

the darkening

the darkening is a concept that has captivated the imagination of many across literature, entertainment, and cultural discussions. From fantasy novels to psychological thrillers and video games, the darkening often represents a pivotal shift—an encroaching force that brings change, conflict, or transformation. This article offers a comprehensive exploration of the darkening, its origins, impact on various genres, symbolic meanings, and the ways it influences storytelling. Whether you're a fan of fantasy fiction, interested in psychological symbolism, or curious about how this theme shapes narratives, this guide provides valuable insights. By examining its historical roots, analyzing its use in media, and understanding its significance, readers will gain a deeper appreciation for what the darkening truly represents.

- Understanding the Darkening: Definition and Origins
- Symbolism and Thematic Importance of the Darkening
- The Darkening in Literature and Entertainment
- Psychological and Cultural Perspectives on the Darkening
- Impact on Storytelling and Narrative Structure
- Frequently Used Motifs and Tropes
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Understanding the Darkening: Definition and Origins

The term "the darkening" commonly refers to a process or event where light fades and darkness spreads, symbolizing a transition from safety or order to uncertainty or chaos. Historically, the darkening has been used in myths and folklore to signify the arrival of danger, transformation, or an impending crisis. In modern contexts, it is often employed to describe metaphorical shifts, such as the descent into despair, loss, or moral ambiguity.

Tracing the origins of the darkening reveals its presence in ancient storytelling. Cultures have long used periods of darkness—literal and figurative—to mark moments of change. For example, eclipses and long nights have been seen as omens or catalysts for transformation in mythologies around the world. The darkening has evolved beyond its literal meaning to encompass psychological, emotional, and cultural dimensions.

Symbolism and Thematic Importance of the Darkening

Light versus Darkness: A Universal Theme

At its core, the darkening embodies the age-old struggle between light and darkness. Light is often associated with knowledge, hope, and safety, while darkness represents ignorance, fear, and danger. The darkening serves as a metaphor for the loss of innocence or the onset of challenging times, making it a powerful device in storytelling.

Transformation and Conflict

The darkening frequently signals transformation, whether it is a character's descent into turmoil or a world's shift from peace to chaos. This transition is central to many narratives, providing tension and driving the plot forward. The theme of conflict is heightened as protagonists confront the darkening, revealing their resilience, weaknesses, and personal growth.

Symbolic Representations

- Loss of hope or innocence
- Emergence of evil or corruption
- Climactic battles between good and evil
- Periods of uncertainty and change
- Psychological descent into despair

The Darkening in Literature and Entertainment

Fantasy and Science Fiction

In fantasy genres, the darkening is often depicted as a supernatural phenomenon. It may appear as a spreading shadow, an evil force, or a magical event that transforms the world. Books, films, and games utilize the darkening to introduce stakes, challenge heroes, and set the stage for epic confrontations. The Lord of the Rings and similar epics feature the darkening as a central element, symbolizing the rise of dark powers and the need for courage.

Psychological Thrillers and Horror

The darkening takes on a more personal and internal meaning in psychological thrillers and horror stories. Here, it can represent a character's mental decline, the loss of sanity, or the encroachment of fear. The slow, inevitable onset of the darkening creates suspense and anxiety, keeping audiences engaged and emotionally invested.

Video Games and Interactive Media

In video games, the darkening is used both visually and narratively. Game worlds may physically darken as evil spreads, altering gameplay and story progression. This mechanic adds urgency, influencing player decisions and creating immersive experiences. The darkening often marks key turning points or introduces new challenges, making it a valuable storytelling tool in interactive media.

Psychological and Cultural Perspectives on the Darkening

Archetypes and Jungian Symbolism

From a psychological perspective, the darkening is closely tied to archetypal imagery. Carl Jung described darkness as a symbol of the unconscious, the unknown, and the shadow self. The process of the darkening often mirrors internal struggles, as individuals confront hidden fears or repressed emotions. This theme resonates in stories where characters must journey through darkness to achieve self-discovery or redemption.

Cultural Interpretations

Different cultures interpret the darkening in unique ways. In some traditions, darkness is linked to renewal and transformation, marking the start of new cycles. In others, it is viewed with apprehension, representing evil forces or periods of misfortune. These varied interpretations enrich the meaning of the darkening, making it a versatile motif in global storytelling.

Impact on Storytelling and Narrative Structure

Plot Development and Pacing

The darkening is often used to heighten tension and advance the plot. Its gradual onset can signal rising danger, prompting characters to act or make crucial choices. Writers use the darkening to pace

their stories, balancing hope and despair to maintain reader engagement. The theme also provides opportunities for twists, revelations, and climactic confrontations.

Character Arcs and Growth

As the darkening unfolds, characters are forced to confront adversity, revealing their true nature. This process drives character development, allowing for moments of vulnerability, courage, and transformation. The darkening can serve as a catalyst for heroes to emerge, villains to rise, or unexpected alliances to form.

Frequently Used Motifs and Tropes

Common Literary Devices

- Shadow spreading across the land
- Loss of light or sun
- Arrival of ominous forces
- Descent into chaos or madness
- Prophecies of impending darkness

Examples from Popular Culture

Many well-known stories utilize the darkening as a central motif. In animated films, the darkening is depicted through visual changes, such as a world turning gray or corrupted. Television series and novels often use the darkening to build suspense, foreshadow twists, and develop thematic depth. These examples highlight the enduring appeal and versatility of this powerful narrative tool.

Conclusion

The darkening remains a relevant and influential concept in storytelling, psychology, and culture. Its ability to symbolize transformation, conflict, and the unknown ensures its continued use across genres. By understanding the origins, meanings, and narrative functions of the darkening, readers and creators can appreciate its impact on literature, entertainment, and beyond.

Trending and Relevant Questions and Answers about the Darkening

Q: What is the darkening in literature?

A: The darkening in literature refers to a thematic or literal shift where darkness spreads, often symbolizing the onset of conflict, danger, or transformation within a story.

Q: How is the darkening used in fantasy novels?

A: In fantasy novels, the darkening is typically portrayed as a supernatural event or force that changes the world, challenges characters, and sets the stage for epic battles between good and evil.

