



HARVEY KLINGER, INC. \* LBF 2025 \* ADULT AND CHILDREN'S TITLES

HARVEY KLINGER, INC.  
LONDON BOOK FAIR 2025  
ADULT AND CHILDREN'S TITLES  
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ADULT

MIKE AYERS

**SHARING IN THE GROOVE** (Spring 2025)

Publishers: World English: St. Martin's

Music and culture writer and author of ONE LAST SONG's oral history of '90s jambands, with exclusive interviews and behind-the-scene stories from band members and people who worked with Phish, Blues Traveler, Widespread Panic, Joan Osborne, Spin Doctors, Dave Matthews Band, Aquarium Rescue Unit, God Street Wine, Medeski Martin & Wood, .moe, Govt. Mule, String Cheese Incident, Derek Trucks, Bela Fleck, and many more.

"As someone who came of age on the generational outskirts of the '90s jam scene, I couldn't have been more fascinated by this book. It brought me into the sweaty clubs of NYC and tour vans everywhere, from Boulder to Burlington, that I could only imagine as a teenager, feverishly listening to every bootleg I could get my hands on. I've always been a proud fan of jam bands and this great oral history has only deepened my love and understanding for the people and times that helped shape what that musical world could and should be." —**Chris Tomson, Vampire Weekend & Taper's Choice**

"The jam band world is a bit like *Fight Club* — it's something we all know exists, but are not supposed to talk about. That is, until now. Mike Ayers has done the work of shining some light on a woefully under-covered corner of modern music. In the process, he finds the kinds of stories that even the most ardent tape collectors haven't heard before." —**Steven Hyden, author of *There Was Nothing You Could Do, Long Road, and This Isn't Happening***

"In the early '90s, as the New York music industry desperately scoured the nation for the next big thing, an organic music scene was taking shape right under their noses. Little clubs were packed with fans and bands jamming the night away, as jam bands took root and sprouted like mushrooms. This book captures that exciting fluid time with a deep dive into the bands that blew up out of this scene and the ones that coulda been a contender." —**Alan Paul *New York Times* bestselling author of *One Way Out* and *Brothers and Sisters***

TOM BEAUJOUR & RICHARD BIENSTOCK

**LOLLAPALOOZA: How A Traveling Rock & Roll Circus Launched the '90s Alternative Revolution** (Spring 2025)

Publishers: World English: St. Martin's

Authors of NOTHIN' BUT A GOOD TIME's oral history of the Lollapalooza festival's pioneering 1991-1997 run and the rise of alternative rock, as well as the reverberations in the music industry and

the culture at large. Featuring all-new interviews with Jane's Addiction, Pearl Jam, Soundgarden, Nine Inch Nails, Sonic Youth, Ice-T, Siouxsie and the Banshees, Rage Against the Machine, Tool, Butthole Surfers, Smashing Pumpkins, Henry Rollins, Ministry, Patti Smith, Alice in Chains, Primus, Pavement, Hole, Metallica, Jim Rose Circus Sideshow, Flaming Lips, Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, Green Day, Fishbone, Dinosaur Jr., Ramones, The Breeders, L7, The Jesus Lizard, Guided By Voices, Devo, The Prodigy, Yo La Tengo, Korn, Babes in Toyland, Cypress Hill, Moby, Luscious Jackson, Incubus, Steve-O...and many more.

"In the tradition of Legs McNeil and Gillian McCain's *Please Kill Me* and their own *Nothin' But a Good Time*, Bienstock and Beaujour spliced together dozens of interviews with musicians, producers, staff, and others on the scene to craft an epic story of 1990s rock and roll as filtered through the heroin-hazy lens of the granddaddy of American music festivals... Essential addition to any rock history library." —**Kirkus**

"The Lollapalooza tour defined "alternative culture" in the nineties with lineups that bridged rock, hip-hop, and performance art. The book, *Lollapalooza*, collects the musicians' unbelievable-yet-true stories into an indispensable page turner and shows how a tour like Lollapalooza could never happen the same way again." —**Kory Grow, Rolling Stone**

"Lollapalooza defined a generation, and who better to hear it from than the people who lived it? A must-read." —**Daniel Kohn, SPIN**

"Drawing from an impressive array of interviews with band members, music journalists, and festival organizers, the authors vividly capture the chaos of the festival's early days...The result is a colorful, captivating slice of music history." —**Publishers Weekly**

"Lovers of 1990s alternative rock music... will enjoy this unflinching look at music festival culture and the rise and fall of alternative rock." —**Booklist**

## **JASON BUCHHOLZ**

### **THE CARTOGRAPHER OF SANDS** (Fall 2025)

Publishers: World English: Green City Books

THE CARTOGRAPHER OF SANDS begins with a family meeting in the Percival home, high in the hills of Berkeley, California. Redland, the patriarch, has summoned his sons, Leonardo, a biology professor, and Gabriel, a recent parolee. He tasks them with locating their seventeen-year-old sister, Lenore, who has vanished, leaving a two-word note that simply reads: *I'm okay*. The meeting is scored by furious rehearsing from the downstairs conservatory – Peoria, the matriarch, a world-class pianist with a tenuous grip on reality, is preparing for the spotlight that will be upon her at the grand re-opening of UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Auditorium.

The brothers' quests carry them in opposite directions – one northward to the Oregon border, the other southward to the Mexican border – as they search the length of California not just for their sister but for the reasons she left home, reasons that will lead them into the heart of their powerful and mysterious family legacy of curanderismo.

In lyrical and precise prose, Buchholz richly conjures the landscapes of the west, weaving touches of magical realism and deft humor. Ultimately, THE CARTOGRAPHER OF SANDS brings Chloë Benjamin's *The Immortalists* to mind in its poignant and atmospheric exploration of family, magic, and the meaning of connection.

Jason Buchholz is the author of the novel *A Paper Son* (Tyrus Books, 2016), which *Publisher's Weekly* described as “a gripping debut” and *Booklist* described as “wonderfully imaginative.” He is the co-founder of Collaborist, an editorial boutique that provides writing, editing, and educational services for aspiring and established authors. He was an editor and the art director of Achiot Press, and his poetry and short fiction have appeared in *Gobbledegook* and *Switchback*. Jason graduated from UC Berkeley and holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of San Francisco.

## **HEATHER FRESE**

### **THE SADDEST GIRL ON THE BEACH**

*Publishers:* World English: Blair Publishing (Spring 2024)

Grieving after her father’s death, a young woman seeks solace in an Outer Banks beach town of North Carolina where her best friend’s family runs a small inn.

The family welcomes Charlotte with chowder dinners and a cozy room, but her friend Evie has a looming life change of her own, and soon Charlotte seeks other attractions to navigate her grief. Will she, like in some television movie, find her way back through a romance, or are there larger forces at play on Hatteras Island? Heather Frese, winner of the Lee Smith Novel Prize and author of *The Baddest Girl on the Planet*, sets Charlotte on a beautifully rendered course through human frailty, unrelenting science, and the awesome forces of the Carolina coast.

