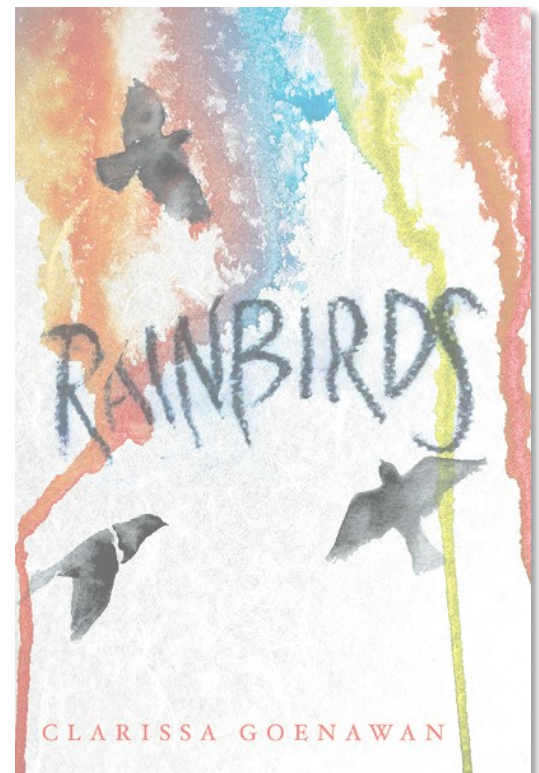
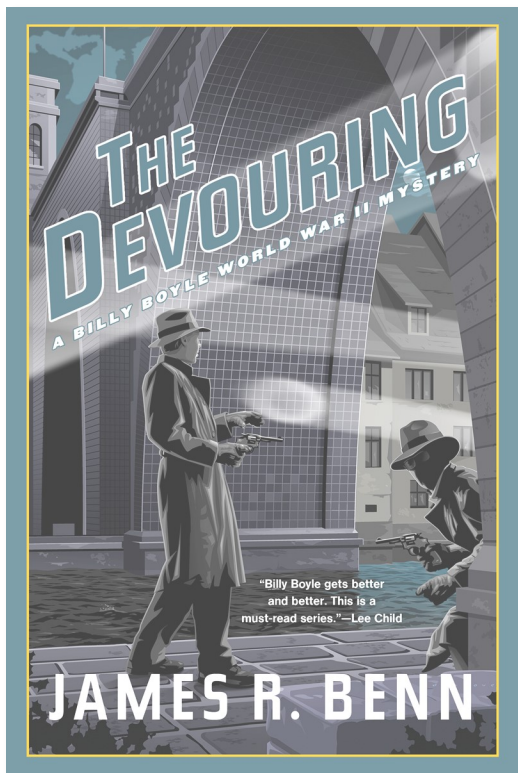


# Soho Press London Book Fair 2017 Foreign Rights List

*For inquiries and manuscript requests, please contact:*

Amara Hoshijo  
rights@sohopress.com  
(212) 260-1900



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# Death Comes in Through the Kitchen

by Teresa Dovalpage

An equally charming and chilling debut mystery set in Castro-era Havana and filled with Cuban food lore, regional recipes, and communist spycraft.

Matt, a San Diego journalist, travels to Havana to marry Yarmila, a young Cuban whose food blog led the pair to a quickly blossoming romance. But he arrives to her house to find her dead in her bathtub. Yarmila's murder will entangle Matt with the Cuban police force, lead him to a clandestine gay club, and eventually link him with Padrino, a Santería practitioner and private eye who may be his best hope for exoneration.

*Death Comes in Through the Kitchen* is a revealing portrait of Havana during 2003's Black Spring, the Castro regime's mass imprisonment of prominent political dissidents. Interspersed with authentic, tried-and-true Cuban recipes, it also serves as a deliciously culinary mystery that captures the subtleties of daily life in Cuba.

## Praise for *A Girl Like Che Guevara*

"Amusing, observant . . . Doval's sense of place and devastating depiction of prejudice in 1980s Cuba make this a worthwhile debut."

—*The Miami Herald*

"[A] piquant coming-of-age novel."

—*O Magazine*

"Absolutely remarkable . . . explodes with brilliance."