Q: What are common symbols associated with the darkening?

A: Common symbols include spreading shadows, eclipses, loss of light, corrupted landscapes, and the arrival of sinister forces.

Q: How does the darkening impact character development?

A: The darkening forces characters to confront adversity, revealing their strengths, weaknesses, and capacity for growth or change.

Q: Is the darkening only used in fiction?

A: While popular in fiction, the darkening also appears in cultural myths, psychological studies, and symbolic interpretations across various disciplines.

Q: Why is the darkening a popular motif in horror stories?

A: The darkening creates suspense and fear by representing the unknown or the loss of safety, making it ideal for building tension in horror narratives.

Q: What psychological meaning does the darkening hold?

A: Psychologically, the darkening can symbolize the descent into despair, confrontation with the unconscious, or the struggle with inner fears.

Q: Can the darkening symbolize positive transformation?

A: In some cultural interpretations, the darkening marks the start of renewal or rebirth, indicating that darkness can lead to growth or new beginnings.

Q: What are some famous examples of the darkening in media?

A: Famous examples include The Lord of the Rings, various animated films, and video games where the spread of darkness is a key plot element.

Q: How does the darkening affect storytelling structure?

A: The darkening enhances storytelling by introducing conflict, pacing tension, and providing opportunities for dramatic twists and character arcs.

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The Darkening: Unraveling the Mysteries of a Phenomenon

Introduction:

Have you ever felt an inexplicable chill, a sense of foreboding settling over you, as if the very light is fading from the world? This feeling, this unsettling shift in the ambiance, is the essence of "The Darkening." While not a singular, universally defined event, "The Darkening" encompasses a range of experiences, from subtle atmospheric changes to deeply disturbing psychological shifts. This blog post delves into the multifaceted nature of this phenomenon, exploring its potential interpretations, causes, and the profound impact it can have on individuals and societies. We'll examine the metaphorical and literal interpretations of The Darkening, leaving no shadowy corner unexplored.

H2: The Darkening as a Metaphor:

The term "The Darkening" often resonates beyond literal descriptions of decreased light. It frequently serves as a potent metaphor in literature, mythology, and everyday language. In this context, it symbolizes a decline, a period of hardship, or a descent into negativity.

H3: Societal Darkenings:

Throughout history, periods of societal upheaval, such as wars, famines, or totalitarian regimes, have been described as "dark ages" or periods of "darkening." These times are characterized by oppression, loss of freedom, and a dimming of hope. The metaphorical darkening reflects the loss of

societal values, the suppression of individual expression, and the decline of overall well-being.

H3: Personal Darkenings:

On a personal level, "The Darkening" might represent a period of depression, grief, or spiritual crisis. This inner darkness can manifest as feelings of hopelessness, isolation, and a loss of purpose. It's a subjective experience, deeply personal and often profoundly challenging. Navigating this internal darkening requires introspection, support, and often professional help.

H2: The Darkening in Literature and Folklore:

The concept of a darkening, a decline into shadows, is a recurring motif in various forms of storytelling.

H3: Apocalyptic Narratives:

From ancient prophecies to modern dystopian fiction, the image of a darkening sky, a world plunged into eternal night, often symbolizes apocalyptic events or the end of times. These narratives frequently explore themes of societal collapse, environmental devastation, and the loss of human connection.

H3: Supernatural Tales:

Folklore and mythology are replete with tales of supernatural darkenings, often associated with malevolent forces or the incursion of otherworldly entities. These stories tap into primal fears of the unknown and the vulnerability of humanity in the face of overwhelming power. The darkening, in these instances, is a tangible manifestation of fear itself.

H2: The Literal Darkening: Environmental and Astronomical Factors:

While the metaphorical interpretations of "The Darkening" are prevalent, it's also crucial to consider the literal possibilities.

H3: Volcanic Eruptions and Atmospheric Events:

Major volcanic eruptions can spew vast quantities of ash and aerosols into the atmosphere, blocking sunlight and causing a temporary dimming of the sky. This literal darkening can have significant impacts on global temperatures and agricultural yields.

H3: Astronomical Phenomena:

While less frequent, astronomical events like significant solar flares or the passage of a large asteroid could theoretically cause a temporary darkening. However, such events are rare and often accompanied by far more dramatic consequences.

H2: Overcoming the Darkening:

Regardless of its interpretation, confronting the darkness - whether metaphorical or literal -

requires resilience and a proactive approach.

H3: Seeking Support:

If "The Darkening" represents a period of personal struggle, seeking support from friends, family, or mental health professionals is crucial. Open communication and professional guidance can be invaluable in navigating challenging times.

H3: Embracing Hope and Resilience:

Even in the face of seemingly insurmountable difficulties, maintaining hope and fostering resilience are paramount. Focusing on positive aspects of life, practicing self-care, and seeking opportunities for growth can help illuminate the path forward.

Conclusion:

"The Darkening," in its various interpretations, serves as a powerful symbol and a potent reminder of the complexities of human experience and the fragility of our world. Whether it manifests as a metaphorical representation of societal or personal struggles or a literal dimming of the light, understanding its multifaceted nature allows us to navigate its challenges with greater awareness and resilience. By acknowledging the darkness, we can ultimately find the strength to emerge into the light.

