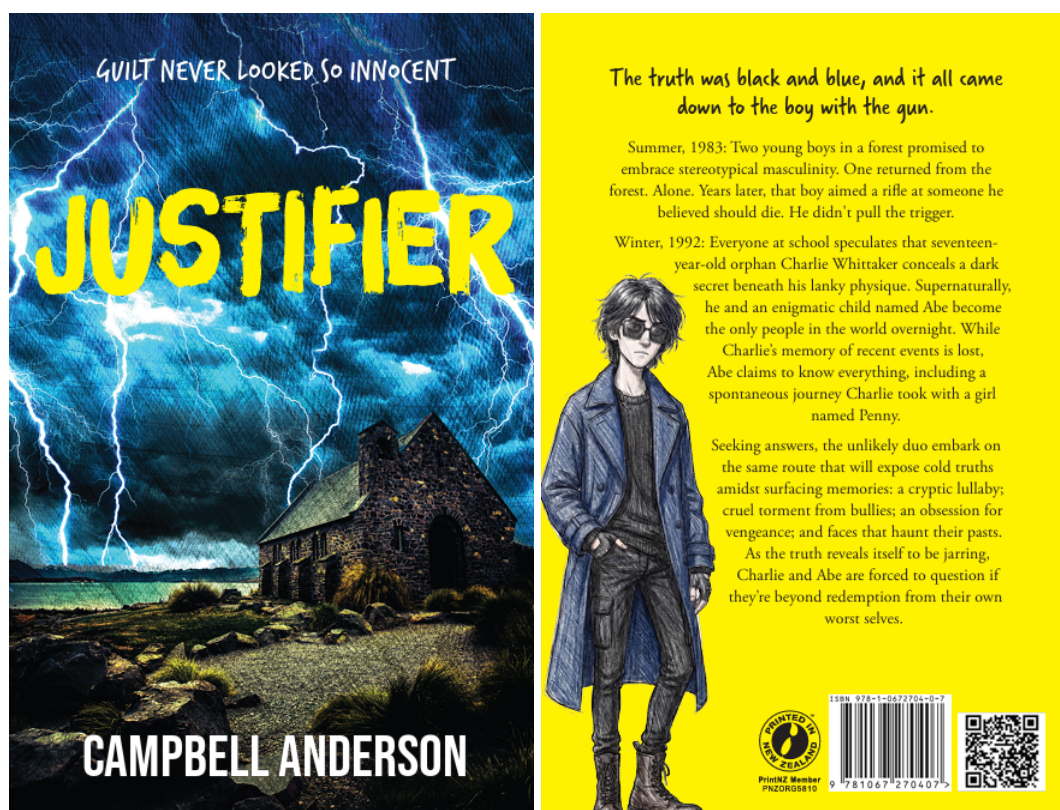




Title: Justifier

Author: Campbell Anderson

Genre: YA Psychological Thriller

Publication Date: 28 August 2026

ISBN: 978-1-0672704-0-7 (Paperback); 978-1-0672704-1-4 (Ebook)

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Available Formats: Paperback; Ebook

Retail Price: \$27.00 NZD (direct from author website); \$8.23 NZD (Amazon/Kobo Rakuten ebook).

Summary:

"The truth was black and blue, and it all came down to the kid with the gun."

When teenage outcast Charlie and a mysterious child, Abe, find themselves to be the only people left in the world, they take a road trip searching for answers, but discover disturbing truths. A phenomenal coming-of-age novel about identity, guilty secrets and redemption. A reminder you are not your past.

Blurb:

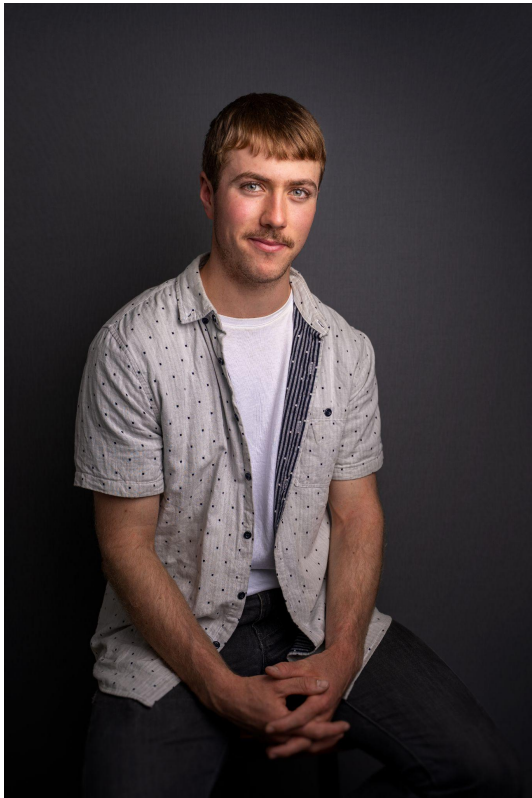
Summer, 1983: Two young boys in a forest promised to embrace stereotypical masculinity. One returned from the forest. Alone. Years later, that boy aimed a rifle at someone he believed should die. He didn't pull the trigger.

