
The Cipher Kathe Koja

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Kathe Koja*

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THE CIPHER

Roadswell Editions

Kathe Koja's classic, award-winning horror novel is finally available as an ebook. Nicholas, a would-be poet, and Nakota, his feral lover, discover a strange hole in the storage room floor down the hall - "Black. Pure black and the sense of pulsation, especially when you look at it too closely, the sense of something not living but alive." It begins with curiosity, a

joke - the Funhole down the hall. But then the experiments begin. "Wouldn't it be wild to go down there?" says Nakota. Nicholas says "We're not." But they're not in control, not from the first moment, as those experiments lead to obsession, violence, and a very final transformation for everyone who gets too close to the Funhole. THE CIPHER was the winner of the 1991 Bram Stoker Award, and was recently named one of io9.com's Top 10 Debut Science Fiction Novels That Took the World By Storm. Long out-of-print and much sought-after, it is finally available as an ebook, with a new foreword by the author. "An ethereal rollercoaster ride from start to finish." - The Detroit Free Press "Combines intensely poetic language and lavish grotesqueries." - BoingBoing "Kathe Koja is a poet ... [T]he kind that prefers to read in seedy bars instead of universities, but a poet." - The New York Review of Science Fiction "Her 20-something characters are poverty-gagged 'artists' who exist in that demimonde of shitty jobs, squalid art galleries, and thrift stores; her settings are run-down studios, flat-beer bars, and dingy urban streets [a] long way from Castle Rock, Dunwich, or Stepford, that's for sure." - Too Much Horror Fiction "This powerful first novel is as thought-provoking as it is horrifying." - Publishers Weekly "Unforgettable

... [THE CIPHER] takes you into the lives of the dark dreamers that crawl on the underbelly of art and culture. Seldom has language been so visceral and so right." - Locus "[THE CIPHER] is a book that makes you sit up, pay attention, and jettison your moldy preconceptions about the genre ... Utterly original ... [An} imaginative debut." - Fangoria "Not so much about the vast and wonderful strangeness of the universe as it is about the horrific and glorious potential of the human spirit." - Short Form

Under the Poppy
Small Beer Press

"Koja can pack a lot Dickensian humor into a sentence."--The Plain Dealer Under the Poppy is a brothel

owned by Decca and Rupert. Decca is in love with Rupert but he in turn is in love with her brother, Istvan. When Istvan comes back to town, louche puppet troupe in tow, the lines of their age-old desires intersect against a backdrop of approaching war. Hearts are broken when old betrayals and new alliances--not just their own--take shape, as the townsmen seek refuge from the onslaught of history by watching the girls of the Poppy cavort onstage with Istvan's naughty puppets. When the war gets too close, Istvan and Rupert abandon the Poppy and find a place in high society where they try to avoid becoming more than puppets themselves in the hands of those

they have helped before and who now want to use them again. From its explosive beginning to the final climax, Under the Poppy is a vivid, sexy, behind-the-scenes historical novel as delicious and intoxicating as the best guilty pleasure.

Bad Brains *Dell Publishing Company*

Still reeling from his divorce, would-be painter Austen takes a fall in a 7-Eleven parking lot that leaves him with brain damage and strange visions, a madness that sends him on a cross-country odyssey of debauchery and pain. Original.

SKIN *Roadswell Editions*

Tess welds metal. Bibi molds flesh. Together, they make art that

moves, dances, burns, and bleeds, and the Surgeons of the Demolition become the hottest ticket in town. But Bibi wants more, always more, no matter who gets hurt. And Tess needs to burn, no matter what. Thirty years ago, SKIN changed the landscape of dark fiction forever. And now the girls are back in town. "A dark and frightening work by a major talent whose prose reads like a collaboration between Clive Barker and William S. Burroughs. Highly recommended." - Library Journal "[H]umorless novel about art punks in an unnamed present-day city...the novel, like the art of the characters it portrays, is a sustained exercise in style over substance." -

Publishers Weekly "The language Koja employs is fresh and astonishing, harsh yet beautiful." -

Washington Post Book World "The biggest flaw in this novel is the writing. Koja often abandons grammar, sentence structure, and, as a result, clarity. Many of her incomplete sentences are simply unintelligible." - The Tech "Unexpectedly poignant ... Sentences as sharp and to the point as a scrotal stud." - SPIN "[W]ill leave many fighting off its overload." - Kirkus Reviews "Not an easy read, but perversely beautiful." - Vector

Buddha Boy

Justin spends time with Jinsen, the unusual and artistic new student whom the school bullies torment and call

"Buddha Boy," and ends up making choices that impact Jinsen, himself, and the entire school. Reprint.