FAQs:

1. Is "The Darkening" a scientifically recognized phenomenon? No, "The Darkening" isn't a formally recognized scientific phenomenon. However, the underlying concepts – like volcanic-induced atmospheric changes or periods of societal decline – are well-documented.
2. Can "The Darkening" be predicted? The metaphorical "Darkening" is unpredictable, as it's tied to subjective experiences and societal shifts. The literal darkening caused by environmental factors can sometimes be anticipated, although precise timing and impact are difficult to forecast.
3. How can I cope with a personal "Darkening"? Seek professional help if needed. Connect with supportive individuals, practice self-care, and engage in activities that bring you comfort and joy.
4. What role does fear play in the concept of "The Darkening"? Fear is a powerful emotional response often associated with "The Darkening," both in metaphorical and literal interpretations. It taps into our primal anxieties about uncertainty and loss of control.
5. Are there any historical examples of a literal "Darkening"? Yes, historical records document periods of significant atmospheric dimming caused by large volcanic eruptions, resulting in temporary periods of cooler temperatures and reduced sunlight. The "Year Without a Summer" following the eruption of Mount Tambora in 1815 is a prime example.

the darkening: The Darkening Sunya Mara, 2022-07-05 'A grand epic' Chloe Gong Only she can face the Storm . . . Vesper Vale is the daughter of revolutionaries. Failed revolutionaries. Since the Queen sentenced her mother to death by a deadly Storm that curses everyone it touches, Vesper

and her father have been on the run. So when the queen's soldiers - led by paranoid Prince Dalca - catch up to them, Vesper will do whatever it takes to keep her father from sharing her mother's cruel fate. Even arm herself with her father's book of dangerous experimental magic. Even infiltrate the prince's elite squad of soldier-sorcerers. Even cheat her way into his cold heart. But when Vesper learns that there's more to the story of her mother's death, and that her home is in dire peril, she has little choice: trust the devious prince with her family's secrets, or follow her mother's footsteps into the Storm . . . 'Enchanting and wildly clever' Ayana Gray 'Wild and thrilling' Adalyn Grace

the darkening: The Darkening Dream Andy Gavin, 2011-12-23 An ominous vision and the discovery of a gruesome corpse lead Sarah Engelmänn into a terrifying encounter with the supernatural in 1913 Salem, Massachusetts. With help from Alex, an attractive Greek immigrant, Sarah sets out to track the evil to its source, never guessing that she will take on a conspiracy involving not only a 900-year vampire, but also a demon-loving Puritan warlock, disgruntled Egyptian gods, and an immortal sorcerer, all on a quest to recover the holy trumpet of the Archangel Gabriel. Relying on the wisdom of an elderly vampire hunter, Sarah's rabbi father, and her own disturbing visions, Sarah must fight a millennia-old battle between unspeakable forces, where the ultimate prize might be herself.

the darkening: The Darkening Nation Ignacio Aguiló, 2018-04-12 •It analyses culture during the Argentinian crisis from an interdisciplinary angle (literature, cinema, art and music). •Wide-ranging material: 'highbrow' art (Leonel Luna), popular culture (cumbia villera), cultural products that challenge these distinctions (César Aira, Martín Rejtman), and political art (Grupo de Arte Callejero). •The only book in English to focus comprehensively on race and nation in contemporary Argentina from a cultural studies perspective. •A broad understanding of the crisis (late 1990s to mid-2000s), which implies a more comprehensive account of this event. •Due to its analysis of white middle-class identity in Argentina, the book is also a contribution to the emerging field of whiteness studies in Latin America. •The book looks at a trend that would eventually affect the US and Europe in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis: how disaffection caused by neoliberalism triggered in people a concern with national identity which, in many cases, led to a rise of nativism and racism (e.g. Brexit, Trump's election).

the darkening: The Darkening Stephen M. Irwin, 2010-02-04 After his wife's sudden death, Nick Close has decided to leave London and return to Australia, hoping that distance will bring oblivion. But Tallong, his run-down childhood home, doesn't hold much comfort either: Thirty years ago, he and his best friend Tristram were lured into the woods at the edge of town. Tristram was murdered while Nick escaped. As Nick drives the back road home from the airport, he is disturbed to find the woods still looming darkly in the distance. A strange sense of menace and foreboding overshadows his homecoming and Nick's uneasiness grows when another child is found murdered a few days later, his death almost identical to Tristram's. Probing quietly and carefully into the shadows of the small community, Nick uncovers a long string of unexplained disappearances and brutal deaths, some over 100 years old - and every killing seems to lead back into the twisted maze of the woods. But there is one other connection. Drawn into the woods once again, Nick suddenly realises that it wasn't Tristram who was meant to die thirty years ago...

the darkening: The Darkening Age Catherine Nixey, 2017-09-26 The Darkening Age is the largely unknown story of how a militant religion comprehensively and deliberately extinguished the teachings of the Classical world, ushering in centuries of unquestioning adherence to 'one true faith'. Despite the long-held notion that the early Christians were meek and mild, going to their martyr's deaths singing hymns of love and praise, the truth, as Catherine Nixey reveals, is very different. Far from being meek and mild, they were violent, ruthless and fundamentally intolerant. Unlike the polytheistic world, in which the addition of one new religion made no fundamental difference to the old ones, this new ideology stated not only that it was the way, the truth and the light but that, by extension, every single other way was wrong and had to be destroyed. From the 1st century to the 6th, those who didn't fall into step with its beliefs were pursued in every possible way:

social, legal, financial and physical. Their altars were upturned and their temples demolished, their statues hacked to pieces and their priests killed. It was an annihilation. Authoritative, vividly written and utterly compelling, this is a remarkable debut from a brilliant young historian.

the darkening: The Darkening King Justin Fisher, 2018-10-16 Ned and the magical Circus of Marvels are back in a third rip-roaring, page-turning adventure! The Armstrongs are both predator and prey, hunting for clues to help them fight the Darkening-King, while constantly watching their backs. This time it's not just the world of the Hidden searching for them: the Josser world is intent on capturing the family too. Leading the search is the curious Mr Fox and his agents in grey, and they've found an ally who knows Ned's every move. As the world of the Hidden begins to fall apart, its horde of Demons and Darklings threatens to spill out of the shadows at any moment. With his trusty mouse and Familiar, Lucy and George, Ned must travel from the snow-swept forests of Siberia to the cliffs of Dover in a desperate attempt to rally allies for a final stand. Fearsome enemies will become allies and old allies enemies, as Ned prepares himself for the final battle.