—Carlos Eire, National Book Award-winning author of *Waiting for Snow in Havana*

"A rich and perceptive portrayal of daily life in Cuba."

—*Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel*



US publication: March 2018

World

*Full manuscript available upon request.*

- ◆ A debut mystery by the critically acclaimed author of *A Girl Like Che Guevara* (to which Soho also owns World rights).
- ◆ Dovalpage, a native of Cuba who lives in New Mexico and writes in English, channels her background in the rich cultural and atmospheric details.
- ◆ Steps into a void of fiction about Cuba, an area of interest to readers all over the world.
- ◆ Dovalpage has been published extensively in Spanish.



Teresa Dovalpage was born in Havana, Cuba, in 1966. She earned her BA in English literature and an MA in Spanish literature at the University of Havana, and her PhD in Latin American literature at the University of New Mexico. She currently lives in Taos, New Mexico, where she teaches Spanish at the University of New Mexico Taos and writes for *Taos News* and the Spanish-language newspaper *El Crepúsculo*, among others. She is the author of eight novels, three short story collections, one novella, and two plays.

# Baby's First Felony

## by John Straley

Shamus Award-winner and critical darling John Straley takes readers to wacky Sitka, Alaska, population 3,000 and home to some of the world's most offbeat, disorganized, and spontaneous criminals.

Public Defender Cecil Younger spends his days coaching felons on how to avoid incriminating themselves. He and his colleague have even started writing a helpful handbook with tips such as: *Don't wear the tennis shoes you stole to court when the guy you stole them from will be there to testify and his name is still written inside of them.* But when Cecil follows the tip from a defendant and walks out of a shady apartment complex with a briefcase containing fifty thousand dollars in cash, he suddenly finds himself in violation of one of his own rules: *Nothing good comes of walking around with a lot of someone else's money.*

And the suitcase is only the beginning. Soon, Cecil hears of some sensitive information that could turn the whole town upside down. There's a far-reaching drug smuggling operation going down at the local plant, and it looks like both the local fisherman and possibly the cops are involved . . . that is, if his no-good defendant is telling him the truth.

Delivered as a deposition statement, *Baby's First Felony* tells the story of a reluctant, deeply unlucky public defender who, in a single day, manages to find a deep freeze full of drug-stuffed fish, witness a murder at close range, and have his teenage daughter kidnapped and held as collateral.

### Praise for the Cecil Younger series

"Atmospheric . . . vigorous prose." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Echoes of James Crumley . . .

Flashes of the dark poetry of Ross Macdonald." —*Chicago Tribune*

"Blazes a new trail through the dense, familiar forest of the mystery genre . . . A highly refreshing setting, a great cast of characters, and an intriguing plot . . . A winning combination." —*The Bloomsbury Review*

"Outstanding . . . Satisfies on all levels." —*The Kansas City Star*

"A rich stew of deception and menace . . . A superior mystery novel."  
—*Anchorage Daily News*



John Straley, a criminal investigator for the state of Alaska, lives in Sitka with his son and wife, a marine biologist who studies whales. He is the Shamus Award-winning author of *The Curious Eat Themselves*, *The Woman Who Married a Bear*, and *The Big Both Ways* and was appointed the Writer Laureate of Alaska in 2006.

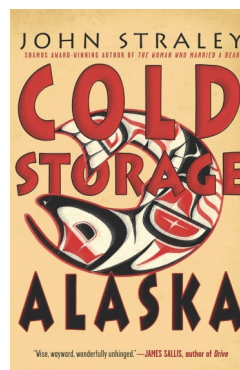


US publication: Summer 2018

World

Full manuscript available in May 2017.

- ♦ Quirky, charming crime fiction with a dark edge—perfect for markets seeking fresh, original mysteries.
- ♦ Stars public defender and amateur sleuth Cecil Younger, the star of six highly acclaimed previous mysteries by John Straley.
- ♦ Set 15 years after the previous books, *Baby's First Felony* can easily be read and published as a standalone. However, if publishers are interested in backlist rights to the series, Soho has recently acquired the rights for all six backlist titles.



