



## Aftershock & Others: 19 Oddities

By F. Paul Wilson

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*Aftershock & Others* is the third collection of short fiction by *New York Times* bestselling author F. Paul Wilson, hailed by the *Rocky Mountain News* as “among the finest storytellers of our times.”

The title novelette won the Bram Stoker Award and its companions touch on the past, present, and future—from the inflationary insanity of Weimar Germany (“Aryans and Absinthe”) to disco club-era Manhattan (“When He Was Fab”), to the rationing of medical services in a grim near future (“Offshore”). Wilson’s stylistic diversity and versatility are on display in stories that pay tribute to Ray Bradbury (“The November Game”), use a sentient killer virus as a point-of-view character (“Lysing toward Bethlehem”), and pay unabashed homage to pure pulp fiction in two yellow peril stories (“Sex Slaves of the Dragon Tong” and “Part of the Game”). And finally, Wilson treats us to his popular antihero Repairman Jack at his most inventive: trapped in a drugstore with four killers (“Interlude at Duane’s”).

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## **Aftershock & Others: 19 Oddities** By F. Paul Wilson Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Bestseller Wilson (*By the Sword*) displays an expert grasp of storytelling mechanics and an impressive breadth of themes and approaches in what he says in an afterword is his last collection. The title tale is a moving meditation on love and loss, built on the unlikely premise of lightning-strike survivors seeing the spirits of their dear departed at their near-death moment of electrocution. *Dreams* riffs on the Frankenstein theme with its speculation on how the monster might act were its brain to have retained aspects of its predeath personality. In *Interlude at Duane's*, urban mercenary hero Repairman Jack must foil a four-man holdup with found weapons fashioned from consumer goods on the shelves of the drugstore where it takes place. In all these efforts, Wilson establishes characters with a few deft strokes, quickly sets up a tricky plot, and then masterfully maneuvers the reader to a well-orchestrated (and sometimes surprising) ending. Fans will hope they haven't seen the last of Wilson's short fiction. (Mar.)

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Review

Praise for F. Paul Wilson:

"F. Paul Wilson is a great storyteller and a thoughtful one. He speculates about real science to generate real suspense while raising troubling, real issues we may all be dealing with much sooner than we expect."

--David Morrell, author of *First Blood*

"F. Paul Wilson is a writer's writer, and I grab anything he's written with enthusiasm."

--Joe R. Lansdale, author of *Freezer Burn*

"Like the best of Dean Koontz's work, Wilson's work combines an action-adventure yarn with a touch of the fantastic."

--*The Denver Post*

From the Inside Flap

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