the darkening: The Drawing of the Dark Tim Powers, 2011-05-04 "Combining the best of mythology and real history, Tim Powers takes you on a rollicking magical adventure that is both tense and hilarious. You won't read a more plausible explanation for Western civilization, or one that's half so much fun."—David Brin Brian Duffy, aging soldier of fortune, had been hired in Venice by a strange old man who called himself Aurelianus Ambrosius. He was supposed to go to Vienna and act as bouncer at an inn where the fabulous Herzwosten beer was brewed. That was clear enough. But why was he guided and guarded on the trip by creatures from the ancient legends? Why should he be attacked by ifrits and saved by mythical dwarfs? What was so important about the Herzwosten beer to the Fisher King—whoever he was? Why was Duffy plagued by visions of a sword and an arm rising from a lake? And what had a bunch of drunken, ancient Vikings to do with it all? Then there was no time for speculation as Vienna was besieged by the Turkish armies of Suleiman. Duffy found himself drawn into a war of desperation and magic. It was up to him to preserve the West until the drawing of the Dark.

the darkening: The Dark of the Sun Wilbur Smith, 2018-01-01 An action-packed thriller by global sensation, Wilbur Smith. 'A master storyteller' - Sunday Times 'Wilbur Smith is one of those benchmarks against whom others are compared' - The Times 'No one does adventure quite like Smith' - Daily Mirror The highest prize comes at the highest price... Captain Bruce Curry has a simple enough mission: to lead his mercenary soldiers to rescue a town cut off by rebel fighting in the Belgian Congo. But events quickly take a turn for the worse as it becomes clear that the town's diamond supplies are the real focus of the mission. And where there is treasure, danger always seems to follow. It isn't long before Curry finds something even more valuable than diamonds in the town. Something he'll do anything to protect. And soon he discovers that his most deadly enemies might be those closest to him . . .

the darkening: The Dark Marianne Curley, 2012-12-20 A dark and compelling sequel to The Named, The Dark crackles with suspense and intrigue. Hell-bent on avenging the death of one of their best, the Order of Chaos gain the upper hand in their battle against the Guardians. As the Order's attempts to change history bear fruit, Ethan and Isabel notice subtle changes in their daily lives as an altered past impacts on the future. Before they can confront the Order, Ethan and Isabel, joined by Isabel's brother Matt, must risk everything to travel through a dark world and save Arkarian, without whom the future looks bleak. Told from the perspectives of Isabel and Arkarian, the edgy relationships and pacy narrative make for an unputdownable read.

the darkening: The Darkening Wall Paul Monks, 2011-11-29 Why do we build walls? The Empire: ancient as the mountains that it was built upon. For as long as anyone can remember it has stood, protected and enshrouded by the Darkening Wall: the ever present barrier that lets in light but keeps the people isolated from the world around them. Only now the Wall is failing and a terrible sickness envelopes the land. With the demise of the wall magic, and perhaps the Gods themselves, are returning. But is the Empire ready? Now, as her world stands on the brink of civil war, the First Daughter of the Emperor must journey to find the truth behind a secret that has long lain silent: a

secret whose impact she may yet be unable to escape.

the darkening: In The Dark Spaces Cally Black, 2017-08-01 Winner of the Ampersand Prize, IN THE DARK SPACES is a genre-smashing hostage drama about 14-year-old Tamara, who's faced with an impossible choice when she falls for her kidnappers. Yet this is no ordinary kidnapping. Tamara has been living on a star freighter in deep space, and her kidnappers are terrifying Crowpeople – the only aliens humanity has ever encountered. No-one has ever survived a Crowpeople attack, until now – and Tamara must use everything she has just to stay alive. But survival always comes at a price, and there's no handbook for this hostage crisis. As Tamara comes to know the Crowpeople's way of life, and the threats they face from humanity's exploration into deep space, she realises she has an impossible choice to make. Should she stay as the only human among the Crows, knowing she'll never see her family again ... or inevitably betray her new community if she wants to escape? This ground-breaking thriller won the Ampersand Prize, a stand-out entry with a blindingly original voice: raw, strange and deeply sympathetic. With its vivid and immersive world-building, this electrifying debut is *The Knife of Never Letting Go* meets *Homeland*, for the next generation of sci-fi readers. Winner of the 2015 Ampersand Prize, 2018 Aurealis Award: Best Young Adult Novel, 2018 ABDA Award: Best Designed Young Adult Cover, New Zealand Book Awards: Copyright Licensing NZ Award for Young Adult Fiction, 2018 Queensland Literary Award: Griffith University Young Adult Book Award 2018 CBCA Book of the Year for Older Readers: Honour Book Shortlisted for the 2018 Gold Inky, 2019 Ditmar Award, 2018 Ethel Turner Prize for Young People's Literature, Western Australian Young Readers' Book Awards Highly Commended in the 2018 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards

the darkening: The Dark Half Stephen King, 2016-02-16 Set in the fictional town of Castle Rock, Maine A wondrously frightening (Publishers Weekly) tale of terror and #1 national bestseller about a writer's pseudonym that comes alive and destroys everyone on the path that leads to the man who created him. Thad Beaumont is a writer, and for a dozen years he has secretly published violent bestsellers under the name of George Stark. But Thad is a healthier and happier man now, the father of infant twins, and starting to write as himself again. He no longer needs George Stark and so, with nationwide publicity, the pseudonym is retired. But George Stark won't go willingly. And now Thad would like to say he is innocent. He'd like to say he has nothing to do with the twisted imagination that produced his bestselling novels. He'd like to say he has nothing to do with the series of monstrous murders that keep coming closer to his home. But how can Thad deny the ultimate embodiment of evil that goes by the name he gave it--and signs its crimes with Thad's bloody fingerprints? *The Dark Half* is a chiller (The New York Times Book Review), so real and fascinating that you'll find yourself squirming in Stephen King's heart-stopping, blood-curdling grip--and loving every minute of it.

the darkening: My Dark Companion Shaun O'Gorman, 2017-04-23 'The fear I felt was not from the PTSD, it was that if the department knew I was struggling, I would lose the only place where I'd ever felt I belonged.' Shaun O'Gorman's police career ended when a series of traumatic cases caused PTSD. In *My Dark Companion* he shares, openly and in detail, his road back from depression and suicidal thoughts.

the darkening: Even in the Dark Rose Lucas, 2013 *Even in the Dark* contains delicate poems of the lives of women and the exquisite beauty contained in the act of observation.

