



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**, **Danya Kukafka**, and **Natalie Edwards**; foreign rights director **Allison Malecha**; and assistant **Khalid McCalla**.

Foreign Rights Guide

Frankfurt 2023

Director of Foreign Rights
Allison Malecha

Foreign Rights Assistant
Khalid McCalla

TABLE OF CONTENTS

New Fall Submissions	3
Upmarket & Literary Fiction.....	6
Commercial Fiction	35
Nonfiction	45
Film & TV Tie-Ins	51
Recently Published Titles	54
Co-Agents	58

NEW FALL SUBMISSIONS

STORYBOOK ENDING

Moira Macdonald



Our first hot title of the fall! 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 (spring/summer 2025)

Editor: May 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: auction

Brazil: pre-empt turned down, auction

France: pre-empt turned down, auction

Germany: Krüger/S. Fischer Verlage

Holland: Ambo Anthos

Hungary: General Press

Israel: Tchelet

Italy: pre-empt turned down, auction

Lithuania: first offer

Portugal: pre-empt turned down, auction

Romania: first offers

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

HOW TO GIVE BIRTH

Ceridwen Morris



FSG (summer or fall 2025)

Editor: Mitzi Angel

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript
delivering August 2024

Agent: Allison Devereux

UK rights: Carrie Plitt at Felicity
Bryan Associates

Rights sold:

UK: pre-empt turned down,
auction

Spain: first offer

Sold in a pre-empt to Mitzi Angel at FSG, this is a lyrical, empathetic, philosophical guide—grounded in science and surprisingly universal—for expectant parents and anyone who’s been born

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.

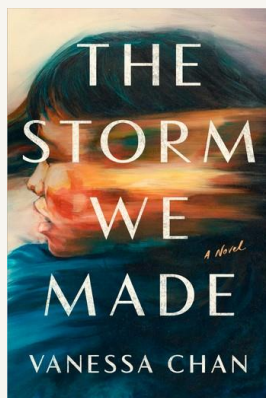
Category: general nonfiction

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.

UPMARKET & LITERARY FICTION

THE STORM WE MADE

Vanessa Chan



Marysue Rucci Books/Scribner

(January 2, 2024)

Editor: Marysue Rucci

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

Agents: Michelle Brower &

Stephanie Delman

UK co-agent: Nicola Chang at

David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Jason Richman & Addison

Duffy at UTA

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

Already lining up to be a major debut fiction publication of 2024 and an international sensation, **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

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.

"Spellbinding . . . THE STORM WE MADE offers the hidden history that only fiction can reveal: the everyday yearnings of people surviving a brutal occupation, children trying to make sense of the unspeakable, and the search for love."—**Jessamine Chan**, author of *The School for Good Mothers*

"Devastatingly beautiful and extraordinary."—**Jessica George**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Maame*

One of the most powerful and confident debuts I've ever read."—**Tracy Chevalier**, author of the international bestseller, *Girl with a Pearl Earring*

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.

KILLER POTENTIAL

Hannah Deitch

*previously titled BOOTSTRAPPERS



William Morrow (early 2025)

Editor: Jessica Williams

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript, edited due early 2024

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)

Poland: Marginesy

Portugal: Saída de Emergência

Romania: Bookzone

Serbia: Laguna

Slovenia: Učila

Spain: AdN

Sweden: Modernista

Our big LBF book and now sold in 16 territories, 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

Closed with Universal TV after a big auction!!!

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 this mysterious woman who now 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 upside-down life.

KILLER POTENTIAL is a truly rare gem: a crackling, 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 is a former SAT tutor and current PhD candidate in English at UC Irvine, where she studies Marxist theory and contemporary pop culture. A former arts magazine editor with a Master's in journalism from USC, Hannah has been published by the *LA Times*, *LA Weekly*, and the *LA Review of Books*. She lives in Los Angeles.

MARGO'S GOT MONEY TROUBLES

Rufi Thorpe



William Morrow (June 11, 2024)

Editor: Jessica Williams

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

Film/TV: Brooke Ehrlich at CAA

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Rights sold:

UK: Sceptre

Germany: Ecco Verlag

Italy: Bollati Boringhieri

A bold, laugh-out-loud 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. Michelle Brower recently took over Rufi Thorpe's representation and moved her to Jessica Williams at Morrow, where the whole in-house team is intent on making this the author's breakout success. We love that this book is charming international editors and a buzzy film/TV auction is also underway

Margo Millet's got money troubles. As the child of a Hooter's 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 junior 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, mostly out of naiveté and a yearning for something bigger.

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 with her, 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 filled with sharp insight, 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 and 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 to anyone else . . . Absolutely Brilliant."— Kevin Wilson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Nothing to See Here*

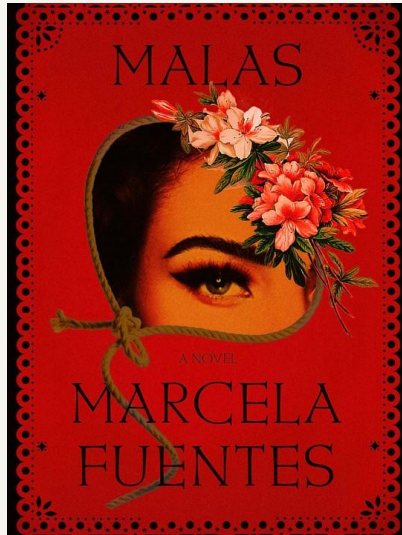
"A hilarious novel about making the most of what you've got . . . I gobbled it up."— Emma Straub, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Time Tomorrow*

Category: upmarket fiction

Rufi Thorpe received her MFA from the University of Virginia in 2009. She 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; Windmill Books, 2015), 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.

MALAS

Marcela Fuentes



Viking (June 4, 2024)

Editor: Laura Tisdell

Territory sold: North America

Material: first 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

Closed on last fall in a seven-figure, North American deal and shaping up just as hoped ahead of publication next year, **MALAS** is an unforgettable debut novel that is both a tale of revenge and passion, and a family saga about the heartbreaking choices that reverberate across generations. Viking has also acquired the author's story collection in progress, **MY HEART HAS MORE ROOMS THAN A WHOREHOUSE**

In 1951, a strange old woman appears on Pilar Aguirre's doorstep in La Cienega, Texas, with a questionable story about Pilar's husband and a curse for his family. The woman makes Pilar uneasy, but it's the ensuing tragedy that breaks her. After her grief becomes obsession, Pilar commits an unforgivable act: she abandons her son Julio. He is adopted by Pilar's comadre Romelia Muñoz, though their friendship, and Pilar's life, are irrevocably shattered.

In 1994, Lulu Muñoz is a ninth grade Gen Xer juggling a fractious relationship with her troubled, alcoholic dad Julio, her upcoming quinceañera (the last thing she wants), and the fact that she's secretly the lead singer of a punk band. When Julio's affair with a married woman brings violence into Lulu's life, she breaks the family taboo and seeks out Pilar Aguirre, her estranged biological grandmother. In the months leading up to Lulu's quinceañera the two form a bond that exposes their family secrets and threatens to return the curse to a new generation.

