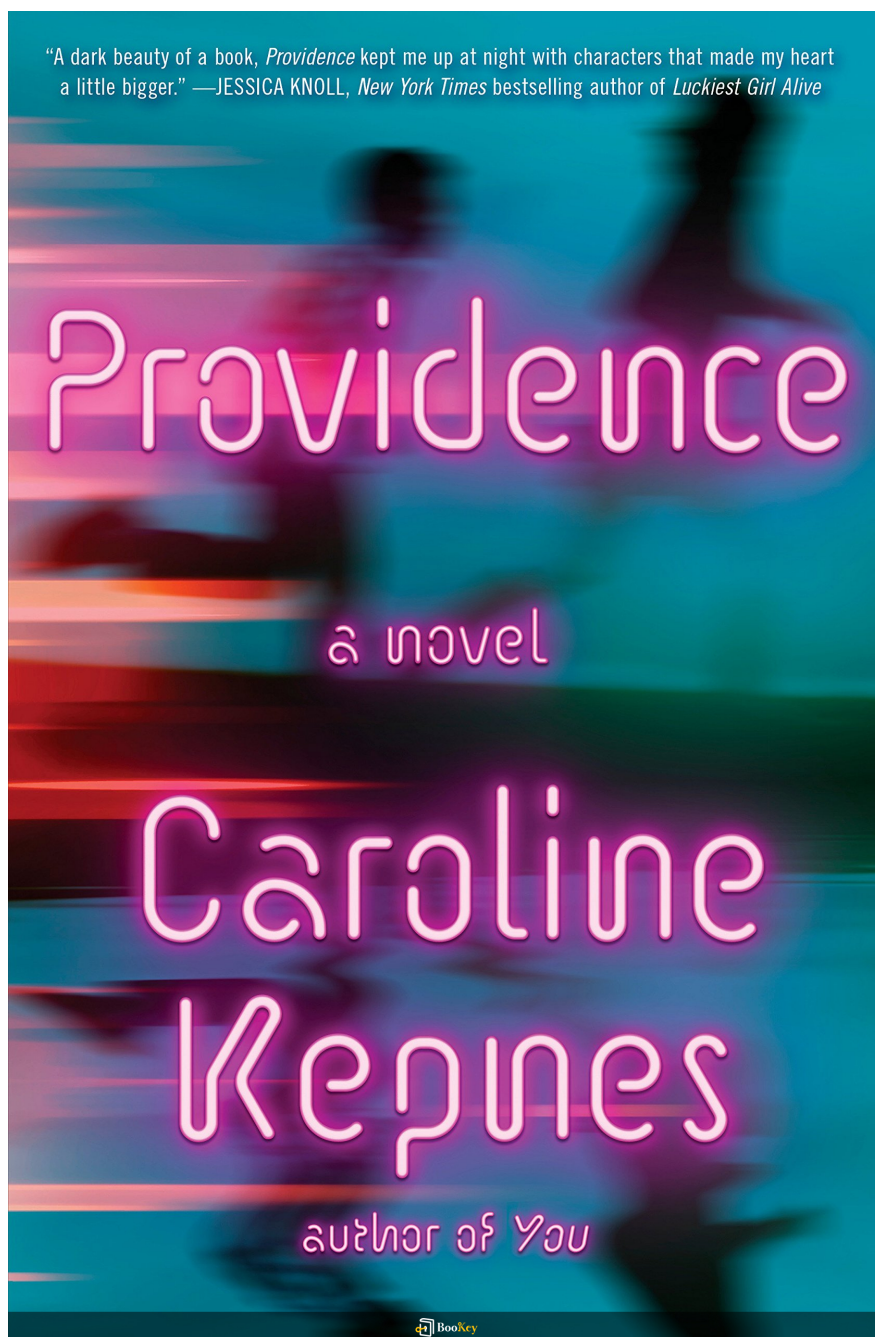


# Providence PDF (Limited Copy)

Caroline Kepnes



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## **Providence Summary**

"Love entangled in the supernatural power to alter fate."

