



A trellis is an interwoven structure that supports new growth, allowing it to bloom. Founded in October 2021, **Trellis Literary Management** is a U.S.-based literary agency that was created with that ethos in mind: a company that enables and nourishes the growth of both our authors and our colleagues. We're inherently collaborative, community-minded, and united in our ideas about client care and the future of publishing.

Our team consists of brilliant founding partners **Michelle Brower**, **Stephanie Delman**, and **Allison Hunter**; agents **Allison Devereux**, **Dana Murphy**, **Mariah Stovall**, **Amy Bishop-Wycisk**, **Danya Kukafka**, and **Natalie Edwards**; foreign rights director **Allison Malecha**; editorial associate **Elizabeth Pratt**; and subsidiary rights and operations associate **Tori Clayton**.

Foreign Rights Guide

Spring 2024

Director of Foreign Rights
Allison Malecha

Subsidiary Rights Associate
Tori Clayton

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New Submissions

IT'S A LOVE STORY

Sasha Laurens

*title may change



Avon (fall 2025)

Editor: Ariana Sinclair

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: Maddalena Cavaciuti at David Higham Associates

Rights sold:

UK: Piper

Brazil: Rocco

Previous publishers (for YA):

UK: Puffin

Czech: Albatros

France: Nathan

Germany: Piper

Hebrew: Kinneret Zmora Bitan

Holland: Dutch Venture

Hungary: Konyvmolykepzo

Italy: Oscar Mondadori

Poland: We Need YA

Russia: Eksmo

Spain: Roca

Sold at auction in a two-book NA deal, a queer debut adult rom com that's about creative inspiration, what artists owe their fans and the intoxicating appeal of someone who knows who you truly are

When Renee Feldman took time off from her film MFA, she hoped to rediscover her creative spark, away from her hypercritical peers. Instead, she's stalled. So she's not exactly feeling her best when, at a family friend's wedding, she runs into Lola Gray—a childhood neighbor who's become a major pop sensation.

Lola Gray just wants to get through her sister's wedding. It's been a year since her secret relationship with an it-girl model imploded, simultaneously breaking Lola's heart, annihilating her planned coming out as bisexual and cancelling the album of love songs she'd written. Lola's known for her confessional songwriting, but the fan speculation over bad blood with her ex has her paralyzed by writer's block. When Lola runs into Renee, she knows exactly what she needs. Lola's teenage crush on Renee, the fearless lesbian next door, was so bad, it secretly inspired her debut album. She hopes that one night with Renee will put the past behind her, and refill the blank space her creative well has become.

Never in her wildest dreams did Renee think she'd end up in bed with the sensitive girl she knew at fifteen. Renee is still in the afterglow of the best—and weirdest—one night stand of her life, when she receives an unexpected call: Lola's team wants to film a documentary alongside her next album, but the director they hired was trouble when he walked in. Lola needs Renee to replace him—and filming starts in a week.

As Lola and Renee reconnect and sparks fly, there's no denying the feelings they have for each other—or the renewed creativity it inspires. When Renee suggests they tell their story, Lola agrees, even if it means coming out and potentially damaging her reputation. But neither Renee or Lola realize how hard it will be to tell their love story, in an industry that sets a narrative of its own.

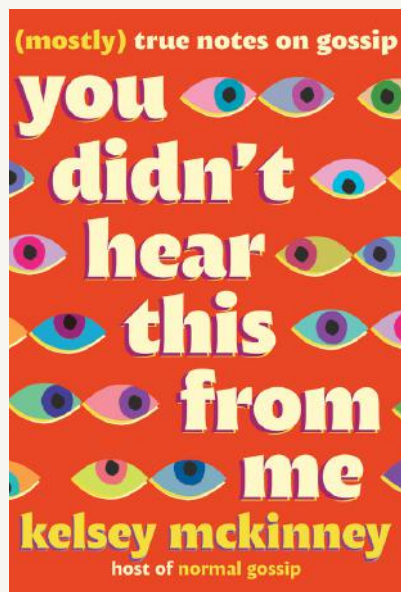
Category: rom com

Sasha Laurens is the author of the young adult novels *A Wicked Magic* and *Youngblood*, which was translated into 12 languages, was an Amazon Editor's Pick, and was a 2023 CBC Librarian Favorites Winner. She has a PhD in political science and spends her days doing academic research on authoritarianism and Russian politics.

YOU DIDN'T HEAR THIS FROM ME

(Mostly) True Notes on Gossip

Kelsey McKinney



Grand Central (February 2025)

Editor: Maddie Caldwell

Territory: North America

Material: manuscript due early
June 2024

Agent: Dana Murphy

UK rights: Florence Rees at AM
Heath

Film/TV: Kristina Moore at UTA

Rights sold:

UK: Viking UK

Spain: Península

Sold in a major, 18-editor auction in the U.S., this delightful and incisive work of narrative nonfiction takes a critical look at gossip—its history, its social function, and what it says about our relationship to truth—while also translating the infectious joy of taking part in it to the page. Just publicly announced and full manuscript delivering very soon!

Can you keep a secret? As the pandemic forced us to socialize at a distance, Kelsey McKinney was mourning the juicy updates, jaw-dropping stories, and idle chatter that she'd typically collect over drinks with friends. She realized she wasn't the only one missing these little morsels and her hunger for normalcy took on a life of its own, and the blockbuster *Normal Gossip* podcast was born. With listenership in the millions and gossip quickly becoming her day job, Kelsey found herself with the urge to think more critically about gossip as a form, to better understand the role that it plays in our culture.

In *YOU DIDN'T HEAR THIS FROM ME*, McKinney explores the murkiness of everyday storytelling. Why is gossip considered a sin and how can we better recognize when gossip is being weaponized against the oppressed? Why do we think we're entitled to every detail of a celebrity's personal life because they are a public figure? And how do we even define "gossip," anyway? She dishes on the art of eavesdropping and dives deep into how pop culture has changed the way that we look at hearsay. But as much as the book aims to treat gossip as a subject worthy of rigor, it also hopes to capture the heart of gossiping: how enchanting and fun it can be to lean over and whisper something a little salacious into your friend's ear. With wit and honesty, McKinney unmasks what we're actually searching for when we demand to know the truth – and how much the truth really matters in the first place.

Category: general nonfiction

Kelsey McKinney is a reporter and writer who lives in Philadelphia. She is the host of *Normal Gossip*, as well as a co-owner and staff writer at *Defector.com*. Her reporting and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, *GQ*, *Vogue*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Vanity Fair* and many others. Her first novel, *God Spare the Girls*, was published in the summer of 2021 by William Morrow.

YOUR LIE OR MINE

Isha Raya



Ballantine (fall 2025)

Editor: Jenny Chen

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Amy Bishop-Wycisk

UK rights: Katie Greenstreet at
Paper Literary

Rights sold:

UK: offer

Sold in a major two-book deal, in a pre-empt, on the eve of the fair, this debut sapphic thriller has incredibly fun *Killing Eve* vibes, centering two wickedly clever women who are at odds—and only one can come out on top. Told in dual POV, it marries the cat and mouse game of Ashley Elston's *First Lie Wins* with the character-driven murder plots, betrayals, and romantic tension of M. L. Rio's *If We Were Villains*

Struggling actress Dimple Kapoor probably wouldn't call herself a murderer—she'd prefer being called an opportunist. Years ago, she simply did what had to be done to get herself out of a bad situation. Now, after accidentally killing her Hollywood rival, Irene Singh, Dimple has conveniently created an opportunity to nab her dream leading role and resuscitate her career. It's too bad someone else at the party witnessed the crime...and recorded it.

With everything she's ever wanted within reach, Dimple will do anything to keep it in her grasp—including killing again. Unfortunately for her, Irene's parents have hired detectives—who bring in a former colleague, Saffi Mirai Iyer, who is known as one of the best private investigators in the business. When Saffi immediately zeroes in on Dimple, Dimple knows she has to raise the stakes. Saffi invites her into the case, suggesting she act as bait to draw out the killer—and as the two women's cat-and-mouse game intensifies, Saffi starts to wonder if she may have finally met her match.

With their reputations at risk, both women must fight the mutual fascination drawing them closer together. Dimple needs Saffi dead and for her theories to die with her, but first she needs to find a suitable lamb to pin her crimes on. Saffi needs Dimple behind bars where she can hurt no one else, but her life is on the line, and Dimple won't be so easy to catch red-handed. And it's hard to stay objective when you find yourself falling in love with the person who is trying to make this scene your last.

Category: thriller

Isha Raya is a graduate of the University of Texas who enjoys writing stories where queer brown women get to be anything from superstars to villains.

OPEN UP

Jessica Gross



Overlook Press / Abrams (fall 2025)

Editor: Abby Muller

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Stephanie Delman

UK rights: Florence Rees at AM Heath

Film/TV: Tara Timinsky at Grandview under film option auction

Film rights optioned to MGM/Amazon Studios

Rights sold:

UK: Harvill Secker

In the vein of Alissa Nutting and Melissa Broder, OPEN UP is a hilariously absurdist, devastatingly vulnerable novel for anyone who craves an intimacy they can't quite reach. We've just closed a competitive 4-way auction in the UK and are excited to submit for translation when the next draft of the manuscript is in!

Thirty-something journalist Olive just wants people to open up. As a radio host, she interviews writers about their works-in-progress, probing for insight; as a friend and a sister, she's hungry for closeness. She has a habit of recording people without their knowledge, just to hear the world reflected back at her. Olive is approaching her mid-thirties, coddled by her mother and perpetually single, when she meets Henry. He's a surgeon—he literally cuts people open, which fascinates her—and, with a quick wit and a charming gap between his two front teeth, he seems to adore her. Henry relishes her curious mind, upending everything she's come to expect from men.

They fall for each other quickly, dizzyingly, but Olive can't get enough. She struggles to comprehend where she stops and Henry begins. As their relationship intensifies, so does Olive's resentment of the physical and emotional boundaries between them. So she tests those boundaries: first by recording their conversations, then by recording their sex. Next, on a night there's no coming back from, she unzips his body and nestles between his organs while he sleeps. Once she starts, she can't stop—and as she climbs inside Henry, Olive has some disturbing revelations about intimacy, trust, and her own long-repressed memories.

OPEN UP pushes the boundaries of genre; it's tense, thoughtful, occasionally grotesque—but it's also incredibly accessible and laugh-out-loud funny. Fans of Jen Beagin's *Big Swiss*, Raven Leilani's *Luster*, and Phoebe Waller-Bridge's work will love this.

Category: literary fiction

Jessica Gross is the author of *Hysteria* (Unnamed Press, 2020), which has been optioned for TV development. Her nonfiction has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *Lilith*, and *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, among other places. She has taught writing at The New School and Texas Tech University and currently lives in West Texas.

LAS MERCEDES

Raquel Abend



Graywolf (fall 2026)

Editor: Carmen Gimenez

Territory sold: World English

Material: unedited Spanish manuscript, English translation sample & synopsis

Agent: Allison Devereux

Just acquired by the publisher of Graywolf, who will also be editing the Spanish original, a brilliant work of feminist, dystopic literary fiction in translation from a Venezuelan author and poet, for fans of Agustina Bazterrica and Fernanda Melchor

In a speculative Venezuela of the recent past, where all women are named Mercedes, a repressive military regime is in the business of harvesting human cadavers to produce oil. Set in a post-carbon dystopian world, where only few have access to electricity and gas, the novel inhabits the lives of several Mercedes: the daughter of a deceased oil engineer, a sex worker, a waitress, and two oil workers. In a reality where—dead or alive—everyone must contribute to the System, these characters struggle to survive the hardship unleashed by street violence, hunger, grief, and persecution.

The full Spanish manuscript is available, along with an English translation sample (Part 1 of the novel, ~9K words) from literary translator and editor Lizzie Davis, who has also written a reader's report and a full synopsis of LAS MERCEDES. The novel comes with a full-throated endorsement from Raquel's mentor, 2023 National Book Award finalist Cristina Rivera Garza, who calls it "daringly imaginative and impeccably written."

LAS MERCEDES will be her English-language debut, perfect for readers of Agustina Bazterrica's *Tender Is the Flesh*, Fernanda Melchor's *Hurricane Season*, Mariana Enríquez' *Our Share of Night*, and Victor LaValle's *Lone Woman*.

Category: literary fiction in translation

Raquel Abend holds an MFA in Creative Writing in Spanish from NYU and a PhD in Creative Writing in Spanish from the University of Houston. She is the author of two novels, a collection of short stories, and four books of poetry, each published from Spanish-language presses in the US, Latin America, and Spain.

THE SATISFACTION CAFE

Kathy Wang



Scribner (May 2025)

Editor: Kara Watson

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: Felicity Blunt at Curtis Brown UK

Rights sold:

UK: Abacus

Previous Publishers:

UK: Head of Zeus (*Family Trust*),
Verve (*Imposter Syndrome*)

China: Fonghong (*Family Trust*)

In the vein of Ann Patchett's *Tom Lake*, Elizabeth Strout's *Olive Kitteridge*, and Ann Napolitano's *Hello Beautiful*, THE SATISFACTION CAFE takes an ordinary life and turns it into an extraordinarily powerful prism

Are we ever truly satisfied? For Joan Liang, life is a series of surprising developments; she never thought she would leave Taiwan (and for all places, California), nor did she expect her first marriage to implode—especially as quickly and spectacularly as it did. She very definitely did not expect to fall in love with an older, wealthy American and become his third wife, mother to his youngest children. Through all this she asks herself the question we all ask at some point: is this it? Is this what all this living is for?

As Joan and her children grow older and her circumstances shift, Joan decides to make a drastic change: she opens the Satisfaction Café, a place where the lonely and unsatisfied can come for conversation and be heard and seen in all their messy honesty. In her pragmatic way, Joan builds a business and a legacy out of connection—something she can call her life's work.

THE SATISFACTION CAFE is a novel about found family, the joy and loneliness that come with age, and the outsized gravity a single existence can have in many lives. THE SATISFACTION CAFE is also a deep pleasure to read; it has a timelessness that slakes a thirst.

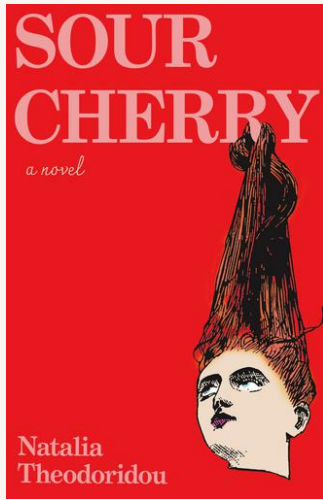
“Kathy Wang is a born storyteller.”—Jonathan Franzen

Category: literary fiction

Kathy Wang is the author of *Family Trust* (Mariner, 2018) and *Imposter Syndrome* (Mariner, 2021). She previously worked at the intersection of technology and industrial design and is currently employed in the transportation industry. She is a graduate of UC Berkeley and Harvard Business School, and lives in the Bay Area with her husband and two children.

SOUR CHERRY

Natalia Theodoridou



Tin House (April 2025)

Editor: Masie Cochran

Territory sold: UK & Comm

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: Sue Armstrong at
C&W

Rights sold:

UK: Wildfire

A polyphonic reimagining of an old French folktale, SOUR CHERRY tells the story of Bluebeard—one of our earliest and most revered serial killers—and twists it into a stunning indictment of toxic masculinity

Something terrible has happened. In a mysterious apartment filled with ghosts, our unknown narrator tells a story to her child—how do I tell it? she wonders. How do I talk about this? The truth, she decides, must become something beautiful. This is a fairytale.

The tale begins with Agnes. After losing her own baby, Agnes is called to the great manor house to nurse the local lord's baby. But something is wrong with the child: his nails grow too fast, his skin smells of soil, and his eyes remind her of the forest. As he grows into a boy, then into a man, a plague seems to follow him everywhere. Trees begin to wither at the roots, fruit rots, and the town turns desperate. The man takes a wife, who bears him a son. But tragedy strikes in cycles and wife after wife, death after death, plague after plague, every woman he touches becomes a ghost. The ghosts become a chorus, and they call urgently to our narrator as she tries to explain exactly what has happened to her. The ghosts all agree on one inescapable truth about this man who has loved and led each to ruin: if you leave, you die. But if you die, you stay.

SOUR CHERRY examines our systems of power, the excuses we make for bad men, and the reasons we stay with them even after they hurt us. It gives us both a feminist sermon and a queer-inclusive folktale that scrutinizes gender and power, adoration and violence.

"Reading SOUR CHERRY did not remind me of great writers. No. It was like I discovered a new one. 'Masterwork' is used so often when discussing a book, and so I'm not going to say it's a masterwork: SOUR CHERRY is diamondwork."—Morgan Talty, bestselling author of *Night of the Living Rez* and *Flre Exit*

Category: literary debut

Natalia Theodoridou is a queer and transmasculine writer whose stories have appeared in venues such as *Kenyon Review*, *The Cincinnati Review*, *Ninth Letter*, and *Strange Horizons*, and have been translated into Italian, French, Greek, Estonian, Spanish, Chinese, and Arabic. He won the 2018 World Fantasy Award for Short Fiction and the 2022 Emerging Writer Award by Moniack Mhor & The Bridge Awards, and has been a finalist for the Nebula award multiple times. He holds a PhD in Media and Cultural Studies from SOAS, University of London. Born in Greece, with roots in Georgia, Russia, and Turkey, he currently lives in the UK.

MALINALLI

Veronica Chapa

Set during the last stand of the Aztec Empire, an epic, magical tale based on the true story of a young Nahua warrior priestess-in-training who became Hernan Cortes's interpreter as he made his way to Moctezuma's throne, telling of a young woman caught between two vicious men, both of whom have wronged her and her people

Atria (January 21, 2025)

Editor: Michelle Herrera Mulligan

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK rights: Rachel Clements at
Abner Stein

Five hundred years ago, Spanish conquistadors destroyed the wondrous Mexica (known as “Aztec”) city of Tenochtitlan, thus beginning the history of modern day Mexico. Hernando Cortés and Moctezuma were at the helms of power, but today many people blame a young Indigenous Nahua woman for the cataclysm.

She has been known by many names—Malinalli, Malintzin, La Malinche, Doña Marina, Malinalxochitl—and she was only about eighteen when she was awarded to Hernando Cortés as a war prize. Even though her exact role has been lost to history, she is seen as a betrayer.

Now her epic story is reimagined and reinterpreted with great power and empathy.

The firstborn in a set of fraternal twins, Mali spends her early years eager to take her rightful place as a student in Tenochtitlan's House of Magical Studies. Then tragedy strikes and she leaves home to study elsewhere among powerful priestesses. All the while, she hungers for revenge against Moctezuma, whom she believes responsible for destroying her family. When she is chosen to accompany a Maya princess on her travels, Malinalxochitl finds love, then loses it. More turmoil lands her under Cortés's control, working as his interpreter. She takes pride in the role—until she discovers his quest to conquer both his “new world” and her spirit. Far from home and with nothing and no one to fall back on, she dedicates herself to brokering peace between Cortés and all who he meets in route to Moctezuma's kingdom in Tenochtitlan. But how much power can one woman wield? And when caught between two violent men, both of whom have wronged her and her people, where will her loyalties lie?

Category: historical fantasy debut

Veronica Chapa is a Mexican American writer from Illinois. An account of her interest in and research on Malinalxochitl and was recently published in *Ms Magazine*.

UPMARKET & LITERARY FICTION

KILLER POTENTIAL

*previously titled BOOTSTRAPPERS

Hannah Deitch



William Morrow (March 18, 2025)

Editor: Jessica Williams

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Stephanie Delman

UK rights: Emma Finn at C+W

TV rights: optioned by Universal TV

Rights Sold:

UK: Weidenfeld & Nicolson (2 books)

Brazil: Harper Brasil

Croatia: Fraktura

Finland: Aula & Co

France: Sonatine

Germany: Ullstein

Greece: Dioptra

Hebrew: Yedioth

Italy: Marsilio (2 books)

Lithuania: Alma Littera

Poland: Marginesy

Portugal: Saída de Emergência

Romania: Bookzone

Serbia: Laguna

Slovenia: Učila

Spain: AdN

Sweden: Modernista

Our big book of LBF 2023 with rights now sold in 17 territories, as well as to Universal TV after a major Hollywood auction, this is a queer, class-conscious *Thelma & Louise* by way of Gillian Flynn, following two unlikely fugitives: an SAT tutor who finds her rich employers brutally murdered in their backyard, and the mute woman she discovers trapped in the walls of their mansion

Evie Duarte is drowning in student loan debt, teaching algebra to the spawn of Beverly Hills, when she becomes a famous murderess. The press anoint her the new Charles Manson, a bloodthirsty ninety-nine percenter hoping to spark a class war.

The problem is that Evie didn't kill anybody. She was simply in the wrong mansion at the wrong time.

When Evie arrives at Serena Victor's modern-day castle one Sunday for their weekly lesson, she finds, in lieu of a bored teenager, pure carnage. The bloody remains of Mr. and Mrs. Victor are strewn through their beautiful backyard, and a gaunt woman cries for help from within the walls of the mansion. As Evie works to free the hostage, they're spotted—and in moments, they go from bystanders to suspects to fugitives.

Suddenly at the heart of a nationwide manhunt, accompanied by a mysterious woman who refuses to speak, Evie spirals. The only way to clear their names is to find the real killer, to unravel the sordid truth of the Victors' house and their impossible wealth. But first she'll have to break down the barriers of her new companion—who is traumatized, unknowable, and yet quickly becoming the most important person in Evie's life.

