



# Doctor Who: Casualties of War

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Hawswick Hall has been transformed into a psychiatric hospital for soldiers shell-shocked during World War One. When local livestock and family pets are found violently mutilated, witness accounts point to horrifically wounded soldiers. The Doctor heads to the hospital to investigate -- two of the inmates have mysteriously disappeared -- and is told by one of the patients that there is an evil presence in the Hall. The key to the mystery lies in that eerie basement room in Hawswick Hall.

## Doctor Who: Casualties of War Details

Date : Published September 4th 2000 by BBC Worldwide Publishing

ISBN : 9780563538059

Author : Steve Emmerson

Format : Mass Market Paperback 271 pages

Genre : Media Tie In, Doctor Who, Science Fiction, Fiction

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# From Reader Review Doctor Who: Casualties of War for online ebook

## Angela says

The Doctor goes to a small English village in the middle of WW1. The dead have been spotted, mysterious explosions, and a hospital for soldiers with mental issues is near by. This is a really creepy book, it goes more to the horror than most Doctor Who novels. This is not one for the faint hearted. There is a feeling of doom throughout, with corpses threatening innocents. The horror of war is well written, and the way the soldiers are coping is delicately handled. A really great read.

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## Daniel Kukwa says

Achingly sad and exquisitely gentle. For such a quiet novel, it packs an "iron fist in velvet glove" impact...which is quite suitable when you throw the Doctor at WWI and watch the resulting chaos.

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## Nicholas Whyte says

<http://nwhyte.livejournal.com/2063188.html>[return][return]An Eighth Doctor book which is set during the First World War, with the amnesiac Doctor now investigating mysterious happenings in a hospital for convalescent soldiers. For what is basically a zombie story, it is done rather well, with a particularly good one-off companion (Mary, the village midwife) whose emotional path is similar to many of the New Who companions, and other nicely depicted supporting characters. Would appeal to non-Who fans more than most.

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## Nenya says

MORE. GODDAMN. ZOMBIES! This time, actual zombies. Multiple ones. So probably the most zombie-like of this whole run of "oh my god, get the zombies out of my Doctor Who" I've been complaining about. And yet, I liked it better than the others!

This was down to the really great characters in the village. Loved the midwife/vet/town nurse, the giant ox of a farmer, the elderly rural bobby. The patients at the hospital were great, too, and I was sad to see the ones die who did. The hardest part of this book for me was the WWI stuff, which leaned heavily on the horrors of the trenches--not even in a salacious horror-porn way (that would be THE ZOMBIES!) but just because WWI was such an extremely, brutally, grindingly horrible thing. Those parts were offset by the beautiful village and the decent people who lived in it, so that helped.

I also enjoyed the writing style of this book more than some. It was lighter (easier to read, less of a slog) and less pedestrian in its word choices, which made for some really great descriptions and interesting turns of

phrase. I've seen some people disliking Mary's romantic feelings for the Doctor, but I found it quite nice to get to see Eight described as beautiful and fascinating, and not just for his mind. Some of us readers think he's gorgeous, too, and completely refusing to address that aspect of this Doctor gets old (especially when one gets the feeling it's because the authors are straight men who can't handle describing another man's beauty). I honestly wanted these two to bang, and feel like they only didn't because "the Doctor doesn't sleep with people" was in the series bible.

Amnesia plot continues. Eight is very much himself personality-wise at this point, but about where he is in the TV movie in terms of remembering fuck-all about his past (anything before the previous novel). I love when he comes out with random bits of information and he has no idea why he knows them. It's okay, bb, you'll get your memory back! Oh, and then be traumatized all over again just like the soldiers in the psych ward here, because OH YEAH the reason you lost your memory in the first place miiiight have something to do with blowing up your own planet in a space-time war? Haha. I love ya, Eight.

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### **Em says**

While the story was an interesting one, I didn't appreciate the perspective. Mary Minett was a strong and endearing female character, but her infatuation with the Doctor was annoying. I don't mind if people fall in love with the Doctor, but I don't want to have to listen to a constant stream of over-dramatized speculations about his 'inner mysteriousness.' The writer's voice often sounded young and awkward, making the story uncomfortable.

Every scene seemed to end in a contrived cliff-hanger in which someone was inevitably being shot---and then miraculously not getting shot. That got old fast.

Possibly due to the eighth Doctor's condition, the bad guys were never very well explained. Basically, psychic zombies with magic powers.

It's interesting to see how the Doctor acts without his past chasing him. There's a reversion to lots of the first Doctor's personality traits. I think he also thinks he's human, which is intriguing.

If you love the Doctor, go ahead and read it.

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### **Corey Dutson says**

Well THAT was depressing. A good sort of depressing, but yeesh. There are, as it turns out, a lot of casualties in this one.

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### **Rob Melvin says**

Sooooo boring. I understand wanting to reboot after how convoluted the story had gotten, but it's like they had a stack of generic historical mysteries sitting unpublished and slapped the Doctor Who name on them. One amnesia book was enough to reboot this thing then skip the next hundred years and get on with it. With the amnesia angel it's not even like it's the Doctor. They could replace him with any generic Holmesian eccentric and these stories would be unchanged. I don't think I can make it through three more of this garbage. I'm going to skip to when it's Doctor Who again.

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**Simon Curtis says**

Standard for a Who book, ie very good indeed. Emotional.

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