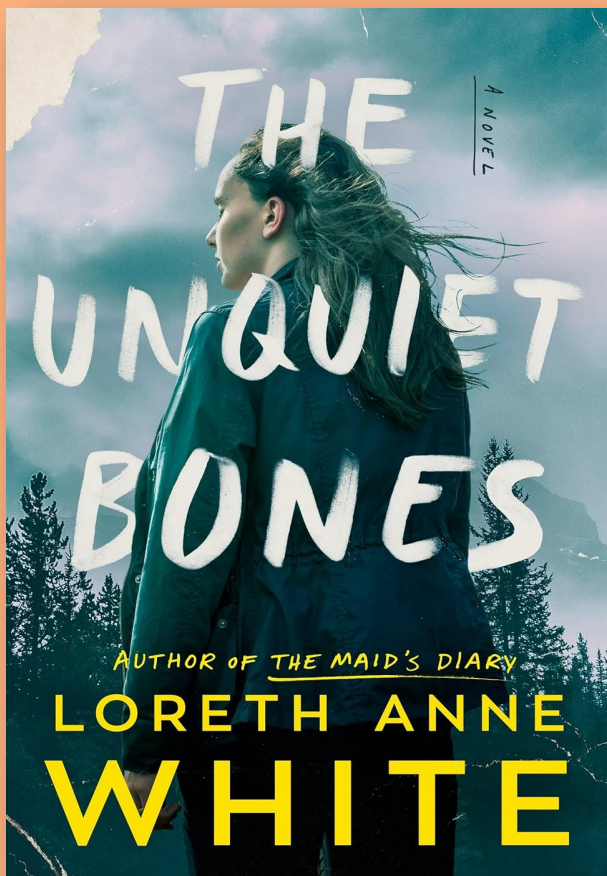


# Le Coeur de l'Artiste



BOOK REVIEWS, ARTISTIC CRAFT, JOINING OF CREATIVE MINDS.

OCTOBER 2024

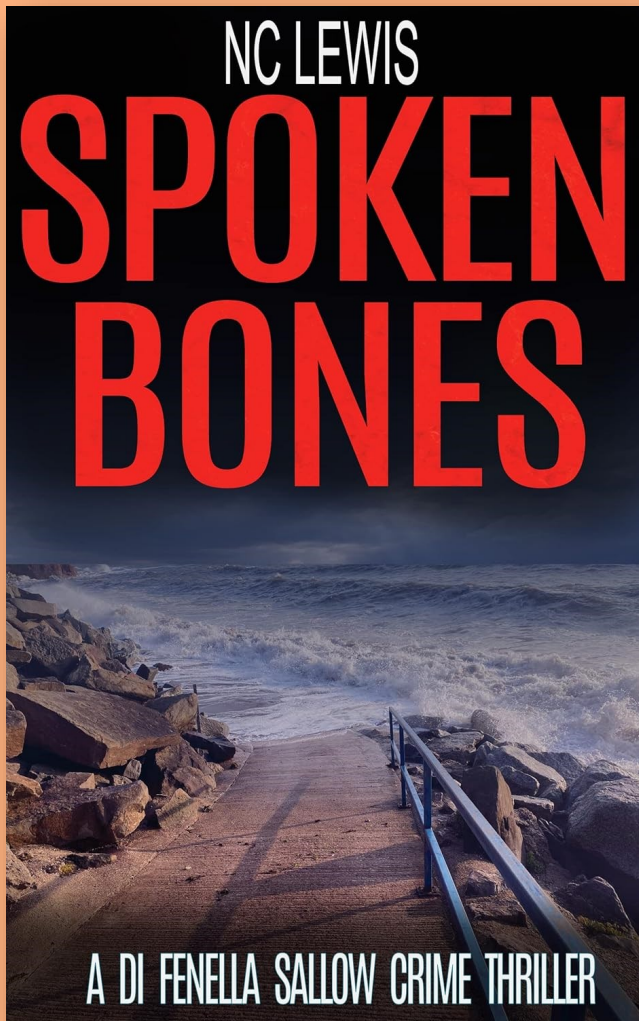


DON'T MISS THE INTERVIEW ON L'ARTISTE

*“Just like the lines in tree trunks, our lives are written into our bones. And if you know how to read them—she glances at her students—they speak.”*

