

THE FRIEDRICH AGENCY
RIGHTS LIST: Spring 2015

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THE LAST ONE

Alexandra Oliva (Ballantine/RH, Spring 2016)

Pre-empted overnight for six figures in UK before the US submission.

Pre-empted in Germany for six figures during the US auction.

Sold to Ballantine in a heated two-day, six bidder auction, in a two-book deal.

Sold in 17 foreign countries and counting...

England (Michael Joseph); Germany (S Fischer Verlag); Spain (Suma/PRH); France (Editions Kero); Holland (Ambo | Anthos); Sweden (Bonniers); Denmark (ArtPeople); Brazil (Rocco); Poland (Znak); Hungary (Alexandra); Norway (Cappelen Damm); Taiwan (China Times); Italy (Sperling & Kupfer); Turkey (Marti Yayin Grubni); Czech Republic (Euromedia); Slovak Republic (Ikar); Estonia (Tanapaev)

THE LAST ONE takes us deep into a remote New England forest where twelve strangers compete on a survivalist reality television show. What appears to be a carefully supervised, planned film set becomes something much darker as we watch one contestant “Zoo” strike out alone for her solo mission. As Zoo’s emotional and physical reserves dwindle, her ability to parse the charade will either be her triumph or her undoing. Sophisticated and provocative, THE LAST ONE forces us to confront the role media plays in our perception of what is real—how readily we cast our judgments, and how easily we are all manipulated.

Alexandra Oliva is a graduate of Yale University as well as The New School MFA program. In between her degrees, Oliva worked as a docent for the Prospect Park Zoo (much like her heroine) and she has taken several wilderness survival courses, including an extended course at the famous Boulder Outdoor Survival School (BOSS). THE LAST ONE is her first novel.

MY LAST CONTINENT

Midge Raymond (Scribner, Pub Date TK)

Israel (Keter); France (Editions Stock); German auction under way...

A cinematic novel set against a harsh frozen landscape, MY LAST CONTINENT follows Deborah Gardner, a scientist dedicated to protecting the Emperor and Adélie penguin populations. From page one an impending shipwreck looms; Antarctica is so far removed from any trained rescue teams, it can only end in tragedy. As the novel shifts back and forth in time, we learn Deb's partner in science, and in love, is stuck on the wrong ship, a tourist cruise liner ill-equipped for the treacherous Antarctic sea.

**An adventure. A love story at the bottom of the world.
A book with a deep environmental core.**

As a volunteer researcher with the University of Washington's Penguin Sentinels in Patagonia, Midge Raymond learned that among the bigger threats to penguins and other marine life is oil. A shipwreck in the pristine waters of the Southern Ocean, where penguins already struggle to adapt to climate change, would be catastrophic.

MY LAST CONTINENT is a love story not only about two naturalists but about their love for the continent and their passion for protecting an environment that is at once tough and fragile, inhospitable to humans and yet at our mercy at the same time. A century ago, Antarctic stories were about explorers—now, these stories are about rescuers.

This novel will grip your conscience and your heart. It courses with an urgency only Antarctica can summon—the only continent on Earth with no native human population, no state ties, sitting in icy, international waters...

Sold in a pre-empt to Liese Mayer of Scribner, MY LAST CONTINENT is Midge Raymond's debut novel. Raymond's short story collection FORGETTING ENGLISH (Eastern Washington University Press) received the Spokane Prize for Short Fiction. Her fiction and nonfiction has appeared in dozens of publications, including *TriQuarterly*, *Bellevue Literary Review*, *American Literary Review*, *Ontario Review*, *Indiana Review*, *North American Review*, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Poets & Writers*.

PIECE OF MIND

Michelle Adelman (Norton, February 2016)

A tour de force of voice

Lucy, the unique narrator of Michelle Adelman’s debut novel, lives with a traumatic brain injury. At three, she was hit by a car and has since lived with the repercussions, ranging from the profound to the mundane. At first glance Lucy looks average—her clothes, her hair just slightly askew. Yet her TBI makes it so she cannot function on a day-to-day level: She has zero focus. She has no concept of long-term planning. She has never been able to hold a job or live alone. Still, Lucy’s injury does not obscure her fundamental intelligence and creative spark.

PIECE OF MIND follows Lucy’s journey to find herself and her place in the world during a life-changing summer at the age of thirty-five.

What is amazing about this novel is the author’s absolute restraint. A graduate of Columbia University’s MFA program, Michelle has a light but powerful touch. You fall in love with Lucy and all of her quirks, as she negotiates her way from the false safety of the suburbs to a cramped studio apartment somewhere in the East Village. You root for her—she’s utterly real, tender, funny, and flawed.

Advance Praise for PIECE OF MIND:

“Like the Tourettes-ticcing Lionel Essrog in Jonathan Lethem's *MOTHERLESS BROOKLYN*, or the obsessive-compulsive Mona Gray in Aimee Bender's *AN INVISIBLE SIGN OF MY OWN*, Michelle Adelman's heroine—and she definitely is that—travels a path that is by nature solitary, yet intersects with all that is best in ourselves. I hope you'll root for Lucy's success as much as I do.”

– Helene Wecker, author of *THE GOLEM AND THE JINNI*

DANCING WITH THE TIGER

Lili Wright (Marian Wood Books, Putnam/2016)

Italy (De Agostini); UK (Harvill Secker/RH); Serbia (Laguna); Russia & Ukraine (Hemiro)

Acerbic, sexy, and all-consuming, DANCING WITH THE TIGER marks the arrival of a major new voice in American fiction. Lili Wright has set her debut novel against the controversy over the repatriation of cultural artifacts.

