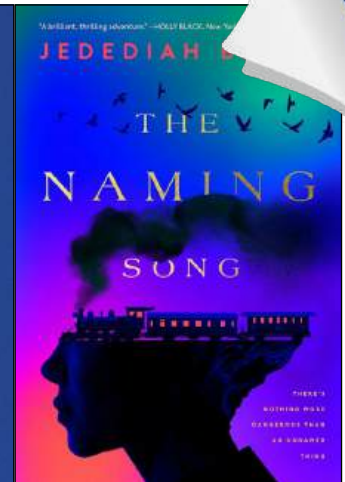
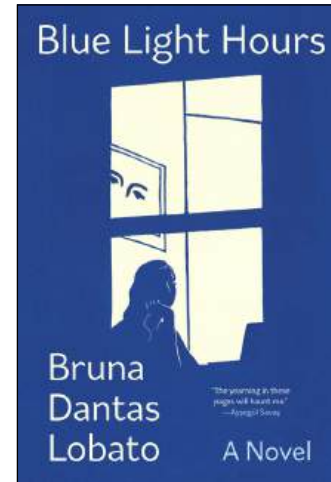
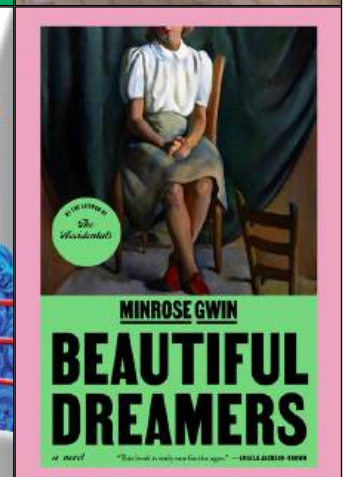
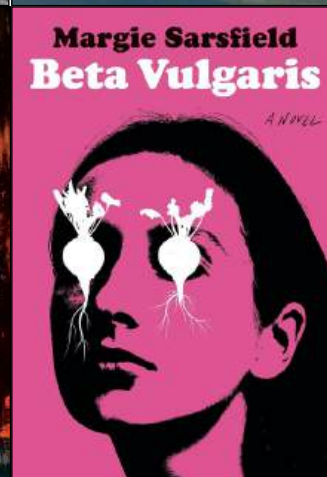
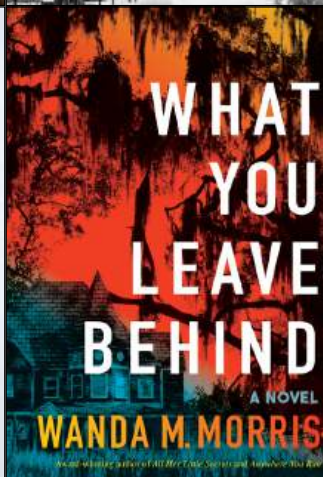
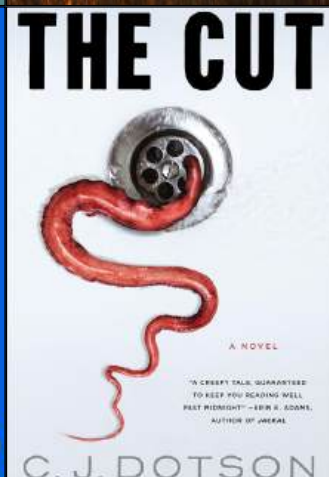
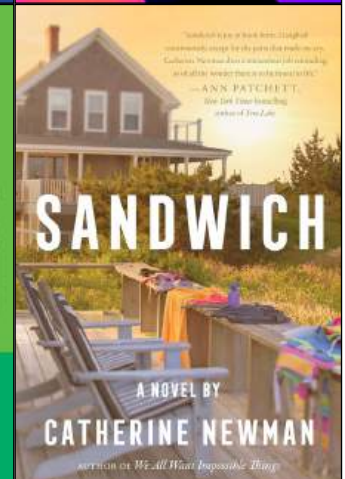
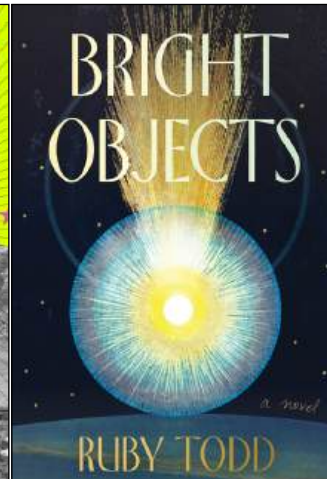
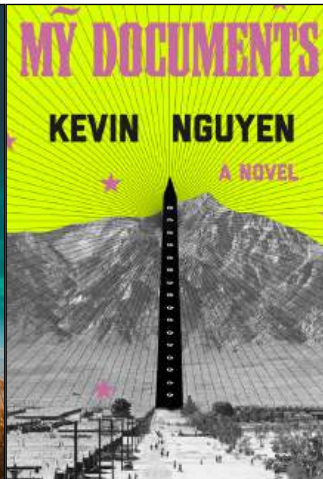
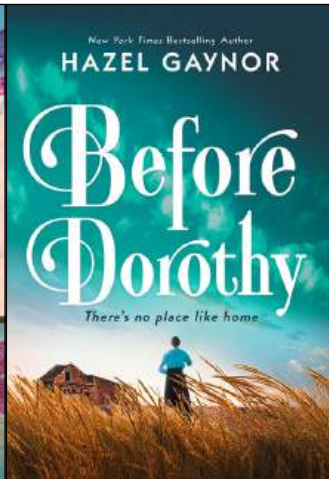
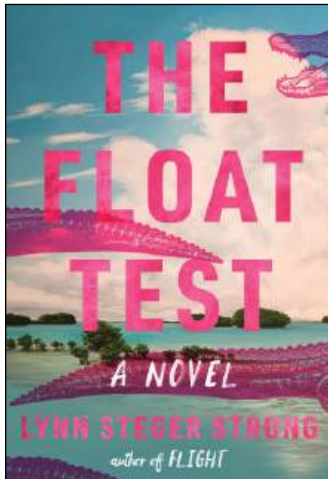


# AEVITAS

## Creative Management

### Fall 2024 Fiction Rights Guide



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

[BEAUTIFUL DREAMERS](#)

[KAYFABE](#)

[THE NAMING SONG](#)

[BLUE LIGHT HOURS](#)

[THE COLDEST CASE](#)

[BETA VULGARIS](#)

[THE MAGPIE AT NIGHT](#)

[WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU](#)

[MŸ DOCUMENTS](#)

[THE FLOAT TEST](#)

[THE CUT](#)

[A SHARP ENDLESS NEED](#)

[THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE AND HER](#)

[JUST OKAY ASSISTANT](#)

[BEFORE DOROTHY](#)

[LONG DISTANCE](#)

[SOME BRIGHT NOWHERE](#)

[PORT ANNA](#)

[HELEN OF NOWHERE](#)

[MAYRA](#)

[HOUSE OF BETH](#)

[WAKE](#)

[AWAY TO ME](#)

[WORK TO DO](#)

[CERTAINTY](#)

## NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS

[THE MANUAL OF DETECTION](#)

[I KEEP MY EXOSKELETONS TO MYSELF](#)

[THE SHAME](#)

[JAN FABEL \(series\)](#)

[SANDWICH](#)

[THE ONLY ONE LEFT](#)

[THE ANTHROPOLOGISTS](#)

[WALKING ON THE CEILING + WHITE ON WHITE](#)

[BRIGHT OBJECTS](#)

[ACM'S FOREIGN CO-AGENTS](#)



# BEAUTIFUL DREAMERS

A Novel

By Minrose Gwin

NA

August 2024 / Hub City Press / US Editor: Meg Reid

Final PDF Available

From Minrose Gwin, award-winning author of *The Accidentals*, comes *Beautiful Dreamers*, a story of a precocious teen and her mother, their gay best friend, and the con man who unravels their family.

It's 1953 when Memory Feather and her mother, Virginia, are welcomed back home to the Mississippi Gulf Coast community of Belle Cote by Virginia's childhood friend Mac McFadden, whose verve and energy buoy the recently divorced Virginia to embrace this new chapter. Memory ("Mem") is unlike other girls: she is attuned to the voices of plants and animals and is missing two fingers on her twisted left hand. The three of them knit their lives together and become a close, though unconventional, family. While Mac's wealth, brains, and good humor have allowed him to carve out a niche in Belle Cote, his position as a gay man active in the burgeoning Civil Rights Movement exposes him to censure, harassment, and even brutality. When the unscrupulous and charismatic Tony Amato arrives in Belle Cote as Mac's "guest," he sets in motion a series of events that will shatter familial bonds and forever change Mem's life. Now, an adult Mem recounts the story of the scars Tony left in her teenage years, confronting her culpability in the disastrous events of that final summer.

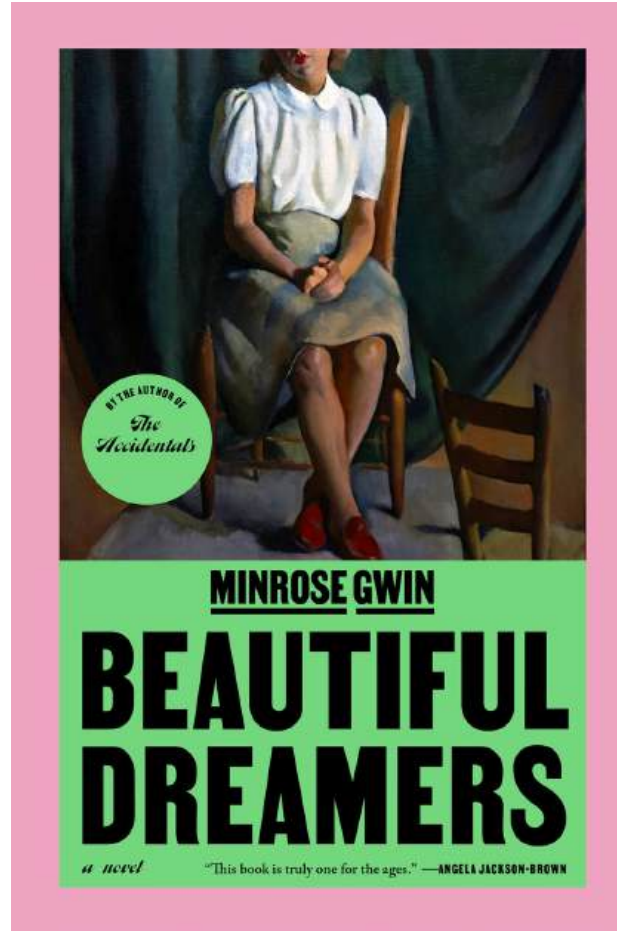
Sweeping, dramatic, and vividly rendered, *Beautiful Dreamers* is a novel of innocence and betrayal, love and intolerance, and the care and honesty we owe the families we choose.

**Minrose Gwin** is the author of the novels *The Queen of Palmyra*; *Promise*, shortlisted for the Willie Morris Award in Southern Literature; and *The Accidentals*, which received the 2020 Mississippi Institute for Arts and Letters Award in Fiction. She has also published a memoir, *Wishing for Snow*. She was co-editor of *The Literature of the American South* and *The Southern Literary Journal*.

"An exquisite tapestry of rich emotions and life altering experiences by characters whose stories will captivate readers from the beginning of the novel until its phenomenal ending... nothing short of breathtaking." —**Angela Jackson-Brown, author of *Homeward***

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren

Page Count: 286



"A haunting historical novel whose memorable heroine further illuminates a troubled period in the South." —**Paula Martinac, *Foreword Reviews***

"[A] compelling story of love, betrayal, and identity." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"Minrose Gwin has not composed a cozy, romantic glimpse into midcentury queer life; *Beautiful Dreamers* is an honest tale. It explores the long-term effects of bigotry and hatred through the prism of flawed, big-hearted characters who are trying to do the right thing." —**Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

"A writer's writer, Gwin's career is the sort other writers recognize." —**Parade**

"Bewitching... exquisitely lyrical" —**Chapter 16**

"Families disappoint, and families betray, and wisdom comes at a price in the edenic coastal village of Belle Cote. Gwin one more time proves her mastery of the Delta landscape, human and geographic, in a story that would have raised the eyebrows of Tennessee Williams." —**Wilton Barnhardt, author of *Lookaway, Lookaway and Western Alliances***

"*Beautiful Dreamers* was a dream from which I didn't want to wake... Gwin is a skillful, compassionate, wise storyteller, one who finds hope in the antidotes to violence and hate: family and love, truth and justice." —**Lori Ostlund, author of *After the Parade and The Bigness of the World***

"With luscious prose, sharply drawn characters, and a dash of magical realism, Gwin's atmospheric novel confronts both prejudice and the price we pay for protecting our loved ones." —**Booklist**

# KAYFABE

A Novel

By Chris Koslowski

WE

August 2024 / McSweeney's Books / US Editor: Amanda Uhle  
Final PDF Available

A window into life on the fringes of a uniquely brutal American pastime and an intelligent, self-aware commentary on modern identity, artifice, and violence.

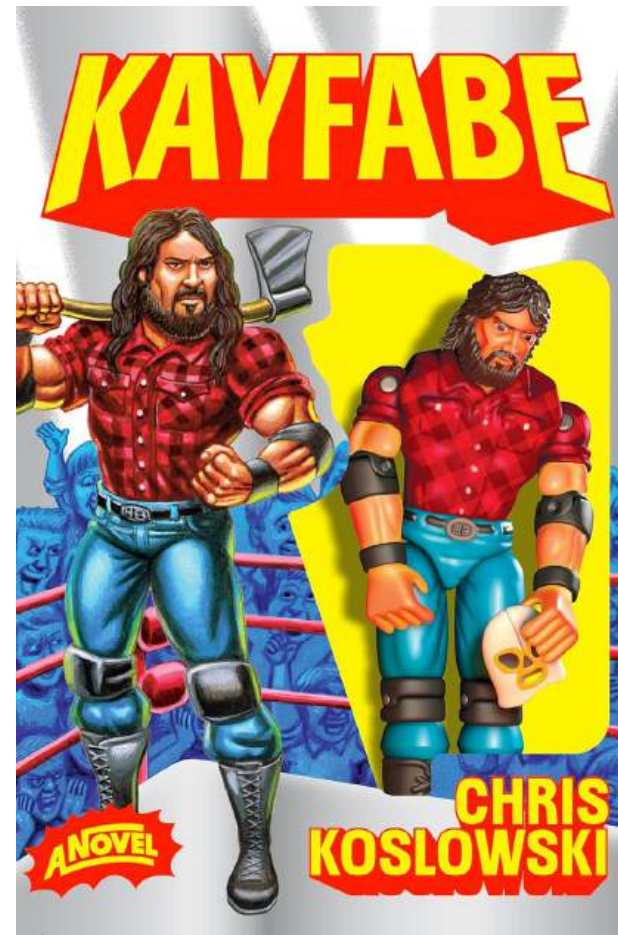
At 26, Dom Contreras has already spent a decade jobbing through the minor leagues of professional wrestling as Hack Barlow, a 300-pound axe-swinging lumberjack. As his body breaks down and his star power fades, he must invent a new gimmick before he loses the only job he's ever known. Meanwhile, Dom's 17-year-old sister Pilar is eager to make her own pro wrestling debut. Dom is determined to keep Pilar under his wing, away from the predators of a business infamous for eating its young. At the same time, he has a vision for her meteoric rise to the top--not just of his own outfit, the middling Mid-Coast Championship Wrestling promotion outside of Charlotte, but all the way to stardom (and a big payday) in the WWE. The siblings are close, spending much of their time packed into Dom's ancient Honda Civic en route to shows across the south, but as Dom craves privacy and Pilar reckons with her brother's conflicting roles of roommate, father figure, manager and coach, their relationship quickly begins to fray. After Dom loses his temper in a match and Pilar injures herself preparing for her big tryout, Bonnie Blue, the eccentric owner of MCCW, spots an opportunity. She is poised, after years of scheming, to unveil her life's handiwork: an underground, guerrilla-style pro wrestling network with bouts climaxing in real, premeditated injury. To save his career--and his sister's hopes of breaking out--Dom must become Bonnie's new star and take on the one persona he swore he'd never embrace.

In the vein of National Book Award finalist Chris Bachelder's *The Throwback Special*, *Kayfabe* explores the boundaries of sport, spectacle, entertainment, and exploitation. Like Kevin Wilson's *The Family Fang*, it centers a strange family seeking connection in an even stranger world. Evoking Sam Lipsyte's whip-smart humor and Lauren Oyler's biting insight, *Kayfabe* challenges readers to consider the truths that fakery can expose.

**Chris Koslowski** holds an MA in Creative Writing and Literature from the University of Cincinnati and an MFA in Fiction from the University of South Carolina.

