

COFFEE HOUSE PRESS

Official Rights Guide, Fall 2025

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Contents

NEW & FORTHCOMING IN FALL 2025	FORTHCOMING IN SPRING 2026
Helen of Nowhere, Makenna Goodman3 FICTION, September 2025	AGAIN, Mark Nowak
The Mind Reels, Fredrik deBoer	Squirming, Monika Ostrowska11 POETRY, April 2026
Analog Days, Damion Searls5 FICTION, October 2025	Electric Shamans at the Festival of the Sun, Mónica Ojeda
Terry Dactyl, Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore 6	
FICTION, November 2025	Last and First Tales, Samuel R. Delany
The Very Collected Poems, Ron Padgett7	
POETRY, November 2025	Ada, Mark Haber
The Aquatics, Osvalde Lewat8	
FICTION, December 2025, translated by Maren Baudet-Lackner	Yñiga, Glenn Diaz
Hyper, Agri Ismaïl9	
FICTION, January 2025	





Helen of Nowhere

A novel by Makenna Goodman Publication: September 2025 **Rights Available:** North America

An electrifying novel about the delights and dangers of starting over.

In the middle of the countryside, a realtor is showing a disgraced professor around an idyllic house. She speaks not only about the home's many wonderful qualities but about its previous owner, the mystifying Helen, whose presence still seems to suffuse every fixture. Through hearing stories of Helen's chosen way of living, the man begins to see that his own story is not actually over—rather, he is being offered a chance to buy his way into the simple life, close to the land, that's always been out of reach to him. But as evening fades into black, he will learn that the asking price may be much higher, and stranger, than anticipated.

Philosophically and formally adventurous, at once intimate and cosmic in scope, *Helen of Nowhere* asks: What must we give up in exchange for true happiness?

Praise for Helen of Nowhere

"Virtuosically written, with an insanity inside its sanity—or the other way around—that seems the proper use to make of reality in this moment."—Rachel Cusk, award-winning author of *Parade*

"Goodman has wrought an epic in miniature." —Sarah Manguso, author of Liars

"This is a wild and brave book! Intrepid, reconfiguring, and full of the best hauntings. In *Helen of Nowhere*, Goodman has daringly crafted toothsome characters you will devour."

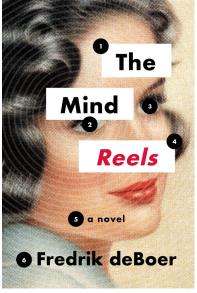
—Samantha Hunt, author of *The Unwritten Book*

"A furious energy runs through *Helen of Nowhere*, 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. A unique and brilliant work."—Ayşegül Savaş, author of *The Anthropologists*

"An extraordinary book, gripping, daring, and unusual."—Celia Paul, author of Letters to Gwen John

Makenna Goodman is the author of two novels, *Helen of Nowhere* (Coffee House Press, 2025) and *The Shame* (Milkweed Editions, 2020), and has written for international publications including the *New York Review of Books*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Harvard Review*, *The White Review*, *BOMB*, *The Common*, *ASTRA Magazine*, and *Mousse Magazine*. Also an editor, she is based in Vermont.





The Mind Reels A novel by Fredrik deBoer Publication: October 2025

Rights Available: World English, Audio

In his debut novel, longtime observer of culture and politics Fredrik deBoer depicts mental illness in all its grim and ugly reality, free of our culture's endless romanticization of insanity.

In a dorm room at her safety school, surrounded by corn-fed boys and contemptuous girls, Alice is losing her mind. Her first semester is spent clinging to middling grades between drunken hookups and roommate fights. The next brings sleepless nights, extreme weight loss, and effortless, compulsive energy, paused only by an unexpected summoning from the RA for evaluation. Thus begins an endless march of lithium, antide-

pressants, and Klonopin; doctors and therapists—when health insurance allows—along with overwhelmed parents and well-intentioned friends; all helpless bystanders as Alice descends deeper into chaos.

As chilling as a psychiatric case study, as wry and precise as Flaubert, *The Mind Reels* peels back society's polite trappings to portray the experience of mental illness in all its complexity.