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## About the book

In "Providence," Caroline Kepnes weaves a tale of spine-chilling suspense and profound emotion, inviting readers into the shadowy depths of an unnerving psyche. This unnaturally gripping story revolves around best friends Jon and Chloe, whose lives are irrevocably changed when Jon mysteriously disappears one day, only to return four years later with new, inexplicable powers. As they grapple with the supernatural forces that define their altered paths, Kepnes masterfully unravels a narrative layered with unrequited love, unsettling mysteries, and the existential question of destiny versus free will. With each turn of the page, "Providence" challenges the heart and mind, compelling readers to navigate a complex web of affection and fear, and, in the process, discover just how tightly we're knit to those we hold dear—even in the face of the most unsettling realities.

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## About the author

Caroline Kepnes is a celebrated contemporary author, best known for her compelling and psychologically thrilling narratives. She first came into the literary spotlight with her debut novel "You," which captivated readers worldwide with its unique and unsettling protagonist. Kepnes, a native of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, brings her background in entertainment journalism and television writing to her novels, infusing them with vivid, cinematic quality. Her ability to delve into the intricacies of human emotion and dark, fascinating character studies has garnered her a dedicated fanbase. With "Providence," Kepnes explores themes of love, loss, and supernatural mystery, further cementing her prowess in crafting stories that linger in the minds of her readers long after the final page. Her masterful storytelling and innovative take on crime fiction continue to enthrall audiences and affirm her position as a significant voice in modern literature.

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# Chapter 1 Summary: Jon

## Chapter Summary:

In Jon's world, returning Pedro, his pet hamster, to school marks the end of Thanksgiving break. His dynamic at home with his parents is dominated by individual ownership — his mother with the kitchen and his father with the TV and chair, leaving Jon only his bedroom as his domain. This chapter paints a vivid picture of Jon's life, his relationship with his family, and his internal thoughts about the world and people around him.

## Family Dynamics and Personal Space:

Jon's interaction with his mother highlights their divergent views on pets; she sees Pedro as "a rat" not belonging in her kitchen. Jon is protective and makes concessions by taking Pedro outside to the swing set. He reflects on shared, yet unequal, origins with Carrig Birkus, a jock from his past who's revered in their small community. In contrast, Jon finds comfort in the solitude and stories offered by his newspaper subscription, a cherished Christmas gift from his parents, which, though initially misunderstood, is later validated by a light moment with his mother.



## **Social Interactions and Friendships:**

The narrative shifts to introduce Chloe, a friend who stands out for her warmth and understanding, contrasting Jon's struggles with his peers. Chloe, lovingly dubbed "Chloe Smells Like Cookies" by Jon, is a beacon of hope and aspiration, dreaming of life in New York City, a place she imagines as accepting and vibrant. Their connection is one of mutual understanding, bolstered by their shared status as only children, something Chloe reframes positively against society's dismissive label.

## **Challenges and Survival:**

Jon's daily journey to school is fraught with peril as he navigates a path to avoid bullies led by Carrig Birkus. This resonates deeply with his daily life challenges, symbolized by a longer, thorn-ridden route to school. Despite the challenges, Jon finds solace in small victories, like keeping Pedro, which he hopes will foster connection with Chloe.

## **Confrontation and Resolution:**

An unexpected encounter with Mr. Blair, a former substitute teacher, reveals

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Jon's vulnerability in moments of confrontation. The climax of this chapter is marked by Jon freezing during a surprise attack, reflecting his fear and struggle. This incident, culminating with Jon lying on the ground as Pedro runs away, underscores Jon's isolation and the poignant reality that while Pedro belongs outdoors, Jon himself does not feel like he does.

This chapter encapsulates Jon's longing for belonging and identity amidst the challenges of adolescence, inviting readers to empathize with his fears, joys, and aspirations.

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# Critical Thinking

**Key Point:** Finding Comfort in Solitude

**Critical Interpretation:** Embrace the solace found in times of solitude as a transformative experience. Just as Jon cherishes his bedroom and newspaper as personal sanctuaries amidst the chaos and inequality of his home dynamics, we too can find strength and peace within our own quiet moments. Leveraging solitude allows for reflection, the nurturing of dreams, and understanding oneself better, akin to how Jon's connection with his newspaper fosters intellectual growth and provides a respite from societal pressures. This chapter reminds us that the most profound moments of clarity and growth often arise when we sit alone with our thoughts, turning isolation into empowerment.