the darkening: Ask the Dark Henry Turner, 2015 A thriller about Billy Zeets, a 14-year-old semi-delinquent in a deadly tango with a killer--

the darkening: Dark Rise: Dark Rise 1 C S Pacat, 2021-09-28 THE DARK WILL RISE. WHO WILL FALL? WHO WILL STAND? The ancient world of magic is no more. Its heroes are dead, its halls are ruins, and its great battles between Light and Dark are forgotten. Only the Stewards remember. For centuries they have kept vigil, sworn to protect humanity if the Dark King ever returns. Sixteen-year-old dock boy Will is on the run in London, pursued by the men who killed his mother. When an old servant urges him to seek out the Stewards, Will is ushered into a secret world, where he must train to fight for the Light in the oncoming war. As the Dark King's return looms,

reborn warriors begin to draw battle lines. But when the young descendants of Light and Dark step into their destined roles, old allegiances, old enmities and old flames are awakened. Will must stand with the last heroes of the Light to prevent the calamity that destroyed their world from returning to destroy his own. *Dark Rise* is the first book in a thrilling new YA fantasy series from bestselling Australian author CS Pacat. 'Beautiful, classical and deliciously dark.' - Jay Kristoff '... a YA fantasy that begins breathlessly and rarely lets up ... *Dark Rise* is perfect for fans of *Six of Crows* by Leigh Bardugo or *The Cruel Prince* by Holly Black.' - Books+Publishing

the darkening: *The Dark Lake* Sarah Bailey, 2017-05-24 There were a few minutes when I was alone with her in the autopsy room. I felt wild. Absent. Before I could stop myself I was leaning close to her, telling her everything. The words draining out of me as she lay there. Her long damp hair hanging off the back of the steel table. Glassy eyes fixed blindly on the ceiling. She was still so beautiful, even in death. Our secrets circled madly around the bright white room that morning. Rocking back and forth on my heels as I stood next to her, I knew how far in I was again, how comprehensively her death could undo me. I looked at Rosalind Ryan properly for the last time before breathing deeply, readying myself, letting her pull me back into her world, and I sank down, further and further, until I was completely, utterly under. A beautiful young teacher has been murdered, her body found in the lake, strewn with red roses. Local policewoman Detective Sergeant Gemma Woodstock pushes to be assigned to the case, concealing the fact that she knew the murdered woman in high school years before. But that's not all Gemma's trying to hide. As the investigation digs deeper into the victim's past, other secrets threaten to come to light, secrets that were supposed to remain buried. The lake holds the key to solving the murder, but it also has the power to drag Gemma down into its dark depths. *The Dark Lake* is an addictive crime thriller, a mesmerising account of one woman's descent into deceit and madness, and a stunning debut that is already causing a stir around the world.

the darkening: *Draw the Dark* Ilsa J. Bick, 2013-08-01 There are things the people of Winter, Wisconsin, would rather forget. The year the Nazis came to town, for one. That fire, for another. But what they'd really like to forget is Christian Cage. Seventeen-year-old Christian's parents disappeared when he was a little boy. Ever since, he's drawn obsessively: his mother's face...her eyes...and what he calls the sideways place, where he says his parents are trapped. Christian figures if he can just see through his mother's eyes, maybe he can get there somehow and save them. But Christian also draws other things. Ugly things. Evil things. Dark things. Things like other people's fears and nightmares. Their pasts. Their destiny. There's one more thing the people of Winter would like to forget: murder. But Winter won't be able to forget the truth, no matter how hard it tries. Not as long as Christian draws the dark...

the darkening: *Through the Dark* Alexandra Bracken, 2018-12-01 'A RIVETING EMOTIONAL READ THAT KEPT ME ON THE EDGE!' -- Melissa Marr, author of the bestselling *Wicked Lovely* series, on *The Darkest Minds* From #1 New York Times bestselling author Alexandra Bracken comes a collection of thrilling novellas that connect the four novels in the bestselling *The Darkest Minds* series. In *Time* sees a desperate young man is forced to make a terrible choice between his own survival and the future of a little girl who won't speak, but who changes his life in ways he could never imagine. In *Sparks* Rise a spark of light brightens a brutal world when a girl named Sam encounters her childhood best friend, Lucas, at the government-run 'rehabilitation' camp, Thurmond. Lucas and Sam form a risky escape plan, but sometimes even love isn't powerful enough to overcome unspeakable cruelty. And in *Beyond the Night* the camps are closed. A tyrant president has been deposed. But for many Psi kids living rough, there is no home to return to, no place for them in a country devastated by the past and anxious about the future. Every day is a struggle for Sam, who knew all the rules at Thurmond and has been thrown into a terrifying and uncertain new life. But there's more at stake than Sam's own survival. She once made a promise to someone she loves, and the time has come to fulfill it. MORE PRAISE FOR THE DARKEST MINDS 'The story's quick-paced action leads to a heartbreaking cliffhanger that will have readers eager for the next book ...' -- Publishers Weekly 'Haunting ... Bracken creates a gripping and terrifying dystopian

world.' -- Kirkus Reviews 'HELL TO THE YES, I love this story and these characters so much!!' -- Goodreads 'The Darkest Minds was, without a doubt, one of the best books I have read!' -- Goodreads

the darkening: Gretel and the Dark Eliza Granville, 2014-02-06 Gretel and the Dark is Eliza Granville's dazzling novel of darkness, evil - and hope. For fans of Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief* and Guillermo del Toro's *Pan's Labyrinth*. Vienna, 1899. Josef Breuer - celebrated psychoanalyst - is about to encounter his strangest case yet. Found by the lunatic asylum, thin, head shaved, she claims to have no name, no feelings - to be, in fact, not even human. Intrigued, Breuer determines to fathom the roots of her disturbance. Years later, in Germany, we meet Krysta. Krysta's Papa is busy working in the infirmary with the 'animal people', so little Krysta plays alone, lost in the stories of Hansel and Gretel, the Pied Piper, and more. And when everything changes and the real world around her becomes as frightening as any fairy tale, Krysta finds that her imagination holds powers beyond what she could have ever guessed . . . 'Atmospheric and beautifully written. Gretel and the Dark will be one of the best books of 2014' *The List*

the darkening: The Dark Lemony Snicket, Jon Klassen, 2013-03-25 *A Globe & Mail* 100 Selection Two bestselling talents shed new light on an age-old fear Lazlo is afraid of the dark. It hides in closets and sometimes sits behind the shower curtain, but mostly it lives in the basement. One night, when Lazlo's nightlight burns out, the dark comes to visit him in his room. Lazlo, the Dark says. I want to show you something. And so Lazlo descends the basement stairs to face his fears and discover a few comforting facts about the mysterious presence with whom all children must learn to live. Beautifully rendered with sympathy and wit, this first collaboration between Snicket and Klassen offers a fresh take on a universal childhood experience.

