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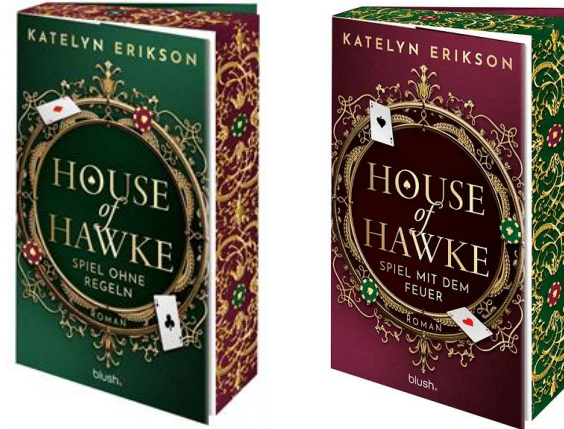


Penguin
Random House
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Selected
New Adult & Romance Highlights 2026
from

HEYNE <

Katelyn Erikson House of Hawke Duology



Her
previous
books have
sold over
70,000
copies

Tropes

enemies to lover, forbidden love, billionaire romance, best friend's ex

Topics

gambling addiction, blackmailing, morally grey

Spice factor



Setting

Monte Carlo and a wickedly glamorous casino called Le Mirage Noir

Protagonists

Luxury hotel heir **Paxton Hawke (28)** has lost his fortune, his pride and his fiancée due his gambling addiction.

Amylia Bishop (25) has just graduated from London Business School, has to repay her student loan, is applying for her first proper job in Monaco and urgently needs to earn money with a part-time job at the casino. Best friend of Paxton's former fiancée Maddy.

Perspective

Alternating between Paxton's and Amylia's perspectives

Volumes

Both volumes can be read independently of each other, but are loosely connected.

Story Volume 1 – A Game Without Rules

Paxton Hawke, a billionaire and gambling addict, has lost everything because of his former best friend Zane Davis, who wants to take revenge on him. Now he is determined to win his former fiancée Maddy back. When he meets Amylia Bishop, Maddy's best friend, he convinces her to help him. What he doesn't know is that Amylia is the masked casino staff member who's been keeping an eye on him night after night. He has no idea who she really is and that she is working of Zane's behalf, but the two of them start playing a dangerous game of lust, lies and betrayal. In this world, only one thing matters: who wins – and who loses everything...

- **Volume 1:** to be published in March 2026
- **Volume 2:** to be published in September 2026

Bianca Mov Wicked Love Trilogy



Tropes

grumpy x sunshine, billionaire, age-gap, dad's best friend, forced proximity

Topics

Moral dilemmas, forbidden fantasies, depression, alcohol abuse

Spice factor



Setting

Barcelona

Protagonists

Sienna Mayfield (23) Her mother died when she was born, and she spent almost her entire childhood in boarding school. She does not have a good relationship with her father, as he sees her as the reason for his pain.

Nikolai Hale (43), mysterious billionaire and liquor mogul. And the best friend of Sienna's father.

Perspective

First-person narrative alternating from Sienna's and Nikolai's point of view.

Volumes

With different protagonists in each volume. All volumes can be read independently.

Full English
manuscript
available

Story Volume 1 – Wicked Mind

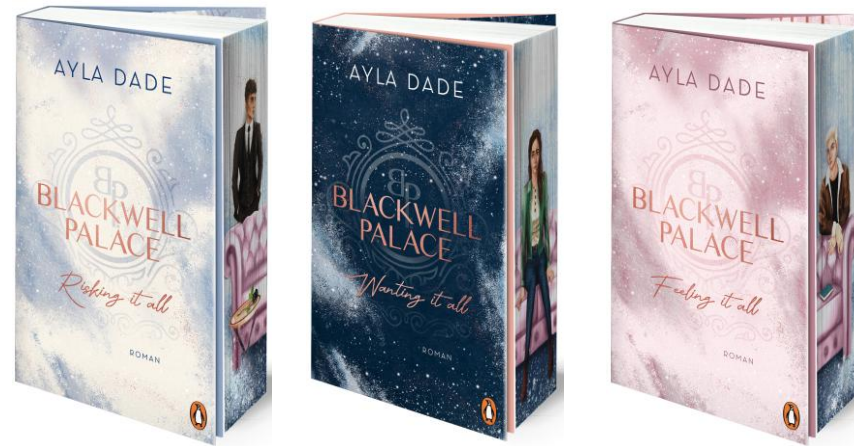
Sienna has a secret: to earn money, she writes spicy novels. Her inspiration: Nikolai Hale, the mysterious billionaire and her father's best friend. She doesn't know him personally, only through interviews and articles in the tabloid press. When she comes home after graduating from university to spend the summer with her father, Nikolai happens to come to visit. When he picks up one of her books, he quickly realises who her source of inspiration is, and a big argument ensues. Sienna is horrified when she realises his true character – he is unfriendly, bitter, grumpy and not at all the shining knight she has imagined in her fantasies for years. Sienna's father urges the two of them to go on a trip to Barcelona together.

What Sienna doesn't know is that her father is terminally ill with cancer and wants to spend his last days with the most important people in his life. On this trip, Sienna and Nikolai grow closer. Sienna recognises the real man behind the ever-controlled mask. And Nikolai is consumed by guilt because he cannot tell her the truth about her father's condition. The truth comes out when Sienna's father collapses and has to be taken to hospital. Furious, Sienna breaks off all contact with Nikolai and travels back to England with her father.

Overwhelmed by caring for her father, Sienna falls into depression. Nikolai, unable to cope with the break-up, almost becomes an alcoholic. It is only after her father's death that the two find their way back to each other.

- **Volume 1:** 40,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** #5 Spiegel Bestseller + 17,000 copies sold
- **Volume 3:** to be published in May 2026

Alya Dade Blackwell Palace Trilogy



Tropes

from enemies to lovers, bad guy- good girl, love triangle

Topics

submission, BDSM

Spice factor



Setting

A legendary luxury hotel in St. Moritz, Switzerland

Protagonists

Paola Cortessa (22), half-Italian from San Luca, Calabria, well-read, from a humble background, finances her brother's boarding school because of poor family circumstances (stepfather a petty criminal who works for the mafia; mother disinterested and addicted to the internet).

