



## Death Day

*Shaun Hutson*

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In a desolate graveyard, a workman finds an ancient amulet - and untold terrors are released from the past. The author also wrote "Assassin", "Spawn" and "Slugs".

## Death Day Details

Date : Published March 6th 2003 by Time Warner Paperbacks (first published April 2nd 1992)

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Author : Shaun Hutson

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# **From Reader Review Death Day for online ebook**

## **Peter Davis-Parker says**

Shaun Hutson got me back into reading years ago and Death Day has compelled me to read again and again & I adore it every time. Hutson is by far one of Horror's contemporary masters

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## **Rae Louise says**

My favourite Shaun Hutson book, I've re-read this one countless times. Exciting plot, relatable characters (even though many don't last long, which is typical of this author) and every scene keeps you turning the pages. The enemies are formidable, ruthless and almost unstoppable; as a result, certain elements do seem a little far-fetched. For example, the British police loading up with all manner of firearms and letting loose on the monsters terrorising the town. Still, this is a work of fiction and it's the promise of messy fun that has always attracted me to these books. Brutal and bloodthirsty, fans will not be disappointed.

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## **Harry Welsh says**

I have read this book 6 times over the years and always enjoy it. If you like a bit of a fright I highly recommend this book. The characters are well portrayed and each one has their own identity.

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## **Christopher Law says**

My excuse is basically the same as it is in my review of Relics 3:)

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## **Dreadlocksmile says**

Deathday was first published back in 1986 under Hutson's pseudonym - Robert Neville. The novel was his one and only to use his Robert Neville pseudonym. The story is another fast-paced ride through a splatterpunk fest. It uses various ideas and inspiration from a number of his earlier novels, which proves to be somewhat of a disappointment for any Hutson fan. The storyline is a simple one with the most cliched characters and obvious twists. Packed with vivid depictions of gore and extreme violence, the book is a standard style of offering from Shaun. Yet the storyline has some ridiculous elements to it that do ruin the novel. For example, the police are confronted by what they believe to be a lunatic who claims the dead are coming back to life. They decide that instead of locking the chap up, they'll lend him enough heavy weaponry to equip a small army...just in case he's telling the truth! Firstly, since when have the police had such weaponry at their disposal and secondly...as if!!!! But putting the comical elements to the plot aside, the whole storyline is predictable and tedious. Not one of his better works.

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## **Helen says**

I've really enjoyed some of this author's other works, they were a sort of guilty pleasure, something to read when you don't feel like thinking too hard but want to be entertained; like a cheesy horror film you'll forget as soon as the credits roll. But there were just too many nonsensical things happening and the writing just didn't do it for me.

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## **Fraser McMartin says**

Hands down my favourite horror novel of all time. Yes there's questionable points such as: the lead character suffers from a severe case of bipolar (screaming in rage at some one then seconds later wanting to kiss them), the fact that the Inspector of the police force is only 22 years old (eh??) the relationship of Tom & Debbie Lambert is far too perfect, every cup of tea that is drank is stone cold and they wince while drinking it, going to visit the top dog copper in the city who, before laughing them out the door with their stories of zombies rippin folks eyes out decides to let them go down to the station basement where apparently an arsenal that would have Rambo pissin his pants in excitement lays waiting for them to help them selves to as much firepower they require. Yes despite all this, I absolutely love it - the atmosphere the book creates as you turn the pages is something I've never felt again with any book I've read - if your lucky enough to be sitting on a Sunday afternoon relaxing, and the rain and wind is howling loudly outside and battering off the window then this is the book you want to be reading. The only negative criticism I have for this story is it's a bit rushed at the end - the steady build up to you finding out what the medallion is all about and why everyone's tearing each others eyes out, raising from the grave and coming at you full force with 'blood red orbs' for eyes and disgusting yellow spittle foaming at the mouth is all spot on, but once they manage to destroy all the zombies and your getting ready for the last chapter and the shit to hit the fan, I just feel that Shaun had got bored by this point and wanted to just hurry up and get the fuckin thing finished - resulting in a final showdown with a big fist shaking skeleton that leaves you stuck well and truly at the tickley bit. He does redeem himself though with the closing pages - I'll say no more on that though. So take my advice - read the book, keep it when your done - you'll defo read it again.

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## **Debbie Littlely says**

So i first read this book when i was 13 and had it confiscated by the music teacher!! Wasn't suitable reading for teenagers apparently!

I do remember it being a bit gory and a few sex scenes. I'm sure the best line in the book is "He impaled her on his rampant member" or something like that. It amused me as a teen so when i saw this book in a charity shop i didn't hesitate, i purchased straight away.

It isn't as gory or as pornographic as i remembered but it still made me smile and i really did enjoy it. It's never going to be classed as a modern classic but it is easy to read, its got a bit of everything, murder, gore, sex, romance and the living dead ?

