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The world ends for someone every day. One day it will end for everyone.

12|21|12 Details

Date : Published March 25th 2012 by Lawrence P. Enright

ISBN :

Author : Larry Enright

Format : Kindle Edition 104 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Fiction, Fantasy, Business, Amazon, Apocalyptic, Post Apocalyptic

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From Reader Review 12|21|12 for online ebook

John Mann says

I wasn't sure what to expect with 12|21|12. Given the subject matter, it could have taken on any number of different angles - science-fiction, action-adventure, occult, etc. It turned out to be a smooth blend of a few different genres. A little science-fiction with some suspense, and even a small spattering of Christian fiction (though I would not consider it a Christian fiction book).

As 12|21|12 is more of a novelette, I would certainly like for it to get fleshed out more, and turned into a proper novel, three to five times the length. It has a lot of potential in that direction. As it stands, you get the core of the story, and so there are a lot of unanswered questions, unexplored scenes. And, while I loved the ending, there seems to be a few chapters missing from just before the conclusion gets told. While I realize these are intentionally not told in the story, it seems like a bad place to have started in with the ending. Just a slight bit more story, and I think it would be a much better story overall. I like unanswered questions, stories that make you wonder or think about what happened, and while I do wonder with 12|21|12, if a couple more questions had been answered, there would have been many more interesting questions posed.

The characters in 12|21|12 are a nice blend, though I felt they did not take on their roles as well as they would have in reality. Their back-stories were partially told, and if added to, could have resulted in a better bond with the reader.

I enjoyed the book, and would suggest it to anyone who likes suspenseful science-fiction, or enjoys stories of unexplained phenomena. It's what I consider a novelette at about a hundred pages, but is worth the read!

Gina says

In this short story at 12:21:12 on 12/21/12, the last day of the Mayan calendar, everyone on earth seems to have vanished, except for 5 different men. Loeb a physicist who studies time and space, Bowen a survivalist, Michael a minister, Ferrett an odd homeless man, and Cameron a speechwriter for the President. They all end up together in Camp David where they will have supplies to live for several years and they go about trying to find other members of the human race who have possibly survived. They know that there was one hit on their computer message that has come from the White House. They don't know what this means or why someone from the White House has seen their distress signal but they all intend to find out.

This was a great short story of about 100 pages in length. You get to know the characters each pretty well as they each have a different theory, based on their own life experience and faith, as to what has happened and what to do next. It moves at a very fast pace and kept me reading straight through to the end. The end is very cool though. I don't want to say anything more than the ending was what really made the book for me. I got it as a freebie on Amazon and it was well worth my time! I would recommend this to anyone looking for a good short story. 4 stars!

Maureen Supan says

This prose from its beginning to its ending confused me. At first, I thought it was like the movie 2012 however as I read not farther than a few pages I realized it contains a totally different plot, a different technique... I was amazed that the author itself would answer the confusing words he wrote straightforward like why he also do not know why the train operates without its operator and without everyone else. Even at the epilogue I would I admit I told myself, "Hey, what's happening in here??". But it was cool it didn't occur to me that they're for some reason the one who died. And YET still I don't understand the story. Who's MAya? Is she a MAyan? WHat is the device that she's holding? In the real life who is Ferret? How come Bowen ended up with a different story in the another life? Where did they go, I mean their bodies?

Grampy says

"12/21/12" by Larry Enright is an interesting take on the whole Mayan Calendar situation. At precisely 21 minutes and 12 seconds after noon (12:21:12) on December 21, 2012 (12/21/12) in an instant, everybody on the planet simply ceased to exist. Everybody, that is, except for 5 very diverse individuals. One by one they more-or-less accidentally encounter each other, until the 5 of them wind up together at Camp David, deep underground in the presidential nuclear blast shelter. One of the survivors is the self-proclaimed "smartest man on Earth", Dr. Loeb, who earned his first PhD at the tender age of 18, and just went uphill from there. Dr. Loeb observes the planet Mars is not where it should be, and convinces the others to accompany him to Washington Observatory, where he determines that it isn't Mars which is out of place, but Earth. Going into a detailed discussion about black holes and gravitational forces, and time folding in on itself, and a bunch of other techno-speak nobody but he understands, he tells the others that Earth is flying away from the sun, and within a month the entire planet will be experiencing sub-zero climatic conditions. The big question then becomes, how will they survive? Are there other survivors they should look for? What, why, and how did all this happen, anyway?

