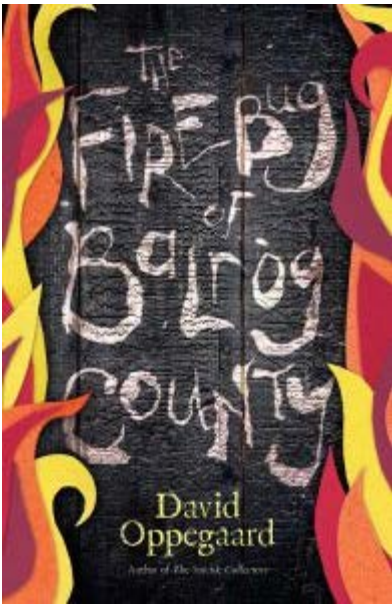
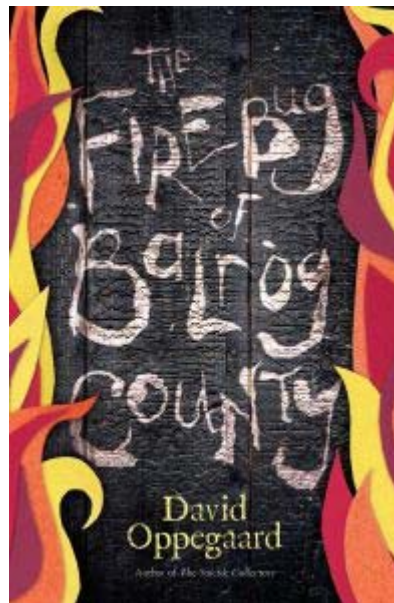




The Firebug of Balrog County is Out Now!



The Firebug of Balrog County is Out Now!



(<http://www.amazon.com/Firebug-Balrog-County-David-Oppegaard/dp/073874543X>) Dark times have fallen on remote Balrog County, and Mack Druneswald,

a high school senior with a love of clandestine arson, is doing his best to deal. While his family is haunted by his mother's recent death, Mack spends his nights roaming the countryside, looking for something new to burn. When he encounters Katrina, a college girl with her own baggage, Mack sets out on a path of pyromania the likes of which sleepy Balrog County has never seen before.

A darkly comic tour-de-force, *The Firebug of Balrog County* is about legend, small towns, and the fire that binds.

The Firebug of Balrog County is a finalist for a [2016 Minnesota Book Award](http://thefriends.org/blog/2016/01/30/28th-annual-minnesota-book-awards-finalists-announced/) (<http://thefriends.org/blog/2016/01/30/28th-annual-minnesota-book-awards-finalists-announced/>)!

Check out the [MPR Feature](http://www.mprnews.org/story/2015/10/01/books-thread-david-oppegaard) (<http://www.mprnews.org/story/2015/10/01/books-thread-david-oppegaard>) on *The Firebug of Balrog County*

Praise for *The Firebug of Balrog County*

"David Oppegaard's *The Firebug of Balrog County* kept me up all night. I liked Mack, the firebug, so much, I wanted to save him myself. I wanted to climb in the story and call the cops."

—Geoff Herbach, author of *Stupid Fast*

"*The Firebug of Balrog County* burns hot and fast, gazing into the heart of a tragic moment and the odd ways in which we confront it. Mack is a marvelous narrator, full of humor and self-awareness and insight despite his many flaws. He inhabits the weirdly insular world we all did as teenagers, and even if we didn't all turn arsonist, there's plenty to identify with." -San Francisco Book Review

"Oppegaard creates a believable portrayal of the different ways that loss affects a family, with small decisions building into far-reaching consequences...A well-realized setting and Oppegaard's resistance to tidily resolving the story's conflicts both contribute to the novel's solid sense of realism." -Publishers Weekly

"The main character is a wholly likable, though tortured malefactor, and readers will root for the success and escape of the firebug as much as they hope for Mack's family life to improve." -School Library Journal

“Oppegaard’s book is beautifully written and full of honest characters, but probably its finest virtue is giving an authentic and powerful voice to a young man in pain.” -VOYA Magazine

“Drinking, F-bombs, and humor abound, but so does a genuine sense of mourning and growth” -Kirkus Reviews

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David Oppegaard

Author. Crazy Man.

About



(<https://davidoppegaard.files.wordpress.com/2015/01/author-pic.jpg>)

David Oppegaard is the author of the 2016 MN Book Award (<http://thefriends.org/blog/2016/01/30/28th-annual-minnesota-book-awards-finalists-announced/>) finalist *The Firebug of Balrog County* (FLUX), the Bram Stoker-nominated *The Suicide Collectors* (St. Martin's Press), *And the Hills Opened Up* (Burnt Bridge), and *Wormwood, Nevada* (St. Martin's Press).

David grew up in the small town of Lake Crystal, MN, and wrote his first novel at the age of fifteen. David's work is a blend of literary fiction, science fiction, horror, and dark fantasy. He holds an M.F.A. in Writing from Hamline University and a B.A. in English from St. Olaf College. He has worked as an optician, a receptionist, a standardized test scorer, a farm hand, an editorial assistant, a trash picker, a library assistant, a seasonal bookstore employee, and as a child minder on a British cruise ship. He teaches the occasional fiction class at Hamline University (<http://www.hamline.edu/faculty-staff/david-oppegaard/>) and the Loft Literary Center and currently works at the University of Minnesota.

