



Soho Press  
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World Rights Priorities

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Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## HER ONE REGRET

by Donna Freitas

From the international bestselling author of book club favorite *The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano*, a riveting feminist thriller that tackles an unspeakable taboo: regretting motherhood.

When successful Rhode Island real estate agent Lucy Mendoza vanishes, leaving her baby behind in a grocery store parking lot, the news quickly makes national headlines. Lucy's best friend, Michelle, is devastated, and terrified that Lucy's life is at stake. But she knows something that could complicate the police investigation. Lucy had confessed something unspeakable: she regretted becoming a mother, so much that she'd fantasized about faking her own kidnapping. If the police and media were to find out, Lucy would become a monster in public opinion. Michelle is sure Lucy would never abandon her daughter. But could she be wrong? Could Lucy have been so desperate she chose to escape her life?

**US Publication Date:**October 2025,  
Hardcover**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

Bestselling author Donna Freitas has drawn from ground-breaking research to bring readers this unforgettable novel. *Her One Regret* is at once a pulse-pounding feminist thriller, a moving depiction of the realities of motherhood, and a rich exploration of a subject our culture and society have rendered nearly verboten—the possibility that for some women, motherhood is an unfixable mistake.

**Praise for Donna Freitas**

“An ode to possibility.”  
—*The Washington Post*

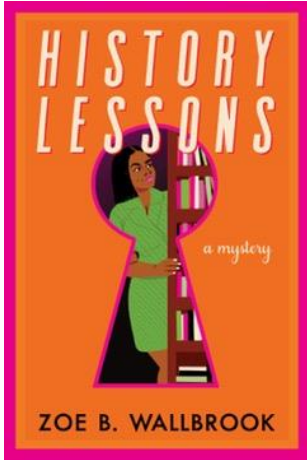
“Freitas's novel is structured like a prism, refracting the heroine's life in different directions to raise questions about motherhood and female identity.”  
—*New York Times*

“Many of us have had that moment where we wondered what might happen if we took a different path. Rose is adamant that she doesn't want to be a mother, but then she caves to save her relationship. But what if she makes a different choice? In this inventive novel about love, loss, identity, and compromise, we get to find out.”  
—*Woman's Day*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICKS:** Readers of women's fiction, crime fiction with female protagonists, fans of Danya Kukafka and Naomi Hirahara.
- **COMPLEX MOTHERHOOD STORY:** Parenting and parenthood are some of the oldest classic themes in literature. Donna Freitas takes a hard look at these themes through a very contemporary lens. Readers will have a lot to discuss here!
- **TWISTY AND SHOCKING:** This domestic suspense thriller has high stakes and proceeds at a breakneck pace.
- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Donna Freitas's previous novels have received glowing write-ups in national media outlets and been translated into 20 languages. We are thrilled to be publishing her at Soho!

**Donna Freitas** is the author of a number of award-winning, critically-acclaimed books including the novel *The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano* (published in 20 languages) and the memoirs *Consent* and *Wishful Thinking* as well as over a dozen novels for children and young adults. Donna is a professor of Gender Studies and Writing, and her work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Sunday Times of London*, and many other national newspapers and magazines. Donna has been interviewed about her writing and research on *The Today Show*, CNN, and many of NPR's shows, including *All Things Considered*.



## HISTORY LESSONS

by Zoe B. Wallbrook

**A college history professor must solve her superstar colleague's murder before she becomes the next target in this funny, romantic debut mystery, perfect for readers of Janet Evanovich, Kellye Garrett, and Ali Hazelwood.**

As a newly minted junior professor, Daphne Overture spends her days giving lectures on French colonialism, writing her first academic book, and going on atrocious dates. Her small world suits her just fine. Until Sam Taylor dies.

The rising star of Harrison University's anthropology department was never one of Daphne's favorites, despite his popularity. But that doesn't prevent Sam's killer from believing Daphne has something that belonged to Sam—something the killer will stop at nothing to get.

