

amazon publishing

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Frontlist  
Rights Guide

London Book Fair  
2025

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# Book Club Fiction

amazon publishing



# American Housewife

ANITA ABRIEL

APRIL 1, 2025

**For a beloved television star in 1950s America, image and reality clash in an insightful novel about fame, marriage, and secrets by the international bestselling author of *The Light After the War*.**

New York City, 1950. Dreams come true for radio personality Maggie Lane when she gets her big break in the exciting new world of television. *The Maggie Lane Baking Show* is on the air.

All she has to do is act like the ideal housewife, create sumptuous desserts, charm the show's sponsors, and sign a morality clause to ensure that her girl-next-door image remains untarnished. Although newlywed Maggie has never baked so much as a cookie, and knows even less about maintaining a home, keeping up appearances is a necessary ingredient for success. Easy. She has a supportive husband and a legion of fans who can't wait to know her better and better, week after week.

That's what she's afraid of. Off camera, cracks are showing in her marriage, an old lover makes an unexpected return, and there are secrets from the past that could ruin everything Maggie has worked for. With every dream on the line, Maggie wonders if she can still have it all when the truth about what it really means to be an American housewife comes to light.

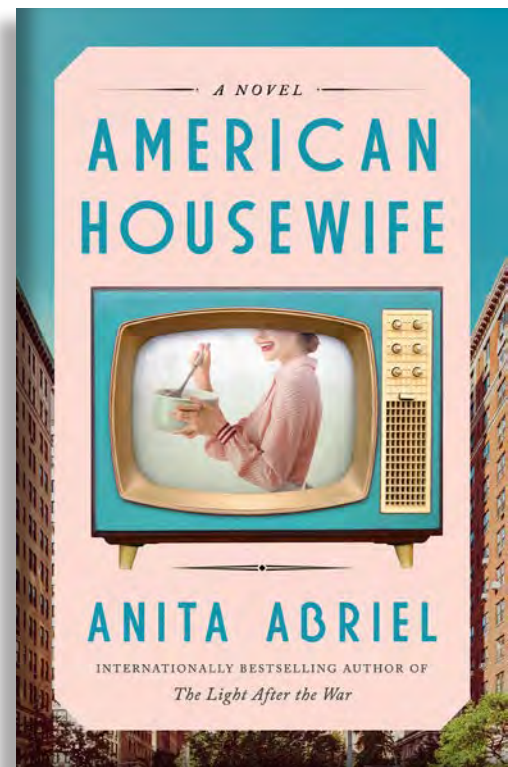
## About the Author

Anita Abriel is the internationally bestselling author of *The Philadelphia Heiress*, *The Life She Wanted*, *The Light After the War*, and *Lana's War*. She received a BA in English literature with a minor in creative writing from Bard College. Born in Sydney, Australia, Anita now lives in California with her family. Her hobbies include walking on the beach, seeing classic movies, reading, and traveling. For more information, visit [www.anitaabriel.com](http://www.anitaabriel.com).

## Praise for Anita Abriel

"This is a fast-paced historical read that examines the roles of men and women in the 1920s, what was accepted and what was not, and the idea that sometimes what you are looking for is right in front of you." —**Booklist**

"A delightful read from cover to cover... Abriel weaves a stunning tale of love and friendship while taking the reader on a masterful journey of self-discovery, where at the very heart is a woman of courage, loyalty, and ambition." —**Rochelle B. Weinstein, author of *When We Let Go***



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	271
ISBN-13	9781662525537

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Philadelphia Heiress*  
*The Life She Wanted*



# The Sun's Shadow

SEJAL BADANI

JANUARY 28, 2025

**From the bestselling author of *The Storyteller's Secret* comes an unflinching exploration of betrayal, forgiveness, and the healing power of a second chance.**

Celine's life is spiraling out of control. She's in danger of losing the beloved equestrian farm that was her childhood home. Her distant husband, Eric, is devoting a suspicious amount of time to a stunning new colleague. Then her young son, Brian, receives a devastating cancer diagnosis. As her life falls apart, she faces an impossible fight.

Felicity has uprooted her career and her teenage son, Justin, to get closer to Eric. She's tired of keeping his secrets—that Eric's frequent "business trips" have been time spent with her and Justin. Felicity is determined to get her happily ever after, even if it means confronting Celine at a delicate time.

But when Brian's prognosis worsens, and a transplant from Justin becomes his best chance at survival, Felicity must make a wrenching decision about her son's well-being—and Celine must accept that the "other woman" is her only hope.

In another life Celine and Felicity might have been friends. Can they put aside the pain between them to do what's best for their families—and their own futures?

## About the Author

Sejal Badani is the Amazon Charts, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *The Storyteller's Secret* and *Trail of Broken Wings*. She is also a Goodreads Best Fiction award and ABC/Disney Writing Fellowship finalist whose work has been published in over fifteen languages.

## Praise for Sejal Badani

"This stimulating novel reads like a true-to-life story...The descriptions of the lives of both common villagers and the well-off are informative. The insights into the local customs and traditions might be an eye-opener even for those familiar with Indians' time-honored ways." —**Historical Novel Society**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	333
ISBN-13	9781662509735

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Storyteller's Secret*  
*Trail of Broken Wings*

# Who Is the Liar

LAURA LEE BAHR

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

**An ingenious novel of suspense about sisterhood, innocence, murderous games, and how far we'll go to protect the ones we love.**

In a tight-knit town in the 1980s, a child-killer is on the loose. And Topaz's parents are on edge. At ten years old, Topaz is so vulnerable. But she has nothing to worry about. Her eldest sister, Ruby, has made sure of that. Swearing Topaz to secrecy, Ruby reveals she has trapped the monster in their root cellar.

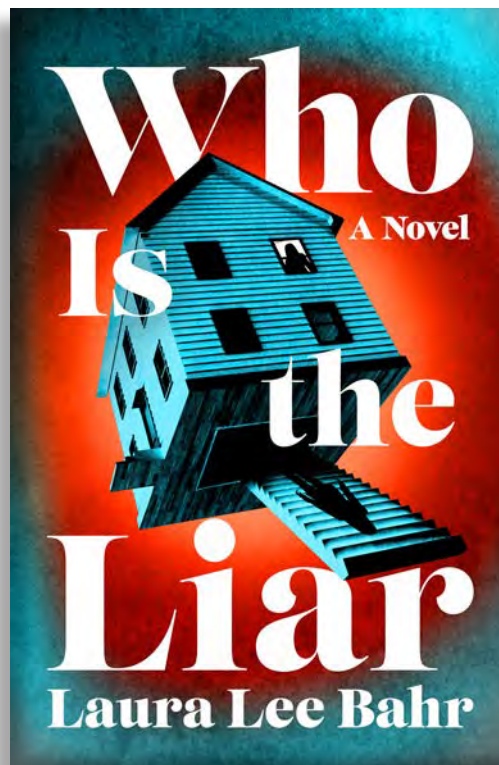
Bound and bloodied in the cold space is kindly Brother Johnson from the church. Pleading with Topaz to cut him loose, he says her reckless sister is a liar. Brother Johnson is right about that: Ruby does lie. She also likes to scare people. Still, even Ruby wouldn't lie about this. Would she? The game—and the secret—is in her hands. But Topaz just wants to do the right thing.

Let Brother Johnson die in the cold space? Or try to set him free—and then see what happens next?

## About the Author

Laura Lee Bahr is the author of the novels *Haunt* (winner of the Wonderland Book Award for Best Novel of 2011), *Long-Form Religious Porn*, and the short story collection, *Angel Meat* (winner of the Wonderland Book Award for Best Collection 2017). Her short stories have been featured in over a dozen literary magazines and anthologies, including the Bram Stoker Award winning anthology *Demons from Black Dog & Leventhal* press, Francesca Lia Block's *Rough Magick* and the Noir Volume of director Nicholas Winding Refn's *byNWR.com*.

Her filmography includes writing/directing the feature film *Boned* (winner of Best Microbudget Feature, Toronto Independent Film Festival), starring Bai Ling (*The Crow*, *Lost*) and Josh Randall (*Ozark*). Bahr was awarded the Spring 2018 writer-in-residence at the Kerouac House in Orlando, FL. She currently lives in Brockton, Massachusetts.



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	TBD
ISBN-13	9781662529030

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Both Things Are True

KATHLEEN BARBER

JULY 8, 2025

**For two exes who meet again, moving on is harder than ever in a funny and heartfelt romantic comedy about starting over by the author of *Truth Be Told*, now a major Apple TV+ series.**

Vanessa is a yoga influencer living high in New York. But after her crypto-entrepreneur fiancé ruins both their lives by fleeing the country amid fraud allegations, Vanessa's only choice is to start over—by flying home to Chicago and moving in with her sister.

Just as Vanessa puts her life back together, she bumps into Sam. Years ago, they fell hard and too fast. Their relationship ended in heartbreak after an impromptu Las Vegas wedding officiated by a Dolly Parton impersonator—and an annulment that was just as sudden. Now Sam is co-owner of a solar company with a promising future, a future Vanessa wants to be included in. But she can't shake the whiff of scandal from her AWOL fiancé, and to protect Sam's reputation, she's keeping her distance. Then again...

If anyone can turn a negative into a positive—and a first love into a second chance—it's a young woman with influence.

## About the Author

Kathleen Barber is the author of *Follow Me* and *Truth Be Told*, which was adapted into a series for Apple TV+ by Reese Witherspoon's Hello Sunshine media company. A graduate of Northwestern University School of Law and a former attorney, she now writes full-time and lives in Washington, DC, with her husband and two children. For more information, visit [www.kathleenbarber.com](http://www.kathleenbarber.com).



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Romantic Comedy
PAGE COUNT	303
ISBN-13	9781662525742

## Rights Available

All Languages

# The Marriage Slip

LAURA BARROW

OCTOBER 7, 2025

**For fans of *In Five Years* and *Maybe in Another Lifetime* comes a moving, funny, and lightly magical tale about a marriage on the brink and how second chances can be found in the unlikeliest of places from the author of *Call the Canaries Home*.**

Staring down a divorce, Audrey Perkins grapples with the prospect of becoming a single mom to her two young daughters. Feeling overwhelmed and underappreciated by her soon-to-be-ex-husband, Travis, she goes about the usual business of carrying the mental load of her family. But when a tumble down the stairs leaves her with more than just a bump on the head, Audrey wakes up five years in the past before the first tear in the fabric of her marriage threatened her trust in Travis.

Tossed back in the throes of new motherhood and a burgeoning career, Audrey must confront the age-old dilemma of balancing her personal and professional life. In the process, she will have to own up to the part she might have played in the separation and decide if her marriage to Travis is the biggest obstacle holding her back from her dreams or the key to having it all.

## About the Author

Laura Barrow is a former teacher and a lover of books. She received her bachelor's degree in music education from Centenary College in northwest Louisiana, where she grew up. She now resides in northeast Texas, just outside Dallas, with her husband, three daughters, and a houseful of pets.

## Praise for Laura Barrow

"A standout new voice in women's fiction...Laura Barrow is officially on my list of must-read authors!" —**Kristy Woodson Harvey, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Summer of Songbirds***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529139

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*If We Ever Get There*  
*Call the Canaries Home*



# Three Mothers

HANNAH BECKERMAN

MAY 1, 2025

**A tense, page-turning domestic suspense story perfect for readers of Lisa Jewell and Liane Moriarty about a teenage girl killed in a hit-and-run accident and the secrets her mother uncovers about her daughter's life—and death—from bestselling author of *The Forgetting* whose books will be translated into over a dozen languages.**

## A heartbroken mother

When seventeen-year-old Isla Richardson is killed in a hit-and-run incident, a community's lives are thrown into disarray. For Isla's mum, Abby, it is her second devastating bereavement, having lost her husband five years ago. As Abby begins to uncover secrets about Isla's life, she's forced to rethink everything she thought she knew about her family.

## A supportive best friend

For Abby's best friend, Nicole, the tragic death sets in motion a chain of events that will have irreparable consequences for her husband and her two teenage sons.

## A determined mum

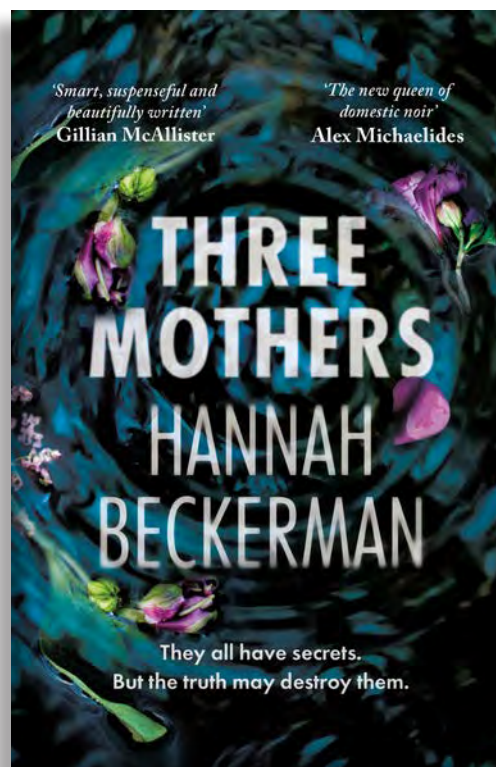
For Jenna, Isla's death threatens to expose secrets about her son's past that she has done everything in her power to hide, to secure him a better future. A tragedy unites them—but it could also tear their families apart. Tackling friendship, family, social prejudice and the pressures facing young women, *Three Mothers* asks: How well do we really know our children? And how far would any of us go to protect the people we love?

## About the Author

Hannah is an author, journalist and broadcaster. She is a book critic and features writer for a range of publications including the *Observer*, the *Guardian* and the *FT Weekend Magazine*, and was the book pundit on the Sara Cox show on BBC Radio 2. A regular chair at festivals and events across the UK, she has interviewed a range of writers and celebrities from Graham Norton and Nigella Lawson to Maggie O'Farrell and Kate Atkinson. She has judged numerous book prizes including the Costa Books Awards. *Three Mothers* is her fifth novel.

## Praise for Hannah Beckerman

"No one is better at heartbreaking suspense than Hannah Beckerman. *Three Mothers* is a twisted murder investigation, with deeply drawn characters that move you, grip you and ultimately shock you. The new queen of domestic noir." —**Alex Michaelides**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	351
ISBN-13	9781662523366

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Forgetting*  
*The Impossible Truths of Love*

# Good Days Bad Days

EMILY BLEEKER

OCTOBER 7, 2025

**A transportive dual timeline novel set between present day and the 1960s in which a successful TV star abandoned in childhood returns to her hometown to say goodbye to her ailing mother and embarks on an unexpected healing journey from *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Emily Bleeker.**

She has good days and bad days, or at least that's what the nurses told Carrie McFadden as she walked into the Lake Path memory care center where her mother was placed after being diagnosed with rapidly progressive dementia.

On the good days, Betty Laramie knows what year it was, her daughter's name, and how many days, weeks, months and years it'd been since Carrie walked out the door, never to return. And on the bad days, Betty is lost back in time when she was a schoolgirl, a wild teen, or the mother of a newborn baby girl.

On the bad days, she thinks her daughter is a stranger or a nurse. On those days she doesn't know Carrie ever left because she doesn't remember she ever existed. There are good days and bad days, that's true, but what Carrie can't figure out is why the bad days feel so good.

## About the Author

Emily Bleeker is a *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of seven novels. Combined, her books have reached over two million readers and counting. When she's not writing or mom-ing, Emily performs on the house team of a local improv group in suburban Chicago, where she lives with her husband, kids, and kitten muse, Hazel. Connect with Emily or request a Zoom visit with your book club at [emilybleeker.com](http://emilybleeker.com).

## Praise for Emily Bleeker

"As a novelist, Emily Bleeker has a genuinely impressive, narrative driven, and distinctive storytelling style that fully engages her readers from first page to last." —*Midwest Book Review*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662531248

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*When We Chased the Light*  
*When We Were Enemies*  
*What's Left Unsaid*

# Mrs. Endicott's Splendid Adventure

RHYS BOWEN

AUGUST 5, 2025

**Blindsided by betrayal in pre-WWII England, a woman charts a daring new course in this captivating tale of resilience, friendship, and new love by the bestselling author of *The Rose Arbor* and *The Venice Sketchbook*.**

Surrey, England, 1938. After thirty devoted years of marriage, Ellie Endicott is blindsided by her husband's appeal for divorce. It's Ellie's opportunity for change too. The unfaithful cad can have the house. She's taking the Bentley. Ellie, her housekeeper Mavis, and her elderly friend Dora—each needing escape—impulsively head for parts unknown in the South of France.

With the Rhône surging beside them, they have nowhere to be and everywhere to go. Until the Bentley breaks down in the inviting fishing hamlet of Saint Benet. Here, Ellie rents an abandoned villa in the hills, makes wonderful friends among the villagers, and finds herself drawn to Nico, a handsome and enigmatic fisherman. As for unexpected destinations, the simple *paradis* of Saint Benet is perfect. But fates soon change when the threat of war encroaches.

Ellie's second act in life is just beginning—and becoming an adventure she never expected.

## About the Author

Rhys Bowen is the *New York Times* bestselling author of more than sixty novels, including *The Paris Assignment*, *Where the Sky Begins*, *The Venice Sketchbook*, *Above the Bay of Angels*, *The Victory Garden*, *The Tuscan Child*, and *In Farleigh Field*, the winner of the Left Coast Crime Award for Best Historical Mystery Novel and the Agatha Award for Best Historical Novel. Bowen's work has won sixteen honors to date, including multiple Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity Awards. Her books have been translated into many languages, and she has fans around the world, including more than seventy thousand Facebook followers. A transplanted Brit, Bowen divides her time between California and Arizona. For more information, visit [rhysbowen.com](http://rhysbowen.com).

## Praise for Rhys Bowen

"Bowen is adept at writing mysteries filled with intriguing clues, satisfying solutions, expertly captured historical settings, and a little romance. A must-add..." —*Library Journal* (starred review)



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527197

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Rose Arbor*  
*The Paris Assignment*  
*Where the Sky Begins*

# The Fourth Daughter

LYN LIAO BUTLER

AUGUST 12, 2025

**For fans of Sonali Dev and Amy Tan comes a poignant family drama in which a chef travels to Taiwan to help her grandmother find a long-lost daughter, uncover family secrets and rediscovering herself in a journey that intertwines past and present, tradition and healing.**

Chef Liv Kuo thought she knew everything about her tight-knit Taiwanese-American family. But when her beloved grandmother reveals a long-buried secret—a fourth daughter given away decades ago—Liv’s world turns upside down.

Escaping the trauma of a tragic incident in New York that left her unable to cook or even leave her apartment, Liv embarks on a life-changing journey to Taiwan. Her mission: to help her grandmother find the daughter she’s been secretly searching for all these years.

With the unexpected help of Simon Huang, a kind stranger she meets upon arrival, Liv navigates the bustling streets of Taiwan, uncovering family secrets that have been simmering for generations. From a precious family cookbook to a shocking betrayal, each revelation brings Liv closer to understanding her roots—and herself.

## About the Author

Lyn Liao Butler is the Amazon bestselling author of thriller *Someone Else’s Life*, and received critical acclaim for her women’s fiction *The Tiger Mom’s Tale* and *Red Thread of Fate*. Lyn was born in Taiwan and moved to the States when she was seven. Before becoming an author, she was a professional ballet and modern dancer, and is still a personal trainer, fitness instructor, and yoga instructor. She is an avid animal lover and fosters dogs as well as volunteers with rescues. Her works have been praised by *Kirkus*, *Publishers Weekly*, and featured in *Forbes*, *Parade*, *PopSugar*, and more.

## Praise for Lyn Liao Butler

“With a poignant tale and beautiful prose, Butler once again whisks us onto a powerful journey of loss, sorrow, but ultimately a journey of quiet strength.” —**Jesse Q. Sutanto, critically acclaimed author of *Dial A for Aunties* and *Red Thread of Fate***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529054

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*What Is Mine*  
*Someone Else’s Life*



# A New Beginning (Ein neuer Anfang)

The Wafer Baker Series Book 2

ADA CAINE

JANUARY 28, 2025

**The gripping sequel to the saga about the Karlsbad wafer baker Burgl by bestselling author Ada Caine.**

Karlsbad, 1895. The passionate wafer baker Burgl has been constantly conjuring up new creations from her oven, with the result that her stand on the banks of the Tepl is flourishing. Much to the displeasure of her competitor Ilse, who is doing everything she can to outstrip her rival and damage Burgl's reputation.

But Burgl isn't giving up. So even more customers can enjoy her wafers, she arranges for the bakery to be rebuilt by the young carpenter Loisl, who also supports her in other ways. The two soon develop feelings for one another. That's when Burgl's brother Franz tries to get back in touch, and Burgl hopes for a reconciliation. She has no idea about the danger she is exposed to due to her sister-in-law's hatred.

## About the Author

Ada Caine loves the charm of old seaside resorts and enjoys traveling to stay in hotels known from earlier times. There, she also finds inspiration for her novels and often sits with her tablet in a café, gathering ideas, writing down incidents, and tracing interesting things.



IMPRINT	Tinte & Feder
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	315
ISBN-13	9782496716740

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Die Hotelerbin*

# The First Witch of Boston

ANDREA MARIE CATALANO

AUGUST 19, 2025

**The life of a wife, mother, and healer is upended in a gripping and intimate historical novel based on the true story of the first woman to be tried as a witch in seventeenth-century New England.**

1646, Massachusetts Bay Colony. Thomas and Margaret Jones arrive from England to build a life in the New World. Though of differing temperaments, cautious Thomas and fiery Margaret, a healer, are bound by a love that has lasted decades. With a child on the way, their new beginning promises only blessings.

But in this austere Puritan community, comely faces hide malicious intent. Wrong moves or words are met with suspicion and Margaret's bold and unguarded nature draws scorn. Soon, Margaret is mistrusted as more cunning woman than kind caregiver. And when personal tragedies, religious hysteria, and wariness of the unknown turn most against her, even the devotion Margaret and her husband share becomes at risk.

Inspired by actual diary entries and court records, *The First Witch of Boston* is at once the riveting story of a woman unjustly accused and a love story set amid the political and social turmoil of both Old and New England. Harrowing, and with deep understanding of the human heart, history is brilliantly imagined.

## About the Author

Andrea Catalano is an historical novelist who holds a Master of Philosophy in Historical Studies degree from University of Cambridge, UK. A Boston-area native, she currently lives in Texas with her husband, children, two fluffy cats, and many, many books. Find her online at [www.andreacatalanoauthor.com](http://www.andreacatalanoauthor.com).



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662526008

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Greek Secret

FRANCESCA CATLOW

APRIL 15, 2025

**Set on the sun-drenched island of Corfu, *Greek Secret* is the perfect romantic getaway for fans of Karen Swan, Kate Frost and Paige Toon.**

When Ruby arrives in Corfu, she's greeted by a sparkling sea, hot sand and a new future. She's ready to learn the trade at her Aunt Hazel's taverna and she's certainly not going to be distracted by Yianni, her handsome colleague, no matter how much they are drawn to each other.

Because getting close to someone again means facing up to her past—and the reason she was so desperate to get away from home in the first place.

But can she let go of the secrets holding her back, take a risk and put her trust in Yianni? And could making a new life for herself in Corfu finally bring her the happiness she deserves?

Let Francesca Catlow whisk you away to Corfu, where the sun always shines, and romance and a new start are in the cards.

## About the Author

Francesca Catlow writes bestselling fiction filled with passionate love stories that feature flawed and sometimes broken characters as they face a crossroads in their life. She often explores heartbreaking themes while also whisking readers off to beautiful locations.

Francesca loves to travel. Born and raised in the heart of Suffolk, England, she has travelled extensively in Europe with her French husband and, more recently, their two children. In 2024 she relocated to France, where she spends her days dreaming up stories and her evenings sitting in her garden relaxing with her family.

In 2023 Francesca was a finalist for the prestigious Kindle Storyteller Award and was nominated for an Innovation Award for her work with libraries in Suffolk.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	383
ISBN-13	9781662526275

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Glamorous Notions

MEGAN CHANCE

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

**A costume designer's past casts a long shadow over her well-constructed lies in this intriguing story about stolen identities, friendship, and betrayal from the author of *A Splendid Ruin* and *A Dangerous Education*.**

Hollywood, 1955. As head costume designer for Lux Pictures, Lena Taylor hears startling confessions from the biggest movie stars. She knows how to keep their secrets—after all, none of their scandals can match her own.

Lena was once Elsie Gruner, the daughter of an Ohio dressmaker. Her gift for fashion design helped her win a coveted spot at an art academy in Rome. While in Italy, she became enthralled by the charismatic Julia, who drew her into a shadowy world of jazz clubs, code words, and mysterious deliveries. When one of Julia's intrigues ended in murder, Elsie found herself in the middle of a bewildering sinister international plot. So she ran.

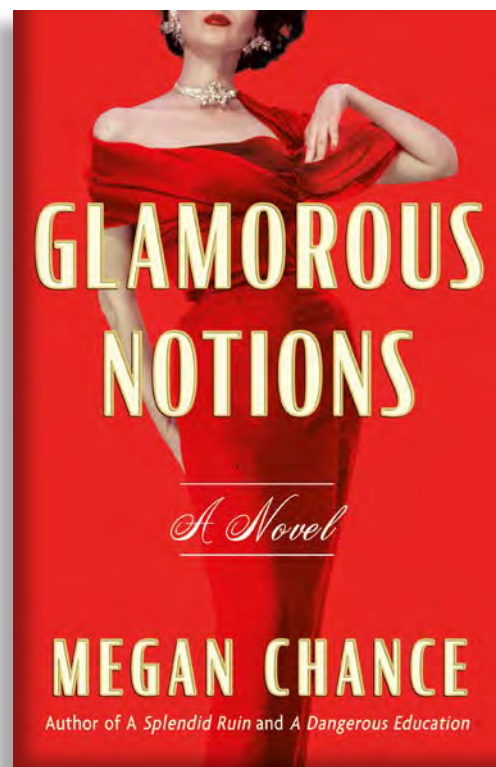
After fleeing to LA, Elsie became Lena—but she's never stopped looking over her shoulder. Now, as her engagement to a screenwriter throws her into the spotlight, she's terrified her façade won't hold up. Will she figure out the truth about her past before everything falls apart?

## About the Author

Megan Chance is the critically acclaimed, award-winning author of more than twenty novels, including *A Dangerous Education*, *A Splendid Ruin*, *Bone River*, and *An Inconvenient Wife*. She and her husband live in the Pacific Northwest, with their two grown daughters nearby. For more information about Megan and her books, visit [www.meganchance.com](http://www.meganchance.com).

## Praise for Megan Chance

"A powerful and thought-provoking story that is impossible to put down." —**Kristin Hannah, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Women***



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	395
ISBN-13	9781662515774

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*A Dangerous Education*  
*A Splendid Run*  
*A Drop of Ink*



# In Another Life

IMOGEN CLARK

AUGUST 26, 2025

**From the million copy bestselling author of *An Unwanted Inheritance* and *Reluctantly Home* comes a novel that asks: how big a lie would you tell to protect the ones you love?**

At the funeral of Loretta Ashton, pillar of the local community, it's standing room only. But her grieving husband and children are startled to see a stranger sitting in the family seats. The woman tells them she's Loretta's sister, then vanishes after the service. But Loretta was an only child. She had no family, other than them.

The others are adamant the woman is a fraud, but Loretta's daughter Bronte is intrigued and starts to dig deeper. Why do they know nothing of Loretta's life before she met their father? And how could she possibly be linked to a family in Sicily a lifetime ago?

Has their mother been living a lie for decades, and, if so, what could have been so devastating that she left her past behind completely? Bronte is determined to find out—even if it means questioning her mother's loyalty to her family, and potentially destroying the life she's always known.

## About the Author

Imogen Clark writes contemporary fiction about families and secrets. She has sold over a million copies of her books and has topped the Amazon Kindle chart eight times. *Where the Story Starts* was shortlisted in the UK for Contemporary Romantic Novel of the Year 2020.

After initially qualifying and working as a lawyer, Imogen left her legal career behind to care for her four children and then returned to her first love—books. She went back to university, studying English Literature part-time whilst the children were at school. It was a short step from there to writing novels.

Imogen's great love is travel and she is always planning her next adventure. She lives in Yorkshire. You can find out more about her by visiting her website <https://imogenclark.com>. She also writes as Izzy Bromley. Visit <https://izzybromley.com/> to discover more.

## Praise for Imogen Clark

"Clark's novel filled with family, friends, and love will surely give Cecelia Ahern and Julie Cohen fans another author to follow." —**Booklist**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662528972

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*A Borrowed Path*  
*Impossible to Forget*  
*Postcards from a Stranger*

# My Husband's Ex Husband

RACHEL COHN AND MELISSA DE LA CRUZ

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

**From *New York Times* bestselling authors Melissa de la Cruz and Rachel Cohn comes a heartwarming and hilarious romp in which two former best friends—married and divorced to the same man—must put their differences aside and track down their mutual ex who went missing ahead of his daughter's wedding in Vienna.**

Audrey and Ian were college best friends. Soulmates. Until they both fell for the same man — and then they both married and divorced him. Their friendship did not survive.

Now, they're reunited in Vienna, where the triangle first became triangulated, for the wedding of Audrey's daughter, and Audrey and Ian, reluctantly and hilariously, must come together to track down the missing father of the bride, their mutual ex.

Will Audrey and Ian have a second chance at friendship and new romances — if they don't implode before the wedding?

## About the Authors

**Rachel Cohn** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of numerous acclaimed books for young adults and an Emmy-winning screenwriter who has written TV episodes for Disney Plus, Netflix and Amazon. Her novels have been translated into twenty-three languages and have been honored as Best Books of the Year by the American Library Association (ALA), the New York Public Library, *Publishers Weekly*, *School Library Journal*, and *Kirkus Reviews*, among others. Three of her books have been adapted for TV/movies: *Dash & Lily* (Netflix), *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist* (Columbia Pictures/Sony) and *Naomi & Ely's No Kiss List* (independent movie).

**Melissa de la Cruz** is the #1 *New York Times*, #1 *Publishers Weekly*, and #1 IndieBound bestselling author of many critically acclaimed and award-winning novels for readers of all ages. Many of her more than seventy books have also topped *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Los Angeles Times* bestseller lists and have been published in over twenty countries. She lives in West Hollywood with her husband and daughter. For more information, visit [www.melissa-delacruz.com](http://www.melissa-delacruz.com).



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662531309

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Good Grief

SARA GOODMAN CONFINO

Book Club Fiction

AUGUST 26, 2025

**Mother and daughter in-laws. To move on, one of them will have to move out in a hopeful and hilarious novel about widowhood and family friction by the bestselling author of *Don't Forget to Write*.**

It's 1963, two years since Barbara Feldman's husband died. Raising two kids, she's finally emerging from her cocoon of grief. Not yet a butterfly, but she's anxious to spread her wings.

Then one day her mother-in-law, Ruth, shows up on her doorstep with five suitcases, expecting a room of her own with a suitable mattress. Abrasive, stuck in her ways, and well-meaning, Mother Ruth has arrived without warning to help with the children. How can Barbara say no to a woman who's a widow herself? Barbara's looking for a way as Ruth's prickly visit turns from days to weeks to what seems like forever. But Barbara has an ingenious plan: introduce Ruth to some fine gentlemen and marry her off as fast as she can.

Soon enough, something tells Barbara that Ruth is trying to do the same for her. At least they're finding common ground—helping each other to move forward. Even if it is in the most unpredictable ways two totally different women ever imagined.

## About the Author

Sara Goodman Confino is the bestselling author of *Don't Forget to Write*, *She's Up to No Good*, and *For the Love of Friends*. She teaches high school journalism and creative writing in Montgomery County, Maryland, where she lives with her husband, two sons, and two miniature schnauzers, Sandy and Gracie. When she's not writing or working out, she can be found on the beach or at a Bruce Springsteen show, sometimes even dancing onstage. For more information, visit [saraconfino.com](http://saraconfino.com).

## Praise for Sara Goodman Confino

"Confino weaves humor into her novel that will delight readers. This is a historical tale that speaks to the choices women were starting to make on the road to greater independence." —*Booklist*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	307
ISBN-13	9781662527531

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Behind Every Good Man*  
*Don't Forget to Write*  
*She's Up to No Good*



# When Stars Align

MELISSA DE LA CRUZ

MAY 1, 2025

**Three girls in Hollywood who thought they'd rule the world. Reality bites in a touching novel about success, friendship, and redemption by a *New York Times* bestselling author.**

Best friends Miranda Montana, Germaine St. Germaine-Chang, and Sicily Bell were the darlings of Hollywood who rose from teen success to in-demand idols of screaming fans and paparazzi. They rode the momentum like there was no tomorrow. But nothing lasts forever.

Now Miranda, the wild-child movie star, drifts from rehab to dead-end relationships as she tries for a comeback from a very public fall from grace. Germaine, the daughter of billionaire hotel moguls, has lost her purpose. And then there's Sicily, the all-American pop star who had a record deal, sold-out concerts, and controlling parents who squeezed the very life out of her. After a decade, fate reconnects these three young women for a long-awaited confrontation with the secrets, betrayals, heartbreak, and family traumas of the past.

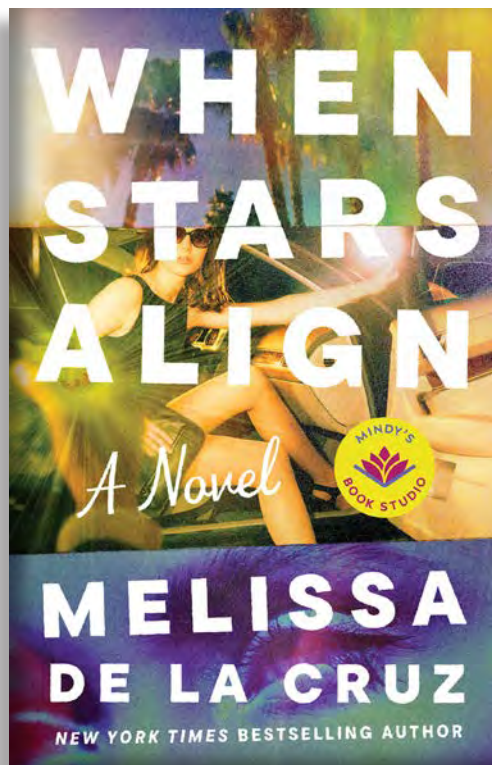
Settling old scores is just the beginning. It's also time to repair the damage done and to hold fast to the most galvanizing success of their lives: their friendship.

## About the Author

Melissa de la Cruz is the #1 *New York Times*, #1 *Publishers Weekly*, and #1 IndieBound bestselling author of many critically acclaimed and award-winning novels for readers of all ages. Many of her more than seventy books have also topped *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Los Angeles Times* bestseller lists and have been published in over twenty countries. She lives in West Hollywood with her husband and daughter. For more information, visit [www.melissa-delacruz.com](http://www.melissa-delacruz.com).

## Praise for Melissa de la Cruz

"An entertaining and poignant coming-of-age story about three young celebrity friends who go through the ups and downs of fame in the glaring eye of the spotlight." —**Mindy Kaling**



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Mindy's Book Studio
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	302
ISBN-13	9781662526534

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Blue Bloods series*  
*Descendants series*  
*Chronicles of Never After series*



# Every Precious and Fragile Thing

BARBARA DAVIS

FEBRUARY 18, 2025

**A mother and daughter try desperately to reconcile just as a decades-old secret threatens to shatter their relationship forever in this powerful story from the bestselling author of *The Echo of Old Books*.**

For social worker Mallory Ward, working with at-risk youth is a calling. But when one of her clients is tragically killed, she finds herself at a crossroads. Despite long-held resentments toward her distant mother, Mallory retreats to her childhood home on the Rhode Island coast to contemplate her future. Instead, she's confronted by her past, not only in the renewed tensions with her mother but in the unexpected appearance of a familiar face—and the wrenching losses that drove her away a decade ago.

Helen Ward's home is filled with precious keepsakes from her patients, a testament to decades spent caring for the terminally ill. Her work has always come first, though, leaving little time to connect with her daughter. Over the years, the rift between them has become a chasm, so when Mallory appears unannounced, Helen sees it as an opportunity to repair their broken relationship.

But hidden among Helen's mementos are the keys to her past...and a terrible secret that threatens to destroy the fragile new trust between them forever.

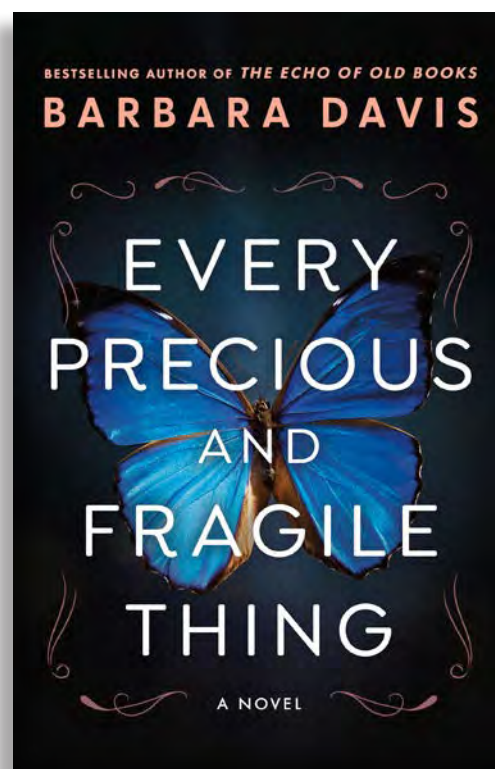
## About the Author

Barbara Davis is the Amazon Charts bestselling author of nine novels, including *The Echo of Old Books*, *The Keeper of Happy Endings*, and *The Last of the Moon Girls*. She spent more than a decade as an executive in the jewelry business before leaving the corporate world to pursue her lifelong passion for writing. A Jersey girl raised in the south, Barbara now lives in Poinciana, Florida, with her husband, Tom. She's currently working on her tenth book. Visit her at [www.barbaradavis-author.com](http://www.barbaradavis-author.com).

## Praise for Barbara Davis

"Delightful... very satisfying, Barbara Davis endings usually are!" —**Midwest Book Review**

"Will resonate with readers who love a tale full of heart and soul." —**Camille Di Maio, bestselling author of *The Memory of Us***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	431
ISBN-13	9781662514463

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

Portuguese (Brazil)

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Echo of Old Books*  
*The Keeper of Happy Endings*  
*The Last of the Moon Girls*

# Such a Bad Influence

GRACE DEMYAN

OCTOBER 21, 2025

**A year after her mother's death, thirty-three-year-old Felicity cannot move past her grief.**

In rural Ohio, all Felicity (AKA “the town doormat”) has left is her dead mother’s blueberry farm and her unprocessed grief. It’s probably not healthy to keep calling her mom’s voicemail number to vent, but she can’t seem to stop. Until one day, her mother’s number calls her back.

It’s eighteen-year-old Alex, a product of the foster system, who’s been assigned her mom’s old number, calling from jail. She has no one to bail her out except the probably-bonkers stranger who keeps leaving her voicemails for a dead woman.

When Alex tells Felicity she has an idea how to stop the local teens from vandalizing her blueberry fields, *Revenge, Inc.*—and a beautiful friendship—is born that will change both their lives

## About the Author

Grace Demyan was born and raised in rural Ohio and currently resides in Alexandria, Virginia. After graduating from Tufts University and Tulane Law School, Grace began her career working for the US Department of Defense. When she’s not writing or reading, she loves visiting historical landmarks, traveling, and listening to country music. She writes contemporary women’s fiction with heart and humor.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529061

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Come Fly with Me

CAMILLE DI MAIO

FEBRUARY 18, 2025

**It's 1962, the dawn of the jet-set era. Hope takes flight for two Pan Am stewardesses navigating an adventurous new life in a novel about love, friendship, and escape by the bestselling author of *The Memory of Us* and *Until We Meet*.**

Welcome to a glamorous gateway to the jet age.

Judy Goodman and Beverly Caldwell have different reasons for putting continents and oceans between themselves and their disparate pasts, but they have the same desire—to earn a coveted position on an elite team of stewardesses for Pan American Airlines. For Judy, running away from an oppressive marriage in small-town Pennsylvania is a risk she must take. And for Beverly, leaving behind the gilded cage of New York society will allow her to pursue a future of her own making.

Embracing the culture, etiquette, and strict rules of a thrilling and unpredictable new world above the clouds, Judy and Beverly are bound for faraway destinations and opportunities that other women dare only to dream about. But as they build a deep friendship, encounter love and danger, and discover what's truly important, Judy and Beverly must also confront the secrets that could change their lives all over again—and forever.

## About the Author

Camille Di Maio is the bestselling author of *Until We Meet*, *The First Emma*, *The Beautiful Strangers*, *The Way of Beauty*, *Before the Rain Falls*, and *The Memory of Us*. In addition to writing women's fiction, Camille buys too many baked goods at farmers markets, unashamedly belts out Broadway tunes when the mood strikes, and regularly faces her fear of flying to indulge in her passion for travel. She and her husband have worked in real estate for twenty-five years in both Texas and Virginia. Together, they have four children—almost all grown—as well as a large German shepherd who thinks she's a lapdog.

## Praise for Camille Di Maio

"[A]nother deftly crafted and reader-engaging novel by Camille Di Maio, and continues to showcase her genuine flair for originality and narrative storytelling." —**Midwest Book Review**

"Fans of historical women's fiction and light romance will enjoy this pleasant work of historical fiction." —**Booklist**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	347
ISBN-13	9781662523946

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Beautiful Strangers*  
*The Way of Beauty*  
*Before the Rain Falls*



# Hold Strong

ROBERT DUGONI, JEFF LANGHOLZ &  
CHRIS CRABTREE

JANUARY 28, 2025

**From Robert Dugoni, Jeff Langholz and Chris Crabtree comes an epic and inspiring novel—based on true events—about love, heroism, and resilience during the darkest chapters of World War II.**

Sam Carlson is a projectionist in small-town Minnesota, where fantasies unspool in glorious black and white—for him and for his sweetheart, college-bound math whiz Sarah Haber. When the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, Sam is sent to the Philippines and captured as a POW. Brutalized but unbroken by the Bataan Death March and POW camps, Sam is one of eighteen hundred starved and weakened prisoners herded into the cargo hold of a barbaric hell ship called the *Arisan Maru*, his survival doubtful.

Determined to use her math skills on the home front, Sarah is recruited to Washington, DC, into the covert field of code breaking. When Sarah intercepts a message about a Japanese convoy, the US Navy's mission is clear: sink the *Arisan Maru* and send it to the bottom of the South China Sea. Now, the lives of the two young lovers are about to inadvertently collide in one of the most shocking acts of World War II.

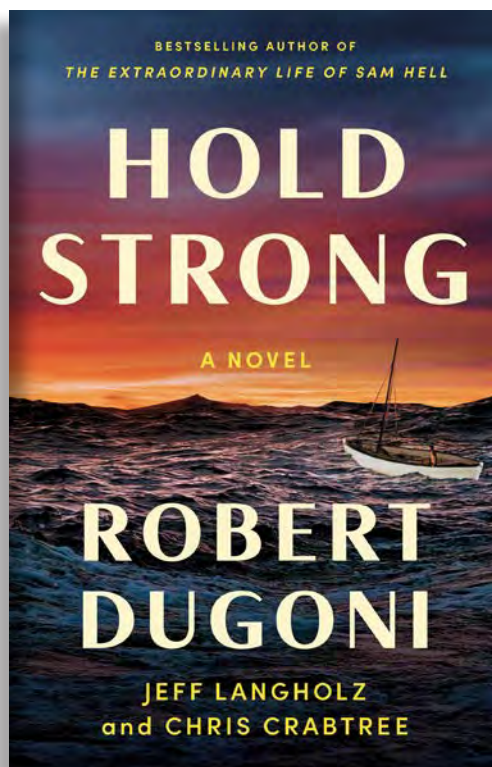
Anchored in an extraordinary true story and breathlessly re-created, *Hold Strong* is a one-of-a-kind novel that explores faith, courage, survival, and coming home against insurmountable odds.

## About the Authors

**Robert Dugoni** is the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author of the Tracy Crosswhite series and several standalone novels, including *A Killing on the Hill*, *The World Played Chess*, and *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*; and coauthor of the nonfiction exposé *The Cyanide Canary*, a *Washington Post* Best Book of the Year. His books are sold in more than twenty-five countries, have been translated into more than thirty languages, and have reached millions of readers worldwide.

**Jeff Langholz**, PhD, is an award-winning teacher, researcher, entrepreneur, and writer whose work has appeared in more than 250 media outlets, including the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, *National Geographic*, and the *Economist*. He lives along Monterey Bay in California.

**Chris Crabtree** teaches middle and high school English language arts and literature at Costa Rica International Academy in Guanacaste, Costa Rica. Chris and his wife, Vera, live in a rustic, rural town on the outskirts of Santa Cruz, Costa Rica, with their dogs Bety and Bruno.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	555
ISBN-13	9781662516306

## Rights Available

Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish

## Other Titles by the Authors

*Tracy Crosswhite series*  
*Keera Dugan series*

# The Warbler

## SARAH BETH DURST

MARCH 1, 2025

**From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lies Among Us* comes a magical tale about mothers and daughters, choices and consequences, and the real meaning of home when every place feels like a cage.**

Ten months. That's the longest Elisa has stayed anyplace, constantly propelled by her fear that if she puts down roots, a family curse will turn her into a tree.

But she's grown tired of flitting from town to town and in and out of relationships. When she discovers a small town in Massachusetts where mysterious forces make it impossible for the residents to leave, she hopes she can change her fate.

As Elisa learns about the town's history, she understands more about the women in her family, who seem doomed to never get what they want. Now she believes she's stuck, too—is that a patch of bark on her arm? But her neighbor's collection of pet birds sings secrets that Elisa can almost understand—secrets she must unravel in order to be truly alive.

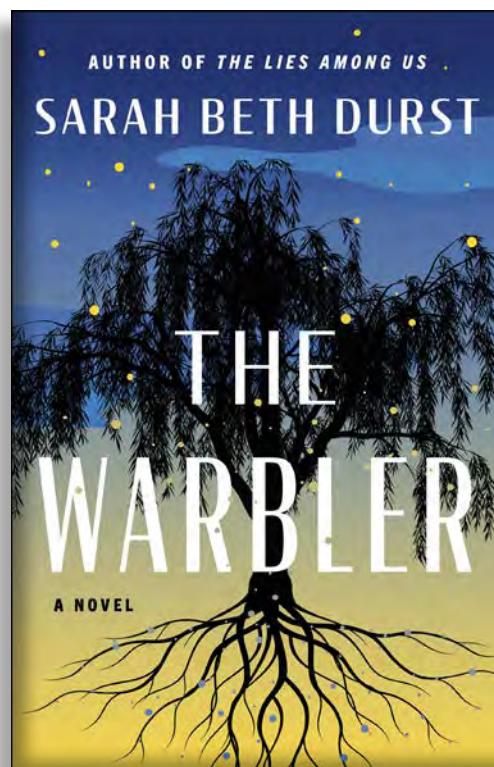
### About the Author

Sarah Beth Durst is the author of over twenty-five books for adults, teens, and kids, including *The Lies Among Us*, *The Spellshop*, *The Lake House*, and *Spark*. Her writing has won an American Library Association Alex Award and a Mythopoeic Fantasy Award, and Durst has been named a finalist for the Andre Norton Nebula Award three times. Several of her books have been optioned for film and television, including *Drink, Slay, Love*, which was made into a TV movie and became the subject of a *Jeopardy!* question. Sarah is a graduate of Princeton University and lives in Stony Brook, New York, with her husband, two children, and an ill-mannered cat. Learn more about the author, her work, and upcoming events by visiting her website at [www.sarahbethdurst.com](http://www.sarahbethdurst.com).

### Praise for Sarah Beth Durst

"Elements of fantasy and magical realism provide an intriguing framework for exploring the ideas of complicated grief and whether not telling the truth can leave real remnants that affect the world around us." —**Booklist**

"An extraordinary and deftly scripted novel by an obviously talented author, *The Lies Among Us* by Sarah Beth Durst is impressively original and will hold a very special appeal to readers with an interest in stories about family, friendship, and the psychological impact of domestic trauma." —**Midwest Book Review**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	335
ISBN-13	9781662524110

first reads  
amazon

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Lies Among Us*

# White Mulberry

ROSA KWON EASTON

DECEMBER 1, 2024

**Inspired by the life of Easton's grandmother, *White Mulberry* is a rich, deeply moving portrait of a young Korean woman in 1930s Japan who is torn between two worlds and must reclaim her true identity to provide a future for her family.**

1928, Japan-occupied Korea. Eleven-year-old Miyoung has dreams too big for her tiny farming village near Pyongyang: to become a teacher, to avoid an arranged marriage, to write her own future. When she is offered the chance to live with her older sister in Japan and continue her education, she is elated, even though it means leaving her sick mother—and her very name—behind.

In Kyoto, anti-Korean sentiment is rising every day, and Miyoung quickly realizes she must pass as Japanese if she expects to survive. Her Japanese name, Miyoko, helps her find a new calling as a nurse, but as the years go by, she fears that her true self is slipping away. She seeks solace in a Korean church group and, within it, finds something she never expected: a romance with an activist that reignites her sense of purpose and gives her a cherished son.

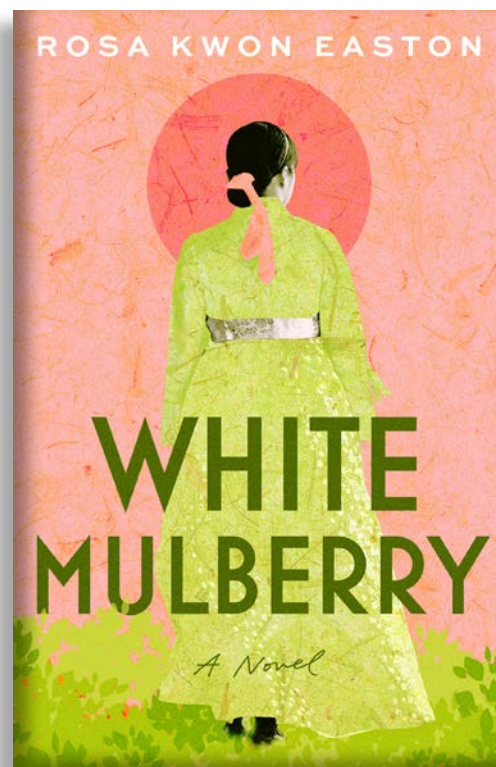
As war looms on a new front and Miyoung feels the constraints of her adopted home tighten, she is faced with a choice that will change her life—and the lives of those she loves—forever.

## About the Author

Rosa Kwon Easton was born in Seoul, Korea, and grew up with her extended family in Los Angeles. Easton holds a bachelor's degree in government from Smith College, a master's in international and public affairs from Columbia University, and a JD from Boston College Law School. She is a lawyer and an elected trustee of the Palos Verdes Library District. She is an Anaphora Writing Residency Fellow, and her work has been published in CRAFT Literary, StoryCenter.org, *Writer's Digest*, and elsewhere. She has two adult children and lives with her husband and Maltipoo in sunny Southern California. For more information, visit [www.rosakwoneaston.com](http://www.rosakwoneaston.com).

## Praise for Rosa Kwon Easton

"A beautiful and deeply researched novel... How does a woman protect her family, honor her heritage, and save herself? If you loved *Pachinko*, you'll love *White Mulberry*." —**Lisa See, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Island of Sea Women* and *Lady Tan's Circle of Women***



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	331
ISBN-13	9781662519697

first reads  


## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

Korean and Hungarian



# The Cut of the Moon

CYNTHIA ELLINGSEN

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

**A startling mystery and a longing for love links two women, a century apart, in a haunting novel about family secrets by the Amazon Charts bestselling author of *The Lost Letters of Aisling*.**

Jewelry designer Lindsey McKenna is thrilled to be working at an antique exhibit at a local landmark that has been her obsession: Wind Thorne mansion. During the 1920s, in Upstate New York, it roared. Until an unsolved murder shadowed its legacy. Today, restored as a museum, Wind Thorne draws throngs of visitors. When one of them approaches Lindsey with an old diary, Lindsey is drawn deeper into Wind Thorne's storied past.

It's 1925 when young Ruby Thornhill steals her beloved sister's engagement ring—a naive but heartfelt attempt to stall an upcoming wedding Ruby fears will tear the siblings apart. What the theft triggers thrusts Ruby into danger, and with it the realization that Wind Thorne is home to secrets that could be inescapable.

Aided by a charming gemologist, Lindsey gradually uncovers Wind Thorne's history—and to Lindsey's surprise, her own history as well. Now two young women, nearly a century apart, are righting the wrongs of their family and putting the past, and all its heartbreaking mysteries, to rest.

## About the Author

Cynthia Ellingsen is the Amazon Charts bestselling author of the Starlight Cove series. *The Lost Letters of Aisling* is her tenth novel. A Michigan native, Cynthia has lived in Los Angeles and Chicago. Currently, she lives in Lexington, KY with her family and two sassy but charming Siamese cats.

## Praise for Cynthia Ellingsen

"Ellingsen's latest is full of beautiful descriptions of Ireland and well-built relationships between her characters. Fans of Ellingsen's *Starlight Cove* will enjoy this departure from that series, and new readers will enjoy reading about this tumultuous time in Irish history, when the war was over but peace was not guaranteed. Perfect for fans of Kate Morton's *The Secret Keeper* or Michelle Gable's *The Bookseller's Secret*." — **Booklist**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529399

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Lost Letters of Aisling*  
*A Play for Revenge*  
*A Bittersweet Surprise*

# Betting on Good

WENDY FRANCIS

MAY 1, 2025

**A Kentucky Derby weekend for two couples tests the high-stakes boundaries of friendship and marriage in a witty, winning, and emotional novel by the author of *Feels Like Summer*.**

Amid the heralded springtime traditions and fabulous splendor of the Kentucky Derby, two Boston couples—longtime friends—indulge in a once-in-a-lifetime getaway. The weekend feels like a winner.

It's a milestone-birthday present for the newly—and reluctantly—turned forty Drew Starling. Her husband, Nate, has spared no expense...despite the mounting gambling debts that Drew knows nothing about. He's certain that with his lucky charm, Drew, by his side, he can reverse his misfortunes at Churchill Downs. Joining them are friends Leslie and Graham, floundering in a twelve-year marriage that desperately needs a change of scenery, a new spark. Graham especially looks forward to being in the Starlings' charmed orbit this weekend, though he won't say why.

When the bourbon begins to flow and the horses thunder down the track, secrets and simmering tensions soon spill. As sure as the bugler's call and the winner's purse, the stakes of marriage and friendship on this revelatory weekend have never been so high.

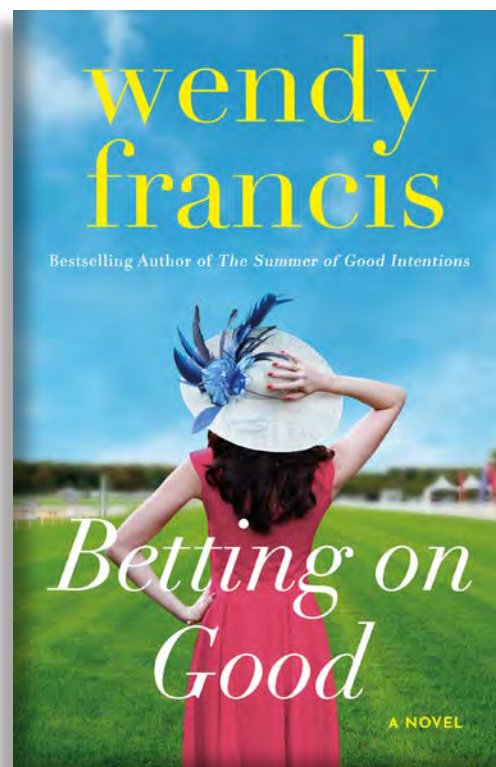
## About the Author

Wendy Francis is a former book editor (Houghton Mifflin) and the author of seven novels, including *Feels Like Summer*, *Summertime Guests*, *The Summer of Good Intentions*, and *Three Good Things*. Her writing has also appeared in *Good Housekeeping*, the *Washington Post*, and NPR's *Cognoscenti*, among others. A graduate of Harvard, she lives outside Boston with her husband and sixteen-year-old son. For more information, visit [www.wendyfrancisauthor.wordpress.com](http://www.wendyfrancisauthor.wordpress.com) or find her on Facebook or Instagram @wendyfrancisauthor.

