

Users

A Novel by Colin Winnette

February 21, 2023 | 288 pages | Soft Skull Press

A DISTURBING, DYSTOPIAN VISION OF THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE NEAR-FUTURE

As creature comforts become strange and disorienting, a virtual reality executive creates a product that manipulates its user's mind and body in perfect, dystopian harmony.

WHY THIS BOOK?

- A dark, vivid, high-concept imagining of the near-future perfect for fans of *Black Mirror*
- A truly unique and experimental vision from a nimble, talented writer
- The novel can appeal to both the adult and new adult markets
- Winnette has a loyal and passionate fanbase who are always eagerly awaiting his next work
- The author's prior work with indie publishers has outperformed in terms of reviews and recognition, and his work has received glowing reviews from major trade publications, including starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal*
- Winnette's previous novels have been sold in the Italian, French, and UK markets

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Colin Winnette is the author of *The Job of the Wasp*, *Haints Stay*, *Coyote*, and more. His novels have been translated into Italian and French. Winnette has been the winner of Les Fignes Press's NOS Book Contest, a runner-up for Cleveland State University Poetry Center's First Book Award, and a finalist for *Gulf Coast Magazine*'s Donald Barthelme Prize for Short Prose. His writing has appeared in *Playboy*, *McSweeney's*, *The Believer*, and *BuzzFeed Books*.

PRAISE FOR "USERS"

"*Users* is the best kind of book: both thrillingly old-fashioned and utterly, daringly timely. Winnette captures the anxiety and paranoia of the current age in a tale that will have you ripping through the pages. Haunting, clever, witty, terrifying, moving; reader, I loved it."

— Andrew Sean Greer, winner of the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for *Less*

"In gripping prose and disturbingly sharp focus, Colin Winnette presents us with a not-too-distant future where technology and selfhood have become completely entangled. *Users* shows how we can become addicted to our customizable versions of reality, both on and offline—and how tenuous the boundary between these two realms can be. I kept thinking about this novel long after I put it down."

— Hernan Diaz, Pulitzer Prize finalist for *In the Distance* and author of *Trust*

ALSO BY THE AUTHOR

The Job of the Wasp | Soft Skull Press, 2018

- Longlisted for The Believer Book Award for Fiction
- The American Bookseller Association's Indie Next Pick

★ "This deeply haunting mix of literary aesthetics, murder mystery, and the dark intensity of contemporary thriller will be savored."

— *Library Journal* (starred review)

"Winnette's writing is immaculate." — Tor.com

Coyote | Les Fignes Press, 2015

★ "Winnette's deeply affecting story is hard to put down and even harder to forget." — *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

Haints Stay | Two Dollar Radio, 2015

"In his astonishing portrait of American violence, *Haints Stay*, Colin Winnette makes use of the Western genre to stunning effect."

— *Los Angeles Times*