



Intoxication

Tim Kizer

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For the fans of Stephen King and Dean Koontz...

Are you paranoid if you end up dead?..

Leslie has a suspicion: someone at work is trying to poison her. Can she prove it? No, and she doesn't care that she can't as she takes the law into her hands.

How about those who dismiss her fears and believe she is paranoid? Well, they certainly deserve to be punished.

What does she do when she starts questioning her own suspicions--and sanity? Hmm. That's complicated.

In this disturbing tale of derangement, a young psychopathic woman is slipping into madness as she fights an enemy that may exist only in her imagination. She has to resort to desperate measures when she realizes that a gun, security cameras in her apartment, and constant vigilance will not be enough to survive. It is hard to find a black cat in a dark room, especially if the cat is not there, but Leslie, with her resolve fueled by paranoia, is hell-bent on finding and slaughtering it.

Bonus:

"Hitchhiker" by Tim Kizer

When a serial killer hitches a ride one sunny day in a beautiful California valley, he does not suspect that he may have met his match, who is dead set to take another life. The battle of wits begins and only the most devious mind will survive.

"Sixtus" by Tim Kizer

After becoming friends with a mysterious entity named Jeremy, Zack, a skinny fifteen-year-old nerd suffering from polydactyly, acquires a taste for killing.

First, he butchers his parents in their sleep. Then he cold-bloodedly rips out his schoolmate's intestines. A few days later, Zack strangles a young woman before stealing her car. And that was just a beginning.

Who--or what--is Jeremy? And what are the reasons behind this killing spree? If you think you know the answers, chances are you are wrong.

Plus a preview of Tim Kizer's new horror novel "Days of Vengeance."

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Intoxication Details

Date : Published (first published March 30th 2011)

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Author : Tim Kizer

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From Reader Review Intoxication for online ebook

Rachelle says

Intoxication is a quick case of paranoia that is addictive. Add to that the bonus Hitchhiker and Bike.

I had a very hard time putting it down.

Review up this month over at Doubleshotreviews.com

Erlynn (BooksHugBack) says

Intoxication by Tim Kizer is a short novella exploring the psychological stability of Leslie who believes a co-worker is trying to poison her. After Rick, her boyfriend, had a close call ingesting the poisoned coffee meant for Leslie's lips, she takes matters into her own hands to investigate and get the answers she demands. Readers follow Leslie's thoughts as she appears to others, including her boss, that she is slipping into a deep paranoia. Readers continue on, patiently waiting for the reveal of the villain all while suppressing the nagging thought of 'what has Leslie done to possess someone to poison her?' Refreshingly enough for a suspense thriller, I was neither able to guess the poisoner or their reason for motivation. I consider this a great success and the goal for any author of this genre.

For a short story, it was thick with plot twists and scientifically creative. The beginning few pages were the weakest, but the author found his stride by the middle, taking the reader on a fast and crazy ride until the end. The piece could use a little flare in the diction department as it reflects a very straight forward and basic style of writing. On the other hand some readers may enjoy this quality about his writing the most. At times strong language enhanced the characters' reactions, while other times I found it distracting from the story. However, the plot itself and unique look at Leslie's mental stability with the backdrop of an office thriller is creative enough to warrant a full length novel if the author chose to extend the work. Kizer may just be an author to watch out for as he gains readership and attention. He definitely has the mind and creativity to invent some future work that will hold its own in this genre.

MsTiptress says

Intoxication is a neat thriller. I absolutely liked it. Tim sent me on a whirlwind chase to find out who spiked the coffee and why? At first I did think that she was crazy!! But as the story pushes on you find out way more then you bargained for. There were many twists and turns that left me scrolling fast to finish this story

Louisa says

I enjoyed reading this book, it was funny, ironic, and paranoid. It was just a good read!

L.A. says

Paranoia and jealousy are the backdrops of this story, where we travel a detailed and slightly crazy path of Leslie as she slowly seems to sink into madness.

In Intoxication by Tim Kizer, we begin with a scene in the office where Leslie's boyfriend drinks her coffee while she has left the room. He immediately takes ill, and the stage is set. Leslie is now convinced that one of the other workers is trying to poison her. When she confronts the other worker, Leslie is quite sure that even with her denial, that Helen must be guilty. After all, she is the one who delivered the coffee.