Praise for The Mind Reels

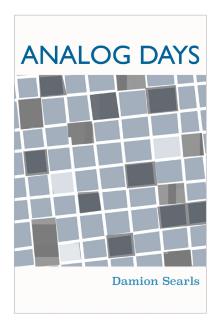
"The Mind Reels names the horrible, terrifying slog of mental illness. The episodic mania and sexuality that other books quietly glorify aren't titillating in the slightest. They're merely reported for what they are; harrowing experiences of human illness."—Neal Brennan

"Fredrik deBoer's *The Mind Reels* is that rarest of things: a novel that is genuinely important. deBoer delivers truths about mental illness that many of us may find both surprising and haunting. That he does this in the context of a novel that is beautifully written, character-driven and pulsing with forward momentum makes it a real artistic achievement as well as an intellectual one." —Adelle Waldman, author of *Help Wanted*

"One of the most precise and harrowing depictions of mental illness I've ever read. This is a relentless, compassionate, and beautiful debut novel. I couldn't look away."—Andrew Martin, author of Cool for America

Fredrik deBoer is a writer and academic. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *Playboy*, and *Harper's* among many others. His nonfiction books include The Cult of Smart (All Points Books, 2020) and How Elites Ate the Social Justice Movement (Simon & Schuster, 2023). He holds a PhD in English with a concentration in writing assessment and higher education policy from Purdue University. He lives in Connecticut with his wife, his son Junho, and his cat Suavecito.





Analog Days
A novella by Damion Searls
Publication: October 2025

Rights Available: World, Audio

Acclaimed translator Damion Searls's exuberant debut novella navigates the bittersweet tug-of-war between nostalgia and living life meaningfully in a world buzzing with information overload.

Analog Days is a snapshot of a circle of friends living through the sorrows and joys of a particular inflection point in history. Amid the ever-present news cycles, watching the world shift around them, they fall back on film and friendship and art as the last bastions of meaning in their fragmented lives. Moving from coffee shops to bars, from New York City to San Francisco, Analog Days immerses us in the individual lives set adrift among the pivotal events of our recent history.

Praise for Analog Days

"[Analog Days'] real interest lies in the ordinary power of sensation, rather than the flashbulb sensationalism of event. [It] reveals something far deeper about how we will remember the future."—*Kirkus*

"Searls . . . offers in these clear-eyed ruminations a Gen Xer's impressions of the technology and violence that shape 21st-century life. . . . It's a stimulating attempt at making sense of a gloomy world."

—Publishers Weekly

"More relatable and more timely than ever."—Emily Temple, Literary Hub

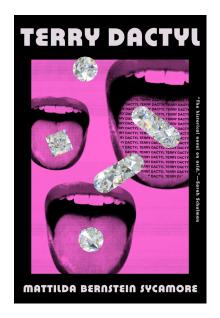
Praise for Damion Searls

"I feel that Damion has an unbelievable talent. I must admit that it is sometimes a mystery to me how he does it!"—Jon Fosse, Nobel Prize-winning author of Septology

"Searls is a wonderful writer, funny, compassionate, and unfailingly attentive to all the magical coincidences (or are they?) and twists of human history."—Elif Batuman, author of Either/Or

"Damion Searls now verge[s] on being [a] literary household name."—The Nation

Damion Searls is a renowned translator of the fiction of Nobel laureate Jon Fosse and dozens of other modern classics from German, French, Norwegian, and Dutch. A Guggenheim, Cullman Center, and two-time NEA fellow, he is the author of The Inkblots and The Philosophy of Translation.



Terry Dactyl

A novel by Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore

Publication: November 2025

Rights Available: North America, Audio

From iconic author and activist Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore comes a breathless search for intimacy and connection, ranging from club culture to the art world, from the AIDS crisis to COVID-19.

Terry Dactyl has lived many lives. Raised by boisterous lesbian mothers in Seattle, she comes of age as a trans girl in the 1980s in a world of dancing queens and late-night house parties just as the AIDS crisis ravages their world. After moving to New York City, Terry finds a new family among gender-bending club kids bonded by pageantry and drugs, fiercely loyal and unapologetic. She lands a job at a Soho gallery, where, after partying all night, she spends her days bringing club culture to the elite art world.

