



Autumn 2025
Frontlist Rights Guide

Adult and Children's books

Greenburger.com

AGENTS



Heide Lange, CEO
Dan Mandel, President
Faith Hamlin
Matt Bialer
Rachael Dillon Fried
Clare Mao
Sarah Phair
Alexander Slater
Abigail Frank
Iwalani Kim
Hannah Strouth
Bailey Tamayo
Madeline Wallace

Dorothy Vincent
Director of Foreign Rights
dvincent@siga.com

INTERNATIONAL CO-AGENTS



Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, and Serbia: Andrew Nurnberg Associates Sofia
Brazil: MB Agencia Literaria
China: Andrew Nurnberg Associates International Ltd., Beijing
Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Slovenia: Andrew Nurnberg Associates Prague
Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Ukraine: Andrew Nurnberg Associates Kyiv
France and Quebec: La Nouvelle Agence
Greece: Read n' Right Agency
Germany: Mohrbooks
Hungary and Croatia: Andrew Nurnberg Associates Budapest
Israel: The Deborah Harris Agency
Italy: Berla & Griffini
Japan: Tuttle-Mori Agency
Korea: Eric Yang Agency
Poland: Graal Agency
Portugal: MB Agencia Literaria
Russia: Andrew Nurnberg Literary Agency, Moscow
Scandinavia: Licht & Burr
Spain: MB Agencia Literaria
Taiwan: Andrew Nurnberg Associates International Ltd., Taipei
Thailand, Mongolia, Indonesia: Andrew Nurnberg Associates, Bangkok
Turkey: AnatoliaLit
United Kingdom: Abner Stein Ltd
Vietnam: Andrew Nurnberg Associates, Hanoi

TABLE OF CONTENTS



FICTION

General Fiction – 6-41
Science Fiction and Fantasy – 42-59

NON-FICTION

General Non-fiction – 61-88

CHILDREN'S

Picture Books – 90-100
Middle Grade – 101-119
Young Adult – 120-127

INDEX



Brill, Janet Bond	62	Leatherman, Tim	78, 79
Brower, Michael C	63	Levine, Arthur	80, 81
Brown, Dan	6-7	Lia, Ebonya	24
Brown, Stefanie Foster	90	Liar, Benjamin	54, 55
Buchanan, Lynn	43, 44	Lu, Shaina	103
Calonita, Jen	100, 101	Lu, Wendy	104
Carraway, Kate	64, 65	Mao, Sally Wen	25
Cherryh, CJ	45	Marks, Janae	105
Cortez, Rio	91, 92	Marks, John Garrison	82
Coverly, S.D.	46	Mester, Emily	83, 84
Croome, Bethan	47	Montague, Liz	106, 107
Dass, Sarah	119, 120	Morin, Tomas Q.	26
Deutermann, PT	10	Moss, Madeline	27
Dorn, Anna	11, 12	Nader, Alexia	28
Drakeford, Scott	48, 49	Nasserzadeh, Sara	85, 86
Dudar, Hasan	13	Novak, Ali	123
Dudum, Elena	66	Ocker, JW	87, 109
Elegant, Naomi	14, 15	Oet, Rainie	109, 110
Enrich, David	67, 68	Pearson, Mallory	56, 57
Epperson, Tom	50	Peltz, Madeline	88
Fong, Pam	93, 94	Rende, Sydney	29, 30
Foster, Thomas	69	Robinson, Riognach	31
Frederick, Erica	16	Shah, Reena	32, 33
Gopal, Jyoti	95	Skogman, Calahan	34, 35
Grant, Rebecca	70, 71	Stewart, Daniel Day	36
Gu, Yan	96	Stolos, Jacqueline	112
Gurule, Michelle	72, 73	Swinarski, Claire	37, 112, 113
Hays, Katy	17, 18	Tatsukawa	98, 99
Hedva, Johanna	19, 20	Thayer, Alex	114, 115
Hightower, Lynn	21, 51, 52	Thor, Brad	38, 39
Høstrup, Line Høj	102	Tian, Xixi	124, 125
Huang, Eric	74	Van Pelt, Scott	80, 81
Hulbert, Victoria	22	Vandelly, T. Marie	58
Idle, Eric	75	Warga, Jasmine	116, 117
Jones, Christy Anne	53	Williams, Tad	59
Joseph, Frederick	121, 122	Woo, Charlotte	119
Kakimoto, Megan	23	Wroten, K	126
Kaur, Baljinder	97	Yang, Alice	40, 41
Kurcinka, Mary	76, 77		

Dan Brown

THE SECRET OF SECRETS

Doubleday, September 9, 2025

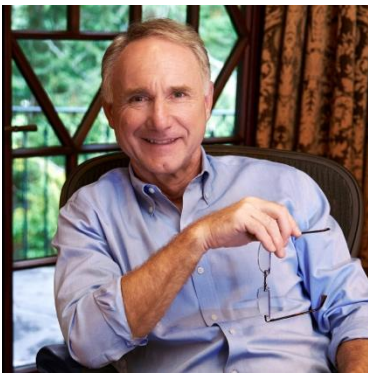
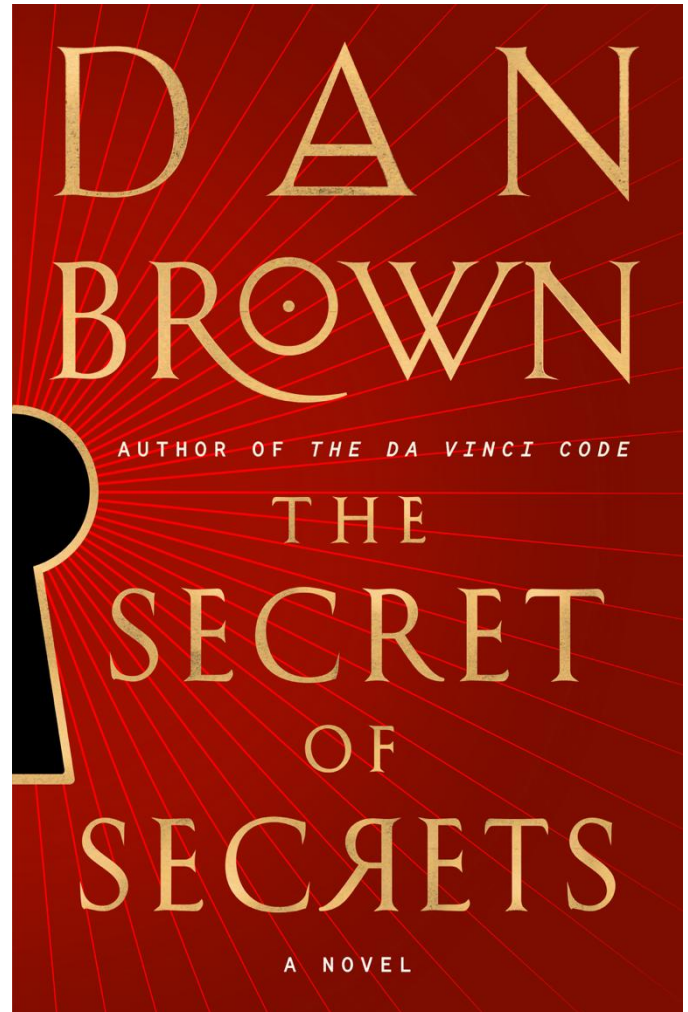
Agent: Heide Lange

Instant #1 *New York Times* bestseller
Debuted at #1 in X countries

The world's most celebrated thriller writer returns with his most stunning novel yet—a propulsive, twisty, thought-provoking masterpiece that will entertain readers as only Dan Brown can do.

Robert Langdon, esteemed professor of symbology, travels to Prague to attend a groundbreaking lecture by Katherine Solomon—a prominent noetic scientist with whom he has recently begun a relationship. Katherine is on the verge of publishing an explosive book that contains startling discoveries about the nature of human consciousness and threatens to disrupt centuries of established belief. But a brutal murder catapults the trip into chaos, and Katherine suddenly disappears along with her manuscript. Langdon finds himself targeted by a powerful organization and hunted by a chilling assailant sprung from Prague's most ancient mythology. As the plot expands into London and New York, Langdon desperately searches for Katherine . . .

and for answers. In a thrilling race through the dual worlds of futuristic science and mystical lore, he uncovers a shocking truth about a secret project that will forever change the way we think about the human mind.



Dan Brown is the author of eight #1 bestselling novels, including *The Da Vinci Code*, which has become one of the bestselling books of all time, as well as *Origin*, *Inferno*, *The Lost Symbol*, and *Angels & Demons*. His thrillers have captivated readers worldwide and been the subject of intellectual debate and speculation. He is also the author of the bestselling children's book *Wild Symphony*. Brown's novels are published in 56 languages internationally, with over 250 million copies in print.

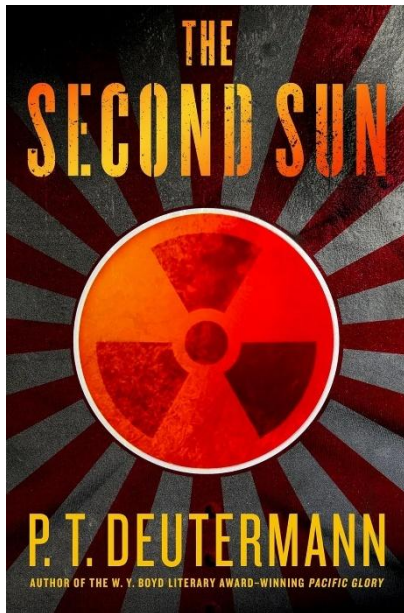
SERIES DEAL: Following a multi-platform bidding war, Netflix is developing *The Secret of Secrets* as a yet-untitled series with Dan Brown as co-creator, writer, and executive producer alongside Carlton Cuse (*Lost*, *Jack Ryan*, *Locke and Key*), who is also showrunner.

Dan Brown's Adult Book Publishers

Published in 56 languages | Over 250 million copies in print worldwide

Albania: Botimet Dudaj	Italy: Rizzoli Libri
Arabic: Arab Scientific	Japan: Kadokawa
Armenia: Zangak	Kazakhstan: Turan-Asia
Azerbaijan: Qanun	Korea: Moonhak Soochup
Bosnia: Buybook	Latvia: Kontinents
Brazil: Sextante	Lithuania: Jotema
Bulgaria: Bard	Macedonia: Kultura
Catalan Columna	Montenegro: Nova Knjiga
China: Beijing Xiron	Netherlands: Luitingh-Sijthoff
Croatia: VBZ	Poland: Sonia Draga
Czech: Argo	Portugal: Bertrand
Czech (Audio): Tympanum	Romania: R.A.O.
Denmark: Hr. Ferdinand/ Politikens	Russia: AST
Denmark (Audio): Den Grimme Audio	Russia (Audio): AST Audio
Estonia: Eram/Ersen	Serbia: Tir Solaris
Finland: WSOY	Slovakia: Ikar
France: JC Lattès	Slovenia: Mladinska Knjiga
Frisian: Luitingh-Sijthoff	Spain: Planeta
Germany: Bastei Luebbe	Sri Lanka (Sinhala): Ashirwada
Greece: Psychogios	Sweden: Bonniers Forlag
Georgia: Sulakauri	Taiwan: China Times
Galician: Grupo 62	Thailand: Amarin
Hungary: Gabo	Turkey: Altin
Iceland: Bjartur	Ukraine: Family Leisure Club
India (Hindi): PRH India	US (English): Doubleday
India (Malayalam): DC Books	US (Spanish): Vintage Español
India (Marathi): Mehta Publ.	UK: Transworld
India (Tamil): Ethir Veliyedu	Uzbekistan: Nihol Publishing
India (Gujarati): R.R. Sheth	Vietnam: BachViet Books
Israel: Kinneret-Zmora	

GENERAL FICTION



P.T. Deutermann
THE SECOND SUN

St. Martin's Press | March 18, 2025 | North America
304 pages, final text available
Agent: Dan Mandel

A taut, suspenseful historical thriller set in the waning months of WWII: Did Japan also have an atomic weapon, and did America bomb Hiroshima and Nagasaki to pre-empt an attack on its fleet?

"Suspenseful...intriguing...thrilling...gripping." --Publishers Weekly

"Dramatic history presented in vivid detail." --Kirkus Reviews★

P. T. Deutermann is a contemporary master of World War II military fiction: writing about the lives, deaths, dreams, fears, and combat experiences of sailors and soldiers, generals and grunts, captains and snipes, pilots and submariners, who served in the Pacific theatre war against Japan.

March 1945: After a career of commanding destroyers in the Pacific theater of WWII, Captain Wolfe Bowen is based in Washington, DC, working for the Chief of Naval Operations. Bowen receives an urgent call from the commander of the naval shipyard in Portsmouth, New Hampshire: A German U-boat has been captured and brought to port. But what grabs Bowen's attention is the presence of two Japanese civilians on board, along with the massive size of the U-boat itself. What these civilians know about the cargo of the U-boat, as well as its destination, begins a race against time that will change the course of history.

When President Franklin Delano Roosevelt dies, Harry Truman ascends to office with no prior knowledge of the Manhattan Project. Bowen is assigned a dangerous mission: Discover whether Japan has the technology to produce an atomic weapon, and find out how close the desperate enemy is to deploying it. Working with a small team—including Captain Villem Amherst Van Rensselaer, part of the inner circle on the Manhattan Project, and Lieutenant Commander Janet Waring, a naval intelligence officer and skilled translator of Japanese—Bowen must report back to President Truman with the information that will transform the war—and the world.

Brilliantly imagined and deeply informed by P. T. Deutermann's long history as a navy captain, as well as his family's service in the Pacific theater, *The Second Sun* is a compelling novel timed for the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II.



Anna Dorn

AMERICAN SPIRITS

Simon & Schuster | April 14, 2026 | World English

Final manuscript available

Agent: Sarah Phair

Rights sold: Spanish (Urano)

Combining the toxic obsession of SINGLE WHITE FEMALE with the dark side of celebrity explored in VOX LUX and THE LOVE SONG OF JOHNNY VALENTINE, AMERICAN SPIRITS probes how all artists steal, emulating their heroes to the point of transformation, or in some cases, takeover.

“I hate pop culture and I love this book.” -**Melissa Broder**,
author of *Death Valley*

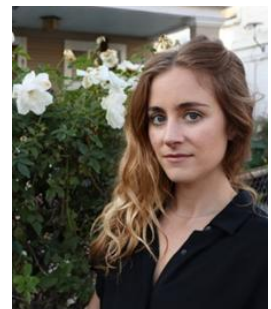
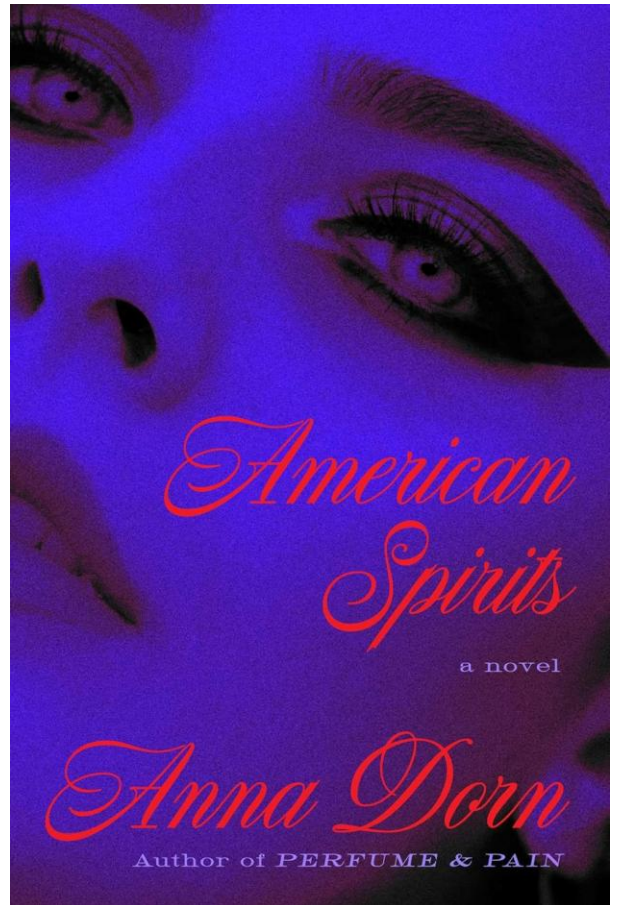
It's 2019 and 37-year-old Blue Velour has finally achieved the critical acclaim she's long been chasing (think: Lana Del Rey after *Norman Fucking Rockwell*). Her latest album, *Blue's Beard*—a cheeky reference to the subreddit fanatically dedicated to her suspected secret relationship with her longtime producer—has rocket-launched her reputation. Given the pressures of the upcoming tour, she hires a new assistant, Rose Lutz, a nerdy superfan with a classically trained voice who is, unknown to Blue, also the founder of r/BlueBeards.

When the pandemic shuts down the *Blue's Beard* tour, Blue retreats to a cabin in the redwoods with her producer and assistant to make another album. Rose is delighted to be isolated with the two objects of her longtime obsession, and there a strange love triangle develops. During a manic episode, Blue goes behind Sasha's back to release the album, which is panned by critics. Furious at the failure, Blue fires Sasha and Rose, relapses, and drives to New York to work with Sasha's nemesis. While Blue is hitting rock bottom, Rose convinces Sasha to stay in the redwoods and make their own album. By the time the cabin lease is up, Blue's sister is checking her into rehab.

Back in LA, Sasha struggles to get Rose signed until a viral Britney Spears cover propels Rose into the spotlight, enabling them to sell their record, *Pop My Cherry*. Blue is livid to learn about it and, adding insult to injury, Blue's album *Violet* comes out to little fanfare. With urging from her sister, Blue gives her fans the chaos they crave by teaming up with Rose and Sasha to make a new album. The three of them make what becomes *American Spirits* under the name Blue Rose during three darkly debauchorous months in Malibu. But at the *American Spirits* tour, both Blue and Rose try to outstunt each other to avenge various past wrongs, culminating in a tragic act that changes their lives forever.

The acclaimed author of *PERFUME AND PAIN* and *EXALTED* once again delivers an incisive and wildly entertaining exploration of contemporary culture

[Anna Dorn](#) is an author, editor, and writing teacher living in Los Angeles. She teaches writing classes at [Write or Die](#) and is an associate editor at [Hobart Pulp](#). She was a [Lambda Literary Fellow](#) and her second novel [EXALTED](#) was a finalist for the [L.A. Times Book Prize](#). <http://www.anna-dorn.com/about>



Acquired by Legendary Television, Clea DuVall
will write and direct the television series;
Christine Vachon and Pamela Koffler of Killer
Films to produce

Anna Dorn
PERFUME & PAIN

Simon & Schuster, May 21, 2024 |
World English

280 pages, final manuscript available

Rights sold: Spanish (Urano), French (Editions Les Leonides)

**A controversial LA author attempts to revive her career and finally find true
love in this hilarious nod to 1950s lesbian pulp fiction.**

Mid-list author Astrid Dahl, recently moved into a tiny bungalow in Los Angeles, finds herself back in the Zoom writer's group she cofounded after an incident that leaves her and her career *lightly* canceled. But she temporarily forgets that by throwing herself into a few sexy distractions—like Ivy, a grad student researching 1950s lesbian pulp who smells like metallic orchids, or her new neighbor, Penelope, a painter who smells like patchouli. Penelope immediately ingratiates herself in Astrid's life, bonding with her best friends and family, just as Astrid and Ivy begin to date in person. Astrid feels judged and threatened by Penelope, but also finds her irresistibly sexy.

When Astrid receives an unexpected call from her agent with news that she finally has a chance to resurrect her waning career, the pressure causes Astrid's worst vice to rear its head—the Patricia Highsmith, a blend of Adderall, alcohol, and cigarettes—and results in blackouts and a disturbing series of events.

Unapologetically feminine yet ribald, steamy yet hilarious, Anna Dorn has crafted an exquisite homage to the lesbian pulp of yore, reclaiming it for our internet and celebrity-obsessed world. With notes of Southern California citrus and sultry smokiness, *PERFUME AND PAIN* is a satirical romp through Hollywood and lesbian melodrama.

“Acerbic, steamy, and compulsively readable—fans of ribald, satirical humor (with a specific focus on celebrity melodrama and LGBTQ+ culture) will read it in one go. It's this author's best work yet. A Sapphic roller-coaster ride and pitch-perfect homage to lesbian pulp fiction.”—*Kirkus Reviews*★

“This brash novel pushes the envelope in all the best ways.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Perceptive and witty—like a Sally Rooney novel set in Southern California.”—*Star Tribune (Minneapolis)*

“Come to *Perfume & Pain* for the sexy drama, stay for the satire and hilarious doses of shade thrown at Hollywood. This novel is like driving down PCH listening to Lana Del Rey and vaping out the sunroof. Every moment feels sun-drenched, edgy, and unstoppable.”—**ALLIE ROWBOTTOM, author of *Aesthetica***

“Anna Dorn's *Perfume & Pain* is a wonder. Dorn masterfully takes on cancel culture, holier-than-thou writers groups, and the complex rules of lesbian dating. The result is a smart and sexy, laugh-out-loud funny page-turner.”—**MARCY DERMANSKY, author of *Hurricane Girl* and *Very Nice***

“*Perfume & Pain* slaps so hard it stings—but in the best way. Astrid, agent of lesbian chaos and love addict who's half-heartedly trying to change, is a magnetic main character, and I found myself relating to too many of her uncouth opinions. It was thoroughly enjoyable to follow Astrid's antics—I flipped pages fast and LOLed frequently. And I'll never again see the name Patricia Highsmith without thinking about Astrid's favorite drug cocktail that leads to her most entertaining bad behavior.”—**CELIA LASKEY, author of *Under the Rainbow*, a finalist for the 2020 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize**

“*Perfume & Pain* combines the very best impulses of pulp fiction (dysfunction, drama, deception) with Anna's signature whip-smart, fearless style. Darkly funny and careening down every perverted, doomed spiral, this is the funniest novel of the year and Dorn's best yet. Light on its feet yet endlessly probing, *Perfume & Pain* is as sharp as it is delicious.”—**JENNY FRAN DAVIS, author of *Dykette***

Hasan Dudar

CARRYOUT

Jim McCoy at the University of Iowa Press, Spring 2026 |
North America

230 manuscript pages, draft manuscript available

Agent: Iwalani Kim

“A portrait of the artist as a young man and a portrait of community in diaspora, this debut is as funny and tender and vibrant as the remarkable family at its center. In the grand tradition of writers like Vladimir Nabokov and Aleksandar Hemon, Dudar brings places to life with brilliant originality while also bringing to life the existential experience of displacement. CARRYOUT is as exhilarating as it is necessary.” – **Harriet Clark, editor at large at the *Paris Review***

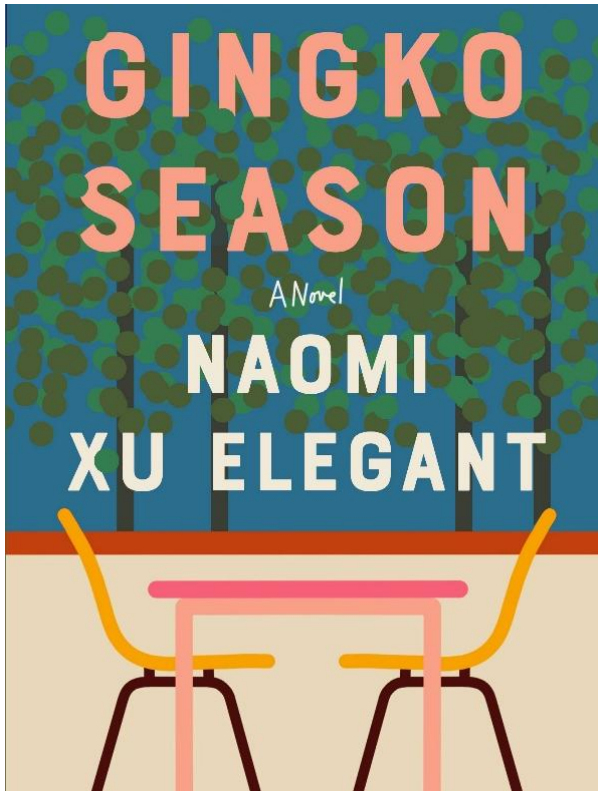


“To read Hasan Dudar is to be transported, to be changed. Intimate and immersive, Dudar’s CARRYOUT introduces us to the indelible Idilbi family, and the lives they pursue both outside and among the Arab community of Toledo, Ohio. In rhythmic, lucid prose, Dudar renders his wide familial cast with equal parts compassion and precision, alighting on the surface of seemingly small moments to plumb for their beating hearts. There is desperation in these stories, a raw desire to fashion a life, both together and apart, amidst the indignities and atrocities of American life. I consumed this book.” – **Megan Kamalei Kakimoto, author of *Every Drop Is a Man’s Nightmare***

In the late 1970s, Ziad, a Palestinian refugee from Lebanon, marries Salma, a Lebanese escaping the war in Beirut, and the couple resolves to start over for the very last time in Toledo, Ohio. The Idilbis’ carryout sits across from the General Motors factory on Alexis Road, a wide, seedy thoroughfare, on Ohio’s northern border with Michigan. The Idilbis themselves are on life’s outskirts. Whether it’s bigotry (pre- and post-9/11), financial ruin, or ultimately, terminal illness, the Idilbis always seem one day away from catastrophe.

Achingly poignant and slyly funny, the linked stories in CARRYOUT follow Walid Idilbi, the youngest child of Ziad and Salma, as he navigates the heartbreaks of youth as well as the many colorful characters from Toledo’s Arab community that haunt his parents’ corner store. As he grows up into a writer, Walid’s gaze fixes on his father and the long shadow of displacement and occupation in Ziad’s life. Mustafa, the eldest son, meanwhile is forever trying to outrun the messes that seem to seek him out, while Nawal, the only daughter, loses a friend and plants an unorthodox idea to get her back. Unsure at times whether to run towards each other or away from each other, the characters in Dudar’s exquisite debut suffer the absurdities and indignities of life in America with wry obstinance and striking wisdom. CARRYOUT is for readers of Jonathan Escoffery’s IF I SURVIVE YOU and Anthony Veasna So’s AFTERPARTIES.

Hasan Dudar’s fiction has appeared in *Gulf Coast*, *Mizna*, and *Rusted Radishes* in Beirut, under the pseudonym Ali Akkawi. He graduated from the Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism and worked for nearly a decade as a journalist. He currently lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife and daughter. He is originally from Toledo, Ohio.



Naomi Xu Elegant
GINGKO SEASON

Norton, May 20, 2025, tpb | North America
264 pages, Manuscript available
Agent: Iwalani Kim

A story of friendship, love, and living a life that matches your ideals, pitched for readers of THE IDIOT and HAPPY HOUR

Twenty-five-year-old Penelope Lin spends her days cataloging an archeology museum’s vast collection of Qing Dynasty-era bound feet shoes, wandering the streets of Philadelphia appreciating its architecture, and reading up on her beloved hero, Napoleon. After suffering her first big heartbreak several years ago, she’s built a quiet life with a few close friends and no romantic entanglements. While running a work errand one day, she happens to meet Hoang, who has just confessed to releasing the lab mice in the cancer research lab he works at. He will almost certainly be fired, but he hates to lie. Hoang’s

openness catches Penelope off guard and from then on, she finds her carefully constructed life slowly start to unravel.

Terrified of “leaping into the same sea from which [she’d] already once escaped,” Penelope pursues Hoang in ways that breach her comfort zone but remain bewilderingly oblique to her no-nonsense friends and, of course, to Hoang himself. Her days become consumed with volunteering with a labor union for an excuse to run into him, though she has never even voted, and agonizing over letters and postcards that skirt her true feelings. When she receives an unexpected visit from her ex-boyfriend and learns a jarring revelation regarding the whereabouts of her estranged mother, Penelope is forced to confront her past in order to take a leap of faith.

GINGKO SEASON is a wise and tender-hearted debut novel that explores the nature of our deepest friendships as seriously as it does the dizzying terror and thrill of falling in love. With Raven Leilani’s flaneur-like prose, GINGKO SEASON channels the wry humor and quiet devastation of Rachel Khong’s GOODBYE, VITAMIN. Readers who were charmed by Elif Batuman’s protagonist Selin—fiercely intelligent but clueless in matters of the heart—will adore Penelope’s curiosity and her precisely observed world.



Naomi Xu Elegant was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Kuala Lumpur and Beijing. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in history before returning to Hong Kong to work as a journalist. She currently lives in Singapore, where she is a writer for Monocle magazine. Her writing has appeared in *The Drift*, *Penn Review*, and *Clever*, among other places. @naomielegant

Credit: Julia Tran

Praise for GINGKO SEASON

“*Ginkgo Season* is a stunning debut that immerses readers in a vibrant, layered world of introspection and discovery. Following Penelope as she navigates love, identity, and the complexities of city life, the novel masterfully balances poignant observations on relationships with moments of quiet beauty. Elegant's lyrical prose captures the rhythms of daily life, while also exploring deeper themes of belonging and cultural heritage. This is a deeply moving, thought-provoking read that will resonate with anyone who's ever felt adrift and sought meaning in the everyday. A must-read.”—**Weike Wang, author of *Joan Is Okay***

“Exquisitely written and deeply felt. Suffused with a gentle, ever-precise sense of humor, *Ginkgo Season* is a resonant and tender portrayal of the complexities of connection and attachment. A remarkable debut that perfectly captures the loneliness and hope of youth, and the delightfully disorienting sensation of becoming unmoored in love.”—**Gina Chung, author of *Sea Change* and *Green Frog***

“*Ginkgo Season* is an atmospheric wonder of a novel that's as enchanting as it is wise. I loved wandering the halls of narrator Penelope's rich interior, which is conveyed in Elegant's inimitable lyricism. Like the eclipse that heralds a season of transformation, meditation, and self-discovery for Penelope, *Ginkgo Season* is an immersive book that announces Elegant as one of my new favorite writers.”—**Megan Kamalei Kakimoto, author of *Every Drop Is a Man's Nightmare***

“*Ginkgo Season* is a deeply funny portrayal of young adulthood's most classic anxieties. Naomi Xu Elegant nails the earnest confusion of one's mid-twenties as told through the modern parlance of situationships, ethical altruism and diasporic angst. This is a novel interested in dissecting the *feeling* of feelings—and wondering aloud about the grace of living a so-called small life.”—**Delia Cai, author of *Central Places***



Erica Frederick **FIGHT IN THE NIGHT**

Scribner Summer 2027 | North America

Manuscript anticipated Summer 2026

Agent: Iwalani Kim

A rich, visceral coming-of-age novel and an ode to Black girlhood in all its beauty and complexity. Narrated in the first person in a striking blend of lyricism and vernacular, FIGHT IN THE NIGHT would find a home next to Bryan Washington's LOT, Daphne Palasi Andreades' BROWN GIRLS, and Justin Torres's WE THE ANIMALS.

The almost-16-year-old narrator of **FIGHT IN THE NIGHT** has barreled her way through childhood alongside her five rough-and-tumble brothers, ding-dong ditching their neighbors and tearing through the halls of the La Quinta where their mother works. Their parents, both Haitian immigrants, are often elsewhere. Mummy is a betting woman, too preoccupied with her lucky numbers to keep her children out of trouble, while their reclusive father, Okenn, takes his failed dreams of America out on them with his belt.

When a hurricane rips through the Florida coast, leaving palm fronds and pitched roofs across the suburbs, theirs is the only house left unscathed. The start of school is postponed indefinitely, and there's no end in sight to the summer. Amidst this chaos, our narrator experiences a growing alienation as she learns to take up space, in every sense of the word. She falls in love and discovers pleasure for the first time with a girl who introduces her to Haitian spirituality, placing her in direct opposition to Mummy's Christianity. When Mummy leaves, perhaps for good, a schism grows between the narrator and the band of brothers to which she always belonged. Ultimately, she must learn to grow bigger in a world that insists on her smallness.

Excerpts of this novel have been selected as a winner of the Hurston/Wright College Fiction Award judged by Camille Acker and as a finalist for the FSG Writer's Fellowship, judged by Justin Torres, R.O Kwon, and Maureen McLane.

Erica Frederick is a queer, Haitian American writer from Orlando, FL currently living in Brooklyn, NY. She received her MFA in fiction from Syracuse University. She has received fellowships from MacDowell, the Rona Jaffe Foundation, Tin House, VIDA, Lambda Literary, and the Hurston/Wright Foundation. She currently works in the fulfillment department of Hachette Book Group and serves as a Flash Fiction Assistant Editor at *Split Lip Magazine*. You can find more of her work at ericafrederick.com.

Katy Hays

SALTWATER (US title)

THE VIPERS (UK title)

Ballantine, March 25, 2025 | World English

336 pages, manuscript available

Agent: Sarah Phair

Foreign rights sold:

France: Livre de Poche

Netherlands: Singel/De Geus

Hungary: XXI Szazad

Spanish: Urano

Italy: Rizzoli

Turkey: Altin Kitaplar

Germany: Penguin Verlag

UK: Transworld (via Ballantine)

Sunday Times Bestseller
Apple Best Book of the Month
Amazon Category pick for April 25

Film rights optioned to Drew Comins of Fifth Season,
creator of *Yellowjackets*

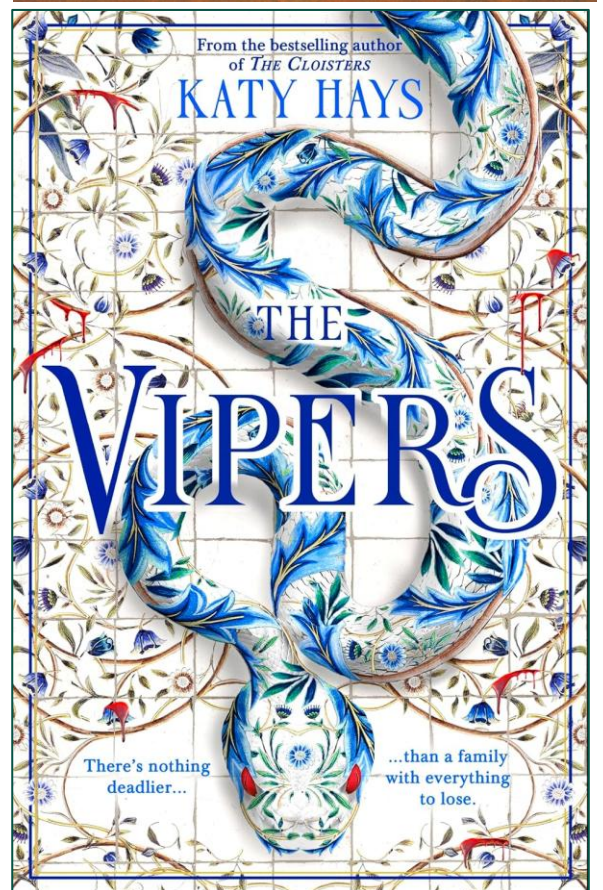
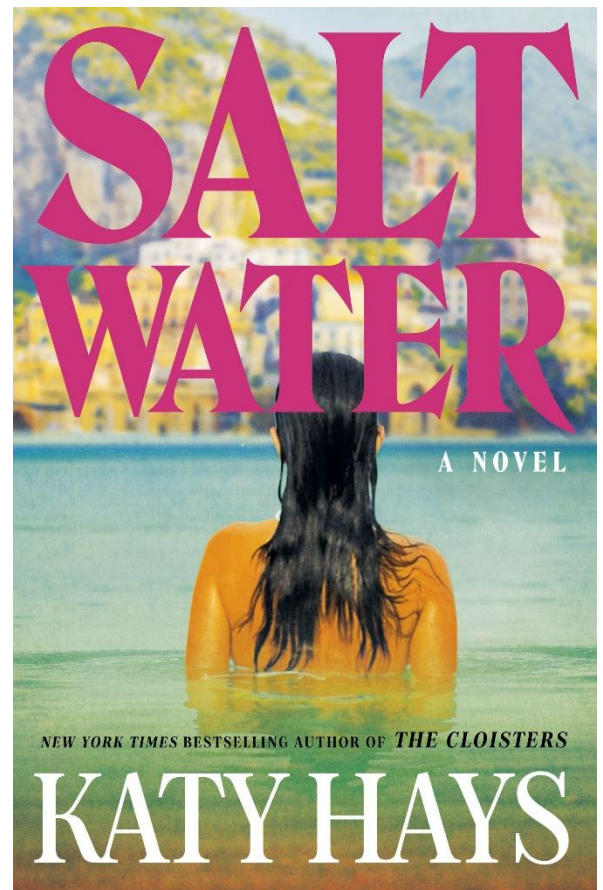
On glittering Capri, anything can be a mirage. And no one holds a grudge like family.

From the instant *New York Times* and *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *THE CLOISTERS* comes an electrifying thriller about an opulent family retreat to Italy that's shattered by the resurfacing of a decades-old crime.

In 1992 Sarah Lingate is found dead below the cliffs of Capri, leaving behind her three-year-old daughter, Helen. Despite suspicions that the old-money Lingates are involved, Sarah's death is ruled an accident. And every year, the family returns to prove it's true. But on the thirtieth anniversary of Sarah's death, the Lingates arrive at the villa to find a surprise waiting for them—the necklace Sarah was wearing the night she died.

Haunted by the specter of that night, the legendary Lingate family unity is pushed to a breaking point, and Helen seizes the opportunity. Enlisting the help of Lorna Moreno, a family assistant, the two plot their escape from Helen's paranoid, insular family. But when Lorna disappears and the investigation into Sarah's death is reopened, Helen has to confront the fact that everyone who was on Capri thirty years ago remains a suspect—her controlling father Richard, rarely-lucid aunt Naomi, distant uncle Marcus, and their circle of friends, visitors, and staff. Even Lorna, her closest ally, may not be who she seems.

As long-hidden secrets about that night boil to surface, one thing becomes clear: not everyone will leave the island alive.





Katy Hays is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Cloisters*. She is an art history adjunct professor and holds an MA in art history from Williams College and pursued her PhD at UC Berkeley. Having previously worked at major art institutions, including the Clark Art Institute and SFMOMA, she now lives with her husband and their dog in Olympic Valley, California. Her debut novel, *THE CLOISTERS*, was a *Today Show* #ReadwithJenna Book Club pick, a B&N Book Club pick, and an Amazon Best Book of November 2022. <https://www.katyhays.com/>

Praise for *SALTWATER/THE VIPERS*:

“Perfect for fans of *White Lotus*, this is a spring break murder mystery for the ages.”—*People*

“Fans of family dramas and thrillers will devour this tense, suspenseful novel.”—*Woman’s World*

“This thriller has as many twists and turns as the actual island of Capri . . . but for all those misdirections, what Hays does best are reveals.”—*Writer’s Digest*

“Full of chills and darkness.”—*Oprah Daily*

“A ride as exhilarating as the ferries that transport the elites from villa to yacht . . . Sleuthing minds will cavort with acrobatic prowess, reeling from one unexpected twist to another. . . Hitchcockian in its film-noirish malevolence, Hays’s second novel also deviously channels Patricia Highsmith’s cunningly and sympathetically flawed characters to deliver an absorbing read.”—*Booklist* ★

“A powerful, surprise-packed study of family, wealth, and consequences . . . Hays uses the island setting to brilliantly exploit locked-room mystery tropes, and doles out jaw-dropping reveals at just the right moments. This masterful suspense story has all the momentum of a runaway train.”—*Publishers Weekly* ★

“A feisty storm of Greek tragedy headlined by three very modern women.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“The Lingates have it all: prestige, power and the potential to be irrevocably destroyed if long-buried secrets get into the wrong hands . . . Katy Hays’ *The Vipers* is **sultry and sophisticated with a menacing undercurrent that keeps you thrillingly unsettled until its final spellbinding twist**. Let the languid glamour of Capri gently take you by one hand, an ice cold Negroni in the other, but watch your step—the cliffs are treacherous and so, too, is a family with everything to lose”. – **Rachel Koller Croft, author of *Stone Cold Fox***

“Engrossing and sinister, *Saltwater* has all the elements thriller readers love: dead bodies, deception, and betrayal. But at its core, this multilayered story delves into the concepts of familial loyalty and generational trauma, making *Saltwater* a must-read.”—**Julie Clark, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Last Flight***

“A riveting, atmospheric, elegantly written, and twist-packed tale . . . brilliant!”—**Ellery Lloyd, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Club***

“A masterful, riveting, and unsettling tale of privilege, greed, and lust . . . I can’t remember reading a book with as many deftly executed twists and revelations. I devoured it in what felt like seconds.”—**Ella Berman, author of the Reese’s Book Club pick *Before We Were Innocent***

“The truest literary successor to HBO’s *Succession* I’ve encountered, *Saltwater* is so gorgeously written that its twists didn’t need to hit nearly so hard nor land nearly so perfectly for this to already be one of the best books of 2025, and yet they do. What a knockout.”—**Ashley Winstead, bestselling author of *Midnight Is the Darkest Hour***

“Brilliantly written in scintillating prose, Katy Hays’s *Saltwater* is an Italian opera for the modern age. Superbly plotted and deftly executed, this searing takedown of the upper crust is one to savor.”—**Katherine Wood, author of *Ladykiller***

“A twisty, seductive thriller.”—**Nina Simon, *NYT* bestselling author of *Mother-Daughter Murder Night***

Johanna Hedva

YOUR LOVE IS NOT GOOD

And Other Stories, May 23, 2023

Paperback April 16, 2025 | World English

320 pages, final text available

Agent: Clare Mao

An artist of color becomes obsessed with a white model in a novel with the glamor of Clarice Lispector and the viscerality of Han Kang.

Longlisted for the 2024 Republic of Consciousness Prize
Kirkus Reviews, *Best Fiction of 2023*

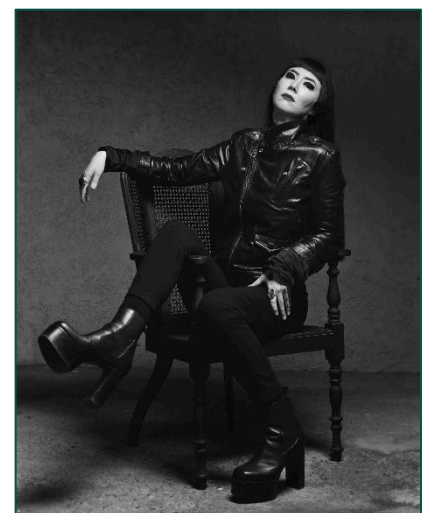
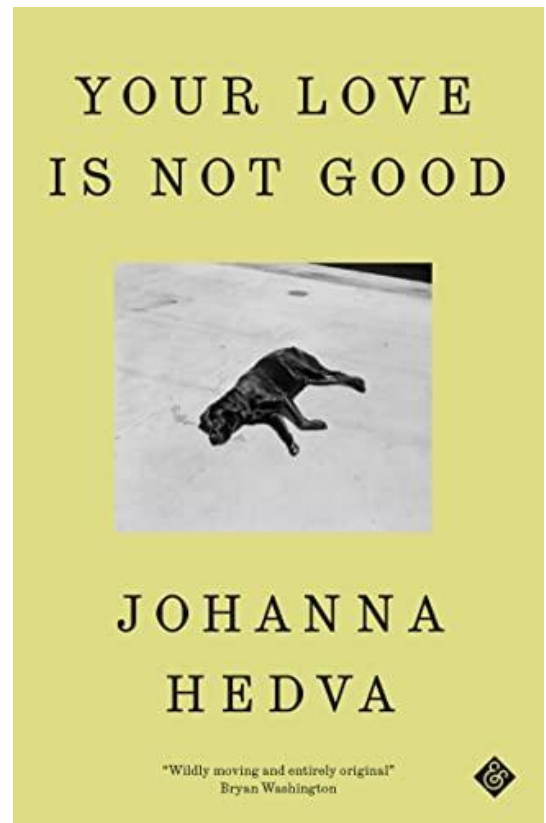
At an otherwise forgettable party in Los Angeles, a queer Korean American painter spots a woman who instantly controls the room: gorgeous and distant and utterly white, the center of everyone's attention. Haunted into adulthood by her Korean father's abandonment of his family, as well as the specter of her beguiling, abusive white mother, the painter finds herself caught in a perfect trap. She wants Hanne, or wants to be her, or to sully her, or destroy her, or consume her, or some confusion of all the above. Since she's an artist, she will use art to get closer to Hanne, beginning a series of paintings with her new muse as model. As for Hanne, what does she want? Her whiteness seems sometimes as cruel as a new sheet of paper.

When the paintings of Hanne become a hit, resulting in the artist's first sold-out show, she resolves to bring her new muse with her to Berlin, to continue their work, and her seduction. But, just when the painter is on the verge of her long sought-after breakthrough, a petition started by a Black performance artist begins making the rounds in the art community, calling for the boycott of major museums and art galleries for their imperialist and racist practices.

Torn between her desire to support the petition, to be a success, and to possess Hanne, the painter and her reality become more unstable and disorienting, unwilling to cut loose any one of her warring ambitions, yet unable to accommodate them all. Is it any wonder so many artists self-destruct so spectacularly? Is it perhaps just a bit exciting to think she could too?

Your Love Is Not Good stuffs queer explosive into the cracks between identity and aspiration, between desire and art, and revels in the raining debris.

Johanna Hedva (they/them) is a Korean-American writer, artist, and musician, who was raised in Los Angeles by a family of witches, and now lives in LA and Berlin. Their novel, *On Hell*, was named one of Dennis Cooper's favorites of 2018, and their writing has been published in *Triple Canopy*, *frieze*, and *The White Review*. Their art work has been shown at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; Performance Space New York; the Museum of Architecture and Design, Los Angeles; and the Museum of Contemporary Art on the Moon. In 2019, they released the album, *The Sun and the Moon*, and in 2020 they released *Minerva the Miscarriage of the Brain*, a collection of poetry, plays, and essays published by Sming Sming and Wolfman Books. Johanna is the author of the viral/seminal essay in disability justice, "Sick Woman Theory" (published in their 2004 essay collection, *HOW TO TELL WHEN WE WILL DIE—Zando has World rights*). "Sick Woman Theory" has been translated into: Albanian, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Korean, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, and Turkish. Johanna is a 2024 Ford Foundation Disability Futures Fellow. <https://johannahedva.com/>



PRAISE for YOUR LOVE IS NOT GOOD

“Impassioned, wry, compassionate, and hell-raising, this novel illuminates its frangible but resilient world the way a painter uses color on canvas to illuminate the focal point of her vision—building layer after layer of meaning until the image appears as if it has always been there for us to see. A resplendent and fearless book. Must read.”