ACM Agent: Justin Brouckaert

Page Count: 399



"Koslowski unearths the seedy underbelly of professional wrestling, exposing the all too human complexities of its larger-than-life characters."—**Luke Geddes**, author of *Heart of Junk*

"As these siblings exorcise their demons and reorganize each other's dreams, *Kayfabe* wrecks the reader, again and again, in painfully entertaining ways." —**David James Poissant**, author of *Lake Life* and *The Heaven of Animals*

"The great American wrestling novel I didn't know I needed... fabulously entertaining" —**Elise Blackwell**, author of *Hunger*

"Explores the liminal spaces between violence and showmanship, family bonds and commitment to a craft." —**Michael Chin**, *The Long Way Home*

★ **STARRED REVIEW, PUBLISHERS WEEKLY** ★

"[A] brisk and punchy debut. [...] it's a winner." "

"A love letter to showmanship with enough high stakes, insider trivia, and personal struggle to make it enormously readable. An unexpectedly tender ode to passing one's prime while also finding new joys in fostering next generation talent." —**Kirkus**

"A wonderfully immersive and ethnographically rich debut. Koslowski's approach to professional wrestlers and wrestling is not satirical but attentive, earnest, engaged... a terrific novel." —**Chris Bachelder**, author of *The Throwback Special*

"Lands with the force of a clothesline from the top turnbuckle. This is a novel that takes wrestling seriously, in all the best ways. A fast-paced, smart, quick-moving book, and a fabulous debut." —**Michael Griffith**, author of *The Speaking Stone*

AEVITAS 4



# THE NAMING SONG

A Novel

By Jedediah Berry

WE

September 2024 / Tor (Macmillan) / US Editor: Carl Engle-Laird

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Czech (Host)

Italian (Fazi)

French (Le Rayon imaginaire / Hachette)

A gorgeously imaginative fantasy in the spirit of Hayao Miyazaki and Guillermo del Toro.

When the words went away, the world changed. All meaning was lost, and every border fell. Monsters slipped from dreams to haunt the waking while ghosts wandered the land in futile reveries. Only with the rise of the committees of the named—Maps, Ghosts, Dreams, and Names—could the people stand against the terrors of the nameless wilds. They built borders around their world and within their minds, shackled ghosts and hunted monsters, and went to war against the unknown. For one unnamed courier of the Names Committee, the task of delivering new words preserves her place in a world that fears her. But after a series of monstrous attacks on the named, she is forced to flee her committee and seek her long-lost sister. Accompanied by a patchwork ghost, a fretful monster, and a nameless animal who prowls the shadows, her search for the truth of her past opens the door to a revolutionary future—for the words she carries will reshape the world.

*The Naming Song* is a book of deep secrets and marvelous discoveries, strange adventures and dangerous truths. It's the story of a world locked in a battle over meaning. Most of all, it's the perfect fantasy for anyone who's ever dreamed of a stranger, freer, more magical world.

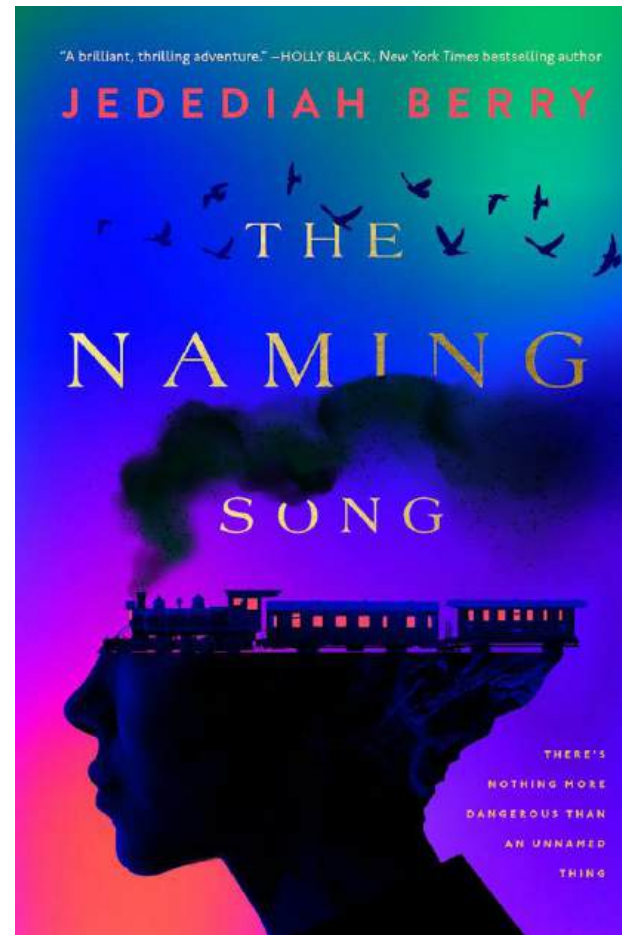
Jedediah Berry's first novel, *The Manual of Detection*, won the IAFA Crawford Award and the Dashiell Hammett Prize. The book was named a New York Public Library Young Lions Fiction Award finalist and a Locus Award finalist.

"*The Naming Song* understands the fundamental magic of language, and breathes that magic onto every page." —**Holly Black**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Deeply immersive, magnificently imagined [...] a vast and sweeping wonder of a novel." —**J. M. Miro**, bestselling author of *Ordinary Monsters*

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

Page Count: 368



"A sweeping epic about the language and love between us, the humanity of the living and the dead, and the raw power of creation." —**J. R. Dawson**, author of *The First Bright Thing*

"An anti-totalitarian, post-apocalyptic fable featuring mystical theater trains, impossible monsters, and the awesome power of story? Sign me the heck up." —**GennaRose Nethercott**, author of *Thistlefoot*

"One of the best told fantasy novels of the last twenty-five years." —**Howard Andrew Jones**, author of *Lord of a Shattered Land*

"A breathlessly enjoyable tale." —**Cassandra Clare**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Fantasy readers looking for a fresh and exciting new world to explore will be thrilled." —**PW**

"A parade of delights and nightmares, written with the kind of incantatory precision that the truest spells are made of." —**Kelly Link**, author of *Get In Trouble*

"A masterful, marvel-filled journey of language and ghosts, of monsters and meaning and mystery [...] haunting, glorious train ride of a novel" —**Erin Morgenstern**, #1 bestselling author of *The Starless Sea*

"A mysterious, poetic, and invigorating post-apocalyptic adventure saga [...] it's rare that a novel this substantial is also this strange and this fun." —**Kevin Brockmeier**, author of *The Ghost Variations*

★ STARRED REVIEW, *LIBRARY JOURNAL* ★

"Fans of Patricia A. McKillip's *The Forgotten Beasts of Eld* or Marie Brennan's *Driftwood* will be in awe of Berry's wonderfully odd ode to language, story, and family."

# BLUE LIGHT HOURS

A Novel

By Bruna Dantas Lobato

NA

October 2024 / Grove/Atlantic / US Editor: Emily Burns

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Korean (Dasan Books)

Brazilian Portuguese (Companhia das Letras)

Turkish (Is Kultur)

A modern coming-of-age story of love, belonging, and migration from a new literary force, *Blue Light Hours* arrives with the tender power of recent works by Katie Kitamura, Ayşegül Savaş, and Jessica Au.

In a small liberal arts college in the American Northeast, a young woman is buzzing as she settles into a dorm room in a country she's never been to—a dream that a scholarship, hard work, and the support of her mother in Brazil made possible. Once she's unpacked, she calls her mother. It's within this frame that Lobato directs our attention, through the Skype calls of a mother and daughter hoping to stay in one another's lives despite the continent between them. The daughter soon falls in with a small group of international students and starts to form a life—reading, thinking, drinking leftover booze from the rich students' parties, studying, talking. Eventually, the time for calls with her mother grows narrower, as does the conversation, and sometimes it's only late at night with a drink in both their hands, or simply an open computer screen while one falls asleep. As the year passes and the mother recovers from a period of poor health and the daughter begins to question where she fits, both wonder if this is the life they'll always have—not quite apart, but not together. Lobato questions the sacrifices that come with leaving one's home, and she forms a gorgeous portrait of love across borders, real and imagined.

**Bruna Dantas Lobato's** fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Guernica*, *A Public Space*, *The Common*, and other publications. Her literary translations include Caio Fernando Abreu's seminal story collections *Moldy Strawberries* (longlisted, PEN Translation Prize) and the National Book Award winner *The Words That Remain*.

Named One of *Electric Literature's* "75 Books by Women of Color to Read in 2024"

"A spellbinding meditation on distance and intimacy, holding close and letting go. In attentive linguistic brush strokes, Lobato offers a tender and dynamic portrait of the mutual care between a mother and a daughter as they navigate life apart. Resplendent."—**Tess Gunty**, National Book Award-winner, *The Rabbit Hutch*

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

Page Count: 174

"Bruna Dantas Lobato is quite the literary star."  
—*The New York Times*

This is the immigrant novel at its tenderest."  
—*Electric Literature*

"Delicate... Dantas Lobato crafts atmospheric details of the pastoral setting and the ersatz intimacy of video calls. This shines."  
—*Publishers Weekly*

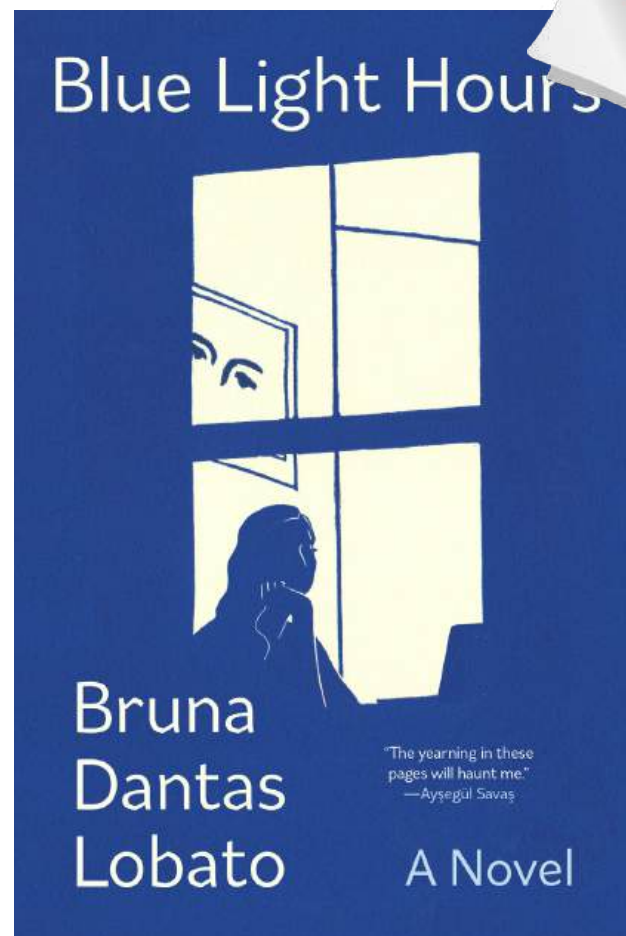
"An astonishingly beautiful novel, full of longing and love. A revelation."  
—**Jenny Offill**, *New York Times* bestselling author

"Delicate and wise constructed universe of connection, of loss, of the immigrant's privations, of radiant love."—**Sarah Thankam Mathews**, *All This Could Be Different*

"A melancholy, strange, and love-suffused book... mother and daughter a continent apart create a dreamlike, almost womblike space, wrestling an uncanny closeness from a distance of thousands of miles. A quietly beautiful coming-of-age story that never loses sight of the people who come along—or don't—for the transformation wrought by time and distance."—**Lydia Kiesling**, author of *Mobility*

"Out of a maelstrom of daunting themes—including migration, illness, and single parenthood—sails this quiet and utterly beautiful novel of daughterly devotion... *Blue Light Hours* renders the private textures of digital intimacy with more subtlety and tenderness than any other book."—**Maggie Millner**, author of *Couplets*

"At times, reading this utterly beautiful book, I thought I could not bear the tenderness of it... an aching portrait of the mother and child bond, with all its love and sadness, with such wisdom and capacious humanity. The yearning in these pages will haunt me." —**Ayşegül Savaş**, author of *The Anthropologists*



AEVITAS 6

# THE COLDEST CASE

## A Shana Merchant Novel (#6)

By Tessa Wegert

WE

November 2024 / Severn House / UK Editor: Rachel Slatter

Final PDFs Available

**\*\*ACM handles rights for only Books 3-6 in this series\*\***

**Publishers of the Shana Merchant Series:  
German (Heyne / Penguin Verlag)**

News of a missing Instagram celebrity brings Senior Investigator Shana Merchant to a frozen island community of just eight people. When the visit turns deadly, her hunt for a killer collides with a cold case she'll never forget . . .

It's February in the Thousand Islands and, cut off from civilization by endless ice, eight people are overwintering on tiny, remote Running Pine. Six year-rounders, used to the hard work, isolation and freezing temperatures . . . and two newcomers: social media stars Cary and Sylvie, whose account documenting their year on the island is garnering thousands of followers, and thousands of dollars' worth of luxury gifts.

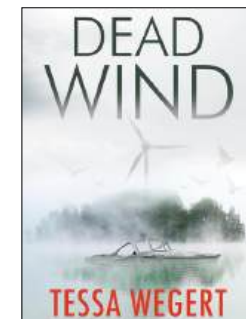
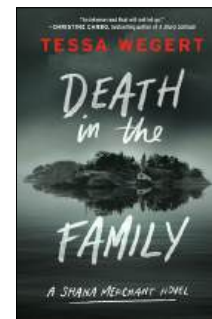
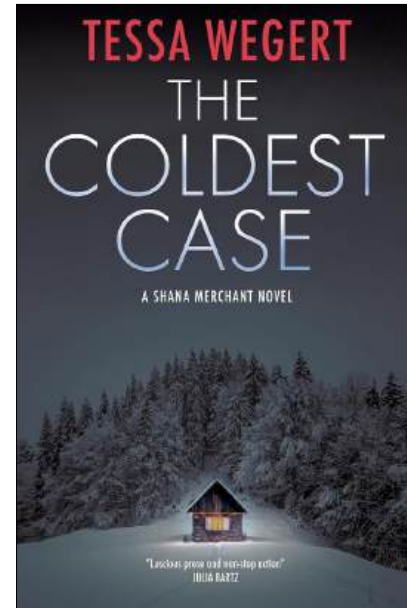
The long-term islanders will tell you Running Pine can be perilous - especially for city slickers who'll do anything to get the perfect shot. So when Cary doesn't return from ice fishing one morning, his neighbors fear the worst.

With the clock ticking to find the missing influencer, a police team is dispatched to take the dangerous journey to the island . . . but Sylvie, his frantic partner, will only talk to one person: newlywed Senior Investigator Shana Merchant.

Where is Cary - and what is it that Sylvie's not sharing? With aspects of the case reminding Shana of an unsolved homicide from her past that haunts her still, she risks her own safety to help. But little does she know that a storm is coming - and if she doesn't solve both crimes soon, she may become the island's next victim . . .

**The latest taut, thrilling small-town mystery featuring New York State senior investigator Shana Merchant, and set against the beautiful backdrop of the Thousand Islands, is perfect for fans of Agatha Christie and Ruth Ware.**

ACM Agent: Chris Bucci



"Atmospheric . . . Series fans will be satisfied" —*Publishers Weekly*

"An extremely well-written crime novel . . . fans of the series will not be disappointed." —*Booklist on Devils at the Door*

"Wegert does an admirable job of generating mounting suspense." —*Kirkus Reviews on The Kind to Kill*

"The stakes have never been higher, and Tessa Wegert has never been in finer form. With her trademark blend of chilling, atmospheric suspense, scalpel-sharp wit, and lush, elegant prose, Wegert delivers *The Coldest Case*, another exhilarating installment in the Shana Merchant series that treats readers to the kind of riveting, deeply felt narrative found in the very finest thriller fiction. Don't you dare miss it!" —**E.G. Scott, international bestselling author of *The Rule of Three***

AEVITAS 7



# BETA VULGARIS

A Novel

By Margie Sarsfield

NA

February 2025 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Drew Weitman

Edited MS Available

A young woman's seasonal job takes a dark, surreal turn in this vivid and surprising debut.

When Elise and her boyfriend, Tom, set off for Minnesota, all she knows about harvesting sugar beets (*Beta vulgaris*) is that her paycheck will cover a few months' rent on their Brooklyn apartment. She'll try anything to escape the incessant debt collections calls—and chronic anxieties about her body and her relationship. But as the grueling graveyard shifts set in, Elise notices strange things: threatening texts, a mysterious rash, a string of disappearances from the workers' campsite, and snatches of a hypnotic voice coming from the beet pile itself.

As crewmembers vanish, Elise obsesses over Tom's closeness with their charismatic coworker Cee and falls back on self-destructive patterns of disordered eating and dissociation. Against the horrors of her uncertain future, is the siren song of the beet pile almost . . . appealing? Biting and eerie, *Beta Vulgaris* harnesses an audacious premise to undermine straightforward narratives of class, trauma, consumption, and redemption.

**Margie Sarsfield** was the recipient of the 2019 Calvino Prize. She earned her MFA from Ohio State University. Her work has appeared in *Salt Hill*, *CutBank*, *the Normal School*, *Seneca Review*, *Hippocampus*, and elsewhere. She lives in Reno, Nevada.

"*Beta Vulgaris* announces the arrival of a singular talent: Margie Sarsfield's debut novel will burrow into your very soul. I couldn't put it down."

