

the gates by john connolly

The Gates by John Connolly: A Deep Dive into Mystery and Supernatural Thrills

the gates by john connolly is a gripping novel that intriguingly blends mystery, suspense, and supernatural elements with Connolly's signature storytelling style. Known predominantly for his Charlie Parker series, Connolly steps into a slightly different realm with *The Gates*, offering readers a fresh yet haunting experience. Whether you're a longtime fan of his work or new to his writing, this book invites you into a world where the boundaries between life and death, reality and nightmare, become chillingly blurred.

Exploring *The Gates* by John Connolly means delving into a narrative that skillfully balances tension, atmosphere, and character development. This article will guide you through what makes this novel a standout, from its thematic richness to Connolly's unique approach to supernatural fiction.

Understanding the Premise of *The Gates* by John Connolly

At its core, *The Gates* by John Connolly is a novel that intertwines the ordinary with the extraordinary. The story unfolds in a small town where mysterious events begin to disrupt everyday life, leading to a series of unsettling discoveries. Connolly uses this setting to explore themes such as grief, redemption, and the nature of evil, wrapped within a suspenseful plot that keeps readers hooked from start to finish.

The Setting: A Character in Its Own Right

Connolly's choice of setting in *The Gates* is more than just a backdrop; it's almost a living, breathing entity that influences the story. The small town, with its quiet streets and hidden secrets, creates an atmosphere thick with tension and anticipation. This environment plays a crucial role in amplifying the novel's eerie tone, making the supernatural occurrences feel all the more plausible and disturbing.

Plot Overview Without Spoilers

Without giving too much away, *The Gates* revolves around a series of strange happenings linked to an ancient, mysterious gateway. As the protagonist digs deeper, they uncover dark truths about the town's history and confront malevolent forces that challenge their understanding of reality. The narrative expertly weaves suspense with moments of emotional depth, making it more than just a typical horror or thriller novel.

Thematic Elements in The Gates by John Connolly

One of the reasons *The Gates* by John Connolly resonates with readers is its rich thematic undercurrents. Connolly doesn't merely aim to scare; he invites reflection on deeper human experiences.

Grief and Loss

Throughout the novel, the characters grapple with profound loss and the pain of unresolved grief. Connolly uses these emotions to humanize his characters, making their struggles relatable amidst the supernatural chaos. This exploration adds layers to the story, enriching it beyond the typical ghost story or thriller.

The Battle Between Good and Evil

The Gates delves into the classic struggle between light and darkness, but with nuances that challenge simplistic notions of morality. Connolly's portrayal of evil is complex, often intertwined with human frailty and choices. This adds moral ambiguity that keeps readers pondering long after the last page.

The Power of Secrets and the Past

Secrets and buried histories are central motifs in the book. The mysterious gate itself symbolizes the hidden past that refuses to stay buried. Connolly masterfully shows how the past shapes the present, often with dangerous consequences.

John Connolly's Writing Style in The Gates

If you're familiar with John Connolly's writing, you'll find that *The Gates* carries his hallmark style—lyrical prose combined with tight pacing and vivid imagery.

Atmospheric Storytelling

Connolly excels at creating mood and atmosphere, and *The Gates* is a testament to this skill. His descriptions immerse readers in the eerie setting, making the supernatural elements feel tangible and immediate.

Character-Driven Narrative

Unlike some supernatural thrillers that prioritize plot over characters, *The Gates* balances both. Connolly invests time in developing multi-dimensional characters whose personal journeys are as compelling as the external mysteries they face.

Blending Genres Seamlessly

The Gates by John Connolly is not easily categorized. It blends mystery, horror, thriller, and supernatural fiction seamlessly, appealing to a broad spectrum of readers. This genre hybridization is part of what makes the book so engaging and unpredictable.

Why The Gates Stands Out in Contemporary Supernatural Fiction

In a crowded field of supernatural novels, *The Gates* by John Connolly carves its niche through a combination of sophisticated storytelling and emotional depth.

Fresh Take on Supernatural Tropes

While many novels rely on familiar ghost story tropes, *The Gates* reinvents these ideas with originality. Connolly's use of the gate as a metaphor for transition and revelation adds philosophical weight to the supernatural elements.

