
An Important Message
Kristopher Mallory

An Important Message

by

Kristopher Mallory

An Important Message

A True Story

Copyright



www.StealthFiction.com

An Important Message

eBook Edition
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*Edited with Grammarly and Claude*
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Disclaimer:

This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places and incidents are products of the author's imagination, or the author has used them fictitiously.

Other Releases by Kristopher Mallory

Gillian

Long-Term Investment

Wrong Way Charlie

Prepared Fresh

Road Trip Down A Dark Memory Lane

She's Not Human

Universal Transmission

The Little Old Lady

The Price To See The Dead

Attempted

A Gift Of Bone

Payphone

What People Are Saying about Kris's Stories

The Death Agreement:

"This is all so confusing and mind blowingly awesome." – *jesslikewoah*

I Know What They Are:

"This is absolutely amazing. Has me a bit paranoid as I get deja vu quite a bit, hopefully not too many good futures have passed me by..." – *Niamhel*

Master Stargazer:

"Hands down one of the best short sci fi books I have read, and I have read a lot." – *rickamente*

These Bad Dreams Combined:

"I have no idea WTF is going on here, but I'm fascinated!" – *ali*

Special Thanks

For everyone who swore they didn't move the planchette.

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An Important Message

“*The truth is rarely pure and never simple.”*

~ Oscar Wilde, The Importance of Being Earnest (1895)

Eleven missed calls from an unknown number. Part of me knew I should've answered after I had noticed the annoying bot never left a voicemail. Spam, I was sure. That was until a person from my past, someone I hadn't seen in over ten years, showed up on my doorstep in the middle of the night, face pale and eyes bloodshot. Even now, some twenty-four hours later, I'm still shaking in disbelief, trying to convince myself the thing she reminded me of didn't happen, that the childhood memory she had awoken was somehow false. "I'm sorry," the woman said, her voice trembling. "Needed to talk, but every time I called your mailbox was full, so I had to come...had to," she added, momentarily raising a thin, rectangle-shaped box held in both hands.

Dumbfounded, I squinted at the box for a moment, wondering what the fuck a Ouija board could have to do with anything, then locked eyes with the stranger standing on my shadowed porch who surprisingly had a vaguely familiar face. I couldn't tell if the ice-cold rain had caused her mascara to run or if she'd been crying; in either case, something was very off. "Do I know you?" Nothing else came to mind, as stupid as it sounded coming out of my mouth. 'Tis a fair question, I thought. Then it hit me.

"Karen?" I gasped. Looking like a complete idiot, I stepped back and waved her inside. "Listen," she said, not moving, "I know this is going to sound crazy, trust me, I know, but I have to ask one thing, then I'm gone."

Holding up the Ouija board box again, she spoke louder, "Do you remember when we played with this?" I still wasn't comprehending what the hell was going on as I stared at my name next to Karen's etched on a corner of the box in blue pen with a heart between them. Maybe I'm having a nightmare, I thought, knowing for sure without a single doubt I had written that little love note and several other things on the inside cover, one of which I knew had something to do with the reason Karen had mysteriously popped back into my life. Sure enough, the memory of fourth-grade Karen and me flashed through my mind like a whirlwind, and suddenly I recalled the cryptic message, the prophecy, the thing everyone now knows is true, and how we both were sure the other had written it,

though neither of us ever confessed to moving the planchette. Eyes wide, words poured from my mouth: “Yes... Oh my God... it can’t be... I wrote it in black marker on the back of the board, didn’t I?” Lightning struck in the distance as Karen began vigorously ripping the board from the box, then she flipped it over so I could read my own childish handwriting. “Fuck,” I muttered, and as I read slowly, we both whispered the words in absolute unison, “Epstein... didn’t... kill... himself.”

True Story.

THE END.



About the Author



Born near Baltimore, Maryland, Kris has been writing short fiction since he was a kid. First sharing his ramblings on Stealth Fiction and then on Reddit, where most of his stories were posted to r/nosleep. His stories have been featured on The NoSleep Podcast, Chilling Tales for Dark Nights, Tales to Terrify, and Horror on the Rocks. The recording of The Scarecrow Corpse, read by Markiplier, has been heard hundreds of thousands of times. He lives in Melbourne, Australia, with his wife. And occasionally, he turns into a strawberry.

More stories: StealthFiction.com

What's Next?

LET ME TELL YOU HOW I LOST MY EYES

A Short Story Collection by Sammy Fowler

Coming one day. Maybe. Probably not.

