






# The Lennon-Ritchie Agency



Autumn 2024 Horror List

	<u><a href="#">POE &amp; I</a></u>	Matthew Mercier	Gothic Horror / Psychological Thriller
	<u><a href="#">SOMNIUM</a></u>	Deirdre Swinden	Psychological Thriller / Dream Horror
	<u><a href="#">THE THING IN THE WIND</a></u>	Bill Mullen	Horror / Environmental Horror
	<u><a href="#">ONE OF THE DEAD</a></u>	Richard Farren Barber	Apocalyptic Horror / Zombie Horror
	<u><a href="#">QUESTION NOT MY SALT</a></u>	Amanda M. Blake	Culinary Horror
	<u><a href="#">IN THOSE FADING STARS</a></u>	Andrew Najberg	Short Stories
	<u><a href="#">MASTER OF RODS AND STRINGS</a></u>	Jason Marc Harris	Supernatural Horror
	<u><a href="#">BUNNY</a></u>	Emma Olsen and Vere Tindale	Psychological Horror
	<u><a href="#">NIGHTWOOD</a></u>	Elana Gomel	Horror
	<u><a href="#">THE HEADLESS BOY</a></u>	Kelli Owen	Horror
	<u><a href="#">LIVE WIRE</a></u>	Kyle Toucher	Horror
	<u><a href="#">THE FACE YOU WEAR</a></u>	Faith Pierce	Horror
	<u><a href="#">OF MEN AND MONSTERS</a></u>	Tom Deady	Horror
	<u><a href="#">BAYOU WHISPERS</a></u>	RB Wood	Supernatural Fiction
	<u><a href="#">BEFORE HE WAKES</a></u>	Mark Allan Gunnells	Horror Suspense
	<u><a href="#">FLOATERS</a></u>	Garrett Boatman	Gaslamp Fantasy / Historical Horror
	<u><a href="#">FOLLOWERS</a></u>	Christina Bergling	Domestic Thriller
	<u><a href="#">MIDNIGHT HORROR SHOW</a></u>	Ben Lathrop	Thriller
	<u><a href="#">TERROR PEAK</a></u>	Edward J McFadden III	American Horror

\*CLICK ON A TITLE FOR MORE INFORMATION

[THE BOY WITH THE SPIDER FACE](#)

AJ Franks

American Horror

[THE EXORCIST'S HOUSE](#)

Nick Roberts

Occult Fiction

[THE PALE WHITE](#)

Chad Lutzke

American Horror

[TWENTY YEARS DEAD](#)

Richard Farren Barber

British and Irish Horror

[WHEN IT RAINS](#)

Mark Allan Gunnells

Supernatural Horror

[WOUNDS TO WISHES](#)

Chad Lutzke and John Boden and Robert Ford

American Horror

[HARMED AND DANGEROUS](#)

Jasper Bark

Southern Gothic

**\*CLICK ON A TITLE FOR MORE INFORMATION**



# POE & I

*Welcome to Poe Cottage... Would you like a tour?*

Jonah Peabody takes a job as caretaker and docent for the last home of Edgar Allan Poe in The Bronx, but from the moment he moves into Poe's Basement—where the caretaker must live—he finds himself also living inside a Poe story, stalked by a man who seems to be his doppelganger and who seeks revenge for past misdeeds. Jonah claims to be hunting for his lost sister, but as the narrative shifts between past and present, it's clear that he's not telling us the entire story. What is he hiding and why? Haunted by the violent ghosts of his own family and Poe himself, Jonah must reconcile with his dark past before the dual shadow of guilt and grief buries him alive. Living in Poe's Basement might just be his last chance at redemption. The author himself lived in Poe Cottage many and many a year ago, and POE & I is loosely based on that experience, but this is no memoir. It's pure fiction. Or, as Poe might say, a hoax.

**Matthew Mercier** is a writer and storyteller living in the woods of the Hudson Valley. He's worked as a tour guide at the Mystic Aquarium, run a youth hostel in Albuquerque, been slimed as a salmon packer in Naknek, Alaska, provided showers for homeless men on the Bowery, and proudly served three years as head docent and caretaker for the Edgar Allan Poe Cottage in The Bronx. He earned an MFA from Hunter College where he taught writing and children's literature. His work has appeared THE BROOKLYN RAIL, MISSISSIPPI REVIEW, GLIMMER TRAIN, ROSEBUD MAGAZINE, CREATIVE NONFICTION, THE FAIRY TALE REVIEW, SHOTGUN HONEY, and MYSTERY TRIBUNE. He's told stories live on stage with The Moth and been heard on NPR's The Moth Radio Hour, as well The Story Collider, RISK and The Truth podcasts. He's been awarded the Leon B. Burstein scholarship from the New York chapter of the Mystery Writers of America, and a residency from the Saltonstall Foundation. Currently, he is writing and producing radio dramas for Radio Free Rhinecliff in Rhinecliff, NY.

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DEIRDRE SWINDEN

PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER / DREAM HORROR

# SOMNIUM

*Ever had a dream where you thought you were going to die?*

Immerse yourself in a terrifying blend of psychological horror and high-tech science fiction in this riveting novel where dreams can kill. Gillian Hardie experiences nightmares so intense they threaten her very existence, thanks to a glitch in Somnium Corporation's groundbreaking dream advertising technology. Every night, her sleep unleashes monsters that her body reacts to as if they were real, pushing her to the edge of despair. Armed with her lucid dreaming skills, Gillian battles these horrors, but when an accident traps her in a perpetual dream state, she must rely on Nathan Keller, a nightmare warrior, and Dex Cooper, an Operator, to navigate this nightmarish reality. With her darkest fears manifesting like never before, Gillian faces a race against time to survive a threat that could unleash unimaginable horrors from the depths of her mind. Dive into a story that explores the shadowy boundaries of fear and technology. For fans of cutting-edge psychological thrillers and high-stakes survival horror, this novel promises a journey through the darkest corridors of the human psyche, where the next dream could be your last. Join Gillian in her fight against the darkest corners of her mind—before it's too late.

A successful writer/editor in the corporate world for more than two decades, **Deirdre Swinden** is currently living and writing in North Carolina. She received an MFA in Creative Writing from Arcadia University and has published short stories in GRIFFEL LITERARY MAGAZINE and GRIM & GILDED. Early in her writing career, she won the Popular Short Story Contest at the 2000 Philadelphia Writers' Conference with her short work, "Shooting Televisions."

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# THE THING IN THE WIND

*A search party stumbles upon an unspeakable horror that threatens both their lives and sanity.*

In the heart of the Canadian wilderness, a harrowing tale of survival and psychological horror unfolds in this gripping novel. Amidst the vast, unforgiving landscape, a woman's world is shattered by the mysterious disappearance of her mother in the remote reaches of northern Saskatchewan. Along with her father and a small, determined search party, she embarks on a desperate quest for answers, only to encounter an unspeakable terror lurking in the shadows of the ancient forests. As the group navigates the treacherous wilderness, their journey becomes a chilling fight for survival against not only the harsh elements but also a malevolent force that defies explanation. Haunted by eerie premonitions and the feeling of being stalked by an unseen entity, they begin to realize that they are facing a horror far beyond their wildest imaginations. This suspenseful narrative weaves together the threads of environmental horror and the mysteries of the unknown, crafting a story that is as thought-provoking as it is terrifying. With a strong female protagonist at its core, this novel explores the depths of human resilience and the bonds that tie us to the natural world. Dive into this gripping horror novel, where the beauty of nature collides with the darkest corners of the human psyche, and the hunt for missing people unravels a mystery that might have been better left undiscovered.

**Bill Mullen** was born in England and holds an MFA from the Bluegrass Writers Studio. He now lives in Kentucky where he teaches literature and writing at Eastern Kentucky University. His first novel, *RED NOCTURNE*, was published in 2016. *THE THING IN THE WIND* is his second novel.

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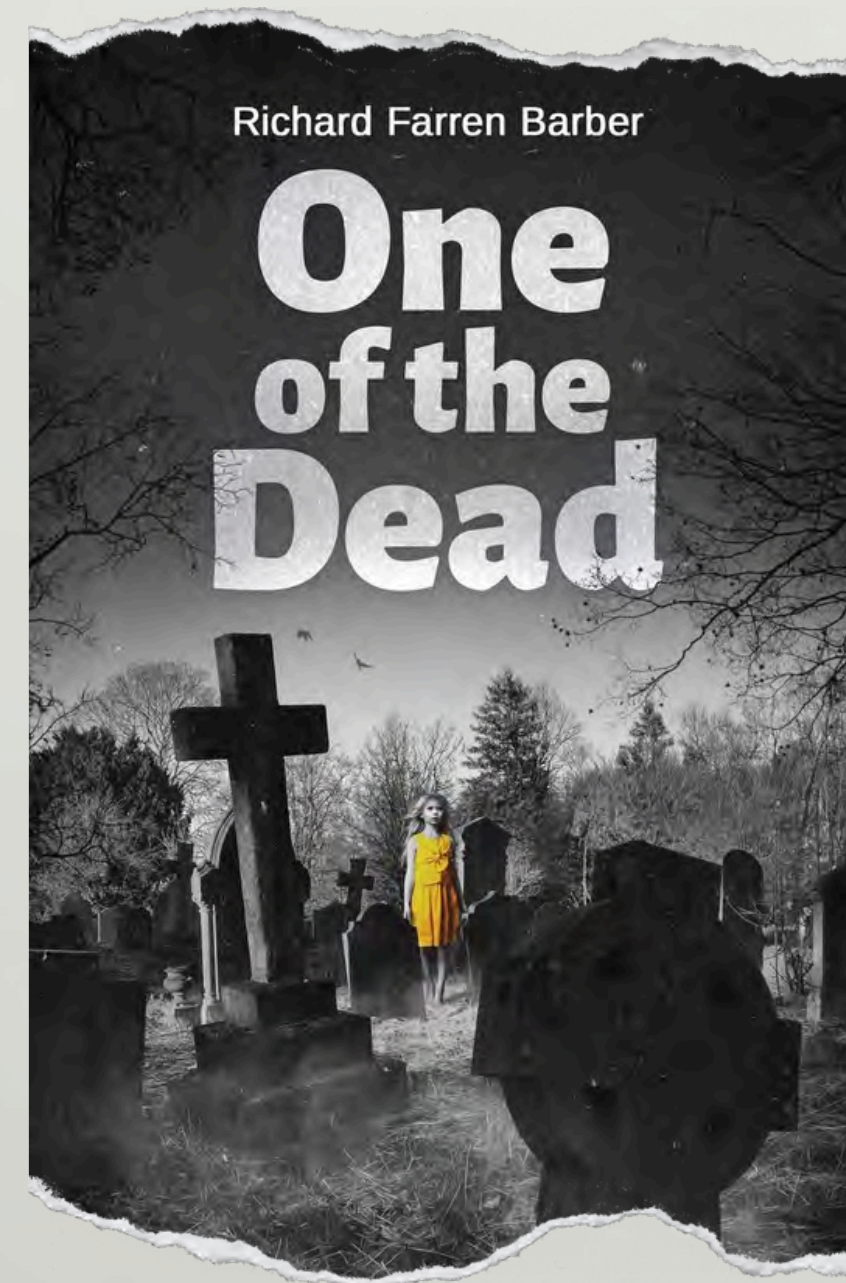
# ONE OF THE DEAD

