



Autumn in the City of Angels

Kirby Howell

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What would you do if you lived through the apocalypse? The real fight to survive comes after everyone else is gone.

A plague of epic proportion sweeps the globe, leaving less than one percent of the world's population immune. Among the living is Autumn Winters, the teenage daughter of a famous actress. When Autumn's parents don't come home and the city is overtaken by a dangerous faction, she goes into hiding with a small group of underground survivors. They're led by a mysterious young man who harbors an unearthly secret, and with whom Autumn feels a deep connection.

Autumn in the City of Angels is the first novel in a series, followed by Autumn in the Dark Meadows and Autumn in the City of Lights.

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2014 BEACH BOOK FESTIVAL HONORABLE MENTION!

Autumn in the City of Angels Details

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Author : Kirby Howell

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From Reader Review Autumn in the City of Angels for online ebook

Carrie (The Butterfly Reader) says

4.5 Stars but I always round up.

I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

This book wasted no time before jumping right into the action! I do have a love/hate relationship with one part in the book. When everything goes to hell, Autumn kind of stalls out. Like any of us would do in this kind of situation so it was very realistic but where she did take a while to embrace it and step up it got kind of boring. Though I'm glad an author or in this case the authors decided to make her real and not someone who just jumped and went for it. See love/hate.

I love Autumn as a character! I could totally see us being friends and that is something I always look for in a book, relatable main characters and this book has them! The side characters are great and the feel of the book is wonderful. It's a great dystopian read and then the huge plot twist comes along and changes everything! I first want to say that I totally did not see that plot twist coming! I usually do see them coming or have a general idea of what will happen but not in Autumn in the City of Angels. It blew me away! I will say that this plot twist may turn off some readers but I loved it. It was pretty freaking epic! So my recommendation is to give this book a try. It's worth it!

Amber-Rose says

'A plague of epic proportion sweeps the globe, leaving less than one percent of the world's population immune. Among the living is Autumn Winters, the teenage daughter of a famous actress. When Autumn's parents don't come home and the city is overtaken by a dangerous faction, she goes into hiding with a small group of underground survivors. They're led by a mysterious young man who harbors an unearthly secret, and with whom Autumn feels a deep connection.'

(I will create my own summary when I have time) :)

Honestly I am having trouble getting over this book, this is the kind of story that keeps you thinking about it for weeks after you have read it, it was perfection. I can say I never thought I would enjoy a book about an apocalypse, but I was wrong. I enjoyed every bit of this book. The characters were very well thought-out, the story line was brilliant (adding in 'aliens'), I must say it made the story that much more interesting! The way things played out and although I am not one to enjoy massive time jumps in such short time, I found that it brought us towards what's important about the story and it went really well. The way the story was written you can tell Kirby has talent and a great imagination. I cannot wait to get my hands on book 2!

Laura says

What a great start to what I think will be a fantastic series! This book grabs you from the first page and

doesn't release its grip. A post-apocalyptic urban fantasy with hints of sci-fi and a good dose of romance, this is the perfect read for fans of young adult fiction. Set in Los Angeles, we follow the story of 17-year-old Autumn as she survives a world-wide plague that decimates all but 1% of the population. Authors Alexander and Melton (writing as Kirby Howell) really nail it with true-to-life characters, a fascinatingly terrifying landscape, and quick pacing that keeps you turning the pages. Can't wait to devour the next one.

Kay Glass says

I love end-of-the-world plague stories, and I was excited to pick this up. When I finally read it, I was so glad I'd make time to do so.

Autumn Winters, daughter of a famous actress and an architect, is soon left to her own devices when the Crimson Fever overtakes Earth and leaves nearly no survivors. No one survives the infection- but there are some who appear to be immune, such as Autumn. Living by her wits, by herself, she soon picks up Ben and his kid sister, Rissi. But her mind and heart have fallen for the mysterious young man who saved her from a dark fate, and she cannot return the feelings Ben is obviously developing for her.

Circumstances force her to look for the rebel survivors, and she meets Grey, the young man she's been dreaming of. But he's not what she expected- he's more. And there's much more to him, and the plague, than meets the eye. 5 stars!