Heather Frese is the author of *The Baddest Girl on the Planet*, which was the winner of the Lee Smith Novel Prize, longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize, and was named a selection for the Women’s National Book Association’s Great Group Read.

"Like the best stories of grief, Frese’s marvelous second novel is really a story of hard-earned hope. These pages quickly feel like home, or a Carolina beach you’re never ready to leave.” —**James Tate Hill**, author of *Blind Man’s Bluff*

“Heather Frese’s latest novel, *The Saddest Girl on the Beach*, is a moving meditation on grief and the forces that both pull people together and tear them apart. The coastal setting is so rich and beautifully rendered, you can practically hear the waves, a rhythm that mirrors the highs and lows of loss and love.” - -- **Jill McCorkle**, New York Times bestselling author of *Hieroglyphics* and *Life After Life*

"Surviving one's twenties is difficult enough without the unexpected death of a parent. Frese has written an invaluable guide to that experience, her protagonist a beacon like the lighthouses she loves, for herself, for her friends, for the life at the end of her labyrinth, and for the legacy her late father left in her. A must-read for anyone navigating the loss of a parent at a young age. A must-read for anyone with a heart." —**Laura Carney**, author of *My Father's List: How Living My Dad's Dreams Set Me Free*

"I really enjoyed the relationship dynamics between Charlotte and Nate and Michael and the reality of love as opposed to the romantic expectation. So well done, insightful and true." -- **Michele Young-Stone**, author of O Magazine Book Pick, *Lost in the Beehive*, and *Above Us Only Sky*

## **AMY FRYKHOLM**

### **HIGH HAWK**

*Publishers:* North America: University of Iowa Press (October 2024); Audio: Tantor

It is the early 1980s and for twenty years Father Joe Kreitzer has been dutifully serving the Lakota community on the Windy Creek Reservation in South Dakota. And in all this time he has carried memories of Veronica; their parting propelled him into the church. Now she has reached out, wanting to rekindle what they had turned their back on so many years ago. While grappling with this resurgence from his past, Joe's dear friend Alice Nighthawk comes to him with news of her son Little Bear's arrest for attempted murder. In his efforts to help exonerate Bear, Joe uncovers long buried evidence of a church cover up of abuse at a Catholic school on the reservation, forcing him to confront the choices he's made and the secrets he keeps. What unfolds is an intimately layered story of love, and a search for answers.

With the rich interiority of Marilynne Robinson, the thoughtful contemplation of Cara Wall's *The Dearly Beloved*, and the lyricism and wisdom of Louise Erdrich, *High Hawk* explores the fragility of the past, and the power of second chances. Using language that is at once immersive and transporting, Frykholm evokes the plains of the west, conveying a sense of place and the land.

Amy Frykholm grew up in South Dakota, where she worked at a community center in Sioux Falls for over ten years and first studied Lakota. She is an award-winning writer, scholar, and journalist. As senior editor for *The Christian Century* magazine, she hosts the podcast, *In Search Of*. Amy has her PhD from Duke University and is the author of five books of nonfiction including the most recent, *Wild Woman: A Footnote, The Desert, and My Quest for An Elusive Saint* (Broadleaf Books, 2021).

"*High Hawk* is evocative and haunting. I didn't want to put it down, despite the loneliness of it—a kind of beautiful, desolate, at times cold and very snowy loneliness, windblown and stark. Light and sky figure heavily, the horizon and a longing for some kind of place in the order of things. For connection, truth, but most of all for a way of belonging in the world. There's a sense of the complexity of life but also of it getting away from you; of looking back at moments you let pass you by. It is a beautiful meditation on silence and speaking, passivity and action; and on parents, and love, and the fragility of our ability to protect our children—the way that's amplified in some communities' lives by compounding circumstances. *High Hawk* leaves us with no easy answers, but feeling as though we've just listened to a keening, plaintive song that carries over the prairie as dusk falls."—**Arianne Zwartjes, author, *These Dark Skies, Reckoning with Identity, Violence, and Power from Abroad***

"In *High Hawk*, author Amy Frykholm delivers a beautiful blend of the simple and the profound in a story of self-discovery and reckoning. The gorgeously-rendered small-town Midwest setting and nuanced characters are a perfect fit for fans of William Kent Krueger."—**Amy Pease, author, *Northwoods***

"*High Hawk* is, at one of its hearts, a tale of two improbable love stories—one between a mother and son and another between two long separated friends. Spare and lyrical, Amy Frykholm somehow conjures entire worlds—both interior and exterior—from a few dozen words. The landscape she lays out in front of us holds deep meaning and heartbreaking secrets. The exquisitely constructed ending is one of the most poignant and satisfying I have read in years."—**Cara Wall, author, *The Dearly Beloved*, a Read with Jenna pick**

"*High Hawk* starts out small, quiet, stark—with a child left on the doorstep of a Catholic priest on a South Dakota reservation in 1970—but then, with a grace as delicate and as natural as a feather, it rises above its specific place, its specific time, and soars over a windy liminal landscape, becoming a universal story of faith and free will, of community and authority, of different kinds of love, and of difficult moral choices: when to obey and when to break away, when to punish and when to forgive, when to reveal the truth and when to keep the silence. And the silence is not the same silence, for

some silences corrupt and others heal, and the choices are rarely black and white—yet always the choices matter. The subtle compassion of the narrative put me in mind of the classic by Georges Bernanos, *The Diary of a Country Priest*, but Frykholm’s voice is all her own. Read it, and it will linger in your mind for days.”—**Olga Grushin, author, *Forty Rooms***

## **FRED GOODMAN**

### **THE LAST AMERICAN BOHEMIAN: The Fast Life and Slow Death of Jerry Garcia (2026)**

*Publishers:* North America: Hachette; UK: Little, Brown

The first biography to consider the Garcia not as the key musician in a hugely popular band (which he was), but instead as one of the central figures of the American counterculture, and the only historically and artistically significant American bohemian of the post-war era besides Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg. Goodman will interview Garcia’s children, wives, bandmates, and other close associates to create a wider perspective on this important figure than what’s been done before. The book will be for the Dead Heads, but it’ll also ground Garcia’s story ‘not just in the Grateful Dead but in American culture and history.’ Goodman sees this legendary figure as kin certainly to Kerouac and Ginsberg, but also as a spiritual heir to Whitman and Blake. ‘He was a uniquely American iconoclast – an eager explorer and unrepentant outsider who planted his flag far from the mainstream yet ended up a popular icon -- and his story should be about both the country that produced him and his impact on that country.’