Velocities

Stories *Meerkat Press, LLC*

From the award-winning author of *The Cipher* and *Buddha Boy*, comes *Velocities*, Kathe Koja's second electrifying collection of short fiction. Thirteen stories, two never before published, all flying at the speed of strange.

Strange Angels *Dell*

Grant, an ambitious photographer, is possessed by a young mental patient's strange drawings and becomes the disturbed young artist's confidant and guardian in a relationship that

pushes Grant's own sanity to the edge. Reprint.

Straydog

Rachel, a teenager with a healthy dose of both aptitude and attitude, begins to feel at home volunteering at an animal shelter.

Extremities *Running PressBook Pub*

Blending elements of horror, fantasy, and science fiction, an imaginative anthology of seventeen short stories by a Bram Stoker and Locus Award-winning author includes "Disquieting Muse," "Anels in Love," "Bird Superior," and "The Neglected Garden"

Going Under *Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR)*

Because all my life had

been a chrysalis, with you, Ada and Marshall and our house; even though we did other things and saw other people, the summers at the lake, and all those homeschoolers' parties, it was still always just - us. Hilly and her brother, Ivan, have been homeschooled by their parents. All their lives it has been just the two of them - Ivan and Hilly, brother and sister, pilot and copilot. Until Hilly breaks out of their cozy cocoon to work on the local high school literary magazine as an extracurricular activity. Ivan feels betrayed: it's no longer just the two of them. And when Hilly goes into a depression after the suicide of a friend she has made at the magazine, she drifts

even further away from Ivan. Hilly's parents insist that she see a psychotherapist. Ivan steps in to help manage Hilly's recovery by taking her to and from her appointments but compounds the betrayal by establishing his own relationship with the manipulative therapist. Through the alternating voices of Hilly and Ivan, and drawing on the myths of Persephone and Narcissus, Kathe Koja explores the souls of two teenagers caught in a world where love takes you deeper than you ever dreamed you'd go.

Talk Square Fish

Kit Webster is hiding a secret. Carma, his best friend, has already figured it out, and

pushes him to audition for the high school play, *Talk*. When he's cast as the male lead, he expects to escape his own life for a while and become a different person. What he gets instead is the role of a lifetime: Kit Webster. In the play, Kit's thrown together with Lindsay Walsh, the female lead and the school's teen queen. Lindsay, tired of the shallow and selfish boys from her usual circle of friends, sees something real in Kit - and wants it. But Kit's attention is focused on Pablo, another boy in school. The play is controversial; the parents put pressure on the school to shut it down. And when Kit and Lindsay rally to save *Talk*, they find themselves deep into a battle for the truth: onstage, and inside

themselves.

The Weird

A Compendium of Strange and Dark Stories *Tor Books*

From Lovecraft to Borges to Gaiman, a century of intrepid literary

experimentation has created a corpus of dark and strange stories that transcend all known genre boundaries. Together these stories form *The Weird*, and its practitioners include some of the greatest names in twentieth and twenty-first century literature. Exotic and esoteric, *The Weird* plunges you into dark domains and brings you face to face with surreal monstrosities. You won't find any elves or wizards here...but you will find

the biggest, boldest, and downright most peculiar stories from the last hundred years bound together in the biggest *Weird* collection ever assembled. *The Weird* features 110 stories by an all-star cast, from literary legends to international bestsellers to Booker Prize winners: including William Gibson, George R. R. Martin, Stephen King, Angela Carter, Kelly Link, Franz Kafka, China Miéville, Clive Barker, Haruki Murakami, M. R. James, Neil Gaiman, Mervyn Peake, and Michael Chabon. *The Weird* is the winner of the 2012 World Fantasy Award for Best Anthology. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Strange Angels *Penguin*

In *Strange Angels*, Dru Anderson has what her grandmother called “the touch.” (Comes in handy when you’re traveling from town to town with your dad, hunting ghosts, suckers, wulfen, and the occasional zombie.) Then her dad turns up dead—but still walking—and Dru knows she’s next. Even worse, she’s got two guys hungry for her affections, and they’re not about to let the fiercely independent Dru go it alone. Will Dru discover just how special she really is before coming face-to-fang with whatever—or whoever— is hunting her?

