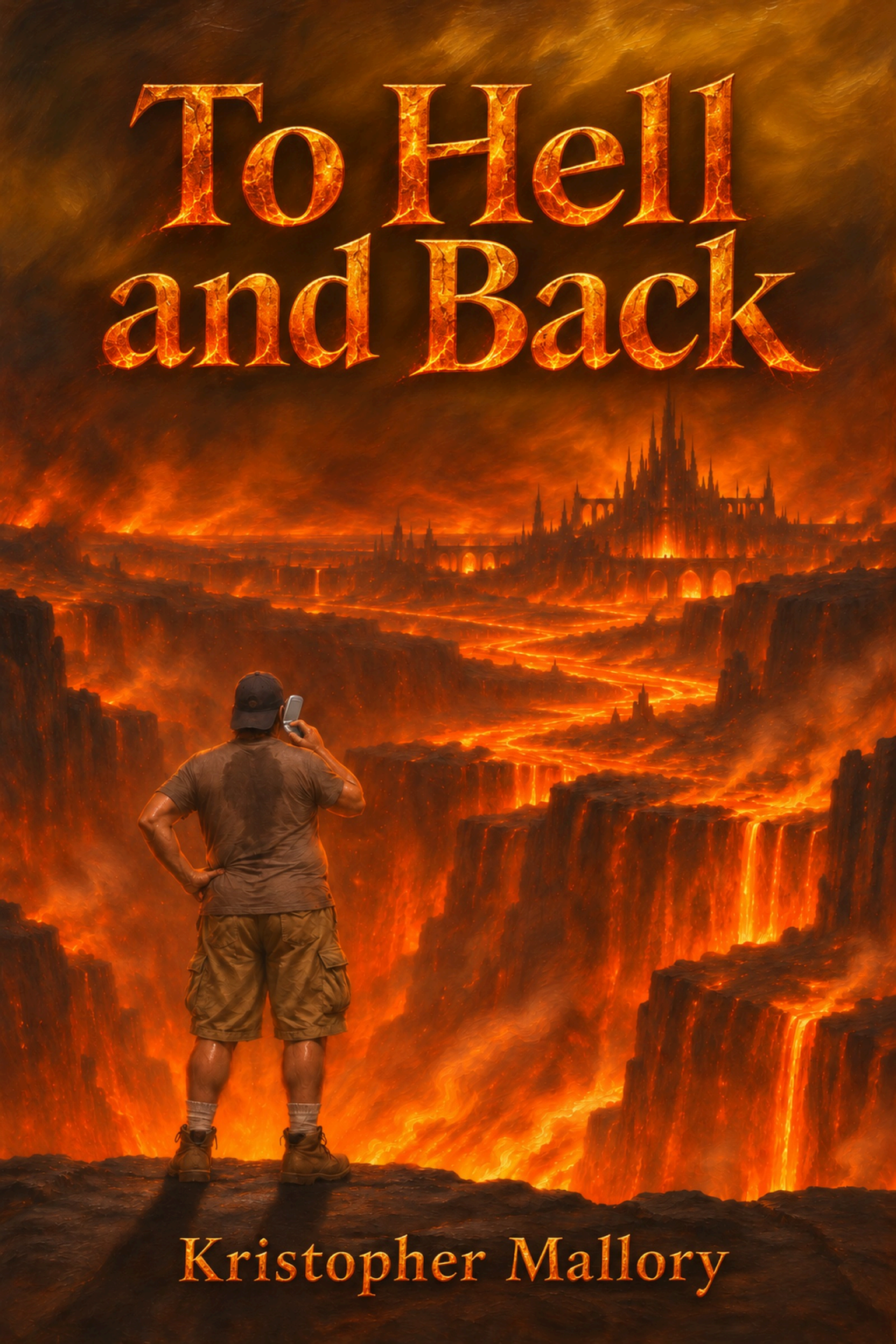
To Hell and Back



Kristopher Mallory

To Hell and Back

by

Kristopher Mallory

To Hell and Back

A Love Story (Sort Of)

Copyright



www.StealthFiction.com

To Hell and Back

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

Blizzard Angel

The Resistance

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

What People Are Saying about Kris's Stories

Mega Millions:

"NO WAY!!!! I totally hate you. You CAN'T leave it at that again and make me wait a few months for the next part!!!" – *Hannah*

Master Stargazer:

"The story is brief and to the point, well-told in an interesting structure, and evenly paced." – *Bruce*

Watchtowers of Carthage Key:

"This is one of my favorites!" – *DrJamie*

The Special Christmas Ornaments of Mr. Everett:

"An amazing story! I couldn't stop reading! I hope you have more to share!" – *slomaross*

Special Thanks

For anyone who's ever been told where to go. And went.

