



## Out of the Black

*Lee Doty*

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In a world made nearly perfect by man's enlightened progress, an ancient, hungry apocalypse slithers from the shadows and onto the clean, brightly-lit streets. Though few realize anything is wrong, it's already too late: Too late for the authorities to face this new threat, for science to discover a cure, for the world's warriors to gear up to fight. It is humanity's swan song and the fat lady's on the stage and clearing her throat. Now it's up to five damaged strangers: A homicide detective, a lonely nurse, a college student, his insecure girlfriend, and a methodical killer with the heart of a child. Now it is the perfect society's misfits who must piece together the mystery and find the courage to stand together against impossible odds. Sometimes destiny falls unexpected into the most broken lives, like a careless brick fallen out of the clear black sky.

## Out of the Black Details

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Author : Lee Doty

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## From Reader Review Out of the Black for online ebook

### Erin says

I just finished Out of the Black, and loved it! there were some spots where it kind of had some weird tie in's with the different characters, and bring the various situations together into one story line, but for the most part it was a really fun and smart read. The author has snarky puns down to an art. I found myself laughing out loud quite often(which earned me a lot of strange looks on the train). The humor was a great tension breaker all the way to the end of the book. The style of writing that the author used to bring the story line was rather interesting, especially at the end when you could see everything getting pulled together. There was a great 'Aha!' moment right before the end when all the stories merged. While it is an obvious science fiction piece, it's not a storyline that has you doubting the plausibility of what's going on. The characters really brought you into the story, and I felt really connected to and invested in most of the characters throughout the book. I definitely recommend this to everyone – it can be enjoyed by fans and non fans of science fiction.

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### Ulrikft says

This is among the worst books I have [u]ever[/u] read, and that is quite an accomplishment.

- 1) The language is terrible, the author is unable to create emotions trough writing, so he actually writes them out in detail instead, which makes for very tedious reading.
- 2) The plot.. well, there isn't one really. It looks like the writer thought "Hmm.. I need good, evil and a plot twist" and set out "writing".
- 3) The characters are highly unbelievable, who starts pompously reciting their innermost feelings at all possible moments, especially when stressed and in life threatening situations?
- 4) Violent massacres every 2-3 sides, not because it drives the plot, but because it fills out pages.

DO NOT read this book.

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### McClear3000 says

I absolutely loved this book, though as you start into it, you quickly realize you must simply take a leap of faith you'll eventually puzzle out what on earth is happening. You will (eventually), and it's well worth every minute of the read. Laugh out loud funny, intriguing, a puzzler, and the oddest assortment of heroes and villains, make me wish every day I could cover for Mr Doty's day job so he could focus on the next book (my lack of parallelism in this unwieldy sentence notwithstanding)! And if you browse around Amazon, you'll find he's surprisingly accessible (but please stop chatting with him so he can get back to work). My new favorite author and he's only just warming up.

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## Tammy says

SciFi

Fantasy

Action/Adventure...with just a hint of a Super-Hero comic. Brilliant manipulation of time in a twisting plot-line that left me wanting a sequel before I even finished it.

I loved this book and absorbed it in two days. Intelligent, sarcastic humor. It seemed like every other page at least 10 Kindle readers had high-lighted a laugh-out-loud passage. (If you read a digital reader like Kindle, you can enable the high-light function to see what other people found interesting.) I laughed while on the edge of my seat, gripping my Kindle and ignoring everything else I planned on doing this weekend.

I'm not gonna tell you about this books plot. This story was unique and the best part was not knowing what was 'supposed' to happen while speed-reading to see what does happen.

p.s. Ping Bannon is the "hawtest" Chinese-Irish, blade-using, 20ish looking, 30 something Detective I've ever had the pleasure to read.

I wish I could cuddle between Roy and Dek on the couch and eat popcorn while watching Blade Runner.

I demand a sequel from Lee Doty...lol pretty please????

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## Terje Kristensen says

What I like most about the Kindle is that when I finish a book, I usually just browse through amazons suggestions for new books based on what I like, and sometimes I get lucky. And did I ever get lucky with this one.

