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Fall 2023

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JUST SOLD

- ***Non-Fiction***

ANN HAGEDORN

**FEARLESS: The Hidden Story of The Women Who Powered America's
Anti-Slavery Movement**

by Ann Hagedorn

Simon & Schuster (2025)

Rights: UK/BC & Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

Material available: final manuscript due Fall 2024

From the author of Edgar Award finalist *Sleeper Agent* comes FEARLESS: The Hidden Story of The Women Who Powered America's Anti-Slavery Movement recounts the heretofore unchronicled lives of seven activist women - Black and white, urban and rural, rich and poor and middle class -- who formed the backbone of the Abolitionist movement in the decades leading up to the Civil War, networking and organizing across the country, forming anti-slavery societies, newspapers, conventions and lecture circuits, raising funds that were critical to the cause and daring to stand up for their beliefs amidst widespread condemnation.

In the vein of *Hidden Figures*, FEARLESS is fascinating and moving look at a "hidden history" of women at the forefront of a movement of great and lasting impact.

Ann Hagedorn, an award-winning author and journalist, has been a staff writer for *The Wall Street Journal* and has written for other publications including *The Washington Post*. She has taught writing at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. She is the author of *Sleeper Agent* (2022); *The Invisible Soldiers* (Simon & Schuster); *Savage Peace: Hope and Fear in America, 1919* (Simon & Schuster); *Beyond the River: A True Story of the Underground Railroad* (Simon & Schuster); *Ransom: The Untold Story of Global Kidnapping* (Holt) and *Wild Ride: The Rise and Fall of Calumet Farm, Inc. America's Premier Racing Dynasty* (Holt).

Praise for SLEEPER AGENT

"A historical page-turner of the highest order." -- Ronald Radosh — ***The Wall Street Journal***

"Compelling... Hagedorn's well-researched account employs a host of primary and secondary sources to convincingly connect the dots between Koval, the Soviet spy network, and the creation of the atomic bomb."— ***Booklist***

"An eye-opening account of perhaps the Soviet Union's most successful sleeper agent." — ***Kirkus Reviews***

“SLEEPER AGENT is doggedly researched... enlivened by its brisk pace and lucid scientific details, this is a rewarding introduction to a noteworthy episode in the history of Soviet espionage.” Publishers Weekly

“A taut narrative... a great read.” – Cincinnati Business Courier

"Ann Hagedorn has gifted us with a **dazzling, gripping**, most timely reflection of the Cold War era — and the ongoing legacy of hateful anti-Semitism driving the quest for sanctuary, education, and peace. **This captivating, profoundly researched book** is required reading for everyone concerned about history and the future." -- **Blanche Wiesen Cook**, author of *Eleanor Roosevelt* (Vols. 1-3), and *The Declassified Eisenhower*

"Ann Hagedorn is one of those rare writers I trust to keep me reading in these times when the competition for our attention can be overwhelming. **But with the fascinating *Sleeper Agent*, Ms. Hagedorn has once again captivated me with the focus and depth of her superlative investigative talents**, in this instance unraveling the secrets of what J. Edgar Hoover called 'the crime of the [20th] century'—Soviet atomic espionage in wartime America." -- **Bob Shacochis**, National Book award recipient, author of *The Woman Who Lost Her Soul*

JUST SOLD

- *Fiction*

BRAD PARKS

THE BOUNDARIES WE CROSS

By Brad Parks

Oceanview Press (2024)

Rights: UK/BC & Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

Material available: final manuscript due Winter 2024

THE BOUNDARIES WE CROSS is a twist-filled did-he-or-didn't-he thriller about a teacher accused of having a sexual relationship with a student, a young woman who then disappears under suspicious circumstances.

Charles Bliss, raised by a single mother in a hardscrabble Maine fishing town, is a highly respected and much appreciated English teacher at Carrington Academy, an elite Connecticut prep school, from which he graduated some years ago as a scholarship student. Recently, Charles's highly touted debut novel debut unexpectedly bombed, so he is grateful for his job at Carrington, while working feverishly on a new manuscript by night to capture the literary glory that was almost his.

Among his children-of-the-extremely-rich students is Hayley Goodloe, heiress to a massive fortune, who clearly is developing a crush on him. Happily married Charles is careful to maintain proper boundaries with Hayley, leaving no room for suspicion. So he is shocked to his core when the principal confronts him with an accusation of an affair with Hayley and demands his resignation. And when Hayley soon turns up missing, Charles's world is turned upside down, with the police and DA targeting him as the likely kidnapper. Who can he trust? His loyal wife Emily, his best friend Leo, his new fast-talking criminal defense attorney Jerry and the reliability of his own memory are all in the mix as Charles desperately tries to prove his innocence amidst damaging evidence that somehow keeps piling up against him.

Filled with memorable characters, this is a wonderfully clever, involving thriller that expertly deploys the Hitchcockian pivot of the "innocent man" in fresh, surprising ways.

International bestselling author **Brad Parks** is the only writer to have won the Shamus, Nero, and Lefty Awards, three of American crime fiction's most prestigious prizes. His novels, including *Unthinkable*, *Interference*, *Say Nothing*, *Closer Than You Know* and *The Last Act* have been published in fifteen languages and have won critical acclaim across the globe, including stars from every major prepublication review outlet.

Praise for Brad Parks

- UNTHINKABLE

“ [you] will be rewarded with turns of fate and twists of plot more shocking than even the book’s clairvoyant DeGange may have foreseen.” - Wall Street Journal

“...inventive, well written, fast-paced, and filled with twists.” – Associated Press

“A textbook one-sitting read whose fiendishly inventive details only intensify its remorseless momentum.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“Parks makes suspension of disbelief to his premise accessible via solid prose and characterizations. Readers who enjoy jaw-dropping but credible plot twists will be enthralled.” —Publishers Weekly

“This fast-paced novel has twists and turns that’ll keep readers guessing.”
—Library Journal

“*Unthinkable* is a fast, furious, fun and deliciously twisty tale told with the deft and accomplished hand of a veteran storyteller. Nate and Jenny are truly a duo to root for, and there’s a substantive issue at the core of the story about which we should all be better informed. Parks has belted another one out of the park with a focused swing of the bat.” – David Baldacci

- INTERFERENCE

“Readers will fully engage with the well-drawn characters as Parks convincingly reveals the science that buttresses the suspenseful plot. Michael Crichton fans won’t want to miss this one.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review)

“A twisty tale...Parks’ suspenseful novel will beguile, entrance, and fool the sharpest readers.” —Kirkus Reviews

“To be pleurably bamboozled, try this nifty scientific thriller...” —The Washington Post

“Parks, better known for character-driven mysteries, ventures into **Michael Crichton and Blake Crouch territory with a procedural thriller with an SF edge and a ton of heart that leads to an explosive (and emotional) finale.**” —Library Journal

“A smart, innovative thriller that evokes the best of **Michael Crichton and Blake Crouch**. Parks proposes the seemingly improbable, makes it plausible, then weaves in twists and turns, taking the reader on a mind-bending ride.” —Robert Dugoni, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and Amazon bestselling author of the Tracy Crosswhite series

- **THE LAST ACT**

“The Last Act, may be Parks’ best yet... a roller-coaster plot that serves up endless surprises. Whatever you think is coming next probably isn’t.”—The Washington Post

“A devilishly good story with more twists and turns and enough edge-of-your-seat suspense to fill two books.” —CrimeReads

“A Brad Parks novel offers two pleasures. One is watching a stunning talent at work. The other—operating almost apart from the first—is getting wrapped in the coils of a fiendishly clever thriller.”—Booklist

“This novel packs on the suspenseful surprises and plot reversals that made Parks a mainstay on the best-seller lists, ” —Library Journal (starred ★ review)

“Fans of Parks' well-oiled thrillers be too busy licking their chops anticipating the twists that are bound to come. The setup is so patient and the logistics so matter-of-fact that even the savviest readers will be caught in the story's expertly laid traps before they know what's happening.” —Kirkus

**“A superb, highly original thriller with a terrific premise. I loved it.”
—Peter James, #1 international bestselling author**

“A perfect piece of entertainment.” —Steve Berry, New York Times bestselling author

- **CLOSER THAN YOU KNOW**

“Parks has produced a gripping story, masterfully drawn.”—Oprah.com

**“Another winning tale of domestic suspense from the Shamus- and Nero Award-winning author Parks, who knows how to get readers to empathize emotionally with his characters while amping up the tension and suspense from the first page.”
-Library Journal - ★ starred review ★**

“Parks (Say Nothing, 2017, etc.) dishes out another irresistible descent into hell for a heroine in a harrowing plight —Kirkus ★ starred review ★

“A diverting, exciting read, with an ending you won’t see coming.”—Booklist

“Closer Than You Know grabs you by the gut in Chapter One and keeps upping the tension through every shocking plot twist. Don’t expect to come up for air until the final, satisfying pages.”—Alafair Burke, bestselling author of *The Wife*

- **SAY NOTHING**

“Fans of Harlan Coben and Lisa Gardner will love this thriller. Don’t stay silent, tell everyone.” -Library Journal – ★ starred review

“Parks dispenses plot twists with a poisoned eyedropper... The nerve-shredding never lets up for a minute as Parks picks you up by the scruff of the neck, shakes you vigorously, and repeats over and over again till a climax so harrowing that you'll be shaking with gratitude that it's finally over.” -Kirkus – ★ starred review

“Shamus Award–winner Parks’ excellent domestic thriller credibly portrays a family under severe stress... [readers will] find themselves on pins and needles awaiting the reveals.” -Publishers Weekly – ★ starred review

“Parks’ legal thriller gets off to a roaring start, plunking us immediately in the middle of things...we’re here for the action, too, and Parks comes through.” -Booklist

“...a tale that grips the reader from the get-go and doesn’t let up until the final twist in a story that’s filled with surprises...Parks deftly ties up the loose ends and provides the reader with a satisfying conclusion.” -Associated Press

“Terrific book. Truly terrific. Tension throughout and tears at the end. What could be better than that?” – Sue Grafton

“Outstanding—starts with a bang and gets tenser and tenser ... *Say Nothing* shows Parks is a quality writer at the top of his form.” – Lee Child

"*Say Nothing* moves Brad Parks onto the top shelf of thriller writers. He grabs readers' hearts in the first chapter, and doesn't let go until the last line." - Joseph Funder

“A pedal-to-the floor thriller! *Say Nothing* grabs you from the first few paragraphs and never lets go. Writing in sharp, no-nonsense prose, Parks perfectly nails the dynamics of a family under the gun and has conjured a plot (did I mention high-speed?) that leaps straight from today’s headlines. This novel’s a winner!” – Jeffery Deaver

“*Say Nothing* is tremendously satisfying, packed with engaging characters and surprising plot twists and a furious build of tension until its gut-wrenching pay-off.”– Chris Pavone

"A twisting, suspenseful ride that adds a new and original twist to the legal thriller: a judge, cornered. If you haven't discovered Brad Parks yet, *Say Nothing* is your chance. Smart, propulsive storytelling." - William Landay

UPCOMING NON-FICTION

- *Final Manuscripts Delivering Fall 2023*

JENNIFER S. HOLLAND

TOP DOGS by Jennifer S. Holland

National Geographic Books (2024)

Rights: UK/BC & Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

Material available: final manuscript due Fall 2023

The author of the beloved best-selling Unlikely Friends series of books is back with an investigative narrative exploring the latest research on dog intelligence, using 10 case studies and a trove of personal stories to reveal what we can all learn from man's best friend, deconstructing misconceptions about how dogs think and interact with humans and how different breeds exhibit an amazing diversity of intelligence.

