

The Bookish* Newsletter!

VOL. 2 Issue No.16 | JUNE 2026

Check out updates on my good reads progress, upcoming titles, lists, and reviews.

[ARC Review] The Summer Fun Massacre

Craig DiLouie [HORROR ♦ SUMMER ♦ THRILLER]

THANK YOU! NetGalley, Orbit Books, and Run for It Press for the advanced copy of this title.

There is truly nothing more pleasing than a good ol' slasher story, and The Summer Fun Massacre is just that, and with quotes like **"Let's light up the berries and cherries, 🍷🍒"** meaning police lights, that tickled my soul. (LOL)

With that, not all Craig DiLouie titles hit for me, but this one was simple, and there's nothing simpler at its core than good ole' revenge.

Yes, this title had all the tropes of a slasher flick or novel, meaning kids playing pranks, no adults believe what's happening until it's too late, there's a final girl from both timelines, there's always one person (Deputy Tom Bailey in this case) who knows not everything is what it seems, and from there the mystery unfolds.

Deputy Bailey knows this all too well; his girlfriend (Mary) was the final girl back in 1983, when he arrived too late to save the others.

Now fast forward: he's survived the night, rescuing the current final girl in 1992.

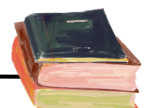
One can't deny the supernatural element at work, and the folklore surrounding the legend of the hungry Hare could possibly play a part in the current killing.

One doesn't necessarily need to agree with everything in a story, and while I enjoyed it, we could have done without that supernatural element and just gone with someone taking revenge on the camp counselors, as in the opening of Summer Fun.

★★★★★



3.8 ★★★★★



More Updates & Reading Progress!

✦ Review Cont. ✦

Still, this was a great pre-Summerween read that gave me just enough context. Slasher stories are mysteries at heart, so there is still the unwinding of the details to figure out the killer and everyone who played a part.

Summer "Ween" Reading

Some reads for this fan-created celebration that blends the spooky fun of Halloween with the warmth of summer.



Diavola
Jennifer Thorne
RELEASED MARCH, 2024
HORROR ☆ GOTHIC ☆ PARANORMAL

Jennifer Thorne skewers all-too-familiar family dynamics in this sly, wickedly funny vacation-Gothic. Beautifully unhinged and deeply satisfying, *Diavola* is a sharp twist on the classic haunted house story, exploring loneliness, belonging, and the seemingly inescapable bonds of family mythology.



Slasher Summer
E. L. Chen
RELEASED JUNE, 2026
SUMMER ☆ HORROR ☆ FICTION

A campy love letter to 1980s slasher films, this novel follows seven former friends who reunite at the remote cabin where the cult movie *Slasher* was filmed. Hoping for a nostalgic weekend, they instead find themselves trapped when a masked killer appears, the phones go dead, and their escape routes vanish.

June ARC's Downloads + Purchases

Strange Bedfellows, Amanda Wortlock
Revenge Plot, Stephanie Wrobel
Public Access Afterworld, Jane Schoenbrun
Big Bad, Christian Galacar

✦ Currently Reading ✦

- The Calamites, Chuck Wendig
- A House With Good Bones, T. Kingfisher

COMPLETED TILES FOR JUNE

Cross My Heart, I Hope You Die, Mallory Arnold
The Babysitter Lives, Stephen Graham Jones
Silence for the Dead, Simone St. James

Book Sources

BookTrib [<https://booktrib.com/>]
Good Reads [<https://www.goodreads.com/>]
Book Riot [<https://bookriot.com/>]
NPR [<https://www.npr.org/books/>]
Literary Hub [<https://lithub.com/>]
Booktrovert [<https://booktrovert.com/>]
Fable [<https://fable.co/>]

July Reading Challenge!

"Read a book that became a movie"

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lifebywyetha@gmail.com. Subscribe to
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