## Praise for Wendy Francis

"Filled with secrets, intrigue, lovers and betrayals...[*Feels Like Summer*] is extremely well-written and enjoyable." —**New York Post**

"Francis shines as a master storyteller. A must-read for anyone who could use an escape." —**Kristy Woodson Harvey, bestselling author of *The Summer of Songbirds***



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	251
ISBN-13	9781662523014

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Feels Like Summer*



# Their Shadows Deep

PETER GOLDEN

Book Club Fiction

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

**The author of *Nothing Is Forgotten* takes a dark look at power gone too far, imagining the connection between JFK's presidential campaign and an ex-cop's investigation into her husband's murder.**

In 1960, Senator John F. Kennedy makes a historic run for the White House. Despite concerns about his Catholicism, Kennedy's outward charm is winning the country over, but his inner demons are putting his candidacy in danger and risk destroying his political career.

That same year, Caitlin Russo, a former cop turned reporter, is devoting her skills to finding her husband's killer. His job as a CIA operative posed its fair share of risks, but when Caitlin discovers his notes about the case that led to his death, she knows there's more to the story than simple tragedy.

As Caitlin and Kennedy search for the people responsible for upending their lives, some ugly truths about American politics and foreign affairs come to light, and Caitlin finds herself in a web of deceit and shattered hopes, realizing that heroes aren't always who they seem.

## About the Author

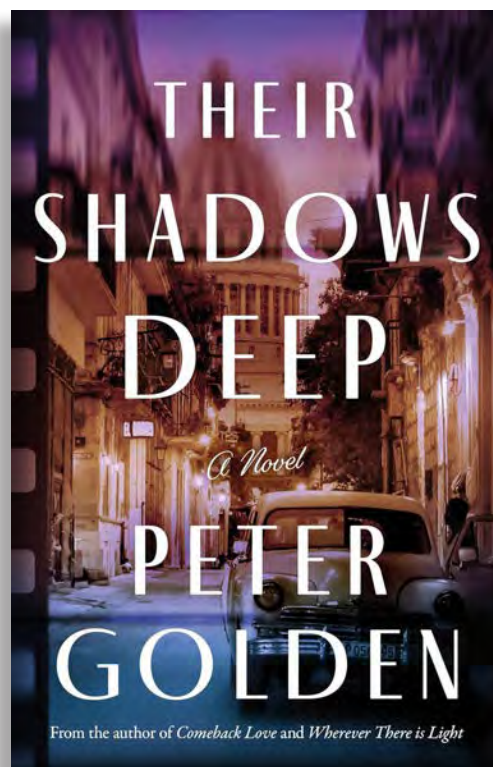
Peter Golden is an award-winning journalist, novelist, and historian. His novels include *Comeback Love*, *Wherever There Is Light*, and *Nothing Is Forgotten*. The author lives with his wife near Albany, New York.

## Praise for *Their Shadows Deep*

"An absorbing story ... Golden knows how to pique our interest ... Vivid characters and strong storytelling." —*The Washington Post*

"Keenly detailed ... compelling ... Author Golden proves his stripes as a historian, detailing the lovers' brief bliss in prewar Greenwich Village, separating them for their individual battles during the war, and reuniting them in a skillfully evoked postwar Paris ... The love story is epic and truly felt. Fascinating, complex." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Each setting is recreated with a socially conscious eye, from the horrifying racism of the Jim Crow South to the Greenwich Village art scene to postwar Paris, whose residents' emotional suffering hasn't dimmed their appreciation for beauty. Julian and Kendall are independent, courageous people who grow over time, and their story feels undeniably romantic." —*Booklist*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	383
ISBN-13	9781662525971

first reads

Rights Available

All Languages

# You'll Find It All Here

LISA GREENWALD

JULY 29, 2025

**An emotional trip down memory lane, author Lisa Greenwald's playful second-chance romance is perfect for anyone who grew up reading her middle-grade books or spent fervent summers away at camp.**

Successful event planner Mira Erdman never expected to see Brush Hill Camp again. But these days, the old sleepaway camp in the Berkshires offers “adult” experiences for New York’s twenty-something Jewish singles. And Mira’s Bubbie knows it’s the perfect place for her granddaughter to find love.

Since losing her mom, Mira has basically given up on dating. But for Bubbie’s sake—and with best friend Josie at her side—she’s resigned to giving grown-up camp a try. The beer garden and coed cabins are wild, though not enough to stop the flood of old memories. And when her onetime camp crush turns up, Mira’s teenage anxieties threaten to resurface . . . along with a rush of other feelings.

Rooted in nostalgia, *You'll Find It All Still Here* weaves together themes of friendship, community, and family. Mira’s soulmate may be out there, but she’ll have to learn to love and accept herself first, with the help of those she holds dearest.

## About the Author

Lisa Greenwald is the author of the TBH books, the Friendship List series, the Pink & Green trilogy, and several other novels for tweens and teens. *You'll Find It All Still Here* is her first novel for adults. A graduate of the New School’s MFA program in writing for children, Greenwald lives in New York City with her husband, daughters, and mini Bernedoodle, Kibbitz.



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	239
ISBN-13	9781662530982

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Not Quite by the Book

JULIE HATCHER

Book Club Fiction

MARCH 1, 2025

**A bookstore owner discovers that life as a recluse isn't for everyone in this sharp yet sweet novel about how sometimes you need to abandon the quest for love to find your true passion.**

Emma Rini is in a rut so deep she could shelve books there. While her sister awaits her first baby, and her parents kick off retirement with vow renewals and travel, Emma stays put among the stacks of the family bookshop.

In fact, she can't remember the last time she took a vacation. Or had a romance that hovered above disappointing. When her parents assume she'll take over the shop for them without a break, she realizes she needs to get away—back to the nineteenth century. Channeling her favorite poet recluse, Emily Dickinson, Emma rents a crumbling manor house outside Amherst where she can learn how to be quietly, blissfully alone.

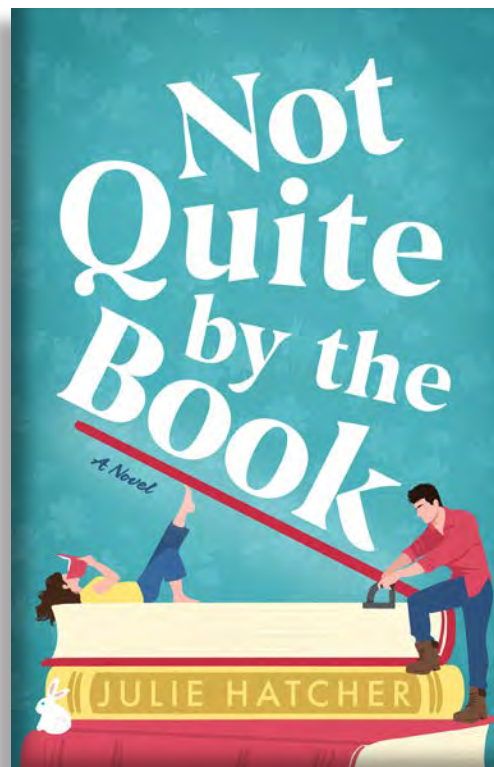
But becoming a world-weary spinster isn't easy. She can't start a fire or reason with the bunnies that are destroying the garden. She finds herself sparring constantly with the grumpy-hot architect who is renovating the manor. And then there's the secret admirer who keeps sending her complicated floral messages... No matter what she does, the outside world keeps knocking, and Emma starts to dream about the future. Will she forgo love for the family legacy? And will she shrink away or become the sort of bold person fortune favors?

## About the Author

Julie Hatcher is an award-winning and bestselling author of mystery and romantic suspense. She has published more than fifty novels under multiple pen names since her debut in 2013. Writing as Julie Anne Lindsey, Hatcher has earned many accolades for her work, including the 2020 National Readers' Choice Award for Romance Adventure and the 2019 Daphne du Maurier Award for Mystery/Suspense, among others. When she's not creating new worlds or fostering the epic love of fictional characters, Julie can be found in Kent, Ohio, enjoying her blessed Midwestern life—and probably plotting murder with her shamelessly enabling friends. Today she hopes to make someone smile. But one day she plans to change the world.

## Praise for *Not Quite by the Book*

"The latest from Hatcher is a sweet novel about taking chances and believing in yourself...A lovely read..." —**Booklist**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	317
ISBN-13	9781662523465

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

# The Stars and Their Light

OLIVIA HAWKER

APRIL 1, 2025

**In Roswell, New Mexico, the mystery of the unknown grips a sheltered novitiate in a haunting historical novel about fate, agency, and faith by the bestselling author of *October in the Earth*.**

It's 1947 when Sister Mary Agnes arrives in New Mexico. Her mission is to establish a monastery in the town of Roswell, where weeks before rumors of the crash landing of an unidentified craft have triggered a crisis of faith. Residents are drifting away from the divine, awed no longer by the heavens but rather the stars.

In service to the frightened and confused, Sister Mary Agnes soon befriends Betty Campbell, a teenager marked both physically and psychically by the inexplicable event. Mary Agnes is also unsettlingly drawn to Harvey, an attentive handyman refurbishing the monastery—and a firsthand witness to the crash. But as Mary Agnes tries to guide her wayward friends back to the church, it's the fantastic and the forbidden that begin to loom large in her imagination.

Thrown into her own crisis of doubt, Mary Agnes must choose whether to uphold the order in which she came of age or embrace the truth she feels in her heart, despite its terrifying complexity.

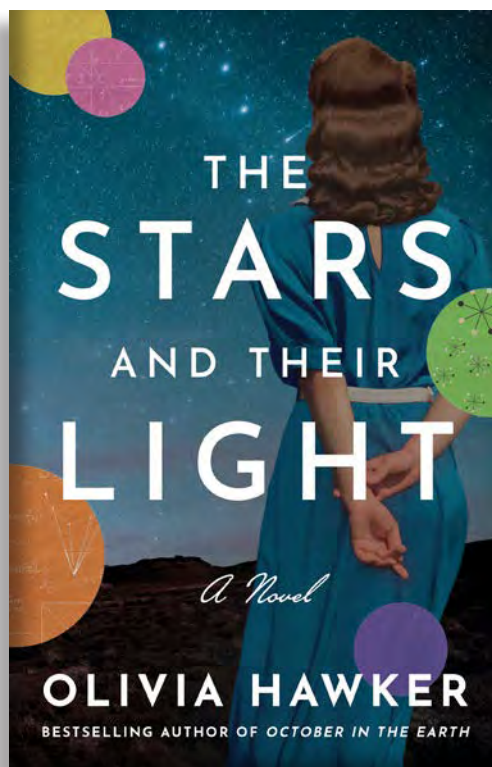
## About the Author

Olivia Hawker is the *Washington Post* bestselling author of *October in the Earth*; *The Fire and the Ore*; *The Rise of Light*; *The Ragged Edge of Night*; and *One for the Blackbird*, *One for the Crow*, a finalist for the Washington State Book Award and the WILLA Literary Award. Olivia resides in Victoria, British Columbia, with her husband and several naughty cats. For more information, visit [www.hawkerbooks.com](http://www.hawkerbooks.com).

## Praise for Olivia Hawker

"Time and place are exceptionally well depicted, and the strong female characters make this a worthy read." —**Booklist**

"A deeply moving novel that is so beautifully crafted you can't help but feel the sun beat down on your back or the snow bite into your skin. The evocative setting and well-researched history combined with nuanced characters make this novel one not to miss." —**Historical Novels Review**



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	379
ISBN-13	9781662511059

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*October in the Earth*  
*The Fire and the Ore*



# The Women of Arlington Hall

JANE HEALEY

JULY 8, 2025

**A female codebreaker puts her future and her heart on the line in a stirring novel about love, loyalty, betrayal, and Cold War spy games by the bestselling author of *The Secret Stealers*.**

1947: Adventurous Radcliffe graduate Catherine “Cat” Killeen cancels her wedding and upends a future that no longer suits her. At the behest of her professor and hungry for a challenge, Cat arrives in Virginia to work on a confidential military project. A student in cryptanalysis, Cat is already ahead of the game to assist in rooting out Soviet spies who have infiltrated the US.

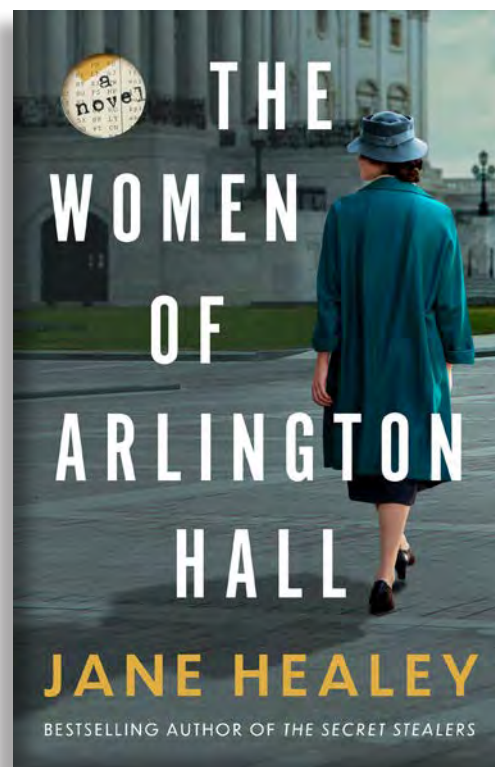
Joining the “government girls” of Arlington Hall, Cat gains the respect of her superiors and the friendship of her peers. Then, on a night out in DC, Cat runs into Jonathan Dardis, her arrogant and privileged Harvard rival and newly minted agent for the FBI. What Cat and Jonathan share is a competitive drive and an attraction that’s becoming just as spirited. They’re also united in the same critical goal for America. Together, they’re diving deep into the shadows of espionage.

## About the Author

Jane Healey is the author of *The Saturday Evening Girls Club*, *Goodnight from Paris*, *The Secret Stealers*, and *The Beantown Girls*, a *Washington Post* and Amazon Charts bestseller. She is also the host of the Historical Happy Hour podcast, where she interviews fellow historical fiction authors about their latest novels. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire and Northeastern University, Jane shares a home north of Boston with her husband, two daughters, a cat, and a dog. For more information on the author and upcoming events, or to schedule a virtual book club visit, please see her website at [www.janehealey.com](http://www.janehealey.com).

## Praise for Jane Healey

“Jane Healey excels at showing ordinary women rising to the occasion in extraordinary circumstances...A riveting story of true heroism.” —**Lauren Willig, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Two Wars and a Wedding***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	355
ISBN-13	9781662526503

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Beantown Girls*  
*The Secret Stealers*  
*Goodnight from Paris*

# What's Yours Is Mine

JENNIFER JABALEY

AUGUST 5, 2025

**For two mothers who want the best for their daughters, there's no such thing as friendly competition in a twisty novel of suspense about ambition, revenge, and unrealized dreams.**

Valerie Yarnell is a hardworking single mother who'd do anything for her daughter, Kate. Kate is a dancer with dreams of stardom, just like her talented best friend, Colette. Despite Valerie's every sacrifice, it's Colette's mother, former prima ballerina Elise, whom Kate simply adores. How can Valerie not feel frustrated, ineffectual, and a little jealous of the queen bee of dance moms when not only has she hijacked her daughter, but Elise is married to the man Valerie pines for?

Rivalries are forming. Tension is mounting. In preparation for an elite dance competition, Kate outshines the more promising Colette onstage, and the pressure is on for Colette to keep her position in the spotlight. And especially to keep her demanding mother happy. Who could have foreseen the violent attack that sabotages everything? Anyone who's been watching closely.

As ruthless and sinister ambitions are suddenly exposed, a media firestorm and an explosive town scandal erupt. Before it's all over, two mothers and two daughters learn just how fierce and dangerous a rivalry can still get.

## About the Author

Jennifer Jabaley is the award-winning young adult author of *Lipstick Apology* and *Crush Control*. She won "Georgia Author of the Year" in the Young Adult category and was nominated for Pennsylvania's "Reader's Choice" award. This is her first adult novel but she is already hard at work on two additional manuscripts.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527791

## Rights Available

All Languages

# At the Island's Edge

C. I. JEREZ

Book Club Fiction

MARCH 18, 2025

**An Iraq War veteran returns to Puerto Rico to reconnect with—and confront—the past in a heart-wrenching novel about duty, motherhood, and the healing power of home.**

As a combat medic, Lina LaSalle went to Iraq to save the lives of fellow soldiers. But when her convoy is attacked, she must set aside her identity as a healer and take a life herself.

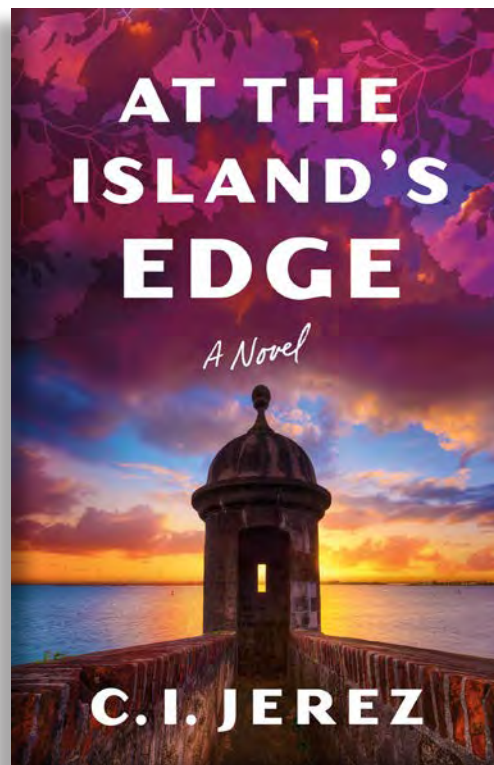
Although she is honored as a hero when she returns to the US, Lina cannot find her footing. She is stricken with PTSD and unsure of how to support her young son, Teó, a little boy with Tourette's. As her attempts to self-medicate become harder to hide, Lina realizes she must do the toughest thing yet: ask for help.

She retreats to her parents' house in Puerto Rico, where Teó thrives under her family's care. Lina finds kinship, too—with a cousin whose dreams were also shattered by the war and with a handsome and caring veteran who sought refuge on the island and runs a neighborhood bar.

But amid the magic of the island are secrets and years of misunderstandings that could erode the very stability she's fighting for. Hope lies on the horizon, but can she keep her gaze steady?

## About the Author

C. I. Jerez, who has a blend of Irish, Puerto Rican, and Cuban parentage, grew up near El Paso's Mexican border experiencing a true cultural amalgamation. After graduating from the University of Texas at El Paso, she commissioned as a signal officer in the US Army and rose to the rank of major before transitioning out of the military. She holds an MBA from Webster University and a doctorate in international business from Liberty University. When not writing, she serves as cofounder and vice president for Ashire Technologies & Services Inc., a cybersecurity firm specializing in securing federal information systems. She lives in central Florida. For more information, visit [www.cijerezbooks.com](http://www.cijerezbooks.com).



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	399
ISBN-13	9781662523427

## Rights Available

All Languages

# The Sideways Life of Denny Voss

HOLLY KENNEDY

APRIL 8, 2025

**In this poignant and funny novel, a man who is defined by his limitations sets out to fight a murder charge—and discovers unexpected truths about himself, his family, and the world at large.**

On the surface, Denny Voss's life in rural Minnesota is a quiet one. At thirty years old, he lives at home with his elderly mother and his beloved blind and deaf Saint Bernard, George. He cleans up roadkill to help pay the bills. Though his prospects are limited by a developmental delay—the result of an accident at birth—Denny has always felt that he has “a good life.”

So how did he wind up being charged with the murder of a mayoral candidate—after crashing a sled full of guns into a tree? As Denny awaits trial, his court-appointed therapist walks him through the events of the past year. Denny's had other scuffles with the law, the first for kidnapping a neighbor's cantankerous goose. And then there was the time he accidentally assisted in a bank robbery. It seems like whenever Denny tries to do the right thing, chaos ensues.

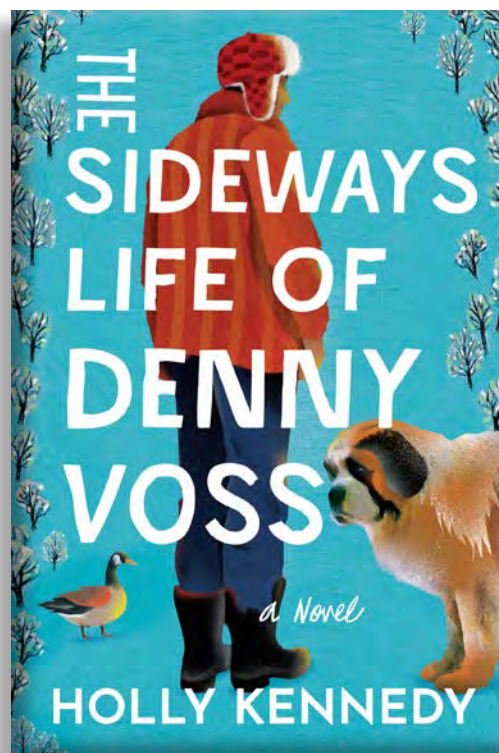
Untangling the events around the murder reveals even more painful truths about his family's past. He's always been surrounded by people who love him, but now it's up to Denny to set his life on a new course.

## About the Author

Born and raised in Canada, Holly Kennedy currently lives near the Rocky Mountains in Alberta with her family and their Newfoundland dog, Wallace. She is the author of four novels, and her books have been translated into multiple languages. When she's not writing, you'll typically find her reading, spending time with family, or (her not-so-secret obsession) watching true-crime shows like *Dateline*. To find out more, visit [www.hollykennedy.com](http://www.hollykennedy.com), or follow her on Facebook and Instagram.

## Praise for the Book

*“The Sideways Life of Denny Voss will be a modern classic. Kennedy's Denny is not idealized. Instead, he is fully revealed, with a clarity not seen in the pages of a novel since Carson McCullers wrote *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*. His story is a meditation on justice, bigotry, gun violence, and equity. Read it, perhaps as I did, all night, in one sitting, then look deep into your own community—and into your own heart.”* —**Jacquelyn Mitchard**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Deep End of the Ocean*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	335
ISBN-13	9781662525926

## Rights Available

All Languages



# The Artist of Blackberry Grange

PAULETTE KENNEDY

MAY 1, 2025

**For a young caregiver in the Ozarks, an old house holds haunting memories in a ghostly novel about family secrets, sacrifice, and lost loves by the author of *The Devil and Mrs. Davenport*.**

In the summer of 1925, the winds of change are particularly chilling for a young woman whose life has suddenly become unbalanced.

Devastated by her mother's death and a cruel, broken engagement, Sadie Halloran learns that her great-aunt Marguerite, a renowned artist now in the throes of dementia, needs a live-in companion. Grasping at newfound purpose, Sadie leaves her desolate Kansas City boardinghouse for Blackberry Grange, Marguerite's once-grand mansion sitting precariously atop an Arkansas bluff. Though Marguerite is a fading shell of the vibrant woman Sadie remembers, Marguerite is feverishly compelled to paint eerie, hallucinatory portraits of old lovers—some cherished, some regretted, and some beastly. All of them haunting.

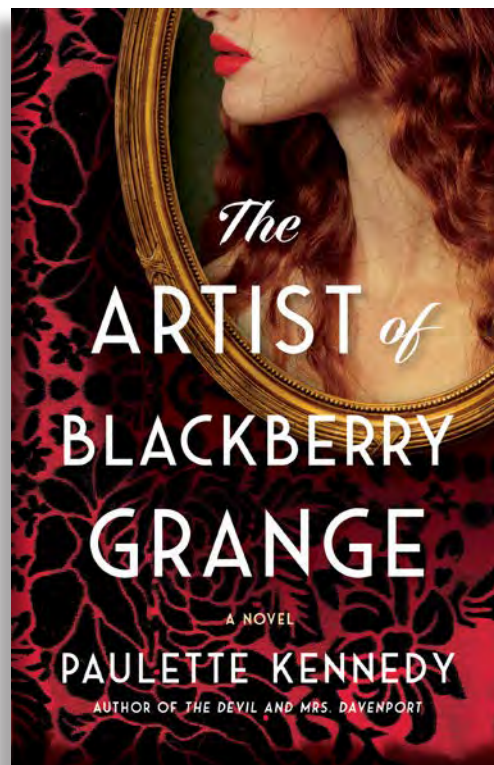
With each passing night, time itself seems to shift with the shadows at Blackberry Grange. As truth and delusion begin to blur, Sadie must uncover the secrets that hold Marguerite captive to her past before reality—and Marguerite's life—slips away entirely.

## About the Author

Paulette Kennedy is the bestselling author of *The Devil and Mrs. Davenport*, *The Witch of Tin Mountain*, and *Parting the Veil*, which received the HNS Review Editor's Choice Award. She has had a lifelong obsession with the gothic. Originally from the Missouri Ozarks, she now lives with her family and a menagerie of rescue pets in sunny Southern California, where sometimes, on the very best days, the mountains are wreathed in fog. For more information, visit [www.paulettekennedy.com](http://www.paulettekennedy.com).

## Praise for the Book

"A bold, fresh story about the ghosts that haunt us and the ones we overcome. Paulette Kennedy explores loss and humility through the eyes of a saucy flapper who may bend the rules but not her sense of morality. This book will linger in your heart like the fond memory of a loved one." —**Mansi Shah, bestselling author of *The Direction of the Wind***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	351
ISBN-13	9781662524158

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Devil and Mrs. Davenport*  
*The Witch of Tin Mountain*  
*Parting the Veil*

# Peter Pulaski Must Pay

JEN LANCASTER

SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

**From *New York Times* bestselling author Jen Lancaster comes a hilarious and twisty novel exploring the complexities of marriage, family, and deception, perfect readers of Richard Osman and Elle Cosimano.**

They call themselves the “Friday Night Doom Crew,” a group of six friends and true crime fans who’ve met for years to discuss cold cases and the latest crime gripping the nation. Wrongdoing feels far away from the crew until one of their own reveals a dark secret.

One night, beloved Doom Crew member Diana dishes about her husband Dr. Peter Pulaski and his instances of appalling disrespect. The group is horrified. Afraid that there’s more going on than meets the eye, the Doomers decide to kidnap Peter and teach him a lesson. But, how far will they go to seek the truth and protect the people they love?

## About the Author

Jen Lancaster is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the novels *Housemoms*, *Here I Go Again*, and *The Gatekeepers*, and the nonfiction works *Welcome to the United States of Anxiety*; *Bitter Is the New Black*; *The Tao of Martha*; *Such a Pretty Fat*; *Bright Lights, Big Ass*; *Stories I’d Tell in Bars*; *Jeneration X*; *My Fair Lazy*; *Pretty in Plaid*; and *I Regret Nothing*, which was named an Amazon Best Book of the Year. Regularly a finalist in the Goodreads Choice Awards, Jen has sold well over a million books documenting her attempts to shape up, grow up, and have it all—sometimes with disastrous results.

She’s also appeared on the *Today* show, *Oprah*, *CBS This Morning*, Fox News, NPR’s *All Things Considered*, and *The Joy Behar Show*, among others. She lives in the Chicago suburbs with her husband and many ill-behaved pets. Visit her website at [www.jenlancaster.com](http://www.jenlancaster.com).

## Praise for Jen Lancaster

“Witty and hilarious...Jen Lancaster is like that friend who always says what you’re thinking—just 1,000 times funnier.”  
—**People**

“No matter what she’s writing, it’s scathingly witty and lots of fun.” —**Publishers Weekly**

“Jen Lancaster is like a modern-day, bawdy Erma Bombeck.” —  
**Lisa Lampanelli, *New York Post***



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662530739

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Anti-Heroes*  
*Housemoms*  
*Welcome to the United States of Anxiety*

# The Secret Librarian

SORAYA M. LANE

AUGUST 26, 2025

**From bestselling historical fiction author Soraya M. Lane comes an inspiring story of espionage and friendship set in Portugal during World War II.**

Lisbon, 1943: American librarian Avery never expected to leave her job at the New York Library to become a spy for her government, operating under the guise of cataloging foreign publications for the Library of Congress. As the only American operative in the city—a place of neutrality where Allied forces, Nazis, and Jewish people lived alongside one another—Avery finds an expected ally in a Frenchwoman.

Camille is a fellow spy who fled France when her husband was killed, though Avery receives a warning from an agent posing as an American journalist—do not trust Camille.

From the smoke-filled rooms of the Hotel Palácio to the dangerous back alleys of a city teeming with hidden agendas, Avery must navigate a world where trust is a valuable currency with deadly consequences. When nothing is as it seems, who can she trust?

## About the Author

Soraya M. Lane graduated with a law degree before realizing that law wasn't the career for her and that her future was in writing. She is the author of historical and contemporary women's fiction, and her novel *Wives of War* was an Amazon Charts bestseller. Soraya lives on a small farm in her native New Zealand with her husband, their two young sons and a collection of four-legged friends. When she's not writing, she loves to be outside playing make-believe with her children or snuggled up inside reading. For more information about Soraya and her books, visit [www.sorayalane.com](http://www.sorayalane.com) or [www.facebook.com/SorayaLaneAuthor](http://www.facebook.com/SorayaLaneAuthor), or follow her on X @ Soraya\_Lane.

## Praise for Soraya M. Lane

"Soraya M. Lane brings history to life in ways that take readers into the heart of some of the most frightening, challenging, and inspiring WWII experiences. Unputdownable!" —**Patricia Sands**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662523199

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Pianist's Wife*  
*The Berlin Sisters*  
*The Secret Midwife*

# The Longing That Remains (Die Sehnsucht, die bleibt)

KERSTIN LANGE

DECEMBER 10, 2024

**A poignant journey between two worlds. The new historical novel by Kerstin Lange.**

Reni Holzer's life is about to change dramatically. As a ten-year-old living in poverty-stricken post-war Vienna, she's unexpectedly chosen for a Caritas program sending underprivileged children to recover abroad. Suddenly, Reni finds herself in sun-drenched Portugal, embraced by a wealthy family and forming an unbreakable bond with her new foster sister, Marissa.

Years later, as Reni blossoms into a young woman, she falls deeply in love with João, a local farmhand. But her newfound happiness is threatened when her foster father disapproves of the match, and her birth mother urgently summons her back to Vienna. Torn between two worlds, Reni must navigate the complexities of love, loyalty, and identity. Will she find a way to reconcile her past with her future, or will she be forced to choose between the life she's built in Portugal and her roots in Austria?

## About the Author

Kerstin Lange, born in 1966 in the Bergisches Land region, worked for many years as a financial accountant before dedicating herself entirely to writing. In addition to several crime novels, she has published numerous short stories, for which she has received multiple awards. Kerstin Lange lives in Düsseldorf with her husband and dog. Following "*Eine Ahnung von Glück*" (A Hint of Happiness), "*Die Sehnsucht, die bleibt*" (The Longing That Remains) is her second novel.



IMPRINT	Tinte & Feder
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	447
ISBN-13	9782496715576

**Amazon**  
AusLese

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Eine leise Ahnung von Glück*



# Falling for You Again

KERRY LONSDALE

Book Club Fiction

JULY 8, 2025

**Fate reunites a young woman with her ex-husband in a delightful and inspiring novel about family, old loves, and marriage on a dare by *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Kerry Lonsdale.**

Furniture artisan Meli Hynes still abides by her uncle's truism: the only lasting love story is the one between artists and their creations. Having already given marriage a shot—for all of twenty-four hours on a Las Vegas fling—Meli made her choice. The wood crafting shop that is her family legacy will always come first.

But when her uncle decides to sell to a competitor, Meli's promised inheritance goes belly-up. She'll do anything to muddle the sale. Including a marriage of convenience to an unforgettable and very practical old friend—the competitor's son, Aaron. With a controlling family of his own, and every bit as impulsive as Meli, Aaron is in.

After all, this isn't the first time he and Meli got hitched on a whim.

The rules of the ruse are simple: public displays of affection and live together as happy newlyweds. The hardest rule of all? Never let real feelings get in the way of what they plan to be a purely professional second time around.

## About the Author

Kerry Lonsdale is the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author of *Find Me in California*, *Side Trip*, *Last Summer*, and *All the Breaking Waves*; the Everything Series (*Everything We Keep*, *Everything We Left Behind*, and *Everything We Give*); and the No More trilogy (*No More Words*, *No More Lies*, and *No More Secrets*). Her work has been translated into more than twenty-seven languages. She resides in Northern California with her husband and two children. For more information, visit [www.kerrylonsdale.com](http://www.kerrylonsdale.com).

## Praise for Kerry Lonsdale

"Lonsdale weaves a brilliantly crafted novel of loss and redemption, forgiveness and hope. Poignant and unputdownable." —**Rochelle B. Weinstein, bestselling author of *What You Do to Me***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	304
ISBN-13	9781662525285

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Find Me in California*  
*No More Secrets*  
*Everything We Keep*

# Lightning in a Mason Jar

CATHERINE MANN

JULY 1, 2025

**In South Carolina, a woman discovers her aunt's profound secrets in an emotional novel spanning decades about trauma, survival, and the bonds of female friendship by a *USA Today* bestselling author.**

Since Bailey Rae Rigby's adoptive aunt Winnie passed, Bent Oak, South Carolina, doesn't have much of a hold on her anymore. So it seems.

Bailey Rae aims to settle the small estate and, armed with her aunt's inspiring personal cookbook, buy a food truck with an ocean view in Myrtle Beach. Everything goes awry when a distraught young mother arrives in town clutching a copy of that same cookbook. Embedded inside is a code that promises a safe place in Bent Oak for desperate women on the run. For Bailey Rae it opens up a world of questions. Who really was the beloved aunt she's known most of her life?

Winnie Ballard's story reaches back fifty years—one of a Southern debutante's harrowing marriage, of her escape and reinvention, and the galvanizing friendship of three resilient women who overcame their traumas, created a shelter, and found purpose. But there's more to Winnie's deliverance and long-held secrets than Bailey Rae imagines.

With each revelation, Bailey Rae draws on her aunt's courage to find purpose herself. For now, whatever threats may come, Bailey Rae isn't going anywhere.

## About the Author

Catherine Mann is a *USA Today* bestselling and award-winning author whose contemporary fiction novels have been published in more than thirty countries. After years of moving around the US, Catherine settled back in her home state of South Carolina with her Harley-riding husband. Empty nesters, they have a blended family of nine children, nine grandchildren, two dogs, and three feral cats, who all provide endless inspiration for new novels. For more information, visit [www.catherinemann.com](http://www.catherinemann.com).



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	271
ISBN-13	9781662525223

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Stepping Out of the Shadows (Wer aus dem Schatten tritt)

An Intense Love Series Book 1

MELANIE METZENTHIN

JANUARY 14, 2025

**The moving start of the new series about a young Hamburg doctor in the 1950s searching for her path in life and finding love. By bestselling author Melanie Metzenthin.**

Hamburg 1958: Full of enthusiasm, young doctor Renate starts her first job in psychiatry. However, she soon realizes that, as a woman, she will not be welcomed with open arms. Through an incident in the clinic, she meets the charming Matthias, who is just starting out on his career as a professional soccer player. They begin dating, but Renate is reluctant to open herself up to him.

Gradually, as the two get closer, Renate realizes how much she has come to care for him. Now, of all days, she needs to focus on work more than ever. Her colleague Dr. Lehmann makes life difficult for her and eventually she is even threatened with dismissal. Will she be able to assert herself?

## About the Author

Melanie Metzenthin lives in Hamburg, where she works as a specialist in psychiatry and psychotherapy. She has already published numerous novels in which mental illnesses often play an important role, including the bestsellers *“Im Lautlosen”* (In the Silent) and *“Die Stimmlosen”* (The Voiceless). Melanie Metzenthin was awarded the DELIA Literary Prize for *“Mehr als die Erinnerung”* (More Than Memory), the first installment of her “Gut Mohlenberg” series.

When writing, the author often draws on her professional experience to turn her fictional characters into credible figures against a realistic background.



IMPRINT	Tinte & Feder
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	315
ISBN-13	9782496716627

**Amazon**  
AusLese

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Leise Helden series*  
*Cut Mohlenberg series*



# Bitter Passage

COLIN MILLS

JANUARY 1, 2025

**A nineteenth-century Arctic expedition descends into a chilling nightmare in a gripping and epic historical novel of discovery, rescue, deliverance, and survival by any means.**

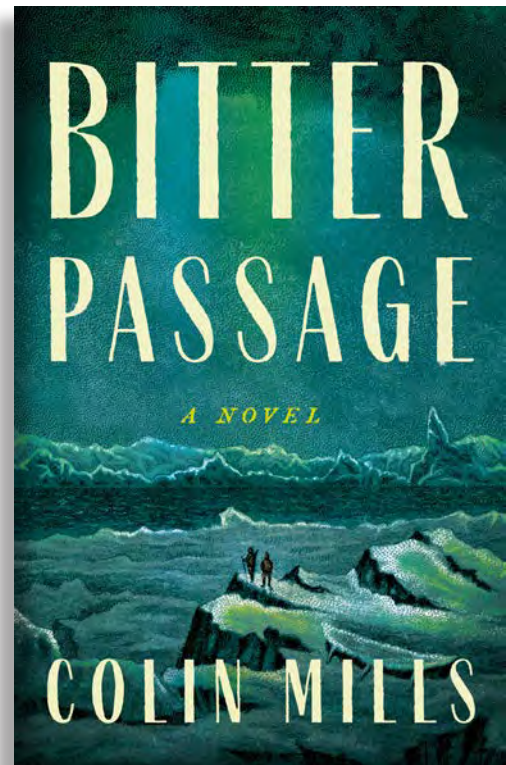
In May 1845, Sir John Franklin, commander of HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror*, departed England to seek a navigable route across the top of the Americas. He and his 128 men never returned.

Four years later, Royal Navy Lieutenant Frederick Robinson and Assistant Surgeon Edward Adams are determined to find the men missing in the Arctic. While they are united in purpose, they are divided in ambition. The pious and idealistic Adams strives to save his boyhood hero. Robinson hungers for promotion through the Admiralty ranks. Weathering a relationship as volatile as the icy, barren land upon which they trek, Robinson and Adams lead a team of seamen in search of the lost expedition. What awaits them is a struggle against not only the elements but each other as loneliness, starvation, and maddening isolation prove more chilling than the deadliest Arctic blast.

A harrowing novel set against the background of true events, *Bitter Passage* explores two men's driving need for redemption and the lengths to which a desperate soul will go to survive.

## About the Author

Colin Mills graduated from the University of Queensland in 1987 with a BA in arts, majoring in Japanese language and literature. He spent most of the next eighteen years in Japan, where, after a brief career as a wire service reporter, he spent ten years in investment banking in Tokyo and a further decade in the portfolio management industry. He left the financial services industry in 2008 and is currently pursuing a PhD in creative writing at the Queensland University of Technology. Colin lives in Brisbane with his wife and two daughters. For more information, visit [www.colinmills.com.au](http://www.colinmills.com.au).



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	303
ISBN-13	9781662520600

first reads

Rights Available

All Languages



# The Last Letter of Rachel Ellsworth

BARBARA O'NEAL

JULY 29, 2025

**Two women overcoming past traumas embark on a healing journey across continents in a novel about friendship, family, and rediscovery by the *USA Today* bestselling author of *When We Believed in Mermaids*.**

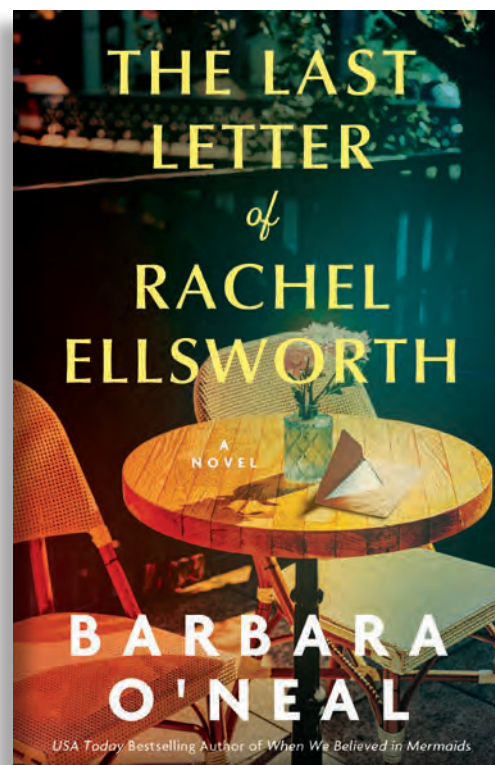
Recently and abruptly divorced Veronica Barrington is anxious for a new direction when she answers a listing for a travel companion. It's from Mariah Ellsworth, a young woman adjusting to an injury that ended her Olympic career. She's also grieving her mother, Rachel, a lauded food writer, and Mariah aims to trace the steps of her mother's final, unfinished project so she can heal and also honor the woman she misses.

Veronica seizes on the opportunity to experience with Mariah the culture, traditions, and intoxicating aromas of Parisi cafés throughout London, Paris, Morocco, and India. Accompanied by a former war photographer who has a wounded history of his own, and with just Rachel's letters to guide them, the quest is a chance to not only close a chapter in life, but to begin a new one.

Following the letters one by one—each a clue to an illuminating mystery—Veronica and Mariah must face the painful and beautiful challenges of freeing themselves from the dark shadows of the past. Together, far from home, they can find the light.

## About the Author

Barbara O'Neal is the *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author of nearly twenty novels of women's fiction, including the #1 Amazon Charts bestseller, *When We Believed in Mermaids*, as well as *Memories of the Lost*, *This Place of Wonder*, and *The Starfish Sisters*. Her award-winning books have been published in over two dozen countries. She lives on the wild Oregon coast with her husband, a British endurance athlete who vows he'll never lose his accent. For more information, visit her online at [www.barbaraoneal.com](http://www.barbaraoneal.com).



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	397
ISBN-13	9781662514937

## Rights Available

Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish

## Other Titles by the Author

*Memories of the Lost*  
*This Place of Wonder*  
*The Starfish Sisters*

# Trust Me on This

LAUREN PARVIZI

APRIL 8, 2025

**Two half sisters on a road trip to see their dying father end up miles from where they expected in an emotional novel about secrets, forgiveness, and what it means to be family by the author of *La Vie, According to Rose*.**

Zahra Starling and her younger half sister, Aurora, have nothing in common. Not their childhoods or their personalities. And certainly not their outlooks. After a terrible loss, Zahra prefers the solitude of her LA kitchen to people, especially family. Bubbly Aurora, a rising Hollywood starlet, has everything she's ever dreamed of, except a relationship with her sister.

Then comes a plea from their dying father, who wants both daughters by his side. He has a secret to share that's been a long time coming.

It's Zahra's last chance to bring closure to the past, even if traumatic memories mean there's no way she's stepping foot on a plane. For Aurora, road-tripping to Seattle is the perfect escape and the chance to win over prickly Zahra.

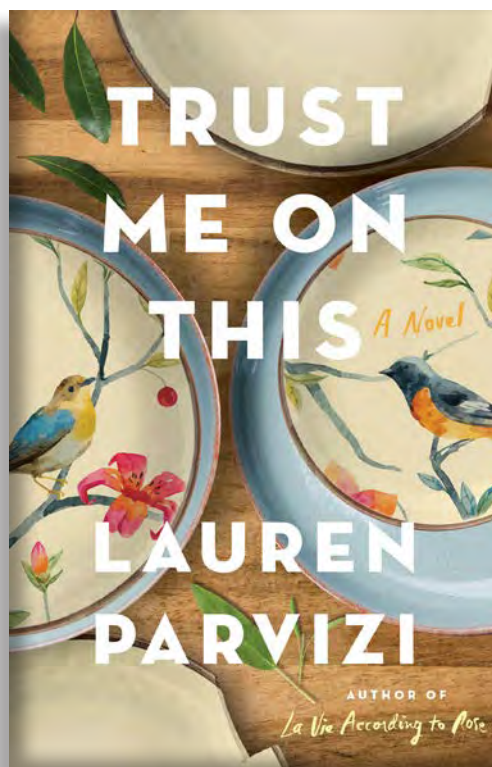
What starts as a rough ride reopening old wounds evolves into something neither expects. When they finally reach their destination—and the truth that awaits them—the sisters will need each other like never before.

## About the Author

Lauren Parvizi is the author of *La Vie, According to Rose*. She worked for more than a decade as a digital editor and content writer, and earned an MFA from San Francisco State University. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and sons. For more information, visit [www.laurenparvizi.com](http://www.laurenparvizi.com).

## Praise for Lauren Parvizi

"Lauren Parvizi deftly weaves romance and intrigue, hardship and humor, culminating in a clever, thoughtful novel that's at once light-hearted and tender...A treat from start to finish!" — **Lori Nelson Spielman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Star-Crossed Sisters of Tuscan***



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Life
PAGE COUNT	367
ISBN-13	9781662523526

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Your Next Life Is Now

NAMRATA PATEL

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

**From the bestselling author and Center for Fiction First Novel Prize nominee Namrata Patel comes a charming, witty novel about the unexpected ways we find ourselves when we're looking for someone else. In it, a daughter announces her engagement while her mother announces her divorce, leading the women to relive their past mistakes and face their present ones.**

When Nikki Parekh accepts her boyfriend Jay's impulsive proposal, she knows something doesn't feel right. But nothing could prepare her for what happens next: her mother Tara, the epitome of practicality, suddenly announces she's divorcing Nikki's father after thirty-five years of marriage—and then disappears in a camper van after being accused of stealing a priceless family heirloom.

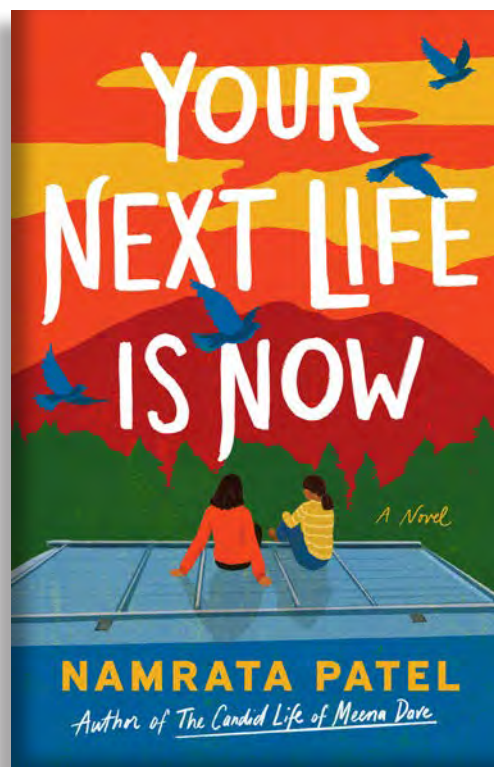
Determined to understand her mother's uncharacteristic behavior, Nikki joins Tara on an impromptu road trip that becomes much more than a search for a missing engagement ring. As mother and daughter traverse the East Coast in a vintage Airstream, long-buried secrets surface, forcing Nikki to question everything she thought she knew about love, marriage, and her own parents' relationship.

## About the Author

Namrata Patel is the bestselling author of *Scent of a Garden* and *The Candid Life of Meena Dave*. She examines diaspora and dual-cultural identity among Indian Americans in her writing and explores this dynamic while also touching on the families we're born with and those we choose. Namrata, who has been writing most of her adult life, has lived in India, New Jersey, Spokane, London, and New York City and currently resides in Boston. For more information, visit [namratapatel.com](http://namratapatel.com).

## Praise for Namrata Patel

"Full of lively characters who will win readers' hearts and keep them thinking long after the book is finished, this book is a genuine, charming debut. Long-buried secrets and a journey of self-discovery will keep the pages turning." —**Booklist**



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529207

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Curious Secrets of Yesterday*  
*Scent of a Garden*  
*The Candid Life of Meena Dave*



# In the Beautiful Dark

MELISSA PAYNE

APRIL 22, 2025

**A woman investigates a friend's long-ago murder in a haunting and hopeful novel about the weight of secrets and regrets by the bestselling author of *The Wild Road Home* and *A Light in the Forest*.**

At Sunny Pines Retirement Community, where the “Sixty-Two and Better!” share their golden years, secrets abound. Some scandalous, some haunting, and some dangerous. For Birdie Allen, a retired business owner and grandmother, her secret is the only thing she’s got left. Getting old isn’t the hardest part about life. It’s the memories from more than fifty years ago of the death of her unrequited love. And Birdie’s abandoned quest to root out the killer.

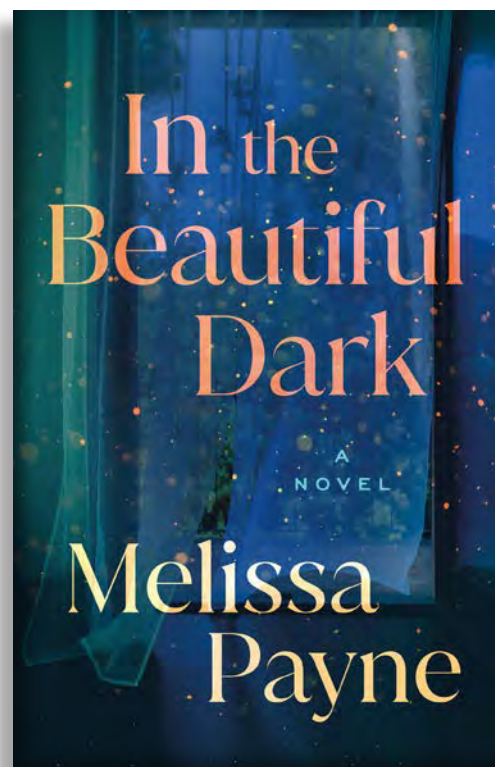
With retirement comes a lot of time to revisit old ghosts, so when Birdie ties together a string of recent murders, and a woman disappears, she’s drawn into the same chase she gave up decades earlier. But this time she has the help of an eccentric community of eager new friends. And they’re not alone. Restless souls are watching, including Birdie’s lost love, and they sense the danger that lies ahead. They’re not leaving Birdie’s side until she finishes what she set out to do. But will Birdie’s pursuit of a killer finally free her of regrets and allow her to embrace the beauty of the life she’s created?

## About the Author

Melissa Payne is the bestselling author of six novels, including *The Wild Road Home*, *A Light in the Forest*, and *The Night of Many Endings*. After an early career raising money for nonprofit organizations, Melissa began dreaming about becoming a published author and wrote her first novel. Her stories feature small mountain towns with characters searching for redemption, love, and second chances. They have been three-time Colorado Book Award finalists and Colorado Authors League 2020 and 2023 winners for mainstream fiction. Melissa lives in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains with her husband and three children, a friendly mutt, a very loud cat, and the occasional bear. For more information, visit [www.melissapayneauthor.com](http://www.melissapayneauthor.com).

## Praise for Melissa Payne

“Richly layered and compassionate to its core, this story of genuine friendships transcending age and class, and the power of rebuilding, will move fans of Catherine Ryan Hyde, Jan Karon, and Kristin Hannah.” —*Booklist*



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	336
ISBN-13	9781662515750

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Wild Road Home*  
*A Light in the Forest*  
*The Night of Many Endings*



# The Rules of Fortune

DANIELLE PRESCOD

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

**A daughter's investigation into her family history threatens to destroy their legacy in a gripping novel about power, money, and secrets by the author of *Token Black Girl*.**

On their Martha's Vineyard estate, the Carter family prepares to celebrate. But when the billionaire patriarch dies right before his seventieth birthday, the media is quick to question the future of the multi-industry conglomerate that makes the Carters living legends. Amid the succession crisis, his daughter, Kennedy, is questioning her father's past.

Kennedy is an aspiring filmmaker, and the documentary she'd planned to present at her father's party begins an inquest into the life of a man she never really knew. A thoughtful outlier in an elite and fiercely guarded dynasty, she's not interested in keeping up the appearances that define her impeccably poised mother or in the capitalist games her ruthless brother plays. Kennedy wants only to understand the origins of their empire, and the lethally ambitious man behind it. That understanding comes at a cost.

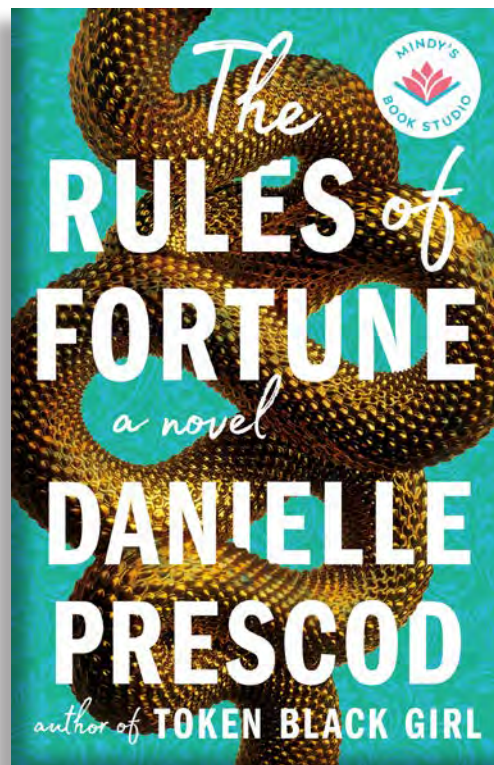
As a twisted history emerges, the fault lines in the family grow. Torn between morality and the promise of maintaining wealth, Kennedy must decide what's most important—the Carter legacy or exposing the shocking truth of how it was built.

## About the Author

Danielle Prescod is the author of *Token Black Girl*, a fifteen-year veteran of the beauty and fashion industry, and a graduate of NYU's Gallatin School of Individualized Study. A lifelong fashion obsessive, she was most recently the style director of BET.com. With Chrissy Rutherford, Danielle cofounded 2BG Consulting, which aids fashion and beauty brands and influencers on their anti-racism journeys. She dedicates her time to researching how feminism and social justice intersect with pop culture. Recently, her work has appeared in *Porter* magazine, *Harper's BAZAAR*, *ELLE*, and *Marie Claire*. An avid reader and writer, Danielle also loves TikTok, the arts, staying active, and especially horseback riding. For more information, visit [www.danielleprescod.com](http://www.danielleprescod.com).

## Praise for the Book

"A gripping novel about power, money, and secrets." —**Mindy Kaling**



IMPRINT	Mindy's Book Studio
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	304
ISBN-13	9781662520143

first reads  
amazon

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Token Black Girl*

# Ever After

AMANDA PROWSE

AUGUST 5, 2025

**A poignant story about the pull of the life you once thought was ahead of you—and the hope that comes from new beginnings—from Amanda Prowse, the multi-million-copy bestselling author.**

Enya's life has become small. Her husband's death has left her bereft, and though she's only in her early fifties, she's happiest looking after her son, Aiden, his childhood sweetheart, Holly, and her beloved cat, Pickle. So the spark she feels for the stranger who bumps into her car in the airport car park is a complete shock. But Enya can't stop thinking about him.

Then, when Aiden makes a life-changing decision, Enya suddenly finds her close-knit community thrown into chaos. Her best friend, Jenny, isn't speaking to her, Aiden's future hangs in the balance, Holly is devastated, and the stranger from the car park is suddenly in her life.

