



Spring 2024
Frontlist Rights Guide

Adult and Children's books

Greenburger.com

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FICTION



Celina Baljeet Basra

HAPPY

Astra House, November 14, 2023,
ppk November 12, 2024 | World English
UK rights: Headline/Wildfire
360 pages, final text available

Sold in a preempt

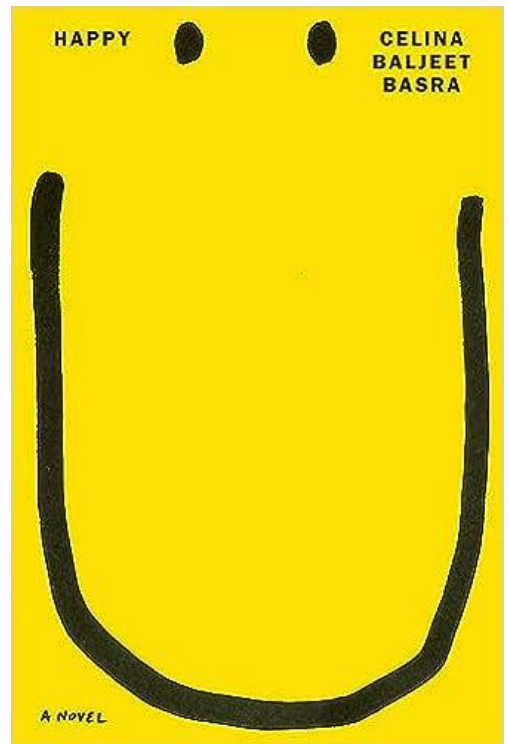
For fans of Vikas Swarup and Charles Yu, A young cinephile leaves his rural village in India with big dreams, only to find himself trapped in menial jobs and forced to work off a debt he may never repay.

In a rural village of Punjab, India, a moony young man crouches over his phone in a rapeseed field near his family’s cabbage farm. His name is Happy Singh Soni, and he’s watching YouTube clips of his favorite film, *Bande à Part* by Jean-Luc Godard. In fact, Happy is often compared to a young Sami Frey by the imaginary journalists that keep him company while he uses the outhouse. Pooing, as he says, “en plein air.” When he’s not sleeping among the cabbages and eating his mother’s sugary rotis, Happy dreams of becoming an actor, one who plays the melancholy roles—sad, pretty boys, rare in Indian cinema. There are macho leads and funny boys en masse, but if you’re looking for depth and vulnerability, you must make your own heroes.

Then comes Wonderland, an eccentric facsimile of Disneyland that steadily buys up the local farms, rebranding the community’s traditional way of life. Happy works a dead-end job at the amusement park, biding his time and saving money for a clandestine journey to Europe, where he’ll finally land a breakout role. Little does he know that his immigration is being coordinated by a transnational crime syndicate. After a nightmarish passage to Italy, Happy still manages to find relief in food and fantasy, even as he is forced into ever-worsening work conditions over a debt he allegedly accrued in transit. But his daydreams grow increasingly at odds with his bleak reality, one shared by so many migrant workers disenfranchised by the systems that depend on their labor.

At turns funny and poetic, sunny and tragic, *Happy* is a daring feat of postmodern literature, a polyphonic novel about the urgent, lovely coping mechanisms created by generations of diasporic people. Set against the enmeshed crises of global migration and the politics of labor within the food industry, Celina Baljeet Basra’s luminous debut argues for the things that are essential to human survival: food, water, a place to lay one’s head, but also pleasure, romance, art, and the inalienable right to a vivid inner life.

Celina Baljeet Basra is a writer and curator based in Berlin. She graduated from the Free University Berlin, where she studied Art History in a Global Context, and has since worked with Nature Morte Delhi, Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien, Galerie im Turm, Berlin Biennale, Times Art Center Berlin, Talking Objects Lab, and other art institutions at the local and international level. Her residencies include stays with Shanghai Curators Lab and Kochi Biennale and she was awarded both curatorial and literary research scholarships from the Berlin Senate. She is a founder of The Department of Love, a curatorial collective. www.Celinabasra.com, @CelinaBasra



Praise for HAPPY:

"Basra's too smart to think she can explain to us "the immigration situation" in one novel. But she does want us to feel Happy's plight, and to share her anger at the dehumanizing methods by which our capitalist systems exploit migrant labor. To a profit-driven boss, one worker is the same as another, and is easily replaced by the next one who dares to come. But Happy's indelible voice won't let us take that attitude, or let Happy be forgotten." --*The New York Times*

"For Basra, tragedy highlights the value of the simple needs and pleasures imperiled by criminal labor practices . . . Happy's stubborn optimism exalts and affirms the inner lives of his fellow workers." --*The Washington Post*

"A bonkers story that reads like a fine ten-course meal." - Gary Shteyngart

"Bighearted." —*New York Times Book Review, Editor's Choice/Staff Pick*

"Playful, funny, and wildly free, Happy inhabits the seam between beauty and tragedy. A miraculous novel." – **Mega Majumdar**

"...a damning indictment of capitalism, a system that swallows the global poor whole and spits out wasted humans. ...the novel wears its burdens with good humor."—**Poornima Apte, ★Booklist**

"...Happy's view of the world starts off as quirky and charming, but gains increasing pathos as the divide between his starry-eyed hopes and his increasingly hopeless reality grows. Happy's singular voice echoes long after the close to this striking story."— **★Publishers Weekly**

"With an innovative form that is simultaneously playful and profound, Celina Baljeet Basra's HAPPY is outstanding! From the first to the final pages, I was completely charmed by Happy and his crew as they made their treacherous journey towards dreams of a better life. Using wry humour to deliver a dead serious message with laser-sharp lightness, Basra gives depth and definition to the unjust and inhumane conditions facing many migrants and undocumented workers. Read this book." – **Melissa Fu, author of *Peach Bloom Spring***

Happy presents: his world. A fragmented, kaleidoscopic whiz in-keeping with his dreamy, ever-optimistic outlook. Hardships are presented starkly but with humour, the worst of which we are spared in the moment by his glancing away, taking refuge in his own fantasies of superstardom. Immigration, drug abuse, gentrification, racism and death, Happy lives them fully until the book's surprising denouement. A fantastic little gem of a book". – **Chikodili Emelumadu, author of *Dazzling***

Holly Baxter CLICKBAIT

HarperCollins, August 13, 2024 | NA

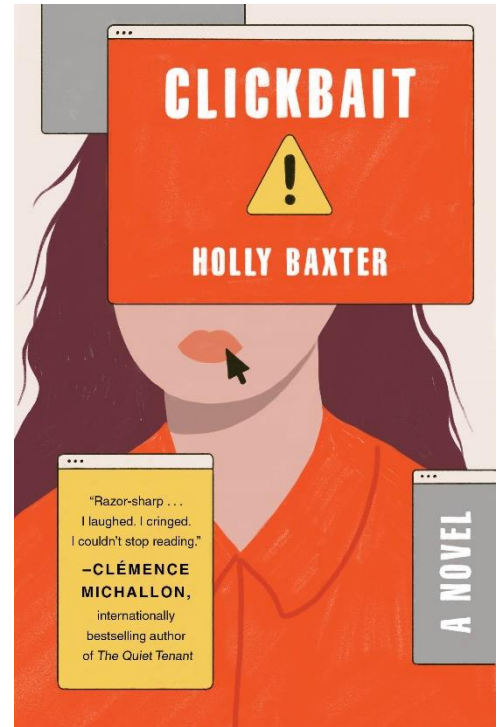
300 pages, first pass pages available

Agent: Dan Mandel

With the dark comedy and sharp observations of Monica Heisey and Dolly Alderton, a whip-smart and laugh-out-loud funny debut novel about a disgraced, newly divorced journalist demoted to a “clickbait” job at a Manhattan tabloid

“CLICKBAIT made me wince and made me howl. With a biting humour and a flair for the outrageous that is entirely her own, Holly Baxter has created an antiheroine for our times. A darkly hilarious debut that satirically captures our morally vapid media world with more accuracy than I ever thought possible. I loved it.” -- **Rhiannon Lucy Cosslett**

“In this razor-sharp, darkly humorous novel, Holly Baxter draws a no-holds-barred portrait of a woman whose actions have caused her life to collapse at her feet—and charts her misguided attempts to climb out of the rubble. I laughed. I cringed. I couldn’t stop reading.” —**Clémence Michallon, internationally bestselling author of *The Quiet Tenant***



The first thing they tell you when you begin your training is never to become the news.

Natasha has screwed up royally. Her mistake isn’t just embarrassing, it’s a breach of journalistic ethics that makes headlines and costs her a plum job reporting from London. Back in New York at thirty-five and single, divorced from a kind man she loved, she finds herself at the bottom of the media food chain—a junior reporter at a clickbait factory, rewriting sensational tabloid stories to make them just different enough to avoid lawsuits.

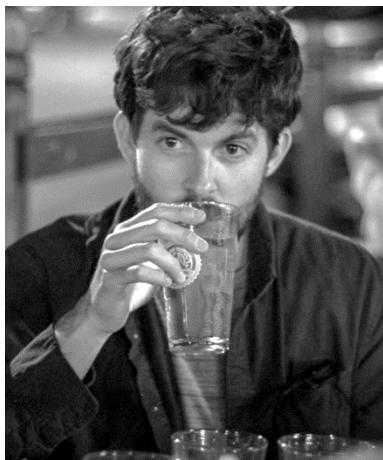
As if her professional fall from grace weren’t bad enough, she’s taken the money she’d saved for a down payment for a home on a charming Brooklyn block with her husband, and rashly bought a boxy apartment overlooking the gray ocean in Rockaway Beach, Queens.

Though seeing friends and family only serves to remind her of what she’s lost, things begin to pick up when her ex-boyfriend Zach moves back to New York and accepts her offer of a spare bedroom. The arrangement is strictly platonic, of course—for him. But Natasha can’t help but wonder whether he might be the solution to all her problems.

As Natasha's obsession with Zach grows and her involvement in increasingly dystopian "churnalism" deepens, her worlds threaten to collide in the most cataclysmic, extremely public way.

Holly Baxter is a journalist and writer from Newcastle, who spent 12 years working in London journalism before transferring to New York City in 2019. Having reported for *The Guardian* and *The New Statesman*, she now does political satire and social justice-themed investigations for *The Independent*. Her work was shortlisted for a Press Award for Feature of the Year in 2019 and she often appears on British radio and television. In 2013, she co-authored *THE VAGENDA*, a media satire non-fiction book for women, with *The Guardian*'s Rhiannon Lucy Cosslett. She is currently based in Brooklyn, where she lives with her husband, son and semi-feral cat Nelson, and is covering the 2024 US election for *The Independent*. @hollybaxter





Sebastian Castillo
FRESH, GREEN LIFE

Soft Skull Press, Spring 2025 | World English
Manuscript anticipated June 2024

In the vein of Ottessa Moshfegh and Mark Haber, Sebastian Castillo's FRESH, GREEN LIFE is a study of interiority and inferiority, taking place over the course of a single, snowy night.

After resigning from an adjunct teaching position, our narrator resolves to spend an entire year without speaking. He has passed the time exercising each day and coming home to watch self-improvement videos, a quote from Pascal taped to his mirror: “All of humanity’s problems stem from man’s inability to sit quietly in a room alone.” Come New Year's Eve, he is drawn out to the house of a former professor, an invitation he'd surely have ignored if not for the promised attendance of Maria, the narrator's former classmate and love interest. What follows is a compact miracle, a meditation on literature, philosophy, academia, and Rilke.

Sebastian Castillo is a writer and teacher living in Philadelphia. He was born in Caracas, Venezuela and grew up in New York. His work has appeared in NY Tyrant, Peach Mag, Electric Literature, The Fanzine, BOMB, and elsewhere. He is the author of 49 Venezuelan Novels (Bottlecap press, 2017), NOT I (word west, 2020), and SALMON (Shabby Doll House 2023).

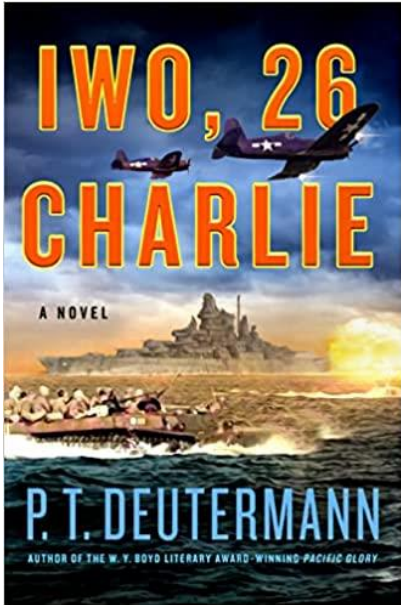
P.T. Deutermann
IWO, 26 CHARLIE

St. Martin's Press | November 28, 2023 | World English
288 pages, final text available
Agent: Dan Mandel

Next up: **THE SECOND SUN**, coming from
St. Martin's Press in July 2025

World War II thrillers: based on the author's experiences as
Commander in the US Navy.

Globally published: previous titles sold in 19 territories.



P. T. Deutermann is a contemporary master of World War II military fiction: writing about the lives, deaths, dreams, fears, and combat experiences of sailors and soldiers, generals and grunts, captains and snipes, pilots and submariners, who served in the Pacific theatre war against Japan.

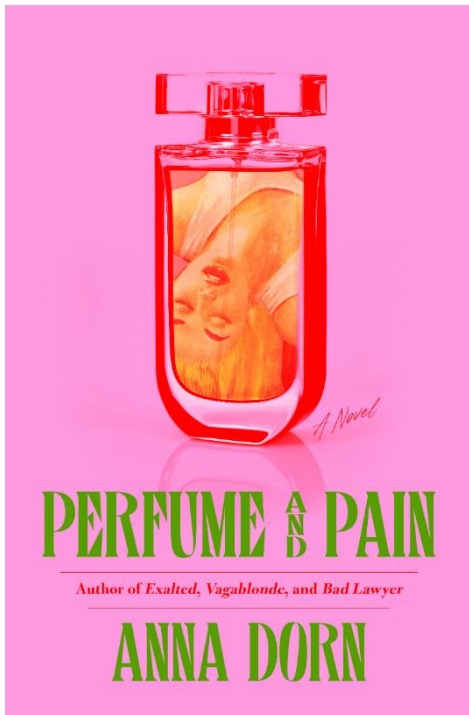
The island of Iwo Jima was the epic land and sea battle that produced one of the iconic images of WWII: the Marines raising the American flag on Mount Surabachi, an active volcano that was the site of intense hand to hand combat. In this gripping novel, the tenth of his WWII thrillers, Deutermann follows a young gunnery liaison officer, Lee Bishop, who during the ferocious battle for the island is pulled from his station aboard the USS Nevada to serve on-shore as a spotter, calling in coordinates for the ship to target with missiles.

But Bishop is completely unready for what he will witness and experience: a literal hell, during which 26,000 Americans are killed in a fight to the very last man, which culminates in the blistering, sulphurous tunnels of Surabachi itself, where an entire platoon of Marines is held captive. *Iwo, 26 Charlie* is a dramatic, utterly authentic novel by an award-winning writer.

“Heroism abounds as Deutermann skillfully brings moments like the rescue of 300 men trapped below decks to life, while also vividly conveying the sensations of pervading death... fans of naval history will be enthralled.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“[G]ripping first-person narrative.... Deutermann, long a master of military thrillers, is at the top of his game here.”—*Booklist*





Anna Dorn
PERFUME & PAIN

Simon & Schuster, May 21, 2024 | World English
280 pages, edited manuscript available
Agent: Sarah Phair

A controversial LA author attempts to revive her career and finally find true love in this hilarious nod to 1950s lesbian pulp fiction.

Mid-list author Astrid Dahl, recently moved into a tiny bungalow in Los Angeles, finds herself back in the Zoom writer's group she cofounded after an incident that leaves her and her career *lightly* canceled. But she temporarily forgets that by throwing herself into a few sexy distractions—like Ivy, a grad student researching 1950s lesbian pulp who smells like metallic orchids, or her new neighbor, Penelope, a painter who smells like patchouli.

Penelope immediately ingratiates herself in Astrid's life, bonding with her best friends and family, just as Astrid and Ivy begin to date in person. Astrid feels judged and threatened by Penelope, but also finds her irresistibly sexy.

When Astrid receives an unexpected call from her agent with news that she finally has a chance to resurrect her waning career, the pressure causes Astrid's worst vice to rear its head—the Patricia Highsmith, a blend of Adderall, alcohol, and cigarettes—and results in blackouts and a disturbing series of events.

Unapologetically feminine yet ribald, steamy yet hilarious, Anna Dorn has crafted an exquisite homage to the lesbian pulp of yore, reclaiming it for our internet and celebrity-obsessed world. With notes of Southern California citrus and sultry smokiness, *PERFUME AND PAIN* is a satirical romp through Hollywood and lesbian melodrama.

"Come to *Perfume & Pain* for the sexy drama, stay for the satire and hilarious doses of shade thrown at Hollywood. This novel is like driving down PCH listening to Lana Del Rey and vaping out the sunroof. Every moment feels sun-drenched, edgy, and unstoppable." —**ALLIE ROWBOTTOM, author of *Aesthetica***

"Anna Dorn's *Perfume & Pain* is a wonder. Dorn masterfully takes on cancel culture, holier-than-thou writers groups, and the complex rules of lesbian dating. The result is a smart and sexy, laugh-out-loud funny page-turner." —**MARCY DERMANSKY, author of *Hurricane Girl* and *Very Nice***

"*Perfume & Pain* slaps so hard it stings—but in the best way. Astrid, agent of lesbian chaos and love addict who's half-heartedly trying to change, is a magnetic main character, and I found myself relating to too many of her uncouth opinions. It was thoroughly enjoyable to follow Astrid's antics—I flipped pages fast and LOLed frequently. And I'll never again see the name Patricia Highsmith without thinking about Astrid's favorite drug cocktail that leads to her most entertaining bad behavior." —**CELIA LASKEY, author of *Under the Rainbow*, a finalist for the 2020 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize**

"Lurid and sensational. *Perfume & Pain* is deeply entertaining, hilarious, and smart. A compelling window into cancel culture, writing, and lesbianism. Anna Dorn never misses." —**EMILY AUSTIN, author of *Interesting Facts About Space***



"*Perfume & Pain* combines the very best impulses of pulp fiction (dysfunction, drama, deception) with Anna's signature whip-smart, fearless style. Darkly funny and careening down every perverted, doomed spiral, this is the funniest novel of the year and Dorn's best yet. Light on its feet yet endlessly probing, *Perfume & Pain* is as sharp as it is delicious." —**JENNY FRAN DAVIS, author of *Dykette***

Anna Dorn is an author, editor, and writing teacher living in Los Angeles. She teaches writing classes at Write or Die and is an associate editor at Hobart Pulp. She was a Lambda Literary Fellow and her second novel *EXALTED* was a finalist for the *L.A. Times* Book Prize. <http://www.anna-dorn.com/about>

Naomi Xu Elegant
GINGKO SEASON

Norton, May 2025, tpb | NA
Manuscript anticipated Summer 2024
Agent: Iwalani Kim

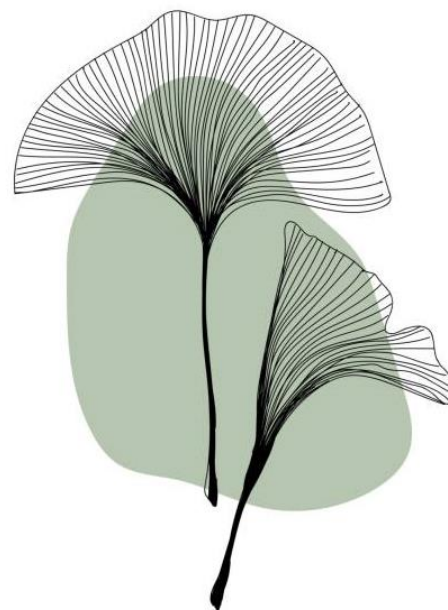
A story of friendship, love, and living a life that matches your ideals, pitched for readers of THE IDIOT and HAPPY HOUR

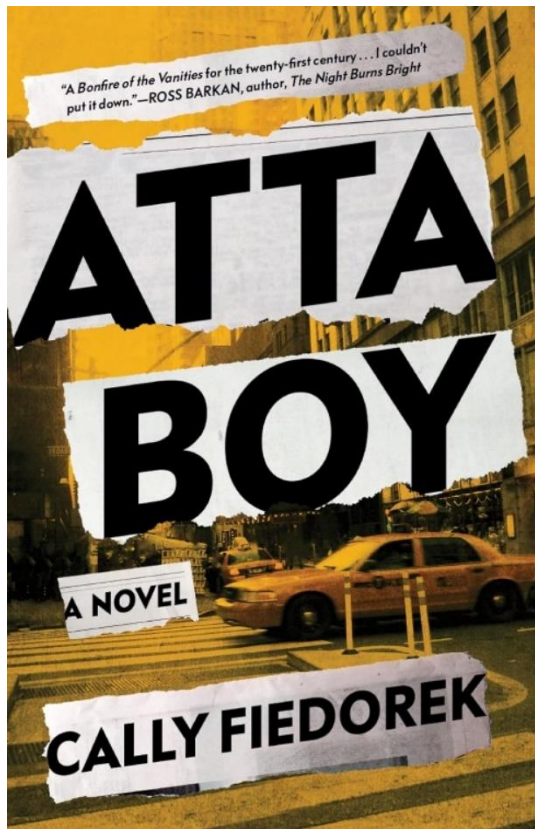
Twenty-five-year-old Penelope Lin spends her days cataloging an archeology museum’s vast collection of Qing Dynasty-era bound feet shoes, wandering the streets of Philadelphia appreciating its architecture, and reading up on her beloved hero, Napoleon. After suffering her first big heartbreak several years ago, she’s built a quiet life with a few close friends and no romantic entanglements. While running a work errand one day, she happens to meet Hoang, who has just confessed to releasing the lab mice in the cancer research lab he works at. He will almost certainly be fired, but he hates to lie. Hoang’s openness catches Penelope off guard and from then on, she finds her carefully constructed life slowly start to unravel.

Terrified of “leaping into the same sea from which [she’d] already once escaped,” Penelope pursues Hoang in ways that breach her comfort zone but remain bewilderingly oblique to her no-nonsense friends and, of course, to Hoang himself. Her days become consumed with volunteering with a labor union for an excuse to run into him, though she has never even voted, and agonizing over letters and postcards that skirt her true feelings. When she receives an unexpected visit from her ex-boyfriend and learns a jarring revelation regarding the whereabouts of her estranged mother, Penelope is forced to confront her past in order to take a leap of faith.

GINGKO SEASON is a wise and tender-hearted debut novel that explores the nature of our deepest friendships as seriously as it does the dizzying terror and thrill of falling in love. With Raven Leilani’s flaneur-like prose, GINGKO SEASON channels the wry humor and quiet devastation of Rachel Khong’s GOODBYE, VITAMIN. Readers who were charmed by Elif Batuman’s protagonist Selin—fiercely intelligent but clueless in matters of the heart—will adore Penelope’s curiosity and her precisely observed world.

Naomi Xu Elegant was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Kuala Lumpur and Beijing. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in history before returning to Hong Kong to work as a journalist. She currently lives in Singapore, where she is a writer for Monocle magazine. Her writing has appeared in *The Drift*, *Penn Review*, and *Cleaver*, among other places. @naomielegant





Cally Fiedorek
ATTA BOY

University of Iowa Press, April 2, 2024 | NA
280 pages, full manuscript available

A rollicking, polyphonic debut novel in the vein of **FLEISHMAN IS IN TROUBLE** and **THE PARTY UPSTAIRS**, following a bar owner's son from Queens as he's pulled into the fold of a crooked taxi mogul and his charismatic family on the eve of a legal and moral reckoning.

"*Atta Boy* is a New York novel like I've never read before. Lively, madcap, and frequently hilarious, but not without sensitivity and insight, too. Via its cast of all-too-human characters, Cally Fiedorek whisks us from dim barrooms to gleaming penthouses to examine the complexities and compromises of being alive today." —**Rachel Khong**, author of *Real Americans* and *Goodbye, Vitamin*

"In a lukewarm literary landscape, Cally Fiedorek's *Atta Boy* blazes like a burning copy of the *New York Post* chucked from the open window of a 1 train. Fiedorek is a writer to watch—and watch out for." —**Andrew Ridker**, author of *Hope* and *The Altruists*

"A *Bonfire of the Vanities* for the 21st century—a propulsive, unforgettable journey through a deeply stratified New York. *Atta Boy* is a fearless chronicle of the way we live and where we are headed. Fiedorek is an urgent writer for these times, with an unstinting eye for the class divisions that define who we are. I couldn't put *Atta Boy* down." —**Ross Barkan**, contributing writer, *The New York Times Magazine*, and author of *The Night Burns Bright*

In December 2018, we meet Rudy Coyle, a bar owner's son from Flushing, Queens, in the throes of a major quarter-life crisis. Cut out of the family business, he gets a Hail Mary job as a night doorman in a storied Park Avenue apartment building, where he comes under the wing of the family in 4E, the Cohens.

Jacob "Jake" Cohen, the fast-talking patriarch, is one of a generation of financiers who made hundreds of millions of dollars in the cutthroat taxi medallion industry in the early 2000s, largely by preying on the hopes and dreams of impoverished immigrant drivers. As Jake tries to stop the bleed from the debt crisis now plaguing his company, clawing back his assets from an increasingly dangerous coterie of Russian American associates, Rudy gets promoted from doorman to errand boy to bodyguard to something like Jake's right-hand man.

By turns a gripping portrait of corruption and a tender family dramedy, *Atta Boy* combines the urban cool of Richard Price with the glossy, uptown charm of Taffy Brodesser-Akner. Here is a novel richly attuned to its time and place, but with something for everyone—high-wire prose and a story wedding ripped from the headlines, social realism with the warmth, angst, and humor of its indelible voices.



Cally Fiedorek is the winner of an Emerging Writer Fellowship from the Center for Fiction and a Pushcart Prize. Her work has appeared in *Narrative*—where she serves as a contributing editor—and the *Sewanee Review*—where the novel's first chapter was recently excerpted. She graduated from Yale with a B.A. in History and from the University of Oxford with an MSt. in Creative Writing. She lives in Manhattan, in the house she grew up in, now with her husband and three young kids. *ATTA BOY* is her debut novel.

Katie M. Flynn

ISLAND RULE: Stories

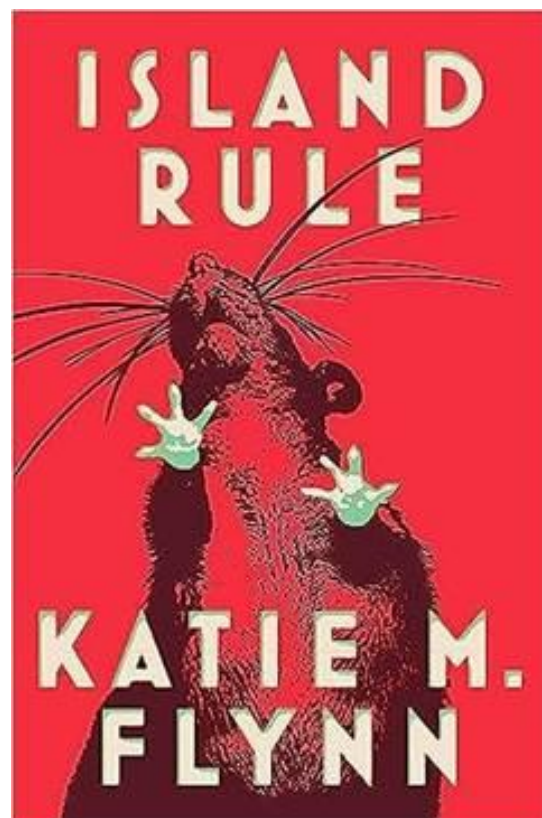
Simon & Schuster, March 5, 2024 | NA

288 pages, final manuscript available

From the author of the “urgent and heartfelt” (*San Francisco Chronicle*) novel *The Companions*, a genre-bending collection of interconnected short stories in the tradition of Jennifer Egan and Karen Russell.

An angry mother turns into a literal monster. A company in San Francisco can scrub your entire reputation and create a new one...for a price. A failed actor on a reality show turns into an unlikely world savior. And much more.

Through each of these twelve interconnected stories, Katie Flynn masterfully blends people, places, and even realities. From a powerful and “radiant” (Kassandra Montag, author of *After the Flood*) new literary voice to be reckoned with, this collection will stay with you after turn the final page.



"A wonderfully eerie collection, *Island Rule* haunts and delights. Flynn's writing is taught and teeming, making a world of bone mounds and monsters as alarmingly real as teenage angst and midlife crises. The creeping darkness of *Island Rule* revels in exploring darkness at the edges of our world, and what happens when we invite it in." —**Erika Swyler, author of *The Light from Other Stars***

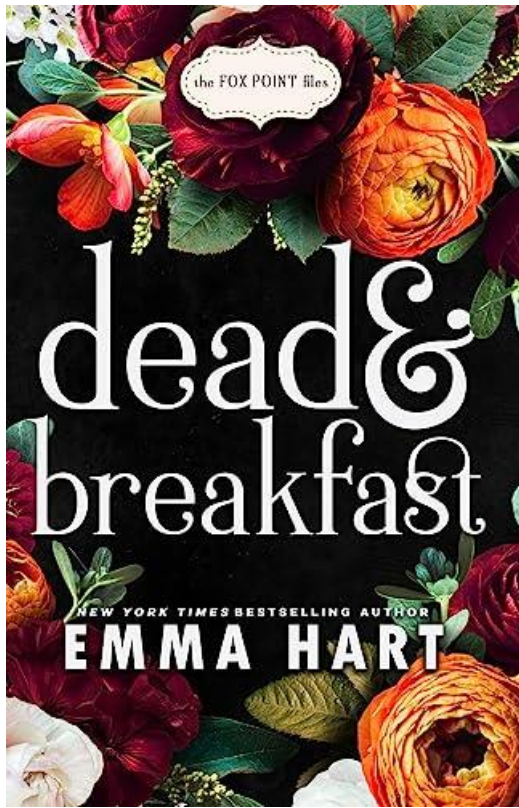
"In this eerie collection, Flynn challenges our notions of the familiar with 12 resonant interlocking short stories. *Island Rule* surprised me at every turn." —**Chana Porter, author of *The Seep* and *The Thick and the Lean***

"Bruised and bruising, the stories in *Island Rule* bring to life a near-future in which loneliness and desire—for connection, visibility, and compassion— fuel every encounter. Funny, tender, and compulsively readable, Katie Flynn's warm-hearted collection is an absolute gem, with an enormous generosity of spirit and keen wit on display in every line." —**Maryse Meijer, author of *Rag* and *Heartbreaker***

Katie's previous book, *THE COMPANIONS*, sold in Italy to Sperling & Kupfer, in Germany to Heyne, and in the Czech Republic to Dobrovsky.

Katie M. Flynn is a writer, editor, and educator based in San Francisco. Her short fiction has appeared in *Colorado Review*, *Indiana Review*, *The Masters Review*, *Ninth Letter*, *Tin House*, *Witness Magazine*, and many other publications. Her debut novel, *The Companions*, about love, revenge, and uploaded consciousness, is out now from Scout Press/Gallery Books. Katie has been awarded *Colorado Review*'s Nelligan Prize for Short Fiction, a fellowship from the Writers Grotto, and the Steinbeck Fellowship in Creative Writing. She holds an MFA from the University of San Francisco and an MA in Geography from UCLA. <https://www.katiemflynn.com/>





Emma Hart
DEAD & BREAKFAST
(The Fox Point Files, book #1)

Independently published, July 11, 2023
358 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Dan Mandel

From *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author, Emma Hart, comes an addictive new romcom mystery series that fans of her *Holly Woods Files* series will adore. It's all the heat, heart, and snark you love—just deadly.

"What an intense read! Such fun and quirky characters that you just can't get enough of." - *Besties & Books*

"This laugh out loud comedy with a twist of mystery is sure to entertain you for hours. I can't express how much fun this book was." - *Moonshine's Corne*

"Fantastic dialogue and lots of wicked one liners. I can't wait to read more from this series." - *Liz, Goodreads*

"This light hearted murder mystery was such a light fluffy, easy read. The one-liners in this book and banter between characters was unmatched." – *KirstenReads*

Welcome to Fox Point—not everyone leaves this town alive.

When Lottie O'Neil inherits her grandfather's dilapidated bed & breakfast, she returns to the seaside town of Fox Point where she spent countless summers as a child, where she had her first sleepover party, and where her grandma taught her to cross-stitch. It was also there as a seven-year-old that she met Noah George, who threw sand in her eye and captured her heart forever. He was her first kiss. They savored their summers together, until they turned eighteen, life got in the way, and they never spoke to each other again. Until now.

Now that Lottie is the prime suspect in the death of a man she's barely met, Detective Inspector Noah George will be the man to arrest her.

Unless she can find the real killer first.



Emma Hart is a *New York Times* & *USA Today* bestselling author, who has written more than seventy romance novels in the last decade. She loves writing snarky, swoony romcoms with a side of chaos, occasionally venturing into romantic mysteries. Which are exactly the same as her romcoms, just with a dead body or two. That's the reason for her questionable Internet history—at least that's the story she's sticking to.

She lives on a smallholding in North Wales with her husband and their two children, a clowder of very fluffy cats, one giant German Shepherd, and an undisclosed number of chickens and ducks. Don't ask her to count them. She will not, thank you very much.

When she's not writing or chasing ducks in her pyjamas, you can find her creating cosy gaming content for her Youtube channel and live streaming on Twitch.

<https://www.emmahart.org/>

Katy Hays
THE VIPERS

Ballantine, Spring 2025 | World English
UK: Transworld
~300 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Sarah Phair



From the instant *New York Times* and *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *THE CLOISTERS* *White Lotus* meets *The Last Thing He Told Me* in another gripping tale of history and family secrets that, when they start to unravel, bring dire results to the present.

For thirty years, playwright Sarah Lingate’s death has been magazine fodder. And for thirty years, her husband, Richard Lingate, has lived under the suspicion that he got away with murder. That hasn’t stopped Richard or his brother Marcus—heirs to the vast and historic Lingate fortune—from returning to the site of Sarah’s death: a Moorish, whitewashed villa on the island of Capri. Every July they return to the island to vacation with family and friends.

But on the thirty-year anniversary of Sarah’s death, they arrive on the island to discover an anonymous gift waiting for them: someone has sent Helen, Sarah and Richard’s thirty-three-year-old daughter, the necklace her mother was wearing the night she died. Whether a warning or a joke, the gift sets into motion a series of decisions that culminate in the unthinkable—once again, a member of their group is found dead below the cliffs of their villa.

Paranoid and insular, the Lingate family begins to unravel. And as they fracture, the long-hidden secrets they have kept from one another, and the public, bubble to the surface.

One thing is true: no one holds a grudge like family.

