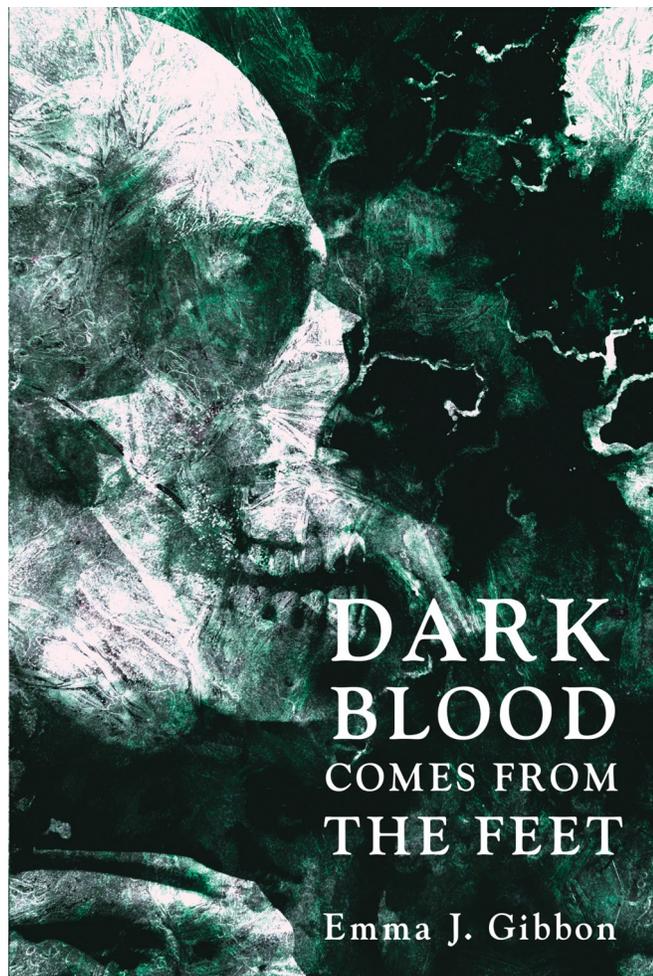


DARK BLOOD COMES FROM THE FEET

Emma J. Gibbon



“Careful, or you might cut yourself on these stories—little gems with sharp edges which deserve to be treasured alongside the jewels of Shirley Jackson and Sylvia Townsend Warner—in the tradition of the illuminating dark.”

—M. Rickert, World Fantasy and Shirley Jackson Award-winning author of *You Have Never Been Here*

“Gibbon is a compelling new voice in horror. Part punk, part metal, part crooner, her work resonates beautifully.”

—Catherynne M. Valente, NYT/USA Today Bestselling Author of *Space Opera* and *Deathless*

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PUBLISHING

DARK BLOOD COMES FROM THE FEET

Dark Blood Comes from the Feet is a strange and eclectic collection of seventeen stories from horror author and speculative poet Emma J. Gibbon. Within its pages, you will meet secret societies who contract deadly diseases on purpose, dancers helping each other avoid “below,” monstrous children who must be loved before they return to the sea, a taxidermy-obsessed mother, small blue devils in the Maine woods, a black cat that retrieves the dying, the last witch in Florida, and “a huge fucking dog of potentially supernatural origin.” Visit haunted houses, a Hollywood nightclub, limbo, Whitechapel, and other stops on a death tour, and a childhood hangout that spells destruction for kids and dogs alike. Listen to a punk rock sermon in a post-apocalyptic matriarchal society, witness crustaceans that have trouble staying dead, a cannibalistic romance, a gothic love story to tuberculosis and a downtrodden wife's transformation.

“Visceral, searing, and whimsical all at once, Emma J. Gibbon’s work somehow combines and carries on the bloodlines of Shirley Jackson, Neil Gaiman, Stephen King, and Johnny Rotten. *Dark Blood Comes from the Feet* is a perfect rainy-day read. The Mary Poppins of Horror has arrived!”

—Morgan Sylvia, author of *Abode*

Emma J. Gibbon is a horror writer, speculative poet and librarian. Her stories have appeared in various anthologies including *Wicked Weird* and *Wicked Haunted*, and on the *Toasted Cake* podcast. This year, she has been nominated twice for the Rhysling Award for her poems “Fune-RL” (*Strange Horizons*) and “Consumption” (*Eye to the Telescope*). Her poetry has also been published in *Liminality*, *Kaleidotrope* and *Pedestal Magazine*. Emma is originally from Yorkshire and now lives in Maine in a spooky little house in the woods with her husband, Steve, and three exceptional animals: Odin, Mothra, and M. Bison (also known as Grim). Her website is emmajgibbon.com.



