

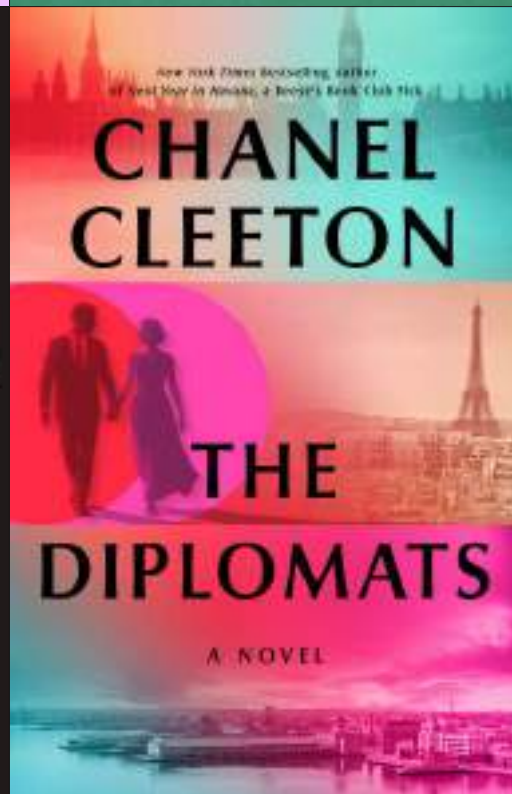
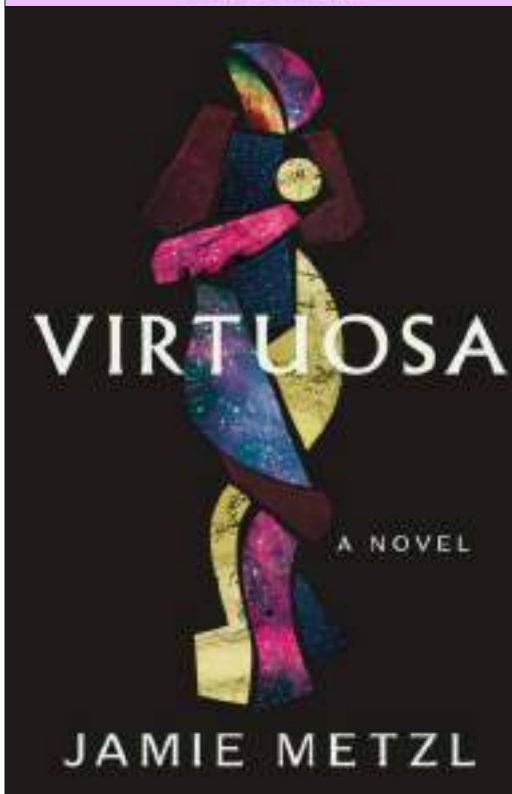


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BIRD KING RISING:
Letters from Maynara book 2
 by Samantha Bansil

Black Salt Queen imagined a magic-infused Philippines untouched by colonialism—and ended with a shocking cliff-hanger. *Bird King Rising* offers the stunning conclusion to the *Letters from Maynara* duology

A new queen reigns. A rebellion stirs. Will she risk it all to rule?

Newly crowned queen Laya Gatdula is determined to prove her worth to her subjects, her family, her rivals—and herself. When whispers of rebellion and rumored sightings of a giant raptor in the mountainous Skylands reach the capital, Laya must face the terrifying realization that her ex-lover and rival, Luntok, might still be alive and coming for the throne. Though she already wields power over wind and rain, to quell the threat from the north, Laya seeks the ultimate weapon: lightning.

Torn between the counsel of two men—her beloved confidant and her ruthless uncle—Laya must trust herself to cement her legacy and hold the throne. Is it better to earn her nation's loyalty through benevolent rule or risk everything to become an all-powerful god? And with Luntok rapidly gathering his army, will she live long enough to make the choice?

From Samantha Bansil, a brilliant, fresh voice in AAPI fiction, *Bird King Rising* returns to the world of *Black Salt Queen* with the gripping conclusion to an epic story of duty and strength, passion and betrayal, and the devastating cost of war.

Also in the series



- * #1 New Release in Asian Myth & Legend on Amazon
- * An ABA Winter Institute Rep's Pick
- * *People Magazine*, Book Influencers Recommend Their Most Anticipated Books of 2025
- * *We Are Bookish*, 20 Debut Novels to Read This Year

"[A] captivating read filled with love, power and betrayal...."
 — *Booklist*



Samantha Bansil is a fantasy writer and marathon napper. She's a sucker for tearjerkers, extravagant settings, and unlikeable protagonists. When she's not writing, she can be found wandering bookstores and ricocheting between continents. She works in Paris, France as a content marketer.

www.samanthabansil.com

Fantasy



Bindery Books

October 2026

Trade paperback

108k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Will be supported by tastemaker Kevin T. Norman who has a combined following on TikTok and Instagram of over 370,000, and was chosen as an LGBTQ+ Trailblazer, a title awarded by TikTok to only 12 creators from the US for their work with the LGBTQ+ community. He has been featured on *The Kelly Clarkson Show*, *Forbes*, *Teen Vogue*, *Spectrum News*, *NBC News*, *The New York Post*, *Rolling Stone*, and more

• **Previous book, *Black Salt Queen*:**
 — Listen to our short podcast about *Black Salt Queen* [HERE](#)

Primary agent:

Chelsea Hensley
 Mad Woman Literary

Material: Available

TO CONSPIRE AGAINST GODS:

Reckoning Storm book 2

by R. A. Basu

Perfect for fans of *The Poppy War* trilogy and the *Green Bone* saga, the finale to the *Reckoning Storm* duology interrogates the crumbling structures of colonial power—and the people who prop them up

She sparked the rebellion. Now she has to survive it.

Poppy Sutherland clawed her way to the seat of vicereine against all odds, and now she wants to lead her people into a new era of equality.

But gaining power is easier than keeping it, and her people are starting to tire of her slow progress as the empire tries to bring her to heel. Amid violent protests, betrayals from allies, and a new magical relic that threatens to overturn the playing field, Poppy is forced to choose between the systems she fought so hard to overthrow and the uncertainty of a new revolution...one she finds herself on the wrong side of.

An epic finale to a saga of politics and power, *To Conspire Against Gods* examines the cost of being caught between the world as it is and the world as it should be.

Fantasy

Bindery Books

July 2027

Trade paperback

97k words

Rights available: British and translation

Foreign sales:

Spain 2 books (Urano)

- Will be supported by tastemaker Emma Skies, a content creator from Northern California with nearly 200,000 followers across social media

- **Previous book, *To Bargain with Mortals*:**

— *Winter is Coming*, 5 Upcoming Fantasy Books that Could Become the Next Big Franchise

Rights holder:

Bindery Books

Material: Available

Also in the series



“Full of cinematic South Asian world building, complex colonial politics, and a clever magic system, *To Bargain With Mortals* is an incredible, ambitious debut. R.A. Basu has a gift for epic storytelling and an incisive eye for character dynamics that makes this novel shine.” — **Vaishnavi Patel, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Kaikeyi***



R. A. Basu is the author of *To Bargain with Mortals*. An Indian Canadian author from Ontario, she graduated from the Schulich School of Business at York University in 2021 and works in app development. When she's not reading or writing, she can be found playing cozy video games, fighting for her life in Pilates classes, and searching for the best matcha in the city. She currently lives in Toronto.

www.rabasu.com

WITCH DAUGHTER

by Tanaz Bhathena

In her adult debut, award-winning author Tanaz Bhathena expertly weaves a tale of love and loss in ancient Persia with her take on the timeless tragedy of Tahmineh, a temptress, a witch, a victim, or, perhaps, a woman trying her hardest to protect her loved ones...

Rumors of witchcraft follow Princess Tahmineh like a storm cloud, making it impossible for her to secure herself a marriage or any kind of future. With her father, the king's, health in question, it becomes shockingly clear how desperate her situation will soon become in his absence. If she doesn't act now, she will quickly find herself destitute and desperate.

Tahmineh seeks out a prophecy, from which she learns she will fall in love with a warrior of great renown named Rostam and bear him a son. However, she is warned this match is a dangerous one for her. Heedless of the warnings, Tahmineh boldly orchestrates a meeting with Rostam and the two develop a close friendship and ultimately fall in love and marry. At the peak of her joy, Tahmineh gives birth to Sohrab, Rostam's son.

All too soon, Tahmineh learns the tragic second part of the prophecy. Father and son will meet as enemies in battle and one will die at the hand of the other. What follows is a mother's desperate attempt to undo the threads of fate and try to protect her son at all costs. Readers who love mythological retellings and powerful women will devour this adaptation of one of the most tragic and underrated witches in all of folklore.

"A beautifully rendered mixture of magic and the Middle East." – **Jodi Picoult, #1 New York Times bestselling author**

"A bold love story and a proper journey into a fascinating and exotic world." – **Lauren Kate, #1 New York Times bestselling author**

"Mezmerizing." – **Library Journal**

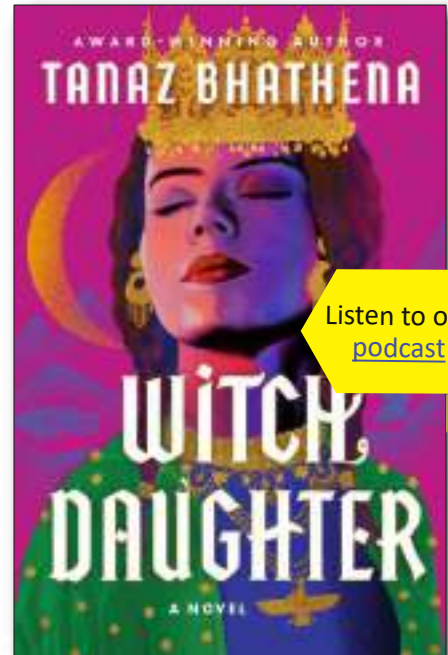


Tanaz Bhathena is an award-winning Zoroastrian author of contemporary and fantasy fiction. Her books include *Of Light and Shadow*, *Hunted by the Sky*, which won the White Pine Award and the Bapsi Sidhwa Literary Prize, and *The Beauty of the Moment*, which won the Nautilus Gold Award for Young Adult Fiction.

Her acclaimed debut, *A Girl Like That*, was named a Best Book of the Year by numerous outlets including *The Globe and Mail*, *Seventeen*, and *The Times* of India. Her short stories have appeared in various publications including *The Hindu*, *Blackbird*, *Witness*, and *Room*. Born in India and raised in Saudi Arabia and Canada, Tanaz lives in Mississauga, Ontario, with her family.

<https://tanazbhathena.com>

Fantasy



Listen to our [podcast](#)

Grand Central
September 2026

Hardcover
70k words

Rights available: British and translation

- Sold at auction in a "significant deal" two-book deal
- Listen to our short podcast about *Witch Daughter* [HERE](#)
- Award-winning author

Primary agent:
Danielle Burby
Mad Woman Literary

Material: Available

THE HEARTH WITCH'S GUIDE TO SPITE & SPELLWORK:

The Hemlock Saga book 2

by Kiri Callaghan

Puzzling circumstances surrounding the death of a local witch brings Saga and Avery back together in book two of this modern fantasy mystery series

As the bastard child of the late Erlking, Detective Avery Hemlock is used to being alone. Two-hundred years ago, she preferred it. But after endangering Saga's life by involving her in a case, Avery must choose solitude for Saga's safety. For once, alone is starting to feel a lot more like lonely.

Following her grandmother's murder, and the discovery of the fey world, Saga Trygg is trying to find direction, heal, and figure out where she fits in in this new version of normal. Though she longs to enlist Avery's help, after jeopardizing their last case together and nearly getting herself killed, she knows it's best she stay out of the detective's way.

But when the death of a local witch might be the staged result of a vicious revenge hex, the enigmatic circumstances and puzzle are too curious to keep them apart. A case bigger than it appears, the two must uncover secrets even the Winter Council wants to keep. Nothing is initially as it seems, even the truths they themselves have held for years.

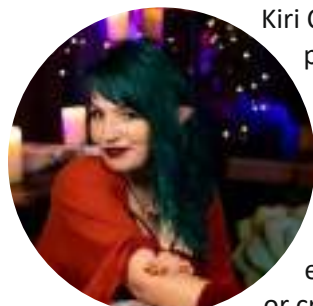
"A sapphic, fantasy Sherlock Holmes with a changeling detective and a witch of a Watson? Count me in every time!" – **Liz Parker, author of *Witches of Honeysuckle House***

Also in the series



"All cozy fantasy and mystery readers should have this magical book on their shelves." – **J. Penner, author of *A Fellowship of Bakers & Magic***

"Cozy without veering into saccharine, Callaghan writes a romantic fantasy-mystery that balances its components well." – **Library Journal**



Kiri Callaghan is an author of fantastical fiction, a performer, and a poet. Existing work consists of *The Terra Mirum Chronicles*, *The Seek Anomalie* podcast, and a collection of original poems performed live at the Los Angeles Poetry Brothel. When Kiri is not telling stories or pretending to be other people, she is likely exploring the world, dancing under the moon, or crafting something with superglue, paint, and

sheer audacity. She resides with her ridiculously stunning wife, the sweetest ball python to ever exist, and a raccoon/bunny hybrid masquerading as a cat in Los Angeles, California. www.kiricallaghan.com

Fantasy mystery



Poisoned Pen Press

October 2026

Trade paperback

160k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

• **Book 1 in the series, *The Hearth Witch's Guide to Magic and Murder*:**
— An instant *USA Today* bestseller
— Hit #15 in Cozy Fantasy, Amazon
— A Most Anticipated book of October at *Autostraddle* and *BookRiot*
— Poisoned Pen Press did a special deluxe edition with sprayed edges and interior art
— Listen to our short podcast about *The Hearth Witch's Guide to Magic and Murder* [HERE](#)

Primary agent:
Danielle Burby
Mad Woman Literary

Material: Available

THE LEAGUE OF LOST SOULS

by KJ Charles

Ocean's 11 meets *The Chosen* and *the Beautiful* in a heart-pounding gothic fantasy

Make a wish. Lose your soul.

Eleanor Knox and her fellow guests thought the occult ceremony to make wishes was just a party game. They were dead wrong.

Almost seven years later, their accidental deal with the devil is coming to an end. At midnight on Halloween their souls are forfeit, and the man who deceived and entrapped them will triumph.

Giles Wingate has wealth, influence, dangerous lackeys, and a supernatural entity of unimaginable power doing his bidding. Eleanor has a bad-tempered witch, a failed journalist, and her three fellow wishmakers, none of whom can stand the others. Wingate's going to rip them to shreds.

Eleanor and her reluctant allies have just two months to turn their carelessly made wishes—unwanted, useless, dangerous—into weapons against Giles Wingate's growing, terrible power.

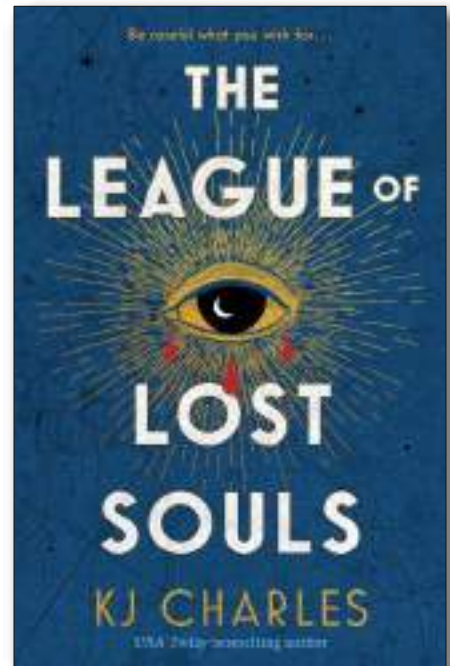
Damned if they do. Damned if they don't.

"Start with a magic ritual gone wrong, add some incredibly creative cursed talents, and then ratchet up the tension. *The League of Lost Souls* is a delightfully intense ride with deeply intriguing worldbuilding. A real page-turner!" - **Caitlin Rozakis**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Startup Hell*



KJ Charles spent 20 years working as an editor in London publishing before switching sides to become a full-time writer, mostly of queer historical romance, often with fantasy and murder. She has published close to 40 novels and been translated into eight languages. KJ currently lives in London with her husband, two kids, a retired cat, and a carnivorous garden. kjcharleswriter.com

Gothic fantasy



Tor Books

March 2027

Trade paperback

113k words

Rights available: Translation

Foreign sales:
British (Tor UK)

- First book in a duology
- Multiple award-winning author
- *USA Today* bestselling author
- **Previous book, *All Of Us Murderers*:**
- A #1 Amazon Bestseller in LGBTQ+ Mysteries
- A LibraryReads Hall of Fame pick for October 2025
- *BookPage* Top 10 Best Mystery & Suspense books of 2025
- Los Angeles Public Library Best Fiction & Literature of 2025
- NPR Books We Love 2025
- *All About Romance*, Best Books of 2025
- Starred review, *BookPage*

Primary agent:
Courtney Miller-Callihan
Handspun Literary Agency

Material: Available

THE DIPLOMATS by Chanel Cleeton

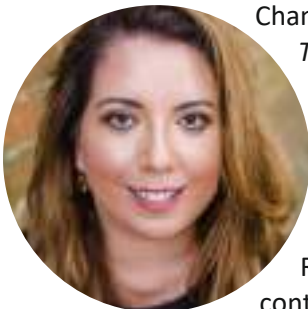
When her ex-husband reappears after decades of being presumed dead, a diplomat will unravel the mystery of what really happened on the fateful night that ripped them apart

Julia Winters joined the foreign service at the height of the Cold War, when the opportunities for an adventurous woman fluent in several languages were filled with possibility. After 20 years of countless overseas postings, Julia is given her final assignment. It will be a sunset on a career filled with equal parts success and scandal, thanks to a passionate and tumultuous romance with the charming and enigmatic diplomat, David Murphy—a love that ended in disaster.

But when Julia returns to Washington, D.C. where her career began, she starts receiving cryptic letters that suggest that the Soviets are in possession of a mysterious machine that slips the bounds of time and could tip the balance of the Cold War in their favor—the very machine David allegedly died trying to uncover nearly two decades ago.

While questioning everything she thought she knew, Julia must race against time to find the machine, bring her ex-husband back from the past, save the world from a dangerous weapon, and undo the one decision she's always regretted—walking away from the love of her life.

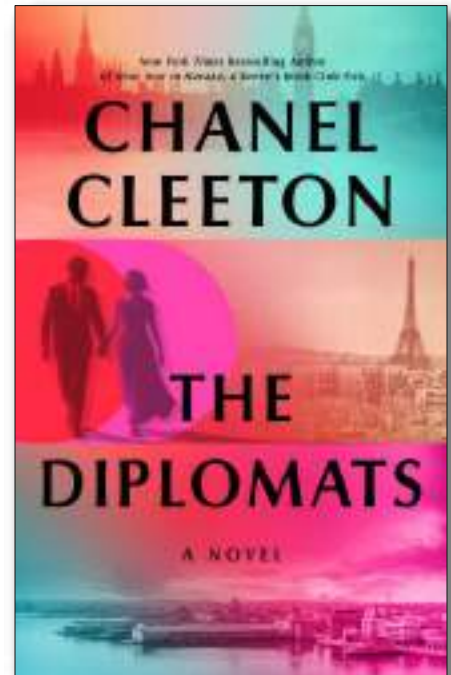
“The whisper that had been winding its way through her from the instant she opened that envelope became louder, more insistent. And as difficult as it was to accept the possibility of something as wild as time travel, it was also becoming harder to deny that the evidence pointed to the fact that David was somewhere out there.
Alive.”



Chanel Cleeton is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick *Next Year in Havana*, *When We Left Cuba*, *An Infinite Love Story*, and several others. Originally from Florida, Chanel grew up on stories of her family's exodus from Cuba following the events of the Cuban Revolution. Her passion for politics and history continued during her years spent studying in

England where she earned a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Richmond, The American International University in London and a Master's degree in Global Politics from the London School of Economics & Political Science. Chanel also received her Juris Doctor from the University of South Carolina School of Law. www.chanelcleeton.com

Women's fiction



Berkley

July 2027

Hardcover & trade paperback
88k words

Rights available: British and translation

Previous foreign publishers: Germany
(Droemer Knauer)

• *New York Times* bestselling author
• **Previous book, *An Infinite Love Story*:**
— *Publishers Weekly* starred review
— Most anticipated from NPR, *Woman's World*, *Parade*, and Bookbub

Primary agent:
Kevan Lyon
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

THE TERRARIUM

by Katie Collom

A true crime fanatic uncovers a nefarious secret when she takes a peculiar cat-sitting assignment in this spine-tingling thriller

Annie's life is going nowhere—she's in her 30s and getting by with cat-sitting jobs. While her clients head off on exotic beach holidays, Annie is left scooping litter and wondering how she ended up as the spectator in other people's lives. Her one sliver of excitement is *Cuppa Crime*, a true crime podcast with an active online forum where she dissects murder mysteries with other fans.