Set in British Columbia, White’s police investigation mystery offers an investigator battling her need for closure while investigating a 40-year-old cold case involving a teenager’s bad choices and the consequences that don’t disappear with time. Because—a girl’s skeleton shows up to force out secrets and truth. This is a highly well-written mystery, complete with the craft of raising the reader’s emotional anxiety by using the theme of ambiguous loss, deeply woven into the character’s arc and plot. I couldn’t put this book down; the ending was a satisfying surprise.

[BUY](#)



## MYSTERY/METAPHYSICAL

*“She wanted to be a priest when she was young. Not a nun or even a monk but a priest. At the time, it wasn’t possible, and she’s met Eduardo and joined the police force. Now she served her flock at the high alter of crime so townfolk could sleep easy in their beds at night.”*

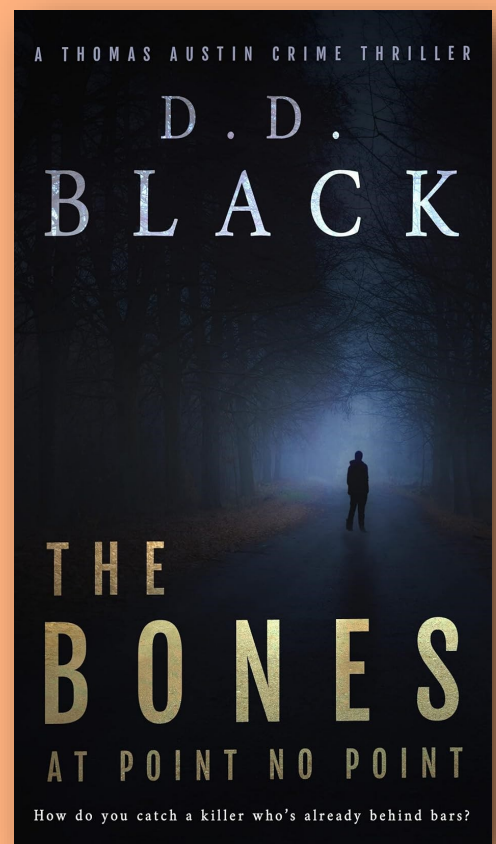
Set on the wonderful Cumbria Coast of England, a body is discovered above a town’s traditional bonfire. It’s up to DI Fenella Sallow to answer WHY while confronting a guilt-ridden past of not having solved a cold case of a missing girl. The plot in this novel is exciting, and the myths of folklore used from the area will pull you forward as twists and turns fill the pages. I loved the protagonist, DI Sallow, whose sense of humanity keeps her moving forward until she reaches a rightful end. **Six books so far in the series. I plan to become one of DI Sallow’s best friends!**

[BUY](#)

