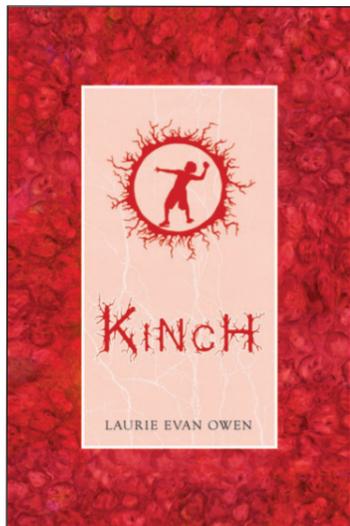




PRESS RELEASE

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KINCH

Laurie Evan Owen's subversively brilliant novel is set in a simultaneously familiar but strange England...

Articulate, finely structured, well-paced and subversively original, *Kinch* is an intellectual white-knuckle ride by West Sussex author Laurie Evan Owen.

Kinch is set in a time which could be now or any time, in a place which could be England or anywhere. Against a backdrop of demonic levels of religio-political corruption, 14-year-old Kinch and his associates, Pigeon and Brownie, each try to salvage coherence and integrity from the moral chaos that surrounds them. *Kinch* is a fantasist, romantically obsessed with avenging the murder of his anarchist father; his friend Pigeon is an insecure literate naïf of unknown parentage, and Brownie an itinerant actor and frustrated poet now in the pay of the religio-political hierarchy as an informer. Taking place in and around the walled cathedral city of Axton, the story charts the adventures of its three main characters over a seven-day period.

"The urban and rural settings in the novel are drawn from my own experiences. The city of Axton, for example, is a distorted amalgam of the small Oxfordshire town of Watlington, where I spent my adolescence, and of Oxford itself, where I was educated," says Laurie.

One of *Kinch's* covert themes is a sardonic undermining of current and traditional notions of Literary Genre. The book will appeal to intellectually adventurous readers with an appetite for fresh, vivid and unusual writing.

'Prepare to enter the dark, unsettling world of Kinch... you will be carried along on rich, visceral writing which uncannily dissolves the boundaries between prose and poetry. ... with a flavour of Grimm and whiffs of Gormenghast, laced with playfulness, unexpected humour and, eventually, hope. Owen's vivid, haunting writing takes you on a journey unlike any other, to a land you won't forget.' *Dr. Maggie Butt, poet and Associate Dean of Middlesex University*



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FOR AUTHOR INTERVIEWS, REVIEW OR COMPETITION COPIES, ARTICLES, PHOTOS OR EXTRACTS PLEASE CONTACT SARAH TAYLOR

TEL: 0116 279 2299 EMAIL: SARAH_TAYLOR@TROUBADOR.CO.UK

TROUBADOR PUBLISHING, 9 PRIORY BUSINESS PARK, WISTOW ROAD, KIBWORTH, LEICESTER LE8 0RX