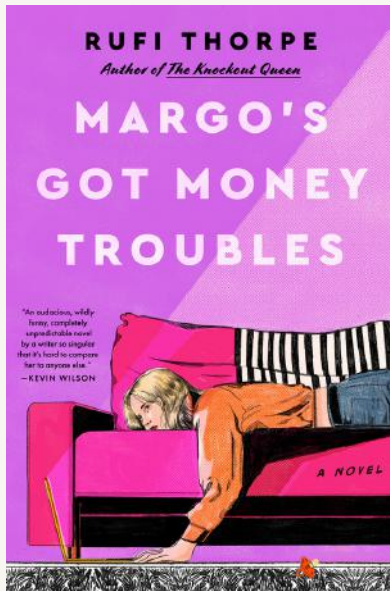
KILLER POTENTIAL is truly a rare gem: a phenomenally written page-turner with the emotional clarity of the best literary fiction. At its core is an interrogation of income disparity and the horrors of late-stage capitalism, the potential for love in the midst of crisis, and the impossible myth of upward mobility.

Category: debut upmarket thriller

Hannah Deitch holds a Master's degree in journalism from USC as well as a Master's degree in English from UC Irvine, where she studied Marxist theory and contemporary pop culture. A former arts magazine editor, Hannah has been published by the *LA Times*, *LA Weekly*, and the *LA Review of Books*. She lives in Los Angeles, where she once worked as an SAT tutor.

MARGO'S GOT MONEY TROUBLES

Rufi Thorpe



William Morrow (June 11, 2024)

Editor: Jessica Williams

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Film/TV option: A24 for an ongoing series

Rights sold:

UK: Sceptre

Brazil: Rocco (5-way auction)

France: Jouvence

Germany: Ecco Verlag

Hebrew: Matar

Hungary: Libri

Italy: Bollati Boringhieri

Poland: Media Rodzina

Romania: Trei

Spanish: Harper Español

Ukraine: The Old Lion

Jessica Williams at Morrow is positioning this bold, funny, and heartwarming story—about one young woman's attempt to navigate adulthood, new motherhood, and her meager bank account in our increasingly online world—as Rufi Thorpe's breakout success. With the major TV deal and growing line-up of foreign publishers, we're excited about this one!

APPLE TV+ to distribute the TV series with A24: Elle Fanning and Nicole Kidman attached to star

Margo Millet's got money troubles. As the child of a waitress and an ex-Pro-Wrestler, she's always known she'd have to make it on her own. She never planned to have an affair with her English professor at the local college—and while their affair is brief, it isn't brief enough to keep her from getting pregnant. Despite everyone's advice, she decides to keep the baby.

Now, at twenty, Margo is alone with an infant, unemployed, and on the verge of eviction. She needs a cash infusion, fast. When her estranged father, Jinx, shows up on her doorstep and asks to move in, she agrees in exchange for help with childcare. Then Margo begins to form a plan: she'll start an OnlyFans as an experiment, and soon finds herself adapting some of Jinx's advice from the world of wrestling, to runaway success. Could this be the answer to all of Margo's problems, or does internet fame come with too high a price?

Blisteringly funny and insightful, *MARGO'S GOT MONEY TROUBLES* is a tender tale starring an endearing young heroine who's struggling to wrest money and power from a world that has little interest in giving it to her. It's a playful, honest examination of the art of storytelling and an empowering portrait of coming into your own, both online and off.

"An audacious, wildly funny, completely unpredictable novel by a writer so singular that it's hard to compare her."—Kevin Wilson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Nothing to See Here*

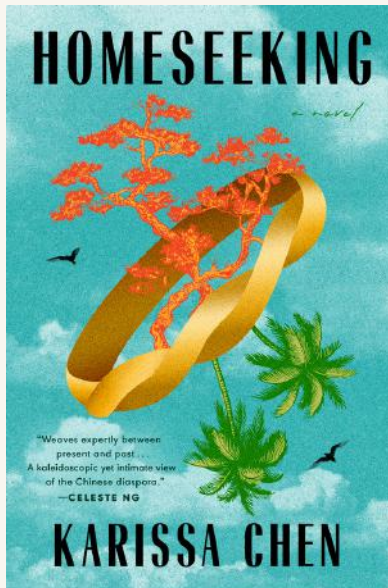
"A hilarious novel about making the most of what you've got . . . I gobbled it up."—Emma Straub, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Time Tomorrow*

Category: upmarket fiction

Rufi Thorpe is the author of *The Knockout Queen* (Knopf, 2020), a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award; *Dear Fang, With Love* (Knopf, 2016); *The Girls from Corona del Mar* (Knopf, 2014), which was longlisted for the International Dylan Thomas Prize and for the Flaherty-Dunn First Novel Prize. A California native, she currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband and sons.

HOMESEEKING

Karissa Chen



Putnam (January 7, 2025)

Editor: Tara Singh Carlson

Territory sold: North America

Material: first pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: Florence Rees at AM Heath

Film/TV: Jason Richman & Orly Greenberg at UTA

Rights sold:

UK: Sceptre

Denmark: Politikens

Germany: Cutkind

Greece: Ikaros

Holland: Nieuw-Amsterdam

Italy: Garzanti

Norway: Gyldendal

Spain: Urano

Pre-empted in a major North American deal and quickly sold in several territories, this sweeping love story about a couple destined to meet three times in their lives—as childhood sweethearts in Shanghai in the 1940s, again in middle age in Hong Kong, and finally in California later in their lives—has now delivered and has first gorgeous blurbs in

A single choice can define an entire life. Suchi first sees Haiwen in their Shanghai neighborhood when she is seven years old, drawn by the sound of his violin. Their childhood friendship blossoms into love, but when Haiwen secretly enlists in the Nationalist army in 1947 to save his brother from the draft, Suchi is left with just his violin and a note: Forgive Me.

Sixty years later, recently widowed Haiwen spots Suchi at a grocery store in Los Angeles. It feels to Haiwen like a second chance, but Suchi has only survived by refusing to look back. In the twilight of their lives, can they reclaim their past and the love they lost?

HOMESSEEKING follows the separated lovers through six decades of tumultuous Chinese history, telling Haiwen's story from the present to the past while tracing Suchi's from her childhood to the present, meeting at the crucible of their lives. From Shanghai to Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the United States, neither loses sight of the home they hold in their hearts.

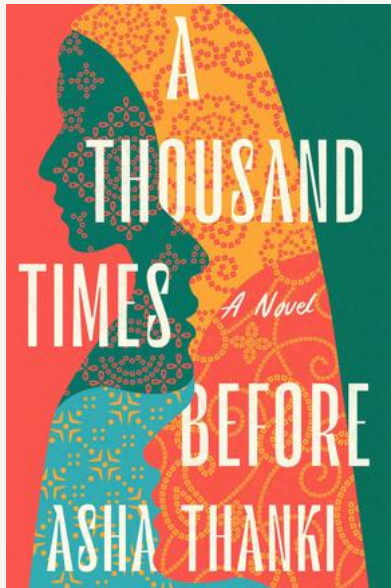
“Chen's debut novel weaves expertly between present and past, telling the story of childhood sweethearts who meet again late in life and are torn between looking back and moving on . . . kaleidoscopic yet intimate.”—Celeste Ng, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Our Missing Hearts*

Category: upmarket debut

Karissa Chen is a Fulbright fellow, Kundiman Fiction fellow, and a VONA/Voices fellow whose fiction and essays have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Eater*, *The Cut*, *NBC News THINK*, *Longreads*, *PEN America*, *Catapult*, *Gulf Coast*, and *Guernica*, among others. She received her MFA from Sarah Lawrence College and is the editor in chief at *Hyphen* magazine. She splits her time between New Jersey and Taipei, Taiwan.

A THOUSAND TIMES BEFORE

Asha Thanki



Viking (July 9, 2024)

Editor: Nidhi Pugalia

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agents: Stephanie Delman & Danya
Kukafka

UK rights: Harriet Moore at David
Higham Associates

TV rights: optioned by Amblin
Television

Rights sold:

Germany: HarperCollins Germany

Italy: Einaudi Stile Libero

A heartrending family saga following three generations of women connected by a fantastic tapestry through which they inherit the memories of those that lived before them, sweeping readers from Partition-era India to modern day New York

Ayukta is finally sitting down with her wife Nadya to respond to a question she's long avoided: Should they have a child? The decision is complicated by a secret her family has kept for centuries, one that Ayukta will be the first to share with someone outside their bloodline: the women in her family inherit a mysterious tapestry, through which each generation can experience the memories of those who came before her.

Ayukta invites Nadya into this lineage, carrying her through its past. She relives her grandmother Amla's life: Once a happy child in Karachi, Amla migrates to Gujarat during Partition, witnessing violence and loss that forever shape her approach to marriage and motherhood. Amla's daughter, Arni, bears this weight in her own blood in 1974, when gender equity and urban class distinctions divide the community as a bold student movement takes hold. As Ayukta unspools these generations of women—whole decades of love, loss, heartbreak, and revival—she reveals the tapestry's second gift: the ability for each of these women to dramatically reshape their own worlds. Like all power, both fantastic and societal, this inheritance is more treacherous than it seems.

Sweeping, deeply felt and intergenerational, *A THOUSAND TIMES BEFORE* is a debut as poetic as it is propulsive, as healing as it is heartbreaking, examining what it means to carry our past with us and to pass it on.

“Captivating debut . . . *A THOUSAND TIMES BEFORE* is a rich family saga about art and memory's power to inform the present, make peace with the past, and maybe even alter the future.”—Celeste Ng, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Our Missing Hearts*

“A profoundly tender and complex debut that I didn't want to put down.”—Sequoia Nagamatsu, bestselling author of *How High We Go in the Dark*

Category: upmarket debut

Asha Thanki received her MFA from the University of Minnesota. She is a Kundiman fellow, a Fiction Scholar at Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, a Randall Kenan Scholar at Sewanee Writers Conference, and her short stories and essays have appeared in *The Southern Review*, *Catapult*, and more. This is her debut novel.

SHANGHAILANDERS

Juli Min



Spiegel & Grau (May 7, 2024)

Editor: Joey McGarvey

Territory: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Stephanie Delman

UK rights: Sue Armstrong at C&W

Film/TV: Jason Richman & Orly Greenberg at UTA

Rights sold:

UK: Dialogue Books

Germany: Eichborn

Japan: Hayakawa

Norway: Cappelen Damm

Spain: AdN

A dazzling and ambitious debut novel that follows a cosmopolitan Shanghai household backward in time—beginning in 2040 and moving through our present and the recent past—exploring their secrets, their losses, and the ways a family makes and remakes itself across the years

Beginning on a high-speed train in 2040, the narrative lens chooses middle-aged Leo Yang. Leo has just dropped off his family at the airport: his wife, Eko, and two older daughters, Yumi and Yoko, while the youngest waits at home. What follows is a sequence of stories reaching backwards across the decades, from each family member's perspective as well as that of those who work for them—a private driver, a nanny—to show, better than any linear narrative could, the way a family is broken while it forms: stubborn, paranoid Leo; longing, impulsive Eko; impatient Yumi; forgotten Yoko; precocious, furious “Baby” Kiko.

A nod to *Dubliners*, the titular city of SHANGHAILANDERS is richly present in each story. From the roads taken by a private driver swerving past self-driving cars of the future, to the narrow lane where Eko has a wordless affair, the city thrums brightly in these pages. SHANGHAILANDERS is more than a fragmented rendering of family; it is also about Shanghai—the speed, the technology, the broken history, and the disconnection of this old, futuristic city. Above all, SHANGHAILANDERS is an intimate, playful, and deeply satisfying read, with influences from Eileen Chang to Elizabeth Strout.

"Tender, atmospheric, and wholly captivating . . . Juli Min has established herself as a sharp chronicler of contemporary China—and of the ever-complicated matters of the heart."—Kirstin Chen, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Counterfeit*

"A wonderful and wildly smart and compelling book. If Shanghai is the future, this terrific novel knows it all."—Joan Silber, author of *Secrets of Happiness*

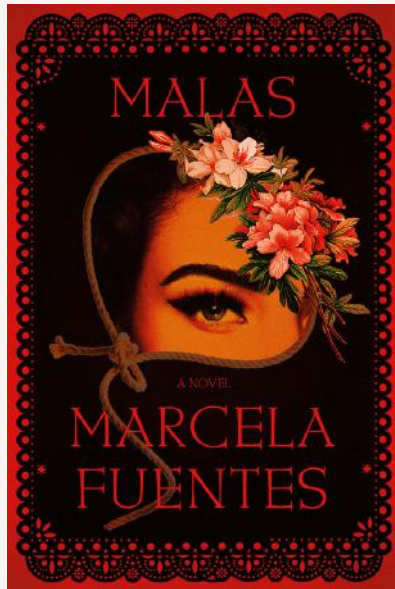
"Lyrical and haunting, SHANGHAILANDERS explores the enduring mysteries of family . . . Extraordinary."—Vanessa Hua, author of *Forbidden City*

Category: literary debut

Juli Min is a writer and editor based in Shanghai. She studied Russian and comparative literature at Harvard University and holds an MFA in fiction from Warren Wilson. She was *The Shanghai Literary Review's* founding editor and was its fiction editor from 2016 to 2023. Her writing has been published in *The New York Times*, *Hazlitt*, and elsewhere. Juli has lived in Shanghai, China for six years, but her home and heart is New York City.

MALAS

Marcela Fuentes



Viking (June 4, 2024)

Editor: Laura Tisdell

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: Veronique Baxter at
David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Katrina Escudero at
Sugar23

Rights sold:

Czech Republic: Euromedia

Spanish: Penguin Random House
Grupo Editorial

From a brilliant new voice comes a story full of passion and revenge, following one family living on the Texas Mexico border—and a curse that reverberates across generations

In 1951, a mysterious old woman confronts Pilar Aguirre, a young expectant mother living in a small Texas border town. The old woman is sure Pilar stole her husband. Outraged by Pilar's denials, she lays a curse on Pilar and her family.

More than forty years later, teenage Lulu Muñoz lives in chaos: her moody, troubled father, her secret life as the singer in a punk band, and especially her upcoming quinceañera. When the only true north in Lulu's life, her beloved grandmother, passes away, Lulu finds herself drawn to the glamorous stranger who crashed the funeral.

Their unexpected kinship picks at the secrets of Lulu's family's past. As the quinceañera looms—and we move between these two strong, irascible female voices—one woman must make peace with the past, and one girl must define her own future.

“[A] stunning debut.”—Aimee Bender, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake*

“MALAS gorgeously captures both the vibrancy and the cost of becoming the kind of woman who sets her own path . . . Dazzling, heartbreaking, and triumphant.”—Danielle Evans, *The Office of Historical Corrections*

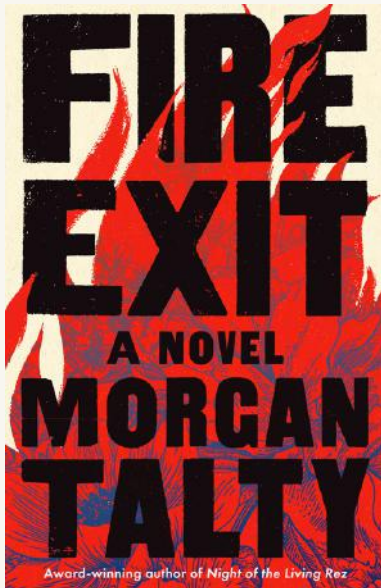
“MALAS is a machete: sharp, terrifying, and beautiful. . . . Fuentes has achieved something rare and indelible with this story of complex women.”—Erika L. Sánchez, *New York Times* bestselling author of *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*

Category: upmarket debut

Marcela Fuentes is a Pushcart Prize-winning fiction writer and essayist. She is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and was the 2016-2017 James C. McCreight Fiction Fellow at the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing. Her work has appeared in the *The Rumpus*, *Kenyon Review*, *Ploughshares*, and other journals. Her debut novel *MALAS* (June 2024) and linked story collection *My Heart Has More Rooms Than a Whorehouse* are forthcoming from Viking Books. She lives in Fort Worth, Texas.

FIRE EXIT

Morgan Talty



Tin House (June 4, 2024)

Editor: Masie Cochran

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Rebecca Friedman / RFLA

UK rights: Angelique Tran Van Sang at Felicity Bryan Associates

Right sold:

UK: And Other Stories

Canada: Knopf Canada (via Tin House)

Arabic: Tashkeell

France: Albin Michel

Germany: Rowohlt

A highly anticipated literary debut from an already acclaimed indigenous voice, FIRE EXIT is a masterful and unforgettable story of family, legacy, bloodlines, culture and inheritance, and what, if anything, we owe one another

From the porch of his home, Charles Lamosway has watched the life he might have had unfold across the river on Maine's Penobscot Reservation. On the far bank, he caught brief moments of Elizabeth's life—from the day she came home from the hospital to her early twenties. But there's always been something deeper and more dangerous than the river that divides him from her and the rest of the tribal community. It's the secret that Elizabeth is his daughter, a secret Charles is no longer willing to keep.

Now it's been weeks since he's seen Elizabeth, and Charles is worried. As he attempts to hold on and care for what he can: his home and property, his alcoholic, quick-tempered and big-hearted friend Bobby, and his mother, Louise, who is slipping ever-deeper into dementia—he becomes increasingly haunted by his past. Forced to confront a lost childhood on the reservation, a love affair cut short, and the death of his beloved stepfather, Fredrick, in a hunting accident—a death that he and Louise cannot agree where to lay the blame—Charles contends with questions he's long been afraid to ask. Is it his secret to share? And would his daughter want to know the truth, even if it could cost her everything she's ever known?

"Talty's writings feels to me like a gift of many lifetimes."—Karen Russell

"This is that rare thing: a frankly honest novel about hard things written without a trace of bitterness. I loved it."—Brandon Taylor

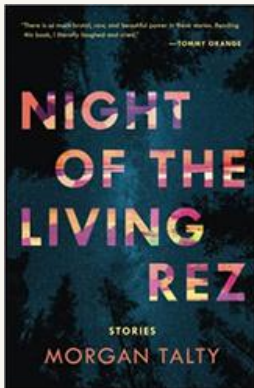
"Utterly consuming . . . The novel absolutely smolders."—Tommy Orange

Category: literary debut

Morgan Talty is a citizen of the Penobscot Indian Nation. His debut short story collection, *Night of the Living Rez* (Tin House, 2022), won the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize, the American Academy of Arts & Letters Sue Kaufman Prize, the National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize, the New England Book Award, the National Book Foundation's 5 Under 35 Honor, and was a Finalist for the Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Award, the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, and The Story Prize. Talty is an assistant professor of English in Creative Writing and Native American and Contemporary Literature at the University of Maine, Orono, and he is on the faculty at the Stonecoast MFA in Creative Writing as well as the Institute of American Indian Arts.

NIGHT OF THE LIVING REZ

Morgan Talty



Tin House (July 5, 2022)

Editor: Masie Cochran

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Rebecca Friedman / RFLA

UK rights: Angelique Tran Van Sang at Felicity Bryan Associates

Right sold:

UK: And Other Stories

France: Albin Michel (via Bookcase)

Germany: Rowohlt

Morgan Talty's linked short story collection NIGHT OF THE LIVING REZ was one of the most acclaimed fiction debuts of 2022, and we are now handling the rights

Winner of the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize, National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize, and the New England Book Award

A Finalist for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Fiction, The Story Prize, and the B&N Discover Book Prize

A New York Times, TIME, NPR, Esquire, Oprah Daily, and Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2022

A linked debut collection that examines the consequences and merits of inheritance, NIGHT OF THE LIVING REZ is an unforgettable portrayal of an Indigenous community and marks the arrival of a standout talent in contemporary fiction.

In twelve striking, luminescent stories, Morgan Talty—with searing humor, abiding compassion, and deep insight—breathes life into tales of family and a community as they struggle with a painful past and an uncertain future. A boy unearths a jar that holds an old curse, which sets into motion his family's unraveling; a man, while trying to swindle some pot from a dealer, discovers a friend passed out in the woods, his hair frozen into the snow; a grandmother suffering from Alzheimer's projects the past onto her grandson; and two friends, inspired by Antiques Roadshow, attempt to rob the tribal museum for valuable root clubs.

“Talty has assured himself a spot in the canon of great Native American literature.”—New York Times

IN A FIELD OF STRAY CATS

Morgan Talty

Viking (summer 2025)

Editor: Allison Lorentzen

Territory sold: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript due summer 2024

Rights sold:

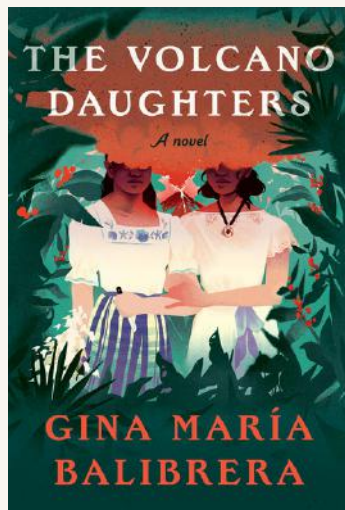
UK: And Other Stories

“Often deploying notes of heartbreak and hilarity within the same paragraph, sentence, phrase, or even word, Talty is a masterful storyteller—and luckily for us he has lived a life filled with incredible stories to tell.”—Isaac Fitzgerald, New York Times bestselling author of Dirtbag, Massachusetts

In his debut memoir, sold to Viking in a major deal at auction, Morgan will draw on his experiences growing up on the Penobscot reservation in Maine. He doesn't shy away from the jagged raw edges of his upbringing, delivering fresh and provocative ruminations on family, while never losing his dark sense of humour and bountiful heart.