—★ **Kirkus**

“Hedva is consistently savvy and surprising.”—**Publishers Weekly**

“A gripping, tightly plotted novel characterized by a trenchant exploration of race, queer desire, and power dynamics in the art world —**Reed McConnell, Frieze**

“A thin permeable line between love and hate, pain and pleasure, self-love, self-flagellation, and total narcissism. Hedva's characters show us the complexities of being (in)human(e) beings and push our faces into the mud, an antagonism inflicted unto ourselves as we bully, bruise, blur, and break our way into the waking world. Hedva's willingness to parse apart ‘love’ from ‘goodness’ is the honesty we're all here and have been waiting for.”

—**Legacy Russell, curator of The Kitchen and author of *Glitch Feminism***

“This precise page-turner of a tale about bad or nonexistent mothers, race, and the erotics of painting masterfully pins the art world to the buckram of its specimen tray, pointed sentence after sentence. Here everyone loses gorgeously, definitively—and lucky readers learn a lot about the game.”—**Lucy Ives, author of *Life is Everywhere***

“*Your Love Is Not Good* is a whirlwind, and a mural, and a mirror—Hedva's prose is incisive and empathetic, wholly comedic and deeply poignant. This story about the life of our ideas, the trajectory of our dreams, and the burden of our loves is wildly moving and entirely original. Hedva deftly juggles questions of ambition and debt with what we owe others, and what we owe ourselves, resulting in a novel that's both honest and enrapturing. *Your Love Is Not Good* is a genuine blast.”—**Bryan Washington, author of *Memorial***

“It's more than all this, but here is something about labor, the capitalist inseams in Identity, as expressed in an international art market that careens its participants—or is it the *art?*—towards suicide. For those needing—by hook or by crook, by rope, knife, mirror, or by truck—to leave something, or the art world, or the debt-collision of whatever they're doing, or even the internet for the next 24 goddamned hours, *Your Love Is Not Good* is very worth your beautiful time.”—**Caren Beilin, author of *Revenge of the Scapegoat***

“*Your Love Is Not Good* is a dazzling tale of claustrophobia and neglect. Swinging deftly between savage realism, scathing social satire, and brutal erotic haze, Johanna Hedva moves from agony to alchemy in this meticulously layered portrait of intimate corruption. Bursting into the broken places between shame and self-creation, trauma and accountability, righteousness and complicity, *Your Love Is Not Good* cracks open the art world to exorcise the pain of belonging.”—**Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore, author of *The Freezer Door***

“Electric, pornographic, mischievous, and deeply funny. *Your Love is Not Good* is a parable of the artist who in search of beauty encounters something far more intoxicating: ruin. Burn your diaries, kill your darlings, and go toast your real friends— this is the summer beach read you'll be talking about for the rest of the year.”

—**Lara Mimoso Montes, author of *Thresholds***

“By turns funny, brutal, and (surprisingly) tender, *Your Love is Not Good* is a major achievement. Hedva's prose—which is gusty and taut—conveys a thrumming, kaleidoscopically constructed narrative structure to produce for the reader an experience of something incredibly intimate, something profuse, raw, erotic and challenging. *Your Love is Not Good* contains revelations (both vibrating and appalling) about artists and practice, and about contemporary art worlds. An instant classic/must-read/ important addition to the (woefully scanty) genre of books by artists about art-life. A very moving read.” —**Harry Dodge, author of *My Meteorite***

Lynn Hightower
SPIES IN PLAIN SIGHT
(A Junie Lagarde novel, book 2)

Severn House, June 3, 2025 | World English
Paperback: December 16, 2025
208 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Matt Bialer

From the award winning, internationally bestselling author Lynn Hightower comes a gripping, tense thriller with a hearing-impaired main character

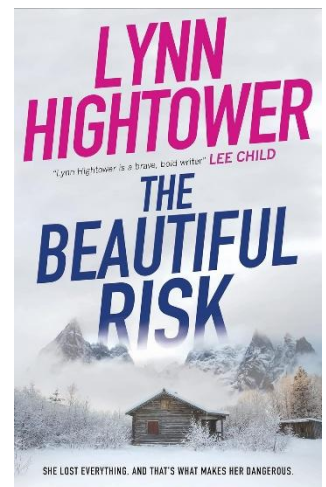
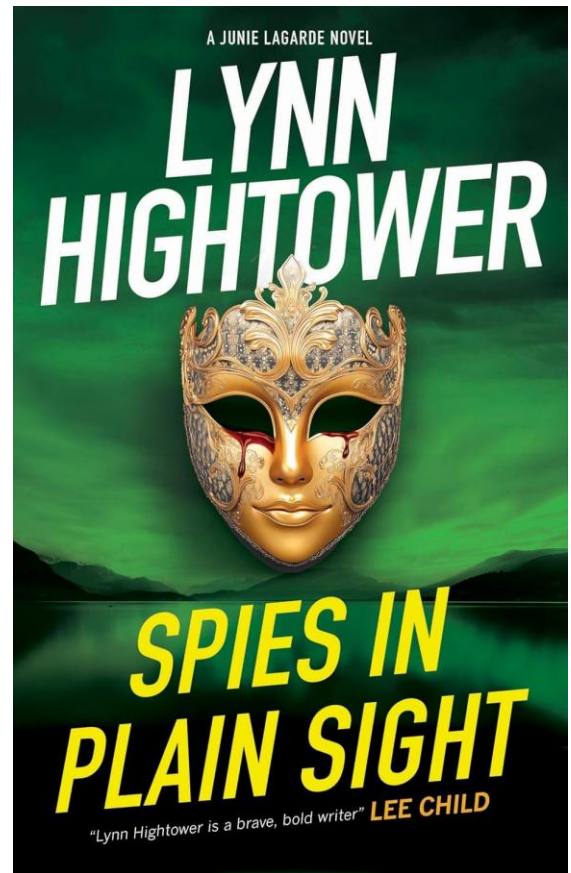
Welcome to VIE. A spy organization of the people, by the people, and for the people. We are spies in plain sight. We make billionaires afraid.

Junie Lagarde is a woman on a mission. With the help of her young team of citizen journalists, she's determined to hold billionaires accountable for the environmental atrocities they commit. Their current target: Kentuckian billionaire "Daddy" Sullivan Carr, whose plans to open a bitcoin mine in Annecy, France, threaten to destroy the place Junie and her beloved hearing dog Leo now call home.

But locking horns with Daddy Carr plunges Junie into a waking nightmare. For the twisted billionaire has drawn the attention of a dark and lethal French secret society known as the Emerald Vipers – and for this he blames her.

Escaping only narrowly with her life from an assassination attempt, Junie's determination to unmask Daddy Carr as a villain only grows stronger. But as her quest for justice leads her from the masked revels of Annecy's Venetian carnival to the glittering excesses of the Kentucky Derby, it will take all her strength to find not just the justice she burns for – but to face the shocking truth. That's if she manages to stay alive . . .

Fans of fast-paced mysteries and thrillers with international settings, like those by David Hewson, Jeffrey Siger, Donna Leon and Louise Penny will love this series from award-winning author Lynn Hightower, who Lee Child praised as a "brave, bold writer".



A tense, twisty thriller with vibrant characters, a timely plot, and a satisfying conclusion — *Booklist*

Hightower's dynamic second novel featuring French journalist Junie Lagarde (after *The Beautiful Risk*) excites from the opening pages — *Publishers Weekly*



Lynn Hightower is the internationally bestselling author of numerous thrillers including the Sonora Blair and Lena Padgett detective series. She has previously won the Shamus Award for Best First Private Eye novel and a WH Smith Fresh Talent Award. Lynn lives in Kentucky, in a small Victorian cottage with a writing parlor. <https://www.lynnhightower.com/>



Victoria Hulbert SCREEN MEMORY

Deborah Ghim at Ecco/HarperCollins, Winter 2027 | North America
Draft manuscript available; edited manuscript anticipated January 2026
Agent: Hannah Strouth

Combining the polyphonic structure of Tess Gunty's *THE RABBIT HUTCH* with the sharp, incisive voices of Mona Awad and Lisa Taddeo, *SCREEN MEMORY* explores social surveillance, femininity as spectacle, and the voyeuristic cruelty inherent in our present age.

"Victoria Hulbert's propulsive novel is a firecracker of a debut. Through this story, she's writing us. Who we were in the mid/late 2000s, as Americans, as viewers, as voyeurs—and who we continue to be as people with shifting relationships to what is real and what is true. *SCREEN MEMORY* is one of those books that compels readers to consider their own complicity as its characters grapple with daunting questions: How do we live with ourselves, and what do we owe the people around us?" – **Deesha Philyaw**, author of National Book Award Finalist *The Secret Lives of Church Ladies*

In August 2007, Veronika DeMarco, a 29-year-old jewelry sales associate, is cast on the popular reality TV dating show, *Man or Million*. As the daughter of a former pageant queen, Veronika has spent her life living in the shadow of her mother's ambitious love for the spotlight. Now with her mother dead and divorce papers freshly signed, the show's enticing cash prize might just be her first step towards a new life. But after a drunken night on set, and a hazy sexual encounter with the show's male star, Veronika is unexpectedly and covertly sent home for "health reasons."

A year later, back in her hometown, Veronika is trying to stay sober, rekindling a fling with a serial arsonist, and hoping to forget that the show ever happened. But when it premieres on cable, Veronika doesn't recognize the version of herself depicted on screen and struggles to shake the nagging feeling that something happened that last night on set, something she should be able to remember. Meanwhile, a rotating cast of characters—an on-set psychologist, a production handler, a personal assistant, the host, and the creator of the show—reckon with what they do and don't know about Veronika's last night in Mexico and how much they may be responsible for what happened. When Veronika is promised to be paid for one more televised appearance, she heads to Las Vegas in search of redemption. What she finds is anything but, as the converging storylines come to a head at the show's revelatory live reunion episode.

Set against the backdrop of a turbulent and evolving time in entertainment, *SCREEN MEMORY*, at its heart, examines the idea of self-perception in a world that demands constant performance.

Victoria Hulbert is a writer from Los Angeles with dual US/UK citizenship. She is a PhD candidate in creative writing at the University of Mississippi, where she also received her MFA in fiction and worked closely with Deesha Philyaw, Raven Leilani, and Maurice Carlos Ruffin. An excerpt from *SCREEN MEMORY* was recently published in *The Offing* and the first chapter was longlisted for the 2023 First Pages Prize, judged by Tash Aw. Her short fiction has appeared in *Boulevard*, *The Barcelona Review*, and *Witness*, and has received funding support from *DISQUIET*, Lighthouse Writers Workshop, and the Prague Summer Program. She is at work on her second novel, an ecogothic set in contemporary rural Mississippi that explores the rise of Millennial homesteading amidst the slow violence of climate change.

WHAT FEEDS YOU: A Novel (formerly BLOODSICK)

Megan Kamalei Kakimoto

Bloomsbury Winter 2027 | UK: Granta
Manuscript anticipated December 2025
Rights sold: UK (Granta)



Photo credit: Van Wishingrad

Joan Kealakekua comes of age in Waikāne, Hawai'i on ancestral land that years ago fell out of her mother Sylvie's hands and into those of a dubious family friend named Kila. Sylvie, a fervent defender of Hawaiian rights and an early climate change activist, is a distracted mother whose commitment to the cause often unintentionally eclipses her daughter's needs. As Joan drifts away from her best friend Dina and further into Kila's orbit, she witnesses the decline of her family's farm and endures an assault from the one person in whom she thought she'd found companionship. Fleeing life in Waikāne in a frantic move to the continent, Joan has a daughter named Ku'uipo whose passion and determination to defend her homeland eventually ushers both women home. There they face a charged encounter with ghosts, trauma, and the lifelong wounds of colonization. *WHAT FEEDS YOU* is the story of one Hawaiian family's struggle to do good for the land and for each other in a collision of the global, the mythical, and the deeply personal.

EVERY DROP IS A MAN'S NIGHTMARE: Stories

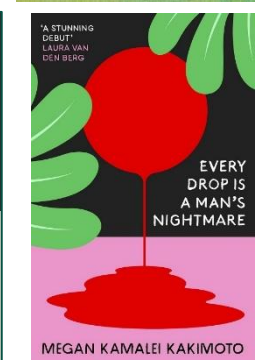
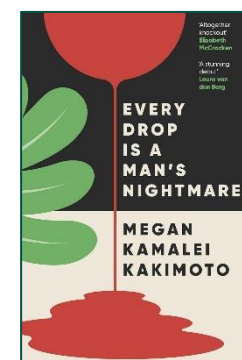
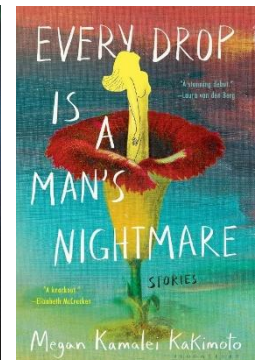
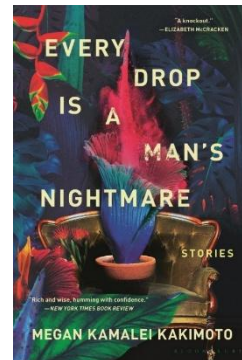
Bloomsbury, August 2023 | UK: Granta
272 pages, final text available
Agent: Iwalani Kim
Rights sold: France (Editions du Typhon), UK (Granta)

Instant *USA Today* Bestseller
An Indies Introduce Pick
September Indie Next Pick

From major new storytelling talent Megan Kamalei Kakimoto, a blazing, bodily, raucous journey through contemporary Hawaiian identity and womanhood.

Megan Kamalei Kakimoto's wrenching and sensational debut story collection follows a cast of mixed native Hawaiian and Japanese women through a contemporary landscape thick with inherited wisdom and the ghosts of colonization. This is a Hawai'i where unruly sexuality and generational memory overflow the postcard image of paradise and the boundaries of the real, where the superstitions born of the islands take on the weight of truth

Every Drop Is a Man's Nightmare is both a fierce love letter to Hawaiian identity and mythology, and a searing dispatch from an occupied territory threatening to erupt with violent secrets.



"A knockout. Eleven knockouts, one KO for every story."-Elizabeth McCracken

"A stunning debut."-Laura van den Berg

"Throbs with searing talent."-Kali Fajardo-Anstine

"As exquisite as it is terrifying."-Jenny Tinghui Zhang

[Megan Kamalei Kakimoto](https://www.megankakimoto.com/) is a Japanese and Kanaka Maoli (native Hawaiian) writer from Honolulu, Hawai'i. Her fiction has been featured in *Granta*, *Conjunctions*, *Joyland*, and elsewhere. She has been a finalist for the Keene Prize for Literature and has received support from the Rona Jaffe Foundation and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. She received her MFA from the Michener Center for Writers, where she was a Fiction Fellow. She lives in Honolulu.

<https://www.megankakimoto.com/>



Ebonya Lia

I CAN FEEL IT ALL OVER

HarperCollins Winter 2027 | World English

Manuscript anticipated February 2026

Agent: Iwalani Kim

Channeling the searing indictment of social structures in Natasha Brown's trailblazing *Assembly* as well as the pursuit of an authentic life in the face of familial expectations in Weike Wang's *Joan is OK*, **I CAN FEEL IT ALL OVER is for readers who loved the depictions of bodily autonomy, pain, art, and connection in Garth Greenwell's **SMALL RAIN**.**

Forty-seven-year-old Harmony Johnston is not suited for life in 2019, particularly in dense NYC. The substances of modernity—shampoos, fabric dyes, synthetics, electricity, cell phones—cause her physical pain. Physicians deny the Black woman's illness is real. Seven years into the ordeal, Harmony has doubts too.

As Harmony says, "in war there are sacrifices": hair, boyfriend, sleep. She has long ago been conditioned to place the comfort of others above her own needs. But when the prestigious non-profit she works for relocates to an office with new wiring, painting, and carpeting (and the same old racial insults), she refuses to tolerate the pain and quits her job. Emboldened to further extricate the discomfort in her life, she sets firm boundaries that result in the end of a potential romance, a fissure in a decades-long friendship, and a rift with her elderly, doctor-phobic neighbor--the person who perhaps most understands her frustration and loneliness. Soon, Harmony is snipping the electrical wires to her appliances and emptying her sleek Union Square apartment of all its furnishings—rid of much of the "buzzing," but more alone than ever.

This is the story of a woman's fight against constant betrayal—of body, perhaps of mind, of an obstinate physician sister, of a best friend who "helps" through duplicity, of a spectral aunt who suddenly disappears. At the rupture of each relationship, Harmony's world becomes a little smaller, her loneliness magnified. Disease ever worsening, she clings to a doctor she believes will save her. When he throws her out of his clinic, she reaches a breaking point, cutting herself off completely from the world and cowering naked under her bedframe. To re-emerge, Harmony must find a way to connection from within the cage of chronic pain.

Harmony's is a startling, unforgettable voice, crackling with acerbic wit and an inner life overflowing the boundaries of the world her chronic illness allows for.

Ebonya Lia is a 2023 Kweli Writing Fellow who has studied fiction with CRIT and Hurston/Wright. She is a Professor of Economics at Columbia University, and her publications include academic and journalistic articles. Like Harmony, she is a middle-aged Black woman living with undiagnosed illness. Exhausted by "handling it so well," blowing up her life is her fantasy.

Sally Wen Mao

SALLY FORTH, SAD GIRL

Viking, Summer 2027 | North America

Manuscript anticipated Spring 2026

Agent: Clare Mao

From the acclaimed author of *NINETAILS*, a debut novel that traces a young poet's emotional and artistic itinerant life as she hops through artist residencies, spanning Shanghai, New York, and beyond.

In addition to her story collection, *NINETAILS*, [Sally Wen Mao](https://www.sallywenmao.com/) is the acclaimed author of three poetry collections—*Oculus* which was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and one of Time Magazine's 100 Must-Read Books of 2019; *Mad Honey Symposium*, which named a Top Ten Debut of 2014 in *Poets & Writers*; and *The Kingdom of Surfaces*, a finalist for the 2023 Maya Angelou Book Award. The recipient of two Pushcart Prizes and a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, she's been published in *The Paris Review*, *Harper Bazaar*, *Guenrica*, *PEN America*, among others, with rave reviews of her writing in national outlets such as the *New Yorker*, NPR, and *The Washington Post*. She currently lives in New York City
<https://www.sallywenmao.com/>

Select Praise for *NINETAILS*:

“With this first collection of deft and poignant stories, Sally Wen Mao continues to prove herself as one of the most fascinating and versatile writers of her generation.” — **Dave Eggers**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Eyes & the Impossible* and *The Every*

“An exquisite collection of fairy tale stories, each of which connect in some manner (figurative and literal) to foxes, and particularly the fox spirits of East Asian folklore. In gorgeous language and intimate attention to detail, Sally Wen Mao presents stories that span centuries, addressing dating apps and dancers and migrants and sex dolls with the same keen eye and enchanting prose.” — **ELLE**

“Award-winning poet Mao's fiction debut is a spectacularly multifaceted collection about women and their feral superpowers....Mao challenges and disrupts expectations of womanhood, demanding and forging brilliant new narratives.” — **Booklist** ★

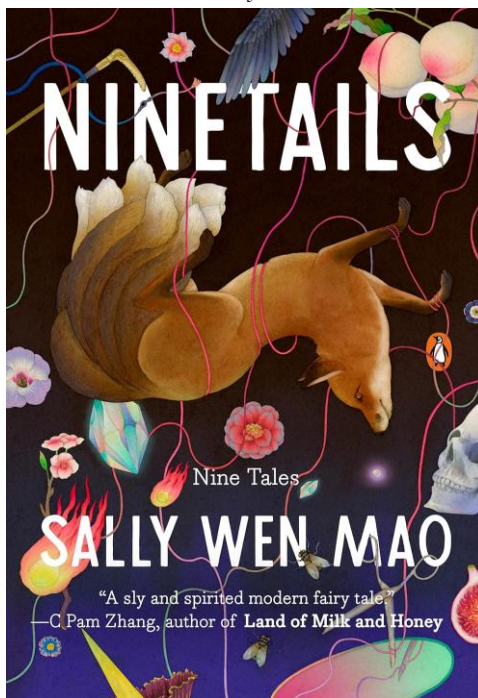
“*[Ninetails]* not only plays with language and imagery, it also brings a surreal, poetic logic to the narrative itself. Some of these stories feature fox spirits as a motif, while others feature foxes as major characters. What unites them is a focus on women trying to make sense of a world that makes unreasonable demands while projecting various archetypes onto them. These stories dance around fertility and sexuality, seduction and rage, and the final tales reach for a kind of shared transformation or redemption. Often, even a great collection blurs into undifferentiated sameness after you finish — but each must-read story in “*Ninetails*” remains fresh and distinct long after you close the pages.” — **Washington Post**

“A sumptuous and lively collection, leaping from story to story in much the same way a fox does — surprisingly, gracefully, and with impressive aim. I loved this book.” — **Kelly Link**, **Pulitzer Prize** finalist and bestselling author of *Get in Trouble* and *The Book of Love*

“What I love most about *Ninetails* is its fierce allegiance to underdogs of all kinds, its careful and myriad empathy for its characters, but also its pure and artisanal delight in language and fictive possibilities. It marks, to my mind, the beginning of a poet's long and potent exploration in literature's most capacious genre. And it's a welcomed sight to see.” — **Ocean Vuong**, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *On Earth, We're Briefly Gorgeous* and *Time is a Mother*



Photo credit: Jelani Ameer



Tomás Q. Morin CAT LOVE

Pantheon June 9, 2026 | North America
Manuscript available
Agent: Dan Mandel



A contemporary dystopian elegy narrated by a cat imprisoned in a Schrödinger's box, by the prize-winning poet and memoirist whose writing "cuts to the core with electrifying force" (*The Free-Lance Star*).

I wonder if they can hear me? If only they could, I might have a chance at convincing one of them to let me out. A long time ago, the first cat to wander into the cave of a human and make itself at home, learned how to meow in the same frequency as human babies. Not surprisingly, since that first cat chirped, humans haven't been able to resist stroking our fur and sharing their food with us and letting us snuggle in their beds. Knowing how to hijack the nurturing instinct of humans is not genetic though. It's a skill taught from one cat to another.

The indelible cat heroine of this unexpected tale recalls her life with “the Mustache,” her beloved owner. Trapped in a one-way mirrored box, displayed in a classroom for people who must contemplate her fate as part of their training to become “Emotional Support Humans,” she weaves a self-soothing paean to the poetry, music, and creature comforts she shared with her Mustache—the best products of a society that has gone off the rails in its violence and intolerance.

The trainees in the room, a motley crew our kitty describes with a novelistic flair of her own, are assigned to consider what they *feel* about her. Meanwhile, they argue about whether there's really a cat in there, or are they just being manipulated? Their daily required quizzes, reproduced in each chapter, are as poignant and witty as our narrator herself; meanwhile, the mystery of her cat-kidnapping is revealed to us, along with her potential next move on a more spectral plane.

An elegy to freedom, dignity, and connection for all living beings, this slim novel engenders powerful feelings in the reader, as it shows us to ourselves from the other side of the mirror.



Tomás Q. Morin is the author of several books, including the memoir *Let Me Count the Ways* (Nebraska, 2022), winner of the 2022 Writers' League of Texas Nonfiction Book Award; the poetry collections *Machete*, *A Larger Country*, and *Patient Zero*; and other books. He is on the faculty at Rice University. <https://www.tomasqmorin.com>

Madeline Moss

MISTRANSLATION

University of Iowa Press, late 2026 | North America
Draft manuscript available
Agent: Madeline Wallace

A captivating debut novel exploring how a childhood friendship with a neighbor boy places twin sisters on drastically divergent paths.



Nine-year-old Sabina and Camilla are passing the summer of 2001 in their insulated upstate New York town navigating the moods of their erratic mother while finding themselves pulled toward increasingly opposite interests—

Sabina into trying to extract details about the absent “French rascal” father she knows little else about, and Camilla into burgeoning popularity. The arrival of new neighbors offers some excitement, though, especially when Sabina discovers the family is Arab-French. Thrilled by the connection to her biological father’s home country, Sabina zeroes in on the aloof son, Khalil, who bristles at her attempts at friendship.

But as the twins and Khalil come of age, they find themselves drawn into muddling connections that endure and collapse across time and geography. As Sabina strives to find her father and make sense of her mother; as Camilla confronts whether the power she held in youth translates to adulthood; as Khalil reckons with the psychological fallout of a family tragedy, the paths of the once-neighbors converge in ways both surprising and inevitable, churning towards a revelatory conclusion.

Putting a contemporary spin on the tradition of the 19th-century novel, MISTRANSLATION is interspersed with autofiction over three distinct eras spanning twenty years of Sabina, Camilla, and Khalil’s lives. It is for readers who loved the presence of voice and style in Lisa Halliday’s ASYMMETRY and the explorations of the nature of truth in Susan Choi’s TRUST EXERCISE. Bookended by events with global resonance, MISTRANSLATION is a chronicle of relationships borne of proximity, blundering attempts at connection, and the reverberations of the choices we do—or don’t—make.

Madeline Moss grew up in Ithaca, New York, and holds a degree in French literature from Cornell University. She received her M.F.A. in fiction from Washington University in St. Louis in 2020. She currently lives in France, where she teaches high-school English. <https://www.madeleinemoss.com>



Alexia Nader
THE MEANING OF DAUGHTER

Iowa Press, Autumn 2026 | North America

Draft manuscript available

Agent: Iwalani Kim

Carving a space next to Ferrante’s *THE LOST DAUGHTER* and Ingrid Rojas Contreras’ *FRUIT OF THE DRUNKEN TREE*, Nader’s debut novel explores questions about maternal ambivalence, ambition, artmaking, and how individual desires resist gender expectations.

A rich and intimate novel that spans the mountains of Ehden, Lebanon; the lush green of Port-de-Paix, Haiti; and the vibrant art scenes of Miami and NYC to tell the story of three generations of fierce women.

After immigrating with her family from Lebanon to Haiti as a young girl, Merjan comes of age in a conservative and insular Lebanese community. Marriage is her way out from her volatile uncle’s grasp, though her true love is her art. She does not want to become a mother, but her businessman husband’s support for her growth as an artist comes with expectations, and soon, she has a son, Elias, then a daughter, Yvonne.

In the late 1970s, Yvonne is a young woman on the cusp of a marriage of convenience when her mother sends her to New York to sell Haitian paintings for her father’s art dealing business. Though resentful of her mother, Yvonne dreams of establishing a Haitian art gallery in New York with the help of a well-connected older man she’s involved with—but her time there ends disastrously, creating a deep rift between her and her family as she starts one of her own.

In the present day, Yvonne’s 23-year-old daughter Eva is a student whose art draws inspiration from her grandmother Merjan’s remarkable but largely undiscovered work. When Eva falls unexpectedly pregnant, she moves back to her childhood home in Miami to sort out her ambivalent feelings, only to find her family upended by feuds. Suffering from early-stage dementia, Merjan has journeyed from Haiti to live with Yvonne after decades of estrangement, hoping to reconcile, while Yvonne grapples with taking care of her mother who so often chose art over their relationship. Under one roof, the three women must reckon with the silences in their family’s history and the choices they’ve made as mothers in order to understand each other—and to fully know themselves.

Alexia Nader is a writer from Miami, currently based in San Francisco. She earned her MA in journalism from NYU and an MFA in fiction from the University of San Francisco. She received a 2023-2024 Steinbeck Fellowship to support the completion of this novel. Her fiction has been published in *Your Impossible Voice*, her poetry in *Obsidian: Literature & Arts in the African Diaspora*, and her criticism and journalism in *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Nation*, and *The New Yorker*, among other outlets. She lives with her husband, their two children, and a dog.

Sydney Rende

I COULD BE FAMOUS

Bloomsbury, January 13, 2026 | North America

Manuscript available, 272 pages

Agent: Madeline Wallace

Rights sold: UK, Fleet

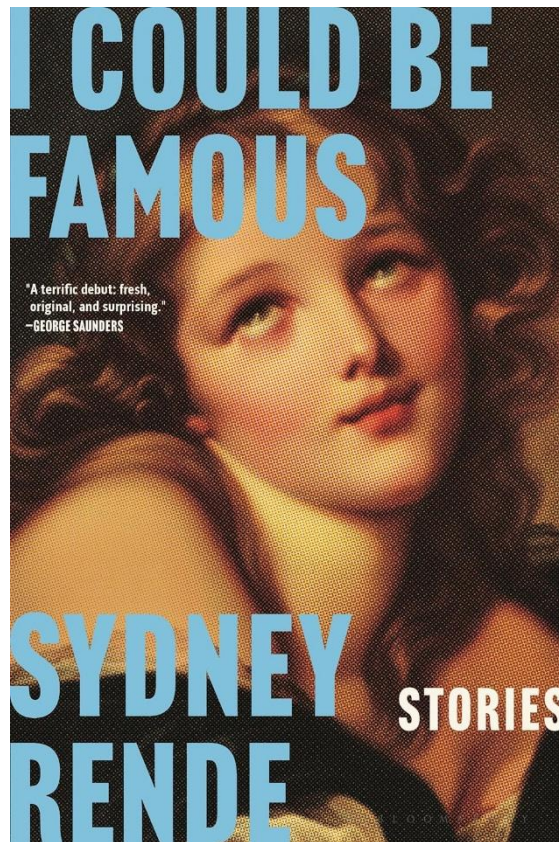
For fans of *Homesick for Another World* and HBO's *Girls*, a magnetic debut story collection following ten ambitious women and one male superstar as they pursue their desires-however deluded-for more.

I COULD BE FAMOUS takes the messy millennial trope to weird, wild, and wonderful places, spanning the dazzling to the mundane. A listless woman gets pulled into the orbit of a wannabe influencer, whose lavish lifestyle is not what it seems. Meanwhile, a narrator tries to ignore the haunting photorealistic tattoo on her boyfriend's thigh of his dead mother—until the matriarch herself shows up to offer a warning. An assistant on Architectural Digest-style videos finds renewed purpose in kleptomania when she begins nabbing trinkets from celebrity houses, and a struggling actress goes method so she can nail an audition for the role of High School Junkie Girlfriend. Threaded throughout these explorations of feminine neuroses and aspirations is a young hotshot male actor, who faces his own fall from grace when he's leveraged with accusations of cannibalism. With an energy that sparks off the page, Rende's delusion-driven characters hold a mirror to our own obsession with how we're perceived.

From the dazzling to the mundane, Rende's brilliant, unnerving, cynical stories hold a mirror to our obsession with how we're perceived and our ache to be adored. Above all else, *I Could Be Famous* is a love letter to big ambitions and bigger dissatisfactions, belief in ourselves, and the fascination we hold with the idea that we could-somehow, someday-be famous.

Sydney Rende is a writer and editor. You can read her work in *The New York Times Style Magazine*, *Carve Magazine*, *Joyland*, and elsewhere. A reality TV enthusiast since that fateful night in 2007 when LC called Spencer Pratt a “Sucky Person,” she will challenge anyone who argues that reality TV isn't high art. She lives in Southern California.

<https://www.sydneyrende.com/>



Praise for *I COULD BE FAMOUS*

“A terrific debut: fresh, original, and surprising. Eleven fast, sharp, funny stories laced with a deep understanding of the corrosive effect our fame-hungry attention economy has on real connection between people. Rende is such a witty, engaging writer, with an intuitive understanding that the short story is in the world to delight, engage, and enlarge the reader.”
—George Saunders, Booker Prize-Winning author of *LINCOLN IN THE BARDO*

“Sydney Rende's funny, sweet, stinging voice is made for this moment, and for those coming of age within it. An important debut and an invaluable tip-sheet to the way we live now, *I Could Be Famous* captures perfectly the hazards of young womanhood in a world where everyone is desperate to be looked at, but wary of being seen.” —Jonathan Dee, author of Pulitzer Prize Finalist *THE PRIVILEGES*

“Sydney Rende's debut collection spoke to me from the first line, where a receptionist cold messages a celebrity to say they'd be a 'good match.' In these propulsive stories, the tattoo of a dead mom comes to life, a woman contemplates dumping her boyfriend after he gives her a kidney, and an infomercial actress is desperate to land the role of an unnamed junkie girlfriend. Lurking throughout is a disgraced leading man accused of cannibalism and up for the role of Dracula, a twisted thread linking them all. *I Could Be Famous* is sharp, darkly funny, and, in the words of the reality TV star from my favorite story, 'very anthropological.’”
—Anna Dorn, author of *PERFUME AND PAIN* and *EXALTED*

“Sydney Rende's genius for the absurd is underpinned by her great comic timing. Even in her characters' darkest moments, salvation is found through an ever-present wit. Her sharply funny and fearless stories deftly satirize our too online, celebrity-obsessed cultural abyss. And if you cock your head and look closely, there is something so tender (and lonely) at the heart of them. *I Could Be Famous* is a wonderful debut.” —Dana Spiotta, author of *WAYWARD* and *EAT THE DOCUMENT*

“I can't remember the last time I enjoyed a book this much. Sydney Rende is a fearless, original writer with a crushing wit. *I Could Be Famous* shines a scathing light into the battleground of young, beautiful, ambitious, women, their impulses often unchecked, as they teeter around celebrity. If you don't understand modern relationships, reality TV, or internet porn relations, you will by this book's end. And you'll laugh the whole way there.” —Jessica Anya Blau, author of *MARY JANE* and *SHOPGIRLS*

“Shot through with a crystalline wit and mordant surprise, *I Could Be Famous* is an outstanding work of short fiction by one of my new favorite writers. Whether navigating the precipitous stakes of reality television or the stark ambitions of social media influencing, the characters in Rende's fiction at once shocked and delighted me. With the same insatiable desire that animates Rende's prose, I devoured these stories.” —Megan Kamalei Kakimoto, author of *EVERY DROP IS A MAN'S NIGHTMARE*

Riognach Robinson

BAD WORDS

St. Martin's Press, September 1, 2026 | North America

Draft manuscript 94,500 words available

Final manuscript anticipated November 2025

Agent: Clare Mao

Rights sold:

Brazil: Intrinseca (at auction)

Netherlands: Zomer & Keuning (at auction)

Czech: Euromedia

Portugal: PRH/Topseller (at auction)

Germany: Bastei Lübbe (at auction) Spain: Principal de Los Libros (at auction)

Italy: Sperling & Kupfer (at auction) UK: HarperFiction (at auction)

Hungary: General Press

Ukraine: Vivat

Sold in a major
7-figure,
2-book deal
at auction



Swoony, clever, and endlessly charming, Riognach Robinson's adult debut BAD WORDS is an indulgent yet artfully observed enemies-to-lovers for fans of Emily Henry, Curtis Sittenfeld's *Romantic Comedy*, Yulin Kuang's *How to End a Love Story*, and Michiko Kakutani's most brutal pans.

"I was two percent into *Bad Words* when I realized I was reading something special, the rare kind of book that not only treads new, fresh territory but does so in a way that feels startlingly inevitable. The kind of book I can't believe doesn't already exist, because about it is just so right, so the thing I've been waiting for. It's also a book that could only ever have been written by Riognach Robinson, whose clear, clever voice and incisive social commentary elevate the book's punchy premise and irresistible will-they-won't-they romance to a once-in-a-lifetime read about truth, art, vulnerability and all the sticky places they intersect. *Bad Words* left me buzzing."—**Emily Henry, #1 New York Times and Sunday Times-bestselling author of *Funny Story***

Meet Parker Navarro. You may have heard about his buzzy debut novel, *These Extraordinary Times*, and its million-dollar sale to one of the most esteemed literary editors in the industry. It should've been the book of the year and established Parker as a major new voice in fiction – but instead, it was panned so harshly by *City Magazine* critic Selina Chan that it became the literary flop of the decade and made Parker a publishing pariah.

Four years later, his second novel is about to come out, and this time things will be different – they have to be.

Meet Selina Chan. Writing for *City Magazine* has been her dream since high school, when she read their review of a book that changed her life, but *City* may not be around for much longer if the venture capital fund that bought the magazine has its way. The last thing Selina wants to think about is Parker Navarro's sure-to-be-disappointing second book, but apparently, as the only Asian-American staffer at *City*, it's up to her to review it.

The review goes live – a devastating pan, again. That night, Parker and Selina collide at an industry party and erupt into a blowout fight in a backroom that, unbeknownst to them, is secretly filmed. When the video hits the internet, it goes viral and, to their surprise, drives both Parker's preorders and *City's* subscription numbers.

As Parker and Selina are pitted against each other again and again through pointed interviews and in-person clashes at conventions, their jabs about writing, criticism, and who gets to lead an artist's life start to give way to the realization that they might be more like-minded than they thought. While the feud carries on online and in public, a different conversation is taking place in private, especially after they're thrust together for one snowy New York evening and begin an epistolary communication that starts to feel a lot like flirting.

Riognach Robinson has published five YA novels under the pen name **Riley Redgate**, which have received a number of honors from *ALA*, *YALSA*, *Booklist*, and *Kirkus*. She has also written for the *Onion*, and is the writer of the WEBTOON series *Angel of Death*. Riognach wrote a Harry Potter Draco/Hermione fanfiction that has had 1.6 million hits: <https://archiveofourown.org/works/23296162>. Riognach lives in Chicago, and **BAD WORDS** is her first novel for adults.



Reena Shah
EVERY HAPPINESS

Bloomsbury | February 3, 2026 | NA

320 pages, manuscript available

Agent: Iwalani Kim

Rights sold: India/English & Hindi (PRH India)

**Sold at auction in a 6-figure deal; a lead title for
Bloomsbury's Winter list**

An Indies Introduce pick for Winter 2026

Every Happiness is a dazzling exploration of the ties that bind two women across decades and continents, despite rivalry, class difference, and the conflicting needs of family and self, for readers of *The Interestings*, *Fruit of the Drunken Tree*, and *Fiona and Jane*.

Deepa and Ruchi are 12 years old when they meet at their Catholic school in India, but their connection is swift and lasting. As the two girls grow up and face their family's expectations and the limits of their ambitions, their friendship unfurls with dizzying intimacy, despite painful jealousy and suppressed desire.

When, in their twenties, Deepa marries a doctor and moves from India to the suburbs of Connecticut, Ruchi quickly finds an engineer bound for the same state and follows her friend across the world. But life in the United States is different than either woman expects. Deepa's daughter seeks affection Deepa refuses to give, and Ruchi's son resists her smothering care. At the same time, Deepa and Ruchi find their closeness tested by a growing class disparity, competing family needs, and the differences in their desires. Ultimately, when Ruchi discovers a dangerous secret about Deepa's husband's wealth, both women are forced to weigh the tangled bonds of their friendship with their lives, and their families', in the burgeoning Indian-American community.

"Moving and unforgettable" (Kimberly King Parsons), *Every Happiness* explores the slippery edges of a lifelong relationship, and the invisible threads that bind us, sometimes painfully, to those we love the most.



Reena Shah is a writer, editor, and teacher. She has received fellowships and residencies from the Millay Arts, Tin House, the Sustainable Arts Foundation, Cuttyhunk Island Residency, and the Fulbright Foundation. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Master's Review*, *Electric Literature*, *Midnight Breakfast*, *Waxwing Magazine*, *Joyland*, *BBC*, *The American Prospect*, *National Geographic*, *The Guardian*, *Third Coast*, and *Writer's Digest*, among others. She received an MFA in fiction from the Michener Center for Writers, where she won the Keene Prize for Literature. For many years she was a kathak dancer and public school teacher in New York and India. <https://www.reenadshah.com/about>

Praise for EVERY HAPPINESS

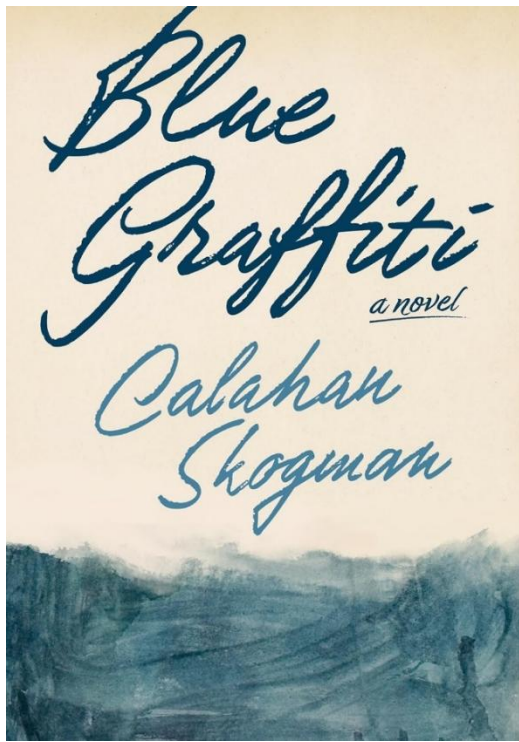
“I have just finished reading Reena Shah’s *Every Happiness* and I don’t think I have ever missed a set of novel characters more: astonishingly alive, lovable, aggravating, real. Shah writes beautifully about every sort of love: filial, parental, marital, and above all the longing and vivid pettiness and durable, complicated love between women over decades. *Every Happiness* is a stunner of a book, and Reena Shah is absolutely brilliant.” – **Elizabeth McCracken**

"*Every Happiness* is a bold and moving novel with great emotional intricacy and keen attention to moral predicaments. It marks the arrival of a radiant new voice unafraid to examine love in all its forms, from the most stifling to the most freeing.” – **Megha Majumdar, author of *A Burning***

“*Every Happiness* is one of the most arresting and rewarding novels I’ve read in years. Reena Shah is a writer of immense gifts, vital and nuanced vision, and a wise, urgent voice that we’ve long been missing. How lucky—and yes, how very happy—we are to have this book in the world.” – **Bret Anthony Johnston, author of *We Burn Daylight***

“Full of keen observations and quiet, confident prose, *Every Happiness* exposes the complexities of family, friendship, and the raw underbelly of the American dream.” – **Rita Chang-Eppig, author of *Deep as the Sky, Red as the Sea***

“Moving and unforgettable, containing what I love most about fiction: a lush, unique, urgent voice steeped in cultural relevance, biting humor, and sentences that swerve and surprise.”
—**Kimberly King Parsons, author of *WE WERE THE UNIVERSE***

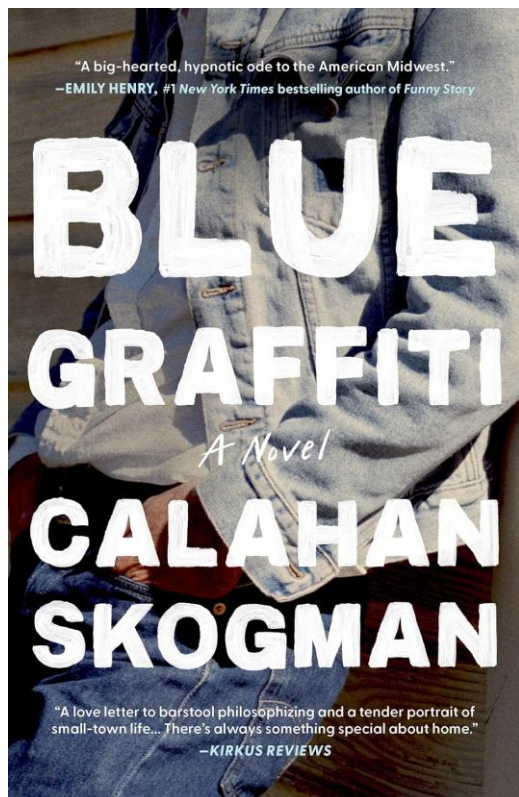


Calahan Skogman **BLUE GRAFFITI**

Unnamed Press, August 13, 2024 hardcover,
August 12, 2025 paperback | World English
Final manuscript available
Agent: Matt Bialer
Rights sold: Spanish (RBA)

From the lead actor in Netflix's *Shadow and Bone* comes a love letter to middle-of-nowhere America.

Living in the home he inherited from his mother and abandoned by his father, painter and construction worker Cash has never known anything beyond the fields of Johnston, WI—never particularly wanted to, either. Why would he when his friends are there, his work is there, his history is there? He loves Johnston. But when an emerald-eyed stranger named Rose blows into town one summer evening in his favorite local bar, everything changes. It's love at first sight. For Cash, anyway.



What follows is an intimate reflection on the love, faith, and tragedy that courses through the blood of America's backbone. Cash and his closest friends find themselves vital threads in the fabric of their community, the memory of those forgotten, and partners in a new enterprise. A bluesey ode to the Beat generation for the modern era, *Blue Graffiti* is writer Calahan Skogman's poetic debut brimming with an essential freedom, romance, and longing for a bygone era.



[Calahan Skogman](#) is a writer, poet, and actor born in Davenport, Iowa, raised in Wisconsin. He earned his MFA at the University of Southern California's School of Dramatic Arts and is best known for his leading role as Matthias Helvar in Netflix's Emmy-nominated show *Shadow and Bone* (based on the best-selling series by Leigh Bardugo) and Kogonada's *Big Bold Beautiful Journey* (2025). *Blue Graffiti* is his debut novel.

