
Access Free The Marbled Swarm Dennis Cooper

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KEY=SWARM - HANA MALONE

The Marbled Swarm

A Novel

Harper Perennial The Marbled Swarm is Dennis Cooper’s most haunting work to date. In secret passageways, hidden rooms, and the troubled mind of our narrator, a mystery perpetually takes shape—and the most compelling clue to its final nature is “the marbled swarm” itself, a complex amalgam of language passed down from father to son. Cooper ensnares the reader in a world of appearances, where the trappings of high art, old money, and haute cuisine obscure an unspeakable system of coercion and surrender. And as the narrator stalks an elusive truth, traveling from the French countryside to Paris and back again, the reader will be seduced by a voice only Dennis Cooper could create.

The Marbled Swarm

A Novel

Harper Collins From literary cult hero Dennis Cooper comes his most haunting work to date. “An American master.... Cooper is the most important transgressive literary artist since Burroughs.” --Salon In secret passageways, hidden rooms, and the troubled mind of our narrator, a mystery perpetually takes shape—and the most compelling clue to its final nature is “the marbled swarm” itself, a complex amalgam of language passed down from father to son. Cooper ensnares the reader in a world of appearances, where the trappings of high art, old money, and haute cuisine obscure an unspeakable system of coercion and surrender. And as the narrator stalks an elusive truth, traveling from the French countryside to Paris and back again, the reader will be seduced by a voice only Dennis Cooper could create.

Wrong

A Critical Biography of Dennis Cooper

New American Canon In this, the first book-length study of Cooper's life and work, Diarmuid Hester shows that such comparisons hardly scratch the surface. A lively retrospective appraisal of Cooper's fifty-year career, *Wrong* tracks the emergence of Cooper's singular style alongside his participation in a number of American subcultural movements like New York School poetry, punk rock, and radical queercore music and zines.

My Loose Thread

Canongate Books A teenager struggling to come to terms with his sexual identity and his physical feelings toward his younger brother, Larry is offered \$500 to kill a fellow student and retrieve the boy's notebook, a personal volume that provides Larry with profound insights into his own life. Reprint.

I Wished

Soho Press “I started writing books about and for my friend George Miles because whenever I would speak about him honestly like I am doing now I felt a complicated agony beneath my words that talking openly can’t handle.” For most of his life, Dennis Cooper believed the person he had loved the most and would always love above all others was George Miles. In his first novel in ten years, Dennis Cooper writes about George Miles, love, loss, addiction, suicide, and how fiction can capture these things, and how it fails to capture them. Candid and powerful, *I Wished* is a radical work of shifting forms. It includes appearances by Santa Claus, land artist James Turrell, sentient prairie dogs, John Wayne Gacy, Nick Drake, and George, the muse for Cooper’s acclaimed novels *Closer*, *Frisk*, *Try*, *Guide*, and *Period*, collectively known as “The George Miles Cycle.” In revisiting the inspiration for the Cycle, Dennis has written a masterwork: the most raw, personal, and haunted book of his career.

God Jr.

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. The author of *Closer* “transcends the formulaic with exquisite writing on the level of Rimbaud’s *Illuminations* . . . an American masterpiece” (James McCourt, *Los Angeles Times*). *God Jr.* is the story of Jim, a father who survived the car crash that killed his teenage son Tommy. Tommy was distant, transfixed by video games and pop culture, and a mystery to the man who raised him. Now, disabled by the accident, yearning somehow to absolve his own guilt over the crash, Jim becomes obsessed with a mysterious building Tommy drew repetitively in a notebook before he died. As the fixation grows, Jim starts to take on elements of his son—at the expense of his job and marriage—but is he connecting with who Tommy truly was? A tender, wrenching look at guilt, grief, and the tenuous bonds of family, *God Jr.* is unlike anything Dennis Cooper has yet written. It is a triumphant achievement from one of our finest writers. “This beautiful book is a first-person narration of how grief grows and morphs after a death, and its style and naked pain make the reader feel like he has suffered a concussion . . . Carefully wrought in Cooper’s trademark short, clipped sentences. There’s no room for the pain to hide, and Cooper lays it bare with humor and striking honesty.” —*Time Out Chicago* “*God Jr.* is probably Cooper’s richest, most philosophical novel to date. If the cycle were a video game, this would be its Easter egg.” —*SF Gate* “Absorbing . . . carefully spare, pop-cultures prose that has earned him a cult following.” —*Entertainment Weekly*