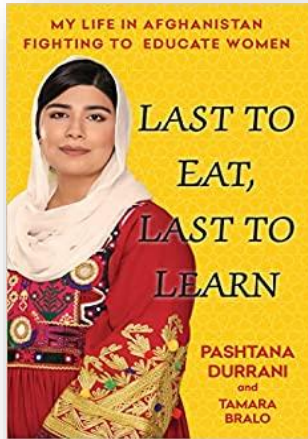
Jennifer Holland is a science writer and author of the *Unlikely Friends* books, the *New York Times* bestselling series about animals. She was a long-time senior staff writer and field reporter for *National Geographic* magazine; she continues to contribute to *Nat Geo*'s various publications, including the yellow-border journal, online News, and kids' magazines.

Jennifer's byline has also appeared in the magazines of *The Nature Conservancy* and the *National Wildlife Federation*, *Hakai*, and *NG's Kids* and *Explorer* magazines, on Atlas Obscura, NPR, and the EarthTouch News Network, and in the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, among others. Applying her Master's degree in Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development, Jennifer scoops up writing assignments related to natural history, conservation/environment, evolutionary biology, and animal behavior, though anything one might call "quirky science" is within her bailiwick. (She also likes some people-oriented subjects—particularly those related to health and medicine. People are animals, too, after all.)

She calls her brand of fieldwork "cover my eyes and jump" reporting, or "just naive enough." As a result Jennifer has flown in zero gravity over the Gulf of Mexico, dived with tiger sharks in the Bahamas and ducked below a reef-shark feeding frenzy on the Great Barrier Reef, shimmied up the tallest tree in Costa Rica, gone cobra hunting with a bare-handed Vietnamese farmer, camped on an active volcano in Hawaii, crawled into a bear's den in northern Minnesota, and sat fireside with bushmen in Papua New Guinea learning to carve spears. Among other adventures.

Jennifer, with her snake-charmer husband and three dogs, divides her time between the D.C. area and a cabin in the woods near Charlottesville, Virginia.

PASHTANA DURRANI



LAST TO EAT, LAST TO LEARN: My Life in Afghanistan Fighting to Educate Women by Pashtana Durrani, with Tamara Bralo

Kensington (March 2024)

Rights: UK and translation rights: The Martell Agency

Material available: final files due Fall 2023

LAST TO EAT, LAST TO LEARN is the remarkable memoir of Pashtana Durrani, a 23-year-old Afghan woman, who has pursued her passion for educating the “disappearing girls” of the remote, contested rural tribal regions, amidst all the turmoil, violence and oppression that has enveloped her country – and her family -- over a generation.

International Sales:

Italian – La Nave di Teseo – pre-empt

German – Luebbe – pre-empt

Praise For LAST TO EAT, LAST TO LEARN

“Durrani’s voice sparkles with humor and grit, and she is a gifted storyteller, equally comfortable analyzing Afghanistan’s gender inequity and defending the strengths of the oft-underestimated culture and country she loves. **A lovingly narrated, sharply nuanced memoir from a talented activist.**” -- *Kirkus* – * starred review *

“Pashtana’s story highlights the resourcefulness and bravery of young women in Afghanistan. **I hope readers will be inspired by her mission to give every girl the education she deserves and the opportunity to pursue her dreams.**” —Malala Yousafzai

“As an American, I meet many who know little and feel no likeness to the land where so many of our sons and daughters gave their lives. **Idealistic yet logical, Pashtana serves as a portal between two seemingly divergent worlds, illuminating the shared human values that connect us. The relevance of her story has no bounds.** It belongs in the hands of the politician as much as the soldier, the parent, or the child. While we may characterize Pashtana as an activist, or educator, let us first characterize her as a leader.” -Major Jessica Yahn, Cultural Support Team, U.S. Army Special Operations Command

“**Riveting...**a story of determination, triumph, and loss in the battle for girls’ and women’s rights...[Pashtana] **is an exceptional role model for girls around the world,** exemplifying the power of determination and passion in achieving the nearly impossible.” -- Mursel Sabir, Founder, Afghans Empowered

“Uplifting and optimistic...[Pashtana’s] story is testimony to how one determined leader, with irrational passion and a deep commitment to educating young girls, can make a lasting difference.” -- Alan Stoga, Chairman, Tällberg Foundation

“Pashtana's story is not only one of gender empowerment, it is one of communal pragmatism and realization that together--men and women in Afghanistan, for the sake of their community--can transcend barriers and transform their society for long-term prosperity and peace.” -- Dr. Victoria C. Fontan, Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies and Vice President of Academic Affairs at the American University of Afghanistan.

“The breathtaking story of a young Afghan activist who will make history. . . . Pashtana shares an acute and clever insight into the origins of the Taliban, a moving childhood story in an Afghan refugee camp in Pakistan, and an incredible journey. . . . She understands Afghanistan and Pashtun society as well as Western culture. She brings an enlightened view of these two worlds that do not understand each other.” --Marina Wutholen, Director of dev.tv and Founder Young Activists Summit

“With a spirit that echoes through these pages and a voice that rises above the din, Pashtana Durrani shares her **compelling story and mission** to empower women in Afghanistan.... **This book is a reflection of her spirit--bright, passionate, driven.**” -- Tanya Qadir, Director of Partner Success, Rumie Initiative

Pashtana was the first recipient of a grant from Malala’s Fund, and the founder of Learn NGO, an organization that was ruthlessly targeted by the Taliban. She conceived and developed a brilliant program for getting educational materials directly into the hands of girls and young women in the form of solar-powered tablets preloaded with lessons for grades K-12.

Pashtana escaped from Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover and will soon be in the U.S., with a two-year residency at Wellesley College to continue her critical work for girls’ education. Malala wrote one of two letters to the U.S. government to petition for Pashtana's safe evacuation to the U.S. Pashtana is a highly sought-after expert in the on-going international advocacy struggles, a figure of hope and promise for all those determined not to cede ground in the battle for women’s education and autonomy in Afghanistan and beyond. To get an idea of her passionate engagement and resilience in the face of despair, here is a clip of an interview the weekend after the fall of Kandahar, which was her base, on UK’s Channel 4 (the same day she was also interviewed by CNN, BBC, NBC, ABC, *The LA Times* and *Washington Post*):

<https://www.channel4.com/news/afghanistan-war-were-going-to-lose-everything-we-worked-for-says-kandahar-ngo-executive>

For quite some time Pashtana has been a go-to person for almost every major media outlet (more links and such are in the proposal). Her work has been recognized by Amnesty International and the UN -- full biographical details are also in the proposal.

The co-writer on the project, **Tamara Bralo**, is an award-winning journalist who worked for BBC, CNN, and Al Jazeera English, and spent years covering war zones around the world, including Iraq, Libya, and Syria. It's quite likely Malala will contribute an introduction.

Just as Malala proved, the young women of Afghanistan -- and the world -- will be the fiercest, most effective fighters in this just cause and Pashtana is one of their most determined and articulate voices. She has been working on educating young women since she was 7 years old (turning down a full scholarship to Cambridge, so she could so she wouldn't be cut off from her girls for several years was an inspired, albeit shocking, decision). Her story and her students' stories are heartbreaking and inspirational and offer essential lessons about the realities of the world beyond our borders and how meaningful lives can be led amidst stunning adversity. And the critical issues regarding the (non)education of women in Afghanistan and across the globe are not going away soon. We will never be able to shed too much light on this brutal situation.

Pashtana Durrani
Winner of the Tallberg Global Leadership Prize 2021 – Emerging Leader

[Pashtana Durrani - Tallberg-SNF-Eliasson Global Leadership Prize \(tallberg-snf-eliasson-prize.org\)](http://tallberg-snf-eliasson-prize.org)

JANICE KAPLAN

YOUR BODY IS SMARTER THAN YOUR MIND: Discovering the New Science for Happiness, Gratitude, and Joy by Janice Kaplan

Sourcebooks (2024)

Rights: UK and translation rights: The Martell Agency

Material available: final manuscript due Fall 2023

*In this new book, the author of the New York Times best-seller *The Gratitude Diaries* explores a new science-based mega-theme: the ineluctably profound mind-body connection, how the body, more often than not, provides our brain with key information, not the reverse and when the mind and body work as a seamless team, we feel a true sense of wellness and flow.*

YOUR BODY IS SMARTER THAN YOUR MIND couldn't be more relevant or important as we increasingly rely on technology to give our brains key information. Do we really need a smartwatch to tell us how we slept? Your body tells you that when you wake up, we've just stopped listening. Instead, we've come to see our bodies as something we need to take care of, so that our minds can function and manage life. But our *feeling* bodies are often smarter than our *thinking* minds. Of most importance, research across a wide range of fields in science, shows that when the body and mind work together, we experience a deep sense of pleasure and happiness.

In this new book, Janice will explore the myriad ways that our physical and psychological and spiritual beings are profoundly linked and collaborate in often surprising overlapping patterns in all human experience. YOUR BODY IS SMARTER THAN YOUR MIND will interweave intriguing new scientific research from experts around the globe in many disciplines -- from psychologists to neuroscientists to environmentalists -- with a powerful personal narrative, as Janice in her own life seeks hardcore scientific research which proves how much our minds rely on the actions and responses of our bodies. For example, the act of smiling can improve your mood. When you pass a dark alley and your body tenses and your heart starts pounding, your cardiovascular system is sending a message to your brain to be frightened, rather than the other way around.

The book will provide tips and strategies about how to rediscover this vital connection, so your mind and body can work, as they should, as a seamless team. A major strength of Janice's approach is that, unlike an expert in a given field drilling down on one theory, one core premise, to the exclusion of all else, Janice will integrate the ground-breaking discoveries of multiple experts who study mind-body connectivity from many different angles. This makes the premise of the book far more powerful and wholly credible. And as is essential, Janice is expert at making complex research and information interesting, accessible, and relevant to a general reader.

