

Rights Guide: 2021

Recent Publications, Forthcoming Titles, and Submissions



LAURA GROSS LITERARY AGENCY

39 Chester Street Newton, Massachusetts, 02461, United States

What Could Be Saved

Liese O'Halloran Schwarz

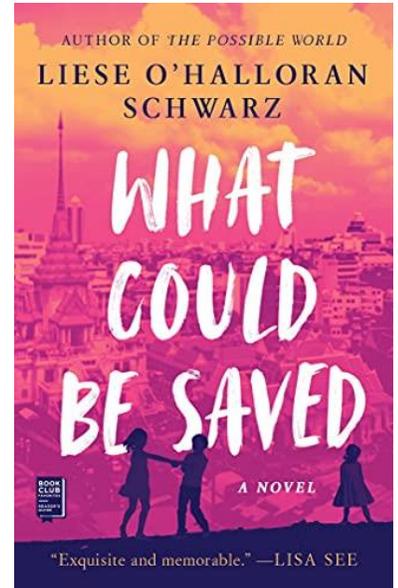
{Literary Fiction}

US Publisher: Atria (Simon & Schuster)

Hardcover: January 2021

Paperback: August 2021

A sweeping novel following the unfolding mystery of a man in present day claiming to be a child abducted in mid-century Bangkok.



“Superb...Schwarz is a remarkable storyteller...[This] stellar work is riveting.” — *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“A richly imagined page-turner that delivers twists alongside thought-provoking commentary.” — *Kirkus*

Liese O'Halloran Schwarz grew up in Washington, DC after an early childhood overseas. Following Harvard, she attended University of Virginia medical school, where she won the Henfield/Transatlantic Review Prize and also published her first novel, *Near Canaan*.

Rights held by Publisher:

- World with exclusions

Rights held by LGLA:

- Spanish, French, Polish, Italian, British Commonwealth

Rights sold:

- Australia/New Zealand — Allen & Unwin, 2021
- Film & TV — Echo Lake Entertainment, 2021

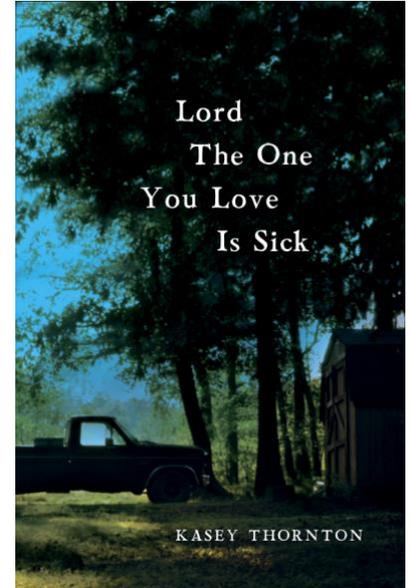
Lord the One You Love is Sick

Kasey Thornton

{Novel-in-Stories}

US Publisher: Ig Publishing

Paperback: November 2020



A novel in stories addressing grief, isolation, mental illness, abuse, and religion in a small American Southern Town, shedding light on the intersection of prevailing cultural issues in a conservative space.

"These stories collectively coalesce into a resonant, emotionally searing nexus of hard truths, buried secrets, and emotional pain that readers won't soon forget. Thornton's accomplished stories are full of insights on their rural American setting and inhabitants' psychology."— *Publishers Weekly*

"A novel that may make you think again about what lies beneath the surface of your own community." — *Kirkus*

Kasey attended both the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and North Carolina State University for her M.F.A. in Fiction. She currently lives in Durham County, North Carolina, where members of her family have lived for over two hundred years.