—Nick White, author of *How To Survive a Summer*

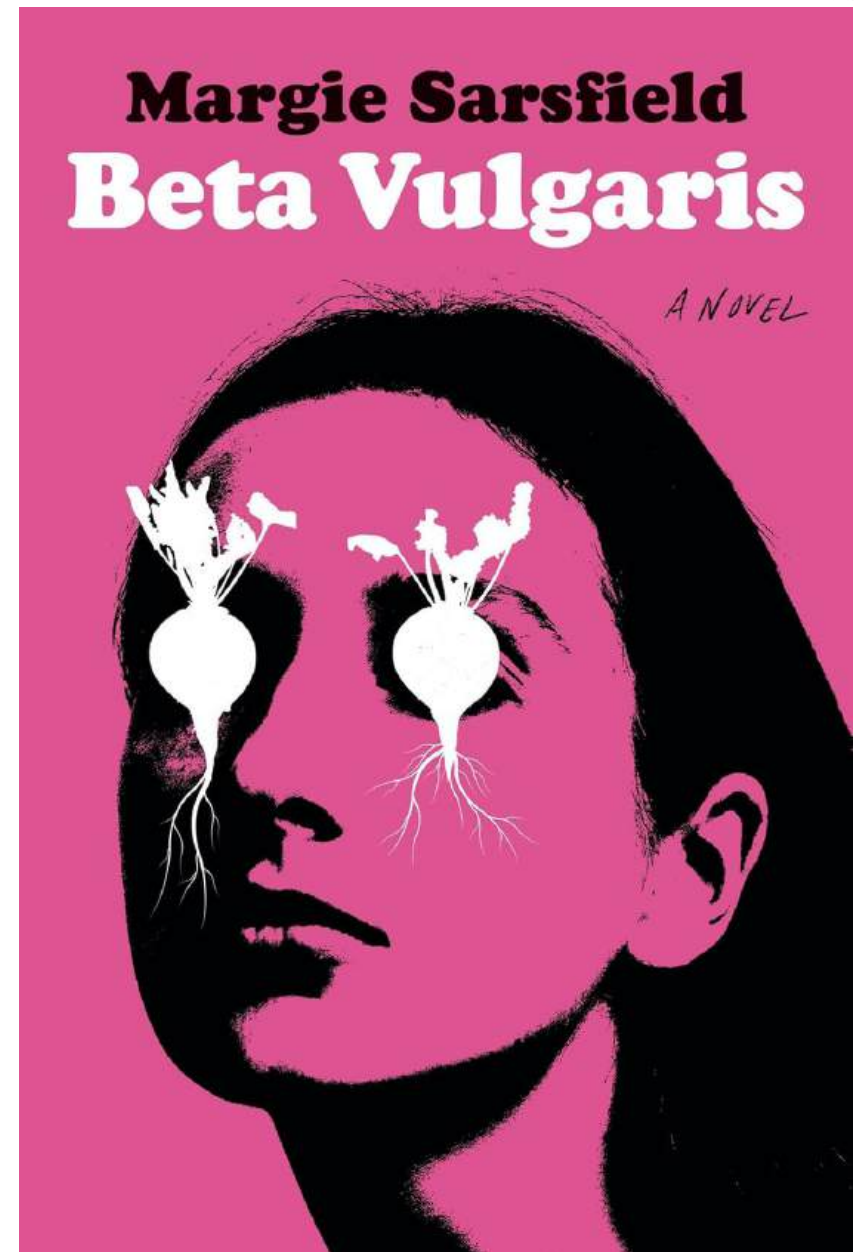
"Sharp and atmospheric eco-horror that slices into the gruesome strangeness of industrialized agriculture. With Sarsfield's compelling cast and heady, urgent prose, *Beta Vulgaris* is a fever dream hungry to consume you."

—Kathryn Harlan, author of *Fruiting Bodies*

"Uncanny and electric and quietly harrowing [this] is my favorite kind of horror novel—terrifyingly human [...] a novel so vivid and memorable, I'll be thinking of beet pilers for years to come." —Danya Kukafka, *Notes on an Execution*

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

Page Count: 282





# THE MAGPIE AT NIGHT

## The Complete Poems of Li Qingzhao

Translated from the Chinese by Wendy Chen

WE

February 2025 / FSG (Macmillan) / US Editor: Rohan Kamicheril

Edited MS Available

**Rights Sold:**

UK/Commonwealth (Penguin UK)

A luminous new translation of the greatest woman poet in Chinese history, highlighting Li Qingzhao's iconoclastic verse and showcasing her visionary portrait of the inner workings of the artist's mind.

*The Magpie at Night* is a lyrical and searching portrait of the inner life of Li Qingzhao, one of the greatest poets in Chinese literary history. These spare and arresting poems evoke the quiet and haunting beauty of country life during the Song dynasty; the unseen, restive labor of the poet; and Li Qingzhao's bracing and complex take on what it means to create art as a woman in the shadow of exile, war, imprisonment, and an unwelcoming literary establishment. In Chen's splendid new translation, each of Li Qingzhao's *ci*—lyrics that were originally set to music—is as sharp and fresh as the edge of a new spring leaf. These richly textured melodies tell a story that will resonate with scholars eager to restore this iconic figure to the canon, as well as with contemporary readers who will relate to the strikingly modern mode in which she delivers her wry and unsentimental thoughts on art and posterity.

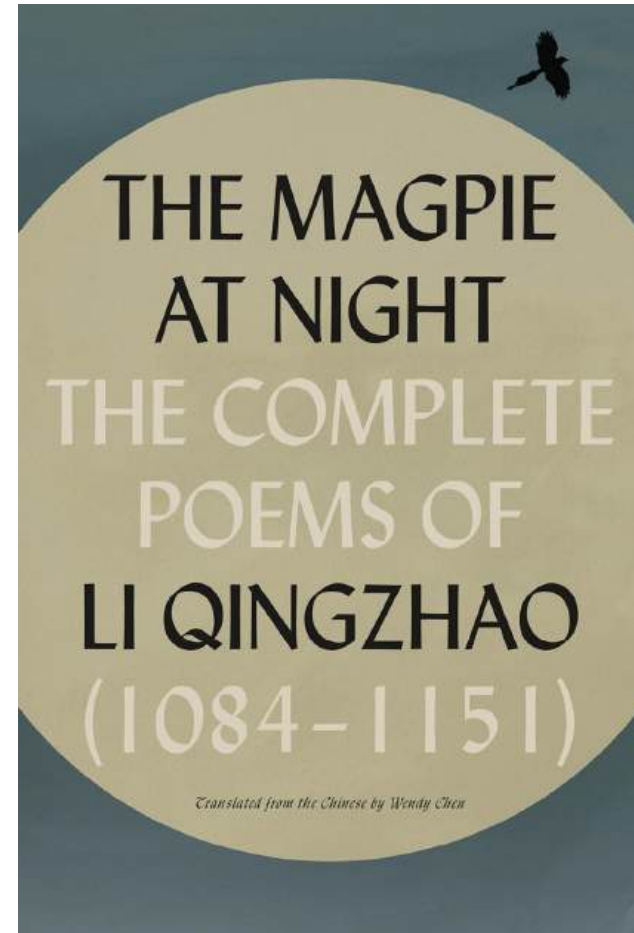
**Li Qingzhao (1084–1151)**, also known as Yi'an Jushi, is considered the greatest woman poet in Chinese history, though only two English translations of her works are in print today. During her lifetime, she defied cultural expectations for women by writing and persevering through war, exile, imprisonment, and the loss of her fortune.

**Wendy Chen** is the author of the novel *Their Divine Fires* and the poetry collection *Unearthings*. She is the recipient of prizes and fellowships from the Academy of American Poets, MacDowell, and elsewhere. She is an assistant professor of creative writing at the University of Nevada.

"Wendy Chen translates with a true poet's sensitivity to language, metaphor, and image. To bring Li Qingzhao's poems to an English-speaking audience with such precision and obvious skill is a remarkable achievement. Here are poems as timeless as they are timely, as mysterious as they are rewarding."—**Kristina Marie Darling, Fulbright Scholar and author of *Daylight Has Already Come: Selected Poems***

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

Page Count: 144



### Why did you decide to translate Li Qingzhao's work?

"Scholars and artists in the generations following her death have acknowledged her as a master at her craft—a status few women have ever achieved in Chinese history. Yet despite her distinguished reputation in China, she remains relatively unknown and untranslated in the West. When I first started translating her work as an undergraduate in 2011, only one translation of her complete works in English remained in print (Rexroth, 1980). Gender, I believe, plays no small part in this neglect. As part of my project, I am also interested in reclaiming Chinese/English translations as a space where Chinese and Chinese-American voices can be heard and appreciated." —Wendy Chen

# WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?

A Novel

By Paul Rudnick

NA

March 2025 / Atria (S&S) / US Editor: Peter Borland

Edited MS Available

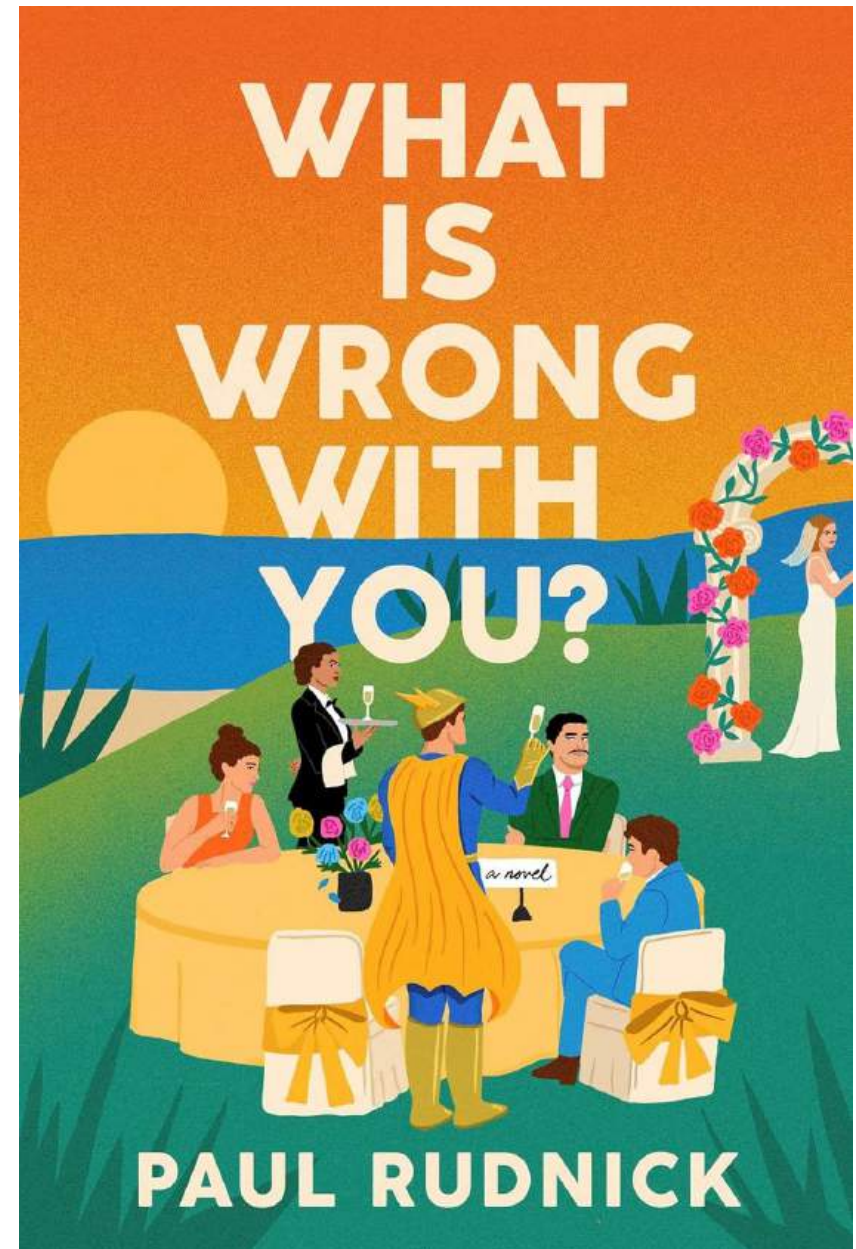
“The genuinely hilarious Paul Rudnick” (Gary Shteyngart, *New York Times* best-selling author) returns with a witty, insightful new novel about the joy, delight, pain, and absurdity of love in an age of cynicism, divorce, and digital madness.

A tech billionaire and the flight attendant he’s marrying. A TV superhero who used to be married to the flight attendant. A Manhattan book editor and the sensitivity associate who got him fired. A twenty-three-year-old wild child prodigy who’s perhaps the savior of American literature. A vengeful Arkansas sheriff who sells a vitamin-enriched, ten-pounds-off-today demulsifier. A Wall Street bro who raps on TikTok. Two dentists—possibly stalking each other.

What do these people have in common? Invited or not, they’re all headed to the most anticipated destination wedding ever, on the billionaire’s private island, to seek romance, to cause mayhem, and to figure out everyone else’s futures and maybe even their own.

Find out what happens in Paul Rudnick’s heartfelt new novel, which dares to pose the question essential to anyone who’s ever been in love: *What Is Wrong with You?*

**Paul Rudnick** is an author, playwright, and screenwriter. His plays have been produced on and off Broadway and include *Jeffrey*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *Regrets Only*, and *The New Century*. He is the author of seven books, and his writing has also appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Vanity Fair*, *Vogue*, *Esquire*, and more. His screenplays include *Addams Family Values*, *Coastal Elites*, *In & Out*, *Sister Act*, and the film adaptation of *Jeffrey*. Find out more at [PaulRudnick.com](http://PaulRudnick.com).





# MỠ DOCUMENTS

A Novel

By Kevin Nguyen

WE

April 2025 / OneWorld (PRH) / US Editor: Sun Robinson-Smith and Chris Jackson  
Edited MS Available

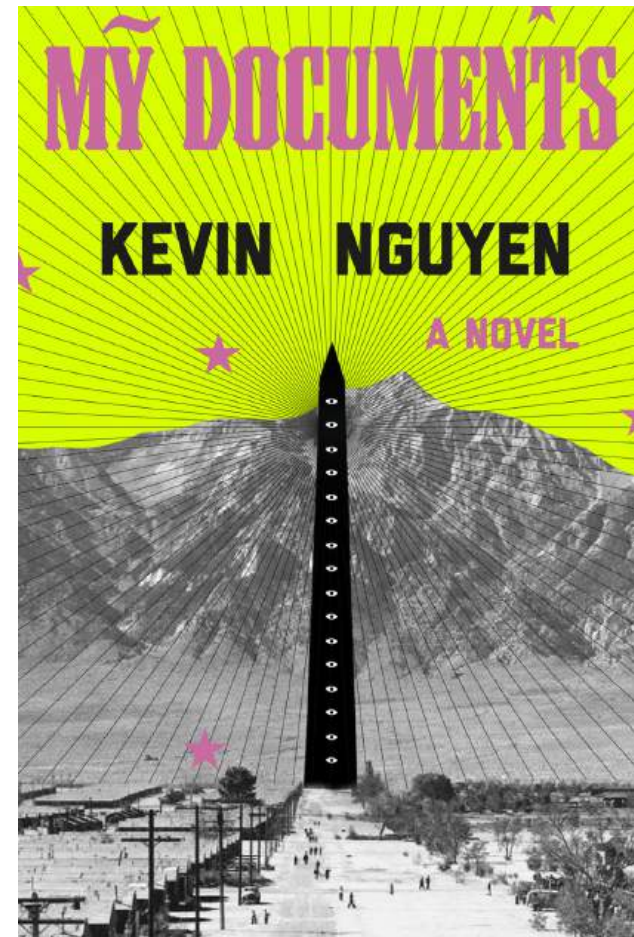
The paths of four family members diverge drastically when the U.S. government begins detaining Vietnamese Americans, in this sharp and touching novel about growing up at the intersection of ambition and assimilation.

Ursula, Alvin, Jen, and Duncan grew up as cousins in the sprawling Nguyen family, but the truth about their family is much more complicated. As young adults, they're on the precipice of new ventures—Ursula as a budding journalist in Manhattan, Alvin as an engineering intern for Google, Jen as a naive freshman at NYU, and Duncan as a promising newcomer on his high school football team. Their lives are upended when a series of violent, senseless attacks across America create a national panic, prompting a government policy forcing Vietnamese Americans into internment camps. Jen and Duncan are sent with their mother to Camp Tacoma while Ursula and Alvin receive exemptions.

Cut off entirely from the outside world, Jen and Duncan try to withstand long dusty days in camp, forced to work jobs they hate and acclimate to life without the internet. That is until Jen discovers a way to get messages to the outside. Her first instinct is to reach out to Ursula, who sees this as an opportunity to tell the world about the horrors of detention—and bolster her own reporting career in the process.

Informed by real-life events from Japanese incarceration, the Vietnam War, and modern-day immigrant detention, Kevin Nguyen gives us a version of reality only a few degrees away from our own—much too close for comfort. Moving and finely attuned to both the brutalities and mundanities of racism in America, *My Documents* is a strangely funny and touching portrait of American ambition, fear, and family. The story of the Nguyens is one of resilience and how we return to each other, and to ourselves, after tragedy.

**Kevin Nguyen** is the author of the novel *New Waves* and is the features editor at *The Verge*. Previously, he was an editor at *GQ*. He lives in Brooklyn.



“A sharp riveting story of a Vietnamese American detention camp set in an alternate future. Funny, powerful, and propulsive, the novel skewers capitalism and the hypocrisies of journalism that lull rather than activate our attention to the vulnerable. But ultimately, *My Documents* is a moving portrait of the kind of people we become when we are trying to survive.”—**Cathy Park Hong**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Minor Feelings*

“A knowing and thought-provoking exploration of love, modern isolation, and what it means to exist—especially as a person of color—in our increasingly digital age.”—**Celeste Ng**, on Kevin Nguyen's *New Waves*

“A satire of internet culture that is also a moving portrait of a lost human being”  
—*Los Angeles Times*, on Kevin Nguyen's *New Waves*

# THE FLOAT TEST

A Novel

By Lynn Steger Strong

NA

April 2025 / Mariner (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Kate Nintzel

Edited MS Available

From Lynn Steger Strong, critically acclaimed author of *Flight*, a sophisticated and layered novel about sisters, betrayal, love, and climate change, for readers of *The Dutch House* and *The Most Fun We Ever Had*.