When a meth-addicted looter unearths Montezuma's death mask, a terrifying struggle for possession ensues: Anna Ramsey, a 30-year-old fact checker whose life is in turmoil, needs the mask to repair her reputation in the New York art scene; Thomas Malone, a secretive expatriate, wants it locked in his ominous private chapel; and Reyes, a dying drug lord will stop at nothing to keep the death mask from leaving Mexico.

In what we're calling the "holy trinity of fiction," this novel hits the head, the heart, and the groin each with perfect calibration. Written in taut, lyrical prose DANCING WITH THE TIGER is a riveting exploration of the masks we wear, the secrets we keep, and the revelations we owe to those we love.

Acquired in a heated auction, this novel is editor Marian Wood's first debut in over a decade and she describes it as "irresistible: compelling, original, propulsive." As [reported by PW](#), she says, "DANCING WITH THE TIGER is powerful, sophisticated, acidly witty, erotic—and often terrifying." We couldn't agree more.

Advance Praise for DANCING WITH THE TIGER:

"An entrancing, provocative and utterly beguiling debut. Like its heroine, Lili Wright's DANCING WITH THE TIGER is so vibrant and alive you can practically feel the pages humming beneath your fingers. **Not to be missed.**"

– **Megan Abbott**, Edgar award-winning author of DARE ME

"A rollicking combination of art and archeology, forgeries, drug deals, and tourists, Montezuma, murder, and love. DANCING WITH THE TIGER is **smart, sexy, and extremely suspenseful**. Block out some time—once you start, you won't be putting it down."

– **Karen Joy Fowler**, PEN/ Faulkner award-winning, international bestselling author of WE ARE ALL COMPLETELY BESIDE OURSELVES

"DANCING WITH THE TIGER is built of beautiful sentences the way a spider web is built of silk. Pleasing also is Lili Wright's wisdom regarding the human condition, present on every page. Her elegant and vital sentences also travel in service to what is surely one of the more intricate plots of the year; but first and foremost, **the sentences: one will follow them almost anywhere.**"

– **Rick Bass**, NBCC and O. Henry award-winning author and activist

"A sexy, headlong descent into art and addiction, DANCING WITH THE TIGER is as hallucinatory and revelatory as a shot of mezcal. Lili Wright creates a rogue's gallery of sinners and saints obsessively pursuing Montezuma's death mask, even as death dances in their midst. Fierce and fast-paced, this is an urgent novel of ideas."

– **Sheri Holman**, bestselling author of THE DRESS LODGER

WOOF: Book One in the Birdie & Bowser Mystery Series Spencer Quinn (Scholastic, April 28, 2015)

Spencer Quinn made his mark narrating from a dog's point of view in the beloved, *New York Times* and internationally bestselling Chet & Bernie series for adults—available in a whopping **19 countries around the globe**.

Long a fan of Spencer Quinn, Scholastic's middle grade team begged him to write for kids. Quinn sat up and listened! Wholly original, hugely fun, and full of mystery, WOOF is sure to delight 8 – 12-year-old readers. This whodunit is narrated by the excitable puppy Bowser, who has just been adopted by 11-year-old Birdie Gaux. Birdie lives with her grandmother in the Louisiana swamp—a place of murky waters and shadowy characters. She is shocked to discover her grandmother's prized stuffed fish "Black Jack" has been stolen from the family's fish-and-bait shop. But it's not *just* a trophy, the fish has long been rumored to hide a treasure map. The brave, irresistible pair Birdie and Bowser set out to reclaim the fish, and the map, solving mysteries and meeting nefarious characters along the way.

Scholastic is launching the Birdie and Bowser series in a major way. It's a lead title for the book fairs, and has earned the coveted commercial, meaning **hundreds of thousands** of kids across the country will watch a custom video featuring WOOF in their classrooms, and then have the chance to buy the book at the fair. Scholastic has confirmed an order of **200,000** books!

Advance Praise for WOOF:

"I defy anyone to read this book—kid or adult—without a big, goofy grin."
– **Harlan Coben**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Spencer Quinn speaks two languages—suspense and dog—fluently."
– **Stephen King**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Hilarious," "suspenseful"
– **School Library Journal**

"[D]espite the villains, silliness and humor are paramount here, thanks to Bowser's playful narration. Utterly charmed by a spunky girl and her charismatic canine, mystery fans will find themselves looking forward to a return to the little bayou town of St. Roch."
– **Kirkus Reviews**

PHENOMENAL: A Hesitant Adventurer's Search for Wonder in the Natural World
Leigh Ann Henion (Penguin Press/ March 24, 2015)
Australia/ NZ (Penguin)

When *The Washington Post* sends Leigh Ann Henion to the migration site of the monarch butterflies in central Mexico, she begins to feel **her sense of wonder stir**. With the birth of her son, however, she succumbs to societal pressure and suppresses that curiosity, staying at home to parent and write. Yet one question eats away at her: Is a mother allowed to leave her child at home, to see the world? The answer is *yes!*

This is the story of how one woman chose to become the expert witness to her own life, ultimately bringing a global sense of awe home to her own backyard. PHENOMENAL is a transformative narrative that captures, in a wholly original way, the heartbreaking beauty of nature and the always-searching, ever-evolving power of storytelling.