"MALAS is a marvel . . . Full of humanity, heart, and humor, this is a book I will never forget."—Vanessa Chan, author of *The Storm We Made*

Category: upmarket/literary fiction debut

Marcela Fuentes is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and was the 2016-2017 James C. McCreight Fellow in fiction at the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing. Her work has appeared in *Indiana Review*, *Kenyon Review*, *The Rumpus*, *Ploughshares*, and other journals. Her story "The Observable World" was selected for inclusion in The Pushcart Prizes 2023. She is also working on a linked story collection-in-progress, called **MY HEART HAS MORE ROOMS THAN A WHORE HOUSE**.

SHANGHAILANDERS

Juli Min



Spiegel & Grau (May 7, 2024)

Editor: Joey McGarvey

Territory: North America

Material: first 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

Moving backward in time from 2040 to 2014, telling the story of one wealthy Shanghai family and those living in their orbit, SHANGHAILANDERS has the feel of a classic, pitched for fans of Ruth Ozeki, Jennifer Egan, and Eileen Chang

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.

“Bracing, thrilling, and breathtakingly smart, SHANGHAILANDERS is more than a spectacular debut—it offers a new way of seeing.”—Liam Callanan, *When in Rome* and *Paris by the Book*

“SHANGHAILANDERS is 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*

Category: literary fiction debut

Juli Min is the Editor in Chief of *The Shanghai Literary Review*, an annual literary magazine published in cooperation with Duke University. Her writing has been published in *The New York Times*, *Real Life*, *Hazlitt*, and elsewhere. She has a bachelor's degree in comparative literature from Harvard University and an MFA in fiction from Warren Wilson. Juli has lived in Shanghai, China for six years, but her home and heart is New York City.

A THOUSAND TIMES BEFORE

Asha Thanki



Viking (July 2024)

Editor: Nidhi Pugalia

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

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

Sold in a major deal, at auction, Asha Thanki's first novel—a literary, speculative, heartrending epic that sweeps from Karachi on the cusp of Partition through 1970s India to contemporary Brooklyn—gives inheritance a radical new meaning

In contemporary Brooklyn, narrator Ayukta owes her wife an answer to the question she's always avoided: should they have a child? The decision is complicated by her family's history. What Ayukta must explain: the women in her family are united by a fantastic tapestry. Once woven onto it, each daughter will inherit the memories of all the mothers before her. An impossible burden; an incredible gift.

As Ayukta accesses her ancestral memory, she must consider the weight of this gift. She relives her grandmother, Amla's, trauma; once a happy child in Karachi before her mother's death, Amla must migrate to Gujarat during Partition, where she witnesses more than she can take. The story of Amla's daughter, Arni, brings us to Gujarat in 1974, where gender equity and urban class distinctions are explored as a student-led political movement takes hold. As Ayukta unspools these three generations of women—and whole decades of love, loss, heartbreak, and revival—we discover the tapestry's second gift: the ability to create art that becomes true. Like all powers, this one is more treacherous than it seems.

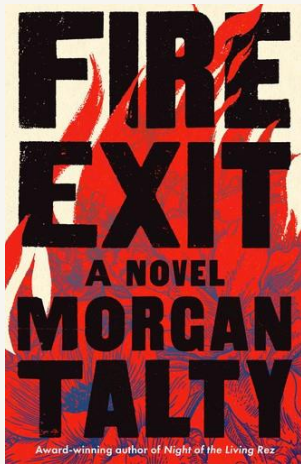
Sweeping and intergenerational like Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*, fantastical like Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*, and with a tender love story at its center, A THOUSAND TIMES BEFORE is a remarkable feat.

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.

FIRE EXIT

Morgan Talty



confidential: US cover reveal on 9/28!

Tin House (June 4, 2024)

Editor: Masie Cochran

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

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)

Germany: Rowohlt

The debut novel by a major new 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. We are handling the author's rights on behalf of Rebecca Friedman Literary Agency

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 Roger and Mary raising their only child, Elizabeth—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 this family 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?

"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

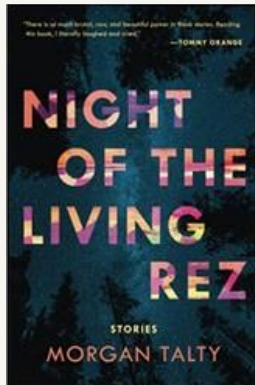
"Utterly consuming . . . The novel absolutely smolders."—Tommy Orange

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



Morgan Talty's linked short story collection NIGHT OF THE LIVING REZ was one of the most acclaimed fiction debuts in the U.S. last year, 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

Tin House (July 5, 2022)

Editor: Masie Cochran

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

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

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 (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.

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 is already laying the groundwork to 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.

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* and 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 will join the University of Wisconsin-Madison English Department as teaching faculty this coming fall.

THE VOLCANO DAUGHTERS

Gina María Balibrera



Pantheon (August 20, 2024)

Editor: Naomi Gibbs

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

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*

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.

HOMESSEEKING

Karissa Chen



Putnam (fall 2024)

Editor: Tara Singh Carlson

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript due fall 2023

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: Hanserblau

Greece: Ikaros

Holland: Nieuw-Amsterdam

Italy: Garzanti

Norway: Gyldendal

Spain: Urano

Pre-empted in a major North American deal and sold in several territories, HOMESSEEKING tells the sweeping love story of childhood sweethearts in Shanghai who are separated by war in 1947 and who reunite twice more in the decades to come

There are moments when a single choice can define an entire life. Haiwen and Suchi are teenage sweethearts in Shanghai; their childhood friendship has blossomed into young love, and they believe that they are soulmates. But when Haiwen secretly decides to enlist in the army to keep his brother from the draft, their shared future is shattered. Their paths take them far afield from each other, with the exception of one pivotal chance encounter on the Hong Kong ferry in 1966.

Sixty years later, Haiwen, now in his late seventies, is bagging bananas at a supermarket in California when he once more sees Suchi. They rekindle their friendship, and might have a second chance to live the life they were supposed to have together. But the weight of the past is constantly with them, and only time will tell if they are able to forge something new.

Told in alternating narratives in chronological and reverse chronological order, HOMESSEEKING spans seven decades, through the most tumultuous period of modern Chinese history up to contemporary times, tracing the separated lovers as they migrate from Shanghai to Hong Kong, Taiwan, and America. HOMESSEEKING has the craft and sweep of Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko* and the heart necessary to keep book club readers hanging on her every word.

“An absolute stunner of a debut . . . Karissa Chen has created an elegant saga of soul and history, and proven herself a writer to watch.”—Erika Swyler, author of *Light From Other Stars* and *The Book of Speculation*

Category: upmarket debut

Karissa Chen is a writer who splits her time between New Jersey and Taipei, Taiwan. Her work has appeared in numerous publications, including *The Atlantic*, *Bon Appetit*, *Eater*, *The Cut*, *Catapult*, and others. She was a Fulbright Fellow in Taiwan in 2015-2016 and was awarded a 2019 artist fellowship from the NJ Council on the Arts. She was formerly the Senior Fiction Editor at *The Rumpus* and currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of *Hyphen* magazine. She has done extensive research for HOMESSEEKING, which is based loosely on her family history.

