

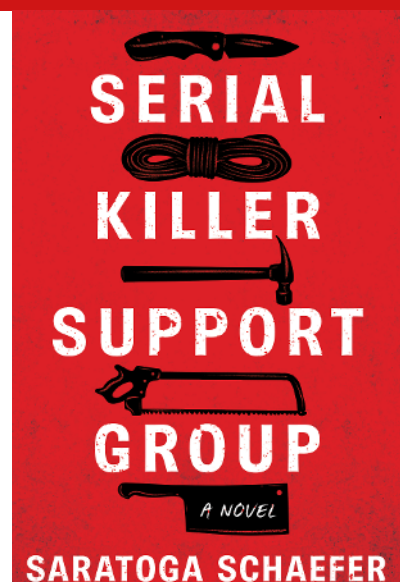
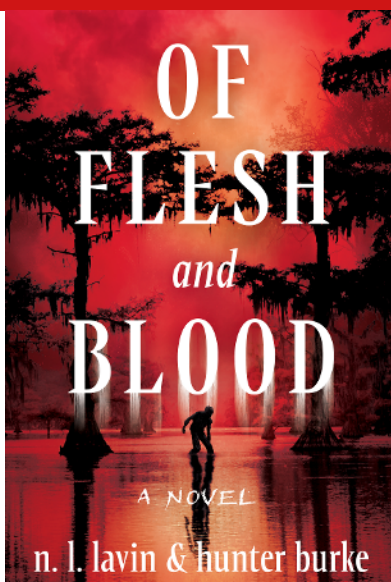
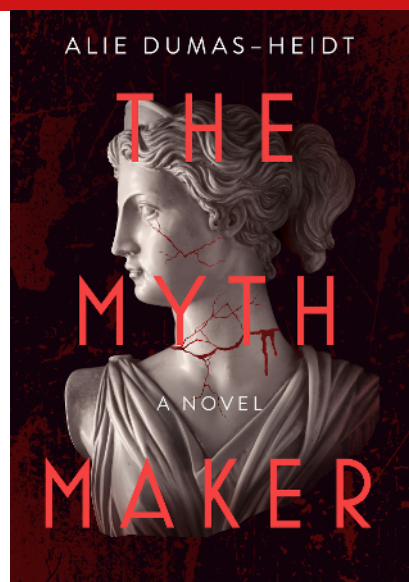
# CROOKED LANE



## Frankfurt 2024

## Hot List

Distributed by Penguin Random House



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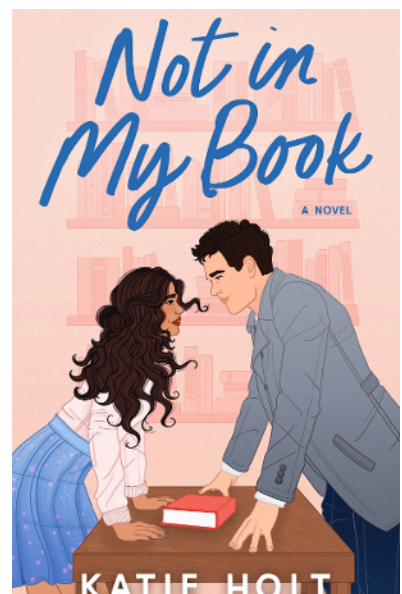
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STORIES TO SHARE



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**THE LEGEND OF GODDESS ISIS** by Malayna Evans

**April 7, 2026** | Fiction - Fairy Tales, Folk Tales, Legends & Mythology

**An Ancient Egyptian goddess will stop at nothing to save her husband from the wrath of her vengeful brother in this feminist and romantic myth retelling by the author of *Neferura*, perfect for readers who loved *Lilith*.**

Isis, Egyptian goddess of wisdom and magic, has the perfect life with the perfect home and the perfect husband Osiris. It's fine that her sister Nephthys clearly has a bit of a crush on Osiris, because Isis knows her and her husband's love is unstoppable.

But after Nephthys's own husband Seth traps Osiris in a box during a party game—a box that quickly vanishes—Isis's life will never be the same again.

Driven by rage and desperation, Isis spends decades disguised as a human woman, in isolation from her family and home, searching for her lost love. When she does finally manage to track the box down, what she discovers inside will change her life—and the fates of the gods and the humans they govern—forever.

*The Legend of Goddess Isis* is a feminist retelling about the fierce and determined woman behind one of ancient mythology's most storied men.

**Material Available to Read:** January 30, 2025

**Approximate Word Count:** 87,900

**Approximate Page Count:** 336

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Translation, Foreign English

### Praise for Malayna Evans

"An insightful and timely tale of female power...Evans' deft and illuminating book shows us little has changed in three and a half thousand years. She shows us true power is not found in dominating others but in the simple freedom to live and love as you choose."

— Nikki Marmery, author *Lilith*

"*Neferura* by Malayna Evans explores the tense political landscape of Ancient Egypt through the eyes of *Neferura*, princess and high priestess of Kemet. *Neferura's* story is excellently researched."

— Rosie Hewlett, author of *Medusa* and *The Witch of Colchis*



**Malayna Evans** was raised in Utah and spent her childhood climbing mountains and reading Sci-Fi. She moved to Chicago in her early twenties where she earned M.A.s in the ancient history of the Mediterranean and the Near East and a Ph.D. in ancient Egyptian history. She enjoys sharing her passion for the ancient world with readers, adores travel, and plays a mean game of cards. A single mom, Malayna lives in Oak Park, IL, with her two children and two very spoiled Frenchies.



**THE GODS TIME FORGOT** by Kelsie Sheridan Gonzalez

DEBUT

**April 8, 2025** | Fiction - Fantasy - Romance

**Irish mythology collides with Gilded Age New York in this sweeping debut enemies-to-lovers historical romantasy, perfect for fans of *Outlander* and *A Fate Inked in Blood*.**

Manhattan, 1870. Rua knows only two things: her name, and that she has no memories. So when the wealthy Harrington family mistakes Rua for their missing daughter, Emma, Rua goes along with the charade, hoping for answers about who she really is. As she tries to blend into a society she doesn't remember, she's drawn to a firmly off-limits man: the Lord of Donore, a newcomer to Manhattan society who is somehow familiar to Rua.

Finn is new to this side of the Atlantic and knows that the best way to fit in as Lord of Donore is to make friends in high places and play by the rules of society. He knows he shouldn't become involved with a mysterious, recently missing debutante, but he's intrigued by Emma Harrington, and Finn has an uncanny feeling that this isn't the first time they've met.

With societal pressures mounting on both sides, Rua is determined to discover the truth about the missing Harrington daughter and her own past. But when her memories begin to return, they're of a world far stranger than New York and traced in dark magic.

As ancient secrets unfurl in Rua's memory, Rua and Finn are forced to uncover the mystery of their past and try to save their future. In this gritty and glittering romantasy, nothing and no one is as they seem.