Emotional Resonance

The book's exploration of grief and human vulnerability gives it emotional resonance that elevates it beyond simple scares. Readers often find themselves connecting deeply with the characters' experiences.

Balanced Tension and Pacing

The Gates maintains a careful balance between slow-building suspense and moments of intense action. This pacing keeps readers engaged without overwhelming them, allowing for moments of reflection amid the thrills.

Tips for Readers Interested in *The Gates* by John Connolly

If you're considering diving into *The Gates*, here are some tips to enhance your reading experience:

- **Embrace the atmosphere:** Take your time with Connolly's rich descriptions. The setting is key to the novel's impact.
- **Reflect on the themes:** Pay attention to the underlying themes of grief and moral complexity—they add layers to the story.
- **Don't rush the mystery:** The unfolding secrets are part of the enjoyment. Let the suspense build naturally.
- **Explore Connolly's other works:** If you like *The Gates*, you might enjoy his Charlie Parker series, which shares similar tones and themes.

The Gates in the Context of John Connolly's Career

While John Connolly is best known for his crime novels featuring the private investigator Charlie Parker, *The Gates* showcases his versatility as an author. It highlights his ability to craft supernatural fiction with the same depth and nuance as his crime thrillers. This novel stands as a testament to Connolly's talent for crossing genre boundaries while maintaining a strong narrative voice.

Expanding the Fan Base

The Gates has attracted readers who may not typically gravitate toward crime fiction but are intrigued by supernatural mysteries. This broad appeal has helped solidify Connolly's reputation as a multifaceted writer.

Critical Reception

Critics have praised *The Gates* for its atmospheric writing and compelling characters. The novel's blend of suspense and emotional insight has been a highlight in reviews, distinguishing it from more formulaic entries in the genre.

Reading *The Gates* by John Connolly offers an immersive journey into a world where the

familiar becomes uncanny and where every secret uncovered opens the door to new questions. It's a novel that invites readers to linger in its shadowy corners and consider the thin line between reality and the unknown. Whether you're drawn by the supernatural intrigue or the human drama, *The Gates* promises a memorable reading experience that stays with you long after you turn the last page.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main plot of 'The Gates' by John Connolly?

'The Gates' by John Connolly is a supernatural thriller that revolves around a mysterious gate appearing in a small town, unleashing dark forces and challenging the protagonist to confront evil to save humanity.

Who is the protagonist in 'The Gates' by John Connolly?

The protagonist of 'The Gates' is a character named Samuel Johnson, a man drawn into a battle against otherworldly forces after the gate appears in his town.

What themes are explored in 'The Gates' by John Connolly?

The novel explores themes such as the battle between good and evil, the supernatural, human resilience, and the consequences of confronting dark forces beyond human understanding.

Is 'The Gates' part of a series by John Connolly?

Yes, 'The Gates' is the first book in a trilogy by John Connolly, followed by 'The Infernals' and 'The Creeps,' continuing the story of supernatural events surrounding the gate.

How does John Connolly's writing style in 'The Gates' contribute to the story's atmosphere?

John Connolly's writing style in 'The Gates' is atmospheric and suspenseful, combining vivid descriptions with a fast-paced narrative that heightens the tension and eerie mood throughout the novel.

What genre does 'The Gates' by John Connolly belong to?

'The Gates' is primarily a supernatural thriller with elements of horror and fantasy, blending suspense with otherworldly phenomena.

Are there any notable supporting characters in 'The Gates' by John Connolly?

Yes, several supporting characters, including a local sheriff, a mysterious priest, and other townsfolk, play crucial roles in aiding or hindering the protagonist's quest against the gate's evil.

What inspired John Connolly to write 'The Gates'?

John Connolly was inspired by a fascination with myth, folklore, and the enduring battle between light and darkness, aiming to create a contemporary tale that combines supernatural horror with compelling human drama.

Additional Resources

The Gates by John Connolly: A Detailed Exploration of the Supernatural Thriller

the gates by john connolly stands as a compelling entry in the realm of supernatural and thriller literature. Known primarily for his Charlie Parker series, Connolly's foray into standalone novels like *The Gates* showcases his adeptness at blending suspense, horror, and intricate character development. This book, often cited among his notable works, invites readers into a chilling narrative that intertwines the ordinary with the otherworldly, offering a fresh perspective on classic horror tropes.