Torn between family, love and loyalty, Enya faces a dilemma: stay safely where she is, or take a leap into the unknown? Because maybe her happily-ever-after could have one more chapter yet . . .

## About the Author

Amanda Prowse is a multi-million-copy bestselling author who has published more than thirty novels and is one of the most prolific writers of contemporary fiction in the UK today.

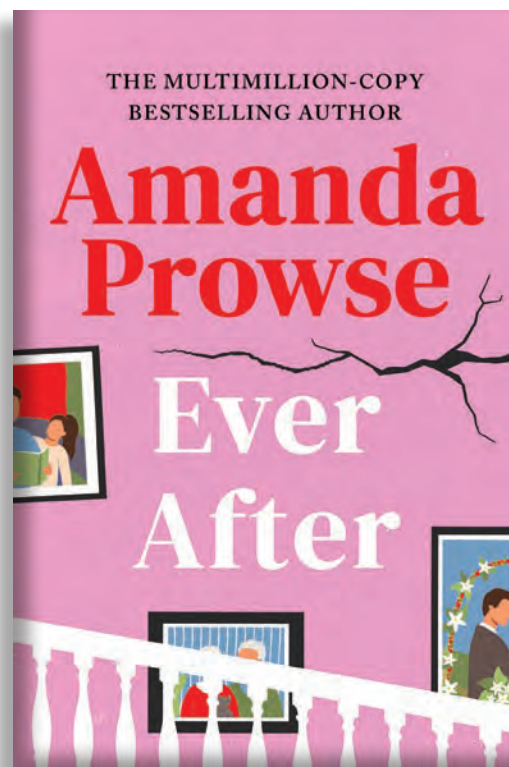
Crowned 'the queen of family drama' by the *Daily Mail*, she writes about life's challenges—from heartbreak and loss to dysfunctional family dynamics—but also about the pockets of delight that can be found in our relationships with others, often when we need them most.

Amanda is known for her relatable characters, emotionally compelling plots, and the sense of connection that readers feel with her stories. She is an ambassador for The Reading Agency and feels passionately about supporting other women, spending as much time as possible outdoors (preferably by the sea!) with her family.

## Praise for Amanda Prowse

"Amanda Prowse is the queen of family drama." —*Daily Mail*

"Uplifting and positive but you may still need a box of tissues." —*Cosmopolitan*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662515200

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*This One Life*  
*Swimming to Lundy*  
*Very, Very Lucky*

# The Master Jeweler

WEINA DAI RANDEL

JUNE 24, 2025

From the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *Night Angels* comes the epic story of a brilliant young woman's dangerous rise to fame in the perilous world of jewelry in 1920s Shanghai—and the power of love and friendship.

Harbin, China, 1925. Fifteen-year-old Anyu Zhang discovers a priceless Fabergé egg in the snow and returns it to the owner, Isaac Mandelburg, a fugitive and former master jeweler for Russia's imperial palace. In gratitude, he leaves her his address in Shanghai and a promise of hospitality, forever altering her fate.

A dazzling world of jewelry shrouded in secrecy and greed awaits, when later Anyu arrives at Mandelburg's jewelry shop as an orphan. Single minded and relentless, Anyu will stop at nothing until she masters the craft of jewelry making. But she soon finds herself entangled in a treacherous underbelly of the city, where violent gangsters stalk the streets, vicious rivals seek to exploit her, and obsessive collectors conspire to destroy the people she loves.

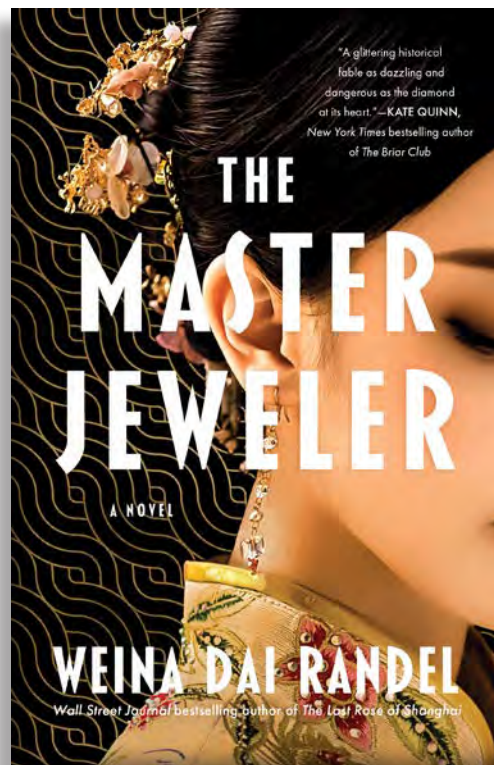
From snow-crowned land to diamond-sparkling showrooms to a pristine island on the brink of war, *The Master Jeweler* chronicles an exciting journey of a bold prodigy artisan—including her losses and triumphs—in a glamorous yet perilous world of treasure.

## About the Author

Weina Dai Randel is the acclaimed author of five historical novels, including the *Wall Street Journal* bestseller *The Last Rose of Shanghai*; *Night Angels*, long-listed for the Massachusetts Book Awards; and the Empress of Bright Moon duology. She is the winner of the RWA RITA Award, a National Jewish Book Awards finalist, and a two-time Goodreads Choice Awards Best Historical Fiction nominee. Her novels have been translated into fifteen foreign languages, including French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Italian, and Hebrew. Weina was born in China, and now lives in Boston with her family. For more information visit [www.weinarandel.com](http://www.weinarandel.com).

## Praise for Weina Dai Randel

"Weina Dai Randel's poignant, sweeping love story paints a vibrant portrait of a little-known slice of World War II history. Not to be missed!" —**Kate Quinn**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Rose Code*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	353
ISBN-13	9781662522536

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

German

## Other Titles by the Author

*Night Angels*  
*The Last Rose of Shanghai*



# Call of the Camino

SUZANNE REDFEARN

OCTOBER 28, 2025

**From the bestselling author of *In An Instant* and *Where Butterflies Wander* comes the moving dual timeline story of two women's transformative journeys as they walk the Camino de Santiago a generation apart.**

Twenty-five-year-old Reina Watkins, an aspiring journalist, never fully got over the loss of her dad who died suddenly when she was eight leaving her an orphan. So, when an unexpected opportunity arises to write a story about the Camino de Santiago, the five-hundred-mile trek he took across Spain when he was her age, she seizes it, having no idea of the true powers of the Way or that her life is about to change forever.

Seventeen-year-old Isabelle Vidal is on the run for her life. With nothing but the clothes on her back, she flees her boarding school in France and heads for the path of St. James, hoping that the old adage "the Camino provides" is true. Her thoughts solely on escape, the last thing she expects to find is love or the promise of a beautiful future with a handsome young American. All of it perfect...until her past catches up with her and threatens to destroy it all.

Two journeys along the same road, twenty-seven years apart, two destinies entwined forever.

## About the Author

Suzanne Redfearn is the award-winning author of six novels: *Hush Little Baby*, *No Ordinary Life*, *In an Instant*, *Hadley and Grace*, *Moment in Time*, and *Where Butterflies Wander*. In addition to being an author, she's also an architect specializing in residential and commercial design. She lives in Laguna Beach, California, where she and her husband own two restaurants: Lumberyard and Slice Pizza and Beer. You can find her at her website, [www.SuzanneRedfearn.com](http://www.SuzanneRedfearn.com), or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SuzanneRedFearnAuthor](http://www.facebook.com/SuzanneRedFearnAuthor).



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662530203

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Where Butterflies Wander*  
*Hadley and Grace*  
*In an Instant*



# Moms Like Us

JORDAN ROTER

Book Club Fiction

MAY 6, 2025

**Set in the cutthroat and neck-lifted world of private school parenting in Los Angeles, *Moms Like Us* is a comedic cautionary tale about how far mothers will go to protect their children, and their secrets.**

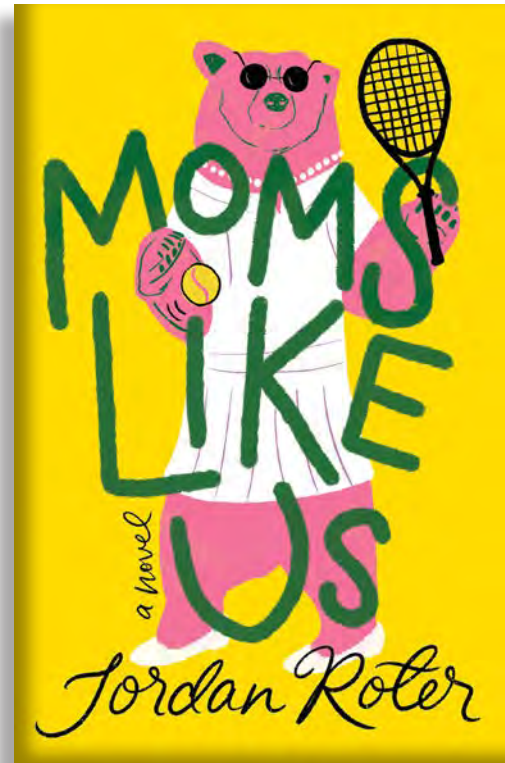
That someone might end up dead at the Palms School's annual glamping trip in Santa Barbara wasn't far-fetched. Taking city people into the woods was begging for murder. What *was* surprising was how far these mothers would go to cover it up.

Meet our moms: Milly craves recognition from her mommunity for devoting herself to the school; Jillian is terrified that her daughter won't get into their preferred private middle school, or any school; Dawn just returned to LA after being banished with her canceled husband and their son, and wants her old life back; and Heather, who secretly engineered Dawn's husband's fall from grace, is shocked that they have returned and, worse, are up for membership at her private tennis club. Over her dead body.

In the ferocious, manicured world of the wealthy and well intentioned, how long can secrets stay hidden, and how far will these women go to protect their children, their reputations, and their darkest desires?

## About the Author

Jordan Roter is a screenwriter, TV writer, producer, and author of the novels *Girl in Development* and *Camp Rules*. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, kids, and their dog, Alfie.



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	267
ISBN-13	9781662524554

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Michael Without Apology

CATHERINE RYAN HYDE

MAY 6, 2025

**A film student struggling with self-acceptance finally stops looking away from his traumatic past in a powerful novel by *New York Times* bestselling author Catherine Ryan Hyde.**

Michael Woodbine was seven years old when a near-fatal fireworks accident scarred him and led to his placement in foster care. Now a college freshman, he is still trying to hide the effects of his trauma from his classmates, his adoptive family, and himself.

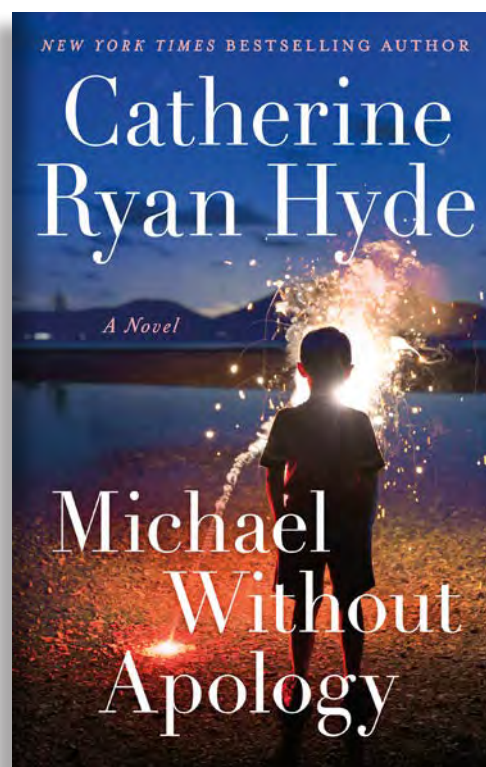
When Michael signs up for a film class, he meets Robert Dunning, a teacher who wears his own scars unapologetically. Robert encourages Michael to make a documentary that explores body image and self-perception. Michael places an ad seeking people who feel unattractive and rejected by society—and is surprised to learn that this is essentially everyone. Although some participants are recovering from injuries or surgeries, others are dealing with more everyday factors like aging or the changes to a body from giving birth.

As he collects these stories—and finally tells his own—Michael feels more connected to the world than he ever has before. But he knows his journey of self-acceptance has one more obstacle: his crushing doubts about why his birth parents wouldn't fight to keep him.

## About the Author

Catherine Ryan Hyde is the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and #1 Amazon Charts bestselling author of nearly fifty books and counting. An avid traveler, equestrian, and amateur photographer, she shares her astrophotography with readers on her website.

Her novel *Pay It Forward* was adapted into a major motion picture, chosen by the American Library Association (ALA) for its Best Books for Young Adults list and translated into more than twenty-three languages for distribution in over thirty countries.



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	367
ISBN-13	9781662522291

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Rolling Toward Clear Skies*  
*A Different Kind of Gone*  
*Just a Regular Boy*

# Always the Quiet Ones

JAMIE LEE SOGN

Book Club Fiction

AUGUST 19, 2025

**In a twisted psychological thriller from author Jamie Lee Sogn, two women make a drunken pact to change their work lives for good, only to find themselves in facing deadly consequences.**

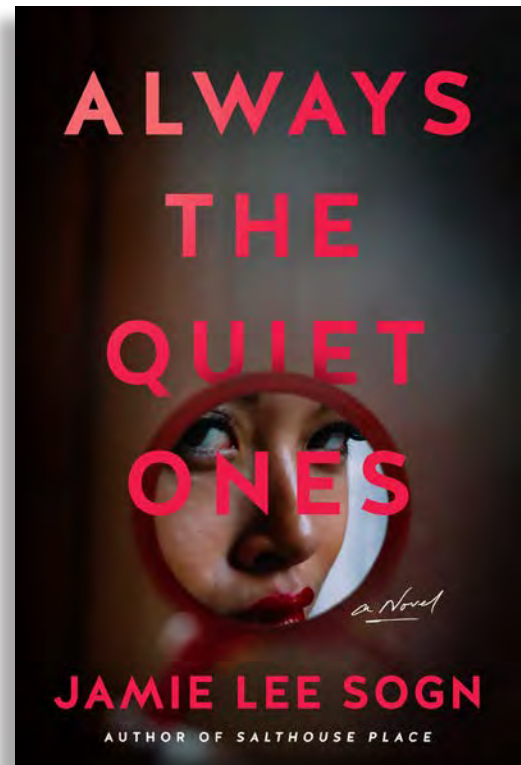
Beatrice “Bea” Ku is sure this is it. The moment she finally receives her hard-earned promotion at the Seattle law firm where the young Filipina American attorney has toiled for five years. She can’t wait to tell her parents—and Allegra, her annoyingly perfect childhood friend. So when her boss betrays her, again, promoting a male colleague instead, she’s so angry she could kill.

Bea tries to suppress that anger, just like her anxiety. But she’s branded “too emotional,” dredging up old memories from high school and her unhealthy coping mechanisms. Allegra and her husband, Caleb, Bea’s former crush, were largely responsible for getting Bea hooked. And her family and friends paid dearly.

Tired of all the gaslighting and toxic masculinity, and emboldened by liquid courage, Bea vows to change things. When a kindred spirit suggests a murder pact, she jokingly agrees. But nobody’s laughing when their deal turns out to be all too real . . .

## About the Author

Jamie Lee Sogn grew up in Olympia, Washington, in a Filipino American home. She studied anthropology and psychology at the University of Washington and received her juris doctor from the University of Oregon School of Law. She is a recovering attorney who writes contracts by day and (much more exciting) fiction by night. Though she has lived in Los Angeles, New York City, and even Eugene, Oregon, she now lives in Seattle with her husband, son, and Boston terrier.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662520068

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Salthouse Place*

# Bald-Faced Liar

VICTORIA HELEN STONE

JUNE 1, 2025

**Living a lie becomes a matter of life and death for a woman hiding from her past in a novel of mounting psychological suspense by the bestselling author of *Jane Doe* and *The Hook*.**

Traveling nurse Elizabeth May has a promising new home in Santa Cruz. And another new identity. It's a pattern of reinvention for a woman escaping a traumatic childhood—and hiding from the decades of notoriety and destruction that followed. Invisibility has kept Elizabeth safe. Until now. After all these years, someone sees her for who she is.

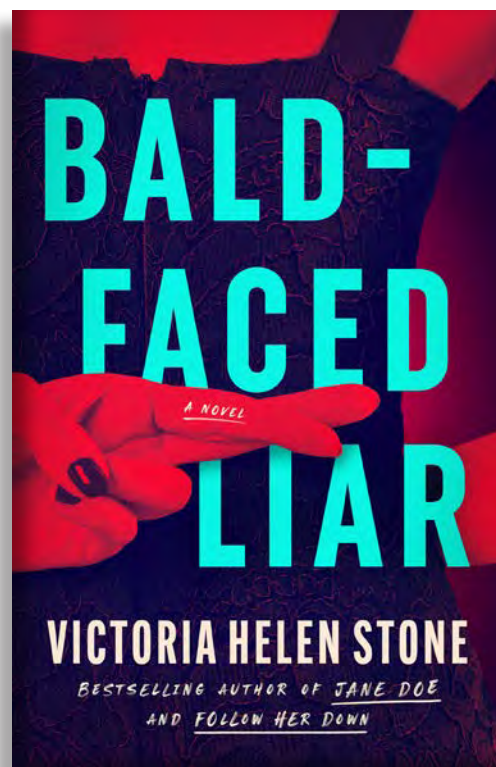
Threat by threat, a vengeful stalker is dismantling Elizabeth's carefully constructed lifetime of lies. And no one in her temporary circle can be trusted. Not her fleeting new love interest. Not the supportive friend she knows only from online forums. And certainly not the police. They've never been there for her.

As dread sharpens to fear, Elizabeth soon discovers something about her past that even she didn't know. The revelation could finally set her on a path of healing and redemption. Or, now alone in the dark, it could be Elizabeth's worst nightmare.

## About the Author

*Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Victoria Helen Stone, author of the runaway hit *Jane Doe*, writes critically acclaimed novels of dark intrigue and emotional suspense. Her work includes *Follow Her Down*, *At the Quiet Edge*, *The Last One Home*, *Problem Child*, *Half Past*, *The Hook*, and the chart-toppers *False Step* and *Evelyn*, *After*.

Victoria writes in her home office high in the Wasatch Mountains of Utah, far from her origins in the flattest plains of Minnesota, Texas, and Oklahoma. She enjoys gorgeous summer trail hikes in the mountains almost as much as she enjoys staying inside by the fire during winter. Victoria is passionate about dessert, true crime, and her terror of mosquitoes, which have targeted her in a diabolical conspiracy to hunt her down no matter the season.



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	318
ISBN-13	9781662514616

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Follow Her Down*  
*The Hook*  
*At the Quiet Edge*



# Family & Other Calamities

LESLIE GRAY STREETER

Book Club Fiction

JUNE 1, 2025

**A successful journalist returns to her hometown just as her biggest mistake becomes headline news in this vibrant, funny, and heartfelt novel about facing life and the past, and its secrets, head-on.**

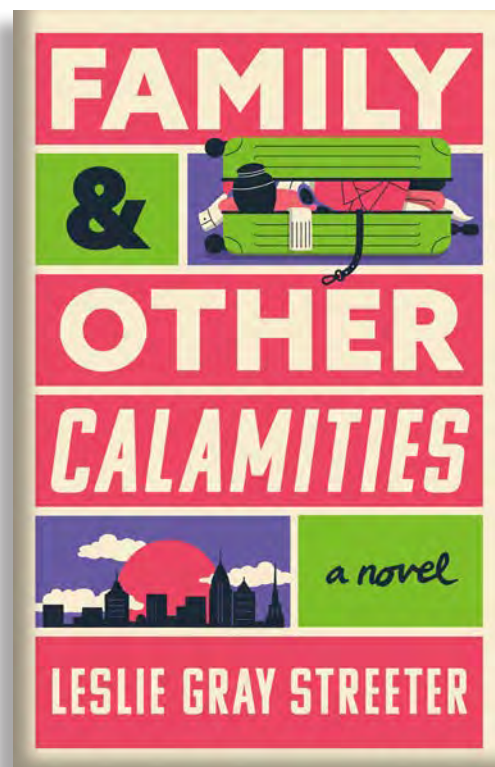
Entertainment journalist Dawn Roberts has a lot to work through: a widow's grief, betrayals of family and friends, and scandals that almost tanked her reputation. Not that Dawn dwells on the past. Well, hardly. When she returns to Baltimore with her husband's ashes, she can't avoid it. In fact, she's diving into decades of backstabbing and treachery for her first trip home in years.

She's looking at you, Joe Perkins. Her former mentor, whose explosive exposé about big-city corruption is being turned into a slanderous movie, is also back in town. The villain of the piece? Dawn. The good news is that this could all be a chance to reset—heal family wounds, admit to her own mistakes, and maybe even reconnect with the one who got away. Oh, and get even with Joe any way she can.

With the surprising help of an up-and-coming journalist and a legendary R & B diva, Dawn will finally set the record straight. Returning home might just be the biggest story in Dawn's life, a fresh start—and happy ending—she never expected.

## About the Author

Leslie Gray Streeter is an award-winning journalist and columnist for the *Baltimore Banner*. She is the author of the memoir *Black Widow: A Sad-Funny Journey Through Grief for People Who Normally Avoid Books with Words Like "Journey" in the Title*, the cohost of the podcast *Fine Beats and Cheeses*, and a frequent speaker on grief. She is also a slow runner, an amateur vegan cook, and a fan of *Law & Order*. Leslie lives in Baltimore, Maryland, with her son, Brooks. For more information, visit [www.lesliegraystreeter.com](http://www.lesliegraystreeter.com).



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	255
ISBN-13	9781662527623

## Rights Available

All Languages

# After Paris

MARY ELLEN TAYLOR

MAY 13, 2025

**From the author of *The Brighter the Light* comes a haunting tale of hope that spans generations, intertwining the lives of three women who fight for survival in 1940s France and present-day Virginia.**

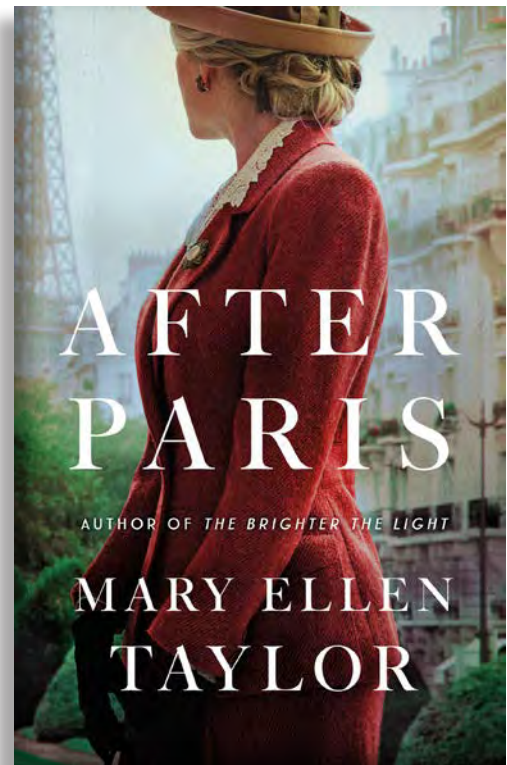
At twenty-five, Ruby Nevins has already endured more than most. But after two years of battling cancer, she's warily determined to move forward. Researching a new project about a French actress, she soon uncovers an old diary that will change her life forever . . .

Cécile, the "it" girl of early 1940s French cinema, vanished from Nazi-occupied Paris in 1942. Sylvia Rousseau, Cécile's dressmaker and confidante, left that same year. Working to piece together the truth behind Cécile's disappearance and Sylvia's extraordinary life, Ruby recognizes the women as kindred spirits. They risked their hearts and lives to aid the Resistance, and each day was a struggle to survive.

Ruby knows her cancer could come back, but she's learning to embrace the future rather than fear it. If Cécile and Sylvia could live their lives in the shadow of death, so can Ruby. Because she knows there's so much life—and love—to fight for.

## About the Author

A southerner by birth, Mary Ellen Taylor has a love for her home state of Virginia that is evident in her contemporary women's fiction. When she's not writing, she spends time baking, hiking, and cycling.



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Romance
PAGE COUNT	335
ISBN-13	9781662513442

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*When the Rain Ends*  
*The Brighter the Light*  
*Honeysuckle Season*

# The Palace at the End of the Sea

## Theo Sterling Series Book 1

### SIMON TOLKIEN

JUNE 1, 2025

**A young man comes of age and crosses continents in search of an identity—and a cause—at the dawn of the Spanish Civil War in a thrilling, timely, and emotional historical saga.**

New York City, 1929. Young Theo Sterling's world begins to unravel as the Great Depression exerts its icy grip. He finds it hard to relate to his parents: his father, a self-made Jewish businessman, refuses to give up on the American dream, and his mother, a refugee from religious persecution in Mexico, holds fast to her Catholic faith.

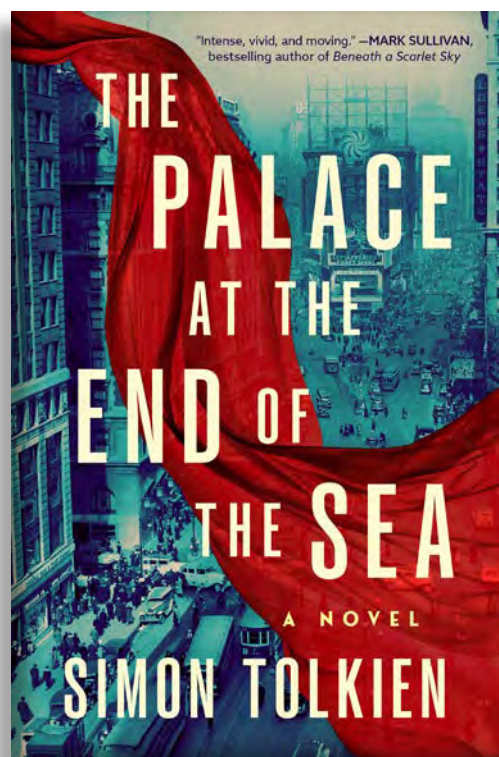
When disaster strikes the family, Theo must learn who he is. A charismatic school friend and a firebrand girl inspire him to believe he can fight Fascism and change the world, but each rebellion comes at a higher price, forcing Theo to question these ideologies too.

### About the Author

Simon Tolkien is the author of *No Man's Land*, *Orders from Berlin*, *The King of Diamonds*, *The Inheritance*, and *Final Witness*. He studied modern history at Trinity College, Oxford, and went on to become a London barrister specializing in criminal defense. Simon is the grandson of J.R.R. Tolkien and is a director of the Tolkien Estate. In 2022 he was named as series consultant to the Amazon TV series *The Rings of Power*. He lives with his wife, vintage fashion author Tracy Tolkien, and their two children, Nicholas and Anna, in Southern California. For more information, visit [www.simontolkien.com](http://www.simontolkien.com).

### Praise for Simon Tolkien

"In epic fashion worthy of his namesake, Tolkien crafts a remarkable novel of an American boy swept up by love and circumstance and cast in the crucible of the Spanish Civil War. Intense, vivid, and moving." —**Mark Sullivan, bestselling author of *Beneath a Scarlet Sky***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	444
ISBN-13	9781662528644

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Room of Lost Steps*

# Just Want You Here

MEREDITH TURITS

MARCH 4, 2025

**An intimate and deeply moving coming-of-age novel about second chances and the inextricable bonds between lovers and friends.**

The only love Ari has known is Morgan. Engaged and planning a life with him in New York, Ari is shocked when Morgan sits her down one rainy afternoon and tells her their decade-long relationship is over. They've been over for a long time now, he says—and Ari knows he's right.

Twenty-eight years old and suddenly alone, Ari throws herself into a new job in Boston, as assistant to a tech CEO. Wells is British, twelve years her senior, a devoted husband and father. He's also captivated by Ari, in a way neither of them can explain. Ignoring every warning signal from friends and their own instincts, they dive into a fiery affair, which becomes more dangerous as Ari finds herself intricately tangled with his wife, Leah.

Nothing can prepare Ari for the choices she must make as she tries to uncover what's right for herself, and for the people she can't let go. As a new path opens—a journey of lies and the twisted calculus of protecting them—Ari's second chance at happiness forces her to consider who she really is. Can you love someone without dragging them under? What does it take to start over again?

## About the Author

Meredith Turits's writing and interviews have appeared in publications including *Vanity Fair*, *ELLE*, BBC.com, *Electric Literature*, the *Paris Review Daily*, and *Bustle*, where she was a founding editor. She graduated from Tufts University and attended the Yale Writers' Workshop. She lives in Connecticut. For more information, visit [www.meredithturits.com](http://www.meredithturits.com).

## Praise for Meredith Turits

"A riveting, honest, and incisive novel about love, lust, and the complications of youth." —**Daisy Alpert Florin, author of *My Last Innocent Year***

"A compelling story about chasing true happiness while trying to do no harm. I found myself reading this novel late into the night, thinking about the characters as if they were my own friends." —**Adrienne Celt, author of *End of the World House***



Book Club Fiction

IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	320
ISBN-13	9781662524004

## Rights Available

All Languages



# The Secrets of Good People

## BOO WALKER WITH PEGGY SHAINBERG

MARCH 18, 2025

**A whirlwind romance. An impulsive marriage. A Floridian paradise. And a murder among friends in a twisty whodunit by Boo Walker, the bestselling author of *The Stars Don't Lie* and *An Echo in Time*, and coauthor Peggy Shainberg.**

On a tiny island off Paradiso, Florida, in 1970, neighbors gather to toast two new arrivals: shy Catherine and her taciturn husband, Dr. Frank Overbrook, who is taking over an old friend's medical practice. It's an intimate welcoming for the newlyweds, who have abandoned city life for swaying palms and an ocean breeze. But the morning after is anything but peaceful when Frank is found dead on the beach.

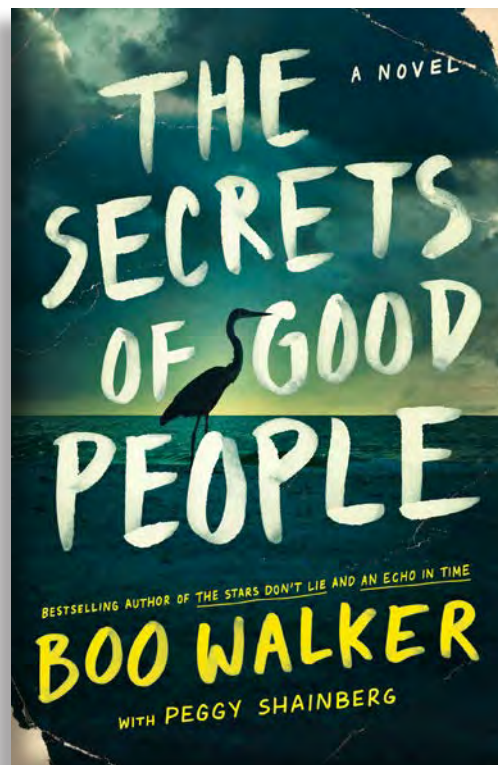
Detective Quentin Jones has his eyes on the island's residents and the welcome party's guest list. There's the retiring doctor and host, as well as his nurse. Volatile marrieds Miriam and her husband, David, constantly at each other's throats. The Carters, a strangely antisocial young couple. And Sylvie, a blind sculptor to whom Quentin lost his heart years ago.

But which one is a murderer? As the investigation unravels a close-knit group of friends, secrets are exposed—and more than one of them is worth killing for.

### About the Authors

**Boo Walker** is the bestselling author of *An Echo in Time*, *The Stars Don't Lie*, *A Spanish Sunrise*, *The Singing Trees*, and *An Unfinished Story*, among other novels. He initially tapped his muse as a songwriter and banjoist in Nashville, but a career-ending hand problem sent him scrambling to find another creative outlet. After a stint as a day trader in Charleston, he bought a farm in a wine-growing region of Washington State, where he found his voice. Boo now resides in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, with his wife, son, and two troublemaking dogs. He also writes thrillers under the pen name Benjamin Blackmore.

**Peggy Shainberg** graduated from Baylor University in 1948 with a degree in journalism. After she and her fiancé were married on the radio program *Bride and Groom*, Peggy embarked on an award-winning career writing for television and radio in Hollywood. In 1965, they moved with their two daughters to Venice, Florida, where Peggy wrote for the Florida Press Association and *The Venice Gondolier*, and began her first, only, and sadly unfinished novel. With the help of her daughters and, serendipitously, author Boo Walker, it has finally found its way to print. The fact that Boo's grandparents were also married on *Bride and Groom* in the exact same year was perfect confirmation that the coauthored *The Secrets of Good People* was meant to be.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	380
ISBN-13	9781662523717

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*An Echo in Time*  
*The Stars Don't Lie*  
*A Spanish Sunrise*

# We Are Made of Stars

ROCHELLE B. WEINSTEIN

FEBRUARY 25, 2025

**Secrets, lies, and second chances are served up beneath the stars at a picturesque mountain getaway in this powerful novel about love and family by the bestselling author of *This Is Not How It Ends*.**

At the Vis Ta Vie inn, Renéé and Jean-Paul De La Rue face the daunting decision to close their beloved home for good.

They're not the only ones going through a season of change, though. Their guests include three couples in crisis: Hollywood celebs Leo and Penny are spending their silver anniversary together while on the cusp of divorce. Lucy, a practical-minded therapist, and Henry, an astronomer with his head in the stars, are struggling to find common ground. And former lawyer and current stay-at-home mom Sienna and charismatic sports agent Adam look perfect but are hiding rifts of their own. Thrown into the mix are self-absorbed single mother Cassidy and her sullen fifteen-year-old daughter, Rosalie.

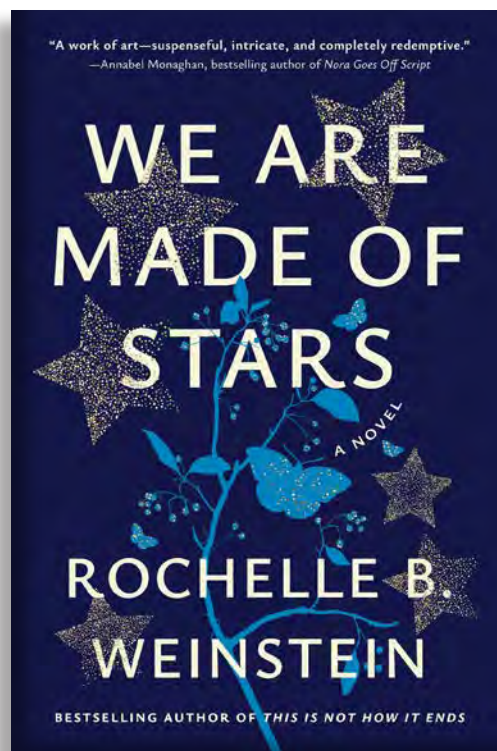
The stage is set for a week of betrayals, regrets, and shocking truths that can rend the heart or heal it. *Vis Ta Vie—live your life*—captures what it means to love through the darkness, and to find the light even after the magic fades.

## About the Author

Rochelle B. Weinstein is the *USA Today* and Amazon bestselling author of eight women's fiction novels, including *What You Do to Me*, *When We Let Go*, *This Is Not How It Ends*, and *Somebody's Daughter*. A former entertainment industry executive, she splits her time between sunny South Florida and the mountains of North Carolina. Rochelle is the monthly book contributor for NBC's *South Florida Live*, Miami's *AQUA Magazine*, and *Women Writers*, *Women's Books* and teaches publishing workshops at Nova Southeastern University. She is currently working on her ninth novel. For more information, visit [www.rochelleweinstein.com](http://www.rochelleweinstein.com).

## Praise for the Book

"With characters so real, you'll feel like you just vacationed with them, *We Are Made of Stars* is at once a page-turner and a story that makes you slow down and examine your own life. Rochelle Weinstein's latest absolutely sparkles with warmth and wisdom." —**Camille Pagán, bestselling author of *Good for You***



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	363
ISBN-13	9781662520884

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*What You Do to Me*  
*When We Let Go*  
*This Is Not How It Ends*

# The Truth Is in the Detours

MARA WILLIAMS

AUGUST 12, 2025

**In this sharp-witted and poignant novel, two former friends with a complicated history are thrown together on an unexpected road trip, where old lies unravel and new truths emerge with every mile marker.**

Ophelia Dahl has just buried her beloved father when she finds among his personal effects a blindsiding document. The mother Ophelia thought died thirty years ago isn't dead after all—she abandoned her. But how could she, and where is she now? With some neighborly help, Ophelia's going to find out.

Beau Augustin is an acclaimed author and Ophelia's childhood bestie turned teenage nemesis, still chafing after all these years. As luck would have it, Beau's current project—family deceptions—is set to take him across the West Coast. Ophelia has a brilliant idea: Beau's book. Her life. Win-win. In a Subaru filled with baggage, they hit the road.

Despite detours, dead ends, and old grudges, Ophelia is desperate to unravel a lifetime of lies. And Beau's research is a little more personal than he's letting on. Mile by mile, they're getting closer to their truths—and to each other—than they ever thought possible.

## About the Author

Mara Williams drafted her first novel in third grade on a spiral notebook—a story about a golden retriever and the stray dog who loved her. Now, she writes novels about strong, messy women trying to find their way in the world. When not writing or reading, Mara can be found enjoying California's beaches, redwoods, and trails with her husband, kids, and disobedient dog.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662528927

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Crime, Mystery & Thriller



# The Boomerang

ROBERT BAILEY

MAY 1, 2025

**John Grisham meets *Yellowstone* in a gripping political thriller by *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Robert Bailey, as one man fights for his family against a government with a shattering secret.**

The president of the United States has terminal cancer. Chief of Staff Eli James, his faithful consigliere and best friend, is one of the few who knows. But just as the president's condition mysteriously improves, Eli's hit with another blow: his daughter has cancer too.

Hell-bent on helping her, Eli turns to Big Pharma's top lobbyist for advice, but their encounter yields more questions than answers. As he races along a twisted trail to the truth, he stumbles upon a devastating cover-up worth billions of dollars—and millions of lives.

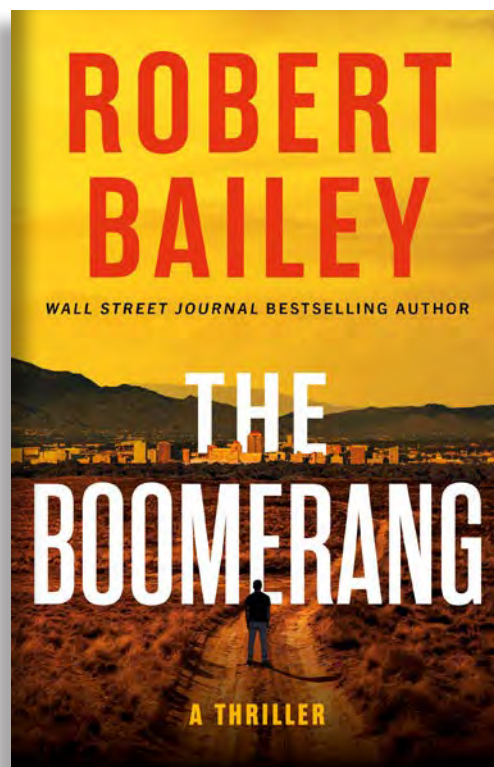
Armed with this deadly secret, Eli goes rogue, fleeing with his family out west. To keep them safe, he forms an uneasy alliance with land baron Nester "the Beast" Sanchez, known for his ruthless power tactics. An epic showdown brews, and it's the state versus one desperate citizen, willing to risk everything to save his daughter. Can Eli broker a truce with his once allies? Or will there be war in the desert?

## About the Author

Robert Bailey is the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of the Jason Rich series, which includes *Rich Justice*, *Rich Waters*, and *Rich Blood*; the Bocephus Haynes series, which includes *The Wrong Side* and *Legacy of Lies*; and the award-winning McMurtrie and Drake legal thriller series, including *The Final Reckoning*, *The Last Trial*, *Between Black and White*, and *The Professor*. He also wrote the inspirational novel *The Golfer's Carol*. *The Boomerang* is Bailey's eleventh novel. The author lives in Huntsville, Alabama, with his wife, Dixie, and they are the proud parents of three children, two dogs, and two cats. For more information, please visit [www.robertbaileybooks.com](http://www.robertbaileybooks.com).

## Praise for the Book

"Breathtaking! A brilliant concept, brilliantly told. *The Boomerang* sets the standard for big, palm-sweating thrillers, with the added extra that it positively brims with that element often missing in such books: heart. Word of warning: before you start, clear your calendar—I guarantee you won't want to stop until the very last page. Bravo!" —**Jeffery Deaver, *New York Times* bestselling author and creator of Colter Shaw, from CBS's *Tracker***



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Political
PAGE COUNT	428
ISBN-13	9781662516665

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Jason Rich series*  
*McMurtrie and Drake series*

# Hello, Juliet

SAMANTHA M. BAILEY

APRIL 29, 2025

**In a dark thriller from *USA Today* bestselling author Samantha M. Bailey, a TV reunion brings costars back for the drama and betrayals their viewers once craved—and this time, the stakes are deadly.**

Ivy Westcott fled LA as her acting career imploded. In a flash, she lost her first love and chosen family—her *Hello, Juliet* castmates. But she never discovered who turned her closest friends against her. Now the whole world knows her as #PoisonIvy.

A decade later, Ivy is horrified when a celebrity exposé thrusts the *Hello, Juliet* cast back into the limelight, dredging up the old scandals she hoped to escape. Desperate for a fresh start and some financial stability for her mother and manager, Ivy agrees to participate in a top-secret reunion episode. Ivy's poised for a comeback, but past betrayals become a present danger when she and the man who once broke her heart find their costar dead.

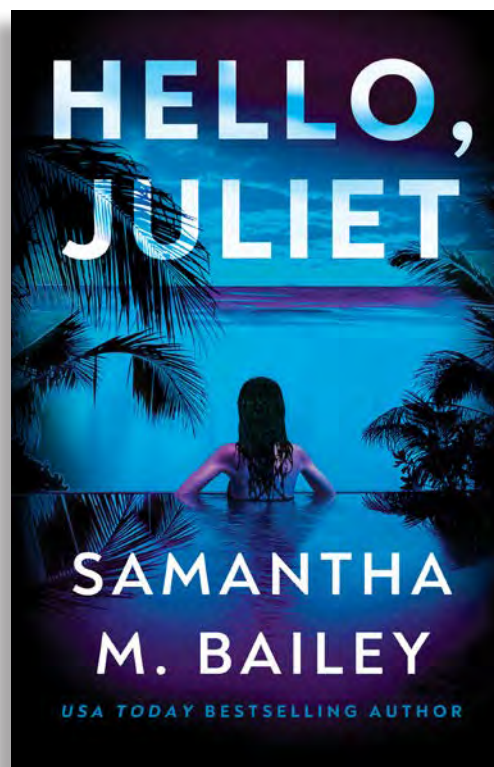
Determined to find justice and clear her name, Ivy must tear down the facades of cast and crew to uncover chilling secrets that have plagued the Hollywood set from day one. Or she could be the next to die.

## About the Author

Samantha M. Bailey is the *USA Today*, Amazon Charts, and #1 international bestselling author of *Woman on the Edge*—optioned for series adaptation—as well as *Watch Out for Her*, *A Friend in the Dark*, and *Hello, Juliet*. Her novels have sold in twelve countries. Samantha lives in Toronto, where she can usually be found tapping away at her computer or curled up on her couch with a book. She's currently working on her next domestic suspense. You can connect with her on Instagram at @sbaileybooks and on Facebook at @SamanthaBaileyAuthor.

## Praise for the Book

"Who do you trust and where do you go when you can't outrun your past? *Hello, Juliet* by Samantha M. Bailey is a wickedly unputdownable thriller teeming with secrets, suspense, and sly revelations. Bailey keeps the tension high and the pages turning in this searing exploration of the darker side of fame. Not to be missed!" —**Heather Gudenkauf, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Overnight Guest* and *Everyone Is Watching***



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	303
ISBN-13	9781662513565

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*A Friend in the Dark*

Crime, Mystery & Thriller

# The Last Morning

CAMDEN BAIRD

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

**In her pulse-pounding psychological thriller debut, author Camden Baird lays bare the anguish and terror of a mother living out her worst nightmare when her young child goes missing.**

Sadie Wilson's heart stops the moment the phone rings. Deep in her soul, she knows what's coming, and the voice on the other end only confirms her fears: Emma never made it to school. Her sweet, scared five-year-old climbed onto the bus for her very first day of kindergarten ... and then vanished.

Struggling to push aside her grief to focus on getting her daughter back, Sadie finds herself slipping deeper into despair. The growing list of suspects weighs heavily on her mind: the secretive teacher, the registered sex offender, the delusional neighbor, the disgruntled ex-wife, the evasive principal—everyone seems to have a connection to Emma. And a surprising grudge to bear.

Thankfully Sadie's got her loving husband, Allen, by her side. But she can't help feeling he's hiding something too.

Edgy and full of twists, *The Last Morning* is an emotional thrill ride, unfolding little by little from each suspect's point of view.

## About the Author

Camden Baird writes fast-paced, emotionally gripping stories that keep you up late turning pages. A *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author, she's published more than forty works of fiction under different pen names. *The Last Morning* is Baird's debut psychological suspense thriller. The author lives in North Carolina.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	287
ISBN-13	9781662530258

## Rights Available

All Languages

# The Brood

REBECCA BAUM

OCTOBER 28, 2025

**A fascinating blend of horror and magical realism, this spine-tingling thriller explores the complex relationship between women and the natural world.**

Cutthroat NYC lawyer Mary Whelton just buried her problematic old mentor. But as she leaves the mourners and protesters behind, the press stays hot on her heels. Desperate to escape, she unwittingly barrels deep into a remote forest in upstate New York. Until a collision—with a buzzing, oozing throng of cicadas—stops her dead in her tracks.

She awakens in a crude cabin, held captive by Girl, a simple, hulking woman who mistakes Mary for her derelict mother and obsesses over a mysterious Brood. While tortured echoes from Mary's past feed her growing sense of fear, it becomes clear that she's destined to bear an unthinkable role in the cicadas' cyclical reemergence. But when Girl's grisly past comes back to haunt them both, Mary is thrust into a violent battle of wills.

Confoundingly creepy and atmospheric, *The Brood* peels back the hurt and pain of the female experience, laying bare the messy necessity for transformation and growth.

## About the Author

Rebecca Baum is a novelist, ghostwriter, and content marketer. While her ghostwriting has served founders of global nonprofits and mission-driven businesses, Baum wades into the wonderfully troubled waters of horror with her novel *The Brood*. Her prior book, *Lifelike Creatures*, was longlisted for the Crook's Corner Book Prize Foundation's 2021 best debut novel set in the American South. A native of rural Louisiana, Baum has almost earned the right to call herself a New Yorker after more than twenty-five years in the city. She lives in Greenwich Village with her husband and favorite karaoke partner, Gary.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	208
ISBN-13	9781662530562

## Rights Available

All Languages



# One in Four

LUCINDA BERRY

MAY 13, 2025

**When a reality show about former child stars overcoming addiction culminates in murder, their therapist must take a closer look into their lives—and her own, from *USA Today* bestselling author Lucinda Berry.**

Dr. Laurel Hargrow can't believe she's agreed to do a reality TV show. But her years as a chemical dependency counselor and personal history with the show's director make her the obvious choice. Treating a mansion full of former child stars on the road to recovery is the tallest order of her career—especially when one of them turns up dead while the cameras are still rolling.

In a house full of narcissists vying for the spotlight, everyone's hiding something...including Laurel. An investigation could expose a past she'd rather keep buried. But among the attention-starved patients, only one of them is a predator. And Laurel is skilled at spotting a predator when she sees one.

As she hunts a killer in her present, the unsettling truths of Laurel's past are forced into the light. But this time, she'll face her demons head on. She'll stop at nothing to expose a murderer, even if it means risking everything she holds dear.

## About the Author

*USA Today* bestselling author Lucinda Berry is a former psychologist and leading researcher in childhood trauma. She's written multiple bestsellers reaching millions of readers worldwide. Some of her bestselling works include *The Perfect Child*, *Saving Noah*, *When She Returned*, *The Best of Friends*, and *Keep Your Friends Close*. Her books have been optioned for film and translated into several languages.

If Berry isn't chasing after her son, you can find her running through Los Angeles, prepping for her next marathon. To hear about her upcoming releases and other author news, visit her on social media (@lucindaberryauthor) or sign up for her newsletter at <https://lucindaberry.com>.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	251
ISBN-13	9781662526046

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*If You Tell a Lie*  
*Keep Your Friends Close*  
*Off the Deep End*

# The Birthday Party

SHALINI BOLAND

MAY 27, 2025

**When a child is taken on your watch, can you ever forgive yourself?**

It started out as a party: six little girls gliding and giggling at the ice rink to celebrate Natalie's daughter's eighth birthday. But by Natalie's next head count, it's turned into a crime scene. Six children went onto the ice—and now there are just five. Nobody saw her niece, Elle, being taken. Nobody saw the person in a cartoon costume lure her quietly away.

Traumatized by what happened on her watch, Natalie spends the next decade supporting her sister, Jo, as the years since Elle's abduction tick by. But as the tenth anniversary approaches, Jo becomes convinced that someone is stalking her—someone who knows the truth about that day on the ice.

As long-buried secrets start to surface, the sisters must relive the horror of losing Elle—and watch the world as they know it shatter before their eyes.

## About the Author

Shalini Boland is the Amazon and *USA Today* bestselling author of twenty psychological thrillers. To date, she's sold over two million copies of her books. Shalini lives by the sea in Dorset, England, with her husband, two children and their increasingly demanding dog, Queen Jess. Before kids, she was signed to Universal Music Publishing as a singer/songwriter, but now she spends her days writing (in between restocking the fridge and dealing with endless baskets of laundry). She is also the author of two bestselling sci-fi and fantasy series as well as a World War II evacuee adventure with a time-travel twist.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	319
ISBN-13	9781662529511

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Honeymoon*  
*The School Reunion*  
*The Silent Bride*

Crime, Mystery &  
Thriller

# The Lines

DS Liam Kilshaw Series Book 1

MATT BROLLY

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

**Once you cross the wrong lines, there's no turning back. *Broadchurch* meets *True Detective* in this gripping new series from Matt Brolly.**

For DS Liam Kilshaw, a former marine who almost died on a mission gone wrong, returning to the sea was meant to help combat his PTSD. But when he's called out with the lifeboat crew off the rugged Cornish coast at night, the dark danger of the waves comes crashing back. The body of a young man is floating in the water, and the zip-tie marks on his wrists show this is no tragic drowning—it's murder.

It's not the first suspicious death to shock the tight-knit community: the identical discovery of a young woman with connections to a county lines drugs gang leads Kilshaw to suspect the killings must be linked. But as the brooding Cornish coast and whispered local rumours fold darkly around him, he starts to feel he can't trust the water or anyone in town.

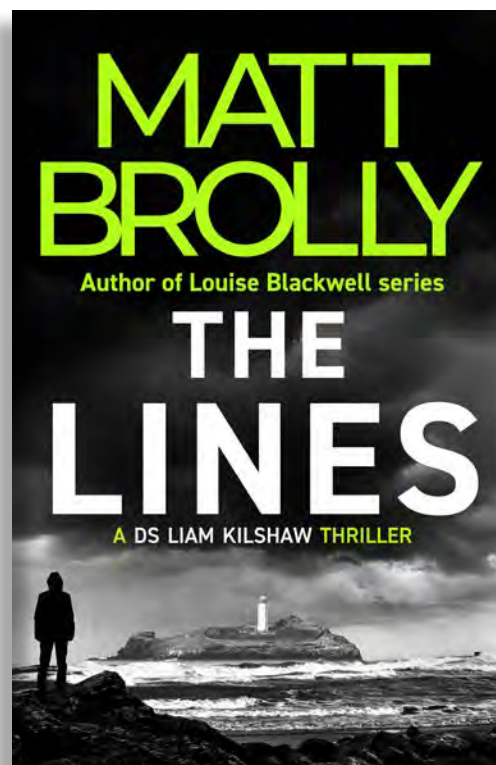
As the bodies keep coming, he must confront a sinister gangland underworld as well as his own demons—before tragedy strikes even closer to home.

Stay tuned for the next book in the series, which will be released in Winter 2026!

## About the Author

Following his law degree, where he developed an interest in criminal law, Matt Brolly completed his Masters in Creative Writing at Glasgow University. He is the *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon bestselling author of the DI Blackwell novels, the DCI Lambert crime novels, the Lynch and Rose thrillers *The Controller* and *The Railroad*, and the standalone thrillers *Zero*, *The Running Girls* and *The Alliance*.

*The Lines* is the first in a new series set in Cornwall, featuring DS Kilshaw. Matt lives in London with his wife and their two children. You can find out more about him at [www.mattbrolly.com](http://www.mattbrolly.com) or by following him on X: @MattBrollyUK.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	329
ISBN-13	9781662520419

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Detective Louise Blackwell series*

# What She Saw

MARY BURTON

AUGUST 26, 2025

**An investigative reporter returns to the scene of a decades-old crime to put her own unsettled past to rest in this chilling suspense novel by *New York Times* bestselling author Mary Burton.**

Cold case reporter Sloane Grayson has come to a small mountain town in Virginia to solve a mystery.

Thirty years ago, her mother was one of four women who vanished during a music festival. The event's promoter was eventually convicted of their murders, and Sheriff CJ Taggart closed the case. But for Sloane, it's still open. Because the bodies were never found.

With Taggart now long dead, Sloane must make do with questioning the victims' families and the few remaining witnesses once again. If they're still willing to dredge up memories of a crime that made their town notorious. As for the incarcerated killer, he has always maintained his innocence. Sloane isn't entirely convinced he's lying.

Somewhere nearby, unmarked graves conceal the bones and secrets of the dead. Sloane will do anything to find them and unearth the truth, even if that means playing a dangerous game of cat and mouse with someone determined to stop her

...

## About the Author

Mary Burton is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of forty romance and suspense novels, including *The House Beyond the Dunes*, *The Lies I Told*, *Don't Look Now*, *Near You*, *Burn You Twice*, and *Never Look Back*, as well as five novellas. She currently lives in North Carolina with her husband and miniature dachshund. For more information, visit [www.maryburton.com](http://www.maryburton.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Romantic Suspense
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662516047

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Another Girl Lost*  
*The House Beyond the Dunes*  
*The Lies I Told*



# See No Evil

## Detective Karen Hart Book 11

D.S. BUTLER

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

**Detective Karen Hart's mother-in-law has been murdered. She is desperate to solve the case, but this time it's personal.**

Detective Karen Hart and her fiancé Mike are looking forward to having dinner with Mike's mother and celebrating their engagement. But when they arrive at Lorraine's house, it is eerily quiet. Karen carefully pushes the door open, and cannot believe her eyes: Lorraine has been murdered and her eyes have been sewn shut. Who could have committed such a terrifying crime?

Karen is determined to uncover Lorraine's killer, but with her so close to the case, her team cannot let her be a part of the investigation. But Karen is desperate to help. Is there a chance that Karen is the only one who can find the truth?

Mike never knew his father, and with his mother tragically killed, Lorraine cannot tell them anything. Karen starts looking into Mike's family to try and find the truth. But when Mike's aunt is also murdered, and her eyes sewn shut, Mike is terrified that Karen is putting herself in harm's way.

If Karen sees too much of the truth, will she be next on the killer's list? Can Karen find out the truth before another innocent life is lost?

