



**THE RIGHTS FACTORY**  
**ADULT RIGHTS GUIDE**  
**FALL 2024**





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**#FICTION**

# MONSTER LAWYER SERIES

Royce Buckingham

- A fast-paced blend of contemporary fantasy and legal thriller from a best selling German author
- *Better Call Saul* meets *Lucifer*, with a witchy twist, at 94,000 words
- Screen rights for the series are currently being considered by American and German companies



October 2022 / 2023

**Royce Buckingham** is a Washington-based fantasy writer with an English degree and a law degree. He worked as an attorney for over twenty years; he now writes full-time. Royce hit the bestseller list in Germany with *Demonkeeper*, which sold over 100,000 copies for Random House. He has since published numerous successful middle grade and adult fantasy novels. *Monster Lawyer's* German language translation has already sold over 20,000 copies (Penguin/Random House, Blanvalet). Its sequel, released in October 2023, has already sold over 8,000, and Blanvalet recently made an offer for the third book, which will be Royce's fifteenth novel with a major publisher.

## Rights Sold

All English Rights & Translation Rights Available excl. German (Blanvalet)

Danny Becker, high-powered Seattle lawyer, is finally offered the case that will make him partner. It would be the crown jewel of his career, if only Danny wasn't facing mid-life newly divorced and living a single dad's lifestyle on his aging boat. But this partnership is what he's sacrificed everything for, isn't it? It's all going to be worth it.

That same night, however, Danny receives a visit from the terror of his childhood—the monster from under his bed. The creature has claws, fangs, scaly skin... and grown-up Danny's first thought is to dive under his covers. But the monster isn't there to kill him. It faces a supernatural trial and an eternity of imprisonment for a crime it swears it didn't commit—and it desperately needs a lawyer.

Against his better judgment, Danny puts his old life on the line. Soon, he becomes increasingly embroiled in the world of the supernatural, and an unwitting player in an international witch conspiracy. To save himself, the city of Seattle—and perhaps, the world—Danny must decide what kind of lawyer (and man) he wants to be.

Buckingham takes a clever look at the fallacies surrounding traditional male values, power, and success, and explores how, in turn, our lives can be rebuilt when we take the time to face our demons.

**\*Book 1&2 are available as of October 2024, while Book 3 is in progress**

#New #HistoricalFiction #Female-led #Faith #Romance

# LA MIA SORELLA (MY SISTER)

Kiki Przewlocki

- A compelling debut novel perfect for fans of Juliet Grames' *The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna*
- 1913, Paola, Italy: Spirited Arabella, a talented 14-year-old herbalist, fights against her arranged marriage but finds her place in a secret world of women devoted to food, family and female camaraderie



November 2021



Kiki Przewlocki has a Masters in Education and teaches writing, creativity and music courses for teens in Houston, Texas. *La Mia Sorella (My Sister)* is her first novel.

## Rights Sold

North American English  
(Touchpoint Press)

Audio (Brilliance)

“A beautifully written, compulsively readable story of love and of family, with all the passions and loyalties that alternately bind and divide them but ultimately prove to be indestructible. Highly recommended.”

—Mary Balogh, 35-time New York Times bestselling author of *The Bedwyn Saga*

Ripped apart by life, put back together by love.

*La Mia Sorella (My Sister)* explores the complex relationship between two sisters & their extraordinary love for one another beneath the weight of southern Italy’s prejudices and the ever-changing landscape of America’s early 20th century. From a traditional village embraced by the Mediterranean Sea to Boston’s North End, the sisters embark on distinctly different roads in pursuit of love, opportunity and purpose. How can they remain true to themselves, their calling, their faith, their culture and each other amidst a world at war and their own family battles?

#New #LiteraryFiction #Feminist

# HESTER IN SUNLIGHT

Hannah Calder

- In a nameless Canadian small town, an OCD-afflicted parent obsessively dissects *The Scarlet Letter* in her imaginary childhood home surrounded by her imaginary family.



October 2024



Hannah Calder is a UK-born novelist who lives on unceded Syilx Okanagan territory in Vernon, B.C. She earned her MA in English Literature in 2004 from Simon Fraser University and has published poetry and fiction in *West Coast Line*, *The Capilano Review* and *dANDelion*. Currently, she teaches English and Creative Writing at Okanagan College. In 2022 Hannah co-directed the documentary *Why We Write: Poets of Vernon*. *Hester in Sunlight* is her third novel with New Star.

## Rights Sold

World English excl. UK (New Star Books)

Yes, that Hester—the fallen woman who bore the Scarlet Letter while raising her daughter on her own. She is looking back, across that clearing, and 150 years, at her fateful lover.

Less a re-telling or transposition of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s classic than a re-purposing of the materials to tell a different version, *Hester In Sunlight*, revolving around the relationships between the (unnamed) narrator; her husband Sonny and gender fluid child Luna; her sister Dani and her two kids, is a heady and stimulating riff on contemporary motherhood and parenting. Full of mental gymnastics, sensuality, sound and imagery, this is a novel that works in the space of poetry, wrestling with the burden of identity and the act of writing.

Think Miranda July, Anne Carson, HD, Rachel Cusk and Patricia Lockwood, Jean Rhys, Deborah Levy, Phyllis A. Whitney, Stacey Doris, Dodie Bellamy, Rebecca Brown, Kathy Acker, Angela Carter, and Pirandello channelled through the Goons and the Firesign Theatre.

#New #Sci-fi

# THE TRAITOR'S SON

Dave Duncan

- A fast-paced SF adventure set in a doomed colony world where everything that could go wrong already has
- The first posthumous book by the award winning, well-loved writer of science fiction and fantasy



May 2024



**Dave Duncan** was a prolific writer of fantasy and science fiction, best known for his fantasy series, particularly *The Seventh Sword*, *A Man of His Word*, and *The King's Blades*. He is both a founding and honorary lifetime member of SF Canada. Dave passed away in Oct 2018, leaving behind his wife of 59 years Janet, three children and four grandchildren. Visit his website [www.daveduncanauthor.com](http://www.daveduncanauthor.com)

## Rights Sold

**World English** (Shadowpaw Press)

**Audio** (Tantor)

“They know the world is dying, but they hope not in their lifetimes. Meanwhile, they’re top dogs and will do anything to stay that way.”

Doig Gray is fifteen when his father is killed in a mining accident, which Doig comes to realize was no accident. Torn from his mother and sister, Doig is sent off to college, his every movement monitored in case he has inherited his dissident father’s unacceptable attitudes . . . or passwords. Doig has nothing but his own sense that there’s something desperately wrong with the world—and a last name that evokes the assumption that he’s destined to be the next traitor-hero.

*The Traitor’s Son* is a science fiction novel about a colony world where everything that could go wrong already has. Stuck on the wrong world at the wrong site, with the wrong leaders, the colony is doomed to extinction unless immediate steps are taken to correct—everything. But 500 years of hiding from the reality of their situation has created an unchallengeable status quo—and the Accident Squad, determined to ensure it remains that way.

*The Traitor’s Son* is a fast-paced SF adventure in the best tradition of Duncan’s *Hero*, *West of January*, and *Eocene Station*.

#New #Thriller #Dystopian

# WHITE WORLD

Saad T. Farooqi

- A dystopian novel about love and resistance set in late-21st-century Pakistan
- *John Wick* with more heart meets *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy



September 2024



Saad T. Farooqi holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Kingston University London and a BA in English Literature from the American University of Sharjah. His short stories and poems have appeared in various international magazines. His shining moment on stage was accidentally setting his poem on fire by standing too close to a candle. Saad spent the majority of his life as a Pakistani expat in Dubai. He immigrated to Canada in 2015 and currently resides in London, Ontario.