International publishers of <i>THE CLOISTERS</i> (all rights via Atria):	
France: Le Livre de Poche	Poland: Wydawnictwo Marginesy
Germany: Penguin Verlag	Portugal: Bertrand
Hungary: XXI Szazad	Romania: GRUP MEDIA LITERA
Italy: Rizzoli	Russia: Eksmo
Lithuania: Baltos Lankos	Spain: Urano
The Netherlands: Ambo Anthos	UK: Transworld

Katy Hays is a Californian, writer, and cake aficionado. She lives in the shadow of the Sierra with her husband and their dog, Queso. In addition to writing, Katy works as an adjunct Art History Professor teaching rural students from Truckee to Tecopa. She holds an MA in Art History from Williams College and pursued her PhD in Art History at UC Berkeley. Her academic writing has been published by Ashgate, an imprint of Routledge.

Her fiction explores how far humans are willing to go to believe the unbelievable, strange-but-real worlds, and complex female friendships. Her debut novel, *THE CLOISTERS*, was a *Today Show* #ReadwithJenna Book Club pick, a B&N Book Club pick, and an Amazon Best Book of November 2022.

When not writing (or eating cake) Katy is a skier, cyclist, trail runner, eastern Sierra enthusiast, and—well, reader. <https://www.katyhays.com/>

THE CLOISTERS by Katy Hays (all rights are with Atria)

**INSTANT *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER • INSTANT *SUNDAY TIMES* BESTSELLER •
READ WITH JENNA • B&N BOOK CLUB PICK**

An Amazon Best Book of November 2022: ...If you like your tales of dark academia threaded with dark secrets and even darker agendas, then this sultry, atmospheric thriller is worth the price of admission. —*Vannessa Cronin, Amazon Editor*

“Claustrophobic . . . An underhanded antiques dealer, a sexy Cloisters gardener with a side hustle in poisonous plants, a suspicious death or two, a mysterious centuries-old document written in an obscure language, the sense that no one, not even Ann, is telling us the whole truth—all this adds up to a dense forest of a plot . . . Is this a story of the occult, or a story of ambition, or a tale of one (or more!) murderous psychopaths? The answer is a shock, and it sneaks up on you unawares.” —*The New York Times*

“A story of academic obsession, Renaissance magic and the ruthless pursuit of power. Captivating in every sense of the word.” —**Sarah Pearse, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Sanatorium***

“Sultry and sinister . . . Hays's debut teems with sexual tension, the secrets of divination, and scholarly obsessiveness. With a jaw-dropping twist at the end, *The Cloisters* serves as a warning to us all: we may think we know what life has in store, but fate and fortune tend to turn their own tricks.” —**Sarah Penner, bestselling author of *The Lost Apothecary***

“A moody and suspenseful story... Readers will be fascinated by the evocative setting as well as the behind-the-scenes glimpses into museum curatorship and the cutthroat games of academia...An accomplished debut.” —***Publishers Weekly***

“A tour de force by an important new voice, *The Cloisters* begins as a fish-out-of-water story. But as Katy Hays deftly weaves in layer after layer of the occult, art, and academia, it turns into a rich tapestry that speaks to issues of privilege, power, and ambition—and, more than anything, the darkness lurking just inside ivory towers. Virtuoso and incredibly compelling, *The Cloisters* grabbed me in a way that no book has done since *The Secret History*.” —**Rachel Kapelke-Dale, author of *The Fortune Seller***

“Like the moment before a thunderstorm on a summer afternoon, *The Cloisters* is sultry, lush, and trembling with menace.” —**Julia May Jonas, author of *Vladimir***

“A tantalizingly clever tale, laced with surprises as devious as its cast of shadowy scholars, *The Cloisters* had me gripped from cover to cover. Hays’s debut is diabolical and darkly entertaining, a masterwork of literary suspense that surges to an otherworldly conclusion.” —**Mark Prins, author of *The Latinist***

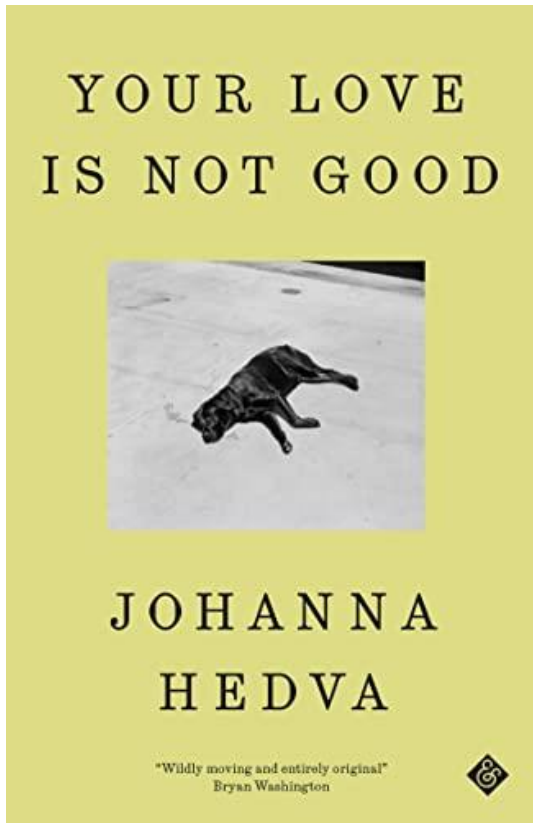
“Mesmerizing . . . A seductive unfurling of lies, envy, and the pull of the occult, *The Cloisters* does for tarot what *The Secret History* did for Greek class. This sharp, shadowy book held me in thrall from beginning to star-crossed end.” —**Sara Sligar, author of *Take Me Apart***

“Prepare to lose your entire afternoon to *The Cloisters*, first for its atmosphere, a medieval museum at the tip of Manhattan, and then to pursuing a young scholar in her search for an ancient tarot deck, while keeping a sharp eye on the brilliant, attractive colleagues who may be out to help her or kill her. Good luck staying ahead of this one and have a great time poring over the many treasures inside.” —**Maria Hummel, author of Reese’s Book Club Pick *Still Lives***

“Glamour, power, seduction, ambition – *The Cloisters* has it all. I adored this deliciously gothic, beautifully written novel. – **Louise O’Neill, author of *Asking For It***

“Elegant and atmospheric and suffused with brooding menace.” – **Lucy Clarke, author of *No Escape***

“Beguiling and atmospheric, an entrancing and gripping tale.: -- **Kate Mosse, author of the Languedoc Trilogy.**



Johanna Hedva
YOUR LOVE IS NOT GOOD

And Other Stories, May 23, 2023 | World English
320 pages, final text available
Agent: Clare Mao

An artist of color becomes obsessed with a white model in a novel with the glamor of Clarice Lispector and the viscerality of Han Kang.

At an otherwise forgettable party in Los Angeles, a queer Korean American painter spots a woman who instantly controls the room: gorgeous and distant and utterly white, the center of everyone's attention. Haunted into adulthood by her Korean father's abandonment of his family, as well as the specter of her beguiling, abusive white mother, the painter finds herself caught in a perfect trap. She wants Hanne, or wants to be her, or to sully her, or destroy her, or consume her, or some confusion of all the above. Since she's an artist, she will use art to get closer to Hanne, beginning a series of paintings with her new muse as model. As for Hanne, what does she want? Her whiteness seems sometimes as cruel as a new sheet of paper.

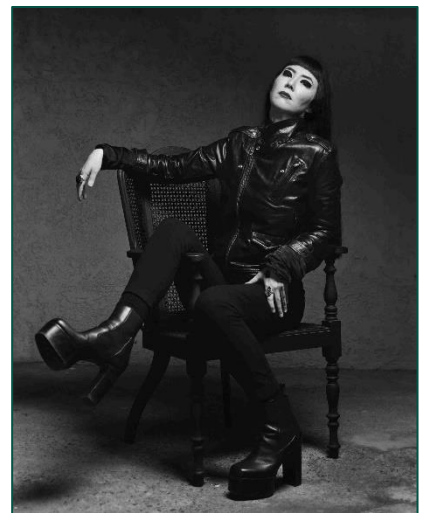
When the paintings of Hanne become a hit, resulting in the artist's first sold-out show, she resolves to bring her new muse with her to Berlin, to continue their work, and her seduction. But, just when the painter is on

the verge of her long sought-after breakthrough, a petition started by a Black performance artist begins making the rounds in the art community, calling for the boycott of major museums and art galleries for their imperialist and racist practices.

Torn between her desire to support the petition, to be a success, and to possess Hanne, the painter and her reality become more unstable and disorienting, unwilling to cut loose any one of her warring ambitions, yet unable to accommodate them all. Is it any wonder so many artists self-destruct so spectacularly? Is it perhaps just a bit exciting to think she could too?

Your Love Is Not Good stuffs queer explosive into the cracks between identity and aspiration, between desire and art, and revels in the raining debris.

Johanna Hedva (they/them) is a Korean-American writer, artist, and musician, who was raised in Los Angeles by a family of witches, and now lives in LA and Berlin. Their novel, *On Hell*, was named one of Dennis Cooper's favorites of 2018, and their writing has been published in *Triple Canopy*, *frieze*, and *The White Review*. Their art work has been shown at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; Performance Space New York; the Museum of Architecture and Design, Los Angeles; and the Museum of Contemporary Art on the Moon. In 2019, they released the album, *The Sun and the Moon*, and in 2020 they released *Minerva the Miscarriage of the Brain*, a collection of poetry, plays, and essays published by Sming Sming and Wolfman Books. Johanna is the author of the viral/seminal essay in disability justice, "Sick Woman Theory" (forthcoming in their essay collection, *HOW TO TELL WHEN WE WILL DIE*, from Zando in 2024—Zando has World rights). "Sick Woman Theory" has been translated into: Albanian, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Korean, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, and Turkish. <https://johannahedva.com/>



PRAISE for YOUR LOVE IS NOT GOOD

“Impassioned, wry, compassionate, and hell-raising, this novel illuminates its frangible but resilient world the way a painter uses color on canvas to illuminate the focal point of her vision—building layer after layer of meaning until the image appears as if it has always been there for us to see. A resplendent and fearless book. Must read.”

—★ **Kirkus**

“Hedva is consistently savvy and surprising.”—**Publishers Weekly**

“A gripping, tightly plotted novel characterized by a trenchant exploration of race, queer desire, and power dynamics in the art world —**Reed McConnell, Frieze**

“An emotional and artistic bildungsroman ... filled with apt perceptions and accurate barbs.”—**ArtReview**

“A thin permeable line between love and hate, pain and pleasure, self-love, self-flagellation, and total narcissism. Hedva's characters show us the complexities of being (in)human(e) beings and push our faces into the mud, an antagonism inflicted unto ourselves as we bully, bruise, blur, and break our way into the waking world. Hedva's willingness to parse apart ‘love’ from ‘goodness’ is the honesty we're all here and have been waiting for.”

—**Legacy Russell, curator of The Kitchen and author of *Glitch Feminism***

“This precise page-turner of a tale about bad or nonexistent mothers, race, and the erotics of painting masterfully pins the art world to the buckram of its specimen tray, pointed sentence after sentence. Here everyone loses gorgeously, definitively—and lucky readers learn a lot about the game.”—**Lucy Ives, author of *Life is Everywhere***

“*Your Love Is Not Good* is a whirlwind, and a mural, and a mirror—Hedva's prose is incisive and empathetic, wholly comedic and deeply poignant. This story about the life of our ideas, the trajectory of our dreams, and the burden of our loves is wildly moving and entirely original. Hedva deftly juggles questions of ambition and debt with what we owe others, and what we owe ourselves, resulting in a novel that's both honest and enrapturing. *Your Love Is Not Good* is a genuine blast.”—**Bryan Washington, author of *Memorial***

“It's more than all this, but here is something about labor, the capitalist inseams in Identity, as expressed in an international art market that careens its participants—or is it the *art?*—towards suicide. For those needing—by hook or by crook, by rope, knife, mirror, or by truck—to leave something, or the art world, or the debt-collision of whatever they're doing, or even the internet for the next 24 goddamned hours, *Your Love Is Not Good* is very worth your beautiful time.”—**Caren Beilin, author of *Revenge of the Scapegoat***

“*Your Love Is Not Good* is a dazzling tale of claustrophobia and neglect. Swinging deftly between savage realism, scathing social satire, and brutal erotic haze, Johanna Hedva moves from agony to alchemy in this meticulously layered portrait of intimate corruption. Bursting into the broken places between shame and self-creation, trauma and accountability, righteousness and complicity, *Your Love Is Not Good* cracks open the art world to exorcise the pain of belonging.”—**Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore, author of *The Freezer Door***

“Electric, pornographic, mischievous, and deeply funny. *Your Love is Not Good* is a parable of the artist who in search of beauty encounters something far more intoxicating: ruin. Burn your diaries, kill your darlings, and go toast your real friends— this is the summer beach read you'll be talking about for the rest of the year.”

—**Lara Mimosa Montes, author of *Thresholds***

“By turns funny, brutal, and (surprisingly) tender, *Your Love is Not Good* is a major achievement. Hedva's prose—which is gusty and taut—conveys a thrumming, kaleidoscopically constructed narrative structure to produce for the reader an experience of something incredibly intimate, something profuse, raw, erotic and challenging. *Your Love is Not Good* contains revelations (both vibrating and appalling) about artists and practice, and about contemporary art worlds. An instant classic/must-read/ important addition to the (woefully scanty) genre of books by artists about art-life. A very moving read.” —**Harry Dodge, author of *My Meteorite***

Lynn Hightower
The Hunting Dark
Book 2 of *The Enlightenment Project*

Severn House, May 7, 2024 | World English
Final text available
Agent: Matt Bialer

Did you know that demonic possession is a recognized psychiatric condition? The gripping sequel to *The Enlightenment Project* is a terrifying blend of horror and real-life science that will keep you turning pages . . . and keep you from sleeping. Read it if you dare!

The house is waiting . . .

In the Amish countryside of Kentucky, there is a house. Everyone knows about it. They whisper about the things that happen there. Creepy things. Terrible things. It would be better if they shouted: *Run*.

Six weeks ago, fragile mother of two Pammie LaRue moved in with her beloved partner Conor. They ignored the knocks on the walls. Whispering voices. Water pooling, with no obvious leak.

Eight days ago, Conor went missing, without a trace. Unless you count the drag marks in the crawl space under the house.

Neurosurgeon Noah Archer doesn't believe in ghosts and demons and haunted houses - he knows from terrible experience just how real they are. But despite his work with the Enlightenment Project, which pits cutting-edge scientific research against the darkness, he's no exorcist.

Still, when Pammie pitches up on his doorstep late one night, children in tow, Noah helps. He enters the house. But in doing so, he's made a terrible mistake. Because once the darkness has its claws in you, it won't let go.

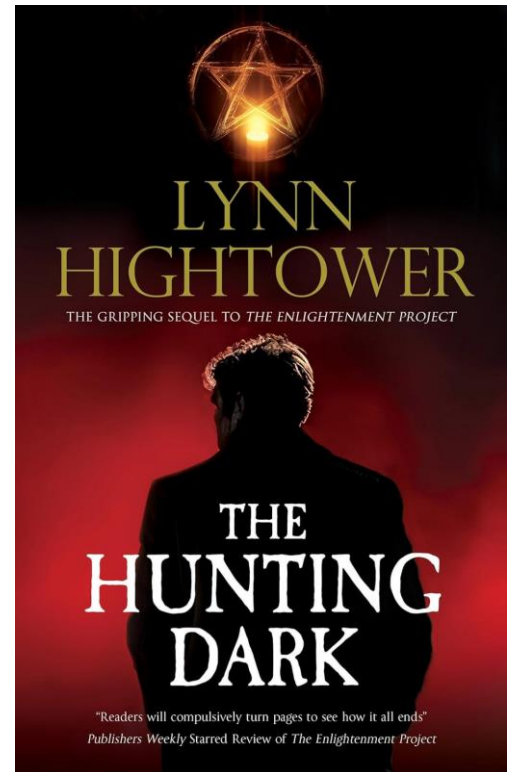
Reviews for THE ENLIGHTMENT PROJECT | Severn House, March 2022

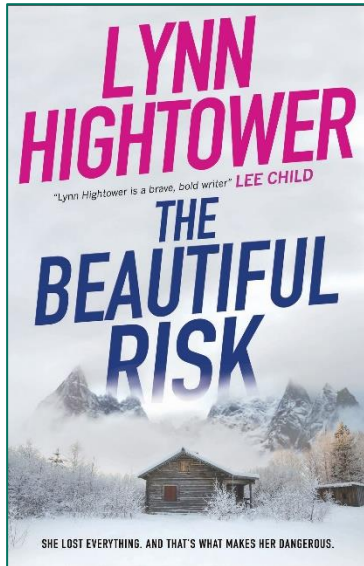
“Lynn Hightower is a brave, bold writer - and this spooky, suspenseful masterpiece could be her best yet. Super-recommended!” — **Lee Child**, #1 international bestselling author of the *Jack Reacher* thrillers

“Sensitive characterizations match the imaginative plot. Readers will compulsively turn the pages to see how it all ends.”— **Publishers Weekly** ★

“Both the medical and supernatural elements are detailed in engrossing terms. But human connections are at the heart of the novel's draw” — **Foreword Reviews**

“Establishing unsettling tones early on, the book's tension mounts, even during its quiet, tender moments”
— **Foreword Reviews**





Lynn Hightower
THE BEAUTIFUL RISK

Severn House, August 2023 | World English
256 pages, finished text available
Agent: Matt Bialer

The Beautiful Risk is an intelligent, thought-provoking standalone thriller from internationally bestselling author Lynn Hightower.

It's a story of grief, of a dangerous mountain with a dark history, of corruption and greed, of ecoterrorism . . . and of a vulnerable woman with hearing loss, an injured dog and a broken heart, who will stop at nothing to uncover the truth.

“THE BEAUTIFUL RISK IS A BEAUTIFUL BOOK . . . Lynn Hightower's riveting thriller has a brave and valiant dog at the center, whose devotion gets the heroine through the deepest loss and grief — and jeopardy.” – Tracie Hotchner, NPR

A GRIPPING SUSPENSEFUL READ – *Booklist*

DARK AND SWIFTLY MOVING -- *Kirkus Reviews*

Her husband died in a plane crash on Mount Blanc. It was a tragic accident.

These are the simple facts.

Except someone's not telling the truth . . .

After nine months of sorrow and grief, Junie Lagarde – a brilliant forensic accountant and passionate guitarist – is gradually accepting life without her beloved husband Olivier, a French safety consultant and climate-change expert, whom she lost in a tragic plane accident over Mont Blanc. If only she could have found her loyal hearing-dog Leo, who ran off in the terrifying aftermath of the crash, before she had to return home to America. But then Junie receives an unexpected call from France . . .

Capitaine Philippe Brevard, the man in charge of investigating Olivier's death, has seen recent CCTV footage which shows Leo being held by a man who closely resembles Olivier . . . right down to his distinctive jacket.

It's not Olivier. It *can't* be . . . can it? But who is the man – and what else is Capitaine Brevard hiding from her? Junie knows she must go to Chamonix, rescue her dog, and uncover the truth . . . but there are those who mean her harm, and soon Junie's learning dangerous secrets. Secrets that will shake her faith in her closest friends and put more than just her own life in the gravest of danger.



Lynn Hightower is the internationally bestselling author of numerous thrillers including the *Sonora Blair* and *Lena Padget* detective series. She has previously won the Shamus Award for Best First Private Eye novel and a WHSmith Fresh Talent Award. Lynn lives in Kentucky, in a small Victorian cottage with a writing parlor.



Megan Kamalei Kakimoto

EVERY DROP IS A MAN'S NIGHTMARE: Stories

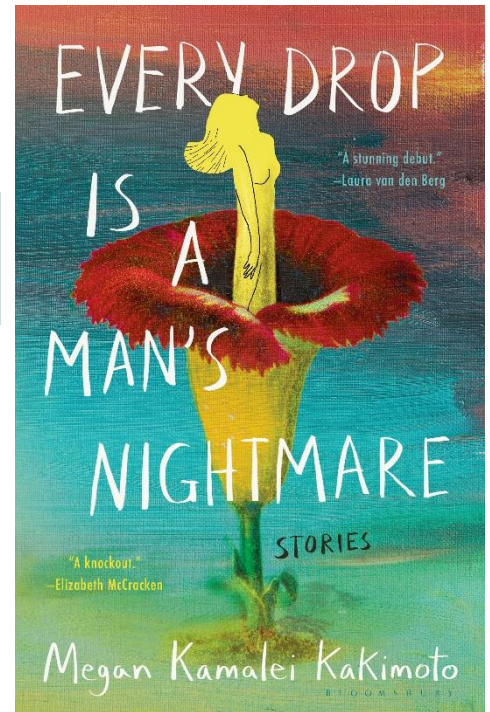
Bloomsbury, August 2023 | UK: Granta

272 pages, final text available

Agent: Iwalani Kim

From major new storytelling talent Megan Kamalei Kakimoto, a blazing, bodily, raucous journey through contemporary Hawaiian identity and womanhood.

Instant *USA Today* Bestseller
An Indies Introduce Pick
September Indie Next Pick



"A knockout. Eleven knockouts, one KO for every story."-Elizabeth McCracken

"A stunning debut."-Laura van den Berg

"Throbs with searing talent."-Kali Fajardo-Anstine

"As exquisite as it is terrifying."-Jenny Tinghui Zhang

Megan Kamalei Kakimoto's wrenching and sensational debut story collection follows a cast of mixed native Hawaiian and Japanese women through a contemporary landscape thick with inherited wisdom and the ghosts of colonization. This is a Hawai'i where unruly sexuality and generational memory overflow the postcard image of paradise and the boundaries of the real, where the superstitions born of the islands take on the weight of truth

A childhood encounter with a wild pua'a (pig) on the haunted Pali highway portends one young woman's fraught relationship with her pregnant body. An elderly widow begins seeing her deceased lover in a giant flower. A kanaka writer, mid-manuscript, feels her raw pages quaking and knocking in the briefcase.

Every Drop Is a Man's Nightmare is both a fierce love letter to Hawaiian identity and mythology, and a searing dispatch from an occupied territory threatening to erupt with violent secrets.

BLOODSICK: A Novel
Megan Kamalei Kakimoto

Bloomsbury late 2025 | UK: Granta
Manuscript anticipated Summer 2024

Written in the vein of Stephen Graham Jones' *THE ONLY GOOD INDIANS*, Helen Phillips' *THE NEED*, and Jessamine Chan's *THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD MOTHERS* and set in a contemporary Hawai'i with a speculative twist, *BLOODSICK* is the story of an overbearing mother and her newly menstruating daughter as they encounter ghosts, cults, and the scrutiny of the state when they flee their former lives for good.

[Megan Kamalei Kakimoto](https://www.megankakimoto.com/) is a Japanese and Kanaka Maoli (native Hawaiian) writer from Honolulu, Hawai'i. Her fiction has been featured in *Granta*, *Conjunctions*, *Joyland*, and elsewhere. She has been a finalist for the Keene Prize for Literature and has received support from the Rona Jaffe Foundation and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. She received her MFA from the Michener Center for Writers, where she was a Fiction Fellow. She lives in Honolulu.
<https://www.megankakimoto.com/>



Photo credit: Van Wishingrad

Praise for EVERY DROP IS A MAN'S NIGHTMARE

“The contemporary Hawaii of Kakimoto’s debut is neither idyllic backdrop nor tragic fable; the stories evoke the land and its intermixing cultures in all their anxiety, claustrophobia and restlessness. Following Indigenous and Japanese women, these stories are fluid, feminine, tormented, haunted and incredibly horny... Weaving Hawaiian words into English ones, Kakimoto positions language as a tether to our most ancient and eternal selves... *Every Drop Is a Man’s Nightmare* is rich and wise, humming with confidence in the knowledge of a particular community’s lovely, miserable ways.” — *New York Times Book Review*

“Kakimoto interweaves themes of sexual desire and fertility with Hawaiian mythology in her unflinching debut collection . . . Marked by a wry sense of humor and an unerring touch for the surreal, Kakimoto’s stories add up to a powerful exploration of gender, class, race, colonialism, and domestic violence. This eloquent outing marks Kakimoto as a writer to watch.” — ★ *Publishers Weekly*

All things weird, wonderful, mysterious, and mythical collide in this excellent debut story collection. Focused on mixed native Hawaiian and Japanese women and ensconced in Hawaiian history and lore, each story explores what it means to be a woman, but especially a woman of color . . . This great book signals the arrival of a very talented writer.” — ★ *Booklist*

“Absorbing . . . Magical events illuminate the all-too-real problems of Hawaiian women in an impressive story collection.” — *Kirkus Reviews*

“Megan Kamalei Kakimoto is a short story writer that all other short story writers should study. *Every Drop* is a frontrunner for Book of the Year.” — *Debutiful*

“Kakimoto’s debut collection tells 11 stories of contemporary Hawaiian identity, mythology, and womanhood. Unruly sexuality, generational memory, and the ghosts of colonization collide in what promises to be an auspicious short-fiction debut.” — *The Millions*, Most Anticipated

“The world desperately needs more Hawaiian voices in literature (and everywhere!), and Megan Kamalei Kakimoto’s debut collection is a brave and atmospheric addition. Reflective and bold, the stories take on the violence of colonization while celebrating Hawaiian identity and womanhood.” — *Ms. Magazine*

“Megan Kamelei Kakimoto’s collection blooms with opulent and tender language. She weaves an intimate and expansive worldview of Hawai‘i as sacred, abundant, and thoroughly alive with ancestral stories. Kakimoto is one of Hawai‘i’s most brilliant new voices. The power of her monumental debut will reverberate across generations past and those yet to come.” — Joseph Han, author of *Nuclear Family*

“Lyrical collisions of superstition, folktales, and modern Hawaiian culture saving itself in the face of clichés. Desire and confusion are rarely far apart in these powerful coming-of-age stories that prove ‘it is possible to be many things, all the time, all at once.’” — Amy Hempel, author of *The Collected Stories* and *Sing to It*

“Megan Kakimoto is an extraordinary writer—compassionate, insightful, fiercely funny and super-smart—and *Every Drop Is a Man’s Nightmare* thrums with intelligence, wisdom, and wild originality. A tremendous debut by a writer who, lucky for us, has only just begun.” — Molly Antopol, author of *The UnAmericans*

“Megan Kakimoto is one of those rare writers who has mastered both story and sentence. ‘The Love and Decline of the Corpse Flower’—thick with grief, desire, and magic—teems with deft lyricism and poetic attention. The women in this story are audacious, resilient, and unforgettable—they have my whole heart.” — Kimberly King Parsons, author of *Black Light*

“A wholly original debut, [it’s] everything I want in a collection: daring, big-hearted, electric, lyrical, and utterly unforgettable. ... This book is a resounding yes... We are lucky to live in the time of Megan Kamalei Kakimoto.” — Marisa Crane, author of *I Keep My Exoskeletons To Myself*

Rachel Kapelke-Dale
THE FORTUNE SELLER

St. Martin's Press | February 13, 2024 | World English
320 pages, final text available
Agent: Sarah Phair

In development with a major television studio

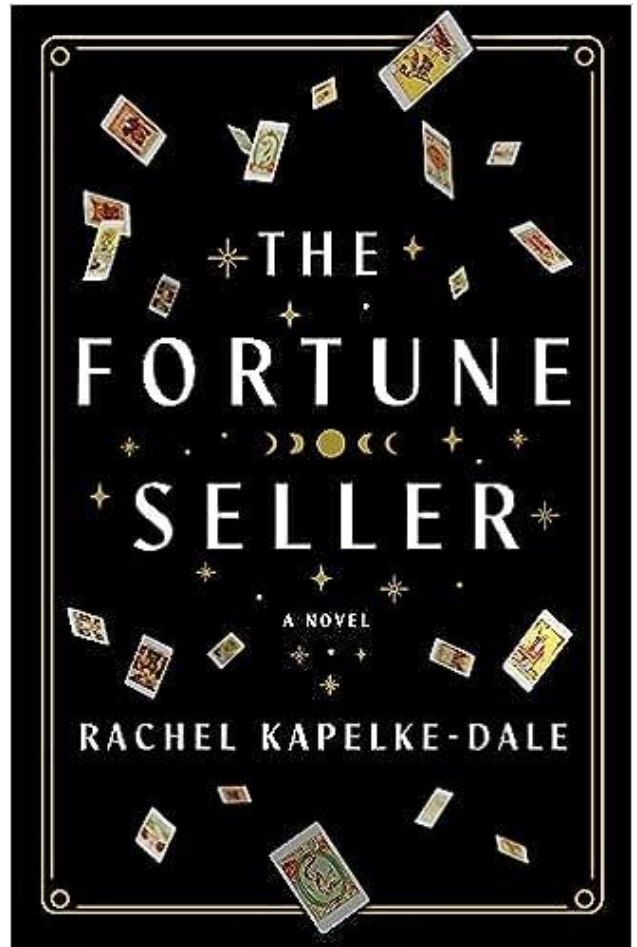
Yellowjackets meets The Cloisters in this beguiling coming-of-age story about class, reinvention, and destiny, set against the backdrop of two mysterious deaths.

When it comes to seeing the future—do you really want to know?

Middle-class Rosie Macalister has worked for years to fit in with her wealthy friends on the Yale equestrian team. But when she comes back from her junior year abroad with newfound confidence, she finds that the group has been infiltrated by a mysterious intruder: Annelise Tattinger.

A talented tarot reader and a brilliant rider, the enigmatic Annelise is unlike anyone Rosie has ever met. But when one of their friends notices money disappearing from her bank account, Annelise's place in the circle is thrown into question. As the girls turn against each other, the group's unspoken tensions and assumptions lead to devastating consequences.

It's only after graduation, when Rosie begins a job at a Manhattan hedge fund, that she uncovers Annelise's true identity—and how her place in their elite Yale set was no accident. Is it too late for Rosie to put right what went wrong, or does everyone's luck run out at some point? Set in the heady days of the early aughts, *The Fortune Seller* is a haunting examination of class, ambition, and the desires that shape our lives.



Rachel Kapelke-Dale is the author of *The Ingenue*, *The Ballerinas*, and co-author of *Graduates in Wonderland* (Penguin 2014). Kapelke-Dale received a BA from Brown University, where she rode on the varsity equestrian team, an MA from the Université de Paris VII, and a PhD from University College London. She currently lives in Paris. <http://rachelkapelkedale.com/>

Praise for THE FORTUNE SELLER

"Propulsive and engrossing, *The Fortune Seller* deftly examines the ways in which our lives are shaped by luck and by fate, illustrating the sometimes grizzly consequences of tempting either. Rachel Kapelke-Dale has (once again) captured the complexities of female friendship, ambition, and privilege with razor-sharp insight and sparkling prose, all set in the evocative worlds of equestrian competitions, dark academia, and the New York elite. Tarot cards offer hints at what's to come in each chapter, but this story kept me on my toes throughout; I absolutely devoured it." -**Genevieve Wheeler, author of *Adelaide***

"Kapelke-Dale is fluent in the double-edged language of female friendship. I ripped through *The Fortune Seller*, her captivating, fast-paced novel about upper-crust, ride-or-die housemates at Yale whose petty cruelties take a sinister turn. A refreshing look at girl power and identity, longing and belonging, and fate and free will, *The Fortune Seller* reveals the dark impulses that fuel our most intense, intoxicating relationships." -**Jillian Medoff, author of *When We Were Bright and Beautiful***

"Delicious and addicting, *The Fortune Seller* is the book of my occult horse girl dreams. Ambition, excess, equestrians—all filtered through the tarot and the question of fate versus luck. Kapelke-Dale has constructed a glittering tale of sacrifice and privilege. I guarantee you will not be able to put it down." -**Julia Fine, author of *Maddalena and the Dark***

"*The Fortune Seller* is pure magic. A juicy campus novel suffused with complex friendship dynamics and an insider-outsider story of one woman's struggle to fit in with her high-flying peers, Kapelke-Dale weaves suspense with sharp prose for a read that's both fast-paced and thought-provoking. The novel's tarot cards may illuminate the future, but this much is clear: I'd follow Kapelke-Dale anywhere." -**Avery Carpenter Forrey, author of *Social Engagement***

"Kapelke-Dale ... perfectly portrays the complexities of class and status among privileged peers, where wealth outweighs talent and ambition spawns cruelty. ...Sophisticated with just the right dose of sinister, this coming-of-age story doesn't shy from the grisly power dynamics of privilege." -**Library Journal**

"Kapelke-Dale skillfully blends class concerns, character development, and a menacing atmosphere, emerging with an intoxicating mystery that defies easy categorization. Readers will be tempted to devour it in a single sitting. - **Publishers Weekly** ★

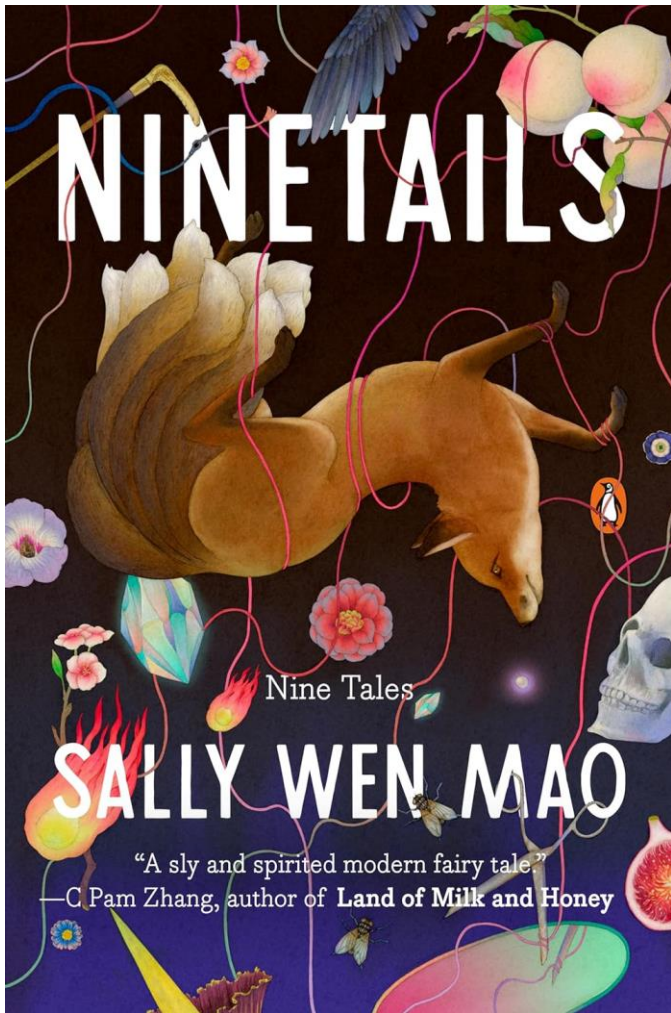
"Brimming with competitions, rivalries amid friendships, and secrets within lies...Fans of Kapelke-Dale's signature twisty suspense will be riveted." - **Booklist**

Sally Wen Mao
NINETAILS: Stories

Penguin, May 28, 2024 | NA

Full MS available

Agent: Clare Mao



“A sumptuous and lively collection, leaping from story to story in much the same way a fox does — surprisingly, gracefully, and with impressive aim. I loved this book.”—Kelly Link, author of *The Book of Love*

A fox spirit avenges a teen girl by seducing her abuser. A shapeshifting woman finds herself chased through the woods by fox hunters; meanwhile, an assassination plot called Operation Fox Hunt unfolds against the last Queen of Korea. Chinese migrants hoping to make new lives as “paper children” in America find their pasts—and their hopes for the future—embodied in the foxes that haunt the harbor in 1900s Angel Island.