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 108,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 384

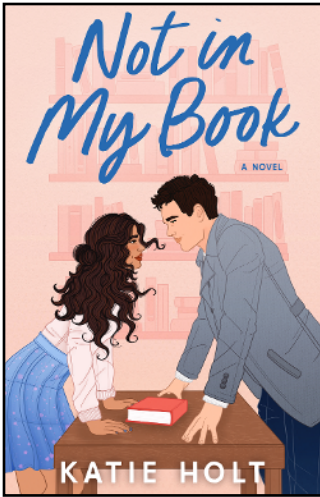
**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**\*\*45,000 followers on TikTok and 27,000 followers on Instagram\*\***



**Kelsie Sheridan Gonzalez** lives in New York with her husband, their son, and a fluffy dog named Oliver Queen. When she's not writing, she can be found in Ireland, touching stones, and trying to fall through them.



**NOT IN MY BOOK** by Katie Holt

DEBUT

**December 10, 2024** | Fiction - Romance - Multicultural

***The Hating Game* meets *Beach Read* in this sexy and hilarious contemporary romance from a debut Peruvian-Tennessean voice.**

Rosie, an idealistic and passionate Peruvian-American who has grown up without strong ties to her culture, leaves her Tennessee hometown to pursue her dream of making it in New York as a writer. But her plan is derailed when she ends up in class with her arch-nemesis and ex-crush, Aiden Huntington—an obnoxious, surly, and gorgeous literary fiction writer who doesn't have much patience for the romance genre, or for Rosie.

Rosie and Aiden regularly go to verbal battle in workshop until their professor reaches her breaking point. She allows them to stay in her class on one condition: they must co-write a novel that blends their genres.

The reluctant writing duo can't help but put pieces of themselves into their accidentally steamy novel, and as they slowly get to know each other, they try to put their differences aside. Meanwhile, their manuscript-in-progress provides an outlet for them to confess their feelings—and explore their attraction toward each other.

When Rosie and Aiden find themselves competing against each other for a potentially career-changing opportunity, the flames of old rivalry reignite, and their once-in-a-lifetime love story is once again at risk of being shelved—unless they can find a way to end the book on their own terms.

### **Praise for *Not in My Book***

"An absolutely sparkling debut! *Not in My Book* is an absorbing love letter to romance fans everywhere."

—Christina Lauren, *New York Times* and international bestselling authors of *The Unhoneymooners*

"The ultimate sexy, slow burn romance. Rosie and Aiden are perfect rivals, and even more perfect lovers."

—Hannah Grace, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Icebreaker*

**Material Status:** Available

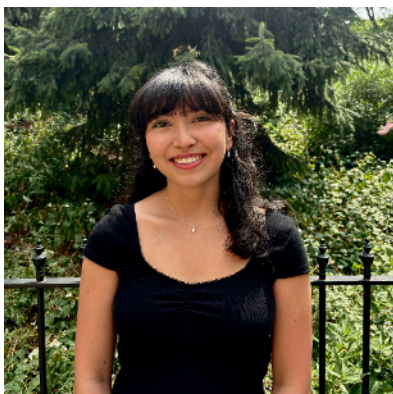
**Approximate Word Count:** 94,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 336

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Translation

**Rights Sold:** UK (Transworld); Poland (Foksal); Germany (LYX), Russia (Eksmo); Brazil (Paralela); Spain (Newton Compton); Ukraine; Czech (Dobrovsky)



**Katie Holt** is a New York City resident but a Tennessee native. She studied English with a concentration in creative writing at NYU and fought with every professor to prove that romance novels were worthy of their time. She's a Nora Ephron fanatic, Swiftie, and warm chocolate chip enthusiast. *Not in My Book* is her first novel.



**A DARK AND SECRET MAGIC** by Wallis Kinney

DEBUT

**October 8, 2024** | Fiction - Romance - Paranormal - Witches

**A warm, spellbinding tale about a witch and the secrets her coven has been keeping from her, with echoes of the classic Hades and Persephone story, in the tradition of Practical Magic and Witch of Wild Things.**

Hecate Goodwin, Kate to her friends, has curated the perfect life as a hedge witch, living in a secluded cottage with only a black cat for company. She spends her days foraging herbs from the Ipswich forest, gardening, and creating tinctures to sell at the apothecary she owns. Most evenings pass without her speaking to another human being, an arrangement she quite prefers.

Kate's solitude is thrown into disarray when her older sister, Miranda, reaches out and asks her to host their coven's annual Halloween gathering. The day marks the beginning of the new year for witches and is also Kate's birthday. The pressure from her coven to make the evening memorable mounts as the event draws near. To complicate things further, a handsome man from Kate's past turns up at her cottage, asking for sanctuary. It is Kate's duty as a hedge witch to honor this request, much to her dismay. Matthew Cypher is no ordinary lost soul—he's a practitioner of forbidden magic who's tricked Kate once before, and her guard is up.

As she juggles Matthew's arrival and the preparations for Halloween, Kate comes across an old tome shrouded in dark magic. She is horrified when she realizes the blood-red inscription is written in familiar handwriting: her recently deceased mother's. Afraid to even touch the dark magic her mother secretly studied, Kate can turn only to Matthew for help. Her idealized memory of her mother begins to distort, and as she and Matthew grow closer, Kate has to reevaluate whom she can really trust.

*A Dark and Secret Magic* is a celebration of the Halloween season and a love letter to anyone who drinks pumpkin spice in August and carries the spirit of a witch inside their heart all year long.

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 95,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 320

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**Rights Sold:** Italy (il Castoro), Germany (KiWi); Poland (Niezwykle); Russia (Mann, Ivanvov, and Ferber)



**Wallis Kinney's** biggest sources of joy in life are science and fairytales. She tries to imbue elements of both into every story she writes. She studied planetary science and molecular biology at the University of Colorado and has a master's degree in economics from Purdue University. She wrote *A Dark and Secret Magic* as a gift for her older sister, in honor of all the years they spent celebrating the magical wonder of Halloween together. Wallis lives in Dallas, Texas, with her family. In her free time she enjoys playing *Dungeons & Dragons* and making videos on YouTube that document her writing process.

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**DISHONORED** by Alexia LaFata

DEBUT

August 12, 2025 | Fiction - Women

**A young woman must confront her abuser in this gripping debut novel sure to captivate readers of *Sweetbitter* and *My Year of Rest and Relaxation*.**

One night in college changed the course of Avery's entire life. Her rapist took everything from her—including the trust of her friends and long-term boyfriend, who were convinced she cheated. A year later, she still can't bear to tell the truth of what happened and risk her friendship with Morgan, the only friend she has left.

Instead, Avery finds her way under a man or into a bottle nearly every day just to convince herself that she has power over her feelings and her autonomy. That is, until she meets Pete, a man so kind and good that he awakens something in Avery that makes her want to try.

But somehow Avery's rapist has resurfaced in her life as the best man in Morgan's wedding. And as maid of honor, there's no way Avery can avoid him. The mere sight, smell, and sounds of this man grate at Avery's emotional state, and she begins to drive away the final few who care about her—including Pete.

As the wedding nears, Avery must decide whether to finally let her walls down and tell her truth or risk spiraling toward a darkness she may never be able to recover from.

**Material Status:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 101,500

**Approximate Page Count:** 336

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation



**Alexia LaFata** is currently the Senior SEO Manager at Vox Media, which is home to *Vox*, *New York Magazine*, *The Cut*, *Vulture*, *PS*, *Eater*, and many more publications. Previously she was a senior sex and dating editor at *Elite Daily*.



