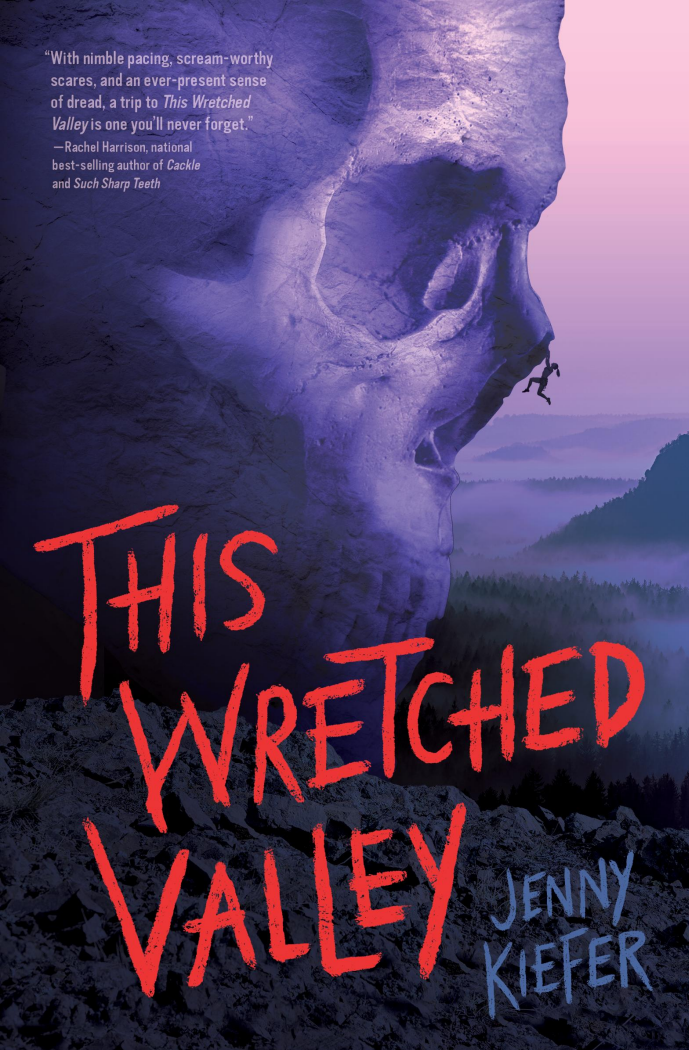


"With nimble pacing, scream-worthy scares, and an ever-present sense of dread, a trip to *This Wretched Valley* is one you'll never forget."

—Rachel Harrison, national best-selling author of *Cackle* and *Such Sharp Teeth*



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"Kiefer's debut heralds the arrival of a major new horror talent. Through vivid descriptions of the creepy setting and thoughtful character portraits, Kiefer maintains a feeling of unease and nail-biting tension throughout. Devotees of daylight horror will be entranced."—*Publisher's Weekly*, ★ starred review

"A terrifying debut, rendered with the intensity and skill of Scott Smith's cult favorite *The Ruins* and touches of *The Hunger* by Alma Katsu and *Echo* by Thomas Olde Heuvelt. The novel announces Kiefer's intentions to boldly begin her climb to the top of the genre."—*Library Journal*, ★ starred review

"Kiefer's gory and intense debut centers on a doomed rock-climbing expedition beset by horrors both human and supernatural. Kiefer, a climber herself, utilizes her knowledge of the sport to deliver an evocative and pulse-pounding survival horror novel inspired by the Dyatlov Pass incident. This disturbing outing marks her as a writer to watch and will appeal to fans of Scott Smith's *The Ruins* (2006) and the Showtime series *Yellowjackets*."—*Booklist*

"If you love wilderness horror, *This Wretched Valley* is a must-read. But be forewarned: after reading this chilling debut, you may never want to set foot in the great outdoors again."—Alma Katsu, author of *The Hunger* and *The Fervor*

"This propulsive, hair-raising read will have you jumping at shadows and second-guessing your next trek into the woods. With nimble pacing, scream-worthy scares, and an ever-present sense of dread, a trip to *This Wretched Valley* is one you'll never forget. A standout debut."—Rachel Harrison, national best-selling author of *Cackle* and *Such Sharp Teeth*

"Twisty and brutal, Jenny Kiefer's debut unfolds like your favorite creepy new horror flick. Welcome to *This Wretched Valley*, where everything bleeds."—Christopher Golden, *New York Times* best-selling author of *All Hallows* and *Road of Bones*

"A dread-inducing Kentucky spin on the Dyatlov Pass incident, *This Wretched Valley* drops its readers right into uncharted territory without a compass and demands we navigate our way out alive and in one piece. Not since Scott Smith's *The Ruins* has a novel imbued a region with such desperate horror."—Clay McLeod Chapman, author of *Ghost Eaters* and *What Kind of Mother*

"*This Wretched Valley* is a reality-warping, body-horror, don't-go-into-the-woods nightmare which grips from its very first sentence. Kiefer deftly weaves something Dyatlov Pass-shaped from her characters' hubris and pain, leading them to a ghastly and inevitable end sure to delight fans of *The Troop* or *Blair Witch*. A truly unforgettable debut."—Ally Wilkes, Bram Stoker Award-nominated author of *All the White Spaces*

"Reading *This Wretched Valley*, you will find malice dangling from every branch while an old hunger gathers beneath your feet. Eerie, vicious, and unforgettably Kiefer."—Andrew F. Sullivan, author of *The Marigold* and *The Handyman Method*

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**304 Pages**

# MORE ABOUT *THIS WRETCHED VALLEY*



- **FOR FANS OF SURVIVAL HORROR AND SUPERNATURAL THRILLERS:** Survival horror is an extremely hot subgenre of horror film and TV (see *Yellowjackets*, *The Ritual*, *Devil's Pass*, *Wrong Turn*, *Preservation*, *Killing Ground*, *The Descent* and more) and this book will appeal to readers of Alma Katsu's *The Hunger* and Dan Stevens' *The Terror*, as well as more traditional supernatural thrillers from Clay McLeod Chapman and Riley Sager.
- **CROSS-GENRE APPEAL:** The book has a classic survival horror story framework but veers into supernatural thriller territory as the climbers begin to have horrific encounters with previous victims of the valley. Inspired by the Dyatlov Pass incident, the book will also appeal to readers of retellings of real-life horror stories, fans of true crime, and people who are interested in outdoor adventures.
- **PAGE TURNING READING EXPERIENCE:** The POV cycles between the four members of the hiking party: Dylan, Clay, Sylvia, and Luke, amping up the suspense as they begin to turn on each other and creating a compulsively readable feel.



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jenny Kiefer is a debut author, avid rock climber, and Kentucky resident. She also owns and manages Butcher Cabin Books, a horror bookstore in Louisville, KY, with her mother. Her background is in copywriting and journalism and she is the recipient of the Miracle Monocle Editor's Award for Emerging Writers (2017) and four Society of Professional Journalism Awards (2018). She was a 2021 Pitch Wars mentee and is a member of the Horror Writers Association.



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