*Terror doesn't stumble and moan—it walks among us silently.*

Nick, burdened with the rare ability to see these dead predators for what they truly are, faces a nightmare when his girlfriend, Abby, becomes ensnared by their sinister intent. These are not your typical undead. They blend in, their appearances mirroring the forgotten faces of society, making their predatory nature all the more chilling. A touch is all it takes for them to latch onto their prey, draining life in a way that leaves the body walking but the spirit doomed. As Abby becomes the focus of such a being's obsession, Nick is drawn into a desperate struggle not just for her life, but for her very soul. Their fight for survival takes them from the deceptive safety of city streets to the foreboding quiet of a cemetery, where the boundary between the living and those claimed by the shadowy grasp of the dead becomes perilously thin. ONE OF THE DEAD weaves a tale not of a zombie apocalypse, but of a quiet invasion, a creeping horror that targets the heart. It's a story of love tested by unfathomable forces, of a battle against an enemy that never rests, never forgives, and never ceases its pursuit until you become one of its own.

**Richard Farren Barber** was born in Nottingham in July 1970. After studying in London he returned to the East Midlands. He lives with his wife and son and works as a manager for a local university. He's fairly confident people only read these bios to check if the author is a serial killer. (Spoiler alert: he's not.) He has over 80 short stories published, eight novellas, and two novels.

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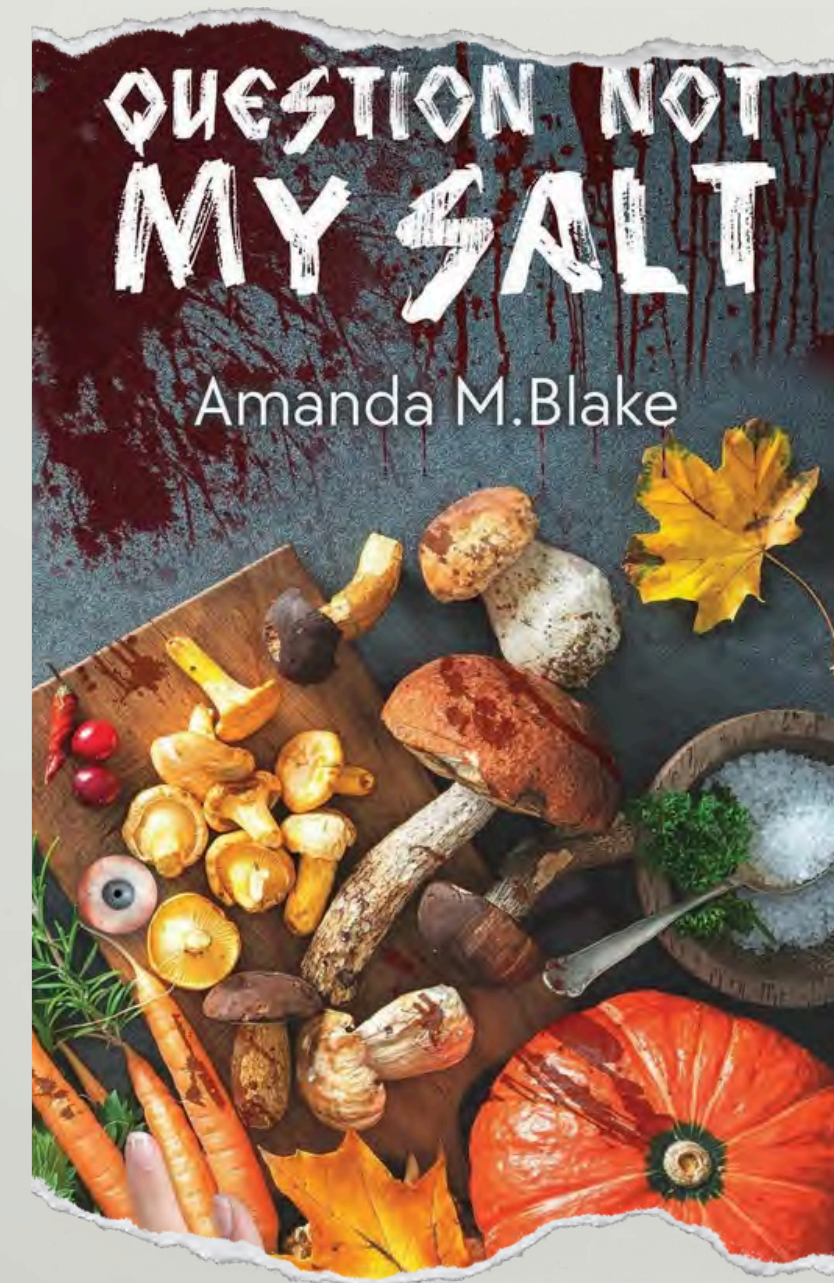
# QUESTION NOT MY SALT

*Come for Thanksgiving. Stay for the Feast.*

Sierra's first American Thanksgiving promises to be unforgettable when her college roommate, Zoe, invites her to the Samuels family feast. But as the ten-hour banquet unfolds, it becomes clear this is no ordinary holiday gathering. With everyone bound by a chilling rule—eat and drink exactly as served, and enjoy it, or face dire consequences—the traditional celebration quickly takes a dark and macabre turn. Will Sierra survive the Samuels' sinister hospitality or become part of a feast far more horrifying than she could have ever imagined. A gripping tale blending the terror of THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE with the culinary horror of HANNIBAL and THE MENU.

A mass of tentacles and rose vines masquerading as a person, **Amanda M. Blake** is the author of such horror titles as QUESTION NOT MY SALT, DEEP DOWN, and OUT OF CURIOSITY AND HUNGER, dark poetry collection DEAD ENDS, and the Thorns fairy tale mash-up series.

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# IN THOSE FADING STARS

*A collection of short fiction at the intersection of space, ghosts, and the just plain weird.*

A father whose son fades away every day unless he passes the boy a bit of his own life. Three robots holding a séance. A man who suffers the effects of an intergalactic portal opening in his stomach. These stories exist at the intersection of science fiction, horror, and magic and explore both our humanity in the face of the weird as well as our most ordinary and fundamental relationships. Whether attempting to voyage to a distant star on a generational craft whose destination is so far no living passengers will reach it or whether a daughter's new friend is teaching her to break the trendiest of dimensional boundaries, the stories press humanity against the macro and the micro scales of the universe – but everyone of them shines a light on a little piece of our souls at the core.

**Andrew Najberg** is the author of the novels *THE MOBIUS DOOR* (Wicked House Publishing, 2023), *GOLLITOK* (Wicked House Publishing, 2023), *THE NEVERBORN THIEF* (Olive-Ridley Press, 2024) as well as the forthcoming collection of short fiction *IN THOSE FADING STARS* (Crystal Lake Publishing, 2024) and *EXTINCTION DREAM* (Wicked House Publishing, 2025). His short fiction has appeared in *FUSION FRAGMENT*, *KHOREO*, *TRANSLUNAR TRAVELERS LOUNGE*, *UTOPIA SCIENCE FICTION*, *PROSE ONLINE*, *PSYCHOPOMP REVIEW*, *SOLAR PRESS HORROR ANTHOLOGY*, and is forthcoming in *MAKE YOUR PRESENCE KNOWN ANTHOLOGY*, and the *GODS AND GLOBES III* Anthology. Currently, he teaches for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and is serving as a senior editor for *SYMPOSEUM* magazine.

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# MASTER OF RODS AND STRINGS

*When Elias learns that his sorcerous uncle is using puppets to torture his sister, he vows to learn the secrets of occult puppetry to achieve vengeance.*

Elias, tormented by visions of his sister's suffering and jealous of the adulation her puppetry skills command, is drawn into the shadowy world of occult puppetry. Under the tutelage of the enigmatic Uncle Pavan, Elias seeks to master this arcane craft, but the price of knowledge is steep, and the path to vengeance is fraught with unspeakable horrors. Set against the rich backdrop of France, Harris's novella is a masterclass in suspense and dark fantasy. Critics hail it as a "masterful work" that brings to life a world where the art of puppetry descends into magical damnation. With captivating and expert prose, this story pulls readers through a fever dream of loyalty, artistic passion, and the ultimate cost of revenge. At its core, MASTER OF RODS AND STRINGS is a classic revenge story, a testament to the mastery of a craft, and a cautionary tale of ambition's potential to corrupt the noblest of intentions.