Fred Goodman is a veteran music and entertainment industry journalist and former *Rolling Stone* and *Billboard* editor. His previous books include THE MANSION ON THE HILL (Knopf, 1997), a *New York Times* notable book and winner of the Ralph J. Gleason Award for the Best Music Book, as well as several biographies, including the infamous music manager Allen Klein and the global music diva Lhasa de Sela. Goodman’s book on Edgar Bronfman Jr.’s purchase of the Warner Music Group during the age of Napster, FORTUNE’S FOOL (S&S, 2014), was listed by the *Financial Times* for its Business Book of the Year. His most recent book is ROCK ON FILM: The Movies that Rocked the Big Screen (Running Press/Hachette, 2022). His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Washington Post*, *New York*, *GQ*, *American History*, *Time*, *the Los Angeles Times*, and many other publications.

## **TOD LENDING**

### **THE UMBRELLA MAKER’S SON (Winter 2025)**

*Publishers:* North America: HarperCollins; Hungary: Scolar Kiado; Romania: BOOKZONE SRL; Slovenia: HKZ; Poland: Grupa Wydawnicza

*The Umbrella Maker’s Son* follows the remarkable odyssey of 17 year old Reuven Berkowitz at the outset of World War II, whose family is sent into turmoil with the fall of Nazi bombs on their Jewish neighborhood of Kazmierze. It is only a matter of time before the family’s umbrella making business, their apartment, their wealth and their dignity are destroyed by the Nazis. After a nighttime confrontation with an SS officer goes dangerously wrong, Reuven makes a harrowing escape from besieged Krakow to the countryside where he is taken in by a sympathetic Christian farmer and his demanding and antisemitic wife. From there, Reuven eventually journeys back to the horrors of the Nazi ghetto that Krakow has become in search of the young woman he has loved since childhood.

It's a gripping story of survival against all odds, guided by the transformative power of love.

Tod Lending is an Emmy award winner and Oscar nominated documentary producer. This is his literary debut.

"This powerful, heart-wrenching novel follows a young Polish Jew through his incredible journey to escape the Nazis. Reuven's story typifies that of millions of others experiencing the horrors and deprivations suffered by Jews in WWII and those who tried to help them. And yet, it is also an ultimately uplifting and inspiring tale of one man's coming of age in horrific times."

— **Heather Morris, #1 bestselling author of *The Tattooist of Auschwitz***

"[A] compelling and heartbreaking debut novel. At once well told and ineffably sad. Read it but keep your tissues handy." — ***Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)**

"This is a strikingly intense and superbly produced novel . . . This is one of the most absolutely memorable books I've ever read. Strongly recommended." — ***Historical Novel Society***

"Fans of Heather Morris and Lisa Barr will be captivated by Lending's story of resilience and romance, a must-have for historical fiction sections." — ***Library Journal***

"Lending eschews the sentimentality common to much recent Holocaust fiction, instead bringing the horrors of the period to visceral life." — ***Publishers Weekly***

"The author's sensational depiction of all the situations, emotions, and gut-wrenching events included in this saga are well done. *The Umbrella Maker's Son* is a brilliant, gut-wrenching story of love and family in war-torn Poland. A good producer could make it into a riveting movie."

—***New York Journal of Books***

"*The Umbrella Maker's Son* is a fascinating and memorable read!"

--***Bestsellers World Book Review***

## **DANIEL Z. LIEBERMAN and MICHAEL E. LONG**

### **THE MOLECULE OF MORE** (August 2018)

*Publishers:* World English: BenBella; Thailand: Amarin; Vietnam: Unicorn Books; Taiwan: FACES (division of Cite); China: CITIC; Korea: Sam & Parkers; Japan: Intershift; Spain: Planeta; Brazil: Sextante; Portugal: Presenca; Germany: MVG; Turkey: Epsilon; Romania: SC Publica Com SRL; Poland: Wydawnictwo JK; Czech Republic: Dokoran; Lithuania: Kita Pespektyva; Bulgaria: Skyprint; Russia: AST; Slovak: Albatros; Croatia: Planetopija; Iraq/Arabic: Nabu Publishers; Italy: DeAgostini; France: First Editions.

Why are we obsessed with the things we want only to be bored when we get them?

Why is addiction perfectly logical to an addict?

Why does love change so quickly from passion to indifference?

Why are some people die-hard liberals and others hardcore conservatives?

Why are we always hopeful for solutions even in the darkest times--and so good at figuring them out?

The answer is found in a single chemical in your brain: dopamine. Dopamine ensured the survival of early man. Thousands of years later, it is the source of our most basic behaviors and cultural ideas--and progress itself.

Dopamine is the chemical of desire that always asks for more--more stuff, more stimulation, and more surprises. In pursuit of these things, it is undeterred by emotion, fear, or morality. Dopamine is the source of our every urge, that little bit of biology that makes an ambitious business professional sacrifice everything in pursuit of success, or that drives a satisfied spouse to risk it all for the thrill of someone new. Simply put, it is why we seek and succeed; it is why we discover and prosper. Yet, at the same time, it's why we gamble and squander.

From dopamine's point of view, it's not the having that matters. It's getting something--anything--that's new. From this understanding--the difference between possessing something versus anticipating it--we can understand in a revolutionary new way why we behave as we do in love, business, addiction, politics, religion--and we can even predict those behaviors in ourselves and others.

In *The Molecule of More: How a Single Chemical in Your Brain Drives Love, Sex, and Creativity--and will Determine the Fate of the Human Race*, George Washington University professor and psychiatrist Daniel Z. Lieberman, MD, and Georgetown University lecturer Michael E. Long present a potentially life-changing proposal: Much of human life has an unconsidered component that explains an array of behaviors previously thought to be unrelated, including why winners cheat, why geniuses often suffer with mental illness, why nearly all diets fail, and why the brains of liberals and conservatives really are different.

### **MICHAEL E. LONG**

**Foreword by Daniel Z. Lieberman, co-author of *The Molecule of More*, and author of *Spellbound***

### **TAMING THE MOLECULE OF MORE (April 2025)**

*Publishers:* World English: Benbella; Romania: SC Publica Com SRL; Bulgaria: Skyprint; Italy: De Agostini; China: CITIC; Taiwan FACES; Portugal: Presenca; Brazil: Sextante; Spain: Planeta; Russia: Alpina; Germany: MVG; Iraq/Arabic Nabu Publishers; Japan: Diamond; Czech Republic: Grada

The follow up to the international bestseller, *The Molecule of More*, here's a step-by-step guide that converts the brain science of *The Molecule of More* into practical steps to making your life better, right now.

Here's how to: stop being held captive to the lure of social media; avoid the pitfalls that plague dating life; keep yourself from getting "bored" with the love you already have; better limit compulsive shopping; lengthen a brief attention span; engage your creativity when you need it most; step back from an unhealthy obsession with work

The result: better relationships, more satisfaction in your career, and greater peace of mind every day. The secret? *Taming the Molecule of More*.

