Joy McDaniel graduated from Havana High School, where she was involved in snowballing activities, and art and drama clubs. Her career goals entail earning a “bachelor degree and working with the disabled.” In addition to study and continued involvement in activities pertaining to disability, Joy “enjoys volunteering for charities.”
How to Survive a Zombie Apocalypse with Style

MLA Format

Joy McDaniel

Whether it happens because of radioactive waves from satellites in space, toxic waste, or space parasites, the Zombie Apocalypse will occur, and it will be a trying time for the human race. Many will die and come back to life, while others will survive but be hurt emotionally because their deceased loved ones will come back and try to eat them. These monsters will walk among us disguised as sick people, homeless people, or crackheads. They will no longer be human, but mindless bodies that only look like the people they once were. These undead will attack us and feed on our vital organs until the zombies decay, just like regular dead bodies decay, to the point where they can no longer walk. Then, they may just end up crawling around trying to find living flesh to feast on. Many people scoff at the thought of a zombie attack; however, these people will either be eaten alive or will come screaming back to the believers, bringing a horde of zombies or other freshly-infected humans with them.

When doomsday comes, there will not be much forewarning. The biggest tip that the apocalypse has arrived: you will think all of the homeless have gone crazy, biting people on the street. People will start going to emergency rooms to get treated for human bites; they will lose their heartbeats, be pronounced dead, and then all of a sudden sit back up and attempt to bite their doctors and nurses. To make sure that you don’t die a horribly slow and painful death, you need to be very aware of your surroundings, what zombies might look like, and the steps you must take to stay alive and protect yourself against your attacker.

The most obvious characteristic of zombies is the blood around their mouths and/or all over their clothes. They will also be staggering around like drunkards and, more than likely, will be groaning a lot. If you see these flesh-hungry stalkers, by no means should you go up to them and ask them if they are all right or if they need help finding the nearest medical center. You should immediately leave the area and return home to gather food, weapons, family, and friends. Or, you could have the people you don’t necessarily like come with you; these will be the people that you can trip
when you are running from the horde of zombies. Tripping these people will give you time to run away as the zombies will become very occupied with their freshly fallen meal. Zombies firmly believe in the thirty second rule; as long as the heart is still beating, the body is good for eating.

The next thing you will need to do is look for a place to spend the night for as long as is necessary. These places are called safe houses. When looking for safe houses, think of places that have windows much higher off the ground than most people's heads. This will give you the upper hand in keeping zombies away. Other great places for safe houses are hunting shops or small shopping marts with hinged doors—not the kind that swing or slide open when you step too close, though. The shopping marts have food and water for the survivors and are fortified buildings that will keep the infected out, while hunting shops will have weapons and ammunition. Of course, never plan on staying in one place for long periods of time; you will eventually run out of supplies and need to move on. The best idea is to collect what you need and keep moving.

Staying in smaller towns that do not have large populations is key because there is a smaller zombie to human ratio. When going into a building, you must also go in pairs for safety. Make sure you scope out the entire building before you decide that you can use it as a safe house. Do not underestimate zombies; they are not slow. They don't slow down until rigor mortis sets in and the body freezes up, making it hard for a zombie to move.

Guns can be great weapons when dealing with a zombie infestation, but guns require ammunition, which runs out, and they need to be reloaded after so many shots. Reloading your weapon can leave you open for attack. The best weapons, then, to have for the attack would have to be swords. Using a sword may bring you closer to the infectious assailants, but you won't have to worry about running out of any bullets or shells. A great place to get swords from is Japan. These swords are made to decapitate and will be a big help in fending off zombies. You can just keep happily hacking away at your mindless attackers.

The only way to kill a zombie is by removing the brain from the spinal cord. A blunt object such as a bat or a shovel would work nicely to smash the brains. A gun straight through the forehead would work wonders as well, but the most fun, I would have to say, would be chopping the head right off of the body. The sword, again, never runs out of bullets because it doesn't need them, and you never want to run out of weapons. If you can't avoid being bitten or scratched, you're doomed. The infection will immediately start spreading through your body, making you weak. You
will become pale and start coughing up blood. If that happens, don’t try to pretend that you are all right because you are putting the ones around you in danger. You should tell someone immediately, say your goodbyes, and make yourself one less zombie to threaten the group. Make a zombie survival plan with your family and friends, and remember: locate, decapitate, and incinerate. Happy hunting, and stay alive!