**Jason Marc Harris** teaches creative writing, folklore, and literature, and is the Creative Writing Coordinator at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX. He graduated with a Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Washington, and an MFA in fiction from Bowling Green State University. Creative work in journals such as APEX and ABYSS, ARROYO LITERARY REVIEW, MARVELS AND TALES, MIDWESTERN GOTHIC, PSYCHOPOMP Magazine, THE SATURDAY EVENING POST, and WRITING TEXAS. He's written two folklore books based on fieldwork – THE TROLL TALE AND OTHER SCARY STORIES and LAUGH WITHOUT GUILT (both collaborations with Birke Duncan) – and the critical book FOLKLORE AND THE FANTASTIC IN NINETEENTH CENTURY BRITISH FICTION (Routledge). He's currently working on a sequel to MASTER OF RODS AND STRINGS (Crystal Lake Publishing, 2024). He's also practicing the Dance of Outside while traveling the Astral Plane, polishing up some short stories, screenplays, and a novel, and contemplating sundry eldritch matters.

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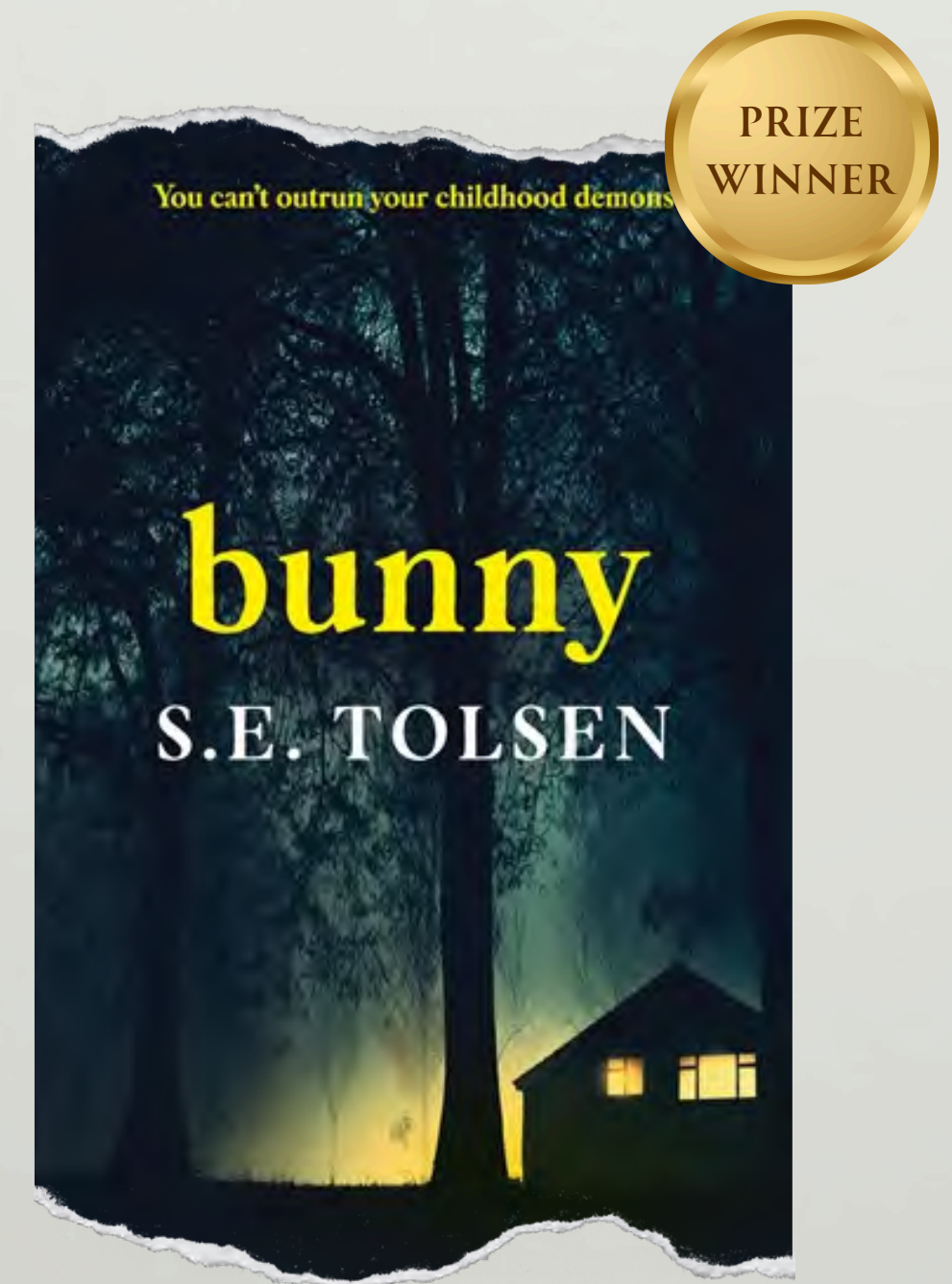
# BUNNY

*Winner of the Aurealis Award Winner for Best Horror Novel (2023)*

Silas didn't have a happy childhood. Aunt Bunny made sure of that. Now an adult, he and his girlfriend Rose are on the brink of success as screenwriters, they quit their survival jobs in order to rewrite their script. Three weeks is the deadline and with rent due soon, the two decide to pack up and head back to Silas's childhood home. Back to the woods. Back to the darkness. Back to Bunny ... Silas has a mission – get in, three weeks, get out. Back home, and back in the presence of Aunt Bunny and his hedonistic mother, Lou Lou, Silas discovers both women living through the ravages of alcoholic codependency and what seems to be mental illness. At the homestead, a nearby lake, and even a roadside diner, Silas and Rose witness bizarre, unnerving behaviors and psychological events that challenge their patience and sanity. The events seem to be connected to an ancient presence deep in the woods which is working to draw Silas back into the family. It will not let him go, and neither will Aunt Bunny.

**Emma Olsen**, a New Zealander of Fijian, Indian, Italian and Norwegian descent, is an award-winning stand-up comedian. **Vere Tindale** is a New Zealander/South African and graduate of The Neighbourhood Playhouse in New York City with a BCA from Victoria University of Wellington. They specialize in nuanced, atmospheric, and scary-as-hell horror. Their original Horror script CREPUSCULAR was nominated for Best Screenplay in the Woman in Horror Film Festival in Atlanta, Georgia.

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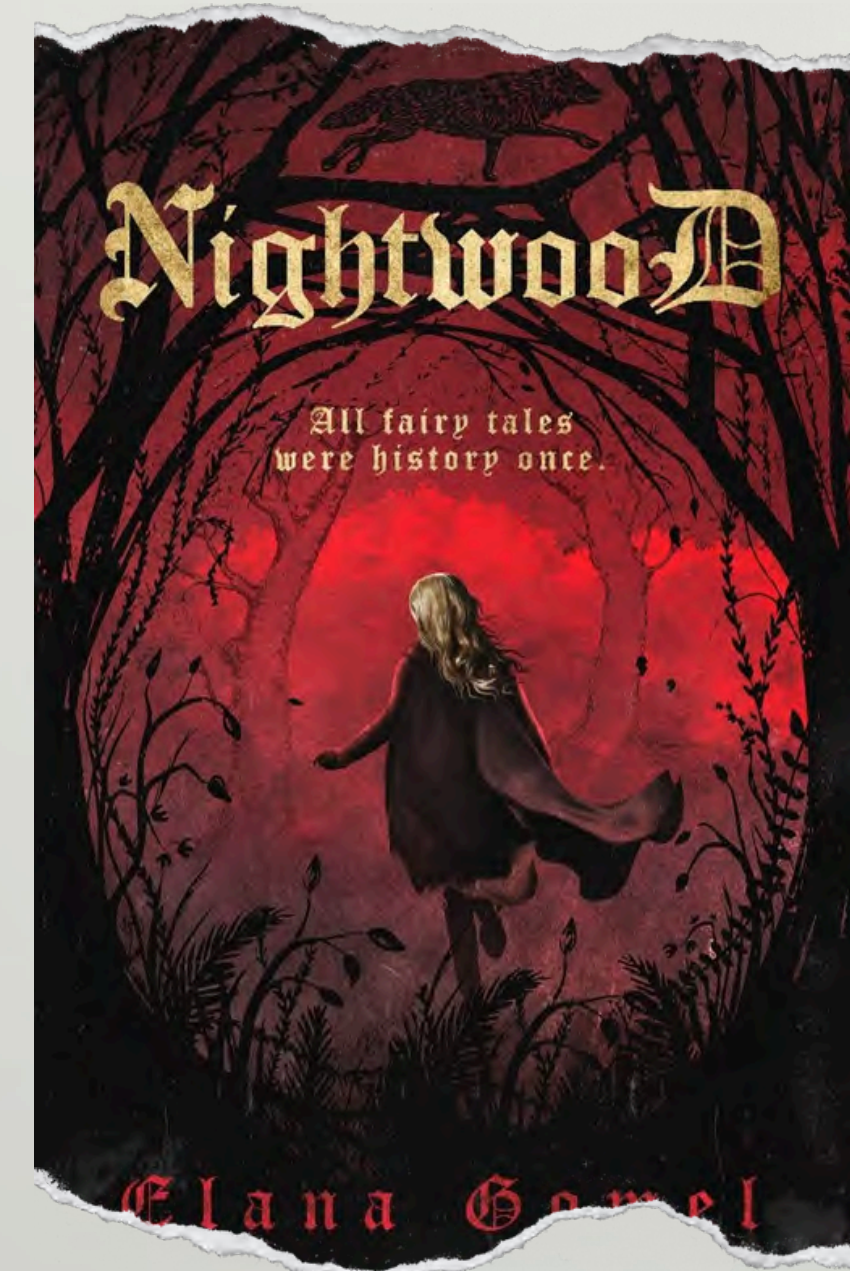
# NIGHTWOOD

*All fairy tales were history once ...*

All fairy tales were history once. Ally is a Ukrainian bride who married a wealthy Californian, Carl Morris. Everything is strange in her new home: the shadowy redwoods, the peculiar neighbors, and the mystery surrounding the death of Carl's first wife. But Ally is determined to leave her own tragic past behind and to be a good wife and a good American. Escaping darkness is not so easy, however. Ally discovers that her house is situated on the borders of Nightwood, where fairy tales become nightmares and nightmares become reality. And the ruler of Nightwood has plans of his own. Unexpectedly joined by new friends, Ally escapes to embark on a perilous journey across a dying land filled with mythical beasts and creatures from fairy tales. To save Carl, Ally will have to brave the horrors of Nightwood and uncover the shattering secret of her own identity.

