

2020 London Book Fair Hotlist FICTION

Kim Echlin | *Speak, Silence* (working title) [Penguin Canada] (Fiction—Literary)

- The latest from the internationally bestselling author of the Giller Prize–shortlisted novel *The Disappeared*—**published in over 20 countries**—*Speak, Silence* is a staggering, powerful and poetic fictional retelling of a singular trial at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) that created monumental jurisprudence resulting in war-time rape being named a Crime Against Humanity
- Central to the case at the ICTY is a family of three women: Edina, a lawyer from Foča (in what is now Bosnia and Herzegovina) who has made it her life’s mission to collect the traumatic and horrific testimonies of the women from her country; her mother Esma; and daughter Merima; narrated by Gota, a single mother and journalist whose past is inextricably linked with the region that becomes the focus of her writing, *Speak, Silence* takes readers from Toronto to Foča all the way to The Hague, as women from all walks of life work to bring about this monumental ruling
- For readers of **Miriam Toews’s *Women Talking*** and **Anthony Marra’s *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena***, Kim Echlin’s *Speak, Silence* forces us to reckon with one of the darkest, but often overlooked, times in our recent history and brilliantly illustrates the double-edged sword of needing to move forward as a society without sweeping painful histories under the rug
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (Penguin Canada); Pub date: Spring 2021; Page extent: 207 (ms)

Fiona Foster | *The Captive* [CookeMcDermid] (Fiction—Feminist Western)

- Sold in a six-figure auction to HarperCollins Canada and Ecco in the US, *The Captive* is an assured, action-packed and heart-stopping debut – a feminist noir story of survival, difficult choices, and the enduring fierceness of a mother’s love
- Brooke, who lives on a farm with her husband and two young daughters, spots a ‘WANTED’ poster in town bearing the face of a man she recognizes from her childhood—a traumatic period of her life that she guards closely—and it’s not long before she finds the pictured fugitive hiding in her shed. After beating and binding him, she quickly decides on a plan: take the prisoner, and with her family in tow, travel miles through the woods on foot to collect the bounty on his head, solving both her money problems and ensuring that no one from her past can ever threaten her family or her new life again . . . or at least, that’s the plan
- *The Captive* is as riveting as it is stunningly written, and perfect for readers of *The Outlander* by Gil Adamson and *Winter’s Bone* by Daniel Woodrell
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (HarperCollins Canada), US English (Ecco); Pub date: Winter 2021; Page extent: 246 (ms)

Rupi Kaur | *Untitled Book 3* [CookeMcDermid] (Poetry)

- Certain to be a major publishing event, the long-awaited third book of poetry from the #1 New York Times and internationally bestselling author of *milk and honey* and *the sun and her flowers*—published in over 40 countries and languages—is almost here
- Rupi Kaur, named the Writer of the Decade (*New Republic*), has **sold nearly 10 million copies internationally** and single-handedly revived poetry sales across the globe, creating an entirely new and accessible space in poetry for writers of all kinds and bringing in readers of all ages who share in her message of love and light
- **“Rupi Kaur sits atop a new wave in poetry.” —*The Wall Street Journal***
- Previous Publishers: Albanian (Pema), Bulgaria (Ciela Norma), Complex Chinese (ACME), Croatian (Stilus knjiga), Czech (Omega), Danish (Lindhardt), Dutch (Orlando), Estonian (Rahva Raamat), French in Canada (Guy St. Jean), French ex. Canada (NiL Editions), Georgian (Palitra), Greek (Livanis), Hebrew (Kinneret), Indonesian (Kepustakaan Populer), Japanese (Adachi Press), Korean (Bakha), Latvian (ZVAIGZNE ABC), Lithuanian (Baltos Lankos), Norwegian (Kagge), Portuguese (Lua de Papel), Romanian (Carta Romaneasca), Russian (Eksmo), Simplified Chinese (Dook), Slovak (Albatros), Slovenian (Mladinska Knjiga), Serbian (Nova Knjiga), Thai (Mono Generation), Turkish (Pegasus), Ukrainian (VIVAT), and Vietnamese (Nha Nam)
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (Simon & Schuster Canada), UK Comm. English (Simon & Schuster UK), US English (Andrews McMeel Publishing), Brazilian Portuguese (Planeta Brasil), Catalan (Empuries), Finnish (Sammako), German (Fischer), Hungarian (Könyvmolyképző), Italian (tre60), Polish (Otwarte), Spanish (Seix Barral), Swedish (Modernista); Pub date: TBC; Page extent: TBC (pb)

