



## Aquello que Habita en el Sótano

*Sahara Foley , Manuel Alejandro Muñoz Villa (Translator)*

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Es una combinación entre La Zona Desconocida y Alien de H.R. Giger.

Un día, tus tres gatos desaparecen. Al siguiente, tu novia. Entonces comienzas a pensar que hay algo viviendo en el sótano y "eso" los mató.

Un extraño caso termina en el escritorio del Teniente Flynn. El Teniente debe investigar la desaparición de una pareja y sus tres gatos. Es como si se hubieran desvanecido. Luego de unos años, el Detective Pete Alvarez investiga la horrible muerte de un inmigrante en la misma casa. Ahora él y el Detective Carter deben descubrir la verdad sobre las desapariciones... pero lo que descubren es evidencia de algo completamente distinto.

¿Se atreverán a bajar al sótano para confrontarlo?

## Aquello que Habita en el Sótano Details

Date : Published March 5th 2017 by Creativia (first published July 10th 2013)

ISBN :

Author : Sahara Foley , Manuel Alejandro Muñoz Villa (Translator)

Format : Kindle Edition 137 pages

Genre : Horror, Novella, Fiction, Thriller, Mystery

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# From Reader Review *Aquello que Habita en el Sótano* for online ebook

## Dianne says

Just when you thought you had outgrown that fear of THE BASEMENT, \*cue evil music\* Sahara Foley comes along and gives us all one more reason to avoid THE BASEMENT. Animals and people alike are disappearing after going into the basement. Where did they go? What happened to them? What is killing them and does it live in your basement or are you just one stop in a row of many?

**It Lives in the Basement** is a dark and gruesome tale of suspense and horror, and the police are baffled. What they discover is a nightmare of epic proportions, brutal and gory. 'They' are legion and no one is safe. Will they live to tell the tale or will more brave souls become fodder for the creatures hiding below the earth? Where did they come from and why do they seem indestructible? The questions are endless, the answers are few, but the danger is everywhere and just maybe, they are in YOUR basement, too.

I need to thank Sahara Foley for resurrecting my childhood fear of the family basement while holding my imagination captive to her well-crafted tale. Short, but long enough to raise the hairs on the back of your neck, any longer and I'm sure I'd be sleeping with the lights on and I don't even have a basement anymore! Go ahead, read it and test your meddle, I dare you...

I received this copy from Sahara Foley in exchange for my honest review.

Publisher: Creativia; 7 edition (January 11, 2014)

Publication Date: January 11, 2014

ISBN-13: 9781530050178

Genre: Horror |scifi

Print Length: 139 pages

Available from: Amazon | Barnes & Noble

For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

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## Jade Onyx says

Drew me right into the story right away. Couldn't go to sleep the rest of the night. Why do I even do this to myself? If horror is your thing, this will definitely keep you up at night!

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## Anna Othitis says

The cover caught my eye as well as the title, I was curious a book that you want to get to the end of. Well written and thought. Great horror story Sahara!

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## ? ember says

Man, if I were running for the position of president of the USA, I would totally abolish basements. Who is with me?

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## Shannon says

This quick read was like an R.L. Stine story for adults! The choppy writing style wasn't my favorite, however, the story kept me intrigued and this was a gross, ridiculous, and fun horror story.

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## Donna Fernstrom says

A quick, enjoyable, creepy read. If you love horror stories that make you want to leave the lights on at night, and induce paranoia about everyday activities, this short novel is just the thing for you. Delivers very nicely, from start to finish. A lot better than most of the stuff coming down the pipeline these days! Don't sit on the toilet.

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## Mark Hodder says

46% five star reviews? Hmmm, someone has a lot of friends, don't they?

So now for an honest review:

I picked this one up (after numerous Goodreads recommendations) without realising that it's self-published. I normally avoid self-published work for good reason; the traditional publishing route has a manuscript judged by an agent and at least one editor before it reaches the public. There's a level of pre-release criticism from industry professionals that, while not always comfortable for the author, at least has him or her attending to any weaknesses before the work is printed. Not so with self-publishing.