That is until a new client reaches out to book Annie's services. Zoe is aloof and mysterious, and she seems intent to keep it that way. She gives Annie access to her house and handwritten instructions on how to look after her darling cat, Hades—all without meeting, or speaking, in person. When Annie sees her beautiful home, she can't help but be jealous of the glamorous and wealthy jetsetter. Soon, she's vicariously living through the client she's never met, her imagination running wild with the possibilities of inhabiting another life.

And yet something feels wrong. It's not just the closed-off room Annie is explicitly forbidden from entering. When odd souvenirs begin to pop up in Zoe's home—souvenirs that seem connected to ongoing murder investigations—Annie suspects that there may be a more sinister side to her client.

Is it all in Annie's head, the product of too much true crime and an overactive imagination? Or are her instincts on point? Because the number one rule of *Cuppa Crime* is "trust your gut." And if Annie's gut is telling her anything, it's that her cat-sitting client may be a serial killer.

“What is it, boy?” Zoe's sudden proximity snaps my focus back. Only a shock of dark, curly hair and part of a rounded chin and cheekbone are visible to me as Zoe gazes down at the cat. But it's enough. She's here, so close that if I reached a hand through the ajar door, I'd be able to touch her. Trail my fingers along her bare arm. Tug on a spiral of hair.



Katie Collom, a life-long expat and world traveler currently resides in York, England with her husband and two cats. She spends her time penning dark thrillers, working as a freelance writer, and creating typographic art from books. *Peter Miles Has to Die* was her debut novel. www.katiecollom.com

Thriller



Bantam

November 2026

Hardcover

66k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

- Listen to our short podcast about *The Terrarium* [HERE](#)
- **Previous book, *Peter Miles Has to Die*:**
— *Crime Reads*, Most Anticipated Crime Fiction of Summer 2025

Primary agent:
P.S. Literary Agency

Material: Available

HUSH LITTLE HAUNTINGS

by Marie Croke

Model Home meets *Delicate Condition* in this hauntingly original gothic horror about a mysterious midwife tasked with delivering hauntings who must uncover the truth behind her newest patient's uncanny birth before it tears her world apart

Within Midhouse, a secluded manor deep in the woods, midwife Halie has a strange calling: overseeing the births of hauntings. Each arrives as an uncanny miniature—perfect replicas of places steeped in pain and unresolved wrongs. And once nestled within Midhouse's walls, they reach ghostly fingers back into the world, seeking justice and retribution.

When Midhouse's newest patient, Isabelle, arrives, Halie expects a routine birth, but the house-child is fragile, incomplete in a way she's never seen. Halie suspects Isabelle is hiding a dangerous secret. Then strange men arrive at her door—and Midhouse changes.

Corridors lengthen, rooms disappear, and Midhouse itself becomes hostile. To survive, Halie must uncover the truth behind Isabelle's arrival before she's lost in a haunting of her own.

“With a shallow, almost dismissive, nod, Halie beckoned the younger woman inside and gestured to the phantoms to close the front doors behind her. They moved within the shadows obediently, their forms amorphous, clinging to the crags and corners Midhouse bestowed on them. One wrapped itself behind the large palm in front of the window, startling the woman momentarily, and there it hovered like a cat, listening attentively. When the wind was safely blocked and a relative quiet descended in the arched entranceway, Halie asked, “When are you due?”



Marie Croke is a fantasy, science-fiction, and horror writer with almost 50 stories in publication. She is a graduate of the Odyssey workshop, first place winner in the Writers of the Future contest, and her work has been published or is forthcoming in *The Best Horror of the Year Anthology*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Apex Magazine*, *Diabolical Plots*, *Flash Fiction Online*, *Fireside*, *Cast of Wonders*, and *The Orange & Bee*

among other magazines and anthologies. She has worked as an editor for multiple magazines, including *khôréō* and *Dark Matter INK*, and has written reviews for *Apex Magazine* and articles for writers for the SFWA Blog. She lives in Maryland with her family and enjoys crocheting, kayaking, and aerial dancing in her free time. mariecroke.com

Gothic horror



Saga Press/Simon & Schuster

March 2027

Trade paperback

65k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Listen to our short podcast about *Hush Little Hauntings* [HERE](#)

Primary agent:

Kaitlyn Katsoupis
Belcastro Agency

Material: Available

REN VON LUGENBACH'S ABSOLUTELY UNNECESSARY ADVENTURE

by Fox de Winter

A cozy fantasy novel for readers who embrace the fun and accessible magical worlds found in books like *Legends and Lattes*, *Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries*, and *The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches*

Ren wants nothing more than to never return to her home city of Lüddowen. After running away years ago, she loves her quiet, risk-free life as a librarian at Yardly College. So when her boss—a cat-obsessed dragon with a penchant for knitting—requests she attend an auction in Lüddowen to procure an ancient spell book for the library, she isn't thrilled. But she doesn't want to lose her job (and a promotion would be nice), so she reluctantly agrees to the assignment.

On the train ride to Lüddowen, a woman named Tilda barges into Ren's cabin and spins a tale about needing help to hide from her brother. Ren seizes the opportunity to use Tilda as a smokescreen to distract anyone from her past she might run into in the city and agrees to help Tilda hide if she'll agree to attend the auction. And so begins an unlikely, flirtatious friendship between a cautious librarian and a curious woman who is surely up to more than she's letting on.

When the spell book is stolen from the auction immediately after Ren places the winning bid, her trip to Lüddowen is extended indefinitely, as she now needs to navigate rivaling dragons, trapped filing cabinets, family feuds, and a curse that literally puts her life in danger—all in the interest of finding a book. And woven into this whirlwind of events are Ren's growing feelings for Tilda...even though she very well might be at the heart of Ren's bookish problem.

Ren is forced to leave books behind and face the mistakes of her past on this absolutely unnecessary adventure that just might change her life forever.

Cozy fantasy

Union Square & Co.

April 2027

Trade paperback

104k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:

Maria Vicente

P.S. Literary Agency

Material: Available



Fox de Winter (she/they) is a writer of fantasy and horror with a soft spot for fairy tales. She grew up in a rural but nontraditional household, and saw *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* at a formative age. Gothic manor houses, hauntings, and spooky forests are some of her favorite motifs. They studied enough Latin and German to confidently not summon demons. When she isn't writing, Fox can be found

hunting for battered murder mysteries, watching horror movies, or cuddling their black cat. *Ren Von Lugenbach's Absolutely Unnecessary Adventure* is her debut. @fleetingfox on Instagram

THESPIANS: A TRAGEDY

by Remy Fink

Horror

The theater-kid cliché of “If I don’t ‘make it’ by the time I’m 30, I’ll die” takes a dark, literal turn in this dazzling horror debut

Hell’s Hundred/Soho Press

May 2027

Hardcover

71k words

On September 30th, Chloe St. Claire sets herself on fire. One month later, Zachary Downing throws himself off a building. Both were aspiring actors and drama school classmates, and both died on their 30th birthdays.

Rights available: British and translation

Primary agent:

Claire Harris
Helm Literary

Material: Available

Struggling playwright Dante Pérez was the last person to see Zach alive. Haunted by an exchange they had that day, in which Zach hinted that somebody might be stalking him, Dante decides to investigate Zach's death and discovers a disturbing trail of breadcrumbs that point toward a sinister—and potentially supernatural—figure, “the Muse,” which seems to decide which of its victims live or die based on their professional success (or lack thereof).

As the clock ticks closer to their 30th birthdays and the Muse claims more victims, the dwindling ensemble of surviving friends—hubris-stricken Dante, downtrodden ex-director Abby, actual Hollywood starlet Sierra, and uncategorizable Jesse—must attempt to achieve fame and fortune...or die trying.

Filmmaker Remy Fink’s stylish debut freewheels through styles and perspectives and will hit hard with anybody who’s ever been a theater kid...or wanted to kill one.

“Zach breathes out, and his lungs produce a fog indistinguishable from the smoke of his cigarette. Soon his body weakens. His chest flutters and his knees buckle. He puts his left hand on the railing to steady himself, and that’s when he sees the figure inside the tram car.

It is far away, hidden in the shadows, but the silhouette is unmistakable. Tall, hulking, shoulders rolled forward. Dark and imposing. Zach clenches his jaw. He tells himself it’s a dream, just another dream. He closes his eyes. “Wake up,” he mumbles. “Time to wake up.”



Remy Fink is a New York City-based writer and director. He is the creator of the \$5.00 Shorts project, a series of short films, each made for \$5.00 or less. His work has screened at the Shorts Night Film Festival and Black Web Fest. He is also an accomplished photographer, having created The American Lens photo series, book, and exhibition. His short story “Hermit” was published in *Short Story*,

Long. *Thespians: A Tragedy* is his debut novel. remyfink.com

STRANGE LIGHTS

by Mira González

For fans of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* and Kevin Wilson's *Nothing to See Here*, *Strange Lights* is a joyride in a sentient Winnebago with a quirky cast of cryptids

Paranormal investigator and cryptozoologist Reggie has embraced her fate as parent to an adopted toddler, Eldi—a blood-sucking chupacabra with a fondness for goats. Reggie wants nothing more than to put her complicated past in the rearview mirror and fade into as much obscurity as her toddler will allow. But a rash of UFOs in the night sky and a couple of crop-circle-carving Roombas force Reggie into an investigation that attracts the attention of an old enemy, an anti-supernatural agency hunting for creatures like Eldi. To outwit them, Reggie must team up with Calvin: a podcaster-turned-werewolf whose charm is a real threat to Reggie's rule against romantic attachments.

With Reggie's history quickly catching up to her and Eldi in the agency's crosshairs, any shred of normalcy evaporates. Reggie must decide: Can she confront her dark past to save Eldi—and an entire alien species—from getting wiped out of the universe?

"Mira González has achieved a feat as breathtaking as a cryptid sighting: merging the high-stakes suspense and fantastic world-building of the best sci-fi with the tender heartbeat of a family epic. Reggie is the kind of compelling protagonist I will always root for, and I dare any reader to not fall in love with Eldi at first growl. In *Strange Lights*, González proves that even otherworldly adventures lead to the most complicated place of all: home. I love this bold, bright, far-reaching tale." — **Sara Flannery Murphy**, author of *Girl One*

"Delightfully bizarre. Deliriously engaging. And it has goats." — **Gwenna Laithland**, author of *Momma Cusses*

"A wild ride! Expect possessed robotic vacuums, magical Winnebagos, and the most unique found family setup you'll encounter, all against a thrumming undercurrent of the power of connection—and the value of always looking for the helpers. *Strange Lights* is essential reading for those of us who want to believe." — **Hazel Graves**, author of *Four Weddings and a Funeral Director*



Mira González is a full-time author and chaos manager of three small humans. You can find her escaping into novels or traveling. Equal parts personal experience and a wildly overactive imagination inspire her stories. Though her children are the inspiration for the monster toddler in her book, her husband is regrettably not a werewolf, and she can only dream of a sentient Winnebago.

www.miragonzalezwrites.com

Science fiction



Bindery Books

October 2026

Trade paperback

98k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Will be supported by tastemaker Jaysen Headley, a content creator known as Ezeekat, who celebrates and curates diverse voices in books, games, and other media. Jaysen is listed in the top 5 Booktok influencers in the world with over 719k followers on Tiktok and over 224k on Instagram, as well as nearly 10,000 members of the Ezeekat book club on Fable

Rights holder:

Bindery Books

Material: Available

THE NINTH GIRL: Special Agent Emily Ray book 4 by Michele Domínguez Greene

An unputdownable, ripped-from-the-headlines thriller that will keep you turning pages long past midnight. The fourth installment in the addictive *Special Agent Emily Ray* series is perfect for fans of Karin Slaughter and Lisa Gardner

A young waitress vanishes from a Hollywood nightclub after her shift. When her sister's desperate plea goes viral on TikTok, it reaches the one FBI agent who knows exactly what it's like to be the missing girl.

Twenty-one-year-old Gigi Bensette never makes it to her car, and the LAPD writes her off as a runaway. But Special Agent Emily Ray—taken herself as a child, now the FBI's most relentless hunter of the missing—can't look away. She uncovers something far darker than a missing-persons case: a black-market ring preying on young women and forcing them to bear babies to order.

The man at the center is protected, untouchable, always one step ahead. And this case could not come at a worse time. Emily's marriage is ending and her family is breaking apart—but to save these women she must keep her focus if she's going to bring the captive women home before they vanish for good.

Also in the series



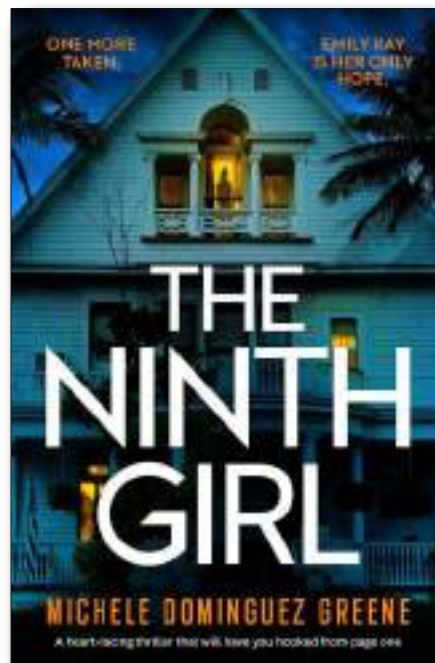
"Truly unputdownable."
— @honeybee.reads on
Instagram



Michele Domínguez Greene is an author and Emmy-nominated actress with a long-standing career in the arts. She attended USC, studying theater arts and creative writing. Her first young adult novel, *Chasing the Jaguar* (HarperTeen), was nominated for an ALA Award and included on the New York Public Library List of Recommended Reading for Teens.

She is a proud member of SAG-AFTRA and has appeared in numerous television series, independent films, and theater productions. She is the Artistic Director and founder of Adelante Arts Collective, a non-profit performing and language arts program serving at-risk youth and underserved communities. She resides in Los Angeles, California. www.micheledominguezgreene.com

Thriller



Storm Publishing
October 2026

Trade paperback
64k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:
Jill Marsal
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

OUR CUT OF SALT

by Deena Helm

An unflinching, sinister, and moving take on the haunted house novel, from a bold new Palestinian voice. Perfect for fans of *The Only Good Indians* and *The Haunting of Hill House*

There is something haunting Nuha's childhood home in Haifa. Cats avoid its perimeter, strange noises come from within, and residents have mysteriously vanished without a trace. Although Nuha has not returned to her home since the Nakba in 1948, she always held a place for the house in her heart.

And, in return, the house did the same for her.

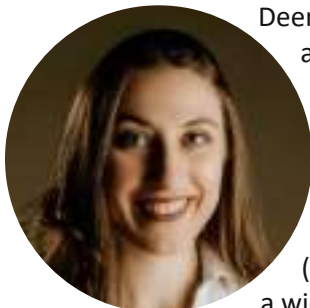
After Nuha passes away, her granddaughter, Marina, is determined to visit her grandmother's home after a lifetime of being kept in the dark about her culture and family history. Marina's mother, Haifa—named for the city that was lost to their family—reluctantly agrees to her trip, though she knows firsthand that some secrets are better left buried.

But the house is no longer a home. It is a painful, festering wound that infects everything it touches. The more Marina digs into her family's past, the sicker she becomes. Despite Nuha's ghostly warnings, Haifa rushes to help her daughter.

As the three women converge in their ancestral home, they must put the haunting to rest before the secrets of the past drown them all.

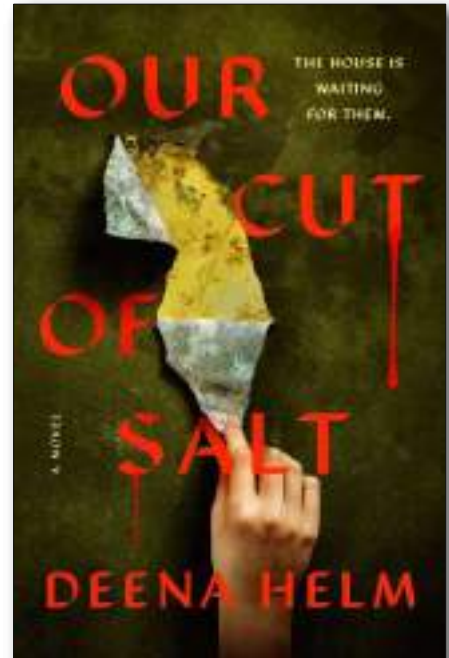
"Lyrical and haunting, *Our Cut of Salt* explores the horrors of occupation via the lens of three generations of women as well as a one-of-a-kind haunted house. A disturbing, mesmerizing read." — **Paul Tremblay**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Horror Movie* and *Dead But Dreaming of Electric Sheep*

"An unforgettable revenge drama with a supernatural twist....A significant achievement, deploying fabulism to dark, impressive effect to convey historical horrors that, as Helm asserts, are still repeating." — **Shelf Awareness**, starred review



Deena Helm (she/her) is a Palestinian-American author and an alumna of Wichita State University. Her works are in *Fikra Magazine* and *So To Speak*, and she is also a Quillers SWANA mentee. Alongside her literary endeavors, she currently works in social media and holds a platform on TikTok (@deenagreenbeana), where she engages with a wide audience on Palestine. She asks that you, the reader, do everything in your power to resist genocide and deepen your commitment to liberation for all. <https://deena-helm.com>

Literary horror



Tor Nightfire
September 2026

Trade paperback
93k words

Rights available: Translation

Foreign sales:
British, pre-empt, 2 books (Orbit)
Turkey (Destek)

• Sold at auction

Primary agent:
Alex Brown
Mad Woman Literary

Material: Available

QUERIDA: by Roberto Cofresí Hopgood

Literary fiction

Set in near-future Mexico, Texas, and the Caribbean, *Querida* speaks to how we construct our personal realities, through a propulsive plot with grounded speculative elements and subtle, incisive commentary on class and power

Inked in Gray
Summer 2027

Trade paperback
105k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

• Lead title

Primary agent:
AJ Van Belle
Booker Albert Agency

Material: Available

Maria Collins, a 60-year-old Mexican-American queer punk firecracker, is on a mission to destroy the family book, *Querida*, that has become the centerpiece of her 100-year-old megalomaniac father's global religious empire. The book, rumored to rewrite itself every time it's opened, is highly addictive. By getting rid of it, she'll bring her father's dominion crashing down. But first, she has to find it.

Upon confronting her father for the first time in decades, Maria learns *Querida* has been stolen. The thief is Maria's long-ago girlfriend and one true love, Fritz, who vanished 40 years ago. Her father claims he's found Fritz on an isolated Caribbean island. To her chagrin, Maria and her father must join forces to have any hope of reaching the book—or Fritz. To survive the twisty journey, she has to come to terms with her hatred of her father, her love for Fritz, and the role played by this supposedly magical book her great-grandmother wrote.

As Maria plunges ahead toward the book and Fritz, fighting to maintain hope that there's more to life than struggle, she takes the reader on a journey of family, class, environmentalism, aging, love, and how we use language to make meaning.



Roberto Cofresí Hopgood is a Puerto Rican (Boricua/Caribbean/Latinx) writer and a graduate of Rice University. He's the author of *Bellows: Fables from the Musical Underground* (2013). More recently his stories (in English and español) have appeared in *LatineLit*, *Smokelong Quarterly*, *The Write Launch*, *Enclave*, *Evento Horizonte*, *Drunk Monkeys*, *Claridad*, and more

as well as various anthologies. He grew up as a single son of a single mother with two influential grandmothers, one an adventuring mystic, the other a gypsy poet. This upbringing, along with having lived in Mexico, Texas, Colorado, and the Caribbean, is reflected in *Querida*: He currently lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

RESONANT

by Jeremy Jacobson

An epic antediluvian fantasy about the struggle between power and free will—and what happens when the chosen make choices of their own

Ranian is finishing the final hunt of his servitude to a shepherd merchant when a Firesong shudders through his mind. Elva, a Bell Maiden in training, hears it while aiming a knife at an assassin's heart. Imbron's studies are upended when the music passes through his body.

A Firesong of such strength hasn't been heard in millennia, not since the Sundering tore the world into its Five Realms. It can only mean that a danger of corresponding magnitude is approaching...if it's not already here.