Edward Blackwell (23) and **Charles Blackwell** (22), half-brothers in constant competition (Charles only joined the family at 11 after the death of his mother (prostitute, murdered by punter). Edward's mother then left the family).

Perspective

Alternating from the perspective of Paola Cortessa – Edward Blackwell – Charles Blackwell

Volumes

Trilogy, cliffhanger at the end of the first volume

More than
750,000
copies sold
of the
author's
backlist

Story Volume 1 – Risking It All

Paola starts work as a sommelier at the famous Blackwell Palace Hotel but is secretly tasked with finding out the secret of the Blackwell brothers. Paola needs the money because she wants to keep her little brother safe from their petty criminal stepfather and place him in a boarding school. She finds out that Edward's girlfriend has disappeared without a trace, rumours that either Edward or Charles have something to do with it and that she could be dead. Quickly feels attracted to both brothers, has sex with both, more intense relationship with Charles. Edward is attracted to Paola because she resembles his missing girlfriend. Charles because she awakens a protective instinct and has a submissive streak. Missing girlfriend's body is found. Big showdown at the end; Edward and Charles's uncle is the one who ordered the espionage because he wants to put them out of business. Reveals terrible secret at the end, Paola, Charles and Edward are supposed to be half-siblings because their father had an affair with Paola's mother.

- **Volume 1:** #3 Spiegel Bestseller + 82.000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** #2 Spiegel Bestseller + 65.000 copies sold
- **Volume 3:** #1 Spiegel Bestseller + 60.000 copies sold
- **Foreign sales:** US/World English (Sourcebooks), Hungary (Central), Spain (Alma/InLov)

Alina Kronenburg Boston Society Duology



Tropes

enemies to Lovers, forbidden love, from different worlds, secret identity, slow burn

Topics

secrets, betrayal, intrigue, crime, impostor

Spice factor



Setting

Boston's High Society

Protagonists

Sofia Cortinéz (18) was sent from Colombia to live with her money-hungry aunt Raquel in the USA when she was a teenager. Raquel is a marriage swindler and now wants to force Sofia to find her first rich husband.

Arthur Sullivan, a rich heir. He and his model girlfriends are the darlings of the tabloid press.

Perspective

Alternating between Sofia's and Arthur's perspectives

Volumes

Both volumes can be read independently of each other, but are loosely connected.

Story Volume 1 – Unfit to Trust

On her eighteenth birthday, Sofia's aunt Raquel forces her to follow in her footsteps: seduce rich men, lie to them and fleece them. Raquel chooses the young millionaire's son Arthur as her first target. Although Sofia is inwardly reluctant, she plays the mysterious stranger at a horse race and arouses Arthur's interest. But when he transfers to her school shortly afterwards and questions her false name, her lies begin to unravel. At the same time, Arthur is haunted by his own past: a press scandal about an affair with a teacher.

Despite their mistrust, the two grow closer through a school project. Arthur invites Sofia to an exhibition, and as she gets to know his world, she develops real feelings for him. But Raquel is pushing for results. When Sofia is truly happy for the first time at an after-party and kisses Arthur, she secretly steals his account details the next moment. Finally, torn between duty and guilt, she transfers his money to a fake account.

Arthur notices the loss but remains silent for fear of failure. While Sofia slips deeper and deeper into her lies, Arthur's friend Lennon realises the truth about Raquel's criminal activities: Sofia is to serve as the scapegoat in the end. Together with Arthur and his friends, she hatches a plan. Sofia retrieves the stolen money and takes away the documents that could destroy Raquel's life.

At a gala, Sofia and Arthur expose Raquel publicly. She is arrested, Arthur is able to finance his car prototype – but the relationship breaks down. Sofia leaves Boston and returns to Colombia, but quickly realises that she cannot forget Arthur. She flies back, stands at his door again – and this time they forgive each other and start a new life together.

- **Volume 1:** to be published in April 2026
- **Volume 2:** to be published in August 2026

Tami Fischer Manhattan Elite Trilogy

Tropes

enemies-to-lovers

Topics

identity swap, alcohol consumption, drug abuse, violence, bullying, racism, sexual violence

Spice factor



Setting

New York, Manhattan, Upper East Side

Protagonists

Sarah (20) and her identical twin sister **Payton**, white dad & black mom (mixed couple parents)

Perspective

From the perspective of Sarah, who has slipped into Payton's role

Volumes

Continuous plot with cliffhangers at the end of volumes 1 and 2.

Limited special edition

hardcover with linen feel, new cover design with special elements finished with glossy foil, beautiful front and back illustrations, bookmark ribbon, coloured edges



Over
260,000
copies sold

Story Volume 1 – Pretty Scandalous

Sarah and Payton are identical twin sisters, both studying architecture, Sarah in San Francisco, Payton in New York at Columbia. One day, after a long absence, Payton appears on her sister's doorstep, scarred by violence and drugs. She had been in New York with a clique of super-rich people who had dragged her down. Wanting to avenge her sister, Sarah travels to New York as Payton and makes contact with the clique, immersing herself more and more in their world. Meanwhile, Payton is sent to drug rehab in San Francisco. Against her will, Sarah falls in love with Monroe, the brother of the ringleader Peter. Monroe also has deep feelings for Sarah. They share a passionate night together. At the same time, a drug dealer from the clique is to be arrested. The first volume ends with Sarah catching Monroe cheating on her with Peter's girlfriend (which he knows about and has made sure Sarah sees). Devastated, she runs around the neighborhood and is picked up by Holden, who has feelings for her. Sarah kisses him in the lift.

- **Volume 1:** 120,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** 76,000 copies sold
- **Volume 3:** 66,000 copies sold
- **Rights sold to:** Spain (Alma/InLov)



Maren Vivien Haase The Hamptons Prestige Duology



Tropes

love triangle, best friend brother, bad boy vs good guy, broken hero

Topics

high society, old money, summer holidays, deception and intrigues

Spice factor



Setting

The Hamptons, Long Island

Protagonists

Juniper “June” Williams (22), slightly chubby, from a modest background, Ashley's best friend
The siblings **Ashley** (22) and **Weston Thornbury** (24), rich heirs of a prestigious country club. Weston takes out his frustration over an injury that ruined his sports career on everyone around him.
Cameron Gray (24), an employee at the family's country club. He has to earn money with part-time jobs because his dream is to study literature at Harvard.