Bestselling author of EAT PRAY LOVE, **Elizabeth Gilbert** shared a photo of PHENOMENAL on her Facebook page with a passionate plea, urging her readers to pick up Leigh Ann's book:

“This is a woman who did not wait for wonder to find her, but who doggedly sought out wonder any cost, and who let wonder transform her soul...fascinating, fresh, and important. **This is the kind of memoir that inspires endless self-examination and conversation—and hopefully maybe even some life-transforming adventures.** So do check it out!”

In just twenty-four hours [the post](#) has gotten over 4,200 “likes” and nearly 300 comments!

Praise for PHENOMENAL:

“A **moving and original memoir** about the search for transcendence in moments both small and large.” – Jenny Offill, author of *The Department of Speculation*

“Part travel memoir, part parenting manifesto and part inquiry into those fleeting, extraordinary glimpses of something that left us groping for rational explanations in the quicksand of all-encompassing wonder.” – *O*, Oprah Magazine

“**What a cool and fascinating ride...** it will open doors for many.”
– **Elizabeth Gilbert**, bestselling author of *Eat Pray Love & The Signature of All Things*

“Reading PHENOMENAL will give you courage. With moments of **breath-stealing beauty, wild intelligence, and unrelenting honesty**, PHENOMENAL is a **true gift** for everyone who's ever been curious.”
– **Ruth Ozeki**, bestselling and prize-winning author of *A Tale for the Time Being*

“[Henion] takes readers around the world in her lovely, lyrical memoir.” – *Backpacker*

A Barnes and Noble, B&N.com Editors' Recommendation: “Her quest was ambitious, inspiring her into encounters with Arctic reindeer herders, astrophysicists, and unforgettable lightning storms. A refreshing wake-up call to living in the natural world.”

www.leighannhenion.com

THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS: A Trilogy
Jane Smiley (Knopf, Robin Desser)
Mantle (UK); Rivages (France)

Book One: SOME LUCK, October 7, 2014
Book Two: EARLY WARNING, April 28, 2015
Book Three: TBA, October 2015

Longlisted for the 2014 National Book Award

Life can change in an instant, and as those changes amass over 100 years, something extraordinary happens: history is made. In this masterful trilogy, Jane Smiley explores the triumphs and tragedies of one family, while casting a panoramic eye on the twentieth century.

SOME LUCK begins on the humble, heavily indebted Langdon family farm in 1920. We meet Rosanna and Walter, their curious, brilliant newborn Frank. Soon the family grows to five children, all wildly different yet remarkable, with potential to mark history in their own ways. Yet as time passes, as it must, some thrive as others fall victim to flaws and fate. Who will persevere? Who will simply, sadly, be forgotten?

EARLY WARNING picks up in 1953 with the Langdon family at a crossroads. Their stalwart patriarch, Walter has suddenly died, leaving their five children, now adults, looking to the future. Only one will remain in Iowa to work the land, while the others scatter to Washington, D.C., California, and everywhere in between.

As the country moves out of post–World War II optimism through the darker landscape of the Cold War and the social and sexual revolutions of the 1960s and '70s, and then into the unprecedented wealth—for some—of the early 1980s, the Langdon children each follow a different path in a rapidly changing world.

With shared joys and hushed secrets, through times of economic and political volatility, The Last Hundred Years Trilogy examines the nature of family, character, and how we are all changed by circumstances unforeseen. Akin to her Pulitzer Prize-winning A THOUSAND ACRES, these novels are brave, brilliant, breathtaking.

Praise for The Last Hundred Years:

“Engaging, bold, satisfying” – *Washington Post*

“Smiley keeps you reading...deft as ever at conveying the ways in which a family develops.”
– *Publishers Weekly* on book two EARLY WARNING

“She’s in top form...the expansive American epic is Smileys métier. – *Time*

“One of the best books of the fall.” – *People* on SOME LUCK

“Marvelous...A tour de force” – *Bookpage*

“Epic, striking...Masterly.” – Alice O’Keeffe, *The Bookseller* (UK)

THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS: A Trilogy

★★ Four STARRED Reviews ★★

“**Tremendous**...Smiley is a seductive writer in perfect command.”

– Donna Seaman, *Booklist* (starred review)

“**Surprising**, engaging. **An expansive tale** showing this generally flinty author in a mellow mood.” – *Kirkus* (starred review)

“**Exciting**. . . In the first volume of a planned trilogy, Smiley returns to the Iowa of her Pulitzer Prize winning *A Thousand Acres*...**Smiley conjures a world—time, place, people—and an engaging story that makes readers eager to know what happens next.**”

– *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“**Highly recommended**; a lush and grounded reading experience.”

– Barbara Hoffert, *Library Journal* (starred review)

More Praise for Jane Smiley:

“No writer has ever captured the satisfactions and frustrations of the American farmer with more insight, humor, accuracy, and grace than Smiley. . .all drawn with Smiley’s signature specificity and clear-eyed compassion...an almanac to honor these harsh and beautiful lives.”

– *More* magazine

“The suspense is found in the impeccably drawn scenes and in the myriad ways in which Smiley narrows and opens her camera's lens. . .We age. That is our plot. We grow older and time moves through us, and this is hardly, Smiley proves here, small stuff. We read these lives, and we find our own.”

