



Broken Lines

James Hunt

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The advancement of technology has allowed our society to grow in leaps and bounds. The fields of medicine, engineering, agriculture and countless others have benefited from the applied science of high tech microprocessors and their data processing capabilities. This technology helps power our homes, cars, laptops, and phones. It is involved in every aspect of our lives, but as powerful and complex as these systems are there is one device that can cripple everything and bring the world as we know it to a standstill: EMP blast.

Mike Grant, a veteran welder for a Pittsburgh steel company, is at work when an EMP blast wrecks the entire country. With no transportation and no way to contact his loved ones, Mike has to combat the panic stricken city to find his father, reach his wife and children in the suburbs, and escape to their cabin in Ohio.

This fast-paced, adrenaline filled thriller will keep you on the edge of your seat as we all find out what happens when the lights go out.

Broken Lines Details

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Author : James Hunt

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From Reader Review Broken Lines for online ebook

Jennifer says

I had such high hopes for this piece as I do for anything with a world is coming to an end and we must figure out how to survive now plot. Sadly, this just didn't do all it could/should have.

Namely most of the work is just dialogue. I would have loved to see this more fleshed out. If you're going to introduce the concept of a solar flare, I'd like more of an understanding than "it will shut down power and cars." If you're going to talk of how neighbors go psycho once supplies run out, don't just have them become automatically psycho, show the progression.

I found this a novel that tried too hard. It had a really awesome, fertile plot to draw from, but failed to grow into a recommendable read.

Kathleen Kurlin says

I got this book as a freebie for my Kindle and read it in under two hours -- the reason being is that this is not a full-length novel, but more like a novella. Because the story is so short there wasn't really sufficient time to fully develop the main characters nor the story; but within the brevity of the story, I enjoyed what I read and wanted the story to keep going. Unfortunately this book is part of a series and in order to read the developing story, you're forced to buy the next installment. This seems to be a trend with many writers today and I can't say as I like it. This story is most likely classified as "science fiction" as it is about what happens after an EMP (electromagnetic pulse) wipes out everything that is computer operated -- which in the 21st century is literally everything. Although after doing some quick research on EMP, it's a little alarming to discover that the possibility for this happening today is a very real probability -- so perhaps the story isn't so much science fiction as it is science prophesy. The story only deals with the first six days after the incident and society pretty much falls apart with everyone resorting to murder and mayhem in a very short amount of time. While I enjoyed the story and would really like to find out what happens to the main characters, I'm not sure if I want to invest the money for the next installment as I understand the series is a trilogy. Call me old-fashioned, but I like a book that comes to a conclusion in one book and would really prefer not to get roped into a series.

Kathy H says

Short and predictable

It was over before it even got started. Typical story of the world without electricity, one family is prepared and others aren't. Panic and violence ensues. So on and so forth.

Ebony says

I got this for free and it wasn't terrible--just short. At only 110 pages I read it in a few hours and was disappointed to have it end so soon.

BTW is massaging not messaging. My spelling beef.

It spans the first five days after an EMP.

I could quibble about the hospital staff and their actions and the whole thing in the elevator was a yeah, right.

I have read worse, I would have given it 4 stars if it was longer with a bit more character development of the neighbors and why things went south as quickly as it did with them. Particularly Bessie.

I might give book 2 a go.

Bernie says

Broken Lines review

Broken Lines- A Tale Of Survival In A Powerless World is a well-written post apocalyptic story about a family's quest for survival after an EMP blast takes out the power grid. This is a series with a cliffhanger ending.

Gemma Wiseman says

If you like a book that bulldozes through brisk bursts of action, then this book has possible appeal. No dallying around character sketches, getting to know what makes them tick...Let's just get into and get on with the action...

The summer sun was brutal. Even the asphalt was sweating.

This is a hot world suddenly cut from the power of microchip energy.

All of the cars along the highway were completely still. Wrecks dotted the road for miles.

... and that brings out desperate needs for desperate measures.

Hasty snapshot descriptions of tense atmospheres tend to evolve into tangling mixed metaphors...

e.g. *There was only the silent murmur of crowds piling into the streets looking confused in the motionless city...*

But wise and brave (seems to be) man Mike has plans to get his family into their jeep and off to their holiday cabin in Ohio...

I was left breathless and hungry for a bit of depth...

Robin says

After an EMP blast hits the U.S., society rapidly falls apart. Separated from his family, prepper Mike Grant watches his friends and neighbors transform before his eyes. He must escape and find his family before it's too late. A great start to an exciting post-apocalypse series!

Debbie says

"Broken Lines" by James Hunt is more along the lines of a novella than a novel. Although the plot was intense, the story lacked any backstory, which would have fleshed out the book considerably. The writing was so so and the characters lacked depth. An interesting concept, but it needs a lot more work and a good editor. Contains some violence and profanity.

Bob says

here's another book i wanted to like but couldn't. interesting concept. the world goes off grid. no power. no computers. anything with a microprocessor is useless. only one person in this one neighborhood is prepared. so what happens? well..... quite a bit, but this was done much better about 45 years ago in a twilight zone episode. seems anyone with a computer these days is writing a crappy book. this was just another one.

Marie Gregory says

Fast paced

Great beach read for doomsday peppers. Wish it was a bit longer. All in all makes me hope this never happens

Frank says

A great story line but the author needs a little work on style and wording. Just when it got good, it ended. Not sure if I am going to read the next book in the series, will have to see if the reviews say his writing improved.

Wendy Strain says

James Hunt has created a plausible disaster scenario with realistic effects in Broken Lines. Should anyone be stupid enough to launch an attack of the nature included in the story, they really could create the kind of havoc described in this book and, given what we know of human behavior, the reactions James builds in are also highly plausible. While the language might seem a bit stilted at the beginning, there does seem to be reason for it and it is short lived. Once the story gets going, it's easy to become lost in it. It would be helpful

to know a little bit about electricity and the concepts behind an EMP blast as these are not things discussed in the book, but it is not altogether necessary before becoming wrapped up in the experience. Even if it weren't just a novella length (at approximately 100 pages), it is quick to read (and free at the moment!) and gives you ample reason to pick up the next book in the series, *Broken Roads*, in which Mike continues his struggle to re-unite with his family. It would likely be better if the story were not divided in this way. There is more detail into the pros and cons on my blog.

Julie says

The whole set together is a harsh reality story of what can and probably will happen if the lights go out. A family in a neighborhood, then torn apart by group-think, then on to the cabin the family had prepared. The next steps are so real, so scary I felt like I had been through the wringer by the time it was over. Excellent story.

Tim Moon says

This is clearly not a full-length novel. If you don't like shorter stories then don't pick it up because that's a lame complaint when every site tells you the length (due diligence people!).

Broken Lines is a novella about an EMP disaster. I liked the story - well written, good pacing, and believable characters. So far the character has a flat arc but like I said, it's a novella so that's sort of expected. The action is clear and the antagonist is thoroughly horrible (but in a good way). The story ends in an awkward place but overall I enjoyed it. Good start to the series.

Jerry Blackerby says

Pretty well done about life when all power is gone. After an EMP, everything with a computer chip comes to a halt. The author keeps you on the edge of your seat about what will happen next. Most people do not know how to handle life without power. This first book of a series is fairly short. I am looking forward to the next book in the series.
