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**A Necrophiliac Crime Solver? New Title from Award-Winning,  
Macabre Author Brian Ray  
Release Date: July 1, 2011**

May 2, 2011 – Pill Hill Press is proud and horrified to announce the forthcoming crime thriller *Unknown Female*. The story: Forensic artist Marx Thoreau admires the corpse of a young woman found near a dilapidated barn that once belonged to his father, serial killer Donald

**UNKNOWN  
FEMALE**

Bath. The year is 1976, and the town of Stonewall seethes with superstition. Marx is struck by the cadaver's appearance, which has earned her the nickname "Sleeping Beauty," partly because she doesn't decay. Marx could imagine no greater pleasure than to hold her in his arms. Physical and psychological abuse has twisted this talented artist into a hollow creature who struggles with an inner necrophiliac and killer. He resists these dark urges, but they haunt his art and creep into his dreams. He secretly hopes that solving the Sleeping Beauty's murder will somehow free him of his past.

Ray is the award-winning author of *Through the Pale Door*, which received critical praise in *Booklist*, *Atlanta Magazine*, the *Atlanta-Journal Constitution*, *Southern Literary Review*, and other venues. The novel was chosen by Percival Everett as winner of the inaugural SC First Novel Prize.

Ray will be on tour promoting his new novel this summer and fall. Visit his website at [www.brianrayfiction.com](http://www.brianrayfiction.com)

Somewhere between the gothic eccentricities of filmmakers Tim Burton and David Lynch [...] Ray is exploring an empty building and trying to understand the sick mind of the necrophiliac—Stephanie Garcia, *The Hook*.