Trained as a physicist, Michael E. Long is an award-winning speechwriter, screenwriter, and playwright. As a playwright, more than 20 of his shows have been produced, most on New York stages. As a screenwriter, his honors include finalist for the grand prize in screenwriting at the Slamdance Film Festival. As a speechwriter, Mr. Long has written for members of Congress, U.S. cabinet secretaries, governors, diplomats, business executives, and presidential candidates. A popular speaker and educator, Mr. Long has addressed audiences around the world, including in a keynote at Oxford University. He teaches writing at Georgetown University, where he is a former director of



writing. Mr. Long pursued undergraduate studies at Murray State University and graduate studies at Vanderbilt University.

“From neurobiology to Aristotelian ethics, this book is both a practical guide for living and a philosophical meditation on the meaning of life. Entertaining, informative and persuasive, *Taming the Molecule of More* is a must-read for anyone who wants to feel better while also doing good.”

--**Anna Lembke MD, author of *Dopamine Nation***

## **PAT LIPSKY**

### **BRIGHTENING GLANCE: ART AND LIFE**

*Publishers:* North America: University of Iowa Press (October 2025)

For more than five decades, Pat Lipsky has been a leading figure in American color field painting. In loosely connected vignettes, this extraordinary book looks back on a life in 1970s SoHo: from her pioneering days juggling painting and single motherhood in a redesigned factory loft on Wooster Street; to Paris where an enchanting friendship develops with the former director of the Louvre, Pierre Rosenberg; to her yearslong close relationship with legendary art critic Clement Greenberg; to a marvelous love affair with the charismatic art dealer Richard Bellamy which ended tragically with his sudden death. We glimpse Lipsky’s first introduction to Cezanne as a child in 1950s Brooklyn and her studies with the mythic artist Tony Smith who would become her mentor. There are visits with Lee Krasner at her home in Springs, late night, smoke-filled loft parties, and evenings at Max’s Kansas City where Lou Reed and Nico sang in the background while rival groups of earthwork artists, pop artists, conceptual artists, and color field painters pretend to ignore each other at the bar. Along the way we experience Lipsky’s emergence at the forefront of the so-called Lyrical Abstraction movement.

*Brightening Glance: Art and Life* offers a stunningly self-revealing portrait of the struggles and sacrifices, joys and excitement, inherent in a modern painter’s life, and captures the evergreen allure of New York’s art world between 1970 and 1995. In stripped down, elegant prose, Lipsky summons a New York that no longer exists and ponders why we love (and hate) the art world. Ultimately, it’s a story of a contemporary woman, a mother and painter, who dares a career in a field where only a handful of women had succeeded.

Pat’s work has been widely exhibited and is represented in public collections across the country such as The Whitney Museum of American Art, The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The Brooklyn Museum of Art, The Smithsonian’s Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Harvard’s Fogg Art Museum, to name a few. Pat has a BFA from Cornell University and an MFA from the Graduate Program in Painting at Hunter College, where she studied with the canonical artist Tony Smith who became her mentor. Her writing has been published by *Tablet Magazine*, *The Awl*, and *Public Books*, as well as *The New Criterion*.

"A portrait of the artist as a woman working and living in the heart of the downtown New York art world. Pat Lipsky’s book is a stylish, entertaining, and, above all, honest memoir of a painter’s life and times. If you wondered what it would really have been like to be an artist in the years when art was all about art, this book opens the door." – **Louis Menand, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *The Metaphysical Club***

“From fisticuffs at Max’s Kansas City between Andy Warhol’s flamboyant entourage and Carl Andre’s minimalist cadre to the secret confessions of uber-critic Clement Greenberg, *Brightening Glance* by Pat Lipsky is a shockingly candid art world expose by a talented painter who survived six decades of culture wars. As both protagonist and witness Lipsky lays bare the vanities of the artists,

dealers and critics who made the late twentieth century art scene in New York the fulcrum of artistic innovation and ideological rivalry amidst chaotic private lives. Lipsky spares no-one from her acid pen, least of all herself.” – **Michael Findlay, author of *Portrait of the Art Dealer as a Young Man: New York in the Sixties***

“How did Pat Lipsky pull off the near-impossible feat of breaking into the hyper macho downtown art world? She tells us in *Brightening Glance*. With this memoir, Lipsky proves that she’s as brilliant, energetic, and brave a writer as she is a painter.” – **Lili Anolik, bestselling author of *Didion & Babitz***

## **ALAN NIVEN**

### **SOUND N’ FURY**

*Publishers:* North America: ECW Press (Summer 2025)

Alan Niven was manager of Guns N’ Roses during their golden years, 1986-1991, the only person willing to take them on at the start. Izzy Stradlin has characterized him as the sixth, silent member of that infamous group. He was also: an early Virgin Records employee, then the first disc jockey to play the Police, the Pretenders, and Dire Straits in the United States. He helped run a record label that released the first Mötley Crüe and Dokken records, as well as Berlin (“The Metro,” “Sex [I’m a…]”). He co-wrote most of Great White’s hits while also managing them. One night, he hired policemen to make sure a recalcitrant Axl Rose made it to the L.A. Coliseum to open for the Rolling Stones. He helped Clarence Clemons make his 1995 album *Peacemaker* and get Clarence his E Street due. In his professional life, Alan interacted with the biggest and most fearsome executives in the music business, never concerned with ‘going along to get along,’ and helped his clients break through to massive success. Everything he did was done in the service of his artists.

Not a memoir, SOUND N’ FURY is Alan sharing vignettes-- his great rock ‘n roll stories, all choice bites and no filler—including many colorful ones about his biggest success story, Guns N’ Roses (100 million+ albums sold to date, including 45 million in the US; 9.6 million tickets sold, generating \$775 million in sales), as the heart of the book. An apt comparison, form-wise, is Dave Grohl’s *The Storyteller*.

## **CRISTINA OLIVETTI**

### **ABOUT BLISS: Fighting for My Trans Son’s Life, Joy and Fertility**

*Publishers:* World English: Jessica Kingsley Publishers/Hachette (June 2025)

Cristina's son was about to embark on gender-affirming care that would likely cause infertility, when she realised the need to support both her child and the adult he would become, and give him the right to have children of his own. In doing so she discovered a future - where living your life authentically doesn't mean giving up your fertility - that may be accessible to many, many more trans people in the coming years.

Through interviews with trans thought leaders, letters to her son, and missives about the struggle for reproductive rights of trans people, as well as practical advice for parents, Cristina weaves together a tapestry of voices from the trans community to tell a story that has never been told before -- of transformation, and hormones, and hope. An amazing resource for parents of children undergoing gender affirming care, and a beautiful meditation on the euphoria and challenge of transition.

Diane Ehrensaft, Ph.D., cofounder and director of mental health at the Child and Adolescent Gender Center at UCSF, and author of *The Gender Creative Child*, and *Gender Born, Gender Made* contributed the Foreword.

Cristina Olivetti is a writer, adult educator, and an advocate for gender inclusion. She is the official gender educator for Free Mom Hugs, a national organization that supports LGBTQ families. The founder of a parenting blog as well as the women's leadership organization, Shine on Collaborative, Cristina's essays have appeared in *Scholastic*, *Parent & Child*, *Spirituality & Health*, and the anthology, *A Cup of Comfort for Mothers* (Adams Media/Simon & Schuster).