Born in Ukraine and currently residing in California, **Elana Gomel** is an academic with a long list of books and articles, an award-winning writer, and a professional nomad. She has taught in Israel, Italy, and the US, and is known in the academy for her (purely theoretical) interest in serial killers, alien invasions, and rebellious AIs. Her upcoming academic publication is Palgrave Handbook of Global Fantasy. She is the author of more than a hundred stories, several novellas, and five novels of dark fantasy and dark science fiction. Several of her stories appeared in Best of the Year anthologies. Her most recent fiction publications are NIGHTWOOD, a novel of fairy tales and exile, and the collection MY LADY OF PLAGUES AND OTHER GOTHIC FAIRY TALES. She is a member of HWA and can be found at [www.citiesoflightanddarkness.com](http://www.citiesoflightanddarkness.com) and on social media.

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# THE HEADLESS BOY

## *The horror of grief.*

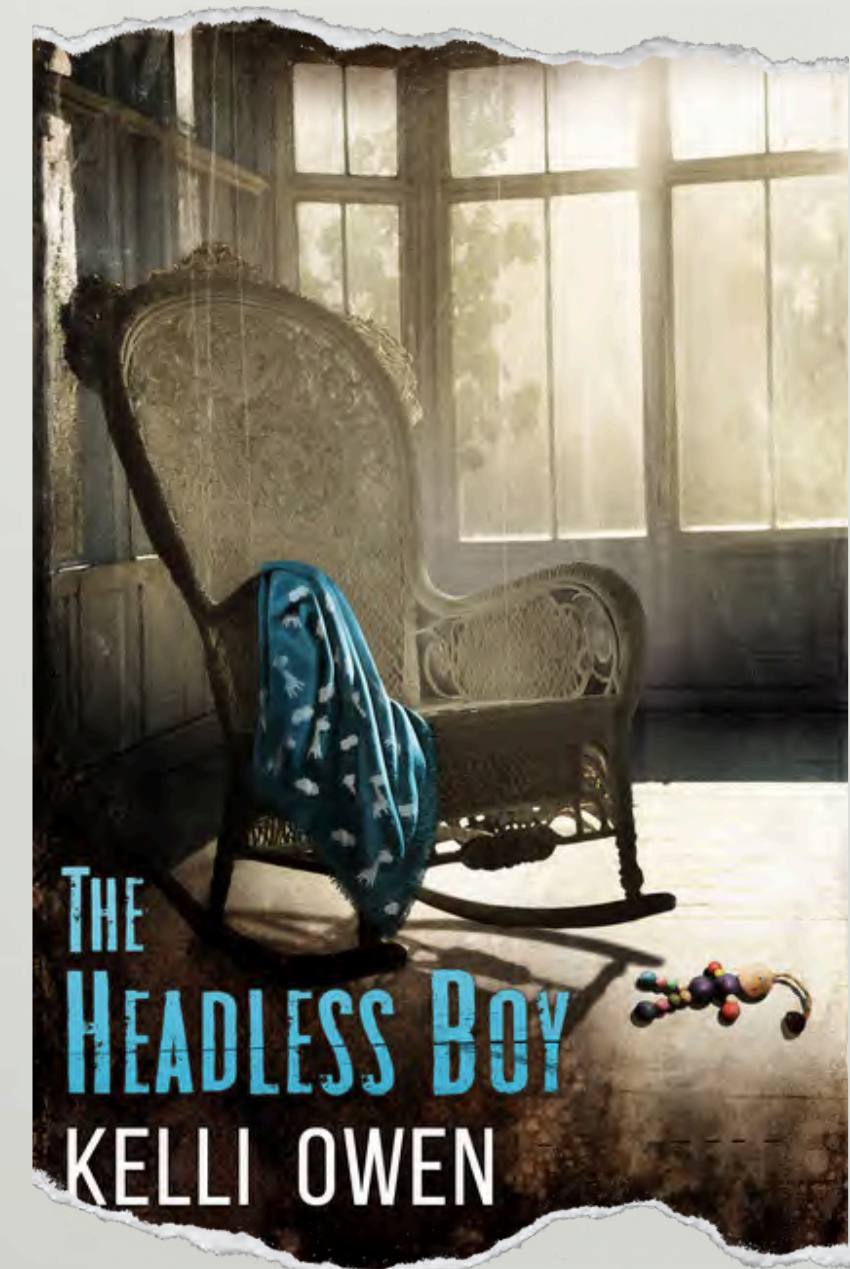
Reeling from the loss of a child, Maggie finds her job at the local daycare unbearable and errands around town impossible. She knows every child, every single parent, and they're all reminders of what she's lost. Unable to heal, she sinks further into the grip of grief and depression. Jake is a good guy, a great husband, and wants only the best for his broken wife. Therapy and medications aren't helping, and a change of scenery makes perfect sense. A new home. A fresh start. He is nothing but patient, giving Maggie the space and emotional support needed to move on. But once they've settled in, Maggie offers him an alternative. And though Jake doesn't believe in ghosts, he plays along with the charade in the name of helping his wife. Until he discovers it's not a game. They are not alone. As the subtle activity grows violent, Jake realizes the thing in their house has chosen Maggie as a surrogate mother, and it does not want a father figure. Jake and Maggie's fresh start has become a battlefield, and he's no longer sure which side his wife is on.

Does Jake have the strength to save them both?

A member of both the Horror Writers Association and the International Thriller Writers, **Kelli Owen** has published over twenty books, including THE HEADLESS BOY, TEETH, and the WILTED LILY young adult series. Her short fiction has appeared in Bram Stoker Award-nominated anthologies alongside Neil Gaiman, Stephen King, Robert McCammon, F. Paul Wilson, and Josh Malerman, among others. Although primarily known for her fiction, Kelli's credits also include editor, webmaster, podcaster, reviewer, and indie horror film producer, and has spoken at the CIA headquarters in Langley, VA regarding her work and the field in general. Born and raised in Wisconsin, she now lives in the dark woods of Pennsylvania.

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**'THE CONJURING meets POLTERGEIST'; 'Now ranks among some of my favourites in [grief horror], alongside PET SEMATARY and REMAINS'; 'Perhaps Kelli Owen's best work to date'; 'An almost suffocating level of realism'**



# LIVE WIRE

*Black magic, high tech, and a terrifying portal opened.*

A storm is coming... In 1993 New Mexico, Black Magic and High Tech find common ground in Medusa Engineering's Project Dragonfire, and for one endless October night, a fissure opens between here and Elsewhere...

LIVE WIRE, a horror thriller for science fiction fans, begins with four people sequestered in a desert filling station during a freak thunderstorm. Outside, one-hundred-foot electrical towers, miles and miles of them, uproot and stalk the desert. In tandem arrives The Signal, a dissonant machine language that subverts the human mind ... harvesting old guilt, shame, and trauma. Fifty miles down the road at the Very Large Array, the Medusa Engineering Corporation unleashes Project Dragonfire, a bold technological effort that has summoned a raven...

**Kyle Toucher** (rhymes with voucher) was raised on a diet of Frankenstein and Godzilla, Black Sabbath and Black Flag, Lovecraft, Blatty, Barker and King. Through his twenties, he fronted the influential Nardcore crossover band Dr. Know, made records and hit the road. Later, he moved into the Visual Effects field, which led to eight Emmy nominations and two awards for FIREFLY and BATTLESTAR: GALACTICA. Recent credits include TOP GUN: MAVERICK, THE ORVILLE, and defence industry clients. He lives with a lovely woman, five cats, two dogs, and several guitars in a secure, undisclosed location.