The Kenner siblings are at odds. Jenn is a harried mom struggling under the weight of family obligations. Fred is a novelist who can't write, maybe because she's lost faith in storytelling itself. Jude is a recovering corporate lawyer with her own story to tell, and a grudge against her former favorite sister, Fred. George, the baby, is estranged from his wife and harboring both a secret about his former employer and an ill-advised crush on one of his sisters' friends. Gathered after a major loss, each sibling needs the others more than ever—if only they could trust each other.

A family story is, of course, only as honest as the person telling it. This family story in particular is fraught with secrets about kids and sex and jobs and why the Kenner matriarch had a gun in her underwear drawer. The biggest secret of all though is the secret of what happened between Jude and Fred to create such a rift between the two once-close middle sisters. Over the course of a sweltering Florida summer, the Kenner siblings will revisit what it means to be a family and, if they are smart and kind and lucky, come out on the other side better for having each other.

A rich exploration of family, ambition, secrets, and love, *The Float Test* is an elegant and gripping testament to the power that family has to both nurture and destroy us from a critically acclaimed writer working at the top of her craft.

**Lynn Steger Strong** is the author of the novels *Flight*, *Want*, and *Hold Still*. Her nonfiction has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Time*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Paris Review*, *The Cut*, *New York Magazine*, and elsewhere. She teaches writing at Princeton and Columbia University.

## Previous Publishers:

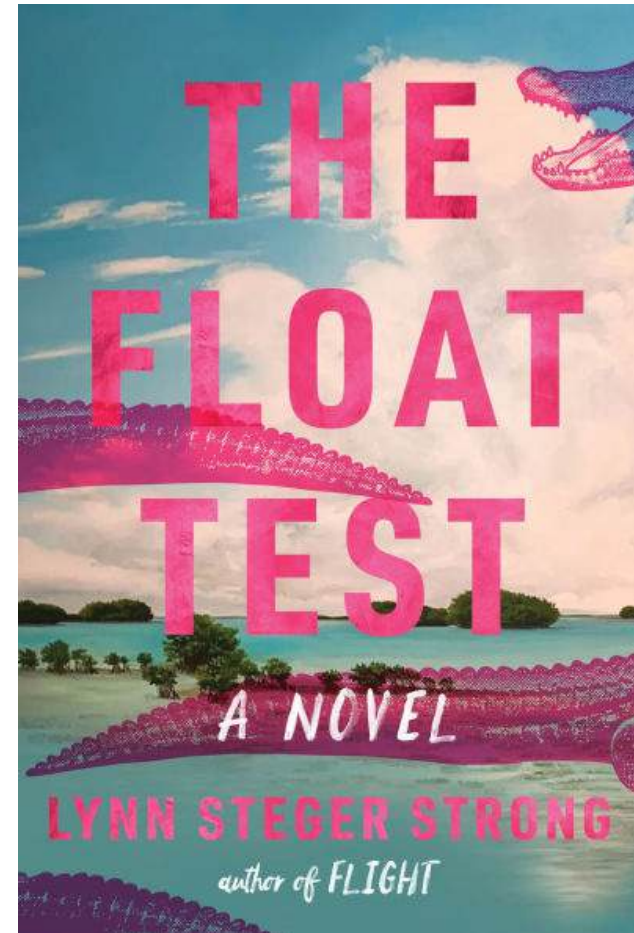
Polish (Pauza)

Vietnamese (Nham Van)

UK/Comm (Scribner / S&S UK)

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

Page Count: 257



"What I loved most is the sense of place, and how the sticky, dense heat of Florida, the relentless sun, the flat roads ending at the ocean, is woven into the Kenner family's DNA. The adult children—all at crisis points in their own lives—gather on the hot ground of their childhood following their mother's death, where they try to untangle decades of betrayals and sorrow, and reclaim their sense of home."  
—Ann Napolitano, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Hello Beautiful*

"With surgical precision, Strong dissects and then elegantly reconstructs an American family on the brink: of falling apart, of finding themselves, of saying all the things left unsaid. Strong's clear and confident voice and prose makes the unvarnished truths in this book sting. But that same quality makes the moments of profound tenderness and humanity linger. The Floridian world of this clan—will stay with me for a long time to come."  
—Xochitl Gonzalez, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Anita de Monte Laughs Last*

AEVITAS 12



# THE CUT

A Novel

By C.J. Dotson

NA

April 2025 / St. Martin's Press / US Editor: Michael Homler

Final PDF Available

In this chilling supernatural horror novel set in a mysterious hotel, a woman fleeing her abusive ex finds herself running from more than just her past.

A historic hotel long past its prime and huddled along The Cut, a questionable Lake Erie beach, isn't Sadie Miles' ideal place to raise a toddler while also navigating her second pregnancy. After finally fleeing her abusive ex-fiancé, though, Sadie's new housekeeping position and free room at L'Arpin Hotel are the best she can manage. On her first night, Sadie runs to help a guest struggling in the hotel's pool only to find the water calm and empty when she gets there, leaving her with a lingering unease. When a guest then goes missing and her manager insists they simply left without checking out, Sadie suspects he's covering up darker goings-on in the hotel. After her ex, Sadie won't let anyone convince her that what she's experiencing isn't real again. So, she keeps digging, quickly uncovering suspicious interactions with the staff, mysteriously vanishing security cameras, more missing guests, and things that go bump in the night...and drip in the walls, slither in the tub, and squirm in the halls. Everything isn't as it seems within the dim hallways of L'Arpin. Sadie has nowhere to go and nowhere to hide; she'll need to keep her wits about her to survive and keep her toddler and unborn child safe from whatever lurks nearby.

**C. J. Dotson** possesses the statistically average number of body parts for a human being to have. She and her husband, stepson, and children (all of whom also appear human) share a cabin in the woods with more bugs than she would ever like to see.

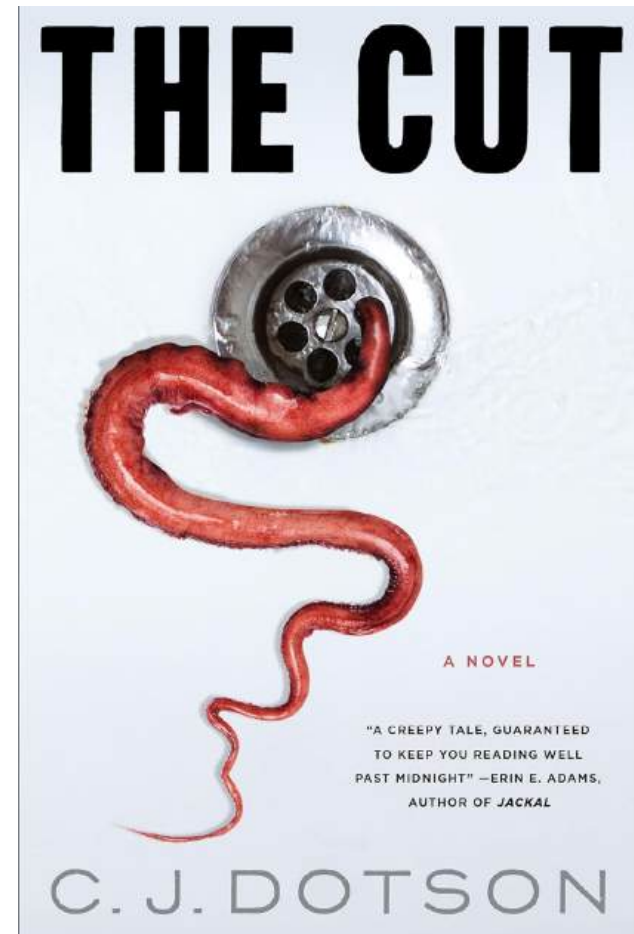
"A chilling, paranoia-inducing thrill-ride of a horror tale! Bizarre twists, great characters, and an ending that will leave you breathless!" —**Jonathan Maberry**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Cave 13* and *Necrotek*

"An exquisite slow burn horror story that combines the terror of escaping from an abusive relationship with evil that's reminiscent of Lovecraft. Absolutely devoured." —**Amina Akhtar**, bestselling author of *Almost Surely Dead*

"A compelling page-turner full of slithery secrets and scares." —**Rachel Harrison**, national bestselling author of *Black Sheep*

ACM Agent: Chris Bucci

Page Count: 294



"A creepy tale, guaranteed to keep you reading well past midnight. Fantastically paced, filled with wonderfully crafted characters—the twists and turns don't let up until the very end. A highlight of the year." —**Erin E. Adams**, author of *Jackal*

"Creeping with twisting tight tension... heart hammering, breath shuddering, and full of visions of monsters along our periphery. The terrors here will leave you speechless." —**Cynthia Pelayo**, Bram Stoker Award-winning author of *Forgotten Sisters*

"Utterly creepy and engaging. The blend of real world horror with the supernatural is pitch-perfect and absolutely claustrophobic." —**S.A. Barnes**, author of *Dead Silence* and *Ghost Station*

"The throat-clenching tension of a domestic thriller and a soaking wet supernatural spookfest" —**Clay McLeod Chapman**, author of *What Kind of Mother*

AEVITAS 13

# A SHARP ENDLESS NEED

A Novel

By Marisa Crane

NA

May 2025 / Dial Press (PRH) / US Editor: Katy Nishimoto  
Edited MS Available

A propulsive and nostalgic coming-of-age novel about the relationship between two teammates on a rural high school basketball team, from the author of *I Keep My Exoskeletons to Myself*.

Star point guard Mack Morris's senior year of high school begins with twin cataclysms: the death of her father and the arrival of transfer student Liv Cooper. On the court, Mack and Liv discover an exhilarating, game-winning chemistry; off the court, they fall into an equally intoxicating more-than-friendship that is out of bounds for their small Pennsylvania town in 2004, and especially, for Liv's conservative mother. As Mack's desire and grief collide with drugs, sex, and the looming college signing deadline, she is forced to reckon with the disconnects between her past and her future—and fight for the life she wants for herself, whether or not Liv will be on the court beside her.

Written with the lush longing of Andre Aciman's *Call Me By Your Name* and the obsessive attention of Jean Kyoung Frazier's *Pizza Girl*, and with all the romance and feeling of the beloved 2000 movie *Love & Basketball*, Crane's sophomore novel is a voice-driven, literary treatment of the big feelings of first love, intimacy, heartbreak, grief, and of course, sports.

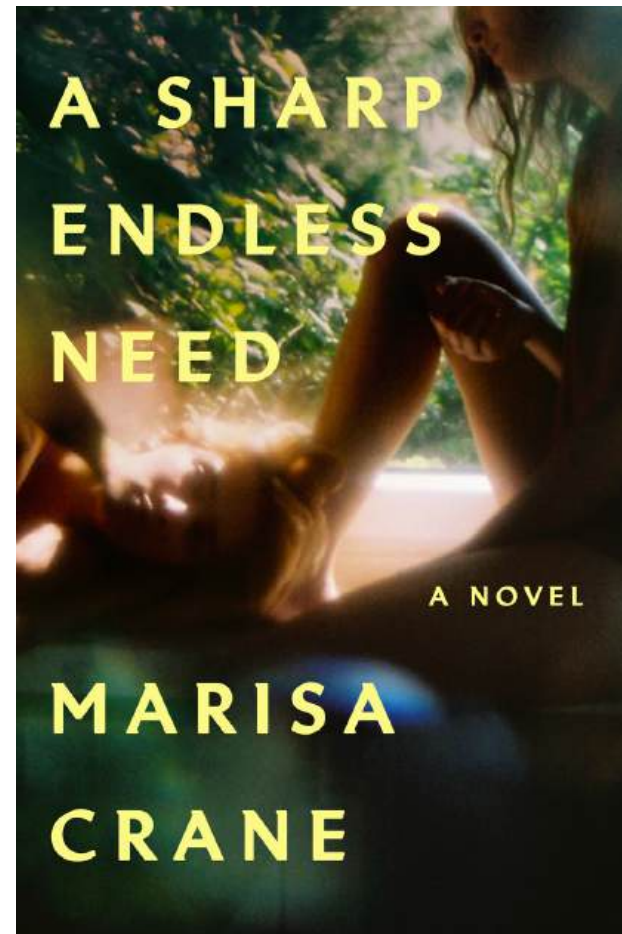
**Marisa Crane** is a former college basketball player and the author of *I Keep My Exoskeletons to Myself*, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and Indie Next pick.

"A triumph of raw emotion and intense storytelling. After reading, you'll want to dust off your sneakers and hit the court that is life. . . . A truly brilliant novel from a truly brilliant and empathetic soul."—**Morgan Talty**, bestselling author of *Night of the Living Rez*

"Crane writes with startling rawness, clarity, and lyricism about that precious time right before adulthood, when who we are—and who we'd like to be—is still fragile and often just out of reach. Full of soul, beauty, nostalgia, and brilliance, this book reads like a love letter to adolescent longing."—**Gabrielle Korn**, author of *Yours for the Taking*

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

Page Count: 272



"A poetic story about ambition, desire, grief, and love . . . Crane's writing is honest, engrossing, and full of heart—a slam dunk."—**Emily Austin**, author of *Everyone in This Room Will Someday Be Dead*

"Strik[es] a balance between tenderness, ecstasy, and wry humor that leaves no corner of the heart unexplored. It's a gorgeous queer love story that both cuts and heals my teenage heart."—**Jean Kyoung Frazier**, author of *Pizza Girl*

"A richly evocative and nostalgic book, a propulsive and tender narrative, told with compassion and intelligence. Crane beautifully captures desire and competitiveness."—**Brandon Hobson**, author of *Where the Dead Sit Talking*

"A brilliant novel, so alive and vibrating that it took my breath away. Crane writes with piercing, heartbreaking insight about sacrificing the future for the present, with complex characters who navigate adolescence, desire, and basketball, and all the ways in which we make and break ourselves again and again. Crane is fearless, ferocious, and blessed with the kind of vision that lets you see everything in real time and find your way to something exceptional."—**Kevin Wilson**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Nothing to See Here*

"A vibrant, beautiful book not only brimming with stunning prose and sharp, quick dialogue but also offering a thoughtful and gentle meditation on the why behind affections: why people love what they love, what keeps people returning, what gets people to stay until they no longer can. It is a book that pushed me to reconsider devotion and the many shapes it can take."—**Hanif Abdurraqib**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *There's Always This Year*

AEVITAS 14



# THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE

## And Her Just Okay Assistant / A Series

By Liza Tully

WE

May 2025 / Berkley (PRH) / US Editor: Tom Colgan

Edited MS Available

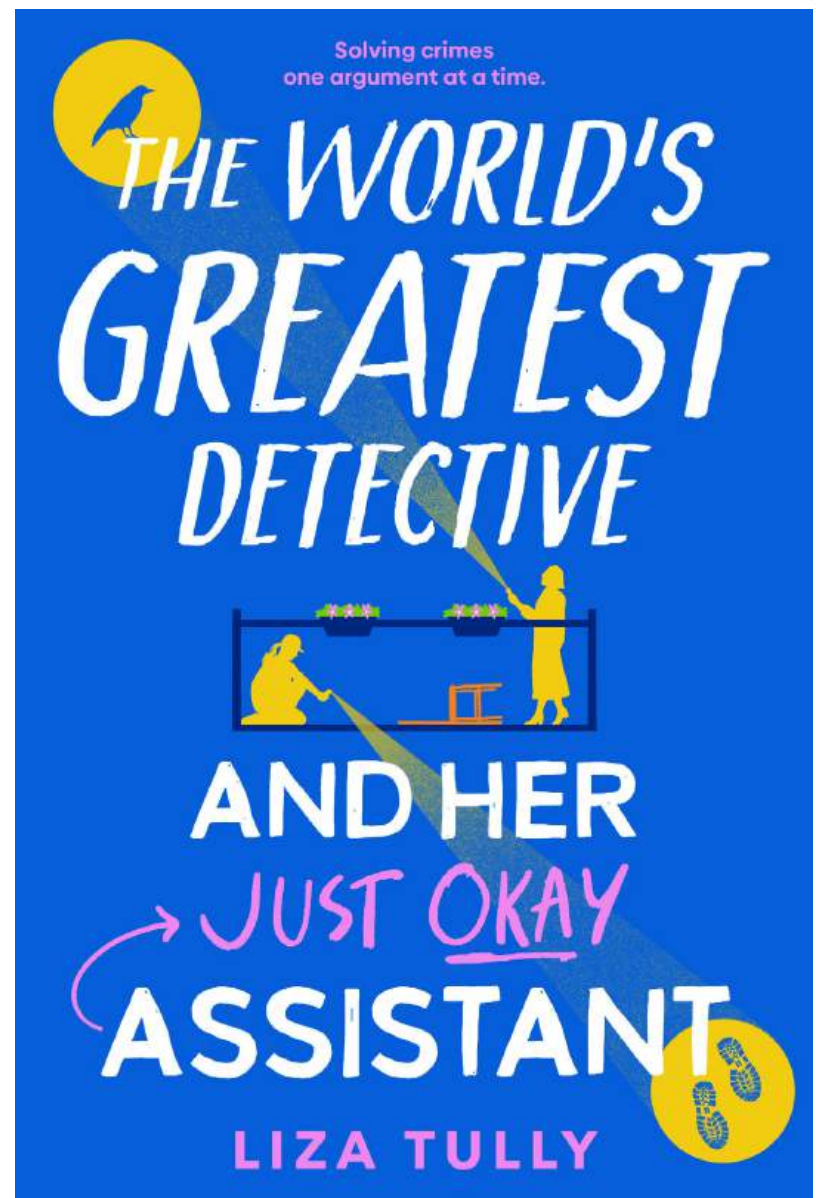
A fast-paced mystery packed with messy family intrigue, ominous New England gloom, and the ambition and angst of young adulthood. *The World's Greatest Detective and Her Just Okay Assistant* will appeal to fans of Louise Penny, Paige Shelton, and Anthony Horowitz.

