



## **The Rain**

*Joseph A. Turkot*

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There are a lot of stories about how the rain started.

The thing that always comes to mind first isn't the how though, it's the how much. Russell still does the math too: 15, 5,400, and 8,550. 15 inches a day, 5,400 a year, and 8,550 feet since the start.

We have no idea if it's accurate. But it's important to think about it, he says, because it reminds us to keep moving. I'm Tanner. Russell plucked me from the rain when I was two.

Fourteen years ago we left Philadelphia. As the water rose, we moved west, hoping the elevation would keep us warm and dry. Pittsburg, Indianapolis, Sioux Falls, Rapid City. Now we're stranded on the islands in Wyoming. Russell thinks they used to be the Bighorn mountains. But we can't go back now. There's no warm and there's no dry anymore. Just a rumor about a place where it isn't raining. So we're going to try to make it—520 miles south to Leadville. But we can't drift east, the Great Plains have become waterspout alley, a raging tomb of moving water.

Together we push on, surviving, heading to Leadville. But something is wrong with him now. He says it's nothing. But his breathing doesn't sound that way.

Exposure, pruned hands, and infection. But since, Rapid City, it's the face eaters too. And the crack in the canoe that's growing. And the ice I think I see on the water. Russell thinks it's my imagination.

We cling to the last strips of the veneer. And each other.

## **The Rain Details**

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## From Reader Review The Rain for online ebook

### Shelley says

When imagining the end of the world, we don't often think about the end coming in the form of water. This book explore a future of a waterlogged planet and what happens to those who are left to survive. When the rain starts coming at 15 inches a day, it doesn't take long for all the land to disappear.

Russell and Tan are survivors who are trying to get to high ground. They have little more than a canoe with a hole in the side but they are making their way to the Rocky Mountains because they have heard rumor there is a city there which is well above the water level. But the waters they travel are dangerous and even the elements can lead to certain death. Tornado Alley has become notorious for having waterspouts and huge waves but they must travel through it to get to their destination. Other hazards include: face eaters (cannibals), skin over exposure to water which just slides off, illness, and finding out who you can trust and who you can't. Everything is dangerous.

Overall I did find the story enjoyable however I felt the characters were not as developed as I would have liked. They almost appeared flat as though I could take them or leave them. I was able to empathize with some of their situations however I just wasn't that drawn to them so much that I "had" to continue reading. There are several instances of the f-bomb occurring and there are sexual situations which might be a little much for younger readers but no completion of the sexual act. I found it enjoyable but I don't know if I will complete the series.

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### David Hersh says

#### Well, maybe 2.5 stars...

Ok first the good...

The concept that the world is destroyed by rain is a pretty good, seldom used vehicle. The author also gets brownie points man eating humans without using the word zombie once as a noun.

Now the bad...

The author is way out in left field with his science. Where's all the water coming from? You can't add several thousand feet of water to stratosphere without it coming from some where. None of the theories throw around in the story account for this except for a briefly mention cometary impact. A spaceborne iceberg that big would, to borrow a great phrase from Lucifers Hammer, "pasteurized the planet".

Another issue I have is the way things are developed in the story. There's no food, no fuel for a fire, but bathtub meth is available in overwhelming abundance. It just doesn't work for me.

Then there's the writing style. Its just plain ponderous. I hate to admit it, but I was able to skip almost a quarter of the book (not in one chunk) and still get the whole story. That situation is made worse by the fact that there is almost no first person dialog. Everything that's said between characters is actually replay taking place in Tanners head. That's a dialog mechanism that I find really annoying.

Anyway, I will try to read snow because

1. It's available through Kindle Unlimited.
2. The author chose to end the book with shameless cliff hanger. The only thing that could have it worse is if had ended it in mid...

## **Jennifer Disario says**

In all honesty I just couldn't get into this book. I love this author and this genre but the beginning was slow and didn't capture my interest. I had to force myself to stick with it until it picked up.