Also by John Straley:

Cold Storage, Alaska

Germany: BTB

The Big Both Ways

The Curious Eat Them-  
selves

Italy: Hobby & Work  
(reverted)

The Woman Who Married a Bear

England: Gollancz (reverted) • Germany: Rowohlt

France: Gallimard • Italy: Hobby & Work

Japan: Fukutake

# Plum Rains

## by Andromeda Romano-Lax

A groundbreaking new novel—part science fiction, part historical fiction—from the author of international bestseller and *New York Times* Editors' Choice *The Spanish Bow*.

2029: Japan is facing a population crisis, with childbirth rates at an all-time low and the elderly leading increasingly long lives. This has prompted an influx of immigrants from all over Asia to provide medical care.

In Tokyo, Angelica Navarro, a Philippine national, is the caretaker for Sayoko Itou, an intensely private woman on the cusp of turning 100. Angelica works night and day to keep her demanding client happy. But one day, Sayoko receives a present from her son: a cutting-edge robot caretaker that will learn to anticipate Sayoko's every need. Angelica wonders if she is about to be forced out of her much-needed job by an inanimate object. As she fights back against the AI with all of her resources, Sayoko becomes more and more attached to the machine, and the old woman's secrets come tumbling out.

In a tour de force tapestry of science fiction and historical fiction, Andromeda Romano-Lax presents a story between Japan and Taiwan that spans a century of empire, conquest, progress, and destruction, elegantly addressing the intersection of labor and technology and the ecological fate of our planet.

### Praise for Andromeda Romano-Lax

"An impressive and richly atmospheric debut."  
—*The New York Times Book Review*

"Riveting." —*People Magazine*

"Ambitious and atmospheric." —*The Guardian*

"Rich and nuanced . . . The ethical issues presented here are both shocking and thought-provoking; and the intimate struggles of a woman weighing her value, utility, and satisfaction both within and outside the home certainly resonate today." —*The Boston Globe*



Andromeda Romano-Lax is the author of *The Spanish Bow*, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice that has been translated into 11 languages, *The Detour*, and *Behave*, as well as numerous works of nonfiction. She teaches in the low-residency MFA program at the University of Alaska Anchorage and is a co-founder of 49 Writers, a statewide literary organization. Recently, she has divided her time between Alaska, Mexico, and Asia.

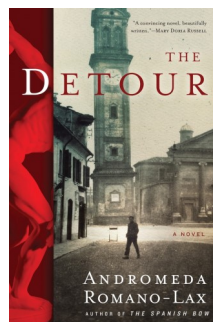


US publication: Summer 2018

### World

*Full manuscript available upon request.*

- ◆ A work of literary sci-fi with an unexpected historical twist, from an author recognized for her historical fiction.
- ◆ A sophisticated and graceful treatment of such hot-button contemporary topics as immigration, globalization, and the intersection of technological progress and human labor.
- ◆ Portions set in World War II-era Taiwan drawn from the years the author spent living with the Tayal people.



Also by Andromeda  
Romano-Lax:

*Behave*

*The Detour*

Poland: Nasza Księgarnia  
Australia: Murdoch Books

### The Spanish Bow

Poland: Nasza Księgarnia • Germany: Piper  
Spain: Planeta • Spain (Catalan): La Magrana  
China: Shi Bao Wen Hua • Italy: Frassinelli  
France: Flammarion • Russian: Inostranka  
United Kingdom: Random House • Netherlands:  
Mouria • Portugal: Civilização Editora

# Night Soil

## by Dale Peck

Dale Peck, the critically acclaimed author of *Martin and John* and *Greenville*, brings us a bold new work of literary fiction that exposes the dark side of fame, family legacy, and sexuality.

Dixie Stammers, a potter, finds unexpected fame when it is discovered that her pots are not only mechanically perfect spheres, but also identical, despite the fact that they are made entirely by hand. The art world falls in love with her, and within a couple of years her pots are selling for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The attention puts a strain between Dixie and her teenage son, Judas, a fatherless only child afflicted with a port wine stain covering almost half his body. Pathologically shy, Judas retreats into a world of anonymous sexual encounters at a roadside rest area, although what he really longs for is a relationship with one of the boys at the private school he attends—an academy founded by his ancestor, presumably to atone for an explosion in his mines that killed more than 200 African American workers. Most people in the family regard the move as a shell game to protect the family fortune from falling into the hands of the victims.