**HOUSE IN BLOOM** by Jennifer O'Brien

DEBUT

**September 9, 2025** | Fiction - Women

**A recently divorced single mom returns to her family's fixer-upper beach home and finds romance amidst the heartbreak—and truths buried under generations of lies—in this summertime romance perfect for fans of *The Beach House* and *Nora Goes Off Script*.**

When Dahlia Newberry escapes her terrible marriage and returns to Long Island's North Fork to put her family's beach house on the market, she discovers the property has fallen into disrepair, and she has no idea how she'll get it from *fixer* to *fabulous* in a month's time.

Things start to look up when she discovers she's neighbors with a handsome reality TV star who's filming a home renovation series in the Hamptons. Noah turns out to be quite handy and pitches in to help Dahlia with the renovations.

Meanwhile, Dahlia discovers a letter from her Aunt Lil, whose dying wish was for Dahlia to find a key that unlocks a mystery spanning three generations. Soon Dahlia is unearthing mysterious clues buried in the garden which threaten to upend everything she believes about her world.

The truth is supposed to set you free, but excavated secrets have a way of shattering an already fragile life—unless Dahlia can find a way to bloom into the woman she was always meant to be.

This debut novel by an accomplished home design influencer is perfect for fans of HGTV shows and steamy summer romances.

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 71,400

**Approximate Page Count:** 288

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**\*\*82.4K followers on Instagram, 141K followers on Instagram, 36.5K followers on TikTok, 41K followers on Facebook\*\***

**\*\*Amazon Home Influencer\*\***



**Jennifer O'Brien's** experience as a designer and content creator lends authenticity to her storytelling surrounding all things home and romance. She is the founder of the website and lifestyle brand City Farmhouse, where she blogs regularly. Jennifer has styled for Better Homes & Gardens, Sherwin-Williams, Pottery Barn, Target, Starbucks, Lowe's, Wayfair, and Rebuilding Together. Her work has been published in *Better Homes & Gardens*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Cottages & Bungalows*. She was featured on the Rachael Ray Show for a holiday decorating segment.

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**HONEYSUCKLE HOUSE** by Liz Parker

**October 21, 2025** | Fiction - Romance - Paranormal - Witches

**A witch's house is a living, breathing thing. It winks in windows and doors, offers love and book suggestions and, given enough time, takes on a life of its own.**

Like generations before them, Florence and Evie Caldwell are cursed. Once every 13 years someone dear to them dies, including their mother 13 years ago, and their father 13 years before her. Now time is up, the curse is upon them and the sisters, after all these years, still cannot agree on how they can stop it. Digging into generations of family, and town history, the sisters come upon what might be the answer. But are they, and the generations after them, willing to give up everything they've known and love to break the spell?

**Materials Available to Read:** November 1, 2024

**Approximate Word Count:** 75,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 288

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation



**Liz Parker's** debut, *In the Shadow Garden*, was featured on The Kelly Clarkson Show and named one of Reader's Digest's most anticipated books of 2022. It was optioned by Pie Films. Her second co-written book, *The Other March Sisters*, releases in 2025 with Kensington and is a PW Buzz Book.

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**THE ADAPTATION** by Elise Wayland

**August 12, 2025** | Fiction - Romance - Contemporary

**One classic novel. Two adaptations. A competition that shakes up everything.**

**Perfect for fans of Emily Henry and Ali Hazelwood, this steamy rivals-to-lovers romance set in Manhattan features two writers fighting to write the adaptation of their favorite classic novel.**

Mo Denton has been obsessed with the classic feminist novel *The Proud and the Lost* for as long as she can remember. Mo put everything she had into writing a new adaptation of her all-time favorite book. Her agent Yuri loves it—but there's a catch. The author's estate has to approve any adaptation.

The agent who represents the estate—Wes Spencer—also wrote an adaptation and has been sitting on it. Promoting Mo's project would go against Wes's own interests, and he's reluctant to bring it to Estelle Morgan, the estate owner and elderly daughter of the original novelist. But when Yuri contacts Estelle herself, Wes has to get serious about ensuring that Mo's book doesn't get a chance to see the market.

Estelle invites Mo and Wes to her home for a weekend where they will pitch each book to her to let her decide. Estelle's children, Talia and Flor, are also part of the judging process, and it's clear who they favor: Wes, whose famous mother and relatable (to them) lifestyle makes him an easy choice.

Mo and Wes realize that they have more in common than just their love of the original book. As they grow closer back in New York City, and wait for the estate's decision, will the secrets Wes is keeping ruin the bond between them, or can they find their way to a happy ending?

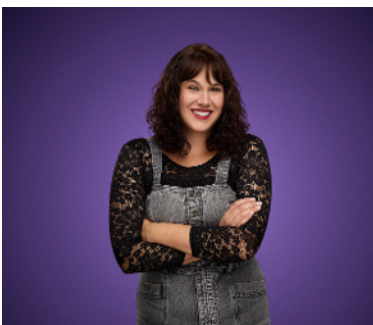
**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 86,200

**Approximate Page Count:** 304

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation



**Elise Wayland** is a Midwestern writer and humorist, recently published in *The New York Times*, *Electric Literature*, *The Rumpus*, *Scary Mommy*, *McSweeney's*, and other outlets.



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**Nonfiction**

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**COOKING AS THERAPY** by Debra Borden

**October 14, 2025** | Self-Help - Personal Growth - Happiness

**Learn how to harness the power of cooking therapy, a powerful tool to improve self-esteem, form healthy habits, and cultivate calm, with recipes and step-by-step instructions**

In *Cooking as Therapy*, licensed clinical social worker and Sous Therapist Debra Borden provides you with all the tools and techniques to have multiple therapy sessions in the comfort of your own kitchen.

Using her simple yet powerful 3M curriculum, **Mindfulness**—which develops calm, **Metaphor**—which creates clarity, and **Mastery**—which sparks self-esteem, Borden will teach you how to recognize limiting patterns and behaviors, improve self-esteem, and form healthy new habits.

Luckily, you don't have to be a great cook to try cooking therapy—and you don't even have to love cooking. You just have to have an interest in self-exploration and self-expression. Because cooking therapy is experiential and guided, the processes involved in preparing a recipe or meal will trigger thoughts and “aha” moments in a different way than traditional therapy. It is less about *what* you prepare and more of a guided journey to self-reflection through *how* you prepare a dish. Unlike talk therapy, emotional processing, creativity, and reflection are all contributors to a successful cooking therapy session.

In *Cooking as Therapy*, you'll find:

- **Expert advice:** Debra Borden is a pioneer of cooking therapy and a licensed clinical social worker with decades of experience. She understands the power of cooking therapy and how it can help you live a happier life.
- **An individualized approach to self-care:** Cooking therapy helps you focus on specific issues in the time you have available. This book helps you create a process that works best for you and your life.

**Accessible instructions:** Borden's straightforward and easy-to-follow instructions make cooking therapy easy. **Easy-to-follow recipes:** Recipes are simple, and range from just 5 minutes to one hour.