IT LIVES IN THE BASEMENT (it has to be said, that's a truly brilliant title) has, at heart, some good ideas, and because I have nothing but admiration for aspiring authors who actually get down to the hard slog of writing (as opposed to just talking about it), I'm going to be as constructive as possible in my comments.

First, the contents. What you have here is a very short novella consisting of three chapters, each of which is more or less a short story in its own right. There's then an unconnected "Christmas tale" plus a sample from another of the author's projects. I didn't read the latter two items, as I was only interested in the IT LIVES IN THE BASEMENT section. Of this, the first two chapters are quite satisfying, though stylistically faulted. The third, which is by far the longest, is the weakest and most frustrating.

The theme is pretty intriguing. Ancient gods (aliens) experimented with life on Earth and destroyed their failures. However, one such misbegotten creature escaped destruction and has secretly survived through the centuries, feeding off humans while also using them as a part of its peculiar reproductive cycle (with a nod to the ALIEN movies). Some of this is pretty horrific and I can imagine it being very well handled by one of the "splatterpunk" authors, such as Richard Laymon, Brian Keene, Edward Lee or Jack Ketchum.

Unfortunately, Sahara Foley hasn't (yet) developed her talent to anywhere close to their level, so what we get is an adult and sometimes very explicit and violent story being written in a style that feels very

unsophisticated and immature.

To identify just a few specific problems:

The dialogue is wholly unconvincing. Characters say things no normal person would say, and they're forever addressing each other by name, John, which sounds really weird, doesn't it, John? Yes, Tom, it sure does.

There are too many redundancies and repetitions in the text.

The passive voice is used too frequently, which pushes the narrative into telling rather than showing.

The POV skips between characters, which again emphasises telling over showing.

Then we have that third chapter. Ouch. It feels hastily written and brings the tale to a close in a sudden, arbitrary, and very disappointing manner.

These are all "rookie errors" that I'd expect to see from students in a creative writing class but not in a book that I'm holding in my hand. That's the problem with self-publishing; as a reader, you can end up buying material from an "author in training" rather than from a "professional." Certainly, I'd encourage Sahara to keep writing, but (and forgive me if this sounds harsh) on the basis of this volume, I don't think she's yet reached what I consider to be publication standard.

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### **Christine Black says**

Do not go down to the basement!!! And read this in daylight. A treat for horror fans. :)

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### **C.P. Mandara says**

I loved the title so much I had to buy the book and... it doesn't disappoint!

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### **Mark Tilbury says**

This horror novel wastes no time in getting readers wondering the hell is going on and why people are going missing in the same house. This is a horror that does contain a lot of violence, blood, guts and gore, but not just for the sake of it. There is an interesting story behind the events, told by a police officer who believes the cause of the disappearances is down to something he's been looking into for years.

I liked the mix of characters and personalities, and how everyone had a reason for wanting to help investigate the disappearances. The pace of the story varies. Sometimes it's frantic, whilst in other parts it's slower as the possibilities to solve the case are explored and discussed.

One scene in particular made me squirm as I read. Any other men who read this book will know which part I mean! The ending did seem a bit sudden. I was hoping for more as I was enjoying the story. Nothing wrong with how the book ended, it just seem to happen quicker than I was expecting.

Recommended to all who love bloody, graphic horror/thriller/suspense.

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## **Sarah {Literary Meanderings} says**

NO. JUST NO.

This had to be a joke. I was totally duped. I'm annoyed. This was an awful novella.

Review later today.

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## **Linda Thackeray says**

*It Lives in the Basement* should be required reading on Halloween night especially when out camping the woods. This novella is a great monster story guaranteed to ensure that you never see a toilet in the same way again or ignore that little flutter in the shadows you think is a trick of light.

The author starts us on this dark journey with a cold opening that tells us immediately what we're in for. Police Lieutenant Flynn has been called in to investigate the disappearance of John Sempek and Pat Forbes, a couple living with their three cats in a house on South 18th Street. When he discovers a notebook left by John, Flynn like the reader, is immediately drawn in.

