parker peevyhouse

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"Peevyhouse is a puzzle master."
—Aaron Starmer, author of Spontaneous

bio

Parker Peevyhouse is the author of the science fiction puzzle-thrillers *Strange Exit* (Tor Teen 2020) and *The Echo Room* (Tor Teen 2018), which have been called “compulsively readable” and "thrilling" in starred reviews. Her speculative novel, *Where Futures End* (Penguin 2016), was named a Best Book For Teens by the New York Public Library, the Chicago Public Library, and Bank Street.

Parker grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she still resides. From a young age, she loved writing strange stories, and at the age of thirteen, she won a national contest in which participants finished a story started by RL Stine, the author of *The Goosebumps* series. After earning a BA in English, Parker went on to work in education while writing novels. Her hobbies include exploring nature, watching science fiction movies, and solving any kind of puzzle she can get her hands on. She also loves teaching writing courses through her website and giving presentations about the intersection of futurism, creativity, and ethics.

@parkerpeevy

Currently resides: Mountain View, CA.

Works in: secondary education, former independent bookseller.

Available for events: school visits, literary events, writing workshops.

Weird but true: once babysat a monkey, was in a zit commercial, got trapped in an escape room.

no photo credit needed

strange exit

Find the way out or never wake up…

The end of the world came and went. The survivors escaped into a simulated reality, a world of impossibilities and mysteries where human minds could live while the earth healed. A world that was programmed to end. But never did.

Now the strange sanctuary is breaking down. And only seventeen-year-old Lake remembers none of this is real. She spends her days searching a strange, post-apocalyptic landscape for people who have forgotten the real world and helps them escape.

When Lake reveals the truth to a fellow passenger, Taren, he joins her mission to find everyone and wake them up. But time's running out before the simulation completely deconstructs, and soon Taren's deciding who's worth saving and who must be sacrificed for the greater good. Now, Lake has no choice but to pit herself against Taren in a race to find the secret heart of the sim, where something waits that will either save them or destroy them all.

Publisher: Tor Teen

Publication date: January 14, 2020

Hardcover: 9780765399427

Paperback: 9780765399434

Audio: Blackstone Publishing

Reading age: 13+

Genres: thriller, science fiction, post-apocalyptic

Jacket design: Lesley Worrell | Door photo: Mark Boss

strange exit

Selected for Texas Library Association's 2021 TAYSHAS Reading List

Selected for the Kansas National Education Association's List of Recommended Books for 2021

*"The tension increases with each layer of reality Lake peels away. Compulsively readable" —Booklist, starred review

"This post-apocalyptic novel will have wide appeal… Recommended"
—School Library Connection

"Heady suspense in a fast-paced survival adventure" —BCCB

"Skillfully blurs boundaries and perceptions, with the simulation's mutable reality hiding both questions and answers about what's really transpiring"
—Publisher's Weekly

"A heady trip into a creepy, surreal virtual world" —Kirkus

Indiebound:
https://www.indiebound.org/book/9780765399427

Bookshop:
https://bookshop.org/books/strange-exit-9780765399434/9780765399434

Amazon:
https://www.amazon.com/Strange-Exit-Parker-Peevyhouse/dp/0765399423/

BN:
https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/strange-exit-parker-peevyhouse/1131253799

Jacket design: Lesley Worrell | Door photo: Mark Boss

the echo room

The only thing worse than being locked in is facing what you locked out...

Rett Ward knows how to hide. He's had six years of practice at Walling Home, the state-run boarding school where he learned how to keep his head down to survive. But when Rett wakes up locked in a small depot with no memory of how he got there, he can't hide. Not from the stranger in the next room. Or from the fact that there's someone else's blood on his jumpsuit.

Worse, every time he tries to escape, he wakes up right back where he started. Same day, same stranger, same bloodstained jumpsuit.

As memories start to surface, Rett realizes that the logo on the walls is familiar, the stranger isn't a stranger, and the blood on his jumpsuit belongs to someone—or something—banging on the door to get in.

Publisher: Tor Teen

Publication date: September 11, 2018

Hardcover: 9780765399397

Paperback: 9780765399403

Audio: Macmillan Audio

Reading age: 13+

Genres: thriller, science fiction, ecological

Jacket design: Faceout Studio, Jeff Miller

the echo room

*“A thrilling ride… the kind of book that keeps readers up at night”
—Kirkus, starred review

“A whirlwind of close calls and shocking disclosures with a mind-bending twist"
—Shelf Awareness

“A taut sf mystery... with an irresistible premise and Peevyhouse primes it for maximum suspense… An excellent speculative mystery with mind-bending twists”
—Booklist

"Will keep you guessing until the final reveal. Peevyhouse is a puzzle master."
—Aaron Starmer, author of *Spontaneous*