the darkening: Writing Into the Dark: How to Write a Novel Without an Outline Dean Wesley Smith, 2015-05-07 With more than a hundred published novels and more than seventeen million copies of his books in print, USA Today bestselling author Dean Wesley Smith knows how to outline. And he knows how to write a novel without an outline. In this WMG Writer's Guide, Dean takes you step-by-step through the process of writing without an outline and explains why not having an outline boosts your creative voice and keeps you more interested in your writing. Want to enjoy your writing more and entertain yourself? Then toss away your outline and Write into the Dark.

the darkening: Shatter the Dark Jenna Collett, 2021-04-16 First she escaped the witch, now in order to save her family, she'll have to charm a beast. Liana Archer knows the kind of evil that lurks in the dark. Kidnapped by a witch and forced to leave behind her brother to escape, she vows to live her life with purpose even as the past haunts her nightmares. Years later, her adoptive family and her ability to forge magical weapons have put her on a fresh path, until her father is thrown in prison for a crime he didn't commit. Now she'll do anything to gain his freedom, even if it means bargaining with a beast. A scarred and broken man, Bowen Mackenzie only wants one thing: revenge. It's finally within his reach when a merchant delivers the mystical blade he's been searching for. But a new plan forms when he learns the merchant's daughter forged the magical weapon. Living together in a remote manor by the sea, Bowen gets more than he bargained for as the tempting beauty upends his cold existence. When buried secrets threaten to destroy their fragile bond, and an old enemy from Liana's past returns, he must choose between his revenge and the woman who could be his salvation.

the darkening: The Dark Tourist Dom Joly, 2010-09-02 'Dark tourism is the act of travel and visitation to sites, attractions and exhibitions which have real or recreated death, suffering or the seemingly macabre as a main theme' Ever since he can remember, Dom Joly has been fascinated by travel to odd places. In part this stems from a childhood spent in war-torn Lebanon, where instead of swapping marbles in the schoolyard, he had a shrapnel collection -- the schoolboy currency of Beirut. Dom's upbringing was interspersed with terrifying days and nights spent hunkered in the family basement under Syrian rocket attack or coming across a pile of severed heads from a sectarian execution in the pine forests near his home. These early experiences left Dom with a profound loathing for the sanitized experiences of the modern day travel industry and a taste for the darkest

of places. And in this brilliantly odd and hilariously told travel memoir, Dom Joly sets out on a quest to visit those destinations from which the average tourist would, and should, run a mile. The more insalubrious the place, the more interesting is the journey and so we follow Dom as he skis in Iran on segregated slopes, picnics in the Syrian Desert with a trigger-happy government minder and fires rocket propelled grenades at live cows in Cambodia (he missed on purpose, he just couldn't do it). Funny and frightening in equal measure, this is a uniquely bizarre and compelling travelogue from one of the most fearless and innovative comedians around.

the darkening: The Darkening Trapeze Larry Levis, 2016-01-05 The empty bar that someone was supposed to swing to him Did not arrive, & so his outstretched flesh itself became A darkening trapeze. The two other acrobats were thieves. --from *Elegy with a Darkening Trapeze* Inside It The Darkening Trapeze collects the last poems by Larry Levis, written during the extraordinary blaze of his final years when his poetry expanded into the ambitious operatic masterpieces he is known for. Edited and with an afterword by David St. John and published twenty years after Levis's death, this collection contains major unpublished works, including final elegies, brief lyrics, and a coda believed to be the last poem Levis wrote, a heart-wrenching poem about his son. The Darkening Trapeze is an astonishing collection by a poet many consider to be among the greatest of late-twentieth-century American poetry.

the darkening: The Incredible Here and Now Felicity Castanga, 2013-09-01 Michael's older brother dies at the beginning of the summer he turns 15, but as its title suggests *The Incredible Here and Now* is a tale of wonder, not of tragedy. Presented as a series of vignettes, in the tradition of Sandra Cisneros' Young Adult classic *The House on Mango Street*, it tells of Michael's coming of age in a year which brings him grief and romance; and of the place he lives in Western Sydney where 'those who don't know any better drive through the neighbourhood and lock their car doors', and those who do, flourish in its mix of cultures. Through his perceptions, the reader becomes familiar with Michael's community and its surroundings, the unsettled life of his family, the girl he meets at the local pool, the friends that gather in the McDonalds parking lot at night, the white Pontiac Trans Am that lights up his life like a magical talisman.

the darkening: Dancing in the Dark Robyn Bavati, 2010-02-01 He tossed her into the air as if she were weightless, and just for a moment she seemed suspended there, defying gravity. I couldn't take my eyes off her. I knew what she was feeling. It was in every movement of every limb. Here was a power I had never seen before, a kind of haunting loveliness I had never imagined. Seeing it made me long for something, I didn't know what . . . Ditty was born to dance, but she was also born Jewish. When her strictly religious parents won't let her take ballet lessons, Ditty starts to dance in secret. But for how long can she keep her two worlds apart? And at what cost? A dramatic and moving story about a girl who follows her dream, and finds herself questioning everything she believes in.

the darkening: Dark as Last Night Tony Birch, 2021-08-03 *Dark as Last Night* confirms, once again, that Tony Birch is a master of the short story. These exceptional stories capture the importance of human connection at pivotal moments in our lives, whether those occur because of the loss of a loved one or the uncertainties of childhood. In this collection we witness a young girl struggling to protect her mother from her father's violence, two teenagers clumsily getting to know one another by way of a shared love of music, and a man mourning the death of his younger brother, while beset by memories and regrets from their past. Throughout this powerful collection, Birch's concern for the humanity of those who are often marginalised or overlooked shines bright.

