

LONDON 2022

# THE FRIEDRICH AGENCY LLC

## FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

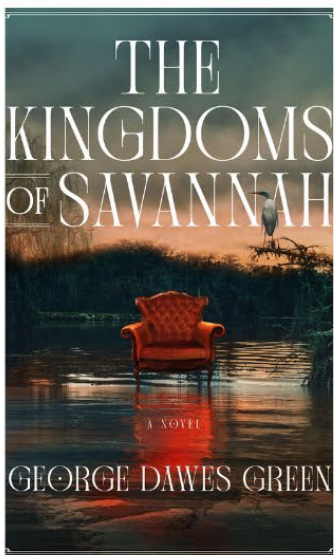
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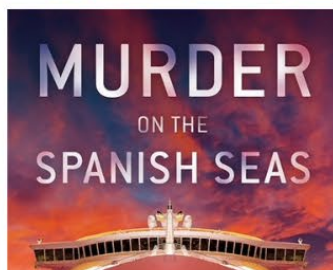
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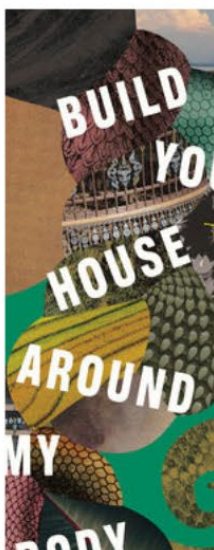


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For international rights queries: Hannah Brattesani  
hbrattesani@friedrichagency.com

# Film & TV

Ruth Ozeki's *THE BOOK OF FORM AND EMPTINESS* is now in development with Patrick Somerville and his writing team (*The Leftovers* and *Station Eleven*).

Violet Kupersmith's *BUILD YOUR HOUSE AROUND MY BODY* is now in final negotiations for exclusive development as a TV series with the studio behind *Judas and the Black Messiah*.

Paramount TV now has a fantastic draft of the pilot script for Emily Austin's *EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM WILL SOMEDAY BE DEAD!*

Our exciting deal for *BROOD* is now public: Haley Bennett (*Cyrano*) to star, and Mollye Asher (*Nomadland*) to produce!

Terry McMillan's first novel, *MAMA*, is now in development for TV with BET studios.

A&E Network is now developing Sue Grafton's alphabet series following private detective Kinsey Millhone for Television.

**For film/tv queries:** Lucy Carson  
lcarson@friedrichagency.com

## A DANGEROUS BUSINESS

Jane Smiley (Knopf/December 6<sup>th</sup> 2022)

Film/TV agent: Ellen Goldsmith-Vein at Gotham Group

Option Publishers: UK/ANZ (Macmillan); France (Rivages); Slovakia (Slovensky Spisovatel); Romania (Humanitas Fiction); Germany (Nagel&Kimche); Holland (Niuew Amsterdam); Vivat (Ukraine)

**From the beloved Pulitzer Prize-winning and best-selling author: a rollicking murder mystery set in Gold Rush California, about two young prostitutes who follow a trail of missing girls.**

Monterey, 1851. Ever since her husband was killed in a bar fight, Eliza Ripple has been working in a brothel. It seems like a better life, at least at first. The madam, Mrs. Parks, is kind, the men are (relatively) well behaved, and Eliza has attained what few women can claim: financial security. But when the dead bodies of young women start appearing outside of town, a darkness descends that she can't resist confronting. Side by side with her friend Jean, and inspired by her reading, Eliza pieces together an array of clues to try to catch the killer, all the while juggling clients who begin to seem more and more suspicious.

### Praise for Jane Smiley:

“She turns literary and stylistic cartwheels. Is there anything Jane Smiley cannot do?”  
—*Time*

“There seems to be nothing Smiley can't write about fabulously well.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*

“[Jane has written] some of the most brilliant and ferocious fiction of the past 40 years.” — *Boston Globe*

“America's Tolstoy.” —*The Guardian*

“Smiley is a master of characterization as well as language.”  
—*The New York Journal of Books*

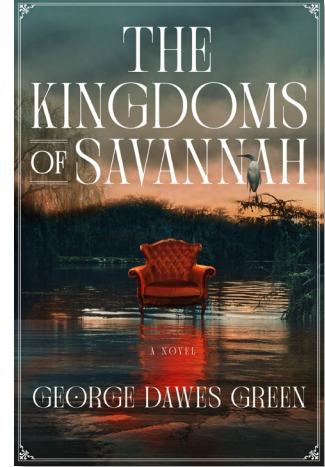


Jane Smiley is the author of numerous novels, including *A Thousand Acres*, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize, and most recently, *Some Luck*, *Early Warning*, and *Golden Age*. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, she has also received the PEN Center USA Lifetime Achievement Award for Literature. She lives in Northern California.

## THE KINGDOMS OF SAVANNAH

George Dawes Green (Celadon/July 5<sup>th</sup> 2022)

Film/TV agent: Matthew Snyder at CAA



A new suspense novel from the Edgar award-winning author of *The Caveman's Valentine*.

