

# Christian Fennell

*Novelist • Editor • Essayist*

*Fiction exploring morality, isolation, belief, violence, and the fragile search for meaning in modern life.*

**Website:** [www.christianfennell.com](http://www.christianfennell.com)

**Media Inquiries:** Available for podcasts, interviews, festivals, guest essays, and literary discussions.

# Biography

## Short Biography

Christian Fennell is a novelist, editor, and cultural commentator. He is Editor-in-Chief of *The Nelligan Review* and Senior Editor at Montreal Publishing Company. His work explores morality, loneliness, violence, belief, and the fragile search for meaning in modern life. He is the author of four books including *The Fiddler in the Night* and *Torrents of Our Time*. His writing has been noted for its emotional intensity, philosophical depth, and cinematic prose.

## Extended Biography

Christian Fennell is an author whose fiction and essays explore the emotional and moral tensions of contemporary life. Raised in Muskoka, Ontario, and shaped by years working across literature, film, and publishing, his work often centers on fractured identities, loneliness, memory, violence, redemption, and the human search for meaning within unstable cultural landscapes. Before focusing primarily on literature, Fennell worked extensively in film and television as a writer, director, and producer. That cinematic background continues to shape his prose — particularly his sense of rhythm, structure, atmosphere, and visual movement. His fiction blends literary realism with philosophical and symbolic undertones, balancing intimate emotional detail against larger existential questions. He serves as Editor-in-Chief of *The Nelligan Review*, where he works closely with emerging and established writers, and has also served as a fiction editor and columnist. His approach to literature emphasizes what he often describes as “the moral imagination” — fiction not as ideology, but as a means of confronting the complexities, contradictions, and emotional realities of human life. Fennell is the author of four books, including *Torrents of Our Time*, *The Fiddler in the Night*, *One Violent Day: LOVE, GUNS & GOD in America*, and *What I Know About the Human Race*. His work has received attention from outlets including *The US Review of Books*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Midwest Book Review*, and *BookLife Reviews*. His interviews and essays frequently focus on storytelling, morality, modern loneliness, art and meaning, the role of fiction in contemporary culture, and the enduring human need for narrative.

# Why I Write Fiction

*“I have long believed that all art is narrative in some form. At the center of even abstraction is the declaration: I am here. Fiction matters because it allows us to enter another consciousness, another grief, another fear, another possibility. In a fragmented age, stories remain one of the few places where human beings can still confront each other honestly — not as ideologies or algorithms, but as souls struggling through time.”*

Fennell’s work often explores the fragile line between violence and tenderness, belief and doubt, isolation and grace. His fiction is driven less by answers than by emotional and philosophical inquiry, seeking what remains human beneath political fracture, cultural anxiety, and personal loss.

His process is largely intuitive and exploratory rather than heavily outlined. Influenced by both literary fiction and screenwriting, he frequently builds stories through fragments, voice, rhythm, and emotional momentum before shaping them into larger narrative structures.

## Selected Praise

*“In essence, the author has created a work of art in word form.”*

— The US Review of Books

*“Haunting and ethereal, Fennell's stand-alone *The Fiddler in the Night* is a masterpiece of reflection that is at once gritty, disturbing, and hard to put down.”*

— Midwest Book Review

*“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

*“At times *THE FIDDLER IN THE NIGHT* is a thriller reminiscent of the dark, intense work of Cormac McCarthy... It manages to be all these things, while also telling an absorbing story.”*

— Neon Books, UK

*“Many of Fennell’s stories, which employ different narrative techniques, create effective tension and suspense.”*

— Kirkus Reviews

# Podcast & Interview Topics

- Why fiction still matters in modern society
- The moral imagination in literature
- Storytelling and emotional truth
- Writing without outlines
- The influence of film and screenwriting on prose
- Loneliness and disconnection in contemporary culture
- Violence, belief, and morality in fiction
- Art during political and cultural fracture
- The role of ambiguity in storytelling
- Editing fiction and developing voice
- Independent publishing and literary journals
- Why all art is fundamentally narrative

## Conversation Style

Christian Fennell's interviews tend toward thoughtful long-form discussion rather than promotional appearances, focusing on literature, morality, culture, storytelling, creativity, identity, and the emotional realities beneath modern life.

# Suggested Interview Questions

- Why do you write fiction?
- What themes recur most often across your work?
- How did your background in film shape your prose?
- Why are so many of your stories concerned with isolation and redemption?
- What role should ambiguity play in literature?
- What do modern readers seem emotionally hungry for?
- Why do violence and tenderness often exist side by side in your fiction?
- What makes a novel emotionally unforgettable?
- What has editing taught you about your own writing?
- Why do you believe all art is fundamentally narrative?

## Contact & Booking

Available for podcasts, interviews, literary festivals, guest essays, editorial discussions, and speaking engagements.

**Website:** [www.christianfennell.com](http://www.christianfennell.com)