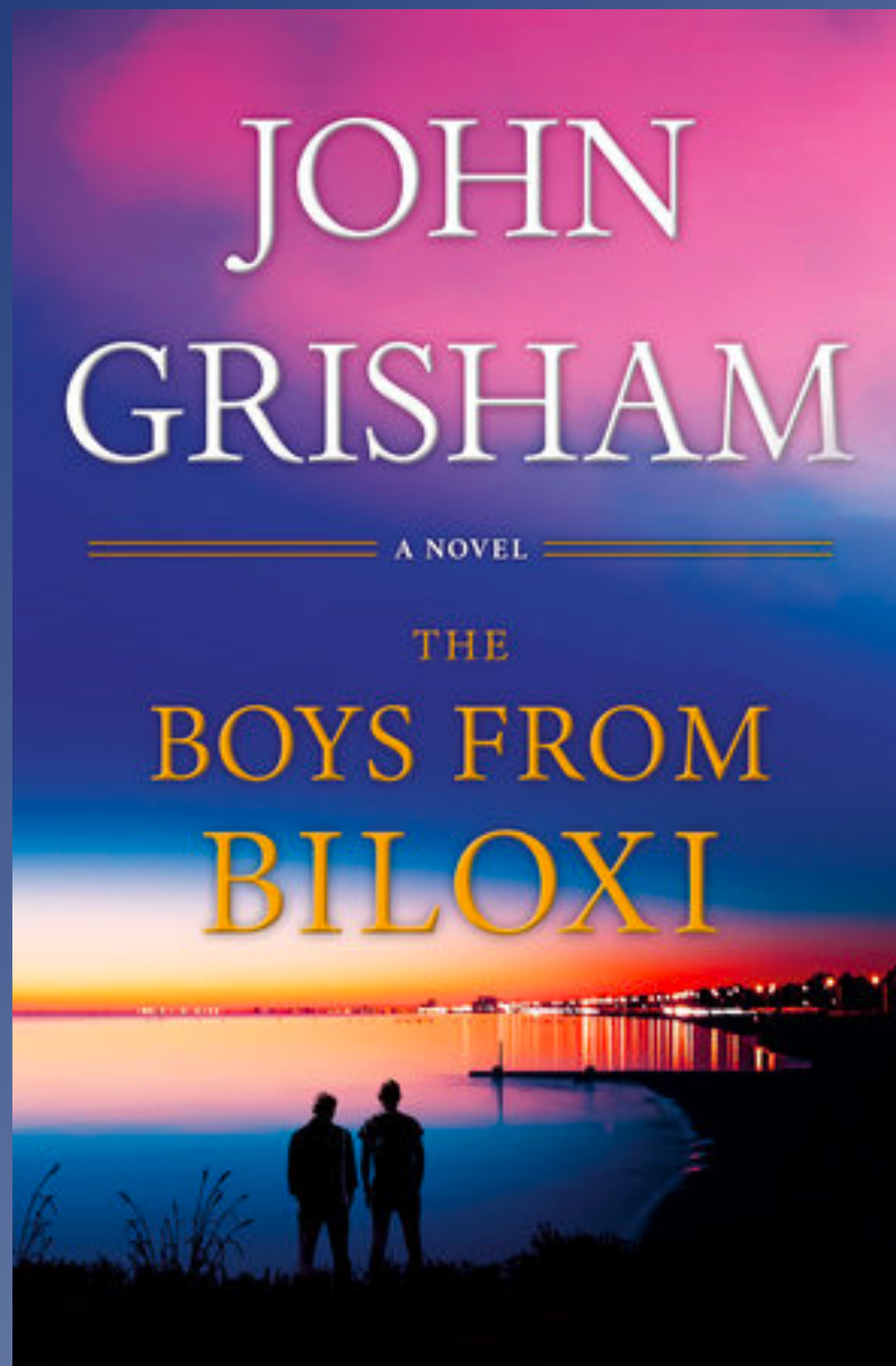


A watercolor illustration of a window with a grid pattern. The window is set against a light blue background. In the foreground, there are dark green branches with small leaves. The overall style is soft and artistic.

# The Gernert Company

Foreign Rights Guide  
Autumn 2022

fiction



*Grisham's trademark twists and turns will keep you tearing through the pages until the stunning conclusion.*

Doubleday - October 18, 2022

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Author of 47 consecutive #1 *New York Times* bestsellers, John Grisham returns to Mississippi with the riveting story of two sons of immigrant families who grow up as friends, but ultimately find themselves on opposite sides of the law.

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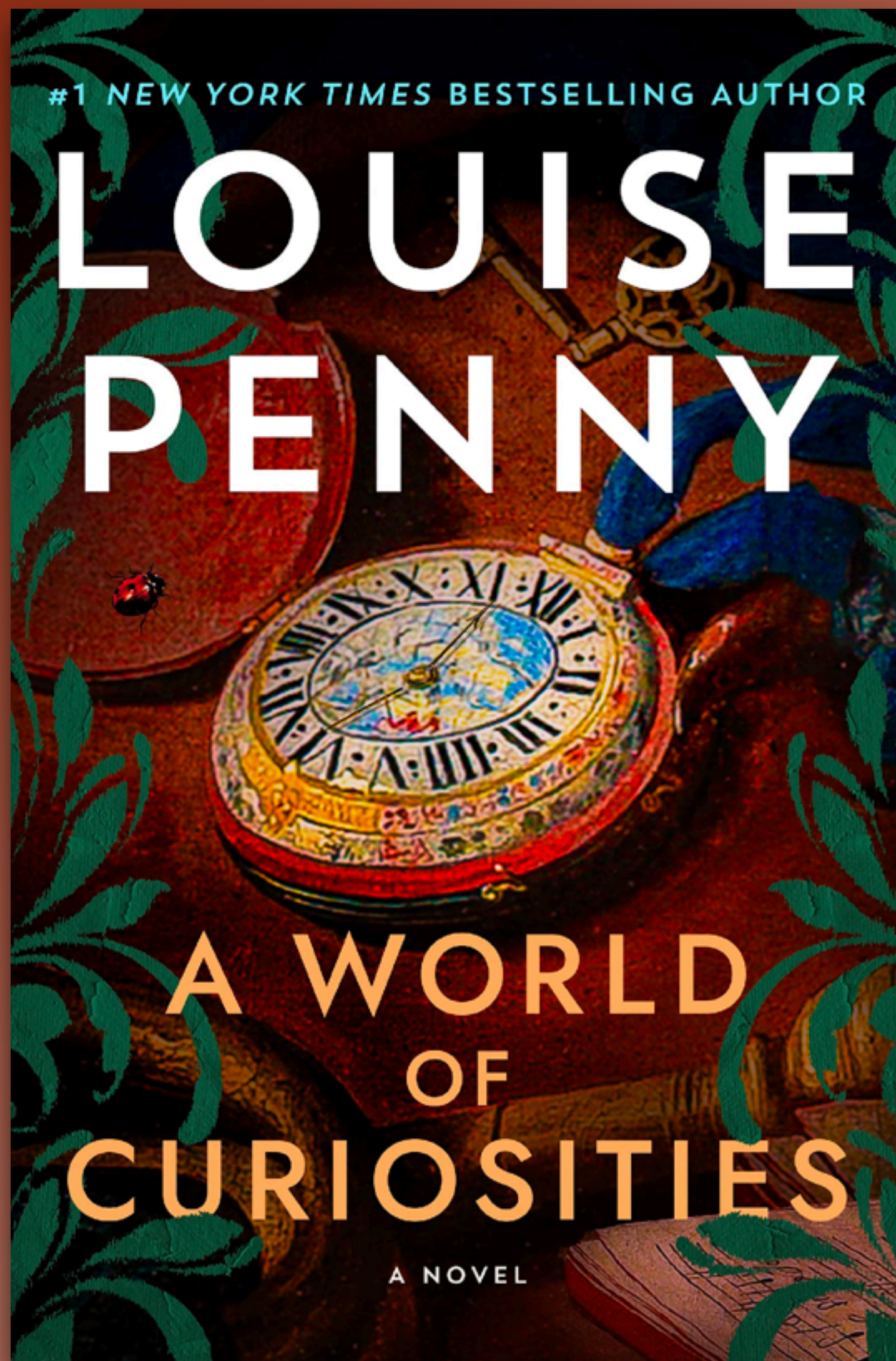
**John Grisham's books have sold more than 350 million copies and have been translated into nearly 50 languages and 10 blockbuster films.**

For most of the last hundred years, Biloxi was known for its beaches, resorts, and seafood industry. But it had a darker side. It was also notorious for corruption and vice, everything from gambling, prostitution, bootleg liquor, and drugs to contract killings. The vice was controlled by small cabal of mobsters, many of them rumored to be members of the Dixie Mafia.

Keith Rudy and Hugh Malco grew up in Biloxi in the sixties and were childhood friends, as well as Little League all-stars. But as teenagers, their lives took them in different directions. Keith's father became a legendary prosecutor, determined to "clean up the Coast." Hugh's father became the "Boss" of Biloxi's criminal underground. Keith went to law school and followed in his father's footsteps. Hugh preferred the nightlife and worked in his father's clubs. The two families were headed for a showdown, one that would happen in a courtroom.

Rich with history and with a large cast of unforgettable characters, *The Boys from Biloxi* is a sweeping saga in which life itself hangs in the balance.

**John Grisham** is a two-time winner of the Harper Lee Prize for Legal Fiction and was honored with the Library of Congress Creative Achievement Award for Fiction. His recent books include his third Jake Brigance novel, *A Time for Mercy*, which is being developed by HBO as a limited series. When he's not writing, Grisham serves on the board of directors of the Innocent Project and of Centurion Ministries, two organizations dedicated to exonerating those who have been wrongfully convicted.



*It's spring and Three Pines is emerging after the harsh winter. But not everything buried should come alive again. Not everything lying dormant should emerge...*

Minotaur - November 29, 2022

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The 18th Chief Inspector Gamache novel from  
#1 New York Times bestselling and award-winning author Louise Penny

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"A constantly surprising series that deepens and darkens as it evolves."  
—*The New York Times Book Review*

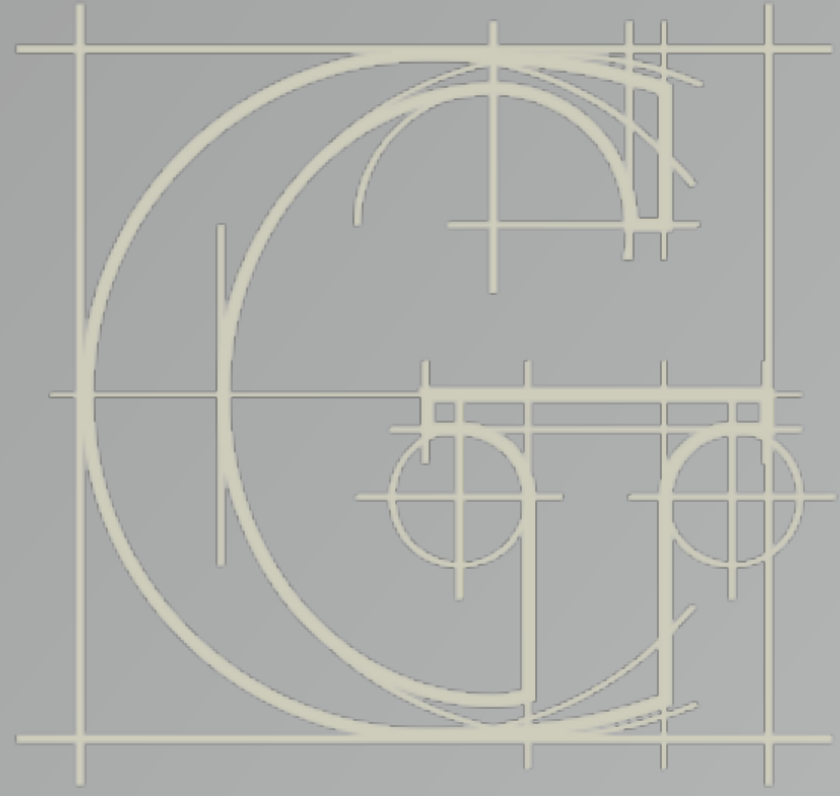
"An outstanding, original oeuvre."—*Wall Street Journal*

"What more could a mystery reader — or any reader, for that matter — want?"  
—*Maureen Corrigan, Washington Post*

It's spring and Three Pines is reemerging after the harsh winter. As the villagers prepare for a special celebration, Armand Gamache and Jean-Guy Beauvoir find themselves increasingly worried. A young man and woman have reappeared in the Sûreté du Québec investigators' lives after many years. The two were young children when their troubled mother was murdered, leaving them damaged, shattered. Now they've arrived in the village of Three Pines. But to what end? Gamache and Beauvoir's memories of that tragic case, the one that first brought them together, come rushing back.

As Chief Inspector Gamache works to uncover answers, his alarm grows when a letter written by a long dead stone mason is discovered. In it the man describes his terror when bricking up an attic room somewhere in the village. Every word of the 150-year-old letter is filled with dread. When the room is found, the villagers decide to open it up. As the bricks are removed, Gamache, Beauvoir and the villagers discover a world of curiosities. But the head of homicide soon realizes there's more in that room than meets the eye. There are puzzles within puzzles, and hidden messages warning of mayhem and revenge. In unsealing that room, an old enemy is released into their world. Into their lives. And into the very heart of Armand Gamache's home.

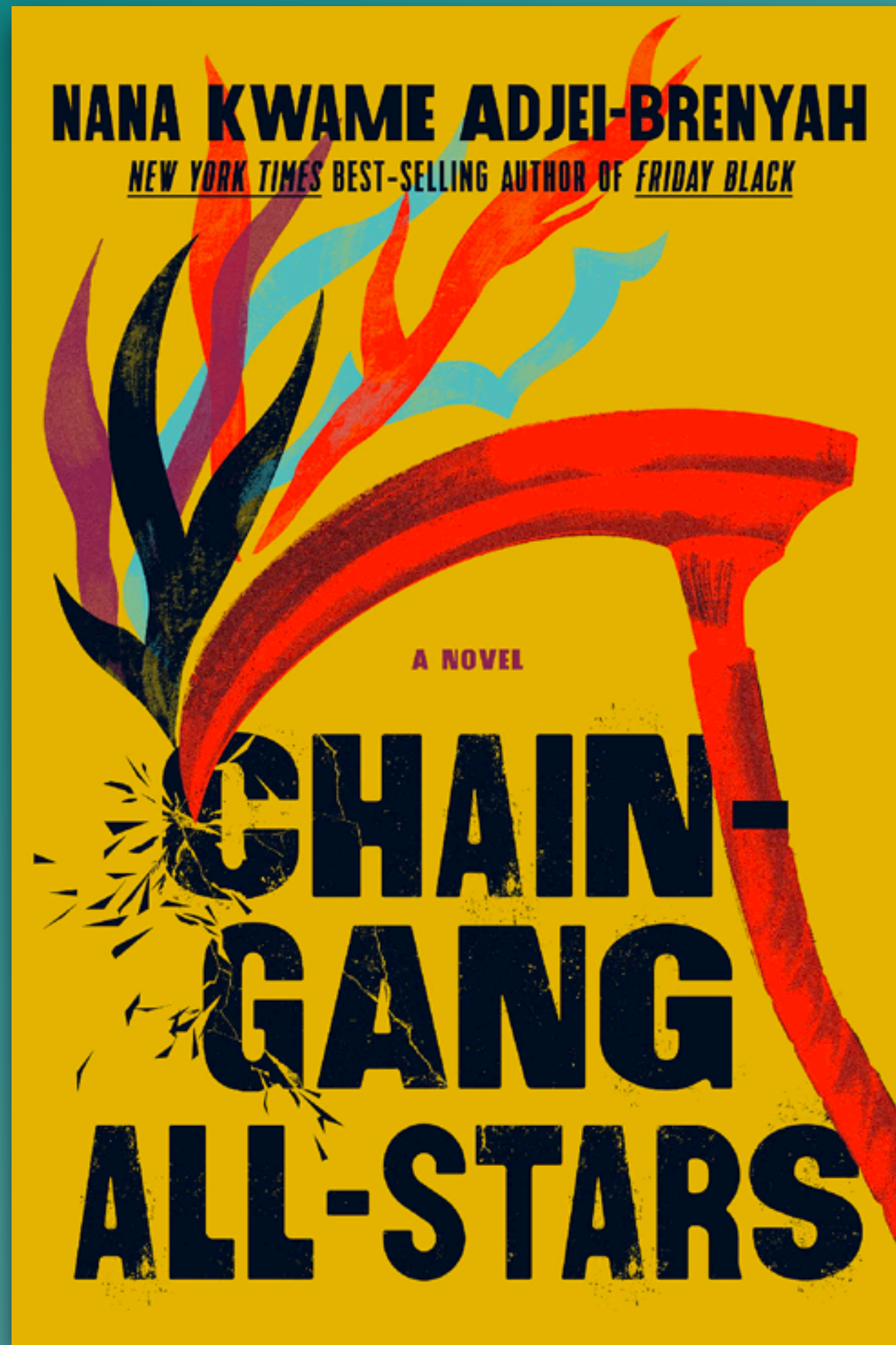
**Louise Penny** is the author of the #1 *New York Times* and *Globe and Mail* bestselling series of Chief Inspector Armand Gamache novels. She has won numerous awards, including a CWA Dagger and the Agatha Award (seven times), and was a finalist for the Edgar Award for Best Novel. In 2017, she Received the Order of Canada for her contributions to Canadian culture. Louise lives in a small village south of Montréal.



*the*  
**gernert**  
*company*

# *Future Publications*

fiction



*Two top women gladiators fight for their freedom within a depraved private prison system not so far-removed from America's own.*

Pantheon - April 4, 2023

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The explosive, hotly-anticipated debut novel from the *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Friday Black* • One of the National Book Foundation's "5 Under 35" honorees and winner of the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award

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"In a narrative world where the real is growingly more unbelievable than the make believe, Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah's *Chain-Gang All-Stars* is an uncanny, singular feat of literature. I've never read satire so bruising, so brolic, so tender and really, so pitch-perfect. It's nuts brilliant. Just read it!"—**Kiese Laymon, author of *Heavy: An American Memoir***

*dystopia* | *surrealist* | *literary*

Rights sold: UK & BC (Harvill Secker), Italy (Edizioni Sur), Netherlands (Atlas Contact), France (Albin Michel), Brazil (Fosforo Editora), Japan (Komakusa)

Loretta Thurwar and Hamara "Hurricane Staxxx" Stacker are the stars of Chain-Gang All-Stars, the cornerstone of CAPE, or Criminal Action Penal Entertainment, a highly-popular, highly-controversial, profit-raising program in America's increasingly dominant private prison industry. It's the return of the gladiators and prisoners are competing for the ultimate prize: their freedom. Prisoners travel as Links in Chain-Gangs, competing in death-matches for packed arenas with righteous protestors at the gates. Thurwar and Staxxx, both teammates and lovers, are the fan favorites. If all goes well, Thurwar will be free in just a few matches, a fact she carries as heavily as her lethal hammer. As she prepares to leave her fellow Links, she considers how she might help preserve their humanity, in defiance of these so-called games, but CAPE's corporate owners will stop at nothing to protect their status quo and the obstacles they lay in Thurwar's path have devastating consequences. *Chain-Gang All-Stars* is a kaleidoscopic, excoriating look at the American prison system's unholy alliance of systemic racism, unchecked capitalism, and mass incarceration, and a clear-eyed reckoning with what freedom in this country really means from a "new and necessary American voice" (Tommy Orange).

**Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah** is the *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Friday Black*. He was a National Book Foundation's "5 Under 35" honoree, the winner of the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award and the Saroyan Prize, and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Award for Best First Book, along with many other honors. Raised in Spring Valley, New York, he now lives in the Bronx.

Editor: Naomi Gibbs | Agent: Meredith Kaffel Simonoff | Material: 2nd pass pages

*fiction*

# DEATH VALLEY:

## *A Novel*

**Melissa Broder**



*A comic novel about grief that becomes a story of survival in the California desert*

Scribner - Fall 2023

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Broder's previous novel, *Milk Fed*, was sold in seven territories and named a Best Book of the Year by *Vogue*, *Time*, *Esquire*, *BookPage* and more

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Praise for Melissa Broder:

"Anything by Melissa Broder is an immediate must-read... a precise blend of desire, discomfort, spirituality, and existential ache makes Broder's depiction of the human experience so canny."

—**Buzzfeed**

"Broder has a talent for distilling graphic sexual thoughts, humor, female neuroses and the rawest kind of emotion into a sort of delightfully nihilistic, anxiety-driven amuse bouche..."—**Vogue**

*literary fiction* | *humorous* | *desert*

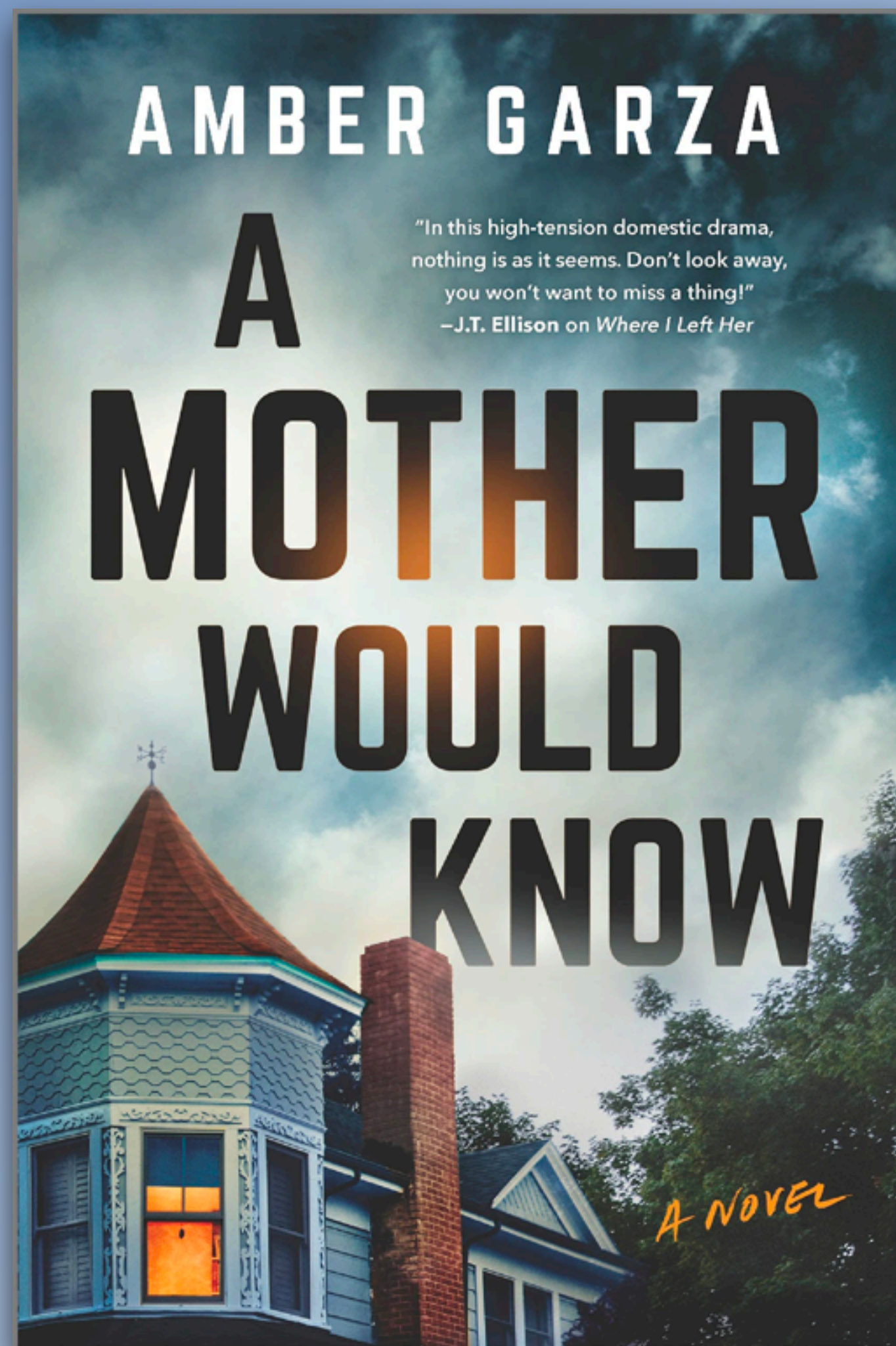
Previous publishers: UK & BC (Bloomsbury UK), Ullstein (German), Modernista (Swedish), Editions Christian Bourgois (French), Eksmo (Russian), Wydawnictwo Czarne (Polish), Sola Publishing (Turkish), Falco (Denmark)

In DEATH VALLEY, an unnamed woman arrives in the California desert seeking respite. Holding herself at bay and temporarily deserting her own life seems preferable to being filled by the anticipatory grief chasing her — both for a father attempting to recover from a near-fatal accident and a husband whose chronic illness is worsening. What the desert provides, however, is not inner peace but a path: a receptionist-recommended nearby hike. On this desert trail, the narrator encounters a towering cactus whose size and shape mean it should not exist in California. Yet the cactus is there. It is wounded. Its gaping injury beckons like a familiar door. So, she enters it. What this woman finds inside this mystical succulent is enough to make her believe her load can lighten. When she returns to the trail, however, the cactus is gone and in seeking it, she suddenly is more lost than ever before. Whether she can survive, and be reunited with all she found to live for while inside her cactus is up to what she is able to seek within herself. With no phone battery left to tell her where she is, whether her father is still alive, or whether her husband will be waiting if she returns, what's written on her heart alone is her only map out.

**Melissa Broder** is the author of the novels MILK FED and THE PISCES, the essay collection SO SAD TODAY, and five poetry collections, including SUPERDOOM: Selected Poems (Summer 2021) and LAST SEXT. Broder has written for *The New York Times*, *Elle.com*, *VICE*, *Vogue Italia*, and *New York Magazine's* The Cut.

*Editor:* Kara Watson | *Agent:* Meredith Kaffel Simonoff | *Material:* Submission manuscript

fiction



*A mother questions everything she knows about her son when a local woman is found dead.*

MIRA - December 13, 2022

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The second in a two-book deal sold for six figures from a master of domestic suspense • Previous books sold in eight territories

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“Do we ever really know our children? Amber Garza invites readers to untangle the web of a family just like yours—or are they? This thriller will have you triple-guessing yourself.” —**Eliza Jane Brazier, author of *If I Disappear***

Praise for Amber Garza’s previous novels:

“[A] stellar psychological thriller...The tension builds as the perfectly orchestrated storylines converge in a truly surprising ending. This is impossible to put down.”—***Publishers Weekly*, starred review**

“Amber Garza establishes herself once again as a master of domestic suspense.”—**Mindy Mejia, bestselling author of *Everything You Want Me To Be* and *Strike Me Down***

*domestic thriller* | *family dynamics* | *psychological*

Valerie has been forgetting things. Her daughter worries about her being on her own in her big Victorian house—one rumored to be haunted after a tragedy decades earlier—and truth be told, she is a little lonely. With few options, she asks her adult son to move home, but it’s not quite the reunion she hoped for. Hudson is taciturn, moody and frequently gone. The neighbors already hold a grudge against Hudson, and they aren’t happy about his return. When a young woman is found murdered a block away, suspicion falls on him immediately, without a shred of evidence. While Valerie fights to defend her son, she begins to wonder who she really invited into her home.

It’s a horrible thing for a mother to even think...but is it possible she’s enabled a monster? A monster she is living with, alone?

