

**HG
LITERARY**

Frankfurt 2024

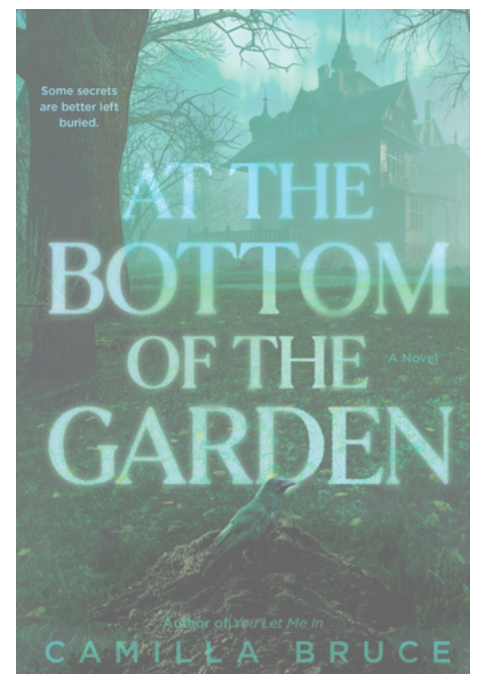
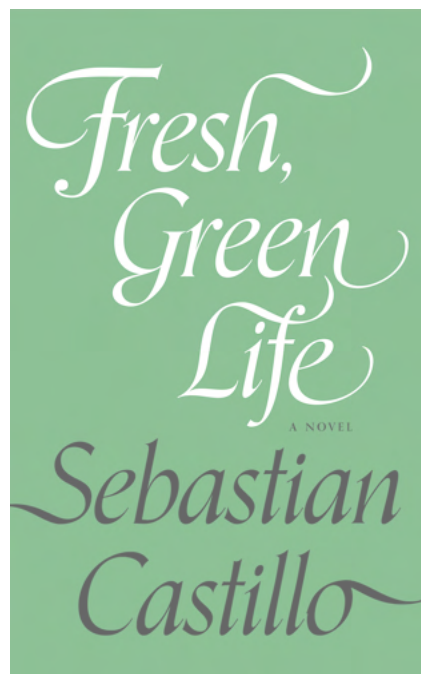


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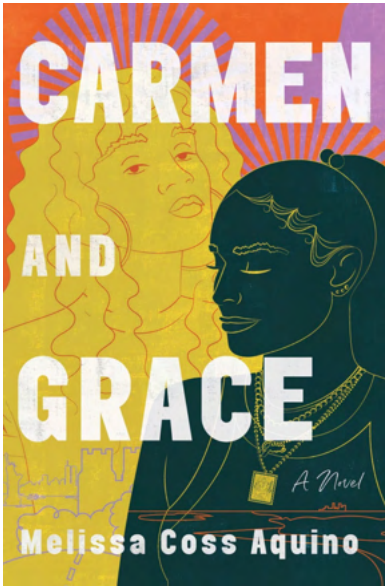
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**LITERARY FICTION
& POETRY**



CARMEN AND GRACE

US: William Morrow

Pub Date: April 4, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Film Rights Sold Outright to Sony

A Top Ten Noteworthy Book of April from *The Washington Post*

A Goodreads's Buzziest Debut Novel of 2023

A Must Read Pick from *Glamour*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *Country & Townhouse*

"Prepare to not breathe. This is a remarkable, heart-pounding book based on the best kind of tension[...] This is the book of the year." -Rene Denfeld, bestselling author of *The Child Finder*

"Electric, heartrending, and exceptionally tender[...] Every sentence of Melissa Coss Aquino's debut feels acute and deliberate, a shard of glass held up to the light." -Danya Kukafka, bestselling author of *Notes on an Execution*

"I was crying like I lost my best friend as I finished[...] This book is an act of love, a story about found family, the magic sacred space that is created in a circle of women and, above all, the power and lessons of intuition." -Xochitl Gonzalez, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Olga Dies Dreaming*

"Everything I could want in a novel: a wise and ferocious exploration of mothers and motherlessness[...] If this novel were a lifetime achievement, it would be enough—but it's only the beginning for Aquino." -Katie Gutierrez, author of *More Than You'll Ever Know*

"A heartwarming, loving novel with characters you are inspired to ride or die with[...] If you love reading novels about creative, ambitious, and relentless women who are committed to community and making a way out of no way, read this book!" -Angie Cruz, author of *How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water* and *Dominicana*

"An extraordinary accomplishment, introducing Melissa Coss Aquino as a master ventriloquist, stylist, and suspense artist[...] Thrillingly propulsive, with the haunting thrum of the deep, aching humanity in all of its characters; Aquino delivers an epic sparkler of a debut." -T Kira Madden, author of *Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls*

An emotionally riveting coming-of-age drama about two cousins lured into the underground drug trade at a young age and the inextricable ties that bind them—the debut of a vibrant and stunningly original new voice in fiction.

Carmen and Grace have been inseparable since they were little girls—more like sisters than cousins, survivors of a childhood marked by neglect and addiction and a system that never valued them. For too long, all they had was each other. That is, until Doña Durka swept into their lives and changed everything, taking Grace into her home, providing stability and support, and playing an outsize role in Carmen's upbringing too.

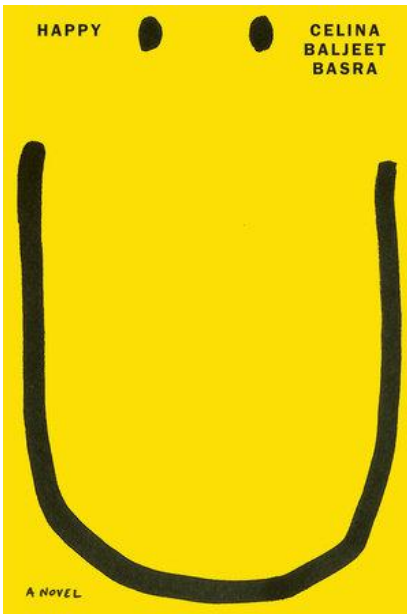
Durka is more than a beneficent force in their Bronx neighborhood, though. She's also the leader of an underground drug empire, a larger-than-life matriarch who understands the vital importance of taking what power she can in a world too often ruled by violent men. So, when Durka dies suddenly under mysterious circumstances, Carmen and Grace's lives are thrown into chaos. Grace has been primed to take over and has grand plans to expand the business. While Carmen is ready to move on—from the shadow of Durka and her high expectations and, most of all, from always looking over her shoulder in fear. She's also harboring a secret: she's pregnant and starting to show, and desperate to build a new life before the baby arrives.

But how can Carmen leave the only family she's ever known—this tight sisterhood of women known as the D. O. D., a group of lost girls turned skilled professionals under Durka's guiding hand, all bonded in their spirituality and merciless support for one another—especially now, when outside threats are circling, and Grace's plans are speeding recklessly forward?

As tough and tender as its main characters, *Carmen and Grace* will grab readers from the first page with its raw beauty, depth of feeling, and heart-pounding plot. A moving meditation on the choices of women and the legacy of violence, it's a devastatingly wise and intimate story about the bonds of female friendship, ambition, and found family.

Dr. Melissa Coss Aquino is a Puerto Rican writer from The Bronx and an Associate Professor in the English department at Bronx Community College, CUNY. She serves as the co-faculty advisor for Thesis, the literary journal of BCC. She received her MFA from The City College of New York, CUNY and her Ph.D. from The Graduate Center, CUNY in English. She is a proud VONA, AROHO and Hedgebrook alumna. *Carmen and Grace* is her debut novel.

Rights Sold: UK (Head of Zeus)



HAPPY

US: Astra House

Pub Date: November 14, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

★ "Happy's singular voice echoes long after the close to this striking story." —*Publishers Weekly*

★ "First-time novelist Basra delivers a damning indictment of capitalism, a system that swallows the global poor whole and spits out wasted humans. At the same time, Basra maintains a light touch; the novel wears its burdens with good humor." —Poornima Apte, *Booklist*

★ "In a very timely manner, Basra makes a potent point about how undocumented workers are frequently abused both economically and physically . . . The humanity underpinning Happy's story will speak to anyone with a heart and a dream." —Thane Tierney, *Bookpage*

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

"Playful, funny, and wildly free, Happy inhabits the seam between beauty and tragedy. A miraculous novel." —Megha Majumdar, Whiting Award winner and bestselling author of *A Burning*

"A bonkers story that reads like a fine ten-course meal." —Gary Shteyngart, author of *Our Country Friends*

"Leaping, chattering, dancing atop this conundrum [of global migration] comes the hero of Celina Baljeet Basra's debut novel, Happy Singh Soni, his head bursting with ideas, his heart set on gargantuan dreams." —*New York Times*

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

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

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

Celina Baljeet Basra is a writer and cultural worker based in Berlin. She is a founder of the Department of Love, a curatorial collective. *Happy* is her first novel.

Rights sold: Headline/Wildfire (UK)

THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ABOUT BEAUTY

US: Penguin Books

Pub Date: 2027

Materials available: Unedited Manuscript

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Poetry Collection

This Was Supposed to Be About Beauty is a collection of sonnet palindromes begun by the author after her move to the United States. In these poems, California is omnipresent: the trees, the mountains, the time zone, the language, the highway numbers. Lebanon and the Arab region are evoked—their ghosts, streets, wars, friendships, and uprisings—as are themes of emigration and belonging alongside those of love, sensuality, and motherhood. Many of these sonnets celebrate the middle-aged female body; “I look with breasts, I eat with eyes,” one of the personas states.

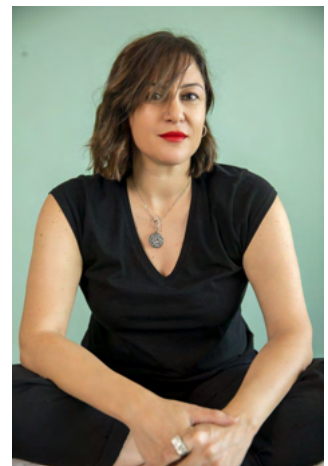
From the author: “The sonnet, I believe, gave me a container to work with as my life was too chaotic in the aftermath of my move. The palindrome format is a way of resisting a singular reality, especially because I felt I existed in two places (California and the Arab world) at once. The form also resists singular meaning, the language of these poems therefore challenging the language of the state, for example, or that of organized religion. There’s always an alternate scenario.”

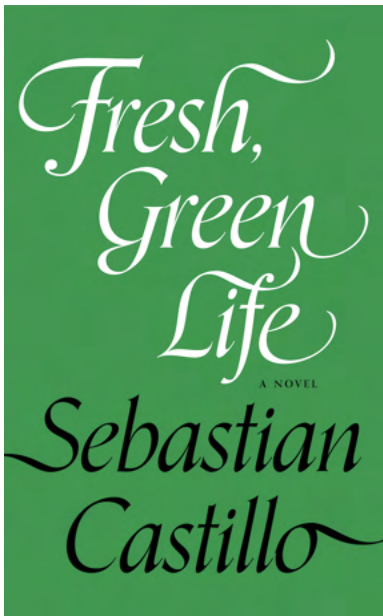
Praise for *O* (Penguin Books, 2022):

“Western readers often consume books by international authors like perverse anthropologists, scanning for a word or phrase that buttresses their ill-informed preconceptions, cudgeling a writer’s meticulously woven lyric into vapid social generality. Zeina Hashem Beck’s *O* rebukes this tendency explicitly in an early poem: “I’m tired of metaphors about peace. // I prefer dark chocolate in the morning, / & a good window.” And then throughout the collection, she rebukes it with her truly undeniable poems—rhymes braid across multiple languages, intricate forms fracture under the weight of their subjects. In one unforgettable piece, a subtle incantation ends on the name of a flower that looses itself across the page like so many petals. Unforgettable, undeniable—these are the words I keep coming back to with *O*. Anyone who reads it in earnest will emerge better made.” —Kaveh Akbar, author of *Martyr!*

“*O* is so full of life, of music and passion for life. In ghazals, odes, revolution songs and invocations of *O* the world comes vividly alive: ‘I carry a name & many cities,’ writes Hashem Beck, as her poems unfold the abundance of our world. Abundance, yes: so much tenderness, so much passion in these pages: just one language can’t contain it all, so the poet gives us ‘Duets,’ joining Arabic and English in the same stanza. The lyricism is a vehicle of emotional impact—‘I Beirut East Houston at first sight,’ the poet tells us, and we trust this playfulness and nuance because it is driven by a ritual. Because the ritual isn’t separated from the necessity of daily life in these pages. Because most daily things still have a wisp of prayer in them. Because Hashem Beck’s prayer isn’t shy of calling for revolution, of asking ‘to occupy the streets, bring the tires, the sofas, the drums, the blaring cars.’ Zeina Hashem Beck’s prayer isn’t afraid of stories, of new music on your balconies. Listen. Her *O* brims with the world.” —Ilya Kaminsky, author of *Dancing in Odessa*

Zeina Hashem Beck is a Lebanese poet. Her third poetry collection, titled *O*, was published by Penguin Books in July 2022. It won the 2023 Arab American Book Award for poetry and was named a Best Book 2022 by *Lit Hub* and The New York Public Library. Her poetry has been featured on The Academy of American Poets’ Poem-a-Day and has appeared in the *Atlantic*, the *Nation*, the *New York Times*, *Poetry Magazine*, and elsewhere. Zeina’s invented a bilingual poetic form called The Duet, in which Arabic and English exist both independently and in conversation with each other. She is the co-creator and co-host, with poet Farah Chamma, of Maqsouda, a podcast in Arabic about Arabic poetry. After a lifetime in Lebanon and a decade in Dubai, she recently moved to California with her husband and two daughters.





FRESH, GREEN LIFE

US: Soft Skull

Pub Date: June 2025

Materials available: Edited Manuscript

HG Literary Handles Translation

Literary Fiction

"Sebastian Castillo's writing is surprising, charming and formally innovative."
-- Chelsea Hodson, author of *Tonight I'm Someone Else*.

"He makes literature seem a sustainable and attainable practice, as marvelous as basic grammar or tap water." -- Wayne Koestenbaum, author of *Figure It Out*

"Sebastian Castillo invokes a logical illogic wherein nothing is untrue or impossible, secrets have secrets, and any sentence can change the world."
--Blake Butler, author of *Alice Knott*

A study of interiority and inferiority, written in the vein of Lars Iyer and Ben Marcus, that takes place over the course of a single, snowy night

After resigning from an adjunct teaching position, our narrator Sebastian Castillo, who shares a name with our author, Sebastian Castillo, resolves to spend an entire year without speaking, passing the time by exercising each day and watching self-improvement videos.

But come New Year's Eve, Sebastian (the narrator) — whose rich interiority is curiously and addictively easy to read — will break his silence by accepting an invitation to the home of a former professor for a reunion amongst his cohort, one decade after graduating. This invitation surely would have been ignored if not for the promised attendance of Maria, Sebastian's former classmate and love interest. What follows is a truly exceptional evening which lays bare the flaws in the way he's been thinking. What would it mean to start again, start living?

About a character both tortured and saved by the ideas of Rilke, Descartes, Kant, Deleuze, Derrida, Lacan, and more, Castillo's *FRESH, GREEN LIFE* is a comic, succinct meditation on literature, academia, and philosophy; a trek through the past that forecasts a mediocre future; and a compact miracle of the fake-real.

Sebastian Castillo is a writer and teacher who lives in Philadelphia, PA. He was born in Caracas, Venezuela, and grew up in Mount Vernon, New York. He is the author of *SALMON* (Shabby Doll House, 2023), *Not I* (Word West, 2020), and *49 Venezuelan Novels* (Bottlecap Press, 2017). His short story collection *The Zoo of Thinking* (Smooth Friend, 2024) and novel *Fresh, Green Life* (Soft Skull, 2025) are forthcoming.





RAGE WILL BE YOUR SAVIOR & EXHAUSTED MONSTERS

US: Simon & Schuster (2-book deal)

Pub Date: Fall 2026

Materials Available: Manuscript Expected June 2025

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Literary Fiction

K-Ming is back, with two new projects sold at auction to Simon and Schuster!

K-Ming has made a name for herself as a Lambda Award Winner and National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 honoree. To quote the New York Times, she "rewrites the world as a place of radical transformation," capturing myth, queerness, and multigenerational stories in her "signature precise and enthralling prose" (Shondaland). Simon & Schuster will first publish a literary horror novel, *RAGE WILL BE YOUR SAVIOR*, that follows three cousins who summon the demon Needlemouth. Convinced by Needlemouth to go on a mission to find and hunt the demon's patriline to end her suffering, the girls discover a shocking truth: Needlemouth is not a demon, but one of them. In *EXHAUSTED MONSTERS*, stories range from a murderous group of school girls to an intergalactic beauty contest to a woman facing off a semi-sentient vibrator, while K-Ming considers the contours of violence, sensuality, and coming-of-age under the thumb of oppression. The collection bursts the stories of queer girls and women into literal monstrosities, abominations bucking the expectations of a heteronormative society.

In these two projects, K-Ming is leaning into a more intimate, erotic, and emotionally resonant exploration of yearning between women (and monsters coded as women). Like Helen Oyeyemi, Akwaeke Emezi and Carmen Maria Machado, K-Ming is both building a new lesbian canon and upending assumptions about who gets to participate in foundational mythmaking.

In addition to the aforementioned accolades, K-Ming has been extolled by many reviewers for what she refers to as her mythical triptych (*BESTIARY*, *GODS OF WANT*, and *ORGAN MEATS*, all published by One World). She was longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize, the PEN/Faulkner Award, and the 2024 Lammy Awards, and her books have been named best of the year by NPR, The Los Angeles Times, The New York Public Library, O: The Oprah Magazine, and Kirkus reviews. Bryan Washington wrote in *Electric Literature*, "Chang is singular amongst us all... She not only accomplishes narrative reinvention in her writing--she builds upon what feels achievable on the page. Chang shows us different ways of being." Lit Hub called her "one of our most enchanting storytellers today... From every first sentence, she has you hooked."

Rights sold to *Bestiary*: Germany (Hanser Berlin); Spanish (Aristas Martínez); Taiwan (Linking); UK (Harvill Secker)

Rights sold to *Gods of Want*: UK (Harvill Secker)

Rights sold to *Cecilia*: UK (Harvill Secker)

K-Ming Chang is a Kundiman fellow, a Lambda Literary Award winner, a National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 honoree, and an O. Henry Prize Winner. She is the author of the novel *BESTIARY* (One World/Random House, 2020), which was longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize. In 2021, her chapbook *BONE HOUSE* was published by Bull City Press. Her story collection *GODS OF WANT* (One World/Random House) won a Lambda Literary Award, and were followed by *ORGAN MEATS* (One World, 2023) and *CECILIA* (Coffee House Press 2025).

CASANOVA 20: OR, HOT WORLD

US: Catapult

Pub Date: December 2025

Materials available: Unedited manuscript, final manuscript due December 2024

HG Literary Handles UK and Translation

Literary Fiction

In CASANOVA 20, we follow Adrian, renowned for his otherworldly beauty. His charmed but somewhat aimless life intersects with his dear friend, a gay artist named Mark, who has just learned he has symptoms of the same autoimmune disease that killed his mother. Set in the midst of the pandemic, the two men make sense of their lives: Mark, as he reconciles with his mortality, and Adrian, as he realizes his beauty has somehow been marred by the months of lockdown.

A novel concerned deeply with beauty and death, inspired heavily by John Berger, Thomas Bernhard, Milan Kundera and Andrew Halloran. Tonally similar to recent titles such as Zain Khalid's BROTHER ALIVE, Greenwell's WHAT BELONGS TO YOU, Rachel Ingall's MRS. CALIBAN. With a focus on male friendship, chronic illness, caregiving, and pandemic survival, CASANOVA 20 has the makings of a break-out novel, a wide, timely appeal.

Praise for Davey Davis and X:

***A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice* *A Book Riot Best Book of the Year*
*July 2022 Indie Next List Pick***

"X is lyrical and nonlinear, with sentences that feel like carved obsidian: dark, sharp and shiny." -*The New York Times*

"If you were scandalized by *Fifty Shades of Grey*, this book will make your head explode." -NPR

★ "Davis delivers an astonishing speculative tale of sex, power, and gender[...] Vivid and witty, Davis's prose hurdles between moments of beauty and darkness, often in the same breath[...] This one hits hard."
-*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

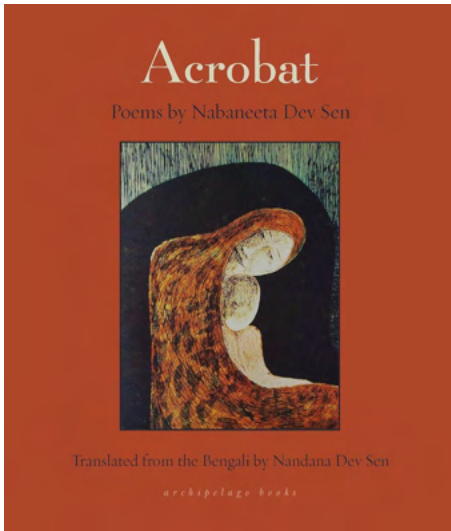
"Davis [...] explores queer intimacy and resistance in a world where the future is always in question.... Often mentioned when trans mascs of a certain type discuss how they figured out they were trans." -Torrey Peters

"Davis is an observant and meticulous writer [...] Their writing is both surgical and mystical."
-Alana Mohamed, *Village Voice*

Davey Davis's first book, *the earthquake room*, was released by TigerBee Press in 2017. They write a weekly newsletter and mutual aid fundraiser about art, culture, sexuality, and people named David at itsdavid.substack.com. X, their second novel, was published by Catapult in 2022. They live in Brooklyn.

