
STERLING LORD LITERISTIC, INC.

Foreign Rights Guide

Fiction

SPRING 2024

Foreign Rights

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Fiction

Recently Sold - Poetry

Norman Erikson Pasaribu

Norman Erikson Pasaribu is a Toba Batak poet and translator. Their work in Indonesian has been translated into Vietnamese, Bengali, Turkish, English, Korean, French and Dutch. Their first book of poetry *Sergius Mencari Bacchus* won the first prize of the prestigious Jakarta Arts Council's Poetry Manuscript Competition and was a finalist of Khatulistiwa Literary Award for Poetry. Their book *Happy Stories, Mostly* (tr. Tiffany Tsao, pub. Tilted Axis Press) won the UK's Republic of Consciousness Prize for Small Presses. It was also listed for the 2022 International Booker Prize, the 2023 ATLA's National Translation Award for Prose, and the 2023 Cercador Prize for Literature in Translation. They are the 2023-2024 Artist in Residence of Harvard University Asia Center. *My Dream Job* is their first book of English poetry.

Agent: Jessica Friedman



My Dream Job

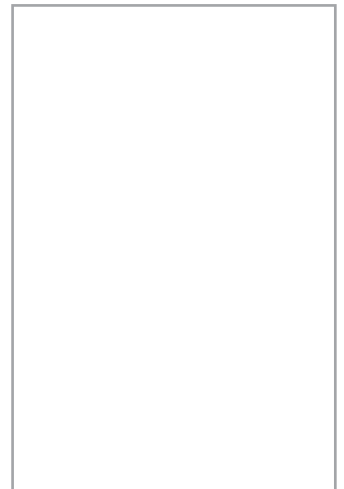
Pasaribu's first poetry collection in English, My Dream Job is both an elegy and exploration of postcolonial identity.

PUBLISHER	Tilted Axis Press (UK)
PUBLICATION	2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR	Kristen Vida Alfaro

My Dream Job, at its heart, is a eulogy for a dead job. In 2015, the poet won first prize from the Jakarta Arts Council for their first book *Sergius Mencari Bacchus*, which caused an online uproar since it was the first time JAC awarded a queer poetry manuscript. A jealous poet outed them in an article, and this led to pervasive office bullying against the poet in their workplace at the Indonesian Ministry of Finance, as well as online harassment. A few months after being outed, they disappeared, leaving the job everyone around them coveted.

The collection presents an emotional chronology of a fictional person that resembles the poet. This person started getting invitations to foreign festivals and residencies. People started seeing this person as an “award-winning poet.”

My Dream Job—the job in the title both refers to employment and the Old Testament Prophet Job—is a confession of what it means to be a Toba Batak queer traveling through nations and states. What it means to move around the globe carrying postcolonial questions of belonging and cultural and spiritual identities, and also an Indonesian passport. What it means to have a dead dream and wear it like a sweater.

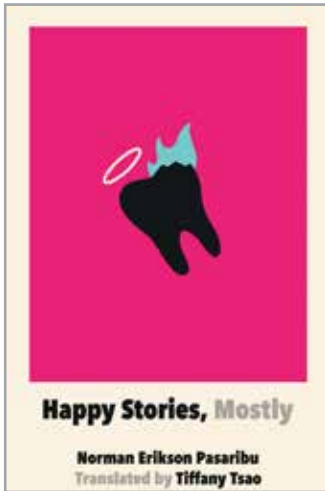


OPTION PUBLISHERS:

ANZ (GIRAMONDO BOOKS)
SIMPLIFIED CHINESE (BEIJING XIRON CULTURE GROUP)
ITALIAN (ATMOSPHERE LIBRI)
KOREAN (ALMA BOOKS)
POLISH (WYDAWNICTW TAJ-FUNY)

Also by Norman Erikson Pasaribu

Happy Stories, Mostly



In their stunning fiction debut, queer Indonesian writer Norman Erikson Pasaribu blends together speculative fiction and dark absurdism, drawing from Batak and Christian cultural elements.

PUBLISHER The Feminist Press (World English; UK: Tilted Axis Press)
PUBLICATION June 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Lauren Hook

Longlisted for the International Booker Prize, *Happy Stories, Mostly* introduces “one of the most important Indonesian writers today” (Litro Magazine). These twelve short stories ask what it means to be almost happy—to nearly find joy, to sort-of be accepted, but to never fully grasp one’s desire. Joy shimmers on the horizon, just out of reach.

An employee navigates their new workplace, a department of Heaven devoted to archiving unanswered prayers; a tourist in Vietnam seeks solace following her son’s suicide; a young student befriends a classmate obsessed with verifying the existence of a mythical hundred-foot-tall man. A tragicomic collection that probes the miraculous, melancholy nature of survival amid loneliness, *Happy Stories, Mostly* considers an oblique approach to human life: In the words of one of the stories’ narrators, “I work in the dark. Like mushrooms. I don’t need light to thrive.”

***Longlisted for the International Booker Prize, 2022**

***Finalist for the 2023 NBCC Barrios Book in Translation Prize**

“A remarkable collection of speculative and absurdist fiction.”
—**Publishers Weekly, Starred Review**

“[Pasaribu] has found a way to construct something new out of tales of loss.”
—**The New York Times**

“Cerebral, playful, abrasive yet tender—there are not enough adjectives to describe *Happy Stories, Mostly*...Norman Erikson Pasaribu takes risks big and small, and somehow, magically, lands them all.”
—**YZ Chin, author of *Edge Case***

“A perfect mix of surreal micro-fiction and thought-provoking narratives, *Happy Stories, Mostly* will stick with you for a long time.”
—**Bustle**

“Immersive stories that make the impossible feel true.”
—**Words Without Borders**

“*Happy Stories, Mostly* navigates queer suffering with a deep supply of tenderness and humour—and with empathy for all its characters.”
—**Exberliner Magazine**

RIGHTS SOLD

ANZ (GIRAMONDO BOOKS)

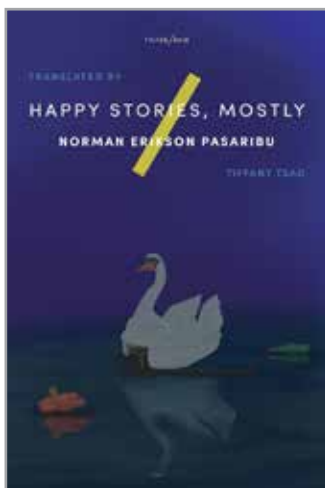
SIMPLIFIED CHINESE (BEIJING XIRON CULTURE GROUP)

ITALIAN (ATMOSPHERE LIBRI)

KOREAN (ALMA BOOKS)

POLISH (WYDAWNICTW TAJ-FUNY)

UK EDITION:



Jesse Ball

Jesse Ball is the author of fifteen books, most recently the novel *Autoportrait*. His works have been published to acclaim in many parts of the world and translated into more than a dozen languages. He is on the faculty at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, won the 2008 Paris Review Plimpton Prize, was longlisted for the National Book Award, and has been a fellow of the NEA, Creative Capital, and the Guggenheim Foundation.

Agent: Jim Rutman

Film agent: Michelle Kroes, CAA



The Repeat Room

Franz Kafka meets Yorgos Lanthimos in this provocative new novel from one of America's most brilliant and distinctive writers.

PUBLISHER Catapult (North American)
PUBLICATION September 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Kendall Storey

In a speculative future, Abel, a menial worker, is called to serve in a secretive and fabled jury system. At the heart of this system is the repeat room, where a single juror, selected from hundreds of candidates, is able to inhabit the defendant's lived experience, to see as if through their eyes.

The case to which Abel is assigned is revealed in the novel's shocking second act. We receive a record of a boy's broken and constrained life, a tale that reveals an illicit and passionate psycho-sexual relationship, its end as tragic as the circumstances of its conception.

Artful in its suspense, and sharp in its evocation of a byzantine and cruel bureaucracy, *The Repeat Room* is an exciting and pointed critique of the nature of knowledge and judgment, and a vivid framing of Ball's absurd and nihilistic philosophy of love.



OPTION PUBLISHERS

DUTCH (QUERIDO)
GERMAN (LUFTSCHACHT)
SERBIAN (LOM)
WORLD SPANISH (SIGLIO)



Moorea Corrigan

Moorea Corrigan holds a bachelor's degree with honors in English Literature from the University of Edinburgh and a Master of Publishing degree from Simon Fraser University, Vancouver. She currently works at Lynne Rienner Publishers, an academic press in Boulder, Colorado. When she is not writing, you can find her singing, spending time with her menagerie of pets or attending Jane Austen conventions in full Regency regalia. *Thistlemarsh* is her debut adult fantasy novel.

Agent: Sarah Landis

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Thistlemarsh

Faeries disappeared over one hundred years ago, as suddenly as slipping through a doorway. It was only the very foolish, or the very determined, who held out hope for their return.

PUBLISHER Berkley (North American)
PUBLICATION Winter 2026 (Unedited manuscript available)
EDITOR Kate Seaver

In the wake of World War I, the world is a decidedly unmagical place for Misneach "Mouse" Dunne. Mouse once dreamed of becoming a Faerie anthropologist, but with one telegram, her world shattered. At the Somme, her cousin Bertie's body disappeared into the mud, and her brother Roger came home with devastating shell shock. It was time, she knew, to put aside childish dreams.

When Mouse receives news that her uncle, Lord Dewhurst, has left her Thistlemarsh Hall, a dilapidated manor in the English countryside, she has to return to her childhood home and claim her birthright. Thistlemarsh was blessed by the Faerie King himself before the Faeries left England for good. But there is a catch in Lord Dewhurst's offer: if Mouse does not rehabilitate the crumbling house in one month's time, Mouse will forfeit her inheritance and any hope of caring for her brother.

It quickly becomes clear it's impossible to repair the manor in the allotted time, until a mysterious Faerie appears with a proposition. He offers to restore Thistlemarsh...for only the price of a pinky finger. Mouse knows better than to trust a Faerie—especially one so insufferably handsome and arrogant—but she is out of options. There are dark and magical forces at work in the house, and Mouse must confront the ghosts of her past and the secrets of her heart or lose Thistlemarsh, and herself, in the process.

Emily Wilde's Encyclopedia of Faeries meets *Divine Rivals* with a dash of *The House in the Cerulean Sea*, in this endlessly charming, poignant, romantic, cozy-historical fantasy that will make you happy when you turn the final page.

***Pre-empted in the US**

***Pre-empted in the UK**

RIGHTS SOLD

ITALY (HARPERCOLLINS
ITALIA)

UK (DEL REY)

Katie Cotugno

Katie Cotugno is the *New York Times* bestselling author of six romantic young adult novels including *99 Days* and *You Say It First*, all published by Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, and the romance novels *Meet the Benedettos* and *Birds of California*. She is also the co-author, along with Candace Bushnell, of *Rules for Being a Girl*. In addition to her young adult novels, she has ghostwritten six romance novels and self-published three more under the pen name Ruby McNally.

Agent: Elizabeth Bewley

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Film agents: Olivia Burgher and Sanjana Seelam, WME

*A *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR



Heavy Hitter

Heavy Hitter is a smart, sexy, thrilling take on the celebrity-athlete story—a funny, sizzling, ripped-from-the-headlines romance between an international pop star and a major league baseball player who thought his best days were behind him.

PUBLISHER HarperCollins (North American)
PUBLICATION August 2024 (Manuscript available: April 2024)
EDITOR Millicent Bennett

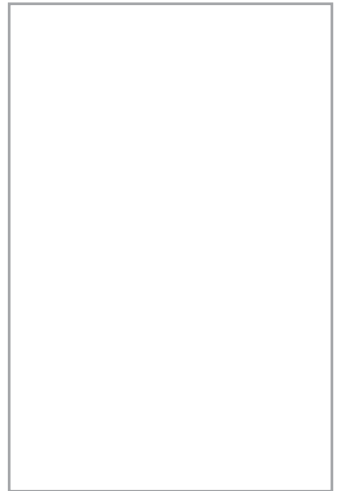
Taylor and Travis. Jennifer and A-Rod. Marilyn and Joe. When a professional athlete and a megawatt star fall in love, the world is obsessed . . .

With four chart-topping albums, Lacey Logan is a superstar whose life no longer feels like her own. Her every move is photographed, videoed, and dissected online, and her carefully curated Instagram feed studied by fans worldwide. To maintain her privacy, Lacey skillfully controls her narrative, showing fans and paparazzi what she wants them to see.

But when Lacey discovers her boyfriend is hiding two devastating secrets—a bad cocaine habit and a pregnant girlfriend—she begins to lose confidence and control of her own story. Then big-shouldered baseball player Jimmy Hodges, a former Rookie of the Year when Lacey was in high school, walks into the bar where she’s venting to a friend. With his shaggy beard and unfashionable button-down, Jimmy is the opposite of the picture-perfect guy Lacey thinks she wants. Soon, sparks fly and inhibitions go out the window when Lacey dares to take some chances.

Lacey and Jimmy are polar opposites. But could this be the forever after they both need?

***Sold in the US on a partial manuscript**



Also by Katie Cotugno

Meet the Benedettos



Jane Austen meets the Kardashians in this story about five semi-famous sisters and their intriguing new neighbors.

PUBLISHER	Harper Perennial (North American)
PUBLICATION	December 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR	Millicent Bennett

Every family is complicated, and the Benedettos are no exception. A few years after a reality show skyrocketed them to pop culture notoriety, the five twenty-something sisters are living in their parents' crumbling McMansion, semi-famous and almost broke. The family's teetering towards rock bottom when Charlie Bingley, star of *Captain Fantastic*, moves into the neighborhood with his insufferable friend Will Darcy in tow. Charlie immediately falls for warm and lovely June, the oldest Benedetto sister. Though Cinta Benedetto, clueless matriarch, loves this potential match, there are plenty of people in Charlie's life who want him to steer clear of reality show has-beens.

Lilly Benedetto, the second oldest sister, knows that her family is viewed as a spectacle, but she doesn't care, usually, because she has deeper sorrows to face. Will Darcy, Charlie's best friend from Julliard, left New York in a hurry, running from his own demons. Lilly finds Will to be stuck-up, arrogant, and judgmental. Will thinks Lilly is loud, brash, and defensive. And yet, they can't seem to stay away from each other...

This is a story about a family that's "famous for being famous," the ways that preconceived notions can make fools of us all, and unexpected romances that bloom despite the odds. Katie Cotugno has brought a big, boisterous cast of characters to life in this deliciously sprawling LA story.

"The perfect escapist novel: *Meet the Benedettos* is a funny, flashy, heartfelt story of self-discovery, a champagne-soaked romance, and a family drama, all in one. Cotugno's loveable, impetuous, sharp-witted characters find love and family bonds in the most hopeless places."

—**Meredith Goldstein**, columnist for **Boston Globe Love Letters** and author of ***Things That Grow***

"*Meet the Benedettos* is a smart, sharp, sisterly take on *Pride and Prejudice*. Katie Cotugno writes with such precision, giving each character a chance to shine, while still giving readers what they want—smoldering, unshakeable chemistry between Elisabetta and Darcy. It's hot and fun and modern, a must-read."

—**Elissa Sussman**, bestselling author of ***Funny You Should Ask***

Jason Rekulak

Jason Rekulak is the author of the international bestselling thriller *Hidden Pictures* (winner of the 2022 Goodreads Choice Award for Horror) and *The Impossible Fortress* (an Edgar Award finalist). His novels have been translated into more than 30 languages. He lives in Philadelphia with his wife and children.

Agent: Doug Stewart

UK agent: Caspian Dennis, Abner Stein

Film agent: Rich Green, The Gotham Group

*A NATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR

*AN EDGAR AWARD FINALIST



The Last One at the Wedding



The author of Hidden Pictures returns with a deliciously twisty new thriller about a mysterious family and the lengths parents will go to protect their children.

PUBLISHER	Flatiron (North American)
PUBLICATION	October 2024 (Manuscript available)
EDITOR	Zack Wagman

Meet Frank Szatowski, a widowed UPS driver in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. He has spent the last three years estranged from his adult daughter Maggie—but as our story opens, Maggie calls home to announce that she’s getting married, and she wants her father to walk her down the aisle.

Maggie is marrying into one of the wealthiest families in the United States, and Frank is overjoyed for a chance to finally reconnect. But then he makes some alarming discoveries about his future son-in-law, Aidan Gardner, and learns that Aidan’s previous girlfriend has gone missing. Is Maggie about to make a fatal mistake? And can Frank express his concerns to his daughter without losing her all over again?

Set over a three-day wedding weekend on a lake in New Hampshire, *The Last One at the Wedding* features all the same storytelling that made *Hidden Pictures* an international bestseller: a murder mystery, class warfare, lots of heart, and big surprises around every corner.