Smothered in Hugs

Essays, Interviews, Feedback, and Obituaries

Harper Collins [“In another country or another era, Dennis Cooper’s books would be circulated in secret, explosive samizdat editions that friends and fans would pass around and savor like forbidden absinthe.”](#) —New York Times Book Review [“His work belongs to that of Poe, the Marquis de Sade, Charles Baudelaire, and Georges Bataille, other writers who argued with mortality.”](#) — San Francisco Chronicle ["There’s a stainless steel sheen to Cooper’s sentences that is as admirable as anything this side of Didion."](#) — Salon [From the internationally acclaimed author of Ugly Man and one of “the last literary outlaws in mainstream American fiction” \(Bret Easton Ellis\) comes a survey of his cultural criticism. From interviews with celebrities such as Leonard DiCaprio and Keanu Reeves; to obituaries for Kurt Cobain and River Phoenix; to writings on social issues—including the touchstone piece “AIDS: Words from the front”;](#) [Smothered in Hugs spans three decades of journalism from Dennis Cooper.](#)

Frisk

A Novel

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. [Second in the award-winning George Miles Cycle, “as intense a dissection of human relationships and obsession that modern literature has ever attempted” \(The Guardian\). When Dennis is thirteen, he sees a series of photographs of a boy apparently unimaginably mutilated. Dennis is not shocked but stunned by their mystery and their power; their glimpse at the reality of death. Some years later, Dennis meets the boy who posed for the photographs. He did it for love. Surrounded by images of violence, the celebrity of horror, news of disease, a wasteland of sex, Dennis flies to Europe, having discovered some clues about the photographs: “I see these criminals on the news who’ve killed someone methodically, and they’re free. They know something amazing. You can just tell.” An isolated windmill in Holland provides the perfect setting for Dennis to find out more about bodies—of which there are many—and what is inside them. In Frisk, as in the award-winning Closer, Dennis Cooper explores the limits of our knowledge and the dividing line between the body and the spirit. Frisk is a novel about the power of fantasy and faith, about the ecstasy and horror of being human. “A significant work of fiction. Cooper . . . wants to lead us into the wormy heart of the murderous impulse.”](#) —Michael Cunningham, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Hours* [“Destined to classic status.”](#) —Los Angeles Times Book Review [“Dennis Cooper, a disturbing and transcendent artist, enters the mind of a killer and comes out with genuine revelation.”](#) —Michael Silverblatt, host of *Bookworm* [“An electrifying study in carnage.”](#) —The Sunday Times

Ugly Man

Stories

Harper Perennial [A short story from the collection Ugly Man by Dennis Cooper.](#)

The Sluts

Da Capo Press [Set largely on the pages of a website where gay male escorts are reviewed by their clients, and told through the postings, emails, and conversations of several dozen unreliable narrators, The Sluts chronicles the evolution of one young escort's date with a satisfied client into a metafiction of pornography, lies, half-truths, and myth. Explicit, shocking, comical, and displaying the author's signature flair for blending structural complexity with direct, stylish, accessible language, The Sluts is Cooper's most transgressive novel since Frisk, and one of his most innovative works of fiction to date.](#)

The Mechanics of Homosexual Intercourse

Akashic Books [The Mechanics of Homosexual Intercourse, a radical map of shortcomings in our daily experiences in the form of a debut story collection, presents thematically related windows into serious emotional trouble and monstrous love. Lonely Christopher combines a striking emotional grammar, reminiscent of Gertrude Stein's Three Lives, with an unyielding imagination in the lovely/ugly architecture of his stories. Lonely Christopher is the author of several poetry chapbooks and is a contributor to the poetry volume Into \(Seven Circles Press\). His plays have been published, staged in New York City and internationally, and released in Mandarin translation. His fiction received Pratt Institute's 2009 Thesis Award. He is a founding member of the small press The Corresponding Society and an editor of its biannual journal Correspondence. He lives in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn.](#)

