

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wirral First Time Author Releases Terrifying New Book of Horror Shorts

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A Wirral man has achieved a lifelong goal of publishing his first ever book after years of battling with mental health difficulties and a debilitating lack of confidence.

David Cash, from New Ferry, has always dreamed of having a book published but was never sure of how to go about it and was terrified of being rejected and having his writing criticised.

“I would start writing then my confidence would let me down as I started panicking over what people would say when they read it, so I would just stop and promise myself I would try again another time.”

Eventually, with encouragement from his wife, Sophie, David finished several short horror stories and successfully submitted them to a website for so-called ‘creepy pastas’.

“I couldn’t bring myself to read the comments for a long time. My mind kept telling me I wasn’t good enough and anyone who read it would agree but when I did look, I found they were generally very positive, and people liked my work.

“A YouTuber even narrated one story, called ‘When the Siren Came’, which has now been viewed over a quarter of a million views on their channel. So, I started creating new stories about haunted houses, mythical beasts and macabre tales and putting them together as a book of short horror stories that I eventually called Dead Trees”

When people ask why he chose horror, David cited his love of vintage television plays such as The Signalman, The Stone Tape and 1992s infamous Ghostwatch. He also cites Liverpool born author Clive Barker as a huge influence.

“I love short form ghost stories from vintage TV classics to literary greats such as Clive Barker and his famous Books of Blood anthology series. They are often the ones that linger with you long after the story ends. Horror shorts, when done right, become much greater than the sum of their parts, so to speak.”

Where does he get his inspiration? His local community of course.

“For the most part, the settings of my stories are fictional towns and places. But almost all of them are inspired by places I grew up in or around such as Bidston Hill, the streets of Moreton, Birkenhead Park and Wirral Country Park. These are wonderful places during

the day but they take on a perfect, spooky atmosphere after dark making them ideal locations for haunting tales.”

The process of writing has been a slow one as David suffers from depression and anxiety which would affect his motivation and confidence. However, in early October this year, he did eventually submit his manuscript for *Dead Trees: A Collection of Atmospheric and Original Horror Shorts* and days before Halloween, on his birthday in fact, the book went on sale on Amazon as both an eBook and paperback.

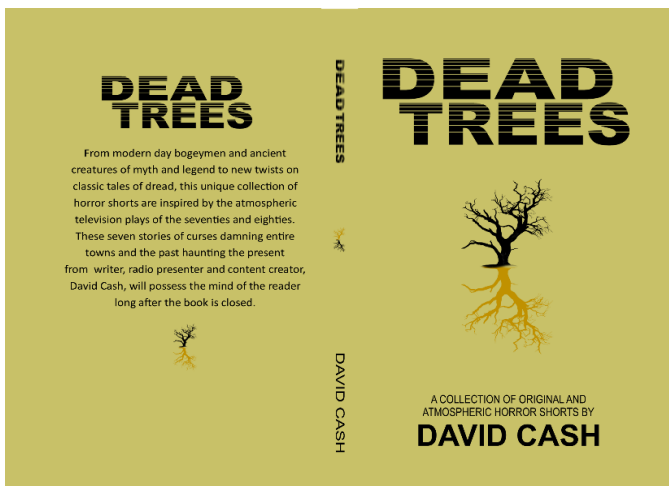
“I couldn’t believe it,” he said. “I woke up on my 47th birthday as a published author and the first thing I did was order a stack of author copies because it didn’t feel real until I had a real copy of my book in my hand. But they came a couple of days later and I finally felt like I had done it.”

So, what’s next for Wirral’s latest author?

“I hope to write a non-fiction book in the future but right now I have already started a new collection of stories for a follow up so if I manage to sell a few copies of *Dead Trees* then readers can look forward to *Dead Trees 2*, I suppose.”

Dead Trees: A Collection of Atmospheric and Original Horror Shorts is now available on Amazon as both an eBook and paperback at <https://amzn.eu/d/19yiNdr>

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Cover Art for Dead Trees

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