

Title: Retreat House

Author: Sarah Yasin

ISBN: 978-1-945181-52-8

Excerpt

Her fear increased in the dark as her mind moved in concentric circles around the words of Lee: *there's someone in the woods*. An old hymn came into her heart, and if her throat wasn't tight she would have sung the lines now looping within her, *when I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down*. The rest of the words were beautiful to her, but she could only replay those three lines over and over. Until tonight, she believed her cup overflowed as the psalmist said, but now the basic needs of her soul felt as though they were draining out of her, replaced by a fear that crept higher and higher inside her. There's someone in the woods and there's someone in the basement and he's waiting for you, Holly, he's waiting for your fear to rise to the meniscus and then he'll strike you down and tear you apart, you and the unborn child you hold inside you.