Userlands

New Fiction Writers from the Blogging Underground

Akashic Books ['This anthology intends to bring to light some of the new fiction writers who are using the Internet's labyrinthine array of blogs and personal web pages to expose, test, and develop their work. What unifies contributors is their extraordinary talent, their daring and highly individualistic approaches to composing fiction and the breathtaking freshness, charge, and skill of their prose.'](#) - Dennis Cooper

Try

A Novel

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. [Third in the George Miles Cycle: “It is finally time to admit that Cooper—whose work is constantly compared to Genet, Baudelaire, etc.—is like no other” \(Paper\). Simultaneously deadpan and queasily raw, Try is the story of Ziggy, the adopted teenage son of two sexually abusive fathers. He turns from both of these men to his uncle, who sells pornographic videos on the black market, and to his best friend, a junkie whose own vulnerability inspires in Ziggy a fierce and awkward devotion. Terminally insecure and yet inured to sexual brutality, Ziggy questions his two fathers, his uncle, his drug dealer, his friends, and himself in an attempt to isolate and define the vagaries and boundaries of sexuality, attraction, and abuse, compiling their responses into a journal that he calls I Apologize. Try follows Closer and Frisk in Dennis Cooper’s award-winning George Miles Cycle, “a crowning achievement in American letters—a moment where a New World writer has created something as beguiling, baffling, beautiful and intelligent as anything by Genet or Joyce” \(The Guardian\). “There was a rumor that Cooper’s new book was going to be a ‘nice’ one after the dark nightmare of Frisk, but Try is even more shocking. It may also be his most perfectly structured and moving work.”](#) —Paper [“As improbable as it may seem, Dennis Cooper has written a love story, all the more poignant because it is so brutally crushed.”](#) —The New York Times Book Review

Castle Faggot

MIT Press A dark satire about an amusement park more deranged than anything Disney could imagine: a playland for gay men called Faggotland. Castle Faggot is Derek McCormack's darkest and most delicious book yet, a satire of sugary cereals and Saturday morning cartoons set in an amusement park more deranged than anything Disney dreamed up. At the heart of the park is Faggotland, a playland for gay men, and Castle Faggot, the darkest dark ride in the world. Home to a cartoon Dracula called Count Choc-o-log, the castle is decorated with the corpses of gays—some were killed, some killed themselves, all ended up as décor. The book includes a map of Faggotland, a photobook of the castle, the instructions for a castle-shaped dollhouse, and the novelization of a TV puppet show about Count Choc-o-log and his friends—reminiscent of the classic stop-motion special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, but even gayer and more grotesque. As scatological as Sade but with a Hanna-Barbera vibe, Castle Faggot transmutes McCormack's love of the lurid and the childlike, of funhouses and sickhouses, into something furiously funny: as Edmund White says, “the mystery of objects, the lyricism of neglected lives, the menace and nostalgia of the past—these are all ingredients in this weird and beautiful parallel universe.”

The Missing Men

Closer

A Novel

Open Road + Grove/Atlantic Like Jean Genet and William Burroughs, Dennis Cooper assaults the senses as he engages the mind with visions of nightmare intensity in a world where stimulation without excitement and experience without emotion are prized.