**Materials Available to Read:** November 1, 2024

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation



**Debra Borden** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in NY and NJ and a novelist. Her essays and articles have appeared in *Women's Health Magazine* and the *New York Times*. A pioneer in the field of cooking therapy, Debra is thrilled and grateful to be a part of the creative community of mental health professionals, writers, and foodies.



**OKAY, NOW WHAT? HOW TO BE RESILIENT WHEN LIFE GETS TOUGH** by Kate Gladdin

**November 12, 2024** | Self-Help - Personal Growth - General

**From life coach Kate Gladdin, this easy-to-follow, 3-step plan for how to bravely face life's unexpected challenges is the foolproof solution to developing resilience.**

When motivational speaker Kate Gladdin was 20 years old, she woke up in the middle of the night to find out her older sister had died in a tragic road accident. Suddenly, everything she knew about her life, her future, and her family shattered in a heartbeat.

Just like Gladdin, we all face loss in different ways every day, because adversity is a part of life. There's no getting around it—only through it—and the most vital tool we need to overcome the unexpected is resilience.

It was this realization that led Gladdin to become a resilience expert, life coach, and motivational speaker. Through her own proven three step strategy using the 3 Rs—to recognize, reflect, and redirect—she now has the skills to use anytime she feels helpless and wants to take back control over any circumstance she faces.

It's this incredible method that Gladdin teaches in *Okay, Now What?* She shows readers how to **recognize** the thoughts that cause how they feel, **reflect** upon whether those thoughts are helpful or harmful, and, finally—the most important step—**redirect** their mind to find empowering thoughts that fuel the resilience they need to rise above and create good from even the worst moments in life.

Resilience isn't a fixed trait that you are born with, like your eye color or the shape of your toes. Resilience is a skill that any of us can grow and develop with practice, and in *Okay, Now What?*, you will learn exactly how to do so.

### **Praise for *Okay, Now What?***

"A must read for anyone seeking meaningful relationships, purpose, or a path out of anxiety, depression, and hopelessness."

—Lois Sonstegard, PhD, ACC, Executive Coach and Business Collaboration Strategist for Business Revenue Growth

"*Okay, Now What?* is real, revealing and never more relevant than today."

—Joe Schmit, professional speaker, author and award-winning television broadcaster

**Material Status:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 66,500

**Approximate Page Count:** 240

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**Rights Sold:** Poland (Studio Emka)



**Kate Gladdin** is an author, international youth speaker, certified life coach, and one of Australia's "100 Women of Influence." Through her school talks, online coaching programs, and podcast, *Okay, Now What?*, Kate has shared her empowering message with more than 200,000 students to help them overcome adversity. Learn more at [www.kategladdin.com](http://www.kategladdin.com).

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**PARENTS HAVE FEELINGS, TOO: HOW TO LIVE AUTHENTICALLY WITH YOUR EMOTIONS SO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY CAN THRIVE** by Hilary Jacobs Hendel & Juli Fraga

January 6, 2026 | Self-Help - Emotions

**A practical guide that teaches parents how to understand and process emotion—and how to teach this valuable, life changing skill to the next generation**

Parents are stressed. It's not uncommon for modern-day pressures and expectations to compromise a parent's emotional well-being, causing them to lose control of their emotions.

But when parents let their anger and frustration lead to outbursts, the fallout can have lasting effects on their children, leaving them anxious, insecure, and hurt by the words and actions of their overwhelmed caregivers.

Most parents are aware of the qualities that will help their children thrive—like patience, support, empathy, and attunement—but emotional overwhelm can make it difficult for them to maintain a cool head.

Parents desperately need real, actionable, long-lasting advice that helps them process their emotions in a healthy and productive way. In *Parents Have Feelings, Too*, psychotherapists Hilary Jacobs Hendel and Juli Fraga provide the tools parents need to understand and effectively work with their own potent feelings, breaking the chain of intergenerational trauma, and passing along this knowledge to their children to create a generation of emotionally mature people.

*Parents Have Feelings, Too* includes:

- Practical strategies to help parents process their feelings
- Client stories and examples
- Parenting strategies for how to teach children to understand and process emotion
- Expert insights to support parents on their emotional journey

Parents have feelings. And when they understand what they are, where they're coming from, and how to process them, they become equipped to not only enhance their parenting skills but also help their children understand and process their own emotions.

**Materials Available to Read:** January 21, 2025

**Approximate Word Count:** 80,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 304

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English



**Dr. Hilary Jacobs Hendel** is a certified psychoanalyst and AEDP psychotherapist and supervisor, and has published articles in *The New York Times* and professional journals. Her blog posts have been shared worldwide. She runs a practice on the Upper West Side of Manhattan and was the Mental Health Consultant for the Emmy and Golden Globe-winning show *Mad Men*. You can find Hilary's blog and other FREE resources on emotions and the Change Triangle at [hilaryjacobshendel.com](http://hilaryjacobshendel.com).



**Dr. Juli Fraga** helps individuals who are struggling with postpartum depression and anxiety, maternal & childhood trauma, infertility, and loss/grief. In her work, she helps turn insight into action, which alters the way her patients interact with themselves, their family, and the world around them.

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Soon

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***FROM UNSUPPORTED TO UNSTOPPABLE: RECLAIMING YOUR POWER AT WORK AND HOME*** by Risa Ryger

**October 21, 2025** | Self-Help - Personal Growth - General

**A revolutionary playbook that provides the solution to burnout and overwhelm, for women doing it all.**

The modern woman tries to be everything for everyone—she is juggling a career, a relationship, children, friendships, while trying to fit in a moment or two of self-care. But the pressure of balancing these spinning plates creates anxiety, stress, burnout, and disconnection. What's more, women feel utterly unsupported and overwhelmed. They might be experiencing debilitating physical symptoms of burnout, like insomnia, digestive problems, chronic headaches or pain, and TMJ. They might be completely disconnected from their lives, disassociating from their loved ones and their own feelings.

This perpetual state of anxiety is untenable. In *From Unsupported to Unstoppable*, Dr. Ryger explains the five reasons why women feel unsupported: insecure attachment, trauma, shame, self-limiting beliefs, and gendered expectations.

How do you find the support you need? Dr. Ryger believes it starts with self-confidence, self-love, and self-knowledge to become what Dr. Ryger calls “self-owned.” When you develop a secure attachment to self, or cultivate self-ownership, you will develop a soft place to land within yourself, a voice of calm, loving reassurance that never minimizes or negates your experiences, and is available to you, especially at your most difficult times.

From this place of self-support, Dr. Ryger explains, you can become unstoppable. *From Unsupported to Unstoppable* will teach you how to:

- Feel your feelings and develop emotional stamina
- Cultivate a base of self-compassion and self-love
- Discover and accept all parts of yourself
- Disrupt and update your self-narrative
- Develop resilience in the face of challenges or triggers

With Dr. Ryger’s innovative process to becoming self-owned, you will reduce the negative effects of burnout and build a community of support and love even bigger than you could’ve ever imagined.

**Material Status:** Proposal Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 75,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 288

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation



**Dr. Risa Ryger** is a New York Clinical Psychologist, national and international speaker, and researcher with over 20 years of clinical experience. Dr. Ryger graduated from the University of Southern California with a Bachelor of Arts as an Interdivisional Scholar in Psychology and Biology. She was awarded her Master of Science, Master of Philosophy and Doctorate degrees in Clinical Psychology from Columbia University.