## Rights Sold

World English (Cormorant Books)

Pakistan, 2083 AD.

For Avaan, a gun in his hand feels as natural as breathing. As a Pakistani without citizenship, living under martial law and religious bigotry, violence has become a way of life. What respite he had from the world—his brother, his family, and Doua, the love of his life—was snatched away in a military raid.

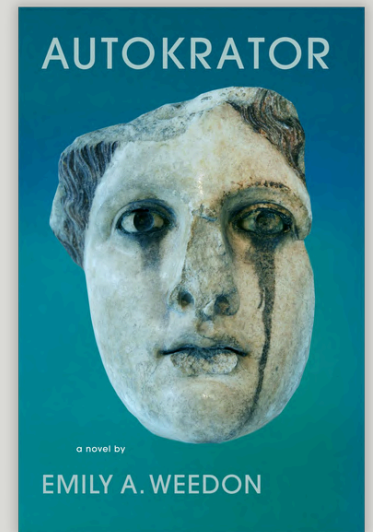
Now broken, Avaan finds himself involved in a civil war that poisons everything he's ever touched. The army shadows his every move, a mob boss wants him dead, and a legendary resistance leader has taken a keen interest in him. But there is a ray of hope: Avaan discovers that Doua is alive. Obsessed with finding her, he takes a stand against the army, the mob, and Pakistan itself with the only thing he could ever count on: the gun in his hand.

#New #Sci-fi #Dystopian

# AUTOKRATOR

Emily A. Weedon

- A dystopian sci-fi novel in the tradition of *The Handmaid's Tale*
- In a rigid dystopian society where women are non-people, two women fight against their invisibility and for their lives



April 2023



Emily A. Weedon is a debut author and an award-winning screenwriter. She co-created the series *Chateau Laurier*, the most awarded web series in the world in 2023. She and co-writer Kent Staines were awarded Best Writing in a Web Series at the Canadian Screen Awards that same year. Emily has been a graphic designer, musician, set painter, and art director. She played music professionally and has released three EPs. She lives in Toronto, Ontario, with her daughter, Ginger.

## Rights Sold

World English (Cormorant Books)

*I am a gender criminal. I am Unmale, yet I write as though I am a person.*

Driven by a Machiavellian mind and ego, Tiresius has risen through the ranks of the Autocracy to become Imperial Treasurer, has won over the trust of the Autokrator himself, and yet, has broken the society's most scared rules: She has posed as a male for many years. In the eyes of the Autocracy, this gender crime is one of the most heinous a person can commit, and punishable by death.

In this deeply etched speculative world, women—Unmales—have been relegated to non-person status with their reproduction strictly controlled. Their only role is to serve men, and to do so from the shadows. Tiresius's rebellion against the Autocracy coincides with that of a Domestic — a female labourer — named Cera. Cera's son, who was taken from her at birth as demanded by tradition, is the successor to the Autocracy. She is desperate to be part of his life and takes dangerous steps toward revealing herself to him, becoming a gender criminal herself.

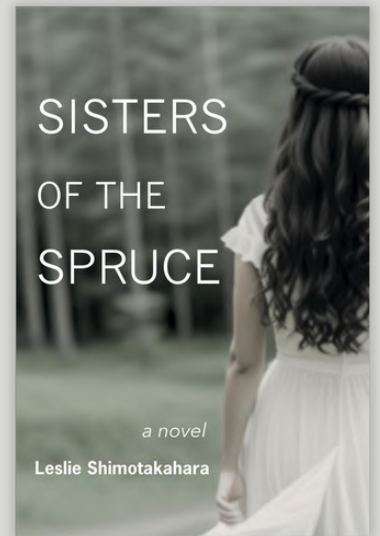
The fates of both women become intertwined as they are driven to discover what cost gender and power exact.

# SISTERS OF THE SPRUCE

Leslie Shimotakahara

- An enthralling story of female adventure, friendship, and resilience, set against the majestic landscape of a WWI-era logging camp in northern British Columbia

← The author's highly acclaimed memoir is also available! (see page 36)



February 2024



Leslie Shimotakahara's memoir, *The Reading List*, won the Canada-Japan Literary Prize, and her fiction has been shortlisted for the KM Hunter Artist Award. She has written two critically acclaimed novels, *After the Bloom* and *Red Oblivion*. *After the Bloom* received a starred review from Booklist and is Bustle's number one choice in "50 Books To Read With Your Book Club," while Kirkus Review praised *Red Oblivion* for displaying "virtuosity in this subtle deconstruction of one family's tainted origins."

## Rights Sold

North American English  
(Caitlin Press)

World War One is in high gear. Fourteen-year-old Khya Terada moves with her family to a remote, misty inlet on Haida Gwaii, then the Queen Charlotte Islands, in northern British Columbia, known for its Sitka spruces. The Canadian government has passed an act to expedite logging of these majestic trees, desperately needed for the Allies' aircrafts in Europe. At a camp on the inlet, Khya's father, Sannosuke—a talented, daring logger with twenty years of experience since immigrating from Japan—assumes a position of leadership among the Japanese and Chinese workers.

But the arrival of a group of white loggers, eager to assert their authority, throws off balance the precarious life that Khya and her family have begun to establish. When a quarrel between Sannosuke and a white man known as "the Captain" escalates, leading to the betrayal of her older sister, Izzy, and humiliation for the family, Khya embarks on a perilous journey with her one friend—a half-Chinese sex worker, on the lam for her own reasons—to track down the man and force him to take responsibility. Yet nothing in the forest is as it appears. Can they save Izzy from ruination and find justice without condemning her to a life of danger, or exposing themselves to the violence of an angry, power-hungry man?

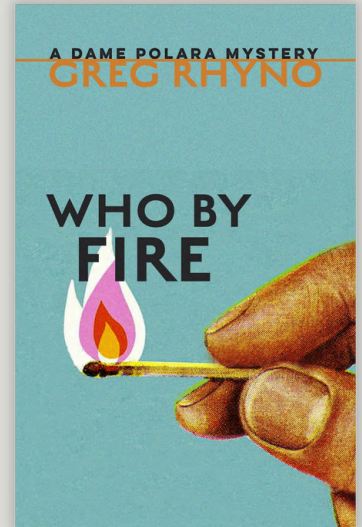
Drawing on inspiration from her ancestors' stories and experiences, Shimotakahara weaves an entrancing tale of female adventure, friendship, and survival.

#Mystery

# WHO BY FIRE

Greg Rhyno

- The first novel in the Dame Polara mystery series (3 volumes)
- A clever yet reluctant sleuth gets involved with mysterious fire incidents, unwillingly following her father's path



April 2024



Greg Rhyno is the author of *To Me You Seem Giant*. This debut novel was nominated for a ReLit Award and an Alberta Book Publishing Award. His writing has appeared in a number of journals including *Hobart*, *Riddle Fence*, and *Prism International*. He completed an MFA at the University of Guelph and lives with his family in Guelph, Ontario.

## Rights Sold

World English & Canada-French (Cormorant Books)

Haunted by a childhood spent picking locks, tailing suspects, and helping her hard-boiled PI father solve cases, Dame Polara has spent most of her adult life running from his shady profession and the memories she associates with it. What Dame wants now is simple—her safe job preserving heritage buildings, adequate care for her father's mounting health complications, and to raise a family of her own. But life doesn't seem to be going her way.