### About the Author

Born in Kent, D. S. Butler grew up as an avid reader with a love for crime fiction and mysteries. She has worked as a scientific officer in a hospital pathology laboratory and as a research scientist. After obtaining a PhD in biochemistry, she worked at the University of Oxford for four years before moving to the Middle East. While living in Bahrain, she wrote her first novel and hasn't stopped writing since. She now lives in Lincolnshire with her husband. She has sold over 1.5 million copies worldwide.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	330
ISBN-13	9781662512315

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*In Plain Sight*  
*Leave No Trace*  
*Before the Dawn*

Crime, Mystery & Thriller

# The Secret Sign (Das geheime Zeichen)

Evelyn Holm Thriller Series Book 3

SASKIA CALDEN

JULY 15, 2025

**A new case for Evelyn Holm from Kindle #1 bestselling author Saskia Calden.**

Viola dreams of a career as an artist. An elite club, recognizable only by a secret symbol, offers her the necessary connections. But those who are accepted must submit to strict rules. Breaking these rules means risking one's life. Trapped in an impossible situation, Viola soon doesn't know who to trust anymore.

In a thirty-year-old house, the walled-in skeleton of a woman is discovered—around her neck, a chain with a mysterious symbol. Evelyn Holm from Freiburg's Criminal Investigation Department has a personal interest in solving the case, for this is not the first time she's encountered this symbol...

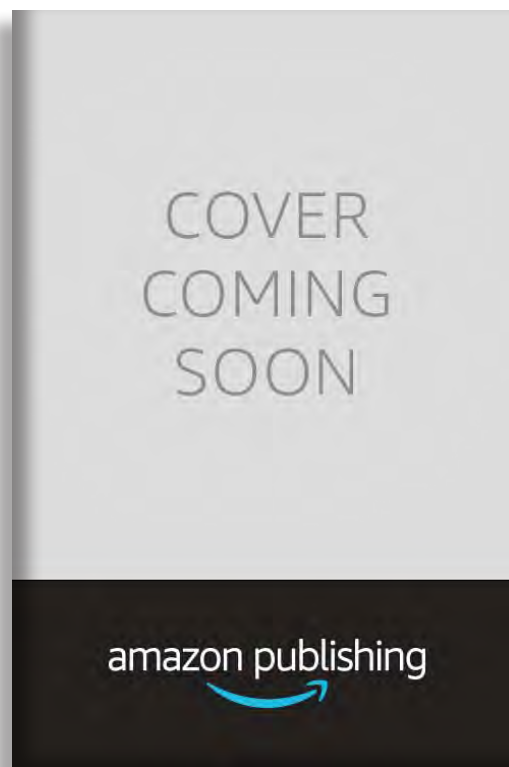
In *The Secret Sign*, Saskia Calden weaves a gripping tale of ambition, secrecy, and deadly consequences. As Viola navigates the dangerous world of an exclusive artist's circle, Detective Evelyn Holm unravels a decades-old mystery that hits closer to home than she expected.

With lives at stake and time running out, can Holm decode the meaning behind the enigmatic symbol before it claims another victim?

## About the Author

Saskia Calden was born in 1977 in the Berchtesgadener Land region. Her passion for writing and storytelling developed in childhood. Her enthusiasm was ignited when one of her short stories caused a sleepless night for the neighbor's boy. Her debut novel *Der stille Feind* (*The Silent Enemy*) was nominated for the German Self-Publishing Prize.

Her second psychological thriller *Die Rachsüchtige* (*The Vengeful One*) reached number 1 on the Amazon Kindle bestseller list—as did *Der Puppenwald* (*The Doll Forest*), the first volume of the Evelyn Holm thriller series, published in 2024.



IMPRINT	Edition M
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	311
ISBN-13	9782496717457

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Die falsche Patientin*  
*Der Puppenwald*

# How to Fake A Haunting

CHRISTA CARMEN

OCTOBER 7, 2025

**From Bram Stoker Award winner and Shirley Jackson Award nominee Christa Carmen comes a haunting tale in which a woman pushed to the brink by her alcoholic husband decides to stage a haunting in their home to force him to leave, only for the fake spirits to turn dangerously real.**

Lainey Taylor wants out of her marriage to her husband Callum, whose drinking and irresponsibility have put her and their young daughter Bea in dangerous situations. The son of a wealthy and powerful Newport family, Cal has let Lainey know that he'll never give up custody of Bea, so Lainey turns to her best friend, Adelaide. After exhausting Lainey's options, Adelaide lands on one final—and rather wild—solution: to stage a haunting so convincing, Callum will have no choice but to flee, looking like a lunatic in the process.

Desperate, Lainey agrees to give it a try.

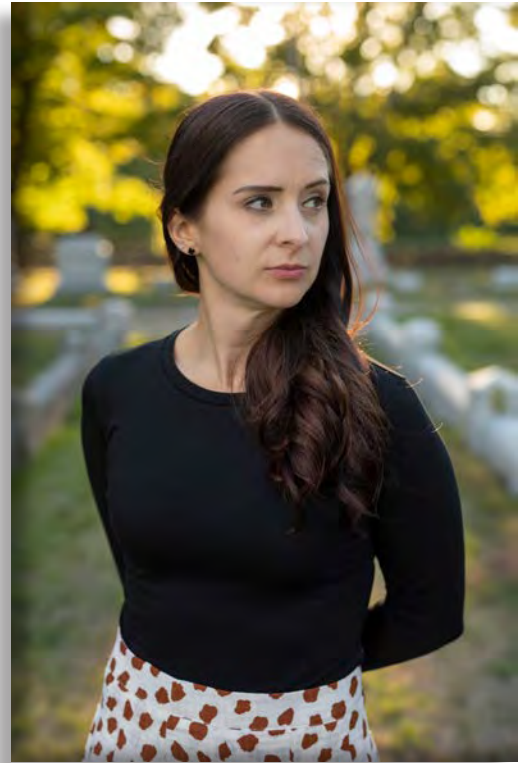
Yet Lainey and Adelaide's 'fake' haunting becomes a very, very real one, and these ghosts won't stop until each one of Callum's and Lainey's past—and potential future—unspeakable acts are held up for the other to examine.

With both Lainey and Callum too stubborn to give up and leave the house, fearing the other will take their surrender—and of Beatrix—husband and wife realize they must work together to defeat the worst versions of themselves; or lose everything trying.

## About the Author

Christa Carmen lives in Rhode Island. She is the author of *Beneath the Poet's House*, *The Daughters of Block Island* (winner of the Bram Stoker Award and a Shirley Jackson Award nominee), the Indie Horror Book Award-winning *Something Borrowed*, *Something Blood-Soaked*, and the Bram Stoker Award-nominated *Through the Looking Glass and Straight into Hell* (Orphans of Bliss, Wicked Run Press).

When she's not writing, she keeps chickens; uses a Ouija board to ghost-hug her dear, departed beagle; and sets out on adventures with her husband, daughter, and bloodhound-golden retriever mix. Most of her work comes from gazing upon the ghosts of the past or else into the dark corners of nature, those places where whorls of bark become owl eyes, and deer step through tunnels of hanging leaves and creeping briars only to disappear.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Horror
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662530746

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Beneath the Poet's House*  
*The Daughters of Block Island*

# Missing in Flight

AUDREY J. COLE

MARCH 1, 2025

**From *USA Today* bestselling author Audrey J. Cole comes a harrowing thriller about a woman faced with the unthinkable, when her infant goes missing aboard a plane to New York.**

Rushing back to her seat, Makayla Rossi is relieved that all's still quiet. But when she checks on her sleeping baby, relief morphs into fear. The bassinet is empty.

Liam is gone.

It was a long flight from Anchorage to New York, and with every flight attendant busy, Makayla reluctantly ran to the restroom, asking a seat neighbor to watch her son. She stepped away for just a few minutes. Yet at thirty thousand feet, he still vanished.

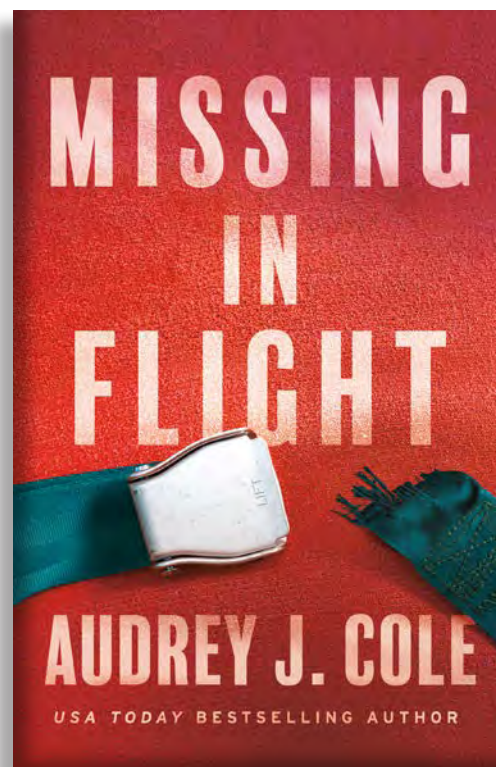
Passengers and crew scour the plane to no avail, and since no one recalls seeing her with a baby, suspicions begin to mount about Makayla's mental state. She's certain this is nothing like her mother's on-air memory meltdown. If only Jack, her husband, were there. He would believe her. A high-profile banker featured in *Forbes*, maybe he could even help.

But Makayla is squarely on her own. And she'll have to think fast in order to find her son—before it's too late.

## About the Author

Audrey J. Cole is a *USA Today* bestselling author of eleven novels. She resides in the Pacific Northwest with her two children. Before she began writing full time, Cole worked as a neonatal intensive care nurse for eleven years. She's also a pilot's daughter.

Want to hear about Audrey's next release and get free bonus content to her books? Visit her website at [www.audreyjcole.com](http://www.audreyjcole.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	285
ISBN-13	9781662520709

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

Estonian

Crime, Mystery & Thriller



# Sisters Before Misters

## The Finch Sisters Series Book 2

AMELIA DIANE COOMBS

OCTOBER 7, 2025

**In the follow up to *Drop Dead Sisters*, three sisters reunite a year after a family getaway gone wrong changes everything when one sister's soon-to-be ex-husband goes missing and she's the prime suspect.**

Remi Finch has never seen eye to eye with her sisters. Maybe it's the age gap, maybe it's her anxiety disorder—her relationship with Maeve and Eliana has always been tenuous at best. Until, a family camping trip and a dead body forces them together.

A year after that fateful trip, Eliana is in the middle of a divorce with her husband, Chad. Remi lives nearby now with her boyfriend, and Maeve decides to visit Eliana while taking a “sojourn” from her influencer job to soul search about next steps.

To lift Eliana's spirits and to practice her party planning skills, Maeve throws a Halloween party. But things at the party take a hazy, bloody turn. Chad is missing, possibly dead, and all the evidence points to Eliana as the main suspect.

Stuck with a body and a mystery once again, the Finch sisters must band together to figure out what happened to Chad and uncover secrets and lies deeper than they had ever imagined.

### About the Author

Amelia Diane Coombs is the author of four young adult novels. Her most recent title, *All Alone with You*, was named a JLG Gold Standard Selection by the Junior Library Guild. A Northern California transplant, Coombs lives in Seattle, Washington, with her spouse and their Siberian cat.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662522765

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Drop Dead Sisters*

# The Grave Artist

## Sanchez & Heron Series Book 2

JEFFERY DEAVER AND ISABELLA MALDONADO

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

**Some killers want more than just “till death do us part.”**

From award-winning, international bestselling authors Jeffery Deaver and Isabella Maldonado comes the next pulse-pounding installment in the Sanchez & Heron series.

Detective Carmen Sanchez is closing in on her father's suspicious death when duty calls: the notorious “Honeymoon Killer” has struck again. As she partners with DHS agent Jake Heron to track a murderer who turns wedding days into funerals, Carmen's sister Selina recklessly pursues their father's case alone—and stumbles into lethal territory.

With both investigations hurtling toward a devastating connection and the body count rising, Carmen faces an impossible choice: protect her sister or stop a killer who's turning “I do” into “death do us part.”

### About the Authors

**Jeffery Deaver** is the award-winning #1 international and *New York Times* bestselling author of the Lincoln Rhyme, Colter Shaw and Kathryn Dance series, among many others. Deaver's work includes forty-seven novels, one hundred short stories, and a nonfiction law book. His books are sold in 150 countries and translated into twenty-five languages. A former journalist, folk singer, and attorney, he was born outside Chicago and has a Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of Missouri and a law degree from Fordham University. He was recently named a Grand Master of Mystery Writers of America, whose ranks include Agatha Christie, Elmore Leonard and Mickey Spillane.

**Isabella Maldonado** is the award-winning and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of the Nina Guerrera, Daniela Vega and Veranda Cruz series. Her books are published in twenty-four languages. Maldonado wore a gun and badge in real life before turning to crime writing. A graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico and the first Latina to attain the rank of captain in her police department, she retired as the Commander of Special Investigations and Forensics. During more than two decades on the force, her assignments included hostage negotiator, department spokesperson, and precinct commander. She uses her law enforcement background to bring a realistic edge to her writing.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662518737

### Rights Available

All Languages, excluding German, Italian

### Rights Sold

Czech, French and Japanese

### Other Titles by the Authors

*Fatal Intrusion*

# A Dead Draw

## Tracy Crosswhite Series Book 11

### ROBERT DUGONI

MAY 27, 2025

**A killer fueled by revenge. A detective haunted by the past. They are headed for a high-stakes showdown in this bone-chilling new Tracy Crosswhite novel by *New York Times* bestselling author Robert Dugoni.**

Detective Tracy Crosswhite isn't one to lose her cool. Until her interrogation of the taunting and malicious Erik Schmidt, a suspect in two cold case killings. Schmidt also has unnerving ties to the monster who murdered Tracy's sister, stirring memories of the crime that shaped Tracy's life. After a critical mistake during a shooting exercise, Tracy breaks.

Haunted by nightmares and flashbacks, Tracy heads to her hometown of Cedar Grove to refocus. Just a peaceful getaway with her husband, her daughter, and their nanny at their weekend house. But Tracy's sleepless nights are only beginning. A legal glitch has allowed Schmidt to go free. And Tracy has every reason to fear that he's followed her.

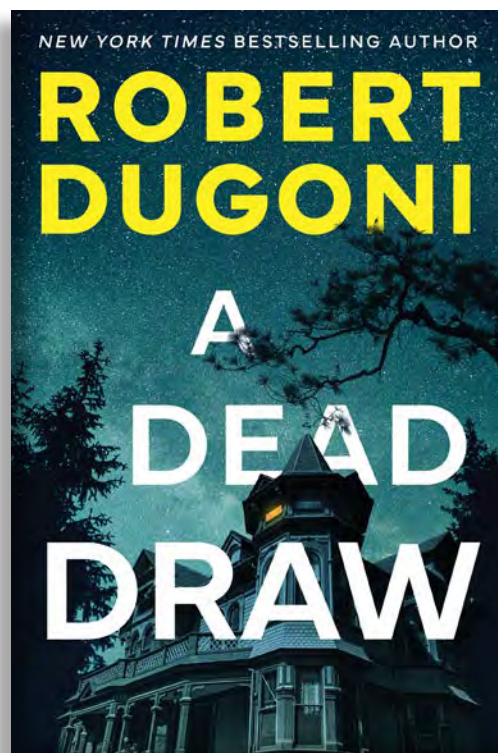
Forced into a twisted game of cat and mouse, Tracy must draw on all her training, wits, and strength to defeat a master criminal before he takes away everyone Tracy loves.

### About the Author

Robert Dugoni is the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author of several series, including Tracy Crosswhite, Charles Jenkins, David Sloane, and Keera Duggan. His stand-alone novels include *Damage Control*, *The 7th Canon*, *The World Played Chess*, *A Killing on the Hill*, and *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*, which was named *Suspense Magazine's* 2018 Book of the Year and won Dugoni an *AudioFile* Earphones Award for his narration.

The *Washington Post* named his nonfiction exposé *The Cyanide Canary* a best book of the year. Dugoni is the recipient of the Nancy Pearl Book Award for fiction and a multitime winner for best novel set in the Pacific Northwest. He has been a finalist for many other awards.

Dugoni's books are sold in more than twenty-five countries and have been translated into more than thirty languages, reaching more than ten million readers worldwide. He lives in Seattle. Visit his website at [www.robertdugonibooks.com](http://www.robertdugonibooks.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	395
ISBN-13	9781662524738

### Rights Available

Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish

### Rights Sold

German

### Other Titles by the Author

*Hold Strong*  
*A Killing on the Hill*  
*Keera Dugan series*

# Kaua‘i Storm

Ranger Makalani Pahukula Mystery Book 1

TORI ELDRIDGE

MAY 20, 2025

**Returning to Kaua‘i, park ranger Makalani finds her family divided and their way of life at risk in this rich and emotional adventure by the bestselling author of the Lily Wong series.**

After ten years as a national park ranger in Oregon, Makalani Pahukula is back on Kaua‘i for her grandmother’s birthday. Having been gone for so long, Makalani finds the disconnect with her people and her struggles have never been more profound. Neither has her need to reacquaint herself with everything she left behind. When she reaches the homestead, she finds a bickering family and the disconcerting news that her cousins—a failed college football player and a rebellious teenage girl—have gone missing.

Makalani hopes they just ran off, too careless to realize the worry they’ve caused. But when hunters find a dead body in the Ke’lia Forest Reserve, Makalani fears something ominous is at play, and the search for her cousins grows more desperate. Although her help may not be welcomed by family and locals, Makalani is determined to solve a mystery that poses a greater risk than anyone imagines.

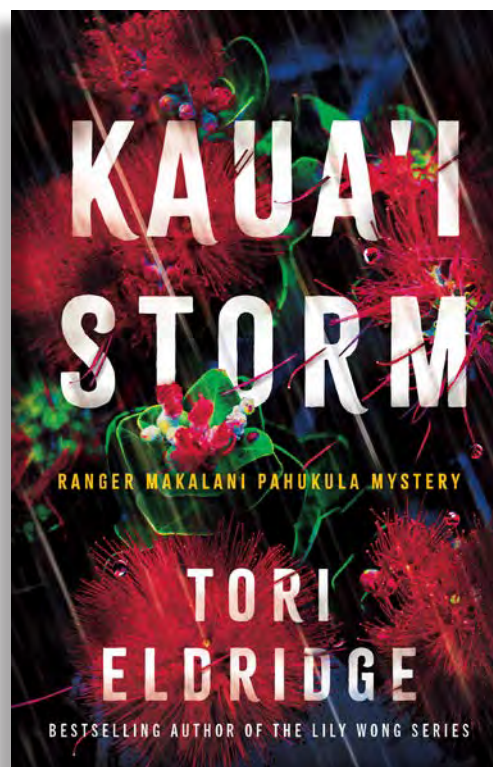
The investigation will open her heart, reawaken her love for the land she calls home, and strengthen her bond with her family. Because no matter how long she’s been away, for Makalani, Hawai‘i is in her blood.

## About the Author

Tori Eldridge is the Hawaiian, Chinese, and Norwegian author of the Lily Wong mysteries, *Dance Among the Flames*, and numerous short stories. Born in Honolulu, she graduated from Punahou School with classmate Barack Obama before performing as an actress, singer, and dancer on Broadway, television, and film, and earning a fifth-degree black belt in To-Shin Do ninja martial arts.

Her literary works have garnered Anthony, Lefty, and Macavity Award nominations and the 2021 Crimson Scribe for Best Book of the Year. Tori lives in Portland, Oregon, with her husband, near her precious mo‘opuna (grandchildren).

For more information about Tori, her book club extras, and her reading ‘ohana, visit [www.torieldridge.com](http://www.torieldridge.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery
PAGE COUNT	445
ISBN-13	9781662525247

## Rights Available

All Languages

Crime, Mystery & Thriller



# Her First Mistake

Noelle Marshall Series Book 1  
KENDRA ELLIOT

JUNE 10, 2025

**When a very personal cold case murder is reopened, a detective's secrets come to light in a novel of shocking twists and suspense by a *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author.**

Thirteen years ago, Assemblyman Derrick Bell was murdered in his home by an intruder. His wife, Noelle Marshall, was left for dead. The crime was unsolved, but it wasn't forgotten.

Today the FBI is tackling a fresh perspective on the case and looking to Noelle, now a detective for the Deschutes County sheriff's office, for new clues. It is reopening everything Noelle thought was behind her. Memories of her escape from a traumatic childhood. A marriage that wasn't the perfect love story she'd been promised. And a husband whose charm and privilege hid a dark side. But Noelle has been hiding something too: a secret about the night Derrick died that she has never told anyone.

As past and present and leads and misleads collide, one thing is frighteningly clear. Derrick's murder wasn't just unsolved. It's unfinished. And only the truth—no matter the risk—can save the next victim.

## About the Author

Kendra Elliot is the *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of the Mercy Kilpatrick novels, the Columbia River novels, the Bone Secrets series, and the Callahan & McLane series. She is a three-time winner of the Daphne du Maurier Award, an International Thriller Writers Award finalist, and an RT Award finalist. Kendra was born and raised in the rainy Pacific Northwest but now lives in flip-flops. For more information, visit [www.kendraelliot.com](http://www.kendraelliot.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	347
ISBN-13	9781662525759

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Mercy Kilpatrick series*  
*Columbia River series*

# The Island

PAUL FINCH

AUGUST 1, 2025

## A dream holiday. You'd die to be there.

You are offered the getaway of a lifetime on a remote island, with a group of strangers. You jump at the chance to bathe in the summer sun, explore the peaceful woodlands and return to a perfect hotel for a glorious dinner.

As the boat pulls into the harbour, you're surrounded by crystal-clear water and soon you are alone. Just the peace and quiet you were promised. No phone signal, no internet... no way to call for help. Nothing will go wrong in paradise, right?

But as a huge summer storm rolls towards you, everyone is starting to realise that secrets you've been hiding for years seem to have followed you here. Then someone disappears. His body washes up in the picture-perfect harbour, and it's clearly no accident.

Can you survive the getaway of a lifetime?

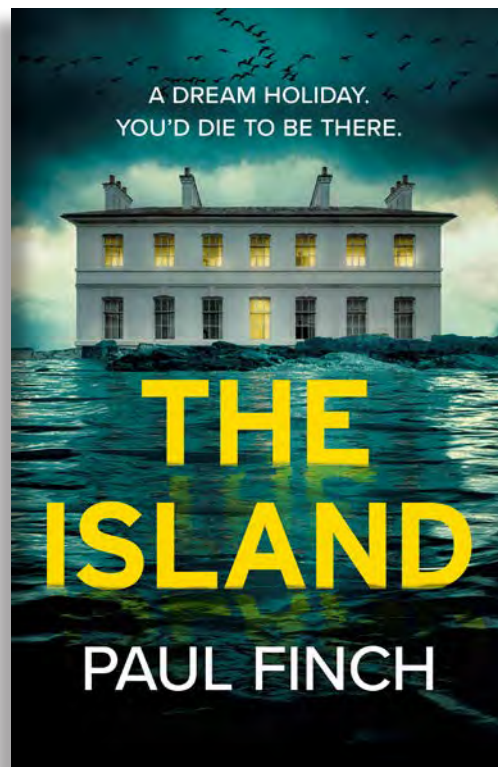
From *Sunday Times* bestseller Paul Finch, *The Island* is an utterly gripping thriller that will have your pulse pounding as you race through the pages! Perfect for fans of Lucy Foley, Ruth Ware and Lucy Clarke.

## About the Author

Paul Finch is an ex-cop and journalist turned bestselling author. He first cut his literary teeth penning episodes of the TV drama *The Bill*, and has written extensively in the horror, fantasy, historical epic and sci-fi genres, including for *Doctor Who*. He is a two-time winner of the British Fantasy Award, for *After Shocks* (Best Collection 2002) and *Kid* (Best Novella 2007). He is also a recipient of the 2007 International Horror Guild Award for Best Mid-Length Story, for 'The Old North Road'.

However, Paul is best known for his very dark crime-thriller novels, of which there are thirteen to date, including the Heckenburg and Clayburn series. He has been shortlisted for the Dagger Award twice, once for the Dagger in the Library and once for the Short Story Dagger for 'The New Lad'.

Paul lives in Lancashire with his wife and business partner, Cathy.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Crime
PAGE COUNT	347
ISBN-13	9781662526329

## Rights Available

All Languages

Crime, Mystery & Thriller

# Boney Creek

PAULA GLEESON

MAY 20, 2025

**When several small-town locals die under mysterious circumstances, an aspiring journalist is determined to prove the connection between them, only to discover the dangerous secrets they left behind.**

Boney Creek is a dying town where not a lot happens. The perfect solution for married couple Addie and Toby who are escaping their own personal tragedy. But a quiet and simple life is not exactly possible with so many recent, strange deaths.

Seven locals, all gone too soon. That's the nature of tragic accidents. And in a town this small, there's no room for too many questions.

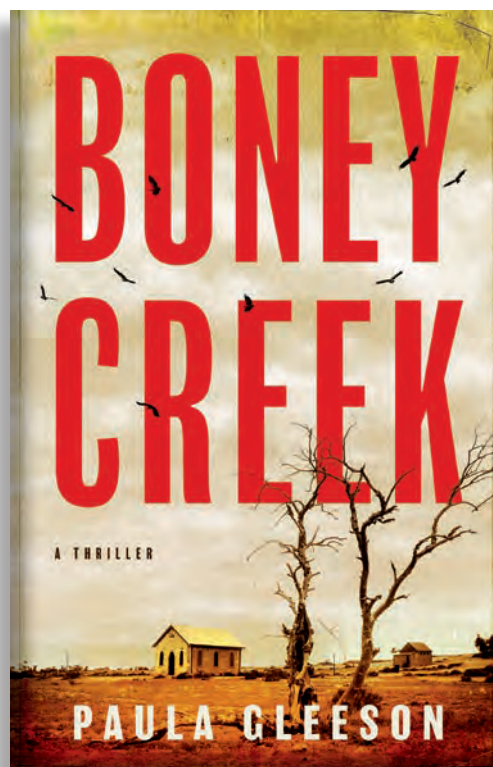
But Addie isn't so sure. Although she never followed through on her dreams of becoming a journalist, she still has a reporter's instincts. And her gut—not to mention all the small-town gossip—is telling her that whatever's happening in Boney Creek is not as random as it seems.

There's no such thing as coincidence, especially when it comes to seven bodies. And while burying her own secrets, Addie digs up far greater ones that will have her asking if she will be the town's next so-called accident.

## About the Author

Paula Gleeson writes mysteries and thrillers for all ages, usually with complicated females at the helm. Her debut novel, *Original Twin*, was released in 2024. Gleeson is also an award-winning filmmaker, screenwriting finalist, and nominated nonfiction writer.

She lives just outside Melbourne, Australia, and can often be found in her pj's, drinking tea (wine) and watching horror movies snuggled between her doggo and a large cheese pizza.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	334
ISBN-13	9781662519550

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Original Twin*

# Hidden in Smoke

## Sharpe & Walker Series Book 3

LEE GOLDBERG

APRIL 22, 2025

**When the crimes of a serial arsonist lead to murder, Sharpe and Walker need detective Eve Ronin to join the hunt in a blistering thriller by #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Lee Goldberg.**

After dozens of Hollywood apartment buildings erupt in flames during a single night of terror, arson investigators Walter Sharpe and Andrew Walker are assigned to catch the serial torcher and end his spree. But then a catastrophic fire destroys a major freeway, crippling the city and forcing Sharpe and Walker to take on another massive case.

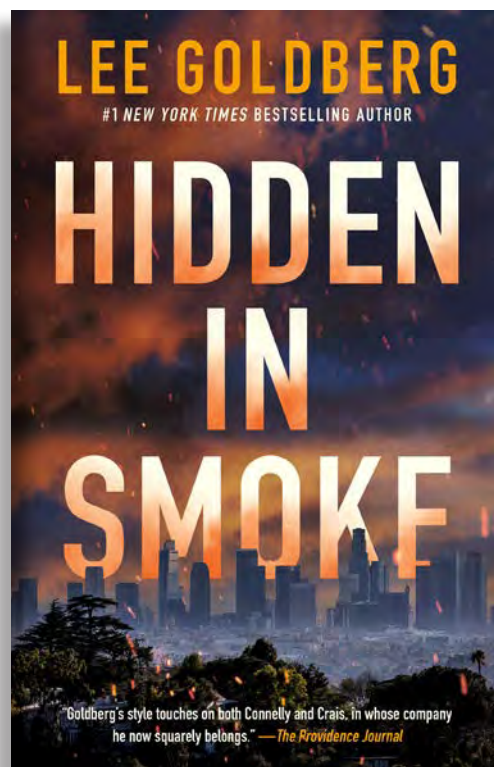
Desperate for help, they know exactly who to call: homicide detectives Eve Ronin and Duncan Pavone. Together the four detectives must quickly figure out whether the freeway disaster was a tragic accident...or the work of a mastermind with a horrific plan.

As the investigations collide, an old foe with a revenge scheme enters the fray, igniting a race against time to stop a conspiracy of deception, corruption, and murder.

### About the Author

Lee Goldberg is a two-time Edgar Award and two-time Shamus Award finalist and the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of more than sixty novels, including the Eve Ronin series, the Ian Ludlow series, the Sharpe & Walker series, and seven books in the Fox & O'Hare series, which he coauthored with Janet Evanovich. He has also written and/or produced many TV shows, including *Diagnosis Murder*, *SeaQuest*, and *Monk*, and is the cocreator of the Hallmark movie series *Mystery 101*.

As an international television consultant, he has advised networks and studios in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, China, Sweden, and the Netherlands on the creation, writing, and production of episodic series.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	300
ISBN-13	9781662526442

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Ashes Never Lie*  
*Malibu Burning*  
*Lost Hills*

Crime, Mystery & Thriller



# Fog and Fury

## Haven Thriller Book 1

RACHEL HOWZELL HALL

JULY 1, 2025

**She's a new PI in a beautiful seaside town. It's dirtier than it looks—and more dangerous too—in a twisting novel of suspense by the Anthony Award–nominated author of *These Toxic Things*.**

After ten years on the force, LAPD cop Sonny Rush relocates with her elderly mother to peaceful Haven, California, to join her godfather's burgeoning PI business. What crimes could possibly happen in a town nicknamed "Mayberry by the Sea"? Sonny's first case: find Figgy, a missing goldendoodle last seen sporting a Versace collar. At least scouting out a dognapper gives Sonny a chance to get to know her new neighbors.

Forty-eight hours in town and Figgy's disappearance entangles Sonny in an unwelcome reunion with her ex, one of Haven's wealthiest citizens. And when the body of a teenage boy is found along a popular hiking trail, Sonny is drawn into a web of strange beyond anything she ever saw in LA.

Then comes a local's warning: question everything. Haven hides secrets that could destroy its idyllic facade. Or destroy Sonny first.

### About the Author

Rachel Howzell Hall is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Last One*; *What Fire Brings*; *What Never Happened*; *We Lie Here*; *These Toxic Things*; *And Now She's Gone*; *They All Fall Down*; and, with James Patterson, *The Good Sister*, which was included in Patterson's collection *The Family Lawyer*.

A two-time *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize finalist as well as an Anthony, Edgar, International Thriller Writers, and Lefty Award nominee, Rachel is also the author of *Land of Shadows*, *Skies of Ash*, *Trail of Echoes*, and *City of Saviors* in the Detective Elouise Norton series.

A past member of the board of directors for Mystery Writers of America, Rachel has been a featured writer on NPR's acclaimed *Crime in the City* series and the National Endowment for the Arts weekly podcast; she has also served as a mentor in Pitch Wars and the Association of Writers & Writing Programs.

Rachel lives in Los Angeles with her husband and daughter.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Woman Sleuth
PAGE COUNT	395
ISBN-13	9781662522857

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*What Fire Brings*  
*What Never Happens*  
*We Lie Here*

# Signal Red (Signalrot)

Tara Kronberg Thriller Series Book 1  
ELIAS HALLER

MAY 13, 2025

**The start to a twisted new serial killer series based on Hans Cristian Andersen's *The Red Shoes* from #1 Kindle bestselling author Elias Haller, whose books have reached over 1 million readers.**

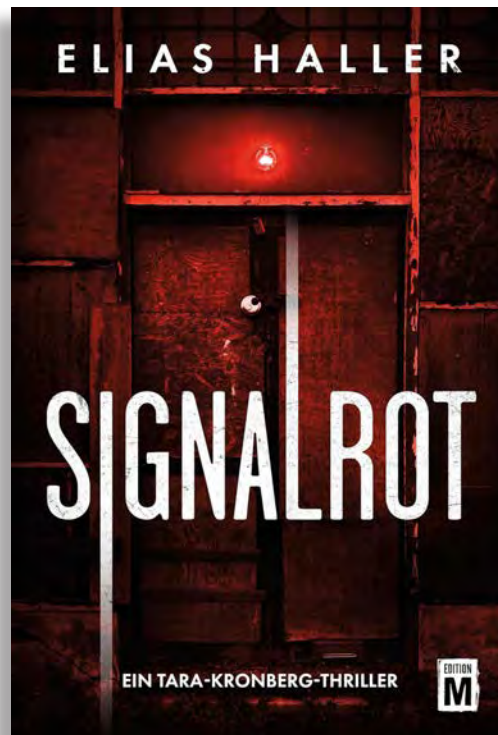
*First, he lets you dance. Then, you become his trophy.*

For the past two years, Chief Inspector Tara Kronberg has been on break after a series of personal tragedies. But, the peace is now over. The Signal Red, a special police unit focusing on extremely brutal crime scenes, needs her expertise.

A sadist has become the nightmare of young women. He tortures, mutilates, then kills them. When police discover a strangled female corpse with severed feet, Tara has less than twenty-four hours to dive into the gruesome case. Because the killer won't stop his obsession for killing and collecting—and she doesn't want to become his next victim.

## About the Author

Elias Haller, born in 1977, lives in a major Saxon city. He draws inspiration for his gripping thrillers from his professional experience with lawbreakers and their victims as a police officer for over twenty years. His Amazon Publishing books have reached over 1 million readers and will be translated into Russian, Slovenian, Turkish, and Ukrainian.



IMPRINT	Edition M
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	461
ISBN-13	9782496716092

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Rotkäppchen lügt*  
*Vöglein schweigt*  
*Schneeweißchen stirbt*

# I Become Her

JOE HART

AUGUST 26, 2025

**A wife's search for her husband's true identity spirals into a nightmare of fear and paranoia in a twisting novel of psychological suspense by the Edgar Award-winning author of *Or Else*.**

Only ten days into their marriage, Imogen and Lev Carmichael are on a honeymoon cruise in the Mediterranean when Imogen suspects her husband of being unfaithful. Then come the recriminations, rage, and denial. One single struggle and Lev accidentally tumbles overboard into the water. It's a miracle he's found alive. And with no memory of what pushed him—and Imogen—over the edge.

Back home among family and friends, Imogen and Lev are finally starting to readjust. As terrified as Imogen is of Lev's memories returning, it's her suspicions of infidelity that get the best of her. Then, searching for clues, Imogen discovers Lev's strange connection to a woman who went missing. More alarming is that Imogen soon has reason to believe that Lev remembers more than he's letting on. But why would he lie?

The man Imogen loved, married, and trusted is a man she's now beginning to fear. Because Lev seems to be hiding something, too.

## About the Author

Joe Hart is the Edgar Award-winning and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of seventeen novels that include *The River Is Dark*, *Obscura*, *The Last Girl*, and *Or Else*. His work has been translated into eight languages and has been optioned for film. He lives with his family in Minnesota.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529740

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Never Come Back*  
*Where They Lie*  
*Or Else*

# Murder in Frisian (Morden auf Friesisch)

Crime Scene: Waterkant Series Book 2  
THOMAS HERZBERG

APRIL 15, 2025

**A new Crime Scene: Waterkant story by Kindle #1 bestselling author Thomas Herzberg.**

*Hinnerk Beehnk's last day at work is also his last day on earth.*

Her second case working for the Husum Homicide Investigations Department pushes Michi Greve to entirely new limits. A strange series of deaths keeps her and her colleagues busy. Starting with Fischer Hinnerk Beehnk, who won the lottery just before he died and intended to use his millions to settle accounts with old enemies. But they obviously got ahead of him.

At the same time, Michi's strange boss dreams of retirement and gives more and more responsibility to her. Is she up to all these challenges or will they break her? Meanwhile, the murders continue in Frisian...

## About the Author

Thomas Herzberg is a book author and a self-proclaimed animal lover and protector. He lives where his books are set and where others vacation: between the seas, where wind and weather test you almost daily, where most people aren't particularly talkative, and where the land is so flat that you can see in the morning who's coming to visit at noon.

Thomas Herzberg likes to describe his books as light fare. Those who want to try are cordially invited...



IMPRINT	Edition M
GENRE	Regional
PAGE COUNT	315
ISBN-13	9782496716849

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Rache auf Friesisch*



# The Kidnapping of Alice Ingold

CATE HOLAHAN

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

**A harrowing abduction becomes a tantalizing nationwide game in a twisty and ingenious novel of suspense by a *USA Today* bestselling author.**

Alice Ingold has been kidnapped. Call the police. Alert the media. You can't play this game without all the pieces.

Beautiful, blond, and immensely privileged, Alice Ingold is the perfect victim for a true-crime obsessed culture—and for a masked duo with a singular purpose. Instead of a demand for ransom, her captors have a riddle, and they're inviting the entire country to solve it.

No one is more invested in the search than Alice's parents: Catherine, a socialite with obscene generational wealth, and Brian, a visionary AI tech guru. But while Brian turns to machines to solve the problem, Catherine tries to crowdsource the solution, stopping at nothing to bring her daughter home. And America isn't just watching the story unfold ... it's playing along. The nationwide scavenger hunt for Alice is on.

As an increasingly desperate Catherine strives to understand each new clue, a complex picture of the crime develops. Soon, everyone will see the kidnapping of Alice Ingold for what it is—and Alice won't be the only one who will need saving.

## About the Author

Cate Holahan is the *USA Today* bestselling author of seven standalone novels and is the coauthor of the #1 Audible bestselling title *Young Rich Widows* and its sequel, *Desperate Deadly Widows*. Her novels have been translated into multiple languages and optioned for television. She has also written two original movies for MarVista Entertainment: *Deadly Estate* and *Midnight Hustle*.

In a former life, she was a journalist and TV producer. She has written for *Bloomberg Businessweek* magazine, New Jersey's *The Record* newspaper, *The Boston Globe*, MSN Money, and CNBC. A biracial Jamaican and Irish American writer, Cate is a member of Crime Writers of Color, Sisters in Crime, and the Authors Guild. She has an MFA in dramatic writing from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and a BA from Princeton University.

She lives in Tenafly, New Jersey, with her husband, two daughters, and two dogs, and spends time in Jamaica, where she's also a citizen. For more information, visit [www.cateholahan.com](http://www.cateholahan.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Crime
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529764

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Circle of Strangers

## Dangerous Strangers Thrillers Book 2

MINKA KENT

AUGUST 19, 2025

**The lengths neighbors will go to protect their secrets become downright frightening in a gripping novel of suspense by Minka Kent, the Edgar-nominated author of *Unmissing*.**

Camille and Will Prescott have relocated from San Diego to Phoenix for a fresh start in a quiet gated community. After the traumas Camille's marriage survived, it's just the sanctuary she needs. As for her new neighbors, there's Sozi, seemingly well intentioned if not for her invasive meddling and her desperate overtures to make a friend. And Mara and Oscar, an unstable couple around whom troubling rumors swirl.

Patiently listening to Sozi's gossip and watching Mara and Oscar ever so closely has become something of a hobby for Camille. But while she obsesses about the cracks in everyone else's lives, she begins to see the cracks in her own. And when a monster from her past reaches out to reconnect, it's all Camille can do not to snap. Then one day she finds a dead body in her garage lying in a pool of blood.

Camille is about to discover what's really going on behind the closed doors of this cozy cul-de-sac. And the worst is yet to come.

### About the Author

Minka Kent is the *Washington Post* and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *After Dark*, *The Watcher Girl*, *When I Was You*, *The Stillwater Girls*, *The Thinnest Air*, *The Perfect Roommate*, *The Memory Watcher*, *Unmissing*, *The Silent Woman*, *Gone Again*, and *People Like Them*.

Her work has been featured in *People* magazine and the *New York Post* as well as optioned for film and TV. Minka also writes contemporary romance as *Wall Street Journal* and #1 Amazon Charts bestselling author Winter Renshaw.

She is a graduate of Iowa State University and resides in Iowa with her husband and three children. For more information, visit <http://minkakent.com>.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527012

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by this Author

*Gone Again*  
*Unmissing*  
*The Stillwater Girls*

# The Beast of Littleton Woods

## A Lady Hardcastle Mystery Book 12

T E KINSEY

MAY 27, 2025

**They're used to solving murders. But until now the killer has always been human ...**

October 1912. The inhabitants of Littleton Cotterell emerge from their homes after a week of torrential storms to the gruesome news that one of Sid Hyde's prized sheep has been mauled to death. As rumours abound of a vicious beast stalking the Gloucestershire countryside in search of prey, Lady Hardcastle and her fearless lady's maid, Florence Armstrong, set out to find what is surely a rational explanation.

Then Hyde himself is brutally killed in a similar attack, and the villagers go from curious to terrified. Littleton Cotterell isn't exactly unaccustomed to murderers—but a ferocious animal capable of tearing a man to shreds? That's entirely different.

When another man dies and a third is injured, it's clear that whatever is behind the attacks needs to be caught, and fast. But are the villagers really seeing what they think they are? Is there actually a beast on the loose? Or is what's out there something more sinister—and much more human?

Stay tuned for the next book in the series, which will be released in Spring 2026!

### About the Author

Tim Kinsey grew up in London and read history at Bristol University. *The Beast of Littleton Woods* is the twelfth story in the Lady Hardcastle Mystery series, and he is also the author of the Dizzy Heights Mystery series.

His website is at [tekinsey.uk](http://tekinsey.uk) and you can follow him on: Facebook at [www.facebook.com/tekinsey](http://www.facebook.com/tekinsey), Bluesky at [bsky.app/profile/tekinsey.uk](https://bsky.app/profile/tekinsey.uk), Instagram at [www.instagram.com/tekinseymysteries](http://www.instagram.com/tekinseymysteries), and Threads at [www.threads.net/@tekinseymysteries](http://www.threads.net/@tekinseymysteries).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	299
ISBN-13	9781662521621

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*A Lady Hardcastle Mystery series*

# Homemaker

## Prairie Nightingale Series Book 1

### RUTHIE KNOX AND ANNIE MARE

JUNE 1, 2025

**When a former friend and devoted mother vanishes, a confident homemaker turned amateur sleuth follows an unexpected trail of scandals and secrets to find her.**

Prairie Nightingale is both the midlife mother of two teenage girls and a canny entrepreneur who has turned homemaking into a salaried profession. She's also fascinated with the gritty details of other people's lives. So when seemingly perfect Lisa Radcliffe, a member of her former mom-friends circle, suddenly disappears, it's in Prairie's nature to find out why.

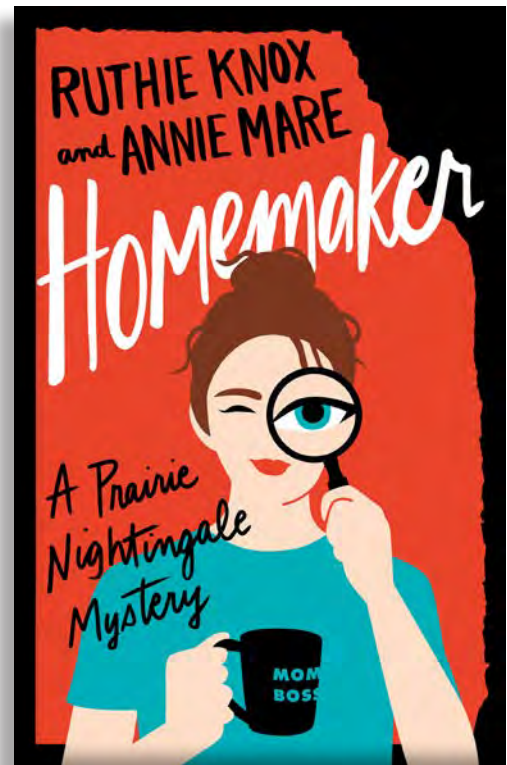
Given her innate talent for vital pattern recognition, Prairie is out to catch a few clues by taking a long, hard look at everyone in Lisa's life—and uncovering their secrets. Including Lisa's. Prairie's dogged curiosity is especially irritating to FBI agent Foster Rosemare, the first interesting man Prairie has met since her divorce. His square jaw and sharp suits don't hurt.

But even as the investigation begins to wreak havoc on Prairie's carefully tended homelife, she's resolved to use her multivalent homemaking skills to solve the mystery of a missing mom—and along the way discover the thrill of her new sleuthing ambitions.

### About the Authors

Ruthie Knox and Annie Mare are authors of more than a dozen romance novels between them. Together they write contemporary queer romance as Mae Marvel. Ruthie and Annie live in a very old house with a garden in Green Bay, Wisconsin, with two teenagers, two dogs, multiple fish, three cats, four hermit crabs, and a bazillion plants.

For more information, visit [www.ruthieknox.com](http://www.ruthieknox.com) and [www.anniemare.com](http://www.anniemare.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery
PAGE COUNT	300
ISBN-13	9781662530906

### Rights Available

All Languages



# The Man from the Flood (Der Mann aus der Flut)

The Dead of Sylt Series Book 1

MARTIN KRÜGER

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

**A brutal series of murders terrifies Sylt: the new North Sea thriller series from bestselling author Martin Krüger.**

Fria Nordström actually wanted to make a fresh start in the captain's house she inherited on Sylt, banishing the gloomy memories of Hamburg and the Criminal Investigation Department. But on her first day, the Commissioner is summoned to List: The old sailor Tammo Mattes has been found hanged. Suicide? But the circumstances of his death are so puzzling that Fria's suspicion is aroused.

While she is still questioning his contacts, two brutal murders occur on the island. The Commissioner doesn't believe for a second that it's a coincidence, but what links the cases together? Does the stranger with no memory, whom she finds on the beach at night and takes in, know more than he says?

It is clear that someone here wants to erase all traces—no matter what the cost. And Fria quickly realizes that her investigation is exposing her to great danger...

## About the Author

Martin Krüger, born in 1986, studied law in Frankfurt am Main. His books regularly feature in the top 10 of both the Kindle and BILD bestseller lists. He lives with his family in Rhineland-Palatinate.



IMPRINT	Edition M
GENRE	Crime
PAGE COUNT	319
ISBN-13	9782496716955

**Amazon**  
AusLese

Rights Available

All Languages

# The Thorns

DAWN KURTAGICH

APRIL 1, 2025

**In this hauntingly twisted tale, an author reconnects with an old boarding school friend, forcing her to reckon with their shared past and the imaginary creature she thought they left behind.**

*Touch a line, you break your spine.*

Stacey is the dusty air, the cracked soil, the drought. To thirteen-year-old Bethany Sloane, she's everything.

Abandoned by her mother at a remote African boarding school, Bethany will do anything to stay in Stacey's good graces. And that means learning the rules of each twisted game.

*Touch a crack, you break your back.*

Years later, Bethany is a bestselling author. Disabled now, she can't remember what happened back in the bush. But there's no mistaking Stacey Preston's name in her inbox.

*Glassy, glassy, cut my arsey.*

That email brings Bethany's childhood rushing back. The Glass Man was just a story the Thorns invented, a game of wits. But every game has its rules—and consequences for breaking them. To stay alive this round, Bethany needs to play right into Stacey's hands.

Dark and disturbing, *The Thorns* explores the horrifying world of adolescent abuse, controlling friendships, and blinding obsession.

## About the Author

Dawn Kurtagich is the award-winning author of several YA horror novels, including her acclaimed debut *The Dead House*, as well as *And the Trees Crept In (The Creeper Man)*, *Teeth in the Mist*, *Blood on the Wind*, and her first adult novel, *The Madness*.

## Praise for Dawn Kurtagich

"Dawn Kurtagich really is the queen of darkness ..." —**Josh Winning, author of *Heads Will Roll***

"Scary stuff!" —**R. L. Stine, author of the *Goosebumps* and *Fear Street* series**



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	383
ISBN-13	9781662526978

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Picture Perfect

BRIANNA LABUSKES

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

**From *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author Brianna Labuskes comes a haunting psychological thriller about obsession and the dark side of social media fame.**

Sometimes the most dangerous stories are the ones we tell ourselves.

When struggling journalist Holland Tate profiles her former college friend Catriona Bouchard—now a famous “tradwife” influencer—she sees cracks beneath the filtered perfection. As Holland investigates Catriona’s seemingly idyllic life with her wealthy husband, buried memories surface, including Holland’s own role in the mysterious death of Catriona’s college boyfriend.

But Holland’s desperate attempt to “save” Catriona leads to a shocking confrontation that blurs the lines between protector and predator—and proves that the most dangerous stories might be the ones we tell ourselves.

## About the Author

Brianna Labuskes is the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author of *The Lies You Wrote* in the Raisa Susanto series; *See It End*, *What Can’t Be Seen*, and *A Familiar Sight* in the Dr. Gretchen White series; as well as *Her Final Words*, *Black Rock Bay*, *Girls of Glass*, and *It Ends with Her*.

She grew up in Pennsylvania; lived in Washington, DC, for many years; and now calls Asheville, NC, home. She enjoys traveling, hiking, and spending time with her pup. Visit her at [www.briannalabuskes.com](http://www.briannalabuskes.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527456

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Truth You Told*  
*The Lies You Wrote*  
*A Familiar Sight*

# Track Her Down

## Bree Taggert Series Book 9

MELINDA LEIGH

JANUARY 14, 2025

**For Sheriff Bree Taggert, a gruesome double murder exposes the secrets of the dead in a shocking novel of suspense by #1 *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Melinda Leigh.**

A teenager returns home from work and finds her parents shot to death in their bed. Responding to the call, Sheriff Bree Taggert realizes the crime wasn't a burglary gone wrong. The couple was executed. The sole survivor: their traumatized teenage daughter, Claire Mason.

Bree teams up with investigator Matt Flynn to work the case, but together they uncover more questions than answers. When Claire is stalked at the park, it's clear the killer isn't finished—and she's the next target.

As Bree and Matt sift through the past—suspect by suspect—a tangled web of deception emerges, and the truth becomes harder to see. Because the victims' entire lives were a lie. And the only way to protect the vulnerable girl is to unravel her parents' secrets.

### About the Author

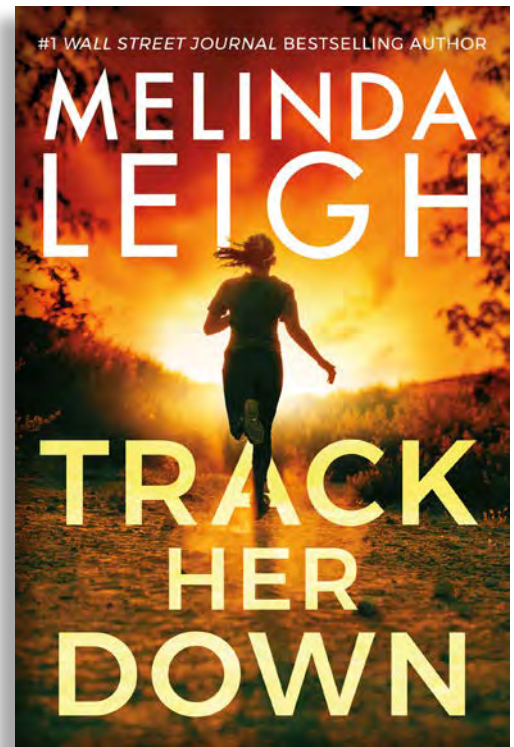
Melinda Leigh is the #1 Amazon Charts and #1 *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *She Can Run*, an International Thriller Award nominee for Best First Novel, the *She Can* series, the *Midnight Novels*, the *Scarlet Falls* series, the *Morgan Dane* series and the *Bree Taggert* series.

Melinda has garnered numerous writing awards, including two RITA nominations; holds a second-degree black belt in Kenpo karate and has taught women's self-defense; and lives in a messy house with her family and a small herd of rescue pets. For more information, visit [www.melindaleigh.com](http://www.melindaleigh.com).

### Praise for Melinda Leigh

"From the first page in this gripping mystery, we are hooked... Start with *Cross Her Heart*, and keep reading as Leigh produces more installments of her series. You won't regret it." — **Bookreporter**

"A gripping thriller, *Cross Her Heart* is fast paced and riveting, with the complex and compelling lead homicide detective, Bree Taggert. The first in a destined to be a hit series." — **Karin Slaughter, international bestselling author**



Crime, Mystery & Thriller

IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	315
ISBN-13	9781662516948

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Echo Road*  
*Morgan Dane series*  
*Scarlet Falls series*



# The Laughing Dead

## Steinbeck and Reed Series Book 3

JESS LOUREY

JULY 22, 2025

**Two BCA agents are thrown into the investigation of their lives when a grisly homicide is tied to the unsolved cold case of three smiling corpses in this pulse-crushing thriller from the Edgar Award–nominated author of *The Taken Ones*.**

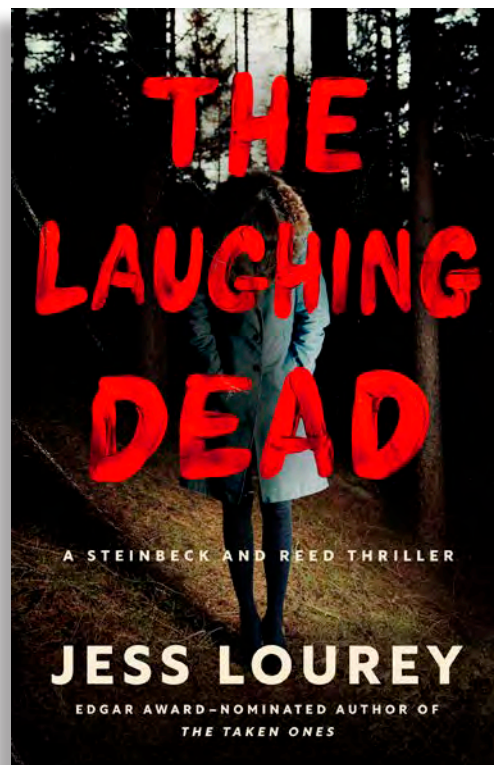
1986: Three Minnesota girls all die wearing a gruesome grin. Local press dubs them the “Laughing Dead,” but with no evidence of foul play, their deaths are ruled suicides.

2024: Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Cold Case agent Evangeline “Van” Reed’s ID is found next to a smiling corpse, making her the prime murder suspect. Her sometimes partner, BCA forensic scientist Harry Reed, has no choice but to gather the evidence that tightens the noose around her neck.

Desperate to clear her name, she reopens the 1986 cold case, hoping to connect it to the modern murder. However, the more she digs backward in time, the closer Van comes to a terrible truth: she’s known the killer her whole life.

### About the Author

Jess Lourey writes about secrets, fosters kittens, and travels. She’s surpassed a million readers, been short-listed for the Goodreads Choice Awards and the Edgar twice each, and won the International Thriller, Anthony, and Minnesota Book Awards.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	331
ISBN-13	9781662514166

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Taken Ones*  
*The Quarry Girls*  
*Unspeakable Things*

# All Because of You

LISSA LOVIK

JULY 29, 2025

**In this thrilling debut, author Lissa Lovik plumbs the murky depths of a stalker's mind as he insinuates himself into the life of the woman he's determined to have and to hold . . . forever.**

For Chris, it's love at first sight. After their grocery store meet-cute, it's easy to get her name from a fallen receipt: Serena. A quick online search reveals Serena's status (single mom), address, and workplace. And once he discovers she's a Realtor, Chris schedules a house showing right away. But he isn't pushy—he'll wait to ask her out.

