



# The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August

By Claire North

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SOME STORIES CANNOT BE TOLD IN JUST ONE LIFETIME.

Harry August is on his deathbed. Again.

No matter what he does or the decisions he makes, when death comes, Harry always returns to where he began, a child with all the knowledge of a life he has already lived a dozen times before. Nothing ever changes.

Until now.

As Harry nears the end of his eleventh life, a little girl appears at his bedside. "I nearly missed you, Doctor August," she says. "I need to send a message."

This is the story of what Harry does next, and what he did before, and how he tries to save a past he cannot change and a future he cannot allow.

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## **The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August By Claire North Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

**\*Starred Review\*** Harry August isn't human. Well, that's not quite accurate. He is human but a different sort of human from the rest of us: he was born (in the ladies' washroom of a train station in England in 1919), he lives a certain number of years, and he dies—and then he's born again, right back where he started, and a handful of years later his memories of his first life return. Harry is, like a few others, a kalachakra, an immortal who is constantly reborn, each time with all the memories of his previous lives. This wonderful novel, narrated by Harry, ranges back and forth in time as he recounts episodes from his various lives, but it's all held together by a compelling mystery involving nothing less than the end of the world itself (a thousand years in the future). Beautifully written and structured, the book should be a big hit with SF fans. The pseudonymous author's name is being kept secret, but fans of SF and fantasy authors China Mieville, Christopher Priest, and Adam Roberts might note a stylistic similarity, especially in the novel's elegant prose. Whoever Claire North turns out to be, he or she has written a remarkable book. --David Pitt

### Review

"I don't say this lightly but *The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August* is one of the top ten books I've ever read." **?James Dashner, New York Times and USA Today bestselling author of *The Maze Runner***

"An astonishing re-invention of the time travel narrative. Bold, magical and masterful." **?Mike Carey**

"A thoughtful and considered time-travel novel, shocking twists and, most important of all, a beautiful character. Harry August will break your heart fifteen times." **?James Shurin**

"A subtle study of friendship, love and the complexity of existence." **?Eric Brown, Guardian**

"Wonderful novel... held together by a compelling mystery involving nothing less than the end of the world itself. Beautifully written and structured...a remarkable book." **?Booklist (Starred Review)**

"Fantastic." **?io9**

"A tremendously entertaining ride... You're sure to enjoy the trip." **?Toronto Sunday Star**

### About the Author

Claire North is a pseudonym for Catherine Webb, a Carnegie Medal-nominated author whose first book was written when she was just fourteen years old. She went on to write several other novels in various genres, before publishing her first major work as Claire North, *The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August*, in 2014. It was a critically acclaimed success, receiving rave reviews and an Audie nomination, and was included in the *Washington Post's* Best Books of the Year list. Her most recent novel, *Touch*, was also in the *Washington Post's* Best Books of the Year, in 2015.

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

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**Diane Walker:**

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