Twenty years later, in a panic during the COVID-19 lockdown, Terry returns to a Seattle stifled by gentrification and pandemic isolation until resistance erupts following the murder of George Floyd, and her search for community ignites once again.

In propulsive, intoxicating prose, *Terry Dactyl* traces an extraordinary journey from adolescence to adulthood, delivering a vital portrait of queer identity in all its peril and possibility.

Praise for Terry Dactyl

"Expansive and confidential, nostalgic and hopeful. You won't be able to put it down."

—Lisa Ko, author of Memory Piece

"A work that has as much to say about vulnerability as it does about trees, and about time itself. This is a book about consciousness, art, and 'getting ready' to be part of a world that will never be ready for you."

—Sarah Schulman, author of *The Fantasy and Necessity of Solidarity*

"Hilarious, moving and radically political. Sycamore has excelled herself and that's saying something."

—Isabel Waidner, author of Corey Fah Does Social Mobility

Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore is the Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books, and the editor of six anthologies. Her most recent title, *Touching the Art*, was a finalist for a Washington State Book Award and a Pacific Northwest Book Award. Her previous title, *The Freezer Door*, was a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and a finalist for the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award. Her new novel is *Terry Dactyl*.

COLLECTED POEMS
RON
PADGETT

Very Collected Poems

Poems by Ron Padgett

Publication: November 2025 **Rights Available:** World, Audio

Over sixty years of poems celebrating one of the most dynamic careers in twentieth and twenty-first century American poetry.

Gathering a lifetime of poetry, Ron Padgett's *Very Collected Poems* is the ultimate record of the Pulitzer Prize finalist's oeuvre—newly updated since the sold-out first edition of 2013. Padgett's poems reverberate with his love of poetry, his musings on artists and musicians from Andrew Marvell to Woody Guthrie to his personal friendships with Kenneth Koch and Joe Brainard, alongside his poems involving family and the magic of just being alive. By turns imaginative and witty, and then simple and direct,

Padgett's mercurial work offers readers the pleasure of his surprising curiosity and generous spirit.

Praise for Ron Padgett

"Wonderful, generous, funny poetry." — John Ashbery

"Reading Padgett one realizes that playfulness and lightness of touch are not at odds with seriousness. . . . As is often the case, leave it to the comic writer to best convey our tragic predicament."

-Charles Simic, The New York Review of Books

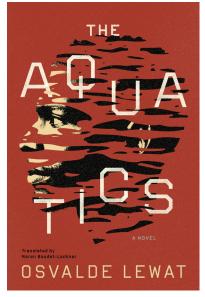
"For decades now, Ron Padgett has built up a body of work that, like the tenderly deadpan ballads of Jonathan Richman, has at its heart a sort of wry, pickled innocence. . . . He makes plain niceness look like the most radical stance of all."—**Jeff Gordiner**, *The New York Times*

"Padgett's plainspoken, wry poems deliver their wisdom through a kind of connoisseurship of absurdity."

—The New Yorker

"Padgett's poems are so playful, self-mocking and eager to please that it would be easy to overlook their craft, not to mention the depth and sincerity of the emotions they convey. What animates [his work] is the tension between the buoyancy of its language and the gravity of its subject." — The Washington Post

Ron Padgett's How Long was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in poetry, and his Collected Poems won the LA Times Prize for the best poetry book of 2014 and the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America (PSA). He has also received the Shelley Memorial Award and the Frost medal from the PSA. His translations include Zone: Selected Poems of Guillaume Apollinaire and Blaise Cendrars's Complete Poems. Seven of his poems were used in Jim Jarmusch's film Paterson. New York City has been his home base since 1960.



The Aquatics A novel by Osvalde Lewat, translated from the French by Maren Baudet-Lackner

Publication: December 2025

Rights Available: North America, Audio

An extraordinary novel of loyalty, strife, and empowerment from Peabody Award-winning Cameroonian filmmaker Osvalde Lewat.

