



## Midnight Paths: A Collection of Dark Horror

*Joe Hart*

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**Midnight Paths: A Collection of Dark Horror** Joe Hart

**Enter a world where nothing is what it seems. Where darkness never abates, and your deepest fears are just a few steps away.**

Travel to an old house in the country where something hungry waits just beyond the treeline.

Watch as a young woman, whose life hangs in the balance, receives a visitor from the afterlife.

Or, journey across an ocean on a romantic voyage that ends in the deepest kind of horror.

This dark collection of the macabre is sure to chill the bones of even the most stalwart horror aficionado.

## Midnight Paths: A Collection of Dark Horror Details

Date : Published October 16th 2011 by Joe Hart

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Author : Joe Hart

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# **From Reader Review Midnight Paths: A Collection of Dark Horror for online ebook**

**Rich says**

**Great!**

Really good book! Great book to read when you have short bursts of time and need closure on a story before you have to stop reading..

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**Carol Ross says**

**Excellent short stories The author did an excellent job of keeping you hanging on in each story and wanting more of each story they pull you in to wanting the story to go on. They have just enough horror to keep you wanting to know more. I thoroughly enjoyed every story.**

I am following this author along with King his writing is similar to Stephen Kings own. I would enjoy more novels from him.

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**Michael says**

I found very few redeeming qualities in this bland compilation. Poor editing, mediocre writing. This reminded me of something a teenager might have hidden away in notebook - something scribbled down when he was bored in class. All in all, a very lacklustre effort.

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**Glenda says**

Some of the goriest, most disturbing short horror stories ever.

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**Cheryl says**

Consistently scary selection of short stories

I've been on a Joe Hart reading binge over the last few days. I really am enjoying this author's work.

I will mention that I like his novels better than his short stories but that's just a personal preference. I like to really get to KNOW the characters I'm reading about and, while Hart does a good job fleshing out his characters in his short stories, it's in his novels that his characters come to life for me.

That written, I did enjoy these stories. They were dark and creepy with all kinds of monsters included - some

of them even human.

There are ten stories included. My favorites were:

Old Dog

Pale Man

and my favorite of all - The Exploding Man

The author also includes notes at the end of the book, letting readers know where he got the ideas for his stories. I really enjoyed that.

So now I'm off to read another Joe Hart novel but I surely recommend this collection if you like horror stories or short stories in general.

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### **Annie says**

This is a series of short horror stories. They are all very good and scary/creepy. I didn't want to put it down but it did give me a rather uncomfortable night of creepy dreams. I recommend it to any one who likes to get scared.

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### **Aurora says**

The writing is fantastic, reminds me of the better work of Jonathan Lethem in its use of symbolism. The imagery is well-constructed and there is enough horror and gore to satisfy any fan of the macabre. Loved it from beginning to end.

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### **Matt Schiariti says**

Mixed Bag.

I gave this a try on a whim as it was an amazon deal of the day a little while back. Even though I have tons to read by people I've already downloaded or have been reading for a long time I'm always on the lookout for new authors. I pulled the trigger on this self published collection of dark horror. I found it to be a mixed bag.

Some of the stories range from pretty to really good, my favorites being PCA, Old Dog, Angel Charlie and Adrift.

The others didn't do much for me with maybe the exception of The Exploding Man. I was really enjoying that story..right up until the over the top ending that ruined it for me.

The others were just ok. Pale Man, the longest in the bunch I found to be a little too slow for my liking.

This is really a collection of monster stories with some supernatural tossed in there.

Midnight Paths is just one of those books that I didn't find myself liking too much for a reason I can't quite put my finger on. Although I will say that the author uses MANY similes. And I do mean many. 'The night descended like a...''the car's tires screeched, sounding like a....''the ocean reflected the noonday sun like a....''it's constant and it felt forced, as if he were trying to be a little too sophisticated and 'literary'. That's the best I can describe it (and here I am, unable to put my thoughts into words and I'm complaining about HIS writing style? Oh the irony! But I am a customer and I do have an opinion..so there it is).