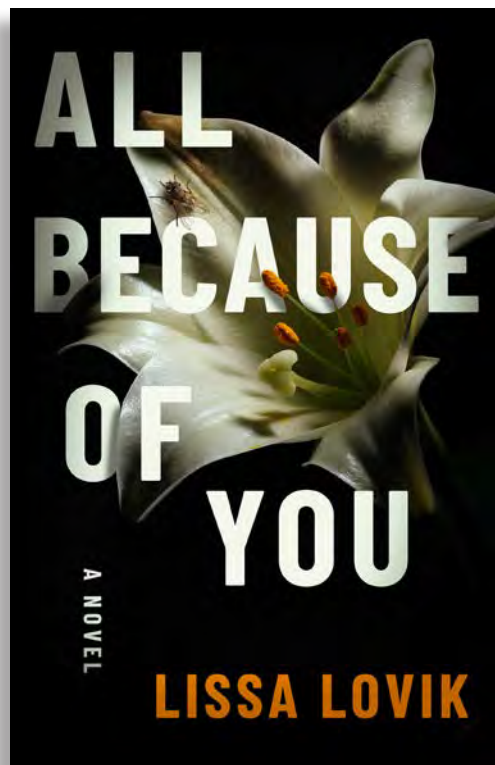
In the meantime, he'll just watch. And listen in. He wants to learn everything about her, so he can make her happy. It's not creepy; it's true love.

From their first date, their relationship is perfect. But Serena's "bestie" keeps getting in the way. She thinks he's just a friend, but Chris knows better. He knows better about a lot of things. Keeping her in line is getting harder, but their love is worth the effort.

The stars aligned when Chris and Serena met in that Winn-Dixie. And they're going to be happy together . . . even if it kills them.

## About the Author

Lissa Lovik has no impressive educational background and lives in the middle of nowhere with a herd of malamutes.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	335
ISBN-13	9781662530067

## Rights Available

All Languages

Crime, Mystery &  
Thriller

# A Killer's Code

## Daniela Vega Series Book 3

### ISABELLA MALDONADO

JANUARY 21, 2025

**A dead man's riddles—and secrets—thrust an FBI codebreaker into a deadly cross-country race for justice in a propulsive thriller by the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *The Cipher*.**

During a recent undercover sting gone bad, hit man Gustavo Toro died in the arms of FBI Special Agent Daniela “Dani” Vega. But Toro had secrets he refused to take to the grave.

In the event of his death, Toro left behind a video that promises to expose a mysterious mastermind who has been operating with impunity for decades. But there's a catch. Dani's team must follow Toro's cryptic clues on a cross-country hunt for justice, and piecing together his past is more twisted than Dani could have imagined.

But as Dani and her team race to gather the evidence, it's clear this powerful adversary will stop at nothing to keep their secrets—including eliminating those who threaten to reveal them.

### About the Author

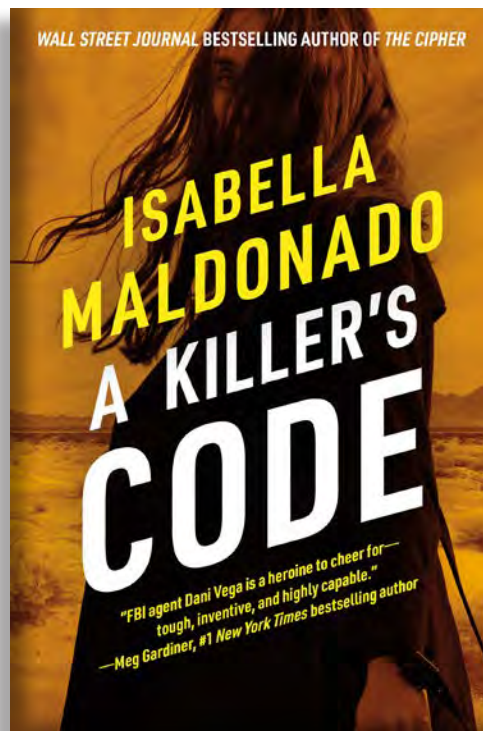
*Wall Street Journal* bestselling and award-winning author Isabella Maldonado wore a gun and badge in real life before turning to crime writing. A graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico and the first Latina to attain the rank of captain in her police department, she retired as the Commander of Special Investigations and Forensics.

During more than two decades on the force, her assignments included hostage negotiator, department spokesperson, and precinct commander. She uses her law enforcement background to bring a realistic edge to her writing, which includes the bestselling Nina Guerrero series (optioned by Netflix for a feature film starring Jennifer Lopez), the Dani Vega series, the Veranda Cruz series, and the Sanchez and Heron series, co-authored with #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Jeffery Deaver.

Her books are published in 24 languages. For more information, visit [www.isabellamaldonado.com](http://www.isabellamaldonado.com).

### Praise for Isabella Maldonado

“Maldonado's years of law enforcement experience continue to add grit and texture to the series, and she supplements those details with a barn burner of a climax. Readers will clamor for the sequel.” —*Publishers Weekly*



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	348
ISBN-13	9781662515835

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*A Killer's Game*  
*The Cipher*  
*A Forgotten Kill*

# The Lie She Wears

ELLE MARR

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

**Some secrets are meant to stay buried. Some truths destroy everything you thought you knew.**

When museum curator Pearl Chen's mother dies suspiciously, she leaves behind cryptic letters suggesting her involvement in an unsolved murder. As Pearl investigates, she uncovers her mother's possible connection to the notorious Turnpike Bloody Bronte killer and a half-sister she never knew existed.

But when threatening postcards arrive and the police begin to suspect Pearl of recent murders, she must confront a terrifying possibility: was her mother a victim or a killer? And what dark legacy runs through their blood?

*The Lie She Wears* is a sophisticated psychological thriller about buried family secrets, inherited darkness, and the stories we tell ourselves to survive.

## About the Author

Elle Marr is the #1 Amazon Charts bestselling author of *The Family Bones*, *Strangers We Know*, *Lies We Bury*, and *The Missing Sister*. Originally from Sacramento, Elle graduated from UC San Diego before moving to France, where she earned a master's degree from the Sorbonne University in Paris.

She now lives and writes in Oregon with her family. For more information, visit [www.ellemarr.com](http://www.ellemarr.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662528330

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Alone Time*  
*The Family Bones*  
*Strangers We Know*



# You Killed Me First

JOHN MARRS

MARCH 4, 2025

**Three women. Three smouldering secrets. Who will make it out alive?**

It's 5 November, and a woman awakens to a nightmare. Bound and gagged, she lies trapped in the heart of a towering bonfire. As the smoke thickens, panic sets in—she's moments away from being engulfed in flames. How did it come to this?

Rewind eleven months: Margot, a faded TV star, and her long-suffering friend Anna watch as glamorous Liv and her flawless family move into their street. The three women soon fabricate the perfect pretence of friendship, but each harbours her own deadly secret—and newcomer Liv senses something is terribly wrong beneath the polished exteriors.

As cracks widen in the veneer of perfection and lies escalate out of control, tension ignites. Bonfire Night is approaching and someone is set to burn...But who will it be?

## About the Author

John Marrs is an author and former journalist based in Northamptonshire, England. After spending his career interviewing celebrities from the worlds of television, film and music for numerous national newspapers and magazines, he is now a full-time author. This is his thirteenth book.

Follow him at [www.johnmarrsauthor.com](http://www.johnmarrsauthor.com), on X @johnmarrs1, on Instagram @johnmarrs.author and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/johnmarrsauthor](http://www.facebook.com/johnmarrsauthor).

## Praise for the Book

"The most chilling opening I've ever read in any book—a superb start to a stellar thriller. This is trademark John Marrs and then some! Clever, twisty, dark, surprising, propulsive—an elevated thriller that readers will devour. I loved it." —**#1 Sunday Times bestselling author Andrea Mara**

"Electrifying and page-turning, John Marrs is not to be missed." —**#1 New York Times bestselling author Freida McFadden**



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	399
ISBN-13	9781662506499

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

German and Polish

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Stranger in Her House*  
*Keep it in the Family*  
*What Lies Between Us*

# The Lying Man

## Detective Kat Ballantyne Series Book 4

ANDY MASLEN

APRIL 29, 2025

### Every murder starts with a story.

Mark Swift is no stranger to murder; or at least writing about it. When the famous author is found dead at a crime-writing festival, he becomes the subject of a very real whodunnit.

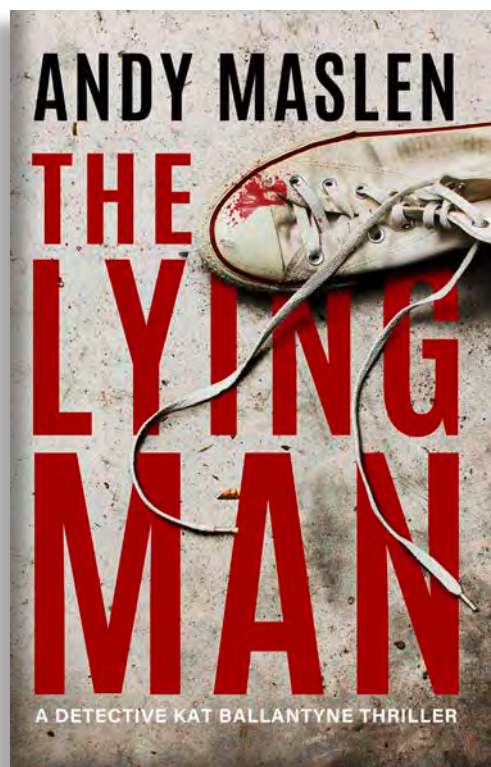
Taking charge of what should be a simple investigation, DS Kat Ballantyne soon discovers that not only was the celebrity novelist found in a locked room; he also seems to have made enemies at every turn. As the case takes a turn for the darker, Kat finds herself in a world where the line between right and wrong is blurred.

Can she bring Swift's killer to justice? And, if so, should she?

Stay tuned for the next book in the series, which will be released in Fall 2025!

### About the Author

Andy Maslen was born in Nottingham, England. After leaving university with a degree in psychology, he worked in business for thirty years as a copywriter, while also continuing to write poetry and short fiction. In his spare time, he plays blues and jazz guitar. He lives in Wiltshire.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	411
ISBN-13	9781662530623

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Silent Wife*  
*The Unseen Sister*  
*The Seventh Girl*

# The Night Collector

Vegas Shadows Series Book 2

VICTOR METHOS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

**Edgar nominee Victor Methos delivers the next high-stakes case for Detective Lazarus Holloway and Piper Danes, where a kidnapping at a Vegas chapel unveils a sinister plot that hits close to home.**

The abduction of two teenagers from their Vegas wedding isn't a case Detective Lazarus Holloway wants to take—it's one he has to take. His only clue is a bracelet, etched with a Mayan symbol of death and vengeance—two things the detective is familiar with, if nothing else.

With no other leads, Lazarus enlists the help of guardian ad litem Piper Danes. They've got a complicated history, but Piper shares his compulsion to save children in need, no matter the personal cost. Unfortunately, that cost gets higher with every new revelation.

As they tread further into the dangerous network surrounding the case, secrets from Lazarus's past follow close behind. He soon finds himself entangled with the players in this game of life, death, and disappearances. And if he can't figure out how he fits in, there may be no getting out . . .

## About the Author

Victor Methos's journey into the world of law and justice began at the age of thirteen, following a profound personal experience where his best friend falsely confessed to a crime after enduring an eight-hour interrogation. This pivotal moment steered Methos toward a future in law, culminating in a law degree from the University of Utah. Starting his career as a determined prosecutor in Salt Lake City, he soon established Utah's premier criminal defense firm, showcasing his prowess in more than a hundred trials over a decade.

One case in particular left an indelible mark on Victor, inspiring his breakthrough bestseller, *The Neon Lawyer*. Transitioning from the courtroom to the writer's desk, Methos has since dedicated himself to crafting gripping legal thrillers and mysteries. His exceptional storytelling has earned him the prestigious Harper Lee Prize for *The Hallows* and an Edgar Award nomination for Best Novel for *A Gambler's Jury*. He currently resides in southern Utah.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Legal
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662528439

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Desert Plains series*  
*Shepard & Gray series*

# The Water Lies

AMY MEYERSON

OCTOBER 28, 2025

**From the author of the international bestseller *The Bookshop of Yesterdays* comes a claustrophobic thriller in which two mothers' paths converge as they search for the truth about a drowning in their idyllic California neighborhood.**

The morning after Rachel Irons' pre-verbal toddler recognizes—and throws a tantrum over—a woman in a coffee shop that Rachel has never seen before, the woman's drowned body is found in the canal outside their home. Terrified that her son was connected to the woman who drowned, she begins investigating the death.

Meanwhile, when Barb Gellar hears that her daughter Regina, sober for seven years, got drunk and drowned in the Venice Beach Canals, she's certain something terrible must have happened to her. The women's paths cross as they realize they are after the same truth, eventually uncovering a shocking secret that will forever change both their lives.

Combining the claustrophobic paranoia of Hitchcock's *Rear Window*, the fast-paced family mystery of *The Last Thing He Told Me*, and the interrogation of mother in *The Push*, this is a twisty and page-turning psychological thriller.

## About the Author

Amy Meyerson is the bestselling author of *The Bookshop of Yesterdays*, which will be translated into 11 languages. She has been published in numerous literary magazines and teaches in the writing department at the University of Southern California, where she completed her graduate work in creative writing.

Originally from Philadelphia, she currently lives in Los Angeles.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662531989

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Love Scribe*  
*The Imperfects*  
*The Bookshop of Yesterdays*



# The Fairest

## Arles Shepherd Thriller Book 2

JENNY MILCHMAN

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

**When a young runaway girl seeks protective sanctuary with two women, a nightmare follows in a riveting novel of suspense by Jenny Milchman, the *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Usual Silence*.**

Author Kara Parsons is at a book signing in the mountain town where she was raised. Before it's over, an eleven-year-old girl approaches and slides a handwritten note to a stunned Kara: I am a missing child.

Most people would alert the police. Not Kara. She knows firsthand what happens to the young and vulnerable when they're failed by the system. The person Kara turns to is her former doctor, Arles Shepherd, a child psychologist recovering from injuries and staying off the grid in a remote cabin. She'll know what to do with a child who's terrified of being found. But even for Arles, who's seen everything, something is amiss about this girl who calls herself Lark. What is she really running from? And how much of what she says can be believed?

When an intimidating stranger comes knocking, Kara, Arles, and Lark come to understand the real danger they're all in. And their lives will have to collide if each one of them is to survive.

### About the Author

Jenny Milchman is the Mary Higgins Clark Award-winning and *USA Today* bestselling author of the psychological thrillers *Cover of Snow*, *Ruin Falls*, *As Night Falls*, *Wicked River*, and *The Second Mother*. Her work has received praise from media ranging from the *New York Times* to the *San Francisco Journal of Books*; earned spots on Top 10 lists from *Suspense Magazine* to the *Strand Magazine*; made Best Of lists from PopSugar to PureWow; and garnered starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist*, *Library Journal*, and *Shelf Awareness*, in addition to numerous other mentions.

Before turning to fiction, Jenny earned a graduate degree in clinical psychology and practiced at a rural community mental health center for more than a decade. She lives in the Catskill Mountains with her family. For more information, visit [www.jennymilchman.com](http://www.jennymilchman.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662518447

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Usual Silence*

# Into the Fall

TAMARA L. MILLER

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

**From debut author Tamara L. Miller comes a suspenseful psychological thriller tracking the mysteries of a seemingly mundane life as they come to light in the vast, unforgiving Canadian wilderness.**

For better or for worse, Sarah Anderson has it all: a thriving career, a nice home in Ottawa, two young kids...and a marriage coming apart at the seams.

Then her husband, Matthew, vanishes without a trace during a family vacation up north. Sarah and her children are nearly lost among the slumbering lakes, treacherous cliffs, and brooding forests of the Canadian Shield. A glacier-scraped realm of ancient beauty and terror, it's a world away from the safety of the suburbs. And a big storm is brewing.

A kind rural lawman comes to their aid and takes an interest in the case. The trail goes cold, however, launching Sarah into a yearlong odyssey to find her husband. On the way, she must reconnect with her estranged sister and duck the suspicions of a slick city police officer. But that's nothing compared to unearthing the dark secrets buried deep in the granite of her marriage—and in herself.

## About the Author

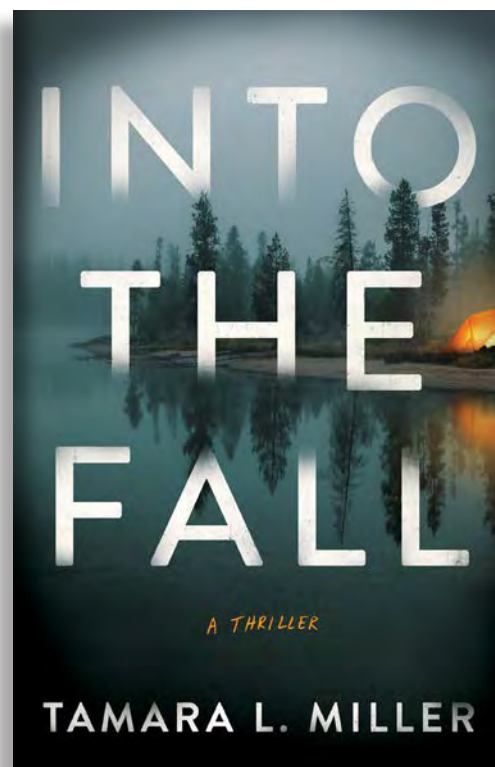
Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Tamara L. Miller earned her PhD in Canadian history before embarking on a career working for the federal government. Miller began as a doe-eyed policy analyst and eventually moved into an executive role with the Government of Canada. She later left public service, older and perhaps a little wiser, to become a writer.

Tamara is past president of Ottawa Independent Writers and has written several articles published online by the likes of CBC and *Ottawa Life Magazine*. *Into the Fall* is her first novel. Over the years, the author has called many Canadian cities home but now lives in Ottawa with her family and two long-suffering cats.

## Praise for the Book

**"A thrilling ride of a debut. Do not miss this one." —Lucinda Berry, bestselling author of *Keep Your Friends Close***

**"With a captivating story and complex family dynamics, secrets abound in this stellar debut from Miller. You'll be looking over your shoulder long after the explosive ending. Don't trust anyone!" —J.T. Ellison, *New York Times* bestselling author of *It's One of Us***



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	253
ISBN-13	9781662524028

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

Crime, Mystery & Thriller

# Poison Wood

JENNIFER MOORHEAD

OCTOBER 28, 2025

## The past never stays buried in the bayou.

When Emmy-nominated reporter Rita Meade returns home to Louisiana, a human skull is discovered at the abandoned Poison Wood Academy—where, years ago, four girls ran into the woods but only three returned. Rita was one of them, and her judge father swiftly convicted a maintenance man for the crime.

Now, with the killer walking free and threatening to expose a state-wide scandal, another former student vanishes. Rita must uncover the truth about that night, her murdered mother, and her father's role in it all—before someone finishes what they started in Poison Wood's dark woods.

## About the Author

Jennifer Moorhead graduated from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Geaux Tigers! She has written and produced three indie short films, which made Top 20 at Louisiana Film Prize and were presented with awards at festivals around the world.

She lives in Louisiana with her husband, two daughters, two dogs, and one cat—plus plenty of horses, mini ponies, and donkeys—in a place where swamps and winding trails are the norm. When she's not writing or spoiling her pets, she's on a tennis court laughing and providing job security for her coach.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662531422

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Broken Bayou*

# The Drowning Game

BARBARA NICKLESS

JANUARY 1, 2025

**A woman's investigation into her sister's death exposes the dark side of a secret life in a gripping novel of power, money, and murder by a *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author.**

Sisters Nadia and Cass Brenner are heirs to Ocean House, a decades-old empire that builds superyachts for the rich and powerful: emirs, oligarchs, and titans of industry throughout America and Europe. They're a next-generation success with the design of their soon-to-be-commissioned megayacht for a Chinese billionaire. But the sisters' entrée into the coveted Asian market is tragically cut short when Cass falls from a fortieth-floor hotel balcony.

A Singapore detective rules suicide. Nadia's been in the yacht business too long not to be suspicious. Especially when she discovers Cass's involvement in dangerously illicit activities. Pulled into the same web of betrayal, lies, and secrets that trapped her sister, Nadia is on the most perilous mission of her life. Because uncovering the truth behind her sister's death could tear the Brenner family apart—and it just might get her killed.

From Seattle to Austria to the South China Sea, Nadia must hold on to the one thing that can keep her safe. It's the Brenner family motto: *Trust no one*.

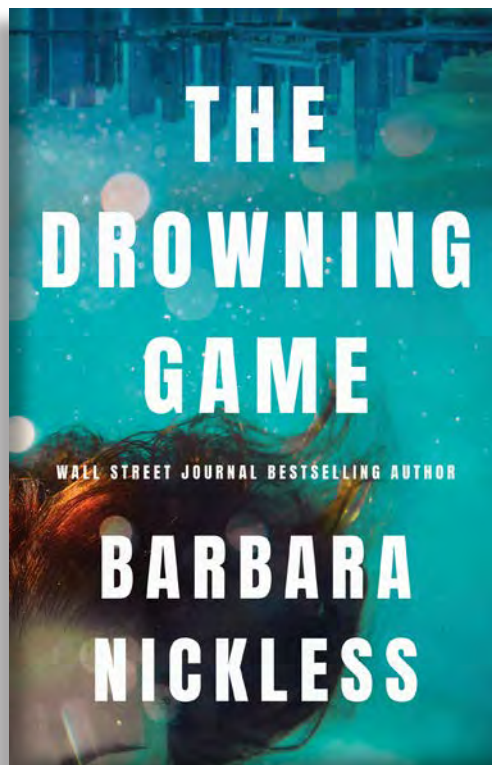
## About the Author

Barbara Nickless is the *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of *Play of Shadows*, *Dark of Night*, and *At First Light* in the Dr. Evan Wilding series, as well as the Sydney Rose Parnell series, which includes *Blood on the Tracks*, a *Suspense Magazine* Best of 2016 selection and winner of the Colorado Book Award and the Daphne du Maurier Award for Excellence; *Dead Stop*, winner of the Colorado Book Award and nominee for the Daphne du Maurier Award for Excellence; *Ambush*; and *Gone to Darkness*.

Her essays and short stories have appeared in *Writer's Digest* and on Criminal Element, among other markets. She lives in Colorado, where she loves to cave, snowshoe, hike, and drink single malt Scotch—usually not at the same time. Connect with her at [www.barbaranickless.com](http://www.barbaranickless.com).

## Praise for Barbara Nickless

"Nickless' thriller offers local color and occasional chills..." —  
**Kirkus Reviews**



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	379
ISBN-13	9781662510014

first reads  


## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Play of Shadows*  
*Dark of Night*  
*At First Light*

Crime, Mystery &  
Thriller



# Reckoning Hour

## Dean Lincoln Legal Thriller Book 1

PETER O'MAHONEY

JULY 1, 2025

**Murder. Arson. Secrets. Justice is about to come home.**

Big-city defense lawyer Dean Lincoln left his picturesque hometown of Beaufort years ago. But now, the lure of small-town life and a family matter have drawn him back.

Amidst the sultry heat and the Spanish moss, and beneath the facade of Southern small-town charm, Lincoln begins work again and is immediately thrown into two cases: a rich kid charged with murder and a poor kid accused of arson. Both swear they are innocent. Both feel the system is trying to crush them. And in this corner of the South, guilt is rarely decided in the courtroom...

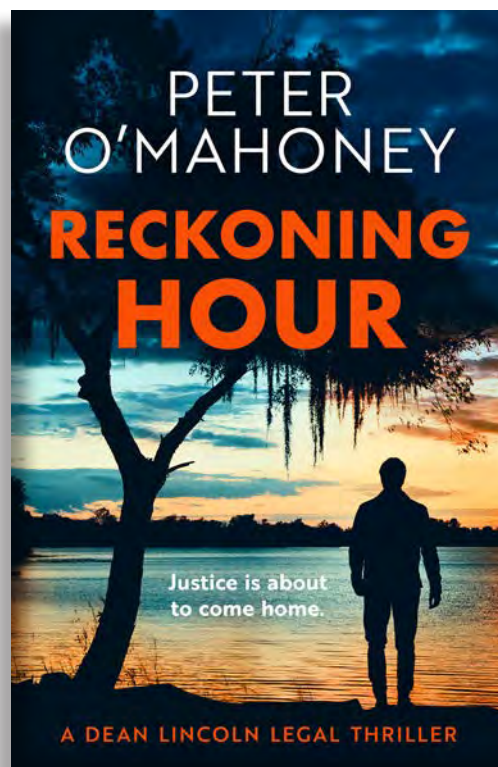
Lincoln's return has stirred a long-standing grudge, and it could cost him everything—his career, his clients, even his life. As the clock runs out on the truth, trouble is closing in fast.

Book 2, *Fatal Verdict*, will be published simultaneously.

### About the Author

Peter O'Mahoney is the author of the bestselling Joe Hennessy, Tex Hunter, and Jack Valentine thrillers. He was raised on a healthy dose of Perry Mason stories; the pace and style of these books inspired him to write, and he hasn't stopped since. O'Mahoney loves to write fast-paced stories filled with exciting characters, thrilling legal cases, and mind-bending plot twists. His thrillers have entertained hundreds of thousands of readers around the world.

O'Mahoney is a criminologist, with a keen interest in law, and is an active member of the American Society of Criminology. When not writing or spending time with his family, he can be found in the surf, on the hiking trails, in the boxing gym, at home reading, or staring at a beautiful sunset in wonder.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Legal
PAGE COUNT	319
ISBN-13	9781662525377

### Rights Available

All Languages

# Tell Me You Trust Me

ELLE OWENS

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

**In a twisty and provocative thriller debut, Elle Owens tells the story of a young mother whose husband vanishes without a trace, and their shared playlist holds the only key to bringing him back.**

When her husband goes missing, Marissa Creighton fears the worst. *Tell me you trust me* was the last thing Ethan said to her, and she'd shrugged it off. Now she can't get those words out of her head.

Marissa's family has always been her rock. But when they come to help her with eighteen-month-old Logan, their overprotectiveness borders on oppression—occupational hazard of the family's surveillance business, or is it? Seeking comfort in the playlist she and Ethan share, Marissa is shocked to find a new song there: "Trust Me." She's certain it's a message.

Using song titles as code, she and Ethan start communicating back and forth. But she still doesn't understand why he left. While his messages point to incriminating documents, her family uncovers evidence of an affair. But their discoveries come with their own baggage, including personal threats, secret bank accounts, and dusty surveillance devices. All the while Marissa wonders whether she'll ever learn the truth—or see her husband again.

## About the Author

*Tell Me You Trust Me* is Elle Owens's thriller debut. She also writes award-winning romance titles under a different name. Elle grew up in central Illinois and has been creating stories forever—roughly since birth. After discovering Nancy Drew as a teenager and David Baldacci as an adult, she started down the path to writing her own suspense novels. Owens draws upon her career in technology to blend the world of tech and everyday fears into her work. She especially loves sports and spending time with her husband and kids.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Crossover
PAGE COUNT	301
ISBN-13	9781662525575

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Vanishing Daughters

CYNTHIA PELAYO

MARCH 11, 2025

**A haunted woman stalked by a serial killer confronts the horrors of fairy tales and the nightmares of real life in a breathtaking novel of psychological suspense by a Bram Stoker Award–winning author.**

It started the night journalist Briar Thorne’s mother died in their rambling old mansion on Chicago’s South Side.

The nightmares of a woman in white pleading to come home, music switched on in locked rooms, and the panicked fear of being swallowed by the dark...Bri has almost convinced herself that these stirrings of dread are simply manifestations of grief and not the beyond-world of ghostly impossibilities her mother believed in. And more tangible terrors still lurk outside the decaying Victorian greystone.

A serial killer has claimed the lives of fifty-one women in the Chicago area. When Bri starts researching the murders, she meets a stranger who tells her there’s more to her sleepless nights than bad dreams—they hold the key to putting ghosts to rest and stopping a killer. But the killer has caught on and is closing in, and if Bri doesn’t answer the call of the dead soon, she’ll be walking among them.

## About the Author

Cynthia Pelayo is the Bram Stoker Award–winning author of *Forgotten Sisters*, *Children of Chicago*, and *The Shoemaker’s Magician*. In addition to writing genre-blending novels that incorporate fairy-tale, mystery, detective, crime, and horror elements, Pelayo has written numerous short stories, including the collection *Lotería*, and the poetry collection *Crime Scene*.

The recipient of the 2021 International Latino Book Award, she holds a master of fine arts in writing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She lives in Chicago with her family. For more information, visit [www.cinapelayo.com](http://www.cinapelayo.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Horror
PAGE COUNT	336
ISBN-13	9781662513930

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Forgotten Sisters*



# Follow Me

ELIZABETH ROSE QUINN

APRIL 1, 2025

***Heathers* meets *The Stepford Wives* in this creepy and frighteningly funny dark thriller about a woman who will do anything to find her missing sister. Even pretend to be one of them.**

After her twin sister, Chiara, goes missing at a mom-fluencer weekend, Adrienne Shaw will find her no matter what it takes. They may have been on the outs, but no one comes for her sister and gets away with it.

It's been a year, the authorities have no answers, and her brother-in-law is useless in the matter. It's time for Adrienne to take the case into her own hands. Following in Chiara's last footsteps, Adrienne goes undercover, infiltrating the same influencer retreat as the last thing she wants to be: an Instamommy. The remote ranch in Northern California is certainly welcoming—in a cult-adjacent kind of way. A charismatic leader, communal crafts, fixed smiles—and a lot of dead eyes.

Going on gut instinct and chasing a wild theory—that Chiara came here and never left—Adrienne is determined to uncover the truth before the too-perfect-to-believe women figure out who Adrienne really is: a threat to be eliminated.

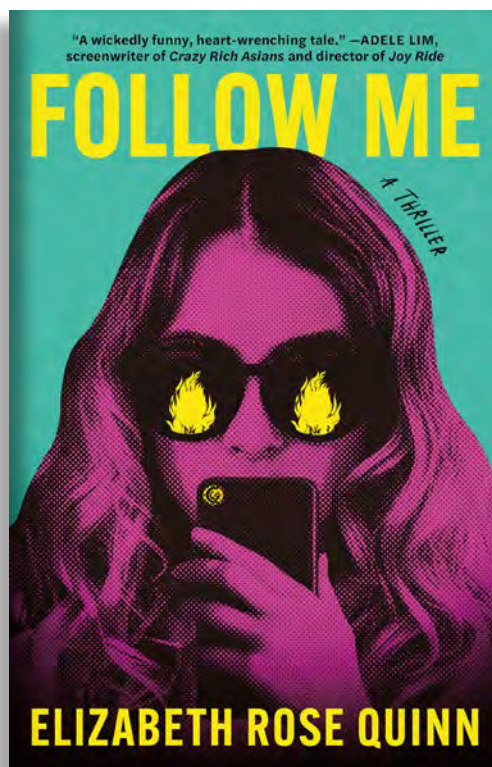
## About the Author

Elizabeth Rose Quinn is a novelist and screenwriter. She graduated with a BA in English from UC Berkeley and a master's degree in marriage and family therapy. Born and raised in Berkeley, California, Elizabeth lived in Los Angeles for fifteen years while working in production and writing for television.

Her novel *Follow Me* was optioned by Amazon MGM Studios and is currently in production as a feature film. She is married with two children and currently lives in New Mexico. In addition to traveling and exploring nature with her family, Elizabeth loves rolling fresh pasta, swimming in the Pacific Ocean, and looking for rainbows in the desert sunsets.

## Praise for Elizabeth Rose Quinn

*"Follow Me is a wickedly funny, heart-wrenching tale that peels back the Instagram filter to reveal the messy reality of modern motherhood. With biting humor and searing insight, Elizabeth Rose Quinn holds a mirror up to society that simultaneously deifies and condemns mothers."* —**Adele Lim, screenwriter of *Crazy Rich Asians* and director of *Joy Ride***



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Crossover
PAGE COUNT	285
ISBN-13	9781662524813

## Rights Available

All Languages



# The Killing Plains

SHERRY RANKIN

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

**From the winner of the CWA's Debut Dagger Award.**

**Two victims. Twenty years apart. One elusive killer.**

Crescent Bluff, West Texas. Everybody knows everybody. And everybody has a secret.

When a boy is found dead with the skin of a hare's head in his hand, everyone knows who killed him—Willis Newland, just released from prison after serving twenty years for an identical murder.

But what if everyone's wrong?

Detective Colly Newland reluctantly agrees to investigate a case that seems to involve the whole town, including her dead husband's extended family. But the deeper she digs, the more secrets she unearths. And as threats against her escalate, Colly realizes someone is willing to kill to keep theirs...

## About the Author

Sherry Rankin grew up in New Jersey and has taught creative writing and literature in West Texas since 1997. After winning the Crime Writers' Association's Debut Dagger Award and being shortlisted for the Daniel Goldsmith First Novel Prize in 2017 (for an as-yet-unpublished novel), she went on to be shortlisted in the Margery Allingham Short Mystery Competition in 2019.

Sherry has a daughter in New Mexico and enjoys gardening and walking her three dogs. *The Killing Plains* is her first published novel.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	368
ISBN-13	9781662521157

first reads

Rights Available

All Languages

# The Final Episode

LORI ROY

JUNE 24, 2025

**When a true crime series chronicles the tragic childhood summer that changed her life forever, a young woman must grapple with the truth about her father...and herself.**

Jennifer Jones and her best friends spend every summer at Big Cypress Swamp, and this summer, Jennifer will finally turn eleven. She hopes to gain the “second sight” foretold by family legend and fulfill her destiny. Instead, the swamp serves up dangers greater than the gators lurking on Halfway Creek. Little Francie Farrow vanishes—and Jennifer’s father goes to prison.

Twenty years later, Jennifer has almost shed the label of Paul Jones’s daughter when her past comes barreling back. *Inspired by True Events*, a TV series that solves the unsolvable, is recreating that fateful summer. As the series plays out, Jennifer wonders: Did the show finally find Francie Farrow? And is Jennifer’s father truly guilty?

Someone else wants answers even more than Jennifer does, and they won’t let her forget it.

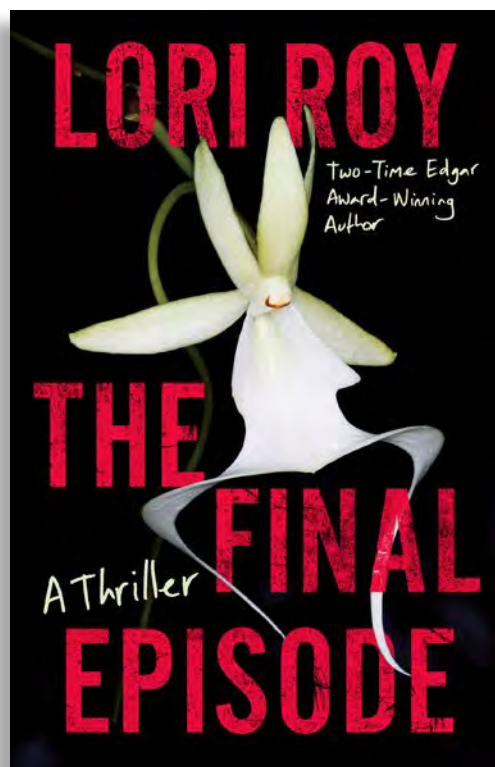
As the series nears its finale and the long-awaited truth, Jennifer must come to terms with who her family is...and what that makes *her*.

## About the Author

Lori Roy’s debut novel, *Bent Road*, was awarded the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best First Novel by an American Author. Her work has been twice named a *New York Times* Notable Crime Book and has been included on various “best of” and summer reading lists. *Until She Comes Home* was a *New York Times* Editors’ Choice and a finalist for the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Novel.

*Let Me Die in His Footsteps* was included among the top fiction books of 2015 by Books-A-Million and named one of the best fifteen mystery novels of 2015 by Oline Cogdill. The novel also received the 2016 Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Novel, making Roy the first woman to receive an Edgar Award for both Best First Novel and Best Novel—and only the third person ever to have done so.

Roy lives with her family in West Central Florida.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	351
ISBN-13	9781662526923

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Lake County*

# Brooklyn Kills Me

## Friends and Enemies Book 2

EMILY SCHULTZ

OCTOBER 15, 2024

**In this sharp and suspenseful sequel to *Sleeping with Friends*, a reluctant detective investigates a suspicious death, the party where it happened—and the secrets no one's willing to tell.**

Book editor Agnes Nielsen never anticipated the viral celebrity that would come after solving the attempted murder of her best friend. Suddenly swept up in a world of luxury, she finds herself mingling with New York's movers, shakers, and moneymakers—among them the enigmatic heiress Charlotte Bond, who takes Agnes under her wing.

But those wings, it turns out, aren't enough to save Charlotte from a fatal fall.

When police dismiss the death as accidental, Agnes takes on the scions and wannabes of New York society, even if she sometimes doubts her new skill set as a hipster detective. After all, she only has a vague recollection of the party that ended Charlotte's life, and everyone else has a different story. Or so they say.

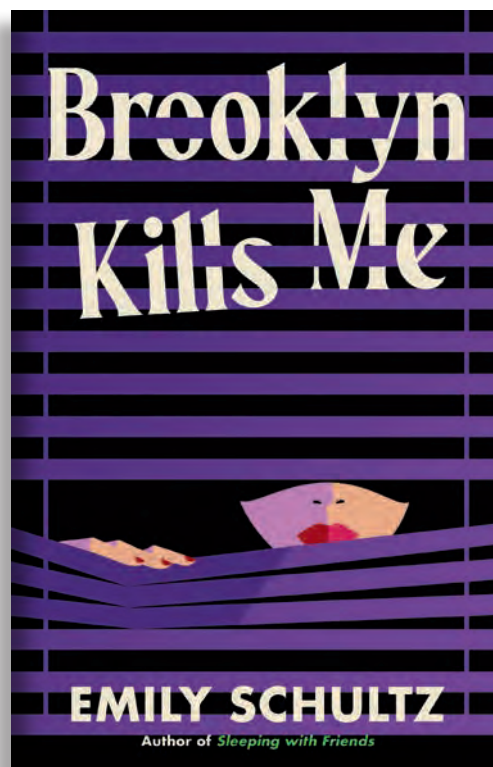
As she digs into the details of that night, Agnes finds that the sparkling veneer of wealth and success hides plenty of blemishes...and the cracks below may be deep enough to swallow her whole.

### About the Author

Emily Schultz is the author of *Sleeping with Friends* and *Brooklyn Kills Me*, both from Thomas & Mercer. She is the cofounder of *Joyland Magazine*. Her novel *Little Threats* was named an Apple Books Best of 2020 pick. Her novel *The Blondes* was named a Best Book of 2015 by NPR and *Kirkus Reviews*. *The Blondes* was produced as a scripted podcast and translated into French, German, and Spanish with over one million listeners worldwide.

Her writing has appeared in *Elle*, *Slate*, *Evergreen Review*, *Literary Hub*, *CrimeReads*, *Vice*, *Today's Parent*, *Electric Literature*, and the *Hopkins Review*. Schultz lives in Brooklyn.

For more about the author and her work, visit her website at [www.emilyschultz.com](http://www.emilyschultz.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery
PAGE COUNT	249
ISBN-13	9781662513497

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Sleeping With Friends*

# You Must Be New Here

KATIE SISE

JULY 8, 2025

**A friendship is put to the test when a young woman disappears from a quiet community in a dark and twisty novel of suspense by the bestselling author of *Open House* and *The Vacation Rental*.**

Sloane Thompson has a daughter named Daisy, attends school activities with other parents, and even has an amicable relationship with her ex-husband. But after ten years in bucolic Sycamore Glen, Sloane has yet to find someone to call a true friend. Until Harper and Ben Wilson move in next door.

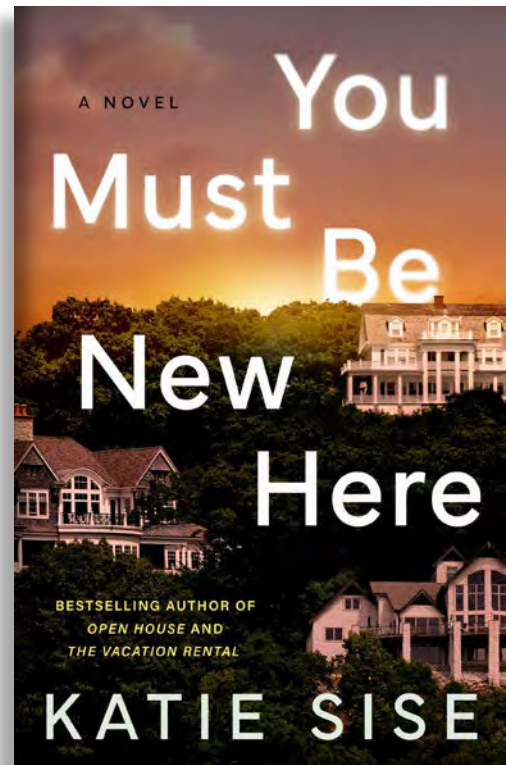
Harper is open, charismatic, and restless. She and Sloane quickly become confidantes and fall into a deep and intoxicating friendship. Then one afternoon, Daisy's dependable babysitter, Margaret, fails to show. When texts from Margaret's mother and boyfriend go unanswered, the inexplicable disappearance becomes a cause for alarm.

As anxious hours turn into days, suspicion grows. And tension tightens. As if something is about to snap. When it does, long-held secrets are revealed, and not everyone in Sycamore Glen is who they seem to be.

## About the Author

Katie Sise is the bestselling author of *The Vacation Rental*, *The Break*, *Open House*, and *We Were Mothers*. Her books have been included on best-of lists by *Good Morning America*, the *New York Post*, *POPSUGAR*, *Parade* magazine, and *PureWow*.

Katie is a former TV host and jewelry designer, and lives outside New York City with her husband, four children, and a golden retriever who has finally calmed down. For more information, visit [www.katiesise.com](http://www.katiesise.com).



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	315
ISBN-13	9781662507762

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Vacation Rental*  
*The Break*  
*Open House*



# The Fourth Girl

## Haven Cliff Series Book 1

WENDY CORSI STAUB

APRIL 1, 2025

**On the anniversary of a teen’s disappearance, three friends face a deadly hometown reunion in this twisty suspense novel by a *New York Times* bestselling author.**

On prom night, Caroline Winterfield walked away from the ruins of an abandoned mansion called Haven Cliff and into the woods...never to be seen again. Only her three best friends know what really happened. But a secret is a secret, and a promise is a promise—even when it shatters lifelong friendships.

On the twenty-fifth anniversary of that night, Midge, Kelly, and Talia reunite at Haven Cliff, now a gleaming architectural jewel. But they aren’t alone. Someone is watching. Someone who knows what really happened to Caroline—and to the man who now lies dead a stone’s throw from where she was last seen.

Police detective Midge knows she’s dealing with a murder the moment she sees the item clutched in his lifeless hand. Only three other people in the world would grasp its significance. That means Kelly and Talia are either involved or in danger, because Caroline is long gone...or is she?

### About the Author

Wendy Corsi Staub is the *New York Times* bestselling author of more than ninety novels, including *Windfall*, *The Other Family*, and *Dying Breath*. She is also the author of the Lily Dale Mystery series, the Foundlings trilogy, the Mundy’s Landing trilogy, the Nightwatcher trilogy, and the Live to Tell trilogy.

Wendy is a three-time finalist for the Simon & Schuster Mary Higgins Clark Award and has won an RWA RITA Award, an RT Award for Career Achievement in Suspense, the 2007 RWA/ NYC Golden Apple Award for Lifetime Achievement, and five WLA Washington Irving Prizes for Fiction.

Wendy lives in the New York suburbs with her husband, their sons, and three rescue cats. For more information, visit [www.wendycorsistaub.com](http://www.wendycorsistaub.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	399
ISBN-13	9781662523816

### Rights Available

All Languages

# No Lie Lasts Forever

MARK STEVENS

JUNE 1, 2025

**Zodiac with a terrifying twist, in a taut thriller from author Mark Stevens about a reformed serial killer and the disgraced journalist he coaxes into finding the imposter trading on his name.**

When a reporter dies in a shockingly familiar way, the media rushes to announce the return of the PDQ Killer. The city of Denver reels, but no one more than Harry Kugel. After all, he is the PDQ Killer—or was fifteen years ago. And he didn't do this.

Still working to reform his ways, Harry won't let some amateur murderer ride his twisted coattails and risk drawing the police back his way. To protect his legacy and quiet new life, he'll have to expose the copycat. Without exposing himself.

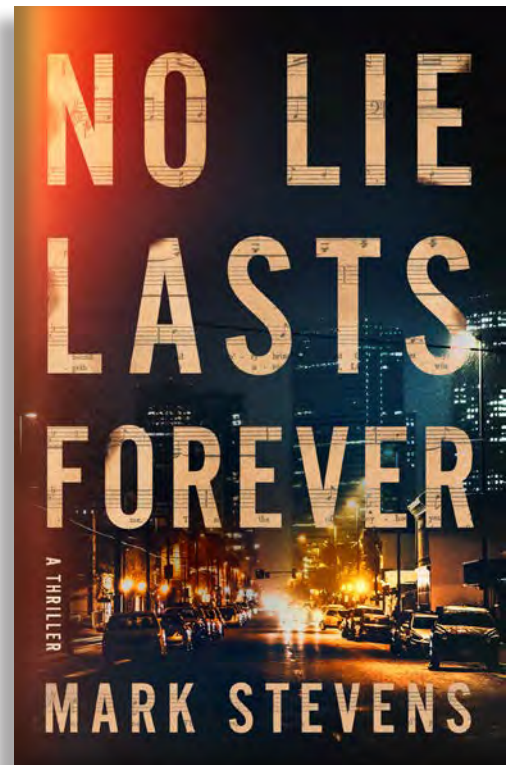
Disgraced TV journalist Flynn Martin holds the key. After a botched hostage situation, she'll do anything to revive her dying career—even hunt down a monster who executed one of her own.

Harry must convince Flynn to follow him into the heady world of a killer. But with the law closing in and a rival at large, he starts to feel the familiar pull of old urges...

## About the Author

The son of two librarians, Mark Stevens was raised in Lincoln, Massachusetts, and has worked as a reporter, as a national television news producer, and in public relations. *The Fireballer* (Lake Union Publishing, 2023) was named Best Baseball Novel by *Twin Bill* literary magazine and named a Best Baseball Book of the Year by *Spitball Magazine*. His novel *Antler Dust* was a *Denver Post* bestseller in 2007 and 2009. *Buried by the Roan*, *Trapline*, and *Lake of Fire* were all finalists for the Colorado Book Award (2012, 2015, and 2016, respectively), which *Trapline* won. *Trapline* also won the Colorado Authors League Award for Best Genre Fiction.

Stevens's short stories have been published in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, *Mystery Tribune*, and *Denver Noir* (Akashic Books). In both 2016 and 2023, Stevens was named Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers' Writer of the Year. He hosts a regular podcast for Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and has served as president of the Rocky Mountain chapter for Mystery Writers of America. Stevens also writes book reviews, which you can find at <https://markhstevens.wordpress.com>. He currently lives in Mancos, Colorado.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	460
ISBN-13	9781662529597

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Fireballer*

# Gravewater Lake

A.M. STRONG & SONYA SARGENT

MARCH 1, 2025

**A woman who can't remember her past encounters a mysterious stranger in a chilling novel of mounting psychological suspense by the authors of *The Last Girl Left*.**

She wakes on the shore of a remote lake in the middle of the night, freezing and afraid. With no memory of who she is or how she got there, she stumbles frantically toward the lights of a house. The handsome stranger who lives there is shocked to see a woman on his doorstep and takes her in.

Trapped by a winter storm and cut off from the outside world, she starts to suspect that all is not right with the house on Gravewater Lake—or the man, who says his name is Gregg. Because there are whispers in the night, and phantom footsteps pace the halls. Is Gregg hiding a dark secret, or is she losing her mind?

As she struggles to remember her past and make sense of her present, she soon discovers that people are not always who they seem, and the truth might be more deadly than she could ever have imagined.

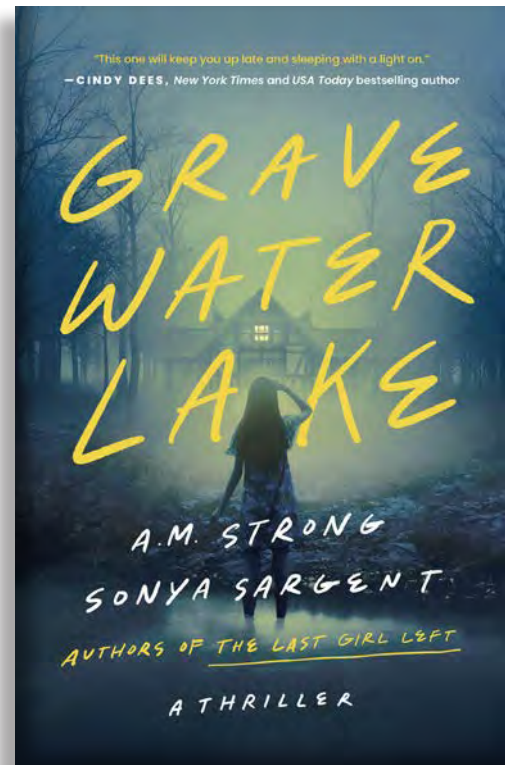
## About the Authors

**A.M. Strong** is the coauthor of nine novels, most recently *The Last Girl Left* and *I Will Find Her*. *Gravewater Lake* is his second psychological thriller. A native of the United Kingdom, Anthony now splits his time between Florida and the coast of Maine. He also writes under the pen name Anthony M. Strong. For more information, visit [www.amstrongauthor.com](http://www.amstrongauthor.com).

**Sonya Sargent** is the coauthor of nine novels, most recently *The Last Girl Left* and *I Will Find Her*. *Gravewater Lake* is her second psychological thriller. A native of Vermont, Sonya now splits her time between sunny Florida and the beautiful coast of Maine. For more information, visit [www.twistedthrillers.com](http://www.twistedthrillers.com).

## Praise for A.M. Strong & Sonya Sargent

"*Gravewater Lake* is a psychological thriller extraordinaire, a mind-bender of a tale that grabs hold and never lets go. A.M. Strong and Sonya Sargent have fashioned an exquisite tapestry drawn in deceit and desperation, shaded by noirish underpinnings that leave us questioning the very nature of reality itself. A Hitchcockian romp of madness and mayhem, *Gravewater Lake* drowns us in the darkness that lurks at its core. Not to be missed!" —**Jon Land, *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author**



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	364
ISBN-13	9781662518393

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Authors

*The Last Girl Left*

# A Happy Marriage

A. R. TORRE

JUNE 24, 2025

**What holds a strong and loving marriage together? Lies and secrets in a novel of twisting psychological suspense by a *New York Times* bestselling author.**

Los Angeles homicide detective Dinah Marino may have a complicated relationship with her family, but her psychiatrist husband, Joe, makes her feel safe, secure, and happy. She couldn't want for a more loving or trusting man. But throughout their ten-year marriage, she's been keeping a secret from him—a secret she'd take to the grave.

Dr. Joe Marino loves his wife more than anything in this world, but there are things he's learned to keep close to the chest. When a missing woman tied to his wife's latest case is admitted to his hospital, doctor-patient confidentiality lands their marriage on some new and uneven ground.

As Dinah digs deeper into her case, tension works its way inside their picture-perfect home. Now the carefully constructed lies between them don't just simply threaten the delicate balance of their marriage—they could kill.

## About the Author

A. R. Torre is a pseudonym for *New York Times* bestselling author Alessandra Torre. Alessandra resides in Key West, Florida, where she spends her free time on the water, roasting coffee, and doing crossword puzzles. In addition to writing, she is the cocreator of Inkers Con, an educational community for more than thirty thousand authors.

Learn more at [www.alessandratorre.com](http://www.alessandratorre.com).



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	254
ISBN-13	9781662519598

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Last Party*  
*A Fatal Affair*  
*A Familiar Stranger*

Crime, Mystery & Thriller



# His First Wife

SUE WATSON

JUNE 13, 2025

**Someone lies. Someone dies. Can she trust him with her life?**

Sophie wasn't expecting to find love in Sicily. But then she sees him: Emilio, a professor who works at the university where she is teaching for the summer. He's kind, intelligent, funny, exciting and deliriously unpredictable...

...maybe perfect.

But paradise quickly turns to purgatory as she uncovers the haunting disappearance of Emilio's first wife. And when she senses a shadowy character following her, watching her every move, Sophie starts to question her grip on reality. Is she being paranoid, or is nothing about her new life really what it seems?

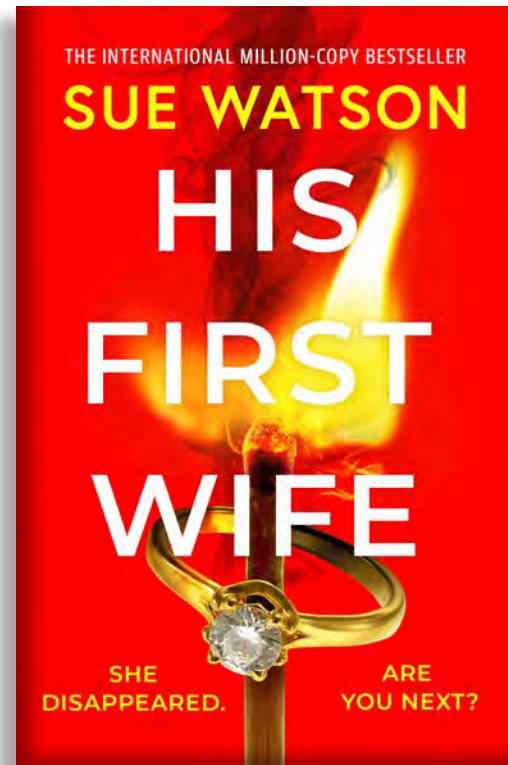
As further shocking revelations about Emilio's past surface, Sophie knows one thing for certain: someone is trying to warn her away from him. But is that someone just jealous, or has Sophie got herself caught in a lethal trap?

## About the Author

Sue Watson was a TV producer at the BBC until she wrote her first book and was hooked.

Now a *USA Today* bestselling author, she has sold almost 2 million books exploring the darker side of life, writing psychological thrillers with big twists.

Originally from Manchester, Sue now lives with her family in leafy Worcestershire, where much of her day is spent writing—and procrastinating.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	300
ISBN-13	9781662523915

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Closer Than You Know

Vera Boyett Series Book 2

DEBRA WEBB

MAY 6, 2025

**From *USA Today* bestselling author Debra Webb comes the riveting return of crime analyst Vera Boyett, fighting for justice—and her life—amid her Tennessee roots.**

Vera Boyett is a master at cracking a case.

After tragedy destroyed her career as deputy police chief, she felt lost. Moving back home near her sisters, she put her skills back to use as a crime analyst, and now her star is finally back on the rise. Vera's work really begins to heat up after the local sheriff, Gray "Bent" Benton, calls to ask her for assistance with a pressing case.

Pushing aside their complicated past, Vera agrees to help Bent search for a missing reporter. But their investigation uncovers an improbable connection to the Messenger, a serial killer she put behind bars twelve years ago. The killer, who is dying of cancer, wants his final revenge. And the reporter is merely a distraction—Vera is his true target.

When the Messenger pulls her sister Eve into his twisted game, Vera vows to stop him for good. But can she find Eve and the reporter before it's too late?

