



Yield

Bryan K. Johnson

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Ex-fire chief Devin Bane rises above the thick clouds for an interview in Seattle and the promise of a better life. Packing up his carry-on items for their descent into the city, Devin is blinded by a distant flash, followed by the screams and chaos of a crash landing.

Outside the plane's wreckage, a nightmare surrounds him. Seattle's iconic skyline is gone.

Searching for answers as he flees through the ruins, Devin and a handful of survivors are surrounded by the most primitive side of human nature. Plunged into the darkness of a broken society, their tattered souls are each tested by the horrors they face. Even if Devin can escape the city, a far worse danger now blocks his path back home . . . back to his family and the dawning of a changed world.

Yield Details

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Author : Bryan K. Johnson

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From Reader Review Yield for online ebook

Zack says

Reduced to the basic equation that makes us all animal-minded, human beings are prone to disposing of etiquette and slashing their way to the roots of any problem. This is referring to people all over the world. This is nowhere more apparent than in Bryan Johnson's *Yield*, readily available online and at your nearest local bookseller. Nixing opposite colors makes black, and the smearing keeps on spreading. *Yield* describes a universe in which people are constantly a hair away from choosing the dark side whenever confronted by base emotions like fear or anger. Johnson portrays this hair trigger ugliness instinct with the zeal of a horror talesman circa 1956 *Weird Tales*. Only in his rendition, the characters don't have to be undead ghosts guarding crypts in haunted houses; these stories are ripped from the headlines of today's horrifying world! Survivors of an unforeseen disaster have no choice but to form nationalistic factions and pit themselves against each other, if they ever hope to make it back to their families and the rubble of what used to be home sweet home in the old blasted neighborhood. Uneasy alliances are formed between sociopolitical rivals in the desperate flight to avoid destruction. *Yield's* effect is like a ton of bricks to what you thought you knew for sure. From Devin to Chris to Izzy, *Yield's* characters all relatable in one or another way. Without giving away very much, *Yield's* classicist mezzanine of a plot is no less captivating to readers unused to navigation of multi-layered intaglios and mazes like the ones presented by Maestro Johnson in his terrifyingly lifelike *Yield*. Is it a coffin for the reader's heart? Or a bulletproof shield for the reader's mind? *Yield* is volume one of the *Armageddia* series, thus ends inconclusively resolute, with a bone chilling, mind tingling cliffhanger, dedicated readers will no doubt be left hanging by their fingernails., wondering what will happen next???

MORE at www.armageddia.com

Erin says

3.5 stars.....

I really struggled with rating this book. I wanted to rate the book differently for the first half and the last half of the book, but alas, I cannot. And before I go into why I gave this a 3.5 rating, I will say that I will definitely read the next book because I liked the ending of the book that much.

The beginning of the book was slow, but for a good reason. It was actually unnervingly slow in a good way, because it was so normal; I could identify with the normal lives of all of the characters. The unnerving part was having already read the description – I knew this was not how their lives were going to stay. I very much enjoyed how the book was set up.

The part of the book I struggled with was about the middle 1/3. There were several times where it was a little distracting because there were several things that were a little too heavy on the description of things and/or people, and it took away the momentum of the story line. There were also some things that were a little too coincidental, or easy, for the main characters, which is hard to explain without spoilers.

The last 1/2 to 1/4 of the book, it was starting to become obvious that the writer was becoming more involved in the story, and less involved in the descriptions; possibly more comfortable with himself, as this is his first book. I was very involved in the last part of the book, and it quickly became a less predictable and very well written story. Things I “knew” were going to happen didn't, and the book ended perfectly. Not too much of a cliffhanger, but definitely leaving you to want to know what is going to happen to not only the characters, but the rest of the world. It is a great set up for the next book.

This is why, although I gave this book 3.5 stars, I fully plan to read the next book, and would not at all be surprised if I end up giving the next book 5 stars. My opinion (not knowing the writer personally) is that the only complaints I had about this book simply came from a new writer getting comfortable, which he definitely did by the end of the book. I honestly look forward to reading the next one. ~Erin
Disclosure: This book was obtained through Goodreads giveaway.
This Review is copyrighted. Please do not share without giving Paranormal Reads/Erin full credit.

Craig says

goodreads first reads Advanced Copy

I found Yield to be a fast paced write about the outbreak of WWIII and, to a bigger extent, the efforts of survivors to reunite with loved ones. It was highly entertaining and well written. My only complaints were that perhaps some of the characters could have been a bit more fleshed out. I also found the story to end a bit quickly, with no real resolution (the reunions seemed to almost just be added when the author felt he reached the end. I know the story is part of a series, and perhaps more will be revealed in the future books, but I found myself wanting to know more right now. It's not really a bad thing. That means my interest was really caught. It's just a bit annoying on a personal, need to know right now way.