RIGHTS SOLD

ITALIAN (GIUNTI)

UK (SPHERE)

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

BENGALI (CHIRKUT)

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE (INTRINSECA)

BULGARIAN (CIELA)

COMPLEX CHINESE (EURASIAN PRESS)

SIMPLIFIED CHINESE (CHINA TRANSLATION)

CROATIAN (MOZAIK)

CZECH (DOBROVSKY)

ESTONIAN (HELIOS)

FRENCH (BRAGELONNE)

GERMAN (PIPER VERLAG)

HEBREW (KINNERET ZMORA)

HUNGARIAN (OPEN BOOKS)

JAPANESE (HAYAKAWA)

KOREAN (MOONHAK SOOCHUP)

LATVIAN (HELIOS)

LITHUANIAN (ALMA LITTERA)

POLISH (ZYSK)

PORTUGUESE (LEYA)

ROMANIAN (NEMIRA)

RUSSIAN (AZBOOKA-ATTICUS)

SERBIAN (VULKAN)

SLOVENE (HKZ)

WORLD SPANISH (NOCTURNA)

THAI (WELEARN)

TURKISH (ITHAKI)

UKRAINIAN (FAMILY LEISURE CLUB)

VIETNAMESE (HAI DANG)

Recently Sold



Domenica Ruta

Domenica Ruta is the author of the memoir *With or Without You* and the high concept novel *Last Days*, both published by Spiegel and Grau to critical acclaim. She was born and raised in Danvers, Massachusetts. Ruta is a graduate of Oberlin College and holds an MFA from the Michener Center for Writers at the University of Texas at Austin. She was a finalist for the Keene Prize for Literature and has been awarded residencies at Yaddo, the MacDowell Colony, the Blue Mountain Center, Jentel, and Hedgebrook.
Agent: Jim Rutman

All the Mothers

When three women discover they (and their babies) have been abandoned by the same man, they form a trio of unlikely allies ready to conquer anything.

PUBLISHER	Random House (North American)
PUBLICATION	Summer 2025 (Edited manuscript available: April 2024)
EDITOR	Andrea Walker

Squatting over a lidless toilet seat trawling social media for her baby-daddy's other girlfriends is not what Sandy had in mind for adult life. But when an unplanned pregnancy from Tinder date Justin turns her life upside down, her days look more like changing nappies and fending off overbearing mother-in-law Tara than kicking ass as a young professional.

When Justin starts sucking even more than his usual deadbeat self, Sandy's suspicions grow: what if she's not the only one he's done this to? She digs deeper and discovers Steph, another young woman he fathered a child with, and soon enough she finds Kaya too. The three bond instantly, and pledge to share the joys and burdens of parenting while taking on the chaos of New York life together. A "mommune" might not solve all their problems, but it sure does make them easier to face—and a hell of a lot more fun. Now a trio of unlikely allies, the three women decide to build something new from the ground up, one disaster at a time.

All the Mothers, a pacey, upmarket, character driven novel is Domenica Ruta's ode to mothers everywhere, and a heartwarming anti-romance bursting with unstoppable love.

Stacy Skolnik

Stacy Skolnik is the author of the poetry collection *mrsblueeyes123.com* (self-released, 2019), the chaplet *Sparrows* (Belladonna* Collaborative, 2023), the workbook *From the Punitive to the Ludic: Prompts for Writing Public Apologies* (with Thomas Laprade as Montez Press Radio, KAJE, 2022), and the chapbook *Rat Park* (with Katie Della-Valle, Montez Press, 2018). Her writing has been featured in journals and magazines such as *Lambda Literary*, *The Operating System*, *Fjords*, and *Pfeil*, among others. She is a co-founder and co-director of Montez Press Radio, the Lower East Side-based broadcast and performance platform.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski



The Ginny Suite

“*A Handmaid’s Tale for the Post-Truth-AI-Surveillance Era.*”

—*Suzanne Treister, author of Hexen 2.0*

PUBLISHER Montez Press (World English)
PUBLICATION June 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITORS Hasti and Emily Pope

A mysterious global syndrome is affecting women, causing symptoms of submissiveness and aphasia. While the number of sufferers grows, so does our protagonist’s paranoia—of the media, her doctors, and her husband. In the age of misinformation, AI, and surveillance, *The Ginny Suite* asks how much—and who—we’re willing to sacrifice in the name of progress.

“Perversely brilliant, fearlessly inventive, *The Ginny Suite* beautifully illustrates the horror of being a thinking person inside of a body and culture rushing toward the graveyard.”

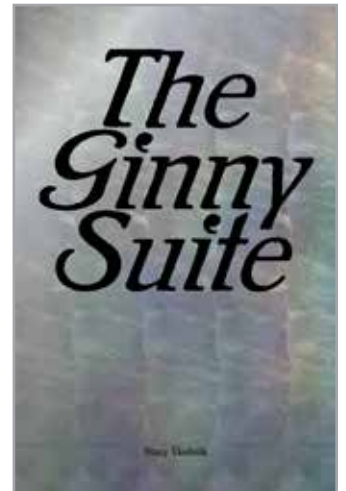
—**Brad Phillips, author of *Essays and Fictions***

“*The Ginny Suite* is a perfect hell of a book: a gossipy stylish mystery that’s both petty and profound. I love how its paranoias and insecurities tip lushly into plot: is the lyric condition of poetry a pathology? Is dissociation a radical response to the lived conditions of patriarchy, or is it patriarchy hacking your brain into submission? What if, instead of self-diagnosing through google, your search history was used to diagnose you, and form the basis of covert treatment? Its prose moves seamlessly from the lush to the blunt, awash with glitching pronouns, horny ennui, sci-fi intrigue and tender girlish digital fantasies. I adored it.”

—**Daisy Lafarge, author of *Paul***

“*The Ginny Suite* is formally innovative, a great read.”

—**Constance DeJong, author of *Modern Love***





Jessica Anthony

Jessica Anthony has been a butcher in Alaska, an unlicensed masseuse in Poland, and a secretary in San Francisco. In 2017, while writing *Enter the Aardvark*, Anthony was working as Bridge Guard, guarding the Maria Valeria Bridge between Sturovo, Slovakia and Esztergom, Hungary. Normally, she lives in Maine and teaches at Bates College.

Agent: Jim Rutman

UK agent: Anna Webber, United Agents

The Most



A tightly wound, consuming tale for readers of Claire Keegan and Ian McEwan, about a 1950s American housewife who decides to get into the pool in her family's apartment complex one morning and won't come out.

PUBLISHER Little, Brown & Co (North American)
PUBLICATION July 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Jean Garnett

It is an unseasonably warm Sunday in November 1957. Katheen, a college tennis champion turned Delaware housewife, decides not to join her flagrantly handsome life insurance salesman husband, Virgil, or their two young boys, at church. Instead, she takes a dip in the kidney-shaped swimming pool of their apartment complex. And then she won't come out.

A consuming, single-sitting read set over the course of eight hours, *The Most* breaches the shimmering surface of a seemingly idyllic mid-century marriage, immersing us in the unspoken truth beneath. As Sputnik 2 orbits the earth carrying Laika, the doomed Soviet dog, Kathleen and Virgil hurtle towards each other until they arrive at a reckoning that will either shatter their marriage, or transform it, at last, into something real.

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (TRANSWORLD / DOUBLE-DAY)

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

ITALIAN (SUR EDIZIONI)

KOREAN (CHEONGMIRAE)

WORLD SPANISH (SEIX BAR-RAL)

Andrew Boryga

Andrew Boryga grew up in the Bronx and now lives in Miami with his family of four. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, and been awarded prizes by Cornell University, The University of Miami, Tin House, *The Susquehanna Review*, and The Michener Foundation. He has taught writing to college students, elementary students, and incarcerated adults.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski

Film agents: Ryan Wilson and Ali Lefkowitz, Anonymous Content



Victim

Victim is a fearless satire about a hustler from the Bronx who sees through the veneer of diversity initiatives and decides to cash in on the odd currency of identity.

PUBLISHER Doubleday (World English)
PUBLICATION March 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Cara Reilly

Javier Perez is a hustler from a family of hustlers. He learns from an early age how to play the game to his own advantage, how his background—murdered drug-dealer dad, single cash-strapped mom, best friend serving time for gang activity—becomes a key to doors he didn't even know existed. This kind of story, molded in the right way, is just what college admissions committees are looking for, and a full academic scholarship to a prestigious university brings Javi one step closer to his dream of becoming a famous writer.

As a college student, Javi embellishes his life story until there's not even a kernel of truth left. The only real connection to his past is the occasional letter he trades with his childhood best friend, Gio, who doesn't seem to care about Javi's newfound awareness of white privilege or the school-to-prison pipeline. Soon after graduating, a viral essay transforms Javi from a writer on the rise to a journalist at a legendary magazine where the editors applaud his "unique perspective." But Gio more than anyone knows who Javi really is, and sees through his game.

A sendup of virtue signaling and tear-jerking trauma plots, *Victim* asks what real diversity looks like and how far one man is willing to go to make his story hit the right notes.

***A Real Simple, Lit Hub, She Reads, and Debutiful Most Anticipated Book of the Year**

"Blazingly trenchant, unflinchingly Bronx, *Victim* diddy-bops into your skull; smooth, cool, fun-loving and knowing full well a sense of humor always trumps one's sense of entitlement. Break night with this one, it isn't to be missed."

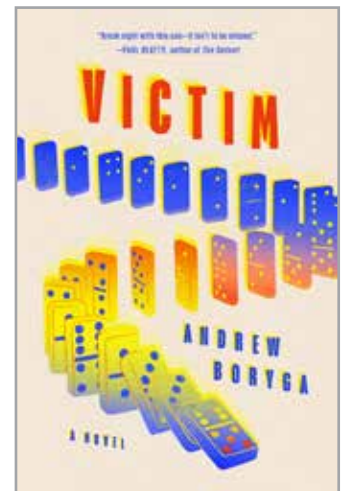
—Paul Beatty, author of *The Sellout* and *The White Boy Shuffle*

"A sharp and biting satire...The voice of the narration is wickedly perfect and propels this novel with ease. Boryga understands tone, pace, and voice better than most."

—Debutiful

"...Superbly written, this is a darkly funny, searing exposé..."

—Booklist





Jinwoo Chong

Jinwoo Chong is the author of the novel *Flux*, a *New York Times* Editor's Choice published in the US and UK by Melville House and named a best book of 2023 by *Esquire*, Apple Books, *GQ*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Goodreads*, *Powell's*, and *Debutiful*. His short stories and other work have appeared or are forthcoming in *The Southern Review*, *Guernica*, *The Rumpus*, *LitHub*, *Chicago Quarterly Review*, and *Electric Literature*. He received the Oran Robert Perry Burke Award for Fiction from *The Southern Review* and a special mention in the 2022 Pushcart Prize anthology.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Film agent: Danny Hertz, The Gotham Group

*TV RIGHTS OPTIONED, FOR *FLUX*

I Leave It Up To You

A dazzling novel about love, family, and the art of sushi that asks: What if you could return to the point of a fateful choice, wiser than before, and find the courage to forge a new path?

PUBLISHER Ballantine (North American)
PUBLICATION Spring 2025 (Edited manuscript available)
EDITOR Jesse Shuman

A coma can change a man, but the world Jack Jr. awakens to is one he barely recognizes. His job is history, his apartment is gone, and the love of his life has left him behind..

Lost and disoriented, he makes a reluctant homecoming—back to the bustling Korean-American enclave of Fort Lee, New Jersey; back into the waiting arms of his parents; and back to Joja, their ever-struggling sushi restaurant. As he steps back into the life he abandoned a decade ago—learning his Appa's life lessons over crates of tuna on bleary-eyed 4 AM fish runs, doling out amberjack behind the omakase counter while his Umma tallies the night's pitiful number of customers, and sparring with his recovering alcoholic brother, James—he embraces new roles, too: That of romantic interest to the male nurse who took care of him throughout, and that of sage (but underqualified) uncle to his gangly teenage nephew.

There is value in the joyous rhythms of this once-abandoned life. But the lure of a self-determined path might, once again, prove too hard to resist.

Why do we run from those we love, and why do we still love those who run from us? A highly entertaining and poignant story about family, romance, and self-discovery, *I Leave It Up to You* pilots through the loss, love, and absurdity of finding one's footing after the ground gives way.

***Pre-empted in the US, in a two-book deal**

Praise for *Flux*:

***A *New York Times* Editor's Choice**

***IndieNext Pick**

***Three Starred Reviews**

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (SCRIBE)

OPTION PUBLISHER:

ITALIAN (MINIMUM FAX)

Gina Chung

Gina Chung is a Korean American writer from New Jersey currently living in New York City. She is the author of the novel *Sea Change* (Vintage, 2023), which was longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize and named a 2023 B&N Discover Pick and a *New York Times* Most Anticipated Book. A recipient of the Pushcart Prize, she is a 2021-2022 Center for Fiction/Susan Kamil Emerging Writer Fellow and holds an MFA in fiction from The New School's Creative Writing Program and a BA in literary studies from Williams College. Her work appears or is forthcoming in *One Story*, *BOMB*, *Catapult*, and *Electric Literature*, among others.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Film agent: Alice Lawson, The Gersh Agency



Green Frog: Stories

A short story collection that explores Korean American womanhood, bodies, animals, and transformation as a means of survival.

PUBLISHER PRH / Vintage (North American)
PUBLICATION March 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Caitlin Landuyt

Equal parts fantastical—a pair of talking dolls help twins escape a stifling home, a heart boils on the stove as part of an elaborate cure for melancholy, a fox demon contemplates avenging her sister's death—and true to life—a mother and daughter try to heal their rift when the daughter falls unexpectedly pregnant, a woman reexamines her father's legacy after his death—the stories in this collection are hopeful and heartbreaking, full of danger and full of joy. Chung is a master at capturing emotion, and her characters—human and otherwise—will claw their way into your heart and make themselves at home.

“[A] superb 15-story collection highlighting Korean and Korean American mothers and daughters navigating their lives both together and apart...Standouts are many, effortlessly ranging from fantastical, futuristic, and slice-of-real-life narratives.”

—**Booklist, Starred Review**

“Gina Chung writes with great heart and daring. Her stories reach for new ways of framing the Korean American experience, laying claim to all genre or style that serves her purpose. Quite literally spanning the cerebral to the visceral, this is a collection that refuses to acknowledge the limits of immigrant fiction.”

—**Yoon Choi, author of *Skinship***

“From praying mantises to toothy cats to shape-shifting kumihos—a menagerie of creatures stalk Gina Chung's stories, bringing their appetites and apprehensions to these spellbinding narratives of love, loss, and belonging. In *Green Frog*, magic comes in many forms: from outright enchantments to small miracles of grace. Every story in this collection feels heart-thumpingly alive.”

—**Allegra Hyde, author of *The Last Catastrophe***

“With *Green Frog* Gina Chung further announces herself as a bold new voice in American Literature. Pulsating with heart and profound emotional intelligence, these masterful short stories build into a tapestry of wonder.”

—**Kali Fajardo-Anstine, bestselling author of *Woman of Light***



RIGHTS SOLD

UK (PICADOR)

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

KOREAN (BOKBOKSEOGA)

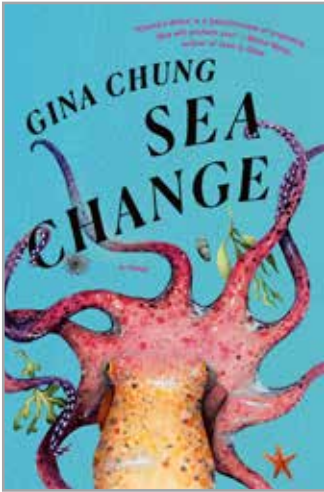
RUSSIAN (AST)

UK EDITION:



Also by Gina Chung

Sea Change



A novel about a woman tossed overboard by heartbreak and loss, who has to find her way back to stable shores with the help of a giant Pacific octopus.

PUBLISHER PRH / Vintage (North American)
PUBLICATION March 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Caitlin Landuyt

RIGHTS SOLD

FILM RIGHTS (WBTV / BAD ROBOT)
KOREAN (BOKBOKSEOGA)
RUSSIAN (AST)
UK (PICADOR)

Ro is stuck. She's just entered her thirties, she's estranged from her mother, and her boyfriend has just left her to join a mission to Mars. Her days are spent dragging herself to her menial job at a mall aquarium, and her nights are spent drinking sharktinis (Mountain Dew and copious amounts of gin, plus a hint of jalapeno). With her best friend pulling away to focus on her upcoming wedding, Ro's only companion is Dolores, a giant Pacific octopus who also happens to be Ro's last remaining link to her father, a marine biologist who disappeared while on an expedition when Ro was a teenager.