When matriarch Morgana Musgrove calls upon her prodigal son Ransom to help her with a case, the defunct M. Musgrove & Family Detective Agency is back in business, albeit reluctantly. Tensions rise between the Musgroves and whispers of a mysterious lost “Kingdom”—descendants of the African-American soldiers who fought for King George during the American Revolution, and afterwards formed a secret community, refusing to return to slavery—float in the sultry Savannah night. The family of investigators creeps closer and closer to exposing the city’s seedy underbelly, and a depraved history that a powerful few are determined to keep hidden, no matter the cost...

### Praise for George Dawes Green:

“When Green isn't making you laugh, he's making you bite your nails down to the bleeding point.” – **Stephen King**

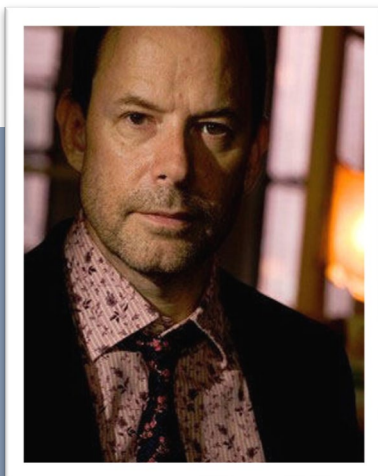
“George Dawes Green is as good as they come”— **Andrew Klavan**

### Praise for *THE KINGDOMS OF SAVANNAH*:

“A rich, sprawling, dazzling mystery. I savored every page.”  
—**Riley Sager, *New York Times* bestselling author**

“Compelling characters and vivid settings make this impressive Southern narrative stand out among the best.”

— **Karin Slaughter, *New York Times* bestselling author**



George Dawes Green, founder of *The Moth* and *Unchained*, is an internationally celebrated author. His first novel, *The Caveman's Valentine*, won the Edgar Award and became a motion picture starring Samuel L. Jackson. *The Juror* was an international bestseller in more than twenty languages and was the basis for the movie starring Demi Moore and Alec Baldwin. *Ravens* was chosen as one of the best books of 2009 by the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Daily Mail*, and many other publications. George Green grew up in Georgia and now lives in Brooklyn, New York.

## SUPER BLOOM

Megan Tady (Zibby Books/Summer 2023)

**For fans of Emily Henry's *BEACH READ* and Maria Semple, *SUPERBLOOM* is a heartwarming and hilarious debut novel about a 30-something massage therapist enlisted by an infamous romance novelist to dish the dirt on the not-so-pristine world of luxury spas.**

Icing her hands. Grieving her boyfriend. Trying not to get fired. Each day feels the same for Joan Johnston. Her life gets a boost of excitement when a new massage client—Carmen Bronze, a high-maintenance romance novelist—corners Joan into becoming her research assistant for her next bestseller.

Joan's notes start off as expected—demanding clients, inane spa rules, wacky colleagues— but she soon finds herself journaling about the sudden death of her boyfriend. What's more, she starts writing their relationship back into existence through a romance novel of her own. But the longer she spends crafting her own fictional happily ever after, the more she risks losing the possibility of that in real life...



Megan Tady is a writer and editor running the company Word-Lift, and her writing has appeared in *The Huffington Post* and *Ms. Magazine*, among others. She was a finalist for the 2021 Penguin Random House Student Fiction Award. Megan lives in Western Massachusetts with her family. *SUPER BLOOM* is her debut novel.

# NIGHTCRAWLING

Leila Mottley (Knopf/June 7<sup>th</sup> 2022)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Bloomsbury); Germany (Harper); France (Albin Michel); Japan (Hayakawa); Sweden (Norstedts); Norway (Gyldendal); Italy (Bollati Boringhieri); Brazil (Companhia das Letras); Finland (Schildts & Soderstroms); Korea (Gu-Fic)  
Film/TV agent: Eric Reid at WME



Sold after a 3-day, 13 editor auction in the US, NIGHTCRAWLING is a dazzling, unforgettable novel that announces a blazingly original voice.

Kiara and her brother Marcus are barely scraping by in a squalid East Oakland apartment complex optimistically called the Royal-Hi. Both have dropped out of high school, their family fractured by death and prison. But while Marcus clings to his dream of rap stardom, Kiara hunts for work to pay their rent—which has more than doubled—and to keep the nine-year-old boy next door, abandoned by his mother, safe and fed.

One night, what begins as a drunken misunderstanding with a stranger turns into the job Kiara never imagined wanting but now desperately needs: nightcrawling. And her world breaks open even further when her name surfaces in an investigation that exposes her as a key witness in a massive scandal within the Oakland police department.

### Praise for NIGHTCRAWLING:

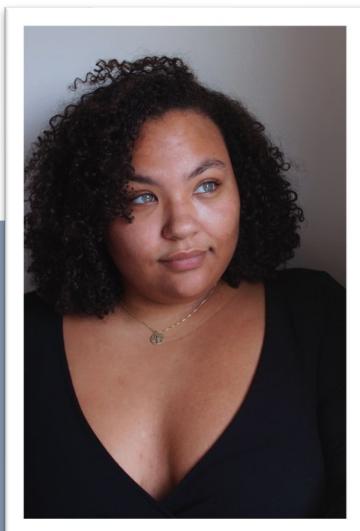
“This is an electrifying debut.”—**Dave Eggers, author of *The Every***

“*Nightcrawling* bursts at the seams of every page and swallows you whole.”