Perspective

Alternating between June, Weston and Cameron.

Volumes

With a cliffhanger at the end of volume 1

over
270,000
copies of
the author's
books sold

Story Volume 1 – Sparks & Scandals

June is invited by her friend Ashley to spend the summer at her family's estate in the Hamptons. There, she clashes with Ashley's brother Weston. On the first weekend, there is a huge party and June accidentally falls into the water, prompting waiter Cameron to jump into the pool to save her. June and Cameron hit it off right away, sparks fly. June is also unable to resist the attraction she feels for Weston. June is torn the whole time but initially dates Cameron.

Ashley is secretly in love with Cameron too. June and Cameron develop feelings for each other, while Weston also forms a deep bond with June and falls for her. Weston works hard to pursue his dream of a professional sports career far away from the family business. Ashley is frustrated because she would be interested in joining the family's country club, but her parents have never considered her a worthy successor.

After a fight between Cameron and June, Weston invites her to a gala, where Cameron is working as a waiter. An argument breaks out between the two men; Cameron injures Weston and is expelled from the country club. Cameron decides to use June to get revenge; he tricks her into handing over the keys to the club and breaks in. That night, the police arrives at the family's door and reports the break-in. Everyone is shocked; June realizes that it could have been Cameron who broke in – and that she has unwittingly become an accomplice! Weston receives strange anonymous messages suggesting that June is not who she claims to be...

- **Volume 1:** Spiegel Bestseller #7 + 25,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** Spiegel 14,000 copies sold

Jessica Winter Drowning Hearts Duet Duology



Tropes

enemies to lovers, forbidden love, from different worlds, secret identity

Topics

attempted suicide by a parent, attempted extended suicide, depression, sexual assault, alcohol consumption, grief, family absence, family overload, psychological stress, trauma, vulgar language

Spice factor

🔪 – more tension, no spice

Setting

The fictional town of Silver Sands, USA

Protagonists

Tori Arantes (20) is a determined student who likes to party, prefers to flirt and films make-up tutorials in her spare time. But since her father was deported to Brazil, she has had to take care of her family. Eleven years ago, **Asher Shaw's** mentally ill mother tried to kill him and his siblings. He has a scholarship and feels responsible for his siblings.

Perspective

Alternating between Tori's and Asher's perspectives

Volumes

Different protagonists, same small-town setting. Volumes can be read independently.

Story Volume 1 – Echoes of Yesterday

Tori Arantes desperately tries to get her old life back, but since her father was deported and she was left alone, she struggles every day to appear normal in front of her friends. No one should know how difficult her everyday life has become.

Asher Shaw, on the other hand, reluctantly returns to his hometown after his mentally ill mother is released from prison after years of incarceration. He gives up his scholarship to take care of his younger siblings. But his return reopens old wounds – especially when he meets Tori, who unwittingly reminds him of the darkest night of his childhood: the day his mother tried to kill herself and her children. Tori was the girl who saved him back then.

Asher recognises her immediately but pretends not to and treats her with hostility. Despite all his attempts, he is unable to avoid Tori: they have classes together, and she takes his siblings to swimming lessons. When he saves her from drowning one day, he learns that she herself cannot swim – and at the same time, his curiosity grows.

A professor forces Tori to tutor Asher. The compulsory lesson turns into tentative approaches. Asher realises how hard Tori is really struggling and offers to tutor her and give her swimming lessons in return. A genuine connection develops between the two, but Asher breaks down again when his mother confesses that she acted 'deliberately' back then. His breakdown deeply hurts Tori, who makes it clear that she will not allow herself to be treated badly.

Only when Asher saves his brother from danger does he understand that he must make a choice: live in the shadow of his past – or live his own life with Tori. He chooses her. Both successfully complete their academic year and become a couple

- **Volume 1:** to be published in May 2026
- **Volume 2:** to be published in August 2026

Bianca Iosvoni Hunters Trilogy



Tropes

enemies to lovers, forced proximity, he falls first, hidden identity, tension, forbidden attraction, found family

Topics

strong female character, crime, contract killer, special forces, CIA agent, amnesia

Spice factor



Setting

San Francisco, USA

Protagonists

Valerie Neville, is a mercenary, murderer and Adam's ex-girlfriend
Adam Blackbourne, Special Agent, FBI

Perspective

First-person narrative alternating from Jessica's and Adam's point of view.

Volumes

Different protagonists in each volume, all of whom belong to the special unit HUNTERS

More than
1 million
copies sold
of the
author's
backlist

Story Volume 1 – Forgetting You

Valerie suddenly regains consciousness in a dark forest. She can't remember anything—who she is, how she got here, what her name is, where her injuries came from. But she senses that she is in great danger and on the run. When one of her unknown pursuers gets too close, she instinctively uses close combat techniques and quickly realizes that she knows how to handle a firearm. She manages to escape and is picked up by a driver who drops her off in front of a police station. Shortly afterwards, this man dies in a mysterious accident. One of the police officers also appears to be one of the bad guys, but she narrowly manages to escape and go into hiding. She takes a job as a waitress in a diner to keep herself afloat for the next few weeks. But it is there that she runs into the inscrutable FBI agent Adam Blackbourne, to whom she is immediately attracted. He claims that they know each other—and that Valerie shot him during their last encounter. Unfortunately, she has no memory of the event or the person she is supposed to have been...

- **Volume 1-3:** to be published in June 2026
- Bianca Iosvoni's books have sold more than **1 million** copies in total!

Ronja Madeleine Cheering for Love Trilogy



Tropes

strangers to lovers, found family, who did this to you, cheerleader

Topics

domestic violence, alcohol addiction, toxic family relationships, (emotional) blackmail & threats, accidents, death & grief

Spice factor



Setting

Florida: A prestigious college with compulsory uniforms

Protagonists

Despite her troubled family circumstances, **Eleanor “Elli” Scorpius** managed to get into college on a scholarship. She is a cheerleader.

Riven Stone, Quarterback in the college football team “The Thunderbolts”. In his rich family, only performance counts; he was never loved. Has not let a woman get close to him since a stroke of fate. falls in love with Elli at first sight.