When Dolores is sold to a wealthy investor intent on moving her to a private aquarium, Ro finds herself on the precipice of self-destruction. Wading through memories of her youth, Ro has one last chance to come to terms with her childhood trauma, recommit to those around her, and find her place in an ever-changing world.

***2024 Asian/Pacific American Award for Adult Fiction Honor**

***Longlisted for the 2023 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize**

A Most Anticipated Book of the Year by *The New York Times*, *The Millions*, *Literary Hub*, *Zibby Mag*, and *Debutiful

"Sea Change is a standout of the 2023 debut class. It will pull you in from the first page and not let go as you traverse through a sea of originality. It's filled with stunning and scrumptious prose."

—**Debutiful**

"This debut novel is 'moving, textured, and at times laugh-out-loud'"

—**Today.com**

"If you've ever been stuck in familiar patterns and felt yourself losing momentum, you'll relate to this novel's protagonist. When we meet Ro, she's mourning a breakup, drifting away from her best friend, and letting childhood traumas lie. But as she prepares to say goodbye to Dolores—the giant octopus she takes care of at her aquarium job, who's been sold to a wealthy investor—she goes through her own metamorphosis. Trust us: This unique, smart, emotionally rich book is a must-read."

—**The Skimm**

"Sea Change is an immersive and unforgettable debut, that melts the cockles of your heart."

—**The Masters Review**

UK EDITION:



Erin A. Craig

Erin A. Craig is the author of the bestselling *Sisters of Salt* young adult fantasy novels. She holds a BFA in Theatre Design and Production from the University of Michigan. When she is not stage-managing tragic operas with hunchbacks, séances, or murderous clowns, she writes books that are just as spooky. An avid reader, basketball fan, and collector of typewriters, Erin makes her home in Michigan with her husband and daughter.

Agent: Sarah Landis

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

*A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR



A Land So Wide

Always be over the border by sunset

Listen to the pull of the Boundary Stones

Respect and fear the Others

PUBLISHER Pantheon Books (North American)

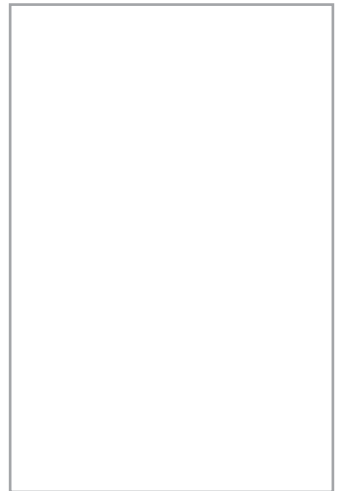
PUBLICATION Winter 2025 (Final manuscript available: April 2024)

EDITOR Caitlin Landuyt

Greer Mackenzie has spent her entire life wondering what lays beyond the Boundary Stones' reach. She's a peculiarity in town, hearing things she never should—from whispered lies to the heartbeats of others two cabins away. Many believe she's touched with uncanniness just like her mother. Now twenty-four, Greer will be taking part in one of Mistaken's oldest and most arcane courting rituals—the Hunt. Every seven years, eligible young women will hide throughout the town's Unclaimed Lands, waiting to be caught by a young man. There's only one man Greer intends to be caught by—Ellis Beaufort—despite her father's objections.

On the day of the Hunt instead of being caught by Ellis, Greer watches in horror as her beloved crosses over the boundary line, just as night falls. Impossibly, he is not pulled back. Greer insists the town form a search party and go after Ellis as soon as the sun rises, but the council is happy to have a Beaufort sacrificing themselves to the Others. Greer sets off after Ellis herself on a journey fraught with perils—bitter cold and howling winds, hard and unfamiliar terrain, and creatures that are not always as they first appear. She must call upon her gifts to save her love and break the hold of the Others for good.

A Land So Wide is a loose retelling of the Scottish ballad *Tam Lin* in the vein of Katherine Arden, Hannah Whitten, and Rebecca Ross.



RIGHTS SOLD

RUSSIAN (CLEVER MEDIA)

WORLD SPANISH (URANO)

UK (HEADLINE)



Vinson Cunningham

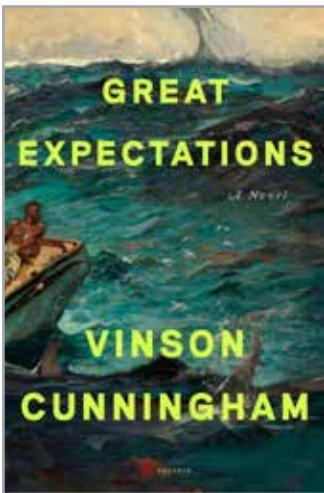
Vinson Cunningham is a staff writer and a theatre critic at *The New Yorker*. His essays, reviews, and profiles have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *FADER*, *Vulture*, *The Awl*, and *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*. A former staffer on Barack Obama's first presidential campaign and in his White House, Cunningham has taught at Sarah Lawrence College, the Yale School of Art, and Columbia University's School of the Arts. He lives in New York City.

Agent: Jessica Friedman

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Film agents: Jason Richman and Addison Duffy, UTA

Great Expectations



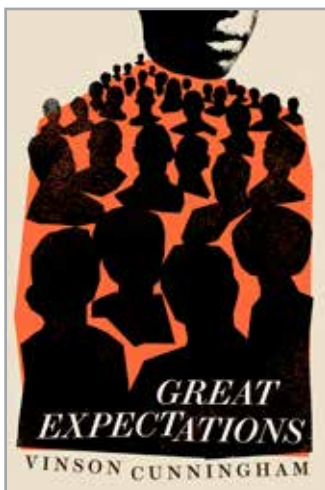
A historic presidential campaign changes the trajectory of a young Black man's life in the highly anticipated debut novel from one of The New Yorker's rising stars.

PUBLISHER Hogarth (North American)
PUBLICATION March 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR David Ebershoff

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (RIVERRUN)

UK EDITION:



"I'd seen the Senator speak a few times before my life got caught up, however distantly, with his, but the first time I can remember paying real attention was when he delivered the speech announcing his run for the Presidency." When David first hears the Senator from Illinois speak, he feels deep ambivalence. Intrigued by the Senator's idealistic rhetoric, David also wonders how he'll balance the fervent belief and inevitable compromises it will take to become the United States's first Black president.

Great Expectations is about David's eighteen months working for the Senator's presidential campaign. Along the way David meets a myriad of people who raise a set of questions—questions of history, art, race, religion, and fatherhood, all of which force David to look at his own life anew and come to terms with his identity as a young Black man and father in America.

Meditating on politics and politicians, religion and preachers, fathers and family, *Great Expectations* is both an emotionally resonant coming-of-age story and a rich novel of ideas, and marks the arrival of a major new writer.

***Sold at auction in the US**

***Sold at auction in the UK**

"... an electrifying first novel and bildungsroman of consummate artistry and sensitivity, honed vision and wit."

—**Booklist, Starred Review**

"Alive in its intellectual detours, with Cunningham considering religion, race, sex, film, politics, fatherhood, and more . . . A top-shelf intellectual bildungsroman."

—**Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review**

"Brilliantly written, piercingly smart, quietly subversive, *Great Expectations* will be one of the talked-about novels of the year. I couldn't help thinking that there was a touch of Fitzgerald in Cunningham's words, borne back not just ceaselessly but also gracefully into the too-recent past."

—**Colum McCann, award-winning author of *Let the Great World Spin***

Laurie Devore

Laurie Devore was born and raised in small-town South Carolina and graduated from Clemson University. After four years in the balmy Midwest, she returned to her home in the south, where she now lives and works in Charleston. In her spare time, she reluctantly runs marathons, watches too much TV, and works a “y’all” into every conversation. She is the author of the young adult novels *A Better Bad Idea*, *Winner Take All* and *How to Break a Boy*.

Agent: Sarah Landis



The Villain Edit

A sexy dramedy about a cynical romance novelist who goes on a reality show to revive her flagging career, only to discover that while she may have just met the love of her life, the producers have turned her into the show's villain.

PUBLISHER Avon (World English)
PUBLICATION July 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Rachel Kahan

Romance novelist Jacqueline Matthis’s big career has gone bust and she’s ditched the bright lights of New York City for her more affordable South Carolina hometown. Desperate, Jac dreams up a comeback plan—she is going to be a contestant on *the 1*, the most obsessively watched reality dating show in the world.

After all Jac is a romance writer—she knows how to pull off a meet-cute and create a spicy plotline.

On set, Jac quickly establishes herself as a front-runner for bachelor Marcus’s heart, but she’s shocked to discover who’s actually pulling the strings. How was she to know that Henry Foster, her last one-night stand before the show, was actually a longtime producer on *the 1*? Henry is just as horrified...but they can’t seem to keep their hands off each other.

As Jac plays the game and the show unfurls, she slowly discovers that she’s getting the villain edit. They say there’s no such thing as bad publicity, but as Jac’s secret plan begins crumbling around her, she’s not so sure. What happens if Marcus chooses her? Worse, what happens if her affair with Henry comes to light? What if, in trying to save her career, Jac has ruined her life?

Heartbreaking, smart, and sexy, this novel is for anyone who has ever secretly rooted for—or felt like—the villain.

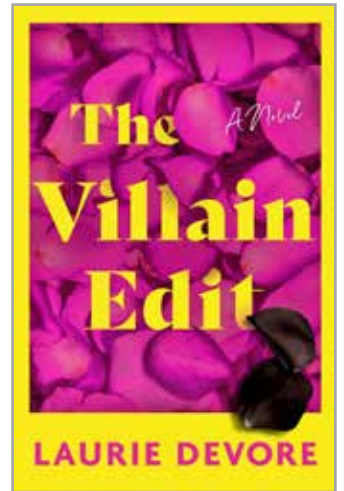
***Pre-empted in the US**

“A rip roaring ride of a novel, *The Villian Edit* is infinitely more fun than any reality show I’ve ever seen.”

—Annabel Monaghan, author of *Summer Romance*

“*The Villain Edit* is as bingeable as reality TV. Smart, sexy, and savage, it’s the perfect combination of insightful and captivatingly fun.”

—Emily Wibberley and Austin Siegemund-Broka, authors of *The Roughest Draft*



RIGHTS SOLD:

RUSSIAN (EKSMO)



Charlee Dyroff

Charlee Dyroff is a writer from Boulder, Colorado. She received an MFA from Columbia University and some of her work has appeared in *Gulf Coast*, *Lapham's Quarterly*, *Guernica*, *The Best American Food Writing of 2019*, and elsewhere.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski

Film agent: Danny Hertz, The Gotham Group

Loneliness & Company



A timely, beautifully observed debut novel set in near future New York about a young woman who finds herself tangled in a secret Government project combating loneliness.

PUBLISHER Bloomsbury (World English)
PUBLICATION May 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Grace McNamee

Lee knows she's the best. A professor favorite and fellowship winner, there's no doubt she'll land one of the coveted jobs at a Big Five corporation. So when, upon graduating, Lee is instead assigned to an unknown company in the dead city of New York, her life goals are completely upended.

In this new role, Lee's task is to gather enough research to train an AI how to be a friend. She begins online and by studying the social circle of her clueless, outgoing roommate Veronika. But when the company reveals it's part of a classified government mission to solve loneliness—an emotion erased from society's lexicon decades ago—Lee's determination to prove herself kicks into overdrive, and she begins chasing bolder and more dangerous experiences to provide data for the AI.

“Dryoff’s near future-set book is a bewitching story about technology and isolation. It will grip readers with mesmerizing writing and a tautly-paced plot.”

—**Debutiful, “Most Anticipated Debut Books of 2024”**

“*Loneliness & Company* is a sharply etched and strangely propulsive story about artificial intelligence and authentic feeling: a canny, tender exploration of the stories we tell about our bonds with each other, and the realities we would rather not face about our bonds with the technologies that shape our days.”

—**Leslie Jamison, author of *Splinters***

“*Loneliness & Company* is a stunning novel, full of lyricism, brilliance and quiet integrity, boldly tackling the most complex philosophical ideas. How do you define loneliness that plagues all of us, increasingly so? Is it a personal affliction or an existential condition? I’ll be thinking about this novel for a long time.”

—**Lara Vapnyar, author of *Divide Me By Zero***

“Naturally intelligent. An inventive, timely, and perceptive story about human connection and being alive.”

—**Emily Austin, author of *Everyone in This Room Will Someday Be Dead***

Jenny Elder Moke

Jenny Elder Moke has written several novels for young adults, including the award-winning *Hood*, *Rise of the Specter Queen*, and *Curse of the Snake Goddess*. She loves talking the art of writing in her plotting workshops she puts on through the SCBWI, the Austin Library, and the Writing Barn. She lives in Denver with her family.

Agent: Elizabeth Bewley



She Doesn't Have a Clue

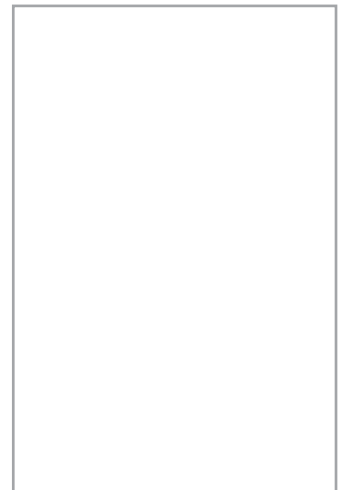
*A steamy rom-com/murder mystery about a bestselling author who's stuck at a wedding weekend gone horribly awry, perfect for fans of Tessa Bailey's *My Killer Vacation*, and Jesse Q. Sutanto's *Dial A for Aunties*.*

PUBLISHER St. Martin's Press / Minotaur (North American)
PUBLICATION Winter 2025 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Lisa Bonvissuto

A high-end wedding on a private island off the coast of Seattle sounds like something out of a magazine. But for bestselling mystery author Kate Valentine, it's more like a nightmare. Why she agreed to attend her ex-fiancé's wedding is its own enigma, but she'll plaster on a fake smile for two nights, with the aid of free champagne, naturally. And because the groom happens to be her editor, she'll try to finish a draft of her latest Loretta Starling mystery as a wedding gift.

When the bride is poisoned and Kate stumbles across a dead body, she finds herself in a real-life mystery that eerily echoes the Loretta Starling stories. And the only person who seems willing to help Kate catch the killer is Jake Hawkins, aka: the Hostralian; aka: Kate's biggest romantic regret. As the wine flows and the weather threatens to hold every guest hostage, bitter resentments and long-held grudges surface amongst the colorful crowd. Anyone could be capable of murder, it seems. What would Loretta do? Unfortunately, Kate doesn't have a clue.

***Sold at auction in the US, in a two-book deal**





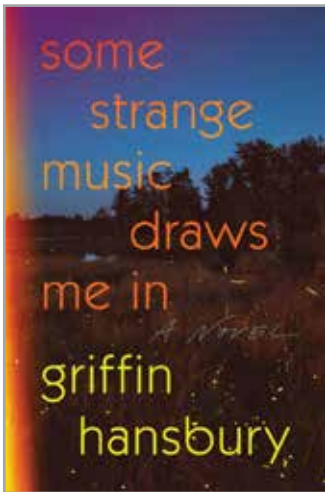
Griffin Hansbury

Griffin Hansbury is the acclaimed author of *Feral City: On Finding Liberation in Lockdown New York* and *Vanishing New York* (Dey Street, 2017), based on the celebrated blog written under the pen name Jeremiah Moss. As Hansbury he is the author of *The Nostalgist*, a novel, and *Day For Night*, a collection of poems. A two-time NYFA fellow, his writing has appeared in *n+1*, *The New York Times*, *The New York Daily News*, and online for *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *The Atlantic*, *The Village Voice*, *Salon*, and *The New York Review of Books*.

Agent: Doug Stewart

UK agent: Caspian Dennis, Abner Stein

Some Strange Music Draws Me In



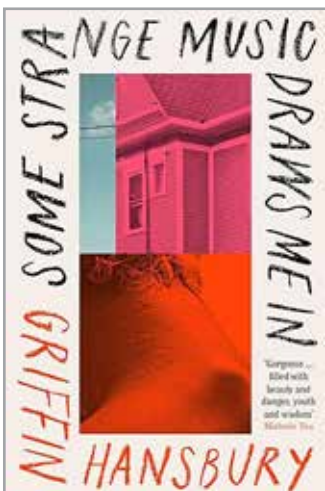
From an award-winning author, this provocative novel tells an emotionally gripping story about friendship, family, and transgender awakening in a working-class American town.

PUBLISHER W. W. Norton (North American)
PUBLICATION March 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Tom Mayer

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (DAUNT BOOKS)

UK EDITION:



In the summer of 1984, teenage Mel becomes entranced with the trans woman who appears in her blue-collar American town. Through the world-expanding time she spends with the woman, Sylvia, and the changes of adolescence, Mel soon discovers she is not the girl she thought she was—in fact, she might not be a girl at all. In the wake of this revelation, Mel navigates gender, sexuality, and an intense friendship with her childhood best friend in a hostile time and place for both girls and queers.

