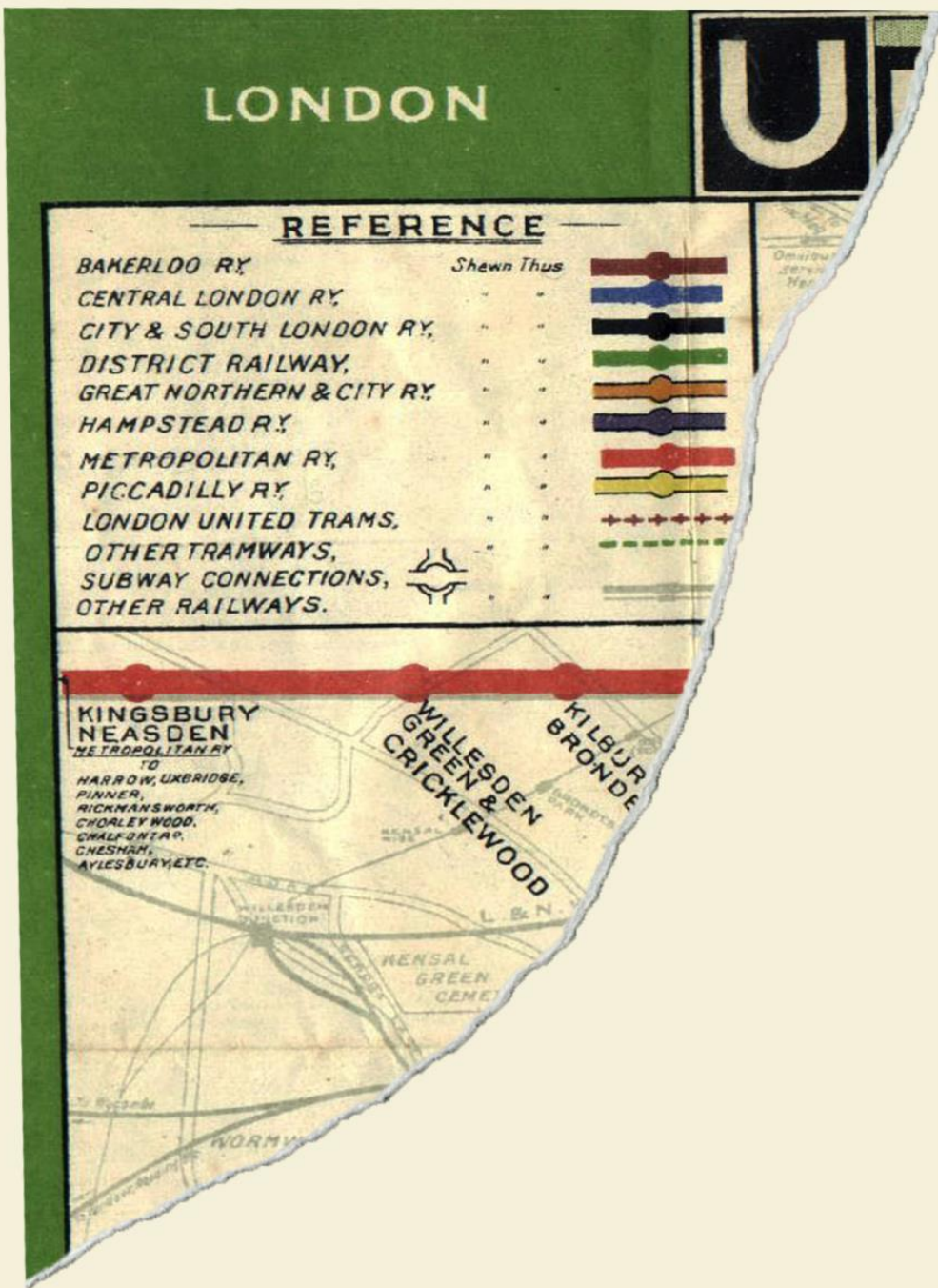




THE FRIEDRICH AGENCY



For International Rights queries:
 Hannah Brattesani at hbrattesani@friedrichagency.com
For Film/TV queries:
 Lucy Carson at lcarson@friedrichagency.com

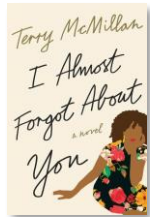
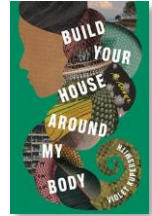


Contents

FILM & TV	p.2
FICTION	
The Wedding People by Alison Espach	p.4
Mrs Gulliver by Valerie Martin	p.5
Crow Talk by Eileen Garvin	p.6
Luminous by Silvia Park	p.7
To Die Beautiful by Buzzy Jackson	p.8
Mrs Plansky's Revenge by Peter Abrahams	p.9
Las Madres by Esmeralda Santiago	p.10
Super Bloom by Megan Tady	p.11
The Viper by John Verdon	p.12
A Dangerous Business by Jane Smiley	p.13
The Kingdoms of Savannah by George Dawes Green	p.14
Nightcrawling by Leila Mottley	p.15
The Book of Form and Emptiness by Ruth Ozeki	p.16
NON-FICTION	
Shakespeare Was a Woman & Other Heresies	p. 18
by Elizabeth Winkler	
Leg by Greg Marshall	p.19
Everybody's Favorite by Lillian Stone	p.20
The Questions That Matter Most by Jane Smiley	p.21
SELECTED WORLD RIGHTS	p.22

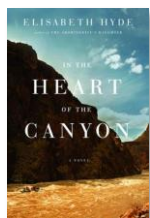


Violet Kupersmith's television deal for **BUILD YOUR HOUSE AROUND MY BODY** continues to make great strides in development with Macro, the prestige studio leading the way. The project now has both a showrunner and a lead writer, as well as a lead actress attached.