Sharing her fears with her boss, he is already aware of her thought process. Helen as gotten to him first and now Leslie is convinced that he thinks she is paranoid. As her decent into this dark void continues, she begins with how she can get back at Helen.

When she finds that Helen actually did not get her coffee but it was another worker, who was on her way to the break room instead, Leslie further descends into that world where strange and maddening things begin to take on perfect sense.

Can she find out who is responsible, or will she begin to realize her thought process has led her into some strangely odd behavior. Is the other worker guilty of trying to poison her, or has Leslie just gone off the deep end?

Kizer has written a creepy piece of work that has some strange and yet just a bit compelling characters. He has done a good job of following the decent into madness evinced by Leslie. The ending is a surprise, and it would have made a bit more sense had I known just a tweak of what caused her to have such a terrifying fall.

I did wonder how Leslie jumped to the conclusion of someone trying to poison her, it seemed a bit over the top, and while I understand the surprise element, it would have been easier to follow what was happening if just a hint had been weaved in earlier. The story is intriguing and it is a great rendition of how guilt and association go hand in hand.

This is a short novella and yet it is full of strangely creepy and compelling voices of the characters that are willing to go to such lengths to make a wrong right in their own mind. Without giving away the story with the author was at pains to protect, I will not spoil the surprise.

If you enjoy suspense, the strange, and just a bit of creepy behavior, you will find this an interesting read. His perception of that decent is well thought out, and at the end, we see that Leslie has finally realized her madness.

This book was received as a free download from the author. All opinions are my own based off my reading and understanding of the material.

Rebecca says

Intoxication is a novella containing three short stories, each one having a slightly disturbing element to it and a slight twist in the story too.

The first short story is Intoxication which features a woman who is convinced that someone is trying to poison her. It is a story that is filled with paranoia. It kind of makes me glad I don't drink coffee. Intoxication was quite a creepy story because it was very real in just how paranoid Leslie is. It's also very good in that I just had to keep reading to find out exactly what was going to happen. Intoxication keeps you reading because you want to see how events will unfold. I really enjoyed reading Intoxication.

The second story, The Hitchhiker, is a story that seems so unreal but at the same time, it could happen. I liked this one but not as much as Intoxication. The thing I liked the most about The Hitchhiker was that there were little twists that appeared at various points of the story. This one really had you hanging on in that you didn't really know how the story was going to end and in whose favour it would end in.

The third short story is a very short story called The Bike. It was quite an interesting story as it was quite vague. I read through it really quickly because like the other two stories, you're unsure of where the story is going until you reach the end. I liked the Bike. I liked its simplicity and just the story itself.

Overall, I really enjoyed Intoxication, the stories were all pretty creepy and definitely worth a read. If you're a fan of horror, or freaky stories that seem unreal but at the same time could happen, then definitely check out Intoxication.

Silver Screen Videos says

Humor and horror don't always go together well, as many writers have discovered to their dismay. There's a thin line sometimes between tongue-in-cheek humor that reinforces the creepy mood the author's attempting to create and downright silliness that completely destroys the mood. Tim Kizer attempts this type of dark humor in two of the three stories that make up his collection, *Intoxication*. Unfortunately, the stories turn into overlong and confusing exercises in juvenile ridiculousness.

For anyone unfamiliar with Kizer's work, this book, like several of his others, is a collection of stories, and there's considerable overlap among his various books in regard to story inclusion. This book contains three stories (the title story actually being a novelette): "Intoxication," "Hitchhiker," and "Sixtus." If you've already read other books by Kizer, be aware of any duplication or crossover. You might be paying for one or more stories you've already read.

The best story in the book, "Hitchhiker," is the shortest, but by far the best. The plot is straight out of Alfred Hitchcock. One man picks up another who is hitchhiking through a fairly remote area. Soon, both men realize that the other one is actually a serial killer, and the story turns into a duel of wits with each trying to emerge the last man alive. "Hitchhiker" has a solid premise, and Kizer tells it fairly straight, maintaining the creepy mood, generating a fair amount of curious suspense (there's no rooting interest here, since both characters are rather odious), leading to a decent twist at the end. This is one story that could, and probably should, have been longer to let the cat-and-mouse game play out some more.