– *Chicago Tribune*

Library Journal's Best Books of 2014

Kirkus's 10 Most Anticipated Novels of the Fall 2014

Featured interviews in: *TIME*, *The New York Times*, *NPR*, *The Bookseller*,
Wall Street Journal, *The Paris Review*, *The New Yorker*, *Publishers Weekly*

For updates on *The Last Hundred Years*, “like” Jane Smiley on [Facebook](#).

JULIA AND THE ART OF PRACTICAL TRAVEL
LESLEY M.M. BLUME (Knopf Books for Children/ March 10, 2015)

“Brilliant, unusual writing.” – *The Chicago Tribune*

“Lesley M.M. Blume uses **a light, deft touch**—and lots of snapshots—to recount the odyssey of the homesick Lancasters in this **wise and tender story** for 10- to 14-year-olds.”
– *The Wall Street Journal*

“A fascinating mixture of whimsy and reality.” – *Library Journal*

“Blume is a writer to watch.” – *Publishers Weekly*

It’s 1968 and clever, precocious Julia Lancaster has spent her entire eleven years on the secluded Windy Ridge estate, getting into trouble with her best friend Belfry and trusty camera. After Grandmother’s unexpected death, Julia’s sensible Aunt Constance knows they must sell their beloved estate, and...once summer is over, it will be time for Julia to attend Miss Horton’s boarding school for girls.

But first Julia and Constance embark on a quest to find Julia’s mother, who abandoned the family long-ago and whose mystery leads them on a series of adventures across the country. From sabotaging a dinner party in New York City to meeting Voodoo Queens in New Orleans, Julia’s hijinks are unexpected, full of heart, and endlessly amusing. Although, in Julia’s words, “the sky is the sky wherever you go,” she realizes people and places and things you find along the way make travel a little wild, sometimes sad, and entirely worthwhile.

By the bestselling author (over **300,000** copies) of **CORNELIA AND THE AUDACIOUS ESCAPADES OF THE SOMERSET SISTERS**, this new novel will remind readers of classics like *Eloise* and *Because of Winn-Dixie*. Shining with wonderfully evocative descriptions and accompanied by original black-and-white photographs, **JULIA AND THE ART OF PRACTICAL TRAVEL** will appeal to all young readers looking for an adventure.

We wickedly await Blume’s behind-the-scenes look at **SUN ALSO RISES.**
Manuscript to come in summer 2015!

ALL THINGS TRULY WICKED (Eamon Dolan Books, HMH/ Spring 2016)

ALL THINGS TRULY WICKED tells the truly wicked tale behind Ernest Hemingway’s **THE SUN ALSO RISES**. With an incredibly stylish yet scholarly approach, Blume will unearth the truth behind Hemingway’s explosive, timeless novel, including the real-life versions of its incendiary characters.

Lesley M. M. Blume is an author, journalist, and cultural observer based in New York City. A regular contributor to *The Wall Street Journal* and *Vanity Fair*, Blume’s work has appeared in many prestigious publications, including *Vogue*, *Slate*, and *The Daily Beast*. She is a contributing editor at *Departures* magazine and was a founding contributing editor for *The Huffington Post*.

www.lesleymmblume.com

BLACK GLASS: Short Fictions

Karen Joy Fowler (Marian Wood Books, Putnam/ June 23, 2015)

An early work from PEN/Faulkner Award winner and Man Booker finalist, beautifully repackaged for new fans and old.

Reissued, BLACK GLASS now has a new prefatory essay in which Fowler muses on her uncommonly happy childhood and the terror and beauty of the contemporary world. In the fifteen gemlike tales that follow, Fowler lets her wit roam wild, turning accepted norms inside out and fairy tales upside down—proving once again she is among our most subversive writers.

Here is Carry Nation loose again, breaking up discos, smashing topless bars, radicalizing women as she preaches clean living to men more intent on babes and booze. And here is Mrs. Gulliver, her patience with her long-voyaging Lemuel worn thin; Money is short and the kids can't even remember what Dad looks like. And what of Tonto, the ever-faithful companion, turning forty without so much as a birthday phone call from that masked man? This is vintage Fowler at her finest—playing with time, chance, and reality in a wholly original way.

WE ARE ALL COMPLETELY BESIDE OURSELVES

Karen Joy Fowler (Marian Wood Books, Putnam/ May 30, 2013)

Nearly 1 million copies sold in the English language!

Available in 24 countries and counting... **Serpent's Tail (United Kingdom); Goldmann (Germany); Kinneret (Israel); Albatros (Czech) Aylak Kitap (Turkey); Ponte alle Grazie (Italy); La Magrana (Catalan); Soft Press (Bulgaria); Rocco (Brazil); Tammi/Bonnier (Finland); Kalla Kulor Forlag (Sweden); Clube de Autor (Portugal); Nieuw Amsterdam (The Netherlands); Presses de la Cité (France); Malpaso (Spain/Latin America); Medusa-Selas (Greece); Litera (Romania); Beijing Alpha Books (China); Hakusuisha (Japan); Varrak (Estonia); Hyndae Munhak (Korea)**

Winner of the 2014 PEN/Faulkner Award

Finalist for the 2014 Man Booker Prize

California Book Award's Gold Medal • ELLE Reader's Prize

Indie Next Pick • Finalist for the Nebula Award

Currently in development for a televised miniseries by the creator of "Friends"

Praise for WE ARE ALL COMPLETELY BESIDE OURSELVES:

"A novel so **readably juicy** and **surreptitiously smart**, it deserves all the attention it can get... [T]his is a story of **Everyfamily** in which loss engraves relationships, truth is a soulful stalker and coming-of-age means facing down the mirror, recognizing the shape-shifting notion of self."

