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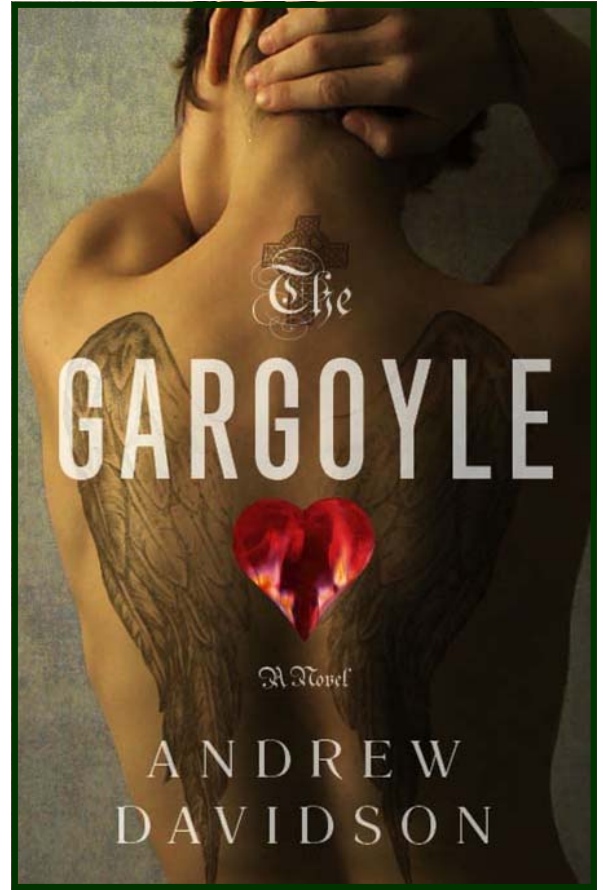
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PAPERBACK—THE NEW YORK
TIMES BESTSELLING DEBUT
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The hardcover edition of **THE GARGOYLE** by Andrew Davidson, was an international literary publishing sensation with translation rights sold in 20 countries. This highly acclaimed debut novel was a *New York Times* Hardcover Bestseller for 4 weeks!

“Seductive...books like *Possession* and *The Name of the Rose* come to mind.”—*The New York Times*

“Mr. Davidson skillfully assembles a centuries-old puzzle involving a series of fables of undying love...the reader is kept guessing until the final pages.”—*The Wall Street Journal*

“[A] powerful debut...Once launched into this intense tale of unconventional romance, few readers will want to put it down.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred)



The narrator of *The Gargoyle* is a very contemporary cynic, physically beautiful and sexually adept, who dwells in the moral vacuum that is modern life. As the book opens, he is driving along a dark road when he is distracted by what seems to be a flight of arrows. He crashes into a ravine and suffers horrible burns over much of his body. As he recovers in a burn ward, he awaits the day when he can leave the hospital and commit carefully planned suicide—for he is now a monster in appearance as well as in soul.

A beautiful and compelling, but clearly unhinged, sculptress of gargoyles by the name of Marianne Engel appears at the foot of his bed and insists that they were once lovers in medieval Germany. As she spins their tale in Scheherazade fashion and relates equally mesmerizing stories of deathless love in Japan, Iceland, Italy, and England, he finds himself drawn back to life—and, finally, in love. He is released into Marianne's care. But all is not well. For one thing, the pull of his past sins becomes ever more powerful as the morphine he is prescribed becomes ever more addictive. For another, Marianne receives word from God that she has only twenty-seven sculptures left to complete—and her time on earth will be finished.



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