"We all hope to meet our kids where they are. Cristina Olivetti does this with consciousness and grace. This memoir will be a lodestone for thousands of families." --**Chelsea Cain** *New York Times* bestselling author

"From a mother and son's journey through gender transition comes a powerfully honest and tender telling of love, acceptance and advocacy. More than a memoir, this book is a compassionate voice, a generous friend, and a wellspring of hope in an uncertain world." --**Karen Maezen Miller**, author of *Momma Zen: Walking the Crooked Path of Motherhood*

"*About Bliss* is a hand held out by someone who has walked through a storm. Shimmering with bravery, empathy, and insight and laced with interviews like shafts of light, it will help all parents, not just parents of trans children, think more deeply about their relationship to their child's identity, their destiny, and yes, their bliss." --**Jayson Green**, author of *Once More We Saw Stars*

"More informative than any memoir, and more deeply personal than the usual guidebooks, *About Bliss* invents a new hybrid form to provide the blueprint for an informed and loving ally-ship."

--**Benjamin Anastas**, author of *Too Good to Be True*

"Parents crossing the complex landscape of their transitioning children deserves its own language, and that is what Cristina Olivetti has so profoundly invented. This book is a love letter to be sure, but the storytelling will also save lives." --**Lidia Yuknavitch**, author of *The Chronology of Water and Reading the Waves*

"This book will encourage and empower anyone caring for trans youth. It will give readers the courage they need to advocate fiercely for their trans loved ones." --**Sara Cunningham**, founder of *Free Mom Hugs* and author of *How We Sleep at Night*

"This is an important, trailblazing book." --**March Wunderlich**, author of *The God of Nothingness* and Director of *The Bennington Writing Seminars*

## **KIRTHANA RAMISETTI**

### **THE OTHER LATA**

*Publishers:* North America: Grand Central/Hachette (April 2025)

Somewhere in New York City, Lata Murthy knows there is another person with her name living a much more interesting life. That's because Lata often receives the other Lata's emails since they have very similar email addresses. These include invites to Hampton soirees, fundraising appeals from the New York City Ballet and reminders about sample sales at Soho boutiques. Lata's

own life—working in digital marketing, watching Food Network marathons with her roommate, shoplifting from Sephora for the illicit thrill—feels pathetic in comparison.

Lata ([latamurthy@gmail.com](mailto:latamurthy@gmail.com)) has written to [thelathamurthy@gmail.com](mailto:thelathamurthy@gmail.com) to let her know about the email mixups, but never receives a reply. After receiving the umpteenth invitation, this time to the launch of a jewelry line in Chelsea, Lata goes herself. She loves getting a glimpse of a New York she's never seen before, and decides on a "year of yes"—but the "yes" is doing everything that lands in her inbox that was meant for Other Lata.

To afford the upgrade in lifestyle, Lata maxes out her credit cards and even shoplifts a few times. And it all becomes worth it when she meets Rajeev G, a celebrated fashion designer. To her surprise and delight, the two slowly fall in love. Lata sees her social circle expand to a chic, artsy crowd, and enjoys being one of them. For the first time, Lata receives invitations that are truly meant for her.

Despite amassing major debt to keep up with Rajeev and their jetset friends, Lata has never been happier. Rajeev is kind, talented and encourages her long-dormant writing dreams. With him by her side, Lata can finally have the glamorous life she always desired. Especially since no one seems to realize or care that she is showing up in place of Other Lata.

Except for one person: Other Lata herself. "Since you want my life so badly," she says in a phone call from an unlisted number, "you're going to have to work for it." If Lata doesn't do exactly what Other Lata says, then the woman will reveal to Rajeev that his girlfriend is an imposter.

She orders Lata to undertake oddball tasks—juggling hot dogs at a yacht party, wearing a mink coat and flip flops to a beach outing—that earn her laughter and derision from her new friends. Lata does what she is asked, preferring these humiliations over losing her boyfriend. And so she swoons when Rajeev tells her that she enjoys this offbeat side of her to the snobs in their social circle, and encourages her to continue being her "weird, wonderful self." Lata doesn't know how she got so lucky (finding Rajeev) and unlucky (getting blackmailed) at the same time.

When Other Lata's demands change from mischievous to illegal, Lata discovers that Other Lata is a con artist on the run from the wealthy people she had scammed. Not only that, every strange thing Other Lata asked her to do has been to set up Lata as her fall guy. Can Lata find Other Lata before she goes down for her crimes, and all without losing the man she loves?

Kirthana's debut novel, [DAVA SHASTRI'S LAST DAY](#) (Grand Central, 2021), was a Good Morning America Book Club Pick, a B&N Paperback Selection of the Month, a Publishers Lunch Buzz Book, a Publishers Weekly Notable Book, and an IndieNext Selection. It was long-listed for The Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize and was named most anticipated for fall 2021 by TIME, The Washington Post, Bustle, Goodreads, and Debutiful.

Kirthana's second book, [ADVIKA AND THE HOLLYWOOD WIVES](#) (Grand Central, 2023) was a Book of the Month Club Pick, A Cosmopolitan Best Book of the Year and an Apple Best Book of the Month.

## **LAURA BROOKE ROBSON**

**A CURSE FOR THE HOMESICK** (February 2025)

*Publishers:* North America: Mira/HarperCollins; UK/Commonwealth: Hodder

**“A *Curse for the Homesick* beautifully captures the whirlwind of young love, long-distance friendships, and the meaning of home. Reading truly felt like an escape.” -- *HoneyPop***

On Stenland, there comes a time known as skeld season: one day, any woman on the island can wake with three black lines on her forehead, the mark of a skeld. Skeld season comes around without warning, and while each window of time lasts only three months, anyone a skeld turns to stone is very much dead.

That's how Tess's mother killed Soren's parents. Maybe for this reason alone, Tess and Soren should not have fallen in love. Since the time her mother was a skeld, Tess has wanted to leave Stenland, to run from the windswept island, from her family and friends. She is unwilling to bear the responsibility of one day killing anyone, let alone someone she loves. Soren has been determined to stay, to live out his life in the place he knows as home, even if that life could be cut short during the latest skeld season. They cannot see eye to eye—and yet they cannot stay apart. She tries to come back for him. He tries to leave for her. But can your love for one person outweigh everything else combined? And how do you decide how much you're willing to risk, if it might mean destroying someone else in the process?

Laura Robson has crafted a fascinating story about the choices we make, the responsibilities we carry, and the ambiguities of regret.

"An enthralling read that lingers like a half-forgotten memory."

—***Booklist***

"*A Curse for the Homesick* is above all a second-chance romance ... This grounded, moving novel is a perfect rainy day read and an ode to what it is to be human—to desire and gain, to desire and lose, to find again."