In the nine tales of NINETAILS acclaimed poet Sally Wen Mao reimagines the fox spirit from Asian folklore—a shapeshifter, shaman, and seductress—as an icon of vengeance, solidarity and liberation. The characters of her stories are varied—from silicone sex dolls who come to life with new purpose, to women whose crushes manifest as stones—but they all reach for a common purpose: to find

truth and belonging in a difficult world determined to consider them alien.

With the fabulist vibrancy of Carmen Maria Machado, the sinuous world-building of Helen Oyeyemi, and the sensuous feminist rage of Han Kang, NINETAILS is both timeless—unearthing a cultural icon whose origins date back over a thousand years—and timely in its contemporary political urgency.

Sally Wen Mao is the acclaimed author of three poetry collections—*Oculus* which was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and one of Time Magazine’s 100 Must-Read Books of 2019; *Mad Honey Symposium*, which named a Top Ten Debut of 2014 in *Poets & Writers*; and *The Kingdom of Surfaces*, a finalist for the 2023 Maya Angelou Book Award. The recipient of two Pushcart Prizes and a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, she’s been published in *The Paris Review*, *Harper Bazaar*, *Guenrica*, *PEN America*, among others, with rave reviews of her writing in national outlets such as the *New Yorker*, *NPR*, and *The Washington Post*. She currently lives in New York City <https://www.sallywenmao.com/>



Photo credit: Jelani Ameer

Praise for NINETAILS:

“Sally Wen Mao's work, both in prose and poetry, is a deep exploration of power and the fabulations our cultures have cast to weaponize power against the underclass, the forgotten, the lost, and the beautifully strange. What I love most about NINETAILS is its fierce allegiance to underdogs of all kinds, its careful and myriad empathy for its characters, but also its pure and artisanal delight in language and fictive possibilities. It marks, to my mind, the beginning of a poet's long and potent exploration in literature's most capacious genre. And it's a welcomed sight to see.” —**Ocean Vuong**, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *On Earth, We're Briefly Gorgeous* and *Time is a Mother*

“A sumptuous and lively collection, leaping from story to story in much the same way a fox does — surprisingly, gracefully, and with impressive aim. I loved this book.”—**Kelly Link**, author of *The Book of Love*

Ninetails is a spirited modern fairy tale that takes cues from history, mythology, headline news, dating apps, and Mao's gift for sly observation. This is an exploration of the animal magic within the feminine, written with ardor and ambition.”—**C. Pam Zhang**, author of *How Much of These Hills is Gold*

“Fiercely imaginative and nourished by a wild subterranean river of magic, folklore, and futuristic myth, Sally Wen Mao's *Ninetails* is a beguiling book and one that challenges the reader to conjure strange new modes of subverting oppression. Long a luminary of the poetry world, Sally Wen Mao proves here that she is an unstoppable, incandescent force in prose as well.”—**Alexandra Kleeman**, author of *Something New Under the Sun*

“With this first collection of deft and poignant stories, Sally Wen Mao continues to prove herself as one of the most fascinating and versatile writers of her generation.”—**Dave Eggers**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Eyes & The Impossible* and *The Every*

“[A] well-constructed debut collection... these smart, fabulist pieces confirm Mao's reputation as a voice to be reckoned with.”—**Publishers Weekly**

“With *Ninetails*, Mao weaves a beguiling and epic paean to the power of the feminine. Lyrical and virtuosic, with a sly sense of humor, this collection features a colorful and unforgettable cast of characters, from love dolls to dancers to translators to witches. A bewitching fiction debut as magical and shape-shifting as the fox spirit herself.”—**Gina Chung**, author of *Sea Change* and *Green Frog*

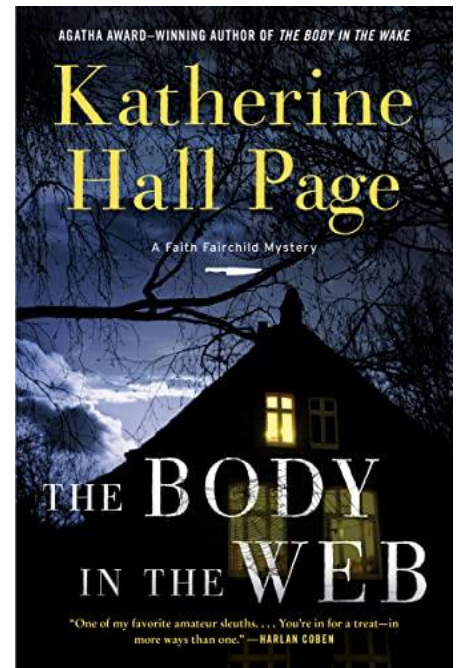
“I've loved reading Sally Wen Mao's work for years and am beyond thrilled that she's putting a collection of short stories out in the world. These stories will explore myth and folklore from Chinese culture — shapeshifting foxes, ghosts, mysterious goddesses—as well as immigration, sexuality, Asian American identity, and more with linguistic skill and spectacular imagination. Knowing *Ninetails* was a two book deal and there's a novel to follow only makes this release even sweeter.” — **Christina Orlando**, *Tor.com*

Katherine Hall Page
THE BODY IN THE WEB:
A Faith Fairchild Mystery

William Morrow, May 2023, ppk May 2024 | World English
272 pages, final text available
Agent: Faith Hamlin

**Mystery Writers of America 2024
Edgar Allan Poe Award winner:
Grand Master**

In this 26th book in the award-winning Faith Fairchild Mysteries series, Katherine Hall Page's beloved amateur detective is hunkered down with her family during the pandemic when a Zoom-bombing scandal sends the community into a tailspin ... and a dead body is discovered.



“The best book I have read so far about life under Covid.” – Barbara Peters, the Poisoned Pen Bookstore

"The 26th Faith Fairchild mystery (after *The Body in the Wake*) is fresh and remarkable in its ability to bring back memories of the day-to-day aspects of living through COVID. The reader and the victim are both trapped in a web in this skillful combination of mystery and pandemic story." — ★ *Library Journal*

“All the hallmarks that signify a Katherine Hall Page Faith Fairchild Mystery are here, but it is really the depiction of everyday life during our recent pandemic that will resonate the longest with readers.” — Bolo Books

Faith Fairchild joins the rest of the world in lockdown mode when reality flips in March 2020. As the pandemic spreads, Faith and her family readjust to life together in Aleford, Massachusetts. Her husband, Tom, continues his sermons from Zoom; their children, Ben, who's in college, and Amy, a high school senior, are doing remote learning at home.

Faith is happy to have her family under the same roof and grateful for her resilient community, friends, and neighbors in Aleford. Town halls remain lively and well-attended, despite residents joining from their living rooms. It is at one of these town halls that scandal breaks out. In the midst of a Zoom meeting, damaging images suddenly flash upon everyone's screens. Claudia, local art teacher and Faith's dear friend, is immediately recognized as the woman who has been targeted.

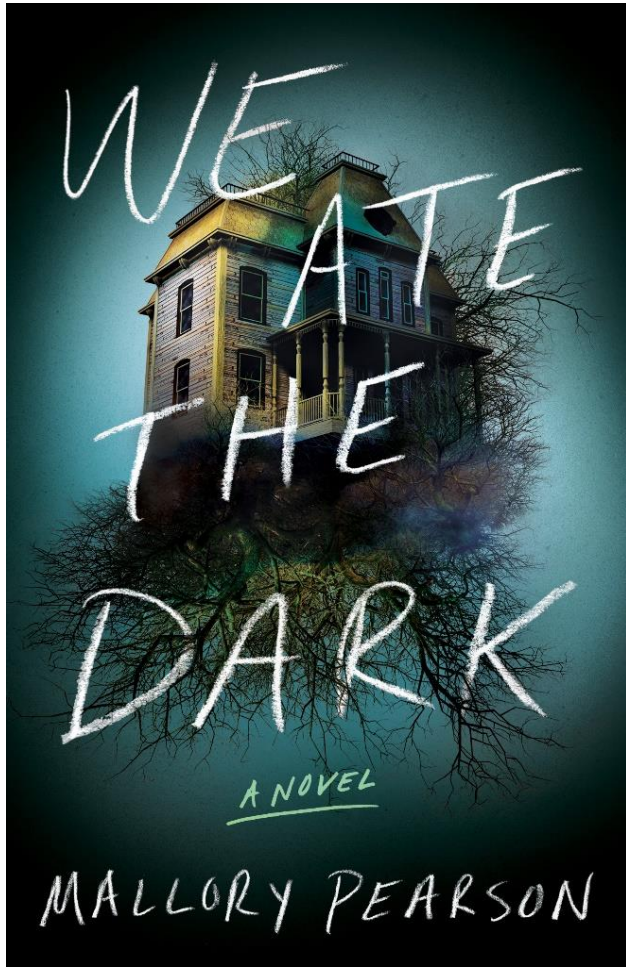
When Claudia is later discovered dead, Faith, with the help of her friends, journeys deep into the dark web to unravel the threads of Claudia's mysterious history and shocking passing.



Katherine Hall Page is the recipient of the 2024 Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allan Poe Grand Master Award, joining the ranks of previous winners including, among others, Jeffrey Deaver, Michael Connelly, James Ellroy, Ken Follett and Mary Higgins Clark. She was also awarded the 2015 Malice Award for Lifetime Achievement, bestowed by the Malice Board of Directors in recognition of a significant body of distinguished work. Previous recipients include Tony Hillerman, Sara Paretsky, Sue Grafton, Dick Francis, Mary Stewart, Mary Higgins Clark, and others. Page has received the Agatha Award three times for her Faith Fairchild mystery series, the first—and only—writer ever to receive this honor. She has been nominated for the Edgar, the Mary Higgins Clark, and the Macavity awards, and

her titles have previously sold in 5 territories. <https://www.katherine-hall-page.org/>





Mallory Pearson

WE ATE THE DARK

47North | February 1, 2024 | World English

443 pages, final text available

Agent: Bailey Tamayo

Four women investigating the haunting murder of their friend discover more than they ever imagined in a terrifying novel about good and evil, love and death, and the spaces between.

"WE ATE THE DARK is a gripping tale of friendship and grief and the real and imagined ghosts from the past that come to haunt us. Deliciously queer and wildly Southern, this book had me turning pages fast, lost in its poetic language, immersed in the lush landscape, holding my breath in anticipation.

Mallory Pearson has written a stunning debut filled with sentences that continued to surprise me with their beauty and generosity until the very last page." -- **Genevieve Hudson**, author of *Boys of Alabama* and *Pretend We Live Here*

"Pearson's first novel, which explores magic, loss, family, and friendships, will captivate readers from the start. Her luscious writing brings the characters' feelings to the page, all set in a world rife with sorcery. ... With stunning prose, Pearson draws readers into the lives of her characters and weaves a horror-esque fantasy tale." – *Library Journal*

Five years after Sofia Lyon disappeared, her remains are found stuffed into the hollow of a tree bursting through the floorboards of an abandoned house in the woods. The women who loved her flock home to the North Carolina hills to face their grief.

Frankie, Sofia's twin, is in furious mourning. Poppy is heartbroken. Cass has never felt more homesick. And Marya knows something the rest of them don't. Determined to find Sofia's murderer, they share more than a need to see justice done for their friend. Each woman is haunted, bound to the next by something both cruel and kind, and now stalked by a shadowy presence they've yet to understand. Only to question, and to fear.

As Sofia's secrets unravel, so do those of the woods, and the women soon realize that Sofia might not be who they thought she was at all. And that whoever—or whatever—killed her is coming after them.



This is the first of a two-book deal with 47North, the second to be a horror/dark academia standalone novel to be delivered in early 2024.

Mallory Pearson is a writer and artist portraying themes of folklore, queer identity, loss, and the interaction of these elements with the southern United States. She studied painting and bookbinding, and she now spends her time translating visual art into prose. She is an avid fan of horror movies and elaborate stews cooked in big witchy pots. Her work has appeared in *Electric Literature*, *Capsule Stories*, and *Haverthorn Press*, among others. Mallory lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her dearest friends. For more information, visit <https://mallorypearson.com/>

Nicolette Polek
BITTER WATER OPERA

Graywolf Press | April 16, 2024 | NA
128 pages, final text available

An electrifying debut novel about art, solitude, family, and faith in a world without it.

In 1967, the dancer Marta Becket and her husband were traveling through Death Valley Junction when they came across an abandoned theater. Marta decided it was hers. She painted her ideal audience on its walls and danced her own dances until her death five decades later.

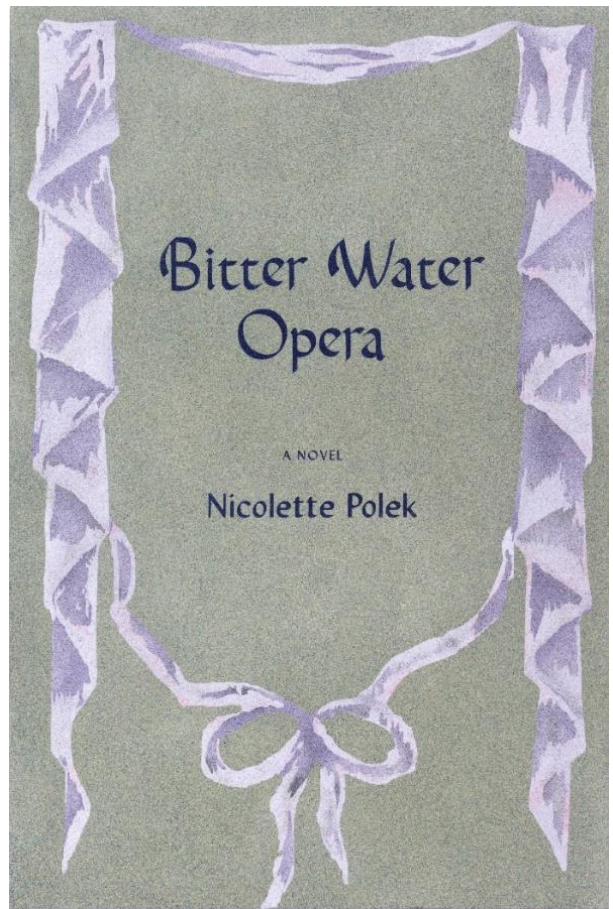
In the present day, Gia has ended a relationship and taken a leave from her job in film studies at a university. She is sleeping fifteen hours a night and ignoring calls from her mother. In a library archive, she comes across a photo of Marta Becket and decides to write her a letter. Soon Marta magically appears in her home.

Gia hopes Marta Becket will guide her out of her despair. But is Marta—the example of her single-minded, solitary life—enough? Through precise, vivid vignettes, *Bitter Water Opera* follows Gia as she resists the urge to escape into herself and struggles to form a lasting connection to the world. Her search has her reckoning with a set of terrifying charcoal drawings on her garage walls, a corpse in the middle of a pond, a crooked pear sapling, and other mysterious entities before bringing her to Marta’s theater, the Amargosa Opera House. There in the desert, Gia finds one answer.

In this brief, astonishing novel, Nicolette Polek describes an individual awakening to faith while exploring our deepest existential questions. How do we look beyond ourselves? Where do words go? What is art for?



Nicolette Polek is the author of *Imaginary Museums* (Soft Skull Press, 2020) and recipient of a 2019 Rona Jaffe Writers' Award. Her writing has appeared in *Paris Review*, *BOMB*, *Spike Art Magazine*, *Muumuu House*, and elsewhere. She grew up in Northeast Ohio and currently lives in New Haven, Connecticut. @NicolettePolek



Praise for BITTER WATER OPERA:

“Breathtaking sensitivity. . . . A delightfully peculiar meditation on imagination—as maladaptive crutch, creative tool, and steppingstone to peace.”—**Kirkus Reviews**

“Enchanting. . . . Polek writes with an enjoyably strange sparseness. . . . Readers will be eager to see where [she] goes next.”—**Publishers Weekly**

“An enthralling, almost spiritual account, *Bitter Water Opera* speaks to the desire for self-creation through destruction. Nicolette Polek invites us to crack open a window that exits to the impossible . . . [and] to grapple with the fleetingness and eternity of existence.”—**Rosemary Ho, *Columbia Journal of Literary Criticism***

“Read *Bitter Water Opera* for the beautiful theologically brilliant prose and also for Gia, its heroine, whose wonder and longing pull a mentor-spirit out of the netherworld.”—**Darcey Steinke**

“Exuberant and improbable, *Bitter Water Opera* is a wonder work of noticing. At times a field guide, a compass, a low-key pilgrimage. Built with each precise line, a chimera of meaning comes into startling focus by its end. The effect of the haunted observer at the center of this limerent, faith-shaped novel is measureless. I wanted to travel with her indefinitely.”
— **Marie -Helene Bertino, author of *Parakeet***

“Mesmerizing. *Bitter Water Opera* is a book dense and delicious with God-made language and violent emotion. This is an original for the 21st century.” —**Fanny Howe, poet and novelist**

“Nicolette Polek’s *Bitter Water Opera* is a real garden of a book, full of mysteries and mustard seeds. She shows us a door and asks us to open it, to see what others cannot see. I was astonished.” — **Scott McClanahan, author of *The Sarah Book***

“A lush and dreamy, ‘storybook-like’ novel, reminiscent of Leonora Carrington and Sylvia Townsend Warner, *Bitter Water Opera* asks if we can change our lives—or make choices at all—if we can dwell in possibility ‘as if permanently,’ if we can allow enchantment into ‘the realm of the real.’ This is a work of subtle, spiritual intelligence.” — **Elisa Gabbert, poet and essayist**

Reena Shah

EVERY HAPPINESS

Bloomsbury | 2026 | NA

Manuscript due Summer 2024

Agent: Iwalani Kim

Rights sold: India/English & Hindi
(PRH India)

**Sold at auction in a
6-figure deal**

From a 2022-2023 Steinbeck Fellow, a Fiction Fellow at the Michener MFA program, and a Senior Fiction Editor at The Rumpus, comes Reena Shah's piercing family saga and debut novel, EVERY HAPPINESS.

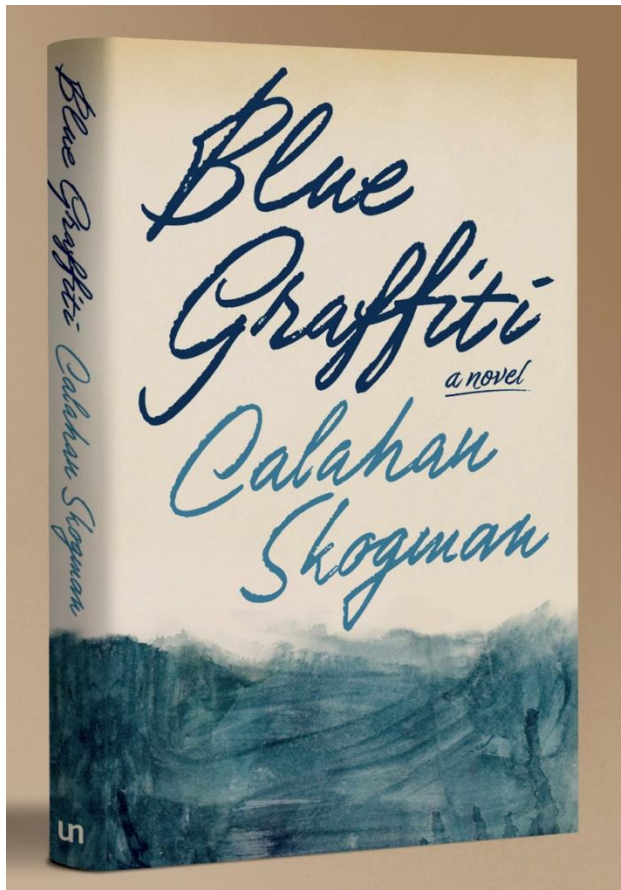


EVERY HAPPINESS is the story of Ruchi and Deepa, childhood friends who immigrate with their families from Mumbai to the sunny, anesthetized suburbs of Connecticut in the 1970s. Though they arrive with Bollywood-inspired fantasies about love and family, their relationships soon struggle under the weight of the model minority myth and hierarchies along caste, class, religion, and gender within the South Asian communities they encounter. As they fight to assert themselves, a forbidden intimacy binds Ruchi and Deepa, but it also produces a rivalry as the years pass and they keep constant score of each other's marriages, careers, and children.

Ruchi hunts for dignity in a clerical job at an OB/GYN office, trying to forget that she once aspired to be a doctor. Though she loves her son Moksh fiercely, Ruchi often fails to assert her love when it matters most, hiding his differences as a false form of protection. Moksh meanwhile retreats perilously deep into himself through disordered eating. Deepa and her family accrue wealth and status, but at a moral cost. After she catches her daughter Anu making out with a girl, Deepa refuses to accept it, even as she recognizes a similar desire in herself. When a scandal shakes their community and lays bare the fault lines in their families, Ruchi and Deepa must reckon with the secrets they've kept to preserve appearances. Years later, Anu and Moksh must in turn contend with the shame they've inherited from their mothers and the intimacy they still long for in adulthood.

Told in multiple points-of-view, the novel weaves between Mumbai in the 1960s and Connecticut in the '70s through '90s, culminating in the 2010s. In the vein of Avni Doshi's BURNT SUGAR and Elena Ferrante's THE LOST DAUGHTER, EVERY HAPPINESS delves into the culture of repression and silence that pervades so many South Asian immigrant households, and the ripple effect this has on the children who grow up in them. In Kimberly King Parsons' words, it is "moving and unforgettable, containing what I love most about fiction: a lush, unique, urgent voice steeped in cultural relevance, biting humor, and sentences that swerve and surprise."

Reena Shah is a writer, editor, and teacher. She has received fellowships and residencies from the Millay Arts, Tin House, the Sustainable Arts Foundation, Cuttyhunk Island Residency, and the Fulbright Foundation. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Master's Review*, *Electric Literature*, *Midnight Breakfast*, *Waxwing Magazine*, *Joyland*, *BBC*, *The American Prospect*, *National Geographic*, *The Guardian*, *Third Coast*, and *Writer's Digest*, among others. For many years she was a kathak dancer and public school teacher in New York and India. <https://www.reenadshah.com/about>



Calahan Skogman **BLUE GRAFFITI**

Unnamed Press, August 13, 2024 | World English
Delivery anticipated Spring 2024
Agent: Matt Bialer

From the lead actor in Netflix's *Shadow and Bone* comes a love letter to middle-of-nowhere America.

Imbued with an essential American freedom and longing, Calahan Skogman's novel *Blue Graffiti* is a poetic, raw first person narrative written in a style which pays homage to the late Jack Kerouac and other beat generation icons. Through the voice of its wild and blues-ridden romantic protagonist, Cash, the novel is a love letter to Johnston, Wisconsin, a humble hometown in the middle of nowhere Midwestern America.

A painter and construction worker, living in his parent's long ago abandoned home, Cash weaves in and out of time, place and memory with his closest friends as they find themselves vital threads in the fabric of those forgotten. When an emerald eyed heroine named Rose shows up one random

summer evening in their favorite town bar, winds start to change. What follows is an intimate reflection on the love, faith, and tragedy that courses through the blood of America's backbone.

Hear him announce the project in his own words:



Calahan Skogman is a writer and actor born and raised in the Midwest, USA.

Growing up in small town Seymour, Wisconsin, he became familiar with an intimate and unique slice of middle of nowhere America. It was there that he became a multiple sport all-state athlete and went on to compete in both NCAA football and basketball while cultivating his love for writing and observation and art. Upon completing his undergraduate degree, he pursued his passion for acting and received his MFA from the University of Southern California. At USC, he furthered his commitment to writing and completed a handful of full length screenplays. A few months after receiving his degree, he booked a role on the popular new Netflix fantasy show *Shadow and Bone*. That same year he wrote his debut novel *Blue Graffiti*.

<https://www.instagram.com/calahan.skogman/?hl=en>
<https://www.tiktok.com/@calahan.skogman?lang=en>



Douglas Day Stewart

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN'S DAUGHTER

Blackstone, June 25, 2024 | World English

Manuscript available

Agent: Matt Bialer

The official sequel to the 1982 hit film, *An Officer and a Gentleman's Daughter* is a brilliant story of struggle and redemption written by Academy Award-nominated screenwriter, Douglas Day Stewart.

“Douglas Day Stewart is a bold and fearless writer. Can't wait to see the movie.” – Richard Gere

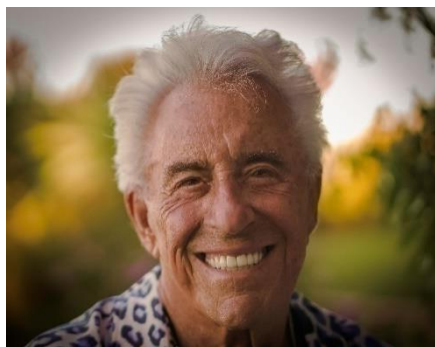
Thirty-five years after the events of *An Officer and a Gentleman*, Zack Mayo finds himself facing a very different kind of struggle. His beloved wife died tragically over a decade ago, his daughter--severely impacted by the death of her mother--disappeared after turning to drugs, and now he is being forced into retirement after a heroic career.

Convinced his daughter had died two years ago in a fire, Mayo is shocked when she shows up as a student in the last class he will teach before retirement. Shannon Mayo must accomplish the impossible if she is to pass her father's class and prove to herself that she has fully conquered her demons. Jet school is an unforgiving gauntlet for student and teacher alike, and their own personal journey is fraught with guilt, grief, and secrets that must be faced by both father and daughter before it's too late.

It's up to an old mentor to help them navigate their way forward, allowing a daughter to forgive herself for the past and regain her love of life, and a father to prove to himself that he truly is an officer and a gentleman.

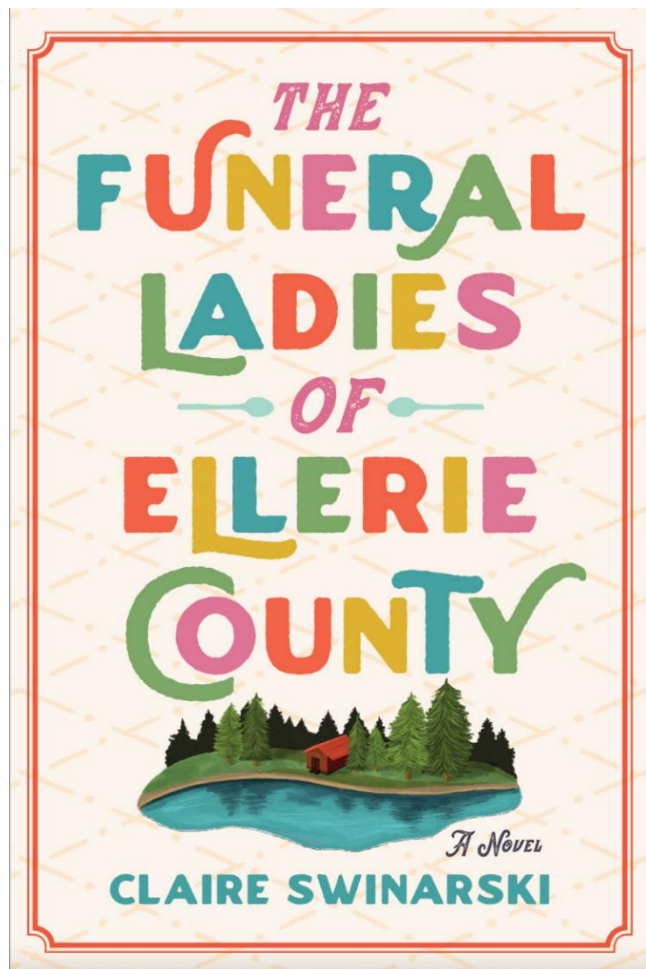
Stewart wrote the iconic film based largely on his own experiences as a Naval Officer during the Vietnam era. From its release in 1982, the film (starring Richard Gere, Louis Gossett Jr., and Debra Winger) has been an inspiration to generations. The film's Cinderella ending has inspired millions of men around the world to propose to women by first lifting them up in their arms like Zack did with Paula when he carried her out of that factory.

Over the past four decades, the story has been frequently parodied in popular television shows and has become part of the global zeitgeist. Considered a cinema classic, the film has been heralded as one of the ten best and ten most profitable love stories in film history. The world responded to an uplifting love story in 1982 and it is even more hungry for such a story now.



Douglas Day Stewart has written some of the most successful films and television movies in Hollywood history. His *Blue Lagoon* taught a generation about sex. His *The Boy in the Plastic Bubble* launched John Travolta as a star and was in its day the most-watched television film in history. *An Officer and a Gentleman*, which Stewart based on his own experiences as a naval officer, secured him an academy award nomination and became one of the ten highest grossing love stories of all time. Stewart is the happily married father of three. *An Officer and a Gentleman's Daughter* is his first novel.





Claire Swinarski
**THE FUNERAL LADIES OF
ELLERIE COUNTY**

William Morrow/Avon, tpb | March 12, 2024 | NA
272 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater

A debut adult novel from the acclaimed author of *WHAT HAPPENED TO RACHEL RILEY?*, a 2024 Edgar Award nominee

Armed with a Crock-Pot and a pile of recipes, a grandmother, her granddaughter, and a mysterious young man work to bring a community together in this uplifting novel for readers of *The Chicken Sisters*.

Esther Larson has been cooking for funerals in the Northwoods of Wisconsin for seventy years. Known locally as the “funeral ladies,” she and her cohort have worked hard to keep the mourners of Ellerie County fed—it is her firm belief that there is very little a warm casserole and a piece of cherry pie can’t fix. But, after falling for an internet scam that puts her home at risk, the proud Larson family matriarch is the one in need of help these days.

Iris, Esther’s whip-smart Gen Z granddaughter, would do anything for her family and her community. As she watches her friends and family move out of their lakeside town onto bigger and better things, Iris wonders why she feels so left behind in the place she is desperate to make her home. But when Cooper Welsh shows up, she finally starts to feel like she’s found the missing piece of her puzzle.

Cooper is dealing with becoming a legal guardian to his younger half-sister after his beloved stepmother dies. While their celebrity-chef father is focused on his booming career and top-ranked television show, Cooper is still hurting from a public tragedy he witnessed last year as a paramedic and finding it hard to cope. With Iris in the gorgeous Ellerie County, though, he hopes he might finally find the home he’s been looking for.



It doesn’t seem like a community cookbook could possibly solve their problems, especially one where casseroles have their own section and cream of chicken soup mix is the most frequently used ingredient. But when you mix the can-do spirit of Midwestern grandmothers with the stubborn hope of a boy raised by food plus a dash of long-awaited forgiveness—things might just turn out okay.

Claire Swinarski is the author of three middle-grade books and, now, one adult novel. Her writing has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *Seventeen*, *Milwaukee Magazine*, and many other publications. She lives in small town Wisconsin with her husband and three kids, where she writes books, wears babies, and wrangles bread dough. <http://www.claireswinarski.com/>

Brad Thor

SHADOW OF DOUBT

Emily Bestler Books / Atria, July 23, 2024 | World English

320 pages, final text available late Spring

Agent: Heide Lange

America's top spy Scot Harvath returns in #1 *New York Times* and #1 *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Brad Thor's new pulse-pounding thriller.

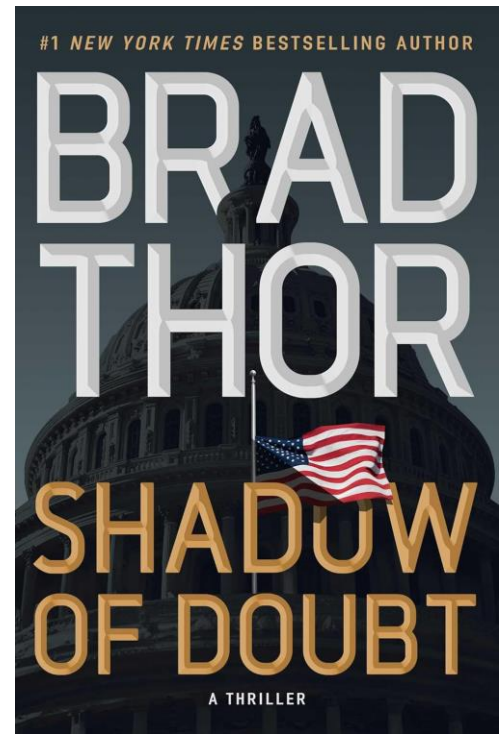
A shadowy Russian defector.

A beautiful Norwegian intelligence officer.

A deadly American spy.

An ingenious plot to collapse the United States has been uncovered. But can the highly suspect intelligence be trusted?

In the fog of war, when friends can appear as enemies and enemies as friends, only one thing is certain—when in doubt, there *is* no doubt.



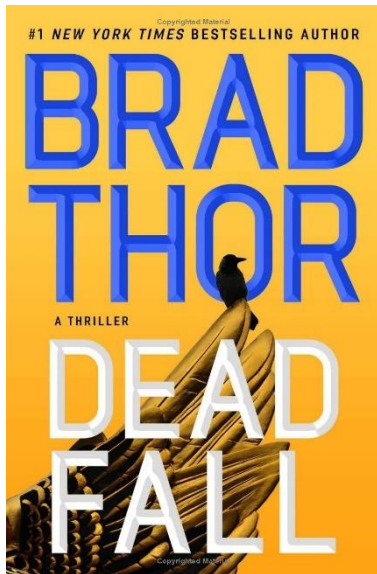
DEAD FALL

Emily Bestler Books / Atria,

hc July 11, 2023, ppk May 15, 2024 | World English

320 pages, final text available

Rights sold: Poland, Sonia Draga



"Thor brings the fireworks like never before." — *The Real Book Spy*

"[Brad Thor] changes the game in DEAD FALL and ratchets the action and suspense to a new level." — *Wharton Journal-Spectator*

"This book has it all - spies, tradecraft, espionage, and geopolitics." -- **Fred Burton**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Ghost*

"DEAD FALL drips with danger, depravity, and daring deeds." — *Best Thriller Books*

"No one in the business does political thrillers quite like Thor...DEAD FALL is an important, intensely brutal and exciting read that is not to be missed." — *Book Reporter*

"Mr. Thor has established himself as a master of this genre. He thoroughly researches the subjects of his books, making them educational and entertaining. DEAD FALL will keep readers turning the pages." — *Epoch Times*



Brad Thor is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of twenty-three international thrillers and has served as a member of the Department of Homeland Security's Analytic Red Cell program. Please visit www.BradThor.com



Photo: © Beth Girone

T. Marie Vandelly AN EVIL PREMISE

Blackstone, Summer 2025 | NA
Manuscript anticipated June 2024
Agent: Zoe Sandler

With a setup that recalls Colleen Hoover’s VERITY – but for fans of horror and authors like Grady Hendrix and Riley Sager – AN EVIL PREMISE takes the tropes readers expect from the genre, and upends them masterfully, to brutal yet obscenely comical effect.

