



FRONTLIST RIGHTS GUIDE
FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2026

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Science Fiction & Fantasy

 amazon publishing

Empress of Cursed Realms

DIANA MA

JANUARY 26, 2027

In this lush epic fantasy, an empress yearning for freedom, a half fairy who has renounced humanity, and a clever spirit with his own agenda must save an empire on the brink of world-ending war.

Yifan, fourth wife of a wicked emperor, is patiently plotting his demise. All the while, she's pursued by Jin, a handsome fox spirit who comes to her nightly with devious bargains. She has resisted his allure...so far. But as her husband's cruelty grows, time is running out and the forces of a nutcracker army are growing stronger against their kingdom.

From far beyond those borders comes an unlikely ally: Nanmu, a half-mortal princess of the Peacock Kingdom who renounced the human world to live in peace with her fairy kin. But to save her banished sister, Nanmu returns to the Middle Empire, where beauty spells danger and magic runs wild.

With war brewing and their worlds colliding, Yifan and Nanmu must forge dangerous alliances as the fate of their kingdoms hangs in the balance. If they fail, an empire falls—and neither of their worlds will survive.

About the Author

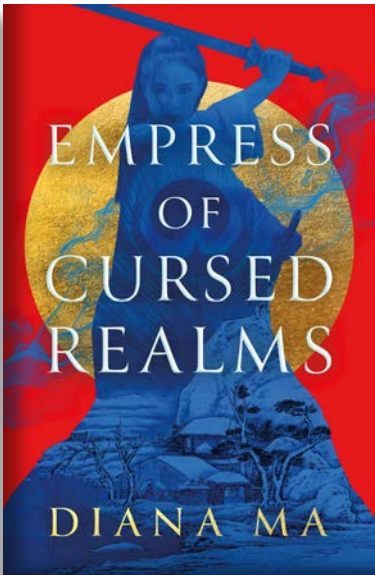
Diana Ma is a Chinese American author of fantasy, speculative fiction, rom-coms, middle grade, young adult, and educational nonfiction. Her debut novel *Heiress Apparently* was a 2021 Washington State Book Award finalist in Young Adult Literature. She was a 2019 We Need Diverse Books mentee and a 2021–2023 Highlights Foundation Muslim Storytellers Fellow.

Diana teaches at a community college in Seattle. She believes that it's important for everyone to recognize themselves in the heroes of the books they read. Her conviction that diverse books help us create a better world drives her writing and teaching. To learn more, visit her website at www.dianamaauthor.com.

Key Selling Points

LUSH ASIAN-INSPIRED FANTASY: Blending Chinese mythology, fox spirits, and fairy kingdoms with high-stakes political intrigue, *Empress of Cursed Realms* delivers the immersive worldbuilding readers are devouring in titles like *City of Brass* and *The Sword of Kaigen*.

ENEMIES-TO-ALLIES TENSION WITH A SWOONY ROMANCE SUBPLOT: The slow-burn dynamic between Yifan and her dangerously charming fox spirit ally delivers the romantic tension and moral complexity that readers crave alongside epic fantasy warfare.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Epic Fantasy
ISBN-13	9781662546372

Tropes

reluctant allies, feminist themes

Rights Available

All Languages

Twice Charmed

Lack and Luster Series Book 2

LAURA SEBASTIAN

FEBRUARY 9, 2027

From *New York Times* bestselling author Laura Sebastian comes a magical romance about a writer and a con artist who must strike a deal to fool high society.

Falling in love wasn't part of the bargain. Oriana Mayles is the perfect high-society Luster. She's from a wealthy family, and her shape-shifting magic is a sought-after rarity. But Oriana has a scandalous secret: She's the anonymous author of Garlin's popular sensationalist novels, all of which she's written to find her first love again.

When her identity is exposed, Oriana's search for her happily ever after leads her to Rafe Hartweiller, a street-smart con man who's in as dire straits as she is. Rafe has spent a lifetime trying to rise in society's ranks. He's established a club to usurp the city's most enterprising businessman. But a Lack man like Rafe can never escape his circumstances—not without the backing of a savvy socialite.

With no other choice, the two strike a deal to con Luster society. Yet as the line between fiction and reality blurs in their high-stakes bargain, they soon realize succeeding in their conquest means gambling their hearts—something neither of them is willing to lose.

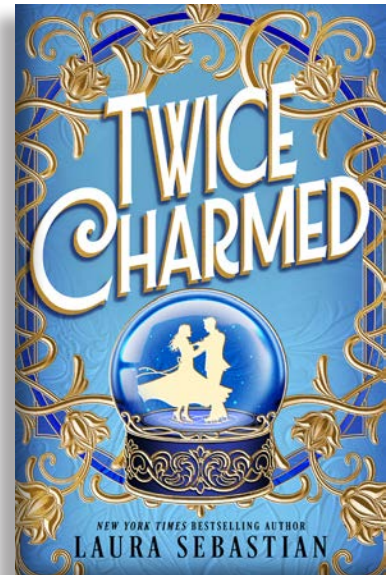
About the Author

Laura Sebastian grew up in South Florida and attended Savannah College of Art and Design. She now lives and writes in London, England, with her two dogs, Neville and Circe.

Laura is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling Ash Princess series—*Ash Princess*, *Lady Smoke*, and *Ember Queen*—as well as the Castles in Their Bones series—*Castles in Their Bones*, *Stardust in Their Veins*, and *Poison in Their Hearts*. *Half Sick of Shadows* was her first novel for adults, and *Into the Glades* was for middle-grade readers.

Key Selling Points

This is the next book in the Luster and Lack duology. It's a standalone following new characters.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Romantasy
ISBN-13	9781662538834

Social Media

10.5k followers on IG; 11.7k followers on TT with 408.3k likes

Tropes

Fake dating, historical fantasy romance

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

One Swindled

Tea & Wizardry

Mythical Creature Café Series Book 1

JOANNA RUTH MEYER

APRIL 6, 2027

The owner of a mythical creature café and an entitled wizard begrudgingly team up to save the world in a cozy fantasy of found family and burgeoning magic by the author of the Winter Dark series.

Mythical Creature Café owner Faedra Weslenberg has a lot on her plate. Besides brewing tea and baking scones for her loyal clientele of humans, fauns, and trolls (she won't share her recipe, don't ask), she facilitates the adoptions of baby dragons and pegasi, all while raising her thirteen-year-old niece, Wilhelmina, and battling mysterious life-threatening allergies to the outside world.

So when Emerens Ward, the entitled wizard who owns her lapsed mortgage, seizes the café, she is *really not in the mood*. Emerens allows Faedra to stay on as proprietor, and their begrudging partnership slowly turns into something more.

But dangerous Faery Roads keep opening in the café, the morally ambiguous Wizards' Council is breathing down Emerens's neck, and Faedra's estranged sister reappears, wanting custody of Wilhelmina. When Faedra uncovers a secret that could save or break the world, she must decide what she's willing to sacrifice to save the family she has chosen—and has chosen her.

About the Author

Joanna Ruth Meyer is the author of *When the Light Returns* and *While the Dark Remains* in the Winter Dark series, the Endahr Chronicles, and the Oldest Magic series, which includes the critically acclaimed *Echo North*. She lives in Mesa, Arizona, with her husband, son, two orange cats, and a giant grand piano named Prince Imrahil. Joanna loves forests and rainstorms and stories that make her feel things, and in all likelihood, she's drinking tea right now. For more information, visit www.joannaruthmeyer.com.

Key Selling Points

POPULAR GENRE: Cozy fantasy has been trending in the market and on Amazon, and we're thrilled to present this first title in new duology centered around a mythical creature café.

STRONG COZY FANTASY VIBES, with tropes such as found family, cottagecore, tea, & a charming café setting full of mythical creatures.

ROMANCE: Features a fun and endearing enemies-to-lovers romance with our main character Faedra falling for her charming landlord Emerens, who happens to be a wizard.

ADVENTURE: Includes a high-stakes fantasy adventure that will appeal to the author's existing fanbase, but with enough heart and charm to keep cozier readers hooked.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Cozy Fantasy
ISBN-13	9781662545467

Social Media

3.9k followers on IG; 3.1k followers on X

Tropes

found family, cottagecore, tea, charming cafe setting, enemies to lovers

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

While the Dark Remains; While the Light Returns

Castle Crawl

Castle Crawl Series Book 1

ZACK PETROC AND JUSTIN SLOAN

APRIL 13, 2027

In this epic, LitRPG fantasy adventure, game writer Justin Sloan and Disney shorts director Zack Petroc team up for a quest about a Marine who must survive a deadly game to save his brother and his squad.

When a cyberattack hijacks a top-secret military simulator, Marine cadet Reeve Thompson and thousands of soldiers are trapped inside a twisted fantasy death game. No logout. No respawn. Survive the night or be permanently eliminated.

The rules are brutal: loot, level up, rank in the top half, or die. The goal: defeat the Great Orc King and reach the portal castle. But Reeve knows combat, not fantasy mechanics. Worse, his brother Mace has been pulled into a boss portal, and the only way to reach him is forward.

With Lana, a baby unicorn harboring a violent secret, at his side, Reeve must fight through goblins, glitching centaurs, and drunken dwarves to save his squad and find his brother. But an enemy force is rewriting the game from the outside, spawning deadlier enemies and breaking the code from within. The simulation is collapsing. His team is fracturing. And the real threat isn't inside the game at all. Realm One is just the beginning.

About the Authors

Justin Sloan is a screenwriter, novelist, and narrative designer with deep roots in gaming and geek culture. The veteran Marine and military intelligence specialist blends high-stakes action and immersive storytelling with offbeat humor. He's authored over fifty novels—including several LitRPG series—and written for the likes of Electronic Arts (*Battlefield*), Telltale Games (*The Walking Dead*), Galactic Entertainment (*PlanetQuest*), Roku (*Cypher*), and dj2 Entertainment (*Silent Hill: Ascension*).

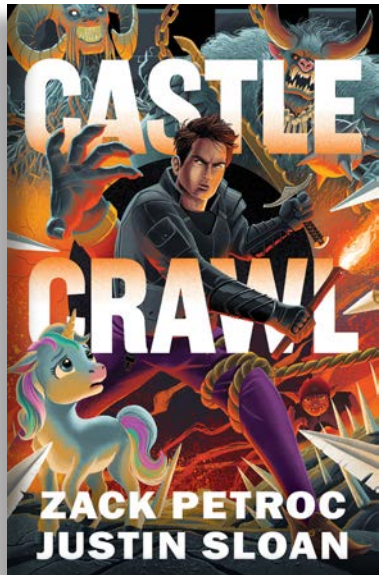
Zack Petroc grew up a latchkey kid with one rule: Don't watch the horror and sci-fi movies your parents rented. Naturally, he watched them all, beginning a lifelong obsession with wild adventures and monstrous mayhem. He honed his storytelling craft at Walt Disney Feature Animation, developing stories as a shorts director. His over-the-top genre tales blend cinematic spectacle with emotional revelation, leaning hard into character growth, ridiculous fun, and the occasional unicorn ninja star.

Key Selling Points

LITRPG MEETS MILITARY THRILLER: Perfect for fans of Matt Dinniman and Ready Player One, *Castle Crawl* combines video game mechanics with high-stakes survival as readers follow Reeve, a marine who must literally level up through a deadly medieval fantasy world to save his brother and their trapped squadmates from the video game taking over their base.

GENRE-BLENDING ACTION WITH HEART: This fast-paced adventure seamlessly weaves together LitRPG progression, military sci-fi, portal fantasy, and emotional character growth, delivering both epic boss battles and genuine moments of friendship, loss, and self-discovery.

CREATORS WITH GAMING AND MEDIA BACKGROUND: Writers Justin Sloan and Zack Petroc are both heavily entrenched in the gaming world, from working on Telltales bestselling video game and film franchises. Between the two of them, they've won several Oscars, Golden Globes, Emmys, and Game Awards.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Epic Fantasy
ISBN-13	9781662546501

Social Media

Justin Sloan - 5k followers on X
Zack Petroc - 2.6k followers on IG

Tropes

#FoundFamily #PortalFantasy

Rights Available

All Languages

Queen of Lies

The Heart of the Goddess Series Book 2

SARIAH WILSON

APRIL 13, 2027

A fierce Thracian warrior never expected her greatest battle would be against her own heart.

When she's reluctantly partnered with—and married to—the charming, infuriating king of thieves on a high-stakes quest to stop a vengeful goddess from destroying their world, every instinct tells her not to trust him. He's a liar, a scoundrel, and impossibly magnetic. But as their dangerous journey forces them closer together, the line between enemy and ally—between hatred and desire—begins to blur.

With epic battles raging around them and a goddess's wrath closing in, they must learn to fight together or lose everything. But surrendering to trust may be the most terrifying battle of all—because in a world built on deception, love is the one thing neither of them can steal.

Packed with witty banter, slow-burn romance, and breathtaking action, *Queen of Lies* is an addictive tale of trust, betrayal, and discovering that love is the greatest treasure of all.

About the Author

Bestselling author Sariah Wilson has never jumped out of an airplane or climbed Mount Everest, and she is not a former CIA operative. She is, however, madly, passionately in love with her soul mate and is a fervent believer in happily ever afters—which is why she writes romances like the Royals of Monterra series. After growing up in Southern California as the oldest of nine (yes, nine) children, she graduated from Brigham Young University with a semi-useless degree in history. The author of *#Starstruck*, she currently lives with the aforementioned soul mate and their four children in Utah, along with three tiger barb fish, a cat named Tiger, and a recently departed hamster who is buried in the backyard (and has nothing at all to do with tigers). For more information, visit her at www.SariahWilson.com.

Key Selling Points

EPIC ROMANTASY CONCLUSION: *Queen of Lies* delivers a satisfying finale to Wilson's Heart of the Goddess series, combining Greek mythology, enemies-to-lovers romance, and high-stakes fantasy adventure. With fierce battle scenes, political intrigue, and romantic tension that builds to an explosive climax, this book offers everything romantasy readers crave in a series conclusion.

PROVEN BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Sariah Wilson has built a devoted romantasy readership with this series, earning praise from #1 *New York Times* bestselling authors Jennifer L. Armentrout ("A must-read book of 2024") and Jodi Picoult ("will not let you go"). The series has received starred reviews from *Midwest Book Review* for its genuine flair for narrative-driven storytelling and impressive blending of romance and action/adventure.

COMPLEX HEROINE & SWOON-WORTHY HERO: Basileia is a battle-hardened Thracian warrior who must learn to trust the charming, secretive Epirian king Zain—a master thief who repeatedly betrays her yet proves his devotion by risking everything for her. Their relationship explores themes of trust, forgiveness, and choosing love despite cultural differences, creating an emotionally resonant romance alongside the action.

STRONG CROSSOVER APPEAL: With over two dozen published novels spanning romantic fantasy and contemporary romance, Wilson has demonstrated versatility and commercial appeal. Her active social media presence and established fanbase position this series finale for strong performance in the competitive romantasy market.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Romantasy
ISBN-13	9781662540691 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

12.7k followers on IG; 4.5k followers on FB; 5.4k followers on X

Tropes

#EnemiestoLovers, #StrongFMC, #MorallyGrayHero, #Romantasy

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Chemistry of Love, The Heart of the Goddess Series (and many more)

Deadly Foresight

Second Sight Ops Series Book 1

TRISH MCCALLAN

APRIL 27, 2027

In this pulse-pounding enemies-to-lovers romance where the stakes are life, death, and the terrifying possibility of a soulmate, a kidnapped Navy SEAL and the captive neurosurgeon forced to experiment on him must fight their way out of a secret psychic research facility.

When Navy SEAL Chance Winters is kidnapped by a billionaire obsessed with weaponizing psychic abilities, his only hope of escape is the captor's stepdaughter—a brilliant neurosurgeon forced to experiment on children who turns out to be his fated soulmate.

Surviving helicopter crashes, wilderness pursuits, and sniper attacks is one thing, but surrendering his heart to the one woman fate has chosen for him? That's a mission he never trained for.

About the Author

Trish McCallan was born in Eugene, Oregon, and grew up in Washington State, where she began crafting stories at an early age. Her first books were illustrated in crayon, bound with red yarn, and sold for a nickel at her lemonade stand. Trish grew up to earn a bachelor's degree in English literature with a concentration in creative writing from Western Washington University, taking jobs as a bookkeeper and human-resource specialist before finally quitting her day job to write full time.

Forged in Fire, the first book in her Red Hot SEALs series, came about after a marathon reading session, and a bottle of Nyquil that sparked a vivid dream. She lives today in eastern Washington. An avid animal lover, she currently shares her home with four golden retrievers, a black lab mix and two cats.

Key Selling Points

PARANORMAL ACTION THRILLER: Trish's plots are explosive, suspenseful, and wildly imaginative, creating a complex and immersive world that fans of action thrillers as well as paranormal and military romance readers will love.

MILITARY ALPHA MALE HERO: Chance Winters is every bit the seductively masculine alpha male that readers of military romance expect: brave, fiercely loyal, protective, physically imposing, with strong tactical and survival instincts, and emotionally guarded (until the right woman is able to break through his walls).



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Military Sci-Fi Romance
ISBN-13	9781662542947

Social Media

1.2k followers on FB

Tropes

#alphamales, #fatedmates, #militaryromance, #paranormalromance, #forcedproximity

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

A Red-Hot SEALs Novel series

The Witch's Cure for Marriage

Moorland Magic Series Book 1

CHARLIE N. HOLMBERG

MAY 11, 2027

From *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Charlie N. Holmberg comes a spellbinding tale of potions, escape, and one woman's magical quest to break free of her past.

Clyda Fay did the sensible thing: she married the Duke of Strathearn to save her father's railway. A love philter made it bearable. Four years of refills made it survivable. But when the duke's schemes shatter everything she sacrificed for, Clyda runs.

Her only companion on the road? Arie Eskola—the witch who brewed her potions, now a fugitive himself. He's prickly, principled, and annoyingly good company. Sharing rooms in cramped inns, tending each other's wounds by firelight, learning magic at his side—what begins as reluctant alliance might be the truest thing Clyda has ever known.

But Clyda knows love won't save her and as her husband leads a mounting rebellion against witches and all things magic, she finds herself at the center of a dangerous magical conspiracy. Now, in order to truly be free she must face the past she's longed to escape.

About the Author

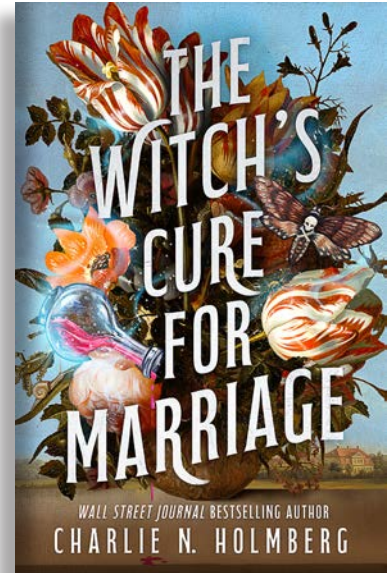
Charlie N. Holmberg is a *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of fantasy and romance fiction, including the Paper Magician series, the Spellbreaker series, and the Whimbrel House series, and writes contemporary romance under C. N. Holmberg. She is published in over twenty languages and is a Goodreads Choice Award, ALA, and RITA finalist.

Born in Salt Lake City, Charlie was raised a Trekkie alongside three sisters who also have boy names. A BYU alumna, she discovered in her thirties that she's actually a cat person. She lives with her family in Utah. Visit her at www.charlienholmberg.com.

Key Selling Points

CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AND BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Charlie N. Holmberg's books have reached over 4 million readers, and this latest series start is sure to enthrall her fans and resonate with readers looking for more cozy fantasies.

SLOW-BURN ROMANCE WITH REAL EMOTIONAL DEPTH: In her attempt to escape her husband, Clyda teams up with a witch named Arie and his grumpy yet caring disposition will charm readers as they too become invested in the slow burn emotional connection the two form as they are both drawn to each other.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
ISBN-13	9781662531217 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

11.8k followers on IG; 5.4k followers on FB; 3.5k followers on X

Tropes

#grumpysunshine #reluctantallies #witches

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Paper Magician; The Hanging City; The Shattered King (and many more!)

The Fallen Empires

The Last Harbinger Series Book 2

JEFF WHEELER

MAY 18, 2027

In this thrilling sequel to *The Last Harbinger*, *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Jeff Wheeler returns with a whirlwind adventure that will leave readers breathless.

The kingdom teeters on the brink of civil war. Military dragoon Hasting Creign has one mission: protect Princess Maia Fitzempress at all costs. But as cunning magical entities close in and an ancient force threatens to destroy both worlds, duty becomes something far more dangerous—devotion.

Together, Hastings and Maia must forge ahead on a perilous quest to save themselves and a kingdom unraveling around them. With enemies on every side and destinies being shaped by forces beyond their control, the line between protector and partner blurs—and the cost of failure is everything.

About the Author

Jeff Wheeler is the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of the Kingfountain Series and the Covenant of Muirwood novels. Taking an early retirement from his career at Intel in 2014 to write full-time, Jeff is, most important, a husband, a father, and a devout member of his church. He is occasionally spotted roaming among the oak trees and granite boulders in the hills of California or in any number of the state's majestic redwood groves. He is also the founder of *Deep Magic: The E-zine of Clean Fantasy and Science Fiction*. Find out more about Deep Magic online at www.deepmagic.co, and visit Jeff at www.jeff-wheeler.com.

Key Selling Points

THRILLING SEQUEL FROM BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Jeff Wheeler is the bestselling author of over 35 books and this sequel to *The Last Harbinger* is filled with action and adventure, along with a romantic arc between the princess and her bodyguard.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Epic Fantasy
ISBN-13	9781662537493 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

3.6k followers on IG; 3.2k followers on FB; 1.5k followers on X

Tropes

Bodyguard romance; Epic fantasy inspired by history (Russian Romanov)

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Harbinger series; The Kingfountain series; The Dawning of Muirwood series; (and many more)

Gate of Nightmares

Underworld Myths Series Book 2

CALLIE ROWLAND

JUNE 29, 2027

She is the goddess of nightmares—feared, misunderstood, and utterly alone.

In the shadowed corners of the Greek pantheon, she has long accepted her role as the one the other gods avoid. But when the god of dreams—the only being who has ever seen past her darkness—falls prey to a sinister and perilous fate, she will do whatever it takes to save him.

Even if it means venturing into realms no nightmare was ever meant to walk. Even if it means confronting the very gods who cast her out. Even if it means losing her own heart in the process.

As she descends deeper into danger, she discovers that the line between nightmares and dreams is thinner than she ever imagined—and that the greatest terror of all might not be the darkness she wields, but the love she's never allowed herself to feel.

Set in the same richly imagined Greek mythology fantasy world as *Fields of Asphodel*, this charming standalone historical fantasy is a story of unlikely love, divine sacrifice, and the courage it takes to let light into the darkest of hearts.

About the Author

Callie Rowland lives in Louisville, KY, where she daylights as a proofreader at a marketing agency. She spends most of her free time reading and writing, but when she's feeling brave, she even hangs out with other people. She is the proud mother of a spider plant named Lucifer, a pothos named Lilith, and a kitten named Lewis (who she suspects is the Guardian of Realms).

Key Selling Points

AUTHOR WITH GROWING PLATFORM: Callie Rowland's debut novel, *Fields of Asphodel* just published (8/1) and already received strong buzz including stellar blurbs from authors like Sarah Beth Durst (*New York Times* bestselling author of *The Spellshop*), Caitlin Rozakis (*New York Times* bestselling author of *Startup Hell*), Mai Corland (*New York Times* and *Sunday Times* bestselling author of the *Five Broken Blades* trilogy), S. T. Gibson (international bestselling author of *A Dowry Of Blood*), Sydney J. Shields (*USA Today* bestselling author of *The Honey Witch*) and Taylor Epperson.

Standalone set in the world of *Fields of Asphodel*.



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
ISBN-13	9781662548123

Social Media

1.8k followers on IG

Tropes

Friends to lovers; Greek mythology

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Fields of Asphodel

Book Club Fiction

 amazon publishing

Holding On Tight

AMANDA PROWSE

JANUARY 12, 2027

From bestselling author Amanda Prowse comes a haunting and hopeful love story about a marriage rebuilt—and the buried secrets that could still tear it apart.

You never really know anyone's story by looking at them, or what goes on behind closed doors. Byron and Venice have been married for over fifty years, building a life together in their market town home in Kent, raising a family, creating small rituals that bind them together.

They bicker and laugh, support each other fiercely, and love without hesitation. From the outside, their life looks ordinary—days spent in Byron's shed and their cosy kitchen, the comfortable rhythms of a long marriage. But their happiness is hard won, and more fragile than anyone knows. Beneath the surface lies buried trauma, decades of silence, and a marriage that was once shattered beyond repair.

As they navigate the realities of ageing, the masks they wear begin to slip, revealing the heartache they've overcome and the secrets that still haunt them. This is a love story with a difference, proof that broken things can be made beautiful, that forgiveness is possible, and that love can survive the unthinkable. But some secrets are too heavy to carry forever...

About the Author

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

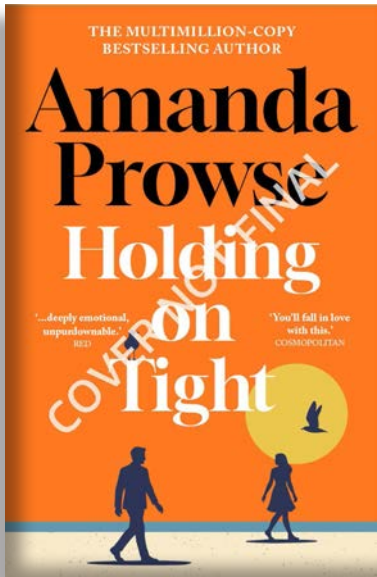
Crowned 'the queen of family drama' by the *Daily Mail*, she writes about life's challenges—from heartbreak and loss to dysfunctional family dynamics—but also about the pockets of delight that can be found in our relationships with others, often when we need them most. Amanda is known for her relatable characters, emotionally compelling plots, and the sense of connection that readers feel with her stories. She is an ambassador for The Reading Agency and feels passionately about supporting other women, spending as much time as possible outdoors (preferably by the sea!), and her family.

Key Selling Points

ESTABLISHED BESTSELLER: Amanda Prowse is an internationally bestselling author with millions of copies sold worldwide. Her backlist consistently performs and she has a highly engaged readership.

EMOTIONALLY DEVASTATING: Prowse is known for unflinching portrayals of family life—her readers come for the emotional gut-punch and this delivers.

RELATABLE THEME: Marriage under pressure is a perennial book club favourite—perfect for fans of Jodi Picoult, Jojo Moyes and Jill Mansell.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
ISBN-13	9781662539435

Social Media

11k followers on IG; 6.6k followers on X; 1.4k followers on FB

Tropes

#MarriageInCrisis, #FamilyDrama, #SecondChances, #EmotionallyDevastating, #BookClubFiction, #GriefAndHealing

Rights Available

Bulgarian, English, Estonian, Russian, Slovenian, Ukrainian

Other Titles by this Author

Swimming to Lundy Very Very Lucky, Life as Planned, Ever After (and many more!)

The Turnip House

CARRIE CLASSON

JANUARY 19, 2027

The author of *Loon Point* returns with a heartwarming novel about three women in crisis finding friendship, family, and the ground beneath their feet—under one extraordinary roof.

For 150 years, the Turnip House has stood watch over the river in Felix Falls, Minnesota. As autumn turns to snowy winter, its turreted roof shelters three strangers seeking radical change. After the collapse of her marriage, Max is channeling raw grief into provocative art.

Alice, a young painter far from home, hopes the house's light-filled studio will reveal the artist she wants to become. And Winnie, an eighty-six-year-old with OCD, has just lost the farmhouse she treasured—but an unexpected reconnection awaits her.

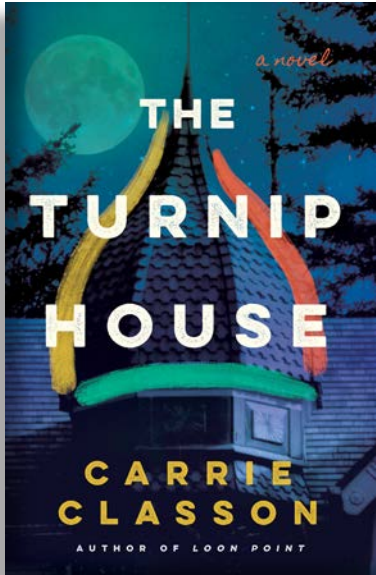
As each woman faces questions about where to go from here, their lives blend together in shared meals, deep talks, and the patient work of beginning again. The house has a way of offering what they need, even when it's not what they thought they wanted.

Equal parts wise and whimsical, *The Turnip House* is a moving novel about creative catharsis, seasons of surprising sweetness, and the strong bonds forged at life's crossroads.

About the Author

Carrie Classon is the author of *Loon Point* and *The Turnip House*. Born in Minnesota, she grew up to enjoy a fourteen-year career in the theater, and become a nationally syndicated columnist with Andrews McMeel Universal. After founding and running a professional Equity theater for seven years, she got her MBA and worked in international business. She has an MFA in creative nonfiction from the University of New Mexico and has written a memoir, several plays, and more than six hundred columns.

In her weekly column *The Postscript*, Carrie writes about the transformative power of optimism and how to find the extraordinary in the ordinary. She champions the idea that it is never too late to reinvent our lives in unexpected and fulfilling ways. She performs a live show featuring material from her writing—and lots of sequins. Carrie and her husband, Peter, along with former street cat Felix, split their time between Saint Paul, Minnesota, and San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662546662

Social Media

1.5k followers on FB

Tropes

#female friendship; #second chances; #overcoming grief

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Loon Point

She Gets It From Me

EMILY BLEEKER

FEBRUARY 2, 2027

A funny, bittersweet novel about a mother-daughter stand-up comedy rivalry that becomes the only honest conversation they've ever had, from the author of *When We Were Enemies*.

When struggling Chicago stand-up comic Chloe Masterson turns a disastrous family dinner into a viral comedy set, her mother becomes the punch line—winning Chloe new fans, new gigs, and the big break she's spent years chasing. But Mary isn't laughing.

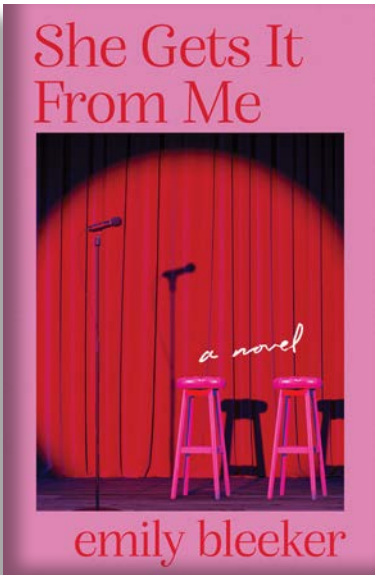
After discovering her daughter has turned their private history into comedy gold, she grabs the mic to give Chloe a taste of her own medicine. But what begins as a mother's attempt to prove a point turns into a genuine shot at the spotlight. Mary is good at stand-up—really good.

As she secretly rises through Chicago's comedy ranks, Chloe is doing the same on the other side of the city, completely unaware her mother is becoming something far more dangerous than inspiration—competition. Soon, both women are barreling toward the same career-defining opportunity and a very public head-on collision.

As their rivalry heats up and old wounds resurface, Chloe and Mary must decide what matters more: winning the spotlight or finding their way back to each other.

About the Author

Emily Bleeker is the *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of *Good Days Bad Days*, *When We Were Enemies*, and *When We Chased the Light*, among other novels, which have reached more than two million readers worldwide. In addition to writing novels, Emily performs improv comedy with the house team of a local theater in suburban Chicago and has a deep love for stand-up, storytelling, and the beautifully awkward ways humor connects people. She lives near Chicago with her family and can usually be found writing, running, momming, or indulging in a night of karaoke. For more information, visit www.emilybleeker.com



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
ISBN-13	9781662543500

Social Media

2.3k followers on IG; 2.7k followers on FB

Tropes

#family dynamics #second chances #mother daughter rivalry

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Good Days Bad Days, When We Were Enemies, and When We Chased the Light, among other novels

Where the Wind Carries

LAURA BARROW

FEBRUARY 2, 2027

From the author of *Call the Canaries Home* comes a young woman's journey through grief and resilience when the loss of her son forces her to start over—until a face in a crowd changes everything.

The disappearance of her fiancé in World War I left Ruth Beddingfield well acquainted with grief. Determined to find a life for their son Jonah beyond their dusty, dead-end town, Ruth is eyeing the city and all its opportunities. But tragedy isn't done with her yet.

After a devastating tornado rips through the community, taking Jonah with it, Ruth packs away what's left of her life and leaves everything else behind. Her home, her memories, her hope for something better.

When she meets Everett, a charming traveling salesman, he reignites that hope. Ruth joins his medicine show, roving across the Midwest and into the South, building a new family alongside him and a wily orphan named Wren.

The road to healing is blooming, until one day, Ruth is thrust backward with just a glance. A young boy on a crowded street, his face achingly familiar. Jonah is gone. But if that's true, why can she no longer believe it?

About the Author

Laura Barrow, the bestselling author of *Call the Canaries Home*, *If We Ever Get There*, and *The Marriage Slip*, is a former teacher and a lover of books. Her novels speak to both the heartbreaking and joyful experiences of women. A Louisiana native, she now resides in Garland, Texas, with her husband, three daughters, and a spoiled labradoodle named Teddy.

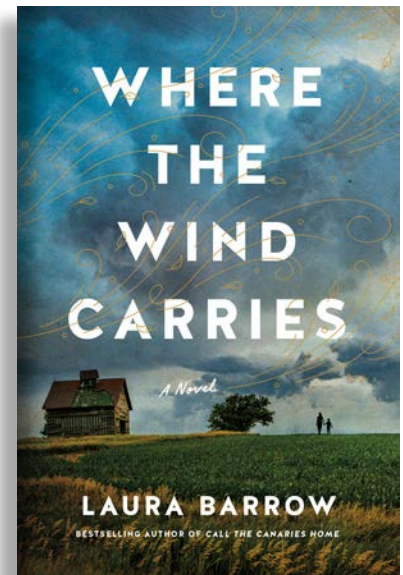
Key Selling Points

Proven Bestselling Author: Laura Barrow is the bestselling author of *Call the Canaries Home*, *If We Ever Get There*, and *The Marriage Slip*—novels that consistently speak to the heartbreaking and joyful experiences of women. Her growing readership and track record demonstrate strong commercial viability.

