



FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2026

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Kensington currently publishes a wide range of commercial fiction in all categories and select non-fiction in all formats.
Erewhon publishes speculative fiction.

Our recent and future titles are listed below by genre and then alphabetically by author

Please note: “Previous Rights Sold” indicates that a previous title by the author was sold in that territory. “Rights Sold” indicates that the specific title listed was sold in that territory. This does not mean these books are no longer available in these territories as we do not offer contractual options.

For your convenience we have boxed our ‘highlight’ titles in each category.

If you have any specific inquiries regarding translation rights, please reach out to Susanna Grüninger
(sgruninger@kensingtonbooks.com).

If you have any specific inquiries regarding UK/ANZ rights, please reach out to Jackie Dinas
(jdinas@kensingtonbooks.com)

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Speculative Fiction, Romantasy, & Horror

FALLEN DEMON: Hell Bent (#6) by Aurora Ascher – February 2027

Never before published addition to *New York Times*-bestselling author Ascher's hilarious and hot blend of spicy demon romance and soft fantasy world building. This will be the final installment in the series, this time featuring a hot demon and a sultry succubus.

Fallen angel Belial escaped Hell for a new beginning – but there will be no freedom for him as Lucifer is plotting his demise. Determined to control his hellish rages and blend in on Earth, Belial would rather spend time cooking than battling his archenemy.

Naiamah swore to make Belial suffer since he coerced her long ago into a massive debt. As a succubus, she using their sizzling attraction against him, draining Belial's energy and strengthening herself in the process. But when Lucifer ambushes her, she must infiltrate Belial's life and steal a legendary weapon – dooming Belial in the process. Yet the longer they are together, the more Naiamah realizes how much Bel has changed and Bel, in turn, is increasingly compelled to know the woman behind the hardened mask.

- Each book can work as a standalone as they follow different characters within the same brotherhood. Each book includes sex scenes, profanity, and a happily ever after. Books 1-5 had previously been self-published and were rereleased with bonus scenes and additional materials and book 6 is completely new.
- Special edition with stenciled edges, interior art, and chapter headers. Books 1-3 were **instant *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestsellers. German, Spanish, Portuguese (Brazil), Turkish, Ukrainian rights sold**

BACKWORLDS by Jeremy Bates – March 2027

A hapless man plunges into a strange world within the subway tunnels beneath New York City, a subterranean limbo between reality and a nightmare where the only traces of humanity left.

School teacher Clive leads a thankless and unremarkable life. Until a day that begins like any other. Against all logic, he falls through the solid wall of a school storeroom and awakens hours later to a familiar world gone strange. On the streets of Manhattan, he's unseen and unheard by everyone, except a mysterious woman named Margot. With the unnerving whisper—I hope you're not afraid of the dark—she ushers Clive into a netherworld of labyrinthine tunnels beneath a city inhabited by a colony of others who have also inexplicably fallen through the cracks. A myriad of lost ones in a purgatory resigned to their godforsaken fates. Not ghosts. Not dead. Not alive.

But as Margot warns, whether it's here in The Tomb or venturing above ground, rules must be obeyed. Break them and there will be hell to pay. How can it be worse than this? In his need to understand what in the world is happening, Clive dares to find out. The only thing on his mind now is the dangerous desperation to escape.

- Bates is a *USA Today* and #1 Amazon bestselling horror author whose books have sold more than a million copies. He has been published in Arabic and Russian
- “Jeremy Bates’s *Backworlds* is a fast-paced, well-oiled scare machine.” —**Nick Cutter**, bestselling author of *The Troop* and *The Deep*

HARD TIMES by Wayne Brady and Maurice Broaddus – Erewhon - April 2027

From Emmy Award-winning, Grammy-nominated performer Wayne Brady and acclaimed Afrofuturist Maurice Broaddus **HARD TIMES** is a time-bending, near-future, sci-fi thriller about a father fighting to free his son trapped in a prison beyond time—and the brutal legacy it represents.

Naz, a former private investigator, never saw eye-to-eye with his estranged son, Jalen. And Jalen thinks Naz is nothing but a corporate cog, working as Head of Security at VesMet, a top-tier research and development firm. But after a mysterious email from Jalen arrives containing his case against VesMet, followed by a frantic call from Jalen's girlfriend that he's gone missing, Naz knows that he must find his son. But things aren't what they seem: Naz learns Jalen was part of a community protest against VesMet's proposed AI data center, and he disappeared while investigating the whereabouts of several local Black men.

Meanwhile, Jalen wakes up on "The Farm," not knowing how he got there. His life and those of the incarcerated are ruled by the heartless whip of warden and monitored by the red-eyed gaze of robotic guards - and Naz must fight to break out his son. But soon they both learn that The Farm's location lies beyond time itself. Somehow, father and son must find a way back to each other.

- We are publishing this as a deluxe edition and will feature stenciled edges, illustrated endpapers, and special jacket effects. This is the first in a duology with book 2 coming in 2028.
- *Hard Times is a can't-miss SF thriller and a brutal indictment of the American prison-for-profit pipeline, wrapped inside a story of family heartache, otherworldly portals, and fascinating twists!"—Christopher Golden, New York Times-bestselling author of Carry Me to My Grave and Road of Bones*

SANCTUARY OF BEASTS: Age of Beasts (#2) by Kalyn Josephson – Erewhon – May 2027

Coming-of-age romantic fantasy duology that is the adult debut from *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author Josephson with crossover appeal: former con artist Kasira expected to spend her life as a soldier, miserably working off her prison sentence by hunting down magical creatures for the fanatical kingdom of Kalthos. But when the Kalish ambassador arrives with an assignment, Kasira finds herself swept into the biggest con of her life: infiltrating the Library of Amorlin.

Former con artist Kasira has found her true home at the Library of Amorlin and fallen in love with Allaster, the prickly Librarian who guards it. But Allaster is losing his battle against the curse that will turn him into a dangerous beast. Every day a little more of his humanity slips away; soon, Kasira will have no choice but to take his life.

Too stubborn to give up hope, Kasira swears to find another solution, though she has few allies and fewer leads. Kasira is sure there's a connection between the Library's fading magic and the curse borne by every Librarian—a secret buried in the Library's past. But sifting through artifacts can't take precedence as their enemies prepare to strike again. With time running out, Kasira must discover the truth of the Library's origins, root out the treachery in their midst, and find a way to set the Library—and Allaster—free.

- For fans of light fantasy, stories focusing on the power of books, and slow-burn enemies to lovers romance. This is the second in a not spicy duology that began with *The Library of Amorlin*
- To be published as a deluxe limited edition hardcover with stenciled edges, a beautiful foil-stamped hardcover, exclusive interior design with full-color illustrated endpapers, and full color illustrated character art
- **Spanish, Polish, Ukrainian, and Arabic rights sold**

SANTA AND KRAMPUS'S COZY KILLER CHRISTMAS by Jason June – September 2027

"Elf" meets *Heated Rivalry* blended with "Beetlejuice" as a gay Hallmark Movie – in this hilarious, dark cozy fantasy romcom full of holiday cheer, carnage, and queer romance for readers of Sarah Raasch and Casey McQuiston. Ho ho ho!

In this memorable voice-driven romance, Santa and Krampus are dead. Centuries of feuding has lead them to murder each other, and now their heirs have to pick up the pieces. Atlas has taken his mentor Santa's place—and to his dismay, the jolly, red-suited legend is losing his status among humans. Sure, he's still famous, but actual belief? Everyone's just too cynical these days, and the North Pole will vanish into snow and ice unless Atlas can get humans to truly believe.

Krampus's sexy, leather-clad successor, Gregory, has a similar problem, only it involves slaying instead of sleighs. By taking out the naughty ones, Krampus has kept the balance between good and evil in cosmic alignment. But now, actual fear of him is waning, and the South Pole is disappearing. Gregory wants to enlist hot-as-cocoa Atlas's help, but the new Santa is too busy fretting over his legacy to see how good the two of them could be together.

Soon sparks fly brighter than Rudolph's nose, convincing Atlas it's time to team up to boost humanity's belief in the holidays. But before they know it, their tinsel-twined powers create consequences neither of them saw coming. To save Christmas, their budding romance, and the world, the two newbies will have to outsmart centuries-old magic, or it will be one unholy night.