THE VOLCANO DAUGHTERS

Gina María Balibrera



Pantheon (August 20, 2024)

Editor: Naomi Gibbs

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Stephanie Delman

UK co-agent: Nicola Chang at David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Hilary Zaitz Michael & Carolina Beltran at WME

Rights Sold:

UK: Oneworld

Spanish: Planeta México

A saucy, searingly original debut about two sisters raised in the shadow of El Salvador's brutal dictator, El Gran Pendejo, and their flight from genocide, which takes them from Hollywood to Paris to cannery row, each followed by a chorus of furies, the ghosts of their murdered friends, who aren't yet done telling their stories

El Salvador, 1923. Graciela grows up on a volcano in a community of indigenous women indentured to coffee plantations owned by the country's wealthiest, until a messenger from the Capital comes to claim her: at nine years old she's been chosen to be an oracle for a rising dictator—a sinister, violent man wedded to the occult. She'll help foresee the future of the country.

In the Capital she meets Consuelo, the sister she's never known, stolen away from their home before Graciela was born. The two are a small fortress within the dictator's regime, but they're no match for El Gran Pendejo's cruelty. Years pass and terror rises as the economy flatlines, and Graciela comes to understand the horrific vision that she's unwittingly helped shape just as genocide strikes the community that raised her. She and Consuelo barely escape, each believing the other to be dead. They run, crossing the globe, reinventing their lives, and ultimately reconnecting at the least likely moment.

Endlessly surprising, vividly imaginative, bursting with lush life, *THE VOLCANO DAUGHTERS* charts, through the stories of these sisters and the ghosts they carry with them, a new history and mythology of El Salvador, fiercely bringing forth voices that have been calling out for generations.

"A dark marvel of a book, at once lush and stark, mythic and earthy. Balibrera's fusion of history and legend puts me in mind of a young Isabelle Allende."—Peter Ho Davies, author of *A Lie Someone Told You About Yourself*

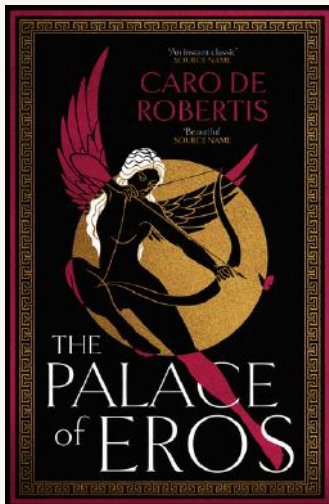
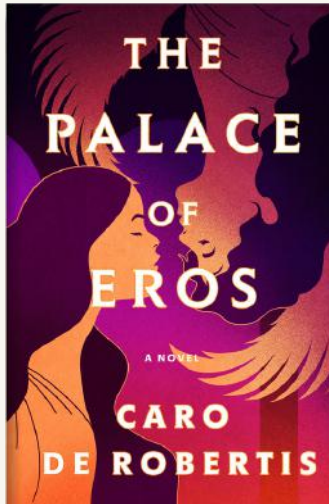
"A work of fierce ambition and blazing emotion . . . A colossal achievement."—Julie Buntin, author of *Marlena*

Category: literary historical debut

Gina María Balibrera earned her MFA from the University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers' Program. A founding fiction editor of *The Offing*, she received the Under the Volcano Sandra Cisneros Fellowship in 2020, and her short fiction was selected by Min Jin Lee for the Aura Estrada Prize. An excerpt of *THE VOLCANO DAUGHTERS* was selected by Leticia Hernández Linares, Rubén Martínez, and Héctor Tobar, to appear in *The Wandering Song*, an anthology of writing of the Central American diaspora.

THE PALACE OF EROS

Caro De Robertis



Atria (August 13, 2024)

Editor: Michelle Herrera Mulligan

Territory: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Rights sold:

UK: The Borough Press

France: Jouvence

Norway: Gursli Berg

Swiftly pre-empted last winter by fresh publishers in both the U.S. and U.K., this bold and subversive feminist retelling of the Greek myth of Psyche and Eros explores the power of queer joy and freedom

Young, headstrong Psyche has captured the eye of every suitor with her beauty—but also, unfortunately, the jealous gaze of the goddess Aphrodite. As punishment, Psyche is tied to a rock to be sacrificed to a ‘monstrous husband’. And yet, no monster arrives: instead, she is spirited away by Aphrodite’s daughter Eros.

Eros, goddess of desire, can change gender at will. And in her hidden palace, she visits her new bride under the cloak of darkness: Psyche is forbidden to gaze upon the face of her new lover. But as they explore each other’s bodies and discover new pleasures, Psyche is tempted to break her vow... even if it brings down the wrath of the gods.

A gloriously anarchic and seductive retelling of the myth of Psyche and Eros, groundbreaking, gender-fluid and hugely enjoyable, this is a masterpiece from Caro De Robertis, a writer described by Madeline Miller as “brilliant and luminous.”

"THE PALACE OF EROS is a riveting, sublime, magical, and wildly subversive meditation on love, sex, mythology, and belonging . . . brilliant and beautiful and erotic and insightful and unlike anything I've ever read. I couldn't ask for more."—Cristina García, author of *Dreaming in Cuban* and *Vanishing Maps*

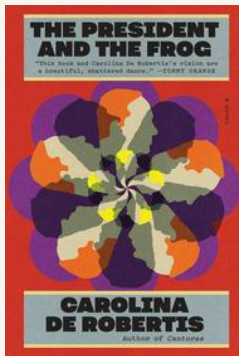
"Bold and barrier-breaking, THE PALACE OF EROS is an exquisitely written quest for authentic embodiment, an intoxicating reimagining of myth like no other. With this novel, De Robertis offers a sublime excavation of passion, courage, and fate that is destined to become a classic."—Patricia Engel, author of *Infinite Country*

"Propulsive and smart! Once again, Caro De Robertis delivers one of the best books I've read this year."—Angie Cruz, author of *How Not To Drown in A Glass of Water*

Category: upmarket fiction

Caro De Robertis is the award-winning and bestselling author of several books, including *THE PALACE OF EROS*, *The President and the Frog*, *Cantoras*, and more. Their work has been translated into eighteen languages and has garnered numerous honors including a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, two Stonewall Book Awards, Italy’s Rhegium Julii Prize, and the John Dos Passos Prize for Literature, which they were the first openly nonbinary person to receive. De Robertis is also an award-winning literary translator, and a professor at San Francisco State University. They live in Oakland, California, with their two children.

CARO DE ROBERTIS: THE BACKLIST

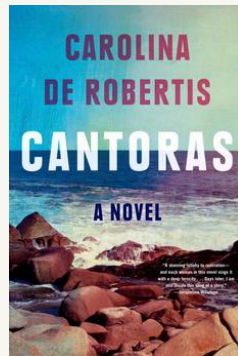


Knopf (2021)

Rights sold: **Brazil:** Editora Dublinense (NEW), **Norway:** Camino Forlag (NEW), **Spanish (NA):** Vintage Español

Shortlisted for the 2022 Pen/Faulkner Prize for Fiction & PEN/Jean Stein Book Award

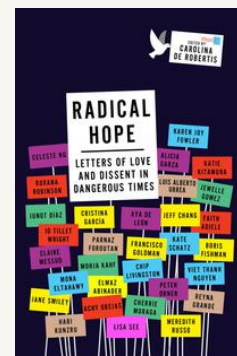
"This sublime and gripping novel is above all about hope."—Madeline Miller, author of *Circe*



Knopf (2019)

Rights sold: **Brazil:** Editora Dublinense (NEW), **Greece:** Diaplasia, **Poland:** Wydawnictwo Albatros, **Spanish (NA):** Vintage Español

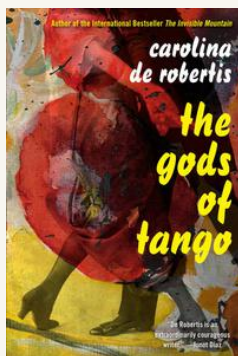
A "bold and unapologetic" (*NYTBR*) novel about five wildly different women who, in the midst of the Uruguayan dictatorship, find each other as lovers, friends, and ultimately, family



Knopf (2017)

Rights sold: **UK:** Virago/Little, Brown, **Poland:** Wydawnictwo Albatros

An anthology of epistolary essays that addresses the tumult and danger of our times, from a range of leading novelists, poets, journalists, and political thinkers, including Celeste Ng, Luis Alberto Urrea, Mona Eltahawy, and Viet Thanh Nguyen

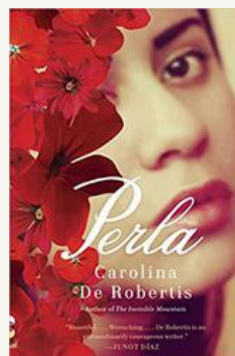


Knopf (2015)

Rights sold: **France:** Le Cherche Midi, **Germany:** S. Fischer Verlag, **Italy:** Garzanti, **Norwegian:** Vigmostad & Bjørke, **Poland:** Wydawnictwo Albatros, **Romania:** Nemira

The lyrical, riveting story of a young woman whose passion for the early sounds of tango becomes a force of profound and unexpected change

"There is something inherently alluring about the tango. . . . [*The Gods of Tango*] captures that allure in a rich feast of history and human drama."—*Booklist* (starred review)



Knopf (2012)

Rights sold: **UK:** Haus Publishing, **Germany:** S. Fischer Verlag, **Italy:** Garzanti, **Israel:** Matar, **The Netherlands:** De Bezige Bij, **Norwegian:** Schibsted Forlag, **Poland:** Wydawnictwo Albatros

A "moving, poetic" (*O, The Oprah Magazine*) coming-of-age story based on one of the darkest chapters in Argentinean history

"Haunting . . . a sensitive exploration of love, loyalty, and hope in the wake of atrocity."—*The New Yorker*



Knopf (2009)

Rights sold: **UK:** Harper, **China:** Yilin Press, **France:** Belfond, **Germany:** S. Fischer Verlag, **Greece:** Livanis, **Israel:** Matar, **Italy:** Garzanti, **The Netherlands:** De Boekerij, **Norway:** Schibsted Forlag, **Poland:** Wydawnictwo Albatros, **Serbia:** Dereta (NEW), **Spain:** Planeta, **Sweden:** Forum, **Taiwan:** Commonwealth

"An incantatory debut. . . . [A] sweeping and lushly lyrical saga that spans three generations of women. . . . Boldly poetic. . . . This visionary book beautifully, bravely breaks open all the old secrets."—*Elle*

HOUSE LONGE HAS GONE ASTRAY

Tolani Akinola



Pamela Dorman Books

(summer 2025)

Editor: Seema Mahanian

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript,
edited due summer 2024

Agent: Michelle Brower &

Natalie Edwards

UK rights: Jemima Forrester at
David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Rukayat Giwa at CAA

Sold in a major pre-empt, this debut family saga already won the author a coveted spot in the 2023 Reese's Book Club LitUp Fellowship, where she was mentored by Curtis Sittenfeld

The four Longe siblings, born in Chicago to Nigerian immigrant parents, are making a mess of their lives. When Anjola, the third-eldest, returns to her hometown for residency at an underfunded public hospital and learns that her best friend is engaged to someone else, she begins to search more honestly for her true feelings about him and her life choices so far.

Meanwhile, eldest daughter Sola's ex cheats on her in the most public way possible, blowing up her budding career as an influencer and landing her on a friend's couch. Karen, the baby of the family, feels lost at college, insecure about her autoimmune condition, and unsure of her sexuality. And Ola, their only brother and the oldest child, has succeeded by every measure, but with a baby on the way, it's exactly the wrong time for him to be questioning his relationship with his white wife, or his ability to raise a Black son in America.

Amidst questions of social class, racial belonging, and the search for vocation, HOUSE LONGE HAS GONE ASTRAY asks uncomfortable and necessary questions: How important is romantic love, really? What do we owe to our parents for raising us, and can we forgive them for their secrets and lies? The fateful outcome of a holiday family dinner forces each of the Longes to take stock of what really matters—in their love lives, professional identities, and in one another.

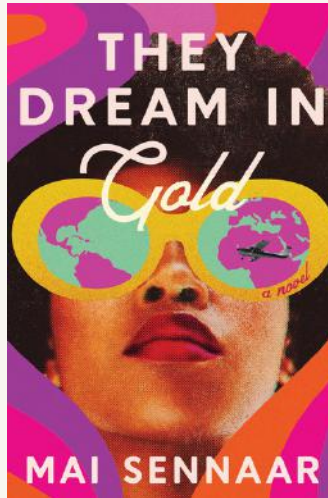
Category: book club debut

Tolani Akinola is a 2023 Reese's Book Club LitUp Fellow. She holds a BA from the University of Chicago and an MPH from the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

THEY DREAM IN GOLD

*previously titled TASTE

Mai Sennaar



Sarah Jessica Parker Lit/Zando Books (July 30, 2024)

Editor: Caolinn Douglas

Territory sold: North America

Material: first pass

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK rights: Jane Finigan at Lutyens & Rubinstein

Rights sold:

UK: Picador

“A reader traverses half the globe through this story, becomes a singer and a dancer and a chef; and is welcomed into a formidable community of women where love is the unshakeable glue. Subtle yet striking, THEY DREAM IN GOLD is a remarkable comment on motherhood, diaspora, and ambition.”—Sarah Jessica Parker, SJP Lit

It is summer 1969 in the Swiss countryside, and the house on the hill is busy. In the kitchen, Mama Eva and her sisters sing along to Congolese rumba, season fish, and pound garlic in preparation for the grand opening of their Senegalese restaurant. Upstairs, African American daughter-in-law Bonnie paces while hopelessly waiting for news from the father of her unborn child.

Mansour has been gone for three months. In his absence, Mama Eva remembers Mansour's birth along a riverbank, while Bonnie plays his melodies in her head, and devises a plan to find him. Through tales that span generations and continents, these women paint Mansour's life in vivid color, and soon, both the lingering questions of their pasts and the truth of his disappearance are revealed.

Epic in scope but intimate in its portraiture, moving through the hotbeds of the African Diaspora—from colonial West Africa to Brazil during Carnival season—THEY DREAM IN GOLD is a deeply affecting ode to the people and places that shape our identities, and a powerful testament to our shared humanity.

“Mai Sennaar is an extremely talented artist.”—Morgan Jenkins, author of *Caul Baby*, *Wandering in Strange Lands* and *This Will Be My Undoing*

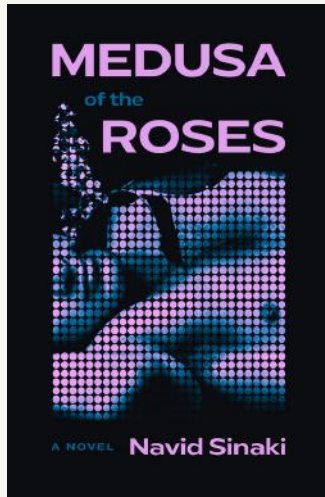
“A symphonic feat of wisdom and breathtaking verve . . . Mai Sennaar is a rare, daring talent who wrings emotion and beauty from each page, each word.”—Thao Thai, author of *Banyan Moon*

Category: upmarket debut

Mai Sennaar is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. The Smithsonian Affiliate Museum of the African Diaspora, the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, and the Classical Theatre of Harlem are among the venues that have presented her plays. Her short film *Wax Lovers' Playlist* premiered at AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center and was an Official Selection of the Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival. She lives between Baltimore and Dakar.

MEDUSA OF THE ROSES

Navid Sinaki



Grove Atlantic (August 13, 2024)

Editor: Amy Hundley & Joseph Payne

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK rights: Florence Rees at AM Heath

Rights sold:

UK: Serpent's Tail

France: Le bruit du monde

Written with the lyricism of Ocean Vuong's *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, a transgressive Iranian noir steeped in Persian and Greek mythology that follows a queer petty thief in a feverish search for answers and revenge after his boyfriend disappears

Anjir and Zal are childhood best friends turned adults in love. The only problem is they live in Iran, where being openly gay is criminalized, and the government's apparent acceptance of trans people requires them to surgically transition and pass as cis straight people. When Zal is brutally attacked after being seen with another man in public, despite the betrayal, Anjir becomes even more determined to carry out their longstanding plan for the future: Anjir, who's always identified with the mythical gender-changing Tiresias, will become a woman, and they'll move to a new town for a fresh start as husband and wife.

Then Zal vanishes, leaving a cryptic note behind that sets Anjir on a quest to find the other man, hoping he will lead to Zal. Stalking and stealing his way through the streets, clubs, library stacks, hotel rooms, and museum halls of Tehran—where he encounters his troubled mother, addict brother, and the dynamic Leyli, a new friend who is undergoing a transition of her own—Anjir soon realizes that someone is tailing him too. It quickly becomes clear that more violence may be the fastest route to freedom, as Anjir's morals and gender identity are pushed to new places in the pursuit of love, peace, and self-determination.

Steeped in ancient Persian and Greek myths, and brimming with poetic vulnerability, subversive bite, and noirish grit, *MEDUSA OF THE ROSES* is a page-turning wallop of a story from a bright new literary talent.

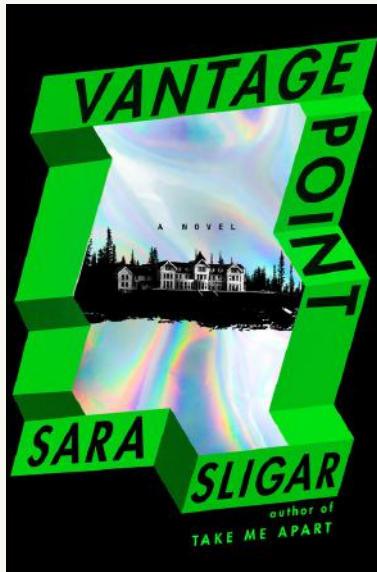
"Navid Sinaki flips noir on its head in this propulsive, twisting novel about creating identity against formative love in an oppressive society. Sexy, raw, and perfectly paced, *MEDUSA OF THE ROSES* will get under your skin."—Julia Fine, author of *Maddalena and the Dark*

Category: literary debut

Navid Sinaki is an artist and writer from Tehran who currently lives in Los Angeles. His works have been exhibited at museums and art houses around the world, including the Lincoln Center, British Film Institute, Cineteca Nacional in Mexico, and the Modern Museum in Stockholm. His first solo art exhibition *The Infinite Garden* debuted at Shangri La Museum of Islamic Art, Culture, and Design, and the Honolulu Museum of Art.

VANTAGE POINT

Sara Sligar



FSG (January 14, 2025)

Editor: Katie Liptak

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: Sara Langham at David Higham Associates

Option publishers:

UK: Text

Germany: Hanserblau

Succession meets Beware the Woman in this seductive Gothic suspense novel about the dramatic downfall of one of America's most affluent (and cursed) families

The old-money Wieland family has it all—wealth, fame, status, power. They're also, famously, cursed. Clara and her brother, Teddy, grew up in the shadow of their parents' tragic deaths, haunted by rumors and paparazzi. Fourteen years later, they've mostly put their turbulent past to rest. Teddy has married Clara's best friend, Jess, and the three of them have taken over the sprawling, remote family mansion known as Vantage Point. Then Teddy decides to run for Senate—an unnerving prospect made much worse when intimate videos of Clara are leaked online. The most frightening part is that she doesn't remember filming any of them. Are they real? Or are they deepfakes? Is someone trying to take down the Wielands once and for all?

Everyone around Clara thinks she is losing her grasp on reality. But she knows the truth: years ago, the curse destroyed her parents. Now, it's coming for her.

Sara Sligar, the critically acclaimed author of *Take Me Apart*, returns with another shocking, breathless novel of Gothic suspense. Brimming with palpable tension, *Vantage Point* reveals a twisted web of family secrets and political ambition that raises questions about the blurred lines between public and private personas and the nature of truth in our digital age.

"Sara Sligar is that rare writer whose high concept is matched by faultless prose, rich emotional insight, and a vein of delicious dark humor that bleeds when pressed. This is a novel to devour, then savor. I loved every mind-bending page."—Katie Gutierrez, author of national bestseller *More Than You'll Ever Know*

"Sara Sligar's new novel is a primal scream, sounding a harrowing alarm about how thin (and deadly) the line between synthetic and real has become."—Katy Hays, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Cloisters*

Category: literary thriller

Sara Sligar is the author of *Take Me Apart*, which was shortlisted for the Ned Kelly Award for Best International Crime Fiction. She lives in Los Angeles, where she is an assistant professor of English and creative writing at the University of Southern California.

OYE

Melissa Mogollon



Hogarth (May 14, 2024)

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK rights: Sara Langham

at David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Jason Richman at UTA

Rights sold:

Spanish: Vintage Español

“Brilliant . . . Melissa Mogollon did not come to play.”—Kiley Reid, author of *Such a Fun Age*

A coming-of-age comedy. A telenovela-worthy drama. A moving family saga. All in a phone call you won’t want to hang up on.

Structured as a series of one-sided phone calls from our spunky, sarcastic narrator, Luciana, to her older sister, Mari, this wildly inventive debut “jump-starts your heart in the same way it piques your ear” (Xochitl Gonzalez). As the baby of her large Colombian American family, Luciana is usually relegated to the sidelines. But now she finds herself as the only voice of reason in the face of an unexpected crisis: A hurricane is heading straight for Miami, and her eccentric grandmother, Abue, is refusing to evacuate. While she often drives Luciana nuts, they’re the only ones who truly understand each other. So when Abue, normally glamorous and full of life, receives a shocking medical diagnosis during the storm, Luciana’s world is upended.

When Abue moves into Luciana’s bedroom, their complicated bond intensifies. Luciana would rather be skating or sneaking out to meet girls, but Abue’s wild demands and unpredictable antics are a welcome distraction for Luciana from her misguided mother, absent sister, and uncertain future. Forced to step into the role of caretaker, translator, and keeper of the devastating family secrets that Abue begins to share, Luciana suddenly finds herself center stage, facing down adulthood—and rising to the occasion.