Terry McMillan has not one but TWO new Television deals for her backlist titles: Universal has optioned **I ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT YOU** (previously in development as a feature film) for their TV division, and a separate studio (details to come) has optioned *Who Asked You* for television as well.

Josh Ritter's novel **THE GREAT GLORIOUS GODDAMN OF IT ALL** has been in development with the producers behind *Licorice Pizza* and *If Beale Street Could Talk*, and they have recently partnered with JJ Abrams' company "Bad Robot". In addition, a team of highly esteemed writers (whose credits are *A Beautiful Day In The Neighborhood*, *Transparent* and *For All Mankind*) are now engaged in developing the feature script.



Elisabeth Hyde's backlist book from 2009, **IN THE HEART OF THE CANYON** is now in development for television! The story follows 12 passengers who meet on a two-week white-water rafting vacation in Colorado, and against that dangerous backdrop, their lives intertwine in dramatic and surprising ways. The producers see the potential for a continuing series in the vein of *The White Lotus*.

BECOMING DUCHESS GOLDBLATT (By Anonymous) is in development as a limited series for TV, and now has a lead actress attached, two executive producers, and a team of terrific screenwriters. A pitch deck has been perfected and the team is currently in discussions with major stream networks.



Jane Smiley's universal charmer **PERESTROIKA IN PARIS** is now under option with a new party for feature film development! The Gotham Group will produce and lead the way for development, taking over from Kennedy Marshall, and aiming for animated feature.



FICTION



THE WEDDING PEOPLE

Alison Espach (Holt/2024)

🎬 **Film/TV agent: Dana Spector at CAA**

🌐 **Option Publishers: Italy (Bollati); Germany (Ullstein); Croatia (Znaje)**

For fans of Monica Heisey's **REALLY GOOD, ACTUALLY** and Kevin Wilson, Alison Espach's **THE WEDDING PEOPLE** is a pitch-perfect balance of humor and heartbreak.

It's a beautiful day in Newport, Rhode Island. Phoebe Stone arrives at the Cornwall Inn wearing her best dress and least comfortable heels. The lobby, in fact every room at the hotel, is occupied by wedding people. Well, every room but Phoebe's.

While the bride and groom are about to embark on their new life, Phoebe is here to end her own. That is, until her attempt is derailed by a disastrous toast from the mother-of-the-bride, and she is suddenly pulled into the matrimonial chaos which alters (pun intended) her life forever.

Praise for Alison Espach:

“Espach is an immensely talented writer, and her prose unfolds with a devastating lightness of touch.”

—Emily St. John Mandel, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Glass Hotel*

“Incongruously funny.”
—*The Wall Street Journal*”

“Espach once again proves that she's a brilliantly talented author.”
—*NPR*



Alison Espach is the author of the novels *The Adults* and *Notes on Your Sudden Disappearance*. Her short stories and essays have appeared in *Vogue*, *Joyland*, *Glamour*, *Salon*, and *McSweeney's*, among other places. She is currently a professor of creative writing at Providence College in Rhode Island.

MRS. GULLIVER

Valerie Martin (Doubleday/February 2024)

- 🎬 **Film/TV agent: Lucy Carson**
- 🌐 **Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Serpent's Tail)**

From Orange Prize-winning author and Guggenheim Fellow, Valerie Martin comes a timeless story of female agency.

It's 1954 on far-flung Verona Island, a tropical paradise with a fragile economy and a rising crime rate. Prostitution is legal and Lila Gulliver is proud of her business, a high-end brothel where her clients are guaranteed privacy and discretion. When Carità Bercy, a young, destitute, and beautiful blind woman arrives at her door seeking employment, Lila decides to give her a chance.

Carità proves a valuable asset to the house, as well as a psychological puzzle to her employer. One hot night, Ian Drohan, the young scion of the wealthiest family on the island, visits Lila's house and falls madly in love with Carità. Lila doubts his sincerity and fears for Carità's future. Carità has no such fears. In fact, Carità is a reckless force of nature, determined to succeed in ways Lila hasn't even contemplated.

Praise for Valerie Martin:

“Valerie Martin is a consummate stylist. A cool, spare writer who can make the fantastic utterly, often horribly believable.”

—*The Boston Globe*

“Martin's writing is a reward in itself, a wonderful precision-tool. She uses it to chisel at the human condition—and the effect is astonishing.”

—*Financial Times*



Valerie Martin is the author of 11 novels, including *The Ghost of the Mary Celeste*, *The Confessions of Edward Day*, *Trespass*, and *Property*; four collections of short fiction; and *Salvation*, a biography of Saint Francis of Assisi. She has been awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, as well as the Kafka Prize (for *Mary Reilly*) and Britain's Orange Prize (for *Property*).

CROW TALK

Eileen Garvin (Dutton/April 16th 2024)

- 🎬 **Film/TV agent: Dana Spector at CAA**
- 🌐 **Option Publishers: UK/ANZ (Headline); Germany (Piper); Holland (HarperCollins Holland); Portugal (LeYas); Korea (Munhakdongne); Russia (AST)**

CROW TALK is a story of hope, healing, and finding family where you least expect it, set against the stunning backdrop of the Pacific Northwest, whose rich natural landscape is a character of its own.

On the surface, Frankie O’Neill and Anne Ryan have nothing in common. Frankie is a lonely ornithologist struggling to salvage her dissertation on the spotted owl after a rift with her advisor. Anne is an Irish musician far from home, raising her five-year-old, Aiden, who refuses to speak. Both women are reeling from recent losses and have come to remote June Lake to try and put their lives back together. When Aiden and an injured crow named Charlie bring the two women together, an unlikely friendship begins to bloom.