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## **Sydney says**

I've read many books about different ways that the world ends but I've never heard of one about a constant rain. In all honesty the beginning started off somewhat slow for me and it was hard to get into at first, but I ended up really enjoying it. The relationship between Russel and Tanner is very interesting and I have grown to love both of these characters through out the book. The thought of constant rain is a strange one. It's a weird way to picture the end of the world and isn't something I would have thought of. Maybe that's why I found this book so interesting. It makes me wonder what would happen if it really just never stopped raining. I'm not sure I would know what to do. I also enjoy reading/watching zombie type books/movies and so I grasped a lot more to the story when the face eaters were introduced (not that I enjoy that they're trying to eat the characters). The story just gets more complicated as it goes on and every chapter leaves new questions to be answered. As much as I hate to admit it, I'm also a sucker for romance so I'm glad that there was some of that included. I was somewhat upset with the ending because it does leave the reader hanging but I can't be too mad because there is more books to come!

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## **Rain says**

I received a copy of What Tomorrow May Bring from David as part of the Goodreads' Read and Review group. The Rain by Joseph Turkot is one of 12 novels in this compilation.

This post apocalyptic had a refreshing take this world, almost like Waterworld meets Mad Max. I don't think nobody can predict what will happen if does not stop raining for 16 years. We follow Tanner and Russell as they make along their journey in search for a dry land. The world building is great and you almost feel like you are right there next to these characters. Although, without much explanation how we came about to this situation of non-stop raining, is a tad disappointing. The author has a bit of a different writing style that what I am used to especially with regards to actual dialogues. Nevertheless, this book was a quick and easy read. I did enjoy it.

Will recommend this book for those interested in reading post-apocalyptic stories.

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## **Cheryl Landmark says**

Bleak, stark, chilling, terrifying...soggy! :)

This was a well-written post-apocalyptic story with never-ending rain as the reason for civilization's collapse. Mr. Turkot portrayed the challenges, horrors, struggles and dangers of a world soaked in perpetual

precipitation and the loss of the "veneer" of civilization very vividly.

The writing style was a little unusual. Often, there were no punctuation marks for the dialogue and some of the paragraphs were overly long, but I think it worked quite well for the most part.

The story was told through Tanner's eyes, a sixteen-year old girl who was amazingly spunky and strong despite the hardships she endured. I liked Russell, too, although he was a little harder to connect with because he seemed aloof and reticent at times. But, the relationship between him and Tanner was at once sweet, heartwarming and complicated.

Yay, Marvolo! That goofy, adorable dog was without doubt another of my favourite characters. (view spoiler)

As other reviewers have said, the ending was abrupt and jarring. But, there are four more installments to this story, so I'm not too upset. :)

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## **Paul Westwood says**

\* leant to Jon Burnill - 20/12/15

This novel felt like a very simple read, a sensation that was enhanced by the massive font used in the printed version, but the narrative structure was very cleverly worked. It flowed with peaks and troughs of suspense and relief. Tension would build up, then be subdued, then built again until some dramatic moment, after which the process would begin again. This made for a very gripping and readable story.

The main narrative is interspersed with background story, given in little snippets throughout the narrative. This helps to flesh out the two main characters who, for a large part of the main story, are just reacting to circumstances.

The narrator is a young girl, who's travelling through this flooded wasteland with a man who's not her father. Her feelings towards the man are uncomfortably confused which helps to add depth to her character.

I've left it a bit too long since reading it to remember much more but what I do remember is that I really enjoyed it and will definitely move on to the sequel some time soon.

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## **Donna says**

I could not put this book down. There is very little dialogue, from the point of view of Tanner, the young female who has been with Russell for 14 years. Russell says he is old enough to be her dad, almost. She has no one else to look up to. She admires him and fancies herself in love with him. He obviously sees her as a daughter. They have an unbreakable bond. They are forging their way in a canoe with a leak, one rowing, the other bailing water out. The rain is everywhere, land is submerged everywhere, except the higher elevations, mountains. Russell has a leg infection from sliding skin and seems to have a serious cold. Tanner has to take over the rowing and try to make it to land.

Another review likened this to Cormack McCarthy's *The Road* and I see the resemblance, mostly in the storytelling, and the two, Russel and Tanner, against the challenges that face them.

The writing is excellent. The story takes you along with the characters. This is one of my all time favorite post apocalypse stories. And best of all the series is already written, three of them, anyway, so I am hoping it is just a trilogy. I know it will be one of those stories I hate to see end.

Someone mentioned it is short. This is the full version of the first in this series, at 356 pages. So not short.

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### **Rose says**

This is the first in a trilogy...or the first five instalments of a serial if you prefer...of a "pretty good so far" post-apocalyptic story. I couldn't possibly give it five stars as there is no ending which is common in trilogies.

