
The Bookish* Newsletter!

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Check out updates on my good reads progress, upcoming titles, lists, and reviews.

[ARC Review] Nothing Tastes As Good

Luke Dumas [HORROR, THRILLER, LGBT]

“When food can’t sustain you, what comes next?”

THANK YOU! Net Galley and Atria Books for the advance copy of this title.

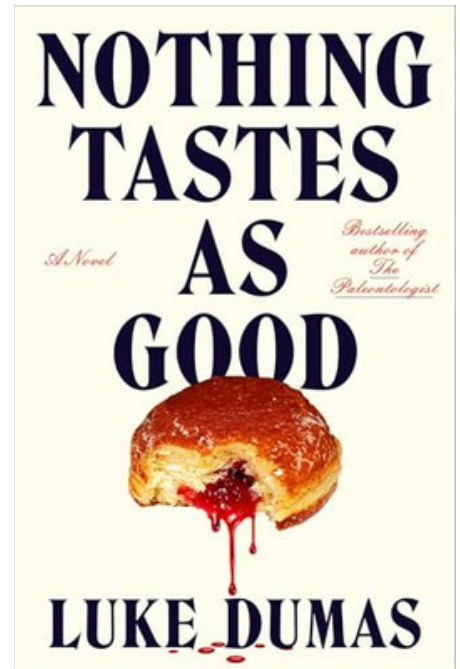
WOW! That’s the first word that comes to mind.

When I think about obesity, I often think about our own personal struggles. Granted, I’m not morbidly obese, but I do live with Type 2 Diabetes, so issues surrounding weight and health hit close to home. Unfortunately, these things tend to go hand in hand.

Within the first few chapters, I felt a sadness for Emmett that’s hard to explain. I know how easy it is for people to judge someone based purely on appearance. Simple everyday things—getting on an airplane, visiting an amusement park, or even grocery shopping—can bring discerning looks from strangers who don’t know your story.

Emmett had a loving family, but the parenting wasn’t always there. It felt like they tried to compensate for that failure with food. Later, when Emmett’s mother married Hank, things took a darker turn. Hank’s attempts to control Emmett’s eating crossed into outright abuse. Reading some of those old-school methods meant to curb Emmett’s appetite was genuinely cringeworthy. You can’t satisfy what the body believes is hunger with a glass of water or a piece of fruit when someone is used to gorging. Changing that kind of relationship with food takes time, patience, and a complete retraining of the body and mind.

I also found myself placing some blame on the pharmaceutical company behind the new weight-loss drug, “Obexity.” Western medicine often treats symptoms rather than the underlying problem, sometimes creating a cycle where people feel trapped, relying on medication instead of exploring deeper or nontraditional solutions.



4.8 ★★★★★



More Updates & Reading Progress!

Review Cont'

Of course, medicine exists for a reason and can be life-sustaining for many people—but others may need a different kind of rewiring altogether.

In the end, it's a sad story. As the pieces come together, you'll likely find yourself searching for someone to blame. The story is filled with strong supporting characters—and a few truly terrible ones—because every good narrative needs tension, conflict, and emotional weight to keep things moving.

I really enjoyed this story and would definitely recommend it. Does it contain potential triggers? Yes. But if you're reading horror 🧟, that comes with the territory.

Rating: 4.8 stars ✨

Upcoming Horror

THE SUMMER FUN MASSACRE

Craig DiLouie (June 16th, 2026)

SUMMER, HORROR, SUSPENSE



SUMMER: 1983: A blood-soaked summer camp counselor is found staggering down a country road. The sole survivor of a horrific massacre, Mary tells a nightmare of a masked maniac wielding an old skinning knife.



April ARC's Downloads + Purchases

Cross My Heart I Hope You Die, Mallory Arnold

The Summer Fun Massacre, Craig DiLouie

Lost Amongst The Living, Simone St. James

The Haar, David Sodergren

✨Currently Reading✨

- The Film You Are About to See, Haley Newlin (NOVELLA)
- Murder at the Patel Hotel, Maulik Pancholy (NOVELLA)
- The Babysitter Lives, Stephen Graham Jones

COMPLETED TILES FOR APRIL

Dearest, Jacquie Walters

Molka, Monika Kim

Odessa, Gabrielle Sher

My Ex, The Antichrist, Craig DiLouie

Book Sources

BookTrib [<https://booktrib.com/>]

Good Reads [<https://www.goodreads.com/>]

Book Riot [<https://bookriot.com/>]

NPR [<https://www.npr.org/books/>]


Literary Hub [<https://lithub.com/>]

Booktrovert [<https://booktrovert.com/>]

Fable [<https://fable.co/>]

May Reading Challenge!

“Read a dystopian sci-fi novel.”

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