



Famous Writers School Steven Carter

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Paperback Fiction

A witty send-up of aspiring authors on the make - and a hard-boiled mystery involving sex, drugs and tractors

Steven Carter has a genius for letting his characters speak for themselves, and here they do so quite literally. *Famous Writers School* is composed of the letters and stories of three authors who are taking a would-be correspondence course by that grandiose name, and the self-serving “lessons” that Wendell Newton, their endearingly obtuse instructor, doles out in response. Wendell’s oddball collection of students include Rio, an alluring blues singer on whom he quickly develops a crush; Linda Trane, an unhinged housewife who seems to be stalking him; and Dan, a truly talented author of hardboiled detective fiction.

As Dan’s gritty mystery arrives piece by piece, Wendell gets hooked on the story - and decides to dress it up in his own style in order to pass it off as his creation. Gradually the slender threads of connection between each character become apparent, even as Wendell’s imagination careens out of control.

Carter skillfully weaves these narratives into a genre-bending romp that is at once reminiscent of Raymond Carver and Carl Hiaasen.



Steven Carter is an assistant professor of English at Georgetown College in Kentucky, and is the author of *I Was Howard Hughes*. He lives in Georgetown, Kentucky.

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Selected Praise for Steven Carter

on *Famous Writer's School*:

“Carter has a terrific ear for the rumblings of the human ego and an intuitive sense of how fiction is often substituted for truth - and vice versa.”

Publishers Weekly

“A laugh-out-loud celebration of good storytelling and a satire of scribblers who wear their New Yorker rejection letters on their sleeves.”

Library Journal

“A smartly conceived send-up of writerly ambition”

Kirkus

on *I Was Howard Hughes*:

“Darkly comic”

Village Voice

“Madly inventive”

Kirkus