Praise for *The Music of Bees*:

“Buoyant and bittersweet, Garvin’s impressive first novel [is] a luscious paean to the bonds of friendship and limitations of family.”

—*Booklist*

“Garvin [has an] authentic and resonant voice.”

—*The Bend Source*

“Garvin creates realistic and memorable characters who bond during a time of reinvention.”

—*Fresh Fiction*

“Exquisite.”

—*People*



Eileen Garvin is a beekeeper and writer living in Hood River, Oregon. She is the author of *The Music of Bees*, which was a Good Housekeeping book club pick and indie bestseller, and the memoir *How to be a Sister*.

LUMINOUS

Silvia Park (S&S/2024)

- 🎬 **Film/TV agent: Jiah Shin at CAA**
- 🌐 **Rights sold: UK/ANZ (One World); Hungary (Europa); Korea (Golden Bough); Taiwan (Linking)**

Set in a unified Korea where robots have integrated seamlessly into society, **LUMINOUS** is a poignant debut novel for readers of Ishiguro’s **NEVER LET ME GO** and Karen Joy Fowler’s **WE ARE ALL COMPLETELY BESIDE OURSELVES**.

Adult siblings Jun and Morgan Cho haven’t seen or spoken to each other in several years. Both, in their dysfunctional way, are still processing grief over the sudden loss of their brother Yoyo years prior. Yoyo, designed by their famous father, was the earliest prototype for what the humanoid robots have now become—nearly indistinguishable from the real thing, with profound sensitivity and depth. But while he was a true brother to Jun and Morgan, Yoyo was always bound for a darker purpose, and his absence has left a chasm in the siblings’ lives.

When a neighbor’s missing robot thrusts Morgan back into Jun’s life, neither of them realizes that the investigation will not only force them to confront their fractured family’s past, but it will also see old grudges clash with new revelations, as the three siblings circle each other, their lonely worlds finally collide.



Silvia Park is a Korean/American writer and Visiting Assistant Professor of Fiction at Oberlin College. A graduate of Columbia, NYU, and the 2018 Clarion Workshop, their work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Black Warrior Review*, *Joyland*, *Tor.com*, and *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy*, among others.

TO DIE BEAUTIFUL

Buzzy Jackson (Dutton/May 2nd 2023)

- 🎬 **Film/TV agent: Hilary Zaitz-Michael at WME**
- 🌐 **Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Michael Joseph); Spain (Plaza & Janés); Romania (Litera); Brazil (Arquero); Hungary (Animus); Germany (Aufbau); Finland (WSOY); Italy (Newton Compton); Israel (Matar); Portugal (Porto)**



A gripping debut novel by award-winning writer Buzzy Jackson, based on the true story of Hannie Schaft: the heroic Dutch woman who joined the WWII Resistance and became one of the Nazis’ most wanted women.

When the lives of Hannie’s two Jewish best friends are threatened, Hannie discovers her own untapped ferocity. She lures powerful Nazis close and assassinates them at point-blank range. While humanity collapses around her, Hannie finds a chosen family of friends within the Resistance and falls in love with a fellow resistor, at a tremendous cost. Her greatest weapon is her determination to “stay human”. . . a promise increasingly difficult to keep.

Praise for TO DIE BEAUTIFUL:

“*To Die Beautiful* is headed for the best-seller list.”

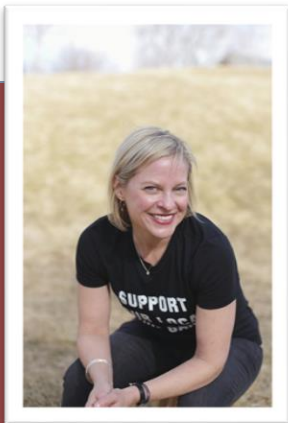
—Alan Furst

“Exquisitely balanced between cloak-and-dagger secrecy [...] and the crushing fear of discovery.”

—Booklist

“We need just these kinds of books to give voice to the women who for so long were muted in the official accounts.”

—Gwen Strauss, author of *The Nine*

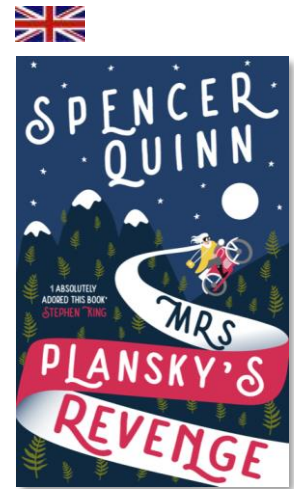
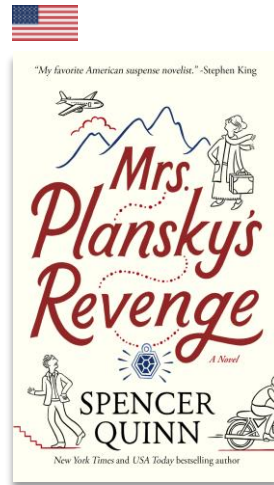


Buzzy Jackson is the award-winning author of three books of nonfiction and has a Ph.D. in History from UC Berkeley. A recent fellow at the Edith Wharton Writing Residency, she is also a member of the National Book Critics’ Circle and writes for the Boston Globe and BookForum. Buzzy grew up in the mountains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

MRS. PLANSKY'S REVENGE

Spencer Quinn (Forge/July 25th 2023)

- 🎬 Film/TV agent: Nicole Weinroth and Megan Pelson at WME
- 🌐 Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Bedford Square); Korea (Book21)



A life-affirming story for fans of Richard Osman by *New York Times* bestselling author, Spencer Quinn.

