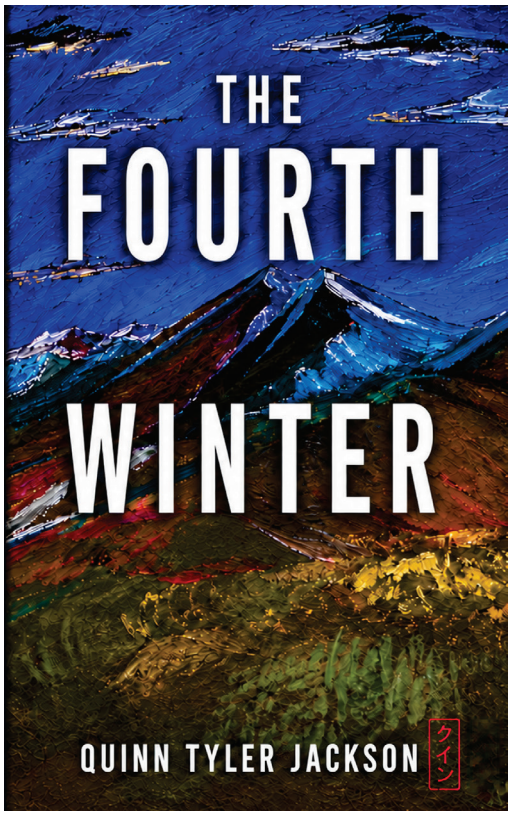
RAVENSVALE HOUSE

# THE FOURTH WINTER

*a novel by Quinn Tyler Jackson*

**PUBLISHER CONTACT:** info@knightterrapress.com
**AUTHOR CONTACT:** quinn.jackson@ieee.org

**MEDIA ONE-SHEET**




*Cover art: Elysium in post Tempestatem (2026), Quinn Tyler Jackson*

## Publication details

| | |
|---|---|
| **TITLE** | *The Fourth Winter* |
| **AUTHOR** | Quinn Tyler Jackson |
| **IMPRINT** | Ravensvale House, Gabriola Island, BC |
| **PUBLICATION** | October 2026 |
| **ISBN** | 978-1-896188-10-2 |
| **CATEGORY** | Literary novel |
| **FORMAT** | Paperback \| 5 x 8 in \| 404 pages |
| **EXTENT** | 90,000-word novel + 22,000-word *Fragments in Amber* |

## Positioning

A literary return to the Indian Himalayas in which four companions, four books, and nearly thirty years of memory are tested against records, witnesses, and the ethics of literary representation.

For readers of morally serious literary fiction, metafiction, archive fiction, and novels of grief, ageing, friendship, artistic responsibility, and recovery.

## The book

Nearly three decades after surviving a Himalayan winter that changed the course of his life, novelist Cohen Benjamin returns to India with editor Valery Rockford, writer Conrad Kirk, and martial artist Brett Lloyd-Ronan. Their purpose is simple in principle: discover what really happened in the mountains during the winter of 1988-89.

But memory is an imperfect witness, and Cohen has spent a lifetime turning experience into fiction. As police reports, old records, remembered conversations, and long-buried truths begin to challenge the stories he has told himself and others, the journey becomes an inquiry into grief, friendship, love, artistic responsibility, and the consequences of choices that cannot be rewritten.

*"The sheer brilliance and sprezzatura of Quinn Jackson's ideas, and his ability to articulate these in fluid, gorgeous, and startlingly original prose and poetry, will capture and hold your attention."* **- Dania Sheldon, DPhil, foreword of Jackson's *Touched by Fortune's Shadow***

# THE NOVEL

*ars ipsa loquitur*



*The Fourth Winter* is a late-life inquiry into what survives experience: memory, records, art, and the people represented by all three. Cohen Benjamin has made a career from converting experience into fiction; Valery Rockford has made hers from reading past rhetoric to what language is doing. In India, the shared question is what authority their stories retain once witnesses and documents begin to disagree.

## Architecture

**Main narrative.** Three parts - Rehearsal, Performance, and Curtains - carry a 37-chapter, 90,000-word journey from Mumbai to Prini in 2015. With flashbacks in San Francisco, Vancouver, and Paris. The novel concludes on Gabriola Island 2017.

**Epilogue.** Two transitional sonnets examine time, memory, written evidence, and the hand behind every recorded truth.

**Fragments in Amber.** Seventy-two pages reproduce eight extracts from four books referenced in the narrative: *No Hero Over New York*, *Passing Through*, *Ashes at Closing Time*, and *Janus Moon*. These metafictional excerpts are referenced in the main text, guiding readers to compare what the characters remember, what earlier novels presented, and what the present narrative actually supports.

## Critical concerns

- Memory placed under evidentiary pressure.
- The distinction between representing a person and having that person's account.
- Aesthetic achievement separated from factual and moral truth.
- Grief, ageing, illness, recovery, and the inheritance of action.
- Love and friendship as human accompaniment rather than retrospective repair.

## Review and discussion angles

- What changes when readers can inspect the novels the characters themselves dispute?
- How much can later understanding alter responsibility for earlier actions?
- Where does editorial care end and possession begin?
- Can a representation succeed as art while remaining ethically contestable?

**Content advisory** *Literary depictions of psychological distress, serious illness, death, a suicide attempt, abandonment, bereavement, non-graphic physical injury, reckless behaviour with life-threatening consequences, tobacco and alcohol use, and consensual sexual relationships.*

## About Quinn Tyler Jackson

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.

RAVENSVALE HOUSE
est 2026

## By the Same Author

### The Epiphanies Trilogy

*Midnight at the Arcanum: a monograph*
*The Ancestral Sea: a postmodern love story*
*Touched by Fortune's Shadow: a triptych*

### Novellas

*Hiroshima in Stained Glass*13F13F
*Lament of an Architect of Babel*14F14F
*Anders' Contrition*