

THE PORTAL PRESS KIT

PRESS RELEASE

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Headline: New Novel *The Portal* Explores the Human Cost of Technology and Grief

Subhead: Kentucky author Jeremy Marsh blurs the line between memory and machine in an emotional near-future drama set in Cincinnati.

The Portal, the debut novel from Kentucky author **Jeremy Marsh**, asks what happens when technology lets us relive the moments we were never meant to keep. Set in a near-future Cincinnati still recovering from economic collapse, the story follows **Jacob Hastings**, a grieving tech founder who builds an AI system designed to let people step back inside their most powerful memories.

As Jacob descends deeper into the machine he created, he discovers the Portal does not just replay the past; it reacts to it. What begins as a desperate act of love becomes a battle between memory and truth, forcing Jacob and his family to confront what it really means to let go.

Equal parts speculative fiction and intimate family drama, *The Portal* grounds its futuristic premise in raw emotional reality, exploring the intersection of loss, technology, and human connection.

"This story came from wondering what grief would look like if we had the power to edit it," Marsh says. "The technology is not the villain. The inability to move on is."

Availability: Paperback, hardcover, and digital formats through Amazon, Apple Books, and IngramSpark.

ISBN: 9798349660412

Genre: Near-Future Drama / Speculative Fiction

Publisher: J Marsh Media

Release Date: November 27, 2025

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AUTHOR BIO

Short Version (50 words)

Jeremy Marsh is a Kentucky based author and founder of J Marsh Media. His debut novel *The Portal* blends speculative technology with emotional realism, exploring grief, memory, and the fragile line between love and obsession.

Long Version (150 to 200 words)

Jeremy Marsh is a storyteller, producer, and founder of J Marsh Media, a creative studio based in Kentucky. His work explores the tension between technology and humanity, and how people chase permanence in a world built on change. His debut novel *The Portal* fuses emotional realism with speculative technology, following a family fractured by grief and drawn into an experimental AI system that replays memories of the dead. Set primarily in Cincinnati, the story blends grounded human emotion with near future intrigue and forces characters and readers to ask whether reliving the past is worth losing the present.

Marsh draws inspiration from the industrial Midwest and Southern storytelling traditions. His work balances heart and intellect, creating stories that feel cinematic and deeply personal. When he is not writing, he develops projects under multiple author brands within J Marsh Media, building connected worlds across books, film, and digital storytelling.

BOOK SUMMARY / ONE SHEET

Title: The Portal

Author: Jeremy Marsh

Genre: Near-Future Drama / Speculative Fiction

ISBN: 9798349660412

Distributor: IngramSpark

Publisher: J Marsh Media

Formats: Paperback, Hardcover, Digital

Release Date: November 27, 2025

Tagline: Grief, memory, and a machine that lets you go back to the moment you should have moved on.

In a near future Cincinnati shaped by collapse and rapid innovation, Jacob Hastings helps develop an experimental system called the Portal, a neural interface that allows users to step back into their most powerful memories. As Jacob dives deeper into his own past, the lines between memory, simulation, and reality begin to fracture. The Portal does not simply record. It learns.

Why It Resonates:

- Blends emotional family drama with grounded speculative technology.
- Explores modern themes of loss, memory, and digital immortality.
- Uses Cincinnati as a vivid and specific backdrop with universal emotional stakes.

FACT SHEET

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Contact	jeremy.marsh.author@gmail.com
Website	https://jmarshmedia.com/jeremy-marsh

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What inspired The Portal and its focus on grief through technology?
2. Why did you set the story in Cincinnati, and how does that setting shape its mood?
3. The story presents AI in a complex and human way instead of treating it only as a threat. Was that choice intentional?
4. Which character challenged you the most to write and why?
5. How does The Portal reflect our real world relationship with memory, guilt, and holding on too long?
6. What do you hope readers carry away from this book after they put it down?