



Fate's Past

Jason Huebinger

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FATE'S PAST is the story of a couple, Cameron Harrison and Carrie Fields. While driving in rural Louisiana, Cameron and Carrie notice that their environment has changed—a faint cloud distorts the empty road, the clocks blink “00:00,” and a feeling of lifelessness creeps through their veins. For miles, they do not see any other cars, animals, or people.

Then their experiences splinter. Carrie hears sounds that Cameron cannot hear. Cameron sees things that Carrie cannot see. As Cameron and Carrie wander through the unfamiliar landscape, they are literally hunted by their biggest regrets, forcing the two to separate. And in confronting their regrets, Carrie and Cameron must come to grips with who they were in order to escape their suffering, find one another, and take the next step in their journey together.

Fate's Past Details

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Author : Jason Huebinger

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From Reader Review Fate's Past for online ebook

Pam says

Intriguing

This reminded me of a movie and book I saw/ read. The back and forth memories seemed to drag the book on. It was almost predictable. I found myself slowly looking interest and wishing the characters would get on with it already. There is a good concept for this book, but if you are easily d9ne with reading detailed details you ,at not like this read

Mary Seelye says

It was pretty good. It dragged on for a bit there in the middle, but it picked up again towards the end.

I liked how descriptive the author was, but at times it got to be too much. I did enjoy the book, yes I couldn't put it down, but towards the middle I was getting discouraged that nothing new was going to happen. I thought it was going to continue repeating itself throughout the entire book, which it kind of did, but finally towards the last chapter it picked up its pace again and ended exactly how I expected it would.

Booky says

Wow. Reading the epilogue completely changed the story.

Ethan Kollat says

A fantastic read in my opinion. I loved the different plots and different characters and how they all fit in the Characters' past lives. I loved the book and I liked the concept of how regrets can change the way you live. Fantastic job!!!

Elgon Williams says

Cameron and Carrie's trip from Austin to New Orleans takes an unexpected detour through rural Louisiana, an area that might be easily mistaken for the backside of a Twilight Zone episode on steroids or the entry, "welcome to" level of Hell. Although at first they seem to be alone on an unfamiliar road that goes on forever, when they eventually find the first sign of civilization, a gas station, we begin to learn exactly how unusual it is.

Superficially, everything looks real but there is also something fake about it - like the trees in the forest appear to be mirrored replicas of one another. And then, when they finally meet someone who belongs to the

bizarre world, he appears quite differently to each of them. Creepy!

If you like zombies and gratuitous gore, this is not that kind of horror. Sure, there are some bloody encounters along the way, often very intense stuff, but Huebinger has carefully crafted a world with alternate rules where the lines between the past, present and future are blurred, if not non-existent, at times. In one sense, it is a story of sought redemption. In another, it's less about atonement and more about enduring torment. All along the way, there is mystery slowly unraveling to expose what's really going on and why Cameron and Carrie are experiencing a lifetime of nightmares, one after another.

In *FATE'S PAST*, Huebinger combines the best elements of a suspense thriller with a horror theme. This is an impressive debut novel. Look for more great stories to come from this new author.

Alexandra says

Don't bother.

That is all.

Brooke says

This book frustrated me. I finished it purely to see how the author would end it. It was fairly obvious early on what the premise of the story was and where it was going. However, it seemed like the idea was repeated in different ways over and over - I guess for those people that didn't get it from the beginning? I had several moments that I rolled my eyes and closed the book to read something else. Like some other reviewers, I felt this was longer than it needed to be. The story could have been told in a much smaller form and would have been infinitely better and more interesting to read. Can't say I'd recommend this one to anyone.

Susan M. Houchin says

If you are a Stephen King fan you will really like this book.

I almost put this book down . Then I read another chapter then another. By the third one I had to finish it. Would make a great Twilight Zone movie. Great writing a real page turner.

Jason Huebinger says

Leaving this as Fate's Past's 50th rating -- thank you so much to everyone who has read it! Your support means the world to me.

Michelle Rogalski says

1.5 Stars-When I was in high school, I took a creative writing class where we were tasked with coming up with a story for our end of the year assignment. Our instructions were simple: with a minimum of 25 pages, create a descriptive story with background enriched characters who find themselves dealing with some sort of hardship.

Sitting at my computer, I was able to take my pre-writing and turn it into a draft. I spent countless hours revising it, all to come up with the same conclusion: it was not long enough. At that point, I proceeded type in words into my computer, right click on them to use different synonyms to make my word count go up. Still not long enough. Finally, I had enough and figured I'd increase my descriptiveness to my characters surroundings, their backstories, and anything other piece of information I deemed to fit. That was the problem though--90% of the descriptiveness didn't belong and was completely useless information to the reader. It was merely to get my word count up.

That's what this book was for me. Reading this novel made me feel like I was reading a highschoolers writing assignment. The writing was sloppy, extremely repetitive, and full of grammatical errors that I could not look past. I felt nothing other than annoyance towards Cameron and Carrie-as much as I love pet names, there is something absolutely revolting in reading the words "baby" and "sweetie" in what is obviously forced dialogue, desperately trying to convince the reader that they love each other.