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## Chapter 2 Summary: Chloe

The chapters delve deep into the emotional and psychological turmoil faced by Chloe, a teenager grappling with the sudden disappearance of her close friend, Jon. As the story unfolds, it becomes apparent that Jon has been marginalized and bullied, which Chloe subtly acknowledges but struggles to openly address. The search for Jon becomes a city-wide effort, although with minimal participation, highlighting the apathy and quiet desperation of the community.

Chloe's complex friendship with Jon is depicted through her intimate reflections and memories, showcasing their unique bond. As Chloe reminisces, the narrative intricately details how Jon was a peculiar yet endearing character who found joy in the mundane, such as the history of Marshmallow Fluff.

Amidst the turmoil, Chloe is tormented by a recent incident involving Carrig, a reckless boy who has picked on Jon in the past. This confrontation at a shed—their secret meeting place—aggravates Chloe's guilt, further intensified when Jon goes missing shortly after.

Battling societal pressure and the facade of moving on, Chloe's external transformation is marked by defiance—she alters her appearance drastically, distancing herself even further from the carefree person she once was. Her



family's concern is evident, but their efforts do little to penetrate her emotional armor. This is paralleled by her interactions with her friends, Noelle and Marlene, who fail to provide the understanding she desires, leading to a social rift.

Throughout this period, Chloe takes comfort in small rituals that remind her of Jon, such as drawing his initials and saving newspapers—a symbol of her loyalty and reluctance to let go. Despite these efforts, life's demands and the passage of time gradually erode her conscious memories of Jon, causing an internal conflict between preservation and the necessity of moving forward.

Chloe's journey is laden with the realism of adolescence—a mix of naïveté, rebellion, and flashes of maturity. Eventually, she begins reintegrating with her peers through mundane social activities like birthday parties and sleepovers. These experiences serve as gateways, slowly ushering her back into a semblance of normalcy, albeit tentatively.

In the ensuing chapters, Chloe's emotional pendulum swings towards a tentative acceptance. While grappling with adolescent lust and the sociocultural dynamics of her school environment, she begins to navigate her attraction towards Carrig. Despite their past, Chloe is inexplicably drawn to him, entangled in her feelings of guilt and the need for connection.

The narrative intricately captures the complexity of Chloe's emotional



landscape—her steadfast loyalty to Jon juxtaposed against the inevitable passage of time and new experiences which dilute, yet do not erase, her grief. Through these chapters, Chloe's transformation echoes a universal truth—the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unrelenting loss and change. The ending leaves readers with an introspective silence, as Chloe stands on the precipice of a new chapter in her life, accepting the ambiguity of life's journey while carrying the essence of Jon in her heart.

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## Critical Thinking

**Key Point:** Resilience Amidst Loss and Change

**Critical Interpretation:** Amidst the turmoil of losing her best friend, Jon, and the immense pressure from her environment, Chloe demonstrates the incredible resilience that resides within the human spirit. Her journey reminds us that even in the face of profound loss and change, we possess an innate ability to adapt and persevere. Embracing small rituals, Chloe maintains a connection to Jon, reflecting her steadfast loyalty and the subtle defiance against life's demand to move on. Her narrative is a powerful testament to the delicate balance between remembering and letting go, illustrating how past bonds can continue to shape us, offering solace in times of transition. Ultimately, Chloe's story inspires us to trust our capacity to endure and find new paths, honoring the essence of those we've lost while stepping forward into the unknown.

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## Chapter 3 Summary: Four Years Later

The narrative weaves through a complex and haunting story of lost time and changed futures.

### Jon's Chapter:

Once, Jon and Chloe, two close friends, mused about death. They initially believed in the cessation and transformation of life, but Jon learns the truth: death is a monotonous loop. Caught in purgatory-like woods with a mysterious figure, Mr. Blair, Jon experiences a ceaseless Monday in November without hunger, fatigue, or reprieve, always reminded of his lost opportunity with Chloe. The monotonous cycle is broken when Jon experiences intense pain, only to wake up in an unfamiliar concrete room, akin to a basement, with a breathing tube realizing Mr. Blair captured him. Jon discovers, to his disbelief, he possesses an adult body, foreign to him, questioning if he is still himself.