OYE

Melissa Mogollon



Hogarth (May 14, 2024)

Territory sold: North America

Material: first pass

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK co-agent: Sara Langham
at David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Jason Richman at UTA

Rights sold:

Spanish: Vintage Español

“What an angry, brilliant, and dark little novel. This debut is a powerful and panoramic display of a multigenerational push and pull, the complexities of caring and caretaking, and the brutal magnitude of a hurricane coming straight for someone you love.”—Kiley Reid, author of *Such a Fun Age*

“Incisive, timely, and moving.”—Regina Porter, author of *The Travelers*

When Miami residents are ordered to evacuate before a hurricane, everyone in Luciana’s family complies, except for her beloved Colombian grandmother, Abue. After the storm passes, they find Abue, normally glamorous and full of energy, alone in her apartment, twenty pounds lighter, with bright yellow skin. They rush to the hospital and learn that Abue has a tumor. But she’s about as interested in getting treatment as she was in evacuating for the storm.

As a compromise of sorts, Abue is moved into her granddaughter Luciana’s bedroom. Despite Abue’s wishes, other relatives barge in and out of the picture, all with their own demands and dramas. Soon, the stress of translating, caretaking, and learning terrible truths about the family’s past start to take a toll on Luciana. Told entirely through Luciana’s phone calls to her sister Mari, in a voice that’s chatty, flawed and totally addictive, *OYE* is a hilarious, heartfelt debut for anyone who’s been marked by a complicated relationship with a grandparent. As Abue’s life comes to an end, Luciana must decide how to move on with her own.

“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*

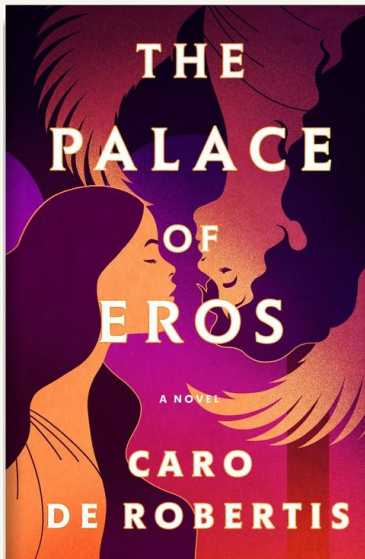
“*OYE* brims with life, wit, irreverence, and jokes . . . I love these characters—no one gets away with anything—and I love Melissa Mogollon’s unmistakable, irrepressible voice.” —Margot Livesey, author of *The Boy in the Field*

Category: literary debut

Melissa Mogollon holds an MFA in Fiction from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and a BA from the George Washington University. *OYE* is her debut novel. She lives in Los Angeles.

THE PALACE OF EROS

Caro De Robertis



Atria (August 13, 2024)

Editor: Michelle Herrera Mulligan

Territory: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Rights sold:

UK: The Borough Press

Norway: Gursli Berg

Swiftly pre-empted 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 eyes of every suitor in town and far beyond with her tempestuous beauty, which has made her irresistible as a woman yet undesirable as a wife. Secretly, she longs for a life away from the expectations and demands of men. When her father realizes that the future of his family and town will be forever cursed unless he appeases an enraged Aphrodite, he follows the orders of the Oracle, tying Psyche to a rock to be ravaged by a monstrous husband. And yet a monster never arrives.

When Eros, non-binary deity of desire, sees Psyche, she cannot fulfill her promise to her mother Aphrodite to destroy the mortal young woman. Instead, Eros devises a plan to sweep Psyche away to an idyllic palace, hidden from the prying eyes of Aphrodite, Zeus, and the outside world. There, against the dire dictates of Olympus, Eros and Psyche fall in love. Each night, Eros visits Psyche under the cover of impenetrable darkness, where they both experience untold passion and love. But each morning, Eros flies away before light comes to break the spell of the palace that keeps them safe.

Before long, Psyche's nights spent in pleasure turn to days filled with doubts, as she grapples with the cost of secrecy and the complexities of freedom and desire. Restless and spurred by her sisters to reveal Eros's true nature, she breaks her trust and forces a reckoning that tests them both—and transforms the very heavens.

Told in bold and sparkling prose from “a brilliant and luminous writer” (Madeline Miller, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Song of Achilles* and *Circe*), *The Palace of Eros* transports us to a magical world imbued by divine forces as well as everyday realities, where palaces glitter with magic even as ordinary people fight for freedom in a society that fears the unknown.

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

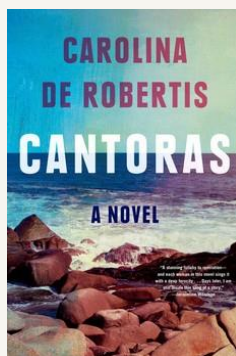


Knopf (2021)

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

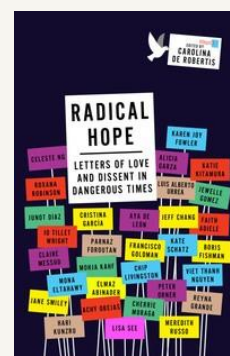
"This sublime and gripping novel is above all about hope."—Madeline Miller, author of *Circe*



Knopf (2019)

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

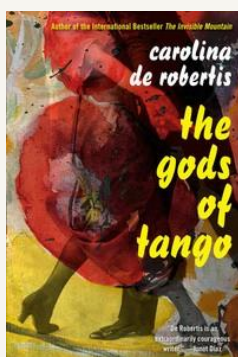
A "bold and unapologetic" (*NYTBR*) novel about five wildly different women who, in the midst of the Uruguayan dictatorship, find each other as lovers, friends, and ultimately, family



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

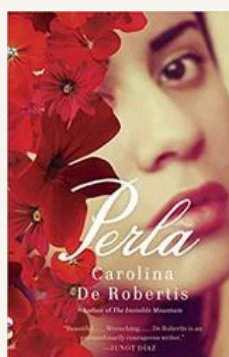


Knopf (2015)

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*

WE LIVED ON THE HORIZON

Erika Swyler



Atria (winter 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

Previous publishers (*The Book of Speculation*):

UK: Corvus

Bulgaria: Soft Press

Croatia: Mozaik knjiga

Czech Republic: Argo

France: City Editions

Holland: Orlando

Italy: Garzanti

Japan: Tokyo Sogensha

Netherlands: Orlando

Norway: Vigmstad & Bjorke

Romania: RAO Distributie

Russia: Hemiro

South Korea: Sam & Parkers

Taiwan: Crown

Thailand: Legend Books

Turkey: Marti

Vietnam: Huy Hoang

Also just sold in a pre-empt and for fans of Ursula K. Le Guin, this is literary science fiction that 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.

