



DECEMBER 17th, COWBOY JAMBOREE PRESS is proud to release DAREN DEAN's shorty story collection, **I'LL STILL BE HERE LONG AFTER YOU'RE GONE.**

Good Words from Great Writers on I'll Still Be Here Long After You're Gone by Daren Dean

"Thank goodness Daren Dean has filled in the giant hole Larry Brown left behind. The stories in *I'll Still Be Here Long After You're Gone* provide us with unforgettable blue-collar protagonists fighting for—or against—respect, love, and justice. I pulled for these characters, scene after scene, in their roadside bars, cheap motels, country churches, trailer camps, even outside the burning love-nest of an ex-spouse. Dean's stories are gritty, honest, and beautiful. I want more, more, more." -George Singleton, author of Staff Picks



"Daren Dean's story collection *I'll Still Be Here Long After You're Gone* is, in a single word, harrowing-- in the truest sense. Dean's stories dig deep, churning up the psyche of his reader, bringing to the surface a darker side of humanity that may make us flinch, but never look away. Teaming with desperate characters forced into brutal choices, ratty motels, smoky bars, fire, storms, the wrath of God and the sweetness of the Holy Ghost-- this short story collection feels like it was made for me, a lover of authentic, rural noir. Country as hell, I'd have to say that Daren Dean gives Daniel Woodrell a run for his money and then some." -Steph Post, the author of Miraculum, Lightwood, Walk in the Fire, and A Tree Born Crooked

Dean lulls you into a dream state that holds your head under water just long enough you think you might actually drown, and then he brings you up for air. And yes there is whisky in our cups, and maybe a few folks have wandered off to make mistakes in the woods and someone will say the stupid thing that starts a fight but for now we are in good hands— hypnotized in the moment. And the bard is speaking to us of our own kin, the beautiful broken people we know so well but too often forget.—Michael Garriga, author of The Book of Duels

I'LL STILL BE HERE LONG AFTER YOU'RE GONE by Daren Dean

Set in the cities, towns, and hamlets all over the midwest and points south, his stories defy easy generalizations in tone, voice, and genre. Dean's characters are often flawed, damaged, brutally real, which prompted Robert Olen Butler to write, "Dean writes like the laureate of fallen angels." He lays bare his character's often contrarian hearts on the page. In the title story, a boy learns to fight with his fists and cry with his heart. In "Faith Baby" an electrician is an addict's salvation. In "Captain Marvel Goes Down in Gigolo Hall of Fame" a middle aged man searches for a sugar mama in a nursing home and gets more than he bargained for. In "Fever" the death of a child gauges the temperature of a marriage. Clyde Edgerton wrote, "His fiction . . . is just twisted enough to hold a reader tight." These stories burn with rage, a fever-pitch hilarity, and often tragedy. His people are real and preoccupied with their relentless pursuit of imperfection just like the best of us.

About the Author

Daren Dean was born in Missouri, but also considers North Carolina and Louisiana home. He is the author of the novel Far Beyond the Pale. His new short story collection, I'll Still Be Here Long After You're Gone is forthcoming from CJ Press. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in Louisiana Literature, Maryland Literary Review, BULL (Men's Fiction), Midwestern Gothic, The Green Hills Literary Lantern, Fiction Southeast, StorySouth, and elsewhere. He holds an MFA from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Currently, he serves as an Assistant Professor of English (Creative Writing Specialist-Fiction) at Lincoln University of Missouri.

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