- This will be published as a deluxe edition with stenciled edges and an advent calendar art insert
- June is a *New York Times*-bestselling author, screenwriter, and actor. This is his adult and Kensington debut

SHE'S A REAPER by Courtney Kae – August 2027

Supernatural sapphic fake romance-to-real romance following clairvoyant Teddy and cold-hearted grim reaper Bex: with her sunshiny charm and irresistible optimism, it's no wonder 30-year-old Teddy's earned the nickname "The One-Date Wonder" among her otherworldly social circle. She's built a thriving career helping ghosts find closure in love, even if her own romantic life is more spectral speed dating than happy ending. But when her ghost besties stage a supernatural intervention, Teddy is forced into a horrifying ultimatum: go on three dates with the next woman she meets or lose her connection to the spirit world for good.

Enter 232-year-old Bex. Tall, scythe-wielding, and technically dead, Bex has been the afterlife's Grim Reaper of the Month for over two centuries, until Human Resources catches wind of her . . . unenthusiastic customer service. Now, on forced leave, she must prove she still has a heart or be banished to eternal purgatory. And Bex's plan is to woo the fabled "One-Date-Wonder" human, fake a little romance, and get back to work sucking up souls.

With everything on the line, Teddy and Bex agree to team up. Three fake dates, zero real feelings, problems solved, no strings attached. But as they stumble through unexpected pitfalls, things unravel. Like, apocalyptic unravelling. Between undead exes, gossipy spirits, and one seriously inconvenient romantic spark, their arrangement spirals into something a lot more real . . . and very dangerous in this Buffy meets *Stars Hollow* romance.

- Though Kae has written for Kensington before, this is the first book we have rights to so it is widely available
- "A loving and tender romance that feels like the best sort of hug, *IN THE CASE OF HEARTBREAK* is everything I look for in a love story. This will be a story I come back to when I need a dose of comfort."—**B.K. Borison**, author of the *Lovelight* series

GODBURNED: The Weight and the Measure (#1) by Foz Meadows – Erewhon – February 2027

A godtouched arbiter of justice and his new recruit unravel a conspiracy that could bring down everything they stand for in the first of a clever and cutting queer epic fantasy series for fans of Martha Wells and Robert Jackson Bennett.

In the Jaosi Empire, the magic of the gods is a rare and prized gift, sought by the devout who wish for a higher calling. But sometimes the gods arrive uninvited. They did for Kas, twice, taking advantage of immense pain and fear to place their power in him while he could not resist. Kas has since tried to keep his magic private. But when three neighborhood boys go missing, and the city guards are uncaring, Kas is determined to track them down on his own. But the investigation goes devastatingly wrong, and Kas is left deathly ill from a third divine visitation before he is finally found and conscripted by the Measure—for the godtouched are required to serve. As part of his new role, Kas is partnered with peace-keeper Nema, a nobleman who represents everything Kas despises.

Nema, twice-touched himself, has served the Measure faithfully for over a decade. Attempting to win Kas's trust, Nema offers to help find the missing teenagers. But the case soon turns ugly, pointing to corruption in the highest circles of Jaosi society, and calling into question the Measure's commitment to justice.

- This will be published as a deluxe hardcover edition featuring stenciled edges, cover effects, and illustrated maps
- Meadows is a Hugo Award and Ditmar Award-winning author

DARK WAVES by Allison Mick – Erewhon – February 2027

Voice-driven eco horror from comedian and animation writer Mick: two sisters escape foster care and are confronted with the supernatural in the depths of America's Great Lakes.

The Great Lakes: Huron. Ontario. Michigan. Erie. Superior. Their waters teem with life. Humans have taken advantage of their natural resources for generations. Thousands of sailors have lost their lives to shipwrecks on the lakes. In the winter, the lakes are at their most angry, and their most powerful. Amidst this setting, teenage sisters Sylvie and Marie-Ève run away from their foster home and stow away on a Great Lakes bulk freighter, kicking off a supernatural odyssey. The girls grew up isolated from society, on a secluded island on the St. Lawrence River. But after being forcefully removed from their mother's care, Sylvie and Marie-Ève will do anything to get back home, including journeying 1,500 miles across the lakes. They face dangerous smugglers, foul-mouthed sailors, a matriarchal cult of witches—and the ever-present threat of the lakes.

THE LOST UNICORN by Sarah Maslin Nir – Erewhon – April 2027

Romantic fantasy for readers of Holly Black and Sephanie Garber: Thea is an orphan, growing up in world that is suffering under a sun that sizzles human skin and ruins crops. While the wealthy can afford some small semblance of life, the rest of the townspeople know only the struggle to survive with the knowledge that they will live short, meaningless lives. But when magical creatures inexplicably flock to Thea, sharing stories and truths hidden in riddles, they start her on a course to restore the land and right the wrong that she learns has poisoned their sun: the slaughter of the unicorns.

Along the way, Thea must rally a cast of allies: a kingly Firedrake, a Selkie gone rogue, a host of Fae creatures from Satyrs to woodsprites, and a rakish prince, whose roguish charm masks his role in the unicorns' fate. Traveling across deserts of life-sucking sand, through caves of living lava, and into unearthly whirlpools, Thea pieces together clues from her companions and ancient texts to answer one burning question: how to spare the world?

One last unicorn lives, and Thea vows to save it – if she can find it before the sun burns out for good. But when she learns a murderous secret – the horrifying way humans have been staving off death – she must wrestle with the possibility that the world is past saving. Then again, there will be no world to save if the Harpies apply their fix first: annihilating all humankind, including the prince she's fallen for.

- Nir is a staff reporter for *The New York Times* and a finalist for the 2016 and 2023 Pulitzer Prize. This is her adult and Kensington debut and will be published as a deluxe special edition

HOLLOW CROWN OF HEAVEN by Karen Osborne – Erewhon – May 2027

Genre-bending science fantasy following a reluctant socialite hellbent on necromancy and a devoted gunslinger with a heart of gold as they unravel a conspiracy anchored in the foundations of their world.

Only men can practice the art of preserving a person's essence in a gem after death, so Minuet, only daughter of the royal ensouler, has had a season of high society instead of training. Surrounded by debutantes and heirs dancing, Minuet has concluded she'd sooner die than marry. When a handsome princeling offers to help Minuet learn the magic forbidden to her, she has nothing to lose—until she begins to suspect there is something nefarious behind his offer.

Mila, the Queen's enforcer, missed the signs before her ruler's death in a coup. With twin princes inciting riots in the street, she has only hours to unravel a chain of deceptions, illusions, and murders before she faces her girlfriend in a proxy duel between the two princes vying for power. With their country on the brink of civil war, Minuet and Mila become unlikely allies as they find themselves at the center of a centuries-old conspiracy threatening to destroy their world—and uncover the shattering, forgotten truth at its heart.

- Osborne is a Nebula, Locus, and Sturgeon Award-nominated author

AN ACCIDENT OF DRAGONS by Cheri Radke – Erewhon – May 2026

CALCULATION OF DRAGONS (#2) – July 2027

First in a duology that is lighthearted and voice driven, this coming-of-age-later-in-life cozy fantasy features pirates, kidnapping, royalty, and of course – dragons: in theory, the dragoness of Summer can make any resident on her island the ruler if the previous Lord dies without an heir. In practice, no one expected her to choose Teddy, the last Lord's 40-something-year-old secret boyfriend. With his wit, charisma, and sense of style, Teddy brings plenty of virtues to his new role. But pedigree and decorum are not among them. That's all right: he's done his duty to the island, and his 5-year-old daughter, Zinnia, will make a brilliant Lady Summer when her time comes.

Except when a ship of desperate mainlander thieves arrives and Zinnia is caught in the middle and taken hostage. Teddy jumps into the rescue mission without delay. But his sailors have never seen their destination, and worse, the hard-liner admiral who leads them thinks Teddy is worthless. Against a conniving robber baron, a sorceress who's tamed her own dragon, and ordinary people with everything to lose, the crew faces terrible odds. But with all he loves in danger, Teddy must prove there's more to him than he'd ever intended to show.

