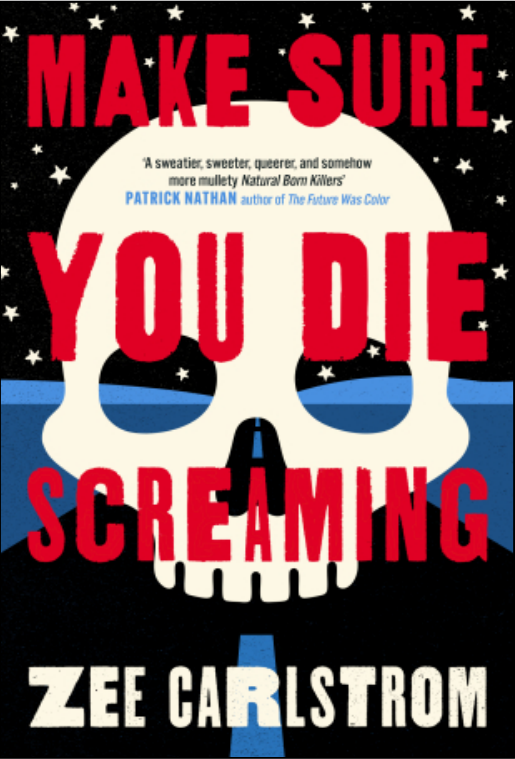




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MAKE SURE YOU DIE SCREAMING

by ZEE CARLSTROM

THE BOOK

When their mother calls with news that their MAGA-pilled, conspiracy-theorist father has gone missing, the newly unemployed queer narrator of *Make Sure You Die Screaming* does what anyone would do: steals their ex-boyfriend's BMW and races from Chicago to deep-red Arkansas on a mission to kidnap their estranged father and bring him home.

Now, with a bottle of premixed margarita jiggling in the cupholder and the narrator's brand-new garbage goth bestie, Yivi, screaming through night terrors in the passenger seat, our hero hurtles toward a family reunion from hell. Along the way, they experiment with Yivi's mystery pills, elude a relentless stalker and outrun some cops who believe the narrator committed a tragic murder.

An unflinching interrogation of class rage, economic (im)mobility, gender expression, the rot at the heart of capitalism and the political bloodbath dividing so many American families, *Make Sure You Die Screaming* is the loud, funny, suspenseful road trip novel of our times.

ZEE CARLSTROM (Location: Brooklyn, USA)

Zee Carlstrom grew up in Illinois and now works as a creative director. They live in Brooklyn.

MARKETING & SALES POINTS

An explosive, whip-smart debut about a genderqueer corporate burnout on a road trip across MAGA America in search of their Trump-loving father

Make Sure You Die Screaming is a refreshing twist on the 'road trip novel' with the millennial liberal at its centre. Burnt-out, angry and traumatised, Zee Carlstrom's protagonist captures the attitudes of a generation in this topical and irreverent debut that speaks to economic (im)mobility, gender nonconformity and the generational divide between parents and their children in an increasingly fascist America

Perfect for fans of *Milk Fed* by Melissa Broder, *Chain-Gang All-Stars* by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, *Nevada* by Imogen Binnie and *Thelma & Louise*

Extensive press coverage upon US release by Flatiron Books in April 2025. Named a Most Anticipated Book of 2025 by *Them* magazine and *Debutiful*, one of Goodreads' Hottest Debut Novels of 2025 and selected by Barnes & Noble for their 2025 Yearly Reading Challenge

PRAISE FOR MAKE SURE YOU DIE SCREAMING

'*Make Sure You Die Screaming* roars to life from page one and never lets up. It's a *Fear and Loathing* for the generation devastated by the generation that brought us *Fear and Loathing*' - Torrey Peters, author of *Detransition, Baby*

'Zee Carlstrom's chaotic joyride had me holding on for dear life. This iconic road-trip novel is a balm for a bleak, uncertain world' - Vanessa Walters, author of *The Lagos Wife*

'I loved every loud, messy page. Zee Carlstrom is the first writer to make me feel better about my own life choices' - Sam Irby, author of *Wow, No Thank You*

'*Make Sure You Die Screaming* is the debut novel our country needs (but doesn't deserve). It's a tight little banger about the shared delusion of family that left my heart, as Zee Carlstrom's head-wounded narrator would say, "as full as my bladder", because putting it down long enough to pee was out of the question' - Ruth Madievsky, bestselling author of *All-Night Pharmacy*

'Zee Carlstrom's debut blends asphalt-black comedy with the greasy darkness pervading the nuclear family, the workplace, and the US itself. They should hand this book to anyone who leaves a hair salon with a mullet on purpose' - Calvin Kalsulke, author of *Several People Are Typing*

'Whether you're grieving a person or a country, *Make Sure You Die Screaming* is the novel for you' - Holly Wilson, author of *Kittentits*



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