Janice Kaplan has written more than a dozen popular books including the *New York Times* bestseller *The Gratitude Diaries*. She was editor-in-chief of *Parade* when it was the biggest magazine in America with 32 million copies circulating each week and began her career as a writer and producer at *Good Morning America* and went on to be the executive producer of more than 30 network television specials. She has appeared regularly on national TV shows including *GMA*, *Today*, and *CBS This Morning* and continues to be a frequent guest on podcasts and radio shows. Janice hosted the podcast "The Gratitude Diaries" for *iHeartMedia*, attracting a large audience for

the 120 episodes. Since the publication of *The Gratitude Diaries* and her most recent book *The Genius of Women*, she gives dozens of talks each year and has become a popular keynote speaker at corporate and non-profit events. The Templeton Foundation is very enthusiastic about the concept and is prepared to get behind the book, as it did for *The Gratitude Diaries*.

- **International Sales for THE GRATITUDE DIARIES**

UK/BC – Yellow Kite/Hodder & Stoughton

German - Rowohlt

Chinese/complex – Ping’s Publications/Crown Culture

Chinese/simplified characters – Grand China

Korean - Winners Books

World Spanish - Planeta/Zenith

Turkish – Kuraldisi Yayinlari

Portuguese in Brazil/Companhia Editora Nacional (Conrad)

Praise for THE GRATITUDE DIARIES

“Kaplan’s study is **insightful and loaded with compelling research and solid techniques for positive thinking**, and her own example provides the most convincing testament to her ideas.” -**Publishers Weekly**

“Kaplan's plan to be more grateful is approachable for anyone. **Simple, effective procedures that can be easily incorporated into even the busiest lifestyle.**” -**Kirkus**

“In this **upbeat book**, journalist Kaplan recounts how a New Year’s Eve resolution leads to a year of living gratefully. **Uplifting and entertaining, this book is sure to give readers a more positive perspective.**” - **Booklist**

ROBERTA KWOK

MINUTIAE: The Tiny Details That Scientists Pursue to Illuminate Big Questions by Roberta Kwok

Sourcebooks (2024)

Rights: UK and translation rights: The Martell Agency

Material available: final manuscript due Fall 2023

International sales:

- Korean - Memento

MINUTIAE by award-winning narrative science writer Roberta Kwok will reveal the fascinating unseen labor behind scientific progress. Every day, we read the news of the latest discoveries. But how did they actually get there? What, exactly, do scientists do all day, often for year after year...

- A geologist skis to the edge of a massive crevasse on Helheim Glacier, a stretch of Greenland named for the Norse underworld of the dead. She wants to understand the hidden world under the ice.

- In the stark Arizona desert, a Navajo chemist peers through binoculars at the glint of a distant windmill powering a pump. There, he may find clues to whether uranium mines, abandoned after the Cold War, are still poisoning indigenous communities.

- And at a California lab, an astronomer pores over signals from a planet near the constellation Lepus, the hare chased by Orion. After several failed attempts, he's desperate to find plumes of gas from lunar volcanoes—evidence of a moon outside our solar system.

MINUTIAE will focus not on the often ground-breaking results of research but on the painstaking and messy process of obtaining them. Offering lively reporting on nine experiments from different fields, Kwok will show the drudgery, mistakes, often surprising approaches and doubts that are the day-to-day reality behind the scenes. Readers will get glimpses of scientists manually counting hundreds of faint lines on a fossil, scouring Home Depot for random equipment parts, fretting over telescope's "garbage" data, and scrambling through a rainforest in search of elusive camouflaged frogs. And what is particularly enlightening, and gratifying is that despite the weight and challenges of the day-to-day work, these individuals don't lose their focus and stay true to their passion.

MINUTIAE opens up a whole unseen dimension of the world of scientific research and will appeal to readers of such best-selling authors as Mary Roach, Aimee Nezhukumatathil, Jonathan Slaght, and David Haskell.

Roberta Kwok is a journalist whose focus is on science. She's written for publications such as *New Yorker.com*, *NYTimes.com*, *Nature*, *New Scientist*, and *U.S. News & World Report*, and her stories have received journalism awards from the American Association for the Advancement of Science and American Geophysical Union. From 2020-21, she was an MIT Knight Science Journalism fellow. She earned my BSc in biology from Stanford University and worked in genetics research labs before becoming a reporter.

- *Final Manuscripts Delivering 2024*

STARRE VARTAN

STRENGTH & POWER: The Untold, Ignored, and Belittled Science of Women's Bodies by Starre Vartan

Hachette/Seal Press – 2025

Rights: UK and Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

Material available: proposal – final manuscript due Spring 2024

International sales:

- UK/ANZ -Atlantic Books/Allen & Unwin
- Korean – Eidos
- Chinese/simplified - Citic

***Strength & Power* will explore the groundbreaking current research that examines the myths and shatters our misconceptions relating to the ingrained belief that still very much holds sway today: men are physically stronger than women.**

Vartan undertook the project of looking for the scientific evidence to back this proposition up and...couldn't find it. The book will examine the actual data, the history of "male only" baselines in past studies, and the extensive body of current research that proves that women aren't "weaker," in fascinating, eye-opening counterintuitive detail, such as:

- women's muscles retain strength over time better than men's
- women's fat and metabolism are huge advantages for any pursuit that requires endurance
- the biology of women's brains makes women far more resilient in the face of stress.

The bottom line is that men's bodies are generally good at certain physical pursuits—while women's are generally better at others. But how you get from there to the idea that men are overall stronger? That is the crux of this challenging and provocative book that will draw on cutting edge studies and touch on a wide range of topics: women's athletic training, women's performance in long-distance events across multiple sporting disciplines, women's longevity, the role that menstruation, hormones and distribution of body fat play in women's physical power and, of course, the profound cultural influences that have long governed society's view of women's physical capabilities.

Starre Vartan is the ideal person to write this book. Her science background and proven effective interaction with researchers with two decades of writing, a decade of founding and running a popular women's health and lifestyle website and social media platforms, and recent work in investigative journalism, all point to her expertise as an independent science journalist with deep media experience, with a range of contacts both in the science publishing space, and in the women's health and lifestyle area. On the science side, she has written on health for CNN and biotechnology and health for *Scientific American*, is a contributor to such publications as *Nat Geo*, *Treehugger*, *Slate*, *Gizmodo*, *The Daily Beast* and *New York* magazine. Her investigative journalism for *NatGeo* in early 2022 on how the DNA technique used to catch the Golden State Killer is being used to track elephant ivory smugglers and convict wildlife criminals.

BARRETT KLEIN, NIELS RATTENBORG & JOHN LESKU

SLEEP ACROSS THE ANIMAL KINGDOM by Barrett Klein, Ph.D, Niels Rattenborg, Ph.D. and John Lesku, Ph.D.

Harvard University Press (2024)

Rights: UK and Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

Material available: proposal – final manuscript due Spring 2024

- **UK/BC rights sold to HarperCollins/Mudlark**

SLEEP ACROSS THE ANIMAL KINGDOM by Barrett Klein, Niels Rattenborg, and John Lesku will be an incredibly exciting and totally enlightening book about the dazzling range of sleeping habits of animals – mammals, birds, fish and insects – and how this can inform us about the evolution and benefits of human sleep.

And of equal importance, the authors will also show how we connect on an often unexpectedly profound level with the fellow creatures slumbering all around us. Written with wit, clarity, total narrative accessibility and a keen sense of scientific adventure by three experts in the field, this project represents the best of popular science writing that readers today crave, joining together two subjects that are endlessly fascinating and relevant: the mysteries of sleep and animal behaviors. It's perfect for readers of Ed Yong.

The book will cover such topics as

- What is sleep? (vs. hibernation, or other forms of immobility)
- The diversity of sleep (from birds and mammals to roundworms, jellyfish, and the possibility for sleep in plants or single-celled organisms)
- Sleeping in strange ways and places (the strange locations where animals sleep and the unusual postures they can adopt, including sleep in flight, or while vertically-suspended underwater)
- When sacrificing sleep is worth it (new recognition of the remarkable ability of some animals to sleep little, and yet side-step, or possibly endure, the negative consequences commonly observed in sleep-restricted humans)
- The comforts and dangers of sleeping with others (animals that sleep with other animals, such as parasites and social sleeping insects)
- Who else dreams?
- Sleeping in a disturbed world (both for screen-loving humans and urban wildlife living with light pollution).

There is nothing like this book on the market today offering provocative, big picture themes, as well as the virtually unknown stories of animal sleep, such as the parrot fish who create their own sleeping bags from mucus every night and the massive frigatebird, who can sleep while flying high above hurricane winds.

An amazing international team of researchers is behind this project. Here are brief details:

Barrett Anthony Klein is Professor, Biology Department, University of Wisconsin – La Crosse, conducting research about sleep, learning, and communication, primarily with insects, and teaching courses in Animal Behavior, Entomology, Scientific Visualization, General Biology, and Organismal Biology. He is one of the featured scientists for a documentary about sleep (aired in Germany and on David Suzuki's *Nature of Things* in Canada, and soon to come to the USA), and served as consultant for COSMOS: Possible Worlds. He has appeared on Wisconsin Public Radio and Wisconsin Public Television, Starting in 2023, he will lead a year-long series of online workshops through Johns Hopkins University, free and open to the public, on visualizing science and participate in a five-year effort, funded by the National Science Foundation, to help find solutions to the biodiversity crisis.

Dr. Niels Rattenborg, the leading world expert on sleep in birds, heads the Avian Sleep research group at the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology in Germany. Rattenborg mission is to gain insight into the evolution and functions of sleep through studying birds. He is particularly interested in understanding how birds reconcile the inherent need for sleep with ecological demands for wakefulness, such as avoiding predation, competing for mates, and flying non-stop for weeks at a time. Rattenborg's research has been published in top scientific journals, including *Nature* and *Science*, and is regularly featured in the international press (interviews for web, print, radio, and TV), spanning 25 languages (see detailed lists below). This includes, *The New York Times*, *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian*, *Scientific American*, *Discover Magazine*, *Popular Science*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Times (London)*, *The Guardian*, *Audubon*, *Greenpeace Magazine*, *Huffington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Time Magazine*, and *Business Week*.

John Andrew Lesku is Associate Professor and Lab Head, Sleep Ecophysiology Group School of Agriculture, Biomedicine and Environment at La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia. His work has been featured in *Science* and *Current Biology* and BBC News, *Discover Magazine*, *LiveScience*, *NBC News*, *New Scientist*, *Science and CBC Radio* (interview on *As It Happens*).

