



In This Red Country

J.P. Lantern

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In the frontier town of Trunkdown, Clay does his best to maintain the grip on sanity that his mother and father both lost. Clay's young wife, Maggie, is pregnant, and on the frontier of Mars, that's a death sentence. Even for a surgeon like Clay, medication for a birth is inaccessible. Without medication, every pregnancy on Mars ends with an abomination ripping out of the mother's body.

Abandoning Clay's surgeon practice, the two set out to the nearest city, hoping to find a solution. There are no cars, no planes. They must walk through the land, but the land is littered with danger. Rain storms attack the ground like artillery fire. Mutated beasts populate the nights. Natives—adult versions of the inhumans that burst from unmedicated wombs—attack travelers at will.

The two decide the only way they can make the trip is with a guide named Abram. The bad news is that Maggie and Abram used to be lovers. The worse news is that Abram is a native himself.

When each traveler is unable to let the past stay past, old resentments begin to boil among them, irrevocably pushing all three toward a shocking, violent conclusion.

In This Red Country Details

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From Reader Review In This Red Country for online ebook

Julie Fischer says

I am sorry to say that I just can't get involved with this story. I wish I could just pick it up and finish it, but unfortunately that's not going to happen.

Florry says

This book challenges our imagination and tells a story of our possible future.

Everything happens on Mars at the time when life for humans is impossible on Earth. Don't think it's easy to live on Mars, especially when there are dangerous natives and mutated beasts. The food and water sources are limited. The fresh air comes from breathers. The pregnant women will have a violent death without medication.

I liked the whole story, I liked Clay (the main character) and I find interesting these quotes:

“The choice between life and death is still a choice!”

“When your mind was against you, you didn't have anything left.”

“Sometimes in the cities, justice was just men with knives and guns, operating through the skin of the night.”

“People dislike everything, especially decisions.”

“I think humans can get used to anything. I think we're all good at forgetting.”

I'm curious what happens in the next book of the series.

Heather says

Interesting novel- can't wait for the rest of the story!

Lacie says

I received this book as a giveaway through Goodreads. That being said, there was very few errors (grammar, punctuation, etc.) if any in the book which as a reader, I greatly appreciate. As far as the story, it was a different take on human life on Mars. I do appreciate how the atmosphere of Mars was more believable than if the author had made it closer to Earth's atmosphere. The plot moved along with a fair pace but I can't say I was enraptured with the book. A decent read for the sci-fi fan, I would think.

Lynn Reynolds says

I received this book for review from Jitterbug PR and from the author as part of a virtual book tour. I was not compensated nor was I required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own.

I love how J.P. has not tried to change the planet's atmosphere and that we see what is needed in order to survive on a daily basis. It also shows how things can be when you're trying to start a new colony in a place where you are considered the foreigner – in a place you know little about. J.P. also shows that some people don't quite have the experience needed to service the general public. But they are needed in order for the colony to survive. This book makes you think about what would happen if we sent people to Mars with what we currently know.

If you're a fan of "The Martian Chronicles" or the movie "Total Recall" you just might enjoy this book. It's been a while since I read a science fiction book that didn't have romance in it. J.P. reminded me why I enjoyed this genre back in high school. He also reminds me that I need to take the time and read outside my comfort zone. Otherwise, I just might miss a really good book and an author I might not normally read. In other words, step out of your comfort zone whenever you get a chance, you just might enjoy it, and we always should try to expand our horizons.