After serving her an eviction notice, Dame's landlord offers her an alternative: she can keep her apartment if she investigates his mysterious wife, whom he suspects of cheating. When the investigation uncovers a serial arsonist burning down the very buildings Dame fights to preserve, she finds herself pulled right back into the seedy underworld of her father's old profession. Now, she must rely on the skills he taught her if she's to protect herself and the people she cares about most.

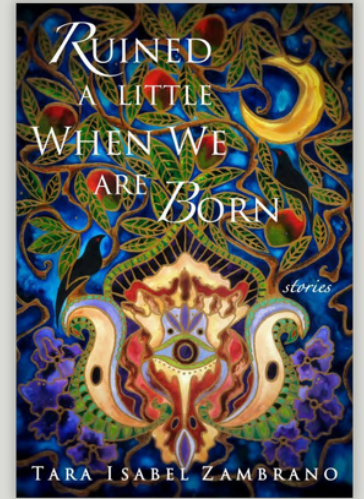
"Rhyno's descriptive style and jazz-like prose allow him to make a seamless transition into crime fiction with this crackling whodunnit. Dame Polara is a memorable, complex, and clever sleuth who is here to stay."

— A.J. Devlin, Arthur Ellis Award-winning author of *Cobra Clutch*

# RUINED A LITTLE WHEN WE ARE BORN

Tara Isabel Zambrano

- Collected stories that capture women as forces of nature where motherhood, mythology, and lust collide
- Perfect for fans of Carmen Maria Machado and Jhumpa Lahiri
- UK & India Rights available!



October 2024



Tara Isabel Zambrano moved from India to the US over two decades ago. She is the Fiction Editor for *Waxwing Literary Journal*. Her collection of flash fiction, *Death, Desire, and Other Destinations*, came out with OKAY Donkey Press in 2020. She has new stories forthcoming in *Southeast Review*, *Southern Humanities Review*, and *Denver Quarterly*. In her day job, Tara works as a semiconductor chip designer, and she holds an instrument rating for single engine aircraft. She lives in Texas with her husband and two kids.

## Rights Sold

North American English

(Dzanc Books)

Audio (Tantor)

*Ruined a Little When We Are Born* delivers a stunning exploration of family and motherhood against the backdrop of Indian diaspora and culture. Tara Isabel Zambrano weaves elements from both the physical and supernatural worlds to beg the question: are we all ruined a little from our first breath?

A young couple ponders their opposing religions after one of them finds a cow's tongue left on their porch. A widow helps her neighbor mourn the death of his wife by burying the woman's belongings in the backyard. A mother forces her daughter to undergo various rituals to lighten her skin to find a good match. And when a man needs a son as his heir, he brings his new, much younger wife to live with his current wife and daughter, changing his daughter's life in ways she couldn't have imagined.

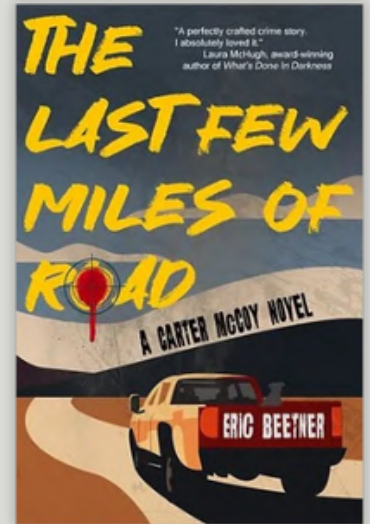
In stunning prose, Zambrano's stories traverse the delights and fears of parenthood in terrifying clarity, exploring the suppression and display of desire in women and girls in daring candor.

#Crime #Thriller

# THE LAST FEW MILES OF ROAD

Eric Beetner

- The first novel in the Carter McCoy Novel Series (3 volumes)
- A slow burn thriller featuring Carter, an old guy diagnosed with terminal cancer who stands up to avenge his daughter's death



February 2024



Eric Beetner is a cult favourite writer amongst many bestselling crime authors, known for his work reminiscent of old school crime thrillers but with modern touches. He was co-host of 300 episodes of the Writer Types podcast that featured interviews with major writers like Lee Child, Sara Paretsky, Ian Rankin, Joe Lonsdale, Megan Abbott and others. Outside of writing, Eric is a five-time Emmy nominated editor who's worked on many US network TV shows including *The Amazing Race*, *Top Gear America*, *Fear Factor*, *The Bachelorette* and others.

## Rights Sold

World English (Level Best Books)

Audio (Tantor)

When Carter McCoy learns he hasn't got long to live, it's time to take care of something he has wanted to do for years—kill the man responsible for his daughter's death. But Carter has no experience killing and isn't even sure he can do it.

Breanna needs to escape her toxic home life or end up living a life of regret. When she happens upon the old man with a rifle, she sees a light at the end of her dark tunnel. Carter may be the answer to her problems, if he lives long enough to help her.

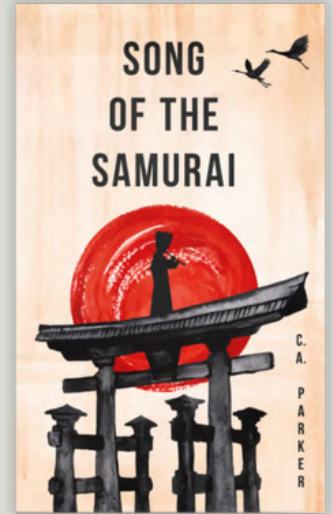
Carter is a man on borrowed time, and what he does with the rest of it could change who he has been his whole life. With the police closing in one step ahead of death, Carter has the opportunity to change Breanna's life and give her the chance his daughter never had. With his trusty dog, Chester, at his side, Carter's last act will be the one that defines who he is.

"Beetner has spun another notable tale here. Noir at its best."  
—David Swinson, author of *The Second Girl and Sweet Thing*

# SONG OF THE SAMURAI

C.A. Parker

- Inspired by the true story of shakuhachi master Kurosawa Kinko, a lone samurai monk journeys across Edo period Japan on a quest to redeem his honor



May 2024



C. A. Parker has studied both the shakuhachi (an end-blown Japanese flute) and the martial art of Aikido for over twenty-five years, both in the United States and Japan. Prior to life as an author, Dr. Parker spent his career at the intersection of spirituality and social justice, and he has spent many years exploring the commonalities between Christian and Buddhist contemplative traditions. He lives in Washington, DC, with his two amazing and creative children, and two rescued pets (a grumpy old dog named Chewbacca and a neurotic cat named Luna).

## Rights Sold

World English (Running Wild)

Audio (Tantor)

Japan, 1745, is a land under the iron grip of the Tokugawa shoguns. Roads are monitored, dissent stifled, and order maintained through blackmail and an extensive network of informers.

Amid rumors of rebellion, Kurosawa Kinko—samurai and monk—is expelled in disgrace as the head music instructor of his Zen temple in Nagasaki. He begins an odyssey across Japan, dogged by agents and assassins from an unknown foe. Along his journey, Kinko encounters a compelling cast of merchants, rōnin, courtesans, spies, warriors, hermits, and spirits, on a quest to redeem his honor.

Inspired by the life of the historical Kurosawa Kinko (1710-1771), master of the shakuhachi flute and founder of the Kinko-ryu school, *Song of the Samurai* takes the reader on a richly-textured exploration of feudal Japan and the complexities of the human spirit.