Headlong *Farrar, Straus and Giroux* (BYR)

What sets Vaughn apart is the quality of our girls. We do draw from all over, girls from every kind of background, girls for whom Vaughn is a major life experience. And not every girl is the right girl for Vaughn. You can often tell, early on, who these girls are. The Vaughn School. Home of domed ceilings, gleaming checkerboard floors, and the Vaughn Virgins: the upper stratum of girls who have perfect grades, perfect lives, and perfect friends. Lily Noble is a lifer - she knows all the rules. Then sophomore year, Hazel Tobias arrives as a scholarship student, with her model’s looks and unconventional family, and shows Lily everything she’s been missing. Can you ever

fit in someplace you don't want to be? As Lily befriends Hazel, both girls discover what it means to dive deep beneath the surface - of friendship, of commitment - and to live life with all their hearts, with all they are, headlong.

Paperbacks from Hell

The Twisted History of '70s and '80s Horror Fiction *Quirk Books*

An affectionate, nostalgic, and unflinchingly funny celebration of the horror fiction boom of the 1970s and '80s. Take a tour through the horror paperback novels of two iconic decades . . . if you dare. Page through dozens and dozens of amazing book covers

featuring well-dressed skeletons, evil dolls, and knife-wielding killer crabs! Read shocking plot summaries that invoke devil worship, satanic children, and haunted real estate! Horror author and vintage paperback book collector Grady Hendrix offers killer commentary and witty insight on these trashy thrillers that tried so hard to be the next *Exorcist* or *Rosemary's Baby*. Complete with story summaries and artist and author profiles, this unforgettable volume dishes on familiar authors like V. C. Andrews and R. L. Stine, plus many more who've faded into obscurity. Also included are recommendations for which of these

forgotten treasures are well worth your reading time and which should stay buried.

The Blue Mirror

Farrar Straus & Giroux

Seventeen-year-old loner Maggy Klass, who frequently seeks refuge from her alcoholic mother's apartment by sitting and drawing in a local cafe, becomes involved in a destructive relationship with a charismatic homeless youth named Cole.

Flu Tantor eBooks

There's a nasty flu going round. An epidemic, they call it. The posters say to cover your mouth when you sneeze, and throw away the tissue. But such simple measures won't stop this flu. Because when you catch the flu,

armed police come and lock you in your house to die alone. When you catch this flu, it kills you in days. And when you catch this flu, two hours after it's killed you, your eyelids snap open again . . . Flu is a pacey, terrifying, frighteningly real zombie horror story.

Kissing the Bee St.

Martin's Press

While working on a bee project for her advanced biology class, quiet high school senior Dana reflects on her relationship with gorgeous best friend Avra and Avra's boyfriend Emil, whom Dana secretly loves.

Black Light Open Road Media

A decadent tale of ancient darkness that "does for upstate New York what Stephen

King has done for rural Maine,” from the author of *Waking the Moon* (Publishers Weekly). Lit Moylan lives what she thinks is an ordinary life. Sure, her town has a few eccentric theater types, but that’s all. That is until her Warholian godfather, Axel Kern, moves into the big house on the hill. He throws infamously depraved parties, full of drinks, drugs, and sex. But they also have a much more sinister purpose. At one of these parties, Lit touches a statue, and learns she has much more of a role to play in this world than she ever thought possible. Ornate and decadent, *Black Light* visits an irresistible world of ancient gods and secret societies as enthralling as it is

dangerous. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Elizabeth Hand including rare images and never-before-seen documents from the author’s personal collection.

Steal the Stars

A Novel *Tor Books*

Steal the Stars, a debut novel by Nat Cassidy, is based on the science fiction podcast from Tor Labs, written by Mac Rogers. Dakota “Dak” Prentiss guards the biggest secret in the world. They call it “Moss.” It’s your standard grey alien from innumerable abduction stories. It still sits at the controls of the spaceship it crash-landed eleven years ago. A secret military base was built around the crash site to study both Moss and

the dangerous technology it brought to Earth. The day Matt Salem joins her security team, Dak's whole world changes. It's love at first sight—which is a problem, since they both signed ironclad contracts vowing not to fraternize with other military personnel. If they run, they'll be hunted for what they know. Dak and Matt have only way to be together: do the impossible. Steal Moss and sell the secret of its existence. And they can't afford a single mistake.