Between grading papers and navigating her disastrous love life, Daphne embarks on an investigation to find out what connects her to Sam's murder. With the help of an alluring former-detective-turned-bookseller, she unravels a deadly cover-up on campus. This well-crafted, voice-driven mystery introduces an unforgettable crime fiction heroine readers will root for.

**US Publication Date:**  
July 2025, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
Available

### Praise for *History Lessons*

“Junior history professor Daphne Overture is the perfect academic sleuth. She’s nerdier than a card catalog, with brains and determination in equal measure. Following Daphne as she navigates a twisty murder case that exposes her elite university’s dark underside was exhilarating and heart-pulsing. Sign me up for Daphne’s next case!”

—**Delia Pitts, author of the Vandy Myrick mysteries**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF KELLYE GARRETT AND DOROTHY SAYERS:** Expertly blending romance elements with classic mystery elements, this book is perfect for readers of Stacey Abrams, Robyn Gigl, Alyssa Cole; readers of crime fiction and crime with romance elements; readers looking for stories that put Black women front and center.
- **CAMPUS NOVEL:** This book is all about the dark side of the ivory tower; thanks to authors like Curtis Sittenfeld, Rebecca Makkai, and Donna Tartt, the campus novel has real staying power.
- **CLASSIC CRIME WITH ROMANCE ELEMENTS:** This is the first such genre crossover on our list! Daphne's romance with Rowan is swoon-worthy, even as they race to catch a killer.
- **SERIES OPENER:** The author is planning more books starring Professor Overture!
- **AUTHENTIC ACADEMIA:** The character of Daphne is loosely based on the author's own experiences of being a Black woman in academia.
- **HOT DEBUT:** We're so thrilled to be introducing Zoe Wallbrook to the world. Her literary voice is unlike anything on our list, and she's got so many more ideas in store.

**Zoe B. Wallbrook** is a recently tenured professor whose academic research has appeared in outlets such as the *New York Times* and *The New Yorker*. *History Lessons*, her first novel, was a runner up for the Eleanor Taylor Bland award and selected for mentorship by *LA Times* bestseller Elizabeth Little. Zoe's hobbies include beginning all emails with, “My sincerest apologies for my slow reply,” pretending to understand how astrological signs work, and crying at the end of every *Call the Midwife* episode. She and her husband live with their stalker, a black lab/pittie mix named Sophie.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon**US Publication Date:**November 2025,  
Hardcover**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**THE RED SCARE MURDERS***by* Con Lehane

**This wry, big-hearted, noir-inflected novel brings 1950s New York to life, with spectacular insight into the brave and explosive margins of progressive political movements from an author with half a century of on-the-ground activism.**

July 1950: Mick Mulligan has just hung out his shingle as a private investigator in New York's sweaty Hell's Kitchen. A former Disney cartoonist whose life fell apart when he was blacklisted during a Hollywood communist witch hunt, Mick is broke, divorced, and in need of a paying gig to make his child support payments. So he can hardly turn down a case—even an impossible one. Even one that might get him killed.

Labor leader Duke Rogowski, an old friend, calls Mick up with a job: last year, a universally reviled cab company owner named Irwin Johnson was murdered. One of his drivers, an African-American communist party member named Harold Williams, was arrested, tried, and found guilty, although a range of factors, including scanty evidence, call the integrity of the trial into question. But the cocktail of racism and anti-communist sentiment won the day and Williams was sentenced to death. Now his execution date is two weeks away. No one has come out to fight for an appeal—the Communist Party, which should have stood by one of its own, has been overwhelmed with other legal woes. Duke asks Mick to make one last effort on Harold's behalf—can he find any fresh evidence in this old case that might buy Harold a stay of execution?

Lots of people might have wanted Irwin Johnson dead—anyone from his cuckolded wife to the mafiosi he might have been stealing business from—but none of those people has any reason to help Mick exonerate Harold Williams, and some of those people are happy to take a blunt object to the head of anyone asking awkward questions. The political ideologies and Big Apple blue collar survivalism that idealistic Harold was tangled up in might prove just as dangerous. Mick himself knows better than anyone how tricky things can get on the streets for labor activists.

