I first got the idea for *The Colony* walking home from High School my sophomore year. It was still very new at that point, I just started to think about how freaky it would be if one of the streets I walked on was full of monsters. When I started to consider what properties would make the best monsters for my purposes, I immediately thought, "Hey vampires would be the coolest thing!" (note: I have not watched or read Twilight nor do I intend to, I prefer my vampires mysterious and horrifying, like Count Dracula) So when I started to develop the story more (freshman year of college was very boring for me, so I did this during class) I decided to make them more unique. The Fallen Ones have been likened to zombies by some of my friends, but their primary virtue is superhuman regeneration, which is what is supposed to make them monstrous, otherwise they would crumble under their own speed and power. This story is set in modern day US (it was written to take place in suburban Chicagoland around the year 2012) but the location has grown more ambiguous as I have adjusted the settings. It's now in a fictional town north of an unidentified major city by about 50 miles. The monsters have developed into sci-fi monsters (that will be more discussed later in the story) and the "hunters," a society whose purpose is to protect the survivors, have now developed a fictional code language identified by a cursive type font. The language will be discussed in greater depth as the story progresses. (I actually have that scene plotted out and I didn't want to throw it out by changing the opening scene too much) The early story is all about beginnings, so I hope you all will bear with me as I begin to lay the foundation of what I hope to be a majorly compelling story. Thanks for your interest, even if all you do is read the first chapter, then never care again. Your attention is most gracious and is welcomed as such.

Sorin Herling