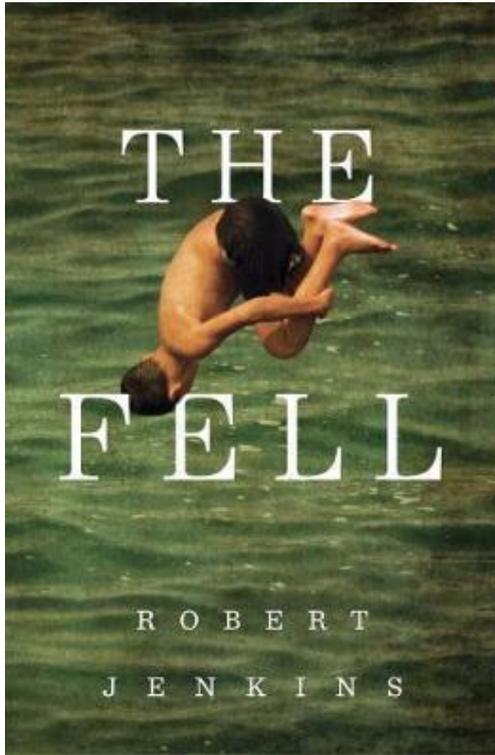


Robert Jenkins
contactrobertjenkins@gmail.com
www.robertjenkinsauthor.com



The Fell by Robert Jenkins

Stand by Me meets One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest in this powerful debut

"a contemporary Steinbeck, Salinger or William Golding..."

"perhaps Ulysses meets Lord of the Flies..."

"The beginning blew me away –I loved the voice, the style, the details, the insights, the commentary on the human condition without being preachy, the cinematic quality, the pace, the characters, the humour, the poignancy, the tough reality – so much! "

A young boy is living an idyllic life in the faded and peeling Lido where his father is a lifeguard. He idolises his father—never more so than when he saves the life of a suicidal man—and he comes to believe that heroism is all. The arrest of his sister Lilly later that summer brings the halcyon days to an abrupt end, and his family is torn apart, with Lilly sent to jail and the boy set to a boarding house for dysfunctional boys, far away from

his home—The Fell. He is young and afraid but the boys in the home become his family and they band together against their enemies, both real and imagined. The boy sees the world and his place in it through a unique lens. He is mentored by ghosts, hears voices and battles his fears but never questions his own version of reality. Anger spills over when he hears the girl he loves referred to as a twenty-dollar-whore and his actions lead him to run from The Fell. And run. And run...

The Fell is a rite of passage, a movement.. Hard hitting, controversial and polarising, some readers implore you to read it, others want it to carry a warning for promiscuity, violence, drug use and suicide. Love The Fell or hate it, but you can't ignore it.

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For media inquiries please contact RedDoor Publishing Ltd. +44 1444 240 152 hello@reddoorpublishing.com



Robert Jenkins was born and raised in East London. Often on the wrong side of the tracks he also wrote plays for the stage and scripts for the screen and short stories. He wrote poetry from a young age and performed them in the early days of stand-up poetry nights in London pubs. Straddling realities can happen in great cities. He has always lived and worked with some of the most challenging, damaged and beautiful people in society. The Fell is a new Novel.

The Fell is available for review on Netgallery or in hard copy from Reddoor or Robert.