Kink

A Novel *Henry Holt & Company*

Likened to Clive Barker, Don DeLillo, and William S. Burroughs, a

celebrated young novelist offers a new novel set in the nightclubs of a decadent urban artists' community, where a man and two women share a complex erotic relationship.

Rise of the Mages

Tor Books

Scott Drakeford's epic fantasy debut, *Rise of the Mages* combines gripping, personal vengeance with compelling characters for an action packed first book in a trilogy. Emrael Ire wants nothing more than to test to be a weapons master. His final exam will be a bloody insurrection, staged by corrupt nobles and priests, that enslaves his brother. With the aid of his War Master tutor, herself an undercover mage,

Emrael discovers his own latent and powerful talents. To rescue his brother, Emrael must embrace not only his abilities as a warrior but also his place as last of the ancient Mage Kings—for the Fallen God has returned. And he is hungry. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

The Blue Mirror

Seventeen-year-old loner Maggy Klass, who frequently seeks refuge from her alcoholic mother's apartment by sitting and drawing in a local cafe, becomes involved in a destructive relationship with a charismatic homeless youth named Cole. An ALA Best Book for

Young Adults. Reprint.

THE MERCURY WALTZ *Roadswell Editions*

"We're pursued by no one, now." Having fled their comfortably dangerous brothel-and-theater known as the Poppy, Rupert and Istvan have traveled far to land in a city of sepia and silver, where they make new allies and settle old grudges. Ancient families clash with municipal thugs outside and inside the doors of the Mercury Theatre: the home Rupert has always longed for, with a stage created for Istvan's wildest tales. Kathe Koja's compelling sequel to *Under the Poppy* continues the timeless love and passionate play of its heroes, who can never truly escape their past.

As their lives intertwine with a young blue-eyed fortuneteller, a foxy street sharpster, and a poet from the provinces come to this city on the brink of combustion, the promise of the Poppy is played out to the tune of The Mercury Waltz.

The Ghosts of Sleath

Pan Macmillan

Can a ghost haunt a ghost? Can the dead reach out and touch the living? Can ancient evil be made manifest? These are the questions that confront paranormal investigator David Ash in James Herbert's *The Ghosts of Sleath*, when Ash is sent to the picturesque village of Sleath in the Chiltern Hills to look into mysterious reports of mass hauntings. What he discovers is a

terrified community gripped by horrors and terrorized by ghosts from the ancient village's long history. As each dark secret is unveiled and terrible, malign forces are unleashed, he will fear for his very sanity. *Sleath*. Where the dead will walk the streets. Continue the chilling series from the Master of Horror, with Ash.

Toplin (Valancourt 20th Century Classics) *Valancourt Books*

DEATH IN THE FAMILY BUT COME BACK SOON, the sign said. Obviously it was a lie. The people in the grocery store just wanted to make sure he couldn't buy the spice he needed to make the recipe he'd selected for that night (recipes must be

followed exactly). Obviously they wanted him to eat out ... to meet the waitress, Marta, ... to see her horrible, unspeakable, unbearable ugliness. It was obvious to him: her maimed, twisted face was the living desire to be dead. He had to help Marta be dead. His teeth are perfectly white. He can't see colors. He keeps a combination lock on his door and has twelve shelves of cookbooks. His walls bleed blood. His suits each have a number, S-1 through S-6. And life goes on. Life goes on, if you can stand it. Life goes on, for the brave and the damned. Life goes on, but come back soon ... "An ambitious novel of psychological horror." - "Publishers Weekly" "Compelling-a tour-de-

force of storytelling and style ... considerable artistry, marvelous pacing, and a welcome dose of macabre humor." - "Fantasy Review" "One of the best writers of horror in this country." - "Peter Straub"