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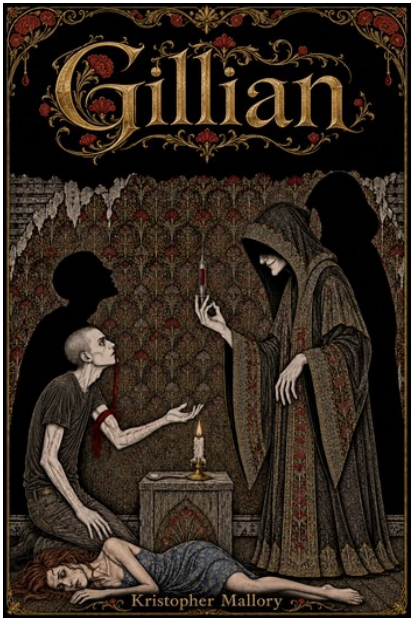
Hear It Read Aloud

Some stories are meant to be heard.

An Important Message has a complete audio narration, read by Veda Sky, a digital voice. It runs 4 minutes and it's free: play it online, or download it as an MP3 or an audiobook with chapters.

Listen free at stealthfiction.com

More from Kristopher Mallory



GILLIAN

This dark fairy tale is now available as an eBook. For more information on this book, please visit Stealth Fiction.

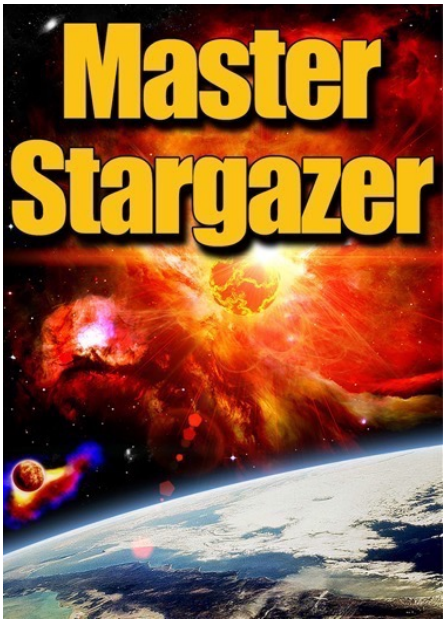
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Some addictions run deep and others summon demons too strong to overcome.

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Praise for Gillian:

"A fairy tale with the sugar scraped off, and a love story that refuses to stay buried." – *Stealth Fiction*



MASTER STARGAZER

This sci-fi story is now available. For more information on this book, please visit Stealth Fiction.

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Deep below the polar ice cap, the last great research station stands on high alert. Hundreds of the station's personnel fiercely do their part to manage the impending disaster. They had practiced countless times, every worker drilled repeatedly until they were able to perform their duties with a cold robotic grace.

Now the time for drills is over; the culmination of the Stargazer's Thousand Cycle Plan is finally upon them. To the relief of all, the training held. There's no hesitation. Not a single worker deviates. Each member knows the consequence of failure is total destruction.

While the station's personnel fight to save the planet's population, the forty-second Master Stargazer stands over his garden, watching drops of water bead across leaves. He gently touches the seed pouch of his favorite flower, and the realization that the time has come hits him with
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unimaginable force. Fully aware that his heart is beating dangerously fast for a man of his age, he repeats the familiar mantra:

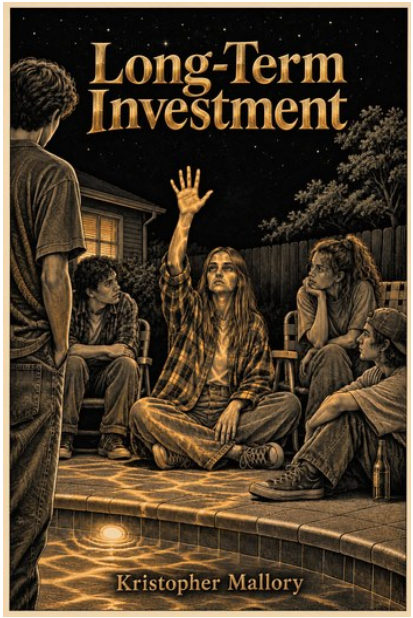
I must calm down if I'm to see this through.

As the research station commander, Master Stargazer's job is to ensure all aspects of the Thousand Cycle Plan remain on schedule, and yet, he's the only staff member not where he's supposed to be. His place is on the command deck, but grief had overtaken him, so he had slipped into his office to give a final farewell to his beloved flora. For years, those plants had reminded him life exists somewhere high above the ice cap. Even now, they remind him it needs to be preserved.

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Praise for Master Stargazer:

"Hands down one of the best short sci fi books I have read, and I have read a lot." – *rickamente*
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LONG-TERM INVESTMENT

This occult horror story is now available as an eBook. For more information on this book, please visit Stealth Fiction.