This was a "can't put it down" book with a very unexpected ending. Fortunately it isn't very long, and can be read in a matter of a few hours. I thought the entire book was entertaining, but the ending just sort of knocked me for a loop; I absolutely did not see it coming. There is a plethora of books currently on the market that deal with the Mayan Calendar "End of the World" scenario, and many of them provide intriguing possibilities which make entertaining reading. Many people are interested in this subject, and if you are one of them I would recommend you make this one of the books you read. It's a good, solid 4 star effort, and worth reading for the surprise ending, if nothing else! But the entire book is worth reading, not just the ending.

Maria says

I really enjoyed this book. It hooked me straight away, and I liked the way the author introduced us to each of the characters and really gave us a feel for them. I thought the interaction between the characters was very well done. The idea behind the story is great, and the author has come up with a thought-provoking story that leaves the reader to wonder what really happened and why. I liked that it was open-ended enough so that the reader's imagination can also almost decide the fate of the 5 "survivors".

A clever twist on the Mayan prediction of "the end of the world". I would definitely recommend this story. It's a quick and satisfying read.

Alonso Hidalgo says

<https://myriamahidalgo.wixsite.com/my...>

Matt Schiariti says

This novella really had me turning the pages.

On 12/21/12 and 12:21:12 pm everyone on the planet disappears. Except for five lone individuals. A genius astrophysicist whose theories on aliens have made him an outcast amongst his peers, a loner survivalist, a fallen minister, a hermit and a presidential speech writer all come together in order to unlock the secrets of why everyone else on the planet seemingly just disappeared at that time on that day.

Overall I liked the take on the Mayan calendar's prophecy of doom. In addition the conflict between the very different personalities is written really well.

The only thing keeping the book from getting a five star rating was the ending. It's an ending that makes you think but there's real no definitive closure to the book. It's one of those endings where the more you think about it the more confusing it gets.

Still, it's worth the read as it's fast paced, filled with well written lines and interesting characters.

Shawn Hopkins says

I was pleasantly surprised to get a story like this from Enright simply because it's so different than his others. But it was a fast read that only further solidifies him as the master storyteller he is. Richard Matheson takes on *Left Behind* and the product is fascinating. Don't expect an epic here, it can be read (and should be read) in one or two sittings. That's the brilliance of Enright's Mayan spin - it doesn't try to be anything more than what it is... a scary, fun, and unsettling trip through a suddenly deserted earth (right?). I'll be thinking of this one for a while...

PG Some mild language

Wendy says

I am a huge fan of post-apocalyptic books so relished the idea of reading this one. Overall I was drawn into the book. I enjoyed the fact that the author introduced us to the survivors one at a time as they came together. I was intrigued as the Survivors attempted to figure out what was happening. I was interested in the theories that Loeb was putting together, and then the end came along and I was left feeling shell shocked and wondering, "What just happened?". I understand what the author was doing, but I was left a little disappointed that so many things were being left to my imagination. I almost felt like I was left to write the

ending myself and decide what had happened and I am not sure that I like that. Overall a good read and I would recommend it as a quick, somewhat thought provoking read.

Jason says

MILD, SEMI-SPOILERS AHEAD

I think the 2012 doomsday theories (particularly those based on the idea that the Mayan calendar ends this year) are an annoying joke that just won't go away in the media (kind of like a lot of musicians), but this book attracted me when a reviewer described it as a good episode of The Twilight Zone. At something like 105 pages, it's not a large enough investment of time to keep me away.

SUMMARY

The world ends for someone every day. One day it will end for everyone.

Five men find themselves suddenly alone on Earth, with no trace of what has happened to the billions of other inhabitants. After locating and stumbling into each other, they begin searching for answers first at Camp David (the presidential retreat), and then at the White House.

OVERALL: 2.8 out of 5

I agree that "12/21/12" reads like an episode of The Twilight Zone, but it wouldn't have been one of my favorite episodes. The ending is rushed, and the "reveal" feels like a cheap trick (I only read books like this because I trust that the author is cleverer than this).