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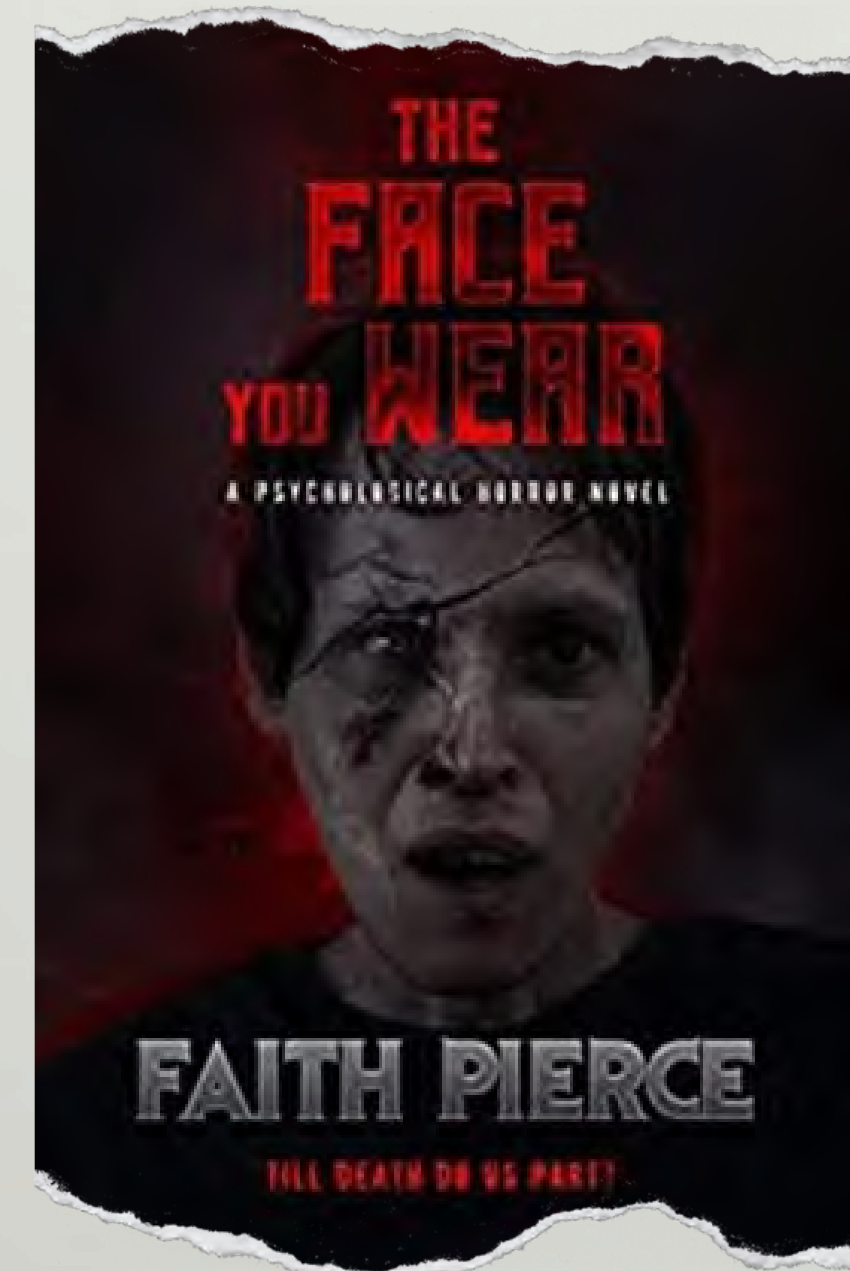


# THE FACE YOU WEAR

*It might just be your imagination, or it might not.*

Jana overcame a strict, poverty-stricken childhood to achieve her version of the American dream. She has her own home, a successful career, and a new husband who offers everything she hoped for in a normal life. However, her tight grip on reality and stability begins to slip when she starts having disturbing dreams about her husband Michael. A figure in a bedroom doorway watching her sleep, night-time conversations Michael claims never happened, someone lying beside her at night when Michael later says he wasn't there. Old anxieties and paranoia begin to surface as Jana becomes increasingly desperate to discover if the true threat is her mind, her husband, or something darker.

**Faith Pierce** writes horror, dark fantasy, and other forms of speculative fiction. She grew up in a small town in Texas and now lives in the Midwest.



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# OF MEN AND MONSTERS

*Sometimes dads are scarier than monsters.*

Ryan's life is uprooted at the age of twelve when his mother takes him and his fourteen-year-old brother, Gary to a new home, safe from the clutches of her abusive husband. The two brothers quickly relax into the rhythm a summer by the sea. Ryan enjoys reading comic books and starts a relationship with Leah. Ryan starts to grow a sea monster from an egg he bought. But Ryan's new home isn't as safe as it seems. Someone keeps phoning the house, without speaking, and Ryan is sure it's his dad. To Ryan's horror, his sea monster is humongous and violent. On the same day he and Gary plan to get rid of it, their father calls again, threatening them. He soon arrives at their new house, drunk and confrontational. The two brothers try to defend themselves but it all goes very wrong ...

**Tom Deady's** first novel, HAVEN, won the 2016 Bram Stoker Award for Superior Achievement in a First Novel. He has since published several novels and novellas, and has released his first collection of short stories in late 2020. In 2021, Tom's publications included the sequel to his second novel, ETERNAL DARKNESS. He resides in Massachusetts, where he is working on his next novel.

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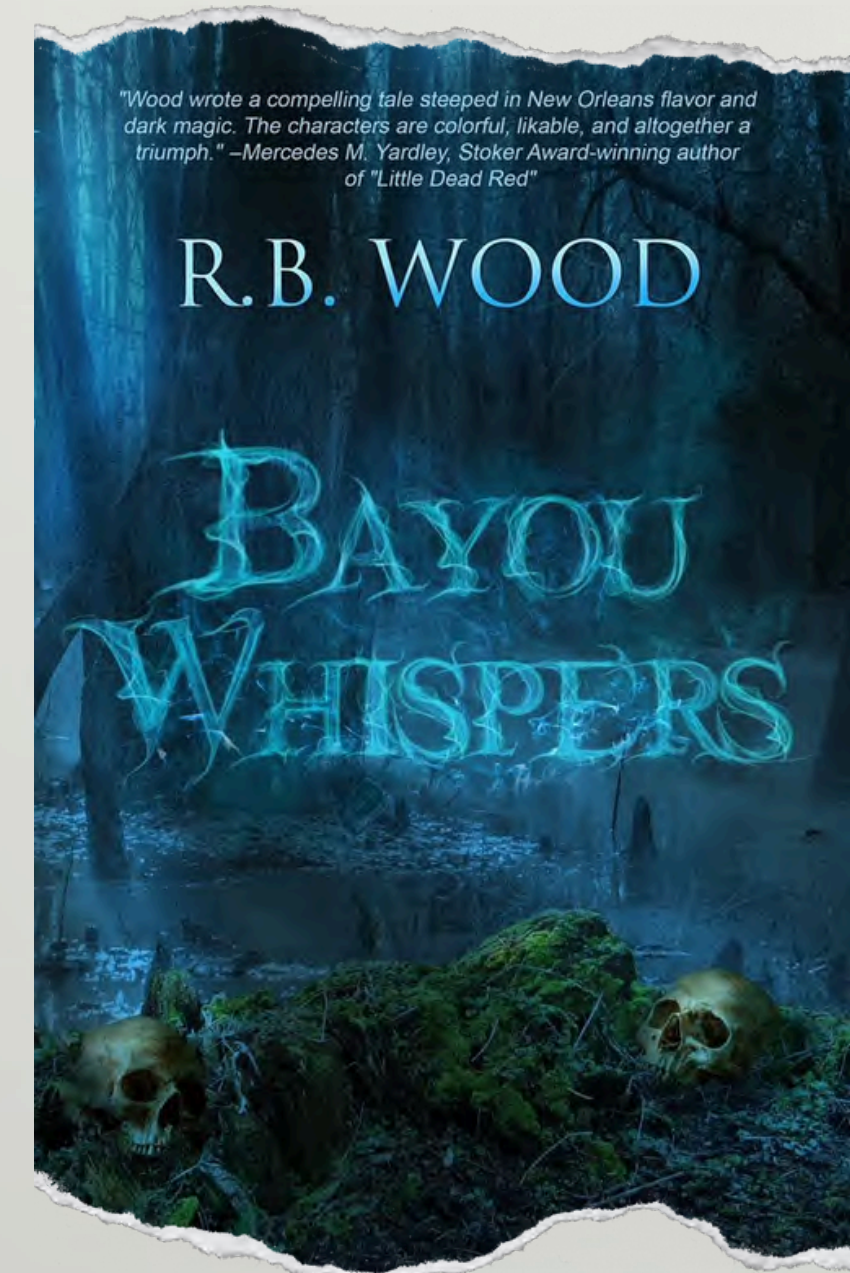
# BAYOU WHISPERS

*Get ready for proper New Orleans voodoo.*

BAYOU WHISPERS, the latest thriller from horror writer RB Wood is the story of no-nonsense New Orleans native Jeannine LaRue, the sole survivor of her family after the devastation brought on by Hurricane Katrina. In the aftermath of the storm, she believed she'd been saved, but soon found herself held hostage and sexually exploited, rescued months later by sheriff's deputy Curtis Jones. Twelve years after Katrina, Jeannine is a new attorney who returns to New Orleans to save her old friend, Curtis Jones—now a local thief and trafficker of stolen goods—after he is arrested for the murder of Jeannine's captors, whose bodies have recently been found. But Jeannine discovers more than she bargained for when she uncovers a family history of dark voodoo magic and an unholy alliance with an ancient evil Haitian god.

**RB Wood** is a recent MFA graduate of Emerson College and a writer of speculative and dark thrillers. He has appeared in Crystal Lake Publishing's SHALLOW WATERS anthology, as well as online via SickLit. Magazine & HorrorAddicts.net, and in the award-winning anthology OFFBEAT: NINE SPINS ON SONG from Wicked Ink Books. Along with his writing passion, RB is the host of THE WORLD COUNT podcast - a show of original flash fiction. He currently lives in Boston with his partner, Tina, a multitude of cats, and various other critters that visit from time to time.