The Seventh Mansion

A Novel *FSG Originals*

From the author of Heartbreaker and Rag comes a powerful and propulsive debut novel that examines activism, love, and purpose When fifteen-year-old Xie moves from California to a rural Southern town to live with his father he makes just two friends, Jo and Leni, both budding environmental and animal activists. One night, the three friends decide to free

captive mink from a local farm. But when Xie is the only one caught his small world gets smaller: Kicked out of high school, he becomes increasingly connected with nature, spending his time in the birch woods behind his house, attending extremist activist meetings, and serving as a custodian for what others ignore, abuse, and discard. Exploring the woods alone one night, Xie discovers the relic of a Catholic saint—the martyred Pancratius—in a nearby church. Regal and dressed in ornate armor, the skeleton captivates him. After weeks of visits, Xie steals the skeleton, hides it in his attic bedroom, and develops a complex and passionate relationship with the bones and

spirit of the saint, whom he calls P. As Xie's relationship deepens with P., so too does his relationship with the woods—private property that will soon be overrun with loggers. As Xie enacts a plan to save his beloved woods, he must also find a way to balance his conflicting—and increasingly extreme—ideals of purity, sacrifice, and responsibility in order to live in this world. Maryse Meijer's *The Seventh Mansion* is a deeply moving and profoundly original debut novel—both an urgent literary call to arms and an unforgettable coming-of-age story about finding love and selfhood in the face of mass extinction and

environmental
destruction.

sex, femininity and
masculinity, family and
girlhood"--

Heartbreaker

Stories *Macmillan*

"In her debut story collection, *Heartbreaker*, Maryse Meijer, flashlight in hand, goes deep into the darkest rooms of the psyche. With gorgeously restrained and exacting prose that packs a cumulatively devastating punch, she unapologetically unmask the violence we are willing to perform upon one another in the name of love and loneliness and the unrelenting desire to survive. In doing so, she lights societal convention and reader expectation on fire, exploring the darker emotional truths surrounding love and

Prodigal *E-Rights/E-Reads Limited*

A voice whispers in her ear at night, promising her a new life, urging her to let go of the reality she knows. The voice could only belong to one person, her brother Ethan, but his body, broken by drugs, lies cold in death. An invisible hand has opened the door for Lucy and her sisters and though Lucy questions her parents they have receded into their private existence where nothing can touch them. Lucy is quickly losing touch with her reality of white fences and pristine lawns. She is drawn beyond that door into the dark abyss where her

brother waits and evil is hiding in the shadows. Each day the voice grows stronger, demanding that she journey far away to the place that stole her brother's mind and body. As the secret unfolds, the Prodigal emerges.

The Haunted House

BoD - Books on Demand

Reproduction of the original: *The Haunted House* by Walter Hubbell

Hold My Place *Black Spot Books*

From the Helen Kay Chapbook Award-Winning poet Cassandra Windwalker, an unsuspecting librarian falls head-over-heels for a married man, but when she finds herself caught up in a

whirlwind romance, she discovers her new husband's past wives have all met early deaths—and some aren't ready to let go yet. Obsession never dies. When librarian Sigrun falls head-over-heels for the sophisticated and very married Edgar Leyward, she never expects to find herself in his bed—or his heart. Nevertheless, when his enigmatic wife Octavia dies from a sudden illness, Sigrun finds herself caught up in a whirlwind romance worthy of the most lurid novels on her bookshelves. Sigrun soon discovers Octavia wasn't Edgar's first lost love, or even his second. Three women Edgar has loved met early deaths. As she delves into her

beloved's past through a trove of discovered letters, the edges of Sigrun identity begin to disappear, fading into the women of the past. Sigrun tells herself it's impossible for any dark magic to be at play—that the dead can't possibly inhabit the bodies of the living—but something shadowy stalks the halls of the Leyward house and the lines between the love of the present and the obsessions of the past become increasingly blurred—and bloody. Mixing lyrical prose with simmering terror, *Hold My Place* is a modern gothic horror worthy of Shirley Jackson's nightmares and Daphne DuMaurier's dangerous lovers. "Hold My Place is a dark, sensuous tale about obliterating love,

and Windwalker's superb prose fairly drips with beauty. You simply must read this haunting book."

—Mercedes M. Yardley, Bram Stoker Award-winning author of *Little Dead Red* "Sinister undertones steadily build into a genuine sense of doom...as thought-provoking as it is harrowing."

—Publishers Weekly "With ethereal prose [*Hold My Place*]'s departure from genre tropes will make it a favorite with gothic-horror and dark-romance readers."

—Booklist "A satisfying blend of romance and ghost story.... *Hold My Place* is anything but ordinary or predictable, despite its firm roots in the horror world."