**IMMIGRANT-ISH** by Katya Suvorova

**August 11, 2026**

Katya always understood that she and her mother were undocumented immigrants, but it wasn't until finding her mother's mail-order bride catalog promising her mother as the "perfect wife" that everything started to click into place.

Katya started sharing her story on TikTok and very quickly went from zero to 4.3M likes. Followers have resonated with and been fascinated by her journey, and she's ready to share it all.

*ImmigrantOish* is *I'm Glad My Mom Died* meets *Beautiful Country*, a true account of her life growing up in the United States with her mentally ill mom and an often-inhospitable country told with irreverent dark humor exploring themes of identity, mental health, and what we owe (or don't owe) our parents.

**Material Status:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 80,100

**Approximate Page Count:** 272

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**\*\*45.6K followers on Instagram (@katyasuvorovawrites) 87.3K followers on TikTok (@sincerelysuvorova)\***



**Katya Suvorova** was an undocumented immigrant in Texas. She finally gained her citizenship at seventeen years old. Katya is an alumna of The University of Houston writing program whose work has been published in *Electric Literature*, *JMWW*, *Gold Man Review*, *Memoir Magazine*, and *Atticus Review*.

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Soon

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**HOW TO SPOT MISINFORMATION** by Melanie Trecek-King

**August 25, 2026**

Misinformation is a global problem, threatening everything from individual pocketbooks to public health to civilization itself. Fake news, con artists, and pseudoscience pervade our information environments, looking for ways to make money or create chaos by exploiting our hopes and vulnerabilities. It's no wonder that so many of us have lost trust in our institutions, and even in each other. But nihilism won't save us. Education can.

While there are many books that address misinformation, *How to Spot Misinformation* differs in that it pulls back the curtain to reveal how the wizard does their tricks. Each chapter will explain how misinformation persists, and will lay out step-by-step how con artists and fake news use specific tactics to trick the public. *How to Spot Misinformation* is a must-have for readers of popular science

and critical thinking books and will empower everyday folks to resist being fooled by misinformation.

The first section of the book equips readers with the necessary foundation. They'll learn why we're vulnerable to con artists, charlatans, and misinformation, how science works, why it can protect us against misinformation, and how to (really!) do their own research and find reliable information. The second section teaches readers about important aspects found in all cons, such as how con artists use fallacies and rhetorical techniques to "win" arguments, how conspiracy theories work, and how charismatic leaders convince us to follow them. The third section focuses on pseudoscience and science denial, which pretend to be scientific. Readers will learn how health pseudoscience is sold, how fad diets work, and the techniques of science denial. Part 4 dives into weird science, such as cryptids, psychics, and ghosts. Finally, Part 5 is all about recognizing online deceit, like fake news, online scams, and wellness influencers.

Upon reading this book, readers will be able to identify—and not fall for—the sneaky tricks misinformation peddlers employ to fool them.

**Material Status:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 80,100

**Approximate Page Count:** 272

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**\*\*50K followers on Facebook and 9.7K on Instagram (@thinkingpowers)\*\***

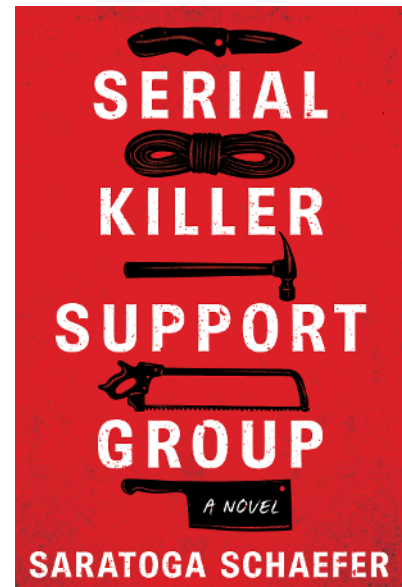
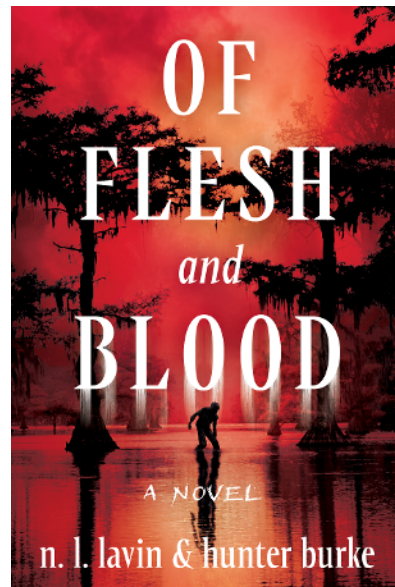
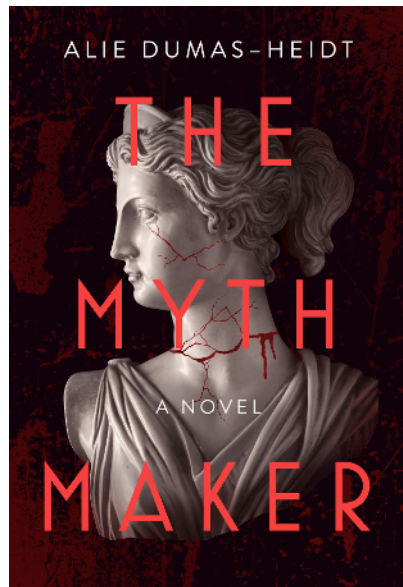


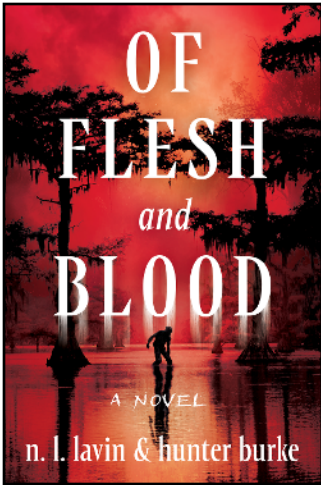
**Melanie Trecek-King** is a science and critical thinking communicator and an Associate Professor of Biology at Massasoit Community College outside Boston, where she developed an award-winning general-education science course designed to "teach skills, not facts," called "Science for Life." She also translates science to normals on her website, [ThinkingIsPower.com](http://ThinkingIsPower.com), her Facebook, which has about 50,000 followers, and her other social media accounts, which has 14,000 combined followers. Trecek-King is also the Education Director of the Mental Immunity Project and CIRCE (Cognitive Immunology Research Collaborative) and a Fellow of the **Committee for Skeptical Inquiry**.

# CROOKED LANE



YOUR PATH TO THE BEST MYSTERY,  
CRIME & SUSPENSE





**OF FLESH AND BLOOD** by Hunter Burke & N. L. Lavin

DEBUT

June 10, 2025 | Fiction - Horror

**A forensic psychiatrist's investigation into an infamous Louisiana serial killer leads him down a dangerous path of obsession as he discovers they share the same cursed blood.**

**This chilling debut horror novel will captivate readers of *Chasing the Boogiemán* and *What Moves the Dead* and fans of *True Detective*.**

In 2008, a serial killer known as the Cajun Cannibal brutally murders and consumes the flesh of eight people in a small Louisiana parish. With law enforcement closing in on him, he takes his own life before he can face the inside of a courtroom.