—**Tommy Orange, author of *There There***

“This is going to be one of *the* big books of 2022.”

—**Stylist (UK)**



Leila Mottley is a debut author from Oakland, California. She is the 2018 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate and currently attends Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. Leila comes from a diasporic family with ties to various cities, including Oakland, Detroit, Harlem, and Nashville, all of which have or will appear in her writing. Leila graduated high school in three years and spent the summer before college writing and starring in *When I Write It*, a short film that was set to premiere at the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival.

## DIE BEAUTIFUL

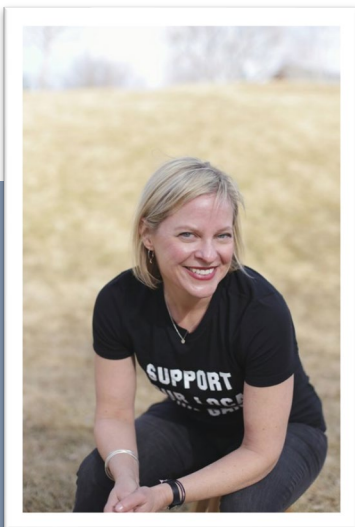
Buzzy Jackson (Dutton/Winter 2023)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Michael Joseph); Spain (Plaza & Janés); Romania (Litera); Brazil (Arquero); Hungary (Animus); Germany (Aufbau); Finland (WSOY); Italy (Newton Compton); Israel (Matar)

Film/TV agent: Hilary Zaitz-Michael at WME

**A debut novel based on the real and unforgettable life of Hannie Schaft, a young woman living in Nazi-occupied Holland who joined the Resistance, learned to shoot, and executed her Nazi targets with such precision that Hitler nicknamed her “the Girl with Red Hair.”**

Hannie didn't train to be a soldier-- her youthful dream was to finish law school in Amsterdam and join the League of Nations. But Hannie's volunteer work with the Red Cross puts her on the radar of key resistance recruiters, who spot her fearlessness and outrage, recognizing her for the heroine she'll someday become. As the simmering menace of Nazi-occupied Holland reaches a boiling point, Hannie becomes ever more daring, assassinating powerful Nazis point blank, blowing up munitions factories, constantly improvising with last-minute Resistance orders. She also falls deeply in love at a tremendous cost. But throughout it all, Hannie's greatest weapon is her determination not to become a monster herself: *blijf altijd menselijk*. Stay human.



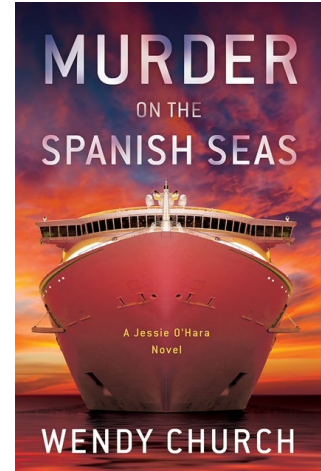
Buzzy Jackson is the award-winning author of three books of nonfiction and has a Ph.D. in History from UC Berkeley. A recent fellow at the Edith Wharton Writing Residency, she is also a member of the National Book Critics' Circle and writes for the Boston Globe and BookForum. Buzzy grew up in the mountains of California and Montana and now lives in Boulder, Colorado.

## MURDER ON THE SPANISH SEAS

Wendy Church (Polis Books/May 17<sup>th</sup> 2022)

A globe-trotting mystery for fans of Janet Evanovich and Ruth Ware's *The Woman in Cabin 10*.

Jesse O'Hara has just lost another job. "A million-dollar brain and a ten-cent personality," her last employer said. With nothing better to do, Jesse reluctantly accepts the gift of a luxury cruise around the Iberian Peninsula. She's not sure she can drink enough to keep her boredom at bay, but that's the least of her problems. From the very first moment of the cruise, it's clear to Jesse that something is very wrong. Aided by her near-photographic memory, Jesse investigates a series of strange incidents on the ship and uncovers what looks like a terrorist plot in the works. But with each new layer uncovered, her perception shifts and broadens--and someone doesn't want her poking around. For Jesse, bruised and concussed is preferable to tanned and relaxed, so she ignores the mounting danger even as she closes in on the villains, who have perfectly timed their grand finale...



### Praise for MURDER ON THE SPANISH SEAS:

"Clever, transportive, and laugh-out-loud funny."

—Andrea Bartz, *New York Times* bestselling author of *We Were Never Here*

"An action-packed debut that's as funny as the heroine is unstoppable. I loved it!" —  
Nora McFarland, author of the *Lilly Hawkins Mysteries*

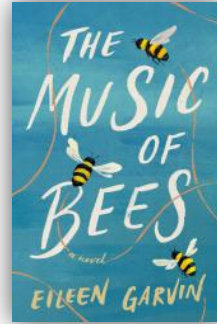


Like her fictional heroine, Wendy Church can curse and order drinks in quite a few languages, having worked and lived abroad throughout her many careers in everything from engineering to marketing to non-profit work. She now lives in Seattle with her partner, and she recently taught herself how to pick locks as part of this book's research-- she got so good at it, that friends and family have sent her their broken safes! *Murder on the Spanish Seas* is her first novel.