Rights held by Publisher:

- North American, British Commonwealth

Rights held by LGLA:

- All foreign rights

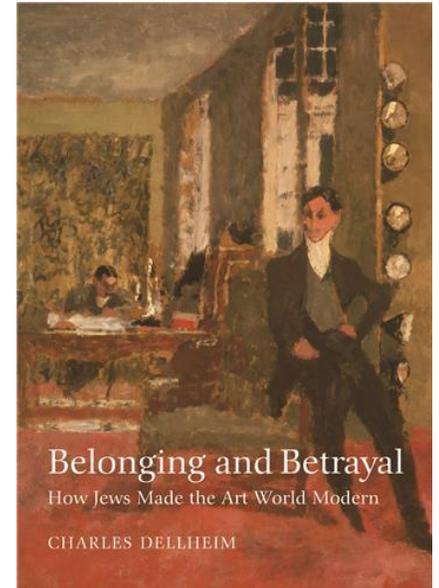
Belonging and Betrayal

Charles Dellheim

{Jewish History/Art History}

US Publisher: Brandeis University Press

Hardcover: September 2021



An epic story that charts the fortunes and misfortunes of a small number of Jewish art dealers and collectors from the late-19th century to the present and spans both Europe and the United States.

"(An) exceptional work of scholarship. A brilliant account of Nazi pillage and the ongoing efforts at restitution." — *Kirkus* (starred review)

Charles Dellheim, Professor of History, came to Boston University in 2001, after a fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. He was previously Professor of History and Humanities and Director of the Interdisciplinary Humanities Program at Arizona State University, where he won a Distinguished Teaching Award. His chief publications in modern British history include *The Face of the Past: The Preservation of the Medieval Inheritance in Victorian England*; *The Disenchanted Isle: Mrs. Thatcher's Capitalist Revolution*; and "The Creation of a Company Culture: Cadburys, 1861-1931."

Rights held by Publisher:

- North American

Rights held by LGLA:

- All foreign rights and British Commonwealth

Rights sold:

- Simplified Chinese — Social Sciences Academic Press

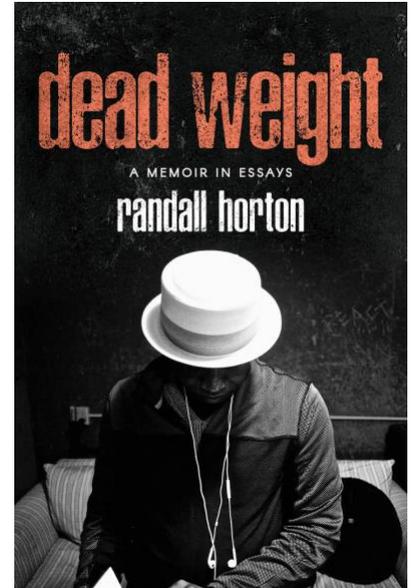
Dead Weight

Randall Horton

{Memoir-in-essays}

US Publisher: Northwestern University Press

Paperback: February 2022



***Dead Weight* chronicles the improbable turnaround of a drug smuggler who, after being sentenced to eight years in prison, returned to society to earn a PhD in Creative Writing and become the only tenured professor in the United States with seven felony convictions, highlighting the difficulties of trying to change one's life for the good, and how the weight of felony convictions never leaves the returning citizen.**

Randall Horton is the author of a previous memoir and several books of poetry, including *Pitch Dark Anarchy: Poems* (TriQuarterly Books, 2013) and *{#289-128}* (University of Kentucky Press, 2020), which won an American Book Award. In 2019 he served as poet-in-residence for the Civil Rights Corps in Washington, DC, which is a nonprofit organization dedicated to challenging systemic injustice in the American legal system. The recipient of numerous awards, including the Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Award, the Bea González Poetry, a National Endowment of the Arts Fellowship in Poetry, and a Right to Return Fellowship from the Soze Foundation, he currently sits on the Advisory Board of PEN America's PEN Prison Writing Program. He is a professor of English at the University of New Haven.