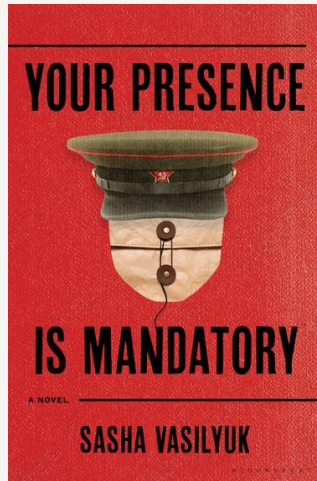
WE LIVED ON THE HORIZON asks, could you recognize a revolution if you were in one? In this complex and imaginative novel, Erika grapples with the underbelly of utopia, the trauma of having a body, gender, parenthood, and what these things mean for human and machine alike. But more than that, she builds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

Category: 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.”

YOUR PRESENCE IS MANDATORY

Sasha Vasilyuk



Bloomsbury (April 23, 2024)

Editor: Grace McNamee

Territory sold: North America

Material: translatable manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Rights sold:

Brazil: Rocco

Finland: WSOY

France: Éditions Charleston/Leduc

Germany: Droemer

Italy: Garzanti

A deeply moving story, based on real events, about a Ukrainian 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 the 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.

"A masterful exploration of the weight of secrets, generational divides, war trauma, and the search for home and belonging within one's own homeland."—Maria Kuznetsova, author of *Oksana Behave* and *Something Unbelievable*

"[A] tragic yet life-affirming tale."—Kristina Gorcheva-Newberry, author of *The Orchard*

"An engrossing family saga."—Boris Fishman, author of *Savage Feast*

"Poignant and formidable."—Elena Gorokhova, author of *A Train to Moscow*

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.

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: edited manuscript due in October

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK rights: Jane Finigan at Lutyens & Rubinstein

Rights sold:

UK: Picador

Sold in a four-way auction, this sensuous debut novel moves from colonial West Africa on the brink of revolution to 1968 New York City, from the Swiss countryside to the streets of Paris's Goutte D'Or neighborhood to Bahia, Brazil in the midst of Carnival, and is filled with the infectious forces of jazz, Afrobeat and chamber choirs, plus the irresistible flavors of golden cornbread and farm fresh chicken seasoned to perfection

It's 1969 and Mansour Ndoeye is a captivating Senegalese singer whose global ascent might be derailed by his increasingly violent seizures and strange visions of the sea. He heads to Spain for a handful of sold-out gigs, leaving Bonnie King—his American manager and very pregnant girlfriend—at his mother's estate in Switzerland. It's business as usual until he doesn't return. This leaves Bonnie and his mother Mama Eva—a formidable Senegalese immigrant on the eve of her restaurant's grand opening—to butt heads over how to handle his disappearance, and everything else. At her wits end, Bonnie secretly enlists the help of Mama's staff-cum-family to set out in search of Mansour. As they embark on their tumultuous quest, the novel also looks back in time, revealing each character's resourcefulness and achievements in the face of fracture and estrangement. For fans of Tayari Jones, Zadie Smith, Brit Bennett, Taiye Selasi, and even Laura Esquivel, TASTE is a novel of love, unconventional family, and finding an identity as a citizen of the world.

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

Category: upmarket debut

Mai Sennaar is an acclaimed playwright and an honors graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Her first play, *The Broken Windows Theory* opened at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe and starred Tony award-winner Tonya Pinkins and directed by Tony nominee Michele Shay. Her short film *Wax Lovers' Playlist*, premiered at AFI Silver and was an Official Selection of the HBO Sponsored Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival. She lives between Baltimore and Dakar.

MEDUSA OF THE ROSES

Navid Sinaki



Grove Atlantic (August 2024)

Editor: Katie Raissian

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Mariah Stovall

UK co-agent: 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

MEDUSA OF THE ROSES follows Anjir, a morbid romantic and petty thief whose boyfriend disappears just as they're planning to leave their hometown for good.

Anjir and Zal are childhood best friends turned adults in love. They live in Iran, where being gay is illegal, though the government will partially pay for a trans person's gender confirming surgeries. Zal gets attacked after being seen with another man in public, but Anjir forgives the infidelity as they formulate a plan for their 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. Anjir embarks on a quest for the other man, hoping he will lead him to Zal, but someone is tailing Anjir too. It soon 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-expression.

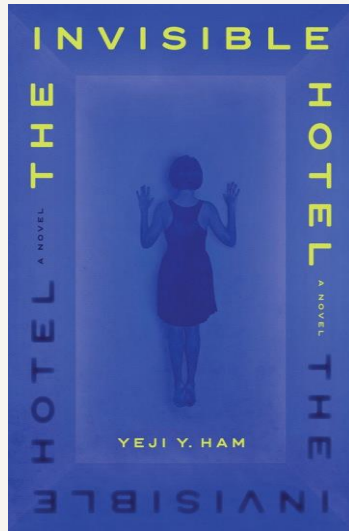
A page-turning fever dream, Navid Sinaki's debut never flinches as it leans into the messy intersections of pain and pleasure, nature and nurture, and right and wrong.

Category: literary debut

Navid Sinaki is an artist, filmmaker and poet. He was born in Tehran and currently lives in Los Angeles. His works have screened at museums and art houses around the world, including Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Lincoln Center, British Film Institute, REDCAT, and Cineteca Nacional in Mexico. His writing has most recently appeared in *BOMB Magazine*. This is his debut novel.

THE INVISIBLE HOTEL

Yeji Y. Ham



Zando (March 5, 2024)

Editor: Emily Bell

Territory sold: North America

Material: first pass

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: Catherine Cho at
Paper Literary

Film/TV: Becca Rodriguez at
Curate

Rights Sold:

UK: Atlantic Books

Canada: Doubleday

A work of literary horror in the gothic tradition, THE INVISIBLE HOTEL is a startling, speculative tale of political and ideological adolescence in the long afterlife of the Korean War

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.

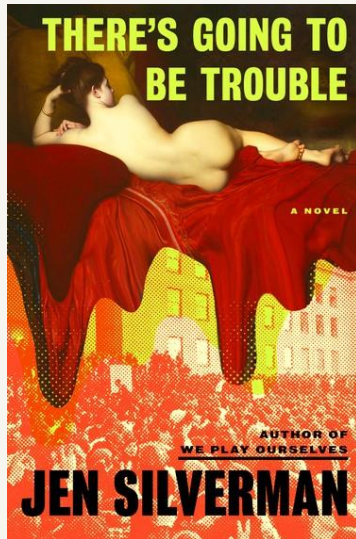
Category: literary debut

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: edited manuscript

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.

"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 Guggenheim Fellow (theatre).

THOSE OPULENT DAYS

*previously titled SAIGON CONFIDENTIAL

Jacquie Pham



Grove Atlantic (fall 2024)

Editor: Joseph Brosnan

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Pre-empted in a two-book deal by Grove Atlantic and lushly written, this is a classic murder mystery with a fresh twist, centered around the glamor, violence, wealth, and opium of 1920's French-colonial Vietnam

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

Until one of them is murdered.