– **Barbara Kingsolver, front page of *The New York Times Book Review***

"Read this goddamn book." – *Gawker*

"Fowler's novel is superb." – Maureen Corrigan, *National Public Radio's* "Fresh Air"

Named a Best Book of the year by: *The New York Times Book Review, Slate, NPR, Chicago Tribune, The Christian Science Monitor, and Library Journal.*

www.karenjoyfowler.com

SEA LOVERS: Selected Stories

Valerie Martin (Doubleday, Nan A. Talese/ August 18, 2015)

Serpent's Tail (UK)

New and collected stories from the Orange Prize-winning author of PROPERTY

Brilliant, genre-bending, and ambitious, Martin's stories play with the ideas of siege and safety. The eponymous story "Sea Lovers" dramatizes the night a mermaid washes ashore and, though she's first seen by the fishermen as a harmless, confused but erotic figure, the night ends in murder. "Sea Lovers" weaves in a second narrative: a young girl watches her parents exterminate an almost supernaturally evasive rat.

Valerie Martin has spent a lifetime writing books of different genres, stretching herself around the world. Her two most blazingly successful books remain novels clearly set in history: MARY REILLY, first published in 1990, enjoyed no fewer than 25 foreign sales. Years later, in 2003, the distinctly American novel, PROPERTY, garnered a more modest ten foreign sales but won The Orange Prize in lovely compensation.

Also by Valerie Martin:

THE GHOST OF THE MARY CELESTE

Nan A. Talese (US); Weidenfeld & Nicolson (UK); Albin Michel (France)

Now available in paperback!

PRAISE for THE GHOST OF THE MARY CELESTE:

"In a **masterpiece of fine detail** and intense reimagining, Martin evokes a world suspended between faith and reason, in which "the other side" is quite real—and always beckoning"

– Christobel Kent for *The Guardian*

"Valerie Martin is a writer of **immense talent and insight**. Her latest novel weaves a beautiful tale of loss, love and the connections that link us. One moment we're aboard the doomed ship, another we're in the pages of a diary, yet another we're looking at a tragedy. The Ghost of the Mary Celeste offers readers a riveting cast and evocative prose."

– **Yann Martel**, Man Booker Prize-winning and bestselling author of LIFE OF PI

"Characterization is **first-rate**, as is the historical sensibility. Subtle undercurrents of impending tragedy create a disquieting effect throughout, a fitting atmosphere for a work about a society preoccupied with making contact with deceased loved ones. The scenes of maritime disasters are realistically terrifying."

– *Booklist*

www.valeriemartinonline.com

RUSSIAN TATTOO: A Memoir

Elena Gorokhova (Simon & Schuster/ January 2015)

Windmill (UK); DTV (Germany)

In her memoir of culture shock, of displacement, of motherhood and motherlands, Elena Gorokhova dazzles us once again. Elena Gorokhova's first book *A MOUNTAIN OF CRUMBS* sold in seven countries and was embraced by reviewers and readers alike. But where that memoir explores what happens when you leave home, *RUSSIAN TATTOO* tackles finding your place in a strange new country and learning to embrace it.

Gorokhova writes with vulnerability, guilt, and resolve, and depicts her eventual triumph, leaving us with a memoir both universal and profoundly personal. Though it's a follow-up memoir, *RUSSIAN TATTOO* stands alone and shines with grace and humor. Back in Russia, Robert had swept Elena off her feet, and away from the harsh reality of communist life. But in Texas, he's cold, impatient with her mistakes and her awe. Sent away to live with Robert's mother, Elena vows to make a life for herself—despite feeling like Natasha Rostova waiting for a dance in *War and Peace*. This is the immigrant experience: Equal parts incredible and cruel.

PRAISE for RUSSIAN TATTOO:

“Gorokhova writes about her life with a novelist's gift.” – *The New York Times Book Review*

“This **incredibly powerful book** slips into your unconscious with **charm and warmth** and then grabs you by the gut. By the time you reach the end, you'll have experienced the **laughter, sorrow, joy, regret, love and hurt of a real life.**”

– **Alan Alda**, Emmy-award winning, Oscar-nominated actor and author

“*RUSSIAN TATTOO* is the story of mothers and daughters, of three generations of strong women battling for control. It is about loss and grief, wounds that sever our souls in half and never heal. It is ultimately the story of love, forgiveness, and the desire to belong.”

– **Anya von Bremzen**, author of *Mastering the Art of Soviet Cooking*

“*RUSSIAN TATTOO* is a page-turner from the start, Gorokhova fills her story of arriving in the U.S. with telling, fascinating details.”

– Eloise Kinney for *Booklist*

“This work from a young immigrant's point of view is both wondrous and stinging.”

– *Publishers Weekly*

PRAISE for A MOUNTAIN OF CRUMBS:

“An enthralling read.” – **J.M. Coetzee**, Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature

“The Russian equivalent of *Angela's Ashes*.” – **Billy Collins**, two-time US Poet Laureate

“What is it about *A Mountain of Crumbs* that makes it so damn readable? . . . This is a rich experience—a personal journey paralleled by huge national changes and ending in a deeply satisfying portrait of peace in America.”