—**Bookpage, starred review**

## **ELIOT STEIN**

### **CUSTODIANS OF WONDER: Ancient Customs, Profound Traditions, and the Last People Keeping Them Alive (December 2024)**

*Publishers:* World English: St. Martin's Press; Russia: Livebook

**A vivid look at the ten key people who are maintaining some of the world's oldest and rarest cultural traditions.**

Eliot Stein has traveled the globe in search of remarkable people who are preserving some of our rarest cultural rites. In *Custodians of Wonder: Ancient Customs, Profound Traditions, and the Last People Keeping Them Alive*, Stein introduces readers to a man saving the secret ingredient in Japan's 700-year-old original soy sauce recipe. In Italy, he learns how to make the world's rarest pasta from one of the only women alive who knows how to make it. And in India, he discovers a family rumored to make a mysterious metal mirror believed to reveal your truest self. From shadowing Scandinavia's last night watchman to meeting a 27th-generation West African griot to seeking out Cuba's last official cigar factory “readers” more than a century after they spearheaded the fight for Cuban independence, Stein uncovers an almost lost world.

Climbing through Peru's southern highlands, he encounters the last Inca bridge master who rebuilds a grass-woven bridge from the fabled Inca Road System. He befriends a British beekeeper who maintains a touching custom of "telling the bees" important news of the day and crunches through a

German forest to find the official mailman of the only tree in the world with its own address – to which countless people all over the world have written in hopes of finding love. These are just some of the last people on Earth still in touch with quickly vanishing rites. Let Eliot Stein introduce you to all of them.

Eliot Stein is an award-winning journalist, deputy editor at BBC Travel, and the creator of the Custom Made column, consistently one of BBC Travel's top-performing series, with views in the millions. In addition, Eliot's writing has been published in *Best Travel Writing* books anthology (Travelers Tales, 2008), and has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *National Geographic*, *The Guardian*, *WIRED*, *Conde Nast Traveler*, CNN, *The Independent*, *USA Today*, *Vice*, and elsewhere. His stories have been translated into 27 languages.

"One of the best books of 2024" – *The Christian Science Monitor*

"One of the 10 best travel books of 2024" – *Smithsonian*

"Stein's reverent prose conveys the awe-inspiring nature of these arcane cultural traditions without exoticizing them ("There's something truly singular about witnessing someone do something that nearly nobody else in the world knows how to do. It's like watching a secret"). This is worth seeking out." - *Publisher's Weekly*

"Stein approaches each person and tradition with respect. Area histories are woven into the narrative, providing essential background to understanding what will be lost if these traditions are not carried on. "I am hoping to awaken people to something deep and beautiful they may otherwise never know about," he writes— and he succeeds. A mix of travel, history, craft, and anthropology, this insightful book will especially delight armchair travelers and those interested in the diversity of the world." — *Booklist*

"*Custodians of Wonder* bears us away on a journey across geography but also through time and family lineage. Mr. Stein's great gift—his sensitivity and his dedication to capturing joy and hope, however fleeting—is worth giving to others." -- *The Wall Street Journal*

"Many of Stein's subjects -- an Inca bridge master, a Scandinavian night watchman, an official Cuban cigar [reader] are the last of their kind. 'When one seemingly insignificant wonder fades,' the author writes, 'an irretrievable part of our humanity vanishes with it.'" – *New York Times Book Review*

"*Custodians of Wonder* is the perfect title for this superb and unclassifiable book. Part travel, part anthropology, part memoir, part history, each chapter reveals a cultural treasure or custom that's about to disappear. From a Mali musical instrument, a sacred Sardinian pasta, artisan Japanese soy sauce, a secret mirror, to beekeeping and the survival of medieval night watching on the tip of Sweden, Eliot Stein's quests not only explore each subject in depth but open wide the aperture onto the cultural context. I was enthralled by every chapter. Written with verve and acute observation, this book is one of the rare ones that take you where you've never been." — **Frances Mayes, bestselling author of *Under the Tuscan Sun***

"Intrepidly reported and delightfully delivered, *Custodians of Wonder* is a tonic for our troubled times. From a Swedish night watchman to a Peruvian bridge weaver, Eliot Stein shines a bright and generous light on unexpected pockets of joy—and reminds us of the quiet beauty found in ancient, unbroken traditions. There is much magic, and wisdom, in these pages." --**Eric Weiner, New York Times bestselling author of *The Geography of Bliss* and *The Geography of Genius***

"I so enjoyed Eliot Stein's celebration of the unsung arts still faintly glowing in the shadows of all our pasts. In this charming book he has uncovered and preserved treasures across five continents that might otherwise have slipped away. As he writes, *Custodians of Wonder* 'invites us to fall back in love with the world'" -- Sara Wheeler, author of *Mud and Stars: Travels in Russia*

## **BRAD TOLINSKI & CHRIS GILL**

### **BLOW BY BLOW: The Jeff Beck Story** (Spring 2026)

*Publishers:* World English: Hachette

Jeff Beck, who died in 2023, was never quite a household name like Clapton, Eddie Van Halen, or Jimi Hendrix, and only two of his albums achieved platinum status in the United States, but there was no denying the impact his unique guitar playing had on at least three generations of listeners. In 2015, Beck was ranked number five in *Rolling Stone* magazine's list of 100 Greatest Guitarists, with artist as diverse as Alice Cooper and jazz great John McLaughlin feeling that he should've been placed higher. That is why his story is so intriguing. With his shag haircut and white Stratocaster guitar Jeff Beck was an icon known and loved by millions, yet somehow, he maintained the ineffable low-profile cool of a cult hero as he glided through six decades of musical trends with nary a lapse in taste. Not to say he ever played it safe. What other guitarist can lay claim to performing with opera star Luciano Pavarotti, television personality Kelly Clarkson and Guns N' Roses with equal grace and wit? Or as Beck himself once quipped, "I'm an awkward son of a bitch when it comes to doing the expected."

In *Blow by Blow: The Jeff Beck Story*, Brad Tolinski and Chris Gill, the authors of *Eruption: Conversations with Eddie Van Halen*, chart the unexplored life of rock's greatest and perhaps most enigmatic instrumentalist. Culled from approximately 30 hours of interviews with the late guitarist himself, numerous conversations with those closest to him, and extensive research, the writers will shed new light on the genius that Jimmy Page once said, "shifted the whole sound and face of electric guitar music." The book will feature interviews with a virtual who's who of musicians, music industry executives and personal associates, including Jimmy Page, John Paul Jones, Keith Richards, Ron Wood, Rod Stewart, Eric Clapton, Joe Perry, Billy Gibbons, Buddy Guy, and Yardbirds' Jim McCarty and Chris Dreja, among others.

## **GREG WRENN**

### **MOTHERSHIP: A Memoir of Wonder and Crisis** (March 2024)

*Publisher:* World English; Regalo/Post Hill Press, distributed by Simon & Schuster; Audio: Recorded Books

A dazzling, evidence-based account of one man's quest to heal from complex PTSD by turning to endangered coral reefs and psychedelic plants after traditional therapies failed—and his awakening to the need for us to heal the planet as well.