The novel opens on the night of the murder, in a lavish mansion on a hill in Dalat, where all four men have gathered—and where one has not survived. 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, we begin to unravel an intricate web of terror, loyalty, and well-kept secrets. 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.

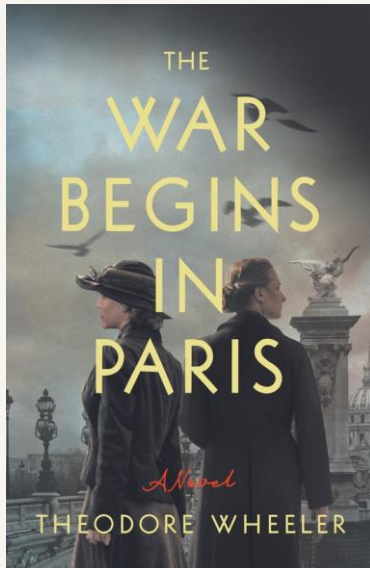
At once a historical novel of vivid intensity and a classically structured, pitch-perfect murder mystery featuring a robust cast of characters, *THOSE OPULENT DAYS* meshes the structural brilliance of Lucy Foley's *The Guest List* with the historical vitality of Christine Mangan's *Tangerine*, combining the glitz and glamor of *Crazy Rich Asians* with the heart-pounding locked-mansion setting of *Knives Out*.

Category: debut murder mystery

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.

THE WAR BEGINS IN PARIS

Theodore Wheeler



Little, Brown (November 14, 2023)

Editor: Vivian Lee

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

Agent: Stephanie Delman

UK rights: Jane Finigan at Lutyens & Rubinstein

A stylish, suspenseful work of WWII-era literary noir, equal parts Patrick Modiano and Lara Prescott, about two female war correspondents whose fates intertwine in Europe

Paris, 1938. Two women meet: Mielle, a shy pacifist and shunned Mennonite who struggles to fit in with the elite cohort of foreign correspondents stationed around the city; the other, Jane, a brash, legendary American journalist, who is soon to become a fascist propagandist. When World War II makes landfall in the City of Lights, Mielle falls under Jane's spell, growing ever more intoxicated by her glamour, self-possession, and reckless confidence. But as this recklessness devolves into militarism and an utter lack of humanity, Mielle is seized by a series of visions that show her an inescapable truth: Jane Anderson must die, and Mielle must be the one to kill her.

Structured as a series of dispatches filed from around Europe and based on the misadventures of a real journalist-turned-Nazi mouthpiece, *The War Begins in Paris* is a cat-and-mouse suspense that examines the relentlessness of propaganda, the allure of power, and how far one woman will go for the sake of her morality.

"Combines the smoky, morally complex, romantic atmosphere of WWII-era films with the sternly enthusiastic tone of their accompanying newsreels . . . [A] retro yet oddly fresh take on WWII ." —Kirkus Reviews

"An exhilarating rush of a novel, *THE WAR BEGINS IN PARIS* tells the story of a woman torn between what is right and what is easy. With sharp, propulsive prose, Theodore Wheeler's third novel is a tender search for courage and humanity in the face of the unthinkable."—Jenny Tinghui Zhang, author of *Four Treasures of the Sky*

"*THE WAR BEGINS IN PARIS* tracks, in scrupulous and forensic detail, a relationship toxified by the lies of Nazism." —Luke Jennings, author of *Codename Villanelle*

Category: historical fiction

Theodore Wheeler is the author of two previous novels: *Kings of Broken Things* (Little A, 2017) and *In Our Other Lives* (Little A, 2020). His writing has been featured in *The Southern Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Boulevard*, *Narrative*, *LitHub*, and many more journals. He has won fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Nebraska Arts Council, and Akademie Schloss Solitude in Stuttgart, Germany. With his wife, he runs an independent bookshop.

JUNIE

Erin Crosby-Eckstine



Ballantine (fall 2024)

Editor: Wendy Wong

Territory sold: North America

Material: unedited manuscript

Agent: Danya Kukafka

UK rights: Catherine Cho at
Paper Literary

Set during the ugly period of American slavery, **JUNIE** is the honest yet at the same time spell-binding, romantic, compassionate journey of one adolescent girl who is approaching the horizon of adulthood under the most debilitating of circumstances. Sold in a major two-book deal in the US

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.

The year is 1860, and the Bellereine plantation is changing. Seventeen years old and enslaved since she was born, Junie spends her days 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, where she mourns the recent death of her older sister, Minnie. But when guests arrive at Bellereine, promising marriage for Violet and the end of Junie's world as she knows it, Minnie appears in the night, a ghost whispering in Junie's ear: help me. As Junie tries to decipher her sister's message from beyond, she finds unexpected solace in Caleb. Caleb, an enslaved boy brought along to serve Violet's new beau, with long fingers that play the piano like no Negro she's ever known. Caleb, who smells like tobacco and fresh grass. Caleb, who just might show her a new way to live.

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.

HOUSE GONE QUIET

Kelsey Norris



Scribner (October 17, 2023)

Editor: Rebekah Jett

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

Agent: Stephanie Delman

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

Film/TV: Kristina Moore at UTA

Sold to Scribner at auction alongside a to-be-written novel, this genre-bending short story collection about the bonds and bounds of community and what it means to call a place home is perfect for fans of Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah's *Friday Black*, Julia Armfield's *Salt Slow*, and Carmen Maria Machado's *Her Body and Other Parties*

A group of women contemplate violence after they're sent into foreign territory to make husbands of the enemy. A support network of traumatized joggers meets to discuss the bodies they've found on their runs. And a town replaces its Confederate monument with a rotating cast of local residents. Slippery but muscular, sly but electric, this stunning debut collection moves from horror to magical realism to satire with total authority. In these stories, characters build and remake their sense of home, be it with one another or within themselves.

As in the very best collections, each of these stories is a world all its own, with a novel's emotional heft and a poem's laser focus on the most achingly resonant details of its characters' lives. Captivating from start to finish, *HOUSE GONE QUIET* announces the arrival of a thrilling literary talent.

"Kelsey Norris's work is tender, bold and beautiful . . . A writer to watch if there ever was one."—Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, author of *Chain Gang All-Stars*

"First-rate, precise, and perceptive short stories full of voices, feeling, and far-ranging knowledge of the world: Kelsey Norris's exciting first collection is a book I've been waiting to read for some time."—Lorrie Moore, author of *I Am Homeless if This Is Not My Home*

"An inventive, clever, and beguiling collection."—Deesha Philyaw, author of *The Secret Lives of Church Ladies*

Category: short story collection

Kelsey Norris is from Alabama and currently lives in Washington, DC. As Fiction Editor at *The Rumpus* and a former bookseller, Kelsey is steeped in her literary community. She holds an MFA from Vanderbilt University, and her fiction has been published in *The Kenyon Review*, *The Georgia Review*, *TriQuarterly*, *Black Warrior Review*, and elsewhere. Kelsey has received support and honors from the American Academy of Arts & Letters, the Porches Writing Retreat, the Miami Book Fair Emerging Writer Fellowship, and the Tin House Writers Workshop.