“A sophisticated page-turner full of surprising twists and mind-bending moments of brilliance, *The Echo Room* is a phenomenon by a one-of-a-kind talent.”
—Traci Chee, author of *The Reader*

Indiebound:
https://www.indiebound.org/book/9780765399403

Bookshop:
https://bookshop.org/books/the-echo-room/9780765399403

Amazon:
https://www.amazon.com/Echo-Room-Parker-Peevyhouse/dp/0765399407

BN:
https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-echo-room-parker-peevyhouse/1127621329#/

Jacket design: Faceout Studio, Jeff Miller

where futures end

Perfect for fans of innovative storytelling, like Marcus Sedgwick's *The Ghosts of Heaven* and David Mitchell's *The Bone Clocks*, *Where Futures End* is a collection of five time-spanning, interconnected novellas that weave a subtly science-fictional web stretching out from the present into the future, presenting eerily plausible possibilities for social media, corporate sponsorship, and humanity, as our world collides with a mysterious alternate universe.

Five teens, five futures. Dylan develops a sixth sense that allows him to glimpse another world. Brixney must escape a debtor colony by finding a way to increase the number of hits on her social media feed so she'll attract corporate sponsorship. Epony goes "High Concept" and poses as an otherworldly being to recapture her boyfriend's attention. Reef struggles to survive in a city turned virtual gameboard. And Quinn uncovers the alarming secret that links them all.

These are stories about a world that is destroying itself, and about the alternate world that might be its savior. Unless it's just the opposite.

Publisher: Penguin/Dawson

Publication date: February 9, 2016

Hardcover: 9780803741607

Audio: Blackstone Audio

Reading age: 12+

Genres: science fiction, apocalyptic

Jacket design: Vanessa Han

where futures end

A New York Public Library Best Book For Teens
A Chicago Public Library Best Book For Teens
A Bank Street Best Book For Teens
A Barnes & Noble Teen Blog Best Young Adult Book For Teens
A PW Pick

*"Strange and compelling" —Kirkus, starred review

*"Hand this to fans of Marcus Sedgwick's *Midwinter Blood* or M. T. Anderson's *Feed*" —School Library Journal, starred review

"One of those rare gems that truly transcend the covers" —BCCB

"Complex, unique, and alluring" —VOYA

"An exciting ride" —Publisher's Weekly

Indiebound:
https://www.indiebound.org/book/9781504715317

Amazon:
https://www.amazon.com/Where-Futures-End-Parker-Peevyhouse-ebook/dp/B00XIYG5DQ/

BN:
https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/where-futures-end-parker-peevyhouse/1121908473

Jacket design: Vanessa Han

interview q&a

Feel free to ask these questions at an event or to use this q&a on your site.

What's your writing process like?

I love to explore a story as I write, so I don't outline much. But before I begin a project, I spend a lot of time creating characters. I actually teach a class through my website about my method for exploring five layers of characterization.

What was your most interesting research experience?

I once attended Launch Pad Astronomy Workshop, which is a crash course in astronomy for science fiction authors. It helped me develop the exoplanet area of the simulation in *Strange Exit*, and I also learned a lot about space ships and asteroids and all kinds of other things that might show up in my fiction someday!

Which authors have influenced your writing?

I vividly remember reading Ray Bradbury's "A Sound of Thunder" in eighth grade and being blown away by the twist ending! As a teen, I would steal my dad's old classic science fiction paperbacks (Heinlein, Asimov, Clarke) until he finally filled a cardboard box with books I could keep (I still have my illustrated *Lord of the Rings*). I'm inspired by the intricate puzzles of Christie, the sympathetic satire of Saunders, the quirk of Rowling, and the fascinating speculations of Ted Chiang and Cixin Liu and Kasuo Ishiguru.

You're into puzzles?

Whether it's obsessing over the clues in a mystery novel, or solving sudoku, I'm always working on a puzzle. I used to invent lateral thinking puzzles for my students, and I even created a downloadable escape room based on my novel, *The Echo Room*, which educators have told me they've loved using with their students. My novels are also quite puzzle-y!

event intro

Feel free to use this script to introduce Parker at an event if it makes your job easier.

I'm excited to introduce author Parker Peevyhouse.

Parker is the author of three critically praised novels set in futuristic landscapes. The BCCB called her first novel, *Where Futures End*, "one of those rare gems that truly transcend the covers." Her second novel, *The Echo Room*, follows two teens who are trapped in a puzzle-box of a room and who slowly start to realize they may not be locked in so much as they've locked someone--or something--out. Her most recent novel, *Strange Exit*, is a thriller about teens who are trapped in a failing simulation and must decide who is worth saving and who is worth sacrificing.

Parker teaches online writing courses through her website, ParkerPeevyhouse.com, where you can find help crafting plot twists and developing characters with her five-layer method. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area and works in education. She asks that you recommend your favorite science fiction movies to her, especially if they feature robots or time travel.

Please welcome Parker Peevyhouse.