Still, the characters are interesting, and the "this is the end of the world for THEM" concept is always intriguing to me. I like that the story is about how random people can face an impossible situation when they are thrown together (we're around random people all the time in modern society), and the story is well-written.

My closing questions:

- What was the device "Maya" kept pulling out? It sounds like it was probably a portable translator, but it is never explained.
- Why was the world "spinning" for Loeb, but not apparently for any one else? Was he more sensitive to what was going on?
- Why does Bowen become confused after shooting someone in one "reality", but remains generally task-oriented in the other?
- What was the whole part about Loeb noticing that the stars and planets were out of alignment?
- Lastly, and the question I think the author wants us all to ask: since the main characters are simply absent in one "reality" at the end, what the hell just happened?

CHARACTERS: 3 out of 5

I was amused with the character of Bowen, who is obviously based on wilderness survival instructor and tracker extraordinaire Tom Brown Jr. I wonder if the author has met "the Tracker", because he paints a very lifelike portrait of Brown (Bowen) as a rugged, abrasive man who believes in nothing but survival (which does not click with the spiritual nature in Tom Brown's books at all).

The other characters range from interesting (Professor Loeb) to marginal (Ferret and Maya), and Michael the Dying Pastor is just annoying.

PACE: 3 out of 5

At 105 pages, this “book” goes very fast, but I thought the last quarter was too rushed.

STORY: 2 out of 5

This is a really interesting story at first, but the author uses a cheap device in the ending that doesn’t explain several of the leads he has thrown out to entice the reader. It is never particularly creepy though.

DIALOGUE: 3 out of 5

A lot of the book depends upon the interactions between the various characters, and in that sense it is well-written, though some characters come across too strong. For instance, Loeb is so intellectual it was difficult for me to imagine him being a younger man for his profession (or without an English accent, for that matter). Bowen is a caustic jerk for the most part (though the implied reasoning is interesting to me).

STYLE/TECHNICAL: 3 out of 5

This book is well written, and any confusion over some “strings” that are mentioned early on and then completely abandoned work at the ending (something is specifically mentioned when Bowen is first introduced, it is totally dismissed, and then becomes important later on), but many of the plot threads the author throws out are completely ignored by the ending.

Brian says

More?

Disappointed! Great story and characters, but it was just too short of a story. Should've and could've added a whole lot more.

Tyler says

This book was a very quick read. I read it in 2 hours almost to the point and all in one sitting.

I picked this book up for free on the Amazon Ebooks list on my Kindle. The title struck me as interesting, as it would any other person (funny enough, without knowingly doing so, my mom picked up the book the same day on her kindle as well) would.

I really enjoyed the beginning chapters. I thought the characters were very interesting and I found it interesting (how many times will I say that word?) how they all came together. Once the action took place, it was hard to put it down.

This will be a bit short, rather like the book. Pick this book up for a nice and sweet sunday afternoon read. I am sure that you will enjoy it:)

P. Christopher Colter says

Another winner from Larry Enright. 12/21/12 is a departure in style from Enright's previous three books, but no less entertaining. As the Mayans predicted, things do go seriously awry on that well-known date, but not in a way that anyone would have predicted. Instead of focusing on end-of-days, big budget flick-style disasters, this story lends its attention to the people involved and how each in their own way cope with the end of the world.

I have to admit that the ending left me wanting more. I wish Enright had drawn it out a little further to clarify some things. It made me think, but not in a pondering way, more in a "so how did that work?" kind of way, hence four stars instead of five.

Sammy Sutton says

The premise is a creepy familiar yet, the story is a fascinating unique blend of a believable potential, and the prophecy that spawns it. The five main characters are a sensational group of interesting outcasts. Several times, Dr. Loeb the quasi-leader made me laugh and wrinkle my forehead. In my opinion he carries the story and provides the perfect personality and resume' to make it happen. His interaction with polar opposite, Bowen is entertaining and adds dimensional depth.

A fast-moving, quick read, this story is a clever scenario as the characters mirror the foundations of beliefs that surround the phenomenon. Please read, you will not be disappointed.

Kate Bowyer says

Loved the well developed characters and the story line. A fun read for anyone.