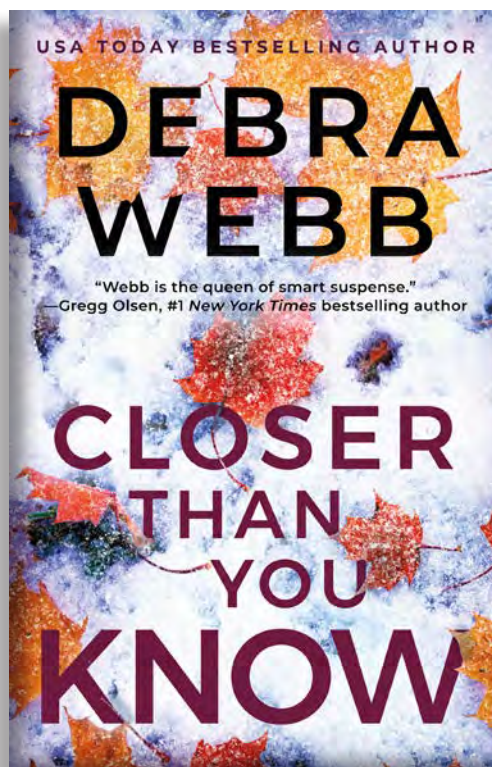
## About the Author

Debra Webb is a *USA Today* bestselling author of more than 170 novels. She is the recipient of the prestigious *Romantic Times* Career Achievement Award for Romantic Suspense, as well as numerous Reviewers' Choice Awards.

In 2012, Webb was honored as the first recipient of the esteemed L.A. Banks Warrior Woman Award for her courage, strength, and grace in the face of adversity. She was also awarded the distinguished Centennial Award for having published her hundredth novel.

Debra has more than ten million books sold in many languages and countries. The author's love of storytelling goes back to her childhood, when her mother bought her an old typewriter at a tag sale.

Born in Alabama, Webb grew up on a farm and spent every available hour exploring the world around her and creating stories.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	317
ISBN-13	9781662516191

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Deeper Than the Dead*  
*All the Little Truths*  
*The Nature of Secrets*

# The Swimmer

LORETH ANNE WHITE

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

**A deviously twisty novel of psychological suspense about secrets, neighbors, a need to belong, and murder by the award-winning author of *The Maid's Diary*.**

Socially awkward Chloe Cooper divides her time between dog walking, bartending, caring for her ailing mother, and at a safe distance, watching people and inventing the stories of their lives. Like Chloe's new neighbors: glamorous influencer Jemma Spengler and Jemma's husband, Adam, a renowned surgeon. They're attractive, wealthy, and in a house of open windows, so exposed.

A move to the Pacific Northwest is supposed to be a fresh start for Jemma and Adam. It's a renewed commitment to a marriage fractured by secrets. A chance to work through the tragic losses in their past. For Jemma, however, this new beginning also comes with an unnerving sensation that she's being watched.

Then, on a fog-shrouded beach early in the morning, Chloe witnesses the murder of a swimmer. Her suspicions aroused, she suddenly sees her neighbors in a sinister new light. But as a detective and her partner close in, nothing is quite as it seems. Because the Spenglers are not the only ones with secrets. And Chloe isn't the only one who's been watching.

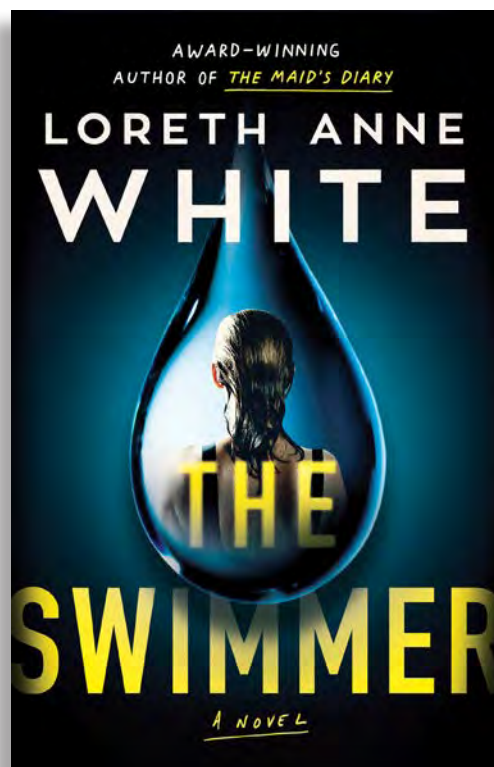
## About the Author

Loreth Anne White is the Amazon Charts, Bild, and *Washington Post* bestselling author of *The Unquiet Bones*, *The Maid's Diary*, *The Patient's Secret*, *Beneath Devil's Bridge*, *In the Deep*, *In the Dark*, *The Dark Bones*, and *A Dark Lure*. With more than three million books sold worldwide and translations in over twenty languages, she is an ITW Thriller Awards nominee, a three-time RITA finalist, an overall Daphne du Maurier Award winner, an Arthur Ellis Award finalist, and the winner of multiple other industry awards.

She resides in the Pacific Northwest, dividing her time between Vancouver Island, a Coast Mountains ski resort, and a rustic lakeside cabin in the Cariboo.

## Praise for Loreth Anne White

"[An] exceptional psychological thriller...White does a superb job keeping the reader guessing as she peels back the layers of a seemingly perfect family to reveal the shocking truth. Suspense fans will want to see more from this talented author." —***Publishers Weekly* (starred review)**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	349
ISBN-13	9781662518911

## Rights Available

Chinese, English, French, German, Hungarian, Russian

## Rights Sold

German and Russian

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Unquiet Bones*  
*The Maid's Diary*  
*Beneath Devil's Bridge*

# Romance



# Luckily, Miracles Exist (Zum Glück gibt's Wunder)

More for You Series Book 2

KATIE JAY ADAMS

MARCH 11, 2025

**The greatest miracle is life itself: Kindle #1 and BILD #1 bestselling author Katie Jay Adams on family, home and the unfathomable paths of love.**

Young doctor Saskia has learned that miracles are a rarity. That's why she ensures her life always runs smoothly. She has a great job prospect, lives in a large and exciting city and Henry III will soon propose to her. The only thing missing is the aquamarine ring her mother left to shield her from the storms of life.

But when Saskia visits her father on the Baltic Sea and wants to take the ring with her immediately, she finds the jewelry has vanished. Not a particularly good omen!

Her brother also tries to persuade her to become a country doctor, and when she sees ex-husband Nick again, things start to fall apart—then the sparks fly. Until Henry announces himself. However, as soon as he arrives, he seems to be pursuing his own plans by the sea.

Is new love always stronger than old feelings? Or can a miracle happen between sunbeams, seaweed and the sound of the waves?

## About the Author

Katie Jay Adams is an author, economist and social psychologist. She enjoys life in the country with her children and her husband. For years she has captivated countless readers with her books, in which she tells emotional stories with depth and lightness. She is a BILD #1 and Kindle #1 bestselling author.

She mostly finds the ideas for her novels in the little miracles of everyday life and on her travels, preferably to the sea. Sun, beach and a cup of coffee make her happy.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	252
ISBN-13	9782496715408

**Amazon**  
AusLese

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Strandgeflüster mit Herz*  
*Eine sanfte Brise Glück*  
*Ziemlich sicher Liebe*

# From Nowhere

## Wildfire Series Book 2

JEWEL E. ANN

MARCH 4, 2025

**From *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling author Jewel E. Ann comes the exciting second novel in the Wildfire series, an emotional romance that burns up the page as it tugs at the heart.**

When Maren Bernabe stops by the office to update some paperwork, she's not looking for love. Then sparks fly during an awkward meet-cute with a stranger in the bathroom, and suddenly anything seems possible.

A seasoned air tanker pilot, Maren battles fires across the rugged Montana wilderness. With firefighters for roommates, she's no stranger to tough guys—or tough situations. Ozzy Laster is the helpful stranger she meets, one of Cielo Aviation's newest aircraft mechanics who's faced his fair share of hardship too. Two years ago, his wife and father died in a car crash. Now Ozzy and daughter Lola shun cars in favor of bikes.

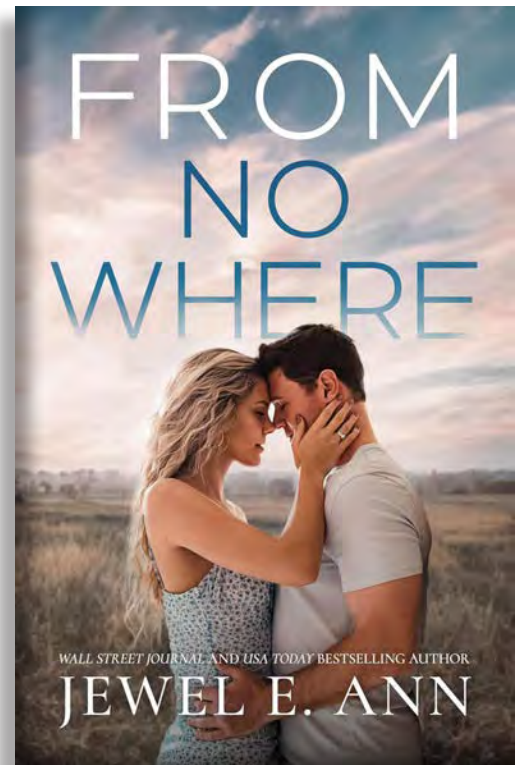
Maren and Ozzy fall hard, but guilt forces them to hide their relationship from Ozzy's disapproving in-laws. And Lola. They all want to protect her from more heartbreak. But when tragedy strikes again, Lola's reaction will surprise them all. And Ozzy could get a second chance at love after all . . .

### About the Author

Jewel E. Ann is a *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling author. She's written over thirty novels, including *Look the Part*, a contemporary romance; the Jack & Jill trilogy, a romantic suspense series; and *Before Us*, an emotional women's fiction story.

Jewel is a free-spirited romance junkie with a quirky sense of humor. After her best friend of nearly thirty years suggested a few books from the contemporary romance genre, she was hooked. With ten years of flossing lectures under her belt, she took an early retirement from her dental hygiene career to stay home with her three awesome boys, manage the family business, and write mind-bending love stories.

When she's not donning her cape to save the planet one tree at a time, Jewel enjoys yoga with friends, good food with family, rock climbing with her kids, and of course . . . heart-wrenching, tear-jerking, panty-scorching novels. She's living her best life in Iowa with her husband, three sons, and a goldendoodle.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	347
ISBN-13	9781662523663

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*From Air*

# Falling into Place

ALLISON ASHLEY

AUGUST 19, 2025

**Finding a date for a reclusive bachelor is her job. It's also a risk when she becomes the perfect match in an emotional and hopeful romance by the author of *If Tomorrow Never Comes*.**

Accountant and freelance personal stylist Carly Porter, daughter of a compulsive gambler, knows the personal cost of a bad bet. But when she partners with her best friend, Sasha—publisher of a floundering fashion magazine—Carly can't resist. The highly publicized makeover of an Oklahoma City bachelor could boost sales and be Carly's ticket to a dream profession. The bachelor in question is Sasha's brother, Brooks.

Hardly the party boy Carly remembers from high school, Brooks is now an antisocial, work-obsessed physician still struggling with a devastating loss. But if it means helping his sister, he's in. It's Carly's job to get him out of those lived-in scrubs, style him to the nines, create a dating profile, and bring Brooks back to life. So far, the only real connection is between Brooks and Carly. And falling for a client could cost Carly the career she's worked so hard for.

To move forward they'll both have to overcome their painful pasts. And whatever the risk, maybe even take a chance on love.

## About the Author

Allison Ashley is the author of *If Tomorrow Never Comes*, *The Roommate Pact*, *Would You Rather*, *Home Sweet Mess*, and *Perfect Distraction*. She is a science geek who enjoys coffee, craft beer, baking, and love stories.

When Allison is not working at her day job as a clinical oncology pharmacist, she pens contemporary romances, usually with a medical twist.

She lives in Oklahoma with her family and beloved rescue dog. For more information, visit [www.authorallisonashley.com](http://www.authorallisonashley.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527999

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*If Tomorrow Never Comes*

# Original Sinner

## Original Sinners Series Book 1

KAIT BALLENGER

MARCH 25, 2025

**Seven deadly—and ultrarich—sins rule NYC, and though she came here to escape her past, one woman's true path to freedom might be the devil's bonds in this scorching hot romantasy from Kait Ballenger.**

The seven deadly sins keep high profiles in the Big Apple: Lust runs brothels, Sloth's a media streamer...you get the picture. Pride, though, he's more mysterious. You might know him as Lucifer—temptation irresistibly embodied. The paparazzi are dying for some burning-hot gossip. So when someone publishes my scathing but private rant about him, they eat it up. And now my job is on the line. After all, he is my boss.

With his vicious siblings vying for his power, Lucifer needs to distract the press, so he reframes my tirade as a lovers' spat, demanding I play the devil's fiancée. I need to be a good girl, smile for the cameras, nothing more.

But cocky and cruel as he is, his darkness awakens something wicked in me. Sexy and in control, he might just be the cure—an extra dose of sin to heal me from a lifetime of shame and subservience.

And I like it.

### About the Author

Kait Ballenger is an award-winning author of dark romantasy and paranormal romance. She is obsessed with tales of morally gray, sometimes villainous heroes and can't resist a spicy redemption arc.

When Kait's not busy writing obscenely kinky paranormal fantasy, she can usually be found with her nose buried in someone else's naughty books. She lives, unfortunately, in Florida's Bible Belt with her husband and two adorable sons—and will gladly use that belt to whip you.

You can find her on TikTok @kaitballenger and Instagram @kait.ballenger or sign up for her newsletter at [www.kaitballenger.com](http://www.kaitballenger.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Paranormal
PAGE COUNT	352
ISBN-13	9781662528873

### Rights Available

All Languages

Romance



# Bold Moves

EMMA BARRY

APRIL 22, 2025

**From the author of *Bad Reputation* comes a smart and sexy second-chance romance, where exes reunite to adapt a memoir, only to discover that after a decade apart, they might finally be ready for more.**

Working with your ex isn't that bad an idea—not with artistic integrity on the line. Jaime Croft is determined to prove his directorial range, and Scarlett Arbuthnot's biography is the perfect project. He once thought Scarlett was his perfect match too, but it's been seventeen years. Surely he's over it by now.

Or maybe not.

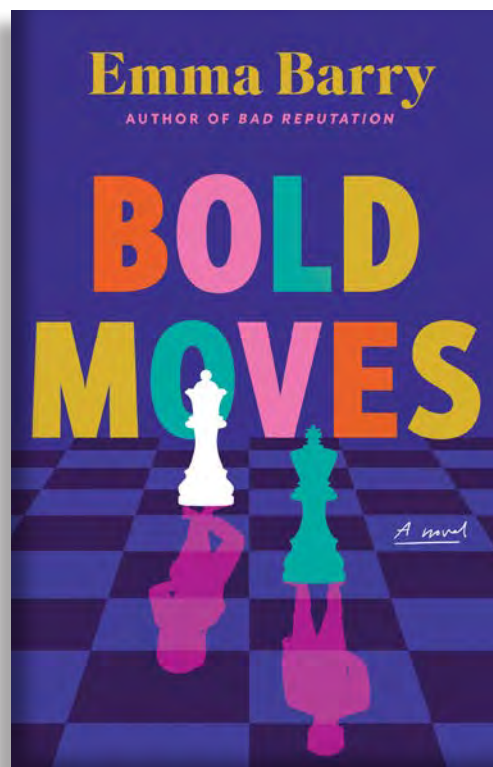
Scarlett is a grand master taking the chess world by storm. If she can handle that pressure, she can handle Jaime Croft. Even if that means working together in close quarters...and constant reminders of how she broke his heart. She didn't do it without reason, but if he knew the details, he would despise her even more.

As Jaime and Scarlett pore over her memoir, they unlock their own memories, and old feelings rise to the surface. But giving in means abandoning the walls they've built to protect themselves, and that's a move neither one seems ready to make.

## About the Author

Emma Barry is a novelist, college lecturer, and former political staffer. She lives with her high school sweetheart and a menagerie of pets and children in Virginia, where she occasionally finds time to read and write.

You can visit Barry on her website at [www.authorembarry.com](http://www.authorembarry.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	331
ISBN-13	9781662520853

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Bad Reputation*  
*Funny Guy*  
*Chick Magnet*

# Liberantas

## Liberantas Series Book 1

LARISSA BRAUN

DECEMBER 10, 2024

*“Is it possible that the deepest love can light up your darkest places?”*

Elainy can hardly believe it when she finds herself in a completely strange world. In Liberantas the colors are brighter, the smells more intense and nature is almost exuberant. But even in this paradisiacal world, Elainy is haunted by her dark memories and depressing feelings.

No wonder she encounters creatures drawn to emotions. The Inanis, the guardians of Liberantas, whose mighty wings shimmer through their peacock feathers, observe this with suspicion. Because Elainy with her intense feelings threatens to endanger the peace of Liberantas.

The Inanis Awan in particular makes no secret of the fact that Elainy does not belong in this world. But their differences inevitably bring the two closer together. Too close. Because in Liberantas, loving means danger...

### About the Author

Larissa Braun is an author as well as a successful content creator and book toker.

She wrote her first stories at the age of seven and has since published three books. In her texts she breaks taboos and openly discusses mental illnesses such as depression.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	478
ISBN-13	9782496717044

**Amazon**  
AusLese

Rights Available

All Languages

Romance

# The Paradise Petition

CAROLYN BROWN

JULY 15, 2025

**In nineteenth-century Texas, two tough-minded women dare to challenge the status quo in a warm, witty, and adventurous historical romance by *New York Times* bestselling author Carolyn Brown.**

Daisy Lindberg and Lily Boyle traded a colorful past for a fresh start as seamstresses in Autrie, Texas, and their aim to spark a women's rights movement is raising eyebrows among the town's dumbfounded men. But among the ladies? Tired of being treated like possessions, they have two words: Amen, sister!

Beulah, a sassy shop owner as formidable as a cannon shot, is on board. So is Alma, a timid preacher's wife who hit her breaking point. Before long, a courageous female posse has a liberating petition of demands. Surprisingly, they also have an empathetic ear in sheep rancher Matt Maguire, who's as keen on women's independence as he is on Lily.

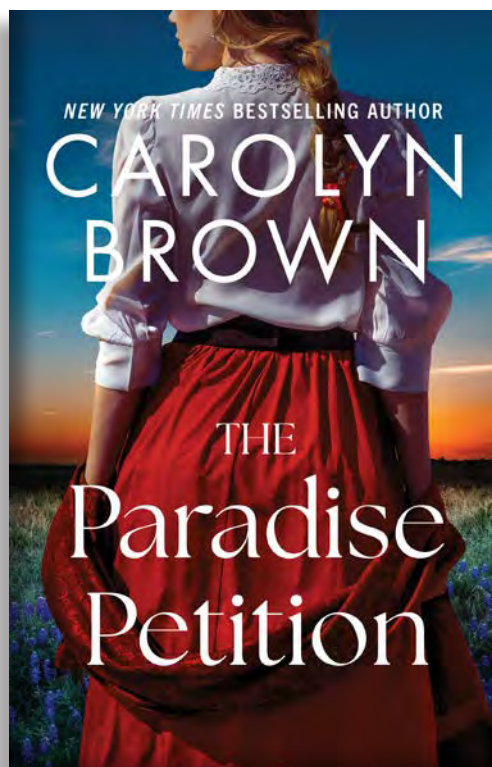
As Daisy and Lily make waves in the small town, their secrets threaten to come out. But they haven't traveled this far to let their past define them. In fact, with love and the forging of new lives on the line, they've never felt more defiant.

## About the Author

Carolyn Brown is a *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Publishers Weekly* bestselling author and RITA finalist with more than 140 published books.

She has written women's fiction, historical and contemporary romance, and cowboys-and-country-music novels. She lives in the small town of Davis, Oklahoma, where everyone knows everyone else, knows what they are doing and when, and reads the local newspaper on Wednesday to see who got caught.

She and her late husband, Mr. B, are parents to three grown children and too many grandchildren and great-grandchildren to count on the fingers and toes of one person. For more information, visit [www.carolynbrownbooks.com](http://www.carolynbrownbooks.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	286
ISBN-13	9781662514371

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Party Line*  
*The Sawmill Book Club*  
*Meadow Falls*

# No More Yesterdays

## The Heirs Series Book 3

CATHERINE BYBEE

JUNE 17, 2025

**New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Catherine Bybee lights the fuse, and the Stone siblings must rely on their wits and hearts to uncover a dangerous enemy...and an explosive secret.**

Taking over her late father's company was never part of Alex Stone's life plan. But now, sitting in the CEO chair at Stone Enterprises, she's resigned to living her life alone. Being a high-powered, billionaire woman tends to narrow one's romantic prospects. As Alex works relentlessly to reshape her inherited hotel empire, she's acquired a target on her back complete with death threats.

Alex turns to Hawk Bronson, a man who is equal parts bodyguard, sexy, and completely infuriating. Especially when it comes to protecting her. As the danger escalates, Hawk comes to terms with the fact that their connection goes way beyond bodyguard and assignment. He knows he should keep his distance—his own dark past and nightmares put her at greater risk—but he can't walk away. Protecting Alex means everything. Putting her life in someone else's care isn't an option once he's tasted their passion and depth of his feelings.

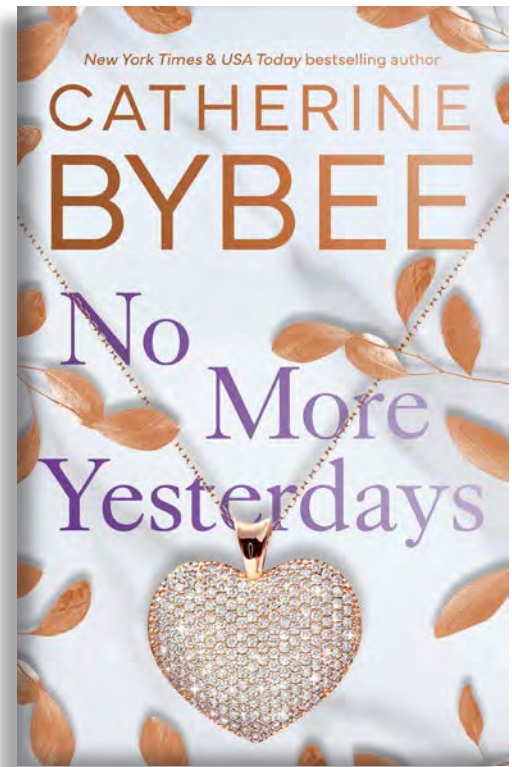
As they navigate a minefield of family secrets, past pain, and unexpected hope, Alex and Hawk must face their deepest fears and fight for a future together. But first, they'll need to unmask whoever is behind the threats—before Alex becomes their next victim.

### About the Author

*New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author Catherine Bybee has written over forty books that have collectively sold more than eleven million copies. Her titles have been translated into more than twenty languages.

Raised in Washington State, Bybee moved to Southern California in the hope of becoming a movie star. After growing bored with waiting tables, she returned to school and became a registered nurse, spending most of her career in urban emergency rooms.

She now writes full time and has penned the popular *Not Quite*, *Weekday Brides*, *Most Likely To*, and *First Wives* series.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	400
ISBN-13	9781662517273

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*All Our Tomorrows*  
*The Forgotten One*



# The Reveal

## Bloodlore Series Book 1

MEGAN CRANE

OCTOBER 7, 2025

**The first in a new, steamy paranormal romance series in which a mortal woman must team up with a sexy, enigmatic vampire to save the world.**

In a world where monsters from legends and myths are no longer in hiding, the Pacific Northwest has become a supernatural powder keg. Winter Bishop has learned how to survive among the vampires, werewolves, and other creatures that emerged during the Reveal – stay away from them, especially the vampires. But when her twin brother's life falls into the hands of Ariel Skinner, the region's devastatingly handsome vampire king, Winter is forced into a dangerous bargain.

What starts as a simple deal becomes complicated when Winter proves strangely immune to Ariel's supernatural charms, and he begins to suspect she might be the prophesied oracle that every monster in existence has been searching for since the Reveal. Now, with supernatural factions circling and tension building, Winter must navigate a deadly game where her brother's life—and her heart—hang in the balance.

### About the Author

*USA Today* bestselling, multi-award-nominated, and critically-acclaimed author Megan Crane has written more than 150 books, and shows no sign of slowing down. She publishes romance as Megan Crane and M.M. Crane with an exciting backlist of women's fiction, rom-coms, chick lit, and young adult novels.

She's also won a large and loyal fanbase as Caitlin Crews with Harlequin Presents, Harlequin Dare, Harlequin Historical, and contemporary cowboy books. And for Midwestern small town coziness, found families, romance, and some paranormal scariness thrown in, Megan partners with Nicole Helm to publish as Hazel Beck.

Megan has a Masters and Ph.D. in English Literature, has taught creative writing classes in places like UCLA Extension's prestigious Writers' Program, and is always available to give workshops (or her opinion). She lives in the Pacific Northwest with her comic book artist husband, though, at any given time, she is likely to either be huddled in a coffee shop somewhere or off traveling the world. Preferably both.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Paranormal
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662531538

### Rights Available

All Languages

# The Art of Burning Heather

DEVRIE BRYNN DONALSON

DECEMBER 9, 2025

**From TikTok sensation Devrie Brynn Donalson, who has over 800,000 followers and 40 million likes on the platform, comes a heartfelt contemporary romance based on her own experiences living in Scotland.**

Pitched as *OUTLANDER* meets Emily Henry, a witty and determined 29-year-old woman abandons her imploding life as an L.A. florist for a cottage in the Scottish Highlands. She plots to use her estranged eccentric aunt, a staged romance with a kilted hunk, and begrudging help from the surly yet annoyingly charming pub owner to win the love of her life.

But, when generations of baggage catch up to her, she is forced to question if she has been chasing a love she craves instead of a love she deserves.

## About the Author

Devrie Brynn Donalson is storyteller and social media fast-talker best known for her witty, relatable tales that are equal parts humor and heart. She has developed a huge global following who appreciates her off-beat funny bone and unbridled authenticity as she chronicles her pursuit of a life well-lived, her undying commitment to a good snack, and her best attempts to figure it all out.

Devrie's adventures and stories have been covered by dozens of news outlets, and you can find her online at [www.DevrieWrites.com](http://www.DevrieWrites.com) and as @devriebrynn on TikTok, Instagram, and Threads.

You can find her in real life haunting a place with free Wi-Fi somewhere between the UK, New York, and LA.

## Praise for Devrie Brynn Donalson

"Witty, hilarious, and thought-provoking. Devrie Donalson is a natural-born storyteller and one to watch." —**Jeneva Rose, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"*You're Gonna Die Alone* is a perfect companion for anyone who needs a belly laugh, a good cry, and a freaking break." —**Abby Jimenez, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Yours Truly***

"From Tinder and tattoos to rejection and healing, Donalson's remarkable journey of discovery reveals a woman who has broken free of the baggage that had been weighing her down for so long." —***New York Post***



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527852

## Rights Available

All Languages

# The Chemistry Test

GEORGINA FRANKIE

AUGUST 1, 2025

## There are some things she can't learn from books...

Independent, confident, and determined not to be held back by her chronic health problems, Penny is ready to prove to herself and her family that she can tackle going to college on her own terms.

When she meets the charming CJ in her science class, there's an immediate spark. But with CJ facing his own challenges after a devastating loss, Penny becomes worried that she will hold him back, and suggests they stay just friends.

But Penny and CJ find themselves inspiring each other, and gradually discover that leaning on another person can be a sign of strength, not weakness. Because when it comes to the science of romance, the first rule is: never ignore your own chemistry...

A swoonworthy and utterly gorgeous STEM college romance that will melt your heart and have you flying through the pages. Fans of Ali Hazelwood, Hannah Bonham-Young and Elle Kennedy will fall completely in love!

## About the Author

Georgina Frankie was born in Kent and has been on a quest to empower people with chronic illnesses and disabilities since 2017. Driven by her own experiences, she uses social media to raise awareness of both invisible disabilities and ambulatory wheelchair users, as well as sharing her life and, at times, unwavering hope with her followers.

When she's not writing, Georgina enjoys volunteering in animal groups online and doting over her own pets. She wrote her first draft of her debut novel *The Chemistry Test* during six months of homelessness, and is excited to see where this adventure will take her!



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662526084

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Yours for the Season

UZMA JALALUDDIN

DECEMBER 2, 2025

A refresh on the classic romantic comedy setup of *The Proposal* by *New York Times* bestselling author, Uzma Jalaluddin, where a lawyer agrees to “date” a handsome young caterer in order to get both their well-meaning but overbearing families off their backs, an agreement that ends in a big holiday meeting of the families in Alaska, with her South Asian Muslim family doing their best to get into the holiday spirit for their prospective son-in-law’s family.

## About the Author

Uzma Jalaluddin is the author of *Ayesha At Last*, a *Pride and Prejudice* retelling set in a close knit Toronto Muslim community. Uzma’s second novel, *Hana Khan Carries On*, was inspired by *You’ve Got Mail* and set in rival halal restaurants. Uzma also writes a funny parenting column for *The Toronto Star*, and her byline has appeared in *The Atlantic*.

Uzma lives near Toronto with her husband and children. Learn more at [www.uzmajalaluddin.com](http://www.uzmajalaluddin.com).

## Praise for Uzma Jalaluddin

“As ever, Jalaluddin expertly balances explorations of family, faith, and love in a smart and authentic way. I am such a fan.”

—**Emily Henry, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Happy Place***

“Uzma Jalaluddin is one of the best writers in romance today—and this gorgeous book proves it.” —**Sarah Maclean, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Heartbreaker***



IMPRINT	Mindy's Book Studio
GENRE	Romantic Comedy
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662533037

## Rights Available

All Languages



# Learning Curves

RACHEL LACEY

SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

**From the author of *Stars Collide* and *Cover Story* comes a steamy will-they-won't-they romance about a bright young teacher reconnecting with the jaded professor she once pined for.**

For Audrey Lind, working with clay still evokes memories of her favorite professor. The woman's zeal for art history ignited Audrey's own academic and artistic careers—and her tweed blazers and British accent kindled her first female crush. After fate brings Audrey back to Northshire University to teach, she's thrilled to be working alongside her former mentor, but the dynamo she remembers is gone.

Divorce and a stalling career have turned Dr. Michelle Thompson bitter and guarded. When Audrey swoops in to teach the Women in Art class Michelle's been pitching for years, she longs to hate her. But her young rival is too kind, too enthusiastic, too irresistible. And her passion for life slowly reawakens Michelle's own.

Wary of age gaps and workplace politics, they suppress their smoldering attraction—until one wine-filled night at the pottery wheel puts their romantic truce to the test. Will they keep things on the tenure track or risk it all for love?

## About the Author

Rachel Lacey is an award-winning contemporary romance author and semireformed travel junkie. She's been climbed by a monkey on a mountain in Japan, gone scuba diving on the Great Barrier Reef, and camped out overnight in New York City for a chance to be an extra in a movie.

These days, the majority of her adventures take place on the pages of the books she writes. She lives in the mountains of Vermont with her family and a variety of rescue pets.

## Praise for Rachel Lacey

"Rachel Lacey is a master of crafting vibrant, fully-drawn characters readers can't help but love." —**Alexandria Bellefleur, bestselling & Lambda Award-winning author of *Written in the Stars***

"Rachel Lacey balances heat and heart in the most satisfying way!" —**Annie Rains, *USA Today* bestselling author**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662529238

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Cover Story*  
*Stars Collide*

# The Pucking Proposal

Maple Creek Series

LAUREN LANDISH

FEBRUARY 18, 2025

**A sports reporter and a hockey player get up close and personal in an outrageously sexy romantic comedy by *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling author Lauren Landish.**

When it comes to hockey, unflappable Maple Creek sports reporter Joy Barlowe is privy to a lot of behind-the-scenes locker room activity. Like stumbling upon Dalton Days in all his unabashed glory. After the muscled goalie goes on to score better than he ever has, he proposes Joy take another peek before his next match. It works, and a provocative pregame tradition is born.

Dalton has the best stats in the league, but he's also superstitious. Now he's found his good luck charm. Joy is not only game, she's playing along. She's also his best buddy's younger sister and totally off-limits. What happens between them has to be their late-night FaceTime secret. That's the naked truth. So is the fact that Joy and Dalton are discovering there's more to each other than meets the eye.

Falling in lust? Easy to hide. Falling in love? Much harder. Now Dalton has one more proposition for Joy. And the fallout could rock Maple Creek.

## About the Author

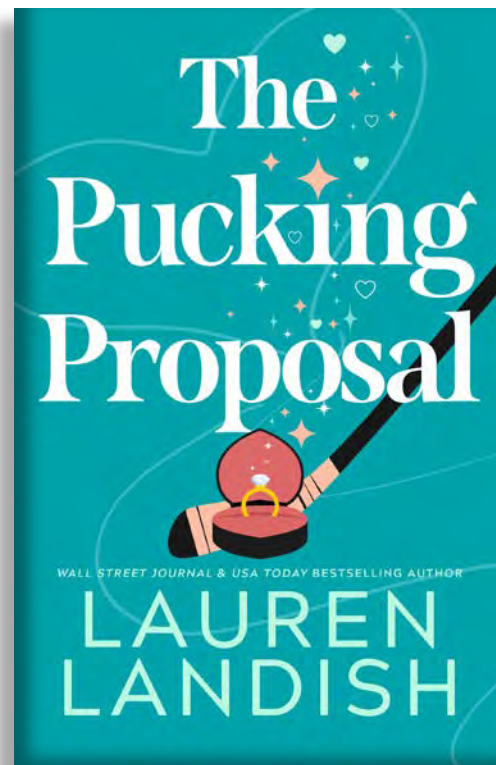
Lauren Landish is the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling author of *I Do With You*, *The Wrong Guy* and *The Wrong Bridesmaid* in the Cold Springs series; the Irresistible Bachelors series; and *Racing Hearts* and *Riding Hard* in the Bennett Boys Ranch books.

When she's not plotting how she'll introduce you to your next sexy-as-hell hero, you can find her deep in her writing cave, furiously tapping away on her keyboard, writing scenes that would make even a hardened sailor blush.

Lauren lives in North Carolina with her boyfriend and fur baby. To find out more about Lauren and her worlds of rock-hard abs, chiseled smiles, and men with deep, fat pockets, visit [www.laurenlandish.com](http://www.laurenlandish.com).

## Praise for Lauren Landish

"[A] playful small-town romance and series opener...Readers will be eager to return to Maple Creek." —***Publishers Weekly* on *I Do With You***



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	272
ISBN-13	9781662524516

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*I Do With You*  
*The Wrong Guy*  
*The Wrong Bridesmaid*

Romance

# King Foretold

## Realm of Four Kingdoms Series Book 2

JAYCI LEE

AUGUST 26, 2025

**A fusion of Korean folklore and modern culture weaves throughout this epic tale of a young hero training to battle her demons, desires, and the dark forces that threaten both of her worlds.**

Sunny Cho no longer has the luxury of denying her powers. Her destiny is upon her, whether she likes it or not.

She's spent years running from the inevitable. Now, there's nowhere left to go but back to the Realm of Four Kingdoms, where Sunny begins her training to harness and control her nine-tailed fox spirit. The process is grueling and disheartening, but at least working alongside Suhoshin captain Jihun gives Sunny something to think about besides Ethan—and why they need to stay apart.

But there are more immediate dangers than the fate of Sunny's heart. Dark magic, tyranny, and deadly secrets swirl throughout the kingdoms, threatening magical and mortal worlds alike. Corruption reigns, and if Sunny wants to dethrone it once and for all, she must give in to the full force of her powers . . . lest they find a way to corrupt her too.

### About the Author

Jayci Lee writes poignant, sexy, and laugh-out-loud romance featuring Korean American main characters. Her books have been in *O, The Oprah Magazine*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Hollywood Reporter*, *E! News*, and *Women's World*.

Jayci is retired from her fifteen-year career as a litigator because of all the badass heroines and drool worthy heroes demanding to have their stories told. Food, wine and travel are her jam. She makes her home in sunny California with her tall-dark-and-handsome husband, two amazing boys, and a fluffy rescue.

### Praise for Jayci Lee

"Urban-fantasy readers will adore the smart-mouthed, sword-wielding fox spirit at the heart of this fast-paced tale full of magic, secrets, and romance." —**Booklist, Starred Review**

"Fast paced, heartwarming, and heartbreaking—my new fave fantasy romance! *Supernatural* meets K-drama vibes, immigrant globe-trotting immortals, and an epic battle between destiny and fate....A stellar start to what promises to be a swoon-worthy series. I cannot wait to get my hands on the next one!" —**A. Y. Chao, the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Shanghai Immortal***



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Romantasy
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662520778

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Rights Sold

Turkish

### Other Titles by the Author

*Nine Tailed*

# This Violent Heart

HEATHER LEVY

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

**In this haunting journey into the confusion and desires of growing up, a therapist reluctantly returns to her hometown, where she revisits the memories that could reveal what really killed her best friend all those years ago.**

Devon Mayes thought she was done with the small conservative town she once called home. She fled when she was eighteen after her best friend Summer took her own life, leaving Summer's twin brother, Keaton, lost in his grief. But when tragedy strikes again, Devon has nowhere to turn but back to the place that first broke her heart.

Being back in Arkana means struggling with the old guilt that shrouds her bisexuality and her feelings for Keaton. There's so much she's still hiding from him—and so much of their shared past that's now resurfacing. It's not long before Devon has reason to believe Summer's tragic death wasn't suicide after all. Summer had secrets, too...and she wasn't the only one who didn't want them exposed.

As Devon and Keaton piece together the mystery of what happened that fateful summer, they must reckon with their own truths before they can move forward. But one person will do whatever it takes to stop them.

## About the Author

Heather Levy is a born-and-bred Oklahoman and graduate of Oklahoma City University's Red Earth MFA program for creative writing. The *New York Times* called her Anthony-nominated debut *Walking Through Needles* "a spellbinding novel at the nexus of power, desire, and abuse that portends a bright future"; and the *LA Times* called it "a standout for its frank but sensitive exploration of trauma and desire." *Publishers Weekly* said her thriller *Hurt for Me* "delivers both heat and heart."

Her novels focus on kink-positive stories centered on complex women. She lives in Oklahoma with her husband, two kids, and three murderous cats. Readers can follow her on X and IG @heatherlevy or on her website at [www.heatherlevywriter.com](http://www.heatherlevywriter.com).

## Praise for Heather Levy

"*This Violent Heart* follows a woman's struggle with identity, regret, and the unanswered questions she's carried ever since her best friend died as a teenager. Come for the chapters dripping in longing; stay for the sizzling love story and redemption arc." —**Elle Marr, #1 Amazon Charts bestselling author of *The Alone Time* and *Your Dark Secrets***



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	384
ISBN-13	9781662524332

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Hurt for Me*



# Everything She Never Knew

ANNETTE CHAVEZ MACIAS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

**In this story of family and fidelity, novelist Annette Chavez Macias deftly portrays the journey of a woman finding the value in domestic serenity at the moment when her world falls apart.**

As next-door neighbors and best friends, Claudia and Rachel share everything. But in Claudia's mind, that means recipes and clothes—not husbands. So it comes as a huge shock when Rachel runs off with hers.

If that weren't enough, her mom shows up at her door with heavy suitcases in tow. She intends to stay until Claudia has pulled through this. But behaving like a typical mother or grandmother isn't Gloria's style, and Claudia wonders why she's really there. She also wonders why she can't stop thinking about Nick, the husband Rachel jilted for her own, who still lives in the next house over.

It's all a bit much for Claudia, who, unlike her impulsive mother, has always prized the familiar comforts of stability and routine. Now those have been snatched away. In this strange new life after divorce, she'll have to face her fears and take some risks—for herself and for her daughter.

## About the Author

Annette Chavez Macias writes stories about love, family, and following your dreams. She is proud of her Mexican American heritage, culture, and traditions, all of which can be found within the pages of her books.

For readers wanting even more love stories and guaranteed happily ever afters, Macias also writes romance novels under the pen name Sabrina Sol.

A Southern California native, Macias lives just outside Los Angeles with her husband, three children, and their dogs.

## Praise for Annette Chavez Macias

"Through heart-to-hearts, good food, and family tradition, the women rebuild their relationship with one another—and with their significant others. Chavez Macias loads her well-rounded story with charismatic characters, vivid descriptions, and appealing cultural specificity. This is a treat." —**Publishers Weekly**

"[Annette] Chavez Macias has given readers a joyful exploration of family and friendship featuring four memorable characters whose struggles and triumphs will resonate with readers. It's a great choice for fans of Susan Mallery and Mariah Stewart." —**Booklist**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662530425

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*When We Were Widows*  
*Too Soon for Adios*  
*Big Chicas Don't Cry*

# Mr. Wicked

## Hooked Series Book 2

MARNI MANN

APRIL 23, 2024

**An alpha billionaire dedicated to no-strings pleasure. A woman committed to changing his wicked mind. Together they ignite a steaming-hot romance by the *USA Today* bestselling author of *Mr. Hook-up*.**

Grayson Tanner has had better days. Coming off the successful international launch of *Hooked*, the hook-up app he cofounded with his two best friends, and a night with one of the sexiest women he's ever met, he's now in a PR nightmare. A video of him has gone viral—a toast to the indulgence of bachelorhood. It's a bad look for the creator of the app's marriage arm. As memberships plummet amid a media firestorm, his PR firm has a new narrative to quell the flames: Grayson has to get married. Fast.

Hello, Jovana Winters—social media influencer and Grayson's former one-night stand. The one-night stand he has yet to move on from mentally. Their immediate connection is undeniable. In front of the camera, they're charismatic and passionate, and social media is calling them the It couple. But off camera, Grayson doesn't trust women or believe in commitment. Jovana is the opposite, a believer in love who knows what she wants. Now she's on a mission to turn this fake marriage into the real deal, even though she's hiding the biggest secret of them all.

But with a man like Mr. Wicked, it won't come easy.

### About the Author

Marni Mann is the *USA Today* bestselling author of more than thirty novels, including *Mr. Hook-up* in the *Hooked* series and the stand-alone novels *Even If It Hurts*, *Before You*, and *The Better Version of Me*. Marni has known she was going to be a writer since middle school. A New Englander at heart, she now lives with her husband in Sarasota, Florida. When she's not nose deep in her laptop and working on her next novel, she's sipping wine, traveling, boating along the Gulf of Mexico, or devouring fabulous books. For more information, visit [www.marnismann.com](http://www.marnismann.com).

### Praise for Marni Mann

"Mann delivers another steamy, sexy novel that leaves nothing to the reader's imagination. Fans of Chelle Sloan, Colleen Hoover, and E.L. James will be drawn to this new series." — *Library Journal*



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	384
ISBN-13	9781662515552

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Rights Sold

Czech and Romanian

### Other Titles by the Author

*Mr. Hook-up*

# The Art of Starting Over

HEIDI MCLAUGHLIN

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

**In this journey from first love to second chances, *New York Times* bestselling author Heidi McLaughlin brings a single mom and a widower back home to renew the spark that will light their way forward.**

Devorah Campbell's life falls apart under the pressure of one truth: her husband is having an affair with her best friend. So Devorah packs up her daughter and their shared heartbreak for small-town Oyster Bay, where she grew up. Her relationship with her father is still on the rocks, but Devorah has her brother there—and, unexpectedly, her brother's best friend.

Hayden McKenna lost his wife a year ago and has struggled with single fatherhood ever since. Moving back home with his son is a last but best resort, a chance to start fresh, surrounded by family and old friends. But when Hayden runs into Devorah, his childhood crush, sparks fly as bright as ever. If only he could make her see them too...

Amid a swirl of hurt and healing, Devorah and Hayden grow closer, rekindling what they had all those years ago to discover that, sometimes, a new start means going back to the beginning.

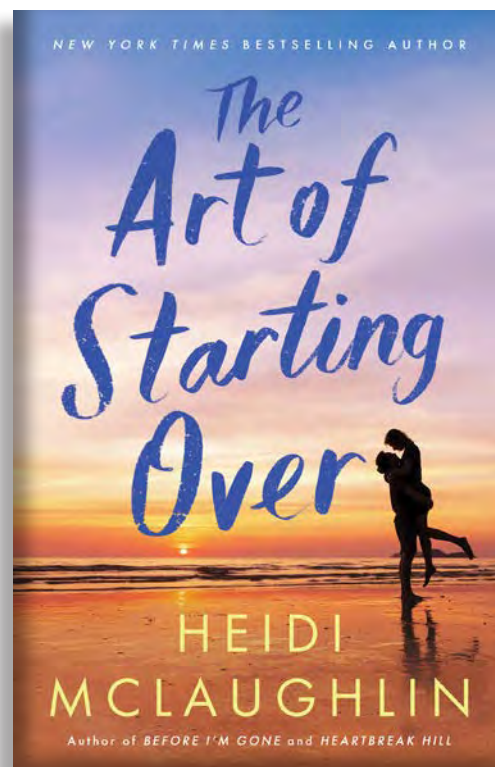
## About the Author

In 2012, Heidi McLaughlin turned her passion for reading into a full-fledged literary career. She is now the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author of The Beaumont Series, *The Boys of Summer*, and *The Archer Brothers*.

McLaughlin has written more than twenty novels, including her acclaimed first novel, *Forever My Girl*, which was adapted into a film that opened in theaters in 2018, starring Alex Roe and Jessica Rothe.

## Praise for Heidi McLaughlin

"Readers should have tissues at the ready." —*Publishers Weekly*



IMPRINT Montlake

GENRE Contemporary Romance

PAGE COUNT 288

ISBN-13 9781662521461

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Heartbreak Hill*  
*Before I'm Gone*

# Joyride

ELLEN MEISTER

APRIL 22, 2025

**In this poignantly quirky ride through Brooklyn, an idealistic young woman shares her earnest joy with her Uber clients, her cranky father, and the Wall Street hotshot who started it all.**

Joybird Martin—an Uber driver with cheerfulness to spare—desperately wants to be a life coach.

She's so sunny about her chances that even her snarky father—a has-been TV writer with a failed third marriage—can't dim her light. So when he shows up broke on her doorstep, Joybird takes him in with no questions asked, trying to find a balance between her bright optimism and his sarcastic pessimism.

It works, and she continues sharing her earnest wisdom with her Uber riders. After she helps handsome Wall Street exec Devon Cato, he convinces her to become a life coach from the front seat of her Honda.

As Joybird's dreams take the wheel, she finds direction for her clients...and herself. She's not sure what to do about her attraction to Devon, but she soon learns exactly what she can do for her father. And a journey into his past might just pave the way for her own bright future.

## About the Author

Ellen Meister is a novelist, book coach, screenwriter, and creative writing instructor who started her career writing advertising copy. Her novels include *Divorce Towers*, *Take My Husband*, and *Farewell, Dorothy Parker*, among others.

Meister's essays have been published by the *New York Times*, *Newsday*, the *Wall Street Journal* blog, the *Huffington Post* (now *HuffPost*), the *Daily Beast*, *Long Island Woman*, *Writer's Digest*, and *Publishers Weekly*.

Meister lives in New York and publicly speaks about her books, fiction writing, and America's most celebrated literary wit, Dorothy Parker. For more information, visit her website at <https://ellenmeister.com>.

## Praise for Ellen Meister

Ellen Meister's *Divorce Towers* is utterly charming. From the first paragraph to the very last line, it is filled with wit and sex and truth and the unexpected...Do yourself a favor, buy this book, curl up with it, and let it transport you for a few hours and a few days. It's that good." —**Amy Ferris, author of *Mighty Gorgeous***



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	319
ISBN-13	9781662529108

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Divorce Towers*



# Scorched Skies

## Way of Wings Series Book 1

E.J. MELLOW

APRIL 15, 2025

**From the award-winning author of the Mousai series comes book one in an epic duology inspired by the Icarus myth, about an outcast woman and a winged prince torn between forbidden love and born duty.**

In the divided world of Cādra, where the winged Volari rule over the earthbound Sūra, Tanwen has never relished her life of secrecy, but hiding is her only means of survival. As the child of a forbidden union, her very existence is punishable by death.

As the Crown Prince, Zolya is forced to fulfill his father's every whim. Acting on orders, he captures Tanwen's father and brother, whisking them away to his kingdom in the sky. Determined to save her family, Tanwen infiltrates the royal court disguised as a servant.

Amid the palace's intrigue, she realizes there's more to save than just her family and more to Prince Zolya than meets the eye. As their worlds collide, their star-crossed relationship intensifies under the king's oppression. With their loyalties pulling them in opposite directions, Tanwen and Zolya must decide if their love can bridge the divide or if they have flown too close to the sun.

### About the Author

E.J. Mellow is an award-winning and bestselling author of magical mayhem. Her work has been translated into multiple languages and has appeared on best-of lists such as *BuzzFeed* and *Gizmodo*, reaching number one on multiple Amazon charts and receiving medals from eLit Book Awards and Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Readers have said her "lyrical, vibrant, and imaginative" writing sweeps them into "stunning worlds." Mellow is also the cofounder of She Is Booked, a literary-themed fundraising organization that supports women's charities.

### Praise for E.J. Mellow

"A spellbinding read...A dark, lyrical fantasy that merges vast worldbuilding with the best of romance tropes." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"A magical tale of love, honor, and family. E.J. Mellow sweeps the reader away to a wonderfully imaginative world, with characters as colorful and entrancing as the vivid locales they travel to." —**Rob Samborn, author of *The Prisoner of Paradise***



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Romance
PAGE COUNT	541
ISBN-13	9781662515439

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Symphony for a Deadly Throne*  
*Dance of a Burning Sea*  
*Song of the Forever Rains*

# Life Derailed

BETH MERLIN & DANIELLE MODAFFERI

APRIL 1, 2025

**A visionary AI program upends a woman's love life and career in a moving, funny, and thought-provoking novel about connection, friendship and family, and the resilience of the human heart.**

Remi Russell knows this playbook all too well. She's seen it unfold five times over her six years at *The Sophisticate*, a once prominent but now struggling women's magazine. So when the publication needs rescuing yet again, an intriguing new chief digital officer, Jason Ashbloom, arrives with a revolutionary plan beyond the usual workforce cuts. He proposes integrating MAUDE, an innovative AI software, to make the magazine more efficient. Remi fears she could lose her job to a machine, and worse, the magazine she loves might lose its humanity altogether.

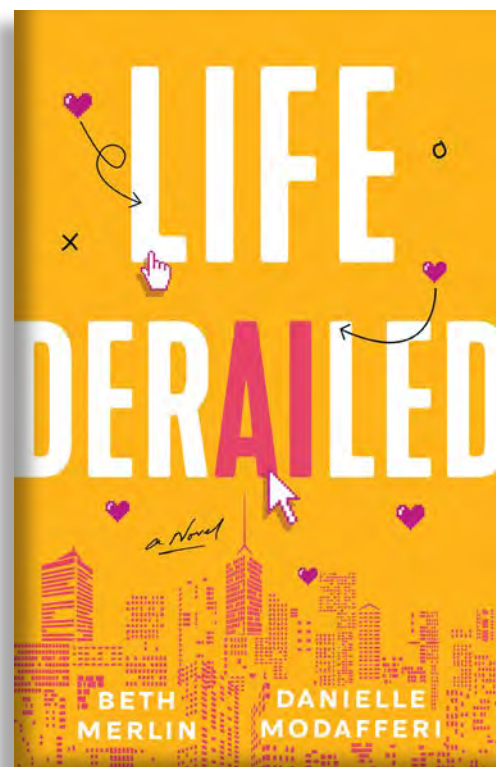
As a recent widow whose heart has been as empty as her dating-app inbox, Remi takes MAUDE for a test drive and asks it to revamp her profile in the hopes of healing from the loss of her college sweetheart, who died three years earlier.

While her connection with Noah deepens, tensions at work escalate to a boiling point. Jason is determined to prove that AI can be as genuine as real people, while Remi strives to protect the very soul of *The Sophisticate*. But when a discovery about Noah's true identity forces her to question everything she once believed, she must finally confront her own grief, embrace the unexpected bond she's forming with the last person she ever expected, and find the courage to set a life derailed back on course.

## About the Authors

**Beth Merlin** earned her BA from the George Washington University and her juris doctor from New York Law School. A lifelong New Yorker, Beth loves anything Broadway, romantic comedies, and a good maxi dress. When she isn't writing, you can find her spending time with her husband, daughter, and two cavapoos, Sammy and Scarlett, at home or at their favorite vacation spot, Kiawah Island, South Carolina.

**Danielle Modafferi**, a high school English teacher and pun enthusiast, earned her MFA in writing popular fiction from Seton Hill University and, shortly after, founded Firefly Hill Press in 2016. By day, she helps her students discover the magic of language, and by night, she's a writer and publisher on a mission to unleash her creativity and help others do the same. Danielle loves making memories with friends and family, traveling to faraway (and some not-so-faraway) places, and snuggling with her two dogs, Jackson and Liam, who are also, incidentally, her biggest fans.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	300
ISBN-13	9781662529115

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Authors

*The Last Phone Booth in Manhattan*  
*Heart Restoration Project*

# Play It Off

## Kings of Campus Series Book 2

### MONICA MURPHY

APRIL 29, 2025

**From bestselling author Monica Murphy comes a sweet, sexy story about the secret crush between a college QB and his teammate's sister, and the obvious chemistry that keeps them in the huddle.**

#### *Sienna*

I've had a thing for Gavin Maddox ever since I was a freshman, but it's a mission doomed to fail. Of all the guys I could have picked on campus, I had to go too far with the quarterback, my brother's best friend.

We've spent the last two years avoiding each other. It's not that easy when you have the same friends, not to mention I can't forget the way it felt to be with him. But I can be civil. Polite. Detached.

I think...

#### *Gavin*

Sienna Cooper is off limits—except for that one time. I can't forget it, but I need to forget her if I want to keep my head in the game. This is my senior year and, more importantly, my last season of college football. I can't let anything distract me.

I've respected Sienna's boundaries for this long. I can do it for another year.

...Can't I?

### About the Author

Monica Murphy is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of over sixty novels. She writes mostly contemporary, new adult, and young adult romance. Both traditionally and independently published, her work has been translated into more than ten languages. Murphy lives in central California near Yosemite National Park with her husband, children, one dog, and four cats.

When she's not writing, she's thinking about writing. Or reading. Or binge-watching something.

### Praise for Monica Murphy

"Monica Murphy has the uncanny ability to yank at your heartstrings and leave them in tatters." —**L.J. Shen, *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling author**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	267
ISBN-13	9781662522802

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*End Game*  
*Lancaster Prep series*



# Biggest Player

## Not Yours Series Book 2

SARA NEY

JULY 29, 2025

**Bestselling author Sara Ney scores with a fiery romance about online dating, where a single mom and a football pro ignite sparks when they swipe right—even though they know it's all wrong.**

Margot's a busy single mom juggling teaching, parenting, and *trying not to die alone*. Dating apps? Total nightmare. But desperate times call for desperate swipes, even if they make her break out in stress hives. When she matches with a guy who looks too good to be true, she's convinced he's a walking red flag—or worse—a catfish.

*Dex is hot, and he knows it.* A quarterback with a killer smile and looks to spare, he's a good guy looking for a long-term relationship. He wants what his friends have: someone to come home to . . . and if they're naked when he gets there, even better. When he logs on for a casual scroll, he's not expecting to meet her. One swipe, and suddenly he's hooked.

Margot's convinced he's a catfish. Dex has zero dad bod and no dad energy. But their sizzling back-and-forth leaves them both thinking “what if.” After a surprise run-in leads to a mind-blowing (and soggy AF) kiss, their opposites-attract energy skyrockets. Can they find a way to make it last?

### About the Author

Sara Ney is an Amazon and *USA Today* bestselling author of new adult college and adult romance. Sexy and laugh-out-loud funny, her work includes the *How to Date a Douchebag* and *Campus Legends* series. *Not Your Biggest Fan* and *Biggest Player* kick off the author's first series with Montlake. Ney's books have been translated into several languages for markets such as Germany, Italy, Brazil, and Israel.