## THE MUSIC OF BEES

Eileen Garvin (Dutton/April 27<sup>th</sup> 2021)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Headline);  
Germany (Piper); Holland (HarperCollins  
Holland); Portugal (LeYas); Korea  
(Munhakdongne); Russia (AST)  
Film/TV agent: Dana Spector at CAA



A heartwarming debut novel for readers of *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, following three lonely strangers in a rural Oregon town, each working through grief and life's curveballs, who are brought together by happenstance on a local honeybee farm where they find surprising friendship, healing—and maybe even a second chance—just when they least expect it.

Forty-four-year-old Alice Holtzman has begun to have panic attacks whenever she thinks about how her life hasn't turned out the way she dreamed. In the grip of an attack, she nearly collides with Jake—a troubled, paraplegic teenager with the tallest mohawk in Hood River County—while carrying 120,000 honeybees in the back of her pickup truck. Charmed by Jake's sincere interest in her bees and seeking to rescue him from his toxic home life, Alice surprises herself by inviting Jake to her farm. And then there's Harry, a twenty-four-year-old with debilitating social anxiety. When he applies to Alice's ad for part-time farm help, he's shocked to find himself hired. The unlikely trio must unite for the sake of the bees—and in the process, they just might forge a new future for themselves.

### Praise for **THE MUSIC OF BEES**:

"A comforting yet thought-provoking tale."—*Booklist*

"An exquisite debut."—*People*

"This heartwarming, uplifting story will make you want to call your own friends."

—*Good Housekeeping*

"A nice reminder that 'flaws' can actually be strengths."

—*The Washington Post*



Eileen Garvin is a beekeeper and writer living in Hood River, Oregon. Her memoir, *How to be a Sister*, was published in 2010. *The Music of Bees* is her debut novel.

## THE BOOK OF FORM AND EMPTINESS

Ruth Ozeki (Viking/September 21<sup>st</sup> 2021)

Canongate holds world rights except Israel, France, and Brazil.

Rights sold: UK (Canongate); ANZ (Text); Israel (Am Oved); Russia (AST); Italy (Edizioni E/O); France (Belfond); Spain (Alianza); Lithuania (Baltos Lankos); Brazil (Morro Branco); Turkey (Ithakivia); Arabic (Kalemat) Taiwan (Yuan-Liou)  
Film/TV agent: Sylvie Rabineau at WME



Women's  
Prize for  
Fiction

A brilliantly inventive new novel by the Booker Prize-finalist author of *A Tale for the Time Being*, named a most anticipated book by *Time*, *Vulture*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Lit Hub*, *The Millions*, *Publishers Weekly* and *Bookpage*.

After the tragic death of his father, fourteen-year-old Benny Oh begins to hear voices belonging to the things in his house—a sneaker, a broken Christmas ornament, a piece of wilted lettuce. When his mother, Annabelle, develops a hoarding problem, the voices grow more clamorous. At first, Benny tries to ignore them, but soon the voices follow him outside the house, driving him at last to seek refuge in the silence of a large public library. There, Benny discovers a strange new world; he falls in love with a mesmerizing street artist who uses the library as her performance space. He meets a homeless philosopher-poet, who encourages him to find his own voice amongst the many. And he meets his very own Book—a talking thing—who narrates Benny's life and teaches him to listen to the things that truly matter.

### Praise for THE BOOK OF FORM AND EMPTINESS:

“Heart-breaking and heart-healing.... No one writes quite like Ruth Ozeki.”— **Matt Haig**

“Ozeki ensouls the world.” —*The New York Times*

“Inventive, vivid and propelled by a sense of wonder.” — *TIME*



Ruth Ozeki is a novelist, filmmaker, and Zen Buddhist priest. She is the award-winning author of three novels, *My Year of Meats*, *All Over Creation*, and *A Tale for the Time Being*, which was a finalist for the 2013 Booker Prize. She is affiliated with the Everyday Zen Foundation and lives in Northampton, Massachusetts, where she teaches creative writing at Smith College and is the Grace Jarcho Ross 1933 Professor of Humanities.

## BUILD YOUR HOUSE AROUND MY BODY

Violet Kupersmith (Random House/July 6<sup>th</sup> 2021)

Rights sold: UK (OneWorld); Romania (Nemira); Italy (NN Editions); Poland (Kobiece)

Film/TV Agents: Michelle Kroes & Jiah Shin, CAA



Part puzzle, part revenge tale, part ghost story, this ingenious novel spins half a century of Vietnamese history and folklore into “a thrilling read, acrobatic and filled with verve” (*The New York Times*).

Women's  
Prize for  
Fiction

Two young women go missing decades apart. Both are fearless, both are lost. And both will have their revenge.

Center  
for Fiction  
First  
Novel  
Prize

1986: The teenage daughter of a wealthy Vietnamese family loses her way in an abandoned rubber plantation while fleeing her angry father and is forever changed.  
2011: A young, unhappy Vietnamese American woman disappears from her new home in Saigon without a trace.

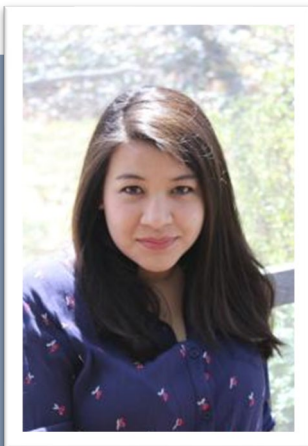
The fates of these two women are inescapably linked, bound together by past generations, by ghosts and ancestors, by the history of possessed bodies and possessed lands.