“Fresh and wise, innovative and laugh-out-loud funny, warm and stylish, OYE is a propulsive delight full of verve and heart.”—Sarah Thankam Mathews, author of *All This Could Be Different*

“This is a novel for the ear-hustler in all of us! . . . Mogollon has created a story that will stay with readers for a long time.”—Elizabeth Acevedo, author of *Family Lore* and *The Poet X*

“With its singular voice and vibrant characters, OYE commands your attention from the very first page.”—Dawnie Walton, author of *The Final Revival of Opal & Nev*

Category: literary debut

Melissa Mogollon holds an MFA in fiction from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and a BA from the George Washington University. Originally from Colombia and raised in Florida, she now teaches at a boarding school in Rhode Island, where she lives with her partner and dog.

JUNIE

Erin Crosby-Eckstine



*Cover confidential

Ballantine (February 2025)

Editor: Wendy Wong

Territory sold: North America

Material: first pass

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: Catherine Cho at
Paper Literary

A young girl faces a life-altering decision, navigating love, friendship, loss of innocence—and her sister's ghost—as the American Civil War looms in this radiant debut

You deserve more, Delilah June. You deserve to take all the beauty of this world and hold it in your hands. You deserve to bite it like a peach and let the juice drip 'til your fingers get sticky.

Sixteen years old and enslaved since she was born, Junie spends her days on Bellereine plantation in Lowndes County, Alabama, cooking, cleaning, and tending to the white master's daughter—her oldest and closest friend, Violet. She fills her nights with secret explorations through the forest, consumed with grief over the sudden death of her older sister, Minnie.

When guests arrive, promising marriage for Violet and upending Junie's life, she commits a desperate act—one that rouses Minnie's spirit from the grave, tethered to this world unless Junie can free her. As long-held truths begin to crumble, she realizes Bellereine is harboring dark secrets that can no longer be ignored.

But with time ticking down, and an unexpected friend made in Caleb, the guests' valet, Junie begins to push against the current that has controlled her entire life. As she approaches adulthood, she is forced to ask herself: When we choose love and liberation, what must we leave behind?

Inspired to write this novel by the true story of her great-great-great-grandmother, Erin Crosby-Eckstine's JUNIE calls upon the lightly magical tradition of classics like *Kindred* or *Beloved*, and will appeal to readers of *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates, alongside fans of the earnest, approachable tone of V.E. Schwab's *The Invisible Life of Addie Larue*.

Category: historical debut

Erin Crosby-Eckstine spends her days teaching love stories to high school students, and her evenings writing the books she wishes she had as a kid. Her work draws inspiration from her birthplace, Montgomery, Alabama. Her nonfiction has appeared in *New York Magazine*, *Catapult*, and *HelloGiggles*. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband and cats.

THIS KIND OF TROUBLE

Tochi Eze



Tiny Reparations/Dutton

(June 2025)

Editor: Lashanda Anakwah

Territory sold: North

American

Material: edited manuscript
after the fair

Agent: Allison Malecha

UK rights: Jane Finigan at
Lutyens & Rubinstein

Rights sold:

Canada: McClelland &
Stewart

UK: #Merky Books /
Hutchinson Heinemann

Sold in a combined US and Canadian pre-empt, a century-spanning family saga in which a long-estranged couple with ties to the same Nigerian village is reluctantly reunited by their daughter in time to confront the haunting effects of ancestral sins, exploring the ways mental trauma is expressed through the language of curses and consequence

Lagos, 2005. Margaret, at sixty-five, has managed her schizophrenia throughout a successful career and has at last claimed her reward: a comfortable parcel in a gated community where the neighbors show her the deference she deserves. Her ex-husband Benjamin is living alone in Atlanta, a happy enough man but one who is at a loss for who to list as his “next of kin” when his heart trouble acts up. The couple hasn’t seen each other in four decades—not since the day in 1966 when Benjamin left Margaret and their seven-month-old daughter, Nwando, on the floor of their kitchen in Lagos, the city where the couple met and fell in love.

Now Nwando, a wife and mother herself, has bridged this long unbridgeable gap, secretly reaching out to her father. Meanwhile Margaret’s hard-won peace erupts after a sudden act of violence, causing her to wonder if the western psychiatry and prayer she’s long leaned on are still right for her. When Nwando’s son in turn begins to show signs of instability, Margaret decides it’s time to explore a different approach—time to return to the village she left a lifetime ago, and time to face the generational trauma that has shaped her and Benjamin both, sending the entire family headlong into a reckoning with trespasses intimate and ancestral.

Unfolding across three parallel timelines, from the moment of early 1900s colonial intrusion in one Nigerian village, through the couple’s love story in the newly liberated Lagos of the 1960s, to the novel’s present, **THIS KIND OF TROUBLE** brilliantly complicates Eurocentric conceptions of mental illness—all the while asking us whether, and how, we’re beholden to the past, and the future.

Category: literary debut

Tochi Eze is a writer and lawyer from Nigeria. *Longreads* named her short story “The Americanization of Kambili,” published by *Catapult*, as one of “Ten Outstanding Stories to Read in 2023.” She has an MFA from Florida Atlantic University and is currently a PhD student in English Literature at the University of Virginia. This is her first novel.

MAYA & NATASHA

Elyse Durham

*previous title STONE FLOWERS



Mariner (spring/summer 2025)

Editor: Nicole Angeloro

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: Jemima Forrester at
David Higham Associates

Sold at auction last fall in a significant deal, a big book club debut about the bond between sisters—competitive, complicated, but never broken—set in the tense world of Cold War Soviet ballet

Maya and Natasha are twin sisters born in the midst of the Siege of Leningrad in 1941 and immediately abandoned by their mother, a prima ballerina at the Kirov Ballet who would rather die than not dance. Taken in by their mother's best friend at the Kirov, the girls are raised to be dancers themselves. The Vaganova Academy of Ballet—and the totalitarian Soviet regime—is the only world they know.

In 1958, now seniors at the Vaganova at the height of the Cold War, all Maya and Natasha and their classmates want is to dance with the Kirov, and to join the company on its tour to America next year. Both sisters have sacrificed their childhoods, their bodies, and more than a little sanity for this opportunity. Natasha longs for the material comforts of Western life. Maya hopes to find a connection to the mother she never knew.

Then a new law from the Kremlin upends Maya and Natasha's lives: due to fears of defection, family members may no longer travel abroad together. The Kirov can only accept one of them. As the stronger performer, Natasha takes her success for granted and falls in with a crowd of reckless dissidents obsessed with the West. Maya, long accustomed to living in her sister's shadow, accepts her bitter fate, until a new dance partner inspires her to dream bigger and practice harder. For the first time—and at the cruelest possible moment—the sisters are equally matched. And then one sister betrays the other, altering their lives forever and splitting them in two, though neither will stray far from each other's orbit.

Category: book club historical debut

Elyse Durham is a graduate of the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College and an Elizabeth George grantee. Her fiction has appeared or is upcoming in the *Cimarron Review*, *Image Journal*, and the *Cincinnati Review*, who in 2019 nominated her for the PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize for Emerging Writers. She lives in Michigan with her husband, a Greek Orthodox priest.

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Rickey Fayne

*previously titled THE DEVIL THREE TIMES



Little, Brown (spring/summer 2025)

Editor: Ben George

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: Elise Dillsworth at
David Higham Associates

Rights sold:

UK: Fleet/Little, Brown

From a wonderfully mature and original storyteller, **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN** is an engrossing epic of a multi-generational Black southern family who farm the land where they were once enslaved. The cast of characters is impressively vast, but Fayne manages to bring us intimately and convincingly into the inner world of each and every one—including, most imaginatively, the Devil himself. Little, Brown will position as a major literary debut of 2025

The Devil first comes to the conjure woman living on the Laurent plantation, and to her twin children: one a dark-skinned girl, the other a light-skinned boy, and then returns over the decades to their tangled family tree. There is Walter Laurent, consumed by the fire of old-time religion, and his son Louis, tortured by his desire for his brother's wife. There is Cassandra, who smells colors and talks to the dead, and Porter and James, who are both in love with her. And finally there are Lucy and John who, no matter how much distance they try to put behind them, find themselves pulled back home.

Loosely based on the author's hometown and family, who have lived on the same plot of land in West Tennessee for over 150 years, **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN** continues the conversation on Black religion, folklore, and love that goes back to Zora Neale Hurston and Toni Morrison, and will live in the space that includes Jesmyn Ward, Honorée Fanonne Jeffers, Yaa Gyasi, and Robert Jones Jr.

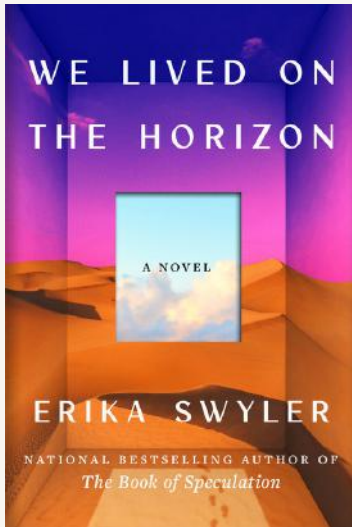
"Not since James Baldwin's *Go Tell It on the Mountain* has a debut conveyed Black spirituality with such passion, style, and brio. From the first page, I was spellbound, and was left devastated by the novel's end. This is what literature is all about."—Nathan Harris, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Sweetness of Water*

Category: literary debut

Rickey Fayne has an MA in English from Northwestern University and an MFA in Fiction from the Michener Center for Writers. An excerpt of **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN** was chosen by Danielle Evans to be part of the Emerging Black Writer's issue of *American Short Fiction*, went on to become a finalist for a National Magazine Award, and received a Notable Mention in *Best American Mystery and Suspense* 2021. Another excerpt, "What Fire Won't Burn," won the 2022 Walter Sullivan Award from *The Sewanee Review*. He has received scholarships from Tin House, Bread Loaf, and Kimbilio. He is on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison English Department.

WE LIVED ON THE HORIZON

Erika Swyler



Atria (March 18, 2025)

Editor: Loan Le

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Option publishers:

Germany: Blanvalet

Poland: Czarne Owca

A new direction for the author of *The Book of Speculation*, this is literary science fiction for fans of Ursula K. Le Guin which takes place in the far future at a moment of revolution, when one of the upper class members of society, one of the “Sainted,” is murdered, and the systems that run the society cover it up. Our heroes include an aging bio-prosthetic surgeon, named Saint Enita Malovis, and her disarming house AI, Nix, whom Enita is training to take her place in the surgery

The city of Bulwark is aptly named: a wired, walled city built to protect and preserve the people who managed to survive a series of great cataclysms, Bulwark was founded on a system where sacrifice and usefulness are rewarded by the AI that runs the city. Over generations, an elite class of Sainted formed, the descendants of those who gave up the most to found mankind’s last redoubt.

Saint Enita Malovis, long accustomed to luxury, feels the end of her life and decades of work as a bio-prosthetist approaching. The lone practitioner of her art, Enita—called Saint Stitch-Skin by her clients—fears her important work will not continue after she’s gone. To preserve her legacy, she’s undertaken a final incredible project: creating a being that can succeed her by downloading her personal AI, called Nix, into a real physical body. Her greatest worry is the loss of her craft—until a fellow Sainted is brutally murdered in his home, and the city AI inexplicably erases the event from its data. As they develop a fraught but powerful bond with Neren, a rare “Body Martyr” who donates her organs to ailing Sainted, Enita and Nix are drawn into the war between Bulwark’s hidden underclass and the programs that impose and maintain order.

WE LIVED ON THE HORIZON asks, could you recognize a revolution if you were in one? In this complex and imaginative novel, Erika grapples with the underbelly of utopia, the trauma of having a body, gender, parenthood, and what these things mean for human and machine alike. But more than that, she builds an architecture of hope that doesn’t ignore our deepest flaws.

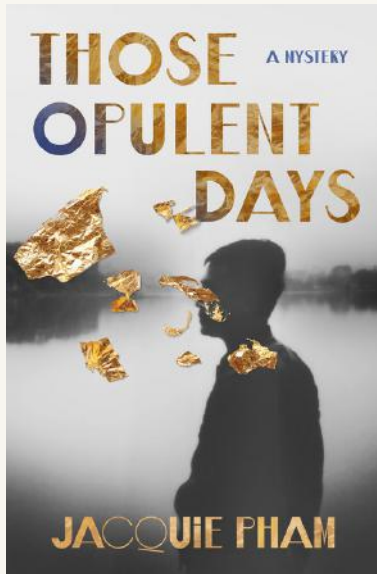
Category: literary science fiction

Erika Swyler is the author of *The Book of Speculation* (SMP 2015), *Light from Other Stars* (Bloomsbury 2019), and has published in *Catapult*, *Literary Hub*, *VIDA*, *The New York Times*, and elsewhere. She’s been an Indie Next Pick as well as a Target Book Club pick and B&N Discover selection. As *Newsday* wrote: “Only a writer who understands the human heart as well as she understands entropy and space travel can write a book like *Light from Other Stars*—science fiction for the rest of us.”

THOSE OPULENT DAYS

*previously titled SAIGON CONFIDENTIAL

Jacquie Pham



Grove Atlantic (November 2024)

Editor: Joseph Brosnan

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Jacquie Pham's transportive debut, **THOSE OPULENT DAYS**, delivers a classic historical murder mystery centered around the glamor, violence, wealth, and opium of 1920's French-colonial Vietnam that meshes the structural brilliance of Lucy Foley's *The Guest List* with the historical vitality of Vanessa Chan's *The Storm We Made*, and the upstairs-downstairs drama of *Downton Abbey*

One will lose his mind. One will pay. One will agonize. And one will die.

Duy, Phong, Minh, and Edmond have been best friends since childhood. Now, as young men running their families' formidable businesses, they make up Saigon's most powerful group of friends in 1928 Vietnam's elite society.

Until one of them is murdered.

In a lavish mansion on a hill in Dalat, all four men have gathered for an evening of indulgence, but one of them won't survive the night. Toggling between this fatal night and the six days leading up to it, told from the perspectives of the four men, their mothers, their servants, and their lovers, an intricate web of terror, loyalty, and well-kept secrets begins to unravel.

As the story creeps closer to the murder, and as each character becomes a suspect, the true villain begins to emerge: colonialism, the French occupation of Vietnam, and the massive economic differences that catapult the wealthy into the stratosphere while the poor starve on the streets.

THOSE OPULENT DAYS is at once both a historical novel of vivid intensity and a classically structured, pitch-perfect locked-room mystery featuring a robust cast of characters you won't soon forget.

Category: literary crime fiction debut

Jacquie Pham is a Vietnamese-Australian writer of adult fiction. Growing up in Vietnam during the New Korean wave around 2007, Jacquie started writing short stories about Korean boy bands. She then moved to Australia to attend the University of Sydney— not wanting to let 13-year-old Jacquie down, she has decided to pursue a career as an author. She currently lives in Sydney with two very goofy dogs. Don't tell them, but Jacquie also loves cats.

THESE MEMORIES DO NOT BELONG TO US

Yiming Ma



Mariner (fall 2025)

Editor: Jessica Vestuto

Territory sold: US and Open Market

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower & Natalie Edwards

UK rights: Niki Chang at David Higham Associates

Rights sold:

Canada: McClelland & Stewart

Sold in dual American and Canadian pre-empts, a speculative literary debut for fans of Ted Chiang, Omar El Akkad, and Yoko Ogawa

THESE MEMORIES DO NOT BELONG TO US comes to us from a world in which China, renamed Qin, stands as the sole superpower left on the global stage. In this future, every citizen is fitted with a Mindbank, an implanted device capable of not only recording but also transferring memories between minds; as a result, anyone with means can relive the life experiences of others.

In this same world, a single mother carries on a different storytelling tradition—sharing narratives that are no longer in wide circulation with her son, by voice. After her death, her son decides to gift these stories, his mother's legacy, back to the public, even if it costs him his own freedom. THESE MEMORIES DO NOT BELONG TO US contains those stories.

In "Chankonabe," we get the tale of a sumo wrestler's emotional reunion with his blind mother. In "Promised Land," which takes place soon after Qin conquers the West, an Asian American teenager crawls through a desert in virtual reality for his Gaokao examination and hallucinates conversations with his best friend, an African American boy who fled before the War. And in a future Qin, one deceased protagonist awakens in Reincarnation and is interrogated by an artificial intelligence calling itself the Angel.

A powerfully prescient and genre-bending debut, THESE MEMORIES DO NOT BELONG TO US compels us to question the ways in which governments and media manipulate history and collective imagination for our consumption, and encourages us to look beyond the sheen of convenient truths to unearth the real stories of struggle and sacrifice beneath.

Category: literary debut

Yiming Ma holds an MBA from Stanford and an MFA from Warren Wilson College, where he was the Carol Houck Smith Scholar. His story "Swimmer of Yangtze" won the 2018 *Guardian* 4th Estate Short Story Prize. His work has been shortlisted and/or a finalist for the Gulf Coast Prize, Ploughshares Emerging Writers Contest, LitMag Virginia Woolf Prize and Commonwealth Short Story Prize. He has been awarded grants for residencies and conferences such as the Sewanee Writers' Conference, VQR Writers' Conference and the Vermont Studio Center. Born in Shanghai, he now lives between Toronto and Tokyo.

THE EDGE OF WATER

Olufunke Grace Bankole



Tin House (April 2025)

Editor: Elizabeth DeMeo

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: Catherine Cho at
Paper Literary

Set between Nigeria and New Orleans, THE EDGE OF WATER tells the story of a young woman who dreams of life in America, as the collision of traditional prophecy and individual longing tests the bonds of a family during a devastating storm.

In Ibadan, Nigeria, a mother receives a divination that foretells danger for her daughter in America. In spite of this warning, she allows her to forge her own path, and Amina arrives in New Orleans filled with hope. But just as Amina begins to find her way, a hurricane threatens to destroy the city, upending everything she'd dreamed of and the lives of all she holds dear. Years later, her daughter is left with questions about the mother she barely knew, and the family she has yet to discover in Nigeria.

Exploring the love of a determined mother and dreaming daughter who do not say enough to each other until it is too late, the detangling of Yoruba Christianity, traditional religion, and folklore, and the tellings of three generations of daring women—through times of longing, promise, and romance, as well as heartbreak—Olufunke Grace Bankole's THE EDGE OF WATER is a luminous debut novel about a young woman brave enough to leave all she knows behind, and the way her fate transforms a family destined to stay together.

Category: literary debut

Olufunke Grace Bankole is a first-generation Nigerian American. After graduating from Harvard Law School, and completing a Soros Justice Advocacy Fellowship, she left law to write. She won the Glimmer Train Short-Story Award for New Writers, and the Bread Loaf-Rona Jaffe Scholarship in Fiction at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. She has been awarded an Oregon Literary Fellowship in Fiction, a Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation grant, a residency-fellowship from the Anderson Center at Tower View, and has received a Pushcart Special Mention for her short fiction. An excerpt from THE EDGE OF WATER, titled Serrated, was chosen by Tom Perrotta for a recent issue of *Ploughshares*.

PSYCHOPOMP

Maria Dong



Dark Matter Ink Press (March 25, 2025)

Editor: Marie Croke

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Amy Bishop-Wycisk

UK rights: TBD

Film/TV: Orly Greenberg at UTA

A spellbinding debut that combines the psychological suspense and lush prose of a gothic novel with the near-future aesthetics of Bong Joon-Ho's *Snowpiercer*

Like all convicts sent to Hibiscus Station, Young is forced to mine precious piezanite crystals from the lunar crust. When she first arrived, Young was selected to train as a Pomp—a technician that tries to predict the location of the explosive crystals, and her only chance of paying off her years-long penal debt early—but after washing out and attempting suicide, folks steer clear of her.

When she forgets her glove one shift, Young has a vision: the exact location of every crystal in the tunnels around her—except that she's not sure if it's real. Even if she can sense piezanite, the crystals are priceless, and there's no telling what the corporation that owns her debt might do if they suspect she can increase their profit margin. Determined not to endanger herself, she keeps silent—and fails to prevent a mining accident that kills the rest of her crew. In the midst of her grief, her well-connected new lover, Gyu, comes to her with an offer: retry the training program she failed out of, and he'll ensure she makes it through.

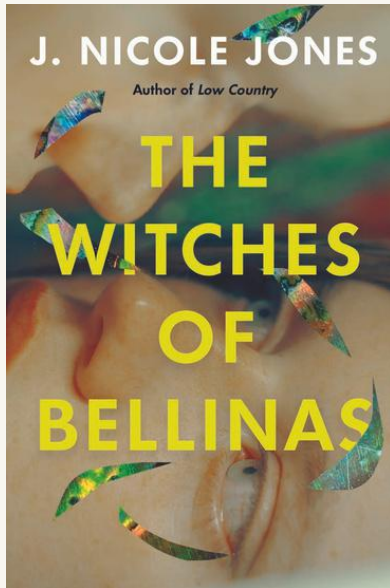
With her new visions, Young can't fail—but as her training progresses, it starts to appear that the circumstances surrounding the accident weren't what they seemed, and that everyone—her new crew, the station staff, and even Gyu—are all hiding secrets of their own. As the noose around her tightens, Young's investigations reveal that everything she's taken as truth her entire life is almost certainly a lie—and if she doesn't find another way off Hibiscus Station soon, she's going to become the victim of another “mining accident.”

Category: science fiction

Maria Dong is the author of *Liar, Dreamer, Thief*. Her short fiction, articles, and poetry have been published in dozens of magazines, like the *Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy*, *Lightspeed*, *Augur*, *Nightmare*, *Khoreo*, *Fantasy*, *Apex*, and *Apparition Literary Magazine*. She is represented by Amy Bishop-Wycisk at Trellis Literary Management.