In the fictional African country of Zambuena, Katmé Abbia enjoys a life of privilege and influence married to Tashun, the powerful prefect of Zambuena's capital. Yet after years spent playing the obedient, demure wife to a husband who has ceased to notice her, Katmé grows increasingly restless. Her one source of connection is Samy, a childhood friend, struggling artist, and gay man—an offense punishable by law in Zambuena.

When Katmé discovers that Samy's new exhibition, funded by herself and Tashun, boldly critiques Zambuena's inequities, her public, married life is set on a collision course with her one true friendship. Political rivals descend and threaten Samy with incarceration, forcing Katmé into an agonizing choice: abandon her friend or destroy her family.

Mixing compassion with clear-eyed fury and a keen sense of the absurd, *The Aquatics* confronts one of contemporary Africa's most entrenched societal issues in a story as immersive and inevitable as a quickly rising tide.

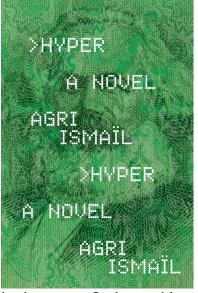
Praise for The Aquatics

Winner of the 2021 Prix Panafricain de la Littérature Winner of the 2022 Prix Ahmadou-Kourouma Winner of the 2022 Prix du rayonnement de la langue et de la littérature française

"With this first novel, Osvalde Lewat dares to tackle one of the ultimate taboos in contemporary African societies: homosexuality. With scalpel-like precision, she depicts the collective madness that ensues when a community believes itself to be threatened by a changing world."—**Kidi Bebey**, *Le Monde*

"Tenderness, irony, indignation, it all jumps out at you, though the text never shouts; it's all obvious without explanation. Every remark is acute. *The Aquatics* is a very fine novel indeed." —*Le Figaro littéraire*

Osvalde Lewat is an award-winning filmmaker who began making documentaries after several years as a journalist. Since 2012, Levat's main focus has been on photography. Her work explores the idea of "otherness and ways of seeing". She has exhibited her work in Paris, the United States and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. *The Aquatics* is her first novel.



Hyper A novel by Agri IsmaïlPublication: January 2026

Rights Available: North America

A cutting, hypermodern saga of money, family, and survival for fans of Zadie Smith, Patricia Lockwood, and Mohsin Hamid.

On the eve of the 1979 Revolution, Rafiq Hardi Kermanj, founder of Kurdistan's communist party, flees Iran for London with his young family. Thirty years later, Rafiq's children attempt to carve out futures in the ruthless, alienating structures of twenty-first century capitalism. Eldest son Mohammad struggles to survive the cutthroat world of London finance. Siver, the only daughter, escapes a loveless marriage to raise her daughter in Dubai, hawking haute couture at a luxury mall. Terminally online

hacker genius Laika gambles with fate as he creates an algorithm that perfectly mirrors the trading activity of Goldman Sachs. Though their circumstances differ drastically, the Hardis are united by their obsession with money and desperate efforts to locate meaning and identity within the numb isolation of modern immigrant life.

Equal parts heartfelt family story and razor-sharp satire, *Hyper* is an ambitious, thrilling articulation of life in the twenty-first century, marking debut author Agri Ismaïl as one of the most perceptive and exciting new voices in contemporary literature.

Praise for Hyper

Longlisted for the 2025 August Prize Longlisted for the 2025 Borås Tidning's Debutant Prize

"A novel in the truest sense. Ambitious, epic, heartfelt . . . I was blown away."

-Fredrik Backman, #1 New York Times bestselling author of Anxious People

"[Ismaïl captures] in intense, minute, unflinching detail . . . a collapsed family unit that doesn't know it's collapsed."—*The Guardian*

"A satire of capitalism, a parable of money, a saga of 'statelessness' and diaspora, and a most heartfelt chronicle of fractured families. Delicious, harrowing, gutting, hilarious, and deeply necessary, *Hyper* is a masterpiece." —**Porochista Khakpour, author of** *Tehrangeles*

Agri Ismaïl is a Kurdish author based in Sweden who has worked as a corporate lawyer in London, Dubai, and Iraqi Kurdistan. His work has been published in *The White Review*, *The Rumpus*, *Guernica*, and *Asymptote*, amongst other places. His piece "Haunted Home" won the 2016 Stack award for best nonfiction for *The Outpost*, and he was longlisted for the 2017 Galley Beggar Press Short Story Prize.