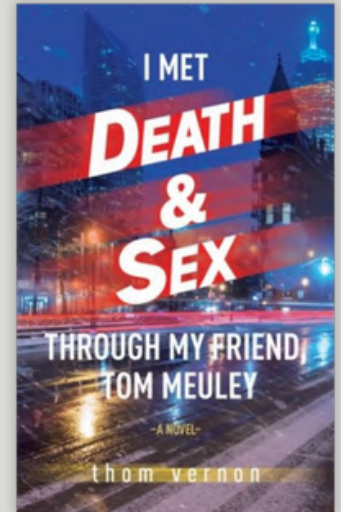
"C.A. Parker is either a thoroughly accomplished novelist or an out-and-out time traveler, for he has given us the kind of window into 18th-century Japan that suggests he lived and walked there. With this engrossing debut, Parker proves himself a master at reanimating lost worlds."

—Louis Bayard, author of *Pale Blue Eye* and *Jackie & Me*

# I MET DEATH & SEX THROUGH MY FRIEND, TOM MEULEY

thom vernon

- A fast-paced literary noir following the suicide of a beloved high school teacher who forced a teenage boy to assist the gruesome act



May 2024



thom vernon is a writer, performer, and educator. With a long career as an actor (*The Fugitive*, *Seinfeld*, *General Hospital*, etc.), thom has a B.A. (Philosophy, summa cum laude) and terminal graduate degrees in fiction, screenwriting, and Gender Studies. Mentored by Hubert Selby, Jr., his first novel, *The Drifts* was called "magnificent" and "a significant contribution to Can Lit" (*Globe & Mail*). thom also publishes critical research and writing on creative writing and the meanings applied to bodies and whatever else provokes him. He writes, acts, and teaches in Toronto.

## Rights Sold

World English (Guernica Editions)

Audio (Tantor)

As a massive blizzard bears down on Toronto, Milk (a.k.a. Evan), a seventeen-year-old boy, intends to get revenge on his cheating and abusive dad by blowing up his dad's new car—by blowing up his G.I. Joe collection. What he doesn't know is that his beloved teacher, Mr. P., has forced his best friend, Tom Meuley, to help him commit suicide. Scared, the boys hide the body at the Leslie Spit.

Hoping to save the boys from getting caught, Milk's bulimic and desperate mom, Sessy, pursues them but not before putting everything on the line to save her family from her cheating husband.

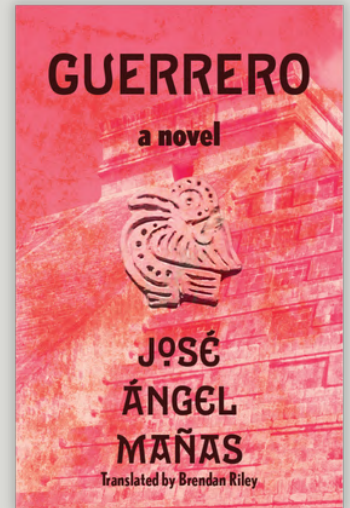
A "down-low" police officer, Ton', Mr. P.'s son-in-law, stumbles upon the body. Driven by shame and guilt, Ton' suspects the boys of murder. And captures them.

Taking place over twenty-four hours, the fast-paced storylines of *I Met Death & Sex Through My Friend, Tom Meuley* converge as Toronto's buried waterways surge with the ghosts of history and trauma. Imagining himself as a subatomic neutrino, whose presence is known only when it is no longer there, Milk spins himself into absence in order to matter.

# GUERRERO

José Ángel Mañas

- The English language debut from a literary sensation in Spain
- Based on the real-life Spanish conquistador Gonzalo Guerrero, who defied Cortez and fought against Spain with his adopted Mayan tribe



October 2024



Jose Ángel Mañas is a well-known writer in Spain whose debut novel, *Historias del Kronen* was published when he was 23 and sold more than 200K copies in Spain. It became a wildly popular feature film, for which he won a Goya (Spain's Oscar) for adapting it for the screen. He left university as a historian and now concentrates on historical fiction and some crime thrillers. He has won the Premio Ateneo and was nominated for the Premio Nadal.

## Rights Sold

**World English incl. Audio**  
(University of New Mexico Press)

**Spanish in Spain** (Algaida/  
Grupo Anaya)

**Spanish Audio** (Penguin  
Random House Español)

In January of 1512, a caravel set sail from Darién, Panamá, bound for Santo Domingo with a cargo of gold and Indian slaves. A fierce storm sinks the ship off Jamaica and small boatload of survivors including Gonzalo Guerrero wash up more dead than alive on a beach in Yucatán. They are immediately captured by Cocome Mayans. Some are sacrificed, and the rest enslaved. Only two survive, the young priest Jerónimo de Aguilar and the seasoned soldier, Guerrero.

After two miserable years, they were redeemed by the rival and more sympathetic Tutul Xiúe Mayans. Jerónimo clung steadfast to his prayerbook and identity. Gonzalo became fascinated with Mayan culture and religion. His military prowess had been forged on the battlefields of Italy, and he offered his tactical expertise to Nachan Can, the governor of Chetumal. Guerrero rose to trusted military leadership and married the governor's daughter Zazil Há, with whom he had three children.

When ordered to join the forces of Hernán Cortés, Guerrero refused, and defended his new homeland and family with pride, helping delay the Spanish conquest of Yucatán for decades. For his crime, he was wiped from the record books of colonial Spain.

Though little is known of the historical Guerrero today, in this masterful short novel he becomes a larger than life figure of resistance and honor.

#Horror #2SLGBTQ+

# THE BLACK HUNGER

Nicholas Pullen

- A spine-tingling, queer gothic horror debut where two men are drawn into an otherworldly spiral, and a journey that will only end when they reach the darkest part of the human soul
- Perfect for fans of Clarke's *Jonathan Strange And Mr Norrell* and Miéville's *The Last Days of New Paris*



October 2024



Nicholas Pullen was born and raised in Toronto, and educated at Oxford and McGill. A writer since early childhood, Nicholas now fashions stories out of shadows, madness, and historical truths. Outside of writing, his professional life has been spent working toward Truth and Reconciliation in the Canadian Public Service, as a treaty negotiator with Indigenous Peoples. A Canada Council for the Arts Grant Recipient, his short fiction has appeared in the *Toronto Star* (Famous Blue), the *Copperfield Review* (Hellulandsaga), and *Anti-Heroic Chic* (Relapse/Grindr).

Rights Sold

World English (Orbit)

John Sackville will soon be dead. Shadows writhe in the corners of his cell as he mourns the death of his secret lover and the gnawing hunger inside him grows impossible to ignore.

He must write his last testament before it is too late.

It is a story steeped in history and myth – a journey from stone circles in Scotland, to the barren wilderness of Ukraine where otherworldly creatures stalk the night, ending in the icy peaks of Tibet and Mongolia, where an ancient evil stirs.

"A terrifying gothic journey to the place where the very cruellest, hungriest creatures hide in the snow, and wear our faces. This is a magisterial debut." –Michael Rowe, author of *Wild Fell*

#Thriller

# KILL FOR LOVE

Laura Picklesimer

- A transgressive, satirical novel about a privileged Los Angeles sorority sister who's struggling to keep her sadistic impulses at bay
- UK Rights available!



September 2023

Laura Picklesimer's fiction has been featured in the *Santa Ana River Review*, *Bookwoman*, *Gold Man Review*, the *Pomona Valley Review*, and the *California Current Writers Series*, and more. She was the grand prize winner of *Enizagam Journal's* 2018 Fiction Contest, won third place in the 2021 Rougarou Fabulism & Speculative Fiction Contest, received third place in the Women's National Book Association's 2018 YA Fiction Contest, and was a finalist for the 2018 Speculative Literature Foundation Diverse Worlds Grant.