THE WITCHES OF BELLINAS

J. Nicole Jones



Catapult (May 14, 2024)

Editor: Alicia Kroell

Territory sold: World English

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Stephanie Delman

A dreamy California Gothic about a woman who moves to the mysterious town of Bellinas to save her marriage, only to be swept up in a hedonistic cult that isn't what it seems

Tansy and her husband, Guy, are the newest arrivals in Bellinas, a lush oasis tucked into the coast of northern California where a reclusive, creative community is beginning to take shape. Helmed by Guy's cousin Mia, a famous model turned wellness luminary, and her tech mogul husband, the group renounces the outside world in pursuit of purity, fashioning their own rules about what to eat and how to live.

Mia and the other women drape Tansy in expensive clothing and spend their days fawning over their babies, while the men surf and dive for abalone. Everything seems perfect in Bellinas: food is abundant, flowers are always in bloom, and nearby wildfires leave the town remarkably unscathed.

While Guy is happy in their new life, Tansy becomes more and more suspicious of the community and increasingly desperate to save her already fragile marriage. And as lonely women have throughout the ages, she wants to believe in what may only be a beautiful lie.

THE WITCHES OF BELLINAS unfolds as a confession from Tansy, filled with anguish over the life and sense of self she's surrendered in her desperation to belong. In J. Nicole Jones's clever reimagining of cult power and groupthink, the question isn't why join, but rather, what.

"At the intersection of the supernatural and simple human ugliness, THE WITCHES OF BELLINAS gives its readers chills and thrills along with a profound sense of wrongs done, but no heroes or villains. This is a novel for anyone who's wondered if the picturesque might be too good to be true."—Shelf Awareness

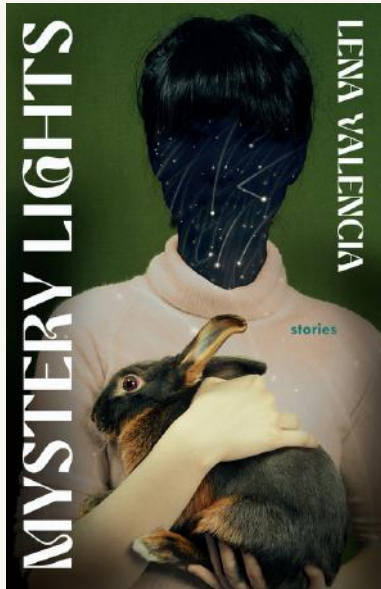
"THE WITCHES OF BELLINAS is like the eerie technicolor lovechild of *Midsommar* and *Rebecca*. . . . Myth and magic, gender and power, desire and death all swirl together in this novel to make a heady brew."—Clare Beams, author of *The Illness Lesson*

Category: literary debut

J. Nicole Jones received her MFA in creative nonfiction from Columbia University and has held editorial positions at *VICE* magazine and *Vanity Fair*. She is the author of *Low Country: A Southern Memoir*.

MYSTERY LIGHTS

Lena Valencia



Tin House (August 6, 2024)

Editor: Elizabeth DeMeo

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Rights sold:

UK: Dead Ink Books

Set against the stark background of the Southwestern desert, Lena Valencia's MYSTERY LIGHTS glows with the promise—and fear—of the world we know and the worlds we don't, following women and girls as they navigate dangers both supernatural and existential

An influencer attempts to derail a viral TV marketing campaign with her violent cult following. A marriage between two ghost hunters is threatened when one of them loses her ability to see spirits. The lives of a famous painter in the twilight of her career and a teenage UFO enthusiast converge when a mysterious glowing orb appears in their small desert town. And a slasher-flick screenwriter looking for inspiration escapes a pack of wild dogs only to find herself locked in an SUV with a strange man beside her. Set primarily in deserts throughout the American Southwest, Lena Valencia's MYSTERY LIGHTS is a debut collection of stories about women and girls at the crossroads of mundane daily life and existential dread.

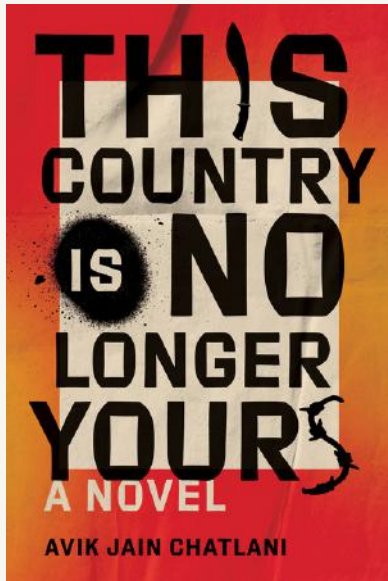
From the all-too-real horror of a sexual predator on a college campus to a lost sister transformed by cave-dwelling creatures, MYSTERY LIGHTS grapples with terrors both familiar and fantastic, introducing an electrifying new voice in contemporary fiction while bringing to light the many faces of the forces that haunt us.

Category: short story collection

Lena Valencia's fiction has appeared in *Ninth Letter*, *Epiphany*, *Joyland*, the anthology *Tiny Nightmares*, and elsewhere. She is the recipient of a 2019 Elizabeth George Foundation grant and holds an MFA in fiction from The New School. Originally from Los Angeles, she lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she is the managing editor and director of educational programming at One Story and the co-host of the reading series Ditmas Lit.

THIS COUNTRY IS NO LONGER YOURS

Avik Jain Chatlani



Doubleday Canada (May 7, 2024)

Editor: Ward Hawkes

Territory sold: World English

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Mariah Stovall

“Spell-binding and electrifying . . . a visionary work.”—Akil Kumarasamy, author of *Meet Us by the Roaring Sea*

One of our dead writers liked to say, “Peru is a beggar sleeping on a bench made of gold.” It’s a cute phrase, but it’s not really true. There’s hardly any gold left, and none of us get much sleep.

Based on real events in 1970s–2000s Peru, *THIS COUNTRY IS NO LONGER YOURS* tells the explosive story of people living through the terrorist campaign of the Maoist Shining Path, while struggling to survive amid economic crisis and state collapse.

A student of the revolution’s leader is dispatched to Cambodia to learn from the Khmer Rouge, sending him spiraling into a world of unfathomable political violence that both inspires him and will be his undoing. Then, as the terror spreads across Peru, a ruthless security agent of the newly-elected neoconservative government works to squash the growing insurgency now threatening the halls of power, while applying his surveillance training to romantic pursuits—with chilling results. Just when it looks like the Shining Path has been defeated, a nationalist counter-revolution begins brewing in its wake, and a journalist committed to exposing their ambitions is too preoccupied to help a reader desperately pleading for her help outing a sexual predator who is seeking the presidency. And, in the country that remains, two former guerrillas meet again, one now a teacher stuck in the past, the other living on the margins and still fighting for her future. Depicting a place and time ravaged by terror but alive with new ambitions and enduring love, Jain Chatlani explores the intersection of political breakdown and human endurance, as well as the unbearable choices demanded of those living in a society at war with itself.

“Chatlani writes with the calm cognizance of a historian and the unerring precision of a gem cutter.”—Jamaluddin Aram, author of *Nothing Good Happens in Wazirabad on Wednesday*

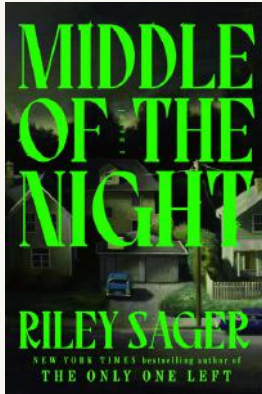
Category: literary debut

Avik Jain Chatlani, the grandson of the first Indian emigrants to Peru, was born in Canada and raised in Chile. He holds degrees in History and Latin American studies from McGill and Boston University, and currently works as a translator and editor with *El País*. He has taught in schools and prisons in Latin America and the United States and currently divides his time between Ottawa and Washington DC.

COMMERCIAL FICTION

MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Riley Sager



Dutton (June 18, 2024)

Editor: Maya Ziv

Territory sold: North America

Material: first pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

Rights sold:

UK: Hodder & Stoughton

Germany: dtv

Italy: Fanucci

Lithuania: Alma Littera

Poland: Kobiece Publishing

Sweden: Lavender

Ukraine: The Old Lion

Option publishers:

Arabic: Al Karma **Brazil:** Intrínseca

Bulgaria: Locus

Croatia: Fokus **Czech Republic:**

Dobrovsky **Denmark:** Turbine

Forlaget **Netherlands:** Ambo

Anthos **Estonia:** Rahva Raamat

Finland: WSOY **Greece:**

Metaichmio **Hebrew:** Adel Books /
Modan Publishing House **Hungary:**

Lettero **Japan:** Shueisha **Korea:**

Hyejiwon **Korea:** Balgunsasang

Portugal: Guerra e Paz **Romania:**

Editura Art **Russia:** AST **Serbia:**

Vulkan **Slovenia:** Hiša Knjig **China:**

United Sky **Spanish (World):**

Planeta Mexico **Thai:** WeLearn

Turkey: Ithaki **Vietnam:** Bachviet
Books

In the latest jaw-dropping thriller from *New York Times* bestselling author Riley Sager, a man must contend with the long-ago disappearance of his childhood best friend—and the dark secrets lurking just beyond the safe confines of his picture-perfect neighborhood. This is the first Riley Sager title Trellis will handle rights for, and it follows on the heels of his bestselling book yet, *The Only One Left*

The worst thing to ever happen on Hemlock Circle occurred in Ethan Marsh's backyard. One July night, ten-year-old Ethan and his best friend and neighbor, Billy, fell asleep in a tent set up on a manicured lawn in a quiet, quaint New Jersey cul de sac. In the morning, Ethan woke up alone. During the night, someone had sliced the tent open with a knife and taken Billy. He was never seen again.

Thirty years later, Ethan has reluctantly returned to his childhood home. Plagued by bad dreams and insomnia, he begins to notice strange things happening in the middle of the night. Someone seems to be roaming the cul de sac at odd hours, and signs of Billy's presence keep appearing in Ethan's backyard. Is someone playing a cruel prank? Or has Billy, long thought to be dead, somehow returned to Hemlock Circle?

The mysterious occurrences prompt Ethan to investigate what really happened that night, a quest that reunites him with former friends and neighbors and leads him into the woods that surround Hemlock Circle. Woods where Billy claimed monsters roamed and where a mysterious institute does clandestine research on a crumbling estate.

The closer Ethan gets to the truth, the more he realizes that no place—be it quiet forest or suburban street—is completely safe. And that the past has a way of haunting the present.

"I've read all of Riley Sager's novels and MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT is my new favorite. . . . Read it outdoors with a flashlight on a warm summer's evening—if you dare!"—Jason Rekulak, author of *Hidden Pictures*

Category: thriller

Riley Sager is the *New York Times* bestselling author of seven novels, most recently *Survive the Night*, *The House Across the Lake*, and *The Only One Left*. His first novel, *Final Girls*, has been published in thirty countries and won the ITW Thriller Award for Best Hardcover Novel.

STORYBOOK ENDING

Moira Macdonald



Our hot title of the Frankfurt book fair and now sold in 15 territories. Inspired by Nora Ephron classics like *You've Got Mail*, this is a warm, funny, escapist debut novel set in an unforgettable bookstore that is sure to delight book lovers and book sellers everywhere

STORYBOOK ENDING is a comedy of manners centered around a romantic triangle of sorts—one that none of the three people involved realize they're in.

April, a smart but lonely tech worker, has done something she's immediately regretted: she's left an anonymous note in a book for Westley, a handsome clerk at her favorite neighborhood bookstore. He doesn't find the note; instead, Laura—a busy single mom who's supposedly given up on love—buys the book, finds the note, and thinks Westley has left it for her. Meanwhile, Westley (cute, but not too perceptive) is too distracted by a movie that's being filmed at the store to notice either of the two women, whose anonymous correspondence back and forth shakes them both out of their mundane routines.

Ultimately, STORYBOOK ENDING is a celebration of community, and a playful, funny tribute to romance, friendship, and bookstores—and to the objects (as ephemeral as a forgotten slip of paper; as essential as someone's heart) left between the pages of books we've loved.

Category: commercial debut

Dutton (June 2025)

Editor: Maya Ziv

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: Katie Greenstreet at Paper Literary

Film/TV: Kristina Moore at UTA

Rights sold:

UK: Bloomsbury

Brazil: Verus/Record

France: Hauteville/Bragelonne

Germany: Krüger/S. Fischer Verlage

Greece: Metaichmio

Hebrew: Tchelet

Holland: Ambo Anthos

Hungary: General Press

Italy: Mondadori

Lithuania: Alma Littera

Norway: Cappelen Damm

Poland: Muza

Portugal: Planeta Portugal

Romania: Trei

Spain: Newton Compton

Turkish: Juno

Moira Macdonald is the *Seattle Times* arts critic. This is her debut novel..

ONE ON ONE

Jamie Harrow



Dutton (September 24, 2024)

Editor: Cassidy Sachs

Territory: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: Maddalena Cavaciuti

at David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Addison Duffy & Orly

Greenberg at UTA

Rights sold:

UK: Quercus (2 books)

Brazil: Sextante-Arquero

Sold at auction in the U.S. and pre-empted in a major way in the U.K., both in two-book deals, this is a smart and sexy debut basketball rom com for readers of Tessa Bailey, Sally Thorne, and Sarah Hogle

Eight years after graduation, Annie Radford is not happy to be back at her alma mater in her old job with the Ardwyn Tigers' basketball team. Worse, her coworker from back in college, Ben Callahan, is still on the Tigers staff, and he's annoyingly wholesome, hot, and clinging to a grudge against Annie for abandoning him and the team their senior year.

But as Ardwyn becomes the season's Cinderella Story, things start heating up between Annie and Ben, too. And while neither of them can deny this could be something special, Annie's afraid to tell Ben the truth about why she left basketball—the thing she loves most—in the first place. She'll have to learn to trust him if they have a shot at being together.

In addition to being funny, romantic, and sexy, ONE ON ONE examines the pressure put on college athletes, challenges the sexism in the world of sports, and exposes the dangers in whole communities idolizing the big men on campus.

For readers of *The Hating Game* and *The Ex Talk*, a workplace, enemies-to-lovers debut for anyone yearning for a courtside romance, perfect for anyone who can't get enough sports rom-coms.

Category: debut rom com

Jamie Harrow grew up on the sidelines of a basketball court since, like her protagonist, her father was a longtime coach. She wrote a sports column for *The Villanovan*, the student paper at her basketball-obsessed college. She is now a lawyer, and lives in New Jersey with her family. ONE ON ONE is her first novel.

BIG IN SWEDEN

Sally Franson



Mariner (July 2, 2024)

Editor: Kate Nintzel

Territory: North America

Material: first pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

Film/TV: Dana Spector &
Allison Warren at CAA

Rights sold:

UK: Headline

Brazil: Buzz Editora

Option publishers:

Hungary: Libri

Israel: Keter

Italy: Garzanti

Poland: Znak

A charming, wise, and laugh-out-loud funny novel following an American woman competing on a Swedish reality show in an attempt to connect with her roots

Paulie Johansson has never put much stock in the idea of family: she has her long-term boyfriend Declan and beloved best friend Jemma, and that's more than enough for her. Yet one night on a lark, she lets Jemma convince her to audition for *Sverige och Mig*, a show on Swedish television where Swedish-Americans compete to win the ultimate prize: a reunion with their Swedish relatives. Much to her shock, her drunken submission video wins her a spot on the show, and against Declan's advice Paulie decides to go for it.

Armed with her Polaroid camera, a beat-up copy of *Pippi Longstocking*, and an unquenchable sense of possibility, Paulie hops on a plane to Sweden and launches into the contest with seven other Americans, all under the watchful eye of a camera crew. At first, Paulie is certain that she and her competitors have nothing in common besides their passports and views their bloodthirsty ambitions with suspicion. Yet amid the increasingly absurd challenges—rowing from Denmark to Sweden in the freezing rain, battling through obstacle courses, competing in a pickled herring eating contest—Paulie finds herself rethinking her snap judgments about her fellow countrymen, while her growing attachment to her Swedish roots increases her resolve to win the competition herself.

Grappling with long-held notions of family, friendship, and love—not to mention her feelings for the distractingly handsome Swedish cameraman who's been assigned to follow her around—Paulie starts to reconsider her past and rethink what she wants for the future. A fish-out-of-water tale filled with warmth, optimism, and wit, *BIG IN SWEDEN* is at its heart a love story: love for family, friends, country, and—most importantly—oneself.

"Sally Franson is a world class entertainer. She can finesse a serio-comic moment in a way that leaves you catching your breath. Deft and delicious, this book is a flat out delight machine. A heart opener, a page turner, and a true 'originell!' I laughed out loud, I ugly cried, and I never, ever wanted it to end."—Meg Ryan, actor, writer, director

Category: commercial fiction

Sally Franson is the author of the novel *A Lady's Guide to Selling Out* (Random House, 2018, now optioned for Netflix with Meg Ryan, rights also available: see page 64. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, and *Best American Travel Writing*, among numerous others. Sally was a 2022 cast member of *Allt för Sverige*, a Swedish reality TV show about finding your roots. She lives in Minneapolis.

THE LIBRARY OF LOST DOLLHOUSES

Elise Hooper



Morrow (April 2025)

Editor: Liz Stein

Territory sold: World English

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower & Danya
Kukafka

A fresh new novel from house author Elise Hooper, about a young librarian who discovers historic dollhouses and embarks on a journey to uncover the hidden secrets behind the intricate miniatures, perfect for fans of Fiona Davis and Marie Benedict

Tildy Barrows, Head Curator of San Francisco's Belva Curtis LeFarge Library, is meticulously dedicated to the century's worth of inventory housed in her beloved Beaux Art building. She loves the calm and order in the shelves of books and walls of art. But Tildy's uneventful life takes an unexpected turn when she, first, learns the library is on the verge of bankruptcy and, second, stumbles upon a secret room housing two exquisite dollhouses. Upon discovering clues hidden within these remarkable miniatures, Tildy starts to believe that Belva Curtis, the influential heiress who established the library a century ago, is conveying a significant final message.

Tildy's newfound spontaneity sends her on a quest to decipher the secret history of the dollhouses, aiming to salvage her cherished library in the process. Her journey to understand introduces her to a world of ambitious and gifted women in Paris, a group of scarred World War I veterans in the English countryside, and Walt Disney's bustling Burbank studio in the 1950s. As Tildy unravels the long career of Cora Hale, she finds not only inspiring, overlooked history, but also a future for herself, filled with exciting possibilities—and an astonishing familial revelation.

Told in dual narratives—as Tildy's late coming-of-age in contemporary San Francisco parallels Cora's artistic revolution in the early 1900s—THE LIBRARY OF LOST DOLLHOUSES is a warm and bright conversation between two women spanning the course of a century and a captivating story of secrets and love that embraces the importance of illuminating the overlooked women of the past.

Category: commercial fiction

Elise Hooper spent several years writing for television and online news outlets before getting a MA and teaching high-school literature and history. Her debut novel *The Other Alcott* was a nominee for the 2017 Washington Book Award. More novels—*Learning to See*, *Fast Girls*, and *Angels of the Pacific*—followed, all centered on the lives of extraordinary but overlooked historical women. Elise lives in Seattle with her husband and two teenage daughters.

MOST WONDERFUL

Georgia Clark



Dial (October 15, 2024)

Editor: Katy Nishimoto & Emma Caruso

Territory sold: World English

Material: first pass

Agent: Allison Hunter

Film/TV: Jason Richman & Addison Duffy at UTA

A tender, hilarious, and unabashedly queer rom com, this warm yuletide tale of family, romance, and the importance of self-care is the perfect accompaniment to a warm fire and a cup of cocoa

The holidays are fast approaching, and the Belvedere siblings are a mess: Liz, Hollywood showrunner and responsible eldest, is stumped by writer's block as she struggles with an idea for her hit show's second season—and her big fat crush on its star, Violet Grace, isn't helping. Birdie, a cash-strapped stand-up comic who spends more time wooing women than working on new material, gets axed by her manager for missing yet another set. And Rafi, sensitive romantic and the baby golden boy, proposes to his coworker/girlfriend in front of his entire company, only to be turned down by the woman he thought was the love of his life.

Born to three different fathers, the three adult children share one larger-than-life mother: famed actress and singer Babs Belvedere. Seeking direction and some holiday cheer, all three siblings head up to their mother's house in the Catskills, determined to swear off love and focus on themselves and their work. But their best laid plans are derailed when Liz's crush arrives from L.A., Birdie meets an enigmatic local artist, and Rafi begins to see his oldest friend in a new light.

"Brimming with hopeful, big-hearted romance, expansive, overlapping love stories, and a cast of lovable, dimensional characters, MOST WONDERFUL is itself the most wonderful."—Christina Lauren, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Soulmate Equation*

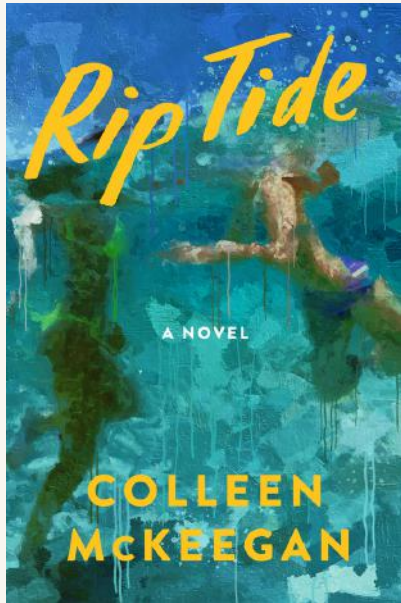
"A delightfully original holiday romance that feels like the most wonderful time of the year."—Alison Cochrun, Lambda award-winning author of *Kiss Her Once for Me*

Category: Christmas rom com

Georgia Clark is an award-winning six-times published novelist and performer. She's the author of *Island Time*, *It Had To Be You*, *The Regulars*, *The Bucket List*, and others (Simon & Schuster). Her next novel, *MOST WONDERFUL*, will be out Fall 2024. She's also the host/founder of the popular storytelling night, Generation Women, performing monthly at New York's iconic Joe's Pub. She teaches romance writing, mentors up-and-coming writers, hosts weekend writers' retreats, and is the creator of the monthly Substack, Heartbeat. A native Australian, she lives in Brooklyn with her hot wife and sweet baby.