Mr. Blair's letter, left in a tattered copy of Lovecraft's \*The Dunwich Horror\*, reveals Jon was in a medically induced coma, hinting at newfound power, while cryptically advising him to move forward. This revelation is a disorienting mix of frustration and urgency for Jon. He escapes the basement only to find himself in the mall of his own town, realizing four years have been stolen from him.



## **Chloe's Chapter:**

Chloe, now on the brink of graduation, struggles with her identity amidst expectations and peer curiosity about her relationship with Carrig, her athletic boyfriend since Jon's disappearance. Her heart is tethered to Jon, who mysteriously vanished, leaving her to envision an unattainable world where art and love coexist. Chloe is internally conflicted, projecting confidence with Carrig while reminiscing the depth she shared with Jon.

Upon learning of Jon's return, Chloe faces a tidal wave of mixed emotions — relief entwined with disruption of the life she has tried to make without him. Her reunion with Jon is emotional yet jarring, compounded when she faints at the sheer shock of his sudden re-entry into her life.

## **Jon's Recovery:**

As Jon acclimates to this altered life, reuniting with family and adjusting to his grown physique, he grapples with his new reality, including his unexplained strength that inadvertently causes harm. A nagging sense of something foreign, and potentially hazardous, lurks within him. The world perceives him as a miracle survivor, but internally, he battles with isolation and an unrelenting connection to the letter and Lovecraft's tale.

Conversations with Chloe, though confined to texts and online chats,



provide comfort, yet also the pain of knowing she moved on with Carrig.

### **Revelations and Conflict:**

Chloe and Jon's communication is tinged with unresolved feelings. The more Chloe longs for meaning in their interactions, the more she is caught in promises that Jon cannot fulfill, clinging to hope that he would break from his fears and rekindle their connection.

As tensions rise, an incident at Noelle's prom party turns tragic when Noelle confronts Jon with aggressive spite, only to collapse. Jon, horrified, flees the scene, unknowingly compounding Chloe's heartbreak.

### **Chloe's Realization:**

Chloe's chapter closes in chaos as the night unravels. Her façade shatters as she acknowledges the deep-seated turmoil of her bond with Jon, realizing the enduring pain and loss amidst a backdrop of high school rituals. Jon's sudden disappearance reignites fears and anger, contrasting starkly with Noelle's crumpled form, emblematic of friendship and regret.

### **Conclusion:**

The narrative echoes the complexities of young love, identity, and trauma,

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set against a backdrop of surreal change and desperate introspection. Jon and Chloe face the paradox of rediscovery—yearning for a chance to mend what was lost while confronting the irreversible passage of time and transformations beyond their control.

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## Critical Thinking

**Key Point:** Moving Forward Despite Uncertainty

**Critical Interpretation:** In Chapter 3 of "Providence," you encounter Jon's poignant realization about how the cruel vagaries of life have deprived him of years and transformed him in unimaginable ways. His plight, entangled in the spectral shadows of purgatory and the disorienting stretch of a medically-induced coma, emphasizes a compelling truth: even amidst uncharted territories of change, the power lies in your ability to move forward. Jon's story urges you to confront the turbulence and unpredictability of life's path, realizing that while the world may appear to shift beneath your feet, progress comes with every step taken into the unknown. It's a powerful reminder that despite chaos and disorientation, finding a way to adapt, embrace transformation, and harness new beginnings can lead to remarkable growth and self-discovery.



## Chapter 4: Eggs

### Eggs

The narrative begins in the shared life of Eggie and Lo, a couple grappling with unique challenges. Lo is a teacher who often entertains her favorite students, currently fond of a student named Marko who seems to imitate Lo obsessively. Eggie, on the other hand, feels detached from her joyous student interactions, haunted by the absence of their son, Chuckie, who was institutionalized due to a severe psychological condition with violent tendencies. Despite Lo's involvement with Chuckie, Eggie avoids visiting their son, focusing instead on searching for answers to his condition. His obsession borders on paranoia, as he explores possible causes ranging from environmental chemicals to household items like Lo's perfume.

This fixation becomes a metaphorical shield for Eggie, a way to deal with guilt and grief. As Eggie's life collides with Maddie Goleb, a mother mourning her son's mysterious death from a sudden heart attack, he finds parallels in their shared grief and unresolved feelings. Maddie's emotional unraveling keeps Eggie grounded in a community of the bereaved, although she unknowingly mirrors his own subconscious fears.

