



Extinction

D.J. Molles

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This is the sixth and final novel in the action-packed series following Special Forces captain Lee Harden and a group of survivors struggling to survive while rebuilding an America devastated by a bacterium that has turned 90 percent of the population into a ravenous horde.

The merciless tide of infected is flooding south, and time is running out to stop them. Bolstered by new allies, Captain Lee Harden continues his struggle to establish a safe haven from which the embers of a shattered society can be rekindled.

This is the sixth and final novel in D. J. Molles' bestselling series:

Book One: *The Remaining*

Book Two: *Aftermath*

Book Three: *Refugees*

Book Four: *Fractured*

Book Five: *Allegiance*

Book Six: *Extinction*

Extinction Details

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Author : D.J. Molles

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From Reader Review Extinction for online ebook

Ned Frederick says

Finally a Remaining book worth the investment. Author D J Molles can write some excellent action adventure scenes and this concluding installment in The Remaining series is payback for all of us who suffered through the hundreds of pages of filler and pointless tangents that padded the middle books. The Remaining: Extinction is basically an excellent war novel told from the platoon level perspective with occasional glimpses of the big picture.

Aaron says

This book is well deserving of the five stars I gave it.

There are some extremely hard hitting passages in this book and some of them feel like textbook examples of emotive writing without alienating the reader. Captain Harden continues what feels like a natural character progression throughout this book although it feels like he is almost cast off at the end. It's nice to see almost all of the loose ends through the series get tied up in most cases quite neatly. I would have liked to have read more about Claire Staley since that story line seemed like it got the legs cut out from it far too soon before being fobbed off to the epilogue. I felt the way the Followers story was finished up to be quite satisfying though.

The major gripe I have with this book is that the story of the greater world is not done. It is left wide open for another book at a minimum, possibly even a whole follow on series and it kills me. I wasn't exactly expecting a nice neat happily ever after from this book but the first novella made me think that part of the story was going to be explored in depth and concluded completely but instead you are left with a come what may. The greater world has been fleshed out and you are left only wondering at what happens next. D.J Molles please keep cranking out the books and I'll keep buying them.

Eric Allen says

I got about 30 pages into this one and then realized that I just don't care anymore. The series started out pretty good, but got duller and more repetitive as it went on, and now I can't even work up enough interest to finish the final book. Oh well. I'm sure it turns out just as bland and unremarkably in the end as the previous few books in the series. I'm also pretty burnt out on zombies. They have gone way past stale, way past overused, way past cliche even, and into if you even mention something that, even remotely, resembles a zombie in any way I hate you territory.

Amanda Felix says

I picked up the first book in the series as a filler until I could find something better. Well turns out I didn't have to wait long, maybe 3 pages and it only got better with each installment. Through out the series, our protagonist, Capt Lee Harden was one of several men in secret underground bunkers all around the country. They are trained to emerge at a specific time when called upon to assist in the rebuilding of the nation in case

catastrophic events brought it to its knees. After several false alarms it happen, he just didn't expect it and certainly not the way they had anticipated. The Omega Virus was released, creating crazed, rabid individuals who had no thought other than to kill and eat those that were not infected. While not mindless Zombies, they were still less than human. This was never in the books of what might happen, a pandemic of sorts maybe but not like this. When he is cut off, unable to receive any transmissions from his contact, Lee emerges from the bunker albeit earlier than he should. From the beginning Lee did his job, he helped people, protected them as best he could, kept them safe even when they were ungrateful, unkind and in many instances deceitful and treacherous. He made friends and he lost them. Some he came to trust, others he tolerated. And always he is a soldier with a mission driven by duty to his country and to the remaining population, helping to defend against the hordes of infected and those who would do harm to others and take what they want. When the very people he tried to help betray him, he is understandably angry, resentful and downright P.O.'d. But even those he could deal with, and he does. It is (spoiler) those that he has come to call family, the ones that call him 'traitor' and send assassins to kill him that hurt the worst. After being he is shot and left for dead a device entrusted to him to help the few desperate remaining is stolen from him. Before he fully recovers he is captured by thugs who want what he does not have. After a harrowing incident he escapes killing several of the thugs and infected. He is still duty bound to complete his mission, protect and rebuild, but first must somehow recover the device and help the people that depend on him. He is not superhuman by any means and most of the time, he only wishes for at least a couple of hours of sleep to regenerate but even that little respite is too often denied him. He continues and he perseveres because he must and your heart will break for him because he is willing to sacrifice himself, his emotions and all that he as a man is to do what he was trained to do; fight for a people and a country he loves. But with every loss, every deed Lee becomes the soldier that everyone should fear as he does the unthinkable, particularly when his friends are in danger. He does find a few he can trust and will stand by him and that keeps him going not wanting to let them down. D.J. Molles is not afraid to kill off main characters and really I would be very surprised if he didn't, after all this is an apocalyptic series with well over 2/3's of the worlds population turned into ravenous infected creatures. Not to mention religious zealots, rapists, murderers and misguided people that see the infected as just a group of highly misunderstood creatures that need to be protected. And of course we have a self appointed President who is willing to sacrifice most of the population of what is left of the United States for his own gain. While there are tense moments, in particular as a small group of survivors on a hospital roof are surrounded by hundreds of thousands infected, and when Lee, Sgt Tomlin and Nate are running through the woods ahead of a large group of infected, this installment deals mostly with what has become of humanity, where even those you think you know cannot be trusted and those you don't trust turn are the ones Lee entrust his life and the lives of those under his protection. It is a battle to the end, against the hordes of infected and people that are determined to see this small group of survivors fall. Is it the rebuilding of a nation with a revolution in the works? Even that is unclear. If this is the final installment, it leaves a lot of unanswered questions so maybe there will be one final book to give us the satisfaction that is sorely lacking in this ending. And was that Sam and a progeny of Deuce patrolling, continuing....We can only hope.