### Praise for BUILD YOUR HOUSE AROUND MY BODY:

“Dexterous, sensitive storytelling.”—*Time*

“Fiction as daring and accomplished as [this] reignites my love of the form and its kaleidoscopic possibilities.”

—David Mitchell, author of *Cloud Atlas*



Violet Kupersmith is the author of the short story collection *The Frangipani Hotel*. She previously taught English with the Fulbright Program in the Mekong Delta, and was a creative writing fellow at the University of East Anglia. She has lived in Da Lat and Saigon, Vietnam, and currently resides in the U.S.

# BROOD

Jackie Polzin

(Doubleday/March 9th 2021)

Rights sold: UK (Picador); Germany (DTV); Italy (Einaudi) France (Editions Dalva); Spain (Libros del Asteroide); Netherlands (Atlas Contact)  
Film/TV: Hilary Zaitz-Michael at WME



**An exquisite new literary voice—wryly funny, nakedly honest, beautifully observational, in the vein of Jenny Offill and Elizabeth Strout—which depicts one woman's attempt to keep her four chickens alive while reflecting on a recent loss.**

Over the course of a single year, our nameless narrator heroically tries to keep her small brood of four chickens alive despite the seemingly endless challenges that caring for another creature entails. From the forty-below nights of a brutal Minnesota winter to a sweltering summer which brings a surprise tornado, she battles predators, bad luck, and the uncertainty of a future that may not look anything like the one she always imagined.

As the year unfolds, we come to know the small band of loved ones who comprise the narrator's circumscribed life at this moment. Her mother, a flinty former home-ec teacher who may have to take over the chickens; her best friend, a real estate agent with a burgeoning family of her own; and her husband whose own coping mechanisms for dealing with the miscarriage that haunts his wife are more than a little unfathomable to her.

## Praise for BROOD:

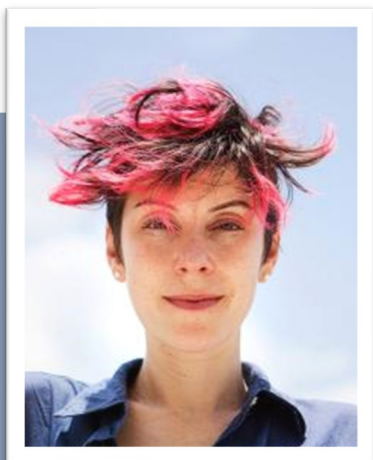
"Acutely observed [with] metaphors of the world at large." —*The New Yorker*

"It's a pleasure to see what Polzin sees" — *The New York Times*

" Her commentary [is] so droll, trenchant and precise." —*Washington Post*

"A witty delight."—**Paula Hawkins**

"[BROOD] abounds in wit, charm, and the very mystery of being."—**Joy Williams**



Jackie Polzin lives in St. Paul, Minnesota with her husband and children. *Brood* is her first novel.

## LOOK AT US

T.L. Toma (Bellevue Literary Press/October 12<sup>th</sup> 2021)

Rights sold: Italy (Bompiani)

Martin and Lily have a life that many would envy—they share an expensive New York apartment with their twin toddlers, sample the delicacies of Manhattan’s finest restaurants, and take Caribbean vacations. But when the couple’s nanny announces her imminent departure, they panic: how will they ever find a replacement capable of managing their spirited boys? Enter Maeve, a young Irish émigré. Neither of them imagines how indispensable she will become, either to the household or to their marriage. As the family’s domestic bliss takes an unexpected turn, a different type of intimacy evolves, leading to an explosive finale.

A captivating, trenchant portrait of class and sexual dynamics, *LOOK AT US* reveals just how fragile our social arrangements really are.

### Praise for *LOOK AT US*:

“Frank and unflinching. . . A daring effort.”

—*New York Times*

“Toma is excellent at looking intensely below the superficial and the unspoken, and his lucid style and cool tone add power to the story. The twists and turns of this contemporary morality play will have readers engrossed.”

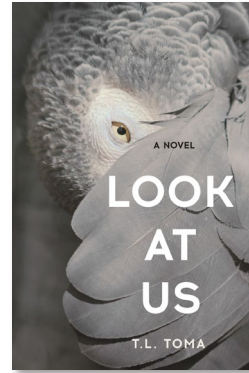
—*Publishers Weekly*

“I couldn’t put it down until the startling conclusion, which arrived with such force I gasped. Intense and chilling. Not to be missed.”

—*Valerie Martin, author of Property and I Give It to You*



T. L. Toma is the author of two novels: *Border Dance* and *Look at Us*. He studied philosophy at Brown University and Northwestern University, where he received his PhD. He has taught in prisons, migrant labor camps, and adult literacy programs and currently teaches at Laredo College, Palo Alto College, and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Toma lives with his wife in Portland, Texas.