Cristina says

4.5 out of 5! My review come Friday. My Amazon review: <http://www.amazon.com/gp/customer-rev...>

Abbie says

(I received a copy from the author, In exchange for an honest review.)

The main character wasn't bad, but she could be quite stupid at times, and I couldn't warm to her enough to really like her.

This started out okay, but I lost interest unfortunately. The story started to drag a bit because of it, so it felt quite long.

Overall, Not a bad read, but couldn't keep my interest very well.

Casey says

Plague, beautiful girl all on her own, limited resources, dangerous groups of people, helpful groups of people, a mysterious love interest...

Wait.. Haven't I read this book already?

You might think that, but you would be wrong.

Hold on! Let me explain

Settle down, I'll try to be brief.

All of those things I listed above are true, but I have read other plague books with a really great unique twist that failed miserably for me because of poor execution (I'm looking at you Masque of the Red Death and Dance of the Red Death). Execution was not an issue with Autumn. So why a three-ish four instead of a five... Let's come back to that, first let's go over what I enjoyed.

We begin the book pre-plague with 17 year old Autumn Winters walking across town after school to meet up with her friend for coffee on her way home. This intro to the story gives us a nice baseline of what Autumn's life was like before we are pushed into the post-plague hell zone. And here was the best part, getting to the plague was NOT some drawn out ordeal... It's abrupt and shocking, just like it would have been to Autumn's character. It's also fairly realistic in terms of how people would respond in the event of an emergency.

Autumn is luckier than most and comes from a very privileged family so when she is left all alone she has benefits that many others don't have in their attempts to survive after the plague hits. There is no flaunting of wealth or trying to make her seem more special by having been the daughter of an actress and an architect, **but** because she is those things it makes her situation more plausible. Her father had designed a safe home for them, yeah, I mean, he's an architect, so that's possible. Her mother was a famous actress from Ireland so, okay, she happens to be beautiful. At least the authors gave a reason for this and didn't just have her miraculously stumble upon a really safe location to hide out for six weeks while the city and world around her was crumbling.

The pacing is good with smallish suspenseful scenes peppered in so that you never have to go very long without *something* of interest happening. I mean she spends most of her time alone watching movies and listening to music so fortunately there are some small time jumps to show us that although time has passed with little incident we don't have to read about every boring day to understand that loneliness causes Autumn to brave the dangerous world below her safe penthouse. Otherwise, if you have supplies and safety, why the hell would you even venture out in a dangerous world???

When there are action scenes, again the authors keep it realistic. Autumn is a 17 year old girl that has never had martial arts or weapons training, it would be absurd if she just became a survivor badass overnight. So instead, when there is danger, Autumn has to outrun, out smart, and generally out maneuver those that would try to hurt or take advantage of her. Don't get me wrong, I **LOVE** a heroine that can kick the crap out of her enemies, but that's not always an option. I appreciate that the authors didn't try to do that with Autumn's character.

Okay, so back to that why not all the stars thing if they got all of that stuff right???

Here were my issues.

- A triangularly shaped romance. But not really a triangle, because it was a one-sided situation. Girl likes

boy, different boy likes girl, object of girl's affection may or may not like girl... I don't know... is a one sided or flat triangle a thing?

The thing that saves this for me is that there is never a time when Autumn is romantically interested in the third side of that flat triangle thing.

- The mysterious love interest. We have lots of questions... and there are hints from early on that he is *different*...

...

...

On no! RED ALERT!

Except he isn't quite that bad.

I'm not gonna lie though, this was the one aspect of the book that cost it all of its stars. This book is probably in all honesty closer to a three than a four star read for me, but it's my rating and my review so I'll click whichever one I want. I'm not gonna even do the spoiler thingy and tell you what makes our leading man so different and special because I know people can't resist clicking the thing. Had I known this aspect prior to reading, I probably would not have read the book, but I'm glad I didn't know.

- Sometimes our MC comes off as a little too good to be true. I would have liked to have seen her a little more flawed so that there would be opportunity for growth over the course of the series.

Basically, this is a solid debut and an interesting introduction to a new series. I plan to read the next book and look forward to seeing how things turn out for Autumn.

