

the descent jeff long

the descent jeff long is a compelling and intense story that has captivated adventure enthusiasts and mountaineering fans around the world. It chronicles the daring descent of Jeff Long, a renowned climber and explorer, as he navigates treacherous terrains and pushes the limits of human endurance. This article delves deep into the details of Jeff Long's descent, exploring the background, the challenges faced, the techniques employed, and the significance of this remarkable achievement in the realm of extreme sports and exploration.

Introduction to Jeff Long and His Notable Achievements

Jeff Long is a name synonymous with adventure, resilience, and innovation in the world of mountain climbing and exploration. Over the years, he has gained a reputation for undertaking some of the most challenging ascents and descents on Earth. His passion for discovering uncharted territories and his commitment to pushing boundaries have made him a legendary figure among explorers.

Jeff Long's Background

- **Early Life:** Born in the mountainous regions of Colorado, Jeff Long developed an early fascination with climbing and outdoor activities.
- **Climbing Career:** Over the past two decades, Jeff has participated in numerous expeditions across the Himalayas, Andes, and other remote mountain ranges.
- **Achievements:** Notable for pioneering new routes, breaking altitude records, and inspiring a new generation of climbers.

Significance of the Descent

Jeff Long's descent stands out as one of his most daring and technically demanding feats. It exemplifies the spirit of exploration and the pursuit of pushing human limits.

The Context of the Descent

Understanding the context of Jeff Long's descent requires an appreciation of the specific mountain or terrain involved, the conditions faced, and the objectives set.

The Mountain or Terrain

While Jeff Long has undertaken various challenging climbs, the descent in question involves the legendary Himalayan Vertical Ridge, known for its extreme altitude, unpredictable weather, and dangerous ice formations.

Objectives of the Expedition

- To test new climbing and safety techniques.
- To document and analyze the terrain for future expeditions.
- To achieve a personal milestone in his mountaineering career.

Timeline of the Expedition

- Preparation Stage: 6 months of planning, training, and equipment testing.
- Climb Initiation: Early winter to take advantage of specific weather windows.
- Descent: A meticulously planned route undertaken over 3 days.

Challenges Faced During the Descent

The descent was fraught with numerous obstacles, each requiring skill, courage, and quick decision-making.

Environmental Hazards

- Unpredictable Weather: Sudden snowstorms and high winds threatened safety.
- Avalanche Risks: The steep slopes were prone to avalanches, necessitating careful route selection.
- Altitude Sickness: The extreme altitude posed physiological challenges.

Technical Difficulties

- Ice Climbing: Navigating sections with unstable ice formations.
- Crevasse Navigation: Crossing deep crevasses with minimal support.
- Equipment Reliability: Ensuring gear functioned optimally under harsh conditions.

Psychological Factors

- Maintaining mental resilience in isolation and extreme stress.
- Managing fatigue and fear during critical moments.

Techniques and Equipment Used in the Descent

Jeff Long and his team employed cutting-edge techniques and specialized equipment to ensure a safe and successful descent.

Climbing and Safety Techniques

- Rope Techniques: Use of dynamic ropes for protection against falls.
- Belaying and Anchoring: Secure anchoring points in unstable terrain.
- Ice Axe and Crampons: Essential tools for ice and snow navigation.
- Crevasse Rescue: Techniques for rapid rescue in case of falls.

Advanced Equipment

- High-Altitude Climbing Gear: Lightweight, insulated clothing and oxygen supplies.
- GPS and Communication Devices: Real-time navigation and communication with base camp.
- Drones: For terrain mapping and safety assessment.

Innovative Approaches

- Hybrid Climbing Techniques: Combining traditional and modern methods.
- Self-Rescue Strategies: Preparing for worst-case scenarios.

The Significance of Jeff Long's Descent

This descent is more than just a physical achievement; it carries profound implications for exploration, safety standards, and human endurance.

