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2023/2024 Highlights

Clete: A Dave Robicheaux Novel by James Lee Burke
Atlantic Monthly Press, June 11, 2024

Harbor Lights: Stories by James Lee Burke Atlantic Monthly Press, January 2024

Wordhunter by **Stella Sands** Harper Paperbacks, August 6, 2024

The Interpreter by **David Shipler**Green City Books, 2025

The Plinko Bounce by Martin Clark
Rare Bird Books, Paperback coming March 2024

Hamlet's Children by Pulitzer Prize winner **Richard Kluger** Scarlet Tanager Press, August 2023

> Galway Confidential by **Ken Bruen** Mysterious Press, March 5, 2024

The Solution to Burnout by **Dr. Sharon Grossman**7 Steps from Exhausted to Extraordinary
John Hopkins Press, 2025

"James Lee Burke remains the heavyweight champ, a great American novelist whose work, taken individually or as a whole, is unsurpassed" —Michael Connelly

JAMES LEE BURKE - CLETE, A Dave Robicheaux Novel



(Atlantic Monthly Press, June 11, 2024; UK/ Orion; France/Rivages; Italy/Edizioni Jimenez)

"Make no mistake, this is Clete's story told in his inimitable voice... It'll come as no surprise to Burke's fans that this is a perfectly constructed story told extremely well, and the opportunity to see Dave through the eyes of his best friend, from a new and rather intimate angle, absolutely should not be missed." — BOOKLIST, Starred Review

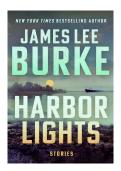
In the latest installment in his famous Detective Dave Robicheaux series, *New York Times* bestselling author James Lee Burke brings Dave's partner and friend, Clete Purcel, to the forefront for the first time, as Clete and Dave attempt to stop ruthless smugglers of a dangerous new drug.

Clete Purcel—private investigator, ex-member of the New Orleans Police Department, and war veteran with a hard shell and just a few soft spots—is Dave Robicheaux's longtime friend and partner in detective work. But he has a troubled past. When Clete leaves his car at the local car wash, only to return to find it ransacked by a group of thugs tied to the drug trade from Mexican cartels to Louisiana, it feels personal—his grandniece died of a fentanyl overdose, and his fists curl when he thinks of the dealers who sold it.

Just as Clete starts to trail the culprits, Clara Bow, a woman with a dark past hires Clete as a detective to investigate her scheming, slippery ex-husband, and a string of brutal deaths all link back to a heavily tattooed man who seems to lurk around every corner. Clete is experiencing shockingly lifelike hallucinations and questioning Clara's ulterior motives when he and Dave start to hear rumors of a dangerous substance with potentially catastrophic effects. The thugs who destroyed his car might have been pawns in a scheme far darker than they could've imagined.

Gripping, violent, yet interlaced with Clete's humor and consistent drive to protect those he loves, Clete brings a fresh perspective to a truly iconic series. James Lee Burke proves yet again that he is the "heavyweight champ" and "great American novelist whose work, taken individually or as a whole, is unsurpassed" (Michael Connelly).

HARBOR LIGHTS: Stories



(Atlantic Monthly Press, January 2024; UK/Orion; France/Rivages)

"[James Lee Burke's] finest books are literary masterpieces that explore the more sordid side of American life while shining a light into the darkest recesses of the soul... Above all, Burke excels, as ever, with his rigorous scrutiny of the evil that men do. These are stories of the highest caliber, written with punch."

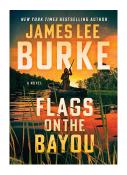
—Malcolm Forbes, Washington Examiner

Harbor Lights is a story collection from one of the most popular and widely acclaimed icons of American fiction, featuring a never-before-published novella. These eight stories move from the marshlands on the Gulf of Mexico to the sweeping plains of Colorado to prisons, saloons, and trailer parks across the South, weaving together love, friendship, violence, survival, and revenge.

As an atmosphere of suspicion pervades their Louisiana town, a boy and his father watch a German submarine sink an oil tanker. A girl is beaten up outside a bar as her university-professor father navigates new love and threats from a group of neo-Nazis. A pair of undercover union organizers are hired to break colts for a Hollywood actor, whose "Western hero" façade hides darkness. An oil rig worker witnesses a horrific attack on a local village while on a job in South America and seeks justice through one final act of bravery.

With his nuanced characters, complex prose, and ability to write shocking violence in the most evocative settings, James Lee Burke's singular skills are on display in this superb anthology. Harbor Lights unfolds in stories that crackle and reverberate as unexpected heroes emerge.

FLAGS ON THE BAYOU



(Grove/Atlantic, 2023, UK/Orion, France/Rivages, Italy/Edizioni Jimenez)

"The Civil War comes to New Iberia, Louisiana, the capital of Burke's wondrous fictional empire... [Readers] may well agree that it's his most probing examination of the enduring legacy of slavery... A grueling, compassionate demonstration that 'the devil ain't down in a fiery pit. He's right here.""

—Kirkus (Starred Review)

From internationally best-selling Grand Master (Mystery Writers of America) James Lee Burke comes a novel set during the American Civil War. As the country grapples with violence and division, a captivating cast of characters—plantation gentry, enslaved women, and soldiers from both sides—are caught in the maelstrom.

In the fall of 1963, much of Louisiana, including New Orleans, is occupied. The Confederate army is in disarray, corrupt old structures are falling apart, and enslaved men and women are beginning to glimpse freedom.

Haunted by his time on the battlefield, Wade Lufkin returns to his uncle's plantation to convalesce, where he becomes enraptured by Hannah Laveau, a formerly enslaved woman still working on the plantation. When Hannah is accused of murder, she goes on the run with an abolitionist schoolteacher (Miss Florence), dodging the local constable and the slavecatchers that prowl the bayous.

FLAGS ON THE BAYOU is an engaging, action-packed narrative that includes a duel that ends in disaster, a brutal encounter with Union commander, repeated skirmishes with renegade Confederate soldiers led by a diseased and deranged colonel, and a powerful story of love blossoming between an unlikely pair.

Powerful and deeply moving, FLAGS ON THE BAYOU is a story of America's past and present, tragic acts of war, class divisions, and love that endures through it all.

James Lee Burke, whose "evocative prose remains a thing a reliably fierce wonder" (Entertainment Weekly), delivers profound insight into human nature amidst the unique Louisiana landscape, from sunsets on the Mississippi River to the dingy saloons of New Orleans to the tree-lined shores of the bayou and the cottonmouth snakes that dwell in its depth.

Recently Published

EVERY CLOAK ROLLED IN BLOOD (Simon & Schuster, May 2022)

In his most autobiographical novel to date, James Lee Burke continues the epic Holland family saga with a writer grieving the death of his daughter while battling earthly and supernatural outlaws. This is a devastating exploration of the nature of good and evil and a deeply moving story about the power of love and family.

Novelist Aaron Holland Broussard is shattered when his daughter, Fannie Mae, dies suddenly. As he tries to honor her memory by saving two young men from a life of crime amid their opioid-ravaged community, he is drawn into a network of villainy that includes a violent former Klansman, a far-from-holy minister, a biker club posing as evangelicals, and a murderer who has been hiding in plain sight.

Aaron's only ally is state police officer Ruby Spotted Horse, a no-nonsense woman who harbors some powerful secrets in her cellar. Despite the air of mystery surrounding her, Ruby is the only one Aaron can trust. That is, until the ghost of Fannie Mae shows up, guiding her father through a tangled web of the present and past and helping him vanquish his foes from both this world and the next.

Drawn from James Lee Burke's own life experiences, *Every Cloak Rolled in Blood* is a devastating exploration of the nature of good and evil and a deeply moving story about the power of love and family.

Praise for Every Cloak Rolled in Blood

"Stunning...this is one of those extraordinary crime novels that feels more like real life, with incidents and people that aren't obviously connected piling up in the protagonist's life, rather than a neat set of clues pointing to a culprit. Once again, Burke uses genre fiction to plumb weighty issues, both social and emotional." – *Publishers Weekly Review (Starred)*

"Burke rolls together the driving themes that have dominated his work—the inescapable presence of evil, the restorative power of love, the desecration of the planet, humanity's long slouch toward Armageddon—into an intensely, heartrendingly personal exploration of grief."— *Booklist (Starred)*

"Less mystery than history, less history than prophecy, and all the stronger for it." - Kirkus Reviews

ANOTHER KIND OF EDEN (Simon & Schuster, 2021): New York Times best-selling author James Lee Burke brings readers a captivating tale of justice, love, brutality, and mysticism set in the turbulent 1960s.

The American West in the early 1960s appears to be a pastoral paradise: golden wheat fields, mist-filled canyons, frolicking animals. Aspiring novelist Aaron Holland Broussard has observed it from the open door of a boxcar, riding the rails for both inspiration and odd jobs.

Jumping off in Denver, he finds work on a farm and meets Joanne McDuffy, an articulate and fierce college student and gifted painter. Their soul connection is immediate, but their romance is complicated by Joanne's involvement with a shady professor who is mixed up with a drug-addled cult. When a sinister businessman and his son who wield their influence through vicious cruelty set their sights on Aaron, drawing him into an investigation of grotesque murders, it is clear that this idyllic landscape harbors tremendous power - and evil. Followed by a mysterious shrouded figure who might not be human, Aaron will have to face down all these foes to save the life of the woman he loves and his own.

The latest installment in James Lee Burke's masterful Holland family saga, *Another Kind of Eden* is riveting and one of Burke's most ambitious works to date. It dismantles the myths of both the 20th-century American West and the peace-and-love decade, excavating the beauty and idealism of the era to show the menace and chaos that lay simmering just beneath the surface.

Praise for Another Kind of Eden

"In many of Burke's books, he breaches the curtain between what we think of as the real world and the past, the supernatural, the alternative, whatever lies on the other side. In *Another Kind of Eden* he sweeps that curtain back like a theater impresario, inviting the reader into a potent vision of the battle between good and evil that animates all his fiction." —Colette Bancroft, *Tampa Bay Times*

"Incorporating elements of horror into otherwise realistic thrillers is a thing these days, but few manage it with Burke's special eloquence, at once melancholic and macabre."

—Bill Ott, Booklist (starred review)

"Sharp prose and distinctive characters... Suspense fans will be well satisfied." —Publishers Weekly

"Burke is an old hand at this game, and he juggles deeply flawed characters, several subplots, and dark humor with the vivid prose that draws comparisons to William Faulkner."