RIP TIDE

Colleen McKeegan



Harper (August 13, 2024)

Editor: Sarah Stein

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

Film/TV: Alice Lawson at Gersh

UK rights: Stephanie Glencross at
David Higham Associates

A heartfelt and suspenseful novel about two sisters returning to their childhood beachfront home who are forced to confront their traumatic past when a body washes ashore.

It's been fifteen years since Kimmy Devine promised herself she'd never move back to Rocky Cape, the idyllic South Jersey beach town where she grew up. She doesn't want to relive the crushing heartbreak and scandal that ravaged her world as a teen. Her younger sister Erin shares those feelings, the wounds she caused so many years ago forever binding her and Kimmy.

Told in fast-paced, dual timelines, RIP TIDE is a steamy, tension-filled tale of suspense about family, friendships broken and repaired, young love lost and rekindled, forgiveness and second chances, taking control of your life, and the decisions we make when blinded by desire.

As the sisters celebrate their homecoming at their parents' yacht club, a handful of familiar faces arrive to dampen the revelry. The next morning, a body is found floating nearby and long-buried secrets from their adolescence begin to emerge. Someone from the sisters' past, it seems, is out for revenge.

Yet here they are, back in their hometown: Kimmy, floundering after quitting her high-powered finance job in London to help her dad run the family's hardware stores; Erin, reeling from fertility issues and an ongoing divorce, begging to be taken seriously by her parents. The more time they spend in Rocky Cape, the stronger the pull of nostalgia, and both Erin and Kimmy slip on the past like a pair of last year's sandals, forgetting about the blisters when worn too long.

"Gripping, smart and emotionally resonant."—Annabel Monaghan, author of *Same Time Next Summer*

"Suspenseful and resonant . . . A clear-eyed portrait of the wounds teenaged girls inflict and sustain, and the women they become afterward."—Katie Gutierrez, bestselling author of *More Than You'll Ever Know*

Category: book club suspense

Colleen McKeegan is a writer and editor who's held roles at *Marie Claire*, where her work was nominated for a National Magazine Award; *Bloomberg*; and *Fortune*, among others. A native of Allentown, Pennsylvania, and a graduate of Georgetown University, Colleen now lives with her family in New York. Her debut novel, *The Wild One*, was published by Harper in 2022. Page 48

CHRISTMAS WITH THE QUEEN

Hazel Gaynor & Heather Webb



William Morrow (October 2024)

Territory sold: World English

Material: edited manuscript due just after the fair

Agent: Michelle Brower

Category: commercial historical fiction

The Crown meets *The King's Speech* in the new historical novel from this bestselling duo which invites the reader to spend the festive season with Queen Elizabeth II as she delivers her traditional Christmas Message during the first five years of her reign

The Christmas Day message aims to unite a nation still dealing with the aftermath of war and the loss of their beloved king, but the annual event also brings together a talented young chef, Jack Bailey, and an ambitious royal correspondent, Olive Carter. Over the next five years, Jack and Olive develop a friendship that threatens to blossom into something more, but as Sandringham prepares for the Queen's first televised Christmas message, a dark secret threatens their bond—until her Majesty intervenes. On Christmas Day, as millions throughout Britain gather around their television sets to watch the queen's first televised Christmas speech, only those who are willing to embrace the season of goodwill, and an era of change, will find the true meaning of Christmas.

Authors of



Option publishers (sales via Aevitas Creative Management): **Brazil:** Ciranda Cultural, **Bulgaria:** Kragozor, **Croatia:** 24 Sata, **Czech Republic:** Albatros, **Denmark:** Politiken, **Germany:** Blanvalet, **Hungary:** Novivon, **Italy:** TEA, **Norway:** Cappelen Damm, **Poland:** Prószyński, **Romania:** Corint, **Spain:** Ediciones Palabra, **Turkey:** Mona Kitap

"A moving, uplifting read. A winner! —Alice Quinn, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Alice Network*

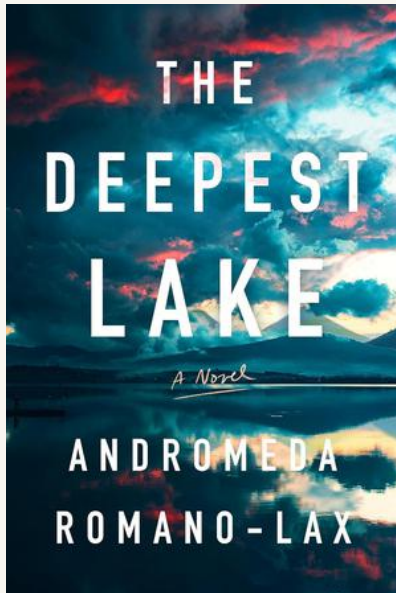
"Webb and Gaynor's latest collaboration is a historical fiction home run... *Meet Me in Monaco* is smart, romantic, and heartbreaking, and the tale captivates from the start." —Michelle Gable, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Paris Apartment*

Hazel Gaynor is the award-winning *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of *A Memory of Violets* and *The Girl Who Came Home*, for which she received the 2015 Romantic Novelists' Association Historical Romantic Novel of the Year award. Her third novel, *The Girl from The Savoy*, was an *Irish Times* and *Globe and Mail* bestseller, and was shortlisted for the 2016 Irish Book Awards Popular Fiction Book of the Year. Her most recent novel, *The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter*, was a *USA Today* and *Irish Times* bestseller, and was shortlisted for the 2019 Historical Writers' Association Gold Crown Award. Hazel's work has been translated into fourteen languages. She lives in Ireland with her husband and two children.

Heather Webb is the *USA Today* bestselling and award-winning author of historical fiction. In 2015, *Rodin's Lover* was a Goodreads Top Pick, and in 2018, *Last Christmas in Paris* won the Women's Fiction Writers Association STAR Award. In 2019, *Meet Me in Monaco* was selected as a finalist for the 2020 Goldsboro RNA award in the UK, as well as the Digital Book World's Fiction prize. Her newest solo novel, *The Next Ship Home*, is inspired by true events and reveals the dark secrets of Ellis Island. To date, Heather's books have been translated into fifteen languages.

THE DEEPEST LAKE

Andromeda Romano-Lax



Soho Crime (May 7, 2024)

Editor: Alexa Wejko

Territory sold: World English

Material: first pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

For fans of Jean Hanff Korelitz and Lisa Jewell, a suspense novel that hinges on the fierce bond between a mother and a daughter

The absolute worst thing possible has happened to Jill, something that leaves her gasping awake from the same nightmare every time. Jules, her daughter, had been traveling the world as she decided on her post-college plans, backpacking and writing and bursting with life, sending home texts and postcards from her travels. Until Jill received a call from Guatemala, letting her know that Jules' lifeless body had been found in Lake Atitlan, where she had been working at the writing retreat of the famous and charismatic Eva Marshall. Jules' death is ruled an accidental drowning, but in her heart, Jill knows that there must be, has to be, something more to her daughter's death. And she is determined to find out what happened.

So, Jill does something risky and totally out of character; she signs up for Eva Marshall's retreat, going undercover as an aspiring writer to find out what the investigator she hired might have missed. Once Jill arrives at Lake Atitlan, she is drawn into Eva's sphere, where women flock to hear her wisdom on writing and life. As Jill peels back the layers of Jules's fateful stay at the retreat, she uncovers a dark underside to Eva's methods. Told in alternating sections between Jill and Jules' journal, *THE DEEPEST LAKE* cracks open the pivotal moment when a child makes their way out into the world and their mother can no longer protect them.

"A mesmerizing, twisty page-turner combined with a complex mother-daughter family drama . . . I couldn't put it down."—Angie Kim, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Happiness Falls*

"A richly evocative and suspenseful read that plumbs the depths of grief, motherhood, and the endless hunger to tell our stories."—Amy Gentry, bestselling author of *Good as Gone*

"Celeste Ng meets Lisa Jewell in this mesmerizing story."—Megan Collins, author of *Thicker Than Water*

Category: suspense

Andromeda Romano-Lax is the author of several novels, including the recent *Annie and the Wolves* (Soho Press, 2021), which has been recognized by *O Magazine*, *Buzzfeed*, *PopSugar*, *The Millions* and received starred reviews from *Booklist* and *Library Journal*. *THE DEEPEST LAKE* is her first foray into suspense.

NONFICTION

HOW TO GIVE BIRTH

Ceridwen Morris



FSG (fall 2025 or winter 2026)

Editor: Mitzi Angel

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript
delivering January 2025

Agent: Allison Devereux

UK rights: Carrie Plitt at Felicity
Bryan Associates

Rights sold:

UK: Ebury/Vermilion

Brazil: Record

Italy: Aboca

Spain: Diana/Planeta

Poland: Wydawnictwo

Mamania/Grupa Wydawnicza
Relacja

Sold in a pre-empt to Mitzi Angel at FSG and in a 9-way auction in the UK, this is a lyrical, empathetic, philosophical guide—grounded in science and surprisingly universal—for expectant parents and anyone who’s been born. We’ve seen nice movement on proposal and still have lots of room to grow!

Ceridwen Morris has been a labor doula and childbirth educator for twenty years, working with thousands of expectant parents in New York City, and this book is what her clients and students have been looking for—and asking her to write—for years (one of them, *New Yorker* staff writer Alexandra Schwartz, said a book based on her childbirth class would be “revolutionary”).

HOW TO GIVE BIRTH is not about pregnancy or what comes after the baby is born, but the pivotal birth experience in between. It takes readers step by step through the fascinating bodily science of labor; the myriad procedures and tools of the hospital; and the tried-and-true strategies and techniques for coping with all that may come up during birth. Ceridwen dismantles the opposition in the “natural” vs medical birth debate and pushes against the trend toward birth horror. The book is intimate and story-driven, woven with accounts from her career as a doula, but always practical. It is also universal: Ceridwen was raised in the UK and has also spent time in the birthing communities in Australia. Her wisdom and advice is aimed at an audience anywhere in the world, not just those navigating the US healthcare system.

HOW TO GIVE BIRTH demystifies, clarifies, and takes the knowable unknowns out of labor and delivery. It is as attentive to the physical, mammalian experience of the laboring body as it is to the tech, the medicine, and the hospital institution. It makes room for the psychological, emotional, even spiritual aspects of birth but it is completely grounded in science and best medical evidence. It combines the practicality and research of classics like Heidi Murkoff’s *What to Expect When You’re Expecting*, Michel Odent’s *The Nature of Birth and Breastfeeding*, and the more recent Emily Oster’s *Expecting Better*, and the philosophy of Oliver Burkeman’s *Four Thousand Weeks* (a comparison made by FSG), with an emotional sincerity and lyricality that makes it a pleasure, and a relief, to be in Ceridwen’s assured company on the page.

Category: general nonfiction

Ceridwen Morris was born in London, raised in the UK, and now lives in New York City. She is the co-author of a popular pregnancy guide *From the Hips*, which sold more than 50,000 copies in the US. She works at night, in hospital rooms around New York City, helping people give birth.

THE HEARTBEAT AT THE EDGE OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM

Jennifer L. Roberts, Dario Robleto



Marysue Rucci Books (fall 2025 or winter 2026)

Editor: Emily Graff

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript delivering January 2025

Agent: Allison Devereux

UK rights: Carrie Plitt at Felicity Bryan Associates

Rights sold:

UK: Viking

China: Thinkingdom

Germany: Heyne

Pre-empted in a significant deal in the U.S. and before it had even gone out on official submission in the U.K., this is truly one of our favorite projects to talk about, a stunning work of narrative nonfiction that has space, science, love and that will stretch your mind as profoundly as it stirs your heart

15 billion miles away, in the cold vacuum beyond the edge of the solar system, a human heart waits to beat again. It is suspended in gold and copper, a groove in a phonographic record that is bolted to the side of NASA's Voyager 1 satellite probe. It is the heartbeat of a young writer named Ann Druyan, who recorded it, along with her brainwaves, during an hour spent reflecting on the history of the Earth and on the experience of having just fallen in love, on a summer's day in 1977. Launched into space a few months later, Druyan's heartbeat is a track on the famous Golden Record: a compilation of Earth recordings assembled on the infinitesimal chance that alien intelligence might intercept the Voyager as it wanders through space.

This heartbeat, this pulsewave, is an interstellar message about humanity—what does it say about us? What does it convey about human life? This book tackles this question: not by attempting to predict some remote scene of unlikely alien decipherment, but by asking what the message—in the very form of its impulse to connect with others—can tell us about ourselves. **THE HEARTBEAT AT THE EDGE OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM** tells a spellbinding story of human emotional technology in which the search for knowledge and the search for intimacy are inseparably entwined.

The chapters in this book weave the cinematic story of Ann Druyan as she conceives of and executes her track for the Golden Record (while secretly falling in love with the project's technical director, Carl Sagan) with the little-known history of physiological recording (from pulse-reading to cardiographs to EEGs). And it traces the intergalactic paths of the Voyagers—pulsewave readers of the cosmos—whose signals back to Earth are expected to flicker out within the next five years.

Category: narrative nonfiction

Jennifer L. Roberts is an art historian at Harvard whose scholarship focuses on the interface between the arts and the natural sciences, particularly astrophysics. **Dario Robleto** is a transdisciplinary artist, researcher, and writer whose work explores how art and science both contemplate—and seek to overcome—the physical and temporal limits of human life. He has been a visiting artist/lecturer at Harvard, MIT, the Hubble Space Telescope Science Institute, and elsewhere.

A VOLCANO INSIDE

The Hidden Legacy of Women's Trauma and the New Frontiers of Healing

Christa Hillstrom



Random House (fall 2026)

Editor: Hilary Redmon

Territory: North America

Material: proposal,
manuscript due summer
2025

Agent: Allison Devereux

UK rights: Carrie Plitt at
Felicity Bryan Associates

Rights sold:

UK: Fourth Estate

For readers of bestsellers like Bessel van der Kolk's *The Body Keeps the Score* and Gabor Maté and Daniel Maté's *The Myth of Normal*, and positioned in the vein of Caroline Criado Perez's international bestseller *Invisible Women*, this will be an ambitious, rigorously researched, and deeply affecting work of character-driven nonfiction that makes an urgent case for understanding trauma in women separately from the way it's been understood in men

Women's unique experiences of trauma have gone understudied, and undertreated, for decades. The trends are perplexing and alarming: victims of intimate partner violence, for example, are believed to experience neurotrauma at higher rates than either athletes or soldiers, and yet most suffer in secret, without treatment. Meanwhile, clinicians frequently misdiagnose women who are suffering from psychological trauma with disorders they do not have, including borderline personality disorder and bipolar disorder. Ineffective treatments—from behavioral therapies to drugs—often follow, sometimes making trauma symptoms worse.

Because so much trauma research has treated men as the default, studying male specimens almost exclusively, it has failed to account for the ways trauma rewires women's brains, and is carried by their bodies, in ways that differ from men.

But all of this is beginning to change, led by a movement of international researchers, clinicians, trauma survivors, and activists who are transforming our understanding of the science and human impacts of women's trauma—and how to confront it.

In *A VOLCANO INSIDE*, Christa Hillstrom brings us to the new frontiers of scientific and social research to finally uncover how women's brains, bodies, and genetics are uniquely influenced by, and can heal from, traumatic experience.

Category: general nonfiction

Christa Hillstrom is an award-winning writer, reporter, editor, and multimedia producer interested in human rights, global health, gender-based violence, and trauma/resilience. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The New York Times*, *Wired*, *Marie Claire*, and elsewhere.

JOLT

My Electric Journey Out of Darkness and Into the Light

Ted Scheinman



Scribner (early 2026)

Editor: Rick Horgan

Territory: North America

Material: proposal,
manuscript delivering spring
2025

Agent: Allison Devereux

UK rights: Carrie Plitt at
Felicity Bryan Associates

Rights sold:

UK: Wildfire

Sold at auction in an NA deal, a work of nonfiction that will vividly illuminate the hidden links between mental illness and memory, and that aims to rehabilitate the image of electroconvulsive therapy, which caused the author to lose his memory—but saved his life

Sitting in a circle at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C., 35-year-old writer Ted Scheinman remembered why he was there. He had checked himself into the psychiatric ward after months of worsening, eventually paralytic depression to undergo an aggressive course of electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)—more colloquially known as “shock treatment.” Before turning to ECT as a last resort, Ted had submitted himself, without relief, to nearly every form of psychiatry: prescriptions for every SSRI and SSNI on the market, ketamine infusions, cognitive behavioral therapy, psychodynamic therapy, mindfulness-based therapy. But now, buzzing from his first zap in the ECT chair, he recollected little of all that—not even what he’d had for breakfast that morning. He couldn’t remember the names of the fellow sufferers with whom he was now playing slapjack, or the phone call last night to his mom. All he had were the notes he’d written in his journal or had scrawled on construction paper during art therapy.

That’s one of the things the electricity can do to you before snapping you back to life.

Ted’s account of his descent into and emergence from major depression—and the accompanying memory loss—is the canvas for a broader investigation into the history and effectiveness of ECT, the links between memory and depression, and how our memories make us who we are. Despite Ted’s great loss, his amnesia—a rare severe case—ultimately proves a small price to pay for the new shot at life offered by electroconvulsive therapy.

JOLT is a beautiful, funny, philosophical and ultimately hopeful memoir, which also raises big questions about memory, mental health, and the treatment of depression. It is for readers of books like Rachel Aviv’s *Strangers to Ourselves*, Robert Kolker’s *Hidden Valley Road*, and Susannah Calahan’s *Brain on Fire*.

Category: mental health/memoir

Ted Scheinman is the author of *Camp Austen: My Life as an Accidental Jane Austen Superfan* (FSG, 2018). His essays and reporting have appeared in *The Atlantic*, the BBC, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *GQ*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Times*, *The Paris Review*, *Slate*, and many more. He is also a contributing editor at *Los Angeles Review of Books*.

ON THE GRID

Life Inside Formula One

Luke Smith



HarperVia (spring 2025)

Editor: Gretchen Schmid

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript
due this spring

Agent: Allison Devereux

UK rights: Andrew Gordon at
David Higham Associates

Rights sold:

UK: Simon & Schuster

An incredible cultural history from one of the top journalist in the field, ON THE GRID spotlights Formula One through the stories of the people who live it

Formula One is one of the most thrilling and competitive sports, and an incredibly international one. Since the humble, early days of grand prix racing amid the advent of the automobile at the turn of the 20th century, to the establishment of a premier league for open-wheel single-seater “formula” racing cars in 1950, Formula One has grown into a billion-dollar sport and one of the most-watched in the world, second only to the World Cup and the Olympics. Each year, with 20 of the most talented and fearless drivers behind the wheel, teams from Ferrari, Mercedes, Red Bull, and others spend hundreds of millions of dollars, visiting 20 countries and five continents, in pursuit of racing glory.

From one of the top journalists covering motorsport, ON THE GRID is an engaging, colorful cultural history of Formula One rooted in stories of the people who make the sport what it is—not just drivers and team principles, but men and women from across the paddock: mechanics, trainers, strategists, engineers, track designers, party planners, and more. For behind every driver, there are as many as 1,200 whose work directly impacts the outcome of each race.

The ambition for the book is to be inviting to newer fans, but with plenty of untold, inside stories to capture the diehards too. It’s meant to be fun and celebratory, reaching deep into F1 history, but ON THE GRID will also take an honest look at the sport’s historical shortcomings, and how it’s evolving with the changing world—e.g., to be more sustainable and inclusive. Above all, Luke hopes readers come away with a deeper love for the sport and real insight into what life is really like inside it.

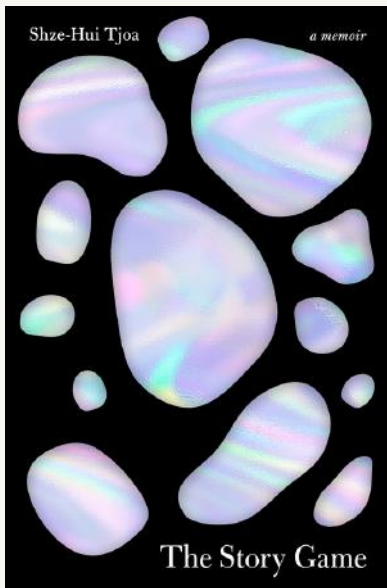
Category: general nonfiction

Luke Smith is a Formula One and motorsport journalist based in London, UK. He is currently a Senior Writer covering Formula One for *The Athletic* (which is owned by *The New York Times*). Before joining *The Athletic*, Luke spent 10 years reporting on Formula One for outlets including Autosport, *The New York Times*, and NBC Sports. He also served as the host for the FIA Formula Three press conferences through the 2019 season and has made both TV and radio appearances as a Formula One pundit. He has over 87k followers on Twitter.

THE STORY GAME

A Memoir

Shze-Hui Tjoa



Tin House (May 21, 2024)

Editor: Elizabeth DeMeo

Territory: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Allison Malecha

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

A transcendent, profoundly imaginative memoir that explores the complexities of sisterhood, the cost of expectation, and the power of storytelling to shape—and ultimately repair—a life. Tin House is publishing as their lead nonfiction title this summer

What was that game we used to play when we were children? We played it every night, before things went wrong between us.