Perspective

First-person narrative alternating from Elli’s and Riven’s point of view.

Volumes

The protagonists of the individual volumes – Elli, Clover and Piper – are flatmates at Miravalle College and have become friends. All volumes can be read independently.

Story Volume 1 – Love Is Like A Thunderbolt

Elli dares to make a fresh start and leaves the darkest chapter of her life behind her thanks to a scholarship to Miravalle Memorial College in Florida. No sooner has she arrived on campus than she is warned about the football team. Especially quarterback Riven, who never lets a woman get close to him – until Elli shows up. As a cheerleader, she inevitably encounters him again and again. Riven lives in a completely different world than she does; he is rich, privileged and self-righteous. But his gaze sees more than Elli wants to show. The closer she gets to him, the more her world is shaken. Riven bears his own scars, marked by deep pain. Between lies, pressure to perform and a stroke of fate that puts them both to the test, they must ask themselves whether love alone is enough to escape the abysses of their past.

- **Volume 1:** to be published in March 2026
- **Volume 2:** to be published in July 2026
- **Volume 3:** to be published in November 2026

Stefanie Hasse Remember, Remember – Because Nothing Is Ever Forgotten



Tropes

forced proximity, only one bed, rivals to lovers

Topics

anxiety/panic attacks, knockout drops, attempted rape, sexual assault

Spice factor



Setting

The »Mireille«, a self-driving luxury train with a restaurant, casino, bar, gym and much more. A journey on the train turns into a locked room mystery.

Protagonists

Lara Thomas (28), owner of a struggling influencer agency and former student at the elite Rosenberg boarding school, where she was a scholarship holder. Was bullied during her school days.

Aarón (28), after a brawl scandal with a colleague, he fears for his position as CEO. He wants to stay away from the tabloid press in the sealed-off train.

Perspective

First-person narrative alternating from Lara's and Aarón's point of view.

Volumes

Stand Alone

Story

At the ten-year reunion of the elite boarding school Rosenberg, the graduating class is transported back to their school days on the ultra-modern luxury train 'Mireille' – gossip, friendships, malice and old crushes resurface during the 100-hour journey. An anonymous confession ('I killed') brings back memories of the night their classmate Mika died, changing the lives of the two protagonists forever. Everyone here has something to hide – and as the train turns out to be an uncontrollable prison, Lara and Aarón try to work together to find out who the murderer on board is, despite their reservations.

The train inventor's mother is also the mother of Aarón's unknown half-sister, who is suffering from cancer. Her increasingly desperate attempts to contact him and recruit him as a stem cell donor led to the tragic mix-up and death of Mika ten years ago, and now to the events of the anniversary trip. She manipulated the train to isolate Aarón and force him to donate, which is ultimately thwarted by Lara.

In the end, Aarón successfully donates stem cells to his half-sister and is now CEO. Lara supports him with her expanding company; she has moved in with Aarón in Madrid.

Just published: 12,000 copies sold

Ayla Dade Whispers

Tropes

good girl x bad boy, nerd x football quarterback, rebel girl x good guy, social media x real life

Topics

peer group pressure, social media, blackmailing, murder

Spice factor



Setting

Harvard University, Boston

Protagonists

Willow Sullivan (20), nerdy girl, wants to become a lawyer like all members of her family.

Benedict King (20), Quarterback, from a poor background, with a scholarship.

Deepika Shan (21), cheerleader, from a wealthy family but with a Robin Hood attitude.

Jacob Thorn (21), from a renowned family, sells drugs to other students.

All are members of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity

Perspective

Alternating from the perspectives of Willow, Benedict, Deepika and Jacob

Volumes

Stand-alone



More than
750,000
copies sold
of the
author's
backlist

Story

Internet challenges have been a hot topic among students ever since someone created the fictional character Noktura. Noktura uses the Whispers app to send a message to the profile of the person who will broadcast the challenge live on the app. The kick: fame. Everyone wants to take part in the dangerous challenges. When five members of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity are challenged to a Master Challenge, they have to go on a scavenger hunt. The final clue leads them to a room where they find their teammate Henry dead. They are questioned by the police, but since the students have been broadcasting live, they can't charge them with anything. Shortly afterwards, Deepika, Willow, Benedict and Jacob all receive the same message from Noktura, who is angry that the four of them have changed their game by having one of them kill Henry. As punishment, she is now sending each of them through hell in the form of risky challenges. If the students dare to ignore the tasks, their darkest secrets will be revealed. They have no choice but to obey. Willow's cousin Brooklyn - editor of the Harvard Crimson - is trying to find out who is behind Noktura. Brooklyn stands for justice and is the epitome of a pure heart and a good girl. She wants to help the group escape the nightmare, and the challenges begin - and the four of them really go through hell. They neglect their studies, are anxious and irritable, and isolate themselves from others, which inevitably brings them together in the group. The shock is great when it is revealed that Brooklyn is Noktura and has staged the whole thing out of spurned love in order to take revenge on her classmates. After revealing her true motives, Brooklyn kills herself in front of everyone.

- # 4 Spiegel Bestseller + 72,000 copies sold

Bianca Iosivoni Bad Vibes – Your Secrets Never Die



More than
1 million
copies sold
of the
author's
backlist

Tropes

hidden identity, secrets & lies, enemies to lovers, dark past, forced proximity

Topics

murder, domestic violence, emotional abuse, grooming, sleep paralysis, paranoia, stalking, gaslighting, abduction, suicide

Spice factor



Setting

London, Edinburgh, Rannoch Moor and MacRaven Manor, a manor house in the Scottish Highlands

Protagonists

Dahlia Stewart/Isabelle MacRaven (25), dispatcher at the London emergency call centre.

Ayden (30), investigative journalist. Pretends to write an article about the life and tragic death of the bestselling author. In fact, he has been hired by the family to investigate Dahlia.

Evan MacRaven (29), the family lawyer and Jake's twin brother.

The deceased **Jake MacRaven aka J. J. Burnett** (29), bestselling author and Dahlia's childhood friend.

