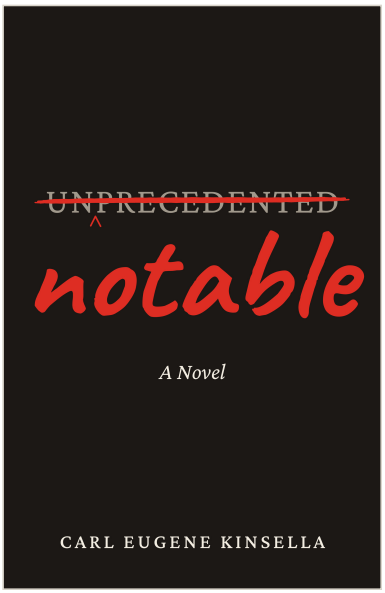


Notable

A Novel

Carl Eugene Kinsella

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The world did what she said it would. Nobody thanked her.

In February 2028, a briefing comes back to Ruth Ellery's desk with the word *unprecedented* struck out for the third time. Someone two floors up has replaced it with *notable*, and written in the margin: *Feels alarmist.* The paragraph said that the fruit would not set. It was a description of dirt.

Ruth is not a scientist. She is a mid-level analyst in a state department, and her job is to turn what the data says into paragraphs a minister can read on the way to a meeting. For eleven years she has kept a number in her phone that nobody else is watching: the temperature at which a human body, in the shade, with water, can no longer cool itself. Now she has a spreadsheet, a listing for forty acres in the rain in north-west Tasmania, and a family that thinks she needs to see somebody.

She is right. That is the problem. Being right, she will learn, is not a thing you get to feel. It is a thing you pay for, one name at a time.

Sixty years later, her granddaughter is handed a piece of paper on a runway at the bottom of the world, and told her grandmother would have signed it.

Notable is a novel of the next sixty years, told from a hill in Tasmania and a desk in Adelaide, about a border, a family, and the difference between being right and being on the record.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Carl Eugene Kinsella lives in the Adelaide Hills. He has spent thirty-three years in roles that require people to read, understand and act on briefings, writing the briefings that other people edited. *Notable* is what he wrote when nobody was editing. He has published non-fiction under other names; this is his first novel.

Review copies available in print and ePub.

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