I was quite happy sat in bed with 1 of the cats Tim and Birdie sharing a good cup of tea reading this book when all of a sudden the bird went completely crazy! Wings out, tail feathers fanned out, screaming in sheer terror. Took me awhile to work out what had upset her so much but it was the photo of Shaun Hutson on the

back cover!

She is absolutely terrified of him! Not sure if it was the big 80's hair or the sunglasses but she was happy and content as long as she didn't get a glimpse of the rear cover!!

Sorry Shaun, not sure what she would make of a recent photo but i think i should find out ?

Very strange bird bless her but i wouldn't have her any other way!

So my advice, if you are bored and at a loose end, give the book a read and if your parrot freaks out at it please let me know

Have a good night

Debs and Birdie

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### **Peter says**

If you're in for a quick, fast paced and dirty horror novel from the 80s this is your stuff. While cropping some shrubs at the local cemetery of a small town somewhere in Britain a labourer finds a golden medallion with a black magic history. In the evening this character feels unwell and turns into something inhuman. He turns against his wife and daughter. Day by day more and more people are getting murdered. The police force is feeling helpless. What is causing the people to disappear and who murdered the victims? Then a supernatural suspicion proves true. Can Lambert, the police inspector, get rid of the evil creatures and defy the evil mastermind from the past? Take the book and find out. This is a book of hard action, black magic, humans transformed into powerful zombies, explicit sex (has to be, hasn't it) and grim violence. Highly enjoyable! Classic Hutson!

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### **Iola Morgan says**

A good and riveting, page-turning read!

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### **Dan says**

It was a nice way to get back into horror. It had a steady pace with a nice horror ending. If I said there was anything wrong, I'd say it was a run of the mill horror book, but it has a good Shaun Hutson push to make it worth a read.

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### **Elusive says**

'Death Day' is about an ordinary town which is soon plagued by rampant murders after a workman discovers a mysterious amulet buried in a graveyard. Meanwhile, Inspector Lambert is having a hard time moving on

from his brother's death but finds a (somewhat) welcome distraction in the form of investigating the widespread brutality.

This is my first Shaun Hutson book and it truly didn't disappoint. Right from the beginning, Hutson's writing style is appealing as it is simple, providing adequate details and descriptions to keep the reader hooked. The third person narrative worked very well here because the reader is able to find out what exactly other characters are facing while the transitions to Lambert are smooth. As a result, the story flows perfectly and the tense, morbid atmosphere is conveyed effectively without the need to go over the top.

The deaths were certainly gory but the author's main focus was on the fear of the unknown and this made the book into more than just the average slasher tale. Instead, there's plenty of history and background given regarding the evil amulet. I personally thought that the explanation could have been better and not so simply straightforward but this didn't detract from my enjoyment of the story. Lambert was a decent protagonist who was realistic – one who was grieving yet committed to resolving the series of bizarre massacres.

Although the whole police versus the villains bit was overblown and to a certain extent unbelievable and dragged on for a little too long, it was never boring. There were tons of action which kept the story interesting. I was really surprised that those creatures never (view spoiler). However, logic aside, this fast paced book was a thrilling reading experience with a predictable but satisfactory ending. Again though, I was surprised that (view spoiler).

Overall, 'Death Day' lived up to its title and despite being formulaic, it was highly entertaining.

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### **Chris H says**

I cut my teeth on Stephen King and James Herbert. I saw this in a second hand shop and it looked to be in a similar vein so I picked it up. Personally, I like my horror fiction to be slightly more 'believable'. This book is set in a small English town, small enough to only have 9 policemen, with a 12 storey block of flats ? The inspector in charge of the station is 22. 22 ? Really ? When he goes to the divisional command to ask for more help he is refused so asks instead for guns for which none of his officers have been trained and what do they do ? Basically help him to load up his boot! Typically eighties, throw in a bit of sex every forty or fifty pages to capture the teenaged boy market, a liberal dusting of zombies then leave the book open for a sequel (I don't know if there was one. I don't care, I wouldn't read it). Glad it was cheap.

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### **Baruna Bhatia says**

Terrible.

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### **Wayne says**

Dodgy bloke digs up a centuries old corpse in back of a churchyard and takes a medallion off a corpse with disastrous effects. The man starts to have headaches and temper changes. Soon he kills his family and starts the ball rolling. The dead start to walk and kill to add to there numbers. It's up to a young police inspector and his small group of officers to put a stop to the massacre. Shotguns, mass amounts of petrol and a lot of

blood follow.

This was a great book. Nicely paced. Bursts of sex and violence to spice things up. When the dead are found, the action really heats up. Shaun Hutson knows how to keep you glued to the pages.

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