Sara lives with her partner, Jeff, in a blended household overrun by four independent teenagers. At their weekly “Cute Date Night,” they discuss TV shows they're bingeing and plot novels together, something Jeff is freakishly good at. Sara loves traveling, because it's the only time she has the bathroom to herself.

Learn more about the author and her work at <https://authorsaraney.com>. Visit her socials to connect: Facebook ([www.facebook.com/saraneyauthor](http://www.facebook.com/saraneyauthor)), Instagram (@saraneyauthor), TikTok (@authorsaraney), Goodreads (<https://bit.ly/35JrItR>), and BookBub ([www.bookbub.com/authors/saraney](http://www.bookbub.com/authors/saraney)).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	336
ISBN-13	9781662525513

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Not Your Biggest Fan*



# You, Me, and Forever

## Blushing Series Book 1

LAURA PAVLOV

MAY 27, 2025

**USA Today bestselling author Laura Pavlov delivers a spicy enemies-to-lovers romance about a billionaire developer and a small-town entrepreneur battling their desires in the Land of the Midnight Sun.**

Myles St. James is tearing my world apart.

Wish I'd known that before I slept with him. It was supposed to be a one-night stand. Like I knew anything about those. But I needed to blow off steam. My ex had just gotten engaged. My dry spell was nearing six months.

And my booming wedding planning business—the one I started with my bestie—was about to lose its favorite venue to some bulldozer-happy developer from New York.

The Seaside Inn is such a special place. My second home.

And ever since that famous singer got married there, people are flocking to Blushing, Alaska, for their own weddings too. Guess whose fling turns out to be the hotshot real estate guy? But he isn't what I expected. And sleeping with the enemy doesn't feel nearly as wrong as it should. Because Myles St. James is rocking my world.

Too bad giving in to him could mean giving up my dreams.

### About the Author

Laura Pavlov is best known for writing swoony, emotional stories with a side of angst and a dash of humor. A hopeless romantic at heart, she likes to take her characters on a journey that always leads to happily ever after.

Pavlov is happily married to her college sweetheart and devoted to her two amazing kids who are now adulting. She's also a dog whisperer to one temperamental Yorkie and one wild Bernedoodle. The author resides in Las Vegas, Nevada, where she is currently living her own happily ever after.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	301
ISBN-13	9781662525438

### Rights Available

All Languages

# One Killer Night

TRILINA PUCCI

OCTOBER 14, 2025

**USA Today bestselling author Trilina Pucci cranks up the heat in this sexy slasher filled with dark family secrets, classic horror tropes, and banter as sharp as a deranged killer's knife.**

It's Halloween night, and out-of-work writer Goldie Monroe's trip to the drugstore scares up more than the fake blood she's looking for. It leads to the man of her naughtiest dreams. And despite the fact that she's wearing a most unsexy costume, sparks fly from the moment they meet.

Noah Adler, aspiring sneaker designer, is impossibly gorgeous—like a tatted-up version of Goldie's favorite blue-eyed vampire. He's there for candy, but it's Goldie he can't resist. When she invites him to her sister's F/X company bash, he's all in without a second thought.

The pair's flirty connection heats up fast, carrying them to electrifying new heights. But after Goldie discovers Noah is hiding a dark secret, it all starts to crumble. Looking for answers about her own past awakens new dangers, and when Goldie and Noah land at a slasher camp for adults, a deadly tragedy threatens to repeat itself. To protect their new love, they must bury old hurts.

## About the Author

Trilina Pucci, #1 Amazon and *USA Today* bestselling author, loves cupcakes and bourbon. Known for being a trope-defier, she writes outside the box, creating fictional worlds her readers never want to leave.

Pucci's journey into writing started impulsively—as a move to check off a box on her bucket list. But what began as wish fulfillment turned into something much more, and now she can't imagine life without her characters or her readers. When she isn't writing steamy love stories, Pucci can be found devouring Netflix with her husband, Anthony, and their three kiddos.

To connect with the author and learn more about her work, visit her on Instagram (@authortrilinpucci), Facebook (<https://facebook.com/trilinpuccibooks>), TikTok (@authortrilinpucci), and BookBub ([www.bookbub.com/authors/trilina-pucci](http://www.bookbub.com/authors/trilina-pucci)).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Horror
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662531811

## Rights Available

All Languages

# We Are The Match

MARY E. ROACH

JULY 29, 2025

**Two women in love and in danger. Mob families at war. An explosive and enthralling contemporary reimagining of the Helen of Troy myth set against the splendor of the Grecian islands.**

Paris is a fixer for mob families on the Grecian islands when a powerful crime lord hires her to investigate a bombing. Insinuating herself into Zarek's circle is the chance for revenge that Paris has been waiting for since she was a child. Years ago, Zarek wiped out everyone she loved. Now it's Paris's turn. Her target? Zarek's beautiful daughter, Helen.

Helen wants nothing more than to abandon the violent world in which she was raised—and worse, an arranged marriage to a man she barely knows. In Paris, Helen sees the perfect tool to help her escape. And in Helen, Paris sees a desperate woman who will be the perfect revenge. As the two work together to find the bomber, and their connection becomes increasingly intimate, Zarek's empire grows more fragile and their own bonds of loyalty and purpose are tested.

When murder sends them fleeing to Troy, danger only brings Paris and Helen closer together—in love, in fury, and in the will to survive. If Zarek wants a war, Paris and Helen are ready to ignite it.

## About the Author

Mary E. Roach is a former teacher who now writes thrilling romances and romantic mysteries.

When she is not writing stories for and about powerful women, Mary enjoys running, teaching martial arts, and disappearing into the wilderness. Mary lives in Saint Paul with her wife and their very disagreeable cat, Lulu.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	288
ISBN-13	9781662529429

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Daughter of Tides

## Born to Sea and Storm Series Book 1

KIT ROCHA

MAY 6, 2025

**From the author of *Consort of Fire* comes a scorching romantasy novel full of courtly intrigue and erotic crackle riding the swells of immortal love.**

Aleksis, the charming and charismatic god of love, is dying. But nothing can stop the Lover from completing his final quest: a dangerous diplomatic visit to a former adversary.

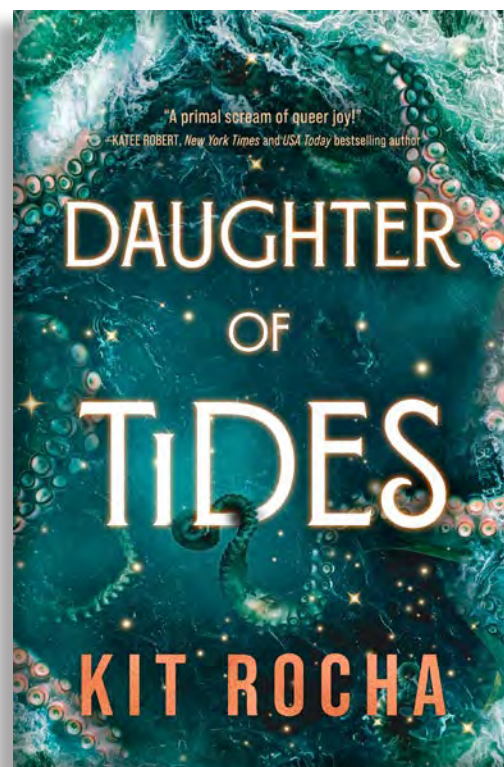
Setting sail for a mystical kingdom of ice, Aleksis is joined by Einar the Kraken, infamous pirate lord, and Naia, a sweet young water nymph. Intoxicated by the pair's electric connection, Aleksis vows to enjoy his last days by playing matchmaker, pushing away his own desires for the sake of theirs. But he's unexpectedly caught up in a raging game of seduction.

As the trio navigates turbulent seas and the political perils of the Ice Queen's court, dark secrets reveal clues to one's tragic past and another's epic destiny. Aleksis's powers spin out of control while love and lust run wild. And when enemies emerge from the shadows, the Lover is forced to make a choice. Will he give away his heart to save all that he holds dear?

### About the Author

Kit Rocha is the pseudonym for cowriting team Donna Herren and Bree Bridges. After penning dozens of paranormal novels, novellas, and stories as Moira Rogers, they reinvented themselves by writing the nine-book, multiple-award-winning—and extremely steamy—Beyond series, which became an instant cult favorite. They followed it up with two spin-off series, including the popular Mercenary Librarians trilogy, published by Tor. Now they're leaping into sexy epic fantasy with happily-ever-afters.

Their favorite stories are about messy worlds, strong women, and falling in love with the people who love you just the way you are. When they're not writing, they can be found crafting handmade jewelry, caring too much about video games, or freaking out about their favorite books or TV shows, all of which are chronicled on their various social media accounts. Learn more at [www.kitrocha.com](http://www.kitrocha.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Epic Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	315
ISBN-13	9781662523625

### Rights Available

All Languages

Romance



# Dating After the End of the World

JENEVA ROSE

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

**There's nothing like the undead to bring the living together in an action-packed and apocalyptically romantic genre-shattering novel by a *New York Times* bestselling author.**

Casey Pearson grew up with a doomsday-prepping father. At eighteen, tired of living an unconventional life, she left home, vowing never to return.

More than a decade later, a mysterious viral outbreak changes everything, including the people it infects, turning them into zombielike creatures. It's the end of the world, and no one saw it coming—well, except for Casey's father. With no place left to run and danger lurking around every corner, Casey is forced to return home.

Upon arrival, she's surprised to find that her dad has hunkered down with a group of survivors, including her archnemesis, Blake Morrison, the high school bully who made Casey's teenage years a living hell.

While struggling to live on the compound, face outside threats, and survive alongside her handsome enemy, Casey will learn that although the world has ended, hers is just beginning.

## About the Author

Jeneva Rose is the *New York Times* and Amazon #1 bestselling author of several novels, including the multimillion-copy bestseller *The Perfect Marriage*. Her work has been translated into more than two dozen languages and optioned for film and TV.

She lives in Wisconsin with her husband, Drew, and her English bulldogs, Winston and Phyllis. For more information, visit [www.jenevarose.com](http://www.jenevarose.com).

## Praise for Jeneva Rose

"An unforgettably funny rom-com from Jeneva Rose!" —**Lucy Score, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Jeneva Rose has entered the rom-com genre with a bang! Hilarious, charming, and swoony. *It's a Date (Again)* is a rom-com lover's dream!" —**Abby Jimenez, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Yours Truly***



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	303
ISBN-13	9781662520204

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*It's A Date (Again)*

# Unlikely Story

ALI ROSEN

MARCH 1, 2025

**From the author of *Recipe for Second Chances* comes a swoonworthy romance bursting with wit about a therapist who falls for the wrong man...but perhaps the right one was hiding in the margins all along.**

As a relationship therapist, Nora helps patients explore their feelings honestly. But she's hiding an embarrassing relationship secret of her own: she's in love with someone she's never even met.

He edits the advice column Nora's been writing anonymously for the last seven years. He's in London, she's in New York, and they communicate solely through shared files. When he confides that his girlfriend's out of the picture, and her boss asks her to come to London, Nora takes both as a sign.

But that's not the only thing on her mind. A client's ex-boyfriend just moved into her co-op, directly beneath her. Eli blames Nora for his breakup and seems determined to make her life miserable, gleefully planning a noisy renovation.

Yet despite all his bluster, Nora eventually starts to see the softness behind Eli's brusque, charming exterior...and after a slipup reveals a startling secret, Nora wonders whether someone can be two things at once.

## About the Author

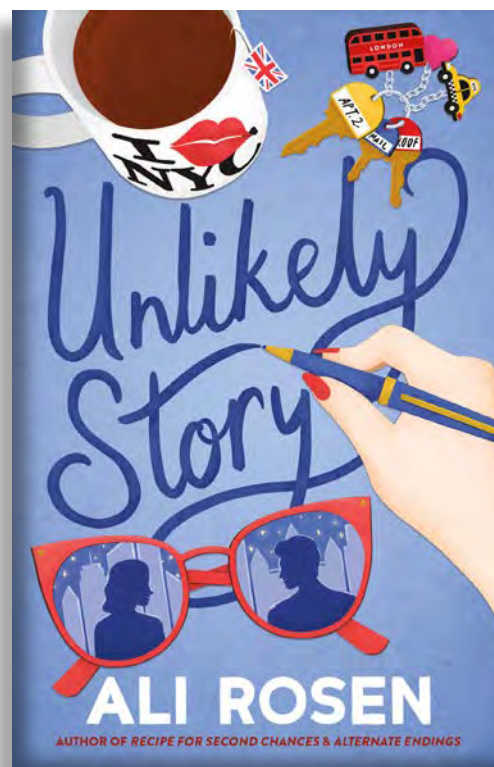
Ali Rosen is the bestselling author of *Recipe for Second Chances*, a novel about which *New York Times* bestselling author Fern Michaels said she "couldn't turn the pages fast enough." Her second novel, *Alternate Endings*, was named an Amazon Editors' Pick.

Ali is also the author of cookbooks like the bestselling *Modern Freezer Meals*, *15 Minute Meals*, and *Bring It!* Rosen has been featured everywhere from the Today show to the *New York Times*, and she has written for *Bon Appétit*, the *Washington Post*, and *New York Magazine*.

Originally from Charleston, South Carolina, Rosen lives in New York City with her husband, three kids, and rescue dog.

## Praise for Ali Rosen

"As a reader and a writer, I am always over the moon when I find a new author with a refreshing, wonderful new voice...I couldn't turn the pages fast enough." —**Fern Michaels, *New York Times* bestselling author**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Romantic Comedy
PAGE COUNT	320
ISBN-13	9781662527920

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Alternate Endings*  
*Recipe for Second Chances*

# A Beginner's Guide to Forever

KENDALL RYAN

AUGUST 5, 2025

**Opposites attract in this hopeful, globe-trotting romance from *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author Kendall Ryan, for readers of *The Idea of You* by Robinne Lee and *Funny Story* by Emily Henry.**

Alessia Moore, a thirty-seven-year-old powerhouse at the helm of a nonprofit in Nairobi, is tirelessly working to build a school for girls. Professionally, she's thriving, attracting investors to support her mission. But her love life is nonexistent, and she's starting to wonder if the one even exists for her.

When she meets Hart Winthrop, the twenty-five-year-old son of a billionaire investor poised to support her foundation, she's unprepared for the pull she feels. Hart is confident, intelligent, and charming. But there are issues—he's too young for her, and getting involved with him could jeopardize everything she's worked for.

As fate takes them across the globe—from glamorous cities to hidden corners of the world—what begins as a forbidden fling grows into something neither of them expected, leaving Alessia to wonder... Should she break her own rules for a chance at something real?

## About the Author

Kendall Ryan is a *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author of contemporary romance novels such as *Playing for Keeps*, *The Boyfriend Effect*, *The Rival*, among many others. She had sold millions of copies, and her books have been translated into several languages in countries around the world.

She has been featured in publications such as *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, *Cosmopolitan* and *InTouch Magazine*. She lives in Texas with her husband and two sons.

## Praise for Kendall Ryan

"Delicious and steamy hockey goodness! *Playing for Keeps* is my pick for hottest romance of the summer!" —**Elle Kennedy, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Empowering, emotional, sexy and gorgeously romantic in all the best ways." —**Helena Hunting, *New York Times* bestselling author**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662530944

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Against All Odds

## Delta Shield Security Series Book 1

BRITTNEY SAHIN

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

**An undercover operative and the mystery woman he's sworn to protect court danger, desire, and revenge in an explosive novel of suspense by *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Brittney Sahin.**

Rescuing Seraphina Torres wasn't part of Ryder Lawson's Delta Shield Security plan. An undercover operation gone sideways changed that. The at-risk beauty is a stunner, and the connection between them is electric. But Seraphina is also a mystery. As quickly as she enters Ryder's life, she disappears.

Ryder is assigned by Homeland Security to follow her. That's a pleasure. And a danger. Because Seraphina is on her own undercover mission of very personal revenge. Working together, Ryder and Seraphina must rely on unlikely allies, from a reformed drug runner operating an underground fight club to old friends with questionable loyalties. Drawn deep into a web of deceit, cartel warfare, and CIA secrets, Ryder and Seraphina can't afford to trust anyone—maybe not even each other.

Chasing a deadly truth stretching from Mexico to Costa Rica, the spark between Ryder and Seraphina is catching fire—one so hot it may be more dangerous than the shadowy enemies hunting them down.

### About the Author

Brittney Sahin is the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of the Costa Family series, Falcon Falls Security series, Dublin Nights series and many other novels of romantic suspense. She began writing at an early age with the dream to be a published author before the age of eighteen.

Although academic pursuits (and later a teaching career) interrupted her aspirations, she never stopped writing—never stopped imagining. It wasn't until her students encouraged her to follow her dreams that Brittney said goodbye to Upstate New York in order to start a new adventure in the place she was raised: Charlotte, North Carolina. Here, she decided to take her students' advice and begin to write again.

When she's not working on upcoming novels, she spends time with her family. She is a proud mother of two boys, and a lover of suspense novels, coffee, and the outdoors. For more information, visit [www.brittneysahin.com](http://www.brittneysahin.com).



Romance

IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	TBD
ISBN-13	9781662526756

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Not Mine to Keep*  
*Let Me Love You*



# Lessons in Heartbreak

The Kings Series Book 1

KARLA SORENSEN

MAY 20, 2025

**A playboy football player. A shy librarian. When old friends reunite, opposites attract in a witty and lighthearted romance about taking chances and falling in love against the odds.**

It's an unwritten rule somewhere: small-town librarians shall not commit spontaneous acts, for fear of mortal embarrassment. I'd certainly just proved it true, though hiring an escort was perfectly logical. How else should I overcome my fear of intimacy without risking heartbreak?

Unfortunately, what came next wasn't so logical.

Instead of a dating coach, Griffin King showed up. Yes, that Griffin King: my childhood neighbor and now, to my dismay, an obscenely handsome pro football player. He's not actually an escort, but how was I supposed to know that?

Avoiding him after the mix-up is impossible. The man is everywhere—put in time-out by his agent after a PR snafu. Griffin might be an outrageous flirt determined to torment me until I snap, but he's also the perfect man to help me.

The lessons aren't what I thought they'd be. Neither is Griffin. Every time we touch, every time he shows me a different side to myself—and to him—I can't help but wonder if we're about to break another rule: the playboy and the good girl aren't supposed to fall in love.

## About the Author

Karla Sorensen is the author of the Wilder Family series, the Best Man series, the Washington Wolves series, and many other novels. She refuses to write or read anything without a happily ever after.

When Karla is not devouring historical romance, reading Dramione fanfic, or avoiding laundry, you can find her watching football (British and American) or HGTV or listening to Enneagram podcasts so she can psychoanalyze everyone in her life, in no particular order of importance.

With a degree in advertising and public relations from Grand Valley State University, she made her living in senior health care prior to writing full time. Karla lives in Michigan with her husband, two boys, and a big, shaggy rescue dog named Bear. For more information, visit [www.karlasorensen.com](http://www.karlasorensen.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	348
ISBN-13	9781662526626

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Best of All*  
*The Best Laid Plans*

# All Superheroes Need PR

## Supers in the City Series Book 1

ELIZABETH STEPHENS

MAY 27, 2025

**He's a villain looking for a hero rebrand. She's the marketing genius who can make it happen in this fantastical romantic comedy by the author of the *Beasts of Gatamora* series.**

Over two decades ago, forty-eight young, gifted superheroes fell to Earth and were eventually marketed as opposing brands: heroes and villains. Now, one exceptionally gruff bad guy is looking to hop teams. Hello, PR director Vanessa Theriot.

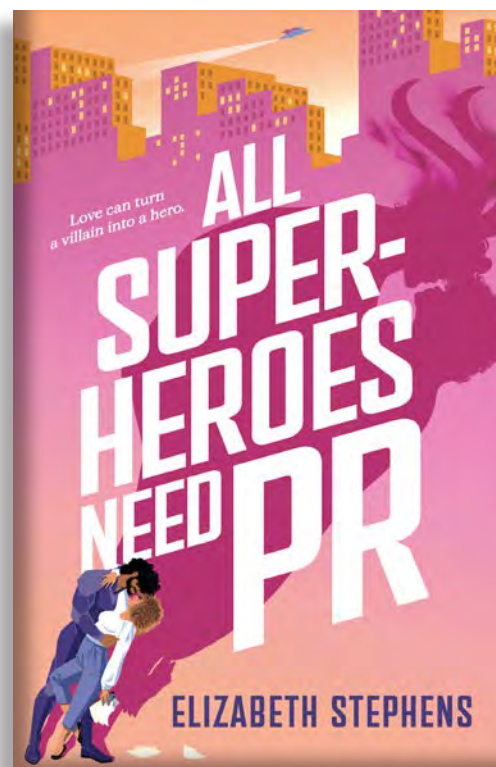
His real name is Roland Casteel a.k.a. the Pyro. First, swap that with the less incinerating the Wyvern. Next, put him in spandex to highlight that near-godlike body. Finally, give that hero in training a heroine—if Vanessa will play the part in a pretend romance guaranteed to make the city swoon. She's game. As shy as Vanessa is, it's her job to be Roland's very own Lois Lane. Who knew that fake dating would change their worlds?

But falling head over heels for real makes for a dangerous shift in the narrative. A monstrous supervillain is bringing out Roland's bad side again. This time, it's to save a woman who, against all the odds, is becoming the human love of his superhero life.

### About the Author

Elizabeth Stephens is the author of *Dark City Omega* and *Shadowlands Omega* in the *Beasts of Gatamora* series. She has been living in a fantasy world since she wrote her first sci-fi story when she was eleven, and she still often gets lost in places that don't exist. With a growing backlist of over fifteen titles, her work is best known for its diverse casts, tough heroines, wacky world-building, and villains—or beasts—who get the girl in guaranteed happily-ever-afters.

When she isn't tip-tap-typing away, you might find her enjoying the outdoors of the Pacific Northwest or traveling and making adventures of her own with her husband, tiny human, and doggo, King Louis. For more information, visit [www.booksbyelizabeth.com](http://www.booksbyelizabeth.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	302
ISBN-13	9781662523397

### Rights Available

All Languages

Romance

# Falling Overboard

SARIAH WILSON

MARCH 18, 2025

**Forbidden love on the sun-kissed Mediterranean. Regardless of the risks, it's easy to get swept away in a breathtaking romance by Sariah Wilson, the *USA Today* bestselling author of *Hypnotized by Love*.**

Lucky Salerno's dream is to own a bakery. To earn enough money to achieve it, she has secured a lucrative job as chief stewardess on a superyacht cruising the Mediterranean. Aboard the ship, there's one unbreakable rule: no hookups among the crew. No problem. The last thing Lucky has time for is a man. Then she meets Hunter Smith, the gorgeous new deckhand sharing her cabin. Is the universe trying to test her willpower?

Who needs the drama that comes with a relationship? Not Hunter. Who can ignore a witty, beautiful bunkmate like Lucky? Also not Hunter. There's something just as enticing for Lucky: a tantalizing mystery behind Hunter's piercing blue eyes she can't wait to solve. But at what risk?

As they get to know each other, a secret romance buds at sea, and Lucky has to choose. Abide by the rules to make her career dreams come true, or pursue her love for Hunter—another dream that's just as near to her heart.

## About the Author

Sariah Wilson is the *USA Today* bestselling author of more than two dozen contemporary romance and romantic fantasy novels, including *A Tribute of Fire*, *The Chemistry of Love*, and *Roommaid*. She happens to be madly, passionately in love with her soulmate and is a fervent believer in happily ever afters—which is why she writes romance.

She currently lives with her family and various pets in Utah, and harbors a lifelong devotion to ice cream. For more information, visit her at [www.sariahwilson.com](http://www.sariahwilson.com).

## Praise for Sariah Wilson

"Wilson's ability to weave a sweet tale of two people, each of whom needs what the other has to offer, is magical." —**Bookreporter**

"Combining a fast-paced plot with a slow-burning romance, this is sure to give readers butterflies." —**Publishers Weekly**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	383
ISBN-13	9781662514265

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*A Tribute of Fire*  
*Hypnotized by Love*  
*The Chemistry of Love*



# A Vow of Embers

## The Eye of the Goddess Series Book 2

SARIAH WILSON

JULY 8, 2025

**A princess's forced marriage to a dangerously seductive prince becomes a life-and-death alliance in an exhilarating adventure by Sariah Wilson, the *USA Today* bestselling author of *A Tribute of Fire*.**

Lia is always prepared for battle, but being blackmailed into marriage by Prince Alexandros is a challenge too far. She has no choice. He's holding her sister hostage to force her hand. But with this union built on betrayal and rage comes a contract. By the goddess's law, the marriage must not be consummated. A relief to Lia. She'd rather commit regicide than fall into bed with a man she loathes.

There is one other saving grace. Marriage gives Lia access to the palace and a chance to uncover the truth about the treasured eye of the goddess—and the magic it holds. But something inexplicable and impossible to ignore soon binds Lia and the prince. By night they walk in each other's dreams, and by day they share each other's pain.

As longing and trust grow between Lia and Alexandros and inhibited desires are set free, outside forces rise against them, posing an ever-present danger. Not only to the throne but to their very lives.

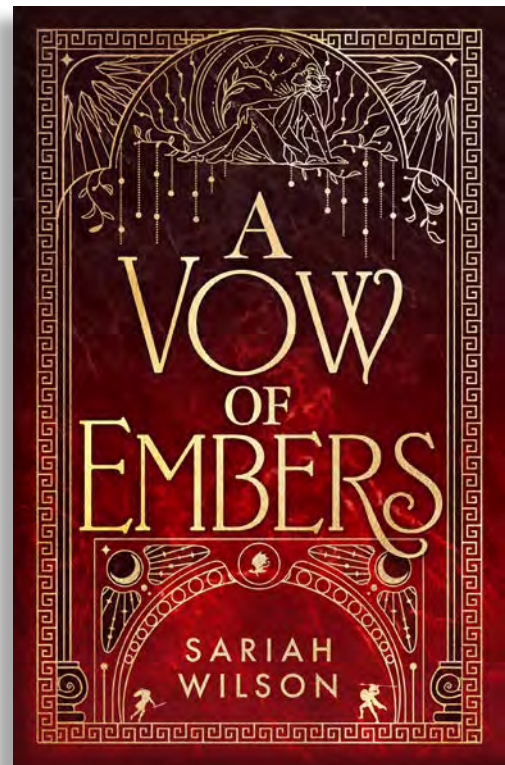
### About the Author

Sariah Wilson is the *USA Today* bestselling author of more than two dozen romantic fantasy and contemporary romance novels, *A Tribute of Fire* in the Eye of the Goddess series, *The Chemistry of Love*, and *Roommaid*.

She happens to be madly, passionately in love with her soulmate and is a fervent believer in happily ever afters—which is why she writes romance. She currently lives with her family and various pets in Utah, and harbors a lifelong devotion to ice cream. For more information, visit her at [www.sariahwilson.com](http://www.sariahwilson.com).

### Praise for Sariah Wilson

"Greek mythology, a strong heroine, found family, enemies to lovers. What more could you want? How about captivating world-building, mystery, action, romantic tension for days, and a cliffhanger that leaves you gasping for more!" —**Jennifer L. Armentrout, #1 *New York Times* and international bestselling author**



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	589
ISBN-13	9781662526602

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Rights Sold

Hungarian and Hebrew

### Other Titles by the Author

*A Tribute of Fire*  
*The Chemistry of Love*  
*Hypnotized by Love*



# Variation

REBECCA YARROS

NOVEMBER 19, 2024

**From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Fourth Wing* comes a new contemporary romance about the summer a celebrated dancer returns home and unearths years of family secrets and deep regrets with the Coast Guard rescue swimmer she never forgot.**

Elite ballerina Allie Rousseau is no stranger to pressure. With her mother's eyes always watching, perfection was expected, no matter the cost. But when an injury jeopardizes all she's sacrificed for, Allie returns to her summer home to heal and recover. But the memories she's tried to forget rush in and threaten to take her under.

As a Coast Guard rescue swimmer, Hudson Ellis knows that hesitation can mean the difference between life and death. He's always prided himself on being in the right place at the right time, especially when it came to Allie Rousseau... until the night he left for basic. After the biggest regret of his life, the secrets he keeps mean he can never be with the one woman he wants more than his next breath.

When Hudson's niece shows up on Allie's doorstep, desperate to find her birth mother, Allie finds herself in an unimaginable position. Allie and Hudson's past and present might be endlessly complicated. The thread that tied them to each other all those years ago may have unraveled, but the truth could pull them back together, or drive them apart forever.

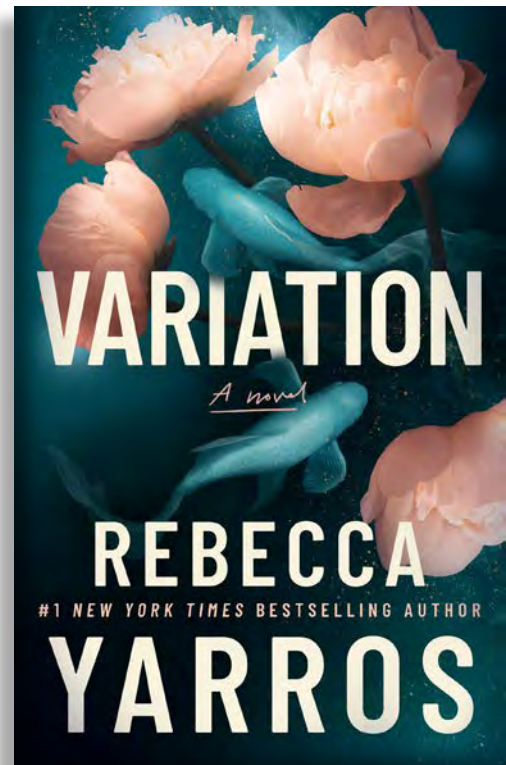
## About the Author

Rebecca Yarros is the #1 *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of over twenty novels including *Fourth Wing* and *In the Likely Event*, with multiple starred *Publishers Weekly* reviews and a *Kirkus* Best Book of the Year. She loves military heroes and has been blissfully married to hers for over twenty years. She's the mother of six children, and is currently surviving the teenage years with two of her four hockey-playing sons. She and her family live in Colorado with their stubborn English bulldogs, two feisty chinchillas, and a Maine coon cat named Artemis, who rules them all.

Having fostered then adopted their youngest daughter, Rebecca is passionate about helping children in the foster system through her nonprofit, One October.

## Praise for Rebecca Yarros

"Yarros keeps the twists coming as her complex but lovable characters find their way back to each other in the face of impossible odds. Readers who like their romance on the soapy side will be more than satisfied." —*Publishers Weekly*



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	464
ISBN-13	9781662514708

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

Czech, Danish, Dutch, English (Large Print—US), French, German, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Spanish and Ukrainian

## Other Titles by the Author

*In the Likely Event*  
*Fourth Wing*

# Happy After All

MAISEY YATES

JANUARY 1, 2025

**When a romance author meets a mysterious stranger, love is the last thing she expects to find in a funny and heartfelt novel about second chances by a *New York Times* bestselling author.**

*A city girl leaves her life behind in LA to start over in a small town...*

It's a cliché, but it's also Amelia Taylor's life. And her new life as a romance novelist and motelier is going great—until Nathan Hart checks in.

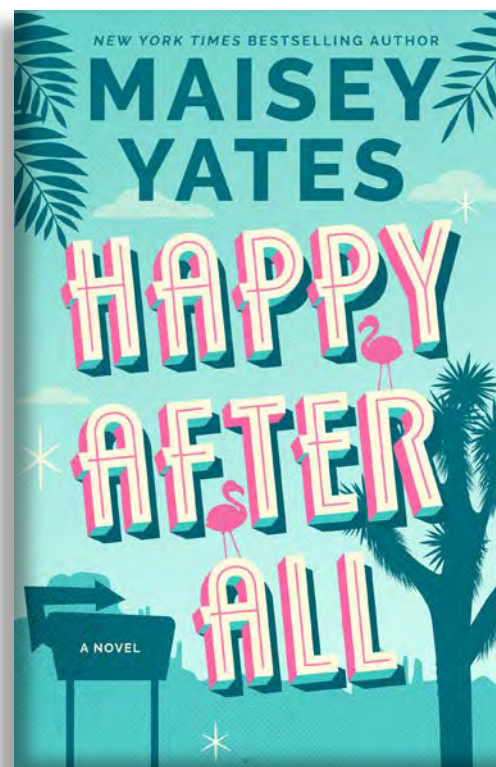
Of course he's disastrously handsome, thoroughly disagreeable, and seems to be set against Amelia on sight. *Of course* there's smoldering tension between them that can't be ignored. They'd make the perfect enemies to lovers story. It's one of Amelia's favorite tropes.

But the man in room 32 seems genuinely broken, and it's going to take more than romance tropes and wishful thinking to get past his wounds. As a tentative friendship grows into a deeper connection, Amelia and Nathan both realize that facing each other's painful secrets takes courage. Do they dare take the risk and hope it ends happily after all?

## About the Author

Maisey Yates is a *New York Times* bestselling author of more than one hundred romance novels. Whether she's writing strong, hardworking cowboys, dissolute princes, or multigenerational family stories, she loves getting lost in fictional worlds.

An avid knitter with a dangerous yarn addiction and an aversion to housework, Maisey lives with her husband and three kids in rural Oregon. For more information, visit [www.maiseyyates.com](http://www.maiseyyates.com).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	320
ISBN-13	9781662526374

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

Romance

# Science Fiction & Fantasy

# A House Between Sea and Sky

BETH CATO

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

**In 1920s Hollywood, two people in need of healing find strange refuge in a house with a mind of its own in an enthralling fantasy by the author of *A Thousand Recipes for Revenge*.**

Grieving Hollywood scenarist Fayette Wynne arrives in Carmel-by-the-Sea in 1927 to finish her latest project in peace and bask in the aromas of an enchanted sourdough starter nurtured by her family for generations. Just write, bake, and heal in divine solitude.

Then, during a violent storm, Fayette stops despondent and haunted actor Rex Hallstrom from flinging himself into the ocean. Their shelter: a peculiar cliffside house, its door flung open as if beckoning them. Sentient, curious, and lonely, it recognizes in Fayette a witchy magic even older than its own. In the coming days, as a friendship grows between Fayette and Rex, they discover the legends of the isolated house.

Appearing in the span of a night, its cursed origins are said to be Hell itself. But for two souls who need to move forward, it provides unexpected comfort and hope.

In fact, Fayette and Rex have never felt more alive. Neither has the house, whose mysteries are unending and whose wicked history may be too powerful to ignore.

## About the Author

Beth Cato is the Nebula Award–nominated author of the *Clockwork Dagger* series, the *Blood of Earth* trilogy, and the *Chefs of the Five Gods* series. Her short stories and poetry can be found in hundreds of publications, including *Fantasy Magazine*, *Escape Pod*, *Uncanny Magazine*, and the *Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*.

Beth hails from Hanford, California, but currently writes and bakes cookies in a state of confusion that she shares with her husband, son, and two feline overlords. For more information, visit [www.bethcato.com](http://www.bethcato.com).



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527760

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*A Feast for Starving Stone*  
*A Thousand Recipes for Revenge*



# Grimm Curiosities

SHARON LYNN FISHER

NOVEMBER 5, 2024

**In Victorian England, a young woman inherits her father's curiosity shop and all its ghostly secrets in a bewitching novel by the author of *Salt & Broom*.**

It's 1851 in old York. Lizzy Grimm struggles to save her late father's charmingly creepy yet floundering antique shop, Grimm Curiosities. Then, during a particularly snowy December in this most haunted city in England, things turn...curiouser.

Lizzy meets Antony Carlisle, whose sister suffers from the same perplexing affliction as Lizzy's mother—both stricken silent and unresponsive after speaking with ghosts. Working closely together to fathom what power has transformed their loved ones and why, Lizzy and Antony discover an important clue: her father's treasured set of rare books on ancient folktales, enchantments, and yuletide myths. Books that a persistent collector is awfully keen to purchase. Books Lizzy can't bear to sell.

Every bewitching passage and illustration opens a doorway to something ancient and dangerously inviting. Keys to a mystery Lizzy and Antony are compelled to solve—even if doing so means unleashing one of this bright holiday's darkest myths.

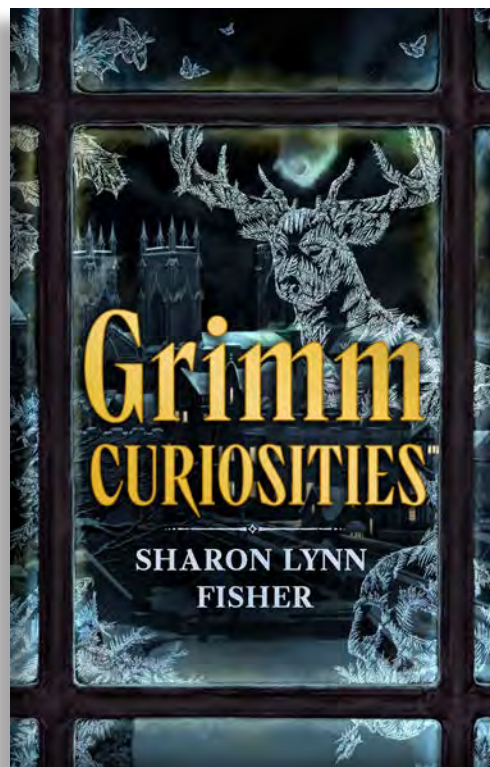
## About the Author

Sharon Lynn Fisher is the author of *Salt & Broom*, the Faery Rehistory series, *Ghost Planet*, *The Ophelia Prophecy*, and *Echo 8*. She writes smart, twisty, passionate tales—mash-ups of fantasy (or sci-fi) and slow-burn romance set in lush and atmospheric worlds. A city mouse whose country-mouse-aspiring family dragged her to an acreage just outside Seattle, Sharon is mom to two brilliant teens, two ridiculous goats, an orange cat, and a fluctuating number of poultry.

When she's not writing, you'll find her wandering the woods looking for mushrooms and fairies. For more information, visit [www.sharonlynnfisher.com](http://www.sharonlynnfisher.com).

## Praise for *Grimm Curiosities*

"Fisher allows the suspense to build slowly even as the romance burns quickly. Romantasy readers will be hooked." —*Publishers Weekly*



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	300
ISBN-13	9781662515712

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Salt & Broom*

# Silver and Smoke

VAN HOANG

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

**It's the golden age of Hollywood. For two Vietnamese dreamers, success means conjuring a magical break in a spellbinding novel about the frightening price of fame by the author of *The Monstrous Misses Mai*.**

More like sisters than best friends, Issa Bui and Olivia Nong grew up dreaming of becoming movie stars. But for young Vietnamese women in 1930s Hollywood, the MGM back lot seems unreachable. Undeterred, Issa knows she's meant for great things. The blood of shamans runs through her veins. To find fame in this town, for herself and for Olivia, Issa needs to make connections. For starters, with her dead grandmother Bà Ngoai.

Frightening enough in life—Issa's own mother forbade any contact—Bà Ngoai is even more intimidating in death. A formidable presence of smoke, promises, and pacts, Bà Ngoai introduces Issa and Olivia to her friend on the other side: the late Ava Lin Rang, a singularly magnetic Asian star of the silent screen. Ava coaches, encourages, and utilizes her own unique influence to open doors for her determined protégés.

As Issa begins drawing on her own untapped powers, every dream is coming true. But in a city of illusions, at what cost?

## About the Author

Van Hoang's first name is pronounced like the "van" in "minivan." Her last name is pronounced "hah-wawng." The author of *The Monstrous Misses Mai*, Van earned her bachelor's in English at the University of New Mexico and her master's in library information science at San José State University.

She was born in Vietnam; grew up in Orange County, California; and now resides in Los Angeles with her husband, kid, and two dogs. For more information, visit [www.authorvanhoang.com](http://www.authorvanhoang.com).

## Praise for Van Hoang

"A fascinating and impressively original novel by Van Hoang, *The Monstrous Misses Mai* will have a particular affinity for readers with an interest in deftly crafted stories of Dark Fantasy, Historical Fantasy, and Magical Realism. Certain to be an immediately popular pick..." —*Midwest Book Review*



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	383
ISBN-13	9781662517853

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Monstrous Misses Mai*

# The Shattered King

## The Shattered King Series Book 1

CHARLIE N. HOLMBERG

SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

**A captive healer and a mysterious prince are drawn to each other in the midst of war and magic in a beguiling dark fantasy by *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Charlie N. Holmberg.**

The kingdom of Cansere is on the brink of war. Young men are conscripted from their homes, and a royal decree from the queen has made healing the only legal form of craftlock. Nym, a healer and beekeeper, is the sole provider for her family of seven now that her younger brother has been sent to the warfront. But when a letter comes from the queen, summoning Nym to the palace to heal Prince Renn, the kingdom's ailing shut-in, Nym finds herself making the tumultuous journey from her family's apiary to the capital city. Nym is determined to fail the queen's mission and return to her younger siblings as soon as she can.

But escaping the castle's hold isn't as easy as failing a simple test. Prince Renn is cold and distant, and his illness is nothing like Nym has ever seen before, nothing she could ever imagine treating. In a moment of connection with Prince Renn, Nym manages to remedy the faintest symptom of his ailment—only to discover that no healer before has made such progress. Forced to become the prince's official healer and a ward of the castle, and with her only hope of returning to her family hinging on the prince's recovery, Nym must navigate the castle's cruel and twisted court and uncover the haunting truth behind Prince Renn's illness—even as she finds herself irrevocably drawn to him. Stay tuned for the next book in the series, which will be released in Spring 2026!

### About the Author

Charlie N. Holmberg is a *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of fantasy and romance fiction, including *The Hanging City*, *Star Mother*, the Paper Magician series, the Spellbreaker series, and the Whimbrel House series, and she writes contemporary romance under C. N. Holmberg. She is published in more than twenty languages; has been a finalist for the ALA awards, the Goodreads Choice Awards, and multiple Whitney Awards; and won the 2020 Whitney Award for Novel of the Year: Adult Fiction.

Born in Salt Lake City, Charlie was raised a Trekkie alongside three sisters who also have boy names. She is a BYU alumna, plays the ukulele, and owns too many pairs of glasses. She currently lives with her family in Utah. Visit her at [www.charlienholmberg.com](http://www.charlienholmberg.com).



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	333
ISBN-13	9781662516832

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*Still the Sun*  
*The Hanging City*  
*Keeper of Enchanted Rooms*



# While the Dark Remains

JOANNA RUTH MEYER

JULY 29, 2025

**In an icebound palace of magic and menace, a young woman plots to outwit a cruel king in a bracing fantasy about love, found family, and immeasurable revenge.**

Brynja spent her childhood as a captive performer in Tenebris, the imposing mountain palace of King Kallias. Every night she risked death for the king's entertainment until his rebellious son, Prince Ballast, helped her escape.

Now twenty, Brynja has never forgotten the brutal king. Or forgiven him. Under the cloak of a three-month-long Winter Dark, Brynja is returning to Tenebris for revenge.

Accompanied by a rival court, including the alluring Prince Vil, Brynja poses as diplomatic royalty to barter peace between nations. No one is better equipped to infiltrate the palace than Brynja—she remembers every hidden passage like a bad dream. But her quest to destroy Kallias is complicated by her feelings for Prince Ballast, whom she isn't sure she can still trust. And Kallias's own quest to mine a catastrophic weapon of war buried in the mountain's heart will threaten them all, and force Brynja to face the darkest parts of herself.

The lives of everyone she loves depend on the choices she must make. So, too, does the fate of the world.

Stay tuned for the sequel coming Winter 2026!

## About the Author

Joanna Ruth Meyer is the author of five young adult fantasy novels, including the critically acclaimed *Echo North*. *While the Dark Remains* is her first adult fantasy. She lives in Mesa, Arizona, with her husband, son, two orange cats, and a giant grand piano named Prince Imrahil.

Joanna loves forests and rainstorms and stories that make her feel things, and in all likelihood, she's drinking tea right now. To learn more about the author, visit [www.joannaruthmeyer.com](http://www.joannaruthmeyer.com) and follow her on Instagram @gamwyn.

## Praise for Joanna Ruth Meyer

"Epic and engrossing. Magic pulsates through every page. Readers will ache when it's over and want to start all over again." —*Kirkus Review* (starred review)



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Adventure
PAGE COUNT	459
ISBN-13	9781662530692

## Rights Available

All Languages



# The Golden Age of Magic

The Golden Age of Magic Series Book 1

LUANNE G. SMITH

JULY 1, 2025

**Against the backdrop of 1920s Hollywood, a young fairy godmother on a mission is embroiled in malicious magic, mystery, and murder in a thrilling historical fantasy by the bestselling author of *The Vine Witch*.**

Celeste is about to become one of the thirteen Fées Gardiennes, a centuries-old sisterhood of fairy godmothers. To be granted full status, Celeste must usher her first protégé onto their path of destiny. Where better to find a starry-eyed ward than in a land of magic and illusion called Hollywood?

It's 1927. The movie-making business is booming when Celeste befriends a young studio seamstress whose dreams outshine everyone else's. Rose is talented, underappreciated, and could use some enchanted intervention in her life. Plans proceed swimmingly, and Celeste even catches the eye of a handsome producer. But after a series of unexplained accidents on the studio lot stir up rumors of a curse, Celeste fears the trouble is more personal—the spiteful meddling of a fellow Gardienne out to thwart Celeste's success.

But the sabotage turns sinister when a starlet is murdered and it's Rose who stands accused. As vengeance, dark magic, and betrayal wreak havoc, Celeste must come into her full power to save her innocent protégé and secure her own future in a cherished, ancient, and now threatened sisterhood. Stay tuned for the next book in the series, which will be released in Winter 2026!

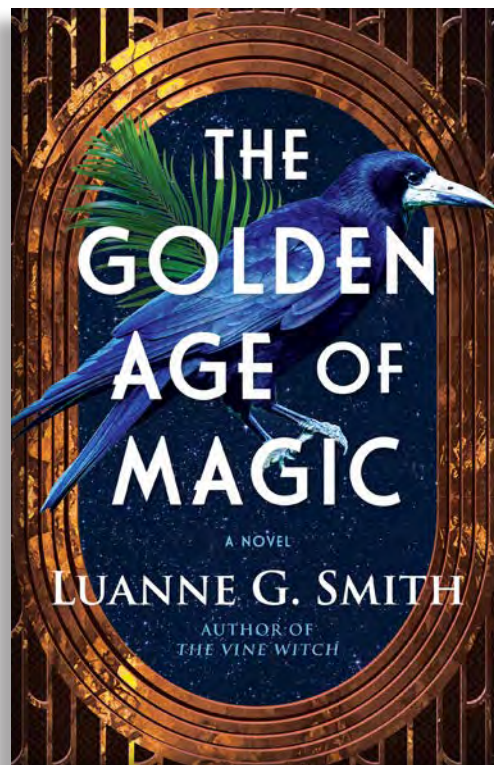
## About the Author

Luanne G. Smith is the Amazon Charts and *Washington Post* bestselling author of *The Vine Witch*, *The Glamourist*, and *The Conjuror* in the Vine Witch series; *The Raven Spell* and *The Raven Song* in the Conspiracy of Magic series; and *The Witch's Lens* and *The Wolf's Eye* in the Order of the Seven Stars series.

Luanne lives in Colorado at the base of the beautiful Rocky Mountains, where she enjoys hiking, gardening, and a glass of wine at the end of the day. For more information, visit [www.luanneasmith.com](http://www.luanneasmith.com).

## Praise for Luanne G. Smith

"A delicious foray into a new series that melds history with the supernatural...Smith's fans, as well as new readers, will delight in the heady mixture of historical fiction, fantasy, and horror."  
—*Library Journal*



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	274
ISBN-13	9781662525018

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Witch's Lens*  
*The Raven Spell*  
*The Vine Witch*

# The Glass Slide World

## The Naturalist Society Series Book 2

CARRIE VAUGHN

OCTOBER 7, 2025

**From *New York Times* bestselling and Philip K. Dick Award-winning author Carrie Vaughn comes a compelling sequel to *The Naturalist Society*, continuing the saga of strong women scientists competing in a man's world, this time through the story of Beth's daughter who goes on a thrilling adventure filled with intrigue and magic.**

The year is 1902. Ava Stanley, Beth's daughter, is training to be a doctor with a particular interest in bacteriology and the microscopic world. This is the early days of the discovery of the links between specific bacteria and the diseases they cause. Like her parents, Ava Stanley is also an Arcane Taxonomist, Fourth Rank. She fears she isn't very good at it. While most Arcanists draw their powers from the visible world, the spectacular traits of birds, and charismatic megafauna, her affinity is with the very small. Tiny creatures, tiny powers, alas. But she hopes to find a way to use such Arcanism to track—and prevent—disease.

Her assumptions about her own abilities, and the potential powers contained in microbiology, will be tested when she finds herself on a harrowing adventure abroad featuring pirates, espionage, and the group of mysterious travelers caught up with her: the wife of a British diplomat, and a spy; a woman on the run after murdering her husband; a French mercenary; a sailor with a dark past; and a British ship captain and his Congolese first mate. Amidst the chaos of the turn of the century, Ava might just discover that the creatures under the microscope contain world-shattering power.

### About the Author

Carrie Vaughn is the author of more than twenty novels and over a hundred short stories, two of which have been finalists for the Hugo Award. She's best known for her *New York Times* bestselling series of novels about a werewolf named Kitty, who hosts a talk radio advice show for the supernaturally disadvantaged.

In 2018, Vaughn won the Philip K. Dick Award for the postapocalyptic murder mystery *Bannerless*. Vaughn survived her nomadic childhood as an air force brat and managed to put down roots in Boulder, Colorado, where she currently collects hobbies.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662530500

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Naturalist Society*

# The Violence of Sound

## The Invisible College Series Book 2

JEFF WHEELER

APRIL 15, 2025

**A husband and wife brought together by magic strive to stop a war of the worlds in an epic adventure of hope, sorcery, and secrets by *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Jeff Wheeler.**

What humankind feared the most has come to pass: the Awakening of the Aesir, an ancient race who rose with an implacable vengeance to wage war on mortals through bombardments and plague. Two people gifted with magic and ingenuity strive to stop them.

Professor Robinson Hawksley, an elocutionist in the Invisible College, prepares to exhibit his invention to the world. Using sound to defeat the enemy could change the course of the war. It's invaluable to the military. Even more so to a conniving rival who'll do anything to prove its patent as her own. An extraordinary obstacle could stand in the way: Robinson's new wife, McKenna, robbed of her hearing by an Aesir scourge, is otherwise blessed with mysterious powers she's only beginning to comprehend. She's also harboring a secret that could get her killed.

As a very human war escalates inside the Invisible College, a supernatural one with the Aesir rages outside. But are love and sorcery enough for Robinson and McKenna to conquer both?

### About the Author

Jeff Wheeler is the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of more than forty epic novels, including the Invisible College series, the Kingfountain series, and many more. Jeff lives in the Rocky Mountains and is a husband, father of five, and devout member of his church.

Learn about Jeff's publishing journey in *Your First Million Words*, visit his many worlds at [www.jeff-wheeler.com](http://www.jeff-wheeler.com), or participate in one of his many online writing classes through Writer's Block ([www.writersblock.biz](http://www.writersblock.biz)).

### Praise for Jeff Wheeler

"Wheeler's series starter presents a sound-focused magic that provides a good foundation for the world he has populated with believable characters, with a plot that keeps the suspense high." —*Booklist*



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Epic Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	443
ISBN-13	9781662521898

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Invisible College*  
*Doomsday Match*  
*The Druid*

# Nonfiction

amazon publishing



# A Way Home: A Memoir of Losing Yourself, and the Beauty of Returning

CINELLE BARNES

OCTOBER 14, 2025

**A heart wrenching and inspirational memoir in which author Cinelle Barnes uses an unfinished manuscript to connect to herself after a devastating brain injury.**

Cinelle Barnes returns home from her first trip back to the Philippines since emigrating as a child. Tragically, she suffers a brain aneurysm that erases her sense of self and her connection to her family and past.

Faced with building all this back and learning to cope with a major brain injury, she revisits a manuscript she had been working on before the injury.

This new Cinelle finds herself within the pages. She finds her home country and her new one, her husband and her daughter, and the ways she lived in the world before all that she built was erased.

## About the Author

Cinelle Barnes is an essayist, memoirist, educator, and candlemaker with a BA in media studies in journalism from Hunter College and a master of fine arts in creative writing from Converse College. Books have been the one constant in her life—through her tumultuous childhood in the Philippines, her years living as an undocumented immigrant in New York City, her time as a new bride living in the American South, and as she completed her MFA program and began writing about her secrets.

She lives between two states with her husband and daughter: New York, where she is always inspired to write, and South Carolina, where she can be close to the ocean. Find her online at [www.cinellebarnes.com](http://www.cinellebarnes.com), and follow her on Instagram @cinellebarnesbooks.

## Praise for Cinelle Barnes

“Reminiscent of both Jeanette Walls’s memoir, *The Glass Castle* (2005), and Sandra Cisneros’s seminal novel *The House on Mango Street* (1984), this is a story of a tragic childhood told in a remarkably uplifting voice. Barnes imbues scenes from her interrupted childhood with an artistic touch that reads like literary fiction. Luminescent and shattering, Barnes’s first book is a triumph: a conquering of the past through the power of the written word.” —**Booklist (starred review)**



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Memoir
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662510625

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Malaya*  
*Monsoon Mansion*

# Trial By Ambush:

## Murder, Injustice, and the Truth about the Case of Barbara Graham

MARCIA CLARK

DECEMBER 1, 2024

**In this dramatic true account about the power of sensationalized crime, one woman's case is exposed for its sexism, flagrant disregard for the truth, and, ultimately, the dangers posed by an unbridled prosecution.**

Unwanted and neglected from birth, Barbara Graham had to overcome the odds just to survive. Her beauty was both a blessing and a curse—offering her too many options of all the wrong kind. Her innate sensitivity left her vulnerable to the harsh realities of the street, where she was left to fend for herself before she reached double digits. Her record of petty crimes spoke to a life that constantly teetered on the brink of disaster.

But in 1953, a catastrophic twist of fate would catapult her out of obscurity and into the headlines. When a robbery spiraled out of control and escalated into a brutal murder, Barbara became the centerpiece of a media circus. Her beauty enraptured the press, and they were quick to portray her as a villainous femme fatale despite abundant evidence to the contrary—a fiction the prosecution eagerly promoted.

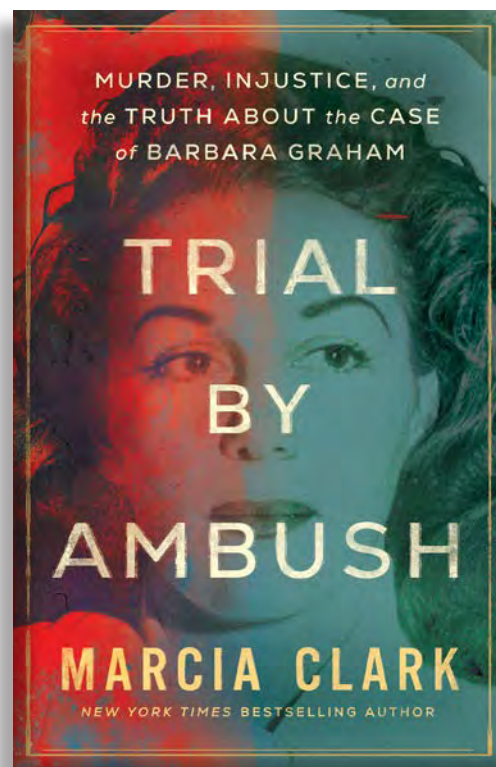
The frenzy of public interest and willful distortion paved a treacherous path for Barbara Graham. In *Trial by Ambush*, author and criminal lawyer Marcia Clark investigates the case exposing the fallacies in the demonizing picture they painted and the critical evidence that was never revealed.