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To Hell and Back

“For the rest of eternity, you’ll never see your family again.” “This is heaven.”

~ Lucifer and Al Bundy, Married... with Children (1997)

Hey, don't get me wrong, I love my wife. I really, really do. She's a Great Girl. But sometimes… Grrr! I'm sure you guys know what I'm sayin', right?

I once told her I'd go to hell and back for her. You know, just trying to be one of those sweet husbands that they are always pretending they want. Seemed like as good a declaration of love as any. But after some serious consideration, I realize that I fucked up by choosing that, instead of something simpler, like, oh, I don't know, maybe, "I Love You"? I know what you're thinking. 'I love yous' aren't very goddamn manly, right? You'd rather say something like, "I'd slay ten-thousand kittens in your name." Yes, I did just make that up off the top of my head. And yes, it is pretty kick-ass. Chuck Norris might even be proud.

So anyway, let's not dilly-dally on dead kittens or on Chuck the Great. I'm trying to tell a story here. Just to refresh your memory, I told my wife that I'd go to hell and back for her. Now, being a woman, she accused me of insincerity, and she wanted to test me on it, you know, to make sure I was telling the truth and all. Grr! Right, guys?

"Fuck!" I said. And then added, in the deepest manly voice I could muster, "Fine, let's do this!"

Man, I couldn't even begin to tell you how long it took me. Blood, sweat, and tears and lots and lots of pain. It seemed like it would take forever. It seemed like I would fail. Fuck that. So what if the fire and brimstone were hot enough to melt my two hairy boys into one super gonad? I'm a man. I stuck with it. And eventually, I fucking made it. That's right, bitches. Hell: Population 99.5% of everyone who has ever died. Where do I get the postcard!

But really, to calibrate now would be like premature ejaculation. As in, way too fucking early because I'm only halfway there, baby. Don't try to kid yourself; hell, it sucks. First and foremost, the weather. One word: Sucks. But also: The food sucks. The hotel sucks. That big red motherfucker with his big red motherfuckin' dick. He sucks. Everything

there sucks. I shit you not. Naturally, I wanted to get the fuck out of there ASAP.

You're probably thinking that if it were you, you'd already been up out of that joint. Slow your roll, chief. Shit ain't that simple. I called my wife. Wanted to let her know that she could stop trippin'. I'm halfway there, and I'd be back before she'd miss me.

Wanna know what my wife said? She told me I did a good job. She insisted that I don't do the "and back" part. I reminded her that I was going to go to Hell and back. What the fuck was this bullshit?

She went ahead and reminded me of this argument we had the night I left….

"I told your dumb ass to go to hell," she said, "but I mentioned nothing about you coming back."

I'm going to choke that bitch if I ever see her again.

Anyone got any boys down here that'd be willing to let me crash on a couch? Hook a brotha up.

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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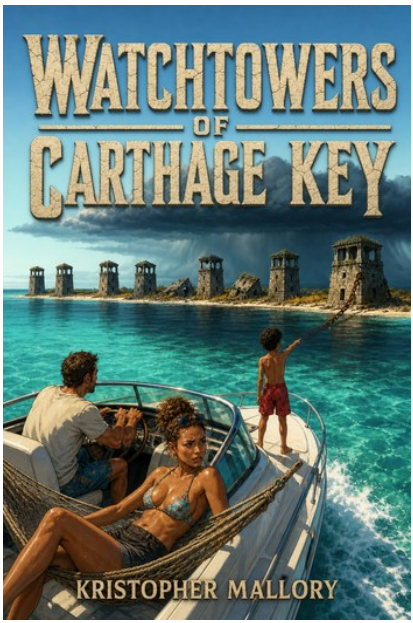
Hear It Read Aloud

Some stories are meant to be heard.

To Hell and Back has a complete audio narration, read by Joe, a digital voice. It runs 3 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



WATCHTOWERS OF CARTHAGE KEY

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

~~~~~

Marc takes his girlfriend and her son out to an unnamed key far off the Florida coast, where six ruined watchtowers stand guard and nothing swims in the water.

