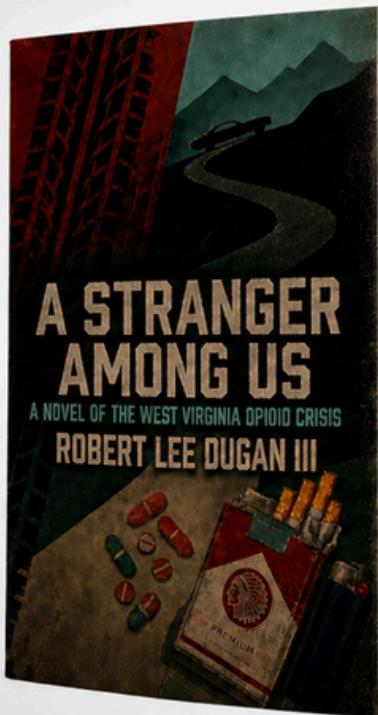


ROOTED IN THE LAND.  
FOUND IN THE HEART.



## ROBERT LEE DUGAN III

AUTHOR PRESS KIT



### STORIES OF APPALACHIA

Robert Lee Dugan III writes fiction centered on the landscapes, traditions, and complexities of Appalachian life, blending literary realism with Gothic atmosphere and regional folklore.

# WHY THESE STORIES MATTER

*Robert writes at the intersection of place, faith, and consequence.*



## **APPALACHIAN STORIES ARE RESONATING**

*Renewed national interest in Appalachian voices that are authentic, diverse, and unflinching.*



## **HONEST REPRESENTATION OF RURAL AMERICA**

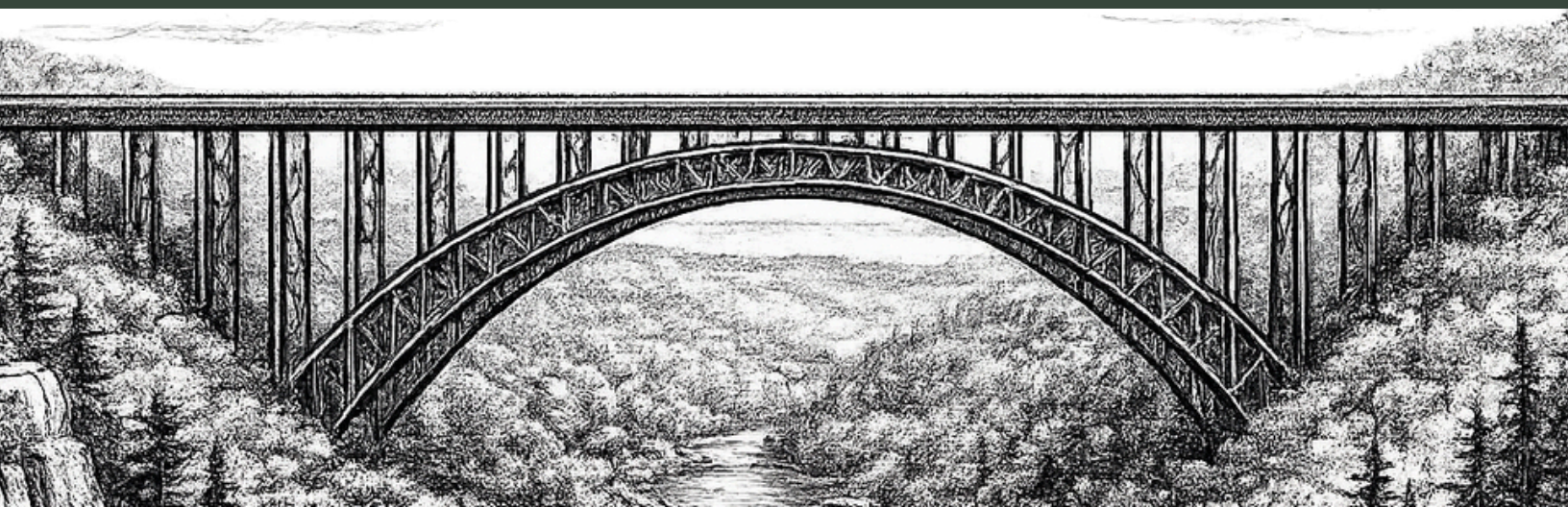
*These novels explore the beauty, brutality, humor, and heartbreak of real communities.*



## **READERS CRAVE CHARACTER-DRIVEN FICTION**

*Emotionally rich, morally complicated stories set in unforgettable places.*

*Robert Lee Dugan*



# WITH SIGNS FOLLOWING

A NOVELLA

**Connor McDermott is stuck.**

Trapped in a small town, buried under grief and dead-end work,  
he drifts through life angry at everyone.

