



## Kiss Me or Die

*Scott Nicholson*

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Richard's life is a horror story. And it's all the fault of those people inside his head.

Richard thinks he has them stereotyped for his autobiography, but he's about to get a new tenant: the Insider, a malevolent soul-hopping spirit that may or may not be born from Richard's nightmares and demands a co-writing credit and a little bit of foot-kissing dark worship.

Now Richard doesn't know which voice to trust. The book's been rejected 117 times. The people he loves keep turning up dead. And here comes the woman of his dreams.

## **Kiss Me or Die Details**

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Author : Scott Nicholson

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## From Reader Review Kiss Me or Die for online ebook

### Natalie says

As others have noted, the beginning was great. I got pulled into the tragic story of this abused child who develops multiple personalities to help him get through tough times. When he reaches adulthood, however, the book loses all momentum and just drags on. You can't tell who is speaking, or if they're speaking out loud or just to each other inside his head. I get that Loverboy was supposed to be a sex-obsessed jerk, but it just came off as trying too hard. You'd think that once the Insider, an ancient evil entity, joins the crew, that things would pick up again, but sadly, it does not. There was also too much meta-writing that interrupted any flow I managed to find.

It took me a long time to finish this, and I only read to the end because of my weird guilt about not finishing books I've started. I'm going to have to work on that so I don't waste time on stuff like this when my To Read list is overflowing with potentially amazing books. I will say that I actually liked the writing itself and will read other books by this author. I just really could not get back into this story.

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### Christa says

Scott Nicholson and Richard Coldiron are "co-authors" of Richard Coldiron's autobiography "As I Die Lying." Richard Coldiron is a victim of a troubled childhood, of cruel beatings, probable incest, alcoholic parents, a wrecked home-life, and very little love. No wonder his mind (the Bone House) is somewhat twisted and has to do all kinds of tricks so its owner can survive. And Richard is a survivor. As a child, he has an invisible friend who lessens his pain by whisking him away and taking the punishment in his stead. Later in life though, four slightly more problematic "friends" or voices in his head take control: Little Hitler, Loverboy, Mister Milktoast (what a name), and Bookworm, who sometimes get him out of difficult situations, take the blame for murder and mayhem, but also create the most dangerous and destructive situations. And, on top of it, we have the Insider, that creepy, selfish fellow, the devilish monster, evil incarnate, who manipulates the story of Richard's life to his own advantage.

The book is a literary treasure, creepy and cruel, witty, sarcastic, full of dark humor and with an undercurrent of sadness, but, most of all, enormously entertaining with great dialogue. It is a fascinating study of human psychology, of the conflicting voices and emotions in all of us, the darkness that lurks in the back of our minds and, if left unrecognized, threatens to overpower what's good in us. And last, but most importantly, it is a story of redemption and love. I heard rumors that Sigmund Freud turned around in his grave, pounding the coffin walls with his fists (or what was left of them), condemning the book. The real reason, however, was he was extremely upset that he didn't write it himself.

I would give this so-called "worst novel ever written" six stars but only five are available, so five it is.

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### Nadyne says

First sentence: "Begin at the beginning."

P. 99: "Do you miss him?", I was afraid to ask, afraid not to ask."

Last sentence: "I'm going to sleep."

Synopsis (GoodReads):

Richard Coldiron's unauthorized autobiography follows his metafictional journey through a troubled childhood, where he meets his invisible friend, his other invisible friend...and then some who aren't so friendly.

There's Mister Milktoast, the protective punster; Little Hitler, who leers from the shadows; Loverboy, the lusty bastard; and Bookworm, who is thoughtful, introspective, and determined to solve the riddle of Richard's disintegration into either madness or genius, and of course only makes things worse. They reside in the various rooms of his skull, a place known as the Bone House, and take turns rearranging the furniture. As Richard works on his autobiography, his minor characters struggle with their various redemptive arcs.

Richard keeps his cool despite the voices in his head, but he's about to get a new tenant: the Insider, a malevolent soul-hopping spirit that may or may not be born from Richard's nightmares and demands a co-writing credit and a little bit of foot-kissing dark worship.

Now Richard doesn't know which voice to trust. The book's been rejected 117 times. The people he loves keep turning up dead. And here comes the woman of his dreams.

Since I follow all kinds of great bookblogs, I have discovered books, or genres, I wouldn't normally read. And this book is one of these. And yet it was a fascinating read. Richard Caldiron tries to cope with life, as we all do, but his life isn't easy to cope with. It starts with a father who beats him and his mother, the latter not able to protect her son, or herself. To deal with that he creates an imaginary friend, who 'takes over' his body when he is being beaten and who comforts him when he is alone and afraid. But then there suddenly is another friend, who lets him do things that he wouldn't normally do, or would he? Richard can't be sure of this, and so he runs...

It was fascinating to be inside a person's head and to see the struggle and uncertainty that was going on there. The tension was building throughout the story, but was relieved now and again by references made to the fact that this was a book, a manuscript, a story, where exciting things had to happen, because otherwise it would be a boring book.

All in all, a great read!

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### **Rebecca Barton says**

What a strange book. At first, well the first 35% of the book I enjoyed. Getting to know Richard and his alter egos but after that point it kind of droned on and on and he spent so much time talking about mundane things it just got overly dull to me.

However, there's some interesting plot twists at the end that bring it back together, granted the final 5 pages

are a boring read but it does fit with the rest of the book.

I would definitely not recommend this book to anyone that isn't interested in MPD type books as it is hard to follow at times depending on who's talking.