WOMEN! IN! PERIL!

Jessie Ren Marshall



Bloomsbury (April 2, 2024)

Editor: Grace McNamee

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

Agent: Michelle Brower and
Natalie Edwards

UK rights: Sara Langham at David
Higham Associates

Film/TV: Shiv Doraiswami at
Grandview

Pre-empted by Bloomsbury along with a partial novel called **ALOHALAND**, a ferociously feminist debut short story collection that is full of wry humor, sharp social commentary, and an irrepressible sense of hope

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.

“Welp, I've found my new favorite writer. Jessie Ren Marshall is so funny, so smart, so inventive, and I loved living in her wild imagination with these characters . . . 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*

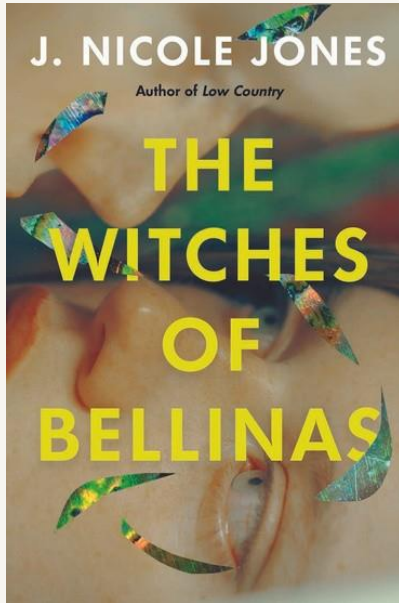
“Jessie Ren Marshall's voice in these stories is virtuosic in its range—surprising, funny, melancholy, shocking, poignant, and profound . . . A fantastically good collection.”—Brian Hall, author of *The Saskiad* and *The Stone Loves the World*

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 Hi'iakas* 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 with her dogs on Hawai'i Island.

THE WITCHES OF BELLINAS

J. Nicole Jones



Catapult (May 14, 2024)

Editor: Alicia Kroell

Territory sold: World English

Material: first 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.

Category: fiction 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 (summer 2024)

Editor: Elizabeth DeMeo

Territory sold: North America

Material: edited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK rights: direct (Allison Malecha)

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.

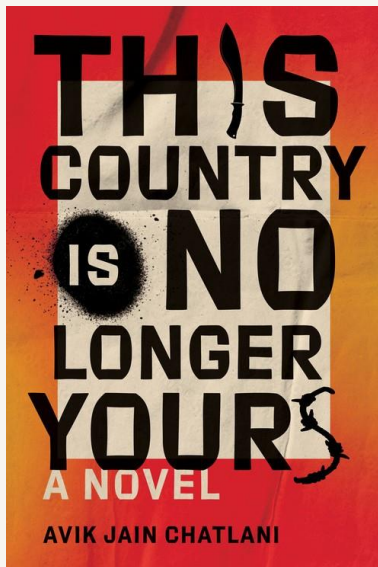
From the all-too-real horror of a sexual predator on a college campus to a lost sister transformed by cave-dwelling creatures, **MYSTERY LIGHTS** grapples with terrors both familiar and fantastic, introducing an electrifying new voice in contemporary fiction while bringing to light the many faces of 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 (fall 2024)

Editor: Ward Hawkes & Kiara Kent

Territory sold: World English

Material: first pass

Agent: Mariah Stovall

Based on real events of 1980s-2000s Peru, this debut literary novel indicts the unchecked machismo of governments and guerillas, and illuminates what people are capable of doing in the name of a cause.

In Avik Jain Chatlani's debut novel THIS COUNTRY IS NO LONGER YOURS, a chorus of disparate voices comes together to explore how idealists and saviors betray ordinary people in war-torn Peru.

It all begins with a man who starts a bloody revolution, with consequences that reverberate for decades afterwards. When the insurgency reaches from the remote mountains to the capital city, a brutal government agent works to squash it, and meanwhile applies his surveillance training to romantic pursuits, with chilling results. As the war winds down, the daughter of a rape victim writes to a journalist, asking for help exposing the high-profile perpetrator. But the journalist is preoccupied with the new uprising that's brewing. As the country's next chapter begins to look all too familiar, two former rebels meet again—one stuck in the past, and one looking toward the future.

THIS COUNTRY IS NO LONGER YOURS depicts a place ravaged by terror, but alive with new ambitions and enduring love. Jain Chatlani crafts each sentence with concision that recalls Cormac McCarthy and writes with the sprawling scope of Viet Thanh Nguyen.

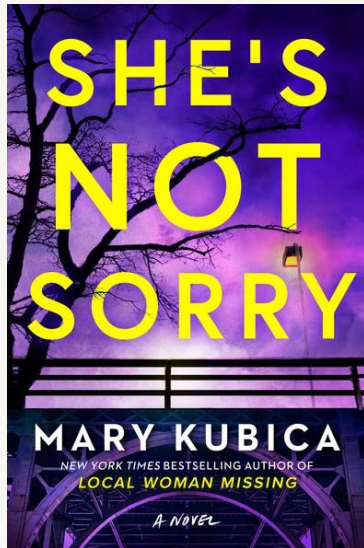
Category: literary debut

Avik Jain Chatlani was born in Canada and raised in Chile. His grandparents immigrated to Peru from India in the 1960s. He earned degrees in History and Latin American Studies from McGill and Boston University. His columns have been published by *The Toronto Star*, *The Montreal Gazette*, *The Macdonald-Laurier Institute*, *La Mula*, *The Ottawa Citizen*, *The Institute for Palestine Studies*, *El Intérprete Digital*, *The Edmonton Journal*, *The London Free Press*, and other outlets. He has taught literature in schools and prisons in Lima and the Province of Callao.

COMMERCIAL FICTION

SHE'S NOT SORRY

Mary Kubica



Park Row Books (April 2, 2024)

Editor: Erika Imranyi

Territory sold: World English

Material: first pass

Agent: Michelle Brower

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

Option publishers:

UK: HQ

ANZ: Harlequin

Bulgaria: Soft Press

Croatia: Mozaik

Estonia: Ersen Ou Eram

France: Harper

Korea: Happy Books to You

Italy: Fanucci Editore

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. This is also the first time her translation rights are not with Harper

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.

MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Riley Sager



Dutton (June 18, 2024)

Editor: Maya Ziv

Territory sold: North America

Material: manuscript due fall 2023

Agent: Michelle Brower

Option publishers:

Arabic: Jalees Publishing **Brazil:**

DarkSide **Bulgaria:** Locus

Croatia: Fokus **Czech Republic:**

Dobrovsky **Denmark:** Turbine

Forlaget **Netherlands:** Ambo

Anthos

Finland: WSOY **French (World):**

Michel Lafon **Germany:** dtv

Hebrew: Adel Books / Modan

Publishing House **Hungary:**

Lettero **Italy:** Fanucci **Japan:**

Shueisha **Korea:** Hyejiwon **Korea:**

Balgunesang **Lithuania:** Alma

Littera **Poland:** Mova / Kobiece

Publishing **Portugal:** Guerra e Paz

Romania: Editura Art **Russia:** AST

Serbia: Vulkan **China:** China

South Booky Culture Media

Spanish (World): Planeta Mexico

Sweden: Modernista **Thai:**

WeLearn **Turkey:** Ithaki **UK:**

Hodder & Stoughton **Ukraine:**

Vydavnytstvo Staroho Leva (The

Old Lion Publishing House)

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 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.

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. A native of Pennsylvania, he now lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

THE CHRISTMAS ORPHANS CLUB

Becca Freeman



Pamela Dorman Books/Viking

(September 26, 2023)

Editor: Pamela Dorman & Marie Michels

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

Agent: Allison Hunter

UK rights: Maddalena Cavaciuti at David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Addison Duffy & Olivia Fanaro at UTA

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

Our big title of Frankfurt 2022 and now sold in twelve territories! From bookfluencer and host of the Bad on Paper podcast, a riotous holiday rom-com about four friends in NYC who hold onto their unconventional Christmas tradition even when their paths diverge—but the changes they fear might be exactly what they need

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?

“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*

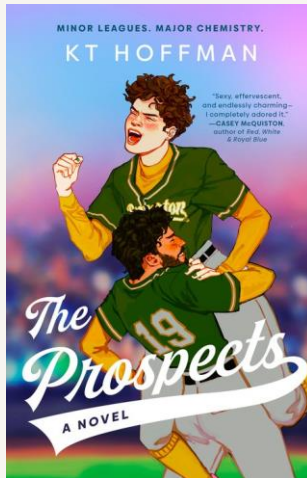
Category: debut rom com

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.

THE PROSPECTS

KT Hoffman

*previously titled THE KEYSTONE COMBINATION



The Dial Press (April 9, 2024)

Editor: Katy Nishimoto

Territory sold: North America

Material: first 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

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 is also shaping up well in the UK where Sphere pre-empted rights

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*

"The queer romcom I've been waiting for!"—Alison Cochrun, author of *The Charm Offensive*

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.

ONE ON ONE

Jamie Harrow



Dutton (fall 2024)

Editor: Cassidy Sachs

Territory: North America

Material: first 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-Arqueiro

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

Chronic job-hopper Annie Radford needs to stick with her new gig long enough that interviewers stop writing “Flaky?” in the margins of her resume. Unfortunately, that new gig is the last one she wanted: her old position as videographer for her alma mater’s basketball team. Worse, on her first day she learns that layoffs are looming, and she’ll have to outperform her college coworker, Ben Callahan, to make it past the end of the season.

Annie can’t afford another short-term stint in her work history. But data whiz Ben has dedicated his life to Tiger basketball. He’s annoyingly wholesome, hot, and clinging to a grudge against Annie for abandoning him senior year when she quit her student manager job. They fight to prove themselves indispensable, and Ben is intent on freezing her out. Literally, he’s a thermostat tyrant. She plays dirty too, even though hurling his phone number at every telemarketer on the Internet distracts her from work – work she’s starting to love, as she remembers why she fell in love with basketball in the first place.

Inconveniently for Ben and Annie, this is a team sport, and they’re on the same side. Which means spending enough time together to realize (a) why they keep finding excuses for their elbows to touch, and (b) that they misjudged each other. Getting close to Ben means being honest about why she really left the first time, and Annie’s afraid to tell him the truth that the former coach he still idolizes is the reason Annie left basketball back in college. But if Annie and Ben can find a way to trust one another, they might be able to save both their jobs, win a national championship, and build something special together.

In addition to being funny, romantic and sexy, ONE ON ONE examines the pressure put on young athletes and challenges the sexism as well as the myth making and idolization of men in sports.

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.

MOST WONDERFUL

Georgia Clark



Dial (fall 2024)

Editor: Katy Nishimoto & Emma Caruso

Territory sold: World English

Material: unedited manuscript

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.

Category: rom com

Georgia Clark is a novelist and performer. She's the author of *Island Time*, *It Had To Be You*, *The Regulars*, *The Bucket List*, and others. She's the host and founder of the popular storytelling night, Generation Women. 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: edited manuscript

Agent: Michelle Brower

Film/TV: Alice Lawson at Gersh

UK rights: Stephanie Glencross at
David Higham Associates

The first in a new, significant two-book deal with Harper, RIP TIDE is 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 the idyllic New 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. Yet here they are, back in their hometown: Kimmy 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. The more time they spend back home, 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.

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. 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.

"A gripping, smart and emotionally resonant novel. I raced through it with my heart in my throat until the redemptive and completely satisfying last page."—Annabel Monaghan, author of *Same Time Next Summer*

"A powerful love letter to sisterhood that is nostalgic, steamy, and utterly addictive—exactly what I want in a summer read."—Carola Lovering, author of *Tell Me Lies*

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.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE QUEEN

Hazel Gaynor & Heather Webb



William Morrow (October 2024)

Territory sold: World English

Material: manuscript due late fall 2023

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 2024)

Editor: Alexa Wejko

Territory sold: World English

Material: edited manuscript

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.

"Atmospheric, psychological, and surprising I finished this book wanting to call my mom and tell her how much I loved her."—Caitlin Wahrer, author of Edgar Award finalist *The Damage*

"Pulls you into its depths from page one...a tense and compelling story of the bonds between women as profound as the lake at its heart."—Melissa Adelman, author of *What the Neighbors Saw*

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

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.

YOU DIDN'T HEAR THIS FROM ME

Kelsey McKinney



Grand Central (spring 2025)

Editor: Maddie Caldwell

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript
due winter 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 will take 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

YOU DIDN'T HEAR THIS FROM ME was born out of Kelsey McKinney's massively successful podcast, *Normal Gossip*, which has accrued six million listens in less than a year. As with all great works of pop culture, *Normal Gossip* began with a tweet. The forced isolation of 2020 had robbed Kelsey McKinney of her most precious pastime and she was ravenous. So, she sent a prayer out to her almost hundred-thousand Twitter followers and asked for their best normal gossip — the kind of juicy, innocuous stories you would usually hear about a friend-of-a-friend over drinks. And after the tweet went viral, Kelsey got to work. *Normal Gossip* premiered in January 2022, and the response to the twenty-seven episodes that have aired since has made it clear: this delicious IV drip of gossip hit a nerve. The question that listeners most often ask Kelsey is: which parts are true? And since turning gossip into a full-time job, filling every quiet corner of her life with the emotional messiness of strangers, Kelsey is inclined to answer them with another question: why does it matter?