Perspective

First-person narrative Dahlia in the present and first-person narrator Jake in the past alternate; complemented by news articles and excerpts from social media

Volumes

Stand-alone (may also be split into a trilogy)

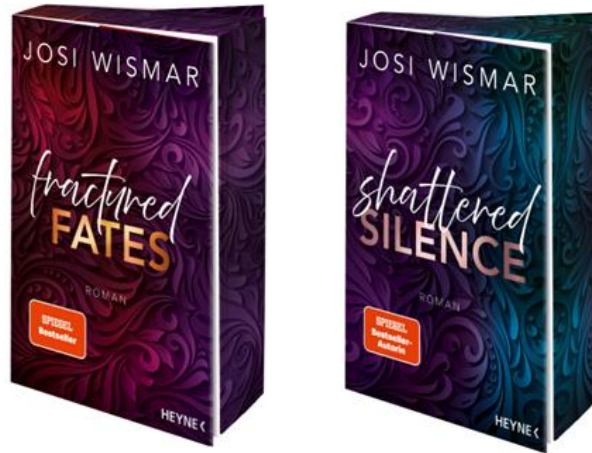
Story

Dahlia lives in London and works in the emergency call centre. But when she receives a call in the middle of the night from her former best friend Jake, a famous bestselling author, her life changes abruptly. Because the next day, Jake is dead. When Dahlia is unexpectedly invited to the reading of his will, she travels to his family's castle in the Scottish Highlands. There she not only learns that Jake has left her part of his fortune and all his unpublished manuscripts and notes, but is also catapulted back into her own past. In her search for the truth about Jake's death - she does not believe it was an accident, as the press claims - she not only encounters open hostility from his family, but is herself targeted by the murderer. She receives threatening letters, is locked in a room and stalked at night by a stranger. She finds support in Jake's twin brother Evan, once they have overcome their initial dislike, and the attractive Ayden.

But Dahlia not only wants to solve Jake's accident, she also wants to find out who murdered her sister and her mother 15 years ago. At the time, her mother was married to Jake's uncle and brought two daughters into the marriage. Officially, her mother was depressed and took her children to their deaths. However, the youngest daughter, Isabelle, did not die on the moor but was saved. Dahlia/Isabelle not only finds out the truth about her family's murderer, but also tracks down a serial killer: it is Jake's brother Evan, who served as the model for the famous character of the "Gentleman Killer" in his books and helped him achieve international success as a bestselling author. This knowledge puts them in extreme danger.

- # 5 Spiegel Bestseller + 65,000 copies sold

Josi Wismar Fallen Grace Duology



#BookTok
Author of
the Year
2024!

Tropes

fake dating, hidden identity, high society, opposites attract, murder mystery

Topics

murder, prison, adultery, betrayal

Spice factor



Setting

London, High Society

Protagonists

Isabelle/Holly (24), sister of the murder suspect, wants to save her and assumes a fake identity

Carter Davenport (25), Max' brother and **Florence Davenport** (28), Max' widow

Perspective

Both volumes are narrated from the perspective of three female characters: Isabelle/Holly, Vee (mainly flashbacks) and Florence (Max's widow).

Volumes

With a cliffhanger at the end of volume 1

Story Volume 1 – Fractured Fates

Isabelle has just three months to prove that her sister Vee is innocent, and to find Maxwell Davenport's real killer. Disguised as Holly, she enters a world where power and money are everything. There, she meets Carter, Max's brother. Pretending to have feelings for him is the perfect way to get close to the family who want to destroy Vee. But the closer she gets, the harder it is for her to tell fake and real feelings apart. Meanwhile, behind the Davenports' perfect façade, lies and betrayal rear their ugly heads – and a secret they are desperately trying to hide is about to be uncovered. Caught between dangerous secrets and a man who seems able to see through her own lies, Holly wonders how far she's willing to go – especially if the truth may turn out to be deadly...

- **Volume 1:** #14 Spiegel Bestseller + 20,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** 10,000 copies sold
- **English sample translation available**

Ayla Dade The Sky Circus Duology



Tropes

enemies to lovers, fake dating, bad boy x good girl, forced proximity

Topics

virginity and sexual abstinence, amnesia, fatal drug abuse

Spice factor



Setting

Los Angeles and Las Vegas, circus without animals

Protagonists

Heaven Fairchild (20) is the daughter of the circus director. She has trained hard get her parents' attention but was never good enough. Only when her biggest rival gets injured is she given the chance to stand in for her. She has a sexually abstinent relationship with her boyfriend Craig.

Helix ("Hell") Winchester (23,) son of wealthy parents from Bel Air, has lost his twin sister Ella. She was on her way to becoming a famous actress, he a sought-after stunt double. Now he wants to avenge his sister's death and takes a job at Sky Circus.

Perspective

Alternating from the perspectives of Heaven and Helix

Volumes

With a cliffhanger at the end of volume 1

More than
750,000
copies sold
of the
author's
backlist

Story Volume 1 – A Million Stars Above

Heaven, the circus director's ambitious daughter, has dedicated her whole life to the trapeze and dreams of taking over the main act of the show. But when the mysterious Helix, a bad boy with a dark past, appears as the new guest artist, her life is thrown off course.

Helix, who met Heaven in an underground club, sees her not only as a competitor, but also as the target of his revenge. He blames her for the death of his sister Ella, and his plans to involve her in a fake relationship seem to offer him the perfect opportunity to achieve his goal. But as they are forced to work together and grow closer amidst the glittering world of the circus, the boundaries between hatred and attraction begin to shift.

As Heaven and Helix begin to uncover the secrets of their past, Helix realizes that he can't hate Heaven as easily as he had planned. But the shadows of the past are long, and when a dangerous bet between them is uncovered, everything threatens to fall apart.

In a dramatic showdown during the tour, when Heaven falls at a crucial moment and suffers amnesia, the two are faced with the challenge of redefining their love and discovering the truth about their families.

- **Volume 1:** #6 Spiegel Bestseller + 67,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** #1 Spiegel Bestseller + 41,000 copies sold

Ayla Dade Winter Dreams Series



Trope

slow burn, forced proximity

Topics

doping, physical violence, blackmailing

Spice factor



Setting

famous ski resort Aspen, snow-covered backdrop of the Rocky Mountains

Protagonists

Paisley Harris (21) grew up in a Minnesota trailer park, poor. Has been accepted to the renowned iSkate Academy in Aspen (training for the Olympics).