## Rights Sold

North American English  
(Unnamed Press)

Audio (Tantor)

Portuguese in Brazil (Buzz  
Editora)

Italian (Nottetempo Edizioni)

**The boys on the row are only after one thing, but that bullshit's for pledges. Tiffany's on the hunt for something more.**

*Kill for Love* is a searing satirical thriller about Tiffany, a privileged Los Angeles sorority sister who is struggling to keep her sadistic impulses—and haunting nightmares of fire and destruction—at bay. After a frat party hookup devolves into a bloody, fatal affair, Tiffany realizes something within her has awoken: the insatiable desire to kill attractive young men.

As Tiffany's bloodlust deepens and the bodies pile up, she must contend with mounting legal scrutiny, social media-fueled competing murders, and her growing relationship with Weston, who she thinks could be the perfect boyfriend. A female-driven, modern-day *American Psycho*, *Kill for Love* exposes modern toxic plasticity with dark comedy and propulsive plot.

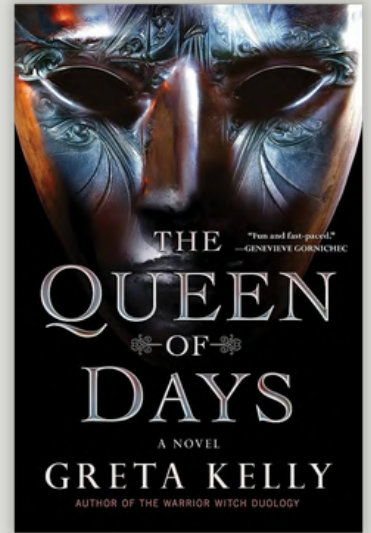
“In her clear and visceral sentences that evoke a world both like and unlike our own, Picklesimer places you completely in the narrator's haunting, singular journey.” —Rachel Khong, author of *Goodbye, Vitamin*

#Fantasy

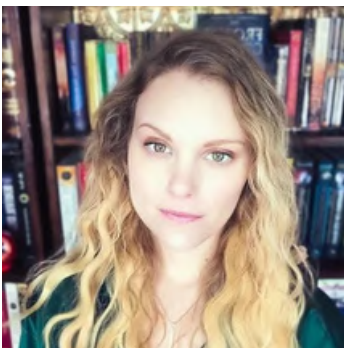
# THE QUEEN OF DAYS

Greta Kelly

- An epic adventure that weaves together a flawed-but-lovable family of thieves, a battle between fallen gods, and stakes high enough to cause vertigo
- Perfect for fans of *The Lies of Locke Lamora* and *Six of Crows*.



October 2023



Greta Kelly is (probably) not a witch, death, or otherwise, but she can still be summoned with offerings of too-beautiful-to-use journals and Butterfingers candy. She currently lives in Wisconsin with her husband EJ and her daughters Lorelei and Nadia who are doing their level-best to take over the world.

## Rights Sold

World English (Harper Voyager)

Arabic (Mobtada Publishing)

For Balthazar and his family of thieves, stealing a statue during the annual celebration of the god Karanis was just a good bit of fun...or a way to stick it to the governor who murdered his parents. And yeah, the small fortune in reward doesn't hurt—even if his boss also hired the mysterious Queen of Days to join the crew as “the weapon of last resort...”

Whatever that means.

But Bal doesn't know the ceremony isn't simply empty words and dusty tradition; it's true magic. The kind of magic that rips open a portal for the god himself. Only the idol that Karanis planned on using for a body now lies broken at the Queen of Days' feet. And half of it is missing.

With the aid of a lovable brawler, a society lady turned bomb maker, a disgraced soldier, and a time-eating demon, Bal must hunt down the missing half of the statue if he has any hope of earning his money, keeping his crew alive...and perhaps even saving all of humanity. But as his journey sends him racing through the city—and across realities—he discovers that doing all this might just doom the city.

The city be damned. It's time to kill a god.

“Kelly is an efficient storyteller, instantly establishing the relationships among her close-knit characters, and crafting thrilling action scenes.”  
— *Kirkus Reviews*

#Horror

# DARKEST HOURS: EXPANDED EDITION

Mike Thorn

- A collection of short stories ranging from satirical to dreadful, catering to fans of every horror subgenre



June 2021

**Mike Thorn** is the author of *Darkest Hours* and *Dreams of Lake Drukka & Exhumation*. His debut novel *Shelter for the Damned* was released through JournalStone in 2021. His fiction has appeared in numerous magazines, anthologies and podcasts, including Dark Moon Digest, The NoSleep Podcast, Turn to Ash and Tales to Terrify. His film criticism has been published in *MUBI Notebook*, *The Film Stage*, and *Vague Visages*. He completed his M.A. with a major in English literature at the University of Calgary, where he wrote a thesis on epistemophobia in John Carpenter's *Prince of Darkness*.

## Rights Sold

World English & Audio  
(Journalstone)

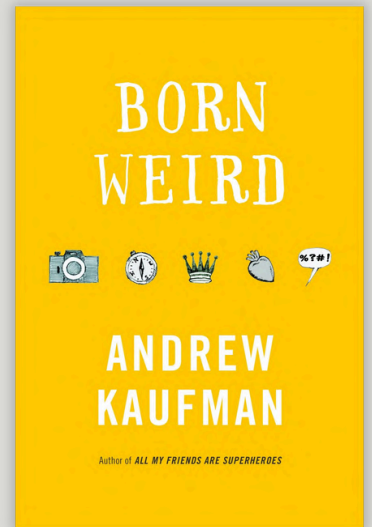
Between the covers of *Darkest Hours*, you will find academics in distress; humans abusing monsters; demons terrorizing people; ghostly reminiscences; resurrected trauma; and occult filmmaking. Ranging from satirical to dreadful, these sixteen stories share a distinct voice: urgent, sardonic, and brutal.

This expanded edition includes a new foreword by Sadie Hartmann (Mother Horror) and author notes for every story describing Thorn's process, influences, and more. This updated release also features seventeen of Thorn's essays on horror cinema, which cover films by Tobe Hooper, George A. Romero, Rob Zombie, M. Night Shyamalan, Wes Craven, and Dario Argento, among others.

# BORN WEIRD

Andrew Kaufman

- From the author of the international bestselling *All My Friends Are Superheroes*
- Translated into 5 languages!



December 2012

**Andrew Kaufman** is the author of *All My Friends Are Superheroes*, *The Tiny Wife*, *The Waterproof Bible*, and *Born Weird*. He was born in Wingham, Ontario, the birthplace of Alice Munro, making him the second-best writer from a town of 3000. His work has been published in eleven countries and translated into nine languages. He is also an accomplished screenwriter.

## Rights Sold

**UK+ANZ** (The Friday Project/  
HarperCollins)

**Canada English** (Random  
House Canada)

**Canada French** (Éditions Alto)

**Germany** (Luchterhand/  
Random House)

**Japanese** (Tokyo Sogensha)

**Albanian** (SHKUPI Publishing  
House)

**Spanish in Spain** \*\*Rights  
Reverted

The Weirds have always been a little peculiar, but not one of them ever suspected that they'd been cursed.

At the moment of the births of her five grandchildren Annie Weir gave each one a special power she thought was a blessing. Richard, the oldest, would always keep safe; Abba would always have hope; Lucy would never get lost and Kent would be able to beat anyone in a fight. As for Angie, she would always forgive, instantly. But over the years these blessings turned out to be curses that ruined their lives.

Now Annie is dying and she has one last task for Angie: gather her far-flung brothers and sisters and assemble them in her grandmother's hospital room so that at the moment of her death, she can lift these blessings-turned-curses. And Angie has just two weeks to do it.

