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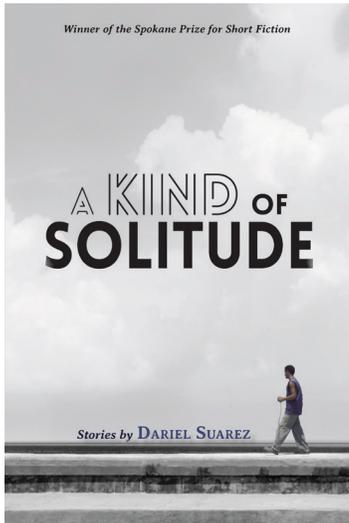
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A KIND OF SOLITUDE

Stories by *DARIEL SUAREZ*

[Spokane, WA] —Willow Springs Books is proud to announce the release of *A Kind of Solitude*, the winner of the 2017 Spokane Prize for Short Fiction. Set in Cuba largely after the fall of the Soviet Union, these eleven stories explore themes of isolation and perseverance in the face of widespread poverty and socio-political oppression. From a chronically ill santero refusing medical care to a female-fronted heavy metal band risking it all to emerge from Havana's rock underground, Dariel Suarez, in his striking debut, portrays the harsh reality, inherent humor, and resilient heart of a people whose stories should be known.

ADVANCED PRAISE

"In these accomplished stories, Dariel Suarez's characters must navigate churning waters of betrayal and compromise, of love and obligation, of longing for escape. A Kind of Solitude is an insightful, original, and large-hearted debut."

—Kirstin Valdez Quade, *Night at the Fiestas*

"The characters who populate this remarkable debut collection are all bound by the complex negotiation of loyalty and self-preservation, of stasis and escape, of the ghosts of the past that crowd the present and the unknown horizon of the future. A Kind of Solitude is a stunning, nuanced illumination of contemporary Cuban life."

—Laura van den Berg, *The Third Hotel*

"We get to know these Cuban men and women intimately: their pain, suffering, anger, loneliness, and above all their hopes. This book announces the significant beginning of a new talent."

—Ha Jin, National Book Award-winning author of *Waiting*



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dariel Suarez was born in Havana, Cuba and immigrated to the United States with his family in 1997, during the island's economic crisis known as The Special Period. He is one of City of Boston's inaugural Artist Fellows and the Director of Core Programs and Faculty at GrubStreet. His work has appeared in *The Kenyon Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Third Coast*, among others. Dariel holds an M.F.A. in Fiction from Boston University and currently resides in the Boston area with his wife and daughter.