



Valor in the Ashes

William W. Johnstone

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"I've been at war for years. And we will continue to fight until the scum and the warlords and the human filth and those who prey on the weak are gone from the face of this land that we still call America."

--Ben Raines

Back From The Brink

A decade has passed since the nuclear nightmare of the Great War brought America to the brink of destruction. Out of the smoldering ashes, Ben Raines has emerged to build a new society in this once proud land. But in this hellish new world there is evil lurking, evil that will stop at nothing to destroy the dream of a new America.

Leaving a small rear-guard detachment at their home base in Louisiana, Ben Raines and his rebel army begin an overload expedition to New York City--the armed Hell on Earth of the cannibalistic mutants known as the Night People. For Raines and his rebels, it means clearing skyscrapers floor by floor and stalking an endless labyrinth of underground tunnels--a perilous search-and-destroy mission that will decide the fate of freedom's cause.

Valor in the Ashes Details

Date : Published September 1st 2008 by Pinnacle (first published 1988)

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Author : William W. Johnstone

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Genre : Apocalyptic, Post Apocalyptic, Fiction

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From Reader Review Valor in the Ashes for online ebook

Martin Colvill says

One of the best in the series

Very enjoyable escapism even if it's a bit dated. The premise is not though. We still may endure such an apocalyptic time. Those who have lived or visited New York city and surrounding areas will enjoy viewing the fighting through those eyes.

You'll be on the edge of your seat with every bullet.

Cameron says

I got sent for temporary duty at a slow station the other day and found this book while I was there.

I suffer from a compulsion to finish reading just about any book I start, regardless of how bad it is. Once I've gotten 1/4 or 1/3 of the way in and discover that it's just not going to get any better, I can't simply put it down and leave it unfinished. It's a terrible handicap - I could be reading a different, more enjoyable book, or watching TV, or pouring hot sand into my eyes, but instead I force myself to push through to the end. And this book was really, really bad, and I love post-apocalypse stories. Let me give you an excerpt from the description:

Ben Raines and his rebel army begin an overland expedition to New York City - the armed citadel of the cannibalistic mutants known as the Night People. These half-human, half-hellborn offspring of nuclear fallout have sworn to kill Ben Raines and take over what is left of America.

The author makes quite a few freshman mistakes: he virtually never fleshes things out with details; he just says that someone is ugly, or something smells bad, or someone is scared rather than describing the sights and sounds to the reader. He uses cliches regularly: "blows that theory out of the water" or "blasts him to hell and back." I can't believe that crap made it past an editor. Johnstone apparently wrote the story with a map of New York City in front of him because he describes troop movements as "advancing the tanks up 81" or "setting up a command post in the Holland Tunnel" but he doesn't describe where those places are, or who is to the west of them or moving north of them, etc. So unless you also have a map of New York City in front of you, it's not really possible to know where characters are in relation to each other. Kind of important in a novel all about military actions in a city.

Anyways, I'm just scratching the surface of all the things that are terribly wrong with this book. I think the cover of the copy I found, printed in 1988 by Zebra Books, is quite adequate to make my point.

'Nuff said.

Timothy Boyd says

Very good adventure series. Basically the forming of a new United States after WW3 and the story of the man who leads and forms it. If you like men's adventure stories you will enjoy it. Recommended

Lonnie J. Box, I says

My review

I didn't like this book was as well as the others in this series. It didn't keep my attention. Even though I didn't like it I will continue to read this series.
