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The Zombie Combat Manual: A Guide To Fighting The Living Dead
Synopsis

Statistics reveal that during a zombie outbreak, most individuals will have to destroy their undead opponent without the aid of a firearm. To prepare you for the inevitability of hand-to-hand combat with the living dead, The Zombie Combat Manual demonstrates how anyone, from the seasoned fighter to the untrained citizen, can become an effective warrior against the undead. With firsthand accounts from zombie-combat veterans, this book provides you with the information you’ll need to emerge victorious from close encounters with walking corpses. The Zombie Combat Manual is the go-to guide for anyone who wants to prepare for the unavoidable zombie epidemic. Now is the time to learn how to defend against an advancing army of the undead, lest you fall victim to their growing ranks.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Zombie Combat Manual is not a mere retreading of Max Brooks’ The Zombie Survival Guide: Complete Protection from the Living Dead. This book takes one small aspect of Brooks’ book and delves deeply and broadly into it. The Zombie Combat Manual not only discusses various weapons to use in lieu of a firearm; it also acts as a training manual for anyone in any physical condition, featuring physical assessments and exercise programs. Of course it has the obligatory chapter on offensive and defensive equipment, which is seemingly exhaustive, but it also touches on a topic that Brooks omits, which is carrying and protecting children. Imagine being a parent of a newborn or toddler and having to not only survive but protect them as well. Being a father, I could appreciate this section greatly. Additionally, there’s an entire chapter on combat strategies and techniques for
fighting the undead. With this chapter, Ma practically creates a new form of martial art with step-by-step illustrations showing how to position, maneuver, and strike with various weapons in various situations of melee combat with a zombie. If you’re a fan of Max Brooks’ interviews in *World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie War*, then you’ll enjoy the interviews in this book as well. In fact, one could almost plant these same stories into the *World War Z* setting. Overall, Lovers of Max Brooks’ work, as I am, should not look at this book as a competing product, but instead should see Ma’s contribution as a complementary product. The content of this book will only better prepare you in the event that you find yourself having to engage in melee combat with a zombie despite all of the tips and strategies followed from *Zombie Survival Guide*.

So far, the five star reviewers before me have pretty much voiced my opinions quite nicely. What I will add is that comparing Roger Ma’s book to a rip-off/retread of Max Brooks’ work (of which I am a huge fan) is like saying anyone currently writing vampire romance is ripping off Dan Curtis’s *Dark Shadows* (or, if you want to go further back, Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*). Both the vampire and the zombie genre have room for many variations on the original themes. Did Brooks include the Bum’s Rush in his book as a survival tactic? No, he did not. Both Brooks and Ma have a place on my bookshelf, and both authors deserve kudos for their work.

I just finished reading this book, and if you’re a zombie fan and have wondered how to not simply survive, but to battle and defeat the zombie undead, you will love this book. As a huge Max Brooks (*Zombie survival guide*), George Romero (*Night, Dawn, Day of the Dead Trilogy*) and Robert Kirkman (*Walking Dead*) fan, this book takes a unique angle to the zombie mythology by focusing where these other writers have not, specifically hand to hand combat against the undead. The book goes into detail about specific types of weapons - long, medium, short ranges, how to best utilized the most battle hardened weapons, such as a katana or battle axe, to the more accessible and practical garage tools like the shovel, pitchfork, or hunting knife. Interweaved within these techniques are some pretty graphic and intense first hand accounts and interviews from those who’ve battled the undead one on one. Well written (unlike some other zombie pub schlock) this book I think will entertain all hardcore fans, as well as the casual one’s who ever wondered how they would handle oneself when encountering a zombie confrontation firsthand. I can attest after reading this book that it is NOT a rehash of Brooks’ work, as some others have previously suggested, but rather a great addition to the genre. My favorite and most original chapter for me is on how to protect your children against the undead. Stroller vs. baby bjorn. Great stuff! The
illustrations are great as well that give visual context to the techniques and weapons discussed. I would definitely recommend it to anyone into horror and zombies. Don’t trust the online trolls- when there’s no more room in hell, there’s enough room in the zombie world for Brooks and Ma to coexist together. And from what I’m seeing from the other reviews online, they agree as well.

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