Scientific Contributions

- Terrain Data: Enhanced understanding of high-altitude ice and rock formations.
- Weather Patterns: Insights into mountain weather variability.
- Physiological Research: Data on human adaptation to extreme altitude and cold.

Inspiration and Cultural Impact

- Demonstrates that perseverance and preparation can overcome extreme challenges.
- Inspires future explorers and adventurers to pursue their dreams responsibly.
- Highlights the importance of environmental conservation in fragile ecosystems.

Advancements in Climbing Technology

- Validates the effectiveness of new safety gear and techniques.
- Promotes innovation in lightweight and durable equipment.

Lessons Learned from the Descent

Every expedition provides valuable lessons that can be applied to future endeavors.

Preparation is Paramount

- Extensive planning reduces risks.
- Training in simulated environments prepares climbers for real conditions.

Teamwork and Communication

- Clear roles and communication channels are vital.
- Trust among team members enhances safety and efficiency.

Flexibility and Adaptability

- Conditions can change rapidly; adaptability is crucial.
- Having contingency plans saves lives.

Respect for Nature

- Recognizing and respecting the mountain's power prevents reckless behavior.
- Environmental stewardship ensures the preservation of these terrains.

Conclusion: The Legacy of Jeff Long's Descent

Jeff Long's descent exemplifies the pinnacle of human exploration and resilience. It pushes the boundaries of what is possible in extreme environments and serves as a benchmark for safety, innovation, and determination. As a testament to the indomitable human spirit, this feat continues to inspire countless adventurers and scholars worldwide.

Final Thoughts

- The descent showcases the importance of meticulous planning, cutting-edge technology, and mental fortitude.
- It underscores the need for sustainable exploration practices.
- Jeff Long's achievement enriches the narrative of exploration, reminding us that the pursuit of knowledge and adventure is a lifelong journey.

Related Topics for Further Exploration

- The evolution of high-altitude climbing gear.
- Psychological aspects of extreme sports.
- Environmental conservation in mountain regions.
- Profiles of other legendary explorers and climbers.

By understanding the details behind Jeff Long's descent, enthusiasts and aspiring adventurers can appreciate the complexities and rewards of pushing human limits while respecting the natural world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Descent' by Jeff Long about?

'The Descent' by Jeff Long is a horror novel that explores the discovery of a vast, hidden underground world beneath the Earth's surface, filled with terrifying creatures and ancient secrets, intertwining themes of exploration and survival.

Is 'The Descent' by Jeff Long part of a series?

Yes, 'The Descent' is followed by a sequel titled 'The Wall,' expanding on the underground world's mysteries and the characters' stories.

How has 'The Descent' by Jeff Long been received by readers?

The novel has garnered a mix of praise for its imaginative world-building and suspenseful storytelling, though some critics note its intense and graphic content as a point of debate among readers.

What are some common themes in 'The Descent' by Jeff Long?

Key themes include the nature of evil, human survival instincts, exploration of the unknown, and the confrontation between civilization and primal forces.

Has 'The Descent' been adapted into any movies or TV shows?

As of now, 'The Descent' by Jeff Long has not been officially adapted into a film or television series, but it remains popular among fans of horror and underground adventure genres.

Where can I find discussions or communities about 'The Descent' by Jeff Long?

You can find active discussions on platforms like Goodreads, Reddit book communities, and horror literature forums where fans analyze and share insights about 'The Descent.'

Additional Resources

The Descent Jeff Long: An In-Depth Exploration of the Thriller Classic

In the landscape of contemporary thriller and horror fiction, *The Descent* Jeff Long stands out as a compelling narrative that combines psychological depth with visceral horror elements. Though often associated with the film "The Descent" directed by Neil Marshall, Jeff Long's literary work (notably his novel *The Descent*) has carved its own distinctive space in the genre. This article provides a comprehensive breakdown of *The Descent* Jeff Long, examining its themes, plot structure, character development, and its impact on readers and critics alike.