High-Concept Emotional Hook: "What if the child you buried isn't gone?" — This is a one-line premise that immediately grabs attention. The tension between grief and hope, between accepting loss and daring to believe the impossible, creates an irresistible page-turner quality.

Rich Historical Setting with Universal Themes: The post-WWI American Midwest and South, traveling medicine shows, and tornado-ravaged communities provide vivid, immersive world-building that translates beautifully across international markets. The themes of maternal love, resilience, and reinvention are universally resonant.

Found Family & Road Narrative: The medicine show journey with Everett and orphan Wren creates a compelling found-family dynamic that broadens the emotional scope beyond a single grief narrative—offering warmth, humor, and connection alongside the central mystery.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662545078

Social Media

1k followers on IG

Tropes

#overcoming grief #second chance to happiness
#found family

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Call the Canaries Home; If We Ever Get There;
The Marriage Slip

The Best Worst Life of Magnolia Wade

JOANI ELLIOTT

FEBRUARY 9, 2027

The reserved image—and career—of a prep school headmistress comes undone when her cult-movie past is unearthed in a funny and hopeful novel about second chances and embracing the missteps of life.

It's taken twenty-one years but the no-budget cinematic train wreck *Alien Storm* has found a global cult following as the best-worst movie ever made. Devoted fans have one question: Where in the world is its star, Delilah Dayne? That's been a mystery. Until now.

She's just been outed as Dr. Magnolia Wade, headmistress of an elite DC private school navigating a high-stakes first year and raising her teenage daughter, Rose, an aspiring filmmaker who feels betrayed by her mother's secrets. But there's more to Delilah Dayne and that damned film than anyone knows.

With her buttoned-up career imploding, Magnolia's one sure way to reconnect with Rose is to join *Alien Storm*'s cast reunion tour, confront the best and worst of the past—every mortifying misstep, imperfection, and heartbreak—and finally own her story.

The devoted fans are going to love it. Magnolia? Embracing the past, however messy, is the only way she's ever going to move forward.

About the Author

Joani Elliott is the author of *The Audacity of Sara Grayson*. She believes in the magic of stories, a good cup of tea, and the power of living a creative life. Joani has taught writing at the University of Maryland and Brigham Young University and lives with her husband and two daughters near Salt Lake City, Utah. For more information, visit www.joanielliott.com.

Key Selling Points

SO-BAD-IT'S-GOOD MOVIE HOOK: Buttoned-up prep school principal is secretly the star of a cult-classic sci-fi movie is made all the more irresistible with Joani Elliot's knack for balancing both the humor and the heartbreak.

MOTHER AND TEEN DAUGHTER TENSION AND RECONNECTION: Maggie and her teen daughter Rose's fractured relationship is the story's emotional core. Along the way, Maggie slowly learns to open up and show her flaws, and regain her daughter's trust.

SECOND-CHANCE ROMANCE: Maggie and Rob's twenty-year estrangement, rooted in a devastating betrayal of trust, gives the love story real weight and earned resolution.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662545870

Social Media

1k followers on IG

Tropes

Second-chance romance; In-world viral hashtag #bestworst to share failures that led to personal growth, and #AlienStorm for movie chatter

Rights Available

All Languages

Between Us

IMOGEN CLARK

FEBRUARY 9, 2027

A bittersweet, emotional family drama about mothers and daughters, sisters and secrets, and the ties that bind us, from the multi-million-copy bestselling author of *In a Single Moment*.

As the Everill family gather at a sun-drenched villa on the Côte d'Azur to celebrate Isobel and James' fortieth wedding anniversary, the planned week is meant to mark a lifetime of love and shared memories. But beneath the promise of leisurely lunches, turquoise waters, and balmy evenings, old wounds are waiting to surface.

While Isobel is quietly confronting the cracks in her marriage, her daughters are each carrying burdens of their own. Catriona is still haunted by the loss that changed their family forever. After years of heartbreak and failed IVF, Beatrice is beginning to question the future she once imagined. And heavily pregnant Elodie arrives with hidden secrets she can no longer outrun.

Now within the villa's walls, the Everills are drawn back into the grief, silences and tangled bonds that have shaped their family for over a decade. Can they finally face the tragedy that changed them forever, and begin to heal?

About the Author

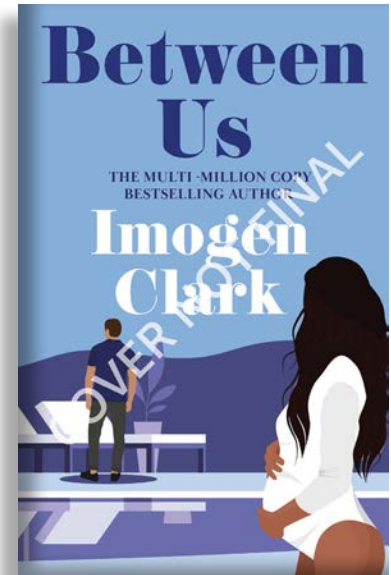
Imogen Clark writes contemporary fiction about families and secrets. She has sold over a million copies of her books and has topped the Amazon Kindle chart eight times. *Where the Story Starts* was shortlisted in the UK for Contemporary Romantic Novel of the Year 2020. After initially qualifying and working as a lawyer, Imogen left her legal career behind to care for her four children and then returned to her first love—books. She went back to university, studying English Literature part-time whilst the children were at school. It was a short step from there to writing novels.

Key Selling Points

FAMILY ENSEMBLE: Multi-generational family dynamics with multiple POVs—a format that consistently performs in the book club fiction space (cf. Claire Lombardo, Elizabeth Noble).

ASPIRATIONAL SETTING: A week in a French villa provides the perfect escapist backdrop while the family drama keeps things compelling.

PROVEN AUTHOR: Imogen Clark has built a loyal readership through her emotionally intelligent family fiction—her readers are dedicated and engaged.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
ISBN-13	9781662538780

Social Media

2.2k followers on IG; 2.4k followers on FB; 1.6k followers on TT

Tropes

#FamilySecrets, #FamilyReunion, #MultiGenerational, #BookClubFiction, #FrenchVilla, #SiblingsReunited

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Impossible to Forget, Late in the Day, In A Single Moment (and many more!)

Near the Wild Heart

NEIL C. JOHANNSEN

FEBRUARY 16, 2027

In this exhilarating and lyrical historical novel inspired by true events, a girl develops a profound bond with a freedom-loving horse marooned on Alaska's remote Katmai Coast.

In 1956, a foundering barge caught in a violent storm strands a quarter-horse stallion named Takli on Alaska's remote Katmai Coast. Resisting all rescue attempts, he lives eighteen years on his own in the wild: surviving marauding grizzly bears, the brutal elements, and even a tsunami that followed the great 1964 Alaska Earthquake. To locals, he's a miracle and a legend. To Willow Mackenzie, Takli is more.

Every summer, the strong-willed young woman treks to Takli's rugged home on the far-flung coastline. Raised on a backwoods ranch in Homer, studying music in Seattle, and striving for her own independence, Willow marvels at her beautiful friend's resilience. It's something she'll need in the wake of a devastating tragedy that strikes Willow's family and sends her spiraling into grief and guilt.

Over the years, Takli's survival inspires Willow to bear her losses, navigate her own yearning for freedom, and understand the pull and the power of nature in the last frontier.

About the Author

Neil Christian Johannsen grew up on a working ranch in Northern California. As a youth he delivered newspapers from horseback and learned to fly a bush plane out of a pasture. After earning a master's in forestry/outdoor recreation, he worked as a park ranger, artist, writer, and skipper of offshore sailboats, building his own thirty-footer to sail wild Alaskan waters. He served as deputy director of California State Parks and, as the longest-serving director of Alaska State Parks, earned a commendation from the Alaska legislature for establishing fifty parks. He oversaw preservation of millions of acres of scenic and recreation areas and historic sites in Alaska, and later consulted on nationally protected lands in Europe, South America, and Russia.

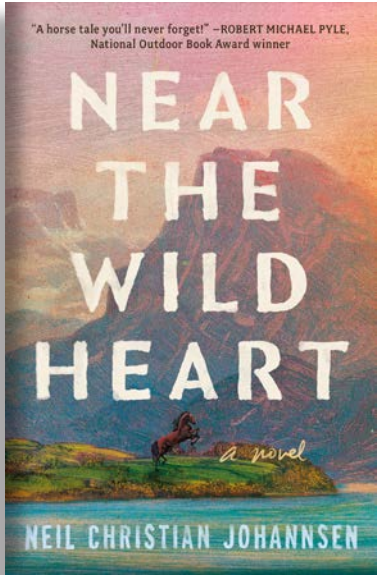
Neil has written for national magazines and coauthored a guide to exploring Prince William Sound. He and his wife, Hilary Hilscher, live with two cats on an island in the Pacific Northwest. For more information, visit www.nearthewildheart.com.

Key Selling Points

INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS: In the 1950s, a real stallion survived 18 years alone on Alaska's Katmai Coast—the author learned the tale firsthand during his decades managing Alaska's state parks.

EXTRAORDINARY DEBUT AUTHOR: Neil Johannsen is Alaska's longest-serving State Parks director, a bush pilot, horseman, and published nature writer—he lived this world. Unmatched authenticity in every detail of wilderness, aviation, and the human-animal bond

A HORSE STORY WITH HOPE: This is a story of grit and survival, centering the enduring bond of a girl and her beloved horse.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662545412

Tropes

Inspired by true events; horse book; Alaska survival

Rights Available

All Languages

The Picture House Girl

CAITLIN DEVLIN

MARCH 1, 2027

Glamorous silent film star Eula Hartwin and her manager Winnie had a devoted partnership through the 1920s. So how did Winnie end up on trial for stealing from Eula a decade later?

London, present day. Andie, an academic falling out of love with her job, is reeling from the discovery that she is descended from renowned 1920s makeup artist Winnie Ferris. She sets out to tell Winnie's story, one that might give her a chance to rediscover the passion for the work she used to love.

1923. The silent film industry is booming, and London is a wonderful place to be. Makeup artist Winnie Ferris is thrilled to start working with the starriest face of the day, wide-eyed Eula Hartwin. However, she soon comes to realise that Eula, despite her rising fame, is being taken advantage of by a family who would leave her penniless. Kind-hearted Winnie decides to take the young actress under her wing. With her around, no one will take advantage of Eula's wealth again, surely?

However, everyone knows how this story ends—with the two of them in court, Eula suing Winnie for grand theft, Eula's new husband at her side. The nation watches on, breathless. Did Winnie really betray Eula, or is it the other way around? And how on earth did the two of them find themselves here? As Andie unravels the threads of Eula and Winnie's story, their secrets are deeper than she could ever have imagined. The truth may not only shock the world, but give Andie the chance to change her own life—but is she ready?

Perfect for readers of *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*, Kristen Hannah and Lucinda Riley, this sweeping historical novel explores the impossible choices women faced in an era when loyalty could be as dangerous as betrayal.

About the Author

Caitlin Devlin studied English and Creative Writing at Warwick University before graduating to work in music and theatre journalism. As a teenager, she started writing novels as Christmas presents for her younger sister and brother. Her work has been recognised by competitions such as the IGGY & Litro Young Writers' Prize, the Flash 500 Short Stories competition and the Exeter Writers Short Story Competition. She is also a performed playwright.

Key Selling Points

IRRESISTIBLE COMP: *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* is one of the bestselling novels of recent years (10M+ copies) and readers are hungry for more Golden Age Hollywood/glamour-era fiction.

DUAL TIMELINE APPEAL: Past/present structure with a mystery at its heart—a format that consistently tops book club charts.

SOCIAL PLATFORM: Caitlin Devlin has a strong TikTok presence (@catmdevlin 23.9k followers) and background in theatre journalism, making her a promotable voice for this glamorous period piece.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Contemporary Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662536342

Social Media

23.9k followers on TT; 7.4k followers on IG

Tropes

#DualTimeline, #GoldenAgeHollywood, #SilentFilmEra, #FemaleRivalry, #FamilySecrets, #HistoricalMystery, #BookClubFiction, #1920sGlamour

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

So Very Lucky

Murder at Endsley Castle

Edie Westwood Mysteries Book 1

ALIA TAWIL

MARCH 9, 2027

In a witty and suspenseful whodunit, a Manhattan historian dedicated to fashion preservation turns amateur sleuth when a new job in an English castle becomes a chilling education in murder.

Fashion historian Edie Westwood leaves Manhattan for her dream job in England cataloging the sartorial treasures of the duke of Endsley Castle. Though dressing in the centuries-old clothing she studies has made Edie a curiosity, no one can question her dedication. It will come in handy because what awaits Edie at the castle is murder.

The victim was a local tour guide whose strange death and final cryptic words have embroiled the confounded curator in a mystery. As she was warned, Endsley does have its share of deadly secrets—ones that date back nearly two hundred years. When Edie's room in the castle is broken into and more murders rock the charming village of Newswick, she steps into a role she never imagined: that of an amateur American sleuth in Yorkshire.

Armed with an encyclopedic knowledge of fashion, an irresistibly attentive paramedic bodyguard, and near-forensic attention to detail, Edie must connect the threads between crimes generations apart and unravel the truth before it kills her.

About the Author

Alia Tawil is a dress history enthusiast and mystery writer, descending from a long, maternal line of librarians who deserve every inkblot of credit for her passion for the written word. She is a proud member of The Association of Dress Historians, The Costume Society of America, The Editorial Freelancer's Association, and Sisters in Crime, currently serving as the president of the Michigan chapter.

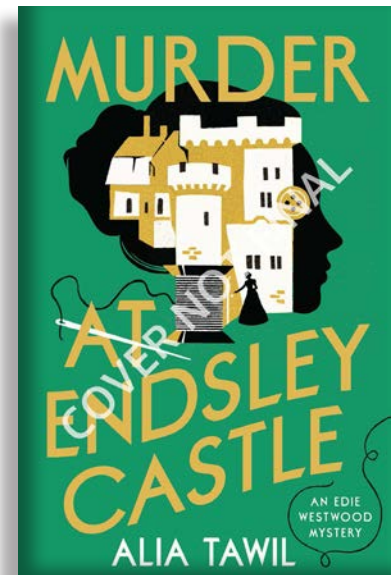
When not writing or thrifting her wardrobe, Alia can most often be found drinking coffee and spending time with her husband and three children. She lives in Michigan.

Key Selling Points

WELL-INFORMED DEBUT: Alia Tawil brings genuine dress history credentials and mystery chops: she's a member of the Costume Society of America and the Association of Dress Historians—making every detail of Edie's world grounded in real knowledge—and president of the Michigan chapter of Sisters in Crime, bringing her passion for mystery to the table.

IRRESISTIBLE SERIES HOOK: Book 1 of “An Edie Westwood Mystery,” introduces Edie Westwood, an introverted dress historian who hand-stitches her own 1890s wardrobe, and quickly realizes her meticulous skills are perfect for solving murders.

TIMELESS SETTING: Set in 1990s Yorkshire, the setting is atmospherically rooted in the 1890s—the castle, the costumes, and Edie's preference for dressing authentically to her favorite era sensibility give readers all the pleasure of a period drama without the distance of deep history.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery
ISBN-13	9781662545566

Tropes

Cozy mystery; amateur sleuth; slow-burn romance; clean romance

Rights Available

All Languages

In His Shadow

HANNAH BECKERMAN

MARCH 9, 2027

From the bestselling author of *The Forgetting* and *Three Mothers* comes a gripping domestic suspense about warring siblings, a toxic father, and whether it's ever possible to outrun your childhood.

Walter Barratt is celebrating his eightieth birthday with his three children, all together for the first time in over two decades. But when the reunion is overshadowed by Walter's sudden death, the estranged siblings are forced to confront the secrets that tore them apart.

People-pleaser Frances has always put her father's needs first, striving for approval under the weight of his narcissism. Troubled Robbie is trapped in his father's orbit while struggling with demons of his own. And while Izzy fled halfway around the world to build a successful life, she is still haunted by the events of her childhood.

When questions arise as to whether Walter's death really was an accident, the siblings' relationships reach breaking point, and as twenty-four years of pent-up emotion are let loose, the destructive hold their father had over each of them is exposed.

In His Shadow is a tense, morally complex and emotionally powerful dissection of family bonds and the corrosive impact of long-buried secrets. Propulsive, suspenseful and fiendishly clever, it asks how far any of us would go to right the wrongs of the past. Perfect for fans of Lisa Jewell, Andrea Mara and Louise Candlish.

About the Author

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

Key Selling Points

FAMILY THRILLER TREND: Sits squarely in the booming 'domestic noir meets family drama' space—perfect for readers of Lisa Jewell, Alice Feeney and Shari Lapena.

GRIPPING HOOK: A death at a family party + police investigation + estranged siblings each hiding something = compulsive page-turner setup.

LITERARY CREDIBILITY: Hannah Beckerman is an established author and journalist with strong media connections—highly promotable for features and review coverage.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Suspense
ISBN-13	9781662523380

Social Media

1.8k followers on IG; 8.8k followers on X

Tropes

#FamilySecrets, #UnreliableNarrator, #DomesticNoir, #SiblingRivalry, #LockedRoom, #Whodunnit, #DarkFamilyDrama

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Forgetting, Three Mothers

Parallel

ESME LEE WILMOT

MARCH 9, 2027

In this speculative domestic thriller, a disillusioned wife's journey into a parallel world forces her to take control of her splintering life—if she can survive long enough to get back home.

Marina Clarke has nowhere left to turn. When her controlling husband accepts a job transfer, their move to remote mining town Araneae offers ample opportunities for him. But what Marina wants has never been less relevant. Separated from her ailing father, she suddenly finds herself stuck: isolated, jobless, and bound to a man she no longer trusts.

Her only solace lies in visits to the local swamp. With its eerie ghost trees and orb spiders, the ethereal refuge bears the hum of preternatural secrets. But on the day of a solar eclipse, Marina's pulled into another world. A world where she was murdered.

Trapped in this alternate reality, Marina has little to rely on. With help from unlikely sources, she delves into the truth around her impossible circumstances. The small-town whispers. The devastating betrayals. The phenomenon connecting every thread. Reclaiming her agency, Marina must follow those threads to uncover her killer—and find her way home, before it's too late.

About the Author

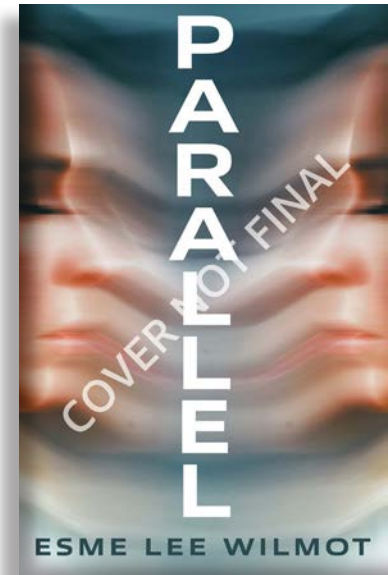
Esme Lee Wilmot grew up in Port Hedland, Perth, and Kalgoorlie, amid Western Australia's stunning coastline and iconic red-dirt outback. Although she received the English prize in high school, she went on to study chemistry and metallurgy at Curtin University, launching a career exploring the Australian wilderness. In 2018, she embraced her creative side and began writing her first novel. When she isn't reading or writing, Esme enjoys hip-hop dancing, traveling with her family, and gathering inspiration for new stories. She lives in Perth with her husband and two children.

Key Selling Points

HIGH-CONCEPT HOOK WITH CROSSOVER APPEAL: *Parallel* occupies a rare space in the market—simultaneously a domestic noir, a police procedural, a serial killer thriller, and a speculative fiction concept. When Marina falls through a portal during a solar eclipse and wakes in a world where she's been murdered, she must solve her own killing before the eclipse closes her only way home. This bold premise will appeal to fans of Blake Crouch's *Dark Matter* and Victoria Helen Stone's *At the Quiet Edge*, giving the book strong crossover potential across thriller, domestic suspense, and speculative fiction audiences.

FEMALE EMPOWERMENT ARC GROUNDED IN TIMELY THEMES: At its heart, this is a story about a woman reclaiming her voice. Marina begins as a gaslit wife, a sidelined scientist, and a grieving mother—and ends transformed. The novel explores coercive control, workplace misogyny, and the terrifying question of what my life might look like if I stay on this path. Tropes of “solve your own murder,” “fish out of water,” and “killer hiding in plain sight” drive relentless tension, while the emotional authenticity gives the thriller genuine stakes for readers who want their page-turners to say something meaningful about women's lives.

DEBUT AUTHOR WITH UNIQUE CREDENTIALS AND SERIES POTENTIAL: Esme Lee Wilmot is a metallurgist with over twenty years in the mining industry, lending the novel's remote mining town setting and environmental contamination subplot an authenticity few thriller writers can match. She has completed multiple writing fellowships and mentorships and is an active member of ASA, AHWA, and The Write Club. *Parallel* is the first in a two-book deal (Book 2: *Family Photos*, September 2028), positioning her as a buildable brand on the Lake Union list.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery & Suspense
ISBN-13	9781662546792

Tropes

Female empowerment, Toxic marriage/gaslighting, Small town secrets, Missing person mystery, Strong female friendships, Second chances, Identity and self-discovery, Parallel lives/alternate reality, serial killer investigation, Woman on the run, Corrupt small-town dynamics

Rights Available

All Languages

An Austen in Boston

CLAIRE AIMÉE GULLIVER

MARCH 16, 2027

In this lyrical coming-of-age novel, a lonely college student finds her footing via a literary mystery marked by rebellion, self-discovery, and a secret society that's spent years piecing it together.

Coded love letters. Hidden tunnels. Fiery secrets. And generations of women guarding it all. Birdie de Witt's learning about things at school she never imagined could be true.

Birdie's arrival at Whilton College is marred by her parents' divorce—and their insistence she live in a mysterious old mansion just off campus. But finding refuge with her scholarly godparents, both professors, is a balm to her poet's soul. So are unexpected sparks with the Irish musician who becomes her new roommate.

Nothing soothes Birdie's loneliness, though, like the secret Pemberley Society for Accomplished Women. Devoted to sisterhood and all things Jane Austen, Pems whisper about a lost manuscript hidden somewhere on campus. To recover it, they embark upon a literary scavenger hunt for the ages.

But when false accusations are cast against her, Birdie struggles to find her place—and voice. Now, she must learn what it takes to be a true heroine, beyond the pages of her favorite books.

About the Author

Claire Aimée Gulliver is a writer based in Atlantic Canada. Born in Saskatchewan and raised in Minnesota, she is a graduate of Wellesley College in Massachusetts, where she studied literature, film, and photography. She studied performance art as well, at Slade School of Fine Art in London, and played the violin for over ten years.

As a little girl, Claire discovered the 1995 film adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility* and, through it, developed a deep love for Jane Austen. The intersectional feminist is passionate about literature, art, research, music, and food. She is the proud mama of two babies and two ginger cats.

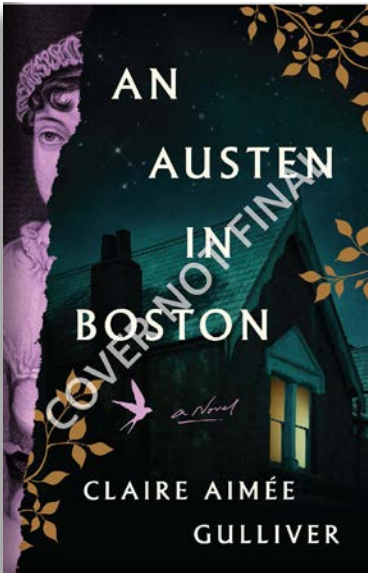
Key Selling Points

Built-in audience of 100M+ Jane Austen fans worldwide: This novel taps directly into the passionate Austen fandom with a premise centered on the hunt for a lost Austen manuscript—a “what if” that will electrify readers of Austen retellings, Janeite fiction, and literary mysteries alike.

A fresh, Gen-Z entry point into Austen: Unlike traditional Regency retellings, this novel is set in a contemporary Boston college, giving it a younger, more accessible feel while still celebrating the wit, romance, and social dynamics Austen fans love. Think *The Secret History* meets *Austenland*.

Treasure hunt plot: A secret literary society, a scavenger hunt across Boston, coded clues hidden in antique pianofortes, ivory letters, and centuries-old embroidery—the Da Vinci Code-style puzzle structure keeps pages turning and appeals well beyond the romance category.

Debut author with a distinctive literary voice: Gulliver writes with lyrical warmth and sharp wit, blending poetry, music, and Austen-era literary references in a way that feels both fresh and timeless. A voice to watch.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662538650 (also available in Hardcover)

Tropes

Dark academia / Slow-burn / friends to lovers / Secret society / Found family / Coming-of-age / haunted house / Queer romance subplot / Lost manuscript / literary mystery / Austen retelling/ inspired

Rights Available

All Languages

Annie Torres Checks In

BROOKE ABRAMS

MARCH 16, 2027

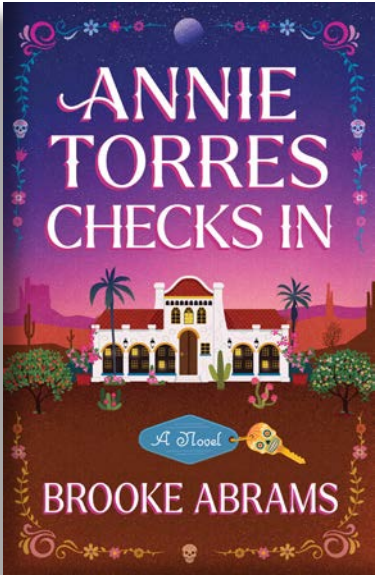
From the author of *Night of a Thousand Darlas* comes a warmly witty novel, charged with the supernatural, about illusions lost, identity found, and discovering a way forward from the place it all began.

Annie Torres is a problem-solving pro. There's nothing she can't fix with a spreadsheet and a plan . . . until her fiancé drops her. All she can do now is tackle the next crisis—inheriting her late grandmother's haunted hotel. Annie wants to sell the spooky Queen of San Luis Hotel and Opera House, then escape this Arizona border town for the organized life she understands. But strange occurrences and ghostly messages start wearing down her practical nature. And she meets James Warren, a handsome local historian who believes the old place is worth saving.

As her estranged father pressures her to sell, Annie starts uncovering stories about her grandmother and her own Mexican heritage. In a vibrant border community, the past feels unexpectedly close, the line between memory and magic wonderfully thin. Used to thinking three steps ahead, Annie starts to realize that maybe love and belonging can't be planned for. She'll have to let herself be surprised.

About the Author

Brooke Abrams writes books filled with ha-has and heart. She lives for lavender oat milk lattes and her three children—not in that order (usually). You can find all of Brooke's socials and writing-related news by visiting her on Instagram: @aka.brooke.abrams.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
ISBN-13	9781662528385 (also available in Hardcover)

Tropes

#supernatural elements #paranormal #haunted house #second chances #family heritage

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Night of a Thousand Darlas, Penelope in Retrograde

The Lookout

BONNIE BLAYLOCK

MARCH 16, 2027

From the author of *The Water Women* comes an epic and intimate historical novel based on the groundbreaking endeavor and healing journey of the first female fire lookout in early twentieth-century America.

It's 1913 when thirty-four-year-old suffragist Hallie Daggett, haunted by loss, takes the unprecedented position as fire lookout atop California's Klamath Mountains. Her cabin, a refuge. The forested vistas, a wonder. And her younger sister Leslie, a lifeline to the world below.

Once a week, Leslie makes the arduous three-hour climb delivering supplies, mail, and companionship. Despite their mother's efforts to raise "refined" women, Leslie is steadfastly supportive of Hallie, and their relationship is only made stronger. Skeptics give Hallie a few months. She will, in fact, last fourteen remarkable summers overlooking the grand sweep of country while navigating the sea changes in her own life.

Told across years of personal and societal upheavals from the San Francisco earthquake through WWI, the devastating outbreak of the Spanish flu, and the violent discrimination against the city's Chinese Quarter, *The Lookout* tells a remarkable true story of quiet heroism, the healing power of sisterhood, and the unjustly forgotten pioneer who found hope and purpose in the wild.

About the Author

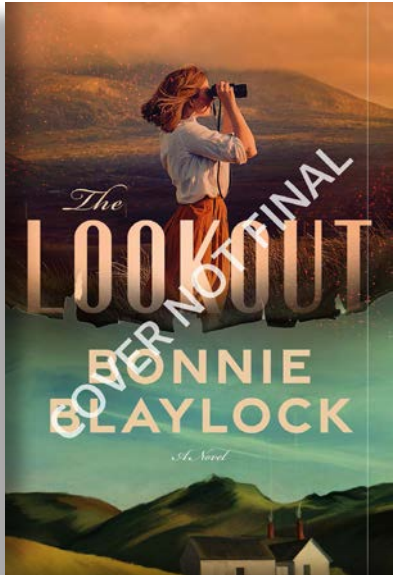
Bonnie Blaylock is the author of *The Water Women* and *Light to the Hills*, winner of the Porch Prize for fiction. She lives with her husband on a small farm near Nashville, Tennessee, where they keep donkeys, chickens, and bees. For more information, visit www.bonnieblaylock.com.

Key Selling Points

Inspired by true history: Based on the real Hallie Daggett, one of the first women hired as a fire lookout by the U.S. Forest Service (1913), with an actual newspaper clipping opening the novel.

Timely themes of women breaking barriers: Suffrage movement, women in male-dominated work, and sisterly solidarity resonate strongly with today's readers.

Stunning natural setting + literary voice: The Klamath Mountains of Northern California rendered with immersive, sensory detail; Blaylock's lyrical prose appeals to readers of upmarket historical and book-club fiction.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662544248

Tropes

Sisterhood / unbreakable bond / Woman vs. wilderness / Breaking barriers / "first woman to..." / Grief & healing through purpose / Epistolary / diary-style elements / Found purpose / reinvention

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Water Women, Light to the Hills

Riddle Song

OLIVIA HAWKER

MARCH 16, 2027

From *Washington Post* bestselling author Olivia Hawker comes an unforgettable portrait of one family's fate, swept up in the turmoil of life in post-World War I America.

The Great War is over, and armistice has finally come. But peace remains elusive in America, where the winds of change scatter three siblings far from their family farm.

In bustling Chicago, journalist Dot seeks out independence and purpose, joining the fight for suffrage and racial equality. In faraway France, army engineer Ben finds himself torn between family, duty, and love for the kind stranger who saved his life. Back in Iowa, Lucy tries to reconcile the joy of adoptive motherhood with devastating loss, unaware that her hard-won happiness rests on a fragile foundation.

When the Ralstons reunite for their father's funeral, their homecoming is shattered by a stranger's desperate plea. Then, a shocking act of violence sets in motion consequences the trio can never escape.

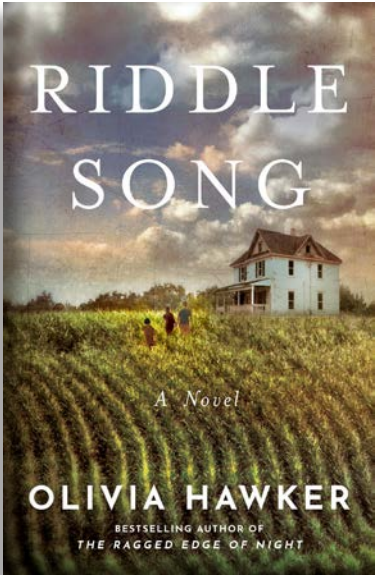
In a nation riven by politics and pandemic, love and hatred surge all around. Amid the tumult, the Ralston siblings reckon with what they should save—for country, for justice, and for family.

About the Author

Olivia Hawker is the *Washington Post* bestselling author of *Through All Our Heavens*, *The Stars and Their Light*, *The Fire and the Ore*, *The Rise of Light*, and *The Ragged Edge of Night*. Her novel *One for the Blackbird*, *One for the Crow* was a finalist for both the Washington State Book Award and the WILLA Literary Award. Olivia resides in Victoria, British Columbia, with her husband and several naughty cats. For more information about the author, please visit www.hawkerbooks.com.

Key Selling Points

A return to form for Hawker, this is a family story that is emotionally resonant and covers a time in America of rapid change and heightened tensions that Hawker beautifully depicts.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662527111 (also available in Hardcover)

Tropes

#homecoming #family reunion #historical novel
#complex family dynamics

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Through All Our Heavens, The Stars and Their Light, The Ragged Edge of Night, October in the Earth, and many more!

Admit None

ALINA ADAMS

MARCH 23, 2027

From bestselling author Alina Adams comes a razor-sharp murder mystery where elite kindergarten admissions are sent into a tailspin of death, deception, and the threat of a not-so-bright future.

Admissions decisions are due within the week. The woman who makes them just turned up dead. Manhattan's Arete Academy for the Gifted (Aggie) won't be deterred in its mission to accept the best and brightest kindergarteners. Not even by the tragic accident that killed their longtime director of admissions.

But was it an accident? Her assistant doesn't think so. Jamie's had enough on her mind, with her acting struggles and her strained relationship. Now the only acting she's doing is as interim director—and amateur sleuth. Four applicants were up for final review. All four have their reasons to be desperate. As Jamie investigates, she finds it may cost her more than these wealthy families' combined net worth to suss out the danger.

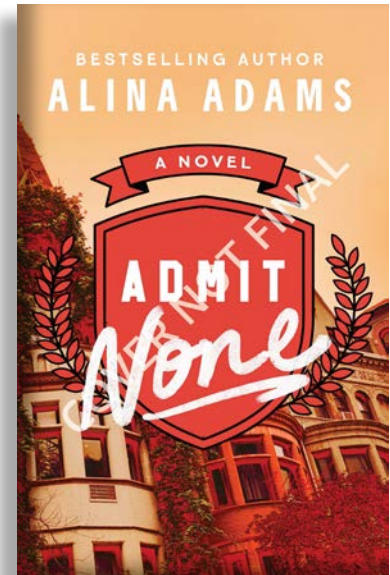
With Decision Day looming and drama unfolding, Jamie's up against the clock to determine who best fits the mold of an Aggie student . . . and which of their parents would kill to make them fit.

About the Author

Alina Adams is the *New York Times* bestselling author of several historical fiction, romance, and soap opera tie-in novels, and a figure skating mystery series. Her work includes *The Nesting Dolls*, *My Mother's Secret: A Novel of the Jewish Autonomous Region*, *When a Man Loves a Woman*, *The Fictitious Marquis*, and *Thieves at Heart*, among others.