The godly Authority has given its warning signs, and the Resonant have a decision to make: Will the three strangers abandon everything—including their values—to fulfill their calling to protect the Realms?

"Resonant is an impressive debut, set within a well-constructed world, featuring an imaginative magic system and populated with intriguing characters. There's a lot here for readers to love." – **John Gwynne**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Fury of the Gods*

"Resonant feels like dipping back into a classic fantasy realm with no shortage of stones to unturn. It has fantastic writing and characters who kept me turning pages well past my bedtime." – **Evan Leikam**, author of *Anji Kills a King*

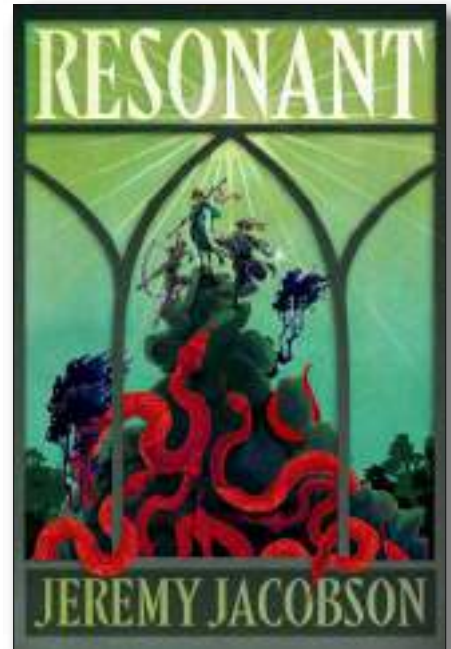
"Resonant takes everything I love about classic fantasy and transforms it into something new, fresh, and truly incredible." – **Jaysen Headley (@ezeekat)**, global top five BookTok influencer, 772k TikTok followers



Jeremy Jacobson is a clinical case manager working with a non-profit mental health center in Denver, Colorado. He holds a BS in psychology from Drexel University and previously worked for several years at autism centers in Denver and San Diego. Jeremy loves to write about worlds with deep and intricate lore, holding a particular fascination for strange and massive cities. *Resonant* is his debut. @jermattjake

on Instagram

Epic fantasy



Bindery Books

October 2026

Trade paperback

128k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Will be supported by tastemaker Zoranne Host, a book reviewer with over 135,000 followers on social media. She's also the founder of the online fantasy book club Fantasy & Frens

Rights holder:
Bindery Books

Material: Available

NINE TO DIE

by Jimmy Juliano

When members of a baseball team from 20 years ago start dying, in order of their field positions, the truth of what happened all those years ago will come to light.

9, 8, 7, 6, 5...4, 3, 2, 1...Will any of them make it out alive?

In the '80s, star pitcher Alex Drew seemed destined for the big leagues before he abruptly unraveled on the mound, hung up his cleats, and was never heard from again.

Twenty years later, Jerrica Lillard picks up the phone at her mother's house. A woman she doesn't know named Dakota insists Jerrica's mother is in danger, that five members of the 1983 Williams Harbor baseball team—including her boyfriend—have all died under mysterious circumstances, in reverse order of their positions on the field, in the last 13 days. That the team is being targeted.

Jerrica doesn't know how to respond. She didn't even know her mother played baseball, and the possibility of her being on a death list seems impossibly farfetched. But there's a reason her mother kept quiet about being on the team all those years ago—and everything ties back to Alex Drew.

The more Jerrica and Dakota dig into the past, the closer they get to the truth of what happened all those years ago—and the entity that's been hunting their loved ones.

Will any of them make it out alive?

Also by Jimmy Juliano



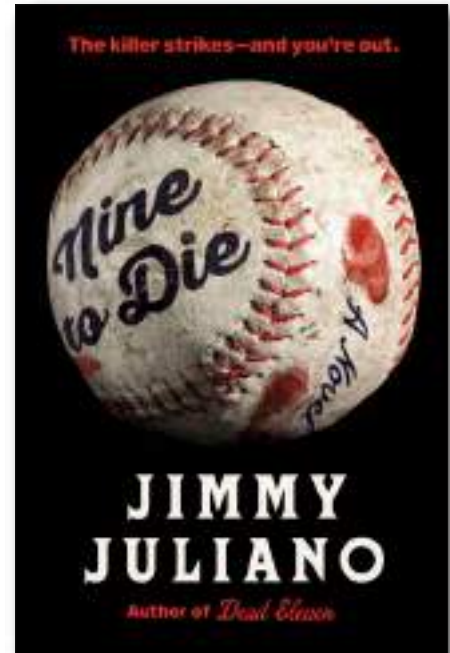
"[A] breathtaking debut thriller....Juliano draws memorable characters and places them in an indelible setting, using artful prose and judicious dashes of dark humor to leave a major impression. It's a scary-good debut." — *Publishers Weekly*, starred review



Jimmy Juliano is a writer and high school educator. Several of his stories have gone viral on the Reddit "NoSleep" forum, and his debut novel, *Dead Eleven*, is currently in development at A+E Studios. He lives outside Chicago with his wife, daughter, and miniature Goldendoodle.

www.jimmyjuliano.com

Horror



Dutton

Spring 2027

Hardcover

96k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Previous foreign publishers: Poland (Muza)

• Previous book, *Dead Eleven*:

- Nearly 100k copies sold
- Currently in development for television with A+E/AMC
- Starred review, *Publishers Marketplace*

Primary agent:

Liz Parker
Parker Projects

Material: Material available

THE FOREST BLEEDS

by Rachel Kitch

For fans of Rachel Harrison and Alix E. Harrow, a speculative horror with romantic elements that combines the magical dark academia of *The Atlas Six*, the unsettling atmosphere of *Mexican Gothic*, and the psychosexual power dynamics of *The Last Housewife*

Saige Chambers, Arcane Bioengineering student and blood witch, is constantly anxious and chronically over-prepared. When Saige and her fellow witch doctoral candidates depart for a conference, she plans and anticipates every last detail. Except she's not prepared for the moment their bus turns off the highway and takes them to a remote mansion in the Appalachian Mountains, the gates sealing shut behind them.

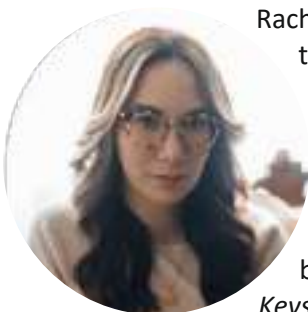
The mansion's owner, Arius Medea, issues a simple mandate: fix his injured, rotting leg or die. But it's no ordinary injury—the flesh melts off the bone, emitting waves of foul magic that set Saige's blood alight. Saige's colleagues want to fight back and escape. Saige thinks their best chance is to fix him fast and get out.

As tensions rise, Saige finds herself growing closer to Vaishnavi Sri, a poison witch and Saige's long-term crush. But first impressions can be misleading, and as Saige's reluctant attraction to Arius grows, she begins to wonder if there's a better life waiting for her in the walls of this mansion.

But, as one by one, Saige's colleagues start to disappear, Saige realizes that dying may not be the worst option—because there are far worse fates lurking in the woods.

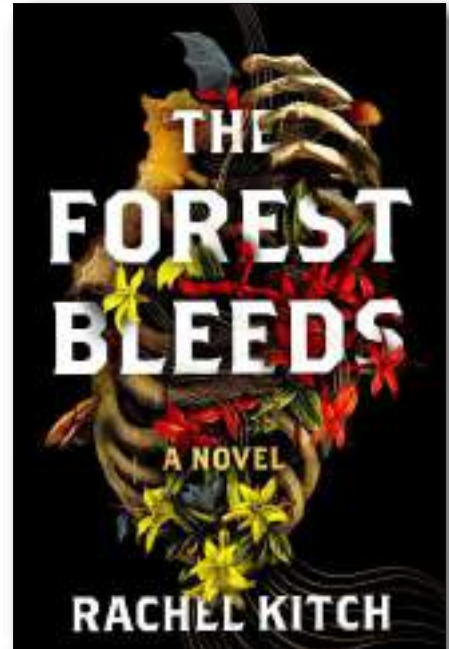
"The Forest Bleeds is big pharma folk horror, a prescription written in a grimoire, an alchemical blend of dark academia and fantasy that bleeds over every page. Whatever Rachel Kitch writes, you better believe I'll be worshipping it." – **Clay McLeod Chapman, Bram Stoker Award-winning author of *Shiny Happy People*, *Acquired Taste*, and *Ghost Eaters***

"[C]ompelling as fuck, cool as hell, and character-driven in a uniquely fascinating way. I'm blown away by Kitch's storytelling and her world." – **Sam Rebelein, Bram Stoker Award-nominated author of *Galloway's Gospel***



Rachel Kitch was born in Thailand, then moved to the US in her childhood. She has a Bachelors degree from West Virginia University and loves to incorporate Thai and West Virginia folklore into her projects. She has a love of writing unsettling, creepy books that still have a spark of light. Her short fiction has been published in *Prismatica* and *Crow & Cross Keys*. www.rachelkitch.com

Speculative horror



Union Square & Co.

October 2026

Hardcover

93k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Watch the author talk about the book [HERE](#)

Primary agent:

Rose Ferrao
P.S. Literary

Material: Available

CRACKS

by Kristy Park Kulski

Horror and myth collide when a Korean American teenager's grief summons something ancient: a water ghost that has been feeding on her family's sorrow for decades

Dark strands of hair crack the corners of my sight, suspended as always in the air, spidering and floating as if in liquid. Mul-gwishin. Water ghost.

Gracie Russell feels she belongs nowhere. In suburban 1990s Washington, she is constantly at sea—struggling with her biracial identity, her father's violent alcoholism, and her mother's looming mortality. When Ji-eun dies, Gracie will lose her last chance to mend their relationship. But she can already feel her mother slipping away, pulled by the tides of memory back to authoritarian 1970s South Korea. The secret she buried there has awakened something in the deep. And now it is rising.

As Ji-eun's body weakens and the autumn rains fall in torrents, the sound of dripping water haunts Gracie. Cracks form in the basement wall, exposing a crumbling passageway to a sea of liquid darkness, and Gracie is running out of time. The mul-gwishin is coming for her.

For readers of Catriona Ward and Han Kang, *Cracks* is a harrowing vision of heritage, violence, and the histories that possess.

“Why did Older Sister send the bracelet, after all these years? How did they find it? Stuck between rocks? Drudged from the bottom of the sea in some fisherman's net? Such a surprise that the thing survived mostly whole. I can still catch the scent of the ocean on the plastic.
She is coming.”



Kristy Park Kulski is a Bram Stoker Award-winning, Korean American author, editor, and historian. Her work is often inspired by feminism, history, folklore, and a morose imagination. She's the author of gothic horrors, *Fairest Flesh* and *House of Pungsu*, as well as the editor of the acclaimed anthology *Silk & Sinew*. Before publishing her writing, she

inhabited a variety of careers from cryptologic technician and video game designer to teaching college history. She's a third-generation US military veteran of both the Navy and the Air Force and holds degrees in history and creative writing. Born in Honolulu, she now lives in the woods of northeast Ohio. www.garnetonwinter.com

Literary horror



Bindery Books

April 2027

Trade paperback

78k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Will be supported by tastemaker Naomi Darling, an Indigenous book content creator

Rights holder:
Bindery Books

Material: Available

TO DREAM IN DARKNESS

by Ann Liang

Ann Liang returns with a new historical fantasy set during the Ming dynasty, for fans of *Daughter of the Moon Goddess*, *Song of Silver Flame like Night*, and *Circe*

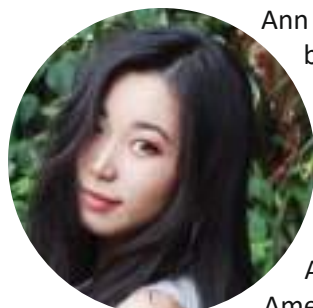
China, in the age of brilliance, where gods freely wander the three realms. Amongst them is the cruel and beautiful Death God, who might not particularly enjoy his job, but has never failed to collect a soul on time before. Until now. For when he seeks out Rujia, the noble god of healing—and the only god he is fated to kill with his own hands—she makes him an offer he can't refuse: she will help lift the excruciating, century-old curse placed upon him so long as he gives her a one-month reprieve.

Rujia knows she isn't anywhere near as noble as everyone believes. Her deal with Death is merely an excuse to buy herself time while she figures out an escape plan. But when her plan inadvertently causes the Celestial Palace to collapse and the beloved crown prince to go missing, she and the Death God are both held responsible. The only way to avoid the combined wrath of all the other gods is to travel across the realms and safely retrieve the crown prince themselves.

Yet the journey proves far more treacherous than expected. As the unlikely alliance between them blooms into something else, and the Death God's resolve to kill Rujia weakens by the day, neither can outrun their intertwined fate without devastating consequences: A mysterious plague. An empire-destroying flood. A thousand deaths—and rising—to restore the balance Rujia's disrupted. And if Rujia continues to live despite the will of the Heavens, this is only the beginning....

"Lyrical, heart-wrenching and gloriously romantic. Hades and Persephone meet Romeo and Juliet to give us the ultimate in star-crossed lovers who must defy the heavens to be together." — **Jennifer Saint**, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *This Immortal Heart*

"*To Dream in Darkness* is a sweeping tale of forgiveness, doomed love, and the exquisite pain and joy of living. Romantic, aching, and impossible to put down." — **Allison Saft**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Dark and Drowning Tide*



Ann Liang is the *New York Times* and Indie bestselling author of the critically acclaimed YA novels *This Time It's Real*, *If You Could See the Sun*, *I Hope This Doesn't Find You*, and more. Her books have sold into over 20 foreign territories. Born in Beijing, she grew up traveling back and forth between China and Australia, but somehow ended up with an

American accent. She now lives in Melbourne, where she can be found making overambitious to-do lists and having profound conversations with her pet labradoodle about who's a good dog. www.annliang.com

Historical fantasy



NYT
bestselling
author!

Listen to our
[podcast](#)

St. Martin's Press

October 2026

Hardcover

112k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Foreign sales:

British (Tor UK)

Bulgaria (Peppermill)

Germany (Knaur)

Russia (MTS)

Spain (Penguin Random House)

Turkey (Olimpos)

Ukraine (Family Leisure Club)

Publishers with options: **Arabic** (Arab Cultural Center), **Brazil** (Globo), **Germany** (Knaur), **Hungary** (Könyvmolyképző), **Indonesia** (Mizan), **Poland** (Vesper), **Russia** (Exmo), **Turkey** (Olimpos), **Ukraine** (Family Leisure Club)

- Sold at auction in a major 2-book deal
- Listen to our short podcast about *To Dream in Darkness* [HERE](#)
- **Previous book, *A Song to Drown Rivers*:**
 - Instant *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *Publishers Weekly* bestseller
 - An Amazon Editors' Pick for Best Books of the Year 2024
 - A Good Morning America book club pick

Primary agent:

Kathleen Rushall
Andrea Brown Literary Agency

Material: Available

STRIP RULES

by Martin Limón

In this raucous, high-stakes heist novel, a down-and-out card counter gets the chance to turn his life around by taking down a ruthless Vegas casino boss

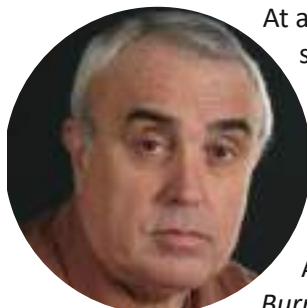
Blackjack pro Ronnie “the Technician” Redfield, the “most feared card counter between Vegas and Reno,” has his life blown up when a casino owner decides to take him down. Card counting isn’t illegal—since thinking isn’t illegal, yet—but the court battle costs Ronnie, a Vietnam vet, his livelihood, his sobriety, and his family. His wife is dead and his teenage daughter Margot has disappeared. Ronnie has failed her so badly he doesn’t know how to begin looking for her.

Now, three years later, he’s just about dug himself out of his hole. He’s living in a trailer outside Vegas when his old army buddy “Wild” Bill Grimsley, now a casino handler for high rollers, shows up in a limo to drag Ronnie back to into the action. Bill has a revenge plot to take down Rodrigo Gwynne, the nastiest, most exploitative casino owner on the Strip. Bill’s grudge is personal, but Ronnie’s involvement will be strictly professional, what he does best: make money off the house. If he succeeds, Ronnie’s share of the take will be enough to get his life back on track—and hire a detective to track down Margot.

To infiltrate Gwynne’s casino, Ronnie assembles a team of misfit geniuses, blackjack pros who excel at role-playing or flying under the radar. The plan is off to a raring start, the card counters evolving their strategy through every new setback, when intimidation erupts into deadly violence. Ronnie could yet lose everything—was his comeback worth the risk?

Cult favorite crime novelist Martin Limón, author of the *Sueño & Bascom* series, delights in his first-ever standalone, drawn from his own experiences card-counting at the blackjack table.

“I loved *Strip Rules*. Martin Limón aces it again with characters who stay with you, sharp dialogue, and wry, telling insights.” — **Cara Black**, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Aimée Leduc* series



At age 17, Martin Limón joined the army and served briefly as a reporter for the *Pacific Stars & Stripes* in Seoul, Korea. During five tours in Korea, he studied the language, traveled the country from the DMZ to the Yellow Sea, and was personally embroiled in the clash of cultures on this trip-wire edge of the American empire. His first novel, *Jade Lady Burning*, was published by Soho Press in 1992 and

was selected as a Notable Book of the Year by the *New York Times*. The series features 8th Army detectives George Sueno, from East L.A., and Ernie Bascom, a native of the suburbs of Detroit. www.martinlimon.com

Crime



Soho Crime
August 2026

Hardcover
52k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

• A stand-alone novel from the author of the popular *Sueño and Bascom Investigations* series

Primary agent:
Jill Marsal
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

FIND ME IN THE STARS

by Erin Litteken

Atmosphere meets Lessons in Chemistry in this novel set against the riveting backdrop of the 1960s Space Race and inspired by real events

Lida, a former Soviet astrophysicist, lost her family and career in WWII, and after marrying an American soldier and settling into 1950s suburbia, she lost herself. When her husband's new NASA job takes them to Huntsville, Alabama, Lida's past begins to bleed into her present, making her wonder if the voices that have come back to haunt her are a figment of her imagination or the key to reclaiming all she's lost.

Teddy, an accomplished young pilot, jumps at the chance to be a part of the first Women in Space program in 1961. But when it becomes necessary to pick between astronaut testing, saving her family's airport, and the two men vying for her love, Teddy must decide what it is she truly wants, and what—or who—she's willing to sacrifice to achieve her dreams.

As the Space Race intensifies, Teddy and Lida's orbits intersect, revealing Lida's buried secrets and forcing the two women to make choices that are not only life-altering, but deadly. Because all is not as it seems in Lida's seemingly perfect household—in fact, there are far more secrets behind that white picket fence than Lida's alone.

“Teddy's chin rose in the air, anger and hurt dissipating the doubts clouding her mind as if she'd flown her plane through a dark storm and emerged on the other side to find clear, blue skies. “Arthur, you've been my best friend for as long as I can remember and I will always value that friendship. But, I think we made a mistake in trying to make it more than that. This isn't working. We aren't working.”



life

Erin Litteken is an international bestselling author of historical fiction. Her debut, *The Memory Keeper of Kyiv*, has been translated into 14 languages and was the 2022 winner of the She Reads Best Historical Fiction Award. With a degree in history and a passion for research, Erin draws inspiration from her family roots, and in particular, her great-grandmother's stories about life in Ukraine before, during, and after WWII. She lives outside of St. Louis with her husband and two children.

www.erinlitteken.com

Historical



Harper Muse

February 2027

Trade paperback

84k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Publishers with options: Denmark (Gutkind), **Finland** (Bazar Kustannus), **Germany** (Lübbe), **The Netherlands** (HarperCollins)

Previous foreign publishers: Catalan (Navona), **Czech** (MOBA), **Denmark** (Gutkind), **Finland** (Bazar Kustannus), **France** (Bragelonne), **Germany** (Lübbe), **Hungary** (Alexandra), **Italy** (Piemme), **Lithuania** (Balto Leidybos Namai), **The Netherlands** (HarperCollins Holland), **Norway** (Aschehoug), **Poland** (Muza), **Portugal** (ASA/Grupo Leya), **Romania** (Univers), **Sinhala** (Sarasavi), **Spain** (Navona), **Sweden** (Bazar Forlag), **Ukraine** (Holomodor Research and Education Centre)

• **Previous book, *The Memory Keeper of Kyiv*:**

— Nominated for Best Historical Fiction of 2022 by She Reads.com
— Pinterest, Recommended Summer Read
— *Fortune Magazine*, 10 new page-turning novels you should read this summer

Primary agent:

Kevan Lyon
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

DELICIOUS MINDS

by Thea Liu

Razor-sharp and viciously decadent dark academia debut featuring a prestigious secret society with a deadly hunger for knowledge

Frenton University, Virginia, 2002.