Marko's visits to their home stir unease in Eggie, triggering reflections on





his son's condition. Marko's boundless energy and enthusiasm for Lo are stark contrasts to Chuckie's challenges, and Eggie can't help but muse about what could have been.

The narrative later transitions to a dinner setting where they entertain Marko. Eggie, feeling jealous and annoyed by Marko's confidence and youthfulness, eventually sees Marko's vulnerability as he inadvertently comments on Eggie's perpetual identity as 'Eggs' due to the absence of a namesake child. This realization begins to soften Eggie's perspective toward Marko and Lo's student interactions.

The subplot threads a cold case involving a series of mysterious heart attacks in young people, which Eggie investigates, aligning it with his characteristic tendency to see complex conspiracies in simple tragedies. As Eggie digs deeper, he battles with career repercussions from his obsessive nature and finds himself open to new possibilities for uncovering truths hidden beneath surface appearances.

## **Jon**

Jon's storyline presents a young man overwhelmed by guilt and haunted by a supernatural ability to inadvertently harm others. Living in Providence under pseudonyms, Jon targets scientific explanations for his power



originating from a traumatic past linked to Roger Blair, a deranged scientist. The science appears experimental, more akin to dark sorcery than traditional biology, rooted in manipulations observed in plants. Despite efforts to manage his condition and evade detection, Jon unintentionally kills others in emotionally-charged encounters, confirming his need to remain isolated from the community.

This narrative hints at Providence's atmosphere as mystical and rich with peculiarities, as Jon frequently references Lovecraftian themes connecting his condition to literary horror. As Jon reflects on the tragedy his life has become, he identifies with characters from Lovecraft's works, seeking a cure for his involuntary violence.

Notably emotionally attached to an ex-girlfriend, Chloe, Jon battles the urge to reach out for connection, aware of the risks his presence poses. With his heart feeling lethal during times of heightened emotions, he captures the essence of struggle between longing for relationships and the danger his powers impose.

Grappling with internal demons and the dread of his potential for calamity, Jon's life becomes a cycle of solitude interrupted by episodic ventures to find Blair, whose scientific horrors started this spiraling life.

**Chloe**

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Chloe maintains an open presence online, leaving a trail for Jon despite their prolonged separation. Her life, enriched by artistic success originating from her experiences post-Jon's disappearance, is shadowed by constant yearning for closure and communication with him. Jon's rare calls perpetuate an unending search, leading Chloe through the symbolic and literal spaces of Providence's backdrop as she traces his unintended, sporadic hints about his whereabouts.

Her interpretation of the world centers on art and emotion, portraying her work as entwined with Jon's memory and a symbol of perennial love, despite its commercial recognition. Chloe remains vivid and dynamic, contrasting the static nature of Jon's veiled existence. In her mind, the connection to Jon manifests in unexpected places, instinctively guiding her to places he may frequent, like their shared favorite eateries or dark fringes of literary conventions.

Chloe grapples with the tension between moving on and remaining loyal to an unforgettable past, ultimately tied to Jon's inscrutable circumstances. Her narrative anchors emotional introspection as she considers missed opportunities, lingering devotion shadowed with unresolved tension, embodying the timeless allure of lost love.



## Overarching Themes

The intersecting narratives of Eggie, Jon, and Chloe explore themes of loss, guilt, and the struggle to maintain connections amid personal chaos. Emotional burdens manifest through myths, legends, and scientific inquiries, featuring eccentric mindsets caught in webbed histories linking the supernatural with real-life tragedies. Each character seeks redemption from past transgressions, yearning to shape their future from lingering emotional resistance while engaging with fantastical beliefs, hinting at how intertwined lives struggle with unfathomable challenges.