After trying her hand as a barista, a bicycle courier, and a fact-checker, twenty-five-year-old Olivia Blunt lands her dream job as the assistant to a world-famous Manhattan private investigator. Aubrey Merritt is gruff, demanding, and enigmatic, and Olivia is eager to earn her respect, but it soon becomes clear that Aubrey has very high standards and this may be more *Devil Wears Prada* than *Death on the Nile*.

Soon, the unlikely pair hop into Olivia's ancient Jeep and head to Lake Champlain, Vermont to solve Olivia's first murder mystery. Victoria Summersworth, the well-loved matriarch of a mountain resort dynasty, has fallen to her death off her balcony, hours after her sixty-fifth birthday party. Her daughter believes she was killed. And it seems as if anyone within a five-mile radius of the swanky, secluded Wild Goose Resort not only could have done it, but had a motive to do it.

Olivia—or Blunt, as Aubrey calls her—knows that this is her one chance to prove herself to her new boss, whose old-fashioned notions of feminism and fairness, and failure to understand intersectionality and the need to specify one's pronouns, have been getting on her nerves. Determined to show Aubrey that a cheerful, Gen Z idealist can solve crimes too, thank you very much, Olivia throws herself headfirst into the investigation. But when she takes one (un)calculated risk too many, she realizes she might not even make it out of Vermont alive.

Liza Tully is the pseudonym for Elisabeth Brink, who also writes dark thrillers under the name Elisabeth Elo, as well as literary fiction under the name Elisabeth Panttaja Brink. Her titles include *North of Boston* and *Finding Katarina M.*



Previous Publishers:

France (Belfont)

Germany (Ullstein)

UK/Comm (Headline)

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

Page Count: TK

AEVITAS 15

# BEFORE DOROTHY

## A Novel

By Hazel Gaynor

WE

June 2025 / Berkley (PRH) / US Editor: Amanda Bergeron

Edited MS Available

### Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Harper UK)

Long before Dorothy visits Oz, her aunt, Emily Gale, sets off on her own grand adventure, leaving gritty Chicago behind for Kansas and a life that will utterly change her, in this transporting new novel from *New York Times* bestselling author Hazel Gaynor.

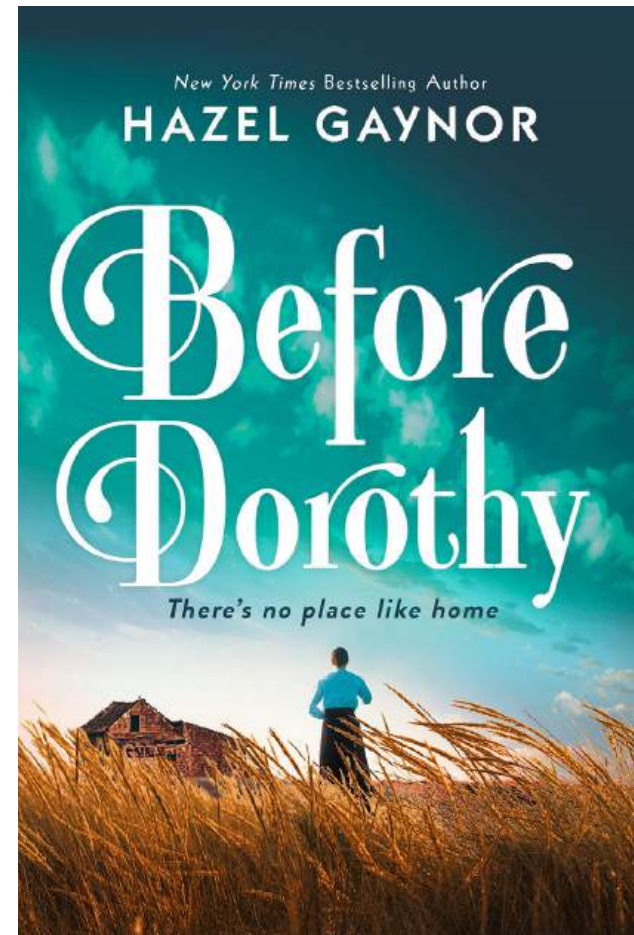
*Chicago, 1924:* Emily Gale and her new husband, Henry, yearn to leave the bustle of Chicago behind for the promise of their own American dream. But leaving the city means leaving Emily's beloved sister, Annie, who was once closer to her than anyone in the world.

*Kansas, 1932:* Emily and Henry have made a life in the warmth of the community of Liberal, Kansas, and among the harsh beauty of the prairie. Their lives hold a precarious and hopeful purpose, until tragedy strikes and their orphaned niece, Dorothy, lands on their doorstep. The wide-eyed child isn't the only thing to disrupt Emily's world. Drought and devastating dust storms threaten to destroy everything, and their much-loved home becomes a place of uncertainty and danger. When the past catches up with the present and old secrets are exposed, Emily fears she will lose the most cherished thing of all: Dorothy. Bursting with courage and heart, *Before Dorothy* tells the story of the women who raised a beloved heroine, and ponders the question: what is the true meaning of home?

**Hazel Gaynor** is an award-winning *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Globe and Mail* and *Irish Times* bestselling historical novelist. Her debut novel, *The Girl Who Came Home*, was awarded the 2015 RNA Historical Novel of the Year, and her novels have since been shortlisted for the 2016 and 2020 Irish Book Awards, the 2019 HWA Gold Crown Award, the 2020 RNA Historical Novel of the Year and the 2021 Grand Prix du Roman Historique. Hazel's co-written novels with Heather Webb have all been published to critical acclaim, winning and being shortlisted for several international awards. She is published in twenty-five territories and her books have been translated into eighteen languages.

ACM Agent: Michelle Brower

Page Count: 299



### Previous Publishers of Hazel Gaynor

Brazilian Portuguese (Ciranda Cultural)

Bulgarian (Kragozor)

Croatian (24sata)

Czech (Grada Publishing)

Danish (Politiken)

Dutch (Nieuw Amsterdam)

French (Bragelonne)

German (Blanvalet)

Hungarian (Nouvion)

Italian (TEA Libri)

Lithuanian (Baltos Lankos)

Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)

Polish ( Prószyński)

Romanian (Corint Books)

Sinhala (Ashirwada)

Spanish (Ediciones Palabra)

Swedish (Modernista)

Turkish (Mona Kitap)



# LONG DISTANCE

## Stories

By Ayşegül Savaş

NA

Fall 2025 / Bloomsbury / US Editor: Callie Garnett

Edited MS Available Fall 2024

Acclaimed author and master of the short story form Ayşegül Savaş's acute and tender first collection about the distances we keep, and those we try to close, in the age of connectivity.

"An exceptionally elegant, intelligent, and original writer." —**Sigrid Nunez**

"She is an author who simply, and astoundingly, knows." —**Bryan Washington**

"The rigor of Didion and the tenderness of Sebald." —**Catherine Lacey**

"One of my favorite writers." —**Katie Kitamura**

A researcher abroad in Rome eagerly awaits a visit from her long-distance lover, only to find he is not the same man she remembers. An expat meets a childhood friend on a layover and is dismayed by her unexpected contentment. A newly pregnant woman considers the American taboo of sharing the news too soon, but can't resist when an opportunity comes to patch up a damaged friendship.

*Long Distance* showcases Savaş's devastating talent for the short story. Her shrewd encapsulations of contemporary life often center on characters displaced more by choice than circumstance, characters both determined to install themselves in new lives and preoccupied with the people they've left behind.

**Ayşegül Savaş** is the author of the acclaimed novels *The Anthropologists*, *White on White*, and *Walking on the Ceiling*, and the nonfiction book *The Wilderness*. Her work has been translated into six languages and has appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *Paris Review*, *Granta*, and elsewhere. She lives in Paris.

"Utterly enchanting." —**The New York Times Book Review on *The Anthropologists***

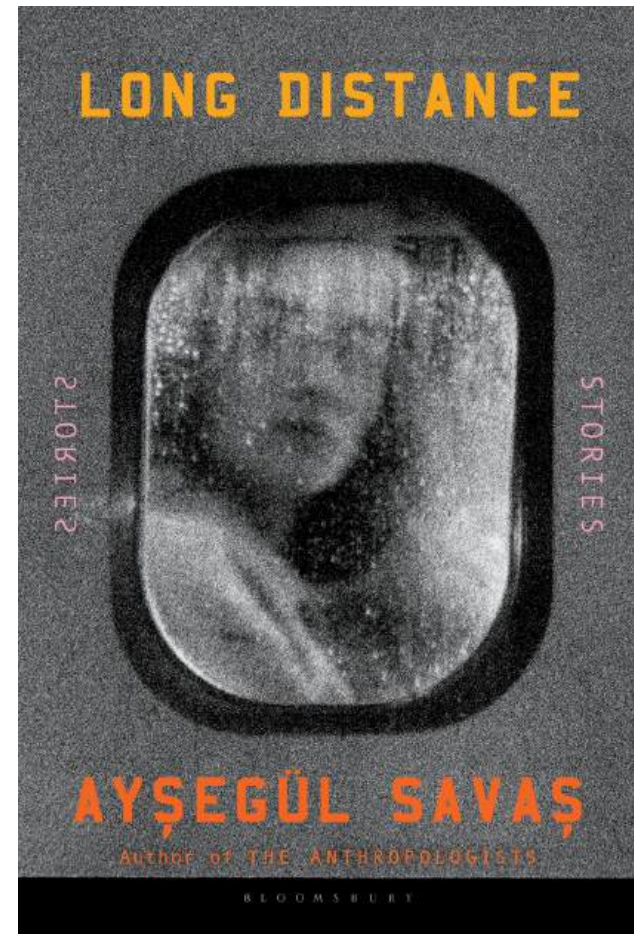
"A masterpiece." —**Publishers Weekly (starred review) on *The Anthropologists***

"An erudite and elegant meditation on modern life and love" —**The Guardian on *The Anthropologists***

"Brilliantly illuminates the human spectrum of connection and longing." —**Kirkus (starred review) on *White on White***

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

Page Count: TK



"Savaş' restrained style is a statement in itself, minimalist on the surface but more textured than what first meets the eye." —**Michele Filgate, *Los Angeles Times*, on *White on White***

"Savaş elegantly explores loneliness in her second novel." —**Bethanne Patrick, *Washington Post*, on *White on White***

"She writes with both sensuality and coolness, as if determined to find a rational explanation for the irrationality of existence." —**Sarah Lyall, *The New York Times*, on *Walking on the Ceiling***

"An original, mesmerising story... a beguiling tale of two cities which expertly illuminates 'the devious ways of memory.'" —**The Economist on *Walking on the Ceiling***

# SOME BRIGHT NOWHERE

## A Novel

By Ann Packer

NA

Fall 2025 / Harper / US Editor: Sarah Stein

Edited MS Available Spring 2025

### Rights Sold:

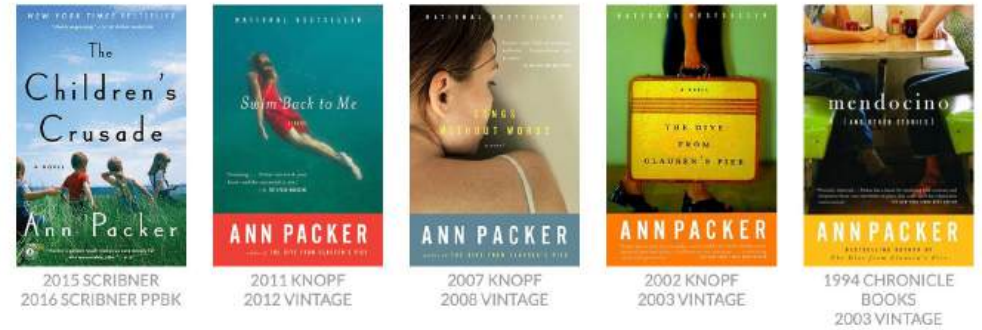
UK/Comm (4th Estate / HarperCollins)

**A TAUT, GORGEOUS AND DEVASTATING NEW NOVEL FROM THE INTERNATIONALLY BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE DIVE FROM CLAUSEN'S PIER* AND *THE CHILDREN'S CRUSADE***

*Some Bright Nowhere* revolves around the final days of a long marriage, and like Packer's beloved previous work, it asks deep questions about our human capacity for love and understanding in the face of the unknown.

Eliot and his wife Claire have been happily married for nearly four decades. They've raised two children in a sleepy Connecticut town and have weathered the inevitable ups and downs that come with a long life together. But eight years into Claire's cancer diagnosis it's time to move to the next phase, to gather their loved ones and prepare for what comes next. Over the years of Claire's illness, Eliot has willingly—lovingly—shifted into the role of caregiver, even grown to appreciate the intimacy and tenderness in the transition from husband to something more layered and complex. As he focuses on settling into what will be their last weeks and days, Claire's oldest friends, Holly and Michelle, have also committed to making the most of the time, rearranging their lives and schedules to be able to drop by the house on a whim, often closing the door against Eliot, who is left to hear their laughter rather than join in. One day after one of these visits, Claire makes an unexpected request that leaves Eliot reeling, and his carefully constructed world, his painstakingly forged equilibrium, is shattered.

What if your partner's dying wish broke your heart? How well do we know the deepest desires of those we love dearly? As Eliot faces this profound turning point in his marriage, he grapples with how to come to terms with the man and husband he's been, and with the great unknowns at the center of Claire's last days.



**Ann Packer** is the acclaimed author of two collections of short fiction, *Swim Back to Me* and *Mendocino and Other Stories*, and three bestselling novels, *The Children's Crusade*, *Songs Without Words*, and *The Dive from Clausen's Pier*, which received the Kate Chopin Literary Award, among many other prizes and honors. Her short fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker* and in the O. Henry Prize Stories anthologies, and her novels have been published around the world. She attended Yale University and the Iowa Writers' Workshop and has received fellowships from the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing, the Michener-Copernicus Society, and the National Endowment for the Arts. She and her husband divide their time between New York, the Bay Area, and Maine.



*Please inquire regarding any of Ann Packer's backlist rights.*



# PORT ANNA

## A Novel

By Elizabeth Buck

NA

June 2025 / Simon & Shuster / US Editor: Tim O'Connell

Edited MS Available Fall 2023

Readers who devour Louise Penny's mysteries and who made Catherine Newman's *Sandwich* a major bestseller will savor the fun plot twists and atmospheric setting of this stunning debut commercial novel.

Just about everything has gone wrong for creative writing professor Gwen Gilmore over the past year. She's lost her mother, been fired from her college in Atlanta over a petty dispute, and been dumped by her long-time boyfriend, Guy. With few choices and little more than the balance on a few credit cards left to her name, she makes the lonely drive north to take up residence in her family's aging cottage - a home she's recently inherited and where she spent summers as a child.

The cottage and Port Anna, the foggy Maine town of Gwen's childhood, are unchanged. For Gwen, they are full of ghosts; boyfriends and childhood acquaintances, painful memories of a sister who drowned tragically while on her watch, and The Misses, the two young women— now literally ghosts - who are strangely unsettled, banging doors and stomping around the cottage they built more than a century ago. Behind its charming façade, Port Anna has not escaped the realities of modern life. Family homes are being razed for garish condos, the cottage is about to be condemned, and Gwen can't seem to get the flier for a missing teenage girl, Shania Neal out of her head. It's an odd place to make a new start.

But Port Anna is also home to bright new arrivals and newly kept secrets. There's Leandro, a Spanish artist, as aloof and witty as he is wildly attractive and who fills Gwen with the hope that she can laugh easily again; there's Steven, collector of folk art, a shrewd businessman and the new partner of Gwen's high school beau Jess. Even her old friend Hugh is full of surprises as he flaunts his newfound wealth and attempts to rekindle an old flame. As the summer crowds return to the city and the locals hunker down for another harsh Maine winter, secrets will be uncovered, the missing girl will resurface, and Gwen will be forced to make choices that will change her life forever and quiet the restless ghosts haunting her home.

**Elizabeth (Libby) Buck** is a writer and former teacher based in Chapel Hill, NC.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

# HELEN OF NOWHERE

## A Novel

By Makenna Goodman

NA

Summer 2025 / Coffee House Press / US Editor: Jeremy Davies

Edited MS Available Fall 2024

A failed writer and academic decides to buy a house in the country and start anew. Makenna Goodman's dynamic voice and narrative inventiveness crystallize to explore questions of love, purpose, and power in a world in which old structures demand redefinition.

*Helen of Nowhere* introduces a professor and writer, a man who has recently realized he's at the end of his career. His wife has left him, and he's in the country with a realtor, a younger woman who is showing him a house with which she has a particular history. With a series of brilliant rhetorical shifts, Goodman shows us that nothing, as it turns out, is as straight-forward as it might first seem. And as afternoon stretches into evening, strange possibilities begin to open. In her new novel, Goodman reveals a man's fracturing interior world and Faustian crisis of existence. With incredible dexterity of language, Goodman balances the philosophical and the urgently page-turning to make something distinctly its own— a breakout literary novel by a ferocious talent.

**Makenna Goodman's** debut novel *The Shame* was named a *Harvard Review* Favorite Book of 2020, a *White Review* Best Book of the Year, a *Refinery29* Best New Book, a *Literary Hub* Recommended Read, and more. She has written for *New York Review of Books*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Electric Literature* and more.