Rights sold: UK (Cipher)





ACROBAT

US: Archipelago

Pub Date: November 14, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

Poetry Collection

"Acrobat offers a window, not only into the reach and emotional depth of Nabaneeta-di's work (and the riches of contemporary Bengali literature) but into her influence as a feminist too . . . Nabaneeta-di's poems claim the world, and all that's in it – love, motherhood, the body, politics and myths from all over."

--Nilanjana Roy, *Financial Times*

"Nandana's own contribution to the collection, 'A Letter to Ma,' is full of childhood recollections, including one in which she tells her mother, 'You're the most beautiful person in the world!' causing her mother to laugh out loud. She replies, 'Every little girl believes that about their mother' – so wise and so true."

--Samantha Schnee, *Words Without Borders*

"Nandana's excellent translations privilege the musicality and rhythm of the language, retaining, in some cases, the internal rhymes. Most of the poems are quite brief: dense jewels surrounded by white space. As I describe them, I find myself reaching again and again for words like clarity, honesty, brilliance. But I think the word I am really searching for is freedom."

--Shruti Swamy, *Los Angeles Review of Books*

It was through her creative writing that Dev Sen gave herself a sovereign presence in the Bengali literary sphere . . . She was not afraid of bearing her pain in the early poetry she wrote, nor did she ever compromise on questions of freedom.

--Dipesh Chakrabarty

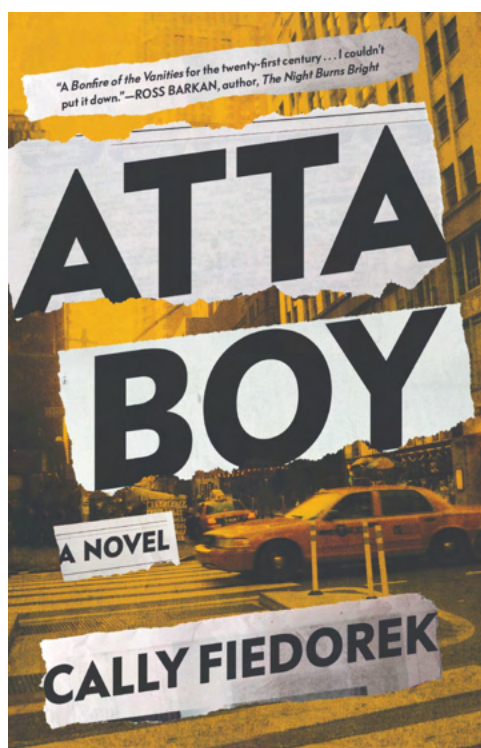
A deeply humane new collection by a luminary of Bengali literature

A radiant collection of poetry about womanhood, intimacy, and the body politic that together evokes the arc of an ordinary life. Nabaneeta Dev Sen's rhythmic lines explore the joys and agonies of first love, childbirth, and decay with a restless, tactile imagination, both picking apart and celebrating the rituals that make us human. When she warns, "know that blood can be easily drawn by lips," her words tune to the fierce and biting depths of language, to the "treachery that lingers on tongue tips." At once compassionate and unsparing, conversational and symphonic, these poems tell of a rope shivering beneath an acrobat's nimble feet or of a twisted, blood-soaked umbilical cord -- they pluck the invisible threads that bind us together.

Nabaneeta Dev Sen was a renowned Bengali writer who published her first book of poems at the age of 18, and grew to be immensely popular through her fiction, literary criticism, travelogues, plays, political humour columns, and children's literature. She was also an acclaimed international scholar and feminist, and professor of comparative literature. Her many literary honors include the Padmashri, Sahitya Akademi Award, Bangla Academy Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Publishers' and Booksellers' Guild. Dev Sen was a mentor to innumerable students and young writers, and she was the Founder and President of the Women Writers' Association, Soi. She died in November of 2019.

Nandana Dev Sen is a writer, actor and child-rights activist. She has authored six children's books and starred in 20 feature films. As an ambassador, Nandana has worked with RAHI, Operation Smile, UNICEF, and Apne Aap International, to fight against child abuse. Nandana has served on the jury of numerous child-protection committees, international film festivals, and literary awards, including the DSC Prize for Literature in 2019. After studying literature at Harvard and filmmaking at U.S.C., Nandana worked as a book editor, a screenwriter, and a translator.

Rights sold: France (Éditions Banyan)



ATTA BOY

US: University of Iowa Press

Pub Date: April 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK and Translation

Literary Fiction

Christian Slater attached to produce and star in an adaptation

A *Vulture* Best Book of 2024

"A truly great NYC novel . . . [Fiedorek] has a brilliant ear for dialogue."

—Michael Imperioli, actor, *The Sopranos*

"Bonfire of the Vanities for the twenty-first century—a propulsive, unforgettable journey through a deeply stratified New York. From brawling barrooms to the glittering co-ops of Park Avenue, this is a fearless chronicle of the way we live and where we are headed." —Ross Barkan, author, *The Night Burns Bright*

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

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

"An insightful portrait of clashing socioeconomic worlds." —Nathalie Atkinson, author, *Zed Book Club*

By turns a gripping portrait of corruption and a tender family dramedy, *Atta Boy* combines the urban cool of Richard Price with the glossy, uptown charm of Taffy Brodesser-Akner.

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

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

Here is a novel richly attuned to its time and place, but with something for everyone—high-wire prose and a story wedding ripped from the headlines, social realism with the warmth, angst, and humor of its indelible voices.

Cally Fiedorek is the winner of a Pushcart Prize and an Emerging Writer Fellowship from the Center for Fiction. She lives in New York City.

Rights sold: Audio (Podium)

THIS IS WHERE YOU ARE NOW

US: Atria Books

Pub Date: Spring 2026

Materials available: Edited Manuscript expected January 2025

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Literary Fiction

Winner of the third annual BOOKS LIKE US First Novel Contest

“D. K. Furutani’s novel THIS IS WHERE YOU ARE NOW absolutely took my breath away. This is a deeply heartfelt and earnestly told story that takes us on a journey through time and across generations of a family, offering an insightful and emotionally resonant look into this critical time in history. These characters, their stories, their resilience, and the hope that echoes throughout these pages, will stay with you long after you turn the last page.” - acquiring editor Jade Hui

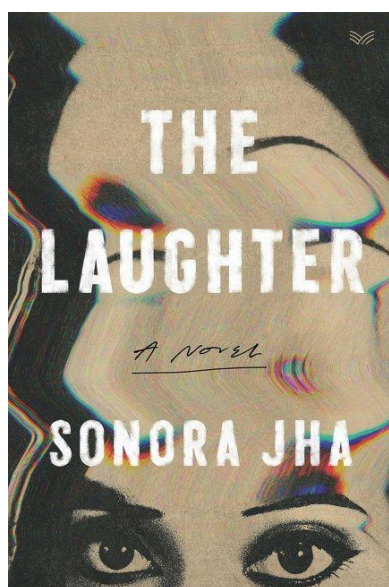
THIS IS WHERE YOU ARE NOW is the story of a fourth-generation Japanese American, a Yonsei, discovering his family’s history.

When Mr. Murano, a half-Japanese, half-white high school English teacher, unexpectedly receives a copy of an unpublished memoir written by his estranged great-uncle, his predictable, quiet life in the suburbs walking his dog and grading essays is suddenly and inconveniently disrupted, catapulting him onto a profound journey into the past, to the places the Murano family once called home.

Moving from the open and lush fields of a produce farm in Southern California, to the confined barracks of the American concentration camps Manzanar and Heart Mountain, to the divergent locations of Japanese American resettlement in post-WWII America, this unearthed family history brings together pieces that have always been missing from Murano's understanding of his family. It also brings into sharp light the lingering effects of discrimination when Murano is confronted by the father of a white student who believes his class lectures misrepresent history and cater only to students of color. With his career and reputation at stake, Mr. Murano must draw from the family stories to solidify his identity and reaffirm his values.

D.K. Furutani is a fiction writer of Japanese and German descent. His work has received support from Periplus and Tin House. He was born and raised in Los Angeles where he works as a teacher and resides with his wife and three cats.





THE LAUGHTER

US: HarperVia

Pub Date: February 14, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Literary Fiction

Winner of the 2024 Washington State Book Award

*A Best Book of 2023 from *The New Yorker**

An NPR "Book We Love" for 2023

"A deliciously sharp, mercilessly perceptive exploration of power, *The Laughter* explores how "otherness" is both fetishized and demonized, and what it means to love something—a person, a country—that does not love you back." -Celeste Ng

"A smart and hilarious book not just for anyone who wants to laugh at the absurdity of academia, but for anyone who wants to become a better person by doing it." -*The New York Times*

☆ "Examining old prejudices, new fixations, and the sting of unrequited love, **Jha offers a complete triumph.**" -*Booklist*, starred review

☆ "A powerful and darkly funny campus novel with an unexpected narrative perspective." -*Kirkus*, starred review

☆ "Deeply complex and meaningful yet still an enthralling read, *The Laughter* is an ambitious novel that explores American social dynamics[...] It's a must-read for those seeking to understand today and dream of a better tomorrow." -*BookPage*, starred review

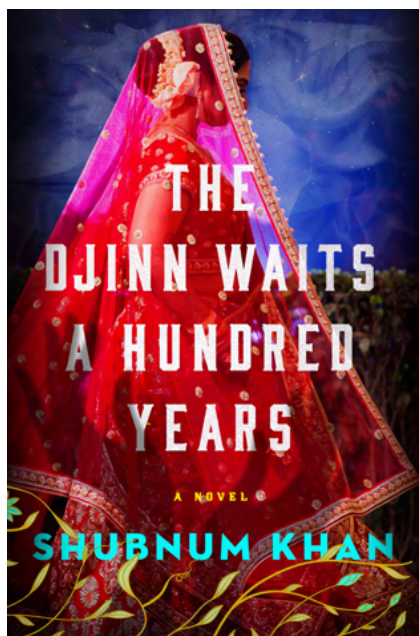
From the author of *How to Raise a Feminist Son*, comes *The Laughter*, an explosive, tense, and illuminating novel about privilege, radicalization, class, and the institution of academia.

A contemporary, suspenseful, and satisfying piece of craftsmanship, *The Laughter's* narrator is Dr. Oliver Harding, an aging academic long settled into the routines of a divorced, tenured professor of English who lives a quiet life alone with his beagle. His passions are stirred by Ruhaba Khan, a dynamic Pakistani-Muslim law professor at his university. Harding's secret desire begins to tip towards obsession when Dr. Khan's teenage nephew, Adil Alam, comes from France to stay with his aunt in Seattle until things quiet down in his hometown of Toulouse, where he was suspected of having been radicalized by a terrorist cell. Harding develops an avuncular relationship with Adil, coming alive with the interactions even while posing as a mentor to get closer to the object of his desire. Harding tries to reconcile his discomfort with the worlds Adil and Ruhaba come from and quiet his sense of dismay at the change in worldview they represent, both in background and in Ruhaba's spirited engagement with the student movements on campus.

After protests break out on campus and students demand professors make way for a more diverse pedagogy, Harding's positions appear increasingly divided, even as his past reveals a picture more complicated than it seems. As Ruhaba seems attainable and yet not, and as the women of his past taunt his memory, Harding begins to challenge our sympathies as the novel reaches its shocking climax, an act of on-campus violence involving Adil. Harding's true nature becomes transparent after this event, the mystery of which is teased out through a correspondence with two young women that punctuates the novel's intimate narrative. On closing the book, the reader reexamines the novel in a new light, exposing a character we thought we knew, revealing a depth of loneliness in unlikely places, the subjectivity of innocence, and the looming peril of white rage in America.

Sonora Jha, Ph.D. is an essayist, novelist, researcher, and professor of journalism at Seattle University. Her latest book is *How to Raise a Feminist Son: Motherhood, Masculinity, and the Making of My Family*, published by Sasquatch Books USA and Penguin Random House India, 2021. She is the author of the novel *Foreign*, which tells the stories of farmers' suicides in India. Dr. Jha's op-eds and essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Seattle Times*, *The Establishment*, *DAME*, and in several anthologies. She grew up in Mumbai and has been chief of the metropolitan bureau for the *Times of India* and contributing editor for *East* magazine in Singapore. She teaches fiction and essay writing for Hugo House, Hedgebrook Writers' Retreat, and Seattle Public Library. She is an alumna and board member of Hedgebrook Writers' Retreat, and has served on the jury for awards for Artist Trust, Hedgebrook, and Hugo House.

Rights Sold: India (PRH India)



THE DJINN WAITS A HUNDRED YEARS

US: Viking/PRH

Pub Date: January 9, 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Literary Fiction

A NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITOR'S CHOICE

A MUST-READ NOVEL from Library Reads • Indie Next • The Week •
Io9 • Book Riot • Debutiful • AudioFile • Borrow, Read, Repeat • Condé
Nast Traveler • CrimeReads • Publishers Weekly • Shelf Awareness

"Rich and swoony, tilting for the ecstasy of Sufi poets like Rumi, with a wink to those epic Indian romance movies Pinky adores...The love story at the heart of the novel is grand and gorgeous and brave...an ambitious delight, with rich characters and some exceptionally lovely writing...A decade ago, Khan's photograph made her a sensation. I suspect her writing will do the same again. This is the start of a major career." -The New York Times Book Review

☆ "Khan's prose is lush and lovely, her pacing skillful, and she successfully weaves a complex plot with a large cast. A ghost story, a love story, a mystery — this seductive novel has it all." -Kirkus, starred review

"This dazzling novel[...] is a deeply immersive and inventive exploration of the many facets of love, loneliness and grief. Fueled by its vivid details, bewitching setting and a colorful cast of characters, this engrossing read acts as a potent reminder that the past does not merely hold the power to hurt us, but also to heal us." -BookPage

Rebecca meets The House of Spirits in this sweeping, gorgeously atmospheric novel about a ruined mansion by the sea, the djinn that haunts it, and a curious girl who unearths the tragedy that happened there a hundred years previous

Akbar Manzil was once a grand estate off the coast of South Africa. Now, nearly a century since it was built, it stands in ruins: an isolated boarding house for misfits, seeking to forget their pasts and disappear into the mansion's dark corridors.

Until Sana. She and her father are the latest of Akbar Manzil's long list of tenants, seeking a new home after suffering painful loss. Unlike the others, who choose not to look too closely at the mansion's unsettling qualities—the strange assortment of bones in the overgrown garden, the mysterious figure seen to move sometimes at night—she is curious and questioning and finds herself irresistibly drawn to the history of the mansion. To the eerie and forgotten East Wing, home to a clutter of broken and abandoned objects—and to the locked door at its end, unopened for decades.

Behind the door is a bedroom frozen in time, with faded photographs of a couple in love and a worn diary that whispers of a dark past: the long-forgotten story of a young woman named Meena, the original owner's second wife, who died there tragically a hundred years ago. Watching Sana from the room's shadows is a grieving djinn, an invisible spirit who once loved Meena and has haunted the mansion since her mysterious death. Obsessed with Meena's story, and unaware of the creature that follows her, Sana digs into the past like fingers into a wound, awakening the memories of the house itself—and dredging up old and terrible secrets that will change the lives of everyone living and dead at Akbar Manzil.

Sublime, heart-wrenching, and lyrically stunning, *The Djinn Waits a Hundred Years* is a haunting, a love story, and a mystery, all twined beautifully into one young girl's search for belonging.

Shubnum Khan is a South African author and artist. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*; *McSweeney's Quarterly*; *HuffPost*; *O, The Oprah Magazine*; *The Sunday Times* (South Africa); *Marie Claire*; and others. Her first novel, *Onion Tears* (2011) was shortlisted for the Penguin Prize for African Writing and the University of Johannesburg Debut Fiction Prize. Her essay collection, *How I Accidentally Became a Stock Photo* was published in South Africa and India with Pan Macmillan in 2021. *The Djinn Waits a Hundred Years* is her debut novel in the US.

Rights Sold: Italy (Neri Pozza); South Africa (Pan Macmillan SA); UK (Oneworld); Ukraine: Fabula



THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR

US: Little A

Pub Date: May 6, 2025

Materials available: Final PDF

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

"A unique and moving story about women: who we are, who we come from, who we create, who we love, and why it matters." -Rebecca Serle, author of *In Five Years* and *One Italian Summer*

"Written with grace and intelligence, Kraus explores the complex intersection of memory and loyalty in a sweeping story of a broken family and the women who knit together the remains. Perfect for book clubs." -Sarah Pekkanen, #1 NYT bestselling author of *House of Glass*

"So heartbreaking and so good I couldn't stop reading—even when I needed to catch a train or make dinner. Like Ann Patchett, Kraus gets at the heart of how people can disconnect from their truest selves, and how, if they're lucky, they can find their way back." -Caroline Leavitt, NYT bestselling author of *Pictures of You* and *Days of Wonder*

From a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author comes a powerful novel about family, the weight of secrets, the choices we make, and the repercussions of the decisions made for us.

When Bunny Linden abandons her three children with her older sister, Jayne, in 1972, she knows Jayne will be the perfect mother. The mother Bunny herself, a teen runaway, could never be. As months turn into years without word, Jayne and her husband, Rodger, a rising journalism star, strive to give the children the opportunity to flourish and feel loved. When Jayne and Rodger finally have a child of their own, a seemingly stable home is built. But then, after nearly a decade, Bunny resurfaces and sets a chain of events in motion that detonates all their lives.

As adults, their children try to reassemble the pieces and solve the mystery that has always haunted them. Who were their parents? What really happened between them? And who is ultimately to blame for the destruction? But will the answers they seek set them free—or lead to something far more damaging than anyone imagined?

THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR explores the impact of generational trauma and expectations in a Manhattan family, the Donoghues, starting in the 1960s and 1970s, and spanning three generations. Between the attempts at liberation of the hippie movement and the upward striving of the Upper East Side socialites, children were born, and, despite being surrounded by comfort and opportunity, slipped through the cracks. In the vein of Claire Lombardo's *The Most Fun We Ever Had*, Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney's *The Nest* or Amanda Eyre Ward's *The Jetsetters*, this family novel looks at the dark side of a generation of children born into a world of privilege yet emotional neglect.

Nicola Kraus is has coauthored, with Emma McLaughlin, ten novels, including the international #1 bestseller *The Nanny Diaries*, plus *Citizen Girl*, *Dedication*, and *So Close*. Nicola has contributed to the *Times* (of London), the *New York Times*, *Redbook*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Glamour*, *Town & Country*, and *Maxim*, as well as two short story collections to benefit the War Child fund: *Big Night Out* and *Girls' Night Out*. In 2015 she cofounded the creative consulting firm the Finished Thought, which helps the next generation of aspiring authors find their voice and audience. Through her work there, she has collaborated on several *New York Times* nonfiction bestsellers. For more information, visit www.nicolakrausauthor.com.

Rights sold: UK (Verve)

THE MAIDENHEADS

US: Dutton/PRH *pre-empt*

Pub Date: Summer 2026

Materials available: Unedited manuscript, edited due June 2025

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Upmarket Fiction

DAISY JONES AND THE SIX meets BIG SWISS in this debut novel about queer yearning, indie musicians, and bushwacking a thorny path back to your first love.

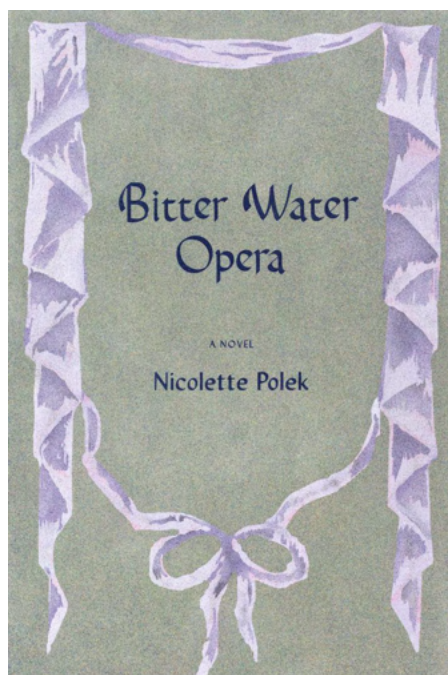
Jamie is bad at endings, which is why she's stuck at a dead-end Baltimore newspaper job, why she's continued having break-up sex with her first-ever hetero partner, and why she is still haunted by the what-ifs of her ex-girlfriend/ex-bandmate Mari, a charismatic and brilliant musician who is now fronting a successful new band down in D.C. Instead of facing daunting decisions about her future, Jamie jumps at the unexpected opportunity to sing with Mari's new band, a performance that could be her big break.