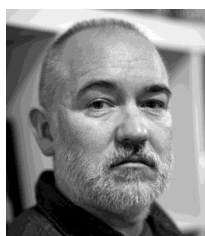
Driven by both lust and a desire to understand his mother, Judas dives deeper into his family's history, and the Academy's until he uncovers a cascade of secrets that causes him to question everything he thought he knew about his world.

### Praise for Dale Peck

"Peck has galvanized his reputation as one of the most eloquent voices of his generation." —*The New York Times*

"Peck is not only one of the leading literary voices of his generation, but also one of the few avant-garde writers of any age who is changing the rules for prose fiction. His novels simultaneously define and defy the genre." —*Los Angeles Times*

"Few writers have Dale Peck's nerve. He writes without secrets, packing his novels with the intimacies of his life, his family, his sexuality." —*The Nation*



Dale Peck is the author of twelve books in a variety of genres, including *Visions and Revisions*, *Martin and John*, and *Hatchet Jobs*, and is the editor of *The Soho Press Book of '80s Short Fiction*. His fiction and criticism have appeared in dozens of publications and have earned him two O. Henry Awards, a Pushcart Prize, a Lambda Literary Award, and a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship. He lives in New York City, where he has taught in the New School's graduate writing program since 1999.

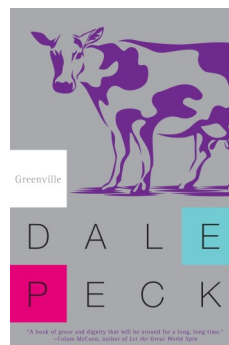


US publication: Summer 2018

World

*Full manuscript available in July 2017.*

- ◆ Dale Peck's previous work (including *Martin and John* and *Greenville*), thematically similar to *Night Soil*, has been translated into 10 other languages.
- ◆ Critical reception for Dale Peck's fiction is consistently top-tier, and *Night Soil* is his first novel since 2012.



Also by Dale Peck:

*Visions & Revisions*  
*The Garden of Lost & Found*  
*Greenville*

Germany: Albino  
UK: Granta

Now It's Time to Say  
Goodbye

UK: Chatto and Windus ● Germany: Luchterhand  
Netherlands: Atlas ● Spain: Grijalbo Mondadori

*The Law of Enclosures*

UK: Vintage ● Italy: Feltrinelli  
Germany: Luchterhand ● Netherlands: Atlas

*Martin & John*

Netherlands: Atlas ● Italy: Feltrinelli  
Germany: Paul List ● China: China Times  
Japan: Hayakawa ● Korea: Myung Kyung  
Greece: Odisseas

# Fools' River

by Timothy Hallinan

A shocking ticking-clock thriller about the most dangerous facets of Bangkok's seedy underbelly by an Edgar Award nominee.

The two most difficult days in Bangkok writer Poke Rafferty's life begin with an emergency visit from Edward Dell, the almost-boyfriend of his teenage daughter, Maiow. The boy's father, Buddy, a late-middle-aged womanizer who has moved to Bangkok for happy hunting, has disappeared, and money is being siphoned out of his bank and credit-card accounts.

It soon becomes apparent that Buddy is in the hands of a pair of killers who prey on Bangkok's sexpats; when the accounts are empty, he'll be found, like a dozen others, floating facedown in a Bangkok canal with weighted casts on both of his unbroken legs. His money is already almost gone. Over forty-eight frantic hours, Poke does everything he can to work track down Buddy before it's too late.

## Praise for the Poke Rafferty thrillers

"You could drown in the waves of corruption that surge through Timothy Hallinan's Bangkok mysteries." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Truly remarkable . . . In Hallinan's Bangkok, the ugly truths of poverty, homelessness, corruption, caste and crime are shaded with tremendous compassion." —*The Arizona Republic*

"A beautifully written, fully imagined realm with its hidden violence, ever-present sexual gambits, humid rains and fully developed characters." —*The Providence Journal*

