



Lethal Seasons

Alice Sabo

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In the near future, a virus has whittled down the human race. The remaining population struggles to survive in a world ravaged by extreme weather. A reticent government provides food, vaccines and keeps the ultra-fast trains running. Cities are empty, farms deserted, factories abandoned. The world is running on a skeleton crew.

Nick lives at High Meadow med center. The people there stay hopeful as they work toward self-sufficiency. He counts survivors for Angus's research. He wants his life to stay as normal as possible in a world he barely understands.

Wisp is a fugitive. He lives off the land, moving from town to town, hiding his extrasensory skills. He is a Finder and will accept the right kind of job. Silence and subterfuge keep him alive.

Lily is a young girl with long brown hair and eyes the color of ripe cherries. She is searching for her brother. They were separated while fleeing armed men. She is part of something that started before her birth.

When these three lives intersect, a chain reaction of death and violence will change the course of the future and impact the very survival of the human race.

Lethal Seasons Details

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From Reader Review Lethal Seasons for online ebook

sh(e)reader says

This came across one of the book list emails at a reduced price of \$.99 and as I had some Amazon credit (sure, I can wait a couple more days for no-rush shipping if I have an incentive) so I decided to purchase. I'm glad I did. I enjoy post-apocalyptic tales and this fit the bill. It was an interesting world set-up, some years into survival of storms and a virus which wiped out much of the population, and continues to mutate and take more every year.

It was interesting to see the set-up of the surviving communities. Some mystery government still somewhat functioning, enough to keep trains running (to provide basic food and medication) but other than that, people are on their own. Of course bandits and bad guys always appear.

Biobots are introduced ... interesting to compare the idea here against other "lifelike robots" in other stories.

I'd find myself anxious to continue on with my book, and it went quickly. The next books aren't available at my library or on the Kindle Lending Library plan, so I'll have to buy them if I want to continue. I do want to continue ...

John says

A different dystopian novel

I've read many apocalyptic and dystopian stories but this one takes a fresh approach. It starts a decade after the pandemic began and focuses on one settlement in the wasteland that used to be America. Besides for the questions of how these people are going to survive in this new reality there's the mystery of whether the government is trying help or even cares. The characters are realistic and sympathetic for the most part. I also enjoy the author's writing style and was quickly drawn into the story and wanted to find out what was going to happen next. I will definitely be reading more of the series and probably more books by Alice Sabo.

Sabrina Flynn says

Lethal Seasons is a dystopian novel laced with hope and good people trying to survive. A deadly flu wiped out most of humankind, and every year the virus mutates, taking out more of the survivors. The story centers around one community that is trying to survive in a harsh environment full of severe weather patterns, lawless bandits, and the shady remnants of a government. It's part mystery and part frontier settler. I think fans of Hugh Howey's Wool will love this.

Miriam Michalak says

Loved this post apocalyptic tale & will be reading more of the series very soon.

Michelle says

I love the idea of the book and the descriptions of the characters.

The only thing was the short sentences in this novel, which I am not used to, but I would love to read the next books in this series.

Mary Ann says

In the event of some event causing population decimation this story does touch on a number of problems that the survivors would be faced with. The current loss of many of the small farmers reduces the number of people able to survive off the land. One more reason to pick up a pioneering skill is just for the fun and also the ability to teach someone younger in your family! A very well told story and characters, for the most part, you would enjoy having as friends.

Mélou says

First of all, I guess I could say that I had quite a few problems with this book.

There was a lot of element that were a bit incoherent. For exemple, the lethal season is about some deadly virus but, somehow, the weather has gone crazy too.

Also, the fact that there's a lot of different characters' point of view from the very beggining made it rather hard for me to connect with the people as well as the story. It was a little hard and long to read at firs but, at some point, it gets more interesting and captivating.

But, I have to say that the lovely characters and there different personalities is, by far, my favorite thing of this book.