the darkening: The Dark Wild Piers Torday, 2014-03-20 WINNER OF THE GUARDIAN CHILDREN'S FICTION PRIZE 2014. A thrilling animal adventure for fans of Roald Dahl, David Walliams and Katherine Rundell Twelve-year-old Kester thought he had discovered the last wild animals in the land. He thought his adventure was over. He was wrong. Below the sparkling city of Premium, deep underground, a dark wild remains: animals who believe the time is right to rise up against their human enemies. And soon Kester realises: he is the only one who can stop them. Kester Jaynes saved the animals. Can he save the humans too?

the darkening: Orion and the Dark Emma Yarlett, 2015-03-24 Orion is very scared of the dark—until Dark decides to pay him a visit! Orion is scared of a lot of things, but most of all he's scared of the dark. So one night the Dark decides to take Orion on an adventure. Emma Yarlett's second picture book combines her incredible storytelling and artwork with die-cut pages that bring the Dark to life.

the darkening: The Darkening Glass (Mathilde of Westminster Trilogy, Book 3) Paul Doherty, 2012-10-30 As dark forces challenge Edward II's throne, will the King prevail? The Darkening Glass is the third novel in Paul Doherty's brilliant series featuring physician and lady-in-waiting to Queen Isabella, Mathilde of Westminster. Perfect for fans of Robin Hobb and Michael Jecks. March 1312 and England is divided. Edward II is in conflict with his barons over royal favourite Gaveston, and Queen Isabella is momentarily pregnant with the first union of Plantagenet and Capetian blood. Meanwhile, rebel Robert Bruce prowls the Scottish border seeking advancement. Mathilde of Westminster senses a challenge for the throne is imminent. When the great Earls step up their campaign, the King and Queen are forced to flee to a fortified priory in Tynemouth, now vulnerable to the Scottish marauders on land and Bruce's allies at sea. With threats all around, the royal party can only despair when one of their camp is murdered. Will Mathilde be able to find the perpetrator before the King loses control of the throne? What readers are saying about The Darkening Glass: 'The plot was effective and...the mood was atmospheric' 'Wonderfully brought to life' 'I saw the wrong side of midnight many times, as I was unable to put the book down! The many twists and turns of the plot, and the strength of the characters made this a memorable book'

the darkening: Out of the Dark Gregg Hurwitz, 2019-01-29 * AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER * This novel will be remembered as one of the best thrillers of the year. —Associated Press A shocking stunner in every way. The perfect thriller. —Robert Crais When darkness closes in—he's your last, best hope. Evan Smoak returns in Gregg Hurwitz's #1 international bestselling Orphan X series in Out of the Dark. Taken from a group home at age twelve, Evan Smoak was raised and trained as part of the Orphan Program, an off-the-books operation designed to create deniable intelligence assets—i.e. assassins. Evan was Orphan X. He broke with the Program, using everything he learned to disappear and reinvent himself as the Nowhere Man, a man who helps the truly desperate when no one else can. But now Evan's past is catching up to him. Someone at the very highest level of government has been trying to eliminate every trace of the Orphan Program by killing all the remaining Orphans and their trainers. After Evan's mentor and the only father he ever knew was killed, he decided to strike back. His target is the man who started the Program and who is now the most heavily guarded person in the world: the President of the United States. But President Bennett knows that Orphan X is after him and, using weapons of his own, he's decided to counter-attack. Bennett activates the one man who has the skills and experience to track down and take out Orphan X—the first recruit of the Program, Orphan A. With Evan devoting all his skills, resources, and intelligence to find a way through the layers of security that surround the President, suddenly he also has to protect himself against the deadliest of opponents. It's Orphan vs. Orphan with the future of the country—even the world—on the line.

the darkening: Dark Emu Bruce Pascoe, 2015-10-01 Dark Emu puts forward an argument for a reconsideration of the hunter-gatherer tag for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians. The evidence insists that Aboriginal people right across the continent were using domesticated plants, sowing, harvesting, irrigating and storing - behaviors inconsistent with the hunter-gatherer tag. Gerritsen and Gammage in their latest books support this premise but Pascoe takes this further and challenges the hunter-gatherer tag as a convenient lie. Almost all the evidence comes from the records and diaries of the Australian explorers, impeccable sources.

the darkening: The Darkening Chandler McGrew, 2015-07-01 Electrical power ceases, the Sun dims, cities come to a halt, and people vanish. A clandestine group has been preparing for this moment. Hopes now rest on two strangers who hold the key to the world's survival - a martial arts instructor and a private investigator. They must battle against something ancient, horrifying;

impossibly dark.

the darkening: The Dark Griffin Katie Jill Taylor, 2009 In the land of Cymria, humans and griffins rule side by side. To be a griffiner - the human companion and ambassador to a griffin - is to have both status and dangerous responsibility. Arren Cardockson is a despised Northener. By freak chance, he became a griffiner, but when his griffin dies Arren's life spirals out of control.

the darkening: The Book from Baden Dark James Moloney, 2013-02-01 The exciting conclusion to the bestselling trilogy that began with THE BOOK OF LIES. three years have passed since Marcel defeated Mortregis, the great dragon of war, and more than a year since the Battle of Cadell. On a mountainside in Elster, Bea, who has lived among the elves all this time, longs to see her human friends again. When strange creatures disturb the tranquillity of the mountain forests and her grandfather disappears, she calls for Marcel's help. together with his cousin, Fergus, they travel into the forbidden underground world of Baden Dark on a rescue mission. But Marcel senses an ancient evil in Baden Dark and becomes determined to free all of Elster from its threat. Forever. the challenge will test his growing power as a sorcerer and even success may come at a terrible price. Bea is not convinced by his ambitions and when Marcel betrays her with his magic, he makes a decision that may keep them apart forever. Fast-paced and completely enthralling, the compelling conclusion to this trilogy is guaranteed to have readers unable to turn the pages fast enough! Ages 9 - 12