I would highly recommend Yield to all fans of Apocalyptic stories.

Eileen says

The apocalypse is on many minds these days. Could it be the uprising in so many parts of the world? That it's an election year? Our troubled economy? I do not know. I do know that a lot of creative types are trying to make sense of it or offer versions of it. Such is the case with this book. It's paced well, has good character development and a not completely outlandish story line. It's a great end-of-summer into fall read as days get darker and thoughts turn more inwards. The book won't change your life but it will entertain you.

NB - there is some darker adult content (an attempted rape, adult themes) in YIELD, so not recommended for young readers.

Dawn Brotherton says

I received an advance copy from the author, and while this isn't my normal genre, I immediately found myself sucked into the story and in love with Devin, even though he didn't seem very likable.

What surprised me the most was the emotional realism. I lived in Oklahoma City when the Murrah building was bombed, and although Yield takes this to an extreme, when I first started reading, I was immediately transported to those feelings we had when we discovered what had happened in downtown OKC. Brian Johnson writes with empathy and details and brought me into the dream (of the story).

I loved that Johnson gave me, the reader, hope with the characters. I've always believed that those who come together in the face of disaster are the survivors.

Kelly 'Perusing Princesses blog' says

Get ready for WW3 and the start of a gripping trilogy.

I have just finished this book and I had to jump on here straight away to write a few words.

To put it simple; This book is incredible! I have never been one to pick up an apocalyptic End of the World as we see it novel, but after noticing the flash advert on my side toolbar and the amazing 5 star reviews I thought I would go against the grain, break my cycle and run with it. Oh boy, what a bloody good decision that was!

In the opening chapters we get introduced to pivotal characters slotted into a timeframe period. It reminded me of the opening scenes of a movie, I then found out that this was originally the Author's intentions.

We meet the Basketball star, the career driven News reporter, the bitter Arab, the beautiful model, the retired General, the pregnant Airline Stewardess and the British firefighter recovering alcoholic extraordinaire, Devin Bane. With a few others thrown in for good measure.

Going about their daily lives and little drama's, these characters gradually start to cross paths as they embark on an air flight from Portland to Seattle. Each with reasons of their own, they are then thrown together through tragedy. As a flash encompasses the airplane and heavy turbulence lands the aircraft in a pile of ash, Devin battles with the flames to help those he can escape the wreckage only to emerge to find the Seattle skyline completely obliterated.

As grief and emotional turmoil consume these characters, the unlikely team band together to get out of the city and the acidic rain that pours from the blackened clouds, as the reality dawns on them that America has just come under nuclear attack.

However, it is soon apparent that when the Human Race is faced with desolation and despair, the panic turns to street violence, loitering and the selfish will to 'survive'.

Trailing miles and miles for refuge, each mile poses further problems and it becomes a fervent battle to make it home. With thirst, hunger and escaped convicts chomping on their heels, the battle to survive continues...

Without giving anything else away with regards to the plot, this book had me turning page after page well into the night. I laughed and I cried at some of the unfairness of it all, and I was genuinely a little scared - simply because this could happen! Like someone else reviewed on here, there's no silly virus and no walking dead. This is a story that is written with honest angst that could easily be made believable. A few of the characters I really warmed to, some others didn't quite capture my heartstrings but there were enough characters to give the book great flow, and worthy of a place in the movie world if the right production company got their hands on it.

Now, I want to know what happens next and will eagerly await book two. Bryan K.Johnson, you have converted me! Due to this, I can only give this book a well worthy big fat 5 stars.

M.M. Strawberry Reviews says

I am a sucker for post-apocalyptic books and movies, and this certainly fit the bill! The apocalypse comes not in the form of a natural disaster, but a sudden, vicious nuclear attack aimed at four major US cities. This of course creates a lot of chaos, but we mainly focus on Seattle, Washington (one of the four targets) and several people caught here. You have Devin, Chris, Terra, Abd, and Izzy in the beginning (as they team together to survive) but you also have a few other characters - Katherine, Devin's wife who is not caught in Seattle but her husband is, Jonathan, a man who works in the news and is trying to get news out to the city, whose communications has been severed because of the attack, and later on, a retired Army man and his granddaughter join Devin and his group.

The writing is very good, and captures the bleakness of the situation - escaped criminals try to rape Terra, price gouging is rampant, acid rain comes down, Katherine is trying to get insulin for her son (who has juvenile diabetes), and other stuff. This is not a happy book. That doesn't mean it does not have some happy/hopeful moments, but the overall story is very dark, given what has just happened, in a way it reminded me of 'A Game of Thrones' because that book was very gritty as well.