—Midwest Book Review "Brimming with muted eroticism, *Hold My*

Place is a dark romance novel punctuated by longing, lingering spirits and love without end."
—Foreword Reviews

Negative Space

"Like smoke off a collision between Dennis Cooper's George Miles Cycle and Beyond The Black Rainbow, absorbing the energy of mind control, reincarnation, parallel universes, altered states, school shootings, obsession, suicidal ideation, and so much else, B.R. Yeager's multi-valent voicing of drugged up, occult youth reveals fresh tunnels into the gray space between the body and the spirit, the living and the dead, providing a well-aimed shot in the arm for the world of conceptual

contemporary horror." -Blake Butler, author of Three Hundred Million "Ever wonder where teenage children go at night? Perhaps it's best not knowing the answer. There's something amiss in Kinsfield, a drab, boring city much like your own, except for the teenage suicide epidemic, stagnant, ineffectual parents, cultish behavior that borders on psychosis, and strings, strings everywhere. B.R. Yeager's Negative Space is a hypnotic collage of message boards, memes, and ruined bodies twisting at the end of a rope. Most modern novels have lost all concept of magic. B.R. Yeager's Negative Space is a stunning refutation of the quotidian." -James Nulick, author of

Haunted Girlfriend & Valencia

Gothic for Girls

Misty and British Comics *Univ. Press of Mississippi*

Today fans still remember and love the British girls' comic *Misty* for its bold visuals and narrative complexities. Yet its unique history has drawn little critical attention. Bridging this scholarly gap, Julia Round presents a comprehensive cultural history and detailed discussion of the comic, preserving both the inception and development of this important publication as well as its stories. *Misty* ran for 101 issues as a stand-alone publication between 1978 and 1980 and then four more years

as part of *Tammy*. It was a hugely successful anthology comic containing one-shot and serialized stories of supernatural horror and fantasy aimed at girls and young women and featuring work by writers and artists who dominated British comics such as Pat Mills, Malcolm Shaw, and John Armstrong, as well as celebrated European artists. To this day, *Misty* remains notable for its daring and sophisticated stories, strong female characters, innovative page layouts, and big visuals. In the first book on this topic, Round closely analyzes *Misty's* content, including its creation and production, its cultural and historical context, key influences, and the

comic itself. Largely based on Round's own archival research, the study also draws on interviews with many of the key creators involved in this comic, including Pat Mills, Wilf Prigmore, and its art editorial team Jack Cunningham and Ted Andrews, who have never previously spoken about their work. Richly illustrated with previously unpublished photos, scripts, and letters, this book uses *Misty* as a lens to explore the use of Gothic themes and symbols in girls' comics and other media. It surveys existing work on childhood and Gothic and offers a working definition of Gothic for Girls, a subgenre which challenges and instructs readers in a number of ways.

Zofloya; Or, the Moor

A Romance of the Fifteenth Century. in Three Volumes

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The Parasite Tor Books

An English clergyman teaches Peter Grace how to make the mind

leave the body, enabling Grace to use his ability to reincarnate his evil spirit in the body of ten-year-old Rose, who experiences terrifying effects twenty years later

The Loop *Simon and Schuster*

The year's most brutal, cinematic thrill ride is also one of its most critically acclaimed novels. Dazed and Confused meets 28 Days Later in this "wickedly entertaining," (Kirkus Reviews) "volcano of a book" (Nathan Ballingrud, author of Wounds) as a lonely young woman teams up with a group of fellow outcasts to survive the night in a town overcome by a science experiment gone wrong. A Best

Book of the Month for Den of Geek, Omnivoracious, Mystery & Suspense, and Tor. A Goodreads' 2020 Readers Choice Nominee for Best Horror, and one of the Best Books of 2020 for The Lineup, Booked, and Unsettling Reads. Turner Falls is a small tourist town nestled in the hills of central Oregon. When a terrifying outbreak rapidly develops, this idyllic town becomes the epicenter of an epidemic of violence. The Loop is a "wild and wonderfully scary novel" (Richard Chizmar, author of Wendy's Magic Feather) that offers a "hilarious and horrifying" (Brian Keene, author of The Rising) look at what one team of misfits can accomplish as they

fight to live through the night. “[A] harrowing thrill ride of the first order and an uncompromising page-turner, easily securing its spot as one of the best novels of 2020.” —Rue Morgue (featured “Dante’s Pick” Review) “Like the best of Crichton or Bentley, it is a great beach read, but it is infused with the neon blood of a brave new writer... [A] kind of literary roller coaster. It will take you to thrilling highs and terrifying lows...” —Los Angeles Review of Books “The Loop is the gore-soaked, anxiety-inducing, diabolically funny Richard Linklater/David Cronenberg mashup you never knew you wanted but can’t—or at least shouldn’t—live without.” —The Big