Rights held by Publisher:

- World

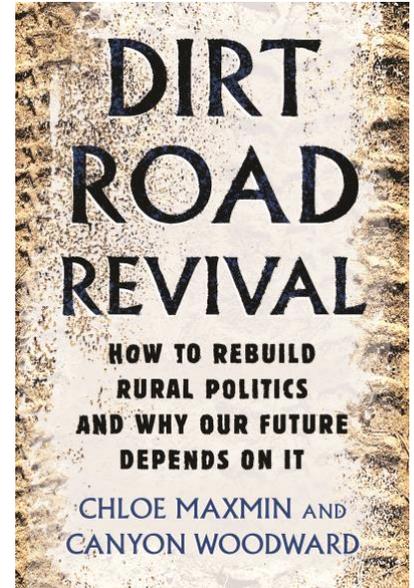
Dirt Road Revival

Chloe Maxmin & Canyon
Woodward

{Political Campaign Nonfiction}

US Publisher: Beacon Press

Publication Date: May 2022



***Dirt Road Revival* is an urgent call to action by two millennials to fight for the future of rural America and reclaim long-lasting political power for the Democratic Power.**

Community organizer, Chloe Maxmin was elected to the Maine State Senate in November 2020, having served as the youngest woman the Maine State legislature. She is the first Democrat elected in a district which had voted Republican by a 16-point margin over the past three elections. Her historic campaign, led by her campaign manager and co-author, Canyon Woodward, earned the attention of national media, including an article about their victory in the *Washington Post* titled “Progressives point the way to recapturing the rural vote.” In the article, Katrina vanden Heuval (Editorial Director, *The Nation*) wrote: “Maxmin is one of many progressive candidates who prevailed in this month’s elections despite the long odds that Democrats traditionally face in their districts. Yet her victory stands out even more because of where she was able to win: in a district that contains the most rural county in America’s most rural state. And as Democrats reflect on the midterms and plan their next moves, it shows how the party can build on its momentum.”

Rights held by Publisher:

- North American

Rights held by LGLA:

- All foreign rights and British Commonwealth

Generation Queer

Kimm Topping

{Y.A. Illustrated Biography}

US Publisher: Tu Books (Lee & Low)

Publication Date: 2023

The first illustrated biography collection of its kind to focus on queer and trans youth who are leaders in social change.

Kimm Topping is a writer, queer educator, and feminist historian. Kimm has trained thousands of people to better support LGBTQ+ youth in their work as a facilitator for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Safe Schools Program for LGBTQ Students and kyriQ, which they co-founded with their partner in 2016. By sharing stories and providing folks with tools to authentically support youth, Kimm believes that we can create safer and more welcoming environments. Kimm's publications include *Identity*, *Relationships*, and *Media and Mapping Feminist Cambridge*. Kimm will complete an M.Ed. at Harvard Graduate School of Education in 2020 and they look forward to continuing to advocate for LGBTQ+ youth at local and national levels. Kimm lives in Cambridge, MA with their partner and two cats.

Rights held by Publisher:

- North American

Rights held by LGLA:

- All foreign rights and British Commonwealth

Mermaids Dream of Trilobites

By: Martha Riva Palacio Obòn
{Middle Grade Fiction in Translation}
US Publisher: Bloomsbury Children's
Publication Date: TBD

Told through beautiful marine imagery and funny observations, *Mermaids Dream of Trilobites* follows a young girl who comes to believe—in order to process the hardships around her—that she is a mermaid and those around her are various aquatic creatures.

Martha Riva Palacio Obòn is an award-winning writer and artist whose work includes novels, poetry, stories, and television for children of all ages. She won the 2011 Premio Barco de Vapor for *Mermaids Dream of Trilobites* (which was also selected in 2013 for the White Ravens International Children's Library Catalog), as well as the 2014 Premio Hispanoamericano de Poesía para Niños for her illustrated poetry book *Lunática*. Her bilingual picture book *Beso / Kiss* was published in the US by Scholastic in 2017 and in Malta in 2018. She has a degree in psychology.