Alina was born in the Soviet Union and, at age seven, immigrated with her parents to the US, where she learned English by watching American soap operas. This inspired her novel *Go On Pretending*, as well as a long and storied career. She received her BA and MA in broadcast communications from San Francisco State University, and went on to spearhead advancements in soap opera television.

Today, Alina contributes to SoapHub, TODAY Show Parenting, Mommy Poppins, Kveller, Red Tricycle, Café Mom, and EntertainmentWeekly.com. She runs NYCSchoolSecrets.com, and writes about education for *The 74*, the *New York Post*, and the *New York Daily News*.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Mystery
ISBN-13	9781662547669

Tropes

#academia #amateur sleuth

Rights Available

All Languages

Beneath the Bright Surface

MARIT WEISENBERG

MARCH 23, 2027

After a tragedy fractures her past, a woman must decide if survival is enough in this emotionally gripping novel about identity and trauma.

Este Foreman is on the verge of making it in Hollywood. The only problem: Her life is built on a lie.

Today, Este is the polished assistant to actress Alyson Reeves. Ten years ago, however, she was Dr. Alexandra Sivak, a rising neurosurgeon in San Diego—until her boyfriend’s unsolved murder shattered her life and drove her into a new identity.

Now, a new love and a long-awaited professional opportunity have Este believing she can finally put the past behind her. But when another murder reopens the notorious case that erased her identity, Este is pulled back to Ocean Avenue, where everything went wrong.

Returning means remembering all the things she’s tried to forget: the promising future she once had, the loss that stole it, and the unanswered questions swirling. As old relationships are tested, and buried emotions resurface, it becomes harder to maintain who she’s become. In order to move forward, Este must first go back and reassemble the pieces of who she used to be and what really happened that night.

About the Author

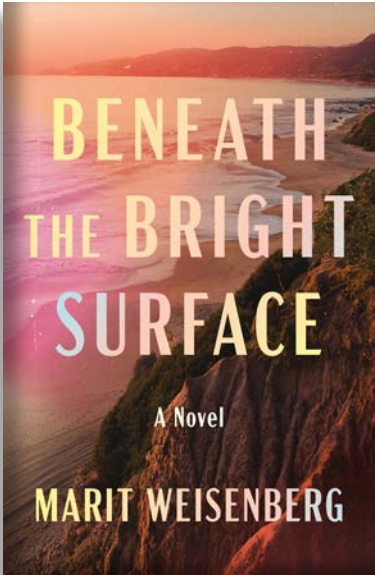
Marit Weisenberg is the author of several novels for teens, including *This Golden State*, which she adapted for screen and is currently in active development. She also wrote *The Insomniacs*, a YALSA nominee. *Beneath the Bright Surface* is her adult debut. Marit received her Master’s Degree from UCLA’s School of Theater, Film and Television. Marit has worked in film and television development at Warner Brothers, Universal, and Disney.

Key Selling Points

CINEMATIC ADULT DEBUT FROM A SCREENWRITER: Marit Weisenberg is the author of several acclaimed YA novels including *This Golden State* (currently in active film development with a director attached) and *The Insomniacs* (a YALSA nominee). She holds a Master’s from UCLA’s School of Theater, Film and Television and has worked in development at Warner Brothers, Universal, and Disney—bringing a screenwriter’s eye for pacing, tension, and visual storytelling to her first adult novel.

DUAL-TIMELINE SUSPENSE MEETS EMOTIONAL DEPTH: Alternating between a high-pressure neurosurgery residency in San Diego and the glittering surface of Hollywood ten years later, the novel delivers the propulsive plotting of a cold case thriller alongside a deeply felt emotional journey about trauma, self-forgiveness, and becoming whole—positioning it for both commercial suspense readers and book club audiences.

IRRESISTIBLE HOOK WITH CROSSOVER APPEAL: A woman hiding under a false identity is forced back into the spotlight when the infamous unsolved murder case that destroyed her life is reopened. The novel blends elements of medical drama, Hollywood insider fiction, and romantic suspense, offering multiple entry points for readers of Laura Dave, Ruth Ware, Lisa Jewell, and Megan Abbott.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women’s Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662546709 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

1k followers on IG; small following on FB, X

Tropes

Hidden Identity / Secret Past / Cold Case
Reopened / Dual Timeline / Woman on the Run /
Reinvention / Starting Over / Fish Out of Water /
Slow-Burn Romance / Found Family / Women in
Male-Dominated Spaces

Rights Available

All Languages

Foreign Lander

NICHOLE VAN

MARCH 23, 2027

After devastating losses, a woman's escape to the Scottish Highlands becomes an unexpected reckoning with the past in a tender and exhilarating novel about first loves and second chances.

When Blythe Moncreiffe returns to Scotland to claim her grandmother's cottage, she's lost her daughter, her marriage, her photography career, and her sense of self. The Highlands refuge is all Blythe has. That and a temperamental woodburning stove, bats in the attic, Gran's bossy pet hen, and Lucas MacGregor, her disagreeable, infuriatingly handsome neighbor.

Lucas works for a duke who plans to seize Blythe's inheritance and she's not about to lose another piece of her past, no matter how good Lucas looks in his red tartan kilt. Lucas has a bittersweet past, too—he was a lad and Blythe just a lass when their two souls beat as one. Blythe may not remember but Lucas does, now caught between his job and his heart and falling deeper into feelings he's held on to for twenty years.

Inspired by the notes of sage advice Gran left behind, Blythe is piecing herself back together, never imagining that the arch-rival next door might just help her rediscover a life worth rebuilding.

About the Author

Nichole Van is a photographer, designer, and author of numerous series, including *The Earls of Cairnfell*, *The Penn Leiths of Thistle Muir*, and *The Brotherhood of the Black Tartan*. Though originally from the Rocky Mountains, she has lived all over the world, including Italy and the UK. She and her family recently returned to the US after spending six years in northeast Scotland. Nichole currently lives atop a mountain in the Rockies with her husband, three children, and a feckless cat named Jane Pawsten. For more information, visit www.nicholevan.com.

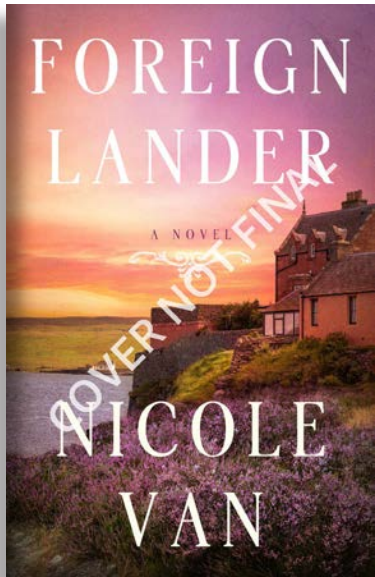
Key Selling Points

CONTEMPORARY DEBUT FROM A PROVEN VOICE: Nichole Van has published ~40 indie/hybrid historical romances with a loyal readership—*Foreign Lander* is her first contemporary novel and first traditional publication, bringing built-in audience and polished storytelling.

FISH-OUT-OF-WATER HUMOR IN THE SCOTTISH COUNTRYSIDE: A crumbling cottage, a bossy hen, a stove with a personality, and a dashing neighbor in a kilt—the setting is irresistible, specific, and drawn from the author's real experience living on a Scottish estate for four years.

GRIEF HANDLED WITH WIT AND WARMTH: Blythe's loss (daughter, marriage, career) is present throughout but never overwhelms the tone—this is a book about rebuilding after the worst imaginable loss.

SECOND-CHANCE ROMANCE WITH REAL STAKES: Lucas has loved Blythe since childhood—but she doesn't remember him, and he's working for the man trying to take her home. Enemies-to-lovers with a secret-history twist that delivers a deeply satisfying emotional payoff.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662545900

Social Media

6k followers on IG; 5.8k followers on FB

Tropes

Second-chance romance; enemies to lovers; one-bed scenario; forced proximity; Scottish romance

Rights Available

All Languages

Two Loves and a Lie

JENNIFER JABALEY

MARCH 30, 2027

What's the cost of protecting the ones we love? Two women confront it in a suspenseful and compassionate novel of lies, murder, and second chances by the award-winning author of *What's Yours Is Mine*.

Trusted by colleagues, loved by friends, and recently engaged, devoted hospice nurse Natalie Quinn does everything right. Then her elderly patient Maria requests unusual solace before she dies. Thirty years ago Maria served as a juror, goaded into convicting a young working-class woman of murder. To this day, Maria has her doubts, and she needs Natalie to help her find the truth about that tragic decades-old summer in Charleston.

It's 1996 when Krystal Rhodes is swept away in a whirlwind romance by a wealthy and irresistible charmer. But when the young man's ex enters the picture, the fairy tale begins to crack. On Labor Day weekend, when a body washes up on the beaches of Isle of Palms, an idyllic summer love story ends in murder.

As Natalie and Maria reexamine the past, a devastating story of secrets, lies, and sacrifice comes to light—one that can still unalterably change so many lives. Including Natalie's. Because her own secret can't stay hidden for long.

About the Author

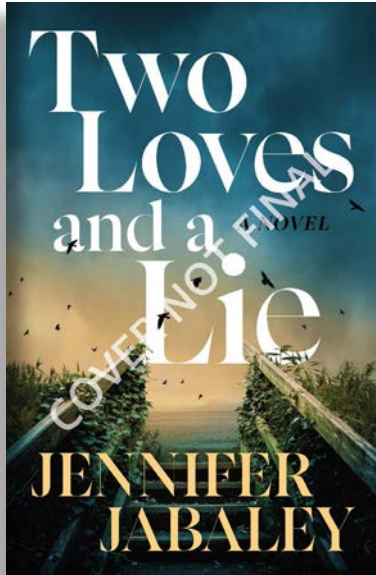
Jennifer Jabaley is the award-winning author of *What's Yours Is Mine*, *Lipstick Apology*, and *Crush Control*. She is the recipient of the Georgia Author of the Year in the young adult category and was nominated for the Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Award. Jen is a practicing optometrist. She brings sharp focus to eye care by day and to storytelling by night. She lives in the north Georgia mountains with her sports-obsessed family and two rescue dogs. For more information, visit www.jenniferjabaley.com.

Key Selling Points

BIG BEACH READ VIBES: Intoxicating summer romance, a Charleston beach setting, a love triangle that turns deadly—this has the sun-soaked, unputdownable energy of a vacation read with the emotional depth to linger long after.

DUAL-TIMELINE DOMESTIC SUSPENSE: A cold case murder trial in 1996 Charleston; meanwhile, a nurse living a lie, and a dying juror's deathbed confession—propulsive, page-turning women's fiction with real suspense architecture and a late-breaking twist that reframes everything.

ROMANCE WITH REAL STAKES: Two love stories—one a whirlwind summer affair that ends in tragedy, the other a present-day relationship threatened by an impossible secret. Emily Henry warmth with genuine emotional peril.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Women's Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662546686

Social Media

1.5k followers on IG

Tropes

Dual timeline; mystery-driven domestic suspense; guilt and atonement; Three women, interconnected secrets; love triangle; murder mystery

Rights Available

All Languages

We Will Live Forever

FARAH NAZ RISHI

MARCH 30, 2027

When a woman's fiancé is resurrected from the dead, the wonders—and the corruption—of science collide in a provocative and darkly romantic novel by the author of *The Flightless Birds of New Hope*.

What would you do if the love of your life came back from the dead—but didn't remember you?

It's been a year of mourning for journalist Bee Haris after her fiancé Sal dies in a car accident. No body. No closure. No goodbyes. Just grief. Then Bee receives a cryptic invitation: Come find what was taken.

The summons is from Sal's billionaire family, founders of Vale Industries and groundbreakers in experimental resurrection biotechnology. Inside their Manhattan fortress Bee comes face to face with the unbelievable. Sal, very much alive. But with every memory of Bee erased.

Infiltrating the Vale estate, and under the watchful eye of Sal's mother, Dagmar, Bee is desperate to reawaken what's left of the man she knew. To do it, Bee accepts a devil's bargain from Dagmar. It comes with a price. In the midst of an ever-darkening conspiracy, Bee must make a choice. If it's the wrong one, she could lose the man she loves all over again.

About the Author

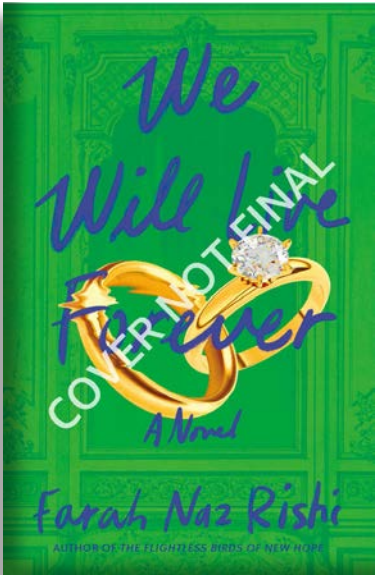
Farah Naz Rishi (she/they) is the author of the novels *The Flightless Birds of New Hope*, *I Hope You Get This Message*, *It All Comes Back to You*, *If You're Not the One*, *Lovestuck*, and the memoir *Sorry for the Inconvenience*. A Pakistani American writer and voice actor, she received her BA in English from Bryn Mawr College, her JD from Lewis & Clark Law School, and her love of weaving stories from the Odyssey Writing Workshop. When Farah is not writing, she's probably hanging out with video game characters. For more information, visit www.farahnazrishi.com.

Key Selling Points

Sharp, voice-driven prose with commercial crossover appeal: This is a content pivot into much more suspense-driven writing for Farah. We'll be looking to package it as such. The writing balances thriller-level pacing and tension with deeply emotional romance beats and biting humor—accessible to romance, thriller, and literary fiction readers alike.

Irresistible high-concept hook: A dead man brought back to life by his own mother's company, with no memory of the woman he loved—and she must pretend to be a stranger to get close to him again.

Timely themes around tech ethics and bodily autonomy: The novel interrogates who owns a person's identity, the moral limits of biotech, and the hubris of billionaires playing God—wrapped in a compulsively readable love story.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
ISBN-13	9781662540417

Social Media

4.2k followers on IG; 131k followers on TT

Tropes

Morally grey hero / Amnesia / identity mystery / Billionaire romance / Gilded cage

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Flightless Birds of New Hope, Sorry for the Inconvenience, and more!

Hivebound

JACQUELINE WARD

APRIL 27, 2027

This novel that weaves together the stories of two women—centuries apart—both fighting to protect their family’s legacy of beekeeping and herbal healing on the same patch of land in England.

Historical Timeline (1611): Eliza Jordan is a beekeeper and herbalist living on the outskirts of Elnecot village. When Eliza and her best friend, the village midwife, are accused of witchcraft for using honey-based poultices to help women survive childbirth, they fake their deaths and flee. Before leaving, Eliza legally transfers her land, Hivebound, to her twin granddaughters, who are only days old.

Contemporary Timeline (2025): Melissa Jordan, a 28-year-old American fleeing an emotionally abusive relationship, arrives in Manchester, England to settle her late aunt Flora’s estate. Flora owned Hivebound, an herbal shop with rooftop beehives. Melissa initially plans to sell it and return to New York, but she discovers that Flora built a thriving business creating a wellness balm made from the bees’ honey.

While there, Melissa experiences a pull to the land and the bees that she can’t explain. Melissa decides not to sell the property, and instead to continue the business. However, property developer Karl Davy wants the property demolished for high-rise development. He orchestrates arson, bribes council officials, and issues a fraudulent demolition order. Melissa fights back, ultimately discovering Eliza’s life and legacy.

About the Author

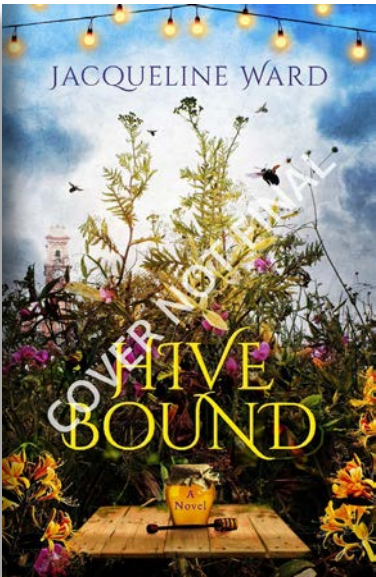
Jacqueline Ward MBE is a UK-based author and narrative psychologist. She writes emotionally driven, psychologically rich fiction about women’s lives, identity, and the stories families tell themselves. Her work spans psychological suspense and contemporary book-club fiction, always with a keen eye on power, secrets, and the quiet revolutions that happen behind closed doors. She is the author of eight novels that were reviewed nationally. *How to Play Dead*, her second novel, was selected as a recommended text for the 16 Days in WA campaign in 2022, supporting human rights and the elimination of violence against women.

Key Selling Points

UNIQUELY CREDENTIALLED AUTHOR: Jacqueline Ward holds a PhD in narrative and storytelling and is a practicing narrative psychologist—bringing rare expertise in how women construct identity across generations. She’s also an MBE recipient for her work with vulnerable people, lending authentic emotional depth to the novel’s themes of coercive control, trauma recovery, and female resilience.

TIMELY THEMES WITH HISTORICAL RESONANCE: The persecution of women’s knowledge—herbalism, midwifery, reproductive care—echoes powerfully in today’s conversations around bodily autonomy and women’s healthcare. By connecting a 1611 witch trial to a 2025 woman reclaiming her ancestral legacy, the novel shows how the forces that silence women’s expertise have never truly disappeared.

A RICH, SENSORY WORLD BUILT AROUND BEES: Beekeeping anchors both timelines with vivid, immersive detail—from Eliza’s hand-crafted skeps and healing poultices to Melissa’s rooftop hives and viral “Honey Miracle” wellness brand. The result is an atmospheric, tactile reading experience that will appeal to readers who love stories where place and craft are vivid.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662547133

Tropes

Dual Timeline / Witch Trial / Witch Hunt / Hidden Legacy / Secret Ancestry / Healing & Herbalism / Small Town Secrets / Corrupt Villain / Found Family / Community

Rights Available

All Languages

Hope in Between

CATHERINE RYAN HYDE

MAY 4, 2027

One dustup on a city block and the lives of six neighbors suddenly intertwine in a bittersweet novel about friendship, mortality, and kindness by *New York Times* bestselling author Catherine Ryan Hyde.

Leila and Patty, and Jeannette and Wallace, live on opposite corners of their neighborhood block with little in common. Except concern for the welfare of the woman in the rundown apartment building between them. That's ninety-nine-year-old Hope Longiness, a former actress living modestly but contentedly with her overworked great-grandson, Buddy. Unwittingly, Hope is also stirring a rivalry.

Leila, a psychologist with a savior complex, and Jeannette, an altruistic shop owner longing to be recognized, find themselves in a contentious fight for Hope's long-term care and "rescue." To the delighted Hope it's afternoon tea, luncheons, board games, and dinner invitations as she regales each woman with tales of Hollywood's golden age, big bands, love affairs, and scandals.

For Patty and Wallace, a commiserating friendship develops as they navigate their spouses' increasingly problematic behavior. When the competition reaches a crises point, Leila and Jeannette are forced to confront their motivations and to realize the genuine good that can come from unexpected connections and the transformative and collective power of community.

About the Author

Catherine Ryan Hyde is the author of thirty-three published books. Her bestselling 1999 novel, *Pay It Forward*, adapted into a major Warner Bros. motion picture, made the American Library Association's Best Books for Young Adults list and was translated into more than two dozen languages for distribution in more than thirty countries.

Her novels *Becoming Chloe* and *Jumpstart the World* were included on the ALA's Rainbow List; *Jumpstart the World* was also a finalist for two Lambda Literary Awards and won Rainbow Awards in two categories. *The Language of Hoofbeats* won a Rainbow Award. More than fifty of her short stories have been published in many journals, including the *Antioch Review*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, the *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Glimmer Train*, and the *Sun*, and in the anthologies *Santa Barbara Stories* and *California Shorts*, as well as the bestselling anthology *Dog Is My Co-Pilot*.

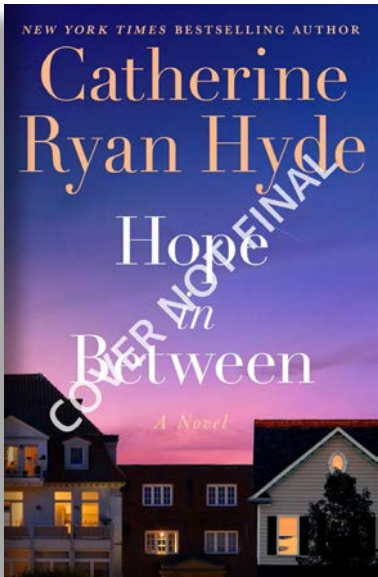
Hyde is the founder and former president of the Pay It Forward Foundation. As a professional public speaker, she has addressed the National Conference on Education, twice spoken at Cornell University, met with AmeriCorps members at the White House, and shared a dais with Bill Clinton. An avid equestrian, photographer, and traveler, she lives in California.

Key Selling Points

Mega-bestselling, proven author: Catherine Ryan Hyde is a *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and #1 Amazon Charts bestseller with nearly 50 novels; *Pay It Forward* became a major motion picture and a cultural phenomenon.

Timely themes of neighborliness & bridging divides: LGBTQ+ representation, generational misunderstanding, gentrification, and found community told with humor and grace—perfect for book clubs craving hopeful, character-driven fiction.

Irresistible 99-year-old character: Hope is a scene-stealing former starlet with Hollywood tales and unapologetic candor; readers will adore her in the way they loved Ove, Eleanor Oliphant, and Harold Fry.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
ISBN-13	9781662542923 (aso available in Hardcover)

Social Media

6.3k followers on Goodreads; 6.4k followers on FB

Tropes

Found family / unlikely friendship / Neighbors become community / LGBTQ+ / Small acts of kindness / ripple effects

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Dreaming of Flight; Michael Without Apology; Falling Apart and Other Gifts from the Universe; (and many more)

See You in My Dreams

GEORGIA LIANG

MAY 25, 2027

Mariana Yu has a special talent: she can see the future in her dreams.

For years, she's seen the face of the man she will marry—so when he shows up unexpectedly in the flesh, she's ready. There's just one problem. Mariana is a struggling writer whose unpublished manuscript was stolen and published to great acclaim by best-selling author Nathaniel S. Foley—and she can't get over it.

Having recently lost her sister in a terrible accident, Mari is raising her seven-year-old niece, coping with relentless prophetic dreams, and wholly unable to find inspiration for her next book. If only she could make Nathaniel pay. Unfortunately, Nathaniel S. Foley is a pen name, and his true identity is under lock and key.

Until the day her supposed soulmate shows up and reveals that Nathaniel S. Foley is his brother. A plan for sabotage takes shape. When Nathaniel's agent offers Mari a co-writing deal, she accepts with a secret agenda: derail the collaboration so thoroughly that Nathaniel quits, leaving her with the book rights and advance. But as late-night conversations evolve from antagonistic to intimate, Mari finds herself falling for the very person she's trying to destroy.

Then the truth shatters everything—and Mari must confront not only the man she loves but the prophetic gift she's spent a lifetime fearing. With the help of her estranged mother and the legacy her sister left behind, Mari discovers she has more power over her fate than she ever believed.

A swoony, twisty romance about stolen words, second chances, and choosing love even when the future is uncertain.

About the Author

Kristen Loesch (pen name Georgina Liang) grew up in San Francisco. She holds a BA in History, as well as a Master's degree in Slavonic Studies from the University of Cambridge. Her debut historical novel, *The Last Russian Doll*, was shortlisted for the Caledonia Novel Award and longlisted for the Bath Novel Award under a different title. After a decade living in Europe, she now resides in the Pacific Northwest with her husband and children.

Key Selling Points

Commercial voice with literary depth: Beneath the witty, fast-paced rom-com surface is a moving exploration of grief, guardianship, and found family that broadens appeal beyond genre romance into women's fiction readers.

High-concept hook that flips the soulmate trope: Instead of embracing destiny, the heroine actively fights it, giving the book a fresh, self-aware edge that stands out in the contemporary romance market.

Dual-track romance with a killer twist: Mari falls for her "enemy" online without realizing he's the same man she keeps running into IRL; the hidden identity reveal is genuinely surprising and emotionally devastating.

This is a strong pivot for author Kristin Loesch: Moving from literary historical fiction (*The Last Russian Doll*) into contemporary romance with magical realism. The Edgar nomination and international publishing track record give her credibility, while the pen name allows a clean genre rebrand.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Romantic Comedy
ISBN-13	9781662548420 (also available in Hardcover)

Tropes

Forced proximity / Grumpy sunshine / Single parent / guardian romance / Found family / Fated lovers(subverted) / Epistolary romance (chat/text-based)

Rights Available

All Languages

The Widow of Mount Holly

ANDREA CATALANO

JUNE 1, 2027

Beautiful young widow Alexandra MacAllister Balfour meets General George Washington, who ultimately offers her the chance to step beyond the boundaries of polite female society and into the world of espionage, and Alexandra eagerly and bravely accepts the assignment. She agrees to take on a most perilous role: as a honey trap, ordered to seduce an important Hessian colonel. Her efforts will alter the course of American history.

About the Author

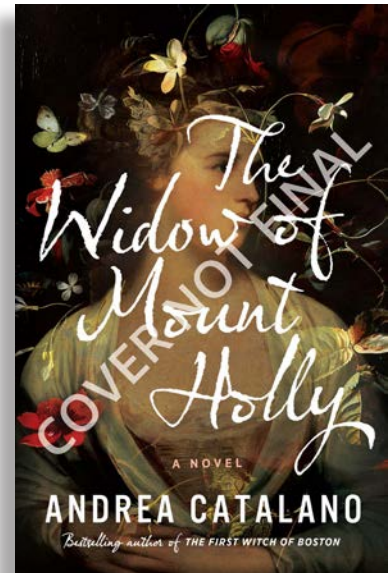
Andrea Catalano is a historical novelist who holds a master of philosophy in historical studies degree from University of Cambridge, UK. Originally from the Boston area, she currently lives in Texas with her husband, children, two fluffy cats, and many, many books. Find her online at www.andreacatalanoauthor.com.

Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: The author's debut, *The First Witch of Boston* has performed phenomenally, both in Amazon First Reads and in paid units, and the book persisted in the top 100 of the Kindle Store for months. The book was a finalist for the Goodreads choice awards for Favorite Historical Fiction novel, alongside blockbuster authors such as Taylor Jenkins Read.

REAL INSPIRATION: Like *The First Witch of Boston*, this new novel takes inspiration from a real person, based on the true story of the mysterious widow cited in the contemporary writings and diaries of infantry officers at the pivotal Battle of Trenton during the American Revolution in 1776.

STRONG FEMALE LEAD: Alexandra is a bold young woman who dares to step well outside of the social norms and expectations of her era and into a life of espionage and seduction. Sensuality and drama are becoming hallmarks of the author.



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662544477 (also available in Hardcover)

Tropes

based on a true person; espionage; American Revolution

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Last Witch of Boston; The Lacemaker Fortune

The Murder of Harry Houdini

SARA HERCHENROETHER

JANUARY 1, 2027

A broken WWI veteran joins Harry Houdini to expose fake mediums in 1920s New York in a spellbinding blend of historical mystery and psychological thriller, where magic is as consuming as madness.

For Everett Summers, a shell-shocked veteran of the Great War, New York is a disorienting city. Especially when he secures a job as an assistant in renowned magician Harry Houdini's Ghost Detective Agency.

Raging against the new religion of spiritualism being heralded by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Houdini aims to expose the charlatans bilking gullible fools who believe in the unbelievable. But since returning from the battlefield, Everett can't shake his own ghosts. One of them is Ruby Zmolek, Doyle's goddaughter and a WWI nurse. To Everett, she's an unrecognizable stranger—one who has drawn him into a new romance.

As Everett joins Houdini—from investigating séance rooms to assisting the illusionist at a sold-out show—he discovers the search for the truth is a dangerous one. Because someone is out to kill Houdini before he finds it. But in a world where magic collides with madness, can Everett trust in anything he sees, loves, or believes?

About the Author

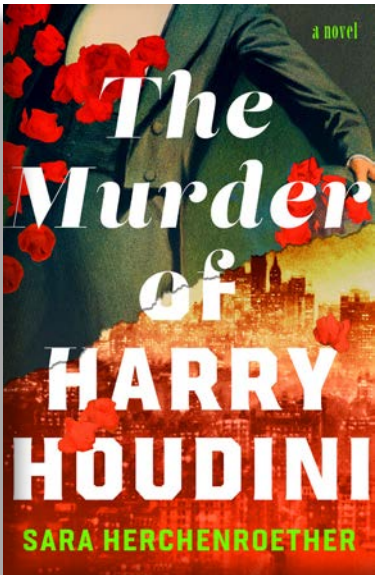
Sara Herchenroether is the author of *The Night Flowers*. She lives outside Columbus, Ohio, with her husband and children. Originally from Massachusetts, Sara studied English at Northwestern University and taught high school for eight years. For more information, visit www.saraherchenroether.com.

Key Selling Points

Irresistible "what-if" premise rooted in real history: Houdini's death has been debated for a century—this novel offers a thrilling, meticulously researched answer that positions Arthur Conan Doyle as the mastermind behind the murder.

Immersive 1920s New York setting with a cast of real historical figures: Houdini, Conan Doyle, Bess Houdini, the Scientific American committee, and the Spiritualist underground are all brought vividly to life with period-accurate detail.

Multi-POV thriller structure with a ticking clock: The novel compresses the last years of Houdini's life toward the inevitable Halloween night death, building with mounting dread and suspense from multiple perspectives.



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Historical Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662543609 (also available in Hardcover)

Tropes

Cat-and-mouse / hunter becomes the hunted / Secret society / Spiritualist underground / Ticking clock toward inevitable death / Multiple POVs converging / Unreliable narrators / Unlikely hero (wounded veteran) / Betrayal by a trusted friend / Forbidden knowledge

Rights Available

All Languages

Romance

 **amazon publishing**

Tamed

Off the Grid Series Book 2

DR. REBECCA SHARP

JANUARY 5, 2027

A drifter haunted by war. A tribal cop fighting for justice on forgotten lands. As women disappear, they must hunt a killer together. The danger? A primal attraction that neither can outrun.

Committed loner, battle-scarred former military policeman, and dedicated tracker Creed Stone prefers drifting from case to case on the open road. But Wind River Reservation is different. It has a hold on him—as does Officer Savanna Jade, a fierce tribal cop who carries the weight of her community's forgotten tragedies.

When the remains of two women are found in a protected buffalo sanctuary and a third girl goes missing, Creed and Savanna are forced to work together. As more bodies surface—all Native American women killed in the same brutal fashion—their professional partnership deepens into something dangerously intimate.

But the killer is closer than they think, and he's already claimed too many victims. As Creed and Savanna share past traumas and their attraction intensifies, the case turns personal. The threats encroach closer. And two guarded survivors must discover that some battles—and some loves—can't be won alone.

About the Author

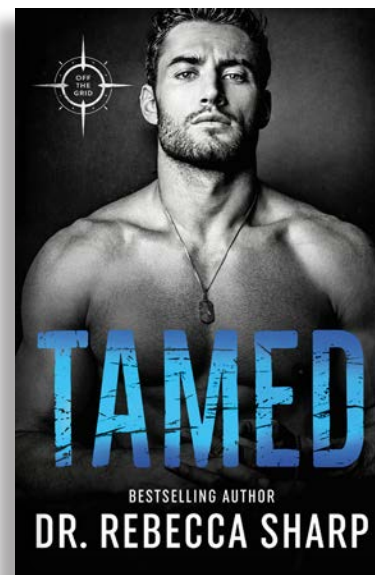
Rebecca Sharp is the author of nearly seventy novels of contemporary romance in a variety of genres. From new adult to extreme sports romance and forbidden romance to romantic comedies, her books feature strong heroines, hot alphas, unique love stories, and always a happily ever after. She is also a dentist in Pennsylvania, and when she is not seeing patients or writing, Rebecca loves to snowboard, cook, and travel with her amazing husband, affectionately referred to as Mr. GQ.

Key Selling Points

Timely MMIW (Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women) storyline brings social consciousness to commercial romance, appealing to readers seeking diverse, issue-driven narratives.

Military hero with PTSD recovery arc taps into the consistently high-performing military romance subgenre with emotional depth.

Wind River Reservation setting offers fresh, underrepresented backdrop that distinguishes from crowded small-town romance market.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Military Romance
ISBN-13	9781662541964

Social Media

21.1k followers on IG

Tropes

#MilitaryRomance, #RomanticSuspense, #ForcedProximity, #ProtectiveHero, #IndigenousRepresentation, #MMIW, #PTSDRecovery, #SmallTown, #SlowBurn

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

OFF THE GRID series

Reckless Secrets

The Hartmann Brothers Book 1

JULIA CONNORS

JANUARY 12, 2027

From *USA Today* bestselling author Julia Connors comes a meet-cute that turns up the heat when two strangers discover the conflict of interest that will disrupt their careers, their lives, and their hearts.

Paige Manning is a successful business consultant who has it all together—except her double life as a romantasy author. Her latest cliffhanger backed her into writer's block, but a long weekend at her friend's ski chalet is just what she needs to shake it off. An unexpected (and unbearably handsome) housemate could become an invaluable muse.

Between the scandal of a public breakup and his responsibilities as CEO of his family's pro hockey team, Tucker Hartmann is feeling the pressure from all sides. He needs time and space to decompress—without his ex, his family, or the media. Being trapped with a beautiful stranger in a snowstorm, however, is a misfortune he can work with. Too bad they're both hiding behind fake names and false pretenses.

When the snow melts and reality sinks in, Paige and Tucker will have to decide if they can turn their connection into something real—or if the truth comes with too many obstacles.

About the Author

Julia Connors is a *USA Today* bestselling author who grew up in Northern California but has spent her entire adult life in Boston. Now that she's acclimated to the snowy winters and has finally found all the places to get good sushi and tacos, she has zero regrets. You can usually find her in front of her computer with a coffee, but when she stops writing she's most often found at the beach with her husband and two children. No matter where she is, she's always daydreaming about sexy fictional couples she'd actually want to be friends with, and imagining the journey that will bring them their happily ever after.

Key Selling Points

HEAT, HUMOR, AND HEART: Julia Connors delivers pitch-perfect rom-com vibes, with a highly engaging voice, heaps of steamy chemistry, and deftly executed tropes that romance readers love. With a snowed-in, only-one-bed tropey hook, this has strong seasonal marketing potential.

BILLIONAIRE BROTHERS AND SPORTS DYNASTY: *Reckless Secrets* is the first in Amazon Top 15 bestselling author Julia Connor's Hartmann Brothers series. Set in the same universe as her hockey romance series, Boston Rebels, this series will combine billionaire romance with a dash of that same sports appeal—in this case the hero is the CEO of the hockey team featured in her previous series, which his family owns. This should draw in her existing readership, who will appreciate the occasional "easter egg", while also opening her up to new readers.

