

# Read. Return. Repeat.

## A ReadICT Podcast

### Show Notes

#### Season 4 Episode 4: A Lost Episode (featuring Kiersten White)

June 7<sup>th</sup> 2024



### In this episode

Sara and Daniel interview author Kiersten White, author of the 2023 novel *Mister Magic*. As they explore ReadICT Category 3: A book about something lost or found, Kiersten shares her thoughts on what she calls “toxic nostalgia,” problematic Punky Brewster episodes and how sometimes when you escape a cultish upbringing, you have to go write a horror novel about it.



### About Kiersten White

Kiersten White is the #1 New York Times bestselling, Bram Stoker Award-winning, and critically acclaimed author of many books for readers of all ages, including the And I Darken trilogy, the Sinister Summer series, the Camelot Rising trilogy, *Star Wars: Padawan*, *Hide*, *Mister Magic*, and *Lucy Undying*. Her books have been published in over twenty territories, and her novel *HIDE* is currently in development with Universal Television and Peacock.

Photo courtesy [kierstenwhite.com](http://kierstenwhite.com)

## More about Kiersten White

[Kierstenwhite.com](https://kierstenwhite.com)

Instagram & Threads: @authorkierstenwhite

X: @kierstenwhite

## Books by Kiersten White

*Hide* (2022)

*Hide: The Graphic Novel* (2023)

*Mister Magic* (2023)

*Lucy Undying: A Dracula Novel* (coming September 2024)

For a complete list of books written by the author, visit [kierstenwhite.com](https://kierstenwhite.com).

## Books, films & other media mentioned in this episode

*The Peanut Butter Solution* (1985 film)

*Channel Zero: Candle Cove* (2016 TV series)

*I Saw the TV Glow* (2024 film)

*Marvel Studios: The Marvel Cinematic Universe: An Official Timeline* (2023)

*The Program: Cons, Cults and Kidnapping* (2024 documentary series)

*Whalefall* by Daniel Kraus

*The September House* by Carissa Orlando

*The Muderbot Diaries* series by Martha Wells

## Topics discussed in this episode (with timestamps)

- About *Mister Magic* 3:39
- Nostalgia vs. confronting the truth 7:57
- The impact of childhood experiences on memory 13:50
- Parasocial relationships and children's media 17:43
- Creepypasta, childhood memories and the horror genre 25:06
- Engaging with fandoms 32:30
- Licensed Properties she'd like to work with in the future 40:53
- The ethics of controlling the narrative 46:57
- The "troubled teen" industry and behavior modification camps 51:36
- Why a book about a children's TV show to write a book about trauma? 56:13

- About *Hide* (novel and graphic novel adaptation) 1:00:34
- About her upcoming novel *Lucy Undying* 1:07:37
- Favorite genre to write 1:14:20
- Kiersten's book recommendations 1:16:16

## Relevant links to topics mentioned in this episode

Scout magazine [“Why the real villain of pop culture is nostalgia.”](#)

Toydejour.com blog post (March 30, 2021) [“Previously, on Punky Brewster.”](#)

[Creepypasta.com](#)

Medium.com article (November 29, 2019) [“How the Internet has made fandom culture powerful.”](#)

Religion News Service Article (October 5, 2023) [“Kiersten White, bestselling novelist, explains why she left Mormonism.”](#)

Standford Report article (February 10, 2022) [“Graphic novels can accelerate critical thinking, capture nuance and complexity of history, says Stanford historian.”](#)

[Dracula Daily](#)

Filmdaze.net (March 11, 2021) [“Queer coding in ‘Bram Stoker’s Dracula’.”](#)

Smithsonian National Postal Museum: [Epistolary Fiction](#)

### [Link to episode transcript](#)

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