



JANUARY 15, 2019. ISBN: 978-1-947886-02-5. Paperback. 320 pages. \$16.99.

“From the first pages of PEACH, I was hooked. An immensely personal novel that thrums with the beat of an emotional rock ballad, Barton has captured that singular experience of love lost and woven it into a soul-wrenching story of growing older and truly understanding what we mean when we reflect on home. A spectacular debut from a unique writer who has a knack for absorbing his surroundings, in darkness and in light, whomever and wherever they may be.”

— Michael A. Ferro, author, *TITLE 13: A Novel*

“Will leave you captivated as you traverse through a myriad of emotions.”

— R.J. Fox, author, *Love & Vodka*

“There’s a hint of loneliness that hovers above every page of Wayne Barton’s PEACH. The kind that the likes of Denis Johnson and Raymond Carver knew too well. It’s all balanced out by beauty and hope—two things we could use more of in this world.”

— Jason Diamond, author, *Searching for John Hughes*

Following the untimely passing of a close friend, British songwriter and producer, Freddie Ward, arrives in Bliss, Idaho to work on a comeback album with beloved singer-songwriter, Hal Granger. Adrift and bereft, Freddie is looking to gain a sense of perspective after a series of bad decisions—decisions that cost him his relationship and life as he knows it. However, almost as soon as Freddie arrives in Idaho, Hal drops an unexpected and devastating bombshell.

Far from the hustle and bustle of his life in England, out in the stark isolation of the northwestern U.S., with time to think, to reflect, Freddie slowly begins to rebuild his life, haunted both by the events of the recent past and his reactions to them. Through words of wisdom from Hal and a series of meandering, existential, and profound conversations, PEACH explores themes such as love, loss, loyalty, and friendship; second chances and redemption; how to make the most of your time; and, last but not least, the meaning of home.

For fans of Nick Hornby, David Nicholls, and Rachel Joyce, PEACH is a book with broad appeal to all ages.

Reviewed as an “emotional chokehold of dramatic, introspective fiction,” PEACH has been described as *Almost Famous* meets *Lost in Translation* meets *Before Sunset*. It is an ambitious attempt at establishing mumblecore as a genuine sub-genre of literary fiction, exploring existential themes through transient connections and relationships.



WAYNE BARTON is an author and ghostwriter based in Manchester, England. His work as a non-fiction soccer author and historian has seen him described as “the leading writer on Manchester United” by the British broadsheet press. PEACH is Barton’s thirteenth published book, his third work of fiction, and his first foray into literary fiction. A ten-year labor of love, PEACH was, in part, inspired by his work as a ghostwriter for sportspeople, actors and musicians, and the profound impact that fleeting, transient connections can have on our lives. For further information, see www.waynebartonbooks.com.

View more information—including author Q&A—at www.fowbooks.com/peach

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