## SATELLITE LOVE

Genki Ferguson (McClelland & Stewart PRH  
Canada/March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021)

Film/TV agent: Ellen Goldsmith-Vein at Gotham Group

Named CBC Radio's *Q* Book Pick of the Month, Shelf Life Books Book of the Month, and a *Toronto Life's* summer read recommendation, *Satellite Love* is a heartbreaking and beautifully unconventional debut novel about a girl, a boy, and a satellite. A bittersweet meditation on what it means to be human.



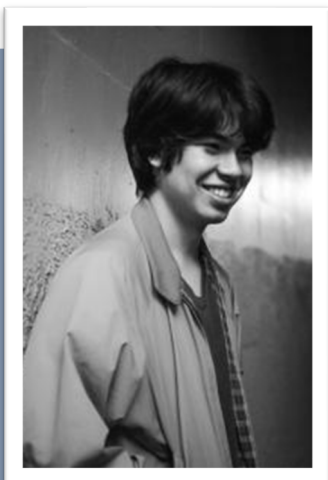
On the eve of the new millennium, in a city in southern Japan that progress has forgotten, sixteen-year-old Anna Obata looks to the stars for solace. An outcast at school, and left to fend for herself and care for her increasingly senile grandfather at home, Anna copes with her loneliness by searching the night sky for answers. But everything changes the evening the Low Earth Orbit satellite (LEO for short) returns her gaze and sees her as no one else has before.

After Leo is called down to Earth, he embarks on an extraordinary journey to understand his own humanity as well as the fragile mind of the young woman who called him into being. As Anna withdraws further into her own mysterious plans, he will be forced to question the limits of his devotion and the lengths he will go to protect her.

### Praise for SATELLITE LOVE:

“[O]ne of those rare and affecting novels that will leave you breathless.”  
— Ruth Ozeki, international bestselling author of *A Tale For The Time Being*

"An unconventional story about love, loneliness and human connection."  
— *CBC*

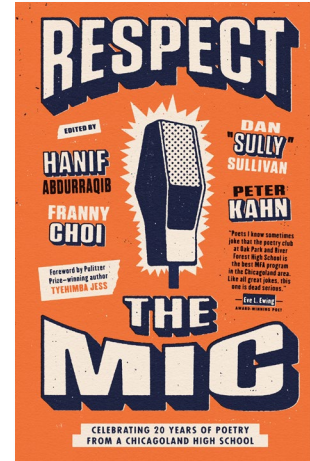


Genki Ferguson was born in New Brunswick, Canada to a family of authors (his father is author Will Ferguson), and grew up reading Murakami. He spent much of his childhood in the subtropical island of Kyushu, Japan, where his mother's family still resides. Fluent in Japanese and capable of making a decent sushi roll, Genki was also the recipient of the 2017 Helen Pitt Award for visual arts and is finishing a degree in Film Production, while working part-time at Book Warehouse, an indie store in Vancouver.

## RESPECT THE MIC

Edited by Hanif Abdurraqib, Franny Choi, Peter Kahn & Dan "Sully" Sullivan (Penguin Workshop/February 1<sup>st</sup> 2022)

Publisher holds world English rights.



Founded two decades ago by Oak Park River Forest High School teacher, Peter Kahn, the Spoken Word Club has changed the trajectory of thousands of students' lives. Peter made the simple yet groundbreaking decision to bring poetry slams into his classroom and saw introverts and reluctant learners turn into national youth poet laureates (Kara Jackson), NBA players (Iman Shumpert), and rising comedy stars (Langston Kerman). No less important are the many obstacles that the Spoken Word Club urged its members to confront - abuse, mental health, sexuality and identity crises, incarcerated parents, bullying... the list, unfortunately, goes on.

*Respect the Mic* is an anthology of new poetry from the students and alumni of this remarkable club, intended for poetry readers and writers, students and teachers.

### Praise for RESPECT THE MIC:

"This anthology feels like a living, breathing thing."  
 – Tavi Gevinson, writer, magazine editor, and actress

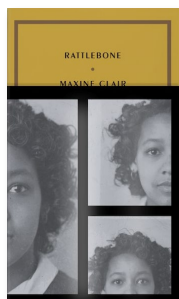
"If anyone needs to be convinced that poetry matters - makes us bigger and wider and calmer and more confident - look here."  
 – Naomi Shihab Nye, Poetry Editor for *The New York Times*

"This is a primer for the next twenty years of great poems and poets."  
 – Terrance Hayes, National Book Award-winning poet



The Spoken Word club at Oak Park River forest high school is the longest running poetry club of its kind. Hanif Abdurraqib is National Book Award-winning poet, essayist, and cultural critic. Franny Choi is a writer, poet, and the host of Poetry Foundation's *V/S* podcast. Peter Kahn is a celebrated educator and poet. Dan "Sully" Sullivan is the founder of Urban Sandbox, an all-ages Chicago poetry event in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, as well as a 3-time Chicago Slam Champion.

## SELECTED BACKLIST TITLES



### RATTLEBONE

**Maxine Clair (McNally Editions/June 28<sup>th</sup> 2022)**

Newly re-issued by McNally Editions, Maxine Clair's debut *Rattlebone*, was first published by FS&G in 1994 to rhapsodic reviews. Eddying around the unforgettable Irene "Reenie" Wilson, this collection of interconnected stories is a vivid recreation of the Midwest of the 1950s and an intimate portrait of the fictional community of Rattlebone.