A HEARTWARMING HERO: Tucker is the epitome of a swoonworthy #HeFallsFirst hero: while on the surface he is a billionaire bachelor with a scandalous reputation, the version Paige meets is a charming bookworm who can cook, listen, and give surprisingly insightful advice--and is eager to pursue her to turn what they thought would be a one-night-stand into a real relationship. A refreshing antidote to the commitment-phobic men who must be won over, Tucker is a hero readers will fall head over heels for.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662544583

Social Media

20k followers on IG; 3.2k followers on FB

Tropes

#ForcedProximity, #SnowedIn, #OnlyOneBed, #BillionaireRomance, #SecretIdentity, #HeFallsFirst, #StrangersToLovers, #EnemiestoLovers, #OneNightStand

Rights Available

All Languages

Call of the Darkness

Nightmares of Salem Series Book 2

VIENNA JAMES

JANUARY 19, 2027

In a mesmerizing urban fantasy, a reporter and a potion master—each outrunning the shadows of their pasts—join forces to stop a killer hex from devastating the bewitching city of Salem.

Investigative reporter Emma North is building a life in Salem, far away from the deadly secrets of her long-buried past. But when her latest story uncovers a terrifying hex—a malignant plague that transforms citizens into rampaging killers—she'll have to face her greatest shame or risk losing everything she's built. To fight the monsters of Salem, she turns to one man.

Logan Ford is the charming—if disgraced—grandson of the High Witch. Now Emma and her contacts in the Black Cat coven have persuaded him to redeem himself by concocting a potion to overpower the rabid spell. As wary as Logan and Emma are of each other at first, the attraction between them pulses like a heartbeat.

As the hex attacks escalate, Emma and Logan must team up to find the cure and end the horrors in Salem. Only together can they unmask the fiend behind this evil and confront the shadows that haunt them.

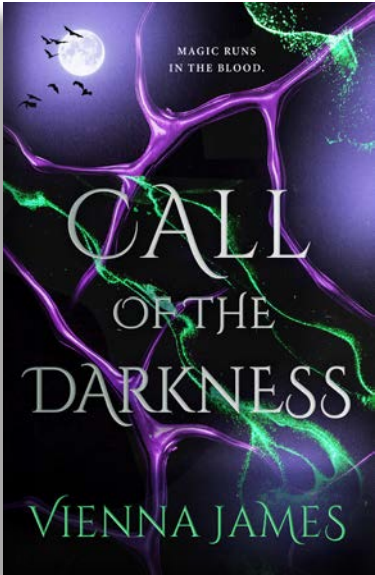
About the Author

Vienna James is the author of *The Nightmare Keeper*. She has been a storyteller since a young age, when she would spend hours coming up with intricate lives for her dolls. When she is not lost in her world of stories, she can be found thrifting, starting a new hobby, or binge-watching her favorite TV shows for the hundredth time. She also writes contemporary romances under the pen name Cara Stout. She lives in Salt Lake City, Utah. For more information, visit www.viennajamesbooks.com.

Key Selling Points

MAGIC & MYSTERY: Fans of romantic suspense and paranormal romance will be sucked in by the darkly atmospheric Salem setting and the propulsive murder mystery at the heart of the plot.

A MODERN "REFORMED RAKE": *Call of the Darkness's* hero is an endlessly seductive and charming ladies' man, torn between an effort to make up for past misdeeds and believing himself beyond redemption. With sharp banter and a compelling character arc, this romance showcases a beloved archetype with distinctive vibrancy and a heroine who can match his wits.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Paranormal Romance
ISBN-13	9781662536311

Tropes

#MorallyGrayHero, #Antihero, #DisgracedFamily, #WitchRomance, #DarkFantasy, #EnemiesToLovers, #ReformedRake

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Nightmare Keeper

The Goodbye Girl

TONI BLAKE

JANUARY 19, 2027

For a woman off the grid, her small Kentucky hometown becomes a refuge for healing, forgiveness, and second chances in a heartwarming novel by *USA Today* bestselling author Toni Blake.

When children's author Abigail Penny's career is derailed by scandal, she flees Chicago for her Kentucky hometown where she's helping her difficult father navigate widowhood and, to her surprise, reconnecting with Chase Corday, the high school quarterback who broke her heart.

Abigail wasn't meant to be a country girl but Crossroads is as good a place as any to roost for now. She takes on a therapeutic job writing eulogies for local families, transforms her mother's old gardening shed into a special place for her father, and realizes that Chase isn't quite the careless boy she left behind. Older and stable, he's working on reopening his family's general store. As they come together to play catch up, warm feelings reignite.

But learning to trust again isn't easy. When her career comes calling, Abigail must make a choice: Where does she move forward? Back in Chicago and the only life she's known for twenty-five years? Or in Crossroads, which is starting to feel more and more like home?

About the Author

Toni Blake is a *USA Today* bestselling author of more than forty contemporary romance novels published by Montlake, Avon Books, Harlequin, Penguin Books, and more. Her books have received the National Readers' Choice Award and Booksellers' Best Award, and her work has been excerpted in *Cosmo*. She is a two-time nominee for the prestigious RITA Award and a two-time recipient of the Kentucky Women Writers Fellowship. Toni lives with her husband in northern Kentucky and enjoys traveling, crafts, and spending time outdoors. For more information, visit www.toniblake.com.

Key Selling Points

Bestselling Author with 40+ Titles: Toni Blake is a *USA Today* bestselling author with more than forty published contemporary romance novels across major publishers including Montlake, Avon Books, Harlequin, and Penguin Books. Her extensive backlist demonstrates consistent reader demand and proven commercial viability across multiple publishing houses.

Award-Winning Career: Blake is a recipient of the National Readers' Choice Award and the Booksellers' Best Award, a two-time nominee for the prestigious RITA Award (Romance Writers of America's highest honor), and a two-time recipient of the Kentucky Women Writers Fellowship. Her work has been excerpted in *Cosmopolitan* magazine, demonstrating mainstream crossover appeal.

High-Concept Premise with Universal Appeal: A children's book author who writes stories about endings discovers how to begin again—by writing eulogies for strangers. This irresistible hook combines the emotional depth of literary fiction with the warmth and accessibility of commercial women's fiction. The “writing eulogies” concept is fresh, memorable, and instantly pitchable.

Second-Chance Romance with Emotional Depth: The reunion with a high school first love after twenty-five years taps into one of romance's most beloved and commercially proven tropes, elevated here by the maturity of the characters and the weight of their shared history.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662536069

Social Media

1.6k followers on IG; 52.1k followers on FB; 5.3k followers on X

Tropes

#SecondChanceRomance / #SmallTownReturn / #ForcedProximity / #GriefAndHealing / #FatherDaughter / #Widowhood / #CityVsSmallTown / #LaterInLifeRomance

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Summer of Lost and Found

Always Been You

Queen Anne Hill Series Book 2

CATHERINE BYBEE

JANUARY 26, 2027

Two friends bound by loyalty and hidden attraction take the next step—and a risk—in an emotional novel about secrets and second chances by *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author Catherine Bybee.

More like sisters than friends, ER nurse Miley Roth and forensic accountant Luna Ash share a Victorian home in the Pacific Northwest. For seventeen years, Lulu's brother Ash, a soon-to-be detective, has also been a constant presence in Miley's life, one sparked by undeniable chemistry and a temptation to cross the line into lovers.

They have so much in common, including the need for emotional healing from past traumas. But there is a lot at risk—the paths of their careers and the unspoken attraction that could upend their close dynamic with Luna. And when they find a hidden door on the property buried under a century of debris, there is so much more for all of them to learn. Because behind it is a generations-old mystery on Queen Anne Hill that's about to be unearthed.

It's only bringing Miley and Ash closer together for a long-simmering second chance. But can their relationship survive what's to come: the secrets in a revealing old diary, stolen treasures, a history of family betrayals, and the question of whether love was worth the wait?

About the Author

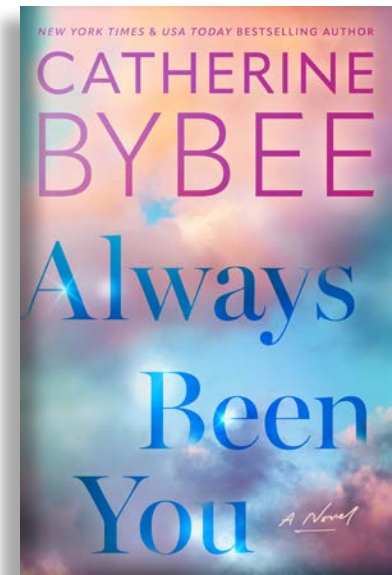
Catherine Bybee is the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author of forty-six novels that have collectively sold more than eleven million copies and have been translated into more than twenty languages. Raised in Washington state, Bybee moved to Southern California in the hope of becoming a movie star. After growing bored with waiting tables, she returned to school and became a registered nurse, spending most of her career in urban emergency rooms. She now writes full-time and has penned the Not Quite series, the Weekday Brides series, the Most Likely To series, the D'Angelos series, and the First Wives series, among others. For more information, visit www.catherinebybee.com.

Key Selling Points

SLOW BURN STORY: Friends-to-lovers after 17 years delivers maximum emotional payoff, the slow-burn trope readers consistently rate highest.

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Catherine Bybee is a *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author with 40+ novels and millions of copies sold.

SUB GENRE PLOTS: Mystery subplot (stolen rare book, hidden speakeasy) adds commercial crossover appeal for readers who want romance plus intrigue.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662537141

Social Media

5.2k followers on IG; 10k followers on FB; 2k followers on TT

Tropes

#SecondChanceRomance, #SmallTownReturn, #FirstLove, #Grief, #Healing, #FoundFamily, #WriterHeroine, #ForgottenDreams

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Lead Me Home; All Our Tomorrows; The Forgotten One; No More Yesterdays; (and many more!)

We Meet Again

MAISEY YATES

FEBRUARY 2, 2027

In this wistful novel of sweeping romance from *New York Times* bestselling author Maisey Yates, a woman of logic and a man whose presence in her life defies it will find that science works best with a touch of magic and a heap of heart.

Emotionally guarded ornithologist Lydia Martin does not believe in omens, miracles, or providence. Only science. And maybe, in the case of Henry Thorne, the inexplicable.

Going as far back as kindergarten, when Henry stole her crayon, they've collided during every pivotal moment of her life. Elementary school in a new town. Backpacking in Croatia. A bar in Spain. Now, as Lydia fights to conserve the ecosystem on a remote Pacific Northwest island, her seaplane pilot is none other than the alarmingly handsome Henry, who's eager to help with her mission. Predisposed, time and again, to chance encounters—the data is provable—they're finally getting to know each other after twenty-seven impossible years.

The emotional walls are coming down. The attraction is undeniable. And Lydia, against all reason, is starting to believe in destiny. And in the magic between science and certainty—in hummingbirds as symbols of good fortune, in raccoons as agents of cosmic signs, and in a love that has defied every logical explanation.

About the Author

Maisey Yates is the *New York Times* bestselling author of more than a hundred romance novels, including *First Witches Club*, *Happy After All*, *Cruel Summer*, *The Lost and Found Girl*, and the Four Corners Ranch series. Whether she's writing strong, hardworking cowboys, dissolute princes, or multigenerational family stories, she loves getting lost in fictional worlds. An avid knitter with a dangerous yarn addiction and an aversion to housework, Maisey lives with her husband and three kids in rural Oregon. For more information, visit www.maiseyyates.com.

Key Selling Points

SLOW BURN FRIENDS-TO-LOVERS: Drawn together against the odds time and again since childhood, *We Meet Again's* couple can't seem to escape each other, seemingly fated to be in each other's lives. While this initially creates tension (with our science-minded heroine resisting the concept of destiny, and still hurting from a past breakup) this larger than life romance also offers epic scope and emotional depth that readers will find irresistible.

QUIRKY SMALL TOWN CHARM: Set on a beautiful island in the Pacific Northwest, *We Meet Again* is a homecoming for our heroine, returning to the insular island community of her teen years with the goal of putting her scientific expertise toward saving the island from a potentially destructive resort development. With distinctive locals on both sides of the debate and an unexpected reunion with the man destiny won't let her forget, the story offers a nuanced spin on the classic "save the town" trope and readers will fall in love with the quaint, lush world of this island escape.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662543302

Social Media

21.9k followers on FB; 5.9k followers on IG; 5.8k followers on TT

Tropes

friends-to-lovers, small town romance, second chance romance, fate/destiny, found family, neurodivergent representation

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

First Witches Club

Untamed Heart

Harrington Ranch Series Book 2

WILLOW ASTER

FEBRUARY 9, 2027

A guarded woman. A single dad. A love powerful enough to crack open every wall they've built—until the past threatens to tear it all down before it begins.

Charlotte “Charlie” Harrington has poured five years into her equine therapy program—healing broken kids, broken spirits, anything to keep from confronting what broke inside her. The secret she’s carried since she was nineteen drove her home to Harrington Ranch. It’s the one thing she’ll never speak of, and the one thing that still controls her life.

Jagger Dean hasn’t stopped moving since he buried his wife two years ago. His tech empire keeps him occupied, but his six-year-old daughter, Violet, needs more than hotel rooms and nannies. So he brings her to Ironwood—to Charlie’s program. What he doesn’t expect is for Charlie to reach the parts of him he thought had gone permanently quiet.

Violet’s matchmaking, the Harrington family’s warmth, and an undeniable pull draw Charlie and Jagger closer. But just as she dares to believe in something real, her past returns—threatening everything she’s built and the love she never thought she’d have the courage to claim.

About the Author

Willow Aster is a *USA Today* bestselling author who writes romance with an edge of ache, a thread of humor, and a whole lot of heart. Known for stories that make readers feel deeply and laugh unexpectedly, her titles include the Windy Harbor, Single Dad Playbook, and Landmark Mountain series. She lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota, with her family, a devoted rescue dog that never leaves her side, and an adorable grandcat who loves to talk.

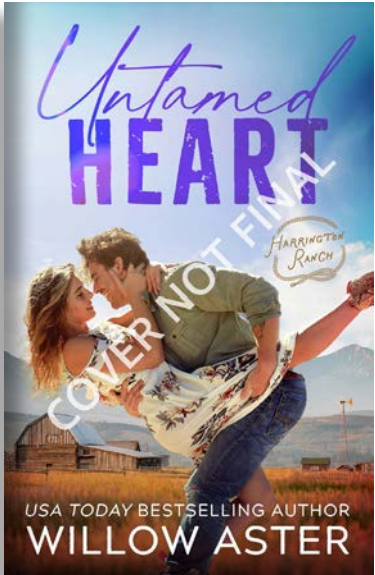
Visit the author’s website at www.willowaster.com to get the latest news, subscribe to her newsletter, or connect to her socials.

Key Selling Points

Single-dad hero with precocious daughter matchmaker delivers the found-family emotional hook readers consistently seek out.

Equine therapy setting offers unique, calming backdrop with strong appeal to animal-loving romance readers.

Suspense/danger thread adds page-turning urgency that elevates this above standard small-town romance.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662543906

Social Media

11.5k followers on FB; 26.3k followers on IG

Tropes

#SingleDadRomance, #WidowerHero, #SlowBurn, #ForcedProximity, #SmallTownRomance, #AgeGap, #FoundFamily, #HeFallsFirst, #MatchmakingChild, #SecretPast, #ProtectiveHero, #GrumpySunshine, #CowboyTown

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Savage Heart

Contract of Desire

LAUREN LANDISH AND WILLOW WINTERS

FEBRUARY 16, 2027

Between this Dom and submissive, everything has a price in a scorching second-chance romance by the *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling authors of the *Highest Bidder* series.

You are cordially invited to Club X.

Rose Calloway is intrigued by the mysterious invitation. An auction to become a submissive to a wealthy, dominant man for thirty days? *Depraved*. Yet the lure of life-changing money and illicit desires is stronger than the fear of the unknown. After all, anyone could bid on her...including one man she never wants to see again.

In the crowd at Club X, billionaire Nico Kingsley still craves Rose, even though their past relationship ended in betrayal and heartache. There are secrets no one can know, and bidding on Rose, although tempting, could ruin everything. Unable to control himself, Nico wants Rose in ways he never saw coming. And if she's going to belong to anyone, it's going to be him.

As they navigate their renewed relationship and conflicted past, Nico and Rose edge into an intense world of submission and obsession. Neither knows how quickly the line between control and devotion will become dangerously blurred. But when it comes to love, trust is the ultimate test—assuming they can bring themselves to fall again.

About the Authors

Lauren Landish is a *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling author who captivates readers with irresistibly steamy contemporary romance. Her stories feature alpha heroes who meet their match in bold, unforgettable heroines, delivering all the swoon-worthy tension romance readers crave. Whether crafting tales of grumpy billionaires, protective bad boys, or dominant athletes with a secret soft side, Lauren's stories always promise heat, heart, and a satisfying happily ever after.

Willow Winters is a *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, and #1 Amazon bestselling author of more than fifty novels, including contemporary love stories, steamy romances, and dark fantasies, as well as the *Highest Bidder* series written with Lauren Landish. She began her writing career in 2016 as a stay-at-home mom looking to share stories that begged to be told. Willow has spent a decade turning a passion for reading into a successful publishing business, now based in Delaware, where she was born and raised. For more information, visit www.willowwinterswrites.com

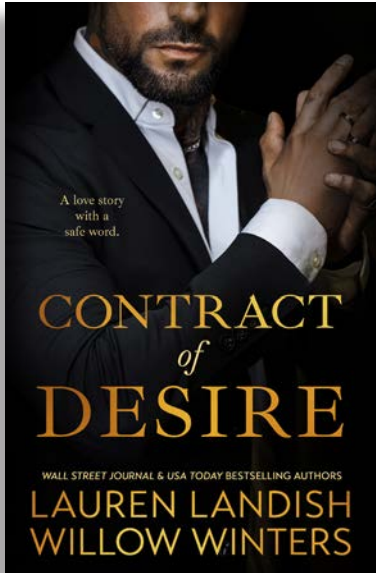
Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING AUTHOR POWERHOUSE: *Contract of Desire* pairs two of romance's most prolific bestsellers—Lauren Landish (*Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, and #1 Amazon bestseller with 1M+ readers and 71 books) and Willow Winters (*USA Today* and *Wall Street Journal* #1 bestseller with 35+ titles). Together, their combined readership and proven track records in steamy contemporary romance make this a high-visibility collaboration with built-in audience demand.

TROPE-STACKED COMMERCIAL APPEAL: *Contract of Desire* layers the most in-demand romance tropes—second-chance romance, billionaire hero, BDSM/Dom-sub dynamics, auction/contract romance, secret identity, and possessive hero—into a single emotionally grounded narrative. This trope density maximizes discoverability and reader satisfaction across multiple romance sub-communities.

SERIES POTENTIAL & WORLD-BUILDING: The exclusive Club X auction setting creates a rich, recurring world that supports multiple books. A second auction appearance in the epilogue is a clear series hook, and additional characters are seeded throughout—offering strong commercial runway for a franchise.

PROVEN CHANNEL PERFORMANCE: Lauren Landish's Montlake titles have generated over 1.1 million units across Kindle, KU, Audio, and Retail channels. *Contract of Desire's* long, immersive dual-POV chapters are ideally suited for Kindle Unlimited consumption and audiobook performance—the two fastest-growing channels for both authors.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Dark Romance
ISBN-13	9781662538698

Social Media

Willow Winters: 750k followers on TT and 24.5M likes.
Lauren Landish: 62k followers on IG

Tropes

#SecondChanceRomance, #EnemiestoLovers, #AlphaMale, #ForcedProximity

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Puck, Marry, Kill; The Diamond Puck-Up; The Pucking Proposal (Lauren Landish)

You Can't Be Serious

CATHY YARDLEY

FEBRUARY 16, 2027

From the author of *Do Me a Favor* comes the vibrant, chaotic connection between a buttoned-up executive determined to protect his mother and the tarot-reading, free-spirited K-pop fan who just moved in.

Troy Wainwright believes plans solve all problems. His current challenge: his elderly mother's snap decision to divorce and house some purple-haired scammer. His solution? Move into the second spare bedroom, ultimately elbow the interloper out.

Jennie Tran is many things. A tarot reader. Perimenopausal. "Neurosparkly." A lover of fandoms, especially the K-pop group K4RMA, whose concert she's determined to see before she turns fifty in the fall.

But she is not a con artist. She's also not a pushover, as Troy's about to find out. The hard way, if he keeps this up!

Troy's deliberate strategies collide with Jennie's colorful chaos. Plans start to go awry. Both gain unexpected insights into their apparent adversary...not to mention a budding attraction neither wants to acknowledge. She's not part of his plans. He's certainly not in her cards.

But fate works in funny ways. Sometimes, the person you need the most is the last person you were looking for.

About the Author

Cathy Yardley is an award-winning author of romance and chick lit. She has sold more than 1.2 million books with publishers like St. Martin's Press, Avon Books, and Harlequin. She writes fun, geeky, and diverse characters who believe that underdogs can make good and that sometimes being a little wrong is just right. She likes writing about quirky, crazy adventures because she's had plenty of her own: She had her own army in the Society for Creative Anachronism, she's spent New Year's on a three-day solitary vision quest in the Mojave Desert, and she had VIP access to the Viper Room in Los Angeles. Now, she spends her time writing in the wilds of eastern Washington, trying to prevent her son from learning the truth about any of said adventures, and riding herd on her two dogs (and one husband).

Key Selling Points

GEN-X & MILLENNIAL APPEAL: Cathy writes later-in-life romances with protagonists in their 40s and 50s, and infuses her writing with pitch-perfect Gen-X humor and both nostalgic and modern pop culture references that will delight elder millennial and Gen-X readers who aren't often centered in the romance genre.

TIMELY AND TOPICAL: *You Can't Be Serious* taps into the zeitgeist with its culturally witchy heroine and focus on K-pop fandom, an increasingly mainstream phenomenon in the US following the massive success of K-pop Demon Hunters.

DIVERSE REPRESENTATION: In addition to representing midlife romance, Cathy's heroine is also neurodivergent (with ADHD and Bipolar II) and mixed-race (Vietnamese and Italian American), offering a nuanced portrayal for traditionally marginalized identities, especially within the romance genre.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662543777

Social Media

3.5k followers on IG

Tropes

grumpy/sunshine, opposites attract, forced proximity, roommates-to-lovers, enemies-to-lovers, later in life romance, interracial romance, single mom, found family, neurodivergent representation, silver fox

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Do Me a Favor

Rituals of the Fallen

Sweetwater Sins Series Book 2

JENIKA SNOW

FEBRUARY 23, 2027

A woman hiding from a traumatic past becomes the captive of an insidious cult—and her first love—in a breathtaking dark romance by USA Today bestselling author Jenika Snow.

Years ago, when Harper Quinn was a vulnerable teenager at the mercy of abusive parents, her champion was Lucien Voss. He promised Harper liberation from her house of horrors—only to inexplicably disappear from her life. Lucien has finally returned. Not as a protector but as a man to be feared.

Kidnapped and dragged into the dark depths of a twisted cult, Harper finds herself a prisoner to Lucien, its leader who now promises her salvation. Nothing less than total surrender to the Shadowed Veil will heal her—at least according to its mad doctrine of psychological manipulation and calculated cruelty disguised as spiritual enlightenment. As Harper navigates a world of terrifying devotion, resistance is all she has left, even as the line between captor and protector begins to blur.

To save herself she must connect with the innocent boy she once loved now lost to darkness, and release him from the cult's terrifying grip. Even if she succeeds, the Shadowed Veil may be inescapable.

About the Author

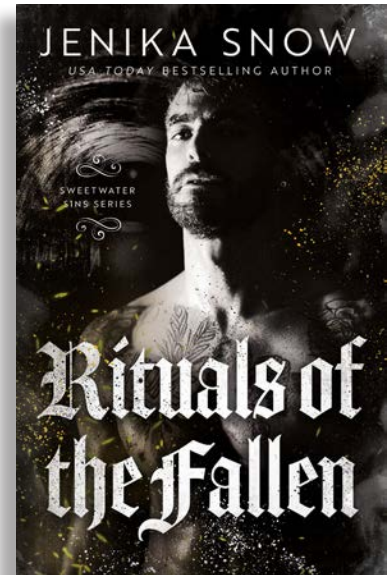
Jenika Snow is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *Altar of Lies* in the Sweetwater Sins series and other dirty books. She is an admirer of rainy days, a profanity expert, an animal lover, and a book boyfriend enthusiast. Jenika has published hundreds of contemporary, paranormal, and dark romances since 2009, selling over three million copies worldwide. For more information, visit www.jenikasnow.com.

Key Selling Points

Intense Dark Romance with Psychological Thriller Elements: A gripping narrative that blends cult suspense with a passionate romance, with the psychological intensity of Pepper Winters, the emotional depth of Tillie Cole, and the dark suspense of Penelope Douglas, this novel's atmospheric tension and high-stakes storyline will captivate readers who crave darkly addictive, character-driven stories.

Powerful Themes of Trauma, Healing, and Redemption: This compelling story explores cult indoctrination and the journey toward healing, featuring richly developed characters who navigate complex emotional landscapes. The portrayal of trauma recovery alongside a passionate relationship offers readers both emotional catharsis and hope, appealing to those who appreciate psychologically nuanced fiction.

From *USA Today* Bestselling Author Jenika Snow: With hundreds of romances published since 2009, Jenika Snow brings her signature emotional intensity and character development to this dark thriller. Her established fanbase and proven track record of delivering compelling stories with romantic elements ensures *Rituals of the Fallen* will satisfy her loyal readers while attracting new fans of psychological suspense and dark romance.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662540820

Social Media

23.5k followers on FB; 28.4k followers on IG; 28.3k followers on TT with 365.8k likes

Tropes

dark romance, captor/captive, enemies to lovers, second chance, forced proximity, betrayal and redemption, cult survivor, protector hero, religious trauma

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Altar of Lies

Sweet Pea Drive

The Love Stone Series Book 2

AURORA ROSE REYNOLDS

FEBRUARY 23, 2027

From *New York Times* bestselling author Aurora Rose Reynolds comes a satisfying dose of small-town sweetness when a paralegal's imploding life drops her on her boss's doorstep—and into his heart.

One night of abject humiliation is all it takes for Raven's life to veer off course. Her boyfriend's accusations of cheating and her boss's ex-wife's public breakdown seemed like rock bottom. Then she learns her boyfriend is the real cheater, leaving her with nowhere to live.

Raven's boss, Bain Pierce, thrives in his career. His love life? Not so much. His divorce left him jaded, so he tells himself his offer to let Raven move into his spacious Montana home is nothing more than basic human compassion. Still, there's an undeniable pull between him and his paralegal that's hard to ignore. Their relationship should be practical. Professional. Nothing more.

But as Raven and Bain adjust to life as roommates, a new sense of intimacy begins to bloom. Between morning coffee, a mischievous puppy, and the milieu of their day-to-day, cracks are forming in the walls they've built. But will they be big enough to let each other in?

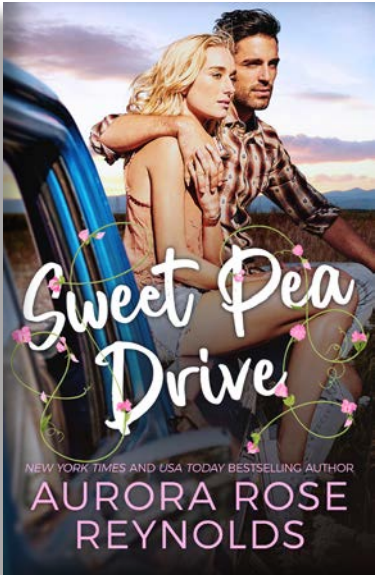
About the Author

Aurora Rose Reynolds is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author whose wildly popular series include *Until*, *Until Him*, *Until Her*, and *Underground Kings*. Her writing career started in an attempt to get the outrageously alpha men who resided in her head to leave her alone and has blossomed into an opportunity to share her stories with readers all over the world.

Key Selling Points

Heart & Humor: Aurora Rose Reynolds' novels are charming, character-driven romances that will have you chuckling and sweep you off your feet in turn, bringing every ounce of the emotional depth, chemistry, and happily-ever-after that contemporary romance readers adore.

Small Town Appeal: Set in Montana, *Sweet Pea Drive* is full of small-town drama, colorful characters, adorable pets, and a journey to find what family truly feels like, hitting all the high notes of the small-town romance genre.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662540646

Social Media

35.8k followers on IG; 83.9k followers on FB

Tropes

Small town romance, workplace romance, roommates-to-lovers, boss/employee, protective hero, love after divorce

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Lavender Hill, Until Series

Six Months With the Quarterback

ILSA MADDEN-MILLS

MARCH 9, 2027

When a brain tumor threatens everything she's built, a young academic hides her diagnosis from the NFL quarterback who's falling for her—until a seizure forces the truth into the open in this emotional contemporary romance by Ilsa Madden-Mills.

In Nashville, Tennessee, literature grad student Annalise Stephens has her life mapped out: finish her PhD, teach Victorian novels, and keep her heart safely guarded. Then a chance encounter in a hospital elevator with Tigers quarterback Theo Hughes changes everything. He's grieving his father's death anniversary. She's just received devastating news about a mass in her brain. When he asks for her number, she turns him down—but fate has other plans.

Hired as Theo's personal assistant to care for his beloved cat Junie, Annalise finds herself drawn into his world of game-day rituals and quiet moments that feel like home. As their connection deepens into something neither expected, she's hiding a terrifying secret: doctors have given her six months to live without treatment.

Torn between protecting him from heartbreak and surrendering to a love that feels like destiny, Annalise must decide whether to face her diagnosis alone or trust that some connections are worth fighting for—no matter how much time remains.

About the Author

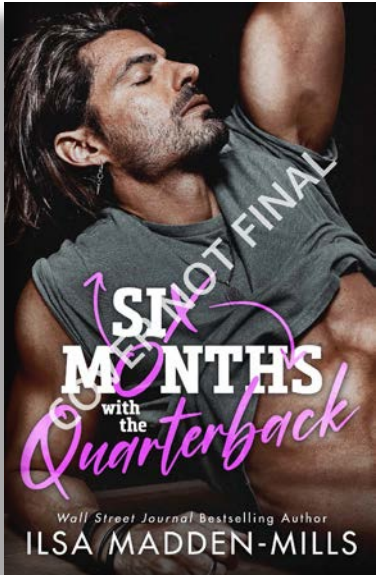
#1 Amazon Charts, *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, and *USA Today* best-selling author Ilsa Madden-Mills pens angsty new adult and contemporary romances. A former high school English teacher and librarian, she adores all things *Pride and Prejudice*, and of course, Mr. Darcy is her ultimate hero. She's addicted to frothy coffee beverages, cheesy magnets, and any book featuring unicorns and sword-wielding females. Feel free to stalk her online.

Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: #1 *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, and *USA Today* bestselling author with massive built-in audience and proven BookTok virality (*Not My Romeo* went viral on TikTok driving extraordinary demand).

NEW SERIES: First in a new duet—series starter from a proven hitmaker creates high-visibility launch opportunity with built-in audience excitement and strong book-to-book sell-through potential.

HEARTWRETCHING STORY: Emotionally devastating premise (terminal diagnosis + he-falls-first sports romance) delivers the kind of ugly-cry, heart-in-your-throat reading experience that dominates BookTok recommendation lists and drives explosive word-of-mouth.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662547027

Social Media

8.6k followers on X; 36.7k followers on IG; 13.2k followers on TT with 1.1M likes

Tropes

#HeFallsFirst, #SportsRomance, #NFLQuarterback, #TerminalIllness, #ForcedProximity, #BossAssistant, #StrangersToLovers, #AngstyRomance, #UglyCry, #BookTokFavorite, #SpicyRomance, #TouchHerAndDie, #SecretDiagnosis, #TickingClock, #GuaranteedHEA

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Not My Romeo

With You Everywhere

AMY LEA

MARCH 16, 2027

Two complete opposites, accompanied by the spirit of the girl who brought them together, embark on a cross-country road trip in this bittersweet, heartfelt romance by the international bestselling author of *Woke Up Like This*.

After her free-spirited best friend Daisy dies, Indy Burton gets the surprise inheritance of her yellow Volkswagen Beetle, rusted and beyond repair. On the first anniversary of her death, the car magically roars to life, blasting Daisy's favorite Fleetwood Mac song. It also comes with a final wish: for Indy to fulfill the cross-country road trip they'd planned together to Driftwood Beach, California. There's just one catch: Daisy's brooding twin brother, Jay, their Iowa small town's resident bad boy, must come along for the ride.

Cramped together in the Bug with Fleetwood Mac on loop, the reluctant companions clash on nearly everything—routes, car snacks, the speedometer...all except a shared love for Daisy. Somewhere between the rolling hills of the Midwest, the rocky terrain of Colorado, and the deserts of Utah, they discover that even the best adventures—and love stories—can start with a wrong turn.

About the Author

Amy Lea is the international bestselling author of romantic comedies, including *The Rivalry Reset*; *The Bodyguard Affair*; *Woke Up Like This*, which was a Mindy Kaling Book Studio selection; and *Something Like Fate*. Her writing has been featured in *USA Today*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *ELLE*. When Amy is not writing, she can be found fangirling over other romance books on Instagram, eating potato chips with reckless abandon, and snuggling with her husband and two goldendoodles in Ottawa, Canada. For more information, visit www.amyleabooks.com.

Key Selling Points

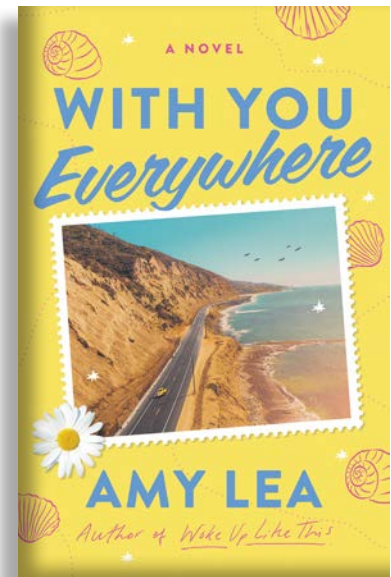
Strong Author Profile: Amy Lea's work has been featured in *USA Today*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *ELLE*—demonstrating mainstream media interest that extends well beyond the romance readership and supports international press coverage.