—The New York Journal of Books

"James Lee Burke is the reigning champ of nostalgia noir."—The New York Times Book Review

"Burke's work transcends genre classification."—Philadelphia Inquirer

"In a world of overstuffed, overwritten 'blockbuster' books, it's a pleasure to pick up 243 perfect pages with not a word or comma out of place. James Lee Burke doesn't need filler to flesh out his stories... one of the finest novelists in North America." —Margaret Cannon, *Globe and Mail*

Translations have been published in the following territories:

Brazil/Editora Record; Bulgaria/ Slovo & Prozoretz & Bard Pub; China/ Shaanxi Normal University; Croatia/Algoritam; Czech Republic/ BB Art; Denmark/Forlaget Hovedland; Finland/Like; France/Editions Payot & Rivages; Germany/ Heyne & Pendragon; Greece/ Elli Nika Gramatan; Indonesia/PT Greedier; Israel/ AM Oved Pub; Italy / Baldini Caldini & Medidiano Zero, currently: Edizioni Jimenez; Japan/ Kadokawa & Kodansha; Netherlands/ Luitin-Sijthoff & Verbum; Norway/Fagbokforlaget; Poland/Proszynski I S-ka; Portugal/Classica Editora; România/ S.C. Humanitas Fiction S.R.L; Russia/ U-Factoria Pub; Serbia/Vydavatelki & Alfa Naroddana Kniga Spain/ RBA Libros; Sweden/ Kriminalforlaget, Nortedts; Taiwan/Marco Polo Press; UK/Orion

DAVE ROBICHEAUX NOVELS

Published by Simon Schuster, Inc: A Private Cathedral (S&S, 2020), The New Iberia Blues (2019), Robicheaux (2018), Light of the World (2013), Creole Belle (2012), The Glass Rainbow (2010), Swan Peak (2008), The Tin Roof Blowdown (2007), Pegasus Descending (2006), Crusader's Cross (2005), Last Car to Elvsian Fields (2003), Jolie Blon's Bounce (2002),

Published by Doubleday/PRH: Purple Cane Road (2000), Sunset Limited (1998)

Published by Hyperion, then by S&S: Cadillac Jukebox (1996), Burning Angel (1995), Dixie City Jam (1994),

In the Electric Mist with Confederate Dead (1993), A Stained White Radiance (1992)

Published by Little, Brown: A Morning For Flamingos (1990), Black Cherry Blues (1989)

Published by Henry Holt & Co: Heaven's Prisoners (1988), The Neon Rain (1987)

THE HOLLAND FAMILY NOVELS

Published by Simon & Schuster: Every Cloak Rolled in Blood (2022), Another Kind of Eden (2021), The Jealous Kind (2016), House of the Rising Sun (2015), Wayfaring Stranger (2014), Feast Day of Fools (2011) Rain Gods (2009), In the Moon of Red Ponies (2004), Bitterroot (2001)

Published by Doubleday/PRH: Heartwood (1999)

Published by Hyperion, then re-printed by S&S: Cimarron Rose (1997), Two For Texas (1982),

Lay Down My Sword and Shield (1971)

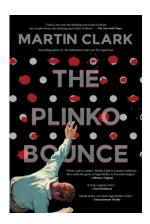
OTHER FICTION

Published by Simon & Schuster: Jesus Out to Sea (2007). White Doves at Morning (2002), The Lost Get-Back Boogie (1986), The Convict & Other Stories (1985), To The Bright and Shining Sun (1970), Half of Paradise (1965).

About the Author

JAMES LEE BURKE is a *New York Times* bestselling author, two-time winner of the Edgar Award as well as the Grand Master Award from Mystery Writers of America, winner of the CWA Diamond Dagger and Gold Dagger, and the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière, and the recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship for Creative Arts in Fiction.

MARTIN CLARK —THE PLINKO BOUNCE



(Rare Bird Books, September 2023)

New York Times Best Thriller of 2023

New York Times Editors' Pick in 2023

"The Verdict on John Grisham's Sequel to The Firm

Skip $\it The Exchange$, our columnist advises, and pick up $\it The Plinko Bounce...$ instead." $\it -The New York Times$

The New York Times selected THE PLINKO BOUNCE as one of the best Thrillers of 2023 and has called Martin Clark "the thinking man's John Grisham."

Entertainment Weekly called Martin Clark "hands down, our finest legal-thriller writer," and the Winston-Salem Journal declared he has set "the new standard by which other works of legal fiction should be judged." High praise for sure, and quotes that have been front and center in Martin's remarkable career. Still, as impressive as they are, it's accurate to say these few lines don't give a full, fair picture of Martin and the exceptional richness of his novels. The New York Times got closer when it called Martin the "thinking man's John Grisham, and maybe better, the drinking man's John Grisham." And perhaps David Baldacci summed it up best when he described Martin as "a truly original writer." A sui generis talent, Martin has been compared to Walker Percy and T.R. Pearson (Oxford American), Tom McGuane and Nick Hornby (New York Times Book Review), Elmore Leonard (Los Angeles Times), and even Hunter S. Thompson (The Denver Post). His new novel, The Plinko Bounce is yet another testament to his unique, genre-bending skill. It's a hugely entertaining story, with Martin's trademark intricate plotting, and it dips in and out of the legal system, but it's much more than a traditional "legal thriller." Gritty, philosophical, sly, smart, empathetic, wise and, at times, flatout funny, this is Martin's most accomplished book.

The Plinko Bounce is a novel of legal suspense and tells the story of Andy Hughes, a small-town public defender. For seventeen years, he's been underpaid to look after the poor, the addicted, and the unfortunate souls who constantly cycle through the courts, charged with petty crimes. Then, in the summer of 2020, things change. He's assigned to a grotesque murder case that brings national media focus to rural Patrick County, Virginia—Alicia Benson, the devout wife of a wealthy Mormon businessman, is murdered in her home. The accused killer, Damian Bullins, is a cunning felon with a long history of violence, especially where women are concerned. He even admits his guilt to Andy. But a series of glitches and missteps—a typographical error, the discovery of a marital secret, a missed filing deadline, and a cop shading the truth for justice's sake—begin to bedevil the state's case, making it possible Bullins might escape punishment. Once he learns about these complications, Bullins summons Andy to the jail and unexpectedly declares his innocence, though the story he tells in support of his new claim seems beyond belief. Duty-bound to give his client the best defense possible, Andy sets aside his misgivings and agrees to help fight for a not-guilty verdict, a decision that will ultimately endanger him and his family and force him to make profound, life-and-death choices, both inside and outside the courtroom.

PRAISE FOR THE PLINKO BOUNCE

"Martin Clark injects life into a topsy-turvy murder case in rural Virginia as only he can in this propulsive tour de force, which had me riveted from beginning to end." —Beth Macy, author of *Dopesick* and *Raising Lazarus*

"What I love about the novels of Martin Clark is how smart they are — about the law, of course: *The Plinko Bounce* is a legal thriller, after all. But he's just as smart about people, their attachments and losses, and what drives us to assume our roles in the murky moral mess that's life." —Daniel Wallace, author of *Big Fish* and *This Isn't Going to End Well*

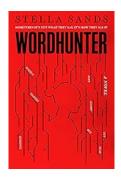
"The Plinko Bounce is jam-packed with crime, murder, old wounds, new thrills, disillusionment and the mayhem that ensues when dumb mistakes are made by well-meaning people. What a gift to readers on Judge Clark's 23rd anniversary in literary show business! We remain agog at his skill, mastery, and moxie. Martin's canon, which dredges the reader in heartbreak and roils us in hilarity, has a permanent place of honor in American Literature. Martin Clark is a master craftsman who exalts the genre of legal thriller to heavenly heights. Ain't nobody following him that will ever do better. That right there would be impossible. Trust me."—Adriana Trigiani, author of *The Good Left Undone* and *Big Stone Gap*

"Martin Clark is back stronger than ever. With all the legal tomfoolery of *Better Call Saul* and the dutiful heart of *Longmire*, *The Plinko Bounce* underscores why I've been an ardent Clark fan since the beginning. The man can write, he's funny as hell, and his words stand tall with hard-won integrity." —Matthew Quick, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Silver Linings Playbook* and *We Are the Light*

About the Author

Martin Clark is a retired circuit court judge from Patrick County, Virginia, Martin is a cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Davidson College and attended law school at the University of Virginia. When he was appointed to the bench in 1992 at age thirty-two, he became one of the youngest judges in the history of the commonwealth. His novels have appeared on numerous bestseller lists, and the audio version of *The Substitution Order* was a number one national bestseller. Additionally, his novels have been chosen as a *New York Times* Notable Book, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice, a *Washington Post Book World* Best Book of the Year, a *Bookmarks Magazine* Best Book of the Year, a *Boston Globe* Best Book of the Year, a Book-of-the-Month Club selection, a finalist for the Stephen Crane First Fiction Award, and the winner of the Library of Virginia's People's Choice Award in 2009, 2016 and 2020. Martin received the Patrick County Outstanding Community Service Award in 2016 and the Virginia State Bar's Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Award in 2018.

STELLA SANDS - WORDHUNTER



(HarperCollins, August 6, 2024)

"Maggie Moore is tattooed and pierced and drinks beer for breakfast, but she's also a linguistic savant with a lightning quick mind. In short, she's a winning protagonist for a smart, original, and entirely entertaining mystery. If you love words, puzzles, or just a well-crafted story, you'll love *Wordhunter*." —Alafair Burke, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Find Me*

Wordhunter is a darkly comic thriller centering on grad student Maggie Moore—tattooed, pierced, and socially awkward—who helps solve crimes by decoding the words of stalkers, rapists, pedophiles, murderers, and the like.

In Wordhunter, Stieg Larsson meets Ruth Ware—but with humor and quirkiness, and a huge dose of word play.

Maggie is studying forensic linguistics—again at the top of her class—when she's asked to assist detectives in solving a rape case by analyzing the harrowing words in the stalker-turned-rapist's texts. From that success, she's labeled a word genius.

But when Maggie gets the latest call for help, there's a problem. She's been trying to get herself together after having recently suffered several life-altering traumas, including news of her best friend, who had disappeared when they were teenagers, and an extraordinary betrayal by someone she had trusted. Shaken and weakened, Maggie nevertheless signs on to help find the perp—but the clock's ticking. Will she be able to find her focus before it's too late?

Along the way, there's a love story with a detective—and a murder Maggie thinks she committed.

The heart-stopping ending will leave you consumed—and begging for more.