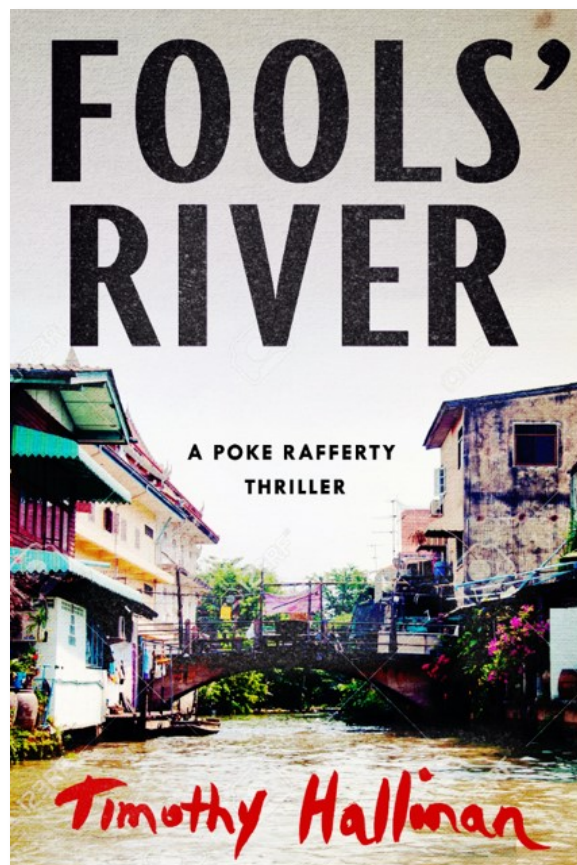
"Literary fiction of the first order told in the form of an elegant and intricate thriller." —*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*

"Taut, offbeat and fast-moving . . . Hallinan's unlikely hero shines in this sometimes funny, always engrossing and undeniably authentic story that explores a dark and fascinating side of Thailand."

—*Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review*



Timothy Hallinan's novels have been nominated for the Edgar, Nero, Shamus, and Macavity awards. After years of working in the television and music industries, he now writes full-time. He divides his time between California and Thailand.



Cover not final.

US publication: November 2017

World

Full manuscript available upon request.

- ♦ A gritty, atmospheric thriller series set in Bangkok's underworld—a milieu Hallinan knows well—that has been widely praised for its literary merit.
- ♦ As of early 2016, Soho controls World rights to all of its titles in the Poke Rafferty series (see below).

Also by Timothy Hallinan:

**The Poke Rafferty Thrillers**

*The Fear Artist* • *For the Dead* • *The Hot Countries*

**The Junior Bender Investigations**

For more information in these titles, please see the Soho Press Series Rights Guide.

# The Devouring

by James R. Benn

A murder in wartime Switzerland reveals Swiss complicity with the Nazis and profiteering during World War II

US Army Captain Billy Boyle and his friend Kaz are sent to neutral Switzerland to investigate the murder of a Swiss banking official with ties to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). The US and Swiss governments are about to embark on diplomatic discussions regarding the Safehaven Protocols, which are aimed at limiting the amount of war materials exported by Switzerland to the Nazis, halting the laundering of looted gold, and preventing the postwar use of Nazi wealth for war criminals. With the talks about to begin, the OSS wants their involvement in the murder cleared up, as well as to protect the participants from any threat of violence.

The plans go wrong from the beginning when Billy and Kaz crash-land in France. As they make their way through occupied territory to the border, they meet Anton Lasho, a member of the Sinti ethnic group, whose family was slaughtered by the Nazis, and who is, in turn, a one-man Nazi-killing machine. They'll need his help, because as they find once they make it across the border, Swiss banks are openly laundering gold "harvested" from concentration camps, and those that are profiting will do everything they can to protect their wealth and hide their dark secrets.

## Praise for the Billy Boyle WWII Mysteries

"Spirited wartime storytelling."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

"A fast-paced saga set in a period when the fate of civilization still hangs in the balance."

—*The Wall Street Journal*

"Full of action, humor and heart."

—Louise Penny

"Billy Boyle gets better and better. This is a must-read series."