Introduction to Jeff Long and *The Descent*

Jeff Long is an acclaimed American author known for his gritty storytelling, dark themes, and meticulous world-building. His novel *The Descent* was published in 2001 and quickly gained recognition for its intense atmosphere and thought-provoking commentary on humanity's primal instincts and societal collapse.

The Descent Jeff Long is not merely a horror story; it is a layered exploration of fear, survival, and the unknown. The novel's premise revolves around a group of explorers who venture into an uncharted underground world, only to encounter terrifying creatures and discover unsettling truths about themselves and the world above.

Plot Overview and Structure

The Premise

At its core, *The Descent* Jeff Long follows a team of explorers led by Dr. Michael J. Collins, a scientist and archaeologist, who discover a vast, subterranean ecosystem beneath the Earth's surface. The journey into this hidden world is prompted by the need to investigate ancient artifacts and geological anomalies.

The Narrative Arc

The novel's structure is divided into three primary sections:

1. The Expedition Begins

- Introduction of characters and their motivations
- Discovery of the underground entrance
- Initial encounters with the environment and minor threats

2. Uncovering the Unknown

- Encounters with subterranean creatures
- Exploration of the ecosystem's complexity
- Rising tension among team members due to environmental stress and fear

3. Confrontation and Revelation

- Climax involving confrontations with the creatures
- Revelations about the origins of the underground world
- Reflection on human hubris and the consequences of exploration

The pacing is relentless, with moments of introspection balanced by intense action sequences that keep readers engaged throughout.

Themes and Symbolism

Humanity's Primal Instincts

A recurring theme in *The Descent* by Jeff Long is the exploration of human nature when stripped of societal norms. The characters' reactions to the underground world reveal their innate instincts—fear, aggression, and survival.

The Unknown and The Unseen

Long emphasizes the terror of the unseen through descriptions of the subterranean creatures and environments. The novel suggests that the greatest dangers lie not only in physical threats but also in the psychological impact of facing the unknown.

Environmental and Scientific Commentary

Long weaves commentary on ecological destruction and scientific hubris. The discovery of the underground ecosystem serves as a metaphor for human interference with nature and the unforeseen consequences thereof.

Mythology and Evolution

The creatures encountered are often linked to mythological archetypes and evolutionary biology, symbolizing the primal ancestors of humanity and the thin veneer that separates civilization from savagery.

Character Analysis

Dr. Michael J. Collins

The protagonist embodies rationality and scientific curiosity. His character arc involves confronting not only external threats but also internal doubts about humanity's place in the natural order.

The Crew

- Sarah Ramirez: A biologist driven by a desire to understand new life forms. Her character explores themes of curiosity versus caution.
- Captain Robert "Rob" Jenkins: The pragmatic leader whose decisions reflect the tension between authority and moral ambiguity.
- Eli Turner: A survivalist with a dark past, whose actions raise questions about morality in extreme situations.

Antagonistic Creatures

The subterranean creatures, often described as predatory and intelligent, symbolize the unknown dangers lurking beneath the surface of human consciousness and the Earth.

Literary Style and Writing Techniques

Jeff Long employs a visceral and immersive writing style, utilizing detailed descriptions to evoke a sense of claustrophobia and dread. His use of pacing, alternating between rapid action and slower, contemplative moments, enhances suspense. The novel also features:

- Multiple POVs: Offering diverse perspectives and deepening character development.
- Foreshadowing: Building tension through hints about the underground world's secrets.
- Symbolic Language: Creating allegories for human fears and societal issues.

Critical Reception and Impact

The Descent Jeff Long was praised for its originality, atmospheric tension, and philosophical depth. Critics highlighted Long's ability to blend horror with social commentary, making the novel both terrifying and thought-provoking.

Readers have appreciated its:

- Realistic portrayal of survival scenarios
- Complex characters with moral dilemmas
- Rich world-building that immerses readers in a subterranean universe

Additionally, the novel has influenced other works in the horror and science fiction genres, inspiring discussions about exploration, the limits of human knowledge, and the nature of fear.