From the brilliantly talented author of *THEME MUSIC* (Dutton, 2019), *AN EVIL PREMISE* is female-driven psychological horror at its best, equal parts gruesome and clever, with a wink-wink meta quality that borders on absurd and will both surprise and thrill readers start to finish.

When a bizarre hit and run accident leaves her sister, bestselling author Deidre Baldwin, in a coma, Jewel Maxwell rushes to Deidre’s bedside – and stumbles into the middle of a horror story, the one that Deidre was rushing to finish for her publisher before disaster struck. Deidre’s literary agent calls in a panic, and Jewel – a self-published author who would love to impress this agent – suggests she can finish the novel.

The premise of the novel gives Jewel pause, however. A struggling author who becomes haunted by a demonic muse hits a little close to home, for one. And might this macabre manuscript have something to do with the mysterious skin condition plaguing her sister? Deidre did look somewhat possessed lying in her hospital bed. As if the story itself had gotten under her skin.

Nevertheless, Jewel sets her fear aside and works night and day to meet the deadline. But as sections of the novel begin to mirror real-life, the word count in the document inexplicably increases and the people around her begin to seem more like characters. Expendable subplots that can be easily written off. Terrified of where the story is going, Jewel decides to abandon the project, once and for all. But she is no longer in control of the narrative. The story has taken on a life of its own, and it isn’t done with her yet. The muse has one more twist up its sleeve.

Her sister is awake.

Praise for *THEME MUSIC*:

“This is the scariest book since *The Haunting of Hill House*. . . . The most gripping and suspenseful debut novel of the year . . . *Theme Music* is more than compelling; it is mesmerizing.”—*New York Journal of Books*

“[A] chilling, enthralling debut . . . Driven by a believable plot and populated with realistic characters, this delicious mix of horror, ghost story, and mystery marks Vandelly as a writer to watch.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“What a riveting and disturbing read this is! Charting the return of Dixie Wheeler to the childhood home where her parents and brothers were killed in front of her, *Theme Music* is a fierce and intense slice of psychological horror that will leave you vowing, ‘Never Go Back. Never.’”—**Louise Candlish, bestselling author of *Our House* and *Those People***

T. Marie Vandelly has wanted to write her entire life but (after a career change) has only recently been granted the freedom to pursue her dream full-time. She lives on Gwynn’s Island, in the Chesapeake Bay, with her husband and their two dogs. *AN EVIL PREMISE* is her second novel.

Alice Evelyn Yang

A BEAST SLINKS TOWARDS BEIJING

William Morrow, Fall 2025 | North America

Manuscript anticipated November 2024

Agent: Iwalani Kim

Sold in a 6-figure preempt

This dazzling, magical realist historical follows three generations of a northern Chinese family, beginning in present-day NYC with an estranged father's sudden reappearance in his daughter's life.



Photograph by Tiana Michele, 2022

Qianze, a Chinese American woman from the South, has not heard from Ba since he walked out on her and her mother eleven years ago. The man who shows up on her doorstep is deeply changed, struggling with dementia and alcoholism, but he has found his way back to her to deliver a warning prophecy—only he's forgotten it. As Qianze resentfully takes Ba in, attempting to unspool the mystery of his decade-long absence, Ba tumbles into harrowing childhood memories of his time in the Red Guard during the Cultural Revolution, when he was a young boy named Weihong.

The story zooms backward in time to Ba's childhood and that of his mother, Qianze's grandmother. Ming, who grew up in rural Manchuria during the Second Sino-Japanese War and Japanese occupation, is kidnapped and made to be a comfort woman for the Japanese Kwantung Army. There, she encounters an inhuman creature who irrevocably alters Ming's family's fate, with reverberations that Qianze and Ba can confront only by reconciling with each other.

A BEAST SLINKS TOWARDS BEIJING derives its title from William B. Yeats' poem, "The Second Coming," a reference to the Anti-Christ. But in this story, there is no Anti-Christ; humanity, destiny, morality, and horror refract into a spectrum, and no one is innocent of history's atrocities. Yang's spell-binding novel explores intergenerational trauma and the legacy of colonialism, with an unforgettable father-daughter relationship at its heart. Told in an interwoven narrative, the book combines the generational scope of Rachel Khong's forthcoming *Real Americans* and the family dynamics of Charles Yu's *How to Live Safely in a Science Fictional Universe*, with a dash of K-Ming Chang's fabulism.

Alice Evelyn Yang is a Chinese American writer from Norfolk, Virginia. Her work has been published in *MQR*, AAWW's *The Margins*, and *The Rumpus*, among others. Her work has been sponsored by Tin House Workshops, and she is the recipient of the 2022-23 Jesmyn Ward Prize from *MQR*. She completed her MFA in Fiction in 2022 at Columbia University, where she was awarded the Felipe De Alba Fellowship and nominated for the Henfield Prize. She currently works as a Speakers Representative at the Blue Flower Arts speaker agency. <https://www.aliceevelynyang.com/>



**SCIENCE FICTION
& FANTASY**



J.S. Breukelaar

REMEDY

PS Publishing. August 2024 | World English

Unedited manuscript available

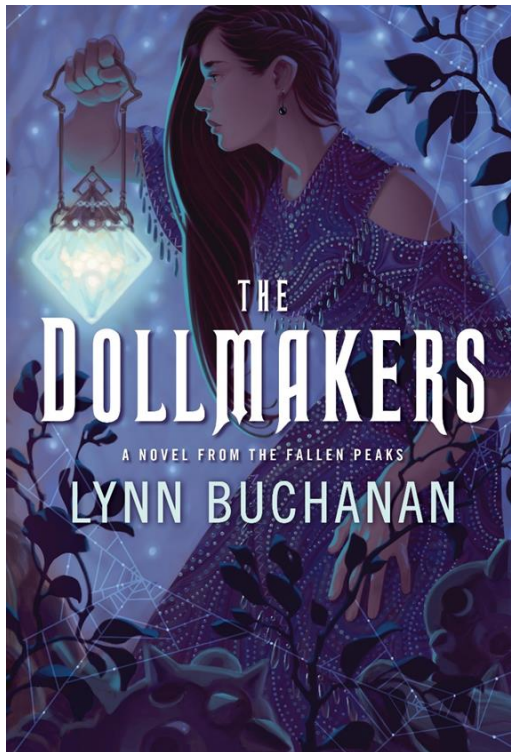
Agent: Matt Bialer



A literary horror novella about grief, monsters, and alternate lives

After a monstrous claw comes out of the sky and wrenches a woman away from her child, she finds herself far from home in a mirror world. Traumatized and visibly scarred, dismissed as hysterical, irrational even—she finds others like her in a support group, taken from their world and those they love with no explanation, living false lives of those wounded in terrible accidents that they can't remember. Is there no hope of return? No remedy? When an apparent saviour appears, claiming to know the way back, some jump at the chance. But what if the cure is worse than the disease?

J.S. Breukelaar is an American-Australian author living in Sydney. Her collection, *Collision* was a finalist in the Shirley Jackson Award as well as winning both the Aurealis and Ditmar Awards, and longlisted for both the Locus and Stoker awards. Her novels and stories have won, been nominated, or commended in international awards including Stoker, Locus, Shirley Jackson, Story South, Australian Shadows, Ditmar, Varuna Award, Wonderland Award and James R Tiptree Jnr. Award. Breukelaar's stories, essays, and poems have appeared in numerous publications including *Apex Magazine*, *The Dark*, *Black Static*, *Fantasy*, the Shirley Jackson nominated anthology *Tiny Nightmares* (Catapult), the award-winning *Flame Tree* anthology series edited by Mark Morris, and elsewhere including several Years Bests. She has a PhD in Creative Writing and Film Studies and teaches writing and literature in Sydney and elsewhere. A graduate of the Tin House Summer Writers Workshop (2013) she is also one of the authors selected for Bloomsbury Press's *Women in Speculative Fiction* (2024). <https://www.thelivingsuitcase.com/>



Lynn Buchanan

THE DOLLMAKERS:

A Novel from the Fallen Peaks

HarperCollins/Voyager, August 13, 2024 | World English

Manuscript available

Agent: Matt Bialer

Rights sold: Italy: Ne/oN

"An engaging new voice with excellent worldbuilding. I enjoyed *The Dollmakers*, and can't wait to see what is next!" --**Brandon Sanderson**

In this dark and enchanting stand-alone fantasy from debut author Lynn Buchanan--complete with black and white illustrations and a full-wrap illustrated cover--discover a world centered around destructive, all-consuming monsters; the magical dolls designed to fight this force; and the artisans tasked with creating demon-slaying dolls. A touch cozy fantasy and a touch horror, *The Dollmakers* is perfect for fans of Studio Ghibli films, the works of TJ Klune and Travis Baldree, and readers of *Juniper & Thorn* and *The Goblin Emperor*.

In the country called One, dollmakers are vital members of the community. An artisan's doll is the height of society's accomplishments, while a guard's doll is the only thing standing between the people of One and the Shod: vicious, cobbled monstrosities that will tear apart any structure—living or dead, inanimate or otherwise—to add to their horde.

Apprentice Shean of Pearl is a brilliant dollmaker. With her clever dolls, she intends to outsmart and destroy the Shod, once and for all—a destiny she's worked her whole life toward accomplishing. But when the time comes for her dolls to be licensed, she's told her work is too beautiful and delicate to fight. A statement that wounds and infuriates her; the Shod killed everyone she loved. How could her fate be anything *but* fighting them?

In an attempt to help her see a new path for herself, Shean's mentor sends her on a journey to the remote village called Web, urging her to glean some wisdom from Ikiisa, a reclusive and well-respected guard dollmaker. But Shean has another plan: if she can convince the village of Web of her talents, the Licensor Guild will *have* to reconsider and grant her a guard's license. And what better way to convince them than challenging Ikiisa and instating herself as the official dollmaker of Web? Once she's done that, proving her dolls' worth in the fight against the Shod will be simple.

As simple, that is, as calling the Shod to Web.

THE DOLLMAKERS is part of a planned series of standalones all set in the same fantasy world, featuring varying casts of unique, colorful characters knit together by a single recurring character whose overarching story concludes in the final two books of the series. The structure of the series is similar to the Penric and Desdemona books by Lois McMaster Bujold, the Discworld books by Terry Pratchett, or the various Cosmere books/series of Brandon Sanderson--self-contained adventures with wider-world-implicating drama in the background that, by the end of the series, will culminate in a large-scale conflict. Five of these standalones have already been written.



Lynn Buchanan is a fantasy writer based in the foothills of some impressive, chilly mountains in Utah. She's a 2019 graduate of the Odyssey Writing Workshop and holds an MFA in creative writing from BYU, where she was a student of Brandon Sanderson; currently, she works for Sanderson's art director at Dragonsteel Entertainment, while also helping Sanderson with his creative writing course. When she isn't writing about moody painters, demonic dolls, and mummified arms used as dancing props, she enjoys playing the oboe, drawing, and watching Ghibli movies. She can be found at her website lynnbwrites.com, and on Twitter @LynnBwrites.

C. J. Cherryh
ALLIANCE UNBOUND
(The Hinder Stars, book 2)

DAW, October 15, 2024

352 pages, manuscript anticipated late 2023

Agent: Matt Bialer

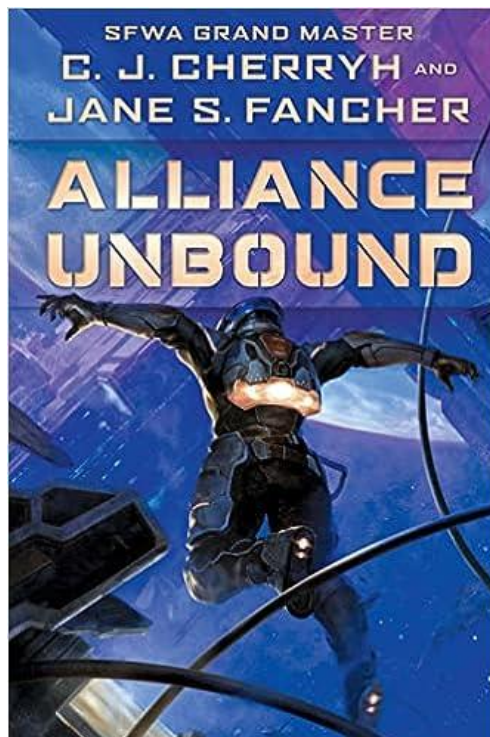
The 2nd novel of The Hinder Stars series returns to an intergalactic corporate conflict, set in the Hugo Award–winning Alliance-Union Universe.

With deft prose and complex characters, *Alliance Unbound* is thought-provoking science fiction that shrewdly examines the technological and sociopolitical challenges of humanity's journey to the stars.

When Cyteen opened up faster-than-light travel, it gave the technology for free to any ship that could reach it; and with that technology, it provided a map of jump-points, points of mass enabling starships to navigate hyperspace safely.

The map of jump-points, however, stopped with the route to Alpha—thus excluding Sol, and Earth, and the Earth Company, whose gateway to the stars was Alpha. Cyteen knew exactly what it was doing with its gift. Sol and the EC could still reach Alpha with sub-light pusher-ships as it always had—but Sol and the Earth Company no longer had any authority in the Beyond.

But Sol intends to take back control of its star-stations and stop Cyteen's unbridled expansion, however it can. To do that, they are willing to starve Alpha and concentrate their efforts on a huge FTLer capable of carrying military force.



Praise for *Alliance Rising*

"SFWA Grand Master C.J Cherryh and Jane Fancher team up to create another exciting entry in Cherryh's extensive Alliance-Union Universe." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Cherryh and Fancher ground this fine work in the difficult choices that their characters must make in the face of an uncertain future. The economics and sociopolitics are as riveting as space battles, enhancing this welcome addition to the Alliance-Union saga." —*Publishers Weekly*

"[*Alliance Rising*] showcases a concern—common to Cherryh's other novels—with organisations and bureaucracies, with systems and societies, and how such wider contexts shape the people (ambitious or content, well-meaning or malicious) who operate within them.... Cherryh and Fancher deploy an anthropological eye." —*Tor.com*



Recognized for “lifetime achievement in science fiction and/or fantasy,” **C. J. Cherryh** joins SFWA’s Grand Master ranks alongside an esteemed group of previous recipients of this high honor, including Robert A. Heinlein, Arthur C. Clarke, Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, and Ursula K. Le Guin. She won the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer in 1977 and three Hugo Awards, including the Best Novel Award for *Cyteen* and *Downbelow Station*. In 1998, Cherryh was the Guest of Honor at the World Science Fiction Convention. She is the author of *The Faded Sun* series, the *Chanur* books, and the long-running beloved space opera *Foreigner* series. Her writing spans the breadth from space opera to historical fantasy. <https://www.cherryh.com/www/menu.htm>

S.D. Coverly
ARCANE MECHANICALS

Del Rey, February 2026 | World English
Manuscript anticipated November 15, 2024
Agent: Dan Mandel and Zoe Sandler

***The Night Circus* meets *Ninth House* meets *Babel*, from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Dana Schwartz and acclaimed sci-fi/fantasy writer Dan Frey: a fantasy-romance novel set at an elite graduate school where magic is something to be studied only very, very carefully.**

Newlyn University is an elite Vermont college where students can pursue degrees in medicine, history, technology—or the Arcane Arts. But the study of magic has become a niche academic interest, largely displaced by technology for daily use, with its most powerful applications banned after a series of magic-fueled atrocities throughout the 20th century.

Ellsbeth Shore, a plucky and ambitious graduate student, is determined to study Arcane Mechanicals—even though she failed her Arcanus exam to qualify—and has set her sights on working under acclaimed professor Thaddeus Rawlins. Once the rising star of his field, now reeling from a string of professional disappointments and a messy divorce. Rawlins is irritated by Ellsbeth’s reckless persistence, but reluctantly agrees to serve as her adviser, and grudgingly finds his own passion rejuvenated by hers.

Against his better judgment, Rawlins decides to let Ellsbeth pursue a thesis on writ magic, the controversial and banned field of the Arcane Arts that involves controlling other people. Both student and teacher profess to be interested in the topic for purely academic purposes, but they harbor equally dark secrets—one intending to use the magic for redemption, the other for revenge.

As Rawlins and Ellsbeth undertake their clandestine research, their relationship evolves beyond the professional. Harmless flirtation crosses the line into uncontrollable desire, which threatens to bloom into something even more troubling: love. But when two people are mastering the ability to control others, will they ever be able to trust each other? As their project spins wildly out of control, they become entangled in a web of lust and power that could destroy them both.

Told in dual perspectives, ARCANE MECHANICALS uses fantasy to explore real questions about modern relationships. Can romance transcend power? Is there anything pure that runs deeper than the dynamics of domination and desire? Or is love just another word for control?

Dana Schwartz is the author of five books, including the #1 *New York Times*-bestselling novels *Anatomy: A Love Story*, and *Immortality: A Love Story*. She’s the creator and host of the acclaimed podcast *Noble Blood* which reaches over 250,000 listeners every week. Dana has also written for *Entertainment Weekly*, *Glamour*, *Cosmopolitan*, *GQ*, and *The Washington Post*, and for Marvel Comics. Her writing has been translated into more than a dozen languages. She’s developed television pilots for CBS, Disney+, and ABC.

Dan Frey is the author of three novels, including the recent contemporary-fantasy *Dreambound*. As a screenwriter, he has worked extensively in both television (*Magic: The Gathering* at Netflix, pilots for Fox and HBO Max) and film (*Descendants: The Rise of Red* at Disney, where he is under a deal), and he is currently adapting his sci-fi novel *The Future Is Yours* at Hulu.

Scott Drakeford

THE FATE OF SILENT GODS

(The Age of Ire Book 2)

Tor, November 19, 2024 | North America

400 pages | manuscript anticipated November 2023

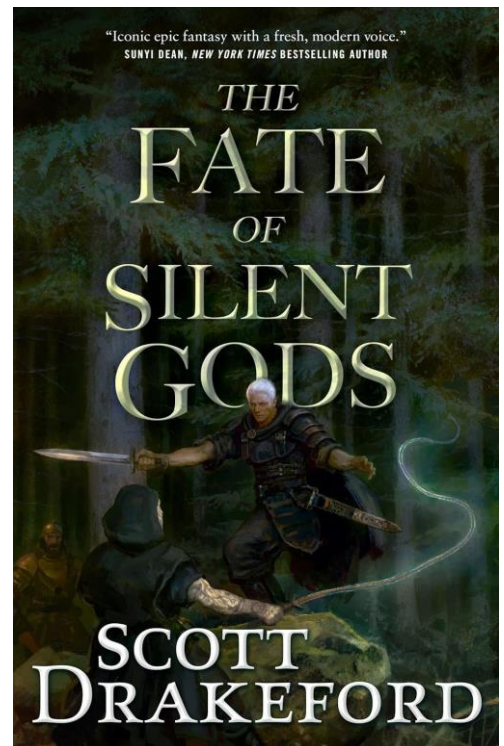
Agent: Matt Bialer

In the second book of the acclaimed Age of Ire trilogy, the War for Iraea begins in earnest as the Fallen God grows bolder in His bid to slaughter everything and everyone Emrael loves.

Following the events of book one, Emrael and his followers now face the full might of the United Provinces, whose Legions and sinister Malithii allies are poised to crush their fledgling rebellion. Blood, friendships, and morals must be sacrificed if they are to survive. Brutal tactics and political maneuvers are the order of the day. Emrael has no other choice. But not all among his ranks agree with his methods.

Ambitions grow, lovers become enemies, and critical alliances shift. All the while, the Fallen God schemes to not only defeat Emrael's armies, but to subdue him personally.

When Emrael's ambitions push him to conquer yet another Lord Holder's lands, the Watchers and Malithii anticipate Emrael's moves to an impossible degree; Ban comes under siege at Trylla while Emrael is away. Once again, Emrael is forced to risk everything to save his brother from the forces of the Fallen God. This time, Emrael must contend with the fact that he's to blame.



THE RISE OF THE MAGES

(The Age of Ire Book 1)

Tor, January 2023 | North America

400 pages | final text available

Agent: Matt Bialer

A young warrior and his improbable band of allies face impossible odds as they seek to rescue his brother from the servants of the Fallen God.

Emrael Ire is a student of war with lofty ambitions, despite being so poor his boots are more hole than leather. He and his talented younger brother Ban work hard to build themselves a better life at the Citadel, a school that specializes in both *infusori* Crafting and military arts.

Their lives are upended when the power-hungry Lord Governor of the neighboring province invades the school with the help of a sinister sect of priests devoted to the newly awakened Fallen God of Glory. Many of the *infusori* Crafter students are captured — including Ban.

Though Emrael stands little chance against the Lord Governor and his armies, he's desperate to save his brother—even if that means accepting the help of allies with uncertain motives, or becoming a practitioner of a forbidden magic. There is nothing he won't sacrifice to save his brother, but what happens when the cost of success is not his to pay?

Praise for RISE OF THE MAGES

“This book commits almost every crime against heroic fantasy that I can imagine ... and I have not been able to put it down.” —Glen Cook, bestselling author of *The Black Company*

“This is old-school and new-school epic fantasy rolled into one... *Rise of the Mages* is a fast-paced adventure that will satisfy any fantasy fan young or old.” —Brian Lee Durfee, author of *The Forgetting Moon*

“[This] superbly crafted and epic fantasy saga is the first volume in his new 'Age of Ire' series and will keep enthusiastic readers eagerly awaiting the next installment.” —*Midwest Book Review*

“Drakeford crafts a complex geopolitical environment, and Emrael is a joy to follow and root for.” —*Booklist*

“Rise of Mages opens a door into a character-driven world of distinctive magic, rousing adventure, and corruption of the first order. Fantasy lovers will experience the full range of curiosity, anger, delight, frustration, joy, and satisfaction.” —Kel Kade, *New York Times* bestselling author

“Rise of the Mages is a proper adventure, bursting with bloody action and exciting twists. Emrael is a fantastic lead, full of strength and loyalty, but also a hot-headed impulsiveness and a compelling inner darkness that I couldn't get enough of.” —Brian Naslund, author of *Blood of an Exile*

“An immersive world epic fantasy fans will be glad to return to.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Drakeford has certainly laid the groundwork for a truly captivating epic fantasy series.” —*Out of This World SFF*

"A piece of SFF that refuses to be pinned to any one subgenre. Is it magical academy? Found family? Band of misfits? Chosen One? Grimdark? Mil-fantasy? The answer is all and none of these. Drakeford will give you the fantasy novel you didn't know you wanted. Highly recommend." - Richard Swan, Bestselling Author of *The Justice of Kings*

"Drakeford expertly weaves princely vengeance, unworthy gods, and innovative magic into an iconic epic fantasy." - Sunyi Dean, Bestselling Author of *The Book Eaters*

Scott Drakeford Scott Drakeford was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. He currently lives in the PNW with his badass tech wizard of a wife, their tenacious children, and two dogs.

Scott is a longtime lover of the written word, especially fantasy fiction. His father convinced him to read *The Belgariad* as a youngster, and the best books soon became Scott's world. *The Wheel of Time*, *Harry Potter*, *The Saga of Recluce*, and many other books influenced Scott deeply.

Later, Scott was tricked into becoming a “responsible adult”, getting a degree in engineering, and living the corporate life. Still, his addiction to books lived on, and more recent favorites like *The Name of the Wind* and *Red Rising* convinced him that writing could be his way of contributing something beautiful and meaningful to the world.

While Scott spends most of his time working and writing, when he has time he enjoys cooking, NBA basketball (go Jazz!), weightlifting, video games, hunting, fishing, and (of course) reading.



Benjamin Liar

THE FAILURES

Book one of The Wanderlands

DAW, July 2, 2024 | NA

544 pages, final manuscript available

Agent: Matt Bialer

DAW lead title

Audio rights sold at auction to Recorded Books

Abridged and dramatic audio rights sold to
GraphicAudio

From a debut voice comes a genre-breaking blend of apocalyptic sci-fi and epic fantasy about a scattered group of unlikely heroes traveling across their broken mechanical planet to stave off eternal darkness. A tightly-coiled puzzle of a thrill ride, *The Failures* launches The Wanderlands trilogy.

Welcome to the Wanderlands,

A vast machine made for reasons unknown, the Wanderlands was broken long ago. First went the sky, splintering and cracking, and then very slowly, the whole machine—the whole world—began to go dark.

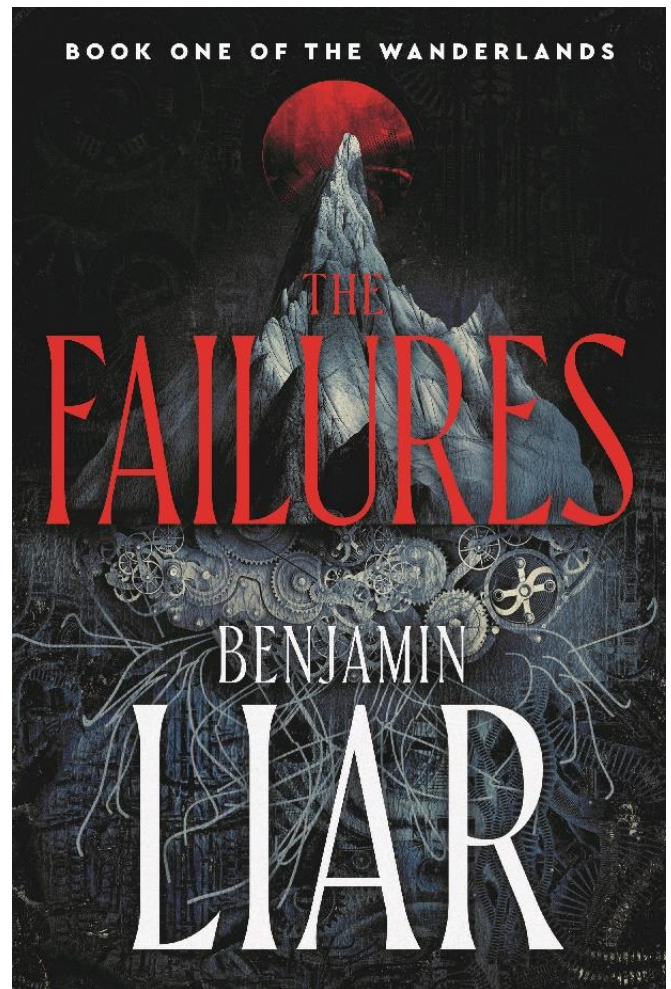
Meet the Failures.

Following the summons of a strange dream, a scattering of adventurers, degenerates, and children find themselves drawn toward the same place: the vast underground Keep. They will discover there that they have been called for a purpose—and that purpose could be the destruction of everything they love.

The end is nigh.

For below the Keep, imprisoned in the greatest cage ever built by magicians and gods, lies the buried Giant. It is the most powerful of its kind, and its purpose is the annihilation of all civilization. But any kind of power, no matter how terrible, is precious in the Wanderlands, and those that crave it are making their moves.

All machines can be broken, and the final cracks are spreading. It will take only the careless actions of two cheerful monsters to tip the Wanderlands towards an endless dark...or help it find its way back to the light.



Benjamin Liar is a writer, musician, filmmaker and game designer. He has been writing for most of his life, but THE FAILURES will be his first published novel. He has performed his music under many names and in many places, has won several local awards for short filmmaking, and recently published a virtual reality game. His name is clearly a pseudonym, but you still shouldn't trust anything he says. You can find him on most of the things @benjaminliar.

Praise for THE FAILURES

“Quirky and wondrous, THE FAILURES presents a fantastical world filled with enigmas and magic, engaging oddball characters, exotic tableaux, and meticulous world building. It’s like a steampunk fantasy version of SILO.”—**Kevin J. Anderson, *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of *Dune: House Atreides***

“THE FAILURES reminds me of so many good things, not least Stephen King’s Dark Tower stories and Mervyn Peake’s arch-Gothic creation, Gormenghast. I also detected undertones of China Miéville, Roger Zelazny, Ursula LeGuin, Gene Wolfe, as well as other amazing fantasy and science-fiction writers. Most importantly, though, whatever his influences might truly be, Benjamin Liar has a new and unique voice of his very own, and this book is one of the best things I’ve read in a long, long time.” – **Tad Williams, fantasy superstar creator of the he worlds of *Otherland*, *Shadowmarch* and *Osten Ard***

"Liar's writing is like the world it depicts: a finely-tuned piece of clockwork. *The Failures* is the kind of science fantasy little made these days, and the sort of book I could read again and again." — **Christopher Ruocchio, internationally award-winning author of *The Sun Eater***

"The Failures is an unabashed triumph of speculative fiction. It’s not exactly science fiction, not quite fantasy, but a synergistic mix. Descriptors are tough, as even a small army of them wouldn't convey this book's inviting complexity, but if I had to pick a few sitting top tier in the pantheon I'd point to: deep, thrilling (I'm looking at you, Deadsmith), and masterfully atmospheric."--**Daniel Cohen, author of *The Coldmaker Saga***

“Benjamin Liar’s “The Failures” is a wonderful and gripping Fantasy tale of misfits trying to save the world in their own twisted ways. Well served by a realistic dialogues and a meticulously woven intrigue, “The Failures” engulfs the reader in a sinister yet thrilling wild-goose chase where intentions, good or bad, are never quite enough. Benjamin Liar is a master story-teller who reinvents Dark Fantasy through familiar tropes he takes an obvious pleasure in deconstructing. If you love Steven Erickson, Patrick Rothfuss or the early VanderMeer, you will immediately be hooked.”—**Seb Doubinsky, author of *Missing Signal*, *The Invisible*, and *Paperclip*.**

See a video about the book from the author here:



Patrick Rothfuss
**THE NARROW ROAD
BETWEEN DESIRES**
(A KINGKILLER CHRONICLE novella)

Illustrated by Nate Taylor

DAW, November 14, 2023 | NA

240 pages, final text and illustrations available

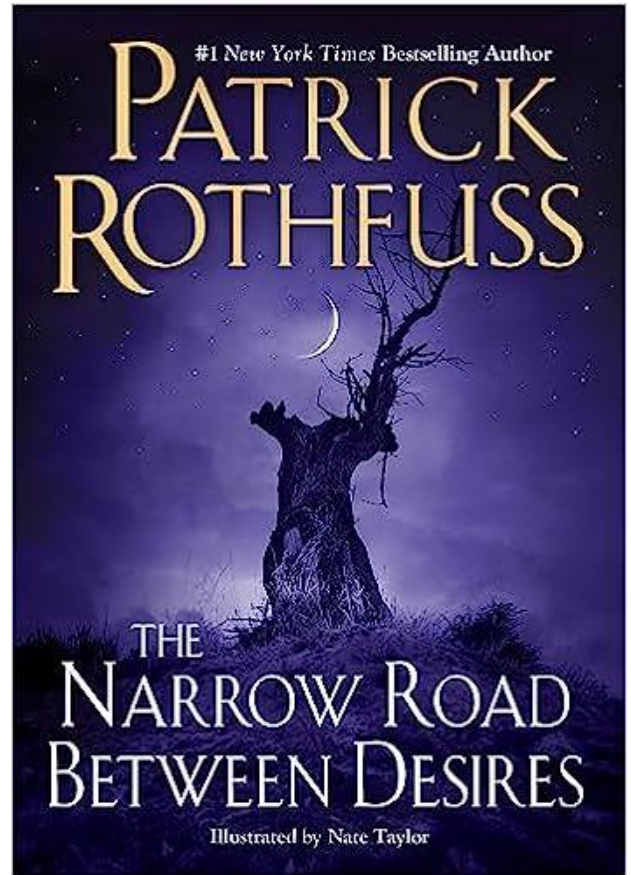
Agent: Matt Bialer

Rights sold: Brazil (Sextante), Bulgaria (Prozorets), Croatia (Vorto Palabra), Czech (Argo), Germany (Klett Cotta), Hungary (Gabo), Poland (Rebus), Netherlands (Meulenhoff Boekerij), Spain (PRH), UK (Gollancz)

An instant *New York Times*, *USA Today*, Indie and German Bestseller!

Still remains on the *NYT* extended bestseller list

#1 *New York Times*-bestselling phenomenon Patrick Rothfuss returns to the wildly popular Kingkiller Chronicle universe with a stunning reimagining of "The Lightning Tree." Expanded to twice its previous length and lavishly illustrated by Nate Taylor, this touching stand-alone story is sure to please new readers and veteran Rothfuss fans alike.



"[Rothfuss] clearly has a heart for stories . . . His prose is the sort that forces you to stop cold and just savor the words."
—Eric Pierce, *Fanfare*

"*The Narrow Road Between Desires* is a fascinating book . . . When I think about this book, the word I keep coming back to is 'beautiful' . . . Between the art and the additions to the prose, which roughly double the size of *The Narrow Road Between Desires* from *The Lightning Tree*, there's no doubt that this is the ideal way to experience this story." —Daniel Roman, *Winter is Coming*

Bast knows how to bargain. The give-and-take of a negotiation is as familiar to him as the in-and-out of breathing; to watch him trade is to watch an artist at work. But even a master's brush can slip. When he accepts a gift, taking something for nothing, Bast's whole world is knocked askew, for he knows how to bargain—but not how to owe.

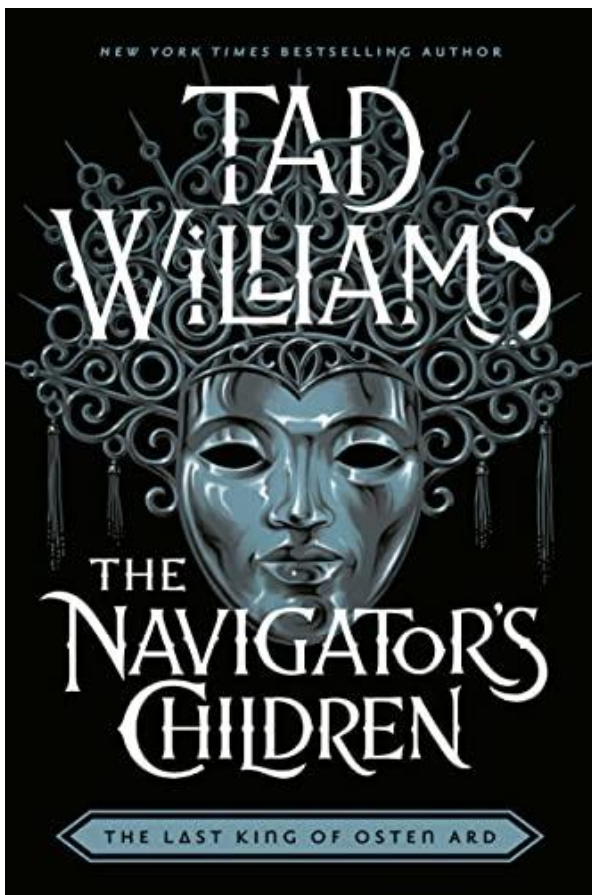
From dawn to midnight over the course of a single day, follow the Kingkiller Chronicle's most charming fae as he schemes and sneaks, dancing into trouble and back out again with uncanny grace.