Meet Loretta Plansky. She's 71 and taking full advantage of her retirement. Of course, she still misses her late husband Norm every day, and fielding various cash requests from her adult children is taking its toll, but she's *mostly* content.

Late one night, she receives a call from her grandson, Will, claiming to have been arrested for driving while intoxicated and in need of bail money. Feeling the time crunch, Loretta willingly gives him her password and banking info. When she wakes up the next morning, her accounts are completely drained.

Furious and humiliated, Mrs. Plansky just can't accept that the money is gone. When an FBI agent nearing retirement lets slip that they've narrowed the call down to a small village in Romania, Mrs. Plansky goes to get her life and her dignity back.

Praise for MRS. PLANSKY'S REVENGE:

"I absolutely adored this book. Really fun but with a few teeth, as well."

—Stephen King



"A triumph that pits an original, memorable, and deeply human protagonist against a plausible threat."

—Michael Koryta, *New York Times* bestselling author of *An Honest Man*

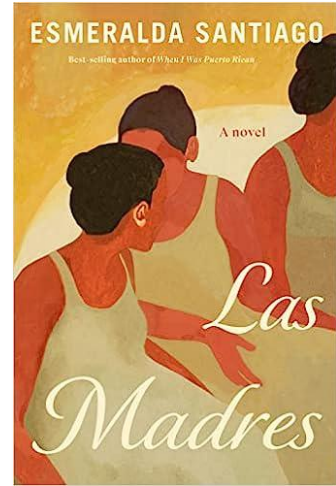
Spencer Quinn is the bestselling author of the Chet and Bernie mystery series, as well as the #1 *New York Times* bestselling Bowser and Birdie series for middle-grade readers. He lives on Cape Cod with his wife Diana—and dogs Audrey and Pearl.

LAS MADRES

Esmeralda Santiago (Knopf/August 1st 2024)

- 🎬 Film/TV agent: Alexandra Lefkowitz at Anonymous
- 🌐 Rights sold: Spain (Vintage Español)

From the award-winning, best-selling, and beloved author of *When I Was Puerto Rican*, comes a powerful novel of family, race, faith, sex, and disaster.



Puerto Rico, 1975: Luz is an accomplished dancer, but stands out among a sea of petite, light-skinned ballerinas. One night, while driving home with her mother and father, their car crashes and she is orphaned at just sixteen. Luz suffers a brain injury, and her memory of the accident is wiped clean.

The Bronx, New York, 2017: Marisol wishes she better understood her mother Luz. When their family friend plans a 70th birthday party in Luz’s hometown, they all wonder if the trip might help unearth some long-buried memories. Together, Marisol, Luz, and Graciela and her mothers, Ada and Shirely, plan and scheme, inviting everyone they can find in old address books and online.

But their homecoming brings shocking devastation: Two hurricanes and two secrets blow their lives wide open.

Praise for LAS MADRES:

“Esmeralda Santiago is already a legend. With *Las Madres*, [...] she confirms her status as an absolute icon.”

—Cristina Henríquez, author of *The Book of Unknown Americans*

“An inspiring story of women and their friendships that reminds us of our own.”

—Sandra Cisneros, author of *Woman Without Shame*



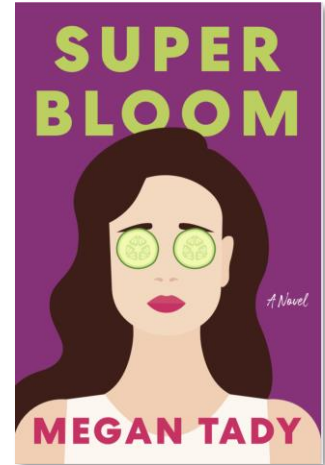
Esmeralda Santiago is the author of the memoirs *When I Was Puerto Rican*, *Almost a Woman*, which she adapted into a Peabody Award-winning film for PBS’s Masterpiece Theatre, and *The Turkish Lover*; the novels *América’s Dream Conquistadora*; and a children’s book, *A Doll for Navidades*. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *House & Garden*, among other publications, and on NPR’s *All Things Considered* and *Morning Edition*. Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, she lives in New York.

SUPER BLOOM

Megan Tady (Zibby Books/May 2023)

 **Film/TV agent: Jill Gillet & Carolina Beltran at WME**

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...

Praise for SUPER BLOOM:

“That rare sort of novel that’s both a blast to read and leaves you thinking about the characters long after you’ve finished the last page.”

– **Katie Crouch, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Embassy Wife***

“Fresh, funny and told by a narrator whose voice I would follow anywhere.”

– **Annabel Monaghan, author of *Nora Goes off Script***

“A true delight—hilarious, poignant”

– **Amanda Eyre Ward, bestselling author of *The Jetsetters***

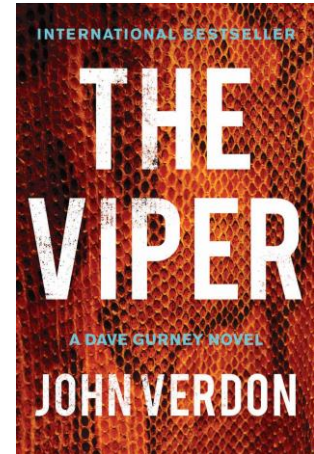


Megan Tady is a writer and editor running the company Word-Lift, and her writing has appeared in *The Huffington Post* and *Ms. Magazine*, among others. She was a finalist for the 2021 Penguin Random House Student Fiction Award. Megan lives in Western Massachusetts with her family. *SUPER BLOOM* is her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

THE VIPER

John Verdon (Counterpoint/July 18th 2023)

- 🎬 **Film/TV agent: Bruce Vinokour at CAA**
- 🌐 **Rights sold: Finland (Gummerus); Israel (Keter); Spain (Roca)**