## THE DAVID GURNEY SERIES

**(7 Titles) John Verdon (2012-2021)**

**Rights sold: Spain & Catalonia (Roca); Finland (Gummerus); Israel (Keter); Greece (Dioptra)**

Ex-homicide detective and puzzle-solving master David Gurney comes out of retirement to solve seemingly impossible murder cases in John Verdon's ever-popular thriller series. Blending hard-boiled noir fiction with the pleasures of classic "whodunit" puzzle-solving, Verdon has written a "hero for the ages" (David Baldacci).



## FORTY ACRES



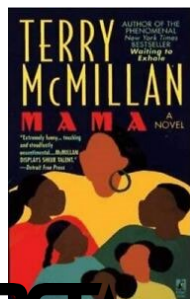
**Dwayne Alexander Smith (Atria/July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014)**

**Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Faber); Germany (Droemer); Czechia (Dobrovsky)**

Dwayne Alexander Smith's bone-chilling, racially charged thriller is now in development at Netflix as a feature film.

A young attorney befriends a group of some of the most powerful, wealthy, and esteemed Black men in America. He's dazzled by what they've accomplished, and they seem to think he has the potential to be as successful as they are. They invite him for a weekend away from it all—no wives, no cell phones, no talk of business.

But far from home and cut off from everyone he loves, he discovers a disturbing secret that challenges some of his deepest convictions...



## MAMA

**Terry McMillan (Houghton Mifflin, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1987)**

In development with BET studios, *Mama* is the classic novel that first introduced #1 *New York Times* bestselling Terry McMillan.

Mildred Peacock is the funny, feisty heroine of *Mama*, a survivor who'll do anything to keep her family together. In Mildred's world, men come and go as quickly as her paychecks, but her five children are her dream, her hope and her future.

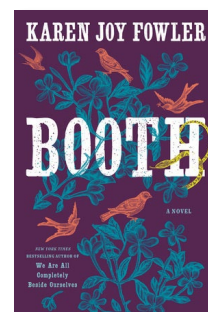


## SELECTED WORLD RIGHTS TITLES

### **BOOTH, Karen Joy Fowler (Putnam/March 8<sup>th</sup> 2022)**

**Rights sold:** UK/ANZ (Serpent's Tail); Holland (Nieuw Amsterdam)

From the Man Booker finalist and bestselling author comes an epic novel about the family behind one of the most infamous figures in American history: John Wilkes Booth. A startling portrait of a country in the throes of change and a vivid exploration of brother- and sisterhood, *Booth* is a riveting historical novel focused on the very things that bind, and break, a family.



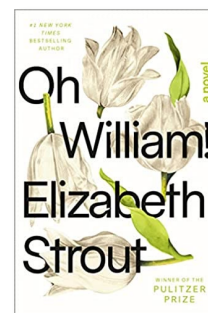
### **OH WILLIAM!, Elizabeth Strout (Random House/October 19 2021)**

**Rights sold:** UK/ANZ (Penguin UK); Germany (Random House); Portugal (Alfaguara); France (Editions Fayard); Catalonia (Edicions de 1984); Brazil (Campahnia); Russia (Phantom Press); Spain (Alfaguara); Slovakia (ARThur s.r.o); Italy (Giulio Einaudi); Holland (Atlas Contact); Finland (Tammi); Korea (Munhakdogne Publishing); Israel (Yedioth Books); Hungary (Geopen Konyvkiado); Taiwan (Aquarius Publishing); Norway (Forlaget Press); Poland (Wielka Litera); Sweden (Bokförlaget Forum); Denmark (Gyldendal)

**Option publishers:** Ukraine (KM Books); Poland (Wielka Litera); Denmark (Gyldendal); Sweden (Bokforlaget Forem); Norway (Forlaget Press); Czechia (Jota Nakladatelstvi); Croatia (Profil Knjiga); China (ThinKingdom Media Group)

Pulitzer Prize-winner and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Elizabeth Strout returns with a luminous new novel about love, loss, and the family secrets.

Strout's iconic heroine Lucy Barton recounts her complex, tender relationship with her first husband— and longtime, on-again-off-again friend and confidante.



### **ONE TWO THREE, Laurie Frankel (Holt/June 8 2021)**

**Film/TV Agent:** Dana Spector, CAA

By the author of the Reese's Book Club x Hello Sunshine Book Pick *This Is How It Always Is*, comes a timely, topical novel about love and family that will make you laugh and cry and laugh again. Three unforgettable narrators join together here to tell a spellbinding story with wit, wonder, and deep affection about how expanding our notions of normal makes the world a better place for everyone and how when days are darkest, it's our daughters who will save us all.



### **EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM WILL SOMEDAY BE DEAD, Emily Austin (Atria/July 6 2021)**

**Rights sold:** UK/ANZ (Atlantic); Spain (Blackie Books); Poland (Prószyński); Serbia (Odiseja) \*In development with Paramount TV\*

A morbidly anxious young woman stumbles into a job as a receptionist at a Catholic church where she hides her atheist lesbian identity and becomes obsessed with the mysterious circumstances surrounding her predecessor's death.





