

## **Elsewhen Press**

a small independent publisher specialising in Speculative Fiction

## ADVANCE INFORMATION

## THE **BLACK HOLE** BAR DAVE WEAVER

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Simon, a traveller with time to kill, enters an inn on the outskirts of London. Inside he meets a motley crew competing to tell tales for their own amusement. So starts Dave Weaver's new novel, *The Black Hole Bar*, which has already been compared to Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* and Boccaccio's *Decameron*.

Simon is an industrial journalist, on his way to yet another off-world assignment, this time a three month trip to Saturn's moon Titan to write a promotional piece about the harvesting of the Methane lakes on that forbidding world. But Simon is a troubled man. He's sure his wife is having an affair during his prolonged absences; he's bored with his job; and unsure where his life is going.

Simon has stumbled into what was supposed to be a closed session for the Black Hole Bar Writers' Group, who meet once a month to take part in a short story competition. Simon writes stories too and begrudgingly they let him participate. The stories begin, and Simon starts taking the competition far more seriously than he intended.

Each of the bar's denizens tells two stories, variously strange, amusing and occasionally downright scary. The writers' own histories, lives crossed by tragedy and drama, come tumbling out one by one into the cramped little room and as they do so, we learn more about the background of this future world. A world which is at the same time recognisable as our possible future but also chilling in its recent past.

Ever since, as a boy, Dave Weaver first watched invading Daleks trundle across London Bridge in grainy BBC monotone, thrilled to Professor Quatermass' discovery of Martian corpses buried deep in the London Underground and read about mankind's tenuous grip on existence being almost wiped out by marauding Triffids, he has loved science fiction, particularly the British variety.

A graphic designer by day, Dave has been writing by night for over a decade. With numerous short stories published in anthologies and webzines, he has had two novels published by Elsewhen Press. Although much of his writing hovers on the shifting borders between fantasy and reality, science fiction has never been far away. After years of creating his own future-scapes of flawed space exploration, dystopian visions and time-warped analogies, Dave has his own tales to tell of future worlds and fantastic revelations. He firmly believes that the seeds of the future are all around us; it's not as far away or different as we might like to think.

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