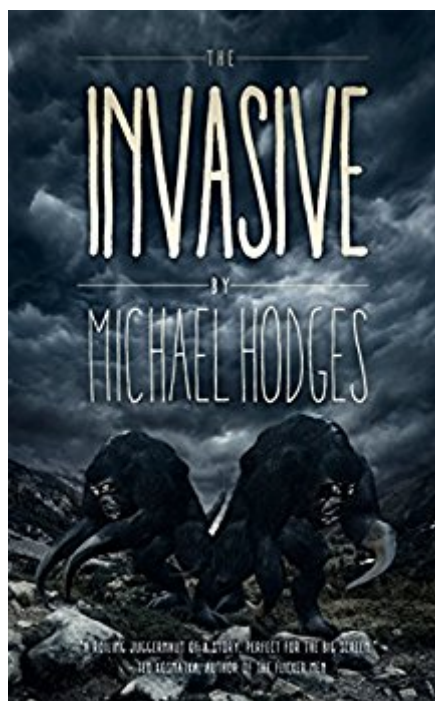


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# The Invasive



## Synopsis

Bishop is trapped deep inside Montana's Apex Valley along with his injured wife, a shotgun-wielding stranger named Colbrick, and a sneaking suspicion he's never making it back to Chicago. Things no man has seen before haunt the woods. Strange animal species creep behind pine trees, some of them with flashing red tags that blink faster and faster. Giant birds mimic the sound of humans and lord over the sky. Leaf-shaped creatures attack anything that moves and flash vivid colors across their glistening backs. As Bishop and his companions scramble across the Montana wilderness, they find human remains and animal carcasses littering the woods. The small town of Elmore is empty, the windows broken and streaked with blood. Trout Bridge "their only way out" is blocked by abandoned cars, none that were inbound. With the strange animals species closing in, Bishop realizes his group must take a stand. He's got a plan, and maybe they've got one last shot before the invasive species spread to the rest of the U.S.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael Hodges delivers his second book and it does not disappoint. Again, we find humans in

conflict with something otherworldly. In his previous novel, *THE PULLER*, we were never quite sure if the beast was something from another world, a mutation of some type, or a supernatural force. This time, however, we are made aware that the creatures the heroes must face are definitely from off-world and are an alien menace. *THE INVASIVE* pretty much starts with action from the opening. The reader barely has time for introductions with the main characters before the terror kicks in. Hodges introduces us to the married couple who are the focus of the narrative, and plunges them into a chase scene wherein we meet up with a cantakerous mountain man who becomes the third member of their troupe. We follow the three as they try to discover what has happened and why their Montana stomping grounds have suddenly become infested with a host of alien monsters. And Hodges introduces us to quite a pantheon of alien beasts and pests. Everything from vile, blood-sucking insects to levitating eels and giant flying creatures who descend from night skies. My favorites though are the "frequency seals" and a huge, bumbling, benign predator that reminded me of a cartoonish, overgrown dookie bird. There's a philosophical undercurrent running throughout the book dealing with the real-world issue of invasive species exacerbated by human-caused global warming. But the enemy in this one is very obviously extra-terrestrial, if somehow a side-effect of the release of so much carbon into our atmosphere due to the burning of fossil fuels. But for all of the book's frightening imagery and dark content, it remains somehow optimistic and life-affirming. Recommended!

Hodges' second novel *THE INVASIVE* takes us to the Apex Valley in Montana. It's a peaceful trip for Bishop and his wife Angela, until the arrival of thousands of alien animals who tear across the landscape, destroying all they touch and replacing Earth animals with a new ecosystem. With the help of a gun-toting backwoodsman named Colbrick, Bishop and Angela must either escape or find a way to help this valley that means so much to all of them. Descriptions of both the valley and the characters are evocative, showing you just how much the world has been upended by the invasion of the creatures. It is clear that Hodges has spent a lot of time in this part of the country. In short, *THE INVASIVE* is a fast-paced, paranoid eco-thriller that never slows down, and the characters (particularly Colbrick) are well-executed. Fun, dark, and touching, this is a first-rate action novel.

Intense! Science fiction, nature, ecology and relationships mix to create an amazing story.

loved it! reminded me of a cross between 'evolution' with david ducovne(sp?) and steven kings 'the mist'. would LOVE to see this as a movie. it's a fun read, enjoyed the refreshingly new ideas for the

critters, etc. worth the money!

FUN TO READ, especially if you are from Montana! These animals are crazy, leaves are my favorite and those frequency seals are nuts! Each chapter got better and better-the first chapter was a thrill and it only got more intense. There is a higher concept in the story and it's awesome to piece by piece figure it out until the VERY end where you get all the satisfying answers. Imaginative and backed with science.Great book.

The author has done his homework for the setting. The characters are believable but a tad simple. The premise is not too cliché. This is the kind of quality one would expect from something professionally published.

"The Invasive" was a fun read. The hero of the story walks on all fours and will bring tears to your eyes!Thank you, Michael Hodges, for sparking my imagination with this awesome book. :)

Michael Hodges delivers with yet another stunning story. The sequel to The Puller, The Invasive brings the action pretty much right at the start. And it by no means lets you go either. The creatures are unique and unlike anything I have seen before. It's clear that the author put a ton of thought into their creation. If you enjoyed the first story, then you will absolutely love this one. From start to finish, this is one ride you won't want to get off.

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