Last Stop Tokyo

Random House ‘A fine debut – fast-paced and bleak, with a vivid setting and gut-wrenching twists.’ MICK HERRON ‘[An] impressive first thriller . . . the action is fast, copious and often unexpected.’ The Times ‘The vivid setting and skilfully plotted story is compelling and hard to put down.’ Daily Express ‘One of the most impressive debut crime novels of the year.’ Shots Mag ‘A vivid and noirish tale of an Englishman abroad discovering that you can run from everything but yourself. James Buckler is one to watch.’ SIMON BECKETT, bestselling author of The Chemistry of Death ***** The funny thing with suffering is just when you think you’ve suffered enough, you realize it’s only the beginning. Alex thought running away would make everything better. Six thousand miles from the mistakes he’s made and the people he’s hurt, Tokyo seems like the perfect escape. A new life, a new Alex. The bright lights and dark corners of this alien and fascinating city intoxicate him, and he finds himself transfixed by this country, which feels like a puzzle that no one can quite explain. And when Alex meets the enigmatic and alluring Naoko, the peace he sought slips ever further from his grasp. After all, trust is just betrayal waiting to happen and Alex is about to find out that there’s no such thing as rock bottom. There’s always the chance it’ll get worse . . . ***** ‘This is character-driven fare, but with a vivid sense of place that positively leaps off the page.’ Crimetime, Barry Forshaw ‘Intriguing and highly compelling . . . Most definitely one of the most original and satisfying novels I have read this year.’ reflectionsofareader.blogspot ‘Wow! Are you sure this is really a debut novel? . . . absolutely fantastic and had me totally hooked.’ aloverofbooks.wordpress ‘Last Stop Tokyo is a fast-paced yet easy read which I read in one sitting. Addictive. Magnetic. Glue. Call it what you like. I bloody loved it! What a debut.’ pageturnersnook.wordpress ‘Continuous undercurrent of tensions that runs throughout the whole book . . . Last Stop Tokyo is tense, engaging and insightful.’ earlgreyandcupcakes.wordpress ‘The story progresses to a thrilling and unexpected finale . . . a gripping and insightful read.’ tripfiction.com ‘A riveting thriller and one I’ll be recommending to anybody who likes their books to feature the darker, seedier side of life . . . I found myself racing through the pages.’ hairpastafreckle72.blogspot ‘What a web James Buckler has spun in this intoxicating debut novel. Full of descriptive, fast-paced scenes and an interesting take on life in Japan made this such an entertaining read for me . . . had me reading at a rate of knots.’ cescalizziereads.com ‘I was well and truly hooked from the start . . . a story full of dark, seedy characters and exposes the darkest underbelly of Tokyo. I enjoyed every page and highly recommend it.’ randomthingsthroughmyletterbox.blogspot

Left Hand

"Left Hand is every reason why Paul Curran is one of the smartest, most daring, meticulous, violent, delicate, awe-inspiring new fiction chisellers in the known world, if you ask me. His work has been a huge favorite of lucky insiders like me for years, and now the secret is finally and definitely out." - Dennis Cooper, author of The Marbled Swarm

Period

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. The final novel in the award-winning George Miles Cycle. “A triumphant finale to one of the most intense series of novels ever written” (Mondo). The stunning conclusion to Dennis Cooper’s five-book cycle, Period earned its author the accolade “a disquieting genius” by Vanity Fair and praise for his “elegant prose and literary lawlessness” from The New York Times. Breathtaking and mesmerizing, it is the culmination of Cooper’s explorations into sex and death, youth culture, and the search for the ineffable object of desire. Cooper has taken his familiar themes—strangely irresistible and interchangeable young men, passion that crosses into murder, the lure of drugs, the culpabilities of authorship, and the inexact, haunting communication of feeling—and melded them into a novel of flawless form and immense power. Set in a spare, smoke-and-mirror-filled world of secret websites, Goth bands, Satanism, pornography, and outsider art, Period is a literary disappearing act as mysterious as it is logical. Obsessive, beautiful, and darkly comic, Period is a stunning achievement from one of America’s finest writers. “A fascinating, intricately crafted jewel of a book . . . It’s a book one could read over and over and never exhaust.” —San Francisco Chronicle Book Review “To read Period (a book so intricate, it comes with its own strategy guide) is to witness the idea of the novel itself imploding; to glimpse the end of language; to become aware of literature’s dizzying possibilities.” —The Guardian “An elegy to the nature of obsessive love, the need to feel . . . [Cooper] is a profoundly original American visionary, and the most important transgressive literary artist since Burroughs.” —Salon “Haunting.” —Details

The Reconstructionist

Random House At a loose end after college, Ellis Barstow drifts back to his hometown and takes a job as a reconstructionist – investigating and recreating the details of fatal car accidents. Ellis forms a bond with his boss John Boggs, who believes that if two cars meeting at an intersection can be called an accident, then anything can – where we live, what we do, even who we fall in love with. For Ellis these things are certainly no accident and he harbours two secrets of his own. The car crash that killed his half-brother is a memory that still haunts him, and his feelings for John’s wife threaten to blow apart the men’s lives. As Ellis tries to make sense of his own life, the story’s momentum builds to a desperate race towards confrontation, reconciliation and survival.