Knox Winterbottom (25, professional snowboarder, son of a rich estate agent, father puts pressure on son to perform well in sport, deceased mother was a famous figure skater. Prefers to study psychology but feels guilty towards his father.

Perspective

Alternating between Paisley and Knox

Volumes

6 volumes with different protagonists, can be read independently of each other.

More than
750,000
copies sold
of the
author's
backlist

Story Volume 1 – Like Snow We Fall

When Paisley is accepted into the iSkate School in Aspen, she desperately needs a job to pay her tuition. But her application is turned down by the arrogant snowboarder Knox. When she gets a job at the Winterbottom resort, it's the solution to all her problems. Only later does she discover that Knox is her employer's son. Paisley soon wonders how Knox manages to keep up his high level of education despite the wild parties he regularly throws. Knox is not the extroverted athlete he pretends to be, but he doesn't want to disappoint his father after his mother's death. He secretly takes performance-enhancing drugs. When Paisley discovers his secret, she tells him to talk to his father. But when the National Anti-Doping Agency suddenly asks him to take a test, he assumes she has betrayed him. Knox's father is furious when Knox confesses that the test will be positive. And Paisley's worst nightmare comes true: her former coach turns up in Aspen to blackmail her again. She had no money to pay him then, so he sexually coerced her and became violent. The school in Aspen was her chance to escape. Now he threatens to expose everything if she doesn't return to him. When Knox's father meets the coach in town, he remembers that he once molested Knox's mother during a championship. Knox and his father make up to help Paisley. They report him to the police and Paisley is finally rid of him. Paisley qualifies for the American championships. Knox's doping test is positive and he is banned. But he is happy because he and Paisley are a couple.

- **Volume1-6:** over **450,000** copies sold
- **All volumes are Spiegel Bestsellers**
- **Foreign sales:** **US/World English** (Sourcebooks), **Italy** (Giunti), **Russia** (AST), **Spain** (Alma Editorial), **Ukraine** (Ranok)

Ayla Dade Winter Dreams Series



Trope

forced proximity, exes to lovers, slow burn, mutual pining, love triangle, forbidden desire

Topics

heartbreak, betrayal

Spice factor



Setting

famous ski resort Aspen, snow-covered backdrop of the Rocky Mountains

Protagonists

Paisley Harris (21) grew up in a Minnesota trailer park, poor. Has been accepted to the renowned iSkate Academy in Aspen (training for the Olympics).

Knox Winterbottom (25, professional snowboarder, son of a rich estate agent, father puts pressure on son to perform well in sport, deceased mother was a famous figure skater. Prefers to study psychology but feels guilty towards his father.

Perspective

Alternating between Paisley and Knox

Volumes

The sixth and final volume brings us full circle back to volume 1: the dream couple Paisley & Knox from 'Like Snow We Fall' fight for their love.

More than
750,000
copies sold
of the
author's
backlist

Story Volume 6 – Like Hearts We Heal

When Paisley is accepted into the iSkate School in Aspen, she desperately needs a job to pay her tuition. But her application is turned down by the arrogant snowboarder Knox. When she gets a job at the Winterbottom resort, it's the solution to all her problems. Only later does she discover that Knox is her employer's son. Paisley soon wonders how Knox manages to keep up his high level of education despite the wild parties he regularly throws. Knox is not the extroverted athlete he pretends to be, but he doesn't want to disappoint his father after his mother's death. He secretly takes performance-enhancing drugs. When Paisley discovers his secret, she tells him to talk to his father. But when the National Anti-Doping Agency suddenly asks him to take a test, he assumes she has betrayed him. Knox's father is furious when Knox confesses that the test will be positive. And Paisley's worst nightmare comes true: her former coach turns up in Aspen to blackmail her again. She had no money to pay him then, so he sexually coerced her and became violent. The school in Aspen was her chance to escape. Now he threatens to expose everything if she doesn't return to him. When Knox's father meets the coach in town, he remembers that he once molested Knox's mother during a championship. Knox and his father make up to help Paisley. They report him to the police and Paisley is finally rid of him. Paisley qualifies for the American championships. Knox's doping test is positive and he is banned. But he is happy because he and Paisley are a couple.

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Maike Voss Richmond Deers Trilogy



Tropes

second chance, career vs. love, he falls first, tension-filled reunion, secret past

Topics

soccer, social media

Spice factor



Setting

London, soccer club

Protagonists

Pepper Hunt (25) has finally landed her dream job as a social media manager at a football club
Ridge Burton (26), Goalkeeper for this football club and Pepper's ex-boyfriend

Perspective

First-person narrative alternating from Pepper's and Ridge's point of view.

Volumes

With different protagonists in each volume (a couple, consisting of a woman who works with the team and a player).

Maike Voss is also a big soccer fan in real life. She has a season ticket for Werder Bremen and goes to every home game.

Story Volume 1 – Keep me close

Pepper Hunter lands her dream job as social media manager for the Richmond Deers, where she reunites with Ridge Burton, a former lover. Despite her intentions to stay away from players, old feelings resurface. After an affair, Pepper tries to suppress her emotions while Ridge fights for her love. When their relationship is strained by gossip and misunderstandings, Pepper distances herself. Ridge realises that he must be open about his feelings and past in order to win Pepper back. Together, they fight against the challenges of being in the public eye and for their love, and Pepper finally finds the courage to stand up against sexist talk. Six months later: Despite a defeat, Ridge and Pepper are happy and ready for the future, with a proposal in mind.

- **Volume 1:** 13,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** #19 Spiegel Bestseller + 8,000 copies sold
- **Volume 3:** to be published in May 2026

Ann-Kathrin Falkenberg Ivy League Trilogy



Tropes

rivals to lovers, forced proximity, broken hero/heroine, morally grey, romantic suspense

Topics

panic attacks, the loss of a family member, physical/domestic violence, rape culture, physical harassment, and murder.

Spice factor



Setting

Yale University and a renowned law firm in New York

Protagonists

Lumen Richards, wants to follow in her father's footsteps and fight for justice as a solicitor
Jackson Carter, Lumen's fellow student. Yale's most eligible bachelor and son of the governor

Perspective

First-person narrative alternating from Lumen's and Jackson's point of view.