Jane says

I picked up this book because it was free, and said the world had been decimated by a virus. I was confused when weather & climate change played such a big part - the author waits until about halfway in to explain that for decades the climate change had been getting worse before the government sat up & took notice. Then it took a couple more decades to implement infrastructure change to deal with the bad storms. Those changes (like putting power plants & running wires underground; building storm shelters in train stations, schools, large buildings, etc.) is what allows settlements like High Meadow to grow.

Scientists created biobots - originally out of grief, to replace a lost daughter. Biobots are human, but are built and then "awakened" as adults. The creators then pour knowledge into them. Of course the govenment and corporations want them to all be geniuses, but they are basically slaves and that drives some of them crazy, leading to murders. A "mad scientist" creates a virus to kill the biobots - but it ends up killing half of the world's population at the same time. The virus mutates each year, killing more people and animals.

Those that are left band together - some in med centers, like High Meadow. How does mankind survive

when we have lost the people who used to know how to grow things, how to make things?

I like the fact that each chapter starts with a sentence or two from a book about the history of the world since Year Zero - written by the man who is the leader of High Meadow. It explains and examines the world our characters live in, without a huge "data dump". I loved the two characters at the center of most of the action - Nick, an FBI agent in the old world, and a biobot named Whip who has a form of ESP where he can sense people - find them if they are lost; judge their emotions.

I would highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys post-apocalyptic fiction.

Alex Storer says

Lethal Seasons tells the story of survival in the aftermath of a deadly virus that has wiped out much of the world's population. Infrastructure has been left in a state of disrepair and the virus returns more deadly every season – add to this dwindling livestock, destructive weather and children born with altered DNA and you've got Lethal Seasons.

While Lethal Seasons touches on various dark subjects ranging from cannibalism to human experimentation, it could appeal to both an adult or young audience. It is largely a character-based book and follows several strands of adventure from the mystery of a young girl's murder, the origins of the virus and the backstory of the biologically grown, or "printed" humanoid species, the Biobots.

A great deal of thought and creativity has gone into this book, with each chapter introduced by a short extract from a diary that helps you piece together the backstory and impact that the virus has had on humanity.

The story is told at a consistent pace, and you soon get into the flow of the book – which is easy to read and enjoyable. Lethal Seasons is book one of Alice Sabo's Changed World series, and you do need to consider this while reading it. Not unlike the first episode of a film or TV saga, book one really sets the scene and introduces the characters and despite the hostile environment, you are left with the feeling that the adventure has only just begun.

Alexandra says

I was really excited to read this book and it started out a promising tale of a post apocalyptic world. The author kept the story going nicely with enough mystery to make you want to continue on reading, until about half way. The author failed building this world. She had a great idea but not enough talent to make this book as good as it could have been. The characters are just flat. The world imagined became a back drop for poorly executed and never ending "adventures" of a few main characters and a sleuth of minor characters non of which had enough charisma for the reader to love or hate them. Everything in this book is done half way.

I had the intention of reading the rest of the series however it would be a waste of my time. On to something better.

Jamia Stewart says

Soooooo Good!

Denise Sparks says

An Amazing View of a Post Apocalyptic America

This story started very slowly but by the middle of gripped me and would not let go. That climate change could be so deadly does not surprise me as we are already seeing devastating storms one after the other. That someone would be crazy enough to design a killer virus is also not a surprise seeing that there are currently chemicals and nerve gases in this world designed to kill. The people who are left struggle to survive in a bleak world. Nick and his friends make a very interesting read.

Angela Myers says

If a book makes me stay up late to get to a “stopping point,” it has something special that really captures my attention. In the last several months, *Lethal Seasons* by Alice Sabo is one of only a couple that kept me up till 2 a.m. several nights in a row.