After his older brother's untimely death, grad student Ari Lin yearns to escape his parents' struggling bakery. Then a cryptic invitation arrives.

It takes only one taste of the elite and enigmatic Asclepion Society to ensnare Ari. Although entry into the society's inner circle is highly exclusive, Ari and his fellow candidates Thomas and Cleo strike up an intoxicating bond as they strive for approval.

But as academic and romantic rivalry sink sharp teeth into the trio, they discover the society's pursuit of all human knowledge is fueled by strange and sinister methods of procurement. And darker yet, Ari can't ignore the suspicious connections between his beloved society and his brother.

A seat at the table will give each of the trio the thing they need the most, if only they can stomach what it takes to get there....because Knowledge is an acquired taste....

There, with his eyes closed and the organ's repeating lullaby winding to a temporary end, Ari imagined the three of them together like this, forever, linked arm in arm as they explored places he'd only ever glimpsed in travel brochures and ate food he'd never dreamed of affording and shook loose all the knowledge to be had in the world and ate it also.

Ari wanted more than that, though. Just a little more.



Thea Liu is a Taiwanese fantasy and horror writer. She is a Pitch Wars 2018 alum and was a Write Team Mentorship Program critique mentor in 2024. Aside from writing and reading, her hobbies include photography (digital and film), journaling, scrapbooking, and graphic design. She lives in Taipei with her two cats, neither of whom understand that she would prefer to have both hands available to write.

www.authorthelialiu.com

Dark academia

Sourcebooks

May 2027

Trade paperback

115k words

Rights available: Translation

Foreign sales:

British (HarperVoyager)

Spain (V&R)

Spain audio (Audible)

- Debut
- Sold at auction, in a two-book deal

Primary agent:

Laura Bradford

Bradford Literary Agency

Material: Available

A COMPLEMENT OF SCOUNDRELS

by S.V. Lockwood

A female-led *The Lies of Locke Lamora*—where the stakes are high, the wit is sharp, and the outlaws are as cunning as they are charming

There are many ways to bring down the man who betrayed you—and Myria Cadessa has thought of them all.

Cracking the Elysium Vault should've made Myria the richest thief in all Carintheum. Instead, it shattered her crew and left her rotting in jail while her double-crossing master walked away with everything that should've been theirs.

But now she's out, and it's time to settle the score. Reunite her crew? A pleasure. Steal back everything her erstwhile leader took? And then some. She'll just need to trick the king of all tricksters with the law on her heels—not to mention a troublesome new ally whose loyalties seem as conflicted as his feelings for Myria. It's the most audacious heist she's ever attempted. But she failed her crew once and now she'll make it right at any cost.

A Complement of Scoundrels is a bold, raucous journey through the underbelly of an empire where the devil's rules reign, and morality, loyalty, and friendship are values few can afford. But where there's a wit, there's a way—and Myria has plenty of that.

"I loved this. Starting with a heist and morphing into a revenge story, it's a terrific debut. Well-drawn, sympathetic characters lead the way with an ensemble of rogues and a gallery of side characters; a beautifully constructed world and a villain to loathe. This is a book I would highly recommend. A lot of fun with an emotional punch." — **John Gwynne**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Faithful* and the *Fallen* series

"A stunningly imaginative debut. Lockwood's prose is smart, sharp, and relentlessly charming. The city of Carintheum, from its vibrant streets to the seedy warrens of the grayside, is as colorful and compelling as the characters who inhabit it. I was hooked from the very first page, and I seriously doubt I'll read a better book this year." — **Nicholas Eames**, author of *Kings of the Wyld*



S. V. Lockwood is a writer and lawyer living in Australia. *A Complement of Scoundrels* is her first novel.

Fantasy



Listen to our
[podcast](#)

Bindery Books
September 2026

Trade paperback
119k words

Rights available: British and translation

Foreign sales:
Russia (Eksmo)

- Will be supported by tastemaker Michael Kist, a book influencer who reads across every genre, with 330k followers on Instagram and 220k on TikTok @kistreadsbooks
- Listen to our short podcast about *A Complement of Scoundrels* [HERE](#)

Rights holder:
Bindery Books

Material: Available

KILLER INHERITANCE

by Stefanie London

Thriller

When three women inherit the estate of their dead friend—an estate they never knew existed—they discover it may hold the key to her death, and more....

PRH Canada

June 2027

Trade paperback

96k words

Rights available: British and translation

- *USA Today* bestselling author
- Award-winning author

Primary agent:

Jill Marsal
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

It's been seven years since anyone saw Charlotte McMahon and she has now been declared legally dead.

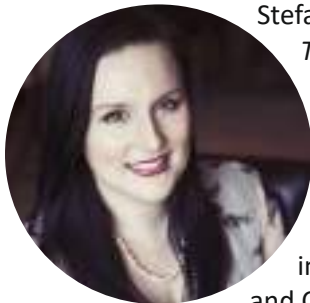
With Charlotte's spirit finally put to rest and her estate divided up, her three closest friends from university receive shock news—she has left them a house they never knew existed...and it might contain the key to her death.

They were once an inseparable foursome:

- Extreme sports enthusiast Carmen, who uses adrenaline to smother her guilt over a tragic accident with fatal consequences.
- Art Therapist Opal, who is uncovering her dark past through her paintings.
- Quirky tarot influencer Edith, whose health issues have held her hostage for too long.
- And vibrant, vivacious Charlotte, who seemed destined for far brighter things than disappearing while swimming in the harsh waters of Gunnamatta Beach.

The three women decide to spend a long weekend in their recently acquired opulent ocean-front holiday home, to celebrate Charlotte's life and to decide what to do with the unexpected inheritance. On the first night, they hear noises outside and find evidence someone has been living in the house. On the second night they are certain that Charlotte didn't die in a swimming accident.

And on the third night, one person winds up dead.



Stefanie London is a multi-award-winning, *USA Today* bestselling author of romantic comedies, cozy mysteries, and pulse-pounding thrillers. Stefanie's books have been called "genuinely entertaining and memorable" by *Booklist*, and "elegant, descriptive and delectable" by *RT magazine*. Her stories have won multiple industry awards, including the HOLT Medallion and OKRWA National Reader's Choice Award, and

she has been nominated for the Romance Writers of America RITA award. Originally from Australia, Stefanie lives in Toronto with her very own hero and is doing her best to travel the world. She frequently indulges in her passions for good coffee, lipstick, romance novels, and anything zombie-related. stefanie-london.com

FALLEN ASTRONAUT

by J S Mayank & David Carlyle

Presumed Innocent by Scott Turow meets *Dead Money* by Jakob Kerr in this un-put-downable thriller about a murder on the International Space Station

A dead body floats in the cupola of the ISS, spheres of blood oozing out of an open gash, suspended in mid-air.

American Charlotte Adams insists she killed her fellow astronaut Harry Lawson in self-defense. But the violent crime scene paints a damning picture. Now NASA must figure out how to bring her back to earth to stand trial. She's strapped into the capsule, sandwiched between a corpse and a pilot with PTSD. After the return trip nearly kills them, they crash land into the Atlantic. Once Charlotte sets foot on solid ground, things only get worse.

Given the unprecedented nature of everything that's happened, everyone expects Charlotte to choose a seasoned litigator. But she shocks the world by hiring her old friend instead—Nolan Cruz, a law-professor who hasn't practiced in years. A consummate family man, Nolan has his quiet life upended when he suddenly finds himself on the world stage, literally strapped to a rocket heading to the ISS.

He journeys into space alongside Kwame Davis. Who was almost an astronaut himself. But is now the only Special Agent in the FBI in a wheelchair. This case gives Kwame a chance to live out his dream, investigating a crime scene in zero gravity.

Armed with an encyclopedic knowledge of the law and a steadfast belief in the innocence of his client, Nolan must overcome solar flares, a leak on the ISS, conflicting recollections of a deadly spacewalk, and even the jury being transported into "space." But the question is, will it be enough to save Charlotte's life?



J S Mayank is a screenwriter and novelist. He's sold projects to Sony, Universal, CBS, ABC, and was the showrunner for a Netflix series. JS and his writing partner, David Carlyle, are the authors of *Fallen Astronaut*, forthcoming from Crown in 2027, and currently in development for film at Apple. This is their debut novel. Together they also wrote, produced, and directed the six-episode award-winning podcast

America 2.0, released by Realm.

Thriller

Crown
May 2027

Hardcover
104k words

Listen to our
[podcast](#)

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Foreign sales:
Germany, on pre-empt (Heyne)

- Sold at auction
- Film rights quickly sold, at auction, to Apple Features, who are fast tracking the film development
- Listen to our short podcast about *Fallen Astronaut* [HERE](#)

Primary agent:
Liz Parker
Parker Projects

Material: Available

VIRTUOSA

by Jamie Metzl

A spellbinding meditation on art, technology, and what it means to be human in an age when machines stand on the verge of genius, beauty, and even personhood

When a reclusive technology writer, estranged from his family, receives a surprise invitation from the world's most brilliant and controversial technologist to attend a secretive "event of the century" in Berlin, he reluctantly agrees to its perilous conditions: total secrecy, relentless surveillance through his own devices, and invasive sensors strapped to his body.

At the legendary Berlin Philharmonic, he joins a carefully curated audience to witness Viviana—a robot artist powered by their most intimate data—unleash performances of profound, otherworldly beauty that vault far beyond anything the world has ever known.

But when a fragile young pianist named Maya is unexpectedly invited to the stage, the Philharmonic transforms into an evolutionary crucible where the contest between human and machine creativity unfolds. Through this spectacle, the existential stakes for humanity's future come starkly into view.

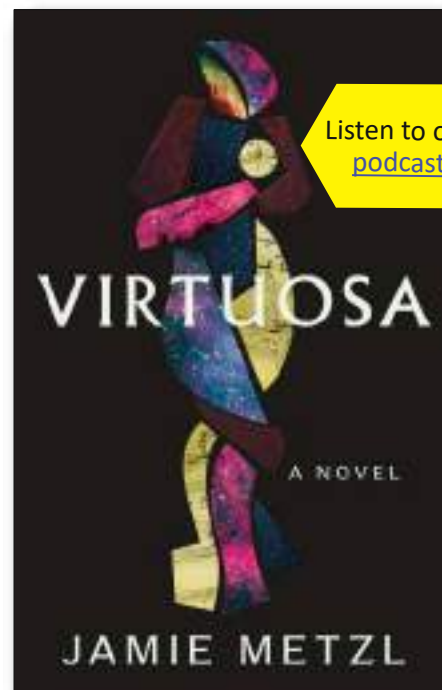
Virtuosa is a spellbinding meditation on art, technology, and what it means to be human in an age when machines stand on the verge of genius, beauty, and even personhood.

I didn't know whether we were cheering for human ingenuity, machine intelligence, science, art, beauty, the vast unknown, our own transcendence, or even our inevitable demise. It could have been all of them. It could have been none.



Jamie Metzl is one of the world's leading technology and healthcare futurists and the Founder and Chair of OneShared.World. He has served in the U.S. National Security Council, State Department, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and with the United Nations in Cambodia. His work has been featured by most major media organizations around the world and his podcast interviews with Joe Rogan and others have reached many tens of millions of listeners. The author of *Hacking Darwin*, *The AI Ten Commandments*, and four other books, he lives in New York City. <https://jamiemetzl.com>

Speculative fiction



Independently published
February 2027

Trade paperback
54k words

Rights available: British and translation

- Author is one of the world's leading technology and healthcare futurists
- Listen to our short podcast about *Virtuosa* [HERE](#)

Handling rights:
Taryn Fagerness Agency

Material: Available

THE ICE HARVEST

by Scott Phillips

Loaded guns, ladies of the night, broken neon, broken dreams. Here is a world that is immediately recognizable—through a shot glass at 3 A.M.

This is life with rough edges, in a novel that gives you the straight goods—point blank—one cold, snowbound Christmas Eve in Kansas. One single night, defined in shadings of black and white, when everything changes....

For most, the city is closing up. For a few outsiders, this night, Christmas Eve 1979, is just beginning. Charlie Arglist is a lawyer saying goodbye to Wichita by revisiting the landscape of his used up life: the cold stare of his angry ex-wife, the empty strip clubs and bars where loneliness turns a profit, the frozen glare of ex-lovers and cops long snuggled in his deep pockets. Club owner Renata, an elegant dish in a smoky dive, dreams of financial prosperity and holds a single frame of a stolen film that could help her achieve them. And there's Vic. He's got a reputation, a bad temper, and a secret worth half a million dollars. Not to mention a knack for bringing people together...for the last time. Before the night is over, the decisions they face and the choices they make will irrevocably alter the course of their lives—if they can live long enough to see Christmas Day sunrise.

"Bitterly funny....[A] sleek first novel....Noir crime...has found a sterling new champion in Phillips." – *The New York Times Book Review*

"Everywhere you look, trashy people are doing trashy things in this darkly delicious debut comic thriller....Newcomer Phillips's seedy characters are skillfully developed, particularly the semiremorseful Charlie."

– *Publishers Weekly*

"[A] pitch-perfect foray into pulp fiction, witty and bitter, with an ironic conclusion that makes a neat package. Slap a bow on this one, and it's the ideal stocking stuffer for all those Scrooges on your Christmas (or hit) list." – *Library Journal*

Scott Phillips is the author of eight novels and a collection of short stories. Born in Wichita, Kansas, he attended Wichita State University as a French Lit major and studied creative writing under James Lee Burke. In Wichita, he worked as a bookstore and record store clerk, photographic equipment salesman, portrait photographer, real estate photographer, and translator. Over the years in France, he worked as a translator/interpreter, French teacher, residential advisor, tour guide, cafeteria manager, and television writer. In California, he made the mistake of getting involved with the screenwriting trade. He now lives in St. Louis with his wife and daughter. www.scottphillipsauthor.com

Noir crime

Soho Press

(originally published by
Ballantine October 2000)

Spring 2027

Trade paperback

50k words

Rights available: Translation

Foreign sales:

British (Bedford Square)

- Winner of the California Book Award Silver Medal for Best First Fiction
- A *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year 2000
- Finalist for the Hammett Prize
- Shortlisted for the Crime Writer's Association Gold Dagger Award for Best Crime Novel
- Nominated for the Edgar Award for Best First Novel
- Nominated for the Anthony Award for Best First Novel
- Nominated for the Barry Award for Best First Novel
- Made into a 2005 film starring John Cusack, Connie Nielsen, and Billy Bob Thornton

Primary agent:

Noah Ballard
Buchwald

Material: Available

BUZZARD

by Inez Ray

A near-future dystopian sci-fi about the last midwife in the west who can perform abortions. If *A Handmaid's Tale* and *Mad Max Fury Road* had a baby, it would be *Buzzard*

Seven years ago, midwife Mae Bastet was arrested for infanticide in the fractious Southwest Territory for providing health care to women in need. She was torn from her sons and sent to Buzzard—a private prison deep in the Sonoran Desert, run by the paramilitary corporation Obsityan.

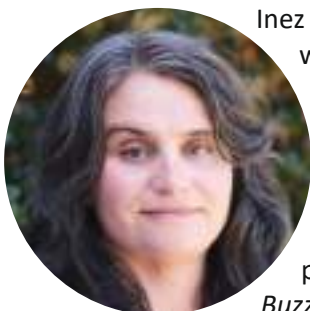
Desperate to reunite her family, Mae tries to keep her head down, swallow her prison-issued pills, and do her job as a glorified school nurse to Obsityan's army of teenage drone pilots. But when mysterious, improbable pregnancies begin cropping up in her charges, she uncovers a web of secrets that has the power to destroy Obsityan. Mae must choose: stay complicit in Obsityan's crimes or hold fast to her midwife's oath and risk never seeing her sons again.

Buzzard is a ferocious dystopian debut that traces the possible trajectory of our current political and technological reality—and the power of our deepest human bonds.

"Ringing with echoes of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* and Octavia Butler's *Parable of the Sower*, Inez Ray's *Buzzard* is a contemporary masterpiece of speculative fiction. With exquisite world-building, powerfully rendered heroines steeped in spiritual midwifery, and lyrically beautiful writing, this is a marvelous debut. It's also a warning call to us all. In these dark days of corporate malevolence and misogynistic fascism, Ray's future feels all too real. Read this book before it's too late, and let's begin building a better future together."

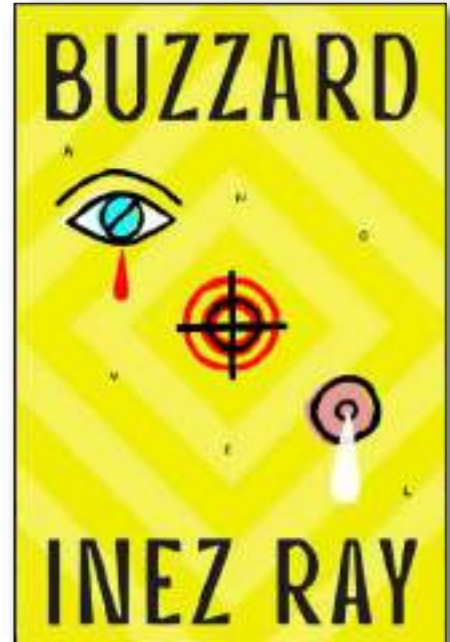
— **Alexander Weinstein**, author of *Universal Love* and *Children of the New World*

"Visceral and deeply intimate, *Buzzard* starkly examines the sociopolitical cost of the decisions we make in the present and delivers a timely omen of the future that awaits us all. An absolute must read." — **Elaine Ho**, author of *Cry, Voidbringer*



Inez Ray is a California-born, Puget Sound-based writer. She holds a bachelor of arts in creative writing from San Francisco State University and has been a doula and midwife assistant for over a decade. When not inviting readers to consider the future of humanity, she is parenting her three children, dancing with her partner, or throwing a stick for her two dogs. *Buzzard* is her first novel. www.inezray.com

Dystopian sci-fi



Bindery Books
September 2026
Trade paperback
105k words

Rights available: British and translation

- An ABA Indies Introduce pick for Best Debut Fiction of summer/fall 2026
- Will be supported by tastemaker Michael LaBorn, the founder of Left Unread Books, an imprint dedicated to dismantling systems of oppression one book at a time. He has a platform of 100K followers on TikTok, @leftunreadbooks

Rights holder:
Bindery Books

Material: Available

THE UNDERCOVER BOOKSHOP

by Katherine Reay

During the winter of 1950 in a small Cotswold village, amateur sleuth Gemma Brown starts to suspect that the town's best baker is a Soviet spy, tumbling her headlong into a dangerous game of cat-and-mouse

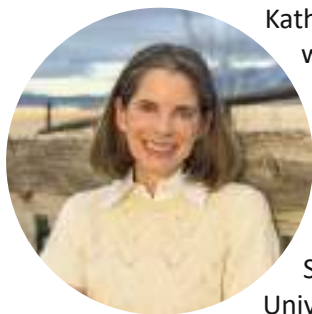
Recently moved to the English Cotswolds, Gemma Brown desperately wants to create the kind of idyllic life she's read about in her favorite mystery novels with herself as the leading lady. But fitting in proves difficult as Gemma is more adept at solving mysteries and setting up the village's first bookstore than she is at baking cakes or grasping social niceties. Nevertheless, she finds a friend in Peggy, a young woman recently moved to town herself, and Ursula Beurton, who is not only the village's best baker but an enigmatic figure who sparks controversy in the small-town gossip network.

As Gemma spends more time with Ursula, she begins to suspect all those novels are affecting her thinking. The oddities she starts to notice must be her imagination because, if not, they point to something far more dangerous than winning the local baking contest or being placed on the church committee. Could her neighbor be a real spy?

Following her instincts and a few skills learned through fiction, Gemma soon becomes embroiled in an international intrigue involving the village's mysterious benefactor, Lady Marchmont, MI5, and the KGB. In an unexpected twist, however, Ursula asks Gemma for a favor which may endanger all their lives as their next chapter unfolds in Gemma's new venture, The Undercover Bookshop.

"The Undercover Bookshop is both Cold War thriller and sweet romance with a wistful undercurrent of searching for a place to call home."