Praise for BLUE GRAFFITI

“You’ll feel echoes of Kerouac and *The Outsiders* in this poetic debut novel about fathers and sons, of boys becoming men, of what it feels like to be caught between the helium of dreams and the ceiling of small-town American reality.” —**Jodi Picoult, #1 *NYT* bestselling author**

“*Blue Graffiti* is a big-hearted, hypnotic ode to the American Midwest, the waning days of youth, and the power of love to break, heal, and remake us a thousand times over. An emotional and utterly romantic—in the truest sense of the word—debut.” —**Emily Henry, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Funny Story***

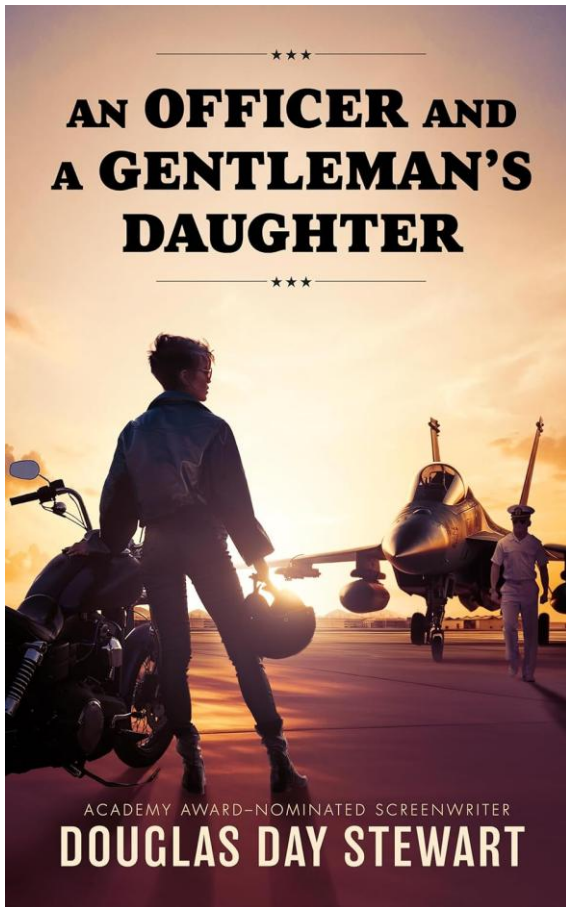
“The fabric of this story feels well-worn and delicate. Skogman speaks with such an assured familiarity of the characters and spaces in *Blue Graffiti*, like a tour guide driving you around his hometown. And within every seemingly mundane moment, he directs your attention to the bit of magic and mystery imbued in it.” —**Eric Heisserer, Oscar-nominated screenwriter of *Arrival***

"Skogman’s debut is a love letter to barstool philosophizing and a tender portrait of small-town life with a simple but powerful message: There’s always something special about home. Thoughtful, measured storytelling with moments of tremendous heart." —**KIRKUS REVIEWS**

"Impressive... *Blue Graffiti* showcases Skogman's distinctive, narrative driven, and memorably engaging storytelling style." —**Midwest Book Review**

"A tale of romance, starry-eyed hope, and freedom..." —**OURCULTURE Magazine**

“As with most everything Skogman does, *Blue Graffiti* proudly shows his Wisconsin roots.” —**Green Bay Gazette**



Douglas Day Stewart AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN'S DAUGHTER

Blackstone, June 25, 2024, hardcover
July 8, 2025 paperback | World English
Manuscript available
Agent: Matt Bialer

The official sequel to the 1982 hit film, *An Officer and a Gentleman's Daughter* is a brilliant story of struggle and redemption written by Academy Award-nominated screenwriter, Douglas Day Stewart.

"Douglas Day Stewart is a bold and fearless writer.
Can't wait to see the movie." – **Richard Gere**

"*An Officer and a Gentleman's Daughter* is the sequel you've been waiting forty-two years to read. This book delivers!" --**Don Bentley, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Forgotten War***

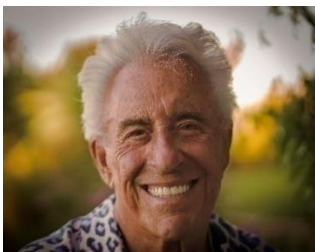
"Watch out for my friend, Douglas Day Stewart. He's already made your heart skip a beat. Get ready for him to do it again." --**Louis Gossett Jr., Academy Award-winning actor**

Thirty-five years after the events of *An Officer and a Gentleman*, Zack Mayo finds himself facing a very different kind of struggle. His beloved wife died tragically over a decade ago, his daughter--severely impacted by the death of her mother--disappeared after turning to drugs, and now he is being forced into retirement after a heroic career.

Convinced his daughter had died two years ago in a fire, Mayo is shocked when she shows up as a student in the last class he will teach before retirement. Shannon Mayo must accomplish the impossible if she is to pass her father's class and prove to herself that she has fully conquered her demons. Jet school is an unforgiving gauntlet for student and teacher, and their own personal journey is fraught with guilt, grief, and secrets that must be faced by both father and daughter before it's too late.

It's up to an old mentor to help them navigate their way forward, allowing a daughter to forgive herself for the past and regain her love of life, and a father to prove to himself that he truly is an officer and a gentleman.

Stewart wrote the iconic film based largely on his own experiences as a Naval Officer during the Vietnam era. From its release in 1982, the film (starring Richard Gere, Louis Gossett Jr., and Debra Winger) has been an inspiration to generations. Considered a cinema classic, the film has been heralded as one of the ten best and ten most profitable love stories in film history. The world responded to an uplifting love story in 1982 and it is even more hungry for such a story now.



Douglas Day Stewart has written some of the most successful films and television movies in Hollywood history. His *Blue Lagoon* taught a generation about sex. His *The Boy in the Plastic Bubble* launched John Travolta as a star and was in its day the most-watched television film in history. *An Officer and a Gentleman*, which Stewart based on his own experiences as a naval officer, secured him an academy award nomination and became one of the ten highest grossing love stories of all time. Stewart is the happily married father of three. *An Officer and a Gentleman's Daughter* is his first novel.

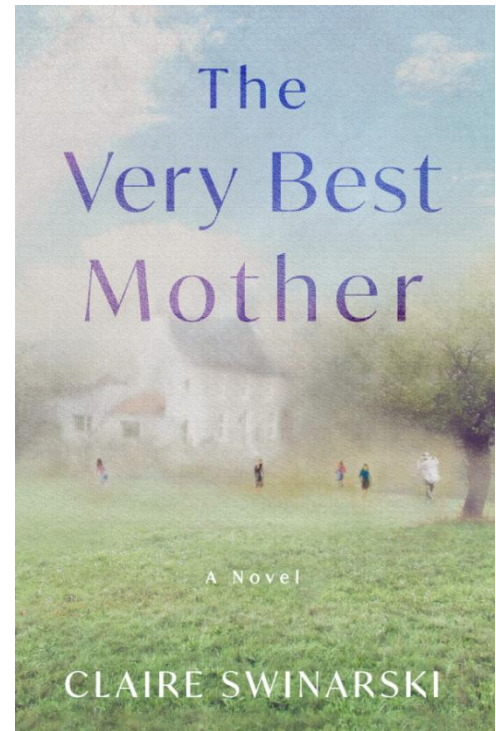
Claire Swinarski

THE VERY BEST MOTHER: A Novel of Sisterhood, Forgiveness, and the Complexities of Modern Motherhood

William Morrow / Avon, tpb | May 5, 2026 | NA

Manuscript anticipated October 2025

Agent: Alexander Slater



A dynamic, honest, and beautifully written novel about a young mother who returns to her small-town Wisconsin home after living in a cult-like “Mommune,” and what happens with the other women in her family as they each navigate the constraints, complexities, and joys of modern motherhood.

When prodigal daughter Cass Simon returns home after years away, the Simon family’s fragile peace is disrupted. Cass, a young mom previously living in a cult-like “Mommune” and working for a popular mom-fluencer, has come back under questionable circumstances, but is intent on starting fresh. As Cass gets work writing advice for a parenting website, her mother and sisters chip in their own wisdom from personal experience—of troubled pasts, heartache, and issues with infertility.

As the story unfolds through past and present, the Simon family women come to understand their own relationships to mothering and forgiveness—and what it truly means to be a “good” mother.

THE FUNERAL LADIES OF ELLERIE COUNTY

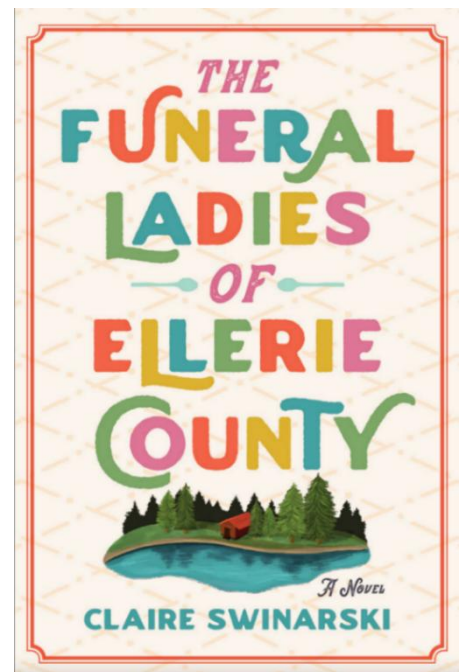
William Morrow/Avon, tpb | March 12, 2024 | NA

272 pages, final manuscript available

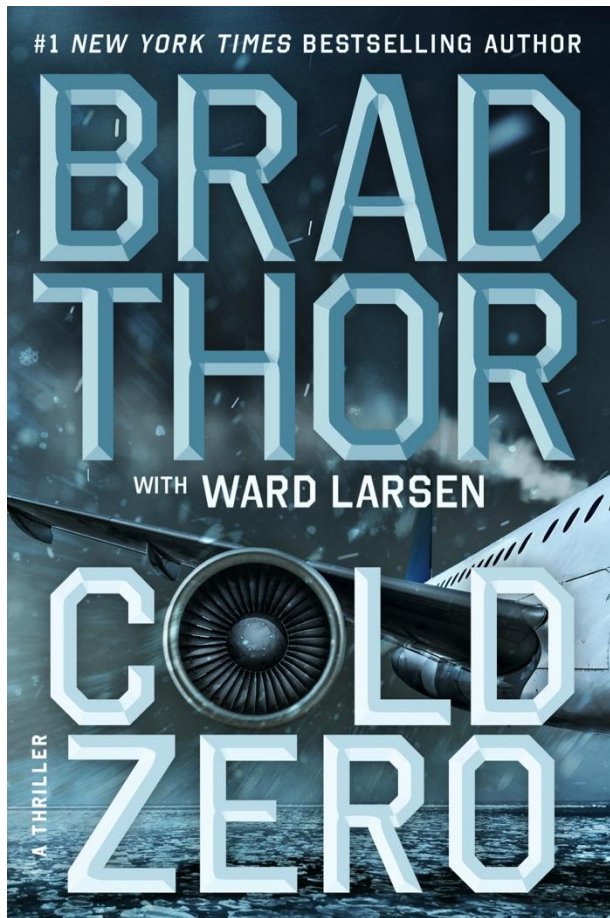
Rights sold: Ukraine (Yakaboo)

Television rights optioned by Sony Pictures Television

Armed with a Crock-Pot and a pile of recipes, a grandmother, her granddaughter, and a mysterious young man work to bring a community together in this uplifting novel for readers of *The Chicken Sisters*.



Claire Swinarski is the author of three middle-grade books and, now, one adult novel. Her writing has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *Seventeen*, *Milwaukee Magazine*, and many other publications. She lives in small town Wisconsin with her husband and three kids, where she writes books, wears babies, and wrangles bread dough. <http://www.claireswinarski.com/>



Brad Thor
with **Ward Larsen**
COLD ZERO

Emily Bestler Books / Atria, February 10, 2026 | World English
336 Pages, manuscript available October 2025
Agent: Heide Lange

From #1 New York Times bestselling author Brad Thor and USA TODAY bestselling author Ward Larsen, comes a heart-pounding thriller of survival, espionage, and global brinkmanship, where the frozen Arctic becomes the deadliest battlefield on Earth.

*A vanished plane. An earth-shattering secret.
A countdown to World War III.*

Hemisphere Airlines Flight 777—the most advanced jetliner ever built—disappears without a trace over the North Pole. Crippled by sabotage, it crash-lands on the ice, stranding the surviving passengers in a wasteland of frigid cold and chaos.

The real storm, however, is still coming.

Hidden inside the wreckage is the prototype for a revolutionary piece of technology that could upend the

balance of world power. Now Washington, Moscow, and Beijing are racing to be the first on scene to retrieve it—at any cost.

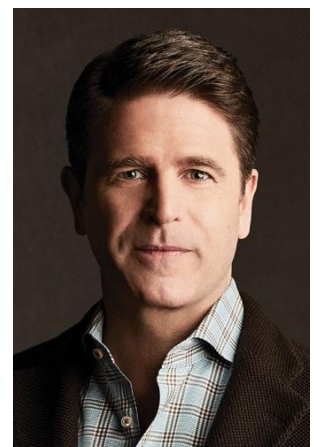
Trapped in the middle of the world’s most dangerous flashpoint are CIA operative Kasey Sheridan and former fighter pilot turned first officer, Brett Sharpe. Hunted by enemy forces, they must spirit both the device and its creator across the ice to safety—before rival superpowers turn the Arctic into a war zone.

With the clock ticking and the temperature dropping, the fate of the free world is about to be decided at the top of the globe.

The first co-authored book from Brad Thor outside of the Scot Harvath universe.

“Brad Thor and Ward Larsen have crafted the perfect thriller, one that feels both terrifyingly plausible and utterly unputdownable.” — *The Real Book Spy*

Brad Thor is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of twenty-five thrillers, including *Edge of Honor*, *Shadow of Doubt*, *Black Ice* (*ThrillerFix* Best Thriller of the Year), *Near Dark* (one of *Suspense Magazine’s* Best Books of the Year), *Backlash* (nominated for the Barry Award for Best Thriller of the Year), *Spymaster* (named “One of the all-time best thriller novels” —*The Washington Times*), *The Last Patriot* (nominated Best Thriller of the Year by the International Thriller Writers association), and *Blowback* (one of the “Top 100 Killer Thrillers of All Time” —NPR). Visit his website at BradThor.com and follow him on Facebook @BradThorOfficial, on Instagram @RealBradThor, and on X @BradThor.



Brad Thor
EDGE OF HONOR

Emily Bestler Books / Atria, July 1, 2025 | World English
320 Pages, manuscript available
Agent: Heide Lange

Instant *New York Times* bestseller

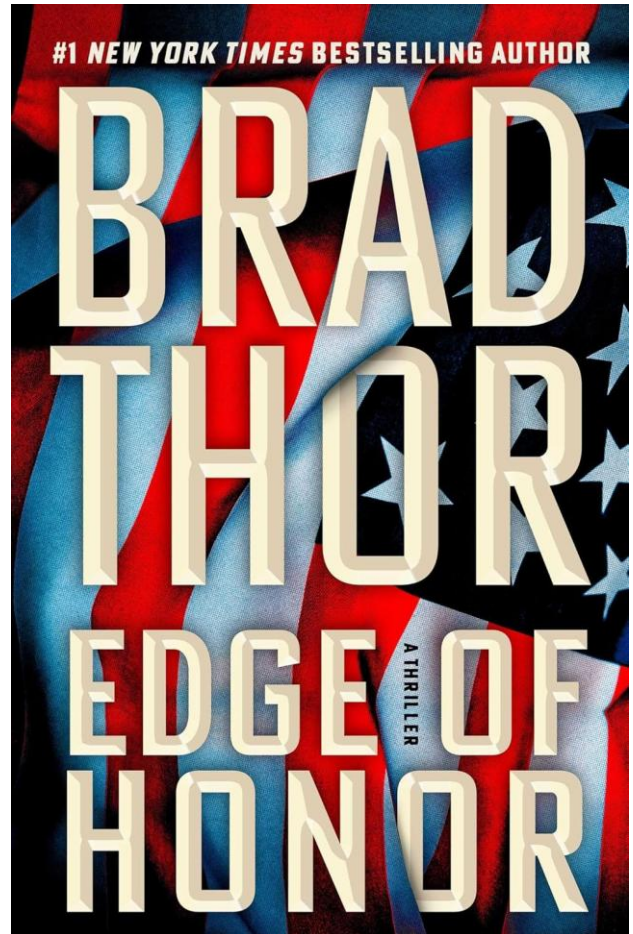
#1 *New York Times* bestselling author Brad Thor returns with an exhilarating new Scot Harvath thriller.

After six months abroad, America’s top spy returns to a new administration, a new set of global priorities, and a power struggle—the likes of which the United States has never experienced.

Drawn into a web of deceit and deadly politics, Scot Harvath is thrust into a high-stakes conspiracy that could change the course of history. A cabal of shadowy elites is maneuvering for control and if they succeed, they will bring the country to its knees.

When trust is fleeting and survival means making impossible decisions, Harvath finds himself at the precipice. The actions he takes will shape the future of America—and might cost him everything he holds dear.

With enemies at every turn, one wrong move could push the nation over the edge.

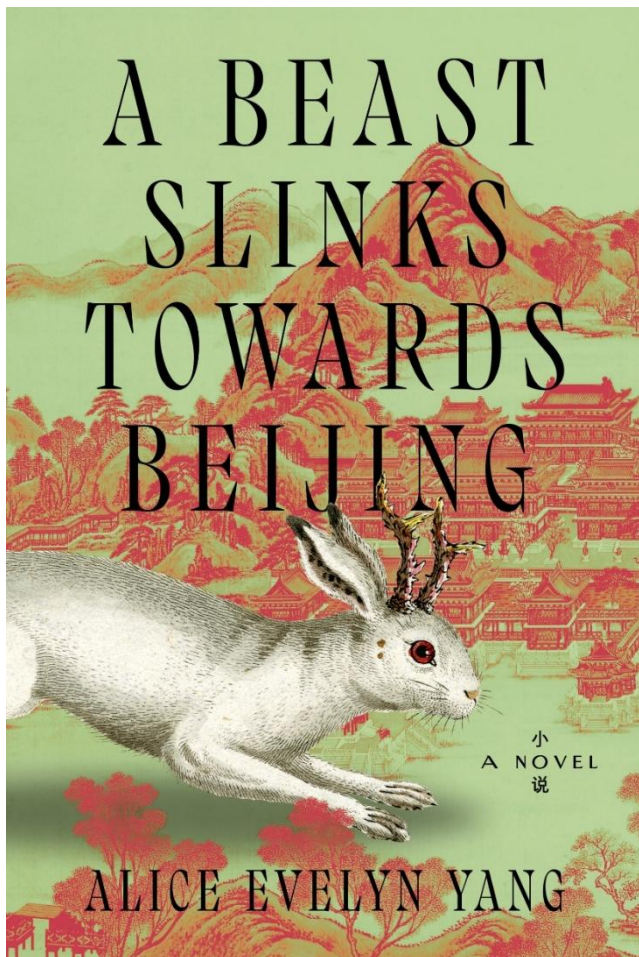


"Just like his protagonist, Brad Thor is a force of nature when it comes to crafting an entertaining story, appealing to both those looking for sledgehammer action and those seeking sophisticated character development. EDGE OF HONOR is as intriguing, multifaceted, and sophisticated as the city in which much of the bone-breaking action takes place." — ***Townhall***

"Thor’s last few books were international spy fests worthy of John le Carre by way of the military action form he has mastered. Managing that in EDGE OF HONOR, while evoking a Ludlum-like conspiracy, proves to be a creative masterstroke that mines the best current events have to offer. A bracing, blistering and brilliant thriller." — ***Book Trib***

"EDGE OF HONOR is a must-read for anyone who craves hard-hitting action and super-charged suspense torn right from tomorrow’s headlines. If you read one book this summer, make it this one." — ***The Real Book Spy***

"Gripping, explosive and adrenaline-fueled, EDGE OF HONOR is a timely thriller with nothing less than the fate of the country hanging in the balance. Brad Thor’s latest novel ignites your patriotic spirit while delivering hard-hitting action and high-stakes intrigue within a masterfully-written package." — ***Best Thriller Books***



Alice Evelyn Yang
**A BEAST SLINKS TOWARDS
BEIJING**

William Morrow, January 27, 2026 | North America
Manuscript available, 368 pages
Agent: Iwalani Kim

Sold in a 6-figure preempt

**An Indies Introduce pick for
Winter 2026**

A dark, magical realist debut family saga that moves through the Japanese occupation of Manchuria, the Cultural Revolution, and the present day to explore the effects of intergenerational trauma, the legacy of colonialism, and the inescapability of fate.

Qianze has not seen her father in eleven years, since he walked out of her life the night of her fourteenth birthday and disappeared without a trace. But then she gets a call—there is a man on the porch of her childhood home, and he’s asking for her. This man isn’t the Ba Qianze remembers: he is much older, more fragile, and worst of all, haunted by a half-forgotten prophecy.

While Qianze wrestles with what she owes this near-stranger, Ba begins telling stories of his past. From his bloody days as a Red Guard during the Cultural Revolution to his mother’s youth under Japanese occupation, he circles around the prophecy he came to deliver. Qianze has always longed to know more about her family history, but as Ba reveals a past far darker than she could have imagined, she finds herself plagued by strange visions—fox spirits trail her on her evening commute, a terrifying jackalope stalks her nightmares, and the looming prophecy slinks ever closer.

Spanning decades and continents, *A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* employs a combination of stunningly rendered folklore and atmospheric prose to examine the legacy of colonialism through the eyes of three generations. Alice Evelyn Yang’s debut novel is a story of family and forgiveness, of folklore and fate, that will leave you unsettled and undone.

Alice Evelyn Yang is a Chinese American writer from Norfolk, Virginia. Her work has been published in *MQR*, *AAWW*'s *The Margins*, and *The Rumpus*, among others. She is the recipient of the 2022–23 Jesmyn Ward Prize from *MQR* and completed her MFA in Fiction in 2022 at Columbia University, where she was awarded the Felipe De Alba Fellowship and nominated for the Henfield Prize. This is her first novel. <https://www.aliceevelynyang.com/> Please hear the author in her own words [here](#).



Photograph by Anna Letson

Praise for *A BEAST SLINKS TOWARD BEIJING*:

"Epic in scope, written with dauntless power and grace, *A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* offers an unflinching look at the legacies that continue to haunt one family through a century of reckoning. Alice Evelyn Yang's richly threaded novel sings with artful prose and unforgettable storytelling, reminding us of the promise of redemption, even amid the dark consequences of violence. This is a book that will stir you to your core." — **Thao Thai, author of *Banyan Moon***

"*A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* deftly weaves together myth and magic, history of a family and that of a nation. It sheds light on the past that we keep secret—and in so doing, suggests a possibility of redemption." — **Juheia Kim, author of *Beasts of a Little Land* and *City of Night Birds***

"The sentences in *A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* vibrate with the pleasure of poetry, even while they unveil a profound story of a family confronting the darkness of their lineage -- a beautiful ode about their will to survive the, at times terrible, forces of history. Alice Evelyn Yang is a stunning new talent." — **Vanessa Chan, author of international bestseller *The Storm We Made***

"A dark, glittering gem of a book. Yang plumbs the depths of the human heart with sumptuous prose, weaving an enthralling tale of family curses, inheritances, and excavated histories that will stay with readers long afterwards. A novel that haunts and enchants in equal measure." — **Gina Chung, author of *Sea Change* and *Green Frog***

"*A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* is a breathtaking meditation on memory and the quiet violence of history where the past refuses to stay buried. Richly layered and woven intricately with controlled lyricism, Alice Evelyn Yang conjures an unmissable and deeply felt folktale. This is a novel of rare depth and resonance." — **Lucy Rose, author of *The Lamb***

"Hypnotic, visceral, and immersive as a lucid dream. A haunting portrait of the way suffering can ripple through a family. Yang will make you believe in repair after rupture and the power of choosing to return home." — **Veena Dinavahi, author of *The True Happiness Company***

"Singular, incantatory, and heartfelt. In a prismatic tale that blends myth and history through continents, generations, and time, Alice Evelyn Yang's *A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* tracks three generations of a family circling the enduring question of how we live with dignity despite the narratives and structures that threaten to crush us at every turn. Yang's steady, unflinching eye on the devastating waves of colonial violence is beautifully balanced with her heart for individual, human struggle, resulting in a story that lingers far beyond its last pages. A debut to savor and watch." — **Jemimah Wei, author of *The Original Daughter***

"*A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* is an intensely moving novel of otherworldly grace. Alice Evelyn Yang writes with poetic precision and startling empathy as she plunges us into the heart of a family haunted by beasts both supernatural and all too human. This is a story about the monsters we inherit and those we create; about the uncanny slippages of memory, trauma, and time; about the possibility and necessity of forgiveness. It is a beautiful, visceral, and haunting novel; I was spellbound from the first page." — **Naomi Xu Elegant, author of *Ginkgo Season***

"A breathtaking book to be remembered, Alice Yang's debut traverses the labyrinth of a family's wounds that span generations and emerges with a language of forgiveness that feels almost reverential. This book is both witness *and* refusal of the ghosts we inherit. Its triumph is a reckoning; mourning the dead is easier than mourning the living because there are so many more ways to lose someone long before they are gone." — **Marcelo Hernandez Castillo, author of *Children of the Land***

"*A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* has it all—a heap of intrigue, dire prophecies, skulking creatures, fraught familial relationships, epic scale, nail-biting storylines ricocheting between generations, and to top it off, did I mention the prose, cut exquisitely like a jewel? Haunting, with breakneck pacing and a cast of unforgettable characters, *A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing* is the story of a daughter's curious reunion with her estranged father, and the long shadows of history they cast. It is truly a marvel, the mark of a new literary star in Alice Evelyn Yang." — **Sally Wen Mao, author of *Ninetails***

SCIENCE FICTION and FANTASY

Lynn Buchanan

THE DOLLMAKERS:

A Novel from the Fallen Peaks

HarperCollins/Voyager, August 13, 2024 | World English

Manuscript available

Agent: Matt Bialer

Rights sold: Italy: Ne/oN

In this dark and enchanting stand-alone fantasy from debut author Lynn Buchanan--complete with black and white illustrations and a full-wrap illustrated cover--discover a world centered around destructive, all-consuming monsters; the magical dolls designed to fight this force; and the artisans tasked with creating demon-slaying dolls. A touch cozy fantasy and a touch horror, *The Dollmakers* is perfect for fans of Studio Ghibli films, the works of TJ Klune and Travis Baldree, and readers of *Juniper & Thorn* and *The Goblin Emperor*.

In the country called One, dollmakers are vital members of the community. An artisan's doll is the height of society's accomplishments, while a guard's doll is the only thing standing between the people of One and the Shod: vicious, cobbled monstrosities that will tear apart any structure—living or dead, inanimate or otherwise—to add to their horde.

Apprentice Shean of Pearl is a brilliant dollmaker. With her clever dolls, she intends to outsmart and destroy the Shod, once and for all—a destiny she's worked her whole life toward accomplishing. But when the time comes for her dolls to be licensed, she's told her work is too beautiful and delicate to fight. A statement that wounds and infuriates her; the Shod killed everyone she loved. How could her fate be anything *but* fighting them?

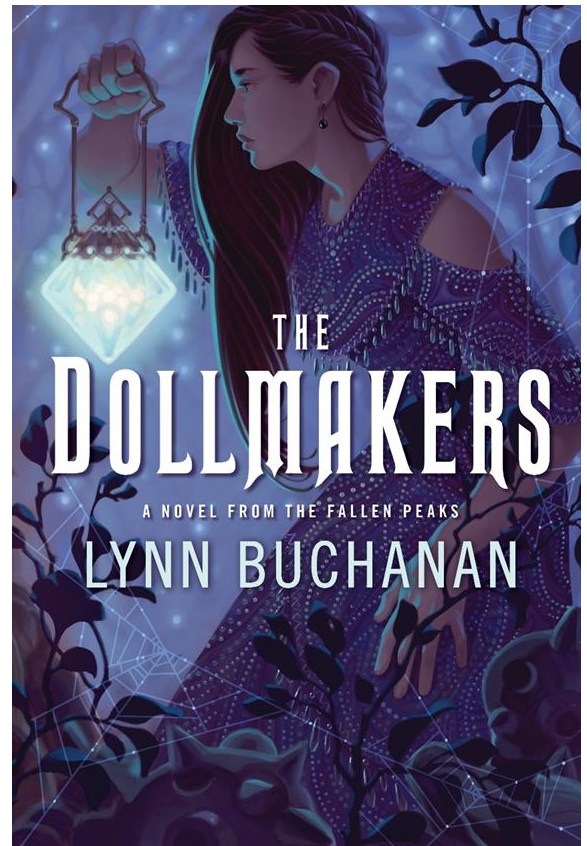
In an attempt to help her see a new path for herself, Shean's mentor sends her on a journey to the remote village called Web, urging her to glean some wisdom from Ikiisa, a reclusive and well-respected guard dollmaker. But Shean has another plan: if she can convince the village of Web of her talents, the Licensor Guild will *have* to reconsider and grant her a guard's license. And what better way to convince them than challenging Ikiisa and instating herself as the official dollmaker of Web? Once she's done that, proving her dolls' worth in the fight against the Shod will be simple.

As simple, that is, as calling the Shod to Web.

THE DOLLMAKERS is part of a planned series of standalones all set in the same fantasy world, featuring varying casts of unique, colorful characters knit together by a single recurring character whose overarching story concludes in the final two books of the series. The structure of the series is similar to the Penric and Desdemona books by Lois McMaster Bujold, the Discworld books by Terry Pratchett, or the various Cosmere books/series of Brandon Sanderson--self-contained adventures with wider-world-implicating drama in the background that, by the end of the series, will culminate in a large-scale conflict. Five of these standalones have already been written.



Lynn Buchanan is a fantasy writer based in the foothills of some impressive, chilly mountains in Utah. She's a 2019 graduate of the Odyssey Writing Workshop and holds an MFA in creative writing from BYU, where she was a student of Brandon Sanderson; currently, she works for Sanderson's art director at Dragonsteel Entertainment, while also helping Sanderson with his creative writing course. When she isn't writing about moody painters, demonic dolls, and mummified arms used as dancing props, she enjoys playing the oboe, drawing, and watching Ghibli movies. She can be found at her website lynnbwrites.com, and on Twitter [@LynnBwrites](https://twitter.com/LynnBwrites).



Reviews for **THE DOLLMAKERS**:

"An engaging new voice with excellent worldbuilding. I enjoyed *The Dollmakers*, and can't wait to see what is next!"— *New York Times* bestselling author **Brandon Sanderson**

"Buchanan's novel echoes with alluring nostalgia that's sure to ensnare others to the very end." — *Library Journal*

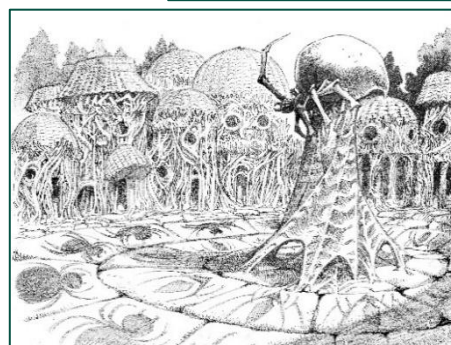
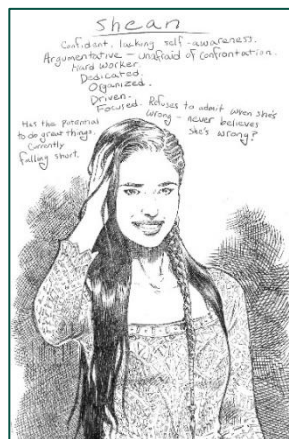
"A unique tale of self-discovery and transformation, filled with fabulous magic and monsters, featuring a stunning character arc with an immensely satisfying ending. I couldn't put it down!" — **Sarah Beth Durst**, award-winning author of *The Spellshop*

"This beautifully written dark fantasy is a fascinating read ... Arrogant, willful Shean is as unlikable as they come at first, but her redemption arc, as she grows in empathy and self-realization, truly satisfies."
— *Booklist*

"*The Dollmakers* is an evocative and engaging fantasy filled with a lush worldbuilding and a killer, creepy premise. The doll magic system is one of the most creative and unique magic systems I've ever read. Shean is a complex character that grows with the reader as they continue along a dark journey toward that light in the far distance. Buchanan has written an absolutely captivating debut, and I can't wait to read their next book." — **Wesley Chu**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Art of Prophecy*

"*The Dollmakers* is guaranteed to be a contender for one of the strongest fantasy debuts of the year 2024." — **Petrik Leo**, *Novel Notions*

"Never before have I had so much fun rooting for a character I hate." — **Dan Wells**



C. J. Cherryh
ALLIANCE UNBOUND
(The Hinder Stars, book 2)

DAW, October 15, 2024 | NA
352 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Matt Bialer

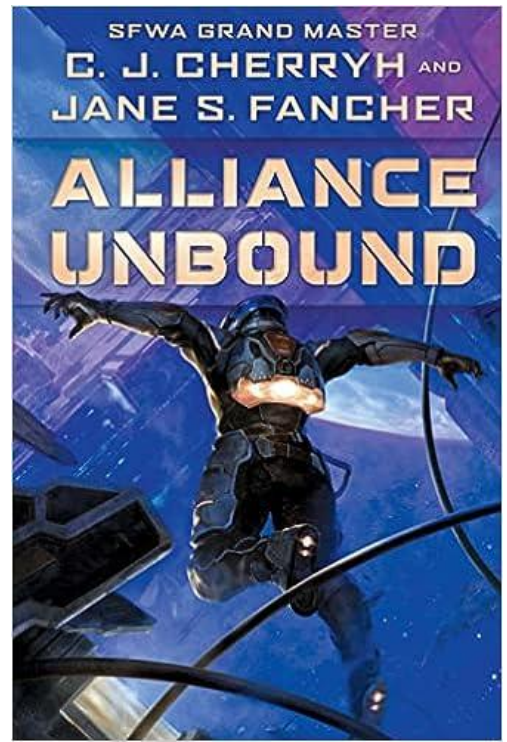
The 2nd novel of The Hinder Stars series returns to an intergalactic corporate conflict, set in the Hugo Award–winning Alliance-Union Universe.

With deft prose and complex characters, *Alliance Unbound* is thought-provoking science fiction that shrewdly examines the technological and sociopolitical challenges of humanity’s journey to the stars.

When Cyteen opened up faster-than-light travel, it gave the technology for free to any ship that could reach it; and with that technology, it provided a map of jump-points, points of mass enabling starships to navigate hyperspace safely.

The map of jump-points, however, stopped with the route to Alpha—thus excluding Sol, and Earth, and the Earth Company, whose gateway to the stars was Alpha. Cyteen knew exactly what it was doing with its gift. Sol and the EC could still reach Alpha with sub-light pusher-ships as it always had—but Sol and the Earth Company no longer had any authority in the Beyond.

But Sol intends to take back control of its star-stations and stop Cyteen's unbridled expansion, however it can. To do that, they are willing to starve Alpha and concentrate their efforts on a huge FTLer capable of carrying military force.



Praise for Alliance Rising

"SFWA Grand Master C.J Cherryh and Jane Fancher team up to create another exciting entry in Cherryh's extensive Alliance-Union Universe." —Kirkus Reviews

"Cherryh and Fancher ground this fine work in the difficult choices that their characters must make in the face of an uncertain future. The economics and sociopolitics are as riveting as space battles, enhancing this welcome addition to the Alliance-Union saga." —Publishers Weekly

"[Alliance Rising] showcases a concern—common to Cherryh's other novels—with organisations and bureaucracies, with systems and societies, and how such wider contexts shape the people (ambitious or content, well-meaning or malicious) who operate within them.... Cherryh and Fancher deploy an anthropological eye." —Tor.com



Recognized for “lifetime achievement in science fiction and/or fantasy,” **C. J. Cherryh** joins SFWA’s Grand Master ranks alongside an esteemed group of previous recipients of this high honor, including Robert A. Heinlein, Arthur C. Clarke, Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, and Ursula K. Le Guin. She won the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer in 1977 and three Hugo Awards, including the Best Novel Award for *Cyteen* and *Downbelow Station*. In 1998, Cherryh was the Guest of Honor at the World Science Fiction Convention. She is the author of *The Faded Sun* series, the *Chanur* books, and the long-running beloved space opera *Foreigner* series. Her writing spans the breadth from space opera to historical fantasy. <https://www.cherryh.com/www/menu.htm>



S.D. Coverly
THE ARCANE ARTS

(formerly ARCANES MECHANICALS)

Del Rey, May 2026 | World English

Translatable Manuscript available

Agent: Dan Mandel

Rights sold: Rocco (Brazil), Loewe (Germany), Mondadori (Italy), Hidra (Spanish), Piatkus (UK), Vivat (Ukraine)

FIFTY SHADES* meets *THE SECRET HISTORY
from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Dana Schwartz and
acclaimed sci-fi/fantasy writer Dan Frey: a fantasy-romance novel set
at an elite graduate school where magic is something to be studied
only very, very carefully.

Newlyn University is an elite Vermont college where students can pursue degrees in medicine, history, technology—or the Arcane Arts. But the study of magic has become a niche academic interest, largely displaced by technology for daily use, with its most powerful applications banned after a series of magic-fueled atrocities throughout the 20th century.

Ellsbeth Shore, a plucky and ambitious graduate student, is determined to study Arcane Mechanicals—even though she failed her Arcanus exam to qualify—and has set her sights on working under acclaimed professor Thaddeus Rawlins. Once the rising star of his field, now reeling from a string of professional disappointments and a messy divorce. Rawlins is irritated by Ellsbeth’s reckless persistence, but reluctantly agrees to serve as her adviser, and grudgingly finds his own passion rejuvenated by hers.

Against his better judgment, Rawlins decides to let Ellsbeth pursue a thesis on writ magic, the controversial and banned field of the Arcane Arts that involves controlling other people. Both student and teacher profess to be interested in the topic for purely academic purposes, but they harbor equally dark secrets—one intending to use the magic for redemption, the other for revenge.

As Rawlins and Ellsbeth undertake their clandestine research, their relationship evolves beyond the professional. Harmless flirtation crosses the line into uncontrollable desire, which threatens to bloom into something even more troubling: love. But when two people are mastering the ability to control others, will they ever be able to trust each other? As their project spins wildly out of control, they become entangled in a web of lust and power that could destroy them both.

Told in dual perspectives, *THE ARCANE ARTS* uses fantasy to explore real questions about modern relationships. Can romance transcend power? Is there anything pure that runs deeper than the dynamics of domination and desire? Or is love just another word for control?

S.D. Coverly is the collaboration of two writers:

Dan Frey is a screenwriter and author of the novels *The Retreat*, *The Future Is Yours*, and *Dreambound*. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife and two daughters.

Dana Schwartz is the author of the #1 *New York Times*-bestselling novels *Anatomy: A Love Story* and *Immortality: A Love Story*. She’s also the host of the acclaimed history podcast “Noble Blood.” She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and son.

Bethan Croome

REIGN

Sourcebooks, Cosmo Reads Summer 2026 | North America

Unedited manuscript available

Final manuscript anticipated autumn 2025

Length TBD

Agent: Alexander Slater

Sold at auction in a 2-book deal

REIGN is the first in a debut romantic fantasy series by social media standout Bethan Croome. A UK resident with a master's degree in fiction, Bethan has 3.3 million followers on Tik Tok, 2.4 million on Instagram, and a love of all things cosplay and fantasy.



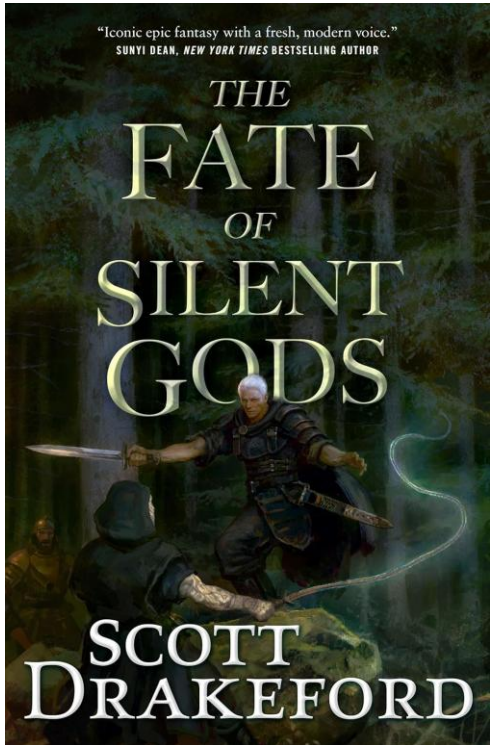
The Kingdom of Lyonesse was absent of magic but not of rain.

In a kingdom where magic is forbidden, Niamh Smith must fight in a looming war disguised as a man, navigating rivalries, forbidden love, and the return of the Silver Witch.

Niamh has spent twenty-one years in the shadow of her elder brother, Finn, a blacksmith who takes credit for her skill while she is dismissed for being a woman. But her greatest challenge isn't being eclipsed—it's her secret witchhood. In the Kingdom of Lyonesse, magic is banned. The King, once overshadowed by his powerful sister Regina, purged all magic, branded it evil, and exiled his own sister. Now, her army threatens invasion.

After Niamh's own magic is exposed, and desperate for a new life, she disguises herself as a man, taking Finn's name and heading for the Walled City. Along the way, she falls in with other conscripted men—including Bash, a muscular carpenter who she quickly takes a liking to. As they journey to inevitable war against Regina and her monsters, alliances change, a love triangle emerges with the King's son, and Niamh must confront the family she's abandoned. As the battle for the throne unfolds, will harmony prevail or will the land burn?

Bethan Croome can be found on Tik Tok at <https://www.tiktok.com/@b.eleanor> and on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/bethfiit>. She's a graduate of Bath Spa University in Bath, England, with a degree in English Literature and Creative Writing, and a master's degree in writing.



Scott Drakeford
THE FATE OF SILENT GODS
(The Age of Ire Book 2)

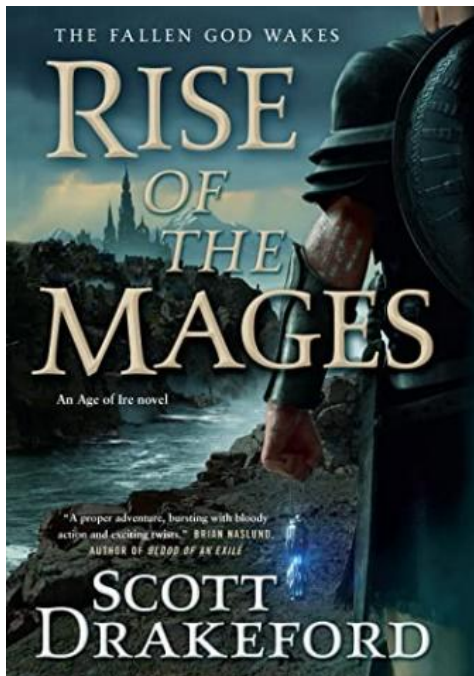
Tor, November 19, 2024 | North America
432 pages | manuscript available
Agent: Matt Bialer
Rights sold: UK (Broken Binding)

In the second book of the acclaimed Age of Ire trilogy, the War for Iraea begins in earnest as the Fallen God grows bolder in His bid to slaughter everything and everyone Emrael loves.

Following the events of book one, Emrael and his followers now face the full might of the United Provinces, whose Legions and sinister Malithii allies are poised to crush their fledgling rebellion. Blood, friendships, and morals must be sacrificed if they are to survive. Brutal tactics and political maneuvers are the order of the day. Emrael has no other choice. But not all among his ranks agree with his methods.

Ambitions grow, lovers become enemies, and critical alliances shift. All the while, the Fallen God schemes to not only defeat Emrael's armies, but to subdue him personally.

When Emrael's ambitions push him to conquer yet another Lord Holder's lands, the Watchers and Malithii anticipate Emrael's moves to an impossible degree; Ban comes under siege at Trylla while Emrael is away. Once again, Emrael is forced to risk everything to save his brother from the forces of the Fallen God. This time, Emrael must contend with the fact that he's to blame.



THE RISE OF THE MAGES
(The Age of Ire Book 1)

Tor, January 2023 | North America
400 pages | final text available
Agent: Matt Bialer
Rights sold: UK (Broken Binding)

A young warrior and his improbable band of allies face impossible odds as they seek to rescue his brother from the servants of the Fallen God.

Emrael Ire is a student of war with lofty ambitions, despite being so poor his boots are more hole than leather. He and his talented younger brother Ban work hard to build themselves a better life at the Citadel, a school that specializes in both *infusori* Crafting and military arts.

Their lives are upended when the power-hungry Lord Governor of the neighboring province invades the school with the help of a sinister sect of priests devoted to the newly awakened Fallen God of Glory. Many of the *infusori* Crafter students are captured — including Ban.

Though Emrael stands little chance against the Lord Governor and his armies, he's desperate to save his brother—even if that means accepting the help of allies with uncertain motives, or becoming a practitioner of a forbidden magic. There is nothing he won't sacrifice to save his brother, but what happens when the cost of success is not his to pay?

Praise for THE FATE OF SILENT GODS

"The balancing act of character development versus large-scale plotting is handled deftly as Drakeford waves together various story threads... Readers drawn to interesting political epic fantasy with lots of violent battles will find it all in this story."—*Booklist*

Praise for RISE OF THE MAGES

"This book commits almost every crime against heroic fantasy that I can imagine ... and I have not been able to put it down."—**Glen Cook, bestselling author of *The Black Company***

"This is old-school and new-school epic fantasy rolled into one... *Rise of the Mages* is a fast-paced adventure that will satisfy any fantasy fan young or old."—**Brian Lee Durfee, author of *The Forgetting Moon***

"[This] superbly crafted and epic fantasy saga is the first volume in his new 'Age of Ire' series and will keep enthusiastic readers eagerly awaiting the next installment."—*Midwest Book Review*

"Drakeford crafts a complex geopolitical environment, and Emrael is a joy to follow and root for."—*Booklist*

"Rise of Mages opens a door into a character-driven world of distinctive magic, rousing adventure, and corruption of the first order. Fantasy lovers will experience the full range of curiosity, anger, delight, frustration, joy, and satisfaction."—**Kel Kade, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Rise of the Mages is a proper adventure, bursting with bloody action and exciting twists. Emrael is a fantastic lead, full of strength and loyalty, but also a hot-headed impulsiveness and a compelling inner darkness that I couldn't get enough of."—**Brian Naslund, author of *Blood of an Exile***

"An immersive world epic fantasy fans will be glad to return to."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Drakeford has certainly laid the groundwork for a truly captivating epic fantasy series."—*Out of This World SFF*

"A piece of SFF that refuses to be pinned to any one subgenre. Is it magical academy? Found family? Band of misfits? Chosen One? Grimdark? Mil-fantasy? The answer is all and none of these. Drakeford will give you the fantasy novel you didn't know you wanted. Highly recommend." - **Richard Swan, Bestselling Author of *The Justice of Kings***



Scott Drakeford Scott Drakeford was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. He currently lives in the PNW with his badass tech wizard of a wife, their tenacious children, and two dogs.