THE NARROW ROAD BETWEEN DESIRES is Bast's story. In it he traces the old ways of making and breaking, following his heart even when doing so goes against his better judgement. After all, what good is caution if it keeps him from danger and delight?

Patrick Rothfuss is the author of the #1 *New York Times* and international bestselling *The Kingkiller Chronicle* series, which have been licensed in 37 territories and sold more than 10 million copies worldwide. He is also the co-author, with illustrator Nate Taylor, of a graphic novel series *The Adventures of the Princess and Mr. Whiffle*.

<https://blog.patrickrothfuss.com/>





Tad Williams
THE NAVIGATOR'S CHILDREN
(Last King of Osten Ard Book 4)

DAW, November 12, 2024 | NA
HodderScape UK
768 pages, manuscript available
Agent: Matt Bialer

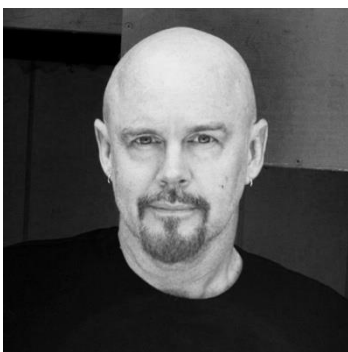
“[W]ithout Tad Williams, there would be no *Game of Thrones*.”
—*The Guardian* (UK)

The latest saga in the *New York Times* bestselling world of Osten Ard concludes in the fourth and final *Last King of Osten Ard* novel.

The Hayholt is besieged by the Norns. Once the home of their immortal brethren, the Sithi, now capital of the kingdom of men, the fabled castle is under attack. And as the world is distracted by this strike against humankind, the Norns' deathless witch-queen Utuk'ku turns towards the mysterious fateful valley called Tanakirú—the Vale of Mists.

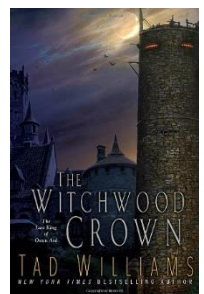
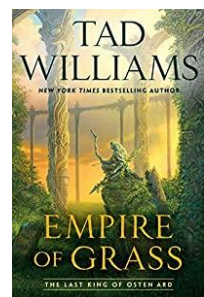
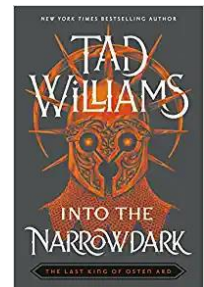
Meanwhile, Queen Miriamele hurries to save the Hayholt and capture the treacherous noble Pasevalles, but arrives to discover the traitor has escaped.

And inside Tanakirú, Vale of Mists, the bond between Prince Morgan and Nezeru, a renegade Norn, has become something deeper and stranger than either of them could have anticipated. They journey ever deeper to the heart of the valley's mystery, encountering wonder and horror, and come face to face at last with the ancient secret that has kindled the Norn Queen's war—a secret that will destroy immortals and humans alike.



mountains in a suitably strange and beautiful house. Visit him online at www.tadwilliams.com

Tad Williams is a California-based fantasy superstar. His genre-creating (and genre-busting) books have sold tens of millions worldwide. His works include the worlds of Otherland, Shadowmarch, and Osten Ard—including the *Memory, Sorrow, and Thorn*, and *The Last King of Osten Ard* series—as well as standalone novels *Tailchaser's Song* and *The War of the Flowers*, plus the Bobby Dollar urban fantasies. His considerable output of epic fantasy, science fiction, urban fantasy, comics, and more have strongly influenced a generation of writers. Tad and his family live in the Santa Cruz





NON-FICTION



Geraldine DeRuiter
IF YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HEAT:
Tales of Food, Feminism, and Fury

Crown, March 12, 2024 | NA
336 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Zoe Sandler

From the James Beard Award-winning blogger behind The Everywhereist is a fresh look at food and feminism from one of the culinary world's sharpest voices.

When celebrity chef Mario Batali sent out an apology letter for the sexual harassment allegations made against him, he had the gall to include a recipe—for cinnamon rolls, of all things. Geraldine DeRuiter decided to make the recipe, and she happened to make food journalism history along with it. Her subsequent essay, with its scathing commentary about the pervasiveness of misogyny in the food world, would be read millions of times, lauded by industry luminaries from Martha Stewart to *New York Times* restaurant critic Pete Wells, and would land DeRuiter in the middle of a media firestorm. She found herself on the receiving end of dozens of threats, when all she wanted to do was make something to eat (and, okay fine, maybe take down the patriarchy).

In **IF YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HEAT**, DeRuiter shares stories about her shockingly true, painfully funny (and sometimes just painful) adventures through gastronomy. We'll learn how she finally got a grip on her debilitating anxiety by emergency meal-planning for the apocalypse ("You are probably deeply worried that in desperate times, I would eat your pets. And yes, I absolutely would."). Or how she learned to embrace her hanger ("Because women can be a lot of things, but we can't be angry. Or President, apparently."). And how she inadvertently caused *another* international incident with a negative restaurant review (she made the homepage of *The New York Times* website! And she got more death threats!).



Geraldine DeRuiter is the James Beard Award-winning blogger behind *The Everywhereist* and the author of *All Over the Place: Adventures in Travel, True Love, and Petty Theft*. Her writing has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The New Yorker's Daily Shouts*, *Marie Claire*, and *Refinery 29*. She lives in Seattle, Washington, with her husband, Rand. They are currently working on a cooking-themed video game and ordering too much takeout.

<https://www.everywhereist.com/>



Praise for IF YOU CAN'T TAKE THE HEAT

“IF YOU CAN’T TAKE THE HEAT is hilarious, clever, profound and poignant at the same time, with food as its focus. ...Readers will find this witty series of vignettes humorous, comforting, and enlightening.” – **BookPage** ★

“Delightfully salty...DeRuiter seamlessly blends gallows humor and sharp observation. The result is a witty and empowering volume that will satisfy foodies and non-foodies alike.”—**Publishers Weekly**

“Zesty food memories from a James Beard Award–winning blogger. ...A deft, entertaining collection.”—**Kirkus Reviews**

“This series of essays...delivers everything the book’s subtitle promises: mouthwatering descriptions of marvelous food (and one unforgettably horrific dining experience), stories that will evoke plenty of snorting and laughing our loud, and those that will prompt sympathetic seething over well-documented incidents of food service industry misogyny. A thoroughly enjoyable writer, DeRuiter can be very funny, ...she can also be sweet, reassuringly insecure, and candid.... She writes with directness and laser-sharp observations as she documents her research, unafraid to name names. ...There should be lots of well-deserved publicity for this amiable collection that’s likely to appeal to a wide range of readers.”—**Booklist** ★

“Food is sustenance and often comfort, and in *If You Can't Take the Heat*, DeRuiter reminds us that it can be all of that and so much more. Food can be markers of our history, our relationships, and a lesson in what we do and don't want. It's oddly poignant to read this and realize how many memories are tied not just to the smell of food but the desire or aversion to it. Food is the story of our life written in flavors and influences and nostalgia for chain restaurants. With charm and humor, DeRuiter welcomes us into her personal history and thus reconnects us with ourselves.”—**Mikki Kendall, New York Times bestselling author of Hood Feminism**

"Witty does not begin to describe the razor sharp takes DeRuiter packs in chapter after chapter of this hilarious, astute, and at times heartbreaking, memoir. DeRuiter somehow manages to raise your hackles over indignities like 'ladies menus' while making you giggle simultaneously, and you'll find yourself wanting to hug, high-five, and cheer for her as she navigates anxieties and adventures full of food and feminist awakenings." - **Rabia Chaundry , New York Times bestselling author of Fatty Fatty Boom Boom**

“*If You Can’t Take the Heat* is a hysterical and incisive journey through the world of food and feminism. The essays will cause you to snort with laughter and then make the tender muscle of your heart ache. Whether she’s writing about growing green onions during lockdown or the sexism of the restaurant industry, Geraldine is smart, sarcastic, delightful, and sharper than a kitchen knife. This book is an absolute delight!”—**Lyz Lenz, author of This American Ex-Wife**

“Geraldine DeRuiter’s particular genius is using a subject such as food to write—and write exceptionally well—about absolutely everything. Feminism, family, appetites literal and figurative, power dynamics, the search for one’s own voice—it’s all here, and more. The book is hilarious and haunting by turns, and if the last line doesn’t make you cry, your heart is a tiny ugly stone and you probably have no taste buds.”—**Laura Lippman, New York Times bestselling author of Lady in the Lake**

David Enrich
UNTITLED

Mariner Books, March 2025 | NA

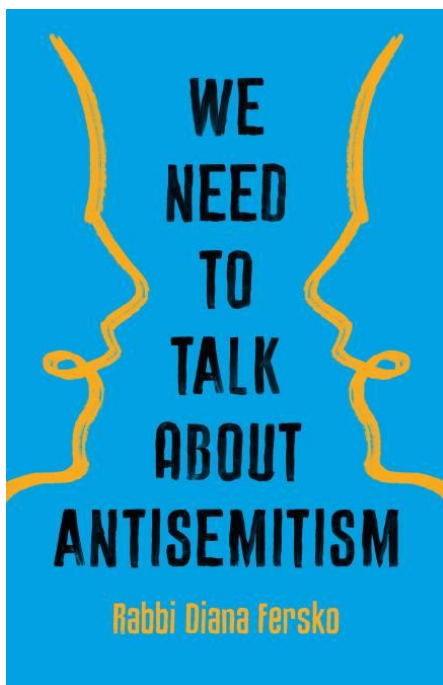
Manuscript anticipated June 2024

Agent: Dan Mandel

First in a major two-book deal from the national bestselling author of *SERVANTS OF THE DAMNED* and *DARK TOWERS*, a non-fiction narrative which explores how lawyers, P.R. experts, and the ultrawealthy have weaponized libel laws to silence critics and threaten free speech, using litigation and harassment campaigns to intimidate everyone from journalists to your neighbor protesting a zoning variance.

David Enrich is the Business Investigations Editor at the *New York Times* and the #1 bestselling author of *Dark Towers*. He previously was an editor and reporter at the *Wall Street Journal*. He has won numerous journalism awards, including the 2016 Gerald Loeb Award for feature writing. His first book, *The Spider Network: How a Math Genius and Gang of Scheming Bankers Pulled Off One of the Greatest Scams in History*, was short-listed for the *Financial Times* Business Book of the Year award. Enrich grew up in Lexington, Massachusetts, and graduated from Claremont McKenna Collee in California. He currently lives in New York with his wife and two sons.





Rabbi Diana Fersko WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT ANTISEMITISM

Hachette/Seal Press, August 2023 | NA
256 pages, final text available
Agent: Dan Mandel

A millennial rabbi explores why we're reluctant to discuss antisemitism—
and empowers us to fight against it

“An essential read for anyone interested in any aspect of antiracism or diversity, equity, and inclusion, or who generally wants to understand the current climate for Jewish people.”—★*Library Journal*

“An eye-opening and thought-provoking read.”—*Kirkus*

“Rabbi Diana Fersko's book is written with passion, insight, and a deep commitment to the Jewish people. It shows how antisemitism enters different aspects of our life, sometimes without us realizing it. It is urgent to discuss these issues and Fersko demonstrates to us how to do so.”—Natan

Sharansky, human rights activist and author of *The Case for Democracy*

“In this clearly argued, readable, and passionate book, Rabbi Diana Fersko confronts the complicated set of poisonous ideas facing Jews in our times and seeks the tools and words to fight back. A crucial guide for those perplexed by the persistence of antisemitism and by what can be done about it.”—Matti Friedman, author of *Who by Fire*

“This is a fervent and heartfelt call to combat antisemitism.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“‘Antisemitism is complicated and confusing’—or so we all say. Rabbi Diana Fersko's book says otherwise, demystifying the convoluted subject with clarity, conviction, and real-life case studies. You'll find yourself emotionally invested, nodding, gasping, sighing and eye-rolling your way through a book that could be a 101 course or a PhD study guide. You'll be surprised that, with such a serious topic, you could thoroughly enjoy the read.”—Amanda Berman, founder and Executive Director of the Zioness Movement

Antisemitism is on the rise, in cities and rural areas, and in guises both subtle and terrifyingly overt. Rabbi Diana Fersko is used to having difficult conversations with members of her congregation about the issues they face—from the threat of violence to microaggressions and identity denial. In *We Need to Talk About Antisemitism*, she gives all of us the ultimate guide to modern antisemitism in its many forms.

Exploring topics like vile myths about Jewish people and the intersection of antisemitism with other forms of discrimination, *We Need to Talk About Antisemitism* gives readers the tools they need to understand the state of antisemitism today. Fersko shows Jews and non-Jews alike how to speak up and come together, spreading a message of solidarity and hope. This is a timely read for anyone passionate about fighting for social justice.

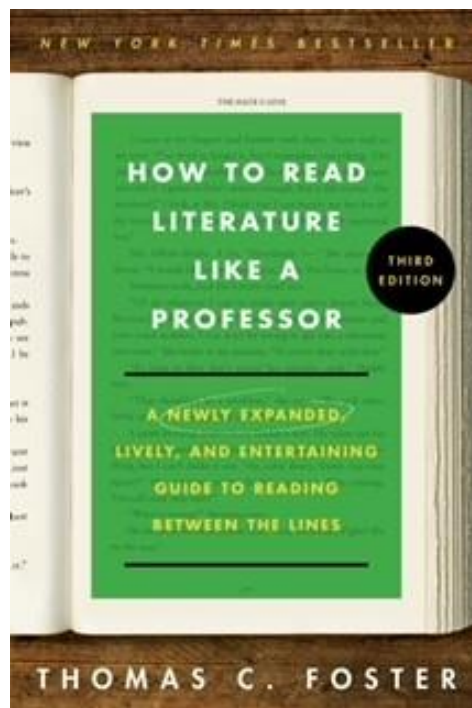
Rabbi Diana Fersko is the Senior Rabbi at The Village Temple in Manhattan. She is the former national vice president of the Women's Rabbinic Network and a member of the New York Board of Rabbis. Fersko has been profiled in *The New Yorker*, featured on NBC News with Lester Holt, published in *Tablet*, *the Forward*, and *The New York Daily News*, and cited widely in the Jewish press. She lives in New York City where she has been preaching and teaching about antisemitism for over a decade. <https://rabbidianafersko.com/>



Thomas C. Foster
**HOW TO READ LITERATURE LIKE A
PROFESSOR: A Lively and Entertaining Guide
to Reading between the Lines: 3rd Edition (rev
2024)**

HarperCollins, September 2024 | World English
320 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Faith Hamlin

Extensively revised edition of a classic instruction book that has been in print for over 20 years



For nearly two decades, *HOW TO READ LITERATURE LIKE A PROFESSOR* by Thomas C. Foster has been the go-to text for English classes, particularly Advanced Placement Literature and Composition. With its mix of high ideas and cheeky discussions, it has delighted teachers and students alike as they make their way through the wilds of literary analysis, explaining such matters as the symbolic implications of quests, meals, and seasons, as well as the ways that works written today rely on texts from Shakespeare, the Greeks, and the Brothers Grimm. The book invites readers to develop their own ideas about these heady topics and even provides a sample story on which to practice their newly acquired skills.

To all the insight and wit of the original book, Foster brings discussions of diverse works that better represent the reading experience at earlier levels of their secondary English Language Arts classes. This new edition includes readings from more minority, female, and Young Adult writers, including Angie Thomas, Neil Gaiman, Helen Oyeyemi, Tahereh Mafi, Zora Neale Hurston, Pat Barker, Sandra Cisneros, and Madeline Miller. Two new chapters have been added. The first, on the significance of roads, acts as a bookend of sorts to the opening chapter on quests. The two are not the same, however much they may seem to overlap, and carry different symbolic weight. The second is a rumination on how critics and readers grapple with genuinely new literary forms.

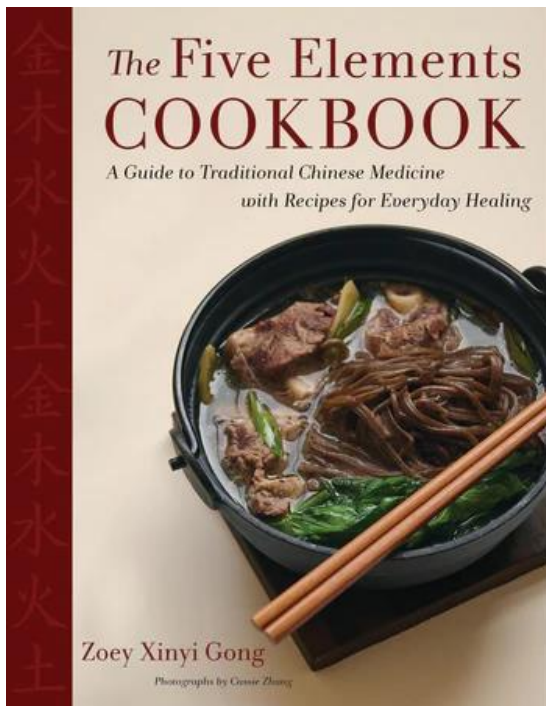
Above all, *HOW TO READ LITERATURE LIKE A PROFESSOR* seeks to impart knowledge without killing the excitement and joy of deep reading, to remember always that, far from the drudgery depicted in many old films, literary study is really an advanced form of play.

The New Revised Edition includes new chapters, new examples, an updated preface, and new insights gathered over interactions with teachers and students over the last two decades.

Thomas C. Foster is Emeritus Professor of English at the University of Michigan, Flint. His bestselling *How to Read Like a Professor* series has sold more than 2 million copies and has been licensed in 15 territories.



Previous editions of this title were sold:
Armenia: Edit Print; Brazil: Leya; Bulgaria: Ex Libris; China: Thinkindom; Czech: Host; Greece: Klitharithmos; Italy: Vallardi; Japan: Hakusui-sha; Korea: Jihyeong; Lithuania: Kitos Knygos; Poland: Fabula Frazza; Slovakia: Tatran; Spain: Turner; Taiwan: Ecus; Ukraine: Tempora, Thailand: Bookscape; Vietnam: Nha Nam



Zoey Xinyi Gong
**THE FIVE ELEMENTS COOKBOOK:
A Guide to Traditional Chinese Medicine
with Recipes for Everyday Healing**

Harvest, February 14, 2023 | World English
288 pages, final files available
Agent: Clare Mao
Rights sold: German (Narayana)

A stunning and accessible guide to cooking with Traditional Chinese Medicine, featuring over 50 nourishing recipes to eat for healing every day by TCM chef and registered dietitian Zoey Xinyi Gong.

Bon Appetit – [The Best Cookbooks of Spring 2023](#)

WTVR Virginia This Morning

Food & Wine – [How Traditional Chinese Medicine Combines Health and Culinary Traditions](#)

Chef and registered dietitian Zoey Xinyi Gong offers an incredibly fresh, elegant, and authentic approach to food therapy and a truly accessible guide to cooking with Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), a thousands-year-old practice for holistic wellness.

Named after a foundational theory of what balance and optimal health looks like, *The Five Elements Cookbook* is a stunning introduction to the beginner concepts of TCM and offers a photographic guide to the most commonly used medicinal ingredients (American ginseng, turmeric, reishi, and more), their healing properties, and how to use them seamlessly in your cooking—whether in a warm tea, restorative bone broth, a sweet smoothie, or your favorite dinner.

Each of the over 50 delicious recipes ingeniously incorporates a food-as-medicine ingredient, with consideration for seasonality, digestion, and body constitution, and specific concerns, like menstrual pains, nausea, anxiety, blood circulation, respiratory health, and more. For those with dietary restrictions, each recipe also includes a key for vegan, nut free, dairy free, gluten free, plus the TCM energetics and uses.

“*The Five Elements Cookbook* is a wonderful introduction to Traditional Chinese Medicine food therapy. The section on Chinese herbs is an indispensable guide and beautifully photographed.”—Grace Young, author of *Stir-Frying to the Sky’s Edge* and *The Breath of a Wok*

“I am simply blown away by how wonderful *The Five Elements Cookbook* is. It is well researched, beautifully photographed, and, most important, practical. I am so excited for readers to roll up their sleeves and try the recipes!”—Thomas N. Leung, DACM, CEO of Kamwo Meridian Herbs

Zoey Xinyi Gong is a Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) chef, food therapist, registered dietitian, and educator based in Brooklyn, New York. Born in Shanghai, China, she has hosted hundreds of pop-up dinners, workshops, and events featuring TCM food therapy since 2018. Her first cookbook “The Five Elements Cookbook” was released in February, 2023 by Harper Collins. Her studio and event space, the Red Pavilion, is located in the heart of Bushwick, NY. <https://www.zoeyxinyigong.com/>



Rebecca Grant

ACCESS: Janes, Pills, and the Secret History of Abortion in America

Avid Reader Press, June 2025 | NA

Manuscript anticipated June 2024

Agent: Sarah Phair

ACCESS: a book about a radical idea—that people who can get pregnant should have choices.

This is a book about self-managed abortion and the history of access and activism over the past fifty years, from before *Roe* groups like the Jane Collective to the clandestine abortion pill distribution networks that have sprung up post-*Dobbs*. Including reporting from four continents, *ACCESS* focuses on three central narratives to chart this evolution:

- the Dutch doctor Rebecca Gomperts, among the first to demonstrate how technology could revolutionize abortion access with her dramatic ship campaigns;
- the Mexican activist Verónica Cruz Sánchez, who pioneered the “acompaniment” model with her organization Las Libres; and
- an abortion fund in Texas, which has persevered in the face of overwhelming resistance.

Together, these underreported stories provide a rare and inside look at how feminist activists in the US and around the world have ensured abortion remains accessible, regardless of the politics, medicine, the courts, and the law.

Praise for the author’s previous book, *BIRTH*:

“An important book . . . Grant is a good storyteller, subtle and compassionate.” — *The New York Times Book Review*

“A much-needed perspective on childbirth.” — *Porchlight, Editor's Choice*

“A significant and compelling sociological investigation.” — *Kirkus Reviews*

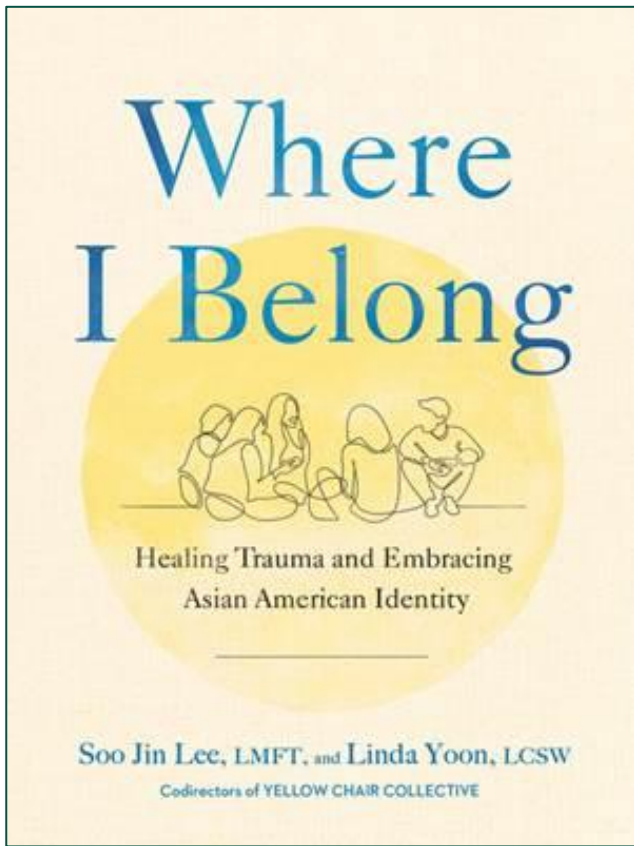
“An enlightening and accessible portrait of maternal healthcare in America.” — *Publisher's Weekly* ★

“As we navigate an endless number of crises, Rebecca Grant’s thorough reporting about one such issue—reproductive health in all its facets—is lighting a pathway forward. *Birth* is a testament to Grant’s impeccable reporting and storytelling skills, pulling back the curtain on pregnancy in America while also pushing us to understand what the stakes are and what it will take to move forward. *Birth* is the kind of book that should be on the shelves of every obstetrician and gynecologist in a country where giving birth is as dangerous as it has ever been.” -- **Evette Dionne, author of *Weightless***

“A true feat of intimate, illuminating reporting, *Birth* is a profound examination of the deeply personal and structural forces that shape life-defining choices, experiences, dreams, and futures.” -- **Rainesford Stauffer, author of *An Ordinary Age* and *All the Gold Stars***

“Grant captures the inherent drama of giving birth with keen insights into the social and political forces that shape pregnancy and motherhood in America. A must-read for anyone who has been born!” -- **Atossa Araxia Abrahamian, author of *The Cosmopolites***

Rebecca Grant is an award-winning journalist and author who covers reproductive rights, health and justice. Her work has appeared on *This American Life* and in *New York Magazine*, *The Guardian*, *Elle*, *The Nation*, *Marie Claire*, *Mother Jones*, *Cosmopolitan* and other publications, and her first book, *BIRTH: Three Mothers, Nine Months, and Pregnancy in America* published in April 2023 with Avid Reader Press. She has received grants and fellowships from the International Women's Media Foundation, International Reporting Project, Type Investigations, and the Fund for Investigative Journalists, and was part of a team that won a Peabody Award in 2023 for coverage of the fall of *Roe*.



Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon **WHERE I BELONG: Healing Trauma and Embracing Asian American Identity**

TarcherPerigee, January 9, 2024 | World English
320 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Clare Mao

**An essential resource that addresses the unique
experiences of trauma, healing, and mental health in Asian
and Asian American communities.**

Coauthors Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon are professional therapists who witnessed firsthand how mental health issues often went unaddressed not only in their own immigrant families, but in Asian and Asian American communities. *Where I Belong* shows us how the cycle of trauma can play out in our relationships, placing Asian American experiences front and center to help us process and heal from racial and intergenerational trauma.

This book validates our experiences and helps us understand how they fit into the broader context of our family history and the trauma experienced by previous generations. Lee and Yoon draw on their own stories, as well as those of a diverse segment of the

Asian diaspora, to help us feel seen and connected to our wider community. They provide essential therapeutic tools, reflection questions, journal prompts, and grounding exercises to empower readers to identify their strengths and resilience across generations and to embrace the beauty and fullness of their own identity and culture.

Soo Jin Lee, LMFT is a licensed marriage and family therapist, executive director of Yellow Chair Collective, and cofounder of Entwine Community. As a previously undocumented Asian immigrant who struggled to access mental healthcare, she brings a unique perspective to her work. Lee has a degree in fine arts, and creativity plays an essential role in her personal and therapeutic process. When she's not spending quality time with her family, she can often be found exploring nature on a hiking trail or offering expert guidance in psychotherapy to individuals and groups alike.



Linda Yoon, LCSW, is a licensed therapist and social worker who has dedicated her career to helping people along their healing journey find a sense of belonging. As a survivor of C-PTSD and having received a late adult diagnosis of ADHD, Linda is passionate about serving Asian American communities, survivors of violence, and those who are neurodivergent. Growing up, Linda was drawn to the color yellow, which symbolizes resilience, joy, and hope. This deep personal connection inspired her to name her founding practice Yellow Chair Collective. She is also a cofounder of Entwine Community, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit supporting Asian and Asian American mental health. Linda currently resides in Los Angeles with her spouse, Mathew, and her furry companion, Mini, who has been by her side for eighteen years.



<https://www.instagram.com/yellowchaircollective/?hl=en>

Advance praise for **WHERE I BELONG**

“With *Where I Belong*, Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon bring years of expertise to a groundbreaking message. As Asian Americans and diaspora, our experience of mental health and belonging is often seen as an afterthought, and discussions of healing in popular media are often framed through an individualistic, Western lens that neglects our unique heritage. Within the powerful shared stories in this book, *Where I Belong* does an incredible job navigating the subtle nuances of what it means to heal through the lens of Asian identity, and offers transformative exercises that cultivate resilience, inner strength, and deeper self-compassion. If you want to heal, to grow, or to support your loved ones, *Where I Belong* is a **MUST READ**.”—**John Wang, Host of The Big Asian Energy show**

“This book explores what it means to be Asian American, and Lee and Yoon break down complex histories and precise experiences with so much care and compassion. With stories, journal prompts, and grounding exercises, you know you are in good hands while you go on this journey to understand, heal from, and even celebrate the fullness of your lived experience. I’m certain this book will be a returning resource for many.”—**Sahaj Kaur Kohli, Founder of Brown Girl Therapy and author of *But What Will People Say?***

“One of the most terrifying and isolating aspects of feeling like you don’t belong is the ineffableness: Asian Americans, even in all our diversity, often lack the words to describe how it hurts, why we feel this way, the ways our loneliness manifests, and — most importantly — how we can change things. *Where I Belong* is an entire book that puts words to this too-often invisible pain, in astute and kind ways that take into account the latest scientific studies and the particularities of Asian American family dynamics and cultural norms. Many among the diaspora will appreciate the book’s tone: Never patronizing or cloying, authors Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon provide diverse examples, clarifying explanations, and actionable steps that make you feel in control of your future happiness.”—**Connie Wang, author of *Oh My Mother!***

"With compassion and warmth, Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon have taken their experiences as professional therapists to create an essential resource for anyone exploring their Asian American identity and wondering how therapy might help in that journey. Weaving history, personal anecdotes, journal prompts and reflection questions, *Where I Belong* gives readers the necessary language to name—and reclaim—their experiences. An inclusive, grounding work that will help countless people in search of what it means to be Asian in America."—**Kat Chow, author of *Seeing Ghosts***

"Filled with relatable anecdotes and tangible exercises for self exploration, *Where I Belong* is a loving exploration of Asian American identity that is rooted in community and compassion. This book allows us all to feel less alone as we redefine who we are as Asians and Americans."—**Jenny Wang, founder of Asians for Mental Health and author of *Permission to Come Home: Reclaiming Mental Health as Asian Americans***

"*Where I Belong* by Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon is a much-needed book for our AAPI communities during this moment of racial reckoning. Although capturing our communities' diversity and addressing our racial trauma are difficult tasks, they have done so with amazing sensitivity, insight and expertise. The book highlights the ethnic particularities of our mental health issues well, especially by sharing the voices of individuals. Even more significantly, the authors detail the unique AAPI cultural wealth and community assets that can bring health and wholeness. *Where I Belong* has contributed to my own journey of healing and hope, and I know it can assist others just as deeply."—**Russell M Jeung, Professor of Asian American Studies, San Francisco State University and cofounder of Stop AAPI Hate**

Arthur Levine and Scott Van Pelt

WHAT WORKS: How Higher Education is Confronting Profound Demographic, economic, and Technological Change

Johns Hopkins University Press, late 2024/ early 2025 | NA

Manuscript anticipated summer 2024

Agent: Faith Hamlin

In the two years since the publication of their acclaimed book, *THE GREAT UPHEAVAL* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2021), Arthur Levine and Scott Van Pelt have visited more than 60 colleges, state systems, accrediting association meetings, conferences of for-profit companies, and foundation convenings. These meetings occurred from coast to coast, Florida to Washington and Maine to Texas, nationally and internationally. They met with faculty, staff, trustees, students, accreditors, government officials, professional associations, media, and foundation leaders. Based on these encounters, *WHAT WORKS* describes what they saw and what they learned about how institutions are responding to the Great Upheaval—their concerns, their errors, and their successes. It also augments the findings of “The Great Upheaval,” discussing issues that have gained prominence in the years since its publication such as AI, DEI, censorship, affirmative action, declining enrollments and public confidence in higher education.

WHAT WORKS grows out of Levine and Van Pelt’s article published in *Inside Higher Ed* in June entitled “[5 C’s to Navigate Higher Ed’s Great Upheaval](#)” which could only briefly touch upon their findings. This brilliant follow up to *THE GREAT UPHEAVAL* will be especially relevant to higher education leaders, trustees, faculty, and practitioners across the United States as well as internationally, though its subject matter and style are also likely to be of interest to more general audiences that are connected to higher education (e.g., students, policy makers, Foundations, associations, media, etc.)

THE GREAT UPHEAVAL sold internationally to The Commercial Press (China) and Korea National Open University Press (Korea)

Praise for *THE GREAT UPHEAVAL*

“On the subject of higher education, Arthur Levine is astonishingly prescient, spotting trends on the horizon long before they come into focus for the rest of us. In this thoughtful and engaging book, he and Scott Van Pelt offer a clear-eyed assessment of the changes—and the potential disruption—facing colleges and universities. An indispensable guide to rethinking our assumptions about learning and preparing to thrive in a transformed educational landscape.”

—Rafael Reif, President, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

“This clearly written book will be of interest to a broad spectrum of readers, including educators, policymakers, nonprofit professionals, students, and families. Levine and Van Pelt focus not only on colleges and universities but also on the challenges and opportunities of the larger postsecondary world, as they explore the dramatically different future of higher education and proposed actions to shape it.” —Freeman A. Hrabowski III, President, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, author of *The Empowered University*

“Levine and Van Pelt make the compelling case that higher education must urgently shift its focus to prepare learners and workers for an increasingly fractured world—one where subjects and disciplines are less important than enhancing our human traits and capabilities and contributing to our shared social, democratic, and economic well-being.” —Jamie Merisotis, President & CEO, Lumina Foundation

Merisotis, President & CEO, Lumina Foundation

[Arthur Levine](#) is a distinguished scholar of higher education at New York University's Steinhardt Institute for Higher Education Policy; a senior fellow and president emeritus of the Institute on Citizens and Scholars; and president emeritus of Columbia University's Teachers College. He is the author or coauthor of many books, including *Generation on a Tightrope: A Portrait of Today's College Students*. [Scott Van Pelt](#) is the associate director of the Wharton Graduate Communication Program at the University of Pennsylvania, where he is also a lecturer.

Jami Nakamura Lin,
with illustrations by Cori Nakamura Lin
THE NIGHT PARADE:
A Speculative Memoir

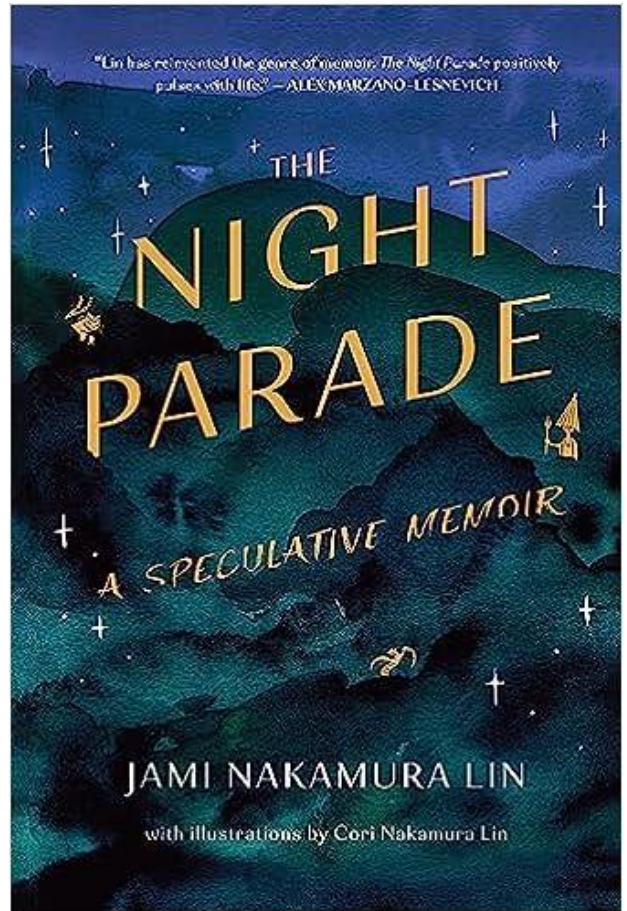
Mariner Books / William Morrow, October 2023
Scribe, UK | 352 pages, final text available

Sold at US auction for 6-figures.