Ten years later, when forensic psychiatrist Dr. Vincent Blackburn discovers he and the Cajun Cannibal are more closely connected than he realized, he begins a case study into the sociopathy behind the killer's grisly deeds, only to find a torrent of small town politics, interracial family dynamics, and whispers of the supernatural muddying the once clear waters.

When copycat killings start anew, Vincent is thrust into the center of it all, putting his life, his family, and his own sanity at risk. As monsters—both figurative and literal—begin to manifest, Vincent discovers that untangling the truth from the lies is only the beginning of his nightmare.

Told through the pages of Dr. Vincent Blackburn's case study memoir, and certain to appeal to readers of *A Flicker in the Dark*, this macabre psychological horror will leave your heart racing.

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 86,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 320

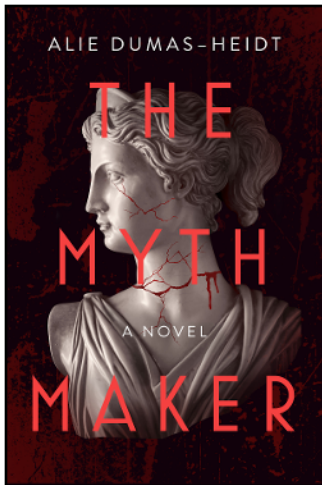
**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign Language, Translation

**Rights Sold:** Russia (AST), UK (Titan Books)



Authors **N.L. Lavin and Hunter Burke** grew up together in Louisiana (where the book is set) and remain close friends and creative partners today. N.L. is a practicing psychiatrist and lends his expertise to the psychologist main character of the novel, while Hunter Burke is a professional actor, recognizable to viewers of Netflix's *Sweet Magnolias*, who will be the public "face" of their co-authorship. Both authors are talented and creative storytellers, and they expertly weave their real-life experiences growing up in the Bayou with the more fantastical elements of the novel. A dream team!



**THE MYTH MAKER** by Alie Dumas-Heidt

**July 8, 2025** | Fiction - Mystery & Detective - Police Procedural

**Someone is killing women and staging their bodies in strange, evocative scenes in this Greek-mythology-inspired serial killer thriller perfect for fans of Alex Michaelides and Tana French.**

Cassidy Cantwell has devoted her life to becoming a detective, never forgetting the cold case that has influenced her entire career: the unsolved murder of her best friend. Cassidy tries to balance her demanding job with her suffocatingly close-knit family and her increasingly clingy boyfriend, but when a strange new murder case comes across her desk, she's determined to solve it, especially when it turns out the victim was the wife of her college ex-boyfriend.

While Cassidy's partner, Bryan, works to prove that her ex is their suspect, Cassidy can't shake the feeling that there's something more to the case that they're not seeing. When she notices a strange ring among the victim's personal effects that the husband insists didn't belong to his wife, she starts to notice other odd details from a previous crime scene—details that seem to have an uncanny connection to a Greek myth.

When another body attracts public attention and the FBI intercedes, the case gets increasingly complicated—and solving it seems further and further out of reach. With anonymous emails about her best friend's death dragging her attention away, Cassidy finds herself pulled in different directions—sacrifice her personal life for the sake of her career, or put everything she has into finding years-old answers to a case that haunts her still.

And the killer behind the murders isn't done yet.

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 80,000

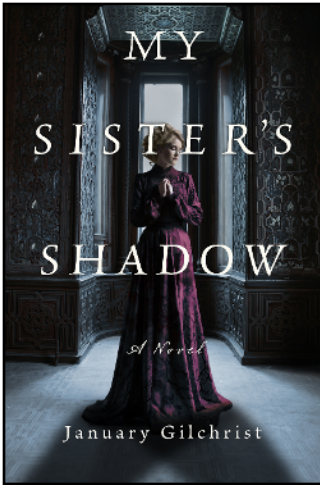
**Approximate Page Count:** 304

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation



**Alie Dumas-Heidt** lives in the Puget Sound with her husband, adult kids, and two dogs – Astrid and Torvi. Growing up she wanted to be a detective and a writer and spent a few years working as a police dispatcher. Now, working is writing in her home office with the dogs at her feet. When she's not writing she enjoys creating glass art, trying to keep house plants alive, and watching baseball.



**MY SISTER'S SHADOW** by January Gilchrist

**March 18, 2025** | Fiction - Mystery & Detective - Historical

**Envy and desire infiltrate the lives of twin sisters in this dark, Gothic suspense set in England and New York City, perfect for fans of Laura Joh Rowland and Hester Fox.**

***A mirror will never show you the truth.***

**England 1904.** Mirror twins Adelaide and Victoria have spent their lives in orbit of each other– doomed to be in the other's shadow, their lives are intertwined and inextricable as each other's identical inverse. Adelaide is dutiful and reserved, happy to remain in her childhood home, Harewood Hall, forever. Victoria wishes for a thrilling life, exploring the world and finding a great romance–but the twins cannot live apart.

Visiting Lord Stanley bewitches Victoria with his talk of a life of luxury in New York, but it is obedient Adelaide whom he marries against her will and to Victoria's fury. Together, they all move to New York and begin a new life.

Adelaide finds herself trapped in a gilded cage on Fifth Avenue with no one but her angry and tempestuous twin for company. Amid the glamor of the upper class, Adelaide is captivated by the independent and educated women of the elite social circle Mrs. Astor's 400. As Adelaide's star rises, tensions begin to surface between the sisters, and as Adelaide grows apart from her twin for the very first time, Victoria descends into a rage-fueled darkness that threatens everything and anyone standing in her way.

Darker and darker with every turn of the page, this Gothic suspense will enrapture readers of Daphne du Maurier and Laura Purcell.

**Material Status:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 106,200

**Approximate Page Count:** 320

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**Rights Sold:** Russia (Azbooka)



**January Gilchrist** is a historical writer with a passion for mystery, and when she's not found soaking up the Queensland sun with her two young sons, she can be found eavesdropping on conversations in cafes and making up entire backstories (and murderous intents) for unsuspecting bystanders. When she grows up, she'd like to be Miss Marple.



**THE DEADLY BOOK CLUB** by Lyn Liao Butler

**October 21, 2025** | Fiction - Thrillers - Crime

Helena, Sidney, Leigh, Kate, and Jessie: five of the most prominent book influencers in the US, ranging in age from twenty-seven to fifty-three. They started a virtual book club during the pandemic and it's still going strong. Once a month, they meet online with cocktails to discuss what they're reading, social media campaigns, and the book events each is known for in their part of the country.

Until one meeting, when all of their Zoom screens freeze. They listen to one of their friends being attacked, screams gut wrenching. It feels like an eternity before the video call drops and thus begins the frantic texts and phone calls as each tries to figure out who was attacked and why.

As the investigation into their friend's violent death unearths secrets each of the five women need to keep buried, the jealousies, hidden resentments, and trouble in their families begin to surface. The remaining four women are suspicious of each other, pointing fingers to take the heat off their own indiscretions. But if they want to figure out who killed their friend, they need to band together and put past hurts behind them. Or one of them will be next.