— **Karen White**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *That Last Carolina Summer*

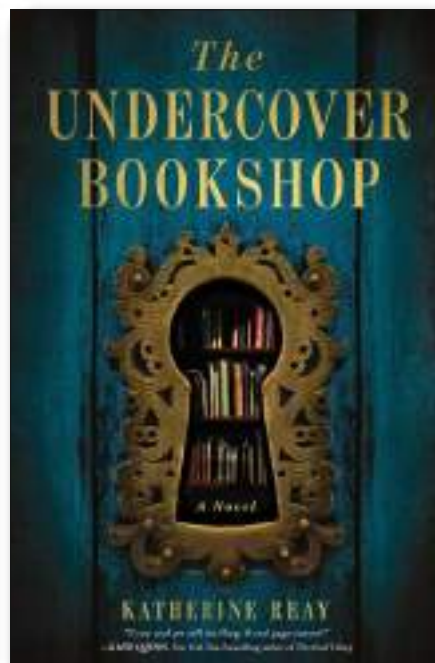


Katherine Reay is a national bestselling and award-winning author of several novels, including *The Berlin Letters*, *Dear Mr. Knightley*, and *The Printed Letter Bookshop*. She has enjoyed a lifelong affair with books and history and brings that love to her stories. Katherine has also written one full-length non-fiction work.

She holds a BA and MS from Northwestern University, graduating Phi Beta Kappa, and has lived across the country with a few years in England and Ireland as well. A full-time author and mother of three children, Katherine and her husband currently live outside Chicago, Illinois.

www.katherinereay.com

Historical fiction



Harper Muse

October 2026

Hardcover

81k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has World English rights)

Previous foreign publishers: **Arabic** (Al-Qantara), **Hungary** (Hitel Kiado), **Poland** (Arkady), **Russia** (Livebook)

• National bestselling and award-winning author

Primary agent:

Kevan Lyon
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

IT'S ONLY A GAME

by Sam Rebelein

An emotionally charged and propulsive puzzle box novel by Sam Rebelein, where a recently split couple must solve a haunted escape room together—or die trying

*If you're reading this email, YOU have been selected to participate in a C.A.C. Games Survival Experience! *scream emoji**

Remember: This is the most challenging survival experience on the market. Your horror will feel real. Your horror will show no mercy.

We are very excited to play with you. :)

A year after a bitter breakup, Julian and Millie are thrown back together by a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: an invitation to play a legendary 72-hour survival experience with a huge cash prize. The challenge: solve a series of elaborate puzzles inside the remote and reputedly haunted Clate Hill Lodge. Only one other contestant has ever successfully escaped, and Julian and Millie are desperate to make history.

But as the weekend begins, the line between performance and paranormal quickly blurs. The puzzles are impossible, the ghosts feel undeniably real, and the hotel seems to have a mind of its own. Caught between confronting the horrors of the hotel and the unresolved issues of their own past, Julian and Millie begin to wonder how much of the Lodge is only a game and whether the prize isn't money—but their own lives.

Sam Rebelein's newest is both a satisfyingly inventive puzzle box and an equally terrifying thriller that readers won't be able to put down until the final clue is solved.

"A Sam Rebelein book is guaranteed to scare you sh*tless and give you a great time. Rebelein creates such rich and unique worlds you'll start to wonder if they're real." – **CJ Leede, USA Today bestselling author of American Rapture**



Sam Rebelein holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Goddard College (with a focus on Horror and Memoir), a certificate of graduation from the Lubbock Area Square & Round Dance Federation, and that one trophy in The Last of Us Part II for when you beat the game on permadeath mode. Hard to say which of these is his greatest achievement. Sam lives in Poughkeepsie, New York, where he writes spooky

fiction and works as a Professional Tutor in the Writing Center at Dutchess Community College. His debut novel *Edenville* was nominated for a Bram Stoker Award and won a Wonderland Book Award for Best Novel. www.srebelein.com

Horror



William Morrow

February 2027

Hardcover

96k words

Rights available: British and translation

Previous foreign publishers: British (Titan), Russia (Exmo)

• **Previous book, *Edenville*:**

- Bram Stoker Award-nominee
- Winner of the Wonderland Book Award for Best Novel
- A *CrimeReads* Best Horror Fiction of 2023
- *Lit Hub*, 25 Novels You Need to Read This Fall
- *Chicago Review of Books*, 12 Must-Read Books of October 2023
- *Paste*, 25 Horror Books We Can't Wait to Read This Fall
- *Goodreads*, Fall's Most Anticipated New Horror Novels

Primary agent:
P.S. Literary Agency

Material: Available

THE MISFIT WITCHES OF MARIGOLD ISLAND

by V.K. Ruiz

Warm and witchy, this cozy fantasy and slow-burn sapphic romance is for fans of *The Spellshop* and *The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches*

A spell gone wrong leaves a witch powerless—but opens the door to a new kind of magic.

Paloma has spent a decade as a witch's apprentice, dedicating herself completely to the craft of spell casting. But even with her whole future planned, all it takes is one sneeze to send a spell awry, extinguishing her magic completely. Paloma's distraught: Without her powers, can she even call herself a witch?

At the gentle urging of her mentor, Paloma returns home to verdant, magical Marigold Island. There, she launches By the Broom, a successful courier service, and finds community in a house of other Queer misfit witches and their familiars—including a straw hat-wearing raccoon named Nori. Still, the ache of losing her powers—and her sense of self—lingers. Even a flirtation with Liss, the charming café owner whose chocolate chip cookies are literally enchanted to feel like a hug, can't quiet her grief. As she zooms around making deliveries, she can't ignore the blight creeping across the island—or the feeling that Marigold's magic is fading too.

Paloma's used to solving problems on her own. Can she learn to accept her limitations and trust her new housemates to help her save the island they all love before it's lost to them forever?

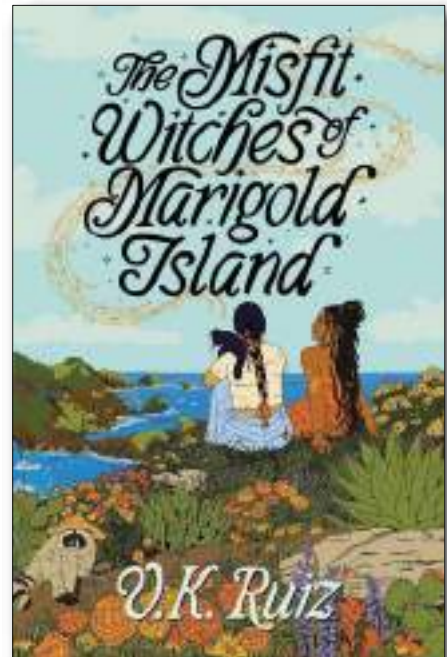
“My magic is gone, Ama. I can't even light a candle. I can't feel it in me anymore. I think it left me.” Her voice went quiet and she covered her face with her hands. “It left me like Dad did.”

“Oh, Mija, your Dad never left you. Just like you never left home. Some things are connected to us always, even if we can't see them or feel them.”



V. K. Ruiz is a poet turned novelist. They are a lesbian Mexican-American writer and publishing professional who loves crafting stories full of hope and magic. When they aren't writing, they are feverishly studying astrology, gaming, or cuddling with their cheese-loving dog and underworld-roaming gato. *The Misfit Witches of Marigold Island* is their first novel. <https://vruiz.me>

Cozy fantasy



Bindery Books

March 2027

Trade paperback

67k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Will be supported by tastemaker Jaysen Headley, a content creator known as Ezeekat, who celebrates and curates diverse voices in books, games, and other media. Jaysen is listed in the top 5 Booktok influencers in the world with over 719k followers on Tiktok and over 224k on Instagram

Rights holder:

Bindery Books

Material: Available

THEY WERE NEVER HERE

by Hannah Rutherford

Horror

Evoking the theme of powerlessness as in *The Devil All the Time* and reminiscent of the dark world of *Constantine*, a woman's search for her mother thrusts her into a dangerous supernatural world in this debut horror

Emma Sterling is thrilled when her sommelier boyfriend Sean invites her to meet his family in Bordeaux for the wine harvest season. Even though the news of his famous family is surprising, the prestigious Castera castle and vineyard is the best place for her to find a unique concept for her next culinary article.

But a sense of creeping dread surrounds her while staying at the estate. She notices unnerving details about the family dynamic and their strange traditions. More than just the taxidermized dog wall, the family's carnivore tendencies, and the rule that she's not allowed in certain areas of the castle. She has a feeling Sean has been harboring sinister secrets from her.

Unable to shake her intuition, Emma digs deep into the family's past, uncovering the horrifying truth about the Castera family. In order to survive, she must reckon with the darkest parts of herself, but if she's not careful, she might just become their next victim.

**Poisoned Pen Press/
Sourcebooks**
July 2027
Trade paperback
89k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:
Amy Giuffrida
Belcastro Agency

Material: Available

“As we drove back toward the castle, I tried to collect my thoughts and calm my racing heart. I was ridden with guilt from what transpired between Lucas and I, but what was cresting over that guilt was the fear of the unknown. Sean was withholding information. If Sean was hiding what happened to the housekeeper he had slept with, I would withhold what occurred with his brother in the smokehouse. What he didn't know wouldn't kill him.”



Hannah Rutherford graduated from Berkeley in 2021, with a degree in media studies. *They Were Never Here* is her debut.

www.hannahrutherfordauthor.com

WE, THE MISSING by Arwyn Sherman

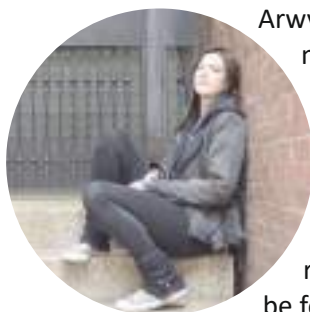
Evoking the theme of powerlessness as in *The Devil All the Time* and reminiscent of the dark world of *Constantine*, a woman's search for her mother thrusts her into a dangerous supernatural world in this debut horror

People disappear all the time in Caroline's fading city. They go off in search of jobs, they follow predatory men, or their addictions swallow them whole. In the last year, the number of missing people has skyrocketed, and Caroline is terrified her unstable, addict mother will be next. Not wanting to lose her only parent, she sets out to find the reason, hoping if she knows what's going on, she can save her mother.

What she discovers are literal monsters: demons from another dimension and angels so long forgotten by God that some doubt he's even real. She finds an ally in a new friend, Dani, but he turns out not even to be human, and he may be more involved in the missing than he admits. The closer she gets to the heart of the disappearances, the more danger she is in. The fight for her mother becomes a fight for her own survival as she is thrust into a dangerous supernatural world bent on making Caroline vanish forever.

"Brutally beautiful and tenderly tragic, *We, the Missing* compellingly blurs the line between angel and demon, man and monster. Its pages breathe with the skitter of Caroline's anxiety, the ache of her need for connection, and the desperation of her desire to save her mother. Sherman deftly weaves a supernatural mystery laced with grit and pairs it with a doomed romance that will claw into readers' hearts. A love letter to every lost girl who has searched far and wide for an ineffable something, only to find it was inside her all along!" – **Loretta Chefchaoui**, author of *The Lustrus Dark*

"*We, The Missing* is as elegiac as it is dark. The world Sherman has constructed brims with danger and melancholy at every turn, pulling you deeper into a spiral of addiction, decay, and abandonment. A world with a terrifying premise that one can be invisible even with those we think care about us. This is a book you can lose yourself in and not want to be found." – **Katherine Silva**, author of *Where The Soul Goes*



Arwyn Sherman lives in the woods of Maine with a menagerie of animals. Their work has appeared in anthologies, on a few stages, and is probably tucked away in a chapbook you forgot you bought at a late-night poetry show. Their most recent project was curating the anthology *Monstrous Angels*, which released in November 2025. Currently, they can be found co-editing the horror magazine *Slugger* or yapping about evil angels online. <https://arwynsherman.com>

Supernatural horror



Sobelo Books

September 2026

Hardcover & trade paperback
137k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:

A.J. Van Belle
Booker Albert Literary Agency

Material: Available

FROM OUR BLOOD

by Shardai Smith

With the incisive social commentary of Zakiya Dalila Harris' *The Other Black Girl* and the sharp humor of Mona Awad's *Bunny*, *From Our Blood* is poised to become your book club's next obsession

Ari Knight does not belong at Easton College. A Black transfer student with a mysterious past and an empty bank account, Ari sticks out like a sore thumb among Easton's famously white and wealthy student body.

When the body of a Black man is unearthed on campus, Ari discovers a sinister history buried beneath Easton's ivied facade: a pattern of dead, Black alumni stretching back to the school's inception. And as Ari digs deeper into Easton's past, she realizes the trail of unexplainable disappearances can only end in one place: her.

To unravel Easton's terrifying secrets, Ari must descend into the dark underbelly of an institution built—literally—on the bodies of Black students...before she's next.

"[Smith's] prose is exacting, in a way that cuts to the quick: a blade, sharpened by years of keen observation. It's no small feat to turn trauma into art." – **Taylor Grothe, author of *Hollow***

"This is, truly, an excellent opening...that is beautifully written, daring, complicated, fraught, and very compelling." – **Nathan Oates, author of *Flaw in the Design***

I hoped my death would put on a show long enough for them to escape. Destiny scrambled in after her family, turning back to grab me. Bites cropped up across her arm, some wounds still bleeding. "Come with us."



Shardai Smith is a Black speculative fiction writer from Pennsylvania. She has B.A.s in creative writing and political science, and a master's in creative writing, all from Seton Hall University. She also has a publishing certificate from New York University. When she's not thinking of all the ways society horrifies her, she can be found watching horror movies and daydreaming. www.shardaismith.com

Dark academia horror

Bindery Books

August 2027

Trade paperback

112k words

Rights available: British and translation

• Will be supported by tastemaker Michael LaBorn, a writer, book reviewer, and passionate advocate for marginalized people, he has a platform of 123K followers on TikTok and has been featured in *Elle* and *Bold Journey*

Rights holder:

Bindery Books

Material: Available

SPIT AND TOUCH IRON

by Michael Strode

Historical mystery

In this historical mystery with fantasy elements, a Scotland Yard detective investigates a supposed child abduction in post-WWII Ireland, but finds himself battling local superstition, deceit, and creatures out of Celtic legend

After losing his wife and child in the Blitz, Thomas Gregson dedicates his life to bringing order to chaos. He fights Nazis in World War II, then joins Scotland Yard to combat crime.

On a visit to his Irish war buddy Colin, Thomas's skills are put to an unexpected test. After a midnight disturbance in her newborn son's room, Colin's wife becomes convinced the child has been taken by fairies and replaced by a changeling. To placate his wife's superstition, Colin asks Thomas to investigate the incident.

At first dismissive of the "case," Thomas soon finds that not only are there humans conspiring against his friends, but supernatural forces are also involved. To restore his friend's family, Thomas enlists help from Molly, a spunky healer/wise woman. Thomas and Molly must journey into the fairy underworld and battle mythical creatures to rescue the baby from Aillen, the powerful fairy king—and to solve the mystery of who's out to get Colin in the ordinary world.

Ruadán Books

April 2027

Trade paperback

61k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:

A.J. Van Belle

Booker Albert Literary Agency

Material: Available



Michael Strode is a writer and filmmaker focused on supernatural horror, urban fantasy, action thrillers, and grounded werewolf crime dramas. He was born and raised in Hawaii, went to college in Rhode Island, and now splits the difference by living in Los Angeles. Michael received an MFA in Film Production from USC, and has written and directed several award-winning shorts. His action/horror film *Black*

Gulch played at over 50 festivals worldwide, won a number of awards (including Best Horror Short at Shriekfest), and was distributed through IFC, BritShorts, and iTunes. Michael has written scripts for a variety of producers, including Ombra Films and Futurist Ape Productions. His uncanny thrillers have done well at festivals, including Slamdance, the ABC•Disney Writing Fellowship, and the Nicholl Fellowship. *Asylum*, co-written with Eric Wostenberg, won Best Screenplay at Scremfest. Despite a BA in Medieval History and Philosophy from Brown, Michael has come to terms with his love for genre fiction. @MichaelTStrode on X

MOSS EFFECT: Moss'd in Space book 2 by Rebecca Thorne

Book 2 in the *USA Today* bestselling series which combines the humor of *Murderbot*, the lovable alien cast of *Mass Effect*, and the sentient plants of *The Spellshop* in an out-of-this-world romantic adventure

If Torian Razner was taking bets on how her afternoon would go, “getting stranded on the nylarian homeworld” wasn’t even in the running. (Moss had it listed as Possibility #3,794, but no one asked for its opinion.) And yet, Verdaan’s surface is exactly where she finds herself, standing in a grassy field alongside (her definitely-not-girlfriend) Amelia Perrosk.

Torian didn’t ask for this, but she’s been needing a vacation—and she certainly won’t complain about forced proximity with Amelia. As they venture across an alien landscape in search of a way home, things heat up between them, and Torian can’t quite remember the reasons they shouldn’t be together.

Amelia can never forget, though. Before they were stranded, her quartermaster issued a warning: get back to their ship in three days, or Opula would tell their entire smuggling syndicate about Torian’s new, very unprotected human colony. With time ticking and no true escape, Torian and the gang will have to use every resource to stop Opula.

Fortunately, they have Moss on their side—and it’s thrilled to its rhizoids to try this human concept of blackmail. Opula won’t know what hit her.... Probably.

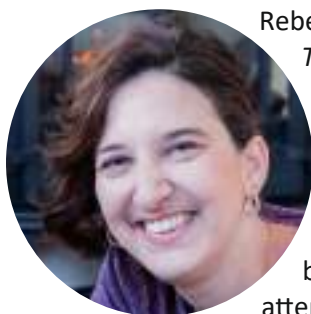
Also in the series



“This may well be the most entertaining and enjoyable science fiction novel of the year.” — **Booklist**, starred review

“[E]nchanting.” — **Publishers Weekly**, starred review

“[T]his book is a treasure!” — Sarah Beth Durst, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Spellshop*



Rebecca Thorne is a *USA Today*, Indie, and *Sunday Times* bestselling author, specializing in fantasy, sci-fi, and romance. She is a proud member of the LGBTQIA+ community, hails from sunny Arizona, and uses her ADHD as a superpower to write multiple books a year. When she’s not writing (or avoiding writing), Rebecca can be found traveling the country as a flight attendant, hiking with her dogs and lovely wife, or basking in the sun like a lizard. www.rebeccathorne.net

Cozy sci-fi

Bramble/Tor
May 2027

Trade paperback
90k words

Rights available: Translation

Foreign sales:
British (Tor UK)

- Many-week *USA Today* bestselling author
- Rebecca Thorne has 2.1 million likes and 58k followers on TikTok
- She also has 47k followers on Instagram
- **Previous book, *Moss'd in Space*:**
 - *USA Today*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *Vancouver Sun* bestseller
 - #1 bestseller in LGBTQ+ Science Fiction on Amazon
 - Barnes & Noble's July 2026 speculative fiction pick
 - *Book Riot*, The Best LGBTQ+ Books of the Year So Far

Primary agent:
Taryn Fagerness
Taryn Fagerness Agency

Material: Available

SHE'S A DOLL

by Barbara Truelove

A daring new dark comedy about a possessed doll on a quest to destroy the man who killed her, and the family she'll gain along the way

Lucy McQuinn has been murdered, but she's not about to go quietly.

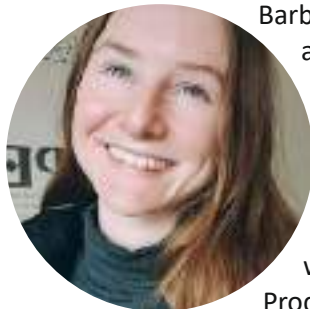
If she doesn't get to keep breathing, then neither does Kyle, her killer. Possessing the body of an antique doll, she sets out on a quest for revenge. But it's hard when you're 18 inches tall and made of porcelain.

For help, she turns to Nicola, a human and fellow outsider with her own reasons to hate Kyle. But in their small idyllic town, no one wants to hear the truth, especially not about such a promising young man. If they can't expose his crimes, Lucy will have to roll up her lacy little sleeves and teach him a lesson the old-fashioned way—as slowly and painfully as possible.

From *Los Angeles Times* bestselling author Barbara Truelove, *She's a Doll* is a ghoulish and gleeful tribute to the unstoppable power of female rage and a love letter to the friends who have our back—in this life and the next.