And that pretty much ends the good things I have to say about this collection. The other two stories are a complete mess. "Sixtus" is the story of a teenage boy named Zack who was born with a rare genetic abnormality, a fully formed sixth finger on one hand. What's more, the finger is named Jeremy and it talks to Zack, directing him to kill an every growing number of people, most notably his parents (naturally, Zack is the only one who can hear Jeremy when he gives these little encouraging pep talks to Zack). The idea of a young teen serial killer being able to fly under the radar due to his age is intriguing, but author Kizer jettisons that in favor of a number of man-to-finger talks between Zack and Jeremy that resemble something that a

bad amateur comic would come up with for open mike night at the local comedy club.

At least, "Sixtus" is fairly easy to follow, something that cannot be said for the title story in the collection, "Intoxication." It concerns a woman who thinks that her co-workers are trying to poison her so she tries to poison them, plus there's a kidnapping or two, and other plots (real or imagined) in a story that seems to go on forever. It's not funny, very difficult to follow, not scary or suspenseful, and the only thing that mildly piqued my interest was how anyone at this company managed to keep his or her job.

In addition to the three main stories, the book contains an extra flash fiction story, "The Bike," about a poker game gone awry, plus a lengthy excerpt from one of the author's novels that takes up the last one-third of the book. "The Bike" does not add much to the book; it's an interesting idea so poorly executed that it's nearly incomprehensible as a story.

As a standalone story, I would have recommended "Hitchhiker," even though I wish it had been a bit longer. But it's not a standalone story, and along with it, author Kizer gives readers, "Sixtus," which is downright silly, and "Intoxication," which is a complete mess. I am loath to give out one-star reviews to anything that has some merit, so I'm giving "Hitchhiker" two stars and only for someone who has never encountered the first story before. Otherwise, the rest of the book has far too many hitches in it.

Karen says

Intoxication / Hitchhiker Intoxication! A short psycho/thriller that keeps you wondering with its twists and turns through unsettling events that will surprise you at the end. Follow Leslie through her quest to find the person who is trying to poison her at her work place. No one believes her, not even her closest friends. She decides to continue her investigation on her own to protect her own sanity but things don't quite workout the way they should.

Valentina says

These three stories are little jewels. I read them all in one afternoon and I was so entertained! They don't go where you expect them to, something I always admire, creating a fresh idea out of common plots.

The first story, "Intoxication", has a fast-paced and tense atmosphere that works beautifully with the main characters obsessiveness. Her descent into full blown paranoia is nicely done, if a bit too superficial. I would have enjoyed seeing a bit more inner struggle, internal slips of reason.

The second story was quite fun, a great example of creativity and humor. It feels more relaxed than the first one, but still maintains the tension necessary for the plot to succeed. This one was my favorite of the buch.

The last one, a very short story is intersting because it was written in under 1,000 words. That is no easy feat. Yes, it feels a tad bit too hurried, but it gets the point across and it is amusing to read, so I can't complain too much.

The writing itself is correct, no grammatical errors or misspellings, which is nice. It allows the reader to relax and flow into the writers hands without having to take up your red pen every few pages.

Fun three stories, I can recommend it to all lovers of the quirky and just-a-bit-off, and even to the thriller fans out there.

Peter says

I really liked this trip into Tim Kizer's imagination. The tales were very weird and twisted. I especially liked *The Hitchhiker* (what a coincidence that two highway murderers meet) or the story with Zack the murderer talking to Jeremy (find out who Jeremy really is!). There are also two excerpts of longer works by the author to generate appetite. Also the first story with the woman seeing the danger of being poisoned everywhere is very interesting and has some nasty twists. Recommended!

Jennifer says

Just because you're paranoid doesn't mean they're not out to get you.

Leslie's having a bad day. Someone's poisoned her coffee, and her boyfriend drank it by mistake. Was it revenge from the underling she asked to fetch it? But it was the office coffeepot; it could be anybody. Who has a reason to want her dead, and why does she keep thinking about that night when she was driving and texting?

This was one twisty ride. Keep your seatbelts on, readers, we're barely out of one turn before we're off into another. Just when you think you know where it's headed, it changes direction. It's fast paced, and at a novella length, the hits just keep on coming.

Leslie is a great character. You can feel her descending into madness; the thoughts are bouncing around so fast, you can almost hear the boinging. The deeper she goes, the less rational she becomes, yet she can still justify everything to herself. It's okay to kill people, even if they weren't actually trying to kill you; after all, they could have been.