This is all Jamie's yearned for, ever since their catastrophic break-up led to the demise of their band together, The Maidenheads. Jamie knows it might not be the best idea, especially as she navigates a fraught relationship with her divorced parents, in addition to her own unplanned pregnancy—but she's not sure she can survive Mari's gravitational pull a second time. Against a vividly rendered backdrop that brings the DC music scene and the energy of performance to electric, pulsing life, Jamie navigates big, thorny questions of first love, grief, responsibility, and family. With all the longing and conflicted romance of a Sally Rooney novel—but much gayer—THE MAIDENHEADS is a profoundly intimate exploration of what it means to come to know oneself—through the pain of heartbreak, the pull of desire, and the total release of music.

Britt Peterson is a contributing editor at Washingtonian magazine, and they were previously a columnist for the Boston Globe, as well as a former editor at Foreign Policy, the New Republic, and Street Sense, D.C.'s homeless newspaper, where they co-founded the opinion section. They have also written about culture, politics, gender, and LGBTQ+ issues for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Elle*, *Slate*, the *Atlantic*, among other places, and was the runner-up for prizes at the *Missouri Review* and *Zoetrope*. They recently received an MFA in Fiction from Bennington.

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Text)





BITTER WATER OPERA

US: Graywolf

Pub Date: April 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK and Translation

Literary Fiction

A New Yorker Best Book of 2024

2nd printing ordered within 1st month of publication

"Polek elegantly fashions an ode to small and privately felt moments of beauty, and to art's capacity to reach through time." — *New Yorker*

"This novel is a lovely, delicate feat, and a must-read." — Dashiell Carrera, *Los Angeles Review of Books*

"This is not fan mail to the dead so much as a summons to come back to life. . . . [Polek's] vignettes, fine as grains of sand, come together to create an emotional landscape as vast and moving as the Mojave." — Kassia Oset, *The Rumpus*

"How can one escape domestic dread and manic commercialism? *Bitter Water Opera* by Nicolette Polek attempts an answer. . . . Gia learns to discard the anxious 'hyperawareness' of modern living in favor of instinct and acceptance." — Sam Sacks, *Wall Street Journal*

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

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

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

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

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

Nicolette Polek is the author of *Imaginary Museums* (Soft Skull Press, 2020). She is a recipient of a Rona Jaffe Writers' Award, and her work has appeared in the *Paris Review Daily*, *BOMB*, *New York Tyrant*, *The Atlantic*, and elsewhere. She holds an MFA in Fiction from the University of Maryland, and a masters from Yale Divinity School. She is from Northeast Ohio.

Rights sold: French (Le Gospel)



A SMALL APOCALYPSE

US: TriQuarterly Books

Pub Date: March 15, 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Short Story Collection

"Haunting in its treatment of family legacy and cultural inheritance[...] the collection highlights the everyday burden of shouldering bias and misconception, but never at the expense of the individuality and humanity of its characters." -*Kirkus*

"A *Small Apocalypse* is queer Florida at its absolute finest. Laura Chow Reeve has written a group of stories that astonish, mesmerize, and amaze in equal measure. I enjoyed every moment. A smashing collection!" -Kristen Arnett, author of *With Teeth*

"The stories in *A Small Apocalypse* all feel wildly different – Laura Chow Reeve's debut offers readers real range – but they are also united beautifully by their thematic territory, by the author's distinctive way of seeing, and by the vividly conveyed and evocative Floridian setting. I love this collection." -Clare Beams, author of *The Illness Lesson*

Laura Chow Reeve's *A Small Apocalypse* feels like more than a collation of work – it is a gorgeously wrought exploration of what it means to exist at the margins.

Whether uncanny or based in realism, Laura Chow Reeve draws portraits so lifelike and recognizable they take your breath away. The characters in *A Small Apocalypse*, who weave in and out of its thirteen stories, confront their sense of identity, belonging, and otherness in ways both confounding and incredibly poignant. Reeve, who identifies as queer, mixed, and Chinese/Asian American, investigates these themes in stories that display masterful craft, yet never fail to surprise. In "Beloved Flamingo Stoned to Death," Reeve layers a confrontation of toxic masculinity with a mother-child relationship so deep you'll be shocked it only fills two pages. In "Milked Snakes," a physical transformation pushes a character to make a decision that they're unable to make emotionally. In "One Thousand Year Old Ghosts," a character learns from her grandmother the family secret to jarring and preserving memories in order to forget them while confronting the absence of her parents.

The world of this collection is heavily steeped in the swampy, dangerous, steamy heat of Florida and its stories go beyond the problems of constructing and confronting one's identity to the frontier of characters living their truth in a world that doesn't have a place for them yet.

Laura Chow Reeve is a writer and illustrator based in Richmond, VA. She is a Blackburn Fellow at Randolph College's MFA program, has a M.A. in Asian American Studies from UCLA, and has attended workshops at Tin House and VONA/Voices. Laura was a winner of the 2017 PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize for Emerging Writers and her short fiction has been published in *Catapult*, *The Rumpus*, and *Joyland*, and has been featured on *LeVar Burton Reads* and *Selected Shorts*.





FLORES & MISS PAULA

US: Ecco

Pub Date: December 5, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Literary Fiction

A New York Times Most Anticipated Book* *Amazon Top 10 Best of the Month Pick* *A Good Housekeeping Book Club Pick

A Washington Post Noteworthy Book* *A Real Simple Best Book of the Year

"This is a story about love and loss, the meaning of family and the importance of community, passion and what happens when it's misdirected or lost entirely. It's one of those books where the characters quickly feel like friends, then family. You won't be able to put it down." -- *Good Housekeeping*

"Emotionally charged... An authentic portrayal of the Latino immigrant experience"--*Los Angeles Times*

"Deeply compassionate and tender, Melissa Rivero's new novel paints a striking portrait of the mother-daughter bond with wisdom and empathy[...] Melissa is a phenomenal talent who combines authenticity and a bold, fresh voice to deliver raw, unforgettable women/characters. Not to be missed!" -Etaf Rum, author of *A Woman Is No Man*

"This mother-daughter dramedy sparkles with fresh dialogue and vivid settings" -- *People magazine*

Set in New York City, FLORES & MISS PAULA is a tender, witty novel about a Peruvian immigrant mother and millennial daughter who have one final chance to find common ground after the death of the man who was the glue that held them together.

30-something Flores and her mother Paula still live in the same Brooklyn apartment, but that may be the only thing they have in common. It's been nearly three years since they lost beloved husband and father Martín, who had always been the bridge between them. One day, cleaning beneath his urn, Flores discovers a note written in her mother's handwriting: "Perdóname si te falle. Recuerda que siempre te quise." Forgive me if I failed you. Remember that I always loved you. But what would Paula need forgiveness for? Now, newfound doubts and old memories come flooding in, complicating each woman's efforts to carve out a good life for herself-and to support the other in the same. Paula thinks Flores should spend her evenings meeting a future husband, not crunching numbers for a floundering aquarium startup. Flores wishes Paula would ask for a raise at her DollaBills retail job, or at least find a best friend who isn't a married man. When Flores and Paula learn that they will be forced to move, they must finally confront their complicated past-and decide whether they share the same dreams for the future. Spirited and warm-hearted, Melissa Rivero's new novel showcases the complexities of the mother-daughter bond with fresh insight and empathy.

Praise for Melissa Rivero and *The Affairs of the Falcóns*:

Winner of the 2019 New American Voices Award * Longlisted for the PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel
Longlisted for the Aspen Words Literary Prize

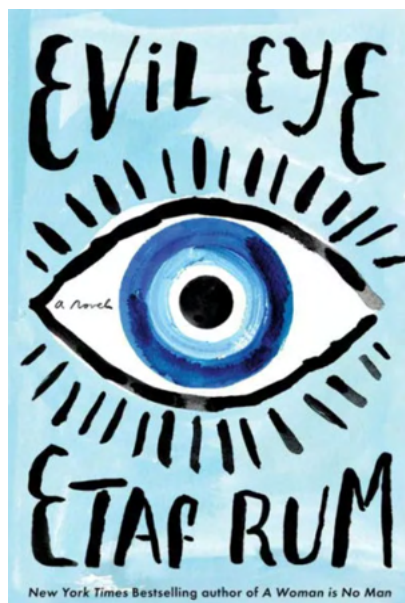
A Recommended Book of 2019 from:

Southern Living * BuzzFeed * The Huffington Post * Bustle * Fierce * Hip Latina * Ms. Magazine * Alma * Library Journal * The Rumpus
* The Millions * Refinery29 * Electric Literature

☆ "Rivero's talent for storytelling and sympathetic portrayal of many characters propels this novel [...an] inspired debut, a valuable addition to immigration literature." -*Library Journal*, starred review

Melissa Rivero is the author of *The Affairs of the Falcóns*, which won the 2019 New American Voices Award and an International Latino Book Award. The book was also longlisted for the PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel, the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize, and the Aspen Words Literary Prize. Born in Lima, Peru and raised in Brooklyn, she is a graduate of NYU and Brooklyn Law School, where she was an editor of the *Brooklyn Law Review*. She still lives in Brooklyn with her family.

Rights Sold to *The Affairs of the Falcóns*: North American Spanish (Vintage Espanol)



EVIL EYE

US: HarperCollins

Pub Date: September 5, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

Literary Fiction

An Amazon September Pick

A Book of the Month Club Pick

An NPR "Book We Love" for 2023

"Cements Etaf Rum's position as one of the leading writers of literary fiction that transcends continents and histories." — *Book Reporter*

★ "Rum follows the acclaimed *A Woman Is No Man* (2019) with a deeply resonant tale of multigenerational trauma and survival." — *Booklist*, starred review

"Wise, expansive, and deeply compassionate." — Diana Abu-Jaber, author of *Fencing with the King* and *Birds of Paradise*

"With her characteristic insight and tenderness, Etaf Rum takes readers through Yara's journey as she reflects on her family's past and its lasting impact. *Evil Eye* is a moving look at the complexities of identity, marriage, and redemption." — MELISSA RIVERO, author of *The Affairs of the Falcóns*

"While Yara doesn't believe in old superstitions, she finds herself unpacking her strict, often volatile childhood growing up in Brooklyn, looking for clues as to why she feels so unfulfilled in a life her mother could only dream of[...] A complicated mother-daughter drama that looks at the lasting effects of intergenerational trauma and what it takes to break the cycle of abuse." — *Time*

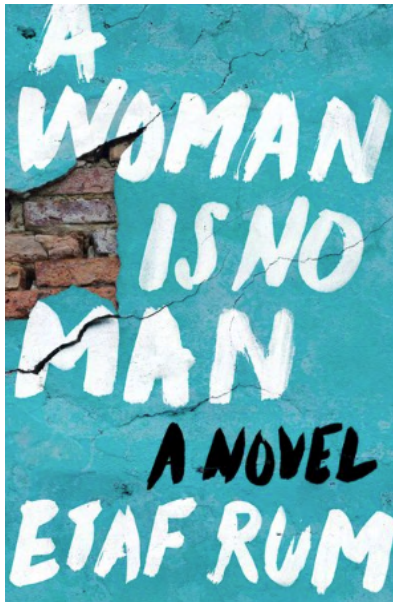
The acclaimed *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Woman Is No Man* returns with a striking exploration of the expectations of Palestinian-American women, the meaning of a fulfilling life, and the ways our unresolved pasts affect our presents.

Raised in a conservative and emotionally volatile Palestinian family in Brooklyn, Yara thought she would finally feel free when she married a charming entrepreneur who took her to the suburbs. She's gotten to follow her dreams, completing an undergraduate degree in Art and landing a good job at the local college. As a traditional wife, she also raises their two school-aged daughters, takes care of the house, and has dinner ready when her husband gets home. With her family balanced with her professional ambitions, Yara knows that her life is infinitely more rewarding than her own mother's. So why doesn't it feel like enough?

After her dream of chaperoning a student trip to Europe evaporates and she responds to a colleague's racist provocation, Yara is put on probation at work and must attend mandatory counseling to keep her position. Her mother blames a family curse for the trouble she's facing, and while Yara doesn't really believe in old superstitions, she still finds herself growing increasingly uneasy with her mother's warning and the possibility of falling victim to the same mistakes.

Shaken to the core by these indictments of her life, Yara finds her carefully constructed world beginning to implode. To save herself, Yara must reckon with the reality that the difficulties of the childhood she thought she left behind have very real—and damaging—implications not just on her own future but that of her daughters.

Rights sold: Brazil (Primavera); France (L'Observatoire); Germany (Lübbe); Portugal (Infinito Particular); Turkey (Koridor)



A WOMAN IS NO MAN

US: HarperCollins

Pub Date: March 5, 2019

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

Literary Fiction

A New York Times Bestseller

New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice • *Washington Post* 10 Books to Read in March • *Marie Claire* Best Women's Fiction of 2019 •

Washington Book Review Difficult-To-Put-Down Novel • *A Refinery* 29 Best Books of the Month • *An Electric Lit* 20 Best Debuts of the First Half of 2019 • *The Millions* Most Anticipated Books of 2019 • *A USA Today* Best Book of the Week •

"I couldn't put it down. I was obsessed with figuring out the mystery of this family."

-Jenna Bush Hager, *Today Show* Book Club Pick

"A dauntless exploration of the pathology of silence, an attempt to unsnarl the dark knot of history, culture, fear and trauma that can render conservative Arab-American women so visibly invisible.... The triumph of Rum's novel is that she refuses to measure her women against anything but their own hearts and histories." -*New York Times Book Review*

"A blistering exploration of three generations of Palestinian-American women, unfolding in lyrical but demanding prose." -*Entertainment Weekly*

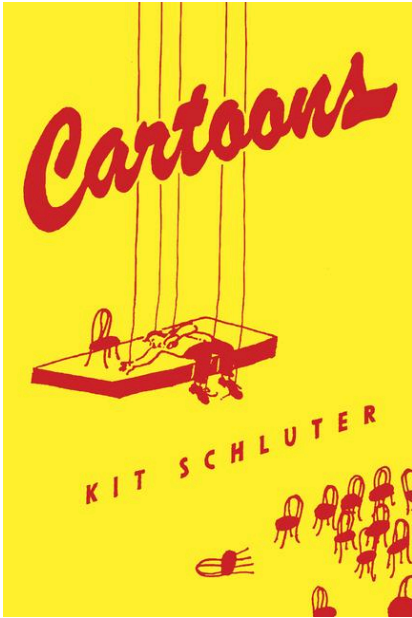
★ "Well-developed characters and a wonderfully paced narrative[...] Highly recommended."

-*Library Journal* (starred review)

Palestine, 1990. Seventeen-year-old Isra prefers reading books to entertaining the suitors her father has chosen for her. Over the course of a week, the naïve and dreamy girl finds herself quickly betrothed and married, and is soon living in Brooklyn. There Isra struggles to adapt to the expectations of her oppressive mother-in-law Fareeda and strange new husband Adam, a pressure that intensifies as she begins to have children—four daughters instead of the sons Fareeda tells Isra she must bear. Brooklyn, 2008. Eighteen-year-old Deya, Isra's oldest daughter, must meet with potential husbands at her grandmother Fareeda's insistence, though her only desire is to go to college. Deya can't help but wonder if her options would have been different had her parents survived the car crash that killed them when Deya was only eight. But her grandmother is firm on the matter: the only way to secure a worthy future for Deya is through marriage to the right man. But fate has a will of its own, and soon Deya will find herself on an unexpected path that leads her to shocking truths about her family—knowledge that will force her to question everything she thought she knew about her parents, the past, and her own future.

Rights sold: Saudi Arabia (Page Seven); Brazil (Primavera); China (China South Booky); Estonia (Rahva Raamat); Croatia (Petrine Knjige); France (L'Observatoire); Greece (Iviskos); Hungary (Könyvmolykepző); Italy (Piemme); Macedonia (Tri Publishing Center); Poland (Editio/Helion); Portugal (Infinito Particular); Russia (Sindbad); Serbia (Publik Praktikum); Turkey (Ithaki); Vietnam (I Love Books/AZ Group)

Etaf Rum was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, by Palestinian immigrants. Her first novel, *A Woman Is No Man*, was a *New York Times* bestseller and a Today host Jenna Bush Hager's Read with Jenna book club pick.



CARTOONS

US: City Lights

Pub Date: November 14, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

Short Story Collection

One of The Millions Most Anticipated Books for Spring

"A fantastic assortment of tall tales that look for little miracles in the mundane."-Kirkus Reviews

"Kit Schluter's translations have already established him as a major intellect . . . His fictions, which are unlike anything by another living American writer, are sure to establish him as a unique and exciting new talent, for fans of Japanese folktales, Max Porter, Marcel Schwob, and The Simpsons."-Catherine Lacey, author of *Biography of X: A Novel*

"The true surrealist is unblinking, convulsive, and cheerfully open to the mysterious flow, into their texts, of mythic and archetypal elements operating beyond their conscious control. In

Cartoons, Kit Schluter vaults into the zone of Julio Cortázar, Richard Brautigan, and late Giorgio di Chirico, where the reader breathes the air of pure freedom attained rattling inside the chains of self."-Jonathan Lethem, author of *Motherless Brooklyn*

Set in the uncanny valley between Bugs Bunny and Franz Kafka, *Cartoons* is an explosive series of outrageous, absurdist tales.

"The true surrealist is unblinking, convulsive, and cheerfully open to the mysterious flow, into their texts, of mythic and archetypal elements operating beyond their conscious control. In *Cartoons*, Kit Schluter vaults into the zone of Julio Cortázar, Richard Brautigan, and late Giorgio di Chirico, where the reader breathes the air of pure freedom attained rattling inside the chains of self."-Jonathan Lethem, author of *Motherless Brooklyn*

More than simply a book, *Cartoons* proposes itself as a genre of imaginary writing in opposition to the realism of most contemporary U.S. fiction, aligning itself with the French symbolism and Latin American fabulism its author is known to translate. A giant cricket with a tiny Kit Schluter in a jar, *The Girl Who Is a Piece of Paper*, an umbrella who confuses the words porpoise and purpose in its quest for self-fulfillment, these are just a few denizens of its pages, suffused with a fairy tale-like animism. A pair of slugs go on a bender. A microwave oven decries microaggressions. A beer bottle is filled with regret. An escalator mechanic's shoe conceals a terrible secret.

As befits its title, *Cartoons* defies the laws of physics and fiction alike, eschewing tonal consistency in favor of a simultaneity of joy and horror, ecstasy and disgust, wrapped in an extravagant layer of black humor. The stories blur the boundary between microfiction and poet's prose, featuring impossible transformations and surrealistic events, even as they wrestle with urgent psychic and moral dilemmas. Heightening the atmosphere of pervasive unreality are a number of drawings by the author, which don't so much illustrate as parallel the tales with their own fantastic scenarios.

Kit Schluter's recent work has appeared in *Boston Review*, *BOMB*, and *Brooklyn Rail*. He is author of the poetry collection *Pierrot's Fingernails* (Canarium Books) as well as numerous chapbooks and artist editions of poems and stories. Schluter is included in the latest edition of *Best American Experimental Writing* (Wesleyan UP, 2020), edited by Carmen Maria Machado, Joyelle McSweeney, Jesse Damiani and Seth Abramson. He has translated widely from the French and Spanish, including works by Rafael Bernal (New Directions), Copi (Inpatient Press, New Directions), bruno darío (Ugly Duckling Press(e)), Mario Levrero (& Other Stories), Marcel Schwob (Wakefield Press), and Olivia Tapiero (Nightboat Books). He recently illustrated Sebastian Castillo's novel *SALMON*. Kit coordinates production and design for Nightboat Books and lives in Mexico City.



MEMPHIS

US: Dial Press

Pub Date: April 5, 2022

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Literary Fiction

A USA Today National Best Seller

Best Book of the Year at Amazon and NPR

Longlisted for the 2023 Women's Prize

Longlisted for the 2023 Aspen Words Prize

A Glamour Best Book of 2022

Shortlisted for the Waterstones Debut Novel Prize

Roxane Gay's Book of the Month

A Publishers Weekly Bestseller and New and Notable Pick

A Read With Jenna 2022 Book Club Pick

April 2022 Indie Next List Selection

"In luminous, lyrical prose[...] *Memphis* is an American epic, a tribute to life in all of its sorrow and joyful resilience." -Chloe Benjamin, bestselling author of *The Immortalists*

"Written with the grace of a poet, *Memphis* is as hopeful as it is heartbreaking. Tara Stringfellow will be an author to watch for years to come. A stellar debut." -Jacqueline Woodson, bestselling author of *Red at the Bone*

"*Memphis* is an evocative, compelling tale that mines the depths of collective Black pain to arrive at something that might be, for once, Black healing[...] This is a shining, splendid testimony[...]." -Robert Jones, Jr., *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Prophets*

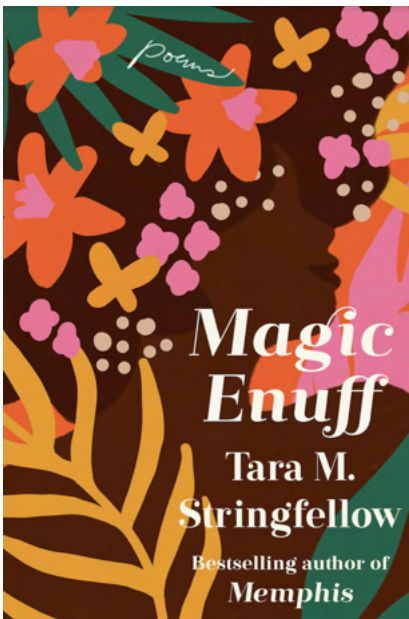
A spellbinding debut novel tracing three generations of a Southern Black family and one daughter's discovery that she has the power to change their legacy.