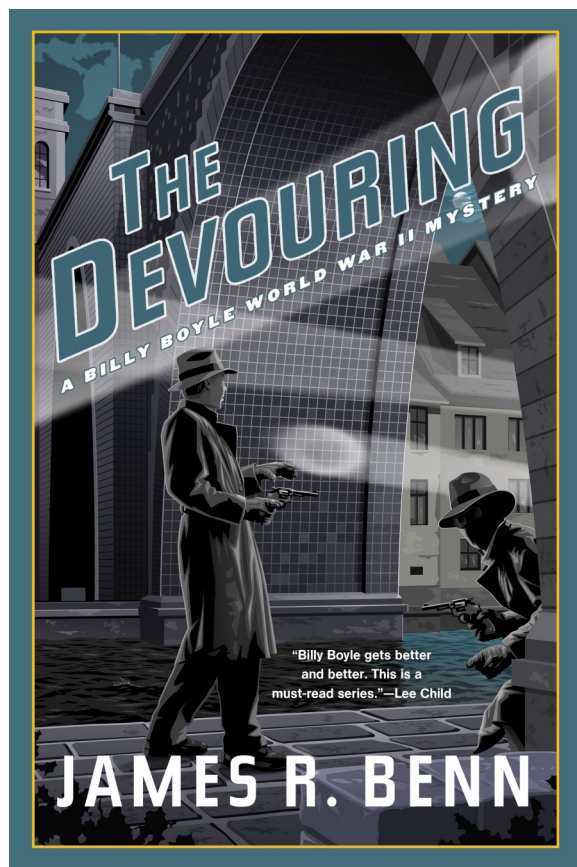
—Lee Child

"Terrific . . . Razor-sharp."

—Joseph Finder



James R. Benn is the author of the Billy Boyle World War II mysteries, including, *Billy Boyle*, a top mystery of the year by Book Sense and a Dilys Award nominee, *A Blind Goddess*, which was long-listed for the Dublin Literary Award, and *The Rest Is Silence*, a Barry Award nominee. A librarian for many years, Benn lives in Connecticut with his wife, Deborah Mandel.



US publication: September 2017

World

Previous series sales to:

Poland: Bellona S.A.

Full manuscript available upon request.

- ◆ Explores the layered truths of Swiss neutrality during WWII, and the rarely fictionalized perspective of the Roma people, whose population was reduced by one quarter during the Porajmos ("the devouring").
- ◆ James R. Benn is well established in the military fiction genre, and is gaining international award recognition.

Please see the Soho Press Series Rights Guide for more information on the Billy Boyle WWII mysteries.

# The Widows of Malabar Hill

by Sujata Massey

Inspired in part by real Parsi women who made history by becoming India's first female lawyers, *The Widows of Malabar Hill* is a richly wrought story of multicultural 1920s Bombay as well as the debut of a sharp and promising new sleuth, Perveen Mistry.

Bombay, 1921: Perveen Mistry, the daughter of a respected Parsi family, has just joined her father's law firm, becoming one of the first female lawyers in India. Armed with a law degree from Oxford, Perveen also has a dark personal history that makes her especially devoted to championing and protecting women's legal rights.

The Mistry law firm has been appointed to execute the will of a wealthy Muslim mill owner who has left behind three widows. But Perveen notices something strange in the paperwork: all three have signed over their inheritance to a charity school. Perveen is suspicious, especially since one of the widows has signed with an X—meaning she probably couldn't even read the document. When Perveen tries to interview the wives to make sure they understand their rights, a resident of the Farid bungalow is murdered. Now it's up to Perveen to figure out what is going on at Malabar Hill before someone else is hurt.

## Praise for Sujata Massey

"Beautifully constructed and highly emotional." —*USA Today*

"In her first novel, former journalist Massey offers a sprightly, engaging tale by setting a classic English-style whodunit in contemporary Japan . . . Sly, sexy and deftly done, *Wife* is one to bring home." —*People Magazine*

"Massey's nine novels are an intuitive view of contrasting societies and a young woman trying to find her place in the world."