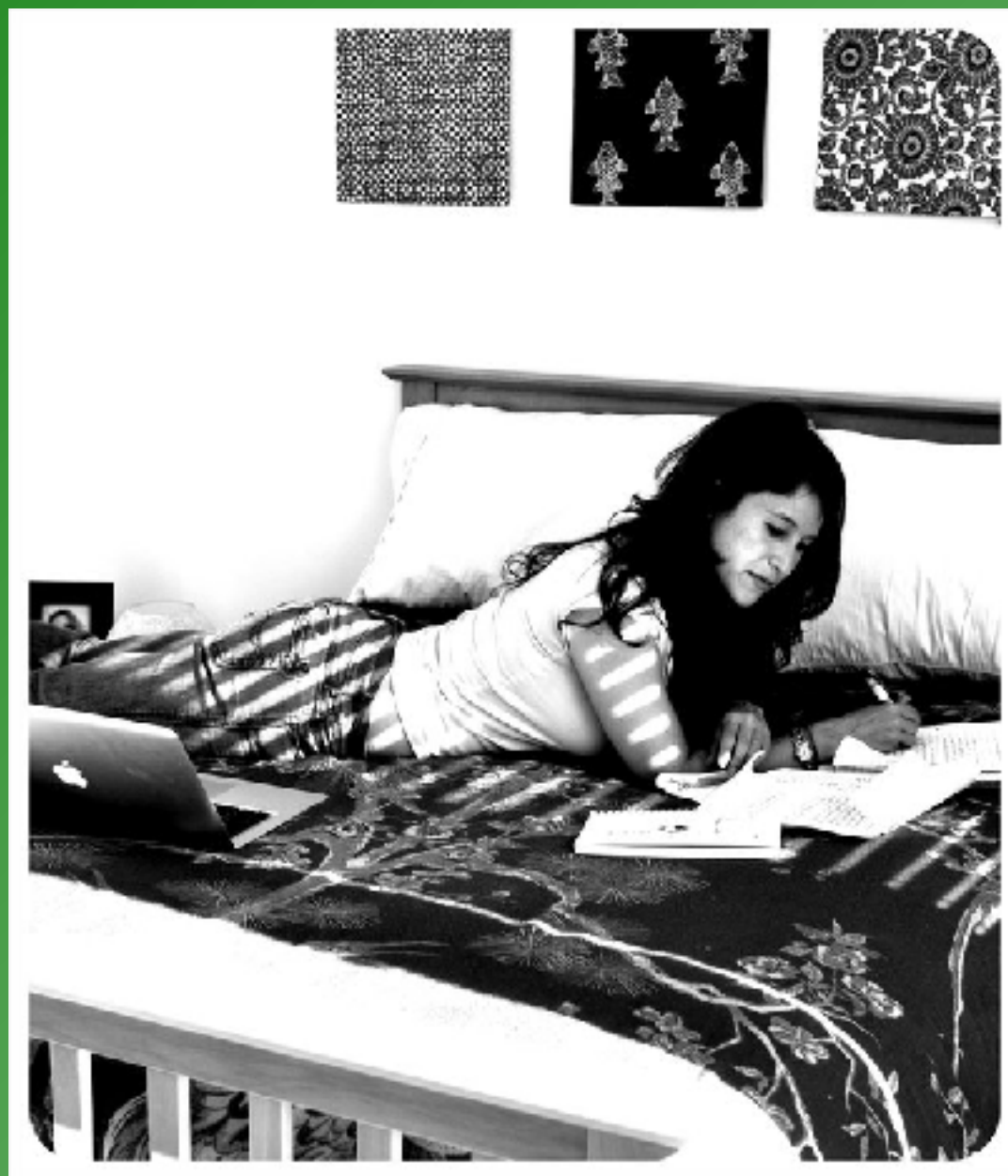
**Amber Garza** has had a passion for the written word since she was a child making books out of notebook paper and staples. She lives with her husband and two kids in Folsom, California, which is also home to another Amber Garza.

Editor: April Osborn | Agent: Ellen Coughtrey | Material: Final pages

*fiction*

# THE POSSIBILITIES: A Novel

**Yael Goldstein-Love**



*A new mother ventures into the multiverse to save her missing child in a mind-bending novel that turns the joys and anxieties of parenthood into an epic quest.*

Random House - July 25, 2023

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*Inception* meets the transformational madness of early motherhood •  
NA rights sold at auction in a nice six-figure deal to Random House

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*speculative* | *suspense* | *motherhood*

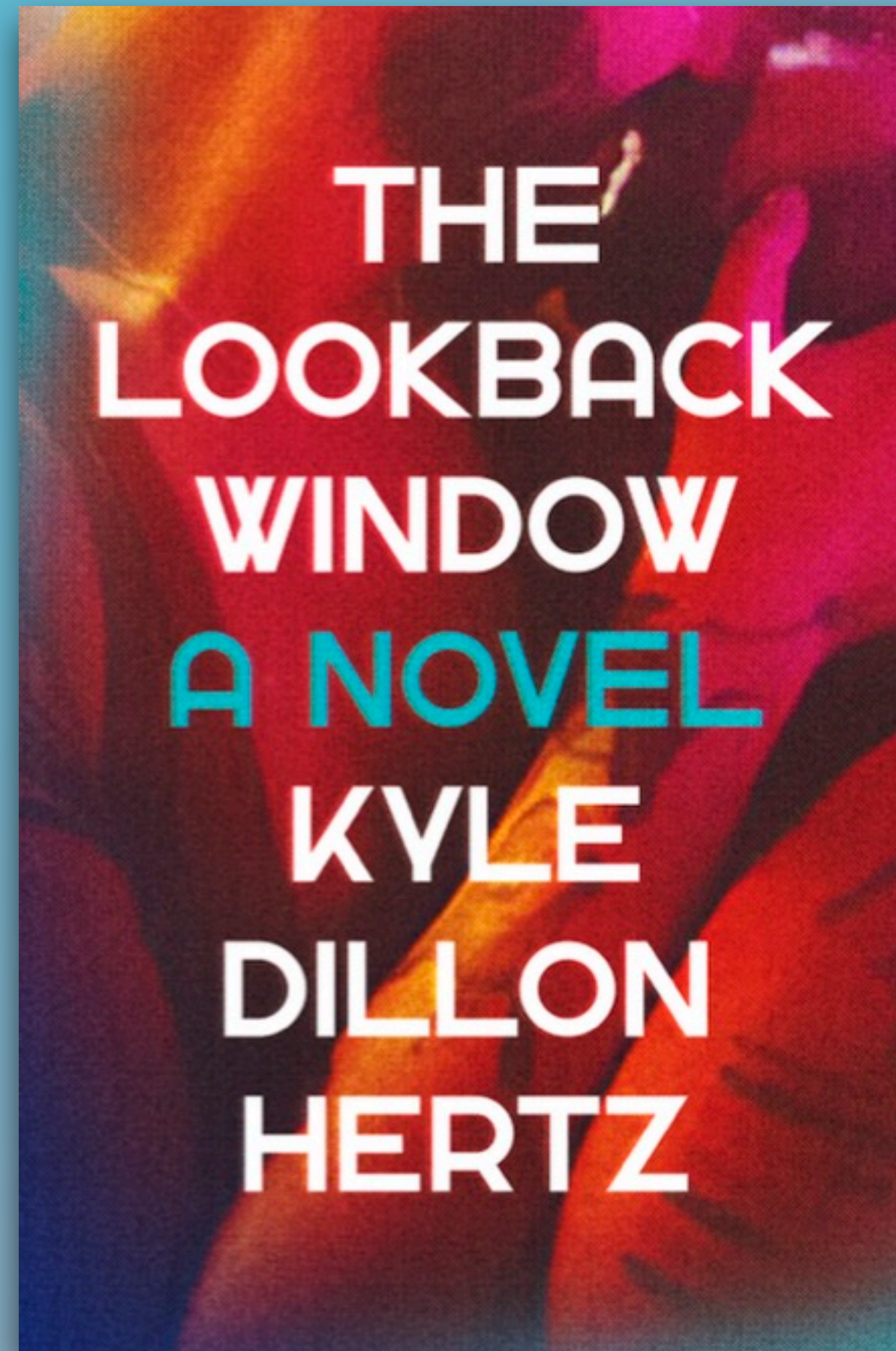
Hannah is having a bad day. A bad month. A bad year? That feels terrible to admit, since her son Jack was born just eight months ago, and she loves him more than anything. But ever since his harrowing birth, she can't shake the feeling that it could have gone the other way. That her baby might not have made it. Terrifying visions from different paths her life could have taken begin to disrupt her cozy, claustrophobic days with Jack, destabilizing her marriage, and making her husband concerned for her mental health. Are the strange things Hannah is seeing just new mom anxiety, or is something truly weird and sinister afoot? What if Hannah really did unlock something she wasn't supposed to during childbirth?

When Hannah's worst nightmare comes true and Jack disappears from his crib, she discovers that her reeling mind has extraordinary powers that she must tap into in order to save her child: She has the ability to enter the multiverse—and she must visit different versions of her life while holding onto what is most important to her in this one to bring her child back home. From the intimate joys of parenthood to the cosmic awe of the multiverse, *The Possibilities* is an ingenious and wildly suspenseful novel that dares to stare down into the dizzying depths of maternal love, vulnerability, and strength.

**Yael Goldstein-Love** is a psychotherapist working toward her doctorate in clinical psychology. She is the co-founder and Editorial Director of Plympton, a literary studio that innovates at the intersection of writing and technology, and has worked with luminaries such as Roxanne Gay, Min Jin Lee, Adam Haslett, and Joyce Carol Oates, among many others. A graduate of Harvard University, where she studied philosophy of science, she lives with her four-year-old son and their cat in Berkeley, California.

*Editor:* Caitlin McKenna | *Agent:* Sarah Burnes | *Material:* 1st pass pages

*fiction*



*A fearless debut novel about the elusive promise of justice.*

Simon & Schuster - Fall 2023

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An unflinching study in human cruelty, resilience, and capacity for transcendence, introducing an astonishingly gifted new voice in literary fiction

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*literary fiction* | *lgbtq+* | *interiority*

Growing up in suburban New York, Dylan lived through the unfathomable: three years as a victim of sex trafficking at the hands of Vincent, a troubled young man who promised to marry Dylan when he turned eighteen. Years later – long after a police investigation that went nowhere, and after the statute of limitations for the crimes perpetrated against him have run out—the long shadow of Dylan’s trauma still looms over the fragile life in the city he’s managed to build with his fiancé, Moans, who knows little of Dylan’s past. His continued existence depends upon an all-important mantra: *To survive, you live through it, but you never look back.*

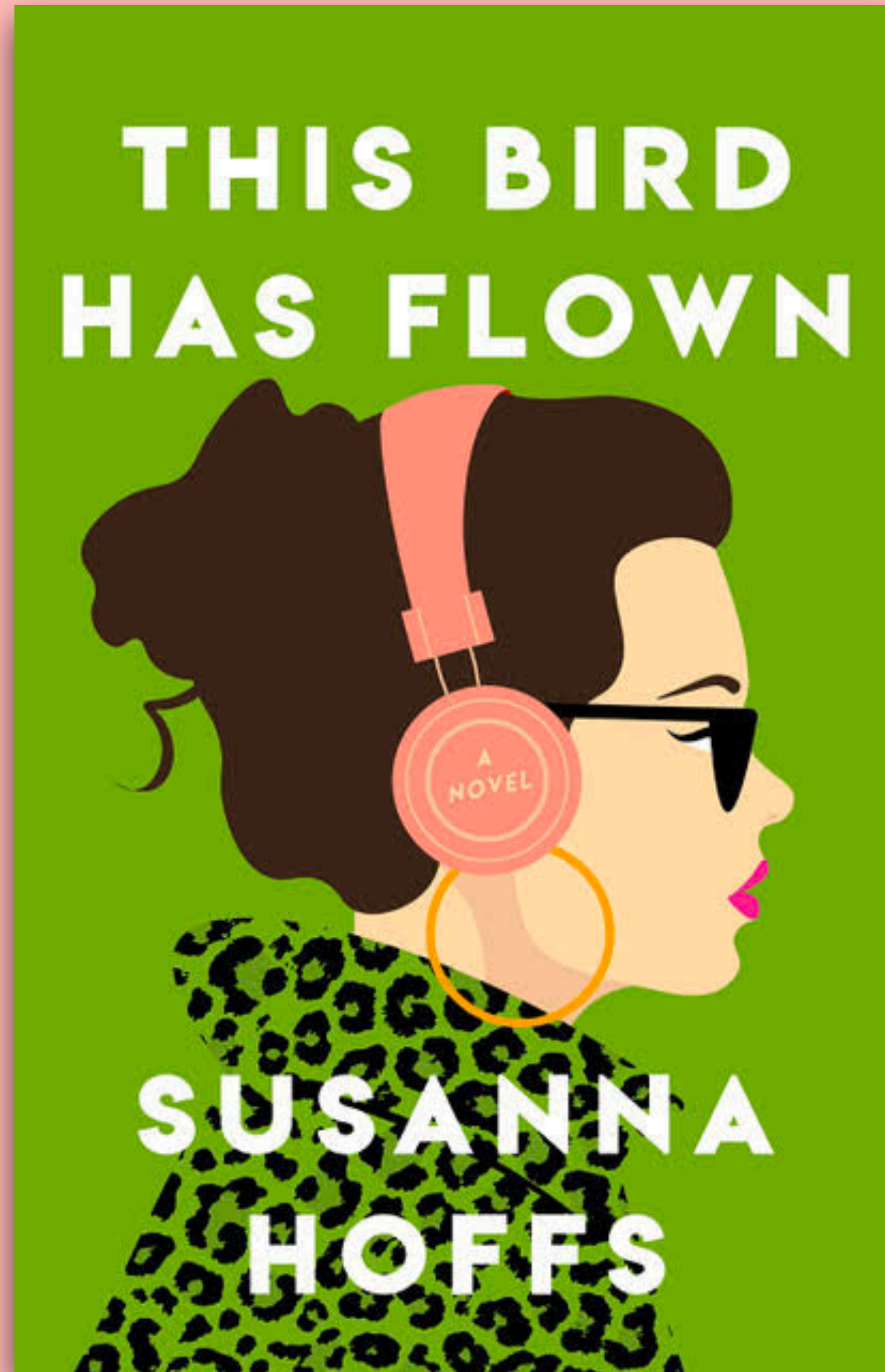
Then a groundbreaking new law – the Child Victims Act – opens up a new way forward: a one-year window during which Dylan can sue his abusers. But for someone trafficked as a child, does money represent justice – does his pain have a price? As Dylan is forced to look back at what happened to him and try to make sense of his past, he begins to explore a drug-and sex-fueled world of bathhouses, clubs, and strangers’ apartments, only to emerge, barely alive, with a new clarity of purpose: a righteous determination to gaze, unflinching, upon the brutal men whose faces have haunted him for a decade, and to extract justice on his own terms.

By turns harrowing, lyrical, and beautiful, Hertz’s debut offers a startling glimpse at the unraveling of trauma—and the light that peeks, faintly, and often in surprising ways, from the other side of the window.

**Kyle Dillon Hertz** received an MFA in fiction at NYU, where he was the Writer in Public Schools Fellow. His writing has previously appeared in *Freeman’s*. He lives in Brooklyn.

*Editor:* Tim O’Connell | *Agent:* Chris Parris-Lamb | *Material:* Awaiting 1st pass pages

fiction



*A delightfully funny and romantic debut that is “part British romcom, part Jane Eyre, and one hundred percent enjoyable” (Tom Perrotta).*

Little Brown - April 4, 2023

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Delightful debut novel from the lead singer of The Bangles • For lovers of *Daisy Jones & the Six*, and inspired by favorites like *Jane Eyre* and *Bridget Jones's Diary*

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“A blast of pure pleasure, an addictive medley of music, romance, secrets, and sex. Susanna Hoffs' captivating first novel is part British romcom, part Jane Eyre, and one hundred percent enjoyable.”—**Tom Perrotta, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mrs. Fletcher* and *Tracy Flick Can't Win***

“In this sexy, page-turning treat of a debut novel, Susanna Hoffs writes as engagingly as she sings.” — **Helen Fielding, author of the bestselling phenomenon *Bridget Jones's Diary***”

“What a treat, and a pleasure, to find out that Susanna Hoffs can tell a story filled with characters as engaging as her song lyrics, who come alive to crack you up and break your heart, and tell it with all the confidence you would expect from a seasoned explorer of the depths of love, music, and life.” —**Ayelet Waldman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Really Good Day***

*romantic comedy* | *music business* | *women's fiction*

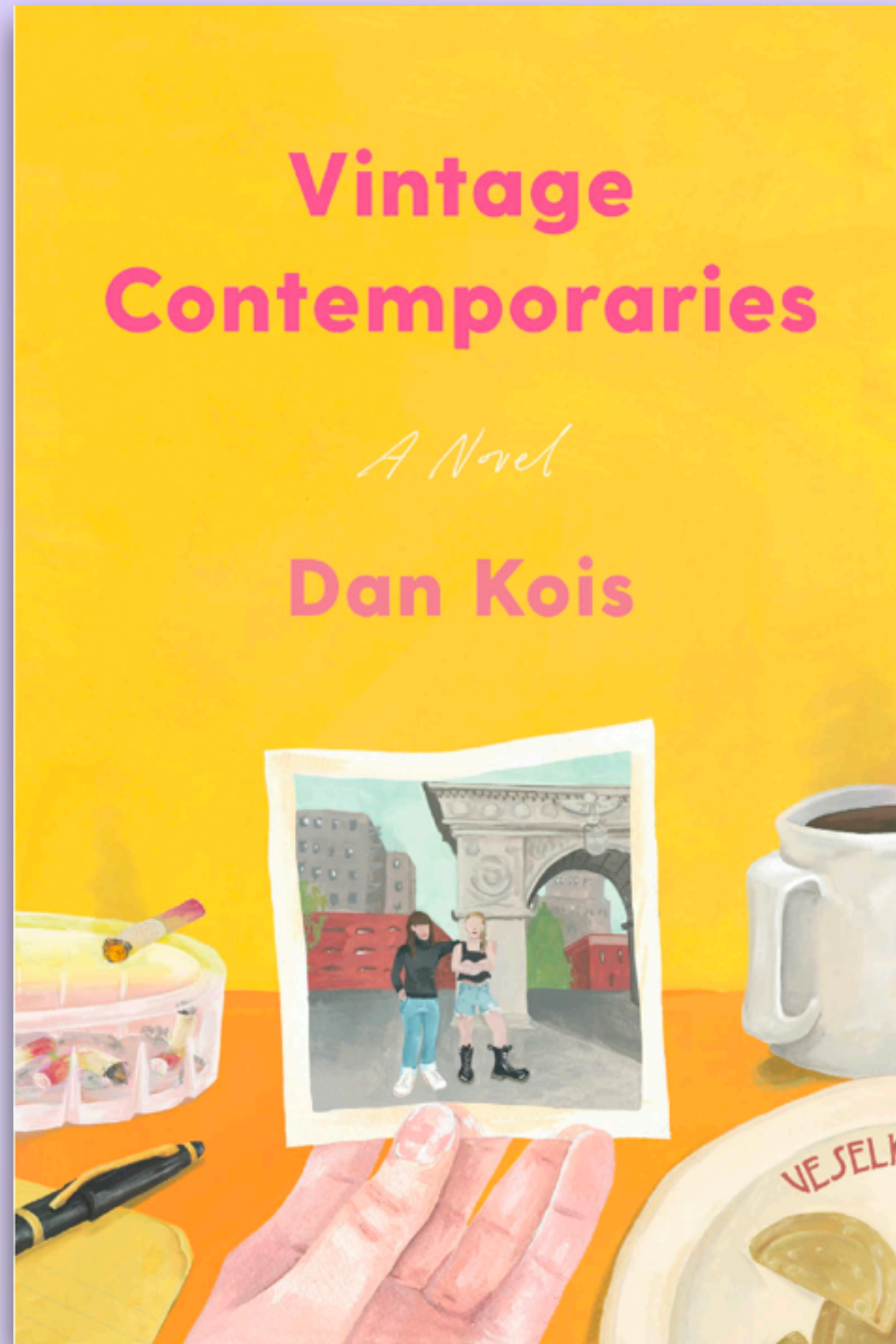
Rights sold: UK & BC (Piatkus)

*Music. Fate. Redemption. Love.* Jane Start is thirty-three, broke, and recently single. Ten years prior, she had a hit song--written by world-famous superstar Jonesy--but Jane hasn't had a breakout since. Now she's reduced to performing to Karaoke tracks in Las Vegas. *Rock bottom.* But when her longtime manager Pippa sends Jane to London to regroup, she's seated next to an intriguing stranger on the flight--the *other* Tom Hardy, an elegantly handsome Oxford professor of literature. Jane is instantly smitten, and soon, inspired. But is Tom all that he seems? And can Jane emerge from the shadow of Jonesy's earlier hit, and into the light of her own? *This Bird Has Flown* explores love, passion, and the ghosts of our past, and offers a glimpse inside the music business that could only come from beloved songwriter Susanna Hoffs.

Boasting one of pop's most beloved voices, **Susanna Hoffs** graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a degree in Art. In 1981 she co-founded The Bangles, with whom she recorded and released a string of chart-topping singles including "Manic Monday" (written by Prince), "Walk Like an Egyptian," "Hazy Shade of Winter," and "Eternal Flame" (co-written by Susanna), before embarking on a critically acclaimed solo career. *This Bird Has Flown* is her first novel. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, filmmaker Jay Roach.

Editor: Helen O'Hare | Agent: Sarah Burnes | Material: 1st pass pages

*fiction*



*A stunning coming-of-age novel set in New York City on both sides of the millennium.*

Harper - January 17, 2023

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*Slate* writer, editor and podcaster makes his fiction debut •

Early quotes from Rumaan Alam and Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney, with more to come

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"*Vintage Contemporaries* is...a warm and big-hearted coming of age story that made me wistful for my own twenties, set in a vividly rendered and long-vanished New York City."

—**Rumaan Alam, bestselling author of *Leave the World Behind***

"What makes this masterful debut sing is Dan Kois's dazzling excavation of the human heart and all its contradictions, mystery, and beauty. Smart, laugh-out-loud funny and consistently surprising, this novel is a gem."—**Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Nest* and *Good Company***

*female friendship* | *literary* | *nostalgia*

It's 1991. Em moved to New York City for excitement and possibility, but the big city isn't quite what she thought it would be. Working as a literary agent's assistant, she's down to her last nineteen dollars but has made two close friends: Emily, a firebrand theater director living in a Lower East Side squat, and Lucy, a middle-aged novelist and single mom. Em's life revolves around these two wildly different women and their vividly disparate yet equally assured views of art and the world. But who is Em, and what does she want to become? It's 2004. Em is now Emily, a successful book editor, happily married and barely coping with the challenges of a new baby. And suddenly Lucy and Emily return to her life: her old friend Lucy's posthumous book needs a publisher, and her ex-friend Emily wants to rekindle their relationship. As they did once before, these two women—one dead, one very alive—force Emily to reckon with her decisions, her failures, and what kind of creative life she wants to lead. A sharp, reflective, and funny story of a young woman coming into herself and struggling to find her place, *Vintage Contemporaries* is a novel about art, parenthood, loyalty, and fighting for a cause—the times we do the right thing, and the times we fail.

**Dan Kois** is a writer, editor, and podcaster at *Slate*, where he's been nominated for two National Magazine Awards. He's the author of *How to Be a Family*, a memoir of parenting around the world, *With Isaac Butler*, he is the co-author of *The World Only Spins Forward*, an oral history of Tony Kushner's *Angels in America*, a 2019 Stonewall Honor book. He lives with his family in Arlington, Virginia

Editor: Sarah Stein | Agent: Alia Hanna Habib | Material: 3rd pass pages

*fiction*

# DEATH IN THE AIR

## *A Novel*

**Ram Murali**



*A wickedly funny and devilishly entertaining debut novel, Death in the Air is a provocative whodunit for the 21st century.*

HarperCollins - Spring 2024

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Debut novel pitched as *Crazy Rich Asians* meets *Knives Out* •  
Sold in a pre-empt to HarperCollins for a high six-figure advance

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*international murder mystery* | *class, society, and East vs. West* | *upmarket fiction*

Rights sold: UK & BC (Atlantic Books)

Ro Krishna is the American son of Indian parents, educated at the finest institutions, equally at home in London's poshest clubs and on the squash court alike, with a rapier wit and hair as good as his taste. As the novel opens, we meet Ro at a birthday party in Bermuda, adrift in the wake of an explosive exit from his high-powered job. A series of random encounters steers him, by way of London and Paris, to Paradise, otherwise known as Samsara: a world-class spa nestled in the foothills of the Indian Himalayas, where massage therapists, nutritionists, and yoga instructors tend to the global cosmopolitan elite. Samsara is the kind of place where guests clad in white kurta pajamas communicate via hand-delivered note cards on personalized stationery.

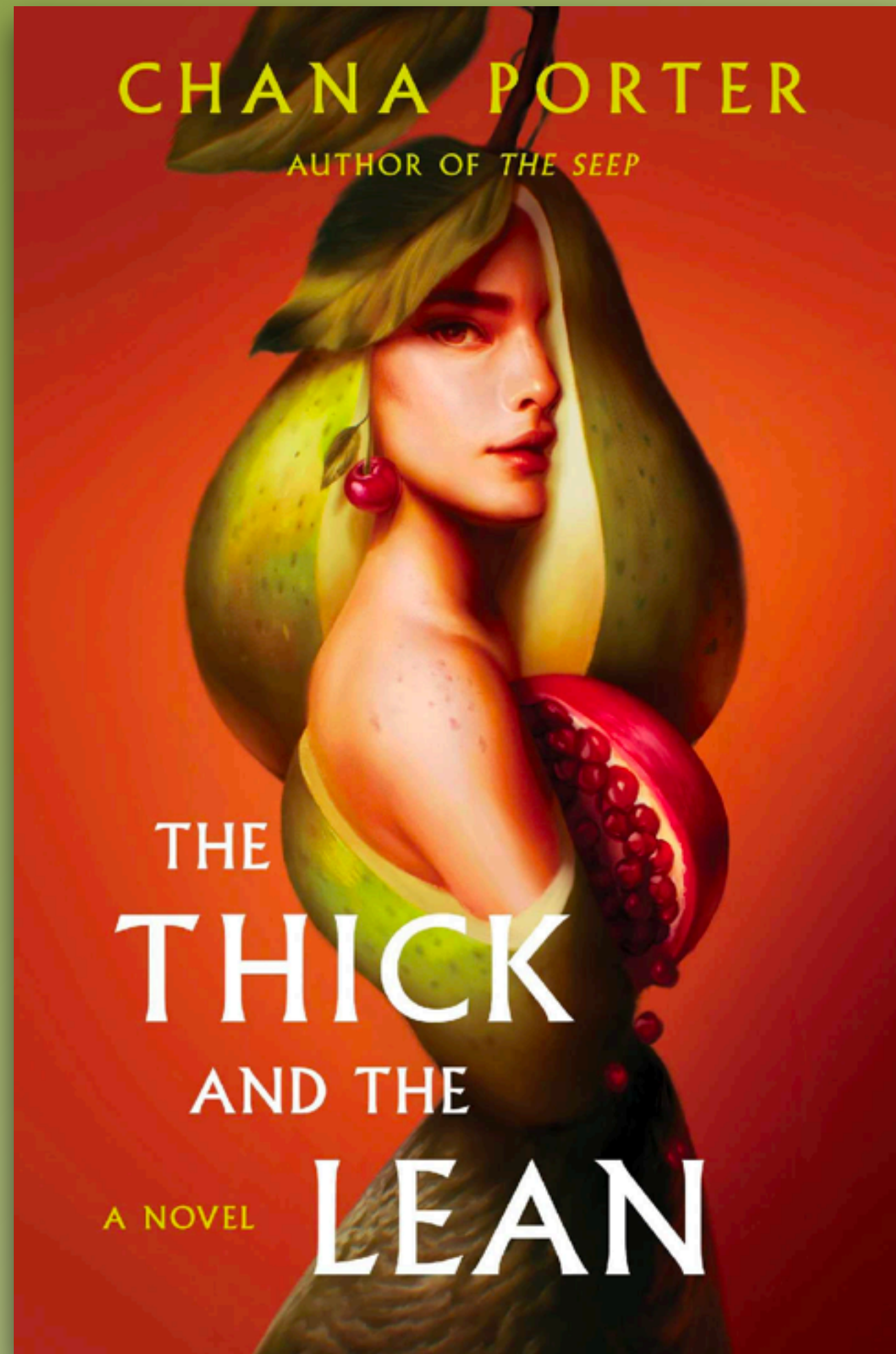
A person could be spiritually reborn in a place like this. Even a very rich person. But a person – or several – could also die there. Samsara is the Sanskrit word for the karmic cycle of death and rebirth, after all. And as it turns out, the colorful cast of characters Ro meets—including a misanthropic politician and his wife, the daughter of one of India's richest men; an American movie star preparing for his Bollywood crossover debut; a beautiful heiress to a family jewel fortune that barely survived Partition; and a bumbling white dude inexplicably there to teach meditation—harbors a murderer among them. Maybe more than one.