In-Depth Analysis of The Gates by John Connolly

At its core, *The Gates* by John Connolly is a novel that explores the thin veil separating our world from a supernatural dimension. The story unfolds in a quiet New England town where a mysterious gate appears, unleashing a host of dark forces. Connolly's narrative skillfully balances atmospheric tension with a fast-paced plot, ensuring that the reader remains engaged from start to finish.

One of the aspects that distinguish *The Gates* is Connolly's ability to craft a setting that feels both familiar and unsettling. The small-town backdrop, a common setting in horror literature, is transformed into a character in its own right. The eerie quietness and the creeping sense of dread permeate every page, enhancing the novel's suspenseful tone.

Character Development and Themes

Unlike many supernatural thrillers that focus predominantly on action or scares, *The Gates* by John Connolly delves deeply into the psychological and emotional dimensions of its characters. The protagonist's journey is marked by internal conflicts that mirror the external chaos unleashed by the gate's appearance. This duality adds layers of complexity to the narrative, making it more than just a conventional horror story.

Themes of loss, redemption, and the battle between good and evil are intricately woven throughout the novel. Connolly does not shy away from exploring the moral ambiguities faced by his characters, which adds a richness to the story. The tension between human frailty and supernatural threat is a recurring motif that resonates strongly with readers who appreciate nuanced storytelling.

Comparisons with Connolly's Other Works

For readers familiar with John Connolly's Charlie Parker series, *The Gates* offers both similarities and departures. While the Parker novels are rooted in crime fiction with supernatural elements, *The Gates* leans more heavily into horror and fantasy. This shift allows Connolly to experiment with different narrative techniques and thematic explorations.

The Gates shares with Connolly's other works a meticulous attention to atmosphere and mood. However, it stands out for its emphasis on mythological and apocalyptic elements, positioning it uniquely within his oeuvre. This makes the novel appealing not only to fans of Connolly's previous books but also to readers who favor supernatural thrillers with a mythic scope.

Key Features and Literary Style

John Connolly's writing style in *The Gates* is marked by vivid descriptions and a deliberate pacing that builds suspense steadily. His prose is accessible yet evocative, striking a balance that keeps the reader immersed without overwhelming them with complexity. The dialogue is naturalistic, contributing to believable character interactions even in extraordinary circumstances.

The novel's structure supports its suspenseful nature, with chapters that end on cliffhangers or revelations that propel the story forward. Connolly's use of multiple perspectives enriches the narrative, offering varied viewpoints that deepen the reader's understanding of the unfolding mystery.

Pros and Cons of *The Gates* by John Connolly

- **Pros:**

- Engaging blend of horror, thriller, and fantasy elements
- Strong character development with emotional depth
- Rich atmospheric setting that enhances the narrative tension
- Accessible writing style suitable for a broad audience

- Innovative take on supernatural themes with mythological undertones

- **Cons:**

- Some readers might find the pacing slow in initial chapters
- The complexity of themes may require attentive reading to fully appreciate
- Fans expecting a traditional crime thriller may find the supernatural focus divergent

Reception and Impact

The Gates by John Connolly has garnered positive reviews for its imaginative storytelling and its ability to evoke a palpable sense of dread. Critics have praised Connolly's skill in crafting a narrative that is both suspenseful and thought-provoking. While it may not have reached the commercial heights of his Charlie Parker series, The Gates has solidified its place among contemporary supernatural thrillers.

The novel's impact extends beyond entertainment, as it encourages reflection on human nature and the unseen forces that might influence our reality. This philosophical underpinning sets The Gates apart from many genre novels that prioritize shocks over substance.

Conclusion: The Gates in the Context of Supernatural Literature

In the landscape of supernatural thrillers, The Gates by John Connolly emerges as a distinctive work that combines classic horror elements with deeper thematic concerns. Its success lies in the author's ability to create a believable world where the extraordinary intrudes upon the mundane, challenging characters and readers alike to confront the unknown.