About the Author

Stella Sands is the author of six true crime books, Behind the Mask, Murder at Yale, The Good Son, The Dating Game Killer, Wealthy Men Only—all available from St. Martin's Press True Crime Library—and Baby-faced Butchers, as well as other works including Odyssea and Natural Disasters. Her plays, Lou Passin' Through, Blackeyed Peas, and E-me, have been produced in Off-Off Broadway theaters in New York City. She was Executive Editor of Kids Discover, an award-winning magazine (geared to children 7 to 12 years old), with more than 400,000 subscribers. Stella has appeared on several TV programs highlighting her true-crime books. Among the shows are People Magazine Investigates, 20/20, and Investigation Discovery episodes. In the fall of 2023, she will appear in the first of a six-part Netflix series on high-profile NYC crimes, featuring her book Baby-faced Butchers.

Sands lives in Sag Harbor, New York.

DAVID SHIPLER — THE INTERPRETER (Green City Books, 2025)

Set in Vietnam before and after the end of the war, *The Interpreter* is based on the true story of a Vietnamese translator who is wounded—not physically—by a love of country too pure for the contaminated choices that confront him. Dragged by an inner search, he has wandered among the neat categories of allegiance imposed by Vietnam's lifetime of warfare and foreign occupation. As a boy, he guided Japanese snipers against the French through the nighttime alleys of Hanoi, tried to join the Viet Minh, then as a man survived a South Vietnamese prison, helped plotters of a failed coup, translated for an American general, and has now landed as an interpreter for an American newspaper.

But he fits into none of the available boxes, not the Communist box, not the Government box, not the pro-American box, not the one containing the assortment of political dissidents who populate the shadowy warrens of Saigon. He finds no home with either the tortured or the torturers. Instead, he tries to interpret Vietnam, through an evolving comradeship with an American correspondent, to distant, weary audiences who barely listen anymore. He commits a futile betrayal against the correspondent's wife, an artist who interprets in her way as she draws faces. He harbors a secret. He clings to a simple nobility, he believes, as an authentic Vietnamese of transcendent patriotism, and so he keeps his footing in the whirlwind of panic as Saigon falls. By refusing an offer to escape with his family to the US, he consigns his future to an intricate, stumbling dance with the victorious Communist regime.

This man is fictionalized, but he is not alone in the world. His torment is a hidden story not only of Vietnam but of the hundreds like him who have interpreted their war-torn countries for the foreigners who fuel the fighting with weapons and blood.

Praise for: Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land:

"Leaves no aspect of the complex Arab-Jewish relationship untouched...Presented in an abundance of narratives, anecdotes and conversations that never seem hackneyed." — The New York Times Book Review

"Shipler has penetrated far into foreign feelings and foreign cultures. And he writes with great moral poise."

—The New Republic

"Thought-provoking, controversial, and timely." —Library Journal

"A rich, penetrating, and moving portrayal of Arab-Jewish hostility, told in human terms." —Newsday

"The best and most comprehensive work there is in the English language on this subject."

—The New York Times

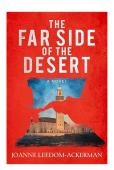
About the Author

David K. Shipler is an American author and journalist. He won the Pulitzer Prize for General Non-fiction in 1987 for *Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land.* Among his other publications the book entitled, *The Working Poor: Invisible in America*,[1] also has garnered many awards. Formerly, he was a foreign correspondent of *The New York Times* and served as one of their bureau chiefs. He has taught at many colleges and universities. Since 2010, he has published the electronic journal, *The Shipler Report*.

JOANNE LEEDOM-ACKERMAN

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THE FAR SIDE OF THE DESERT



(Oceanview Publishing, March 2024)

"Get your passport. The globetrotting Waters trio takes readers to Cairo, Morocco, Spain, and Gibraltar, in an amazing human-interest and political thriller."

—Bookreporter

A terrorist attack—a kidnapping—the ultimate vacation gone wrong

Sisters Samantha and Monte Waters are vacationing together in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, enjoying a festival and planning to meet with their brother, Cal—but the idyllic plans are short-lived. When terrorists' attacks rock the city around them, Monte, a U.S. foreign service officer, and Samantha, an international television correspondent, are separated, and one of them is whisked away in the frenzy.

The family mobilizes, using all their contacts to try to find their missing sister, but to no avail. She has vanished. As time presses on, the outlook darkens. Can she be found, or is she a lost cause? And, even if she returns, will the damage to her and those around her be irreparable?

Moving from Spain to Washington to Morocco to Gibraltar to the Sahara Desert, *The Far Side of the Desert* is a family drama and political thriller that explores links of terrorism, crime, and financial manipulation, revealing the grace that ultimately foils destruction.

BURNING DISTANCE



(Oceanview, March 2023; paperback February 2024)

"Burning Distance is a double helix of a book, carefully plotted and beautifully told. It's a spy story interwoven with a love story, and the strands fit together in a way that moves the reader effortlessly from chapter to chapter . . . A subtle and satisfying novel." —David Ignatius, Washington Post columnist and New York Times best-selling author

A modern-day Romeo and Juliet—set against the backdrop of deadly weapons smuggling.

When 10-year-old Elizabeth West's father dies in a tragic plane crash over the Persian Gulf, her family uproots their life in Washington, D.C., and moves to London. Her mother marries a knighted British businessman who has two children, and Elizabeth (Lizzy) and her two sisters move in with their new family.

At age 16, while attending the American School of London, Lizzy meets and falls in love with Adil Hasan—but when Adil's father, a noted arms middleman, is deported, Lizzy and Adil are separated.

Lizzy's family has also become involved with French-German industrialist Gerald Rene Wagner. Little does she know that Adil's family has ties to the man, as well. When a member of her family is murdered in Berlin under mysterious circumstances, questions surface about Wagner's dealings, and Lizzy reexamines what really may have happened to her father. All the while, she endeavors to reunite with her lost love, Adil, and reclaim the connection that was ripped away.

Set in the years before and after the first Gulf War, *Burning Distance* is a journey through family secrets and competing loyalties, contemporary history, and the dark world of arms trafficking.

Jane Austen meets John le Carré in this cross-cultural love story and political thriller.

About the Author

Ms. Leedom-Ackerman has served as the International Secretary of PEN International, previously headed up the international human rights work of PEN International and is today a Vice President Emeritus of PEN International. She has been a board member and Vice President of PEN American Center and is currently on the boards of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation, Poets and Writers, the International Center for Journalists, Words Without Borders, and the American Writers Museum. She also serves on the board of trustees of Refugees International and is an emeritus board member of Human Rights Watch, the International Crisis Group, Save the Children, Johns Hopkins University, and Brown University. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Texas Institute of Letters.

RICHARD KLUGER – HAMLET'S CHILDREN



(Scarlet Tanager Press, August 2023)

"History vividly brought to life, *Hamlet's Children* is an affectionate but cleareyed portrait of a Danish family under the Nazi occupation and of the young American relative who finds a risky shelter with them. Kluger captures the day-to-day feel of wartime, the menace, the moral compromises, and the occasional heroism." —Joseph Kanon, author of *The Good German*

When grave family misfortune leaves thirteen-year-old Terry Sayre without parents or relatives to care for him in the summer of 1939, his only option to elude foster care by strangers is to accept asylum abroad with his mother's Danish kin, people he met only briefly as a child. Despondent but not given to self-pity, Terry begins life anew sheltered in his formidable grandparents' home in a coastal town an hour's drive from Copenhagen, Denmark's capital. But within months of his arrival, the Second World War breaks out. Serving as the emotional prism through which that monumental struggle is refracted, Terry's older self recounts his precarious coming of age as an alien marooned in a disconcerting new land throughout its long national nightmare —an ordeal none of his peers was enduring back home safe in America.

Spared the savage treatment Nazi Germany dealt other countries it conquered, Denmark was allowed to remain nominally self-governing. Good fortune, though, did not allow the proud, peace-loving little kingdom to escape the toll the war took on its people's collective soul. Fearful of openly resisting or secretly harassing the German occupation at risk of lethal reprisals, Denmark made a complicit pact with its tormentors to feed and equip their armed forces. As a result, the Danes suffered from self-hatred at home and contempt abroad as a land of shameless collaborators bartering their country's honor to survive the war unbloodied.

Hamlet's Children by Richard Kluger is the story of a young American's wrenching assimilation with his Danish relatives and their friends and of how he is pinioned in the same cruel vise with his adopted countrymen as they cunningly attempt to subvert the Germans' iron grip on their kingdom. Paramount on this agenda of defiance is the Danes' persistent effort to keep their Jewish neighbors out of the Nazis' murderous hands. Vibrant with memorable characters and fraught with tension, this artfully crafted narrative, both heartbreaking and uplifting, is a testament to the human spirit in its bleakest hours.

Praise for Hamlet's Children

"I couldn't put down this richly depicted story, full of beautifully defined characters, in which fiction and fact are seamlessly woven together by Richard Kluger. The moral dilemma of the peaceable Danish people under Nazi occupation is seen through the eyes of a sensitive American teenager trapped far from home but sympathetically surrounded by a family of formidable relatives—especially his sexy, courageous guardian angel, Aunt Rikki, whose struggle to defy her country's conquerors while preserving her honor all but steals the show. Hamlet's Children deserves to be on everyone's reading list." — Julianna Margulies, award-winning actress, producer and author of a memoir, Sunshine Girl: An Unexpected Life

"Meticulously researched and strikingly imagined, *Hamlet's Children* possesses treasures for a wide range of readers, from history buffs to high school students (teachers take note!). Richard Kluger has created a pitch-perfect 1940s narrator in plucky young Terry Sayre—and the perfect set of eyes and ears for revealing the

agonizing choices faced by the Danes during the Second World War. Harrowing and ultimately heart-warming, Hamlet's Children will keep you turning pages far into the night." – Barbara Quick, novelist, poet, journalist, and the author of Vivaldi's Virgins

"Hamlet's Children is a powerful and rousing novel of oppression and defiance in Denmark during World War II. I am particularly taken with how naturally the tale unfolds and the jaunty elegance of the prose. The depiction of the complex relationship between the narrator's aunt and the German major is superb and worth a book of its own." – **R.Z. Sheppard**, former book critic at *Time magazine*

"In one small facet of World War II, the reader is drawn into a fully realized sense of that horrific conflict. Hamlet's Children elegantly combines meticulous attention to the historical record with deft writing and the creation of indelible characters. Through them we see the gathering clouds of war over Denmark, the terror of German occupation, the indomitable spirit of the young American narrator's anti-Nazi family – but also the ethical and political compromises the captive Danish people were forced to make." – Stanislao G. Pugliese, author of The Legacy of Primo Levi

"Hamlet's Children is historical fiction at its best: accurate, surprising and a great, up-all-night read. Richard Kluger succeeds on all counts as he threads a moving family story through the harrowing years of the Nazi occupation of Denmark. Just an extremely well-wrought piece of imaginative work." – **Beverly Lowry**, author of *Deer Creek Drive* and *Harriet Tubman: Imagining a Life*

"Kluger's masterly portrayal of the cruel Nazi occupation of Denmark, told through the eyes of a stranded American teenager, is not only a terrific premise for a coming-of-age story but a searing indictment of national aggression that rings as true as today's headlines." – **April Smith**, author of A Star For Mrs. Blake and Home Sweet Home

"Hamlet's Children is superb historical fiction. It illuminates the murky moral terrain that Danes had to navigate under a Nazi occupation that was far less brutal than anywhere else in Europe. But dangers still lurked everywhere, especially for the country's small Jewish population. Richard Kluger places an American teenager and his Danish family at the center of this drama."