Irresistible High-Concept Premise: A dead girl's yellow VW Beetle magically roars to life on the anniversary of her death, blasting Fleetwood Mac, and sends her best friend and brooding twin brother on the cross-country road trip she never got to take. This is a pitch that sells itself—whimsical, emotional, and instantly visual. The magical realism element elevates it beyond standard contemporary romance.

The Perfect Blend of Humor and Heartbreak: Amy Lea is known for her witty, voice-driven romantic comedies, and this title pushes into deeper emotional territory—grief, loss, and healing—while maintaining the charm and humor her readers love. This bittersweet tonal balance is exactly what's driving the current market (think *One Last Stop* meets *The Flatshare* with a supernatural twist).

Opposites-Attract with Emotional Depth: The pairing of a grieving best friend with a brooding "bad boy" twin brother creates instant romantic tension, but the shared grief for Daisy adds emotional complexity that elevates this beyond a standard enemies-to-lovers setup. They clash on everything except the one thing that matters most.

Supernatural/Magical Realism Element: Daisy's spirit accompanying the journey adds a unique, enchanting layer that distinguishes this from other road trip romances. The magical car, the ghostly presence, and the sense of a final wish being fulfilled give the story a fairy-tale quality with broad international appeal.



IMPRINT	Skyscape
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662534928

Social Media

31.5k followers on IG

Tropes

#OppositesAttract / #ForcedProximity / #RoadTrip / #GrumpySunshine / #GriefAndHealing / #MagicalRealism / #FoundFamily

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Something Like Fate; Woke Up Like This

How to Fall in Love

HEIDI MCLAUGHLIN

MARCH 23, 2027

From the author of *The Art of Starting Over* comes an emotionally textured romance exploring memory, music, and why making a new beginning takes more than leaving the past behind.

Piper Sheridan wakes from a coma, only to discover she's married to a stranger and has no memory of the last ten years. Desperate to escape this unknown life, she flees to Shale Island, a tiny New England haven. There, she starts over with her estranged best friend, a stray dog, and the only dream she remembers: making music.

Open-mic nights at Dorsey's Pub stir something familiar in her. Lane Dorsey stirs something new.

The former hockey star knows all about sliding off life's path. He normally keeps people at arm's length, but Piper's determination to rebuild herself makes it hard to stay away. He gives her the space she needs—and the dusty guitar that helps her heal—yet yearns for something more.

Piper's still legally married, and the life she can't remember hasn't forgotten her. To be free, she must face her past, with the islanders at her back, music in her hands, and Lane by her side.

About the Author

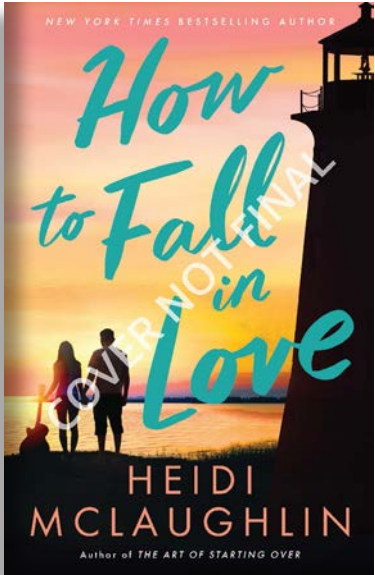
In 2012, Heidi McLaughlin turned her passion for reading into a full-fledged literary career. She is now the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author of The Beaumont Series, The Boys of Summer, and The Archer Brothers. McLaughlin has written more than twenty novels, including her acclaimed first novel, *Forever My Girl*, which was adapted into a film that opened in theaters in 2018, starring Alex Roe and Jessica Rothe. Visit the author at www.heidimcclaughlin.com, and keep up with new releases by subscribing to her newsletter.

Key Selling Points

Bestselling Author: Heidi McLaughlin is a *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author with a devoted fanbase built across multiple romance series. Her previous Montlake title *The Art of Starting Over* demonstrated strong performance within the Amazon ecosystem, and her established readership ensures a built-in audience for this release.

Swoon-Worthy Hero with Depth: Lane Dorsey—former hockey star turned pub owner—brings the beloved “athlete who lost his way” archetype combined with the patient, emotionally intelligent hero readers adore. His restraint (giving Piper space while yearning for more) creates exquisite romantic tension.

Found Family & Healing Community: The estranged best friend, the stray dog, and the island community create a warm found-family dynamic that broadens the book's appeal beyond pure romance into book club and women's fiction territory.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662545375

Social Media

43.1k followers on FB; 14.2k followers on IG

Tropes

#Amnesia / #SecondChanceAtLife /
#SmallTownRomance / #SlowBurn /
#ForcedProximity / #FoundFamily /
#HealingJourney / #GrumpySunshine

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Maybe It's Fate; The Art of Starting Over;
Heartbreak Hill

Never To Return

Noelle Marshall Series Book 4

KENDRA ELLIOT

APRIL 20, 2027

A mummified body in Oregon's lava fields. A community that doesn't want to be found. And a detective who won't stop digging.

When forensic investigator Noelle Marshall is called to examine remains preserved in the volcanic terrain of Central Oregon, what should be a straightforward cold case quickly spirals into something far more dangerous.

The body is connected to a reclusive sovereign citizen compound—a community with its own laws, its own justice, and no tolerance for outsiders asking questions.

As Noelle pulls at the threads of a decades-old disappearance, she uncovers a web of cult-like control, buried secrets, and a killer who will do anything to keep the past exactly where it belongs.

With the people she loves in the crosshairs and the line between justice and survival blurring, Noelle must decide how far she's willing to go—and whether some truths are worth dying for.

About the Author

Kendra Elliot is the *Wall Street Journal* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of the Mercy Kilpatrick novels, the Columbia River novels, the Bone Secrets series, and the Callahan & McLane series. She is a three-time winner of the Daphne du Maurier Award, an International Thriller Writers Award finalist, and an RT Award finalist. Kendra was born and raised in the rainy Pacific Northwest but now lives in flip-flops.

For more information, visit www.kendraelliot.com. Kendra has 14+ million books sold across all series, *Hidden* alone has sold over 1 million copies since 2012 Bone & Organ series (with Melinda Leigh) consistently hits bestseller lists and has been featured in *Parade*, *Writer's Digest*, and *Here is Oregon* as a top thriller author.

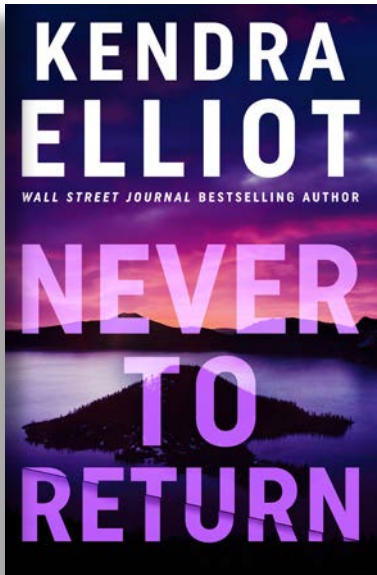
Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Kendra Elliot has sold 14+ million books, hit the *Wall Street Journal* top-10 bestseller list more than a dozen times, and is a three-time winner of the Daphne du Maurier Award for Romantic Suspense—one of the genre's most bankable names

UNIQUE FORENSIC HOOK: A mummified body in a lava field wearing a hand-sewn garment is an irresistible mystery opener that distinguishes this from crowded domestic thriller shelves—readers won't be able to stop turning pages.

DUAL TIMELINE STRUCTURE: *Never to Return* weaves a present-day investigation with a vulnerable woman's recruitment into a charismatic community, delivering the cult-suspense tension that's dominating BookTok and true-crime audiences.

LONG STANDING SERIES: Proven series with established sell-through and crossover characters from the beloved Mercy Kilpatrick and Columbia River series, ensuring built-in readership at launch.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Romantic Suspense
ISBN-13	9781662536496 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

50K+ followers on FB, 15K+ followers on IG, 100K+ followers on Goodreads with strong ratings across all series

Tropes

#SmallTownMystery, #PacificNorthwest, #ForensicThriller, #ColdCase, #MummifiedBody, #CultSuspense, #FemaleDetective, #DualTimeline, #FoundFamily, #SovereignCitizen, #OregonNoir, #SeriesRead, #RomanticSuspense, #TrueCrimeReaders, #BingeableThrillerSeries

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Noelle Mashall Series; Columbia River Series

Peculiar Stars

REBECCA YARROS

JUNE 15, 2027

From #1 New York Times bestselling author Rebecca Yarros comes a slow-burn romance about love, family, and what it means to become the truest version of yourself.

Callista Moran has spent a lifetime putting her own plans aside to care for other people. Once she and Darren Knight announce their engagement, she thinks her future is finally set. But when a routine sailing trip goes tragically wrong, a cyclone blows those carefully made plans away.

Stranded on an island for the next eighteen months alongside the crew and her fiancé's cousin, Callista discovers a strength she never knew she had. And begins to question the life she always thought she wanted. With Dominic, an ex-army medic, she finds true peace—and a version of herself that she doesn't need to explain. They resist their connection at first, but as months wear on, and the hope of rescue fades, something real starts taking shape, built on who they are when everything else is stripped away.

When they're finally found, the world hasn't changed. But they have. In the height of a modern media frenzy, learning to live as the people they've become will challenge not only their definition of survival, but love.

About the Author

Rebecca Yarros is the #1 *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of over twenty novels, including *Fourth Wing* and *In the Likely Event*, with multiple starred *Publishers Weekly* reviews and a *Kirkus* Best Book of the Year. She loves military heroes and has been blissfully married to hers for over twenty years. A mother of six, she is currently surviving the teenage years with two of her four hockey-playing sons.

When she's not writing, you can find Rebecca at the hockey rink or sneaking in some guitar time while guzzling coffee. She and her family live in Colorado with their stubborn English bulldogs, two feisty chinchillas, and a Maine coon cat named Artemis, who rules them all.

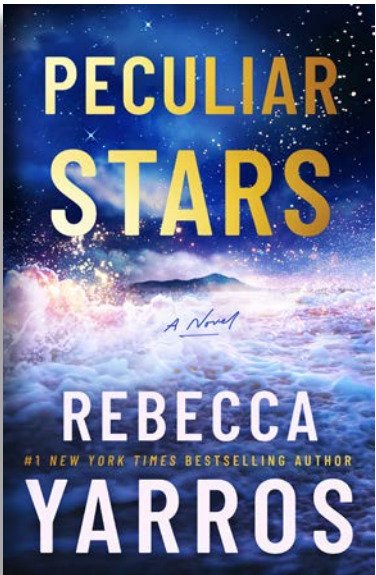
Having fostered then adopted their youngest daughter, Rebecca is passionate about helping children in the foster system through her nonprofit, One October, cofounded in 2019 with her husband.

Key Selling Points

Rebecca Yarros is the biggest name in commercial fiction right now: *Fourth Wing* spent 65+ weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list, *Onyx Storm* sold 2.7 million copies in its first week, and the *Empyrean* series is being adapted by Amazon MGM Studios with Michael B. Jordan's *Outlier Society* producing.

Standalone contemporary romance from a proven phenomenon: Yarros's return to contemporary after the *Fourth Wing* explosion gives Montlake a once-in-a-generation commercial moment; every reader who discovered her through romantasy will follow her here.

Irresistible high-concept premise: Stranded on a deserted island with your fiancé's cousin for 542 days is an elevator pitch that sells itself on BookTok, in newsletters, and at retail. Announced exclusively on TODAY show (April 28, 2025) and covered by *Kirkus*, *TODAY.com*, *Woman's World*, *Mirror*, and *Elle*.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
ISBN-13	9781662540370

Social Media

2.3M followers on IG; 549.9k followers on TT with 2.1M likes; 569k followers on FB

Tropes

#SurvivalRomance, #ForcedProximity, #Stranded, #SlowBurn, #ForbiddenLove, #EngagedToSomeoneElse, #DesertedIsland, #HeFallsFirst, #IdentityCrisis, #EmotionalDevastating, #StandaloneRomance, #RebeccaYarros, #BookTok, #CastawayRomance, #WhosYourLobster

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

In The Likely Event, Variation

Crime, Mystery & Thriller

 amazon publishing

What the House Remembers

STEPHANIE DECAROLIS

JANUARY 1, 2027

From *USA Today* bestselling author Stephanie DeCarolis comes a twisty psychological thriller about one murder that tears three sisters apart—and another that brings them perilously back together.

You can never go back. These are the words the Harding sisters—Laurel, Courtney, and Nikki—have lived by for the last fifteen years. Ever since the night their parents were brutally stabbed inside their family home—their father killed, their mother left barely clinging to life—and the sisters named as the only suspects in the unsolved attack.

Now, their mother has died, and the estranged sisters have no choice but to go back. Back to Windermere, back to the house where it all happened. With the three sisters finally under the same roof, the web of lies they've told threatens to unravel as tensions run high, old resentments reignite, and dangerous memories are dragged into the light. It quickly becomes clear that there's more to what happened that terrible night than they've ever admitted, and that the past can't stay buried forever.

When their parents' case is reopened—the sisters are once again suspects in an active murder investigation—they'll be forced to face the truth about what really happened all those years ago, and answer the one question they've been running from all their lives: which one of them is a killer?

About the Author

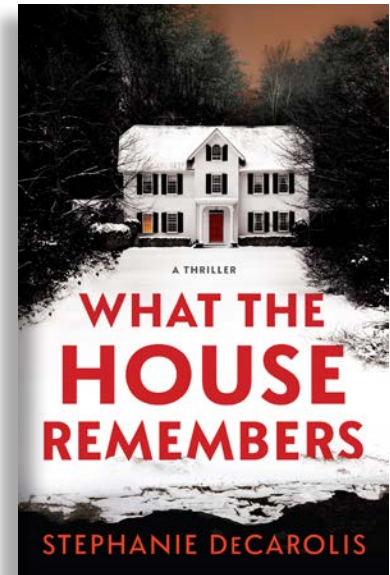
Stephanie DeCarolis is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Guilty Husband*, *Deadly Little Lies*, *The Perfect Sister*, and *The Wives of Hawthorne Lane*. A graduate of Binghamton University and St. John's University School of Law, she currently lives in New York with her husband and two daughters.

Key Selling Points

USA Today Bestselling Author with an engaged Readership: Stephanie DeCarolis has built a dedicated readership across four previous domestic thrillers (*The Guilty Husband*, *Deadly Little Lies*, *The Perfect Sister*, and *The Wives of Hawthorne Lane*). Her books consistently deliver the twisty, character-driven suspense that fans crave, and *What the House Remembers* represents her most ambitious and layered narrative yet.

Multiple Unreliable Narrators and Shocking Twists: This psychological thriller employs shifting perspectives across past and present timelines—perfect for fans of Lisa Jewell's *The Family Remains*, Ruth Ware's *The Woman in Cabin 10*, and Shari Lapena's *The Couple Next Door*.

Timely Themes of Family Trauma and Sisterhood: At its core, this is a story about how fractured families and survivors carry guilt, shame, and memories into adulthood. The complex, damaged relationship between the three sisters—and their journey toward reconciliation—will resonate with readers.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662542053

Social Media

1.2k followers on IG

Tropes

#EstrangedSisters / #ForcedReunion
/ #HouseOfSecrets / #BuriedPast /
#UnreliableNarrator / #DomesticSuspense
/ #GothicAtmosphere / #FamilyLies /
#ThatTerribleNight / #LockedHouseThriller
/ #DeadParentTrigger / #SisterRivalry /
#SmallTownSecrets / #TwistyEnding /
#PastCantStayBuried

Rights Available

All Languages

Echo Ridge

AUDREY J. COLE

JANUARY 5, 2027

In this atmospheric thriller from *USA Today* bestselling author Audrey J. Cole, a wellness retreat turns deadly when a violent storm churns up grief and betrayal...and murder reveals a shocking truth.

Surrounded by lush rainforest high in the Cascades, Echo Ridge Sanctuary is the picture of calm and isolation. Visitors flock there to better their souls. But some souls are too fractured to fix—and after murder rocks its tranquil grounds, the luxury wellness retreat descends into chaos.

Tai chi instructor Jade Vega, reeling from a recent betrayal, accepts her aunt's offer to teach at Echo Ridge, hoping to unplug and heal. Guest Naomi March, grief-stricken after one daughter's death, seeks similar solace with her other daughter by her side. But the sanctuary's promise of serenity shatters when two more guests arrive. Jade's former best friend and business partner appears, and her new fiancé is the one man Naomi's family has never been able to forgive.

When a violent storm traps them among the towering evergreens and suspended walkways, there's more to fear than just wind and rain. Secrets, paranoia, and revenge abound—and a killer lurks somewhere in the shadows.

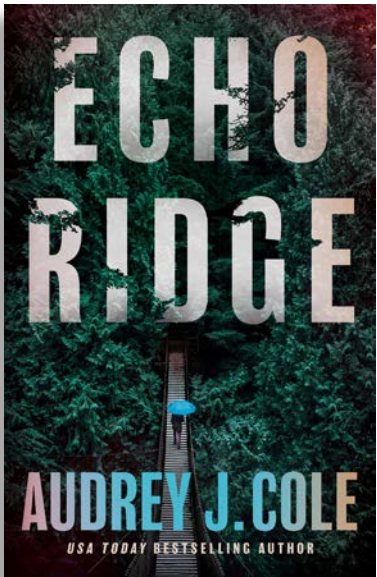
About the Author

Audrey J. Cole is a *USA Today* bestselling thriller author whose work has been translated into multiple languages. Before she began writing full-time, Cole worked as a neonatal intensive care nurse for eleven years. She resides in the Pacific Northwest with her two children. Sign up for the author's mailing list at www.audreyjcole.com to receive free bonus content, promotions, and updates on new releases.

Key Selling Points

LOCKED ROOM PUZZLE: Cole masterfully weaves multiple POVs—including a grief-stricken mother, a betrayed entrepreneur, and a life coach with hidden cameras—into a propulsive mystery where the real killer isn't who you expect. This atmospheric locked-room thriller explores how grief, betrayal, and jealousy can transform ordinary people into murderers, with a jaw-dropping twist that recontextualizes everything.

PULLED FROM REAL LIFE: The author is a yoga instructor who lives in the Pacific Northwest. While the events and cases aren't true, the author has woven together true facts with imagined fictions to create truly compelling, and believable, thrillers.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662542770

Social Media

4.5k followers on FB; 2.7k followers on IG; 2.4k followers on TT

Tropes

Locked Room, wellness culture, rich people behaving badly, surveillance thriller, multiple POV

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Missing in Flight; The Trip

One of His

A Collector Series Book 1

ALINA BELLCHAMBERS

JANUARY 5, 2027

When an artist is kidnapped by a serial killer, she must navigate a deadly game of manipulation and murder to turn captor into captive in a twisted novel of psychological suspense.

Eve Farrell is an artist who paints portraits of missing women. Her collection transforms the insensible into something beautiful. In them, her lover, Detective Chris Daniels, sees hope. Eve's most admiring fan sees compelling symbols of death in art. A collector of sorts himself, he also happens to be a serial killer.

When he kidnaps Eve from a gallery opening, his plan is set in motion. Imprisoned in his basement lair, Eve is to paint portraits of his victims—before and after death—to create a macabre exhibit of his own. Together, they'll make art like no one has ever seen. But as the remaining canvases fill up, Eve knows she's running out of time.

Between Eve and her captor, a twisted game of obsession, manipulation, and murder has just begun. But there can be only one winner. For Eve, survival and revenge are an art all their own.

About the Author

Alina Bellchambers makes use of her degree in psychology by writing twisty, suspenseful, and seductive thrillers that delve into dark themes of murder, manipulation, and obsession. She is the author of The Collector Series and The Order of Masks duology. When not typing in her study in the Adelaide Hills and drinking copious amounts of tea, Alina enjoys connecting with readers, hiking with her feisty dog, Scamp, and being involved in the creative arts. She can be found on social media under @alinabellwrites. For more information, visit www.alinabellchambers.com.

Key Selling Points

ADULT DEBUT: This delicious and dangerous new thriller shows Bellchambers' masterful control of suspense and morally complex characters, delivering shocking twists that redefine the victim narrative. A propulsive, darkly seductive thriller that explores the dangerous intersection of art, obsession, and murder.

DARK ROMANCE CROSSOVER: This is thriller meets dark romance, with on-page sex that might even make seasoned readers blush. But the real genius is how the Romance helps hide the truth of the crime that kept me guessing until the very end.

SERIES STARTER: There's more ahead for Eve and her art career...but the question is, what art is she the master of?



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Serial Killers
ISBN-13	9781662544675

Social Media

24.2k followers on IG; 1.9k followers on FB

Tropes

series starter, dark romance, enemies to lovers, twist ending, serial killer, multiple POV

Rights Available

All Languages

Blind Date

SUE WATSON

JANUARY 12, 2027

I see him every morning on the 7.15. He doesn't know my name yet. But he will.

He boards the train, same carriage, same seat, same half-smile he gives the woman by the doors. I know his stop, his coffee, the podcast playing through his earbuds. He has no idea I exist.

Then I see the post. Shared over a million times, his face right there on my screen — searching for a woman on the 7.15.

So, I reply. And when we meet, it's everything I always knew it would be. Oliver is kind, funny, attentive. He tells me I'm exactly who he was hoping to find.

At first, everything is perfect. More than perfect. B

ut perfect doesn't last. And as things start to slip, I know Oliver's been hiding something—but then, so have I...

About the Author

Sue Watson was a TV producer at the BBC until she wrote her first book and was hooked. Now a *USA Today* bestselling author, she has sold almost 2 million books exploring the darker side of life, writing psychological thrillers with big twists. Originally from Manchester, Sue now lives with her family and Cosmo the cat in leafy Worcestershire, where much of her day is spent writing – and procrastinating.

Key Selling Points

UNIQUE HOOK: A viral social media post searching for a stranger on the 7.15 train flips the modern fairy tale into a suffocating psychological thriller—readers are drawn in by the romance before realising they should be afraid.

PROVEN BESTSELLER: Sue Watson is a multimillion-copy bestselling author with a devoted readership and consistent chart performance across Bookouture and APub.

TRENDING FORMAT: Combines the viral romance setup with a dark, twisty thriller—tapping into both BookTok romance and thriller audiences simultaneously, with crossover appeal for fans of Freida McFadden and Alex Michaelides.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662523908

Social Media

2.7k followers on FB; 3k followers on IG

Tropes

#UnreliableNarrator, #ObsessiveLove, #DarkRomance, #TwistedEnding, #PsychologicalThriller, #WhoCanYouTrust

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

His First Wife; Wanting Daisy Dead; Watching Alice

Kill for Her

Bree Taggart Series Book 11

MELINDA LEIGH

JANUARY 12, 2027

When a pop star's life takes a sinister twist, Bree Taggart treads the dark side of celebrity to find a killer in an icy novel of suspense by #1 *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Melinda Leigh.

In wintry upstate New York, a frozen body wrapped in a pink bow is found outside Naomi Skye's gated rural estate. A macabre birthday present for the terrified pop star. A blood-chilling investigation for Sheriff Bree Taggart.

Bree and her fellow investigator and fiancé Matt Flynn eye a myriad of suspects from Naomi's world of obsessed exes, paparazzi, stalkers, and secretive locals with something to hide. The message is becoming clear: Someone is killing on behalf of Naomi. And they won't stop until everyone who wronged her is dead.

Bree, already balancing a dangerous career with family, must untangle a twisted web of starstruck fanatics, revenge, and betrayal before the killer strikes again. The truth could cost Bree everything.

About the Author

Melinda Leigh is the #1 Amazon Charts and #1 *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *She Can Run*, an International Thriller Award nominee for Best First Novel, *She Can Tell*, *She Can Scream*, *She Can Hide*, and *She Can Kill* in the *She Can* series; *Midnight Exposure*, *Midnight Sacrifice*, *Midnight Betrayal*, and *Midnight Obsession* in the *Midnight Novels*; *Hour of Need*, *Minutes to Kill*, and *Seconds to Live* in the *Scarlet Falls* series; *Say You're Sorry*, *Her Last Goodbye*, *Bones Don't Lie*, *What I've Done*, *Secrets Never Die*, and *Save Your Breath* in the *Morgan Dane* series; and *Cross Her Heart*, *See Her Die*, *Drown Her Sorrows*, *Right Behind Her*, *Dead Against Her*, *Lie to Her*, *Catch Her Death*, *On Her Watch*, *Track Her Down*, *Beyond Her Reach*, and the short story "Her Second Death" in the *Bree Taggart* series; and *You Can Tell Me*.

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

Key Selling Points

LONG STANDING SERIES: This will be Book 11 in the bestselling Bree Taggart series with a loyal, growing readership that reliably delivers strong first-week sales.

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Melinda Leigh is a #1 Amazon, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author with millions of copies sold.

IMMERSIVE STORYLINE: High-stakes personal threat to the protagonist raises emotional intensity, creating a can't-put-it-down reading experience for series fans.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Police Procedural
ISBN-13	9781662517037 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

5.1k followers on IG; 22.2k followers on FB

Tropes

#SerialKiller, #InsiderThreat, #CelebritySuspense, #FrozenBodyMystery, #HeroicDog, #EngagementArc, #SmallTownMystery, #PoliceProcedural, #StalkerThriller

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Bree Taggart Series; Olivia Hunt Series

Ten Years Gone

WENDY WALKER

JANUARY 12, 2027

From the *USA Today* bestselling author of *Blade* comes a propulsive, emotional thriller about a man whose homecoming from prison threatens long-buried secrets about a murder in a suburban enclave.

After a ten-year sentence for murder, Griffin Ford is finally free and ready to make peace. But within hours of his release, he escapes a harrowing abduction. Someone doesn't want Griffin to come home. Forced into hiding, Griffin is now determined to uncover the truth that was buried a decade.

Back then, he had risked everything to cross the tracks between working-class Milltown and affluent Newfield to pursue his teen love, Clare Keaton. But after a wealthy suburbanite was murdered and the evidence began to point in his direction, Griffin did the unthinkable: He confessed to the brutal crime.

He told Clare to forget him. But she never did—not even with her wedding just days away. And now, on the day of his release, cryptic text messages cast doubt on everything she thought she knew about Griffin Ford.

Propelled by restless secrets and enduring love, Griffin and Clare race to make sense of their past. But whoever's pulling the strings is determined to finish what they started.

About the Author

Wendy Walker is the author of several psychological suspense novels, including *All Is Not Forgotten*, *Emma in the Night*, *The Night Before*, *Don't Look for Me*, *What Remains*, and *Blade*, as well as the Audible Originals *Hold Your Breath*, *American Girl*, *Mad Love*, and *The Room Next Door*. Her work has been translated into twenty-three languages, topping bestseller lists in the United States and abroad, and featured by *Today*, the Reese Witherspoon Book Club, and the Book of the Month Club. Eight of her titles have also been optioned for television and film.

Wendy holds degrees from Brown University and Georgetown University Law School. Prior to her writing career, she trained for competitive figure skating, worked as a financial analyst at Goldman Sachs, and practiced both corporate and family law. She resides in Connecticut, where she raised her three sons.

Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING ACCLAIMED AUTHOR: Wendy Walker is the *USA Today* bestselling author of several acclaimed thrillers including *Blade*, *Emma in the Night* and *The Night Before*.

HOT HITS: *Blade* had a lead PR campaign, and was picked up by many major media outlets including *People* magazine. *Ten Years Gone* will also have a lead campaign and we expect similar pick-up.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662531958

Social Media

7.8k followers on FB; 15.3k followers on IG; 1.8k followers on TT

Tropes

wrong side of the tracks, homecoming

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Blade

You'll Never Find Me

TRACY CLARK

JANUARY 12, 2027

From the award-winning author of the Detective Harriet Foster series comes an emotionally charged journey of resilience and redemption, when a young woman flees her corrupt family to build the home where she belongs.

Esmee Manning sees something she wasn't supposed to—and it opens her eyes to who her family really is. Refusing to play the part of dutiful daughter, Esmee leaves her home and herself behind. She assumes a new identity, traveling from one city to the next, never staying too long in any of them.

When she meets lawyer Augustus Payne, he promises her a place to once again call home...and another she'll have to escape. It's not until Esmee and her son find their way to New Jerusalem, Illinois, that she breathes easy. But even amid the tight-knit community that becomes her sanctuary, Esmee keeps her eye on the outskirts.

Augustus won't let her go that easily. Her family's still out there. And now, it's not only her freedom Esmee stands to lose. She has a whole life to protect. And she'll do whatever it takes to keep it—her son, her friends, her town—safe.

About the Author

Tracy Clark is the author of the Cass Raines Chicago Mystery and Detective Harriet Foster series, award-winning books that feature tough, smart, Black female characters working the mean streets of the Windy City. Her debut novel, *Broken Places*, was *CrimeReads*' Best New PI Book of 2018 and made *Library Journal*'s Best Crime Fiction list that same year.

Key Selling Points

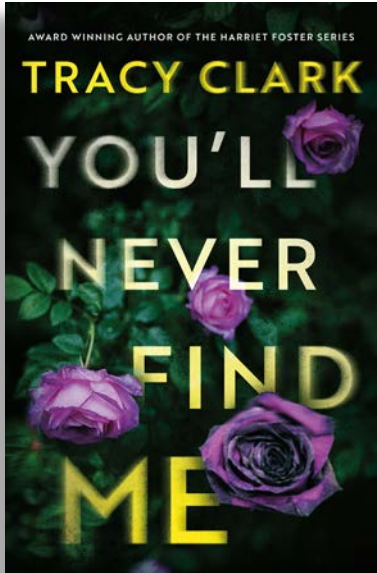
Award-Winning Crime Fiction Author: Tracy Clark is the acclaimed author of the Detective Harriet Foster series, published by Thomas & Mercer. She is a recipient of the Sue Grafton Memorial Award—one of the most prestigious honors in mystery fiction, named after the legendary alphabet-series author. She has also won the G.P. Putnam's Sons Sue Grafton Memorial Award and has been nominated for multiple other crime fiction accolades. Her credentials place her among the top tier of working crime/thriller authors.

Powerful "Woman on the Run" Narrative: The premise—a young woman who witnesses something she shouldn't and must flee her corrupt family, assume a new identity, and rebuild from nothing—is a universally compelling survival story. This archetype drives some of the most commercially successful fiction across all markets (think *Where the Crawdads Sing*, *The Great Alone*, *Big Little Lies*).

Community as Sanctuary—The New Jerusalem Setting: The fictional town of New Jerusalem, Illinois, provides a rich, symbolic setting (the name itself evokes promised land/redemption themes). The tight-knit community that becomes Esmee's sanctuary offers the beloved "found family" dynamic while the constant threat from outside creates propulsive tension.

Motherhood Under Siege: At its core, this is a story about a mother who will do anything to protect her son and the life she's built. Maternal protection narratives are among the most commercially powerful in fiction—they transcend genre, culture, and market, appealing to readers worldwide.

Themes of Identity and Reinvention: Esmee assumes a new identity and builds a life from scratch—multiple times. The exploration of who we are versus who we choose to become resonates deeply in today's cultural moment, where conversations about self-determination and breaking free from toxic family systems are at the forefront.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Suspense
ISBN-13	9781662547706

Tropes

#WomanOnTheRun / #NewIdentity /
#CorruptFamily / #DomesticSuspense /
#ControllingHusband / #MotherProtectingChild
/ #SmallTownSanctuary / #PastCatchesUp
/ #StartingOver / #DangerousSecrets /
#SurvivalAndResilience / #ChicagoNoir /
#CantOutrunYourPast / #TightKnitCommunity /
#WomanInPeril

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Detective Harriet Foster series

Gone Silent

KATE WHITE

JANUARY 26, 2027

After being ghosted by her best friend, a woman discovers more than she feared in a haunting novel of psychological suspense by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *I Came Back for You*.

For thirty years Gideon and Gillian were more sisters than friends—each other's confidante, confessor, and counselor. Until the day Gillian abruptly severs all ties. Gideon's last question is *why*. Gillian's final response: *You of all people should know*.

After months of confounding silence, Gideon receives word that Gillian has died on a solo hike after apparently losing her footing at the edge of a cliff. Gideon sets off for the Adirondacks, hoping to reconnect with Gillian's grieving husband, Aiden, and his stepdaughters. And finally get answers about the demise of a cherished friendship. Aiden has his theories, but they don't add up. Neither do the stories of Gillian's tragic fall.

When the family housekeeper suddenly goes missing, Gideon has the dreadful sensation that nothing on this sprawling wooded property is what it seems. Maybe it's because she's not looking close enough. Maybe it's because Gideon has never felt more in the dark than she does right now.

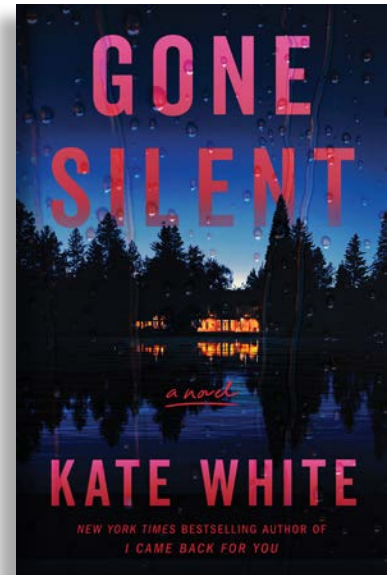
About the Author

Kate White is the *New York Times* bestselling author of twenty novels of suspense, including the stand-alone thrillers *I Came Back for You*, *The Last Time She Saw Him*, *Between Two Strangers*, and *The Second Husband* and the eight Bailey Weggins mysteries. A former editor in chief of *Cosmopolitan* for fourteen years, Kate left to pursue a lifelong dream of becoming a suspense novelist. She has been nominated for an International Thriller Writers Award, and her books have been published in over thirty countries.

Key Selling Points

TOP SELLER: Kate White's first T&M title *I Came Back for You* is a top 2026 seller with ~60k units sold in its first three months.

CONNECTIONS/HOT HITS: Kate White is the former editor-in-chief of *Cosmopolitan* magazine and remains very well connected and will have a lead PR campaign for this book. *I Came Back for You* had several hot hits, including coverage in *People*, *Woman's Day*, and *Cosmo*.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662534003 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

27.8k followers on FB; 14.4k followers on IG

Tropes

ghosting, former best friends, gaslighting

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

I Came Back for You

Harborlight

Sean Burke Series Book 1

STEVEN KONKOLY

JANUARY 26, 2027

Grisly murders across New England point to a professional killer and a sinister conspiracy in a gripping thriller by USA Today bestselling author Steven Konkoly.