Summer 1995: Ten-year-old Joan, her mother, and her younger sister flee her father's explosive temper and seek refuge at her mother's ancestral home in Memphis. This is not the first time violence has altered the course of the family's trajectory. Half a century earlier, Joan's grandfather built this majestic house in the historic Black neighborhood of Douglass—only to be lynched days after becoming the first Black detective in the city. Joan tries to settle into her new life, but family secrets cast a longer shadow than any of them expected.

As she grows up, Joan finds relief in her artwork, painting portraits of the community in Memphis. One of her subjects is their enigmatic neighbor Miss Dawn, who claims to know something about curses, and whose stories about the past help Joan see how her passion, imagination, and relentless hope are, in fact, the continuation of a long matrilineal tradition. Joan begins to understand that her mother, her mother's mother, and the mothers before them persevered, made impossible choices, and put their dreams on hold so that her life would not have to be defined by loss and anger—that the sole instrument she needs for healing is her paintbrush.

Unfolding over seventy years through a chorus of unforgettable voices that move back and forth in time, *Memphis* paints an indelible portrait of inheritance, celebrating the full complexity of what we pass down, in a family and as a country: brutality and justice, faith and forgiveness, sacrifice and love.

Rights sold: Brazil (Tordesilhas/Alaúde); France (Leduc); Germany (Ecco/HarperCollins); UK (John Murray/Hachette); Ukraine (One More Page/Fabula)



MAGIC ENUFF

US: Dial Press

Pub Date: June 25, 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Poetry Collection

"These are lush poems full of radical love and strength. Tara is a guiding light of tenderness and power. Her words are a balm. *Magic Enuff* is a gorgeous collection exploring the bond and beauty of Black womanhood." -Warsan Shire, author of *Bless the Daughter Raised by a Voice in Her Head*

"From the author of *Memphis* comes gorgeous poetry about love, rage, Black femininity and how the human heart can hold conflicting truths. A beautiful, accessible collection of poetry, even for those who think they don't like it." – *People*

"In this mesmerizing poetry collection, Stringfellow weaves a beautiful tapestry around poignant themes such as Black Southern womanhood, femininity, and the bonds that women within a family share." – *Essence*

"In . . . *Magic Enuff*, freedom resonates as a rich, emotionally complex experience – hopeful and brave in the face of danger, discerning and intimate in the presence of love." – *Chapter 16*

"A collection of poems that [captures] all that is strong, resilient and beautiful about Black womanhood." – *The Root*

"Filled with exuberant strength and radical love, [Stringfellow's] work is filled with evolution, power, and tenderness, told from a position of Black womanhood." – *Memphis Magazine*

Radiant poems that celebrate Black Southern womanhood and the many ways magic lives in the bonds between mothers, daughters, and sisters, from the bestselling author of *Memphis*.

"God can stay asleep / these women in my life are magic enuff"

An electrifying collection of poems that tells a universal tale of survival and revolution through the lens of Black femininity. Tara M. Stringfellow embraces complexity, grappling with the sometimes painful, sometimes wonderful way two conflicting things can be true at the same time. How it's possible to have a strong voice and also feel silenced. To be loyal to things and people that betray us. To burn as hot with rage as we do with love. Each poem asks how we can heal and sustain relationships with people, systems, and ourselves. How to reach for the kind of real love that allows for the truth of anger, disappointment, and grief. Unapologetic, unafraid, and glorious in its nuance, this collection argues that when it comes to living in our full humanity, we have – and we are – magic enough.

Rights Sold: UK (John Murray)

Tara M. Stringfellow is a poet, former attorney, Northwestern University MFA graduate, and semifinalist for a Fulbright Fellowship. Tara M. Stringfellow has written for *Collective Unrest*, *Minerva Rising*, *Jet Fuel Review*, *WomenArts Quarterly Journal*, and *Apogee Journal*, among other publications. After having lived in Okinawa, Ghana, Chicago, Cuba, Spain, Italy, and Washington, DC, she moved back home to Memphis, where she sits on her porch swing every evening, with her hound, Huckleberry, listening to records and chatting with neighbors.

UNDERSPIN**US: Astra House****Pub Date: December 2025****Materials available: Unedited manuscript, edited due Feb. 2025****HG Literary Handles UK & Translation***Literary Fiction*

In the vein of Rita Bullwinkel's HEADSHOT and Hua Hsu's STAY TRUE, UNDERSPIN is an intimate, bruising portrait of the short and tumultuous life of table tennis prodigy Ryan Lo, as seen through the eyes of those pulled into his orbit.

Ryan Lo begins playing table tennis at age eight, under the tutelage of his brilliant but ruthless coach Kristian, who sees talent in him that might be nurtured into greatness. Throughout an adolescence circumscribed by Kristian's demanding behavior, Ryan forms complicated friendships with his teammates and competitors, falls in love with fellow table tennis star Anabel Yu, and above all, wins championships. By twenty-one, Ryan ascends all the way to the German Bundesliga, the highest echelon of international table tennis, just as he was supposed to, but he doesn't stay there. It is clear to all that Ryan Lo was meant to be the greatest in the world. Instead, he abandons competition and is dead before his twenty-fifth birthday. What happened?

In crisp, evocative prose, UNDERSPIN masterfully delves beneath the relentless pressure that forges a champion, drawing from the same rich psychological vein as Susan Choi's TRUST EXERCISE or Hua Hsu's STAY TRUE as it considers adolescence, estrangement, and the great injustices committed within our closest relationships. Through a mosaic of perspectives ranging from Ryan's mother to Kristian's next prodigy, Ryan takes shape as an exquisitely realized hero, carved in sharp relief against a passionate if marginal sporting community. With a similar structure and momentum seen as Julia Phillips' DISAPPEARING EARTH, Zhao has written the rare novel that is clear-sighted, immersive, poignant, and, above all, powerfully, extraordinarily human.

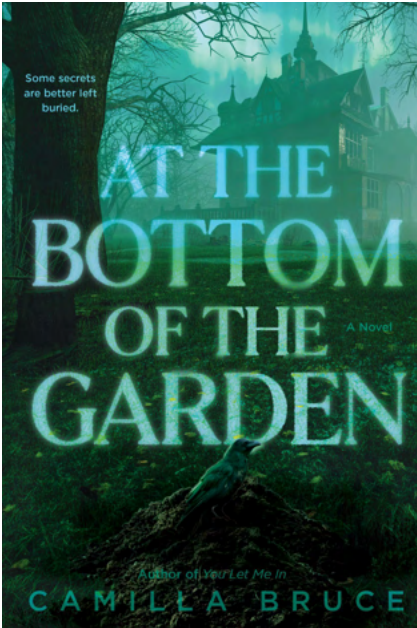
US editor's note: "This is a capacious and ambitious novel, written with a deft subtlety and intimate affect that feels wise, generous, and entirely heartbreaking. From open to close, Emily's prose is forceful and poised -- the read lands beautifully. I felt such a kinship with her penetrating investigation of ambition and its vulnerabilities; of youth and its strangeness; of talent and its occasional joys, and frequent fruitlessness. I'm truly obsessed with the novel's final chapters: I haven't read such a skillfully executed and devastating close since MY YEAR OF REST AND RELAXATION."

E.Y. Zhao holds an MFA in prose from the University of Michigan and a BA in history from Harvard College. Her short-form work is published or forthcoming in The Georgia Review, The Harvard Advocate, and Electric Lit, and has been recognized by the Georgia Review Prose Prize and a Hopwood Novel Award. She is also an editor for *Joyland* and *The Masters Review*.





COMMERCIAL FICTION



AT THE BOTTOM OF THE GARDEN

US: Del Rey

Pub Date: January 28, 2025

Materials available: 3rd Pass Pages

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

"Camilla Bruce tills the macabre for all of its Edward Gorey glory, cultivating one gorgeously morbid gothic novel that's just as gleeful as it is gashlycrumb. At the bottom of this particular garden you will find a wicked sense of humor that harkens back to the best of Roald Dahl's *Tales of the Unexpected*, with all its vicious thorns intact." -- Clay McLeod Chapman, author of *What Kind of Mother* and *Ghost Eaters*

"All the elegance and all the venom, like one of E. Nesbit's supernatural stories served with a side of arsenic." -Grady Hendrix, author of *Horrorstör*

"Camilla Bruce writes dark fantasy like no one else out there. A gothic masterpiece, *At the Bottom of the Garden* is a propulsive novel with gorgeous prose and incredible characters you won't soon forget. You'll never look at the wicked stepmothers of fairy tales quite the same way again. Put this book at the top of your TBR pile immediately; you won't regret it." -- Gwendolyn Kiste, Bram Stoker Award-winning author of *Reluctant Immortals* and *The Haunting of Velkwood*

An ode to wicked stepmothers, murderous housewives, vengeful housekeepers and strange little girls– like *Rebecca* meets *The Secret Garden* meets *The Craft*

Clara Woods is a killer –and perfectly fine with it, too. No harm, no foul if she takes a couple of lives to make her own existence a little better. At the bottom of the garden is a flowerbed, long overgrown, where her late husband rests in peace – or so she thought. Until the girls arrived.

Lily and Violet are her nieces, recently orphaned after their affluent parents died on an ill-fated mountaineering expedition. In accordance with their parents' will, the sisters are to go to their closest relative. Despite having no interest in children, Clara still agrees to take them, hoping to get her hands on some of the girls' assets, not just to bolster her dwindling fortune, but also to establish what she hopes will be her legacy: a line of diamond jewelry called Clarabelle Diamonds. There is only one problem: the girls are untrained witches – newly come into powers they themselves are only beginning to understand – and Violet can see the dead man at the bottom of the garden. She can see them all, in fact... *and* call them back to existence.

Soon Clara is surrounded by pesky apparitions, and at war with the gifted girls in her care. The latter have become a liability –and know *far* more than they should. Clara decides it's high time to teach her charges a little about life as a woman; about what it takes to survive. Realizing that some people actually *want* to see their dead, Clara takes the girls on the road, passing Violet off as a psychic medium. Confronted with the grim reality of life, she thinks, the girls will see that nothing is entirely black or white, good or bad – and then Violet will put Clara's ghosts back to rest. Maybe.

Camilla Bruce was born in central Norway and grew up in an old forest, next to an Iron Age burial mound. She has a master's degree in comparative literature, and has co-run a small press that published dark fairy tales. Camilla currently lives in Trondheim with her son and cat. She is the author of the speculative thrillers *You Let Me In* (Tor, 2020) and *The Witch in the Well* (Tor, 2022), as well as the historical fiction thrillers *In the Garden of Spite* (Berkley, 2021) and *All the Blood We Share* (Berkley, 2022).

Rights sold: UK (Oneworld)



REAL LIFE AND OTHER FICTIONS

US: HarperMuse

Pub Date: May 21, 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

Fiction

USA Today Bestseller

A People Magazine Best New Book

"The droll Mrs. Coll strikes again." -People Magazine

"Coll's deadpan narrative voice, once it hits you, is like when a stand-up comic finds your funny bone and you just can't stop laughing. And yet the laughter never fails to somehow encompass the obduracy of loss and other woes of this mortal coil." -Kirkus

"Real Life and Other Fictions" is quirky without being saccharine. It effortlessly mixes a journey around grief, reinvention and romance in midlife with the myth of a moth and the supernatural. Coll's assured, literary writing and her controlled power around the present tense add whimsy within realistic boundaries. The result: a big blend of genres that is not just effective but delightful." -Washington Post

Cassie Klein has always used stories to help her fly, but now her plot points aren't lining up.

In her 50s, Cassie has already weathered more than most. She was orphaned at the age of two and has never fully understood why her DC-based parents were on a bridge in West Virginia that just so happened to collapse as they drove across it. Her search for answers prompted a failed career in journalism, and now she's an aspiring novelist teaching at a local community college waiting for her literary dreams to finally come true. She stood by her once-doting husband when his meteorology career took a nosedive, and now she has learned that the man who became an internet meme has been cheating on her.

She's had enough. She scoops up a teething puppy and embarks on a road trip that's heavy on impulse and light on planning. She's not sure where she's going, but she knows she might as well start at the beginning. What really happened to her parents all those years ago?

In this comically surreal, warmhearted journey, she encounters people she never knew existed—chief among them, an enigmatic cryptozoologist, who helps her in the quest to discover her past. And along the way, she looks for answers regarding curious sightings of a creature known as the Mothman in the months before her parents died. As the line between real life and fiction blurs, Cassie finds herself grappling with the nature of stories, myths, and who gets to write the endings.

Praise for Susan Coll:

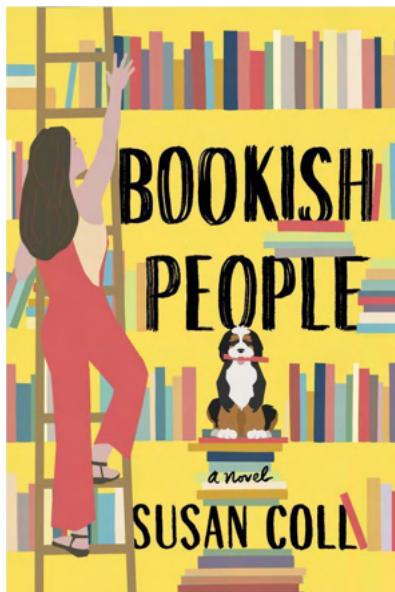
'A crumbling marriage, stalled writing ambitions, and a lifetime of questions suppressed by her family about the tragedy that shaped her childhood lead Cassie on an impromptu journey to solve the mystery that has always plagued her regarding her unusual past. With an unruly puppy as her travel companion, bad weather, broken eyeglasses, and spotty GPS coverage, Cassie has no choice but to let instinct guide her on this chaotic, quirky, and heartwarming quest. REAL LIFE AND OTHER FICTIONS is that rare jewel of a story: one that both entertains and enlightens, one that makes pandemonium profound. Susan Coll is a literary alchemist—a writer who combines comedy and calamity and turns it into storytelling gold.' -- Lynda Cohen Loigman, bestselling author of THE MATCHMAKER'S GIFT

'Susan Coll is a master of comic fiction, delivering the perfect balance of humor and heart in this deliciously funny book about grief, secrets, and the stories we tell each other and ourselves to survive. REAL LIFE AND OTHER FICTIONS is the

charming, warmhearted novel you're looking for!" -- Jennifer Close, author of *MARRYING THE KETCHUPS* and *GIRLS IN WHITE DRESSES*

'A heart-forward and perfectly comic starting-over novel, *REAL LIFE AND OTHER FICTIONS* shows that when you stop searching so hard for certain answers to explain your life, different questions can emerge that reveal the past, present, and future in new and slightly surreal ways. Susan Coll's Cassie is almost every dog-loving woman of a certain age: deeply annoyed, intensely curious, slightly impulsive, and forever hopeful. What an absolute delight.' -- Laura Zigman, author of *SEPARATION ANXIETY* and *SMALL WORLD*

'Don't be fooled by Susan Coll's delightful new novel. You may think you're reading a snappy rom com with a wacky heroine and an adorable puppy stranded in a town depicted with Nabokovian humor, but *REAL LIFE AND OTHER FICTIONS* slyly leads us to ponder essential questions: How do we make sense of the inexplicable? What damage is wrought by silence? Can we change our lives?' -- Lisa Gornick, author of *ANA TURNS*



BOOKISH PEOPLE

US: HarperMuse

Pub Date: August 2, 2022

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

Fiction

An August Indie Next Pick

"The perfect summer read for book lovers." -*The Washington Post*

"As much fun as Coll has with vacuum cleaners—a truly surprising amount—it's literary humor where she slays." -*Kirkus*

A perfect storm of comedic proportions erupts in a DC bookstore over the course of one soggy summer week, punctuated by political turmoil, a celestial event, and a perpetually broken vacuum cleaner.

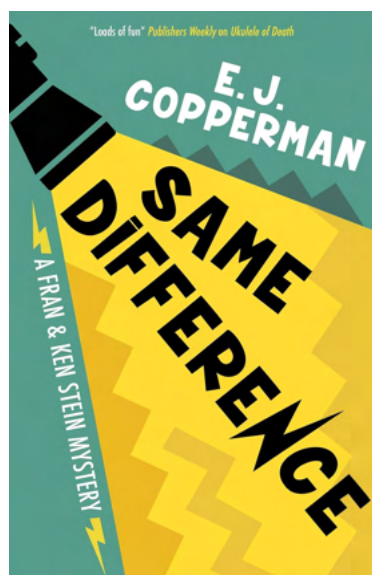
Independent bookstore owner Sophie Bernstein is burned out on books. Mourning the death of her husband, the loss of her favorite manager, her only child's lack of aspiration, and the grim state of the world, she fantasizes about going into hiding in the secret back room of her store. Meanwhile, renowned poet Raymond Chaucer has published a new collection, and rumors that he's to blame for his wife's suicide have led to national cancellations of his publicity tour. He intends to set the record straight—with an ultrafine Sharpie—but only one shop still plans to host him: Sophie's. Fearful of potential repercussions from angry customers, Sophie asks Clemi—bookstore events coordinator, aspiring novelist, and daughter of a famed literary agent—to cancel Raymond's appearance. But Clemi suspects Raymond might be her biological father, and she can't say no to the chance of finding out for sure.

This big-hearted screwball comedy features an intergenerational cast of oblivious authors and over-qualified booksellers—as well as a Russian Tortoise named Kurt Vonnegut Jr.—and captures the endearing quirks of some of the best kinds of people: the ones who love good books.

Susan Coll is the author of seven novels, including *Bookish People* and *The Stager*—a *New York Times* and *Chicago Tribune* Editor's Choice. Her third novel, *Acceptance*, was made into a television movie starring the hilarious Joan Cusack. Susan's work has appeared in publications including the *New York Times Book Review*, the *Washington Post*, *Washingtonian* magazine, *Moment Magazine*, NPR.org, and Atlantic.com. She is the events advisor at Politics and Prose Bookstore in Washington, DC, and was the president of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation for five years. Visit Susan online at susanroll.com; Instagram: [@susan_keselenko_coll](https://www.instagram.com/susan_keselenko_coll); X: [@Susan_Coll](https://twitter.com/Susan_Coll); Pinterest: [@susanrollauthor](https://www.pinterest.com/susanrollauthor)

Rights sold to *Bookish People*: Dutch (de Fontein)

The Fran & Ken Stein Mystery Series



SAME DIFFERENCE (Book 2)

US: Severn House

Pub Date: June 4, 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

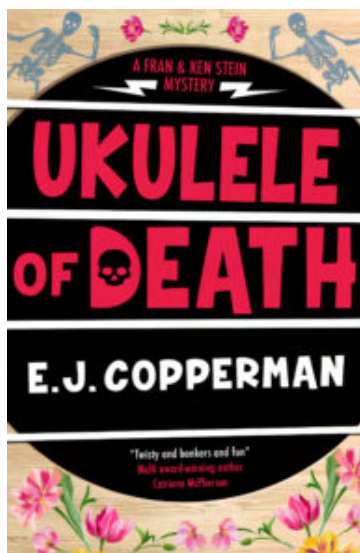
HG Literary Handles Translation

Mystery Series

"It's tempting with some books to say "just read it," and the second in Copperman's Fran and Ken Stein (get it?) series is that type of book: quite unbelievable but totally seductive."
-Brian Kenney, First Clue Reviews

Nineteen-year-old trans woman Eliza is missing . . . and her worried father sets private investigators Fran and Ken Stein on her trail in this second installment of the light-hearted and fun cozy mystery series with a paranormal twist.

Taking a break from their usual business of helping adoptees find their birth parents, New York private investigators - and super-sized, ever-so-slightly-paranormal siblings - Fran and Ken Stein accept a job to find a missing young woman. Nineteen-year-old college student Eliza Hennessey is trans - and she has a rocky relationship with her father, their new client. Brian's convinced his daughter's vanished, rather than run away, but Fran and Ken aren't so sure she wants to be found. The PI duo investigate, and soon Fran is butting heads with her irritating sort-of-ex-boyfriend Mank at the NYPD, who has what seems to be a similar case on his desk. But not even Fran could guess how tangled their investigations are going to get, and how deep they'll need to dive into murder and mayhem to solve the case!