It was a story game, wasn't it?

In the humid dark of a eucalyptus-scented room, a woman named Hui lies on a mattress telling stories about herself to her listener, a little girl. She talks about her identity as the child of an immigrant, her feelings about being in a mixed-race marriage, her opinions on mental health. But as the stories progress, it becomes clear that a volatile secret is lurking beneath their surface. There are events in Hui's past that have great significance for the person she's become, but that have gone missing from her memory. What is it, exactly, that is haunting Hui? And just as importantly—what is the room that Hui is lying in? Who is the little girl she keeps talking to? And who, actually, is Hui herself?

As the conversation continues, what unfolds is a breathtaking and unexpected journey through layers of story toward truth and recovered identity; a memoir that reenacts, in tautly novelistic fashion, the process of healing that author Shze-Hui Tjoa moved through in order to recover memories lost to complex-PTSD and to, eventually, reconstruct her sense of self. Stunning in its originality and intimacy, Tjoa's debut memoir *THE STORY GAME* is a piercing tribute to selfhood and sisterhood, a genre-shattering testament to the power of imagination, and a one-of-a-kind work of art.

"A major debut work from a most astounding talent. Shze-Hui Tjoa's memoir not only challenges genre, it upends and splits it wide open."—T Kira Māhealani Madden, author of *Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls*

"A memoir unlike any I've ever read. A powerful work of art and healing."—Jaquira Díaz, author of *Ordinary Girls*

Category: literary memoir

Shze-Hui Tjoa is a writer from Singapore who lives in London, UK. She is a nonfiction editor at *Sundog Lit*. Her work has been published in journals including *Colorado Review*, and has been listed as notable twice in *The Best American Essays* series (2021 and 2022). Her work has received support from the Tin House Summer Workshop, the Vermont Studio Center, the Voices of Our Nations Arts Foundation, Disquiet International, and AWP's Writer-to-Writer Mentorship Program.

A BRAWLING WOMAN IN A WIDE HOUSE

Elizabeth Owuor



Bloomsbury (March 2026)

Editor: Amber Oliver

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript
due fall 2024

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK rights: direct (Allison
Malecha)

Rights sold:

UK: Canongate

A Black American expatriate narrative for the new millennium, following in the tradition of James Baldwin, Darryl Pinckney, Gertrude Stein and Josephine Baker, A BRAWLING WOMAN IN A WIDE HOUSE blends music ethnography, grief memoir, and Berlin story. Sold at auction in a six-figure deal

In 2010, at the age of 25, Elizabeth fled the U.S. for Berlin, determined to outrun the heartache she carried from the recent death of her beloved little brother. With a suitcase full of rare vinyl records, \$500 in savings, and a desperate need to stay in motion, she spent the next five years DJing in Berlin's dives and dark hideaways. On vibrant nights at rock and roll nostalgia clubs, the sonic joy of Black music was sure to mute her pain. She happily spun (vinyl only! no music after 1969!) for nostalgia chasers, but once she was settled, she made a startling discovery: the white party-goers on the dance floor weren't just moving to the music of her people. They were fetishizing it, while often reviling the African immigrants and refugees who lived around the city. Once proud to be Berlin's only Black femme DJ, Elizabeth grew suspicious of why her presence was an anomaly. But if the novelty of her new home couldn't heal her heart and help her find herself, then what could?

A BRAWLING WOMAN mixes memoir and music history, blending her story with those of the artists whose records she spun, many of whom performed at The American Folk Blues Festival—a Black star-studded phenomenon brought to Europe by white Germans, beginning in 1962 and running on and off until 1985. The book will include favorites like Muddy Waters and Memphis Slim, and shed new light on lesser-known greats like Sugar Pie DeSanto, the formidable Black Filipina musician; Big Bill Broonzy, the prolific influencer of both rural and urban culture; Sippie Wallace, one of the founding mothers of the genre who, like other women, were later sidelined by the men who went on to dominate the form, and many more.

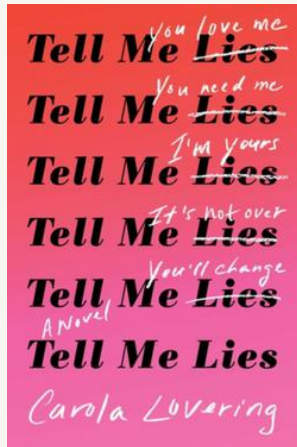
Category: general nonfiction

Elizabeth Owuor has been published in *Deutsche Welle*, as well as *The San Francisco Chronicle* and *The Christian Science Monitor*. In 2021, she was selected for fellowships from MacDowell, Hedgebrook and the California Arts Council. She is an alumna of Tin House's Winter Workshop and *Zyzzyyva's* Creative Nonfiction Workshop, and the co-founder of an all-vinyl DJ night called "Black Rhythm Happening," which enables her to share her brawling woman narrative on wax with audiophiles around the globe. She studied journalism at Emerson College and linguistics at The University of Edinburgh. She currently works as a UX writer for Netflix.

FILM & TV TIE-INS

TELL ME LIES

Carola Lovering



Atria Books (June 12, 2018)

Territory: World English

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Allison Hunter

Film/TV: Hulu Originals series, executive produced by Emma Roberts and Karah Preiss/Belletrist Productions, starring Grace Van Patten and Jackson White

Rights sold:

UK: Orion (via Atria)

Czech: Bourdon

Italy: Salani Editore

Adapted into a hit TV show via Hulu/Disney Plus (and renewed for a second season, filming now!), this "sizzling summer read" (*Bustle*) has now sold well over 100k copies in paperback alone

Lucy Albright is far from her Long Island upbringing when she arrives on the campus of her small California college, and happy to be hundreds of miles from her mother, whom she's never forgiven for an act of betrayal in her early teen years. Quickly grasping at her fresh start, Lucy embraces college life and all it has to offer—new friends, wild parties, stimulating classes. And then she meets Stephen DeMarco. Charming. Attractive. Complicated. Devastating.

Confident and cocksure, Stephen sees something in Lucy that no one else has, and she's quickly seduced by this vision of herself, and the sense of possibility that his attention brings her. Meanwhile, Stephen is determined to forget an incident buried in his past that, if exposed, could ruin him, and his single-minded drive for success extends to winning, and keeping, Lucy's heart.

Lucy knows there's something about Stephen that isn't to be trusted. Stephen knows Lucy can't tear herself away. And their addicting entanglement will have consequences they never could have imagined.

Alternating between Lucy's and Stephen's voices, TELL ME LIES follows their connection through college and post-college life in New York City. With psychological insight and biting wit, this keenly intelligent and staggeringly resonant novel chronicles the yearning ambitions, desires, and dilemmas of young adulthood, and the difficulty of letting go, even when you know you should.

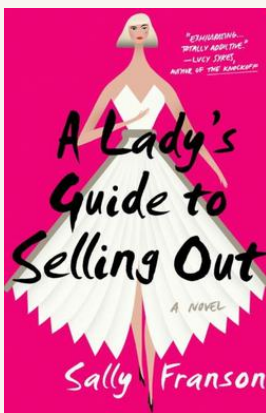
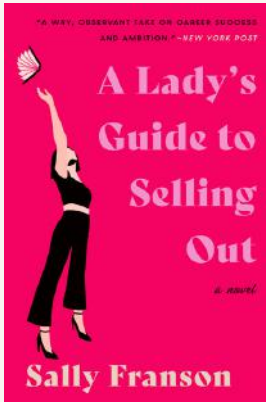
"Everything you could ever want in a summer read." —USA TODAY

Category: suspense

Carola Lovering is the author of the novels TELL ME LIES (Atria, 2018), *Too Good to Be True* (St. Martin's, 2021), *Can't Look Away* (St. Martin's, 2022), and the forthcoming *Bye, Baby* (St. Martin's, 2024). Rights for all but this first novel are with the publisher, and *Can't Look Away* has sold to Niculescu Editura in Romania. TELL ME LIES has been adapted into a television series for Hulu. She lives in Connecticut with her family.

A LADY'S GUIDE TO SELLING OUT

Sally Franson



The Dial Press/Random House

(2018), **Mariner** (paperback, January 23, 2024)

Territory: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

Film/TV: Netflix and Anonymous Content, with Meg Ryan to adapt for feature film

Rights sold:

Brazil: Buzz Editora

Hungary: Libri

Israel: Keter (via Aevitas)

Italy: Garzanti (via Aevitas)

Poland: Znak (via Aevitas)

Optioned last year by Netflix and Anonymous Content (with Meg Ryan to adapt) and newly released in paperback by Mariner, this smart and witty debut rom com is about an ambitious young woman navigating the slippery world of advertising—and the equally slippery question of who she wants to be

Casey Pendergast, once a book-loving English major, is now a clothes-loving brand strategist at a top ad agency. Casey is a superstar, and her career has skyrocketed: she knows what people want, and she knows how to give it to them. When her hard-to-please boss assigns her to a top-secret marketing campaign that pairs authors with corporations hungry for creative copy and upmarket cache, Casey is initially thrilled—but as she begins to meet and woo her literary idols, she can't help but question the cost on her conscience. With an unforgettable voice—plucky and razor-sharp, equal parts feminist and pop-culture—this is the story of a young woman untangling the contradictions of our culture, and finding her way out of the rat race by returning to her first love: literature.

“This frothy, sneaky tale from Franson intermixes elements of *The Bold Type*, *Mad Men*, and *The Devil Wears Prada*.”—*Entertainment Weekly*

“In Sally Franson’s smart, funny, and sharp-eyed novel, terrible mistakes are made and, mostly, rectified. A happy ending, a true heart, and a very good and clever time. Perfect.”—Amy Bloom, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Love Invent Us* and *In Love: A Memoir of Love and Loss*

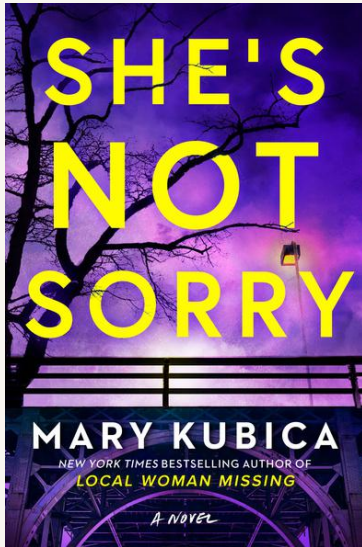
Category: commercial debut

Sally Franson is the author of the novel *A LADY'S GUIDE TO SELLING OUT*. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, and *Best American Travel Writing*, among numerous others. Meg Ryan is currently developing a screen adaptation of her novel with Netflix and Anonymous Content. Sally was a 2022 cast member of *Allt för Sverige*, a Swedish reality TV show about finding your roots, and her next novel, *BIG IN SWEDEN*, is based on the experience (see page 48). She lives in Minneapolis.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED TITLES

SHE'S NOT SORRY

Mary Kubica



Park Row Books (April 2, 2024)

Editor: Erika Imranyi

Territory sold: World English

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

Film/TV: Hilary Zaitz Michael & Carolina Beltran at WME

Rights sold:

UK: HQ (via Harlequin)

ANZ: Harlequin (via Harlequin)

Estonia: Ersen Ou Eram

Korea: Happy Books to You

Sweden: Lavender

Option publishers:

Bulgaria: Soft Press

Croatia: Mozaik

France: Harper

Italy: Fanucci Editore

Lithuania: Svajonių knygos

Poland: Poradnia K

Russia: Eksmo

Slovenia: HKZ

An ICU nurse accidentally uncovers a patient's frightening past in this chilling thriller from the million-copy bestselling author. Michelle Brower took over Mary's rights for this book and closed the biggest single-book deal of the author's career, for seven figures, and has now closed an even bigger deal for Mary's next novel

New York Times Bestseller

Meghan Michaels is trying to find balance between being a single mom to a teenager daughter and working as a full time nurse. While on duty at the hospital one day, a patient named Caitlin arrives in a coma with a traumatic brain injury, having jumped from a bridge and plunging over twenty feet to the train tracks below. But when a witness comes forward with shocking details about the fall, it calls everything they know into question. Was Caitlin *pushed* and if so, by whom and why?

Meghan has always tried to stay emotionally detached from her patients, but this time, she mistakenly lets herself get too close until she's deeply entangled in Caitlin's and her family's lives. Only when it's too late, does she realize that she and her daughter could be the next victims.

"A tense, compelling thriller that's a study in unreliability and that surprises the reader with believable but completely gasp-worthy twists. I was so absorbed, I read it in a single sitting!"—Nita Prose, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Maid* and *The Mystery Guest*

"Cunningly constructed, this is a multilayered story that will hook you from the start, tapping into every parent's darkest fears. It will keep you guessing until the end."—Alice Feeney, New York Times bestselling author of *Rock Paper Scissors*

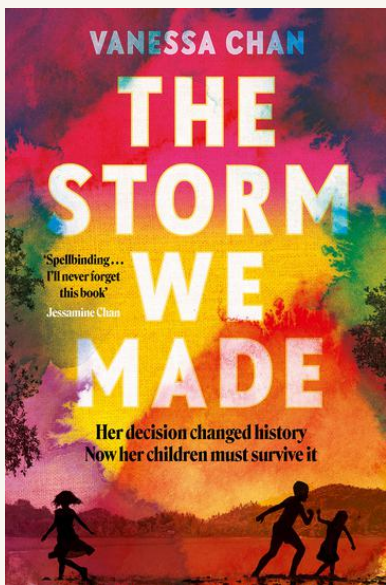
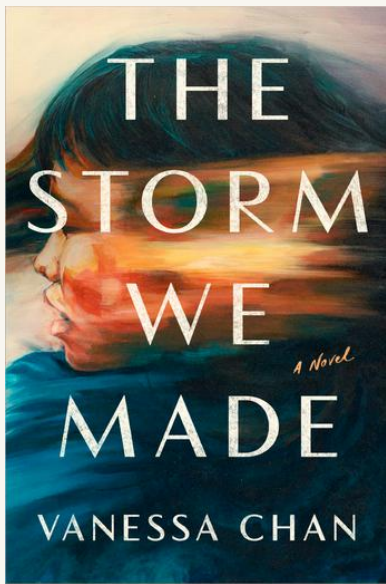
"SHE'S NOT SORRY is Mary Kubica's twistiest tale yet . . . Every page is steeped in a sense of deep, debilitating dread."—Stacy Willingham, New York Times bestselling author of *A Flicker in the Dark*

Category: thriller

Mary Kubica is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of the suspense novels: *The Good Girl* (Park Row, 2014); *Pretty Baby* (Park Row, 2015); *Don't You Cry* (Park Row, 2016); *Every last Lie* (Park Row, 2017); *When the Lights Go Out* (Park Row, 2018); *The Other Mrs.* (Park Row, 2020), optioned by Netflix; *Local Woman Missing* (Park Row, 2021); and *Just the Nicest Couple* (Park Row, 2023). Mary's novels have been Indie Next picks, Goodreads Choice Awards nominees, Amazon Best Books of the Month, LibraryReads selections, and have won praise from nearly every major review outlet. Her novels have been translated into over thirty languages and have sold over two million copies worldwide.

THE STORM WE MADE

Vanessa Chan



Marysue Rucci Books/Scribner

(January 2, 2024)

Editor: Marysue Rucci

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agents: Michelle Brower &
Stephanie Delman

UK co-agent: Nicola Chang at
David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Jason Richman & Addison
Duffy at UTA

One of our first big titles as an agency and launched as a major debut fiction publication at the start of this year, **THE STORM WE MADE** is a spellbinding, sweeping novel about a Malayan mother who becomes an unlikely spy for the invading Japanese forces during WWII—and the shocking consequences that rain upon her community and family

National Bestseller, Good Morning America Book Club Pick for January, Gold House Book Club Pick for January with Book of the Month, and One of Six Simon & Schuster Titles for Simon Selects

#1 Indies Introduce Pick, #2 Indie Next Pick, and an Amazon Editor's Choice Pick

Malaya, 1945. Cecily Alcantara's family is in terrible danger: her 15-year-old son, Abel, has disappeared, and her youngest daughter, Jasmin, is confined in a basement to prevent being pressed into service at the comfort stations. Her eldest daughter Jujube, who works at a tea house frequented by drunk Japanese soldiers, becomes angrier by the day.

Cecily knows two things: that this is all her fault; and that her family must never learn the truth. A decade prior, Cecily had been desperate to be more than a housewife to a low-level bureaucrat in British-colonized Malaya. A chance meeting with the charismatic General Fujiwara lured her into a life of espionage, pursuing dreams of an "Asia for Asians." Instead, Cecily helped usher in an even more brutal occupation by the Japanese. As the war reaches its apex, her actions have caught up with her. Now her family is on the brink of destruction—and she will do anything to save them.

Spanning years of pain and triumph, told from the perspectives of four unforgettable characters, **THE STORM WE MADE** is a dazzling saga about the horrors of war, the fraught relationships between the colonized and their oppressors, and the ambiguity of right and wrong when survival is at stake.

Category: upmarket historical debut

Vanessa Chan is a Malaysian writer whose short fiction has been most recently published in the *Kenyon Review* and has received nominations for the Pushcart Prize. She has been awarded fellowships from the Sewanee Writers' Conference, Tin House, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and others. She studied for her MFA at The New School and is now based in Brooklyn.

Rights sold:

UK: Hodder & Stoughton

Brazil: Paralela/Companhia das Letras

Bulgaria: CIELA

Croatia: Znanje

Czech Republic: Host

France: Harper

Germany: Ecco/Harper

Greece: Psychogios

Holland: Prometheus

Hungary: 21. Század Kiadó

Italy: Mondadori (2 books)

Japan: Shunjusha

Lithuania: Baltos Lankos

Poland: Marginesy

Portugal: Presença

Romania: Trei

Spain: Salamandra

Sweden: Forum

Taiwan: Crown Publishing

Turkey: Domingo Publishing

PRAISE

"THE STORM WE MADE kicks up a weather system of epic proportions, ranging from military terror during World War II to domestic warmth . . . The book's greatest power: it makes space for complexity without relinquishing the grip of a good story . . . What makes the book pulse with life is . . . the tenderness in its details, the ordinary ways that these characters love and laugh in the face of the extraordinary . . . Chan shows us, with clarity and care, how the truest mirror comes from the intimacy of human connection."—**New York Times Book Review**

"Chan's impressive debut offers a little-told perspective on a turbulent period of history . . . This is a rich, multi-perspective novel."—**Observer (UK)**

"Ambitious, sweeping"—**New York Times, "18 New Books Coming in January"**

"A chilling exploration of the costs of human weakness and desire, in a compelling and vividly wrought historical context."—**Kirkus**

"THE STORM WE MADE is poised to be a breakout debut of 2024."—**Kate Dwyer, Esquire**

"In Vanessa Chan's spellbinding debut, one woman's desire to change her destiny shapes the future of a colonized nation. Combining cinematic grandeur with nuanced storytelling, THE STORM WE MADE offers the hidden history that only fiction can reveal . . . I'll never forget this book."—**Jessamine Chan, New York Times bestselling author of The School for Good Mothers**

"There are so many rich layers to this book—my breath caught at the beauty of the words and the kaleidoscope of images they painted. Vanessa Chan has written a masterpiece, and THE STORM WE MADE has not only changed my perspective on war and humanity; it has also transformed my sense of what truly great novels can do."—**Qian Julie Wang, New York Times bestselling author of Beautiful Country**

"THE STORM WE MADE is brave, funny, and immensely moving. One of the most powerful and confident debuts I've ever read. A storytelling star is born."—**Tracy Chevalier, New York Times bestselling author of Girl with a Pearl Earring**



THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER

Mikki Brammer



St. Martin's Press (May 9, 2023)

Editor: Sarah Cantin

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK co-agent: Jemima Forrester at
David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Joe Veltre at Gersh

Publishing in twenty-four territories and still counting, this is a big-hearted and life-affirming debut about a death doula who, in caring for others at the end of their life, has forgotten how to live her own. THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER is also proving to have a long tail in terms of sales in the U.S.

What's the point of giving someone a beautiful death if you can't give yourself a beautiful life?

Clover spends so much time with the dying that she has no life of her own, until the final wishes of a feisty old woman send Clover on a road trip across the country to uncover a forgotten love story—and perhaps, her own happy ending. As she finds herself struggling to navigate the uncharted roads of romance and friendship, Clover is forced to examine what she really wants, and whether she'll have the courage to go after it. Probing, clever, and hopeful, THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER turns the normally taboo subject of death into a reason to celebrate life.

From the day she watched her kindergarten teacher drop dead during a dramatic telling of Peter Rabbit, Clover Brooks has felt a stronger connection with the dying than she has with the living. After the beloved grandfather who raised her dies alone while she is traveling, Clover becomes a death doula in New York City, dedicating her life to ushering people peacefully through their end-of-life process.

Probing, clever, and hopeful, THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER is perfect for readers of *The Midnight Library* and *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* as it turns the normally taboo subject of death into a reason to celebrate life.

Category: commercial debut

Mikki Brammer is an Australian writer based in New York City. She spent her childhood in the Philippines and Tasmania before living in several different parts of Australia, as well as France and Spain. THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER is her debut novel. Her second novel will deliver to her primary editors this spring, and they are looking at a 2025 publication!