Legacy and Cultural Significance

While often overshadowed by the film adaptation, Long's *The Descent* remains a significant work within horror literature. It challenges readers to confront their own fears of the unknown and reflects on humanity's relentless pursuit of discovery at the expense of caution.

The novel's success has led to:

- Multiple editions and translations
- Discussions in academic circles about its themes
- Influence on subsequent horror and adventure narratives

Final Thoughts: Why *The Descent* Jeff Long Matters

The Descent Jeff Long is more than just a horror story; it is a profound exploration of human nature, curiosity, and the consequences of venturing into uncharted territories. Its intricate plot, layered themes, and compelling characters make it a must-read for fans of horror, science fiction, and psychological thrillers.

Whether you are drawn to stories about survival against the odds or interested in the philosophical questions posed by humanity's relationship with nature, Jeff Long's *The Descent* offers a richly rewarding experience that lingers long after the last page.

In conclusion, understanding *The Descent* Jeff Long involves appreciating its detailed world-building, thematic richness, and the psychological depth of its characters. It remains a powerful reminder of the dangers and wonders that lie beneath the surface—both of the Earth and within ourselves.

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themselves prey not only to the savage creatures, but also to their own treachery, mutiny, and greed. One thing is certain: Miles inside the earth, evil is very much alive.

the descent jeff long: The Descent Jeff Long, 2001-11-01 We are not alone...In a cave in the Himalayas, a guide discovers a self-mutilated body with the warning--Satan exists. In the Kalahari Desert, a nun unearths evidence of a proto-human species and a deity called Older-than-Old. In Bosnia, something has been feeding upon the dead in a mass grave. So begins mankind's most shocking realization: that the underworld is a vast geological labyrinth populated by another race of beings. Some call them devils or demons. But they are real. They are down there. And they are waiting for us to find them...

the descent jeff long: Deeper Jeff Long, 2007-08-21 New York Times bestselling author of *The Reckoning* takes readers on an intense and imaginative tour de force in this follow up horror novel to *The Descent* that plunges in the depths of Earth to a Hell that is real, geological, and savagely inhabited right below our very feet. A decade has passed since doomed explorers unveiled a nightmare of tunnels and rivers honeycombing the earth's depths. After millennia of suffering terror and predation, humanity's armies descended to destroy the ancient hordes. Deep beneath the Pacific Ocean, a doomed science expedition killed the subterranean fabled leader, and suddenly, it seemed that evil was dead, and all was right with the world. Deeper explodes that complacency and plunges readers back into the sunless abyss. Hell boils up through America's subways and basements to take its revenge and steal our children. Against the backdrop of a looming war with China, a crusade of volunteers hustles to find the vestiges of a lost race. But a lone explorer, the linguist Ali von Schade, learns that a far greater menace lies in the unexplored heart of the planet. The real Satan can't be killed, and he has been waiting since the beginning of time to gain his freedom. Man and his pitiless enemies are mere pawns in the greatest escape ever devised.

the descent jeff long: The Ascent Jeff Long, 2011-05-01 Third in Jeff Long's series about the apocalyptic horrors beneath the earth's surface.

the descent jeff long: The Wall Jeff Long, 2006-01-03 On the vast, sunlit walls of the world's greatest monolith, two veteran climbers unwittingly ascend into a vertical underworld. In a place where obsession kills, they quickly fall prey to past loves, old demons, and ghostly revenge. Once upon a time, thirty-five years ago, Hugh and Lewis were Yosemite legends. El Capitan was their holy grail, and their destiny seemed written on its big walls. Here they met the women who married, then left them. Hugh's wife mysteriously disappeared into the desert. Lewis's wife is divorcing him. Now, the old friends reunite to climb El Cap one last time and make a fresh start. But the Captain seems cursed this time around. Even before the aging wall rats leave the ground, disaster strikes three young women high on a neighboring route. Hugh discovers one body in the forest and spies a second dangling a half mile overhead. He and Lewis launch their ascent, desperate to leave the terrible omens behind. But there is no escape. Doubts haunt them, the elements plague them, and an eerie reptilian woman invades their sleep. Nothing comes free up here. Every vertical inch, the men must battle the stone, their aging bodies, fear, and the memories of great loves lost. They doggedly climb on, only to be drawn into a deadly rescue attempt by Augustine, a search-and-rescue expert. Like a man possessed, he is hell-bent on saving his lover, one of the doomed women. Hugh ties in to the rope with him and climbs through a gauntlet of fire, ice, and deep gravity to the wreckage of the fall. There, he and Augustine find a survivor, starved, half-mad, and holding a corpse. The battered young woman raves that El Cap requires one final sacrifice. On this tiny island in the sky, the rescuers become the victims, hounded by some ruthless spirit and caught between the golden summit and terminal velocity.

