

Some Kinds of Love


Stories

Steve Yates

Sometimes the opposite of love is not hate, but depravity. In these twelve stories set in the Missouri Ozarks, New Orleans, and Mississippi, Steve Yates reveals lovers clawing back from precipices of destructiveness, obsessiveness, cruelty, vanity, or greed. They seek escape and yet find new barriers, realizing true love may not be at all what they imagined. Pioneers, limestone quarry owners, young German American Civil War survivors, bankers, sex toy catalog designers, highway engineers, Pakistani terrorists, attorneys, missile guidance masterminds, and furniture factory workers (who can see the future) populate these pieces. From the Ozarks of the 1830s, when locals perceive doomsday in a historic starfall, to the near future at an all-night slow-pitch softball tournament when Armageddon looms yet again, these stories chart the dark side of love, the ties that bind families, and the sweet complications of human desire.

“*Some Kinds of Love* is a richly entertaining book—inventive, irreverent, and, finally, moving. Steve Yates’s well-drawn cast of characters tracks love into its darkest corners with astonishing results. This wildly imagined, wise book surprises—in the best way possible—until the very last page.”

—Sabina Murray, Juniper Prize contest judge and author of *The Caprices* and *Tales of the New World*



“*Some Kinds of Love* is nothing short of masterful. You would think this was the work of not one but a dozen writers, so impressive is Yates’s range of subject, setting, mood, and effect, from the quiet, ghastly intrigue of ‘Hunter, Seeker’ to the blowout hilarity of the Green Tomato Marquesa’s triumph. In Steve Yates’s stories, pigs really do fly. He is a brilliant, and brilliantly inventive, writer, and this book is sheer delight from beginning to end.”

—Ben Fountain, author of *Brief Encounters with Che Guevara: Stories* and *Billy Lynn’s Long Halftime Walk*

“Steve Yates’s stories have that far-underrated quality: range. Yates writes across genres, cultures, sexual borders, and always brings it home. The stories are funny, sad, sometimes wonderfully odd, always inventive and intelligent. Yates is a truly fresh and interesting voice in a time when too often we seem to celebrate the flashy fiction of me, me, me.”

—Brad Watson, author of *Aliens in the Prime of Their Lives: Stories* and *The Heaven of Mercury*

STEVE YATES is the author of the novel *Morkan’s Quarry*. His short stories have appeared in many journals, including *Missouri Review*, *Southwest Review*, and *TriQuarterly*. A graduate of the MFA program at the University of Arkansas, he is assistant director/marketing director at the University Press of Mississippi.

Fiction

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