



The Reapers Are the Angels: A Novel

By Alden Bell

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The Reapers Are the Angels: A Novel By Alden Bell

Zombies have infested a fallen America. A young girl named Temple is on the run. Haunted by her past and pursued by a killer, Temple is surrounded by death and danger, hoping to be set free.

For twenty-five years, civilization has survived in meager enclaves, guarded against a plague of the dead. Temple wanders this blighted landscape, keeping to herself and keeping her demons inside her heart. She can't remember a time before the zombies, but she does remember an old man who took her in and the younger brother she cared for until the tragedy that set her on a personal journey toward redemption.

Moving back and forth between the insulated remnants of society and the brutal frontier beyond, Temple must decide where ultimately to make a home and find the salvation she seeks.

“Alden Bell provides an astonishing twist on the southern gothic: like Flannery O'Connor with zombies.” *Michael Gruber, New York Times* bestselling author of *The Book of Air and Shadows*

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Born into a crumbling society plagued by zombies, all 15-year-old Temple knows is to kill or be killed. When she is assaulted at a safe house, she murders her human attacker, Abraham Todd, and runs from his vengeful brother, Moses. Temple soon acquires a traveling partner, a slow mute by the name of Maury, and begrudgingly takes responsibility for his care, remembering a young boy she swore to protect but couldn't save. Fleeing Moses, the "meatskins," and her own battered conscience, Temple still finds moments of simple joy in the brutal world. Bell (a pseudonym for Joshua Gaylord, author of *Hummingbirds*) has created an exquisitely bleak tale and an unforgettable heroine whose eye for beauty and aching need for redemption somehow bring wonder into a world full of violence and decay.

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Review

"If you loved Justin Cronin's *The Passage*, this summer's vampire hit, you'll get a charge out of *The Reapers Are the Angels*. It's a literary/horror mashup that is unsettlingly good." ?*USA Today*

"*The Reapers Are the Angels* is a knockout, a fresh take on the zombie novel, with a heroine you can't help but root for as she braves the land of the living dead and the dead living, pursued by a foe far more dangerous than flesh-eaters and with the beacon of redemption flickering ahead. Alden Bell will snatch your attention and keep it until long after you close this book." ?*Tom Franklin, author of Hell at the Breach*

"Alden Bell provides an astonishing twist on the southern gothic: like Flannery O'Connor with zombies." ?*Michael Gruber, New York Times bestselling author of The Book of Air and Shadows*

"Alden Bell has managed something improbable and striking: a disconcertingly beautiful tale of zombie apocalypse. *The Reapers Are the Angels* is soaked in all the blood that any horror fan could desire, the effluvia rendered in a high Southern Gothic style as redolent of rotting magnolia as anything written by William Faulkner or Cormac McCarthy." ?*Charlie Huston, author of Sleepless*

"... This is a must-read for those who like their literature both brain-specked and philosophical." ?*journalstar.com*

About the Author

Alden Bell is a pseudonym for Joshua Gaylord, whose first novel, *Hummingbirds*, was released in Fall '09. He teaches at a New York City prep school and is an adjunct professor at The New School. He lives in New York City with his wife, the Edgar Award-winning mystery writer, Megan Abbott.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Shawn McDonald:

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