- Debut that is being released simultaneously as a hardcover edition and a deluxe limited edition trade paperback with stenciled edges. Ideal for readers of TJ Klune

HARPY AT HIGH TIDE: Monsters at Sea (#1) by Collette Rhodes – June 2027

Set in a world where monsters and humans exist in harmony, HARPY AT HIGH TIDE is a dual narrative story following Brianna, a 35-year old human from a remote town in New Zealand, and Caleb, a 35-year-old male harpy (human body, wings, talons for feet).

Brianna is struggling to find herself. She is recently divorced from her high-school sweetheart who left her for someone younger and more fertile after the two of them learned that Brianna was unable to have children. And if she is being honest with herself, her main emotion after the dust settles is relief. While scrolling on her phone, her algorithm gifts her with a pop-up for a unique opportunity: a free two-week vacation aboard the monster/human pleasure cruise the Scylla. Although she has never thought of joining such a scandalous activity, Brianna realizes that this big leap might just be exactly what she needs to get her out of her longtime rut. In a whirlwind of a week – she finds herself aboard the ancient boat that functions as a floating vessel for exploration – sexual and otherwise.

Caleb has been working aboard the Scylla for two years, using his wind powers to help steer the magical ship. As is common for harpies, he mostly prefers to keep to himself. Harpies typically never leave their family nest, but Caleb always felt the pull of the open water and seeing more of the world (though because of his private personality, that has been mostly limited to what he sees from the crow's nest). That is until he witnesses a vision of a woman boarding the Scylla, and his wings inexplicably begin preening for her. Most humans seem weary of harpies, but Brianna seems intrigued to say the least.

After a few uncharacteristically bold moves by both Brianna and Caleb, the two of them are not only making use of some of the boat's playrooms, but also rapidly falling for each other in very unexpected and endearing ways. Can a landlocked human and a harpy at sea make it work?

- Some tropes included are: forced proximity, vacation romance, grumpy/sunshine, body positivity, sexual experimentation, found family, late bloomer
- Rhodes is a previously independently published author. Her standalone romantasy *Luxuria* earned a BEST OF BOOKTOK banner. She is the owner of The Ink Pot – a romantasy and fantasy bookstore in New Zealand and has a degree in ancient history and mythological influences
- This will be a 3-book series, with each book working as a standalone but all three will be set aboard the Scylla. We are releasing this as a deluxe special edition
- *"Collette's books are hilarious, spicy, and wholly addicting."--Navessa Allen, #1 New York Times best-selling author of the Into Darkness series*

STARLIGHT SAMSARA: Iron Garden Sutra #2 by A.D. Sui – Erewhon – March 2027

Soft SciFi that is the conclusion to the Iron Garden Sutra duology: unable to forgive himself for his actions aboard the Counsel of Nicaea, Space Monk Iris has left the religious Starlit Order. People died, he lost his heart to a man of science, and he sacrificed his best friend—an implanted AI companion—to shut down the murdering consciousness within the spaceship. Still devoted to serving others, Iris labors aboard a space station near Nicaea's husk.

Bacai believes that leadership of the Northern Temple of the Starlit Order is hers by right of inheritance. But her adopted brother Iris was always their late mother's choice, despite having no ambition to assume the role. Bacai needs Iris to officially step aside so she can continue the holy work he selfishly abandoned.

Iris also left his work on the Nicaea unfinished. The ship has awakened, attacking the space station without warning, harming its inhabitants. And the ship sends Iris a message, begging him to end its suffering—by helping it to die.

Now, Iris is returning to Nicaea, accompanied by Bacai and a science team to confront a sentient AI. Great for fans of *Of Monsters and Mainframes* by Barbara Truelove and *The Deep Sky* by Yume Kitasei.

- **French, Turkish, and Ukrainian rights sold to Iron Garden Sutra**

BENEATH, IT SLEEPS by Maria Tureaud – February 2027

Blend of historical fiction based in fact with folklore horror set in 18th century Ireland and following a young woman fleeing her past who has a run in with the Hellfire Club – a notorious real-life group of men who dabbled in the occult.

On the run from the law and the powerful Duke of Devonshire, Lotty is sent by her boss, Dorcas Kelly—the madam that runs Dublin City—to spy on the dealings of the Hellfire Club at a hunting lodge set deep in the Dublin Mountains. But what begins as a jaunt to safe harbor soon turns to terror as strange music and repetitive nightmarish dreams do their best to warn Lotty. The Hellfire Club may be dabbling with Devil worship, but something far more ancient sleeps beneath the lodge. The building was built using the desecrated sacred stones of an ancient Druidic burial ground, and the young man locked away in the east annex is the intended victim of an attempt to summon the Devil himself. Now, prison is the least of her concerns, as the Old Gods wage war with the Devil within the lodge's walls. The price? Lotty's life, but worse ... her soul.

TWELVE DARK DECEMBERS by Alyssa Wees – Erewhon – November 2027

Historical fantasy that is a blend of Katherine Arden's *The Warm Hands of Ghosts*, Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*, and "Pans Labyrinth", imagining Germany in the 1930s and 40s through the lens of a girl who knows that Krampus is real and questions why he won't help her.

The tale is that Krampus haunts the houses of Bavaria every year on December 5th, picking out the wicked children and dragging them away from their homes to swallow them whole. Young Ella is too old to believe in these stories anymore, but in 1933 her journalist father is violently apprehended for speaking against the regime. Desperate for help and to understand why the real bad men are not being punished, Ella seeks out the horned demon – only to be ignored. And although Krampus cannot help her, Ella's courage and rage have opened a door to the magical realm that only grows with each passing year.

Following Ella every December for twelve years, Ella, her friends, her family, and the boy she is in love with struggle to survive during the nightmare of Hitler's Third Reich. Constantly worrying for her loved ones safety, Ella encounters both worldly and otherworldly trials – until she is forced to decide if she will remain in this dark reality, or leave her humanity behind.

- Wees has an MFA in fiction writing and works as an assistant librarian

Contemporary Fiction & Romance:

SWAMP MUSIC by Emily Carpenter – July 2027

For Doe Ray Meeks, performing in legendary Muscle Shoals, Alabama, is a dream come true. This is the young singer-songwriter's big chance to grab the attention of Shane, celebrated producer of iconic artist Vixen Wright's hit album, the one that made her a star right before her life was cut short in a fatal accident.

Doe does more than impress Shane. The charismatic music man makes her his protégé, inviting her to his isolated, luxurious home/recording studio located on his family's historic swampland estate. For Doe, life there is a whole new world where her every need is taken care of. Before long, Doe is sharing Shane's bed, her songwriting spurred on by his tantalizing faith in her talent. As the swamp tightens its grip on Doe, haunting her with Vixen's memory, she learns of the singer's dark side—her private struggles, careless disloyalties, and secret proclivities. Soon, on the verge of uncovering Vixen's downfall, Doe finds herself quite possibly hastening her own.

- Carpenter has been published in Japanese and Ukrainian

THE LONGEST WEEKEND by Francesca Cocchi – June 2027

In the vein of Abby Jimenez and for readers who love high emotions, family drama, and enemies-to-lovers in their stories: a lightly spicy romance filled with banter and sexual tension on the sunny Jersey Shore.

As a professional bachelorette party planner, Lettie knows a thing or two about throwing the perfect girls' trip. But this one is different: the bride is her best friend, the groom is her brother, and the destination is the beach town she's been avoiding for a decade. Lettie had spent summers on the shore at her grandmother's home (her surrogate mother after her own abandoned Lettie and her brother) and she hasn't been able to go back after her grandmother's passing a decade ago. And going back also means facing Leo, her brother's childhood best friend turned cocky best man—and reminders of the brief but steamy "almost" moment they once shared many years ago.

After planning the perfect weekend, the boys now seem determined to usurp the party. Which wouldn't be so bad if Leo wasn't trying his hardest to get Lettie's attention—and succeeding. But when trouble in paradise begins brewing for the bride and groom, Leo and Lettie make a deal: they'll set aside their differences and work together to save the wedding. And as Lettie navigates painful memories, she finds herself wondering if there's more to Leo than meets the eye—and if healing just might come in the form of forgiveness and second chances.