Trish says

So this is the end. Hmmm. Probably better this way.

As already mentioned at the beginning of my review for the previous / penultimate novel of this series, I used to be a fan. Then the indie-author got a deal with a publisher and not only the gorgeous covers of the books changed after that, sadly. It's as if he was compelled to stretch the story as much as possible or even take another direction altogether (which would explain him ending the series here and re-starting it, still with Lee as the MC) in a kind of spin-off series. *scratches head*

Sadly, Mr. Molles will never get to tell me what all the pregnant infected (zombies) mean, how it is scientifically possible, why it is happening or any of the other stuff hinted at that wasn't resolved in the 6 books I've read (probably done to keep readers interested enough to start the spin-off series).

The reason is simple and yet sad: I'm tired.

Tired of everyone whining, tired of the same things happening over and over again. Yes, people usually repeat their mistakes but do I need to read about that all the time?! Besides, one conflict in this series seems to be going down pretty much like the next (and not even the special forces guys adept accordingly). New people arrive, people are wary of one another, then they gain each others' trust following which one side betrays the other resulting in some dying ... rinse, repeat. Even the way people betray or how they behave before that (what they say, what they do) was mostly the same.

I have to admit that this last novel was more fast-paced than the last. Probably because there was less talking about our feelings and such nonsense. However, maddeningly, people still needed to hold hands and sing kumbaya.

Lee still was torn up inside over the most normal stuff (like killing Kyle who more than had it coming - that confession scene ... I wanted to punch the wall).

The horde from the north is still coming because nothing was done in the previous book but now people at least kick into gear (after wasting precious resources *rolls eyes*). The point is: it's not rocket science! It's the zombie apocalypse so of course resources will dwindle and you need to conserve especially meds and ammo as well as fuel for planes and stuff. If I can think of that, I'm sure Marines and special forces guys should be able to as well. *sighs*

For anyone still caring about the characters and events, be warned: there is no actual resolution here. No real end in sight. Though at least there finally is the battle with the Followers (it was a loooong time coming).

The actual fighting was very good (suspenseful, realistic) but once again, I found myself no longer being too invested in whether or not certain people were going to survive or if the Followers won, continuing to rape minors and all the other shit they were doing.

The highlight was when (view spoiler).

Sadly, not all on my list got what they deserved.

Anyway, after years of looking forward to the respective next installment and crying for Zeus in the first novel even more than for Bus in the third, after hoping frantically that Deuce would survive (yes, my heart was hitched to the dogs much more than to any human but can you blame me?), I'm very sad that after such a strong start this petered out the way it did. I had to almost force myself to finish the series (thanks, OCD) and that is kinda emotionally devastating. :/

Cindy says

Love love live this series. Sad to see it come to an end, however it ended with a satisfying conclusion.

Scott says

Great end to the series and as usual not everything went right. I almost wish there was going to be more, but it's nice to see something end as well.

Justin says

This is one of my favorite series and even though this is end, there is plenty of room for the author to continue the saga of Captain Harden and his group. This a great series that answers all of the important questions by the end. I enjoyed how it all ended. While some of the events I saw coming, for the most part I was wondering what was going to happen next and it turned this book into a real page turner. Great job Mr. Molles and if on the small chance you read this review, PLEASE WRITE MORE. I am not quite ready to say good-bye to Lee Harden and the rest of the gang.

Jordan Anderson says

I enjoyed *Extinction* far more than I thought I would. After the colossal bore that *Allegiance* turned out to be, I had my doubts about Molles and the direction the series was going. I mean, how could the previous 5 books (and 2,000+ pages) be wrapped up in one final novel, especially one that would have to close a lot of open doors and tie off more than a handful of loopholes.

Well, for the most part, Molles delivered. The book itself is actually quite good. It picks up right where the horrible cliffhanger left readers in *Allegiance* and honestly never stops. Like *Fractured* did before it, there's no wasted prose trying to explain things that happened previously. Molles knows his readers want to be thrown right into the thick of things and he doesn't pussyfoot around that issue. Yes, I understand it could be a bit of a hassle trying to get back into the story after a couple of months break and with reading 15-20 other books inbetween, but after the 1st chapter and once things get rolling, the plot comes back and I was quickly reacquainted with the story.