- Andrew Nagorski, author of The Nazi Hunters and Saving Freud

"It's rare enough to find an authentic portrait of an adolescent, especially one who functions in an adult world. Richard Kluger has provided just such a feat in his account of an American teenager trapped in Nazi-occupied Denmark, a story alive with sympathetic characters and propelled by a fascinating narrative."—

Joseph E. Illick, author of American Childhoods

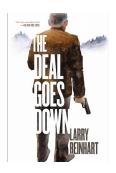
"A coming-of-age story, a war story, a story of personal and national survival – Richard Kluger's *Hamlet's Children* weaves a narrative spell that will draw you in and hold you until it's done. In this compelling journey into history, the reader is caught up in personal dramas and moral dilemmas, in the fight against evil forces and the insistence on humanity. Light a fire in the hearth, curl up in your favorite chair and settle in for a great read."

- Joanne Leedom-Ackerman, author of The Dark Path to the River and Burning Distance

About the Author

Richard Kluger is an American social historian and novelist who, after working as a New York journalist and publishing executive, turned in mid-career to writing books that have won wide critical acclaim. His two best known works are *Simple Justice*, considered the definitive account of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 landmark decision outlawing racially segregated public schools, and *Ashes to Ashes*, a critical history of the cigarette industry and its lethal toll on smokers' lives, which won the Pulitzer Prize for general nonfiction. He now resides in Berkeley, California.

LARRY BEINHART - THE DEAL GOES DOWN



(Melville House, 2022)

"From the gripping opening line...Beinhart never takes his foot off the gas in the outstanding fourth outing for Tony Cassella... Fans of darkly funny crime dramas such as *Fargo* will be hooked."—*Publishers Weekly, Starred Review*

From Edgar-winning author of *American Hero* (made into the film *Wag the Dog*), Larry Beinhart, and a new novel featuring his New York PI hero, Tony Cassella.

In *The Deal Goes Down*, Tony gets involved with a team of women whose mission is to save others—mainly from abusive marriages—and make a nice profit to boot. The firm is LIFE, Inc., Litigation Investment for Female Empowerment; Tony their would-be hit man.

The novel features great dialogue and great characters—most female. There are great action scenes; fantastic while still being credible.

Three Tony Cassella novels have previously been published: the Edgar winner No One Rides for Free (William Morrow, 1986), You Get What You Pay For (William Morrow, 1988) and Foreign Exchange (Crown/Harmony, 1991).

Reviews / Blurbs:

"There's enough action in this thoroughly enjoyable comedy of errors to please the most discriminating reader, but it's the humor that captures." —Library Journal

"Determinedly offbeat...the enjoyment Beinhart derives from his spritzing, free-wheeling approach lifts the book, which at its best is a cross between Stanley Elkin and Raymond Chandler... A comic noir with a voice all its own." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"(A) defiantly off-kilter tale, deliciously laced with conspiratorial paranoia, slippery moral slopes, and humor of the darkest sort. A heady brew well worth savoring." —Mystery Scene Magazine

"Phenomenal...I loved this novel! No one writes in this genre like Beinhart. And very few in any other genre. The things Beinhart does to make the characters breath, get under our skin. What a joy to read!"

—Juan José Campanella, director of the Oscar-winning *The Secret in Their Eyes*

About the Author

Larry Beinhart is best known as the author of *Wag the Dog* (originally published as *American Hero*) on which the film starring Robert DeNiro, Dustin Hoffman, Willie Nelson and Woody Harrelson was based. His *No One Rides for Free* (1986) received the 1987 Edgar Award for Best First Novel. Beinhart has been the recipient of a Raymond Chandler Fulbright Fellowship in Detective and Crime Fiction Writing, the Edgar Award for Best First novel for *No One Rides for Free* (1986), the French literary prize, Grand Prix de Littérature Policière, and the British Golden Dagger.

KEN BRUEN - GALWAY CONFIDENTIAL



(Mysterious Press, March 5, 2024)

In this new installment of Ken Bruen's beloved Jack Taylor series, the whiskey-swigging Irish detective investigates a series of violent attacks on the local convent's nuns.

Jack Taylor wakes up from a coma to discover that much of the world has changed since he last walked the streets of Galway. The pandemic had hit while he was under, devastating the lives of many in his beloved city and beyond. Now, as Jack tries to recover from the attack that put him in the hospital and absorb the incredible changes in the world around him, a woman approaches him with a distressing case: two local nuns have been bludgeoned by a mysterious man wielding a hammer, and more are sure to follow. As the police fail to act while the violence against the Sisters escalates, Jack seems like their only hope.

Initially wary of becoming involved in the investigation, Jack finds he cannot stay away from the mystery surrounding these vicious attacks. He also cannot shake a feeling of darkness that has haunted him since he awoke from his coma—a darkness that is far too close for comfort. Luckily an old friend is there to help see him through and there is always Jack's dark wit and a drink to help shore up his mood.

Advance Reviews

"The raffish hero's world feels like an unusually sordid theme park attraction. Just be sure to wipe your hands when you exit." — *Kirkus*

"Satisfyingly complex . . . All the usual elements of a Jack Taylor novel—terse prose, muscular action, and plenty of Jameson—are on offer in spades. . . . This will more than satisfy series fans." — Publishers Weekly

A GALWAY EPIPHANY (Mysterious Press, 2021)

Jack Taylor has finally escaped the despair of his violent life in Galway in favor of a quiet retirement in the country with his friend Keefer, a former Rolling Stones roadie, and a falcon named Maeve. But on a day trip back into the city to sort out his affairs, Jack is hit by a truck in front of Galway's Famine Memorial, left in a coma but mysteriously without a scratch on him.

When he awakens weeks later, he finds Ireland in a frenzy over the so-called "Miracle of Galway." People have become convinced that the two children spotted tending to him are saintly, and the site of the accident sacred. The Catholic Church isn't so sure, and Jack is commissioned to help find the children to verify the miracle or expose the stunt.

But Jack isn't the only one looking for these children. A fraudulent order of nuns needs them to legitimatize its sanctity and becomes involved with a dangerous arsonist. Soon, the building in which the children are living burns down. Jack returns to his old tricks, and his old demons, as his quest becomes personal.

Sharp and sardonic as ever, "the Godfather of the modern Irish crime novel" (Irish Independent) is at his brutal and ceaselessly suspenseful best in A Galway Epiphany.

Reviews/Blurbs

"They don't come much tougher than Ken Bruen's Irish roughneck, Jack Taylor, a man with bad habits who does good despite himself." —Marilyn Stasio, *The New York Times Book Review*

"[Bruen] writes short, rat-a-tat sentences that suggest a meeting of Samuel Beckett and Ogden Nash."—Chicago Tribune

"Powered by nonstop action and acerbic wit, [In the Galway Silence] is—like the pints of Guinness that the saga's existentially tortured, pill-popping antihero consumes on a daily basis—unfathomably dark. [Jack Taylor is] a deeply flawed but endearing character whose suffering is both tragic and transformative."

—Publishers Weekly

"Nobody writes like Ken Bruen, with his ear for lilting Irish prose and his taste for the kind of gallows humor heard only at the foot of the gallows. The Emerald Lie is pure Bruen, with its verbal tics, weird typography and unorthodox wordplay." —The New York Times Book Review

"Bruen's voice is unmistakable: finely chiseled paragraphs that more closely resemble verse than prose . . . Bleaker than David Goodis, colder than Derek Raymond, and funnier and more violent than Richard Stark, Ken Bruen is among the most original and innovative noir voices of the last two decades." —Los Angeles Review of Books

Inspector Brant Series:

Published by St. Martin's Press: Ammunition (2000), Blitz: Or Brant Hits the Blues (2003) Vixen (2005), Calibre (2006), **The White Trilogy:** A White Arrest, Taming the Alien, The McDead (Mysterious Press, 2012)

A Jack Taylor Series:

Published by St. Martin's Press: The Guards (2003), The Killing of the Tinkers (2004), The Magdalen Martyrs (2005), The Dramatist (2006), Priest (2007), Cross (2008), Sanctuary (2008), The Devil (2010)

Published by Mysterious Press: Headstone (2011), Purgatory (2013), Green Hell (2015), The Emerald Lie (2016), The Ghosts of Galway (2017), In the Galway Silence (2018) Galway Girl (2019), A Galway Epiphany (Nov-2020)

Max Fisher and Angela Petrakos Series (with Jason Starr) Bust (2006) – Finalist 2007 Barry Award Slide (2007) – Finalist 2008 Anthony Award for Best Paperback, The Max (2008), Pimp (2016)

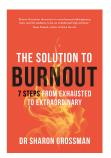
Non-series (including collections of stories): Funeral: Tales of Irish Morbidities (1991), Shades of Grace (1993), Martyrs (1994), Sherry and Other Stories (1994), All the Old Songs and Nothing to Love (1994), The Time of Serena-May & Upon the Third Cross (1994), Rilke on Black (1996), The Hackman Blues (1997), Her Last Call to Louis MacNeice (1998), Dispatching Baudelaire (2004), Murder by the Book (2005), American Skin (2006), Once Were Cops (2008), Killer Year (2008), Tower (w/Reed Coleman, 2009) London Boulevard (2011), The Book of Virtue (2011), Merrick (2014), Callous (2021)

About the Author

Ken Bruen received a doctorate in metaphysics, taught English in South Africa, and then became a crime novelist. The critically acclaimed author of eleven previous Jack Taylor novels and The White Trilogy, he is the recipient of two Barry Awards and two Shamus Awards and has twice been a finalist for the Edgar Award. He lives in Galway, Ireland.

DR. SHARON GROSSMAN— THE SOLUTION TO BURNOUT

7 Steps from Exhausted to Extraordinary



(John Hopkins Press, Spring 2025; UK/Headline)

People often think that if they aren't accomplishing their work in the time they have, the solution is to work harder and longer. This only leads to anxiety, stress, and irritability when you stay late, work overtime, and take work home to complete. This "over-commitment" to work robs you of personal time and you end up feeling guilty about not spending time with family or taking time for yourself. Without proper recovery, you will inevitably burn out.