Rights sold:

UK: Viking (2 books)

ANZ: PRH Australia (2 books)

Brazil: Globo Livros

China: China Translation & Publishing House

Croatia: Znanje

Czech Republic: Euromedia

Denmark: Lindhardt & Ringhof (2 books)

France: Eyrolles (2 books)

Germany: Droemer (2 books)

Greece: Dioptra

Hebrew: Keter

Hungary: Helikon

Korea: Influential

Italy: Sperling

Lithuania: Alma Littera

Norway: Cappelen Damm (2 books)

Poland: Muza

Portugal: Bertrand

Romanian: Stória

Serbia: Vulkan

Spanish: Planeta México

Thai: Amarín

Turkey: Nemesis

Ukraine: Vivat



PRAISE

"Weird, lovely and sweetly satisfying . . . Clover's emergence from a shuttered life is moving enough to elicit tears, and Brammer's take on death and grieving is profound enough to feel genuinely instructional."—**New York Times Book Review**

"A heart-warming tale that offers a poignant message about the meaning of life, and death."—**Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)**

"What a beautiful story! . . . This book will be one that I remember for a long time, and it's a story that we can all learn something from."—**Ruth Hogan, Sunday Times bestselling author of Madame Burova**

"Warm, profound, and expertly told, THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER explores how befriending death can help enrich our lives. While infinitely poised in her role as a death doula, Clover's clumsy foray into the world of the living will have you recalling the sweet awkwardness of your first kiss and the thrill of new belonging. This is one of those special books that will leave a handprint on your heart."—**Emma Brodie, author of Songs in Ursa Majo**

"I couldn't put this book down. THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER is a tender, charming delight, perfect for anyone who loved *The Authenticity Project* or *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*."—**KJ Dell'Antonia, New York Times bestselling author of The Chicken Sisters**

"THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER is a warm-hearted, tender story of love, life-lessons and letting go. Full of wisdom, it's a novel that handles with profound sensitivity and delicacy important questions that face us all, while fostering a joyful sense of hope for the future. Clover is a beguiling character who has so much more to offer the world than she knows, and it's a sheer delight to watch as her horizons expand. THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER leaves us contemplating what it means to live our lives to the full, without regrets. A beautiful, thought-provoking novel."—**Sarah Haywood, New York Times bestselling author of the Reese Book Club Pick The Cactus**

THE CHRISTMAS ORPHANS CLUB

Becca Freeman



Pamela Dorman Books/Viking

(September 26, 2023)

Editor: Pamela Dorman & Marie Michels

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: Maddalena Cavaciuti at David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Addison Duffy & Olivia Fanaro at UTA

The holiday rom com done differently, but one that still scratches every yuletide itch. Sold in 12 territories, **THE CHRISTMAS ORPHANS CLUB** is an ode to friendship and chosen family, and its successful U.S. launch has cemented Becca Freeman as a name to watch in this space

Hannah and Finn have spent every Christmas together since college. Neither has anywhere else to go—Hannah’s parents died, and Finn’s disowned him when he came out. Their tradition of offbeat holiday adventures only grows more outrageous with time. When the pair starts their adult lives in New York City, they add stylish Priya and mysterious Theo to the group, solidifying a found family and sense of belonging they’ve always craved.

But now, when Finn announces a move to L.A., this Christmas may be their last. Hannah is terrified of losing the family she’s built for herself, even as her boyfriend nudges her toward commitment. Meanwhile, Finn struggles with the things he’s about to leave behind—namely, his unexpressed feelings for Theo. Does growing up mean growing apart? This Christmas the changes these friends fear may be exactly what they need. . . .

Category: debut rom com

Becca Freeman is a freelance marketing consultant and former Head of Marketing at LOLA. She is the host of the popular books and lifestyle podcast *Bad on Paper* and the co-creator of *RomComPods*. She lives in Brooklyn, where she enthusiastically celebrates Christmas every year.

Rights sold:

UK: Michael Joseph (2 books)

Czech Republic: Euromedia

Denmark: Flamingo/Gyldendal (2 Books)

France: Éditions Michel Lafon

Germany: Penguin Verlag

Greece: Dioptra

Hungary: Central

Italy: Sperling & Kupfer

Netherlands: Meulenhoff Boekeriej

Serbia: Vulkan

Spain: Suma de Letras

Sweden: Norstedts



PRAISE

"Becca Freeman gives a much-needed update to classic holiday tales . . . Witty and heartfelt . . . [A] whip-smart story of modern love, letting go, and growing up."—**Carley Fortune, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Meet Me at the Lake***

"A fabulous festive read about found family. I loved it from the first sentence."—**Sophie Cousens, New York Times bestselling author of *Before I Do***

"If you adore Christmas and loved *Friends*, then this is the perfect book for you. . . . A festive, funny, hug of a novel about love in all its forms."—**Clare Pooley, New York Times bestselling author of *Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting***

"I'm completely in love with this book! . . . Witty, heartwarming, and hilarious and the most delightful thing you'll read all year."—**Jennifer Close, New York Times bestselling author of *Marrying the Ketchups***

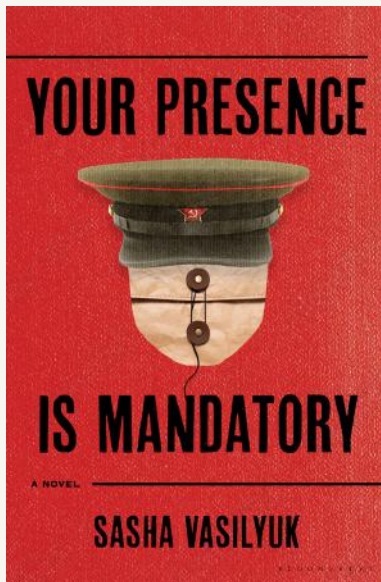
"A hilarious and poignant contemporary fable."—**Seattle Times**

"Freeman's take on how relationships evolve is full of feeling."—**Publishers Weekly**

"Freeman's writing is filled with wit and insight, and her dialogue crackles. Beneath the abundant humor and charm is a thoughtful exploration of friendship, tradition, and the challenges of growing old."—**Grant Ginder, bestselling author of *The People We Hate at the Wedding* and *Let's Not Do That Again***

YOUR PRESENCE IS MANDATORY

Sasha Vasilyuk



Bloomsbury (April 23, 2024)

Editor: Grace McNamee

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Rights sold:

Brazil: Rocco

Finland: WSOY

France: Éditions Charleston/Leduc

Germany: Droemer

Italy: Garzanti

A “wonderfully written, elegiac and necessary” (Gary Shteyngart) debut novel, based on real events, about a World War II veteran with a secret that could land him in the Gulag, and his family who are forced to live in the shadow of all he has not told them

Ukraine, 2007. Yefim Shulman, husband, grandfather and war veteran, was beloved by his family and his coworkers. But in the days after his death, his widow Nina finds a letter to the KGB in his briefcase. Yefim had a lifelong secret, and his confession forces them to reassess the man they thought they knew and the country he had defended.

In 1941, Yefim is a young artillerist on the border between Soviet Union and Germany, eager to defend his country and his large Jewish family against Hitler's forces. But surviving the war requires sacrifices Yefim never imagined-and even when the war ends, his fight isn't over. He must conceal his choices from the KGB and from his family.

Spanning seven decades between World War II and the current Russia-Ukraine conflict, *YOUR PRESENCE IS MANDATORY* traces the effect Yefim's coverup had on the lives of Nina, their two children and grandchildren. In the process, Sasha Vasilyuk shines a light on one family caught between two totalitarian regimes, and the grace they find in the course of their survival.

“At once a historical epic, an engrossing family saga, and an astute examination of morality, survival, hope, and love . . . *YOUR PRESENCE IS MANDATORY* is a book to last generations, and one I won't soon forget.”—Lara Prescott, author of *The Secrets We Kept*

“Journalist Sasha Vasilyuk works magic in the gray areas of history, weaving her compelling debut historical novel out of the shadowy overlap between survival, secrecy, and guilt. . . . *YOUR PRESENCE IS MANDATORY* is an important, moving read that will resonate long in the reader's memory.”—Kate Quinn, *NYT* bestselling author

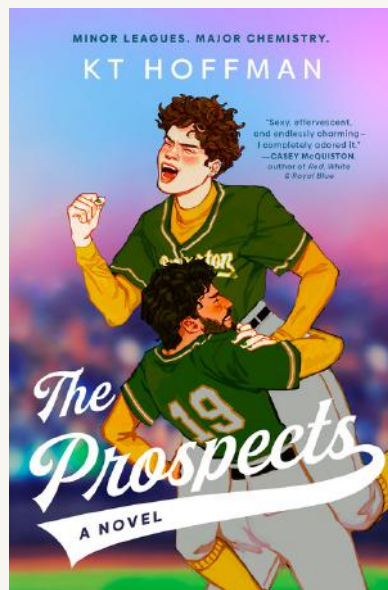
Category: upmarket historical debut

Sasha Vasilyuk was born in the Soviet Crimea and spent her childhood between Ukraine and Russia before immigrating to San Francisco at the age of 13. She has a MA in Journalism from New York University, and her nonfiction has been published in *The New York Times*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *BBC*, *The Telegraph*, *Narrative*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, and elsewhere. She has won several awards, including the Solas Award for Best Travel Writing, NATJA award, and BAM/PFA Fellowship from UC Berkeley. She lives in San Francisco, California with her husband and children.

THE PROSPECTS

KT Hoffman

*previously titled THE KEYSTONE COMBINATION



The Dial Press (April 9, 2024)

Editor: Katy Nishimoto

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: Maddalena Cavaciuti
at David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Becca Rodriguez at
Curate

Rights sold:

UK: Sphere/Little, Brown UK

This special edition went out with the Illumicrate subscription box to over 5,500 subscribers in the UK



A joyful, heartfelt debut rom com that reveals what's possible when we allow ourselves to want something enough to swing for the fences. This closed in a competitive six-way auction with The Dial Press, in a major two-book deal, and was chosen for the Illumicrate romance subscription box in the UK where Sphere has published simultaneously

Minor leagues. Major chemistry.

Hope is familiar territory for Gene Ionescu. He has always loved baseball, a sport made for underdogs and optimists like him. He also loves his team, the minor league Beaverton Beavers, and, for the most part, he loves the career he's built. As the first openly trans player in professional baseball, Gene has nearly everything he's ever let himself dream of—that is, until Luis Estrada, Gene's former teammate and current rival, gets traded to the Beavers, destroying the careful equilibrium of Gene's life.

Gene and Luis can't manage a civil conversation off the field or a competent play on it, but in the close confines of roadie buses and dugout benches, they begrudgingly rediscover a comfortable rhythm. As the two grow closer, the tension between them turns electric, and their chemistry spills past the stadium limits. For every tight double play they execute, there's also a glance at summer-tan shoulders or a secret shared, each one a breathless moment of possibility that ignites in Gene the visceral, terrifying kind of desire he's never allowed himself. Soon, Gene has to reconcile the quiet, minor-league-size life he used to find fulfilling with the major-league dreams Luis makes feel possible.

“Tenacious, sexy, effervescent, doggedly hopeful, and endlessly charming, with characters to root hard for and an irresistible voice—I completely adored it.”—Casey McQuiston, author of *Red, White and Royal Blue*

“Every corner of this book shines. . . It's a debut so good it's in a league of its own.”—Bookpage (starred review)

“Hoffman hits it out of the park with his feel-good queer frenemies-to-lovers debut.”—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

Category: debut rom com

KT Hoffman is an author of queer romance and historical fiction. He is originally from Beaverton, Oregon and currently lives in Brooklyn. KT was a 2021 Pitch Wars mentee.

THE INVISIBLE HOTEL

Yeji Y. Ham



Zando (March 5, 2024)

Editor: Emily Bell

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: Catherine Cho at
Paper Literary

Film/TV: Becca Rodriguez at
Curate

Rights Sold:

UK: Atlantic Books

Canada: Doubleday

Korea: GuFic

Turkey: Timas

We're excited to see translation publishers coming to this haunting literary debut, which probe the continued human consequences of a war with no end in sight, as it approaches publication

Yewon dreams of a hotel. In the hotel, there are infinite keys to infinite rooms—and a quiet terror she is desperate to escape. When Yewon wakes, she sees her life: a young woman, out of her job at a convenience store, trapped in the tiny South Korean village of her birth, watching her mother wash the bones of their ancestors in their decrepit bathtub. Every house has them, these rotting and fragmented bones, reminders of what they have all lost to a war that never seems to end. Yewon and her siblings were born in this bathtub—and every year women give birth to new babies in the bathtub.

Now, Yewon's brother is stationed near the North Korean border, her sister has just undergone a life-changing tragedy, and her mother is constantly worried, her health declining. In crisis and in stasis, Yewon's dreams of the decrepit hotel lead her to an unsettling truth about her country's collective heritage.

Recalling international trailblazers like Han Kang's *The Vegetarian* and Yoko Ogawa's *The Memory Police*, THE INVISIBLE HOTEL marks the arrival of a singular new voice with a sharp social acumen.

"Haunting, compulsive, stylish—as original a debut as you'd ever hope to read."—Anna Metcalfe, author of *Chrysalis*

"What a thrill to read this: propulsive, electric, full of fury and ecstatic writing, you won't be able to put this one down."—Paul Yoon, author of *The Hive and the Honey*

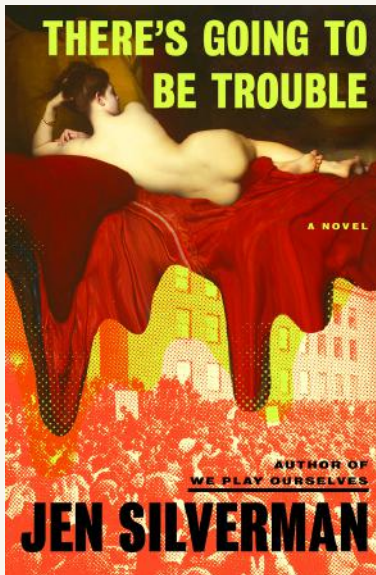
Category: literary debut

Yeji Y. Ham is a Korean Canadian writer. She received her B.A. in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia and M.F.A. in Literary Arts from Brown University. At Brown, she completed a short story collection titled *Doraesol*, and part of the manuscript was awarded the Frances Mason Harris' 26 Prizes in Fiction. This is her first novel.

THERE'S GOING TO BE TROUBLE

*previously titled THE HUNTERS

Jen Silverman



Random House (April 9, 2024)

Editor: Caitlin McKenna

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Previous Publishers:

UK: Atlantic Books

A woman is pulled into a love affair with a radical activist, unknowingly echoing her family's dangerous past and risking the foundations of her future in this electrifying novel

The course of your life can change with one split-second decision.

Minnow has always tried to lead the life her single father, Christopher, modeled—private, quiet, hardworking, apolitical. So she is rocked when an instinctive decision to help a student makes her the extremely public face of a scandal in the small town where she teaches. When vandalism and death threats follow, an overwhelmed Minnow flees to a teaching position in Paris. There, Minnow falls into an exhilarating and all-consuming relationship with Charles, a young Frenchman whose activism has placed him at odds with his powerful family. As Minnow is pulled into the daring protest Charles and his friends are planning, she unknowingly draws close to repeating a secret tragedy from her family's past. For her father wasn't always the restrained, conservative man he appears today. There are things he has taken great pains to bury from his family and from the world.

The intertwining stories of Minnow and her father, Keen, take us through the turmoil of the late sixties student movements and into the chaos of the modern world. Exploding with suspense, heart, and intelligence, **THERE'S GOING TO BE TROUBLE** is a story about revolution, legacy, passionate love, and how we live with the consequences of our darkest secrets.

"Atmospheric and profound, Silverman's novel of defiance and acceptance shimmers with passion, repressed and unbridled." —Booklist (starred review)

"Remarkable . . . An exhilarating novel of star-crossed romances and radical politics, with writing so evocative I swear I could smell the tear gas."—Nathan Hill, author of *The Nix* and *Wellness*

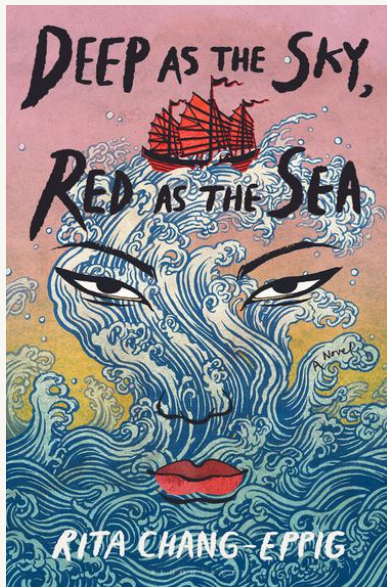
"Crackling with excitement and written with great verve and flair. Truly a dazzling reading experience."—Jami Attenberg, author of *The Middlesteins* and *All This Could Be Yours*

Category: literary fiction

Jen Silverman is a playwright, novelist, poet and screenwriter. They are the author of the debut novel *We Play Ourselves* and the story collection *The Island Dwellers* (both Random House) and the poetry chapbook *Bath*, selected by Traci Brimhall for Driftwood Press. Jen's plays have been produced internationally in Australia, the UK, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Spain, and elsewhere. Jen is a 2022 National Endowment for the Arts Fellow (prose) and 2022 Cuggenheim Fellow (theatre).

DEEP AS THE SKY, RED AS THE SEA

Rita Chang-Eppig



Bloomsbury (May 30, 2023)

Editor: Grace McNamee

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK co-agent: Daisy Parente at
Lutyens & Rubinstein

Film/TV: Tara Taminsky at
Grandview

Rights sold:

France: Eyrolles

Portugal: LeYa

Bringing alive the story of a real-life 19th century pirate queen who ruled the South China sea with her wits and her sword, this “heart-pounding high-seas adventure is also the moving story of a girl with no options who finds a way to survive” (Anna North, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Outlawed*)

When Shek Yeung watches her husband, a feared pirate, die at the hands of the Portuguese, she knows she must act swiftly or perish herself. Kidnapped from her father's fishing boat as a child and sold into a life of prostitution, Shek Yeung is familiar with the price of softness—grief and vulnerability only bring trouble. So instead of mourning her husband, Shek Yeung immediately marries his second-in-command, who expects her to bear an heir. As she fights for control over the army she knows she was born to lead, a larger threat to the alliance of pirates looms. Carrying the magic and splendor of legend brought to life, *DEEP AS THE SKY, RED AS THE SEA* transports readers back to Qing dynasty China and into the life of a woman who leads with the courage and ruthlessness of our darkest and most beloved heroes.

“I loved this book. With prose as rich and elegant as it is fierce, *DEEP AS THE SKY, RED AS THE SEA* paints a complex portrait of one of history's most powerful women, Shek Yeung, while considering the roles that gender, motherhood, and fate play for us all. This is a gorgeous vivid adventure that delves into what a person will do to survive . . . Rita Chang-Eppig has made something truly special.”

—Erika Swyler, bestselling author of *Light from Other Stars*

“[A] lyrically written high-seas adventure.”—*Time*

Category: historical fiction debut

Rita Chang-Eppig received her MFA in fiction from NYU. Her stories have appeared in *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*, *Conjunctions*, *The Rumpus*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Best American Short Stories 2021*, and elsewhere. She has received fellowships from the Rona Jaffe Foundation/Vermont Studio Center and more, and was the winner of *Virginia Quarterly Review's* 2021 Emily Clark Balch Prize for Fiction.

WOMEN! IN! PERIL!

Jessie Ren Marshall



Bloomsbury (April 2, 2024)

Editor: Grace McNamee

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable pass

Agent: Michelle Brower &
Natalie Edwards

UK rights: Sara Langham at
David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Shiv Doraiswami at
Grandview

A ferociously feminist debut short story collection that is full of wry humor, sharp social commentary, and an irrepressible sense of hope. Bloomsbury also pre-empted rights to a novel-in-progress called *Alohaland*

In this brash and unputdownable collection, we meet a sex bot trying to outlast her return policy, a skeptical lesbian grappling with her wife's mysterious pregnancy, and a post-Earth colonist struggling to maintain her faith in humanity as she travels to "Planet B." Whether they exist in the grounded realism of a college dance studio or the speculative world of Deep Space, these women push against social norms and family expectations to reclaim their power, understand their mistakes, and find a better future.

Hilarious, heartbreaking, and defiantly optimistic, the twelve stories in *WOMEN! IN! PERIL!* balance humor and gravitas to explore the complexities of queerness, toxic relationships, parenting and divorce, Asian and Asian American identity, and so much more.

Bloomsbury has also bought Jessie's debut novel-in-progress, *Alohaland*. Set at the opulent Plumeria Hotel and Resort on a drought-stricken Hawai'i Island, it follows two half-sisters—one the resort's ambassador forced to cater to the guests' every whim, the other a reality TV star—who grapple with questions of home and belonging as they face a mega-storm fueled by global warming.

"[A] bold debut collection . . . This heralds the arrival of an arresting new voice."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Jessie Ren Marshall's clever stories took me on a wild, wonderful ride through speculative landscapes both heartrending and hilarious. *WOMEN! IN! PERIL!* is incisive! Provocative! And utterly satisfying!"—Deesha Philyaw, National Book Award Nominated author of *The Secret Lives of Church Ladies*

"Welp, I've found my new favorite writer. Jessie Ren Marshall is so funny, so smart, so inventive . . . I've been telling everyone I know about this book. Read it. It's a gift."—Annie Hartnett, author of *Rabbit Cake* and *Unlikely Animals*

Category: short story collection

Jessie Ren Marshall is a mixed race, Japanese-American writer who holds an MFA in Fiction from NYU. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The New York Times'* Modern Love column, *The Gettysburg Review*, *ZYZZYVA*, *Chicago Quarterly Review*, and *Joyland*, where her story "Late Girl" was a finalist for the 2022 Open Border Prize. Her musical *Pele & The Hii'akas* was a semi-finalist for the 2021 Eugene O'Neill National Musical Theater Conference, and her play *Hapa Girls* won the 2020 Kumu Kahua Hawai'i Prize. She lives on Hawai'i Island.

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