Thrill

“Unputdownable...Fans of The Twilight Zone, The X-Files, and Stranger Things will be especially thrilled.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review) “A satisfyingly dark satire of, well, everything...[a] heart-pounding and deeply unsettling tale.” —Booklist “The Loop is a remarkably propulsive novel, cinematic in the best way, with perfectly tuned tension and excellent character choices...a headlong, straightforward pleasure.” —Locus “The Loop is the Cronenberg film we never got.” —Nathan Ballingrud, author of North American Lake Monsters and Wounds

The Follower Abrams

A spine-tingling YA

thriller based on a true story Instagram-famous triplets Cecily, Amber, and Rudy—the children of home renovation

superstars—are ready for a perfect summer. They’ve just moved onto the site of their parents’ latest renovation project when they begin to receive spine-tingling messages from someone called The Follower. It soon becomes clear that this anonymous threat is more than a simple Internet troll, and they can’t wait to shatter the Cole family’s perfect veneer and take back what’s theirs. The Follower examines the implications of what it is to be watched in the era of social-media fame—as well as the lies we tell and the

lengths we’ll go to uphold a perfect image, when our lives depend on it.

The Seven Visitations of Sydney Burgess
Hachette UK

From an electrifying voice in horror comes the haunting tale of a woman whose life begins to unravel after a home invasion. “Marino offers horrors both existential and visceral. From a stunning opening, the sense of dread just builds and builds.” —M. R. Carey, author of *The Girl with All the Gifts* “Odd and dark and fascinating . . . Not quite like anything I’ve ever read before. A strange, compelling, late-night page-turner. It kept me reading way past my bedtime.” —T. Kingfisher, author of

The Hollow Places Possession is an addiction. Sydney's spent years burying her past and building a better life for herself and her young son. A respectable marketing job, a house with reclaimed and sustainable furniture, and a boyfriend who loves her son and accepts her, flaws and all. But when she opens her front door, and a masked intruder knocks her briefly unconscious, everything begins to unravel. She wakes in the hospital and tells a harrowing story of escape. Of dashing out a broken window. Of running into her neighbors' yard and calling the police. The cops tell her a different story. Because the intruder is now lying dead in her guest

room—murdered in a way that looks intimately personal. Sydney can't remember killing the man. No one believes her. Back home, as horrific memories surface, an unnatural darkness begins whispering in her ear. Urging her back to old addictions and a past she's buried to build a better life for herself and her son. As Sydney searches for truth among the wreckage of a past that won't stay buried for long, the unquiet darkness begins to grow. To change into something unimaginable. To reveal terrible cravings of its own. "Admirers of the works of Tana French, Megan Abbott, and Zoje Stage will devour this book."
—Booklist

The Ghost Tree *Penguin*

When people go missing in the sleepy town of Smith's Hollow, the only clue to their fate comes when a teenager starts having terrifying visions, in a chilling horror novel from national bestselling author Christina Henry. When the bodies of two girls are found torn apart in the town of Smiths Hollow, Lauren is surprised, but she also expects that the police won't find the killer. After all, the year before her father's body was found with his heart missing, and since then everyone has moved on. Even her best friend, Miranda, has become more interested in boys than in spending time at the old ghost tree, the way they

used to when they were kids. So when Lauren has a vision of a monster dragging the remains of the girls through the woods, she knows she can't just do nothing. Not like the rest of her town. But as she draws closer to answers, she realizes that the foundation of her seemingly normal town might be rotten at the center. And that if nobody else stands for the missing, she will.

Shamblau *Diversion Books*

Praised by H.P. Lovecraft as a "magnificent" debut, C.L. Moore's first story is still one of the most famous and enduring tales in science fiction. Passing through the streets of Lakkdarol, the newest human colony on Mars,

Northwest Smith witnesses a bizarre sight: a young woman, clad in scarlet, being chased by a mob chanting “Shambleau! Shambleau!” As beautiful as she is frightened, Northwest shields her from death at the hands of the mob, but alone in his quarters, she reveals how she intends to thank him and what lies inside the closely wrapped turban on her head... One of the strangest, and surely one of the most imaginative stories ever written, SHAMBLEAU was hailed by readers, authors, and editors as the debut of a truly gifted writer during the golden age of science fiction.