Moving back and forth to 2019, Mel has become Max, a middle-aged trans man. He returns to his hometown in the wake of his mother's death, still reeling from his own politically incorrect, gender-related scandal at his workplace, and bearing the burden of guilt from that pivotal teenage summer. As he reunites with his wayward older sister, spends time with his preteen great-niece and reckons with his past, Max works to come to terms with what it means to be a flawed and forgivable human being amidst constantly changing social norms.

“This gorgeous, propulsive novel is filled with beauty and danger, youth and wisdom and the life-saving lifelines of counterculture. With writing so tense and honest and real, I recognized this place and these people deeply, and felt them all in my heart long after the book was finished.”

—Michelle Tea, author of *Knocking Myself Up*

“Griffin Hansbury’s prose is both scathing and soulful, delivered with care and grace and aplomb. This novel’s warmth is palpable, and Hansbury has crafted a truly rare thing—a gift and a guide.”

—Bryan Washington, author of *Family Meal*

“*Some Strange Music Draws Me In* is a story of how latent queerness can point toward the exit from poverty and despair. It’s about intergenerational queer care, about how even with a clean getaway we nurse our wounded pasts... [A] book filled with compassion.”

—McKenzie Wark, author of *Love and Money, Sex and Death*

Sheila Heti

Sheila Heti is the author of several books of fiction and nonfiction, including *How Should a Person Be?*, which *New York Magazine* deemed one of the “New Classics of the 21st century.” She was named one of “The New Vanguard” by *The New York Times* book critics, who, along with a dozen other magazines and newspapers, chose *Motherhood* as a top book of 2018. Her books have been translated into twenty-one languages.

Agent: Jim Rutman

Film agent: Frank Wuliger, The Gersh Agency



Alphabetical Diaries

A thrilling confessional from the award-winning, beloved author of Pure Colour.

PUBLISHER Farrar, Straus & Giroux (US), Knopf Canada (Canada)

PUBLICATION February 2024 (Final manuscript available)

EDITOR Mitzi Angel

A little over a decade ago, Sheila Heti—the award-winning author of a string of modern classics including *How Should a Person Be?*, *Motherhood*, and *Pure Colour*—began looking back at the diaries she’d kept over the previous ten years, searching for signs of deeper change inside herself. She loaded all 500,000 words of her journals into Microsoft Excel, to order the sentences alphabetically and seek out patterns and repetitions. How many times had she written, “I hate him,” for example? With the sentences untethered from the narrative of her diaries, she started to see herself—and the Self—in a new way: as something quite solid, anchored by shockingly few characteristic preoccupations. Returning to the project over the years, something more universal and novelistic emerged.

Alphabetical Diaries is the sublime and probing result—one that rises to the heights of artistry and insight for which Heti is rightfully acclaimed.

“I found reading *Alphabetical Diaries* to be a profound experience... There is something of Anaïs Nin’s journals in *Alphabetical Diaries*, and of Iris Murdoch’s letters, and of Edna O’Brien’s memoirs. Something locked-in and bristling. Heti is wrestling openly with the things that matter.”

—**The New York Times**

“The resulting book is exhilarating: both intimate and withholding, repetitive and generative, undeniably self-centred and yet moving beyond the self.”

—**New Statesman**

“Heti’s books aim to be vessels for the transformation of reader and writer. She has spoken of writing a book that would be like a Richard Serra sculpture, which a reader might walk through in the same way that the writer has undergone its creation, not knowing exactly where it is heading or how it will end... Though the formal challenges vary, Heti is always pressing at the membrane between life and art, beauty and ugliness..”

—**The New Yorker**

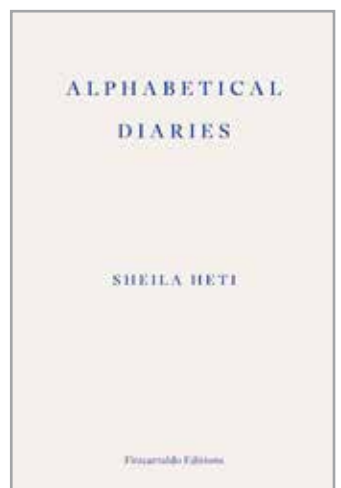


RIGHTS SOLD

FILM RIGHTS (HULU)

UK (FITZCARRALDO)

UK EDITION:





Carol Hopson

Carole Hopson is a Captain on the Boeing 737 for United Airlines, based in Newark, NJ. After a 20-year career as a journalist and executive for iconic brands like the National Football League, Foot Locker, and L’Oreal Cosmetics, Carole followed her dream to become a pilot. Carole shared her passion with others as a flight instructor, while she and husband Michael raised two sons in Montclair, NJ. Today, they live in Jersey City, NJ. A century after Bessie soared over seemingly insurmountable obstacles, Black women in the U.S. account for less than one percent of all professional pilots (military, cargo, corporate and airlines combined). Inspired by Bessie’s spectacular accomplishments, Carole founded the Jet Black Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to sending 100 Black women to flight school by the year 2035.

Agent: Jessica Friedman

A Pair of Wings



A riveting, adventurous novel inspired by the life of pioneer aviatrix Bessie Coleman, a Black woman who learned to fly at the dawn of aviation, and found freedom in the air.

PUBLISHER Henry Holt & Co. (World English)
PUBLICATION August 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Retha Powers

For fans of *Hidden Figures*, *The Great Circle*, and *I Was Amelia Earhart*, *A Pair of Wings* is an epic novel about pioneer aviatrix Bessie Coleman, whose story has waited 100 years to be told. A few years after the Wright Brothers’ first flight, Bessie was working the Texas cotton fields with her family when an airplane flew right over their heads. It buzzed so low she thought she could catch it in her hands. Bessie wasn’t afraid. Without even thinking, she spread her arms out and pretended she was flying. She knew there was freedom in those wings. While she finds there is no prejudice in the air, Bessie must wrestle with many challenges: She nearly dies in a plane crash, one of her brothers seems to be crumbling under the weight of Jim Crow, and as she grapples with tough truths about Binga, Bessie begins to wonder if the freedom she finds in the air means she must otherwise fly solo.

With tenderness and verve, Carole Hopson imagines the breathtaking moxie that led Bessie Coleman to strap up knee-high boots and don a self-designed flight suit to become “Queen Bess” of the sky.

“Invigorating! *A Pair of Wings* is the inspiring, richly detailed American Great Migration story we’ve been missing. Carole Hopson writes heroine and pioneer Bessie Coleman as if she’s been living inside her head. I loved it.”

—**Crystal Smith Paul, author of *Did You Hear About Kitty Karr?***

“For anyone seeking adventure, this novel of Bessie’s life will lift you up, energize, and inspire you!”

—**Eileen Collins, author of *Through The Glass Ceiling To the Stars***

“Everyone who believes in aviation’s promise of freedom should know the remarkable story of Bessie Coleman, whose ambition, skills, and courage are brought to life in Carole Hopson’s fascinating and heartrending book.”

—**Mark Vanhoenacker, pilot and author of *Skyfaring***

Kristopher Jansma

Kristopher Jansma is the author of the novels *Our Narrow Hiding Places*, *Why We Came to the City*, and *The Unchangeable Spots of Leopards*. He is the winner of the Sherwood Anderson Foundation Fiction Award, a Pushcart Prize, and the recipient of an honorable mention for the PEN/Hemingway Award. His short fiction, distinguished in *The Best American Short Stories 2016*, has been published in *The Sun*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Story*, *ZYZZYVA*, and elsewhere. Kristopher is an associate professor of English and director of the creative writing program at SUNY New Paltz College.

Agent: Doug Stewart

UK agent: Caspian Dennis, Abner Stein

Film agent: Jason Richman, UTA



Our Narrow Hiding Places

An elderly woman recounts her Dutch family's survival during the final years of Nazi occupation, shedding new light on old secrets that rippled through subsequent generations.

PUBLISHER Ecco (North American)
PUBLICATION August 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Helen Atsma

Eighty-year-old Mieke Geborn's life is one of quiet routine. Widowed for many years, she enjoys the view from her home on the New Jersey shore, visits with friends, and does Tai Chi at the local retirement community. But when her beloved grandson, Will, and his wife, Teru, show up for a visit, things are soon upended. Their marriage is threatening to unravel, and Will has questions for his grandmother—questions about family secrets that have been lost for decades, and that are now finally rising to the surface.

But telling Will the truth at last involves returning to the past, and to Mieke's childhood in coastal Holland. There, in the last years of World War II, she survived the Hunger Winter, a brutal season when food and heat were cut off and thousands of Dutch citizens starved. Her memories weave together childhood magic and the madness of history, and carry readers from the windy beaches of The Hague, to the dark cells of a rural concentration camp, and through the bends of eel-filled rivers. And, finally, to the story of Will's father, a mysterious absence since his own childhood.

"A vivid, devastating account of Holland's Hunger Winter and a complex, compassionate tale of human resilience. The reverberations of trauma through multiple generations is as much Kristopher Jansma's subject here as is the endurance of family love...A multi-layered novel about memory, community, suffering, and tenacity, told with imagination and grace."

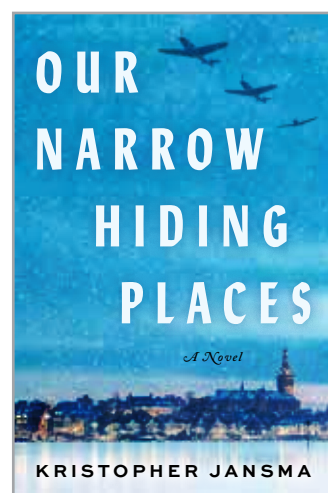
—Alice McDermott, author of *Absolution* and *The Ninth Hour*

"A breathtaking epic that reverberates with hope."

—Tania James, author of *Loot*

"*Our Narrow Hiding Places* is a feat of literary architecture: a masterfully constructed container for some of the most gorgeous and deeply humane writing that I've read in a long time."

—Adam Wilson, author of *Sensation Machines*



RIGHTS SOLD:

FRENCH (LE CHERCHE MIDI)



Fred Lunzer

Fred Lunzer is 34 years old and writes under his mother's maiden name Lunzer but is known to most as Fred Gifford. He is British-German but lived ten years in Tokyo. He currently works in AI strategy for Sony. *Sike* is his first novel.

Agent: Doug Stewart

UK agent: Caspian Dennis, Abner Stein

Film agent: Rich Green, The Gotham Group

Sike

For readers of Sally Rooney and Ben Lerner, a modern love story about young people desperate for connection and self-realization.

PUBLISHER Celadon (North American)
PUBLICATION April 2025 (Manuscript available)
EDITOR Ryan Doherty

Adrian earns his living writing lyrics for rappers, and a song about his fruitless search for a partner is a hit. Successes like this allow him to afford a lauded and elite psychotherapy app, called *Sike*, which tracks your every move and guides you towards mental contentment and calm. This calm is of practical use when he falls for Maquie, a Japanese-Swedish venture capitalist trying to predict the next tech boom (the next *Sike*). She scours London's tech scene, rejects founders, navigates her bosses' impatience. After a family accident, her parents start pushing her to get *Sike*. And despite herself, she falls in love with Adrian.

Shifting between Adrian and Maquie's perspectives as it tracks the fraught first year of their relationship, *Sike* is the story of a generation's struggle for clarity and control, and how every generation is uniquely equipped—or not—to deal with falling in love.

Iman Mersal

Poet, writer, academic and translator, Iman Mersal was born in 1966 in the northern Egyptian Delta and emigrated to Canada in 1999. First published in Arabic in 2019, *Traces of Enayat* won the prestigious 2021 Sheikh Zayed Book Award, making her the first woman to win its Literature category. Author of five books of Arabic poetry, her most recent poetry collection, *The Threshold*, won the 2023 National Translation Award and was shortlisted for the 2023 Griffin Poetry Award. She is also the author of *How to Mend: Motherhood and Its Ghosts* (2018), which weaves a new narrative of motherhood through diaries, readings, and photographs. Mersal's work has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *The New York Review of Books* and *The Nation*, among others. She is the Associate Professor of Arabic Literature at the University of Alberta, Canada.

Agent: Szilvia Molnar



Traces of Enayat

From one of the preeminent poets of the Arabic-speaking world, comes an unclassifiable work retracing the mysterious life and erasure of Egyptian literature's tragic heroine.

PUBLISHER And Other Stories (World English; US: Transit Books)

PUBLICATION August 2023 (Final manuscript available)

EDITOR Stefan Tobler, Tara Tobler, Adam Levy

Cairo, 1963: four years before her lone novel is finally published, the writer Enayat al-Zayyat takes her own life at age 27. For the next three decades, it's as if Enayat never existed at all.

Years later, when celebrated Egyptian poet Iman Mersal stumbles upon Enayat's long-forgotten *Love and Silence* in a Cairo book stall, she embarks on a journey of reflection and rediscovery that leads her ever closer to the world and work of Enayat al-Zayyat.

In this luminous biographical detective story, Mersal retraces Enayat's life and afterlife through interviews with family members and friends, even tracking down the apartments, schools, and sanatoriums where Enayat spent her days. As Mersal maps two simultaneous psychogeographies—from the glamor of golden-age Egyptian cinema to the Cairo of Mersal's own past—a remarkable portrait emerges of two women striving to live on their own terms.

With *Traces of Enayat*, Iman Mersal embraces the reciprocal relationship between a text and its reader, between past and present, between author and subject.

"A brooding, atmosphere read charged with a singular magical beauty. Iman Mersal conjures up the zeitgeist of artistic Cairo after the July revolution and reveals a merciless and inflexible world behind the genteel, cultivated image."

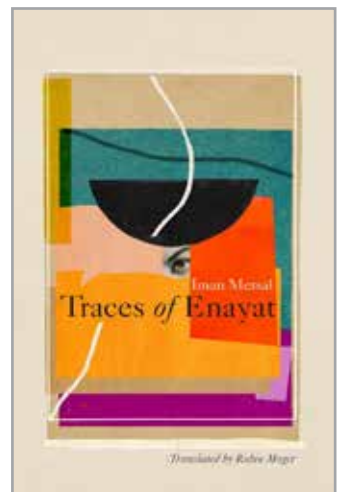
—Leila Aboulela, author of *River Spirit*

"Now translated from Arabic into English with delicacy and finesse by Robin Moger... Mersal's poet's eye, wandering and forensic, makes her quest a joyous if poignant one to follow."

—Irish Times

"A resonant literary biography by way of fractured, obsessive sleuthing."

—Kirkus Reviews



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AMHARIC (HOHE PUBLISHING)

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE (RUA DO SABAO)

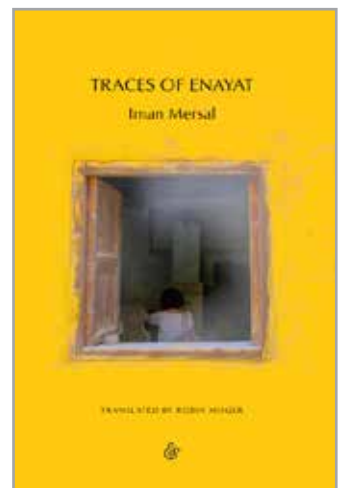
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UK EDITION:





Laura McNeal

Laura McNeal is the author of *Dark Water*, a finalist for the National Book Award in Young People's Literature in 2010; the historical novel, *The Practice House*; the thriller, *The Incident on the Bridge*; and four critically-acclaimed novels co-written with her husband Tom, all of them published by Knopf Books for Young Readers. She holds an MA in fiction writing from Syracuse University and was awarded a 2022 research residency at Baylor University.

Agent: Doug Stewart

UK agent: Caspian Dennis, Abner Stein

The Swan's Nest



A tender and engrossing historical novel about the unlikely love affair between two great 19th-century poets, Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett, even as their families were determined to keep them apart.

PUBLISHER	Algonquin (North American)
PUBLICATION	March 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR	Kathy Pories

On a bleak January day in 1845, a poet who had been confined to her room for four years by recurrent illness received a letter from a writer she secretly idolized but had never seen. “I love your verses with all my heart, dear Miss Barrett,” Robert Browning wrote, “and I love you too.”

Elizabeth Barrett was ecstatic. She was famous for her poetry but completely cut off from the kind of international travel that Browning used to fuel his obscure, unsuccessful, innovative poems, one of which was written from a murderer's point of view. They began an affectionate correspondence, but Elizabeth kept delaying a visit. What would happen when he saw her in person? What was Robert really like? Could she persuade her father and brothers that he was honorable, even though she had never met his family? And what would happen if she gave in to Robert's wild proposal that they go to Italy and see if the sun could cure her? McNeal brilliantly tells the story of how Robert and Elizabeth fell in love with each other's words and shocked her conservative, close-knit family and the literary world. Sensitively and lyrically written, as rich as the lovers' own poetry, *The Swan's Nest* will sweep up readers in the triumphant story of two people forced to choose between a safe, stable life and the love they felt for each other.