\dots AGAIN

Poems by Mark Nowak Publication: April 2026 Rights Available: World

Award-winning poet Mark Nowak returns with a harrowing documentation of the expansive landscape of MAGAmerica.

Told through five abecedarian prose sections, . . . *AGAIN* is a photo-text commentary on MAGAism in America. In his sobering voice, Nowak captures the depredations of capitalism, the desensitizing regularity of mass shootings, and the extremism that has fueled white nationalism. From the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic and the January 6 insurrection through Donald Trump's re-election, Nowak chronicles the trans-

formations as the seasons change around him, attempting to make sense of a bitterly divided nation that elected a polarizing figurehead . . . again.

Praise for Mark Nowak

"Nowak's willingness to submerge his own voice beneath these other accounts, privileging other voices—those of survivors, widows, journalists—above his own. He is a legislator whose job is allowing others to be heard."—The New York Times Sunday Book Review

"Nowak develops a conception of poetry as a living archive and polyvocal expression of worker experiences within and beyond the workplace." —Margaret Ronda, Los Angeles Review of Books

"The aim of making poetry to make change, to make history, is what makes Nowak's work most radical and most daring."—*The Kenyon Review*

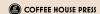
"Mark Nowak is restoring the perspective of working class Americans to contemporary American poetry." —Buffalo News

"[Nowak] offers visionary steps for a way forward." — William Harris, Jacobin

Mark Nowak's books include Shut Up Shut Down, Coal Mountain Elementary, Social Poetics, and . . . AGAIN, all from Coffee House Press. He has been awarded fellowships from the Guggenheim, Lannan, and Creative Capital foundations. Nowak recently wrote an introduction to Celes Tisdale's When the Smoke Cleared: Attica Prison Poems and Journal (Duke University Press). He is founding director of the Worker Writers School.



COVER REVEAL COMING SOON



Squirming

Poems by Monika Ostrowska

Publication: April 2026

Rights Available: North America, Audio

An intimate collection where the domestic, sexual, and cerebral entangle.

Monika Ostrowska's provocative, plainspoken debut tracks its speaker's intensifying sexual fantasies as they become at once more intellectualized and embodied, tracing a desperate need for enlightenment. Squirming is a primal meditation on embracing the erotic, challenging the complexities of womanhood, and bridging the chasm between self-awareness and external perception.

Monika Ostrowska is a writer and founder of Triangle House whose work has appeared in *Joyland*, *New York Times Magazine*, *Guernica*, *Peach Mag*, *Newest York*, and other publications. Born in Poland, she now lives in Greenpoint, NY with her son. *Squirming* is her first book.



Electric Shamans at the Festival of the Sun

A novel by Mónica Ojeda translated from the Spanish by Sarah Booker

Publication: May 2026

Rights Available: North America

National Book Award finalist Mónica Ojeda returns with a blazing, psychedelic novel about girlhood, violence, and the loss of innocence.

In the near future, best friends Noa and Nicole flee their home in Guayaquil, Ecuador to attend the Solar Noise Festival, a week-long, retro-futuristic gathering at the foot of an active volcano. While Noa fully embraces the haze of narcotics and hedonism in an effort to obscure her true reason for attending, Nicole senses something darker at play behind the festival's so-called "celebration of life." Amid technoshamanic poetry, collective

hallucinations, and ritualistic dances, each girl navigates her own path in an effort to escape her past and reclaim her right to a future.

Vivid, terrifying, and celebratory, *Electric Shamans at the Festival of the Sun* blends the primal with the supernatural, solidifying Mónica Ojeda as one of the most singular and exciting voices in Latin American and world literature today.