– **Frank McCourt**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Angela's Ashes*

FORTY ACRES

Dwayne Alexander Smith (Atria/ July 1, 2014)

Droemer (Germany); Faber (UK); Dobrovsky (Czech Republic)

Winner of the 2015 NAACP Image Award for Best Debut Novel

Winner of the American Library Association's Black Caucus First Novel Award

“A **thought-provoking** novel that, like a wave, builds strength and intensity as it moves forward. Smith has done something special here using as his primary tools earnest, straightforward language and an eye and ear that **probes bone-deep**. **This story will resonate long after the last page has fallen.**”

– **David Baldacci**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *King and Maxwell*

Lightning-fast, controversial, and immensely thought-provoking

In this debut novel, young attorney Martin Grey has just won the biggest case of his life against superstar lawyer Damon Darrell. Instead of holding a grudge, Damon welcomes Martin into a small inner circle of powerful black men, and Martin jumps at the chance to build his career. When the elite group invites him to join their “bonding trip” and leave town for the weekend, Martin embraces the opportunity, despite his wife’s suspicions and misgivings. What follows is a horrific spiral into isolation, history, and vengeance—Martin finds himself **fighting for his life**.

Praise for FORTY ACRES:

Superstar **Whoopi Goldberg** recommended the book to her 830,500 Facebook fans!

“I just started Dwayne Alexander Smith's new book *Forty Acres*. First of all it's a thriller and the premise is pretty amazing and unique. Might be a great last beach read. Summer days almost over. Check it out!”

“Forty Acres is an absolutely enthralling thriller, one that also has the capacity to challenge the readers' perceptions of right and wrong. With supreme confidence and a mastery of storytelling, the author asks hard questions, provides no easy answers... But delivers maximum suspense. It's an unforgettable work by an amazing new voice. Easily my favorite of the year.”

– **John Ridley**, Academy Award-winning screenwriter of *Twelve Years A Slave*

“Wow! FORTY ACRES is a **thriller in a class all by itself—brilliant and scary**. The characters are **masterfully well-drawn**—Martin was so vulnerable and his confusion grew on me so that I ultimately cared and worried about him. I was on the edge of my seat!”

– **Terry McMillan**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Waiting to Exhale* and *Who Asked You?*

www.writtenbysmith.com

COMING SOON from The Friedrich Agency

TO FANG, WITH LOVE FROM VILNIUS

Rufi Thorpe (Knopf/ TBA)

Manuscript to come late summer 2015

With Thorpe's signature acerbic wit and strange but poignant observational eye, this novel tackles the father-daughter relationship and spans California to Vilnius, Lithuania. Lucas is a dowdy, thirty-something father who left his girlfriend after the two passionately, purposefully conceived a child in their senior year of high school. He's regretted the decision ever since and is, at long last, ready for a relationship with his daughter. Vera is a scary-brilliant, slightly mean sixteen-year-old recently diagnosed Bi-polar. As Lucas and Vera navigate a historical tour of Vilnius they, by turn, alienate one another and grow incrementally closer. Vera convinces her father she is not Bi-polar, trusting him with the truth about the night of her first episode. Lucas learns just how muddy the lines between parent and friend, past and present, can become.

Praise for Rufi Thorpe:

Long-listed for the Flaherty-Dunnan First Novel Prize

Long-listed for the Dylan Thomas Prize

IndieNext Pick • Amazon's "Best of the Month" for July

"Just when you believe the ubiquitous "literature is dead" declarations are true, there comes a novel like *The Girls from Corona del Mar*." – *Boston Herald*

"Thorpe is a gifted writer." – *Los Angeles Times*

"Rufi Thorpe can *write*. Let's just hope she can write quickly, so we can read more soon."
– *More Magazine*

"*The Girls From Corona del Mar* (Knopf) is a knockout of a debut novel"
– *ELLE Magazine*

"This literary novel will leave readers questioning the myths and realities of complicated friendships."
– *Booklist*

"A nuanced portrait of two women who are sisters in everything but name."
– *Publishers Weekly*

THE GIRLS FROM CORONA DEL MAR

Rufi Thorpe (Knopf/ July 8, 2014)

Vulkan Izdavastvo (Serbia); Novo Conceito (Brazil); Random House (United Kingdom); Epsilon (Turkey); btb/Random House (Germany); Sonzogno/ Rizzoli (Italy)

www.RufiThorpe.com

John Verdon's David Gurney Mystery Series
Available in 28 countries • A bestseller in 12 countries
Over 500,000 copies sold in Spain alone!

BEWARE OF THE WOLF

Manuscript to come late summer 2015

How could four people have the same dream? Why would they commit suicide after dreaming it?

International thriller sensation John Verdon is back again, with a new book that will remind fans of his high concept, chilling debut THINK OF A NUMBER. Drawn into solving his most baffling crime yet, Dave Gurney faces not only an ingenious killer who seems to control the dreams of his victims, but also a ruthless CIA unit with a dark, dangerous agenda.

Four people who have never met, who live in different parts of the country, and who seem to have nothing in common report having had the same dream: a recurrent nightmare whose most disturbing element is a bloody knife with a carved wolf's head on the handle. Each man is subsequently found dead: apparent suicides, their wrists slashed by a wolf's head dagger, identical to the one they had described. The police soon learn the victims did have two significant facts in common: each recently stayed at the same eerie old Adirondack hotel; each consulted with the same resident hypnotherapist.

Gurney races to solve another set of impossible questions, this time vexing both his head and his heart. An unnerving, complex book, BEWARE OF THE WOLF makes us question how we consent to being surveilled, even as we all fear and attempt to protect our notions of privacy.

