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C.M. HARRIS



Every thug needs a fairy godmother

Meet Vince, a young, moody boxer from Brooklyn with an oozing bullet wound and a spot awaiting him in the Narducci crime family—if he weren't on the run...

Through a series of events that begins with Vince returning travelers' checks he's stolen from a British tourist, he finds himself in 1980s London, the epicenter of New Wave culture, unsure whether he will become a rock star, a rent boy, or a laughingstock.

Vince's journey brings an awkward friendship with a glamorous drag queen, a stint in a post-punk rock band, a frustrating romance with a Bowie-esque pop star, and bloody quarrels with a misfit skinhead—Vince's own cracked reflection.

In this quirky yet charming story of love and family and culture clash, Vince discovers his place in a rapidly changing world.

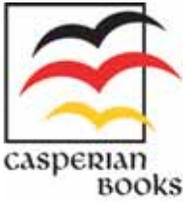
Casperian Books is pleased to announce the release of C.M. Harris' sophomore novel, *Enter Oblivion*.

Enter Oblivion goes on sale nationwide April 2011.



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For further information or to arrange an interview with the author, please e-mail publicity@casperianbooks.com.



Interview with C.M. Harris

Q: Why the 1980s? Why London?

A: London was a magical place to me growing up in the '80s as a queer Midwestern teen. There was all this great music and fashion coming out of Britain that was like nothing else I'd ever heard or seen. It really shaped my perspective and helped me realize there was something else out there besides farmland and classic rock. Not that there's anything wrong with cornflakes or the Allman Brothers, I just didn't want to consume them 24/7.

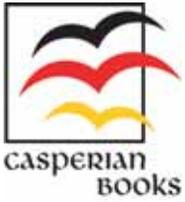
For people of my age *Enter Oblivion* will doubtlessly bring back memories of the '80s and for younger readers it's a bit of a view into the era. I remember being a teenager and thinking of the 1960s as this elevated instance, like its very own dimension of color and conflict, so I wanted to frame and hold up the 1980s in much the same way.

Q: *Enter Oblivion's* two main characters are complete opposites—Vince is an American gangster and Jik a spoiled English rock star. What on Earth were you thinking?

A: The archetypes that you usually get in romance novels are powerful and necessary to our mythology, but I wanted to switch things up a bit too. In fact, the two lovers aren't as different as they appear on paper. Vince really isn't as hard as he seems at first glance and Jik isn't nearly as soft. I've always thought of machismo as a form of drag in a way, a performance. And conversely, Jezebel, the transvestite in the story, is tough as nails. There are all sorts of reversals going on with all of *Enter Oblivion's* characters. As in real life, what we project is often in direct opposition to our true nature.

Q: So *Enter Oblivion* isn't just a romance?

A: Well, I think it can be read as a coming-of-age romance without a second thought, but there's more going on under the surface. I guess I wanted to see if there is anything redeemable about our cowboy mentality, so in many ways, it's a subtle examination of the American impact on the rest of the world—and our quest for redemption. Before 2001, most Americans were oblivious to the fact that even our allies had some unfavorable opinions of us. Vince is the same: completely clueless to his bull-in-a-china-shop mentality. And, of course, it's also about our need, however abstract, for home and family.



About the Author

C.M. Harris is the author of GLBT historical saga *The Children of Mother Glory*. She studied writing at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and The Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis. Her fiction has been published in various journals, magazines, and blogs. She is creative director for marketing agency Carbon Creative and lives in Minneapolis with her partner, their twins, and two miniature pinschers.

About Casperian Books

Casperian Books is an independent publishing company located in Sacramento, California. We publish a wide variety of fiction, including genre, mainstream, literary, and experimental works, by a variety of writers, both first-time authors and seasoned professionals, who share our vision.

We are ardent supporters of small business and creative guerrilla movements, whether they be in publishing, music, or film, and we believe in diverse voices, different viewpoints, and departures from the status quo. Most of all, we believe in good books.