The author does an excellent job capturing the reality of the situation, but he also does good with some humorous scenes, such as Chris and his friend before the attack happens, or Haley's arguing with her parents - the teenage angst is captured perfectly here. But there are also plenty of tear-jerker moments here, and I am not one who easily cries (last book that made me cry was 'Peony in Love') and this book surprised me with how much emotion it could make me feel at moments. I won't spoil you by telling you what these moments were, all I can do is recommend that you read this book yourself. It is AWESOME.

As I was approaching the end of this book, I was wondering how or when it would wrap up, I was hoping it would not have a rushed ending - and it doesn't, because this book is just part one in a series. The ending for this book is satisfying, giving the reader a bit of reprieve, but it also leaves one wanting more, and I can not wait to read Book 2! Keep up the good work!

Amelia says

If ever there was a realistic plot for the world to end, this is the plot I'd put my money on. No zombies, no killer virus. Just an all too realistic scenario. Some people might describe "Yield" as an end-of-the-world book. I prefer to think of it as the potential end-of-humanity story.

When people panic, they can become animals who throw civility out the window, along with anyone else in their way. The scarier part is how panic creates more panic and hatred begets more hatred. Spreading like a disease, "Yield" shows how people succumb to the darker side inside themselves when they are full of fear or anger. Johnson depicted this ugly side of human nature horrifically well. The characters don't have to be zombies to scare me out of my skin.

Admittedly, despite all of the hatred and selfishness people can exhibit, seeing the kinder side of human nature is as refreshing as a spring of water found in a desert. Even during the turmoil, not all people are selfish, which is exactly what breaks down stereotypes in this book. And through all of the hysteria shown in "Yield," we still find characters who represent the good people on earth - the ones who keep mankind from destroying itself.

I love the depth of human nature exhibited in this book. There are so many different characters dispersed throughout the story, either adding or leaving their own story. Whether it's trekking across the wasteland of

the U.S. to find survivors, or struggling to survive in a home that's becoming more uninhabitable by the day, my emotions were wrung out like a washcloth. One chapter, my skin crawls from the ferocity and fear depicted. The next chapter, I'm fighting tears at the loss of a character or the finding of another.

The scariest and most intriguing aspect of "Yield" is how believable an end-of-the-world story can be. With the advancement of technology and enough hatred, mankind could destroy itself. There is a fine line between stories that broaden our minds, and stories that provide preachy opinions. Luckily, "Yield" did not cross that line or even use it as a balance beam.

David Borges, says

A great read, always engaging and most of the time scary.

Judy & Marianne from Long and Short Reviews says

Originally posted at: <http://lasrsff.blogspot.com/2012/06/y...>

What would you do if nuclear war became a reality and your city was destroyed?

This author impressed me. I have read several "end of the world" books. There's only so much you can do with the storyline. Mr. Johnson's strength lies in his character building ability. From the first few pages, you begin to feel the survivor's fears, worry and frustration. No one is a super hero. They are all common folks who had their own family problems and they have no desire to have to lead anyone or do anything except survive. This is a very realistic reaction to something you have no way of anticipating and lack understanding on how it could have happened to you.

Devin is a firefighter looking for a new job. He has the misfortune of being on a plane that crashes and involuntarily becomes a leader. Mr. Johnston has just made him an average man who had a drinking problem and is unsure of where he is in his life. The author gives Devin a mixed bag of survivors who are all trying to adjust to the loved ones they've lost and what might be left behind after the explosions.

You feel the long walk, the fear that convicts will attack you, their hunger and thirst, and you also understand why they don't really trust each other. This gives the story more impact and keeps you reading to see what the author throws at them next. It's realistic; not everyone makes it. That makes the story have a ring of truth.

The words flow well, the horrors of war feel real, and I cried at the death of one character. Mr. Johnson grabbed my attention and kept it through the whole book. If the thought of war on our soil hasn't touched you yet, this story will make you a believer. Why not grab a copy and settle in for a story that will chill you and yet give you hope for the future?

Joanne says

Mostly I read romantic suspense novels and don't usually read other genres. When I started to read this book, I had no preconceived notions on how good or not good it would be—but I wasn't sure how I would enjoy reading an "end of days" novel. Let me just say that I was pleasantly surprised and if I can find other books in this genre, which are just as well-written, I may start reading them.

One thing that stood out to me as I read was that from the very first page, the author caught my attention and held it for the entire book. This book was very realistic in the story line and that was actually quite frightening. It related so well to current events and how things could go from bad to worse in one second that Bryan K. Johnson's writing brought this scenario close to home. Anyone who reads this book will definitely be given pause for thought. As the horrific scenario of a potential third world war played out in the book, I clearly imagined myself, my family, friends, neighbors and everyone in our free world—potentially dealing with this real-world scenario in real life. When the traumatic events happened, it was interesting to see how the majority of the people in the book panicked and human decency vanished and it was every man for himself.