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## Chapter 5 Summary: One Year Later

### Chapter Summary:

In the narrative, we are introduced to Eggie, a character with a conflicted relationship with his past and present life. He reflects on his childhood decision to become a police officer, influenced by his father's career but driven by his strong sense of gut instinct. This gut feeling is central to his actions and decisions throughout the narrative. Eggie, who dislikes bicycles, does not want to escape anything, symbolizing his desire to confront challenges head-on. His relationship with his wife, Lo, is complex; they are growing apart, partly due to the absence of their son, Chuckie, who has been institutionalized due to his violent behavior associated with autism. Despite their estrangement, Eggie respects Lo's opinions but remains steadfast in his belief in his instincts, particularly concerning his quest related to The Beard—a mysterious figure linked to a series of events Eggie cannot let go of.

As Eggie attends a Lovecraft festival, fueled by a gut feeling about the mysterious "I am Providence" hat and what it symbolizes, he experiences tension between his instincts and the evidence—or lack thereof—that supports them. His obsession with finding The Beard and understanding unexplained occurrences involving him reflects a broader search for





meaning and closure.

In a parallel narrative, Jon, another character dealing with isolation and loss, finds solace in a New Zealand podcast that dissects the movie \*Grown Ups 2\*, reflecting his tendency to seek comfort in seemingly trivial or obscure pursuits. He grapples with feelings of alienation, having cut ties with his past, including his connection to Chloe, a woman whose energy and artistic presence linger with him. Jon's encounter with Florie, a vibrant but similarly struggling individual, offers a brief reprieve from his loneliness but ultimately intensifies his self-awareness and realization of his destructive capabilities.

Eggie returns to his police work with unresolved tension, particularly around the mysterious deaths that seem to involve The Beard. He faces the grim realities of his environment while clinging to his gut instincts that The Beard is connected to these fatal events. Meanwhile, Jon goes on a reckless quest to find Roger Blair, the source of his affliction, in a desperate attempt to understand and confront the force within him that causes harm to others.

Chloe, now distanced from Jon and building a new life with Carrig Birkus in New York City, reflects on her past connection with Jon. Her new relationship provides a sanctuary from Jon's memory, yet her transition highlights her struggle between holding onto past feelings and embracing a different future.

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In the culmination of the narratives, both Eggie and Jon face the consequences of their obsessions. Eggie's pursuit of The Beard leads him to dead ends and personal health issues, while Jon's realization of his ability to wield power for both harm and justice prompts a transformative moment. He inadvertently becomes an agent of good by stopping a violent individual, which gives him a newfound sense of purpose.

Together, these intertwined stories explore themes of identity, guilt, love, and the complex nature of human instincts in confronting the darkness within and around them.

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# Chapter 6 Summary: Lynn, Lynn, City of Sin

## Summary of the Chapters:

### JON

Jon, a young man haunted by his past, reflects on the aftermath of Kody Kardashian's death, his subsequent disappearance, and the obsessive routine of his parents preserving newspapers that documented those years. These newspapers symbolize the passage of time and Jon's own journey of self-discovery, marked by a gradual withdrawal from public searches and diminishing interest from the media. Despite the absence of connection, Jon finds solace in Chloe's artwork, covering his walls with her art to feel close to her even as he resolves to cut off contact for her sake. Living in Lynn, Massachusetts, Jon dedicates himself to eradicating toxic elements in his neighborhood. However, his actions come with consequences, as he continues to engage in a dangerous, vigilant war against the city's drug dealers, taking justice into his own hands but constantly haunted by the moral complexity of his mission.

### CHLOE

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Chloe is navigating a world reshaped by her concern for Jon and her evolving relationship with Carrig. She experiences conflicting emotions, caught between her love for Jon and her new life with Carrig. As her art gains recognition, she grapples with the reality that her career and creativity are inextricably linked to her past with Jon. Despite her engagement, Chloe's heart remains tethered to her childhood friend, demonstrating the enduring impact Jon has on her psyche. Chloe's engagement to Carrig adds layers of complexity to her already tangled emotions, leading her to confront her feelings for both men, ultimately realizing the depth of her connection with Jon and the pull of their shared history.

## EGGS

Eggs, an ailing cop facing cancer, finds solace in trying to understand the mysterious deaths of drug dealers in Lynn, convinced of Jon's involvement. His investigation is driven by a need for redemption and connection, attempting to piece together the puzzle of Jon's vigilante actions. Eggs' journey mirrors his personal battles, balancing his failing health, a strained marriage, and the pursuit of truth. He symbolically intertwines his quest to solve the mystery with his unresolved paternal instincts towards his own troubled son. Through a series of poignant encounters and a final confrontation with the elusive Roger Blair, Eggs must reconcile with the



larger-than-life legacy of Jon's vigilante path and find closure in letting go of his obsessive search for answers.