- Italian and German rights sold to *Have a Great Summer* (2026), which was a *USA Today*-bestseller

WILDFLOWER SUMMER: Iron Point (#1) by Lena Hendrix – May 2027

The only thing harder than working with your ex is pretending you're over him: Reed Harris was not always a gruff, brooding fishing captain with a stubborn streak and a bad attitude. There was a time when he was the young man who showed up on Birdie Coleman's porch with wildflowers and a shy smile. But that was before everything changed when Birdie broke his heart and never looked back.

It has been years since Birdie left her quaint harborside hometown, but when her blooming medical career brings her back, she is brought face-to-face with Reed once again. Though everything in her is screaming to keep things professional, their charged chemistry is proving that to be difficult. When a coastal storm hits, their forced proximity changes it from difficult to impossible, and there is no denying how they (and their bodies) feel about each other. But even though the sparks clearly never left, there is still a very painful emotional history for them to reckon with. Is loving Reed Harris a risk Birdie is willing to take?

- Hendrix is a *USA Today* and Amazon Top 5 Bestselling contemporary romance author. She has 50k followers and 1.4 million likes on TikTok, and 48k followers on Instagram. This medium spicy romance is the first series we have rights to and it will be published as a deluxe special edition

BEYOND THE GRAVES WAITS MIST AND SEA by Kathleen Kaufman – October 2026

Haunting fiction rooted in folklore: a marine biologist's search for an undiscovered species of octopus leads her to an isolated island where long-buried memories come to the surface. Biologist Harper heads to Bell Island on a research expedition. Along with her equipment Harper carries with her the burden of past trauma and vivid, recurring dreams. Swept up in unexplained phenomena ranging from increased seismic activity and a boat-capsizing rogue wave, to encounters with island creatures that defy explanation, Harper looks to the island's mysterious mayor for answers. Lady Loreana Bell comes from a single matriarchal line that has ruled the island for 400 years—and seems to have been expecting Harper's arrival.

LOSERS: Part 1 and Part 2 by Harley Laroux – May 2026

Dark, sexy, why-choose duology that is the current spiciest book on the Kensington list: a former popular girl bully returns to her hometown and becomes entangled in a steamy game of revenge and redemption with the four boys she tormented in school.

All victims of troubled youth, Jessica, Manson, Lucas, Jason, and Vincent had very different teenaged experiences. Namely, Jessica made all the boys' lives a living hell. Now, with years gone by and in their early 20s, a broken Jessica returns to their hometown and is confronted by the handsome men they have turned into. The men have come a long way since Jessica knew them, currently living together and working on building cars for racing. When Jessica's car breaks down, they offer to fix it – the price is her submission to them. *Losers* is filled with strong character development, tender emotion, found family, multiple POVs, and spicy sex scenes.

- USA Today Bestseller, sold over 40k of each in the first 10 weeks of publishing
- Previously sold in: Italian, Polish, Portuguese (BR & PT), Spanish
- **Czech, French, French Canadian, Ukrainian rights sold**

STRAY by Harley Laroux – October 2027

Sexy and spicy M/F romance from bestseller Laroux, to be published as a deluxe special edition: down-on-his-luck Chase Laurence needs a new job. Sultry social media influencer Madison needs a bodyguard.

Madison is a successful social media influencer, building her brand around sensuality and feminine domination. But after being harassed at a club and separated from her friends, she flees from her attackers in her car, only to wind up in a crash. Chase is in the wrong place at the right time and saves her life.

With her car burnt to a crisp and her attackers scared away, Chase volunteers to drive Madison home. Shaken up from what occurred, Madison asks Chase to spend the night in the guest room. She's a little stand-offish and cautious, and offers to pay him for his trouble. The next morning, the male model for Madison's bondage-style photo shoot is out sick and Chase offers to step in. Madison agrees, and their sexual tension is palpable.

After parting ways, Madison gets the idea to ask Chase to be her bodyguard. Though Chase has to leave his damaged brother behind to move into Madison's lavish home, the salary is too good to turn down. After another dangerous scare on Madison's life, the two become closer than ever and begin their foray into sexual exploration – with Madison holding the reigns.

- All rights available. Czech, German, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese (BR & PT), Spanish, and Ukrainian rights sold to Laroux's sapphic horror-romance *House of Rayne* (2025)
- Kensington has sold more than 1 million copies of Harley Laroux's Souls Trilogy books since February 2024, with book 1 and 2 landing on the *NY Times* list. All three books also hit the *USA Today* and PW bestseller lists. (Kensington is not the translation rightsholder for these)

DRAWN UNDER: Hayes Brothers Ranch #1 by Elliott Rose – March 2027

Start of a never before published series from *USA Today*-bestseller Rose: steamy age-gap forbidden cowboy romance following a woman who is running from her abusive ex-boyfriend and crashes straight into the strong and safe arms of cattle rancher Westin Hayes – who also happens to be her godfather.

When 40-year-old Westin receives a mid-winter call alerting him to cattle wandering loose on the road, he responds immediately hoping to prevent any accidents from happening. Coming across a single car crash on the side of the road, he fears the worst – only to quickly discover that the drive is not only fine, but is the woman of his dreams. That is, until she turns around and he realizes it is his best friend's daughter, now all grown up.

Amelie has been studying in the UK for the last decade but searching for a place to hide from her manipulative and abusive ex-boyfriend has brought her the Hayes Ranch. She was hoping for a soft place to land, not anticipating her godfather being the type of cowboy to make her weak at the knees.

Winter might be cold, but the tension between Westin and Amelie continues to grow as they live and work together under the same roof. Lines become blurred and soon they are sneaking around, keeping their blossoming relationship a secret from the rest of the Hayes family. And among the newly found family on the ranch, Amelie finds a renewed confidence in herself that had been taken from her in Oxford. Thinking they might have found their happily-ever-after, their relationship is put to the test when Amelie's ex comes back – and decides he won't take no for an answer.

- Rose is well-connected in the Romance community, BookTok and Bookstagram. As of September 2026 she has over 49k IG followers and over 37K followers on TikTok with 1.4M likes. Her edgy cowboy romances offer something unique and stand out to the traditional genre
- Her previous series has been sold in 14 languages and Kensington's edition of the 4 books have sold over 550k copies since October 2025. As this is her first series Kensington is the rights holder for, it is widely available

CHASING THE RUSH: Football and Feels (#2) by Lauren Rowe – August 2026

CHASING THE REEL (#3) – September 2027

Kensington debut trilogy from self-published author Rowe, who is a *USA Today* and Amazon bestseller with a highly engaged social media fanbase: a sexy yet warm-hearted, second-chance romance for fans of Sarah Adams, Tessa Bailey, Monica Murphy, and Lucy Score. Kensington is releasing these as deluxe limited editions with 4-color character art.

26-year-old Chelsea knows football, thanks to growing up with a coach for a father and two players for brothers. But Chelsea's true passion has always been math: crunching numbers to predict statistical outcomes for everything from football to stocks to romance. Chelsea dreams of merging her two passions to become the first female head of analytics for a national team. But for now, she's got to convince the powers-that-be at her father's new team, the Mastodons, the worst in the NFL, to give her that entry-level position.

Luca, a professional football player and adrenaline junkie with a famous last name, knows this upcoming training camp with his new team, the Mastodons, will be his last if he doesn't stop acting out. That is the only reason Luca didn't quit on the spot when Coach Parker assigned his daughter, Chelsea, a statistics-loving, spreadsheet-making math nerd, as Luca's "personal coach" for the duration of camp. More like his babysitter, if you ask Luca.

Well, okay, Luca didn't quit for one other reason: the chemistry that happened years ago between Luca and Chelsea as strangers, when Luca's college football team stayed at the same hotel as Chelsea's university math competition.

- German and Czech rights sold to book 1 *Chasing the Ring* (2026)
- "Strangers-to-vacation roommates-to-lovers? *Chasing the Ring* is Lauren Rowe at her most brilliant!" —**Lucy Score**, #1 New York Times bestselling author

Suspense & Thrillers:

BEHIND EVERY FACE by Charlie Donlea – February 2027

Standalone thriller from #1 international bestselling author Donlea following a woman in the Witness Protection Program who realizes that her new home is far from the safe haven she was promised. A great read for fans of Alex Michaelides and Peter Swanson. To be published as a deluxe special edition.