"She's A Doll is one wickedly clever and unforgettable tale of female rage. Lucy's irreverent perspective disturbs and delights in all the ways it should, and at the center of the novel's wonderfully audacious set-up is a deeply moving and thoughtfully crafted rallying cry for justice. Barbara Truelove pulls no punches. Whether hot, cold, or by possessed doll, and especially when it's this riveting and fantastically done? Revenge is a dish best served." — **Courtney Summers, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Is Not a Test***

"A gut punch of a book, chock full of queerness and revenge. There's so much talent and originality in these pages—Barb could write a grocery list and I'd be begging to read it." — **Eli Snow, author of *The Divine Gardener's Handbook***



Barbara Truelove is the author of the bestselling and critically acclaimed paranormal sci-fi mash-up *Of Monsters and Mainframes*. Her first interactive novel, *Blood Moon*, was released with Hosted Games in April 2023, and her indie debut *Crying Wolf* published in 2021. Barbara graduated from Griffith University with a Bachelor of Art (Screen Media

Production) in 2015. She worked in television for

several years before setting off to seek adventure elsewhere. Since then, she has lived, worked, and written in Australia, South Korea, and Aotearoa, New Zealand. She started writing when she was nine years old and believes it's probably too late to break the habit now.

www.barbaratruelove.com

Paranormal dark comedy



Listen to our
[podcast](#)

Bindery Books

September 2026

Trade paperback

78k words

Rights available: British and translation

Foreign sales:

Germany (Foliant)

Ukraine (Yakaboo)

Previous foreign sales: **Germany**, at auction (Foliant), Turkey (Eksik Parça), **Ukraine** (Yakaboo)

- Listen to our short podcast about *She's a Doll* [HERE](#)

- Will be supported by tastemaker Jaysen Headley, a content creator known as Ezeekat, who celebrates and curates diverse voices in books, games, and other media. Jaysen is listed in the top 5 Booktok influencers in the world with over 719k followers on Tiktok and over 224k on Instagram

- **Previous book, *Of Monsters and Mainframes*:**

- A Southern California Indie and Independent Press Top 40 bestseller

- A 2025 GoodReads Choice Award finalist for Science Fiction

- An Indie Next List pick

- Amazon Editor's Pick, Best Science Fiction & Fantasy

- A Best Book of 2025 at Powell's and Waterstones

- Best Fantasy and Science Fiction of the Year at *Elle Magazine*

Rights holder:

Bindery Books

Material: Available

NOBODY PANIC!

by CJ Vick

Someone in Somerville has made a deal with the devil, and that devil might be closer than you think...

In the sweltering, bug-choked summer of 1986, local misfit Janet Morgan joins her small town's PTA expecting big hair and idle gossip. Instead, she finds a string of missing matriarchs—and their husbands, who don't seem too worried about their vanished wives.

Janet, however, can sense a mystery unfolding. And when her best friend is the next to disappear, she becomes more convinced than ever that something dark has arrived in Somerville.

Armed with her encyclopedic true crime knowledge, the snarky wit of two other misfit moms, and a new-to-town coroner's apprentice, Janet starts digging. What she uncovers is more than a string of disappearances—it's a dark secret stretching back generations, bound up in a deal far more dangerous than anyone could have imagined.

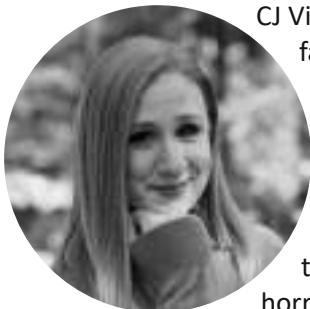
In order to stop all H-E-double hockey sticks from breaking loose, Janet will have to confront the demons inside her home before the shadows consuming Somerville claim her too.

“They're not what you think, okay?” Maggie relaxed against the seat. “And it could actually be fun if you let it. Besides, Betsy's expecting you. There's no escaping her now.”

Janet sighed. “What kind of PTA meets in the summer, anyway?”

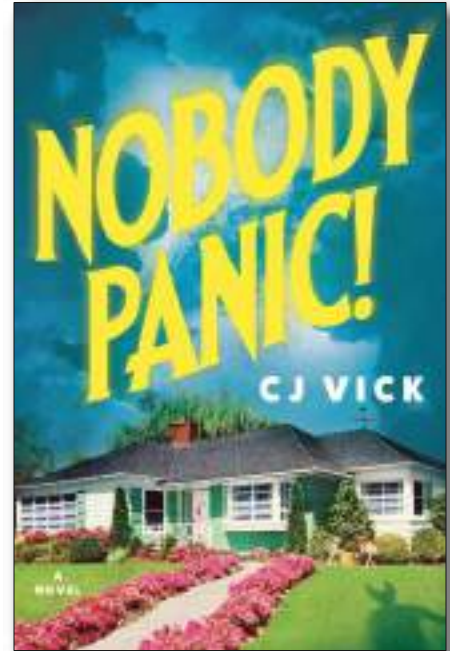
“One that runs this town, whether the men realize it or not.” Maggie winked, her honey eyes sparkling.

“Look, it's an in, okay? Simple as that. And they're not all bad.”



CJ Vick is a dynamic new voice that will appeal to fans of the cut-throat dark humor and generational secrets of Lindy Ryan's *Bless Your Heart*, and the sharp, feminist horror of Rachel Harrison. Originally from the most haunted city in England, Carly now resides in rural Tennessee with her husband, three children, and two rescue dogs. A life-long horror fan, Carly is particularly partial to the campy classics of the 1980s, solidifying her die-hard opinion that practical effects are king, and her wholehearted belief that a final girl lives in all of us. *Nobody Panic!* is her debut novel. www.cjvick.com

Horror



Sourcebooks

April 2027

Trade paperback

89k words

Rights available: British and translation

- Sold at auction
- Will feature illustrated edges
- Exclusive cover reveal on People.com

Primary agent:

Alex Land
Mad Woman Literary

Material: Available

THE DOUBLE DOROTHY: Dorothy Gentleman book 3 by Olivia Waite

Becky Chambers meets Miss Marple in the third entry of this cozy sci-fi mystery series, helmed by a formidable no-nonsense auntie of a detective

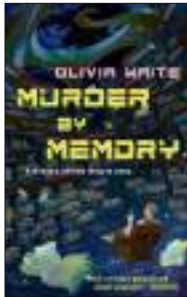
As the Fairweather approaches the halfway point of its journey, Dorothy Gentleman may have reached the end of hers....

It's been a long lifetime, and Dorothy's current body is on its last legs. With a new terminal diagnosis from Medical, she's counting the days until her next reembodiment. But then a young man with someone else's face sits down and claims he is Dorothy's next embodiment—someone has triggered the system early, using the memory-book Dorothy last updated over a month ago.

Meaning that according to the laws, when Dorothy dies this time—it will be permanent.

Now Dorothy and her doppelganger must sift through that last month of memories, looking for a secret someone's trying to erase. And all the threads lead back to the very first murder that happened on the Fairweather, five hundred years ago. A case which remains unsolved—and in which Dorothy was a witness, not a detective. All while an old enemy finally dares to step out of the shadows....

Also in the series



"Dorothy is terrific as an investigator, and traveling the space lanes from inside her wry, witty head is a great way to solve a mystery." — *Library Journal*, starred review

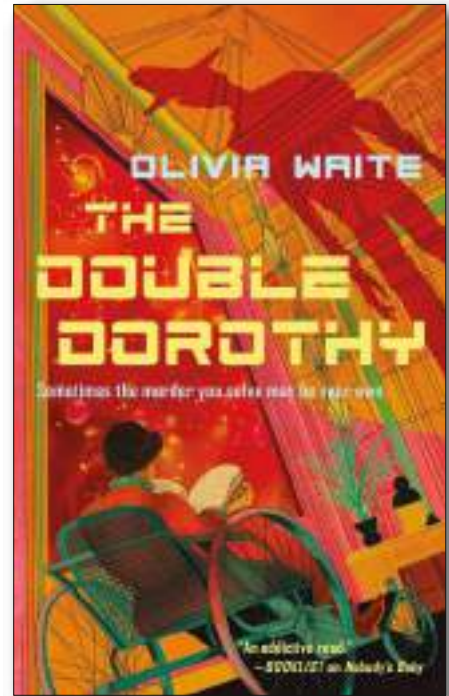
"Waite perfectly blends futuristic technology and cozy mystery...."
— *Publishers Weekly*, starred review



Olivia Waite writes queer historical romance, fantasy, science fiction, and essays. Her books include *Hen Fever*, *The Hellion's Waltz*, *The Care and Feeding of Waspish Widows*, *The Lady's Guide to Celestial Mechanics*, *A Thief in the Nude*, and more. She is the romance fiction columnist for *The New York Times Book Review*. When the birds are propitious, she sends out the *Oliviary*: a newsletter full of

news, recommended reads, and intriguing content curated from niche corners of the internet. www.oliviawaite.com

Cozy sci-fi mystery



Tordotcom
March 2027
Hardcover
28k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

• **Previous book, *Murder by Memory*:**
— A March 2025 LibraryReads Pick
— An Indie Next List Pick
— Amazon Editor's Pick, Best Mystery, Thriller, & Suspense
— *The Nerd Daily*, Fantasy & Sci Fi Book Releases to Devour in 2025
• **Previous book, *Nobody's Baby*:**
— A March 2026 LibraryReads Pick
— Starred review, *Booklist*

Primary agent:
Courtney Miller-Callihan
Handspun Literary

Material: Available

A CASE TO DYE FOR: The Alphabet Sleuths book 2 by Laura Jensen Walker

Disposing of a body is as easy as A, B, C! Introducing the Alphabet Girls, four senior gal pals turned accidental sleuths—*The Thursday Murder Club* meets *The Golden Girls*, with a splash of *Killers of a Certain Age*

In this second installment of the *Alphabet Girls* mysteries, senior sleuths Atsuko, Barbara, Claire, and Daphne seek to discover who sent threatening letters to Cedar Glen's resident hair stylist. When Claire finds a dead body in the salon, the search intensifies. Our four gal pals juggle multiple investigations, battling beauty pageant contestants, and budding romances to find the killer before he or she strikes again.

Mystery

Severn House
February 2027

Trade paperback
68k words

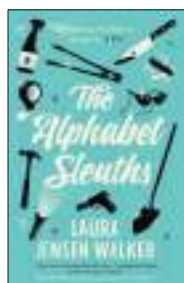
Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

• Agatha and Lefty Award-nominated author

Primary agent:
Creative Media Agency

Material: Available

Also in the series



"Walker's feisty, funny, and fully realized seniors easily sit beside the casts of *The Thursday Murder Club* and *The Marlow Murder Club* in the cozy pantheon. Readers will be charmed." — *Publishers Weekly*

"Well-crafted and suspenseful...a celebration of the power and wisdom of women 'of a certain age'" — **Amy Patricia Meade, author of the *Evelyn Galloway* series**



Award-winning author Laura Jensen Walker has written more than 25 books—both fiction and non-fiction, including *Thanks for the Mammogram*, *Hope, Faith, & A Corpse*, and *Good Girl*. A lover of mysteries since she read her first *Trixie Belden* in fourth grade, Laura is also the author of a handful of lighthearted mystery novels including the #1 Amazon bestselling, Agatha-nominated *Murder Most Sweet*.

In her 20s, Laura flew a typewriter across Europe in Uncle Sam's Air Force and fell in love with all things English while stationed at an RAF base in the UK. Captivated by the tales of an overlooked group of WWII RAF women—the Flying Nightingales—she knew she had to tell their story and did so in *Death of a Flying Nightingale*. Laura lives in Northern California in a wannabe-English cottage where she drinks tea and dreams of England. She is a member of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America. laurajensenwalker.com

THE LOST PERFUMES OF PARIS

by Christine Wells

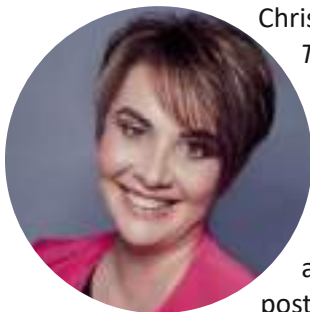
Set against the backdrop of mid-century Parisian glamour and the timeless art of perfumery, a captivating tale of resilience, love, and the intoxicating pursuit of passion

Élodie Limeaux's beloved mother, Aurore, was the most legendary perfumer in France before World War II, renowned for the exquisite fragrances she created for the family company, the House of Limeaux. Now in her 20s, Élodie longs to join the family business. Her father, however, has refused to let her follow in her late mother's footsteps and Élodie has had to fight to become a mere lab assistant at Limeaux.

But Élodie plans to enter the Essence of Paris contest run by the French Perfume Institute, hoping that a win will secure investment from Swiss banker Monsieur Caspari, who is looking to launch a new scent for women—and possibly to buy the House of Limeaux. Impressed with Élodie's drive and talent, Caspari agrees to back her, provided that she collaborates with his son, Marcelo. Élodie is forced to agree, although Marcelo strikes her as a wealthy dilettante—albeit an extremely charming one.

When they join forces, though, Élodie is surprised to discover Marcelo's passion for perfume is genuine, his obsession as deep as hers. With Marcelo by her side, Élodie battles family betrayals and corporate sabotage, searching for that elusive essence of Paris that will launch her career...and possibly the love of a lifetime.

"As romantic as Paris itself, Christine Wells's latest is a delight for all the senses. I learned so much about perfume as I rooted for Elodie to triumph in her chosen, male-dominated profession. Fans of *Emily in Paris* and *The Paris Novel* will love this tale of a city and family emerging from a dark period into the fragrant light." — **Kerri Maher, USA Today**
bestselling author of *The Paris Bookseller*



Christine Wells is the author of the historical novels *The Paris Gown*, *The Royal Windsor Secret*, *One Woman's War*, *Sisters of the Resistance*, *The Wife's Tale*, *The Traitor's Girl*, and *The Juliet Code*, plus several historical romances. She began her first novel while working as a corporate lawyer and has gone on to write about periods ranging from Georgian England to post World War II France. Christine is passionate

about helping other writers learn the craft and business of writing fiction and enjoys mentoring and teaching workshops. She loves dogs, running, holidays at the beach and hunting for antiques, and lives with her family in Brisbane, Australia. www.christine-wells.com

Historical



William Morrow

September 2026

Trade paperback

93k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

- A *Globe & Mail* and Barnes & Noble bestselling author
- **Previous book, *The Paris Gown*:**
— *BookBub*, The Best Historical Fiction of Summer 2024
— Listen to our short podcast about *The Paris Gown* [HERE](#)

Primary agent:

Kevan Lyon
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

THE EDUCATION OF IMRYN DYRE, WIZARD'S APPRENTICE

by Artemis Whelan

A luckless healer who reluctantly accepts a magical apprenticeship must find an impossible cure—and uncover his charming mentor's secret—before it's too late

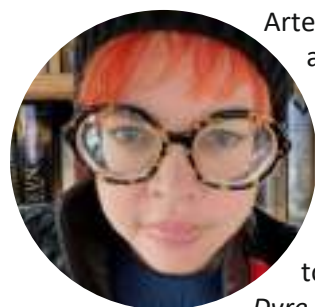
Half-goblin Imryn “Imi” Dyre hasn’t had an easy life. Born into a poor family and now a student on scholarship, he’s marked as an outcast amongst the wealthy magical families. So despite studying and honing his craft for years, it’s no surprise when he’s rejected from joining the ranks of healers.

Out of options, Imi has no choice but to accept an apprenticeship under the master wizard Elim Greenwood. Talented despite his relative youth and—to Imi’s dismay—indisputably handsome, Elim seeks a cure for vultrism, a mysterious curse that compels people to feed on the souls of others. And though many before have failed, Imi’s magic might actually be the one solution to the fatal affliction. Unfortunately, all his tests are met with failure....

But Elim’s elusive behavior has Imi thinking something else might be afoot. Not to mention he can’t deny the deep affection growing between them. But if he’s going to make any progress, he’ll need to avoid all distractions—and identify a live host to continue his experiments.

With no time to waste, Imi and Elim devise a plan to capture a rogue vultara. But when the creature attacks Imi, his fate lies with Elim and the impossible choice he must make: give up his apprentice’s soul to a monster or risk everything they’ve worked for—and more—to save him. Happily-ever-after has never felt more out of reach. But one selfless act might just prove to Imi he’s finally exactly where he belongs....

“Assured, warmhearted, and with a compassionate sensibility that doesn’t hesitate to fight for a better world, *The Education of Imryn Dyre, Wizard’s Apprentice* is a gem of a debut.” – **M. Stevenson, author of *Behooved***



Artemis Whelan is an author of speculative fiction and romance whose stories are set in feminist, diverse, and queer normative worlds. When not writing, they spend their free time playing video games and reading fanfiction. Whelan combats writer’s block by walking their dog, playing with their cats, and tending to their home garden. *The Education of Imryn Dyre, Wizard’s Apprentice* is their debut novel.

<https://artemiswhelan.com>

Cozy fantasy



Podium Publishing

November 2026

Trade paperback

115k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:
Cheyenne Faircloth
Handspun Literary

Material: Available

BENEATH THE SURFACE

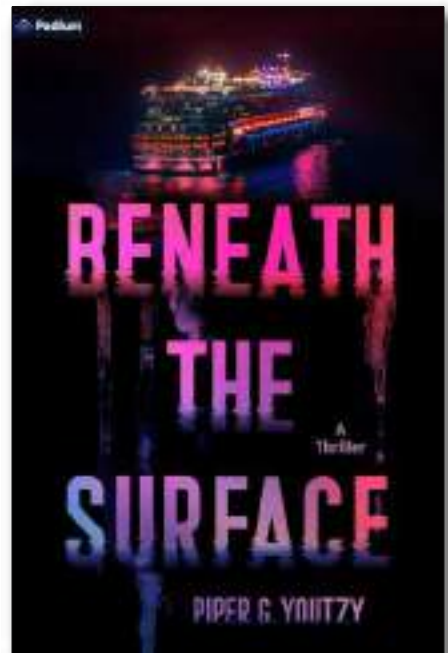
by Piper G. Youtzy

For fans of *The Writing Retreat* and *The Guest List*: A sunny cruise takes a dark turn for a group of college friends when one suddenly vanishes...

For Laura, the five-day luxury cruise with her college crew was meant to honor the memory of their friend, Jeremy, whom they'd lost ten months prior in a tragic accident. But it's difficult to find any closure when she's stuck in close proximity to her recently divorced ex-boyfriend, Ethan, and her judgmental husband, Dan. And as old tensions resurface, some in the group are growing suspicious of the real motives that brought them all there.

Ethan suspects there's more to Jeremy's death than an accidental drowning, and this vacation is his chance to finally get answers. He can't walk away from this cruise without discovering the truth. But he's having a hard time focusing with the love of his life, the one who got away, on board. Ethan's torn between gathering evidence about what really happened to Jeremy and the possibility there could still be something between him and Laura.

But the situation turns dire when one of their own disappears. With the clock ticking to find their missing friend as the ship heads into a treacherous storm, Laura and Ethan start to wonder just how well they know their old friends. They all have their secrets, but who has one they'd kill to keep hidden?



Podium Publishing

May 2027

Trade paperback

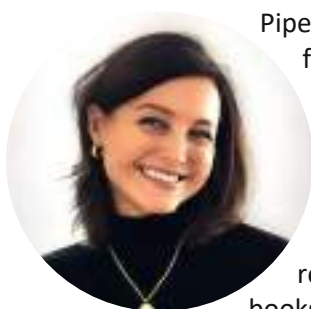
94k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English audio rights and North American print/e-book rights)

Primary agent:

Claire Harris
Helm Literary

Material: Available



Piper Youtzy is a digital marketing strategist, freelance ghostwriter, and vice president of the board of directors at Literary Cleveland, a growing non-profit dedicated to supporting writers, amplifying marginalized voices in the community, and developing Cleveland into a literary destination. When she's not writing or reading thrillers, you'll find her exploring indie bookstores with friends and visiting local restaurants

with her husband. *Beneath the Surface* her first novel. @Piperyoutzy on Instagram

DUMPLING THERAPY:**My Mother, Chinese Food, and Five Thousand Years of Not-So-Ancient Recipes**

by Miranda Brown

A delicious and moving memoir, tracing a family's journey through Chinese food

As a teen growing up in San Francisco, Miranda Brown noticed her outspoken immigrant mother didn't act—or cook—like other Chinese mothers. Butter invaded coffee. Stinky fruits found their way into ice cream. Brown dreamed of making dumplings the way “normal” Chinese moms did.

Years later, after her mother's death, Brown became a mother herself. Determined to master the classic Chinese cooking her mother never taught her, she discovered something unexpected: even the dumpling may have foreign roots. The revelation propelled her deep into the hidden histories of China's most beloved dishes, tracing the lineage of everything from the chewy noodles of Beijing to her favorite braised Cantonese tofu to the chop suey she once scorned as a teenager.

But the search for culinary origins unlocked a more intimate mystery. From the fields of ancient China to the kitchens of 1980s San Francisco, Brown pieces together her family story across two millennia. Through secret letters and centuries-old recipes, she uncovers not just the histories behind beloved dishes, but her mother's own mixed heritage and adventurousness. The woman who once seemed to cook “wrong” left a richer inheritance than Brown had ever imagined.