PRAISE FOR UKULELE OF DEATH (Book 1):

- ★ "Legal mayhem at its finest." -Kirkus, starred review
- ★ "A pure pleasure to read." -Publishers Weekly, starred review
- ★ "Delightful, witty." -Library Journal, starred review

"Readers won't want to miss a minute of the mayhem[...] Copperman's right on the money." -Kirkus

"With an enjoyable mix of sci-fi and mystery elements, Copperman's latest features an intriguing and likable pair of detectives whose complementary skills help them survive and thrive and maybe even find their family." -Library Journal

"... a light and lively paranormal-tinged series... Fran's narration zips along... fans of Copperman's Jersey Girl mysteries will enjoy themselves." -Publishers Weekly

E.J. Copperman is the nom de plume for Jeff Cohen, a New Jersey native and writer of intentionally funny murder mysteries. He has written for such publications as *The New York Times*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *American Baby*, and more. As E.J., he writes the Haunted Guesthouse and Agent to the Paws series, as well as the brand-new Jersey Girl Legal mysteries; as Jeff, he writes the Double Feature and Aaron Tucker series; and he collaborates with himself on the Samuel Hoenig Asperger's mysteries.

MISSISSIPPI BLUE 42

US: Soho Press *2-book deal*

Pub Date: Aug 2025

Materials available: Edited Manuscript

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Fiction

A throwback thriller in the vein of Carl Hiaasen and Elmore Leonard, Mississippi Blue 42 takes an unflinching, oftentimes hilarious, look at the big-money world of collegiate athletics.

Rookie FBI agent Raider Johnson arrives at the University of Central Mississippi on the worst week possible: the week their savior dies. But there might be a silver lining to star quarterback Matt Talley's untimely demise. This could be Rae's big break, a chance to turn a dead-end NCAA fraud case into a career-defining bust.

On his way to retirement, Frank Ranchino has been working on the UCM fraud case for years, coming up empty. He knows what is going on but needs solid proof. Once Rae steps onto the scene, new life comes not only to the case, but also to Frank.

With whispers of major corruption rustling through the kudzu vines, Frank and Rae begin to uncover more and more connections between the politicians running the town and the suspicious activities happening at UCM and with the players. Pulling in one of the locals from town and the new star quarterback, this unlikely FBI team might just break this case.

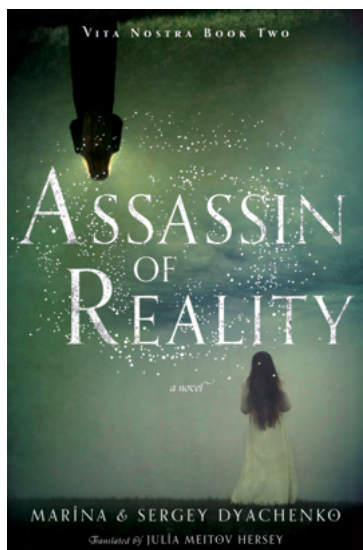
As the national championship game, the Cotton Bowl, approaches it doesn't take the rookie agent long to realize the boys on the UCM roster aren't just playing for the love of the game – or even the dirty money – they're also playing for their lives.

Mississippi Blue 42 takes us into the locker room, to the dorms and churches and practice fields as the Chiefs and their new quarterback Moses McCloud try to make it back to the Promised Land. It's a world the former-professional-quarterback-turned author knows well. In Cranor's capable hands, football isn't just a game, it's a front row seat to the great American show.

Nationally-bestselling, Edgar Award-winning author **Eli Cranor** played quarterback at every level: peewee to professional, and then coached football for five years. These days, he's traded in the pigskin for a laptop, writing from the banks of Lake Dardanelle where he serves as the "Writer in Residence" at Arkansas Tech University.

Rights sold: UK (Headline)





VITA NOSTRA: Assassin of Reality (Book 2)

US: Harper Voyager *2 book deal*

Pub Date: March 4, 2023

Materials Available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

Fantasy

★ “A tense, gripping, and satisfying story that will leave readers wondering about their own physical limits.” -*Booklist*, starred review

★ “This is a novel that transcends genre and will astound readers looking for serious, contemporary fiction.” -*Library Journal*, starred review

The eagerly anticipated sequel to the highly acclaimed *Vita Nostra* takes listeners to the next stage in Sasha Samokhina’s journey in a richly imagined world of dark academia in which grammar is magic – and not all magic is good.

In *Vita Nostra*, Sasha Samokhina, a third-year student at the Institute of Special Technologies, was in the middle of taking the final exam that would transform her into a part of the Great Speech. After defying her teachers’ expectations, Sasha emerges from the exam as Password, a unique and powerful part of speech. Accomplished and ready to embrace her new role, she soon learns her powers threaten the old world, and despite her hard work, Sasha is set to fail.

However, Farit Kozhennikov, Sasha’s dark mentor, finds a way to bring her out of the oblivion and back to the Institute for his own selfish purposes. Subsequently, Sasha must correct her mistakes before she is allowed to graduate and is forced to do what few are asked and even less achieve: to succeed and *reverberate* – becoming a part of the Great Speech and being one of the special few who dictate reality. If she fails, she faces a fate far worse than death: the choice is hers.

Years have passed around the Institute – and the numerous realities that have spread from Sasha’s first failure – but it is only her fourth year of learning what role she will play in shaping the world. Her teachers despise and fear her, her classmates distrust her, and a growing love – for a young pilot with no affiliation to the school – is fraught because a relationship means leverage, and Farit won’t hesitate to use it against her.

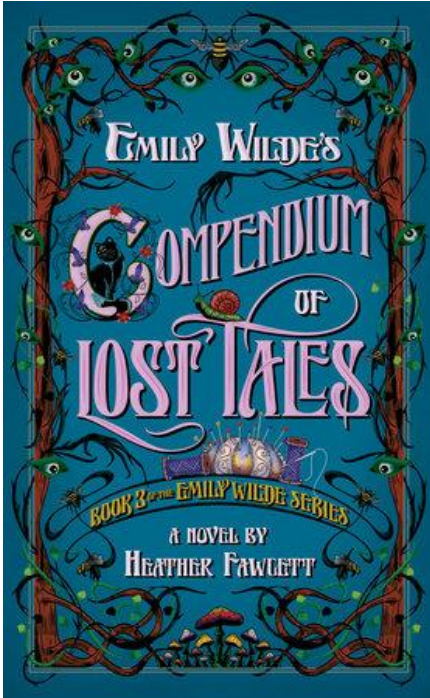
Planes crash all the time. Which means Sasha needs to rewrite the world so that can’t happen...or fail for good.

Rights Sold: Italy (Fazi)

Rights Sold to *Vita Nostra*, Book 1: Brazil (Morro Branco); Czech Republic (Albatros); France (Editions de L’Atalante); Italy (Fazi Editore); Spain (Ediciones Tomodomo); Turkey (Ithaki Yayinlari)

Audio Rights Sold to *Vita Nostra*, Book 1: Italy (Storytel); Poland (Storytel)

Marina and Sergey Dyachenko, a former actress and a former psychiatrist, are coauthors of thirty three novels and numerous short stories and screenplays. They were born in Ukraine and eventually moved to the United States. Their books have been translated into several foreign languages and awarded multiple literary and film prizes. Marina and Sergey are recipients of the Award for Best Authors (Eurocon 2005), Prix Planète SF des blogueurs (2020), and Rosetta Science Fiction and Fantasy Award for Best Translated Work, long form (2021).



EMILY WILDE'S COMPENDIUM OF LOST TALES (BOOK THREE)

US: Del Rey/PRH

Pub Date: January 2025

Materials available: Final PDF

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Fantasy

The third installment in the heartwarming and enchanting Emily Wilde series, about a curmudgeonly scholar of folklore and the fae prince she loves.

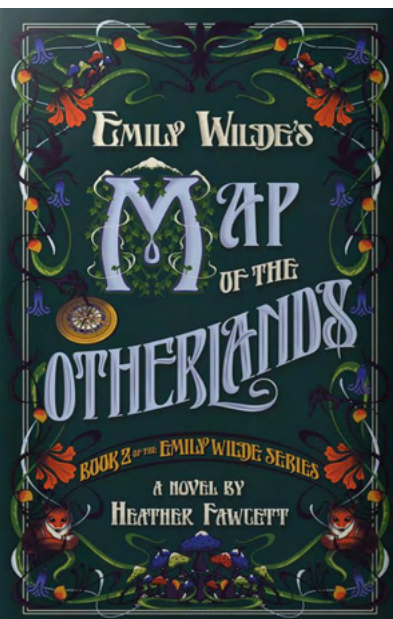
Emily Wilde has spent her life studying faeries. A renowned dryadologist, she has documented hundreds of species of Folk in her Encyclopaedia of Faeries. Now she is about to embark on her most dangerous academic project yet: studying the inner workings of a faerie realm—as its queen.

Along with her former academic rival—now fiancé—the dashing and mercurial Wendell Bambleby, Emily is immediately thrust into the deadly intrigues of Faerie as the two of them seize the throne of Wendell's long-lost kingdom, which Emily

finds a beautiful nightmare filled with scholarly treasures.

Emily has been obsessed with faerie stories her entire life, but at first she feels as ill-suited to Faerie as she did to the mortal world: How can an unassuming scholar such as herself pass for a queen? Yet there is little time to settle in, for Wendell's murderous stepmother has placed a deadly curse upon the land before vanishing without a trace. It will take all of Wendell's magic—and Emily's knowledge of stories—to unravel the mystery before they lose everything they hold dear.

Praise for *EMILY WILDE'S MAP OF THE OTHERLANDS* (January 2024):



*An Instant *New York Times* Bestseller*

Top Pick for the January 2024 LibraryReads List

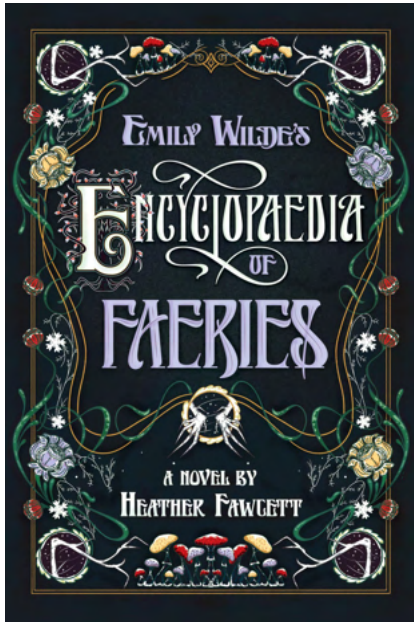
"Like all good fairy tales, this book is enchantingly charming, with hints of razor-sharp teeth. My only complaint is that it ends; I want to live in Emily's Otherlands forever." —Kiersten White, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mister Magic*

★ "Readers will be pleased that curmudgeonly Emily hasn't lost too much of her edge, but she's still susceptible to unexpected bonds of friendship. This utterly enchanting series will appeal to readers of Gail Carriger's *Parasol Protectorate* books." -*Booklist*, starred review

"This second installment in the series is as delightful as the first...the plot is well paced and tight, and it's a pleasure from beginning to end." -*New York Times*

"Upping the danger and the darkness...this takes Emily's story to new heights."
-*Publishers Weekly*

Praise for *EMILY WILDE'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF FAERIES* (January 2023):



*A *Sunday Times* UK Bestseller* *A *Washington Post* and *Vancouver Sun* Bestseller*
An IndieNext Pick January 2023

"Richly imagined romantic fantasy." -*New York Times*

"Fawcett's characters are delightful[...] Fawcett's sketches of academia and scholarship are sharply observed[...] and it all comes together in a delicious and satisfying whole." -*New York Times* Book Review

"A book so vividly, endlessly enchanting, so crisply assured, so rich and complete and wise and far-reaching in its worldbuilding that you'll walk away half ensorcelled[...] I'm jealous of everyone who gets to read it for the first time."
-Melissa Albert, author of *The Hazel Wood*

★ "Emily is an Amelia Peabody in snowshoes, and readers will be utterly charmed." -*Booklist*, starred review

★ "A great read for fans of Sarah J. Maas and Erin Morgenstern." -*Library Journal*, starred review

Rights Sold to Emily Wilde's Compendium of Lost Tales: Finland (Tammi, 3 book deal); Germany (Fischer Tor); Hungary (Agave, 3 book deal); Italy (Mondadori, 3 book deal); Netherlands (Z&K, 3 book deal); Poland (MAG, 3 book deal); Spanish (Urano, 3 book deal); Taiwan (Yeren, 3 book deal); Turkey (Nemesis, 3 book deal); UK (Orbit, 3 book deal)

Rights Sold to Emily Wilde's Map of the Otherlands: Finland (Tammi, 3 book deal); France (Editions De Saxus, 2 book deal); Germany (Fischer Tor); Hungary (Agave, 3 book deal); Italy (Mondadori, 3 book deal); Netherlands (Z&K, 3 book deal); Poland (MAG, 3 book deal); Spanish (Urano, 3 book deal); Swedish (Polaris, 2 book deal); Taiwan (Yeren, 3 book deal); Turkey (Nemesis, 3 book deal); UK (Orbit, 3 book deal); Ukraine (Vivat)

Rights Sold to Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries: Brazil (Planeta Brasil); Bulgarian (Ciela Norma Ad); Czech Republic (Host); Finland (Tammi, 3 book deal); France (Editions De Saxus, 2 book deal); Germany (Fischer Tor); Hungary (Agave, 3 book deal); Italy (Mondadori, 3 book deal); Japan (Tokyo Sogensha); Netherlands (Z&K, 3 book deal); Poland (MAG, 3 book deal); Portugal (Leya); Romania (Nemira); Russia (Arkadia); Slovakia (Pandora); Spanish (Urano, 3 book deal); Swedish (Polaris, 2 book deal); Taiwan (Yeren, 3 book deal); Turkey (Nemesis, 3 book deal); UK (Orbit, 3 book deal); Ukraine (Vivat)

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Heather Fawcett is the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *Sunday Times* bestselling Canadian author of books for adults, kids, and teens, including *Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries*, *Even the Darkest Stars*, *Ember and the Ice Dragons*, *The Grace of Wild Things*, and more. Her books have been translated into more than a dozen languages and somehow all include dragons in one form or another. She has a Master's degree in English Literature and a Bachelor's in Archaeology. She lives on Vancouver Island.

AGNES AUBERT'S MYSTICAL CAT SHELTER

US: Del Rey (3-book deal)

Pub Date: January 2026

Materials available: Manuscript expected March 2025

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Cozy Fantasy

A standalone adult fantasy set in a cobblestone corner of an alternative 1920s Montreal, for fans of offbeat fantasies like *Legends & Lattes* and fast-paced historicals with a strong romantic element (and French charm) like *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue*.

Agnes Aubert leads a meticulously organized life—and she likes it that way. As the proudly type-A manager of a much-needed cat rescue charity, she is often the only thing standing between her beloved felines and certain death.

But after she is forced to move the cat shelter, Agnes learns that her new landlord is using her charity as a front—for an internationally renowned and thoroughly disreputable magic shop. Owned by the decidedly disorganized—not to mention self-absorbed—Havelock Renard, magician and failed Dark Lord, the shop draws magical clientele from around the world, partly due to the quality of Havelock's illicit goods as well as their curiosity regarding his machinations. The charity offers the perfect cover for illegal magics.

Agnes couldn't care less about the shop—magical intrigue or not, there are cats to be rescued. But when an enemy from Havelock's past surfaces, the magic shop—and, more importantly, the cat shelter—are suddenly in jeopardy. Agnes will have to set aside her social conscience and put her exceptional organizational skills—finely honed, as her resume attests, by years of senior administrative experience in the non-profit field—to a somewhat darker purpose: protecting the man who once tried to bring about the apocalypse.

Heather Fawcett is the New York Times and Sunday Times bestselling Canadian author of books for adults, kids, and teens, including Emily Wilde's *Encyclopaedia of Faeries*, *Even the Darkest Stars*, *Ember and the Ice Dragons*, *The Grace of Wild Things*, and more. Her books have been translated into more than a dozen languages and somehow all include dragons in one form or another. She has a Master's degree in English Literature and a Bachelor's in Archaeology. She lives on Vancouver Island.

Rights Sold to *Agnes Aubert's Mystical Cat Shelter*: France (Editions De Saxus); Germany (Fischer Tor); Hungary (Agave); Spanish (Urano); UK (Orbit, 3-book deal)

Rights Sold to *Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries*: Brazil (Planeta Brasil); Bulgarian (Ciela Norma Ad); Czech Republic (Host); Finland (Tammi, 3 book deal); France (Editions De Saxus, 2 book deal); Germany (Fischer Tor); Hungary (Agave, 3 book deal); Italy (Mondadori, 3 book deal); Japan (Tokyo Sogensha); Netherlands (Z&K, 3 book deal); Poland (MAG, 3 book deal); Portugal (Leya); Romania (Nemira); Russia (Arkadia); Slovakia (Pandora); Spanish (Urano, 3 book deal); Swedish (Polaris, 2 book deal); Taiwan (Yeren, 3 book deal); Turkey (Nemesis, 3 book deal); UK (Orbit, 3 book deal); Ukraine (Vivat)





THE MEDUSA PROTOCOL

US: Putnam

Pub Date: June 24, 2025

Materials available: Edited Manuscript

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Thriller

Feature Film Rights to the series to Amblin Partners in Lightning Preempt, Hart to Executive Produce

When you're in Assassins Anonymous, falling off the wagon usually means one of two things: your past caught up to you and you're dead, or you went back to the killing life.

That's what everyone thinks of Astrid, an elite assassin formerly known as Azrael, who one day stopped showing up to meetings. This has put a damper on Mark's serenity.

Formerly the world's deadliest assassins, now the de facto leader of the group and Astrid's sponsor—he fears that he failed her. But when their weekly meeting is interrupted by a pizza delivery, followed by a squad of people bent on killing them, Mark realizes that Astrid is trying to send them a message: she's alive, and being held captive.

The problem is, Astrid doesn't know where she is. After being snatched off the street, she wakes up in the cell of a black site prison. She slowly unravels the truth: she's on an island off the coast of Brazil, infested with deadly snakes, which makes escape impossible. The doctor who runs the prison subjects her to mysterious experiments, to try and plum the depths of her memory, looking for... something. But he won't say what. Nor will he say who's keeping her there.

As Astrid tries to survive and plot her escape and discover the truth, she's forced to contend with the parts of her past she would prefer to forget—and she finds help in the unlikely of allies. Meanwhile, Mark is trying to find her, but discovers the price of doing that may mean giving up parts of himself—literally.

Praise for Assassins Anonymous:



"The best kind of thriller. A kinetic river that moves inexorably forward to a soul stirring conclusion...a can't miss novel from one of the most technically proficient writers working today." -S.A. Cosby, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Razorblade Tears* and *All the Sinners Bleed*

"If John Wick was more of a talker, you'd get *Assassins Anonymous*." -Alma Katsu, former CIA officer and author of *Red London*

"Hart has written a fresh, thoughtful and surprisingly self-aware lead character in former assassin Mark...*Assassins Anonymous* has an emotional center I didn't expect in a book about a professional killer." -Jennifer Hillier, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Things We Do in the Dark*

Rights Sold to *Assassins Anonymous*: Finland (Kirjapaja); Germany (Lübbe); Japan (Hayakawa); The Netherlands (Luitingh-Sijthoff); Poland (Czarna Owca); Romania (Nemira); Spain (ADN/Alianza)

Rights sold to *The Warehouse*: Brazil (Record); China (Guomai); Czech Republic (Euromedia); France (Belfond); Germany (Heyne); Greece (Enalios); Hungary (Maxim); Israel (Yediot); Italy (DeA Planeta); Japan (Hayakawa); Korea (TheNan); Latvia (Kontinents); The Netherlands (Karakter); Poland (WAB/Foksal); Portugal (Saida); Romania (Nemira); Russia (Eksmo); Spain (PRH Grupo Editorial SAU); Taiwan (Eurasian); Turkey (Yabanci); Ukraine (Vivat); UK (Transworld)

Rob Hart is the author of the Ash McKenna mystery series (Polis), *The Warehouse* and *The Paradox Hotel* (Crown/Ballantine), and (with Alex Segura) *Dark Space* (Blackstone, 2024). His books have been translated into more than 20 languages, and each of his books has been optioned for Film/TV/Streaming. He is a former political reporter and served as the communications director for a politician. You can find more at www.robwhart.com.



DARK SPACE: MOSAIC

US: Blackstone Publishing

Pub Date: October 8, 2024

Materials available: Final PDF

HG Literary Handles Translation

Sci-Fi Thriller

Dark Space is a captivating interstellar espionage thriller filled with deception, intrigue and heart. A story that's equal parts science fiction entertainment and cautionary glimpse into our future. A stellar novel that has emerged with a big bang from the creative minds of Rob Hart and Alex Segura. - *Steve Netter (The Best Thriller Books)*

The novel excels at slowly building the paranoia, forcing the reader to turn the pages faster to figure out what is going on. And the payoff is glorious. As a fan of both Rob Hart and Alex Segura, I was glad to find that their writing styles blend well together, and this mix of Star Trek themes and a story like Robert Ludlum and Andy Weir had a love child is a blast. —Jeff Ayers, *firstCLUE*

Segura (*Secret Identity*) and Hart (*The Paradox Hotel*) interweave their styles seamlessly in this stellar blend of space opera and spy thriller, set after Earth has become almost uninhabitable. - *Publishers Weekly*

From Edgar-nominated and Anthony Award-winning writer Alex Segura, and acclaimed author of *The Warehouse* (sold in 20+ territories) Rob Hart, comes **DARK SPACE: MOSAIC**, a sweeping sci-fi spy thriller that blends the epic scope of *Star Trek* with the intrigue of John le Carré.

