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LEECH

By Hiron Ennes

'A wonderful new entry to Gothic science fiction, impeccably clever and atmospheric'- **Tamsyn Muir**

'*Leech* isn't like anything I've read before. Superb writing, interesting and fresh ideas, skilful execution. Highly recommended. I'll be reading anything Hiron Ennes writes from now on' - **Tade Thompson**

'What a unique book! Surprising turns and staggering ideas – all woven together by beautiful writing. This is one to remember' - **Tim Lebbon**

'I didn't know a book could perfectly convey the concept of a distributed intelligence, alive and aware of each of its proxies, but *Leech* is proof anything is possible in good hands' - **Cassandra Khaw**



In an isolated chateau, as far north as north goes, the baron's doctor has died. The Interprovincial Medical Institute sends out a replacement. But when the new physician investigates the cause of death, which appears to be suicide, there's a mystery to solve. It seems the good doctor was hosting a parasite. Yet this should have been impossible, as the man was already possessed. For hundreds of years, the Institute has grown by taking root in young minds and shaping them into doctors, replacing every human practitioner of medicine.

The Institute is here to help humanity, to cure and to cut, to cradle and protect the species. Now it seems they have competition. For in the baron's icebound castle, already a pit of secrets and lies, the parasite is spreading . . .

These two enemies will make war within the battlefield of the body. Whichever wins, humanity will lose again.

An atmospheric Gothic triumph, for fans of Jeff VanderMeer and Silvia Moreno-Garcia.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Hiron Ennes is a writer, musician, and student of medicine based in the Pacific Northwest. Their areas of interest include infectious disease, pathology, and anticapitalist healthcare reform. When they're not hunched over a microscope or word document they can be found playing in the snow or playing the harp (though usually not at the same time). They're queer in every sense of the word, and they really want to pet your dog. *Leech* is their first novel.