"An epic in miniature, somehow as appealingly vast as a Greek tragedy or a Platonic dialogue, equal parts philosophy and art that's also delightfully wicked, like something from a fairytale or a fever dream." —**Sarah Manguso, author of *Liars***

"A furious energy runs through this book, whose every sentence is a joy to read. This is a book about loneliness and bitterness written with a wicked humor, and its moments of grace are as striking as they are enigmatic." —**Ayşegül Savaş, author of *The Anthropologists***

"An extraordinary book, gripping, daring, and unusual. The trajectory through anger into healing feels like a real journey in time, the dialogue flashing past, written with such speed and brilliance." —**Celia Paul, author of *Letters to Gwen John***

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

AEVITAS 19

# MAYRA

## A Novel

By Nicky Gonzalez

NA

July 2025 / Random House (PRH) / US Editor: Marie Pantojan

Edited MS Available Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Scribe)

A taut, gorgeous literary gothic debut, *Mayra* asks us: what places and people make us who we are, and what do we do if we want to leave those things behind?

It's been years since Ingrid has heard from her childhood friend, Mayra. On the rare occasions when Mayra had visited she had seemed changed, like she'd tried to wipe the part of her life that had contained home and Miami clean. But when Ingrid's phone rings unexpectedly, hearing the sound of Mayra's voice after so many years was like she had returned. She asks Ingrid to come spend the weekend, and as Ingrid sets out for the Everglades, convinced she will only stay two nights, she's nervous—the directions to the house are out beyond the reach of cell service or wifi, and the wet maw of the swamp around her is almost threatening to swallow her up as she drives. But when she arrives, the house, Mayra, and her new boyfriend Benji welcome her with open arms. Nothing to be afraid of.

The hot, sticky hours linger and slow as the two women settle into the familiar intimacy of one another's company as time seems to stretch and expand, obliterating any sense of the outside world. The old house is full of gems from the past, but an aged journal captures Ingrid's attention and sparks an urgent kernel of recognition. She called in sick to stay a few extra days but how long has she really been here? Why does Mayra's memory seem so cloudy? What can Ingrid remember of what is waiting for her at home?

**Nicky Gonzalez** is a writer from Hialeah, Florida. Her fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*, *BOMB Magazine*, *Kenyon Review Online*, *Taco Bell Quarterly*, and other publications.

"In prose as luscious as the ribs at our beloved Flanigan's, the story that unfolds between Mayra and Ingrid lovingly embodies the vibrant beauty of Hialeah and the Florida Everglades. *Mayra* is a haunting testament to the literal terror of being consumed by the very thing you're trying to escape." —**Jennine Capó Crucet**, author of *Say Hello to My Little Friend*

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

# HOUSE OF BETH

## A Novel

By Kerry Cullen

NA

Fall 2025 / Simon & Shuster / US Editor: Olivia Taylor Smith

Edited MS Available Fall 2024

A haunting and seductive tale of a young career woman who slides quickly into the role of stepmother, in a life that may still belong to someone else.

After a heart-wrenching breakup and a shocking incident at her job as an over-worked assistant at a literary agency, Cassie retreats to her hometown in New Jersey, along the Delaware River. There, she reconnects with her high school best friend, Eli, now a widowed father of two. Their bond reignites, and within a few short months, Cassie is trading her bustling New York City life for homeschooling, nature walks, and cooking lessons with her reserved neighbor, Joan.

But Cassie's fresh start is anything but peaceful. She still misses her ex-girlfriend and she grapples with harm OCD, her mind haunted by graphic and gory images. In their secluded house nestled in the woods, she tries to find solace. But the shadow of Beth, Eli's late spouse, a committed homemaker and traditional wife, looms large, permeating every corner of their home—from the décor to the rhythms of daily life. Soon, Cassie starts hearing a voice narrating the house's secrets. This mysterious presence grows stronger, guiding Cassie down a path to uncover the truth about Beth's untimely death.

*House of Beth* is a beautifully crafted novel that blends modern literary charm with gothic mystery and speculative elements. Perfect for fans of *Bunny* by Mona Awad or *Nightbitch* by Rachel Yoder, this thought-provoking novel probes the boundaries of our minds and bodies, the stories we tell ourselves about who we're meant to be, and the thoughts, beliefs, and desires we aren't always brave enough to name.

"The ghost story I've been waiting for—steamy and audacious; terrifically paced. What begins as an unsettling tale of precipitated marriage and loneliness twists and explodes into an exquisite finale." —**Sanaë Lemoine**, author of *The Margot Affair*

"Vivid, addictive, and crackling with life (yes, even the ghost), *House of Beth* asks us to consider how and why we make the lives we make." —**Lynn Steger Strong**

**Kerry Cullen** earned her MFA at Columbia University.

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin



# WAKE

## A Novel

By Jung Yun

NA

Spring 2026 / 37 Ink (Simon & Schuster) / US Editor: Dawn Davis  
Edited MS Available Spring 2026

A major new novel by the critically acclaimed writer, Jung Yun.

It's Sunday, September 16th, 2001. Franny, a thirty-eight-year-old Korean-American lawyer and her husband, Tom, have left Brooklyn to board the *Sonata* on a five-day passage to Bermuda. Franny's brother Jae and girlfriend Esther have persuaded Franny to host this trip in honor of their mother's 70th birthday, or chilsun, a major rite of passage celebrated by Korean families. But as Tom points out, Franny has never been close to her mother and it was "surreal"—even wrong—to be setting off on a cruise ("they are not cruise people") in the wake of the 9/11 attacks, as lower Manhattan continues to burn. Also onboard is Doug, an aging former star of *Starlight Voyages*, the hit "Love-Boat"-style tv series famously filmed on the *Sonata* which is currently the site of a nostalgic cast-reunion cruise for its legion of fans. With few professional prospects on the horizon, a now sober Doug has reluctantly joined his castmates and is dreading the specter of his dark past. Lucy, the only Black female graduate student in her department at MIT, ambivalent the elite tech jobs she seeks, has uncharacteristically accepted a last-minute invitation to join her new roommate on the cruise. Within the sealed, carnival-like atmosphere of the *Sonata*, *Wake* traces these passengers' lives as they attempt to escape, deny and ultimately, confront the enormous losses they've left behind.

*Wake* takes Jung Yun's masterful writing to the next level in a deeply moving, revelatory work. With exquisite prose, indelible characters and pitch perfect dialogue, *Wake* illuminates the intricacies of human relationships, even as it explores and exposes larger issues of race, class, and trauma against the backdrop of our most pressing economic and political realities. Like *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann or *There There* by Tommy Orange, Yun follows multiple distinct narratives unified by one setting and a central event with a complexity and depth of characters such as those in Jennifer Egan's *A Visit From the Goon Squad*.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, and raised, in Fargo, North Dakota, **Jung Yun** received her M.F.A. in Creative Writing at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She is the author of *Shelter* and *O Beautiful*.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates

# AWAY TO ME

## A Novel

By Patricia McConnell

NA

Spring 2026 / Kensington / US Editor: Wendy McCurdy  
Edited MS Available Spring 2025

The first in a series of three mystery novels penned by internationally renowned animal behaviorist and beloved author, [Patricia McConnell](#).

*Away To Me* opens as an early morning fog rolls over a dewy field in rural Wisconsin, where a sheepdog trial is just getting underway. Dr. Maddie McGowan, a forty-two-year-old single animal behaviorist stands on the sidelines, her spirited border collie, Jack, by her side. The two are watching as Jack's sister, Jess, and her expert handler, George, work seamlessly together herding the sheep through the course when a loud crack rings through the air. George, Maddie's dear friend and fatherly mentor, falls to the ground, shot dead.

Fast-paced and riveting, *Away To Me* traces Maddie's journey to unravel the mystery of her friend's murder. Ironically, Maddie had moved to Lonely Owl Farm, "40 acres of heaven and hell on a bluff overlooking the south branch of Clear Creek" in rural Wisconsin after a traumatic divorce in the wake of "what happened in New Mexico" to find the peace that had long eluded her. With the beauty of the land, her growing animal behavior practice, and her assortment of beloved animals, she very nearly had.

Yet as Maddie is swept up in the shadowy aftermath of George's death, and her obsession with finding a beloved, kidnapped dog, she must also confront a questionable set of choices involving a handsome, tattooed, shelter worker, her unwitting involvement in a dangerous criminal underworld, and the growing knowledge that her own life may be in danger. Readers will be rapt by the twists and turns of *Away To Me's* immersive narrative until the book reaches its dramatic conclusion. McConnell's unforgettable fiction debut, enriched by gorgeous, painterly descriptions of the Wisconsin landscape and wildlife, draws deeply on her own research, years of work as an animal behaviorist and her gift for storytelling.

**Patricia McConnell**, PhD, CAAB is the author of many critically acclaimed non-fiction books, including *The Other End of the Leash* (translated into 14 languages), *For the Love of a Dog*, and *Tales of Two Species*.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates

AEVITAS 21

# WORK TO DO

## A Novel

By Julie Wernersbach

NA

Summer 2026 / University of Iowa Press / US Editor: Meredith Stabel  
Edited MS Available Spring 2025

A sharp and human debut about queer lives, love, and labor, centered on the effort to unionize a lesbian-owned grocery co-op in Austin, Texas.

With a clear eye for its characters and their flaws, *Work to Do* explores the promise and challenges of organizing; the realities of queer folks in middle age and beyond; and the entanglement of the work we do and the people we are—at home and in public, on the softball field, in the bedroom, behind the register, and in the check-out line.

*Work to Do* centers on three characters: Eleanor, an old-school lesbian and the store's sometimes-despotic owner; manager Roz, who finds herself constantly watching the weather just to get a glimpse of her meteorologist ex-wife; and staff member and chief union organizer Randy, whose passion for fair wages can't entirely outbalance the indignities of online dating and looming middle age. Over the course of one climactic week, Eleanor, Roz, and Randy weather hurricanes both literal and metaphorical in an attempt to untangle the work they do from the people they have been—and the futures they hope to make for themselves and those around them.

For readers of Torrey Peters's *Detransition, Baby* and Sara Nović's *True Biz*, *Work to Do* deftly rotates among multiple points of view to unpack the collision of idealism and action, the tension between our pasts and our present, and our all-too-human longings for connection, romance, and good work.

A career bookseller, **Julie Wernersbach** has spent the last several decades forming relationships with writers and fellow book-lovers. After holding roles at Austin's BookPeople, as the literary director of the Texas Book Festival, and most recently, as the manager at NYC's P&T Knitwear, she now runs her own pop-up, Hive Mind Books, based in Brooklyn. Julie's short fiction has been published in *Bennington Review*, *Heavy Feather Review*, and elsewhere.

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

# CERTAINTY

## A Novel

By John Twelve Hawks

NA

Fall 2026 / Doubleday (PRH) / US Editor: Jason Kaufman  
Edited MS Available Winter 2025

A speculative thriller set in a dangerous world dominated by artificial intelligence and sentient machines.

In a not-too-distant future, the world has ground to a halt. A pandemic has wiped out much of the population, and AI has irrevocably infiltrated daily life. Manhattan is overrun with wireheads, who spend their days literally plugged into virtual reality; algorithms tell the police who to arrest and who to prosecute; and grieving people purchase robots in the likeness of their dead loved ones.

Wilson Talley, an analyst at the Executive Information Services in Manhattan, wakes one morning to a mysterious note from a detective, requesting to meet him in person at a murder scene. Respected robot-maker Terrence Greene has been brutally murdered in his workshop. At first, Wilson expects this information-gathering job to be like any other. But when a reclusive billionaire asks him to dig deeper into the crime, he realizes that Greene's death might be part of a much larger scheme. Across the city, Jay Wu—a resourceful young woman who makes a living as a virtual bodyguard for gamers—and her partner Daniel are hired to find a missing wirehead. His parents suspect that he's gone off the grid to live out his virtual fantasies, but Jay and Daniel soon learn that he may have uncovered an AI corporation's dark secret. Meanwhile, in Maine, ten-year-old Kate finds herself on the run after police officers show up at her foster home, attempting to implant a tracker into her body. An algorithm has predicted that she's likely to kill or be killed in the next 30 days. With a backpack of supplies and her trusty Interactive Toy, a stuffed seal named Zeno, Kate sets off on a journey to New York, where she hopes to find refuge with a family friend named Terry Greene.

Wilson, Jay, and Kate don't know it yet, but their individual quests will bring them together in a life-or-death battle for human autonomy.

**John Twelve Hawks** is the international bestselling author of *The Traveler* series and *Spark*.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

AEVITAS 22

# BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS





# THE MANUAL OF DETECTION

## A Novel

By Jedediah Berry

Penguin Press (PRH)

Final PDF Available

Active Licences:  
Italian (Fazi)

Korean (Munhakdongne)  
Slovak (Monokel)

In this tightly plotted yet mind-expanding novel, an unlikely detective, armed only with an umbrella and a singular handbook, must untangle a string of crimes committed in and through people's dreams

In an unnamed city always slick with rain, Charles Unwin toils as a clerk at a huge, imperious detective agency. All he knows about solving mysteries comes from the reports he's filed for the illustrious detective Travis Sivart. When Sivart goes missing and his supervisor turns up murdered, Unwin is suddenly promoted to detective, a rank for which he lacks both the skills and the stomach. His only guidance comes from his new assistant, who would be perfect if she weren't so sleepy, and from the pithy yet profound Manual of Detection (think *The Art of War* as told to Damon Runyon).

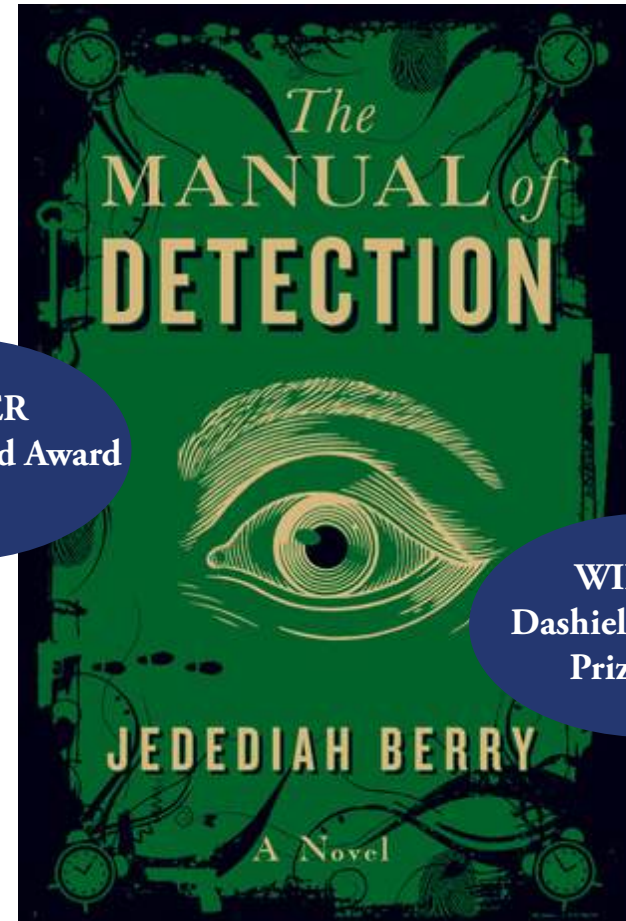
Unwin mounts his search for Sivart, but is soon framed for murder, pursued by goons and gunmen, and confounded by the infamous femme fatale Cleo Greenwood. Meanwhile, strange and troubling questions proliferate: why does the mummy at the Municipal Museum have modern-day dental work? Where have all the city's alarm clocks gone? Why is Unwin's copy of the manual missing Chapter 18? When he discovers that Sivart's greatest cases - including the Three Deaths of Colonel Baker and the Man Who Stole November 12th - were solved incorrectly, Unwin must enter the dreams of a murdered man and face a criminal mastermind bent on total control of a slumbering city.

*The Manual of Detection* will draw comparison to every work of imaginative fiction that ever blew a reader's mind - from Carlos Ruiz Zafón to Jorge Luis Borges, from *The Big Sleep* to *The Yiddish Policeman's Union*. But, ultimately, it defies comparison; it is a brilliantly conceived, meticulously realized novel that will change what you think about how you think.

Jedediah Berry's next book, *The Naming Song* is forthcoming in September 2024.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

Page Count: 278



WINNER  
IAFA Crawford Award  
2009

WINNER  
Dashiell Hammett  
Prize 2009

"This debut novel weaves the kind of mannered fantasy that might result if Wes Anderson were to adapt Kafka." —*The New Yorker*

"It is an elegant and stunningly imaginative fusion of detective and speculative fiction." —*The Guardian*

"The plot's bursting with as many twists and surprises as you could hope for...It steams along the smooth rails of Berry's neatly constructed sentences, barreling round each well-cambered turn with barely a judder." —*London Review of Books*

### Previous Publishers:

Complex Chinese (Morning Start)  
Czech (Albatros)  
French (Editions Denoel)  
German (CH Beck)

Japanese (Tokyo Sogensha Co)  
Portuguese (Europa-America Lda.)  
Simplified Chinese (CITIC)  
Spanish (Dumo)  
Turkish (Siren)

# I KEEP MY EXOSKELETONS TO MYSELF

A Novel

By Marisa Crane

NA

Catapult / US Editor: Alicia Kroell

Final PDF Available

WINNER, Lambda Award for LGBTQ+ Speculative Fiction  
A *New York Times* Editor's Choice!