The book was well-written, with highly descriptive scenes, drawing the reader deeply into the dramatic story. Each action scene was believable and the characters were well-developed and pulled the reader into their lives—in such a way that by the end of the book, the reader can't wait to find out what will happen to them next. The writing had just the right amount of details, yet not too technical to overwhelm the readers.

I highly recommend this book and am eagerly looking forward to reading Book Two in this series.

Melissa says

This book was received as a free advanced review copy

I wasn't sure what to make of this book at first. It started slow, wasn't my normal reading style, but as I continued it I felt myself being drawn more and more into the story. Enough that I definitely would like to read the other books that will come in the series.

Yield is a futuristic take on America and what could happen to its citizens in a tragic event. More specifically, it offers up a third world war kind of situation, with all the modern elements that we take for granted today that weren't in the first world wars. There are three main sets of characters that the storyline revolves around. The first and foremost being a group of people who were on a plane when bombs struck nearby Seattle. The survivors band together and try to make their way back to Portland, where most of them have family. One of these characters, a fireman named Devin, has a family in Portland around which the book also tells a little of the story and how they are coping in a city not hit by the bombs. And the third group, are media news people, who were in Seattle at the time of the attack and want desperately to broadcast what's happening there to the rest of America. All of these people have to fight for survival in a now hostile Seattle with several unsavory people roaming the streets with them. Food, shelter, and protection are a must as well and not easily come by.

I like most of the characters in this book. Especially those with Devin in the primary group. It was easy to see that they were given the most attention and detail by the author. In contrast, while the other groups were ok, I just didn't feel as interested in them and their storyline and actually would have preferred that the book not be split into sections and stuck with the main group. But they did provide some kind of background to

some of the characters. Devin especially was interesting, and while he had some problems, he seemed to be an all around good guy. The rest of the group followed suit being decent individuals. There aren't really bad guys per say in this book. At least not reoccurring ones. There are the people that dropped the bombs, but they're still mostly a mystery as far as motivation and specifics. There are the wild people roaming the streets, who don't stay in the book long and there's also just everyday people, who by being themselves offer conflict. So it's a varied group but with no one for certain that we can hate as an antagonist. Which since we're rooting for Devin and the gang anyway, it doesn't seem to matter what adversaries they face.

I enjoyed the plot and premise of this book. The "what if" kind of scenarios are always intriguing, although I genuinely hope this is nothing like what our future could turn out to be. That being said, I did have some issues with the way the book was written. I almost lost interest in the first part of the book because there was just too much build up. It got tedious and I wasn't really enjoying myself, luckily that switched as I stuck it through and the book got very interesting. Almost to the point of hard to put down interesting. I also wasn't a big fan of the use of present tense. There's very few books that can get away with using present tense successfully and while this one was readable, I'm not sure it was the best choice. It can make things seem more urgent, but it can also make books read somewhat stilted as well. There is violence in this book, cussing, and other things that some people could find offensive, but hey, it's a book about violence, you kind of have to expect that. If that's not your thing, you shouldn't be reading it. I happened to think it made it more realistic.

I'll definitely look out for the next in the series (although I'll be secretly hoping it switches to past tense). Should be an interesting read and I'm looking forward to what happens to the characters.

Yield
Copyright 2012
425 pages

Review by M. Reynard 2012

More of my reviews can be found at www.ifithaswords.blogspot.com

Sebastien says

I won this book from a Goodreads giveaway and enjoyed reading it very much! The story line to the book was very entertaining a long with the fantastic attention to detailed words throughout the whole book. The detail really captures the reality of each situation which is presented in the book. I couldn't put this book down as soon as I picked it up! I was always eager to know what was going to happen next and how the book was going end.

Manu says

Yield was a wonderful piece of Fiction/thriller dealing with the lives of people in totally different worlds, forced to work with one another after a nuclear detonation blast wipes out the entire American continent. The land of freedom turns into a decaying, Apocalyptic hell once victims realize they are left to fend for themselves. With the help of his fellow evacuees, Devin learns the value of family and cherishing loved ones. Bryan K. Johnson deals with some strong themes in this book that need to be stressed. How far would you go to save another life? What would you endure to be with your family again? Devin literally travels

through hell and back to see his wife and children waiting for him in Portland, after the nuclear bomb knocks his Seattle bound plane from the sky. If we can get anything of substance from reading Yield, is how often we battle darkness in order to appreciate life's most precious moments.

Russ Wallace says

The other reviewers must be friends of the author, because this book is difficult to finish. If it weren't for the generally interesting plot (which is why it gets a second star), I would have stopped before page 50.

The book itself is a low-quality self published paperback. The dialogue is formulaic and the characters are flat. The writing tries too hard with its use of metaphors, and the style is repetitive.

Being a fan of post-apocalyptic fiction, I tried hard to like this book. But given all of the glowing reviews, I thought potential purchasers deserved a fair perspective. It feels like a first draft.