King says

This book is appealing from the very start, invigorating from page one, all the way unto the very end. It stretches on the borderline of fantasy & realistic, while keeping your attention, closely, drawn in. The Characters are their own individuals, which for me, gives this book a more positive response- we're talking Every Character having their own personality when playing their part -& there's quite a few characters to come across during your journey thru this "contemporary sci-fi" it has you feeling more like you're the host of the protagonist all-the-while-reading, you don't feel like you are the protagonist, just fabulously intact. There's a change of course inbetween &, oh man, great stuff! The Scenarios, The Backgrounds Are All, Outstanding, very imaginative; vivid on all accords, genuinely. The ending of the book does confirms a continuance by offering the first chapter of the second book -- that I am definitely moving forwards to."

Jasmine says

I received a free ebook copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Actual rating: 1.5/5 stars

I have to be really honest with you guys (otherwise I'll be guilty if I didn't do so) and express my feelings as best as I can about this book.

First of all, I think the first part of the book (about 50%) was simply bland. It was like reading someone's daily routine and the time frame was problematic for me. It seemed that the protagonist spent her time doing very casual stuff after the strange sickness around America and the author simply said "6 weeks later" or "3 months later" or suddenly "half year ago". I just couldn't fully relate to the story in this way. The characters were ordinary and nothing special happened at all. I mean, it was just describing an epidemic called the Crimson Fever spreading across the United States and then the angel apocalypse somehow didn't have anything to do with this whole messy phenomenon.

Second, about the main female character, Autumn Winters, I really don't like her characteristic because she was too naïve, too coward, and always sat around or locked herself up in her luxurious, highly-secured penthouse on the top floor of that blue building, waiting for rescue. And she was extremely stubborn that she tended to make stupidly bad decisions on impulse. For example, she rushed out of her house the moment she heard the radio broadcast about a safety camp for the immune, aka survivors in the plague. Just like that!? Just because someone announced that there was a place for them and they could provide all kinds of supplies so she ~~jumped into the trap happily~~ didn't even think twice before she made such a dangerous decision. Moreover, when "the mysterious boy" suddenly appeared to save her life from being captured by the so-called safety camp, she spilled out everything about her(almost) and where she lived to him? Seriously, how could she be that...bold or should I say, so innocent to trust a stranger in the dark alley without hesitation? I also didn't like the part when the little love triangle occurred in the beginning. Among Ben, Grey, and Autumn, I couldn't believe that she could still dream about, think of that boy who came to her rescue and made a promise that he'd get her later under such poor circumstances! I mean, she had slight trouble surviving with her food supplies decreased day by day and then she could have the energy or time to consider romance?! Sorry, I just couldn't get it.

Third, if you ask me whether there's possible potential in this story, I think the answer is...yes. Despite the fact that I felt really disappointed about how the story was created, there was at least (and FINALLY) a hopeful cliffhanger in the end of this book. To put it differently, not until about 85% of the story was there actually something worth reading. When Grey revealed his true identity to Autumn and told her more secrets he kept this whole time, that was indeed what caught my attention eventually. I was waiting for that sort of intriguing elements sooooooooooooooo long throughout the book and I was glad there was a tiny twist in the plot; at least, it didn't leave me a bad impression on this book after all.

Lastly, I just want to say that I only enjoyed some trivial, romantic moments between Grey and Autumn, along with the extraterrestrial stuff mentioned in the end of the book. As for the majority of this story, I'm truly sorry to say that I felt it was a waste of time reading this. For me, it was so similar to a lot of schedules listing a teenage girl's daily works in an apocalyptic world. In my opinion, there's a huge room for improvement and I hope the story can be much more imaginative and perhaps it's a good idea to add some originality in it.

Thanks to the author for offering me this chance to do my first "read-to-review" challenge.

Donna says

Good new apocalypse with a twist

Oh, yes if you are like me, you will love the twist.

This is a story of a virus infecting people very quick and killing them. Nope, no zombies. Those left are immune. One of them is Autumn Winters who lives with her parents in a high rise condo built by her father, an architect, for her mother, an actress.

She finds herself alone, although well supplied and in the penthouse which is inaccessible to anyone without a key.