What follows is a quest like no other, tearing up highways and racing through airports, from a sketchy Winnipeg nursing home to the small island kingdom Upliffa, from the family's crumbling ancestral mansion in Toronto to a motel called Love. Along the way, Angie searches for the answer to the greatest family mystery of all: what really happened to their father, whose maroon Maserati was fished out of a lake so many years ago?

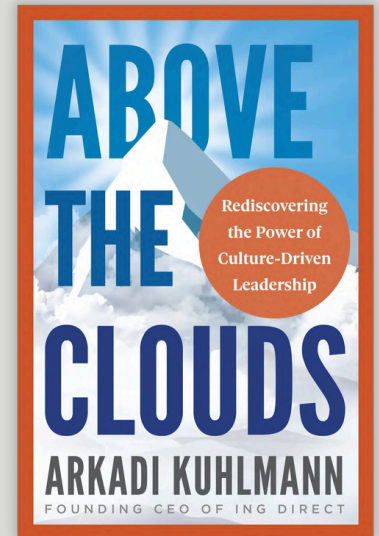
**#NONFICTION**

# ABOVE THE CLOUDS

## REDISCOVERING THE POWER OF CULTURE-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP

Arkadi Kuhlmann

- An inspiring guide to identify, create and sustain a company culture, written by a pioneering financial services CEO



August 2024



Arkadi Kuhlmann is the founder and current CEO of ZenBanx, the revolutionary global banking platform. He has been involved with seven successful startups, and was the founder and CEO of ING Direct. He is the author of several books, including *The Orange Code* and *Rock Then Roll*. He divides his time between a home in Menlo Park, California, and Toronto.

### Rights Sold

World English & Audio  
(Dundurn Press)

The entrepreneur Time magazine called “the Bad Boy of banking” is back with crucial insights about the importance of business culture in a dizzyingly complex global marketplace.

In business, breaking rules is easy. What's really hard is what comes next: building the right company culture—the lifeblood of effective leadership. In a complex, 24-7 globalized marketplace, how do you answer the question "Who are we?" Culture-driven leadership is as much about the why as the how. Long-term and short-term. Reacting and reflecting. It means identifying, creating, and sustaining a company culture. For a culture-driven leader, spending time "above the clouds," or finding the sweet spot of perspective, can make all the difference.

Entrepreneur and pioneering financial services CEO Arkadi Kuhlmann offers a seasoned antidote to navigating blind through our increasingly competitive landscape. Drawing on ten key principles from his time at ING Direct and his many years' experience on the front lines of innovative customer-focused leadership, Kuhlmann explores real-world leadership challenges and both the bullseyes and missteps of Disney's Robert Iger and Starbucks's Howard Schultz, as well as Elon Musk, Richard Branson, and others. Kuhlmann makes a compelling case for how leaders can use the right culture to meet the formidable challenges that lie ahead.

In the end, it's about making leadership count. And making a difference.

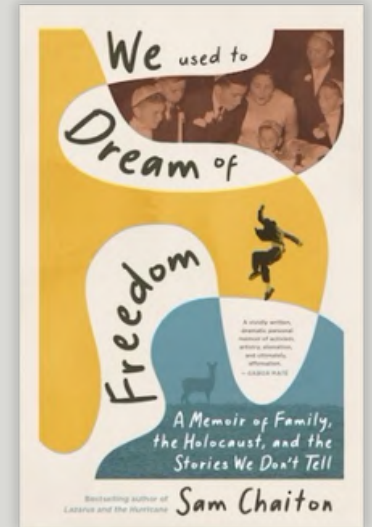
#New #Memoir

# WE USED TO DREAM OF FREEDOM

A MEMOIR OF FAMILY, THE HOLOCAUST,  
AND THE STORIES WE DON'T TELL

Sam Chaiton

- A gripping memoir exploring legacy of trauma inherited from the author's parents who survived the Holocaust



September 2024



**SAM CHAITON** is one of the Canadians who helped wrongfully imprisoned Rubin Carter gain his freedom. Co-author of the international bestseller *Lazarus and the Hurricane*, he is portrayed in the film *The Hurricane* by Liev Schreiber. A founder of Innocence Canada, Sam lives in Toronto.

## Rights Sold

World English, World French  
& Audio (Dundurn Press)

Growing up in Toronto, Sam Chaiton and his four brothers knew their parents had been prisoners in Bergen-Belsen. But what their parents wouldn't share about their history—including that they had also survived Auschwitz—ended up shaping their children's lives.

*We used to Dream of Freedom* touches on the biggest concerns of our time: what a family is or could be, the psychology of survivors and the impact of survivor silence, the responsibility of second generations from traumatized communities to share knowledge drawn from their own histories to help alleviate the suffering of others. Irreverent, moving, and tragic, often all at once, at its heart it is a story of a man who disappeared on his family, his quest to understand why he had to leave, and the long-overdue discovery about his parents that brought him back.

#New #Lifestyle #Bestseller

# THE GLOW CODE

A CHEAT SHEET FOR FEELING, LOOKING,  
AND BEING YOUR BEST AT ANY AGE

Michelle McIvor

- A smart, cheeky, and inspiring guide for aging joyfully, where a journalist tries out all the expert advice to sometimes hilarious effect
- *Toronto Star* and *The Globe and Mail* Bestseller



June 2024



**MICHELLE McIVOR** is a journalist on a mission to age gratefully. A former columnist with the *Calgary Herald*, she has written for *Maclean's*, *Chatelaine*, and *Best Health*, among others, and she ghostwrote the #1 Canadian bestseller *Forever Terry: A Legacy in Letters*. Michelle lives in Calgary with her husband and kids.

## Rights Sold

World English (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers)

Audio (Tantor)

When I was forty-one, I learned how to wash my face. Turns out I'd been doing it wrong. (Hint: ditch cleansing wipes!) This made me wonder what else I didn't know. Like: Cardio or weights? Why can't I sleep? Is there a trick to ordering good wine? Or buying art? I figured if I still had questions about how to adult and age like a superwoman, maybe you did too.

*The Glow Code* provides all the answers you need to feel, look, and live better in midlife and beyond. Rich in advice from top scientists, psychologists, makeup artists, fitness and nutrition authorities, and others, this book offers strategies and tips for better fitness, friendships, sex, creative practices, and more. And to make sure it works, I've tested it all—with sometimes hilarious results.

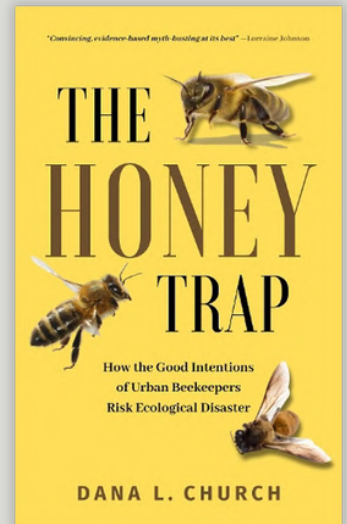
Fun, practical, and inspiring, *The Glow Code* is the manifesto to aging joyfully. For all of you with minimum free time but maximum ambition to rock this next stage of life, welcome to your cheat sheet.

# THE HONEY TRAP

## HOW THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF URBAN BEEKEEPERS RISK ECOLOGICAL DISASTER

Dana L. Church

- An engaging science nonfiction that exposes the misguided assumptions behind an altruistic trend of urban beekeeping



September 2024



Dana L. Church is an author with a PhD in animal cognition, and merges her passion for animals with a talent for storytelling to make science accessible for all ages. Her debut book, *The Beekeepers: How Humans Changed the World of Bumble Bees* was published in 2021 by Scholastic Focus, and explores the intricate relationship between humans and bumble bees. She currently resides in Waterloo.

