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APPENDIX I

SYNOPSIS OF BIRD BOX

Josh Malerman's *Bird Box* is a psychological and post-apocalyptic horror novel that tells the story of a woman named Malorie and her struggle to survive in a world plagued by a mysterious threat. The story begins when the world begins to be haunted by a strange phenomenon. People all over the world suddenly go crazy after seeing something unexplainable. Soon after, they start to hurt themselves until they die. The government and the media try to understand this phenomenon, but it spreads too quickly. No one knows what they really saw, but everyone who saw it suffered a tragic fate.

Malorie is a young pregnant woman. She lives with her sister, Shannon, when news of the "invisible creature" begins to gain global attention. After giving birth, she has two children, calls Boy and Girl. Although skeptical at first, tragedy strikes firsthand when Shannon commits suicide after seeing something outside their apartment window. This incident is a turning point in Malorie's life. Now she is alone and pregnant, with nowhere to go. One of the novel's main strengths is how Josh Malerman builds psychological tension. The reader is taken into Malorie's mind, which is full of anxiety, fear, and consideration. She is not a superhero, but an ordinary mother driven by love and responsibility.

Malorie's maternal instinct is a central theme. She protects her children not only from the creatures outside, but also from her own weaknesses. She enforces discipline, even emotional violence, because she knows that the world does not give them room to be careless. The novel shows that motherhood in a dangerous world requires extraordinary sacrifice. Malorie must restrain herself from loving too deeply, from showing weakness, and from expecting too much. But all of this shows how deep her love is.

Bird Box is an intense and moving novel that depicts how humans react to intangible fears. In this story, Malorie is a symbol of maternal strength and human resilience. She is not perfect, but her courage to keep going makes her an inspiring character. In its hopeful ending, *Bird Box* teaches that in a world filled with darkness, a mother's love can be the brightest light. And sometimes, closing your eyes is the only way to see the real truth.

APPENDIX II

BIOGRAPHY OF AUTHOR

Josh Malerman is an American author, singer, and songwriter born on July 24, 1975 in Southfield, Michigan. He is best known as a writer of horror novels and speculative fiction, especially after the success of his debut novel *Bird Box* (2014), which was later adapted into a popular film by Netflix in 2018. Malerman currently lives in Michigan with his fiancée, Allison Laakko, and continues to work actively in literature and music. Josh Malerman's work often explores themes of fear, perception, and the boundary between reality and madness.

Josh Malerman can be called writer on the rise, combining musical background and life experiences into suspenseful tales. *Bird Box* opened his career, demonstrating his ability to create a strong psychological horror tone. He has since expanded his repertoire with multiple genres and adaptations across media. His passion and productivity—writing from adolescence to publishing dozens of works make him an inspirational figure in the modern literary world.

Before becoming known as a writer, Malerman was the vocalist and songwriter for the alternative rock band The High Strung. He wrote the novel *Bird Box* while on tour, and completed it in just 26 days. Although *Bird Box* is his first published work, he had written dozens of drafts of the novel before. His works are known for their atmospheric narrative style and deep psychological tension.

In addition to *Bird Box*, he has also written other novels such as *Black Mad Wheel*, *Unbury Carol*, *Inspection*, and *Malorie* (a sequel to *Bird Box*). Malerman has received numerous literary awards, including nominations for the Bram Stoker Award and the Shirley Jackson Award. He is also active as a film producer and co-founded the production label Spin a Black Yarn.



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PENGESAHAN REVISI

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