For those interested in a story that merges suspenseful action with introspective character study, The Gates offers a rewarding experience. Its blend of mythology, psychological insight, and atmospheric tension ensures that it remains a noteworthy title in John Connolly's bibliography and the broader genre of supernatural fiction.

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the gates by john connolly: *The Gates* John Connolly, 2009-10-06 Bursting with imagination and impossible to put down, this “wholly original” (People) and “refreshing” (San Francisco Chronicle) novel from New York Times bestselling author John Connolly is about the pull between good and evil, physics and fantasy—and a quirky boy, who is impossible not to love, and the unlikely cast of characters who give him the strength to stand up to a demonic power. Young Samuel Johnson and his dachshund, Boswell, are trying to show initiative by trick-or-treating a full three days before Halloween, which is how they come to witness strange goings-on at 666 Crowley Road. The Abernathys don't mean any harm by their flirtation with the underworld, but when they unknowingly call forth Satan himself, they create a gap in the universe, a gap through which a pair of enormous gates is visible. The gates to Hell. And there are some pretty terrifying beings just itching to get out... Can one small boy defeat evil? Can he harness the power of science, faith, and love to save the world as we know it?

the gates by john connolly: The John Connolly Collection #1 John Connolly, 2012-09-04 In Volume I of this special collectors' edition, visit the terrifying world of John Connolly's #1 internationally bestselling thrillers: *Every Dead Thing*, *Dark Hollow*, and *The Killing Kind*. *EVERY DEAD THING* Haunted by the unsolved slayings of his wife and young daughter, and tormented by his sense of guilt, former NYPD detective Charlie Parker is a man consumed by violence, regret, and the desire for revenge. But when his ex-partner asks him to track down a missing girl, Parker embarks on an odyssey that leads him to the heart of organized crime; to an old black woman who dwells by a Louisiana swamp and hears the voices of the dead; to cellars of torture and murder; and to a serial killer unlike any other, an artist who uses the human body as his canvas and takes faces as his prize, the killer known only as the Traveling Man. *DARK HOLLOW* Haunted by the murder of his wife and daughter, former New York police detective Charlie Parker retreats home to Scarborough, Maine, to rebuild his shattered life. But his return awakens old ghosts, drawing him into the manhunt for the killer of yet another mother and child. The obvious suspect is the young woman's violent ex-husband. But there is another possibility—a mythical figure who lurks deep in the dark hollow of Parker's own past, a figure that has haunted his family for generations: the monster known as Caleb Kyle.... *THE KILLING KIND* When the discovery of a mass grave in northern Maine reveals the grim truth behind the disappearance of a religious community, Charlie Parker is drawn into vicious conflict with a group of zealots intent on tracking down a relic that could link them to the slaughter. Haunted by the ghost of a small boy and tormented by the demonic killer known as Mr. Pudd, Parker is forced to fight for his lover, his friends...and his very soul.

the gates by john connolly: Samuel Johnson vs the Darkness Trilogy John Connolly, 2020-10-29 Bursting with imagination and impossible to put down, these novels - 'darkly comic' (Telegraph) and 'delightfully horrific and hilarious' (Eoin Colfer) - from The Sunday Times bestselling author John Connolly, are about the pull between good and evil, physics and fantasy - and a quirky boy, who is impossible not to love, and the unlikely cast of characters who give him the strength to stand up to a demonic power. *The Gates*: Samuel Johnson's neighbour Mrs Abernathy is trying to open the gates of hell. It's up to Samuel to stop her, except nobody will believe him, and time is running out. *The Infernals* (prev. *Hell's Bells*): Samuel and Boswell are pulled through a portal into Hell. But Mrs Abernathy has reckoned without their bravery and cleverness, or the loyalty of Samuel's friend, the demon Nurd, and Mr Merryweather's Elves. *The Creeps*: Samuel and Boswell are to be guests of honour at the opening of the greatest toyshop. A splendid time will be had by all, as long as they can ignore the sinister statue that keeps moving around the town, the Shadows that are slowly blocking out the stars, murderous elves, and the fact that, somewhere, a rotten black heart is beating a rhythm of revenge.

the gates by john connolly: The John Connolly Reader's Companion John Connolly, 2012-09-04 A collection of excerpts from the Charlie Parker thrillers, including: *Every Dead Thing*, *Dark Hollow*,

The Killing Kind, The White Road, The Black Angel, The Unquiet, The Reapers, The Lovers, The Whisperers, The Burning Soul, and The Wrath of Angels. Also includes excerpts from the Samuel Johnson novels The Gates and The Infernals, as well as other works, including Bad Men, Nocturnes, and The Book of Lost Things.

the gates by john connolly: The Gates John Connolly, 2010 Funny, scary adventure with a dachshund, demons, science - and footnotes.

the gates by john connolly: The John Connolly Collection #2 John Connolly, 2012-09-04 In Volume II of this special collectors' edition, visit the terrifying world of John Connolly's #1 internationally bestselling thrillers: The White Road, The Black Angel, and The Unquiet. THE WHITE ROAD In South Carolina, a young black man faces the death penalty for the rape and murder of Marianne Larousse, daughter of one of the wealthiest men in the state. It's a case that nobody wants to touch, deeply rooted in old evil—and old evil is Charlie Parker's specialty. He's about to enter a living nightmare, a dreamscape of sorrow haunted by the murderous specter of a hooded woman, by a black car waiting for a passenger that never comes, and by the sinister complicity of both friends and enemies in Larousse's brutal death. Soon, all will face a final reckoning in an unearthly realm where the paths of the living and the dead converge. A place known only as the White Road. THE BLACK ANGEL When a young woman disappears from the streets of New York City, ties of friendship and blood inevitably draw ingenious, tortured detective Charlie Parker into the search. Soon he discovers links to a church of bones in Eastern Europe, a 1944 slaughter at a French monastery, and to the myth of an object known as the Black Angel—considered by evil men to be beyond priceless. But the Black Angel is not a legend. It is real. It lives. It dreams. And the mystery of its existence may contain the secret of Parker's own origins. THE UNQUIET Daniel Clay, a once-respected psychiatrist, has gone missing. His daughter insists that he killed himself after allegations surfaced surrounding the harm done to patients in his care. Now, a killer obsessed with finding the truth about his own daughter's disappearance is seeking revenge—and private investigator Charlie Parker finds himself trapped between those who want the truth about Clay's disappearance to be revealed, and those who will go to any length—no matter the cost—to keep a deep, dark secret about a local town hidden.

the gates by john connolly: The Gates John Connolly, 2010 Young Samuel Johnson and his dachshund, Boswell, are trying to show initiative by trick-or-treating a full three days before Halloween, which is how they come to witness strange goings-on at 666 Crowley Road. The Abernathys don't mean any harm by their flirtation with the underworld, but when they unknowingly call forth Satan himself, they create a gap in the universe, a gap through which a pair of enormous gates is visible. The gates to Hell. And there are some pretty terrifying beings just itching to get out.... Can one small boy defeat evil? Can he harness the power of science, faith, and love to save the world as we know it? Bursting with imagination and impossible to put down, The Gates is about the pull between good and evil, physics and fantasy and the courage of a boy who is barely old enough to trick or treat on his own. This novel makes anything seem possible.

the gates by john connolly: Journals of the House of Commons of the Kingdom of Ireland Ireland. Parliament. House of Commons, 1763

the gates by john connolly: The Infernals John Connolly, 2011-10-18 From New York Times bestselling author John Connolly, a wonderfully strange and brilliant novel about a boy, his dog, and their struggle to escape the wrath of demons. Young Samuel Johnson is in trouble. Not only is his eyesight so poor that he mistakenly asks out a letter box on a date, but an angry demon is seeking revenge for Samuel's part in foiling the invasion of Earth by the forces of evil. It wants to get its claws on Samuel, and when Samuel and his faithful dachshund, Boswell, are pulled through a portal into the dark realm, the home of the Infernals, it gets its chance. But catching Samuel is not going to be easy, for the Infernals have not reckoned on the bravery and cleverness of a boy and his dog, or the loyalty of Samuel's friend, the hapless demon Nurd, or the presence of two clueless policemen and the unlucky, if cheerfully optimistic, driver of an ice-cream van. Most of all, no one has planned on the intervention of an unexpected band of little men, for Samuel and Boswell are not the only

inhabitants of Earth who have found themselves in the underworld. If you thought demons were frightening, just wait until you meet Mr. Merryweather's Elves. . . .