Harmony Falls is a pretty town in the Pacific Northwest, as bucolic as its name suggests. But Andi is not there by choice. She has been given a new identity while she waits to testify against her powerful former employer. Her fiancé, Lucas, was killed before he could do the same, and the explosive case is making headlines.

She didn't even know about her boss's wrongdoing, yet she's still facing prison time after the trial. But there's a key piece of evidence—a flash drive of damning videos—that she can leverage to get immunity, if she can just figure out where Lucas hid it. The only person who's as much a target as Andi is Lucas's brother, celebrated journalist Oliver. Holed up in a Maine cabin, he becomes Andi's long-distance ally as they try and figure out who exactly wants them dead. Meanwhile Andi tries to blend in without giving herself away, fearing that with every moment, her enemies may be drawing closer.

- Donlea is a #1 international bestselling author who has been published in 28 languages
- Donlea has both standalone and series novels available. They have sold over 2.2 million copies in print and ebook in the U.S. alone, with an additional 1.1 million in audio. Donlea has been praised for his "soaring pace, teasing plot twists" (*BookPage*) and talent for writing an ending that "makes your jaw drop" (*The New York Times Book Review*)
- **Arabic, Portuguese (BR), Danish, Finnish, German, Spanish, and Swedish rights sold**

HER BEST FRIEND by Gregg Olsen – June 2027

When a newly discovered body rekindles a brutal cold case, Native American forensic pathologist Birdy Waterman must fight to save her reputation—and her life—in #1 *New York Times*-bestselling author Olsen's Pacific Northwest-set series opener. Birdy Waterman doesn't shock easily. A career spent in close contact with dead bodies and serial killers will do that to you. But the young woman dragged from the water reawakens a savage nightmare. The victim's wrists are bound together in an intricate manner that Birdy has seen before – on the body of her best friend, 16 years ago.

Colleen was a mother and devoted wife when she went missing. The shock of her murder sent Birdy into a tailspin from which she's never recovered, especially since no arrests were ever made. Now, Birdy must defy an exploitative podcaster, an unfaithful medical assistant, unseen political enemies, and the ghosts of her own past, in order to discover the truth.

- Olsen is the #1 *New York Times*, #1 *Wall Street Journal*, #1 Amazon charts, *USA Today* and *Washington Post* bestselling author of more than 30 books. He has 7 million books in print and is an Edgar Award finalist and International Thriller Writers of America Thriller Award finalist

GIRLS IN THE CEMETERY by Terri Parlato – August 2027

Standalone atmospheric suspense: from the outside, the house that Mia grew up in looks just as it always did—a picturesque slice of New England history, complete with white clapboards and black shutters. Mia's husband, Evan, loves everything about it, and for his sake, Mia tries to ignore her unease about starting over in her childhood home. But the locked bedroom upstairs is a constant reminder of the past. It's the room that once belonged to Mia's sister, Tess.

Mia wasn't with Tess on the night she died, but Josie was. Josie and Tess were with their four best friends at the local cemetery, partying, drinking, sharing stories and confessions. Somehow, Tess fell down a slope and hit her head—a terrible accident. Now, seeing Mia again unnerves Josie, stirring up guilt she's never quite been able to quell, and lingering questions about what really happened in Tess's final moments. Josie isn't the only one unsettled by Mia's return. There are strange new "accidents" and threatening messages—targeting Josie, Tess's remaining friends, and Mia, too. Even as Mia is compelled to find out more about her sister's death, she fears what she's about to discover.

- Parlato's previous suspense novels have been published in Polish

Contemporary Mystery & Crime Fiction:

TIPS AND TRICKS OF AN AMATEUR SLEUTH: Bainbridge Island Mystery (#3) by Lynn Cahoon – May 2027

Just a ferry ride from Seattle, Bainbridge Island is a close-knit community where Meg lives with her cocker spaniel and works in her mom's bookstore. She's also writing a guide for amateur detectives—when she isn't busy being one herself.

Juggling jobs and classes has Meg stressed. On top of that, she's just heard from her editor, who loves the book . . . and wants to change everything about it. Her lit professor is hounding her to promote his new crime novel at the bookstore—and she's afraid if the attendance at his signing is too low, her grade will be too. Plus, her boyfriend, Dalton, has been MIA. Fortunately, Meg has a new project to keep herself busy: tracing her genealogy. As it turns out, Dalton's been preoccupied with his own family tree. The mother who abandoned him as a child has showed up with a shocking request. Stormy claims she has a twin sister—named Sunny—and wants Dalton to meet her. Meg picks up on some shady vibes, but she's determined to help him deal with this emotional bombshell.

Before this fraught family reunion can occur, Stormy is found dead on the ferry and Sunny disappears from the hospital where she's been a resident for decades. As the couple digs up the roots of a deadly mystery, Meg will have to keep in mind Rule #3 from her sleuthing guide: Sometimes people lie . . .

- Russian rights sold to book 1, *Amateur Sleuth's Guide to Murder* (2025)

WHITE LIES AND CHERRY PIES: Pets and Pastries Mystery (#1) by Nancy Coco – May 2027

Rowan is currently working as a pastry chef/pet photographer, but when confronted with a murder, she shows he has what it takes to be a first-rate crime solver too: After honing her baking skills at a New York patisserie, Rowan is back in her hometown. Living with her boisterous extended family is a temporary step while she looks for the job of her dreams. When her grandmother calls from her retirement home and asks her to make something she can serve her friends, Rowan has no idea it's a set-up—until she finds out Gramma Brid has secretly entered her in a pastry contest.

The prize-winner will land a chance to earn some dough at chef Jeremy Brandt's new pop-up supper club. Rowan is confident her cake will win—only to find herself losing to someone she shares an unsavory history with. Sensing there might be sabotage afoot, Rowan confronts Jeremy. But a bigger shock comes when Rowan's dog Finn's canine instincts lead them to a dead body among the rose bushes.

- Coco is a USA Today and B&N Bestseller. This will be her first hardcover series

GHOST AND THE DEAD LIBRARIAN (#1) by Cleo Coyle – October 2026

Penelope has moved back to her quaint hometown to give her young son a safer home and her aunt's dying bookshop new life. Using her late husband's money, Pen polished the store into a local treasure. But her updates did more than attract new customers. They roused a dead private eye from his big sleep.

With Pen's affection for hardboiled detective stories, it's no surprise she's developed a fondness for the wisecracking yet oddly likeable spirit. Sure, Jack's cold spots are exasperating, along with his proclivity for putting noir fiction in the cozy section. But murder was Jack's business in life, and his skills come in handy when the body of an eccentric librarian is found amid the bookshop's mystery aisles.

- Coyle is a *New York Times*-bestselling author with over 1 million books sold. This is her Kensington debut
- Russian rights sold

A TOAST TO AGATHA CHRISTIE'S GHOST: Food and Spirits Mystery (#3) by Darci Hannah – March 2027

Mystery series following Chef Bunny as she solves crimes while working for a ghost hunting meets cooking reality show: the crew are on Burgh Island, at a restored Art Deco hotel that boasts Agatha Christie as its most famous guest—and now its most famous ghost. They're filming at a murder-mystery weekend, and Bunny expects it to be more kooky than spooky. But she's excited to meet the renowned resident chef and delighted to run into her Granny Mac playing the role of Miss Marple. As a bonus, her romance with costar Brett continues to simmer.

The downside is dealing with arrogant guests like Buckley. Then the show's phony psychic, Giff, insists on playing Poirot, complete with an absurdly bad accent. When it turns out the victim role is assigned to Buckley, she feels a touch of satisfaction—until she realizes he's doing too good a job of playing dead. With some help from the spirit of the world's greatest mystery writer, she's looking closely at the victim's handsome son, much-younger wife, and elegant circle of friends to conjure up a solution.

- This title works as a standalone

MY DAUGHTER LOVES TRUE CRIME PODCASTS: Jarrod Jarvis Father-Daughter Mystery (#2) by Lee Hollis – Feb 2027

Modern queer cozy series following a true-crime obsessed 24-year-old and her former child-actor father: from '80s teen heartthrob to later fame after solving a string of real-life Hollywood murders, Jarrod Jarvis has rarely had a dull moment. But now in his late 50s, he's happily settled into a quieter life, including a newfound closeness with his daughter, Liv.

