Media Kit - Andrew K. Clark, *Where Dark Things Rise*

**Book Blurb:**

Sixteen-year-old Mina is frustrated by Daddy’s drinking, her mom’s fanatical religious beliefs, and growing up poor in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Most of her teachers assume she won’t amount to much despite her 4.0 GPA, and the country club guys think she’s easy prey. But they don’t know Mina’s dark secret: She can control a magical force of supernatural creatures known as the Shadow Faces.

Mina doesn’t want powers. All she wants to do is escape the trailer park for a leafy college campus far away. But when her crush, Gabe, is stalked by a shapeshifting preacher/wolf, Mina learns to use her powers to protect him. Mina soon discovers the same preacher is trafficking teens for a mystical brothel and has kidnapped her best friend, Erin, after a failed attempt at conversion therapy. Can Mina use the Shadow Faces to save Erin and the other kids without losing her chance at a normal life?

**Tagline:**

*Carrie* Meets *Stranger Things* in Southern Appalachia.

**Website & Social Links:**

Website: <https://www.andrewkclark.com/>

Tik Tok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@theandrewkclark>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/theandrewkclark/>

Threads: <https://www.threads.com/@theandrewkclark>

Blue Sky: <https://bsky.app/profile/theandrewkclark.bsky.social>

**Author Bio:**

Andrew K. Clark is a writer from Western North Carolina where his people settled before the Revolutionary War. His debut novel, *Where Dark Things Grow* (Cowboy Jamboree Press) was shortlisted for the Wade Manly Wellman Award, winner of an IPPY from the Independent Book Publisher’s Awards, a Firebird Book Award, and a Literary Global Book Award. The sequel, *Where Dark Things Rise,* was published by Quill & Crow Publishing House in September of 2025. His poetry collection, *Jesus in the Trailer* was published by Main Street Rag Press. His work has appeared in *The American Journal of Poetry,* UCLA’s *Out of Anonymity, Appalachian Review, Rappahannock Review, The Wrath Bearing Tree*, and many other journals*.* He received his MFA from Converse College. Connect with him at [andrewkclark.com](http://andrewkclark.com/).

**Short book excerpt:**

I no longer have access to the edited Google Drive version. I would assume the first chapter would be best for this. I can’t paste it from the PDF ARC I have.

**Five snippets from the book:**

Maybe life was just a series of tragedies, interspersed with moments of joy so high that they too made you want to cry. The joy would come, make the world bright, and you’d get lulled into complacency. Then the dark clouds would return.

The Red Wolf whispered, *There’s no mention of you in the prophecies, no images of you in the lore.* There was something like doubt in its voice. Mina said, “And yet here the fuck I am.”

“Love is real,” she said, but her voice shook. She felt as if she might lose her balance. “There are beautiful things.”

*No*, the Red Wolf said. *All is ugliness. All is hate.*

The dark faces of demon dogs, stretching and snarling. *Let us go to him,* they whispered to her. *Let us eat him, Mina, oh please, let us eat him.*

They shrieked as they ran…some falling to their knees as though Mina were some new dark goddess, one they suddenly knew they should fear completely.

**Five Key Points:**

* It’s an Appalachian horror story.
* It’s about the problem of power and choice.
* It’s a coming of age story.
* It’s about finding belonging and community and found family.

**List of Aesthetics:**

All I have are on my social media and I can share any of those images and videos.

**List of Awards and Publications:**

*Where Dark Things Grow* (2024, Cowboy Jamboree Press):

* Short-listed for the Manly Wade Wellman Award for Speculative Fiction
* Winner of an IPPY from the Independent Book Publishers Award - Horror category
* Winner of a Firebird Book Award - Magical Realism category
* Winner of a Literary Global Book Award - Horror category

*Jesus in the Trailer: Poems* (2019, Main Street Rag Press)

* Short-listed for the Able Muse Book Award

Other publications:

* Forthcoming October, 2025: Short story “Ashmouth” in *Of Dread, Decay, and Doom* Anthology by Stars and Sabres Publishing.
* Forthcoming Fall, 2025: Short story “Unstable Frequency” in an Appalachian writers anthology by Red Hawk Press
* Short story “Tangled Limbs” - *Beyond the Norm* from Scribes Valley Press, 2019.
* My work has also appeared in *The American Journal of Poetry,* UCLA’s *Out of Anonymity, Appalachian Review, Rappahannock Review, The Wrath Bearing Tree*, and many other journals*.*

**Sample Interview Questions:**

1. What role does place play in your work - why write about Appalachia?
2. What role does poetry play in your prose, since you’re a poet?
3. What influences the religious horror that recurs in your book?
4. What are the earliest influences on your reading life?
5. What are you trying to say about class in your work?

**Author Photos - put in this same drive.**