



## **Sleepy Hollow: General of the Dead**

*Richard Gleaves*

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## **Sleepy Hollow: General of the Dead** Richard Gleaves

The exciting conclusion to Jason Crane's Sleepy Hollow adventure! The first two novels, "Rise Headless and Ride" & "Bridge of Bones" were only a prelude to this extraordinary work spanning three hundred years of true Tarrytown history, interwoven with the Legends, myths, and superstitions of the Dutch settlers.

Impeccably researched and deeply imagined, with absolute fidelity to the modern village, its sights, places and byways. A brew of Witches and Headless Horsemen, Ghosts and Necromancers, Psychics, Superheroes, Scooby-Doo and a teen hero in a mess of trouble. A love letter to Halloween itself, to America's first literary master Washington Irving, and to the village he loved so well. A must for any fan of Irving's original, or anyone young or old who still has a pumpkin-carving kid inside them.

From the back cover:

JASON CRANE floats between life and death.  
The HEADLESS HORSEMAN has taken the field  
and AGATHE THE WITCH has taken KATE USHER.

The war for Sleepy Hollow has begun.

Now Jason and Kate must fight their way back.  
Joey and Zef must defy The Appointed.  
Or pumpkins will blaze on a midnight ride with the GENERAL OF THE DEAD

## **Sleepy Hollow: General of the Dead Details**

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## From Reader Review Sleepy Hollow: General of the Dead for online ebook

### Ed Gosney says

I love all three books in the Jason Crane series, although it's really one big novel. And with more to come, from what I've read. The Agatha section could have been published as a completely separate book, but then you never know if people will read it, and it's full of important history and other information. Gleaves is great at creating interesting characters, whether they are good or bad, but the bond of friendships he develops in these pages are reason enough to keep reading.

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### Donna says

#### The Terrifying Conclusion?

WOW, talk about a wild ride! First I would like to tell author Richard Gleaves I would LOVE trick or treating his house, full sized Snickers! Yikes! In all seriousness, I would have never guessed the Jason Crane Book 1, Sleepy Hollow: Rise Headless and Ride was a first novel. The entire three book series is well written, with 3D characters you love and hate. What a fabulous tale, derived from the original Legend of Sleepy Hollow written by Washington Irving comes the 7th generation of Cranes and Van Brunt families. After reading this "final" chapter, I can't help but believe even Washington Irving would approve of this sometimes funny, often terrifying continuance of Sleepy Hollow's oft told tale of the Headless Horseman. The old legend comes alive and with it comes all the emotions, the fears, the triumphs, and the tragedies brought into modern day life. A society of Gifted people, some who are power hungry and some who long to protect the "normal" or un-gifted of the world. An intriguing tale, to say the least. I would certainly love to read the many spin-offs I imagine this talented writer would be able to create from this tantalizing tale of legend, death, Love, murder, mayhem, family, friends, ghosts, myths, past and present. A great read for any mystery lover, paranormal or otherwise. I look forward to seeing more from this very talented new author!

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### Jayne dArcy says

I am giving all 3 books by Richard Gleaves a 5-star rating but not because I entirely enjoyed the series. I was bored by the story of Dylan Van Brunt and by Agathe Van Brunt's diary. I did read those, though, and I do understand their part in the books. My personal feeling at the time was to concentrate on Jason, Kate, Zef and Joey.

The other thing that I really objected to was the piling on of gross tragedy after gross tragedy; there was too much.

Still and all, this was a well written series. The characters are all painted well from the evil Horseman to the hero of the books, Jason Crane. I "know" how all of them look and I wish I could draw and show them to everyone.

I strongly believe that there are readers who will find these books more entertaining than I did and it is for

them I give the 5-stars.

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### **Maggie Black says**

#### **Sleepy Hollow Suspense**

Great tale from Sleepy Hollow! Interesting characters with a new twist on the legends origins make this a fun trio to read. First two books in the series are frustrating cliffhangers, but the last book is everything a reader could wish for! Each book is a journey into the development of believable heroes and villains. History, supernatural lore, love, and loss...and Halloween...what more could you want?