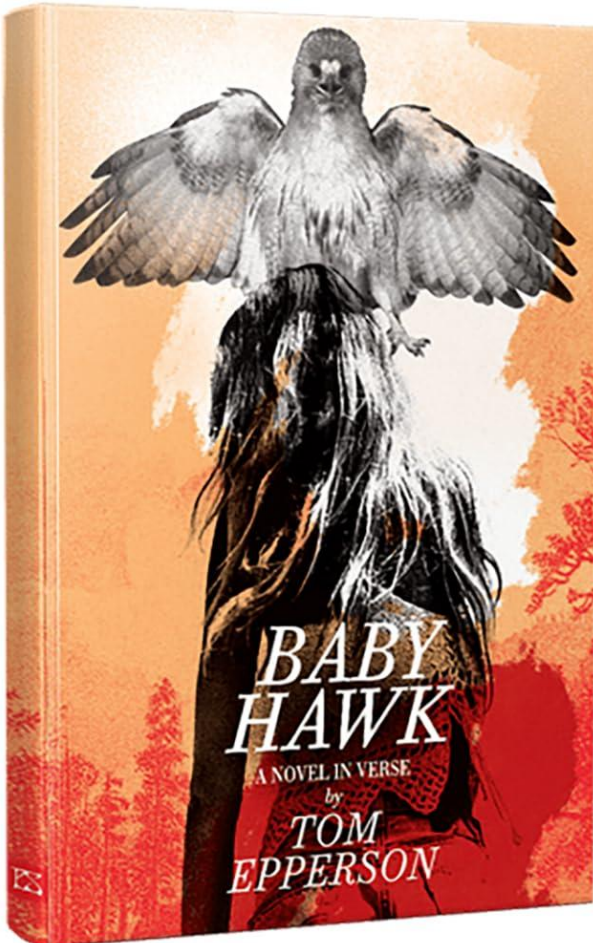
Scott is a longtime lover of the written word, especially fantasy fiction. His father convinced him to read *The Belgariad* as a youngster, and the best books soon became Scott's world. *The Wheel of Time*, *Harry Potter*, *The Saga of Recluce*, and many other books influenced Scott deeply.

Later, Scott was tricked into becoming a "responsible adult", getting a degree in engineering, and living the corporate life. Still, his addiction to books lived on, and more recent favorites like *The Name of the Wind* and *Red Rising* convinced him that writing could be his way of contributing something beautiful and meaningful to the world.

While Scott spends most of his time working and writing, when he has time he enjoys cooking, NBA basketball (go Jazz!), weightlifting, video games, hunting, fishing, and (of course) reading.

Tom Epperson **BABY HAWK**

PS Publishing | World English
150 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Matt Bialer



A gripping novel-in-verse by acclaimed novelist and screenplay writer Tom Epperson, about one girl's struggle to survive at the end of the world

"Unlike anything you've ever read. ...The novel's free verse is lean and muscular, unburdened by rhyme and meter, propelled instead by the rhythm of plot. The lines break like quick cuts in a film, pushing the reader forward with each turn of the page." —Terry Shepherd

We never learn her name. She is called simply "the female." She's seventeen years old, and is living with her father in the mountains and forests of northern California. They are survivors of a plague called the Sickness that resulted in the deaths of nearly all the world's humans. The Sickness was even more lethal to females than males, and as far as the girl and her father know, she is the last female on earth.

The female and her father are everything to each other, and despite the harshness of the conditions, their lives together in the rugged, beautiful mountains are happy. That all comes to an end one chilly autumn morning when they're discovered by a ragtag, racist, violent band of sixteen males. The female's father tries to protect her but he's shot dead and his daughter's kidnapped.

The males take the female back to their camp. They can't believe their good fortune. The last female on earth somehow has fallen into their (merciless) hands. They intend to treat her like gold, like the most valuable treasure that's ever existed because that's what she is. They install her in her own cabin and waste no time in setting up a schedule: each male is given a day where they'll have one hour with her, and one day a week she'll have for herself. The female's distraught. She's never been without her father, and she's as alone as any human could be.

The leader of the males is Braydon. Before the sickness, he was an elite soldier. He's a superb physical specimen and a ruthless killer. It was he who killed her father. Braydon reads books and fancies himself an intellectual. He has his own plans for the female. He wants her for himself. He sees her as the new Eve, and eventually their children and their children's children will repopulate the empty earth.

Winter comes. The forest is deep in snow. The males are enjoying themselves with her, but when she's alone in the cabin, she's doing exercises. She's preparing herself. She's smart and brave and resourceful. Her father taught her all about the forest. When spring comes and the snow melts, the last female on earth is going to escape or die trying.



Tom Epperson, a native of Arkansas, headed west with his boyhood friend Billy Bob Thornton to pursue a career in show business. Epperson's co-written the scripts for *One False Move*, *A Family Thing*, *The Gift*, *A Gun, a Car, a Blonde*, and *Jayne Mansfield's Car*. His L.A. noir *The Kind One* was nominated for both the Edgar Award and the Barry Award for Best First Novel. Three more books followed, *Sailor*, *Roberto to the Dark Tower Came*, and *Make Believe*. He lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico with his wife, Stefani, two pampered cats, and two frisky dogs. www.tomepperson.com

Lynn Hightower

MIRROR TWIN

BOOK 3 of *The Enlightenment Project*

Severn House, March 3, 2026 | World English

Manuscript available

Agent: Matt Bialer

It's two AM.

You think you're alone.

You think you're safe.

Think again . . .

Lola Strickler is three months pregnant with a longed-for baby. She should feel happy. She should feel safe. But she's keeping a secret from her husband.

Something has started watching her. Something malevolent. He—it—stands in the street each night, and stares up at her bedroom window.

And Lola might not know it yet, but he's already found his way in . . .

Neurosurgeon Noah Archer's work with exorcist priest Father Perry has taught him to believe in the darkness. So when Lola calls him for help, he knows she's not going mad—she's being haunted.

But it's not just Lola keeping secrets. There are dangerous things her family has been keeping from her. Soon, Noah and his team are racing against time to defeat an unimaginable evil . . . and not everyone is going to come out of it alive.

THE HUNTING DARK

Book 2 of *The Enlightenment Project*

Severn House, May 7, 2024 | World English

Paperback January 28, 2025

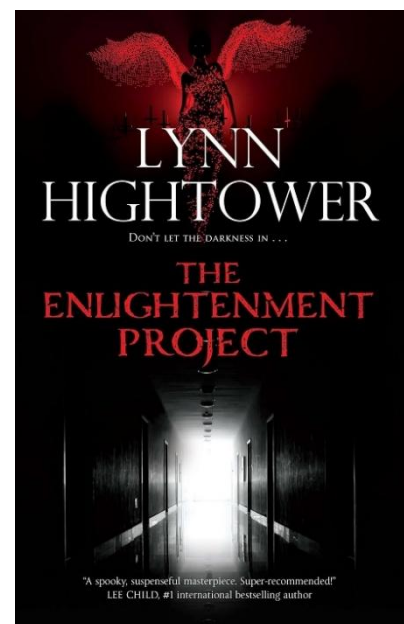
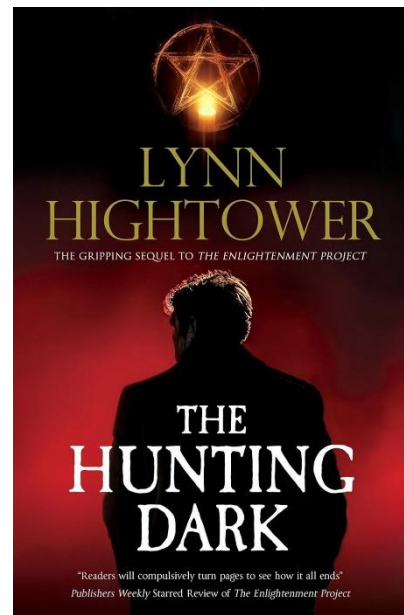
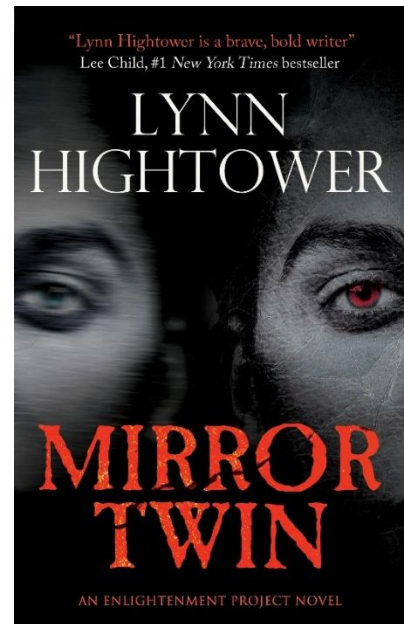
Final text available

Agent: Matt Bialer

Did you know that demonic possession is a recognized psychiatric condition? The gripping sequel to *The Enlightenment Project* is a terrifying blend of horror and real-life science that will keep you turning pages . . . and keep you from sleeping. Read it if you dare!

The house is waiting . . .

In the Amish countryside of Kentucky, there is a house. Everyone knows about it. They whisper about the things that happen there. Creepy things. Terrible things. It would be better if they shouted: *Run*.



Six weeks ago, fragile mother of two Pammie LaRue moved in with her beloved partner Conor. They ignored the knocks on the walls. Whispering voices. Water pooling, with no obvious leak.

Eight days ago, Conor went missing, without a trace. Unless you count the drag marks in the crawl space under the house.

Neurosurgeon Noah Archer doesn't believe in ghosts and demons and haunted houses - he knows from terrible experience just how real they are. But despite his work with the Enlightenment Project, which pits cutting-edge scientific research against the darkness, he's no exorcist.

Still, when Pammie pitches up on his doorstep late one night, children in tow, Noah helps. He enters the house. But in doing so, he's made a terrible mistake. Because once the darkness has its claws in you, it won't let go.

THE ENLIGHTMENT PROJECT

Book 1 of *The Enlightenment Project*

Cutting-edge science meets demonic possession: the long-awaited new supernatural thriller from award-winning author Lynn Hightower.

Have you ever known anyone who survived being possessed? You do now. You've met me.

Noah Archer is a renowned neurosurgeon, with an impressive success record. He has a happy home, with his beloved wife Moira, their two adopted sons, and a dog who's a very good girl.

But Noah keeps a dark secret, shared only with his old friend Father Perry Cavanaugh. When he was just a boy, he was possessed by a demon - and it was only thanks to the exorcist priest that he survived.

Now, Noah works at the cutting edge of medical science and religion, researching the effects of spirituality on the brain. His current research study - The Enlightenment Project - promises breakthrough treatments for depression, addiction and mental illness, and preliminary results are astounding.

But after a late-night emergency surgery, Noah returns to his office to find Father Perry waiting for him, with a terrible warning. The Enlightenment Project may not be closing the door to the darkness at all . . . but instead letting it in.

Demonic possession is now a recognized psychiatric condition, and the number of exorcist priests in the US has quadrupled in the last decade. As well as being a thrilling read, THE ENLIGHTENMENT PROJECT is an intelligent and fascinating view into the complex worlds of both the medical and the supernatural.

Reviews for THE ENLIGHTMENT PROJECT | Severn House, March 2022

“Lynn Hightower is a brave, bold writer - and this spooky, suspenseful masterpiece could be her best yet. Super-recommended!” — **Lee Child**, #1 international bestselling author of the *Jack Reacher* thrillers

“Sensitive characterizations match the imaginative plot. Readers will compulsively turn the pages to see how it all ends.”— **Publishers Weekly** ★

“Both the medical and supernatural elements are detailed in engrossing terms. But human connections are at the heart of the novel's draw” — **Foreword Reviews**

“Establishing unsettling tones early on, the book's tension mounts, even during its quiet, tender moments” — **Foreword Reviews**

Christy Anne Jones

THEODORA'S TEA SHOP

Hachette Australia | ANZ, UK

Edited manuscript anticipated March 2026

Agent: Bailey Tamayo

Rights sold: Agave (Hungary)

THEODORA'S TEA SHOP is *Howl's Moving Castle* if Howl were a woman, the castle were a tea shop, and the story centered a complex and moving female friendship instead of a romance. The rich and atmospheric world will appeal to lovers of **THE NIGHT CIRCUS**, while the vivid characters and family-of-choice themes will speak to fans of **SIX OF CROWS**.



Dorothy Louise Walcott should have died at fourteen with her best friend.

Instead, she is twenty-three, timid, chronically ill, and yearning for a life she can never have. Her peers make jokes she doesn't understand. Her family ignores her. Dot's dreams of being a bright young thing of the city, studying magic and publishing her discoveries, can only ever be dreams: even if licenseless magic weren't outlawed, her family would never allow it.

But if Dot stays at home any longer, she will die there. And she would never forgive herself if she didn't *try* to live, at least once.

With nothing but a carpetbag and her ambergris tonic, Dot flees dreary Seafarthing for the capital city of Alliaster, where she tumbles headfirst into an apprenticeship with the most powerful witch in the city, Theodora.

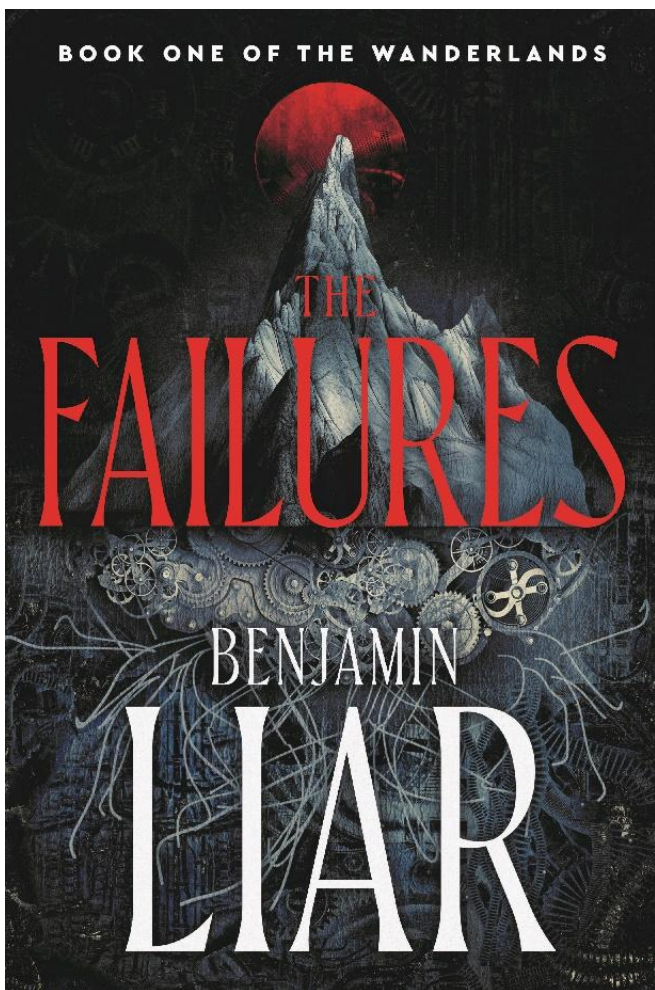
Empress of an underground syndicate peddling magic through the quaint façade of her tea shop, Theodora is everything Dot wants to be: beautiful, witty, confident. An esteemed oil painter one day, a member of parliament the next, the many faces of Theodora have charmed power from the city's elite: spirits, demons, and mortal gentry alike. Under her tutelage and in the company of the tea shop's eccentric staff—headstrong teenager Rupert, brooding and Byronic magician Lio, and the kindly spirit Belchambre—Dot finally has the opportunity to be magic. She may even have found a place to belong.

But the dazzling and enigmatic Theodora has more secrets than she does faces. When her dark past comes calling, it threatens to drown her entire empire—and take Dot, the tea shop, and the city of Alliaster with it.

At the heart of this tea shop you will find monstrous women, gothic twists, and awkward, unrequited examinations of love. You will find poignant explorations of how we change for others, and how we can learn to love and forgive ourselves. And, of course, you will find tea.



Christy Anne Jones is a speculative fiction writer based in Adelaide. Her short stories and travel writing have been published in Australia and Japan. In addition to writing, Christy runs a bookish YouTube channel which has amassed a motivated and enthusiastic audience of over 230,000 subscribers. Here, she has spent the last few years cinematically documenting the writing journey of **THEODORA'S TEA SHOP** under the alias of **PROJECT TEACUP**. Her vlogs on the writing of **PROJECT TEACUP** have amassed over 1.2 million total views. <https://www.christyannejones.com/>



Benjamin Liar THE FAILURES

Book one of The Wanderlands

DAW, July 2, 2024 | NA

Paperback July 2026

544 pages, final manuscript available

Agent: Matt Bialer

Rights: Italy (Mondadori), Serbia (Carobna Knjiga)

Screenrant 10 Most Anticipated Books in Sci-fi
Coming Out in July

BookBub All the Science Fiction and Fantasy
Books You Need To Read Right Now

Audio rights sold at auction to Recorded Books

Abridged and dramatic audio rights sold to
GraphicAudio

From a debut voice comes a genre-breaking blend of apocalyptic sci-fi and epic fantasy about a scattered group of unlikely heroes traveling across their broken mechanical planet to stave off eternal darkness. A tightly-coiled puzzle of a thrill ride, *The Failures* launches *The Wanderlands* trilogy.

Welcome to the Wanderlands,

A vast machine made for reasons unknown, the Wanderlands was broken long ago. First went the sky, splintering and cracking, and then very slowly, the whole machine—the whole world—began to go dark.

Meet the Failures.

Following the summons of a strange dream, a scattering of adventurers, degenerates, and children find themselves drawn toward the same place: the vast underground Keep. They will discover there that they have been called for a purpose—and that purpose could be the destruction of everything they love.

The end is nigh.

For below the Keep, imprisoned in the greatest cage ever built by magicians and gods, lies the buried Giant. It is the most powerful of its kind, and its purpose is the annihilation of all civilization. But any kind of power, no matter how terrible, is precious in the Wanderlands, and those that crave it are making their moves.

All machines can be broken, and the final cracks are spreading. It will take only the careless actions of two cheerful monsters to tip the Wanderlands towards an endless dark...or help it find its way back to the light.

Benjamin Liar is a writer, musician, filmmaker and game designer. He has been writing for most of his life, but *THE FAILURES* will be his first published novel. He has performed his music under many names and in many places, has won several local awards for short filmmaking, and recently published a virtual reality game. His name is clearly a pseudonym, but you still shouldn't trust anything he says. You can find him on most of the things @benjaminliar.



"What makes *The Failures* so gripping as a novel is that it manages to balance the heaviness and the hope at the same time, the desperate, painful battles and choices with that first glimmer of adventure. Even in a world which has already ended, we're given the chance to believe that maybe it can still be saved."—**Reactor Magazine (formerly Tor.com)**

"Quirky and wondrous, *THE FAILURES* presents a fantastical world filled with enigmas and magic, engaging oddball characters, exotic tableaux, and meticulous world building. It's like a steampunk fantasy version of *SILO*."—**Kevin J. Anderson, *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of *Dune: House Atreides***

"*THE FAILURES* reminds me of so many good things, not least Stephen King's *Dark Tower* stories and Mervyn Peake's arch-Gothic creation, *Gormenghast*. I also detected undertones of China Miéville, Roger Zelazny, Ursula LeGuin, Gene Wolfe, as well as other amazing fantasy and science-fiction writers. Most importantly, though, whatever his influences might truly be, Benjamin Liar has a new and unique voice of his very own, and this book is one of the best things I've read in a long, long time." — **Tad Williams, fantasy superstar creator of the worlds of *Otherland*, *Shadowmarch* and *Osten Ard***

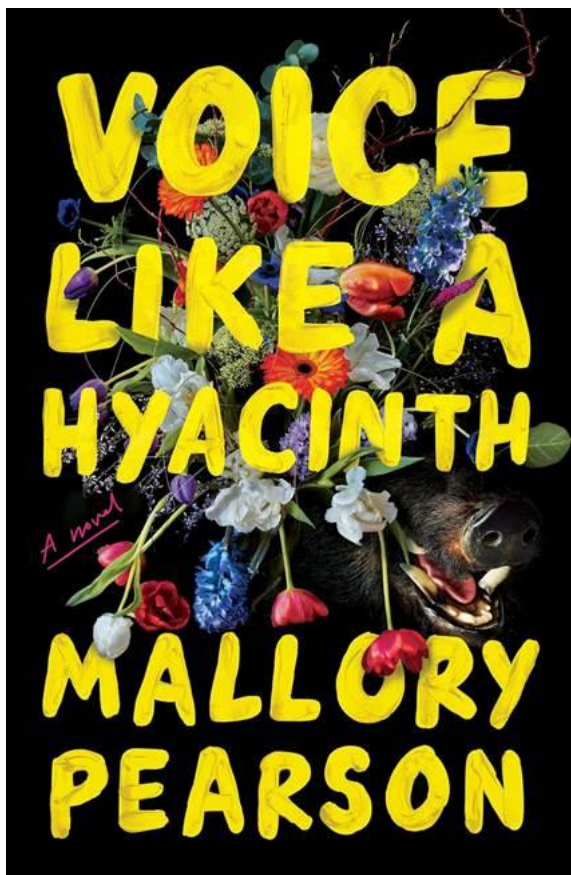
"Liar's writing is like the world it depicts: a finely-tuned piece of clockwork. *The Failures* is the kind of science fantasy little made these days, and the sort of book I could read again and again." — **Christopher Ruocchio, internationally award-winning author of *The Sun Eater***

"*The Failures* is an unabashed triumph of speculative fiction. It's not exactly science fiction, not quite fantasy, but a synergistic mix. Descriptors are tough, as even a small army of them wouldn't convey this book's inviting complexity, but if I had to pick a few sitting top tier in the pantheon I'd point to: deep, thrilling (I'm looking at you, *Deadsmith*), and masterfully atmospheric."--**Daniel Cohen, author of *The Coldmaker Saga***

"Benjamin Liar's "*The Failures*" is a wonderful and gripping Fantasy tale of misfits trying to save the world in their own twisted ways. Well served by a realistic dialogues and a meticulously woven intrigue, "*The Failures*" engulfs the reader in a sinister yet thrilling wild-goose chase where intentions, good or bad, are never quite enough. Benjamin Liar is a master story-teller who reinvents Dark Fantasy through familiar tropes he takes an obvious pleasure in deconstructing. If you love Steven Erickson, Patrick Rothfuss or the early VanderMeer, you will immediately be hooked."—**Seb Doubinsky, author of *Missing Signal*, *The Invisible*, and *Paperclip***.

"Innovative and fascinating! Recommended!" —**C. J. Cherryh, Hugo award-winning author of the *Foreigner* series**

"*THE FAILURES* is wildly ambitious & beyond impressive. If you're looking for something epic in scope, and totally unique, this one should definitely be on your radar! ... this is without a doubt one of the most impressive fantasy books I've ever read. I feel like this is a book (and hopefully a whole trilogy) that will kind of slowly develop a bit of a cult following. But for now, hi, I'm here. In the cult. I think anyone with an interest in dark fantasy, sci-fi, apocalyptic stuff...you'll find something here that you'll love. I sure did. I'll be thinking about (and likely rereading) *THE FAILURES* for years to come, and I'm not-so-patiently waiting for news of book two. This is an epic, original, wondrous story and I'm so glad to have read it." — **Grimdark Dad (fantasy blogger)**



Mallory Pearson

VOICE LIKE A HYACINTH

47North | ebook January 1, 2025,
paperback February 1, 2025 | World English
443 pages, final text available
Agent: Bailey Tamayo

Selected for the Amazon First program

Five young women eager for success rely on the unspeakable to make their dreams come true in a chilling novel about martyrdom, ritual, and obsession by the author of *We Ate the Dark*.

Art student Jo Kozak and her fellow classmates and best friends, Caroline, Finch, Amrita, and Saz, are one another's muses—so close they have their own language and so devoted to the craft that they'll do anything to keep their inspiration alive. Even if it means naively resorting to the occult to unlock their creativity and to curse their esteemed, if notoriously creepy, professor. They soon learn the horrible price to be paid for such a transgressive ritual.

In its violent aftermath, things are changing. Jo is feeling unnervingly haunted by something inexplicable. Their paintings, once prodigious and full of life, are growing dark and unhealthy. And their journey together—as women, students, and artists—is starting to crumble.

To right the wrong they've done, these five desperate friends will take their obsession a step too far. When that happens, there may be no turning back.

Mallory Pearson is a writer and artist portraying themes of folklore, queer identity, loss, and the interaction of these elements with the southern United States. Her work has appeared in *Electric Literature*, *Capsule Stories*, and *Haverthorn Press*. Mallory was raised in Virginia and now lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she spends her time translating visual art into prose. For more information, visit <https://mallorypearson.com/>



Praise for VOICE LIKE A HYACINTH:

"Vivid descriptions, believable emotional stakes, and deeply creepy horror elements keep the pages flying... This stuns." -*Publishers Weekly* ★

"A miraculous, enthralling book that combines the magic of queer friendship, the toxicity of ambition, and the dangerous rivalry between artists, *Voice Like a Hyacinth* is the dark academia book of my dreams—and nightmares. Pearson works magic in creating this special group of characters and their obsessive ties to one another; I felt like I had become one of them, living in their house, attending their classes, and falling in love with them and their darkness.

Hyacinth is everything I want in a novel: addictive, gorgeously-written, deeply unsettling, and very queer. A perfect page-turner with staying power. I cannot wait to return to it." —

Francesca McDonnell Capossela, author of *Trouble the Living*

"Voice Like a Hyacinth blends the seductive decadence of Saltburn with the fierce, feral femininity of Yellowjackets to conjure a spine-tingling story of ambition and obsession that deserves to be an instant dark academia classic. You'll be desperate to join Mallory Pearson's indelible art school girl gang—and to read whatever her dark imagination conjures up next." -

Layne Fargo, author of *The Favorites and They Never Learn*

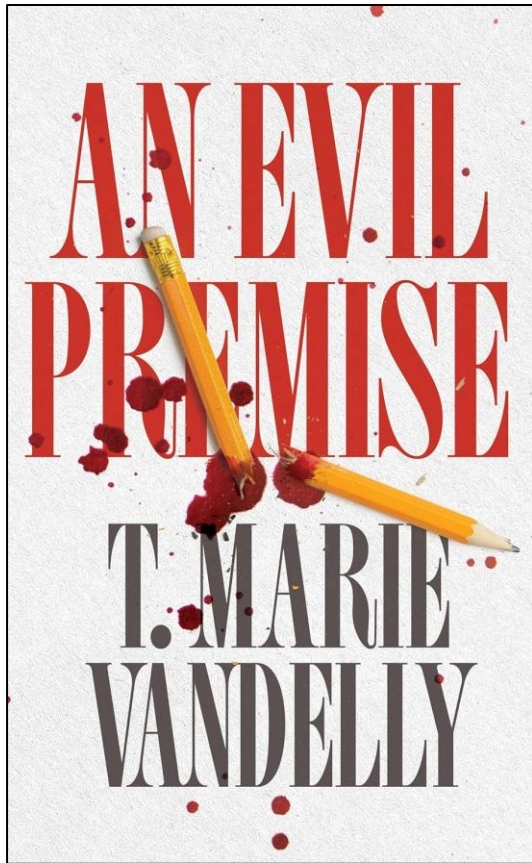
"Mallory Pearson's *Voice Like A Hyacinth* is lush chaos. Whatever your experience with codependent, homoerotic friendships, Pearson's feral quintet is on another level. "I want to go home, but maybe home was years ago," her narrator, Jo, thinks after reaping what they've sowed. If going home means putting down Pearson's novel and returning to my life, I'm not going without a fight." - **Ruth Madievsky, author of *All-Night Pharmacy***

"Pearson's lush prose enlivens this creepy tale of friendship, art, and ambition..." —*Booklist*

"Voice Like a Hyacinth captivated me like a siren's song. Mallory Pearson's sophomore novel tackles obsession, art, friendship, and competition, and asks just how far people are willing to go to create the immortal. Pearson's signature prose is rich, lush, and a mesmerizing spell in itself, twisting me around and pulling me along these women's journey in crossing lines and resisting the consequences of their choices. This is a must-read for not only every artist, but everyone who thirsts for the eternal mirage of just enough recognition. It's spooky, surreal, and utterly alive." —**Marissa Higgins, author of *A Good Happy Girl***

"Voice Like a Hyacinth is violently delicious. Prose so vibrant it's neon. So skillfully messy, deep in the mess, obsessed with the mess. This book makes me want to learn how to write." —**Sarah Gailey, author of *Just Like Home* and *The Echo Wife***

"Kira Fixx narrates a chilling story of obsession as five young women call upon the occult and learn everything has a price... Fixx evokes the youthful energy of the five women with a breathy eagerness. Each has a distinct voice, but they start to sound alike as they grow closer. The narration and story fuel each other as the five friends hunger for success, love, revenge, and a feeling of being alive. While the story is often lush and sentimental, the horror elements haunt the performance and creep into the listener's imagination. Fixx brings this haunting story to life." —*AudioFile Magazine*



T. Marie Vandelly
AN EVIL PREMISE

Blackstone, August 12, 2025 | North America
350 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Bailey Tamayo

*The reader is the main character in this nasty tale.
And for that, I am truly sorry.*

From T. Marie Vandelly, author of the acclaimed horror novel *Theme Music*, *An Evil Premise* is a mind-bending, thrilling meta-novel about possession, insanity, and the lengths a writer will go to find inspiration.

"T. Marie Vandelly's *An Evil Premise* reads like a literary Venus flytrap. First she lures you in with such a devilish premise...but before you know it, the pages seal up all around and swallow you whole. Pray you survive long enough to reach the mind-bending end."
-- "Clay McLeod Chapman, bestselling author of *Ghost Eaters*"

"The scariest book since *The Haunting of Hill House*."
-- "New York Journal of Books on *Theme Music*"

When a bizarre accident leaves her sister, bestselling author Deidre Baldwin, in a coma and suffering from a grotesque skin malady, Jewel rushes to her bedside. Though the sisters are not close, she is determined to do what she can for Deidre. Staying at her sister's apartment, Jewel stumbles upon an unfinished manuscript, the one that Deidre was rushing to complete for her publisher. When Deidre's literary agent calls in a panic, Jewel--a self-published writer herself, desperate for a break--suggests she can finish it by the deadline.

But the story is unsettling. It begins with a writer looking for inspiration, who finds an unclaimed manuscript. But said manuscript is just a series of protagonists who feel compelled to act out their heinous contributions to the grisly plot.

Jewel is determined not to be scared off, but the novel hits a little close to home. She tries to tell herself she's being paranoid, but swears she can hear someone typing when she's not at the desk, and somehow the word count of the novel keeps going up. Her skin begins to itch.

Terrified of losing her sanity, but equally terrified of losing her one shot at success, Jewel tries to find a story somewhere in the carnage, even as her rash becomes worse and she starts to have not so neighborly thoughts about her neighbors. Is this what happened to Deidre? Did the manuscript drive her mad? Infect her somehow? Jewel finds herself hoping her sister never wakes up. And fearing what will happen if Deidre does ...



T. Marie Vandelly has wanted to write her entire life but (after a career change) has only recently been granted the freedom to pursue her dream full-time. She lives on Gwynn's Island, in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay, with her husband and their two dogs. *AN EVIL PREMISE* is her second novel.

Tad Williams

THE NAVIGATOR'S CHILDREN

(Last King of Osten Ard Book 4)

DAW, November 12, 2024 hardcover,

August 5, 2025 paperback | North America

768 pages, manuscript available

Agent: Matt Bialer

Rights sold: China (Chongqing); Czech (Euromedia),

Germany (Klett Cotta), UK (HodderScape)

“[W]ithout Tad Williams, there would be no *Game of Thrones*.” —*The Guardian* (UK)

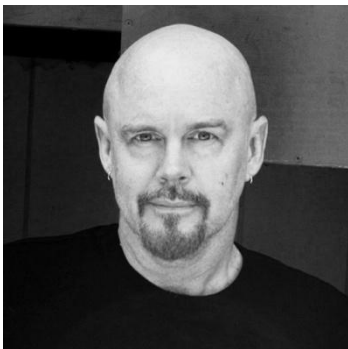
“By definition, epic fantasy involves a world with a creator. Tad Williams’s Osten Ard is the best since Tolkien’s Middle-earth.”—Brad East, *The Christian Century*

The latest saga in the New York Times bestselling world of Osten Ard concludes in the fourth and final Last King of Osten Ard novel.

The Hayholt is besieged by the Norns. Once the home of their immortal brethren, the Sithi, now capital of the kingdom of men, the fabled castle is under attack. And as the world is distracted by this strike against humankind, the Norns’ deathless witch-queen Utuk’ku turns towards the mysterious fateful valley called Tanakirú—the Vale of Mists.

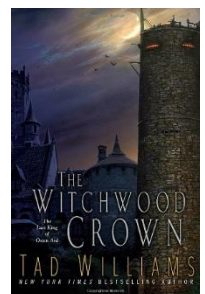
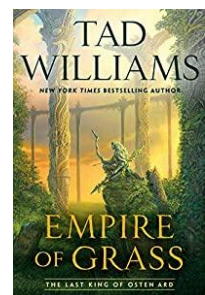
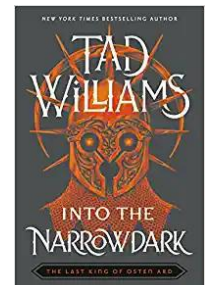
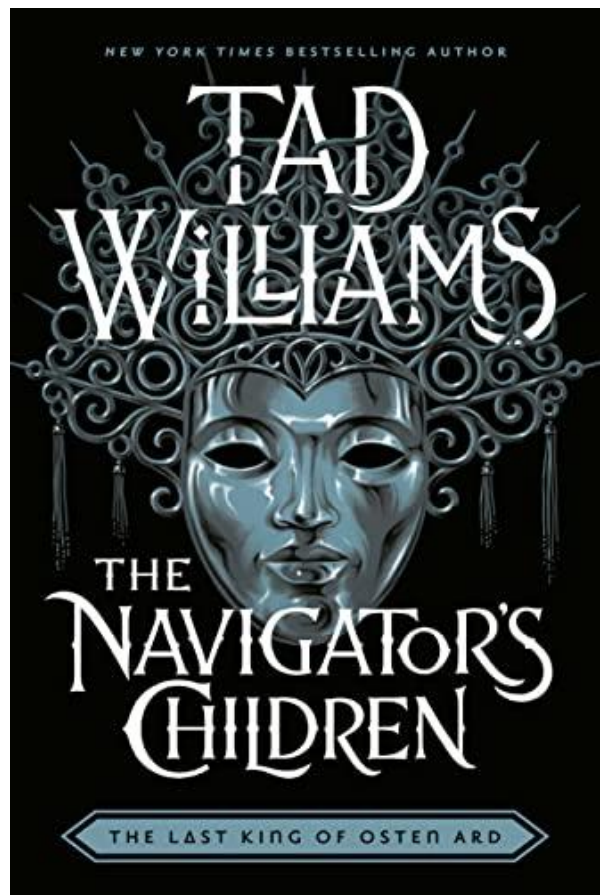
Meanwhile, Queen Miriamele hurries to save the Hayholt and capture the treacherous noble Pasevalles, but arrives to discover the traitor has escaped.

And inside Tanakirú, Vale of Mists, the bond between Prince Morgan and Nezeru, a renegade Norn, has become something deeper and stranger than either of them could have anticipated. They journey ever deeper to the heart of the valley’s mystery, encountering wonder and horror, and come face to face at last with the ancient secret that has kindled the Norn Queen’s war—a secret that will destroy immortals and humans alike.

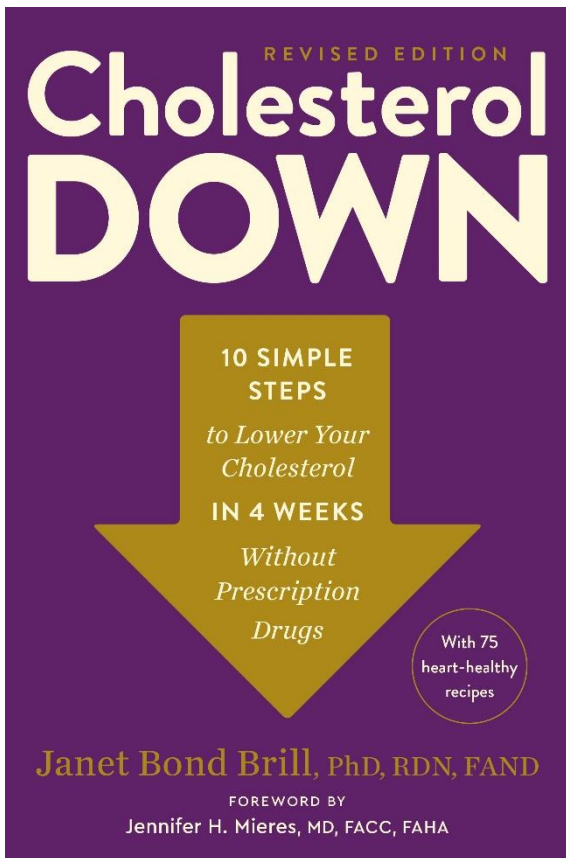


mountains in a suitably
www.tadwilliams.com

Tad Williams is a California-based fantasy superstar. His genre-creating (and genre-busting) books have sold tens of millions worldwide. His works include the worlds of Otherland, Shadowmarch, and Osten Ard—including the Memory, Sorrow, and Thorn, and The Last King of Osten Ard series—as well as standalone novels Tailchaser’s Song and The War of the Flowers, plus the Bobby Dollar urban fantasies. His considerable output of epic fantasy, science fiction, urban fantasy, comics, and more have strongly influenced a generation of writers. Tad and his family live in the Santa Cruz



NON-FICTION



Janet Bond Brill, PhD, RDN, FAND CHOLESTEROL DOWN: 10 Simple Steps to Lower Your Cholesterol in 4 Weeks Without Prescription Drugs – Revised Edition

Harmony Books, June 2026 | North America
330 Pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Faith Hamlin

“The simple, consistent, and inexpensive lifestyle therapy outlined in Dr. Brill’s Cholesterol Down Plan could be the most important investment you make in your future health.”—Jennifer H. Mieres, M.D., from the foreword

20 Years after the release of this groundbreaking book, renowned nutrition and fitness expert Dr. Janet Brill presents her updated comprehensive, holistic ten-step plan to lowering your LDL so you can reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, and more.

If you are one of the roughly 40% of adults worldwide struggling with high cholesterol, then Dr. Janet Brill offers you a revolutionary new plan for taking control of your health—without the risk of statin drugs. With Dr. Brill’s breakthrough Cholesterol Down Plan, you simply add nine “miracle foods” to your regular diet and thirty minutes of walking to your daily routine. That’s all! This straightforward and easy-to-follow program can lower your LDL (“bad”) cholesterol by as much as 47 percent in just four weeks.

Cholesterol Down explains Dr. Brill’s ten-point plan as well as the science behind it. You’ll learn how each miracle food affects LDL cholesterol and how the foods work together for maximum effect, as well as:

- How eating whole grains helps reduce LDL cholesterol in your bloodstream
- Why antioxidants keep plaque from building up in your arteries
- How certain steps change the structure of the LDL cholesterol particles (and why it’s best for them to be large and fluffy)
- Why walking just thirty minutes a day cuts dangerous belly fat

With everything you need to stay focused on the plan, including a daily checklist, a six-month chart for tracking LDL cholesterol change, tools for assessing your risk level for cardiovascular disease, sample weekly menus, and even heart-healthy recipes, *Cholesterol Down* is the safe and effective alternative or complement to statin drugs.



Janet Brill, PhD, RD, LDN is a nationally recognized expert in cardiovascular disease prevention, the author of BLOOD PRESSURE DOWN and PREVENT A SECOND HEART ATTACK, and has been a nutritionist in private practice for many years. Frequently sought after by the media, Janet is the guest nutrition expert on the Lifetime channel’s daily show “The Balancing Act” and is Director of Nutrition for Fitness Together, Inc., the world’s largest organization of personal trainers. She has consulted and spoken on nutrition for companies like American Express, P&G, and Goldman Sachs. Please visit www.drjanet.com

Michael C Brower

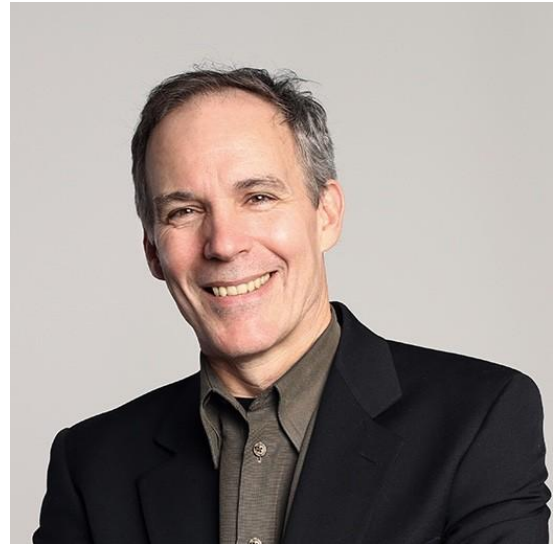
CLIMATE INNOVATION: Smart New Technologies to Stop Global Warming and the Creative Minds Behind Them

Glenn Yeffeth, BenBella | World English

Delivery November 1, 2025

Publication late 2026

Agent: Faith Hamlin



This desperately needed, thoroughly researched, and unabashedly hopeful book argues that the same human ingenuity that caused climate change can also solve it—and Brower tells us how.

In the debate over climate change, the world is caught between two irreconcilable camps: doomsayers and deniers. The doomsayers say the world is heading towards catastrophe unless we radically change course. The deniers would have us believe climate change isn't a problem at all, and that any move to fight it will be a disastrous waste of money.

Both are wrong. Climate change *is* serious and real. But the world is not headed towards catastrophe. On the contrary, this decade will be known as the moment when emissions of global greenhouse gases began to decline, and the trends suggest with growing confidence that the more severe predictions of climate scientists will not come to pass.

The reason? The power of innovation.

Climate Innovation describes how the same technological inventiveness that brought the world fossil fuels, electric power, and the green revolution (and along the way, global warming) is already bringing about the *decarbonization* of the global economy. Far from being the product of modern environmental radicalism, this transformation has been under way for over a hundred years, driven by familiar economic forces and demographic trends.

The path forward is clear, as *Climate Innovation* describes. It will depend on 12 areas of technological advancement, several already well advanced and spreading fast. Continuing down the decarbonization path doesn't require intrusive government intervention, though policy support for technology investment will be helpful. It does require a continued focus on innovation. With the United States taking a step back from its traditional leadership in science and technology, the nexus of innovation is rapidly shifting to Asia, especially China, and to Europe.

Even so, the world is poised to slow, stop, and begin reversing global warming before the end of this century - and with a little luck, the worst impacts of climate change will be avoided. In this optimistic book that breaks with both doomsayers and deniers, *Climate Innovation* shows how.

Michael C Brower is a scientist, entrepreneur, and published expert on renewable energy and the impacts of consumer decisions on the environment. Trained in physics at MIT and Harvard University, Dr Brower first made his mark as an analyst and author on security and environmental policy, and co-authored groundbreaking books on clean energy and the environmental impacts of consumer decisions. He subsequently became an entrepreneur in the wind and solar energy industry, sold his company, and eventually led a global renewable energy consulting, software, and certification business of 500 renewable energy experts. Dr Brower currently lives with his wife Julie Scolnik, author and flutist, works with climate startups, and enjoys playing tennis and reading advice columns in his spare time.



Kate Carraway

**THE WILDS: How to Return to Yourself,
Rewild Your Body, and Revolutionize the
Rest of Your Life**

Running Press (HBG), Fall 2026 | North America

Manuscript anticipated Spring 2026

Agent: Sarah Phair

If *Untamed* by Glennon Doyle was for 39-year-olds discovering feminism, *THE WILDS* is for 29-year-olds discovering ease, rest, pleasure, and joy. Specifically, it's for the deep-feeling, over-thinking members of the Millennial and Gen Z cohorts.

In *THE WILDS*, journalist Kate Carraway — who writes about wellness, self-care, relationships, and “feelings culture” for publications including the *New York Times*, *ELLE*, *GQ*, and *VICE* — brings a provocative, action-oriented, and warmly personal approach to self-development.

Across ten expansive, propulsive chapters, each one positioned like a “*New York Times Magazine* cover story from an alternate, better dimension” (per a friend and editor), *THE WILDS* is a close study of everything that goes wrong in the transition to “real” adulthood, in this particular era — and how it could be better, and how it could be *great*.

This book is a potent, immersive, extensively researched, interdisciplinary guide to the “wilds” of coming-of-age, for the millions of Millennials and Generation Zs who are lost in the woods, dense and silver, of their own lives. These are readers who are seeking a way back into their bodies, origin stories, identities, relationships, desires, and futures — and who will find everything they need in their fundamental, natural wildness. They are in, they are of, and they *are*, “the wilds.”

THE WILDS defines, explains and transforms this moment in time for Millennials and Gen Zs. It takes on and shakes out what it is so disorienting about this particular era, and offers a way through. It considers, most of all, the incredible tension between aloneness and belonging: who we are, and what we need, together and apart.

Kate brings an experienced journalist’s approach to research and context, and the strong, smart opinions that made her a popular columnist at *VICE* magazine — as well as a playful, lively voice, and a kind, empathetic vibe. Kate’s personal and professional obsessions with the topics of coming-of-age, and her original, open-field perspectives, together make for a singularly daring and necessary book for a new era of self-development.

Kate Carraway writes about life and lifestyle, especially wellness, relationships, and the self. She has written features and columns for the *New York Times*, *ELLE*, *GQ*, *VICE*, the *Guardian*, the *Globe and Mail*, *LA Weekly*, and many (many) other publications. She is also the author of **THE FEELING**, [a free weekly newsletter](#) about wellness, happiness, relationships, feelings and emotions, health and healing, meditation and mindfulness, rest, pleasure, and self-care.

Elena Dudum

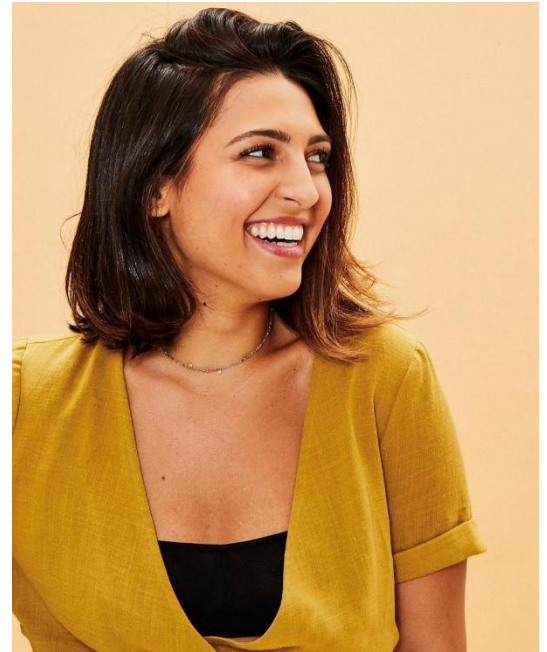
THEY TOLD ME BACK HOME WOULD BE BEAUTIFUL

One Signal | Fall 2026 | North America

Manuscript anticipated Fall 2025

Agent: Iwalani Kim

A stirring and poignant memoir that follows Elena Dudum's transformational journey as she interrogates her evolving relationship to Palestine, from fear and avoidance of its history in her youth to reclamation of both the pain and the beauty of being Palestinian in adulthood.