### **CHLOE (conclusion)**

Chloe's engagement party with Carrig culminates in a moment of brutal clarity when Jon makes contact, compelling her to confront the lingering emotional turmoil from their unresolved past. Jon's revelation of his supernatural-like ability to inadvertently cause harm leads to a harrowing confrontation at the Finch Plaza Mall. The encounter with Carrig—armed and unhinged—forces Chloe to see the truth of her heart and the life she's entangled in with Carrig versus the undeniable bond with Jon. The narrative crescendos with love expressed amidst an imminent threat, revealing the eternal imprint of their childhood connection and the power it still holds over both their lives.

### **EGGS (conclusion)**

Eggs' narrative thread follows him through a chaotic yet revelatory experience. His quest leads him to a fateful encounter at the mall, witnessing firsthand the culmination of Jon's internal and external battles. Through his seasoned cop instincts and understanding of human nature, Eggs engineers a



resolution that saves Chloe and allows Jon to disappear into obscurity once again. Ultimately, Eggs comes to terms with his part in the larger narrative, acknowledging both the futility and necessity of his quest, while finding redemption in saving the girl and realizing the limits of justice against the backdrop of a complex moral universe.

Through these intertwined stories of Jon, Chloe, Eggs, and Carrig, the narrative explores themes of love, redemption, and the struggle to reconcile with one's inner demons amidst the chaos of past traumas and ambitions.

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## Chapter 7 Summary: Epilogue

In a world where luck and fate entwine with life's unpredictabilities, the story unfolds through three interconnected narratives focusing on the characters Eggs, Chloe, and Jon. They each grapple with profound personal histories, relationships, and questions about identity and destiny.

**Eggs** is a man caught in the nuances of luck—both good and bad. He reflects on his son, Chuckie, who was born unlucky, and how luck has played a role in his own life, both through love and fatherhood. Despite the difficulties, including a mysterious letter with names, he chooses to protect his son and his wife, Lo, above all else, symbolizing a commitment to family despite the challenges fate throws their way. His interactions with Lo depict a profound love and partnership as they face life's unpredictabilities, including a deeply awaited but painful reunion with Chuckie in a healthcare facility. Eggs's journey highlights the struggle and acceptance of randomness in life, as well as the necessity of stepping into others' lives as a form of divine providence. This is a testament to the notion that meaning can be found amidst chaos.

**Chloe** encapsulates the essence of self-discovery and the struggle against societal expectations. As an artist, she battles criticism for her choice to focus on self-portraits, seen as narcissistic by many. Her history with Jon, a catalyst for her artistic growth, reveals her internal conflict between



self-perception and societal judgment. After a traumatic incident involving Jon and her ex-boyfriend Carrig, Chloe rebuilds her life in Queens, dedicating herself to art and self-exploration. Her narrative is one of resilience, underscoring her transformation from someone who lived in the shadow of external validation to an individual who embraces her artistic voice and acknowledges the importance of believing in herself.

**Jon**, a character bearing the weight of past sins and transformation, is depicted in a state of reflection and solitude. He has left behind his life in Providence, seeking redemption and purpose while acknowledging his own humanity. Through his work as a paperboy and his research into a parasitic plant, Jon grapples with themes of connection and isolation. His allusion to "The Dunwich Horror" and his musings on identity highlight his journey from darkness to self-acceptance. As he dwells in a rural setting, he maintains a connection to Chloe, with whom he shares a profound bond despite the distance. Their virtual conversations through text symbolize their efforts to reconcile past traumas and hope for a future together. Jon's journey is evocative of a personal voyage towards reconciling his past actions with who he has become, symbolizing the perpetual human quest for connection and understanding.

Each narrative thread weaves a tapestry of life's complexities, illustrating how the past shapes identity but need not dictate one's future. The characters confront their fears and desires, seeking solace in their connections with



others. Eggs, Chloe, and Jon each navigate the sphere of human experience—where fate, luck, and choice intertwine—culminating in a profound exploration of humanity's enduring resilience amidst life's uncertainties.

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