DR. ANN WOLBERT BURGESS

THE EXPERT

by Ann Wolbert Burgess and Steven Constantine *Hachette Books (2025)*

Rights: Translation rights: The Martell Agency – UK rights: Hachette

Material available: final manuscript due Spring 2024

THE EXPERT, criminal profiling pioneer Ann Wolbert Burgess next book following A KILLER BY DESIGN, examines the crucial and often misunderstood role of the expert witness in high-profile criminal trials, based on the author's personal experience as an expert witness for some of the most notorious cases in recent memory (including Bill Cosby, Larry Nassar, the Menendez brothers, the Duke Lacrosse team, and more), to be written with Steven Constantine.

A KILLER BY DESIGN: Murderers, Mindhunters, and My Quest to Decipher the Criminal Mind

by Ann Wolbert Burgess and Steven Constantine *Hachette Books (December 2021)*

Rights: Translation rights: The Martell Agency – UK rights: Hachette

- **International Sales**

UK/BC - Wellbeck

Korean - Bookhouse

Polish - Wydawnictwo Poradnia K

Chinese/complex - Faces Publishers

Chinese/Simplified – Citic

Russian - Bombora

- **Film/TV rights under option to Campfire Films**

The breathtakingly vivid behind-the-scenes memoir of the pioneering forensic nurse whose work transformed the evolution of criminal profiling, changing forever the way the FBI studies, profiles, and catches serial killers.

Lurking beneath the progressive activism and sex positivity in the 1970-80s, a dark undercurrent of violence rippled across the American landscape. With reported cases of sexual assault and homicide on the rise, the FBI created a specialized team—the “Mindhunters” better known as the Behavioral Science Unit—to track down the country's most dangerous criminals. And yet narrowing down a seemingly infinite list of potential suspects seemed daunting at best and impossible at worst—until Dr. Ann Wolbert Burgess stepped on the scene. In *A Killer By Design*, Burgess reveals how her pioneering research on sexual assault and trauma caught the attention of the FBI, and steered her right into the middle of a chilling serial murder investigation in Nebraska.

Over the course of the next two decades, she helped the budding unit identify, interview, and track down dozens of notoriously violent offenders, including Ed Kemper ("The Co-Ed Killer"), Dennis Rader ("BTK"), Henry Wallace ("The Taco Bell Strangler"), Jon Barry Simonis ("The Ski-Mask Rapist"), and many others. As one of the first women trailblazers within the FBI's hallowed halls,

Burgess knew many were expecting her to crack under pressure and recoil in horror—but she was determined to protect future victims at any cost.

This book pulls us directly into the investigations as she experienced them, interweaving never-before-seen interview transcripts and crime scene drawings alongside her own vivid recollections to provide unprecedented insight into the minds of deranged criminals and the victims they left behind. Along the way, Burgess also paints a revealing portrait of a formidable institution on the brink of a seismic scientific and cultural reckoning—and the men forced to reconsider everything they thought they knew about crime. Haunting, heartfelt, and deeply human, *A Killer By Design* forces us to confront the age-old question that has long plagued our criminal justice system: “What drives someone to kill, and how can we stop them?”

Ann Wolbert Burgess, D.N.Sc., APRN, FAAN, is a widely recognized pioneer in the treatment of victims of rape, trauma and abuse. She has received numerous honors including The Living Legend Award from the American Academy of Nursing, the American Nurses’ Association Hildegard Peplau Award, and the Sigma Theta Tau International Audrey Hepburn Award. She is the namesake of the Ann Burgess Forensic Nursing Award, presented annually by The International Association of Forensic Nurses. She regularly appears as an expert witness to offer courtroom testimony for high-profile cases involving violent serial offenders, child abuse, and sexual crime. Her courtroom testimony has been described as “groundbreaking.” Ann is a professor at Boston College Connell School of Nursing where she teaches graduate courses in forensic nursing.

Steven Matthew Constantine (cowriter) is the assistant director of marketing and communications at the Boston College Connell School of Nursing. He holds an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars and lives in Boston, MA.

Praise for A KILLER BY DESIGN

“Forensic and psychiatric nurse Burgess debuts with an affecting memoir about her crucial if largely unknown role in helping the FBI develop criminal profiling tools. Admirers of John Douglas’s *The Killer Across the Table: Unlocking the Secrets of Serial Killers and Predators with the FBI’s Original Mindhunter* will be riveted.”
– **Publishers Weekly - starred review**

“Of all the colleagues I’ve worked with, Ann is one of the sharpest—and one of the toughest. Ann’s behind-the-scenes work had a profound impact on the FBI’s Behavioral Science Unit, since she taught us how to harness the chaos of serial killers’ minds and helped us decipher the undecipherable. I’d recommend that everyone read *A Killer By Design*; not only is it a great page-turner, but it’s about time Ann’s story was heard.”
—**JOHN E. DOUGLAS, former FBI criminal profiler and bestselling author of *Mindhunter***

KELLY JAAKKOLA

PLAYING PUZZLES WITH DOLPHINS by Kelly Jaakkola, Ph.D.

Anchor/Doubleday (2025)

Rights: UK and Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

Material available: proposal – final manuscript due Spring 2024

***Playing Puzzles with Dolphins* promises to be a wonderfully informative and entertaining book on how dolphins think by Kelly Jaakkola, Ph.D., Director of Research at The Dolphin Research Center.**

Perhaps more than any other wild creature, we have long been dazzled by dolphin intelligence and their affecting level of interaction with humans. But what is the nature and dimension of dolphin intelligence? Do they count? Do they have language or anything like it? Can they imitate behavior (even if blindfolded)? How do they coordinate their communication and cooperation?

Writing with insight and wit, Jaakkola will reveal the crucial role of puzzles and games for both researching and challenging dolphins' minds and take readers behind the scenes of her own research on dolphin cognition to show the logic of how we know what we know, as well as the complexity, humor, and pure thrill that comes from running creative experiments with animals who don't know your intended script and very clearly have minds of their own. The new information presented enhances our understanding of the inner life of these special creatures, as they actually exist and can thrive in nature, not just in the popular imagination.

Kelly Jaakkola is a cognitive psychologist, marine mammal scientist, and Director of Research for DRC. She earned her Masters degree in Psychology from Emory University, where she began her career studying cognition in chimpanzees and human children and received her Ph.D. in Cognitive Science from MIT. Her past research includes studies on number concepts, object permanence, imitation, and communication in dolphins, chimpanzees, and human children. Her current work focuses on dolphin cognition, communication, and welfare.

Dr. Jaakkola's research has been published in numerous international scientific journals and book chapters, and her work on dolphin cognition has received worldwide coverage in newspapers, magazine articles, books, and television. She has taught courses on human and animal cognition at several colleges and chairs the Scientific Advisory Committee for the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums.

CURRENT NON-FICTION

JAMES G. ROBINSON



MORE THAN WE EXPECTED: Five Years with a Remarkable Child by James G. Robinson

Post Hill Press (November 2023)

Rights: translation rights: The Martell Agency; UK rights: Post Hill Press

Material available: final manuscript

“No matter how much I enjoyed parenthood, I found myself having to accept its fundamental truth: that nothing ever turns out quite as you’d expect.”

It was a journey that most parents would hope to avoid: a son born with a congenital heart defect, a fateful decision to take a family trip abroad, and an emergency hospitalization that left them stranded on the other side of the world with no obvious way home. Despite these difficult circumstances, *More Than We Expected* is not a tragedy. Instead, this memoir offers valuable lessons about the privilege of parenthood and the practice of medicine: the mysterious ways in which the body forms and grows, giving life; how we find the faith to live with our decisions, even if the consequences are beyond our control; and our extraordinary capacity—when something goes wrong—to compensate and heal. *More Than We Expected* is a story of finding strength in the most unexpected places. Our children have a special ability to reveal the goodness in the world—their eyes a window to a life full of wonder. Like them, this book is a vivid reminder of what it means to be human—a miraculous, inexplicable gift, however fleeting

James G. Robinson has spent nearly two decades at The New York Times, where he helps the company use data to better understand its audience. He has taught expository writing at NYU and is currently an adjunct professor at Columbia Journalism School. In 2017, his article “Road to Recovery” was featured on the front page of the Times’ Sunday Travel section. Describing a road trip his family took after the death of his five-year-old son, the piece was translated into two languages, received scores of appreciative comments, and was selected as a notable essay in The Best American Travel Writing 2018. The strong response to the article inspired James to write *More Than We Expected*, detailing the many gifts of their son’s brief but remarkable life. A native New Yorker, James currently lives in Brooklyn with his wife Tali and their two surviving sons

Advance Praise for MORE THAN WE EXPECTED

"Nothing is worse than losing a child. How does a family go on? In this heartbreaking memoir, James Robinson writes beautifully about his son Nadav, a radiant child with a damaged heart. Robinson does not have all the answers, but he does show how family, faith, science and love can sustain people even at the worst of times." - **Ari L. Goldman**, author of *The Search for God At Harvard*

BILL BIRCHARD



WRITING FOR IMPACT: Eight Secrets from Science That Will Fire Up Your Readers' Brains

by Bill Birchard (former title: *PRIMAL WRITING*)

HarperLeadership (2023)

Rights: UK/BC & Translation rights - The Martell Agency

Expanded from a highly popular article in Harvard Business Review, WRITING FOR IMPACT: Eight Secrets from Science to Write Like a Pro by Bill Birchard will reveal the secrets of effective writing through understanding the core brain science evidence of what entices readers to read in the first place.

This is a fresh, indispensable guide to communicating in a manner that truly engages and persuades. Because the techniques are based on hard scientific evidence, the book will be both particularly appealing and useful to individuals in the business world. Not writers by trade, their primary objective is to communicate as effectively as possible in order to win over their audience and get each person to understand and embrace their message. The book will provide the essential tools to accomplish this.

As Birchard writes, science tells us that “readers hunger for words and phrases and sentences in the same way that we hunger for food, friends, family, and sex. This hunger is rooted in a brain mechanism responsible for motivation. To communicate with impact, the secret is to play to this mechanism. When you do it right, you give readers mental enjoyment.” As a result, you have their attention and can most effectively communicate. In *Writing for Impact*, Birchard explores the hard science behind this key discovery and gives every writer, regardless of who their audience is, a step by step system to accomplish their goal.

Birchard is the first to collect and translate the this highly important research from diverse scientific studies and make it accessible to all. He initially discussed this unique, science-based approach to writing in his post for *Harvard Business Review*, “Write to Reward Your Reader,” <https://hbr.org/2020/11/write-to-reward-your-reader>. In its first week online, the article reached #1 on HBR’s “most popular” list. The 35,000 web hits after the first few months revealed a strong interest in the book’s topic.