Winter, 1992: Everyone at school speculates that seventeen-year-old orphan Charlie Whittaker conceals a dark secret beneath his lanky physique.

Supernaturally, he and an enigmatic child named Abe become the only people in the world overnight. While Charlie's memory of recent events is lost, Abe claims to know everything, including a spontaneous journey Charlie took with a girl named Penny.

Seeking answers, the unlikely duo embark on the same route that will expose cold truths amidst surfacing memories: a cryptic lullaby; cruel torment from bullies; an obsession for vengeance; and faces that haunt their pasts. As the truth reveals itself to be jarring, Charlie and Abe are forced to question if they're beyond redemption from their own worst selves.

Author Bio (short- and medium-length versions)



Campbell Anderson is the author of the novels *The Chasm Between Us* and *Justifier*. In 2022, Campbell was a finalist in the Katherine Mansfield Short Story Award for a bloody dark romance piece. From a young age, he's enjoyed being creative, and believes there's a story inside everyone worth telling!

Campbell Anderson is a Pōneke-based novelist of contemporary fiction. Since thirteen years old, he has enjoyed using storytelling that's thought-provoking and impactful. In 2025, he self-published his debut new adult romance novel *The Chasm Between Us*. His YA psychological-thriller *Justifier* was published in August 2026. He was a finalist in the Katherine Mansfield Short Story Competition 2022. His writing blends mental health, raw emotion, grief and redemption. Campbell is a member of the NZSA and regularly attends Open Mic sessions. When not writing, you can find him drumming or immersed in nature.

Why *Justifier* Stands Out

Justifier carries a relevant message to teenage readers that they are not their past, no matter how gritty it is. It's in human nature to follow through with an act, whether good or bad, if they find reasons to self-justify it. The main character Charlie is an example that anyone can change their ways and they don't have to follow through with self-justified violence. Other themes in the novel touch on the importance of holding onto good morals and relationships.

Justifier is already being eagerly anticipated by readers thanks to input from beta/arc readers and social media. Here's one such reader's words of encouragement: "...the journey of Charlie Whittaker is one of the most complete, courageous, and emotionally truthful narratives I have ever had the privilege to witness."

Another key stand-out point is 15% of all royalties earned will be donated directly to Youthline, a local mental health organisation that supports the mental health of young people. Youthline is just one of Aotearoa's mental health lines facing a funding crisis. This 15% donation allows readers to feel good about their purchase while supporting vulnerable young people in New Zealand.

Who *Justifier* is for

This coming-of-age thriller is for readers aged 15+, appealing to both male and female readers. It is for readers of psychological thrillers with an unreliable narrator, and enjoy themes of identity, guilt and redemption, with Christian beliefs woven in.

Justifier is a book that should appeal to fans of E.Lockhart's *We Were Liars* and Craig Harrison's *The Quiet Earth*, blending character, a post-apocalyptic setting and hazy memories together.

Interview Topics

Why I wrote the book / advice for aspiring novelists / the relevance of themes in the book / behind-the-scenes of the process / aspirations and ambitions for readers / my POV of what inspires authentic storytelling

Sample Questions

- What compelled you to write *Justifier*?
- What message do you want readers to take away from the book?
- What do you believe are the key elements to effective storytelling?
- What are the highs and lows of being an indie author in NZ?
- What does your writing process look like?
- What is your advice to young writers?
- What growth have you seen in your writing journey?
- What are some memorable moments from behind the scenes of *Justifier*?
- How does personal experience contribute to storytelling?
- What inspired the cover or certain scenes?
- What writers/texts have influenced your work?
- What topics would you like to explore in the future?
- What moments have been pivotal in your author journey?

Sample Chapters

[Justifier Sample Chapters](#)

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Frequently Asked Questions

How long did it take to write the book? *Justifier* has taken me 2.5 years to write, alongside publishing my debut.

Where can I get the book? It will be available on Amazon, Kobo Rakuten, my website, and likely from local public libraries - hopefully independent bookstore consignment too.

How is the book distributed? It will be distributed by the author as well as from IngramSpark and/or Wheelers. Terms and conditions will apply for returnability.

Is the book suitable for book clubs? Yes, *Justifier* is suitable for book clubs, particularly youth-aged ones, however no discussion material has been provided.

Many thanks,

Campbell Anderson

