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BRIAN J. SHOWERS is originally from Madison, Wisconsin. He has written short stories, articles, and reviews for magazines such as *Rue Morgue*, *Ghosts & Scholars*, and *Supernatural Tales*. His short story collection, *The Bleeding Horse*, won the Children of the Night Award. He is also the author of *Literary Walking Tours of Gothic Dublin*, the co-editor of *Reflections in a Glass Darkly: Essays on J. Sheridan Le Fanu*, and the editor of *The Green Book*. Showers also edited the first two volumes of *Uncertainties*, and co-edited with Jim Rockhill the Ghost Story Award-winning anthology *Dreams of Shadow and Smoke*. He lives in Dublin, Ireland.

UNCERTAINTIES V

edited by Brian J. Showers

“Surely all this is not without meaning.” – Herman Melville

“Ghost stories,” as Elizabeth Bowen observed, “are not easy to write—least easy now, for they involve more than they did.” But these twelve writers take up the challenge, each in their own way, with expert awareness of the genre’s limitless possibilities.

Uncertainties is an anthology series—featuring authors from Canada, America, the United Kingdom, and the island of Ireland—each exploring the concept of increasingly fragmented senses of reality. These types of short stories were termed “strange tales” by Robert Aickman, called “tales of the unexpected” by Roald Dahl, and known to Shakespeare’s ill-fated Prince Mamillius as “winter’s tales”. But these are no mere ghost stories. These tales of the uncanny grapple with existential epiphanies of the modern day, when otherwise familiar landscapes become sinister and something decidedly less than certain . . .

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PRAISE FOR *UNCERTAINTIES 5*

“Challenging and uncanny, these are exactly the kinds of stories we need to survive in a world that keeps getting stranger.”

– *Irish Times*