As the death toll rises, Ro, a lawyer by training and a sleuth by circumstance, becomes embroiled in a vicious cycle of tensions between haves and have-nots, East and West, guided by forces beyond his ken—karma, perhaps?—toward a resolution that may well save the soul of India itself.

**Ram Murali** was born in Manhattan, is a dual citizen of the US and France, and lives in London. *Death in the Air* is his first novel.

Editor: Noah Eaker | Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb | Material: Submission manuscript

fiction



*An aspiring chef, a cyberthief, and a kitchen maid each break free of a society that wants to constrain them.*

Saga Press - April 18, 2023

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Porter's previous novel, *The Seep*, was a Lambda Award finalist • This highly anticipated new novel is a startling fable about the entwined perils of capitalism, body politics, and the stigmas women face for appetites of every kind

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Praise for Chana Porter and *The Seep*

"Porter's gripping, subtly hopeful work of literary speculative fiction is shaped by remarkable world-building elements and acute observation of human frailties and impetus."

—**Booklist**, starred review

"Mesmerizing." —**Jeff VanderMeer**, bestselling author of the **Southern Reach** series

*sci-fi* | *post-apocalyptic* | *body politics*

In the quaint religious town of Seagate, abstaining from food brings one closer to God. But Beatrice Bolano is hungry. She craves the forbidden: butter, flambé, marzipan. As Seagate takes increasingly extreme measures to regulate every calorie its citizens consume, Beatrice must make a choice: give up her secret passion for cooking or leave the only community she has known. Elsewhere, Reiko Rimando has left her modest roots for a college tech scholarship in the big city. A flawless student, she is set up for success...until her school pulls her funding, leaving her to face either a mountain of debt or a humiliating return home. But Reiko is done being at the mercy of the system. She forges a third path—outside of the law.

With the guidance of a mysterious cookbook written by a kitchen maid centuries ago, Beatrice and Reiko each grasp for a life of freedom—something more easily imagined than achieved in a world dominated by catastrophic corporate greed.

**Chana Porter** is a playwright, teacher, MacDowell Colony fellow, and cofounder of The Octavia Project, a STEM and fiction-writing program for girls and gender nonconforming youth from underserved communities. She lives in Los Angeles, California, and is also the author of *The Seep*, a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award.

Editor: Amara Hoshijo | Agent: Sarah Bolling | Material: 1st pass pages

*non-fiction*

## **TAKE IT FROM ME: An Agent's No-Bullshit Guide to Building a Nonfiction Career from Scratch**

**Alia Hanna Habib**



*A go-to guidebook for anyone seeking a  
successful career as a published nonfiction  
author*

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From The Gernert Company's very own agent, a guidebook for  
non-fiction writers on how to build a successful career  
• Sold at auction to Pantheon

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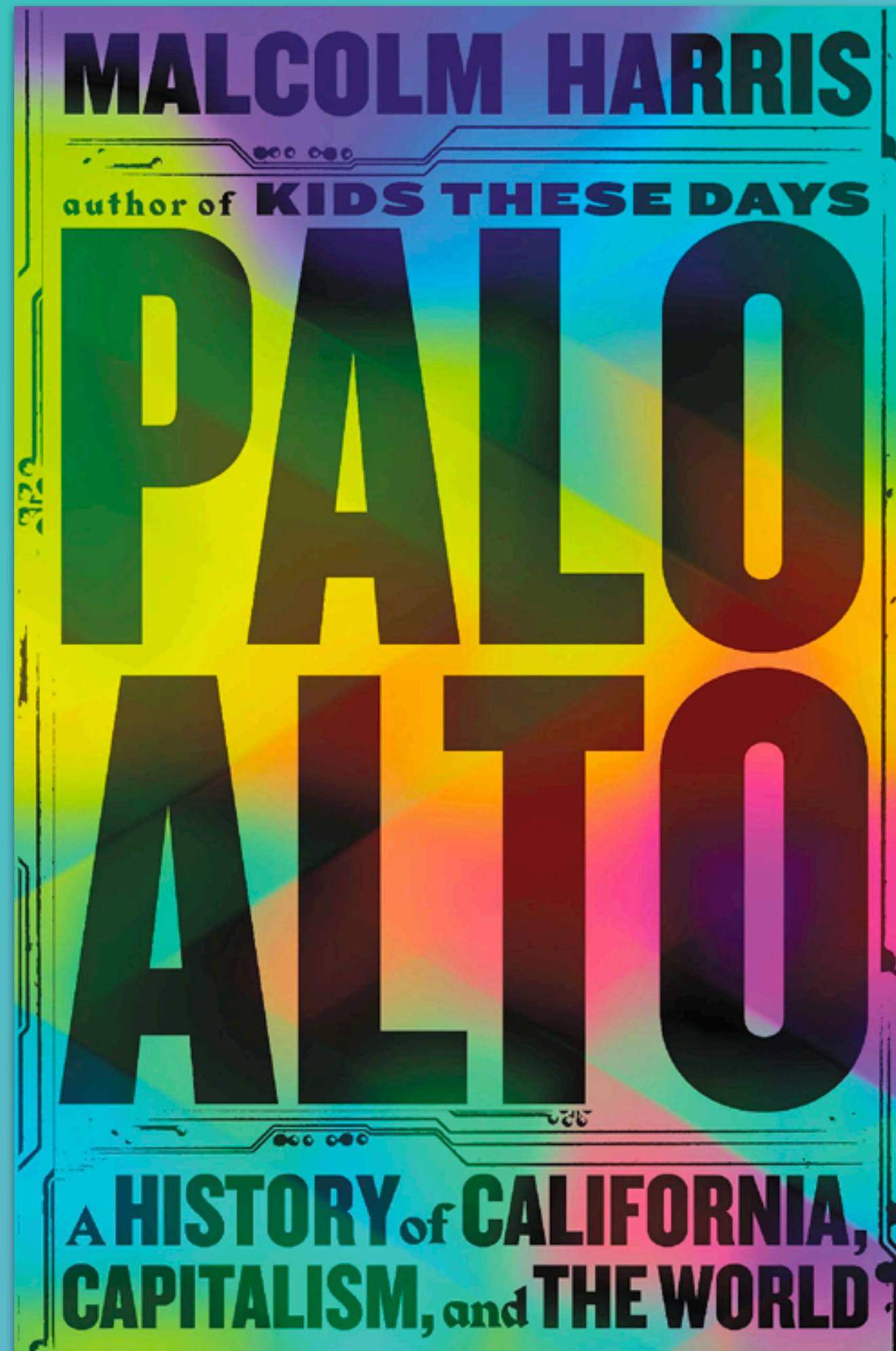
*prescriptive non-fiction | voice-driven | publishing*

TAKE IT FROM ME: *An Agent's No-Bullshit Guide to Building a Nonfiction Career from Scratch* will be the go-to guidebook for anyone seeking a successful career as a published nonfiction author. It's crafted by someone who knows exactly how hard it is to start from scratch in an industry where it's easy to feel like an outsider. Covering everything from reimagining the process of pitching outlets for short pieces to determining whether a subject is book-worthy; a brief polemic against platform to reimagining the book proposal, and more, TAKE IT FROM ME aims to be the definitive guide for those writing narrative nonfiction, memoir, creative nonfiction, essays, and, like this, voice-driven prescriptive books.

TAKE IT FROM ME will also be the most up-to-date such resource, specifically attuned to the particular turn of mind of the serious nonfiction writer, including the yearly crop of J-school and MFA graduates, annual writing conference attendees, the renewable stream of those keen yet struggling to transition from academia to trade publishing, and beyond. TAKE IT FROM ME demystifies the specific idiosyncrasies of our industry and how to navigate them in terms that, unfortunately, journalism schools, MFA programs, and expensive writers' conferences at best only glancingly discuss. The result is a pragmatic, deliciously readable, empowering resource that will be passed from writer to writer for years to come.

**Alia Hanna Habib** is a literary agent and Vice President at The Gernert Company, which she joined in 2017 after starting her publishing career as a publicist at HMH and working as an agent at McCormick Literary. Among the NYT-bestselling and prize-winning clients she represents are Nikole Hannah-Jones, Clint Smith, Judy Batalion, Merve Emre, Adam Serwer, and Hanif Abdurraqib. She is on the board of *n+1* literary magazine and on the creative council of Aspen Words. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband.

non-fiction



*The unvarnished history of Silicon Valley that is an urgent and visionary history of the way we live now.*

Little, Brown - February 14, 2023

First global history of how Silicon Valley shaped the world since World War II

• Sold in a six-figure deal for NA rights

"Malcolm Harris's singular and brilliant *Palo Alto* is a geologic survey of the bedrock of the imperial violence that lies beneath the surface of some of the country's wealthiest Zip Codes"  
—**Walter Johnson, Winthrop Professor of History and African American Studies at Harvard University and author of *The Broken Heart of America***

"Extraordinary. In lucid, personal, often funny, and always insightful prose, Malcolm Harris finds the driving thrust of reaction not in capitalism's left-behind regions but in its vanguard: California, and specifically Silicon Valley...If you want to understand what's coming, you need to read this book."—**Greg Grandin, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The End of Myth***

*economic history* | *tech industry* | *society*

Rights sold: UK & BC (Quercus/riverrun)

Palo Alto is nice. The weather is temperate, the people are educated, rich, healthy, enterprising. Remnants of a hippie counterculture have synthesized with high technology and big finance to produce the spiritually and materially ambitious heart of Silicon Valley, whose products are changing how we do everything from driving around to eating food. It is also a haunted toxic waste dump built on stolen Indian burial grounds, and an integral part of the capitalist world system. In PALO ALTO, the first comprehensive, global history of Silicon Valley, Malcolm Harris examines how and why Northern California evolved in the particular, consequential way it did, tracing the ideologies, technologies, and policies that have been engineered there over the course of 150 years of Anglo settler colonialism, from IQ tests to the "tragedy of the commons," racial genetics, and "broken windows" theory. The Internet and computers, too. It's a story about how a small American suburb became a powerful engine for economic growth and war, and how it came to lead the world into a surprisingly disastrous 21st century. PALO ALTO concludes with a clear-eyed, radical proposition for how we might begin to change course.

**Malcolm Harris** is a freelance writer and the author of *Kids These Days: The Making of Millennials* and *Shit is Fucked Up and Bullshit: History Since the End of History*. He was born in Santa Cruz, CA and graduated from the University of Maryland.

Editor: Jean Garnett | Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb | Material: 2nd pass pages

non-fiction



*With wit, deep introspection, and laugh-out-loud humor, Sorry, Sorry, Sorry will help make the world a better place, one apology at a time.*

Gallery Books - January 10, 2023

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Sold in a six figure deal to Gallery • Blurbs from Peggy Orenstein, Clive Thompson, Harriet Lerner, among others

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"I'm sorry, but Sorry, Sorry, Sorry means that you no longer have an excuse for delivering anything other than a pitch-perfect apology.." —**Peggy Orenstein, bestselling author of *Boys & Sex, Girls & Sex, and Cinderella Ate My Daughter***

"Sorry, Sorry, Sorry is an absolute delight—philosophically deep, crisply reported, and funny as heck all the way through. It'll make you want to get better at apologizing."  
—**Clive Thompson, author of *Smarter Than You Think* and *Coders***

*self-help* | *humor* | *psychology*

Rights sold: Korea (RPSpace)

It's a truth universally acknowledged that terrible apologies are the worst. We've all been on the receiving end, and oh, how they make us seethe. Horrible public apologies—excuse-laden, victim blame-y, weaselly statements—often go viral instantaneously, whether they're from a celebrity, a politician, or a blogger. We all recognize bad apologies when we hear them. So why is it so hard to apologize well? How can we do better? How could *they* do better? Drawing on a deep well of research in psychology, sociology, law, and medicine, Marjorie Ingall and Susan McCarthy explain why a good apology is hard to find and why it doesn't have to be. Alongside their six (and a half)-step formula for apologizing beautifully, Ingall and McCarthy also delve into how to respond to a bad apology; how to teach children to apologize; how gender and race affect both apologies and forgiveness; and most of all, how good apologies can mend fences, heal wounds, and bring more harmony into ourselves and society at large.


**Marjorie Ingall**, who goes by "Snarly" on SorryWatch.com, is the author of *Mamaleh Knows Best: What Jewish Mothers Do to Raise Creative, Empathetic, Independent Children* and *The Field Guide to North American Males*, and is the coauthor of *Hungry*, with plus-size model Crystal Renn. She lives in New York City.

**Susan McCarthy**, who goes by "Sumac" on SorryWatch.com, is the coauthor (with Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson) of the international bestseller *When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals*, which has been translated into twenty-one languages. She lives in San Francisco.

Editor: Hannah Braaten | Agent: Sarah Burnes | Material: Final pages

non-fiction

# THE WORLD AFTER UKRAINE



GARRY  
KASPAROV

*Drawing on his own remarkable life as well as hundreds of examples from history and current events, Kasparov argues for bold thinking and bolder action in his latest book*

Public Affairs - June 2023

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## From renowned strategist and Russia expert, a new book on how to respond to the global crises we face today

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Praise for Garry Kasparov and *Winter Is Coming*:

“It's always important to read Garry Kasparov, who warned the dangers of Putinism long before so many others. He is that rare thing: A Russian democrat who is realistic about his country, but remains hopeful for the future.”—**Anne Applebaum, author of *Gulag and Iron Curtain*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction**

“Garry Kasparov has the information-processing capacity of a supercomputer and the eloquence of an extraordinary orator. It takes a mind and a heart like his to analyze the last 25 years of the history of Russia in the world and emerge with not only an indictment of Western complicity but a clear call for Western action.” —**Masha Gessen**

*political | history | Russia*

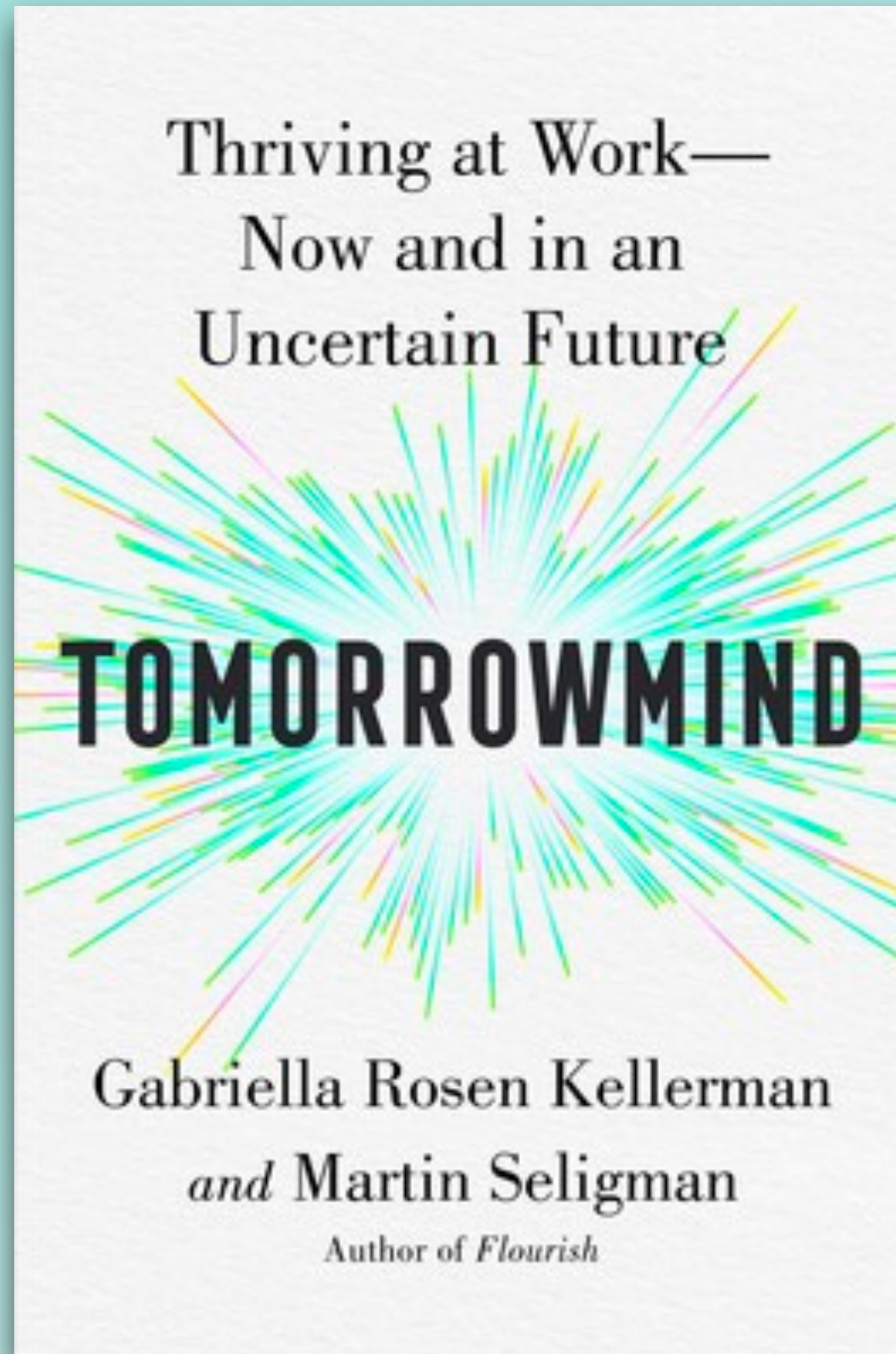
Rights sold: UK & BC (John Murray)

For over a decade, Garry Kasparov shouted early warnings about the rise of demagogues like Trump, about tech stagnation that could lead to pandemics, and, most presciently of all, about the failure of the world to stand up to Putin before he launched his bloody invasion of Ukraine. Facing a series of global crises, the need for Kasparov's urgent message is as high as his credibility. Today, there is no need to convince anyone of the dangers we face. They have arrived. The question is how to confront them, resolve them, and to create a strategy to achieve a freer, safer, more prosperous world. Who better to provide it than a master strategist whose predictions and moral compass have unerringly pointed true? Kasparov argues for bold thinking and bolder action. He defends the values of innovation, freedom, risk, sacrifice, growth, and justice from his background in the Soviet Union, where they did not exist. There is good and evil in the world, he reminds us. There is progress and decay, liberty and tyranny, and we must choose. The world is not a chessboard, but some things are black and white.

**Garry Kasparov** is a Russian pro-democracy leader, global human rights activist, business speaker and former world chess champion. He is the author of *Deep Thinking* and *Winter Is Coming* among other books

Editor: Ben Adams | Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb | Material: Manuscript expected December 2022

non-fiction



*Thrive in your career with this revolutionary, future-proofed approach to work in a world where automation, globalization, and downsizing are an urgent and threatening reality.*

Atria - January 17, 2023

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A timely and crucial guide from experts in workplace mental health:  
Gabriella Rosen Kellerman, CPO of BetterUp, and  
world-renowned psychologist Martin Seligman

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"An indispensable resource to anyone navigating today's uncertain world."—**Gretchen Rubin, #1 bestselling author of *The Happiness Project***

"In *Tomorrowmind*, Gabriella Kellerman and Martin Seligman masterfully navigate the newest science to show us how we can design our futures to thrive as individuals in work, relationships, and life."—**Arthur C. Brooks, Professor, Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Business School, and #1 New York Times bestselling author**

*mental health* | *business management* | *connection*

Rights sold: UK & BC (Nicholas Brealey), Brazil (Editora Objetiva),  
China (China Machine Press), Germany (Random House)

Workplace toxicity, industry volatility, a technology-driven turnover now threaten our psychological well-being. When we can't flourish at work, both personal and organizational success suffer. In the midst of unprecedented changes to both the economy and the workplace, many of us wonder: how can we not just survive this turmoil, but *thrive*? Kellerman and Seligman offer a surprising answer, using their own research to offer practical advice for facing the uncertain future of work. Our brains haven't fundamentally changed in 70,000 years: many of the skills workers need to flourish today - resilience, innovation, rapport, and foresight - were familiar to our ancestors on the savanna but have been hammered out of us by industrialized work. In *Tomorrowmind*, we learn how to use the strengths of our ancient brains to develop a "tomorrowmind" adapted for the future.

**Gabriella Rosen Kellerman, MD**, has served as chief product officer and chief innovation officer at BetterUp, founding CEO of LifeLink, and an advisor to healthcare, coaching, and behavior change technology companies. *Tomorrowmind* is her first book.

**Martin Seligman, PhD**, is a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, director of the Positive Psychology Center, and former president of the American Psychological Association. Along with writing for numerous scholarly publications, he is also the author and coauthor of over thirty books, including *Flourish* and *Tomorrowmind*.

Editor: Stephanie Hitchcock | Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb | Material: 1st pass pages

non-fiction

# I LOVE RUSSIA

**Elena Kostyuchenko**

**Translated by Bela Shayevich and  
Ilona Chavasse**



*From a journalist at Novaya Gazeta, Russia's recently-decommissioned independent newspaper, a collection of thirteen reported pieces, each introduced by brand new writing*

2023/2024

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From a journalist who has been responsible for some of the most important and brave coverage of Russia in recent years • German preempt • French and Italian rights sold at auction

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*reportage* | *memoir* | *Russia*

Rights sold: Germany (Penguin Verlag), Italy (Einaudi Stile Libero), France (Noir Sur Blanc)

On March 28th, 2022—just six months after its Editor in Chief, Dmitry Muratov, received the Nobel Peace Prize—Russia's most prominent and fearless independent newspaper, *Novaya Gazeta*, suspended publication due to government censorship of its reporting on the war in Ukraine. Two pieces in particular helped put *Novaya Gazeta*, long a thorn in the side of Putin's regime, in the censors' crosshairs: long dispatches from the besieged cities of Mykolaiv and Kherson by a 34 year-old journalist named Elena Kostyuchenko. Elena soon learned that, were she to return to Russia, she could face the serious and sometimes deadly consequences faced by other outspoken journalists. . But there was never any question for Elena that she would eventually return to Russia. She loves her country and she's a journalist - this is the most important story of her time. She can't run away from it, no matter the danger.

I LOVE RUSSIA will collect thirteen reported pieces published in *Novaya Gazeta* between 2008 and 2022. Each will be paired with an original introductory essay, a sort of personal meditation on how the themes explored in the piece that follows manifested in Elena's own life and experience. Taken together, these thirteen pairs of text will present a kaleidoscopic portrait of a Russia over the past decade-plus that Western readers rarely, if ever, encounter: one defined by the lived experience of its people rather than the actions of its government.

**Elena Kostyuchenko** is a journalist at *Novaya Gazeta*, Russia's recently-decommissioned independent newspaper. At just 34 years old, Elena has been responsible for some incredible and brave coverage of Russia today and in recent years. She has been profiled recently in *Le Monde* and elsewhere in the European press, and has been published in *n+1*.

Editor: TK | Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb | Material: Proposal

*non-fiction*

**THE VC MINDSET:  
How Thinking Like a Venture Capitalist  
Can Transform Your Business**

**Ilya Strebulaev and Alex Dang**



*A new guide revealing how thinking like a venture capitalist can transform your business*

Portfolio - Spring 2024

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**North American rights sold at auction for six figures •  
UK and Brazilian rights sold in pre-empt**

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*business | entrepreneurship | Silicon Valley*

**Rights sold: UK & BC (John Murray), Brazil (Sextante)**

In the past decade, venture capitalists like Peter Thiel, Ben Horowitz, and John Doerr, have stepped out of the shadows of Silicon Valley and into the limelight. So it's no surprise that business leaders far from the tech industry have recently begun to take a page from the VC playbook: hence the proliferation of corporate innovation labs, internal venture portfolios, and the like. But how do VCs become successful? Venture capitalists aren't gamblers; in fact, among every class of investor in the broader world of finance, only top VCs show persistent positive returns year after year. What's their secret? After hundreds of interviews with Silicon Valley's leading VCs, and over a decade at Stanford Business School teaching one of the first courses dedicated to venture capital, Ilya Strebulaev began to see that the answer lay in their very particular, and often counterintuitive, approach to decision-making.

Now, Ilya and his former student, Alex Dang –who spent eight years at Amazon and was a Partner in McKinsey's Silicon Valley office before becoming a startup CEO – have distilled the VC mindset into ten distinct principles that can be applied in a wide variety of situations faced by decision-makers in any industry. For companies seeking to thrive, much less survive, in these turbulent times, the VC mindset could well be the difference between disrupter and disrupted.

**Ilya Strebulaev** is considered the foremost academic expert on venture capital, having interviewed hundreds of VCs, and having built unparalleled datasets tracking the outcomes of venture-backed companies. His research has been widely published including the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Bloomberg* and the *Harvard Business Review*.

**Alex Dang** is CEO and general manager of multiple technology ventures, and an expert in eCommerce and multisided digital platforms. He has eighteen years of senior leadership and product development at McKinsey, Ernst & Young, and Amazon.

Editor: Lydia Yadi | Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb | Material: Proposal



*Leadership lessons from Captain Sandy Yawn, a renowned superyacht captain with over 30 years of international maritime experience.*

Hay House - January 10, 2023

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## From the star of the hit reality show *Below Deck Mediterranean* • Sold at auction in a six figure deal

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“What stands out the most about Captain Sandy is that she is a true leader...As an author, Captain Sandy offers tools and tips on how to take control of one’s life and how doing so gives us the best chance of excelling at whatever we choose. In this compelling and engaging narrative, she proves that anyone is capable of navigating the storms of life.”

—**Gigi Fernández, professional tennis player and Olympic gold medalist**

“Sandy Yawn is not only a terrific captain, she is a shrewd and enterprising businesswoman, all of which I personally witnessed during her time at the helm. Whether you want to start a business, lead a company, or be a yacht captain yourself, these chapters are packed with wise words and examples to launch your own success.”

—**James H. Herbert II, founder and executive chairman of First Republic Bank**

*leadership | self-help | business*

Everyone experiences a moment in life when they need to lead. Sometimes it's a team, sometimes it's a company, a classroom, a patient ward, a family, or simply your own individual self. Based on the leadership lessons she's gathered from her resourceful and resilient life, Captain Sandy, a superyacht captain and star of Bravo's *Below Deck Mediterranean*, shares the leadership skills and critical thinking inherent to being a captain that can empower anyone to navigate their way to a successful life. Woven throughout her stories are Captain Sandy's optimism and abiding faith that, given the right tools and opportunities, individuals are capable of so much more than they realize, especially when they can find someone to believe in them.

**Captain Sandra Yawn**, a.k.a. Captain Sandy, is a leader and a businesswoman. As a renowned superyacht captain with over 30 years of international maritime experience, Yawn has broken through the proverbial glass ceiling to achieve the highest status in an industry where women at the helm are rare. In 2015 she became a series lead on Bravo's hit series *Below Deck Mediterranean*.