This is one of those books that you wish you could read faster *and* slower. You're dying to get to the end, but you have to stop and make sure you just read what you think you did. This is horror in the grand tradition, when the scariest thing you know is yourself.

Bonus: you also get *The Hitchhiker*, the first novella in the *As The Darkness Falls* series.

Four paws up!

ILoveBooks says

This a book that demands attention to detail and events in the book or else the reader will not be able to follow. This is a novel where there are many unanswered questions and the reader may be left with the question "What was reality and what was only in the main character's mind?" In the horror genre, this can be the mark of a good author. The reader should not be able to guess the events before they happen and be able to figure out the ending. This is a super fast-paced book, the reader's interest will be captured and held throughout the novel. There are two novelettes in this book, the reader will find both equally fascinating. The main characters are paranoid and tend to make a mountain out of a mole hill. The first tale is more about jumping to conclusions while the second warns that for every evil there is something or someone out there even more evil. The endings are very original and will take the reader by surprise. This novel is

recommended for adult readers who enjoy the horror genre.

<http://livetoread-krystal.blogspot.co...>

Al says

The version of this ebook I received had two stories. Intoxication, at just over ten thousand words, is long enough to qualify as a novella, and Hitchhiker, a bonus short story of not quite five thousand words. In both cases, the basic story was creative. I especially liked the twist ending of Hitchhiker, which was very clever.

The problem I found is both stories needed a lot more polish to rise to their potential. Part of this is inadequate copy editing and proofing. These stories passed my threshold for the acceptable number of such issues for a novel, in spite of being around a quarter the size of a short novel. Additionally, there were many sentences that read awkwardly and the author fell into the clichéd problem of telling instead of showing. The worst offense in this regard was a clunky narrative in Intoxication explaining what one of the characters had done the night before that didn't fit with the flow of the story and was clumsy to read, despite describing a critical plot twist.

****Originally written for "Books and Pals" book blog. May have received a free review copy. ****

Vanessa theJeepDiva says

This novella consisted of two different dark and twisty tales. I found them very Tales from the Cryptish. There is evil, but there is always something more evil. I can do devious, but there is one out there more devious. The thought of trying to hide something that you did that you know was wrong, but what if I'm never caught. I love the spooky and far-fetched abnormal. That is exactly what these two novelettes are.

Intoxication involves very untypical workplace drama. Leslie's boyfriend gets violently ill after he drank her cup of coffee, thus someone must be trying to poison her. Leslie has a very active imagination, maybe. Who would want to poison her? Are they trying to kill her or incapacitate her? Does the person trying to poison her have an accomplice? At this point Leslie is appearing a bit paranoid. She goes to her boss, has some video cameras installed on her condo, and then appears outrageously paranoid. Perhaps her coffee was never really poisoned at all. Maybe she was sipping on the crazy sauce? I loved the twists and turns here. I never saw the ending happening the way it did.

Hitchhiker shows how one evil can easily be out done by a greater evil. David a serial killer driving along in the stolen car of his most recent victim decides to pick up a hitchhiker. Ron is hitchhiking along looking for his next victim. After spending some time together they start to notice that all is not as it seems. Survival instincts start to kick in and soon they're trying to outsmart the other one just to live an evil life one more day.

??™ says

There is poison in the fang of the serpent, in the mouth of the fly and in the sting of a scorpion; but the wicked man is saturated with it. - Chanakya

We don't usually pick up hitchhikers... but I'm-a gonna go with my instincts on this one. - Dumb and Dumber

author Tim Kizer whips up three short stories that touch on man's darker side:

- * Intoxication - when Rick drinks the poisoned coffee intended for her, Leslie takes matters into her own hands and vows to find out who wants her dead

- * Hitchhiker - after leaving his victim lifeless in the woods, Ron hitches a ride on David's car and their trip together is one neither will forget

- * The Ride - Jesse wakes up to find the police at his door accusing him of a crime he does not remember committing

three things are explored here: man's taste for revenge, his cunning and blood lust. Intoxication and The Ride were both good but among the stories, Hitchhiker stands out for its tense dialog, strong characterization and suspenseful development. i loved how scene after scene played out especially the surprise at the end. justice was served but in a twisted kind of way.

overall, i find this collection enjoyable enough and it was a quick read too.