I think it only took me about 20 pages before I saw that this was something special. I'm not completely sure what it is that makes it stand out so much, but I think it's just that it sort of combines everything I love and combines them in a perfect way.

I'm a sucker for sci-fi and fantasy, check

I'm into martial arts, check

I love getting under the skin of the characters in a book, check

I've always loved superheroes, check

But i think my favorite part of this book is following the emotional journey of Anne, and I got teary eyed more than once in the process. I guess I'm just a sucker for romance and happy endings as well.

The book start off with a bang, and keep the pace high for the rest of the book. There are a lot of funny moments and banter in the book, and the action sequences are amazing. Even though there are a lot of dark moments in the book, the characters keep their spirit high, and laughs in the face of adversity.

I will definitely recommend this book to everyone I know, and I'm waiting impatiently for the next book from Lee Doty.

## John says

First off, you definitely get bang for your buck with this one. I think I got it for under \$2 on a whim because it sounded interesting.

The type of story wasn't what I originally anticipated. I thought it was going to be some dark noir type story, but turned out to be a pretty funny fantasy urban ass kicking story.

The sense of style, witty banter, and imaginative concepts makes for a really good story. I saw some people complain about his writing and the lack of editing, but honestly I didn't see it or it just didn't bother me.

My only beef with this book is I would find myself confused with the transitions sometimes. I think this was a deliberate mechanism by the author, but I found myself having reread a page just to see if I read that right because I had no idea what was going on. But, everything does come together at some point or another which I appreciated.

The pop-culture references had me laughing ('all you base belong to us' anyone?). The action is fast paced and thick throughout the book. That, mixed with the witty dialogue makes for very few boring parts. It's a long book but you'd never know.

I'd recommend this to those who like nerdy pop-culture, witty banter, and John Woo fight scenes.

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## Leif Anderson says

I read the kindle edition of this book, and it was totally cheap. However, I have started to learn that when you get a book cheap on kindle, there is a reason. Seems to me that the reason is that about \$6 out of every \$10 goes to hiring a proofreader. If you just cut that position out of the staff, there are massive savings.

This book was a perfect example. I loved the story. It was exciting, a little funny, and it had every ingredient necessary to make a big old ass kicking plate of awesome-cake. (Think of something awesome. Anything, so long as it rocks. Well, whatever you just thought of, it's in this story, and it probably ends up fighting something even more awesome while exchanging witty one-liners.) HOWEVER, it seemed like every page had at least one misplaced apostrophe or misused contraction. These would make me so angry that I had trouble enjoying even such a righteous story as this. I would fly into a punctuation rage blackout, and have to re-read the sentence to try to interpret it as if the punctuation were correct, then eventually settle down to fuming resentment, and finally tell myself that I would write a letter to someone (anyone) and give them a piece of my mind. That's why I gave it 4 stars instead of 5. Apart from that, good fun story.

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## Dan says

I admit I was only half-listening to the Sword & Laser netcast when this book was recommended, and I didn't really hear much about the plot, just that this was a really good book by a new author. When it came up on my Amazon recommendations, I went ahead and bought it, again without knowing anything about the

plot.

So I was a few pages into it when I thought, "Damn. I've bought a vampire book." But no! It isn't a vampire book. It is an urban fantasy novel, though. So if you don't like that kind book, suck it up, Buttercup. This one is worth reading anyway.

I won't try to synopsise the plot, except to say the narrative starts out as a lot of different strands that ultimately weave together. Doty also indulges in a little temporal back-and-forth on the narrative stream that can be disorienting, but he still pulls it off in the end.

What is best about this book is Doty's narrative style and the way he can insert light-hearted quips into the thoughts and words of his characters even as they are facing dire circumstances. I like this because I find similar thoughts occur to me under stress. Consequently, I didn't find it distracting from the book's realism. (And rest assured: this is not a funny, ha-ha sort of book. It is more a Whedon-like, Buffyesque sort of book.) Second best about the book is the way Doty crams a lot of action into the story without swamping the character development. Instead of the action being something that interrupts the character development I love, the characters' natures are revealed by the way they deal with the action.