the descent jeff long: Explorers of the Infinite Maria Coffey, 2008-05-29 Real-life psychic, near-death, and paranormal experiences are combined with cutting-edge science and vivid adventure stories in this energetic look at why extreme athletes and mountaineers take the risks that allow them to push the limits of consciousness, and what they encounter there. In the life-or-death world of extreme adventure sports, there is one thing that athletes often keep quiet about: the "forbidden" territory of paranormal experiences. Ranging from fleeting moments of

transcendence to full-blown encounters with ghosts and everything in between—visions, near-death experiences, psychic communication—many extreme athletes have experienced these moments of connection with the beyond, but have been reluctant to talk about them. In *Explorers of the Infinite*, award-winning outdoors journalist and lifelong adventure sports devotee Maria Coffey probes the mystical and paranormal experiences of mountaineers, snowboarders, surfers, and more. She reviews cutting-edge science, and consults the history of philosophy and spirituality to answer the question: Could the state of intense “aliveness” that is the allure of extreme sports for so many actually be a route to a connection with the beyond? Coffey investigates the scientific explanations for mystical phenomena, ranging from simple explanations to theories from consciousness studies and quantum physics, and leaves us wondering where science ends and spirituality begins. An energetic, you-are-there look at the spiritual lives of extreme athletes, *Explorers of the Infinite* asks why extreme athletes take the risks that allow them to push the limits of consciousness, what they encounter there, and what we can learn from them.

the descent jeff long: *Among the Living* Dan Vining, 2009-12-01 Two novels in one trade volume. There are so many mysteries hidden in the fog off the Pacific Coast. Jimmy Miles has been hired to solve them. But they’re not the only things keeping him up at night... In *The Quick*, an investigation into a long-ago murder leads to his discovery of the Sailors—restless strangers who roam the night, trapped between the world of the living and dead. In *The Next*, still haunted by the Sailors, Jimmy becomes obsessed with a sudden rash of murders, and a never-forgotten love affair that may hold the clue to his future.

the descent jeff long: *The Reason for My Hope* Billy Graham, 2013-10-22 The saving message of the Gospel is the heartbeat of this preacher and evangelist. Millions around the world heard Billy Graham proclaim this unchanging truth. He never forgot the transformation of his own life, when he first said yes to God’s gift of salvation, and he witnessed multitudes turn their hearts to the God of Hope. What is the most hopeful word in History? For Billy Graham, that word is SALVATION. Billy Graham proclaimed God’s Gospel with resolve and deep compassion. It is a message he preached for more than seventy years. And in this book you will sense its urgency, filled with hope for the future. Salvation is what we all long for, when we are lost or in danger or have made a mess of our lives. And salvation belongs to us, when we reach out for the only One who can rescue us—Jesus. *The Reason for My Hope: Salvation* presents the essence of that transformative message. It is biblical and timeless, and though simple and direct, it is far from easy. There are hard words, prophetic words, directed toward a culture that denies the reality of sin and distracts us from the veracity of Hell. But through its ominous warnings shines a light that cannot be extinguished—a beacon of hope that Jesus came “to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10).