"The ecological is personal, and the personal is ecological," Greg Wrenn tells his nature-writing students at James Madison University. What he's never told them is how he's secretly lived out those correspondences in nature to heal from childhood abuse.

MOTHERSHIP is one of the only literary accounts of coral reefs and is also the first extended mainstream literary look at ayahuasca. Greg takes readers underwater to some of the most pristine coral reefs left on earth as pollution and warming oceans threaten their survival. He also shares his

life-changing experiences working with ayahuasca in the Amazon and in the US. As the trauma of the pandemic has caused many to seek mental health treatments that actually work, the laws around psychedelic use are quickly changing, and so are many minds.

A story of personal and global healing that blends memoir and cutting-edge science, *MOTHERSHIP* is written with prophetic urgency and ultimately asks if doses of nature will be enough to save us before it's too late.

Greg Wrenn is a former Stegner Fellow at Stanford University and author of *Centaur*, which was awarded the Brittingham Prize. Greg's work has appeared in *The New Republic*, *Al Jazeera*, *The Rumpus*, and elsewhere. As an associate English Professor at James Madison University, he teaches environmental literature and creative writing, where he weaves climate change science into literary studies. An Advanced PADI Nitrox diver, he has been exploring coral reefs around the world for over 25 years.

"Taking readers along on his fascinating journey, the author emphasizes the interconnectivity of the self and Mother Earth, drawing connections between his own C-PTSD and the complex being that humans are actively destroying ...A memorable book that capably interweaves the personal and the universal."--**Kirkus Reviews**

"As humanity stands at the crossroads of catastrophe and consciousness, Wrenn's wonder-filled, carefully researched memoir makes a strong case for not only the sacramental value and healing power of psychedelics but also for safe, legal access to psychedelic-assisted therapy for PTSD. *Mothership* is a deeply moving roadmap through the intertwined destinies of individual well-being and the urgent need to heal our planet."

—**CARINE MCCANDLESS**, author of *The Wild Truth*, the *New York Times*-bestselling follow-up to *Into the Wild*

"A brave, beautiful testament to love both past and present, a meticulously researched account of our relationship to ourselves and the world.... *Mothership* does for coral what Richard Powers's *The Overstory* does for trees. I can't wait to assign this to my students."

—**GARRARD CONLEY**, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Boy Erased*

"A deeply felt, clear-eyed memoir examining what it means to grieve nature's losses and yet still manage to find healing and love in what remains."

—**FLORENCE WILLIAMS**, author of *The Nature Fix* and *Heartbreak: A Personal and Scientific Journey*

## **CHILDREN'S**

### **LEAH CYPESS**

**FUTURE ME** (Summer 2025) *humorous early middle grade, start of a potential series*



*Publishers:* North American: Aladdin/S&S; UK/Commonwealth: represented by Camille Burns at Diamond Kahn & Woods Literary Agency

Ethan just wants to be a normal 10-year-old, playing video games and hanging out with his best friend. But his future self keeps showing up, demanding he save the world. And now he wants him to do the impossible: prevent his class from torturing their new substitute teacher. Because if she quits, she'll one day become an evil dictator who will destroy the planet. Ethan isn't prepared for how challenging the situation will be, or that this mission will require befriending the weirdest girl in class. As Ethan races against time, he learns that friendships can be more complicated than he thought and sometimes allies can be found in the most unlikely of places.

Leah is the author of the chapter book series *The Truth About the Tooth Fairy* (Abrams Childrens, 2025) and the author of the Sisters Ever After middle grade series (Delacorte/PRH), including *Thornwood* (which was nominated for a Nebula and received two starred reviews), *Glass Slippers* (2022), *The Pied Piper's Promise* (2023), *The Last Rose* (2024), *Braided* (2025) and *Sea Swept* (2026). Leah is also the author of four YA fantasies published by Greenwillow/Harper.

## **SARAH BETH DURST**

### **THE FARAWAY INN**

*Publishers:* North America: Delacorte/PenguinRandomHouse (Spring 2026); UK/Commonwealth: MacMillan Children's; Germany: Loewe; Turkey: Juno Kitap; Portugal: Porto Editora; the Netherlands: De Fontein

One teenage girl nursing a heartbreak  
One kind and handsome groundskeeper's son  
One grumpy great-aunt  
And a bed & breakfast that's more than what it seems

Welcome to Auntie Zee's B&B!

Reeling from a bad break up, sixteen-year-old Calisa jumps at the chance to leave the city and help her great-aunt run her bed and breakfast for the summer. She's expecting a quaint cottagecore inn with mountain views, a burbling stream, frolicking deer, and whatever. What she finds is a rundown property nearly swallowed by the forest. The groundskeeper's seventeen-year-old son, Jayden, has been trying to keep up with repairs, but he doesn't have the skills or experience of his father, who is currently late returning from a work trip. With Auntie Zee's grudging permission, Calisa begins to help Jayden with tasks around the inn, which includes interacting with some very odd guests. There's the woman who trails water behind her everywhere she goes, and the couple who seem to swap personalities every time Calisa encounters them. And then the man in room eight... He only emerges at night and is often found mixing strange, bubbling concoctions in the kitchen under the light of the moon. It's not long before Calisa realizes that the inn is more than just quirky. It's special, with each room holding a portal from a different magical realm. Auntie Zee's B&B is a sanctuary for those who want a respite from their lives elsewhere—really elsewhere. Such a place can't close! Surely, Auntie Zee can't even be considering it. But Calisa is increasingly worried about Auntie Zee. Her aunt disappears for long stretches of time each day, and no one—not Jayden,

not the guests, and not the elderly cat sunning herself in the sitting room—has any clue where she goes.

And then one evening, Auntie Zee doesn't return. Worse, the next morning, the always-wet woman from room three bursts into the kitchen in a panic: the portals between realms are malfunctioning.

As Calisa and Jayden work together to figure out Auntie Zee's secret and the secrets of the inn, their relationship grows. But they're running out of time to discover what Calisa's aunt has been hiding -- and the stakes are higher than they know.

Sarah Beth Durst is the New York Times bestselling author of over thirty books for adults, teens, and kids, including cozy fantasy *The Spellshop*. She's been awarded an American Library Association Alex Award, as well as a Mythopoeic Fantasy Award. Several of her books have been optioned for film/television, including *Drink Slay Love*, which was made into a TV movie and was a question on Jeopardy! She lives in Stony Brook, New York, with her husband, her children, and her ill-mannered cat. Visit her at [sarabethdurst.com](http://sarabethdurst.com).

## **BROOKS WHITNEY PHILLIPS**

### **THE GROVE**

*Publishers:* NA: Viking Books for Young Readers; (June 2025)

In this tender coming-of-age novel set in the socioeconomic tinderbox of the 1960s, two sisters in a struggling and damaged family only have each other to rely on . . . until an ugly secret tears them apart and threatens the cause of justice in their small town.