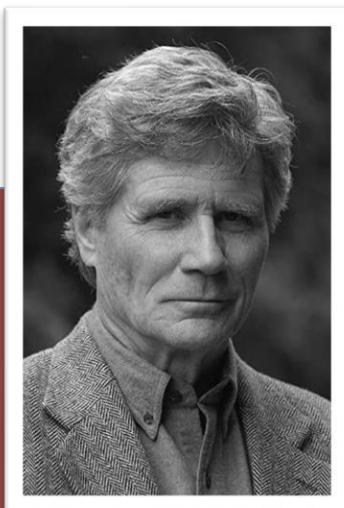
The bloody finale of Dave Gurney's previous case has left him and his wife Madeleine shell-shocked and determined to return to normality. But when an old friend comes calling for Gurney's insight on a cold case, it's Madeleine who pushes him to lend his thoughts. Try as he might, Gurney can't resist getting drawn into the murder case—this one, involving a debauched former tennis star and a beheaded corpse. His initial efforts incite fury from both sides of the law: the criminal forces behind it, and the law enforcement personnel who stand to lose everything if Gurney succeeds in uncovering the truth. For the first time in his life, Gurney finds himself on the run but even the risk of losing his marriage, his reputation and his best friend can't stop his relentless quest for answers. Gurney will learn that justice comes at a great cost.

THE DAVID GURNEY SERIES

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. Blending hard-boiled noir fiction with the pleasures of classic "whodunit" puzzle-solving, Verdon has written a "hero for the ages" (David Baldacci).



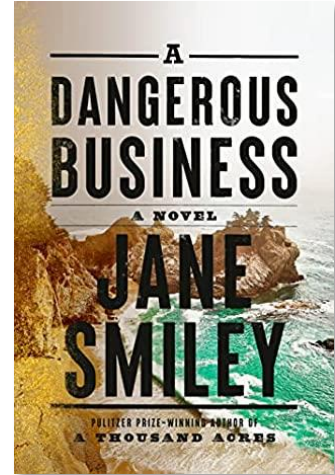
John Verdon is a former Manhattan advertising executive who lives with his wife in the mountains of upstate New York. His first three Dave Gurney novels, *Think of a Number*, *Shut Your Eyes Tight*, and *Let the Devil Sleep*, are all international bestsellers.

A DANGEROUS BUSINESS

Jane Smiley (Knopf/December 6th 2022)

- 🎬 **Film/TV agent:** Ellen Goldsmith-Vein at Gotham Group
- 🌐 **Rights sold:** UK/ANZ (Little, Brown), France (Rivages); Bulgaria (Obsidian)

A Must-Read Book in USA Today, Chicago Review, Bookstr, Los Angeles Magazine, PopSugar, Crime Reads, Alta Online, AV Club, Good Housekeeping and Vanity Fair.



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 A DANGEROUS BUSINESS:

“A mash-up of a Western, a serial-killer mystery and a feminist-inflected tale of life in a bordello.”

—*Washington Post*

“Smiley once again strikes a perfect balance by combining a sex-positive story and a classic mystery in a progressive way.”

—*Shondaland*

“Edgar Allan Poe meets California gold country.”

—*Vanity Fair*



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 5th 2022)

 **Film/TV agent: Matthew Snyder at CAA**
 **Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Headline)**

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:

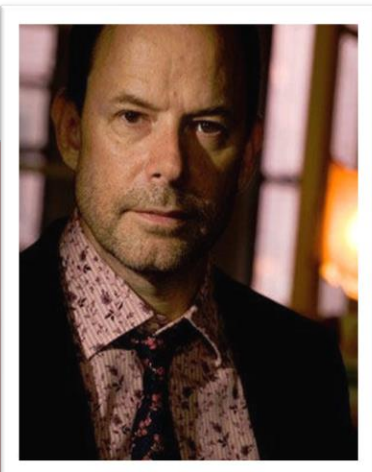
“When Green isn't making you laugh, he's making you bite your nails down to the bleeding point.” – **Stephen King**

Praise for THE KINGDOMS OF SAVANNAH:

“A rich, sprawling, dazzling mystery. I savored every page.”—**Riley Sager**

“[C]ould only have been written by someone who knows Savannah and its stories intimately and wants them to be told.”
—**Neil Gaiman**

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



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.

NIGHTCRAWLING

Leila Mottley (Knopf/June 7th 2022)



 **Film/TV agent: Eric Reid at WME**

 **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); Spain (Urano); Hungary (Libri Könyvkiadó); Greece (Psychogios); Holland (Querido); Russia (Eksmo); Catalonia (Periscopi); Serbia (Publik Praktikum); Poland (Muza); Lithuania (Alma); Ukraine (Vivat); Arabic (Dar Fawasel)**

Booker Prize nominated debut and international sensation, Leila Mottley’s NIGHTCRAWLING is the powerful story of a young woman trying to survive in a system intent on exploiting her.

Praise for NIGHTCRAWLING:

“*Nightcrawling* heralds a bold new voice in fiction.”
—*Associated Press (USA)*

“[A] virtuosic talent...”
—*Spectrum (Australia)*

“A brutal and beautifully spun tale of power”
—*Stylist (UK)*

“A masterpiece of brutality, resilience and beauty.”
—*Le Soir (France)*

“A haunting and captivating first work.”
—*Esquire.de (Germany)*



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.

THE BOOK OF FORM AND EMPTINESS

Ruth Ozeki (Viking/September 21st 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 (Ithakivya); Arabic (Kalemat) Taiwan (Yuan-Liou); Germany (Julie Eisele); Greece (Klidarithmos); Indonesia (PT Gramedia); Korea (Influential); Romania (Curtea Veche); Bulgaria (Kryg/BookTrend); Kazakhstan (National Bureau of Translations); Portugal (Infinito Particular)

🎬 Film/TV agent: Sylvie Rabineau at WME



Women's
Prize for
Fiction

WINNER OF THE 2022 WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION

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*



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.

