



Containment

Sean Schubert

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Running. Hiding. Surviving.

Anchorage, once Alaska's largest city, has fallen. Now a threatening maze of death, the city is firmly in the cold grip of a growing zombie horde.

Neil Jordan and Dr. Caldwell lead a small band of desperate survivors—including young Jules and Danny—through the hellish undead maelstrom. With their refuge compromised and behind them, Dr. Caldwell and the others place their faith and their lives squarely in Neil's hands.

With life and death hanging on every decision, Neil must face each new obstacle without breaking. And the group presses on toward their last hope: that this nightmare has been contained, and there still exists a sane world free of infection.

But to reach it, they must survive and escape...

Containment Details

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Author : Sean Schubert

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From Reader Review Containment for online ebook

Shana Festa says

Absolutely the best Z series I've read in months. I can't wait til book 3!

Christina says

In Containment, the second in the Alaskan Undead Apocalypse series, a group of people, including two children, must find their way out of Anchorage. The survivors hope the zombie infection has not spread everywhere and that somewhere, there is a safe place.

The Alaskan Undead Apocalypse series is what you would expect from a good zombie story; it is scary. It almost feels like an old movie, where the blood and gore is not what scares you. What scares you is the suspense of what is waiting behind a closed door, shuffling feet coming from somewhere, an open door that should not be open or several people surrounding one small area that is not clearly visible, slowly stepping forward to see what is there... I learned my lesson with Infection; I did not read Containment at night. In fact, I made sure to have a funny book readily available before bedtime and read a little of that before attempting to go to sleep.

I absolutely love the way Containment begins. I love books or movies that begin with a prologue, which takes place on the opposite side of the planet or in a completely different time period, and then the rest of the book takes place somewhere else (although Containment's prologue is not quite so drastic). That doesn't mean it won't come up again later, but it is not the focal point. I don't know quite how to explain it, but this aspect comes off a little surreal and creepy. If you have read any of my other reviews, you will know that creepy is good.

Another thing I absolutely adore is the weirdo, religious nut theme. Containment has that as well, and while you have a pretty good idea of what her endgame is, the details remain elusive. Schubert teases the reader with a snippet here or a clue there, but just as the religious nut's answers to questions are vague, so are the character's intentions.

Since no book can be perfect, I'll admit that some characters are better developed than others. (view spoiler) In any event, seeing as how I gave this book 5 stars, it obviously didn't affect how much I enjoyed this book.

As any lover of zombie themed novels knows, there is an ongoing debate as to zombie speed. I don't want to get into all the details here, but Schubert does offer a reasonable explanation as to why zombie speed may not be a constant. And this subject actually plays a pretty important part in the story; it's not a side issue.

I know this sub-genre seems overdone and many will doubt the quality of yet another zombie book, especially when it does not come from one of the biggie publishers, but I am here to tell you that this book is good. Even if you read Infection and thought it was just okay, you may want to give Containment a try. While I thoroughly enjoyed Infection, Containment is definitely better and gets a very enthusiastic recommendation from me for anyone who wants to read a scary, suspense-filled, zombie book.

Patrick D'Orazio says

Containment (Alaskan Undead Apocalypse Book 2) is the sequel to Infection, the first book in this trilogy, which will be completed with Mitigation, which has already been released. The author returns to where he left off, with the two bands of survivors who were racing against death through the first few days and weeks after the first zombie rose up combining forces and doing whatever they can to find and to maintain a safe haven. We are also introduced briefly to a military leader and the failed efforts to prevent the undead from crossing a bridge north of Anchorage, granting the monsters access to the rest of the vast state.

Neil, who led one of the groups in the first book, takes on the mantle of leadership in this book, while Dr. Caldwell, who was the leader of the other group, stepping aside and becoming more of a consultant, or moral guide for Neil. As this new entity travels in and around Anchorage, their numbers grow and diminish thanks to other survivors they happen across and the hordes of undead they must face off against. Of course, the newcomers and old members of the team alike add conflict and provide new challenges for Neil and the others. Officer Malachi Ivanoff, the loose cannon police officer in the first book, finds a new friend in one of the newcomers the group comes across, and ample reasons to continue down his path of destruction and mayhem. Other relationships hinted at being formed in the first book continue to grow and face challenges. In general, Neil's group, like a living organism, adapts and modifies itself to suit its challenging environment.

While the objective, as is the case in most apocalyptic tales, is survival, the story meanders for the most part, with no specific objective outside of finding food, water, and a safe haven. The author, to his credit, makes Alaska-both Anchorage and the surrounding natural beauty, play a far more prominent role here than in the first book. In Infection, the city of Anchorage had the feel of Any Town, USA. There was nothing unique about this environment the undead had invaded. Containment shares more of the unique flavor of the largest and northern-most state in the U.S., especially when the survivors step outside the confines of Anchorage and are forced to wander a bit into the wilderness. The isolation of Alaska is both a blessing and a curse. While the military has failed to contain the undead in the Anchorage area, there is no hint at outside intervention, either from Canada or the rest of the United States, despite the fact that the story takes place several weeks after Anchorage has been annihilated by the undead. The characters conjecture about where the military might have made a stand and where potential larger bands of refugees might be located, but there are few tangible hints as to what is happening in the wider world around them. It would be safe to guess that the third book in the trilogy should provide greater insight into the global picture though it seems there should have been more here.

