

Author Profile

Kay Kenyon

Flights of science
fiction fantasy

The interesting thing about Kay Kenyon is that she wasn't sure that she'd be a writer at all to begin with, although clearly, she always had an interest in it and has worked in the field before. "I've been earning a living writing since I was 18, when I got my first TV copywriting job," says Kenyon on her website. "I had an early career acting in TV commercials. The time came to decide whether I was an actress or a writer. To put this to the test, I wrote a novel."



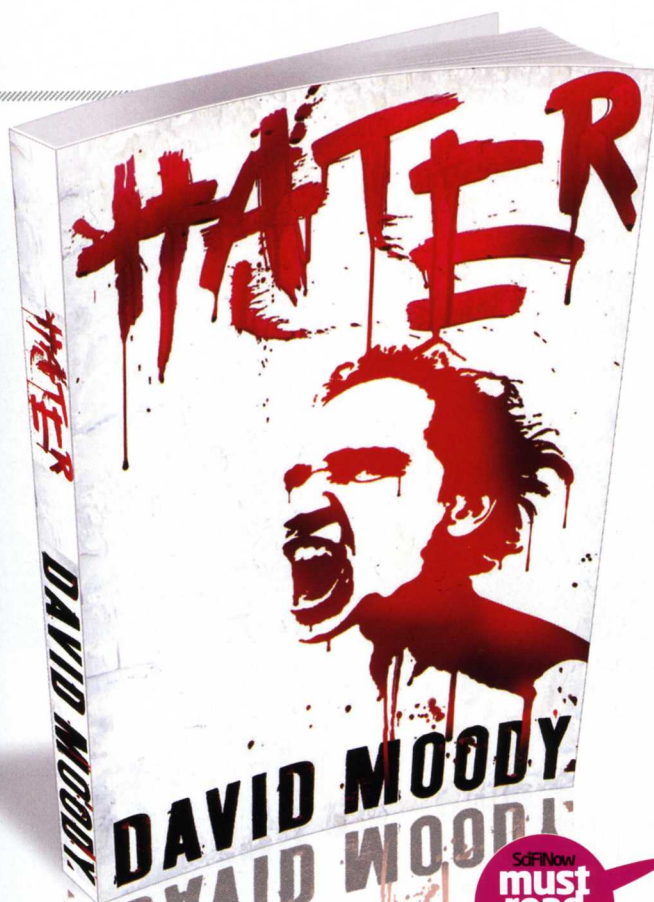
The novel in question was *The Seeds Of Time*, her first published effort that was released in 1997. The decision appeared to be made for her then, and with a move to the warmer climes of Washington from Seattle, she also began to release the *Entire And The Rose* series. Kenyon has had a decent amount of critical acclaim for her novels, and has been shortlisted for the Philip K Dick and the John W Campbell awards, which rank among the most prestigious in literary science fiction. In addition to her long form writing, she has also authored a number of short stories, and maintains a blog presence, linked through her website at www.kaykenyon.com.

Notable work

The Seeds Of Time (1997)
Leap Point (1998)
Rift (1999)
Tropic Of Creation (2000)
Maximum Ice (2002)
The Braided World (2003)
Bright Of The Sky (2007)
A World Too Near (2008)
City Without End (2009)

Short stories:

'Kingdom Come' (2003)
'The Book Of Faces' (2003)
'The Acid Test' (2004)
'The Executioner's Apprentice' (2004)
'The Last Wave' (2005)
'The Space Crawl Blues' (2008)



HATER

It could be you...

Book We find it quite heartening when an author finally receives the recognition and credit they deserve, and David Moody

is certainly overdue both. *Hater* – once a self-published novel with a fair following – is now not only being internationally published, but also adapted for the big screen, by no less a man than Guillermo del Toro. Post-apocalyptic fiction is enjoying something of a renaissance at the moment, and in what is fast becoming an oversaturated genre, *Hater* stands head and shoulders above most other offerings.

Without giving too much away, Moody takes a unique perspective on the idea of zombies in general, while also offering the most surprising and unique twist to a narrative we have come across in a very long time. Genuine innovation is such a rarity in today's world of remakes and adaptations that *Hater* almost cannot fail to shine, but the fact that it is also a brilliantly paced, constructed and written piece of work does not

hurt. The action of the novel takes place over just a few short days, where we see society end under a flood of attacks from people the media have dubbed Haters. From a few isolated incidents, often prefacing chapters in out of context passages, we get a real feel of the situation snowballing as the plot hurtles towards its thrilling conclusion. Well, almost.

The main criticism we have about *Hater* is its ending, as it cuts off rather abruptly after its action-packed crescendo. As the first in a new series, it is only right the reader should be left wanting more, but perhaps a few more pages wouldn't have gone amiss. Minor criticisms aside, Moody has provided us with a brilliant piece of storytelling, leaving the reader constantly questioning their sympathies and allegiances, all to the backdrop of the end of the world. It really wouldn't be right to give away any more detail than we already have, so simply put, read this book now.

Ross Sutcliffe

VERDICT ★★★★★

SEEDS OF EARTH

Epic-scale space opera

Book

Author Michael Cobley
Publisher Orbit
Price £10.99

With Earth on the brink of annihilation from an invading insect-like enemy, the leaders of the world launch three ships, housing a

cross-section of people to carry on the human race. Each ship is piloted by an AI that randomly changes course in an effort to make their destination unknown to anyone and therefore safeguard the lives of its precious cargo. After 150 years have passed by, on a small, remote planet called Darien, the settlers from one of the ships have built a new home for themselves. They live in peace with the indigenous race, the Uvovo, who have taught them to harness the planet's natural resources.

When a ship from Earth makes contact with Darien, the population are amazed by the news of the homeworld's survival. But behind the scenes, the government learns that the price of survival was an alliance with a fascist empire called the Sendruka Hegemony, and that Darien holds a secret weapon within its very core that could tip the balance of power in the universe.