The apocalypse in this case is rain. A lot of it. It has been raining for apparently 16 years, more or less, and most of America is flooded. We don't know what caused the rain but there were some theories given by the characters. I was a couple of chapters in when I thought I was going to end up with a version of Waterworld. I was just waiting for Kevin Costner to swim in, gills and all, but aside from the immense amount of water, they aren't alike.

We are following Tanner, a 16 year old girl and Russell, her guardian. They have travelled all over, constantly moving to higher ground as civilization has devolved around them. The biggest threat aside from drowning is people. Food is scarce but there are still a lot of people around and many have turned to cannibalism. Not Tanner and Russell though and they have no respect for those who have. How could you really trust or be friends with someone who's looking at you like lunch.

If you can get past the problem of the flooding, i.e. how deep they say the water is even though there can't possibly be that much on the planet, then the rest is nothing but great story. I'm looking forward to learning more about this new world of ours and what happens to Tanner and Russell.

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### **Susan says**

I was fortunate enough to get all 5 parts of THE RAIN in one book. A most unusual apocryphal book because there are no zombies ( but there are cannibals). The rain has been falling for longer than 14 years (because the story is told through the POV of a 14 year old girl who has never seen anything but rain). The only land to be seen are the tops of mountains. The characters of Russell and Tanner (girl) are well developed and we learn a lot about them in reading the book.

This book has some of the longest paragraphs I've ever seen! Sometimes it is a little too wordy and you breathe a sigh of relief when you get to the end of that paragraph :-).

How awful it must be to be on a leaky row boat for weeks on end while the rain NEVER ends. Humans weren't built to live in consistent sogginess. They do have rain gear and some tent type coverings, but they are often holey and threadbare?

I'm ready to read the sequel 'The Snow', but want the 5 parts in one book!!! 5 stars-- highly recommended.

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### **LadyCroft86 says**

A post apocalyptic story that takes place on a rain drenched and flooded earth. There are pockets of people struggling to survive and reach some sort of haven. The premise is creative and a little different from the

usual end of the world stories in that rain has flooded the earth and being wet and cold will kill you. Despite having a good premise, the actual writing was very very annoying and poorly done. The story is from the present tense point of view of a teenage girl, the present tense is extremely annoying to read and it doesn't flow at all. The dialogue is the most poorly handled thing in the book. Most of the dialogue is done through the narration, following along the lines of 'he says get out of the way' instead of "get out of the way," he said. It was very distracting and cost this book most of the stars right away. The writing is so bad and poorly done that if this book ever saw a professional editor, it would have to be completely rewritten. In addition to the bad writing, there were some spelling and grammar errors but not too many.

There were also a few points in the story that I got confused. When we first meet Dusty, he tells us that his dad's girlfriend is named Linda and that she has cared for him and his dad since his mom died. We never catch the mom's real name. Then a little later in, Tanner sees the girlfriend and she is referred to as Kelly. Who the heck is Kelly? That maybe should have been caught very early on as it was very confusing for the reader who thought the girlfriend's name was Linda. Ultimately it doesn't matter for the story but it was very annoying and confusing. I was also a little annoyed by all the cannibalism, yes it's shocking and scary, but everyone does it? Really? I saw in another reviewer's post that they were shocked that no one thought to fish in this huge sea, and I completely agree, my first thought would be to start fishing for food, having hydroponic type gardens and stuff like that. But I can understand, cannibalism makes for an exciting and shocking story.

I am giving this book 2 stars out of 5 because the story was very engrossing and I wanted to know what was going to happen next. However, the style of the writing, the horrible dialogue style and the awkward flow of the book, it was not worth any more stars. I am very glad that I got this book for free off of Amazon. If I had paid money for the book, I would have been very upset with the quality of what I paid for. I would recommend reading this book if you like post apocalyptic stories, but only if you can get it for free. Don't pay for this, you will be disappointed.

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## Lynxie says

Given we're heading into the winter months here in Australia; I could certainly picture what the world Joseph created in 'The Rain' would be like. Imagine, though, what it would be like if it didn't stop raining for a month, or a year? Sounds positively horrible doesn't it?

Well, what if it didn't stop raining - EVER?! Comprehending the amount of water that we're talking about here is almost impossible. I ended up thinking along the lines of the Kevin Costner movie - Waterworld.