Rights held by Publisher:

- World English

Rights held by LGLA:

- All foreign rights except Spanish

Rights sold:

- Spanish — SM de Ediciones, 2011
- Italian — Mondadori, 2021

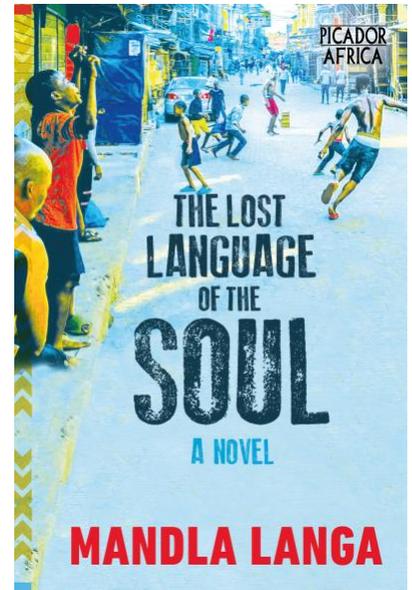
The Lost Language of the Soul

Mandla Langa

{Coming-of-Age Literary Fiction}

Publisher: Picador (South Africa)

Publication Date: September 2021
(South Africa)



A coming-of-age epic following a fourteen-year-old son of a freedom fighter as he attempts to find his missing mother in apartheid-era South Africa.

Mandla Langa was born in Durban, grew up in KwaMashu, and holds an MA in Creative Writing from the University of the Witwatersrand. In 1980 he won the *Drum* story contest for ‘The Dead Men Who Lost Their Bones’ and in 1991 he was awarded the Arts Council of Great Britain Bursary for creative writing, the first for a South African. Langa’s published works include *Tenderness of Blood* (1987), *A Rainbow on a Paper Sky* (1989), *The Naked Song and Other Stories* (1997), *The Memory of Stones* (2000), the award-winning *The Lost Colours of the Chameleon* (2008) and the bestselling *The Texture of Shadows* (2014).

Rights held by Publisher:

- South African

Rights held by LGLA:

- World English and all foreign rights except South Africa

[Untitled]

Shalash

Translator: Luke Leafgren

{Arabic Satire in Translation}

US Publisher: And Other Stories

Publication Date: TBD

A collection of stories satirizing Iraqi society, written by an anonymous Iraqi blogger.

The anonymous Iraqi blogger known as Shalash published seventy posts between 2005 and 2006 and remains anonymous to this day due to concerns for his safety. Shalash’s satiric writings painted Americans as deliberately incompetent and Iraqis as foolish, opportunistic stooges, or a mixture of the three. Wildly popular across the Arab world, his writings made anxious Iraqis laugh at themselves shortly after the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003. Shalash’s writings are in the colloquial Baghdadi dialect with additional local phrases and expressions thrown in—a rarity for published Arabic. Shalash’s “Iraqiness” is not jingoistic patriotism, but a kind of intimate and profoundly personal “love of country”. The writer calls himself Shalash “the Iraqi”, even though the word Iraq appears very rarely in his stories.

Rights held by Publisher:

- World English

Rights held by LGLA:

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The Five-Part Invention

Andrea Buchanan

{Literary Fiction/Family Saga}

Under Offer

***The Five-Part Invention* is a captivating exploration of family trauma, spanning five generations of women all of whom wrestle in their own way with love, mental illness, and belonging.**

Andrea J. Buchanan is a *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Beginning of Everything*—which was nominated for the PEN/E.O. Wilson Prize for Literary Science Writing—*Gift*, *The Daring Book for Girls*, and *Mother Shock*. She lives with her family in Philadelphia.

Animal Behavior

Po Bhattacharyya

{Literary Thriller}

On Submission

Based on a true story, *Animal Behavior* follows a young brown man who falls for his mysterious older boss, a white ecologist who lives in a secluded camp in the African bush, offering a nuanced story for readers willing to question mainstream narratives of good and evil and who realize that the world offers few easy answers.

Po was born into a family of doctors in Kolkata, India. He holds a degree in geology and biology from Brown and a degree in human-computer interaction from Carnegie Mellon. By day, he designs research tools for biologists and chemists. By morning and evening, he writes, usually fiction, and usually at a glacial clip. He lives in Oakland, CA, in a sunny apartment filled with plants.