A Most Anticipated Book by *Poets & Writers* • *The Boston Globe* • *San Francisco Chronicle* • *Los Angeles Times* • *The Millions* • *Library Journal* • *Book Riot* • *Debutiful* • and many more!

In the groundbreaking tradition of *In the Dream House* and *The Collected Schizophrenias*, a gorgeously illustrated speculative memoir that draws upon the Japanese myth of the Hyakki Yagyo—the Night Parade of One Hundred Demons—to shift the cultural narrative around mental illness, grief, and remembrance.

Are these the only two stories? The one, where you defeat your monster, and the other, where you succumb to it?



Jami Nakamura Lin spent much of her life feeling monstrous for reasons outside of her control. As a young woman with undiagnosed bipolar disorder, much of her adolescence was marked by periods of extreme rage and an array of psychiatric treatments, and her relationships suffered as a result, especially as her father's cancer grasped hold of their family.

As she grew older and learned to better manage her episodes, Lin became frustrated with the familiar pattern she found in mental illness and grief narratives, and their focus on recovery. She sought comfort in the stories she'd loved as a child—tales of ghostly creatures known to terrify in the night. Through the lens of the yokai and other figures from Japanese, Taiwanese, and Okinawan legend, she set out to interrogate the very notion of recovery and the myriad ways fear of difference shapes who we are as a people.

Featuring stunning illustrations by her sister, Cori Nakamura Lin, and divided into the four acts of a traditional Japanese narrative structure, *The Night Parade* is a genre-bending and deeply emotional memoir that mirrors the sensation of being caught between realms. Braiding her experience of mental illness, the death of her father, the grieving process, and other haunted topics with storytelling tradition, Jami Nakamura Lin shines a light into dark corners, driven by a question: *How do we learn to live with the things that haunt us?*



Jami Nakamura Lin is the writer of the popular Catapult column *The Monster in the Mirror* and also published a viral *New York Times* essay *Does My Child's Name Erase My Identity?* She was the 2016 National Endowment for the Arts U.S.-Japan Creative Artists Fellow, inaugural Walter Dean Myers Grant winner, and Writers' Colony at Daily Hollow Mental Health Fellow.

Cori Nakamura Lin is an illustrator and designer whose work has appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Eater Chicago*, and other publications.

Praise for THE NIGHT PARADE

"Jami Nakamura Lin has reinvented the genre of memoir, weaving an intricate braid of fable, memory, art, cultural legacy, and legend into a gorgeous tapestry of the stories that made her. The haunting illustrations by her sister, Cori Nakamura Lin, are a potent reminder that no one is self-authored. We all collaborate to become ourselves. Serpentine, polyphonic, and stunningly textured, *The Night Parade* positively pulses with life."
— Alex Marzano-Lesnevich, award-winning author of *The Fact of A Body*

"A gorgeous invocation of the magic-haunted spaces between lived experience and folkloric traditions, between the living and the dead, between memory and story. I loved *The Night Parade*." — Kelly Link, bestselling author of *Get in Trouble*

"Beautifully written and imaginative, THE NIGHT PARADE takes speculative nonfiction to new heights. Jami Nakamura Lin is both poet and storyteller, mystic and philosopher, teaching us to see the world differently, to suspend our disbelief, using mythology to interrogate our notions of family, grief, fear, love, and belonging. There is no other book like this—it's truly a stunning and visionary work of art." — Jaquira Díaz, author of *Ordinary Girls: A Memoir*

"Genre-defying and deeply poetic, *The Night Parade* invites the pandemonium within the personal and mythic to a round table where ancestors and folkloric creatures transform grief, memory, and mental illness into the tangible. Ancient tales and horrific specters braid throughout Jami Nakamura Lin's life, but will worm your way under your skin, prompting the question: what do we cut out from our lives and histories and what do we let grow with us? Impossible to put down, gut-wrenching, and magical. I cannot think of a writer who has written so personally while acknowledging ancestral and cultural grief with such grace and honesty. A crucial and groundbreaking entry for the literature of the Asian Diaspora and explorations of mental illness."
— Sequoia Nagamatsu, author of *How High We Go in the Dark*

"*The Night Parade* is a stunning excavation of personal and collective histories, filled with the endless alchemy of storytelling. Jami Nakamura Lin writes with meditative precision and expansive empathy, challenging and reaffirming what communal stories can make possible. Exploring the many worlds that flourish beyond certain knowledge, this boundary-blurring memoir finds power in the undefinable. It reveals to us that the fracturing of a story can be beautifully fruitful. Teeming with language that is transformative and fully embodied, and gorgeously illustrated by Cori Nakamura Lin, *The Night Parade* is a generous and abundant feast for our living and our dead, our salvaged lineages and our continuing stories." — K-Ming Chang, award-winning author of *Bestiary*

"With abundant honesty and tenderness, Jami Nakamura Lin wraps her story in the expansive frameworks of folklore and the mystical, bringing in centuries of storytelling about love and loss, death, illness, and mystery. A moving and notable memoir." — Aimee Bender, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake*

"*The Night Parade* is stunning — it is haunting and magical and terrifying at once. Deeply intimate, but with a sense of scope that transcends history and genre, I loved stepping into this dream of a memoir, of a shared experience." — Catherine Cho, author of *Inferno*

"Throughout this inventive narrative, Lin takes calculated literary risks, ranging from the use of epistolary forms to experiments with point of view. These risks pay off mightily, coming together in a vulnerable, insightful, and refreshingly original meditation on survival, illness, and grief. A stunning memoir about the stories that make us who we are." — ★ *Kirkus*

"In this debut speculative memoir, Lin isn't afraid of her demons. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder as a teenager, Lin struggled to manage her illness while caring for her cancer-stricken father. Unhappy with the rose-colored narratives about recovering from mental illness, she takes a different approach here, leaning into the darkness. Inspired by Japanese, Taiwanese, and Okinawan ghost stories, Lin blends memoir and horror—plus stunning illustrations—to consider what it means to coexist with anguish." — The Millions (The Great 2023 Book Preview)?

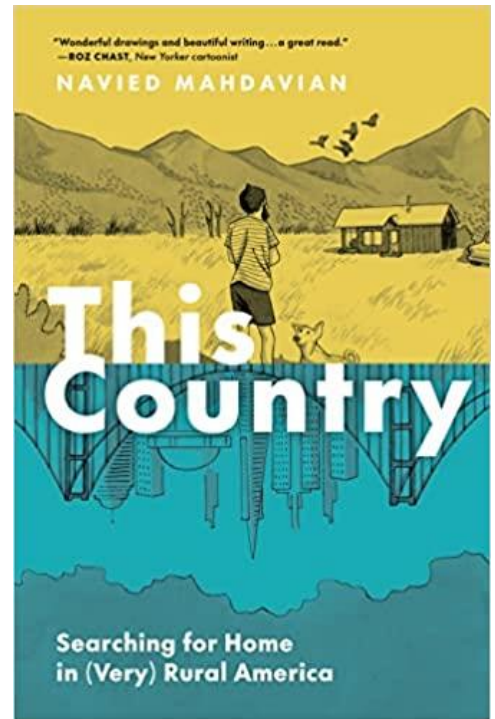
Navied Mahdavian

THIS COUNTRY: Searching for Home in (Very) Rural America

Princeton Architectural Press, September 2023 | NA
288 pages, final text and illustrations available
Agent: Dan Mandel

A gorgeously illustrated and written debut graphic memoir about belonging, identity, and making a home in the remote American West, by *New Yorker* cartoonist Navied Mahdavian.

Before Navied Mahdavian moved with his wife and dog in November of 2016 from San Francisco to an off-the-grid cabin in rural Idaho, he had never fished, gardened, hiked, hunted, or lived in a snowy place. But there, he could own land, realize his dream of being an artist, and start a family—the Millennial dream. Over the next three years, Mahdavian leaned into the wonders of the natural Idaho landscape and found himself adjusting to and enjoying a slower pace of living. But beyond the boundaries of his six acres, he was confronted with the realities of America’s political shifts and forced to confront the question: *Do I belong here?*



Mahdavian’s beautifully written and unflinchingly honest graphic memoir charts his growth and struggles as an artist, citizen, and new father. It celebrates his love of place and honors the relationships he makes in rural America, touching on dynamics like culture, environment, and identity in America, and even articulating difficult moments of racism and brutality he found there as a Middle Eastern American. With wit, compassion, and a sense of humor, Mahdavian’s insider perspective offers a unique portrait of one of the most remote and wild areas of the American West.



Navied Mahdavian has been a cartoonist for *The New Yorker* since February 2018, and also contributed to *Wired*, *Reader’s Digest*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Narrative*, and elsewhere. Before becoming a cartoonist, he taught 5th grade, and received his Masters of Education from Stanford University. He now lives in Salt Lake City with his wife, a Sundance award-winning filmmaker, and their daughter.

<https://www.naviedm.com/>



Praise for THIS COUNTRY

“Why did urban, vegetarian, gun-wary Navied, of Iranian descent, have the big, bright idea to move with his wife to the frigid mountains of Idaho, months before Trump’s election? Riveting, searching, complex and, oh, hilarious, this memoir ultimately is a quest for strength, wildness, and love, for a deeper vision of all things Earth. Surely this is my favorite graphic memoir I’ve read in years.” —Deb Olin Unferth, author (*Revolution: The Year I Fell in Love and Went to Join the War*)

“Enamored of nature and dazzled by fantasies of the rugged west, a young mixed-race couple build a tiny home in the wilds of Idaho—and must confront an America at odds with itself. In *This Country*, Mahdavian explores today’s cultural divide with a keen eye and a graceful touch. The resulting portrait is by turns hilarious and heartbreaking, elegant and complex, brutal and tender. I dare you not to fall in love.”—Alia Volz, author (*Home Baked: Marijuana, My Mother and the Stoning of San Francisco*)

“*This Country* is a hilarious and sometimes harrowing graphic memoir about the Mahdavians’ quest to live self-sufficiently in rural Idaho. Learning how to cut down a tree to heat your own house and grow your own vegetables is only one part of it...Wonderful drawings and beautiful writing make this book a great read.” —Roz Chast, author and cartoonist (*Can’t We Talk About Something More Pleasant?*)

“I knew Navied Mahdavian was one of the funniest cartoonists of his generation; *This Country* proves he is also one of its most subtle and sophisticated graphic storytellers. In Navied’s hands, comics feel like poetry. Perfect ink drawings bring land, beast, and human, with all their delicacy and yearning, viscerally to life. *This Country*, a quintessential story of seeking a home in America and (maybe) finding it, and made me want to grant my own surroundings the grace, humor, and dignity of Navied’s observant study.”—Amy Kurzweil, cartoonist and author (*Flying Couch: A Graphic Memoir*)

“A charming, wise, and haunting book. [I’ve known] that town quite well for the last thirty years, [and Mahdavian has] captured it in all its complexity.” —Christopher Guest, actor, screenwriter, and director (*Best in Show, Waiting for Guffman, This is Spinal Tap*)

“*This Country* is touching, personal, and frequently hilarious. Mahdavian weaves heavy themes of home and belonging with disarming moments of silliness and levity. It’s a story specific to his experience, yet relatable to anyone who has ever searched for a place to be.” —Reza Farazmand, writer and illustrator of *Poorly Drawn Lines*

“Ostensibly, *This Country* is about a couple finding their place in the world and learning the true history of the land they’re building a life on—a land that has seen both turmoil and awe—but amid the harsh truth, blatant racism, and struggles to fit in, there is so much beauty and humor and compassion. Mahdavian’s drawings are deceptively simple, perfectly capturing the wonder of little everyday occurrences. Of time moving, a small family growing and changing, of an entire country still reckoning with past and present mistakes. This is a very important book for pretty much everyone.” —Julia Wertz, cartoonist and author of *Impossible People*

A LETTER TO READERS FROM NAVIED MAHDAVIAN...

“Let’s move to the middle-of-nowhere-America,” said no middle-eastern American after the 2016 presidential election. But that’s just what I did. As someone who spent three years in very rural Idaho (and I mean *rural*) with my wife and dog, *This Country* offers a unique and nuanced insider’s perspective on a place many people in cities know nothing about. A humorous personal story, it charts my growth and struggles as an artist, citizen, and new father through the lens of the land—the good, the bad, and the frequently silly.

—NAVIED MAHDAVIAN



Emily Mester

AMERICAN BULK: Essays on Excess

Norton, November 26, 2024 | World English

256 pages, manuscript anticipated Spring 2024

Agent: Clare Mao

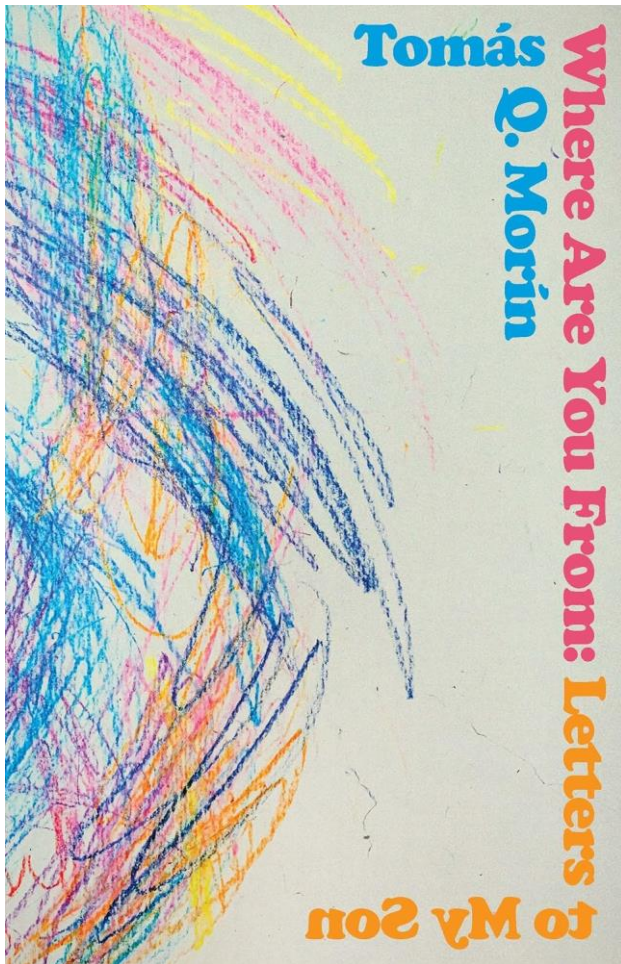
A tender, critical, and curious window into the American ethos of quantity over quality.

To be American is to hoard, to collect. But what if that wasn't a bad thing? Emily Mester's *American Bulk* asks readers to see our national consumer obsession as more than a modern scourge—to consider consumption a complex character in a larger story of capitalism, imperialism, and technology. In sharply witty prose, Mester details how a seasonal stint at Ulta Beauty reveals the insidious performance of retail sales, how Yelp reviews highlight the lengths we go to curate our personal ephemera, and why we can't help but find joy at Costco. In a stark reexamination of diet culture and fatness, Mester recounts her teenage summer at fat camp and the liberatory body neutrality that surrounded her. And in Storm Lake, Iowa, Mester excavates her grandmother's abandoned hoard, among other discoveries about her own family's history. *American Bulk* asks us to regard consumption not with guilt but with grace and empathy.

Part family history, part cultural critique, and part cautionary tale, Emily Mester's **AMERICAN BULK** shares literary DNA with Patricia Lockwood's sharp but intimate portrayal of family in *Priestdaddy* and Jenny Odell's critiques of capitalism and the culture it begets in *How to Do Nothing*, and introduces a clear-eyed, empathetic, and deeply intelligent writer who acutely identifies the true cost of all the *stuff* we love.



[Emily Mester](#) is from the Midwest, where she learned how to read by sounding out signs in the strip mall parking lot of a Chicago suburb. She is a graduate of Grinnell College and the University of Iowa Nonfiction Writing Program, where she studied with Kerry Howley and Melissa Febos. She lives in Brooklyn. Twitter: <https://twitter.com/emilymester>



Tomás Q. Morín
WHERE ARE YOU FROM:
LETTERS TO MY SON

University of Nebraska Press, PPB March 1, 2024 | NA
130 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Dan Mandel

“A vast, poetic, and heartfelt collection, grappling through politics, culture, and art with what it may mean to be Mexican American under late-stage capitalism. Tomás Q. Morín’s work will never fail to astound you. At once playful, informative, and devastating.”

—Fernando A. Flores, author
of *Valleyesque* and *Tears of the Trufflepig*

In this tender collection of letters to his son, Tomás Q. Morín meditates on love, the body, and the future his son will have to face. He writes about the America his son will soon be born into, a country that will constantly question his place in it. An America that wields labels like Black, Brown, and white to make itself feel safe. An America in which Mexican American people continue to be seen as outsiders in their ancestral lands.

Starting in New Jersey during a long-distance teaching position before his son’s birth and spanning to the present day, Morín shares his experiences with racism to sketch for his son ways to respond to bigotry that won’t sacrifice his dignity or his spirit. He also challenges his young son, and the reader by extension, to reassess their perception of the world and the language we use to understand and label our surroundings. Hovering over Morín’s bold vision for shaking off the chains of injustice is a quartet of literary angels: Baldwin and Dostoevsky, Ellison and Camus. *Where Are You From* is a poignant and gripping testament that speaks to all the sons and daughters of America.

[Tomás Q. Morín](https://www.tomasqmorin.com) is the author of several books, including the memoir *Let Me Count the Ways* (Nebraska, 2022), winner of the 2022 Writers’ League of Texas Nonfiction Book Award; the poetry collections *Machete*, *A Larger Country*, and *Patient Zero*; and other books. He is on the faculty at Rice University. <https://www.tomasqmorin.com>



Dr. Sara Nasserzadeh
LOVE BY DESIGN: 6 INGREDIENTS
TO BUILD A LIFETIME OF LOVE

Grand Central Publishing, February 6, 2024

UK: HarperCollins

352 pages, full manuscript available

Agent: Sarah Phair

Rights sold: Turkey (Zeynep)

“Get ready to revolutionize your relationship with Emergent Love.” —Dr. Pepper Schwartz, *New York Times* bestselling author and Professor of Sociology at the University of Washington.

Many of us were raised with the idea that true love means finding our "other half" and that a spark is the best foundation for successful long-term partnerships and marriages. But what if this understanding is flawed?

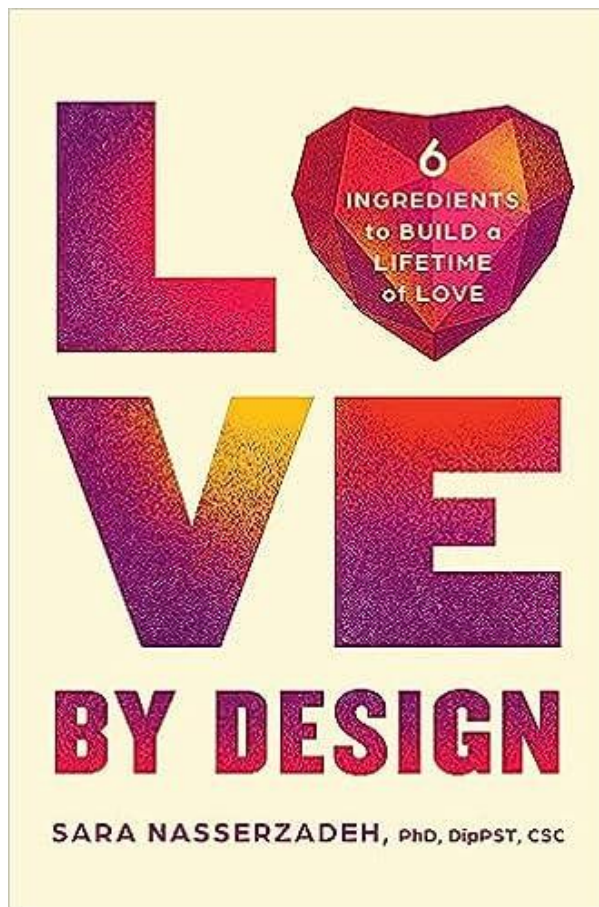
Grounded in two decades of original research and work with couples from around the world, *Love by Design* introduces a groundbreaking new foundation for love: The Emergent Love Model. As Dr. Nasserzadeh knows, successful partnerships do not thrive on love, at least as we know it. Instead of chasing our butterflies we need to cultivate six core relational ingredients that make it possible for love to emerge:

- **Attraction:** What do you like and value about each other?
- **Respect:** How do you keep each other’s needs and priorities in mind?
- **Trust:** Do you know that you will show up for each other consistently?
- **Compassion:** Can you honor the other’s emotional experience without making it about you?
- **Shared vision:** Where are you committed to going together?
- **Loving behaviors:** How do you show your partner they’re special to you?

Offering dozens of exercises and reflection prompts, this groundbreaking book—perfect for fans of *8 Rules of Love* or *The Love Prescription*—will give readers a new foundation for their coupledness—one that will help your coupledness thrive for a lifetime.



Dr. Sara Nasserzadeh, Ph.D., is a world-renowned social psychologist, sexologist, and relationship expert. She has spent over 20 years working with thousands of couples in more than 40 countries. She is highly regarded by her peers as a Key Opinion Leader and has a multitude of articles, books and book chapters to her credit. Her work has also been featured in media around the world, including **NPR, BBC, ABC, CNN** and **Goop**, and she has won awards for her **BBC** radio and TV series on sex and relationships called **“Whispers.”**
<https://www.sara-nasserzadeh.com/>



Praise for LOVE BY DESIGN:

“A revelatory re-conceptualization of how we create love. No other book so seamlessly blends scientific evidence with diversity and acceptance.”—**Dr. Emily Nagoski, bestselling author of Come As You Are and Burnout**

“Dr. Nasserzadeh is an important relationship scholar and gifted clinician. Her vision of Emergent Love will revolutionize your relationship.”
—**Dr. Pepper Schwartz, Professor of Sociology at the University of Washington and New York Times bestselling author**

"Love by Design is an essential read for those looking to cultivate connected and fulfilling intimate relationships. Her model of emergent love will transform how you enter your next relationship or enliven the one you are in for years to come."—**Alexandra H. Solomon, PhD, faculty at Northwestern University, bestselling author of Love Every Day and host of the podcast, Reimagining Love**

“In Love by Design, Dr. Nasserzadeh brings us an exciting, sustainable way of perceiving and living love.”—**Guy Winch, TED Speaker and author of How to Fix A Broken Heart**

"Love by Design supports the wisdom of ages with original evidence-informed research to create a realistic and powerful way to make love work for modern relationships."—**Susan Quilliam, author of the revised The Joy of Sex**

"Clear, concise, and wise. Dr. Nasserzadeh encourages us toward greater self-awareness, teaching readers how to strengthen our bonds by bringing compassion, loving communication, and more to their partnerships. It would do all of us well to heed her expert guidance."—**Barry R. Komisaruk, Ph.D, Distinguished Professor, Psychology at Rutgers University and co-author of The Orgasm Answer Guide.**

"This wise, practical book sheds new light on the perennial question of how to keep romantic love alive. Read it and be prepared never to think about love the same way again." —**Stephen Snyder M.D. Author, Love Worth Making**

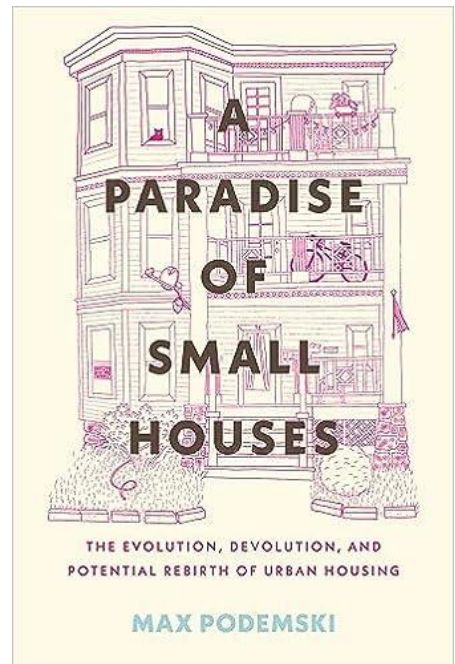
“Dr. Sara has elevated the common Venn diagram to a work of art. Or rather a work of love. Understanding your relational overlap (where 'me' meets 'we') is at the heart of her concept of emergent love, and Love by Design will show you how to occupy your 'we-space' to the fullest.”—**Ian Kerner, sex therapist and best-selling author of She Comes First**

"Everyone wants to experience the spirit and joy of love. Here are insights on how to ignite the delights of a long life of 'love you forever and love you for always.'"—**Mark Victor Hansen, Co-Creator of the New York Times' bestselling Chicken Soup for the Soul Series**

Max Podemski
A PARADISE OF SMALL HOUSES: The Evolution, Devolution, and Potential Rebirth of Urban Housing

Beacon Press, March 26, 2024 | NA
272 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Sarah Phair

From the Haitian-style “shotgun” houses of the 19th century to the lavish high-rises of the 21st century, a walk through the streets of America’s neighborhoods that reveals the rich history—and future—of urban housing



The Philadelphia row house. The New York tenement. The Boston triple-decker. Every American city has its own iconic housing style, structures that have been home to generations of families and are symbols of identity and pride. Max Podemski, an urban planner for the city of Los Angeles and lifelong architecture buff, has spent his career in and around these buildings. Deftly combining his years of experience with extensive research, Podemski walks the reader through the history of our dwelling spaces—and offers a blueprint for how time-tested urban planning models can help us build the homes the United States so desperately needs.

In *A PARADISE OF SMALL HOUSES*, Podemski charts how these dwellings have evolved over the centuries according to the geography, climate, population, and culture of each city. He introduces the reader to styles like Chicago’s prefabricated workers cottages and LA’s car-friendly dingbats, illuminating the human stories behind each city’s iconic housing type. Through it all, Podemski interrogates the American values that have equated home ownership with success and led to the US housing crisis, asking, “How can we look to the past to build the homes, neighborhoods, and cities of the future that our communities deserve?”

“His intelligent analysis and deep research lend strength to his conclusion that what is required to solve the housing crisis is not just more large-scale urban developments but the deregulation of what was once common—small-scale urban home-building by local businesses and families drawing on regional design traditions. It’s a must-read for housing advocates.”
—*Publishers Weekly* ★

“[Podemski’s] argument is convincing. A thoughtful history of affordable housing that establishes the basis for reasoned discussion and well-informed policy.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

“Through this beautifully written and illustrated rich history of everyday houses that form our communities and neighborhoods, Max Podemski shares an insightful account of American cities and their urban development that will greatly appeal to architects, urban designers, planners, historians, housing advocates, and urbanists interested in just cities.”
—*Vinit Mukhija, author of Remaking the American Dream: The Informal and Formal Transformation of Single-Family Housing Cities*

“If an author writes about the history and future of urban housing, and has references I didn’t know about, I have to read further. If the book not only tells me things I didn’t know about urban housing but also a new frame for thinking about it, well then, that’s worth paying for. Max’s book is worth it.”—*Gordon Price, former Vancouver city council member and founder of the City Program at Simon Fraser University*

Max Podemski is an urban planner, author, and illustrator with a lifelong interest in how buildings shape the urban environment. He is the author of the forthcoming book, "A Paradise of Small Houses: The Evolution, Devolution, and Potential Rebirth of Urban Housing" published by Beacon Press. He holds a Master’s in Urban Planning from Columbia University and Bachelor’s in Urban and Environmental Policy from Occidental College. He lives between a duplex and a fourplex in Los Angeles, CA. <https://www.maxpodemski.com/>



Bernie Taupin
SCATTERSHOT: Life, Music, Elton, and Me

Hachette, September 12, 2023

UK: Monoray

416 pages, final manuscript available

Agent: Zoe Sandler

An evocative, clear-eyed, and revealing memoir by Bernie Taupin, the lyrical master and long-time collaborator of Elton John

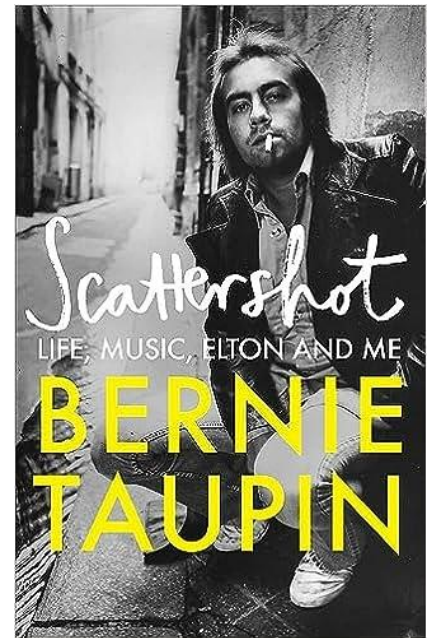
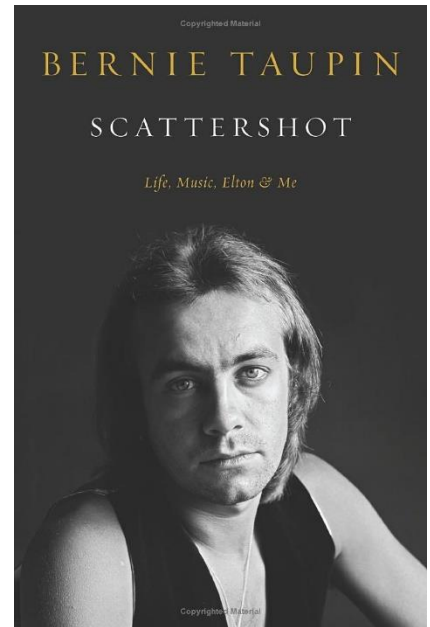
"I loved writing, I loved chronicling life and every moment I was cogent, sober, or blitzed, I was forever feeding off my surroundings, making copious notes as ammunition for future compositions. . . . The thing is good, bad, or indifferent I never stopped writing, it was as addictive as any drug."

This is the memoir music fans have been waiting for. Half of one of the greatest creative partnerships in popular music, Bernie Taupin is the man who wrote the lyrics for Elton John, who conceived the ideas that spawned countless hits, and sold millions and millions of records. Together, they were a duo, a unit, an immovable object. Their extraordinary, half-century-and-counting creative relationship has been chronicled in biopics (like 2019's *Rocketman*) and even John's own autobiography, *Me*. But Taupin, a famously private person, has kept his own account of their adventures close to his chest, until now.

Written with honesty and candor, *Scattershot* allows the reader to witness events unfolding from Taupin's singular perspective, sometimes front and center, sometimes from the edge, yet always described vibrantly, with an infectious energy that only a vivid songwriter's prose could offer. From his childhood in the East Midlands of England whose imagination was sparked and forever informed by the distinctly American mythopoetics of country music and cowboy culture, to the glittering, star-studded fishbowl of '70s and '80s Beverly Hills, *Scattershot* is simultaneously a *Tom Jones*-like picaresque journey across a landscape of unforgettable characters, as well as a striking, first-hand account of a creative era like no other and one man's experience at the core of it.

An exciting, multi-decade whirlwind told in a non-linear yet grounded narrative, *Scattershot* whizzes around the world as we ride shotgun with Bernie on his extraordinary life. We visit Los Angeles with him and Elton on the cusp of global fame. We spend time with him in Australia almost in residency at an infamous rock 'n' roll hotel in an endless blizzard of drugs. And we spend late, late night hours with John Lennon, with Bob Marley, and hanging with Frank Sinatra. And beyond the world of popular music, we witness memorable encounters with writers like Graham Greene, painters like Andy Warhol and Salvador Dali, and scores of notable misfits, miscreants, eccentrics, and geniuses, known and unknown. Even if they're not famous in their own right, they are stars on the page, and we discover how they inspired the indelible lyrics to songs such as "Tiny Dancer," "Candle in the Wind," "Bennie and The Jets," and so many more.

Unique and utterly compelling, *Scattershot* will transport the reader across the decades and around the globe, along the way meeting some of the greatest creative minds of the 20th century, and into the vivid imaginings of one of music's most legendary lyricists.



An instant *Sunday Times* bestseller
An instant *New York Times* bestseller

“This is the most glorious of books. I am besotted by the life I never knew he had.”—Elton John

“I simply wouldn’t write songs without Bernie Taupin. I’ve read every word he’s ever written and there could never be enough of them to satiate my need for Bernie’s way of seeing the world. *Scattershot*, though, is a lifting of the veil, as beautifully written as it is honest and rugged. Reading this book brought me face to face with who he truly is: an empathic genius who speaks to the everyman.”—Brandi Carlile

“Orgasmic. Every page of *Scattershot* is a delight, a joy, a name-dropper fan’s delight. Divine. I couldn’t put it down.”—Pete Townshend

“In Bernie Taupin’s miraculous memoir *Scattershot* you’ll meet legends, cowboys, geniuses, unforgettable faces in the night, shady purveyors of outrageous fortune, warriors of the heart, and most of all, Taupin himself. Hilarious and so emotionally true, *Scattershot* is like a letter from a cherished friend. You’ll want to keep it close, so you can read it again and again.”—Cameron Crowe

“Touching. Charming. Humble. Witty. And exquisitely written. Taupin’s words need no musical accompaniment. They sing with a poet’s voice.”—Gary Oldman

“Eloquent and inspiring, *Scattershot* is a freewheeling memoir that is as warm and evocative as Bernie Taupin’s most memorable lyrics. A born storyteller, Taupin gives us the life of an artist whose outlook was shaped by a rare but fascinating blend of lifelong innocence and endless intellectual curiosity.”—Robert Hilburn, author of *Johnny Cash: The Life*

“Written in a highly entertaining, articulate style with a wickedly acidic sense of humor, this book sets a new standard for rock biographies.”—*Library Journal*

“Fans of the two artists [Elton John and Bernie Taupin]... should check this out. For the less-initiated, Taupin has a lot to say, and it shouldn’t be missed.”—*Booklist*

“[Taupin] describes meeting [Elton John] and their famous longtime collaboration and friendship. He revisits their early years, through John’s megastardom, with plenty of wild times along the way.”—*AARP*

Bernie Taupin is an English lyricist who has worked in partnership with legendary singer, composer, pianist, and worldwide icon Elton John since 1967 and has written the lyrics for most of John’s famous hits, including “Rocket Man,” “Candle in the Wind,” “Crocodile Rock,” “Your Song,” “I’m Still Standing,” and countless others. One of the most successful and long-running musical collaborations in music history, John and Taupin received the Johnny Mercer Award from the Songwriters Hall of Fame, a lifetime achievement Grammy, an Academy Award, and many more. In 2022, Taupin was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to music, and in 2023, he was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. He lives in Southern California.