“Laura McNeal is one of my favorite writers and *The Swan's Nest* is a stunning accomplishment. Assiduously researched, gorgeously brought to life, this literary love story will keep you up all night.”

—Lily King, author of *Five Tuesdays in Winter* and *Writers and Lovers*

“Let me count the ways I love *The Swan's Nest*: as a transporting romance, as a meticulous recreation of history, as a compelling examination of social hierarchies, and as an expose of the evil that can lurk behind fortunes. It's a bold feat to enter the minds of geniuses, but Barrett and Browning, as well as the wonderful cast of supporting characters, are as believable as they are beautifully written.”

—Nina de Gramont, author of international bestseller *The Christie Affair*

Katherine Packert Burke

Katherine Packert Burke (she/her) is a graduate of the Clarion Writer’s Workshop and holds an MFA from the University of Alabama. She has written nonfiction about trans issues for *Electric Literature* and *Catapult* and fiction for *Indiana Review*, *Nashville Review*, and *Tor.com*. She currently lives in Austin, TX.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski



Still Life

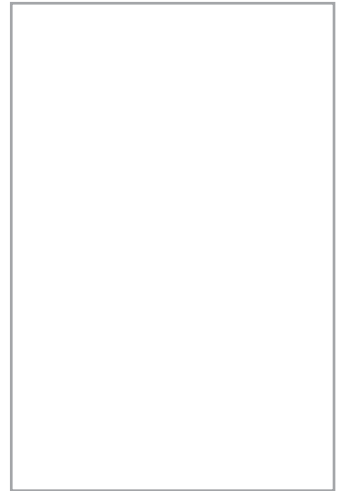
A profound and piercing tribute to messy webs of queer friendship and to what is left behind in transition.

PUBLISHER W. W. Norton (World English)
PUBLICATION September 2024 (Manuscript available)
EDITOR Mo Crist

Everything in Edith’s life is approaching disaster. Her career is stagnant, her debut novel fading into obscurity while her editor shoots down every fleeting new idea. Her love life is a vortex of climbing gym queers, anonymous men, and messy trans girls like herself. Her ex, Tessa, is marrying a man. Her teeth are rotting in her skull. And her best friend Val is dead.

Told in chapters volleying between the past and present, we get to know Edith first as a kind, slightly bumbling college “boy,” pre-transition, in love with Tessa, enamored by Val, and drowning in Boston. She and Tessa call each other Joni and Joan, homages to the singer-songwriters of yore who provide the musical backdrop to their fledgling adulthood. When Edith decides to leave the East Coast for an MFA in Alabama, she begins a year-long journey away from the person she loves most. In the present, Edith is wracked with guilt over Val’s death. Val, the intrepid wanderer, had drifted in and out of Edith’s life. A sometimes lover, sometimes trans mentor, a purveyor of estrogen pills and wisdom from decades on the other side of transition, Val was everything Tessa wasn’t and everything Edith needed. Her fatal car crash may have been suicide, but if it was intentional, was it Edith’s fault?

Still Life, the debut novel of queer friendship, unfolds like a rusted pocketknife, jagged and lacerating. Infused with pop culture, bad modern art, cigarettes, and Sondheim, *Still Life* traces the lives of three women, trans and cis, loving and cruel, here and gone, to craft a skillful composition of modern womanhood, friendship, sexuality, and adulthood.





Ava Reid

Ava Reid is the bestselling author of the *The Wolf and the Woodsman* and *Juniper & Thorn*. She was born in Manhattan and raised right across the Hudson River in Hoboken, but currently lives in Palo Alto. She has a degree in political science from Barnard College, focusing on religion and ethnonationalism.

Agent: Sarah Landis

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Film agent: Hannah Vaughn, The Gersh Agency

*A *SUNDAY TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR

*A *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Lady Macbeth



From #1 New York Times bestselling author Ava Reid comes a reimagining of Shakespeare’s most famous villainess, giving her a voice, a past, and a power that transforms the story men have written for her.

PUBLISHER Del Rey (North American)
PUBLICATION August 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Tricia Narwani

RIGHTS SOLD

- FRENCH (DE SAXUS)
- ITALIAN (EDIZIONI EO)
- RUSSIAN (EKSMO)
- WORLD SPANISH (URANO)
- UK (DEL REY)

The Lady knows the stories: that her eyes induce madness in men. The Lady knows she will be wed to this Scottish brute, who does not leave his warrior ways behind when he comes to the marriage bed. The Lady knows his hostile, suspicious court will be a game of strategy, requiring all of her wiles and hidden witchcraft to survive. But the Lady does not know her husband has occult secrets of his own. She does not know that prophecy girds him like armor. She does not know that her magic is greater, and more dangerous, and that it will threaten the order of the world. She does not know this yet. But she will.

Circe meets *The Marriage Portrait* in this reimagining of Shakespeare’s play, where bestselling author Ava Reid recasts one of literature’s most famous villains.

***Pre-empted in the US**
***Two-book deal in the UK**

“*Lady Macbeth* is a dark, elegant, heart-stirring novel, beautifully written, rich with the history of language and of medieval Scotland.”

—**Louisa Morgan, author of *The Ghosts of Beatrice Bird***

“Hail, Queen! Ava Reid has done it again in this gothic, atmospheric reclamation of the story of *Lady Macbeth*.”

—**Vaishnavi Patel, New York Times bestselling author of *Kaikeyi***

“Reid takes one of Shakespeare’s most interesting antiheroes and endows her with vulnerability, power, and depth: a protagonist who’s neither flower nor serpent, but something both more magical and more human.”

—**Freya Marske, internationally bestselling author of the *Last Binding* trilogy**

“*Lady Macbeth* is a knife of a book: blood-stained, sharply beautiful, and necessary.”
—**Alix E. Harrow, New York Times bestselling author of *Starling House***

Betty Shamieh

Betty Shamieh is a Palestinian American writer and the author of fifteen plays. She is currently the Mellon Playwright-in-Residence at the Classical Theatre of Harlem, where her comedy, *Malvolio*, a sequel to *Twelfth Night* had its world premiere in July 2023 to wide critical acclaim, including as a *New York Times* Critic's Pick. Her dramedy *Roar*, which was also a *New York Times* Critic's Pick, premiered off-Broadway in a sold-out extended run. Selected as a Denning Visiting Artist at Stanford and a Clifton Visiting Artist at Harvard, Shamieh was named a UNESCO Young Artist for Intercultural Dialogue. A graduate of Harvard College and the Yale School of Drama, she has been awarded a Guggenheim and Radcliffe Fellowship in Playwriting. Her works have been translated into seven languages and are widely produced internationally, including at the EU Capital of Culture Festival.

Agent: Mary Krienke



Not Promising Anything

Not Promising Anything is a novel that defies expectations. It is funny, a bit bawdy, sexy, self-deprecating, and yet cuts to the marrow when and where it counts.

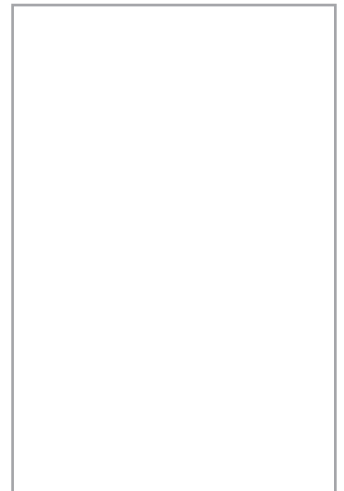
PUBLISHER Avid Reader Press (World English)
PUBLICATION Spring 2025 (Edited manuscript available: April 2024)
EDITOR Carolyn Kelly

Following three generations of women—Arabella in NYC in 2012, Zoya in Jaffa in 1948, and Naya in Detroit in 1973—we watch these three intertwine, overlap, infuriate, and repel one another as they navigate their experiences of womanhood, motherhood, desire, and self-determination.

Arabella is independent, ambitious, and knows her mind. She's no activist, though—she's a theatre director who wants to put on a good show and bristles at being relegated to the category of "Palestinian American woman director." Arabella takes issue with Layla, a playwright who Arabella holds semi-responsible for her work not being judged on its own merits, and only half-seriously considers Layla's offer for Arabella to direct a classical theatrical adaptation in their parent's homeland. Arabella prays for any other opportunity to come through while nursing a longstanding crush on Yoav, who she's known, collaborated and been friends with for the last twenty years. Meanwhile, Arabella's grandmother Zoya is determined to set Arabella up for romantic success and introduces Arabella to Aziz, the grandson of someone from Zoya's past.

Not Promising Anything is not just Arabella's story but driven equally by Zoya's fierce voice as she recounts her family's escape from their home in Jaffa and Naya's as she recalls her childhood in Detroit. Through arranged marriages, love affairs sparking to life, family bonds broken, hopes dashed, and dreams realized, *Not Promising Anything* takes us through all of life's emotions and back again.

With the richness of *Girl, Woman, Other* and the crossover appeal and themes of *The Joy Luck Club* and *The Namesake*, *Not Promising Anything* asks what it means to be born into a tribe vs. what it means to build a tribe of your own choosing. Can we have both—belonging and individuality—or must we sacrifice one for the other?





Manon Steffan Ros

Manon Steffan Ros is one of the pre-eminent writers working in the Welsh language today. She has won almost every major literary prize in Wales and many of her books feature on the Welsh national curriculum. Her first international English translation, *The Blue Book of Nebo*, was published by Deep Vellum in the US in 2021 and in twelve other languages. It won the 2023 Carnegie Medal in the UK. Steffan Ros is the translator.

Agent: Christopher Combemale

Film agent: Mary Pender and Orly Greenberg, UTA

*A 2023 CARNEGIE MEDAL WINNER

Slate

*From the acclaimed author of *The Blue Book of Nebo* comes a heartbreaking journey into a small town's grief when their beloved golden girl is found murdered.*

PUBLISHER Amazon Crossing (World English)

PUBLICATION October 2024 (Final manuscript available: April 2024)

EDITOR Alexandra Torrealba

Greta Pugh is dead.

The small village of Bethesda, Wales, is no stranger to tragedy. Once a thriving, prosperous community, the town has been marred by an ever-deepening class divide. But now, with rich and popular Greta Pugh found murdered in the local quarry, everyone in Bethesda is rattled, and all their secrets are at risk.

No one is more aware of this than Greta's friends, especially Shane, a classmate and the son of the Pughs' cleaner. Everyone knows more than they're letting on, but when the police and the media descend with all their probing questions, there's soon nowhere left to hide the answers.

As Shane watches the investigation unfold, he grapples with everything he knows about the Pugh family and all he's learning about the people around them. Each revelation brings the town a step closer to the truth of who killed Greta...but only one person may truly know why.

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

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WORLD SPANISH (PLANETA/ SEIX BARRAL)

TURKISH (NEMESIS)

VIETNAMESE (SAIGON)

Teddy Wayne

Teddy Wayne is the author of *The Great Man Theory*, *Loner*, *The Love Song of Jonny Valentine*, and *Kapitoil*. He is the winner of a Whiting Award and an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship as well as a finalist for the Young Lions Fiction Award, the PEN/Bingham Prize, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize. He is a regular contributor to *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, and *McSweeney's*.

Agent: Jim Rutman

UK agent: Jim Gill, United Agents

Film agent: Will Watkins, CAA

*A WHITING AWARD WINNER



The Winner

Teddy Wayne's most ambitious entertainment, a mode of dramedy that should have no limits on its audience.

PUBLISHER HarperCollins (North American)
PUBLICATION May 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Millicent Bennett

Conor O'Toole has never been anywhere as casually glamorous as Cutters Neck, a gated community near Cape Cod. It's a sweet deal for the summer: free lodging in a guest cottage in exchange for tennis lessons, luxuriously far from the cramped Yonkers apartment he shares with his diabetic mother.

In this oceanfront paradise, however, new clients prove hard to come by, and Conor has bills to pay. Then a sharp-tongued divorcée appears, offering him double his usual rate. Soon he realizes Catherine is expecting additional, off-the-court services for her money, and Conor tumbles into a secret erotic affair unlike anything he's experienced before.

Despite his steamy flings with a woman twice his age, he simultaneously finds himself falling for the artsy, outspoken girl he met on the beach. Conor somehow finds a way to manage this tangled web—until he makes one final, irreversible mistake.

A dark, explosive literary thriller that brilliantly skewers the elite, Whiting Award winner Teddy Wayne's unputdownable novel is cinematic, shocking, and a psychological masterpiece.

***A Lit Hub "Most Anticipated Book"**

"Sexy, breathless, and brutal."

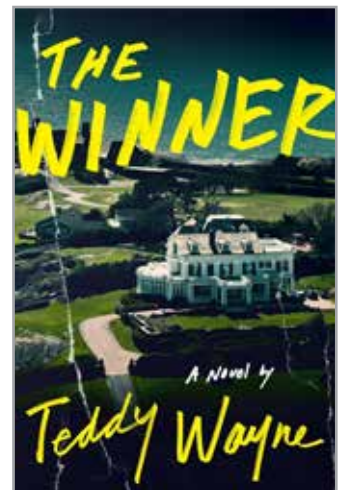
—Julia May Jonas, author of *Vladimir*

"Be prepared to fully lose yourself in *The Winner*—a book I started and then simply couldn't stop reading. Teddy Wayne has written a timely, topical novel that still somehow feels like a classic."

—Liz Moore, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Long Bright River*

"*The Winner* is a harrowing romp through the bedrooms of the rich and entitled...A gripping, provocative, and delightfully shocking novel."

—Nathan Hill, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Wellness*



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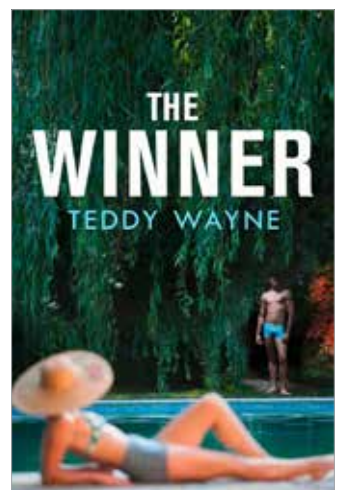
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Craig Willse

Craig Willse was a 2021 Lambda Literary Fellow and his work has been published in *Joyland*, *Fence*, and *HAD*, among others. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from CUNY Graduate Center.

Agent: Robert Guinsler

Film agent: Will Watkins, CAA

Providence



An introverted queer English professor falls for an enigmatic sophomore who lures him into his web of chaos and deceit.

PUBLISHER Union Square & Co. (World English)
PUBLICATION April 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Claire Wachtel

Mark Lausson has everything he thought he wanted: a coveted job at elite Sawyer College in Ohio. But at the start of his second year, stuck in a small town with deadlines piling up and paychecks falling short, Mark can already feel the fantasy crumbling. And then, a few weeks in, sophomore Tyler Cunningham shows up in class. In Tyler—confident, mysterious, and popular—Mark glimpses another way of being in the world. He finds Tyler’s self-possession both compelling and unsettling. Caught in the rush of sex and secrets, Mark ignores the increasing evidence that Tyler can’t be trusted. But by the time Mark comes to his senses, the irreparable damage is done. Complicating easy ideas of innocence, *Providence* explores the ways loneliness and desire distort our senses of self and other, right and wrong.

Intense, propulsive, and impossible to put down, *Providence* is perfect for readers of P. J. Vernon’s *Bath Haus* and Donna Tartt’s *The Secret History*, as well as Patricia Highsmith’s *Talented Mr. Ripley* and Garth Greenwell’s *What Belongs to You*.

“*Providence*’s bad gays will keep you up all night with their terrible decisions, hot sex, and irresistible trail of hidden clues. Is Craig Willse the secret love child of Tana French and Patricia Highsmith? There’s no other explanation. My new favorite thriller!”

—**Andrea Lawlor, author of *Paul Takes the Form of a Mortal Girl***

“*Providence* is a page-turning thriller. It’s also a queering of the modern-day gay narrative. Willse has crafted a sexy debut with a protagonist who doesn’t fit the worn tropes of damaged victim or oppressed saint, but instead a morally ambiguous antihero who keeps you guessing.”

—**Alejandro Varela, author of *The Town of Babylon*, a National Book Award finalist**

“Willse debuts with a consuming psychological thriller that turns familiar tropes of dark academia and fatal attraction on their heads...The result is a memorable, steamy, and accomplished queer thriller.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

Ashley Elston

Ashley Elston is the author of several young adult novels, including *The Rules for Disappearing* (a finalist in the Best Young Adult Novel category of the International Thriller Awards) and *10 Blind Dates*. Her work has been translated into 23 languages. She graduated with a Liberal Arts degree from Louisiana State University in Shreveport. Ashley worked for many years as a wedding photographer before turning her hand to writing. Ashley lives in Louisiana with her husband and three sons.