the darkening: How to Make Friends with the Dark Kathleen Glasgow, 2019-05-01 'A BOOK AS FIERCE, TENDER, AND RARE AS ITS APTLY NAMED HEROINE, TIGER.' -- Meg Leder, author of Letting Go of Gravity It's the brightest day of summer and it's dark outside. It's dark in your house, dark in your room, and dark in your heart. You feel like the darkness is going to split you apart. Here is what happens when your mother dies. That's how it feels for Tiger. It's always been Tiger and her mother against the world. Then, on a day like any other, Tiger's mother dies. And now it's Tiger, alone. Here is how you learn to make friends with the dark. From the author of the New York Times bestselling novel Girl in Pieces comes a new heartbreaking story about love and loss and learning how to continue when it feels like you're surrounded by darkness. PRAISE FOR HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE DARK: 'A book as fierce, tender, and rare as its aptly named heroine, Tiger. How to Make Friends with the Dark is a gorgeously nuanced meditation on grief and family, and the incredible love that can pull you through the darkest of times.' -- Meg Leder, author of Letting Go of Gravity 'Kathleen Glasgow is the rare type of skilled storyteller that knows you have to hurt your characters before putting them back together. I loved every word of this lyrical and devastating novel.' -- Kara Thomas, author of The Cheerleaders 'In this raw, powerful, and heartbreaking meditation on loss and grief, Glasgow writes with unflinching beauty. We meet Tiger Tolliver at her most broken -- at her darkest moment -- and yet, somehow, How to Make Friends With the Dark teaches us how to let the light in.' -- Julie Buxbaum, NYT bestselling author of Tell Me Three Things PRAISE FOR GIRL IN PIECES: 'Girl, Interrupted meets Speak.' -- Refinery29.com 'A dark yet powerful read.' -- PasteMagazine.com 'One of the most affecting novels we have read.' -- Goop.com 'Breathtaking and beautifully written.' -- Bustle 'A haunting, beautiful, and necessary book that will stay with you long after you've read the last page.' -- Nicola Yoon, #1 NYT bestselling author of Everything, Everything and The Sun Is Also a Star

the darkening: A Line in the Dark Malinda Lo, 2022-10-04 "A twisty, dark psychological thriller that will leave you guessing til the very end.—Teen Vogue "[A] riveting read...—NPR The line between best friend and something more is a line always crossed in the dark. Jess Wong is Angie Redmond's best friend. And that's the most important thing, even if Angie can't see how Jess truly feels. Being the girl no one quite notices is OK with Jess anyway. If nobody notices her, she's free to watch everyone else. But when Angie begins to fall for Margot Adams, a girl from the nearby boarding school, Jess can see it coming a mile away. Suddenly her powers of observation are more a curse than a gift. As Angie drags Jess further into Margot's circle, Jess discovers more than her friend's growing crush. Secrets and cruelty lie just beneath the carefree surface of this world of wealth and privilege, and when they come out, Jess knows Angie won't be able to handle the

consequences. When the inevitable darkness finally descends, Angie will need her best friend. "It doesn't even matter that she probably doesn't understand how much she means to me. It's purer this way. She can take whatever she wants from me, whenever she wants it, because I'm her best friend." *A Line in the Dark* is a story of love, loyalty, and murder. □ Mesmerizing.—Kirkus, starred review.

the darkening: *His Light in the Dark* L. A. Fiore, 2015-12-29 My first memory was of a slap, hard across the face: the sting on my cheek and the jarring of my bones as I slammed back into my bed. It was my dad who had hit me. I had been four. Most of my memories were much of the same and no one ever saw, no one ever fought to help, no one ever cared. Then we moved. My new neighbor cared, rescued the twelve-year-old I had been from a beating. Always thought I'd suffer the nightmare alone, I was wrong. Mace Donati saved me that day in all the ways a person could be saved. And his daughter, Mia, she became the friend I had always wanted, my conscience when my own faltered, the light that led me home when I had lost my way. The girl who grew into the only woman I would ever love. But when you realize you're more like your father than the good people who took you in and gave you a home, the only way to return their kindness is to let them go. I let them go, got so far lost in the shadows I couldn't remember who I was anymore. Mia never gave up on me. She fought for me, kept the light on so I'd find my way back. And when I did, life threw us a curveball. I had to hurt Mia in order to save her. But when my past comes back to haunt me and I almost lose her, I'm ready to fight for her...fight to find a way back into her heart while keeping the demons from my past from finishing what they started. Cole Campbell

the darkening: The Alphabet of Light and Dark Danielle Wood, 2003-08-01 And as the waves take her apart, piece by piece, she watches the message of the lighthouse spelling itself out on the surface of the water. Its message is composed in the alphabet of light and dark. Flash, eclipse, flash, eclipse. If we see only the light, we are blinded; only the dark and we will never find our way. A tiny coin found inside a Cloudy Bay oyster, a postcard of a white-haired child leaning against a beached dinghy and a coconut peeled and carved once upon a time on the Batavian coast. These trinkets, found in a sea chest, and the fragmented memories of her grandfather's tall tales are all Essie Lewis has left of her family history. After her grandfather's death, Essie returns to Bruny Island, Tasmania and to the lighthouse where her great-great-grandfather kept watch for nearly 40 years. Beneath the lighthouse, she begins to write the stories of her ancestors. But the island is also home to Pete Shelverton, a sculptor who hunts feral cats to make his own peace with the past. And as Essie writes, she finds that Pete is a part of the history she can never escape. 'Absorbing, subtle, impressive writing.' Debra Adelaide 'Wood's writing is sinewy, physical and elemental.' Liam Davison riting.' Debra Adelaide 'Its lyrical probing of several dimensions of Australian/Tasmanian experience make it a fitting recipient for this award. Wood's achievement in her sustained evocation of the bleak Bruny Island landscape and the surrounding seascape is tremendously potent and effective.' Stella Clarke 'The author has that special quality which just jumps off the page. The voice is strong and the sense of place so powerful.' James Bradley 'Wood's writing is sinewy, physical and elemental. She is very good when it comes to the melding of family mythology, storytelling, and colonial history into something which serves a range of purposes. A novel about history rather than a historical novel.' Liam Davison

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