The novella can be broken up into three separate acts beginning with Lt. Flynn's journey into John Sempek's mind through his notebook. John is a writer who is aware that his imagination can sometimes lead him astray. As a result, he uses this as a way to explain some of the curious things that are taking place in his house. Of all the characters in this novella, it is probably John that speaks to us best since his dismissal of the lurking horror, is something we would do ourselves when confronted by a similar situation.

The second act that introduces us to Detective Pete Alvarez coincides with the death of an immigrant in the same locale some years later. Alvarez is your classic exposition character who is rather one dimensional. His part in this tale is to tell the reader what kind of menace we're dealing with and he seems to have little interest in his peers beyond how they can assist him to catch his white whale.

That being said, kudos to the author for the creation of a truly disturbing creature. While not quite elevated to the heights of Geiger's alien, the biology of the tescara will make you flinch and be grateful it exists only in fiction.

The third act moves into twists and turns as dark as the tunnels our protagonist choose to enter in order to hunt the tescara. The feeling of claustrophobia and dread pursues the readers as much as the characters and the ending is like a gut punch that does not fade with the end of the story.

The author's note at the end of the tale reveals that she had put this novella together based on her husband's work. This might explain some of the flaws in an otherwise excellent story. Characters are established but only a few are truly fleshed out. Perhaps the economy is necessary when writing a novella but a little more characterisation would have helped the flow of the story a bit better. Sempek, Flynn and Daniels get the best of it while others like Alvarez and Sagano suffer from the lack of attention. The acts also do end a bit abruptly, particularly the first and the second. One gets the sense that the author was working with notes and tried to tell the best story she could with what was available.

If there were typos in this story, as a reader I did not notice them. The build up from act to act made me want to reach the end so I was not distracted by such issues. The conclusion achieves what any good horror story should aspire to, frightening us silly while at the same time entertaining us completely. *It Lives in the Basement* does both quite magnificently.

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### **Jana Petken says**

I must confess, I was drawn to the title. However this was a great thriller, paranormal, scary book, which kept me interested right from page one. Cats, spooky apparitions, death and murder. Got to be a night time read!

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### **Lex Allen says**

“It Lives in the Basement,” by Sahara Foley begins with a bang. The noises in the house initially attributed to typical “settling” causes are followed by brief, peripheral glimpses of...something. The cats disappear without a trace, followed in short order by increasingly ominous occurrences that leave investigators stymied. This horror novella, divided into several chapters that combine to provide a multiple years long tale of mystery, murder and horror is a good and quick reading pleasure.

Police detective Flynn is the first to investigate the disappearances and, over a number of succeeding years, he is followed by a series of investigators, all of whom are drawn to the house at 1921 S. 18th Street to examine seemingly unsolvable mysteries and gruesome murders. Eventually, the detectives follow a trail that leads them, years later, to a swampy area miles from the original crime scene.

The methodology used in presenting this story is interesting, unusual and well presented. With the exception of Sergeant Alvarez, the characters are not as well as developed as they would have been in a full length novel, but certainly sufficient to carry the plot line and keep the reader invested in their fates. More fully developed, Alvarez proves to be a source for tracking down the enigmatic killer. How he comes to some of his conclusions is not crystal clear, but his assumptions and facts help drive the story forward. I thought the dialogue a bit stilted and unrealistic, especially Alvarez’s language. At times, it seemed that the author was more concerned with “proper” grammar than describing a realistic manner of speech. As a disciple of verisimilitude in fiction, these speech patterns failed to pass the test of realism and was, therefore, distracting (for me). Still, “It Lives in the Basement,” is satisfying read that I would recommend for all fans of suspense horror stories.

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### **Jan Raymond says**

The cover of this book caught my interest, the first time I saw it as did the title. I am a huge Stephen King fan and I love horror. Who can resist picking up a book called ‘It lived in the basement’. And I wasn’t disappointed. Though the story is short, it is engrossing. It has been well written and keeps your attention throughout. For the best experience, switch off the lights, get under the blanket and read it with a flashlight. Sahara Foley has an exceptional style of writing and I hope to read more horror stories from this talented

author.

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