

# In The Dust Zone

Contributed by Maggie Dubris & Scott Gillis

## NEW CORPSE SERIAL

In the Dust Zone

### IN THE DUST ZONE

written by Maggie Dubris

drawings by Scott Gillis

#### Introduction

In August of 2001, New York City writer Maggie Dubris was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Three weeks later, on September 11th, she responded as a 911 paramedic to the World Trade Center attack. In The Dust Zone began as her story of being thrown across the great divide, into a world where the landscape, both inner and outer, is destroyed in an instant. . .

In The Dust Zone is an illustrated book that weaves together strands of this experience with visions of a now vanished Afghanistan, an eye-witness account of Pliny's death in the eruption of Vesuvius, the journal of a young man who would become the writer's great-grandfather, caught in the throes of the ague fever. The drawings layered into the text are threads in a tapestry of dislocation, faces and sights drawn from an "enemy land" whose people spent have years wandering in the Dust Zone. As the book progresses, moving through this world where no one can ever see clearly no matter how many times they rinse out their eyes, people emerge, one by one, somehow still walking, and connected to a larger human experience by their time spent in this strange and terrible place.

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Maggie Dubris is the author of *Skels* (Soft Skull Press, 2004), and *Weep Not, My Wanton* (Black Sparrow Press, 2002). She worked for twenty years as a full-time 911 paramedic in the Times Square district in New York City, and is currently employed by Kids Kicking Cancer, working as martial arts health care specialist with children in hospitals.

Scott Gillis (art) illustrated the graphic novel, Barry Gifford's *Perdita Durango* (Avon Books, 1995), which was published in the U.S., France, and Germany. He is currently represented by Jonathan LeVine Gallery in New York City. He was also a founding member and the guitarist of the seminal East Village band, Konk.

In The Dust Zone (Centre-Ville Books, 2010) is available from:  
<http://www.lulu.com/product/paperback/in-the-dust-zone/6481058>