**Praise for Con Lehane**

“Con Lehane's *Murder at the 42nd Street Library* offers up a masterful tale of intrigue, jealousy, and revenge in the grand tradition of Ross Macdonald. Not to be missed.”

—**Megan Abbott**

“A sly and witty new mystery.”

—**Reed Farrel Coleman, award-winning author of *The Hollow Girl***

“An inventive tale of murder and mayhem. Con Lehane, like his librarian-sleuth Ray Ambler, knows how to keep his readers happy.”

—**Daniel Stashower, Edgar-winning author of *The Hour of Peril***

**Key Sales Handles**

- **POLITICAL, HISTORICAL:** This novel explores the history of leftism in the US—appealing both to readers of historical fiction and to readers interested in political fiction.
- **NYC IN THE 1950S:** Con Lehane's depiction of this time and place is pitch-perfect. Readers will recognize the NYC of today while also learning about what it was like in decades past.
- **IMMERSIVE AND INTRIGUING:** The twisty, complex plot here follows struggling PI Mick Mulligan down several intriguing rabbit holes as he seeks to exonerate a man just weeks before his execution. This is a classic hard-boiled novel about a fascinating subject.
- **AUTHOR WITH BONAFIDES:** Con Lehane has been working in crime fiction for decades, and his leftist credentials go back just as far. Meticulously researched, this novel is very much a passion project for Con, and he's eager to support our publication.

**Con Lehane's** books include the 42nd Street Library mysteries. Con's also published stories in *Ellery Queen* and *Alfred Hitchcock* mystery magazines. Over the years, he's been a community college professor, union organizer, labor journalist, and has tended bar at two dozen or so drinking establishments. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in fiction writing from Columbia University School of the Arts and has taught fiction writing and mystery writing at The Writer's Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

Cover  
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Soon

## HUGUETTE

by Cara Black

The tense and emotional saga of one resilient young woman's survival in the lawlessness of post-Libération France, by the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Aimée Leduc series.

This is the story of Huguette, the mistress of Aimée Leduc's grandfather; it's the saga of a young woman's survival in the brutal no-man's-land of post-Libération France. Huguette goes from the black market to the film industry, from Paris to Lyon, from child to woman.

**US Publication Date:**

December 2025,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for Cara Black**

"Heart-racing . . . *Three Hours in Paris* isn't just any old formulaic 'Get out!' tale. It's mystery master Cara Black's first standalone novel, a spy story set during World War II in Occupied Paris . . . Chances that you'll be able to put Black's thriller down once you've picked it up? Slim to none."

—Maureen Corrigan, *The Washington Post*

"Beyond Black's encyclopedic knowledge of Paris, her deft interweaving of WWII history and spycraft with a relatable female protagonist puts *Three Hours in Paris* on par with other top thrillers about botched missions followed by harrowing escapes—such masterworks as Frederick Forsyth's *The Day of the Jackal*, Jack Higgins' *The Eagle Has Landed* and Tom Clancy's *Patriot Games*." —Paula Woods, *The Los Angeles Times*

"*Three Hours in Paris*, with its timetable structure and its hunt for a covert operative, recalls such comparable works as Frederick Forsyth's *The Day of the Jackal* and Ken Follett's *Eye of the Needle*." —Tom Nolan, *The Wall Street Journal*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF:** Alan Furst, Susan Elia MacNeal, and Daniel Silva; for readers interested in mysteries set in World War II, espionage, female soldiers, female protagonists, and feminist fiction.
- **A SAGA OF SURVIVAL:** Cara's usual books are time-constrained and fast-paced; this is a longitudinal exploration of one young woman's life in post-Libération France. Readers will love learning about this period and meeting the fearless and resilient Huguette.
- **HISTORICAL DETAIL:** Cara Black is renowned for her expert portrayal of Paris, but here, her attention to historical detail as she describes the 1945 setting is no less impressive.
- **MOVING PLOT:** As Huguette grows from a young girl into a confident woman, she encounters—and surmounts—tremendous challenges. It is so moving to see her journey of growth—readers will absolutely fall in love with her.
- **UNDERDOG PROTAGONIST:** Just like Cara's other historical heroine Kate Rees, Huguette is just an ordinary young woman who ends up in

**Cara Black** is the author of twenty-one books in the *New York Times* bestselling Aimée Leduc series. She has received multiple nominations for the Anthony and Macavity Awards, and her books have been translated into German, Norwegian, Japanese, French, Spanish, Italian, and Hebrew. She lives in San Francisco with her husband and son and visits Paris frequently.