DARK BLOOD COMES FROM THE FEET

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—Michelle Renee Lane, Bram Stoker Award®-nominated author of *Invisible Chains*

Contact:

Email: emma.j.gibbon@gmail.com

Website: emmajgibbon.com

Twitter: @EmmaJGibbon

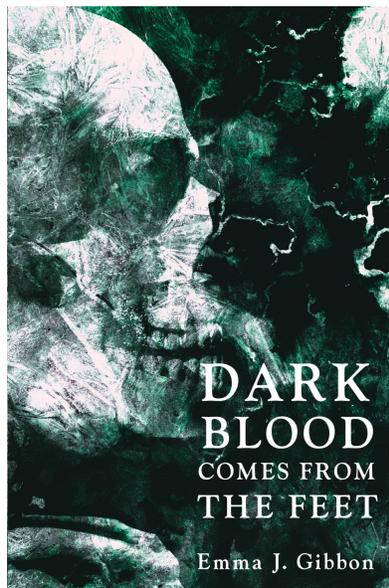
Dark Blood Comes from the Feet

by Emma J. Gibbon

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DARK BLOOD COMES FROM THE FEET

Reviews

Shirley Jackson Meets Johnny Rotten In 'Dark Blood Comes From The Feet'

Jason Heller on NPR

Horror isn't many readers' first choice during times like these. And while the prospect of wallowing in the murkier end of the emotional spectrum isn't exactly high on the list of anyone's self-care regimen right now, there's a lot to be said for confronting our demons on the printed page as well as in real life. Emma J. Gibbon gets it. The Maine-by-way-of-England author's debut collection of short stories, *Dark Blood Comes from the Feet*, is an assortment of seventeen scalding, acidic tales that eat away at society's thin veneer of normalcy, convention, and even reality. At the same time, these horrific confections leave a sweet aftertaste of humanity.

Read more here: www.npr.org/2020/06/28/883957471/shirley-jackson-meets-johnny-rotten-in-dark-blood-comes-from-the-feet

Dark Blood Comes from the Feet by Emma J. Gibbon

Valerie Lester on Gingernuts of Horror

Dark Blood Comes From the Feet might at first be considered an odd name for this eclectic collection of seventeen literary horror short stories. Once you delve within the pages, suddenly the title proves to be a perfect fit. The line is from the story, "Cellar Door" and states: "I felt your trauma. I saw it pour out from the soles of your feet. Old, dark blood. Old trauma you have hung on to for too long. The dark blood comes from the feet." If that quote doesn't immediately give you a feeling for Emma J. Gibbon's dark and gorgeous prose, I don't know what will. There's a haunting almost melodic quality to her writing.

Read more here: gingernutsofhorror.com/fiction-reviews/

From Polly Schattel, author of *The Occultists*

"Dark Blood" is one of those works that feels simpler than it really is. Like a great and pure song, these stories seem elemental, as if they were discovered and exhumed rather than written. It's a true accomplishment to create something that feels this natural, this deceptively real, and make it look as easy as Gibbon has. These stories sneak up on you in sly ways, making you feel both the beauty and the shiver of dread long after the pages have been closed. Highly recommended.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Emma J. Gibbon
emma.j.gibbon@gmail.com

Dark Blood Comes from the Feet
by Emma J. Gibbon

**Debut Short Fiction from Horror Author and Rhysling-nominated Poet:
A STRANGE AND ECLECTIC COLLECTION OF SEVENTEEN DARK AND GLITTERING
STORIES**

“Careful, or you might cut yourself on these stories—little gems with sharp edges which deserve to be treasured alongside the jewels of Shirley Jackson and Sylvia Townsend Warner—in the tradition of the illuminating dark.”

—M. Rickert, World Fantasy Award-winning author of *You Have Never Been Here*

For fans of the strange and usual, dark tales in the vein of Shirley Jackson, Kelly Link and Neil Gaiman, *Dark Blood Comes from the Feet* is being release by Trepidatio Publishing on May 22, 2020. Within its pages, you will meet secret societies who contract deadly diseases on purpose, dancers helping each other avoid “below,” monstrous children who must be loved before they return to the sea, a taxidermy-obsessed mother, small blue devils in the Maine woods, a black cat that retrieves the dying, the last witch in Florida, and “a huge dog of potentially supernatural origin.” Visit haunted houses, a Hollywood nightclub, limbo, Whitechapel, and other stops on a death tour, and a childhood hangout that spells destruction for kids and dogs alike. Listen to a punk rock sermon in a post-apocalyptic matriarchal society, witness crustaceans that have trouble staying dead, a cannibalistic romance, a gothic love story to tuberculosis and a downtrodden wife’s transformation.

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About the Author:

Emma J. Gibbon is a horror writer, speculative poet and librarian. Her stories have appeared in various anthologies including *Wicked Weird*, *Wicked Haunted*, and *The Muse & the Flame* and on the *Toasted Cake* podcast. She also has a story upcoming in *Would but Time Await: An Anthology of New England Folk Horror* from Haverhill Publishing. This year, she has been nominated twice for the Rhysling Award for her poems “Fune-RL” (*Strange Horizons*) and “Consumption” (*Eye to the Telescope*). Her poetry has also been published in *Liminality*, *Pedestal Magazine* and *Kaleidotrope*. Emma is originally from Yorkshire and now lives in Maine in a spooky little house in the woods with her husband, Steve, and three exceptional animals: Odin, Mothra, and M. Bison (also known as Grim). She is a member of the New England Horror Writers, the Science Fiction & Fantasy Poetry Association, the Angela Carter Society, and the Tuesday Mayhem Society. Her website is emmajgibbon.com.

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—Michelle Renee Lane, Bram Stoker Award®-nominated author of *Invisible Chains*

***Dark Blood Comes from the Feet* is available in most places where books are sold!**

REVIEW E-COPIES OF *DARK BLOOD COMES FROM THE FEET* AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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