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*The Purge Meets The Chemist in Madison Lawson's Dystopian Thriller, **The Registration***

Fans of *All Your Perfects* by Colleen Hoover, *Behind Closed Doors* by B.A. Paris, *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, and the Jason Bourne series by Robert Ludlum will love *The Registration*.

Nashville, TN 3/31/2022 – Madison Lawson's debut novel, *The Registration*, to be released from CamCat Books on September 27, 2022, began with a spine-tingling what-if scenario: What if we were allowed to kill one person in our lifetime? How would we choose the victim? What would motivate us to end a person's life? Would we cherish our one legal kill?

"I wanted to write a book where people have the power to make life-and-death decisions," says Lawson, "to explore how that kind of control over another's life impacts relationships, particularly familial relationships."

At its heart, *The Registration* is about family and the ties that bind us together. What is it that makes us belong, the novels asks, wondering if we can choose our families or are tethered to our bloodlines forever.

"How resilient are family bonds and what sort of duty do we have to family members? I think what moves me about this is that there doesn't seem to be a clear-cut answer. It all depends on the individual and the situation. And while I want to believe that blood family doesn't mean anything beyond genetics unless we give it meaning, there does seem to be a sort of pull there, whether we want it or not," says Lawson.

Lawson is available for interviews and book signings. Please contact [Laura Wooffitt](mailto:laura@camcatpublishing.com) to schedule an interview, inquire about excerpts/features, or to request any additional information.

BOOK SUMMARY:

You can't outrun the Registration.

Imagine it's legal to commit one murder in your lifetime if you Register the victim and accomplish the kill within fourteen days. So when Lynell Mize stands in line to Register the man who abused her as a child, she's shocked to hear a stranger Register her to be killed. Why would anyone who doesn't know her squander his one legal murder on her? Desperate to survive the next two weeks, she must find out who wants to kill her and why.

Easier said than done as Lynell soon discovers that multiple strangers have used their Registration on her. Along the way, she reunites with her estranged husband who is determined to dig up a past Lynell prefers to keep buried. With only days left to live, Lynell is determined to uncover the truth and survive a destiny not of her choosing. Everyone she knows could be her killer. Any day could be her last.

THE REGISTRATION

Madison Lawson

September 27, 2022

CamCat Books

Category
Thriller

Hardcover
9780744307023
\$25.99 | 368 pages
5.5" x 8.5"

Large Print
9780744307047
\$19.99 | 554 pages
5.5" x 8.5"

eBook
9780744307061
\$4.99

Audio
9780744307092
\$19.95

Availability
Wherever Books
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Distributed to the
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EXCERPT:

Lynell feels the sun cutting into her skin, a harsh reminder of her own mortality. She rolls forward onto her toes and holds her hand up against the sun. The motion puts an old scar on her forearm in her direct line of sight. Her stomach clenches and she steps back into the shade.

Dallas is busier today than on a usual Thursday. The first Thursday of the quarter, April 4th, brings promises of vengeance, clarity, relief, justice, and love.

It's Registration Day.

Lynell pushes herself against the wall of the building and leans her head back. She flattens her palms against the hot stones, listening to the city's symphony. Hundreds of feet pound the pavement, and the streets are congested with honking cars and people on the phone.

Across the street, an old man walks out of the large glass door Lynell has been staring at for two hours. He folds a piece of paper and slides it into his back pocket. She wonders whom he just Registered. The odds suggest a wife or loved one in chronic pain, as mercy is the most common reason for using the Registration. But perhaps this man seeks justice. Lynell's high school history teacher used his Registration on a man who assaulted his daughter and got away with it. No jail time or community service.

But with the Registration, he found justice anyway.

A gunshot brutally pulls her out of her rumination. A young girl screams, and a few older kids jump or duck. Lynell, like most of the adults walking the streets, only flinches at the sound. While public Registrations aren't common, the first day is always the most violent. She looks up to see a middle-aged man lying in a pool of his own blood and a woman, the same age, standing over him holding a small, smoking gun. Instantly, a pair of Elysian Regulators rush to her side. Lynell can't hear what they're saying, but after the woman holds up a piece of paper and the officers dig in the man's coat, they nod. A lengthy phone call later, the Regulators leave. If the Registration had been completed anywhere else, officers probably would have arrived first. But since she's right outside a Registration office, there are plenty of Regulators around to check the legitimacy of the completed Registration.

The woman kneels next to the man's side, back straight as she reaches toward his pocket. Two men a few feet away pull out their phones and start snapping photos before running off. Perhaps they're nothing more than curious bystanders, but the deep frowns on their faces tell a different story. Lynell would bet her own Registration that they're rebel vultures collecting gruesome images of any deaths they stumble across. Whatever remains of the revolutionists will flood the internet with photos of the worst completed Registrations to sway others to their cause. What they won't show are the grateful faces of those who will be Registered so they won't have to spend another day on a ventilator or suffering through chemo.

AUTHOR BIO:



Author **Madison Lawson** writes speculative fiction novels full of suspense, social commentary, and complex relationships. She has published a dozen short stories, many of which won awards such as the Koresh Award and the Gordone Award. She received her B.A. in English from Texas A&M University and is currently earning her M.A. in English at North Carolina State University. Born and raised in a small Texas town, Madison began escaping through reading and writing as soon as she could. To stay updated, follow Madison on social media and head to madisonlawson.com.

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