**Then Connor walks into a tent revival on the edge of town.**

The church promises healing, prophecy, and the biblical signs of true faith.  
Led by the charismatic preacher William Gregory, the congregation offers Connor something  
he hasn't felt in years: **purpose.**

But something dark moves beneath the revival tent. Whispers rise from the snake box.  
Prophecies come true. As Connor is pulled deeper into a world of miracles and fanaticism,  
**he realizes faith can be just as dangerous as doubt.**

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*With Signs Following is an Appalachian Gothic story of grief, belief, and  
the terrifying things people will surrender to in search of salvation.*

Robert Lee Dugan



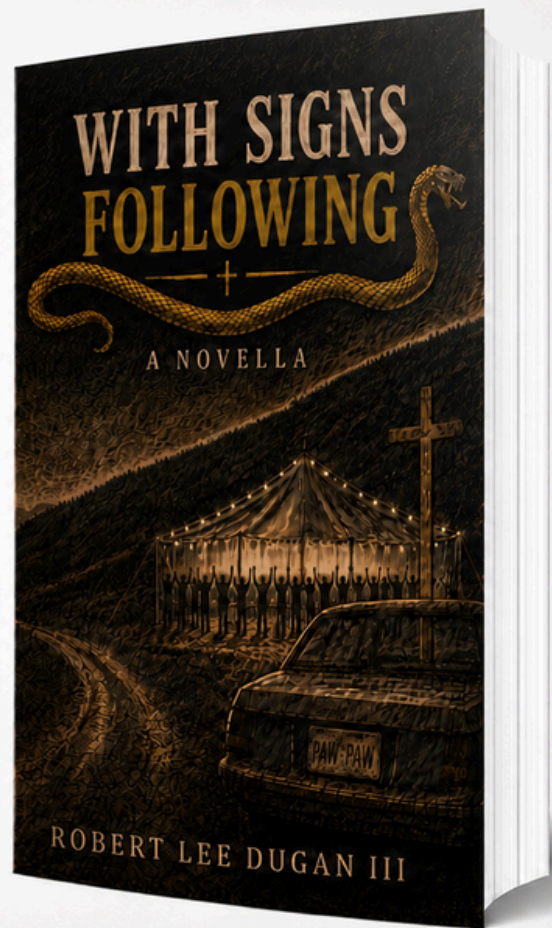
## Releasing Summer 2026

*Early readers have praised  
With Signs Following  
for its authentic Appalachian voice,  
immersive setting, and  
psychologically tense narrative  
rooted in regional folklore.*



APPALACHIAN GOTHIC • LITERARY HORROR

FOLK HORROR • REGIONAL FICTION



## IN CONVERSATION WITH

*Works exploring faith, violence, folklore, and moral decay  
within isolated communities.*

**TAYLOR BROWN**

*Gods of Howl Mountain*

**DONALD RAY POLLOCK**

*The Devil All the Time*

**RON RASH**

*Serena*

*Robert Lee Dugan*

# A STRANGER AMONG US

A NOVEL OF THE WEST VIRGINIA OPIOID CRISIS

**Though they come from very different backgrounds, Mike and Daniel bond over video games, fast cars, and reckless adventure in a fading Appalachian town.**

What begins as a childhood friendship soon pulls them into a world of drag races, bonfires, river parties, and dangerous choices.

Everything changes when Daniel's father dies and leaves behind an inheritance along with a complicated legacy.