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 87,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 320

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

#### **Praise for Lyn Liao Butler**

"I couldn't put this book down. A masterful story of sorrow, secrets and unexpected romance...Simply wonderful."

—Kristan Higgins, *New York Times* bestselling author

"It seems Butler's fate is to entertain with absorbing stories and compelling characters that linger."

—Steven Rowley, *New York Times* bestselling author



**Lyn Liao Butler** is the Amazon bestselling author of thrillers *What is Mine* and *Someone Else's Life*, and received critical acclaim for her women's fiction *The Tiger Mom's Tale* and *Red Thread of Fate*.

Lyn was born in Taiwan and moved to the States when she was seven. Before becoming an author, she was a professional ballet and modern dancer, and is still a personal trainer, fitness instructor, and yoga instructor. She is an avid animal lover and fosters dogs as well as volunteers with rescues. Her works have been praised by *Kirkus*, *Publishers Weekly*, and featured in *Forbes*, *Parade*, *PopSugar*, and more!



**SLEEP TIGHT** by J. H. Markert

**September 10, 2024** | Fiction - Horror

The sole survivor of a serial killer might hold the key to stopping a new spree of murders in this propulsive thriller in the vein of *The Black Phone* and *The Whisper Man*.

Dark and twisting at every turn, fans of Catriona Ward will love this chilling new tale from the deviously inventive horror author that Peter Farris calls the "clear heir to Stephen King."

*Beware the one who got away . . .*

Father Silence once terrorized the rural town of Twisted Tree, disguising himself as a priest to prey on the most vulnerable members of society. When the police finally found his "House of Horrors," they uncovered nineteen bodies and one survivor—a boy now locked away in a hospital for the criminally insane.

Nearly two decades later, Father Silence is finally put to death, but by the next morning, the detective who made the original arrest is found dead. A new serial killer is taking credit for the murder and calling himself the Outcast.

The detective's daughter, Tess Claibourne, is a detective herself, haunted by childhood trauma and horrified by the death of her father and the resurgence of Father Silence's legacy.

When Tess's daughter is kidnapped by the Outcast, Tess is forced to face her worst fears and long-buried memories. With no leads to follow, she travels back to Twisted Tree to visit the boy who survived and see what secrets might be buried in the tangled web of his broken mind.

With captivating prose and an old-school horror flair, *Sleep Tight* is a must-read, haunting tale from a true master of the genre.

**\*\*Barnes & Noble Bestselling Author\*\***

**\*\*A Book of the Month club pick for September 2024!\*\***

**Praise for J. H. Markert:**

"[A] high-octane supernatural thriller . . . Markert evokes the style and substance of works from horror's golden years."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Fans of Paul Tremblay, T. Kingfisher, and Stephen King will enjoy Markert's fast-paced, old-school horror, brimming with edgy tension and evil."

—*Library Journal*, audiobook review

**Material Status:** Available

**Approximate Word Count/Page Count:** 99,100 / 336

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**Rights Sold:** Czech (Dobrovsky), Russia (AST), Poland (Harde); Ukraine (One More Page)



**J. H. Markert** is a producer, screenwriter, husband, and father of two from Louisville, Kentucky, where he was also a tennis pro for 25 years, before hanging up the racquets for good in 2020. He graduated with a degree in History from the University of Louisville in 1997 and has been writing ever since.



**SPIDER TO THE FLY** by J. H. Markert

**September 23, 2025** | Fiction - Horror

Ellie Isles first becomes obsessed with the I-64 Strangler when she sees his last victim's photo on the TV screen. It's her own face, down to every detail. But the woman is in fact someone named Kimberly Brock, an accountant from nearby Ransom. Unable to stop herself from filling in all the details about this woman's death, which could have been her own, she writes the true crime book, *Bloody Highway: The I-64 Strangler*.

Ian Brock is distraught and reeling after the death of his little sister Kimberly. In his misery he uncovers a hidden truth about his parents. Everyone knows that Ian and his six siblings were all adopted, since the wealthy husband and wife psychiatric team couldn't have children of their own. What Ian discovers is that they didn't just adopt him—they stole him out of the orphanage. He and all of his siblings have twins, and their entire lives have been an experiment in nature vs. nurture. While one twin has battled the system, the other was raised in the Brock household, with every advantage in life.

Ian has a complete breakdown following his discovery, and when the Brock mansion is burned to the ground, with the murdered bodies of his parents inside, Ian is arrested and soon convicted of the crime. But Ian can't remember anything from the night of the fire. When he reads Ellie's book, he's convinced she can help him, and seeks her out to prove his innocence.

As Ellie dives once more into Brock family research, she finally understands why she and Kimberly were identical, and begins to unravel the story of the other Brock-experiment twins. She's convinced the I-64 Strangler is connected to their story, but he's still out there and this time she's no outside observer. She must be careful not to get caught in his web.

**\*\*Barnes & Noble Bestselling Author\*\***

**Praise for J. H. Markert:**

"[A] high-octane supernatural thriller . . . Markert evokes the style and substance of works from horror's golden years."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Fans of Paul Tremblay, T. Kingfisher, and Stephen King will enjoy Markert's fast-paced, old-school horror, brimming with edgy tension and evil."

—*Library Journal*, audiobook review

**Material Status:** November 20, 2024

**Approximate Word Count:** 100,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 336

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**Foreign sales for previous titles:** Czech (Dobrovsky), Russia (AST), Poland (Harde); Ukraine (One More Page)



**J. H. Markert** is a producer, screenwriter, husband, and father of two from Louisville, Kentucky, where he was also a tennis pro for 25 years, before hanging up the racquets for good in 2020. He graduated with a degree in History from the University of Louisville in 1997 and has been writing ever since.



**THE MEMORY COLLECTORS** by Dete Meserve

**May 20, 2025** | Fiction - Mystery & Detective - General

**A stunning speculative mystery, where four strangers undergoing the newest time travel therapy find themselves stuck in the past, on the day their lives all changed from award-winning film and television producer Dete Meserve, perfect for fans of *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* and *Dark Matter*.**

The newest technology, time travel therapy, allows high-paying customers to jump back to the past and experience one hour of their past. Though the point of time they are jumped to is random, most experiences prove cathartic and healing for the jumper.

Elizabeth, a grieving mother, longs to spend another moment with her son who died too soon. Logan, a paraplegic, is looking to relive the adventurous life he led before the loss of his legs. Andy, a heartbroken writer, is searching for his girlfriend after her sudden disappearance. And Brooke, a convicted felon, is looking for one hour of relief from the guilt of an unforgivable mistake.

When the four strangers get a chance to travel back to a moment of their past, they each get a taste of what they've been longing for. But when they're not pulled back after their hour is up, they quickly realize just what time they've been sent to - right before a terrible tragedy that changed each of their lives forever and intertwined their destinies. It can't be a coincidence. Can they change the tragedy that altered all their lives forever and bring not only closure to themselves but a real killer to justice?