Much as I enjoyed the book, I do hope Doty doesn't return to these same characters in his next effort. Don't fall into that trap! Branch out; stretch your wings, sir. We'll all be better off as you expand your considerable talent into different settings.

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### **Lee says**

Best book I've ever read.

Best book I've ever written.

:)

Quite a few excellent reviews can be found on the book's amazon page

Enjoy!

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### **Efthymis says**

Nice writting, good humor, complicated story.

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### **Jenn says**

This would make a great movie if Kevin Smith got to produce and direct it. It reminded me a lot of his movie "Karma." It's as if you're watching the beginning of what will be a terrible disaster but the characters are so entertaining that you almost forget that many lives (and the world as we know it) hang in the balance. I loved how the characters were both amusing and serious. In fact, this entire book struck a really good balance between amusing and serious. And it kept that balance going very well from start to finish.

ETA: Is there a sequel? And if not, when is it coming? Or another novel from this author? I will have to go back to Amazon and search...

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### **John Winslow says**

This guy can WRITE!!!!

But somewhere along the way, I stopped caring about the "bad guys," which for me, were never fully realized or fleshed out. I mean it was total evil, but I just couldn't comprehend their motive and history. For me personally, a deeper back-story -- perhaps from the perspective of the antagonist itself -- would've helped. The "Harms" were horrifying . . . but seemed disconnected from the darkness emanating from the Loom.

With that said, however, the characters themselves are UNFORGETTABLE. I want to see Ping and Anne on the big screen one day -- that would be awesome! Who would play Anne, though?

I hope Doty keeps writing . . . in fact, I wouldn't mind seeing a continuation of this story if possible.

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### **Steven says**

I couldn't finish *Out of the Black* by Lee Doty. That is an extreme rarity. I got about three quarters of the way through it and then had to give up. It wasn't worth my time.

I started it because the writing held promise. It was witty, seemed to present some new ideas. And ever so gradually the writing degenerated into constant battles from which escape was never possible, but always happened. And then there were long moments of healing, just in time for the next battle to start. Sounds like any of half a gizzilion video games.

It was supposed to blend many genres. But in the blending, it became nothing more than a hodge podge. It was so disappointing. Lee Doty, the author, holds promise. But this book was in serious need of a good editor.

Even if you have the time, I can't recommend this book.

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### **Brick says**

Very engaging, lots of fun. Marvelous evocation of the woman with the big heart encumbered with an unfashionable body type and appearance, who for reasons you will discover becomes able to cope with desperate situations, and is recognized by others in the story for her largeness of spirit. Low self esteem is overcome by circumstances, so that even she is forced to recognize what a trooper she is. To accomplish this, the author whips together a froth of sci-fi, fantasy, pop culture, and tech, leavened with laugh-out-loud wit. I am looking forward to follow-on work. Kindle versions of this book now come with a sample chapter of Doty's next book.

## **Karen Corcoran says**

This book is a great idea, unpolished.

The best part of this novel is the witty banter... In fact I would run out and buy any TV show or video game written by this author. Then there's the fact this novel must have been written by a nerd. There are no qualms about references to LotR, Harry Potter, Blade Runner (but only the good directors cut, Hah!) MMO's, computer hacking, the list goes on and on. The 'zombies' in this book are drugged out hipsters... imagine a book where the good guys are hacking through Lindsey Lohan and Paris Hilton!

Is this book an amazing feat of literally brilliance... no. There are grammar and spelling errors, and the plot is almost impossible to follow at times. Is it worth the 2.99 download? Hell yes.

This is funny, with great dialogue and oddly original for a novel that spend so much time referencing other works. It's not the best published book I've ever read; but it would be, by far, the best fan-fiction I ever downloaded.

I could easily see a few good proof readers and editors turning this into a killer novel. In the meantime, I will spread the word, and try to up the downloads on this fella.

I really hope the Kindle allows books like this one to become popular. It seems like it could really open the door for new authors. As a reader I am happy to forgive some grammar for a great (and economical), story.

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