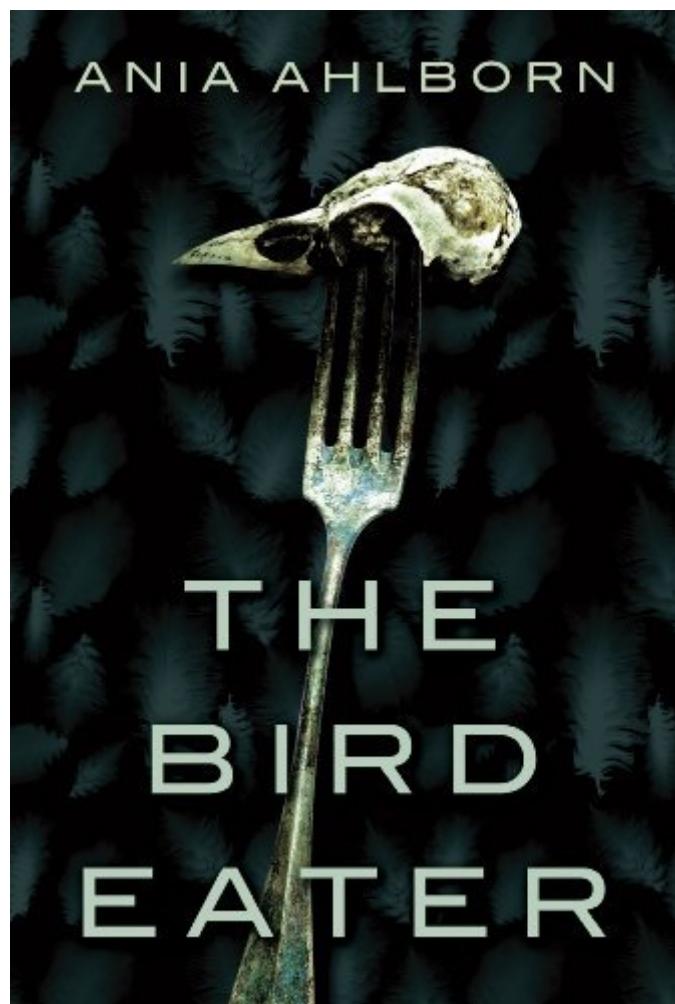


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The Bird Eater



Synopsis

Twenty years ago, the mysterious death of his aunt left Aaron Holbrook orphaned and alone. He abandoned his rural Arkansas hometown vowing never to return, until his seven-year-old son died in an accident, plunging Aaron into a nightmare of addiction and grief. Desperate to reclaim a piece of himself, he returns to the hills of his childhood, to Holbrook House, where he hopes to find peace among the memories of his youth. But solace doesn't come easy. Someone—or something—has other plans. Like Aaron, Holbrook House is but a shell of what it once was, a target for vandals and ghost hunters who have nicknamed it “the devil’s den.” • Aaron doesn't believe in the paranormal—at least, not until a strange boy begins following him wherever he goes. Plagued by violent dreams and disturbing visions, Aaron begins to wonder if he's losing his mind. But a festering darkness lurks at the heart of Holbrook House—a darkness that grins from within the shadows, delighting in Aaron's sorrow, biding its time.

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Customer Reviews

As usual I received this book for free. This time it was from Kindle Firsts. I'm glad I did because it was a breathless four hours on the sofa. To describe this book in a nutshell, it's one of those

wonderfully ambiguous horror novels that mystify you with their gruesomeness as you're reading and leave you with a big question mark at the end. The novel is fairly gory in bits but not outrageously so and those with a passionate fixation for kindness towards birds would be well advised to steer clear because they are among the primary victims of unpleasantness. To the positive side, this book strikes a good balance between inspiring horror and providing background. The first chapter is vivid, cruel and horrifying in the extreme but after it gets you hooked things do settle down into a more standard pace. The author is clearly very practiced and proficient at descriptions of things that most of us just don't want to think about. I came away with some very clear mental pictures of this evil that are likely to haunt my dreams for a while. The only negative I could really come up with is that while the over-arching story is fairly unique, some of the specific mechanisms that the author uses to get there are pretty standard. I can't really mention... any of them... because I don't want to spoil anything but I think you'll know them when you see them. Despite this tiny, and I do mean tiny, negative, the effect of the author's writing is still exceptionally strong. In summary, this is one to curl up with when you have 4 hours to sit and blast through the whole thing in one go. I did it bright and early on a Saturday morning but the results in the middle of the night would be soul-shaking.

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