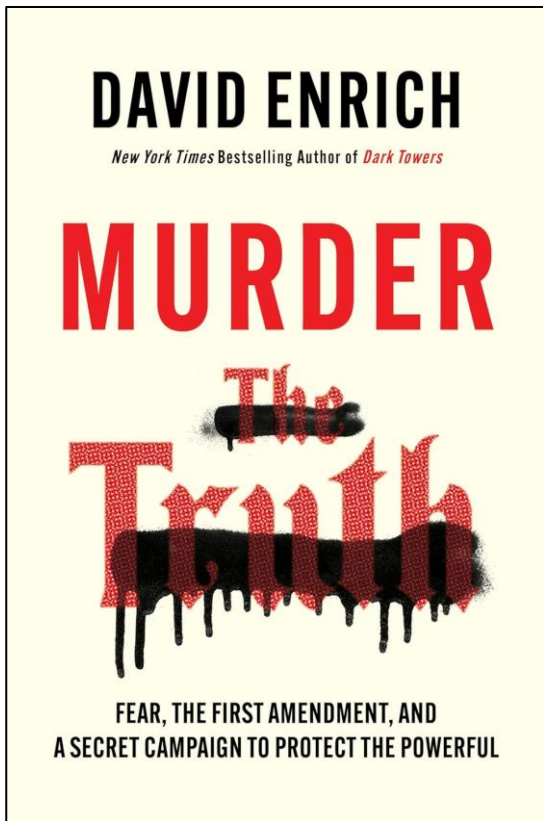
As a child, Elena understood Palestine as a secret place “too important for maps” whose trapdoor her family had been trying to recover for two generations. Born into a Palestinian Christian family in which Ramallah and Jaffa were ever-present in stories and debates but physically distant, Elena’s clearest connection to ‘back home’ was her father, who lectured his children endlessly about Israel’s occupation, hoping to instill in them the pride and reverence he felt for their homeland. But as she slowly became aware of the politicized and precarious nature of Palestinian identity, especially post-9/11, and as she witnessed her father become wrung out by his own intensity verging on paranoia about Palestine, Elena began to avoid an inheritance that felt too heavy to hold.

Elena’s first trip to Palestine was disorienting but radicalizing. The militarized checkpoints, the razed olive tree groves, the occupation—it was all plainly there in front of her, as were the ghosts of her family’s history. In the wake of this trip, Elena developed a gnawing sense of anxiety, terrified of being consumed by what she had witnessed. Her body, her relationships, and her psyche quietly unraveled.

What followed is Elena's journey navigating deeply Zionist institutions as she sought first to bury her connection to Palestine, then to rehabilitate it. Throwing herself into corporate America, she excelled outwardly but couldn't shake a growing disillusionment with the depoliticized world of LinkedIn and its ties to the IDF. As Elena awakened to her role in perpetuating her own erasure, her path to reclaiming her Palestinian identity brought her to Columbia's MFA program, where she fought overwhelming institutional silencing to be heard in the maw of Zionist liberalism.

THEY TOLD ME BACK HOME WOULD BE BEAUTIFUL is an incisive story of coming into political consciousness, asking what it means to embrace the fullness of the pride and pain in diasporic inheritance. Elena’s tender and clear-eyed writing about Palestine in recent essays in *The Atlantic* and *TIME* struck a chord with readers from all parts of the world, and her nuanced exploration of identity is for readers of Nadia Owusu’s *AFTERSHOCKS* and Safiya Sinclair’s *HOW TO SAY BABYLON*.

Elena Dudum is a Palestinian-Syrian writer whose work explores the boundaries of generational trauma and what it means to have an identity shaped by political narratives. Elena recently graduated from Columbia University with an MFA in Nonfiction Writing where she also taught freshmen composition. Her personal essays on Palestine have been published in *The Atlantic*, *TIME Magazine*, *Bon Appétit*, and *Cosmopolitan Magazine* among others. She is also at work on a novel based on her grandmother’s life, an exploration of exile, love, and identity in 1960s San Francisco in the vein of Colm Tóibín’s *BROOKLYN*. <https://elenadudum.com/>



David Enrich
MURDER THE TRUTH: Fear, the First Amendment, and a Secret Campaign to Protect the Powerful

Mariner Books, March 11, 2025 | NA
Paperback March 3, 2026
336 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Dan Mandel

New York Times Bestseller
1ST serial publication in the *New York Times* and *Vanity Fair*

David Enrich, the *New York Times* Business Investigations Editor and the #1 bestselling author of *Dark Towers*, produces his most consequential and far-reaching investigation yet: an in-depth exposé of the broad campaign—orchestrated by elite Americans—to overturn sixty years of Supreme Court precedent, weaponize our speech laws, and silence dissent.

It was a quiet way to announce a revolution: In an obscure 2019 case that the Supreme Court refused to even hear, Justice Clarence Thomas raised the prospect of overturning the legendary *New York Times v. Sullivan* decision. Though hardly a household name, *Sullivan* is one of the most consequential free speech decisions, ever. Fundamental to the creation of the modern media as we know it, it has enabled journalists and writers all over the country—from top national publications to revered local newspapers to independent bloggers—to pursue the truth aggressively and hold the wealthy, powerful, and corrupt to account.

Thomas's words were a warning—the public awakening of an idea that had been fomenting on the conservative fringe for years. Now it was going mainstream. From the Florida statehouse to small town New Hampshire to Donald Trump himself, this movement today consists of some of the world's richest and most powerful people and companies, who believe they should be above scrutiny and want to silence or delegitimize voices that challenge their supremacy. Indeed, many of the same businessmen, politicians, lawyers, and activists are already weaponizing the legal system to intimidate and punish journalists and others who dare criticize them.

In this masterwork of investigative reporting, David Enrich, *New York Times* Business Investigations Editor, traces the roots and reach of this new threat to our modern democracy. Laying bare the stakes of losing our most sacrosanct rights, *Murder the Truth* is a story about power—the way it's used by those who have it, and the lengths they will go to avoid it being questioned.



David Enrich is the Business Investigations Editor at the *New York Times* and the #1 bestselling author of *Dark Towers*. He previously was an editor and reporter at the *Wall Street Journal*. He has won numerous journalism awards, including the 2016 Gerald Loeb Award for feature writing. His first book, *The Spider Network: How a Math Genius and Gang of Scheming Bankers Pulled Off One of the Greatest Scams in History*, was short-listed for the *Financial Times* Business Book of the Year award. Enrich grew up in Lexington, Massachusetts, and graduated from Claremont McKenna College in California. He currently lives in New York with his wife and two sons.

Select Praise for MURDER THE TRUTH

"Chilling... An unsettling look at a dire threat to democracy." — *Publishers Weekly* ★

"David Enrich makes a compelling and alarming case in this very important new book." — **Rachel Maddow**

"Authoritarian governments abroad have long used legal threats and lawsuits against journalists to cover up their disinformation, corruption, and violence. Now, as master investigative journalist David Enrich reveals, those tactics have arrived in America. *Murder the Truth* is a timely and essential study of how these favored legal tools of repressive regimes are being regularly deployed in the United States to conceal the truth, discredit the press, and benefit anti-democratic forces." — **Ruth Ben-Ghiat, author of *Strongmen***

"This important book is about an attempted murder. With readers as witnesses, we see small newspapers killed, and editors and publishers terrorized by legal assaults from public officials who demonize the press as Enemies of the People. Yet as this riveting narrative shows, the ultimate target is the Supreme Court's landmark New York Times vs Sullivan decision, which erected a First Amendment wall to protect journalists from being silenced by those in power. David Enrich's engrossing, carefully reported account is vital to help prevent this murder." — **New York Times bestselling author Ken Auletta**

"This is the deeply reported, richly narrated story of a war on honest journalism that disturbs the interests of the wealthy and powerful. David Enrich takes us behind the scenes of a concerted right-wing campaign to destroy news organizations financially — but the ultimate goal is to overturn *New York Times v. Sullivan*, the linchpin of libel protection for reporters who err in good faith. Nothing less than the future of accountability journalism is at stake." — **Barton Gellman, NYT bestselling author and three-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize**

"[Enrich] elucidates the complex legal challenges to fact-based journalism brought against long-established media and independent outlets by hungrily litigious politicians and corporate executives...With thousands of publications now defunct, Enrich's probing analysis brings crucial attention to this endangered tenet of a functioning democracy." — *Booklist* ★

"A revealing look at a campaign intended to stifle the First Amendment in favor of those in power." — *Kirkus*

"With the new administration already seizing every opportunity to strong-arm the press, and with stiff spines in short supply among leaders of major media organizations, *Murder the Truth* makes for an unfortunately urgent warning...This is a story not just about political and legal shifts, but about the power of money." — *Wash. Post*

"David Enrich is a keen observer of the intersection of money, power and politics... [A] granular and disturbing read." — *The Guardian*

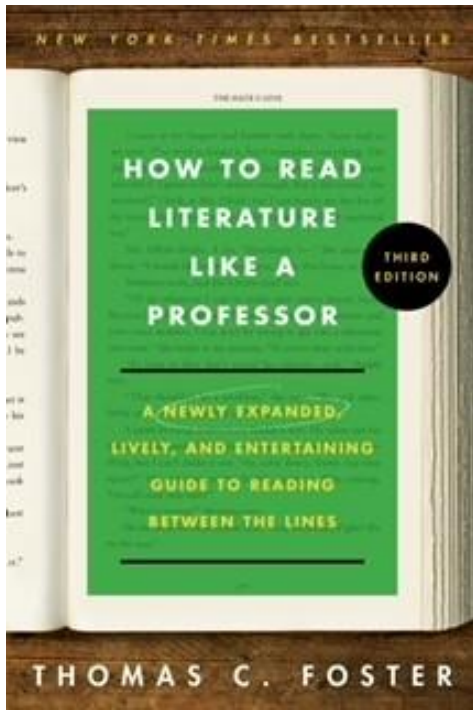
"The story Enrich has unearthed is engaging...Enrich takes readers deep into other interesting First Amendment legal battles, showing how each one could chip away at *Times v. Sullivan*." — *Boston Globe*

"[*Murder the Truth*] feels especially timely in the current political climate, amid questions of whether owners of newspapers and TV networks will stand up to a president who's long demonized the media—and whether the conservative-majority Supreme Court could upend libel laws in America." — *Vanity Fair*

"Please read this important book while we still have the liberty to publish and enjoy such tomes." — *Philadelphia Inquirer*

"[This] book reads like a thriller. I read the entire thing in a day because it's so captivating. It's the perfect primer on the right wing's war against free speech. If you're looking to learn more about free speech and how Trump and the far right are seeking to weaponize our speech laws to silence dissent, this book is a must read." — **Taylor Lorenz, User Mag**

"A most fascinating and comprehensive chronicle of this new threat to journalism...The ultrawealthy are feeling emboldened to file lawsuits against journalists and their publishers, perhaps inspired by Donald Trump's giddy disregard for a free press. In his new book, 'Murder the Truth,' David Enrich forecasts a dangerous endgame." — **William D. Cohan, Puck News**



Thomas C. Foster
**HOW TO READ LITERATURE LIKE A
PROFESSOR: A Lively and Entertaining Guide
to Reading between the Lines: 3rd Edition**

(rev 2024)

HarperCollins, November 5, 2024 | World English

320 pages, final manuscript available

Agent: Faith Hamlin

**Extensively revised edition of a
classic instruction book that has
been in print for over 20 years**

For nearly two decades, *HOW TO READ LITERATURE LIKE A PROFESSOR* by Thomas C. Foster has been the go-to text for English classes, particularly Advanced Placement Literature and Composition. With its mix of high ideas and cheeky discussions, it has delighted teachers and students alike as they make their way through the wilds of literary analysis, explaining such matters as the symbolic implications of quests, meals, and seasons, as well as the ways that works written today rely on texts from Shakespeare, the Greeks, and the Brothers Grimm. The book invites readers to develop their own ideas about these heady topics and even provides a sample story on which to practice their newly acquired skills.

To all the insight and wit of the original book, Foster brings discussions of diverse works that better represent the reading experience at earlier levels of secondary English Language Arts classes. This new edition includes readings from more minority, female, and Young Adult writers, including Angie Thomas, Helen Oyeyemi, Tahereh Mafi, Zora Neale Hurston, Pat Barker, Sandra Cisneros, and Madeline Miller. Two new chapters have been added. The first, on the significance of roads, acts as a bookend of sorts to the opening chapter on quests. The two are not the same, however much they may seem to overlap, and carry different symbolic weight. The second is a rumination on how critics and readers grapple with genuinely new literary forms.

Above all, *HOW TO READ LITERATURE LIKE A PROFESSOR* seeks to impart knowledge without killing the excitement and joy of deep reading, to remember always that, far from the drudgery depicted in many old films, literary study is really an advanced form of play.

The New Revised Edition includes new chapters, new examples, an updated preface, and new insights gathered over interactions with teachers and students over the last two decades.

Thomas C. Foster is Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Michigan, Flint. His bestselling *How to Read Like a Professor* series has sold more than 2 million copies and has been licensed in 15 territories.



Previous editions of this title were sold:

Armenia: Edit Print; Brazil: Leya; Bulgaria: Ex Libris; China: Thinkingdom; Czech: Host; Greece: Klitharithmos; Italy: Vallardi; Japan: Hokusui-sha; Korea: Jihyeong; Lithuania: Kitos Knygos; Poland: Fabula Frazza; Slovakia: Tatran; Spain: Turner; Taiwan: Ecus; Ukraine: Tempora, Thailand: Bookscape; Vietnam: Nha Nam

Rebecca Grant

ACCESS: Inside the Abortion Underground and the Sixty-Year Battle for Reproductive Freedom

Avid Reader Press, June 24, 2025 | North America

480 pages, manuscript available

Agent: Sarah Phair

From the award-winning author of *Birth*, a journey into the underground activist networks that have been working to protect women’s autonomy over their bodies amidst legal, political, religious, and cultural oppression over the past sixty years.

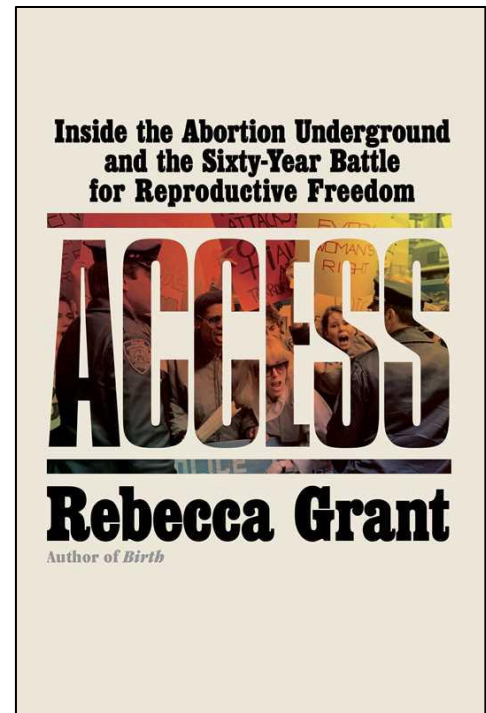
In this definitive, eye-opening history, award-winning author Rebecca Grant charts the reproductive freedom movement from the days before *Roe* through the seismic impact of *Dobbs*. The stories in *Access* span four continents, tracing strategies across generations and borders. Grant centers those activists who have been engaged in direct action to help people get the abortions they need. Their efforts involve no small measure of daring-do, spy craft, sea adventures, close calls, undercover operations, smuggling, sequins, legal dramas, victories, defeats, and above all, a deeply held conviction that all the risks are worth it for the cause.

In *Access*, we meet a cast of brave, bold, and unforgettable women: the founders of the Jane Collective, a group of anonymous providers working clandestinely between Chicago apartments to perform abortions in the pre-*Roe* years; the originators and leaders of the abortion fund movement; Verónica Cruz Sánchez, a Mexican activist who works to support self-managed abortion with pills and fights to free women targeted by the criminalization of abortion; and Rebecca Gomperts, a Dutch doctor who realizes that there is one place abortion bans cannot reach: international waters.

Post-*Dobbs*, activist groups have once again stepped up and put themselves on the line to resist. Building on the work of their feminist forebearers and international allies, they are charting new pathways for access in the face of unprecedented acts to subjugate and control half of America’s population. Working above ground, underground, and in legal gray areas, they’ve helped people travel across state lines for care, established telehealth practices, and formed community networks to distribute pills for free to people who needed them.

Drawing on expert research and investigative reporting, told with deep compassion and humanity by a journalist who has spent her career on the frontlines of the fight, *Access* celebrates the bravery, ingenuity, and determination of women across decades who have fought for a fundamental human right—and serves as an inspiring rallying cry for the work that lies ahead.

Rebecca Grant is an award-winning journalist and author who covers reproductive rights, health and justice. Her work has appeared on *This American Life* and in *New York Magazine*, *The Guardian*, *Elle*, *The Nation*, *Marie Claire*, *Mother Jones*, *Cosmopolitan* and other publications, and her first book, *BIRTH: Three Mothers, Nine Months, and Pregnancy in America* published in April 2023 with Avid Reader Press. She has received grants and fellowships from the International Women's Media Foundation, International Reporting Project, Type Investigations, and the Fund for Investigative Journalists, and was part of a team that won a Peabody Award in 2023 for coverage of the fall of *Roe*.



Praise for ACCESS:

“Based on a decade of work as a reporter, Grant offers an immensely readable and deeply researched history, equal parts enraging and moving. *Access* interweaves profiles of activists around the world with deftly narrated context on science, politics, and history. We move from antebellum New York to 1960s Chicago, from Mexico in the 2000s to pharmacies in India, from the internet to an ‘undisclosed location in the American South’ just before and after the Supreme Court drastically changed the legal landscape with its decision in *Dobbs*. . . . Grant’s book should be required reading for every American.” —***New Republic***

“Journalist Rebecca Grant, in her riveting, sweeping new book, tells the epic tale of women’s struggle to obtain their bodily sovereignty. Through her daring reporting and copious research, Grant has written a monumental masterpiece of feminist outrage, ingenuity, and perseverance. . . . Regardless of geography, class, religion, or political system, the theme of men seeking to dominate women’s bodies is hauntingly universal. Yet women, Grant proves, will find a way to control their reproductive lives. They always have and they always will.” —***Air Mail***

“[A] clear and compelling blend of history and journalism . . . [Grant’s] interest lies firmly in the above- and underground efforts to provide access to abortion rather than the slower, less reliable march towards enshrining reproductive rights in law. . . . Those seeking a well-researched, galvanizing narrative about abortion access should look no further than this engrossing account.” —***Booklist* ★**

“A defiant history . . . With an inspiring focus on ordinary people who risk their livelihoods, freedom, and safety to help others, this rivets. . . . A roving, keenly reported account.” —***Publishers Weekly* ★**

Michelle Gurule

THANK YOU, JOHN

Unnamed Press | September 23, 2025 | World English

Manuscript available, 210 pages

Agent: Hannah Strouth

Sex sells, but what can it buy?

***Thank You, John* is Best American Essays Notable Michelle Gurule's debut memoir: a heartfelt, laugh-out-loud tragic-comedy of errors based on her time spent as an inexperienced sugarbaby in 2010s Denver.**

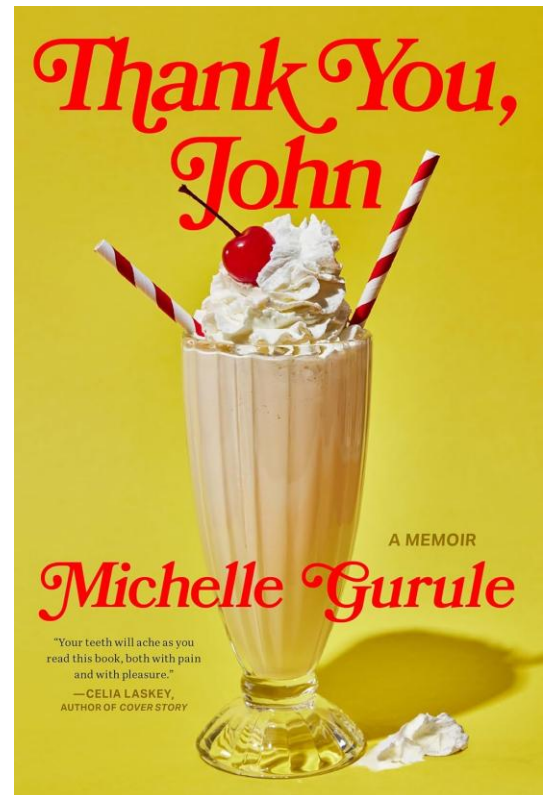
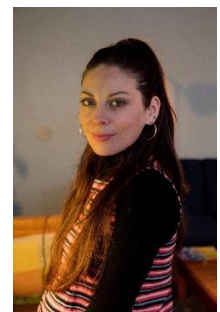
Michelle, a queer, wanna-be writer exasperated by student loans, bad teeth, and the poor decisions of her loveable sitcom-worthy family, believes a sugar daddy is written in her destiny as firmly as she believes her idol, Alanis Morissette, holds the musical blueprint to the life she desires most.

With a salt-of-the-earth Chicano father who's convinced aliens will eventually rule the world, a white mother who maxes out her credit cards on fast food, and a sugar-hyped 7-year-old nephew, Michelle diagnoses herself as self-parentified with a core mistrust in the world's unreliability. Left to her own devices and barely making ends meet, she turns to the world of stripping until her chance for financial freedom arrives in the form of John, a lonely older man who offers her a weekly pile of cash for lively conversation and sex. She will keep her family, and only her family, availed of all the gritty details.

Grateful and convinced by the immediate improvement money makes in her life, sugaring takes the role of any other exploitative job in America— the physical wear and tear, competition between colleagues, the crossed personal boundaries, dangerous power imbalances, and the reliance on hierarchy to keep only the rich and powerful rich and powerful—it's just a lot more intimate. A worthy sacrifice, right?

Looking back at her time as a 24-year-old stripper and sugarbaby, struggling to pull herself—and her entire family—out of poverty, Gurule grins and bears it all in a tragic-comedy of errors: heartbreak, complete social isolation and self-denial, glares at The Cheesecake Factory, cringey sex, and scheme after scheme for a better life with everything money can buy.

Michelle Gurule (she/her) is a writer and educator based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her creative work, which explores the complexities of sex work, class, power and Michelle's intersectional identity as a queer, mixed-ethnicity (white / Chicana) woman, has appeared in *The Offing*, *Joyland*, *StoryQuarterly*, *Drunk Monkeys*, *Homology*, and *Alien*. In 2021, her essay, "Exit Route," won *StoryQuarterly's* Nonfiction Prize, judged by T Kira Madden. She currently teaches writing at Arizona State University as well as The University of Colorado, Boulder. She lives in New Mexico with her partner Daisy <https://www.michellegurule.com/>



Praise for THANK YOU, JOHN

“Gurule blends candid self-examination with sharp critiques of class and power in this audacious debut chronicle of her experiences as a sex worker. . . . With a bruising wit and a gimlet eye (her recollection of a disastrous date with John at the Cheesecake Factory is particularly memorable), Gurule paints an affectionate portrait of her eccentric family and delivers a nuanced glimpse at the pros and cons of sex work. It’s an enthralling mix of the funny and the gut-wrenching.” -- *Publisher’s Weekly*

"*Thank You, John* is a compelling, darkly funny memoir about class, power, and sex work, and how all these subjects intertwine. Gurule is a captivating, charming narrator who has a quirkily lovable family open to both her queerness and her sex work. Your teeth will ache as you read this book, both with pain and with pleasure.” —**Celia Laskey, author of *Under the Rainbow and So Happy for You***

“Blown away. I haven’t been able to shake it.” —**T Kira Māhealani Madden, author of *Love Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls*, on Gurule’s “Exit Route” (excerpted from *Thank You, John*) winner of StoryQuarterly’s Nonfiction Contest**

“A stunning debut, full of heart, desperately funny. When Gurule pulls back the curtain on sex work, she reveals the gnawing class anxiety that fuels our get-ahead economy. She’ll make you laugh when you think you shouldn’t.” —**Mark Sundeen, author of *The Man Who Quit Money***

“Michelle Gurule’s *Thank You, John* is an exquisitely-rendered portrait of a relationship on the other side of ethics. This book asks: are love, sex, and money ever separate? What happens when we choose something we haven’t consented to? Who do we become when we no longer recognize ourselves? In Gurule’s world, every character—no matter their flaws—is fully human, and every moment is harrowing in its acuity. Read it now and you won’t ever think about work, or sex for work, in the same way.” —**Cyrus Dunham, author of *A Year Without A Name***

“Smart, funny and full of salty, edgy hope. It will have you laughing while pulling you under the surface waves of assumptions about class, power and sex work. Vulnerable and fierce in turns, it has a loving family as its beating heart, and that alone defies all that we think we know about why people make the choices they do.” —**Melissa Coss Aquino, author of *Carmen and Grace***

“This memoir will change you. Earnestly TMI and brutally taboo, *Thank You, John* beholds generous, charming and wildly funny stories that dare you to laugh at our capitalist purgatory.” —**Marisa Tirado, author of *Selena Didn’t Know Spanish Either***

Eric Huang

A CHEF AT LAST

Tiny Reparations August 2027 | North America
Manuscript anticipated May 26
Agent: Clare Mao

A CHEF AT LAST is a memoir-meets-cautionary tale about the price tag of chasing one's passion and the misconceptions regarding the artistry in a chef's life. And how all of this has compounded difficulty for a person of color in a racially troubled America.

“When Eleven Madison Park was named the Best Restaurant in the World in 2017, Eric Huang was in the hospital recovering from a heart procedure. It turns out, stress can kill you, even as early as all of 30 years old. And yet Eric would go back for three more years of debilitating mental health thanks to regularly getting screamed at in the walk-in, working a 12-hour shift with a burn the length of his forearm, and the Sisyphean task of carving 5 perfect spheres out of celery root every morning.

“The cost of excellence? Maybe. Masochistic? Definitely.”

So begins **A CHEF AT LAST**, a memoir that traces Eric's childhood growing up in his dysfunctional family's Chinese restaurant on Long Island, where he was pushed to play the cello and was teased mercilessly by the white kids at school during the peak of 90s MSG fearmongering, to his discovery of *Kitchen Confidential*, a book that would change his life and set him on the path to that very hospital stay. We follow Eric as he leaves in 2020 to start his own restaurant, plans that were immediately derailed by the rest of the events of 2020, and he turns instead to private cheffing in the Hamptons during COVID, and finally, to today, where he fries chicken behind the counter at Pecking House, a pandemic pop-up sensation that at its peak had 10,000 people on its waiting list.

An outsider who made it inside, Eric is frank about what it took for a young Chinese American man to overlook the racism and abusive workplace practices embedded within our most elite institutions, and the toll it took on his mental health. Snarky yet vulnerable, wise yet never too self-serious, but overall *definitely* too honest for its own good, **A CHEF AT LAST** introduces the indelible voice of a chef and writer who's made it to the very ~~depths~~ heights, of fine dining and lived to tell the tale. With invaluable advice for young chefs, industry insider knowledge of what lies behind the curtain of the explosion of food media and culture of the past twenty years, and stories of many delicious meals cooked and eaten, Eric Huang has written a memoir that would make Anthony Bourdain proud.

Eric Huang is the chef and accidental founder of Pecking House. Trained in Michelin-starred restaurants in New York City for over 10 years beginning at Café Boulud, then Gramercy Tavern and finally Eleven Madison Park, Hung was a sous chef with the team that earned the title of “Best Restaurant in the World” in 2017. Borne out of necessity in 2020, his venture that became Pecking House transitioned from a long-range chicken delivery fleet to their first brick-and-mortar in 2022. It was named one of the Best New Restaurants by *Eater*, and the signature chicken was named one of the 10 Best Dishes of the Year by *The New York Times*. Though the cooking at Pecking House has many fine dining touches, Eric can be found living life casually on paper plates. It is the fried chicken shop meets Chinese takeout joint nobody thought to ask for but is close to the chef's heart. Instagram: @eric.p.huang, @pecking_house, Substack: cheferichuang.substack.com





Eric Idle
A PYTHON IN
PROVENCE: A Brief History
of Thyme

HarperCollins US Autumn 2026 | North
America

Draft manuscript available

170 pages, many pictures

final manuscript anticipated late 2025

Agent: Matt Bialer

Rights sold: Ebury UK, France (Actes Sud)

From British comedy legend and bestselling author Eric Idle comes a love story to Provence, recounting the decades of happiness he has found and shared with countless others in The Var.

At age 28, and recently married, Eric Idle (of *Monty Python* fame) found himself quite by chance on a summer holiday in a tiny cabanon in the countryside in the middle of The Var, between two of the most beautiful villages in France: Cotignac with its fabulous falaise and Entrecasteaux with its slender, then ruined, Chateaux. Having fallen in love with the region, he dreamt of having his own place there. In November 1971 he signed the papers at the Nôtaire in Carcès, granting him ownership of a beautiful, terraced hillside, with no road, no water, no electricity and a tiny shack with no floor, no ceiling, no windows, no kitchen, no w/c, no nothing. After extraordinary work by a close friend, he had a tiny bedsit, still without a road, or electricity, but with an enchanting little kitchen, old floor tiles, a lovely new bathroom with a fosse septique, and his own water from a forage deep on the hillside, splashing into an exquisite little bassin.

This became Eric's hideaway, his private place, away from Show business, and over the years, bit by bit, whenever he had any cash, it grew a little bigger. What was once a Shack is now a Shackeau. Friends came to stay, as they do in Provence, many of them famous, Harrison Ford, George Harrison, Paul Simon, Robin Williams, David Bowie, Carrie Fisher and so on, but many of them not, and they all enjoyed the peace and relaxation of life on the beautiful terraced hill side, with the most magnificent view southwards across the coastal mountains that fringe the Mediterranean between Toulon and Marseilles. Twice it was ravaged by forest fire, but he cut away the burn and the beauty returned. Twice Eric was married, but the second time for much longer (still persisting) and in 1983 the local villagers finally discovered what the eccentric Englishman did for a living, when *Monty Python's The Meaning of Life* was awarded The Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival and his pictures were in *Le Var Matin*. Wonderfully they continued to respect his privacy and kindly they were happy for him.

This book is a love story to Provence. It tells the tale of a tiny house in Provence, and a man whose life was completely changed by it, who grows his own olive oil, and gazes at the Milky Way, who once played football for Cotignac, but who has become old and always happy whenever he is in the Var. It is a lifetime of memories, not always happy, but frequently amusing.

Eric Idle is a comedian, actor, author, and singer-songwriter who found immediate fame on television with the sketch-comedy show *Monty Python's Flying Circus*. Following its success, the group began making films that include *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, *Monty Python's Life of Brian*, and *Monty Python's The Meaning of Life*. Eric wrote, directed, and created *The Rutles: All You Need Is Cash*, the world's first-ever mockumentary, as well as the Tony Award-winning musical *Spamalot*. His memoir *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life* was a *New York Times* bestseller.

Mary Sheedy Kurcinka, Ed.D
**RAISING YOUR SPIRITED CHILD,
FOURTH EDITION: A Guide for Parents
Whose Child is More Intense, Sensitive,
Perceptive, Persistent, and Energetic**

Morrow/ HarperCollins, September 2, 2025 | North America
496 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Heide Lange

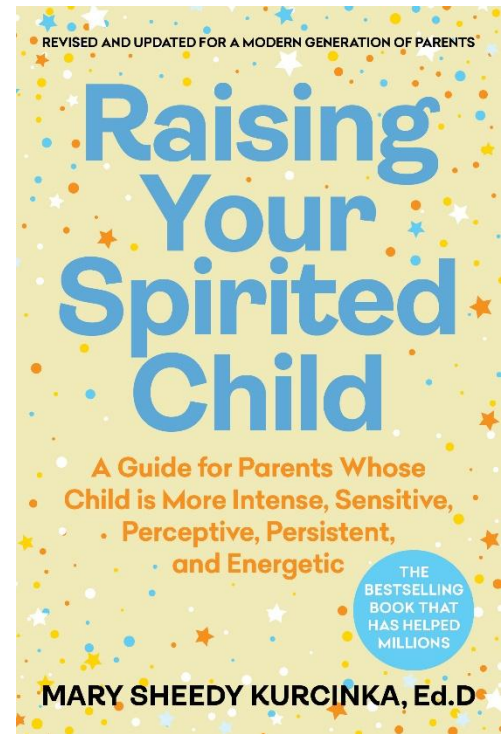
**A classic parenting book with over 1 million copies sold,
revised by popular demand yet again in 2025**

In this fourth edition of her perennial bestselling book, Dr. Mary Sheedy Kurcinka utilizes her deep experience to address the pressures previous generations of parents didn't have to consider. Her empathy and effective advice are exemplified in the introduction of her new and easy to apply Spirited Child Approach, which nurtures the *entire* family.

The Spirited Child Approach helps parents understand their child and their own inborn temperament while focusing on three simple, but vital concepts—calm, connect, and coach—to help their family thrive. Research- and strength-based, yet honest, *Raising Your Spirited Child* speaks to parent burnout and, in a helpful and supportive manner, offers solutions to that exasperated question, “How am I supposed to stay calm and connect with my child when I'm just trying to survive the moment?”

In this newly revised edition Dr. Mary:

- **Introduces the calming effect of routine.** Experts often focus on calming a child in the middle of a meltdown, but dealing with ten or twenty flare-ups a day is exhausting. Dr. Mary demonstrates how bringing structure into daily routines—even when every day seems different—stops the tantrums, power struggles, morning wars, and bedtime battles before they ever start. Structure calms everyone.
- **Recognizes that families are different.** Dr. Mary's refreshing philosophy is one size does NOT fit all. In the social media culture of comparison and claiming that there's only one “right” way, Dr. Mary explains individual differences and encourages parents to trust their own intuition as they select the strategies that fit their child's needs and their family's situation.
- **Thoughtfully addresses the impact of social media and electronic use on the well-being of all family members.** No guilt or shame here, just insightful questions that encourage informed screen time and offer healthy alternatives when a few minutes of peace or distraction are needed.
- **Prioritizes sleep for everyone—without leaving anyone to cry.** The importance of adequate sleep and realistic strategies to get it are woven throughout the book. Sleep is the best self-care strategy for all!



Earlier Foreign Sales:

China: Cheers
Czech: Portal Nakladatelstvi
Estonia: Tanupa
Germany: MVG-Verlag
Greece: Dioptra
Hungary: Jaffa Kiado
Italy: Mondadori
Japan: Sunmark
Korea: Mulpure
Poland: Edgard
Romania: Multi Media EST
Russia: Alpina Business
Spain: Medici
Taiwan: Ye-Ren
Turkey: Altin
Ukraine: Nash Format
Vietnam: Thaiha

Even fans of the previous editions of this book will find tons of brand-new information and skills—updated with Dr. Mary’s latest findings after close to a decade of additional experience as a parenting coach, and for the challenging age of parenting in the age of smartphones and social media.

About the third edition:

"The book will prove to be a real lifesaver." – **Louise Bates Ames, author and association director, Gessell Institute of Human**

"Through excellent examples and easy-to-read text, this book provides parents with a pathway to understanding their child's temperament and to a place where parents can balance the needs of their child's unique temperament with their own needs and those of their family." – **James Cameron, Ph.D., executive director, The Preventive Ounce, Berkeley, California**



Mary Sheedy Kurcinka, Ed.D., is a bestselling author and internationally recognized lecturer and parent educator. Her books *Raising Your Spirited Child*, *Raising Your Spirited Baby*, *Raising Your Spirited Child Workbook*, *Kids, Parents and Power Struggles* and *Sleepless in America: Is Your Child Misbehaving or Missing Sleep?* have been translated into more than twenty languages. A former director of one of Minnesota's largest Early Childhood Family Education programs, Mary is the founder of the Spirited Child and Kids, Parents, and Power Struggles workshops. She resides in Bozeman, Montana, with her husband.

Tim Leatherman
with Chris Kornelis
THE LEATHERMAN BOOK:
Small Tools for Building Big Ideas
Ballantine Autumn 2026 | North America
50,000 words, manuscript anticipated March 2026
Agent: Dan Mandel

THE LEATHERMAN BOOK embodies the characteristics of a Leatherman multi-tool: purpose-built, compact, and, above-all, useful.



This is a visionary book that provides an intimate look at a true American icon. Like Phil Knight’s SHOE DOG, the book will provide a vivid account of the creation of an iconic American company. Like Yvon Chouinard’s LET MY PEOPLE GO SURFING, it will articulate the non-traditional principles and business practices that have guided the company. It will present this information in a format similar to Steven Pressfield’s THE WAR OF ART, with the pieces of the Leatherman story presented as tools to inspire and enable dreamers of all kinds to bring their ideas to life.

The knife companies told him it was a tool, the tool companies told him it was a gadget, and nobody was buying gadgets. By 1983, eight years after Tim Leatherman started trying to add pliers to a pocket knife, he was still working out of his garage and hadn’t made a sale.

Just when it was feeling hopeless, a funny thing happened: he sold one. Then another. All of a sudden, he could hardly keep up.

Today, Leatherman employs more than 500 people, has built more than 90 million tools and more Leathermans are sold every year than Chevrolets.

In the 40 years since Leatherman became a success, Tim has been getting two kinds of letters:

The first is from customers with harrowing, inspiring and humorous stories about how they used their tools in ways never imagined: to defuse landmines, to perform emergency surgery, rescue hikers after an avalanche – even carve Spam into the shape of a holiday turkey. The second letter is from inventors, entrepreneurs and creators asking for advice on how they can turn their big ideas into reality.

THE LEATHERMAN BOOK is for the letter-writers: longtime fans who want to know the Leatherman story, and dreamers looking to build the ideas they can’t get out of their heads.

Think of this book as the latest Leatherman multi-tool. Instead of pliers, blades, scissors and screwdrivers, the tools here are pieces of Tim’s story deployed to help people get to where they want to go. As is the case with every Leatherman, each reader will use the book a little differently. They’ll use some of the tools, ignore others and, hopefully, use a few for things never imagined.



Tim Leatherman invented the Leatherman multi-tool. He is the co-founder, owner, chair and still a very engaged part-time employee of Leatherman Tool Group. He has a long-running dialogue with his customers and regularly appears at retail stores around the world to sign tools and greet fans. He and his products are covered regularly in national publications and programs, including *The New York Times*, *Wired*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Gear Patrol* and NPR's *How I Built This*. In 2024, Tim was featured in CBS Sunday Morning and *The Wall Street Journal*, among other outlets. He lives in Portland, Oregon with his wife, Chau.

Chris Kornelis is a reporter at *The Wall Street Journal*. He is the author of a memoir about parenting, *ROCKING FATHERHOOD*, and co-author of Guns N' Roses bassist Duff McKagan's memoir, *HOW TO BE A MAN*. He placed an excerpt of *ROCKING FATHERHOOD* in *The Wall Street Journal* and an excerpt of *HOW TO BE A MAN* on the cover of the late *Village Voice*. He has written for many publications, including *The New York Times* and *Money* magazine, and appeared on numerous national news programs, including NPR's "Marketplace" and MSNBC's "Morning Joe." He lives in Bremerton, Wash., with his family.



About Leatherman Tool Group, Inc.:

– Leatherman Tool Group was founded by Tim Leatherman and Steve Berliner in 1983 to manufacture and market Tim's invention. Based in Portland, Oregon, the company sells more than 2 million multi-tools a year and has sold more than 90 million to date. (If Leatherman was a band, it would have out-sold Tom Petty). Leatherman tools are sold in more than 80 countries. The company's Net Promoter Score (how likely a customer is to recommend it to a friend or colleague) is 83, higher than companies like Netflix (67), Apple (72) and Starbucks (77).

Leatherman's International Audience

– Roughly a third of Leatherman Tool Group's business is done in international markets. Tim has a particularly enthusiastic following in Europe.

-- In December 2024, Tim appeared at stores in Europe to sign tools and greet fans. In Cologne, Germany, he was greeted by 350 fans – some traveling from as far away as Switzerland. In Brussels and Barcelona, Tim signed tools for about 150 fans in each city. In Barcelona, one fan flew in from Poland to see him. Another fan asked Tim to sign his name underneath the Leatherman multi-tool tattooed on his bicep – and returned two hours later to show Tim that he'd had the signature tattooed on his as well.

– In 2018, Tim went on a world tour celebrating the company's 35th anniversary. The tour included events and signings in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, South Korea, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, the U.K, as well as U.S. stops in New York City and Portland.

– In addition to the more than 1 million social media followers in North America, Leatherman Tool Group maintains separate social media accounts for different regions of the world, including Canada (30,000 followers across Instagram and Facebook), Germany (40,000), Italy (30,000), Spain (32,000), France (25,000), Portugal (10,000), and Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg (11,000).

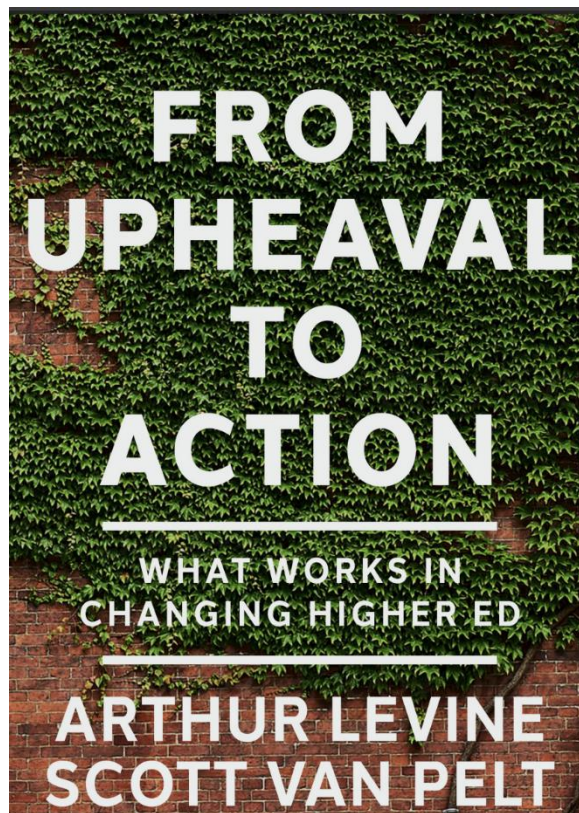
– A Leatherman fan group for Spanish speakers has more than 16,000 followers on Facebook.

Arthur Levine and Scott Van Pelt
FROM UPHEAVAL TO ACTION:
What Works in Changing Higher Ed

Johns Hopkins University Press, March 3, 2026 | NA
Manuscript available
Agent: Faith Hamlin

A revealing look at how colleges are confronting disruption, and what their responses mean for the future of higher education.

In *From Upheaval to Action*, Arthur Levine and Scott Van Pelt offer a vital update on the shifting landscape of American higher education. Building on the insights of their bestselling book *The Great Upheaval*, this on-the-ground account of how institutions are responding to today's profound changes encapsulates two years of in-depth observation and conversation. Based on visits to more than sixty institutions and organizations—including colleges, state systems, accrediting bodies, and foundations—the authors provide an unflinching portrait of a sector navigating a complex, high-stakes transformation.



Colleges and universities are confronting the combined pressures of demographic realignment, economic strain, and technological disruption. They face challenges not only in attracting and retaining students, but also in remaining relevant in a world reshaped by automation, artificial intelligence, and the accelerating demands of a global knowledge economy. This book chronicles the successes and missteps of institutional responses while tracking new developments that have surged to the forefront, including the rise of alternative credentials, the redefinition of college affordability, renewed scrutiny of DEI initiatives, and growing political tensions around academic freedom and public trust.

From Upheaval to Action identifies areas of experimentation and change, spotlighting the creativity and resilience emerging within the sector. It examines what is being tried, what is proving effective, and what remains uncertain, offering essential insights into how today's decisions are shaping the colleges and universities of tomorrow. Transformation is already underway, and its outcomes will be shaped by those institutions prepared to meet it with purpose, flexibility, and courage.

THE GREAT UPHEAVAL sold internationally to The Commercial Press (China) and Korea National Open University Press (Korea)

Arthur Levine is President of Brandeis University; a distinguished scholar of higher education at New York University's Steinhardt Institute for Higher Education Policy; a senior fellow and president emeritus of the Institute on Citizens and Scholars; and president emeritus of Columbia University's Teachers College. He is the author or coauthor of many books, including *Generation on a Tightrope: A Portrait of Today's College Students* and *The Great Upheaval: Higher Education's Past, Present, and Uncertain Future*.

Scott Van Pelt is the associate director of the Wharton Graduate Communication Program at the University of Pennsylvania, where he is also a lecturer.