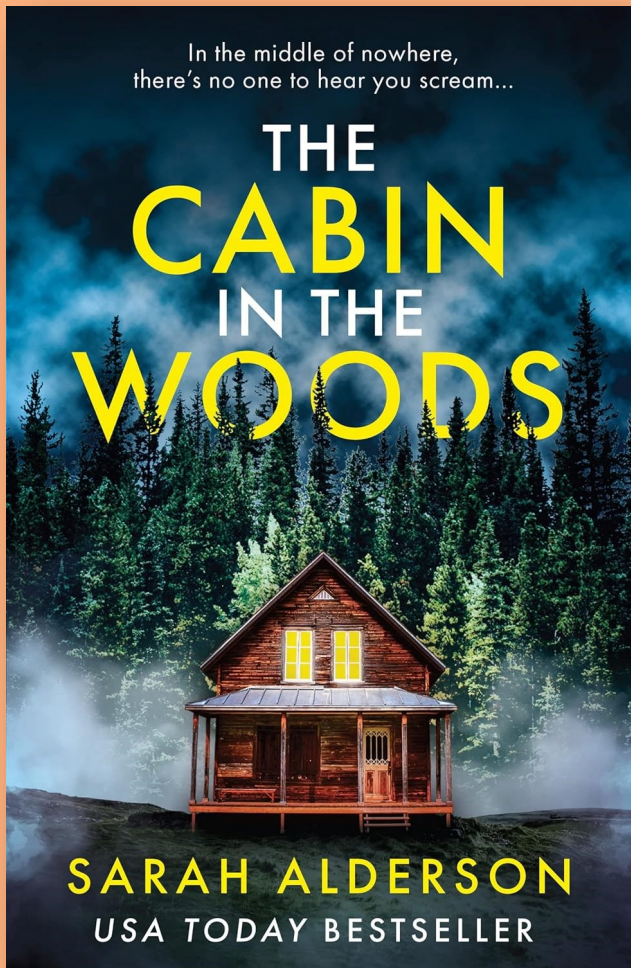
## DETECTIVE MYSTERY

**“Austin had worked copy cat murders before, The perpetrators always turned out to be obsessed with the original killers, gathering everything they could from the news, trial records, even leaked police reports. But the poems etched into the bones had never come out—not in the news and not at trial.”**

Getting to know Detective Thomas Austin in this Book One of a series will let you know why the raves for D.D. Black’s work is accurate and equal to that of other great authors. In this thriller, set in the Pacific Northwest, Austin is pulled into what seems like an impossible coincidence when human bones are discovered on a beach—and all fingers point to a killer already behind bars. Copy cat? This book sets the bar high for other books in the series. **But don’t fear. Black knows how to tap into readers eager for a gripping chase.**



[BUY](#)



## Psychological Suspense

*“Being recognized will depend, I suppose, on if I am still making headlines and if the police are still looking for me.”*

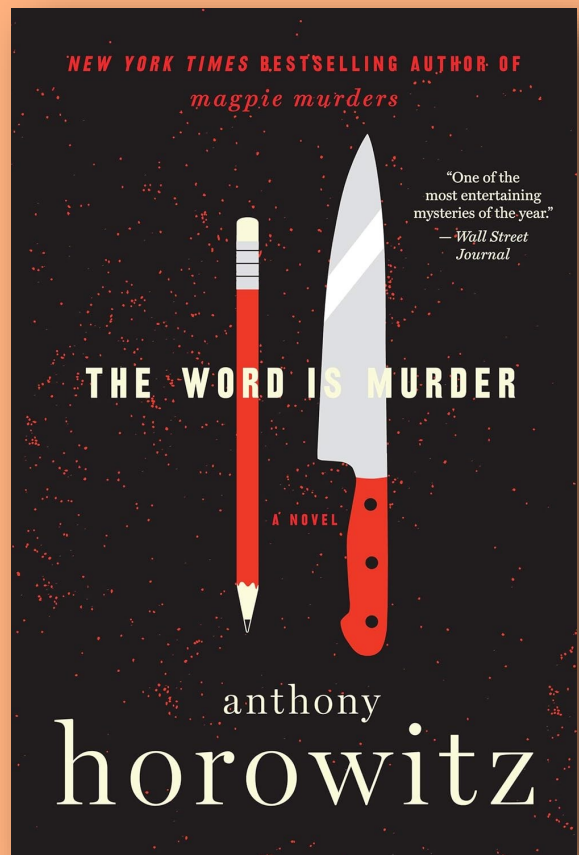
Fast reading and cleverly plotted, Alderson’s story of a woman on the run keeps the reader first guessing Why?—then How?—then turning the pages quickly, hoping she gets away. All the characters are wonderful. The twists are stunning. **And the pace ramps up with your beating heart. Fun Read.**

[BUY](#)

## Detective Mystery

**“Diana Cowper had planned her funeral and she was going to need it. She was murdered six hours later on that same day.”**

Book One of a series, Horowitz is the author of the Magpie Murders, which I enjoyed watching on PBS, so I thought I would give him a read. This is a sharply-witted book about a Holmes-Watson-esque character, which is highly entertaining and exceptionally crafted. Set in London, of course, the reader is told of a woman who enters a mortuary to plan her funeral. And soon later, she’s found dead. **Oh, my—what fun!** Horowitz cleverly answers each clue given to a winning conclusion. If I were going on vacation, I would load up my Kindle with other books from the series.