<https://www.instagram.com/bernietaupinofficial/?hl=en>



Simon Wu

DANCING ON MY OWN: Essays on Art, Joy, and Collectivity

HarperCollins, June 25, 2024 | NA

224 pages, full text available

Agent: Clare Mao

An expansive and deeply personal essay collection which explores the aesthetics of class aspiration, the complications of creating art and fashion, and the limits of identity politics.

"Simon Wu manages to be both a shrewd critic and enthused aspirant of what passes for today's cultural capital. . . .with a disarming lack of cynicism that is both keen and refreshing." —**Cathy Park Hong, author of *Minor Feelings***

"A beautifully ecstatic history of our present, and what it means to seek freedom in the things, institutions, and, most importantly, people around us."—**Hua Hsu, Pulitzer Prize-winning and *NYT* bestselling author of *Stay True***

"A genius melding of art criticism, autobiography, personal essay, and travel writing. . . . Wu—an artist, curator, and writer—layers experiences like translucent curtains through which we see the landscape of a past in the present making its future." —**Claudia Rankine, author of *Just Us* and *Citizen***

Taking inspiration from Robyn's seminal 2010 track, *Dancing on My Own*, which transforms solitude into a more complex joy, emerging art critic and curator Simon Wu dances through the institutions of art, capitalism, and identity in these expertly researched, beautifully rendered essays. In "A Model Childhood" he catalogs the decades' worth of clutter in his mother's suburban garage and its meaning for himself and his family. In "For Everyone," Wu explores the complicated sensation of the Telfar bag (often referred to as "the Brooklyn Birkin") and asks whether fashion can truly be revolutionary in a capitalist system—if something can truly be "for everyone" without undercutting someone else. Throughout, Wu centers the sticky vulnerability of living in a body in a world where history is mapped into every choice we make, every party drug we take, and every person we kiss.

Wu's message is that to dance on your own is to move from critique into joy. To approach identity with the utmost sympathy for the kinds of belonging it might promise, and to look beyond it. For readers of Cathy Park Hong and Alexander Chee, *Dancing on My Own* is a deeply felt and ultimately triumphant anthem about the never-ending journey of discovering oneself, and introduces a brilliant new writer on the rise.



Simon Wu is a curator and writer involved in collaborative art production and research. He has organized exhibitions and programs at the Brooklyn Museum, the Whitney Museum, The Kitchen, MoMA, and David Zwirner, among other venues. In 2021 he was awarded an Andy Warhol Foundation Art Writers Grant and was featured in *Cultured* magazine's Young Curators series. He was a 2018 Helena Rubinstein Curatorial Fellow at the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program and is currently in the PhD program in History of Art at Yale University. He has two brothers, Nick and Duke, and loves the ocean. <http://simonwu.info/>



CHILDREN'S BOOKS



Pam Fong

THE LITTLE CLOUD

Greenwillow Winter 2025 | World English

40 pages, manuscript anticipated April 2024

Agent: Abigail Frank

In a world that often values being busy for the sake of being busy, readers of all ages will be inspired by this heart-melting hero!

This story follows Little, a cloud who has a hard time doing what all clouds are supposed to do: make storms—and that’s it! She doesn’t get why everyone always has to be so busy, so focused. Maybe she could sneak away just for a moment, and explore the world below? The other clouds don’t understand, but when the day takes an unexpected turn, it’s clear that Little was onto something all along.



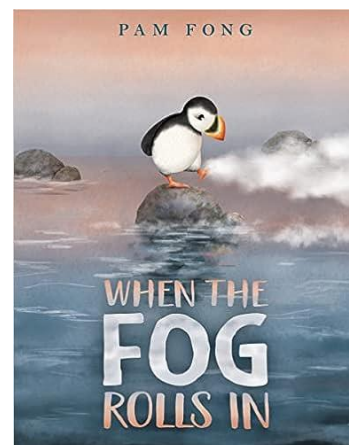
Like all of Pam’s stories, under the adorable characters and gorgeous scenery (her use of color as the dawn rises is striking!) lies a profoundly beautiful takeaway. In her exploration of what it means to be happy and to make the most of each day, Little encourages us to stay curious and find delight in what others may overlook.

WHEN THE FOG ROLLS IN

Greenwillow October 10, 2023 | World English

32 pages, final text and art available

When a thick fog rolls in, an irresistible little puffin is lost in unfamiliar territory. *When the Fog Rolls In* is an exceptional picture book about navigating uncertainty, opening your mind, and finding your way back to your flock.



“Robert Frost’s famous quote perfectly applies to Fong’s story: “The best way out is always through.” ...Arresting artwork in muted watercolors....The youngest listeners will empathize with the lost bird trying to find its way home, while older readers, perhaps through discussion with an adult, may better understand Fong’s symbolic message”—*Booklist*

“...young readers will ... be able to empathize with the puffin’s vulnerable condition. Given the foggy setting, the palette is necessarily muted, but despite the general haziness, there are still discoveries to be made for shrewd viewers, like realizing that what looks like a menacing creature is actually a harmless tree. Though the idea of fog as a metaphor for life’s uncertainties might go over the heads of younger readers, the book provides an effective jumping-off point for discussions about fear, anxiety, and obstacles. A simple but poignant tale about navigating difficulties with courage and patience.” – *Kirkus Reviews*

Pam Fong earned a degree in Visual Arts and Art History from the University of California, San Diego, and a Masters of Arts Management from Carnegie Mellon University. She is the creator of three picture books, *ROU AND THE GREAT RACE* (Reycraft Books 2020), *ONCE UPON A FOREST* (Random House Studio, Spring 2022), and *A SPARK IN THE DARK* (Greenwillow, Fall 2022), and *HEDGEHOG AND THE LOG* (Union Square Books: January, 2024). <https://pamfong.com/>

Picture book



Jyoti Rajan Gopal
ONE SWEET SONG

illustrated by **Sonia Sánchez**

Candlewick, January 16, 2024 | World English

40 pages, final text available

Text c/o SJGA, Illustrations handled by

Candlewick

Agent: Wendi Gu

In an ode to the power of music and community, this vibrantly illustrated picture book steps out on the balcony for a shared moment of spontaneous joy and celebration.

In a quiet neighborhood, a single note trills through the air. Another note joins, and then another. One by one, curious people are drawn to their windows, doorways, and balconies to support the medley. Professional musicians play instruments from around the world, while others bang pots and pans. All are welcome as the notes swirl and dip and crescendo, coming together to make one sweet song. And when the music fades and this diverse neighborhood is once again silent, the reverberations of unity remain. Written by a kindergarten teacher and inspired by the balcony singing in Italy during the pandemic—with a countdown from one to ten and back gently woven in—this rhythmic synergy of text and art is a buoyant, global-minded celebration of how music connects us, even in the darkest of times.



Jyoti Rajan Gopal is a kindergarten teacher and the author of *American Desi*, illustrated by Supriya Kelkar, *My Paati's Saris*, illustrated by Art Twink and *Desert Queen*, illustrated by Svabhu Kohli, named a Stonewall Honor book from the ALA awards and best of 2023 by *Booklist*, *BookPage*, *Kirkus*, and *BCCB*.



She was born in India but grew up all over the world, from Thailand to Indonesia to Myanmar to China. More than twenty-five years ago, she moved to New York City with her husband and raised her two daughters in

Yonkers in a very old house with an amazing porch, where she still lives.

Sonia Sánchez is the illustrator of *Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away* by Meg Medina; *Dog Says, Cat Says* by Marilyn Singer; *Here I Am* by Patti Kim, for which she was nominated for a Will Eisner Comic Industry Award; and many other acclaimed picture books. She lives in Barcelona, Spain.

Praise for ONE SWEET SONG:

“In this tale inspired by the Italian performers who serenaded their neighbors from their balconies during the Covid-19 lockdown, a single musical note leads to a neighborhood symphony. . . . The bright illustrations show swirls of colors and musical notes weaving in and out of the homes, suggesting a sense of connection. . . . A joyful celebration of music and community”. —***Kirkus Reviews***

“Propulsive rhymes unite neighbors in this counting picture book featuring a collaborative musical performance that expands and contracts. . . . Driving rhythms and clear rhymes by Rajan Gopal (*American Desi*) tug with a gentle beat, while energetic illustrations from Sanchez (*Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away*) render a sun-washed cityscape with texture and vigorous scribbles in this work about how individuals retain the warmth and support of connection.” —***Publishers Weekly***



“Gopal, a kindergarten teacher, offers a pleasant, rhyming text that features numbers counting up to 10 and then back down to 1 as night falls. The warm, colorful artwork depicts a diverse group of urban apartment dwellers, young and old, who are clearly enjoying their shared musical experience. Reminiscent of spontaneous musical happenings during the pandemic, this picture book could inspire young children to create their own.” —***Booklist***

“Equally suitable for bedtime or a music-themed storytime program. Sánchez’s spirited art has an endearing hand-sketched look, and a broad range of strokes (scribbles, loops, dots, and smudges) lend a sense of energy and vibration to each exuberantly earth-toned scene. While there are subtle parallels to the balcony singing in various cities during early COVID-19 lockdown, the story itself is deeply resonant and speaks to the power of music to enhance the resilience, creativity, and unity of global communities during an exceptionally trying time.” —***The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books***

“The rhyming, rhythmic text counts up to ten participants and back down to one, first animating readers and then bringing them back down to a quieter, peaceful state that gives this book a dual function as a bedtime story. Colorful painted and digital illustrations show individual lines, an almost scribbly texture, and imperfectly drawn shapes, all of which make the pictures buzz with energy and movement. Even if they didn’t personally experience these types of balcony performances, readers will understand the way music-making can bring people together.” —***The Horn Book***

“From windows, balconies, and rooftops, a neighborhood joins an impromptu symphony in Gopal’s warm, endearing picture book that begs to be read aloud. . . . Preschool and kindergarten teachers will find this title to be an easy fit for math lessons, and music teachers may even use *One Sweet Song* with students to identify the many instruments featured. . . . A twist on the usual counting book that emphasizes community and the ways that music can bridge the distance between people.” —***School Library Journal***

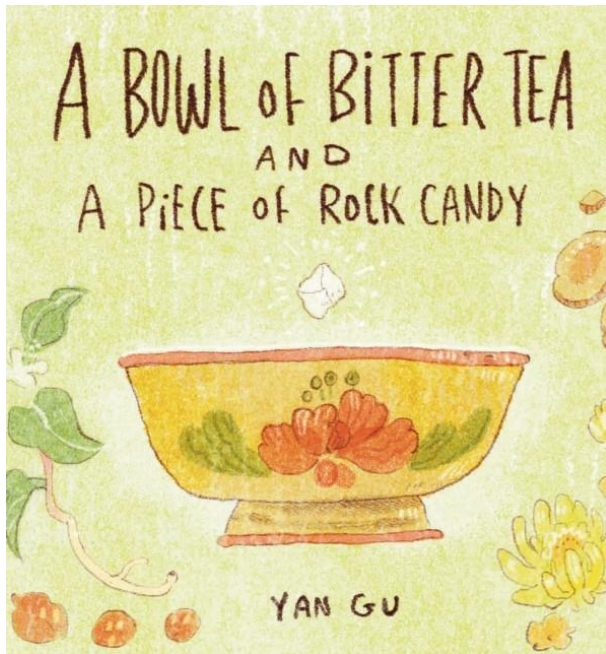
Yan Gu

A BOWL OF BITTER TEA AND A PIECE OF ROCK CANDY

Henry Holt BYR, Fall 2025 | World English

Final art due July 2024

Agent: Wendi Gu



A humorous and heartfelt tale about the bitterness of liangcha, a popular tea from traditional Chinese medicine, and the sweetness of a Waipo (grandmother)

Liangcha (凉茶)— translated as cooling tea – is an herbal tea from southern China that nourishes the body by keeping it cool, especially handy for summer’s hottest days. However, liangcha is STINKY and BITTER, and little Mimi can’t stand to drink it, even though Mimi’s doting Waipo makes her fresh homemade liangcha every day. In this beautifully illustrated, Chinese-themed take on how a spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down, we follow a

spunky Mimi as she does everything within her power to not to drink Waipo’s liangcha, only to realize that she is rejecting Waipo’s caring love by doing so. By the end, Waipo and Mimi meet in the middle and delight in a sweet antidote to the bitterness.

This book is about two different flavors of love. Other marketing points: a little knowledge about TCM (traditional Chinese medicine), and intergenerational love between a grandmother and granddaughter. Not to mention: gorgeous illustrations.

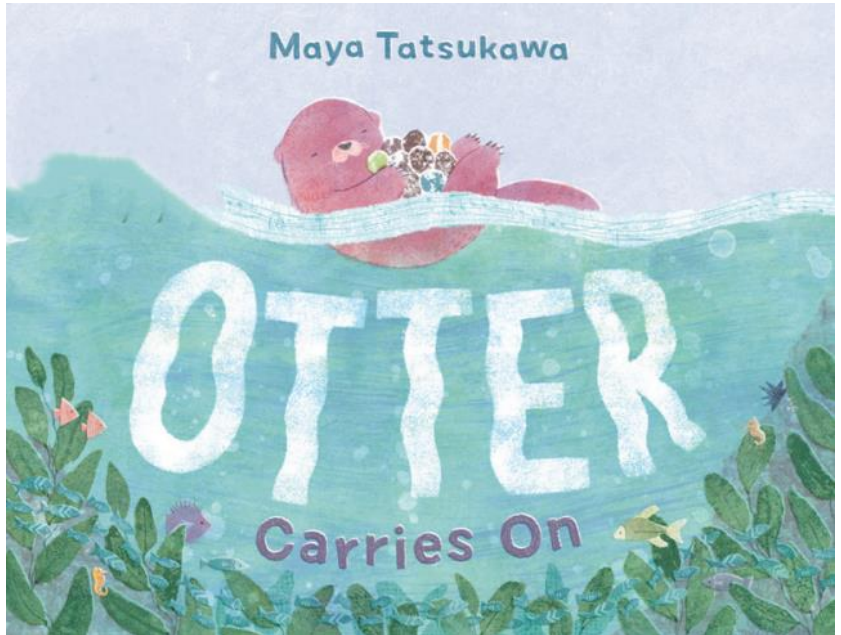


Yan Gu is an illustrator from Shanghai. She graduated from RISD in 2022. In her free time, she loves plein-air painting. *A BOWL OF BITTER TEA AND A PIECE OF ROCK CANDY* is her first picture book.

Picture Book

Maya Tatsukawa
OTTER CARRIES ON

Henry Holt Books for Young Readers,
March 11, 2025 | World English
40 pages, final material Summer 2024
Agent: Wendi Gu



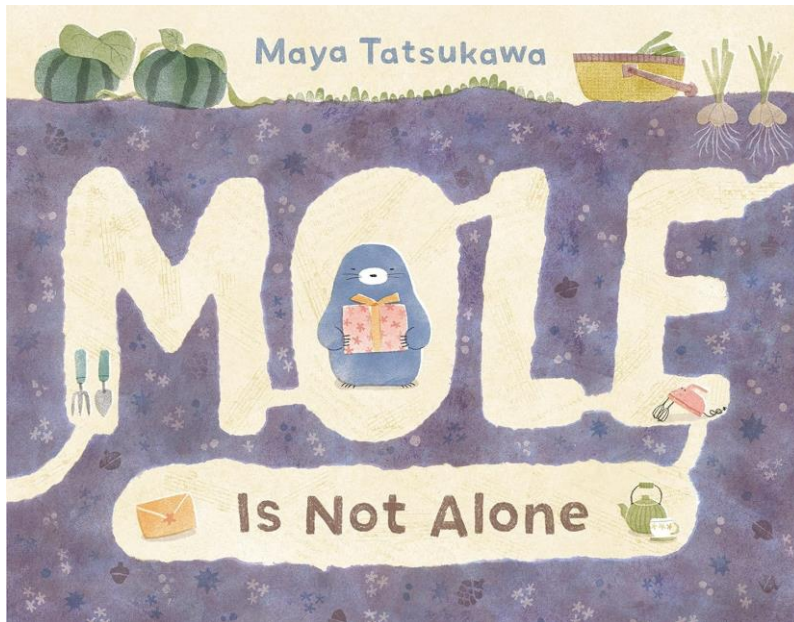
From the Theodore Seuss Geisel Award-winning author of **THE BEAR IN MY FAMILY**, the second in a two-book, six-figure deal (with **MOLE IS NOT ALONE**) that finds a headstrong otter learning a valuable lesson about trying to do it all.

Little Otter is perfectly capable of holding it all together. All alone, without any help, thank you very much. Arms full of cherished collected rocks, Little Otter is swept up in a storm that shakes their grasp, and finds that when times get rough, letting go may not be all that bad after all.

Filled with adorable characters and beguiling scenery, **OTTER CARRIES ON** is sure to resonate with children and adults alike who may need a bit of encouragement to accept the help of others.

By day, [Maya Tatsukawa](https://petitemayat.com/) is a book designer at Walker/Candlewick. By night, she bakes beautiful desserts and illustrates children’s books. She is the author/illustrator of Geisel Honor winner **THE BEAR IN MY FAMILY** (Dial 2020), **SUNDAY PANCAKES** (Dial 2022), and **MOLE IS NOT ALONE** (Holt 2023). She sometimes teams up with writer Darren Farrell and together they’ve created **DANDELION MAGIC** (Dial 2021), **GIVE THIS BOOK AWAY** (Knopf 2022), and the forthcoming **LION IN BED** (Dial 2025). Today, she lives outside of Boston with her cat/studio manager Mosami. <https://petitemayat.com/>





MOLE IS NOT ALONE

Henry Holt Books for Young Readers,
October 3, 2023 | World English
40 pages, final text and art available

Agent: Wendi Gu

Rights sold: China (21st Century), France
(Albin Michel), Germany (Gerstenberg),
Israel (Agam Books), Korea (Bear Books),
Taiwan (Easten Publishing)

**Art for MOLE IS NOT ALONE will be
included in the Society of Illustrators
exhibit at the Bologna Book Fair**

Tatsukawa brings this tale to satisfying conclusion that lets young introverts know they can have fun on their own terms."— ★ *Kirkus*

"...a story about anticipatory worry that ends not with forced revelry, but with a "Maybe... next time?" and gentle camaraderie found." — ★ *Publisher's Weekly*

"Sweet and cozy—much like the cream puffs Mole makes—*Mole Is Not Alone* lends itself well to both storytime read-alouds and quiet snuggles before bed. Fans of Yeorim Yoon and Jian Kim's *It's OK, Slow Lizard* and Cori Doerrfeld's *The Rabbit Listened* will want to add this to their shelves." — ★ *BookPage*

"Tatsukawa's adorable illustrations . . . would be at home on any nursery blanket, making the story's handling of social anxiety feel comforting and reassuring." — *Booklist*

"Tatsukawa creates art that is as gentle as the story, with soft, muted tones in greens, browns, and blacks, clean stenciled lines, and stamp-like smudgy textures. The tunnels Mole traverses are cleverly set up to function like comic book panels, and all text is in speech bubbles, making this easy for youngsters to try to read on their own." — *BCCB*

"Tatsukawa's beautiful pastel illustration create a whimsical feel; kids will delight in the many details in the pictures. . . . This sensitive story will delight party lovers and those with social anxiety alike—a charming addition to the SEL shelves." — *SLJ*

Mole is invited to a party, which is very worrisome. What if the party is too rowdy for Mole? What if Mole doesn't know anyone there? What if Mole is just too shy to make friends? Mole worries through the tunnels, around Snake's burrow, under the forest, past Bear's den, and all the way to Rabbit's door. But despite all those worries, maybe Mole can find a quiet way to make friends.

With warm and sweet illustrations, every page is an invitation to look and look again. Readers can follow Mole's tunnel as it connects from one page to the next, learning along the way that everyone can make friends, even if some parties are quieter than others.

Please see the artist's artistic process at the QR code at right:



Jack Wong

WHEN YOU CAN SWIM

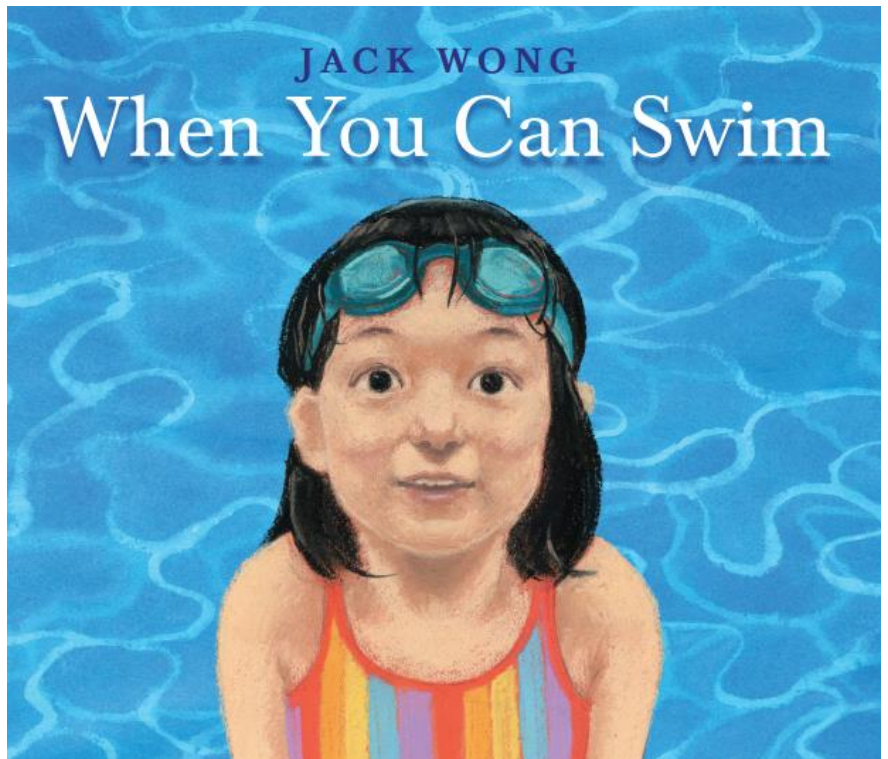
Scholastic, May 2, 2023 | World English, NA Spanish, and French
48 pages, final text and art available
Agent: Wendi Gu
Rights sold: Korea (Prooni Books)

Winner of the Boston Globe-Horn Book Picture Book Award

Amazon Best Book of May: Ages 3-5

Publishers Weekly Best Summer Read for 2023

A reverent celebration of learning to swim among a diverse cast of children and families who each experience the mysterious joys of water in nature.



In this exploration of what it truly means to swim, expansive vignettes introduce sandpipers, tannin-soaked lakes, and the feeling of a small waterfall on sun-soaked shoulders. But what about those who are afraid of the water’s mysterious ways and resist learning to swim? Painting a compelling picture of the many joys and surprises that the water holds, artist and author Jack Wong has delivered an empowering, poetic journey that invites children to discover their confidence within to receive the warmth and wonder of the natural world.

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Jack Wong (黃雋喬) was born in Hong Kong and raised in Vancouver. In 2010, he left behind a life as a bridge engineer to pursue his Bachelor of Fine Arts at NSCAD University (Halifax, Canada), where he now lives with his wife and two cats.

A self-declared actual Jack-of-all-trades, he has also tried his hand at bookkeeping, teaching art, managing a psychology research lab, and running his own bicycle repair shop, just to name a few—a real education for creating children’s books, if you ask him!

The books that Jack writes and illustrates are indelibly marked by a first-generation Asian Canadian experience, transposed upon the small-city living, natural beauty, and deeply rooted storytelling traditions of the Maritime east coast. Jack is the recipient of 12x12 Picture Book Challenge’s 2021 Diversity Scholarship, competitive mentorships from Annick Press and Visual Arts Nova Scotia (with artist Steve Higgins), and a longlist mention in the 2020 CANSCAIP Writing for Children Competition. He volunteers in the Virtual Readers and Refugees Program hosted by the International Board on Books for Young People, and is an active member of SCBWI, Visual Arts Nova Scotia, and Writers’ Federation of Nova Scotia.

Picture Book

Praise for WHEN YOU CAN SWIM

“In VISUALLY INVENTIVE, LOVINGLY FINISHED pastel-and-watercolor spreads and sinuous lines of prose-poetry, debut author-illustrator Wong showcases myriad children encountering the joys of swimming.” ★ *Publishers Weekly*

“[When You Can Swim] is BOUND TO INSPIRE all swimmers to embrace nature, no matter where they are on their journey....A GORGEOUSLY RENDERED love letter to swimming and the magical experiences that it can unlock.” ★ *Kirkus Reviews*

“Jack Wong’s BREATHTAKING watery landscapes, strong currents surge beneath rushing waterfalls, and sunlight shimmers on ocean waves and the surface of a river...Text and illustrations merge SEAMLESSLY....Wong’s playful perspectives are CAPTIVATING...STUNNING...[A] SPLENDID PICTURE BOOK.” ★ *BookPage*

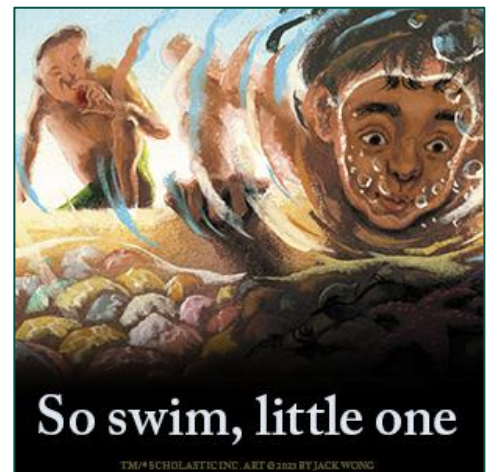
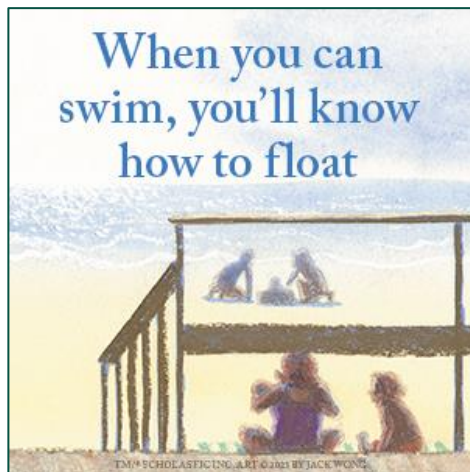
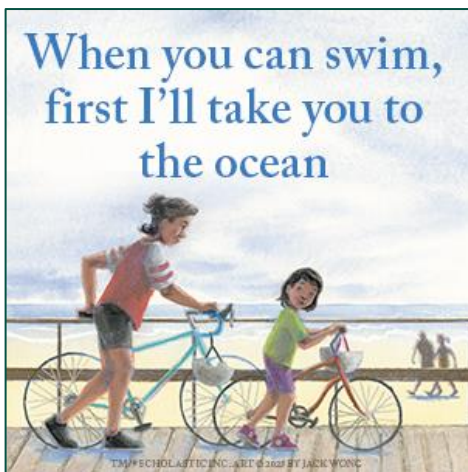
“With POETIC text and GORGEOUS, INCLUSIVE illustrations, Wong invites readers to learn how to swim—to conquer fear of the water, and also to reclaim aquatic spaces for Brown, Black, and differently abled bodies...This isn’t just a book about swimming but also ‘about our ideas of the world’; it’s a manifesto that ‘this belongs to you, too.’” ★ *Horn Book*

“In watercolors and pastels, this picture book EXTOLS the future joys of swimming in many different locales.” *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, “New Books for 2023 Summer Reading”

“[A] MARVELOUS book with its GLORIOUS poetry and SPECTACULAR pastel and watercolor illustrations offers an INSPIRING of what is possible when someone conquers their fear of the water and dares to swim in the ocean, a pond, a lake, a canal, a swimming pool.” *The Buffalo News*

“STUNNINGLY ILLUSTRATED and LYRICAL.” *BookRiot*

“This EXQUISITELY ILLUSTRATED picture book celebrates all the wonder and adventure to be found when you sink your body into water.” *Northern Virginia Magazine*



Jack’s flight to ALA was cancelled so he ended up missing the Scholastic event where he was supposed to speak, but he made a video at an airport hotel and apparently it stole the show. Enjoy here this video that beautifully captures his intentions for the book:



Toni Yuly

SLOWLY SLOWLY

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, September 12,

2023 | World English

40 pages, final text and art available

Agent: Wendi Gu

A persimmon branch takes its time creating a wonderful gift for the community around it in this charming picture book celebrating the beauty that can be found in slowing down.

When you slow down...

you see more.

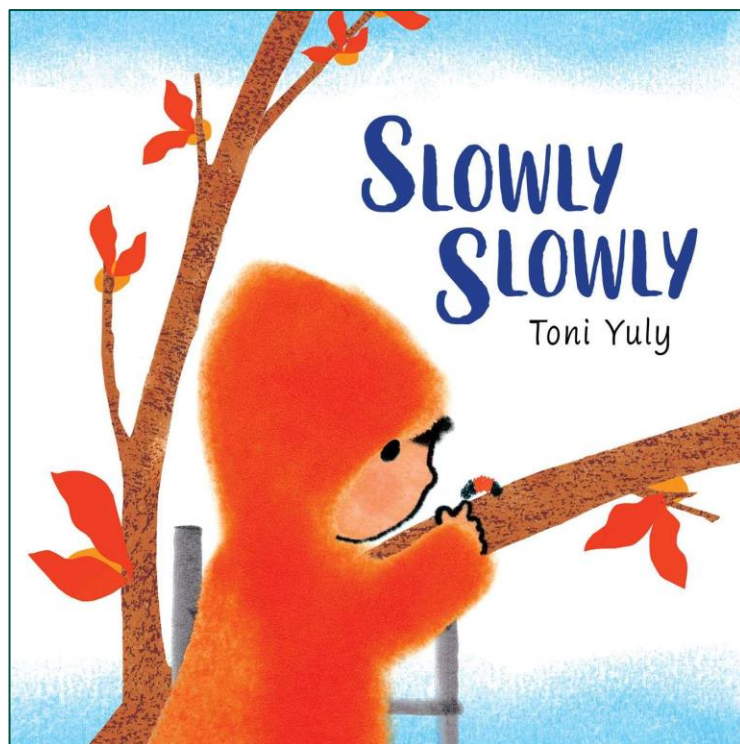
You see the day waking up,

the turtle taking steps,

the wind having fun.

You see wonder

all around.



In this this simple yet stunning picture book, a persimmon tree stretches across every page, changing with the seasons. In the world beyond its branches, a boy and his puppy delight in the wonders they see around them. All the while, the tree is slowly growing, blooming, and creating fruit to be enjoyed.

"With a few carefully chosen words and images, Yuly fashions a delicate paean to nature and mindfulness. "When you slow down.../ you see more," whisper the inviting first lines. . . The minimalist style and composition of the hazy, soft-textured art winningly reflect the book's philosophy of stripped-down simplicity. . . An appealing purchase for all collections, with plenty of details to inspire conversation and reward multiple read-throughs." --★ *School Library Journal*

"The simplicity of this story results in its perfection. Repeated scenes of a branch of the persimmon tree, shown in different weather and at various times of day, will hold children's interest during multiple rereads and help them learn about the seasons and other aspects of the natural world. . . The precise, limited narrative and its message that good things can take time to develop will lull readers into a sense of calm appreciation, making this an ideal story for bedtime. Delightful and soothing encouragement to slow down and enjoy life."-- ★ *Kirkus Reviews*



Toni Yuly is the creator of many acclaimed picture books including *Some Questions About Trees*, *The Whole Wide World and Me*, and *Thank You, Bees*. She studied painting at the University of Washington, where she worked with the great American painter Jacob Lawrence. Toni also worked for many years as a librarian with the King County Library System. She now lives in Bremerton, a short ferry ride from Seattle, Washington. Visit her at www.ToniYuly.com .

Picture Book

Jennifer Blecher
LISTEN TO THIS

Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins | March 26, 2024 | NA
224 pages, final manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater



LISTEN to THIS
JENNIFER BLECHER



Critically acclaimed author Jennifer Blecher has four books with Greenwillow! **STICK WITH ME**, **CAMP FAMOUS**, and **OUT OF PLACE**.

Secrets, rumors, shifting friendships, overbearing parents, and, on top of all that, a first dance—how does anyone survive seventh grade?

Lily, Maddie, and Sasha have always been the perfect friendship trio. But this year, everything is changing. Maddie and Sasha made the elite soccer team, and Lily feels that they're always leaving her behind. And everyone seems to have secrets now: Maddie, and Sasha, and Lily's sister, and even Lily herself.

Lily's classmate Will wishes he had some secrets. After all, his life is already out there for the whole world to hear about, thanks to his dad's super-popular parenting podcast. And Will hates it, but telling his dad that is harder than the hardest climbing wall at Philly Rocks. Until his dad finally crosses a line, and Will's not sure he can forgive him.

But maybe when Lily and Will meet, they'll find just what they need: someone who will listen.



Jennifer Blecher is the author of *Camp Famous*, *Stick with Me*, and *Out of Place*. She lives in Boston, Massachusetts, with her husband and their three children, but spends part of every summer on Martha's Vineyard. Visit her at www.jenniferblecher.com.

Middle Grade novel

Shaina Lu

NOODLE & BAO

HarperCollins/Quill Tree Books, Fall 2024 | World English

222 pages, final art due

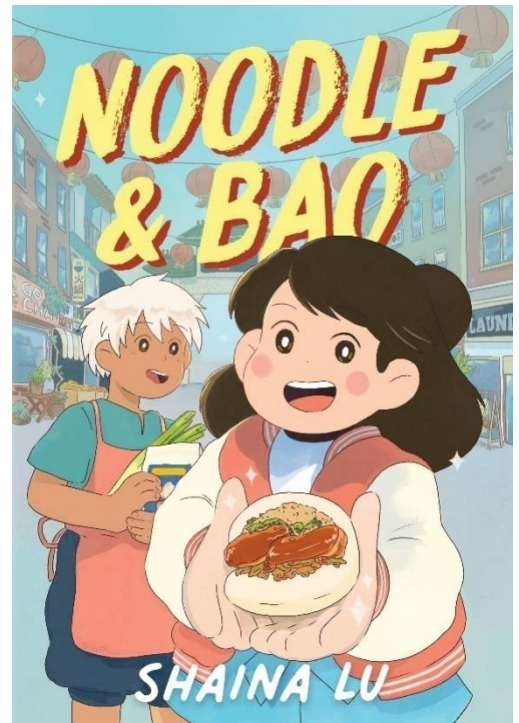
Agent: Wendi Gu, text and art

Perfect for fans of *Animal Crossing* and *Measuring Up*, this whimsical and empowering middle grade graphic novel follows a girl who helps her friend’s humble food cart stand its ground against the gentrification of their Chinatown neighborhood. Sold at auction in a two-book deal, **NOODLE & BAO** is an ode to Chinatowns everywhere.