PRAISE for PETER PAN MUST DIE:

“The denouement in *Peter Pan Must Die* is one of the most unusual in crime fiction, and yet it's perfectly logical. **Verdon's cleverness shines again.**”

– *Miami Herald*

“One of the truly great puzzle mysteries of the year.” – *Bookreporter*

“As incredible as it seems, a relatively new author with no law enforcement background has created a protagonist with insight and skills that rival the best crime solvers of all time.”

– *New York Journal of Books*

Foreign publishers the David Gurney Mysteries: Roca (Spain); Proa (Catalan); Koridor (Turkey); Grasset (France); Soft Press (Bulgaria); Keter (Israel); Sextante (Brazil); Dioptra (Greece); Boekerij (Holland); Heyne (Germany); Gummerus (Finland); Piemme (Italy); Corpus (Russia); Versal (Norway); De Boekerij (The Netherlands); Gimm Young (Korea); Dioptra (Greece); Hr. Ferdinand (Denmark); CITIC Press (China); Porto Lisboa (Portugal); Sextante (Brazil); Commonwealth (Taiwan); NhaNam (Vietnam); Forum (Sweden); Forlagid (Iceland); Otwarte (Poland); Baronet (Czech); Algoritam (Croatia); WeLearn (Thailand)

Visit www.johnverdon.net or his [Facebook page](#) for updates.

THE DARKEST VOYAGE

Michael Shelden (Ecco/ Pub date TK)

Manuscript to come late summer 2015

From Pulitzer Prize-nominated biographer Michael Shelden comes the greatest untold story of American literature. It wasn't Herman Melville's friendship with Nathaniel Hawthorne, nor a fascination with whaling that drove him to pen *MOBY-DICK*. Rather a secret love affair, long-hidden behind layers of family silence and destroyed letters lies at the heart of the sea. As Shelden himself says: "This is the story of an obsession so deep and overwhelming that it destroyed the most promising career in American literary history, sidelining an author in his early thirties whose rise and fall spanned a mere six years, yet whose best book is now widely regarded as America's greatest novel."

PRAISE for YOUNG TITAN:

"Shelden is full of sharp insights about Churchill, as one would expect from a literary biographer of his rank."

– *Wall Street Journal*

"A perceptive and entertaining account."

– *Washington Post*

"Entertaining...with some wonderful characters and plenty of the bon mots we have grown to expect from Churchill...The book reads in places like a novel."

– *The Guardian* (UK)

"A vivid portrait of a young man on the make, as ambitious as he was gifted.... Enthralling."

– *Newsweek*

"Swiftly narrated.... Shelden, a noted biographer whose 1992 *Orwell* was a Pulitzer Prize Finalist, explores the young titan in entertaining depth, with deep regard for Churchill's achievements, and no end of colorful detail."

– *USA Today*

YOUNG TITAN is currently in development as a televised mini-series with the producers of "Downton Abbey," Carnival Films.

BOOKS FOR WHICH THE PUBLISHER CONTROLS RIGHTS

BEASTLY BONES

William Ritter (Algonquin/ September 22, 2015)

The highly anticipated follow-up to the rich world of JACKABY

First, a vicious species of shape-shifters disguise themselves as a litter of kittens, and a day later, their owner is found murdered with a single mysterious puncture wound. Then in nearby Gad's Valley, now home to the exiled New Fiddleham police detective Charlie Cane, dinosaur bones from a recent dig mysteriously go missing, and an unidentifiable beast starts attacking animals and people, leaving their mangled bodies behind. Charlie calls on Abigail for help, and soon Abigail and Jackaby are on the hunt for a thief, a monster, and a murderer.

JACKABY

William Ritter (Algonquin/ September 16, 2014)

The Friedrich Agency controls Film and TV rights

Newly arrived in New Fiddleham, New England, 1892, and in need of a job, Abigail Rook meets R. F. Jackaby, an investigator of the unexplained with a keen eye for the extraordinary. Abigail has a gift for noticing ordinary but important details, which makes her perfect for the position of Jackaby's assistant. On her first day, Abigail finds herself in the midst of a thrilling case: A serial killer is on the loose. The police are convinced it's an ordinary villain, but Jackaby is certain it's a nonhuman creature, whose existence the police—with the exception of a handsome young detective named Charlie Cane—deny.

**A 2015 Pacific Northwest Book Award Winner
A 2015 YALSA Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults Title**

“Ritter’s debut skillfully blends science with the supernatural and balances whimsy with violence. The smartly paced plot wraps up neatly, but the rich world of this debut demands sequels.”

– *Kirkus* (starred review!)

“Toss together an alternate 19th-century New England city, a strong tradition of Sherlockian pastiche, and one seriously ugly hat, and this lighthearted and assured debut emerges, all action and quirk.”

– *Publishers Weekly*

“The murderous plot beautifully melds modern storytelling and classic fables... We honestly couldn't put it down.”

– Nerdist.com

The Anton and Cecil Trilogy
Valerie and Lisa Martin (Algonquin/ Ages 8 – 12)

CATS AT SEA
October 2013

CATS ON THE RAILS
June 2015

CATS UP AND AWAY
TBA

Indie Next Pick

Orange Prize-winning author Valerie Martin and Lisa Martin introduce Anton and Cecil, two very different cat brothers whose curiosity about the world and passion for adventure takes them on a journey from their harborside home to see places and creatures beyond their wildest imaginings. Black-and-white drawings by Kelly Murphy illustrate each chapter.