## SUMMERHOUSE

by Yigit Karaahmet; translated by Nicholas Glastonbury

**A gay couple's 40-year relationship is imperiled by a new arrival to their sleepy island paradise: *The Birdcage* as done by Highsmith.**

Fehmi and Şener have been together forty years—no small feat for any pair, but especially admirable for a gay couple in Turkey. Behind closed doors, their life on Büyükada, an idyllic island near Istanbul, is like a powder keg that needs only one spark to blow. That spark soon comes in the form of Deniz, the wildly handsome and troubled teenager next door, who immediately catches Fehmi's eye.

This “harmless” crush immediately raises Şener's hackles; although he doesn't think Deniz would ever reciprocate Fehmi's feelings, it's not a risk he's willing to take. But when one betrayal leads to another, Deniz hatches a plan, and the sultry summer takes a dark turn as the couple's relationship is put to the test like never before. Will lust or love win the day? One thing's for sure: not everyone will be getting out of this love triangle alive.

Dishy, suspenseful, and boiling over with black humor, Yigit Karaahmet's debut makes a fierce political statement about supporting “gay wrongs” while also introducing a shockingly lovable pair of antiheroes who could be Tom Ripley's grandfathers.

### US Publication Date:

May 2025, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *Summerhouse*

“Sultry, sinister, and absolutely compelling. *Summerhouse* lures you in with its gorgeously evocative writing and immersive setting, but as the shocking reality is revealed, this seductive page-turner evolves into a twisty and surprising Hitchcock-meets-Highsmith thriller.”

—Hank Phillippi Ryan, *USA Today* bestselling author

“A gorgeous, thrilling tale of gay lovers celebrating their fortieth anniversary on an idyllic island when a handsome teenager moves next door . . . *Summerhouse* is an unforgettable novel about the explosive nature of lust in a violent society.”

—Kyle Dillon Hertz, author of *The Lookback Window*

“Each turn in this twisted romp of a novel caught me by surprise . . . In wry, beautiful prose, *Summerhouse* suggests that just beyond the limits of what we thought we could do and endure might lie an unexpected freedom.”

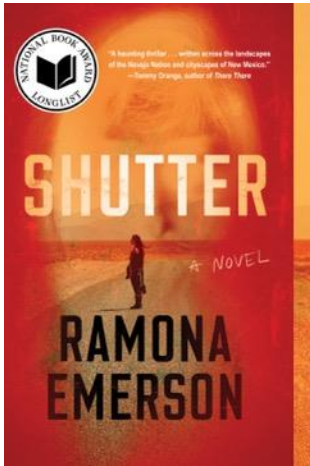
—Craig Willse, author of *Providence*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF PATRICIA HIGHSMITH AND PJ VERNON:** and for readers of queer crime fiction, queer thrillers, domestic suspense; for readers with an interest in Turkey.
- **SIZZLING SUMMER SUSPENSE:** Following a seemingly happy couple, this book reveals how darkness lurks behind plenty of closed doors. It's a wild ride from start to finish.
- **LGBTQ+ RIGHTS IN TURKEY:** The author drew heavily from his personal experience as a gay man in Istanbul to write this book, which makes a powerful statement about the danger inherent in living authentically in Turkey.
- **DARK AND DISHY:** This book perfectly blends humor with darkness. You'll be laughing and groaning and reading through your fingers.
- **EXCITING DEBUT:** We're thrilled to be publishing Karaahmet in English for the first time. The translator is a rising star in the literary world and very well connected.

