

Tyler James Russell's WHEN FIRE SPLITS THE SKY is an Apocalyptic, Psychological Road-Trip Thriller

Russell's characters must navigate their fragile marriage whilst driving to Anchorage after an earth-shattering event.

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[/EINPresswire.com/](https://EINPresswire.com/) -- Following Ben's weekend hunting trip outside Juneau, his wife Maranda—a trauma survivor with multiple personalities—makes a discovery that looks like it will finally put their limping, less-than-a-year marriage out of its misery. But in the morning, when a cataclysmic blast throws the world into chaos, Ben and Maranda find themselves stuck in a car, heading north to Anchorage, on a seemingly hopeless quest to reunite with a missing family member before it's too late.

Driving for days through the fiery devastation, Ben and Maranda's marital and personal trauma plays out against what might be a global—or even cosmic—catastrophe. All the while, they are pursued by two men with dark ties to Maranda's past. To reach Anchorage, Ben and Maranda will be forced to confront their blackest secrets as they decide what any relationship might be worth at the end of the world.

Told in alternating chapters from Ben and Maranda's perspectives, [When Fire Splits the Sky](#) is an apocalyptic, psychological, road-trip thriller about the limits of our capacity to endure, change, and survive.

Praise for [Tyler James Russell](#)

"Intense, propulsive, full of dark energy, Tyler Russell's novel envisions the end of the world through the yearnings of two characters barely clinging to what makes them human. Its darkness is irradiated by a sharp wit, psychological depth, and lyricism unusual in a thriller barreling this quickly across the pages. Fans of Palahniuk's *Fight Club*, Flynn's *Gone Girl* or McCarthy's *The Road* will savor these nonstop pyrotechnics."

Robert Rosenberg, author of *This is Not Civilization* and *Isles of the Blind*.



"A spellbinding thriller about the shattering impact of human trafficking, set in a devastated and dangerous apocalyptic world, Tyler James Russell's brilliant exploration of how the human mind copes with extreme trauma grabbed me on page one and never let me go. Russell's creative language and short riveting chapters kept me glued to the page, desperate to know what would happen, yet I didn't want this remarkable, terrifying story to end. When Fire Splits the Sky is the most riveting, original book I've read in ages."

Laura Davis, author of *The Courage to Heal* and *The Burning Light of Two Stars*

"This is a welcome reprieve from the simplistic caricatures about someone with multiple personalities that have become common today. No serial killer. No crazy person. Just a look at the alters that fill out the person Ben calls his wife. When Fire Splits the Sky helps us see the humanity and struggles of both Ben and Maranda (et al), as they fight to come to terms with their personal and relational trauma, searching for a path toward mutual healing."

Sam Ruck, author of the *Loving My DID Girl(s)* blog

About Tyler James Russell

Tyler James Russell is the author of *To Drown a Man* (2020), a poetry collection, also from [Unsolicited Press](#). He lives in Pennsylvania with his wife Cat and their children. His other work has been nominated for the Best of the Net and Rhysling Awards, and has appeared or is forthcoming in *F(r)iction*, *365 Tomorrows*, and *Sepia*, among others. *When Fire Splits the Sky* is his first novel.

About Unsolicited Press

Unsolicited Press strives to produce exceptional works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry from award-winning authors. Unsolicited Press based out of Portland, Oregon and focuses on the works of the unsung and underrepresented. As a womxn-owned, all-volunteer small publisher that doesn't worry about profits as much as championing exceptional literature, we have the privilege of partnering with authors skirting the fringes of the lit world. We've worked with emerging and award-winning authors such as Shann Ray, Amy Shimshon-Santo, Brook Bhagat, Kris Amos, and John W. Bateman. Learn more at unsolicitedpress.com. Find us on twitter and Instagram, [@unsolicitedp](#).

When Fire Splits the Sky is available on November 22, 2022 as a paperback (282 p.; 978-1-956692-41-9) and e-book (all major retailers). Retailers, schools, and libraries can order copies through Ingram. The author is open to speaking with the media, holding readings, and engaging in other author opportunities.

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