Candy Hearts



Kristopher Mallory

Candy Hearts

by

Kristopher Mallory

Candy Hearts

A Valentine's Day Story

Copyright



www.StealthFiction.com

Candy Hearts

eBook Edition
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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

Candy Hearts:

"The real irony being that rat poison tastes better than those chalky heart candies." – *the_itch*

Candy Hearts:

"I can relate to all of this except for the murder part." – *Human_Gravy*

Master Stargazer:

"Well worth the short time it takes to read." – *Bruce*

The Death Agreement:

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

Special Thanks

For anyone who ever got laughed at in a hallway.

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Candy Hearts

“I hate Valentine’s Day.”
~ Charlie Brown, Be My Valentine, Charlie Brown (1975)

Waiting outside the classroom, the Valentine's Day gift weighed heavily in my sweaty palm. Across the hall, Lacie Trevens stood at her locker, laughing with her prep friends. She kissed the jock, then turned to enter the classroom.

I called out, "Lacie, wi-wi-will you be my Va-va-valentine?"

Lacie stepped back, blocking the classroom door. Kids began to crowd behind her as she sneered at the picture of Cupid on the small box. "Even if I didn't *have* a boyfriend, I wouldn't date you. *Ewww*."

All the kids in the hallway laughed.

Remembering that I'd loved her since first grade, I whispered, "Please open it," and thrust the gift into her hand.

Lacie flipped open the lid and shook out two pink, heart-shaped candies into her palm. "*Be Mine*? *Kiss Me*? We're not in elementary school, retard."

The kids laughed again, and Lacie popped the candies into her mouth, chewed them, then reached for another. "*Miss You*?" As the bell rang, she swallowed that one, too. "Now move, creep."

Tears welling, I stepped back. Lacie and the class walked past, laughing, rolling their eyes, and calling me dirty names. I'd expected mocking—it happened all the time.

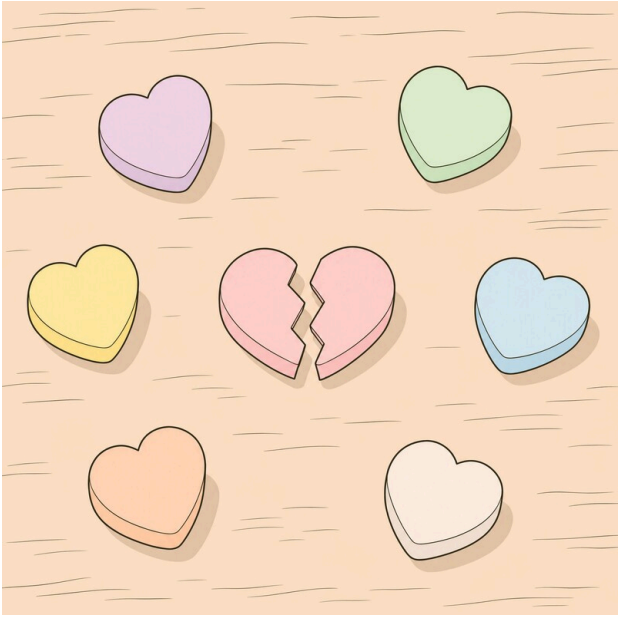
Once they'd all taken their seats, I crawled into my chair behind Lacie and watched her grab candy after candy, mindlessly chewing, unaware of the tiny messages. Candy hearts had always disturbed me. How easily they're crushed and eaten… How unlike a *real* heart.

Real hearts are *tough*.

Before class ended, Lacie had finished ingesting all my love. She hadn't noticed the three special candies. Rat poison is easily masked.

Smiling, I mouthed the message of the three she'd eaten: "*Die*." "*Bitch*." "*Die*."

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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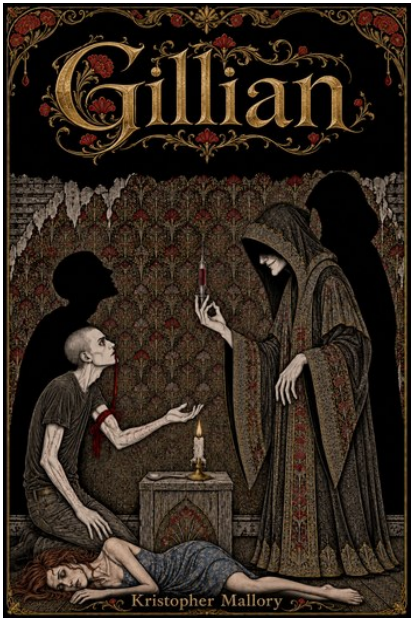
Hear It Read Aloud

Some stories are better heard in the dark.

