idea of what it is, and an idea of how it came to be but nothing definite! It just goes to show how good the author is. I flew through this, and even with the amount of questions I had, I still loved it.

The characters in this were all varied but all of them were awesome!!! We have a husband and wife, a police officer and his son, a scientist, a doctor and a top-secret agent. Each of these are way different but I loved how they all inevitably end up meeting. It was well written and well done.

In all, an exciting start to what is sure to be an amazing series!!! I can not wait to see what happens these characters. I also can't wait for more details about the virus to come out. Brilliant!!!

Amanda says

Great new series

This one was a little slow getting started, but hang in there! It's worth it. I'll be waiting anxiously for the next book in the series.

Tim says

Finally dragged this off my dnf shelf. The only reason for 2-stars is the first half, which I found interesting, while the last half drones on. Turns out, this is 2nd of a trilogy and I will not be reading/listening to the 1st or 3rd. 4 of 10 stars

Brian's Book Blog says

A great start to a series

4.5 out of 5 stars

I can't tell you how long I've had other Konkoly books sitting on my to be read shelf. He just seems to pick genres and topics that I really want to read. I finally bit the bullet when he started writing a bio-thriller based novel. Hot Zone borrows the name of one of my all-time favorite novels and does a pretty nice job showing what would happen if a rage-like virus would sweep the midwest.

The virus itself plays the main character through most of Hot Zone -- allowing the reader to get familiar with it and what it's doing to people. I like that Konkoly based it on seemingly real things. It reminded me a bit of the virus from 28 Days Later -- but a little more docile. People still went crazy, but they weren't crazy all the time. It made it a little scarier to me. I just can't imagine sitting across from my wife who was fine one minute and attacking me with a fireplace poker the next.

The story revolved around a few different people who were all from different aspects of life. A cop, a couple who worked at a biotech company, a mercenary, a doctor, and a researcher. The story bounced around from person to person but ended up weaving into a really nice full story by the end.

The end -- this burned me a little. It dropped it from a 5-star book to a 4.5. It just kind of ended. I know that it had an "ending" but it had a "there is going to be more than one book" ending. Sure, the story was good, the character development was one of the best I've ever read, and the virus was well thought out and explained in a way that made sense -- but the story just kind of stopped.

I will be continuing on with this series (especially if it's on audio). So I think in the end it'll be a wash. But I was genuinely shocked when the story ended.

Overall, a great book that kept me reading. I didn't want to put it down.

Darlene says

Hot Zone is Sizzling

This book was terrifyingly amazing. Everything started out relatively slowly and built into a horrifying crescendo. Trapped in a quarantine zone, not knowing what's going on, it's a struggle and a fight to get out. I hope Steven Konkoly can write quickly because I don't know how long I can wait to continue reading this addictive story.

I also loved the lite reference to one of his other novels. No worries if you haven't read it. It's all explained. It was nice to see it in another book. Makes like the world is connected and not just the land of one story book at a time.

Kathi Defranc says

Very good thriller featuring bio-weapons...the future is here

I have loved other books by this author and this series starts off with a bang!! We meet several different groups of people ,from many walks of life,as they go about their day. There is a nurse who works in an emergency room, a police officer and his son, a couple just back from vacation and a scientist who works in a research lab. Many people start showing up at the emergency room,with several different symptoms,including severe headaches, neurological problems and high temperature. Soon the ER is overflowing, when some patients become violent towards others with no reason why! This problem starts in Indiana,as sirens fill the air with sounds of gunshots and screaming, bewildering those not affected. Whew,... excellent writing and intense scenes pull you directly into the city, where you find yourself running from a patient who intends to kill you, or sitting with the police officers as a wife stabs her husband 30 times... Awesome start to a series , I was unable to put this book down! Realistic and scary, as this could actually be happening somewhere today...even in the USA...

Donna says

Interesting, but I didn't rate it high because it dragged on too much and gave details that didn't seem to have a point.

Dawn says

I've read a lot of pandemic fiction. I really liked this one. The story was fast paced. I do hope the sequels don't become mostly about military activity the way the Perseid series did.

Possible spoilers ahead

The disease progression was reasonable. The majority of zombie stories require a serious suspension of disbelief.

It's the survival theme that I enjoy in this genre. I like that Konkoly has a range of preparedness in the characters. I found Gene to be particularly refreshing - the super-prepper who really doesn't know what to do outside of his carefully built by someone else survival model.

Jim A says

Nothing against the author, but I just can't give a good reason I even started this one. Not my cup of tea at all.

Chessy The Cat says

We meet an entire cast of characters from diverse backgrounds whose lives will intertwine as a result of a maddening viral outbreak. Each of them will tell us their story as they seek to understand what is happening to the world around them. They will do whatever it takes to escape the city as it turns into a murderous chaos. This is a look at a pandemic in the making from the very start from the view of average citizens.

Konkoly's first novel in the Zulu Virus Chronicles, *Hot Zone*, is a startling realistic drama that shows us what could easily happen in a major metropolitan area hit by a weaponized virus. Who released it and why? There are too many variables all pointing in a direction that is hard to believe, but with no other conclusion available.

The multiple storylines give it a very personal feel. As you get to know each of the characters you can feel their confusion and desperation. It is clear to me that this series is destined to be a bestseller.

5 out of 5 stars.

I received this book for free from the author for review consideration. This in no way affected my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

Lisa Omstead says

Disturbingly realistic!

This latest thriller from author Steven Konkoly will absorb you from the very first page and hold you captive until the last. Loaded with action and suspense, this book is a phenomenal start on what promises to be an exceptional new series.
