

# SWAN RIVER PRESS



Pub. Date: August 2015

Cover Art: Polly Rose Morris

Retail Price: €20.00

ISBN: 978-1-78380-749-9 (pbk)

ix + 130 pages, 129mm x 198mm



**JOEL LANE** (1963-2013) was born in Exeter, but lived most of his life in Birmingham, where many of his stories are set. In addition to two novels, *From Blue to Black* (2000) and *The Blue Mask* (2003), Lane was the author of numerous collections, including the British Fantasy Award-winning *The Earth Wire* (1994), *The Lost District* (2006), and *The Terrible Changes* (2009). *Where Furnaces Burn* won the World Fantasy Award for best collection in 2013.

## THE ANNIVERSARY OF NEVER

Joel Lane

*"It was like a black and white film, or someone else's memory."*

Joel Lane's award-winning stories have been widely praised, notably by other masters of weird fiction such as M. John Harrison, Graham Joyce, and Ramsey Campbell. His tales also regularly appeared in the "best of" annual anthologies of Ellen Datlow, Karl Edward Wagner, and Stephen Jones. With this posthumous collection, Lane continues his unflinching exploration of the human condition. "*The Anniversary of Never* is a group of tales concerned with the theme of the afterlife," observed Lane, "and the idea that we may enter the afterlife before death, or find parts of it in our world." These stories of love and death will burrow deep into the reader's mind and impregnate it with a vision often as bleak as the night is black.

### CONTENTS

"Introduction" – *Nicholas Royle*

"Sight Unseen"

"Crow's Nest"

"All the Shadows"

"Midnight Flight"

"Ashes in the Water"

"For Their Own Ends"

"Bitter Angel"

"After the Fire"

"The Anniversary of Never"

"The Messenger"

"For Crying Out Loud"

"All Dead Years"

"Some of the Fell"

### REVIEWS

*"Melancholy and bleak, the weird, often dark stories in this slim, beautiful volume are a fitting coda to Lane's life and work."*

– Ellen Datlow

*"A liminal collection whose ghost like state almost mimics that of much of the material contained within its pages."*

– Black Static

*"Rich and varied forms of darkness illuminated by the author's wit and intelligence."*

– Supernatural Tales

Brian J. Showers ■ [brian@swanriverpress.ie](mailto:brian@swanriverpress.ie)

[www.swanriverpress.ie](http://www.swanriverpress.ie)