Ace pilot Jose Carriles should have ended up a desk jockey like his ex-best friend Corin Timony, back on the lunar colony of New Destiny. Instead, he's the pilot of the Mosaic—a massive ship taking the Interstellar Union's first-ever mission to another planet.

Corin Timony should have been the best spy at the Bazaar, the lunar colony's international intelligence arm. Instead, she's been demoted to monitoring long-range communications. She has no one to blame but herself—and maybe Jose Carriles.

But when Mosaic malfunctions and Carriles is forced to take a wild gamble to save the ship, he begins to suspect the captain wasn't entirely honest about their mission. And when the distress call Timony receives from Mosaic back on New Destiny disappears without a trace, her old instincts kick in: Has someone sabotaged the ship?

Even as the bodies start falling, Timony and Carriles find themselves face to face with a star-spanning conspiracy that drags them both through the darkest corridors of their own failures and brings them face to face with a reckoning that could destroy humanity as we know it.

Rob Hart is the author of the Ash McKenna mystery series (*Polis*), *The Warehouse* and *The Paradox Hotel* (Crown/Ballantine), and (with Alex Segura) *Dark Space* (Blackstone, 2024). His books have been translated into more than 20 languages, and each of his books has been optioned for Film/TV/Streaming. He is a former political reporter and served as the communications director for a politician. You can find more at www.robwhart.com.

Alex Segura is an acclaimed, award-winning writer of novels, comic books, short stories, and podcasts. He is the author of the upcoming noir novel, *Secret Identity*, *Star Wars Poe Dameron: Free Fall*, and the Pete Fernandez mystery series. Alex has also written a number of comic books, most notably the superhero noir *The Black Ghost*, the YA music series *The Archies*, and the "Archie Meets" collection of crossovers, featuring real-life cameos from the Ramones, B-52s, the upcoming all-ages superhero adventure *The Dusk*, and more. He is also the co-creator/co-writer of the Lethal Lit crime/YA podcast from iHeartRadio, which was named one of the best podcasts of 2018 by *The New York Times*. By day he is the Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Oni Press, with previous stints at Archie Comics and DC Comics. You can find more at www.alexsegura.com.

Right sold: Japan (Tokyo Sogensha)



I DID NOT KILL MY HUSBAND

US: Blackstone Publishing

Pub Date: TBA

Materials available: Unedited Manuscript

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Thriller

Lifestyle influencer Cara Campbell (@Carasloveadventure) has been sentenced to life in prison for murdering her husband during what was supposed to be a romantic glamping getaway in California's Ojai Valley. As she is being transported to a maximum-security women's facility in the Central Valley to serve her sentence, the armored van in which she's riding is struck by a distracted teenage driver, causing a horrific accident. Cara and one other prisoner are the only survivors and escape from the mangled vehicle. The other woman runs; Cara, after attempting to help the teenager, dials 911 with the girl's phone before fleeing into the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

The 911 call is routed to local lawman Jordan Burke, who is embroiled in a confrontation with a black bear, a slab of salmon, and Troy Silverman, his opponent in the upcoming election. Almost grateful for the distraction, he breaks things off and races to the scene of the accident. There he discovers a painful personal connection to the crash: the driver who caused it was his daughter's best friend.

Jordan's attempt to bring Cara swiftly to justice grows more complicated by the hour. As the search grows in scale, he jousts with US Marshals and is second-guessed at every turn by an army of murderinos, internet sleuths, and bloggers. One voice seems especially loud and insistent: a podcaster who earnestly proclaims Cara's innocence. Even worse, Troy Silverman is trumpeting his every misstep.

Cara knows she's innocent but has no idea who really killed her husband, a Beverly Hills plastic surgeon.. Now, Cara struggles to stay alive, caught between a raging wildfire and frigid nighttime temperatures. While foraging from campsites and relying on a few survival tricks she learns on the fly, she hatches a plan to return to LA and uncover the truth.

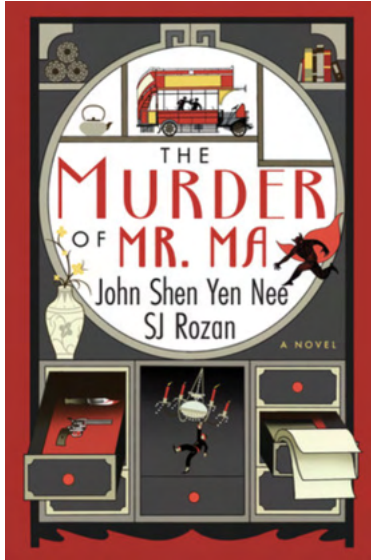
The deep flaws in Cara's Instagram-ideal life are revealed as she fights to prove her innocence: her stepdaughter's disdain, the transactional friendships of fame-hungry sycophants, and the real life-consequences of her idealized marriage brand. Meanwhile, as Jordan's obsession with finding Cara increases, his distaste for all she represents is slowly replaced by a grudging respect for her ability to survive and evade capture. As he chases her through his rural world into big-city LA, one question grows in his mind: could she be innocent, after all?

Linda Keir is the pen name for the writing team of Linda Joffe Hull and Keir Graff, authors of *The Swing of Things*, *Drowning with Others* and *The Three Mrs. Wrights*. Between them, they have published over a dozen novels. Learn more at keirgraff.com/linda-keir and www.lindajoffehull.com.

Keir Graff writes thrillers, mysteries, and contemporary fiction for adults, and adventure novels for younger readers. He is also the author of four middle-grade novels, including *The Tiny Mansion*, *The Phantom Tower* (a *Chicago Tribune* Best Children's Book) and *The Matchstick Castle* (an Illinois Reads official selection). He is the editor of the anthology *A Million Acres: Montana Writers Reflect on Land and Open Space* and coeditor (with James Grady) of the crime-fiction anthology *Montana Noir* (one of *Parade's* "Books We Love"). The former executive editor of *Booklist*, he lives in Chicago.

Linda Joffe Hull received a B.A. in Economics from UCLA, embarking on a career in sales, and diving headlong into the all-encompassing job of motherhood. Thanks to the encouragement of her family and the support of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers, she finally gave in to the unavoidable urge and sat down in front of the computer. Linda is a native of Saint Louis, Missouri, but currently resides in Denver, Colorado. She is a longtime member and former president of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and a past board member of Mystery Writers of America. She was also honored to be named the 2013 Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers' Writer of the Year.

John Shen Yen Nee
and SJ Rozan



THE MURDER OF MR. MA
(JUDGE DEE SERIES #1) *2 Book Deal*
US: Soho Press
Pub Date: April 2, 2024
Materials available: Finished Books
HG Literary Handles Translation

Fiction

A Parade Best Mystery Book of 2024 So Far
An Amazon Best Mystery Book of the Year So Far

“A glorious mash up of fan fiction (with tips of the hat to Robert van Gulik and Arthur Conan Doyle), kung fu prowess (Dee could easily star in a martial arts movie) and droll social commentary (‘The British,’ Dee remarks early on, ‘are oddly vulnerable to charm’).” — the *New York Times* Book Review

“The vivid action scenes feel as visceral as a Chow Yun-fat circular kick with double forearm strike. A sparkling and thought-provoking debut of a fresh dynamic duo whose adventures I’ll be eager to follow.” — Paula Woods, *Los Angeles Times*

“Co-authors Nee and Rozan offer an appealingly unusual, action-packed Sherlock Holmes pastiche with deep roots in both Chinese crime fiction and the history of early 20th-century England.” — the *Washington Post*

For fans of Guy Ritchie's Sherlock Holmes films, this stunning, swashbuckling series opener by a powerhouse duo of authors is at once comfortingly familiar and tantalizingly new.

Two unlikely allies race through the cobbled streets of 1920s London in search of a killer targeting Chinese immigrants.

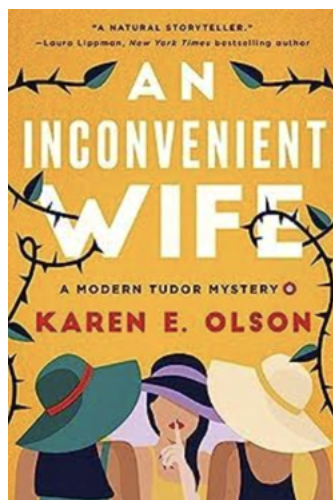
London, 1924. When shy academic Lao She meets larger-than-life Judge Dee Ren Jie, his quiet life abruptly turns from books and lectures to daring chases and narrow escapes. Dee has come to London to investigate the murder of a man he’d known during World War I when serving with the Chinese Labour Corps. No sooner has Dee interviewed the grieving widow than another dead body turns up. Then another. All stabbed to death with a butterfly sword. Will Dee and Lao be able to connect the threads of the murders—or are they next in line as victims?

Blending traditional gong’an crime fiction with the most iconic aspects of the Sherlock Holmes canon, Dee and Lao’s first adventure is as thrilling and visual as an action film, as imaginative and transportive as a timeless classic.

John Shen Yen Nee is a highly experienced transmedia executive and entrepreneur with 30 years of experience in comics and book publishing, video games, tabletop games, and collectables. Formerly the Publisher of Marvel Comics, John co-founded Cryptozoic Entertainment, publishing the World of Warcraft Trading Card Game, and dozens of successful trading card games, board games, and merchandise based on DC Comics, Cartoon Network, Rick and Morty, Walking Dead. He specializes in building and directing teams to develop and deploy IP across multiple mediums, with an emphasis on growing and maintaining strong fan communities.

SJ Rozan is author of eighteen novels and over eighty short stories, and editor of three anthologies. She has won multiple awards, including the Edgar, Shamus, Anthony, Nero, Macavity; Japanese Maltese Falcon; and the Private Eye Writers of America Life Achievement Award. She has served on the national boards of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime, and as President of Private Eye Writers of America. SJ has taught at such diverse places as the Art Workshop International in Assisi, Italy; Singapore Management University in Singapore; the Atlantic Center for the Arts in Florida; and the Novel-in-Progress Bookcamp in Wisconsin. She was born in the Bronx and lives in Manhattan. www.sjrozan.net.

Rights sold: Bulgarian (Bard), Hungarian (Kossuth); Arabic (Aseer Al-Kotob)



AN INCONVENIENT WIFE: A MODERN TUDOR MYSTERY US: Pegasus Books

Pub Date: April 2, 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Mystery

"The Tudor monarch mystery that I never knew I needed. As a fan of the Tudor era, this book had me hooked from the start. Yet regardless of the historical parallels, I also found myself engrossed by the unique and gripping narrative. An Inconvenient Wife beautifully weaves together the past and present, resulting in a thrilling must-read." -- Criminal Element

"A complex story with a large cast that Olson masterfully weaves and develops, An Inconvenient Wife is a new take on a historical family, proving that high-class murder never gets old." -- The Big Thrill

"It is the wives in this story who offer glimpses of interesting backgrounds and ranges of emotions that feel more and more relatable as multiple mysteries begin to unravel." -- Booklist

This astonishing crime novel—inspired by the Tudor era—takes the reader into the world of Kate Parker, who has just married billionaire Hank Tudor when a headless body is discovered near their summer home.

Kate Parker knows what she's getting into when she marries billionaire businessman Hank Tudor—she's his sixth wife, after all, and was by his side (as his assistant) when his fifth marriage to actress Caitlyn Howard fell apart.

But honeymoon plans go awry when a headless body is discovered near Hank's summer home, forcing Kate to contend with two more of his exes: Catherine Alvarez—the first—who lives as a shut-in with her computers, carefully following Tudor Enterprises; and Anna Klein—the fourth—who runs a bed-and-breakfast where she and her wife keep a steady eye on things—particularly Hank's children, Lizzie and Teddy.

In this clever and suspenseful reimagining of Tudor era betrayals, these three women become entwined in a deadly game of cat and mouse—with each other, Hank, and Hank's brilliant fixer, Tom Cromwell—as Kate seeks to solve the puzzle of who the murdered woman is, who killed her, and whether her death has any connection to the *other* headless body from eight years ago.

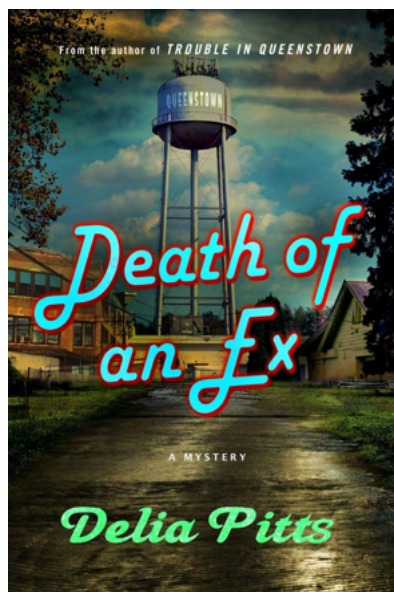
Praise for Karen E. Olson:

"Olson provides thrills and spills." -Kirkus Reviews

"Entertaining." -Chicago Sun-Times

"Sharply written and beautifully plotted." -Chicago Tribune

Karen E. Olson is the author of a number of mysteries in the early 2000s, most notably the Tattoo Shop mysteries with Berkeley. She also wrote the four Black Hat technothrillers for Severn House in the 2010s. Her first novel, *Sacred Cows*, won her the Sara Ann Freed Memorial Award for best debut mystery in 2005. She was also a finalist for the Shamus Award for the fourth book in her Annie Seymour series, *Shot Girl*. A former editor at Yale University Press, Karen lives in New Haven, Connecticut.



DEATH OF AN EX: A VANDY MYRICK MYSTERY

US: Minotaur/Macmillan (2-book deal)

Pub Date: July 15, 2025

Materials available: Edited PDF

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Mystery

Delia Pitts expertly writes about family, race, class, and grief in her mysteries. Vandy Myrick captured readers' and critics' hearts in *Trouble in Queenstown*. She returns in *Death of an Ex*, where Vandy tries to piece together what brought her ex-husband's life to an end.

Queenstown, New Jersey, feels big when you need help and tiny when you want privacy. For Vandy Myrick, that's both a blessing and a curse. Now that Vandy's back in "Q-Town", her services as her hometown's only Black woman private investigator have earned her more celebrity – or notoriety – than she figured.

Keeping busy with work helps Vandy deal with the grief of losing her daughter, stitching the seams, cementing the gaps. The memories will always remain, and they come crashing back to the surface when her ex-husband, Phil Bolden, walks back into her life. Promising everything, returning home, restoring family. Until she answers her door to the news that Phil has been murdered. And Vandy decides Phil is now her client.

It's hard to separate the Phil that Vandy knew with the one Queenstown did. She sees him—and their daughter—in Phil's son, who attends a prestigious local high school. She sees the layers of a complicated marriage with his wife. She sees all of Phil's various roles: parent, husband, businessman, philanthropist. But which role got him killed?

Praise for *Trouble in Queenstown*:

"When Vandy's investigation gets going, it reaches a full boil." -Sarah Weinman, *New York Times*

"With an indelible lead and a richly rendered setting, Pitts sets this series up for success. Readers will clamor for the next installment." -*Publisher's Weekly* *starred review*

"Delia Pitts' writing is explosive, addictive, and downright beautiful, and her PI, Evander 'Vandy' Myrick, is perfection: fierce, sexy, self-aware, and as smart as a slap. Get this book now." -Edgar-nominated author Jess Lourey

"Vandy is a realistic, tough woman who refuses to quit, and her inner thoughts are fun to read. Although this is a mystery novel, it also deals with grief, race, classism, and family."
— *Booklist*

Delia C. Pitts worked as a journalist before earning a Ph.D. in history from the University of Chicago. After careers as a U.S. diplomat and university administrator, she left academia to begin writing fiction. Delia is the author of the Vandy Myrick mysteries, featuring a Black investigator in New Jersey. She is also the author of the Ross Agency Mysteries, about a Harlem detective firm, and several short stories. She's a member of Sisters in Crime, Mystery Writers of America, and Crime Writers of Color. Learn more about Delia at www.deliapitts.com.

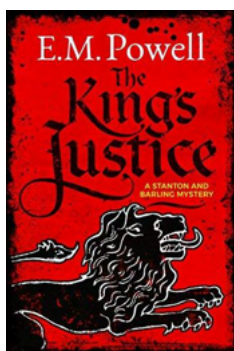


THE STANTON & BARLING MYSTERIES

English Language Publisher: Amazon/Thomas & Mercer
Pub Date: July 2018, September 2018, November 2020
HG Literary Handles Translation

Historical Fiction / Mystery

Perfect for fans of Ellis Peters' *Brother Cadfael* or C. J. Sansom's *Shardlake*



THE KING'S JUSTICE - (STANTON AND BARLING #1)

English-Language Publisher: Amazon/Thomas & Mercer
Pub Date: July 2018

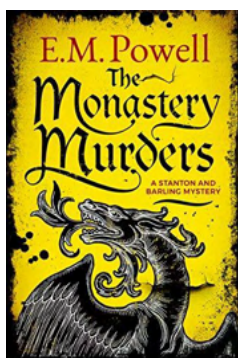
A murder that defies logic – and a killer on the loose.

England, 1176. Aelred Barling, esteemed clerk to the justices of King Henry II, is dispatched from the royal court with his young assistant, Hugo Stanton, to investigate a brutal murder in a village outside York.

The case appears straightforward. A suspect is under lock and key in the local prison, and the angry villagers are demanding swift justice. But when more bodies are discovered, certainty turns to doubt – and amid the chaos it becomes clear that nobody is above suspicion.

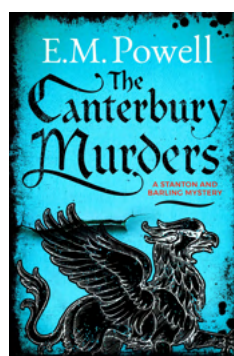
Facing growing unrest in the village and the fury of the lord of the manor, Stanton and Barling find themselves drawn into a mystery that defies logic, pursuing a killer who evades capture at every turn.

Can they solve the riddle of who is preying upon the villagers? And can they do it without becoming prey themselves



THE MONASTERY MURDERS - (STANTON AND BARLING #2)

English-Language
Publisher: Amazon/Thomas & Mercer
Pub Date: September 2018



THE CANTERBURY MURDERS - (STANTON AND BARLING #3)

English-Language
Publisher: Crosshaven Press
Pub Date: November 2020

E.M. Powell's medieval mystery and historical thriller Stanton & Barling and Fifth Knight novels have been #1 Amazon and Bild bestsellers and have achieved sales of over 500,000 copies worldwide. Born and raised in the Republic of Ireland into the family of Michael Collins (the legendary revolutionary and founder of the Irish Free State), she now lives in northwest England with her husband and a social media friendly dog.





THE RUNE TITHE SERIES

US: Podium (print, audio, ebook) *3 Book Deal*
HG Literary Handles Translation

Book 1: A SPELL FOR HEARTSICKNESS

Publication: October 15, 2024 - Final Edited Manuscript available

Romantic Fantasy

In this charming MM romantic fantasy, cursed witch Briar Wyngrave has a date with destiny—but isn't totally sure which man that date is with.

Witch Briar Wyngrave's time is limited. The wasting curse that killed his mother is coming for him too, consuming his magic bit by bit. At least he'll have the chance to make his name as a magical fashion designer with an elite placement in Pentawynn, the country's glittering capital, after graduation. Until, that is, a prophecy sends him to the remote island of Coill Darragh instead, in search of a predestined lover with a mysterious mask.

When Briar arrives with his grumpy magpie familiar, Vatii, he finds an unwelcoming town, a murdered poltergeist named Gretchen in his apartment, and a handsome alderman named Rowan with a haunting scar. He also gets pulled into the mysterious magic of the darkly enchanted forest that surrounds the town and seems to have something to do with his curse . . . As if all that weren't enough, famous witch Linden Fairchild has come to town, complete with a charismatic smile, an unreadable aura, and a surefire plan to cure curses.

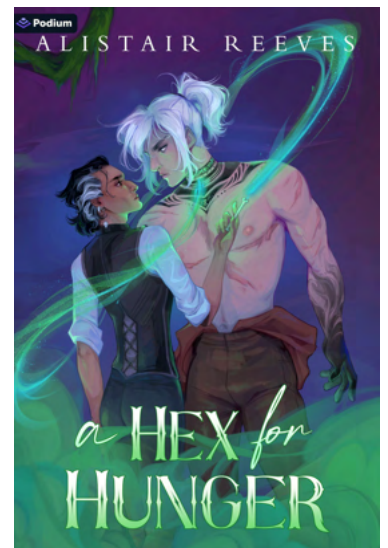
How's a cursed witch to know which enchanting man is his destiny? And can Briar possibly make an impact as a magical fashion designer in this tiny town? One thing is certain: a witch's magic requires a tithe—a berry, a feather, a cut into flesh—and Coill Darragh may take tithes Briar isn't ready to give . . .