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 74,200

**Approximate Page Count:** 288

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English

**Author past sales:** UK/Commonwealth (Melrose Hill)



**Dete Meserve** is an award-winning creator and producer of highly successful films and television series. Her work in Hollywood includes STEM-based animation brands for kids (Ready Jet Go!, Space Camp), hit television series (Roseanne, Home Improvement, Bernie) and feature films such as 2019's Good Sam (Netflix), based on the author's 100k-copy selling novel, for which she wrote the screenplay and produced the film for Netflix. Meserve lives in Los Angeles with her husband and three children and is currently at work on her next slightly magical novel about a young Midwestern real estate agent thrust into a highly secretive Hollywood book club whose members' perfect lives come with a price



**WHAT THE DEAD CAN DO** by Peter Rosch

DEBUT

**August 26, 2025** | Fiction - Thrillers - Supernatural

**A young child becomes the pawn in a deadly battle of wills between his deceased parents in this gripping and profoundly original psychological thriller perfect for fans of *What Have You Done* and *Middle of the Night*.**

When a commercial flight goes down en route to Hawaii, all 184 people on board perish—with the one exception of a two-year-old boy named Ethan. Before their untimely deaths, Ethan's parents, Tag and Amanda, chose their good friends Matthew and Nicole to be Ethan's guardians in the event that the worst ever happened.

From the afterlife, grief-stricken Tag and Amanda watch as Nicole's addictions (which the family had hidden), the family's financial struggles, and the public obsession with their story ignite events that threaten Ethan's welfare.

Believing her son belongs with *her*, and no one else, Amanda becomes obsessed with bringing Ethan to the afterlife. And the one way she knows to do that is by possessing the body of a living person and murdering Ethan.

Tag knows he must do whatever it takes to protect his son from his wife—even if it means being banished to an alternate existence where he'll never see his family again.

*What The Dead Can Do* is a dark, psychological, speculative thriller tinged with horror, destined to keep readers' minds spinning long after the final page.

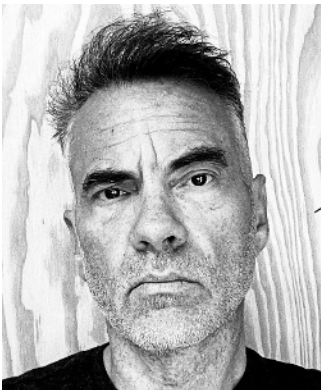
**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 92,900

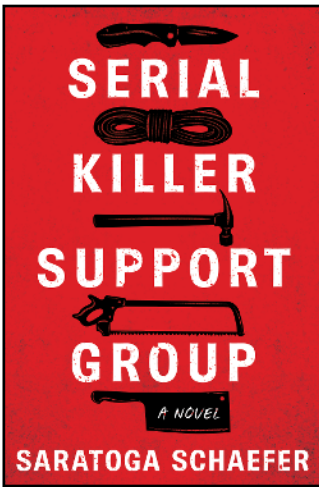
**Approximate Page Count:** 336

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation



**Peter Rosch** is an award-winning advertising Creative Director and Copywriter. This is his traditional publishing debut; he's self-published a few novels, the most recent of which was *Future Skinny* in 2022. He's also the co-host of a podcast called *What We Know, What We Don't*, and he's active on social media (1,074 followers on Instagram).



**SERIAL KILLER SUPPORT GROUP** by Saratoga Schaefer

DEBUT

March 18, 2025 | Fiction - Thrillers - Suspense

**After her sister is murdered, a woman infiltrates a support group for serial killers in this biting queer feminist debut thriller, perfect for fans of *The Final Girl Support Group* and *My Sister, the Serial Killer*.**

When Cyra Griffin's younger sister is murdered by a serial killer, Cyra knows better than to expect justice from the hands of the police department. With the investigation already dying its own slow death, Cyra follows the blood trail and finds her own way forward.

Using insider information (don't ask) Cyra infiltrates a support group for serial killers by pretending to be one herself in the hopes of finding the person who ended her sister's life. Proving herself to them comes at a cost, but it's one Cyra is willing to pay in the name of revenge.

Unfortunately, the dangerous men in the group aren't the only obstacle in Cyra's path for vengeance, and the further Cyra descends into the deadly world of serial killers, the harder it becomes to hold on to her own humanity.

This dark, witty debut novel is a cunning homage to women's wrongs that will have you wondering exactly how many monsters walk unseen among us.

**Materials Available to Read:** Available

**Approximate Word Count:** 80,700

**Approximate Page Count:** 320

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**Rights Sold:** Germany (Blanvalet); Ukraine (Potiah); Italy (Mondadori)



**Saratoga Schaefer** has a background in marketing, content creation, film, and art, and has been writing stories about murder for as long as they can remember. In addition to telling stories and acting as an alcohol-free ambassador, Saratoga climbs rocks, teaches yoga, and hikes mountains. Originally from Brooklyn, Saratoga now lives in upstate NY with an anxious dog and a very possessive cat.



**OUT OF THE LOOP** by Katie Siegel

**February 10, 2026** | Fiction - Mystery & Detective - Multiple Timelines

For 760 days, Amie Teller has been in a time loop reliving September 17th. When she wakes up and it's finally September 18th, she finds herself having to solve a murder with clues only she can recall. Told in chapters that shift between the present and Amie's endless loop days, *Out of the Loop* by Katie Siegel is a queer mystery that explores the unique aftermath of a traumatic and unbelievable experience.

There seemed to be no rhyme or reason as to why Amie was caught in a time loop or how she finally escaped. As she ventures out into the world on a new day, she struggles to reacclimate to normal life and learns her neighbor and local menace, Savannah Harlow, was found murdered early that morning. Grappling with the decision whether to pursue Ziya, the woman she fell for during her days in the loop, Amie gets a call from her friend David. He's been arrested for Savannah's murder.

Since the crime took place during Amie's time loop day, every choice Amie made, every door she picked to open, created a series of events that may have led to one woman's death. Dealing with the stress of not knowing what's going to happen next for once, her only solace is Ziya. Though she can't quite believe Amie's fantastical story, Ziya does help her investigate Savannah's murder. The two become even closer as they attempt to clear David's name and keep Amie safe from the killer.

**Materials Available to Read:** January 6, 2025

**Approximate Word Count:** 75,000

**Approximate Page Count:** 304

**Territory:** World

**Rights Available:** Foreign English, Translation

**Author previous sales:** UK/Commonwealth(Headline)

**\*\*612K followers on TikTok, 35.7K followers on Instagram, 8.62K followers on YouTube\*\***

#### **Praise for Katie Siegel**

"[A] rollicking debut...Charlotte is a delight."

—*The New York Times*

"Charming...Not since Lisa Lutz's *The Spellman Files* has there been such a delightful literary marriage of endearingly quirky characters and deliciously dry wit."

—*Library Journal* starred review



**Katie Siegel** is a former wannabe child detective who eventually realized that writing mysteries was more fun than trying (and failing) to solve them. In addition to writing the Charlotte Illes books and creating content for @KatieFliesAway on TikTok, Instagram, and Youtube, she writes and produces the fantasy radio advice show podcast, *Dear Liisphyra*. She graduated from Rutgers University with a degree in journalism and currently lives in New Jersey. Visit her online at [KatieFliesAway.com](http://KatieFliesAway.com).