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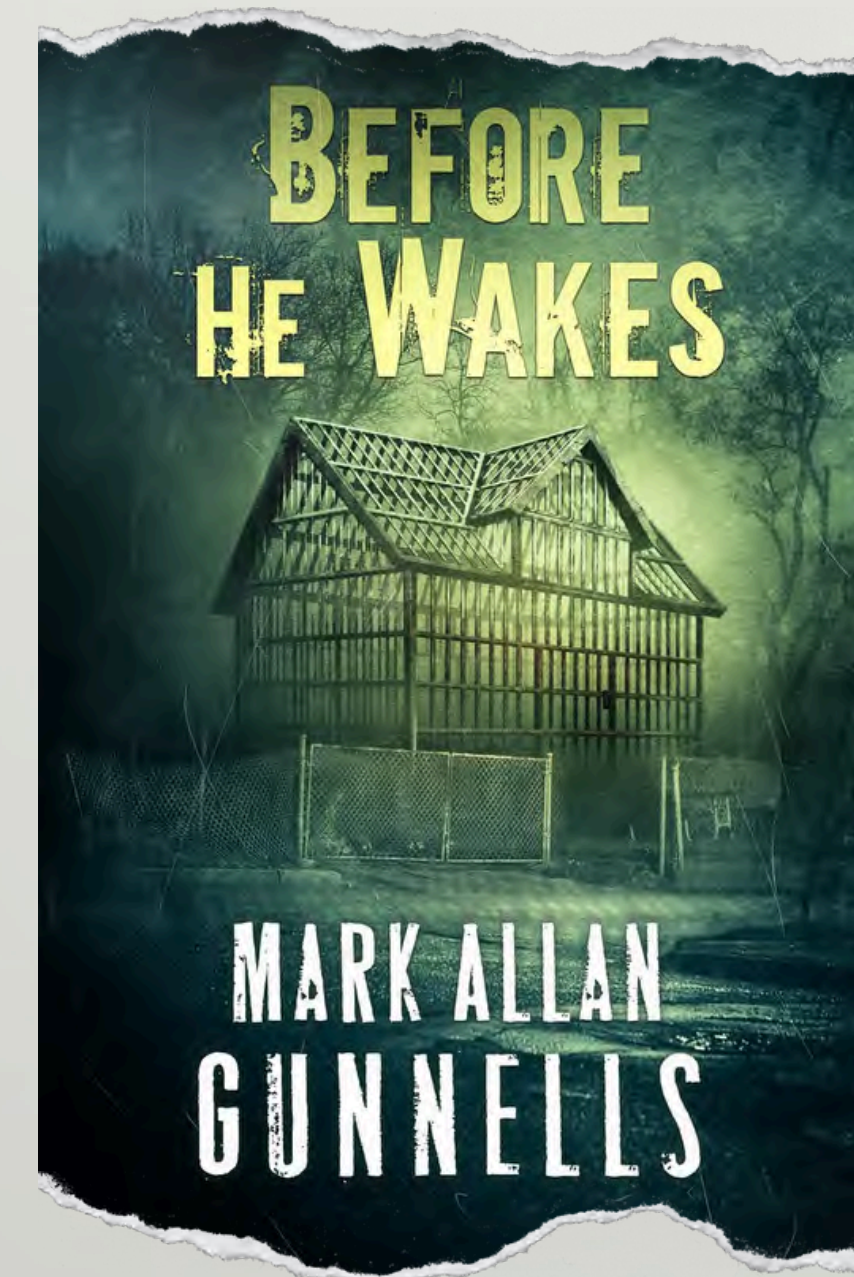


# BEFORE HE WAKES

*Trapped in a basement, there's no means of escape, and he's coming ...*

Patrick and Clare wake up trapped in a basement, a thin wall separating their cells. Their captor is mysteriously absent, which at first seems like a blessing. As more time passes with no food or water, they begin to realize a clock is ticking for their survival. The two begin plotting an escape from their shared prison. Each small victory only presents another obstacle standing in the way of their freedom. It will take all of their ingenuity and strength to find their way out. BEFORE HE WAKES is a fast-paced thriller that ratchets up the tension before its thrilling conclusion.

**Mark Allan Gunnells** loves to tell stories. He has since he was a kid, penning one-page tales that were TWILIGHT ZONE knockoffs. He likes to think he has got a little better since then. He loves reader feedback, and above all he loves telling stories. He lives in Greer, SC, with his husband Craig A Metcalf.



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# FLOATERS

*Out of the Thames' fetid depth, the undead rise to feast upon the living.*

London 1890s. While floaters seek blood, another army takes advantage of the chaos. Boiling out of their rookeries of crime, marauders swarm through London's affluent neighborhoods looting and burning. While the beleaguered police and the Queen's army battle twin plagues, human and inhuman, London's criminal youth gangs join forces to save their city. Will Tagget, leader of the Lambeth Lads, together with his enemies Bill Drummond of the Drury Lane Gang, bull-necked George Fish of the Elephant and Castle Gang, shillelagh-wielding Dirk Bogart of the New Cut Gang, Quincy Bird of City Road, along with their female counterparts, Lambeth Kate, Queen Jane, New Cut Beth, Razor Lil and Dirty Deidre, set out on an adventure the telling of which might earn a man a lifetime of free drinks. If he lives to tell it. Will these violent youths be able to put aside their rivalries long enough to get the job done?

**Garrett Boatman** taught English literature and writing in college and high school, including courses in creative writing and Science Fiction and Fantasy. Now retired, he writes full-time and rides his bikes whenever he can. He is married with great kids.

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**Garrett Boatman's FLOATERS is like PEAKY BLINDERS meets RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD. The story hits the ground running and doesn't let up until the explosive end. Bloody, violent fun! — Todd Keisling, Bram Stoker Award nominated author of DEVIL'S CREEK**



# FOLLOWERS

*It starts off as harmless online fun ...*

Sidney, a single mother with a dull day job, has big dreams of becoming a full-time horror reviewer and risqué gore model. She's determined to make her website a success, and if her growing pool of online followers is any indication, things are looking good for her Elvira-esque aspirations. In fact, Sidney has so many followers that chatting with them is getting to be a job in itself. More than a job, it might be getting a little risky ... When Sidney is attacked on a dark trail late one night, it becomes clear that the horror she loves is bleeding into her real life. She learns that real-life horror is not a game, and being stalked isn't flattering, it's terrifying, and it could get her killed. Sidney, and her loved ones, are now in serious danger. This follower isn't just another online fan: he knows her movements, and he knows her routine. In fact, he's right behind her ... and when he gets close enough, he won't take no for an answer.

**Christina Bergling** has been writing since childhood. She has written a variety of styles. A blog from Iraq, software user guides, articles for a numismatist magazine. More than anything, she is a horror author. In college, she pursued a professional writing degree and started publishing small scale. Bergling lives with her family in Colorado and spends her non-writing time working in IT, hiking mountains, dancing, and sucking all the marrow out of life.

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# MIDNIGHT HORROR SHOW

*Halloween horror at the drive-in.*

It's end of October 1985 and the crumbling river town of Dubois, Iowa is shocked by the gruesome murder of one of the pillars of the community. Detective David Carlson has no motive, no evidence, and only one lead: the macabre local legend of Boris Orlof, a late night horror movie host who burned to death during a stage performance at the drive-in on Halloween night twenty years ago and the teenage loner obsessed with keeping his memory alive. The body count is rising and the darkness that hangs over the town grows by the hour. Carlson desperately chases shadows into a nightmare world of living horrors. On Halloween the drive-in re-opens at midnight for a show no one will ever forget.

**Ben Lathrop** has written and taught on the history of cinema with a focus on the horror genre and cult audience behaviour. He is a native Iowan, former television horror host and present librarian. He lives with his family in Cincinnati, Ohio.

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**Firmly rooted in all those things that made '80s horror so great. Campy, gross, weird, harrowing, scary, funny, big-hearted. MIDNIGHT HORROR SHOW is a good one' — Keith Rosson, author of THE MERCY OF THE TIDE and ROAD SEVEN**



# TERROR PEAK

*Can you survive the mountain?*

Abominable Peak is the gnarliest hill in the Rocky Mountains. Only hardcore boarders and skiers ride there. No groomed trail posers allowed. Skill, moxie, and money rule. Not this season. Former pro snowboarder Charles 'Chance' Hance is running from a drug addiction triggered by an injury, struggling with no longer being a pro, and chasing the ghost of his grandfather who died on the peak under suspicious circumstances. Riding is an addiction, and pain killers aren't the only things that made him a junkie. What was supposed to be a fun week with his old crew turns tragic when Chance is caught in an avalanche and barely escapes nature's fury ... and something more. An ancient horror prowls the peak. Chance's obsessions shift as he fights for his life.

**Edward J McFadden III** has published a number of books, including three Amazon Bestsellers. His short stories have appeared in over 75 magazines and anthologies. He lives on Long Island with his wife Dawn, and their daughter Samantha.

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**'TERROR PEAK is a beautifully written adventure-slash-horror novel with a main character readers will care about from start to finish, a great read for those who love their fiction with a pulse that pounds!' — Michael Laimo, author of DEEP IN THE DARKNESS and DEAD SOULS**



# THE BOY WITH THE SPIDER FACE

*Because emotions can be deadlier than venom.*

Jeff Pritchett isn't much different from other teenage boys, with one exception. His monstrous, spider-like appearance and loner persona make him a target for bullying, when all he wants is a friend who sees beyond the surface. Enter transfer student Aarav Jain. Thoughtful, accepting, and insightful, he sparks an untapped hope in Jeff, transforming his life. But as the boys grow closer, their deepening relationship becomes hijacked by a darkness Aarav can't escape and a life-altering secret Jeff can barely contain. The unconventional pair find themselves marked for hatred, and when his bond to Aarav is threatened, Jeff discovers a sinister side he never knew he had, proving that, when pushed too far, emotions can be deadlier than venom. This horror novella is transformative science fiction about acceptance, reflection, and revenge.

**AJ Franks** is a Portland-based author and playwright of more than thirty stories. His short story 'Prior to Slaughter' won first place in Crystal Lake Publishing's Best of the Best flash fiction contest and was published in SHALLOW WATERS anthology volume 8. His debut horror collection, KEEP YOUR COLD: CHILLING TALES, was a multcategory finalist in the American Book Fest 2019 Best Book Awards.



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# THE EXORCIST'S HOUSE

*Buy a country house, they said.*

In the summer of 1994, psychologist Daniel Hill buys a rustic farmhouse nestled in the rolling hills of West Virginia. Daniel, his wife and teenage daughter uproot their lives in Ohio and move south. They are initially seduced by the natural beauty of the country setting. That soon changes when they discover a hidden room in the basement with a well, boarded shut and adorned with crucifixes. Local legends about the previous owner being an exorcist come to light, but by then, all Hell has broken loose. This 1990s horror novel is perfect for fans of family thriller books, stories of demonic possession, exorcism fiction, the occult, or thrillers like *THE EXORCIST*, *A HEAD FULL OF GHOSTS* and *THE ARMITYVILLE HORROR*.