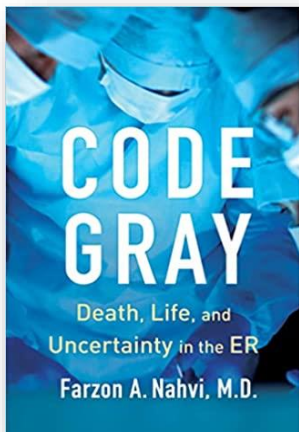
In summer 2021, HBR then published Birchard's full-length article: <https://hbr.org/2021/07/the-science-of-strong-business-writing>. Again, the heavy internet traffic, as well as subsequent requests for interviews and webinars, affirmed a strong book-buying audience among a core segment of business readers.

Bill Birchard has worked as writing coach and book consultant for 25 years, serving a range of thought leaders, and developing a two-part workshop with a systematic process to help others develop their ideas at book length. Among his clients were faculty at Dartmouth College’s business and medical schools.

Birchard's journalism has appeared in *Fast Company*, *CFO*, *Strategy+Business* (now *Strategy& Enterprise*), and other magazines. His experience for **Writing for Impact** comes from decades of writing trade books, articles, op-eds, and blogs, and working on over twenty books of nonfiction, principally about management, economics, business, policy, technology, and the environment.

His book titles include *Merchants of Virtue* (Palgrave Macmillan), *Nature's Keepers* (Jossey-Bass), *The One-Minute Mediator* (De Capo), and *Counting What Counts* (Basic Books). His titles as collaborator include the *New York Times* bestseller *The Discipline of Market Leaders* (Addison-Wesley (Basic Books) which sold over 800,000 copies, *Ethics for the Real World* (Harvard Business Press), *Strategic Capitalism* (McGraw-Hill), *The Unfinished Leader* (Jossey-Bass), and *The Mathematical Corporation* (PublicAffairs/Hachette).

FARZON NAHVI, M.D.



CODE GRAY: Death, Life, and Uncertainty in the ER

(former title: *DEATH'S HERALD*)

By Farzon A. Nahvi, M.D.

Simon & Schuster – Spring 2023

Rights: UK and Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

- **International Sales:**

Korean – Open Books

Japan - Misuzu Shobo

- **NPR – author interview on “Fresh Air”**

link: <https://www.npr.org/2023/02/21/1158507824/life-death-uncertainty-in-the-er>

- **Washington Post – op-ed by author**

link: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/02/08/severely-understaffed-hospitals-shouldnt-be-buying-super-bowl-ads/>

- **Best New Books of Spring '23 - Bloomberg Businessweek**
- **Best New Books to Read Now – February '23 - New York Post**
- **2023 Science Books to Add to your Reading List Right Now - Bookriot**

Praise for CODE GRAY

“A **fascinating memoir** by a doctor that brings the reader into the hospital during a routine shift at an urban ER and invites the reader to see things from a physician’s perspective. – *New York Post*”

“Nahvi is a capable, compassionate guide... A **moving, thoughtful memoir of life in the medical trenches.**” — *Kirkus Reviews*

“**Compelling reading**...If you like books from Atul Gawande, Jerome Groopman, Danielle Ofri, or Perri Klass, you’ll definitely want to pick this one up.” - *Bookriot*

“Timely and nuanced, Farzon Nahvi’s exploration of healthcare probes the grayscale of life, from the most human of details to the overarching systemic issues. **As we grapple with unprecedented challenges to both healthcare and society, we are ever more in need of clear-eyed books like Code Gray.**” -- *Danielle Ofri*, MD, PhD, author of *When We Do Harm: A Doctor Confronts Medical Error*

"At turns discomfiting and often bracing, the book uses one specific case (a previously healthy woman who has a heart attack) as a stalking horse to present [Nahvi's] real point, namely that

when it comes to life and death, what we see and what we say are rarely black and white." -- James Tarmy — ***Bloomberg Businessweek*** (*Best New Books of Spring*)

“A **provocative and meaningful book**, Dr. Nahvi is caring and percipient. He is an amazing guide to the portal separating life and death, sickness and health, and the real world and the hospital--that is, the modern Emergency Department.” -- ***Theresa Brown***, *New York Times* Bestselling author of *Healing: When A Nurse Becomes a Patient* and *The Shift*

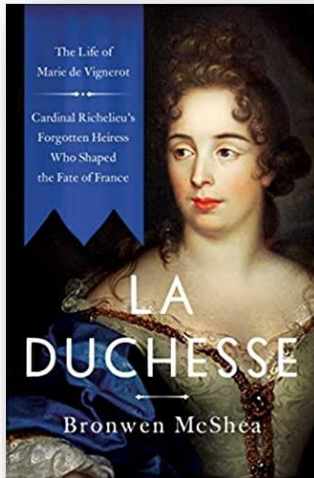
***Code Gray* is a narrative-driven medical memoir that places you directly in the crucible of urgent life-or-death decision-making, offering insights that can help us cope at a time when the world around us appears to be falling apart.**

In the tradition of books by such bestselling physician-authors as Atul Gawande, Siddhartha Mukherjee, and Danielle Ofri, this beautifully written memoir by an emergency room doctor takes place during one of his routine shifts at an urban ER. Intimately narrated as it follows the experiences of real patients, it is filled with fascinating, adrenaline-pumping scenes of rescues and deaths, and the critical, often excruciating follow-through in caring for the patients’ families.

Centered on the riveting story of a seemingly healthy forty-three-year-old woman who arrives in the ER in sudden cardiac arrest, *Code Gray* weaves in stories that explore everything from the early days of the Covid outbreak to the perennial glaring inequities of our healthcare system. It offers an unforgettable portrait of challenges so profound, powerful, and extreme that normal ethical and medical frameworks prove inadequate. By inviting the reader to experience what it is like to work a shift in the ER from the perspective of a physician, we are forced to test our core beliefs and principles. Often, there are no clear answers to these challenges posed in the ER. We are left feeling unsettled, but through this process, we can come to appreciate just how complicated, emotional, unpredictable—and yet strikingly beautiful—life can be.

Farzon A. Nahvi is an ER physician at Concord Hospital in Concord, New Hampshire, and a Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. Prior to this, he worked as an ER physician and Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Mount Sinai Health System, NYU Langone Health, Bellevue Hospital, and the Manhattan VA. He is a graduate of Cornell University and NYU School of Medicine. He has written for *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *The Daily News* (New York), *New York* magazine, and other publications. In April 2019, he testified as an expert witness before Congress in the nation’s first Medicare for All hearing.

BRONWEN MCSHEA



LA DUCHESSE: The Life of Marie de Vignerot – Cardinal Richelieu’s Forgotten Heiress Who Shaped the Fate of France By Bronwen McShea

Pegasus (Spring 2023)

Rights: UK & Translation rights: The Martell Agency

Praise for LA DUCHESSE

"The life and achievements of magnanimous French duchess and governor Marie-Madeleine de Vignerot du Pont de Courlay are finally explored in intimate detail after centuries of being overlooked. **This biography transports readers to seventeenth-century France, absolutely immersing them in the enmeshment of royal**

politics, religion, and gender roles as Marie masters and changes each one of them forever, cementing her place in French history. Perfect for readers of French, women’s, and religious history as well as biography." -- *Booklist*

"**This book is a meticulously researched work that reads like a novel.** It is exceptionally well-written with rich details of 17th-century France. This is a fine work that sheds light on the nearly forgotten story of a consequential figure in French history." -- *Library Journal*, starred review

"**Well-researched and accessible, this is an enlightening look at a remarkable woman and a pivotal period in French history.**" -- *Publishers Weekly*

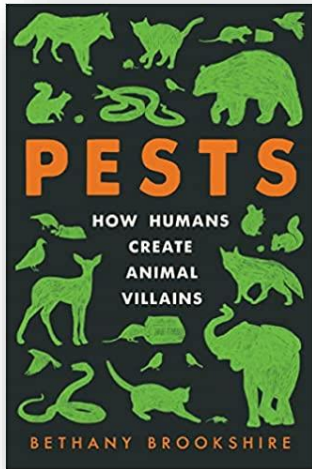
***LA DUCHESSE* is a fascinating, meticulously researched narrative biography that chronicles a unique and consequential life that has been relegated to the shadows of history but now is vibrantly illuminated in all its glory and complexity.**

Richelieu served as Chief Minister to King Louis XIII in the 17th century as France was consolidating its supremacy as an unrivaled world power; he commanded authority over military, political, economic and social policy in this growing empire and in the process accumulated a vast fortune. Against all convention, he chose his niece Marie de Vignerot to be his protégé and heir. Passing over her brothers and other promising young men, he groomed her to be his eyes and ears in court and encouraged her to develop a powerful and valuable network in and out of court. As his high-ranking lady-in-waiting, she spied for Richelieu among the nobles and influenced his decisions regarding who to favor with appointments and funding. Richelieu saw that Marie had the intellect, fortitude and strategic brilliance to carry on his work. She did not disappoint. Astutely deploying the influence of her massive inheritance and her connections, she was one of the most formidable players in world affairs, wielding power with a wily and assured touch and also using her clout to establish hospitals, schools and other key institutions to help the poor, and to support the artists and writers who were forging a golden age, all while fending off vicious attempts at character assassination intended to dispose the force of her non-royal reign.

This is the kind of narrative history that readers are hungry for – the life of an amazing woman in an epochal era vividly portrayed, who, if she had been born a man, would be ensconced in our historical memory, but now needs to claim her rightful place – which she will do with this book.

Bronwen McShea has served as Associate Research Scholar at Princeton University's James Madison Program, has taught at Columbia University and the University of Nebraska, and held research positions with the Institute of European History in Mainz, Germany, and Harvard University's Center for the Study of World Religions and won awards for her work. She completed both her B.A. in Intellectual History and her M.T.S. in the History of Christianity at Harvard University and earned her Ph.D. in Early Modern European History at Yale University.

