

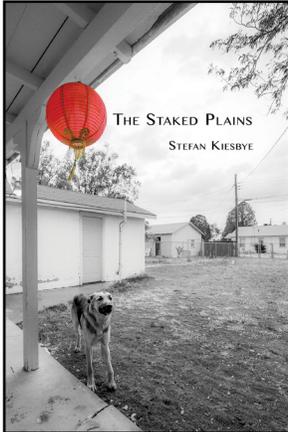
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Saddle Road Press](#) presents Stefan Kiesbye's *The Staked Plains*, a new book by the author of *Your House Is On Fire*, *Your Children All Gone*.

Publication date: November 24, 2015

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This time a small southwestern town hosts Kiesbye's chilling, strangely beautiful realm of dread and violence, stark realism and the darkest corners of Grimm.

Like *Your House Is On Fire*, *Your Children All Gone*, which made *EW's* Must List and *Slate* editor Dan Kois's Best Books of 2012, *The Staked Plains* builds nightmare out of the materials of the everyday:

Jenny is a bad psychic when she arrives in Querosa, not because she doesn't possess the powers, but she can't control them. Her marriage is dead and Querosa is in shambles. Farmhands and workers barely eke out a living and when the Great Drought sets in, ranchers

are forced to sell their land and local businesses shutter. Only churches seem to prosper.

Although people are suspicious of Jenny's gift, many begin seeking her out. Gradually, without really intending to, Jenny uncovers the town's secrets. Then the feral boy Haag appears in her backyard, farms begin burning to the ground, and armed men set up camp in abandoned trailers outside of town. Jenny abandons her role as a bystander, with disastrous results.



Praise for *The Staked Plains*

Caroline Leavitt, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Is This Tomorrow* and *Pictures of You* has this to say about *The Staked Plains*: "Unnerving, spare, and as poetic as it is powerful, Kiesbye's novel uses broken-glass prose to unfold a story about land, loss, violence and longing. I've never read anything like it—which is the highest praise I can think of."

Lee K. Abbott, author of *All Things, All at Once*: ". . . it will scare the stuffings out of you, for its world is in steep moral decline. Think McCarthy meets O'Connor meets Tarantino."

Alan Michael Parker, author of *The Committee on Town Happiness*: "Beset by drought, manipulated by evildoers, besotted by desires, the residents of Querosa, New Mexico need saving. Luckily for them, Jenny's a part-time psychic who reads the future in her clients' bare feet. Luckily for us, this fabulous little book of Stefan Kiesbye's seems prophetic as well, delivering the sad future. *The Staked Plains* is a blast of neo-Gothic, apocalyptic, Western wind; this book's a sandstorm of interiority, a scintillating novella in which everything is about to happen."

The Staked Plains is available through the Ingram distribution network. Individuals can purchase a copy at independent bookstores or through any online bookseller.

About Stefan Kiesbye

Born on the German coast of the Baltic Sea, Stefan Kiesbye moved to Berlin in the early 1980s. He studied drama and worked in radio before starting a degree in American studies, English, and comparative literature at Berlin's Free University. A scholarship brought him to Buffalo, New York, in 1996. His stories, essays, and reviews have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Publishers Weekly*, and in the *Coachella Review*, among others. His first book, *Next Door Lived a Girl* (2004) won the Low Fidelity Press Novella Award. It has been translated into Dutch, Spanish and Japanese, and Saddle Road Press published a new edition in August, 2015.

Kiesbye's second novel, *Your House Is on Fire, Your Children All Gone*, was published by Penguin in 2012. It was a Top Ten pick of *Oprah Magazine*, made *Entertainment Weekly's* Must List, and *Slate* editor Dan Kois named it one of the best books of the year. It was translated into German and Spanish, and is forthcoming from East Press, Japan.

In Spring 2014, the literary thriller *Messer, Gabel, Schere, Licht* (Knife, Fork, Scissors, Flames) was published by Tropen Verlag/Klett-Cotta, Germany. Die Welt wrote that "Stefan Kiesbye...is the inventor of the modern German Gothic novel."

His LA Noir *Fluchtpunkt Los Angeles* (Vanishing Point) was released by ars vivendi verlag in January 2015.

Kiesbye teaches creative writing at Sonoma State University, in Northern California.

[Stefan Kiesbye on twitter](#)

[The Staked Plains on Facebook](#)

[Stefan Kiesbye's youtube channel](#)

Watch for the new book trailer by Red14 Films—coming in November

If you're reading a print version, you can find an interactive version at

www.saddleroadpress.com/the-staked-plains.html

A digital cover image can be downloaded [here](#).

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