**Yigit Karaahmet** was born in the small Black Sea town of Giresun, at a time when disco, glitter, and shoulder pads were sadly on the wane. He later moved to Istanbul where he studied journalism and went on to write about nightlife, popular culture, and a lifestyle for prominent newspapers and magazines. Openly gay, Karaahmet has been targeted by the fundamentalist press many times. *Summerhouse* is his first novel.





**SHUTTER**

by Ramona Emerson

**This blood-chilling debut set in New Mexico’s Navajo Nation is equal parts gripping crime thriller, supernatural horror, and poignant portrayal of coming of age on the reservation.**

Rita Todacheene is a forensic photographer working for the Albuquerque police force. Her excellent photography skills have cracked many cases—she is almost supernaturally good at capturing details. In fact, Rita has been hiding a secret: she sees the ghosts of crime victims who point her toward the clues that other investigators overlook. As a lone portal back to the living for traumatized spirits, Rita is terrorized by nagging ghosts who won’t let her sleep and who sabotage her personal life. Her taboo and psychologically harrowing ability was what drove her away from the Navajo reservation, where she was raised by her grandmother. It has isolated her from friends and gotten her in trouble with the law. And now it might be what gets her killed.

When Rita is sent to photograph the scene of a supposed suicide on a highway overpass, the furious, discombobulated ghost of the victim—who insists she was murdered—latches onto Rita, forcing her on a quest for revenge against her killers, and Rita finds herself in the crosshairs of one of Albuquerque’s most dangerous cartels. Written in sparkling, gruesome prose, *Shutter* is an explosive debut from one of crime fiction's most powerful new voices.

- Longlisted for the 2023 National Book Award**
- Finalist for the 2023 PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel**
- Finalist for the 2023 PEN Open Book Award**
- Winner of the Lefty Award for Best Debut Mystery Novel**
- Nominated for the 2023 Edgar Award for Best First Novel**

**US Publication Date:**

August 2022

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- Japan (Hayakawa)
- Turkey (The Kitap)

**Praise for *Shutter***

“Haunting.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“This story is way more than a thriller, more than a ghost story. It is one of family and history, of culture, of past and present, of walking set boundaries and of discovering oneself.”

—*USA Today*

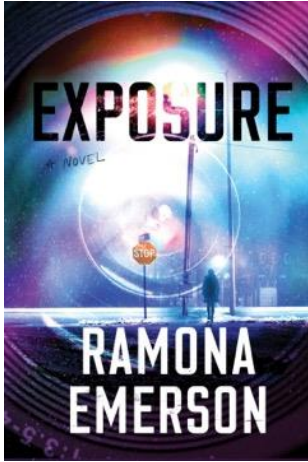
“*Shutter* is utterly unputdownable. It is a haunting thriller, written with exquisite suspense, and filled to the brim with beautiful writing, through the lens of cameras and memory . . . It is fun, and funny, and chilling. This is a story that won’t let you go long after you finish, and you won’t want it to end even as you can’t stop reading to find out how it does.”

—*Tommy Orange, author of There There*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **DYNAMIC, CONNECTED, AND MULTI-TALENTED AUTHOR:** Emerson, an award-winning filmmaker, is very active in Navajo and Indigenous artistic and social communities.
- **DEBUT NATIVE AMERICAN STORY:** This debut novel is an important addition to the all too rare stories that get published about the Native American experience, especially in crime fiction.
- **STRIKING PROSE:** By the end of the first chapter, every reader will recognize the prose as both gorgeous and unrelenting. This is a powerful new voice in crime fiction.
- **CROSSOVER APPEAL:** Perfect for readers of crime, supernatural, and horror, as well as readers interested in Native American fiction.