BETHANY BROOKSHIRE



PESTS: How Humans Create Animal Villains

by Bethany Brookshire

Ecco Press/HarperCollins (December 2022)

*Rights: Translation rights: The Martell Agency – UK
rights: HarperCollins*

• International sales:

Korean – Jihaksa

Chinese/simplified – Yilin Press/PRC

Major Media Coverage

- Feature in the *New York Times* – 12/6/22

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/06/books/pests-book-rats-cats.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare>

- *Amazon* – Editors’ Picks – Best Non-Fiction
- [*Los Angeles Times* - 10 books to add to your reading list in December 2022](#)
- *Book Riot* - Keep Warm with These December Nonfiction Releases - <https://bookriot.com/december-2022-nonfiction-releases/>
- *Wall Street Journal*
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-we-turned-pigeons-into-pests-11670648461>
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/holiday-gift-books-nature-11668697938>
- *Science News* – Q&A with author
<https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://www.sciencenews.org/article/pests-book-animals-science>
- *Smithsonian Magazine*
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/seven-of-the-wildest-and-weirdest-attempts-to-curb-animal-pests-180981246/>

- **Psychology Today**
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/animal-emotions/202212/calling-animals-pests-is-more-about-us-them>
- **Slate.com**
<https://slate.com/technology/2022/12/bird-feeder-watching-bears-rats-disease-how-to.html>
- **NPR – Science Friday interview**

Praise for PESTS

“Page-turning stories of creatures most of us despise, mostly undeservedly. **Outstanding, possibly mind-changing natural history.**” – *Kirkus* (starred review)

“...**an eye-opening account** of why certain animals are demonized. With **clever anecdotes and fascinating history**, Brookshire makes a solid case that humans ought to reconsider their relationships with animals... **Animal lovers will adore this clever survey.**” – *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"An entertaining and pensive perusal of the human-wildlife conflict problem that calls to mind Mary Roach's *Fuzz*." — *Booklist*

"👍!" — **Mary Roach, author of *Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law***

“**Deeply reported and vividly told, Brookshire’s exploration of our most reviled animal neighbors will forever change how you see nature and our relationship to it.** Elephants and boas and bears, oh my! *Pests* is natural history writing at its best.” — **Riley Black, author of *The Last Days of the Dinosaurs: An Asteroid, Extinction, and the Beginning of Our World***

“Brookshire convincingly argues that many of the problems we blame on pests arise not from the creatures themselves but from our own self-centered ways of looking at the world. **A fascinating look at how culture, traditions, and human behavior shape the way people coexist or come into conflict with the animals that share their habitats.**” — **Christie Aschwanden, author of *Good to Go: What the Athlete in All of Us Can Learn from the Strange Science of Recovery***

“As human populations expand and the climate changes, these animals are not going away. Brookshire has a magnificent ability to bring the ecological context of our epic conflicts with everything from snakes to elephants down to the entertaining and personal.” — **John Shivik, author of *The Predator Paradox: Ending the War with Wolves, Bears, Cougars, and Coyotes***

“**A deeply thoughtful yet entertaining tour** of our thorny and morally complicated relationships with the creatures we consider pests. Integrating first-rate storytelling with ecology, natural history, wildlife management, cultural anthropology, and ethics, *Pests* provides a **compelling perspective on a misunderstood aspect of human-animal interactions.**” — **Hal**

Herzog, author of *Some We Love, Some We Hate, Some We Eat: Why It's So Hard to Think Straight About Animals*

“In this **scintillating, searching, and surprisingly funny debut**, Brookshire weaves together history, research, and Indigenous knowledge to reveal our complicity in creating animal conflict—and argues for a new model of coexistence in which neither we nor the animals have to end up as the villains.” — **Maryn McKenna, author of *Big Chicken, Superbug, and Beating Back the Devil***

An engrossing and revealing study of why we deem certain animals “pests” and others not—from cats to rats, elephants to pigeons—and what this tells us about our own perceptions, beliefs, and actions, as well as our place in the natural world.

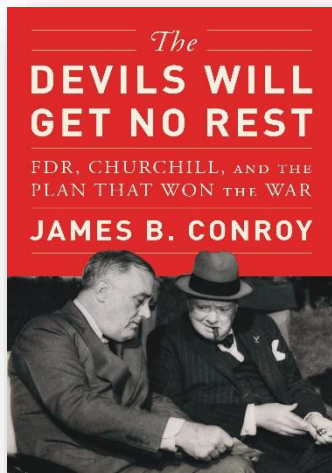
A squirrel in the garden. A rat in the wall. A pigeon on the street. Humans have spent so much of our history drawing a hard line between human spaces and wild places. When animals pop up where we don't expect or want them, we respond with fear, rage, or simple annoyance. It's no longer an animal. It's a pest.

At the intersection of science, history, and narrative journalism, *Pests* is not a simple call to look closer at our urban ecosystem. It's not a natural history of the animals we hate. Instead, this book is about us. It's about what calling an animal a pest says about people, how we live, and what we want. It's a story about human nature, and how we categorize the animals in our midst, including bears and coyotes, sparrows and snakes. Pet or pest? In many cases, it's entirely a question of perspective.

Bethany Brookshire's deeply researched and entirely entertaining book will show readers what there is to venerate in vermin, and help them appreciate how these animals have clawed their way to success as we did everything we could to ensure their failure. In the process, we will learn how the pests that annoy us tell us far more about humanity than they do about the animals themselves.

Author **Bethany Brookshire** is an award-winning science writer who was a 2019-2020 fellow at the MIT Knight Science Journalism Fellowship. Her writing has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Scientific American*, *Sierra*, *Science News*, *Science News Explores*, and many other outlets, and she's a host on the podcast *Science for the People*. She holds a Ph.D. in Physiology and Pharmacology from Wake Forest University School of Medicine. She is an accomplished public speaker and has given numerous talks at conferences including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the World Conference of Science Journalists, The National Association of Science Writers, and the Society for Neuroscience and has contributed freelance pieces to *Slate*, *Scientific American*, *The Guardian* and *Discover* among others.

JAMES B. CONROY



THE DEVILS WILL GET NO REST: FDR, Churchill and the Plan that Won the War by James B. Conroy (former title: TEN DAYS AT CASABLANCA)
Simon & Schuster (June 2023)
Rights: UK and translation rights: The Martell Agency

Advance Praise for THE DEVILS WILL GET NO REST

“Spiced with droll humor and studded with deft character sketches, telling anecdotes, and vivid scene painting, this riveting book places the reader in a front row seat at the tense drama in which FDR and Churchill, along with their

cantankerous staffs, disagreed, wrangled, and finally hammered out the overall strategy that won WW II. In his account of this crucial meeting where the die was cast, James Conroy lives up to the high standard he set in his estimable works on Lincoln and Jefferson.”

– Michael Burlingame, author of *Abraham Lincoln: A Life*, winner of the Lincoln Prize

“This is World War II gamesmanship at its most gripping, deserving of a place alongside the best of Erik Larson and Ben Macintyre. James B. Conroy writes with panache, wisdom, humor, and razor-sharp precision. He gives the reader a cinematic sense of urgency and realism, with characters that spring to life with brilliant humanity.”

– Evan Osnos, author of *Age of Ambition*, winner of the National Book Award

“This is a spellbinding, character-driven account of what Franklin Roosevelt called the “Unconditional Surrender Meeting,” the ten days at Casablanca that altered the course of World War II. It is freshly researched, crisply written, and supremely interesting. James Conroy, a richly gifted storyteller, has given us the finest account yet published on this momentously important turning point in world history.”

– Donald L Miller, author of *Masters of the Air* and *Vicksburg*

“James Conroy has brought a pivotal moment in world history to vivid and engaging life. With sophisticated analysis and an eye for the telling detail, this illuminating account of the Casablanca Conference and the war that raged before and after has much to tell us about diplomacy and human nature.”

– Jon Meacham, author of *And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle*

“The Devils Will Get No Rest is **compelling reading**. It not only **vividly recaptures the struggle to defeat the Axis powers**, it also reminds us of how fortunate we were to have **two great leaders in Churchill and FDR**.”

– **Robert Dallek**, author of *An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917–1963* and *Franklin D. Roosevelt: A Political Life*

The first full account of the Casablanca Conference of January 1943, the secret ten-day parlay in Morocco where FDR, Churchill, and their divided high command hammered out a winning strategy at the tipping point of World War II, changing the course of history and the world we live in today.

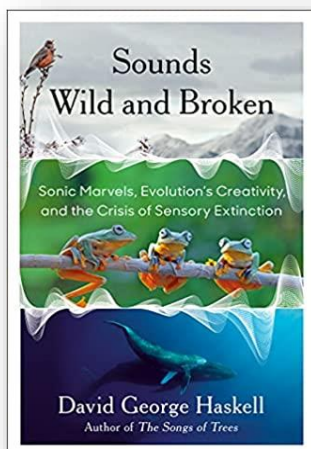
Backed by impeccable research, this is popular history writing at its best – lucidly narrated, filled with vivid portraits of real life, larger than life characters in the crucible of the highest, most consequential level of leadership and decision making possible.

The Devils Will Get No Rest is a character-driven, dramatic account of the Casablanca Conference of January 1943, an allied clash over military strategy that produced a winning plan when World War II could have gone either way. Churchill called it the most important Allied conclave of the war. Until now, it has never been explored in a full-length book.

In a secret, no-holds-barred, ten-day debate in a Moroccan warzone, protected by British marines and elite American troops, Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, Charles de Gaulle, George C. Marshall, Dwight D. Eisenhower, George S. Patton Jr., Sir Alan Brooke, Lord Louis Mountbatten, Sir Harold Alexander, and their military peers questioned each other’s competence, doubted each other’s vision, and argued their way through choices that could win or lose the war. Readers will be treated to a master class in strategy by the legendary statesmen, generals, and admirals who overcame their differences, transformed their alliance from a necessity to a bond, forged a war-winning plan, and glimpsed the postwar world.

In 2014, **James Conroy** was elected a Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society in recognition of his first book, *Our One Common Country: Abraham Lincoln and the Hampton Roads Peace Conference of 1865*, the only book ever devoted to Lincoln’s little-known peace negotiations with Confederate leaders on a riverboat in Virginia near the end of the Civil War. *Our One Common Country* was a finalist for the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize, awarded to the author of the best book of the year on Lincoln, a Civil War soldier, or the Civil War era. Conroy’s second book, *Lincoln’s White House: The People’s House in Wartime*, won the Lincoln Prize and the Abraham Lincoln Institute’s annual book award. Leading Jefferson historians have applauded Conroy’s newly released third book, *Jefferson’s White House: Monticello on the Potomac*.

DAVID GEORGE HASKELL



SOUNDS WILD AND BROKEN: Sonic Marvels, Evolution's Creativity, and the Crisis of Sensory Extinction by David George Haskell

Viking/Penguin Random House (March 2022)

Rights: UK/BC & Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

- **International Sales:**

UK – Faber & Faber (with ANZ sublicensed to Black, Inc.)

French - Flammarion

Korean – Eidos

Chinese/simplified – Commercial Press

Italian – Einaudi

Japanese - Tsukiji Shokan

Pulitzer Prize Finalist 2023

Finalist for the 2023 Pen/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award

Rave Review in *The New York Times Book Review*

“[A] glorious guide to the miracle of life’s sound.”

Haskell’s earlier books suggested the emergence of a great poet-scientist. “Sounds Wild and Broken” affirms Haskell as a laureate for the earth, his finely tuned scientific observations made more potent by his deep love for the wild he hopes to save.”