Praise for Electric Shamans at the Festival of the Sun

"A rare, strange treasure; a story told in daring, luminous prose, populated by characters with poetry in their hearts." —Natalia Theodoridou, author of *Sour Cherry*

"Psychedelia, volcanoes, disintegration. Following Ojeda on this journey is, without a doubt, an intense experience." —Mariana Enríquez, author of A Sunny Place for Shady People

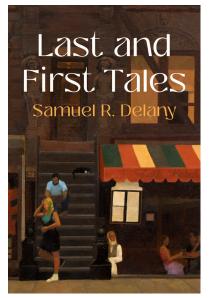
"Mónica Ojeda is a dazzling black sun in the astral chart of contemporary horror."

—Fernanda Melchor, author of Paradais

"So poetic, so disturbing, and brutal."—Samanta Schweblin, author of Little Eyes

Mónica Ojeda is the author of the novels *La desfiguración Silva*, *Nefando*, and *Mandíbula* (published in English as *Jawbone*), as well as the poetry collections *El ciclo de las piedras* and *Historia de la leche*. Her stories have been published in the anthology *Emergencias: Doce cuentos iberoamericanos* and the collections *Caninos* and Las voladoras. In 2017, she was included on the Bógota39 list of the best thirty-nine Latin American writers under forty, and in 2019, she received the Prince Claus Next Generation Award in honor of her outstanding literary achievements.





Last and First Tales Stories by Samuel R. Delany Publication: June 2026

Rights Available: North America

Sci-fi Grand Master Samuel R. Delany presents a career and genre-spanning anthology of stories: innovative, erotic, provocative, and unforgettable.

From the publication of his first novel *The Jewels of Aptor* to his 1975 bestseller *Dhalgren* and beyond, Samuel R. Delany has been a fearless and unique figure in American letters. Curated by the author, Last and First Tales gathers Delany's twenty-first century short fiction alongside previously unavailable work dating back to his earliest, startlingly precocious experiments in prose. Here you will find queer sexual awakenings; a

future in which race and gender have evolved in strange new ways; newly emended versions of Delany's classic stories; and myriad other reminiscences, inquiries, and transgressions.

As Junot Diaz writes in his foreword, "In Last and First Tales a reader will find the entire breadth of Delany's remarkable sixty-five-plus-year oeuvre. All the singularities of talent, of insight, of compassion, all the rigorous intellectual and aesthetic surveys, the endless restless erudition and curiosity . . . I can think of no better survey of the labyrinth that is Delany's work."

Praise for Samuel R. Delany

Named an SFWA Grand Master of Science Fiction • Winner of the 2022 World Fantasy Award Winner of the 2021 Anisfield-Wolf Award • Winner of the 2008 Stonewall Book Award Winner of the 1970 and 1989 Hugo Awards • Winner of the 1966, 1967, and 1968 Nebula Awards

"Delany's prismatic output is among the most significant, immense and innovative in American letters."

—Jordy Rosenberg, *The New York Times*

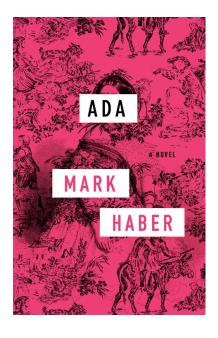
"Delany has a fearsomely stocked intellect, and a wider range of experience than most writers can even imagine.... He is brilliant, driven, prolific."—*The Nation*

"Samuel R. Delany [is] one of the most important literary figures of our time."

-Nisi Shawl, author of Everfair

In 2016, **Samuel R. Delany** was inducted into the New York State Writers Hall of Fame. Filmmaker, novelist, and critic, he is the author of the award-winning books *Babel-17* and *Dark Reflections*, as well as *Nova*, *Dhalgren*, and the Return to Nevèrÿon series. A retired professor, he lives in Philadelphia with his partner Dennis.





Ada A novel by Mark Haber Publication: July 2026 Rights Available: World

From "one of the most rigorous and serious—and anachronistic—novelists working today" (*The Washington Post*) comes a raucous new tale plumbing the depths of ego and ardor.

