

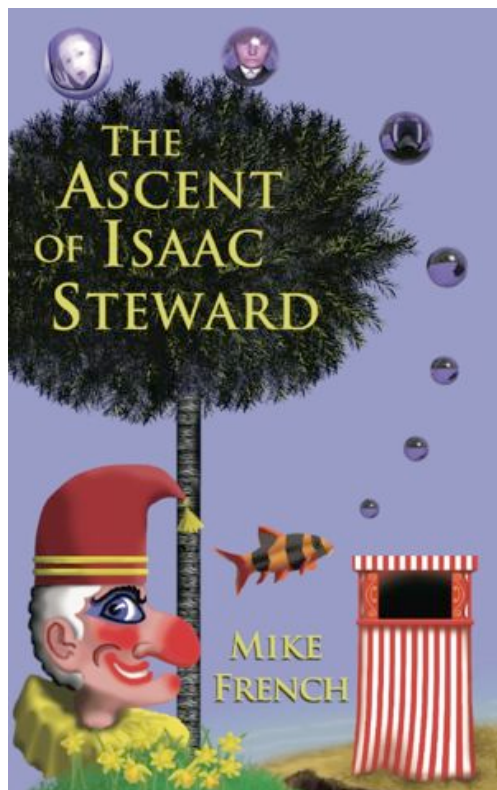
Elsewhen Press

a small independent publisher specialising in Speculative Fiction

ADVANCE INFORMATION

THE ASCENT OF ISAAC STEWARD

MIKE FRENCH



PRINT EDITION

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FICTION / SCIENCE FICTION / GENERAL

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FICTION / VISIONARY & METAPHYSICAL

Literary surrealism at its most profound, *The Ascent of Isaac Steward* follows one man's journey into his own mind as he struggles to come to terms with the trauma that has reshaped his life.

A year on from the car crash in which his wife Rebekah and son Esau were killed and his other son Jacob left in a coma, Isaac Steward has suppressed every memory of that fateful day. Yet fate seems determined to make him remember, driving Isaac deeper and deeper into himself. Slowly, dysfunction builds on delusion, as childhood memories compete with a persona he has fabricated to regress to an earlier, happier time. Violence, death and destruction result as Isaac gradually loses his grip on reality. His half-brother Ishmael tells him that he must return to the wood at his childhood home, to a tree he called The Dandelion Tree, if he is ever to be reunited with Rebekah. But as he descends further, he starts to question his own existence.

Mike French is the owner and senior editor of the prestigious literary magazine, *The View From Here* which has been called many fine things since it started in 2007 including "Attractive, informative, sparkling and useful" by Iain M. Banks and for having a "great passion and drive" by Booker shortlisted Tom McCarthy. Mike's debut novel, *The Ascent of Isaac Steward*, the first book of the Dandelion Trilogy, was published in 2011 and nominated for a Galaxy National Book Award which, presumably due to an unfortunate clerical error, was awarded to Dawn French. The second book in the trilogy, the satirical *Blue Friday*, was published in 2012 by Elsewhen Press who are publishing this new edition of the first. The third book, *Convergence*, is expected later this year.

Born in Cornwall in 1967, Mike spent his childhood flipping between England and Scotland with a few years in between in Singapore. Splitting his time between his own writing, editing the magazine, running author workshops and working with atp media in Luton, Mike is married with three children and a growing number of pets. He currently lives in Luton in the UK and when not working watches Formula 1, eats Ben & Jerry's Phish Food and listens to Noah and the Whale.

Prices shown are typical retail price. Actual sale price may vary by retailer. Electronic edition UK and EU prices include VAT.

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