Rivaling Proust’s Work in Size, this 19-Volume Series Begins in Indiana Before Moving to the Pacific Northwest

Chatwin Books is excited to host J.G. Perkins, author of the 19-volume “Darkness Before Mourning” series, one of the largest bodies of fiction ever created by a single author. Perkins will be appearing at Chatwin’s booth (#2351) from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26.

Over 40 years in the making, each independent work in “Darkness Before Mourning” acts as part of a biographical continuum. The books explore Perkin’s searing experiences in a profoundly dark, semi-fictionalized form. They offer readers a remarkable window into American society, life, and familial relationships from the 1950s to the present.

In volume 1, The Announcers (Chatwin, 2015), main character Jack Lewis relives a pivotal period in his life: the two seasons he spent in Little League with his father, the team’s announcer, who was secretly dying of cancer.

Volume 2, Harvest of Ashes (Chatwin, 2017), finds Jack Lewis facing not only the usual Christmas pressures felt by parents of young children, but a long list of difficult situations. He’s promised his wife to be happy this year (despite sad anniversaries), work has become a minefield, and his mother suddenly falls ill.

Originally from Kokomo, Indiana, Perkins now lives in Seattle. His literary archive is housed at the Lilly Library, Indiana University. Visit Chatwin Books’ booth (#2351) on Saturday, Jan. 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to meet Perkins and learn more about his remarkable series.