the gates by john connolly: The Wrath of Angels John Connolly, 2013 Darkly brilliant and intuitive private detective Charlie Parker returns in the next thrilling installment of the New York Times-bestselling series by Connolly.

the gates by john connolly: The Lovers John Connolly, 2009-06-02 New York Times bestselling author John Connolly writes an "unfailingly compelling" (New Orleans Times-Picayune) and lyrical tale that forces Private Investigator Charlie Parker to examine his haunting past and all that he has ever believed true about his beloved parents—and himself. Charlie Parker is a lost soul. Deprived of his private investigator's license and under scrutiny by the police, Parker takes a job in a Portland bar. But he uses his enforced retirement to begin a different kind of investigation: an examination of his own past and an inquiry into the death of his father, who took his own life after apparently shooting dead two unarmed teenagers. It's a search that will eventually lead Parker to question all that he believed about his beloved parents, and about himself. But there are other forces at work: a troubled young woman who is running from an unseen threat, one that has already taken the life of her boyfriend; and a journalist-turned-writer named Mickey Wallace, who is conducting an investigation of his own. And haunting the shadows, as they have done throughout Parker's life, are two figures: a man and a woman who seem driven to bring an end to Charlie Parker's existence. Haunting, lyrical, and impossible to put down, *The Lovers* is John Connolly at his best.

the gates by john connolly: Bad Men John Connolly, 2012-03-27 Years after the massacre that wiped out a colony of settlers on the small Maine island of Sanctuary, rookie officer Sharon Macy and policeman Joe Dupree team up to protect the island's residents from a band of vengeful killers.

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the gates by john connolly: The Mammoth Book of Best New Horror 21 Stephen Jones, 2010-10-28 The year's best, and darkest, tales of terror, showcasing the most outstanding new short stories and novellas by both contemporary masters of the macabre and exciting newcomers. As ever, this acclaimed anthology also offers the most comprehensive annual overview of horror around the world in all its incarnations; a comprehensive necrology of famous names; and a list of indispensable contact addresses for the dedicated horror fan and writer alike. The Mammoth Book of Best New Horror remains the world's leading annual anthology dedicated solely to presenting the best in contemporary horror fiction. Praise for Stephen Jones: 'The best horror anthologist in the business is, of course, Stephen Jones, whose Mammoth Book of Best New Horror is one of the major bargains of this as of any other year.' Roz Kavaney 'An essential volume for horror readers.' Locus 'Stephen Jones . . . has a better sense of the genre than almost anyone in this country.' Lisa Tuttle, The Times Books

the gates by john connolly: The Gates John Connolly, 2009-10-01 'Delightfully horrific and hilarious' Eoin Colfer Samuel Johnson has a number of problems. Samuel's dad cares more about his car than his family, Samuel's mother is lonely, and only Samuel's dog, Boswell, truly understands him. Oh, and as if things couldn't get any worse, Samuel's neighbours, led by the villainous Mrs Abernathy, are trying to open the gates of hell. It's up to Samuel to stop them, except nobody will believe him, and time is running out . . . Now the fate of humanity lies in the hands of one small boy, an even smaller dog, and a very unlucky demon named Nurd . . .

the gates by john connolly: The Charlie Parker Collection 1-4 John Connolly, 2013-04-18 The

first four novels in the Charlie Parker series, available together as a digital-only package. Former NYPD Charlie Parker first appears in EVERY DEAD THING on a quest for the killer of his wife and daughter. He is a man consumed by violence, guilt and the desire for revenge. When his ex-partner asks him to track down a missing girl, Parker embarks on a grim odyssey through the bowels of organised crime to a unique serial killer: The Travelling Man. In DARK HOLLOW, Private detective Charlie Parker embarks on a nerve-shredding manhunt and closes in on his prime suspect. But someone else is tracking them both. Parker's empathy with the powerless victims of crime is growing ever stronger. It makes him a natural choice to investigate the death of Grace Peltier in THE KILLING KIND - a death that appears to be a suicide. Genial killers Angel and Louis join Parker again as he descends into a honeycomb world populated by dark angels and lost souls. In THE WHITE ROAD, a black youth faces the death penalty for rape and murder; his victim, the daughter of one of the wealthiest men in South Carolina. It is a case with its roots in old evil, and old evil is Charlie Parker's speciality. Evil men from his past unite to exact a terrible revenge on the private detective.