### Rights Sold

World English (Sutherland House)

Audio (Recorded Books)

The last decade has seen an explosion of urban beekeeping in the US, Canada, and Europe, a well-intentioned response to perceived threats to the global honey bee population. Many thousands of people have taken up this seemingly environmentally friendly hobby, tending backyard and rooftop hives (or paying a company to do so) and encouraging honey bees to make honey and pollinate flowers. What could be wrong with that?

Quite a lot, in fact. In *The Honey Trap*, scientist and author Dana Church demonstrates that despite reports to the contrary, honey bees are nowhere near extinction. Rather, their nurturing by urban beekeepers is having far-reaching and potentially devastating consequences for the 19,999 other species of bees on the planet, with knock-on effects for plants, both cultivated and wild, and our ecosystems more generally.

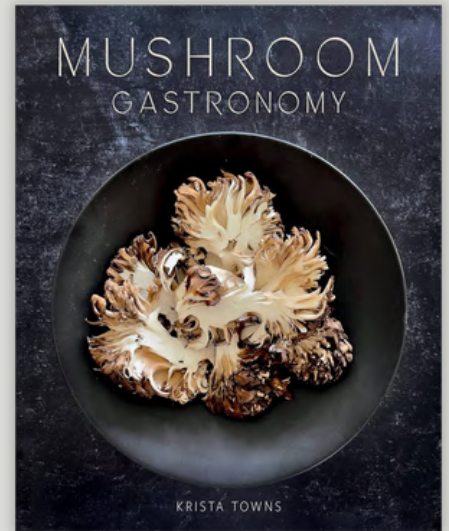
With engaging storytelling and a wealth of knowledge about bees and their ways, Church unravels the complexities of human interactions with our winged friends and demonstrates how dangerously selfish our thinking can be. It's a wake-up call for humanity to embrace sustainable practices and protect these vital pollinators before it's too late.

#New #Cookbook

# MUSHROOM GASTRONOMY

Krista Towns

- A cookbook exploring 25 of the most edible and delicious mushrooms with over 100 recipes, full of stunning photographs



June 2024



Krista Towns is devoted to improving our personal health and the environment by incorporating mushrooms into our diet. She is the culinary editor of *Fungi* magazine, the highest circulation mushroom publication in North America, and the culinary advisor and recipe developer for Circular Farm—a premier mushroom farm located in Jackson, SC. She holds a Mushroom Foraging Certification for food service in 18 states and is an active member of the North American Mycological Association.

## Rights Sold

World English (Gibbs Smith)

Whether you forage for elusive mushrooms in the woods, at your local grocery, or farmers market, or are new to cooking with them, *Mushroom Gastronomy* is a long-awaited new cookbook that will prepare you for an exciting culinary journey into the world of edible mushrooms.

The book explores 25 of the most popular edible and delicious mushrooms. Stunning photographs introduce each variety, including their unique nutritional values, ideal cooking methods, culinary tips, and flavor pairings, making this book a go-to resource for anyone interested in cooking with mushrooms.

Written by a mushroom expert and culinary writer, *Mushroom Gastronomy* contains over 100 easy-to-execute, innovative, and classic recipes to please vegetarians and carnivores alike, for appetizers, soups and broths, main dishes, desserts, and even cocktails—all celebrating the delicious and mysterious mushroom.

Indulge with comfort food recipes like Black Trumpet Mushroom and White Bean Bisque, or Shiitake with Baked Corn and Cheddar Grits. Celebrate Italian style with Lion's Mane Bolognese, and top off your evening with a Candy Cap Cream Martini. Morel Mini Quiche, Chicken of the Woods Saltimbocca, and Matsutake Tempura with Yuzu-Lemongrass Aioli are just a few samplings of the many delicious recipes you'll enjoy preparing.

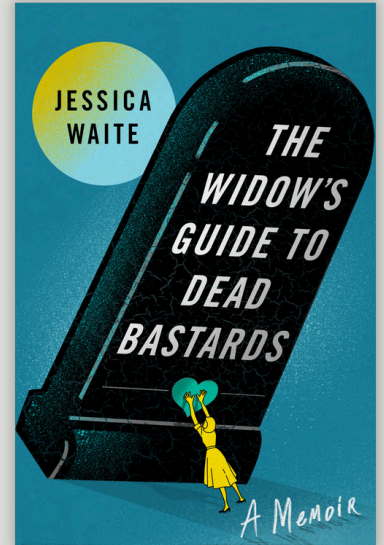
You'll also appreciate the valuable tips for selecting, storing, and preserving mushrooms to help keep your favorite mushrooms at their very best!

#Memoir #Bestseller

# THE WIDOW'S GUIDE TO DEAD BASTARDS

Jessica Waite

- A widow's life is turned upside when she uncovers the truth about her late husband in this lyrical, witty, and deeply moving memoir of tragedy and betrayal
- *Toronto Star* Bestseller



July 2024



Jessica Waite is an educator, mentor, and single mom. When life handed her a riveting, horrifying, and unexpectedly beautiful story, she transformed herself into a writer. In 2022, Jessica received the Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Award. Her essays and works of short fiction have been anthologized in the USA, UK, & Canada. This is her debut memoir. Jessica lives with her teenage son and their enormous, cuddly rescue dog in Calgary, AB on the ancestral lands of the people of Treaty 7 in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies.

## Rights Sold

World English & Audio (Atria)

Brazil (Buzz)

In the midst of mourning her husband's sudden death, writer Jessica Waite discovered shocking secrets that undermined everything she thought she knew about the man she'd loved and trusted. From uncovered affairs to drug use and a pornography addiction, Waite was overwhelmed reconciling this devastating information with her new reality as a widowed single mom. Then, to further complicate matters, strange, inexplicable coincidences forced her to consider whether her husband was reaching back from beyond the grave.

With her signature candor and unflinching honesty, Waite details her tumultuous love story and the pain of adjusting to the new normal she built for herself and her son. A riveting, difficult, and surprisingly beautiful story, *The Widow's Guide to Dead Bastards* is also a lyrical exploration of grief, mental health, single parenthood, and betrayal that demonstrates that the most moving love stories aren't perfect—they're flawed and poignantly real.

# MORE: A MEMOIR OF OPEN MARRIAGE

Molly Roden Winter

- Featured in *NY Times* / *The Washington Post* / *The Financial Times* / *The Guardian* / *The New Yorker* and many more
- Sold in 8 territories & translated into 6 languages
- An intimate memoir of love, desire, and personal growth that follows a happily married mother as she explores sex and relationships outside her marriage



January 2024



**Molly Roden Winter** was raised in Chicago and lives in Park Slope, Brooklyn, with her husband and two sons. Her personal essays have appeared in *Motherwell*, *Pangyrus*, and *Capsule Stories*. She is half of the guitar-playing, song-writing duo *House of Mirth*. Her website is [www.mollyrodenwinter.com](http://www.mollyrodenwinter.com).

## Rights Sold

NA English (Doubleday USA)

UK English (Ebury)

Brazil (Buzz)

Israel (Tchelet)

Hungary (OpenBooks)

Turkey (Okuyanus)

Latvia (Zvaigzne ABC Publishers)

Russia (Bombora Publishers - Eksmo)

"This book about open marriage is going to blow up your group chat"  
—*The Washington Post*

Molly was a mother of small children with a husband, Stewart, who often worked late. One night when Stewart missed the kids' bedtime—again—she stormed out of the house to clear her head. At a bar, she met Matt, a flirtatious younger man. When Molly told her husband that Matt had asked her out, she was surprised that Stewart encouraged her to accept.