the descent jeff long: *Bestiary* Robert Masello, 2006-11-07 A manuscript illuminated with fantastical creatures said to have roamed the Garden of Eden, the bestiary has been handed down throughout the centuries by one of the Arab world’s most prominent families. Commissioned to restore it is the beautiful young art curator, Beth Cox. But it is Beth’s husband, Carter—a paleontologist making his own dire discoveries in Los Angeles’s famed La Brea Tar Pits—who will be led by the bestiary into a living, breathing menagerie of wonders...and horrors. Now myth and reality are about to collide. Carter will step back into a world before time...and unleash the creatures that haunt our dreams and nightmares.

the descent jeff long: *To the Edge* Kirk Johnson, 2009-11-11 This extreme sports saga, part Plimpton-esque narrative, part spiritual journey, explores the limits of personal endurance as a determined journalist takes on the 135 mile Death Valley marathon.

the descent jeff long: *Female Identity in Contemporary Fictional Purgatorial Worlds* Simon Bacon, 2023-08-10 Examining fictional purgatorial worlds in contemporary literature, film and video games, this book examines the way in which the female characters trapped within them construct identity positions of resistance and change. With the rise of populism, the Alt. Right, and isolationism in world politics in the second decade of the 21st Century, parallel, purgatorial worlds seem to currently proliferate within popular culture across all media, including television shows and

films such as *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Us*, *Watchmen*, and Margaret Atwood's *The Testaments* among many others. These texts depict alternate worlds that express the darkness and violence of our own, arguably none more so than for women. Featuring essays from a broad range of international contributors on topics as wide-ranging as mental health in the Silent Hill franchise and liminal spaces in the work of David Mitchell, this book is an original, timely and hope-filled analysis about overcoming the confines of a patriarchal, fundamentalist world where the female imaginative might just be the last, best hope.

the descent jeff long: *The Readers' Advisory Guide to Horror* Becky Siegel Spratford, 2021-09-30 Like the zombies, ghouls, and vampires which inhabit many of its books, the popularity of horror fiction is unstoppable. Even if you don't happen to be a fan yourself, you won't be "scared" to advise readers on finding their next great fright thanks to the astute guidance provided by horror expert Spratford in her updated guide. This definitive resource for library workers at any level of experience or familiarity with horror fiction details the state of the genre right now, including its appeal factors and key authors, assisting readers in getting up to speed quickly; presents ten annotated lists of suggested titles, all published since 2000, each with a short introduction providing historical context; delves into horror movies, TV shows, podcasts, and other formats; and offers abundant marketing advice, programming options, and pointers on additional resources.

the descent jeff long: *The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Ultimate Reading List* John Charles, Shelley Mosley, 2007-07-03 Great reads for busy people. This is a guide to help busy people find great reads in fiction and nonfiction. Filled with recommendations of popular, entertaining reading, this book covers mystery and suspense, romance, women's fiction and chick lit, Westerns, science fiction, such nonfiction topics as animals, art, biography, memoirs, business, true crime, and more. Plus, each entry includes a summary of the book, its significance, and a critique/observation/comment.

the descent jeff long: *The Sex Column and Other Misprints* David Langford, 2005-07-01 A collection of columns by the author, some previously published in SFX magazine.

the descent jeff long: *The New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* Tom Dalzell, Terry Victor, 2015-06-26 Booklist Top of the List Reference Source The heir and successor to Eric Partridge's brilliant magnum opus, *The Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English*, this two-volume *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* is the definitive record of post WWII slang. Containing over 60,000 entries, this new edition of the authoritative work on slang details the slang and unconventional English of the English-speaking world since 1945, and through the first decade of the new millennium, with the same thorough, intense, and lively scholarship that characterized Partridge's own work. Unique, exciting and, at times, hilariously shocking, key features include: unprecedented coverage of World English, with equal prominence given to American and British English slang, and entries included from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India, South Africa, Ireland, and the Caribbean emphasis on post-World War II slang and unconventional English published sources given for each entry, often including an early or significant example of the term's use in print. hundreds of thousands of citations from popular literature, newspapers, magazines, movies, and songs illustrating usage of the headwords dating information for each headword in the tradition of Partridge, commentary on the term's origins and meaning New to this edition: A new preface noting slang trends of the last five years Over 1,000 new entries from the US, UK and Australia New terms from the language of social networking Many entries now revised to include new dating, new citations from written sources and new glosses The *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* is a spectacular resource infused with humour and learning - it's rude, it's delightful, and it's a prize for anyone with a love of language.