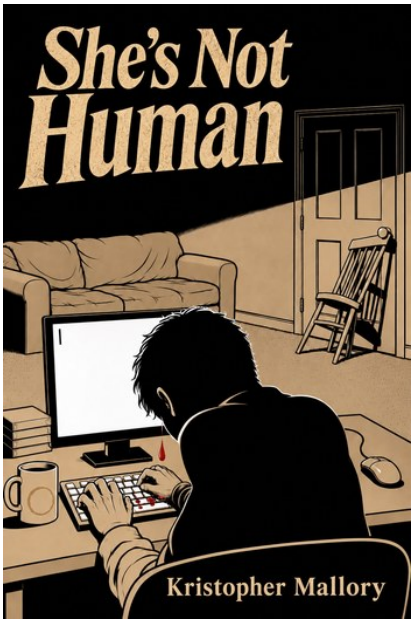
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Sammy keeps something he bought from Kristi Kurtis for five dollars at a teenage pool party, and as her life comes apart she still wants it back.

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Praise for Long-Term Investment:

"Starts as a teenage memory and turns into a slow, cold dread you won't shake for days." – *Stealth Fiction*



SHE'S NOT HUMAN

This psychological horror story is now available as an eBook. For more information on this book, please visit Stealth Fiction.

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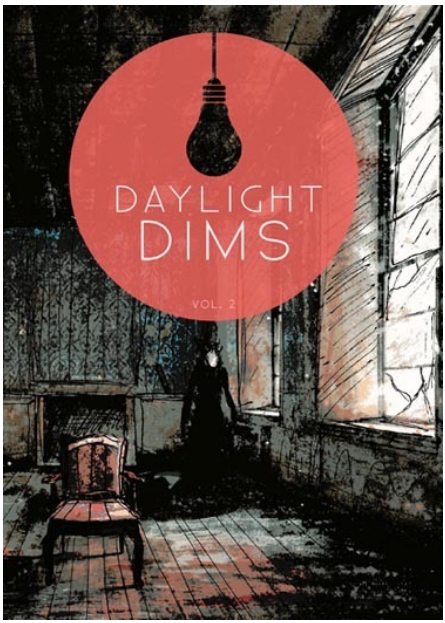
Nose bleeding onto the keyboard, a man types out his side of the story while the woman he has locked in the bedroom begs him to open the door.

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Praise for She's Not Human:

"You'll change your mind about who to believe three times before the last line." – *Stealth Fiction*

More from Stealth Fiction



DAYLIGHT DIMS
VOLUME TWO

This horror anthology is now available. For more information on this book, please visit the Daylight Dims website.

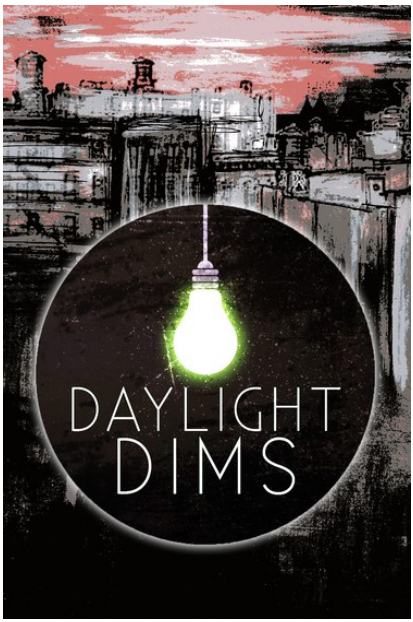
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Darkness descends again. Daylight Dims Volume Two features thirteen stories that cross the genres of surreal, dark fantasy, and heart-pounding dread. This annual horror anthology is guaranteed to twist your perception of horror. From the common, comfortable tropes to the more taboo, these handpicked tales have a literary aspect designed to showcase what true horror can be.

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Praise for Daylight Dims Vol. 2:

“This was probably one of the most entertaining collections of horror stories I've ever read. And I don't say this to suck up or to stroke any tail feathers. I was happy to have the opportunity to read through this before release, and I implore anyone on the fence about picking this up to do themselves a favor and take the plunge into the abyss. You will not be disappointed.” – *Human Gravy*



DAYLIGHT DIMS

VOLUME ONE

Second Edition — now with two new stories from the editors.

This horror anthology is now available. For more information on this book, please visit the Daylight Dims website.

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The editors chose 13 stories from over 100 premium submissions. DD contains some of the best horror around.

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Praise for Daylight Dims:

"This is a fantastic horror anthology. All 13 stories are exquisite. The book was not what I expected initially, as I thought that it might be all vampire or werewolf tales. Not so! These are original stories from authors of the macabre. From dark fantasy and pure suspense to classic horror tales, it shows the extraordinary scope of fantastical fright fiction. The stories in this anthology are a tour de force of fear, which will haunt you, terrify you, and stay with you." – S. Mahaffey, *"neverjudge"*