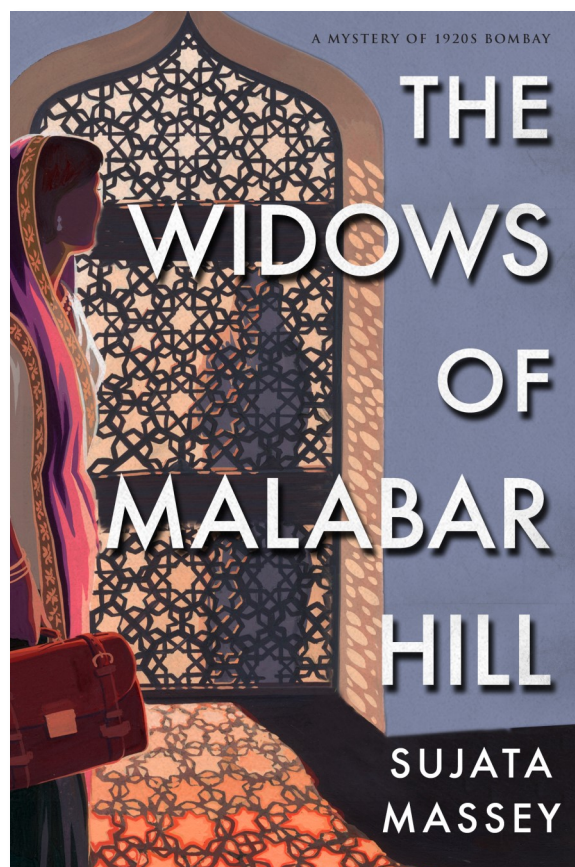
—*South Florida Sun-Sentinel*

"Historical fiction at its best, accessible to all audiences."

—*Booklist, Starred Review*



Sujata Massey was born in England to parents from India and Germany, and was raised mostly in St. Paul, Minnesota, although she has lived in Baltimore, Maryland, for over 25 years. She holds a BA in the Writing Seminars from the Johns Hopkins University and is the author of twelve novels, two novellas, and numerous short stories. Her novels have won the Agatha and Macavity awards and been finalists for the Edgar, Anthony, and Mary Higgins Clark prizes.



Cover not final.

US publication: January 2018

World English

Full manuscript available upon request.

- ◆ Set in 1920s Bombay, this series debut is a window into Parsi culture, regional law and the role of women during a fascinating historical juncture in India.
- ◆ Massey is an Agatha- and Macavity-winning author whose work has been published in 17 countries.

# Rainbirds

by Clarissa Goenawan

Intertwining elements of suspense and magical realism, Singaporean novelist Clarissa Goenawan's award-winning literary debut opens with a murder and shines a spotlight on life in fictional small-town Japan.

Ren Ishida is nearly done with graduate school when he receives news of his sister, Keiko's, sudden death. She was viciously stabbed one rainy night on her way home, and there are no leads. Ren heads to Akakawa to conclude his sister's affairs, failing to understand why she chose to abandon their family and leave Tokyo for this small town in the first place.

But Ren soon finds himself picking up right where Keiko left off, accepting both her teaching position at a cram school and the bizarre arrangement of free lodging at the wealthy Mr. Katou's mansion, in exchange for reading aloud each morning to Katou's depressed, mute wife. As Ren gets to know the figures in the town, from the mysterious Katou to fellow teachers and a rebellious, alluring student named Rio, he replays memories of his childhood with Keiko and finds his dreams haunted by a young girl with pig-tails who is desperately trying to tell him something. Struggling to fill the void that Keiko has left behind, Ren realizes that perhaps people don't change, and if they don't, he can decipher the identity of his sister's killer.

## Praise for *Rainbirds*

Winner of the Bath Novel Award (UK)

Finalist of the Dundee International Book Prize (UK)

Shortlisted for the Santa Fe Writers Project Literary Award (US)

Shortlisted for the First Novel Prize (UK)

"*Rainbirds* is a novel that delivers a huge amount of punch with an incredible lightness."—First Novel Prize Committee 2016

"[An] inventive mystery novel, set in small town Japan . . . [with a] seamless shift of viewpoint within the prose and dialogue as the narration switches between present and past, and this helps quickly to build up interest in the situation and the characters."

—Robin Wade, judge of the First Novel Prize 2016



Clarissa N. Goenawan is an Indonesian-born Singaporean writer. Her debut novel, *Rainbirds*, is the winner of the 2015 Bath Novel Award. Her short stories have won several awards and been published in various literary magazines and anthologies. She loves rainy days, pretty books, and hot green tea.




Cover not final.