Select Praise for **THE GREAT UPHEAVAL**

“If you're looking to understand the future of higher education, you couldn't do better than to look at *The Great Upheaval*. What makes this book so interesting is not only its review of past changes in higher ed, but also its careful look at what has happened in leading industries such as movie-making, filmmaking, and newspapers as they've been disrupted by the online world.” — **Barbara Oakley, Oakland University, McMaster University**

“I have never doubted that higher education was on an unsustainable path and after reading *The Great Upheaval* by Arthur Levine and Scott Van Pelt, I'm more sure of that than ever. They present a convincing case that our higher education system will undergo a disruption that is "needed and inevitable.” — **George Leef, The James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal**

“A valuable resource that sheds light on the issues confronting higher education today while simultaneously serving as a clarion call to action for educators, policymakers, and students alike.” — **Kate El-Hillow, Russell Investments**

“On the subject of higher education, Arthur Levine is astonishingly prescient, spotting trends on the horizon long before they come into focus for the rest of us. In this thoughtful and engaging book, he and Scott Van Pelt offer a clear-eyed assessment of the changes—and the potential disruption—facing colleges and universities. An indispensable guide to rethinking our assumptions about learning and preparing to thrive in a transformed educational landscape.” — **Rafael Reif, President, Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

“This clearly written book will be of interest to a broad spectrum of readers, including educators, policymakers, nonprofit professionals, students, and families. Levine and Van Pelt focus not only on colleges and universities but also on the challenges and opportunities of the larger postsecondary world, as they explore the dramatically different future of higher education and proposed actions to shape it.” — **Freeman A. Hrabowski III, President, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, author of *The Empowered University***

“A crisp, cogent case for the future of higher education in America. Levine and Van Pelt argue that technological change is empowering consumers in new ways and offers innovative ideas about how higher ed can address these changes. Bravo to the authors for being clear-eyed instead of overwrought, suggesting a positive way forward for a critically important institution.” — **Deborah Quazzo, Managing Partner, GSV Ventures**

“With tectonic shifts underway in higher education, *The Great Upheaval* could not be more timely. Levine and Van Pelt smartly outline the challenges facing the industry and suggest ways for institutions, policy makers, and funders to respond. A well-researched, well-written, and measured analysis fueled by a burning urgency to see higher education reclaim its central role in the American promise of opportunity and social mobility for all.” — **Paul J. LeBlanc, President, Southern New Hampshire University**

“An easy read on a complex topic. Levine and Van Pelt reject the forced choices for higher education of 'Stay the course!' or 'The sky is falling!' They claim higher education is undergoing significant transformation and argue the well-being of the nation is tied to the health of higher education. We had better get it right.” — **William G. Tierney, University of Southern California, author of *Higher Education for Democracy: The Role of the University in Civil Society***

“Levine and Van Pelt provoke us to reimagine higher education as a dynamic learning-driven enterprise capable of harnessing the nation's talent to achieve far better and more equitable outcomes for the generations ahead. They make the compelling case that sustainable positive transformation must leverage the best lessons learned from the intersecting forces of the status quo and whole-scale disruption.” — **Martha Kanter, CEO, College Promise / US Under Secretary of Education (2009–2013)**

“With powerful insight and unprecedented command over their subject matter, Levine and Van Pelt look to higher education's past and present to identify trend lines shaping its futures, helpfully drawing in lessons from industries disrupted by technology: music, film, newspapers. Past is not prologue—institution- and policy-level choices matter here—and education's futures look very different from the present. Woe be to those who sit by passively waiting for it to play out.” — **Daniel Greenstein, Chancellor, Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education**

John Garrison Marks

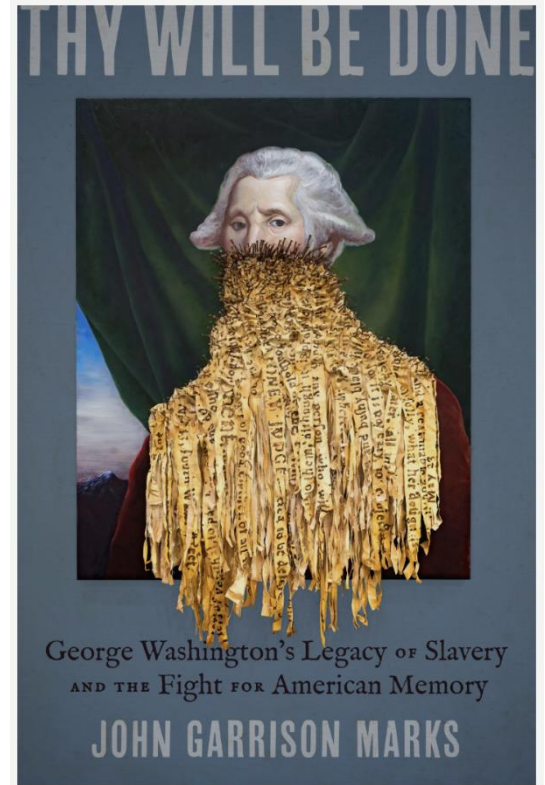
THY WILL BE DONE: George Washington's Legacy of Slavery and the Fight for American Memory

The University of North Carolina Press, Spring 2026 | North
America

321 manuscript pages; manuscript available

Agent: Dan Mandel

"I pass the proverbial baton to John Marks, who finishes what I started in this fascinating and frustrating look at how we remember George Washington. Of all his impressive titles, he held "master" the longest, and it was arguably the key to his success--and our own. But for the last 250 years, Americans have done their best to ignore that reality in favor of a more fashionable, palatable one. In the process, we've lost sight of him, and of ourselves. The 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence offers us a unique chance to set the record straight--because if we don't try, it may just be our last." --**Alexis Coe, New York Times bestselling author of You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George Washington**



Americans of the past, just as much as Americans today, argued about Washington's character, struggled to make sense of his ties to slavery, and staked competing claims to his legacy. For more than two centuries, the politics and culture of the present have shaped the way Americans of all backgrounds assess how Washington's involvement with slavery should shape his place in American history. When it comes to Washington, today's conversations about our history are profoundly shaped by our history in underappreciated ways.

In *THY WILL BE DONE*, John Garrison Marks shows how generations of Americans have wielded history and manipulated the public's memory of George Washington's ties to slavery, each of them claiming to be carrying out his will—sometimes quite literally. The book details how abolitionists, educators, preservationists, politicians, Washington's former slaves and their descendants, and other disparate groups of Americans throughout our history have all grappled with, selectively remembered, and at times weaponized George Washington's contradictory status as both enslaver and emancipator. These competing claims to Washington's legacy transformed how the American public understood Washington's involvement with slavery in ways that still profoundly shape our public discourse.

Weaving together historical research with analysis of contemporary American culture, *THY WILL BE DONE* reveals how our understanding of Washington has changed over time, and illuminates how our relationship with the past has always been inextricably linked to the political and cultural movements of the present.



John Garrison Marks is a historian, public history researcher, and writer. As a scholar, his research focuses on the history of race, slavery, and culture in the United States and Atlantic World. He is currently a Kluge Fellow at the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress. His public history writing has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *TIME*, and *Smithsonian Magazine*, and elsewhere, and is forthcoming in the *Atlantic*.

In addition to researching the field, I lead national planning and resource development efforts to prepare the public history field for the U.S. 250th anniversary in 2026, and manage other special initiatives that serve history museums, historic sites, and others in the public history community. He has a Ph.D. in history from Rice University. A New Jersey native, he currently lives outside Washington, DC. <https://www.johngmarks.com/>

Emily Mester

AMERICAN BULK: Essays on Excess

Norton, November 26, 2024 | World English

256 pages, manuscript available

Agent: Clare Mao

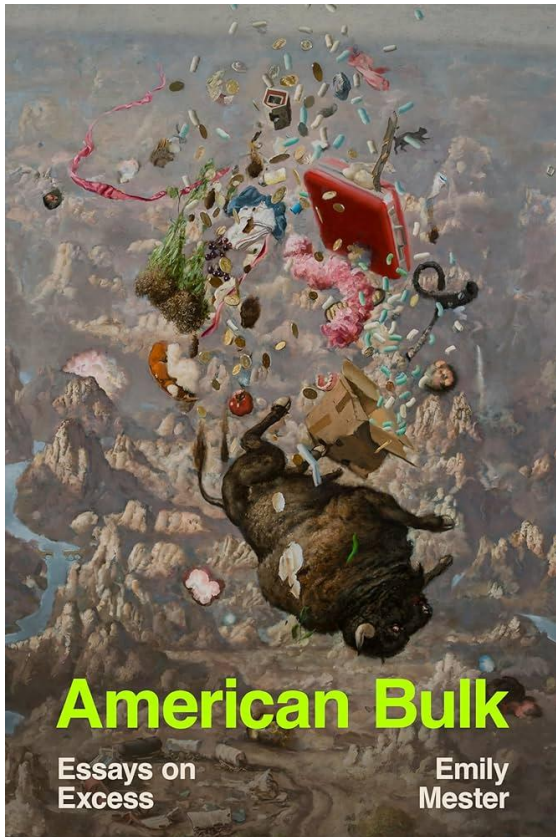
Raised with hoarding and compulsive shopping, Emily Mester is caught in between. What happens when consumption begins to consume you back?

A December Indie Pick

New York Times extended bestseller list

An Indie Bestseller!

A Kirkus Best book of 2024



In a series of deeply personal essays, Mester explores how the things we buy, eat, amass, and discard become an intimate part of our lives

Americans are caught up in bulk. We guiltily watch Amazon boxes pile up on the porch, wade through endless reviews to find the perfect product, and crave the comforting indulgence of a chain restaurant. In *American Bulk*, Emily Mester intertwines cultural critique and personal history to explore how the things we buy, eat, amass, and discard become an intimate part of our lives. With humor and sharp intellect, she reflects on the joys and anxieties of family Costco trips, how a seasonal stint at Ulta Beauty taught her the insidious art of the sale, and what it means to get Mall Sad. In a nuanced examination of diet culture and fatness, Mester recounts her teenage summer at fat camp and the unexpected liberation she finds there. Finally, she ventures to Storm Lake, Iowa, to reckon with her grandmother's abandoned hoard, excavating the dysfunction that lies at the heart of her family's obsession with stuff. *American Bulk* introduces readers to a striking new literary talent from the American heartland, one who dares to ask us to regard consumption not with guilt but with grace and empathy.

Part family history, part cultural critique, and part cautionary tale, Emily Mester's **AMERICAN BULK** shares literary DNA with Patricia Lockwood's sharp but intimate portrayal of family in *Priestdaddy* and Jenny Odell's critiques of capitalism and the culture it begets in *How to Do Nothing*, and introduces a clear-eyed, empathetic, and deeply intelligent writer who acutely identifies the true cost of all the *stuff* we love.

[Emily Mester](#) is from the Midwest, where she learned how to read by sounding out signs in the strip mall parking lot of a Chicago suburb. She is a graduate of Grinnell College and the University of Iowa Nonfiction Writing Program, where she studied with Kerry Howley and Melissa Febos. She lives in Brooklyn. Twitter: <https://twitter.com/emilymester>



Praise for AMERICAN BULK:

“Mester is like a Midwestern [Baudrillard](#), distinguishing between the “earthy bourgeois glamour of Whole Foods,” “Target’s warm graphic buoyancy” and “the hot American urgency of 7-Eleven.... [A] cultural critic of such promise deserves a big welcome mat.”— ***New York Times***

"With compassion, wit, and piercing honesty, Emily Mester delves into our love of consumerism—and what our desires say about who we want to become. Bravely personal, incisively critical, *American Bulk* is a report on our national psyche and a captivating family story."— **Larissa Pham, author of National Book Critics Circle John Leonard finalist *Pop Song***

"A funny, incisive, humane dispatch from a brilliant new voice in nonfiction. *American Bulk* had me cringing, laughing, and yes, even tearing up as it drew the contours of my own, and our national, appetites. I remain amazed that a book so clear-eyed in its scrutiny of our capitalistic perversity left me with so much hope."— **Melissa Febos, author of *Girlhood*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Criticism**

"*American Bulk* is composed of some of my favorite nonfiction essays on family, capital, love and dysfunction that I've ever read. It's a refreshing and needed reframing of what all these things mean, today, right now, as the neon haze of fast-food signs flicker from their long-time dominion of the American experience. Mester examines our compulsion to consume with careful incisions that I kept highlighting and coming back to, just to whisper the words to myself to make their clear-eyed cleverness my own."— **Arabelle Sicardi, beauty writer and author of the forthcoming *The House of Beauty***

“Sly and Brilliant” – ***The Guardian***

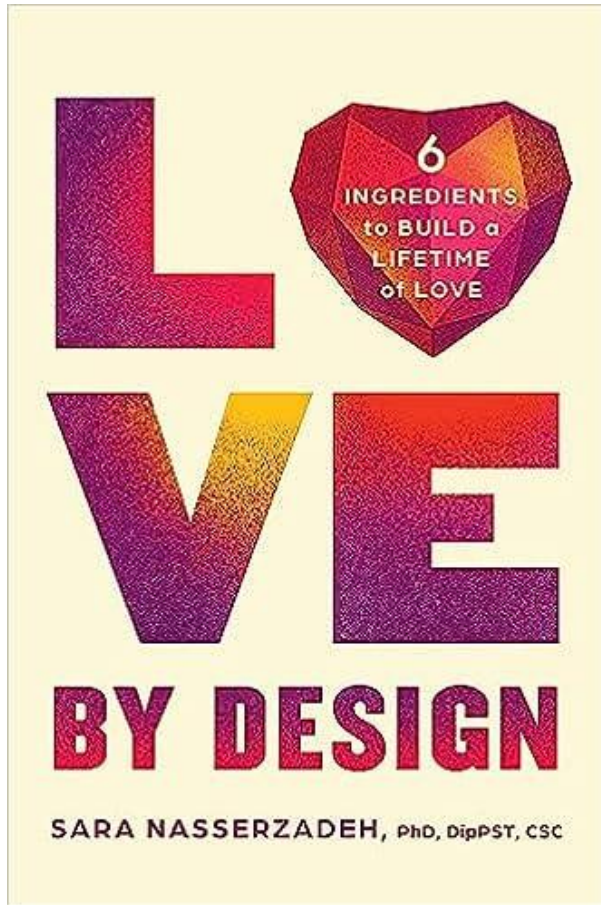
“[Mester’s] writing is capacious enough to hold both the complexity of her own family’s addiction and the absurdities of our collective excess.” – **Bustle**

“This interview is a real *just trust me*. It’s about Costco, and American hunger for (and dissatisfaction with) abundance, and how we grapple with accumulation and desire across generations, and Emily Mester — author of *American Bulk: Essays on Bulk* — will hook you immediately. So consider giving this interview some time, and if it strikes you or challenges you, I strongly recommend buying the book.”
—**Anne Helen Petersen**

"A dryly witty and deeply thoughtful essay collection that delves into everything from the bulk-buying psychology that powers Costco's popularity to what it's like to work seasonal shifts at Ulta Beauty."
— **Emma Specter, *Vogue***

"Paints a vivid portrait of American consumerism....A thought-provoking view of our relationship with consumption and excess."
— **Kirkus Reviews**

"Inquisitive and deeply observed....In a late-stage capitalism heaving with choice, Mester assumes the role of a millennial Virgil with both style and grace....Mester forges a compassionate route through brand-name overabundance to better understand the impulse to consume."
— **Shelf-Awareness**



Dr. Sara Nasserzadeh
**LOVE BY DESIGN: 6 Ingredients to
Build a Lifetime of Love**

Grand Central Publishing, February 6, 2024

UK: HarperCollins

Paperback February 4, 2025

352 pages, full manuscript available

Agent: Sarah Phair

Rights sold: Slovak (Barecz & Conrad), Turkey (Zeynep)

“Get ready to revolutionize your relationship with Emergent Love.” —Dr. Pepper Schwartz, *New York Times* bestselling author and Professor of Sociology at the University of Washington.

Many of us were raised with the idea that true love means finding our "other half" and that a spark is the best foundation for successful long-term partnerships and marriages. But what if this understanding is flawed?

Grounded in two decades of original research and work with couples from around the world, *Love by Design* introduces a groundbreaking new foundation for love: The Emergent Love Model. As Dr. Nasserzadeh knows, successful partnerships do not thrive on love, at least as we know it. Instead of chasing our butterflies we need to cultivate six core relational ingredients that make it possible for love to emerge:

- **Attraction:** What do you like and value about each other?
- **Respect:** How do you keep each other's needs and priorities in mind?
- **Trust:** Do you know that you will show up for each other consistently?
- **Compassion:** Can you honor the other's emotional experience without making it about you?
- **Shared vision:** Where are you committed to going together?
- **Loving behaviors:** How do you show your partner they're special to you?

Offering dozens of exercises and reflection prompts, this groundbreaking book—perfect for fans of *8 Rules of Love* or *The Love Prescription*—will give readers a new foundation for their coupledness—one that will help your coupledness thrive for a lifetime.



Dr. Sara Nasserzadeh, Ph.D., is a world-renowned social psychologist, sexologist, and relationship expert. She has spent over 20 years working with thousands of couples in more than 40 countries. She is highly regarded by her peers as a Key Opinion Leader and has a multitude of articles, books and book chapters to her credit. Her work has also been featured in media around the world, including **NPR, BBC, ABC, CNN** and **Goop**, and she has won awards for her **BBC** radio and TV series on sex and relationships called **“Whispers.”**
<https://www.sara-nasserzadeh.com/>

Praise for LOVE BY DESIGN:

“A revelatory re-conceptualization of how we create love. No other book so seamlessly blends scientific evidence with diversity and acceptance.”—**Dr. Emily Nagoski, bestselling author of *Come As You Are* and *Burnout***

“Dr. Nasserzadeh is an important relationship scholar and gifted clinician. Her vision of Emergent Love will revolutionize your relationship.”
—**Dr. Pepper Schwartz, Professor of Sociology at the University of Washington and New York Times bestselling author**

"Love by Design is an essential read for those looking to cultivate connected and fulfilling intimate relationships. Her model of emergent love will transform how you enter your next relationship or enliven the one you are in for years to come."—**Alexandra H. Solomon, PhD, faculty at Northwestern University, bestselling author of *Love Every Day* and host of the podcast, *Reimagining Love***

“In *Love by Design*, Dr. Nasserzadeh brings us an exciting, sustainable way of perceiving and living love.”—**Guy Winch, TED Speaker and author of *How to Fix A Broken Heart***

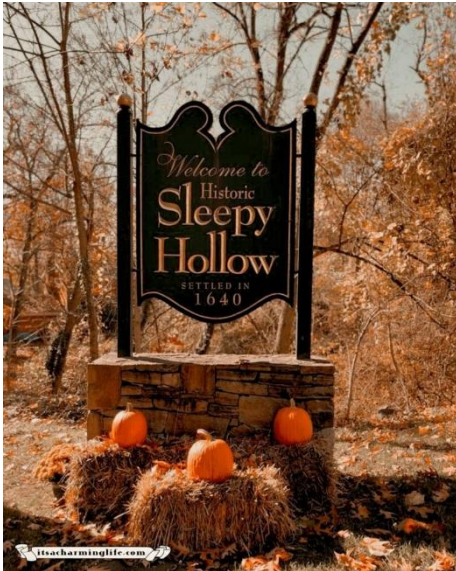
"Love by Design supports the wisdom of ages with original evidence-informed research to create a realistic and powerful way to make love work for modern relationships."—**Susan Quilliam, author of the revised *The Joy of Sex***

"Clear, concise, and wise. Dr. Nasserzadeh encourages us toward greater self-awareness, teaching readers how to strengthen our bonds by bringing compassion, loving communication, and more to their partnerships. It would do all of us well to heed her expert guidance."—**Barry R. Komisaruk, Ph.D, Distinguished Professor, Psychology at Rutgers University and co-author of *The Orgasm Answer Guide*.**

"This wise, practical book sheds new light on the perennial question of how to keep romantic love alive. Read it and be prepared never to think about love the same way again." —**Stephen Snyder M.D. Author, *Love Worth Making***

“Dr. Sara has elevated the common Venn diagram to a work of art. Or rather a work of love. Understanding your relational overlap (where 'me' meets 'we') is at the heart of her concept of emergent love, and *Love by Design* will show you how to occupy your 'we-space' to the fullest.”—**Ian Kerner, sex therapist and bestselling author of *She Comes First***

"Everyone wants to experience the spirit and joy of love. Here are insights on how to ignite the delights of a long life of 'love you forever and love you for always.'"—**Mark Victor Hansen, Co-Creator of the New York Times' bestselling *Chicken Soup for the Soul* Series**



J.W. OCKER
**HORSEMAN: The History, Hijinks, and
Halloweens of Sleepy Hollow.**

Norton / Countryman Press, Autumn 2026 | World English
Manuscript anticipated January 2026
Agent: Alexander Slater

Eventually, we left the river-cooled bridge and made our way to the grave of Washington Irving himself... As is always the case at his grave in October, a small, round pumpkin sits at the base. Unsmashed.

"It's all this guy's fault," said Jim.

It all started in 1820 with a ghost story, a ghost story that would become the most famous ghost story in all America, a ghost story that would give a town its identity, save it from economic ruin, and make it one of the most visited destinations in the country during the strangest time of year—Halloween. And that has become a big problem for Sleepy Hollow, New York, the home of the Headless Horseman.

In *HORSEMAN*, the national bestselling and Edgar Award-winning travel author [J.W. Ocker](#) uses his unique access to Sleepy Hollow to tell firsthand the story of one of the strangest, most conflicted, and most Halloween destinations in the country. Washington Irving set his 1820 classic *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* in this village, used landmarks in the story that still exist today, settled there himself, and is buried in its dirt. These days, this 350-year-old town fifteen miles from Manhattan is infested by a herd of Headless Horseman year-round. The fiend adorns the shields of first responders, recycling bins, street signs, banners, business names, murals. It's the mascot of the local high school. There's an 18-foot-tall statue of him downtown. And when October comes, Halloween covers the hollow in a thick blanket of black and orange and parties harder than any other time of year.

For this first-person narrative travelogue, Ocker will visit the landmarks and attractions of Sleepy Hollow, experience the Halloween festivities, gain special entrance into its crypts and castles, interview its leaders and residents and tourists, go behind the scenes of its October, and dig deep into its civic challenges. He will investigate Sleepy Hollow in popular culture, visit other places in the U.S. that celebrate this headless rider (yes, there are many—including a rival town elsewhere in the valley), and interview experts on the tale, all to solve the mystery of how and why this town has hitched its horse to the Headless Hessian for its identity and economy and what will happen to this town as a result.

Sleepy Hollow is a strange town, and J.W. Ocker will explore it like the Headless Horseman himself is at his heels.



J. W. Ocker is the Edgar Award-winning author of *Poe-Land: The Hallowed Haunts of Edgar Allan Poe*, *A Season with the Witch*, and *Death and Douglas*. His work has appeared in *The Guardian*, the *Boston Globe*, *CNN*, the *Atlantic*, and other places people stick writing. He's from Maryland but has lived in New Hampshire for more than a decade.

He is also the creator of OTIS: Odd Things I've Seen (Oddthingsiveseen.com), where he writes about his visits to oddities of nature, history, art, and culture.

Madeline Peltz

PICK ME: The Right-Wing Siege of Gender and Gen Z

Sourcebooks Autumn 2026 | North America

Manuscript anticipated late 2025

First of two book deal

Agent: Madeline Wallace



Over the past year, a puzzling trend has taken hold: as the women and queer people of Generation Z skew further left, their male peers have taken a sharp right. The country's youngest voting bloc are experiencing a historically unprecedented intra-generational divide on nearly every major issue along strictly gendered lines, just as they ascend into greater political power.

Madeline Peltz, a reporter with progressive nonprofit Media Matters for America, has watched this fissure materialize from the frontlines. What has become clear across thousands of hours of right-wing media monitoring and on-the-ground coverage of conservative conferences is that this is no longer an emergent trajectory—it's our new political reality. But how did we get here? When did the regressive antics of the right, so often associated with bumbling attempts at cultural relevance and contradictory ideology, begin to resonate again?

The answer lies in PICK ME, a tonal successor to Amanda Montell's *Cultish* that argues right-wing media has captured its youngest adherents through a relentless push into cultural spheres, fueled by a backlash against changing gender norms in society. Whether solidifying Gen Z's role in the political hierarchy, juxtaposing sanitized #Tradwife content with the violent conservatism of the "Manosphere," delving into the right's skewed brand of self-help, or unspooling a growing alt-economy of entertainment, Peltz captures, breaks down, and makes accessible the complicated path to our present—and dares to consider the future.

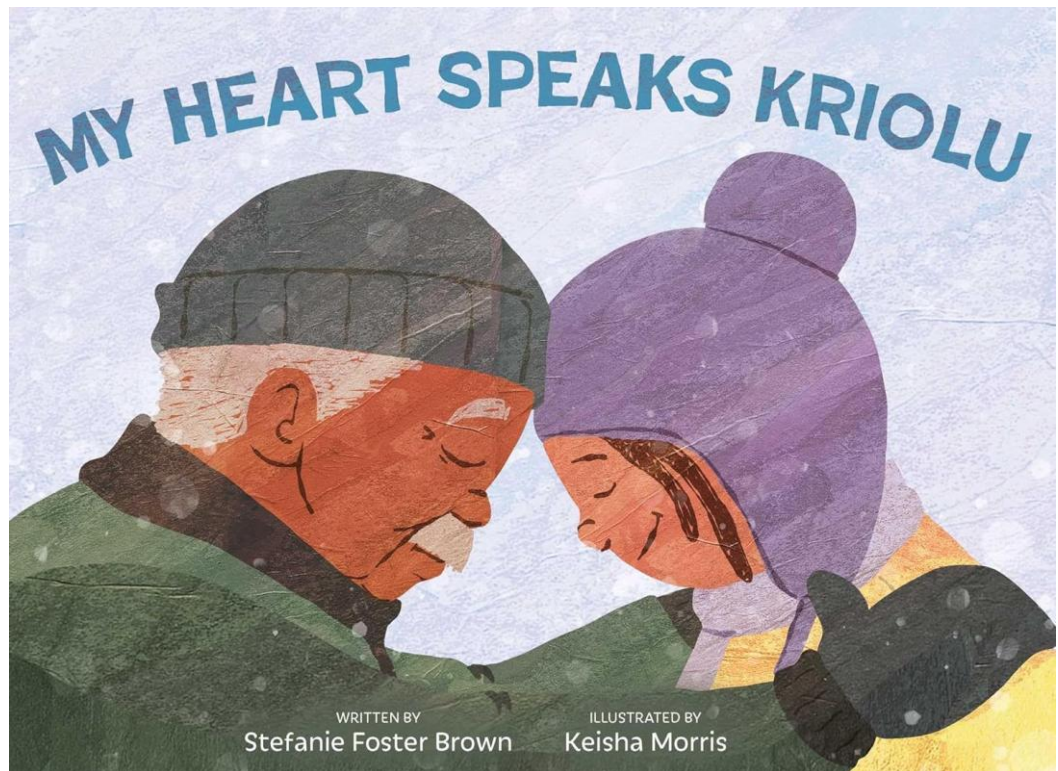
Grounded in her relatable, sardonic perspective, PICK ME—part cultural criticism, part narrative nonfiction, part journalistic deep dive—trains Peltz's perceptive gaze on the pulse of conservatism, situating Gen Z within the movement. This isn't a book classically concerned with Trump, but the ways in which a whole group born into his political reign are making sense of the world they've inherited. In dialogue with the zeitgeisty work of Naomi Klein and Talia Lavin, and for those drawn to the demystification offered in Tim Miller's *Why We Did It* and David Korn's *American Psychosis*, PICK ME unveils a right-wing cultural takeover that makes clear the urgency of this moment, and forces us to confront questions—and seek answers—about our collective political future.

Madeline Peltz is a progressive writer, journalist, and critic with Media Matters for America, a nonprofit media watchdog based in Washington D.C. She's covered virtually every aspect of the right-wing media for nearly a decade, from 4chan to Fox News and beyond, focusing on emerging trends and ascendent personalities. She's been quoted as an expert in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, CNN, the BBC, the *Guardian*, and more, and her research has been covered in virtually every major media publication. She's also written for MSNBC and Newsweek and been profiled for her work in the *Washington Post* and *Vox*. She's provided her research and perspective to many progressive organizations to advise how to combat the pernicious effects of disinformation and the radical right. Currently residing in D.C., she is an avid consumer of all things mass media, especially celebrity gossip, social media, and reality TV.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

**Stefanie Foster
Brown (author)
with Keisha
Morris
(illustrator)
MY HEART
SPEAKS
KRIOLU**

Simon & Schuster,
November 4, 2025 |
World English
40 pages, manuscript
available
**TEXT ONLY VIA
SJGA**
Illustrations via S&S



On Saturday walks with her grandfather, a young girl connects with her Cabo Verdean heritage while learning about the true meaning of home in this moving debut picture book.

Papa always speaks of someday bringing his granddaughter Stefanie back home to Cabo Verde. But Stefanie hasn't yet set foot on their ancestral island's faraway shores. And each time Papa urges her to speak Kriolu, the Portuguese creole native to the West African country, Stefanie's tongue betrays her, and she stumbles over her own words. If she can't even get the language right, can grandfather's home ever truly be hers, too?

But each Saturday afternoon that she helps guide her sight-impaired grandfather through their close-knit Massachusetts community, Stefanie swears she can smell, hear, *feel* Kriolu. And each Saturday she comes closer to discovering where home truly lies.

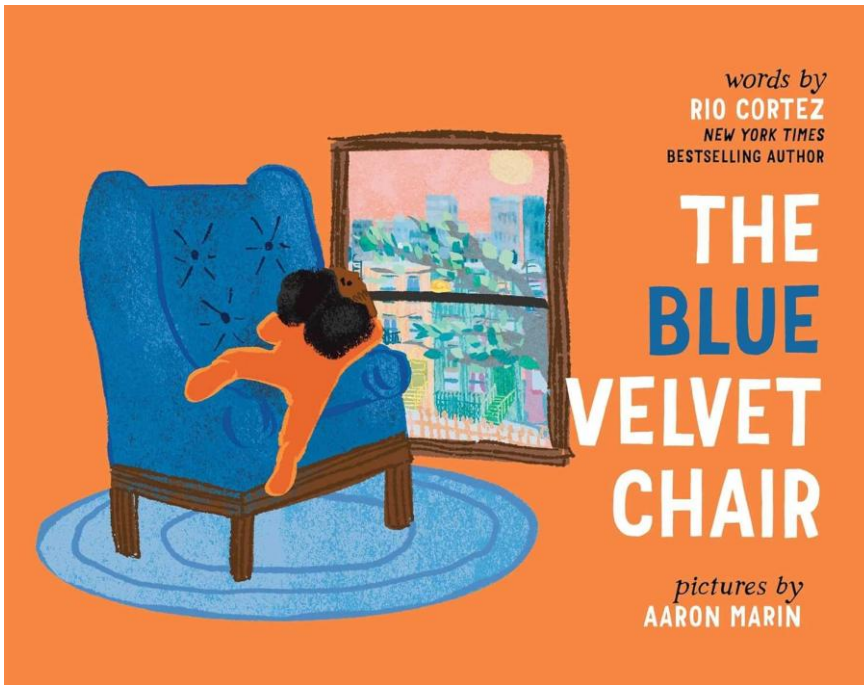


Stefanie Foster Brown is a fourth-generation Cabo Verdean American whose grandparents were the last in her family to speak Kriolu. A former school psychologist, Stefanie spent part of her professional training researching the relationship between language, culture, and identity. She lives in Connecticut with her husband, Eli, their three kids, a dog, and one noisy parakeet. *My Heart Speaks Kriolu*, inspired by Stefanie's memories of taking walks with her Papa in New Bedford, Massachusetts, is her debut book. Visit Stefanie at SteffosterBrown.com or on social media [@SteffosterBrown](https://www.instagram.com/SteffosterBrown).



Keisha Morris is an illustrator living and working in Maryland. What she loves about her illustration process most is creating characters whose personalities jump off the page. She earned her BFA in illustration at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York and mentored with illustrators such as Sean Qualls, Selina Alko, and Dan Santat. When she is not drawing, she loves spending time with her wife, daughter, and two wild cats Elphie and Ollie.

Picture Book



**Rio Cortez (author) with
Aaron Marin (illustrator)
THE BLUE VELVET
CHAIR**

Simon & Schuster Children's Books,
August 19, 2025 | World English
40 pages, manuscript June 2025
TEXT ONLY VIA SJGA
Illustrations via S&S

A young girl contemplates the passing of time and changing of seasons as she looks out on the world from her favorite chair in this heartwarming picture book by award-winning poet and *New York Times* bestselling author Rio Cortez.

In the morning, a young child opens her eyes, and, after one biiiiig streeeeetch, heads straight for her favorite place in the house: the blue velvet chair. Perched from the chair set by the living room window, the child daydreams about each season of the year and the changes that come with them. A now-snowy roof was once pelted by the slick rain of spring showers. Icy windows will once again transform into conveyors of sunshine and warmth against her skin.

And just as the seasons change, the child will continue to change too. But one thing will always remain the same: the coziness of the blue velvet chair.



Rio Cortez is the *New York Times* bestselling author of picture book *The ABCs of Black History* and adult poetry collection *Golden Ax*, which was longlisted for the 2022 National Book Award in poetry and the PEN Open Book Award. Born and raised in Salt Lake City, she now lives, writes, and works in Harlem, New York. <https://www.riocortez.com/>

Aaron Marin has worn many hats in the past, holding positions as an officer in the Navy, a classically trained chef, and a summer camp baker. More recently, he returned to his childhood passion of illustration and now works as an illustrator and editorial artist in upstate New York. When not doodling new ideas, he likes to read a good book in a big comfy chair. See more of his work at Aaron-Marin.com.



Rio Cortez

THE RIVER IS MY OCEAN

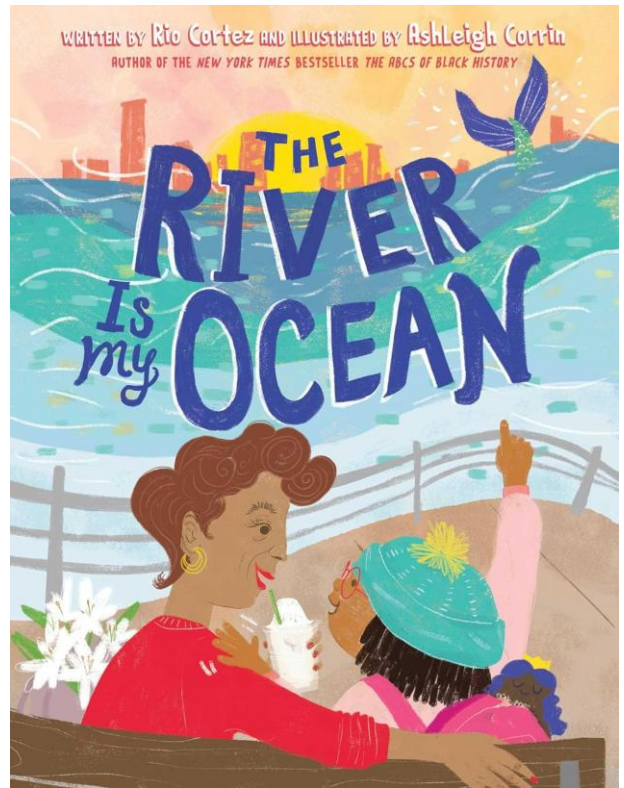
Simon & Schuster BYR, August 27, 2024 | World English and Spanish

32 pages, final material available

A grandmother and granddaughter share a magical trip to the Hudson River affirming intergenerational love and the power of water in this heart-song of a picture book.

Every day, Abuela misses the ocean in Puerto Rico. But on Saturdays, when the sun is high, Abuela takes her granddaughter on a walk down the hill in Harlem to Twelfth Avenue, to a place that is just as magical: the Hudson River.

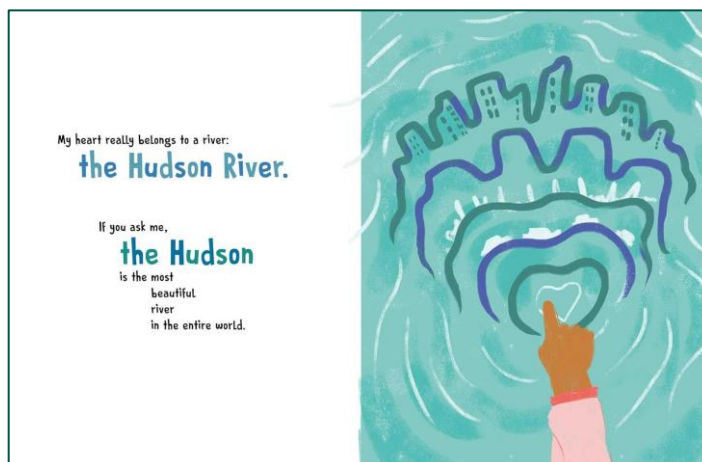
There, they admire the iconic waterway that brought millions of new Americans to its shores, make offerings to Yemaya, the goddess portrayed as a mermaid in ancient religions, and celebrate familial love passed down through the generations, showing the vastness of expansive intergenerational love, memory and the childlike curiosity they each inspire.

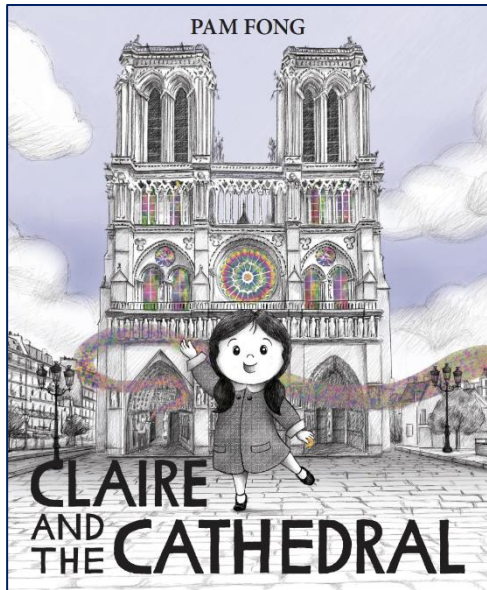


"VERDICT For fans of Last Stop on Market Street, this book is sure to delight younger readers and is nice addition to library shelves that lends itself to further discussion of gods and goddesses in mythology." -- *School Library Journal* — 7/1/24

"Sweet, simple prose brimming with emotion celebrates cultural heritage and the connection between generations, while vivid, childlike illustrations capture the warmth of family moments... a heartfelt narrative steeped in love and tradition." -- *Kirkus Reviews* — 6/15/24

"Hand this book to kids who live life vividly or are especially grateful for a dose of magic in the everyday." - *The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* — 9/1/24





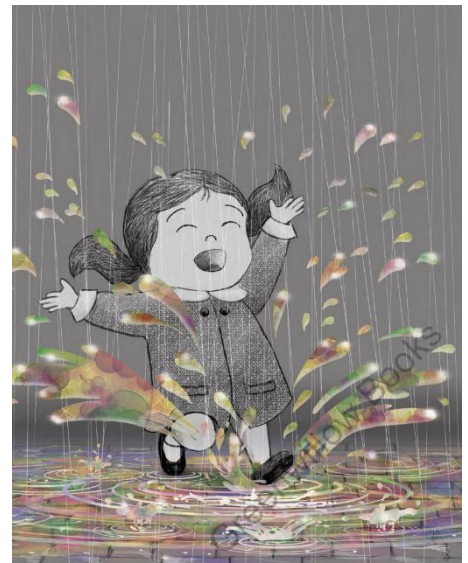
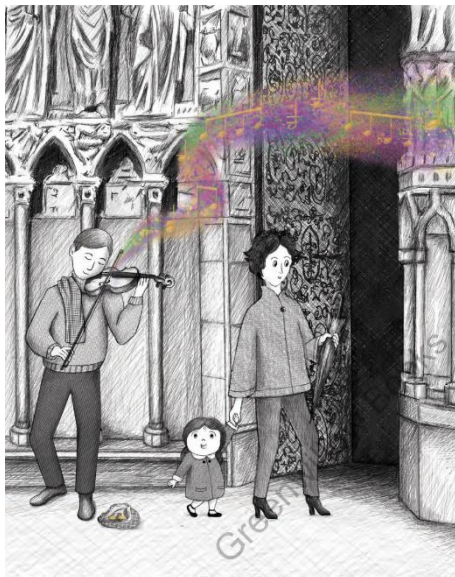
Pam Fong CLAIRE AND THE CATHEDRAL

Greenwillow, Winter 2026 | World English
40 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Abigail Frank

In this showstopping masterpiece from author-artist Pam Fong, a young girl finds unexpected beauty in a rainy day, demonstrating the power of giving thanks and giving back. Wordless and illustrated in striking black-and-white artwork with pops of rainbow color, this is for fans of *Wolf in the Snow*, *Journey*, and *Home in a Lunchbox*.

When Claire’s mother takes her to the cathedral to pass the time on a rainy day, poor Claire could not be more bored. Soaring architecture, beautiful sculptures, historical significance—blah! Then a momentary ray of light shines through the famed Rose Window and brings color back into Claire’s world. Soon she realizes there are rainbows all around her, if she looks closely.

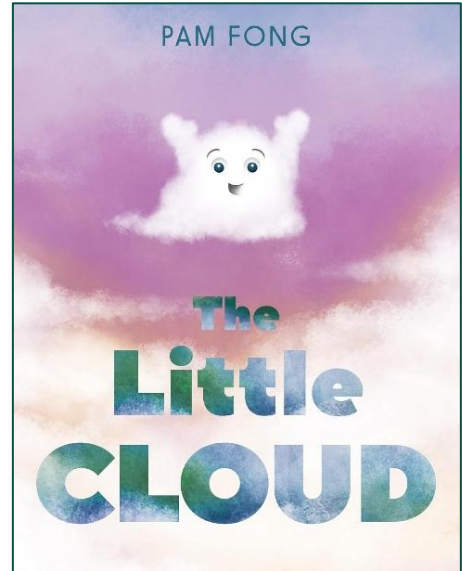
This wordless picture book celebrates the power of observation, gratitude, optimism, generosity, and the arts. Pam Fong makes a splash with her astonishing, intricately detailed black-and-white illustrations—light and music are the only elements shown in full-color glory. *Claire and the Cathedral* is ideal for readers who love books by David Wiesner, Barbara Lehman, Aaron Becker, and David Macauley.



Pam Fong earned a degree in Visual Arts and Art History from the University of California, San Diego, and a Masters of Arts Management from Carnegie Mellon University. She is the creator of picture books including *ROU AND THE GREAT RACE* (Reycraft Books 2020), *ONCE UPON A FOREST* (Random House Studio, Spring 2022), *A SPARK IN THE DARK* (Greenwillow, Fall 2022), and *HEDGEHOG AND THE LOG* (Union Square Books: January, 2024). <https://pamfong.com/>

THE LITTLE CLOUD

Greenwillow March 4, 2025 | World English
40 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Abigail Frank



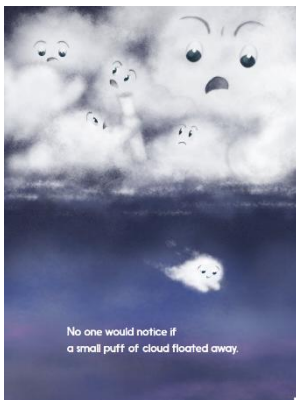
A beautiful day is dawning—but everyone except Little Cloud is too busy to notice. A lush and emotional picture book about curiosity, exploration, and being present.

A cloud’s job is to make storms. And that is what they love to do. All except one, that is. Little Cloud would much rather take a moment to enjoy the view of the world below. The farmer is whistling, the piglets are having a snack, the bees are buzzing, ducks waddling, and stream babbling. But NONSENSE, thunders Big Gray Cloud. There’s no time for that. Big Gray Cloud and the others are so busy getting ready to storm that they never notice the sun coming out until it scatters them.

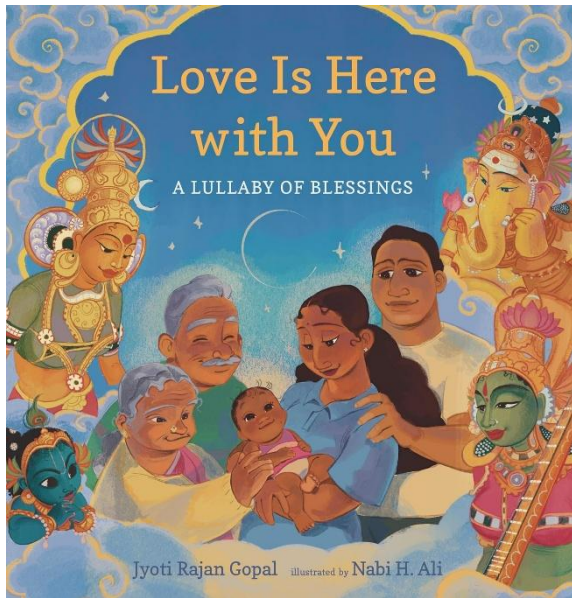
With expressive characters and lush scenery, Pam Fong delivers a beautiful picture book with compelling social and emotional hooks. *The Little Cloud* encourages us to stay curious and be present, find delight in what others may overlook, and make the most out of each day.

“Many readers will relate; this is a simple but effective read-aloud that makes lovely use of visual storytelling. A ray of sunshine for those youngsters who, like our protagonist, know what truly matters.” — **Kirkus Reviews**

“An iconoclastic little cloud breaks away from the cloud formation that is massing for a tremendous thunderstorm in this comically thought-provoking story. . . . An absorbing tale, bolstered by subtle messages about following your own path and being alive to beauty.” — **Booklist**



Picture Book



Jyoti Rajan Gopal
LOVE IS HERE WITH YOU: A Lullaby of Blessings
 illustrated by **Nabi H. Ali**

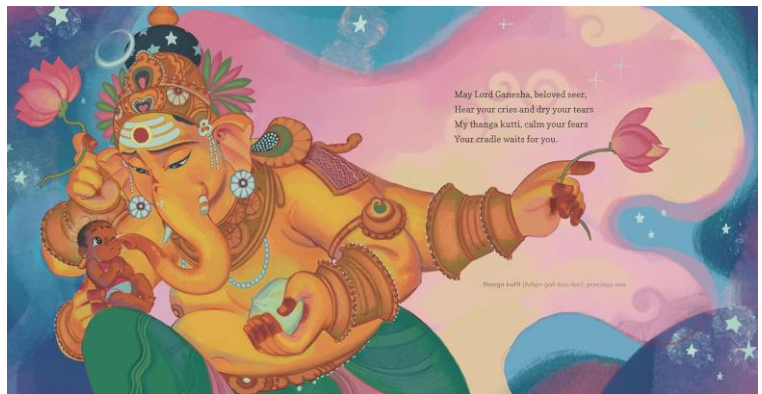
Candlewick, December 3, 2024 | World English
 32 pages, final material available
 Text c/o SJGA, Illustrations handled by Candlewick

In this original lullaby, rich cultural traditions combine with a family’s hopes for their baby to create a soothing ritual sure to be a favorite bedtime read and baby shower gift.

*May mighty Durga, fierce and true,
 guard your slumbers all night through.
 My little angel, my honeyden,
 your cradle waits for you.*

As a family sings their baby to sleep, deities from the Hindu pantheon act as guardians of sweet slumber, from wise Ganesha, remover of obstacles, to joyful Krishna, prince of music, to powerful Durga, goddess of strength and protection. Richly illustrated by artist Nabi H. Ali, this gentle, reassuring text by author Jyoti Rajan Gopal wraps reader and listener in a message of love and comfort.