In a remote country in Europe, Gerard Desacroux IX, petty tyrant and French nationalist, wants nothing more than to be reunited with Ada, the object of his desire ever since their brief fling in Paris years before. Though Ada is on her way to visit, there are the unfortunate matters of civil unrest, assassination attempts, and Ada's affluent (and highly inconvenient) husband to contend with before bliss is attained. Despite it all, Desacroux IX is determined that nothing—neither war, nor ominous weather, nor the rising swell of indignant peasants—shall stand between him and Ada.

Told with Mark Haber's trademark exuberant absurdity, *Ada* is a comedy about the mania of power, unrequited love, and the solitude of authority.

Praise for Ada

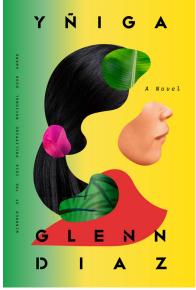
"Reading *Ada* confirmed not what I suspected but what I already knew: With each of his books, Mark Haber is building, brick by brick and saint by saint, his immense and immaculate cathedral where style is plot and plot is style. Here, at last and again, the passionate gospel."—**Rodrigo Fresán, author of** *Melvill*

"With winding sentences puckered and punched by commas, Haber delivers aesthetic pleasure, profligate humor, and terrifying truth. As with the best and sharpest satires, we peasants outside the gates have no choice but to laugh with eyes open wide."—Amanda Goldblatt, author of Hard Mouth

"Peering down the cliff of Mark Haber's *Ada*, one is awed, horrified, and riveted by the motion of this satire on power and mania. A story of desire, betrayal, and possession reveals how tyranny blooms from the petty, this pursuit of a world birthed by chasing the thing that consumes us."

—Alina Stefanescu, author of My Heresies

Mark Haber was born in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Florida. His debut novel, *Reinhardt's Garden* (2019, Coffee House Press), was longlisted for the PEN/Hemingway Award. His second novel, *Saint Sebastian's Abyss* (2022, Coffee House Press), was named a best book of 2022 by the New York Public Library and *Literary Hub*. Mark's fiction has appeared in *Guernica*, *Southwest Review*, and *Air/Light*, among others. Mark lives in Minneapolis.



Yñiga A novel by Glenn Diaz Publication: August 2026

Rights Available: North America

One woman's reluctant trek through a forest of ghosts and the aftermath of empire in modern Philippine life.

Yñiga Calinauan leads an ordinary life in Manila—until the day a retired army general wanted for the murder of peasants is captured across the street from her house. Days later, her unassuming neighborhood is burned to the ground in what some whisper is retaliation. With nowhere else to go, she returns with beloved cat Jestoni to M—, the small fishing village of her childhood and her best chance at regaining the quiet life she lost. But the terror Yñiga thought she escaped in the city still stalks her, forcing her

and Jestoni into the nearby forest of both trees and trauma that has long haunted her family. For Yñiga there is no escape, only resistance.

Inspired by the state-sponsored killings under Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Glenn Diaz uses keen political acumen and masterful storytelling to explore familial resistance and the devastating weight of its legacy.

Praise for Yñiga

Winner of the 2024 Philippine National Book Award

"With lyrical yet profound narration, with characters who sometimes bear the weight of history, and with rare sensitivity, Diaz pulls us into a narrative current that appears calm on the surface but conceals dangerous whirlpools beneath."—Eka Kurniawan, author of *Beauty is a Wound*

"A visceral, unforgettable journey into one woman's fraught familial legacy of disappearance and resistance, as well as a deeply poignant meditation on nation-building itself."—Elaine Castillo, author of *Moderation*

"Diaz's fierce and articulate intellect dazzles in his very evocative and at times funny but most deadpan and wry prose. He has captured the often absurd and peculiar life in the Philippines with a fond but critical eye."

—The Asian Review of Books

Glenn Diaz is the author of the novels *The Quiet Ones* (2017) and Yñiga (2022), both winners of the Philippine National Book Award; and *When the World Ended I Was Thinking about the Forest* (2022), published by Paper Trail Projects. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times, Rosa Mercedes, Liminal, The Johannesburg Review of Books, Splinter* and others. Born and raised in Manila, he holds a PhD from the University of Adelaide and currently teaches with the Department of English and Comparative Literature at the University of the Philippines Diliman.