A true-crime podcast devotee, Liv is thrilled when her favorite podcaster-crush announces he'll be involved in a limited series about an infamous 1990s desert cult murder—filming in town! Liv promptly plants herself nearby to soak up every scrap of production drama. But she's not expecting art to literally imitate life when during shooting, the actress portraying the victim is found dead in her trailer—the crime scene eerily staged to mirror the real-life murder.

HUNGRY LIKE THE SLEUTH: A Big Hair Mystery (#1) by Nancy Lethcoe – March 2027

The big-haired owner of a 1980s vintage store in Hollywood becomes a sleuth in this totally rad new mystery series for fans of Elle Cosimano, Catherine Mack, and Jesse Q. Sutanto: Roxy holds an eternal flame for her favorite decade—the 1980s. With her neon nails, she embodies the fashion and culture she sells in her vintage '80s shop, Big Hair, inspiring new generations of material girls and wild boys.

From skinny ties and lace fingerless gloves to VCRs and cassette tapes, Roxy sells the best of 80s kitsch, music, and fashion. But while she and her girlfriends just wanna have fun, someone who's seen too many slasher films murders Roxy's manicurist. As one of Maria's last clients—and an eyewitness who saw a hooded man flee from the alley where she stumbled upon her body—Roxy finds herself part of the investigation, led by a handsome detective.

THE BUTLER by Rob Osler – July 2027

Voice driven elevated queer mystery set in Northern Italy and for fans of Nita Prose's *The Maid* following a very proper British butler who finds himself involved in a very improper crime: Villa Serena is a breathtaking residence with views of Lake Como and the mountains beyond. For the next few months, it will be the professional domain of Clive, butler par excellence, tasked with helping settle in its new owners, New York-based Leo and Allison and their two young daughters.

Polite, unflappable, and a wee bit stern, Clive will live and die by the butler's code: whatever is required, whatever is desired. Whether that involves providing a perfect margarita or a banquet for dozens, the modern butler can do it all—and with discretion. Unfortunately, not everyone at Villa Serena is as dedicated (or has as much class) as Clive.

The staff includes a morose nanny, a gossipy housekeeper, a gorgeous but lazy gardener, and an abrasive new chef. Then there is Mrs. Armstrong's rough-around-the-edges sister, who seems to have overstayed her welcome. But nothing Clive learned at the British Butler Academy could prepare him for the dark turn of events that follow a sumptuous dinner party. In the aftermath, Clive faces the greatest challenge of his career: to unravel a mystery and protect the Armstrong household from ruinous scandal.

- Osler is a *USA Today* bestseller

THREE TANGLED THREADS: Nimble Needle Mystery (#3) by Allie Pleiter – April 2027

Needlepoint crafting series: all of Gwen Lake is ready for a month of restoration after the busy holiday season. Every January, the lake level is lowered for dock repairs and other maintenance. This year, however, an unwelcome surprise surfaces: a woman's body...bound with what appears to be needlepoint thread, likely from Shelby's needlepoint shop. Shelby is looped into the case when a quirky bit of information enables her to help identify the woman. Why would anyone hurt sweet, widowed Helen? It's a knot Shelby and the shop's stitching group, "Not Your Average Grannies," aka the NYAGs, intend to untangle.

VINTAGE MURDER IN PARIS: Paris Bookshop Mysteries (#2) by Mark Pryor – April 2027

For readers of Charles Finch and Tasha Alexander: danger is close to home when former FBI profiler-turned-Paris bookshop owner Hugo must investigate the death of his friend—a French sommelier. When police Lieutenant Camille Lerens shows up at Hugo's Mystery and Antiquarian Bookshop, it's clear she hasn't come for a book recommendation. An attempted carjacking in Montmartre was foiled by a passerby. In the scuffle, the masked culprit was shot and killed with his own gun. However, the driver, the victim, refuses to reveal his identity, insisting he will speak only to Hugo Marston.

As Hugo is drawn into the case, another mystery presents itself while he dines with sommelier Christina Valdez. The appearance of a man lurking across the street from the restaurant prompts her to reveal that she's being followed. Who stalks a sommelier? When bodies start turning up, Hugo must untangle the labyrinthine connections—before he, too, ends up on the wrong end of a gun.

- Not available in: Czech, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Turkish, and Ukrainian

SLAY IT BY EAR: Sixth Sense Mystery (#2) by Angela M. Sanders – March 2027

Second installment of a magical new cozy series in which our heroine's gift of scent helps her in solving murders: a ghost-hunting team is filming at Corrie House, the decrepit Victorian mansion where Lise lives with her roommates. She suspects the reality show is a scam, but with her gift of clairalience—the ability to smell emotion—she's picked up strange aromas that suggest the house is genuinely haunted. It also needs a new roof, so the money from the show is hard to turn down.

By the second night of filming, trouble is in the air. But the TV crew's departure doesn't dispel the malevolent mood. And when the women make a shocking discovery, it'll take both detection skills and sixth-sense talents to find the truth.

Historical Fiction & Mysteries:

THE VOYAGE by V.S. Alexander – January 2027

Follows a young couple and their Newfoundland dog as they set sail on the Titanic's ill-fated maiden voyage: Finn, the loyal, steadfast dog owned by Sir Gordon Shelton, is at ease as he trots aboard the ocean liner. His owner; however, feels quite differently. Gordon has a deathly fear of water, no matter how much his wife, Ruth, tries to reassure him. But first-class passage on the Titanic, paid for by the Chairman of the White Star Line, is not an offer Gordon can turn down. Once the ship reaches New York, American-born Ruth will see her family for the first time since their wedding.

At least the Sheltons have no concerns about Finn's well-being. There are a dozen dogs on board, all belonging to first-class passengers. Finn finds a traveling companion in Kitty, a pretty Airedale terrier who belongs to the Titanic's most illustrious guests, John Jacob Astor IV. Amid new friends and luxurious surroundings, far from the cares of daily life in England, Gordon begins to feel at ease and he and Ruth grow even closer, planning their future together.

Then tragedy strikes, unthinkable and terrifying. As the Titanic sinks into the icy depths on that fateful night, Finn's only instinct is to protect those he loves. And at the end of this voyage, and throughout the extraordinary journey that follows it, that fierce loyalty will prove itself a beacon of hope, time and time again. THE VOYAGE alternates perspectives between Gordon, his wife, Ruth, and their Newfoundland dog, Finn.

- Alexander has been published in Czech, Portuguese (BR & PT), the UK, French, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish, Lithuanian

THE SISTER SOCIETY by Melanie Dobson – April 2027

New York, 1945: as one of Manhattan's first female advertising executives, Ellie understands that the right words can sell almost anything. But as Ellie prepares to say goodbye to her ailing grandmother, Danika, she begins to uncover the shocking truth behind her own story. Danika has been alluding to a past Ellie knows nothing about—one connected to Ellie's latest client, the Oneida silverware company, which grew out of a religious commune founded in New York. Under the control of its charismatic founder, John Humphrey Noyes, members aimed to create heaven on earth. As children raised in the Oneida Community, Danika and her friends formed a secret club to understand the outside world through forbidden novels like *Little Women* and *Jane Eyre*. But they couldn't tell anyone what was happening inside the Community Mansion.

At Oneida, conventional marriage was forbidden, and love for a parent, child, or partner was considered sinful. Instead, members were expected to engage in free love and communal marriage. To Danika and her friends, Noyes was not merely a leader—he was their god, father, and first husband. Danika's journal tells of coercion disguised as piety, heartbreaking sacrifice, and a desperation to belong. When the truth threatens to unravel Ellie's future, she discovers a legacy of enduring sisterhood.

- This is Dobson's Kensington debut, so it is widely available

MURDER AT BROAD STREET STATION: Clara Shaw Railroad Mystery (#1) by Patricia Barletta – April 2027

New series set in 1903 Philadelphia and following Clara Shaw, a paid companion for wealthy women, who discovers an aptitude for solving murders: Clara is uniquely equipped both by disposition and connections to flourish as a lady's traveling companion. Her late father was a yardmaster for the Pennsylvania Railroad, and she is a distant relative of the prominent Biddle family, which gives her just enough pedigree to satisfy high-society mamas. And though she's a confirmed spinster at 30, Clara is still young enough to be a trusted confidante for their daughters.

