

The Teeth of the Souls

A Novel

STEVE YATES

A marriage betrayed, a secret love, and a city riven by a lynching

“Steve Yates’s *The Teeth of the Souls* is gripping, well-plotted, and frighteningly authentic. Yates shows great courage as a writer who is not afraid to travel into dark places. With each new work, his craftsmanship matures, and he shows himself to be a true Son of the Border. I believe it time he be acknowledged as one of our premier contemporary historical novelists.”

—HOWARD BAHR, author of *Pelican Road*, *The Judas Field*, *The Year of Jubilo*, and *The Black Flower*

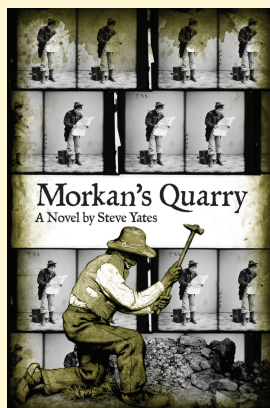
“Steve Yates searches out the hidden stories from our regional history. Those events that were murky in the shadows, forgotten, or simply not spoken about are in his hands turned into powerful and fresh fiction. Yates has scope to his ambitions, and talent to match. An exciting new voice.”

—DANIEL WOODRELL, author of *The Maid’s Version: A Novel*, *Winter’s Bone*, *Outlaw’s Album: Stories*, and *Woe to Live On*

As the sequel to *Morkan’s Quarry*, *The Teeth of the Souls* tells the story of a marriage betrayed, a lifelong and secret love, and an Ozarks city riven by an Easter lynching.

The story begins just after the Civil War when Leighton Shea Morkan, son of Irish immigrants, marries Patricia Grünhaagen Weitzer, daughter of a German banking family. Yet he can’t let go of his childhood love and wartime confidante, the house hand and former slave, Judith. Both unions produce children, one a shrouded secret, and one the heir to the Morkan legacy: the limestone quarries of Springfield, Missouri, and the bloody past, what Judith calls “The Teeth of the Souls.”

Grounded in broad historical research and spanning Missouri’s reconstruction, vigilantism, and fall from grace, *The Teeth of the Souls* chronicles the violent melding of immigrant strains—Irish, German, Scots-Irish, and African American—into the fabric of the Ozarks.



OF RELATED INTEREST

Morkan’s Quarry

A Novel

Steve Yates

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STEVE YATES, a native of Springfield, Missouri, is the Juniper Prize-winning author of *Some Kinds of Love: Stories* (University of Massachusetts Press 2013) and of *Morkan’s Quarry* (Moon City Press 2010). Yates is currently the assistant director / marketing director at the University Press of Mississippi.

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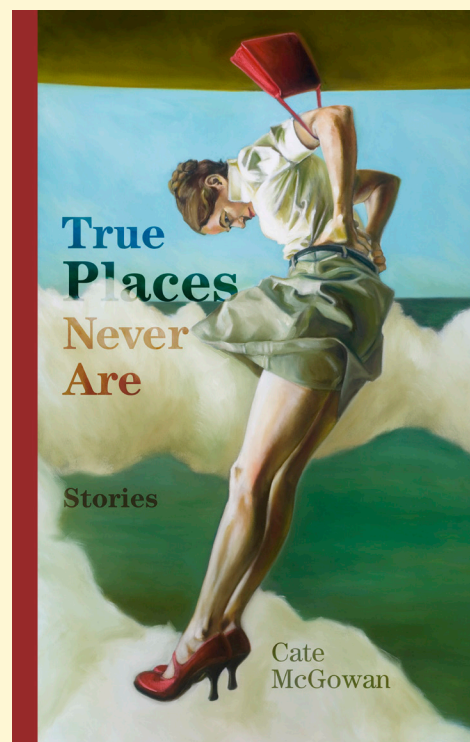
CATE MCGOWAN

Winner of the 2014 Moon City Short Fiction Prize

In her debut collection, Cate McGowan introduces us to an assortment of characters, a passenger manifest voyaging through loss and salvation. The book's title borrows from *Moby Dick*: "It is not down on any map; true places never are." McGowan's characters are indeed off the map; they venture into wondrous worlds as knotty and distressing as the places they aim to leave.

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In this collection, true places are indeed hard to find, yet hope is every person's traveling companion. In *True Places Never Are*, McGowan reminds us that wherever you are in the world, redemption might not be far away.



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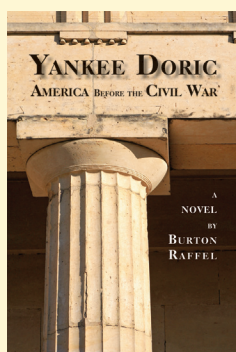
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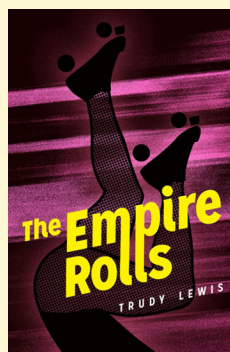
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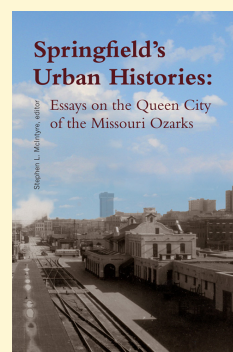
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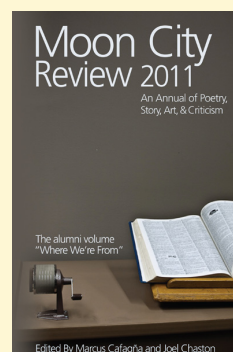
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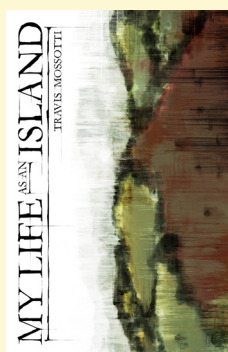
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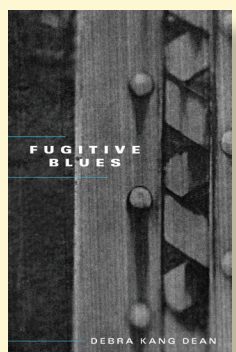
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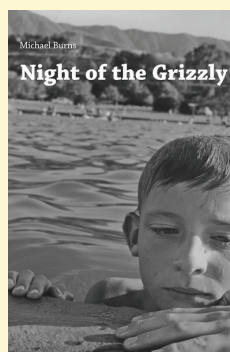
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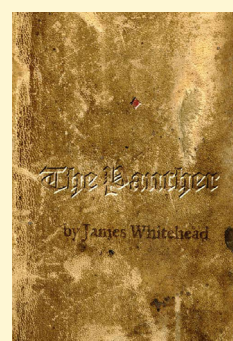
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