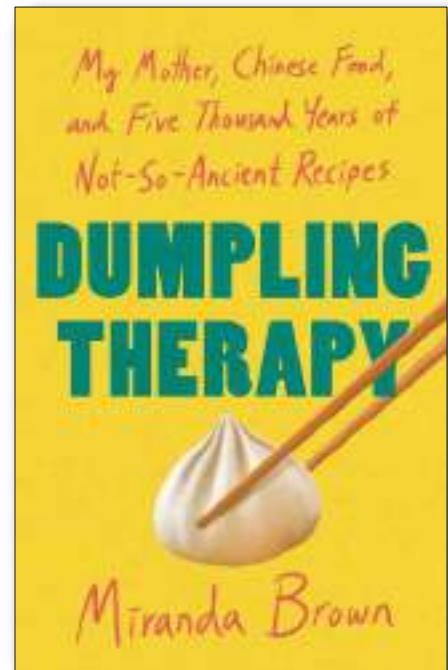
“A triumph of style and storytelling, Miranda Brown has fashioned an exciting memoir written in stylish, witty prose. *Dumpling Therapy* is a fascinating detective story as much as it is an ode to maternal love, and it made me very, very hungry.” – **Carolyn Phillips, author of *All Under Heaven* and *At the Chinese Table***



Miranda Brown is the recipient of an Arthur F. Thurnau Professorship, an award given to tenured professors at University of Michigan “whose commitment to and investment in undergraduate teaching has had a demonstrable impact on the intellectual development and lives of their students.” Her research on food history has received media attention from NBC, CNN, *The Economist*, *The*

Guardian, *Eater*, *Vox*, *The South China Morning Post*, *Saveur*, *The Washington Post*, and *TASTE*. She has written several feature articles on Chinese food for *Atlas Obscura*. Brown also wrote, produced, and narrated “A Brief History of Dumplings,” a TED-Ed animation, which has garnered over a million views thus far. @curiouseaterwrites on Instagram

Memoir

**St. Martin's Press****January 2027**

Hardcover

92k words

Rights available: British and translation

- Author is a tenured professor of Chinese Studies in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Michigan, who is currently finishing up a Fulbright Scholarship in Taiwan, which was awarded to her to work on this book, and which also included enrollment in the Yami Cook School, taught by some of Taiwan's leading chefs
- The author's article for *Atlas Obscura* on the history of Chop Suey was a finalist for an award for narrative food writing with recipes from the International Association of Culinary Professionals

Primary agent:Deborah Grosvenor
Grosvenor Literary Agency**Material:** Available

STOLEN:

A True Story—Kidnapped, Rescued, Redeemed by Lauren Burns

A true crime memoir of international abduction, miraculous rescue, and the long road from trauma to forgiveness and redemption

At seven years old, Lauren Burns was abducted by her father and taken from her home in Texas. She was flown to the Middle East and thrust into a life she did not recognize with a future she could not understand. What followed was an extraordinary international rescue by a small team of former military operatives and a mother who, refusing to give up, was guided by faith when all legal options had failed.

But *Stolen* is not only the story of a daring rescue; it's the story of what came after.

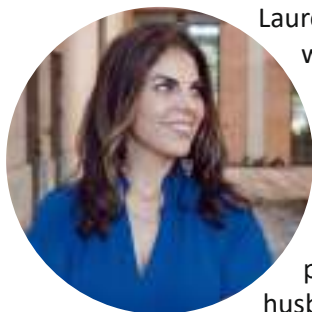
Returning to the US did not end the fear. Lauren and her mother lived in hiding, changed names, and rebuilt their lives under the shadow of betrayal. Told from the rare perspective of the child at the center of the crime, this memoir explores the lasting impact of trauma, the struggle to reclaim identity, and the painful journey toward forgiveness.

As Lauren grows from a frightened child into a woman searching for peace, she reveals what true healing requires—and how redemption can emerge from even the deepest wounds.

Gripping, intimate, and ultimately hopeful, *Stolen* will resonate with readers drawn to true crime, memoir, and stories of faith and resilience.

"Stolen is a powerful story that follows Lauren as she unpacks her box of memories, hurt, and healing. With the tension of a thriller and the heart of a deeply personal memoir, Lauren shares not only how she was kidnapped—but how she found her way back to hope, faith, and forgiveness. Her story is both haunting and beautiful. It brought me to tears in the best way." – **Holly Worthington, *The Miracle Files Podcast***

"Lauren tells her harrowing story with honesty and grace, showing how God miraculously brought her through abduction, fear, and her father's wounds into a life marked by forgiveness and hope. Her life is living proof that with God all things are possible!" – **Julie Busler, author of *Hopeful Sorrow***



Lauren Burns is the host of *The Redeemed Podcast*, where she shares real stories of faith, healing, and redemption. Her story has been featured on Life Today television and *The Miracle Files* podcast, and she has spoken at venues including Summit Church and Oak Hills Church. Lauren holds a master's degree in physical therapy and lives in Texas with her husband and children. www.laurenburns.net

True crime memoir



Post Hill Press
September 2026

Hardcover
83k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:
Kristen Terrette
Martin-Newens Literary Management

Material: Available

JIMMY THE GENT:

The Life and Heists of Criminal Mastermind Jimmy Burke

by Anthony M. DeStefano

The life story of James Burke, the ruthless killer and criminal mastermind behind the fabled 1978 Lufthansa Heist portrayed in the film *Goodfellas*

Jimmy Burke was a key player in Nicholas Pileggi's *Wiseguy* and brilliantly portrayed by Robert De Niro in *Goodfellas*, but the explosive life story of the underworld architect of the greatest heist in American history has never been told—until now in the first-ever, fully comprehensive biography of the notorious Jimmy the Gent.

James “Jimmy the Gent” Burke’s crowning achievement—the legendary 1978 multimillion-dollar Lufthansa heist at JFK Airport—is an untold story that Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative Mob journalist Anthony M. DeStefano uncovers for the first time. From Jimmy’s unsettled youth, having been abandoned by his brutal father and long-suffering mother and shuffled through more than a dozen foster homes, to his delinquent teen years of crimes and street-smart survival, Jimmy eventually found a family who warmed to him: the Luccheses, the dominant force in New York and New Jersey’s organized crime.

From protégé to mentor, Jimmy would soon rub shoulders with the likes of eventual informant Henry Hill, Tommy DeSimone, Paul Vario, and William “Billy Batts” Bentvena. And though Burke would spend nearly one-third of his life behind bars, in the end, he managed to outlast the treacheries of his lifetime.

Featuring new insights and revelations involving the violent decades-long aftermath of the legendary heist, *Jimmy the Gent* is the riveting full story behind the man who would become firmly ensconced in Mob folklore as one of the most notorious Irish gangsters and grand larcenists of the 20th century.

“This is Jimmy Burke unfiltered, and it’s the rare Mob book that makes you understand the man behind the headlines.” – **Louis Ferrante**, internationally bestselling author of the *Borgata Trilogy*

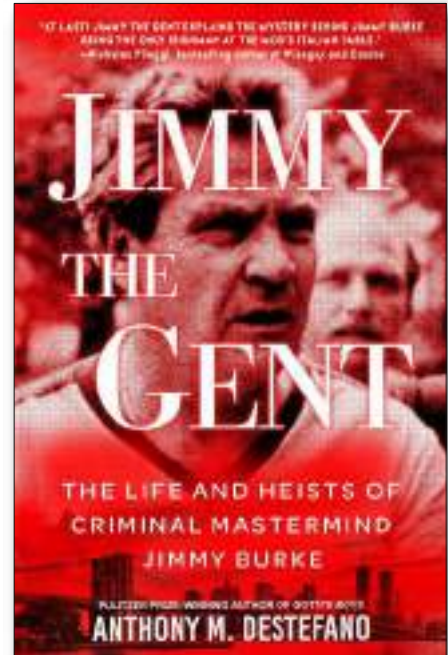


Bestselling true crime author Anthony M.

DeStefano is a national expert on the American Mafia. He is the author of nine books on the subject, including the recent bestsellers: *The Deadly Don* and *Top Hoodlum*. In addition to being an organized crime expert, DeStefano is an award-winning journalist who covers crime in New York for *Newsday*. He has won numerous awards for his work, including a Pulitzer

Prize and an Emmy. www.tonydestefano.com

True crime



Kensington

December 2026

Hardcover

80k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

• Anthony M. DeStefano is a Pulitzer Prize and Emmy award-winning journalist

Primary agent:

Jill Marsal
Marsal Lyon Literary Agency

Material: Available

JUST ENOUGH

by David Eckstein with Jake Gronsky

Two-time World Series Champion and 2006 World Series MVP David Eckstein shares the valleys and mountaintops that shaped him—years defined not by trophies, but by perseverance, faith, family, and the belief that purpose is found in how you rise when life tells you no

You don't need to be the biggest. You don't need to be the strongest. You just need to keep going.

David Eckstein was never supposed to make it. Too small, too unlikely, too easy to overlook. From a fragile newborn fighting for his life to a young ballplayer told he'd never be good enough, the odds were stacked against him long before he reached a major league field. But what he lacked in size, he made up for in heart.

Through intimate stories of his Florida upbringing, the challenges that forged his family's bond, and the failures that taught him to fight back, David reveals the truth he learned long before he became a champion: a person isn't measured in inches...they're measured in feats.

More than a baseball memoir, this is a story about the people who carried him, the coaches who pushed him, the moments that nearly broke him, and the love that grounded him.

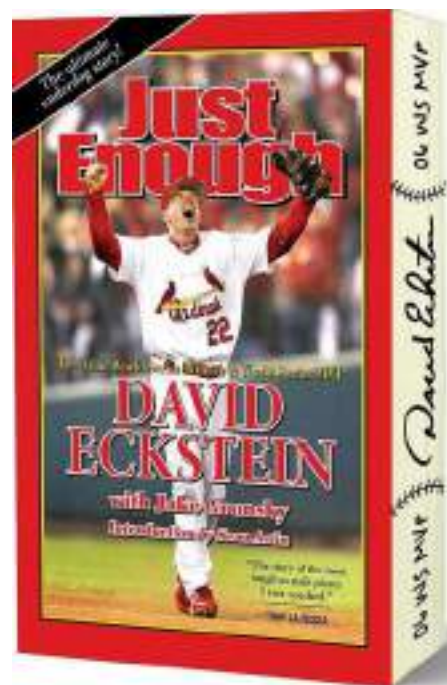
Honest and deeply human, *Just Enough* reminds us that if you've ever been doubted, dismissed, or underestimated, you can *still* win.



David Eckstein is a former Major League Baseball player known for his 'just enough' style of play. The youngest of five in a family affected by kidney disease, David learned early on that life is precious and should never be taken for granted. He made his major league debut with the Anaheim Angels in 2001, and despite always being considered an underdog, led the league in grand slams while contributing to the

Angels' 2002 World Series victory. In 2006, with the St. Louis Cardinals, Eckstein helped lead the team to his second World Series championship and was named the World Series MVP. Over Eckstein's ten-year career, he was a two-time All-Star, the 2006 Babe Ruth Award-winner, and the first-ever recipient of the Heart & Hustle Award. Off the field, David has dedicated himself to advocating for organ donation and, since 2007, has partnered with Mid-America Transplant. Post-career, he can still be found on the baseball field, mentoring young players. He has earned three gold medals as part of the 18U Team USA Baseball coaching staff, and also works with MLB International, coaching kids from all over the world. He lives in Orlando, Florida, with his wife, Ashley, who is the voice of Ahsoka Tano in *Star Wars*. Together, they can often be found at Walt Disney World.

Sports memoir



Blue Box Press
September 2026
Hardcover
99k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

- Introduction by actor Sean Astin
- Limited edition hardcover features specially designed edges

Handling rights:
Taryn Fagerness Agency

Material: Available

HOW NATIONS WIN:

Creating Prosperity through Freedom, Order, and Innovation

by Henrik Ekelund

Why do some countries surge ahead while others stall? Discover the practical levers that keep economies resilient, innovative, and wealth-building—levers we can use to protect prosperity before it slips away

Too often, debates about economic growth rely on a “magic pill,” a singular factor to explain prosperity, and miss the full picture. In *How Nations Win*, global entrepreneur and investor Henrik Ekelund argues that lasting prosperity depends on a more complete, encompassing, data-backed model for producing sustainable growth across time and geography.

Drawing from his study of two millennia of growth revolutions and thousands of pages of research—including close studies of “twin” pairs of similar nations with stark gaps in prosperity—Ekelund reveals the three forces that interact to fuel economies—freedom, order, and innovation—and their 12 underlying drivers. He maps how those drivers, like democracy, free markets, free trade, rule of law, economic stability, and market-driven innovation, create a “virtuous cycle” of productive investment. And he captures how today’s drift toward protectionism, authoritarianism, cronyism, and overbearing government puts that cycle at risk.

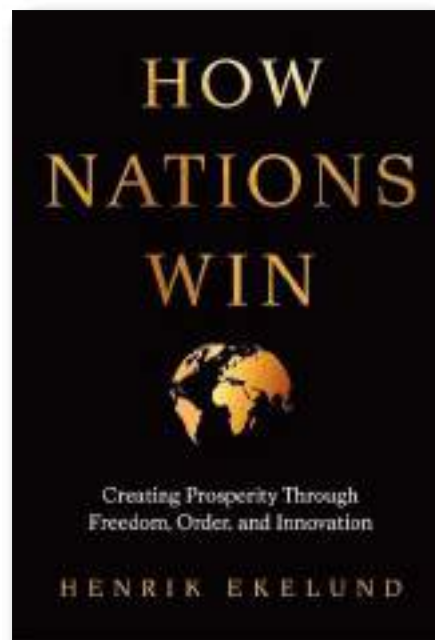
Whether you’re curious about the global economy, shaping business strategy, investing capital, or engaging in policy debates that will define the next decade, *How Nations Win* provides a clearer set of signals to watch and makes the case that prosperity is built on fundamentals that can be defended—if we recognize what’s at stake and act before erosion becomes collapse.



Henrik Ekelund is the founder and chairman of BTS, a publicly traded global consulting firm that works with more than 150 of the Fortune 500 across six continents, and he has been honored as Sweden’s Entrepreneur of the Year. He is an active member of the World Economic Forum, YPO, and the *Wall Street Journal* CEO Council and been published in *Nature*, various US media outlets, and in leading

Swedish business media outlets. He earned his Master of Science degree in business and economics from the Stockholm School of Economics. He is on the board of directors for The Sweden-America Foundation, which focuses on promoting the exchange of scientific, cultural, and practical experiences. Though he currently lives in Switzerland with his wife, Anine, Henrik was born in Stockholm and enjoys traveling to explore opportunities for growth for businesses and economies. He is the father of two grown daughters, and is an avid mountaineer, skier, and sailor.

Economics



Matt Holt/BenBella Books
March 2027

Hardcover
144k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Foreign sales:
Korea (Sangsang Square)

- The Free to Choose Network is producing a one-hour documentary that will feature Henrik as the main expert and will explore the 12 drivers of growth detailed in the book
- The author is the founder and chairman of BTS, a publicly traded global consulting firm that works with more than 150 of the Fortune 500 across six continents
- The author has been honored as Sweden’s Entrepreneur of the Year

Primary agent:
Michael Palgon
The Palgon Company

Material: Available

THE CORTISOL CURE:

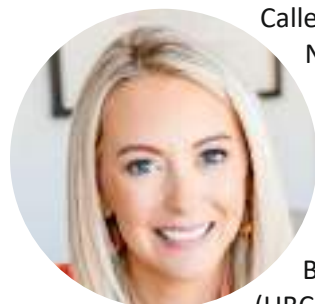
The Secret to Resetting Your Stress Response, Boosting Energy & Feeling Better Than Ever by Dr. Erin Kinney

A book for for anyone who wants to sleep better, have more energy, enjoy better sex, maintain a more even mood, manage their weight, and live a more satisfying life

For fans of *Good Energy* and *Outlive*, comes a groundbreaking book from the “Stress Reset Expert,” Dr. Erin Kinney, sharing that, contrary to popular belief, cortisol isn’t the enemy—it’s an essential hormone your body depends on to function, heal, and thrive—and the key to reclaiming your health isn’t lowering cortisol, but restoring your natural supply.

Our relationship to cortisol, the stress hormone, is often misconstrued. Most people think that cortisol is bad—something that we want to lower and keep at bay. But here’s the truth: the migraines, bloating, mood swings, weight gain, and joint pain may not stem from too much cortisol at all. More often, they arise when your body’s cortisol levels are depleted. When you learn how your system really interacts with this vital hormone, you create the conditions for your body to repair, rebalance, and reset.

“*The Cortisol Cure* by Dr. Erin Kinney, is not simply an accomplished treatise on ‘the’ critical stress hormone made by the body; it is also a beautifully written and easy-to-understand tour through common symptoms and syndromes that physicians often find mysterious, and perhaps more importantly, what you can do about them. Having the honor of participating in her medical training, this is unsurprising; Erin is one of our bright stars in functional and naturopathic medicine, and I eagerly look forward to her future writings and discoveries.” – **Dr. Peter D’Adamo, author of *Eat Right for Your Type***

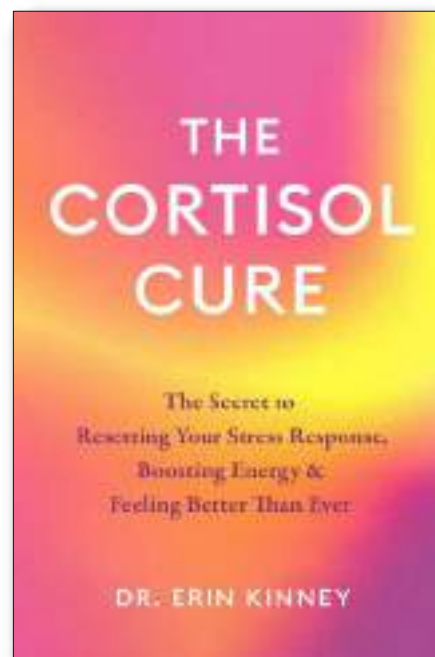


Called the “Stress Reset Expert,” Dr. Erin Kinney is a Naturopathic Doctor, speaker and podcast host who helps stressed out patients improve their mood, balance their hormones, and increase their energy. She received a Bachelor of Arts from Vanderbilt University and was a summa cum laude graduate of the University of Bridgeport College of Naturopathic Medicine (UBCNM). She currently runs a private practice in

Annapolis, Maryland where she specializes in treating patients with chronic health conditions related to hormonal and nervous system imbalances. When not practicing medicine, you can find her reading, doing yoga, traveling, and spending time with her two young daughters.

www.thekinneyclinic.com

Health



Grand Central Balance
September 2026

Hardcover
81k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Foreign sales:

China, at auction (China Machine Press Co.)
Germany (Südwest/PRH)
Lithuania (Mijalba)
Poland (Helion)
Portugal (Almas Dos Livros)
Romania (Editura Trei)
Russia, at auction (AST)
Spain (Editorial Sirio)
Taiwan, at auction (Ecus Cultural Enterprise)
Ukraine (Family Leisure Club)

- Author’s podcast, *The Dr. Kinney Show*, has over 300,000 downloads and is in the top 2.5% of all podcasts globally
- Named “one of the top 8 doctors to follow in 2022” by *LA Weekly*. Dr. Kinney is a well-established naturopathic doctor with deep, influential ties in the health and wellness industry

Primary agent:
Michele Martin
MDM Management

Material: Available

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG?

Unintended Consequences, Unnecessary Blunders,
and the Urgency of Avoiding Tomorrow's Mistakes
by Andrew Lam, M.D.

With fascinating case studies ranging from humorous to tragic, award-winning author Andrew Lam illuminates how history has been shaped not just by what we aimed to do, but by what we failed to foresee

Unintended consequences—the ripple effects of decisions made with the best of intentions—have profoundly shaped history. From legislation that backfires to business proposals that lead to ruin to environmental policies that worsen climate change to ecological actions that wipe out entire species—unanticipated outcomes have proven disastrous time and again.

What Could Possibly Go Wrong? explores these phenomena across a wide array of fields: government, business, healthcare, international relations, ecology, military strategy, and more. In exposing many of humanity's worst missteps, this book examines why we repeatedly fall victim to recurring mistakes and reveals what we can do to avoid them in the future. In an era defined by nuclear weapons, climate change, gene editing, and artificial intelligence, the importance of avoiding calamitous errors is higher than ever.