She's also shrewd and observant, qualities that come to the fore when a detective appears at her door early one morning. A woman has been found strangled in a second-class passenger car in the rail yard. Clara's name and address were on a piece of paper clutched in her hand. Clara recognizes the victim—a young woman named Sophie whom she encountered at the Horn and Hardart Automat, arguing with a gentleman. Could he have been Sophie's murderer?

- Barletta is an Amazon Top 100 Bestseller. This is her Kensington debut.

THE BONESEEKER by A. Rae Dunlap – September 2027

Victorian-era story where forensic history, true crime, and creativity converge: a newly formed Scotland Yard's only hope of unmasking a serial killer lies with a young artist at the dawn of modern criminal investigation.

Dominic is building a new life for himself, far from the haunting memory of his sister's disappearance. A rising star at the elite Royal Academy, Dom's extraordinary gift for portraiture has won him acclaim and entrée into aristocratic circles. But he finds high society insufferably dull and yearns to put his talent towards something more meaningful.

One night, to his horror, Dom discovers a forgotten well beneath the Adelphi Arches filled with the decomposing remains of young women. When Inspector Henry of Scotland Yard's fledgling Detective Division requests a statement, Dom is reluctant to comply. The Arches are notorious for illicit rendezvous, and admitting what brought him there risks exposing his homosexuality—a secret that, in the eyes of the law, make Dom a criminal himself.

Unnerved by what he saw, Dom paints a portrait of one of the victims, reconstructing her face in vivid detail based only upon the shape of her skull. Hawley immediately recognizes the potential of Dom's remarkable skill: a new kind of forensic portraiture that could restore names to the unidentified dead and help Scotland Yard find their killer. Drawn into a surprising partnership, Dom and Hawley set out to solve the shocking crime, though it may cost them their careers—or their lives.

- Dunlap is known for writing fiction based in real historical fact with entertaining mystery elements
- Dunlap's previous books have been published in Czech, German, Polish, and the UK

THE GLASS LOOKER by Linda Hamilton – May 2027

Atmospheric blend of folk magic, Mormon mythology, and real history: in 1827 New York Sally is the most successful glass looker in the area, using her seer stone to find missing items and buried treasure for clients. Some view her talent as witchcraft. For Sally it is not only the means to keep those she loves from starving, but the most essential part of herself. And as long as she protects her magic, it will not fail her.

While Sally can't risk jeopardizing her abilities with marriage and motherhood, she has other reasons to set herself apart from men. Her former student, Joseph Smith, sought out her wisdom only to ultimately betray her—and now his accomplice has returned insisting that Sally locate a hidden treasure. When she refuses, he turns to blackmail, and Sally strikes a deal with the town's charming new Methodist minister to help in her quest. Distilled from real-life figures and the religious fervor that swept through the United States in its early decades, this intriguing novel explores one woman's journey to claim her place and retain her power in a man's world.

THE JWELED BOOK by Alan Hlad – February 2027

Dual timeline historical fiction split between present day and 1912: Dulcie's promotion at the British Library couldn't come at a better time. Dulcie, a widowed single mother, has been struggling to care for her daughter, Ava, who is wheelchair-bound with a rare degenerative disease. With Dulcie's new role as Curator of Bookbindings comes a raise and more responsibility, including caring for the library's most celebrated work.

The Great Omar, a lavishly decorated edition of the *Rubáiyát* of Omar Khayyám, is one of the most exquisite books ever created. Yet for all its splendor, the book is haunted by tragedy. The first version, created by the famous bookbinding firm Sangorski & Sutcliffe, sank without a trace onboard an ocean liner that too was shrouded in superstition: the RMS Titanic. Its creator drowned shortly afterward at an English seaside resort. A second edition, steeped in sacrifice and secrecy, was incinerated by German bombers during the London Blitz.

Dulcie settles into her new role, growing intrigued with The Great Omar—both the exquisite binding and the mystic poetry that lies within, as well as the amulet that is stored with the book and believed to ward off the evil eye. But The Great Omar's fascination remains potent for others, including a Russian oligarch who makes Dulcie a tantalizing, dangerous offer that will bring together the book's past, present, and future in one fateful decision.

- Hlad is a *USA Today*-bestselling author who has been published in Croatian, Czech, Dutch, Portuguese (BR & PT), French, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Spanish

SPINTERS by Louse Claire Johnson and Krista Webster – July 2027

"Mad Men" meets "Sex and the City" historical fiction inspired by the real female trailblazers who shaped modern PR in the 1960s-80s. New York City, 1960: while the ad men of Madison Avenue chase power, a block away at Powell Public Relations, Rose, secretary to the CEO, has aspirations beyond scheduling meetings and making coffee. When a career-making opportunity lands in her lap, Rose seizes the chance to wage a campaign of her own. With Lottie and Ines—sharp recruits plucked from the secretarial pool—she sees that crack and begins to force it wider.

One campaign at a time, they build a PR empire that pulls them into the orbit of power, money, and secrets best kept hidden. Lottie is swept into a dangerous affair with John F. Kennedy, while Ines confronts systemic barriers threatening to stop her rise. Along the way, they find allies in unexpected places: Matilda, Rose's college friend turned Elizabeth Taylor's publicist, and trailblazers like Helen Gurley Brown and Gloria Steinem. Spanning the Swinging 60s through the bold 80s, *Spinsters* is a revelatory story of women who refused the lives assigned to them and instead influenced society from the margins. For fans of Taylor Jenkins Reid.

- Johnson is a journalist and the bestselling author of *Behind the Red Door*, voted a 'Top 10 Must-Read' by *HELLO! Canada* and optioned by Lionsgate for Film/TV. Webster is the CEO of a global PR firm. This is their Kensington debut

FRENCH INNKEEPER'S DAUGHTER by Diane McPhail – October 2026

18th century France: exiled from her home, a young woman journeys through the forests of Normandy, the poverty of pre-Revolutionary Paris, and ultimately to her destiny as one of the founding mothers of Louisiana: three years after Louis XIV's death, the country is still reeling from the costly wars and reckless extravagance. While ordinary citizens struggle to survive, the wealthy can purchase noble titles that grant them privilege. In the wrong hands, that power can be a terrible thing, as Azélie discovers when their family's roadside inn becomes the property of a corrupt judge.

After a harrowing encounter with the judge's son, Azélie's only option is to flee. Then a chance meeting with highway robber Jules leads the two to make their way to Paris. But when Jules is wrongly arrested, Azélie finds herself caught up in a scheme to arrest young women on trumped-up charges and exile them to the struggling colonies along the Gulf Coast. Chained aboard the ship, a pregnant Azélie finds kinship with the other women. The survivors will witness the birth of a new city, New Orleans.

- *Seamstress of New Orleans* (2022) was a Goodreads Most Popular Historical Fiction of the Year, a Hoopla Book Club Pick, a Publishers Marketplace Buzz Book, and a finalist for both the Thomas Wolf Fiction Award and the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award

KILLING IN CORNWALL: Minnie Harper Mystery (#3) by Emily Sullivan – May 2027

As the 20th century turns, widowed mother of two Minnie Harper's life takes a turn as well, of the romantic variety—yet even on holiday, sleuth worthy scandals manage to find her!

No sooner have Minnie and her former employer, author Stephen, finally confessed their feelings for one another than he is off on a literary tour of America. With his return date uncertain, Minnie accepts her Aunt Agatha's offer to take her and her sister, Delia, to Cornwall for the opening of a luxury hotel. But at the hotel Minnie is taken aback to find herself face to face with Mrs. Edith Covington—Stephen's ex-wife.

The surprises continue when Stephen arrives unexpectedly. Unfortunately, the next morning they learn Mr. Covington has been found dead. Apparently, he took a fall during a nighttime stroll near the rocky cliffs. Edith, however, insists he was murdered—and wants Stephen's help to prove it.