So began Molly's unexpected open marriage and, with it, a life-changing journey of self-discovery. Molly signs up for dating sites, enters into passionate flings, and has sex in hotels and public places around New York City. For Molly it's a mystery why she wants what she wants. In therapy sessions, fueled by the discovery that her parents had an open marriage, too, she grapples with her past and what it means to be a mother and a whole person.

Molly and Stewart, who also begins to see other people, set ground rules: Don't date an ex. Don't date someone in the neighborhood. Don't go to anyone's home. And above all, don't fall in love. In the years that follow, they break most of their rules, even the most important one. They grapple with jealousy, insecurity, and doubts, all the while wondering: Can they love others and stay true to their love for each other? Can they make the impossible work?

# TRAVELS OF TERROR

## STRANGE AND SPOOKY SPOTS ACROSS AMERICA

Meg Hafdahl & Kelly Florence

- A unique, female-forward travel guide book of the most scary, strange, and spooky sites in America



August 2024



Kelly Florence and Meg Hafdahl, authors of *The Science of Monsters*, *The Science of Women in Horror*, *The Science of Stephen King*, *The Science of Serial Killers*, *The Science of Witchcraft*, and the forthcoming *The Science of Agatha Christie* are co-hosts of the Horror Rewind podcast, best friends, and lifelong horror fans. Their forthcoming TV series, *Horror U*, will delve into all things horror and science in a fun and approachable way.

**Rights Sold**  
World English & Audio  
(Sourcebooks)

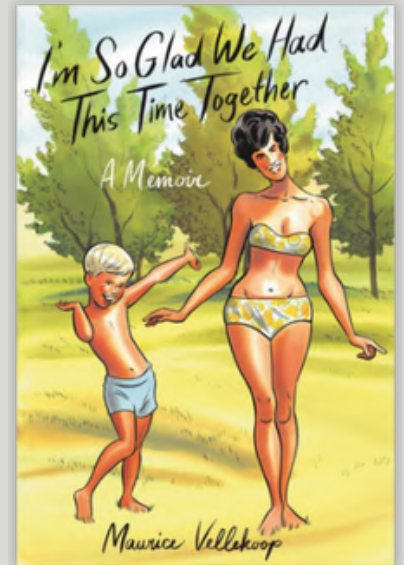
Like author Jack Kerouac, or perhaps more appropriately, best friends Thelma and Louise, Meg and Kelly are embracing adventure and jumping in their car for a road trip! As two lifelong horror fans, they love to research the history behind our favorite fright films, books, and horrific legends. With a unique eye focused on the female, they will tour well-known sites like the Lizzie Borden Bed and Breakfast, while also going off trail, talking to locals, finding forgotten gems, and capturing the truly strange and gothic in America. Beginning with *Goth Girls Guide to Travel: USA*, they will uncover fascinating sites from Maine to Pennsylvania, traverse the path Ronald DeFeo Jr. made on the way to murder his family that inspired the film and supposed hauntings of *The Amityville Horror* (1979), they will walk through cemeteries where authors of frightening literature found their inspiration, interview practicing witches in Salem, and discover the forest where the Jersey Devil lurks.

There will be travel tips in bold boxes, outlining everything from how to stay safe, where to eat, and what shops have the coolest, most coveted goth girl merchandise. Other colorful asides will highlight strange facts that will lure the most casual of horror fans into our web! Along with both artful and casual photographs, they will include maps, pictographs, and historical images.

# I'M SO GLAD WE HAD THIS TIME TOGETHER: A MEMOIR

Maurice Vellekoop

- An astonishing, epic graphic memoir in the spirit of *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel and *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe
- A gay boy born into a suburban Christian family explores his place in the world and his heart's true desire



February 2024



**Maurice Vellekoop** was born in 1964 in a suburb of Toronto. A prolific artist and illustrator, he has worked non-stop for the last three decades. In addition to publications, his corporate clients include Swissair, Abercrombie & Fitch, Air Canada, Smart Car, LVMH, and Bush Irish Whiskey. He lives on Toronto Island with his partner Gordon Bowness.

## Rights Sold

World English (Pantheon)

Maurice Vellekoop is really, really gay. He grew up in the 1970s in a blue-collar suburb of Toronto and was unaccepted by his Christian Reform family, setting the course for a long estrangement. It's not until Maurice attends the Ontario College of Art in the early 1980s that he finds a welcoming community of artists and bohemians, including a brilliant, flamboyantly gay professor who encourages him to come out. But just as he's dipping his toes into the waters of gay sex and love, a series of romantic disasters, followed by a violent attack, sets him back severely. And then the shadow of the AIDS era descends.

Maurice reacts by satisfying his emotional needs with film- and theatre-going, music, boozy self-medication, and prolific art-making. When these tactics inevitably fail, Maurice at last embarks on a journey towards his heart's true desire. In psychotherapy, the spiderweb of family, faith, guilt, sexuality, mental health, French Formula Hairspray, and much more begins to untangle. But it's going to be a long, messy, and occasionally hilarious process.

*"I'm So Glad We Had This Time Together* is that rarest of things: a book about coming out to a loving yet conservative family that is as heartrending to read as it is to look at. It's an incredibly moving, funny, and ultimately triumphant account (spoiler alert!) of what can only be described as a magical fairy tale (pun totally intended!)."

—Anderson Cooper

#Memoir

# THE READING LIST

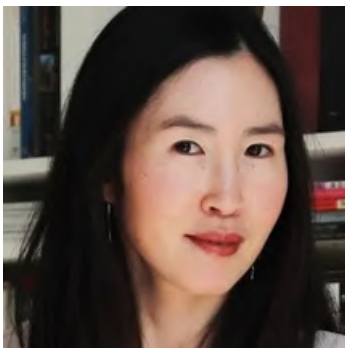
LITERATURE, LOVE AND BACK AGAIN: A MEMOIR

Leslie Shimotakahara

- A poignant memoir based on the conversations about literature between the author and her father, which reveal heartbreaking family secrets



October 2012



Leslie Shimotakahara's memoir, *The Reading List*, won the Canada-Japan Literary Prize, and her fiction has been shortlisted for the KM Hunter Artist Award. She has written two critically acclaimed novels, *After the Bloom* and *Red Oblivion*. *After the Bloom* received a starred review from Booklist and is Bustle's number one choice in "50 Books To Read With Your Book Club," while Kirkus Review praised *Red Oblivion* for displaying "virtuosity in this subtle deconstruction of one family's tainted origins."

## Rights Sold

All Rights Available

excl. Japanese

(Kitakarasuyama Henshu-shitsu)

As captivating as *The Jane Austen Book Club*, and as inspiring as *The Film Club*, *The Reading List* is a poignant, humorous memoir about never giving up on your dreams and finding the ultimate happiness through reading.

Leslie Shimotakahara, a young, disenchanted English professor, struggles to revive her childhood love of reading. Returning home to rethink her life, she bonds with her father Jack over discussions about the lives, loves and works of the novelists on their shared reading list—Wharton, Joyce, Woolf and Atwood, to name a few. But when their conversations about literature unearth some heartbreaking, deeply buried family secrets surrounding Jack's own childhood—growing up Japanese-Canadian in the aftermath of World War II—Leslie's world is changed forever. Could discovering the truth about her father's past hold the key to her finally being happy in love, life and career?

*The Reading List* reveals how literature can sometimes help us expose our past, understand our loved ones and point us toward our future.

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