Editor: Melody Guy | Agent: Nicole Tourtelot | Material: Final pages

*non-fiction*

# THE HOPEFUL SKEPTIC: Escaping Cynicism in a World Overwhelmed by It

**Jamil Zaki**



*Stanford Professor of psychology explores cynicism through the lens of hope.*

Grand Central - Winter 2024

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Zaki's mainstage Ted Talk, the basis of this book, has over 2 million views  
• Sold at auction to Grand Central in a strong six figure deal

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Praise for Jamil Zaki and *The War for Kindness*:

"Zaki is a compelling writer, and even an android could not help but respond to his prose. . . . Zaki's goals go beyond sharing the science of empathy with the masses. He hopes to inspire people to actually practice more kindness in their lives."—**Science**

"Jamil Zaki is one of the brightest lights in psychology, and in this gripping book he shows that kindness is not a sign of weakness but a source of strength."  
—**Adam Grant, author of *Give and Take* and *Originals***

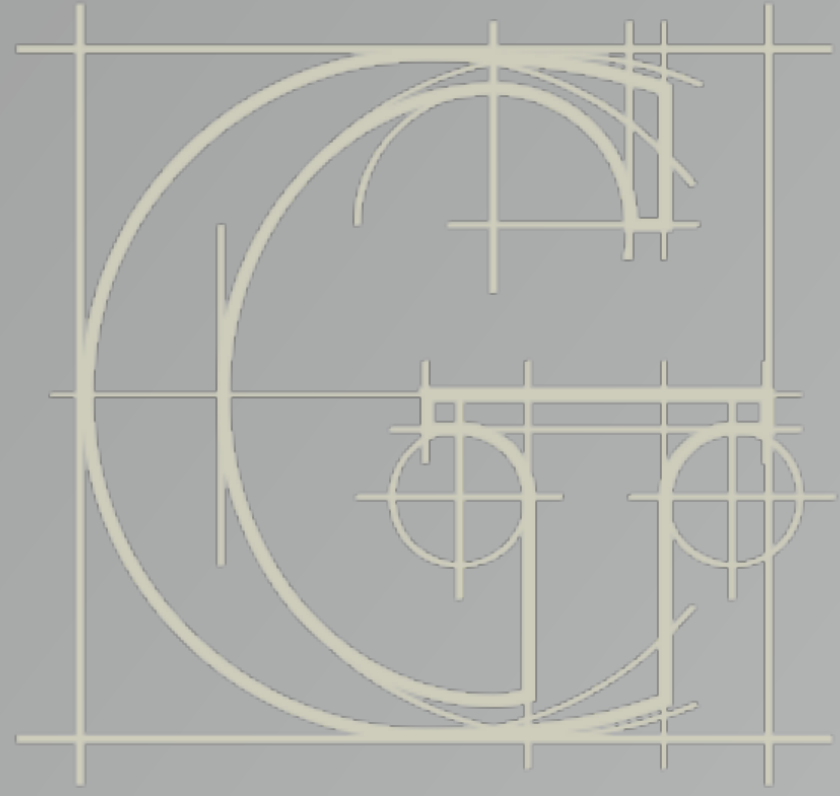
*psychology* | *social theory* | *human connection*

UK & BC (Little Brown UK), Korea (Prunsoop), Spain (Ediciones Paidós)

Each one of us experiences real darkness and witnesses it in the world around us. It's easy to decide that's all there is. *The Hopeful Skeptic* will push readers to make a different choice, realizing that there is something better in us, even if it's hidden like sun behind clouds. Based on a mainstage Ted Talk, Jamil Zaki aims to explore cynicism through the lens of hope, walking us through its history and current—potentially devastating—place in society. It will challenge people to envision a society that honors trust and connection, and to play a role in creating it. Filled with fascinating anecdotes, compelling research, and helpful tools to combat cynicism fallout, the book will unfold as a medical mystery, dissecting what cynicism is, how it harms us, and how we can treat it. It is a book for now, for any person who wakes up and feels the inevitability problems, be they global or personal.

**Jamil Zaki** is a professor of psychology at Stanford University and the director of the Stanford Social Neuroscience Lab. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *New Yorker*, and the *Atlantic*. He lives in San Francisco with his wife and their two daughters.

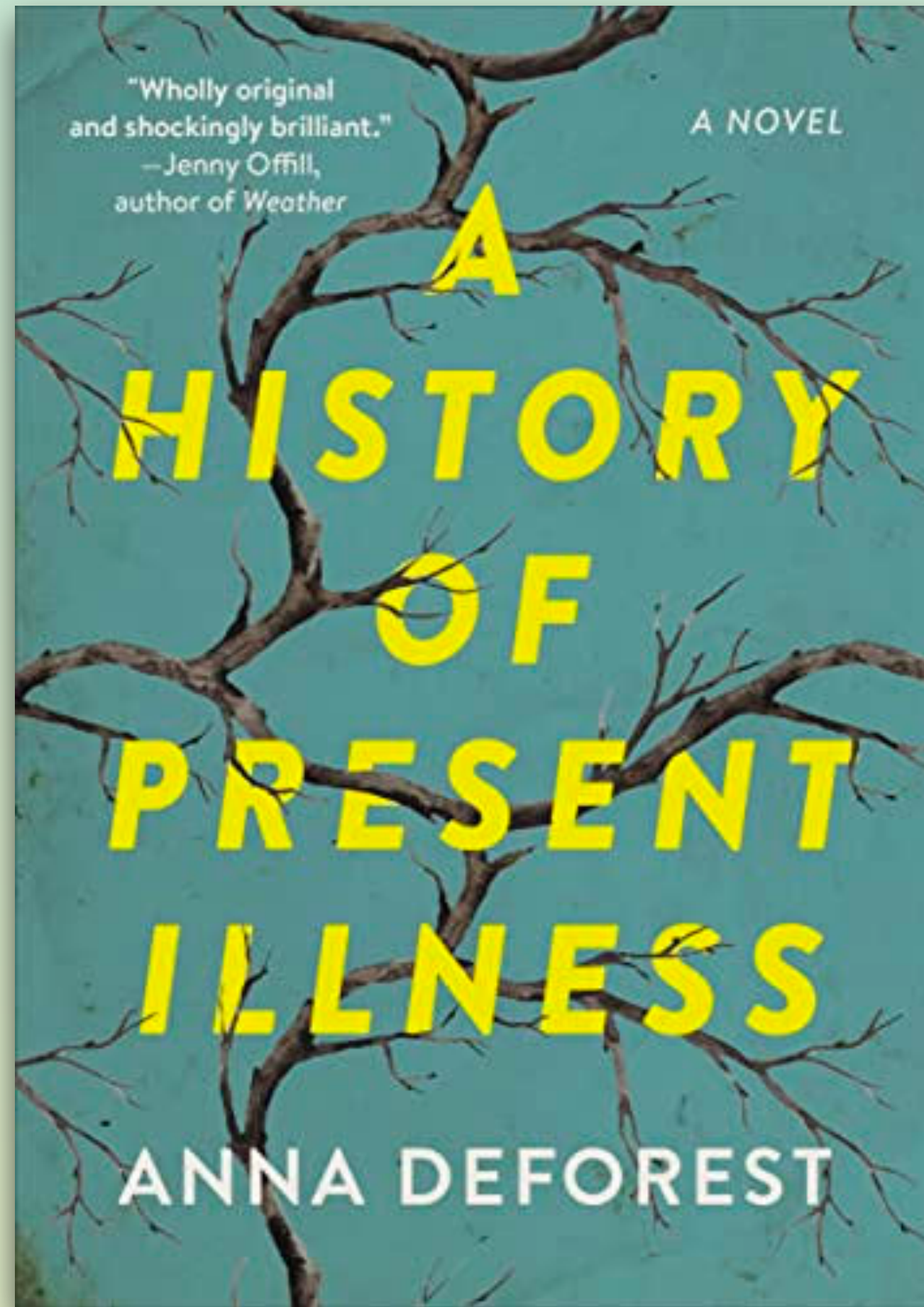
Editor: Colin Dickerman | Agent: Seth Fishman | Material: Proposal



*the*  
**gernert**  
*company*

***Current Releases  
and  
Soon to Publish***

fiction



*A novel of meticulous brevity that transmutes the practice of medicine into a larger exploration of humanity, the meaning of care, and the nature of annihilation—physical, spiritual, or both.*

Little Brown - August 16, 2022

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Sold to Little, Brown at auction • A *Publishers Weekly* “Writer to Watch” • A Lit Hub Most Anticipated Book of 2022

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“*A History of Present Illness* is a singular read, full of beauty and wit and monstrous truth. It took me down dark corridors of loss and out into the too bright sunshine again. I’ve never read anything like it. Wholly original and shockingly brilliant.”—**Jenny O’Fallon, author of *Weather***

“A revelation.”—***The New York Times***

“Brutal and brave, DeForest’s novel is one of the best in the ‘making of a doctor’ genre. And its plucky protagonist, casualty and hero, roars a universal truth, ‘We all hurt.’”—***Booklist*, starred review**

*literary fiction* | *medicine* | *family*

Rights sold: World Spanish (Fiordo Editorial)

A young woman puts on a white coat for her first day as a student doctor. So begins this powerful debut, which follows our unnamed narrator through cadaver dissection, surgical rotation, difficult births, sudden deaths, and a budding relationship with a seminarian. In the troubled world of the hospital, where the language of blood tests and organ systems so often hides the heart of the matter, she works her way from one bed to another, from a man dying of substance use and tuberculosis, to a child in pain crisis, to a young woman, fading from confusion to aphasia to death. The long hours and heartrending work begin to blur the lines between her new life as a physician and the lifelong traumas she has fled. In brilliant, wry, and biting prose, *A History of Present Illness* is a boldly honest meditation on the body, the hope of healing in the face of total loss, and what it means to be alive.

**Anna DeForest** is a neurologist and palliative care physician in New York City. Her writing has appeared in the *Alaska Quarterly Review*, the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, and the *Paris Review*. This is her first novel.

Editor: Vivian Lee | Agent: Sarah Burnes | Material: Final pages

*fiction*



*A stylish interplanetary mystery that blends Kowal's no-nonsense approach to life in space with a talent for creating glittering high-society.*

Tor Books - October 11, 2022

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## Hugo, Locus, and Nebula-Award winning author of The Lady Astronaut series

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“Kowal expertly weaves in red herrings and twists right up to the unmasking of the killer, and punctuates the suspense with moments of sparkling wit... this is a page-turner.”—***Publishers Weekly***

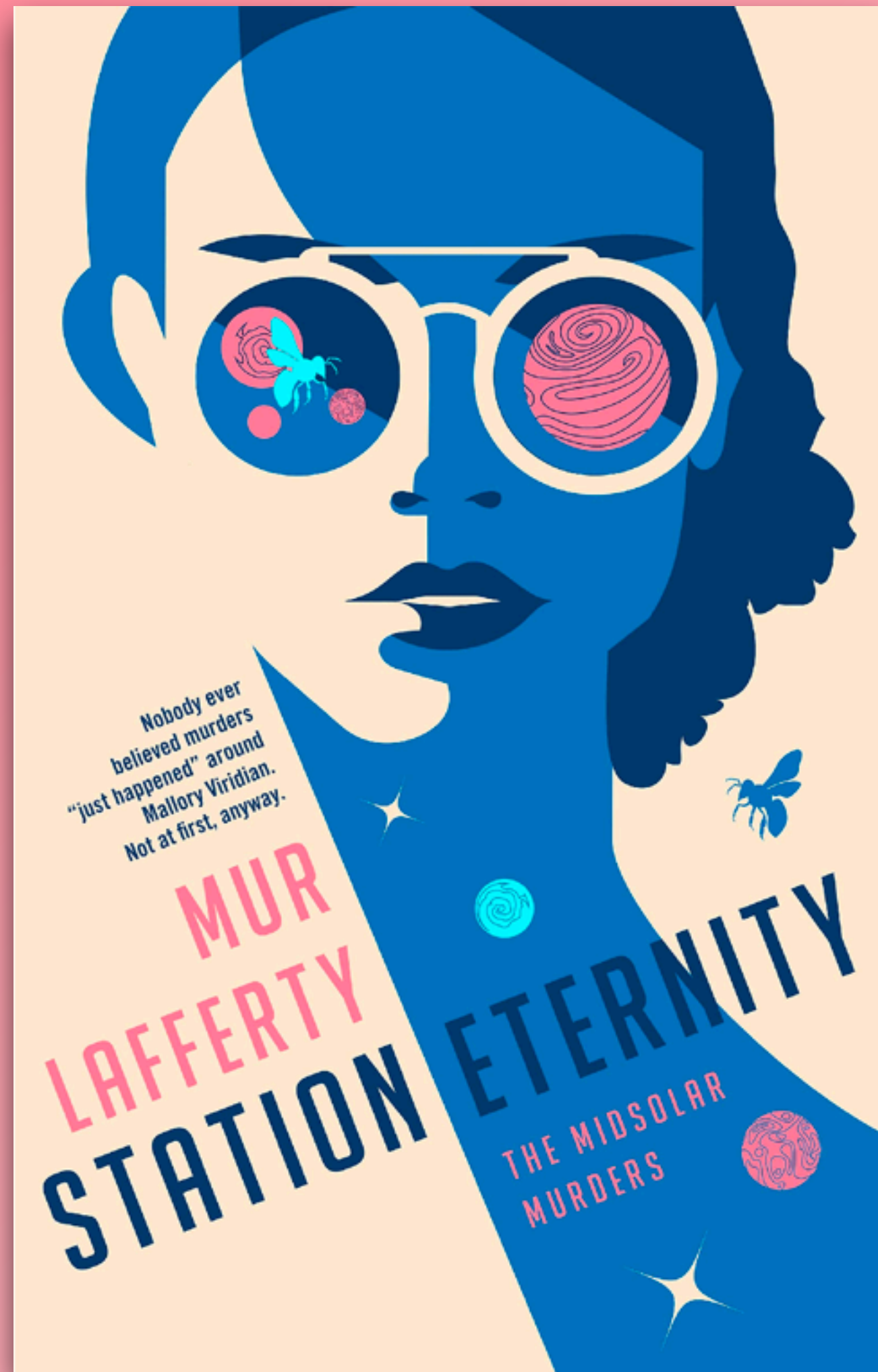
“Kowal’s comedy-of-manners SF mystery is a rollicking case of knowing when to throw decorum out the window in order to get results. Highly recommended for... anyone who loves a good mystery in an out-of-this-world setting.”—***Library Journal, starred review***

*science fiction* | *mystery* | *interplanetary*

Tesla Crane, a brilliant inventor and an heiress, is on her honeymoon on an interplanetary space liner, cruising between the Moon and Mars. She’s traveling incognito and is reveling in her anonymity. Then someone is murdered and the festering chowderheads who run security have the audacity to arrest her spouse. Armed with banter, martinis and her small service dog, Tesla is determined to solve the crime so that the newlyweds can get back to canoodling—and keep the real killer from striking again.

**Mary Robinette Kowal** is the author of the Hugo, Nebula, and Locus Award-winning alternate history novel, *The Calculating Stars*, the first book in the Lady Astronaut series. She is also the author of The Glamourist Histories series and *Ghost Talkers* and has received the Astounding Award for Best New Writer, four Hugo Awards, the Nebula, and Locus Awards. Her stories appear in *Asimov’s*, *Uncanny*, and several Year’s Best anthologies. She lives in Tennessee with her husband Rob and over a dozen manual typewriters.

*Editor:* Claire Eddie | *Agents:* Seth Fishman | *Material:* Final pages



*A witty, self-aware novel that puts a speculative spin on murder mysteries, from the Hugo-nominated author of *Six Wakes*.*

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From a Hugo and Nebula-nominated author with quotes from award winners T. Kingfisher, Sarah Pinsker, S.B. Divya, & James Patrick Kelly

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“What a glorious romp. Murder, sentient space stations, and banter. It had everything I wanted.”  
—**Mary Robinette Kowal, Hugo and Nebula Award-winning author of *The Calculating Stars***

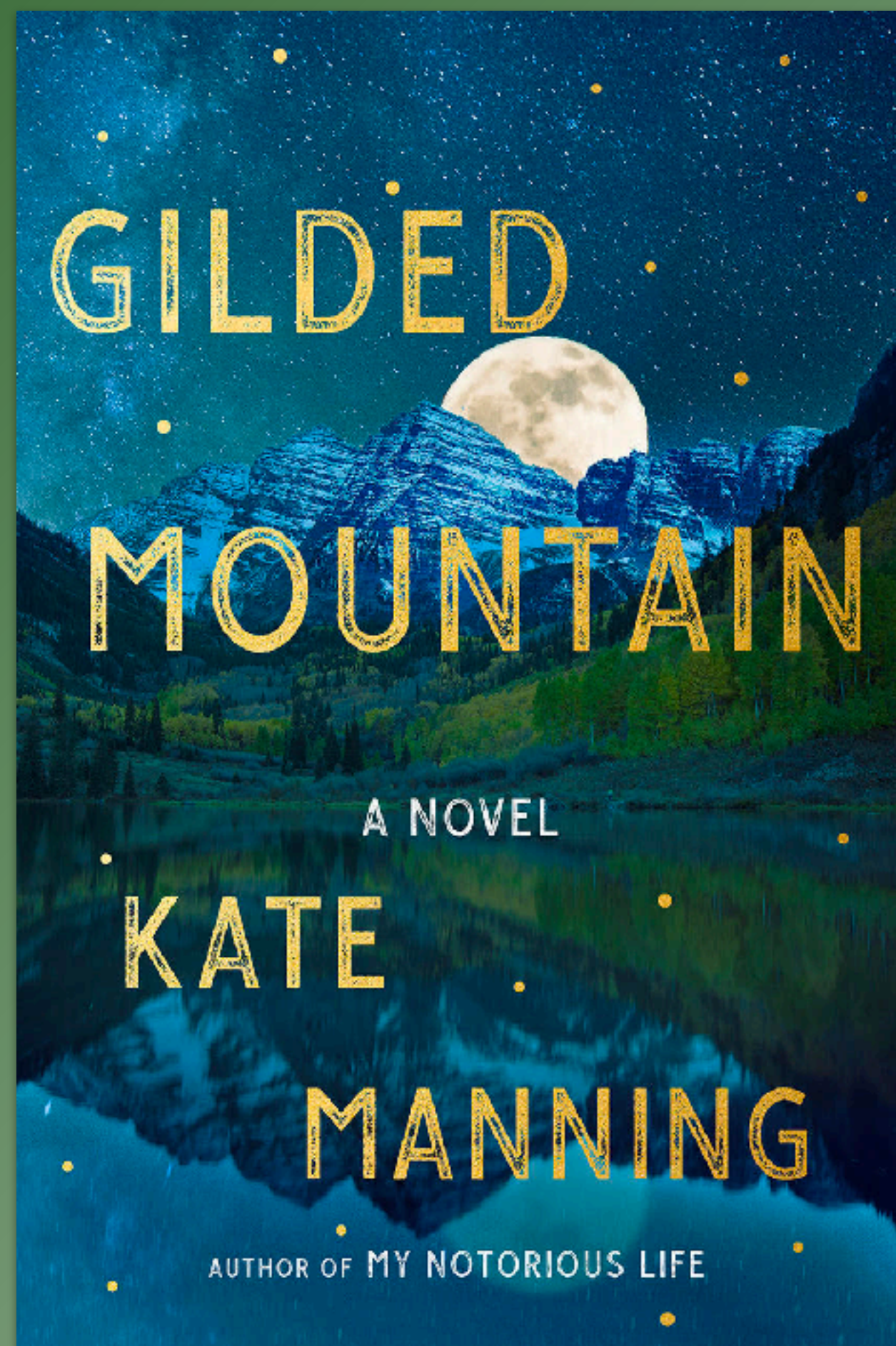
“A clever and suspenseful sci-fi mystery, with intriguing characters and attentive worldbuilding.”  
—***Library Journal*, starred review**

*sci-fi mystery* | *romp* | *alien space station*

From idyllic small towns to claustrophobic urban landscapes, Mallory Viridian is constantly embroiled in murder cases that only she has the insight to solve. But outside of a classic mystery novel, being surrounded by death doesn't make you a charming amateur detective, it makes you a suspect and a social pariah. So when Mallory gets the opportunity to take refuge on a sentient space station, she thinks she has the solution. Surely the murders will stop if her only company is alien beings. At first her new existence is peacefully quiet... and markedly devoid of homicide. But when the station agrees to allow additional human guests, Mallory knows the break from her peculiar reality is over. After the first Earth shuttle arrives, and aliens and humans alike begin to die, the station is thrown into peril. Stuck smack-dab in the middle of an extraterrestrial whodunit, and wondering how in the world this keeps happening to her anyway, Mallory has to solve the crime—and fast—or the list of victims could grow to include everyone on board....

**Mur Lafferty** is an award-winning author and Hall of Fame podcaster. She's the author of the Nebula- and Hugo-nominated finalist *Six Wakes* and the *Shambling Guides* series, and host of the popular *Ditch Diggers* and *I Should Be Writing* podcasts. She also co-edits the Hugo-nominated podcast magazine *Escape Pod*. Lafferty lives with her husband, daughter, and two dogs in Durham, North Carolina.

fiction



*Sylvie Pelletier is the irrepressible young heroine of this sweeping historical novel, set in Moonstone, Colorado, 1907. Hers is the tale of a hardscrabble education, about right and wrong, and the consequences of speaking out against injustice.*

Scribner - November 1, 2022

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A powerful saga about resilience from the acclaimed author of *My Notorious Life* • Quotes from Christina Baker Kline, Erik Larson, Mary Beth Keane, Carol Edgarian • Lead title for Scribner

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"Kate Manning is a master storyteller. *Gilded Mountain* is so immersive, so richly imagined, that reading it feels akin to time travel. Manning writes historical sagas like no one else... An epic story of love, hope and perseverance."—**Christina Baker Kline, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Here is adventure of the first order...dread and love entwine, as the forces and people that transformed the 20th century converge on the town, all this rendered by Ms. Manning in prose as clean and sharp as the stone saws on the mountain. I raced through it. Sylvie is dynamite and *Gilded Mountain* is brilliant."—**Erik Larson, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Stellar... Manning shines at giving the era's class, racial, and economic tensions a human face. This is one to savor."—***Publishers Weekly*, \*starred review\***

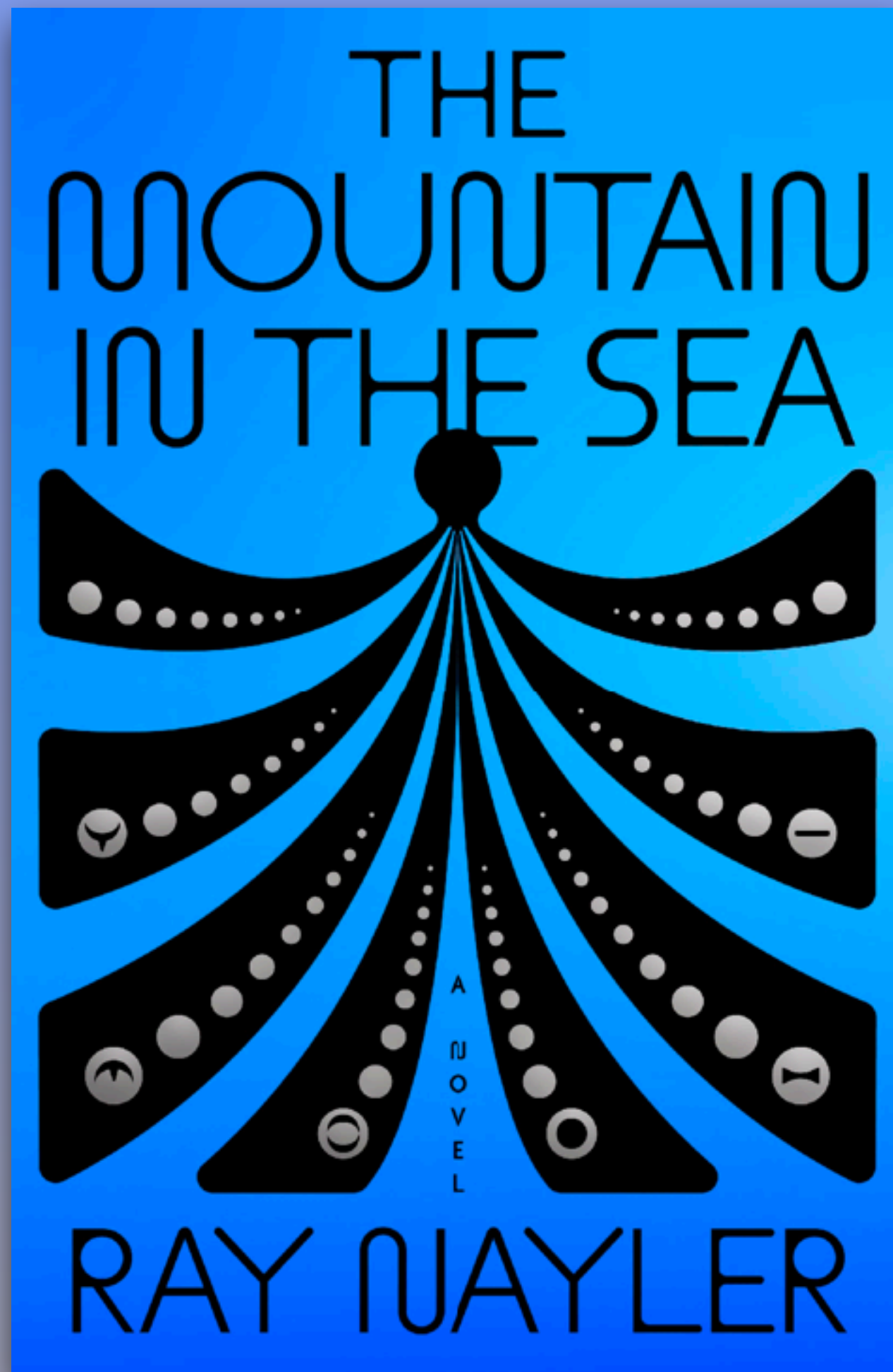
*historical* | *literary* | *American west*

In a voice full of questions and sly humor, Sylvie recounts the story of leaving her family's snowbound mountain cabin to work in the local manor house for the Padgetts, owners of the marble mining company that employs her father and dominates the town. Sharp-eyed Sylvie is awed by the luxury around her, fascinated by her employer, the charming "Countess" Inge, and confused by the erratic affections of Jasper, the bookish heir to the family fortune. When she learns that a European King will soon arrive for a hunting party, her fairy-tale ideas of glamour and romance take a dark turn, as she realizes the Padgetts' lofty philosophical talk is at odds with the unfair labor practices that have enriched them. Their servants, the Gradys, descendants of formerly enslaved people have long known this to be true—and are making plans to form a utopian community on the Colorado prairie. Drawn from true stories of Colorado history, this is an unforgettable saga of a bygone American West seized by robber barons and settled by immigrants; a novel about resilience in the midst of hardship, and a story of longing—for family and equality, beauty and joy.

**Kate Manning** is the author of the critically acclaimed novels *My Notorious Life* and *Whitegirl*. A former documentary television producer and winner of two Emmy Awards, she has written for *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times Book Review*, *Time*, *Glamour*, and *The Guardian*, among other publications. She has taught creative writing at Bard High School Early College in Manhattan, and lives with her family in New York City.