When a woman's body is discovered on a frozen logging road in rural Vermont, FBI Special Agent Sean Burke expects another isolated homicide. But the victim's precisely inflicted wounds suggest something more complicated and sinister: a killer professionally trained in systematic torture, interrogation, and extracting secrets.

The forensic similarities to recent, unsolved murders in New Hampshire draw Burke into a partnership with Special Agent Erin Callahan, an ambitious, by-the-book rising star in the Bureau. With a small, multistate investigative task force at their disposal, Burke and Callahan uncover a chilling lead: The killer may be a Cold War–era defector with ties to a classified CIA program that operates deeper than anyone could have imagined.

Now, in the darkest corners of New England, Burke and Callahan are on the hunt to find a prolific killer before they strike again—and must risk their lives to expose a far-reaching conspiracy before the truth is buried forever.

About the Author

Steven Konkoly is a *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today* bestselling author, a graduate of the US Naval Academy, and a veteran of several regular and elite US Navy and Marine Corps units. He has brought his in-depth military experience to bear in his fiction, which includes *A Clean Kill*, *A Hired Kill*, and *A True Kill* in the Garrett Mann series; *Wide Awake*, *Coming Dawn*, and *Deep Sleep* in the Devin Gray series; *The Rescue*, *The Raid*, *The Mountain*, and *Skystorm* in the Ryan Decker series; the speculative postapocalyptic thrillers *The Jakarta Pandemic* and *The Perseid Collapse*; the Sean Burke series; the Fractured State series; the Black Flagged series; and the Zulu Virus Chronicles. Konkoly lives in central Indiana with his family. For more information, visit www.stevenkonkoly.com.

Key Selling Points

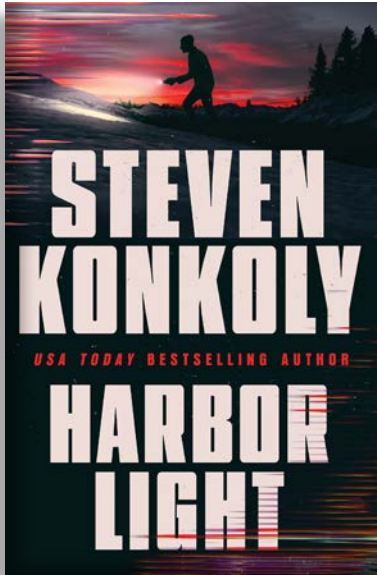
Wall Street Journal bestselling author with 20+ thrillers. Steven Konkoly is a repeated #1 Amazon bestseller and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller with a massive, loyal readership across multiple series (*Deep Sleep*, *Garrett Mann*, *Black Flagged*). Proven commercial force in action thrillers.

New series launch from a powerhouse. Book 1 in the Sean Burke series—a fresh entry point for new readers while Konkoly's existing fanbase guarantees strong launch momentum.

Military authenticity. Konkoly is a US Naval Academy graduate with eight years of active duty, including maritime boarding operations in the Arabian Gulf and directing bombing runs as a Forward Air Controller. His “in-house” experience brings unmatched authenticity to action sequences.

New England setting with noir atmosphere. A fresh geographic canvas for Konkoly—moving from his conspiracy/espionage roots into a darker, more atmospheric thriller territory with professional killer procedural elements.

Series potential. Sean Burke is positioned as Konkoly's next franchise character—joining the ranks of Reacher, Harvath, and Rapp in the elite action-thriller space.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Political
ISBN-13	9781662543463

Social Media

3.3k followers on FB

Tropes

#SinisterConspiracy / #NewEnglandNoir
/ #SeriesStarter / #MilitaryThriller /
#CatAndMouse / #GrislyMurders / #ActionHero
/ #GovernmentConspiracy / #RelentlessPacing
/ #LoneWolfProtagonist / #DarkSecrets /
#HighBodyCount / #ProceduralThriller /
#Unputdownable

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Garrett Mann Series (and more!)

The Missing Season

JENNIFER LYNN ALVAREZ

JANUARY 26, 2027

A teenage girl's disappearance during a winter storm draws an obsessed deputy and a devastated mother into a small town's twisted secrets.

In a Lake Tahoe resort town during ski season, seventeen-year-old honor student Madison Murphy vanishes from her home during a blizzard. It's Deputy Isabel March's first big case, and she already has eyes on a suspect—Madison's boyfriend, Liam, a troubled young man with a criminal past. Madison's mother, Beth, believes he's innocent. She knows best.

As desperate hours turn into days, Isabel's pursuit to prove Liam's guilt becomes an obsession. A real heartbreaker, he's too smooth, his alibi is too pat, and he's potentially the most dangerous person in Madison's life. Beth is working with a mother's intuition. That leads to her own investigation to find her daughter before the case goes as cold as the wind.

Isabel and Beth don't realize that this beautiful town has its share of ugly secrets. Someone is watching, waiting, and playing a twisted game. In a winter season this brutal, it's only going to get worse. And neither woman sees it coming.

About the Author

Jennifer Lynn Alvarez is the award-winning author of the YA thrillers *The Trespassers*, *Friends Like These*, and *Lies Like Wildfire* as well as the fantasy series *The Guardian Herd* and the *Riders of the Realm* trilogy. She earned her degree in English literature from UC Berkeley and volunteers for the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Jennifer lives in the Nashville area with her husband and a cat with a misspelled name. For more information, visit www.jenniferlynnalvarez.com.

Key Selling Points

ATMOSPHERIC, CINEMATIC SETTING: Lake Tahoe during peak ski season—a Christmas blizzard, isolated mountain roads, and a resort town bursting with tourists provides a vivid, commercial backdrop that jumps off the page. Alvarez's writing is frequently described as "cinematic."

MULTIPLE RED HERRINGS, SHOCKING TWIST: Multi-POV structure (rookie deputy, desperate mother, accused boyfriend) delivers satisfying misdirection and a villain reveal readers won't see coming—ideal for word-of-mouth and "did you guess?" social media discussion.

AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR'S ADULT DEBUT: Jennifer Lynn Alvarez is an award-winning author known for YA thrillers (*Lies Like Wildfire*, *Friends Like These*)—this is her first adult thriller and first Amazon Publishing title, bringing an established fanbase to a new audience.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Woman Sleuth
ISBN-13	9781662543715

Social Media

1.7k followers on IG; 1.1k followers on FB

Tropes

Missing girl, rookie cop obsessed with the wrong suspect, mother's intuition versus the badge

Rights Available

All Languages

Trouble at High Tide

The Misfit Detectives Series Book 2

HANNAH ELLIS

JANUARY 26, 2027

From bestselling author Hannah Ellis comes a seaside mystery of sabotage, suspicion and exceptionally good coffee.

For a man who came to North Berwick to hide from life, Jamie Sinclair spends a lot of time unblocking other people's toilets.

Life has settled into something unexpectedly good—sea air, steady handyman work, and a misfit crew who feel more like family every day. When his friend Fiona calls with a plumbing emergency at her café, it's just another Tuesday. But the leak is only the beginning.

Soon, High Tide Café is under siege. Spiteful reviews. A brick through the window. Threats that are getting harder to ignore. In a town where everyone knows everyone, who would want to destroy Fiona's livelihood?

Detective Emma MacLeod would rather Jamie and his crew kept their noses well out of it. Naturally, they don't listen. But the saboteur is always one step ahead, and someone close to the café has more to hide than a grudge.

With trust fracturing in a community built on looking out for each other, the misfits must work fast—before the next attack puts more than a business at risk.

About the Author

Hannah Ellis is the bestselling author of warm, twisty cosy mysteries and uplifting romance set in seaside towns where secrets simmer beneath the surface. Known for her sharp plotting, gentle humour and strong sense of found family, she has built a loyal international readership across multiple series.

She is the creator of the popular Lily Larkin Mysteries, as well as several much loved romance series set in coastal communities. Under the pen name Hannah Sparks, she also writes children's books full of adventure and imagination.

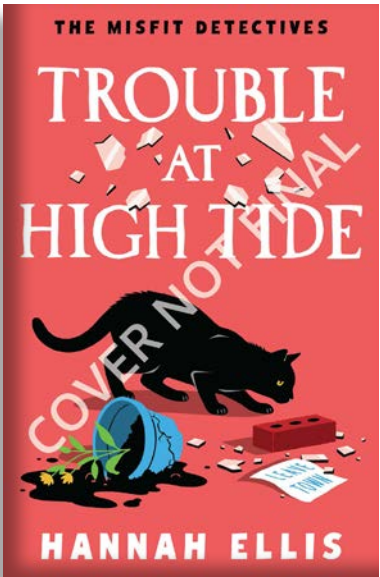
Trouble at High Tide is the second book in The Misfit Detectives, a Scottish coastal crime series where unlikely heroes discover that even the most picturesque towns have something to hide.

Key Selling Points

COZY SERIES BUILD: Book 2 in the Misfit Detectives—cozy mystery series with strong readthrough are among the best performers in digital-first publishing.

COZY MARKET GROWTH: The cozy mystery genre continues to grow year-on-year, fuelled by BookTok and the *Thursday Murder Club* phenomenon.

RELIABLE AUTHOR: Hannah Ellis delivers consistent, charming cozies with loyal series readers.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Cozy Mystery
ISBN-13	9781662541919

Social Media

1.4k followers on IG; 2.6k follower on FB

Tropes

#CozyMystery, #AmateurSleuth, #SmallTownMystery, #SeriesMystery, #FriendshipGoals #Scotland #FoundFamily

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Death by the Sea

When We Were Sisters

TAYLOR LEAMEY

JANUARY 26, 2027

Memories of a sorority sister's brutal murder haunt a reunion among old friends in a novel of obsession, paranoia, buried secrets, and twisting psychological suspense.

Sloane Harris receives an unexpected invitation for a reunion at a Nantucket beach house with old college friends. Their first get-together since Bridget, the pillar of their sorority, was murdered eleven years ago. Everyone believed that the man convicted was guilty. Except for Sloane. Her life was haunted by the crime, and the only way she's moved on is by repressing it all. Maybe a week with friends is what she needs.

At first, it's like old times. Sharing good memories with Trina, Charlotte, and her best friend, Hillary—and bitter ones with Gwen, sorority president and party host. But the days pass, and Sloane's previous obsession with Bridget's death is renewed when an anonymous note warns her not to trust a soul.

As Sloane's search for the truth spirals into maddening paranoia, she fears someone in this house has secrets as dark and violent as the coming storm—and that before the week is over, another friend will die.

About the Author

Taylor Leamey is a writer and artist. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology, and is dedicated to weaving mental health topics into her stories to break stigma. When she isn't scribbling down a new story or reading, Taylor is painting or picking up a new hobby that she has no time for. She lives in North Carolina with her partner and two cats, Felix and Fergus. For more information, visit www.taylorleamey.com.

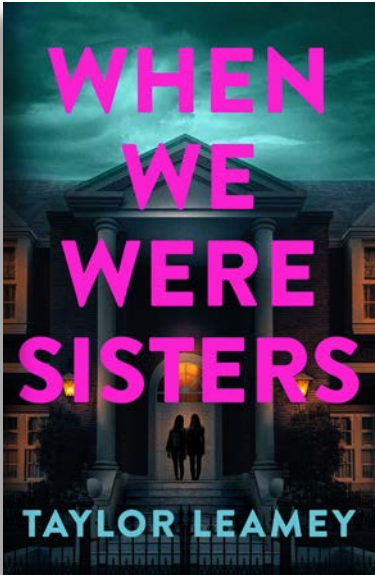
Key Selling Points

FEMINIST THEMES: The exploration of toxic female friendships and the psychological aftermath of trauma makes this a standout debut that will leave readers questioning every character's motives until the final page.

Standout Debut with a Fresh Voice: Taylor Leamey brings a distinctive perspective to psychological suspense, informed by her academic background in psychology and sociology. This dual expertise gives her an authentic, nuanced understanding of group dynamics, trauma responses, and the psychology of deception—elevating this debut above standard sorority thrillers.

Sorority Reunion Gone Wrong—Irresistible Premise: A group of college friends reunite for the first time since one of their sisters was murdered eleven years ago. Someone in the house knows more than they're saying. This "reunion of suspects" setup is a proven bestseller framework that combines nostalgia, suspicion, and escalating dread.

Mental Health Themes Woven Authentically: Leamey is dedicated to weaving mental health topics into her stories to break stigma. The exploration of PTSD, obsession, repressed trauma, and paranoia is handled with psychological authenticity—adding depth that distinguishes this from surface-level thrillers.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662539381

Social Media

2.2k followers on IG

Tropes

Female friendships, sorority sisters, unreliable narrators

Rights Available

All Languages

Run to the Hills

Detective Sam Metcalfe Thrillers Book 1

DAVID J. GATWARD

FEBRUARY 1, 2027

From the multimillion bestselling author of DCI Harry Grimm series comes a haunting new detective thriller about home, guilt and the secrets we leave behind.

After years living undercover among London's most violent criminals, Detective Sam Metcalfe returns to the Yorkshire Dales looking for somewhere to disappear. Instead, he finds a father who can't forgive him, a community that remembers why he left, and old ghosts waiting in every familiar place.

And winter has teeth here. A police vehicle is torn apart in a blizzard. A body is found dismembered on the moors. Soon Sam is forced to confront a terrifying possibility: someone from his undercover past has followed him home.

Now a brutal new investigation is leading him back to an old mystery: the disappearance of his childhood friend's little sister.

And this time, there may be nowhere left to run.

About the Author

David J. Gatward grew up in Wensleydale and is the award-winning author of the DCI Harry Grimm crime novels. He has also written numerous books for children, teenagers and young adults.

Key Selling Points

NEW SERIES LAUNCH: First in a brand-new detective series from an author with an established crime readership.

PROVEN CRIME AUTHOR: David J. Gatward's DCI Grimm series set in the Yorkshire Dales has built a loyal following in the UK crime space, with nearly 1.7 million copies sold worldwide.

BRITISH PROCEDURAL DEMAND: UK-set police procedurals remain the backbone of the crime chart—high demand from both UK and international readers.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
ISBN-13	9781662543647

Social Media

3.2k followers on FB; 1k followers on IG; 1.6k followers on X

Tropes

#PoliceProcedural, #BritishCrime, #SeriesDetective, #RuralCrime, #NewDetective

Rights Available

All Languages

The Darkest Secrets

FAITH GARDNER

FEBRUARY 9, 2027

A suburban wife and mother’s devastating secret spirals into a fight for survival against a stalker in a twisting novel of psychological suspense about power, privilege, and lies.

After twenty-plus years of marriage and with their daughter off to college, Magnolia Mercer-Voss and her husband, Cam, are in the empty-nest phase of their lives. Magnolia is a marketing coordinator for an esteemed California winery. Cam is building his own start-up. They’re convinced that only the best is yet to come.

Then Magnolia makes a catastrophic mistake she can’t take back—with a man more dangerous than she can imagine.

Dominic Redfield is a wealthy and unnervingly charming investor who is quickly gaining control of the winery. He’s also inserting himself into every aspect of Magnolia’s life, taking sick pleasure in workplace harassment, intimidation, and devious manipulation. And Magnolia can’t tell a soul—as Dominic reminds her: *I know your secrets*.

A nightmare of psychological warfare has begun. For Magnolia, it’s about more than keeping her secrets hidden. It’s about surviving them.

About the Author

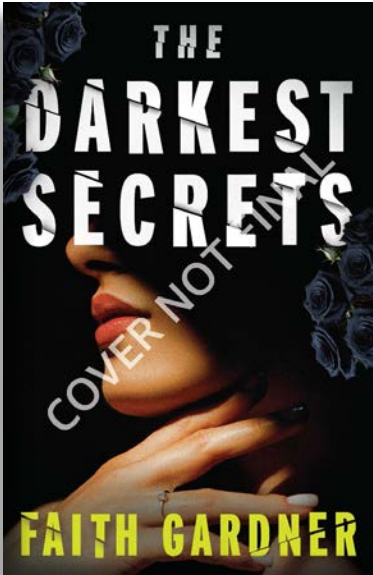
Faith Gardner is the author of fifteen novels, including *The Spin*, *Breakneck Bay*, and *The Mirror House Girls*, a 2025 IngramSpark Top Pick selection. She is also the author of a number of short stories and has been twice nominated for the Pushcart Prize. Born and raised in California, Faith attended UC Berkeley and then moved on to a career in political news before becoming a full-time author. When her head isn’t stuck in a book, Faith loves playing music, cooking, reading tarot cards, relishing all things spooky and witchy, and cuddling her bunnies. She lives in the Bay Area with her family. For more information, visit www.faithgardner.com.

Key Selling Points

BESTSELLER LISTS: Faith Gardner has repeatedly showed up on Amazon’s bestseller lists through the power of her 14 books already published on the KDP platform. This is an author who knows how to draw readers in and keep them coming back for more.

TWIST ENDING: With layered details that feel like they are going in one direction, the ending takes an unexpected twist sure to keep readers on their toes, powered by the strong and compelling voice.

CAPTIVITY THRILLER: The antagonist keeps animals, and some women, locked away from prying eyes. There’s a natural pace to the novel as we try to figure out how any one will ever escape.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662544941

Social Media

3.3k followers on IG; 4.4k followers on FB

Tropes

stalker, twist ending

Rights Available

All Languages

No One to Fear

Noone Thriller Series Book 2

ELLIE MARNEY

FEBRUARY 9, 2027

New York Times bestselling author Ellie Marney returns to the world of Simon Noone with a morally complex psychological thriller about identity and memory, the limits of repentance, and whether monsters can truly change.

Private investigator Nomi Pace and her research assistant, Simon Noone, have an unusual partnership: She hunts murderers. He was one.

It's 1987, Christmas in Manhattan, five years since a head injury wiped Simon's memories of his life as a serial killer. He's retreated into a quiet, careful existence, but it's hard to atone for a past he can't recall.

Nomi and Simon are deep in a complex missing persons investigation when a new case opens: Police officers are turning up dead, the crime scenes brutal, theatrical, and horribly familiar. Each recreates a murder Simon committed. And he's been waking up in strange places with bloody hands and no recollection of what he's done.

As Nomi and Simon race to uncover the truth, she wants to believe in the man he's become. But Simon isn't so sure. Is someone copying his old sins—a secret only Nomi knows—or is his killer instinct worming its way back to the surface?

About the Author

Ellie Marney is an award-winning author of thrillers for teens and adults. Her titles include the first book in the Simon Noone series, *No One Is Safe*, as well as the *New York Times* bestselling *None Shall Sleep* trilogy, the ARA Historical Novel Prize-nominated *The Killing Code*, and many more. Her books have been published internationally and optioned for the screen. Ellie has spent a lifetime researching in mortuaries, interviewing law enforcement officers and autopsy pathologists, and asking former spies how to make explosives from household items. Now she lives quite sedately in southeastern Australia with her family as she writes her next book.

Key Selling Points

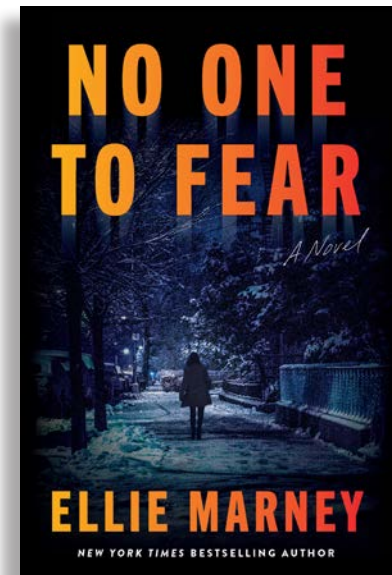
New York Times bestselling author. Ellie Marney is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the *None Shall Sleep* trilogy. Her books have been published internationally and optioned for the screen. Multi-award-winning across crime and thriller categories.

Series momentum from a strong Book 1. *No One Is Safe* (Noone Thriller Book 1) launched the series with a high-concept premise—an amnesiac serial killer turned investigator—that hooked readers and reviewers. Book 2 deepens the stakes.

Killer high-concept hook. *Dexter* meets *The Bourne Identity*—a reformed serial killer with amnesia must hunt a copycat recreating his own forgotten murders. Instantly pitchable, endlessly discussable.

1980s Manhattan setting. Christmas 1987, gritty NYC—delivers the atmospheric period detail that fans of *Mindhunter*, *American Psycho*, and *The Devil in the White City* crave.

Morally complex psychological depth. Explores identity, memory, repentance, and whether monsters can truly change—elevating this beyond standard serial killer fare into literary thriller territory.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Serial Killers
ISBN-13	9781662542473

Social Media

3.9k followers on IG

Tropes

#AmnesiacKiller / #CopycatMurders /
#UnlikelyPartnership / #ReformedMonster /
#IdentityCrisis / #SerialKillerThriller / #1980sNoir
/ #ManhattanSetting / #MorallyGreyProtagonist
/ #MemoryAndGuilt / #HunterBecomesHunted
/ #DarkPast / #PsychologicalSuspense /
#RedemptionArc / #CatAndMouse

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

No One Is Safe

Beat Me to It

NICOLE MABRY AND STEPHANIE MULLIN

FEBRUARY 16, 2027

A husband's unforgivable betrayals. A wife's plot for the perfect murder. It all comes undone with a vengeance in a twisting and chilling novel of psychological suspense.

After nearly fourteen years of a disintegrating marriage, Odette Baker decides that this is the day she will kill her husband, Beau. But when she returns to their upscale Atlanta home, Odette finds the powerful financier dead on the living room floor. Someone beat her to it.

When police and paramedics arrive, Odette loses control over what was once a foolproof plan. Her desperation is getting real. With potential evidence pointing straight at her, Odette must find out who killed her husband before she's convicted of a crime she never committed. While her new lawyer, Vivienne DeMarco, works the legal end, Odette goes rogue to investigate the clients, friends, and mistresses in Beau's devious life. One of them must have reason to frame her for murder.

The trail of lies and deception Odette follows runs deeper and darker than she could've imagined. And more dangerous too. Now Odette must put herself in a killer's crosshairs—to save her own life.

About the Authors

Steph Mullin & Nicole Mabry are the award-winning authors of *The Family Tree* and *When She Disappeared*. They met as coworkers in New York City and continue to write long distance after Steph relocated to North Carolina. By day, Steph works as a senior creative director in digital marketing, and Nicole works in post-production for a television network. You can always find Steph and Nicole curled up with their rescue dogs. For more information, visit mullinandmabry.com.

Key Selling Points

ACCOLADES: *The Family Tree* was nominated for the Silver Falchion and made several best of the year lists. *Beat Me to It* already has received strong early blurbs from Lisa Gardner, Jaime Lynn Hendricks, Bonnie Kistler, and Melissa Larsen—with many more to come.

CONNECTIONS: Steph and Nicole served as Co-Leaders of Debut Programming for The International Thriller Writers Association throughout 2024 and remain involved in the ITW community. They are also members of Sisters in Crime, and Nicole is also a member of Crime Writers of Color.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662543821

Social Media

Nicole: 2.2k followers on IG

Tropes

amateur sleuth, rich people behaving badly, secret club

Rights Available

All Languages

While They Were Watching

A. R. TORRE

FEBRUARY 16, 2027

An abduction in Beverly Hills reveals a dark underbelly of wealth, privilege, and secrets in a propulsive and twisting novel of suspense by *New York Times* bestselling author A. R. Torre.

In the mansions of Beverly Hills, perfection is a full-time job. But on one Sunday afternoon, at the most-anticipated birthday party of the year, four children are taken—and for their four families, perfection begins to fall apart.

As the hours tick by and the investigation deepens, polished exteriors start to crack. Marriages fracture under pressure. Secrets buried deep crawl into the light. Each family responds differently to the unthinkable—some with grief, some with rage, and some with a desperation that raises more questions than it answers. Because when your child is missing, there is nowhere left to hide. Not from the detectives. Not from the cameras. And not from each other.

But the families aren't the only ones with something to conceal. The nannies—with their pasts, their loyalties, and their quiet desperation—are just as fractured as the families they serve. And as the detectives dig deeper, it becomes clear that understanding what happened means understanding the women everyone else chose to overlook.

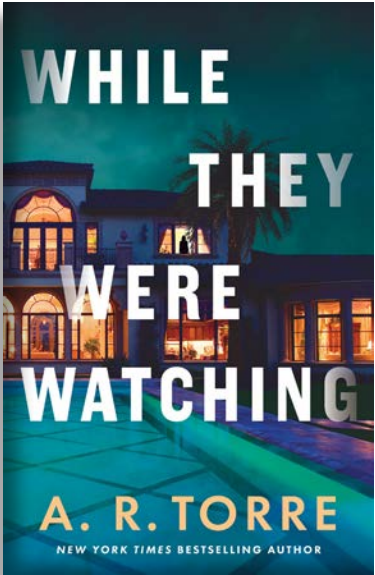
About the Author

A. R. Torre is a pseudonym for *New York Times* bestselling author Alessandra Torre. An Edgar Award and ITW Thriller Award nominee, her novels include *The Missing Ones*, *Every Last Secret*, *The Good Lie*, *The Last Party*, and *The Ghostwriter*. In addition, her work has been featured in such publications as *ELLE* and *ELLE UK*, and she has guest-blogged for *Cosmopolitan* and *HuffPost*. Torre is also the cocreator of Inkers Con, a community for aspiring and published authors. For more information, visit www.artorrebooks.com.

Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING AUTHOR WITH BIG REACH: A.R. Torre is an Edgar Award–nominated, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today* bestselling author of 30+ novels, translated into 20+ languages.

HIGH-CONCEPT, HIGHLY COMMERCIAL PREMISE: A locked-room kidnapping thriller set against Beverly Hills wealth, influencer culture, and class warfare—a fresh, cinematic setup with built-in discussion value for book clubs and social media buzz.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662534225

Social Media

45.4k followers on FB; 36.7k followers on IG; 15.4k followers on TT

Tropes

Multiple-child abduction, Beverly Hills elite, dark marriage secrets, everyone's a suspect, the overlooked women

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

A Familiar Stranger; A Fatal Affair, A Happy Marriage (and many more)

In Her Blood

CHRISTOPHER REICH

FEBRUARY 23, 2027

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Matterhorn*, a nail-biting thriller where one woman's search for her sister reveals who her family truly is—and who she must become to save her dad.

Carmella Conti has always felt like she's missing a sister she never had. It's an intuition Mel could never rationalize. Then she sees a photograph of a woman who looks just like her . . . wearing a necklace identical to her mother's.

When Mel's father is diagnosed with leukemia and she isn't a transplant match, her search for this mystery woman becomes a matter of life and death. But meanwhile, her real estate dealings lead her to a shocking discovery about her parents' past. There's more to the Contis than she ever dreamed: a vicious mafia history that shrouds them in a lifetime of violence and deception.

As Mel untangles her family ties to the Cosa Nostra, it reveals a path of danger and salvation that winds all the way to Italy. And to protect the people she loves most, she'll walk it to the very end of the line.

About the Author

Christopher Reich graduated with honors in history from Georgetown University before furthering his education at the University of Texas at Austin business school. He began his career in investment banking after the 1987 crash and moved on to a job at the Union Bank of Switzerland in Geneva. It was on his second day that inspiration struck and turned into his first book, *Numbered Account*.

Since then, Reich has become the *New York Times* bestselling author of several thrillers, including *Matterhorn*, *The Take*, and *Rules of Deception*. His novel *The Patriots Club* won the 2006 International Thriller Writers Award for Best Novel. He lives in Newport Beach, California.

Key Selling Points

PIVOT PROJECT: An exciting pivot project for *New York Times* bestselling author Christopher Reich, combining fast-paced thrills with family drama.

ACCLAIM: Christopher Reich's last T&M title *The Tourists* was an ITW Thriller Award finalist and Reich won the inaugural ITW Thriller Award for his first thriller.

TV: *Matterhorn* is currently in production for a limited television series.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Thriller/Crime
ISBN-13	9781662538377 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

3.2k followers on FB

Tropes

long lost family member, mafia, book within a book

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Matterhorn, The Tourists

Dead Men Can't Deadlift

Lorraine Highsmith Mysteries Book 2

ERICA RUTH NEUBAUER

MARCH 9, 2027

When a bodybuilder drops dead, a sharp, seventy-something advice columnist with a wicked past teams up with the lead detective to solve a poisonous mystery—while keeping her own agenda under wraps.

In October 1989, Lorraine Highsmith witnesses something straight out of a Halloween headline when bodybuilder Victor Marlowe collapses at the Sheboygan Bay pharmacy, dead before he hits the floor. It's not really any of Lorraine's concern—she never much cared for Victor—but the whole affair sure puts a cramp in her personal business.

Still on the radar of Detective Michaela “Mike” Zenoni, Lorraine can't very well say no when the detective enlists her assistance on the case. She has a reputation to maintain: sardonic old reporter with an eye for a story. And Victor's death is shaping up to be one heck of a tangled web.

Between the politics and power plays of health culture, small-town secrets begin to emerge. If Lorraine can't stay a step ahead of the tenacious detective, her own secrets might be revealed. And she's got a few that may be more interesting than this little community's prepared to investigate.

About the Author

Erica Ruth Neubauer is the Agatha Award-winning author of the Jane Wunderly Mystery series. She spent eleven years in the military, nearly two as a Maryland police officer, and one as a high school English teacher before finding her way as a writer. For several years, she reviewed mysteries and crime fiction for publications such as *Publishers Weekly* and *Mystery Scene* magazine. Erica Ruth currently lives outside Madison, Wisconsin, although her heart will always be in Milwaukee.

Key Selling Points

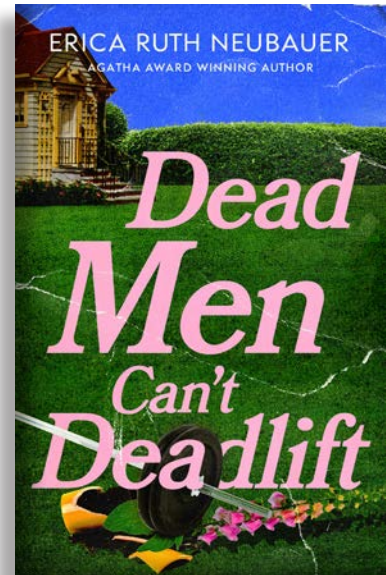
Agatha Award-winning author. Erica Ruth Neubauer won the Agatha Award for her Jane Wunderly Mystery series. She brings 11 years of military service, police experience, and years reviewing mysteries for *Publishers Weekly* and *Mystery Scene*—she knows the genre inside and out.

Thursday Murder Club energy with a criminal twist. A seventy-something amateur sleuth with old criminal skills, few moral limits, and a strong instinct for self-preservation. She's not just solving the crime—she may be just as dangerous as the criminals. Fresh, irresistible, and wildly entertaining.

Series momentum. Book 1 (*Two Bodies Are Better Than One*) launched the series with dark humor, small-town suspicion, and an uneasy detective partnership. Book 2 deepens the dynamic and raises the stakes on Lorraine's buried past.

1980s nostalgia + cozy-noir hybrid. October 1989, small-town Wisconsin, bodybuilding culture, poisoning—delivers the atmospheric period charm of cozy mystery with the moral complexity and dark humor of noir.

Unique protagonist in a booming market. Older female sleuths are dominating (see: *Thursday Murder Club*, *The Maid*). Lorraine stands apart with her criminal past and sardonic edge—she's not a sweet retiree, she's a wolf in grandmother's clothing.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
ISBN-13	9781662542701

Social Media

1.2k followers on IG; ~1k followers on FB

Tropes

#OlderFemaleSleuth / #DarkHumor /
#SmallTownMystery / #UneasyPartnership /
#CriminalPast / #PoisonMystery / #1980sSetting
/ #AmateurDetective / #WolfInSheepsClothing /
#CozyNoir / #BodybuildingWorld / #SecretAgenda
/ #WittyBanter / #SmallTownSecrets /
#UnlikelyDetective

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Two Bodies are Better Than One

I'm Not Done With You

JOHN MARRS

MARCH 16, 2027

A toxic first love. A perfect family. One secret that could burn everything to the ground.

For years, Patrick Tyler received an annual message. A time. A place. No explanation needed. And he always went, drawn back to Lexi, the woman from his past who knew exactly how to get to him. Maybe it was easier that way. Safer. Some secrets are best kept quiet, even if someone else is the one keeping them.

Then, for fifteen years, Lexi vanished.

Now Patrick has the life he always wanted: a wife, children and a business of his own. But when the fake appointments begin, the bad reviews appear and a strange car starts watching his family, Patrick knows better than to believe in coincidence.

Lexi is back. But what does she want? She knows things about him even his wife doesn't. And she was never one to take no for an answer.

As the past tightens around the present and his perfect life begins to unravel, Patrick realises it's not a question of what Lexi wants from him. It's how much she plans to take.

About the Author

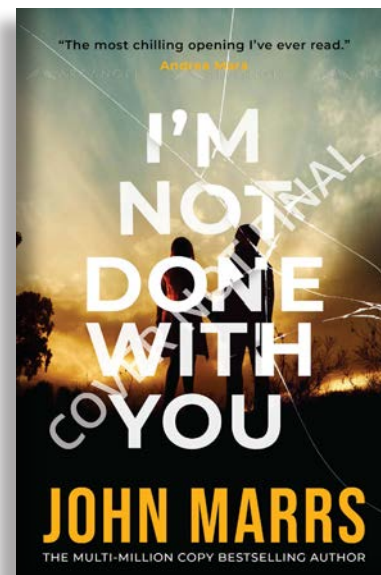
John Marrs is an author and former journalist based in Northamptonshire, England. After spending his career interviewing celebrities from the worlds of television, film and music for numerous national newspapers and magazines, he is now a full-time author. This is his fourteenth book. Follow him at www.johnmarrsauthor.com, on Instagram @johnmarrs.author and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/johnmarrsauthor.

Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: John Marrs is an internationally bestselling author and his books have sold millions worldwide.

NETFLIX PEDIGREE: *The One's* Netflix adaptation gives Marrs significant name recognition beyond the book world, driving discoverability.

COMPULSIVE PREMISE: Obsessive ex, deadly teenage secret, a ticking clock—this is a masterclass in unputdownable thriller plotting.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662527722

Social Media

65.9k followers on IG; 1.6k followers on FB; 7.8k followers on X; 34.1k followers on TT with 247.2k likes

Tropes

#ObsessiveEx, #DeadlySecret, #DualTimeline, #PsychologicalThriller, #DomesticSuspense, #UnreliableNarrator, #TwistedEnding

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Keep It in the Family; You Killed Me First; Dead in the Water; (and many more!)

The Initiation Game

VIVIANA VASIU

MARCH 16, 2027

A young woman joins an elite college sorority only to be ushered into a world of manipulation, betrayal, and deadly secrets in a twisty psychological thriller so razor sharp it draws blood.