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Jo Owens | A Funny Kind of Paradise [Random House Canada] (Fiction—Book Club)

- A sparkling and heartwarming debut novel based on the author's real-life experience as a full-time care aide, ***A Funny Kind of Paradise*** is the life-affirming story of Francesca, a 70-year-old woman who has had a stroke and is living in an Extended Care facility – for fans of ***Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*** by Gail Honeyman and ***My Name Is Lucy Barton*** by Elizabeth Strout
- Once a fiercely independent businesswoman and overwhelmed single mother of two, now Francesca is voiceless, bedridden, partially paralyzed, and wholly reliant on care aides; as she speaks in her mind to Anna, a beloved friend who died two years earlier, readers are drawn into Fran's inner world and begin to see the person she was and the person she is becoming, while the lives and dramas of the care aides and fellow patients come into sharp focus, as well as the monotony, indignity, flashes of joy and comedy
- A vividly conjured novel about losses, joys and regrets, and an unlikely opportunity for reinvention--for love, acceptance and closure
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (Random House Canada); Pub date: Spring 2021; Page extent: 167 (ms)

Guy Vanderhaeghe | August Into Winter [CookeMcDermid] (Fiction—Literary)

- The first novel in nearly a decade from the three-time Governor General's Award-winning author of *The Last Crossing*, **Guy Vanderhaeghe**, whose collected works have **sold over 500,000 copies** internationally – the story of Ernie, a narcissistic psychopath, who escapes his tiny town after murdering an officer and abducting his 13 year old 'girlfriend' Loretta along the way
- When Constable Hotchkiss confronts Ernie, the spoiled only child of the only well-to-do family in town, who fancies himself an artist and a star, about a series of disturbing and lewd pranks in town, Ernie loses control and smashes Hotchkiss's skull in with a chisel, before running away—in close pursuit, following the discovery of his partner's mutilated body, is Constable Cooper, who enlists the aid of the Dill brothers, two veterans of World War One: Jack, a sensitive and spiritual man transformed into a violent killing machine by his sense of duty on the front lines, and Oliver, who is still recovering from the premature death of his wife, Lydia, who, while on her death-bed, developed an inexplicable obsession with a teenaged Ernie
- Set in 1939 with the world on the brink of global war, ***August Into Winter*** is evocative of **Cormac McCarthy** and **Annie Proulx**
- **"There are few writers who can encapsulate a character in a single sentence, turn a phrase or manipulate a metaphor as brilliantly as Vanderhaeghe . . . one of North America's best writers."**—Annie Proulx
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (McClelland & Stewart); Pub date: Sep 2020; Page extent: 370 (ms)

Dianne Warren | The Diamond House [CookeMcDermid] (Fiction—General)

- From the author of the internationally published, bestselling (over 50,000 copies sold in Canada!), Governor General's Award-winning novel *Cool Water*, a shimmering new novel about an unconventional woman and her struggle with the expectations that bind her family—for fans of **Greta Gerwig's *Little Women*** and **Ann Patchett's *The Dutch House***
- Estella Diamond is the youngest child and only daughter of a successful brick-factory owner whose precocious nature leads her to discover something none of her brothers know: their father was once married to an aspiring ceramics artist named Salina, who dreamed big and turned her back on society's conventions – Estella grows up planning her future in the image of Salina, but again and again, her plans are derailed by the family patriarchy, until she finally rebels and, years later, ends up left alone in the house her father built when another uncompromising young woman, also named Diamond, enters her world and forces Estella to wrestle with the legacy she helped create
- Previous Publishers: Croatian (HENA COM), Czech (Geobypol), and French (Presses de la Cite)
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (HarperCollins Canada); Pub date: June 2020; Page extent: 384 (pb)