Editor: Kara Watson | Agent: Sarah Burnes | Material: Final pages

fiction



*This near-future thriller by an acclaimed short-story writer describes the nature of consciousness in a dazzling literary debut that takes a mind-blowing dive into humankind's legacy.*

MCD - October 4, 2022

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Lead title for MCD/FSG • Sold at auction in Germany • Blurbs from David Mitchell, Jeff VanderMeer, Blake Crouch, Robin Sloan, Ann Leckie

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"I loved this novel's brain and heart, its hidden traps, sheer propulsion, ingenious world-building and the purity of its commitment to luminous ideas."—**David Mitchell, author of *Cloud Atlas***

"*The Mountain in the Sea* is a first-rate speculative thriller, by turns fascinating, brutal, powerful, and redemptive. The book poses profound questions about artificial and nonhuman intelligence, and its answers are tantalizing and provocative."—**Jeff VanderMeer, author of *Annihilation***

science fiction | octopuses | technothriller

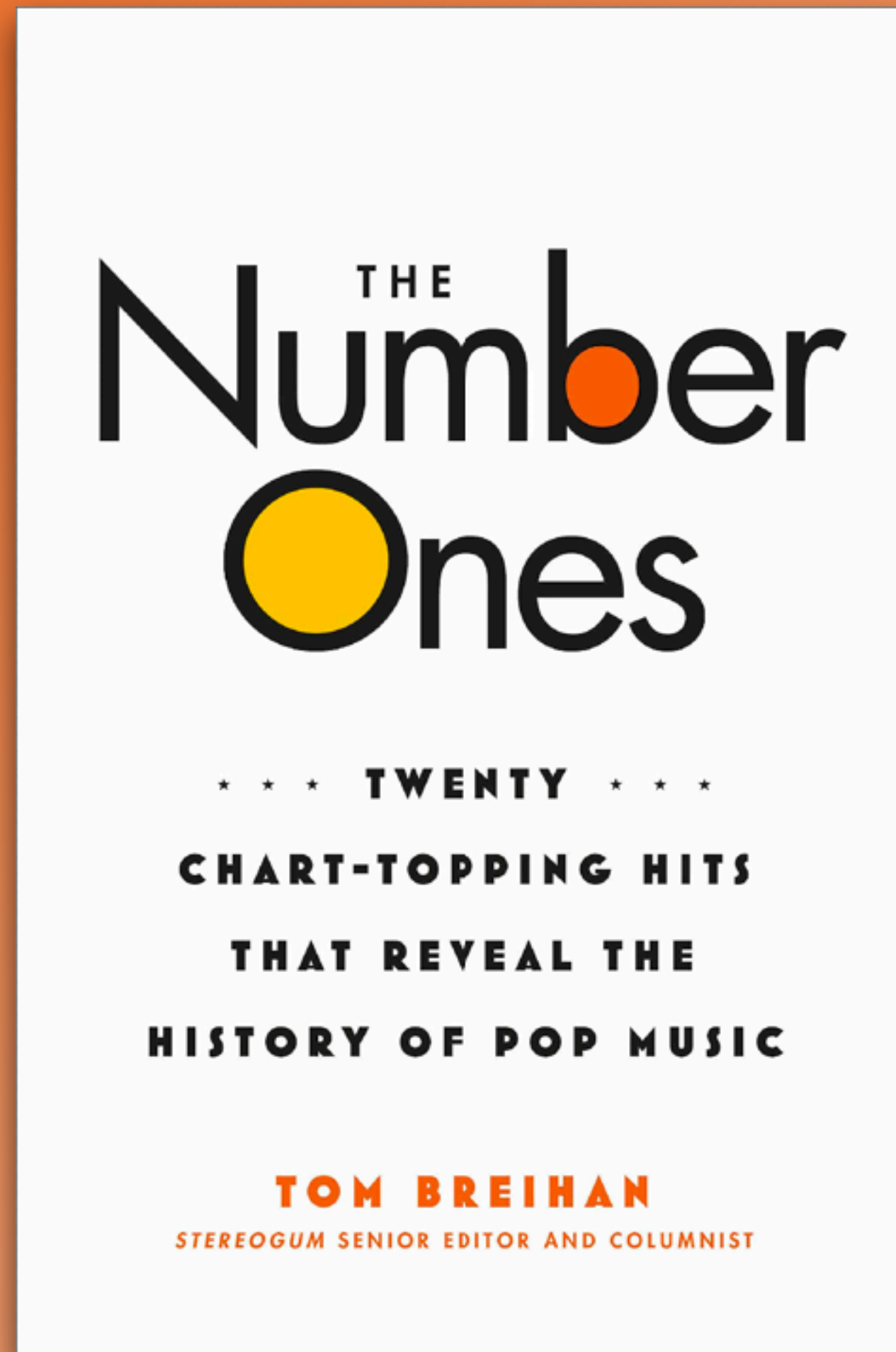
Rights sold: UK & BC (Weidenfeld & Nicolson), Germany (Tropen),  
Russia (EKSMO), Spain (NOVA / PRHGE)

When rumors begin to spread of a species of hyper-intelligent, dangerous octopus that may have developed its own language and culture, marine biologist Dr. Ha Nguyen, who has spent her life researching cephalopod intelligence, will do anything for the chance to study them. The transnational tech corporation DIANIMA has sealed the remote Con Dao Archipelago, where the octopuses were discovered, off from the world, but Dr. Nguyen joins DIANIMA's team on the islands: a battle-scarred security agent and the world's first android. The octopuses hold the key to unprecedented breakthroughs in extrahuman intelligence and the stakes are high: there are vast fortunes to be made by whoever can take advantage of the octopuses' advancements. As Dr. Nguyen struggles to communicate with the newly discovered species, forces larger than DIANIMA close in to seize the octopuses for themselves. But no one has yet asked the octopuses what they think. And what they might do about it.

**Ray Nayler's** critically acclaimed short fiction has appeared in many magazines and anthologies, including *The Very Best of the Best: 35 Years of The Year's Best Science Fiction*. He will serve as the international advisor to the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Editor: Sean McDonald | Agent: Seth Fishman | Material: Final pages

non-fiction



*Beloved music critic Tom Breihan's fascinating history of popular music through the lens of game-changing #1 singles from the Billboard Hot 100.*

Hachette Books - November 15, 2022

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From a senior editor at *Stereogum* who writes for *Pitchfork*, the *Village Voice*, the *AV Club*, *GQ*, among other publications

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“Trying to capture the last seven decades of popular music through 20 songs sounds daunting, but this breezy history is gripping and entertaining...he attacks his subject with an engaging mix of clever facts and savvy observations. Breihan offers plenty of interesting insights into hits from the Beatles, Fleetwood Mac, Prince, and Mariah Carey, but the surprises are where he shines brightest. A fun, buzzy history that effectively uses context and criticism to explain the effervescence of pop music.”—**Kirkus, starred review**

“This fantastic overview carries loads of fascinating trivia. Great fun for any music fan.”  
—**Booklist, starred review**

*music history* | *pop culture* | *criticism*

When Tom Breihan launched his *Stereogum* column in early 2018, “The Number Ones”—a space in which he has been writing about every #1 hit in the history of the Billboard Hot 100, in chronological order—he figured he’d post capsule-size reviews for each song. But there was so much more to uncover. The column has taken on a life of its own, sparking online debate and occasional death threats. In *The Number Ones*, Breihan writes about twenty pivotal #1s throughout chart history, revealing a remarkably fluid and connected story of music that is as entertaining as it is enlightening. *The Numbers Ones* features the greatest pop artists of all time, from the Brill Building songwriters to the Beatles and the Beach Boys; from Motown to Michael Jackson, Prince, and Mariah Carey; and from the digital revolution to the K-pop system. Breihan also ponders great artists who have never hit the top spot, like Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen, and James Brown. Breihan illuminates what makes indelible ear candy across the decades—including dance crazes, recording innovations, television phenomena, disco, AOR, MTV, rap, compact discs, mp3s, social media, memes, and much more—leaving readers to wonder what could possibly happen next.

**Tom Breihan** is the senior editor at the music website *Stereogum*, where he writes “The Number Ones,” a column where he reviews every #1 hit in the history of the Billboard Hot 100. He’s written for *Pitchfork*, the *Village Voice*, the *AV Club*, *GQ*, and the *Ringer*, among others. He lives in Charlottesville, Virginia, with his wife and kids. He is seven feet tall.

Editor: Brant Rumble | Agent: Jack Gernert | Material: Final pages



*A gripping memoir on friendship, grief, the search for self, and the solace that can be found through art.*

Doubleday - September 27, 2022

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Starred reviews from *PW*, *Kirkus*, and *Booklist* • First serial excerpt in *The New Yorker* • Quotes from Jia Tolentino, Rachel Kushner, Jonathan Lethem, Maxine Hong Kingston, Ocean Vuong, Dinaw Mengestu, Kiese Laymon, among others

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"*New Yorker* staff writer Hsu braids music, art, and philosophy in his extraordinary debut...Hsu parses the grief of losing his friend and eloquently captures the power of friendship and unanswerable questions spurred in the wake of senseless violence. The result is at once a lucid snapshot of life in the nineties, an incredible story of reckoning, and a moving elegy to a fallen friend." —***Publishers Weekly*, starred review**

"Masterfully structured and exquisitely written. Hsu's voice shimmers with tenderness and vulnerability as he meticulously reconstructs his memories of a nurturing, compassionate friendship...A stunning, intricate memoir about friendship, grief, and memory."  
—***Kirkus*, starred review**

*memoir* | *coming of age* | *grief*

In the eyes of 18-year-old Hua Hsu, the problem with Ken is that he is *exactly* like everyone else. Ken, whose Japanese American family has been in the United States for generations, is mainstream. For Hua, the son of Taiwanese immigrants, who makes 'zines and haunts Bay Area record shops, Ken represents all that he defines himself in opposition to. The only thing Hua and Ken have in common is that American culture doesn't seem to have a place for either of them. But, despite his first impressions, Hua and Ken become friends, a friendship built of late-night conversations over cigarettes, long drives along the California coast, and the textbook successes and humiliations of everyday college life. And then violently, senselessly, Ken is gone, killed in a carjacking, not even three years after the day they first meet. Determined to hold on to all that was left of one of his closest friends—his memories—Hua turned to writing. *Stay True* is the book he's been working on ever since: a coming-of-age story that details both the ordinary and extraordinary, a bracing memoir about growing up, and about moving through the world in search of meaning and belonging.

**Hua Hsu** is a staff writer at *The New Yorker* and an associate professor of English at Vassar College. Hsu serves on the executive board of the Asian American Writers' Workshop. He was formerly a fellow at the New America Foundation and the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center at the New York Public Library. He lives in Brooklyn, NY with his family.

non-fiction

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Second in a major 3-book deal with Riverhead • Millions of copies of Randall's previous book sold worldwide • #1 New York Times Bestseller

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"A delight for science geeks with a penchant for oddball thought experiments." —**Kirkus**

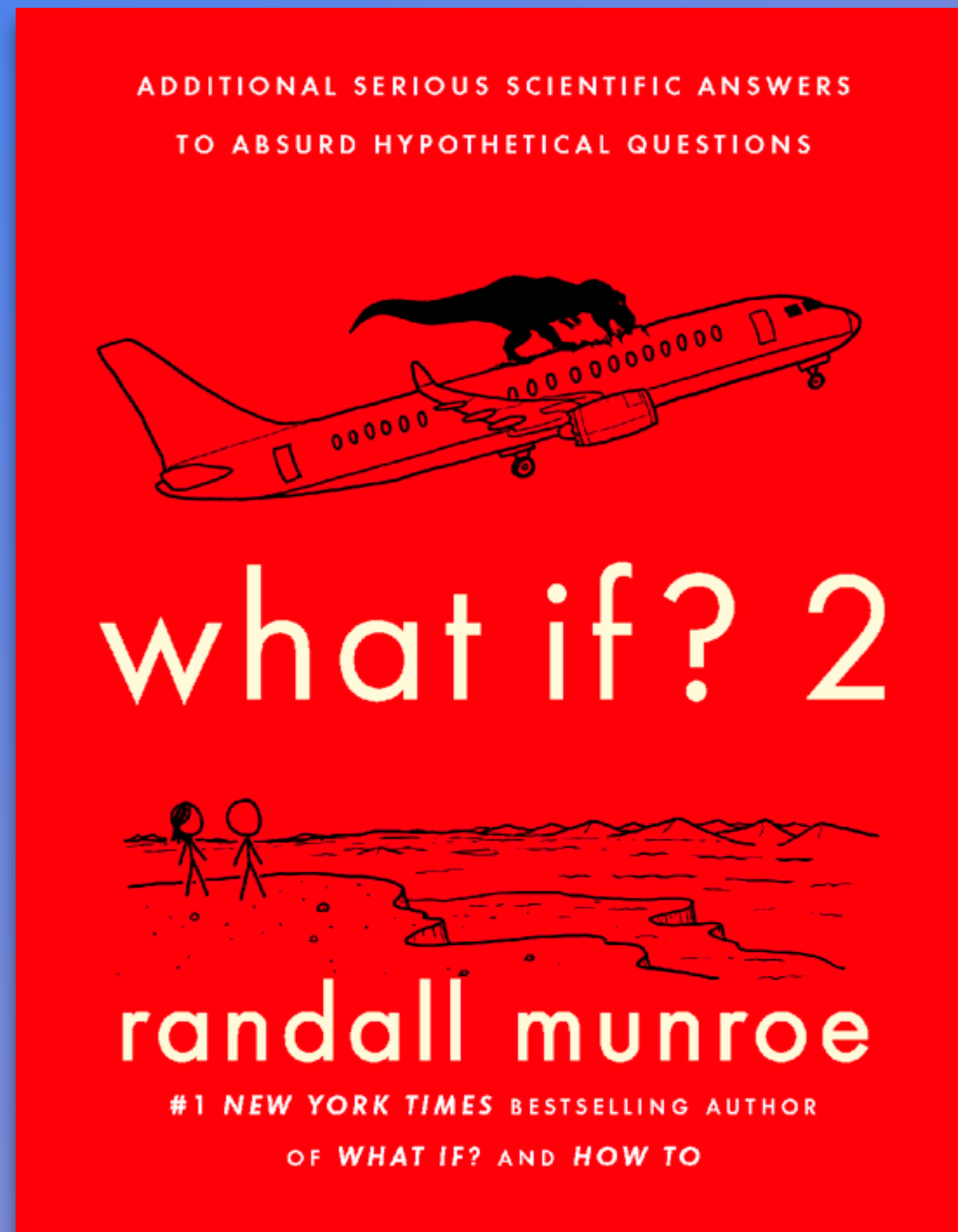
"It's an absolute delight! It's the coolest way to learn how the world actually works."  
—**Hank Green (on the Dear Hank & John poccast)**

*comics | trivia | popular science*

Rights sold: UK & BC (John Murray Press), China (United Sky), Czech Republic (Prah), The Netherlands (Spectrum), Germany (Penguin Verlag), Hungary (Athenaeum), Italy (Bompiani), Japan (Hayakawa), Korea (Sigongsa), Poland (Czarina Owca), Romania (Publica), Slovakia (Ikar), Sweden (Volante), Taiwan (Commonwealth), Brazil (Companhia das Letras).

The millions of people around the world who read and loved *What If?* still have questions, and those questions are getting stranger. Thank goodness *xkcd* creator Randall Munroe is here to help. Planning to ride a fire pole from the moon back to Earth? The hardest part is sticking the landing. Hoping to cool the atmosphere by opening everyone's freezer door at the same time? Maybe it's time for a brief introduction to thermodynamics. Want to know what would happen if you rode a helicopter blade, built a billion-story building, made a lava lamp out of lava, or jumped on a geyser as it erupted? Okay, if you insist. Before you go on a cosmic road trip, feed the residents of New York City to a T. rex, or fill every church with bananas, be sure to consult this practical guide for impractical ideas. Unfazed by absurdity, Randall consults the latest research on everything from swing-set physics to airplane-catapult design to clearly and concisely answer his readers' questions. As he consistently demonstrates, you can learn a lot from examining how the world might work in very specific extreme circumstances.

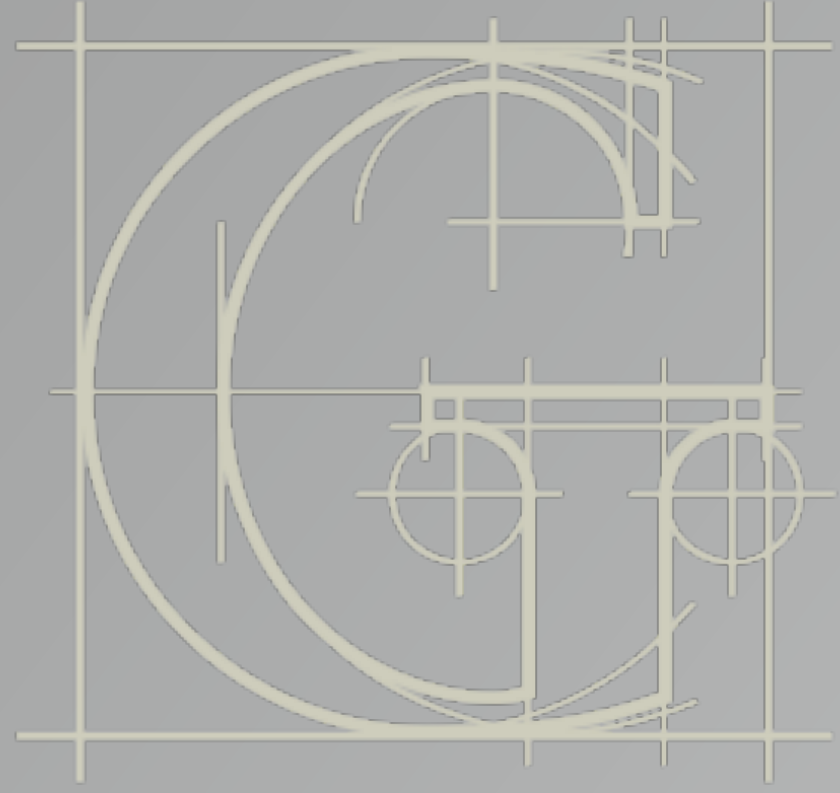
**Randall Munroe** is the author of the #1 New York Times bestsellers *How To*, *What If?* and *Thing Explainer*, the science question-and-answer blog *What If?*, and the popular web comic *xkcd*. A former NASA roboticist, he left the agency in 2006 to draw comics on the internet full time. He lives in Massachusetts.



*The #1 New York Times bestselling author of What If? and How To provides his best answers yet to the weirdest questions you never thought to ask*

Riverhead - September 13, 2022

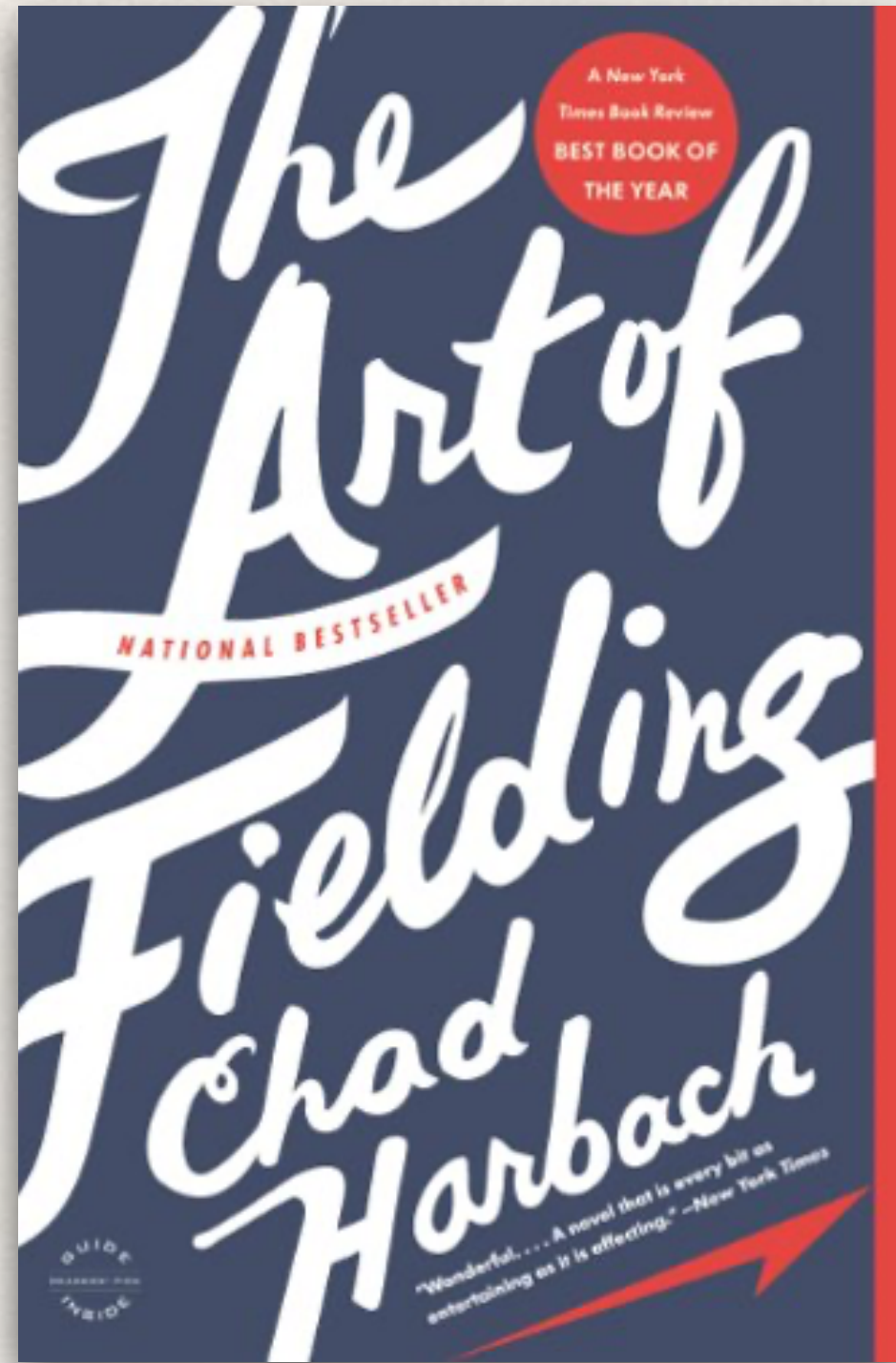
Editor: Courtney Young | Agent: Seth Fishman | Material: Final pages



*the*  
**gernert**  
*company*

*More*  
*Opportunities*

fiction

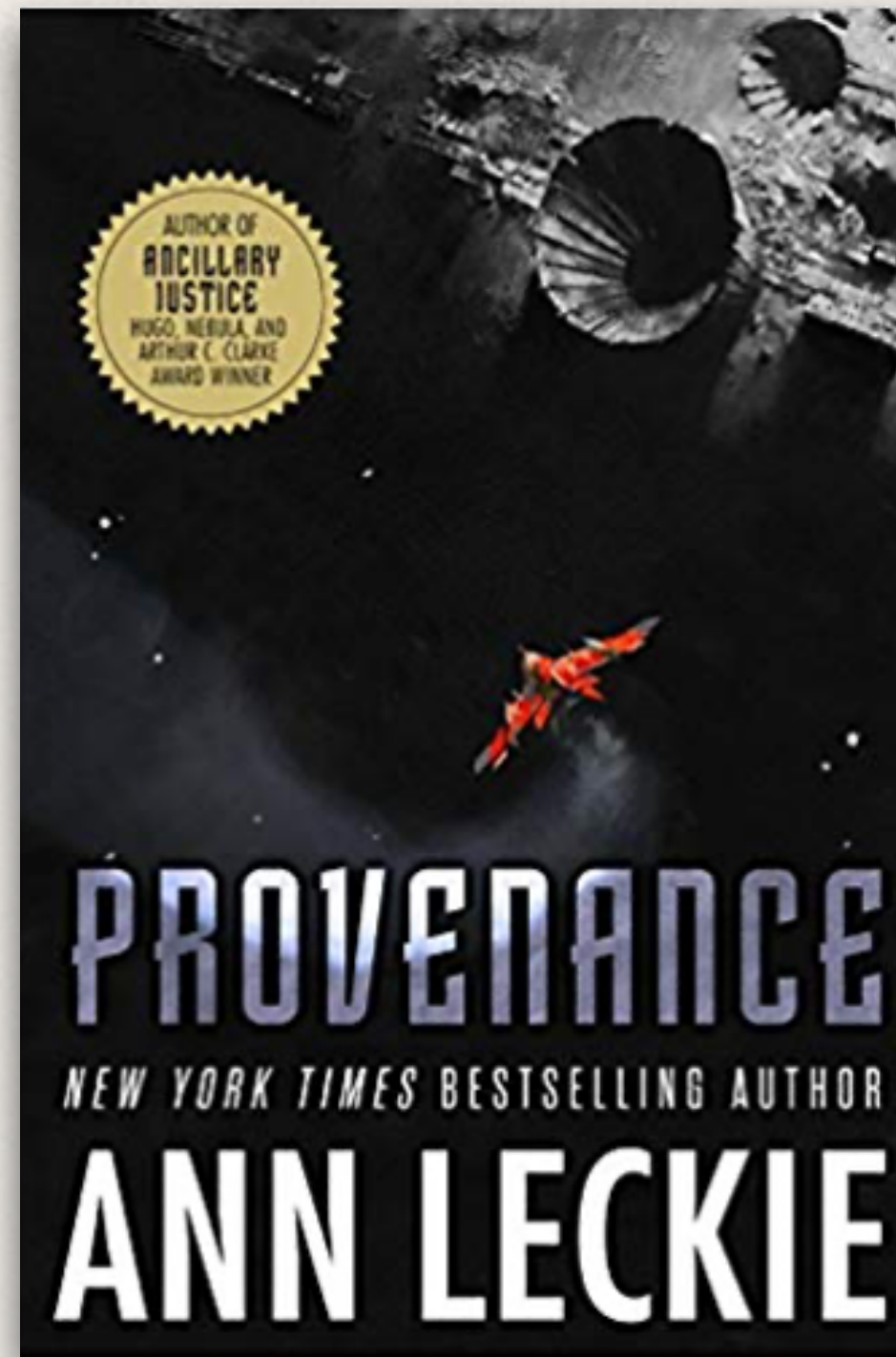


**Little, Brown - September 7, 2011**  
**Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb**

Star shortstop Henry Skrimshander seems destined for the big leagues, but when a routine throw goes disastrously off course, the fates of five people are upended.

**INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER**  
 More than 600,000 copies sold • Amazon's #1 Pick of 2011 • Chosen for 30 "Best Of" lists • 20 foreign deals

fiction

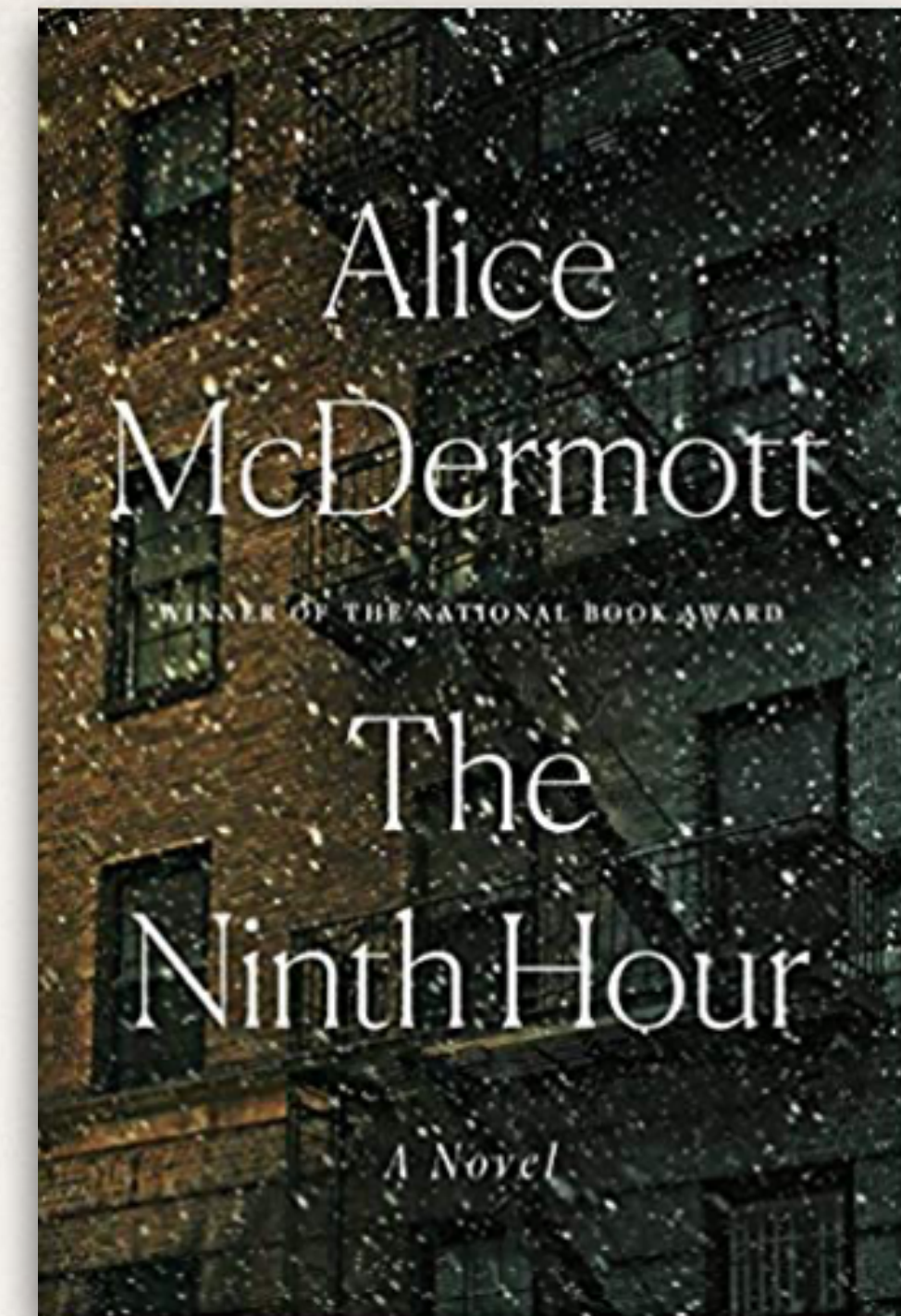


**Orbit - September 26, 2017**  
**Agent: Seth Fishman**

An ambitious young woman has just one chance to secure her future and reclaim her family's priceless lost artifacts in this stand-alone novel set in the world of the Imperial Radch trilogy.

