

THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

STEPHEN KING



FOUR PAST MIDNIGHT

“Intriguing . . . Horrifying . . . Pure King.” —*RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH*

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More Praise for *Four Past Midnight*

“A 4-course feast of chilling horror!”

—*Milwaukee Journal*

“Four spellbinding tales of horror and evil—any one of which would be sufficient annual output for an ordinary writer. More than just good yarns, these are can’t-tear-your-eyes-away stories that burn in your imagination.”

—*Playboy*

“A double-double whopper hot from the grill of ‘America’s literary boogeyman,’ as he puts it in his introduction: four sizzling horror novellas . . . there’s grand entertainment value here.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

“The four novellas find horror in a transcontinental night flight, a camera, a small-town library, and a quiet Maine summer town . . . King is, above all, a master storyteller, and these stories grab hold and will not let go.”

—*The Seattle Times*

“Four King jolts in the night . . . indisputable mastery!”

—*The Washington Times*

“Vintage King . . . creepy and mysterious, leading the reader into strange places where horror lurks, childhood fears are aroused, and death and madness are waiting to pounce . . . grabs the reader by the scruff of the neck until the end.”

—*The Columbia State*

“A collection of novellas bringing us supernatural excitement . . . plenty of scarifying King-style fun!”

—*The Newark Star-Ledger*

“Consistently inventive . . . under King’s deft hand time is made to bend and warp, to twist itself inside out with the easy fluidity of a Dalí pocket watch. King can snap time open, unleashing horrors upon his hapless characters, or roll it back like a dark tide to reveal secrets hidden at the low ebb mark . . . The juxtaposition of bizarre events against ordinary settings creates a strong sense of the immediacy . . . heightening the already well-established tension.”

—*Bangor Daily News*

“Deft, subtly skillful . . . exceptionally well-crafted tales . . . the sure hand of a master . . . with a relentless grip on readers.”

—*Tampa Tribune Times*

“King’s best work . . . his novella collection has all the right stuff!”

—*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

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STEPHEN
KING

FOUR PAST
MIDNIGHT

SCRIBNER

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CONTENTS

Epigraph

Straight Up Midnight: An Introductory Note

The Langoliers

One Past Midnight

Chapter One

Chapter Two

Chapter Three

Chapter Four

Chapter Five

Chapter Six

Chapter Seven

Chapter Eight

Chapter Nine

Secret Window, Secret Garden

Two Past Midnight

Epilogue

The Library Policeman

Three Past Midnight

Chapter One

Chapter Two
Chapter Three
Chapter Four
Chapter Five
Chapter Six
Chapter Seven
Chapter Eight
Chapter Nine
Chapter Ten
Chapter Eleven
Chapter Twelve
Chapter Thirteen
Chapter Fourteen
Chapter Fifteen

The Sun Dog

Four Past Midnight
Chapter One
Chapter Two
Chapter Three
Chapter Four
Chapter Five
Chapter Six
Chapter Seven
Chapter Eight
Chapter Nine
Chapter Ten

Chapter Eleven
Chapter Twelve
Chapter Thirteen
Chapter Fourteen
Chapter Fifteen
Chapter Sixteen
Chapter Seventeen
Chapter Eighteen
Chapter Nineteen
Chapter Twenty
Chapter Twenty-One
Chapter Twenty-Two
Chapter Twenty-Three
Chapter Twenty-Four
Epilogue

About the Author

In the desert
I saw a creature, naked, bestial,
Who, squatting upon the ground,
Held his heart in his hands,
And ate of it.

I said, "Is it good, friend?"
"It is bitter—bitter," he answered;
"But I like it
Because it is bitter
And because it is my heart."

—Stephen Crane

I'm gonna kiss you, girl, and hold ya,
I'm gonna do all the things I told ya
In the midnight hour.

—Wilson Pickett