

Pay Phone



Brandon Ford

Pay Phone Digital Press Kit

Synopsis

January 1998.

While a fierce winter falls upon the streets of New York City, a vicious killer is on the hunt for new blood. From his third floor apartment window, he watches, waits, using the pay phone across the street as the key to finding his victims. With his voice and his charms, he lures them to his door...

...and one by one they meet their fate.

On a gray morning, he spies someone new. Someone different. Someone who reminds him of someone he knows. Someone very, very special. And he'll stop at nothing to be sure that special someone... is next.

What ever you do, don't answer the phone. It just might be for you.

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Category: Fiction

Genre: Horror/Dark Suspense

Primary readers: Adults and Teens (14 and older)

Excerpt

“Maybe I should go.” She motioned to stand.

This shocked him back into reality. He reached for her forearm and held on tight as she motioned to grab her coat. “No. Stay.”

“You’re hurting my arm.”

He let go. Smiled. “I’m sorry... I’m... sorry.” He spoke low, soft, lucid.

She smiled. Sat back down. “I don’t know what I’m doing here,” she said. “I must be crazy.” She closed her eyes, thought for a second, then opened them.

“Yeah,” she said. “Call me crazy. But I like you, Jake.” She leaned over and reached for the glass.

His grip on the knife tightened and he pulled it forth, raising it high. “I like you, too.”

The blade plunged into her soft flesh, tearing through her spine. She gasped and fell forward, the glass landing beside her and shattering against the wooden floorboards. He stood and started toward her as she bled profusely, a river of red spilling from the gaping wound. Lying facedown, she choked and gurgled on her own blood, coughing up one mouthful after another.

“Look at this,” he said. “Look at the mess you’re making, Elizabeth...”

He reached down, gripping the knife by the handle again. Twisting, he pushed hard, sending the blade deeper inside. She moaned and gasped for what would be her last breath.

When she stopped moving, stopped panting, stopped breathing, he pulled the knife out of her. It took quite the hefty tug, but came free in his hand in seconds. He placed the dripping blade beside her. As he knelt down, his legs covered in warm, fresh red, he rolled her over onto her back. Gazing down upon her frozen features, he found no beauty there, but felt beyond aroused. It was as though a switch had been turned on inside of him and he felt alive again. Alive for the first time in God only knew how long. Elizabeth had been the first in weeks, months. He could find no one as anxious as she to succumb to his playful, flirtatious advances. He’d spent many restless nights dreaming of tasting fear. Fantasized of inflicting pain, of wreaking havoc on another living soul. This was who he was, this was what he did. He liked it... a lot.

Lifting the shirt over her head, her bare breasts exposed, he ran his hand along her flesh. Back to her eyes again. He leaned in close. “You never should’ve answered that phone, Elizabeth,” he said. “But I’m glad you did.”

Brandon Ford Biography



Brandon Ford has written two other novels for Arctic Wolf Publishing: **Crystal Bay** and **Splattered Beauty**. He has also contributed to several anthologies, including **Abaculus 2007**, **Abaculus III**, **Sinister Landscapes**, **Raw: Brutality as Art**, **The Death Panel**, and **Creeping Shadows**, a collection of three short novels. He currently resides in Philadelphia.

Visit Brandon on the web at the following links:

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Praise for Brandon Ford's CRYSTAL BAY

“[Brandon Ford] has created a well crafted story that hails back to the old horror/thrillers of the late seventies. [...] I can't wait to see what he does next.”—Garry Charles, author of *Hammerhead*

“Brandon Ford is the new Prince of Horror, soon to be King.”—Ryan Nicholson, writer/director of *Gutterballs*

“Brandon Ford paints a vivid picture... This book is superb. I'm proud to own a copy.”—Jim Dodge, Jr., Mass Movement

“*Crystal Bay* is a page-turner that reels you in and keeps you reading to the end.”—Front Street Reviews

“Ford shows a knack for setting suspense... He's a promising new talent...”—Kevin Lucia, Book Blurbs

“...suspenseful and intriguing...”—Mary Menzel, Book Hunters Blog

Praise for Brandon Ford's **SPLATTERED BEAUTY**

“Solid characterization and a plot that moves, flows, and keeps you reading. I love the way Brandon Ford writes...”—Nicholas Grabowsky, author of *The Everborn*

“Fans of B-movies, scream queens, and twisted carnage will not be disappointed!”—Tim Ritter, writer/director of *Killing Spree*

“Ford succeeds in encapsulating B-movieness. *Splattered Beauty* is highly visual and slightly addictive...”—Blood of the Muse

“Absolutely delicious! [...] This affectionately lurid homage to scream queens drags the reader along on one hell of a bumpy ride.”—Robert Dunbar, author of *The Pines*

“*Splattered Beauty* resurrects the Scream Queen genre with a vengeance and the bloody mayhem that ensues leaves the reader begging for mercy.”—Ryan Nicholson, writer/director of *Gutterballs*