



The Wounds of the Dead

By Vikram Paralkar

Fourth Estate, 2017. N.A. Condition: New. 224pp. A surgeon working in a dilapidated clinic in the hinterland is visited in the dead of night by a family - a man, his pregnant wife and their eight-year-old son. Victims of a senseless attack, they reveal to the surgeon wounds that they could not possibly have survived. In a narrative that blends medicine and metaphysics, the surgeon is then issued a preposterous task: to mend the wounds of the dead before sunrise so that the family can return to life. But this is not the only challenge laid before him, and it is only as the night unfolds and morning dawns that the surgeon realizes just how intricately his future is tied to that of the dead. Weaving surgical detail with philosophy and absurdism, *The Wounds of the Dead* is a novel that's at once grittily realistic and magically unreal, and which will remain with you long after you have read the final page.



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