**Part of the NYT bestselling Imperial Radch trilogy universe • Hugo Award for Best Novel 2018 nominee • Locus Award for Best Science Fiction Novel 2018 nominee • Leckie translated into 24 languages**

fiction

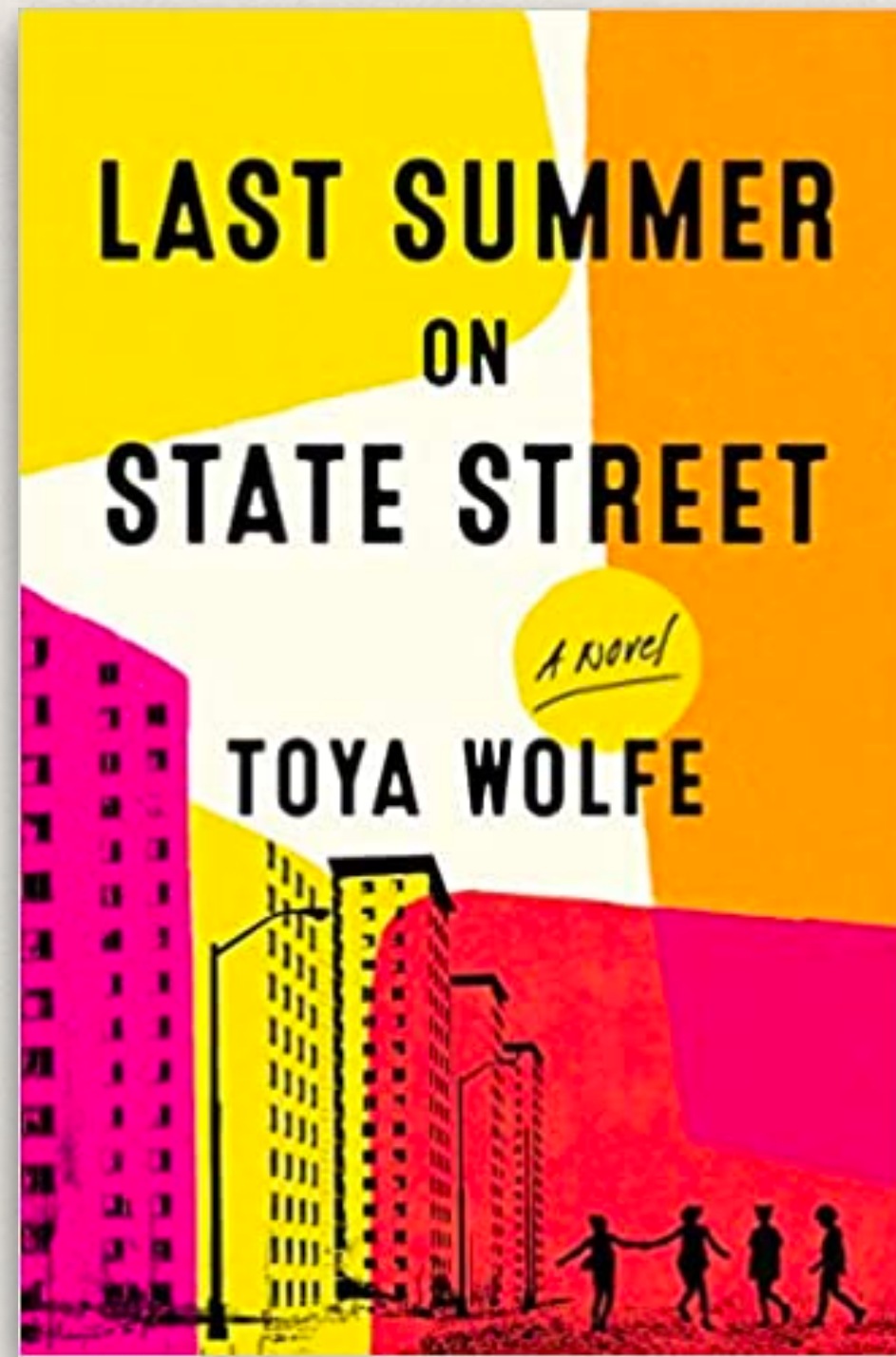


**FSG - September 19, 2017**  
**Agent: Sarah Burnes**

A powerfully affecting story spanning the twentieth century of a widow and her daughter and the nuns who serve their Irish-American community in Brooklyn.

**National Book Critics Circle Award in Fiction finalist • NYT Book Review's 100 Notable Books of 2017 • Kirkus Reviews' Best Fiction of 2017 • Library Journal's Top 10 Novels of 2017 • WSJ's Top Novels of 2017**

fiction

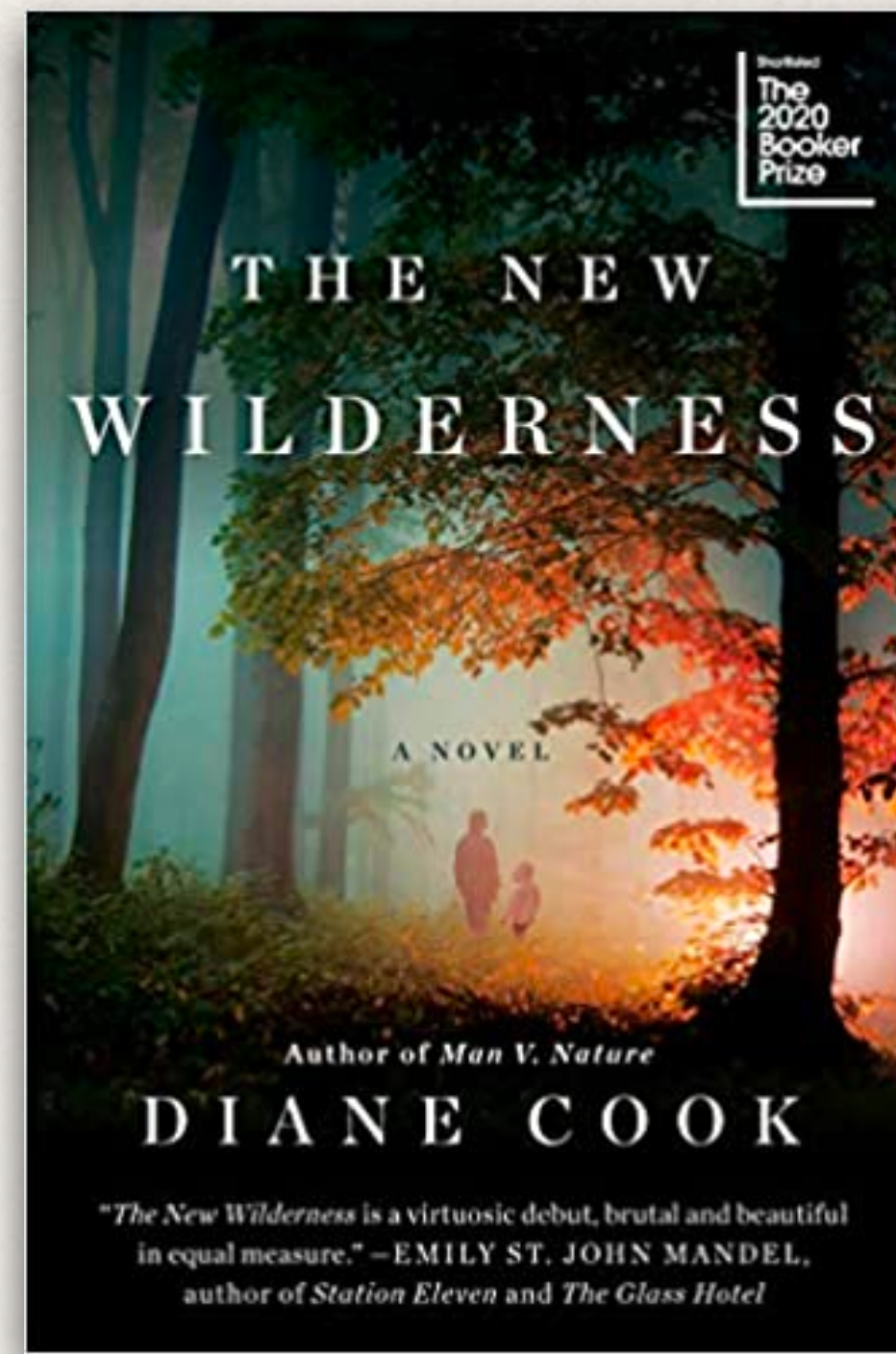


**William Morrow - June 14, 2022**  
**Agent: Meredith Kaffel Simonoff**

A striking coming-of-age debut about friendship, community, and resilience set in the housing projects of Chicago during one life-changing summer.

**Steph Curry Book Club Pick • Rave review in the *New York Times* • Starred reviews in *Publishers Weekly* and *Booklist***

fiction

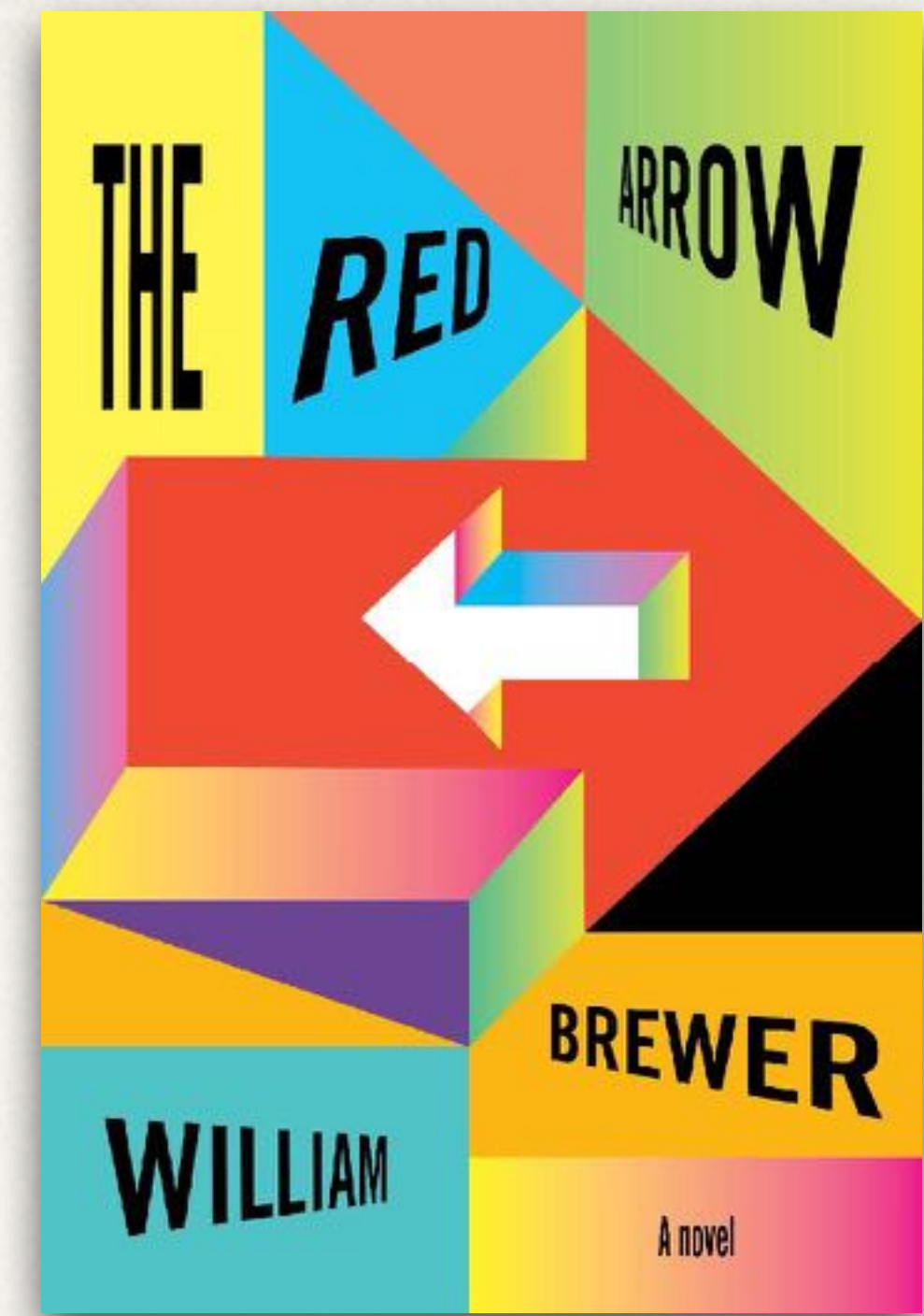


**Harper - August 11, 2020**  
**Agent: Seth Fishman**

Helen Phillips meets Miranda July in this daring and imaginative debut novel that explores a moving mother-daughter relationship in a world ravaged by climate change and overpopulation.

**Shortlisted for the Booker Prize 2020 • TV rights sold to Warner Bros. at auction • Starred reviews in *Kirkus*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *Booklist* • Fifteen foreign deals!**

fiction

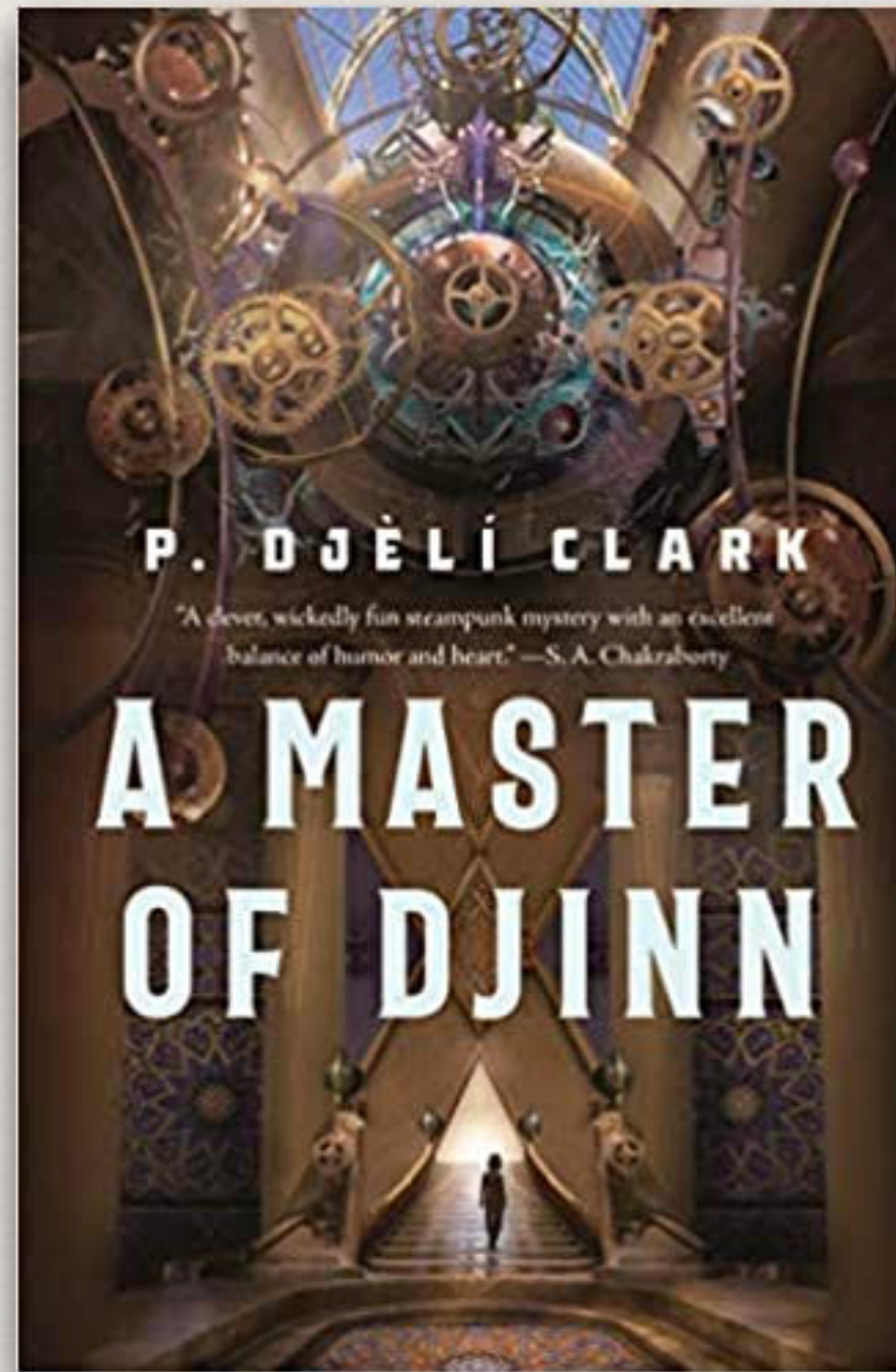


**Knopf - May 17, 2022**  
**Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb**

A singular, cosmically-charged journey through art, memory, and the ways our lives intertwine and align within the riddles of space and time.

**Rave review from *The New York Times Book Review* • Debut novel sold to Knopf at auction • Sold in 5 foreign territories • Quotes from Nathan Hill, Anna Weiner, Charles Yu and more**

fiction

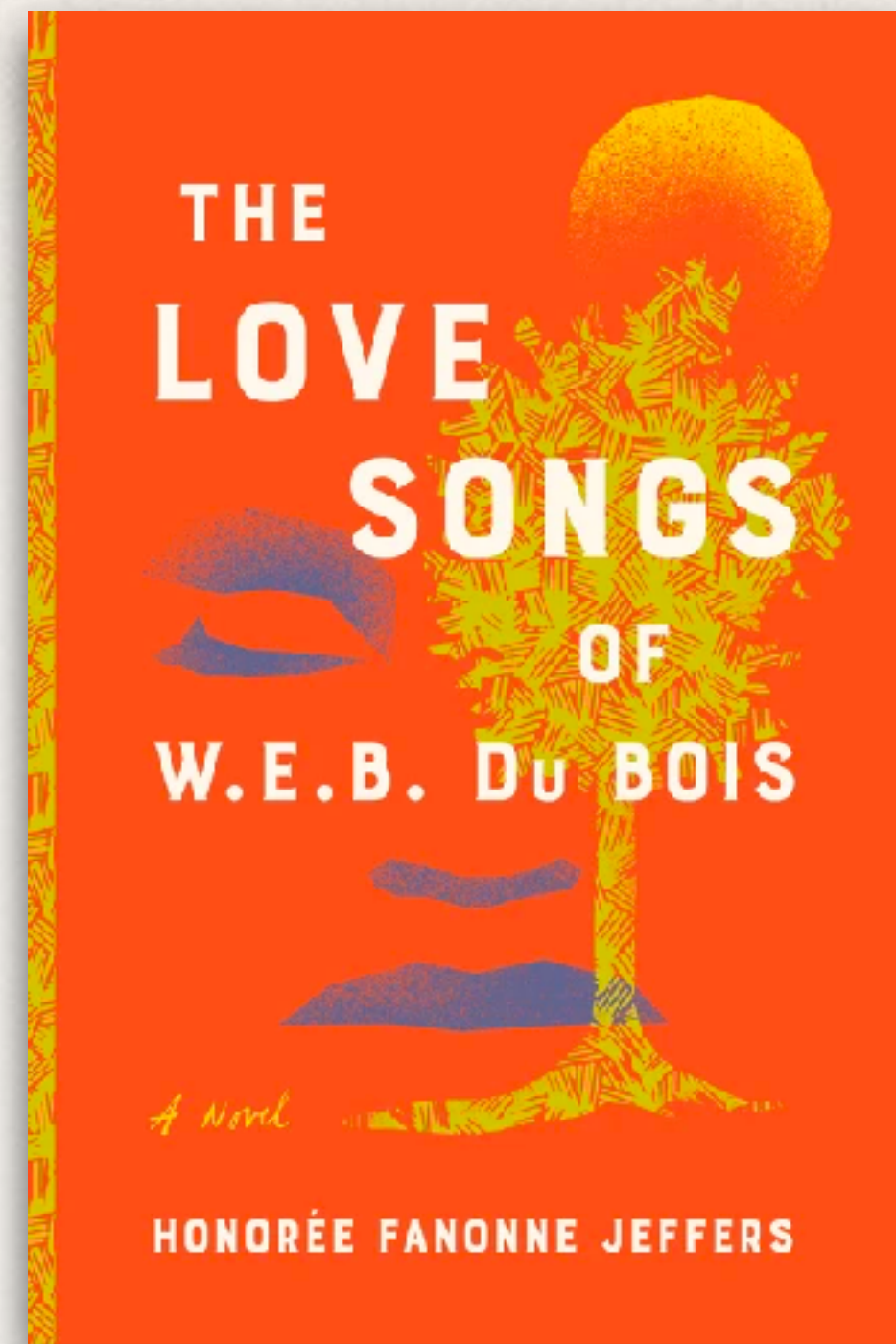


**Tor.com - May 11, 2021**  
**Agent: Seth Fishman**

Nebula, Locus, and Alex Award-winner P. Djèlí Clark returns to his popular alternate Cairo universe for his fantasy novel debut, *A Master of Djinn*.

**7 foreign deals • Won the 2021 Nebula for Best Novel • Clark is the winner of the Nebula, Locus and Alex awards • Blurbs from S. A. Chakraborty, Mary Robinette Kowal and Rebecca Roanhorse, among many others**

fiction

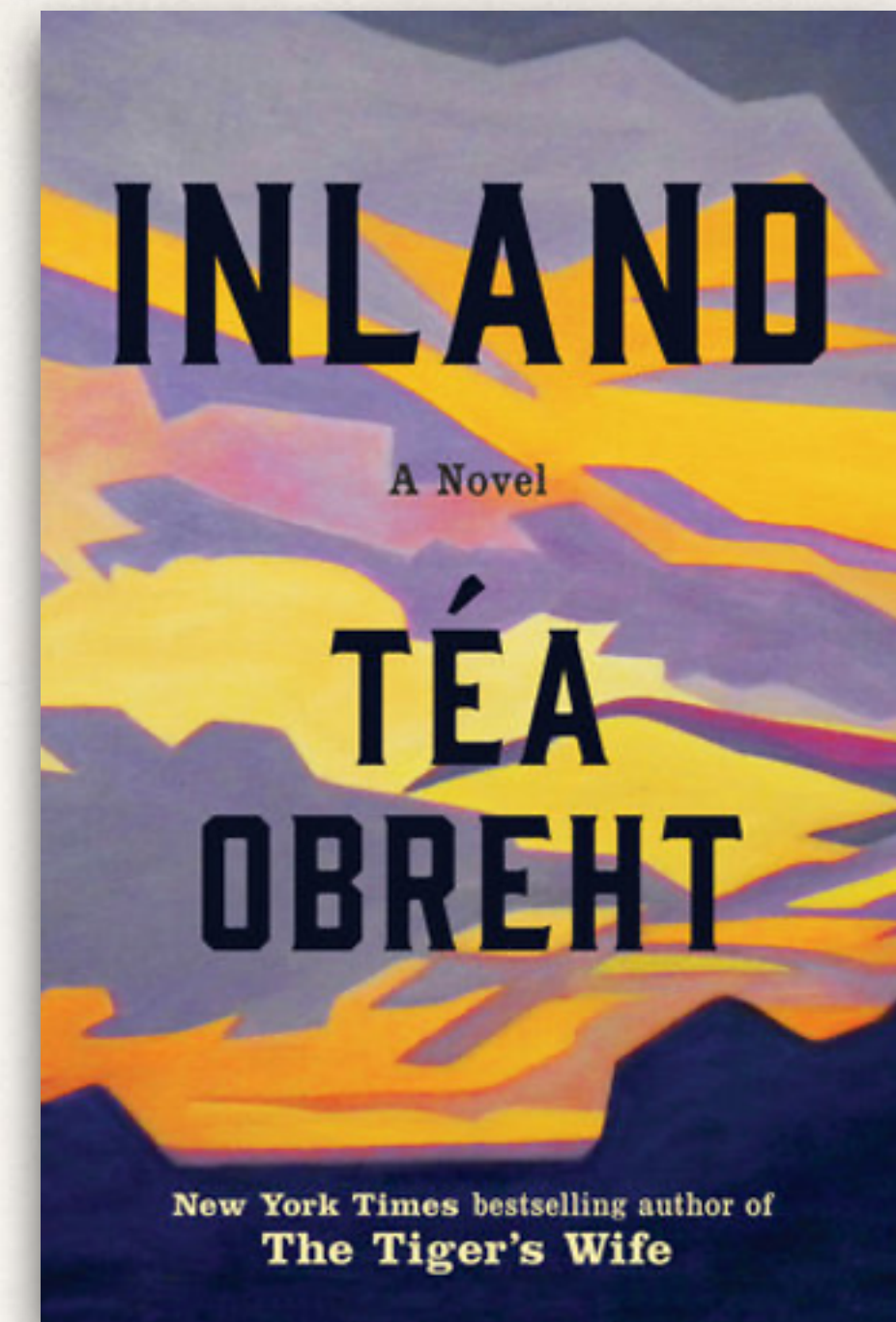


**HarperCollins - August 24, 2021**  
**Agent: Sarah Burnes**

Jeffers makes her fiction debut with this magisterial epic —an intimate yet sweeping novel that chronicles the journey of one American family from the centuries of the colonial slave trade through the Civil War to our own tumultuous time.

**New York Times bestseller • An Oprah Book Club Selection • 2020 National Book Award–nominated poet • Starred/rave reviews from PW, Booklist, Kirkus, New York Times Book Review, and more • 12 foreign deals**

fiction

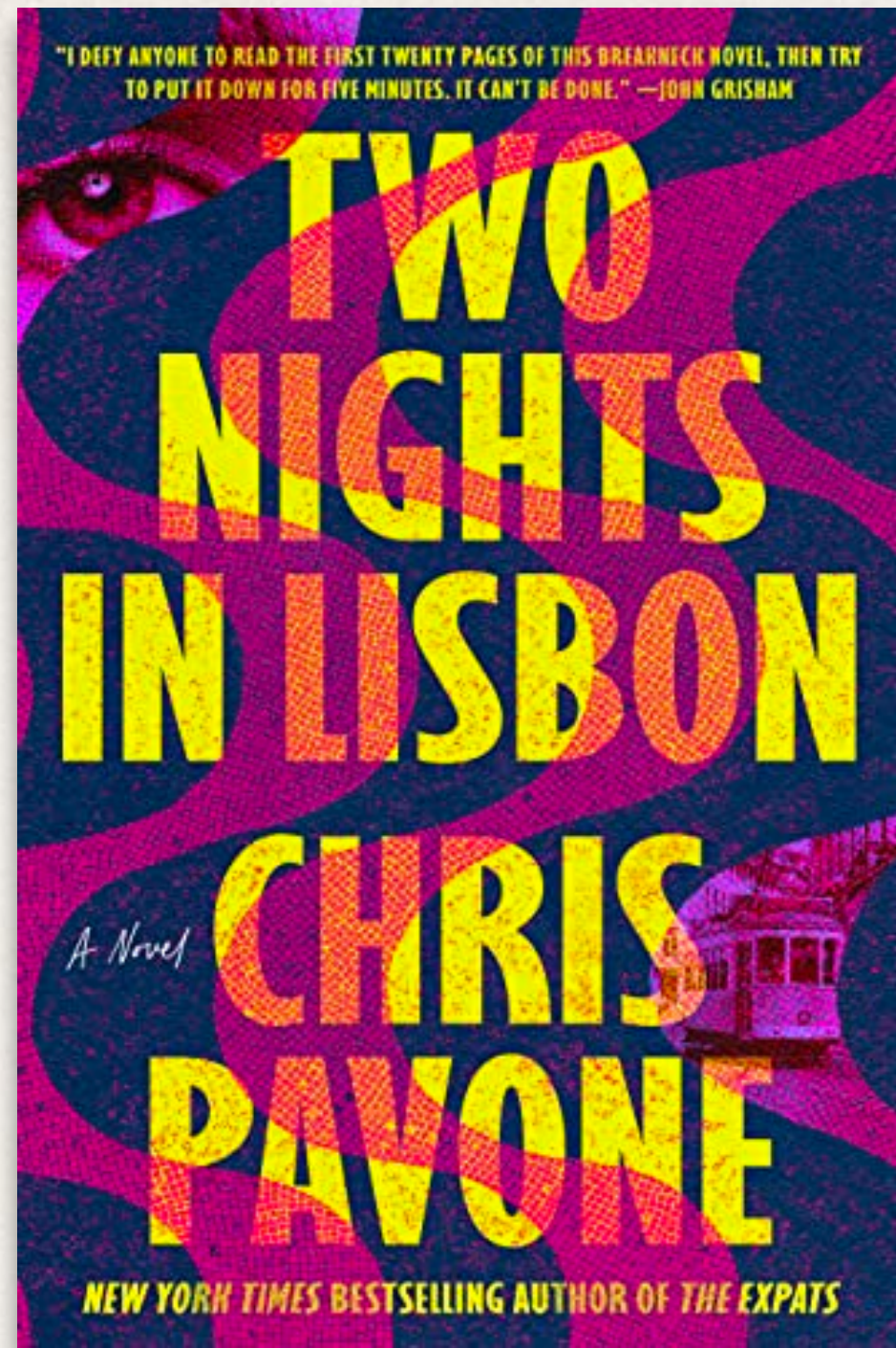


**Random House - August 13, 2019**  
**Agent: Seth Fishman**

The NYT bestselling and Orange Prize-winning author of *The Tiger's Wife* returns with a stunning tale of perseverance that follows an epic journey across an unforgettable landscape of magic and myth.