The scene is set, and you're introduced to your main characters, Tanner and Russell.

At first, I thought there might be something 'dodgy' going on with that relationship, given the whole 'the world is going to hell in a hand basket' but I'm happy to say, my initial thoughts were wrong. At least about Russell.

Age is an interesting concept. In the story, age is simultaneously important and not important. People don't seem to know/share their ages with people. Tanner herself doesn't seem to know just how old she is nor how old Russell is, yet she uses her own and Russell's ages as measuring sticks for other characters she meets. Neatly done by Joseph, to allow for people of a wider age bracket to enjoy.

This story will probably not end up with a massive following; this is not because it's not well written. In fact I thoroughly enjoyed it and its lack of grammar/spelling issues (there were a few minor ones pointed out below), but primarily because of a few themes/subjects that run throughout the book:

1. It is written mostly as a narrative about the past, with only a small amount of the book in the here-and-now with Tanner and Russell.
2. It has aspects of horror/gore
3. It is not a very 'positive' book
4. It doesn't shy away from some hard truths about human nature
5. Joseph is also not shy about exploring those truths about human nature in some rather interesting detail.

All these points will impact potential readers, but for those who push through them, they'll likely come out the other side with a mind full of possibilities.

Just how much would you have to go through before you gave up all that it means to be a human?

I intend on reading the rest of the series. I hope there are some more happy moments for the characters, but I fear that Joseph may make their journey fraught with danger, death and destruction.

Some things I noticed (sorry no % locations as it was part of a collection):

That's what they'll have to(o), if they're not dead.

...as of they're (their) appearance of having...

Chapter 11: I pull the pull the (remove second pull the) flap of blanket...

...tinkering with (the) radio again.

\*\*Note: I was provided with an electronic copy of this book in return for an honest review.\*\*

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## **Karen Siddall says**

I have to admit a bias toward the author's use of rain as the catalyst for the crumbling of society in this book. I have been the storm water program coordinator for my hometown for the past 20 years dealing with water quantity, quality, conveyance and regulatory compliance so going into this I figured I was going to LOVE it or HATE it – probably no middle ground (heh heh). I am happy to report: I loved it.

Written from the viewpoint of Tanner, a teenage girl that was found and rescued as an infant by a friend of her deceased parents, the story is a narrative, with very little dialogue, of her journey across the treacherous, flooded land that was formerly Wyoming to Colorado. She and Russell, her adopted father, have survived the rain, rising water, and the dissolution of society for the past decade plus but not without some bumps and bruises, terrors and tragedies as they've worked their way cross country from Philadelphia to the mythical "rain-free" city of Leadville, Colorado.

The settings are familiar (having traveled in the general locations) and horrifying in their depiction of collapse and ruin under the impact of the unrelenting rain.

Turkot has given us some genuine characters to get behind: the single-minded, unwavering Russell and our heroine, spunky Tanner who is emotionally growing up before our eyes. The villains are frightening

monsters: both the obvious ones (the “face-eaters”) and the ones that are not so apparent on first meeting.

I felt Tanner’s struggle and panic to survive when Russell suddenly becomes incapacitated and her yearning when coming into contact with a teenage boy her own age for the first time. I thought the author wrote “young teen girl” really, really well.

This is the first story in a series, and I will definitely be reading further.

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### **Addie says**

DNF 2.2% I'm cringing that I already know this won't be for me.

I went into this thinking it would be a bit like Waterworld, but with nonstop rain. It's not. There seems to be plenty of land left. An older guy and a teenage girl manage to go from land to land almost every day in a run-down canoe. Why don't they have a better boat? Everything's wet and soggy but there's still enough wood to make fires. How is this possible?

We aren't going to get enough science to satisfy my requirements to keep reading. I can't suspend my belief so much as to tolerate that she just doesn't care enough to ask or try to figure out what happened to the world to make it rain constantly. She doesn't even seem to care about the one person she's relying on in life.

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### **Charlie - A Reading Machine says**

This book was not for me. I found no reward for existing inside the head of the main character for 120 pages. I am sure there is a pay off but being completely unengaged made it too difficult to continue. Like the idea but maybe the reality of it was less interesting than I thought it would be. Lots of coughing, wheezing, being really tired, rowing, bailing, wondering if Russell is dead, oops no he is isn't, oh hang on yes he, No he's back.

I wish others the best of luck.

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