- Greek and Russian rights sold to the series

Historical Romance:

HOW TO LOSE A LAIRD: Cairncross Castle (#2) by Anna Bradley – June 2026

Three unusually gifted sisters in Georgian Scotland must protect their family fortress from those who would steal its rumored treasures—and their hearts—in this sweeping, adventure-filled, historical romance series for readers of India Holton, Lex Crocher, Manda Collins, and Evie Dunmore.

Despite their village's wild, insistent rumors, middle sister Freya MacLeod is no more a witch than her extraordinary siblings. Quiet and observant, she can't control the weather—although her magnificently skilled drawings often predict it. But now a very different sort of storm has besieged their home of Castle Cairncross. When Freya's fearless younger sister disappears and is accused of murder, Freya is determined to prove her innocence—and bring her back. That means matching wits with a warrior—no matter how dangerous he may be.

A reluctant laird, Callum is glad to escape his clan's intrigues. But helping to protect Castle Cairncross as a favor to a friend is far more difficult than he thought. Especially when the seemingly timid Freya eludes him, his battle-honed instincts—and enrages the village into putting a bounty on both their heads.

- **French rights sold.** Bradley's previous historicals have published in French, German, Italian, and Slovenia

HAZARDS OF COURTSHIP: Lords of Hazard (#3) by Sabrina Jeffries – May 2027

Delicious wit and charm abound in this new historical romance in which an English aristocrat returns from exile after the Napoleonic Wars to face a daring new mission of a different sort: finding a suitable wife.

After years spent captive in a French fortress, Captain Quentin Scovell returns to London, only to find himself the new Marquess of Glenraig after his brother's death. Guarded and blunt, Quentin needs help adapting to society and wooing a marriage-worthy woman—preferably one who won't recoil from his scars. Lady Chloe Leighton, his best friend's enigmatic sister, entices him, but is surely too elegant and refined to be suitable.

Practical, with a strong sense of fairness, Chloe is determined to repay Quentin after he settled her mother's gambling loss a year ago. A deal is struck—she will give Quentin courtship lessons to polish his many rough edges so he can find a wife. The marquess is reserved and commanding, with a history he's unwilling to share. As each begins to see beneath the surface, a dangerous person from the past threatens their future, their arrangement becomes more complicated and heated, and may prove the surprising answer to all their deepest desires.

- **UK and French rights sold.** Jeffries books have over 9 million copies sold and have been translated into more than 20 languages

HOW TO RUIN A RAKE: Rakes of London (#2) by Kate Pearce – October 2026

Second in a series that introduces three female friends, each in search of an unmarried rake or rogue for a no-strings-attached romantic romp. This series is a spicier take on Sabrina Jeffries from *New York Times* and *USA Today*-bestselling Pearce: Lady Allegra has resigned herself to never marrying. Creating a scandal worked out well for her sister, Carenza, now happily wed after advertising for a no-strings-attached arrangement with a willing gentleman from the *ton*. But the fallout has landed squarely on poor Allegra, who is ordered to leave London for her family home in the countryside.

Sometimes, though, fate comes knocking—or, in Allegra's case, a rake who abducts her as part of a men's club drunken wager! Furious, Allegra quickly takes charge when their speeding carriage overturns and her masked captor is revealed: Lord Max, a notorious ne'er-do-well who pays his way out of trouble and beds women with impunity. Suddenly sober, Max wants to forget the whole debacle and return Allegra to the city. Obviously, Allegra is aware that there could be no one worse to be stuck with in the middle of nowhere than such a rake, especially one so . . . experienced.

- *"The riveting friends-to-lovers romance makes the pages fly while Pearce's commentary on the gendered double standards in Regency society adds depth. It's hot, heartfelt, and addictive."* - **Publishers Weekly STARRED REVIEW**

Nonfiction:

CRIME SCENE FOR SALE by Kathryn Canavan – August 2027

In this treat for true-crime fans and real estate enthusiasts, journalist Canavan takes readers on a darkly fascinating tour through 26 murder houses—and how they fared on the real estate market: what happens to America's most infamous murder houses after police investigators take the crime scene tape down? Canavan unlocks the doors to these homes that have bad bones, guiding readers through 26 murder houses and their shocking real estate journeys.

Find out what happened to travel blogger Gabby Petito's Ford Transit van. Learn the fate of the lakefront Dutch Colonial where Marilyn Sheppard was bludgeoned in the case that inspired the '60s' television classic "The Fugitive." A single piece remains of the L.A. home where Manson members stabbed and hanged Sharon Tate. It sold for \$127,000 in 2023. Explore the light-filled, upscale Ohio home where Jeffrey Dahmer grew up and clubbed his first victim.

Even years later, children cross the street to avoid these sites that were home to unsettling crimes. Real estate agents say time flies and memories are short. A sketchy past doesn't necessarily affect a home's sale price, but it could. Take a tour through these chilling murder houses, traverse their real estate markets, and go behind-the-scenes in a crime-scene cleaner's day.

EMBALMING SURGEONS by Todd Harra – September 2027

For the morbidly inquisitive fans of Mary Roach and Caitlin Doughty, the first-ever narrative history of embalming in America—and the surgeons who went head-to-head to develop this sanitary science, changing American death rituals forever.

During one of the most trying times in American history, the need for new techniques of body identification, recovery, and preservation spawned a medical revolution. The macabre Civil War-era pursuit began with the shocking murder of Union Colonel Elmer Ellsworth, a close friend of President Abraham Lincoln, who honored the fallen hero with a public viewing made possible by a curious and burgeoning death science. Ellsworth's miracle worker in preservation was Dr. Thomas Holmes, a former New York City coroner's physician who would later be dubbed "The Father of Modern Embalming." That the celebrated innovator would eventually attempt to murder his wife with an axe and end up in Flatbush Lunatic Asylum is just one twist in this previously untold slice of American medical history.

Fourth-generation undertaker Harra delves into the enlightening and often gruesome hidden histories of the caretakers of the dead who shaped our modern funeral experience. Like the amazing story of Henry Cattell, the 26-year-old with no formal medical education called to the White House to embalm President Lincoln in preparation for viewing; and the forgotten career of Pierre Casanave, a New Orleans mortician known as our country's first Black embalmer. Harra also exposes the outlandish rivalries (and ghostly advertising) that pitted embalmer against embalmer in a bid for the dead.

Journeying from America to Victorian England to ancient Egypt, *The Embalming Surgeons* tells the surprising and darkly entertaining history of not only why the death profession arose, but the ways in which it flourished, the modern rituals it introduced, and how it shifted from a Civil War breakthrough to a nationwide phenomenon.

- Harra is the co-author of the Amazon bestselling books *Mortuary Confidential* and *Over Our Dead Bodies*. He is an active funeral director, embalmer, post-mortem reconstructionist, and cremationist.

FIVE QUEENS, FORTY ELEPHANTS: The Lives and Crimes of London's First All-Female Gang by Nikki Vietz – April 2027

Peaky Blinders meets *Oceans Eight*. This is the wild-but-true story of the all-female British crime syndicate who for more than 12 decades took advantage of 20th century gender norms to outwit London police and live the high life.

Disciplined and dedicated, this all-female, all working-class gang terrorized the streets of London from the 1870s to the early 1960s, not only matching their male counterparts in daring exploits, but outdoing them in ingenuity, adaptability, and organization. In their trademark fur coats, bloomers, and cleverly altered clothing with numerous fake pockets, they ran a complex and diverse operation that extended from pickpocketing and blackmail to shoplifting, fraud, and jewelry theft—and earned themselves a fortune.

From hustling schemes that played on Victorian gender norms to bold department store smash-and-grabs, their methods evolved as times changed. But what remained constant was their bond of sisterhood, and the respect and admiration they received from the South London community, and surprisingly, from the police.

Despite their longevity and successes, the astonishing story of the Forty Elephants has been diminished and their achievements largely ignored. Now, drawing on previously untapped sources, award-winning author Nikki Vietz finally gives voice to these extraordinary, defiant women in an eye-opening, thrilling narrative of ambition, rivalry, feminism, resilience, and sisterhood.

- For fans of true stories featuring important but previously unknown women such as Liza Mundy's *Code Girls*
- Vietz is a historian by trade