As addiction and economic hardship tighten their grip on the people around them, **Mike and Daniel struggle to outrun the futures they fear may already be waiting for them.**

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*Set against the backdrop of the opioid epidemic in rural Appalachia, **A Stranger Among Us** is a gritty and emotionally charged coming-of-age novel about friendship, masculinity, and survival. Honest, haunting, and deeply human, it captures the quiet tragedies that shape forgotten communities and the difficult choices that define who we become.*

Robert Lee Dugan



*“This is one hell of a ride.”*

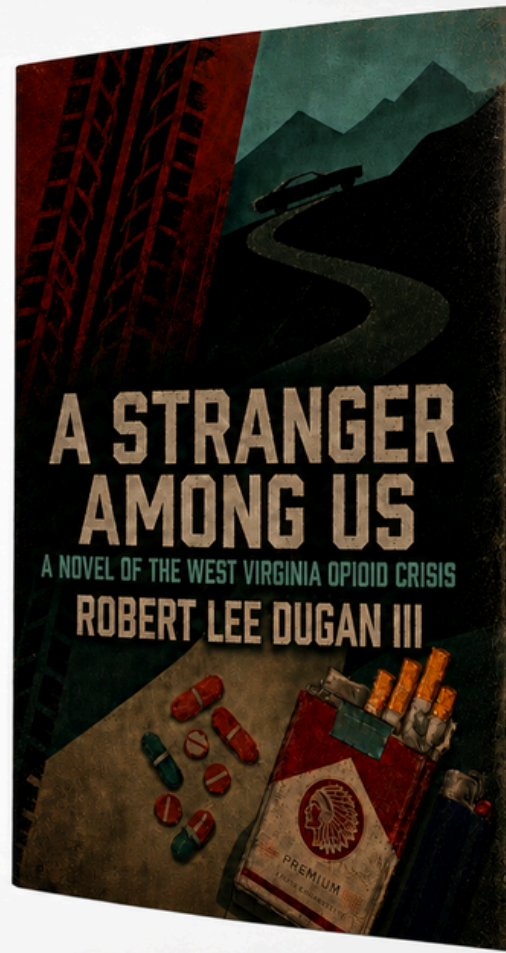
— Reader Review

*A Stranger Among Us*  
has resonated with readers for  
its emotional intensity,  
Appalachian setting, and  
unflinching portrayal of addiction in  
Appalachian communities.



COMING-OF-AGE • REGIONAL FICTION

APPALACHIAN FICTION • LITERARY FICTION



## IN CONVERSATION WITH

*Works exploring Appalachian identity, addiction, rural hardship, adolescence, and emotionally grounded storytelling.*

**BARBARA KINGSOLVER**

*Demon Copperhead*

**CARTER SICKELS**

*The Prettiest Star*

**SILAS HOUSE**

*Clay's Quilt*

*Robert Lee Dugan*

# DISCUSSION TOPICS



- **The opioid epidemic and its generational impact in Appalachia**
- **Masculinity, friendship, and moral choice**
- **The tension between faith, doubt, and manipulation**
- **Revival culture, prophecy, and extremism**
- **Authenticity and stereotype in Appalachian storytelling**
- **Healing, harm, and morality in close-knit communities**
- **Folklore, superstition, and spiritual warfare in Appalachia**
- **The struggle between resignation and hope**

*Robert Lee Dugan*



# AVAILABLE FOR

*Robert is available for interviews, events, and collaborations that explore stories rooted in place, faith, and consequence*



## **PODCAST INTERVIEWS**

*Discussions on writing, Appalachia, faith, addiction, and rural America.*



## **REGIONAL MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

*Print, radio, TV, and online features highlighting books and Appalachian life.*



## **APPALACHIAN CULTURE PANELS**

*Conversations on identity, tradition, belief systems, and the modern Appalachian story.*



## **UNIVERSITY & EDUCATOR ENGAGEMENT**

*Classroom visits, lectures, and discussions on writing, ethics, and Appalachia.*