I will say that when it's good it's pretty good. Maybe it's just a style thing. I think the ideas are there but maybe I didn't like the way they were told. Hard to say. My hat's off to him for self publishing this and getting some notice. I respect anybody that can do that. In addition, the inclusion of where his ideas for each story actually came from which he put in at the end of the collection was actually very cool. I liked that insight into where the stories and ideas came from.

All in all not bad. I believe he's actually working on a novel now so I may have to see what that's all about in the future.

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## **Susie Mann says**

### **Interesting stories**

Joe Hart does not disappoint in this collection. Imaginative stories with interesting characters draw you in and make you wish they weren't so short.

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## **Jim Brown says**

### **A small bunch of good stories**

This was a decent set of stories. My favorite being the pale man. Then adrift was my second favorite. All the others were good also but these two stood out from the rest. Would I recommend this to my friends. Yes I would. If you like good short story horror then this is a good investment.

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## **Dylan says**

Reanimated corpses, bogeymen, aliens, angels, ancient legends . . . there's a diverse world to be explored along the Midnight Paths we travel with author Joe Hart as our guide. The journey won't be safe, it'll be littered with despair and gruesome encounters, and you might wonder if you'll ever make it out alive. There are ten stops along the way, each as terrifying as the last:

*PCA* is slow to get into its stride but contains a great finish which leaves a gory image. *The Unfamiliar* is a weird story, albeit in a good way, and the scene of a broken man walking in a desolated landscape littered with bones reminded me of one of my stories. It has a "what comes around goes around" kind of ending that adds a nice touch.

*You Sure Are Calm, Cowboy* gets plus marks for its gore value, but it didn't really seem to have any purpose,

and I wondered what the point of this story was. This is compensated by *Angel Charlie*—a great little story, short but laden with good images and a delightful twist with a final line that delivers the perfect punch.

*Old Dog* is an entertaining, quick read with a delicious touch of revenge, which leads into *Pale Man*, the longest story in the book but also one of the best. It contains a great start and introduction, a perfectly paced middle, and an inevitable end—but one that was tainted slightly by POV head-hopping that is a pet hate of mine.

*The Man in the Room* is an eerie ghost tale with a nice little twist to end. Stress-induced explosions aren't the norm, except in Joe Hart's world, but *The Exploding Man* was probably the weakest of all the stories. Yet it's still a read that isn't altogether disappointing.

*Adrift* details the diary entries of a man lost at sea, revealing a macabre tale of despair and forlorn hope. It's one of the best stories in the book, extremely well written, and delightfully devoid of a Hollywood ending which is always a pleasing aspect of good horror. Finally, *Blackjack* gives us a casino with a difference and odds that are way too high. Another good story, about addiction at a cost, which is fortunately not ruined by its obvious ending.

The author's decision to include a section dedicated to his ponderings on why he wrote the stories and where his ideas came from is a nice touch, as it's always entertaining to learn how other twisted minds work.

*Midnight Paths: A Collection of Dark Horror*, by Joe Hart, is a quick trek through dark, uncharted wilderness—it is not a leisurely Sunday stroll. The places he takes us aren't for the faint of heart or those with a tendency to gag at the merest scent of spilled intestines, so you should think twice about making this journey. I advise you to walk these paths, though, as it's well worth it.

But you might want to take a torch or a weapon of some kind, and the bigger the better.

You never know what you might find out there.

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## **Dan says**

Really good book of short horror stories.

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## **Roxie Prince says**

**Well-written, gripping, and chilling.**

I am thrilled to have found Hart's work through the Kindle Unlimited program as it is hard to find a horror writer who does it well. The stories in this collection are excellent. They kept me on the edge of my seat, and I did not want to stop reading, even when the sun began to peak over the horizon. I particularly enjoyed "Old Dog" as budding serial killers have always been a fascination of mine, and Hart's grotesque yet intriguing portrayal had me cringing through a sickened grin. I look forward to making my way through the rest of Hart's body of work.

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**Jaclyn says**

I don't know what to say exactly. I have read all of Hart's books and this was my least favorite. Normally his stories creep me out, but with these, I was just left perplexed.

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**Cindy says**

These book had some really creepy stories in it! I loved it! And I even read it at night and didn't have nightmares. lol If you like horror stories this is a good one!

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