Molles has grown tremendously as an author and his writing talent has expanded exponentially. Gone are the repetitive descriptions and flimsy dialogue. Instead it's far more action-packed and succinct. Even characters are more fleshed out and less thin. I was also pleased with the lack of zombies. Yes, this is a "zombie" series, but I always liked the man-against-man element more, and *Extinction* really ratchets that tension up, forcing the infected to take a back seat to hostage crises and marines against fanatical cult followers.

I just wish that this conclusion wasn't so weak. As readers of this series we've spent countless hours and leafed through 1,000's of pages only to be left with a final ending that lacked a lot of conflict excitement. To me, the entire culmination of this series was quashed, replaced with Molles's bleeding patriotism. Hey, I'm an American and I'm proud when the people of this country come together to solve a problem, but after so much depression and things going wrong, for the ending to be so happy-go-lucky seemed a bit of a cop out on the author's part. Plus, there were still a lot of questions that were left unanswered. A HUGE no-no in my book.

For a series that took me exactly one year to read through (12/19/14-12/19/15), I gotta give credit where credit is due. Molles did manage to write an above average story, stretch it across 6 books, and keep me coming back. In a genre that never seems to die (pun unintended), this one sits somewhere slightly above the halfway mark. Can't say I regret reading it, at least.

Bradley says

I think this one was probably the second best of the 6 books. I'll say the first was still best, but that's because a beginning is a very delicate time. People get hurt so easily then! And we don't have such an **IMMENSE** body count.

But then we get to the 6th book and that's the main strength. Two militaries and a **HOARD** of zombies. Not quite a free-for-all, but the action takes place on many fronts.

I was getting tired of all the mil-sf stuff, the automatic 'let's go there' permission-to-be-evil or at least try to feel fine with yourself as you get more brutal, more deadly expedient, more revengeful with every betrayal.

There's a big lie going on here. Yes, in reality, there are circumstances where doing the horrible thing can be justified, but **DAMN...** almost all the fiction of today conflates those circumstances to absolutely insane degrees. In reality, I can see 1/10,000 cases where it might be necessary compared to fiction.

What is this? This isn't really mil-porn, is it? No. It's permission for readers to feel good about their own sociopathy. We want to let loose and kill everyone who betrays us or hurts others, and screw law, civilization, or red-tape. We readers seem to scream for more opportunities to just let loose with every animal instinct and/or thirst for blood.

I admit I feel the same. On occasion. But this general condoning and conflating is nuts. It reads like we all should rally round our families with a pocket full of shells. Damn all else. And that's **RIGHT**, isn't it? And every eye gets poked out. lol

I rant. I know.

Still, this was a very good end for the series. No complaints. It even had an up-note and a positive message in the middle of the pile of crap. :)

Brian says

Awesome book I wish it would not end

Colleen says

A lackluster end to the series I thought. Some **huuuge** questions were left unanswered--the one I was most intrigued about and was teased for several of the books and then left unmentioned was the fate of all the pregnant zombies. Are their offspring the hunters? But the hunters seemed to happen pretty early on where that doesn't make sense. Was disappointed that was never finished off.

More of the same. People race from point A to B. Various people backstab others for no real reason. The finale with The Followers was rather tepid. We didn't see a lot of The Follower's evil--it was always more implied, and since 50% of their crimes was kidnapping & rape of all women they met up with, I'm glad we didn't see pages and pages of that. Why was the Acting President even so ready to kill everyone east of the

Rockies? Because Lee had a bunker over-ride GPS? Would they be that desparate for those weapons? It's not like the US is already dripping with ammo and guns or anything. And since Lee cleaned out the first bunker for the people in Fort Ryder, which still seems perpetually out of everything, they can't be that strategically awesome.

And with the ending, it's clear that Lee and the others aren't the only ones still around in the southeast-- there's enough to restart a full goverment. I've glad I read all these boks, but I don't think they are ones I would re-read.

M.M. Graham says

I loved this whole series. It was sad to say Goodbye to Lee and the crew. I will read them all again someday :)

Eric says

Nice closure to the series, really enjoyed it as the finale.

Roland of Gilead says

A very satisfying conclusion to what I think may be the best zombie series I've yet to encounter. Yes, I've read quite a few and I'm proud to say so. I still believe that the third book in this series, Refugees, was the best book in the series and probably the best zombie book that I have ever read. However, since this was a tidy end to the series, I believe that it deserves five stars as well.

Although most of the loose ends have been tied up in The Remaining, the division between the midwest and the east coast remains. I cannot help but think that there is bound to be another entry despite claims that this is truly the end of the series. Regardless of whatever route Molles decides to take, he has done a great job and I applaud him for what he has achieved.