Agent: Sarah Landis

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Film agents: Dana Spector and Berni Vann, CAA

*A *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR



First Lie Wins

Evie Porter has everything a nice, Southern girl could want: a perfect, doting boyfriend, a house with a white picket fence and a garden, a fancy group of friends. The only catch: Evie Porter doesn't exist.

PUBLISHER Viking / Pamela Dorman Books (North American)

PUBLICATION January 2024 (Final manuscript available)

EDITOR Pamela Dorman

The identity comes first: Evie Porter. Once she's given a name and location by her mysterious boss Mr. Smith, she learns everything there is to know about the town and the people in it. Then the mark: Ryan Sumner. The last piece of the puzzle is the job.

Evie isn't privy to Mr. Smith's real identity, but she knows this job will be different. Ryan has gotten under her skin, and she's starting to envision a different sort of life for herself. But Evie can't make any mistakes—especially after what happened last time.

Because the one thing she's worked her entire life to keep clean, the one identity she could always go back to—her real identity—just walked right into this town. Evie Porter must stay one step ahead of her past while making sure there's still a future in front of her. The stakes couldn't be higher—but then, Evie has always liked a challenge...

*A *New York Times* Bestseller

*Reese Book Club Pick

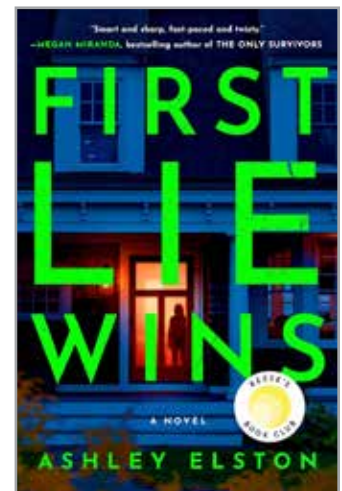
“Buckle up. *First Lie Wins* features some of the best cat and mouse suspense I've read in years, while serving up plenty of heart along this wild ride. I'm still breathless.”

—Lisa Gardner, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *One Step Too Far*

“Cool and clever and full-on fun, the sort of slippery high-stakes now-you-see-me-now-you-don't thriller that few novelists are bold enough to attempt these days. Pick it up, please. This is a good one.”

—A.J. Finn, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Woman in the Window* and *End of Story*

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RUSSIAN (AST)

WORLD SPANISH (PRH/SUMA DE LETRAS)

SWEDISH (FORUM)

TURKISH (YABANCI)

UKRAINIAN (VIVAT)

UK (HEADLINE)

Also by Ashley Elston

Anatomy of an Alibi

Anatomy of an Alibi is Strangers on a Train meets Everyone in my Family Has Killed Someone.

PUBLISHER Viking / Pamela Dorman Books (North American)
PUBLICATION Early 2026 (Final manuscript available: January 2025)
EDITOR Pamela Dorman

Aubrey Tanner is desperate for a change. Her “temporary” living situation is looking more permanent by the day. Just like the rest of her housemates, bad decisions and run-ins with the law have made it difficult to get ahead. Paying off the staggering debt hanging over her head is the only way Aubrey can dig herself out of the hole she’s found herself in, but she knows it will take less than legal ways to make that happen.

Camille Bayliss is desperate for a change. To continue living the life she’s become accustomed to, she must either continue to turn a blind eye to her cheating husband or find proof of his affairs in order to trigger the adultery clause in her prenup. But her husband, Benjamin, keeps a close eye on Camille...so close that it’s impossible to catch him unaware. To get the evidence she needs, she’ll have to somehow become a ghost.

Camille needs an alibi. Aubrey Tanner agrees to give her one.

From the top of her wig to the bottom of her designer shoes, Aubrey will move through a detailed itinerary on a weekend getaway for just shy of twenty-four hours so Benjamin lets his guard down enough for Camille to catch him in the act. Aubrey was expecting Camille to come away with enough evidence to prove her husband was having an affair. She wasn’t expecting Camille to be a widow at the end of the swap.

Hours after she learns of Benjamin’s death, Aubrey discovers meeting Camille wasn’t as random as she originally thought. She also learns each person she shares a roof with is connected to Benjamin in some way. And each person had a reason to kill him.

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (HEADLINE)

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

ALBANIAN (LIVING)

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE
(INTRINSECA)

BULGARIAN (ERA MEDIA)

CROATIAN (ZNANJE)

CZECH (GRADA PUBLISHING)

DUTCH (VOLT)

FINNISH (KIRJAPAJA)

FRENCH (ACTES SUD)

GERMAN (DROEMER)

GREEK (DIOPTRA)

HEBREW (KINNERET ZMORA)

HUNGARIAN (GENERAL PRESS)

ITALIAN (LONGANESI)

JAPANESE (TOKYO SOGENSHA)

KOREAN (MUNHAKDOGNE)

LITHUANIAN (BALTOS LANKOS)

MACEDONIAN (SAKAM KNIGI)

POLISH (ZYSK)

PORTUGUESE (PRESENCA)

ROMANIAN (BOOKZONE)

RUSSIAN (AST)

WORLD SPANISH (PRH/SUMA DE
LETRAS)

SWEDISH (FORUM)

TURKISH (YABANCI)

UKRAINIAN (VIVAT)

Ken Jaworowski

Ken Jaworowski has been a Senior Staff Editor at *The New York Times* for 17 years, primarily covering the culture desk. He has also had a dozen short stories published in literary magazines, several of which were nominated for Pushcart Prizes. His plays have been produced in New York, London, France, Edinburgh, and elsewhere.

Agent: Doug Stewart

UK agent: Caspian Dennis, Abner Stein

Film agent: Joe Veltre and Alice Lawson, The Gersh Agency

*FINALIST FOR A 2024 EDGAR AWARD, FOR BEST FIRST NOVEL BY AN AMERICAN AUTHOR



Small Town Sins

A gripping Rust Belt thriller that captures the characters of a down-and-out Pennsylvania town, revealing their troubled pasts and the crimes that could cost them their lives.

PUBLISHER Henry Holt (North American)
PUBLICATION August 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Tim Duggan

When volunteer firefighter Nathan finds millions in cash inside a burning building, he begins to question every decision he's made in his life. Meanwhile local nurse Callie makes a dangerous choice to take a dying patient on an adventure before it's too late. Just down the road, former heroin addict Andy, devastated by losing his wife and daughter, unexpectedly finds the perfect target for his wrath in a local predator.

Set in small-town Pennsylvania, this Rust Belt thriller will appeal to fans of Daniel Woodrell's *Winter's Bone* and the popular TV show *Mare of Easttown*.

***Finalist for an Edgar Award!**

"Sitting comfortably at the pinnacle of psychological thriller writing, *Small Town Sins* is smart, compelling and, by turns, harrowing and heartfelt. Under the author's deft touch, the plots of the novel speed relentlessly from first page to last, through a Rust-Belt America so perfectly realized that we feel we're there in person. And what an unforgettable trio of protagonists! Given Jaworowski's masterful stylistic voice, you will hardly believe this is a debut novel. Bravo!"

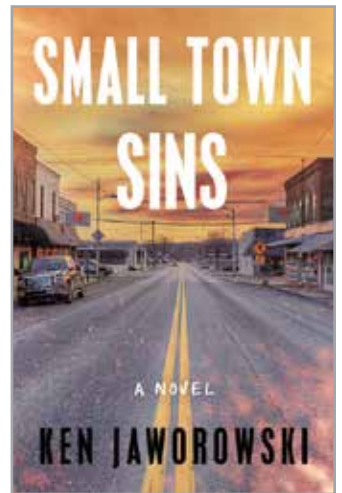
—Jeffery Deaver, author of *The Bone Collector* and *Hunting Time*

"*Small Town Sins* is full of surprises and moves like a bullet train. I couldn't turn the pages fast enough. Fans of *A Simple Plan* and other rural noirs are sure to savor this dark and twisted thriller. I'm excited to read whatever Ken Jaworowski writes next."

—Jason Rekulak, bestselling author of *Hidden Pictures*

"A tour de force of lives on the edge. A page-turner that I couldn't put down. When you think left, it hits you right; when you think it's safe, the ice starts to crack. A seriously good noir thriller."

—Willy Vlautin, author of *Lean on Pete*



RIGHTS SOLD

TV RIGHTS (SONY)

CZECH (BETA)

JAPANESE (SHUEISHA)

RUSSIAN (ARKADIA)



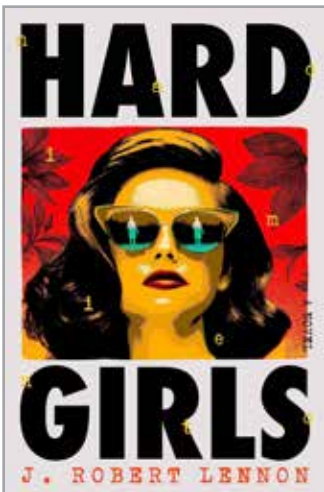
J. Robert Lennon

J. Robert Lennon is the author of ten novels, including *Familiar*, *Broken River*, and *Subdivision*, and the story collections *Pieces for the Left Hand*, *See You in Paradise*, and *Let Me Think*. He lives in Ithaca, New York.

Agent: Jim Rutman

Film agent: Josie Freedman, CAA

Hard Girls



In this razor-sharp crime novel from a "master of the dark arts" (Kelly Link), two estranged twin sisters hunt down their elusive mother—and face down the darkness they tried to escape.

PUBLISHER Little, Brown & Co. / Mulholland Books (North American)

PUBLICATION February 2024 (Final manuscript available)

EDITOR Josh Kendall

RIGHTS SOLD

GERMAN (SUHRKAMP)

Jane Pool likes her safe, suburban existence just fine. She has a house, a family, (an infuriating mother-in-law,) and a quiet-if-unfulfilling administrative job at the local college. Everything is wonderfully, numbingly normal. Yet Jane remains haunted by her past: her mercurial, absent mother, her parents' secrets, and the act of violence that transformed her life. When her estranged twin, Lila, makes contact, claiming to know where their mother is and why she left all those years ago, Jane agrees to join her, desperate for answers and the chance to reconnect with the only person who really knew her true self. Yet as the hunt becomes treacherous, and pulls the two women to the earth's distant corners, they find themselves up against their mother's subterfuge and the darkness that always stalked their family. Now Jane stands to lose the life she's made for the one that has been impossible to escape.

Set in both the Pool family's past and their present, and melding elements of a chase novel, an espionage thriller, and domestic suspense, *Hard Girls* is an utterly distinctive pastiche—propulsive, mysterious, cracked, intelligent, and unexpected at every turn.

"We build our world from the materials available, those given and allowed us. In *Hard Girls*, J. Robert Lennon has a brilliant, seemingly effortless way of sorting through the lumber, bent nails, staples, glue, and salvage that make up our lives."

—James Sallis, author of *Drive* and *Sarah Jane*

"*Hard Girls* is a rollicking read, an immersive, funny, consequential family story that is also a thriller. Lennon is a master of plot and suspense, but he's also wonderful at creating indelible characters, particularly the wild twins at the heart of this story. *Hard Girls* deftly evokes complex family dynamics: the tense innocence and precocity of adolescence as well as the poignant, hard reckoning of parenthood."

—Dana Spiotta, author of *Wayward*

Jennifer Belle

Jennifer Belle is the *New York Times* bestselling author of four novels: *Going Down* (which was named best debut novel by *Entertainment Weekly* and optioned for the screen by Madonna), *High Maintenance*, *Little Stalker*, and *The Seven Year Bitch*. Her stories and essays have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Independent* (UK), *Harper's Bazaar*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Ms.*, *BlackBook*, *The New York Observer*, *Mudfish*, *Post Road*, and many anthologies. She lives in Greenwich Village with her husband and two sons, and leads the affectionately named Belle's Hell writing workshops.

Agent: Doug Stewart



Swanna in Love

In the vein of True Grit and The Catcher In The Rye, Swanna in Love introduces us to an unforgettable teenager who is on a complex journey of sexual exploration.

PUBLISHER Akashic Books (World English; UK: Dead Ink)
PUBLICATION January 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Johnny Temple

It's the summer of 1982 and fourteen-year-old Swanna Swain is the only one left at camp. The place is a ghost town by the time her mother Val finally shows up six hours late—stoned and radiant—in a Ford pickup driven by Borislav, her new young Russian lover. Assuming she is headed home to her air-conditioned Upper West Side apartment, Swanna and her lovable younger brother Madding are instead dragged to Vermont—to an artist colony where kids are not welcome and they are forced to sleep in the back of the truck, while Val is cozy inside the house with the Russian.

Then Swanna meets Dennis, a handsome married father of two, at a bowling alley, and, knowing a thing or two about seduction from Judy Blume, her best friend at camp, and her own parents' many affairs—she sets out to convince Dennis to help her. But love seldom obeys rules, and even a tough, smart, city girl like Swanna might not be able to handle falling in love.

Bestselling novelist Jennifer Belle returns with a kind of inverse *Lolita* that explores adolescent desire from the girl's point of view. In turns hilarious and wildly shocking, *Swanna in Love* will keep your feathers ruffled and the pages gliding by.

“Both a riotous page-turner and a thoughtful examination of girlhood, vulnerability, and sexual power.”

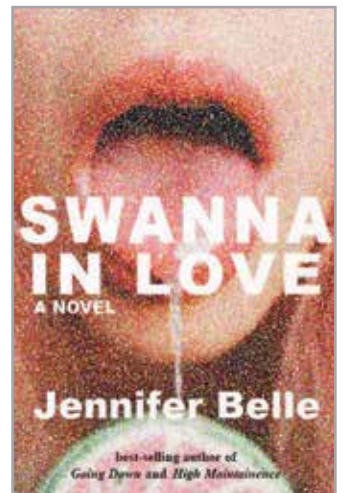
—Kirkus Reviews, *Starred Review*

“Whip-smart dialogue and a convincing teenage perspective add heft to this comic novel. Belle breaks hearts with the story of Swanna's first love.”

—Publishers Weekly

“*Swanna in Love* is an addictive read, a book as genuinely funny as it is transgressive. Jennifer Belle captures the bravado and vulnerability of adolescence in a voice that jumps off the first page and ventures into some dangerous territory.”

—Tom Perrotta, author of *Tracy Flick Can't Win*



UK EDITION:



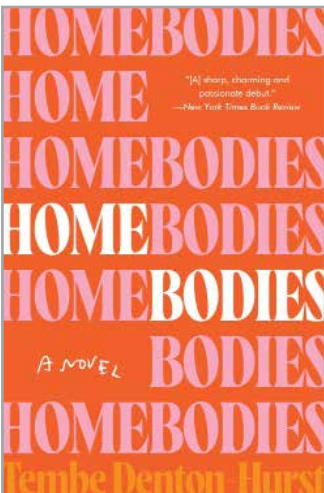


Tembe Denton-Hurst

Tembe Denton-Hurst is a staff writer at *New York Magazine's The Strategist*, covering beauty, lifestyle, and books; she previously wrote about beauty, gender, and culture for *NYLON*, *them.*, and *Elle*. When she's not writing, Tembe can be found on her couch in Queens where she lives with her partner and their two cats, Stella and Dakota.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski
UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein
Film agent: Danny Hertz, The Gotham Group

Homebodies



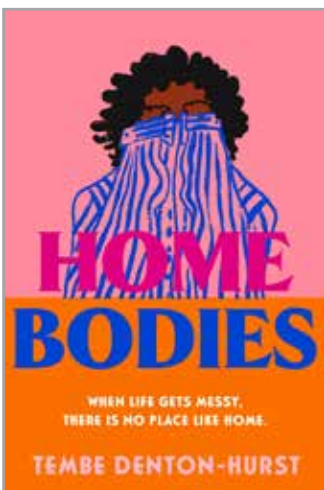
An insightful, propulsive, and deeply sexy debut novel about a young Black writer whose world is turned upside down when she loses her coveted job in media and pens a searing manifesto about racism in the industry.

PUBLISHER HarperCollins (North American)
PUBLICATION May 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Em Kupor

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (HARPERCOLLINS)

UK EDITION:



Mickey Hayward dreams of writing stories that matter, but, for now, her days are filled with listicles about lip gloss and click-bait articles about celebrity haircare. Still, the job is flashy and her girlfriend is steady and supportive. The path may be long, but Mickey's well on her way, and it's far from the messy life she left behind in Maryland. Everything finally seems to be falling into place—until she finds out she's being replaced.