*Esquire*, A Best LGBTQ Book of the Year; *Library Journal*, A Best Book of the Year  
*Debutiful*, A Best Book of the Year; *Goodreads*, A Buzziest Debut Novel of the Year

*Dept. of Speculation* meets *Black Mirror* in this lyrical, speculative debut about a queer mother raising her daughter in an unjust surveillance state

In a United States not so unlike our own, the Department of Balance has adopted a radical new form of law enforcement: rather than incarceration, wrongdoers are given a second (and sometimes, third, fourth, and fifth) shadow as a reminder of their crime—and a warning to those they encounter. Within the Department, corruption and prejudice run rampant, giving rise to an underclass of so-called Shadesters who are disenfranchised, publicly shamed, and deprived of civil rights protections. Kris is a Shadester and a new mother to a baby born with a second shadow of her own. Grieving the loss of her wife and thoroughly unprepared for the reality of raising a child alone, Kris teeters on the edge of collapse, fumbling in a daze of alcohol, shame, and self-loathing. Yet as the kid grows, Kris finds her footing, raising a child whose irrepressible spark cannot be dampened by the harsh realities of the world. She can't forget her wife, but with time, she can make a new life for herself and the kid, supported by a community of fellow misfits who defy the Department to lift one another up in solidarity and hope. With a first-person register reminiscent of the fierce self-disclosure of Sheila Heti and the poetic precision of Ocean Vuong, *I Keep My Exoskeletons to Myself* is a bold debut novel that examines the long shadow of grief, the hard work of parenting, and the power of queer resistance.

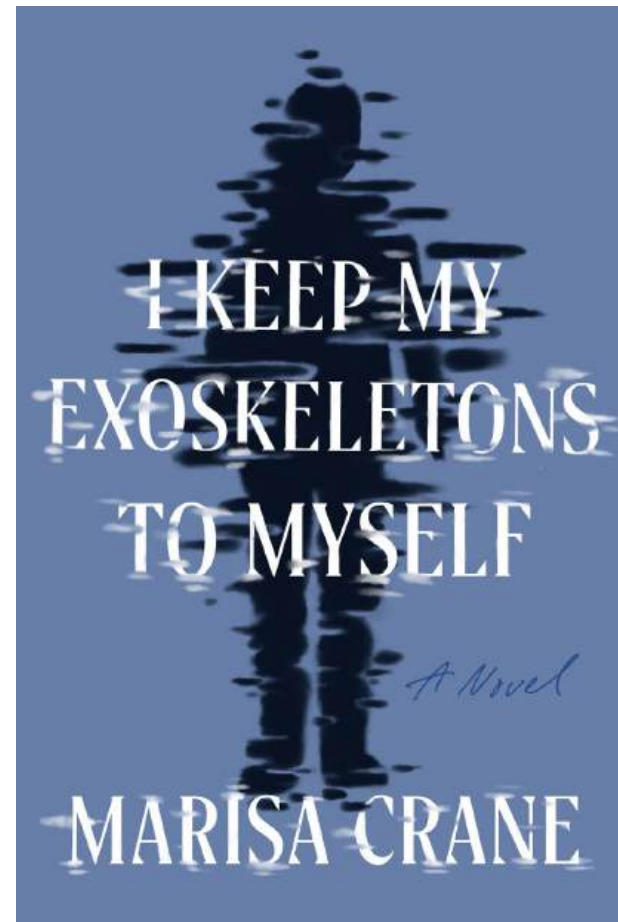
Marisa Crane's (they/them) work has appeared in *Joyland*, *No Tokens*, *TriQuarterly*, *Passages North*, *Florida Review*, *Catapult*, *Lit Hub*, *The Rumpus*, and elsewhere.

"A proponent of prison abolition, the author couldn't help diving into its potential aftermath under a system that might never shake the impulse to punish and banish . . . An exploration of how grief changes people—the way it can become a personal apocalypse, irrevocably separating 'before and after.'" —*Los Angeles Times*

"[An] electric debut [...] as sexy as it is dystopic, which is saying a lot." —*Vogue*

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

Page Count: 342



"Beneath the gorgeous sentences and gallows humor and speculative-fiction machinations, it's a survival story." —*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

"Fans of *Black Mirror* will enjoy this novel" —*Men's Health*

"Sharply-rendered... Interspersed with humor, warmth and love... Deeply hopeful" —*San Diego Magazine*

"This singular debut offers a fresh peek at our dystopian future." —*Ms. magazine*

"A macabre yet endearing *1984* for the modern age, supplemented by the author's disarming humor." —*A HuffPost Best Book of the Year*

★ STARRED REVIEW, *PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY* ★

"The author's profound maturity shines as they interrogate the creation of family, criminalization, and queer resistance. Readers will be moved and electrified."

"A disarming model for life under surveillance. Kris's voice is everything in this novel—she's a morose, prickly, paranoid yet lovable narrator with exquisite comic timing . . . a meditation on those precious acts through which Kris finds her way: the joy of queer parenting and chosen family, the beauty of forgiveness and the resistance inherent in expansive love." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Reminiscent of the tenderly ironic confessional voice of Melissa Broder's novels and the rendering of an eclectic community's search for connection and survival in *Station Eleven*, this novel skillfully probes the complexities of loss, love, and injustice." —*Kirkus Reviews*

# THE SHAME

A Novel

By Makenna Goodman

Milkweed Editions / Final PDF Available

A “startlingly original” novel of “recursive loops through the mind of a woman who is breaking down from not making the art she absolutely must make” (Alexander Chee, *Paris Review*).

Alma and her family live close to the land, raising chickens and sheep. While her husband works at a nearby college, she stays home with their young children, cleans, searches for secondhand goods online, and reads books by the women writers she adores. Then, one night, she abruptly leaves it all behind—speeding through the darkness, away from their Vermont homestead, bound for New York.

In a series of flashbacks, Alma reveals the circumstances and choices that led to this moment: the joys and claustrophobia of their remote life; her fears and uncertainties about motherhood; the painfully awkward faculty dinners; her feelings of loneliness and failure; and her growing fascination with Celeste, a mysterious ceramicist and self-loving doppelgänger who becomes an obsession for Alma.

A fable both blistering and surreal, *The Shame* is a propulsive, funny, and thought-provoking debut about a woman in isolation, whose mind—fueled by capitalism, motherhood, and the search for meaningful art—attempts to betray her.

**Makenna Goodman** lives and works in Vermont. *The Shame* is her first novel, and her next novel *So Light* is forthcoming from Coffee House Press in 2024. She has written for *New York Review of Books*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Electric Literature*, *Literary Hub*, *Catapult*, *Harvard Review*, the *White Review*, *Astra*, and *BOMB*.

“[A] swift and sensual debut . . . Goodman’s sentences pulse, they are alive, with the mess and ambivalence and artistic ambition and desire for more that saturates Alma’s mind as it asks, with fear: *Is this all? Is this enough?*”

—**BOSTON GLOBE**



ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

Page Count: 146

"Delicious" —**Sheila Heti**, *Motherhood*

"Funny and gutting"  
—**Lauren Groff**, *Florida*

"Brilliantly complex."  
—**Jenny Offill**, *Weather*

"Unsettling, smart, perceptive" —**Emma Straub**, *All Adults Here*

"Cutting" — **Megha Majumdar**, *A Burning*

"Wckedly smart" —**Helen Phillips**, *The Need*

"A slender, one-long-afternoon-at-the-shore read."  
—**Rumaan Alam**, *Leave the World Behind*

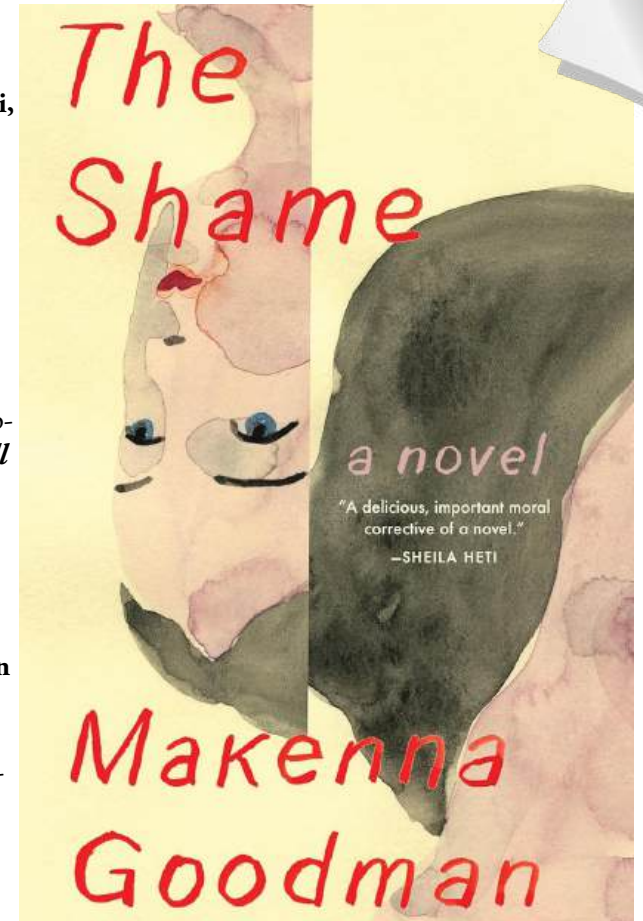
"A sharp, poetic debut . . . Shame and self-loathing have found an honest, witty, and absolutely relatable ride in *The Shame*." —**The Millions**

"Goodman’s writing is lush and propulsive, creating a compact world like a fast-moving car in the night. . . . As in [Sheila] Heti’s work, here the material reality of Alma’s life is fodder for continual revelations about the traps of capitalism, motherhood, and meaning." —**Guernica**

"*The Shame* allowed me to forget my life, forget my name, and when I looked up, and was in my life again, I looked at it through a refreshed, deeper, and more creative, more imaginative lens." —**Chloe Caldwell**, *Electric Literature*

"Traces through mystery with poise, leaving readers raw, nonetheless." —**Bustle**

"A book for any woman that has ever felt captive in any aspect of life." —**Literary Hub**





# Jan Fabel Novels

## A Seven Book Series

By Craig Russell

PRH UK / Final PDFs Available

Fans of Stuart MacBride, James Oswald and Ian Rankin will love these violently exciting and spine-tingling thrillers from bestselling and prizewinning author Craig Russell.

### Active Licences:

Danish (StorySide)

German (Aufbau)

Greek (Harlenic Hellas)

Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)

Polish (StorySide)

Simplified Chinese (Dook)

Turkish (Panama)

### *BLOOD EAGLE* Synopsis:

Hamburg: Two women are killed in the same horrific, ritualistic manner. The murderer taunts the police with e-mails. It seems clear that a serial killer is at work, selecting victims at random and living out some twisted fantasy.

But, as Jan Fabel and his murder team investigate further, nothing is as it first seems. They are drawn into a dark half-world of Viking myth and legend, of obscure religious cults, of political intrigue and of a violent struggle to seize control of the city.

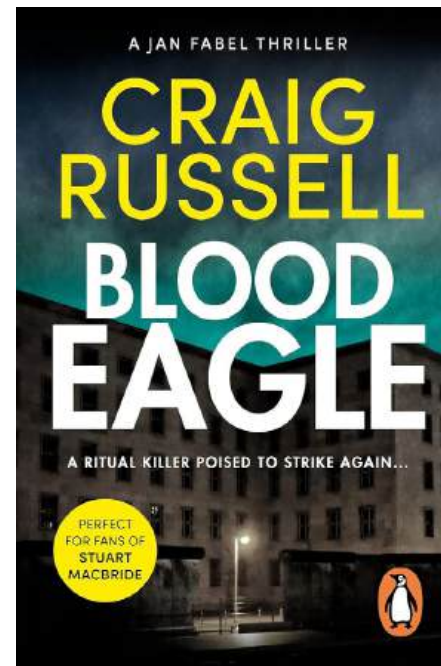
And as Fabel desperately races to track down the killer before more killings take place, he and his team come face to face with a cold, brutal menace they could never have predicted.

A greater evil than they could ever have imagined.

### Awards:

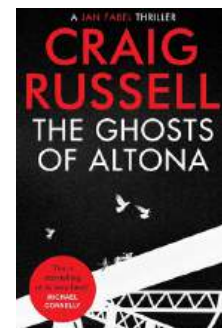
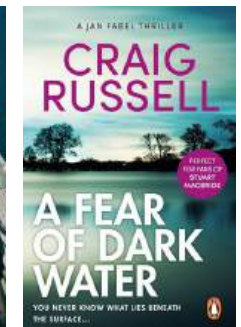
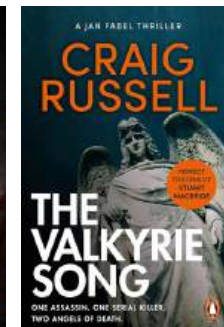
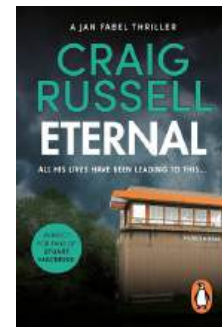
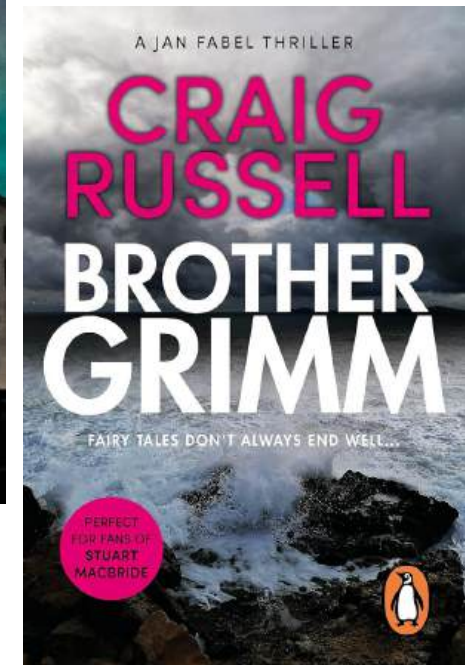
- Won the 2015 Crime Book of the Year (McIlvanney Prize) for *THE GHOSTS OF ALTONA* (Book 7)
- Won the 2008 CWA Dagger in the Library for the Jan Fabel series
- The only non-German to be awarded the highly prestigious Polizeistern by the Polizei Hamburg

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth



"Russell scores equally highly with his atmospheric portrayal of Hamburg and its dark river Elbe, as well as with the intelligence of his plots." —*The Times*

"Gritty, authentic and disturbing stuff"  
—Mo Hayder



Craig Russell is an award-winning and best-selling author, published in twenty-five languages around the world. Five Jan Fabel novels have been made into movies (in one of which Craig Russell makes a cameo appearance as a detective) for ARD, the German national broadcaster, and the Lennox series has been optioned for TV development.

# SANDWICH

## A Novel

By Catherine Newman

NA

Harper / US Editor: Sarah Nelson

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (nVersos)

German (Harper Germany)

Hungarian (Libri Konyvkiado)

Portuguese (Porto)

UK/Comm (Transworld / PRH UK)

AN INSTANT *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER

"Oh, honey," I say. "I'm sorry. Don't worry about me! I'm totally good. I'm so, so happy to be here with you."

*This is how it is to love somebody. You tell them the truth. You lie a little. And sometimes you don't say anything at all...*

From the beloved author of *We All Want Impossible Things*, a moving, hilarious story of a family summer vacation full of secrets, lunch, and learning to let go.

For the past two decades, Rocky has looked forward to her family's yearly escape to Cape Cod. Their humble beach-town rental has been the site of sweet memories, sunny days, great meals, and messes of all kinds: emotional, marital, and—thanks to the cottage's ancient plumbing—septic too.

This year's vacation, with Rocky sandwiched between her half-grown kids and fully aging parents, promises to be just as delightful as summers past—except, perhaps, for Rocky's hormonal bouts of rage and melancholy. (Hello, menopause!) Her body is changing—her life is, too. And then a chain of events sends Rocky into the past, reliving both the tenderness and sorrow of a handful of long-ago summers.

It's one precious week: everything is in balance; everything is in flux. And when Rocky comes face to face with her family's history and future, she is forced to accept that she can no longer hide her secrets from the people she loves.

**Catherine Newman** is the author of the novel *We All Want Impossible Things*, memoirs *Catastrophic Happiness* and *Waiting for Birdy*, and the bestselling children's book *How to be a Person*.

ACM Agent: Jennifer Gates

Page Count: 226



"A total delight."—Kate Christensen, author of *The Great Man*

"A piece of perfection... a wonderful book about how families love, disagree, fail one another — and endure." —Rachel Joyce, author of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*

"*Sandwich* is joy in book form. I laughed continuously, except for the parts that made me cry... a miraculous job reminding us of all the wonder there is to be found in life."—Ann Patchett, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tom Lake*

"I loved reading this book! I'm still laughing out loud when I think of some sentences, and lumping up in my throat when I think of others." —Eliza Minot, author of *In the Orchard* and *The Tiny One*

"Newman nails it all: the hilarious domestic details of family life, the tremendous stakes of our most personal choices, and the vulnerability of loving other human beings wholeheartedly." —Mary Laura Philpott, author of *Bomb Shelter*

AEVITAS 28



# THE ONLY ONE LEFT

A Novel

By Riley Sager



Dutton (PRH) / US Editor: Maya Ziv

Final PDF Available

Internationally bestselling author Riley Sager returns with a Gothic chiller about a young caregiver assigned to work for a woman accused of a massacre decades earlier.

*At seventeen, Lenora Hope, Hung her sister with a rope*

Now reduced to a schoolyard chant, the Hope family murders shocked the Maine coast one bloody night in 1929. While most people assume 17-year-old Lenora was responsible, the police were never able to prove it. Other than her denial after the killings, she has never spoken publicly about that night, nor has she set foot outside Hope's End, the cliffside mansion where the massacre occurred.