“This calming story weaves a gentle circle of love. Tamil endearments intertwine with the elders’ hopes, blessings, and prayers for the newest member of the family. Bold images in rich blues, sunset yellows, and dusky oranges showcase the Hindu gods in their regalia. . . . A lullaby that radiates feelings of protection and hope.”—*Kirkus Reviews*



“[A] culturally rich bedtime picture book. . . . Lushly rendered, dreamlike illustrations from Ali, in blues, golds, greens, and pinks, seem to evoke the iconography of South Indian Hindu temples, while spot illustrations throughout highlight lore and traditions. Lilted rhymes from Rajan Gopal (*The Desert Queen*) drive this tender familial lullaby with devotional cadences.”—*Publishers Weekly* ★

“Family, tradition and religion all come together with glowing illustrations to say, “Love is here with you.””
 —*The Virginian Pilot*

Jyoti Rajan Gopal is a kindergarten teacher and the author of *American Desi*, illustrated by Supriya Kelkar, *My Paati’s Saris*, illustrated by Art Twink and *Desert Queen*, illustrated by Svabhu Kohli, named a Stonewall Honor book from the ALA awards and best of 2023 by *Booklist*, *BookPage*, *Kirkus*, and *BCCB*.

She was born in India but grew up all over the world, from Thailand to Indonesia to Myanmar to China. More than twenty-five years ago, she moved to New York City with her husband and raised her two daughters in Yonkers in a very old house with an amazing porch, where she still lives.



Picture Book

Yan Gu

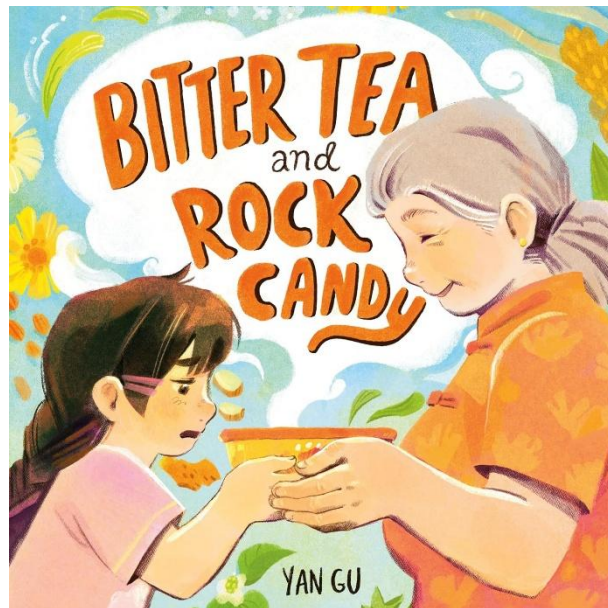
BITTER TEA AND ROCK CANDY

Henry Holt BYR, September 9, 2025 | World English

Final art available

A humorous and heartfelt tale about the bitterness of liangcha, a popular tea from traditional Chinese medicine, and the sweetness of a Waipo (grandmother)

This tender and warm picture book is a touching ode to grandparents and family traditions—even picky eating.



"A great story for libraries looking for representation of Chinese culture, of intergenerational relationships, and of trying new things; it's also something of an ode to the fact that grandmothers were once young"—*School Library Journal*

"Warm peachy and yellow tones cast a cozy glow over this multigenerational exchange of a culturally specific family tradition...A stirring addition to the rapidly expanding collection of diverse food stories."—*Booklist*

"The depiction of affection between a grandparent and grandchild and the importance of empathy . . . are universal. A heartwarming tribute to intergenerational connection."—*Kirkus*

Mimi's Waipo loves liangcha, but Mimi thinks her grandmother's favorite tea is just too bitter.

It burns her lips, it tastes sour on her tongue, and it smells like her grandfather's socks—yuck!

Mimi secretly feeds her liangcha to the fish, and hides it in a plant, and pours it down the sink—anything to avoid drinking it again. But Waipo has an idea. One morning, she makes a new batch of liangcha for them to share. Will Waipo's secret ingredient be enough to win Mimi over?



This book is about two different flavors of love. Other marketing points: a little knowledge about TCM (traditional Chinese medicine), and intergenerational love between a grandmother and granddaughter. Not to mention: gorgeous illustrations.



Yan Gu is an illustrator from Shanghai. She graduated from RISD in 2022. In her free time, she loves plein-air painting. *A BOWL OF BITTER TEA AND A PIECE OF ROCK CANDY* is her first picture book.

Picture Book



Baljinder Kaur LOST AND FOUND AT THE GURDWARA

Katherine Tegen Books, Winter 2026 |
World English
Manuscript expected October 2025

In this search-and-find picture book, help Darshan and her friends and family at the Gurdwara locate missing things as they all prepare for the big celebration!

Today is Darshan's favorite day -- the Nagar Kirtan, a colorful procession through the streets to celebrate equality and community. Bibi, Baba, and Darshan must first go to the Gurdwara to help with the preparation, but everyone at the Gurdwara needs some help! In the Diwan Hall, Shindo Auntie can't find her purple purse. In kirtan class, Professor Ji can't find their talcum powder, which is important for the tabla. In the langar hall for cooking, Sodhi Uncle can't find his rolling pin, and Jaswant Auntie can't find the tub of turmeric and the bag of onions! When it's finally time for the big procession, Darshan even loses Bibi and Baba, until she gets completely lost herself.

In these gorgeous illustrations, the reader gets to delight in the meditative act of searching and finding, while learning a little bit more about the Sikh faith and traditions at the Gurdwara and beyond, especially and including the Nagar Kirtan.

The author writes:

I have many fond memories of attending Nagar Kirtans as a child. Nagar means town and Kirtan means singing praises. A Nagar Kirtan is when Sikhs gather in the form of procession to sing the praises of God, throughout the streets of their local community. It is a communal celebration of devotion.

My mother always encouraged us to connect with Sikh tradition by cultivating our relationship with the Gurdwara. She planted seeds that would soon blossom into my own love for Sikhi. However, this path has not felt linear. I stumble and lose my way often, only to find and forget myself, again and again. The Nagar Kirtan is a sweet reminder of how I do not walk this path alone. We all stride side by side, helping each other along.



Baljinder Kaur graduated with distinction from Cambridge School of Art with a Masters degree in Children's Book Illustration. Among her published work is *FAUJA SINGH KEEPS GOING* written by Dr. Simran Jeet Singh (Penguin/Kokila, 2020), *KAMAL'S KES* (Saffron Press 2021). The yet-to-be-published *NOOR* (Chronicle, 2025) and *THIS LAND* (Viking, 2025) both sold at auction. In the UK, she also has a book called *THE SLEEPER TRAIN* by Mick Jackson (Walker UK, 2025). She lives in the Wolverhampton, UK with her husband and cat, Chandan.

Picture Book

**Maya Tatsukawa (illustrations)
and Darren Farrell (text)**

LION IN BED

Dial Books for Young Readers, October 21, 2025

| North America

40 pages, manuscript available

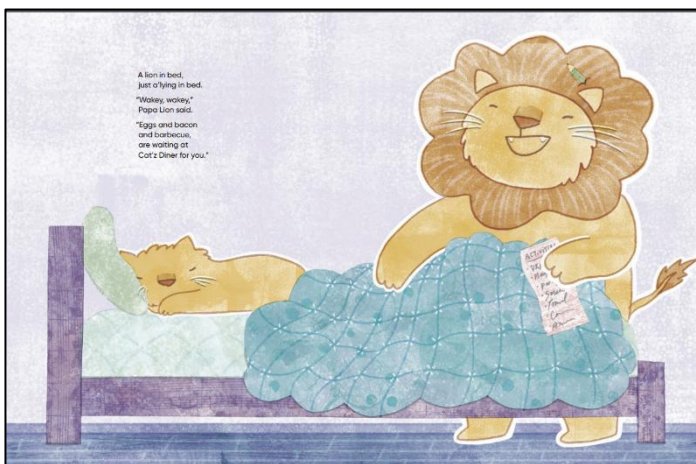
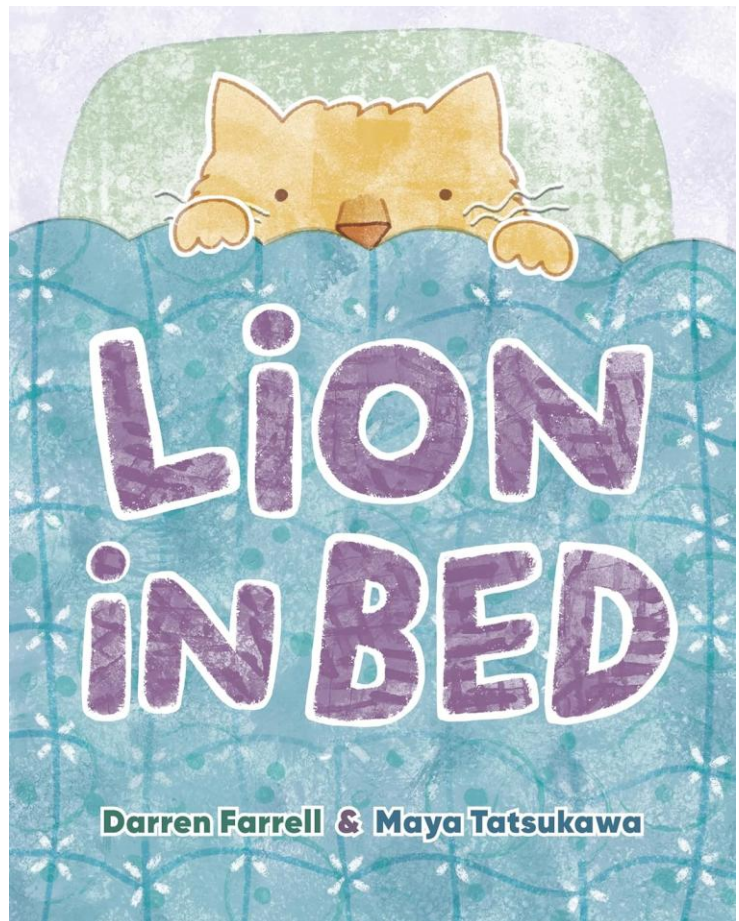
SJGA represents illustrations only;

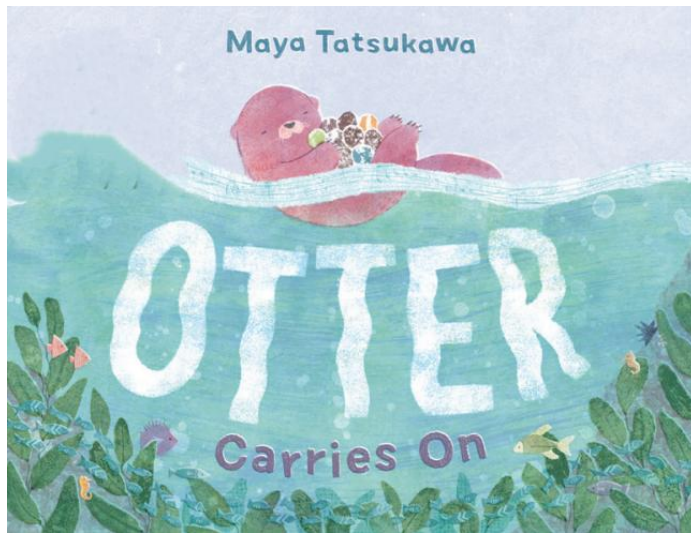
text represented by Sara Crowe Literary

A gentle but silly picture book about mental health and the power of a good cuddle

Papa Lion just can't convince Little Lion to get out of bed this morning! They have so much to do, so Papa Lion decides to bring all the activities to him in bed, no matter how big and wild they are. From a full-diner breakfast to a soccer game and surprise party for Grandma, can anything convince Little Lion to finally get up?

Award-winning author and illustrator duo Darren Farrell and Maya Tatsukawa have created a sweet story about a persistent Papa and his tuckered-out cub, with a reminder that sometimes it's the simplest things that bring the most happiness.





Maya Tatsukawa
OTTER CARRIES ON

Henry Holt Books for Young Readers,
February 4, 2025 | World English
40 pages, final material available
Rights sold: Korea (Greatbooks)

From the Theodore Seuss Geisel Award-winning author of **THE BEAR IN MY FAMILY**, the second in a two-book, six-figure deal (with **MOLE IS NOT ALONE**) that finds a headstrong otter learning a valuable lesson about trying to do it all.

Otter loves floating and collecting pretty, heavy rocks all by himself. When a storm comes, Otter has so many rocks that they can't swim home—and soon, they're lost at sea. But when a few rocks accidentally slip away, Otter feels...lighter. And with the help of a new friend, Otter realizes that maybe they don't need to carry everything alone.

With gorgeous undersea illustrations, cozy storytelling, and a group of lovable characters, this sweet and beautiful picture book shows readers that it's okay to ask for help from a friend.

"An ocean of tiny details, depicted in a soft palette of grays, blues, and greens . . . visually immersive."
—*Kirkus*

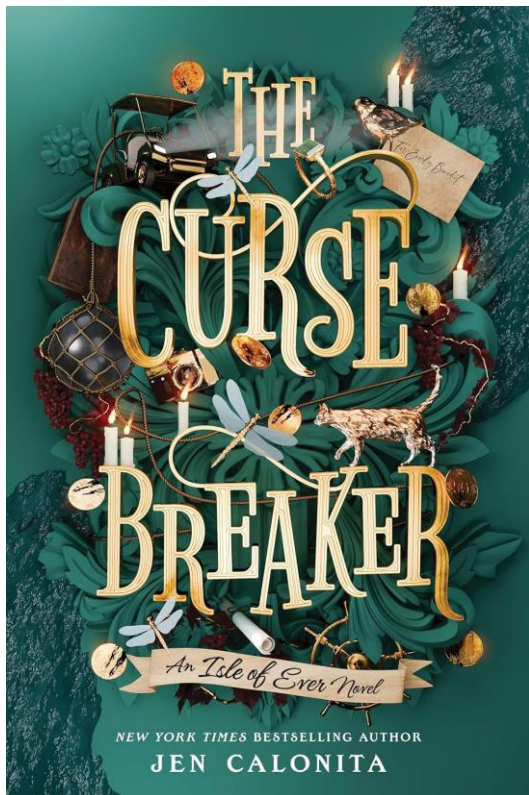
"The graceful movement of waves and water, speech balloons that present the story in dialogue, and the low fear factor . . . all enliven this buoyant story about accepting the advice of others versus finding out for oneself." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Important lessons gently delivered with animals and serene artwork is Tatsukawa's forte, and she has excelled at it once more via this absurdly cute otter protagonist."—*BCCB*



By day, [Maya Tatsukawa](https://petitemayat.com/) is a book designer at Walker/Candlewick. By night, she bakes beautiful desserts and illustrates children's books. She is the author/illustrator of Geisel Honor winner **THE BEAR IN MY FAMILY** (Dial 2020), **SUNDAY PANCAKES** (Dial 2022), and **MOLE IS NOT ALONE** (Holt 2023). She sometimes teams up with writer Darren Farrell and together they've created **DANDELION MAGIC** (Dial 2021), **GIVE THIS BOOK AWAY** (Knopf 2022), and the forthcoming **LION IN BED** (Dial 2025). Today, she lives outside of Boston with her cat/studio manager Mosami. <https://petitemayat.com/>

Picture Book



Jen Calonita

THE CURSE BREAKER

Sourcebooks March 10, 2026 | NA
320 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Dan Mandel

The game is far from over. In fact, it's only just begun.

Having finally reached the Isle of Ever, Everly "Benny" Benedict thinks she's won the game of clues her ancestor Evelyn Terry set out for her in her will. Only she can't prove it yet—not until her new friends are safe from the curse that has kept them trapped for centuries!

And now there's a new game. It turns out that Evelyn has more secrets in her diary and another task for Benny: to find the lost piece of pirate treasure needed to break the curse once and for all. It won't be easy. One of her best friends has betrayed her; the kids from the island are just discovering twenty-first-century life, and a mysterious stranger mentioned in Evelyn's diary has somehow turned up in present-day Greenport.

Benny has to figure it all out in just a few days. If time runs out, someone else can claim the inheritance, and the Isle of Ever will disappear again for another two hundred years!



THE ISLE OF EVER

Sourcebooks, March 2025 | NA
320 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Dan Mandel
Rights sold: UK (DK Books)

New York Times bestseller, debuted at #5!

A best kids book of March for Barnes & Noble

A middle grade pick of the month for April at Amazon

Bestselling and beloved author Jen Calonita delivers the first in a brand new series featuring a girl who will inherit a mysterious fortune if she can break a centuries-old curse!

Days after her twelfth birthday, Everly "Benny" Benedict learns she's the heir to a fortune! But to collect the inheritance, she first has to play—and win—a game. Following clues that her ancestor left, Benny must locate a small island that vanished long ago, according to legend.

She has only two weeks to play the game and find the island. If she's successful, she'll break a two-hundred-year-old curse. If she fails, the fortune will be forfeited. And if she's not careful, she'll cross paths with someone else who is after the island's secrets, and who will stop at nothing to get them. Because, as it turns out, there's far more than a fortune at stake.

Middle Grade Novel



ISLE OF EVER and THE CURSE BREAKER are the first two of a three book deal with Sourcebooks. The third book is anticipated to be delivered in late 2026 for a 2027 publication

Jen Calonita has interviewed everyone from Reese Witherspoon to Justin Timberlake, but the only person she's ever wanted to trade places with is Disney's Cinderella. She's the award-winning author of the Royal Academy Rebels and Fairy Tale Reform School series. Jen lives in Merrick, New York with her husband, two sons, and their two Chihuahuas, Captain Jack Sparrow and Ben Kenobi. Visit www.jencalonitaonline.com

Praise for ISLE OF EVER

"The pacing is excellent, the character development enticing, and the finale positively nail-biting." *School Library Journal* ★

"[An] atmospheric fantasy ride." — *Publishers Weekly*★

"An engaging, puzzle-centered page-turner." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"A nail-biter of a novel for readers who like their mysteries with a touch of magic." — *Booklist*

"An entertaining, genre-blending story that incorporates politics, climate crises, history, pirates, and magic and introduces a tenacious and thoughtful heroine. Readers will be in Benny's corner from the very beginning of the book, and will have fun trying to solve the mystery right alongside her and her new friends." — *Youth Services Book Review*

"[An] intriguing mystery...Calonita places red herrings and subtle clues throughout, deftly connecting past with present." — *Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books*

"Calonita leaves us breathless as Benny races to save the day and her family. Young readers will love it!" — **James Ponti**, *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *City Spies*

"Buckle up for an adventure-mystery that will keep you guessing till the last page, then begging for a sequel immediately! Calonita's *Isle of Ever* cleverly follows a spunky present day 12-year-old heroine and an equally bold 12-year-old ancestor two hundred years in the past. Using diary entries, articles, and other fun devices, she weaves a story that allows the reader to solve the mystery along with the books' characters. Throw in a cursed treasure, a pirate, and an atmospheric magical island and you're bound to find readers up well past their bedtime."—**Melissa de la Cruz**, #1 *New York Times* Bestselling author of *The Isle of the Lost*

"*The Isle of Ever* is a gripping game and grand adventure. A treasure hunt filled with riddles, clues, an ancient curse, and a main character you'll be cheering for all the way to the final page. I loved it!" — **Chris Grabenstein**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Lemoncello* series.

"This book has everything: An engaging young protagonist, mystery, adventure, danger, a strange inheritance, a treasure hunt, pirates, a two-hundred year old curse and a lost island. What an incredibly fun read. I couldn't put it down!" —**Stuart Gibbs**, *NYT* bestselling author of *The Spy School* series and *The Charlie Thorne* series

"An absorbing adventure story for readers ages 10 to 13 that blends fantasy with classic mystery tropes." — *Wall Street Journal*

Lina Høj Høstrup

WILDERNESS ADVENTURE CLUB

Andrews McMeel | World English

Del final ms January 2026

Agent: Alexander Slater

Meet **Frida**: raised by her genius grandmother among the most incredible plants and extraordinary potions, she couldn't care less about the marvelous surroundings of their extraordinary Plant Pharmacy.

Here's **Bastian**: a nerdy bookworm who opens Frida's eyes to the wonderful world of botany. Together, this unlikely duo discovers worlds of adventure, and dark secrets, within their quiet, fantastical village. I am thrilled to bring your attention to this outstanding new graphic novel series by Line Høj Høstrup.

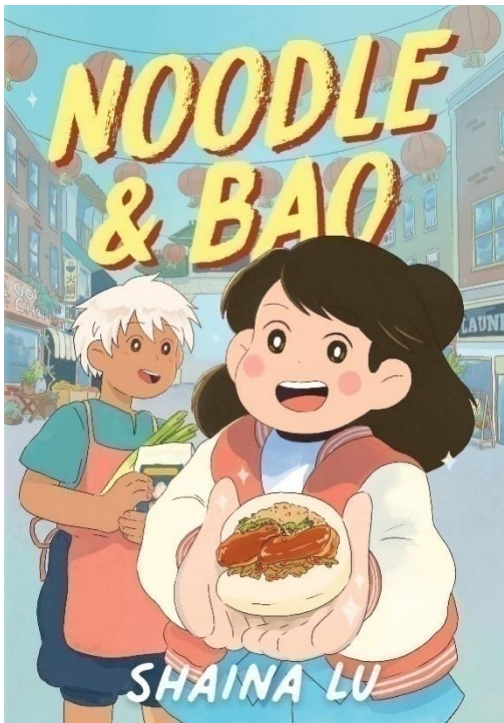


Frida is NOT interested in her Grandma Neri's amazing Plant Pharmacy, so when she gets the chance to follow the pompous Count Humberg and his nerdy squire Bastian on a quest, she doesn't hesitate. As Frida and Bastian discover a shared love of comic books, they form the "Wilderness Adventure Club," and become best friends.

Along the way, they learn that their sleepy town of Greenleaf used to be a hide-out for the legendary pirate Caliban the Barbarian. A treasure map, and a run in with the ghost of the infamous pirate himself, lead the duo to the treasure, but Bastian accidentally unleashes a mysterious curse. It's up to Frida to save the day, maybe actually learn a little about botany, and prove to her grandmother that she is more than just a daydreaming goofball.



Line Høj Høstrup graduated from The Animation Workshop in 2017. Her first comic book, "Det Rette Element," won the Pingprisen Comics Award and the Claus Deleuran Award as debut of the year. She has written and illustrated easy-read books for children in Danish and has never been published outside Denmark. Find her online at <https://papertwinillustration.com/>.



Shaina Lu
NOODLE & BAO

HarperCollins/Quill Tree Books, October 15, 2024 | World English
222 pages, final art available

Perfect for fans of *Animal Crossing* and *Measuring Up*, this whimsical and empowering middle grade graphic novel follows a girl who helps her friend’s humble food cart stand its ground against the gentrification of their Chinatown neighborhood. Sold at auction in a two-book deal, *NOODLE & BAO* is an ode to Chinatowns everywhere.

“Rich, layered and bursting with charm. *Noodle & Bao* is a tasteful ode to the importance of community. Shaina Lu leaves us craving for more!”
— **Laura Gao**, creator of *Messy Roots* and *Kirby's Lessons for Falling (In Love)*

“An empowering combination of food, humor, and advocacy.”
— **Kirkus**

“Lu not only takes on the big topic of gentrification but also expertly dives into the personal intricacies that come along with it. Lu’s dynamic characters navigate a quickly changing town and the internal complexities of belonging, all in beautifully drawn art with a mouth-watering menu!” — **Liz Montague**, cartoonist and author/illustrator of *Maybe an Artist* and *Brooklyn School of Magic*

“Timely and engaging, the book’s adorable characters and heartwarming approach to a serious issue will have broad appeal.” — **School Library Journal**

Momo has lived in Town 99 her entire life. She knows all its quirks and rhythms: the best places to buy fruit, practice tai-chi in the park, and, most of all, get the best meal: Noodle & Bao, run by Momo’s best friend, Bao, and their amah, Noodle.

But Town 99 is changing. Rent is becoming unaffordable for Momo and her parents, and even Noodle & Bao has been edged out of its storefront, which was just recently bought out by a new business venture—Fancé Cafe. Fancé is run by the ambitious Ms. Jujube and her henchmen, who claim they’re only beautifying Town 99 with good business.



Momo knows that’s not true, and knows that if she doesn’t do something, she’ll lose everything she loves about her neighborhood. From undercover recon to a cook-off proposal, protest signs to petitions, Momo and Bao are on a mission to protect Town 99. Will they succeed before it’s too late?

Shaina Lu 呂明穎 (she/her) is a queer Taiwanese-American community artist and educator interested in the intersection of art, education, and activism. She graduated from Wellesley College and Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she studied Arts in Education. She lives with her wife and cat on the ancestral and unceded lands of the Massachusett and Pawtucket people.
<http://shainadoesart.com/>

Middle Grade Graphic Novel

Wendy Lu

CASTING APRIL

Knopf, Spring 2026 | North America

Manuscript anticipated October 2025

Agent: Alexander Slater

THE CHANCE TO FLY meets **STAND UP, YUMI CHUNG!** in this debut contemporary middle grade novel.

Featuring a talented disabled girl who loves all things Broadway and will do anything for a chance at the spotlight, even if it means stretching the truth, **CASTING APRIL** is a story about friendship, identity, and the importance of chasing dreams no matter how big.



Sixth grader April Xue lives and breathes all things Broadway. When she builds up the courage to audition for the lead role in the school play, she's led to believe that she has knocked it out of the park — until she finds out that she's been assigned as a techie and stage crew. Devastated, April vows to give up her dreams of being an actor. A day later, April overhears that the theater director, Ms. Rooney, ultimately decided not to cast her because she's disabled. With the help of her best friend, a sneaky student reporter, and her spirited cast members, April learns to confront her own insecurities as a performer and proves to everyone (including Ms. Rooney) that she deserves a fair shot — all in time for opening night.

Wendy Lu is an award-winning journalist, a middle-grade fiction writer, and a global speaker on disability representation in the media. Named as one of [Forbes's 30 Under 30 in the Media division for 2022](#) and recognized as one of 30 global disability leaders on Diversability's D-30 Disability Impact List, Lu was also selected as a Knight Visiting Nieman Fellow. She is on the board for the National Center on Disability & Journalism and has judged the Katherine Schneider Journalism Award for Excellence in Disability Reporting. In 2022, she received a [Disability Futures Fellowship](#), provided by the Ford Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the United States Artists. She speaks publicly for a wide range of audiences and institutions including Harvard, Lincoln Center, New York University Abu Dhabi, Princeton, Press Pass NYC, The Texas Tribune, Asian American International Film Festival and more.

Lu describes herself as “a proud disabled woman.” Since birth, she has worn a tracheostomy (trach) tube that helps her breathe. Her disability fuels her passion for telling important stories and reporting on historically marginalized communities. She grew up in Boston and eastern North Carolina, and spent summers off from school in Shanghai, where her family is from. She lives in New York City with her husband and in her spare time enjoys bullet journaling, pampering her turtle and her plant family, and trying new restaurants. <https://wendylu.wpengine.com/>

Middle Grade novel



Janae Marks
A SPLIT SECOND

HarperCollins, October 1, 2024 | NA
256 Pages, Final Manuscript Available
Agent: Alexander Slater

***New York Times* bestselling author Janae Marks delivers a stunningly crafted and twisty mystery about the tests of friendships that examines what matters most when everything can change in a split second—perfect for fans of Rebecca Stead and Anne Ursu.**

That clock can't be right. When Elise wakes up the morning after her birthday celebration, she's surprised to find herself in her bedroom. Last she can remember, she had fallen asleep next to her best friends at her slumber party in her basement, and it was October. But now she's alone, and her phone says it's April 8. Elise doesn't understand. How could she have woken up six months later?

No one else is acting like anything strange has happened, yet Elise can't remember the last half year. To make matters worse, her friends refuse to talk to her and Elise doesn't know why. She also has no idea how she got signed up for photography club or why her former

best friend, Cora, is talking to her again. Is it a memory problem? Could it be magic? Every day that passes takes Elise further from the world she knew. Thankfully, Elise has Cora to lean on in this new reality, and the two come together to investigate why Elise woke up in the future—and, more important, how to get her back to her past and away from this nightmare.

"A beautiful story about being brave and finding your people." — *Booklist* ★

"A nuanced look at middle school friendships...thoughtfully delves into the consequences of the social isolation many young people experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"Janae Marks writes characters you can't help but love and plots you can't help but devour. I couldn't put this book down." — **Tae Keller**, author of *Newbery Medalist* and *New York Times* bestselling *When You Trap a Tiger*

"A smart and sweet magical mystery, bursting with hope and heart." — **Sarah Mlynowski**, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Whatever After* series

"A fun and twisty story—*A Split Second* shines with charm and intrigue." — **Jasmine Warga**, *Newbery Honor-winning* author of *Other Words for Home*

Janae Marks is the *New York Times* bestselling author of middle grade novels *From the Desk of Zoe Washington*, *On Air with Zoe Washington* and *A Soft Place to Land*. She has an MFA in Writing for Children from The New School, and lives in Connecticut with her husband, daughter and miniature schnauzer named Cookie. Visit her at <https://www.janaemarks.com/>.

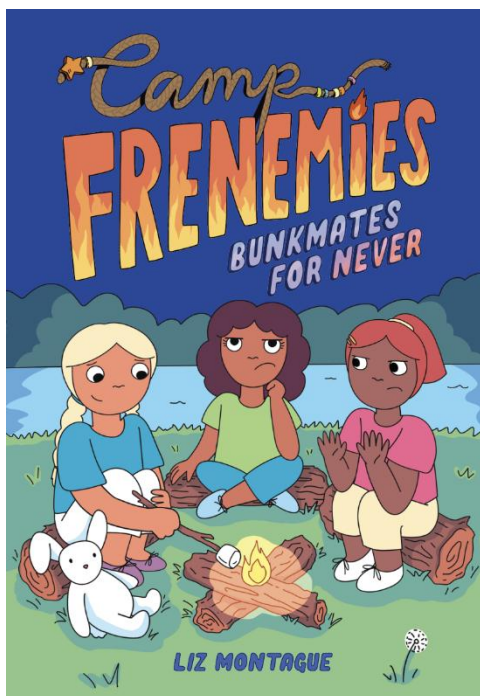
Middle Grade novel

Liz Montague

CAMP FRENEMIES: Bunkmates for Never

Book #2

Random House Studio, May 2026 | World English
270 pages, manuscript anticipated November 2025



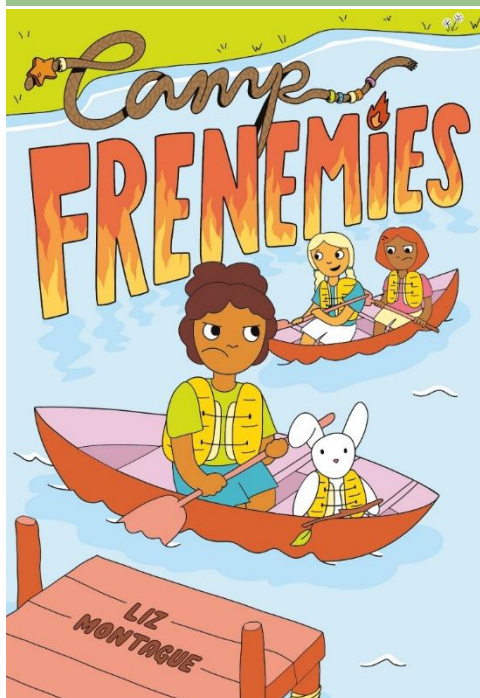
A frenemies-to-friends graphic novel series about the trials and tribulations of three tween girls and cabinmates at sleepaway camp. Perfect for fans of *Guts* and *Real Friends*!

It's the final day of seventh grade, and Beatrice has changed a lot since last year. True, she's wearing mascara and doing her hair differently, but it's more than that—Roger, her stuffed bunny, hardly ever leaves her bedroom anymore. Last year, Roger went with her everywhere. Everywhere. When Bea returns to camp and reunites with Virginia and Roxy, they're shocked by how much she's changed—especially Virginia, who can't seem to let it go. (But wasn't Virginia the one always telling her to grow up?!) To make matters worse, they're the oldest kids at camp, and maybe they should've known better than to even come back. Can these tadpoles froglings make up by the end of the week, or will frenemies become enemies once and for all? With its pitch-perfect voice and accessible cartoons, here is the heartwarming second book in the Camp Frenemies graphic novel series.

CAMP FRENEMIES

Random House Studio, May 13, 2025 | World English
272 Pages, manuscript available

A Summer 2025 Indie Rep Pick



Beatrice, Roxy, and Virginia have conquered 6th grade and now they're ready for the next big milestone: their first week at sleepaway camp. But Beatrice prefers stuffed animals over people. Roxy is just excited to get some peace and quiet. And Virginia is excited to spend the time with her soccer mates.... but then she doesn't make the team.

Further complicating things is the fact that Virginia and Bea do not get along—which makes being cabinmates tricky. Will they stay enemies?

After all, it's only one week of camp and then never again... right?

"An emotionally intelligent preteen summer camp adventure." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"A well-developed friendship story with strong middle grade appeal and a lot of heart." —*School Library Journal*

"[A] witty, well-paced graphic novel." —*Publishers Weekly*

"[An] endearing comic....A natural choice for fans of Raina Telgemeier and Shannon Hale." —*Booklist*

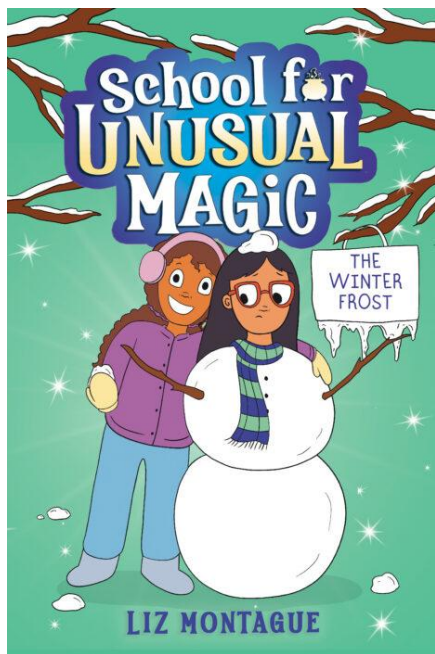
Middle Grade Novel

Liz Montague

SCHOOL FOR UNUSUAL MAGIC: The Winter Frost

Book #2

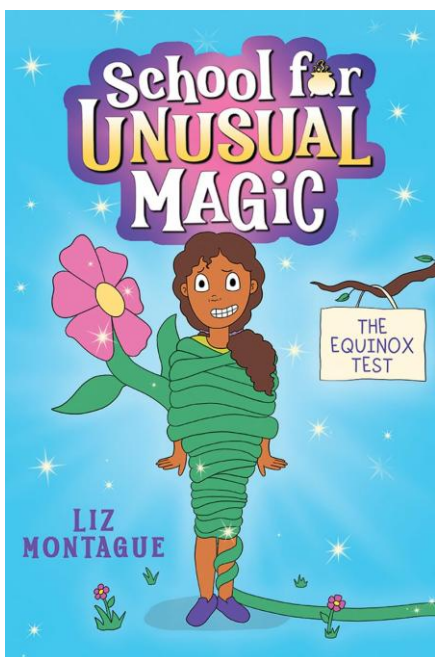
Scholastic, November 12, 2024 | World English
240 Pages, final manuscript available



Perfect for fans of *Witchlings* and *The Wizards of Waverly Place*, three friends discover magic and mayhem around every corner of their school in the second of this illustrated series from *New Yorker* cartoonist and NAACP Image Award nominee Liz Montague.

After a chaotic semester of Elementary Magic, Rose, Amethyst, and Lav have found themselves with new magical skills up their sleeves which will come in handy when they begin Middle Magic next year. But school is the last thing on their minds over winter break. Tensions are high between the Land Walkers and the Merfolk's mysterious leader Frost. Worse, Amethyst's mom has gone missing with an extremely illegal wand, and everyone--their classmates, Principal Ivy, the Committee--thinks she's somehow involved in the disappearance of Rose's cousin Heather. But Amethyst is determined to find her mother and set everything right. Her mom just has to be innocent!

When a secret about Amethyst's identity is revealed, her whole world comes crashing down. She doesn't understand how her mom could keep something so important from her. Is her mom actually the villain or is something even darker at work here? She'll have to trust that Rose and Lav can keep the peace above ground while she ventures underwater for answers...



SCHOOL FOR UNUSUAL MAGIC:

The Equinox Test Book #1

Scholastic, April 2, 2024 | World English
240 pages, B&W illustrations
Final manuscript available

Welcome to the Brooklyn School of Magic, where seeds of enchantment are planted and magic sprouts in every corner. And where each fall, fifth years must pass the Equinox Test if they want to move up to Middle Magic.

If Rose doesn't pass with flying colors, Principal Ivy says she may have to transfer to a boring, non-magical school. Amethyst knows she's got the skills to ace the test. But she's got her eye on the school's top prize. Lavender just wants to fit in.

But with best friend battles, a cheating scandal, and trouble brewing in the magical community, the Equinox Test may not even be the biggest challenge our Magic Bearers will face this year...

Liz Montague began as a cartoonist for *The New Yorker* in 2019. She is the author-illustrator of the graphic novel *Maybe an Artist*, which was nominated for an NAACP Image Award, the picture book *Jackie Ormes Draws the Future*, and the nationally bestselling middle grade series *School for Unusual Magic*. Liz is passionate about nature and emotional literacy. She lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with her husband Pat.

<https://lizatlarge.org/about-3/>



Middle Grade Illustrated

J.W. Ocker

WELCOME TO THE GHOST SHOW

HarperCollins, August 26, 2025 | World English

224 pages, Manuscript available

Agent: Alex Slater

The Ghost Show is coming . . . are you ready? Three friends must face their deepest fears in this spine-tingling horror novel by USA Today bestselling author J.W. Ocker that's perfect for fans of R.L. Stine and Mary Downing Hahn.

“A deliciously spooky read.” — *Kirkus Reviews*

When mysterious ads for the Ghost Show appear around town, nobody can tell what it is. A band? A movie? A game? But that magic word—ghost—excites Hazel Gold, or Zel to her friends. As founder of her school’s Creepy Club (three members strong!), she’s always looking for paranormal activity.

Turns out the Ghost Show is a black, five-story skull that appears on the edge of town as a supernatural attraction. Stepping inside, the Creepy Club is greeted by the eccentric Amadeus Everest Mancer, a self-proclaimed ghost catcher who guides them through an aquarium full of vaporous floaty things—sheets that cover gobs of dripping red goo.

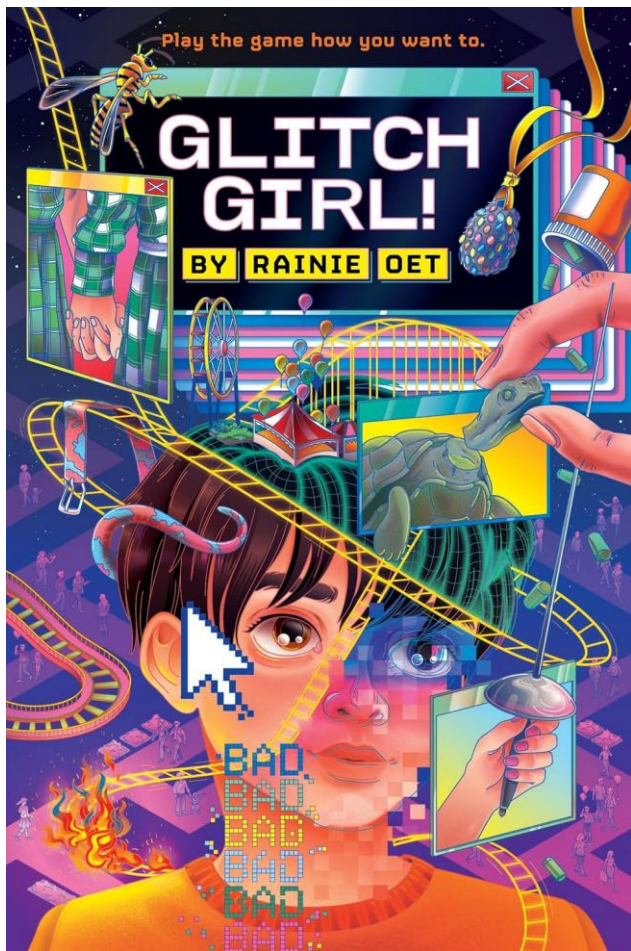
Then Mancer offers Zel what she’s always wanted: the chance to see a real ghost. But it turns out to be more than she bargained for. To stop him, the Creepy Club must fight a massive ghost infestation and free the trapped souls within, culminating in chilling battle that blurs the line between reality and the supernatural.



J. W. Ocker is the Edgar Award-winning author of *Poe-Land: The Hallowed Haunts of Edgar Allan Poe*, *A Season with the Witch*, and *Death and Douglas*. His work has appeared in *The Guardian*, the *Boston Globe*, *CNN*, the *Atlantic*, and other places people stick writing. He's from Maryland but has lived in New Hampshire for more than a decade.

He is also the creator of OTIS: Odd Things I've Seen (Oddthingsiveseen.com), where he writes about his visits to oddities of nature, history, art, and culture.

Middle Grade Novel



Rainie Oet **GLITCH GIRL!**

Kokila, March 11, 2025 | World English
Final Manuscript available
Agent: Abigail Frank

Sold at auction

The first middle grade novel in verse from poet and children’s book author Rainie Oet, **GLITCH GIRL!** is about a young trans girl who uses a video game to process an ADHD diagnosis, isolation, and her relationship to gender.

“J—’s life is consumed by the roller coaster video game Coaster Boss, and by the power she exerts over the pixelated theme park attendees. Her life outside the game, however, is less controllable.

Me. I’m such a big space. I break the universe, a glitch.

She’s navigating ADHD, the loneliness of middle school, and an overwhelming crush on a girl named Junie. J— is convinced that Junie sees her as who she really is, a person who isn’t “bad” just because she doesn’t stay quiet and sit still in class. As a person who is realizing that the name

she’s been given doesn’t really fit her. And that maybe “boy” doesn’t either.

Glitch Girl! follows J— from fifth to seventh grade, from the beginning to the end of her obsession with Coaster Boss, and to the start of a new friendship. When J— meets Sam, a nonbinary classmate, she begins to realize that it’s okay to not fit into neat, pixelated boxes.”

Rainie Oet (she/her) is a trans woman who writes fiction and poetry for adults and young readers including *Robin’s Worlds* (Astra), and *Monster Seek* (Astra). She received her MFA in Poetry from Syracuse University, where she was awarded the Shirley Jackson Prize in Fiction. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her cat, Skipper. Her website is www.rainieoet.com.

Middle Grade novel in verse

Praise for Rainie Oet

"Rainie Oet brings a **fresh and affecting** poetic voice to this **tender** tale of neuro-spiciness and gender quest. Her depiction of gaming's power for good in today's young lives is keenly observed and quirkily imagined. **This is an original and necessary book.**" —**Lisa Bunker**, author of *Felix XY* and *Zenobia July*.

"A turbulent, emotionally wrenching coming-of-age story." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"Each poem is as **raw** as it is **beautiful.**" —**Alex Gino**, author of ALA Stonewall Award-winning novel *Melissa*

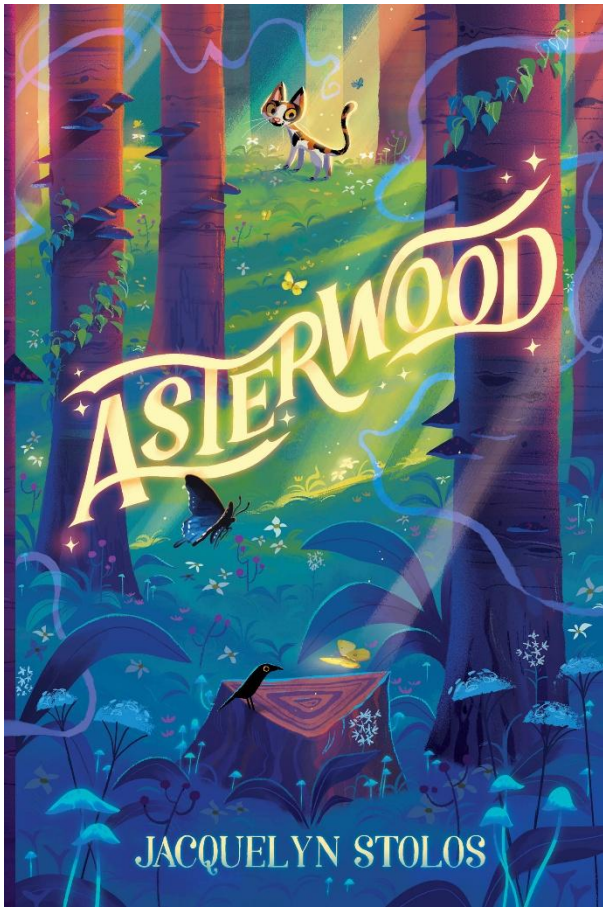
"Explore[s] the intensity and isolation of adolescence. Rainie's writing is **a gift to young readers.**" —**Mary Karr**, Whiting Award winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Liar's Club*

"**Poignant**, illuminating. ...**accessible**, immersive." —*Booklist*

Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah called Rainie "a brilliant new writer with the power to make you see things you've never seen before with stunning clarity."

George Saunders called her work "complex, mysterious, finely wrought, and formally daring," and said that she is "a young writer to watch."

Mary Karr said, "Rainie Oet has it all," and called her second book of poetry "an extraordinary display of poetic power, and [2020]'s must-read new voice."



Jacquelyn Stolos ASTERWOOD

Delacorte, December 30, 2025 | NA
Manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater

A middle grade version of *The Hazel Wood* by way of Kelly Barnhill, a mysterious new friend introduces a motherless girl to a fantastical yet ominous world, where she discovers not only a secret world and a group of kids that are relying on her, but also that her family has secrets of its own.

Now, the tree wavered back and forth, its base engulfed in flames. “And what kind of mother would I have been if I had found you? You don’t think I love you? You don’t think I want you to live a life untouched by badness or hurt? Untouched by me? You are my greatest love and greatest agony.”

Twelve-year-old Madelyn Delios doesn’t quite fit in her small New Hampshire town, but she’d never let her father, Ezra, know how much it hurts. Life in their lopsided old farmhouse overflows with great books, cozy meals, and father-daughter adventures in the surrounding woods. What more could a good daughter ask for? After all, it’s not Ezra’s fault that Madelyn doesn’t have a mother.