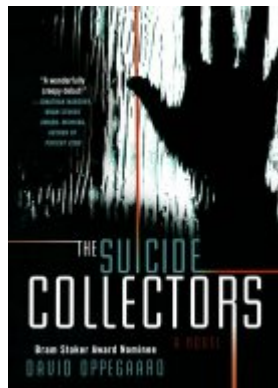
He lives in St. Paul, MN.

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David Oppegaard

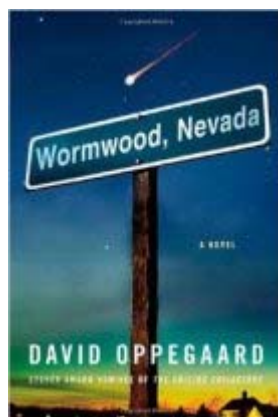
Author. Crazy Man.

Novels

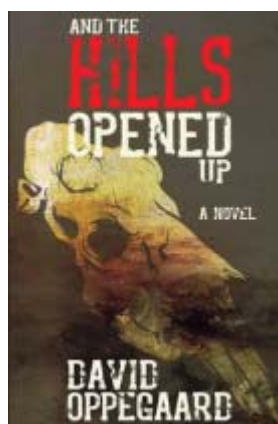


(<http://www.amazon.com/The-Suicide-Collectors-David-Oppegaard/dp/B005Q63CY4>)

The Despair has plagued the earth for five years. Most of the world's population has inexplicably died by its own hand, and the few survivors struggle to remain alive. A mysterious, shadowy group called the Collectors has emerged, inevitably appearing to remove the bodies of the dead. But in the crumbling state of Florida, a man named Norman takes an unprecedented stand against the Collectors, propelling him on a journey across North America. It's rumored a scientist in Seattle is working on a cure for the Despair, but in a world ruled by death, it won't be easy to get there.



(http://www.amazon.com/Wormwood-Nevada-David-Oppegaard/dp/0312381115/ref=asap_bc?ie=UTF8) Tyler and Anna Mayfield have just relocated from Nebraska to the sun scorched desert town of Wormwood, Nevada. They find themselves in a strange new landscape populated with old school cowboys, alien cultists, meth dealers, and doomsday prophets. Loneliness and desperation pervade Wormwood, and when a meteorite lands in the center of town, its fragile existence begins to unravel as many believe the end of the world is near, while others simply seek a reason to believe in anything at all.



(http://www.amazon.com/And-Hills-Opened-David-Oppegaard/dp/0988672715/ref=tmm_pap_title_0) When the Dennison Mining Company tunnels too far, a bloodthirsty creature is set loose upon the isolated mountain town of Red Earth, Wyoming. If a reluctant alliance of outlaws, miners, misfits, and whores cannot stop the Charred Man, everyone in Red Earth will be dead by morning. A blend of old school horror and gritty Western shootout, And the Hills Opened Up is about fighting for life in

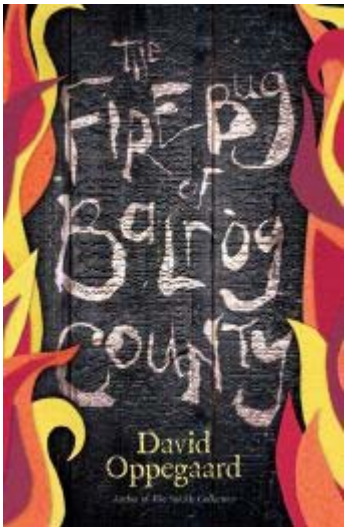
the midst of death.

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David Oppegaard

Author. Crazy Man.

YA Novels



(<http://www.amazon.com/Firebug-Balrog-County-David-Oppegaard/dp/073874543X>)

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(<http://www.amazon.com/Ragged-Mountains-David-Oppegaard-ebook/dp/B00AEH0HRA/>) The Hollow is a peaceful village, a farming backwater among the free cities of the Western Lands, but when a local girl named Penelope Bell is kidnapped from her home in the middle of the night, that peace is shattered. Unwilling to accept the loss of Penelope, a young striker named Gabriel Rain joins Penelope's brother and sister on a quest to bring her home. Their journey takes them across the dangerous Grasslands and as far as the legendary Ragged Mountains themselves, where they find themselves caught between two sides of a bloody war. Along the way, they face dark wizards, ancient gods, and discover that the Ragged Mountains always take as much as they yield. (On Kindle only.)





[\(http://www.amazon.com/Breakneck-Cove-Onyx-Neon-Shorts-ebook/dp/B00N8AR08O/\)](http://www.amazon.com/Breakneck-Cove-Onyx-Neon-Shorts-ebook/dp/B00N8AR08O/) Breakneck Cove is a cozy, beach paradise tucked along the Oregon Coast, idyllic and private, but when a strange creature washes up on shore it triggers a violent chain of events that will change the lives of two boys forever.

A sci-fi novella in the classic tradition of authors such as Ray Bradbury and Walter Tevis, Breakneck Cove dredges the dark waters of youth and the unknown and returns with a new skeleton all its own. (Novella, on Kindle only.)

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