the gates by john connolly: The Unquiet John Connolly, 2012-03-27 In the aftermath of a once-respected psychiatrist's disappearance and the discovery of harm he had inflicted on his child patients, private detective Charlie Parker finds himself torn between those who would reveal and protect the doctor's secrets.

the gates by john connolly: *The Contemporary Irish Detective Novel* Elizabeth Mannion, 2016-05-30 Irish detective fiction has enjoyed an international readership for over a decade, appearing on best-seller lists across the globe. But its breadth of hard-boiled and amateur detectives, historical fiction, and police procedurals has remained somewhat marginalized in academic scholarship. Exploring the work of some of its leading writers—including Peter Tremayne, John Connolly, Declan Hughes, Ken Bruen, Brian McGilloway, Stuart Neville, Tana French, Jane Casey, and Benjamin Black—*The Contemporary Irish Detective Novel* opens new ground in Irish literary criticism and genre studies. It considers the detective genre's position in Irish Studies and the standing of Irish authors within the detective novel tradition. Contributors: Carol Baraniuk, Nancy Marck Cantwell, Brian Cliff, Fiona Coffey, Charlotte J. Headrick, Andrew Kincaid, Audrey McNamara, and Shirley Peterson.

the gates by john connolly: The Charlie Parker Collection 5-8 John Connolly, 2013-04-18 Books 5-8 in the Charlie Parker series, available together as a digital-only package. Charlie Parker's latest case in THE BLACK ANGEL starts with the disappearance of a young woman in New York. His hunt turns into an epic quest and marks a dawning realisation in Parker that there is another dimension to his crusade, a dangerous dimension that affects his personal life. In THE UNQUIET, Daniel Clay, a once-respected psychiatrist, has been missing for years following revelations about harm done to the children in his care. As Parker's investigation progresses, he finds himself trapped between those who want the truth about Daniel Clay to be revealed, and those who want it to remain hidden at all costs. Angel and Louis take centre stage in THE REAPERS, where the elite killers themselves become targets. A wealthy recluse sends them north to a town that no longer exists on a map. There they find themselves trapped, isolated and at the mercy of a killer feared above all others: the assassin of assassins, Bliss. Thanks to Parker, help is on its way. THE LOVERS shows Parker engaged on his most personal case yet: an investigation into his own origins and the circumstances surrounding the death of his father. Parker's quest for that explanation reveals lies, secrets and betrayal.

the gates by john connolly: The Creeps John Connolly, 2013-10-22 In this delightfully imaginative novel, once again, hell threatens to break loose as Samuel Johnson and his ragtag group of friends must defend their town from shadowy forces more threatening than ever before... In this clever and quirky follow-up to *The Gates* and *The Infernals*, Samuel Johnson's life seems to have finally settled down—after all, he's still got the company of his faithful dachshund, Boswell, and his bumbling demon friend, Nurd; he has foiled the dreaded forces of darkness not once, but twice; and he's dating the lovely Lucy Highmore, to boot. But things in the little English town of Biddlecombe

rarely run smoothly for long. Shadows are gathering in the skies, a black heart of pure evil is bubbling with revenge, and it rather looks as if the Multiverse is about to come to an end, starting with Biddlecombe. When a new toy shop's opening goes terrifyingly awry, Samuel must gather a ragtag band of dwarfs, policemen, and very polite monsters to face down the greatest threat the Multiverse has ever known, not to mention assorted vampires, a girl with an unnatural fondness for spiders, and highly flammable unfriendly elves. The latest installment of John Connolly's wholly original and creepily imaginative Samuel Johnson Tales, *The Creeps* is humorous horror for anyone who enjoys fiction at its best.

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