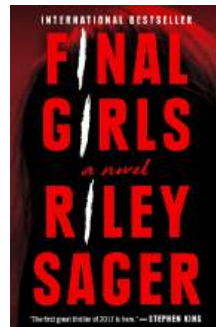
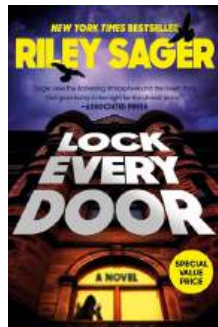
*Stabbed her father with a knife, Took her mother's happy life*

It's now 1983, and home-health aide Kit McDeere arrives at a decaying Hope's End to care for Lenora after her previous nurse fled in the middle of the night. In her seventies and confined to a wheelchair, Lenora has been rendered mute by a series of strokes and can only communicate with Kit by tapping out sentences on an old typewriter. One night, Lenora uses it to make a tantalizing offer.

*"It wasn't me," Lenora said, But she's the only one not dead*

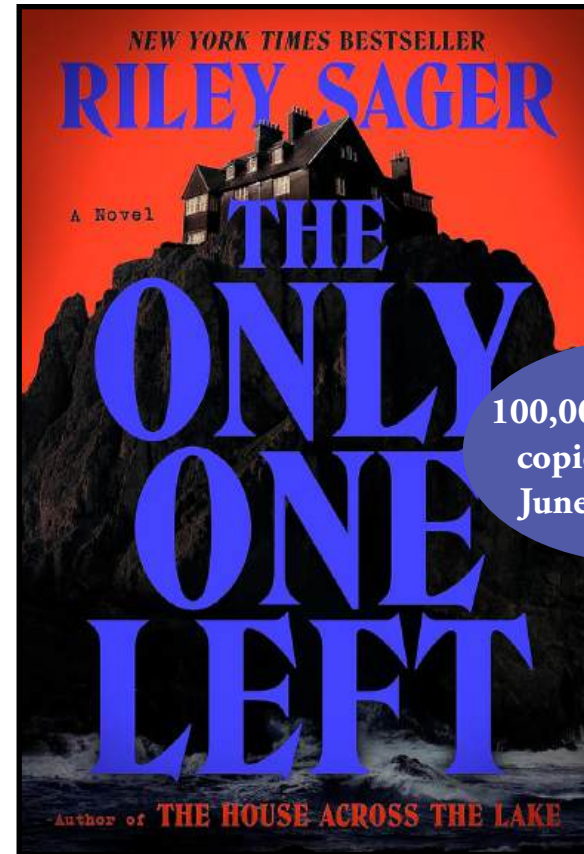
As Kit helps Lenora write about the events leading to the Hope family massacre, it becomes clear there's more to the tale. But when new details about her predecessor's departure come to light, Kit starts to suspect Lenora might not be telling the complete truth—and that she's far more dangerous than Kit first thought.

Also by Riley Sager:



ACM Agent: Michelle Brower

Page Count: 383



100,000+ hardcover  
copies sold since  
June 2023! (US)

## Foreign Publishers of Riley Sager:

- |                                   |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Arabic (Al Karma)                 | Lithuanian (Alma Littera)             |
| Brazilian Portuguese (Intrínseca) | Macedonian (Antolog)                  |
| Bulgarian (Locus)                 | Polish (Mova / Kobiece Publishing)    |
| Catalan (PRH Spain)               | Portuguese (20/20)                    |
| Complex Chinese (Faces)           | Romanian (Editura Art)                |
| Croatian (Fokus)                  | Russian (AST)                         |
| Czech (Dobrovsky)                 | Serbian (Vulkan)                      |
| Dutch (Ambo Anthos)               | Simplified Chinese (Booky)            |
| Estonian (Rahva Raamat)           | Slovak (Albatros Media Slovakia)      |
| Finnish (WSOY)                    | Slovene (Hiša Knjig in Zgodb)         |
| German (dtv)                      | Spanish (PRH Spain)                   |
| Greek (Metaichmio)                | Swedish (Modernista)                  |
| Hebrew (Adel Books)               | Thai (WeLearn)                        |
| Hungarian (Lettero)               | Turkish (Ithaki)                      |
| Italian (Fanucci)                 | UK/Comm (Hodder & Stoughton)          |
| Japanese (Shueisha)               | Ukrainian (Old Lion Publishing House) |
| Korean (Hyejiwon)                 | Vietnamese (Bachviet)                 |

AEVITAS 29

\*ACM handles backlist, all new Riley Sager titles will be handled by Trellis Literary



# THE ANTHROPOLOGISTS

A Novel

By Ayşegül Savaş

NA

Bloomsbury / US Editor: Callie Garnett

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Italian (Feltrinelli Gramma)

UK/Comm (Scribner UK / S&S UK)

A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice Selection

A Dakota Johnson x TeaTime Book Club Pick

"Utterly enchanting..." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Immaculately observed... I found myself not wanting *The Anthropologists* to end." —*Financial Times*

"An erudite and elegant meditation on modern life and modern love."  
—*The Guardian*

Asya and Manu are looking at apartments, envisioning their future in a foreign city. What should their life here look like? What rituals will structure their days? Whom can they consider family? As the young couple dreams about the possibilities of each new listing, Asya, a documentarian, gathers footage from the neighborhood like an anthropologist observing local customs. "Forget about daily life," chides her grandmother on the phone. "We named you for a whole continent and you're filming a park." Back in their home countries parents age, grandparents get sick, nieces and nephews grow up—all just slightly out of reach. But Asya and Manu's new world is growing, too, they hope. As they open the horizons of their lives, what and whom will they hold onto, and what will they need to release?

Unfolding over a series of apartment viewings, late-night conversations, last rounds of drinks and lazy breakfasts, *The Anthropologists* is a soulful examination of home-building and modern love, written with Ayşegül Savaş' distinctive elegance, warmth, and humor.

**Ayşegül Savaş** is the author of the acclaimed novels *Walking on the Ceiling* and *White on White*. Her work has been translated into seven languages and has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *Granta*, and elsewhere. She lives in Paris.

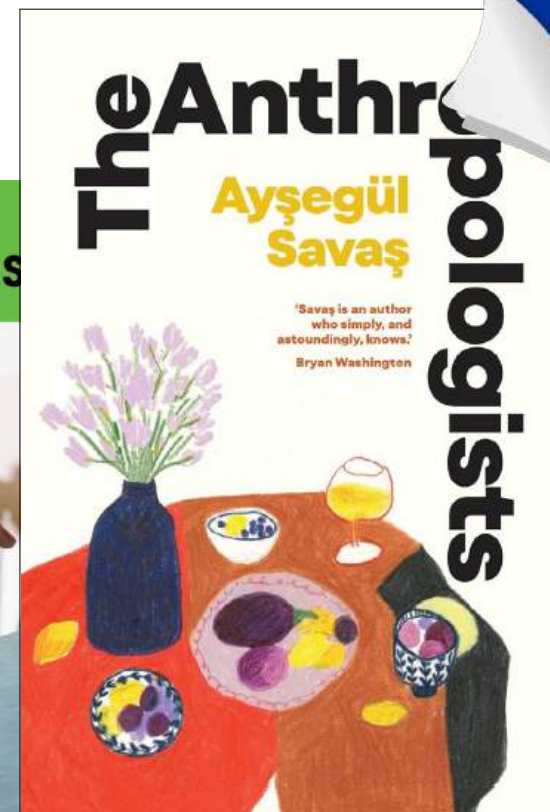
"*The Anthropologists* is mesmerizing; I felt I read it in a single breath." —**Garth Greenwell**, author of *Cleanness*

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

Page Count: 179

"Remarkable. Savaş paints this still life in a moving world."

—*The Guardian*



"Full of delicacy, wisdom and wit, this is another gorgeous work from one of my favorite writers." —**Katie Kitamura**, author of *Intimacies*

★ STARRED REVIEW, *PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY* ★

"It's a masterpiece."

★ STARRED REVIEW, *KIRKUS* ★

"Savaş' compact novel conveys warmth and human detail... perfectly perceptive."

"The peculiar habits and folkways of the creative class are on study in Ayşegül Savaş's latest... Asya and Manu are on their own, left to figure things out from day to day, and, in that figuring-out process, life takes its form. Passing time, the book suggests, is all that there is." —*The Wall Street Journal*

"Savaş' prose is an X-ray—an acute portrait of the tender frequencies that make a life." —**Raven Leilani**, author of *Luster*

Previous Publishers:

Dutch (Kievenaer & Vijn)

French (Editions Bouquins)

Romanian (Storia)

Spanish (Planeta Mexico)

Turkish (İş Kültür)

AEVITAS 30

# WALKING ON THE CEILING and WHITE ON WHITE

By Ayşegül Savaş

Riverhead Books (PRH)

Final PDFs Available

*WALKING ON THE CEILING* (April 2019)

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Kievenaar & Vijn)

Romanian (Storia)

German (btb / PRH Germany)

Spanish (Planeta Mexico)

A mesmerizing novel set in Paris and a changing Istanbul, about a young Turkish woman grappling with her past and her complicated relationship with a famous British writer.

After her mother's death, Nunu moves from Istanbul to a small apartment in Paris. One day outside of a bookstore, she meets M., an older British writer whose novels about Istanbul Nunu has always admired. They find themselves walking the streets of Paris and talking late into the night. What follows is an unusual friendship of eccentric correspondence and long walks around the city.

A wise and unguarded glimpse into a young woman's coming into her own, *Walking on the Ceiling* is about memory, the pleasure of invention, and those places, real and imagined, we can't escape.

*WHITE ON WHITE* (November 2022)

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Kievenaar & Vijn)

Turkish (İş Kültür)

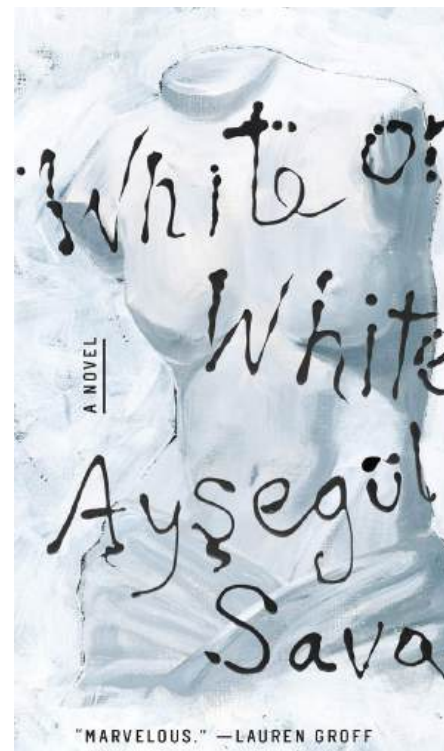
French (Editions Bouquins)

A “marvelous” (Lauren Groff) and “gentle, mysterious and profound” (Marina Abramović) novel about a woman who has come undone.

A student moves to the city, renting an apartment from a painter, Agnes, who lives in another town with her husband. One day, Agnes arrives in the city and settles into the upstairs studio. In their meetings on the stairs, in the studio, the kitchen at dawn, Agnes tells stories of her youth, her family, her marriage, and ideas for her art – which is always just about to be created. As the months pass, it becomes clear that Agnes might not have a place to return to. *White on White* is a sharp exploration of empathy and the stunning discovery of what it means to be truly vulnerable, and laid bare.

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

Page Count: 174, 207

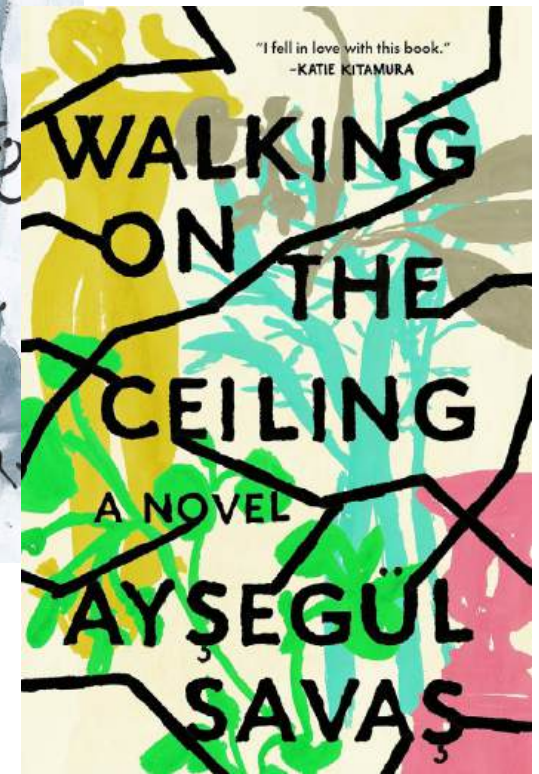


"Elegant" —*Chicago Review*

"Unique" —*Ms. Magazine*

"Alluring" —*Publishers Weekly*

"Subtly profound" —*Booklist*



"Refined" —*Kirkus*

"Exhilarating" —*Electric Lit*

"Mesmerising" —*The Economist*

"Stuns" —*Nylon Magazine*

"Intense, and moving." —*LitHub*

“[Savaş] writes with both sensuality and coolness as if determined to find a rational explanation for the irrationality of existence.” —*The New York Times*



AEVITAS 31



# BRIGHT OBJECTS

A Novel

By Ruby Todd

NA

Simon & Shuster / US Editor: Tim O'Connell

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

ANZ (Allen & Unwin)

French (Gallmeister)

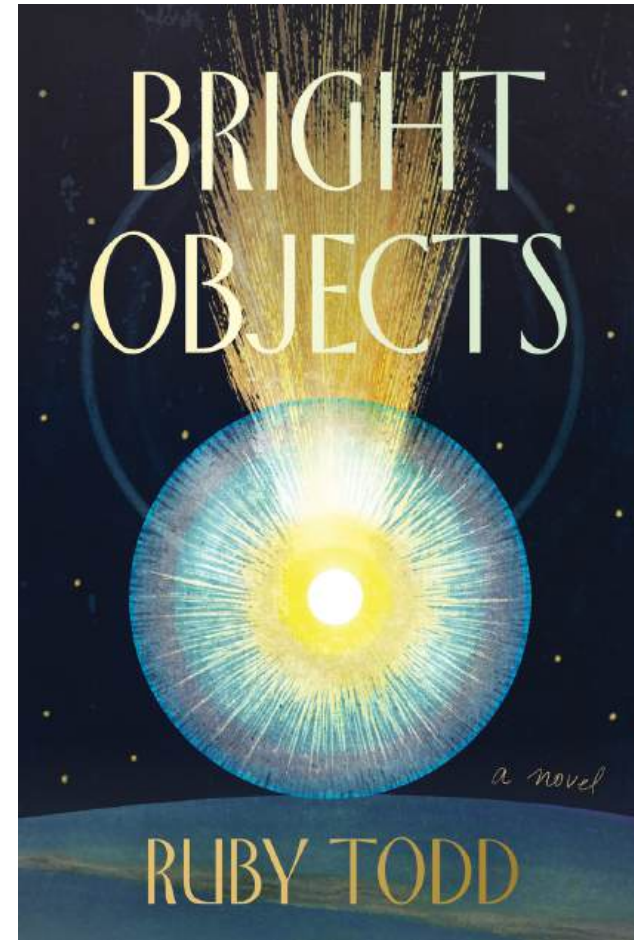
A young widow grapples with the arrival of a once-in-a-lifetime comet and its tumultuous consequences, in a debut novel that blends mystery, astronomy, and romance, perfect for fans of Emma Cline's *The Girls* and Ottessa Moshfegh's *Death in Her Hands*.

Sylvia Knight is losing hope that the person who killed her husband will ever face justice. Since the night of the hit-and-run, her world has been shrouded in hazy darkness—until she meets Theo St. John, the discoverer of a rare comet soon to be visible to the naked eye.

As the comet begins to brighten, Sylvia wonders what the apparition might signify. She is soon drawn into the orbit of local mystic Joseph Evans, who believes the comet's arrival is nothing short of a divine message. Finding herself caught between two conflicting perspectives of this celestial phenomenon, she struggles to define for herself where the reality lies. As the comet grows in the sky, her town slowly descends further and further into a fervor over its impending apex, and Sylvia's quest to uncover her husband's killer will push her and those around her to the furthest reaches of their very lives.

A novel about the search for meaning in a bewildering world, the loyalty of love, and the dangerous lengths people go to in pursuit of obsession, *Bright Objects* is a luminous, masterfully crafted literary thriller.

**Ruby Todd** is a winner of the Ploughshares magazine Emerging Writer's Contest, the AAWP Chapter One Prize, and the inaugural Furphy Literary Award, Australia's largest prize for a short story. Ruby holds a PhD in poetics from Deakin University, Australia, and a B.A. in Creative Writing and Visual Media from the University of Melbourne, Australia.



"A novel written with immense grace, beauty, and depth, *Bright Objects* plumbs the farthest reaches of one widow's grief, ultimately revealing the brilliance of our humanity in the face of immense loss—the will to fight for what's right, the will to hope, and most importantly, the will to love again. A surprising, thrilling, and seductively dangerous comet of a book." —**Chelsea Bieker, author of *Godshot* and *Madwoman***

"*Bright Objects* is the story of a woman consumed by an unquellable obsession, reduced by solitude and incompleteness....Ruby Todd writes of the strain of fearful events and discoveries, all the while revealing to us the hidden realities that lie in wait for us." —**Susanna Moore, author of *The Whiteness of Bones* and *In the Cut***



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