### About the Author

California native Marcia Clark is the author of *Final Judgment*, *Snap Judgment*, *Moral Defense*, and *Blood Defense*, all part of the Samantha Brinkman series. A practicing criminal lawyer since 1979, Clark joined the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office in 1981, where she served as prosecutor for the trials of Robert John Bardo, convicted of killing actress Rebecca Schaeffer, and, most notably, O. J. Simpson.

The bestselling *Without a Doubt*, which she cowrote, chronicles her work on the Simpson trial. Clark has been a frequent commentator on a variety of shows and networks, including *Today*, *Good Morning America*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, CNN, and MSNBC, as well as a legal correspondent for *Entertainment Tonight*.

Follow Marcia on X at @thatmarciaclark.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Narrative Nonfiction
PAGE COUNT	272
ISBN-13	9781662515958

first reads

### Rights Available

All Languages

# The Boy from Tiger Bay: A True Story of Murder, Betrayal, and a Fight for Justice

CERI JACKSON

MAY 1, 2025

**A brutal murder. A blighted investigation. The true story of five men damned by a crime they didn't commit.**

On Valentine's Day 1988, twenty-year-old Lynette White was brutally murdered in a dark corner of Cardiff's world-famous, and infamous, Tiger Bay. Stigmatised by a bad reputation, the area was on the brink of major redevelopment which would change the historic community forever.

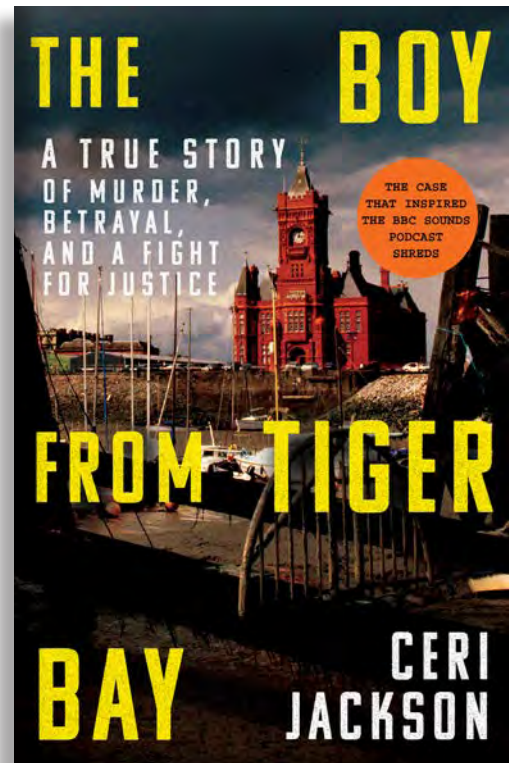
South Wales Police launched its biggest murder hunt to date, and within weeks detectives released a photo of a prime suspect seen outside the murder scene, his hands covered in blood. A white man. But as the months passed by and no arrest was made, the police came under inevitable pressure.

Everyone knew John Actie. But he didn't know Lynette White. Yet, almost a year after her death, he and four other innocent men were charged with killing her. None matched the description, and none were white. But they became the scapegoats in what some saw as a desperate attempt to close the case.

Told predominantly through John Actie's eyes, *The Boy from Tiger Bay* is an explosive true-crime narrative that exposes one of the UK's most infamous murder investigations—a story of racial injustice and the enduring fight to bring the truth to light.

## About the Author

Ceri Jackson is a journalist, born and raised in Cardiff, Wales.



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Crime
PAGE COUNT	336
ISBN-13	9781662510489

first reads

Rights Available

All Languages

# The Pursued

COREY MEAD

NOVEMBER 4, 2025

**A true crime thriller and mystery in based on the author's viral article in which a case of stalking turns into a chilling tale of madness.**

*When a killer writes in verse, every line could be your last.*

1997: Wichita, Kansas. As the notorious BTK Killer terrorizes the community, Ruth Finley—wife, mother, ordinary suburban woman—receives her first poetic note from “The Poet.” What follows is a four-year campaign of escalating horror: stalking, harassment, attempted murder, and kidnapping, all punctuated by disturbing verses sent to both Ruth and the local media.

As The Poet's actions grow increasingly violent and his rhymes more unhinged, the Wichita police launch a massive manhunt, interviewing hundreds of suspects in a desperate race to stop this methodical madman before his dark verses reach their final stanza.

## About the Author

Corey Mead is the author of three previous nonfiction books: *The Lost Pilots: The Spectacular Rise and Scandalous Fall of Aviation's Golden Couple* (Flatiron, 2018); *Angelic Music: The Curious Story of Benjamin Franklin's Favorite Invention* (Simon & Schuster, 2016); and *War Play: Video Games and the Future of Armed Conflict* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013). These books have received coverage and praise in such publications as *The Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Slate*, *Foreign Policy*, *Wired*, *The Times of London*, *The Daily Express*, *The Mirror*, *The Sunday Express*, and *The Daily Telegraph*.

Mead has also made numerous radio, television, and documentary appearances in the U.S. and worldwide (with NPR being a particular specialty), and delivered dozens of invited lectures and presentations around the country. He is an Associate Professor of English at Baruch College, City University of New York, where he teaches a wide range of nonfiction writing courses.

## Praise for Corey Mead

“Enchanting . . . With spirited charm, Mead weaves history, music, science and medicine into the story. . . . Fascinating, insightful and, best of all, great fun.” —*The Washington Post*

“Mead's approach is straightforward and no-nonsense. Readers will learn something they didn't realize it was important to know.” —*Kirkus Reviews*



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Narrative Nonfiction
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662527821

## Rights Available

All Languages



# Out of the Woods:

## A Girl, a Killer, and a Lifelong Struggle to Find the Way Home

GREGG OLSEN

AUGUST 5, 2025

**From a girl's abduction by a serial killer to the harrowing aftermath—a gripping and heart-wrenching true-crime story by Gregg Olsen, the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *If You Tell*.**

In May 2005, authorities discovered the Groene family murdered in their Idaho home. The family's youngest members—eight-year-old Shasta and her brother, nine-year-old Dylan—were nowhere to be found.

As a community prayed for their return, Shasta and Dylan were already miles away in the woods of Montana at the hands of serial killer Joseph Edward Duncan. After a harrowing forty-eight day ordeal, Shasta was rescued. In many ways, her survival story was only beginning.

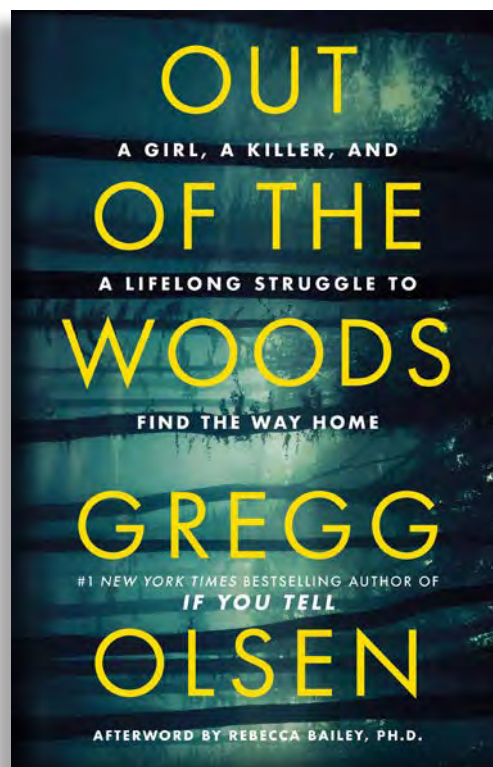
In the following years, while Shasta struggled to outrun her trauma, a pattern of self-destructive behavior shadowed her like an ever-worsening thunderstorm. She still had hope buried deep inside. Every bit as much as the little girl who had been held captive in the woods. This would be an all-new battle for Shasta. And she was determined not to lose.

*Out of the Woods* is the haunting and intimate true-crime story of one of the most notorious criminal cases in American history—and a young woman's journey to reclaim her life in its wake.

### About the Author

Gregg Olsen is the #1 *New York Times* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of more than thirty books, including *If You Tell*, *The Amish Wife*, *I Know Where You Live*, *The Hive*, *Lying Next to Me*, and *The Last Thing She Ever Did*; five novels in the Detective Megan Carpenter series; and *The Sound of Rain* and *The Weight of Silence* in the Nicole Foster series. He has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *Dateline*, *Entertainment Tonight*, CNN, and MSNBC, and has been featured in *Redbook*, *People*, and *Salon*, as well as in the *Seattle Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *New York Post*.

His work has received critical acclaim, numerous awards, and prominence on the *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *New York Times* bestseller lists. Washington State officially selected his young adult novel *Envy* for the National Book Festival, and *The Deep Dark* was named Idaho Book of the Year. Born in Seattle, Olsen lives with his wife in rural Washington State and is already at work on his next book.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Narrative Nonfiction
PAGE COUNT	322
ISBN-13	9781662522420

### Rights Available

All Languages

### Other Titles by the Author

*The Amish Wife*  
*The Hive*  
*If You Tell*

# Give Her Credit:

## The Untold Account of a Women's Bank That Empowered a Generation

GRACE L. WILLIAMS

JANUARY 1, 2025

**The galvanizing true story of a group of remarkable women in the 1970s male-run world of business, banking, and finance. They didn't play by the rules. They changed them and made history.**

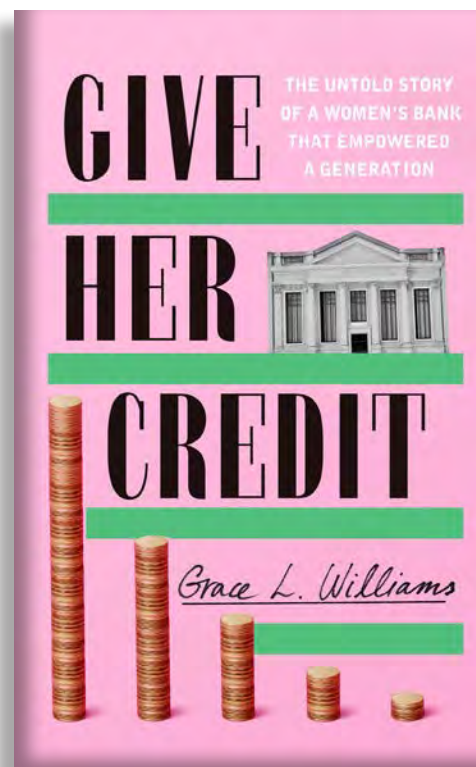
In the 1970s, a new wave of feminism was sweeping America. But in the boys' club of banking and finance, women were still infantilized—no credit without a male cosigner, and their income was dismissed as unreliable. If bankers weren't going to accommodate women, then women had to take control of their own futures. In 1978 in Denver, Colorado, the opening of the Women's Bank changed everything.

It was helmed by bank officer B. LaRae Orullian and the brainchild of whip-smart entrepreneur Carol Green, who forged a groundbreaking path with their headstrong colleagues, among them: Judi Foster, investment research whiz; Edna Mosley, unyielding civil rights advocate with the NAACP; Mary Roebing, renowned financial executive; Betty Freedman, a socialite and fundraiser; and Gail Schoettler, a formidable Denver mover and shaker for social justice. Coming together and facing their own unique road to revolution, they built the most successful female-run bank in the nation. It wasn't easy.

*Give Her Credit* follows the challenges, uphill battles, and achievements of some of the enterprising women of Denver who broke boundaries, inspired millions, and afforded opportunities for every marginalized citizen in the country. It's about time their untold story was told.

### About the Author

Grace L. Williams is a financial media professional, insider trading expert, and accidental feminism and economics scholar. Her writing has been featured in *Forbes*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Barron's*, *Harvard Business Review*, *Financial Advisor IQ*, and *RIA Intel*, among many others.



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Narrative Nonfiction
PAGE COUNT	220
ISBN-13	9781542025515

first reads

### Rights Available

All Languages

Nonfiction

# The Second Shot: A Green Beret's Last Mission

GENE YU

OCTOBER 1, 2024

**The riveting true story behind an unsanctioned rescue mission in the jungles of the Philippines, engineered by former Green Beret and unlikely American hero Gene Yu.**

Evelyn Chang and her husband were vacationing in the Philippines when they were ambushed by terrorists. Evelyn's husband was killed. She was kidnapped and disappeared into the lawless netherworld of the Sulu Archipelago. There was no hope of a rescue.

Former Green Beret Gene Yu was five years out of the military, unemployed, and struggling with his transition back to the real world when Evelyn's family asked for help. His improbable mission: infiltrate one of the most dangerous corners of the world and get her back. Alone.

Mindful of "every young Asian kid in America struggling to fit into a dominant white culture," Gene's harrowing, self-deprecating, and provocative memoir is really the story of two rescues. One, a personal liberation and the discovery of self-identity beyond both literal and figurative battlefields. The other is set amid the excruciating ordeals of a jungle war zone, where an Asian American man, once self-described as "nobody squared," defied all stereotypes and expectations to become a woman's last hope of survival.

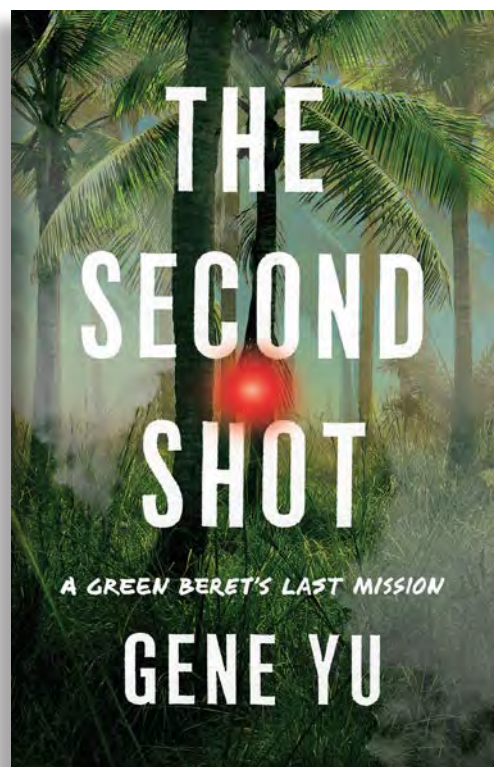
## About the Author

Gene Yu was born in Concord, Massachusetts, in 1979, and entered the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1997, where he majored in computer science and graduated top of his class. Gene served in Korea and Japan as a US Army Armor and Special Forces officer. He deployed for four combat tours in Iraq and the southern Philippines, and is a recipient of two Bronze Star Medals and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

In 2015, Gene founded Blackpanda Group, a cybersecurity insurance and emergency response services company headquartered in Singapore, and currently serves as the CEO. Gene is also an alumnus of Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and Stanford Graduate School of Business.

## Praise for Gene Yu

"Inspiring, provocative reading." —*Kirkus Reviews*



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Memoir
PAGE COUNT	231
ISBN-13	9781662510540

first reads

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Young Adult



# Remember Me Tomorrow

FARAH HERON

OCTOBER 1, 2024

**A missing student. A singular investigation. A new romance. Every bit of it is a mystery in a delightful novel of cosmic twists by the author of *How to Win a Breakup*.**

East House is the oldest and least desirable dorm on campus, but it has a draw for lonely university freshman Aleeza Kassam: Jay Hoque, the hot and broody student who vanished from East House five months ago without a trace. It's irresistible to an aspiring investigative journalist like Aleeza.

But when she starts receiving texts from Jay, the mystery takes an unexpected turn. To put it mildly. His messages are coming not only from Aleeza's own dorm room but from the *past*—only weeks before he disappeared. Sharing space, if not time, Aleeza and Jay are living the impossible, and they start working together to prevent his inevitable disappearance. Causing a temporal paradox that could blow up the universe is a risk they're going to have to take.

Aleeza digs through Jay's suspicious friends, enemies, and exes, determined to find out what happened to him. Or what *will* happen to him. But it's becoming more than a mystery. Aleeza is catching feelings for her charming new roommate. Wherever, and whenever, he may be.

## About the Author

Farah Heron is the author of *How to Win a Breakup*, *Tahira in Bloom*, *Accidentally Engaged*, and *Jana Goes Wild*. After a childhood filled with Bollywood, Monty Python, and Jane Austen, Farah Heron constantly wove uplifting happily ever afters in her head while pursuing careers in human resources and psychology. She started writing her stories down a few years ago and is thrilled to see her daydreams become books.

Her romantic comedies for adults and teens are full of huge South Asian families, delectable food, and most importantly, Brown people falling stupidly in love. Farah lives in Toronto with her husband and two kids, plus two cats who rule the house. For more information, visit [www.farahheron.com](http://www.farahheron.com).

## Praise for *Remember Me Tomorrow*

"Heron makes this heady conceit work through even pacing, expertly deployed clues, and a genuine depth of feeling between her main characters as they self-reflect and fall in love. It's an impressive mix of excitement and emotion." — ***Publishers Weekly***



IMPRINT	Skyscape
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GENRE	Romantic Suspense
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PAGE COUNT	300
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ISBN-13	9781662520518
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first reads  
amazon

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

Hungarian

## Other Titles by the Author

*How to Win a Breakup*  
*Tahira in Bloom*

# Something Like Fate

AMY LEA

MARCH 1, 2025

**During a summer in Italy, two best friends discover whether true love is up to destiny or free will in this winning romantic comedy by the international bestselling author of *Woke Up Like This*.**

For generations, the fortune-telling women in Lo Zhao-Jensen's family have foreseen The One—the great loves of their lives—before ever meeting them. Except for Lo, who has zero psychic abilities. Just memories of old rom-coms and a lot of poor judgment when it comes to love.

Until now.

When Lo finally has the vision she's been waiting for, her delighted aunties are convinced she'll meet The One on her backpacking trip in Italy. Vero amore, here she comes.

Along for the summer is Lo's best friend and confidant, Teller Owens, her opposite in every way. Upon arrival in Venice, Lo is saved from a runaway trolley by Caleb, a fellow backpacker. It's a meet-cute so swoony, it has to be fate. But with each destination, Lo's complicated feelings for Teller are becoming harder to ignore. From the cobblestone streets of Rome to the rocky cliffs of Amalfi, Lo begins to wonder if fate has other plans.

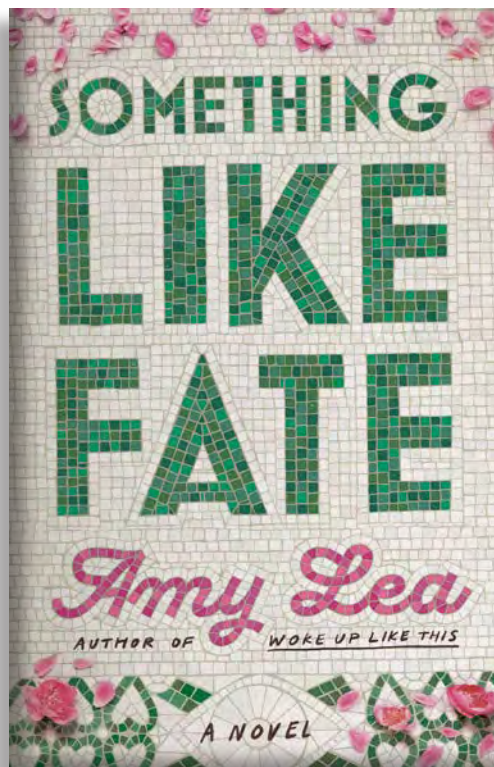
## About the Author

Amy Lea is the international bestselling author of romantic comedies for adults and teens, including *Woke Up Like This*, a Mindy Kaling's Book Studio selection; *The Catch*; *Exes & O's*; and *Set on You*. They have been optioned for film and sold to over a dozen foreign territories. Amy's writing has also been featured in *USA Today*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *Cosmopolitan*, among others. For more information, visit [www.amyleabooks.com](http://www.amyleabooks.com).

## Praise for Amy Lea

"Lea has a sure hand with the slow-burning enemies-to-lovers relationship between her leads, making their path toward each other both entertaining and endearing. Romance fans will eat this up." —***Publishers Weekly***

"A fun, easily sharable, widely appealing romance that will have a big audience..." —***Booklist***



Young Adult

IMPRINT	Skyscape
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	352
ISBN-13	9781662517600

first reads  


## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Woke Up Like This*

# What Happened to Lucy Vale

LAUREN OLIVER

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

**Twin mysteries, years apart, connect two mothers and their daughters in a gripping novel of psychological suspense by *New York Times* bestselling author Lauren Oliver.**

Who in their right mind would move into the Faraday House, with its grim history and a generation spent rotting and untended? Rachel Vale and her daughter, Lucy.

They've arrived unexpectedly, yet with peculiar purpose, to Woodward, Indiana, to rent the most infamous house in town. Here, sixteen years ago, Nina Faraday vanished without a trace and her mother was found hanging from an apple tree in the front yard. It was the stuff of ghoulish fascination and dark imaginings. Old rumors are stirred up all over again by an online community of teenagers now fixated on Lucy, the new girl in school...especially when Lucy's shattering romance with the swim team star becomes another small-town obsession.

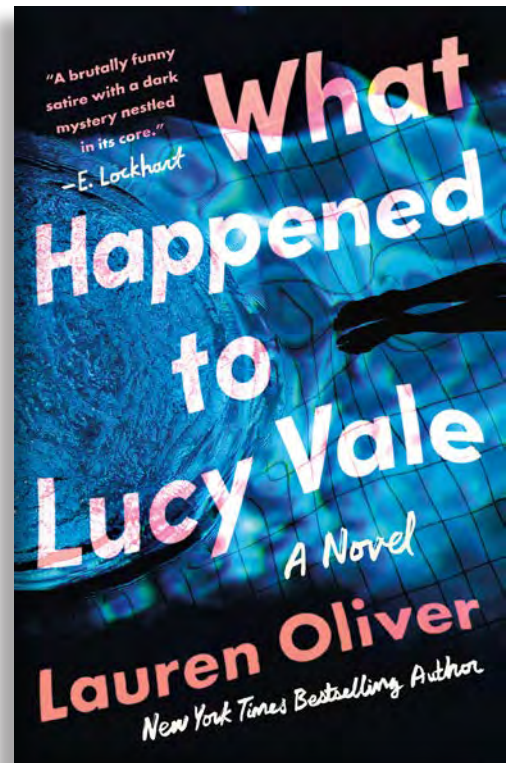
This time the kids in Woodward will be asking: What happened to Lucy Vale?

Parallel mysteries soon converge—about two teenage girls, nearly two decades apart, both consumed by the stories and suspicions of others. Only a mother can bring the truth to devastating light.

## About the Author

Lauren Oliver is the *New York Times* bestselling author of several novels, including the Replica duology, *Vanishing Girls*, the Delirium trilogy, *Rooms*, *Before I Fall*, and *Panic*, which was adapted into a hit series from Amazon. She is the E. B. White Read Aloud Award nominee for her middle-grade novel *Liesl & Po*, as well as author of the middle-grade fantasy novel *The Spindlers* and the Curiosity House series, cowritten with H.C. Chester.

Lauren is also the founder of the media and IP development company StoryGiants. For more information, visit [www.laurenoliverbooks.com](http://www.laurenoliverbooks.com).



IMPRINT	Skyscape
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	443
ISBN-13	9781662529009

## Rights Available

All Languages, excluding English

## Other Titles by the Author

*Panic*  
*Delirium*  
*Before I Fall*



# Dead Girls Don't Talk

SANDRA J. PAUL

JULY 29, 2025

**Two girls. One dead. One disappeared. Whose side of the story will you read first? Which one is the truth? Choose for yourself in a twisty and ingenious novel of psychological suspense.**

How could things have gone so wrong between Syl Jameson and Viola Harrison?

Syl and Viola are like sisters growing up in the small, stifling town of Love Hill. Though they are as different as light and dark, they connect. For Syl it's more. Viola's family is a warm refuge away from the unaffectionate place Syl calls home. But the really is, Syl can get a little needy and jealous. Viola can get a little toxic. And, like everyone in Love Hill, they have secrets. Eventually their friendship is bound to snap.

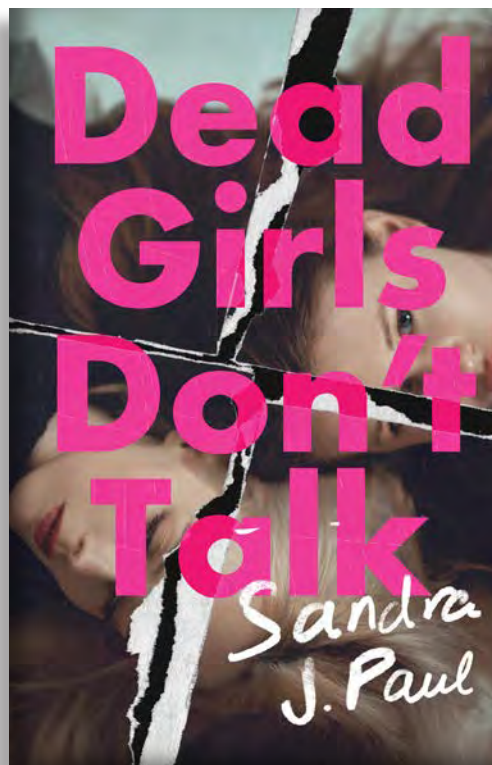
Then one night, it comes to a crashing end. Syl is found dead behind the wheel of Viola's car, and Viola is nowhere to be found. Lucky for Viola, dead girls don't talk. Or do they?

In this enthralling dual narrative, there are two sides to the story. Which girl's version to read first is up to you. Whatever the choice, the truth will reveal itself in the end. The twist is in getting there.

## About the Author

Sandra J. Paul is a Belgian author of a number of psychological thrillers for both adults and young adults, including *The Last Days of Holly Hayes* and *Dead Girls Don't Talk*, which was a TikTok sensation with more than two million views.

Paul is the recipient of the Aspe Award for crime fiction among several other awards. Her work has been translated into multiple languages and sold internationally in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Spain, and Italy, among others. Paul also writes under her pseudonym, Joanne Carlton.



Young Adult

IMPRINT	Skyscape
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
PAGE COUNT	TDB
ISBN-13	9781662531897

## Rights Available

All Languages, excluding Dutch, German, Portuguese



# The Letters We Keep

NISHA SHARMA

MAY 1, 2024

**Two students—worlds apart—unite to solve the mystery of a legendary decades-old love story gone tragically wrong in a captivating romance by the award-winning author of *The Karma Map* and *Dating Dr. Dil*.**

It doesn't take long for ambitious freshman and aspiring engineer Jessie Ahuja to learn about two university legends. One is the haunted history of Davidson Tower, where more than fifty years ago, two ill-fated lovers disappeared in a devastating fire. The other is Ravi Kumar, a privileged billionaire nepo baby who's aggravatingly charming and occupying more brain space than Jessie has room for. Things change when a campus prank locks them both in the old tower's ghostly library.

There, Jessie finds letters from the fabled lost lovers, forgotten in a hollowed-out copy of *Persuasion*. One by one, the letters suck Jessie and Ravi into a beguiling mystery and an achingly beautiful long-ago romance destined to go up in flames. It's also drawing Jessie and Ravi—every bit as star-crossed—closer together. Can they overcome whatever fate has in store for them? Or are they just as doomed as the young lovers whose tragic end has become legend?

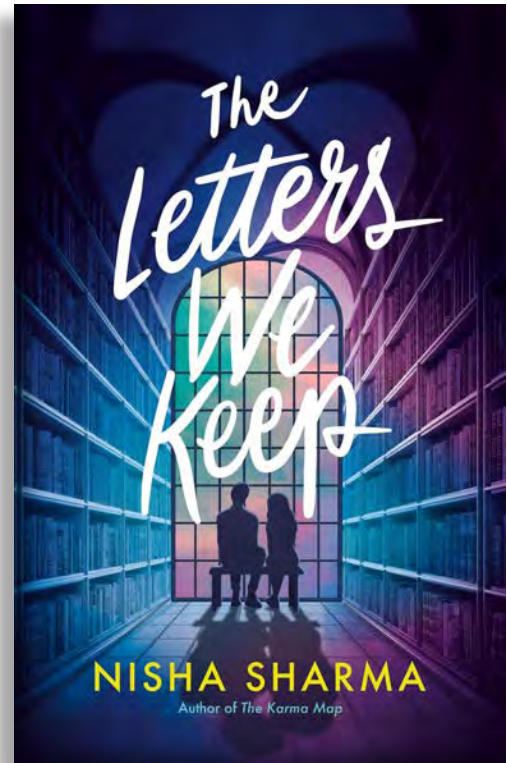
## About the Author

Nisha Sharma is the award-winning author of *The Karma Map*, *Dating Dr. Dil*, and other adult contemporary and YA romances. Her books have appeared in best-of lists by the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, NPR, *Cosmopolitan*, *Teen Vogue*, BuzzFeed, and more. Nisha lives in Pennsylvania with her Alaskan husband; her cat, Lizzie Bennett; and her dogs, Nancey Drew and Madeline. For more information, visit [www.nisha-sharma.com](http://www.nisha-sharma.com).

## Praise for Nisha Sharma

"This pleasant romance underscores the challenges of immigration, both historically and currently. The pressures of South Asian parents and their aspirations and the contrasting hopes of their children are beautifully developed, alongside the mixing of different languages in the narrative... An easy, effortlessly enjoyable read." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"An original, fascinating and fun read from start to finish... a deftly written and unreservedly recommended reading..." —*Midwest Book Review*



IMPRINT	Skyscape
GENRE	Contemporary
PAGE COUNT	254
ISBN-13	9781662500749

first reads  
amazon

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Karma Map*

# Children's Picture Books

# Annabelle and the Spaghetti-Confetti Surprise

JENNA BEATRICE

ILLUSTRATED BY ANNABEL TEMPEST

MARCH 18, 2025

**Meet Annabelle, a pint-sized party planner with big ideas!**

Annabelle, party planner extraordinaire, is working hard on her biggest project yet: the neighborhood block party! With every detail checked—and rechecked—Annabelle’s party is ready to impress even the grouchiest of guests.

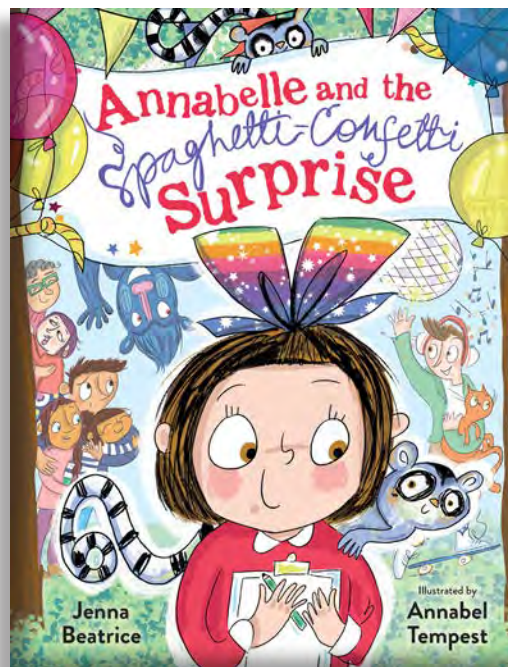
Except for one thing: to pull off her fabulous grand-finale surprise, Annabelle will need some help from her brother, Anthony. But when Anthony’s big headphones get in the way of Annabelle’s important instructions, it’s total chaos!

Is Annabelle’s perfect party ruined? Or is it TONS OF FUN? Find out in this delightful and hilarious story of misheard words and animal mayhem.

## About the Contributors

**Jenna Beatrice** is a mother, author, lawyer, party planner, clipboard-user, and cookie-baker. Her debut picture book, *The Loud Librarian*, illustrated by Erika Lynne Jones, was called a “storytime favorite” by the *Horn Book* and voted by students across the US for the Children’s Book Council’s 2024 Favorites Award. Jenna is a graduate of Barnard College and Fordham University School of Law. She lives in New Jersey, where she eats lots of spaghetti with her husband and their two young sons. Learn more at [www.jennabeatrice.com](http://www.jennabeatrice.com) and follow her on X @jbeatricebooks.

**Annabel Tempest** is the illustrator of numerous picture books and board books, including *Sadie Sprocket Builds a Rocket*, written by Sue Fliess, which was a finalist for the South Carolina Book Award and a Golden Duck Science Fiction Notable Picture Book. She holds a degree in fashion and textiles and has worked as a freelance illustrator on everything from maps and packaging to greeting cards and children’s books. She lives in the Somerset countryside in the UK with her husband and a houseful of muddy boys and dogs. Learn more about Annabel at [www.annabeltempest.com](http://www.annabeltempest.com) and follow her Instagram @annabel.tempest.



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Picture Book Fiction
PAGE COUNT	32
ISBN-13	9781662518867

## Rights Available

All Languages

# Camp Grandma and Grandpa

GINA BELLISARIO

ILLUSTRATED BY CHLOE BURGETT

MAY 13, 2025

**In this entertaining adventure, Grandma and Grandpa are the best camp counselors in the world.**

When Leo and Tessa stay overnight with their grandparents, it's anything but the typical visit. This time, all of their activities have a camp theme—from a s'mores surprise on the balcony to bathtub fishing. But when they try to sleep in their bedroom tent, they hear a strange noise. Could it be an animal...or maybe it's just Grandpa snoring?

Grandparents and grandkids alike will love this playful, warm-hearted story.

## About the Contributors

**Gina Bellisario** is the author of many books for children, including *Give Back*, illustrated by Alicia Más, and the Ellie Ultra chapter book series. She lives with her family in Illinois. For more information, visit [www.ginabellisario.com](http://www.ginabellisario.com).

**Chloe Burgett** is a children's book illustrator who lived next door to her grandparents growing up. Her titles include the Etta Extraordinaire series, written by Roda Ahmed and Charnaie Gordon, and *Cooler than Lemonade*, written by Harshita Jerath. Chloe and her partner live in the Great Plains with a cat named Pencil and a yard of native prairie grasses and flowers. Learn more at [www.chloebartistry.com](http://www.chloebartistry.com).



Children's

IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Picture Book Fiction
PAGE COUNT	40
ISBN-13	9781662521652

## Rights Available

All Languages



# Silly Boobies

AME DYCKMAN

ILLUSTRATED BY CHRISTOPHER WEYANT

AUGUST 1, 2024

Children's

From a *New York Times* bestselling author and a Theodor Seuss Geisel Award–winning illustrator, a playful story about finding common ground when you least expect it.

Blue-footed boobies live on one rock. Red-footed boobies live on another. Blues and Reds keep apart...until one day a pair runs into each other and falls in love. Their families don't approve. Silly boobies! But when something wonderful happens, can everyone finally agree?

## About the Contributors

**Ame Dyckman** is the award-winning author of the *New York Times* bestselling *Wolfe the Bunny*, as well as *Campingland*, *You Don't Want a Unicorn!*, *How Dinosaurs Went Extinct: A Safety Guide*, *Don't Blow Your Top!*, the *Misunderstood Shark* series, and many other books for children. Ame lives in central New Jersey with her husband, daughter, and a yard full of silly birds. (But no boobies...yet.) Learn more at [www.amedyckman.com](http://www.amedyckman.com).

**Christopher Weyant** is the illustrator of Theodor Seuss Geisel Award winner *You Are (Not) Small* and five more books in that series, as well as *Marker*, *Hudson and Tallulah Take Sides*, and Christopher Award winner *Eraser*. Christopher's work can also be seen in the *New Yorker* and the *Boston Globe*, and his cartoons are syndicated worldwide. He lives in New Jersey with his family. Learn more at [www.christopherweyant.com](http://www.christopherweyant.com).

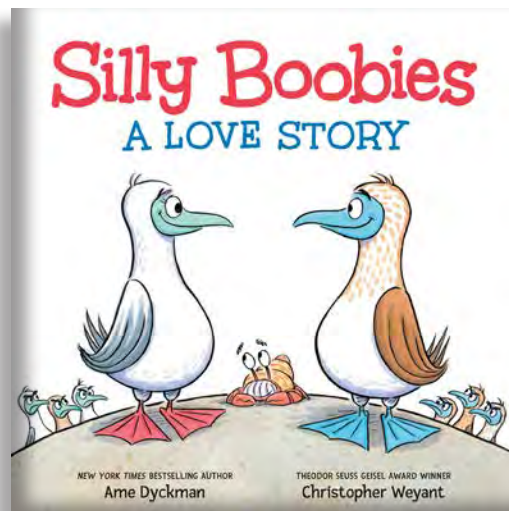
## Praise for *Silly Boobies*

"[A] solid, enjoyable tale about overcoming fear and accepting and celebrating differences, with the likable, goofy boobies making for a fun addition." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"True love prevails and unites in this booby-centered telling, which hints that one needn't be a grown-up to savor the pleasures of a well-told rom-com." —**Publishers Weekly**

"Weyant's cartoonish boobies are weirdly alluring with their large eyes and goofy expressions, while Dyckman uses her trademark humor to make a solid point about finding common ground. Booby back matter adds a nice informative touch. Cue the storytime chaos!" —**Booklist**

"An original and fun picturebook story...*Silly Boobies: A Love Story* from Two Lions is an especially and unreservedly recommended pick..." —**Midwest Book Review**



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Picture Book Fiction
PAGE COUNT	48
ISBN-13	9781662504129

first reads  
amazon

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

Italian and Hebrew

## Other Titles by the Author

*Campingland*

# Goats Afloat

LEZLIE EVANS

ILLUSTRATED BY JULIA PATTON

JUNE 1, 2025

## A boat full of goats!

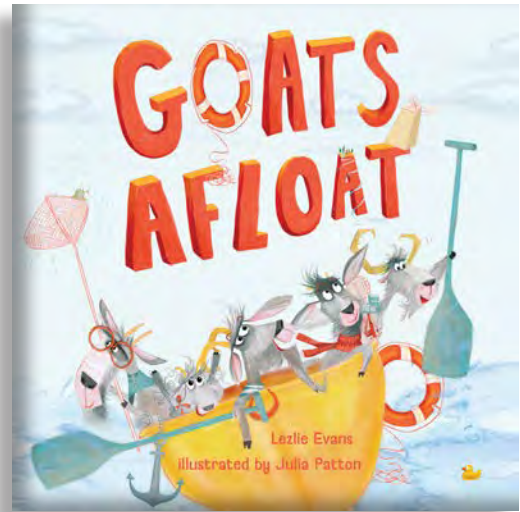
It's Granny Goat's birthday, so five of her grandkids pile into a boat and set afloat with a cake! After all, they can't risk running into the bridge troll on land!

But when things go awry, these adventurous goats must learn to go with the flow and come up with a new plan. Will the goats make it to Granny's house in time to celebrate? Find out in this rollicking, rhyming story that's sure to leave the littles in giggles!

## About the Contributors

**Lezlie Evans** is the award-winning author of numerous picture books. Her recent books include *Vroom, Vroom, Beep-Beep!* and *I'm a Feel-o-saur*, both illustrated by Kate Chappell. She is a member of the Washington, DC, Children's Book Guild, a mother of six, and a grandmother of eleven. Goats and kids are two of Lezlie's favorite things, but she also loves to act on the stage, play pickleball, and sing as she wanders the hillside near her mountain home. Learn more at [www.lezlieevans.com](http://www.lezlieevans.com).

**Julia Patton** is an award-winning author, illustrator, and designer who has created over sixty picture books internationally. She lives and works in a rustic woodshed in rural Northumberland, United Kingdom. When not writing and illustrating, Julia loves wild camping, rugby, and building tree houses. Learn more about the illustrator at [www.juliapatton.co.uk](http://www.juliapatton.co.uk) and follow her on Instagram @julspatton.



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Picture Book Fiction
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ISBN-13	9781662520259

## Rights Available

All Languages

# When Rosie Walks George

AMY HEST

ILLUSTRATED BY TAE EUN YOO

MAY 21, 2024

Children's

From a *New York Times* bestselling author and a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book honoree, a heartfelt story about taking time to enjoy those you're with and the world around you.

George is an old dog, and he doesn't run fast anymore. But he still needs a walk, and each day, Mother, Dad, and the big kids take turns. Rosie, the little one, trails behind. George doesn't hurry. And he always, always keeps an eye on Rosie.

Imbued with warmth, this lovely oceanside tale from *New York Times* bestselling author Amy Hest and two-time *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book honoree Tae Eun Yoo celebrates the idea of quiet, unhurried moments with loved ones and the beautiful connection between young and old.

## About the Contributors

**Amy Hest** has written many acclaimed children's books, including the *New York Times* bestseller *Kiss Good Night*, illustrated by Anita Jeram; *The Reader*, illustrated by Lauren Castillo; and *Sometimes It's Nice to Be Alone*, illustrated by Philip Stead. A three-time winner of the prestigious Christopher Award and a winner of the *Boston Globe*–Horn Book Award, she lives in New York City. Learn more at [www.amyhest.com](http://www.amyhest.com).

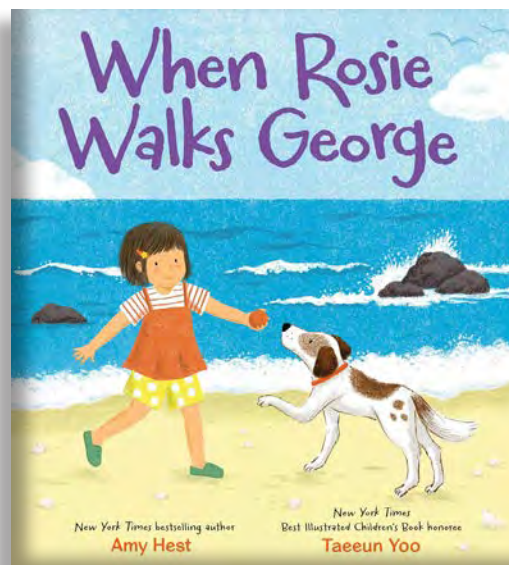
**Tae Eun Yoo** has twice received the prestigious *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children's Book Award and is the recipient of the Ezra Jack Keats Award. She wrote and illustrated *Love Makes a Garden Grow* and has illustrated many books, including *Strictly No Elephants* by Lisa Mantchev, *Kitten and the Night Watchman* by John Sullivan, and *Round* by Joyce Sidman. She lives in South Korea with her family. Visit her at [www.taeunyoo.com](http://www.taeunyoo.com).

## Praise for the Book

"[A] treat...Hest's text is tender and supportive." —*The New York Times*

"In a series of moving spreads, it's George who sits vigil all night long at the water's edge when Rosie's ball washes out to sea, and George who returns it to her the next morning. In this tender day-to-day portrait about caretaking across every stage of life, the creators follow George as carefully and lovingly as he watches Rosie." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"Gentle and comforting." —*Kirkus Reviews*



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## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*The Reader*

# Awesome of the Day

ELLEN JAVERNICK

ILLUSTRATED BY BHAGYA MADANASINGHE

SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

**From the bestselling author of *What If Everybody Did That?* comes a story about looking for the AWESOME in every day.**

For Andrew, it seems like everything is going wrong. From trouble at school to skinned knees at the park, there are AWFUL things happening everywhere! But then his big sister gives him a challenge: instead of focusing on the bad things, try to find something AWESOME in every day.

At first, it seems like an impossible task. But slowly, the world begins to look a little different to Andrew, even when some things don't go as planned. Are you up for the challenge, too?

Join Andrew and his loving family as he searches for the AWESOME in every day.

## About the Contributors

**Ellen Javernick** is the author of more than twenty books for children, including *The Birthday Pet*, illustrated by Kevin O'Malley, and the Amazon bestselling *What If Everybody?* series, illustrated by Colleen Madden, which started with *What If Everybody Did That?* She has been an elementary school teacher for almost thirty years. She lives in Loveland, Colorado.

**Bhagya Madanasinghe** is an illustrator and architect originally from Sri Lanka, now residing in Canada with her husband and daughter. Her recent picture books include *Who Do You Want to Be When You Grow Up?*, written by Emmy Award-winning journalist Paula Faris; *Awe-samosas!*, written by Marzieh Abbas; and *My Teacher Has Tattoos*, written by Darren Lopez. Follow her creative journey on Instagram @moving\_doodles.



IMPRINT	Two Lions
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## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*What If Everybody? Series*



# Humpty's Great Fall

AMY MOORE

ILLUSTRATED BY JOSH CLELAND

AUGUST 5, 2025

Children's

## Humpty is ready for a great fall!

One crisp autumn day, Humpty Dumpty is relaxing on his wall, when he realizes he's forgotten to do something. But what could it be? As he makes his way around the neighborhood, Humpty finds his friends all enjoying the beautiful fall weather—and he starts to get some clues.

Can Humpty figure out what he's missing...before he falls off the wall? Join Humpty and his nursery rhyme pals as they discover the joys of the fall season.

## About the Contributors

**Amy Moore's** love of writing began when she wrote her first poem, "The World," in the first grade. She can still recite every word to this day. She is also the author of *The Bakers Dozen*, illustrated by Andrea Stegmaier. When not writing, she loves teaching children to dance, reading, and baking. Amy lives with her husband, two daughters, and many pets outside of Boston, where the leaves turn delightful colors in the fall. Follow her on Instagram @thedailybookmark.

**Josh Cleland** is an illustrator from just outside of Portland, Oregon, where he resides with his wife, Rayna, and creative director/dog, Newman. He is the illustrator of numerous children's books, including the *Woofmore* series, written by Donna Gephart and Lori Haskins Houran, and *The End*, written by John Bray. His work has also been featured in children's magazines, including *Highlights* and *Storytime*, as well as on greeting cards, websites, billboards, and more. Follow him on Instagram @joshcleland.



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Picture Book Fiction
PAGE COUNT	40
ISBN-13	9781662527968

## Rights Available

All Languages

# What Happened on Thursday?

AYO OYEKU

ILLUSTRATED BY LYDIA MBA

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

**A powerful story of family love amid the backdrop of war, as seen through the eyes of a child.**

The Nigerian Civil War began and ended on a Thursday, and for the family in this book, their lives are forever changed by that day.

Told from a child's perspective, this story follows one family on their journey as they lose their home, traverse a country under the siege of war, and finally settle in a camp for displaced persons. But through it all, the love of this child's family shines bright, helping to illuminate even the darkest paths. With poetic text by Nigerian author Ayo Oyeku and sensitive portraits by illustrator Lydia Mba, this story reveals the deep costs of war on our future generations and begs for a more peaceful world.

Information about the Nigerian Civil War, an Author's Note, and Discussion Questions are included.

## About the Contributors

**Ayo Oyeku** is an award-winning Nigerian author and a Fellow of Ebedi International Writers Residency. His first children's book, *First among Equals*, was selected by World Bank for distribution across libraries in Nigeria. His young adult novel *Tears of the Lonely* won the Ezenwa Ohaeto Award from the Society of Young Nigerian Writers. His poem *Reeds on the Rivers* was nominated for the Pushcart Prize. His works have also been shortlisted twice for the Golden Baobab Prize in the Early Chapters category. In 2019, he won the Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA) prize for Children's Literature for his chapter book *Mafoya and the Finish Line*. *What Happened on Thursday?* is his US debut. Follow him online @ayo\_oyeku.

**Lydia Mba** is an Afro-Spanish illustrator and storyteller. She loves working with colors and textures to create art that celebrates diversity and tells stories. She attended ESDIP Art School in Madrid, Spain, earning a degree in illustration. She has had titles published in the United States and abroad. Her recent works include the picture book *Dear Black Child*, written by Rahma Rodaah, for which her work was an American Illustration 42 Winner, and the forthcoming title, *Olu's Teacher: A Story About Starting Preschool*, written by Jamel C. Campbell. Learn more at [lydiamba.com](http://lydiamba.com) and follow her on Instagram @iamlydiamba.



IMPRINT	Amazon Crossing Kids
GENRE	Picture Book Fiction
PAGE COUNT	40
ISBN-13	9781662504020

## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

# Stemosaurus

ANDREW ROOT

ILLUSTRATED BY MARK CHAMBERS

JULY 22, 2025

**Meet Spike the Stemosaurus: he's curious, great with numbers, and about to save the day!**

Not everyone has heard of Spike, the Stemosaurus. Unlike the other dinosaurs, he's small, quiet, and rather weak. But Spike has boundless curiosity.

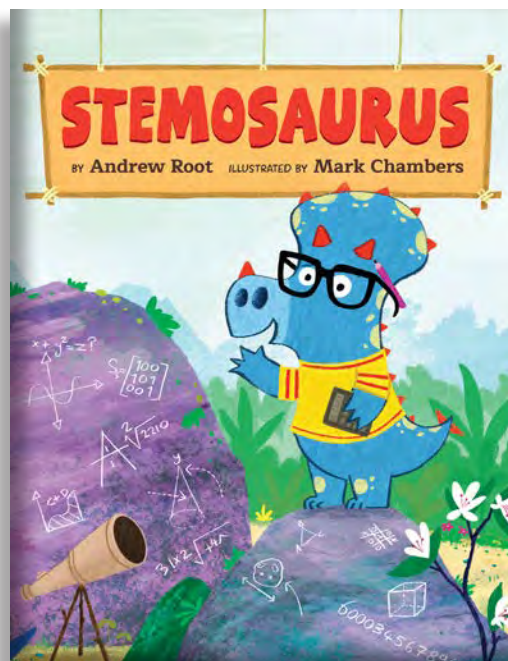
He loves math, making inventions, and discovering new things about the world around him. Which is why the other dinosaurs come to him when they discover something LARGE coming right at the earth. It's a giant meteor!

What's a STEM-loving dinosaur to do? Save his friends, that's what! Spike is about to come up with the invention of a lifetime...

## About the Contributors

**Andrew Root** is a children's book author from rainy Portland, Oregon. His picture books include *Nerdycorn*, illustrated by Erin Kraan, which received a 2022 Kids' Book Choice Award for Best Picture Book Dream Team, and *Hamsters Don't Fight Fires!*, illustrated by Jessica Olien. Andrew also works in the mental health field and holds a BA in psychology and an MS in mental health counseling. When not working, Andrew enjoys running absurd distances and playing soccer with his wife, two children, and dog. Oh, and he can juggle. Just not very well.

**Mark Chambers** is an award-winning author and illustrator of numerous children's books. His illustrated books include *Mrs. Claus Takes the Reins*, written by Sue Fliess, which *Kirkus Reviews* called an "exuberant adventure." In 2013, Mark won the Sheffield Children's Picture Book Award and was short-listed for the Roald Dahl Funny Prize. In 2017, his artwork entitled *We Will Remember* was short-listed for the AOI World Illustration Awards. Mark lives with his wife and their two dogs in the French Pyrenees. Follow Mark on Instagram @markachambers.



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GENRE	Picture Book Fiction
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## Rights Available

All Languages

# The Last Day Julian Was My Best Friend

JODY JENSEN SHAFFER

ILLUSTRATED BY JOANNE LEW-VRIETHOFF

JUNE 4, 2024

**A touching story of true friendship and the power of forgiveness.**

Best friends and neighbors Anthony and Julian are having the summer of their lives. Making pancakes, riding bikes to the beach, playing in the sand and surf...They have everything they need for an epic summer vacation.

But Anthony is worried. He has a secret—a secret about Julian’s missing marble. And he knows that once Julian finds out about it, he’ll be mad. He may not even want to be Anthony’s best friend anymore.

So Anthony is determined to have the best last day as Julian’s best friend...until he can’t hold in his secret any longer. But maybe Julian has a surprise of his own to share with Anthony...

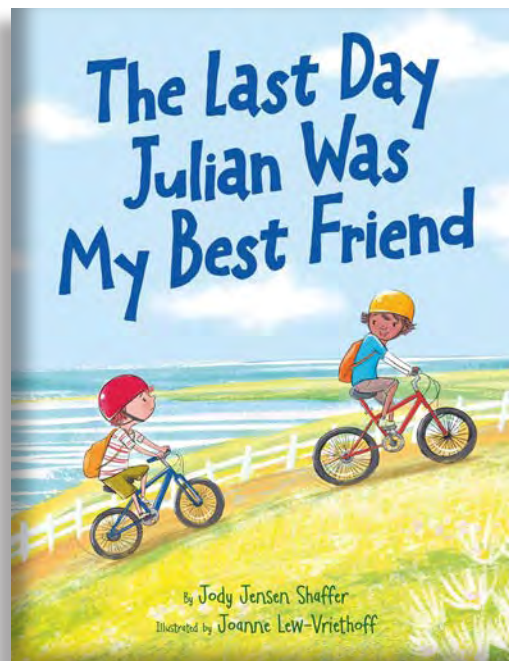
## About the Contributors

**Jody Jensen Shaffer** is an award-winning poet and the author of more than eighty books for children, including *Prudence the Part-Time Cow*, illustrated by Stephanie Laberis, a Missouri Show Me Award finalist; *A Chip Off the Old Block*, illustrated by Daniel Miyares, a nominee for the Iowa Goldfinch Award; and the Amazon bestseller *It’s Your First Day of School, Busy Bus!*, illustrated by Claire Messer. Jody lives in Liberty, Missouri, with her family. Learn more at [jodyjensenshaffer.com](http://jodyjensenshaffer.com) and follow her on X @jodywrites4kids.

**Joanne Lew-Vriethoff** is the acclaimed illustrator of many children’s books, including the bestselling updated edition of *The Invisible String* and its companion titles, all written by Patrice Karst; Stacy McAnulty’s *Beautiful and Brave*; and *Who Will I Be?*, written by *The View* cohost Abby Huntsman. Born in Malaysia, Joanne grew up in Los Angeles, studied at the ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena, and now lives between Amsterdam and Malaysia. Learn more at [joannelewvriethoff.com](http://joannelewvriethoff.com) and follow her on Instagram @joannelewvriethoff.

## Praise for the Book

“The tale delivers an important message about forgiveness and the importance of taking responsibility for wrongdoings...A touching exploration of the complicated dynamics of friendship.” —*Kirkus Reviews*



IMPRINT	Two Lions
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## Rights Available

All Languages

## Rights Sold

Turkish



# Best Day Ever

FRANK TUPTA AND LINDSAY WARD  
ILLUSTRATED BY LINDSAY WARD

OCTOBER 21, 2025

Children's

Nobody appreciates Monday. After all, Monday is always getting the week going and keeping everybody organized.

She isn't all about fun like Saturday or into relaxing like Sunday. She has things to do. The trouble is no one wants to listen. When one of the days suggests she be more like a weekend day, she decides to try, and then all of the days swap.

It's only a matter of time till they find out whether they'll be happy or not.

## About the Contributors

**Frank Tupta** grew up in a haunted house in Cleveland. His favorite holiday is Halloween. He still dresses up every year. He currently lives in Peninsula, Ohio surrounded by the Cuyahoga Valley National Park with his wife, children's book author + illustrator Lindsay Ward, their three boys, and Sally, a rambunctious pit-bull mix who keeps things interesting by chasing coyotes in their backyard.

Most days you can find Frank writing, walking Sally with his family, driving around on his tractor, or co-running [www.critterlit.com](http://www.critterlit.com) with his wife, a website offering free critiques and advice for up-and-coming authors and illustrators.

**Lindsay Ward** is the creator of the Dexter T. Rexter and Scooper and Dumper series as well as *Jessie: Queen of the Road*, *Rosie: Stronger than Steel*, *Between the Lines*, *Pink Is Not a Color*, *This Book Is Gray*, and *Brobarians*. She is also the author of *Our Spot*, illustrated by Gabrielle Grimard. Lindsay lives with her family in Peninsula, Ohio. Learn more about her online at [www.lindsaymward.com](http://www.lindsaymward.com).



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## Rights Available

All Languages

## Other Titles by the Author

*Pink Is Not a Color*  
*This Book is Gray*