Fifteen-year-old Pip and seventeen-year-old Sissy aren't just sisters, they're best friends. Every year, they wait eagerly for the traveling carnival to put its stakes down in their tiny Florida town. It's the only time when the girls can abandon their endless chores on the family's orange grove and give in to pure joy. And the only time Pip and Sissy can forget their many troubles . . . living on the brink of poverty, Mama's despair, and Daddy's perpetual anger.

With the arrival of the carnival, the girls' slow, small lives suddenly feel bigger and brighter. But this year, something is different. Once the carnival leaves, with the charming young sword-swallower with it, Sissy grows increasingly distant from Pip and is soon no more than a stranger in their house. Pip grows closer to her friend Silas as a result, but when Sissy's shocking secret is revealed, the three unwittingly find themselves in a desperate situation that will change them all forever. In the land of the sweetest fruits, Pip must find her way through the soured hopes and bitter regrets of her family to finally break free of the grove.

Set against the class and economic tensions of early 1960s America, this stark yet hopeful novel tells a compelling story about the inescapable bonds of sisterhood and the lies we tell ourselves to survive.

Brooks Whitney Phillips is a freelance writer and author. She wrote a syndicated column and feature stories on music and the arts for the Chicago Tribune, is the author of eight middle grade books, and contributes design and travel stories to national magazines. She is the recipient of the Key West Literary Seminar's Marianne Russo Award for novel-in-progress, and is co-founder of the Rowland Writers Retreat, which hosts and funds ten annual residencies for women authors. She lives in Key

West, Florida and Saugatuck, Michigan.

## **ARNDÍS THÓRARINSDÓTTIR AND HULDA SIGRÚN BJARNADÓTTIR**

### **THE ISLAND ON THE EDGE OF THE WORLD**

*Publishers:* Germany: Arena; France: Écoles des Loisirs; Denmark: Carlsen; Finland: WSOY; Iceland: Mál & Menning; the Netherlands: Volt; Russia: Mann, Ivanov and Ferber; China: Shanghai Yuanshi Culture Co.; Macedonia (Antolog); *(UK rights are being handled by Camille Burns at Diamond Kabn Woods Literary Agency)*

- Winner of the Gudrun Helgadóttir Manuscript Award
- Winner of the Icelandic Literary Award in the children's book category
- Nominated for the 2024 German Children's Literary Award
- Nominated for the Reykjavík Children's Book Award
- Nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize

From the German Children's Literary Award jury:

“Dagny (Dawn) is overjoyed: for the first time, she is traveling with her family to visit her grandmother on a small island. But nothing lives up to their expectations. Not only is the harsh nature and the wild climate uninviting, but the 200 islanders also show Dagny's family little hospitality. They all live together in the only building on the island, a high-rise building with twelve floors, where the grandmother, as caretaker, strictly ensures that everyone contributes to the best of their ability and makes themselves useful. The new arrivals also have to produce electricity by cycling, fight parasites, milk cows or prepare canteen meals. The well-being of the whole consistently takes precedence over individual interests. When acts of sabotage endanger the cohesion of the household, first-person narrator Dagny has to avert suspicion from her own family.

**“It is a bizarre thought experiment that the Icelandic author duo imaginatively and subtly shapes into a story that is as funny as it is moving. In lively and illustrative language, which was translated from Icelandic by Gisa Marehn, the children's book tells of the challenges of living together and how solidarity, compassion and respect are essential for a society.”**

*Island* received a fantastic reception in Iceland, including rave reviews in local media, with one reviewer writing, **"A classic in the making... reminiscent of the works of giants of Scandinavian children's literature, such as Astrid Lindgren."** The story was inspired by the Alaskan town of Whittier, where everybody lives together in one giant building.

<https://hulda-arndis.net/blokkinn-a-heimsenda-the-island-on-the-edge-of-the-world/>

## **LAUREN YERO**

### **UNDER THIS FORGETFUL SKY (2023)**

*Publisher:* World English: Atheneum/S&S

**\*Poets & Writers Get the Word Out pick\***

**\*Kirkus Reviews Best of the Month\***

*A star-crossed love story set in a near-future Chile where walled-in cities protect the world's wealthy few from the outside world's environmental devastation, in which a boy desperate to save his high-profile father must rely on a girl working in secret with rebels who want to destroy his whole world.*

Sixteen-year-old Rumi Sabzwari struggles with the memory of his mother's death and a mistake he made a year ago that landed him in a mental institution. When a group of terrorists infects his high-profile father with a deadly virus, Rumi sees a chance to redeem himself. The cure for his father, if it exists, lies somewhere in the unknown world beyond Upper City's walls. Venturing out would mean near certain death. But what does he have to lose?

In the ruined city of Paraíso, he crosses paths with Paz, who is assigned by the Library elders to guide him on his perilous journey to the curandera rumored to have the medicine his father needs. As they travel together, Rumi finds himself drawn inexorably closer to her. He knows that Paz is an orphan, that she is a trusted and talented scout, and that she has a sinner's arm, shriveled from Upper City's toxic waste. What he doesn't know is that Paz has a secret: she's a spy for the very same rebels who infected his father in the first place.

Gain the boy's trust, the rebels said when they recruited her. And together we'll bring down Upper City. Now Paz must find a way to keep hating Rumi—even as they flee together from a pack of wild dogs and feral children. Even as they dodge the deadly members of Las Oscuras. Even as they begin to dream of a future without oppression, without walls...

*Under This Forgetful Sky* weaves together the voices of two star-crossed lovers as they struggle to find their place in a brutally unequal world.

Lauren's writing has been published in Viva Travel Guides: Chile and her translations appear online in Revelader magazine and in print in The Biosphere and the Bioregion. Though her father is Cuban, a feeling of disconnection to her heritage led her to learn Spanish while studying and working abroad in Spain, Argentina, and eventually Chile, where she drew her inspiration for this novel. Lauren earned her B.A. from Davidson College and her M.A. in Literature from the University of Nevada Reno.

"Heartbreaking and heartfelt... Blending a star-crossed romance and a dystopian world of haves and have-nots, this intricate novel explores the topics of power dynamics, inequality, and revolution with nuance. The gorgeous writing and emotionally impactful character arcs fully deliver on the darkness of the premise." — **Kirkus, Starred Review**

"*Under This Forgetful Sky* is an exquisitely crafted debut set in a smartly realized world. Rumi and Paz are characters to cheer for, and their page-turning story is both a heart-rending romance and a nuanced exploration of inequity. Highly recommended." -- **Rae Carson, New York Times bestselling author of The Girl of Fire and Thorns series**

"The fully fleshed-out characters and their distinctly human connections juxtapose the delicately crafted sci-fi world. . . . Yero molds a convincing dystopian society that explores how technological advancements and political corruption can affect future generations." — **Publishers Weekly**