

# SATURNALIA

## STEPHANIE FELDMAN

### MARKETING & SALES POINTS

Selected as an *Evening Standard* 'one to watch in 2023' and a Locus Award finalist for Best Horror Novel

A wholly original blend of feminism, cli-fi, suspense and magical realism, *Saturnalia* is a story about environmental collapse and class warfare, trauma and rebirth, and magic – the extraordinary, ancient magic of alchemy and the ordinary, timeless magic of bravery and forgiveness

An unsettling and propulsive novel that draws on timely generational anxieties about the future and speaks to a moment when younger generations are turning to magic (e.g., the popularity of WitchTok, and revived interest in astrology, crystals and tarot) in reaction to political and environmental instability

Perfect for fans of Mariana Enríquez (*The Dangers of Smoking in Bed*), Daisy Johnson (*Fen, Sisters, Everything Under*) and Jeff VanderMeer (The Southern Reach trilogy, *Hummingbird Salamander*)

Front cover and spine finished with gold foil. Text includes five exclusive tarot illustrations by indie artist @EdenSummers\_1

### THE BOOK

Doors open at 7. The sacrifice is at 9. The dress code is, as usual, black tie.

It's the winter solstice in a Philadelphia that has been eroded by extreme weather, economic collapse, and disease-carrying mosquitoes. The Saturnalia carnival is about to begin, an evening on which reality is suspended, and troubles forgotten.

For tarot reader Nina, Saturnalia is simply a cruel reminder of the night that changed everything for her - the night she walked away from the elite Saturn Club, with its genteel debauchery, arcane pecking order, and winking interest in alchemy and the occult.

But when she gets a chance call from Max, her last remaining friend from the Saturn Club, Nina will put on a dress of blackest black and attend the Club's wild solstice masquerade, the biggest party of the year, on a mysterious errand she can't refuse.

Before the night is over, she will become the custodian of a horrifying secret - and prey to a mysterious hunter.

### PRAISE FOR

'A heady mix of the most terrifying elements of our troubled past and inevitable future; an eerie, propulsive novel' -

**Carmen Maria Machado**

'What a stunner of a book! I couldn't put it down! If an elegy was a song of hope, it might be this book, and it's haunted me in all the best ways since I finished it' - **Hazel Beck, author of *Small Town, Big Magic***

'Tense and suspenseful, *Saturnalia* features strong world-building and a fully realized heroine... It will appeal to fans of Leigh Bardugo's *Ninth House*, while the book may also draw in readers of climate horror such as Omar El Akkad's *American War* or Jeff VanderMeer's Southern Reach trilogy' - **Booklist**

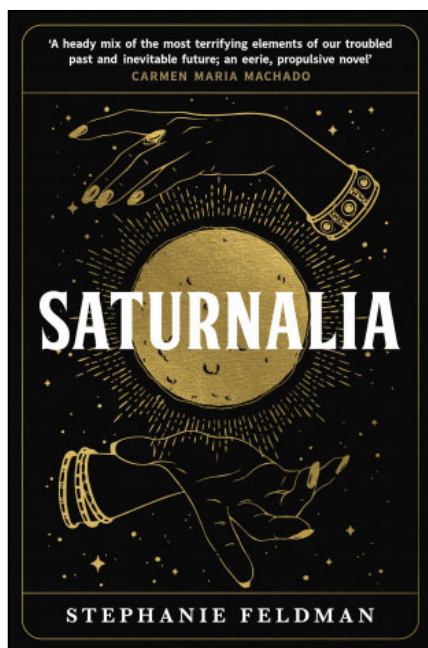
'A twisted, ethereal dispatch from a climate change point of no return... It exposes the dark sides of glamour and the blind spots of dark magic... A piquant, eerie, and alarming tale' - **Foreword, starred review**

'The story features moments of bizarre, distressing cruelty and occasional gore, but it's grounded in themes of belonging, friendship, and the potential costs of ambition. Feldman brings impressive richness and depth to both Nina's emotional evolution and the masterful worldbuilding. This is sure to win the author many fans' - **Publishers Weekly**

'Bewitching... The novel's pacing is electric, its world-building seamless, and the magic that slowly reveals itself feels truly strange and captivating – a considerable feat. A propulsive fantasy thriller about fortune-seeking at the end of the world that will leave you wanting more' - **Kirkus Reviews**

### STEPHANIE FELDMAN (Location: Fort Washington, USA)

**STEPHANIE FELDMAN** is the author of the debut novel *The Angel of Losses*, a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, winner of the Crawford Fantasy Award, and finalist for the Mythopoeic Award. She is co-editor of the multi-genre anthology *Who Will Speak for America?* and her stories and essays have appeared in *Asimov's Science Fiction*, *Catapult Magazine*, *Electric Literature*, *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*, *The Rumpus*, and *Vol. 1 Brooklyn*. She lives outside Philadelphia with her family.



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