



Shelter: A Novel

By Jung Yun

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"*Shelter* is domestic drama at its best, a gripping narrative of secrets and revelations that seized me from beginning to end."—Viet Thanh Nguyen, Pulitzer Prize-Winning author of *The Sympathizer*

One of *The Millions*' Most Anticipated Books of the Year (Selected by Edan Lepucki)

**Now *BuzzFeed*'s #1 Most Buzzed About Book of 2016 So Far
Longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize**

Kyung Cho is a young father burdened by a house he can't afford. For years, he and his wife, Gillian, have lived beyond their means. Now their debts and bad decisions are catching up with them, and Kyung is anxious for his family's future.

A few miles away, his parents, Jin and Mae, live in the town's most exclusive neighborhood, surrounded by the material comforts that Kyung desires for his wife and son. Growing up, they gave him every possible advantage—private tutors, expensive hobbies—but they never showed him kindness. Kyung can hardly bear to see them now, much less ask for their help. Yet when an act of violence leaves Jin and Mae unable to live on their own, the dynamic suddenly changes, and he's compelled to take them in. For the first time in years, the Chos find themselves living under the same roof. Tensions quickly mount as Kyung's proximity to his parents forces old feelings of guilt and anger to the surface, along with a terrible and persistent question: how can he ever be a good husband, father, and son when he never knew affection as a child?

As *Shelter* veers swiftly toward its startling conclusion, Jung Yun leads us through dark and violent territory, where, unexpectedly, the Chos discover hope. *Shelter* is a masterfully crafted debut novel that asks what it means to provide for one's family and, in answer, delivers a story as riveting as it is profound.

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Editorial Review

Review

Poignant, spellbinding, and profound, "Shelter" will keep you up until the wee hours. In her brilliant debut novel, Yun skillfully untangles this snarled web of family lies, tragedy, identity, and loss. Redemption is hard-earned, and kindness comes in rare and unexpected places, but hope shimmers just beneath the surface. This is a book of heartbreaking genius. Mira Bartok, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award and bestselling author of "The Memory Palace"

Jung Yun's "Shelter" is an urgent novel, a book so alive, contemporary, and, above all, honest, that it could only exist right now. James Scott, bestselling author of "The Kept"

Magnetic, searing, insightful, "Shelter" is a mic-drop of a debut: a story of post-financial crisis America that establishes Jung Yun as a necessary new voice in American fiction. Alexander Chee, author of "The Queen of the Night"

Like Celeste Ng's super-lauded best seller, "Everything You Never Told Me," also about a dysfunctional mixed-race family's tragedy, ["Shelter"] should find itself on best-of lists, among major award nominations, and in eager readers' hands everywhere." "Library Journal" (starred review)

"Shelter" maintains its narrative momentum right to the end...[A] valiant portrayal of contemporary American life." "Kirkus Reviews"

"Skilled [and] deeply disconcerting...A work of relentless psychological sleuthing and sensitive insight." "Booklist"

If you want high stakes and suspense, you've found your book (I mean, just look at that cover). Jung Yun writes about family and identity and the tight bond between them especially when circumstances change in startling ways "Shelter" will get your heart beating for sure. "Bustle," Most Anticipated Books of the Year

In her intense debut, Yun explores the powerful legacy of familial violence and the difficulty of finding the strength and grace to forgive... This family drama [is] rife with tension and unexpected ironies. "Publishers Weekly"

[A] harrowing hybrid of wrenching domestic drama and nail-biting crime procedural "Ordinary People" meets "In Cold Blood." "Passport"

[A] fearless and thrilling debut. "Town & Country"

Yun keeps the suspense and family drama racing neck and neck... Shelter is a suspenseful, illuminating first novel. Jane Ciabattari, BBC.com (Nine Books to Read This Month)

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"This troubling, moving work from Yun explores what it means to be part of a family, even if it's nothing

close to the one you might choose for yourself." "DuJour, " What to Read This Month

Poignant, spellbinding, and profound, "Shelter" will keep you up until the wee hours. In her brilliant debut novel, Yun skillfully untangles this snarled web of family lies, tragedy, identity, and loss. Redemption is hard-earned, and kindness comes in rare and unexpected places, but hope shimmers just beneath the surface. This is a book of heartbreaking genius. Mira Bartok, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award and bestselling author of "The Memory Palace"

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With each page, Yun takes us deeper into Kyung s troubles As the crime drama unfolds in the background, Yun expertly explores what it means to be an immigrant in America, the true value of tradition, the parent-child bond, what makes a good marriage, and the need for forgiveness Yun introduces us to a man riddled with anger and self-doubt, leaving the reader to judge whether time can truly mend what s broken. "BookPage"

In her intense debut, Yun explores the powerful legacy of familial violence and the difficulty of finding the strength and grace to forgive... This family drama [is] rife with tension and unexpected ironies. "Publishers Weekly"

"" ["Shelter"] builds suspense with maturity and assurance Yun's powerful debut novel leaves a memorable wake. "Shelf Awareness""

"Gripping...["Shelter"] keeps excess at bay. Yun shows how, although shelter doesn t guarantee safety and blood doesn t guarantee love, there s something inextricable about the relationship between a child and a parent "Shelter" is captivating. "The New York Times Book Review"

"Jung Yun dazzles in her haunting debut." "US Weekly "

[A] harrowing hybrid of wrenching domestic drama and nail-biting crime procedural "Ordinary People" meets "In Cold Blood." "Passport"

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Yun keeps the suspense and family drama racing neck and neck... Shelter is a suspenseful, illuminating first

novel. Jane Ciabattari, BBC.com (Nine Books to Read This Month)

"The combination of grisly James Patterson thriller and melancholic suburban drama shouldn't work at all. Yet Ms. Yun pulls it off...The proximity of Kyung's parents and the atmosphere of grief and panic launch him on a spiral of self-destruction that's impossible to turn away from." Sam Sacks, "The Wall Street Journal"

"What follows is the unfolding of a horrific and complicated crime not to mention a horrific and complicated hidden family history." "Marie Claire"

If you want high stakes and suspense, you've found your book (I mean, just look at that cover). Jung Yun writes about family and identity and the tight bond between them especially when circumstances change in startling ways "Shelter" will get your heart beating for sure. "Bustle, " Most Anticipated Books of the Year

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About the Author

JUNG YUN was born in South Korea, grew up in North Dakota, and educated at Vassar College, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Her work has appeared in "Tin House" (the "Emerging Voices" issue); "The Best of Tin House: Stories, " edited by Dorothy Allison; and "The Massachusetts Review;" and she is a recipient of an honorable mention for the Pushcart Prize and an Artist's Fellowship in fiction from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. She lives in Western Massachusetts with her husband. "Shelter "is her first novel.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lisa Shumaker:

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Mary Summers:

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Neil McNatt:

With this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability to do something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you must do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to get a look at some books. One of the books in the top record in your reading list is actually Shelter: A Novel. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking up and review this publication you can get many advantages.

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