**Ramona Emerson** is a Diné writer and filmmaker originally from Tohatchi, New Mexico. She has a bachelor’s in Media Arts from the University of New Mexico and an MFA in Creative Writing from the Institute of American Indian Arts. After starting in forensic videography, she embarked upon a career as a photographer, writer, and editor. She is an Emmy nominee, a Sundance Native Lab Fellow, a Time-Warner Storyteller Fellow, a Tribeca All-Access Grantee and a WGBH Producer Fellow. In 2020, Emerson was appointed to the Governor’s Council on Film and Media Industries for the State of New Mexico. She currently resides in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she and her husband, the producer Kelly Byars, run their production company Reel Indian Pictures. *Shutter* is her first novel.



## EXPOSURE

by Ramona Emerson

In the follow-up to the National Book Award–longlisted *Shutter*, Navajo forensic photographer Rita Todacheene grapples with a fanatical serial killer—and the ghosts he leaves behind.

A dual-voice cat-and-mouse thriller, told from the points of view of a killer who has created his own deadly religion and the only person who can stop him, an embattled young detective who sees the ghosts of his Native victims.

In Gallup, New Mexico, where violent crime is five times the national average, a serial killer is operating unchecked, his targets indigent Native people whose murders are easily disguised as death by exposure on the frigid winter streets. He slips unnoticed through town, hidden in plain sight by his unassuming nature, while the voices in his head guide him toward a terrifying vision of glory. As the Gallup detectives struggle to put the pieces together, they consider calling in a controversial specialist to help.

Rita Todacheene, Albuquerque PD forensic photographer, is at a crisis point in her career. Her colleagues are watching her with suspicion after the recent revelation that she can see the ghosts of murder victims. Her unmanageable caseload is further complicated by the fact that half the department has blacklisted her for rating out a corrupt fellow cop. And back home in Tohatchi on the Navajo reservation, Rita’s grandma is getting older. Maybe it’s time for her to leave policework behind entirely—if only the ghosts will let her . . .

**US Publication Date:**October 2024,  
Hardcover**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- Turkey (The Kitap)

Praise for Ramona Emerson

“Get ready for the next wave of Indigenous thrillers! *Shutter* is a soulful and mesmerizing exploration of the paranormal, set against the backdrop of New Mexico and the Navajo Nation. Written in tough, edgy prose, this book grabs you by the shoulders and refuses to let you leave. Ramona Emerson is a welcome new voice in Native literature.”—**David Heska Wanbli Weiden, author of *Winter Counts***

“Beautiful, imaginative prose with a sharp edge . . . I’ve never seen a better rendering of gifts and power . . . Ramona Emerson is a badass, propulsive, exacting and true storyteller.”—**Terese Mailhot, author of *Heart Berries***

“This debut, spellbinding, gritty and beautiful, laced with body parts, hauntings, humor, residential school trauma and a lot of bloody noses, is, in the end, the story of a young girl who fell in love with a camera, and followed that camera into a life. Layered, depth-plumbing, radically suspenseful, deeply felt, *Shutter* moves between making your blood run cold and warming your heart, so quickly, smoothly and stealthily you won’t know what hit you.”—**Pam Houston, author of *Deep Creek: Finding Hope in the High Country***

Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF STEPHEN KING:** and readers of supernatural fiction, horror, and mysteries/thrillers, specifically books with female protagonists; anyone interested in Native American fiction; and readers of Native authors like Stephen Graham Jones and Brandon Hobson.
- **SUPERNATURAL HORROR:** This is a thriller with a heavy dose of the supernatural—and the horrifying. Just like the first book in series, *Shutter*, this novel mixes the procedural with the paranormal.
- **CROSSOVER APPEAL:** Perfect for readers of crime, supernatural, and horror, as well as readers interested in Native American fiction.
- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AND AWARD-NOMINATED SERIES:** The first book in the series, *Shutter*, was nominated for the National Book Award and two PEN awards; it won the Lefty award. Readers and critics alike will be so excited for the follow-up in this trilogy.



Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## THE HAUL

by Gary Phillips

Professional thief Stacks O’Conner has the chance of a lifetime—his biggest score yet, in the heart of Los Angeles—in this fast-paced contemporary novel about a morally gray character at a crossroads, from crime legend Gary Phillips.