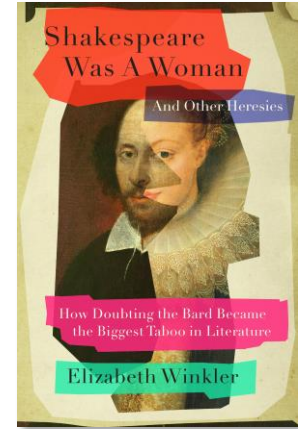
NON-FICTION



SHAKESPEARE WAS A WOMAN & OTHER HERESIES: How Doubting the Bard Became the Biggest Taboo in Literature

Elizabeth Winkler (S&S/May 9th 2023)

A provocative investigation into the Shakespeare authorship question, exploring how doubting that William Shakespeare wrote his plays became an act of blasphemy... and who the Bard might *really* be.



Whisking readers from London to Stratford-upon-Avon to Washington, DC, Winkler pulls back the curtain to show how the forces of nationalism and empire, religion and mythmaking, gender and class helped create the version of the Bard we know and love today—and to explore who may have been hiding behind Shakespeare’s name. A forgotten woman? A disgraced aristocrat? A government spy? Hovering over the mystery are Shakespeare’s plays themselves—with their love for mistaken identities, disguises, and things never quite being what they seem.

Praise for SHAKESPEARE WAS A WOMAN:

“One of the most engaging, riveting, scholarly, and challenging whodunits anyone [...] can hope to read.”

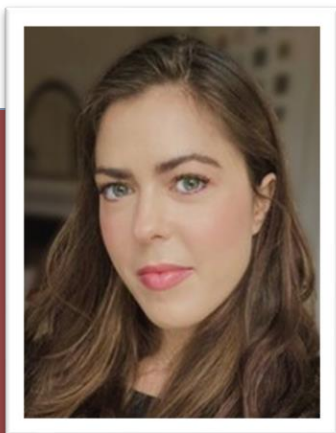
—Bessel van der Kolk, MD, author of *The Body Keeps Score*

“Along her intrepid way, Winkler charts, with refreshing clarity, the much-contested ground underfoot.”

—Stacy Schiff, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Revolutionary*

“This page-turner is mesmerizing.”

—André Aciman, author of *Call Me by Your Name*



Elizabeth Winkler is a journalist and book critic whose work has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New Yorker*, *The New Republic*, and *The Economist*, among other publications. She received her undergraduate degree from Princeton University and her master’s in English literature from Stanford University. Her essay “Was Shakespeare a Woman?” was selected for *The Best American Essays 2020*. She lives in Washington, DC.

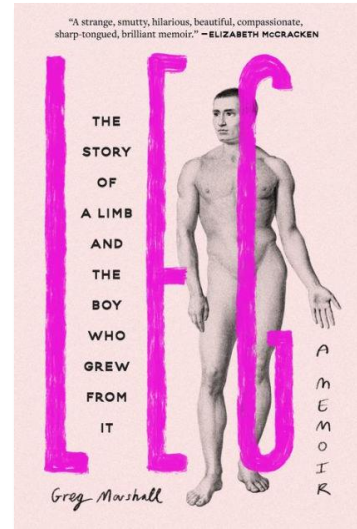
LEG: The Story of a Limb and the Boy Who Grew from It

Greg Marshall (Abrams/June 13th 2023)

🎬 Film/TV agent: Danny Hertz at Gotham Group
 🌐 Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Orion)

A hilarious and poignant memoir grappling with family, disability, and coming of age in two closets—as a gay man and as a man living with cerebral palsy.

Rewind Greg’s VHS tapes (this is the nineties) and you’ll see a lopsided teenager limping across a high school stage, or in a wheelchair after leg surgeries, pondering why he’s crushing on half of the Utah Jazz. Add to this home video footage a mom clacking away at her newspaper column between chemo, a dad with ALS, and a cast of foulmouthed siblings. Fast forward the tape and you’ll find Marshall happily settled into his life as a gay man only to discover he’s been living in another closet his whole life: he has cerebral palsy. Here, in the hot mess of it all, lies Greg Marshall’s wellspring of wit and wisdom.



Praise for LEG:

“A strange, smutty, hilarious, beautiful, compassionate, provoking, big-hearted, sharp-tongued, original, brilliant memoir.”

— Elizabeth McCracken, National Book Award finalist and author of *The Hero of This Book*

“Astonishingly bright, bold, and beautiful.”

— Isaac Fitzgerald, author of *Dirtbag, Massachusetts*

“A funny, smart, and loving memoir.”

— Alexander Chee, author of *How to Write an Autobiographical Novel*

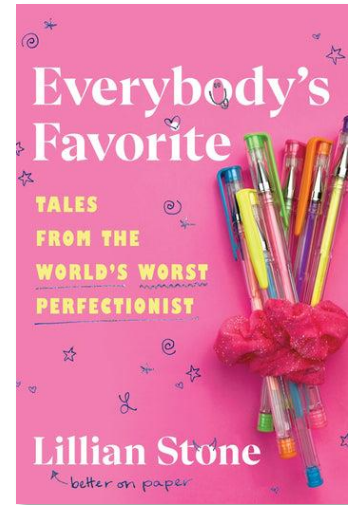


Greg Marshall was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. A National Endowment for the Arts Fellow in Prose, Marshall is a graduate of the Michener Center for Writers. His work has appeared in *The Best American Essays* and been supported by MacDowell and the Corporation of Yaddo. *Leg* is his first book.

EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE: Tales from the World's Worst Perfectionist

Lillian Stone (Dey Street/July 18th 2023)

From one of the Internet's favorite self-deprecating commentators comes a laugh-out-loud essay collection that tackles the relentless pursuit of perfection alongside the sometimes painful, and often hilarious negotiations that happen within the obsessive-compulsive brain.



Lillian Stone—childhood evangelical, AOL girlfriend, and professional nail biter is always living on the edge of anxiety. From the pitfalls of a girl plagued by religious trauma, the incomprehensible yet unforgiving need for perfection, and a twenty-pound beagle she never meant to keep, *Everybody's Favorite* is a refreshing story of what it means to pick yourself when the world is telling you otherwise. Still navigating the ins and outs of adulthood, accompanied by an obsessive-compulsive disorder that's become an exercise in self-acceptance and thus compassion, Lillian has become an expert in fighting the urge to be someone else's idea of perfect.

Set largely during the early 2000s Ozarks, in a community enveloped within evangelism, and peppered with Stone's biting satire and gloriously self-deprecating personal anecdotes, *Everybody's Favorite* is a wry, empathetic look at the chaos that ensues when we contort ourselves into an ever-changing assortment of socially acceptable shapes—only to fall out of place, twist an ankle, pee your pants a little, and realize that the pursuit of perfection isn't really all that interesting.

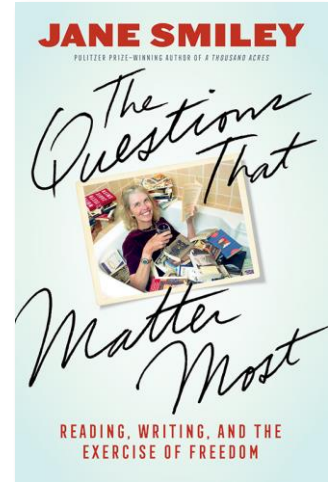


Lillian Stone is a humor writer, journalist, and regular contributor to *The New Yorker*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, *Men's Journal*, *RealSimple*, *Allure*, *MEL Magazine*, and *Reductress*. A leader in the online humor and satire space, she was named one of *Paste Magazine's* 15 Best Humorists Writing Today. She also serves as a staff writer for *The Takeout*. She lives in Chicago.

THE QUESTIONS THAT MATTER MOST: Reading, Writing, and the Exercise of Freedom

Jane Smiley (HeyDay Books/June 6th 2023)

One of America's preeminent novelists, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in fiction, presents her first nonfiction volume on writing since 2005's best-selling *Thirteen Ways of Looking at the Novel*.



Jane Smiley is an unparalleled observer of the craft of writing. In *The Questions That Matter Most* this beloved writer offers steady and penetrating essays on some of the aesthetic and cultural issues that mark any serious engagement with reading and writing. Beginning with a personal introduction tracing Smiley's migration from Iowa to California, the author reflects on her findings in the varied literature of the Golden State, whose writers have for decades litigated the West's contested legacies of racism, class conflict, and sexual politics through their pens. As she considers the ambiguity of character and the weight of history, her essays provide new entry points into literature, and we see how Smiley draws inspiration from across the literary spectrum to invigorate her own writing.

Praise for Jane Smiley:

"She turns literary and stylistic cartwheels. ... Is there anything Jane Smiley cannot do?"— Pico Iyer, *Time*

"Smiley unceremoniously plunges us into a torrent of character and event, trusting that we will emerge transformed by her exhilarating baptism, and we do."

—The New Yorker



"Smiley has started to look like the best living American novelist."

—The Observer

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.

SELECTED WORLD RIGHTS TITLES



KÜNSTLERS IN PARADISE, Cathleen Schine

(Holt/March 14th 2023)

Rights sold: Italy (Mondadori)

The beloved bestselling author of *The Three Weissmanns of Westport*—once dubbed “the modern-day Jewish Jane Austen”—brings forth a comedy of generational manners that glides between 1939 and 2020 L.A. as Mamie Künstler and her grandson weather hard times and discover how to make them their own.

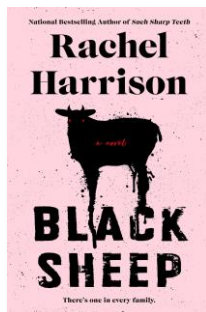


INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SPACE,

Emily Austin (Atria/January 30th 2024)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Atlantic)

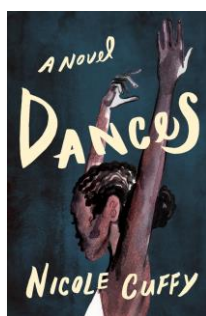
Meet Enid: serial dater, obsessed with true crime podcasts, deaf in one ear, and an information architect at The Space Agency who can tell you all about black holes. Oh, and she also has a crippling phobia of bald people. As she fumbles her way through her first serious relationship, struggles with a bald co-worker, and navigates family life with her estranged half-sisters, she starts to worry that someone is following her. As she becomes more and more paranoid, she gradually discovers the one thing she can't outrun—herself.



BLACK SHEEP, Rachel Harrison (Berkley, September 19 2023)

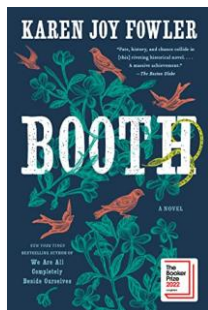
Nobody has a “normal” family, but Vesper Wright’s is truly...something else. Vesper left home at eighteen and never looked back. That is, until an invitation to the wedding of Vesper’s beloved cousin arrives on her doorstep. Is it a sweet gesture? An olive branch? A trap? Doesn’t matter. Something inside her insists that she go.

