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Metro 2033



Synopsis

The year is 2033. The world has been reduced to rubble. Humanity is nearly extinct and the half-destroyed cities have become uninhabitable through radiation. Beyond their boundaries, they say, lie endless burned-out deserts and the remains of splintered forests. Survivors still remember the past greatness of humankind, but the last remains of civilisation have already become a distant memory. Man has handed over stewardship of the Earth to new life-forms. Mutated by radiation, they are better adapted to the new world. A few score thousand survivors live on, not knowing whether they are the only ones left on Earth, living in the Moscow Metro - the biggest air-raid shelter ever built. Stations have become mini-statelets, their people uniting around ideas, religions, water-filters, or the need to repulse enemy incursion. VDNKh is the northernmost inhabited station on its line, one of the Metro's best stations and secure. But a new and terrible threat has appeared. Artyom, a young man living in VDNKh, is given the task of penetrating to the heart of the Metro to alert everyone to the danger and to get help. He holds the future of his station in his hands, the whole Metro - and maybe the whole of humanity.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Whether it's considered truly to be a horror novel or not, Glukhovsky's masterpiece is an instant classic for the genre. Set in the ruined remains of the Moscow Metro subway system twenty years after the end of the war that left Earth an uninhabitable shamble, young Artyom, a citizen of the VDNKh station, sets out on a mission to save his station and the whole Metro from an inhuman

threat. I'll keep this spoiler free for you out there. This book is a hard read, but the reason for that is all a part of the frightening and oppressive mood the story is trying to set for the reader. To be honest the book has a very harsh and dystopian feel far more than any other novel of its kind I've ever read. The Metro feels dark and foreboding as the main character moves through it and his experiences are nothing short of terrifying. Each station has its own government, social structure, and feeling. The main character's home of VDNKh is homey but still a dark and dank place where the inhabitants live in constant fear of being wiped out by rats, other factions from different stations, or the newly emerging "Dark Ones". The city of Polis is a grand and beautiful city, but ruled by two oppressive classes that can't agree. The "Red" Line. The Fascists. Many many others. All of them coalesce into this sinister dank puddle of humanity that brings out both your anger and pity for the denizens of this subterranean hell. The book is a long hard slog because of its dystopian and oppressively dark tone but all is revealed in the ending. Believe me, it's an ending that will make your head spin. In terms of writing and the way the story is presented a reader might think, "When will the madness end?" as they read.

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