A dystopian novel, *Lethal Seasons* includes familiar elements like a runaway virus, androids (called biobots) with superhuman abilities, climate change, charismatic leaders who are trying to reestablish civilization, and evil gangs trying to destroy it. I admit I don't seek out dystopian novels—get enough of that from the news—so my opinion isn't as well informed as it could be. The only thing I see that's really different in this novel is the use of train stations as a lifeline that supplies rations and vaccine from a largely absent “government” to keep people hanging on to life.

So what about this novel kept me up, whipping through pages on my Kindle? Good grammar, immediate immersion, pace, and character development.

I read, or try to read, a lot of books that are published by small companies or even self-published. One of the problems many have is that the authors never learned grammar and apparently didn't have an editor. In some cases, I don't even get through the back-cover blurb before I start grinding my teeth. While I might debate a couple of comma placements, this book didn't make me grind my teeth once.

Another problem with some books I try to read is that they start way before the story does. I remember being told that when authors have finished a novel, they should throw out the first two chapters. *Lethal Seasons* starts with a bang and handles part of the problem of backstory partly by using quotations from Angus Moss, the “charismatic leader.” Including those details in a book is completely in character for him. Individual characters' backstories are revealed a little at a time throughout the novel as they should be.

The pace of the story kept me completely engaged. Downtimes revealed interesting details about how life at High Meadow, a successful settlement of survivors, was maintained.

I immediately liked the main protagonist, Nick, who is the explorer for the settlement who finds other settlements they can trade with. I could identify with Angus, a man probably about my age, who is doing his best to keep a history of events and to prevent the old knowledge. Wisp, a biobot, isn't the evil or unfeeling character of stereotypes, but a fully-developed human being, albeit a manufactured one. Even many minor characters are sufficiently well drawn to bring them to life.

The night I finished this book, I ordered the sequel before I turned out my light. I'm still thinking about it and am concerned for the wellbeing of the characters almost as if they're people I know. Lethal Seasons meets my criteria for five stars.

Andrea says

I received this book through a Goodreads giveaway.

It took a little while for me to fully engage but I ended up liking this book. It's a post-apocalyptic type story with some good variations on the theme to make it unique. While it does stop at a reasonable point, there are quite a few unanswered questions by the end of the book--I am definitely curious to learn what is in store as the series continues.

Ziggy Nixon says

4 strong stars. A much lighter dystopian read than the usual fare and to be honest, a bit of a relief in that regard.

OK, I confess: I first purchased Alice Sabo's book in part because I read she lives in Asheville, NC which is where half of my family originate from or still live. I am pleased to report that she has provided an extremely well-written book that makes you care, truly care, about the characters and their on-going struggles. The writing is very well paced, the chapters excellently divided into decent sections, and I would even say the book is suitable for a wide age group as certainly if books like 'Hunger Games' or 'Divergent' can be classified as Young Adult, then there's no reason this wouldn't also qualify (certainly very few 'adult themes' included if you don't consider deaths that occur owing to gun fights or disease).

To be clear: Sabo's tale is not your normal apocalyptic, zombies attacking, kill or be killed type of tale but instead takes a much more organic approach to how humans will survive if our climate and the ever-growing threat of incurable disease comes to pass. Yes, you can argue that this book only reinforces the realisation that if things do get this bad that our biggest worry will be in surviving the monsters that are man (we are after all bastards covered in bastard sauce). But there is a genuine sense of community developed in this story that comes as a relief after so many other books have focused on only the aspect of how we may just deserve what is happening.

It takes a while for a number of the 'changes' that mankind is now faced with to come to full light. I won't reveal any spoilers but they all wind up fitting very well together. And whereas in some books this approach can be a nagging and even irritating drawback (I just finished one that seemed to forget about a war until 1/3 of the way in), in this case, the 'reveals' or if you will 'tangled webs we weave' work quite well in terms of the flow of the story.

There are so many mysteries left to solve that I'm really looking forward to the second book. We are now emotionally invested in not only the local community, but also in finding out just who else is out there that may give a damn about these people... for better or worse!