What Could Possibly Go Wrong? will inspire critical thinking about how we make decisions and provide practical wisdom for minimizing harm in an age of unprecedented technological and societal change. It offers not just a retrospective look at history's blunders, but a prescriptive guide to understanding and preventing the same mistakes from recurring.



Andrew Lam, M.D., is the award-winning author of *The Masters of Medicine*, *Saving Sight*, *Repentance*, and *Two Sons of China*. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *USA Today*. Born in Philadelphia and raised in central Illinois, he graduated summa cum laude in history from Yale University, where he studied military history and US-East Asian relations. He then

attended medical school at the University of Pennsylvania, followed by specialty training to become a retinal surgeon. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and resides in western Massachusetts with his wife and four children.

<https://andrewlammd.com>

History

Prometheus

June 2027

Hardcover

86k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Previous foreign publishers: Arabic (Hindawi Foundation), China (Shanghai Scientific & Technological Education), Korea (SangSang Square)

• Multiple award-winning and internationally bestselling author

Primary agent:

Steve Harris
CSG Literary Partners

Material: Available

OVERCOMING THE WALL OF AWFUL:

Why It's Hard to Get Things Done With ADHD, Autism and Anxiety and How To Do Them Anyway

by Brendan Mahan, M.Ed., M.S. with Alex Hughes Capell

A groundbreaking, practical guide to accomplishing your goals and thriving in life, written for people with ADHD, autism, trauma, and anxiety

We're afraid to talk about it—that feeling we all get when we need to do something as simple as cleaning the kitchen or sending an email and we just...can't. It's not because we don't want to, it's because we feel paralyzed. We're not aimless. We're not lazy. Our brains are working against us! We have purpose, we just need guidance.

This is that guide. Just like bricks, negative emotions and experiences can build up until they feel like an impenetrable wall between us and our goals. Brendan Mahan, MEd., MS. calls this the Wall of Awful—and he's lived it. Diagnosed with ADHD as an adult, Mahan has made it his life's work to help people overcome their own Walls of Awful and accomplish their biggest, scariest ambitions.

Mahan draws on 20 years in teaching, counseling, and coaching people with anxiety, ADHD, autism, and trauma. He teams up with writer Alex Hughes Capell in *Overcoming the Wall of Awful* to present his comprehensive model.

"Overcoming the *Wall of Awful* is not only endlessly validating, but epically empowering. This book needs to be in the hands of everyone who has ever failed at anything." – **Jessica McCabe, *New York Times* bestselling author of *How to ADHD***

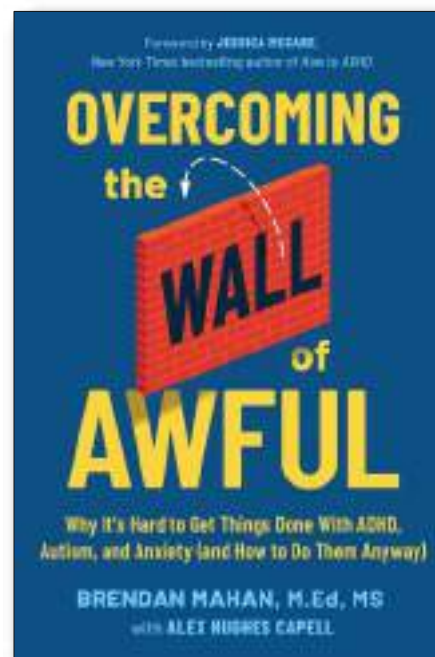
"With helpful cheat sheets and appendices full of useful information, *Overcoming the Wall of Awful*, does more than what the title promises. It delivers the hope and solutions that neurodiverse people need." – **Dr. Sharon Saline, author of *What Your ADHD Child Wishes You Knew***



Brendan Mahan is both a highly respected ADHD professional and influencer, with two master's degrees in both education and counseling (M.Ed., MS.). He is a podcaster, coach, and speaker. His podcast, *ADHD Essentials*, is ranked in the top 1% of shows and has over 1.5 million downloads. It regularly features significant authors and thinkers in the fields of ADHD and mental health. He is a board member of

the ADHD Men's Support Group, and Director of Professional Resources for the Massachusetts-based sensory-friendly comics and pop culture convention, Calmer Con. He has been featured in the *Washington Post*, *Bustle*, LinkedIn, *Understood*, *Tilt Parenting*, *How to ADHD*, *ADD Crusher TV*, and *ADDitude Magazine*. www.adhdessentials.com

Mental health



Grand Central Balance
September 2026

Hardcover
74k words

Rights available: Translation

Foreign sales:
British (Sheldon Press)

- Sold at auction for 6-figures
- Grand Central Balance has committed to publishing a companion workbook based on the book

Primary agent:
Michele Martin
MDM Management

Material: Available

THIS IS YOUR BRAIN ON TRAUMA:
The Safety Manual for People Who Feel Too Much (or
Not at All)
by Jamie McCoy

How to regulate automatic survival responses, stop getting hijacked by your nervous system, and build more safety and flexibility from the inside out, from a clinician who's been there herself

Human nervous systems are brilliant and adaptive. But in an always-on, overstimulating, chronically demanding world, those same protective responses can start firing at the wrong times, or too often, leaving us shut down, hypervigilant, emotionally flooded, or unable to respond in ways that actually fit the moment.

Trauma-related patterns can make us freeze, fawn, numb out, or spiral. When Jamie McCoy found herself unable to access the kind of steady, right-sized responses she knew were possible, she began piecing together a different path, one that did not rely on forcing, bypassing, or blaming herself. What she discovered is that it is possible to work with the nervous system instead of fighting it. Readers will learn:

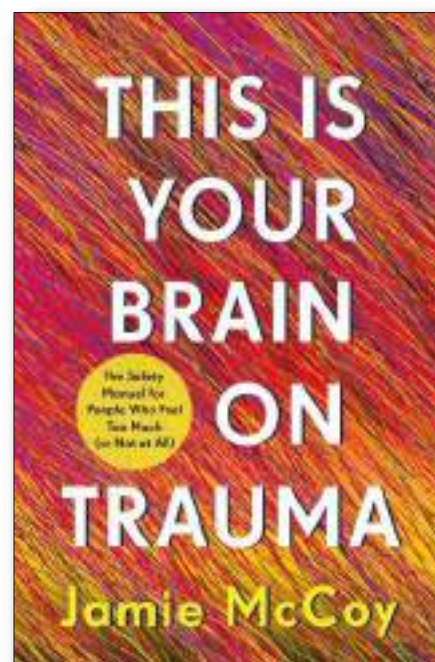
- Why their nervous systems respond the way they do—and why it's not their fault
- Why popular wellness strategies (like breathwork, affirmations, and even talk therapy) often backfire—and the evidence-based approaches that actually work instead
- Practical somatic techniques that create meaningful change (without overwhelm)
- Permission to heal on their own terms—imperfectly, messily, and effectively without shame or guilt

From extremely specific and calming strategies to help to no matter how a reader feels to a smart yet accessible exploration of the science behind why some readers react the way they do, *This is Your Brain on Trauma* is itself a comforting tool that can be turned to again and again.



Jamie McCoy has been a licensed integrative psychotherapist and trauma coach for over 15 years. Her own journey with chronic illness, autoimmunity, Lyme disease, and toxic mold exposure led her to discover just how much depends on a regulated nervous system.
www.myintegrativetherapist.com

Mental health



St. Martin's Essentials

April 2027

Hardcover

73k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Primary agent:
Steve Harris
CSG Literary Partners

Material: Available

YOUR UNTAPPED EDGE:

**Harness the Power of Opposites to Create Time,
Prevent Burnout, and Excel in What Matters
(previously titled *The Polarity Principles*)
by Kat Norton**

This brilliantly counterintuitive manifesto from the founder of Miss Excel—who's helped more than 2 million professionals work smarter—shows how pairing opposites, like hustle and rest or logic and creativity, sparks exponential growth in your work and life

You've heard the advice again and again. Hustle harder. Optimize every minute. Stay relevant or get left behind. Learn the tools. Master the tech. But somewhere along the way, ambition turned into exhaustion, and productivity stopped feeling productive.

Kat Norton knows this tension firsthand. After burning out in corporate consulting and later building Miss Excel into a multi-million-dollar education company reaching over two million people, she discovered a counterintuitive truth: Real growth doesn't come from choosing one side of a spectrum. It comes from pairing opposites so they amplify each other.

In *Your Untapped Edge*, Kat introduces a practical, repeatable framework for navigating modern work by holding "both/and" instead of "either/or."

Hustle becomes sustainable when balanced with stillness. Productivity accelerates when paired with purpose. Logic sharpens when it collaborates with creativity. Even AI becomes more powerful when guided by human intuition. Kat calls this dynamic polarity—the practice of intentionally pairing opposites so they amplify one another. It's a hidden multiplier behind exponential progress.

Through practical tools, science-backed mindset practices, and real-world workplace examples, Kat shows how you can manage your energy, make clearer decisions, and balance priorities in ways that lead to promotions, increased impact, and sustainable momentum.



Kat Norton is an educator, entrepreneur, and speaker who has inspired millions of people worldwide with her fresh approach to learning and professional development. She is the creator of Miss Excel, a platform that blends practical training with creativity to make technical skills engaging and fun. She is also the author of *The Workbook*, a popular weekly newsletter that delivers tech tips and mindset

strategies to over 570,000 readers. Kat has been featured in *Forbes*, *Business Insider*, *CNBC*, *Entrepreneur Magazine*, and more than 50 other global news outlets for her unique blend of career success and lifestyle design. Her programs have been adopted by 400+ companies, universities, and government organizations. www.miss-excel.com

Non-fiction, business

Hay House
March 2027
Hardcover
85k words

Rights available: Translation

Foreign sales:
British, at auction (John Murray Business)

- Sold at auction, in a "major" deal
- Author has a huge social media following: 1m followers on TikTok, 1.1m followers on Instagram, and over 570,000 email subscribers
- Miss Excel generated over \$10 million in course sales in just 4 years, with customers in 127 countries
- Author works with 400 organizations that purchase her education materials for their employees, including Amazon, Microsoft, TD Bank, UPS, the US Army, the Australian Government of Defense, and many more

Primary agent:
Carly Watters
P.S. Literary Agency

Material: Available

PAY ATTENTION:
How the Algorithms and Media Wars are Suppressing
Truth and Rewiring Your Brain
by David Pakman

In his follow-up to his bestselling *The Echo Machine*, David Pakman offers a dire warning on the cultural and technological forces that are already changing our brains and transforming the pursuit of truth into an almost impossible activity

As we confront a very Orwellian threat of totalitarianism, technological “advancements” have rendered us not just passive but willing participants in a Huxleyesque world as humanity becomes swallowed by the Attention Economy.

As a media creator, David Pakman has lived inside this system for nearly two decades. He now takes readers behind the curtain from his singular perspective to illustrate how and why political news and commentary has become more fragmented, extreme, and divisive in a self-fulfilling, self-feeding media environment. But even as many indicators point toward dystopian ends, Pakman remains hopeful. As the signal threatens to become indistinguishable from the noise, the author argues we can fight back by slowing things down in this fast media world.

Pakman has a knack for distilling complex social and political issues into compelling discussions for the widest possible audiences, and his accessible genius with the spoken word helps power his hugely popular podcast, *The David Pakman Show*.

Sure to speak to his millions of avidly engaged viewers, *Pay Attention* is a perfectly timed book from a powerfully positioned author that will show us how “the machine” works...and what we must do lest we become part of it.

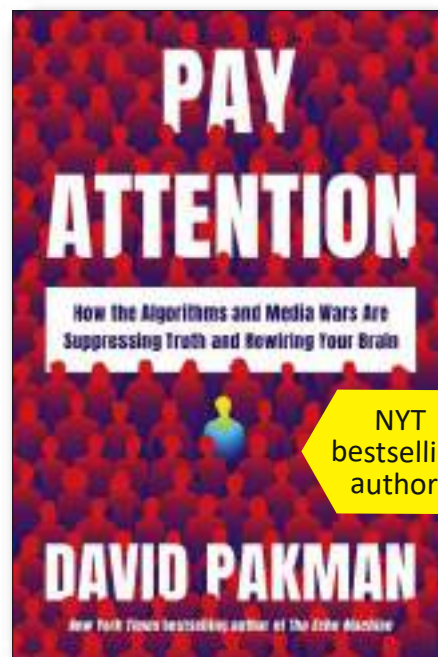


David Pakman is the Host and Executive Producer of *The David Pakman Show*, with more than 3.3 million subscribers and more than 3 billion total video views on his YouTube channel and one million monthly podcast downloads. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Economics and a Master's in Business Administration from Bentley University.

Pakman is the author of *The Echo Machine: How Right-Wing Extremism Created a Post-Truth America*, an instant bestseller on the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Publishers Weekly*, *IndieBound*, and *Associated Press* lists. He is known for providing incisive progressive political analysis and opinion without being dogmatic or tribal, or falling prey to the orthodoxy of the day. With a focus on economic and cultural issues, he has appeared on more than 100 media outlets, podcasts, radio and television shows, and in written interviews.

www.davidpakman.com

Media



HarperCollins
September 2026

Hardcover
79k words

Rights available: British and translation

- Sold on pre-empt, in a “significant” deal
- Author is host of *The David Pakman Show*, with an ever-growing subscription of 3.3 million viewers and 3 billion total views
- Author has over 2.6 million followers across social media platforms

Primary agent:
Rob Kirkpatrick
Kirkpatrick Literary Agency

Material: Available

RELATIONSICK:

Why Putting Yourself Last Is Destroying Your Health – And How To Heal

by Dr. Lissa Rankin, MD & Jeffrey Rediger, MD, MDiv

Written by two pedigreed, bestselling authors, *Relationsick* shows that healing your wounded boundaries and liberating yourself from the chains of narcissistic abuse could lead to seemingly miraculous health outcomes

Tragically, millions of young and middle-aged people suffer from chronic and terminal illnesses that conventional medicine doesn't know how to cure. This book offers surprising insights into what it takes to become one of the Olympians of healing that Drs. Rediger and Rankin have been studying for 33 years between them.

In their research, they independently came to the same conclusion: Sick people with remarkable recoveries quit giving until they were depleted and started standing up for themselves and insisting that their own needs matter. Without realizing that people pleasing could make them sick or even end their lives, these patients believed that toxic niceness was a noble way to behave. Once they learned that people pleasing is actually a trauma symptom that needed healing—they were able to heal their trauma and change their behavior with sometimes shocking health results.

Relationsick offers sick people who struggle to say no a radical roadmap to recovery that puts the healing process firmly in the hands of the reader, offering grounded, ethical hope and a new strategy for becoming a “health outlier” that many people, even those who think they’ve tried everything, might not yet have tried.



Lissa Rankin, MD, is an OB/GYN physician, author of seven books, founder of the Whole Health Medicine Institute and the non-profit Heal At Last, and an encaustic artist who researches radical remission, trauma-informed medicine, and spiritual healing. She teaches memoir writing for therapeutic purposes, in addition to being an educator of Internal Family Systems (IFS). Her TEDx talks have been viewed over

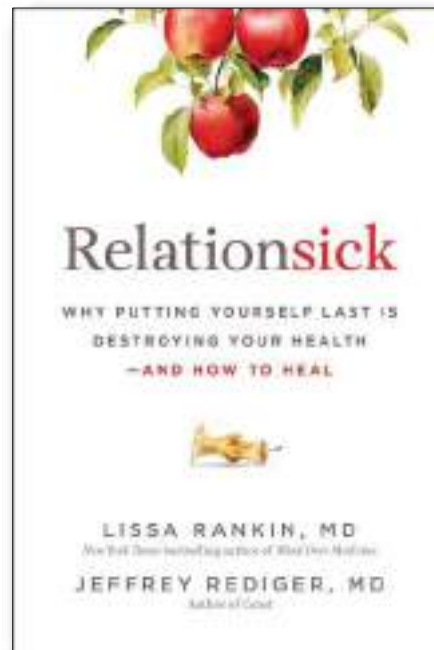
six million times, and she starred in two National Public Television specials. Lissa lives in the Bay Area. www.lissarankin.com



Jeffrey Rediger MD, MDiv, is a bestselling author, a licensed physician and psychiatrist, and on the faculty of Harvard Medical School. He has a Master of Divinity in theology and philosophy of science. His investigations into remarkable recoveries from incurable illnesses have been featured on the Oprah Winfrey, Dr. Oz, and Anderson Cooper 360 shows, among others.

www.drjeffreylediger.com

Health



BenBella Books

October 2026

Hardcover

111k words

Rights available: Translation (publisher has world English rights)

Foreign sales:
Germany (mvvg)

- Dr. Rediger is the Medical Director of Harvard's Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital and author of *Cured* which sold over 84,000 copies in the US and UK with translations in 19 languages
- Dr. Rankin is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mind Over Medicine*, revised in 2020, with over 135,000 copies sold and translations in 28 languages

Primary agent:
Michele Martin
MDM Management

Material: Available

HOW TO LET GO:

A Memoir of Finding Peace in Endings

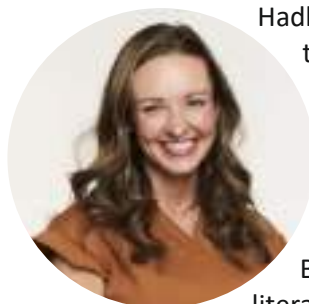
by Hadley Vlahos

The *New York Times* bestselling author of *The In-Between* presents a vulnerable, moving memoir about the unraveling of her marriage, and her evolving journey to find beauty in life's endings and beginnings

As a hospice nurse, Hadley Vlahos helps people navigate grief and major life transitions. After the success of her first book, *The In-Between*, Vlahos's professional career was on the rise, and from the outside, everything looked picture-perfect. But behind the scenes, her personal life was falling apart, and it was now her turn to confront the loss and upheaval that she spent her days counseling her patients through.

In *How to Let Go*, Vlahos recounts her journey of rebuilding her life and coming into her own after her fairytale marriage turned out to be not what it seemed. With grace and vulnerability, Vlahos recounts how she put herself back together again after loss, while also sharing lessons she's learned about life and death through her work as a nurse. She discusses some of the challenging situations people encounter when a loved one is in hospice, like taking advantage of the time you have left while simultaneously dealing with anticipatory grief, and how—or even whether—to say goodbye to an estranged parent.

Like her beloved first memoir, *How to Let Go* is a beautiful reminder that every moment—even a difficult and complicated one—is an opportunity: Until we take our final breath, we always have the ability to connect, to grow, and to begin again.



Hadley Vlahos resides in Biloxi, Mississippi with her three children. With ten years of experience as a registered nurse, including seven years devoted to hospice care, she has gained profound insights into the field of healthcare. Online, she is affectionately known as “Nurse Hadley,” to her over three million followers. Beyond her nursing career, Hadley has achieved literary success as the author of the instant *New*

York Times bestseller, *The In-Between: Unforgettable Encounters During Life's Final Moments*, published by Ballantine/Penguin Random House. Driven by her passion to make a difference, Hadley is currently working on establishing a nonprofit respite hospice house. Hadley seamlessly infuses storytelling into all her endeavors, leaving readers thoroughly entertained and blissfully unaware of how much knowledge they are absorbing along the way. <https://nursehadley.com>

Memoir



Ballantine Books

January 2027

Hardcover

62k words

Rights available: British and translation

Foreign sales:

Brazil (VR Editora)

Germany (Kösel/PRH)

Romania (Bookzone)

- Sold in a seven-figure deal
- The author is hugely popular on social media where she shares stories about her work as a hospice nurse; she has 504k IG followers, 677k YouTube followers, and 2.1 million TikTok followers
- **Previous book, *The In-Between*:**
 - *New York Times* bestseller
 - Amazon Editor's Pick, Best Nonfiction
 - Goodreads Choice Award nominee for Memoir & Autobiography

Primary agent:

Noah Ballard
Buchwald

Material: Available



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Taryn Fagerness Agency was established in March 2009 and specializes in representing foreign rights on behalf of many North American literary agencies, publishers, and independent authors. Current clients include Andrea Brown Literary Agency, Belcastro Agency, Bindery Books, The Booker Albert Literary Agency, Bradford Literary Agency, Britt Siess Creative Management, Buchwald, Claire Harris at Helm Literary, Creative Media Agency, CSG Literary Partners, Dunham Literary Inc., Grosvenor Literary Agency, Handspun Literary Agency, Katie Reed Literary, Kirkpatrick Literary LLC, Mad Woman Literary Agency, Marsal Lyon Literary Agency, Martin-Newens Literary Management, MDM Management, The Palgon Company, Parker Projects, P.S. Literary Agency, Amy Rennert Agency, and Wolfson Literary Agency.

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