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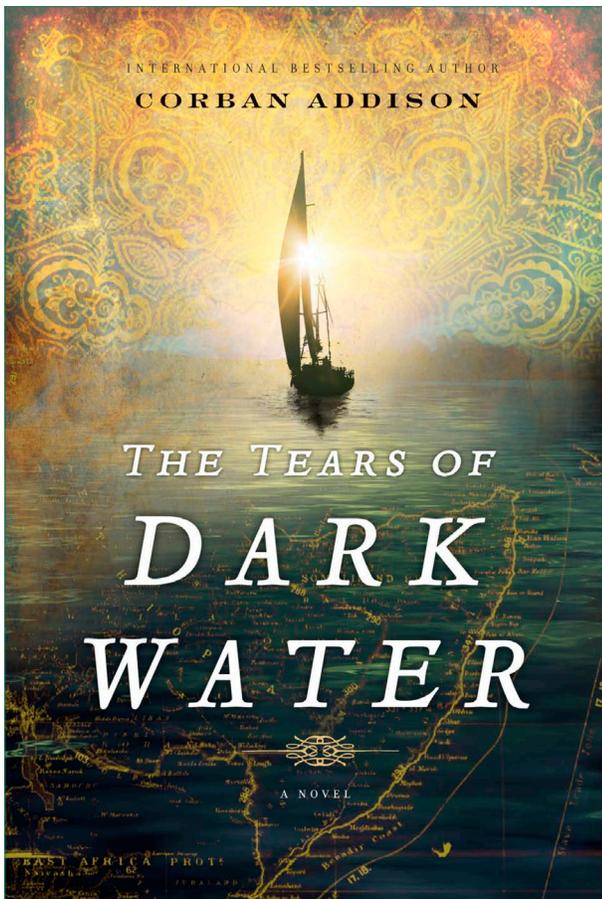
ACROSS CULTURES, ACROSS CONTINENTS... THE HUMAN HEART PERSEVERES

*An immensely talented young author crafts a novel of gripping suspense,
contemporary human rights issues, and universal emotions.*

THE TEARS OF
**DARK
WATER**



CORBAN ADDISON



A sailboat adrift in the Indian Ocean.

On board, a band of nervous Somali pirates holds an American father and his troubled son hostage.

In America, his wife waits terrified, relying on a top hostage negotiator to find a peaceful resolution before the military intervenes.

And on the Somali shore, a brutalized young woman enslaved in a marriage to a militant jihadi hides a connection to one of the kidnappers that might be the key to peace... and redemption.

These are the ingredients that fuel internationally bestselling author Corban Addison's electrifying new novel **THE TEARS OF DARK WATER**. Addison's previous works of fiction, which also dealt with issues of human rights and justice in the developing world, have received such praise as **"beautiful in its story and also important in its message."** (John Grisham) and **"A pulse-revving novel with a serious message."** (O Magazine).

THE TEARS OF DARK WATER is Addison's most ambitious and affecting effort to date, boldly confronting some of the the most pressing issues in international politics today. He accomplishes this via a beautifully-rendered, character-driven drama of a quality rarely seen from a young author.

"I won't write a story about a world I haven't seen firsthand," says Addison, who is also an attorney and activist against human trafficking and gender-based violence. This hard-won authenticity is apparent in every word of this novel, whether set in Washington D.C.'s corridors of power or Mogadishu's violent streets.

The action in **THE TEARS OF DARK WATER** hinges on a tense at-sea standoff orchestrated by top U.S. hostage negotiator Paul Derrick, which ends in tragedy: Skipper Daniel Parker is shot dead and his son Quentin – with whom Daniel has had a strained relationship – is critically wounded. The pirates are captured and extradited to stand trial in the U.S.

A young pirate named Ismail is identified by his cohorts as the shooter. In questioning him, Derrick begins to suspect there is more to his story than a zealot driven by anti-American extremism. But Ismail says little, fearing the truth will endanger the only person he has left in the world: His sister Yasmin.

Yasmin is the youngest (and favorite) wife of a radical Islamist leader named Najib. But Najib doesn't trust her. He suspects that she shares the rebellious spirit of her brother, Ismail – who escaped soon after Najib's men kidnapped them from their schoolhouse in Mogadishu. As Najib's mistrust grows, Yasmin begins to plot her own escape.

Derrick's sister Megan, a criminal defense lawyer, takes Ismail's case. Sharing her brother's sense that there is a mystery to unravel, she launches an investigation into Ismail's past that takes her from the Somali immigrant community in Minneapolis to a refugee camp in Kenya to Hawa Abdi Village outside Mogadishu.

Meanwhile, Quentin Parker's mother, Vanessa, a physician, is picking up the pieces of her life. As Quentin struggles to recover, she revisits letters Daniel sent her from the voyage, describing Quentin's slow transformation from troubled teen into self-assured young man. The letters offer her hope, as does the prospect of justice and her growing fondness for Paul Derrick.

As the tension mounts, Ismail strikes a shocking deal with the U.S. Government that gives him a chance to save Yasmin. But the price of her freedom is high: Ismail must deliver Najib to the American authorities, and then he must tell the jury the truth about the attack, placing his future – and his life – in their hands.

Against this epic backdrop, Addison propels the novel towards a satisfying, elegant conclusion, along the way prompting readers to consider:

- How does a broken family repair its fissures and come back together?
- Is it possible to truly forgive someone who has taken everything away from you?
- How is a teenager to find his or her place and purpose in an increasingly uncertain world?
- What is humanity to do about the age-old problem of violence and its consequences on individuals and families?

Those who walk this road with Corban Addison in the pages of **THE TEARS OF DARK WATER** will find themselves emotionally spent from wrestling with such deep and daunting questions... but ultimately optimistic that – with determination, empathy, and moral courage – there is hope for human society.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Corban Addison holds degrees in law and engineering from the University of Virginia and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. An attorney, activist, and world traveler, he is a supporter of numerous causes, including the abolition of modern slavery, gender-based violence, and HIV/AIDS. He lives with his wife and two children in Virginia.