

APPENDIX I

SYNOPSIS OF *THE BOOK OF DOORS*

The Book of Doors by Gareth Brown is a novel that centered around Cassie, an ordinary young woman who worked as a bookstore employee in New York City to make a living. Cassie's introverted nature made her life seems peaceful albeit a bit boring for some people, she enjoyed the company of books more than real people. Working in a bookstore from time to time, she gradually grew close to a regular customer, Mr. Webber, which later became her best friend that always accompanied her on her working shift. But her peaceful life didn't last long, the sudden death of Mr. Webber marked the beginning of the shift in her life. After his death, Cassie received a book from Mr. Webber, which then known as the *Book of Doors*. She quickly discovered that the book allowed her to open any door and step through to any places she wants.

At first, Cassie and her roommate, Izzy, treated the book with wonder and admiration, visiting places like Venice and Paris right away. However, their excitement rapidly turned into dread when they realized that dangerous people were start hunting them, desperate to possess and gain control to the book's power. Among them were ruthless individuals like Dr. Hugo Barbary and a mentally questionable antagonist known only as The Woman. Throughout the story, Cassie and Izzy were assisted by Drummond Fox, a mysterious guy who claimed himself as a librarian with knowledge of the *Book of Doors* and the other magical books. As the danger escalated, Cassie learned that the *Book of Doors* could also open a way to any door in any time. Which means, people who possess *Book of Doors* are able to time travel.

As the story progressed, Cassie, along with Izzy and Drummond experienced an unforgettable journey together. They traveled to far away places in an instant and even traveled to the places in the past with the ability of the *Book of Doors*. Alas, such journey had to turn serious as Drummond's self-claimed rival, Hugo, started to chase them and use violence without hesitation to get the *Book of Doors*. The story became more suspenseful when Cassie and the others confront the main antagonist, The Woman, to put an end on the constant fear she had put for the last decade. Reaching the climax of the story, Cassie was faced with a difficult choice that tested her courage and sense of purpose. With Izzy and Drummond by her side, Cassie had to make a brave decision that would not only stop The Woman but also determine the future of the Book itself. In the end, the story closed with a sense of hope and healing, showing how the journey had changed each of them and opened doors not just to other places, but to who they were meant to become.

APPENDIX II

BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR

Gareth Brown is a Scottish author celebrated for his evocative blend of magical realism, emotional depth, and contemporary adventure. Born and raised near Edinburgh, Brown discovered his passion for books and storytelling early on, completing his first novel as a teenager. However, rather than pursuing a literary career immediately, he entered public service and spent much of his adult life working in the UK Civil Service. As of 2024, he serves as the Director of Screening for NHS Scotland, where he manages critical national health initiatives. Despite the demands of his job, Brown never lost his passion for writing. His debut novel, *The Book of Doors*, was released in February 2024. The novel was met with immediate success, becoming a Sunday Times Bestseller and entering the USA bestseller list shortly after its release. It received widespread acclaim and was named one of Amazon Editor's Best Books of 2024, while also becoming a finalist in the Goodreads Choice Awards for both Fantasy and Debut Novel categories.

The Book of Doors, which follows the magical possibilities of a book that can open doors to anywhere, was inspired by Brown's longing for escape during the COVID-19 lockdown. Readers praised the novel for its heartfelt exploration of grief, healing, and the enduring power of books. In his personal life, Gareth Brown lives near Edinburgh with his wife who is a Malaysian-born and their two beloved Skye terriers, Dougal and Flora. Outside of writing, he enjoys a wide range of hobbies including traveling, barbecuing, patisseries, playing bass guitar, and relaxing with snooker or television. Brown has cited numerous literary influences, with *Christine* by Stephen King being the first novel that made him want to become a writer and Dan Simmons' *Hyperion* as a particularly formative read that left a lasting impression.

As he balances his full-time role in public service with his writing career, Brown continues to pursue storytelling with the same discipline and curiosity that launched his debut success. His second work, *The Society of Unknowable Objects*, is already slated for publication in summer 2025 and promises to continue his signature combination of the fantastical and realistic setting.



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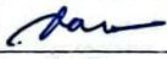
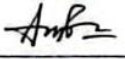
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