US publication: March 2018

World English

Singapore: Math Paper Press

Translation rights are represented by Maria Cardona at the Pontas Agency ([maria@pontas-agency.com](mailto:maria@pontas-agency.com)):

France: Les Escales ● Germany: Thiele Verlag

Israel: Tamir/Sendik Books ● Greece: Occanida

Indonesia: Gramedia ● Poland: Prószyński

Spain: AdN/Alianza ● Turkey: Hep Kitap

- ◆ A literary debut by a rising Singaporean star that has already garnered international awards and attention.
- ◆ 10 deals in foreign territories since the original World English sale to Soho.

# Dark Constellations

by Pola Oloixarac

Translated from the Spanish by Roy Kesey

Trailblazing Argentinian literary star Pola Oloixarac's second novel, divided into three parts, explores the scientific advances taking place in largely divergent eras, and the implications of those advances for human life.

Canary Islands, 1882: Caught in the 19th-century wave of scientific classification, explorer and plant biologist Niklas Bruunis researches *Crissipalida*, a species alleged to have hallucinogenic qualities capable of eliminating the psychic limits between one human mind and another.

Buenos Aires, 1983: Born to a white Argentinian anthropologist and a black Brazilian engineer, Cassio comes of age with the Internet, and demonstrates the skills and personality that will make him one of the first great Argentine hackers.

The southern Argentinian techno-hub of Bariloche, 2024: Piera, on the same research group as Cassio, studies vast amounts of human DNA. When the Estromatoliton project comes to fruition, the Argentine government will be able to track every movement of its citizens without their knowledge or consent, using sensors that identify DNA at a distance.

Weaving the first two storylines together in the third, Oloixarac proves that true power resides in the world's most deeply shadowed interstices, as beautiful and horrifying as dark constellations themselves.

## Praise for *Savage Theories*

"Philosophy gets sexy in Pola Oloixarac's *Savage Theories*." —*Vanity Fair*

"A radical, biting funny debut novel offers a veritable hurricane of ideas on topics from technology to anthropology and features parallel arcs, one involving a student obsessed with her professor and the other about a couple cruising the Buenos Aires underground." —*O, The Oprah Magazine*

"A stunning vibrant maximalist whirlwind of a novel. Oloixarac's wit and ambition are evident on every page. By comparison, most other contemporary fiction seems a little dull and simple-minded."

—*Hari Kunzru, author of Gods Without Men*



Pola Oloixarac was born in Buenos Aires in 1977 and studied philosophy at the University of Buenos Aires. In 2010, *Granta* named her to its list of Best Young Spanish Novelists. Her articles on politics, technology and culture have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Telegraph*, and *Rolling Stone*, among others. She is also the author of *Savage Theories*, and currently lives in San Francisco, where she is at work on her third novel.



US publication: Fall 2018

World English

English sample available in March 2017.

Full Spanish manuscript available upon request.

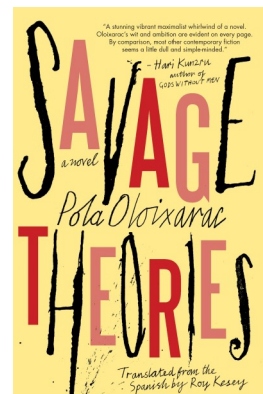
- ♦ Oloixarac's debut, *Savage Theories*, was a bestseller throughout South America and published in 7 different languages to stellar critical reception.
- ♦ In its various voices, *Dark Constellations* channels Borges, Verne, Gibson, and Pynchon, building an altogether original and visionary look at our present moment and what might be next.

Also by Pola Oloixarac:

## *Savage Theories*

Translation rights are represented by Jessica Henderson at The Wylie Agency (jhenderson@wylieagency.com):

Spain: Editorial Entropia (original publication) • Portugal: Benvirá • Finland: Sammakko • Netherlands: Meulenhoff • Peru: Estruendomudo • France: Seuil



A student at the Buenos Aires School of Philosophy attempts to put her life (academically and romantically) in the service of a professor whose theories of violence she plans to popularize and radicalize against his wishes. Meanwhile, a young couple—a documentary filmmaker and a blogger—engage in a series of cerebral and sexual misadventures. In a novel crammed with philosophy, group sex, revolutionary politics, and a fighting fish named Yorick, Oloixarac leads her characters and the reader through dazzling and digressive intellectual byways to an Internet hack that confronts us with a catalog of historical violence, devastation, and atrocity throughout the centuries.