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### **Patrea Beard says**

#### **Sucked me in.**

I really enjoyed this trilogy. I became re interested in the Headless Horseman story and was amazed and pleased at the new or realistic interpretation. I think Richard Gleaves stayed true to the tale while adding so much believable depth. This book seemed a bit longer than the previous two, though may have been me anxiously wanting to see how Jason prevailed. I liked all the characters but Joey has to be a favorite.

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### **Jacqueline Alcarese says**

#### **Outstanding!!!! Everyone must read this book! Amazing!**

I've been an avid reader my whole life. Read Shakespeare and Poe and Stephen King, and plenty in between. All sorts of genres. This is by far the best book I have read. Fantastic!! The first two books seriously impressed me and I recommended them to everyone I know, but this one blew my mind. My goodness, what a ride from the very first page to the last. Nonstop action. Was so excited to be reunited with all my favorite characters. It was great to see how far Jason had come along to be the hero he was destined to be. To see the impressive turnaround in Zef. To see Joey finally get his heart's desire and be quite the hero himself, while holding on to the comic relief that he is. To see Valerie find some peace and love and forgiveness. To almost feel sympathetic for Hadewych, for his brief moments of humanity under his madness. To seeing Jessica for who she truly is. To Kate learning to rise above and strength she didn't know she had. For seeing more of the story of Agathe and what drove her to such bitterness

. For the horseman and seeing what drove him and understanding him as truly human and wanting to sympathize with him. I hated to finish the last page and know the book is finished. Richard Gleaves, you have created a future classic. I can see my kids and grandkids being assigned these books in class. This was such an incredibly well written and beautifully worded story that it draws pictures in your mind and you can truly see the town of Sleepy Hollow. I look forward to reading more like this from you in the future. I think these guys still have more stories to tell and adventures to be had. Bravo!! And please, Encore!

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## **B.E. says**

A most excellent end to an awesome trilogy. I inhaled it. It kept me guessing and kept me reading - to the exclusion of pretty much everything else. Until I finally had to admit defeat late last night and put it down. I should've just kept reading because I only tossed and turned in bed thinking about it instead of sleeping. Seriously, buy this series - but make sure you don't have anything else planned because it will grab you and not let go until you finish. Oh, and for petesakes, make sure your ereader is charged. My battery died in the middle and I had to wait for the recharge. Ugh.

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## **Carin says**

Probably one of the best book series that I have read, and not my usual genre either. I almost wouldn't mind seeing this done as a mini-series (Netflix or Hulu Original please). I tend to find that many of the "longer" books tend to fill the pages up with a lot of filler that ends up boring me to tears. That wasn't the case with this one (there were a couple of minor slow parts, between all 3 of these, but nothing that distracted from my enjoyment). I was pretty much hooked and mesmerized all the way through.

I loved this twist to the Legend of Sleepy Hollow story (I loved the show, so that might be why I was drawn to this in the first place), imagining if the characters in that story had been actual, real people, who had their own families and descendants.

Reading a particular review below, I have to wonder if it would have been less biased (\*drip\* \*drip\* \*drip\*) if they were not acquainted with each other (oh yes, I went there).

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## **Cody Meissner says**

### **How gay**

This would be a four star series, except the author has to interject his love of all things rainbow into just about every chapter. It got progressively worse in each book. But I'm thirty percent into this one and I'm skipping to the end. It's become gay vomit with a bit of story thrown in. Enough already!

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## **Eric says**

This was an epic finish to an amazing series!

I absolutely loved these books. They were so much fun! Ghosts, magic, witches, history, hidden tunnels and lost documents. Lots of action, a bit of romance and an amazing resolution to the story. I just loved it. There are a couple of things that I didn't love about it, but since I loved the series so much and I loved the ending, it still gets 5 stars.

Now I know I'm going to get people calling me a bigot and whatever else, but I didn't love the gay romance in this book. People can love who they want to love, I don't care, it's not my cup of tea and I don't relish reading about guys kissing and holding hands and calling each other "baby." This book has a lot more of that than the previous one.

Like I said, I loved how everything resolves in this book, but the ending itself did seem to drag out a bit. The big climax of the story happened and I think there was about 1 hour of listening left (I listened to an Audible audiobook copy.) It kinda felt like the author went back through his trilogy and found any possible loose end there was and spent the rest of his book tying them all up. The ends do get tied up nicely, but it feels a little like watching the Extended Version of Return of the King. I love it, but when will it end?

The last thing I didn't love is a little spoiler here:

Kate and Jason, and Joey and Zeph both loose their virginity to each other near the end of the book. It's not explicitly described, but the pretty awkward foreplay for both couples is. I kind of wish if it had to happen it could have been a little more implied. And like I said about the ending, it felt like a weird loose end the author felt he needed to tie and it felt a little out of place.

Anyways, I know I talked a lot about what I didn't like about the book. I've gushed plenty about the previous two books and the same applies here.

One of my favorite things about this book was the person who read the audiobook. His performance is absolutely amazing! Listen to the audiobook! It is one of the best performed series I've ever listened to, and I've listened to a lot of audiobooks.

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### **JoAnna says**

Absolutely amazing!!!! Start this series as soon as possible! They are to die for;) LOL

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### **Trey McIntyre says**

Fun characters in an exciting story, lost in a book that desperately needs an editor.

I would not have read this book all the way through if it were not for my (now ended) friendship with the author and the love I had for the first (and to a lesser extent) second book in this series. But Gleaves's ambition and our friendship does not transform a bad book into a good book.

What's good here? Well, this book maintains the deeply researched tradition of the first two books. It draws heavily on the history of the region and specific locations that exist in real life Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown. Gleaves takes special care in mapping out the various locations where the action takes place. We're also following the same characters from the previous two books and most of them are clear and interesting people that we want to know more about.

But the bad outweighs the good for me in this installment in the series. This book is full of stylistic problems and is easily twice as long as it needs to be. Plot holes and confusing action sequences abound and some of the characters behave in erratic, inexplicable ways. If Gleaves is working with an editor, I can't tell. If he isn't, he should get one.

The fact that this is the third book in the series is especially sad because the first book easily earned five stars from me. Even this book contains innumerable examples of Gleaves' talent with the written word. I have enjoyed the world he built and the characters he brought to life. I want them to breathe and thrive but this book does them no justice.

I'll probably read book 4, but I won't buy multiple copies like I did with the first three. I don't have much hope that it will get us back to the level of quality seen in Book 1, but we'll see.

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In the comment thread below with the author, you can see that I've been accused of giving a low rating to this book out of some unknown (even to me) personal motivation against the author. Until I gave this book two stars on Good Reads, I actually thought we were friends.

Therefore, I want to offer some specific examples of problems starting with this passage:

"The New Jersey Palisades had cut the throat of the sun. She bled copious color into the water-blue sky, arterial scarlet and venous purple, then fell behind the horizon, into her grave, shrouded by aquamarine clouds. The Earth turned its face away and dressed itself in black, lowering a mournful veil of night, hanging crepe over the mirror of the Hudson. The moon filled with lamentations, the wind howled its grief, and the stars lit votives for the funeral of the day.

"Tarrytowners lit their candles as well. Those who'd charged their mobile devices before the blackout had learned from the village website that, though ConEd was hard at work, power would not return for at least three days. Wires had broken all over town, as if the barren trees had cleared out the cobwebs. Tarrytowners emptied the CVS of batteries and flashlights, fearing the fall of such total darkness, nervously aware of the growing emptiness beyond their windows. No streetlights would burn tonight, no shop lights. No TVs would flicker behind neighbor curtains. Only black shapes and half-glimpsed shadows out there now. Shadows festooned for the Halloween season. A dangling plastic vampire bat to startle Ms. Martins, out walking her terriers by flashlight. The skeletal remains of Groucho Marx to leer at Dee Harlow as she jogged past. The McDonald's on Wildey Street would raise a great black 'M' tonight. Mayor McCheese would call for calm, but the Hamburglar would be at large, sneaking through a window to steal ketchup from Grimace. The blackout of Sleepy Hollow was absolute, and all the little ones could feel that... something was out there. Something bad."

[Gleaves, Richard. SLEEPY HOLLOW: General of the Dead (Jason Crane Book 3) (p. 476). Turtlebug Publishing. Kindle Edition.]