Slipping through the cracks of the foster system, Allison Johnston never had a family—until Harper, her foster sister. Allison follows her to Virginia's most prestigious campus, where elite sorority Zeta Beta Kappa gives her everything she's never had: sisterhood, recognition, and belonging.

The university is three stories of immaculate ivy-draped perfection, where legacy reigns and the rules are sacrosanct. Allison is game. Until one of her sisters becomes the center of a house scandal and disappears.

As the edges of the pristine facade begin to fray, and she crosses dangerous romantic boundaries with the golden boy of Greek Row, Allison realizes the life she's always wanted might be one to fear. Soon she uncovers a web of lies and twisted loyalties, where the most vicious monsters wear pearls and dazzling smiles, forcing her to stay silent to protect this intoxicating new world...or expose the truth and risk becoming its next buried secret.

About the Author

Viviana Vasiu was born and raised in Transylvania, Romania, where she was a professional ballerina. She moved to the United States at the age of eighteen and spent the next decade working as a Supreme Court Fellow, a prosecutor for the Department of Justice, and a private firm litigator in New York City, Miami, and Washington, DC. Viviana was also accepted into the Yale Writers' Workshop and the Château d'Orquevaux Artists & Writers Residency, one of the most competitive residency programs in the world.

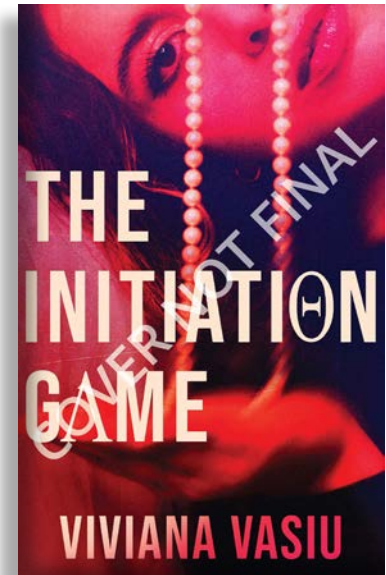
A proud Kappa Alpha Theta sister, Viviana loves devouring twisty thrillers poolside, bingeing shows, and running. For more information, visit www.vivianavasiu.com.

Key Selling Points

HOT TROPES: A razor-sharp psychological thriller soaked in champagne, blackmail, and blood, *The Initiation Game* exposes the rotting core beneath Greek Life's glittering façade—where loyalty is weaponized, silence is currency, and the most dangerous monsters wear pearl necklaces. Perfect for fans of *The Secret History* and *Pretty Little Liars*, this is a compulsive, twisty campus thriller about class, power, and how far a girl with nothing to lose will go to burn it all down.

DEBUT NOVEL: This debut was won in auction and already has film/TV agents sniffing around for more of the deceitful details.

LOOSELY BASED ON AUTHORS LIFE: The author—now a practicing lawyer—went to college and joined a sorority in an effort to find a place where she belonged. What she found was something else.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Suspense
ISBN-13	9781662547072

Tropes

Greek life, college drama, romance, betrayal

Rights Available

All Languages

The Judge

Max Ringo Series Book 2

ROBERT BAILEY

MARCH 16, 2027

From the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *Rich Justice* and *The Boomerang* comes a courtroom thriller where a lawyer must defend the woman who almost destroyed her life—or lose it all.

Attorney Max Ringo fought her way back from drug addiction to reclaim her career—and the son she nearly lost. Now the past returns with an impossible demand.

Max's former best friend, Judge Caroline Parker, has been arrested for murdering her secret lover, a decorated general deep in Alabama's defense contracting world. Years ago, Caroline orchestrated the kidnapping of Max's son, Nathan. Her betrayal deepens when she blackmails Max into defending her, dangling secrets that would bring them both down.

As the trial unfolds, Max discovers that the murder is only one piece of a conspiracy stretching from Huntsville to the highest levels of government. Every witness has an agenda, every ally a price. And every step toward the truth puts Nathan in greater danger.

With the courtroom closing in and corruption boiling beneath each revelation, Max must decide how far she'll go for the woman she despises. Because acquitting Caroline may be the only way to save her son.

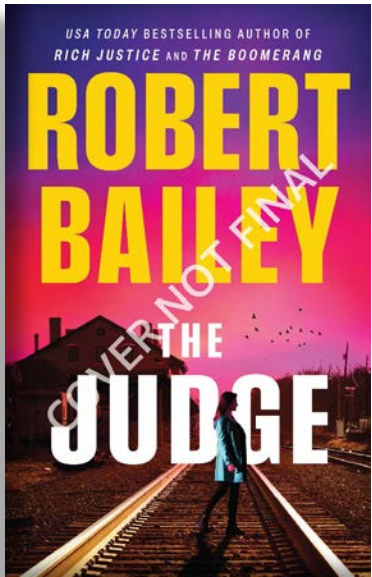
About the Author

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

Key Selling Points

Bestselling Author: Robert Bailey is a *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author with a proven track record across multiple legal thriller series. His Jason Rich series (*Rich Justice*, *Rich Waters*, *Rich Blood*) and the Bocephus Haynes series (*The Wrong Side*, *Legacy of Lies*) have established him as one of the premier voices in Southern legal thrillers. His readership is loyal, growing, and hungry for each new release.

Government Conspiracy Escalates the Stakes: The murder of a decorated general deep in Alabama's defense contracting world opens the door to a conspiracy stretching from Huntsville to the highest levels of government. This geopolitical layer transforms a courtroom drama into a full-throttle thriller with national security implications—broadening appeal to fans of David Baldacci, Brad Thor, and Vince Flynn.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Legal Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662533853

Social Media

1.2k followers on IG; 3.1k followers on FB; 1.4k followers on X

Tropes

#CourtroomThriller / #GovernmentConspiracy / #ChildInPeril / #MilitarySecrets / #CorruptPower

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Mediator; The Boomerang; Jason Rich series

The Invisible Enemy

ALMA KATSU

MARCH 23, 2027

From the bestselling author of *Red Widow* and *Black Vault*, a gripping thriller about a decorated spy's fight for the truth and his own sanity in a race against time and his own deteriorating mind.

Vertigo, headaches, nausea . . . all debilitating, all stemming from a sudden and unexplained attack in a foreign hotel room following a meeting with a Russian asset. CIA operations officer Jack Dunn has seen everything in his line of work, but he's never experienced something like this before.

Two years later, he's retired, divorced, and still struggling with the effects of what happened in that room. When he hears of a similar attack on a White House staffer, Jack knows it's more than an isolated incident. And this time, he's not letting it go.

CIA leadership has warned him to stand down. His ex-wife and fellow officer won't be easy to convince. But Jack's decorated career as a federal agent has earned him loyal contacts, even if the agency itself is a bust.

He gave his life to his country. To a government that left him out to dry. But Jack Dunn isn't finished fighting for it—or himself—just yet.

About the Author

Alma Katsu is the *New York Times* bestselling author of books including *Incarnate*, *The Fervor*, *Red Widow*, *Red London*, *The Deep*, and *The Hunger*. She has been nominated for or won awards including the Stoker, Goodreads Choice, International Thriller Writers, Locus, Western Heritage, and Spain's Celsius 232 Festival prize. Her books have also appeared on best-books lists from NPR, *The Observer*, Barnes and Noble, Apple Books, Goodreads, and Amazon.

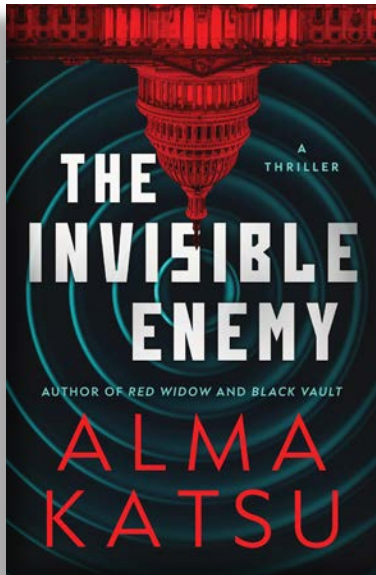
Combining her love of storytelling with three decades as a senior intelligence analyst, Katsu crafts mind-bending tales grounded in reality. From spy novels to historical fiction to horror and the supernatural, her writing continues to carve its place among the new classics. Katsu is a graduate of the master's writing program at Johns Hopkins University. Along with her authorial career, she has also been a contributor to the *Washington Post* Book World.

She lives in the D.C. area with her musician husband and their two dogs.

Key Selling Points

AUTHOR CREDIBILITY: Katsu, an acclaimed author of espionage (*Red Widow*) and Horror (*The Hunger*, *The Deep*, *Fiend*), is a former longtime intelligence analyst for the US government who has had her own experience with Havana Syndrome. She brings a deep knowledge of spycraft and the workings of the US intelligence community to this fast-paced thriller.

RIPPED FROM THE HEADLINES: Havana Syndrome, which remains unexplained, continues to pop up in the news as officials continue to investigate its potential causes and whether foreign adversaries are behind the mysterious ailment.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Espionage/Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662543135 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

7.2k followers on IG; 5.6k followers on FB; 3k+ subscribers on Substack

Tropes

#LoneWolfVsTheSystem / #GovernmentCoverUp / #UnreliableNarrator

Rights Available

All Languages

The Invisible Architect

Edison Bixby Series Book 2

LEE GOLDBERG

MARCH 30, 2027

Imperfect design creates perfect murder in an outrageously funny and fiendishly clever mystery by #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Lee Goldberg.

My name is Wally Nash. I'm an actor, but my day job is working for Edison Bixby, the brilliant, obscenely wealthy insurance investigator who got shot in the head and now can't stop himself from saying whatever crosses his mind.

That's where I come in. I apologize for him, while he figures out how the man-made world makes crime possible.

There's a killer out there exploiting bad design to commit murders that look exactly like accidents...because they are. A jogger trips and drowns. A car goes where it shouldn't. A person sits in the right place at the wrong time. The design does the killing, leaving the murderer invisible.

Except Bixby can see him. And here's the creepy part: the killer wants him to. So what's the game? How many people have to die before it's over?

And will one of them be me?

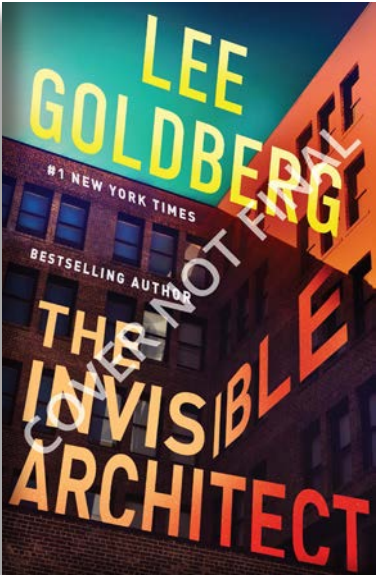
About the Author

Lee Goldberg is a two-time Edgar Award and two-time Shamus Award finalist and the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of more than sixty novels, including the Eve Ronin series, the Ian Ludlow series, the Sharpe & Walker series, and five books (and two novellas) in the Fox and O'Hare series, which Lee coauthored with Janet Evanovich. He has also written and/or produced many TV shows, including *Diagnosis Murder*, *SeaQuest*, and *Monk*, and is the cocreator of the Hallmark movie series *Mystery 101*. As an international television consultant, he has advised networks and studios in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, China, Sweden, and the Netherlands on the creation, writing, and production of episodic series. For more information, visit www.leegoldberg.com.

Key Selling Points

Renowned Author: Lee Goldberg is the award winning author of the Eve Ronin series as well many TV shows, including *Monk* and *Diagnosis Murder*. He has moved 2.5M copies across his APub catalog.

Action, Adventure, and Humor: Lee is one of the few authors on our list who successfully pulls off humor, with a sharp wit that perfectly complements his intricate (and often surprising) plots.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
ISBN-13	9781662546266 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

2.4k followers on IG; 6.6k followers on FB

Tropes

#PerfectMurder / #AccidentalDeaths /
#CatAndMouse / #CozyMeetsNoir

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Murder by Design; the Eve Ronin Series

The Marked Husband

Detective Kat Ballantyne Series Book 8

ANDY MASLEN

MARCH 30, 2027

A populist politician lies dead, a playing card stuck to his bloodied face. Was this about more than votes?

George Steele—populist, provocateur, mayoral candidate—is beaten to death on a quiet country lane as his wife looks on in horror. DS Kat Ballantyne knows this killing was personal. George was divisive, but who hated him enough to kill?

As Kat peels back the dead man's carefully constructed public image, she uncovers a growing list of people with reason to want George Steele dead. The murder trail leads from the corridors of power to the darkest corners of the city's past—and the deeper Kat digs, the darker it gets. Everyone connected to George, it seems, has something to hide.

And the Steele case isn't the only secret threatening to destroy everything Kat has built. Her covert investigation into a case in her own past is leading somewhere she never expected. And the truth, when it comes, may be worse than she can bear.

About the Author

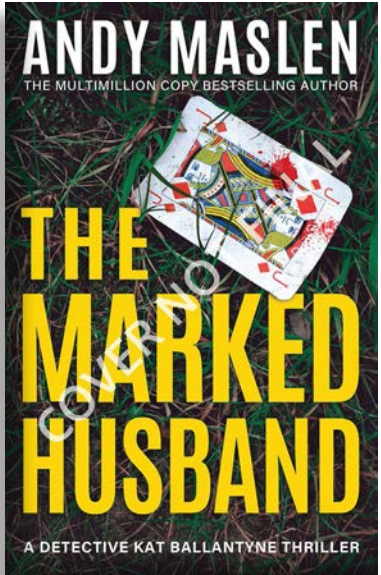
Andy Maslen was born in Nottingham, England. After leaving university with a degree in psychology, he worked in business for thirty years as a copywriter, while also continuing to write poetry, short stories and novels. In his spare time, he plays blues guitar. He lives in Wiltshire.

Key Selling Points

ESTABLISHED SERIES: Book 8 in a proven, popular police procedural series—readers are invested in Kat Ballantyne and her ongoing arc with her corrupt boss.

TOPICAL THEMES: Football hooliganism, political corruption and military fraud provide a ripped-from-the-headlines feel.

STRONG COMP SPACE: Sits alongside the UK's biggest crime series authors—Ann Cleeves, Elly Griffiths, LJ Ross—in the police procedural heartland.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
ISBN-13	9781662539626

Social Media

8k follower on FB; small following on IG

Tropes

#PoliceProcedural, #SeriesDetective, #CorruptionAndCoverUp, #BritishCrime, #StrongFemaleDetective, #ColdCase

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

the Detective Kat Ballantyne series

The Analyst

Bethany Briggs Series Book 1

CINDY FAZZI

APRIL 6, 2027

A rising FBI analyst's investigation into a quadruple murder, a diplomat's assassination, and a fugitive's death leads her on a dangerous quest through her own family's history, exposing lethal secrets.

At twenty-three, Bethany Briggs is one of the youngest analysts serving in the FBI's San Francisco field office. Smart and diligent, she gets a big break when the violent crimes squad enlists her help in a case that brings her own cultural ties unexpectedly to the forefront.

Four Filipino men—three of them members of the communist militia—are found murdered in the rainforest. Soon after, a diplomat is assassinated and the body of the prime suspect in the quadruple murder washes up on a beach. There's a darker pattern beneath these killings. FBI investigations don't often turn personal. But as each murder connects to the next, the compelling trail of forensic evidence, including surveillance footage, leads Bethany straight to someone she loves.

Caught up in a dangerous web of secrets and political intrigue, Bethany must now decide where her duty lies. And between her duty and her heritage stands an impossible choice—family loyalty colliding with a name that just became Bethany's top person of interest.

About the Author

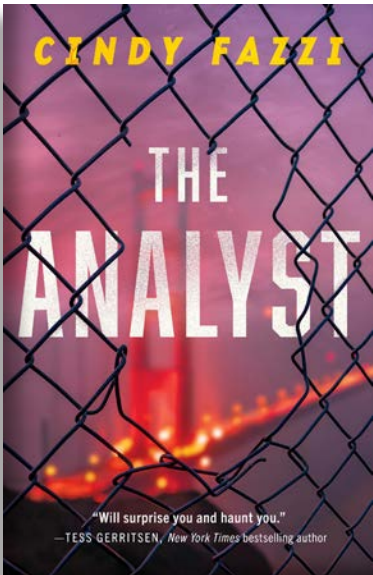
Cindy Fazzi is a Filipino American writer and former Associated Press reporter who has worked as a journalist in the Philippines, Taiwan, and the United States. The first book in Fazzi's Domingo the Bounty Hunter series, *Danger No Problem* (formerly titled *Multo*), was a finalist in the Best Literary category of the 2024 Silver Falchion Award. Her historical novel, *My MacArthur*, was published by Sand Hill Review Press in 2018, and her short stories have appeared in *TOUGH*, *Snake Nation Review*, *Copperfield Review Quarterly*, and *SNReview*. She has also written articles for the *Daily Beast*, *Electric Literature*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *Writer's Digest*. To learn more, visit the author's website at www.cindyfazzi.com.

Key Selling Points

TIMELY THEMES: IMMIGRATION, CORRUPTION, AND JUSTICE: *The Analyst* tackles contemporary issues including human trafficking, visa fraud, the exploitation of undocumented immigrants, and the long shadow of American imperialism in the Philippines.

AUTHOR WITH GROWING PLATFORM: Cindy Fazzi is an award-winning author whose Domingo the Bounty Hunter series was a 2024 Silver Falchion Award finalist. A former Associated Press reporter with journalism experience across three countries, Fazzi brings authenticity and sharp prose to her crime fiction.

MULTIPLE INTERTWINED MYSTERIES WITH HIGH STAKES: The novel delivers three compelling cases that converge in unexpected ways: a quadruple murder in Hawaii, the assassination of a Filipino diplomat, and the disappearance of a pedophile pastor. As Bethany races to solve these crimes, she must confront the horrifying possibility that her own mother is the killer. The tension escalates to a brutal climax that will leave readers breathless.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
ISBN-13	9781662541513

Tropes

FBI analyst, Filipino American, mother daughter relationship, police procedural, murder investigation, family secrets, Hawaii crime, betrayal and loyalty, surveillance technology, forensic evidence, female investigator, crime thriller

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Danger No Problem; Sunday or the Highway

Couple Last Seen

ARIANNE RICHMONDE

APRIL 6, 2027

Honeymooners on a road trip through the Badlands take a terrifying detour in a dark and twisted thriller by a *USA Today* bestselling author.

Cora and Jasper are newlyweds on a road-trip honeymoon, driving through Wyoming. But on their first night in an out-of-the-way motel, fear comes pounding at their door.

Daisy Mae, a beaten and trembling woman, begs for help to escape her husband, an untouchable ex-cop who is terrorizing her. Strangers like Cora and Jasper are Daisy Mae's only hope. Sneaking off before dawn, they head for the safe backcountry farm of Daisy Mae's grandma. The eccentric old woman is starved for company and seems more than accommodating. But night is falling. Here in the middle of nowhere, it can get pretty dark.

Two tires on Cora and Jasper's car have curiously gone flat. No cell phone reception. And there's something very wrong about Grandma's neighbor. Cora and Jasper are going to discover the lengths people will go to keep their secrets buried. And that Grandma's isolated farm in the Black Hills isn't safe at all. She doesn't call it Dead End Lane for nothing.

About the Author

Arianne Richmond is the *USA Today* bestselling author of the psychological thrillers *The Newlyweds*, *The Wife's House*, *The Pre-Nup*, *The Guilty Sister*, and *The Breakdown*, as well as the *USA Today* bestseller *Stolen Grace*. Her Pearl series has sold more than half a million copies worldwide.

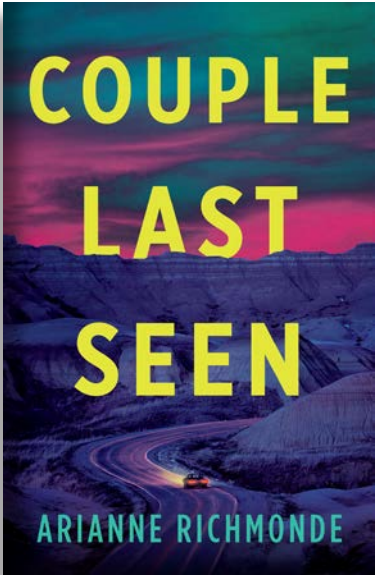
When not writing about the passions and fragilities of human nature, she loves to spend time with her animals, including a femme fatale husky with one blue eye and one golden eye. Arianne's a chocoholic and sometimes sneaks off to sunny, exotic locations, all in the name of research. For more information, visit www.ariannerichmonde.com.

Key Selling Points

Bestselling Author with Proven Track Record: Arianne Richmond is a *USA Today* bestselling author with an impressive catalogue of psychological thrillers. Her Pearl series alone has sold more than half a million copies worldwide—demonstrating massive international commercial viability.

Half a Million Copies Sold Worldwide: The Pearl series' 500,000+ copies sold is a powerful data point for international publishers. This is an author whose work already travels across markets and languages, reducing acquisition risk significantly.

Domestic Thriller Meets Rural Horror: The novel blends the psychological manipulation of domestic thrillers (*The Woman in the Window*, *Gone Girl*) with the isolated rural terror of *Misery* and *Get Out*. This genre fusion broadens the audience significantly.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662542022

Social Media

6.2k followers on FB; ~1k followers on IG

Tropes

#HoneymoonFromHell / #IsolatedSetting /
#GoodSamaritanTrap / #RuralHorror / #NoEscape
/ #WhoCanYouTrust

Rights Available

All Languages

Invisible Ink

LISA MANTERFIELD

APRIL 13, 2027

In this suspenseful meditation on how grief can warp our perception, a widow's search for answers begins with a comic book...and could end with a truth she's not ready to face.

It's been five years since Julia Flynn lost her husband, Richard, in a car accident. She's managed to rebuild her life—a new love, thriving as a museum ornithologist, moving past the grief and unanswered questions.

And then someone asks a new one.

Comic book superfan Kevin has noticed striking similarities between Richard's work and *The Seeker*, a new series that aligns with more than just Richard's style. Imagery of the cliff top where he died, in print and irrefutable, scratches the suspicious itch in Julia's brain that Richard could still be alive.

Following the clues inked across *The Seeker's* pages, Julia and Kevin embark on a road trip to find the truth. All the while, more fans mobilize online, making her wonder...How much do they know about Richard? About her? Is this comic book artist just a copycat, capitalizing on Richard's fame and mystique?

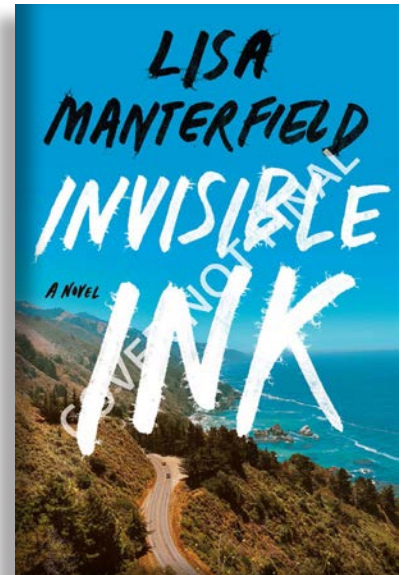
Or did Julia never really know the man she married at all?

About the Author

Lisa Manterfield is the award-winning author of *The Smallest Thing* and *A Strange Companion*. Her work has appeared in *The Saturday Evening Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Psychology Today*. Originally from northern England, she now lives in Southern California with her husband and over-indulged cat. Learn more at LisaManterfield.com.

Key Selling Points

ACCLAIM AND APPEAL: Lisa Manterfield is an acclaimed writer. With the comic book/graphic novel world ingrained in the story, without fantasy or science fiction elements, this feels like a wholly original set-up for a thriller. This will also appeal to readers of women's fiction and book club fiction with its exploration of grief and relationships.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662545498

Social Media

3.4k followers on FB

Tropes

graphic novels/comic books, presumed dead, bird nerds

Rights Available

All Languages

Death at Deepdene Hall

The Oxford Detective Society Series Book 2

FAITH MARTIN

APRIL 13, 2027

The Oxford Detective Society are back! A famous actor. A fatal fall. And a beautiful country house where everyone has something to hide...

When Oxford biographer Lyssa Moore is hired to write the memoirs of Dominic Dane, the beloved British actor, she expects fascinating stories and long afternoons in the library. But when Dominic's younger brother is found dead beneath Deepdene Hall's towering cedar treehouse, her instincts tell her this was no tragic accident.

Then Dominic himself narrowly survives a sabotaged coffee machine—and his ex-wife is found dead in her guest room. Someone at Deepdene Hall is playing a very dangerous game.

With the help of the Oxford Detective Society, Lyssa investigates a house full of suspects—a volatile girlfriend, a scheming grandson, a desperate young actor—and uncovers a web of old betrayals, broken marriages, and a sibling rivalry far darker than anyone imagined. But the closer she gets to the truth, the more certain she becomes that the killer hasn't finished yet...

From multimillion-copy bestseller Faith Martin comes an utterly unmissable murder mystery, perfect for fans of LJ Ross, Emylia Hall and Rachel McLean.

About the Author

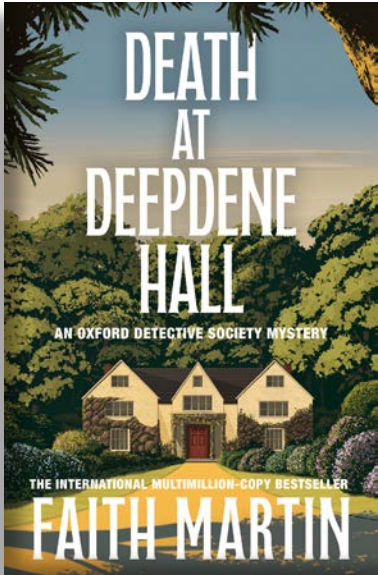
Faith Martin is one of the top ten most-read authors of the last decade on Amazon Kindle. She is the bestselling crime writer of the DI Hillary Greene, Ryder & Loveday and Val & Arbie crime series. Faith has been writing for over thirty years and has sold more than four million books. She lives in Oxfordshire, enjoys calligraphy and is a countryside and nature enthusiast.

Key Selling Points

MULTIMILLION-COPY BESTSELLER: Faith Martin has sold over 4 million books and is one of the top ten most-read authors of the last decade on Amazon Kindle—a proven, bankable author.

COZY MYSTERY BOOM: Country house murder + amateur sleuth + Cotswolds setting = the heart of the cozy mystery boom. Perfect for *The Thursday Murder Club* readers looking for more.

SERIES BUILD: Book 2 in a new series (following *The Oxford Detective Society*)—series readthrough drives reliable, compounding performance.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Cozy Mystery
ISBN-13	9781662538438

Social Media

2.1k followers on X

Tropes

#CozyMystery, #CountryHouseMurder, #AmateurSleuth, #CotswoldsSetting, #OxfordDetectives, #SeriesMystery

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Oxford Detective Society Series

He'll Never Tell

DIANA AWAD

APRIL 20, 2027

A TV journalist's investigation into a disappearance and an unsolved murder draws her into her lover's past in a gripping novel of psychological suspense by the author of *As Far As She Knew*.

Can a young woman's vanishing be linked to the stabbing death of her mother, Salma, twelve years ago? For ambitious Arab American TV journalist Rima Kassah, this story has it all. A mysterious disappearance, a cold-case murder, and family secrets. But the biggest secret is Rima's.

She's just discovered that her fiancé, Elias Kanaan, was Salma's brother—and once a prime suspect. Surely, he's not connected to the recent disappearance much less murder. Surely, Rima can trust the man she loves. But Rima has been betrayed before and she can't help but ask herself . . . what else is Elias hiding?

As Rima's investigation becomes a race against time and disturbing evidence against Elias mounts, she's faced with an impossible choice: expose the conflict of interest and step away from a career-making opportunity. Or keep silent and risk being complicit in a cover up. All that matters to Rima is uncovering the truth. And it could kill her.

About the Author

Diana Awad is an Arab American who grew up all over the world as the daughter of a United States Foreign Service Officer. After college, she became a local television journalist and often covered stories about violent crimes and mysterious disappearances. She eventually decided to write her own stories with unexpected endings. She is the author of *As Far As She Knew*, and also writes historical romance as Diana Quincy and historical mystery as D. M. Quincy.

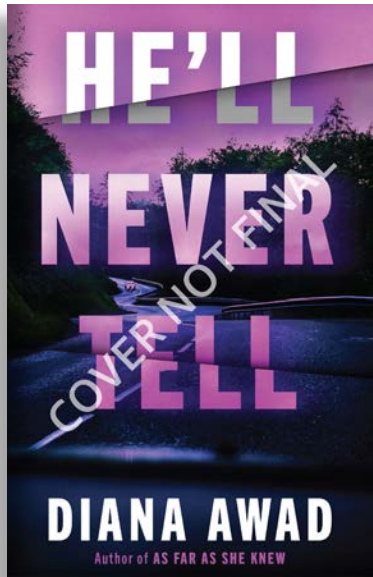
Diana is now happily settled in Virginia but still gets the itch to explore far-off places. When she's not bent over her laptop, Diana reads, devours streaming thriller series, and plots her next travel adventure. For more information, visit www.dianaawad.com.

Key Selling Points

BREAKOUT VOICE WITH REAL-LIFE CREDENTIALS: Diana Awad is a former local television journalist who covered violent crimes and disappearances—she's writing what she knows. Her debut *As Far As She Knew* (Mindy's Book Studio, April 2026) received a starred *Kirkus* review calling it “a brilliant balance of sustained genre tension and complicated human grief.”

TIMELY, AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATION: Features a Palestinian-American protagonist navigating professional ambition, cultural identity, and family loyalty—offering diverse voices in the thriller genre that readers are actively seeking.

IRRESISTIBLE TROPE PACKAGE: Secret relationship, forbidden love, journalist-as-investigator, cold case mystery, and a professional woman torn between ambition and love—a perfect blend of romantic suspense and psychological thriller.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Family Drama
ISBN-13	9781662543517

Tropes

Secret relationship, forbidden love, journalist-as-investigator, cold case mystery

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

As Far As She Knew

The Boiler Room

ROBERT DUGONI

APRIL 27, 2027

A boxer turned attorney must fight a conspiratorial web of corruption to defend a client accused of murder in a knockout legal thriller by *New York Times* bestselling author Robert Dugoni.

Working-class defense attorney Patsy Duggan was built to fight in the ring, at the chess table, and in the courtroom. In 1970s Seattle he earned his tuition, and a name for himself, in the city's underground fight clubs as the Irish Brawler. Now he fights in court for the underdog and for justice. But Patsy's newest case is a first for him. It's murder.

Jockey Finn Keane is accused of killing a stable hand at an elite Washington racetrack. Finn claims he's being framed to conceal a race-fixing conspiracy. Patsy's investigation takes him right back to where he trained and fought—the dirty underbelly of a city he knows too well. Payoffs, organized crime, and vice at the highest levels.

Then the case takes a tragic and very personal twist he hadn't bet on. Especially when it leads to Patsy's mentor, the powerful fight club founder who's greased the palms of every politician in Seattle. To extricate himself from a widespread web of corruption and deceit while bringing justice for two men, Patsy must use every skill he has in what will be the fight of his career. Because this case is going to turn an entire city inside out.

About the Author

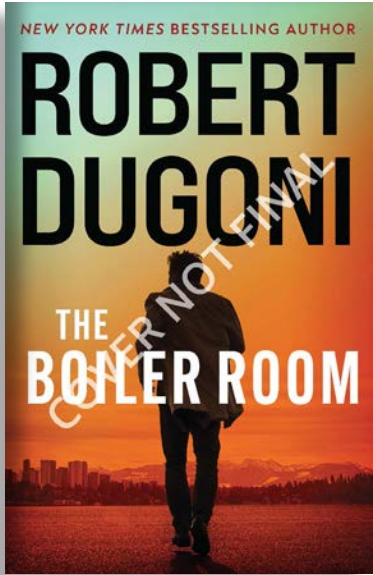
Robert Dugoni is the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author of several series, including Tracy Crosswhite, Charles Jenkins, David Sloane, and Keera Duggan. His stand-alone novels include *A Killing on the Hill*, *Hold Strong* (coauthored with Jeff Langholz and Chris Crabtree), *Damage Control*, *The 7th Canon*, and *The World Played Chess*. *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*, a *Newsweek* magazine staff pick for favorite books of all time, was *Suspense Magazine's* 2018 Book of the Year and won Dugoni an *AudioFile* Earphones Award for his narration. The *Washington Post* named his nonfiction exposé *The Cyanide Canary* a best book of the year. Dugoni is the recipient of the Nancy Pearl Book Award for fiction and a multitime winner for best novel set in the Pacific Northwest. He has been a finalist for many other awards. Dugoni's books are sold in more than twenty-five countries and have been translated into more than thirty languages, reaching over twelve million readers worldwide. He lives in Seattle. Visit his website at www.robertdugonibooks.com.

Key Selling Points

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Dugoni is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Tracy Crosswhite, David Sloane, Charles Jenkins and Keera Duggan series, as well as standalone bestsellers including *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*, *The World Played Chess*, and *Hold Strong*.

SERIES CROSSOVER: *The Boiler Room* features a young Patsy Duggan, father of Keera Duggan. Readers will be excited to learn the back story of this colorful character from the later series.

A UNIQUE LEGAL THRILLER: Dugoni has long been beloved for his legal thrillers, which expertly mix courtroom drama with page-turning investigative mysteries. This story, which transverse the worlds of organized crime, horse racing, and boxing, also features a strong female protagonist in Bernadette and explores the ties of family and friendship.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Suspense
ISBN-13	9781662524783 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

6k followers on IG; 41k followers on FB

Tropes

#FramedForMurder / #PoliceCorruption /
#PoliticalConspiracy

Rights Available

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

Other Titles by this Author

Keera Duggan series; Tracy Crosswhite series

The Silent Girls

Detective Sandy Gray Mysteries Book 1

MARION TODD

MAY 1, 2027

The flash of red is what Sandy sees first—Kate’s jacket, vivid against the snow beginning to settle on the hillside. She rushes forward, knowing something is wrong, her breath catching in the cold air. The woman’s eyes are open, fixed on the grey November sky. A handwritten note is pinned to her collar: Silent Girl. And the baby carrier beside her is empty.

Detective Sandy Gray’s new life in the Scottish Highlands was supposed to be a fresh start—a new role leading the Mountain Rescue team, a cottage inherited from the aunt she barely knew, and the chance to finally understand why her father walked away from these same hills all those years ago. Instead, her very first week in the tiny village of Blair Atholl brings a murder that will consume her.

