

- PRESS RELEASE -

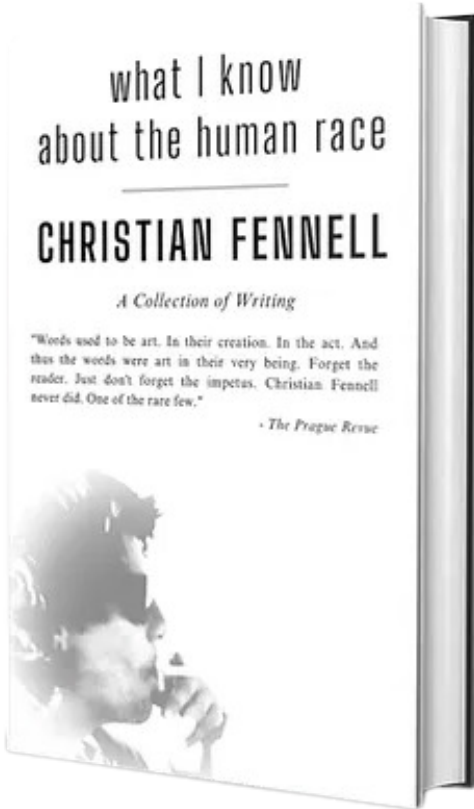
Montreal Publishing Company

presents

Christian Fennell's

What I Know About the Human Race

Christian Fennell's next book *What I Know About The Human Race* is coming June 2024. Author of the critically acclaimed collection of short stories, *Torrents of Our Time*, and the novels, *The Fiddler in the Night*, and *LOVE, GUNS & GOD in America*, in *What I Know About the Human Race*, Christian explores the themes of love, art, hope, and humanity through varying forms of writing: fiction, essays, poetry, reviews, and a one act play. With *What I Know About the Human Race*, Fennell has created a unique and bold literary collection of writing.



GENRE: LITERARY FICTION

PAPERBACK-ISBN:
978-1-998353-00-2
\$16.99 USD

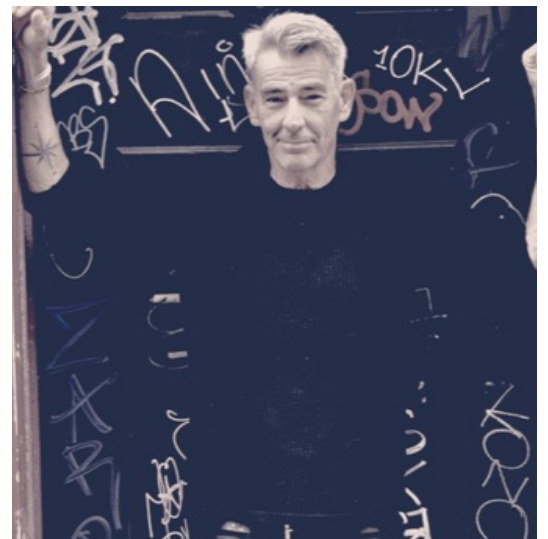
E-ISBN:
978-1-998353-03-3
\$4.99 USD

Meet the Author

Christian was a columnist and the Fiction Editor at *The Prague Review*, and is currently the Editor-in-chief of *The Nelligan Review*.

"Words used to be art. In their creation. In the act. And thus the words were art in their very being. Forget the reader. Just don't forget the impetus. Christian Fennell never did. One of the rare few."

-The Prague Review



"Many of Fennell's stories, which employ different narrative techniques, create effective tension and suspense."

-Kirkus Reviews

Praise For Christian Fennell's Previous Work:

"IN ESSENCE, THE AUTHOR HAS CREATED A WORK OF ART IN WORD FORM."

- The US Review of Books

"A VIOLENT F_CKING POET."

-Josip Novakovich

"FENNELL'S HAUNTING AND POETIC PROSE TAKES READERS THROUGH THE GODFORSAKEN TERRAIN OF RURAL AMERICA ON A WILD RIDE TO ITS STUNNING AND HEARTBREAKING CONCLUSION."

- San Francisco Book Review

"CHRISTIAN FENNELL'S NOVEL PRESENTS A VIVID, SOUL-SEARCHING ACCOUNT OF LIFE AND DEATH IN AMERICA."

- Midwest Book Review

"THIS DARK COMING-OF-AGE STORY WILL IMPRESS READERS WITH ITS DISTINCTIVE WRITING AND INTENSE, AT TIMES VIOLENT, STORY."

- Booklife Reviews

"AT TIMES THE FIDDLER IN THE NIGHT IS A THRILLER REMINISCENT OF THE DARK, INTENSE WORK OF CORMAC MCCARTHY. AT TIMES IT'S A COMING-OF-AGE TALE, OR A PRECISE PORTRAIT OF MIDDLE AMERICA. IT MANAGES TO BE ALL THESE THINGS, WHILE ALSO TELLING AN ABSORBING STORY. THIS IS A CAT-AND-MOUSE TALE SET IN GRAND, LONELY LANDSCAPES AND PEOPLED WITH CHARACTERS THAT FEEL ACHINGLY REAL."

- Neon Books, UK

"CHRISTIAN FENNELL WRITES STORIES TO SAVOUR. SHARP, SALTY AND SLY, THEY COME AT YOU SIDWAYS WITH A SHOT OF POIGNANCY WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT - AND A TWIST OF HUMOUR WHEN YOU MOST NEED IT."

-Liars' League London

Q & A

What was the impetus to write this book?

My last collection of stories came together while writing my novel, *The Fiddler in the Night*. To get away from the novel, I'd stop and write a short story or two, then go back to the novel, so that by the time the novel was done, I had enough stories for a book. With this one it was different, I've been putting off starting my next novel - busy with other things, *The Nelligan Review* and editing work, and so to keep my hand in writing, I'd work on a story here and there, and before I knew it, there was enough writing done that a form began to take shape. Once that happened, the rest fell into place rather quickly.

How would you describe your writing process of this book?

It's a book, where clearly, I wanted to explore all forms of writing, while thinking about the broader themes within the book: love, life, art, humanity, and hope, and the interconnectivity of these themes. If something came out as a poem, then that's the form it needed to be, and I thought, why keep these different forms isolated from one another? And together, were they capable of telling a story as well as one consistent form of writing?

Which stories are you most attached to, and why?

Eight Days in July, of course, which was fun to write - to recount how, in the time of COVID, Nat and I met. Also, the ones motivated by thoughts of my children. I suppose, in many ways, COVID, when I think about it, had a lot to do with the overall undertones of the book.

What writing project awaits you?

There's a novel - a couple of them, possibly, that have been waiting patiently for me to start. Soon, I hope.

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