Distraught and enraged, Mickey fires back with a detailed letter outlining the racism she's endured as a Black woman in media, certain it will change the world for the better. But when her letter is met with overwhelming silence, even from her usually-encouraging girlfriend, Mickey is sent into a tailspin of self-doubt. Forced to reckon with just how fragile her life is, she flees to the last place she ever dreamed she would run: her hometown.

Back home, Mickey is seduced by the simplicity of her hometown—and the flirtation of a former flame—but she soon learns that you can't outrun your past. In the newfound quiet, she is forced to reflect on the sacrifices she'd made for an industry that never loved her back and pick up the pieces of the life she thought she'd left behind for good. After all, when the walls of success you've carefully built around yourself come crumbling down, what—and who—are you left with?

*A "Best Book of 2023" by *Marie Claire*, *Esquire*, *Vogue*, *them*, *Autostraddle*, *Betches*, *Gay Times*, and *Cosmopolitan*

"I saw so much of myself in her utterly delicious and sometimes aching story."
—**Honorée Fanonne Jeffers**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Love Songs of W.E.B. DuBois*

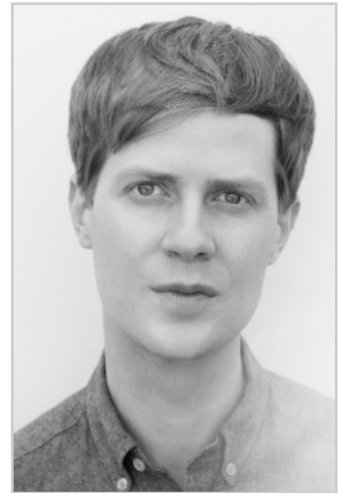
"In her sharp, charming and passionate debut, Tembe Denton-Hurst showcases an eye for the details that matter... *Homebodies* contemporizes the hero's journey, giving us a novel of love, work and becoming for the digital age."
—**The New York Times Book Review**

Henry Hoke

Henry Hoke is the author of the memoir, *Sticker* (Bloomsbury Object Lessons); *The Book of Endless Sleepovers*; the story collection, *Genevieves*; and the novel, *The Groundhog Forever*. His work has appeared in *Electric Literature*, *Triangle House*, *The Offing*, and the Catapult anthology, *Tiny Crimes*. He holds an MFA from the California Institute of the Arts, where he taught for five years, and presently teaches at the University of Virginia Young Writers Workshop and lives in Brooklyn.

Agent: Jim Rutman

Film agent: Brooke Ehrlich, CAA



Open Throat

A mountain lion is on the brink of starvation in the urban landscape of Los Angeles. As it observes the city's perilous beauty and confronts climate change, inequality and love, the animal asks itself: Does it want to eat a human, or become one?

PUBLISHER Farrar, Straus & Giroux / MCD (North American)

PUBLICATION June 2023 (Final manuscript available)

EDITOR Jackson Howard

An elegiac snapshot of contemporary Los Angeles, told from the perspective of a queer, dangerously hungry mountain lion, isolated and struggling to survive in a drought-devastated Griffith Park. As it protects the precarious welfare of a nearby homeless encampment from its thicket, it confronts a carousel of temptations and threats, taking us on a tour that spans the city's cruel inequalities to the toll of climate grief, all while grappling with the complexities of its own gender identity and memories of a vicious, absent father.

***Sold at auction in the US**

***Sold at auction in the UK**

***Finalist for the Barnes & Noble Discover Prize**

***One of *Elle's* Best Summer Books of 2023, and one of *i-D's* Fiction to be Excited for in 2023. Named a Most Anticipated Book by *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *BuzzFeed*, *The Boston Globe*, *Nylon*, *Alta*, *Shondaland*, *Chicago Review of Books*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *Literary Hub*.**

"*Open Throat* is what fiction should be."

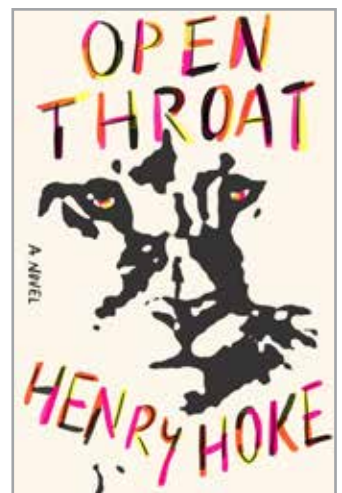
—The New York Times Book Review

"This is a clever, witty conceit, cleverly, wittily executed. It's funny, it's heartbreaking and nail-bitingly propulsive, with an exquisite Hitchcockian climax."

—The Guardian

"Give this sinewy prose poem a chance and you'll fall under the spell of a forlorn voice trapped in the hellscape of modern America...it's the combination of attention and naiveté that charges his observations with unconscious profundity...The mountain lion speaks for a lonely, alienated generation."

—The Washington Post



RIGHTS SOLD

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE

(TORDESILHAS)

GERMAN (EISELE VERLAG)

ITALIAN (MERCURIO)

UK (PICADOR)

UK EDITION:





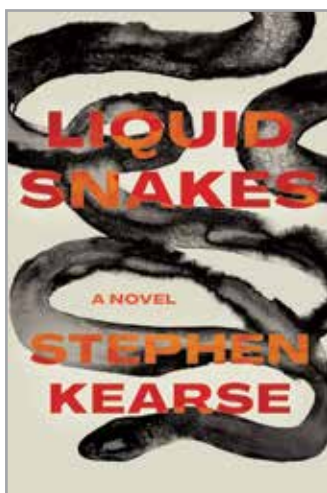
Stephen Kearse

Stephen Kearse is a contributing writer at *The Nation*, where he covers music, movies, and books. His criticism and reporting have been published in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *GQ*, and *Pitchfork* among other outlets. His debut novel, *In The Heat of the Light*, was published in 2019 by Brain Mill Press. Originally from Atlanta, he now lives in metro Washington, DC with his family and a rotating cast of spiders and mosquitoes.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski

Film agent: Nathan Miller, Management

Liquid Snakes



Liquid Snakes is an Afropessimistic tale of pollution, poison, and dark pleasure. The novel will appeal to readers of Mateo Askaripour's *Black Buck*, Karan Mahajan's *The Association of Small Bombs*, and Paul Beatty's *The White Boy Shuffle*.

PUBLISHER Soft Skull (World English)
PUBLICATION August 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Mensah Demary

In Atlanta, Kenny Bomar is a biochemist-turned-coffee-shop-owner in denial about his divorce and grieving his stillborn daughter. Chemicals killed their child, leaching from a type of plant the government is hiding in Black neighborhoods. Kenny's coping mechanisms are likewise chemical and becoming more baroque—from daily injections of lethal snake venom to manufacturing designer drugs. As his grief turns corrosive, it taints every person he touches.

Black epidemiologists Retta and Ebonee are called to the scene when a mysterious black substance is found to have killed a high school girl. Investigating these "blackouts" sends the women down separate paths of blame and retribution as two seemingly disparate narratives converge in a cinematic conclusion.

Liquid Snakes is an immersive, white-knuckle ride. Transfiguring a whodunit plot into a labyrinthine reinterpretation of a crime procedural, Stephen Kearse offers an uncanny commentary on an alternative world, poisoned.

****The Boston Globe*, A Best Book of the Summer**

****The Millions*, A Most Anticipated Book of the Year**

****Kirkus Reviews*, A Best Book Club Fiction Book of the Year**

"*Liquid Snakes* is a strange, disorienting puzzle; a mocking eulogy; a bitter, self-lacerating exercise in what one character calls 'vivid ideation'; a long look into a sinkhole of grief. It twists in your hands and in your heart before biting down."

—**Los Angeles Times**

"The best sci-fi allows us to see our own world through new, more awake eyes; it's safe to say that Stephen Kearse understood the assignment."

—**Oprah Daily**

"An immensely engaging read—clever and nimble in its narration, pointed in its critiques—with a chorus of interesting voices and arresting images."

—**Chicago Review of Books**

Katherine Lin

Katherine Lin is a Bay Area attorney and writer. A graduate of Northwestern University (2011) and Stanford Law School (2014), Katherine currently represents low-income tenants as a staff attorney and clinical supervisor at a clinic at Berkeley Law School.

You Can't Stay Here Forever is her debut novel.

Agent: Elizabeth Bewley

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein

Film agent: Sally Wilcox, A3 Artists Agency



You Can't Stay Here Forever

A young widow flees California for the French Riviera in this compelling debut, a tale of loss, rebirth, modern friendship, and romance.

PUBLISHER HarperCollins (North American)
PUBLICATION May 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Emily Griffin

Just days after her young, handsome husband dies in a car accident, Ellie Huang discovers that he had a mistress. Acting on impulse—or is it grief? rage? Probably all three—Ellie cashes in Ian's life insurance policy for an extended stay at the luxurious Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in Antibes, France. Accompanying her is her free-spirited best friend, Mable Chou.

Ellie hopes that the five-star resort on the French Riviera, with its stunning clientele and floral-scented cocktails, will be a heady escape from the real world. And at first it is. She and Mable meet an intriguing couple, Fauna and Robbie, and as their poolside chats roll into wine-soaked dinners, the four become increasingly intimate. But the sunlit getaway soon turns into a reckoning for Ellie as long-simmering tensions and uncomfortable truths swirl to the surface.

Taking the reader from San Francisco to the gilded luxury of the south of France, *You Can't Stay Here Forever* is a sharply funny and exciting debut that explores the slippery nature of marriage, the push and pull between friends, and the interplay of race and privilege, seen through the eyes of a young Asian American woman.

***Named a must-read book of summer by: Good Morning America, People, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Los Angeles Times, the Boston Globe, and the Philadelphia Inquirer and one of the best books of the year by the New York Post**

"...[A] beautiful, atmospheric read."

—Good Morning America

"A subtle, character-driven story about interracial marriage...[and] opposites-attract friendship....Through memories, Lin skillfully reveals Ellie and Ian's marriage of contrasts....Lin is deft and never overbearing in her handling of race."

—New York Times Book Review

"A transportive debut."

—Boston Globe



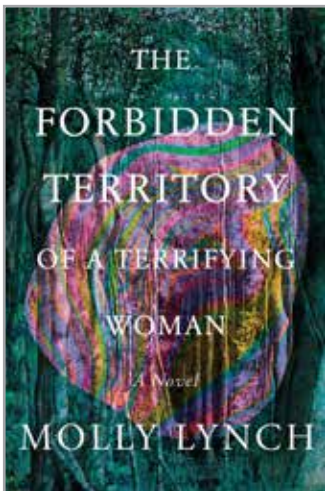


Molly Lynch

Molly Lynch grew up on the west coast of Canada and lived in Ireland as a teenager. She worked in Dublin, Cork, Manchester and Malaga before moving to Montreal to study literature. She's spent time in Syria, Lebanon and Turkey and moved to Baltimore where she earned an MFA from the Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars. She now teaches creative writing at the University of Michigan.

Agent: Jim Rutman

The Forbidden Territory of a Terrifying Woman



Fates and Furies meets Melancholia in this ominous and absorbing debut novel about marriage and motherhood in a time of ecological collapse, as mothers around the world begin to mysteriously vanish from their homes.

PUBLISHER Catapult (North American)
PUBLICATION June 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Leigh Newman

Ada—a woman from Montreal living reluctantly in Michigan—vanishes from her bed one night while her husband Danny is asleep beside her, her young son, Gilles, in the next room. Desperate to locate Ada before Gilles understands what has happened, Danny begins a search. But the feds are already involved: across the country and around the world, mothers are vanishing from their homes. Where did Ada go? What has she gone through? And how does the mystery relate to the forest that she seemed magnetically drawn to?

Confronting the role of motherhood and the meaning of home in the wreckage of capitalism and climate change, *The Forbidden Territory of a Terrifying Woman* is that rare, dazzling debut that is both thrilling and profound. It is a mystery, a play on myths of metamorphosis, and above all, a story of love—between husband and wife, mother and child—deeply troubled by the future we face.

“How can women bear America? The only answer, I think, is for them all to leave. This wise, complex and fascinating novel touches on that possibility.”

—**Lucy Ellmann, author of *Ducks, Newburyport***

“Molly Lynch’s hypnotic debut, in its intensity and wry wisdom, evokes the early feminist novels of Margaret Atwood. Lynch is the kind of writer who can, with the turn of a phrase, set the ordinary thrumming with almost unbearable tension. She reminds us that in our current age, all of our placid hours, our every affection—most especially for our children—can be upended by dread. A writer to watch, and to celebrate.”

—**Alice McDermott, author of *The Ninth Hour***

“[A] spectacular debut...Writing in tight, precise prose, Lynch weaves environmental disaster, feminist theory, and classical myth into a mesmerizing tale. Lovers of Margaret Atwood and Lauren Groff will be among the many enthralled.”

—**Publishers Weekly, *Starred Review***

Oindrila Mukherjee

Oindrila Mukherjee teaches creative writing at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. She grew up in India, where she worked as a journalist for *The Statesman*, the country's oldest English language newspaper, before moving to the US for graduate school. She has a Ph.D. in Literature and Creative Writing from the University of Houston and an MFA in fiction from the University of Florida. Oindrila's work has appeared in *Kenyon Review Online*, *Salon*, *Ecotone*, *The Colorado Review*, *South Carolina Review*, *The Oxford Anthology of Bengali Literature*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and elsewhere. At present she is a contributing editor for *Aster(ix)* and is a regular contributor to the Indian magazine *Scroll.in*, where she writes a book series called *Bottom Shelf* on forgotten or little known books with an Indian connection.

Agent: Jessica Friedman

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein



The Dream Builders

*Over the course of a summer in India, simmering tensions—questions of class, gender, and globalization—force the intertwined characters of **The Dream Builders** to confront just how fragile life is in a city built on aspirations.*

PUBLISHER Tin House (North American)
PUBLICATION January 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Elizabeth DeMeo

After living in the US for years, Maneka Roy returns home to India to mourn the loss of her mother and finds herself in a new world. The booming city of Hrishipur where her father now lives is nothing like the part of the country where she grew up, and the more she sees of this new, sparkling city, the more she learns that nothing—and no one—here is as it appears. Ultimately, it will take an unexpected tragic event for Maneka and those around her to finally understand just how fragile life is in this city built on aspirations.

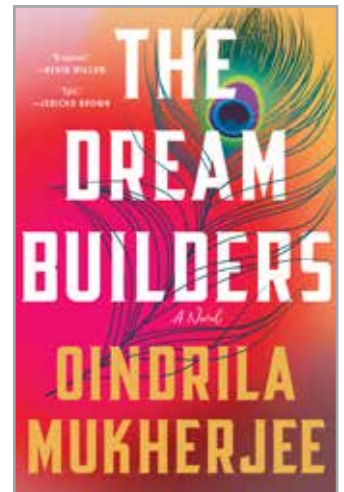
Written from the perspectives of ten different characters, Oindrila Mukherjee's incisive debut novel explores class divisions, gender roles, and stories of survival within a society that is constantly changing and becoming increasingly Americanized. It's a story about India today, and people impacted by globalization everywhere: a tale of ambition, longing, and bitter loss that asks what it really costs to try and build a dream.

"The Dream Builders is a novel of epic proportions that follows Maneka Roy and those around her as they each ponder the power of forgiveness and learn none of them can wield that power without first forgiving the self. Oindrila Mukherjee allows full life for these characters who are often real enough to remind us of ourselves, even as they betray one another...even as they betray themselves. This is a lovely debut."

—**Jericho Brown, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Tradition***

"The Dream Builders is such an impressive feat of storytelling, a novel that examines the constraints of class, of gender, of history, while showcasing the sheer expansiveness of the endeavor, skillfully shifting the point of view amongst a group of characters who each demand a claim on the story. It's a marvel of a structure, built by a great talent."

—**Kevin Wilson, New York Times bestselling author of *Nothing to See Here***



RIGHTS SOLD

ANZ (SCRIBE)

INDIAN (HARPERCOLLINS)

Recently Published



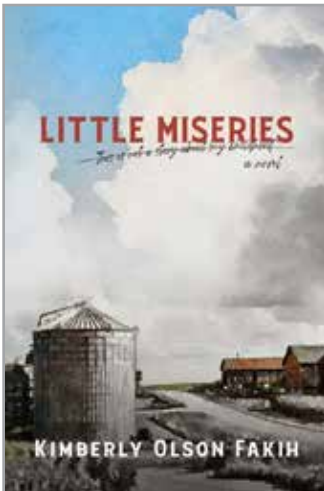
Kimberly Olson Fakh

Kimberly Olson Fakh is a former editor at *Kirkus Reviews*, *School Library Journal*, a freelance reviewer for *The New York Times*, and the founder of the website *The Little New York Kitchen*. For almost two decades she ran Podunk Tea Room in the East Village of Manhattan. Kimberly is originally from the Midwest but considers New York City her home.