Semi-retired professional thief O’Conner agrees to mastermind the score of a lifetime—a multi-million dollar raid of a paranoid tech billionaire’s secret bunker, which is hidden underneath his newly constructed basketball arena. As the job goes down, the taciturn heister is blindsided by ghosts from his past threatening to destroy him and the few he cares about.

**US Publication Date:**

June 2026, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

Praise for Gary Phillips

“Gary Phillips is my kind of crime writer.”

—Sara Paretsky, *New York Times* bestselling author

“In the tradition of Dashiell Hammett . . . Makes us feel that the war he’s waging is for our own salvation.”

—Walter Mosley, author of the *Easy Rawlins* series

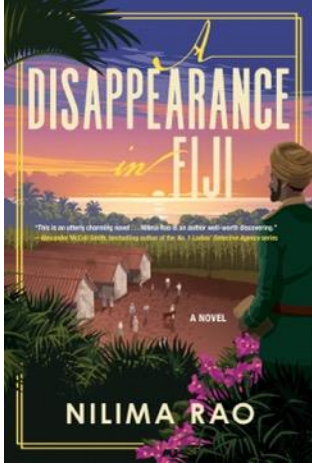
“Gary Phillips writes tough and gritty parables about life and death on the mean streets . . . his is a voice that should be heard and celebrated.”

—Michael Connelly, author of *Void Moon* and *Angel’s Flight*

Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Walter Mosley, James Ellroy, Raymond Chandler; classic noir and crime series; crime fiction with Black protagonists.
- **ANTIHERO:** O’Conner, the main character, is a charming thief, with bitterness, grit, and heart—and a tribute to classic characters like Donald E. Westlake’s Parker. Fans will love getting to know him and rooting for him despite his foibles.
- **CONTEMPORARY SETTING:** This marks Gary Phillips’s first foray in decades into writing about the present moment; we’re excited to see how he interprets the tension of the 2020s in his writing.
- **MASTER STORYTELLER:** The award-winning author has been named one of the best writers of LA crime. He also is a story editor on the hit FX TV show *Snowfall*.
- **CONNECTED AUTHOR:** Author is well-known in the crime writing community; he loves to do events and is often invited to moderate panels.

**Gary Phillips** has published novels, comics, novellas, short stories and edited or co-edited several anthologies, including the Anthony-winning *The Obama Inheritance: Fifteen Stories of Conspiracy Noir*. Almost 30 years after its publication, his debut, *Violent Spring*, was named one of the essential crime novels of Los Angeles. He was also a writer and co-producer on *Snowfall*, a show streaming on Hulu about crack and the CIA in 1980s South Central where he grew up.



## A DISAPPEARANCE IN FIJI

by Nilima Rao

**A charming and atmospheric debut mystery featuring a 25-year-old Indian police sergeant investigating a missing persons case in colonial Fiji.**

1914, Fiji: Akal Singh, 25, would rather be anywhere but this tropical paradise—or, as he calls it, “this godforsaken island.” After a promising start to his police career in Hong Kong, Akal has been sent to Fiji as punishment for a humiliating professional mistake. Lonely and grumpy, Akal plods through his work and dreams of getting back to Hong Kong or his native India.

When an indentured Indian woman goes missing from a sugarcane plantation and Fiji’s newspapers scream “kidnapping,” the inspector-general reluctantly assigns Akal the case. Akal, eager to achieve redemption, agrees—but soon finds himself far more invested than he could have expected.

Now not only is he investigating a disappearance, but also confronting the brutal realities of the indentured workers’ existence and the racism of the British colonizers in Fiji—along with his own thorny notions of personhood and caste. Early interrogations of the white plantation owners, Indian indentured laborers, and native Fijians yield only one conclusion: there is far more to this case than meets the eye.

Nilima Rao’s sparkling debut mystery offers an unflinching look at the evils of colonialism, even as it brims with wit, vibrant characters, and fascinating historical detail.