The reality is, there is a better way.

Drawing on her clinical experience as a psychologist, relevant research, and Buddhist philosophy, Dr. Sharon Grossman has put together a practical roadmap to move you beyond your stuck points so that you can get work done in less time, live with purpose, and regain your energy. Her 7-step burnout solution including Emotional Intelligence, Empowerment, Engagement, Efficacy, Energy, Effort, and Enlightenment.

The tools in this book have been proven to create positive, long-lasting results that will strengthen, encourage, and enliven you without needing to change your environment.

Blurbs/Reviews:

"By the end of the introduction, I realized for the first time that my long-time lethargy and dissatisfaction were the result of burnout! Dr Grossman's approach is firm and compassionate. She walks the reader through the causes and symptoms of burnout and offers a broad range of specific solutions that address the physical, emotional and spiritual." -- Michael Palladino, Co-founder of Let Blu

"Dr. Sharon Grossman takes a rational and research-based approach to keep you from burnout. The pages share how to move beyond self-judgments, fears and the tendency to be an unbalanced high achiever. Full of examples and stories of how our perceptions affect our efforts, she lays out a compelling argument that our minds shape our successes." -- Ryan Foland, Speaker and Author of Ditch the Act: Reveal the Surprising Power of the Real You for Greater Success

About the Author

Dr. Sharon Grossman is the Burnout Doc. As a psychologist, keynote speaker, and burnout expert, she has spent the past two decades transforming the personal and professional lives of countless high achievers around the world. She lives with her family in Florida.

BARTLE BULL - WE'LL MEET AGAIN (Speaking Volumes, Inc. 2022)

Written with what The New York Times has called, "Mr. Bull's spirited, sensuous, hotblooded evocation of a rich and eventful historical world," Bartle Bull's We'll Meet Again is a powerful romantic novel set in Egypt and Yugoslavia during World War II.

It is 1942, and the American and British armies are landing in North Africa to fight the German army led by General Erwin Rommel. Underground resistance to German occupation is rising across Europe. In Yugoslavia, Communist and royalist resistance movements are fighting both the Germans and each other. American and British agents are parachuting into Yugoslavia from Egypt to assist them.

Anton Rider, the safari hunter featured in Bull's celebrated novels The White Rhino Hotel, A Café on the Nile and The Devil's Oasis, is dispatched to Yugoslavia to kill a brutal fascist commander and attack a Nazi concentration camp where Gypsies and others are being murdered. Raised as a boy by Gypsies in England, Anton is injured while parachuting into the mountains of Yugoslavia with an American agent who becomes his mortal enemy.

Meanwhile, Rider's son is wounded fighting Rommel's forces in North Africa, and Anton's beloved wife Gwenn, from whom he is separated, is having an affair in Cairo with a treacherous English officer. There the mysterious dwarf, Olivio Alavedo, is at the center of intrigue and fights to protect his absent friend, Anton Rider.

After romantic and military adventures in Yugoslavia, Anton returns to Egypt, where he confronts his enemies and seeks to recover the lady he loves.

As Forbes magazine wrote about The White Rhino Hotel, "A genuine epic centered in Africa by a writer who knows how to write, who knows his terrain intimately, who knows his characters and who knows how to spin a good yarn."

Praise for Bartle Bull's Anton Rider Series

"The truest picture of colonial Kenya, circa 1918-1921, that you're likely to find.... Compared with Ernest Hemingway and Robert Ruark...Bull's knowledge of East Africa... is profound." —*The Washington Post*

"You finish this book appreciative of Mr. Bull's spirited, sensuous, hot-blooded evocation of a rich and eventful historical world... Romantic and eventful...a satisfying dose of wartime action, private revenge, and seething passion.... (it) bears the imaginative stamp of Mr. Bull's previous novels... Their intricate plotting, their lusty sense of character and their geographic and linguistic authenticity... Nonstop action, eroticism, and intrigue."—Richard Bernstein, *The New York Times*

About the Author

Bartle Bull was born in London and educated at Harvard University and Magdalen College, Oxford. A student of Africa for more than thirty years, he is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and a member of the Explorers Club. A former publisher of *The Village Voice*, Bull wrote an environmental column for the Voice and later for the Natural Resources Defense Council. He and his fiancée live in New York and Florida.

ALAFAIR BURKE

Alafair Burke's next standalone novel is forthcoming from Knopf in the fall of 2024

FIND ME (HarperCollins, 2022)



The Girl She Was (Faber & Faber, Dec. 2021) — UK book title

"Scintillating. . . Appealing characters match the meticulous plotting. Burke reinforces her place in the top rank of suspense writers."

— Publishers Weekly, starred review

The disappearance of a young woman leaves her closest friend reeling and an NYPD homicide detective digging into her own past in this thrilling mystery full of twists from the New York Times bestselling author of *The Better Sister* and *The Wife*.

Some pasts won't stay forgotten . . .

She calls herself Hope Miller, but she has no idea who she actually is. Fourteen years ago, she was found in a small New Jersey town thrown from an overturned vehicle, with no clue to her identity. Doctors assumed her amnesia was a temporary side effect of her injuries, but she never regained her memory. Hope eventually started a new life with a new name in a new town that welcomed her, yet always wondered what she may have left behind—or been running from. Now, fourteen years later, she's leaving New Jersey to start over once again.

Manhattan defense lawyer Lindsay Kelly, Hope's best friend and the one who found her after the accident, understands why Hope wants a new beginning. But she worries how her friend will fare in her new East Hampton home, far away from everything familiar. Lindsay's worst fears are confirmed when she discovers Hope has vanished without a trace—the only lead a drop of blood found where she was last seen. Even more ominously, the blood matches a DNA sample with a connection to a notorious Kansas murderer.

With nowhere else to turn, Lindsay calls NYPD homicide detective Ellie Hatcher, the daughter of the cop who dedicated his life to hunting the Kansas killer. Ellie has always believed there was more to the story of her father's death twenty years earlier—and she now fears that Hope's recent disappearance could be related.

In pursuit of answers, three women search for the truth beneath long-buried secrets. And when their searches converge, what they find will upend everything they've ever known.

Option Publishers: Italy/ Piemme_Czech/ Grada, Denmark/ Gads Forlag, Germany/ Aufbau, Lithuania/ Balto leidybos namai_Spain/ Roca Editorial_The Netherlands/ Xander, France/ Presses de la Citê

Reviews/ Blurbs for Find Me

"The novel has a nice Hitchcockian feel to it as it glides from New Jersey to East Hampton to Wichita." — *The Washington Post*

"Burke's focus on her intelligent characters and smart plotting energizes *Find Me...*[and her] reputation for delivering highly entertaining, intricately plotted novels continues." — *South Florida Sun Sentinel*

"A skillfully constructed, delightfully twisty thriller powered by Burke's trademark strong, relatable heroines and realistic foes." — *Booklist*

"Irresistible.... Burke's arrangement of all the puzzle pieces is wickedly clever, as are the twists she gives them just when you think you know something. *Find Me* is beautifully crafted, a swift and gripping read. And those twists keep coming at you until the very last paragraph."

— Tampa Bay Times

"The two women feverishly piece together the disparate parts of the story, and Burke's masterful control over pacing and plot reveals will make readers just as anxious to uncover the truth." — **BookPage**

"Burke is a master at plotting and pacing and doesn't disappoint here. Not only is this book a true pageturner with an intricate story and well-rounded cast of characters, but it combines a couple of my favorite plot points—amnesia and missing persons—and leads to an exquisite eleventh-hour shocker."
— CrimeReads

"Alafair Burke's *Find Me* is a total knockout—serpentine in structure, rich in emotional heft and deeply moving as the past comes back not just to haunt the characters but to shudder through their lives, revealing secrets big and small, dangerous and intimate. Not to be missed." — **Megan Abbott, author of** *The* **Turnout**

"Find Me is a gem, the sort of smart, suspenseful, slow burn that I love. The tension is palpable on every page, and I savored every surprise. Alafair Burke is a treasure." — Chris Bohjalian, author of The Flight Attendant and Hour of the Witch

"From one of our greatest contemporary mystery writers comes another superb nail-biting thriller. Alafair Burke uses an intricately layered and twisty plot to ensnare us and then pulls us in for a close examination of intimacy and community. I devoured it, from its riveting first scene to the shocking last page." — **Angie Kim, author of** *Miracle Creek*

"Alafair Burke once again weaves a riveting web of a story, threaded with delicious characters and hot button social issues. If you're looking for the perfect twisty mystery, you've found it in *Find Me*." — **Janelle Brown, author of** *Pretty Things*

"Alafair Burke is back in this gripping, head-spinning thriller of the first order. Find Me is a perfect read: the writing is engaging, the twists are perfectly executed and the exploration of female friendships and identity offers satisfying heft to the plot. I can't wait for Burke's next." — Cristina Alger, author of Girls Like Us

Backlist Titles

The Better Sister_(HarperCollins, 2019): A twisty tale of domestic noir. When a prominent Manhattan lawyer is murdered, two estranged sisters—one the dead man's widow, the other his ex—must set aside mistrust and old resentments ... but can they escape their past? Keep your enemies close and your sister closer.

UK/Faber & Faber, France/Presses de la Cité, Denmark/Gads Forlag, Italy/Piemme, Holland/Xander Uitgevers

The Wife (Harper, 2018) His Scandal, Her Secret. A stunning domestic thriller in which a woman must make the impossible choice between defending her husband and saving herself. Film rights sold to: Amazon Studios

Foreign rights to: UK/Faber & Faber, France/Presses de la Cité, Czech/Metafora, Denmark/Gads Forlag, Israel/Kor'im Publishers, Italy/Piemme, Holland/Xander Uitgevers, Spain/Roca Editorial, Hungary/Lettero Kiado, Slovak/Ikar

<u>The Ex</u> (Harper, 2016): Twenty years ago, she ruined his life. Now she has the chance to save it. A woman agrees to help an old boyfriend who has been framed for murder but begins to suspect that she is the one being manipulated.

Foreign rights to: France/Presses de la Cité, UK/ Faber & Faber, Denmark/Gads Forlag, Dutch/Xander Uitgevers, Hungary/Lettero Kiado, Israel/Kor'im Publishers, Italy/Piemme, Sweden/Printz Publishing, Turkey/Beyaz Baykus

All Day and a Night (US: Harper / UK: Faber & Faber, 2014) A murder case with ties to a convicted serial killer leads a young defense lawyer and an NYPD homicide detective into parallel investigations with explosive and deadly results in this superb mystery from "one of the finest young crime writers working today" (Dennis Lehane).

If You Were Here (Harper, 2013) (UK/Faber & Faber): Manhattan journalist McKenna Jordan is chasing the story of an unidentified woman who pulled a teenaged boy from the subway tracks. When she locates a video of the incident, she is shocked to discover that the mystery heroine bears a strong resemblance to Susan Hauptmann, a close friend who disappeared without a trace a decade earlier, shortly after introducing McKenna to her husband. What would have been a short-lived metro story sends McKenna on a dangerous search for the missing woman—a search that will force her to unearth long-buried truths much closer to home. Translation: Italian/Piemme

Never Tell (Harper, 2012) NYPD Detective Ellie Hatcher is convinced a young girl's death is suicide, but she knows from personal experience that a loving family can be the last to accept the truth. When the Whitmires use their power to force a criminal investigation, Ellie's resistance causes trouble for her both at work and in her personal life. Translation: Italian/Piemme (forthcoming)

Long Gone (Harper, 2011) (UK/Avon, 2011): After a layoff and months of struggling, Alice Humphrey finally lands her dream job managing a new art gallery in Manhattan's trendy Meatpacking District. Everything is perfect until the morning Alice arrives at work to find the gallery gone—the space stripped bare as if it had never existed—and a dead body on the floor. Overnight, Alice's dream job has vanished, and she finds herself at the center of police attention with nothing to prove her innocence. Translations: French/Telemaque, Italy/Piemme, French/Points, Norwegian/ Schibsted, Polish/Replika, Russian/Book Club 36.6, Korea/Random House Korea

212 (Harper, 2010): When New York University sophomore Megan Gunther finds personal threats posted to a Web site specializing in campus gossip, she's taken aback by their menacing tone. Someone knows her daily routine down to the minute and is watching her — but thanks to the anonymity provided by the Internet, the police tell her there's nothing they can do. Her friends are sure it's someone's idea of a joke, but when Megan is murdered in a vicious attack, NYPD Detective Ellie Hatcher is convinced that the online threats are more than just empty words. Translations: German/DTV & Russian/Book Club 36.

Angel's Tip (Harper, 2008) / City of Fear (Avon UK, 2008) In a city full of victims . . . it's hard to choose just one. Fresh-faced Indiana college student Chelsea Hart is so excited to spend the final hours of her spring break in the VIP room of an elite New York City club that she remains behind when her girlfriends call it a night. The next morning, as her concerned friends anxiously pace their hotel lobby, joggers find Chelsea's body in East River Park, her wavy blond hair brutally hacked off. (Ellie Hatcher Series) Translations: Bulgarian/Ergon, French/Telemaque, Italian/Newton Compton, Russian/Book Club 36.6, Thai/Amarin

Dead Connection (Samantha Kincaid Series) (Henry Holt & Co., 2007): In this electrifying thriller, a rookie detective goes undercover on the Internet dating scene to draw out a serial killer targeting single women in Manhattan. Translations: German/Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag, Norwegian/Schibsted Forlag, Turkish/Altinbilek Yayinlari

Close Case (Samantha Kincaid Series) (Henry Holt & Co., 2005): Investigating the brutal murder of a hotshot journalist, Samantha Kincaid finds herself caught in the middle of an increasingly personal — and potentially dangerous — struggle between Portland's police and the DA's office. Translation: Czech/BB Art

Missing Justice (Samantha Kincaid Series) (Henry Holt & Co., 2004): In the second entry in this "sharp, new crime series" (Publishers Weekly), the search for a missing judge leads Samantha Kincaid into Portland politics and a labyrinth of crime, corruption, and cover-ups. Translations: Czech/BB Art, Japanese/Bungeishunju, Norwegian/Giga Forlag, Spanish/Roca Editorial

Judgment Calls (Samantha Kincaid Series) (Henry Holt & Co., 2003): When a thirteen-year-old girl is brutally attacked and left for dead on the city's outskirts, Deputy District Attorney Samantha Kincaid sets out to bring the assailants to justice. But as she prepares for the trial, the seemingly simple assault case spirals into a complex web of violence and deception. Translations: Czech/BB Art, Japanese/Bungeishunju, Norwegian/Giga Forlag, Spanish/Roca Editorial

About the Author

Alafair Burke is the *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author of twenty-one novels. Her previous domestic thriller, *The Better Sister*, was praised as "twisty" (BookBub), "mesmerizing" (*Publishers Weekly*), "fast-moving" (*Library Journal*), and "a non-stop thriller fest" (*Suspense Magazine*). Her previous novel, *The Wife*, was selected as a best-of-the-month pick by Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Entertainment Weekly, O (*The Oprah Magazine*). A graduate of Stanford Law School and a former prosecutor, Alafair Burke is a professor at Hofstra Law School, where she teaches criminal law and procedure. She lives in New York City and East Hampton with her husband and two beloved dogs.

MICHAEL CONNELLY

"Connelly is the Raymond Chandler of this generation, and readers will be studying his writing methods decades from now." —Jeff Ayers, Associated Press

THE BLACK ECHO (Little, Brown, Co.,1992), THE BLACK ICE (Little, Brown & Co., 1993)
THE CONCRETE BLONDE (Little, Brown & Co., 1994), THE LAST COYOTE (Little, Brown & Co., 1995), THE POET (Little, Brown & Co., 1996), TRUNK MUSIC (Little, Brown & Co., 1997), BLOOD WORK (Little, Brown & Co., 1998)

Michael Connelly's books have been translated into 40 languages and published around the world. His work is available in the following countries from these book publishers:

Brazil: Editora Objetiva / Bangladesh: Chirkut Pub. / Bulgaria: Bard / Catalan: RBA Libros. China: New Star / Croatia: Skolska Knjiga / Czech Republic: <u>Domino</u> / Denmark: Klim.

Estonia: Eram Books. / Finland: Gummerus. / France: <u>Calmann-Levy</u>. / Georgia: Palitra. Germany: Droemer, Greece: Dioptra. / Hungary: Alexandra. / Iceland: Edda.

Indonesia: PT Greedier. / Israel: Modan. / Italy: Piemme. / Japan: Kodansha.

Korea: Random House Korea. / Latvia: Kontinents. / Lithuania: Jotema. /Macedonia: Kultura Pub Mexico & Latin America: Alianza de Novelas. / Netherlands: De Boekerij. / Norway: Gyldendal. Poland: Sonia Draga. / Portugal: Porto. / Romania: RAO. Russia: Azbooka-Atticus

Serbia: IKP Evro-Book. / Slovakia: Slovart. / Slovenia: Ucila. / Spain: Alianza. Sweden: Norstedts Taiwan: Linking. /Thailand: Amarin. / Turkey: Limos (Dora). / Ukraine: Krajina Mrly.

About the Author

Michael Connelly is the best-selling author of more than forty novels and one work of nonfiction. With more than seventy-four million copies of his books sold worldwide and translated into forty foreign languages, he is one of the most successful writers working today. His very first novel, The Black Echo, won the prestigious Mystery Writers of America Edgar Award for Best First Novel in 1992. In 2002, Clint Eastwood directed and starred in the movie adaptation of Connelly's 1998 novel, Blood Work. In March 2011, the movie adaptation of his #1 best-selling novel The Lincoln Lawyer hit theaters worldwide, starring Matthew McConaughey as Mickey Haller. His most recent #1 New York Times best sellers include Desert Star (Fall 2022), The Dark Hours, The Law of Innocence, Fair Warning, The Night Fire, Dark Sacred Night, Two Kinds of Truth, The Late Show, The Wrong Side of Goodbye, The Crossing, The Burning Room, The Gods of Guilt, and The Black Box. Connelly's crime fiction career was honored with the Diamond Dagger from the CWA in 2018.

Connelly is the executive producer of **Bosch** and **Bosch: Legacy**, two Amazon Studios original drama series based on his bestselling character Harry Bosch, starring Titus Welliver. These both stream on Prime Video and Amazon Freevee. He is the executive producer of **The Lincoln Lawyer** on Netflix, starring Manuel Garcia-Rulfo as Mickey Haller. He is the creator and host of the podcasts **Murder Book** and **The Wonderland Murders & The Secret History Of Hollywood**. He is the executive producer of the documentary films, **Sound Of Redemption: The Frank Morgan Story** and **Tales of the American.** He spends his time in California and Florida.

MICHAEL WILEY—THE LONG WAY OUT (Severn House, 2023)

Franky Dast is an unlikely hero.

Wrongly convicted and later exonerated of killing two boys, Franky went on to uncover the real murderer. Now a "free man" but living on the edges of society, for some he will always be tainted by his dark past.

That's why a desperate Mexican family turn to him, rather than trust the authorities, to help them track down their teenage daughter's murderer. He is compelled to help but comes up against the detectives who wrongly put him away, and people who are determined to blame the dead girl.

When another body shows up and he is personally threatened, Franky doubles-down on his investigation. Can Franky stop this vicious killer and find his own way out of his personal hell before it's too late?

Reviews/Blurbs

"The setup is red meat for crime-story lovers. We get to keep company with obliquely funny Sam, who must . . . always speak the truth. Fortunately, he has Wiley to write his lines, and they are perceptive and graceful. The case is resolved in a stunning climax that will leave readers paging back to take in those magical lines one more time." —Booklist

"Outstanding ... The whodunit plotline is enhanced by Wiley's superior gift at integrating humor, mostly deriving from Kelson's inability to keep himself from sharing blunt truths. The author's ingenuity shows no sign of diminishing. Fans of the TV series Monk will be enthralled." — Publishers Weekly Starred Review

"Wiley's loopy detective continues to be the most interesting feature of his adventures."

— Kirkus Reviews

"Noir fiction doesn't get much darker ... Wiley is extremely good at creating an atmosphere of menacing dread ... New shocks occur all the way to the last page" — *Publishers Weekly* Starred Review of Blue Avenue

"Wiley's quirky lead, who's unable to keep his thoughts to himself, will appeal to fans of oddball sleuths like Jonathan Lethem's Lionel Essrog." — *Publishers Weekly* on *Lucky Bones*

"This darkly humorous PI novel offers nonstop, violent action, and is perfect for readers who enjoy Donald Westlake's quirky 'Dortmunder' characters." — *Library Journal*

"Sam Kelson, the PI star of this thorny novel, takes the damaged-detective trope to a new level ... Sure to satisfy" — *Booklist* on *Trouble in Mind*

Published by Severn House

Daniel Turner Series: Blue Avenue (2014), Second Skin (2015), Black Hammock (2016)

Franky Dast Series: Monument Road (2017), The Long Way Out (Jan. 2023)

Sam Kelson Series: Trouble in Mind (2020), Lucky Bones (2021)

Published by St. Martin's Press:

Joe Kozmarski Series: The Last Striptease (2007), The Bad Kitty Lounge (2010), A Bad Night's

Sleep (2011)

About the Author and His Previous Books

Michael Wiley writes the Sam Kelson Chicago PI mystery series, the Shamus Award-nominated Franky Dast mysteries, the Daniel Turner thrillers, and the Shamus Award-winning Joe Kozmarski hard-boiled detective mystery series.

The Sam Kelson mysteries Trouble in Mind (2019) and Lucky Bones (2020) feature an oddball detective who suffers from disinhibition and cannot help but speak his mind.

The first Franky Dast mystery, Monument Road (2017), features an exonerated death row inmate who investigates the crime that sent him to prison and the police detective who seemed obsessed with sending him there.

The Daniel Turner thrillers include Blue Avenue (2014), Second Skin (2015), and Black Hammock (2016). All four books are set in contemporary Northeast Florida and South Georgia.

The Joe Kozmarski mysteries include *The Last Striptease* (2007), *The Bad Kitty Lounge* (2010), and *A Bad Night's Sleep* (2011). The series is set in contemporary Chicago. The Last Striptease won the PWA/SMP prize for Best First Novel and was a nominee for a Shamus Award in the same category. A Bad Night's Sleep won the Best Hardback Shamus Award in 2012. Wiley's fiction has been praised broadly for reinvigorating the conventions of private detective novels, earning comparisons to Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammett along with other practitioners of PI writing.

Michael Wiley lives in Jacksonville, Florida, and teaches at the University of North Florida. He is also the author of two nonfiction books, Romantic Geography and Romantic Migrations as well as many articles, short stories, and book reviews.

GAR ANTHONY HAYWOOD- IN THINGS UNSEEN



(Slant, 2020)

From acclaimed crime novelist Gar Anthony Haywood comes a riveting tale unlike any he's told before...

Best described as a "faith-based novel of suspense," *In Things Unseen* is the story of an unexpected miracle: the resurrection of a little boy who dies in a freak car accident, only to return to his bed eight months later, alive and well and oblivious to his death. It's the answer to his mother's prayers. Or is it?

Diane Edwards has spent the last eight months praying for a miracle after losing her son Adrian in a freak car accident at Seattle's Lakeridge Park. When she finds Adrian back in his bed one night—alive and well and oblivious to his death—it appears her prayers have been answered.

But this isn't the kind of miracle Diane was expecting, because she soon learns Adrian is not the only one who's forgotten that fateful day in Lakeridge Park. The entire world has no memory of it, with the exception of Diane and three other people:

Michael Edwards—Diane's estranged husband and Adrian's father.

Laura Carrillo--Adrian's teacher, who loved him almost as much as his parents did.

Milton Weisman--The agnostic, sixty-eight-year-old widower and alcoholic who lost control of the car that killed Adrian in Lakeridge Park.

Over the next six days, these four must struggle to understand what Adrian's return to the living means, and why God Himself would choose them, and them alone, to play witness to it.

Reviews/Blurbs

"I've been a Gar Anthony Haywood fan for years, but In Things Unseen rocked me to my core. It's a novel about faith and belief, as well as a relentless page-turner that plays out like the greatest Twilight Zone episode never filmed."

—Duane Swierczynski, author of Revolver

"Miracles are the stuff that dreams are made of. And sometimes fine stories, too. With lovely prose and a measured pace, Gar Anthony Haywood, in a profound departure from his crime novels, offers readers a thoughtful exploration of the reality of what it means to try to accept the inexplicable. In Things Unseen is a modern allegory of faith, loss, and redemption. This is exactly the kind of story we need in these chaotic and challenging times."

—William Kent Krueger, Edgar Award-winning author of This Tender Land

Good Man Gone Bad: An Aaron Gunner Mystery (Prospect Park Books, 2019)

The 7th installment of the Shamus Award-winning mystery series feat. Los Angeles P.I. Aaron Gunner.

Hard times are nothing new for private investigator Aaron Gunner. Working on the mean streets of South-Central Los Angeles, he's seen more than his fair share of trouble. But when his cousin and confidante Del Curry commits suicide after allegedly killing his wife and critically injuring their daughter Zina, Gunner knows he's about to face the hardest times of all.

He doesn't buy the LAPD's version of the shooting and isn't going to wait for Zina to regain consciousness to disprove it. Whatever drove Del to take his own life—and possibly assault his wife and daughter—Gunner's going to find it, even if it means learning things about his late cousin he'll wish he never knew.

But first, he has a paying case to work, proving the innocence of an Afghan War veteran accused of murder. Plagued by searing migraines and occasional fits of rage, Harper Stowe III is counting on Gunner to fill the holes in his ruined memory that make him the perfect suspect in the killing of his former employer. With a new era of American racism and divided politics on the rise all around him, Gunner must seek the truth behind two fatal shootings now and grieve for his beloved cousin later.

Reviews/Blurbs

"Good Man Gone Bad is Gar Anthony Haywood's best work yet, keeping a tight focus on Aaron Gunner and his exploration of his city and the meaning of justice. More than a mystery, this book is a mirror held up to society and the world." —Michael Connelly, New York Times-bestselling author of the Harry Bosch and Lincoln Lawyer novels

"Mr. Haywood—this is his seventh and best novel yet to feature Gunner—is a gifted writer with a flair for description.... The two dissimilar cases confronting Gunner test the detective's confidence to the fullest. He sees himself, at his most insecure, as "a black pretend-cop working from the back of the Watts barbershop." But an abundance of tenacity, courage and resourcefulness proves a lot more valuable to Gunner and his fortunate clients than a fancy office." — Tom Nolan for *The Wall Street Journal*

"Good Man Gone Bad is Haywood in peak form, a classic hard-boiled mystery full of sly humor and street wisdom—but also a surprisingly tender treatise on masculinity and the futility of violence. A page-turner as engaging as it is deep." — Attica Locke, author of *Bluebird*, *Bluebird*

"Good Man Gone Bad is bracing, heart-wrenching fiction from Haywood, and the best in his Aaron Gunner series to date. Don't miss it."— T. Jefferson Parker, bestselling author of *The Last Good Guy*

"The fresh dialogue, raffish atmosphere and boldly drawn characters leave little doubt as to why Haywood's mysteries are fast becoming hard-boiled classics." — Entertainment Weekly

"Gunner yanks the sheet off the American nightmare of race, politics, and murder, L.A. style."

— Acclaimed film director Spike Lee

"A masterful mystery writer." — Chicago Tribune

"Like the first six books in the Aaron Gunner series, this dark, brooding tale will remind readers of classic Southern California crime novelists Philip Marlowe and Ross Macdonald. Haywood's tight, no-frills prose is outstanding, and he does a fine job of developing the characters who inhabit Gunner's poor side of town." — Associated Press

Aaron Gunner Series:

Published by G.P. Putnam's Sons: Fear of the Dark (1988), Not Long for This World (1990), You Can Die Trying (1993), It's Not a Pretty Sight (1996), When Last Seen Alive (1997), All the Lucky Ones Are Dead (2000)

The Joe & Dottie Loudermilk Mysteries:

Published by G.P. Putnam's Sons: Going Nowhere Fast (1994), Bad News Travels Fast (1995), Nowhere to Go and All Day to Get There (2014)

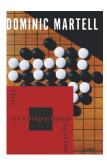
Stand-Alone Thrillers

Published by Severn House: *Cemetery Road* (2011), *Assume Nothing* (2012) Published by Brash Books: *Maneater* (2014), *Firecracker* (2015)

About the Author

Gar Anthony Haywood is the Shamus and Anthony award-winning author of twelve crime novels, including the Aaron Gunner private eye series and Joe and Dottie Loudermilk mysteries. His short fiction has been included in the Best American Mystery Stories anthologies, and Booklist has called him "a writer who has always belonged in the upper echelon of American crime fiction." Haywood has written for network television and both *The New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times*. An excerpt of Gar's next novel, QUEEN'S RUN, was published in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*.

DOMINIC MARTELL – THE ARCHIPELAGO GAME



(Dunn Books, December 2023)

Asia is Terra Incognita for Pascual, but the CIA says his bill has come due for the protection they've been providing him. Now he's off to Singapore to be the front man for an agency op to funnel cash through shell companies to fund unspecified activities. His local contact is Dexter Fang, an Indonesian-Chinese billionaire in bed with the spooks. Dexter's right-hand woman is a Eurasian knockout whose looks are rivaled only by her cold efficiency; his Chinese chauffeur seems to know a lot about Dexter's affairs. When the op is sabotaged by operatives who can only be from China, Dexter and company are off to the vast Indonesian archipelago to throw off pursuit. If makes it back to alive, Pascual will know more about geopolitical intrigue than he ever wanted to— and he'll never be the same.

BLACK CHAIN (Dunn Books, 2021): Resurrecting a character from twenty years ago presents an interesting challenge. Unlike author Dominic Martell, his repentant ex-terrorist Pascual Rose did not have the good fortune of watching the world grow and change at the usual pace when his creator decided to pluck him from the 90s and drop him into our new, tech-savvy era. But at the skilled hand of Martell, Pascual Rose has made his 21st-century debut seamlessly in *Kill Chain*.

KILL CHAIN (Dunn Books, Oct. 2020) Twenty years off the grid and he thought he was safe...

Pascual Rose is back—and this time the lives of his wife and son hang in the balance. Years ago, Rose put his life as a terrorist behind him. He sold out his colleagues for a new identity and low profile in Barcelona. All was quiet until he received a midnight text: Come join us on the terrace.

The stakes are high: if he fails, it will cost him his family; if he succeeds, one million euros will buy a lot more than translation piecework will. But the money-laundering scheme involves a nexus of diverted revenues, shell companies and cryptocurrencies, peopled by shadowy benefactors, Russian mobsters, German intelligence agents, and a mysterious woman with a chilling warning: Get out before it's too late.

Rose races against time, navigating twists and turns and mortal danger knowing no one can be trusted and nothing is happenstance. Can he uncover who is behind the operation that has the potential to destroy entire governments and global financial markets before he loses everything?

LYING, CRYING, DYING_(Dunn Books, 2020) Pascual: His name was legend. A courier for a network of radical groups committed to terrorist activity throughout Europe, he had defected to the enemy and in the hands of Mossad and the CIA had become the single most effective weapon in their counterterrorist operations. Then he had disappeared.

Cadging meals and sleeping in flophouses, Pascual has shed his past in the teeming portside alleys of Barcelona's Gothic Quarter. While he has begun to find something like peace of mind, the man who broke the covert world of international terrorism wide open cannot entirely escape his memories. Alcohol can help him forget, but it can't banish the shadow of Katixa, the one terrorist agent he did not betray—and whom he has no hope of ever seeing again. Or so he thinks.

