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Exclusive for StoryBundle readers: the first stand-alone e-book version of an incendiary speculative fiction novelette from the NYT bestselling author of the Southern Reach trilogy. Meet your cast of characters: Angels and ghost frogs, transdimensional komodo dragons and secret forces using luna moths for surveillance. Want to traverse space and time to avoid the komodos tracking your scent? All you have to do let yourself be devoured by a giant undead bear? Confused yet? You should be. But this is the secret world our nameless narrator has stumbled into, ever since being rescued by the angels from an exploding airplane. And she'll make sense of it for you, or die trying. The expanded version of a story that appeared in Arc magazine in 2012.

Komodo Details

Date : Published 2014 by Cheeky Frawg

ISBN :

Author : Jeff VanderMeer

Format : Kindle Edition 35 pages

Genre : Fiction, Science Fiction, Fantasy, Weird Fiction, New Weird

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From Reader Review Komodo for online ebook

Nicole says

I'll be frank with you here, I was about half way through this book and thought to myself, "this might be the first VanderMeer novel I'm not going to like."

Wrong.

The second half holds your hand a little more and doesn't just rush you along into the unknown. This is an outrageous, silly, really COOL story.

ECH says

Odd...

I can always trust Jeff Vandermeer to be writing about something that it never would have occurred to me might be a thing, let alone a topic of a story. He seems to have a thing about bears. Silly me I thought he just had things about mushrooms and squid.

MacRae Forrest says

If you have 2.99 and half an hour to spare this is a fantastic way to spend it.

Heidi Ward says

Beautifully, hilariously weird. Maybe the komodos -- or the angels -- are responsible for Area X? Just a passing fancy. Like this dreamlike novella. I love this guy.

4 stars

Alan says

That was weird and weirdly enjoyable

neko cam says

A quirky short fiction piece mostly in keeping with Vandermeer's strange style.

Peter says

As a big fan of Vandermeer's work, this was a must read.

I love how Vandermeer tries to experiment, and do push himself to do different things in different works. This one, though, was not for me.

The stream of consciousness prose paints a hallucinatory image, but takes quite some effort to read. I can appreciate the artistry, but sometimes even weird is a bit too weird for me.

Jeff Raymond says

I'm certainly thinking I should read more short fiction, so seeing as there was a Weird Fiction Storybundle put together by *Area X's* Jeff VanderMeer, I dove in. One of his shorts, *Komodo*, was part of it.

Yep, it's weird all right.

The story is a strange one to describe, our narrator giving a tale to a child that gets progressively stranger and more disturbing as it goes on. It's almost a short game of one-upmanship, as each break in the story seems to introduce an even more bizarre wrinkle that didn't exist before. True or not to the narrator, it's just that classic piece of unease throughout.

What's impressive about this is that it's the first truly short story (between 30-40 pages depending on device) that seemed to feel complete to me while also not losing any sort of edge or feel like it needed more. Would I love to read more about the universe described here? Without a doubt. Does it take away from what's already in this tale? Not at all.

Definitely worth a look, and shouldn't take you too long to read, either. Very enjoyable piece of short fiction, and perhaps a nice little gateway into the weird fiction universe everyone's talking about.

Charles Martell says

Ok A little too hard to follow in places but the author is wonderful

Not bad was a little hard to follow in places. Author is a master in using words though and I enjoyed reading this.

Erich says

A must read before you dive into *Borne* in April. May have to get eaten by a Ghost Bear if I don't score an ARC by then, though...

Mario says

I love the oddball quality of the plot and the narration, and although I have only read two books by this author so far, I find the use of female protagonists refreshing. The mythology created in this particular story is rich and intriguing too, especially in such a short work. It was at once satisfying, and yet left me wanting more.

Melanie says

Like most of Vandermeer's novels, this is written in a unique, non-linear way. The narrator tells the story of her life, more or less, to what is apparently a child. In doing so, the universe that the characters inhabit is revealed first by lies and then by truths. It takes quite a bit of attention and a willingness to think to interpret what is being said.

Obviously, this is not for everyone, but for those who enjoy delving into strange places with strange minds, this is it.

William Breen says

I wanted to like this more. It started out interestingly, but never coalesced for me. This was described as an expanded version of an earlier story, but I felt it could have been expanded even more for my taste.

Emily says

Weird but cool.

Drew says

A blast. Many many times weirder than anything in the Ambergris or Area X trilogies, in the best possible way. If you're a fan of VanderMeer, you ought to check this out and see just how wild the man's imagination can get. If you aren't a fan of VanderMeer yet, go read *City of Saints and Madmen* or *Annihilation* and get a little taste of what's to come. Jumping into the deep end is dangerous, for you and for others – but I promise the water is fine either way. Just look out for the...

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