A lifelong storyteller, **Nick Roberts** began writing and illustrating children's books in elementary school, grew into screenplay writing in high school, and then transitioned into short stories and novels. He is currently an English teacher by day and author by night. His debut horror novel, *ANATHEMA*, was published by J Ellington Ashton Press in 2020 and won the 2020-2021 Horror Authors Guild Award for Debut Novel of the Year. Nick now resides in South Carolina with his wife, Amy, and their two children, Keagan and Cora. He enjoys spending time with his family, weightlifting, and advocating for people in recovery from substance abuse after having graduated from Recovery Point West Virginia in 2012.

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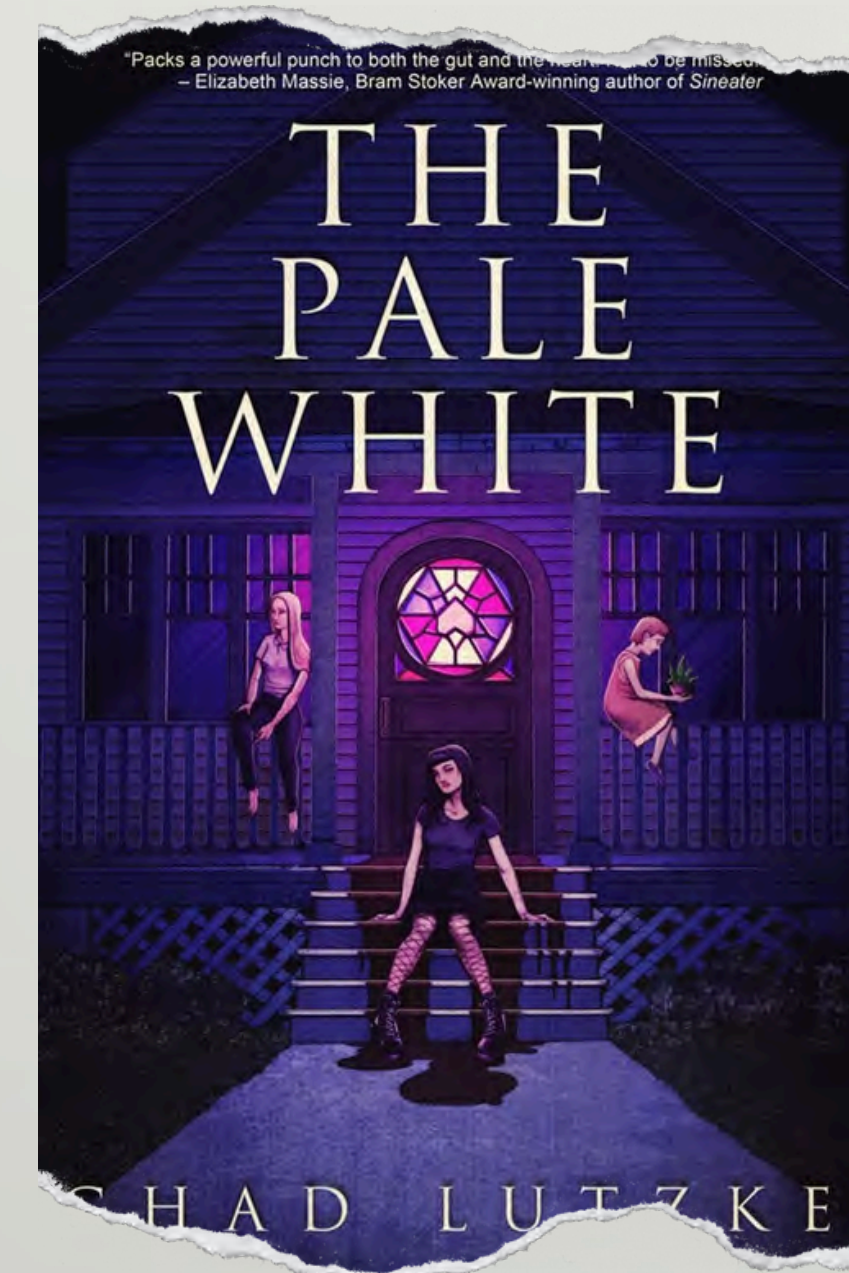
# THE PALE WHITE

*Held against their will, will they stick together?*

After being held against their will in a house used for trafficking, three girls plan their escape. Alex: A hardened goth-punk who's convinced she's a vampire with a penchant for blood. Stacia: A seventeen-year-old raised by an alcoholic mother, her fellow captives the only family she's ever truly had. Kammie: The youngest of the three, a mute who finds solace in a houseplant. But does life outside the house offer the freedom they'd envisioned? Or is it too late, the scars too deep? A coming-of-age tale of revenge and survival that explores a friendship and the desperate measures taken to ensure they stay united, held together by the scars that bind them. This contemporary Suspense Thriller / Horror novella with an all-female cast is the perfect read for fans of Robert R McCammon, Stephen King and Jack Ketchum. It won the 2019 This Is Horror Awards Novella of the Year prize.

**Chad Lutzke** lives in Battle Creek, Michigan, with his wife and children. For over two decades, he has been a contributor to several different outlets in the independent music and film scene, offering articles, reviews, and artwork. He's had several dozen short stories published. He is known for his heartfelt approach to the dark side of humanity. His work has been praised by Jack Ketchum, Richard Chizmar, Joe R. Lansdale, Stephen Graham Jones, Elizabeth Massie, Tim Waggoner, and his own mother.

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# TWENTY YEARS DEAD

*Six feet is not deep enough.*

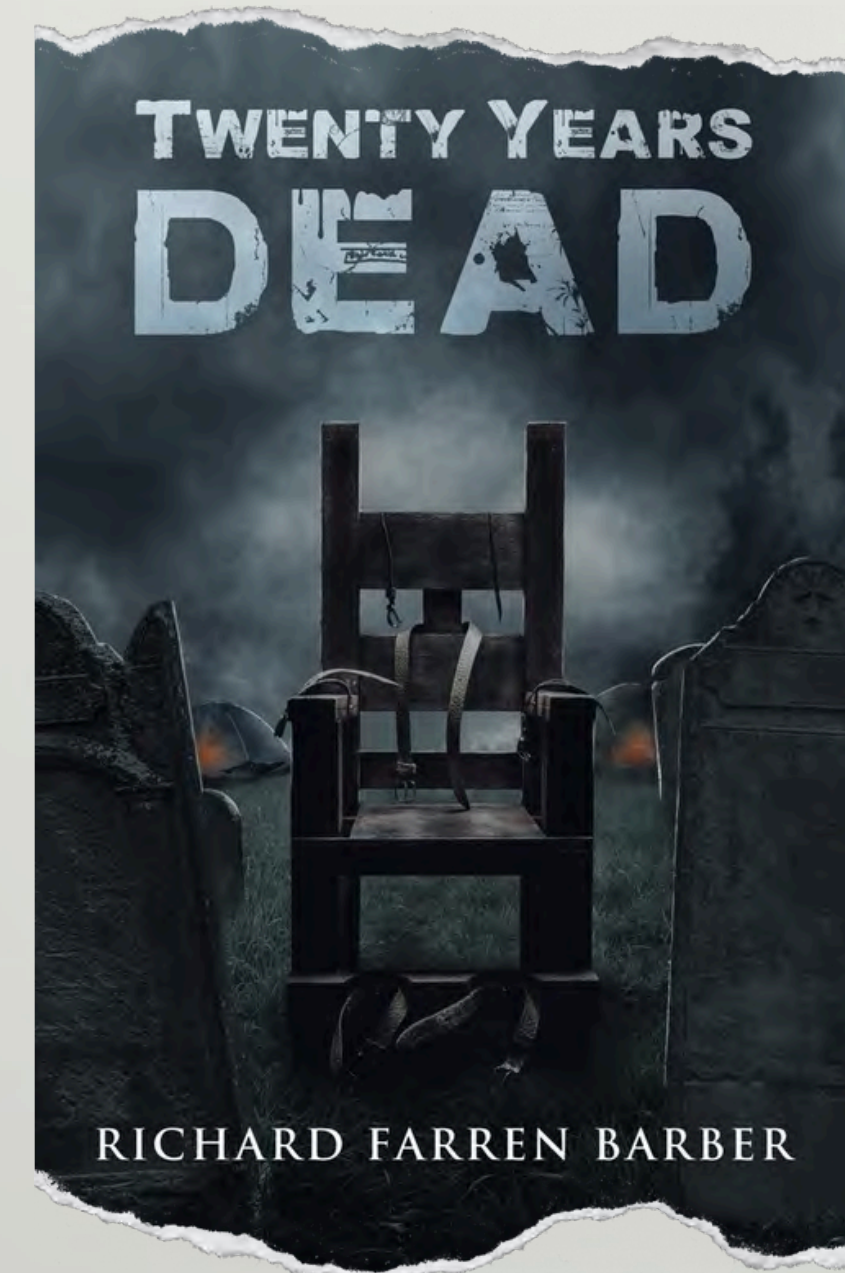
After twenty years in the ground, the dead briefly rise. At his father's grave, this is Dave's last opportunity to discover why a man would abandon his wife and young son. Against the protests of his mother and his girlfriend, Dave is determined to learn what happened all those years ago. Sometimes you have to risk everything. But the dead don't give up their secrets so easily. TWENTY YEARS DEAD is a novella of quiet horror for fans of Paul Tremblay and Thomas Olde Heuvelt, which explores families and their secrets.

**Richard Farren Barber** has published over 80 short stories, seven novellas and two novels. He lives in England with his wife and son and works as a manager for a local university.