Braiding journalism, cultural criticism, and Kelsey's personal experience, *YOU DIDN'T HEAR THIS FROM ME* interrogates that sticky and slippery plea for truth that lives at the heart of gossip's cultural chokehold. From the art of eavesdropping to our toxic expectations of celebrities, from gossip's influence on major historical events to the science of why our brains hunger for other people's drama, and from the power of gossip within labor rights' organizing to why the ending of the original *Gossip Girl* TV show was so damn infuriating — McKinney unmasks what we're actually searching for when we demand to know the truth, and why we are (almost always) disappointed once we learn it.

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 features writer at *Defector.com*. Her first novel, *God Spare The Girls*, was published in the summer of 2021 by William Morrow

ON THE GRID

Life Inside Formula One

Luke Smith



HarperVia (spring 2025)

Editor: Gretchen Schmid

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript
due winter 2024

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: unedited manuscript

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 next 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.

Category: literary memoir

Shze-Hui Tjoa is a writer from Singapore who lives in London, UK. She is a nonfiction editor at *Sundog Lit*, and previously served as fiction editor of *Exposition Review*. Her work has been published in journals including *Colorado Review*, *Southeast Review*, and *So To Speak*, 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 (winter 2025)

Editor: Amber Oliver

Territory: North America

Material: proposal, manuscript
due winter 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.

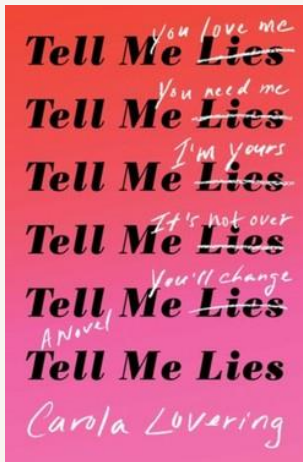
Category: general nonfiction

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 Zyzzyva'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: final pdf

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)

Italy: Salani Editore

Adapted into a hit TV show via Hulu/Disney Plus (and renewed for a second season!), this "sizzling summer read" (Bustle) saw a huge boost in paperback sales here with the series launch

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.

Category: psychological suspense

Carola Lovering is the author of the novels *Tell Me Lies* (Atria, 2018), *Too Good to Be True* (St. Martin's, 2022), and *Can't Look Away* (St. Martin's, 2022). Rights for the latter two books 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 and is working on her next novel.

A LADY'S GUIDE TO SELLING OUT

Sally Franson



The Dial Press/Random House

(2018), **Morrow** (paperback, TK)

Territory: North America

Material: final pdf

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)

Originally published by The Dial Press/Random House in 2018 and newly optioned by Netflix and Anonymous Content (with Meg Ryan to adapt), 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.

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 she will soon deliver her next juicy novel, BIG IN SWEDEN, which is based on the experience. She lives in Minneapolis.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED TITLES

THE COLLECTED REGRETS OF CLOVER

Mikki Brammer



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

Editor: Sarah Cantin

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

Agent: Michelle Brower

UK co-agent: Jemima Forrester at

David Higham Associates

Film/TV: Joe Veltre at Gersh

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: Stora

Serbia: Vulkan

Spanish: Planeta México

Thai: Amarin

Turkey: Nemesis

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

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.

"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)*

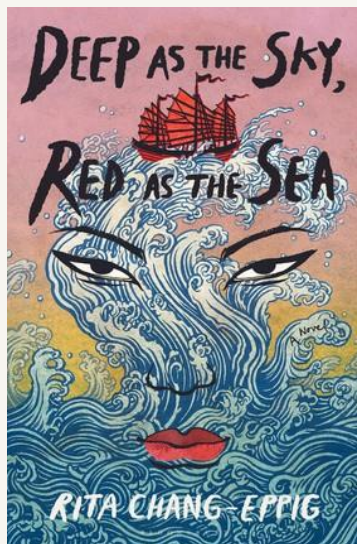
"What a beautiful story! . . . This book will be one that I remember for a long time, and it's a story that we can all learn something from."—Ruth Hogan, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Madame Burova*

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 winter 2024, and they are looking at a 2025 publication!

DEEP AS THE SKY, RED AS THE SEA

Rita Chang-Eppig



Bloomsbury (May 30, 2023)

Editor: Grace McNamee

Territory sold: North America

Material: final PDF

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.

“In this swashbuckling saga, the Chinese Emperor, colonial European forces and even the mythological sea goddess Ma-Zou attempt to thwart Shek Yeung’s plans at every turn, and she must battle fiercely for the world she believes in.”—*Washington Post*

“For anyone who loves pirates, historical fiction, and a strong heroine force.”—Qian Julie Wang, *The TODAY Show*

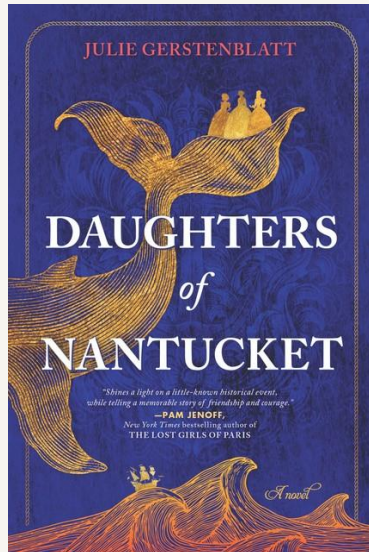
“[A] lyrically written high-seas adventure.”—*Time*

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.

DAUGHTERS OF NANTUCKET

Julie Gerstenblatt



Mira (March 14, 2023)

Editor: Kathy Sagan

Territory sold: World English

Material: final PDF

Agent: Allison Hunter

Set against Nantucket's Great Fire of 1846, this sweeping, emotional novel brings together three courageous women battling to save everything they hold dear . . .

Nantucket in 1846 is an island set apart not just by its geography but by its unique circumstances. With their menfolk away at sea, often for years at a time, women here know a rare independence—and the challenges that go with it.

Eliza Macy is struggling to conceal her financial trouble as she waits for her whaling captain husband to return from a voyage. In desperation, she turns against her progressive ideals and targets Meg Wright, a pregnant free Black woman trying to relocate her store to Main Street. Meanwhile, astronomer Maria Mitchell loves running Nantucket's Atheneum and spending her nights observing the stars, yet she fears revealing the secret wishes of her heart.

On a sweltering July night, a massive fire breaks out in town, quickly kindled by the densely packed wooden buildings. With everything they possess now threatened, these three very different women are forced to reevaluate their priorities and decide what to save, what to let go and what kind of life to rebuild from the ashes of the past.

"Julie Gerstenblatt brings a 19th-century New England coastal town to life in this dramatic, meticulously researched, beautifully paced novel . . . A moving story of hope, loss, perseverance, and survival."—Christina Baker Kline, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Orphan Train*

Category: commercial historical debut

Julie Gerstenblatt holds a Doctorate in Education from Teachers College, Columbia University and teaches writing at Roger Williams University. She also works as a producer for A Mighty Blaze, a social media and marketing organization of volunteer creatives dedicated to connecting writers to readers during COVID and beyond.

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