

The Toe Beast looms large in the Barnes family lore—a tale concocted by twelve-year-old Roman's grandpa to explain his missing toe. But Roman has never actually heard the full story, and after his grandpa dies suddenly, it seems like he never will.

That is, until Roman is tasked with clearing out his grandpa's house, and stumbles upon some strange things. An old mason jar full of formaldehyde, a mysterious handwritten book about a girl and a pack of dogs, a rusty metal bucket with peculiar abilities. And they all tie back to extraordinary secrets from the distant past.

By unraveling even more unbelievable stories that have been hidden from him, Roman is forced to rethink how he fits into his family's history. Now it's up to him to see his own story through to the end. Because the Toe Beast was only the beginning . . .

Aaron Starmer is the author of more than a dozen middle grade and young adult novels, including *Night Swimming*, the *Locker 37* series, *The Riverman Trilogy*, and *Spontaneous*, which was adapted into a critically acclaimed film from Paramount Pictures. His books have been translated into multiple foreign languages and have appeared on best-of-the-year lists from *TIME* magazine, the *Wall Street Journal*, New York Public Library, YALSA, Bank Street College of Education, Chicago Public Library, and *School Library Journal*. He lives in Vermont with his wife and two children.

Read by Nikola Hamilton



**Listening
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Runtime: 5h. 57m. • Unabridged

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