Midwest Booksellers Pick Debut Novel for Literary Suspense

(Twin Cities) – A psychiatrist who can't heal himself. A family rocked by trauma. A town protecting itself from the outside. These are just a few of the ingredients in *Theory of Remainders* (Winter Goose Publishing, May 2013, \$28.99 hardcover/\$16.99 paperback), a new novel by Minnesota author Scott Dominic Carpenter, recently selected as a Midwest Connections "Pick" by the Midwest Independent Booksellers' Association.

The story begins with a father, American psychiatrist Philip Adler, who is drawn back to his ex-wife's homeland of France for a funeral. It's his first visit since their daughter's violent death nearly fifteen years earlier, a horrid affair made worse by the fact that young Sophie's body was never recovered. When Philip happens upon a chance to make things right, he seizes it. What follows is a descent into hell: a match of wits with a psychotic, the rekindling of his feelings for his former wife, and a struggle with locals who don't want him dredging up the past.

Set in the lush backgrounds of Normandy, steeped in history, touched with humor, *Theory of Remainders* is a literary novel with a well-honed edge of suspense. It explores the secret ties between love, trauma and language.

If the early reviews are any indication, *Theory of Remainders* is set to become the book of the summer. Alice LaPlante (author of last year's hit, *Turn of Mind*), called it a "beautifully written psychological thriller." Reader's Favorite reports that, "before you know it you are fully engrossed in the tale... Carpenter's Theory of Remainders is a rare and wondrous novel." Minnesota Prairie Roots reinforces that sentiment: "For anyone who values a literary novel of substantial depth in character development, language, sense of place and reader engagement, *Theory of Remainders* ranks as a must-read."

Named a "Midwest Connections Pick" for June and July 2013, *Theory of Remainders* becomes available at the end of May. More information about the book and author can be found online at www.sdcarpenter.com and www.sdcarpenter.com products/theory-of-remainders/.

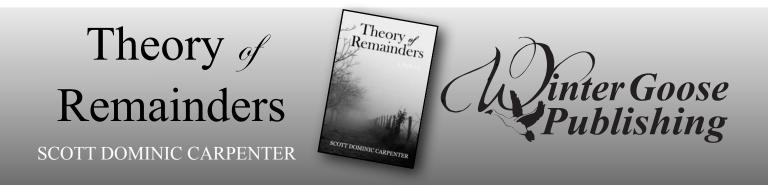
About the Author

Scott Dominic Carpenter teaches French literature and critical theory at Carleton College in Northfield, MN. A Pushcart Prize nominee, his fiction has appeared in a broad array of literary journals. His acclaimed short story collection, *This Jealous Earth* (MG Press) appeared in January 2013.



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To request a review copy of *Theory of Remainders* or arrange an interview with author Scott Dominic Carpenter, contact Rachel M. Anderson, Publicist, at 952-240-2513 or <u>rachel@rmapublicity.com</u>.





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Theory of Remainders

A Debut Novel by Scott Dominic Carpenter

At fifty-two, psychiatrist Philip Adler is divorced, alone, and gutted of passion. When a funeral draws him back to his ex-wife's homeland of France, the trip reunites him with a trauma he has struggled to forget: the brutal death of his teenage daughter fifteen years earlier. Prodded by his former brother-in-law and stirred by the unspent embers of his marriage, he embarks on a mission to resolve lingering questions about this past, hoping to heal himself along the way. The search leads to a disturbed man who may hold more answers than anyone expects—if only Philip can hear what he's trying to say.

A suspenseful literary novel set in the lush backgrounds of Normandy, *Theory of Remainders* explores the secret ties between love, trauma and language.

Early Reviews:

"A rare and wondrous novel" — Reader's Favorite, five-star review

"Theory of Remainders challenged me to examine words, to puzzle through conversations and scenes, to rely on the thought process rather than tangible evidence. That engagement of the reader sets this novel apart.... For anyone who values a literary novel of substantial depth in character development, language, sense of place and reader engagement, Theory of Remainders ranks as a must-read." — Audrey Kletscher Helbling, Minnesota Prairie Roots.