The first paragraph is rather florid and very gothic. It's 100% appropriate for this book and, in that context, I think this is one of the most beautiful descriptions from all three books. It's vivid. It perfectly captures the mood of the overall book. And it gives deep emotional foreshadowing for what is about to happen.

BRILLIANT.

But the second paragraph is bloated. It's far too long. Readers do not need that many examples of people doing things in a blackout to understand that this is a blackout and it's extra scary because of Halloween decorations. But the worst part of that paragraph is "Mayor McCheese would call for calm, but the Hamburglar would be at large, sneaking through a window to steal ketchup from Grimace." It's clever, yes. Too clever by half because it utterly ruins the tone that was so beautifully set by the opening paragraph.

Structurally, there's that very long digression into Agathe's journal. It provides readers with key details about her magic and how the magic works and it illuminates some of her motivations, so -- if I were editing this book -- I wouldn't say it has to be cut out entirely, but it's too long. While reading it, I thought that it would actually have made for a better novella or accompanying bit of material apart from the novel. Or maybe just has some background writing to help flesh out the character. But 72 pages and 11 chapters is far too much and it drags the reader out of the flow of the book.

In terms of characters, I found Hadewych's rapid vacillations between being a abusive, negligent, money-grubbing, power-hungry homocidal lunatic and doting father to be confusing and jarring. I don't understand why the other characters -- knowing the worst about him -- bother trying to look at whatever good is in him knowing that he will probably Jekyll and Hyde on them in a minute. (BUT! I will say, this craziness made more sense to me after he started going literally insane because of the summoning rock thing.)

Valerie does some similar rapid switches. She has this beautiful arc that starts in Book 1. She's wounded, a victim of trauma and abuse, but she slowly starts building her confidence and coming into her own. My image of her literally blossomed in my mind from being a frail, old, deeply-and-irrevocably scarred woman to being a powerful, confident woman worthy of love. But, suddenly, one revelation later and she lapses into near catatonia. Then, also suddenly, she's fighting for what's hers. These switches are important to the character, but they're underdeveloped for the reader and come off as jarring.

This book is deeply flawed and needs extensive editing. That is why I gave it a low rating.

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### **Jennifer says**

#### **The final Hollow**

I have spent many a Halloween in Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown and I may not be a huge fan of all things scary but I love the area and I enjoy these stories so much because it keeps Halloween alive all year long. Reading these stories I can see the hollow in my mind the streets the people and all the festivities of Halloween.

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### **Lora Shouse says**

I've been reading the books of the Jason Crane series for my official Halloween read for the past two years. Having figured I'd better get *Sleepy Hollow: General of the Dead*, the last book in the series pulled up into my to-read queue, and then having seen how long it was, I figured I'd better start reading a little on it so I would finish in time. But just like last year and the year before, pretty soon I was hooked and had to keep coming back to it until I finished it.

At the end of the second book, *Sleepy Hollow: Bridge of Bones*, Jason went over the side of the Tappan Zee bridge and disappeared. Now his friends can't find him, and nobody can tell whether he is alive or dead.

But, ba-ha-ha-ha! Hadewych did find him, and he is alive, if just barely. Hadewych is keeping him prisoner in the lighthouse, playing for just the right time to kill him so that he can use Jason's death to somehow get control of the Pyncheon fortune. Hadewych's plans don't work out though, and more than anything the witch

Agathe inserts herself into his plans and messes up everything he tries to do.

Agathe tells her complete story. At this time, she has possessed Kate Usher, and Kate is not present in her own body. But once Agathe is done with her story and is off to other mischief, Jason starts working on a way to get free of Hadewych before he is killed. Meanwhile, Kate's spirit comes back and finally succeeds in getting her body away from Agathe, at least for a while. Jason and Kate finally succeed in escaping the lighthouse before either Hadewych or the Horseman can get them and go to find their friends. However, things are not over. Not by a long shot.

Jason and his friends repeatedly try to get rid of Agathe once and for all, but every time it looks like they have succeeded, she shows up again, her spirit moving around from person to person, possessing them, or trying to. She's not an easy witch to get rid of.

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### **Connie Renard says**

#### **Loved it!**

I thoroughly enjoyed this series as I'm a fan of the supernatural stuff. I look forward to more stories from the author.

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