## **LITERARY FESTIVALS**

*Panels, readings, and conversations on storytelling and regional literature.*



## **GUEST ESSAYS & OPINION PIECES**

*Writing on rural America, education, faith, and the complexity of place.*



## **BOOK CLUB DISCUSSIONS**

*Author talks and virtual or in-person book club appearances.*



## **HORROR & THRILLER CONVERSATIONS**

*Exploring Appalachian Gothic, folklore, and dark fiction.*

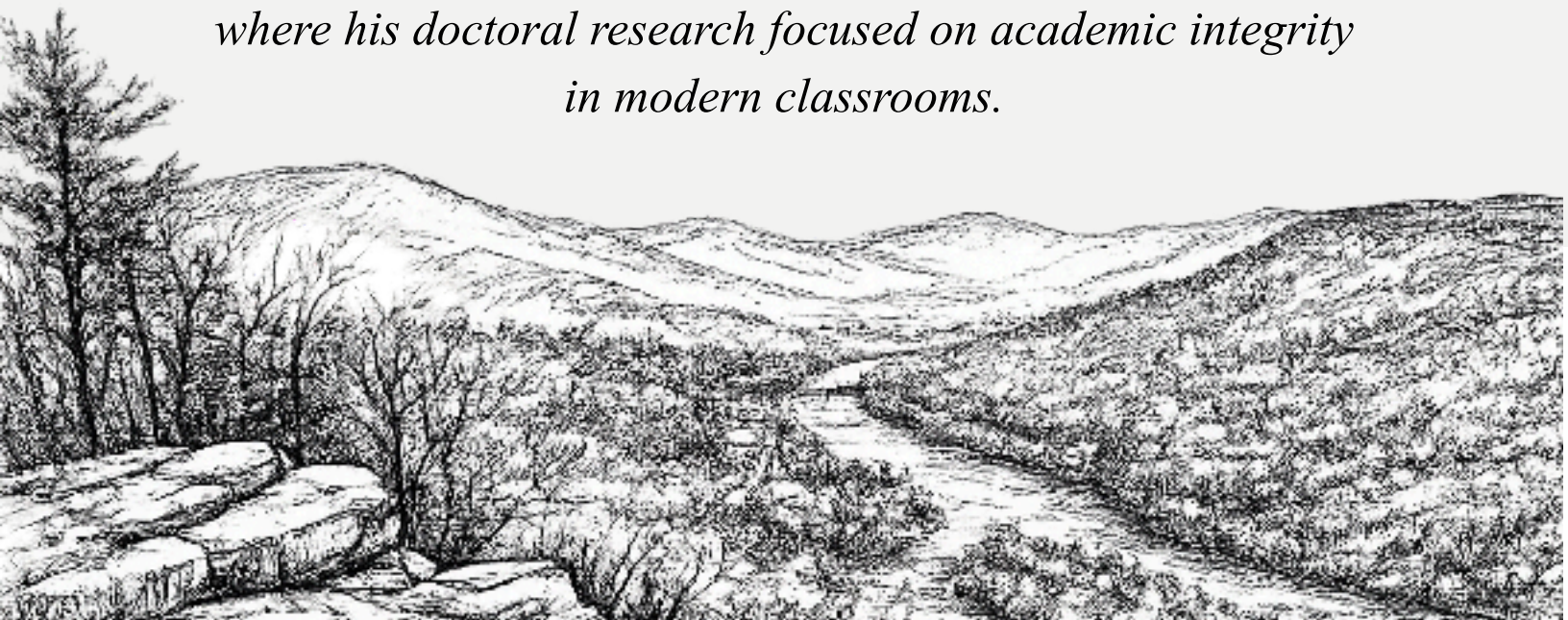
*Let's start a conversation.*

*Robert Lee Dugan*



*Robert Lee Dugan*

*Robert Lee Dugan III is a writer of fiction centered on Appalachia, identity, and moral ambiguity. He is a native of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. He holds graduate degrees from Shepherd University and Shenandoah University, where his doctoral research focused on academic integrity in modern classrooms.*



# CONTACT INFORMATION



*For media inquiries, interviews, and collaboration proposals, please reach out to:*

***rdugan02@gmail.com***



EMAIL



FACEBOOK

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*Review copies and interview opportunities welcomed.*

*Press photos and additional media materials available upon request.*

*Robert Lee Dugan*

ROBERTLEEDUGAN.COM