Witz (American Literature Series)

Dalkey Archive Press One of the great comic epics of our time: the Last Jewish Novel about the Last Jew in the World. On Christmas Eve 1999, all the Jews in the world die in a strange, millennial plague, with the exception of the firstborn males, who are soon adopted by a cabal of powerful people in the American government. By the following Passover, however, only one is still alive: Benjamin Israelien; a kindly, innocent, ignorant man-child. As he finds himself transformed into an international superstar, Jewishness becomes all the rage: matzo-ball soup is in every bowl, sidelocks are hip; and the only truly Jewish Jew left is increasingly stigmatized for not being religious. Since his very existence exposes the illegitimacy of the newly converted, Israelien becomes the object of a worldwide hunt . . . Meanwhile, in the not-too-distant future of our own, “real” world, another last Jew—the last living Holocaust survivor—sits alone in a snowbound Manhattan, providing a final melancholy witness to his experiences in the form of the punch lines to half-remembered jokes.

The Petals of Your Eyes

Parkison's fierce, tiny novel, is a hallucinatory allegory of immense compassion for the voiceless, the young, the forgotten.

Charles Ray

Chilly Scenes of Winter

Vintage This is the story of a love-smitten Charles; his friend Sam, the Phi Beta Kappa and former coat salesman; and Charles' mother, who spends a lot of time in the bathtub feeling depressed.

The Wingspan of Severed Hands

Three Women, One BattleAdira: a teenage girl struggles for autonomy against debilitating childhood fears and a mother's twisted, oppressive love.Director Bennet: a weapons project director balances romance with command in a male-dominated secret research facility.The Weapon: a living neuro-cognitive device modeled on insect metamorphosis pupates and hatches into explosive self-awareness.The world has gone mad. Cities are abandoned. Dreams invade waking minds with an invisible threat. Otherworldly violence lures those who oppose it to become acolytes of a nameless cult. As three characters unveil the unknown enemy and discover their common emotional bonds, dissonant realities intertwine and unite in a cosmic battle across hallucinatory dream planes.Time is the winning predator, and every moment spirals deeper into the heart of the beast.

Jerk

Through Their Tears

Dis voir "With the book and the CD Jerk // Through their tears, Gisèle Vienne, Dennis Cooper, Peter Rehberg, and Jonathan Capdevielle translate their theatrical collaborations (I apologize, Kindertotenlieder, Jerk, This is how you will disappear, a.o.) into this unique multi-media presentation. The package includes an English language recording of the sound piece Jerk, directed by Vienne, from a story by Cooper with original music by Rehberg. It's performed by Capdevielle and Cooper himself. Jerk is an imaginary reconstruction - strange, poetic, funny and somber - of the crimes perpetrated by American serial killer Dean Corll who, with the help of teenagers David Brooks and Wayne Henley, killed more than twenty boys in the state of Texas during the mid-70s. Brooks, while serving a life sentence in prison, presents a puppet play that is that reconstruction of these crimes. In the book, Vienne and Cooper create a new photo sequence which resonates with the sound piece. Titled Through the tears, it is culled from photographs and dolls by Vienne."--P. [4] of cover.

The Sleepy Hollow Family Almanac

A Novel

Algonquin Books Twenty-four-year-old college dropout Calvin Moretti moves back home with his parents and two siblings and is forced to deal with their problems, which include his father's cancer and his sister's pregnancy, as well as his own.

