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PRESS RELEASE

NEW MICHIGAN PRESS announces the release of Mark Holden's fiction chapbook, *No One Wants to Live Here*. Here’s just one of the blurbs on this excellent collection, from Kate Moses: “In *No One Wants to Live Here*, Mark Holden turns fantasy and reality inside out, showing us the frail thread that holds them together and the raw edges that our superegos scrabble to keep hidden—the things we would never want to reveal in a million years. But in this world, to quote one of his characters, ‘a million years was up.’ Holden’s sharp, deadpan eye is a seam-ripper that lays bare our tattered, basted-together interiors.

It’s available by mail, at excellent independent booksellers, at Amazon, or best, from our storefront at: newmichiganpress.com/nmp. Perfect-bound, 64pp., ISBN 978-1-934832-45-5. Information & for bookstore orders, email us at <nmp@thediagram.com>.

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from “The Close-Up”:

alex shipley’s penis flew across the room. Frank Pulchaski, who’d lived next door, had shot it off with his .30-06. Four days later, Carla Rosen stood over the blood-stained carpet and imagined the horror, the young man looking down at his shredded genitals, unbelieving, as Frank—from his second story window, with a direct line of sight into the apartment’s living room—shot him again, this time through the chest.

The cops said that Tina Kessler, the woman to whom Carla had rented the apartment, was sitting on the floor when they’d arrived. In shock, yet trying to talk between convulsive sobs, Tina finally, simply, pointed to the window. When they looked out, the cops saw Frank, who appeared to be sitting on a chair or a box, who sat smoking a cigar with the rifle cradled in his lap. They rushed over and took the gun away, handcuffed him, and walked him to the cruiser. One cop remained with Frank while the other went back to the apartment and escorted Tina out to a waiting ambulance. She was covered with blood, but it wasn’t her own; it was her boyfriend’s.

Later, Carla heard that Frank hadn’t resisted; that he’d extinguished his cigar in an ashtray before the police had made it up the stairs, but he didn’t offer any explanation for the carnage.

ORDER FORM

Yes! We love you, Mark Holden! Send me ✡ copies of *No One Wants to Live Here* at $9 per copy + $2 for postage (in USA). I’ve enclosed cash or a check/money order made out to *New Michigan Press*. Please send my book(s) to: