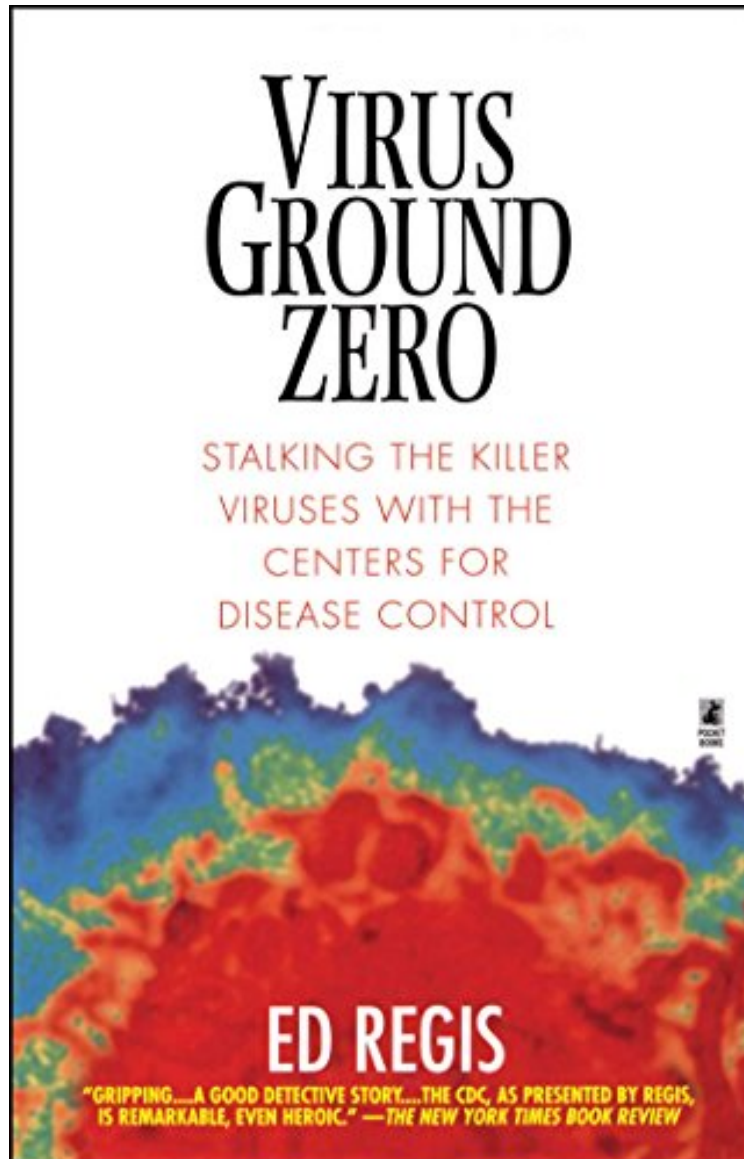


Virus Ground Zero: Stalking the Killer Viruses with the Centers for Disease Control

Ed Regis

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#1241677 in Books Ed Regis 1998-07-01 1998-07-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.25 x .60 x 5.311, .51 #File Name: 067102325X256 pages Virus Ground Zero Stalking the Killer Viruses with the Centers for Disease Control | File size: 35.Mb

Ed Regis : Virus Ground Zero: Stalking the Killer Viruses with the Centers for Disease Control before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Virus Ground Zero: Stalking the Killer Viruses with the Centers for Disease Control:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I would recommend this for mostly advanced readers
By Woodland Park Writer
Beginning in September, I began reading *Ground Zero* for an Honors English class. It took me about a month and a half to finish, due to its complicated plot and many distracting short stories. I spent most of my time reading the novel in class for ten-minute increments or on a calm autumn evening. The novel is very complicated, for example, many times I would have to re-read pages in order to comprehend the situation the novel is describing. I would recommend this for mostly advanced readers, but if epidemiology and the CDC interest you, this is the book for you. Whenever I began to read *Ground Zero* it would almost always be after I watched the evening news, which often described the events occurring in Sierra Leone regarding the Ebola virus. The novel is centered around the Ebola virus and how the CDC stalks the virus, which made it easier to relate to. For example, even though this book didn't help with my fears about the virus (it often described the horrible symptoms which lead to a horrible certain death) it did educate me on how the virus spread and the necessary precautions to take to prevent infection. When I neared the end of the book, most of the Ebola propaganda began to fade, which made it much easier to really enjoy the book. *Ground Zero* was a proper sized novel with frightening imagery, disturbing content, and factual information regarding the 1996 Ebola outbreak in the town of Kikwit. I recall being disgusted quite frequently while reading, for example, when the novel described the many patients' foul appearances once they contracted the virus. Reading this novel definitely changes your perspective on living in a first world country compared to a third world country where many resources are limited. In the future when I remember the book I will think of the Ebola outbreak, which occurred here in 2014. I will recall the panic and widespread fear it caused many American citizens. This nonfiction novel really does have an effect on all its readers, be prepared to feel ashamed for living a cushy lifestyle. The novel does not present many symbols or tones, but it really does affect your emotions. It may seem more of a research novel, but it projects a tragic movie through the articulate words of a few inexperienced epidemiologists and virologists. After examining the novel I would give it the final rating of 4 out of 5 stars. It is truly worth your while to read this; prepare to not be able to put this amazing novel down.
Max E.9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A good read
By A Customer
An enjoyable book providing entry level information into the topics of viral outbreaks and the CDC. There is a well developed section on the background of the United States' Centers for Disease Control, and a refreshing perspective on the reality of the battle against the "killer microbes." Not an intense review of virology, but a fun easy to understand overview of the Ebola epidemic and other associated viral outbreaks.
3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.
Riveting
By Customer
This book traces the response of the CDC to an Ebola outbreak in Zaire in 1995. Like its predecessor, *The Hot Zone*, many stories are interwoven throughout the book to give a complete background into what happened. Despite this stylistic similarity, the message of this book is quite different from that of *The Hot Zone*, as becomes more and more clear by the end of the book. One of the main story lines is a description of the development of the CDC, from its start as an anti-malaria organization to the multi-faceted behemoth that it is today. After reading the descriptions of the Level 4 labs in *The Hot Zone*, I never would have guessed at the primitive lab conditions found at the CDC through the 1960s and later. Regis' core message is that of victory- -victory over this particular outbreak, victory over small pox, and the tremendous success we have had combating infectious illnesses during the twentieth century. He points out that so many infections can be prevented by simple hygiene, like washing one's hands, or by avoiding direct physical contact with infected people by using rubber gloves. Even the much feared Ebola virus doesn't spread easily when people follow standard hygiene protocols common in the developed world. Regis doesn't dismiss the importance of paying attention to communicable diseases and preventing epidemics, but he argues that there is no need to live in fear about new rain forest microbes out to get us.

An acclaimed science writer takes readers behind the scenes at the Centers for Disease Control to tell the story of an engrossing odyssey across the viral frontier.