

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Emergent writer Ian C. Sutherland releases his first collection of short, genre-blending stories titled *Home, War, and Dogs* through Smashwords.com.

Now available for review.

Chicago, IL - March 21st, 2021 - Chicago-based writer Ian C. Sutherland releases his debut work, HOME, WAR AND DOGS. Sutherland explores humanity through a stark lens, presenting a new voice in the broadly defined world of magical realism. Readers of José Saramago, Paul Auster and Margaret Atwood will find both familiarity and an exciting new entry into the universe crafted by authors of that odd ilk. The collection will be available exclusively through Smashwords.com for \$3.

In "Trenches", Anton, a young WWI private struggles to protect a beloved recipe from his mother as he plows his way through the battlefield. Told unlike a typical war story, "Trenches" focuses on the humanity shared between people pushed to the brink - a war story not about war between nations, but war between instincts.

"Best Friends" plays with another classic setup: Two bank robbers on their "One last job." The story is told in the brief moment *before* the heist, with the two ruminating on morality and the minutia of their line of work. "Best Friends" plays with the perception of crime and challenges the reader to place themselves in the shoes of "bad" people.

"Flinch" introduces us to Jacob, an Iraq war veteran whose PTSD is triggered by a seemingly mundane event. This hurtles Jacob through a series of memories - an effort to understand panic and regain stability. "Flinch" is a brief and vital commentary on masculinity and self-control.

"Doggy" is the odd story of Marla and Derrick, a couple stuck in a bathroom with a rabid Doberman named Always on the other side. A rumination on romance, time and arguments, "Doggy" stands out as the strangest and most tender story in the collection.

Each story resonates with something raw and very human. Character driven, and almost obsessively focused on elevating the gravity between moments - Sutherland's stories are less about singular themes or morals, and very much about what it can mean to be a person. His prose weaves through grey areas. No one is a definitive hero or villain, no one is singularly sympathetic or unworthy of scrutiny.

Ian C. Sutherland is a Chicago native, a BFA student in Full Sail University's Entertainment Writing program, and a multidisciplinary artist focused on writing and directing. HOME, WAR AND DOGS will be his first work, to be published exclusively through Smashwords.com, a platform that allows independent writer to distribute their work digitally to major retailers within the industry.

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