Reviews/Blurbs

"The Thriller Nouveau—of deceit, betrayal, tears. It crackles with electricity: one of the very best of the late nineties." —Lionel Davidson, author of *Under Plum Lake*

"Dark and bloody as it is, this is spy fiction of the highest order, with atmospheric backgrounds for a plot that ratchets up suspense with each twist and turn and a splendidly complex protagonist, who takes great risks and bluffs his way to the end in what may be a quest for atonement."

—*Starred *Booklist*

About the Author

Dominic Martell was born in the United States and has spent most of his life there, but he has lived and traveled extensively in Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East. He has worked as a teacher and a translator. The first three novels featuring repentant ex-terrorist Pascual Rose appeared in the 1990s, chronicling Pascual's quest for atonement in the chaotic early years of the post-Cold War period. A quarter of a century later, in the transformed landscape of the even more chaotic post-9/11 digitally connected world, Martell began to wonder what had become of Pascual and decided to bring him out of retirement.

GORDON McALPINE – After Oz



Crooked Lane Books (controls translation rights), August 6, 2024

Gripping and emotionally riveting, this whimsical tale is an empowering and timely retelling of *The Wizard of Oz* where one little girl is forced to face head on the prejudices of the Midwest in the late 19th century.

Kansas,1896. After a tornado destroys the Gale family farm, 11-year-old Dorothy goes missing. As the days pass by, the Gales are increasingly terrified the worst has happened. But when the girl turns up unharmed four days later, the townsfolk breathe in a sigh of relief. That is, until Dorothy herself relates her account of the events that took place after her disappearance.

In vivid detail, Dorothy describes a fantastical land and its magical inhabitants, from the scarecrow, the tin man, and the cowardly lion to the wizard and the witch. Her recollections are not only regarded as delusional, but also as pagan and diabolical in nature, especially when the body of a local spinster is found. Making connections between the evil witch Dorothy claims to have defeated and the ill-tempered old crone, authorities find what they believe to be incriminating evidence, sentencing Dorothy to the Topeka Insane Asylum.

When 28-year-old psychologist Dr. Evelyn Grace Wilford arrives at the asylum to interview Dorothy, she begins to wonder if Dorothy truly committed the crime or if something unfathomable has really occurred.

In a small town full of insidious secrets, will Evelyn be able to save Dorothy from her terrible circumstances? Or is something menacing lurking just out of sight?

BACKLIST TITLES AVAILABLE

The Big Man's Daughter (Seventh Street Books, 2020)

"Lies, cons, shifting alliances, kidnapping, and death propel readers toward a strangely hypnotic climax, which is skillfully presaged yet still an exhilarating surprise. Fans of metafictional mysteries will be enthralled." —Publishers Weekly Starred Review

18-year-old Rita Gaspereaux is suddenly "orphaned" when her con-artist father's illegal enterprise blows up around her. Alone and broke in San Francisco 1922, she must now navigate his criminal world, all the time haunted by tales of a black bird statuette reputed to possess otherworldly, wish-fulfilling powers. Rita has learned much from her father about the dark fringes of society. But has she learned enough? Fortunately, she is not without her own resources. What helps her most to cope with the greed, cruelty, and deceit around her is her almost obsessive reading of fiction, particularly the novel she possesses (and is possessed by) at the time of her father's death. This book-within-the-book, a source of escape and solace for the blossoming young con-artist, tells the story of another 18-year-old, a Dorothy G. from Kansas. The two young women couldn't be more different. But as the story proceeds their lives become entwined in unexpected ways. The haunting conclusion is breathtaking.

Reviews/Blurbs

"Gordon McAlpine (writing here as Owen Fitzstephen) is one of our foremost practitioners of literary mystery. Descended from the line of ingenious inventors like Borges, his work penetrates and explores the history of books and storytelling... McAlpine brings a powerful new light to a classic noir story."

—CrimeReads (Top 10 of 2020)

"McAlpine makes metafiction mischief suffused with meaning; from the masterful Hammett Unwritten, to the too-wonderful-not-to-mention Woman with a Blue Pencil, and now the mesmerizing *The Big Man's Daughter*, McAlpine's novels prove as moving as they do dazzling." —New York Journal of Books

"Yet another purely delightful metafictional crime novel with wit, invention and surprising humanity from that master of the improbable Gordon McAlpine writing under his pseudonym. ...Skirting metaphysics and ending with a bittersweet, moving and satisfying ending which will have you choking or wiping a tear from your eye. Damn wonderful." —Book of the Month, Crimetime.co.uk

"Like the craftiest of Dashiell Hammett's grifters, Owen Fitzstephen plays the long con: baiting readers with a story we think we know before slipping us a Mickey Finn from which we awake unsure of where we are and what is real. The Big Man's Daughter is stunning. Fans of Hammett must not miss this multilayered, metaphysical adventure." —Jennifer Kincheloe, author of the *Anna Blanc Mysteries*

"Wildly inventive, elegantly perplexing and expertly told. Have fun trying to keep up with Owen Fitzstephen's imagination." —Steve Goble, author of the Spider John Mysteries

Holmes Entangled: The Final Endeavor of Sherlock Holmes (Seventh Street Books, 2018)

A retired Sherlock Holmes, now in his seventies and disguised as a Cambridge professor, is dramatically disturbed one day when a modestly successful author in his late sixties named Arthur Conan Doyle comes to call. This Conan Doyle, notable only for his historical romances, science fiction, and a three-volume history of the Boer War (but no detective tales), knows somehow of the false professor's true identity. To Holmes's surprise, he asks for help in solving a case that strains the limits of credulity by suggesting the existence of parallel worlds.

Sherlock Holmes on one last adventure in 1920s' London...employed by the author Arthur Conan Doyle? We might ask ourselves how such a thing can be possible.

This tale is discovered in a long-forgotten manuscript in 1940s' Buenos Aires. The librarian who finds it employs an Argentinian P.I. to help him grasp the deepest implications of the text. The story of the two Argentinians' brief and ultimately violent encounter provides a hardboiled frame to the last endeavor of Sherlock Holmes.

Reviews/Blurbs

"From allusions to Edgar Allan Poe, Shakespeare, Mark Twain, and an encounter with Ernest Hemingway, McAlpine weaves a compact tale of mystery, betrayal, disappointment, and the figurative and literal reach of big brother. The result is a story both dilettante and devotee can enjoy." —San Antonio Express-News

"It's to author McAlpine's credit that he makes what might have been an arch exercise into a joy to read.... It's a fascinating read, smart and entertaining for all that it's based on those quantum mechanics. That's right, it's Holmes confronting alternate universes, and it's wonderful." —*Booklist*

"Will appeal to adventurous Holmes fans who enjoy more modern takes on a literary icon, such as James Lovegrove's Sherlock Holmes and The Shadwell Shadows." —*Library Journal*

"Readers curious about an elderly Sherlock Holmes who was never a Victorian gentleman may enjoy this offbeat pastiche..." —Publishers Weekly

"Traditional mystery needs more authors like Gordon McAlpine: Authors who can take enduring characters and narratives, polish them and give them a new beautiful face. This is a highly recommended title." — *Mystery Tribune*

Woman with a Blue Pencil (Seventh Street Books, November 2015) Nominated for an Edgar Award

The novel is rich with high wire, literary gamesmanship that addresses not only the fanciful question of what might become of characters that are edited out of a narrative but also the attendant question of how the "editing" of our own identities shapes us all. Additionally, *Woman with a Blue Pencil* indicts the continually shifting sands of bigotry and hatred, a topic as much for our own times as for the historical period of the novel, all while providing the page-turning pleasures of an intriguing murder mystery and a femme fatale unlike any you've met before.

Reviews / Blurbs

"McAlpine's creative talent is rare and this novel is an exceptional literary treat." —Shelf Awareness

"A masterly critique of the mystery novel...McAlpine's greatest accomplishment is that the book works both as a conventional mystery story and as a deconstruction of the genre's ideology: whichever strand readers latch on to, the parallel stories pack a brutal punch."—Publishers Weekly, STARRED review

"Woman with a Blue Pencil is a brilliantly structured labyrinth of a novel—something of an enigma wrapped in a mystery, postmodernist in its experimental bravado and yet satisfyingly well-grounded in the Los Angeles of its World War II era. Gordon McAlpine has imagined a totally unique work of 'mystery' fiction—one that Kafka, Borges, and Nabokov, as well as Dashiell Hammett, would have appreciated."

—Joyce Carol Oates

"Readers who prefer to just focus on the story at hand will be rewarded with an exciting tale with a compelling protagonist (Hammett was a real-life larger-than-life character), and those who enjoy literary games-playing will have fun sorting it all out."—*Booklist*

"[An] imaginative mashup of meta-mystery with meta-biography.... Fans of Hammett and noir ought to enjoy requisite shocks of recognition." —Publishers Weekly

"...a lovely touch with plots, settings and sharp, noir dialogue.... if McAlpine—or whoever—manages to stumble across another manuscript, I'll grab it." —Globe and Mail (Canada)

Hammett Unwritten_(Seventh Street Books, 2013)

A worthless bird statuette—the focus of Dashiell Hammett's The Maltese Falcon. Or is it? As Dashiell Hammett closes his final case as a private eye, the details of which will later inspire his most famous book, he acquires at a police auction the bogus object of that case, an obsidian falcon statuette. He casually sets the memento on his desk, where for a decade it bears witness to his literary rise. Until he gives it away. Now, suffering writer's block, the famous author begins to wonder about rumors of the falcon's "metaphysical qualities," which link it to a powerful, wish-fulfilling black stone cited in legends from around the world. He can't deny that when he possessed the statuette he wrote one acclaimed book after another, and that without it his fortunes have changed. As his block stretches from months to years, he becomes

entangled again with the scam artists from the old case, each still fascinated by the "real" black bird and its alleged talismanic power. A dangerous maze of events takes Hammett from 1930s San Francisco to the glamorous Hollywood of the 1940s, a federal penitentiary at the time of the McCarthy hearings, and finally to a fateful meeting on New Year's Eve, 1959, at a Long Island estate. There the dying Hammett confronts a woman from his past who proves to be his most formidable rival. And his last hope.

About the Author

Gordon McAlpine was the Edgar Award nominated author of the literary mystery novels, *Holmes Entangled*, *Woman with a Blue Pencil*, and *Hammett Unwritten*, as well as other acclaimed novels and non-fiction. He is also the author of an award-winning trilogy of novels for middle grade readers, "The Misadventures of Edgar and Allan Poe". He has published short fiction in journals and anthologies both in the U.S.A and abroad. A graduate of the M.F.A. program in creative writing at U.C. Irvine, he taught for many years at Chapman University in Orange, California.

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