Guide

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. A brilliant novel of LA's underground from the author of Closer, "the last literary outlaw in mainstream American fiction" (Bret Easton Ellis). Chris is a young porn star who wants to experience death at someone else's hand; Mason has lurid fantasies about members of British pop bands; Sniffles is a teenage runaway whose need for love outweighs his attachment to life. Courtesy of a frankly manipulative author/narrator named Dennis, these characters move through a subterranean Los Angeles where hallucination and reality, sex and suicide, love and indifference run together in terrifying ways. Guide, the fourth novel in a projected five-book cycle, continues to explore the boundaries of experience in the manner that has earned Dennis Cooper comparisons to Poe, Genet, and Baudelaire. "The most seductively frightening, best written novel of contemporary urban life that anyone has attempted in a long time; it's the funniest, too." —Los Angeles Times Book Review "With Guide, America's most daring novelist has given us his masterpiece." —The Face "Make[s] American Psycho and Lolita seem tame . . . A brilliantly base tale of human self-destruction for the brave." —The Times (London) "Dante's Inferno with George Bataille as your escort, damaged yet exhilarating." —Arena "Though the story is as compelling as it is perverse, Cooper purposefully overrides it with an innovative style and raw, truthful character studies . . . With Guide, Cooper claims his place, alongside Genet and Burroughs, as a master of his own disenfranchised generation." —Library Journal

Failure to Thrive

"Meghan Lamb's debut novel is a marvel. It's an indelible portrait of a nearly forgotten place, full of stunted lives and desperate hopes, decaying homes and fading memories, ghostly presences brought vividly to life. It's a timely exploration of the failures that seep into our lives like slow leaks and the systems that intensify them. It's a haunted landscape made luminous by Lamb's exquisite prose." -Jeff Jackson, author of Destroy All Monsters "Failure to Thrive captures slow collapse like nothing else I've read. It is packed with heartbreakingly acute observation, and yet it is uncrowded and spacious, with a gauzy, hallucinatory quality. Both expansive and economical, it does more with the form of the novel than most books will ever attempt. It's a gem glittering in the dark." -Lindsay Lerman, author of I'm From Nowhere "Meghan Lamb is such an exquisite, comprehensively intelligent, dreamy writer. Failure to Thrive exudes utmost pleasure and a defying ache from every dot of its ink, like the sun." -Dennis Cooper, author of The Marbled Swarm

Wrong

Stories

Grove Press A collection of short stories that use death to probe the meaning of life introduces a man who abducts, molests, and murders young boys; a trip to Amsterdam; and a teenage rock band called Horror Hospital

Terminal Park

"Shipley's Terminal Park pounds fiction into entirely new shapes. Disintegrating and blissful. Highly Recommend." -Tony Burgess, author of Pontypool Changes Everything "Gary J. Shipley's writing has a way of making every form he works within advance, in an overarching sense, such that the next exciting thing you read, no matter how advanced, is rendered a jalopy." -Dennis Cooper, author of The Marbled Swarm "The world is a void and there are no more prophets left to serve. There is still vision, however, and Shipley's is one we might all surrender to." -Travis Jeppesen, author of The Suicides "Shipley's writing is important because it's a fearless attempt to advance the art of literature, to force us to breathe something, to drown in something, to bloody our hands. It's an unforgettable experience." -3: AM Magazine

Four New Messages

Graywolf Press A quartet of audacious fictions that capture the pathos and absurdity of life in the age of the internet *A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice* * One of Flavorwire's "50 Books That Define the Past Five Years in Literature" A spectacularly talented young writer has returned from the present with Four New Messages, urgent and visionary dispatches that seek to save art, sex, and even alienation from corporatism and technology run rampant. In "Emission," a hapless drug dealer in Princeton is humiliated when a cruel co-ed exposes him exposing himself on a blog gone viral. "McDonald's" tells of a frustrated pharmaceutical copywriter whose imaginative flights fail to bring solace because of a certain word he cannot put down on paper. In "The College Borough" a father visiting NYU with his daughter remembers a former writing teacher, a New Yorker exiled to the Midwest who refuses to read his students' stories, asking them instead to build a replica of the Flatiron Building. "Sent" begins mythically in the woods of Russia, but in a few virtuosic pages plunges into the present, where an aspiring journalist finds himself in a village that shelters all the women who've starred in all the internet porn he's ever enjoyed. Highbrow and low-down, these four intensely felt stories explain what happens when the virtual begins to colonize the real -- they harness the torrential power and verbal dexterity that have established Cohen as one of America's most brilliant younger writers.