**Finalist for the Dylan Thomas Prize • Top 10 bestseller in the US and UK • Chosen by Barack Obama for his 2019 summer reading list • 11 foreign deals**

fiction

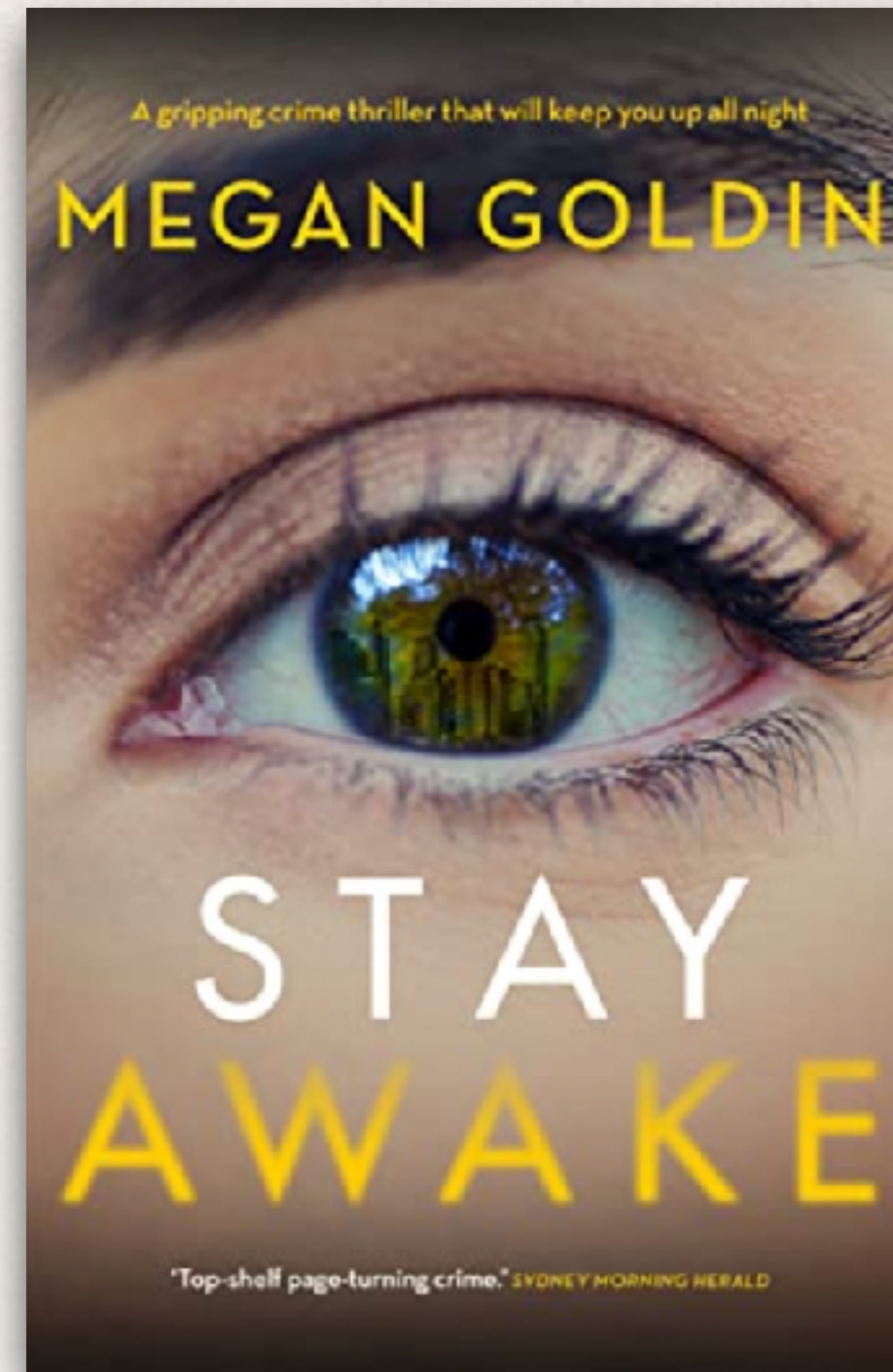


**MCD/FSG - May 24, 2022**  
**Agent: David Gernert**

Tautly wound and expertly crafted, a riveting thriller about a woman under pressure, and how far she will go when everything is on the line.

**An instant *New York Times* and national bestseller • Starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly* and *Kirkus***

fiction



**St. Martins Press - August 9, 2022**  
**Agent: David Gernert**

A complex thriller that unfolds at breakneck speed, *Stay Awake* will keep you up all night.

**In the vein of S.J. Watson's *Before I Go To Sleep* and Christopher Nolan's *Memento*, an electrifying novel of memory and murder • *New York Post*'s "Best Books of Summer"**

fiction

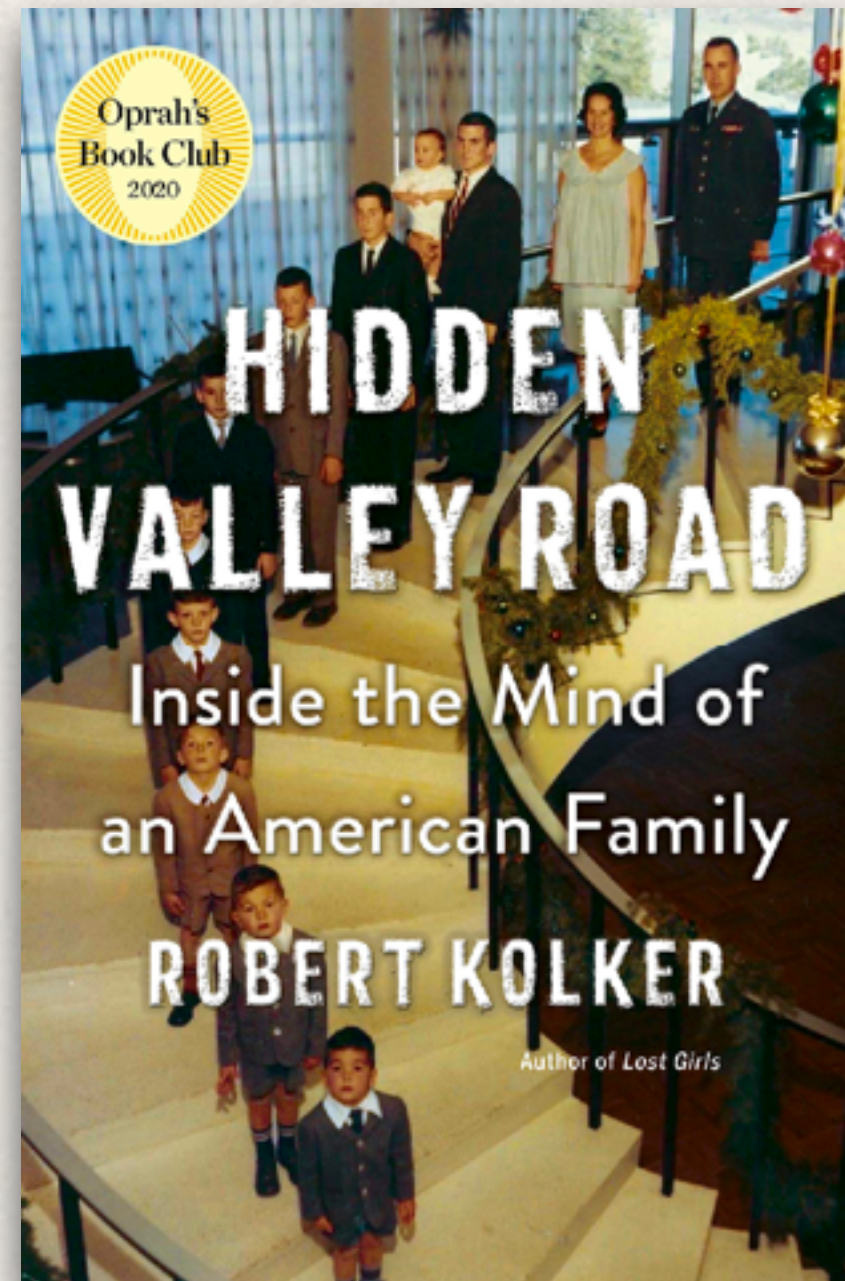


**Ballantine - June 14, 2022**  
**Agent: Sarah Burnes**

A woman returns to her small Maine hometown, uncovering family secrets that take her on a journey of self-discovery and new love, in this warm and charming novel.

**From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Evvie Drake Starts Over* that sold in 18 territories and over 100,000 copies • A BookPage Most Anticipated Book of 2022**

non-fiction



Doubleday - April 7, 2020

Agent: David Gernert & Chris Parris-Lamb

A riveting account of the Galvin family of Colorado Springs, Colorado, a midcentury American family with twelve children, six of whom were diagnosed with schizophrenia.

**Oprah's Book Club Pick • #1 New York Times bestseller • One of *The New York Times* top ten books of the year • One of *The Wall Street Journal* top ten books of the year • *People's* #1 Best Book of the Year • Named a Best Book of the Year by *The Washington Post*, NPR, *TIME*, *Slate*, *Smithsonian*, and Amazon. • Eight foreign sales**

non-fiction



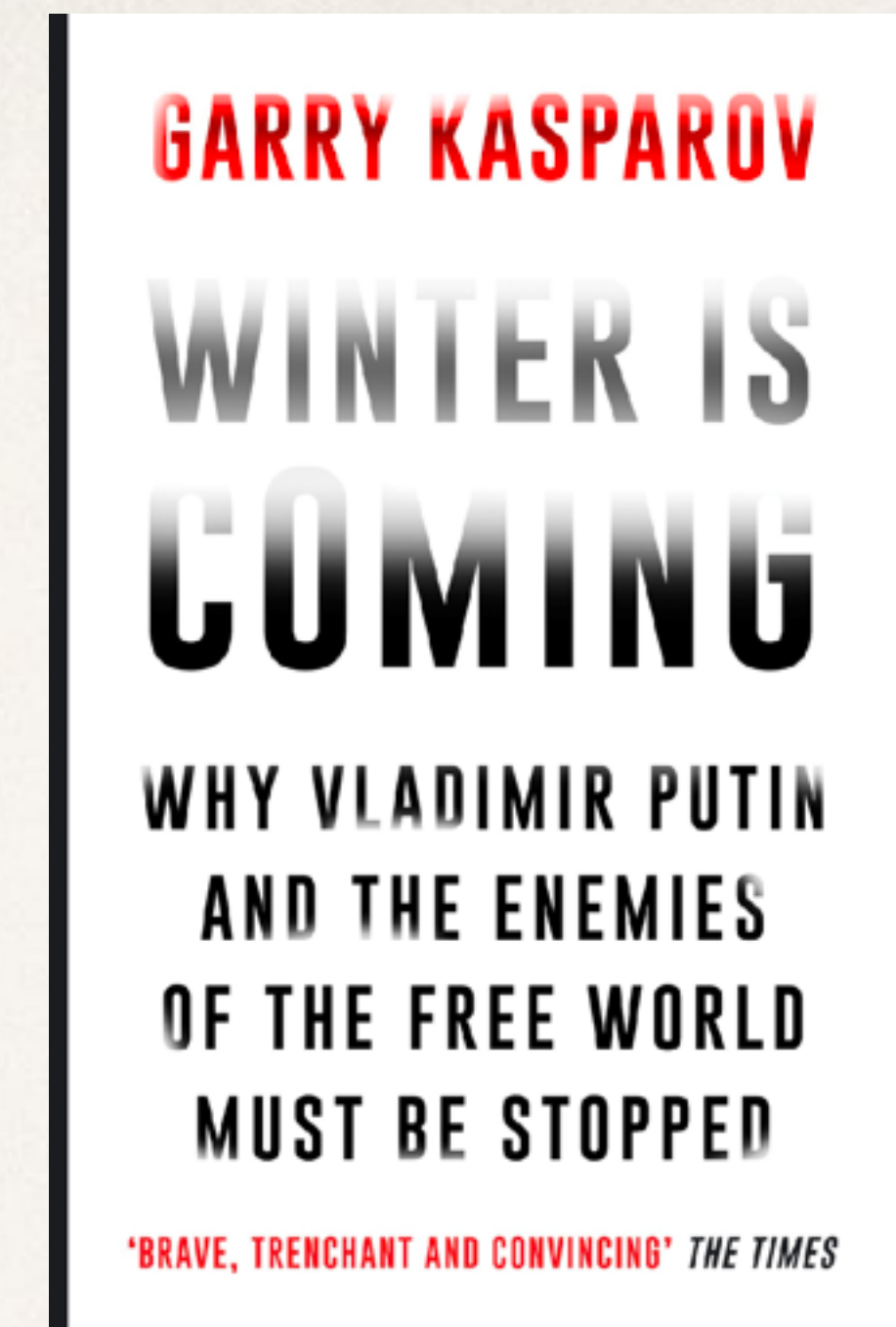
Morrow Gift - June 16, 2020

Agent: Seth Fishman

The sequel to the #1 New York Times bestselling phenomenon *Strange Planet*, featuring more hilarious adventures from the fascinating inhabitants of Nathan W. Pyle's colorful world.

**#1 New York Times bestseller • More than 500,000 copies sold of the *Strange Planet* books worldwide • The graphic novel based on the Instagram sensation with more than 6.0 million followers • Television deal with Apple and Dan Harmon writing**

non-fiction



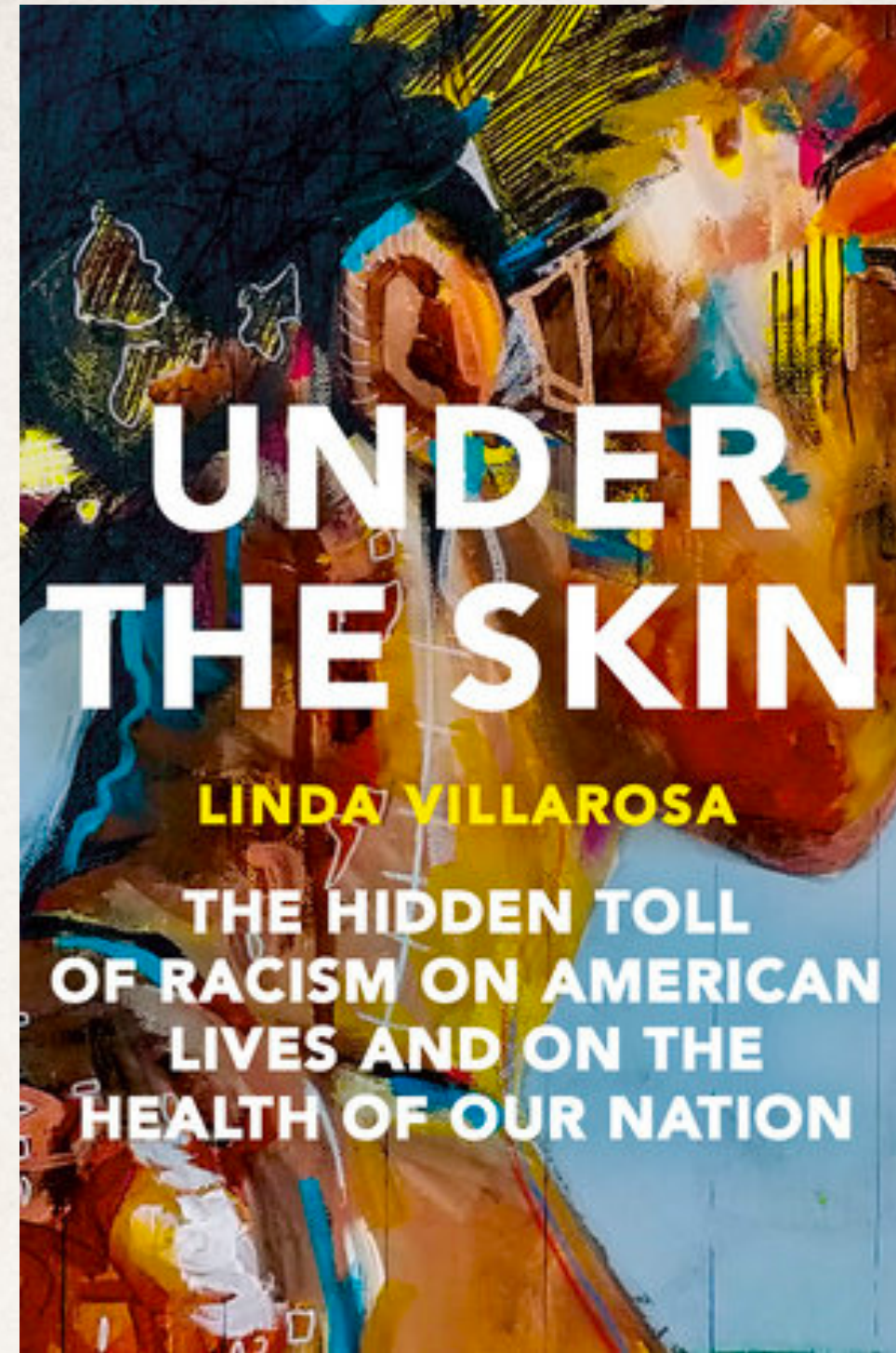
Public Affairs - March 3, 2016

Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb

The stunning story of Russia's slide back into a dictatorship-and how the West is now paying the price for allowing it to happen. Amazingly prescient.

**5 new foreign deals in 2022, and sold in 17 territories total**

non-fiction

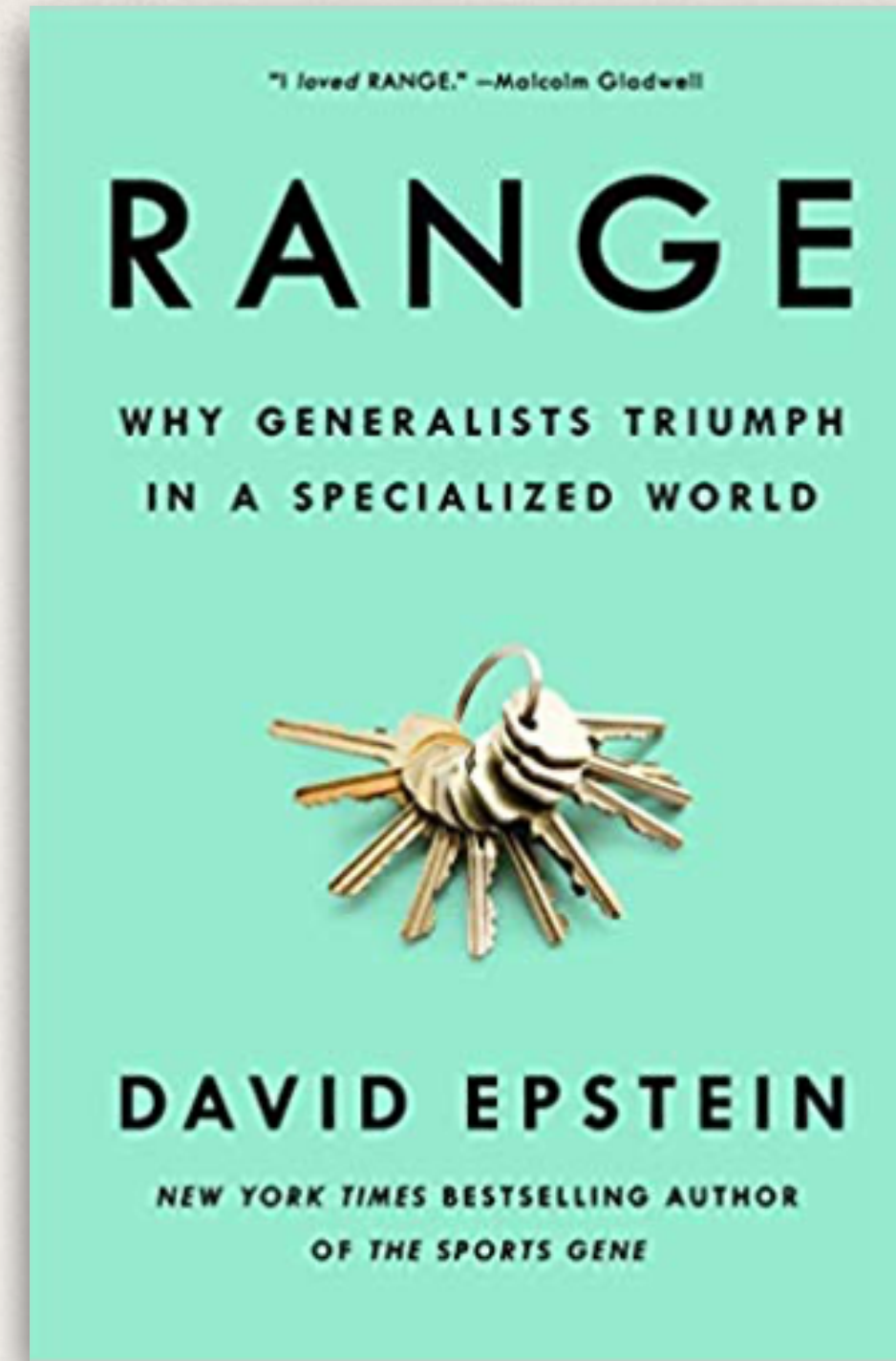


Doubleday - June 14, 2022  
Agent: Alia Hanna Habib

A landmark book that tells the full story of racial health disparities in America, that reveals the toll racism takes on individuals and the health of the nation.

From an award-winning writer at the *New York Times Magazine* and a contributor to *The 1619 Project* • Sold in a seven-figure deal to Doubleday at auction • UK/BC rights to Scribe

non-fiction

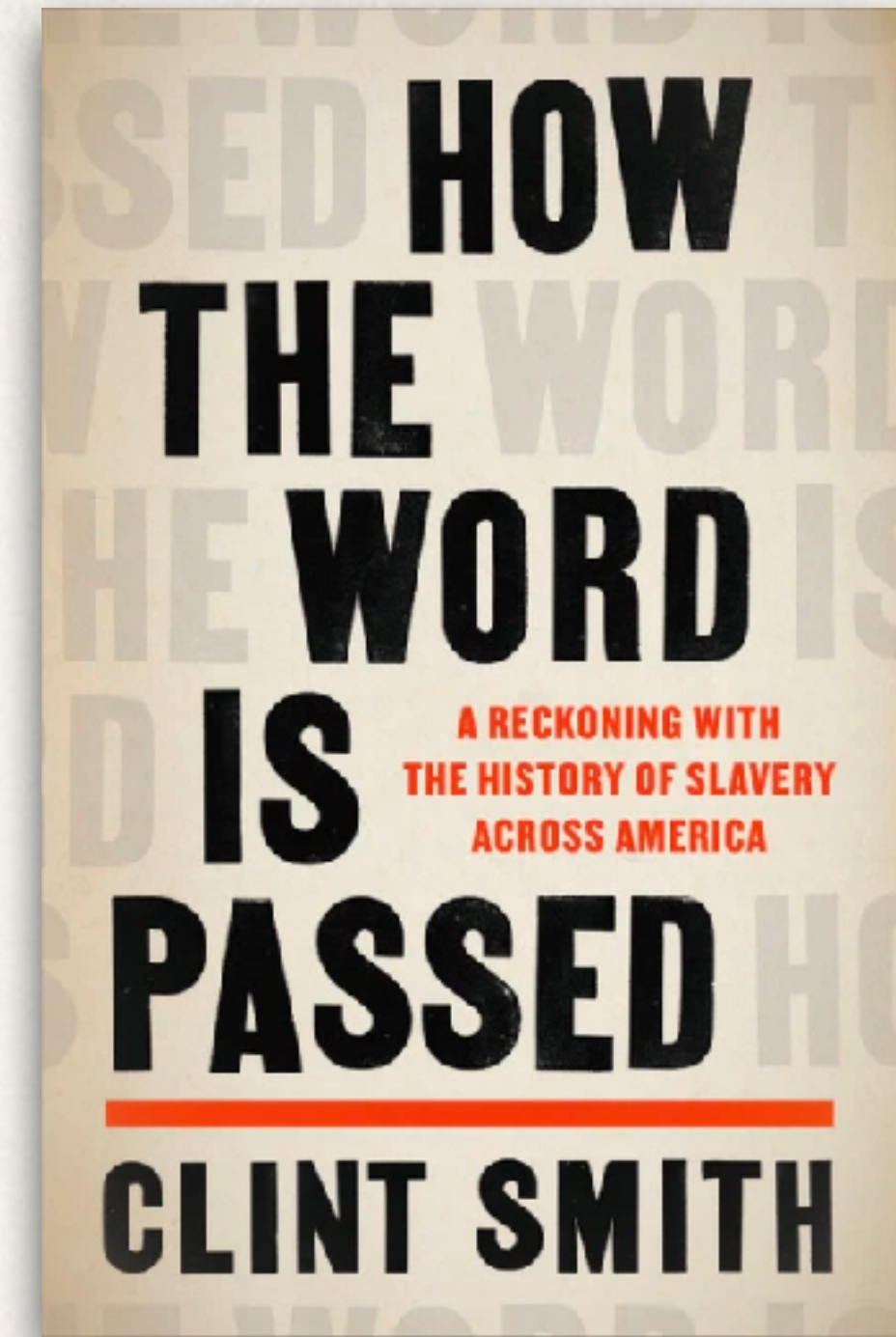


Riverhead - June 19, 2018  
Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb

What's the most effective path to success in any domain?  
It's not what you think.

