

When Sam learned about the dig over Minetta Creek, his reaction had been anything but enthusiastic. In no uncertain terms, he demanded that Kurt stop digging.  
“Or else.”  
“Or else what?”  
Kurt had asked, amused.  
“Or else madness will rise again.”  
Kurt had laughed it off.  
A little more madness? Who would even notice?

Christoph Keller has pulled off something extraordinary in this exhilarating, un-put-downable novel. Combining his remarkable erudition and mastery of page-turning narrative, *River* is a unique blend of classic detective story, serial killer thriller, and mind-bending plunge into the realm of magic, myth, and mystical vision. More than a great read, it’s an intoxicating experience.

— **Harold Schechter**  
author of *Murderabilia: A History of Crime in 100 Objects*

Christoph Keller is a fabulous storyteller: his swing awakens the hidden currents of Manhattan.

— **Peter Weber**  
author of *The Weathersmith*

Christoph Keller ... ranks among the great Swiss writers.

— **Peer Teuwsen**  
*Neue Zürcher Zeitung*

PRaise for *EVERY CRIPPLE A SUPERHERO*

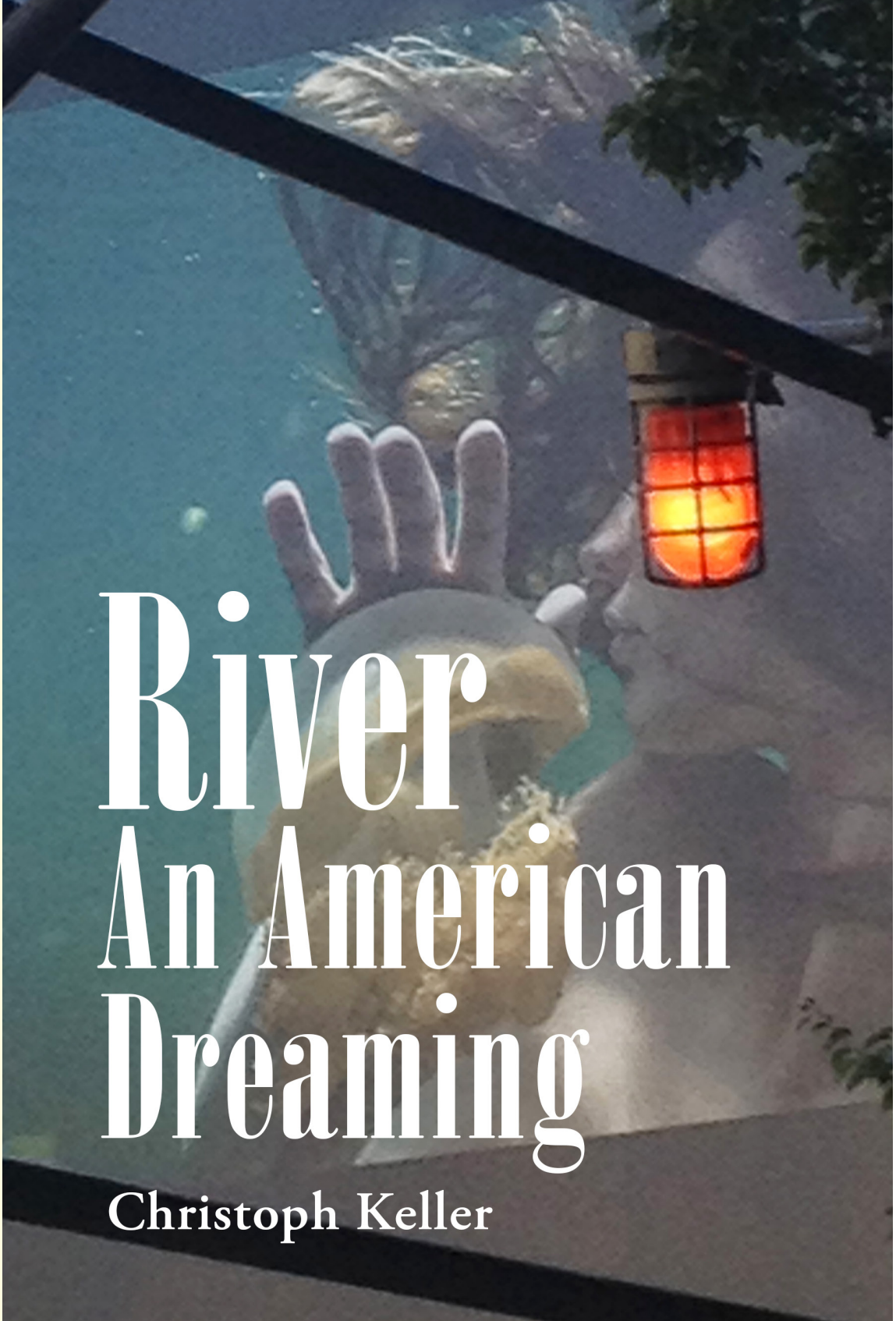
Grace, strength, and humor are superpowers of extraordinary depth and stature, and Keller’s slender, powerful book glows like a supernova.

— **Jayne Anne Phillips**  
author of the Pulitzer winning novel *Night Watch*



**River**  
An American  
Dreaming

Christoph Keller



RIVER An American Dreaming is a hallucinatory novel about a buried river, a legendary snake, and a nation dreaming itself into madness. Christoph Keller blends myth, satire, and urban archaeology to explore the fevered roots of the American experiment. At the center sits Kurt H. Adler, a wheelchair-using archaeologist drawn into a vortex of violence, possession, and vision. Echoing Lenape cosmology, Bulgakov, and Mephistopheles, *RIVER* is a rare literary feat: unsettling, lyrical, and urgently of our time.