But, when a mysterious new friend appears in the woods behind her house and invites her down a forbidden trail to another world, Madelyn is forced to reckon with yearnings she’s long suppressed and uncomfortable truths she’s always suspected. *ASTERWOOD* is a story of what we inherit, of magic and mothers, and of how one society’s insatiable desire brings their enchanted ecosystem to the brink of collapse. Beware of cannibals, complacency, raging rivers, and the shock of seeing your parents as human for the very first time.

Jacquelyn Stolos is a writer living and teaching in Los Angeles. She holds an MFA in fiction from New York University where she was a Writers in the Public Schools Fellow. Jacquelyn has won fellowships to attend the New York State Summer Writers Institute and the Community of Writers. Her short fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *Bodega Magazine*, *No Tokens*, *Joyland* and more. Find her online at <http://www.jacquelynstolos.com/>.



Middle Grade novel

Claire Swinarski

EACH AND EVERY SPARK

Quill Tree Books, Feb. 17, 2026 | North America
288 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater

From the Edgar Award nominated author of *What Happened to Rachel Riley?* comes an engrossing, timely, and propulsive story of two girls in Paris—one living under Nazi rule in the 1940s; the other in present day—and the mysterious painting that unites them. Perfect for fans of *The Bletchley Riddle* and *When We Flew Away*.



"*Each and Every Spark* is an enthralling story of resistance, and a timely reminder: that beauty and truth are worth fighting for, and that the courage to do so transcends generations." — **Kate Albus**, award winning author of *A Place to Hang the Moon*

"I was caught up in the interconnected lives of Penny and Marie, two brave and passionate girls living in Paris at two very different times, and the reminder of the role art plays as a messenger of hope and beauty in their world — and ours." — **Caroline Starr Rose**, author of *May B.* and *The Burning Season*

Paris, present day. Penny Marks has never felt so alone. Forced to move to France for some fancy job her mom couldn't turn down, she's now miles away from her old life. If she hadn't quit art after all that drama went down last year, she'd at least have *something* to keep her mind off the fact that life back home is moving on without her.

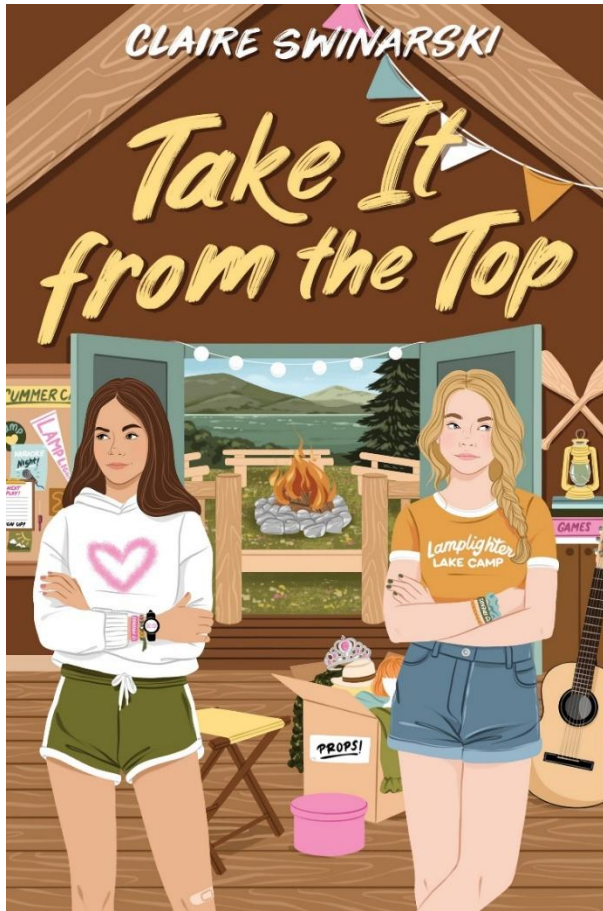
Paris, 1943. Marie Bonnet has never felt so afraid. When the German army seized power over France, she and her sister Heloise watched their father get taken away, leaving them on their own. Then Marie finds evidence that Heloise has secretly been working for the French Resistance—a group of rebels determined to take the Nazis down—and while it has danger written all over it, she's desperate to join. Any small act of uprising could help their country...but it could also cost them their lives.

Penny and Marie's worlds collide when an old painting resurfaces in present-day Paris after decades of being hidden. Along with it is a note whose message may lead Penny to Marie...and the fate that awaited her.



Claire Swinarski is the author of four middle-grade books and two adult novels. Her writing has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *Seventeen*, *Milwaukee Magazine*, and many other publications. She lives in small town Wisconsin with her husband and three kids, where she writes books, wears babies, and wrangles bread dough. <http://www.claireswinarski.com/>

Middle Grade novel



Claire Swinarski
TAKE IT FROM THE TOP
Quill, November 19, 2024 | North America
256 pages, Manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater

Set at a camp over the course of six summers, this novel dives into the falling-out of two girls from different backgrounds who thought they'd be friends forever...until a production of *Wicked* brings all their buried issues to the surface. Privilege, perspective, and the power of friendship inhabit this page-turning puzzle that readers will devour.

Eowyn Becker has waited all year to attend her sixth summer at Lampighter Lake Summer Camp. Here, the pain of her mom's death can't reach her, and she gets to reunite with her best friend, Jules Marrigan—the only person in the world who understands her. This year will be their year--*Wicked*, the girls' favorite musical, has been chosen for the camp's end-of-year production. If anyone can be Glinda to Eowyn's Elphaba, it's Jules!

But when Eowyn arrives at camp, everything seems wrong. The best-friend reunion Eowyn had been dreaming of doesn't go as planned. Jules will barely even *look* at Eowyn, let alone talk to her, and Eowyn has no idea why.

Well, maybe she does...

There are two sides to every story, and if you want to understand this one, you'll need to hear both. Told in a series of alternating chapters that dip back to past summers, the girls' story will soon reveal how Eowyn and Jules went from being best friends to fierce foils. Can they mend ways before the curtains close on what was supposed to be the best summer of their lives.

Select Reviews for TAKE IT FROM THE TOP

"[A] masterful exploration of friendship gone wrong. Evocative worldbuilding brings Lampighter to life for the intimately developed, well-intentioned characters who often struggle to see other points of view. The well-paced interweaving of multiple summers' experiences builds tension and shines light on how the past reverberates into the present. Brilliantly executed: a gem that's a love letter to theater and summer camp." — *Kirkus Reviews* ★

The vibrant and exceptionally rendered setting makes for a compelling backdrop against which layered character building unravels. Swinarski intersperses Eowyn's conversational narration with sympathetic third person chapters that cover the events of previous summers, offering context and history to the girls' relationship." — *Publishers Weekly* ★

Middle Grade Novel

Alex Thayer

BAD CHEERLEADER

Aladdin, November 11, 2025 | World English

288 pages, manuscript available April 2025

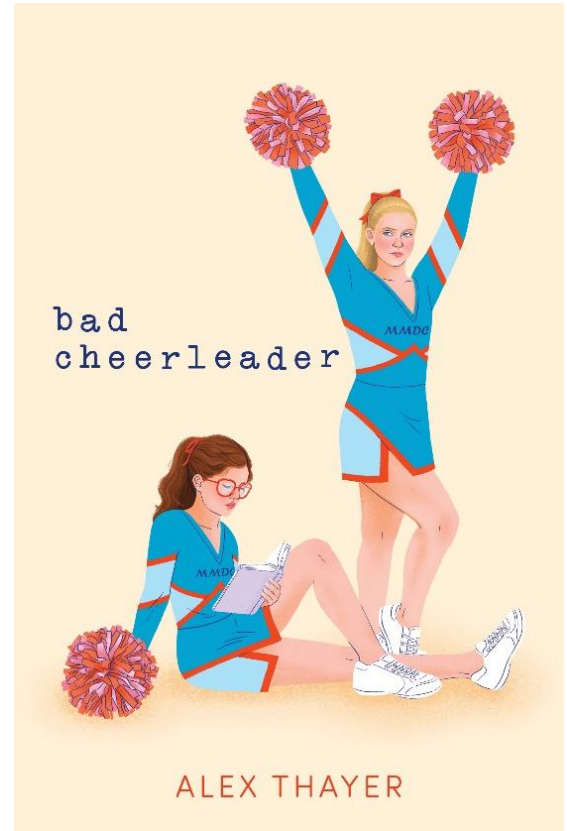
Agent: Alexander Slater

A dyslexic bookworm joins her school's cheerleading squad to investigate her sister's strange behavior in this insightful and sharp middle grade novel about the unbreakable bonds of sisterhood.

Seventh grader Bag loves to read. It doesn't come easy to her, thanks to her dyslexia, but she's determined, and she spends every afternoon after school at the library. It's a ritual she refuses to miss.

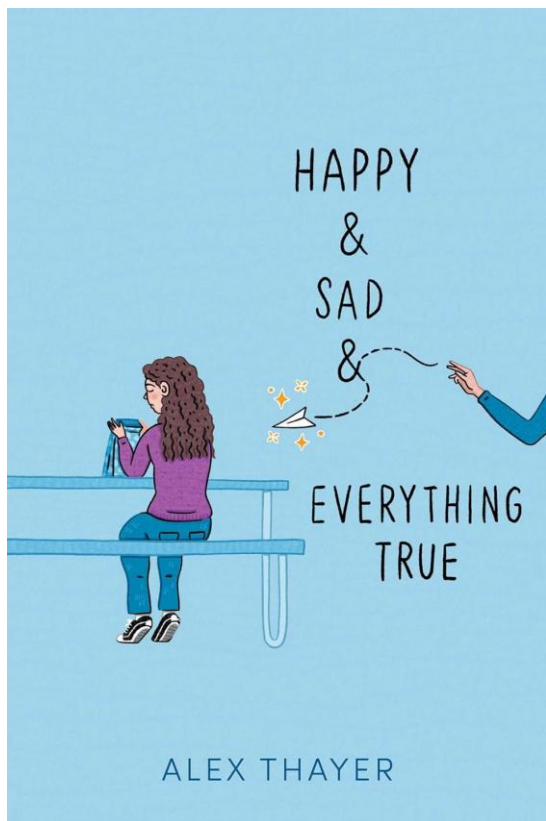
Then a new career opportunity for her mother means Bag will no longer have a ride to her cherished library. Instead, Bag will have to wait for a ride at school. With her sister, Minerva. At cheerleading practice.

Bag is uncoordinated and completely uninterested in school spirit. But she *is* curious about what her sister has been hiding. Minerva has been acting stranger than usual, and Bag has been noticing. So while cheerleading practice may be the last place Bag wants to be, she's going to use her time wisely and get to the bottom of Minerva's secrets.



Alexandra Thayer is a former film and television actress and elementary school teacher. She lives in New England with her two sons and can be found on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/alexandra_thayer/

Middle Grade novel



Alex Thayer
**HAPPY & SAD &
EVERYTHING TRUE**

(formerly BECAUSE I'M EVERYTHING)
Aladdin, November 12, 2024 | World English
272 pages, Manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater

Sold in a two-book pre-empt!

With charm and sincerity reminiscent of Judy Blume and Rebecca Stead, this debut middle grade novel is a heartfelt, hopeful story about a girl finding herself through secretly giving out advice to classmates.

Back when Dee and Juniper were still friends, Dee never hid in the bathroom. Now, at the beginning of sixth grade, Dee finds herself there often. The dripping faucet is annoying, and there are other places she'd rather be—like at home and in her room with her cat, Norman. But at least Dee is safe from overenthusiastic teachers and having to see Juniper walking through the halls with her new friends. Dee would rather be alone than witness that.

But it turns out Dee isn't the only one hiding from something. There are kids all over the school worrying in secret and needing someone to talk to. After Dee helps a second grader with spelling advice, more students begin coming to Dee with their problems. It turns out she's a good listener, and she likes helping people. And when she starts receiving mysterious notes, it seems someone out there wants to be her friend—if only they would reveal themselves.

“A compassionate window into the awkward and isolating stages of growing up.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

“*Happy & Sad & Everything True* has a sincere earnestness that brings you right back to the halls of middle school. Kids will absolutely love this sweet-yet-strong story.” —**Claire Swinarski, author of *What Happened to Rachel Riley?***

“Any kid who's ever hidden in the bathroom will wish they had a Dee to whisper with.” -- **BCCB**

“Thayer's debut novel brings readers to an authentic view of junior high, with its daily drama and moments of discovery... A solid purchase for libraries with a following for authors like Kate DiCamillo and Rebecca Stead.”-- **Booklist**

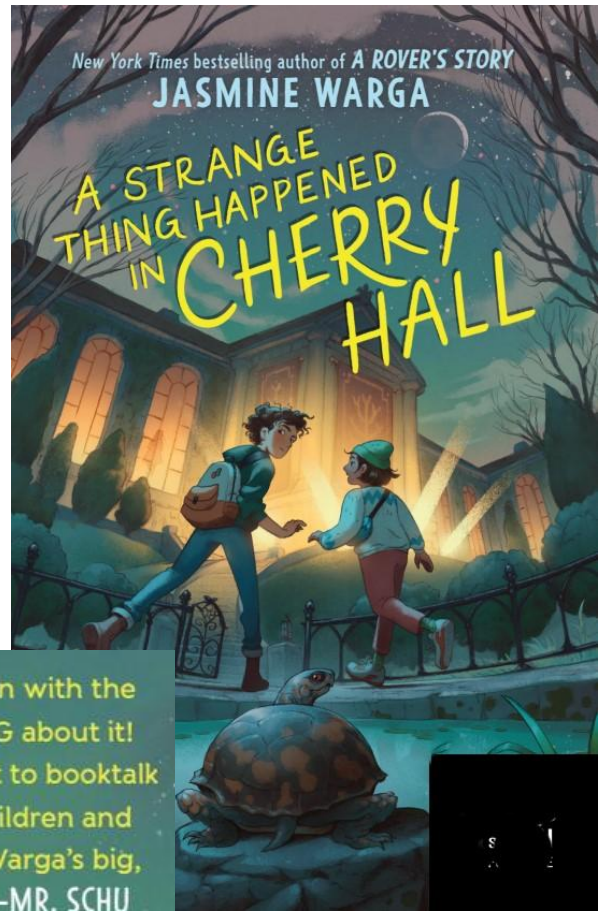
“Alex Thayer's delightful debut could not be more perfectly named. I experienced all the feels watching Dee navigate mean-girl cliques, lose her best friend, handle her eccentric single mother (who is maybe dating her PE teacher) all the while staying open to new possibilities. A charming, entertaining, and true book that gently illustrates how so many of life's problems can be improved by a large dollop of generosity. I would follow Dee's advice any time.” -- **Gayle Forman, author of *Frankie & Bug* and *Not Nothing***

Middle Grade novel

Jasmine Warga
**A STRANGE THING HAPPENED IN
CHERRY HALL**

Balzer & Bray, September 10, 2024 | World English
224 Pages, manuscript available
Rights sold: Korea, Proomi Books

From the award-winning, **New York Times** bestselling author of *A Rover's Story* and *Other Words for Home* comes an extraordinary story about two friends, a ghost, a missing painting, and a turtle named Agatha. The perfect next read for fans of *The Swifts*, *Kate DiCamillo*, and *Erin Entrada Kelly*.



“A *Strange Thing Happened in Cherry Hall* reeled me in with the opening sentence and didn’t let go. I love EVERYTHING about it! The characters! The setting! The suspense! I cannot wait to booktalk it during school visit presentations. I’m going to tell children and educators around the world that I could feel Jasmine Warga’s big, kind heart on every page! What a gift she’s given us!”—MR. SCHU

A painting has been stolen...!

When Rami sees a floating girl in the museum, he knows he has seen her somewhere before. Then he realizes: She looks just like the girl in the painting that has gone missing. But how does her appearance connect to the theft?

Agatha the turtle knows—she has been watching from the garden. But she can’t exactly tell anyone...can she?

Will Rami, with the help of his classmate, Veda, be able to solve the mystery? The clues are all around them, but they’ll have to be brave enough to really look.

This is a whimsical, moving story about the universal desire to be seen and understood and how art can help us find connection, even when we are at our loneliest.

Jasmine Warga is the *New York Times*-bestselling author of middle grade novels *Other Words For Home*, *The Shape of Thunder*, and *A Rover's Story*. *Other Words For Home* earned multiple awards, including a John Newbery Honor, a Walter Honor for Young Readers, and a Charlotte Huck Honor. *The Shape of Thunder* was a *School Library Journal* and Bank Street best book of the year, a finalist for the Barnes & Noble Children's and YA Book Award, and has been named to several state award reading lists. *A Rover's Story* was an instant *New York Times* bestseller, a Indie Next List and a Junior Library Guild selection, and was named a best book of the year by *Publishers Weekly* and *The Washington Post*. She is also the author of young adult novel, *My Heart and Other Black Holes*, which has been translated into over twenty different languages. Originally from Cincinnati, she now lives in the Chicago-area with her family in a house filled with books.
<https://jasminewarga.com/>



Middle Grade novel

Praise for *A STRANGE THING HAPPENED IN CHERRY HALL*

"Jasmine Warga has written a modern classic. Smart, charming, and wholly unique--this book about stolen art will steal your heart." — **Tae Keller, Winner of the Newbery Medal for *When You Trap a Tiger***

"Intrigue! Ghosts! A turtle named Agatha! This book has everything you could want in a mystery. Jasmine Warga is a wonder!" — **Karina Yan Glaser, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Vanderbeekers Series***

"Jasmine Warga has crafted a clever mystery that unfolds in unexpected ways and answers the question not only of "Whodunnit?" but more importantly the greater mystery of "Who am I?" It is powered by good friends, true fears, and the importance of taking time to notice things that are easily overlooked. Like one of its characters says of art, *A Strange Thing Happened in Cherry Hall* is filled with surprise gifts and secrets for you to discover. It is a winner in every way!" — **James Ponti, *New York Times* bestselling author of *City Spies***

"The mystery drives this exquisitely paced story that readers will quickly consume. The characters are the beating heart of this tender, quiet tale —each drawn with texture, depth, and warmth. A slowly unfurling delight." — ***Kirkus Reviews* ★**

"The meticulously fleshed-out museum backdrop evokes impeccable ambiance for a mystery in this cozy tale. Grayscale illustrations by Rockefeller depict the museum and cast through vivid portraiture." — ***Publishers Weekly***

"Warga's spare prose, sweet characters, and gentle narration offer early middle-graders an accessible, even poetic read. This is a story with a sense of wonder. The budding relationship between reserved Rami and upbeat Veda illustrates the power of affirming friendship in an uncertain period of life. A treat for bighearted, bookish sleuths."
— ***Booklist***

"Focalization shifts among various characters adding a contemplative note about art, loss, ambition, and the different ways we find home. Warga has a knack for creating characters deeply relatable, with struggles and insecurities that will no doubt resonate with young readers." — ***Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books***

"Warga employs a fantastic writing style. Every character, tortoise included, is perfectly developed. Readers will discover a beautifully relatable story about the importance of finding the people who see the world the same way you do. A delightful mystery sure to captivate all readers." — ***School Library Journal* ★**

Charlotte Woo

CROW GIRL and CROW GIRL #2

Razorbill (World English)

Book #1 Spring 2027 (delivery early 2026))

Book #2 Summer 2028

Agent: Alexander Slater

Born with black feathers on her face, Crow is an outcast, thought to be cursed, and someone best to stay far away from. In truth, Crow is very lonely and desperate for friends, other than the animals that she’s able to communicate with.

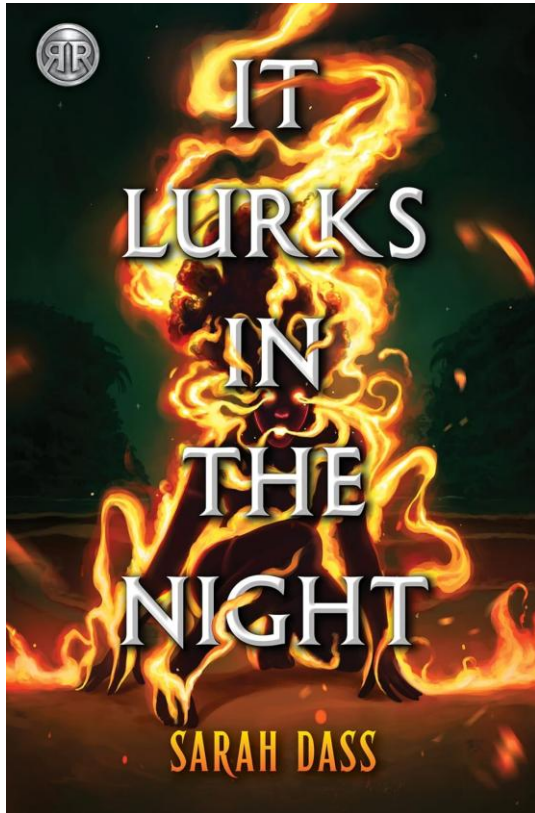
After suffering one last cruelty at the hands of the other local children, she decides to go on the road to find a way to reverse her “curse.” Along the journey, she’ll meet a prince, a giant, and will learn the things that only the best quests have always taught us.



The timelessness of CROW GIRL will remind readers of Studio Ghibli, and the classic feel of these characters will stay with audiences for years to come.

Charlotte Woo is a Chinese artist, relocating to Canada soon. Find her online at <https://www.charlottewoo.com/> CROW GIRL is her first novel.





Sarah Dass

IT LURKS IN THE NIGHT

Disney Hyperion, Rick Riordan Presents, November 4, 2025 |
World English
400 pages, final manuscript available

From the author of *It Waits in the Forest* comes a new stand-alone supernatural YA thriller steeped in Caribbean folklore—a lush and evocative tale of the rot that grows at the heart of even the most beautiful places.

"IT LURKS IN THE NIGHT is a gripping story full of complicated characters with secrets as deep as the ocean itself. Between the palpable paranoia, supernatural superstition and viscerally tense friendship drama, this chilling thriller is guaranteed to pull you in and under." —Jade Adia, award-winning author of *There Goes the Neighborhood*

"Both a riveting supernatural thriller and a touching exploration of friendship and family. *It Lurks in the Night* draws on Caribbean folklore for its sinister creature while simultaneously diving into the sort of horror that is

uniquely human—and no less terrifying. I was in awe not only of the many-layered mystery but also of the deep connections between characters and discussions of how to find yourself when you've spent your life being defined by the lives of others. With a setting so vivid it feels real, characters who could be your best friends or worst enemies, and a monster that will keep you up at night, this book is a must-read!" —Liselle Sambury, author of *Delicious Monsters* and *Blood like Magic*

All Maya Woods wants is to reunite her three best friends, Pearl, Erica, and Lystra, for one last epic boat trip to the islands around their Caribbean home before they all graduate from high school. But the girls are forced to make an emergency landing on Annatto—an island avoided by locals and tourists alike because of the rumors of monsters and shadows that lurk in its depths—and their yearly tradition descends into darkness as Erica turns up dead. The girls have no choice but to leave her body behind.

As their tight-knit community spirals into grief and suspicion, Maya and her friends struggle to understand what happened on the island. Was it simply an accident, or is there truth to the rumors about Annatto?

A week later, everyone rejoices when Erica mysteriously returns alive and well, but Maya can't seem to let go of her questions. What did they see that night? And who—or what—is Erica now? As old arguments and new betrayals rise to the surface, Maya and her friends can feel the shadows closing in on them. Something is lurking in the night, and they must be ready to face it.



Sarah Dass was born in Trinidad but has lived in Tobago since she was two years old. A graduate of the University of the West Indies and University College London, she is a full-time author, crafting stories inspired by growing up in the Caribbean. When she's not writing, she's reading or taking walks with her dachshund. Sarah is also the author of *Where the Rhythm Takes You* (Balzer + Bray, 2021), *When the Vibe is Right* (Balzer + Bray 2023) and *It Waits in the Forest* (Rick Riordan Presents, 2024). You can learn more about the author at www.sarahdass.com

Young Adult

Sarah Dass

IT WAITS IN THE FOREST

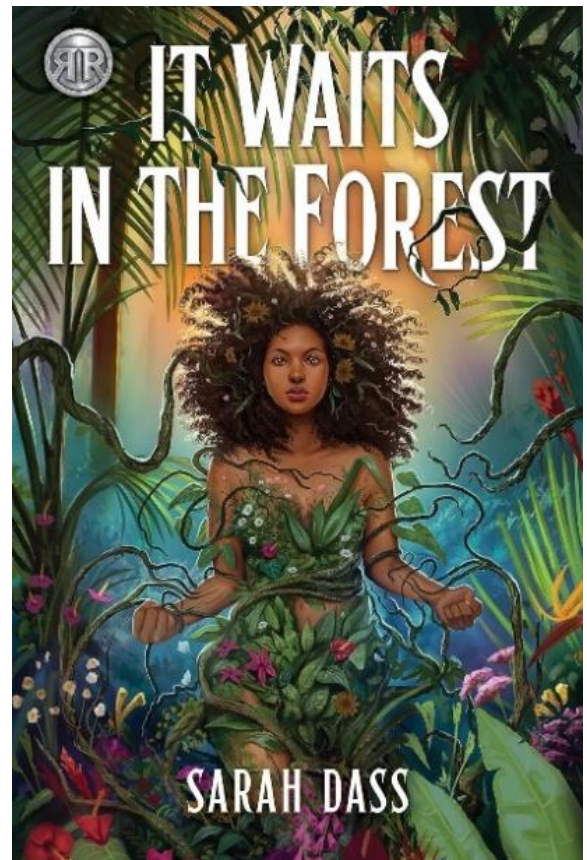
Disney Hyperion, Rick Riordan Presents May 14, 2024 /
paperback April 8, 2025 | World English
320 pages, manuscript available

The very first thriller from *Rick Riordan Presents!* Drawing from the darkest corners of Caribbean mythology, acclaimed author Sarah Dass crafts a chilling tale of magic, murder, and how far we'll go to protect what's ours—perfect for fans of Angeline Boulley and Tiffany D. Jackson.

Unlike the other residents of the small Caribbean Island of St. Virgil, Selina DaSilva does not believe in magic. With a logical mind and a knack for botany, Selina used to dream of leaving the island to study Pharmacology—until a vicious, unsolved attack left her father dead and her mother in a coma.

Now her guilt over her mother's condition keeps her tethered to the island, relegated to conning gullible tourists with useless talismans and phony protection rituals. But when one of those tourists ends up at the center of a string of strange murders, the truth that Selina has been denying can no longer be avoided: there is evil lurking in the forests that surround St. Virgil. Another thing that can't be avoided? Selina's ex-boyfriend Gabriel, newly employed at the local newspaper and eager to put his investigative skills to use.

Desperate to put an end to the killings and claim justice for Selina's family, these two former lovers race to find answers. But evil bides its time. And as long-buried feelings and long-hidden secrets about Selina's family's past begin to reveal themselves, only one answer remains—and it waits in the forest.



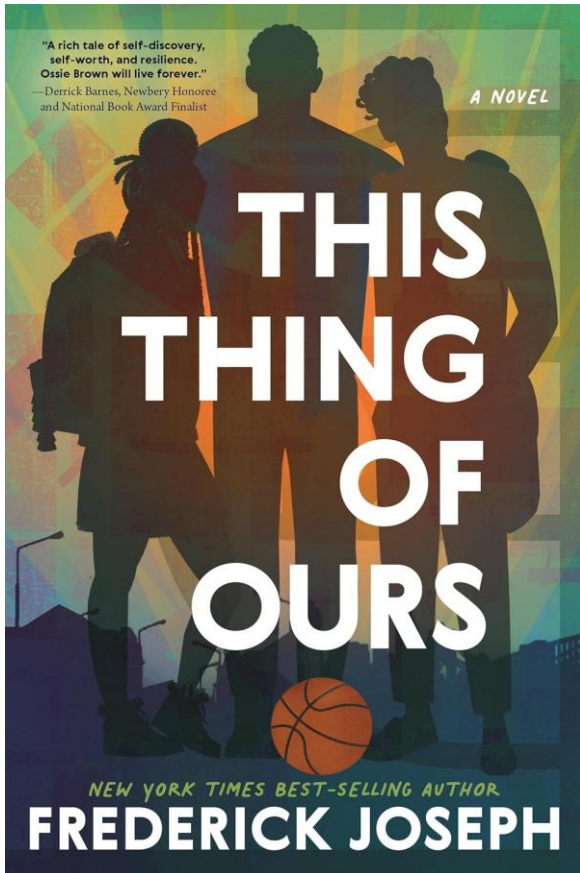
“A wickedly delectable thriller that will have you looking over your shoulder to make sure nothing followed you out of the forest.” – **Roseanne A. Brown**, *New York Times* best-selling author of *A Song of Wraiths and Ruin*

“A dark, tantalizing tale that will keep you on your toes as much as it will knock you back on your seat.” – **Vincent Tirado**, *Pura Belpré* Award-winning author of *Burn Down, Rise Up*

“I was glued to these pages from beginning to end!” – **Lauren Blackwood**, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Within These Wicked Walls*

“Beggars the question of how far you would go to reclaim what you've lost and what you risk sacrificing to get it. Compelling, creepy, and complex, this story will haunt you long after you've finished reading.” – **Liselle Sambury**, author of *Blood Like Magic* and *Delicious Monsters*

Young Adult



Frederick Joseph **THIS THING OF OURS**

Candlewick, May 6, 2025 | World English
384 pages, Manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater

From the two-time *New York Times* bestselling author of **THE BLACK FRIEND** (2020) and **PATRIARCHY BLUES** (2022), and the author of **BETTER THAN WE FOUND IT** (2022), a powerful and timely YA debut that is a deeply heartfelt story—and a rallying cry against book banning.

In an instant, Ossie Brown’s entire future is in jeopardy when a torn ACL ends his promising basketball career. Now that basketball is no longer a major part of his identity, Ossie—a Black teen who doesn’t come from wealth and privilege—must navigate his new place in the social and academic ecosystems of his affluent, predominantly white school.

When a Black teacher encourages him to join her highly regarded writing program, Ossie begins to find a new purpose, buoyed by not only the rich works of literature by marginalized authors he’s now reading, but also by new friends who see him

as something more than an asset to the sports program. Everything changes when some students’ viral “anti-woke” video puts the teacher’s job, the writing program, and even Ossie’s friends’ safety at risk—and Ossie must find his true voice.

This unflinching novel confronts critical issues like racism and classism, the treatment of student athletes, homophobia, and book banning while weaving together a moving testament to family, romance, friendship, and the power of words.

Frederick Joseph is an author, activist, philanthropist, and marketing professional. Two of his nonfiction titles, *The Black Friend* and *Patriarchy Blues*, were instant *New York Times* bestsellers. He is the coauthor, with Porsche Joseph, of *Better Than We Found It* and the author of the picture book *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever: The Courage to Dream*, illustrated by Nikkolas Smith. A recipient of both the Bob Clampett Humanitarian Award and the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Vanguard Award, Frederick Joseph was named to the 2019 *Forbes* 30 Under 30 list and was selected for the 2018 Root 100, an annual list of the most influential African Americans. He lives in New York City with his wife, Porsche, and their dog, Stokely.



Young Adult

Praise for THIS THING OF OURS

“Both heartening and heartbreaking, this richly layered, sensitive YA fiction debut from Joseph (Better Than We Found It) unflinchingly confronts systemic racism, classism, and homophobia via a powerful story of self-discovery and social justice that aims, shoots, and scores.” — ***Publishers Weekly*** ★

“A thought-provoking exploration of storytelling dynamics in a social media–driven society.” — ***Kirkus Reviews***

“This Thing of Ours is a heartbreakingly topical novel that lays bare the systemic inequities permeating the world of young people today. This coming-of-age story illuminates the full humanity of young people as well as their capacity to lead the revolution. In Joseph we have an author who delivers a gripping, urgent plot with characters readers will rally to and embrace. Joseph more than just trusts young people to grapple with the challenges and complexities of the issues impacting their lives; his faith in their ability to find the inspiration, courage, and commitment to call out injustice and work toward the future they deserve is unshakeable.” —**Dr. Sonja Cherry-Paul, educator and coauthor of *Stamped (for Kids)***

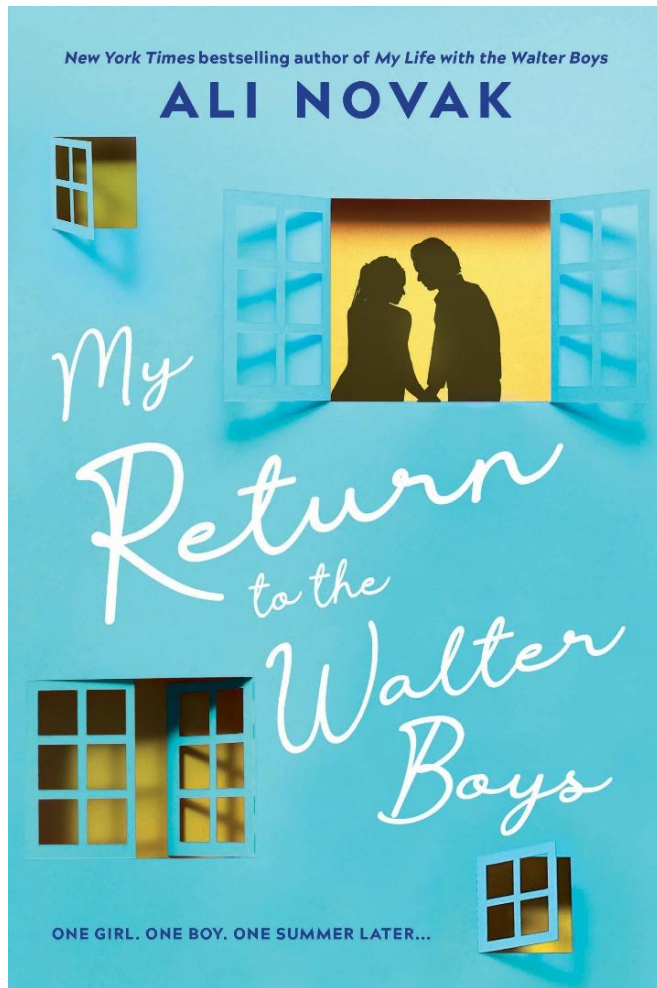
“In a moment where ‘wokeness’ is weaponized, This Thing of Ours is the light that can guide us through the darkness. I laughed, I cried, I felt everything was broken . . . and then, that it could be fixed. This book is so unflinching, so heartfelt, so authentic, so damn of-the-now, it’s bound to be banned. I loved every page.” —**Damon Lindelof, Emmy Award–winning writer and producer of *Watchmen***

“A triumphant exaltation of the redemptive power of family, friendship, and community, This Thing of Ours is a fast-paced, emotionally rich attestation to the fight for the dignity and humanity of all Americans. It should be celebrated in classrooms across this country. With an ear for lyrical beauty as much as an eye for social critique, Joseph reminds us why caring about the truth matters and that the time to stand up for it is now.” —**Brendan Kiely, *New York Times* best-selling coauthor of *All American Boys***

“With a cast of naturally diverse characters you will root for, This Thing of Ours beautifully explores the awkward, anxiety-inducing, beautiful reality of growing up. All while reminding us that nothing is worth doing alone—not sports, not grief, not standing up and fighting for your people, and, most importantly, not life. This Thing of Ours is a must-read!” —**Keah Brown, author of *The Secret Summer Promise***

“Once again, regardless of genre, Frederick Joseph puts his heart, soul, passion, and unapologetic voice into every paragraph, sentence, and syllable. This rich tale of self-discovery, self-worth, and resilience will land protagonist Ossie Brown in the pantheon of legendary young adult characters that will live forever.”
—**Derrick Barnes, two-time Kirkus Prize winner, Newbery Honoree, and National Book Award Finalist**

“This Thing of Ours weaves the timeless magic of the YA novel (the friendship, love, family, and coming-of-age that readers have always adored) with present-day realities that need a firmer place in the genre, in a way that is both narratively rich and urgently necessary. Frederick Joseph does with this story what he does with all of his writing: he speaks truth with the authority of an educator and the passion of an artist. This book is truly for everyone—for those who feel directly represented by its characters and those with whom its author is sharing a generous heap of insight, education, and relentless hope.” —**Cree, actress and storyteller**



Ali Novak
**MY RETURN TO
THE WALTER BOYS**

Sourcebooks, April 2025 | World English

Manuscript available

Agent: Alex Slater

Rights sold: Brazil (V&R), Czech (Albatros Media),
France (Hachette), Germany (cbj), Italy (Newton
Compton), Poland (Helion), Spanish (PRH)

***New York Times* Bestseller!**

***USA Today* Bestseller!**

The highly anticipated sequel to *My Life with the Walter Boys*, the internationally bestselling novel that inspired the Netflix series!

#1 globally on Netflix in its first week out, with a 57% increase over season 1's debut!

Jackie Howard returns to the Walter ranch after a summer in New York. She needed space—and got it. But she doesn't know where things stand with her and Cole Walter after that goodbye kiss. Over the summer, she stopped texting him. She never stopped thinking about him.

Still, with Cole living off in town to work at Tony's garage before he heads off to college, Jackie thinks it'll be easy to avoid him—only to find that when she sees him face to face at last, it's, well... impossible to resist him. Things are getting complicated: he's the boy she can't get off her mind, and the Walters have become the family she loves and needs. How can Jackie move forward when she's afraid of taking the next step?

Born and raised in Wisconsin, [Ali Novak](#) is an awarding-winning author of contemporary young adult novels. She started writing her debut book, *My Life with the Walter Boys*, when she was only fifteen. Since then, her work has received more than 150 million reads online. When she isn't writing, Novak enjoys traveling with her husband, Jared; binding fan fiction; and reading any type of fantasy novel she can get her hands on. You can follow her on Wattpad, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram [@authoralinovak](#).



XiXi Tian

ALL THE WAY AROUND THE SUN

Balzer & Bray, September 30, 2025 |

World English

336 pages, Manuscript available

Rights sold for THIS PLACE IS STILL BEAUTIFUL:
Brazil: Rocco, France: Slalom, Germany: Carlsen

From the acclaimed author of THIS PLACE IS STILL BEAUTIFUL comes an evocative, achingly romantic road trip story about grief, diasporic identities, and the deep-buried secrets that haunt us, perfect for fans of *Past Lives* and *The Farewell*.

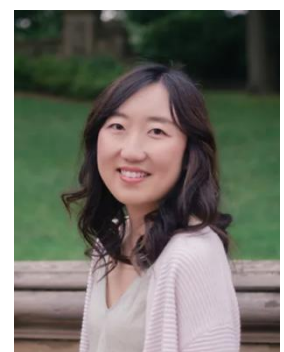
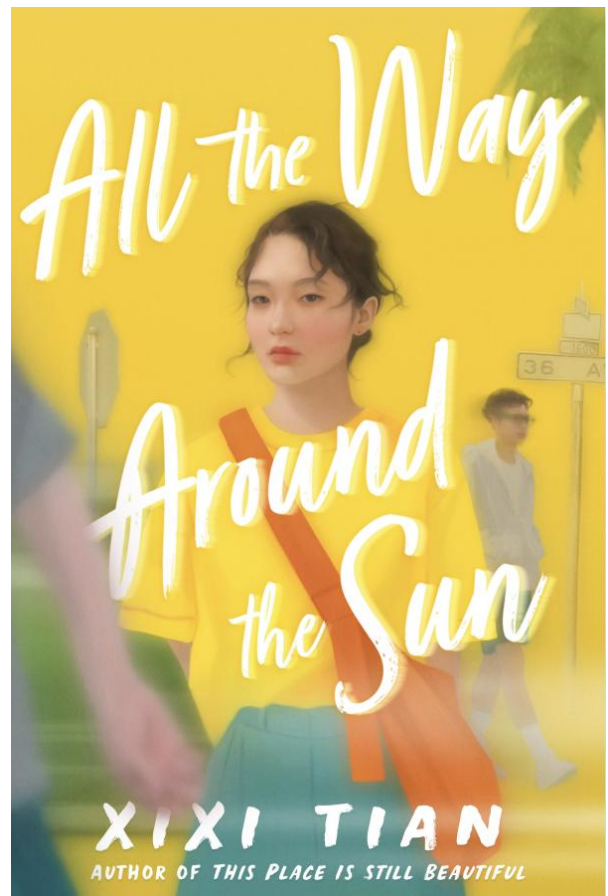
Stella Chen's life ground to a halt when her brother unexpectedly passed away a year ago. Raised together by their grandmother for years in the Chinese countryside before rejoining their parents in the United States, his absence destroys the connective tissue in her family. With another jarring move her senior year, from rural Illinois to unfamiliar surroundings in San Diego, she is left alone and adrift in her family's suffocating silence and the void of unanswered questions her brother left behind.

So when Stella's parents force her to join her estranged childhood friend Alan Zhao for a college tour all over California, Stella dreads it. Alan is a reminder of everything Stella wishes she could be—popular, gregarious, unburdened—and a reminder of how lost she is.

As this road trip takes Stella and Alan down beautiful coastlines and through fraught family dynamics, Stella can't help but feel the spark of why she and Alan were once so close. Before long, they find themselves pulled into each other's orbits, forcing unspoken feelings and long-hidden truths into the light.

From rising star XiXi Tian comes an evocative, achingly romantic tale of grief, healing, and enduring bond of family across oceans and beyond the grave.

XiXi Tian was born in China and immigrated to the United States when she was a year old. She grew up in central Illinois, graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a degree in history and then attended Harvard Law School. She is a writer, lawyer, avid reader, and lifelong Midwesterner no matter where she lives. Her debut novel, *This Place Is Still Beautiful*, won the 2024 Kalbacher Klapperschlange award, was an Indies Introduce and Indies Next pick and received five starred reviews. She lives outside of New York City. You can visit her online at www.xixiwrites.com.



Praise for ALL THE WAY AROUND THE SUN:

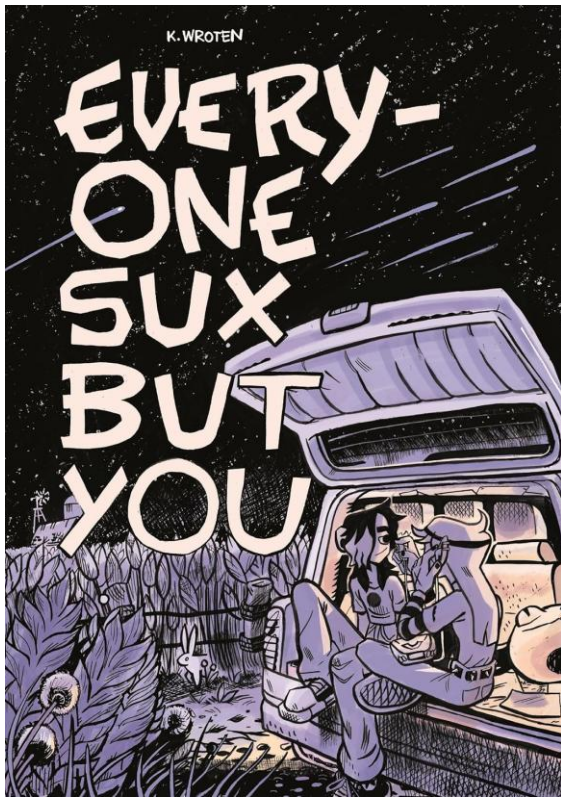
"Raw and honest, XiXi Tian's sophomore novel is a must-read for anyone who has lost someone they love and is trying to move forward. Exquisitely written and buttressed by a slow-burn enemies-to-lovers romance, *ALL THE WAY AROUND THE SUN* is exactly that: a beam of bright, beautiful light." —**E. L. Shen, author of *The Queens of New York***

"A stunning journey into the ways grief and longing shape us. I was left profoundly moved as Stella found her way back to her childhood love, her family, and ultimately, herself." —**Jas Hammonds, award-winning author of *We Deserve Monuments***

"With hauntingly beautiful prose, XiXi Tian captures all the complexities of growing up and finding your place in the world." —**Ann Liang, New York Times bestselling author of *I Hope This Doesn't Find You***

"Beautifully moving; it'll break your heart and stitch it back together. An expertly crafted story about the things we tell—and don't tell—our families, our friends, and ourselves." —**Ann Zhao, author of *Dear Wendy***

"Readers will be moved by Stella and Alan's courageous honesty as their heart-wrenching conversations gradually rebuild their relationship into something more and help them reflect on past mistakes and guilt by using their voices to pave their own paths in life." -- **Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books ★**



K. Wroten
EVERYONE SUX BUT YOU

Holt, May 20, 2025 | North America
368 pages, manuscript available

A bold young adult graphic novel about the highs and lows of growing up, queer love, and learning to accept yourself for who you are, perfect for fans of *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me*, *Daria* and *Ladybird*.

"*Everyone Sux But You* is a book you can lose time inside . . . Wroten perfectly captures the agony of first love embedded in a deep and complicated friendship, as well as the ambition of bright misfits dreaming of elsewhere in "flyover country". A new generation's *Perks of Being a Wallflower*." —**Mary Shyne**, author of *You and Me on Repeat*

"A complex and emotionally raw story of young love and learning to prioritize oneself." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"An honest exploration of first love and the strength it takes to leave an abusive relationship." —**School Library Journal**

"Laden with references to alternative music and the 2000s emo scene, *Everyone Sux but You* provides insight into the mutable nature of teenage relationships through an emotionally resonant queer lens." —**Booklist**

High school senior Carson Flynn doesn't give a damn—about you, about school, or about her future. The only thing she cares about is jumping into mosh pits at concerts with her best friend Ash.

But when Ash and Carson's friendship becomes something more, a lot of complicated feelings enter the pit swinging: the unresolved grief they share over the loss of Carson's mother, the realities of growing up queer in small-town America, and the biggest bruiser of all: what does it mean to love and be loved?

As Carson discovers new corners of her heart, she sees that her too-cool approach to life may have been keeping her closed off from her potential. Maybe there is something greater out there, a bright future full of promise . . . if only she could convince Ash to see it too.

EVERYONE SUX BUT YOU, the first young adult graphic novel from award-winning comics creator K. Wroten, defines what being a teen feels like while redefining what a graphic novel for teens can be.

K. Wroten is an award-winning comics author and illustrator. They are originally from the Midwest and currently live in Brooklyn, NY with their pet snake, Jules.