## A TRAIN TO MOSCOW, Elena Gorokhova

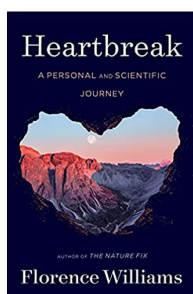
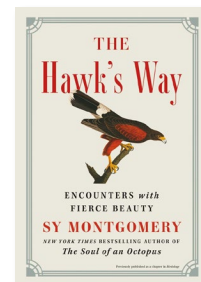
(Lake Union/March 1st 2022)

**Rights sold:** Bulgaria (Kragozor); Slovakia (Aurora)

Sasha leaves her small, provincial town behind the Iron Curtain for Moscow to audition for drama school. Before she leaves, she discovers the hidden war journal of her uncle Kolya, whose pages expose the official lies and the forbidden truth of Stalin's brutality.

## THE HAWK'S WAY, Sy Montgomery (Atria/May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022)

A splendid and luminous celebration of one of nature's most perfect and mysterious creatures—the hawk—from the *New York Times* bestselling author of the “astoundingly beautiful” (NPR) *The Soul of an Octopus*.



## HEARTBREAK, Florence Williams (W.W. Norton/February 1<sup>st</sup> 2022)

**Rights sold:** China (Shandong Friendship); Slovenia (UMco d.d)

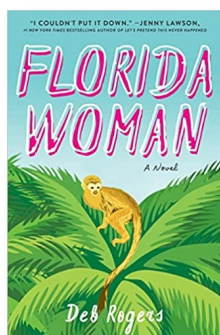
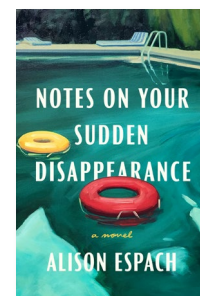
Continuing the scientific inquiry that has always informed her work, award-winning and bestselling author Florence Williams looks through the lens of her own sudden and painful divorce from a college sweetheart with whom she shares two kids, and embarks on a journey to understand what happens to our brains and bodies when we endure rejection and heartbreak.

## NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE,

Alison Espach (Henry Holt/ May 17<sup>th</sup> 2022)

**Rights sold:** Germany (Ulstein); Italy (Bollati); Croatia (Znanje)

A breathtakingly credible love story narrated by teenage Sally Holt as she addresses her older sister Kathy before, during and after Kathy's sudden and untimely death. How does a tight-knit family manage to make sense of such a massive, glaring loss? And when love blossoms unexpectedly, inconveniently, between Sally and her sister's grieving boyfriend, can these broken people open their hearts to it?



## FLORIDA WOMAN, Deb Rogers (Hanover Square

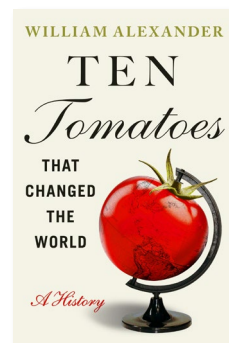
Press/July 5th 2022)

A gleefully dark and entertaining debut for fans of Kevin Wilson and Karen Russell, about one young woman's escape to a wildlife center for exotic monkeys where not everything is as it seems...

## TEN TOMATOES THAT CHANGED THE WORLD, William Alexander (Grand Central/ June 1<sup>st</sup> 2022)

**Rights sold:** China (Cultural Development Press); Japan (Seidosha); Italy (Aboca Edizioni)

*New York Times* bestselling author William Alexander takes readers on the surprisingly twisty journey of the beloved tomato in this fascinating and erudite microhistory. Supported by meticulous research and told in a lively, accessible voice, *Ten Tomatoes That Changed the World* seamlessly weaves travel, history, humor, and a little adventure (and misadventure) to follow the tomato's trail through history. A fascinating story complete with heroes, con artists, conquistadors, and—no surprise—the Mafia, this book is a mouth-watering, informative, and entertaining guide to the food that has captured our hearts for generations.

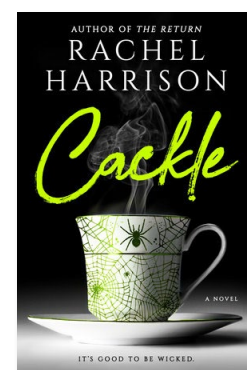


## CAKCLE, Rachel Harrison (Berkley/October 5<sup>th</sup> 2022)

**Rights sold:** UK/ANZ (Titan)

A darkly funny, frightening novel about a young woman learning how to take what she wants from a witch who may be too good to be true, from the author of *The Return*.

Annie is seeking a fresh start and accepts a teaching position that moves her from Manhattan to a small village upstate. She's stunned by how perfect and picturesque the town is. The people are all friendly and warm, including the beautiful, charming, and magnetic Sophie. She wants Annie to stop apologizing and start living for herself. After all, that's exactly how Sophie lives. Annie can't help but want to spend more and more time with her, even though the rest of the townsfolk seem... a little afraid of her.



## DANCES, Nicole Cuffy (OneWorld/May 2023)

At twenty-two years old, Cece Cordell reaches the pinnacle of her career as a ballet dancer when she's promoted to principal at the New York City Ballet. She's instantly catapulted into celebrity as the first black ballerina in the famed company's history. Soon after her promotion, Cece is faced with a choice that has the potential to either derail her career or alter her life irrevocably, sending her on a pilgrimage to discover just how much she's willing to sacrifice for her art—starting with a search for her missing brother.