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★★★★★ 'Truly ghoulish with a plot that is hauntingly unearthed. The way this story is revealed was incredible. Totally engaging and it kept me thinking about what I would do in David's situation. It was unique, and it had me on the edge of my seat with curiosity.' — Paul Preston

★★★★★ 'Richard Farren Barber's TWENTY YEARS DEAD comes with the very highest of recommendation, turning a great idea into a very readable, funny and chilling page-turner' — Ginger Nuts of Horror



# WHEN IT RAINS

*It may be dangerous to go out in the rain ... But it may be even more dangerous to stay inside.*

Just after noon on a sunny spring day at Friedkin University, a layer of strange clouds smudges across the sky, and a mysterious rain begins to fall. This isn't just a surprise spell of rain. This substance is slimy and gelatinous ... and it's not letting up any time soon. The rain spreads across the country, the hemisphere, and the globe, with growing ripples of panic and paranoia gathering behind it. Is it a natural, undocumented phenomenon? A chemical weapon? Some kind of bacterial contagion? As fear turns theories into conspiracies and no clear answers are given, factions start to form between those who have been exposed to the rain and those who stayed dry. Who is safe? Who is marked? Who is dangerous, and who is not? The rain keeps falling, and at Friedkin University, the sanctuary of the campus bookstore swiftly becomes a dangerous battlefield. Is it man versus nature? Or man versus man?

**Mark Allan Gunnells** loves to tell stories. He has since he was a kid, penning one-page tales that were TWILIGHT ZONE knockoffs. He likes to think he has got a little better since then. He loves reader feedback, and above all he loves telling stories. He lives in Greer, SC, with his husband Craig A Metcalf.



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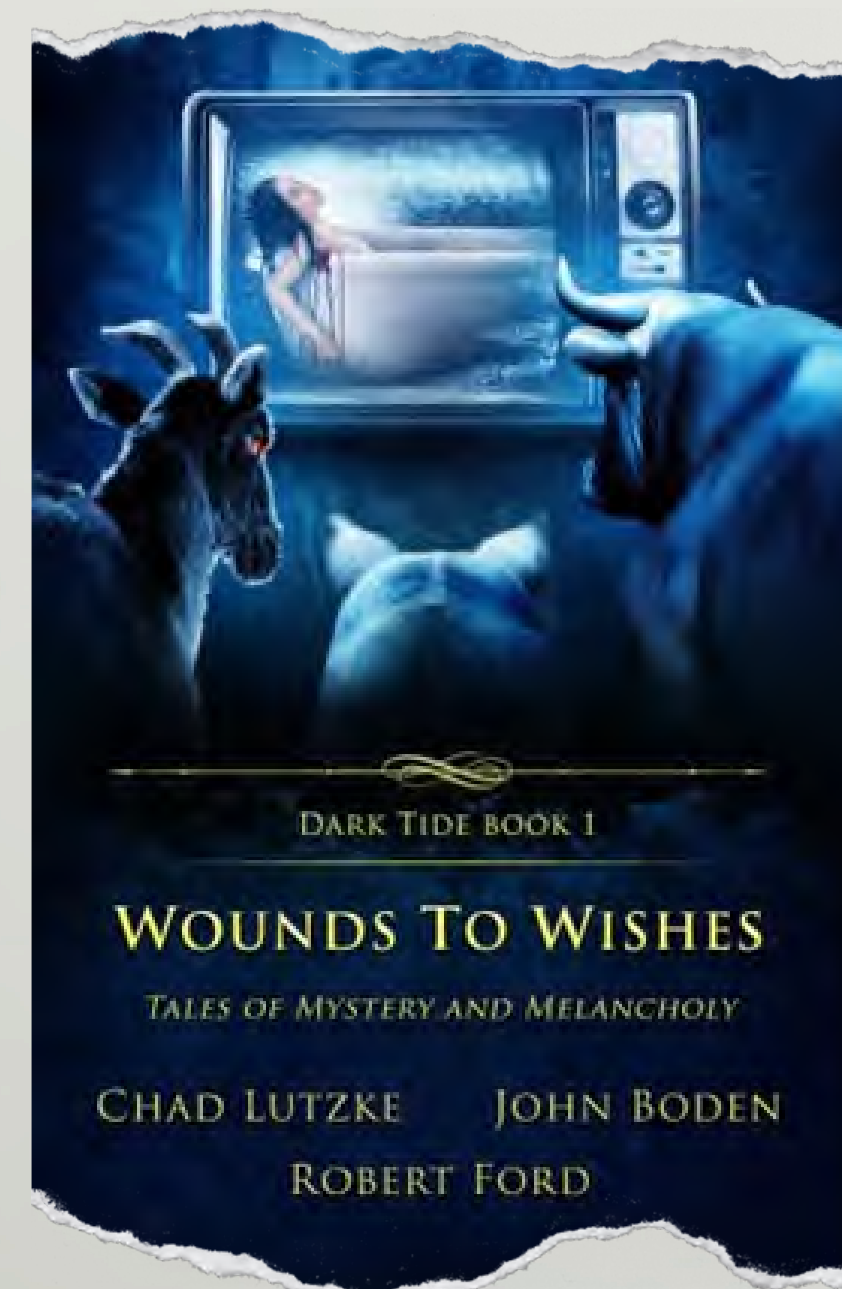
# WOUNDS TO WISHES

*Three horror novellas creepily connected.*

Three separate yet strangely connected novellas. **THE STRANGEST TWIST UPON HER LIPS** by Chad Lutzke: When a suicide note is just too much to bear, an absurd celebration of life feels like the only way out. While avoiding the suicide note his fiancée left behind, a grief-stricken man tackles a bucket list the two had made together, fulfilling entries that take him out of his comfort zone and into the realm of skid-row voodoo, where truths are finally revealed. **MY ONLY SUNSHINE** by Robert Ford: A grief-stricken mother has five days to solve her daughter's murder. Caroline's daughter was abducted and murdered over four months ago. Now, in an abandoned building, in the dead of night, she can talk with Emma's ghost. Five days. Fourteen minutes each day. That's all the time Caroline has to find out who murdered Emma, and say goodbye to her daughter for the very last time. **SUET** by John Boden: Dark secrets and darker things are a lonely man's inheritance. Corbin is an isolated young man who finally broke the bonds of an emotional vampire of a job. He accepts the sad task of going through the estate of his dead grandparents, to discover that family can go back quite far, as can secrets and shadows. He will discover that the family he always knew kept things back and that an inheritance isn't always monetary. History has teeth and talons and often times does not let go easily.

**Chad Lutzke** lives in Battle Creek, Michigan, with his wife and children. For over two decades, he has been a contributor to several different outlets in the independent music and film scene, offering articles, reviews, and artwork. He's had several dozen short stories published. He is known for his heartfelt approach to the dark side of humanity. His work has been praised by Jack Ketchum, Richard Chizmar, Joe R. Lansdale, Stephen Graham Jones, Elizabeth Massie, Tim Waggoner, and his own mother. **John Boden** is a baker and writer. He lives in Pennsylvania, USA, with his wonderful wife and sons. While his output as a writer is fairly sporadic, it has a bit of a reputation for being unique. **Robert Ford** has written the novels **BURNER** and **THE COMPOUND**. He also has a collection of his short fiction, **THE GOD BENEATH MY GARDEN**, and a novella collection, **INNER DEMONS**. Robert lives in Central Pennsylvania, and is usually hard at work on at least two projects at a time.

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# HARMED AND DANGEROUS

*What if you could see the past through someone else's eyes?*

Kyra Hughes' obsession with serial killer Billy-Ray Johnson takes a dark turn when she learns his final victim was the mother she never knew. Kyra travels to Yeuxville, in Louisiana, scene of Billy-Ray's crimes, to find out more. In Yeuxville, Kyra has a series of paranormal episodes. Her body is in the present, but she appears to be looking out of someone else's eyes at the world as it was fifteen years ago. She has no control over her actions and finds herself following a young woman and her child. Catching sight of her reflection, Kyra realizes she's seeing the world through Billy-Ray's eyes, the woman is her mother, Caitlin, and the child is herself. Kyra is taken over by Billy-Ray and forced to watch as he stalks her mother and younger self. Once she gets over the shock of this, Kyra is overjoyed to regain repressed memories of Caitlin. Until she learns there's a reason those memories were repressed: Caitlin is an addict and abusive mother. As the abuse escalates, Kyra is unable to watch, and she forces Billy-Ray to look away. The control, she learns, cuts both ways. She's able to take over Billy-Ray for brief periods and even alter the past. This gives Kyra a stark choice, it's in her power to save Caitlin. But this comes at a high price. If Caitlin lives, Kyra will suffer a lifetime of abuse, and she'll never know the beloved parents who adopted her. A southern gothic, paranormal thriller with young adult/mainstream horror crossover appeal, ideal for readers of Jennifer McMahon, Gillian Flynn and Jason Rekulak's *HIDDEN PICTURES*. *HARMED AND DANGEROUS* explores father/daughter relationships, LGBT issues and the passage from adolescence to adulthood.

**Jasper Bark** is an award-winning novelist, children's author and comic book writer. Famed for his imaginative story telling he's published four novels, twelve children's books and countless comics and graphic novels. His work has been translated into nine languages and is used in schools throughout the UK to improve literacy. He regularly performs his work all over the country, on the radio and through regular podcasts.

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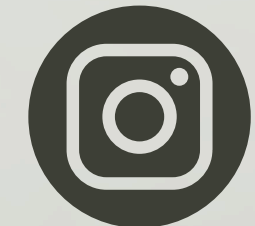
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**The Lennon-Ritchie Agency**

 [aoife@lennonliterary.com](mailto:aoife@lennonliterary.com)



(+27) 61 352 1405

(+27) 21 447 9797



5 Lower Trill Road, Observatory,  
Cape Town, 7925, South Africa



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