Link to full review:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/05/books/review/crescendos-of-cricket-and-choruses-of-frogs.html>

- **Audio Experience in Emergence Magazine**

<https://emergencemagazine.org/audio-story/when-the-earth-started-to-sing/>

More praise for SOUNDS WILD AND BROKEN

“Earth sings and rings and warbles: a musical planet, maybe the only one in the universe. As David George Haskell tells it in his **captivating new book**, *Sounds Wild and Broken*, it is astonishing good fortune—and a fearsome responsibility—to be given this music and the ears to hear it with . . . *Sounds Wild and Broken* offer[s] one delight after another.”
—**Kathleen Dean Moore**, *Scientific American*

“A joyous celebration of the music of life . . . Seamlessly melding history, ecology, physiology, philosophy, and biology, Haskell exults in the delightful cacophony created

by birds and insects, wind and sea, human voices and musical instruments . . . He mounts a compelling warning about 'the silencing of ecosystems,' which 'isolates individuals, fragments communities, and weakens the ecological resilience and evolutionary creativity of life.' Like 'cultural knowledge,' Haskell asserts, 'sound is unseen and ephemeral and too precious to lose . . . **Sparkling prose conveys an urgent message.**'—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred)

“**[T]houghtful, insightful . . .** Haskell presents a clear-eyed thesis on the impact of worldwide environmental destruction and human noise on what we hear . . . With persistent intelligence and understated wit, Haskell uncovers one subtle mystery after another, forming a gorgeous argument for protecting all we long to hear.”—*Booklist*

“Professor David George Haskell is one of the world's most influential biologists at a time when our natural world desperately needs passionate, articulate champions. **He can immerse himself within the suburban and remote natural worlds, emerging with deep insights that challenge our indifference.** *Sounds Wild and Broken*, exploring nature's rich sonic diversity and if there more Zen in sound than in silence.” - *Nightlife – ABC Radio Australia*

“*Sounds Wild and Broken* is a symphony, filled with the music of life. It is fascinating, heartbreaking, and beautifully written.”—*Elizabeth Kolbert*

“Listen to David Haskell: He will transform the way you hear the world. Haskell is one of those rare scientists who illuminates his topic—the magnificent natural sonic diversity of our planet, what we have to gain from its richness, what we have to lose from its diminishment—in lyrical, erudite prose that both informs and inspires. **This masterful book is a gift of deep aural understanding and a resplendent read.**” – *Jennifer Ackerman*

“In luminous prose, David Haskell teaches us to hear the beauty and tragedy of the whole history of life on Earth. *Sounds Wild and Broken* will change the way you listen to nature and to yourself, and may this help us heal our planet before it's too late.” —*David Rothenberg*, author of *Nightingales in Berlin* and *Why Birds Sing*

“A stunning call to reinhabit our ancient communion with sound. **David George Haskell's gorgeous prose and deep research meld wonder with intellect, inspiring reverence, delight, and a sense of urgency in protecting aural diversity.** The voice of the earth is singing with beauty and need—Haskell shows us the extraordinary gift and responsibility of being available to listen.” —*Lyanda Lynn Haupt*, author of *Rooted: Life at the Crossroads of Science, Nature, and Spirit*, and *Mozart's Starling*

“This is how scientific writing should be, and almost never is: **suffused with wonder and pathos, throbbing with the music of the wild. Haskell conducts a magnificent symphony here.** He shows us – no, lets us hear – that we are resonant animals in a thrillingly resonant universe, and that our fulfilment depends on finding the frequency that will make us resonate with everything else. His superb book sent me on my way singing and trying to join in with the songs I heard on the way.” —*Charles Foster*, author of *Being a Beast* and *Being a Human*

Pulitzer Finalist, winner of the prestigious John Burroughs Medal and one of the finest, most internationally honored and acclaimed science/nature writers of his generation, David Haskell is back with this lyrical exploration of the diverse sounds of our planet, the creative processes that produced these marvels, and the perils that sonic diversity now faces.

We live on a planet alive with song, music, and speech. Haskell explores how these wonders came to be. In rain forests shimmering with insect sound and swamps pulsing with frog calls we learn about evolution's creative powers. From birds in the Rocky Mountains and on the streets of Paris, we discover how animals learn their songs and adapt to new environments. Below the waves, we hear our kinship to beings as different as snapping shrimp, toadfish, and whales. In the startlingly divergent sonic vibes of the animals of different continents, we experience the legacies of plate tectonics, the deep history of animal groups and their movements around the world, and the quirks of aesthetic evolution.

Starting with the origins of animal song and traversing the whole arc of Earth history, Haskell illuminates and celebrates the emergence of the varied sounds of our world. In mammoth ivory flutes from Paleolithic caves, violins in modern concert halls, and electronic music in earbuds, we learn that human music and language belong within this story of ecology and evolution. Yet we are also destroyers, now silencing or smothering many of the sounds of the living Earth. Haskell takes us to threatened forests, noise-filled oceans, and loud city streets, and shows that sonic crises are not mere losses of sensory ornament. Sound is a generative force, and so the erasure of sonic diversity makes the world less creative, just, and beautiful. The appreciation of the beauty and brokenness of sound is therefore an important guide in today's convulsions and crises of change and inequity. *Sounds Wild and Broken* is an invitation to listen, wonder, belong, and act.



THIRTEEN WAYS TO SMELL A TREE

by David George Haskell

Octopus UK – Viking US (Fall 2021)

Rights: Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency

• International Sales:

Chinese/complex – Business Weekly

Korean – Eidos

Chinese/simplified – People's Literature Publishing House

French - Flammarion

***Thirteen Ways to Smell a Tree* takes you on a journey to connect with trees through the sense most aligned to our emotions and memories.**

Thirteen essays are included that explore the evocative scents of trees, from the smell of a book just printed as you first open its pages, to the calming scent of Linden blossom, to the ingredients of a particularly good gin & tonic:

In your hand: a highball glass, beaded with cool moisture.

In your nose: the aromatic embodiment of globalized trade. The spikey, herbal odor of European juniper berries. A tang of lime juice from a tree descended from wild progenitors in the foothills of the Himalayas. Bitter quinine, from the bark of the South American cinchona tree, spritzed into your nostrils by the pop of sparkling tonic water.

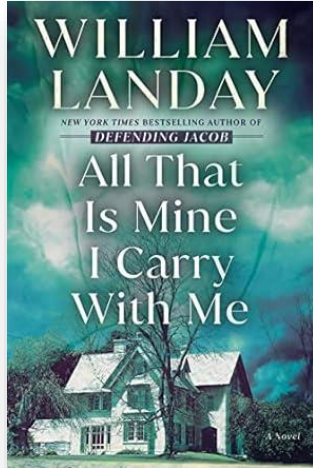
Take a sip, feel the aroma and taste of three continents converge.

Each essay also contains a practice the reader is invited to experience. For example, taking a tree inventory of our own home, appreciating just how many things around us came from trees. And if you've ever hugged a tree when no one was looking, try breathing in the scents of different trees that live near you, the smell of pine after the rain, the refreshing, mind-clearing scent of a eucalyptus leaf crushed in your hand.

David Haskell's work integrates scientific, literary, and contemplative studies of the natural world. He is a professor of biology and environmental studies at the University of the South and a Guggenheim Fellow. His 2017 book *The Songs of Trees* won the John Burroughs Medal for Outstanding Nature Writing. His 2012 book *The Forest Unseen* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award, and won the 2013 Best Book Award from the National Academies, the National Outdoor Book Award, and the Reed Environmental Writing Award.

CURRENT FICTION

WILLIAM LANDAY



ALL THAT IS MINE I CARRY WITH ME

by **William Landay**

Bantam (March 2023)

Rights: UK and translation rights: The Martell Agency

- **International Sales:**

UK/BC – Orion

French – Michel Lafon

Greek – Dioptra

Italian – Fanucci

Praise for ALL THAT IS MINE I CARRY WITH ME

“Part crime drama, part psychological suspense, Landay’s new novel (long-awaited since 2012’s *Defending Jacob*) is **absolutely unputdownable**, with an **ingenious plot** and a cast of comprehensive, accurately depicted characters.” - *Library Journal* ** starred review **

“A woman vanishes, leaving her kids to wonder whether their father is a murderer... A **devastating family drama**...” - *Kirkus Reviews*

“*All That is Mine* is **masterful, original and riveting, and the best book I’ve read in quite a while**. With its subtle mystery and compelling portraits of how lives are transformed in the aftermath of violent crime, it possessed me from the very first line to the last page.” – *Scott Turow*, author of *Presumed Innocent* and *Suspect*

“**An enthralling mystery** and a haunting family tragedy, heartbreaking in places, with deeply drawn characters and all the thrills of a classic whodunnit . . . **I couldn’t put this down. You won’t be able to either.**”—*Alex Michaelides*, author of *The Silent Patient* and *The Maidens*

“With *All That is Mine I Carry With Me*, the masterful author of *Defending Jacob* has created something **riveting, unforgettable, and original** — unlike any other crime novel I’ve read.” — *Joseph Funder*, *New York Times* bestselling author of *House on Fire*

“**Astonishing, powerful, and provocative**, this book is worth the excruciating wait for another William Landay.”—*Louise Penny*, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A World of Curiosities*

“**Riveting, intense, and breathtakingly compelling** . . . William Landay has brilliantly broken every rule of storytelling in this **haunting masterpiece of a novel**—part legal thriller, part family drama, and part literary tour de force.”—Hank Phillippi Ryan, *USA Today* bestselling author of *The House Guest*

“... a haunting whodunnit...” – WBUR

Apple Books – Best of the Month Pick

Amazon – Best of the Month Pick

[Boston Globe interview](#)

*A mother vanished. A father presumed guilty. There is no proof. There are no witnesses. For the children, there is only doubt. From the New York Times bestselling author of *Defending Jacob*.*

One afternoon in November 1975, ten-year-old Miranda Larkin comes home from school to find the house eerily quiet. Her mother is missing. Nothing else is out of place. There is no sign of struggle. Her mom’s pocketbook remains in the front hall, in its usual spot.

So begins a mystery that will span a lifetime. What happened to Jane Larkin?

Investigators suspect Jane’s husband. A criminal defense attorney, surely Dan Larkin would be an expert in outfoxing the police.

But no evidence is found linking him to a crime, and the case fades from the public’s memory, a simmering, unresolved mystery. Jane’s three children—Alex, Jeff, and Miranda—are left to be raised by a man who may have murdered their mother.

Two decades later, the remains of Jane Larkin are found. The investigation is awakened. The children, now grown, are forced to choose sides. With their father or against him? Guilty or innocent? And what if they are wrong?

A tale about family—family secrets and vengeance, but also family love and growing up—*All That Is Mine I Carry With Me* masterfully grapples with a primal question: When does loyalty reach its limit?

William Landay is the author of three previous novels: *Defending Jacob*, an international best-seller which won the Strand Critics Award for best novel; *The Strangler*, listed as a best crime novel of the year by the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Daily Telegraph*, and others; and *Mission Flats*, winner of the Dagger Award for best first crime novel. A former assistant district attorney, he lives in Boston.