Candy Hearts has a complete audio narration, read by Jane Doe, a digital voice. It runs 2 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*



RUINED SHEETS

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

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A father is arrested for the third time after his boy's bedroom is found soaked in blood, and he knows the charges will be dropped again.

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Praise for Ruined Sheets:

"You'll want to know why, and then you won't. Unsettling to the very last line." – *Stealth Fiction*



THE LITTLE OLD LADY

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

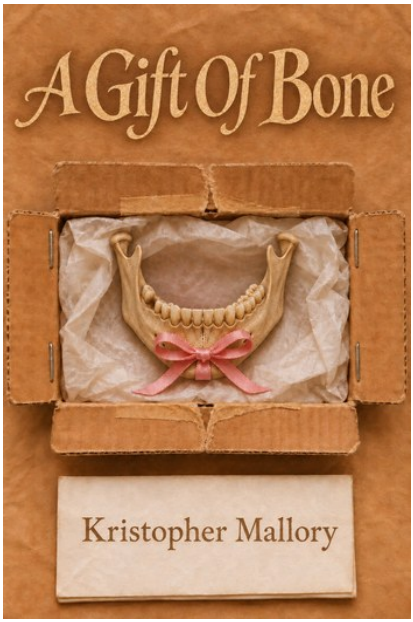
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Every Sunday a little old lady waits at the Highway 451 crossing for a kind arm to lead her over, and a ten-year-old scout decides he is big enough.

~~~~~

Praise for The Little Old Lady:

"A quiet, aching ghost story that walks you right to the edge of the road." – *Stealth Fiction*



A GIFT OF BONE

This crime horror story is now available on Amazon. For more information on this book, please visit Stealth Fiction.

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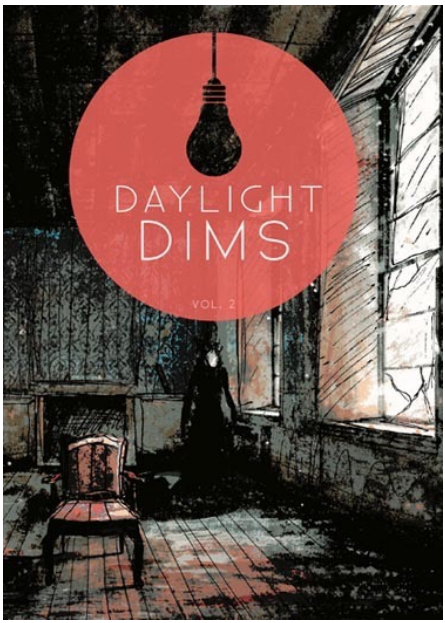
Ten cities so far have each received a gift from the Gifter, and the retired investigator who knows the old case best still won't come back.

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Praise for A Gift Of Bone:

"A cold, patient crime horror that saves its worst gift for last." – *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.

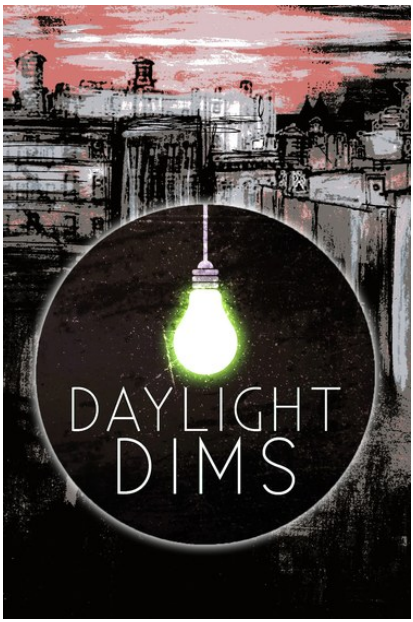
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Darkness descends again. Daylight Dims Volume Two features thirteen stories that cross the genres of surreal, dark fantasy, and heart-pounding dread. This annual horror anthology is guaranteed to twist your perception of horror. From the common, comfortable 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"*