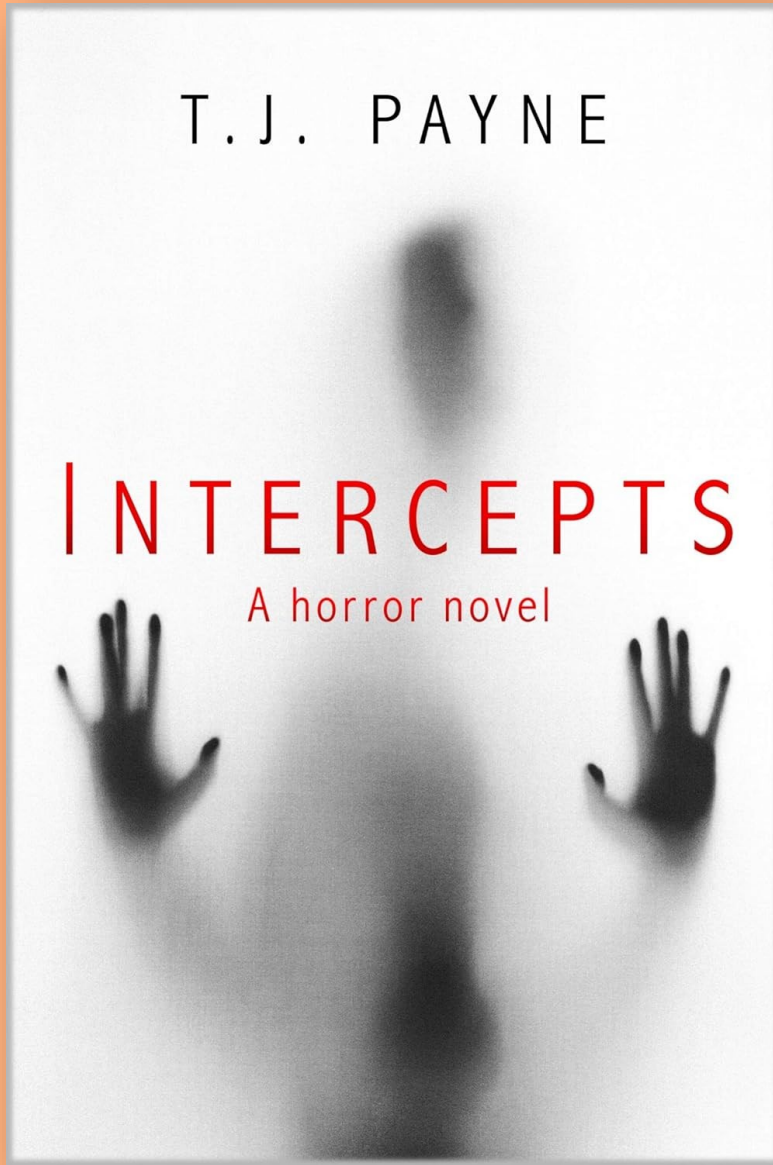


[BUY](#)

## HORROR/SUSPENSE

*“They didn’t just kill him. They wanted to hurt him. It was a fury and viciousness that didn’t exist in nature. ‘That’s what we created, Hannah, thought. Something outside the bounds of nature.’”*

Where do these types of stories come from? I would enjoy conversing with Payne someday to explore the spark that created this horror novel. And while not totally gruesome in description, it is horrifying. Think of the torture scene in George Orwell’s *1984*, when Winston Smith is subject to his worst nightmare—a rat cage hooked onto his face. Payne creates a world whereby a science enterprise puts humans into extreme sensory deprivation. How much can they take before they go insane? This is a wonderfully crafted novel with everything needed to produce a genuinely creepy effect—atmosphere, pacing, emotional triggers—and the exceptional ability to create a visceral impact to bring the reader into the story. **A great read for Halloween!**



**BUY**



All reviews presented in Le Coeur de l'Artiste are solely the views of the editor. No monies were received for giving the review or the interview on Le Artiste.

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