Autumn eventually has to venture out to resupply. And she finds there are more survivors out there.

I am so glad to find this author. The writing is good and well edited. It is hard to put down once you begin. I have only one comment about the heroine that bugs me. She seems to be the classic stumbler. She trips, she falls, she is that heroine. But still I like her. She is seventeen and this can be read by teens, as she seems an innocent teen, blushing in front of the boy she is attracted to, as teens do.

She wants to appear strong and independent and in putting up that front she becomes that young woman. I hope to see more of her growth in the next book, which I will be starting now.

This story has a very interesting twist I did not see coming. I will not give you any hints or spoilers here, you will have to read the book yourself.

Jennymort ? Dark Lordette says

I have received the e-book free from the author in exchange for a honest review.

A plague of epic proportion sweeps the globe, leaving less than one percent of the world's population immune. (For example: Imagine 4 million people in one city like Los Angeles and 1% is only **FORTY THOUSAND PEOPLE LEFT.**)

Among the living 1% is Autumn Winters, the teenage daughter of a famous actress and architect father. When Autumn's parents don't come home and the city is overtaken by a group who claims to be rebuilding, she goes into hiding with a small group of underground survivors that she happens to meet by chance who are led by a mysterious young man (and woman) who harbors an unearthly secret, and with whom Autumn feels a deep connection to ever since he rescued her from *them*.

This book right here.

THIS. BOOK. RIGHT. HERE.

I've been shying away from reading dystopian/apocalypse novels ever since reading things like the Hunger Games, Divergent, and the Maze Runner.

I honestly think that I would act the way Autumn did once everything hit the fan.

What would you do if you lived through the apocalypse? I would just curl up and cry. **Hysterically.**

I've seen other dystopian books here on *goodreads* with great summaries and of course AMAZING COVERS. (Because you know, some of us are completely ~~rendered useless~~ *ahem* distracted by a good cover and summary. However, over half do not have great reviews.

You have to have the whole picture painted for your readers to where they feel they are standing right where the characters are and I felt that with this book entirely. I could imagine everything that Autumn described, even when she was just walking down the street on her way to work after school. I love the way Autumn describes her mother's closet in great detail all the way down to her perfume.

But I digress...

I love Autumn as I feel like I would be most likely like her if some massive fever plague just came out of nowhere. ~~If I was the 1% that survived anyways.~~ I would cry. I would throw tantrums. Be scared out of my ever mother loving mind. But I know that I would turn it around like she did and push forward.

This book completely grabbed me by the heart strings and took me for a roller coaster ride.

WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT TWIST IN THERE...!?!? I DID NOT SEE THAT COMING!

And that **ending** **WHAT. THE. HELL!?**

I would recommend this book to anyone who likes dystopian novels without massive plot-holes like the streets of Illinois.

Also... Grey...

Just imagine... if Jasper- *Fucking* -Whitlock ended up with Bella instead of Edward. Because Grey is more like Jasper than Ed-weirdo. ANNNND... If someone were to make a book where Jasper and Bella got together... I'd be like...

Damn fanfiction....

****DO NOT READ SPOILER IF YOU HAVEN'T READ THE BOOK****

(view spoiler)

Sarah says

(Source: I received a digital copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to author Kirby Howell (Dana Melton and Jessica Alexander).)

"I'm going to make this perfectly simple. Stay away from both me and Grey. We are worlds apart on multiple levels. You don't know what you're getting yourself into."

This was an interesting post-apocalyptic story, with some unexpected twists.

Autumn went through a lot in this story, and although she made some poor decisions, it was easy to see why considering what she'd been through.

The storyline in this seemed to be fairly expected, until we got thrown a bit of a twist. I wasn't sure how well this twist would work, but it did spice things up a bit.

We did get a bit of romance, although some people might think that it happened a little bit too fast.

The ending to this was another twist, and I'm not sure whether the romance will be able to survive it!