Momo has lived in Town 99 her entire life. She knows all its quirks and rhythms: the best places to buy fruit, practice tai-chi in the park, and, most of all, get the best meal: Noodle & Bao, run by Momo’s best friend, Bao, and their amah, Noodle.

But Town 99 is changing. Rent is becoming unaffordable for Momo and her parents, and even Noodle & Bao has been edged out of its storefront, which was just recently bought out by a new business venture—Fancé Cafe. Fancé is run by the ambitious Ms. Jujube and her henchmen, who claim they’re only beautifying Town 99 with good business.

Momo knows that’s not true, and knows that if she doesn’t do something, she’ll lose everything she loves about her neighborhood. From undercover recon to a cook-off proposal, protest signs to petitions, Momo and Bao are on a mission to protect Town 99. Will they succeed before it’s too late?



Shaina Lu 呂明穎 (she/her) is a queer Taiwanese-American community artist and educator interested in the intersection of art, education, and activism. She graduated from Wellesley College and Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she studied Arts in Education. She lives with her wife and cat on the ancestral and unceded lands of the Massachusett and Pawtucket people.

<http://shainadoesart.com/>



Middle Grade Graphic Novel



Janae Marks
A SPLIT SECOND

HarperCollins, October 1, 2024 | NA
256 Pages, Final Manuscript Available
Agent: Alexander Slater

New York Times bestselling author Janae Marks delivers a stunningly crafted and twisty mystery about the tests of friendships that examines what matters most when everything can change in a split second—perfect for fans of Rebecca Stead and Anne Ursu.

That clock can't be right. When Elise wakes up the morning after her birthday celebration, she's surprised to find herself in her bedroom. Last she can remember, she had fallen asleep next to her best friends at her slumber party in her basement, and it was October. But now she's alone, and her phone says it's April 8. Elise doesn't understand. How could she have woken up six months later?

No one else is acting like anything strange has happened, yet Elise can't remember the last half year. To make matters worse, her friends refuse to talk to her and Elise doesn't know why. She also has no idea how she got signed up for photography club or why her former best friend, Cora, is talking to her again. Is it a memory problem? Could it be magic? Every day that passes takes Elise further from the world she knew. Thankfully, Elise has Cora to lean on in this new reality, and the two come together to investigate why Elise woke up in the future—and, more important, how to get her back to her past and away from this nightmare.



Janae Marks is the New York Times bestselling author of middle grade novels *From the Desk of Zoe Washington*, *On Air with Zoe Washington* and *A Soft Place to Land*. She has an MFA in Writing for Children from The New School, and lives in Connecticut with her husband, daughter and miniature schnauzer named Cookie. Visit her at <https://www.janaemarks.com/>.

Her debut novel, FROM THE DESK OF ZOE WASHINGTON, was published in the UK with Chicken House under the title, THE FARAWAY TRUTH: https://www.amazon.co.uk/Faraway-Truth-Janae-Marks-ebook/dp/B084BYJZRR?ref=ast_author_mpb.

Middle Grade novel

Liz Montague
SCHOOL FOR UNUSUAL MAGIC:
The Equinox Test

Scholastic, April 2, 2024 | World English

240 pages, B&W illustrations

ARCs available

Agent: Wendi Gu

Three friends discover magic and mayhem around every corner of their school in the first book of this brand-new illustrated three-book series from *New Yorker* cartoonist and NAACP Image Award nominee Liz Montague.

It's time to put their magic to the test!

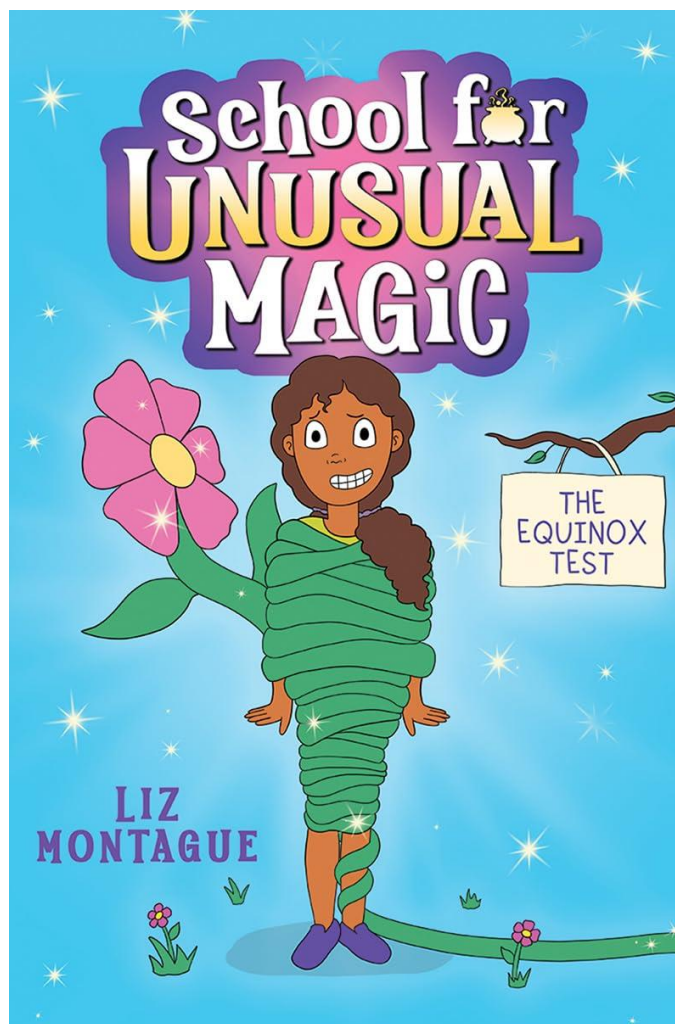
Welcome to the Brooklyn School of Magic, where seeds of enchantment are planted and magic sprouts in every corner. And where each fall, fifth years must pass the Equinox Test if they want to move up to Middle Magic.

Rose is worried. She's never been the best student. And if she doesn't pass with flying colors, Principal Ivy says she may have to transfer to a boring, non-magical school.

Amethyst knows she's got the skills to ace the test. But to really impress her mom, she's got her eye on the school's top prize.

Lavender just wants to fit in. Even after a few years in the States, he still feels homesick. All. The. Time. Passing the test might just be his ticket back to the island.

But with best friend battles, a cheating scandal, and trouble brewing in the magical community, the Equinox Test may not even be the biggest challenge these Magic Bearers will face this year...



Liz Montague began as a cartoonist for *The New Yorker* in 2019. She is the author-illustrator of the graphic novel *Maybe an Artist*, which was nominated for an NAACP Image Award, the picture book *Jackie Ormes Draws the Future*, and middle grade series *School for Unusual Magic*. Liz is passionate about nature and emotional literacy. She lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with her husband Pat.

<https://lizatlarge.org/about-3/>

Middle Grade Illustrated



Rainie Oet GLITCH GIRL!

Kokila, Spring 2025 | World English
Manuscript anticipated Spring 2024
Agent: Abigail Frank

Sold at auction

The first middle grade novel in verse from poet and children’s book author Rainie Oet, *GLITCH GIRL!* is about a young person who processes the isolation of middle school, ADHD, confusion about their gender, and an overwhelming crush on a girl at school through playing a roller-coaster-park-building game.

About Rainie Oet:

George Saunders called her work “complex, mysterious, finely wrought, and formally daring,” and said that she is “a young writer to watch.”

Mary Karr said, “Rainie Oet has it all,” and called her second book of poetry “an extraordinary display of poetic power, and [2020]’s must-read new voice.”

Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah called Rainie “a brilliant new writer with the power to make you see things you’ve never seen before with stunning clarity.”

GLITCH GIRL! follows “J—” from 5th to 7th grade—from, roughly, the beginning to the end of their obsession with the video game, *Coaster Boss* (based off of *RollerCoaster Tycoon*). J—’s life is consumed by this game, by the power they exert over the pixelated theme park attendees. Their life outside the game is less controllable. They’re navigating an ADHD diagnosis, the isolation of middle school, and an overwhelming crush on a girl named Junie. They are convinced that Junie sees them as who they really are, as a person who isn’t “bad” just because they don’t stay quiet and sit still in class. And as a person who is realizing that maybe the name, and the gender, the world uses for them isn’t who they are.

Rainie Oet (she/her) is a queer trans woman who writes for adults and younger readers alike. She is the former Editor-in-Chief at *Salt Hill Journal*, and the author of three books of poetry: *Glorious Veils of Diane* (Carnegie Mellon UP, 2021), *Inside Ball Lightning* (SEMO Press, 2020), and *Porcupine in Freefall* (winner of the Bright Hill Press Poetry Book Competition, 2019). She has two upcoming picture books with Astra Young Readers: *ROBIN’S WORLDS* and *MONSTER SEEK* (world rights are with the publisher). Her writing appears in *Poetry Review*, *Blackbird*, *jubilat*, *Palette Poetry*, and *The Yale Review*, among other publications. She received her MFA in Poetry from Syracuse University, where she was awarded the Shirley Jackson Prize in Fiction. Her website is www.rainieoet.com.

Middle Grade novel in verse

Jacquelyn Stolos
ASTERWOOD

Delacorte, Summer 2025 | NA
Manuscript anticipated August 2024
Agent: Alexander Slater

A middle grade version of *The Hazel Wood* by way of Kelly Barnhill, a mysterious new friend introduces a motherless girl to a fantastical yet ominous world, where she discovers not only a secret world and a group of kids that are relying on her, but also that her family has secrets of its own.



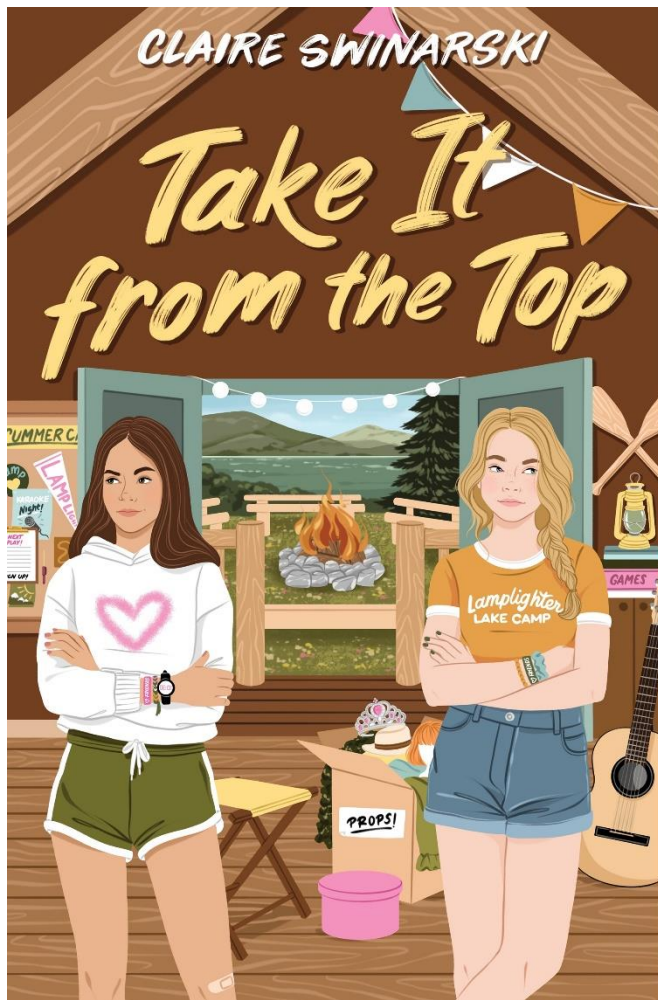
Now, the tree wavered back and forth, its base engulfed in flames. “And what kind of mother would I have been if I had found you? You don’t think I love you? You don’t think I want you to live a life untouched by badness or hurt? Untouched by me? You are my greatest love and greatest agony.”

Twelve-year-old Madelyn Delios doesn’t quite fit in her small New Hampshire town, but she’d never let her father, Ezra, know how much it hurts. Life in their lopsided old farmhouse overflows with great books, cozy meals, and father-daughter adventures in the surrounding woods. What more could a good daughter ask for? After all, it’s not Ezra’s fault that Madelyn doesn’t have a mother.

But, when a mysterious new friend appears in the woods behind her house and invites her down a forbidden trail to another world, Madelyn is forced to reckon with yearnings she’s long suppressed and uncomfortable truths she’s always suspected. *ASTERWOOD* is a story of what we inherit, of magic and mothers, and of how one society’s insatiable desire brings their enchanted ecosystem to the brink of collapse. Beware of cannibals, complacency, raging rivers, and the shock of seeing your parents as human for the very first time.

Jacquelyn Stolos is a writer living and teaching in Los Angeles. She holds an MFA in fiction from New York University where she was a Writers in the Public Schools Fellow. Jacquelyn has won fellowships to attend the New York State Summer Writers Institute and the Community of Writers. Her short fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *Bodega Magazine*, *No Tokens*, *Joyland* and more. Find her online at <http://www.jacquelynstolos.com/>.

Middle Grade novel



Claire Swinarski
TAKE IT FROM THE TOP

Quill, November 19, 2024 | NA

Manuscript available

Agent: Alexander Slater

A contemporary story told non-sequentially a la *The Friendship List* meets *500 Days of Summer*, following two girls who have become best friends over the course of six summers, while getting flashbacks into what contributed to their present-day falling out.

Eowyn and Jules have been going to theater camp together for the past six summers. But for some reason, Jules is being a total jerk this year – and Eowyn can't figure out why. When they learn the mainstage show is *Wicked* – their dream show – they need to decide if they can keep acting the roles of BFFs, or if unraveling the past six summers could help them understand what happened to their friendship. This summer might just change them for good.

Claire Swinarski is the author of three middle-grade books and one adult novel. Her writing has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *Seventeen*, *Milwaukee Magazine*, and many other publications. She lives in small town Wisconsin with her husband and three kids, where she writes books, wears babies, and wrangles bread dough. <http://www.claireswinarski.com/>



Middle Grade novel

Alex Thayer
**HAPPY & SAD &
EVERYTHING TRUE**

(formerly BECAUSE I'M EVERYTHING)
Aladdin, November 12, 2024 | World English
272 pages, Manuscript available
Agent: Alexander Slater

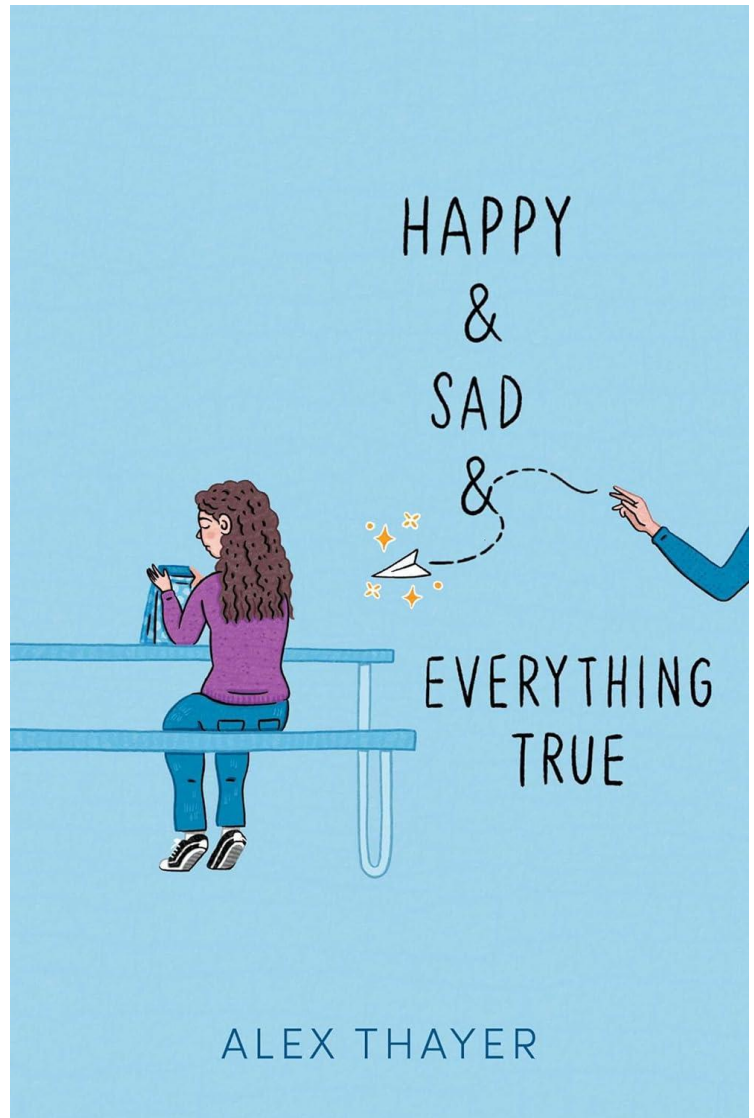
Sold in a pre-empt!

With charm and sincerity reminiscent of Judy Blume and Rebecca Stead, this debut middle grade novel is a heartfelt, hopeful story about a girl finding herself through secretly giving out advice to classmates.

Back when Dee and Juniper were still friends, Dee never hid in the bathroom. Now, at the beginning of sixth grade, Dee finds herself there often. The dripping faucet is annoying, and there are other places she'd rather be—like at home and in her room with her cat, Norman. But at least Dee is safe from overenthusiastic teachers and having to see Juniper walking through the halls with her new friends. Dee would rather be alone than witness that.

But it turns out Dee isn't the only one hiding from something. There are kids all over the school worrying in secret and needing someone to talk to. After Dee helps a second grader with spelling advice, more students begin coming to Dee with their problems. It turns out she's a good listener, and she likes helping people. And when she starts receiving mysterious notes, it seems someone out there wants to be her friend—if only they would reveal themselves.

[Alexandra Thayer](#) is a former film and television actress and elementary school teacher. She lives in New England with her two sons and can be found on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/alexandra_thayer/.



Middle Grade novel



Jasmine Warga
**A STRANGE THING HAPPENED IN
CHERRY HALL**

Balzer & Bray, September 10, 2024 | World English
224 Pages, manuscript available

From the award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Rover's Story* and *Other Words for Home* comes an extraordinary story about two friends, a ghost, a missing painting, and a turtle named Agatha. The perfect next read for fans of *The Swifts*, Kate DiCamillo, and Erin Entrada Kelly.

“A *Strange Thing Happened in Cherry Hall* reeled me in with the opening sentence and didn’t let go. I love EVERYTHING about it! The characters! The setting! The suspense! I cannot wait to booktalk it during school visit presentations. I’m going to tell children and educators around the world that I could feel Jasmine Warga’s big, kind heart on every page! What a gift she’s given us!”—MR. SCHU

A painting has been stolen...!

When Rami sees a floating girl in the museum, he knows he has seen her somewhere before. Then he realizes: She looks just like the girl in the painting that has gone missing. But how does her appearance connect to the theft?

Agatha the turtle knows—she has been watching from the garden. But she can’t exactly tell anyone...can she?

Will Rami, with the help of his classmate, Veda, be able to solve the mystery? The clues are all around them, but they’ll have to be brave enough to really look.

This is a whimsical, moving story about the universal desire to be seen and understood and how art can help us find connection, even when we are at our loneliest.

Jasmine Warga is the *New York Times*-bestselling author of middle grade novels *Other Words For Home*, *The Shape of Thunder*, and *A Rover’s Story*. *Other Words For Home* earned multiple awards, including a John Newbery Honor, a Walter Honor for Young Readers, and a Charlotte Huck Honor. *The Shape of Thunder* was a *School Library Journal* and Bank Street best book of the year, a finalist for the Barnes & Noble Children’s and YA Book Award, and has been named to several state award reading lists. *A Rover’s Story* was an instant *New York Times* bestseller, a Indie Next List and a Junior Library Guild selection, and was named a best book of the year by *Publishers Weekly* and *The Washington Post*. She is also the author of young adult novel, *My Heart and Other Black Holes*, which has been translated into over twenty different languages. Originally from Cincinnati, she now lives in the Chicago-area with her family in a house filled with books. <https://jasminewarga.com/>



Middle Grade novel

Kara H.L. Chen

ASKING FOR A FRIEND

HarperCollins July 23, 2024 | NA

336 page, Manuscript available

Agent: Alexander Slater

This charming YA rom-com follows a strong-willed, ambitious teen as she teams up with her childhood frenemy to start a dating-advice column, perfect for fans of Emma Lord and Gloria Chao.

Juliana Zhao is absolutely certain of a few things:

1. She is the world's foremost expert on love.
2. She is going to win the nationally renowned Asian Americans in Business Competition.

When Juliana is unceremoniously dropped by her partner and she's forced to pair with her nonconformist and annoying frenemy, Garrett Tsai, everything seems less clear. Their joint dating advice column must be good enough to win and secure bragging rights within her small Taiwanese American community, where her family's reputation has been in the pits since her older sister was disowned a few years prior.

Juliana always thought prestige mattered above all else. But as she argues with Garrett over how to best solve everyone else's love problems and faces failure for the first time, she starts to see fractures in this privileged, sheltered worldview. With the competition heating up, Juliana must reckon with the sacrifices she's made to be a perfect daughter—and whether winning is something she even wants anymore.

LOVE AND RESISTANCE

HarperCollins, July 2, 2023 | NA

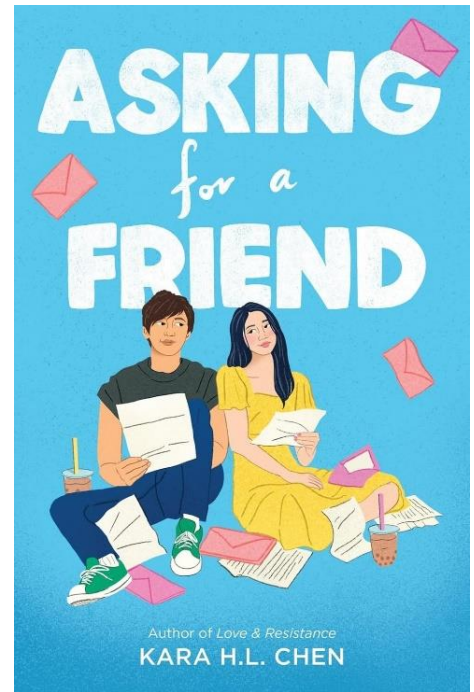
352 pages, Manuscript available

Moxie meets Mary H.K. Choi in this funny, whip-smart YA debut about love, resistance, and the enduring friendships that make it all worthwhile.

Seventeen-year-old Olivia Chang is at her fourth school in seven years. Her self-imposed solitude is lonely but safe. At Plainstown High, however, Olivia's usual plan of anonymity fails when infamous it-girl Mitzi Clarke makes a pointed racist comment in class. Tired of ignoring things just to survive, Olivia defends herself.

And that is the end of her invisible life. Soon, Olivia joins forces with the Nerd Net: a secret society that's been thwarting Mitzi's reign of terror for months. Together, they plan to unite the masses and create true change at school.

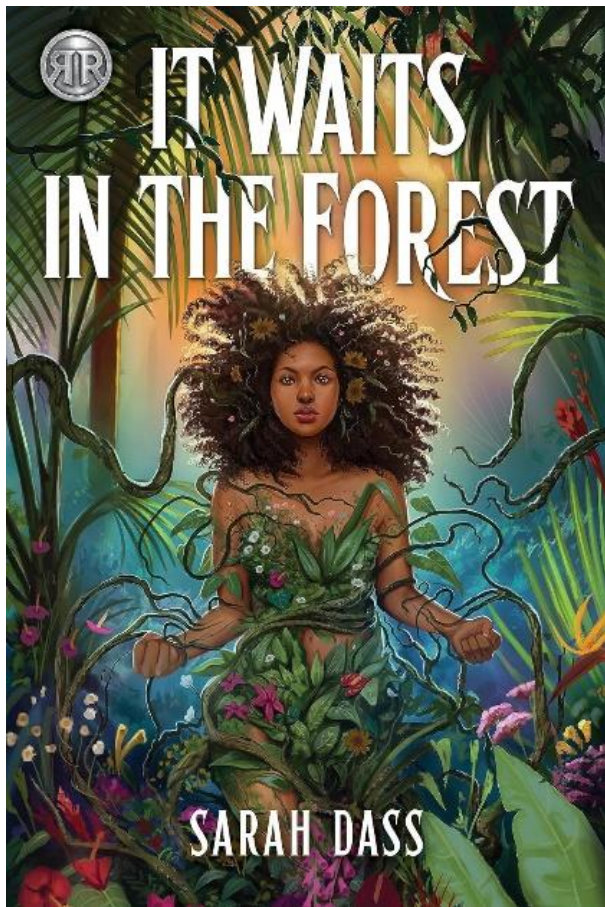
But in order to succeed, Olivia must do something even more terrifying than lead a movement: trust other people. She might even make true friends along the way . . . if Mitzi doesn't destroy her first.



A cheeky, thought-provoking force of a book, perfect for fans of E. Lockhart's *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks*.

Kara H.L. Chen grew up near Cleveland, Ohio, where she once had to shovel snow off her car with a plastic trashcan. She now lives on the West Coast with her husband and daughters, and is learning how to use an Instapot. She has undergraduate degrees in English and economics, a J.D., and a MFA in fiction. She has used her economics degree exactly once, when she tried to make a joke about marginal costs and marginal returns. It did not go well.

Young Adult



Sarah Dass

IT WAITS IN THE FOREST

Disney Hyperion, Rick Riordan Presents May 14, 2024 | World English

320 pages, manuscript available

Agent: Wendi Gu

With an introduction by Rick Riordan

The very first thriller from Rick Riordan Presents! Drawing from the darkest corners of Caribbean mythology, acclaimed author Sarah Dass crafts a chilling tale of magic, murder, and how far we'll go to protect what's ours—perfect for fans of Angeline Boulley and Tiffany D. Jackson.

Unlike the other residents of the small Caribbean Island of St. Virgil, Selina DaSilva does not believe in magic. With a logical mind and a knack for botany, Selina used to dream of leaving the island to study Pharmacology—until a vicious, unsolved attack left her father dead and her mother in a coma.

Now her guilt over her mother's condition keeps her tethered to the island, relegated to conning gullible tourists with useless talismans and phony protection rituals. But when one of those tourists ends up at the center of a string of strange murders, the truth that Selina has been denying can no longer be avoided: there is evil lurking in the forests that surround St. Virgil. Another thing that can't be avoided? Selina's ex-boyfriend Gabriel, newly employed at the local newspaper and eager

to put his investigative skills to use.

Desperate to put an end to the killings and claim justice for Selina's family, these two former lovers race to find answers. But evil bides its time. And as long-buried feelings and long-hidden secrets about Selina's family's past begin to reveal themselves, only one answer remains—and it waits in the forest.

“A wickedly delectable thriller that will have you looking over your shoulder to make sure nothing followed you out of the forest.” – **Roseanne A. Brown**, *New York Times* best-selling author of *A Song of Wraiths and Ruin*

“A dark, tantalizing tale that will keep you on your toes as much as it will knock you back on your seat.” – **Vincent Tirado**, *Pura Belpré* Award-winning author of *Burn Down, Rise Up*

“I was glued to these pages from beginning to end!” – **Lauren Blackwood**, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Within These Wicked Walls*

“Beggars the question of how far you would go to reclaim what you've lost and what you risk sacrificing to get it. Compelling, creepy, and complex, this story will haunt you long after you've finished reading.” – **Liselle Sambury**, author of *Blood Like Magic* and *Delicious Monsters*



Sarah Dass was born in Trinidad but has lived in Tobago since she was two years old. A graduate of University College London, she works as an office administrator by day and writes stories about the Caribbean by night. You can learn more about the author at www.sarahdass.com.

Young Adult

Frederick Joseph

THIS THING OF OURS

Candlewick, Fall 2024 | World English
Manuscript anticipated Spring 2024
Agent: Alexander Slater

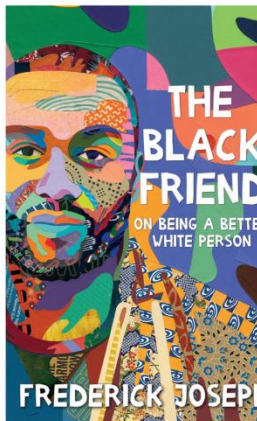
From the two-time *New York Times* bestselling author of *THE BLACK FRIEND* (2020) and *PATRIARCHY BLUES* (2022), and the author of *BETTER THAN WE FOUND IT* (2022), comes a YA debut novel that digs deep into the teen mind and the role of art in today’s societal struggles.

When a teenage basketball star loses his scholarship at a prestigious high school, he turns to writing poetry to cope with his sense of identity. He befriends other artists in his writing class, and uses his social media following to push back against recent book bannings.

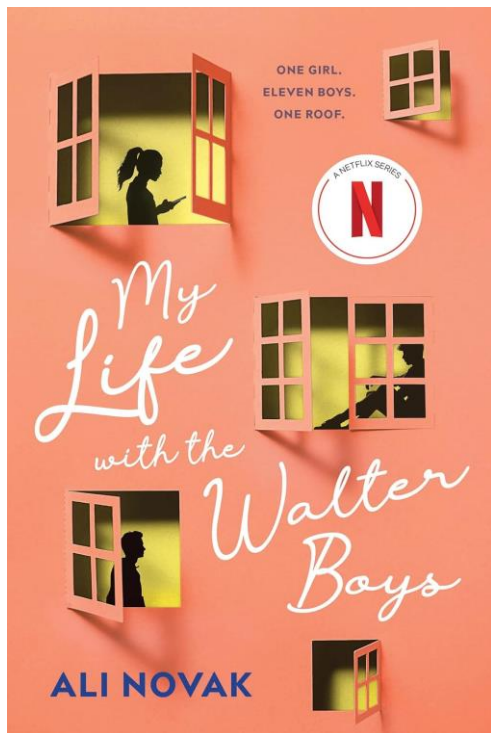


In 2020 [Frederick Joseph](#) published *THE BLACK FRIEND*, a social justice book aimed at younger readers based on his own experiences as Black youth in Westchester County, New York and subsequent college years. He has been published on the topics of marketing, culture, and politics in various publications including *HuffPost*, *USA Today*, *NowThisNews*, and *The Independent*. Joseph also received media attention for a fundraising initiative for rent relief program in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2019, Joseph was named in the *Forbes* 30 Under 30 list for marketing and advertising. He was also honored with the 2018 Comic-con Humanitarian of the Year Award and was a member of the 2018 *The Root* 100 List of Most Influential African Americans. He has been featured over 2,000 times in the media for his work, including *Business Insider*, *Vogue*, *The Oscars*, *Ellen*, *CNN*, *Good Morning America*, and *iHeart Media*.



Young Adult



Ali Novak

Sequel to

MY LIFE WITH THE WALTER BOYS

Sourcebooks, publication TBD | World English

Manuscript anticipated late 2024

Agent: Alex Slater

Jackie's continuing adventures with the Walter family, coinciding with Netflix's second season of the wildly popular series. More information coming soon.

Of the first book, MY LIFE WITH THE WALTER BOYS:

A New York Times Bestseller

A top ten Netflix series in 79 countries!
#1 in a dozen of them!

When a tragic accident leads Jackie to move into a house filled with eleven boys, she gets far more than she ever expected. This sweet YA romance is perfect for fans of Kasie West and Jenny Han—and is one of the most beloved Wattpad books ever!

Moving in with eleven boys was not part of the plan.

Jackie's goal is perfection—perfect grades, the perfect look, getting into the perfect school. If she can achieve that, then maybe her too-busy mom and dad will take notice. But when her parents die in a tragic accident, Jackie is shipped off across the country to live with the Walters, her new guardians...who just happen to have eleven sons (plus a daughter who is basically one of the boys).

The Walter boys are loud, dirty, annoying—and, okay, some of the older boys might be Greek god level hot, but they don't think a city girl belongs on their horse ranch. How is Jackie supposed to fit into their chaotic world when she needs to keep her parents' memory alive by living up to the promise of perfect?

But as Jackie spends more time with the Walter boys, she begins to wonder if the perfection she's always strived for isn't the only way to find love after all.

Funny and moving, *My Life with the Walter Boys* is perfect for readers looking for:

- Wattpad love stories
- contemporary romance for teens
- binge-worthy YA novels
- relatable characters

Foreign sales:

Brazil: VR Editoras- (TMG)

Bulgaria: Ibis (SJGA)

Czech: Albatros (SJGA)

France: Hachette Livre (TMG)

Germany: cbt (Sourcebooks)

Hungary: Konyvmolyképzo Publisher (TMG)

Italy: Newton Compton (Sourcebooks)

Poland: Helion (TMG)

Portugal: Marcador (SJGA)

Russian: Mann-Ivanov-Ferber (TMG)

Spanish: PRH Spain (TMG)

Ukraine: Old Lion (SJGA)

Young Adult

Dana Schwartz

IMMORTALITY: A Love Story

Wednesday Books, Macmillan, February 28, 2023 | NA

400 pages, final manuscript available

Agent: Dan Mandel

Rights sold:

Brazil – Intrinseca	Italy – Mondadori
Bulgaria – Orange Books	Poland – Kobiece
Czech – Dobrovsky	Portugal – Porto
France – Albin Michel	Romania – Trei
Germany – Loewe	Slovakia – Tatran
Greece - Psichogios	Turkey – Indigo
Israel – Sifrut She’nogaat	United Kingdom – Piatkus
	Ukraine – Zhorzh

INSTANT #1 *New York Times* Bestseller
INSTANT #1 Indie Bestseller

IMMORTALITY: A Love Story is the eagerly-anticipated sequel to Dana Schwartz’s internationally bestselling gothic romance, ANATOMY: A Love Story

Hazel Sinnett is alone. She’s half-convinced the events of the year before—the immortality, Beecham’s vial—were a figment of her imagination. She doesn’t even know if Jack is alive or dead. All she can really do is run her free clinic, helping people and maintaining Hawthornden Castle as it starts to decay around her.

When saving a life leads to her arrest, Hazel seems doomed to rot in prison until a message intervenes: Hazel has been specifically requested to be the personal physician of Princess Charlotte, the sickly daughter of King George IV. Soon Hazel is dragged into the glamor and romance of a court where everyone has something to hide, especially the enigmatic, brilliant social club known as the Companions to the Death.

As Hazel’s work entangles her more and more with the British court, she realizes that her own future as a surgeon isn’t the only thing at stake for her. Malicious forces are at work in the monarchy, and Hazel may be the only one capable of setting things right.

Schwartz continues to seamlessly blend fiction with historical events, creating a richly detailed and engaging look at life in Regency London...the central mystery is intriguing and fun, with a delightful historical who’s who in the form of a secret society. —★*School Library Journal*

Accomplished prose —Kirkus

Among “books to add to your reading list in February” - PopSugar



Dana Schwartz is a television writer and the creator of the #1 charting history podcast *Noble Blood*. As a journalist and critic, Dana has written for *EW*, *Marie Claire*, *Glamour*, *GQ*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Vanity Fair*, and more. In addition to *ANATOMY: A Love Story*, She is the author of *CHOOSE YOUR OWN DISASTER*, *THE WHITE MAN'S GUIDE TO WHITE MALE WRITERS OF THE WESTERN CANON*. Find more at <https://dana-schwartz.com/>

Young Adult