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### **Matt Schiariti says**

This book is hard to put into a category..is it a mystery? Horror? Psychological thriller? It's a little of all of those things..and more...

Richard Coldiron is a man born of a bad childhood...An alcoholic and abusive father, a mother who's also battered but would rather that than be alone...the only way to cope is to make up an imaginary friend. Not unusual for a kid to do that, especially one that has that type of trauma to deal with...even those with 'normal' childhoods have had imaginary friends...it's when the imaginary friend that turns into a companion in your teen and adult years that it becomes a problem...then when you start adding more imaginary friends to deal with each and every situation you have in life...well, that's a problem on top of a problem..

Richard has the Bone House..the place he retreats to when something comes up he doesn't want to or can't deal with. The Bone House is also the home for his multiple friends...his head's a pretty crowded place.

I won't give up too much of the plot. I will say that this is a weird book. That's the best way I can think to describe it. This book is told in the first person through Richard's point of view. It is his 'autobiography' after all. 'The worst ever written..rejected 117 times'. That in itself makes it interesting. Seeing the protagonist struggle through daily life as he's trying to tell his story and have it published.

Is Richard a serial killer? Is he crazy? Is this all just 'revisionist' history? A great many questions are raised during the telling and frankly not a whole lot of them are answered. This isn't a book that will give you solid answers. But that's ok. It's written so well and at times it's just laugh out funny. Some of Richard's 'friends' are pretty hysterical.

Filled with dark themes, witty dialogue, puns galore that should at the very least get a chuckle out of you, this was a very entertaining book.

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### **A. says**

It was a really weird read. Sure, it offered a unique perspective and an interesting POV, but I kept being kicked out of the story by the surrealistic take on plot. It took me a long time to get through that book and it's going to take even longer before I read something from this author.

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### **Deanna says**

The novel started out well and then went downhill. After the first half, the plot became more and more confusing as the main character plunged into madness. The number of multiple personalities kept growing and the story became more convoluted. Wouldn't recommend this one.

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### **Angel \*\*Book Junkie\*\* says**

I wanted to like this book but it fell short for me. I was never really hooked after the first chapter and found myself really bored with this read. I finished it because I hate to leave something unfinished but I did not like it.

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### **Janean says**

Ok, first ignore the cover. I have no clue what it means. Thankfully I read it on a kindle because had I seen this on a bookshelf, I never would have picked it up and brought it to the register.

Next, ignore that it took me a month to read it. I'm getting used to the Kindle, my new eyes, and I stand by my toddler as an excuse.

This book was fantastic. The "author" Richard Coldiron narrates his horrible past and even worse present alongside the "voices" in his head. Be warned: this novel is not for the faint of heart. There were many episodes that were incredibly difficult to read, but thankfully Nicholson handles it all with a dry wit and off the cuff attitude that does seem soften even the worse scenes.

I really enjoyed Nicholson's writing. The voices were so unique that you really feel like you are reading a novel by 6 different narrators.

Really this "fantasy" novel is about finding the strength in yourself to defeat your past, however horrible it is, finding redemption in love, and ultimately good overcoming evil. Highly recommend it and I will definitely be picking up more Nicholson. And maybe even rereading this one as my husband and I have very different interpretations on how this ended...and I love when a book does that.

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### **Shannon says**

I didn't even finish this book. That speaks volumes; I can't stand "unfinished business". I just couldn't waste any more of my life on this crap. The beginning of the book was great! To read of this man's horrible upbringing - i.e., cruel beatings at the hands, or feet, of his alcoholic father; the indifference of his mother; his eventual experience with love that ended tragically; was truly gripping and heart wrenching. But once we get to the "confessions" of killings it gets too bizarre and unbelievable. It becomes harder to keep track of the characters and what is happening. I wouldn't recommend this book to anyone.

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### **Melissa says**

This book totally freaked me out. I tried very hard to keep with it since I hate walking away from a book and the other book I read by this author was fantastic, but I just couldn't keep torturing myself by forcing myself to keep reading. I would try to go back to it after every book I finished and couldn't read more than a few pages.

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**Jtozier says**

I always have to finish a book, but I do know why it was a free Kindle book....

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**David Saliba says**

I got this Kindle book for free from Amazon. At first, during the part about protagonist's childhood, the book was very dark but quite good. As the protagonist reaches adulthood, however, it starts to fall apart. After that point, the author was trying too hard to be edgy, and it came off as forced as opposed to witty. When the character is presumably possessed by some ancient evil force/being, it becomes too fantastic and it ruined it for me.

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**Tiffany Higgins says**

In the beginning of this book, the abuse begins. Almost immediately you are whisked away to the Bone House. It becomes obvious that you are inside while multiple personalities are emerging. As you follow Richard's story, you are left wondering what is real. You feel what he feels; the pain, the fear, the uncertainty. Enter an evil that transverses all time and existence. From his childhood through to the end of the book, I was longing to jump in and save him. This was a great book, with believable characters, each unique and serving its purpose in Richard's life. I honestly felt like I was inside the mind of someone with multiple personalities. Could you imagine not only having split personalities, but being fully aware of each of them? Could you imagine knowing who was in charge of your meat for the last week, but being totally clueless what they did during that week? Nicholson did an excellent job of portraying the struggle and the heartache as well as the comradery inside Richard's Bone House. This is a great read, and I strongly recommend it.

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**Tess Stoops says****Amazing**

This story is a trippy, awesome account of a murderous nerd sharing his brain with some obnoxious house guests. A must read!

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