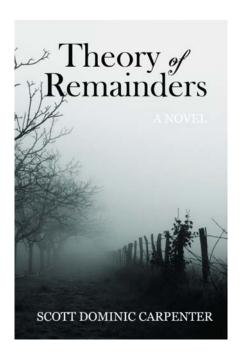
Named a Midwest Connections "Pick" by the Midwest Independent Booksellers Association



About the Author. Scott Dominic Carpenter is a professor of literature at Carleton College (MN) and the author of the recent collection *This Jealous Earth* (MG Press 2013), as featured on Minnesota Public Radio and described as "charmingly nostalgic" (*Publisher's Weekly*) and "incredibly moving" (*The Rumpus*). Author Siri Hustvedt called the collection "psychologically acute and elegantly written... By turns sad, funny, tender, and alarming." A Pushcart Prize nominee, Carpenter has published broadly in literary journals. His work has been included in *Best Indie Lit New England 2012*.

His website is at <u>www.sdcarpenter.com</u>. Additional publication credits appear at the end of this document.

Book tour currently planned for: Minneapolis (MN), St. Paul (MN), Northfield (MN), Madison (WI), Hudson (WI), Chicago (IL), Richmond (VA), Paris (France).





Fact Sheet on following page



Theory of Remainders Fact Sheet:

Title: Theory of Remainders
Category: Fiction (novel)

Genre: Literary Fiction, Mystery

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Author: Scott Dominic Carpenter

Illustrations: 0 Pages: 284

Dimensions: 6" x 9"

Publisher:

Winter Goose Publishing 2701 Del Paso Road, 130-92 Sacramento, CA 95835

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tel. 530-771-7058 fax. 530-771-7058

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Publicity: Rachel Anderson, at rachel@rmapublicity.com or 952-240-2513

Additional Publication Credits for Scott Dominic Carpenter

Fiction:

This Jealous Earth: Stories, MG Press, January 2013.

Many stories published in *Grey Sparrow Journal, Best Indie Lit New England, Chamber Four, Atticus Review, The MacGuffin, Midwestern Gothic, Ducts*, and others.

Non-fiction:

The Aesthetics of Fraudulence in Nineteenth-century France: Frauds, Hoaxes, and Counterfeits, Ashgate, 2009.

Reading Lessons: An Introduction to Theory, Prentice Hall, 2000.

Acts of Fiction, Penn State UP, 1996.



Reviews / awards for previous book: This Jealous Earth

Featured on Minnesota Public Radio (http://bit.ly/SCYt2x).

Nominated for an Independent Publisher Book Award (2013) (pending)

Named a "Best Book of 2012" by The New Podler Review (for pre-publication ARC).

Featured in MinnPost newspaper.

The story "Riddles" selected for the anthology Best Indie Lit New England (2010-12)

The story "Donny, Donny" nominated for a Pushcart Prize (pending)

"[An] agreeable debut... engaging... charmingly nostalgic." —Publishers Weekly

"Stories like time bombs." — **Gregory Blake Smith**, author of *Law of Miracles* (Minnesota Book Award Winner)

"Tautly constructed, psychologically acute, and elegantly written stories... By turns sad, funny, tender, and alarming, *This Jealous Earth* examines the nuanced turns and shifts of human events and feelings that imbue the ordinary with the extraordinary." — **Siri Hustvedt**, author of *What I Loved* and *The Summer Without Men*

"Modern, witty, provocative. *This Jealous Earth* is an auspicious debut." — **Alethea Black**, author of *I Knew You'd Be Lovely*

"Incredibly moving... Carpenter's writing is clear and delightful." — The Rumpus

"A strong debut... impressively affecting... beautifully written." — Noah Magazine

"This Jealous Earth is unique. You don't always find a short story collection where the characters, the setting—or, almost, the spirit of the land, and the plots are all equally memorable. But Carpenter—some lucky or well-practiced how—has accomplished this." — Rachel Pass, Ooligan Press