When Vesper’s homecoming exhumes a terrifying secret, she’s forced to reckon with her family’s beliefs and her own crisis of faith. This deliciously sinister novel explores the family ties that bind us and the struggle to break free.



DANCES, Nicole Cuffy (OneWorld/May 16th 2023)

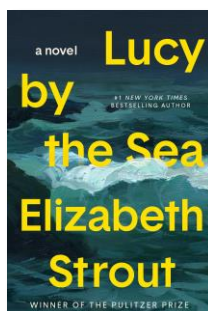
At twenty-two years old, Cece Cordell reaches the pinnacle of her career as a ballet dancer when she’s promoted to principal at the New York City Ballet. She’s instantly catapulted into celebrity as the first black ballerina in the famed company’s history. Soon after her promotion, Cece is faced with a choice that has the potential to either derail her career or alter her life irrevocably.



BOOTH, Karen Joy Fowler (Putnam/March 8th 2022)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Serpent's Tail); Holland (Nieuw Amsterdam); Korea (Sigongsa) and Arabic (Dar Athar)

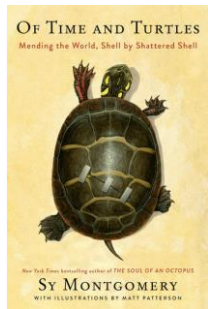
From the Man Booker finalist and bestselling author comes an epic novel about the family behind one of the most infamous figures in American history: John Wilkes Booth. A startling portrait of a country in the throes of change and a vivid exploration of brother- and sisterhood, *Booth* is a riveting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



LUCY BY THE SEA, Elizabeth Strout (Random House/September 20th 2022)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Viking); Finland (Tammi); Slovakia (Vydavateľstvo Inaque); Norway (Forlaget); Sweden (Bokforlaget); Spain (Alfagura); Portugal (Objectiva); Italy (Einaudi); Catalonia (Edicions 1984); Brazil (Companhia Das Letras); Holland (Atlas Contact); Germany (Luchterhand);

From Pulitzer Prize-winning, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Elizabeth Strout comes a poignant, pitch-perfect novel about a divorced couple stuck together during lockdown—and the love, loss, despair, and hope that animate us even as the world seems to be falling apart.

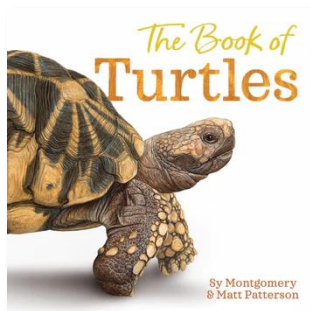


OF TIME AND TURTLES: *Mending the World,*

Shell by Shattered Shell, Sy Montgomery and illustrated by Matt Patterson (Mariner/September 19th 2023)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (William Collins), Korea (Dolgorae Books), and Germany (Diogenes).

From National Book Award finalist for *The Soul of an Octopus* and *New York Times* bestseller, Sy Montgomery's next major work for adults, a nonfiction investigation that speaks to the wonder and wisdom of turtles, revealing astonishing new perspectives on time and healing with Montgomery's trademark accuracy, elegance and journalistic curiosity.



THE BOOK OF TURTLES, Sy Montgomery and illustrated by Matt Patterson (Clarion Books/May 2nd 2023)

An ode to one of the most diverse, fascinating, and beloved species on the planet: turtles. With dazzling illustrations and emotionally engaging text, this picture book will speak to the wisdom these long-lived animals can lend.

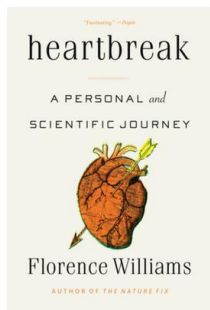


A TRAIN TO MOSCOW, Elena Gorokhova

(Lake Union/March 1st 2022)

Rights sold: Bulgaria (Kragozor); Slovakia (Aurora); Romania (Corint)

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.

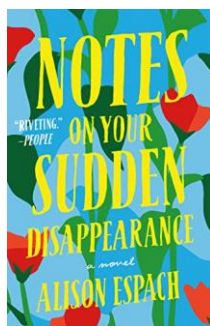


HEARTBREAK, Florence Williams (W.W. Norton/February 1st

2022) **Rights sold:** China (Shandong Friendship); Slovenia (UMco d.d)

2023 PEN AWARD FOR LITERARY SCIENCE WRITING WINNER

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.

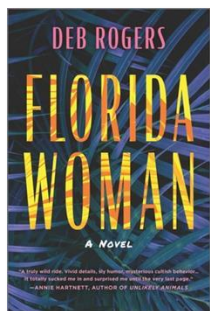


NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN

DISAPPEARANCE, Alison Espach (Henry Holt/ May 17th 2022)

Rights sold: Germany (Ullstein); Italy (Bollati); Croatia (Znanje)

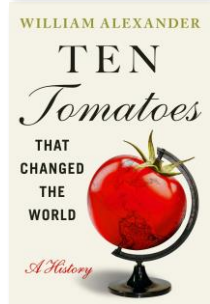
A breathtakingly credible love story narrated by teenage Sally Holt as she addresses her older sister Kathy before, during and after Kathy's sudden and untimely death. How does a tight-knit family manage to make sense of such a massive, glaring loss? And when love blossoms unexpectedly, inconveniently, 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 1st 2022)

Rights sold: Cultural Development Press (China); Seidosha (Japan); Aboca Edizioni (Italy); Taurus Books (Korea); Timaş (Turkey)

New York Times bestselling author William Alexander takes readers on the surprisingly twisty journey of the beloved tomato in this fascinating and erudite microhistory.



LONDON
OLYMPIA

NEW
YORK CITY