Kate was one of their own—part of the mountain rescue team and a young mother. Her eighteen-month-old daughter, Isla, was with her on the walk—but there is no trace of the child. As Sandy and her team launch a desperate search across the frozen landscape, she knows they are working against time. Who could have wanted Kate dead, and why did they take her baby daughter?

When the body of a second woman is discovered in the freezing river, bearing the same chilling note, Sandy knows she’s hunting a killer with a list. The silent girls are being targeted one by one—but why? With Isla still missing, the Highland weather closing in, and her own family’s painful history surfacing at every turn, Sandy must push her officers harder than ever to unravel a web of secrets and guilt before the killer strikes again. Can she find a missing baby and stop a murderer—or will she be next?

About the Author

A native of Dundee, Marion Todd studied music and worked for many years as a piano teacher and jobbing accompanist. A spell as a hotel lounge pianist provided rich fodder for her writing, and she began experimenting with a variety of genres. Early success saw her winning first prize in the *Family Circle* Magazine Short Story for Children national competition, and she followed this up by writing short stories and articles for her local newspaper.

Marion has also worked as a college lecturer, plantswoman and candle-maker, and is now a full-time writer. She is the author of the DI Clare Mackay series of crime fiction novels set in St Andrews. The first of these, *See Them Run*, was shortlisted for the Bloody Scotland Scottish Crime Debut Novel of the Year 2020. Marion lives in North East Fife, overlooking the magnificent River Tay. When she’s not writing she can be found tussling with her jungle-like garden and walking her daughter’s unruly but lovable dog.

Key Selling Points

SERIES LAUNCH: First in a new Scottish detective series—regional crime is one of the most reliable subgenres in UK crime fiction.

ATMOSPHERIC SETTING: Perthshire highlands + mountain rescue community provides a distinctive, brooding backdrop that sets it apart.

PROVEN AUTHOR: Marion Todd’s Detective Clare Mackay series has built a substantial readership – her fans will follow to this new series immediately.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Crime/Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662538445

Social Media

1.1k followers on FB; 2.6k followers on IG; 8.6k followers on X

Tropes

#ScottishCrime, #SeriesDetective, #ColdCase, #AtmosphericSetting, #PoliceProcedural, #SmallCommunitySecrets, #HighlandNoir

Rights Available

All Languages

Sand and Sorrow

Haven Thrillers Series Book 3

RACHEL HOWZELL HALL

MAY 18, 2027

Private investigator Alyson “Sonny” Rush has barely settled into her new life in Haven, California, when her best friend India Laster asks her to take on one final case before closing Poole Investigations. Marjorie Baldwin, a local doctor, is desperate to find her missing daughter, Hannah, who vanished just before her wedding to Jonah Mills on September 9th. Despite Sonny’s reluctance—she’s preparing to start a new position as chief of security at the luxury Lumière Spa and Resort—she agrees to help, setting in motion a twisted investigation that will expose the dark underbelly of this seemingly idyllic coastal town.

Hannah Baldwin, 23, was supposed to marry Jonah Mills in an elaborate scavenger hunt wedding that would lead guests through meaningful locations around Haven. But neither Hannah nor Jonah appeared at the community center that morning. While some friends received texts suggesting the couple eloped, Marjorie insists something is wrong. As Sonny begins investigating, she discovers that Hannah is a pathological liar with a history of fabricating stories—from fake cancer diagnoses to false accusations of assault. The wedding itself appears to be an elaborate fantasy, with clues planted around town leading to locations that hold no real significance to Hannah and Jonah’s relationship.

As Sonny follows the scavenger hunt clues—from a clock tower to coastal bluffs to an art gallery, someone is on her tail. And she soon realizes, this case may be her last...whether she likes it or not.

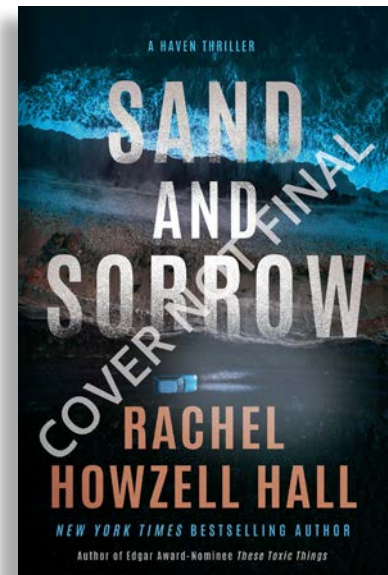
About the Author

Rachel Howzell Hall is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Fog and Fury*, *The Cruel Dawn*, *The Last One*, *What Never Happened*, *We Lie Here*, *These Toxic Things*, *And Now She’s Gone*, *They All Fall Down*, and, with James Patterson, *The Good Sister*, which was included in Patterson’s collection *The Family Lawyer*. A two-time *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize finalist as well as an Anthony, International Thriller Writers, and Lefty Award nominee, Rachel is also the author of *Land of Shadows*, *Skies of Ash*, *Trail of Echoes*, and *City of Saviors* in the Detective Elouise Norton series. A past member of the board of directors for Mystery Writers of America, she has been a featured writer on NPR’s acclaimed *Crime in the City* series and the National Endowment for the Arts weekly podcast. Rachel lives in Los Angeles with her husband and daughter. For more information, visit www.rachelhowzell.com.

Key Selling Points

Renowned Author: Rachel Howzell Hall is a *New York Times* best seller, GMA pick (for her YA novel), nominee for the Los Angeles Book Prize, nominee for the Thriller award and recipient of many starred reviews. With a long history with booksellers, we continue to make her books available in hardcover.

Cozy Turned Crazy: Rachel’s plots will appeal to the softer mystery reader, but ultimately underscore the complications of much bigger themes including race and class.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
ISBN-13	9781662539015 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

7.6k followers on IG

Tropes

#MissingBride / #SmallTownSecrets /
#UnreliableVictim / #WeddingGoneWrong

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Fog and Fury; Mist and Malice

Thin Dead Line

ALEX SEGURA

MAY 4, 2027

The mysterious disappearance of a notorious female Mob boss plunges a journalist and a rising political star into Miami's criminal underworld in a twisting thriller by the author of *Secret Identity*.

Whatever happened to Elena Machado?

Forty years ago, at the height of a violent Miami drug war, the cold-blooded heiress of a notorious crime family did the unthinkable: She disappeared. Solving that mystery could redeem disgraced journalist Mari de Varona. Just as her investigation begins, another high-profile opportunity arises: cover the vibrant campaign of progressive Cuban American Senate-hopeful Carlos Vidal.

Trusting Mari with his career, Carlos is all in. Mari sees his national appeal. He's charismatic, honest, and can relate to the plight of the working class. But the closer Mari gets to Carlos, the more she can't shake the feeling that this man of the people is hiding something. When tragedy strikes, it's time for a vengeful woman from Miami's legendary criminal past to come out of the shadows.

As Mari comes face-to-face with Elena Machado's bad side, she's about to discover the true cost of ambition. Because getting the story of her life could end it.

About the Author

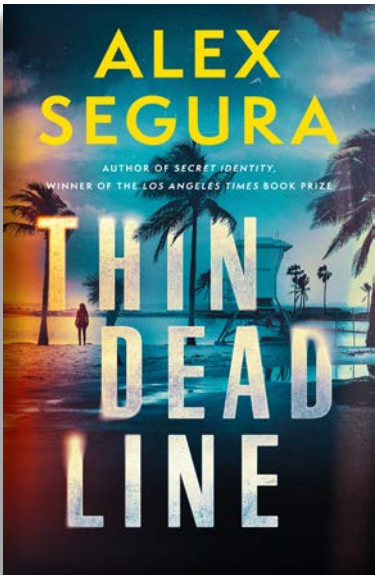
Alex Segura is the bestselling and award-winning author of *Secret Identity*, which the *New York Times* called "wittily original" and named an Editor's Choice. NPR described the novel as "masterful" and The *L.A. Times* called it "a magnetic read." Alex is also the co-creator of the Lethal Lit podcast, named one of the best fiction podcasts of 2018 by the *New York Times*. A Miami native, he lives in New York with his wife and children.

Key Selling Points

AWARD-WINNING, HIGH PROFILE AUTHOR: Alex Segura's works have received starred reviews; been listed as Best Mysteries of the Year by NPR, *Kirkus*, *Booklist*, and *Gizmodo*; and won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize. He is also the cocreator of the Lethal Lit podcast, named one of the best fiction podcasts of 2018 by the *New York Times*.

A MODERN RETELLING: Alex Segura was deeply inspired by the representation of men in Mario Puzzo's *The Godfather*, pushing the boundaries to question if the real power has always been with the women in charge. This exploration of power dynamics is at once about toxic masculinity and what it means to grow up where no one believes you have the power.

SPOTLIGHT MEETS THE IDES OF MARCH: Protagonist Mari de Varona proves that journalists are modern day PIs, chasing down leads while the clock ticks down and with real-world (and often deadly) consequences on their tails. A shocking prescient tale about the importance of journalism in revealing truths.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662540097

Social Media

8.7k followers on IG; 5.6k followers on FB

Tropes

Journalist protagonist, high-octane, chases, political intrigue

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Pete Fernandez series

Newly Republished titles also coming from Alex Segura

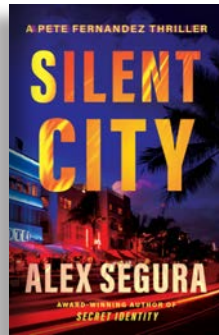
Silent City

Pete Fernandez Series Book 1

JANUARY 26, 2027

ISBN-13 | 9781662540004

Miami sports editor Pete Fernandez's life is falling apart. He's reeling from his father's death, still in love with an unfaithful ex, and drowning himself in booze and regret. Then comes the curious request from the father of missing crime reporter Kathy Bentley: Find his daughter. Playing detective and out of his element, Pete is dragged into something more sinister than he agreed to.



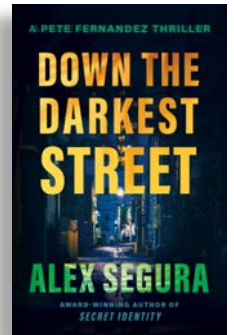
Down the Darkest Street

Pete Fernandez Series Book 2

JANUARY 26, 2027

ISBN-13 | 9781662540028

Former private investigator Pete Fernandez struggles with staying sober after alcoholism cost him his career, his best friend, and his relationship with his fiancée, Emily. Then fellow journalist Kathy Bentley brings him news of a brutal murder, and Pete finds it even harder to shake himself free of the traumas of the past.



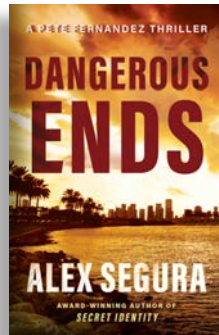
Dangeous Ends

Pete Fernandez Series Book 3

FEBRUARY 16, 2027

ISBN-13 | 9781662540042

Miami detective Pete Fernandez has settled into a comfortable routine of chasing deadbeat dads and cheating spouses when his partner Kathy Bentley shakes it up with a new client. A decade ago, narcotics officer Gaspar Varela was convicted of his wife's brutal murder. His daughter Maya is still convinced he's innocent. Pete and Kathy's job? Prove it.



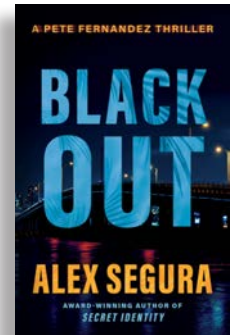
Blackout

Pete Fernandez Series Book 4

FEBRUARY 16, 2027

ISBN-13 | 9781662540066

Forcing himself out of an emotional and professional downward spiral, private investigator and recovering alcoholic Pete Fernandez lays low in New York. Until a new investigation pulls him back to hometown Miami to confront a cold case that has haunted him for nearly two decades.



Miami Midnight

Pete Fernandez Series Book 5

FEBRUARY 23, 2027

ISBN-13 | 9781662540080

After two bullets nearly kill PI Pete Fernandez he withdraws from the game. He's the owner of a Miami bookstore. He's newly sober. And his relationship with his partner, Kathy, is at a turning point. Pete is rebuilding his life in peace. If not for one last case he can't refuse.



For the Thrill of It

K.M. COLLEY

MAY 25, 2027

When a bestselling crime novelist's biggest fan is found murdered just like a scene from his latest book, his wife faces a terrifying question: is she married to a killer, and if so, how long before he writes her into the final chapter?

Stella has the perfect life: a loving marriage to Theo, a bestselling crime novelist, and a career she put on hold to support his dreams. On her 41st birthday and Theo's fourth book launch their future has never looked brighter. Then one of Theo's most devoted fans is murdered. The crime scene strangely mirrors a chapter from his latest novel with chilling precision.

Believing that one of her husband's fame has taken a life of its own, Stella instinctively provides him an alibi. But as intimate messages between Theo and the victim surface, and a second woman connected to him goes missing, she can no longer run from her suspicion that the man she's loved for over a decade may be a killer.

Following Theo to an isolated writers' retreat in the Catskills, Stella discovers something far more sinister than infidelity—a group of authors who don't just write about murder, they commit it for inspiration. Trapped in the mountains with nowhere to run, Stella must make an impossible choice: become the next victim in her husband's story or orchestrate the ultimate plot twist.

About the Author

K.M. Colley writes thrillers, contemporary mysteries, and cinematic stories that explore legacy and ambition. Her work often centers around powerful families, glamorous settings, and complex characters. Born in Mobile, Alabama, she's currently based in Tampa and Philadelphia. When not writing or reading, K.M. enjoys traveling, learning new languages, and building a creative legacy. She's also passionate about raising her autistic daughter, who dreams of creating her own comic book one day.

Key Selling Points

TOXIC MARRIAGE MEETS TRUE CRIME OBSESSION: Perfect for fans of Tarryn Fisher's *The Wives* and Greer Hendricks & Sarah Pekkanen's *The Wife Between Us*, readers will be captivated by Stella's journey to uncover the secrets in her marriage and the link between her husbands best-selling books and the crimes too close to home.

AUTHOR WITH A PLATFORM: K.M. Colley (Keturah Marie) is a writer and rising actress known for her roles in *The Other Black Girl*, *Queen Sugar*, *Atlanta*, and *New Amsterdam*. With over 35K followers on TikTok and 20.1K followers on Instagram, she has cultivated an engaged community eager to support her writing journey.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Domestic Suspense
ISBN-13	9781662547560

Social Media

35k followers on TT; 20.1k followers on IG

Tropes

Who did I marry?

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

The Roaring Ridleys

Mother Knows Best

D. S. BUTLER

JUNE 1, 2027

My son says his girlfriend hurt him. Her mother insists she's innocent. Who do you believe?

"She didn't mean it, Mum," my son says when I notice the bruise on his temple. "She said she was sorry."

As a single mother, I've fought hard to protect my gentle son from a world that wants him to be tougher and more masculine. His father constantly pushes him to "man up," but Nicholas has always preferred books and video games to rugby.

When he got his first girlfriend, Andrea, I was so happy. I thought she might draw my quiet, shy son out of his shell.

Andrea's violence isn't the only problem.

Her overbearing mother, Julianne, has been trying to drive a wedge between me and my son. Every time I speak to her, it feels like she wants to replace me. She constantly texts, inviting Nicholas over, allowing him to stay the night . . . this isn't just about supporting young love. She has her own agenda.

When I discover the truth about what's really happening, it's already too late.

An utterly gripping psychological thriller about the lies we tell ourselves to protect the people we love. Fans of Freida McFadden, K. L. Slater and Lisa Jewell will be utterly hooked.

About the Author

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

Key Selling Points

2 MILLION COPIES SOLD: D. S. Butler is A Pub UK's #5 Top Author with 1.6M+ sales in English alone. Her Detective Karen Hart series delivers exceptional readthrough and consistent chart performance.

FRESH STANDALONE ANGLE: A psychological thriller exploring male domestic abuse from one of our top crime authors—a timely, high-concept hook that taps into underexplored territory.

IRRESISTIBLE PREMISE: 'My son says his girlfriend hurt him. Her mother insists she's innocent. Who do you believe?' – a killer tagline that sells itself.

PROVEN COMP SPACE: Comps include our own Mark Edwards, John Marrs, Sue Watson plus non-A Pub stars Freida McFadden, Claire Douglas and K. L. Slater.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662538896

Social Media

3.1k followers on FB; ~1k followers on IG

Tropes

#PsychologicalThriller, #DomesticAbuse, #MaternalInstinct, #UnreliableNarrator, #TwistedEnding, #DomesticSuspense, #WhoDoYouBelieve, #ToxicRelationships

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Detective Karen Hart series

The Better Liar

GEORGINA CROSS

JUNE 15, 2027

The Better Liar is a psychological thriller that interweaves two narratives of false imprisonment and revenge.

Junior reporter Marissa Chen secures an exclusive interview with bestselling memoirist Caroline Rivers, who wrote about surviving thirteen days of captivity and torture. Marissa relates personally, having survived a similar ordeal twelve years earlier in Louisiana.

As Marissa investigates Caroline's story, she notices troubling inconsistencies—mismatched details that don't align with police reports or Caroline's own book. Meanwhile, those in Caroline's inner circle grow increasingly hostile toward Marissa's probing questions.

A parallel narrative gradually reveals Marissa's own buried past and her connection to her estranged sister Jessica. Both timelines build toward shocking revelations about the nature of victimhood, the stories we tell to survive, and how far someone will go to protect the people they love.

About the Author

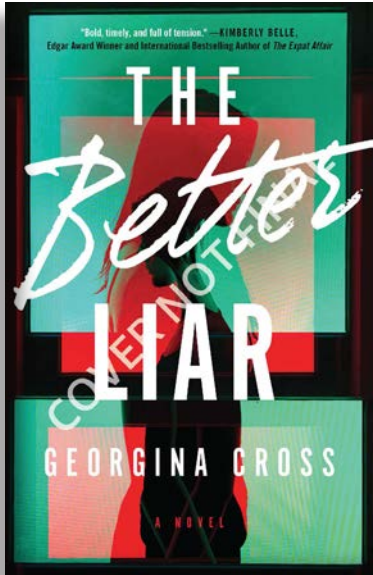
Georgina Cross is the author of *One Night* and *Nanny Needed* with Bantam, Penguin Random House, and *The Stepdaughter*, *The Missing Woman*, and *The Niece* with Bookouture, Hachette Publishing. All works are psychological suspense/thriller. Georgina has been writing since she was a child. Notebooks & printed pages filled with stories: adventures growing up in New Orleans and tales from Malaysia & England where her family lives.

After graduating from Louisiana State University, she enjoyed a career in marketing & communications and founded Susie's Wish non-profit which sends patients with life threatening illnesses to the beach. She spends time with her husband and their combined family of four sons watching scary movies and basketball tournaments and is thrilled to be a full-time author.

Key Selling Points

ACCLAIM/TRACK: Georgina Cross is a frequent Kindle bestseller and Killer Nashville Silver Falchion Finalist for Best Suspense, two of her books have been optioned by Netflix, and her works have been translated into 7 languages.

BINGE-WORTHY SCANDAL (FICTIONAL): In the vein of the scandal of James Frey and his book *A Million Little Pieces*, or more recently the author Raynor Winn and her memoir *The Salt Path* combined with the binge worthy documentaries that uncover whether stories are truths or scams, such as *Perfect Wife: The Mysterious Disappearance of Sherri Papini*, or *American Nightmare* about the 2015 kidnapping of a young couple who were falsely accused of faking the incident.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662546235

Social Media

3.1k followers on IG; 1.4k followers on FB

Tropes

book within a book, media frenzy, dual timeline

Rights Available

All Languages

Girls of the Woods

CARISSA ANN LYNCH

JUNE 22, 2027

River is a crisis investigator—not the kind who investigates crime scenes, but the kind who arrives after the devastation, helping communities make sense of the unthinkable.

When three teenage girls at Decatur School for Girls (DSG), a boarding school for troubled youth nestled in the Appalachian mountains, die in rapid succession, River is called in to conduct a psychological autopsy, assess ongoing risk, and support the grieving community. The deaths appear to be suicides. What should be a textbook community response quickly becomes something more complicated.

The girls of DSG are posting viral videos claiming that “mimics”—creatures from Appalachian folklore said to imitate human voices and lure victims to their deaths—are responsible. The story explodes online, romanticizing the deaths and stoking fear among the surviving students. River grew up in this region and knows the lore well. She also knows the very real risk factors that make isolated, impoverished communities like this one breeding grounds for contagion suicide.

But as she digs deeper into the lives of the three damaged girls whose tragedies began long before they entered those woods, she finds herself confronting her own unresolved childhood trauma. River was once a girl like them: lonely, misunderstood, and at risk.

As the line between folklore and reality blurs, and as more girls report hearing voices from the trees, River must decide how far she is willing to go to protect a town that nearly destroyed her—and whether the monsters she fears most are mythological or entirely human.

About the Author

Carissa Ann Lynch is the *USA Today* and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *Whisper Island*, *She Lied She Died*, *My Sister is Missing*, *Without a Trace*, *Like Follow Kill*, *The One Night Stand*, the Flocksdale Files series, and more. She resides in Floyds Knobs, Indiana.

Key Selling Points

PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE: Lynch brings rare professional authenticity to the subject matter: she is herself a practicing suicide and crisis intervention counselor, lending the narrative an emotional and procedural credibility that sets it apart. Dark, atmospheric, and impossible to put down, this is Lynch at her most ambitious and most personal.

BESTSELLING AUTHOR: Carissa Ann Lynch is the *USA Today* and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of more than a dozen psychological thrillers, including *The Bachelorette Party*, *The Traitors*, *The Summer She Disappeared*, *My Sister Is Missing*, *Without a Trace*, *Like, Follow, Kill*, *The One Night Stand*, *She Lied She Died*, *Whisper Island*, *The Secrets of Cedar Farm*, and the forthcoming *Dead Girls Tell No Tales*.

PRAISE: High praise from *New York Times* bestselling authors Jeneva Rose and David Bell, along with praise from *Booklist*.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
ISBN-13	9781662546587

Social Media

2.6k followers on FB; 5.7k followers on X

Tropes

teen girls, school for troubled students, revenge

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Dead Girls Tell No Tales

Nonfiction

 **amazon publishing**

These Bones Can Speak:

A Border Fable of the Progressive Era

ADIN DOBKIN

JANUARY 26, 2027

A damning excavation of American history about the Tejano legislator who was poised to end the Texas Rangers' reign of terror on the Mexican-Texas border—and blinked.

In 1919, Democratic legislator José Tomás Canales was poised to hold the Texas Rangers accountable for their reign of terror against Mexicans, workers, and small Tejano landowners along the border. Despite amassing damning evidence against the force's leadership—two men who allowed the violence to flourish—Canales, in a dramatic twist of events, failed to call them to the stand and hold them accountable for their atrocities.

In this urgent and groundbreaking work of narrative history, Adin Dobkin unearths the roots of J.T. Canales's fateful decision, and how he—the scion of a New Spanish ranching family—was formed by the changing world that birthed him and the Rangers alike. Drawing on investigation transcripts, newly uncovered archival documents, and the material record of the border itself, Dobkin tells the story of a country in flux and a terrain both beloved and brutal: a battle ground a for land dispossession, labor struggles, radicalism, and reactionism that bred state-sanctioned violence that terrorized border communities.

At once a multigenerational epic of the Texas-Mexico borderlands and an exhumation of a reformer who could not overcome the limits of the system he believed in, *These Bones Can Speak* transforms the notion of the Rangers from rogue actors to a powerful political instrument, while exposing how a system built on racial capitalism forged—and continues to haunt—modern America.

About the Author

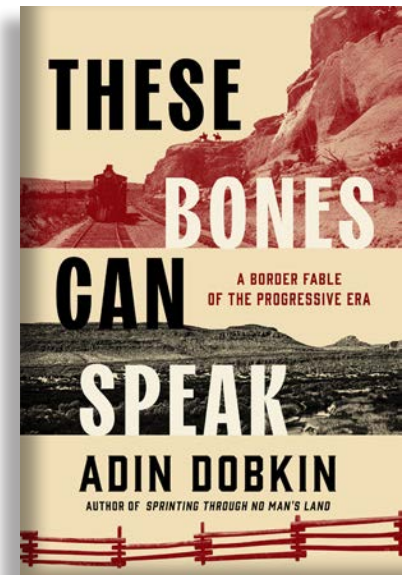
Adin Dobkin is the author of *Sprinting Through No Man's Land: Endurance, Tragedy, and Rebirth in the 1919 Tour de France*. Adin teaches at the City University of New York and lives in Brooklyn with his partner and their two cats. For more information, visit www.adindobkin.com.

Key Selling Points

Urgent, timely subject matter: A meticulously documented history of state-sanctioned violence against Mexican Americans by the Texas Rangers—a story that resonates powerfully with ongoing conversations about border politics, policing, and racial justice in America.

Formally ambitious narrative nonfiction: Dobkin breaks with conventional biography, directly addressing the reader about the choices and limitations of writing history, creating a self-aware, essayistic structure that elevates the genre.

Deep archival research with literary prose: Drawing on the Briscoe Center, Texas State Library, National Archives, Huntington Library, and more, Dobkin reconstructs a lost world with the lyric precision praised in his debut.



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Historical Nonfiction
ISBN-13	9781662509483 (also available in Hardcover)

Tropes

Hidden history / untold American story / Mexican American / Tejano history / NarrativeNonfiction / BorderStories

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

Sprinting Through No Man's Land

The Lady Motel

LAURIE NOTARO

JUNE 8, 2027

When Laurie and her friends—all in their sixties and financially strapped—contemplate their post-retirement future, their daydreams turn to prison, where at least their basic needs will be met. And what better way to land themselves there than to rob a small-town bank?

During a reconnaissance mission, Laurie accidentally hands over their stick-up note instead of a deposit slip. The inexperienced teller—a laid-off Fortune 500 VP on her first day—mistakenly opens the vault instead of triggering the alarm, and the women escape with \$250,000 in a Prius, facing no pursuit.

With their windfall, they purchase a run-down oceanfront motel in Oregon and transform it into “Lady Motel”—a haven for single, divorced, and widowed women seeking community and independence. Their paradise grows to include a mysterious handyman named Rainbow and a colorful cast of residents finding second acts by the sea.

But paradise doesn’t stay quiet for long. Media attention threatens their anonymity, a mysterious man starts asking questions about DNA, and they discover the property-hungry cult next door has been surveilling them with hidden cameras. Now the gang must mobilize their considerable professional skills—forensic science, investigative reporting, strategic communications, and pharmaceutical expertise—to protect their beloved community and the secret that built it.

Equal parts heartwarming and hilarious, this is a caper novel about women of a certain age who refuse to be invisible—proving it’s never too late to reinvent your life, even if it takes a felony to get there.

About the Author

Laurie Notaro is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the novels *Crossing the Horizon*, *Spooky Little Girl*, and *There’s a (Slight) Chance I Might Be Going to Hell*, as well as essay collections and numerous works of nonfiction. A finalist for the Thurber Prize, Laurie was born in Brooklyn, New York, and spent the remainder of her formative years in Phoenix, Arizona, where she created something of a checkered past. Laurie now resides in Eugene, Oregon, has a cute dog and a nice husband, and misses Mexican food like it was her youth. For more information, visit www.laurienotaro.com.

Key Selling Points

Proven #1 *New York Times* bestselling author pivoting to her sweet spot: This is a strategic content pivot that aligns Laurie’s trademark humor and voice-driven style with commercial women’s fiction—her previous novel was a tonal departure, but *The Lady Motel* plays directly to her strengths and devoted audience.

Irresistible high-concept premise with broad commercial appeal: Retirement-age women accidentally rob a bank, buy a motel, and build a utopian community—funny, heartwarming, and packed with escalating hijinks that will ignite book clubs, women’s fiction readers, and crime comedy fans.

Exceptional APub track record to build on: *Excuse Me While I Disappear* sold 47K units, earned a *Kirkus* starred review, and holds a 4.3 ACR rating across nearly 10k reviews—demonstrating a loyal, highly engaged readership ready for this next chapter. We also have *I’ve Got a New Complaint*, a new essay collection releasing this September to keep her audience engaged.



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Women’s Fiction
ISBN-13	9781662544095 (also available in Hardcover)

Social Media

4.6k followers on IG; 10k followers on FB; 3.1k followers on X; 2,2k followers on Goodreads

Tropes

Found family / chosen community/ Women starting over / Small-town secrets . Cult subplot

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

I’ve Got a New Complaint; Excuse Me While I Disappear

Children's Picture Books

Best Month Ever

FRANK TUPTA AND LINDSAY WARD

ILLUSTRATED BY LINDSAY WARD

JANUARY 5, 2027

From the creators of *Best Day Ever* comes a delightful story featuring the months of the year as you've never seen them before.

One crisp February morning, the months of the year wake up to find another snow day! February is so excited to get out in the snow to play. Except...some of the other months aren't impressed. They're tired of winter and all these snow days, and they want to go back to sleep.

Maybe it's not so cool to be February after all. So February makes a decision: He's going to be someone new. But he might be forgetting a few important details about the second month of the year...

Join February as he rediscovers his place in the calendar and shows his monthly pals (and a special critter) what this month is all about.

About the Authors

Frank Tupta and Lindsay Ward are the husband-and-wife team behind *Best Day Ever*. This is their eighth book together.

Frank is the author of *How to Build a Haunted House*, illustrated by Kyle Beckett, and *Christmas Under Construction*, illustrated by Josh Cleland. Frank's favorite month of the year is October. Fall, football, foliage, and pumpkins! He was also born on October 13.

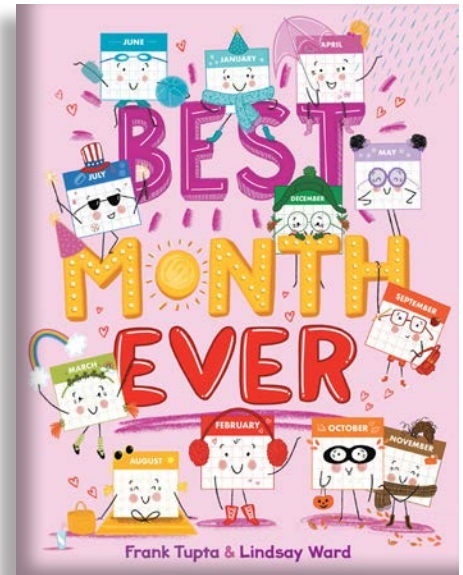
Lindsay is the author-illustrator of more than thirty children's books, including the *Color Friends* series, the *Dexter T. Rexter* series, the *Scooper and Dumper* series, *Rosie: Stronger than Steel*, and more. Lindsay's favorite month is July—it's sunny, filled with ice cream trips, and it always begins with fireworks! Lindsay and Frank live in Ohio with their children. Learn more about them at www.lindsaymward.com and www.uptasomething.com.

Key Selling Points

Anthropomorphized “months of the year” characters. • Strong SEL hook, with our main character learning that their uniqueness makes them special. • Relatable friendship theme.

Seasonal: Winter theme, as the book takes place on a snowy February day, in which their buddy Phil the groundhog plays a special role.

Back matter: Additional information about February and Groundhog's Day are included.



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Children's Picture Book
ISBN-13	9781662523106

Social Media

Lindsay - 1k followers on IG

Tropes

Months of the year, SEL themes, winter

Rights Available

All Languages

Other Titles by this Author

BEST DAY EVER, THIS BOOK IS GRAY, PINK IS NOT A COLOR (and many more!)

Turkey's Leprechaun Trap

Turkey Trouble Series Book 10

WENDI SILVANO

ILLUSTRATED BY LEE HARPER

FEBRUARY 9, 2027

Turkey and his barnyard friends will need the luck of the Irish to catch a leprechaun in this charming holiday addition to the bestselling Turkey Trouble series!

It's Saint Patrick's Day, and Turkey and his friends are ready to celebrate. There's just one thing putting a damper on the festivities: the barn roof is leaking, and it's going to be really expensive to fix it. So the animals decide to help Farmer Jake—by getting the leprechaun's pot of gold! But catching a leprechaun won't be so easy. In fact, Turkey may have just met his match!

With a few clever traps (and disguises), can Turkey and his barnyard pals outwit the wily leprechaun and save the day? Find out in this delightful St. Patrick's Day story.

About the Contributors

About the Author: Wendi Silvano was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, and has lived in Oregon, Colorado, and Peru. The author of the Turkey Trouble series, she has a BA in early childhood education and taught preschool and elementary school for eleven years. She is the mother of five children and the owner of an assortment of odd pets that are not nearly as clever as Turkey. She now writes from her home in Colorado, where she enjoys hiking, reading, and playing the piano. Visit her online at www.wendisilvano.com.

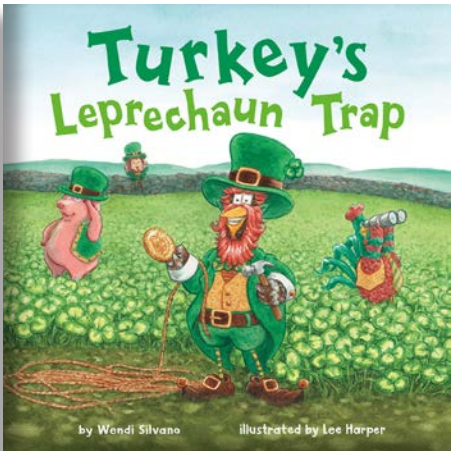
About the Illustrator: Lee Harper is the author-illustrator of the books *The Emperor's Cool Clothes* and *Snow! Snow! Snow!* Lee is also the illustrator of the Turkey Trouble series by Wendi Silvano, as well as the Woolbur series, written by Leslie Helakoski. A father of four, he lives on a small farm in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Krista, a Bernese mountain dog, a barn cat, three sheep, two pigs, fifteen chickens, a gulp of barn swallows, and a murder of crows . . . but still no turkeys! In addition to writing and illustrating picture books, Lee enjoys visiting schools. Visit Lee online at www.leeharperart.com and at Stella's Farm on YouTube.

Key Selling Points

This top-selling and beloved Two Lions series has reached more than 800k readers. This is book 10. Book 9 is publishing this Fall (*Turkey's Fall Fumble*).

Features the signature series humor, with Turkey donning multiple disguises through the book, tons of puns, and Turkey working together with his farmyard pals to solve problems.

Seasonal fun: Includes the popular leprechaun-trapping theme, as the animals seek the leprechaun's pot of gold to help the farmer pay for the leaking roof.



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Children's Picture Book
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Tropes

St. Patrick's Day, wordplay and puns

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