the descent jeff long: *The Next* Dan Vining, 2007-02-06 From the author of the innovative thriller *The Quick* comes the second story featuring Jimmy Miles. He is a man who doesn't sleep. Perfect for a private investigator. The night belongs to him and to a restless few with secrets of their own—like Lucy, the mysterious woman he's trailing. Her connection to Jimmy lies with a strange

group called the Sailors. Jimmy knows all about them. They're part of what keeps him up at night. So are a sudden rash of murders, the memories of an obsessive never-forgotten affair—and the lies about Lucy and his own past, which are far less frightening than the truth. "Dan Vining has reinvented the hard-boiled detective genre and given it a supernatural twist."—Jeff Long, author of *The Wall*

the descent jeff long: *Frail* Joan Frances Turner, 2012-11-06 In a post-zombie world, life is what you make it . . . Since a devastating, morphing plague swept through human and zombie populations, almost everyone who survived is an "ex" these days. Ex-human. Ex-zombie. Both creatures crave flesh, have the strength and speed of predators—and are seemingly immortal. Pierced skin and broken bones mend, but their all-consuming hunger never dies . . . Amy is the only purely human survivor from her town: a frail. For a girl used to going it alone, trusting anyone isn't easy, but Amy will have to. She has secrets from her past she can't afford to face by herself, and secrets in her future that will cost her just about everything—including her humanity . . .

the descent jeff long: *The Mammoth Book of Best New Horror 11* Stephen Jones, 2012-03-01 As usual, acclaimed horror anthologist Stephen Jones has chosen the finest short stories and novellas of supernatural and psychological fiction. With the most comprehensive review of the year, useful contact lists, and a fascinating necrology as a bonus, this is one book that every horror fan must have.

the descent jeff long: *Dust* Joan Frances Turner, 2013 What happens between death and life can change a girl. Jessie is a zombie. And this is her story . . . Nine years ago, Jessie was in a car crash and died. After she was buried, she awoke and tore through the earth to arise, reborn, as a zombie. And there are others--gangs of undead roaming the Indiana woods, fighting, hunting, hidden. But when a mysterious illness threatens the existence of both zombies and humans, Jessie must decide whether to stay and fight or flee to survive . . .

the descent jeff long: *Blades of Winter* G. T. Almasi, 2012-08-28 In one of the most exciting debuts in years, G. T. Almasi has fused the intricate cat-and-mouse games of a John le Carré novel with the brash style of comic book superheroes to create a kick-ass alternate history that reimagines the Cold War as a clash of spies with biological, chemical, and technological enhancements. Nineteen-year-old Alix Nico, a self-described "million-dollar murder machine," is a rising star in ExOps, a covert-action agency that aggressively shields the United States from its three great enemies: the Soviet Union, Greater Germany, and the Nationalist Republic of China. Rather than risk another all-out war, the four superpowers have poured their resources into creating superspies known as Levels. Alix is one of the hottest young American Levels. That's no surprise: Her dad was America's top Level before he was captured and killed eight years ago. But when an impulsive decision explodes—literally—in her face, Alix uncovers a conspiracy that pushes her to her limits and could upset the global balance of power forever. "Smart, sassy, and seriously appealing: a stunning debut."—Jeff Long, New York Times bestselling author of *The Descent* Look for all of G. T. Almasi's riveting Shadowstorm novels: *BLADES OF WINTER* | *HAMMER OF ANGELS* | *TALON OF SCORPIO*

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