



Death with Interruptions

By José Saramago

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Nobel Prize-winner Jose Saramago's brilliant novel poses the question—what happens when the grim reaper decides there will be no more death?

On the first day of the new year, no one dies. This of course causes consternation among politicians, religious leaders, morticians, and doctors. Among the general public, on the other hand, there is initially celebration—flags are hung out on balconies, people dance in the streets. They have achieved the great goal of humanity: eternal life. Then reality hits home—families are left to care for the permanently dying, life-insurance policies become meaningless, and funeral parlors are reduced to arranging burials for pet dogs, cats, hamsters, and parrots.

Death sits in her chilly apartment, where she lives alone with scythe and filing cabinets, and contemplates her experiment: What if no one ever died again? What if she, death with a small *d*, became human and were to fall in love?

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Death with Interruptions By José Saramago Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Saramago's philosophical page-turner hinges on death taking a holiday. And, Saramago being Saramago, he turns what could be the stuff of late-night stoner debate into a lucid, playful and politically edgy novel of ideas. For reasons initially unclear, people stop dying in an unnamed country on New Year's Day. Shortly after death begins her break (death is a woman here), there's a catastrophic collapse in the funeral industry; disruption in hospitals of the usual rotational process of patients coming in, getting better or dying; and general havoc. There's much debate and discussion on the link between death, resurrection and the church, and while the clandestine traffic of the terminally ill into bordering countries leads to government collusion with the criminal self-styled maphia, death falls in love with a terminally ill cellist. Saramago adds two satisfying cliffhangers—how far can he go with the concept, and will death succumb to human love? The package is profound, resonant and—bonus—entertaining. (*Oct.*)

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Few writers work at the top of the game in their mid-80s, but with *Death with Interruptions*, Jose Saramago delivers a brief allegory long on shrewd social commentary. His work has consistently been compared to that of Franz Kafka and George Orwell, and the dark humor here only sharpens Saramago's satirical cudgel. Margaret Jull Costa's translation reins in the author's difficult style—dialogue whose attribution is rarely clear and missing punctuation, pages-long sentences and paragraphs, characters known only by their function in society—and brings Saramago's genius to the page. Despite one critic's feeling that Saramago is "pushing us away" (*New York Times Book Review*), the author's risk taking—after all, he posits death as an elegant, lonely woman questioning her own modus operandi—pays big dividends.

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Review

PRAISE FOR JOSÉ SARAMAGO

"Saramago is arguably the greatest writer of our time . . . He has the power to throw a dazzling flash of lightning on his subjects, an eerily and impossibly prolonged moment of clarity that illuminates details beyond the power of sunshine to reveal."—*Chicago Tribune*

"Reading the Portuguese writer José Saramago, one quickly senses the presence of a master."—*The Christian Science Monitor*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lavelle Hildreth:

This *Death with Interruptions* book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is usually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This

particular Death with Interruptions without we realize teach the one who reading through it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't always be worry Death with Interruptions can bring whenever you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Death with Interruptions having great arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Virginia Benson:

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Della Ferguson:

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Jesse Mansell:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always make an effort to and must have the extra time or they will get wide range of stress from both way of life and work. So , if we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity are you experiencng when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer may unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, often the book you have read is definitely Death with Interruptions.

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