Book 2: A HEX FOR HUNGER

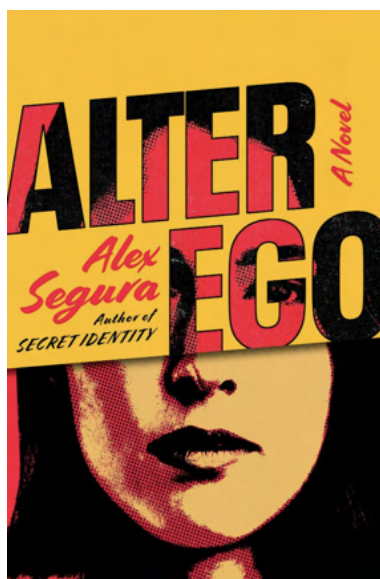
Publication: July 2025 - Manuscript due December 2024

In *A HEX FOR HUNGER*, a fabled long-dead guardian finds himself inconveniently resurrected in a foreign, modern century by a wet drip of a necromancer. The necromancer summons the guardian to take revenge on a rival at Belgrave University (from book 1), but the guardian's original master unfortunately happens to be the dreaded Witch King—a tyrant who is far from dead...Set in the world of *RUNE TITHE*, not far from Briar's peaceful village Coill Darragh, this follow up (but not direct sequel) to *A SPELL FOR HEARTSICKNESS* is an enemies-to-lovers romantasy with a magical university setting with Alistair's signature loveable disasters for main characters:

The Guardian: a rabid guard dog of a fellow. Blunt, aggressive, devoted even when it's not in his best interest. Thinks most problems can and should be fixed with fisticuffs. Wants free of his leash or for a kinder hand to hold it. From a bygone era, so he assumes smart phones are powerful relics. The Necromancer: personality of a feral, wet cat. Snarky, cynical, imperious and prone to hissy fits. Wants love but vengeance will do. Would actually burst into tears if someone kissed him gently on the forehead.



Alistair Reeves (he/him) is an LGBTQ writer and professional illustrator who co-wrote and illustrated the popular webcomic *The Crooked Kind*, which has 1.4 million views and 11K subscribers on Tapastic. As a trans author himself, he is devoted to writing LGBTQ fantasy and speculative fiction. He spends his time between Canada and England, where he draws writing inspiration from Studio Ghibli, romance novels, and jaunts to nearby Ireland. Follow his journey on [TikTok](#) and social media [@kataraqui](#).



ALTER EGO

US: Flatiron Books

Pub Date: December 1, 2024

Materials available: 2nd pass pages

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Literary Thriller

"The suspense and tension in Alex Segura's *Alter Ego* builds slowly, like the best of Hitchcock's films, and then, with the turn of one more page, all the setups and foreshadowing explode in this finely-tuned plot. Annie and daughter Margot are true gems, steeped in authenticity and visceral emotion. Segura is an excellent writer and he brings his A-game to this rollicking page ripper. Don't miss it." - David Baldacci

"No one is writing books as unique and riveting as Alex Segura. *Alter Ego* is a smart, fantastic ride through a mysterious world you may not know but will feel totally comfortable in thanks to Segura's creative genius. It pulls you in and keeps you turning pages." - Michael Connelly

Set twenty years after the events in the acclaimed *Secret Identity*, comes *ALTER EGO*, the highly-anticipated sequel by Edgar-nominated and Anthony Award-winning writer Alex Segura

Annie Bustamante is on top of the world. A cultural force like none other: an acclaimed filmmaker, an Oscar nominee, an author, a comic book artist known for one of the all time best superhero comics in recent memory. But there's one thing she's never been able to tackle: her longtime favorite superhero, The Lethal Lynx. Only known to the most die-hard comics fans and long out of print, the rights were never available. Until now.

But Annie is skeptical of who is making the offer: Bert Carlyle's father started Triumph Comics, and has long claimed ownership of the Lynx. But Annie suspects otherwise. When she starts getting anonymous messages urging her not to trust anyone, Annie's inner alarms go off. Even worse? Carlyle wants to pair her with a disgraced filmmaker for a desperate media play. Annie, who has been called a genius, a sell-out, a visionary, a hack, and everything else under the sun, is sick of the money grab. For the first time since she started reading a tattered copy of *The Legendary Lynx* #1 as a kid, she feels a pure, creative spark. The chance to tell a story her way. She's not about to let that go. Even if it means uncovering the dark truth about the character she loves.

An absolutely gripping thriller that understands that comics are inherently optimistic, aspirational, and intended to represent the best version of us. Sharply written, deftly plotted, and with a palpable affection for all kinds of storytelling, *Alter Ego* is a one-of-a-kind reading experience.

Praise for Secret Identity:

Winner of the 2023 LA Times Book Prize

A New York Times Editor's Pick

A BuzzFeed Best Book of March 2022

Anthony Award Nominee for Best Novel

A Kirkus Best Book to Read in March 2022

A Publisher's Weekly Book of the Week

Rights Sold to *Secret Identity*: China (New Star Press); Taiwan (Sharp Point Press)

Alex Segura is an acclaimed, award-winning writer of novels, comic books, short stories, and podcasts. He is the author of the upcoming noir novel, *Secret Identity*, *Star Wars Poe Dameron: Free Fall*, and the Pete Fernandez mystery series. Alex has also written a number of comic books, most notably the superhero noir *The Black Ghost*, the YA music series *The Archies*, and the "Archie Meets" collection of crossovers, featuring real-life cameos from the Ramones, B-52s, the upcoming all-ages superhero adventure *The Dusk*, and more. He is also the co-creator/co-writer of the Lethal Lit crime/YA podcast from iHeartRadio, which was named one of the best podcasts of 2018 by *The New York Times*. By day he is the Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Oni Press, with previous stints at Archie Comics and DC Comics. You can find more at www.alexsegura.com.

THE KILLING SPELL

US: Saga Press/S&S *2-Book Deal*

Pub Date: May 2025

Materials available: Edited Manuscript due October 2024

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Fantasy

Combining the creative worldbuilding and anti-colonial themes of R.F. Kuang's *Babel* with the clever, intricate world building of Naomi Novik's *A Deadly Education*, THE KILLING SPELL is a fresh, exciting urban fantasy novel based on Hawaiian culture and mythology.

Kealaokaleo Petrova is an unlicensed spell smith in an alternate California where each language is its own school of magic. Content to raise her cousins and chickens near the seaside, Kea's side hustle is violently upended when a politician in nearby LA is killed – with Hawaiian magic. As the only smith on the West Coast that specializes in the obscure language, all signs point to Kea. But she doesn't write death spells. Not that anyone believes her.

To prove her innocence, Kea is given an impossible task: track down the assassin and reverse-engineer their spell, or LA's governing Board will dissolve her clan and seize their land. Worse, she's been saddled with a guard dog in the form of LA's most dangerous (and most alluring!) man. Fearful for her family's safety, Kea scours the city to stop a killer who's wielding her language and culture for their own selfish ends.

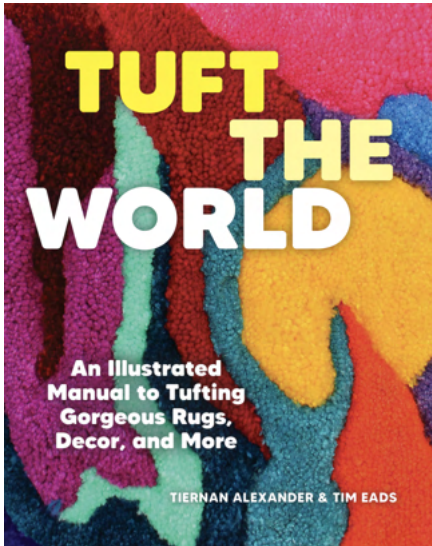
Along the way, Kea will stumble into (and win) a magic duel, blow up a high society gala, and break more foundational rules of magic than she can count on one hand. When the evidence leads her back home to her Hawaiian community, Kea will need to unite the rival clans and fight back before they're swallowed up by LA.

Shay Kauwe was born and raised on the island of O'ahu and grew up on the Hawaiian Homelands in Waimānalo. She worked in Russia as an English teacher but was eventually drawn back home. While she has a corporate job in telecommunications, Shay continues to educate with the Hawaii Literacy Project. She resides in Honolulu with her husband, Denis, and their poi dog, Iris. Learn more about Shay at www.shayzykova.com and on Instagram [@shayzykova](https://www.instagram.com/shayzykova).





NONFICTION



TUFT THE WORLD

US: Princeton Architectural Press

Pub Date: April 16, 2024

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles Translation

How-To

"Tufting, once considered a mid-twentieth-century craft, has been transformed into an art. Part art book, part how-to guide, their book also shares 15 projects that range from floor mats and rugs to wall hangings and shawl collars...This will provide great inspiration."

—Booklist

"Order your yarn, tufting gun, and other supplies because you'll be ready to get started once you finish reading this! A wonderfully written book that weaves together the history of rugs, fun facts, great instruction—and filled with gorgeous full-color photos." —Christina Roberts, Director of Education, Fabric Workshop and Museum

"Not only is Tim Eads one of the most respected and knowledgeable artists in his field, but he's one of the best teachers as well. I know this from firsthand experience watching him share his love of tufting to students as a visiting teacher in my studio. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in learning tufting or expanding their knowledge." —Arounna Khounnoraj, artist, author, and co-founder of bookhou

"An informative and rich compendium of all things tufting, heavy on examples with great illustrations." —Nami Yamamoto, Director of Studio Operations, Fabric Workshop and Museum

A visual how-to guide on the craft of tufting rugs, home decor, and more from the duo behind Tuft the World, the tufting company that has helped launch and educate a new generation of tufters.

Tuft the World is an easy-to-follow and beautifully illustrated guide to tufting, whether you're creating your first project or are a seasoned tufter. Brought to you by the preeminent experts in the machine-tufting field, this detailed crafting guide shows you, through step-by-step instructions and 175 full-color photographs, how to create contemporary, stylish, and enjoyable machine-tufted rugs, clothes, and objects. Within these pages, you'll learn about:

- Tufting machines, materials, and techniques
- Workspace setup
- How to create projects from start to finish, including everything from a bathmat, bedside rug, shawl collar, or chair slipcover to a picture frame, sculptural work of art, or stunning tufted cat tree!
- Contemporary rug artists and their designs
- The history of tufting and some of the women and men whose inventions brought the craft to life
- And more

Unlike online videos about tufting, this book is a long-lasting reference showcasing the versatility and creativity of the craft by the experts—a highly accessible, thorough, and enriching guide. Included throughout are sidebars on the historical context for amateur and professional rug-making in America and spotlights on current tufting makers.

This much-needed companion introduces and expands knowledge for the many new and experienced tufters interested in the booming craft of machine-tufted rugs and decor. Inspiring and simple to follow, this book is sure to make a tufter out of anyone.

INCLUDES CHAPTERS ON:

The basics of
machine tufting

Tabletop and
freestanding
frames

Yarn, color,
and design

Getting started
and finishing



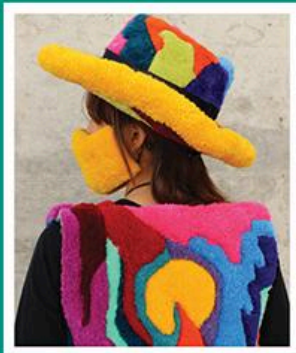
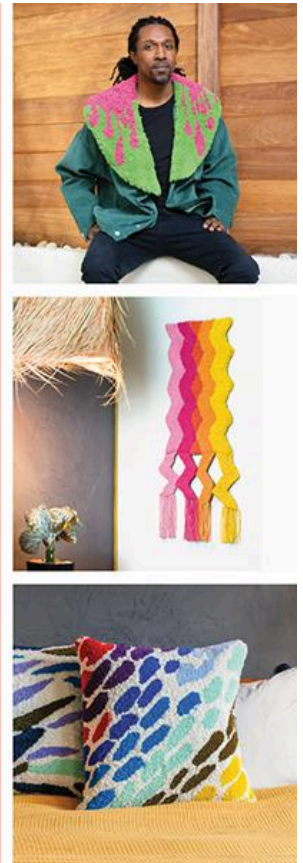
PRACTICING THE TECHNIQUES, WITH PROJECTS LIKE:

Floor mats & rugs

Wall hangings

Wearable art

Home decor



Tiernan Alexander and **Tim Eads** are Texas-born artists and business owners living and working in West Philadelphia. In 2018 they started Tuft the World, which provides tufters the high-quality tools, materials, and instruction they need to make their own incredible projects. They have led tufting workshops across North America and collaborated with industry leaders in rug design and carpet manufacturing. Alexander holds an MA from the prestigious Winterthur Program in American Material Culture and an MFA from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Along with being a gifted tufter, Eads is a master printer and holds an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art.

Rights sold: Russia (Eksmo Bombora)



**EVERYTHING SHE TOUCHED:
THE LIFE OF RUTH ASAWA**
US: Chronicle
Pub Date: April 7, 2020
Materials available: Finished Books
HG Literary Handles Translation

Biography

An ARTnews Essential Artist Biography

“A lively biography by Marilyn Chase.” -*New York Times*

“The heart-rending stories[...] resonate more poignantly now due to the current state of worldwide events.” -*Architectural Digest*

“Art world recognition for Ruth Asawa keeps climbing higher and, now, *Everything She Touched* by Marilyn Chase arrives to tell Asawa’s amazing life story. Full of documents and fantastic photos—especially those by Imogen Cunningham—we can admire the magic of her sculpture and beauty as a person.” -Harry S. Parker III, former director of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco

“Marilyn Chase connects the barbed wire and dispossession of Asawa’s early life to the artist’s transformative approach to spooled metal, and intimately conveys the teeming creative life inside her home studio as it filled with six children.”
-KQED Arts

“*Everything She Touched* is full of [...] resonant detail. This first comprehensive Asawa biography[...].”
-*San Francisco Chronicle*

A richly visual volume with over 60 reproductions of Asawa's art and archival photos of her life (including portraits shot by her friend, the celebrated photographer Imogen Cunningham), *Everything She Touched* recounts the incredible life of the Japanese-American sculptor. Asawa’s beloved fountains are now San Francisco icons, and her signature hanging-wire sculptures grace the MoMA, de Young, Getty, Whitney, and many more museums and galleries across America.

This is the story of a woman who wielded imagination and hope in the face of intolerance and who transformed everything she touched into art. In this compelling biography, author Marilyn Chase brings Asawa's story to vivid life. She draws on Asawa's extensive archives and weaves together many voices—family, friends, teachers, and critics—to offer a complex and fascinating portrait of the artist. Born in California in 1926, Ruth Asawa grew from a farmer's daughter to a celebrated sculptor. She survived adolescence in the World War II Japanese-American internment camps and attended the groundbreaking art school at Black Mountain College. Asawa then went on to develop her signature hanging-wire sculptures, create iconic urban installations, revolutionize arts education in her adopted hometown of San Francisco, fight through lupus, and defy convention to nurture a multiracial family.

Marilyn Chase is a graduate of Stanford University with a BA in English and also the University of California, Berkeley with a Master of Journalism. She is the author of *The Barbary Plague: The Black Death in Victorian San Francisco*, and was included in the Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Program. She was a visiting lecturer at Stanford’s Journalism Program teaching Narrative Writing.

Rights Sold: Korea (Between)



COMPLEX FEMALE CHARACTER

US: Knopf

Pub Date: Winter 2026

Materials available: Manuscript due June 2025

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Essay Collection

COMPLEX FEMALE CHARACTER, the first essay collection by a major Gen Z cultural critic, Rayne Fisher-Quann.

If you have your finger on the pulse of Gen Z, you already know Rayne Fisher-Quann.

COMPLEX FEMALE CHARACTER, through analysis of current events blended with personal essay, examines how women, both In Real Life and online, end up performing a flattened version of themselves. How the roles they are expected to play demand exaggeration and a lack of nuance, and how women themselves participate unwittingly or willingly.

But COMPLEX FEMALE CHARACTER isn't just about women: in it, Rayne compellingly makes the case that the internet demands that everyone is repackaged into a character, that online everyone is commodified, objectified, subject to harassment and mined for consumption. Girls are just, as Rayne puts it, "the internet's canary in a coal mine."

Rayne Fisher-Quann is a next-generation Jia Tolentino for the terminally online, someone who engages with complex feminist theory in a manner that is instantly accessible. A college drop-out herself, Rayne has no interest in condescending to her readers, and is keenly aware how many cultural critics talk down to people her age (she's 21). Her online following of nearly half a million fans (in addition to her popular Substack "Internet Princess", she is also rabidly followed on TikTok, as well as on Twitter and Instagram) has looked to her to understand everything from fatphobia in fashion to the Amber Heard/Johnny Depp trial to West Elm Caleb. In a profile of her last year, Vanity Fair dubbed Rayne an "influencer-essayist," which only scratches at the surface of her appeal. Especially because, despite her popularity on social media, she's a fierce critic of its effects.



Rights Sold: Germany (Rowohlt); Korea (Sangsang Academy); UK (Canongate)

**ART ABOVE EVERYTHING:
GLOBAL WOMEN WITH A SINGULAR VISION**

US: Beacon

Pub Date: June 10, 2025

Materials Available: Edited Manuscript

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Journalistic Travelog

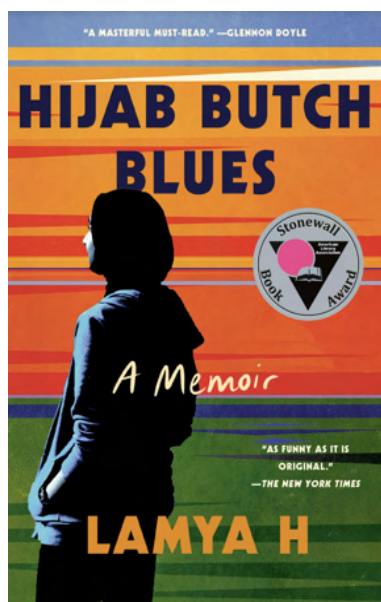
ART ABOVE EVERYTHING: GLOBAL WOMEN WITH A SINGULAR VISION, a hybrid of journalism and travel writing, follows Elizondo Griest as she crosses the globe in pursuit of understanding what drives women artists.

In prose that is sly, lyrical, and authoritative, ART ABOVE EVERYTHING is a rousing and electric ode to women who refuse to compromise their creative ambitions. This resulting work is the first of its kind to profile this breadth of women in conversations about art and livelihood beyond a privileged and Western-centric focus. Elizondo Griest herself chose to forgo a traditional lifestyle for the sake of her art years ago, but when she later found herself with several books to her name but no house, spouse, or even her own cutlery, she wondered if she would have chosen the same had she known how slim the odds were of traditional success. Elizondo Griest, a bisexual, mixed-race Mexican-American, began to ask: when women's art so often goes undervalued, underpaid, and unappreciated—how can a life dedicated to art alone be sustaining?

ART ABOVE EVERYTHING follows Elizondo Griest as she journeys to Peru, Cuba, Rwanda, Iceland, and South Korea to interview artists who also chose to pursue art at all costs. From American Wendy Whelan who defied both anatomy and convention to serve as a principal ballerina in the New York City Ballet until age forty-seven to a Rwandan playwright using theater to heal her nation after the genocide, the women she profiles are stunning artists who engage distinctively with subjects like war, equality, trauma, race, and motherhood. Many are icons in their homelands—and, in the case of classical Indian dancer Surupa Sen, even goddesses—but despite their acclaim, only a few are “wealthy.” What unites these women is the ferocity with which they create, which Elizondo Griest exposes in intimate conversations that upend the notions of value the Western world places on art, gender, nationhood, and self-expression.

Stephanie Elizondo Griest is a globe-trotting author from the Texas/Mexico Borderlands and an author of five books. She has written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *VQR*, *The Believer*, *Oxford American*, *Travel + Leisure*, and others. After earning her MFA at the University of Iowa, she became a tenured Associate Professor of Creative Nonfiction at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.





HIJAB BUTCH BLUES: A MEMOIR

US: Dial

Pub Date: February 7, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Memoir / Essay Collection

***Winner of ALA's 2024 Stonewall Book Award – Israel Fishman
Non-Fiction Book Award***

Winner of the Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize

Roxane Gay's March 2023 Book Club Pick

An Audible Best of the Year Biography/Memoir

***Book Riot's Best Books of 2023* *An NPR "Book We Love" for 2023* THEM'S
HONOREE IN LITERATURE • AN AUDACIOUS BOOK CLUB PICK •**

A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR: Autostraddle, BookPage, Harper's Bazaar, Electric Lit, She Reads

A queer hijabi Muslim immigrant survives her coming-of-age by drawing strength and hope from stories in the Quran in this "raw and relatable memoir that challenges societal norms and expectations" -Linah Mohammad, *NPR*

"As funny as it is original" -- the *New York Times*

"To be invited into the richness of their interior world – the beauty of childhood skepticism, the complexity of Muslim storytelling, and the glory of life in a queer body – is no minor gift. *Hijab Butch Blues* is for anyone coming home to themselves in a world content to disorient us. Lamya H will show us the way." -Cole Arthur Riley, NYT bestselling author of *This Here Flesh*

"A revelation, an emotional journey of faith, family, community, and sexuality. With precision, compassion, and deeply observed storytelling, Lamya H – a new, distinctive voice – navigates the fault lines of life and love in a queer Muslim body." -Linda Villarosa, author of *Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of Our Nation*

A queer hijabi Muslim immigrant survives her coming-of-age by drawing strength and hope from stories in the Quran in this daring, provocative, and radically hopeful memoir.