# 1 New York Times bestseller •  
Sunday Times bestseller in the UK •  
Shortlisted for the FT Business Book of the Year • 25 foreign deals • Over 500,000 copies sold worldwide

non-fiction



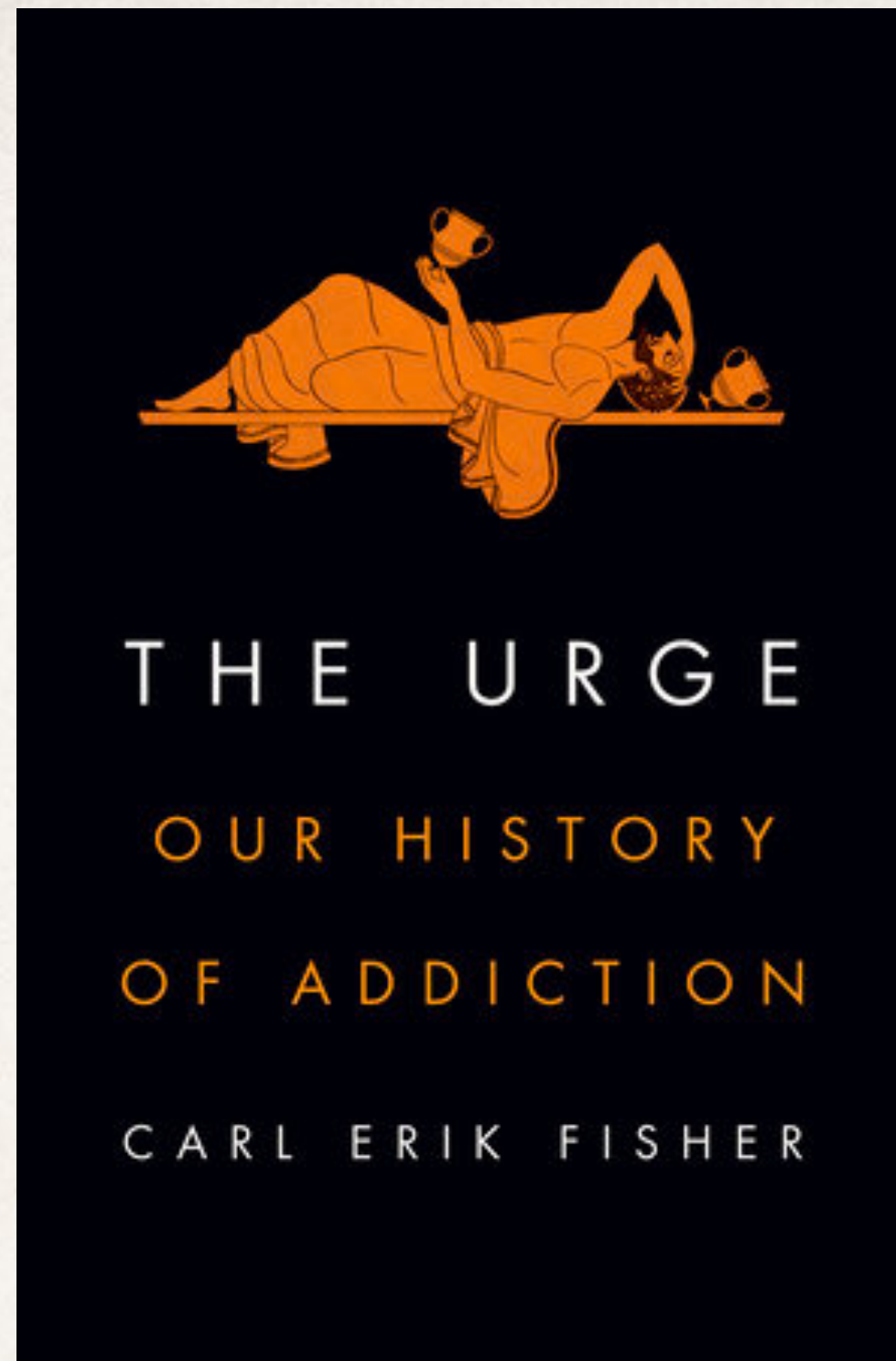
Little Brown - June 1, 2021  
Agent: Alia Hanna Habib

*The Atlantic* staff writer and poet Clint Smith's revealing, contemporary portrait of America as a slave owning nation.

Instant #1 *New York Times* bestseller •  
*Time* Best Book of Summer 2021 • A  
*New York Times Book Review* Editor's  
Choice



non-fiction

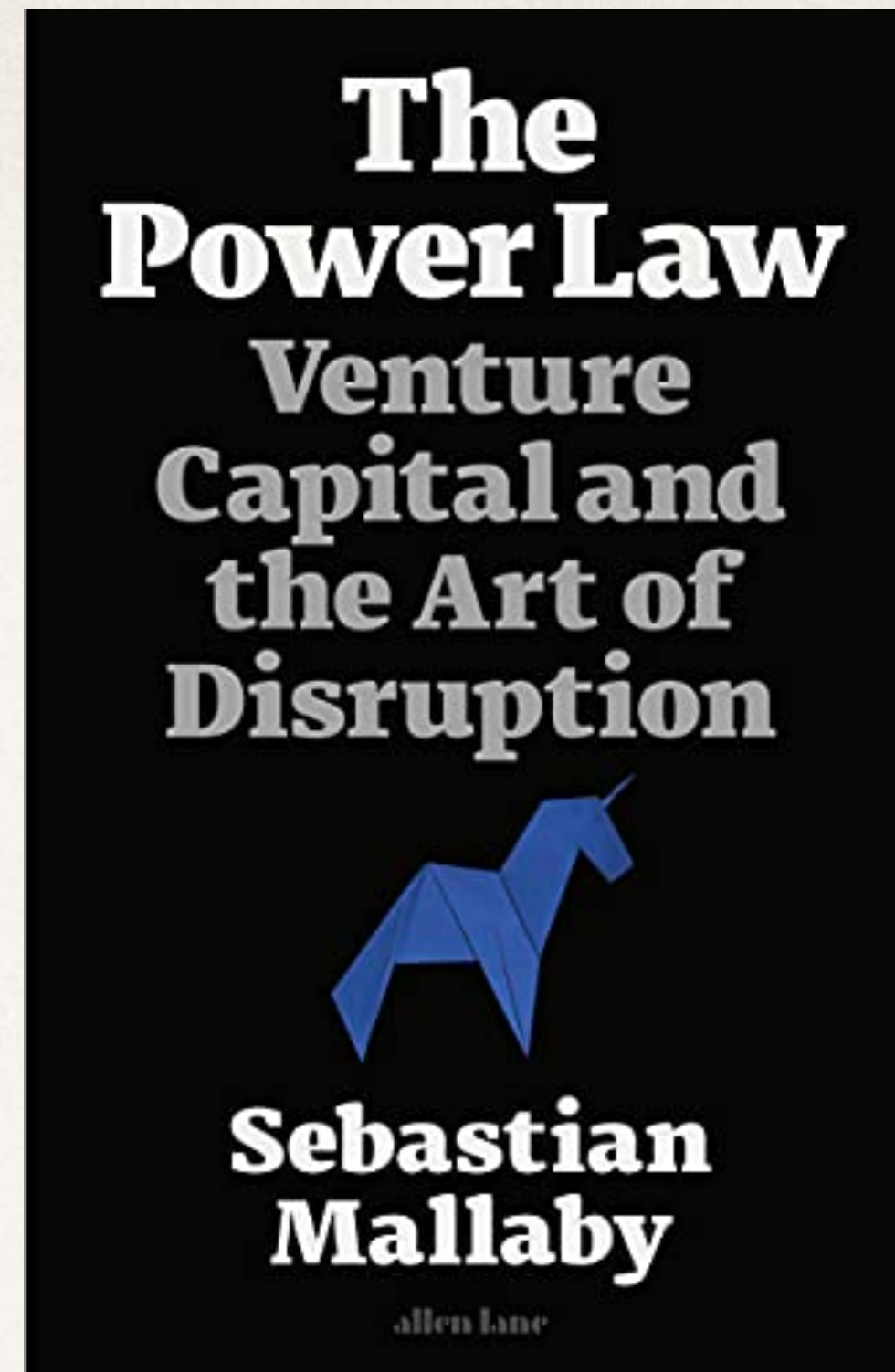


Penguin Press - January 18, 2022  
Agent: Alia Hanna Habib

An exploration of the baffling and deeply misunderstood phenomenon that is addiction by an psychiatrist striving to understand his own family and himself.

**An authoritative, illuminating, and deeply humane history of addiction • Rave reviews from *The New Yorker* and *Publishers Weekly* • Sold in 5 territories**

non-fiction

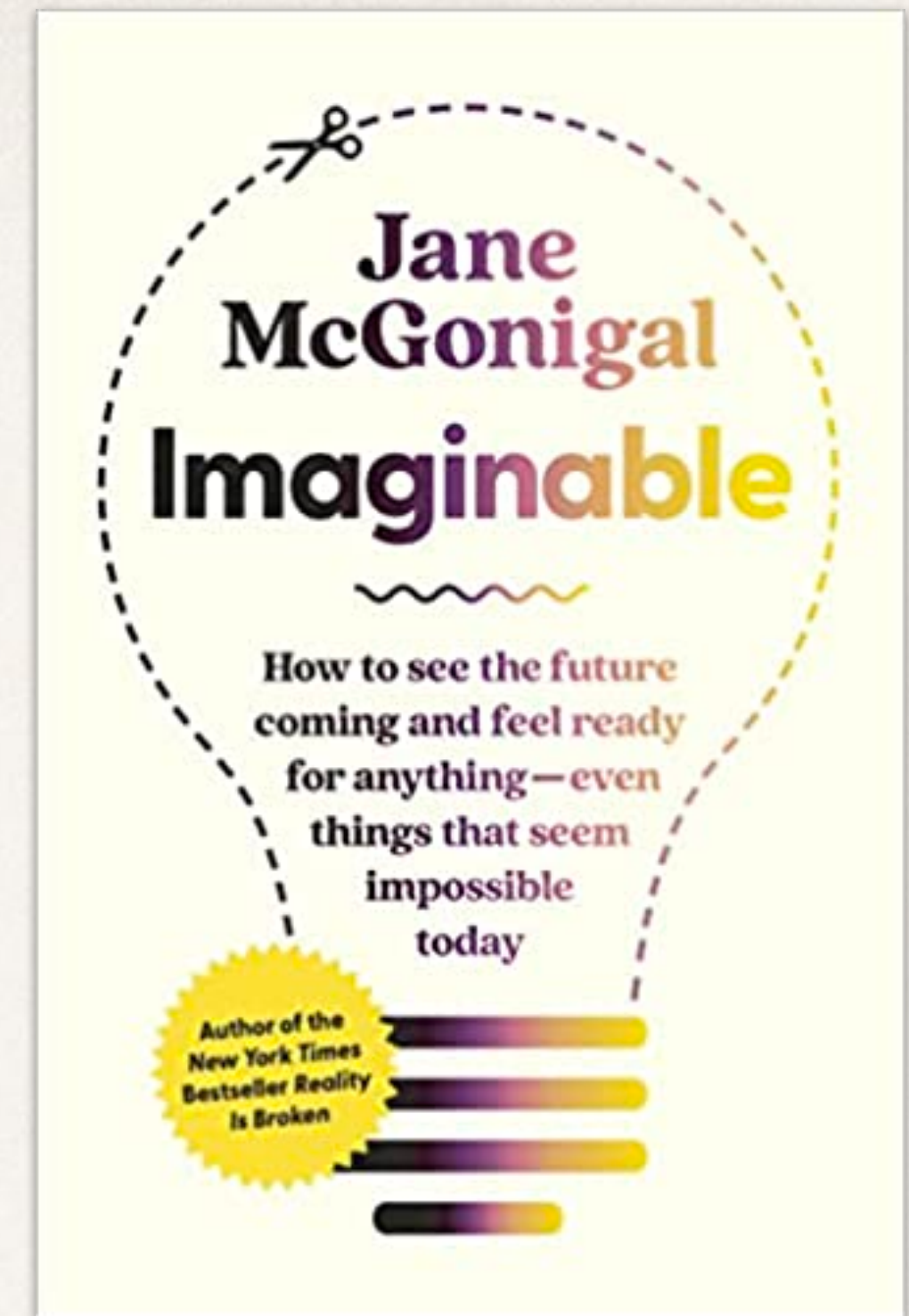


Penguin Press - February 1, 2022  
Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb

A frank and intimate story of Silicon Valley's dominant venture-capital firms—and how their strategies and fates have shaped the path of innovation and the global economy.

**A gripping, essential history of venture capital from a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist • Raves from the *WSJ* and *Washington Post* • Foreign deals in 6 territories**

non-fiction

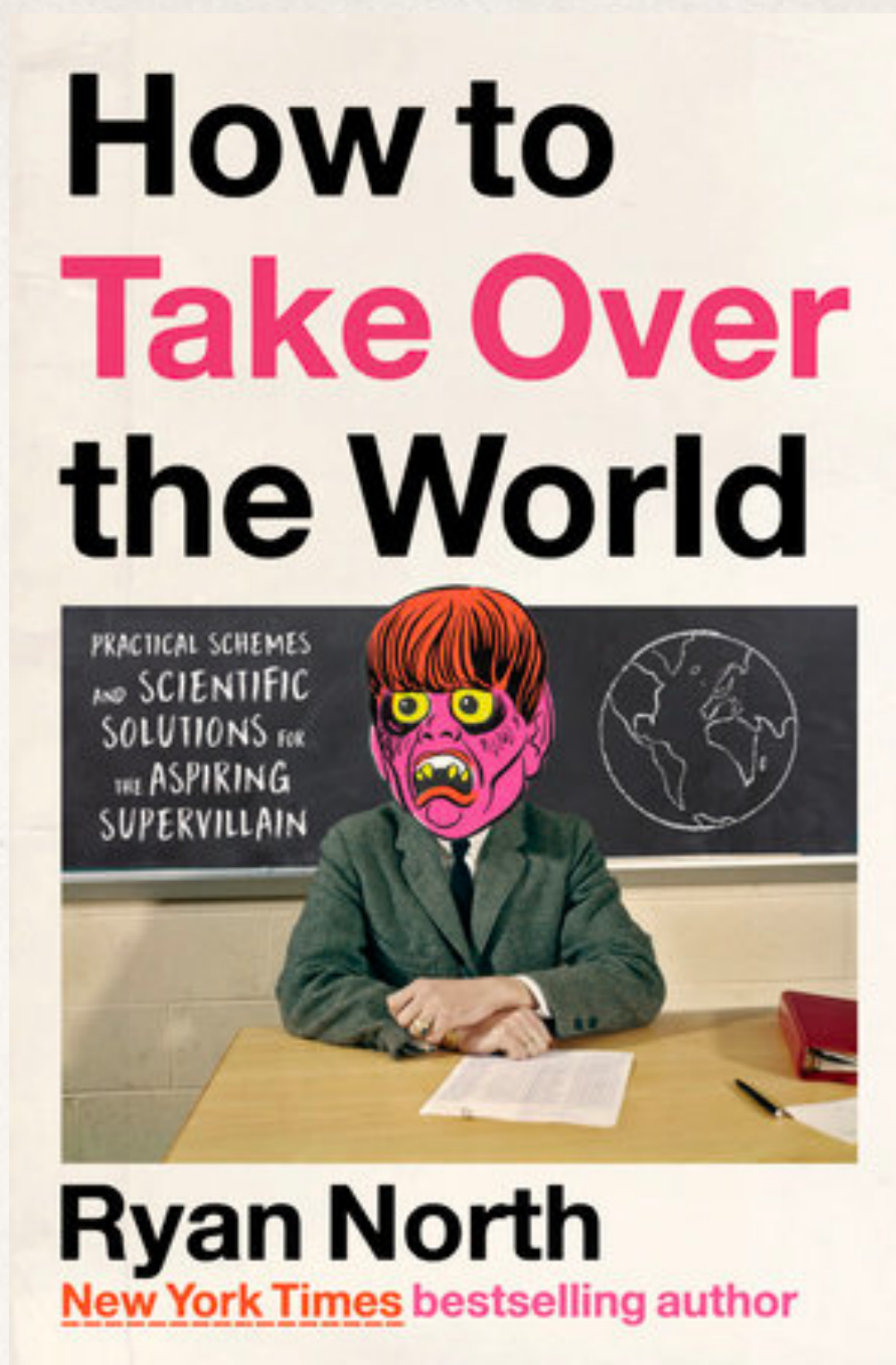


Spiegel & Grau - March 22, 2022  
Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb

A world-renowned future forecaster and game designer teaches us to envision the future and gives us the tools to help shape the world we want to live in.

**Sold in a six-figure preempt for NA • *New York Times* bestselling writer, Jane McGonigal's works have been published in 14 languages • Based on a class over 50,000 people have taken on Coursera.org**

non-fiction

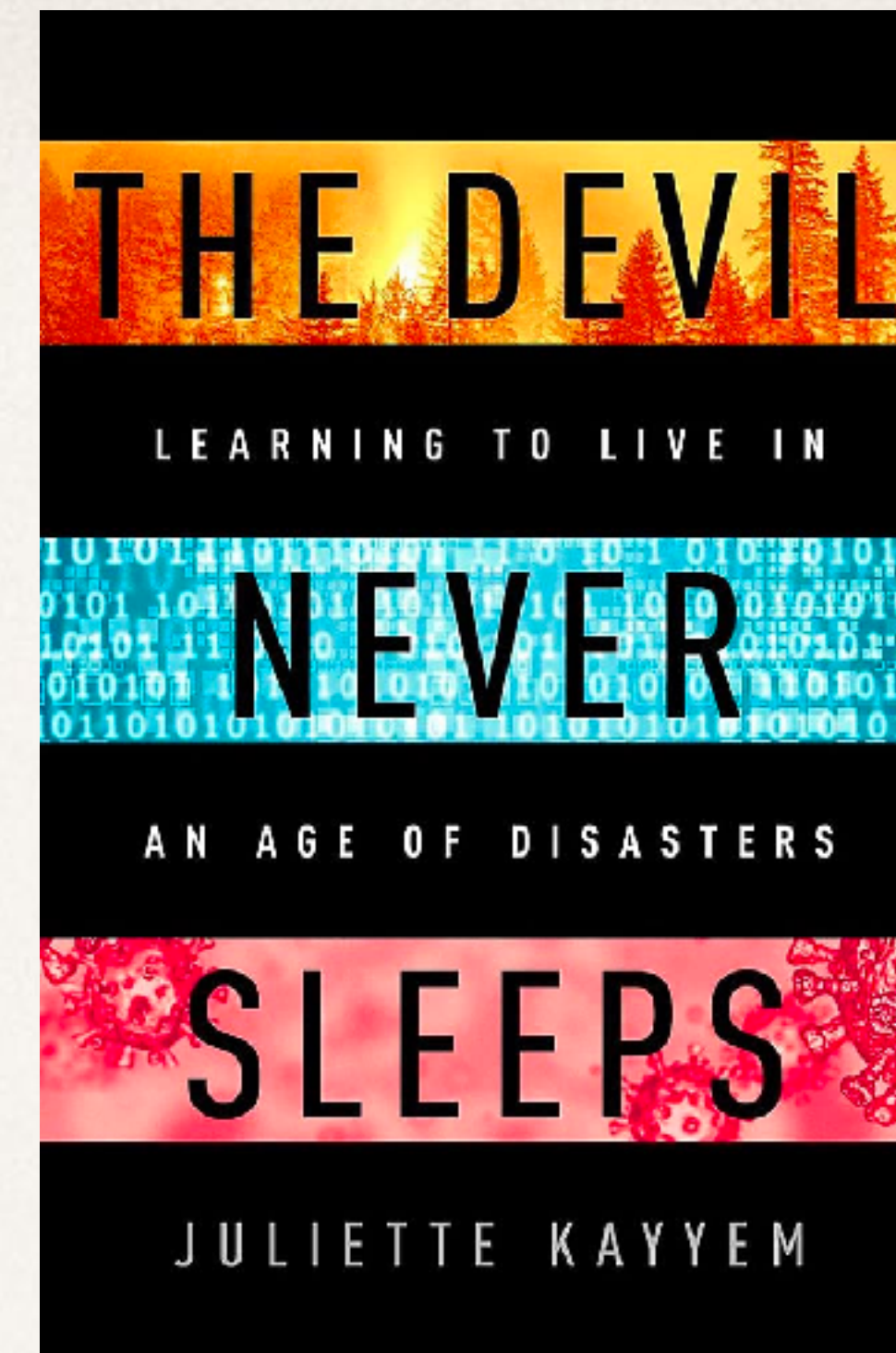


**Riverhead - March 15, 2022**  
**Agent: Seth Fishman**

A tongue-in-cheek introduction to the science of comic-book supervillainy, revealing the true potential of today's most advanced technologies.

**From a New York Times bestselling author • Selected by *Esquire* as one of its "Best Books of 2022 (So Far)"**

non-fiction

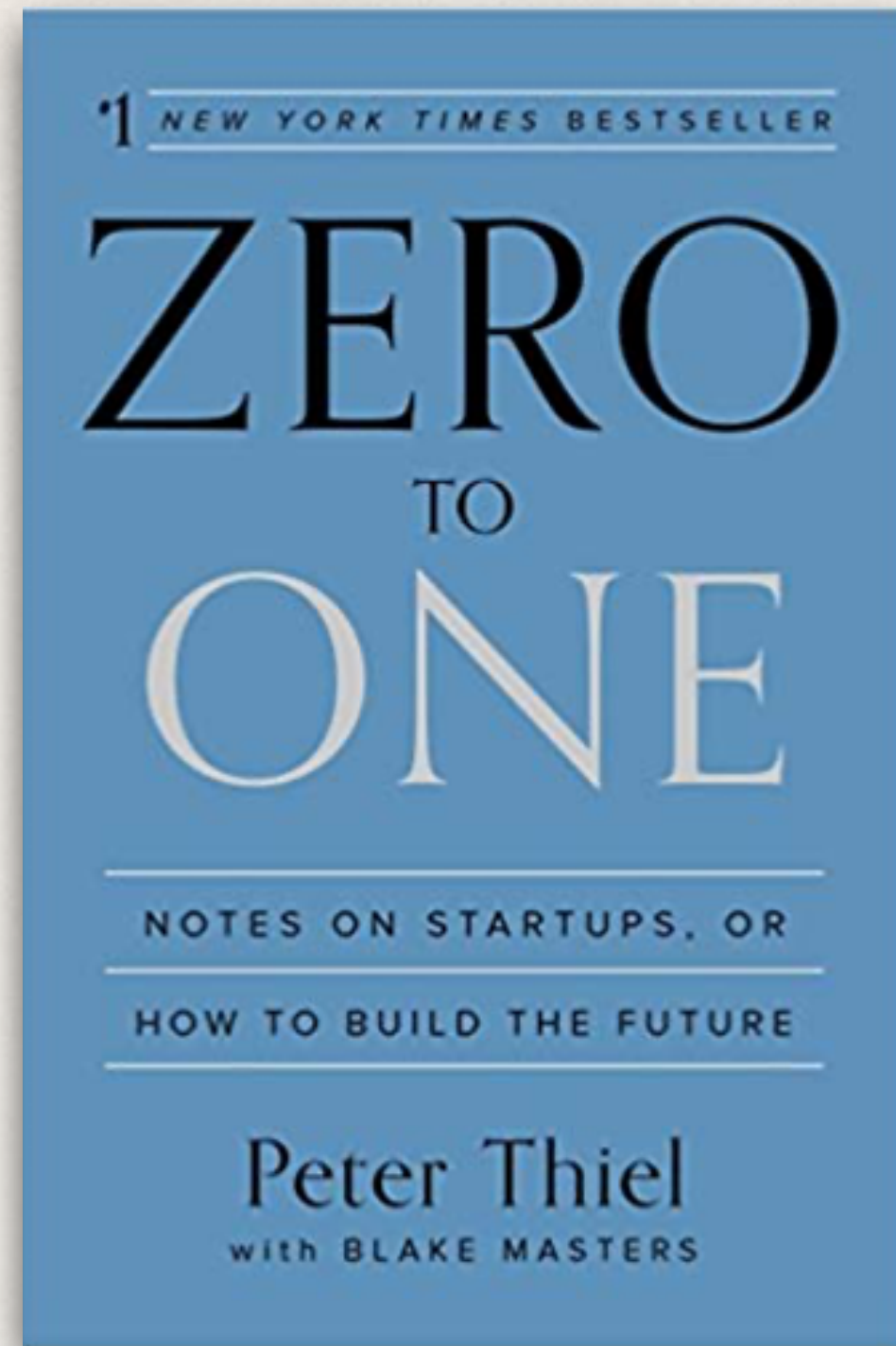


**PublicAffairs - March 29, 2022**  
**Agent: Sarah Burnes**

An urgent, transformative guide to dealing with disasters from one of today's foremost thinkers in crisis management.

**From a regular contributor to the *Atlantic* magazine, and a commentator on CNN • Blurbs from James Fallows, Erin Burnett, and more**

*non-fiction*

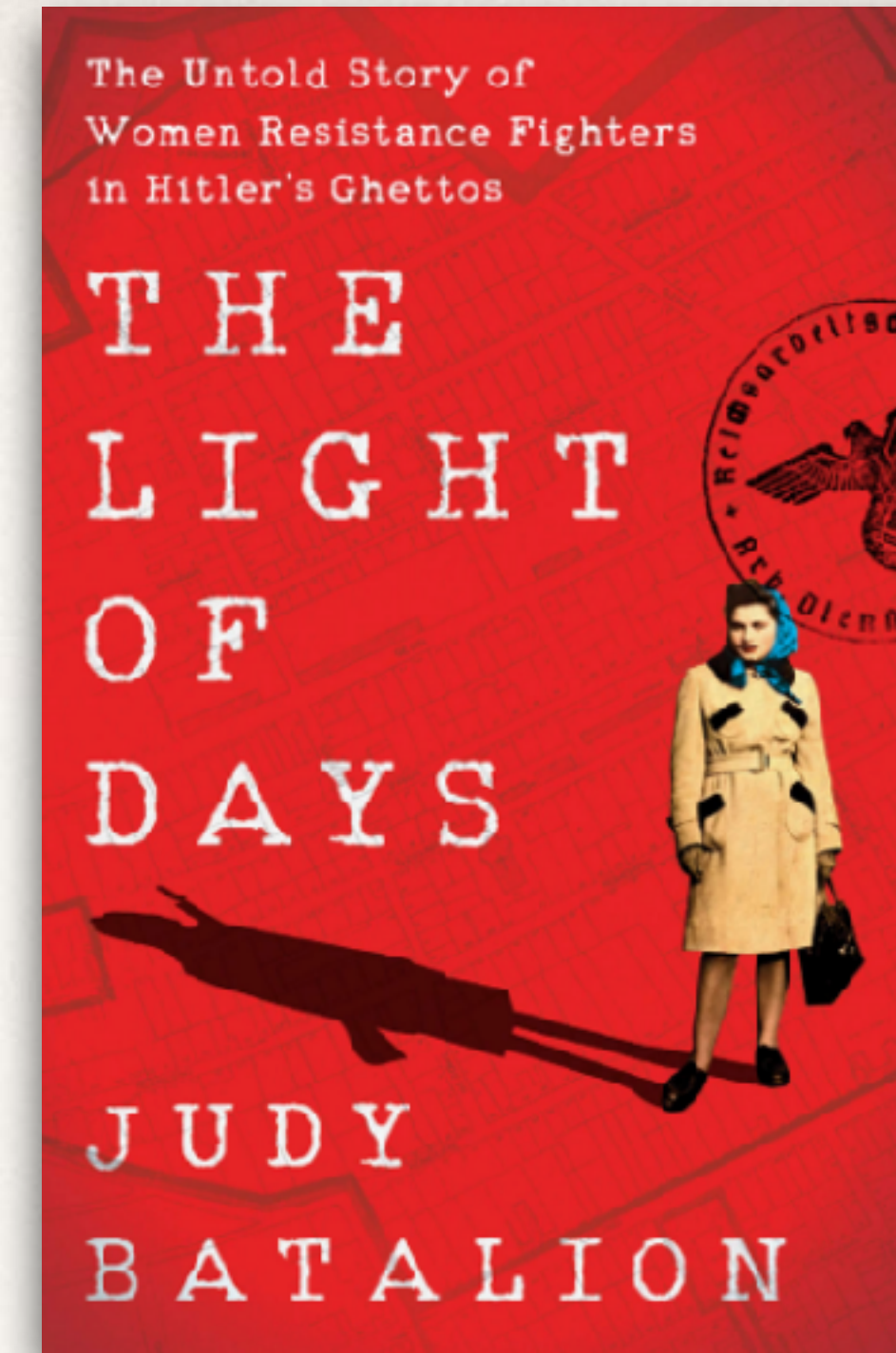


**Currency - September 16, 2014**  
**Agent: Chris Parris-Lamb**

Legendary entrepreneur and investor Peter Thiel shows how we can find singular ways to explore still uncharted frontiers and create new inventions

**#1 New York Times bestseller • Sold to Crown Business for seven figures in a heated auction • Huge bestseller in China • Sold in 37 foreign territories • 3+ million sold worldwide**

*non-fiction*



**William Morrow - April 6, 2021**  
**Agent: Alia Hanna Habib**

A spectacular, searing history that brings to light the extraordinary accomplishments of brave Jewish women who became resistance fighters.

**Top 5 New York Times Bestseller • Film rights optioned by Steven Spielberg • 100,000 copy first printing • 20 foreign deals**

# Our International Co-Agents

For queries concerning John Grisham and Louise Penny in all territories, please contact Ms. Rebecca Gardner ([rgardner@thegernertco.com](mailto:rgardner@thegernertco.com))

## ***Albanian, Bulgarian, Serbian, Macedonian, Bosnian***

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