High Life

Hollywood. The City of Dreams at the end of the nineties. Jack has one ambition - to get famous. He doesn't care how. He just wants to be like the people he sees in tabloid magazines and on TV: Brad Pitt, Johnny Depp, Tom and Nicole, Arnie, Bruce, Sly.... But the desire for fame has a dark side and he finds himself in a world of drugs and crime, whores, snuff shows, incest, deceit and despair. When his wife is found dead - murdered and disemboweled - and the search for her killer leads him to the femme fatale of all femmes fatales, he sees a chance to make his dreams of money and fame come true. But the City of Dreams can also be the City of Nightmares and it's going to be a long, dark ride before Jack wakes up.

Cows

Twenty-five-year-old Steven faces a bleak life with a sadistic mother and a job at a slaughterhouse where he is confronted with extreme violence and death.

The Secret of the Red Truck

A Novel

In a nameless town and a nameless country, The Secret of the Red Truck tells the story of Micky, a possible schizophrenic who finds God, his sister Viagra, a sensitive beauty who finds art, and a hot truck driver, Dave, who finds himself in a dangerous predicament. Through their misadventures and ensuing love triangle, our anti-heroes search for the answers, all hidden in the back of the Big Red Truck. If you think you know your mind, think again-but don't think too hard. You might lose it after finally discovering...The Secret of the Red Truck.

Drain Songs

Stories and a Novella

Fiction Collective 2 A collection of related stories that deal with the anxiety, pain, and ennui of addiction and withdrawal Drain Songs gathers five stories and a novella focused on the many trials of modern life—addiction and depression, mania and disorder, attempts and failure at keeping the worst at bay. Grant Maierhofer's stories focus on characters in varying states of disarray and stuckness, continuing his literary project of analyzing lives on the fringes of sanity and society. The novella "Drain Songs" is a harrowing narrative focused squarely on addiction and recovery, twelve-step programs, and codependency. In all of these tales, Maierhofer takes a bee's eye view of protagonists from all walks of life, from the working class to the academy, from janitors to professors, embodying the commonalities of men and women struggling with the very fundamental elements of survival, perspective, and identity—attempts formal and informal to contend with the trials that forever engage and perplex humanity. His evocative prose conveys both despair and resignation as well as stultifying, brain-deadening routine and repetition. Still, these stories transcend angst and tilt toward agony and ecstasy and the hope of redemption.

Oliver Twink

Harper Collins "[A] brilliant, triumphantly lurid writer as well as a supremely talented, elegant stylist whose prose is smart and nervy. He might also be the last literary outlaw in mainstream American fiction." —Bret Easton Ellis Internationally acclaimed writer Dennis Cooper continues to study the material he's always explored honestly, but does so now—in stories—with a sense of awareness and a satirical touch that exploits and winks at his mastery of this world. As it has done for decades, Cooper's taut, controlled prose lays bare the compulsions and troubling emptiness of the human soul.

Discontents

New Queer Writers

Amethyst Books

Rag

Stories

FSG Originals A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice. One of Vol. 1 Brooklyn and Tor.com's Books to Read in February. "Sharp, haunting . . . [Meijer] writes wonderfully of the trap of the self, with its impossible prisons of circumstance and identity, not to mention the perversity of being buried alive, alone, inside a body." --Merritt Tierce, The New York Times Book Review From the author of Heartbreaker, a disquieting collection tracing the destructive consequences of the desire for connection A man, forgotten by the world, takes care of his deaf brother while euthanizing dogs for a living. A stepbrother so desperately wants to become his stepsibling that he rapes his girlfriend. In Maryse Meijer's decidedly dark and searingly honest collection Rag, the desperate human desire for connection slips into a realm that approximates horror. Meijer's explosive debut collection, Heartbreaker, reinvented sexualized and romantic taboos, holding nothing back. In Rag, Meijer's fearless follow-up, she shifts her focus to the dark heart of intimacies of all kinds, and the ways in which isolated people's yearning for community can breed violence, danger, and madness. With unparalleled precision, Meijer spins stories that leave you troubled and slightly shaken by her uncanny ability to elicit empathy for society's most marginalized people.

Gone

Scrapbook 1980-1982