“Remarkable for its delicate use of language...and for its watertight descriptions of seafaring...The story is engrossing and unpredictable, with likable heroes and charming accomplices...There’s even a bit of history lurking in the background.”

– *The New York Times Book Review*

“The story is well paced with descriptive language that firmly places readers in the midst of dangerous storms, sea battles, and islands full of strange animals. The legend of the eye that watches over cats at sea adds an interesting supernatural element.”

– *School Library Journal*

JOYRIDE

Anna Banks (Feiwel & Friends, Macmillan/ June 2, 2015)

Author of the New York Times–bestselling Syrena Legacy

It’s been several years since Carly Vega’s parents were deported. Carly lives with her older brother, studies hard, and works the graveyard shift at a convenience store to earn enough to bring her parents back from Mexico. Arden Moss used to be the star quarterback at school. He used to date popular blondes and have fun pranking with his older sister, Amber. But now all that’s changed, and Arden needs a new accomplice. Especially one his father, the town sheriff, will disapprove of.

All Carly wants, at first, is to stay under the radar and do what her family expects. All Arden wants is to not do what his family expects. When their paths cross, they each realize they’ve been living according to the wishes of others. Carly and Arden’s journey toward their true hearts—and one another—is funny, romantic, and sometimes harsh. Just like real life.

BECOMING JINN

Lori Goldstein (Feiwel & Friends, Macmillan/ April 21, 2015)

Forget everything you *thought* you knew about genies!

Azra has just turned sixteen, and overnight, her body lengthens, her olive skin deepens, and her eyes glisten with gold thanks to the brand-new silver bangle that locks around her wrist. As she always knew it would, her Jinn ancestry brings not just magical powers, but the reality of a life of servitude, as her wish granting is controlled by a remote ruling class of Jinn known as the Afrit. To the humans she lives among, she's just the girl working at the snack bar at the beach, navigating the fryer and her first crush. But behind closed doors, she's learning how to harness her powers and fulfill the obligations of her destiny. Mentored by her mother and a small community of Zar "sisters," Azra soon discovers she may not be quite like the rest of her circle of female Jinn . . . and that her powers could endanger them all. Lori Goldstein's debut sparkles with all the magic, humor, and romance that readers wish for!

KALAHARI

Jessica Khoury (Razorbill, Penguin/ February 25, 2015)

When an educational safari goes wrong, five teens find themselves stranded in the Kalahari Desert without a guide. It's up to Sarah, the daughter of zoologists, to lead them to safety, calling on survival know-how from years of growing up in remote locales. Battling dehydration, starvation and the pangs of first love, she does her best to hold it together.

But soon a terrifying encounter makes Sarah question everything she's ever known about the natural world. A silver lion, as though made of mercury, makes a vicious, unprovoked attack on the group. After a narrow escape, they uncover the chilling truth behind the lion's silver sheen: a highly contagious and deadly virus that threatens to ravage the entire area—and eliminate life as they know it. In this breathtaking new novel by the acclaimed author of *Origin* and *Vitro*, Sarah and the others must not only outrun the virus, but its creators, who will stop at nothing to wipe every trace of it.

WE SHOULD HANG OUT SOMETIME

Josh Sundquist (Little, Brown BFYR/ December 16, 2015)

The Friedrich Agency controls Film and TV rights

From the author of the national bestseller *Just Don't Fall* comes a hilarious new memoir for the teen audience *We Should Hang Out Sometime*. By revisiting “the ones who got away,” Josh examines his life, touching on issues such as self-esteem, living with a disability, religion, and family dynamics. Sometimes heart-breaking, always in good humor, Josh Sundquist tells all about his teen and young adult quest for love

Josh Sundquist is an author, cancer survivor, motivational speaker, YouTube personality and Paralympic ski racer. He has spoken across the world to groups ranging from Fortune 500 companies to inner city public schools to the White House.

Praise for WE SHOULD HANG OUT SOMETIME:

“Often hilarious, occasionally awkward, and always hopeful, Josh's quest for love will have readers rooting for him all the way.”

– Jennifer E. Smith, author of *The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight*

“Josh Sundquist has written a sharp, funny memoir without an ounce of self-pity about how the fear of rejection can be far more crippling than any disease. A hilarious, heartfelt reminder that finding the courage to accept love is an inside job.”

– Aaron Hartzler, author of *Rapture Practice*

LOOT: How to Steal a Fortune

Jude Watson (Scholastic, June 24/ 2014)

The Friedrich Agency controls Film and TV rights

Optioned by Will Smith's company Overbrook/ Columbia Pictures

Coming soon . . . LOOT 2, just sold to Scholastic!

By bestselling and National Book Award-winning author Jude Watson (Judy Blundell) comes LOOT, an adventure full of hijinks, heists, and high-octane fun. On a foggy night in Amsterdam, a man falls from a rooftop to the wet pavement below. It's notorious jewel thief Alfie McQuinn and he's dying. As sirens wail in the distance, Alfie manages to get out two last words to his young son, March: "Find jewels."

But March learns that his father is not talking about a stash of loot. He's talking about Jules, the twin sister March never knew he had. No sooner than the two find each other, they're picked up by the police and sent to the world's worst orphanage. It's not prison, but it feels like it.

March and Jules have no intention of staying put. They know their father's business inside and out, and they're tired of being pushed around. Just one good heist, and they'll live the life of riches and freedom most kids only dream about. Watch out! There are wild kids on the loose and a crime spree coming . . .