When fourteen-year-old Lamya H realizes she has a crush on her teacher – her *female* teacher – she covers up her attraction, an attraction she can't yet name, by playing up her roles as overachiever and class clown. Born in South Asia, she moved to the Middle East at a young age and has spent years feeling out of place, like her own desires and dreams don't matter, and it's easier to hide in plain sight. To disappear. But one day in Quran class, she reads a passage about Maryam that changes everything: when Maryam learned that she was pregnant, she insisted no *man* had touched her. Could Maryam, uninterested in men, be . . . like Lamya? From that moment on, Lamya makes sense of her struggles and triumphs by comparing her experiences with some of the most famous stories in the Quran. She juxtaposes her coming out with Musa liberating his people from the pharaoh; asks if Allah, who is neither male nor female, might instead be nonbinary; and, drawing on the faith and hope Nuh needed to construct his ark, begins to build a life of her own – ultimately finding that the answer to her lifelong quest for community and belonging lies in owning her identity as a queer, devout Muslim immigrant. This searingly intimate memoir in essays, spanning Lamya's childhood to her arrival in the United States for college through early-adult life in New York City, tells a universal story of courage, trust, and love, celebrating what it means to be a seeker and an architect of one's own life.

Lamya H is a former Lambda Literary Fellow whose writing has appeared in *Vice*, *Salon*, *Vox*, *Black Girl Dangerous*, *Autostraddle*, and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. She currently lives in New York with her partner.

Rights Sold: UK (Icon Books); Italy (Le Plurali)



LITTLE EARTHQUAKES: A MEMOIR

US: HarperCollins

Pub Date: April 25, 2023

Materials available: Finished Books

HG Literary Handles UK and Translation

Memoir

"This book is a foghorn. Yes it's murky, yes we're afraid, but Sarah Mandel is a robust and gentle guide through illness, recovery, and trauma. And Little Earthquakes is a love song to life." — Catherine Newman, author of *We All Want Impossible Things*

"[Mandel] nimbly portrays the cocktail of emotions unearthed by the sentence 'You've got cancer,' and paints her supportive family with staggering compassion. Her dogged fight for her life will awe readers." — *Publishers Weekly*

". . . an encouraging story of trauma and how it affects one's understanding of self." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"Couples dealing with cancer, or any other major setback, will find comfort in Mandel's beautifully written, moving memoir." — *Booklist*, starred review

"Open, honest, painful, inspiring and thought-provoking, this memoir is precious." — Good Morning America

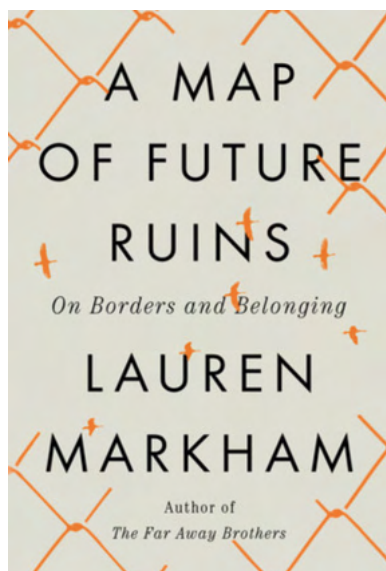
A beautiful and thought-provoking debut from a brave and unwavering new voice that captures the mind, sears the soul, and leaves its indelible mark on the heart.

When clinical psychologist Sarah Mandel was pregnant with her second child, she began preparing for her maternity leave, juggling the demands of her soon-to-be-new baby with the needs of her patients. Noticing a lump in her breast, she assumed it was most likely a clogged milk duct. But a biopsy revealed it was not. When she went into labor, she learned that she had Stage Four cancer—devastating news that forced her to confront terminal illness as she was bringing new life into the world.

But Sarah's illness took a highly improbable turn when, after three months of treatment, her second PET scan showed no evidence of disease. Sarah, however, was unable to celebrate the good news; she was frozen in a dissociated state caused by the emotional whiplash of going from oncology patient to new mother, from a terminal sentence to a shocking reprieve. As a therapist who specialized in trauma work, Sarah had utilized "narrative therapy" to help her patients. Now she wondered: Could the treatment that eased her patients' pain successfully help her navigate her own trauma?

Sarah Mandel was a Licensed Clinical Psychologist based in New York City. She completed her undergraduate studies at Bard College, where she majored in Studio Art. As a child, Sarah sang professionally with the New York City Opera. As a young adult, she discovered her passion for the study of human emotion, cognition, and behavior, and completed the psychology post-baccalaureate program at Columbia University. She earned her Clinical Psychology Doctorate (Psy.D.) at Rutgers University. Sarah lived in Manhattan with her husband and two daughters. She died peacefully on June 1, 2024, weeks shy of her 43rd birthday.

Rights Sold: China (China Translation & Publishing House)



A MAP OF FUTURE RUINS: ON BORDERS AND BELONGING
US: Riverhead
Pub Date: February 13, 2024
Materials available: Finished Books
HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Narrative Journalism and Memoir

A Most Anticipated Book from *The New York Times*, *Kirkus*, and *The Stacks*

☆ "A remarkable, unnerving, and cautionary portrait of a global immigration crisis." -*Kirkus*, starred review

"Markham's intrepid reporting is always a pleasure to read, and you get the feeling that with *A Map of Futures* many of her writerly interests, from the heritage of ideas to her own family heritage, and, of course, the ethics and praxis of migration, have found their perfect combination." -*LitHub*, A 2024 Most Anticipated Read

"Markham's unfussy yet detailed style provides an engaging read as she moves from research to reporting to memoir[...] the book is uniquely suited to nudge readers into considering where their ideas of national identity originated, and whom these notions disenfranchise today." -*BookPage*

"Markham's stunning new book...might be the most expansive contribution to border literature I have yet to read...As projects go, it is the intellectual equivalent of a minefield – but Markham proves admirably nimble on her Converse-clad feet." -*Los Angeles Review of Books*

"Surprisingly self-reflexive ... Markham's approach suggests that what we need isn't just more stories of migration. Sometimes, rather than asking migrants to explain themselves, we, in the countries they are trying so desperately to reach, should be trying a little harder to explain ourselves." -*Washington Post*

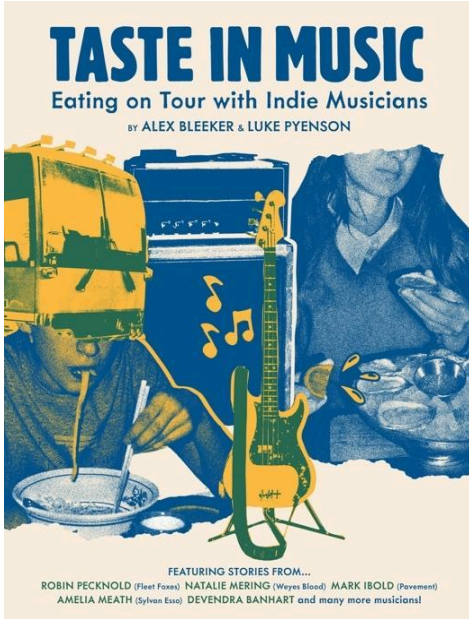
"In this brilliant, timely meditation, Markham explores how the stories we tell about borders and who belongs can harden our hearts or help to open them. The threads she follows weave a tapestry as moving as it is illuminating." -Rebecca Solnit, author of *Hope in the Dark* and *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*

"[A] stunning meditation on nostalgia, heritage, and compassion." -Leslie Jamison, author of *The Empathy Exams*

A MAP OF FUTURE RUINS blends personal history and journalism to ask high stakes questions about how the stories we tell ourselves about our history shape us, and how we in turn shape the stories we tell about our history.

When and how did migration become a crime? Why does ancient Greece remain so important to the West's idea of itself? How does nostalgia fuel the exclusion and demonization of migrants today? In 2021, Lauren Markham went to Greece, in search of her own Greek heritage and to cover the aftermath of a fire that burned down the largest refugee camp in Europe. Almost no one had wanted the camp—not activists, not the country's growing neo-fascist movement, not even the government. But almost immediately, on scant evidence, six young Afghan refugees were arrested for the crime. Markham soon saw that she was tracing a broader narrative, rooted not only in centuries of global history but also in myth. A mesmerizing, trailblazing synthesis of reporting, history, memoir, and essay, *A Map of Future Ruins* helps us see that the stories we tell about migration don't just explain what happened. They are oracles: they predict the future.

Lauren Markham is the author of *The Far Away Brothers: Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life*, which won the 2018 Ridenhour Prize, the Northern California Book Award, and the California Book Award Silver Medal; it was also listed for the LA Times Book Prize and the Pen America Literary Awards. Her third book, *Immemorial*, a treatise on climate grief, the failure of language to describe climate change, and the art of memorial, is forthcoming from Transit Books. A US American of Greek heritage, she has been working with migrants for two decades, and writing about migration and other social issues in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Guardian*, *The New York Review of Books*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review*, where she is a contributing editor. She lives in Berkeley, CA.



TASTE IN MUSIC:
EATING ON TOUR WITH INDIE MUSICIANS
US: Chronicle
Pub Date: September 24, 2024
Materials available: Finished Books
HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Lifestyle

"The authors have assembled a vibrant cast of musicians, promoters, and chefs for this anthology about eating on tour. Their contributors write about the delights of British and Japanese rest stops, the dangers of harmless-looking backstage brownies, and the restorative power of a home-cooked Thanksgiving dinner for a band on tour overseas... A quirky delight for indie rock aficionados." --Booklist

*[*Rolling Stone Magazine feature*](#)*

In this unique and deeply thoughtful collection, musician Alex Bleeker (Real Estate) and food and travel journalist Luke Pyenson (formerly of Frankie Cosmos) take readers on tour with a diverse lineup of inspiring indie musicians from around the world, sharing meals and travel experiences, peeking behind the curtain at this singular and singularly misunderstood way of life.

In this unique and deeply thoughtful collection, musician Alex Bleeker (Real Estate) and food and travel journalist Luke Pyenson (formerly of Frankie Cosmos) take readers on tour with a diverse lineup of inspiring indie musicians from around the world, sharing meals and travel experiences, peeking behind the curtain at this singular and singularly misunderstood way of life.

Through original essays and engaging conversations with dozens of indie musicians representing several subgenres, scenes, and eras, food takes center stage in stories about being on tour and eating on tour and how this basic human necessity can create a sense of community and interconnectedness in one of the most mobile industries in the world. Based broadly on the subject of eating on tour, these entries each spin off into their own focused and exciting behind-the-scenes story, but all confirm what Pyenson and Bleeker suspected all along—food looms large in the lives of touring musicians, and it can be used as a gateway into understanding what going on tour is really like.

Featured contributors include:

Robin Pecknold (Fleet Foxes) - Chris Frantz (Talking Heads) - Natalie Mering (Weyes Blood) - Mark Ibold (Pavement) - John Gourley (Portugal. The Man) - Lily Chait (touring chef to boygenius and Phoebe Bridgers) - Amelia Meath (Sylvan Esso) - Greta Kline (Frankie Cosmos) - Devendra Banhart - Bob Mould (Hüsker Dü) - Bria - "Geologist" Weitz (Animal Collective) - Dawn Richard - Sasami Ashworth (SASAMI) - Sadie Dupuis (Speedy Ortiz) - The Beths

In addition to wide-angle meditations about eating on tour, Pyenson and Bleeker have gathered stories that take place on five continents, in private homes and street-side stalls, in temples of fine dining and in actual temples, backstage and in the van, early morning and late at night. Stories that deal with the best parts of touring: meaningful cultural exchange, hospitality-induced euphoria, and the opportunity to build

relationships around the world. And the worst: loneliness, exhaustion, estrangement from family and friends, struggles with disordered eating, and unsteady access to medical care.

So the question isn't, "How was tour?" It's, "What do you eat on tour?" Like the best songs or meals, these conversations and essays evoke something central about the human experience. They show us all the ways that music and food bring us together, break us down, lift us up, and add color to our lives.



NOTABLE AUTHORS: With over twenty years of experience in the music industry, Alex Bleeker and Luke Pyenson are your perfect guides into the world of touring. Having toured with their own bands—Real Estate and Frankie Cosmos, respectively—they're asking all the right questions, shedding light and understanding on the lives of touring musicians and the people feeding them.

FOOD ANTHOLOGY & MUSIC SCENE DEEP CUT: With interviews and essays from about forty different musicians, chefs, and promoters—ranging from Chris Frantz from Talking Heads to boygenius's private chef Lily Chait—not only is this book a treasure trove of knowledge and insider information, it also offers something for foodies and music enthusiasts alike.

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL: Go behind the curtain all around the world, from America to Russia, Japan to Italy, and dozens of places in between. Read about your favorite musicians' experiences abroad, all from the comfort of your home.

Alex Bleeker is the bassist and co-founder of the beloved indie rock band Real Estate. During his twelve-year career as a musician, he has released nine full length albums, toured on five continents, and obsessively sought out countless regional delicacies. He holds a BA from Bennington College and lives in coastal California.

Luke Pyenson is a food and travel journalist whose articles and recipes have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, the *Boston Globe*, *Saveur*, and other local and national publications. He holds a MA in the Anthropology of Travel, Tourism, and Pilgrimage from SOAS, University of London and a BA in International Literary and Visual Studies from Tufts University. Luke is fluent in French, Arabic, Spanish, and Italian, and conversational in Portuguese and German. Until recently, was the drummer and co-manager of critically-acclaimed indie rock band Frankie Cosmos.



ERASED: WHAT AMERICAN PATRIARCHY HAS HIDDEN FROM Us

US: Flatiron Books

Pub Date: April 23, 2025

Materials available: Edited Manuscript

HG Literary Handles UK & Translation

Narrative Nonfiction

***New York Times* bestselling author of *The Three Mothers* Dr. Anna Malaika Tubbs spotlights history hidden by the American patriarchy.**

Women built the United States but their histories lie hidden, inaccessible and unacknowledged. The cause of this suppression is simple: the patriarchy. In this definitive and groundbreaking history, Dr. Anna Malaika Tubbs applies her signature blend of approachable yet rigorous analysis to American patriarchy – a hierarchy of race, class, and gender so deeply ingrained that it often goes unnoticed, along with the stories it conceals.

From the treatment of enslaved women to the introduction of birth control, from the women's suffrage movement to the media coverage of Hillary Clinton and Kamala Harris, Tubbs brings together academic research, the seminal work of civil rights leaders, and her own experiences to make feminist theory clear and engaging. Turning familiar narratives on their heads, Tubbs keenly illuminates a system of oppression that was neither accidental nor natural, but the intentional result of the American patriarchy.

Dr. Anna Malaika Tubbs reveals American history from a new perspective: one where the people who shaped this country are at the center. Once again, Dr. Anna Malaika Tubbs has written a book that will be a touchstone for the feminist conversation for years to come.

Praise for *The Three Mothers*, a *New York Times* Bestseller, *New York Times* Editor's choice, and Amazon Editor's choice:

"Tubbs's portrait is an intimate narrative that aims to link not only Little, King and Baldwin, but all Black mothers... the intersections she highlights are beautiful." – *The New York Times Book Review*

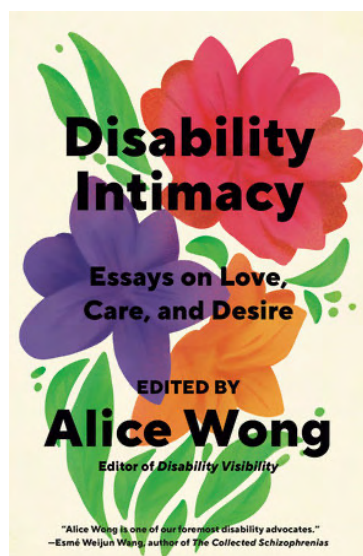
"Tubbs's book stands against the erasure of women's erasure, a monument to their historical importance." – *The New Yorker*

"This ambitious book reframes African American history, supplying the female Black experience as a much-needed perspective." – *The Washington Post*

"Tubbs' connection to these women is palpable on the page[...] Through Tubbs' writing, Berdis, Alberta, and Louise's stories sing. There is a history forgotten that begs to be told, and Tubbs tells it brilliantly." – Ibram X. Kendi, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *How to Be an Antiracist* and National Book Award winner *Stamped from the Beginning*

Dr. Anna Malaika Tubbs is a *New York Times* bestselling author who holds a Ph.D. in Sociology and a Masters in Multidisciplinary Gender Studies from the University of Cambridge. In addition, she holds a Bachelors in Medical Anthropology from Stanford University. Anna's writing has been featured in *TIME Magazine*, *New York Magazine*, CNN, *Motherly*, the *Huffington Post*, *For Harriet*, *The Guardian*, *Darling Magazine*, and *Blavity*. Anna is a highly sought-after speaker and her TED Talk "How Moms Shape the World" has amassed 2 million views.

Rights Sold to *The Three Mothers*: Collins (UK)



DISABILITY INTIMACY: ESSAYS ON LOVE, CARE, AND DESIRE
US: Vintage
Pub Date: April 30, 2024
Materials available: Finished Books
HG Literary Handles Translation

Anthology from a 2024 MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" winner

"[A] witty, vulnerable, and insightful collection that highlights a diverse roster of disabled writers... This anthology is not only a joy to read but also a welcome introduction to innovative, intensely liberating approaches that are sure to change the way readers feel about traditional notions of intimacy. A poignant anthology about ability and intimacy that espouses a gorgeously original worldview." — *Kirkus*

"Alice Wong is one of our foremost disability advocates." — *Esme Weijun Wang, author of The Collected Schizophrenias*

"An unflinching look at how members of the disabled community pursue meaningful relationships even when society puts up barriers." — *Booklist*

"To Alice Wong, words like diversity and intersectionality aren't just buzzwords. They are marching orders." — *W. Kamau Bell*

The much-anticipated follow up to the groundbreaking anthology *Disability Visibility*: another revolutionary collection of first-person writing on the joys and challenges of the modern disability experience, and intimacy in all its myriad forms.

What is intimacy? More than sex, more than romantic love, the pieces in this stunning and illuminating new anthology offer broader and more inclusive definitions of what it can mean to be intimate with another person. Explorations of caregiving, community, access, and friendship offer us alternative ways of thinking about the connections we form with others—a vital reimagining in an era when forced physical distance is at times a necessary norm.

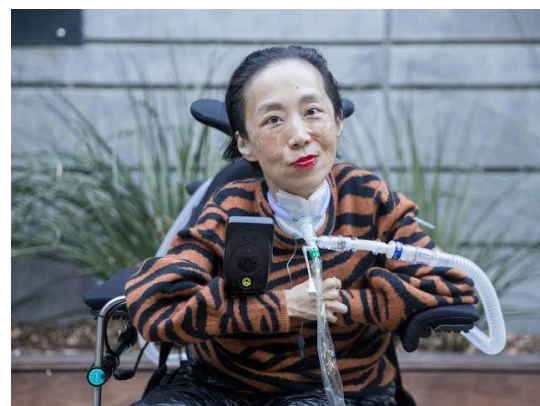
But don't worry: there's still sex to consider—and the numerous ways sexual liberation intersects with disability justice. Plunge between these pages and you'll also find disabled sexual discovery, disabled love stories, and disabled joy. These twenty-five stunning original pieces—plus other modern classics on the subject, all carefully curated by acclaimed activist Alice Wong—include essays, photo essays, poetry, drama, and erotica: a full spectrum of the dreams, fantasies, and deeply personal realities of a wide range of beautiful bodies and minds. *Disability Intimacy* will free your thinking, invigorate your spirit, and delight your desires.

Praise for *Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century*:

ONE OF THE PROGRESSIVE'S BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR

"Implicitly (and sometimes explicitly) makes the case for acknowledging and accommodating society's overlooked population of disabled people." —*the New York Times Book Review*

"Wong's discerning selections, bolstered by the activism that shines through, will educate and inspire readers." —*Kirkus*



Alice Wong is a disabled activist, media maker, and consultant. She is the Founder and Director of the Disability Visibility Project, an online community dedicated to creating, sharing and amplifying disability media and culture created in 2014. Currently, Alice is the editor of *Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century*, an anthology of essays by disabled people, available now by Vintage Books (2020). You can find her on Twitter: @SFdirewolf.

Rights sold to *Year of the Tiger*: Korea (Maybooks)

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