6 out of 10

Amy says

*** I was gifted this book in exchange for an honest review ***

I was swept away by the action, adventure and romance of this haunting dystopian novel! I loved the intrigue and horror established from page one as we witness Autumn struggling to survive as the world crumbles around her. I couldn't put the book down as Autumn survived, first independently, then with the help of others. Watching her find a family amongst the horror of the changed world was inspiring. I at times struggled with the passage of time, Autumn's rash decisions and at time the cliche statements, but overall, the pros of this book way outweighed any confusions I may have had. I was swept away by the plot and characters and loved every second of this book!

In typical young adult romance fashion Grey and Autumn met and developed a relationship very quickly as they moved through moments of suspense, disaster and action. Although not quite insta-love (it took some time for the relationship to fully bloom)- it was still fast moving. This didn't bother me as I was rooting for it to work.

There were some great twists in this book that added an additional layer to the story. I also enjoyed the supporting characters. It is a testimony to Autumn's personality that she cares so deeply for Rissa and Ben;

although her relationship with Ben leaves me struggling and hoping that he finds peace.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed this book and will absolutely continue on in this series! I highly recommend it for anyone looking for a great dystopian, young adult novel- it is captivating and exactly what I had hoped for!

Kayla Howarth says

It has been a long time since a book captivated me from chapter one, but this is exactly what happened with autumn in the city of angels. It sucked me in right away and didn't let go until the very end.

We follow 17-year-old autumn and her struggle for survival in a newly apocalyptic world.

I had my suspicions about Grey - the enigmatic boy who once saved autumn's life then disappeared- and was really worried about where the storyline was headed. Although my assumptions were correct, and the plot twisted an apocalyptic story into a sci-fi, my fears of it going that way were null and void when it all came about. Switching gears like that more than half way into a story can either fail miserably or -like in this case- end up being brilliant.

I loved the relationship between autumn and grey. While it may have been too Insta-love for some, I found it to be realistic. If it was me and I thought I was going to die, and then a boy saved me, held me all night while we hid, and talked to me all night to distract me from the horrible things that were happening around me, I'd have a pretty big crush too.

I also loved that while grey had difficulty showing emotion, he wasn't an ass. Sooooo many books of late have the brooding male who treats the girl like crap because he's "unemotional". Unemotional doesn't have to mean butthead-like.

If this book had ended just a few paragraphs before it did, I would give it 5 full shiny stars! Without giving anything away, it ends with teenagery angst that I was so happy not to see throughout the rest of book. Some open endings are still satisfying, but this one left me bitter and frustrated. It raised more questions than answers, and I think had I been reading a paperback, it would've been thrown across the room. I wouldn't do that to my E-reader... It is an apple product after all. Sorry Apple.

Those last few paragraphs cost half a star from me.

I am, without a doubt, going to read the rest of the series.

A big honourable mention to my favourite supporting characters, rissi, Connie, and shad. Ben was believable, albeit a little bit annoying but I think this was the author's intent, so he's very well written.

Oh, look at that, I've rambled in a review again. Shocking, I know!

4.5 stars!!!!

Shin The Bookworm says

I received a free e-copy of this book from the author but this has not affected my review in any way.

Autumn is one of the remaining survivors from the Crimson Fever. As the story unfold she meets Karl and his group The Reconstruction Front, Grey the mysterious boy who saved her, Ben the living Google and his 7-year old sister Rissi, Lydia the girl who has a strange relationship with Grey, Todd the leader of The Underground, and Connie the mother figure whom she became close with.

A page-turner read from the very beginning. It didn't fail to give me a bit of adrenaline rush of a book from the chasing scenes with the Reconstruction Front. I enjoyed this book with the interesting characters and the appealing plot. I thought it was all about the plague and how the survivors have a possibility of living a normal life, but I loved how the author put that twist and revelation about some of the characters. This is the first dystopian book with sci-fi in it that I read which made this book more interesting and kept me glued finishing this book in one day. I know this is the first book in the series but the ending was really unexpected! Such a cliffhanger! Another revelation! I can't wait to read the next book!

I love this book but why it didn't get 5 stars is because I wish it has more details about those not immune. The symptoms were given but I was expecting more so readers would know how the victims went through until they succumbed to death from the deadly virus. It lacks details also of how the survivors dealt with the dead bodies.

A dystopian read mixed with sci-fi, intertwined with action, romance and mystery... Definitely a worth checking out read.