Volumes

Three connected volumes

Story Volume 1 – Guilty Rivals

Yale student Lumen Richards wants nothing more than to follow in her father's footsteps and fight for justice as a lawyer. The only thing missing from her Ivy League education is an internship at New York's most prestigious law firm. But Ashford Legal only has one position available, and Lumen's fellow student Jackson Carter – Yale's most eligible bachelor and son of the governor – also wants the job at all costs. An electrifying rivalry quickly develops between Lumen and Jackson. And the more intense their competition becomes, the stronger their feelings for each other grow. What Lumen doesn't realise is that she is about to lose her heart to a man who is pursuing a cunning plan....

- **Volume 1:** to be published in March 2026
- **Volume 2:** to be published in September 2026
- **Volume 3:** to be published in March 2027

Nadine Kerger Because of You Trilogy



Tropes

forbidden love, found family, small town

Spice factor



Setting

A yacht club on Martha's Vineyard

Protagonists

Josie (25), studied marine biology at Boston University and would like to travel to Greenland on a research vessel.

Blake Sullivan (30), one of the long-established Sullivan brothers and her new boss at the yacht club where she has taken a summer job.

Perspective

The love story is told from Josie's point of view.

Volumes

One brother from the Sullivan family is the protagonist in each volume.

Film
rights
sold

Story Volume 1 – I'll Stay for You

After suddenly breaking up with her long-term boyfriend, 25-year-old marine biologist Josie flees Boston for Martha's Vineyard. A summer job at the yacht club, the sea and being close to her best friend Liv are supposed to help her heal her broken heart. In an idyllic cottage behind the dunes, Josie begins what seems like an easy new start.

But on her very first evening, she meets the charismatic Blake Sullivan – a kiss, a mysterious break-up, and the next morning, a surprise: Blake is her new boss and co-owner of the marina. Between crackling closeness, hurtful distance and the sudden return of Blake's ex-girlfriend Laura, Josie tries to control her feelings. After all, she only plans to stay for the summer before setting off on an expedition to Greenland.

However, working days together, boat trips and a stormy night at sea cause their attraction to grow inexorably. Josie and Blake begin a passionate temporary relationship. When Blake, fearing another loss, conceals a job offer for Josie on the island, a heated argument and break-up ensue shortly before her departure. Josie returns to Boston hurt.

But with the support of her friend, she realises that she no longer wants to follow other people's expectations. She cancels the expedition, accepts the job offer on Martha's Vineyard and returns to fight for her love. On the open sea, Josie and Blake find each other again – honest, courageous and determined. They make a conscious decision to be together and to share their lives on the island.

- **Volume 1:** 31,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** 21,000 copies sold
- **Volume 3:** 17,000 copies sold
- **Rights sold to:** Poland (Marginesy)

Bianca Iosivoni Golden Bay Trilogy



Tropes

enemies to lovers, broken hero

Topics

found family, dark past

Spice factor



Setting

A fictional small island off the east coast of Canada

Protagonists

Ember Louise Jackson (21), dropped out of university, has a temp job in flower shop.

Holden Thorne (22) served 2 years innocent in prison, had many jobs & is currently looking for a job

Perspective

First person perspective from both main characters; volume 1 from Ember's perspective, volume 2 from Holden's perspective and volume 3 alternating from both perspectives

Volumes

Three connected volumes

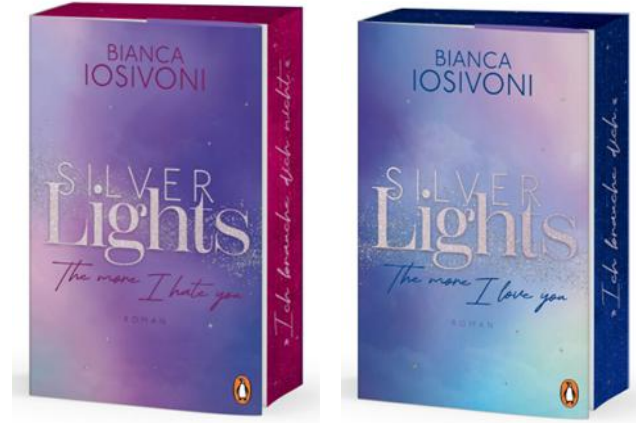
over
260,000
copies
sold

Story Volume 1 – How It Feels

As teenagers, Ember and Holden planned to run away together and start a new life far away from the island. But instead of meeting Ember as planned, Holden disappeared that night and broke off contact with her. Ember never found out why he didn't show up. That same night, a tragic event destroyed Ember's family forever. Five years later, Ember returns home with no job and no prospects, but with huge debts after dropping out of college last semester for financial and personal reasons. She feels lost and doesn't know what to do with her life. Holden, returning to the island for the first time in five long years, has two goals: To be at his sister Gemma's wedding - and to tell Ember the truth about what really happened that night. On the day of the wedding, the two meet for the first time in years. Old feelings flare up between them, but there's also a lot of anger and disappointment on Ember's part. And when Holden tries to tell her the truth, he is confronted with his own dark past. Once again, a single moment could change everything between them, but this time Ember is in charge of her own life - and she has no intention of losing her heart to Holden again.

- **Volume 1: #2** Spiegel Bestseller + 111,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2: #1** Spiegel Bestseller + 80.000 copies sold
- **Volume 3: #1** Spiegel Bestseller + 70.000 copies sold

Bianca Iosivoni Silver Lights Duology



Tropes

Haters to Lovers, Fake Dating, Forced Proximity, Found Family, Frenemies with Benefits

Topics

Toxic relationships, domestic violence, death and coping with grief, sexual

harassment, gaslighting, manipulation, blackmail, excessive alcohol consumption

Spice factor



Setting

A fictional small island off the east coast of Canada

Protagonists

Shae(lynn) Stevens, anime fan, from a rich family and **Kilian Beck**, barkeeper in the best pub in town, fully tattooed, biker-type

Perspective

Alternating from the perspectives of Shae and Beck

Volumes

Spin-off to the "Golden Bay" series which can be read independently

„Golden Bay“ trilogy has sold over 260,000 copies

Story Volume 1 – The More I Hate You

Whenever Shae and Beck’s paths cross, they end up fighting. It started the very first time they met. He thinks she’s a spoiled rich princess, she thinks he’s an arrogant and rude roughneck. But on an island like Golden Bay it’s hard not to bump into each other. When Shae urgently needs a fake boyfriend, Beck plays the part of the charming gentleman perfectly. Soon, something else comes into it – a dangerous kind of chemistry that neither of them can resist. But they mustn’t give in to it: while Shae is fighting hard to protect her sister, Beck is fighting for his pub, and there’s nothing he won’t do to save it. Even if it means breaking Shae’s heart into a million pieces.