Agent: Mary Krienke

Little Miseries

This is Not a Story About My Childhood



Little Miseries is an episodic novel of profound beauty and sharp reality.

PUBLISHER	Delphinium (North American)
PUBLICATION	January 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR	Joseph Olshan

Set in Iowa and Minnesota in the 60s and 70s, *Little Miseries* is a Midwestern Gothic where sometimes the misery is just that—little—and sometimes it is epic and yawning, capable of swallowing every childhood memory. There are the miseries a family will talk about—old family lore about a great, great, great uncle who was split in two while connecting railroad cars—and the misery families can't bear to repeat. There are stories about sex and gore at cocktail parties, around bonfires, at sleepovers, in classrooms, and in the newspaper. Everyday growing pains are shadowed by the abduction and dismemberment of a local girl, reports of a massacre of nurses, and the harm done by strangers. To survive childhood is to survive all of these miseries and tragedies, because growing up means waking up to a world that can be random and brutal.

With some thematic overlap with Rick Moody's *The Ice Storm*, *Little Miseries* is set in a time and place when parents didn't talk much to their children but they certainly talked around them. *Little Miseries* is a tribute to what it means to come into awareness, to be a part of a family unit, and to bear responsibility for those you loved and who have been harmed along the way.

"Little Miseries is a lively and energetic account of growing up in the Midwest in the last century, in a variegated family assailed by disasters great and small."

—Lynne Sharon Schwartz, author of *Leaving Brooklyn* and *Rough Strife*

"The book...shows how catastrophic the secret world of grown-ups can truly be on the delicate web that is a family...it shows Fakh as a gifted chronicler of children's helplessness and familial angst."

—Kirkus Reviews

"[In] this sharp depiction of a Midwestern girl's coming-of-age...Fakh's vivid depictions of Kimmy's adolescent dilemmas blend nostalgia for the period with a visceral sense of her protagonist's pain."

—Publishers Weekly

Jessica Saunders

Jessica Saunders is a lawyer and writer living in the suburbs of New York City.

Agent: Elizabeth Bewley

UK agent: Rachel Clements, Abner Stein



Love, Me

A pitch-perfect exploration of modern married life, Jessica Saunders's deliciously readable novel embraces the truth that some old flames can't be snuffed out, no matter how many years go by.

PUBLISHER Union Square & Co. (World English)
PUBLICATION January 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Claire Wachtel

Rachel Miller is a lawyer and mother of two who's just as comfortable in a courtroom as she is on the sidelines of a soccer field. Sure, her marriage is on autopilot, her parents are overly involved, and the other suburban moms are just a little bit catty. But if you ask Rachel, life is good. That is until her world is upended when racy photos of her and her high school boyfriend, the famous actor Jack Bellow—along with his love letters to her—are published in a tabloid, unexpectedly thrusting Rachel into the spotlight. This newfound attention calls into question her marriage, her career, and her superstar ex. Betrayed by someone she trusted and reunited with the man she tried so hard to forget, Rachel must ask herself, “How did I get here? And what do I really want?”



RIGHTS SOLD

DUTCH (HARPERCOLLINS HOLLAND)

UKRAINIAN (KNIGOLOVE)

“[A] story about a strong woman who finds her ultimate strength and belief in herself. The ending is perfection!”

—**Huffington Post**

“Make room for the latest rom-com author to join the ranks. Jessica Saunders is funny, talented, and destined for long-term shelf space.”

—**Good Morning America**

“[P]erfect for fans of Sophie Kinsella and Jennifer Weiner—real life but just way more dramatic!”

—**Shondaland**

“A second-chance romance on steroids, I tore through *Love, Me* in a single sitting. It had me breathless and unsure until the last word—I loved it.”

—**Annabel Monaghan, bestselling author of *Same Time Next Summer***

“A sweet and honest look at first loves and second chances with a dash of sexy celebrity mixed in. Jessica Saunders is a new writer to watch!”

—**Allison Winn Scotch, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Rewind***



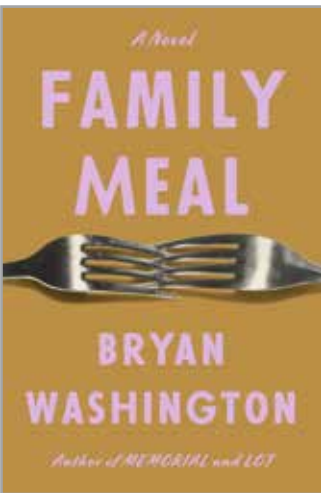
Bryan Washington

Bryan Washington is the author of the story collection *Lot* and the bestselling novel *Memorial*. He is also the winner of a National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 Award, a New York Public Library Young Lions Fiction Award, an Ernest J. Gaines Award, an International Dylan Thomas Prize, a Lambda Literary Award, and an O. Henry Award, and was a finalist for the James Tait Black Prize, the Joyce Carol Oates Prize, a PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize, and a National Book Critics Circle Fiction award. He was a columnist for *The New York Times Magazine* and his fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker* and *The Best American Short Stories*. He divides his time between Houston and Osaka.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski

Film agent: Alice Lawson, The Gersh Agency

Family Meal

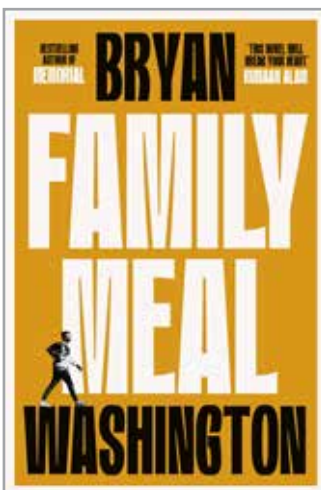


From the bestselling, award-winning author of Memorial and Lot, an irresistible, intimate novel about two young men, once best friends, whose lives collide again after a loss.

PUBLISHER Riverhead (North American)
PUBLICATION October 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Laura Perciasepe

RIGHTS SOLD

- DUTCH** (NIJGH & VAN DITMAR)
- FINNISH** (OTAVA)
- GERMAN** (KEIN UND ABER)
- ITALIAN** (NN EDITORE)
- WORLD SPANISH** (ANAGRAMA)
- UK** (ATLANTIC BOOKS)



Cam is living in Los Angeles and falling apart after the love of his life has died. Kai's ghost won't leave Cam alone; his spectral visits wild, tender, and unexpected. When Cam returns to his hometown of Houston, he crashes back into the orbit of his former best friend, TJ, and TJ's family bakery. TJ's not sure how to navigate this changed Cam, impenetrably cool and self-destructing, or their charged estrangement. Can they find a way past all that has been said—and left unsaid—to save each other? Could they find a way back to being okay again, or maybe for the first time?

When secrets and wounds become so insurmountable that they devour us from within, hope and sustenance and friendship can come from the most unlikely source. Spanning Los Angeles, Houston, and Osaka, *Family Meal* is a story about how the people who know us the longest can hurt us the most, but how they also set the standard for love.

***Publishers Weekly Top 10 Books of Fall**

Named a Must Read for the Fall by *Time*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Town & Country*, *Lithub*, *Kirkus

“Tender and poignant, Washington’s latest hits the spot.”
—**People**

“What makes Washington’s writing about family so refreshing and complex is how he shows the ways people attempt to demonstrate the emotions they otherwise have trouble expressing to the ones they hold dear...Each story line gives the other strength.”
—**New York Times Book Review**

“Washington is a generous and gentle writer, with a profound capacity to face the cruelty and pain of contemporary American life while simultaneously offering his characters—and readers—an expansive space for self-forgiveness, hope and nourishment.”
—**Washington Post**

Recently Published

Sharon Sochil Washington

Sharon Sochil Washington, Ph.D. is a cultural anthropologist and the creator of White Space, a newsletter on Substack that explores the meaning between the words we use. She has written for the *The American Scholar*, *Dallas Times Herald*, and *New York Newsday*. She attended Columbia University and the New School for Social Research in New York City and speaks regularly at universities and conferences on issues of social justice, race, economic insecurity, education and media influences. Her Ph.D. dissertation, “The Educational Contract,” recounts her travels in the U.S., sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America.

Agent: Mary Krienke



The Blue Is Where God Lives

A time-bending novel that interrogates the legacy of slavery and roots of poverty, witnesses the power in survival, and asks whether belief, magic, and intention can forge new realities.

PUBLISHER Abrams / The Overlook Press (North American)
PUBLICATION April 2023 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Abby Muller



Blue’s daughter, Tsitra, is dying a horrific death. Thousands of miles away, Blue feels time slowing and hears voices, followed by an 18-month stillness. More than a century before, Blue’s grandparents, Amanda and Palmer, attend a salon party in New Orleans. It’s a veritable array of who’s-who within pre-Civil War social circles. Conversations get heated quickly as Ismay, the hostess who hails from French royalty, antagonizes Palmer, a landowner whose parents had been sold into American slavery and who’s there to seek revenge, and Amanda, a shapeshifter and puzzlemaker who had been enslaved until this very gathering. At this party, Amanda learns of a plot that will doom a line of her—and Palmer’s—family to poverty. She devises her own counter-plot to undo the damage.

Meanwhile, Blue comes out of her stillness, broke and devoid of inspiration. In profound grief and consumed by guilt, Blue travels to The Ranch where the voices grow louder and she has visions of two women from the distant past. As time collapses and Blue and Amanda meet in the space of possibility, Blue feels the spark of a power and creative energy she has only glimpsed.

As with the magical realism of Helen Oyeyemi and with similar themes as Jacqueline Woodson’s *Red at the Bone*, *The Blue Is Where God Lives* challenges conventions and defies categories, obliterates the space between past and present, and opens up a world that is wholly, viscerally alive.

“Harrowing...*The Blue Is Where God Lives* is an incredible tale about how language and memory can remake culture, history, or a single life.”

—**Foreword Reviews, Starred Review**

“What a brilliant disruption to tired discourses about poverty and the generational impacts of racism. Complex and ethereal—yet in other ways deeply down to earth. The thing I loved most was how stalwartly *The Blue Is Where God Lives* refuses to deny agency to those experiencing poverty. Read this book slowly. Leave underlines and notes in the margins. Then read it again.”

—**Milo Michels, University Book Store, WA**



Katie Williams

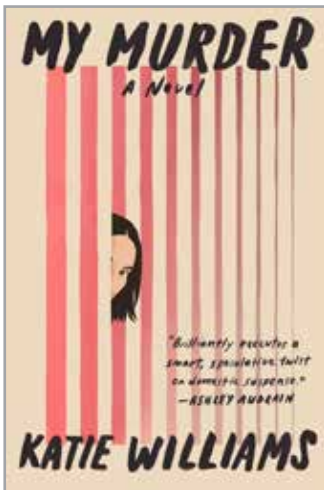
Katie Williams is the author of the novel *Tell the Machine Goodnight*, a Kirkus Prize finalist, *New York Times* Editors Choice, and one of NPR's Best Books of 2018. She is also the author of the young adult novels *Absent* and *The Space Between Trees*. Her short fiction has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Best American Fantasy*, *American Short Fiction*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Subtropics*, and elsewhere. Katie is an assistant professor in fiction writing at Emerson College in Boston.

Agent: Doug Stewart

UK agent: Caspian Dennis, Abner Stein

Film agent: Rich Green, The Gotham Group

My Murder



A propulsive, darkly comic novel, set in the near future, in which a young mother is cloned and brought back to life following her own murder, but comes to suspect that there is more to the story of her life and death than anyone is telling her.

PUBLISHER Riverhead (North American)

PUBLICATION June 2023 (Final manuscript available)

EDITOR Sarah McGrath

RIGHTS SOLD

TV RIGHTS (FIFTH SEASON)

BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE (ASTRAL)

FRENCH (ACTES SUD)

HUNGARIAN (KONYVMOLYKEPZO)

ITALIAN (BOLLATI BORINGHIERI)

PORTUGUESE (PRH TOPSELLER)

RUSSIAN (EVERBOOK)

TURKISH (ITHAKI)

UK (HEADLINE)

Lou is a happily married mother of an adorable toddler. She's also the clone of the original Louise who, along with four other victims of a local serial killer, has been brought back to life by a government project to return the women to their grieving families. But as the new Lou re-adapts to her old life and attends a support group for murdered women, questions surface about what exactly preceded her death, and how much to trust those around her. Understanding the truth may determine what comes next for Lou.

Darkly comic, set in the near future, *My Murder* offers an exploration of ideas about personal identity, domestic life, and reinvention, within a suspenseful, surprising, and entertaining mystery.

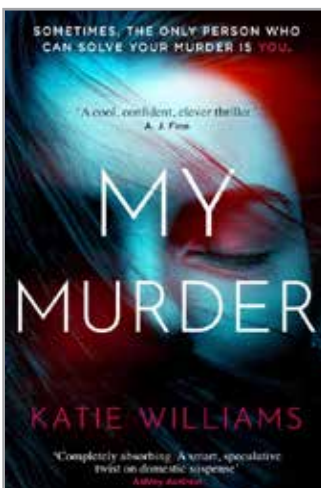
“Startling and original, *My Murder* is a gripping speculative twist on the crime novel.”
—Paula Hawkins, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Girl on the Train*

“*My Murder* is a sly, captivating twister of a novel. Darkly funny, deeply scary and utterly original, it will keep you guessing until its final, haunting pages.”
—Megan Abbott, author of *The Turnout* and *Give Me Your Hand*

“When did I last read a thriller this cool, this confident? This clever? A novel so hard-charging yet light on its feet? But best and most of all, this book is F-U-N. Once you've turned the final page, after you've read that amazingly poignant final line, you can marvel at the invention and brio of *My Murder*; in the heady moment, though, you'll be enjoying yourself far too much.”

—A. J. Finn, bestselling author of *The Woman in the Window*

“Confident, hypnotic and original...Katie Williams brilliantly executes a smart, speculative twist on domestic suspense, and it makes for a completely absorbing ride.”
—Ashley Audrain, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Push*



Michael Swanwick

Michael Swanwick has received the Hugo, Nebula, Theodore Sturgeon, and World Fantasy Awards for his work—both short fictions and for his decades of novels. *Stations of the Tide* was honored with the Nebula Award and was also nominated for the Hugo and Arthur C. Clarke Awards. His stories have appeared in *Omni*, *Penthouse*, *Amazing*, *Asimov's*, *High Times*, *New Dimensions*, *Starlight*, *Universe*, *Full Spectrum*, *Triquarterly* and elsewhere. Many have been reprinted in Best of the Year anthologies, and translated into numerous foreign publications.

Agent: Danielle Bukowski

Film agent: Ron Bernstein, IAG



Stations of the Tide

The Nebula Award-winning novel by an acclaimed SF master, now in a Tor Essentials edition with a new introduction by John Clute, author of The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction and Fantasy.

PUBLISHER Tor Essentials (World English)
PUBLICATION January 2024 (Final manuscript available)
EDITOR Patrick Nielsen Hayden

From author Michael Swanwick—one of the most brilliantly assured and darkly inventive writers of contemporary fiction—comes the Nebula award-winning masterwork of radically altered realities and world-shattering seductions. The “Jubilee Tides” will drown the continents of the planet Miranda beneath the weight of her own oceans. But as the once-in-two-centuries cataclysm approaches, an even greater catastrophe threatens this dark and dangerous planet of tale-spinners, conjurers, and shapechangers. A man from the Bureau of Proscribed Technologies has been sent to investigate. For Gregorian has come, a genius renegade scientist and charismatic bush wizard. With magic and forbidden technology, he plans to remake the rotting dying world in his own evil image, and force whom or whatever remains on its diminishing surface toward a terrifying, astonishing confrontation with death and transcendence.

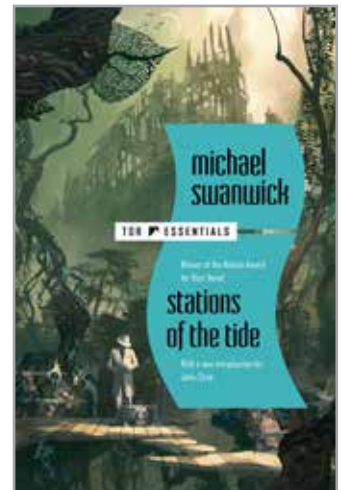
This novel of surreal hard SF was widely compared to the fiction of Gene Wolfe when it was first published, and Swanwick has gone on in the two decades since its first publication to become recognized as one of the finest living SF and fantasy writers.

***Nebula Award for Best Novel, 1991**

***Hugo Award Nominee, 1992**

***Campbell Award Nominee, 1992**

***Arthur C. Clarke Award Nominee, 1993**



RIGHTS SOLD

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POLISH (MAG)

RUSSIAN (STORYTEL RUSSIA)

UKRAINIAN (FOP ZHUPANSKY)

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