DEFENDING JACOB
OVER ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD IN THE U.S.
MAJOR INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

- an acclaimed Apple TV limited series starring Chris Pine

Bestseller Lists include:

- *New York Times*
- *USA Today*
- *Washington Post*
- *Boston Globe*
- *San Francisco Chronicle*
- *Los Angeles Times*
- *Publishers Weekly*
- *Chicago Tribune*
- *Newsday*
- *Barnes & Noble*
- *Amazon*

- **International sales: (32 territories)**

- UK/BC – Orion
- Dutch – House of Books
- German – Bertelsmann
- Portuguese / Brazil – Editora Record
- Portuguese / Portugal – Esfera Dos Livros
- Greek – Dioptra
- Italian – Fanucci
- Thai – Sanskrit
- Spanish – La Esfera del os Libras
- Danish – Jentas
- Korean – Sigongsa Co., Ltd.
- French – Editions Michel Lafon
- Swedish – Bra Bocker
- Japanese – Hayakawa
- Turkish – Marti Yayinlari
- Russian – AST
- Croatian – Algoritam
- Polish – Amber
- Macedonian – Turni
- Hungarian – Konyvmolypezo Kido
- Romanian – RAO
- Hebrew – Matar
- Czech – Kniha Zlin
- Bulgarian – Bard
- Lithuanian - Alma Littera
- Estonian – Kunst
- Chinese/complex - Sun Color Culture Publishing Co.
- Chinese/simplified – Beijing Joint Culture Media Co., Ltd
- Norwegian – Cappelen Damm
- Icelandic – Bokafelagid
- Serbian – Evro Giunti
- Indonesian - Elexmedia

Praise for DEFENDING JACOB

“...ingenious...nothing is predictable.” - *The New York Times*

“...A gripping, emotional murder saga....The shocking ending will have readers pulling up their bedcovers to ward off the haunting chill.” - *People Magazine*

“Not since the novels of Scott Turow has a crime thriller – any thriller, though this happens to be a literary legal thriller – shaken me by the throat like this. It’s

a stunning, shocking, emotionally harrowing ride... remarkable storytelling which allows him to craft the most sensational twists without forfeiting belief. But it's not just about suspense. **Landay has written an unflinching account of the complexities of family life in a changing world.**" - *Daily Mail* (UK)

"...an exceptionally serious, suspenseful, engrossing story..." - *The Washington Post*

"Like John Grisham and Scott Turow, Landay is a lawyer with a solid grasp of how to use courtroom scenes to advance his jigsaw-puzzle story...., **he keeps you turning the pages through the shocking gut-punch of an ending.**" - *Entertainment Weekly*

"Landay reaches a new level of excellence with this **riveting, knock-your-socks-off legal thriller.** With its **masterfully crafted characterizations and dialogue, emotional depth, and frightening implications,** the novel rivals the best of Scott Turow and John Grisham. **Don't miss it.**" - *Booklist* (★starred review)

"...**harrowing...** This **searing narrative** proves the ancient Greek tragedians were right: the worst punishment is not death but living with what you—knowingly or unknowingly—have done." - *Publishers Weekly* (★starred review)

JONATHAN MOORE

FIVE DECEMBERS by James Kestrel (*Jonathan Moore writing under a pen name*)

Hard Case Crime (Fall 2021)

Rights: Translation rights controlled by The Martell Agency – UK rights controlled by the publisher

Edgar Award Winner 2022 — Best Novel

Barry Award Winner 2022– Best Thriller

Selected by New York Times – Best Thrillers and Mysteries of 2021

Selected by Publishers Weekly – Best Books of 2021

Selected by Booklist – Best Books of 2021

- **Film rights optioned to Robert DeNiro’s production company, Tribeca**
- **International Sales:**
 - Italian – Bompiani
 - German – Suhrkamp
 - French – Calmann Levy
 - Bulgarian – Bard
 - Japanese – Hayakawa
 - Serbian – Vulkan
 - Romanian – Crime Scene Press

- **Audio rights sold at auction to Podium**

Praise for FIVE DECEMBERS

Rave review in **The New York Times** – Sarah Weinman

“Some of my favorite crime novels juxtapose individual murders against the backdrop of wartime mass carnage. This is tough to pull off; it takes a skilled writer to keep the horror of such crimes vivid and stark when they’re surrounded by so much other death. In FIVE DECEMBERS James Kestrel, a pseudonym for the horror and suspense novelist Jonathan Moore, does this very, very well.

He begins his epic in late November 1941, when the Honolulu police detective Joe McGrady stumbles on a vivisected body. “The dead man hung from the rafters, his ankles impaled on either side of an iron spreader bar. There was no question but that he was dead. He’d been split nearly in half, and most of his guts were on the dirt floor.” The

investigation soon grows fractious and increasingly political — and that’s before a bomb drops on Pearl Harbor, permanently altering the course of McGrady’s life.

War, imprisonment, torture, romance, foreign language and culture are all explored with genuine feeling. The novel has an almost operatic symmetry, and Kestrel turns a beautiful phrase, too. A standout line describes McGrady this way: “His contradictions were holding him together and tearing him to pieces.” – *New York Times*

“One hell of a good story. FIVE DECEMBERS blew me away.” – Stephen King

“Lyrical, violent, intelligent, breathtaking: **this is an unforgettable book.**” – Wall Street Journal

“Cemented firmly in the traditions of classic noir, crime thriller to war epic. Direct and concise prose, maintaining clarity throughout fast-paced action scenes and complicated and quick-turning plot points. Though Kestrel’s novel takes a detour from the classic noir tropes, he is faithful to the narrative style, seeding the story with so many Philip Marlowe – and Sam Spade –worthy observations that Humphrey Bogart was the narrator in my head. It’s never easy to challenge the expectations of a beloved genre successfully, but Kestrel has done just that, growing **an adventure story far beyond the expectations of a noir murder mystery.**” – Los Angeles Review of Books

“...**an enthralling crime novel**... Heartfelt, enduring images of war and the pain and damage it reaps are sprinkled throughout Kestrel’s **vivid, richly detailed narrative.** **This tale of love, courage, hardship, and devotion is unforgettable.**” – Publishers Weekly – ★ starred review★

“Magnificent... a transcendent love story and a gripping thriller... it works superbly... plot strands come together exquisitely in a truly breathtaking finale that is unbearably violent one moment and tearfully tender the next... **Give this special novel the word of mouth it so richly deserves.**” – Booklist - ★ starred review★

“This is hardboiled fiction at its best: an exceptional tale, filled with emotion, plenty of surprises, and enough violence to satisfy the most bloodthirsty reader.” - Library Journal, ★ starred review★

“Kestrel’s **expertly clipped descriptive passages** and dialogue bring his spacious canvas into **razor-sharp focus.**” – Kirkus

“A great blend of crime, war, and history.” – New York Post

“A crime epic for the ages.” - *Dennis Lehane*

“A gripping, resonant neo-noir odyssey” -New York Magazine

“I don’t think I’ve ever read a book that was so page-turning yet also filled with so

much beautiful pathos. Written in spare prose that conveys **beauty and brutality in equal, eloquent measure**, *Five Decembers* is an extraordinary novel of wartime crime and justice and loves lost and refound.” - *Criminal Element*

“Utterly enthralling. Wildly ambitious and deeply haunting, *Five Decembers* drops you in the middle of a dark noir dream full of heat, loss and memory. **Not to be missed.**” - *Megan Abbott*

"Read this book for its **palpitating story**, its perfect emotional and physical detailing and, most of all, for its unforgettable conjuring of a steamy quicksilver world that will be new to almost every reader." - *Pico Iyer*

“*Five Decembers* is really **excellent. A first-rate book.**” – *James Fallows*

“What a story! Totally engrossing, beautifully written, sometimes shocking and very moving.” - *Elly Griffiths*

“*Five Decembers* is a masterpiece. You'll stay up all night with this one. **It's unique and it's terrific.**” - *Eric Redman*, author of *The Dance of Legislation* and *Bones of Hilo*

"I doubt I'll read a more satisfying novel this year... **This book is the work of a true craftsman.**" -*Morning Star*

“*Five Decembers* is absolutely terrific. I can't remember the last novel I read that was so **beautifully immersive. A joy to read.**” -*Lou Berney*

“**The definition of a page-turner**...I absolutely loved this book and I truly cannot wait for the world to read it this fall when it hits bookstores. James Kestrel's *Five Decembers* is an **emotionally-charged crime novel** shaped by the tragic years of a world at war, a story that is relentlessly hopeful in the face of unrequited devotion and doomed love.” – *Everyreadthing.com*

“... **both a great World War II novel and an outstanding crime novel at the same time.**” – *military.com*

“A compelling war story, with minute details and a strong feel for its reality, this also turns out to be a **perfect cop procedural and never falters.**” - *CrimeTimeUK*

“**I was completely blown away by *Five Decembers*.** It is one of best novels I have read about the twilight days of empire, its protagonist getting caught up in the maelstrom of the British, Japanese and European empires dragging themselves into oblivion.” - *Steven Powell*, author of *Conversations with James Ellroy*

“FIVE DECEMBERS is an epic, ambitious novel that combines several genres and does so with impressive skill. First and foremost, it’s a hardboiled mystery yarn, and **one of the best that I’ve read in years.”** – *James Reasoner*

“Five Decembers is a gripping, taught, magnificent saga unlike anything we’ve ever read in our life. No understatement there. **It is a work of power, brilliant plotting, heart and grace** showing all the nobility of mankind as well as the depths of evil into which it can sink. Loves won and lost, enemies and allies encountered and a finale that will have you transfixed by its sheer, overwhelming beauty.” – *Pulp Fiction Reviews*

“Rarely does a book come along that is both epic in scope but personal by nature...a truly remarkable and original story...**I cannot recommend Five Decembers highly enough.**” – *Deadly Pleasures*

...**an extraordinary mystery**...will engage you from start to finish.” *BookReporter.com*

“Five Decembers is an electrifying WWII noir thriller.” – *The Straits Times*

Major new hardcover launch by an acclaimed author: a gripping thriller, an unforgettable portrait of war, and a heartbreaking love story, on par with ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE.

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A finalist for the Edgar Allan Poe and Bram Stoker Awards as well as the Hammett Prize, **James Kestrel** has worked as an investigator for a criminal defense attorney and is currently an attorney himself, living in Hawaii. His work has won raves from authors such as Stephen King ("Electrifying...an absolute stunner"), James Patterson ("Suspense that never stops"), Lee Child ("Stylish and incredibly suspenseful") and Meg Gardiner ("Dark, compelling, and frighteningly plausible.").