

KNIGHT TERRA PRESS

THE ANCESTRAL SEA

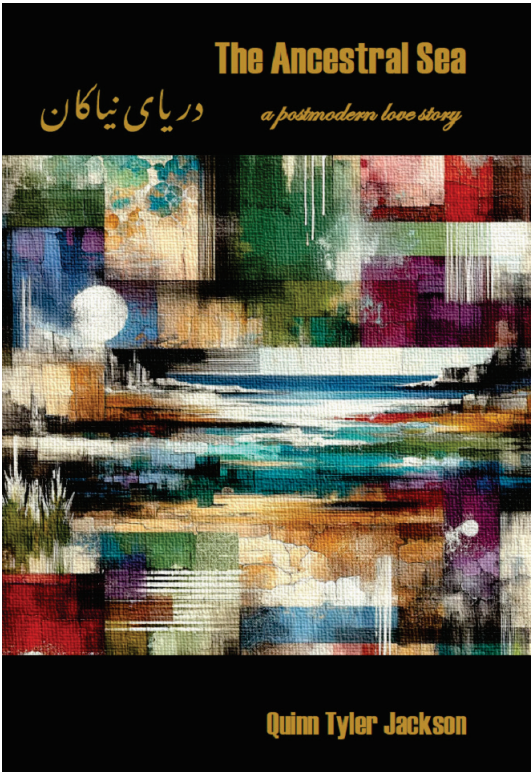
a postmodern love story by Quinn Tyler Jackson

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Publication details

TITLE	<i>The Ancestral Sea: a postmodern love story</i>
AUTHOR	Quinn Tyler Jackson
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ISBN	978-1-896188-06-5 (paperback)
CATEGORY	Postmodern literary fiction historical metafiction
FORMAT	Paperback Free digital PDF edition
EXTENT	62,000 words 207 pp.

Positioning

A postmodern love story and historical metafiction centred on Cyrus Drake, a celebrated modern painter whose creative paralysis and father’s death draw him from San Francisco back to Manhattan and toward the buried history of his Iranian childhood.

Moving through Greenwich Village and Midtown Manhattan and, across memory and generations, to Tarsdejh on the Caspian shore, the novel layers art, family history, war, grief, diaspora, intimacy, and the risks of beginning again.

For readers of serious literary fiction concerned with art and artistic identity, memory, historical inheritance, love, redemption, and rebirth.

The book

Cyrus Drake, a painter at the vanguard of modern expressionism, finds himself caught between a tragic, hazy past and a present in which his art feels as faded as the cellar jazz bar he frequents. The death of his father pulls him back to Manhattan, where inheritance, old friendships, and family records begin to reopen a life he has spent years refusing to examine.

His voyage is not merely a return to the physical landscapes and rooms of childhood. Through the ancestral history that leads eventually back to Iran and the Caspian shore, Cyrus must confront a traumatic loss and the choices built around it, testing what remains of his identity as an artist and of his capacity to love without retreating behind irony, reputation, or distance.

Against this postmodern love story, the novel turns art, memory, family history, war, and cultural inheritance into questions of redemption. Its central movement is from artistic stasis toward the possibility that a life, like a damaged work, may be re-entered without pretending that its broken places were never there.

About the author

Quinn Tyler Jackson has been a bookseller’s assistant, a freelance editor, a literary agent, an independent publisher, and a mathematician. Jackson is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a member of the Writers’ Union of Canada. His award-winning work spans nearly four decades and includes novels, short story collections, poetry, and short fiction published in literary magazines and online journals. He lives on Gabriola Island in British Columbia with his beloved, where they make their home a cat sanctuary. He continues to write fiction and poetry, paint, compose and perform music, and conduct scientific research.