The only reason I'm giving it this star rating, is because the premise to the novel was fantastic. The first couple of sentences of the synopsis made me want to read it immediately. Unfortunately, I was completely underwhelmed and was glad when I finished it. This had so much potential! Shame on the editor for letting this get through their hands in such a terrible unfinished state.

Victor Nolasco says

Lost Interest in this Book.

Started out ok. It felt like the story was about two people living through a dream. But the situation they are in never moves forward. No clues as to what is happening to the main characters. Kept reading hoping it would reveal more details. But no just a lot of questions and no answers. Sorry but it just got boring for me. Wanted small clues to keep my interest and continue reading. Had to stop 1/3 into the story.

Farozan says

A couple's road trip to New Orleans takes a terrifying turn when they find themselves on a never-ending road that seems devoid of civilisation. The story reminds you of the twilight zone where they are haunted by something(s) sinister. Will they make it out alive and what haunts them are questions that will keep you hooked until the very end.

The story is very well-developed with believable characters and reactions. The author manages to create a

spooky atmosphere throughout the story and has you sympathise with the characters' plight. While it is a supernatural horror story, which ideally requires suspension of disbelief, this one had reasons for everything that happens, reasons that made sense to me anyway.

Having said that, I would like to point out that while I enjoyed the book immensely, I knew where the story was going after a few chapters. In fact, I had a hunch right after the first chapter but the author had me question myself several times. I would like to blame this on my voracious appetite for books and movies (stories in any form, really) and not the author's lack of skill or any fault with the story. If my hunch had been proven wrong I would have given this a four-star rating for sure.

Aimée says

Excellent read

I got this book by chance as a free read and I could not put it down. I definitely recommend it.

Jade Phoenix says

Decent thriller / horror story. Somewhere in the beginning - middle you can begin to tell something unusual is amiss. The plot is interesting although I found it frustrating at certain points because it repeatedly obviously alluded to things that were not revealed until the absolute end. The ending seems to climax in a far more unreal and vivid way than the rest of the story, which seemed a bit extreme and out of context to me. Overall, it's a young love story with realistic elements of relationship complications and hurdles made into a lesson about honesty and appreciating what you have while you have it.

Breakaway Reviewers says

A complicated plot!

Reviewers, contrary to the opinion of many, are actual real life human beings. Sometimes we get a bit too clever and in love with our own insults and end up eviscerating a book that isn't actually that bad. My first two reviews for this book fell into that trap so I have deleted them and started again. My intention is certainly not to be cruel but it's important to be honest or what is the point of a review?

The trouble is, I just didn't like this book. I tried to, partly because most of the reviews already published have given it 4 stars, but mostly because the brief synopsis made it sound fascinating; "a Texas couple take a much needed weekend getaway but while driving in rural Louisiana, Cameron sees a flash of light and swerves, waking Carrie. They notice that their environment has changed—a faint cloud distorts the empty road, the clocks blink "00:00," and their cell phones lose reception. For miles, they do not see any other cars, animals, or people. With no way to flag anyone for help, they know they're on their own. Just when they think they've found salvation, their experiences splinter. Carrie hears sounds that Cameron cannot hear. Cameron sees things that Carrie cannot see. As Cameron and Carrie wander through the unfamiliar landscape, they are hunted by their biggest regrets. They must come to grips with who they were if they are

to escape their pasts and survive the present."

Sounds good right? Mysterious and freaky enough to draw you in without being too obvious where it will lead.

The thing is it's not original and not being too obvious ends in chapter one. The central idea (coming to terms with life's regrets) is an interesting one but it has been explored in countless books in the same way, many better than in this one. What this book needs to set it apart is an approach or style that is original, one that brings a new perspective or forces you to think in a new way. I'm sorry to say that this book just didn't do that for me. The writing style left me cold; clunky dialogue intermixed with frequent literary cliché and clumsy descriptions. Some of this surely comes down to personal taste; a split infinitive is arguably not an 'error' but I found the one somewhere near the halfway mark jarring enough to make note. There were moments that I felt were supposed to be dramatic but elicited only an incredulous eye-roll (someone is described as identical to our hero but we're told that it's his hat that gives away his identity. What?!).

Perhaps, though, my dissatisfaction with 'Fate's Past' is more about the type of book I like. I am a self-confessed grammar Nazi, cleverness tends to make me suspicious and scares need to be written so concisely that I'm never reminded I'm reading a book. In any genre of book, I need the language to flow so gently and purely that I'm carried away; taken into the world I am reading about so that I lose track of time. Too often reading this book the bizarre choice of words or childish dialogue threw me out of the narrative and left me annoyed instead of intrigued.

There are a few redeeming qualities; the odd genuinely suspenseful moment and some perfect paragraphs of relentless horror, overall though I just couldn't find enough to love. I am, however, in the minority. I've read a dozen or so reviews on Goodreads and Amazon who all found this book suspenseful and edge-of-the-seat dramatic. Only one mentions the fact that the 'surprise' ending is clearly sign posted early on. Most reviewers are venerating Mr Huebinger as the next Stephen King. To which I say NO! You have clearly never read any of his horror masterpieces if you think that this book even comes close.

Lucy

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review