~~~~~

Praise for Watchtowers of Carthage Key:

"Mysterious ruins, otherworldly horrors, the narrator questioning his own sanity, and the setting itself is the monster - very Lovecraftian!" – *notoriouswhitemoth*



PAYPHONE

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

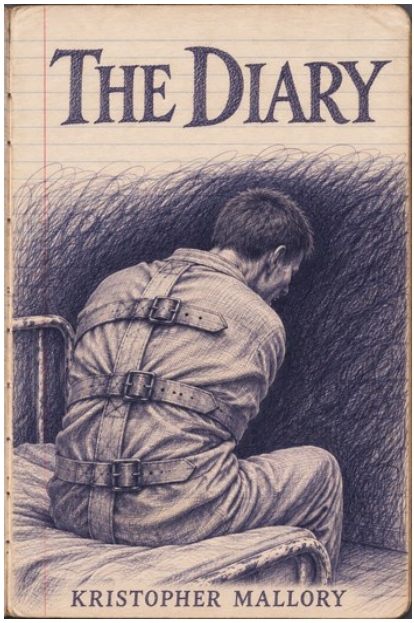
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Patrick Levine's family wrecks their new Durango on an icy back road beside a dead town, and the only payphone for miles has a dial tone.

~~~~~

Praise for Payphone:

"Winter dread at its best. You'll never trust a dial tone again." – *Stealth Fiction*



THE DIARY

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

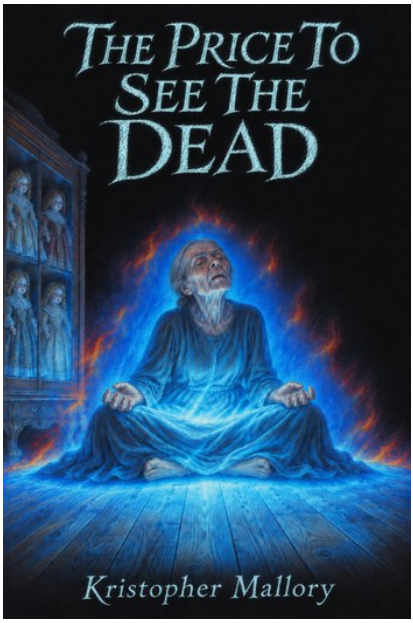
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Diary entries from a man who borrows The Book of the Damned from the library and notices it has only ever gone out once a year, each September.

~~~~~

Praise for The Diary:

"Told one entry at a time, and every page makes the next one harder to read." – *Stealth Fiction*



THE PRICE TO SEE THE DEAD

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

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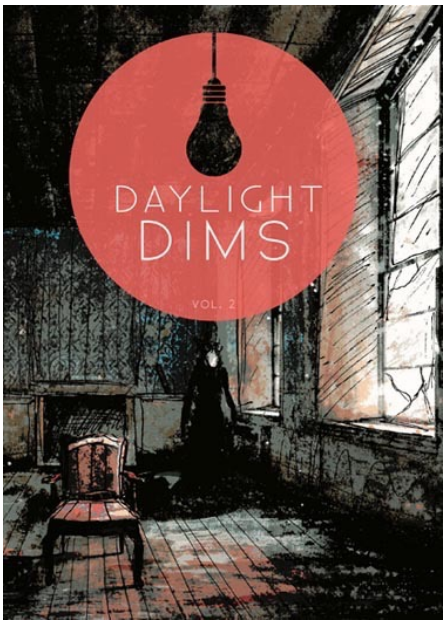
After a crash kills one of the McCormick twins, the sisters still talk every night, and Madame Sosostris comes to make their parents see the dead too.

~~~~~

Praise for The Price To See The Dead:

"Grief, a stage medium and a bargain nobody should make. Tender and chilling at once." – *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.

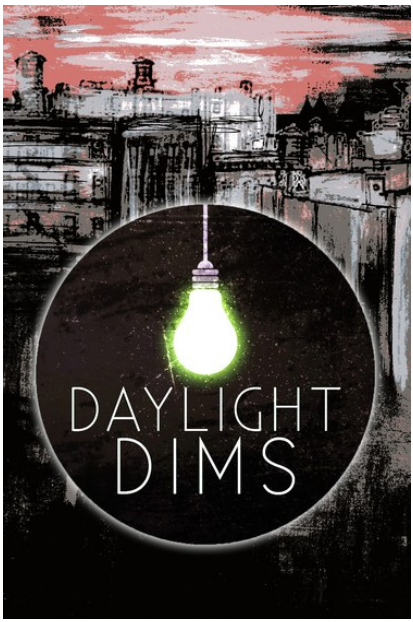
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Darkness descends again. Daylight Dims Volume Two features thirteen stories that cross the genres of surreal, dark fantasy, and heart-pounding dread. This annual horror anthology is guaranteed to twist your perception of horror. From the common, comfortable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

~~~~~

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

~~~~~

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"*