- **Volume 1:** # 7 Spiegel Bestseller + 43,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** 28,000 copies sold

Ann-Kathrin Falkenberg Tennessee Dreams Trilogy



Tropes

Grumpy x Sunshine, Opposites Attract, Forbidden Love, Small Town, Found Family, One Tent/One Sleepingbag

Topics

Family secrets, bankruptcy, sick parent

Spice factor



Setting

The fictional town of Hazelwood deep in the forests of Tennessee

Protagonists

Charlotte “Charlie” Rivers (22) wants to become a professional photographer and has to drop out of college so she can help out at her parents' businesses, which are on the verge of bankruptcy.

Nate (24) was in prison for robbing a cash transport vehicle. Thanks to a rehabilitation program, he is allowed to help out at Charlie's parents' butterfly farm instead of serving his prison sentence.

Perspective

First-person narrative alternating from Charlie’s and Nate’s point of view.

Volumes

Three gripping love stories with different protagonists in the same small-town setting.

Story Volume 1 – Feels Like Butterflies

As far as Charlie is concerned, her parents’ butterfly farm in the woods of Tennessee is the most beautiful place in the world – so she’s heartbroken when she hears that the farm is facing bankruptcy. She reluctantly presses pause on her studies and returns home to picturesque Hazelwood. There, she meets her father’s new right-hand man, grumpy Nate. He is an ex-convict, and this job is meant to help him make a fresh start in life. While Charlie and Nate can’t stand each other at first, the chemistry between them is palpable. Yet the more they get to know each other, the more Nate’s dark past puts Charlie’s faith to the test. Though while she tries to forget all about him, her heart has already decided otherwise...

- **Volume 1:** 16,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** 8,000 copies sold
- **Volume 3:** 7,000 copies sold

Nadine Kerger Highland Feelings Duology



Tropes

Grumpy x Sunshine, Found Family, Coastal Small Town, Fish out of Water, Secret Identity

Topics

Family secrets, death of a sibling

Spice factor



Setting

Isle of Skye, Scotland

Protagonists

Summer Anne Boyle, Summer struggles to cope with her grief after the sudden death of her brother Owen. When she finds a letter from a woman who claims they have a son together, she clings to this lifeline and sets off for Scotland to meet Tristan.

Duncan MacKenzie, arrogant, taciturn Highlander. His family is not fond of Summer's deceased brother. He is Tristan's uncle.

Perspective

Alternating from the perspectives of Summer and Duncan

Volumes

Two gripping love stories with different protagonists in the same small-town setting.

Story Volume 1 – My Highland Heart

Summer can't believe it when she discovers that her deceased brother had a son no one knew about, and that the boy lives in Scotland. All she wants now is to meet her nephew Tristan. She drops everything and travels to the Isle of Skye – but because the MacKenzie family didn't like Summer's brother, she fakes her identity and gets a job as Tristan's new nanny. The lively little boy, the island and its inhabitants soon win her over. The only problem is Tristan's uncle Duncan, who's a constant thorn in her side. At the same time, she is strangely captivated by this silent, rugged Highlander, and whenever their eyes meet the chemistry is palpable. But Summer is playing with fire – because if Duncan finds out who she really is, she'll lose everything...

- **Volume 1:** 13,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** to be published in March 2026

Maren Vivien Haase Rise and Fall Duett Duology



Tropes

Brother's Best Friend, Enemies-to-Lovers, Forced Proximity

Topics

Toxic relationship, music business, exploitation of (female) artists, cancel culture, social media

Spice factor



Setting

Culver City, West Hollywood

Protagonists

Suki Loveless (22) lives with her brother Carter (25) in a shared flat. They moved from Long Island to LA four years ago. Carter, who is working on his career as a director, firmly believes in his little sister's singing talent, but she has great self-doubt due to a former toxic relationship.

Songwriter **River Hawthorne** (26) ended up in prison years ago because of Suki and her brother and hates her from the bottom of his heart.

Volumes

With different protagonists in each volume. Can be read independently of each other.

over
270,000
copies of
the author's
books sold

Story Volume 1 – Songs for the Beautiful

One day, when Suki is lost in thought while singing at work, a customer secretly films it and posts it online. The video quickly goes viral. One of L.A.'s most influential record labels offers her a record deal. She is overwhelmed when she accepts, as her biggest idol, Presley Wren, works for the label. But she is soon disillusioned when she is introduced to the songwriter she will be working with in the future: River, her brother's former best friend, who got him involved in a series of burglaries years ago and ended up in prison because of a statement Suki made. But the two have to work together if they don't want to lose their jobs. The label tries to turn Suki into Presley Wren's successor, playing the two singers off against each other, the fans get angry and Suki gets into trouble again and again. Suki, who is overwhelmed by the peculiarities of the music business (wild parties, aggressive men, explicit photo shoots, paparazzi, shitstorms) but loves working on her record, and River, who is simply overwhelmed by Suki's musical talent, slowly grow closer. River tries to protect her. When a stalker turns out to be her toxic ex-boyfriend, who leaks River and Carter's criminal past to the press, everything falls apart for Suki. When Carter confesses to her that he committed the burglaries and that she innocently put River behind bars, she is consumed by guilt. She announces a song to the fans that will reveal the truth, but her label fires her. Suki finds a small independent label and is able to successfully release the songs she wrote with River. River and Suki become a couple.

- **Volume 1:** #6 Spiegel Bestseller + 40,000 copies sold
- **Volume 2:** #2 Spiegel Bestseller + 22,000 copies sold
- **Foreign Sales:** Russia (Eksmo)
- **over 270,000 copies of the author's books sold**