The characters in Containment, as was the case in Infection, are well developed. We get to know the original characters even better and the same treatment occurs with some of the new people with whom they cross paths. Unfortunately, the level of introspection each character goes through slows this novel down a great deal in multiple places. The action often comes to a screeching halt while either a character ponders the meaning of what is happening, a bit of their history is revealed, or in the case of a few devious characters, what they are plotting. Still, this is a classic tale of survival in the undead apocalypse and the reader is given the opportunity to get to know these characters in depth and detail that has strong appeal.

Containment, though slow at points and with a plot that meanders a bit, provides the reader with a set of characters that are well-rounded and have a great deal of depth. Neil and the rest of the group are easy to identify with-they are not heroes or skilled survivalists but ordinary folk trying to find their place in a world filled with the undead. It will be interesting to see what happens to them in the conclusion of this trilogy.

Justin says

Containment is book two in Sean Schubert's Alaskan Undead Apocalypse series. I'll assume you've read book one (Infection: Alaskan Undead Apocalypse) if you're here browsing the reviews for Containment, and that you already know the basic storyline. In Containment, the group of survivors we met in book one are continuing their quest for safety in a state that appears to be 99.9% overrun by the zombie hordes. There are a few new (and memorable) characters, but this story focuses on the characters from book 1.

Zombie 411: Schubert's zombies are more or less the Romero-style undead. They're quicker, but the basic rules seem to apply.

The good - As with the first book, the main selling point of Containment is that it's a comfortable, familiar zombie apocalypse story with loads of action and bloody violence. Schubert maintains a high level of tension that is enough to keep you turning the pages and wondering whether these beleaguered characters will ever catch a break. He also does a good job continuing to develop those characters. Also, this time around Schubert does more to bring the unique elements of the Alaskan setting into the story, which was missing in book one.

The not so good - There are a couple of issues with this book that made it a tough slog at times. One was Schubert's tendency to let his characters have pages of introspection and reflection. I'm sure it was intended to give them some depth and let us get a better handle on what makes them tick, but after a few of these "what does it all mean" internal monologues, I found myself skipping ahead to when the action started back up. This bled into the dialogue too, which too often veered into unbelievable territory. The other major issue I had is that the story didn't really go anywhere. The group just wandered back and forth until the end, which wasn't much of an ending at all, really. Oh, and get a new car! They can't all be dead!

I'm torn on this one. Containment (which is an odd title by the way, since containment of this plague didn't factor into the story at all) had some major flaws, but it still a pretty enjoyable read. If you really liked Infection, then you'll probably enjoy this one as well.

Holden Attradies says

The writing in this book was a HUGE improvement over the first book. I don't know if I would call it "good" yet but I can see clearly that after the experienced gained from writing a few more novels that Schubert will be a great author.

I'd say my biggest complaint for this book was the incredibly slow pace it moved at. It felt like every action and every single word by the main characters was shown on page. There were whole chapters that felt they could have been condensed to just a few pages instead of playing out on page in what felt like "real time."

And I do wonder how well people who don't live in Alaska (or even those outside of Anchorage) would enjoy this. 98% of what I liked about this book was know exactly where things are taking place and usually know the exact buildings the author is describing. It's a story that takes place outside my front door, making it incredibly visual to me as a reader.

So, definitely an improvement from the first one. But I'd still say unless you are a big zombie fan or live in Anchorage this probably isn't for you.

BlushedBindings says

I still love this series you get to know more and more about the characters. I think this will be a longer series there are a lot of characters still not part of the story line or left hanging. So if that annoys you pass on these stories.

Daphne says

I could not put this book down. It may not be a Pulitzer-prize winning novel, however, the concept and the familiarity with the area it takes place kept my interest in the book. Living in Anchorage, I can relate well to the surrounding described in the book and the culture references made throughout the book.

I was bummed when I finished that the third book was not going to be released until later 2013.

Great read, easy and entertaining. You get to know the characters well and secretly cheer for them to survive, or not.

Casey says

just as good as the first, totally has me hooked

Brad T. says

Ok wow. I didn't give book 1 a very good review, deservedly I think. But book 2, took all the things I wasn't happy about in book 1 and turned them around.

Great character development. Alaska becomes a character as much as it does a setting. Characters you like dying. Couldn't ask for more, great book!

David Colenutt says

Same as I said for your previous book, can't wait for the final installment

Rosann says

Really loved reading these 2 books. Infection and Containment.. both excellent !!

Penny says

THIS BOOK IS SO TERRIBLE. So problematic. The writing is crap, the editing is crap. He makes the most nonsensical metaphors. References to Bill Clinton and Pulp Fiction show just how out of touch the author is. Author clearly has issues with "wimmens, they are so confusifying with their feelings;" several characters had evil ex wives, because women are evil. SubPlots were started and discarded. Romance came out of nowhere. THIS BOOK IS FULL OF ISSUES.

Although, the biology of the zombies was good. But calling them "fiends" and "ghouls" was getting annoying.

I hated this book.

RJ says

Excellent character development as you get to know each of the survivors and connect with them to some degree or another. There was one character who appeared for several chapters and seemed to have some part to play within the mechanics of the group, but then was unexpectedly removed permanently, as in deceased. I'm not sure what the purpose of that was; evidently the author changed his mind on the importance of said character. Then there was the "few bricks short of a load" police officer. I guess all the characters can't survive until the end can they? As a zombie apocalypse tale there are certainly better books out there, but this one is still an interesting read that gets better the further you explore.

Lorre says

Loved this book!

In Infection, the first book, the writing was a bit stiff at times but not in this book.

I got really involved with the characters and was constantly worried about what would happen to them. And of course this being a zombie book there were people dying from the group.

Love the setting of Anchorage and Alaska as well... the author gives enough details so I could follow the route they were taking on Google maps.