**US Publication Date:**

June 2023

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- UK/Commonwealth,  
Australia (Bonnie  
Books UK, Zaffre)  
- France (Au vent des  
îles)

**Praise for *A Disappearance in Fiji***

“Akal finds himself learning about the harrowing effects of colonialism, indentured servitude and caste. Rao expertly juggles the weighty themes and, in Akal, has the makings of a memorable series detective.”

—*Sarah Weinman, The New York Times Book Review*

“Alive with well-drawn characters and deftly plotted with a number of twists.”

—*The Washington Post*

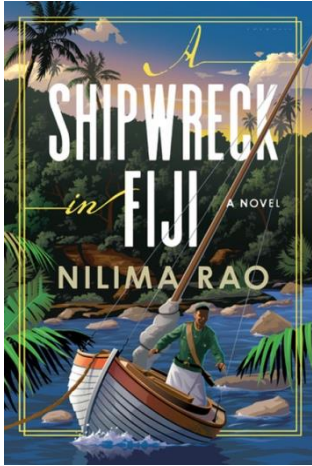
“Combining a tightly plotted mystery with a thoughtful critique of colonialism, *A Disappearance in Fiji* establishes debut author Rao as a writer to watch.”

—*Parade*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **CHARMING AND UNIQUE DEBUT AND AUTHOR:** Nilima Rao writes with humor and authority about topics inspired by her own family background, filling a niche rarely explored in crime fiction.
- **HISTORICALLY IMMERSIVE:** The author's painstaking research over the course of the 5+ years of her writing this novel shines through in her pitch-perfect portrayal of 1914 Fiji.
- **FULL OF LAUGHS:** Although the subject matter at the heart of the plot is serious, both the narration and the dialogue are infused with whimsy and humor, and most pages feature a chuckle-out-loud moment.
- **SERIES POTENTIAL:** The open ending leaves room for many more adventures starring Akal and his friend Taviti. A follow-up is in the works.

**Nilima Rao** is a Fijian Indian Australian who has always referred to herself as "culturally confused." She has since learned that we are all confused in some way and has been published on the topic by Australia’s Special Broadcasting Service as part of the SBS Emerging Writers Competition and now feels better about the whole thing. When she isn't writing, Nilima can be found wrangling data (the dreaded day job) or wandering around Melbourne laneways in search of the next new wine bar. *A Disappearance in Fiji* is her first novel, and she is currently working on the second in the series.



**US Publication Date:**  
June 2025, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
- Australia/NZ (Echo)

## A SHIPWRECK IN FIJI

by Nilima Rao

A young Indian police sergeant investigates a bizarre chain of events when a purported sighting of Germans in 1915 Fiji turns deadly in this charming follow-up to *A Disappearance in Fiji*.

Sergeant Akal Singh, an unwilling transplant to Fiji, is just starting to settle into his life in the capital city of Suva when he is sent to the neighboring island of Ovalau on a series of fool's errands. First: investigate strange reports of Germans, thousands of miles from the front of World War I. Second: chaperone two strong-willed European ladies, Mary and Katherine, on a sight-seeing tour. And third: supervise the only police officer currently on Ovalau, an eighteen-year-old constable with a penchant for hysterics.

Accompanied by his friend Taviti (the nephew of a powerful chief), Akal sets off for what he thinks will be fairly straightforward tasks. Instead, they stumble upon a gruesome scene: the man who'd reported the Germans beaten to death in his own shop. Shortly after, the Germans—or are they Norwegians?—find themselves imprisoned in a local village for committing a taboo crime, and Katherine, the charming aspiring journalist, harbors an agenda of her own. Will Akal be able to keep her—and himself—out of trouble before anybody else gets killed?

Nilima Rao's debut, *A Disappearance in Fiji*, was a critical darling and award-winner, ending up on multiple best-of-year roundups. This next installment in the Sergeant Akal Singh series has all the charm and sparkle of the first book, with even more fascinating historical insight into the realities of life on Fiji at the start of the twentieth century.

### Praise for *A Shipwreck in Fiji*

"This is an utterly charming novel. The setting is exotic and the characters are intriguing. Nilima Rao is an author well worth discovering."

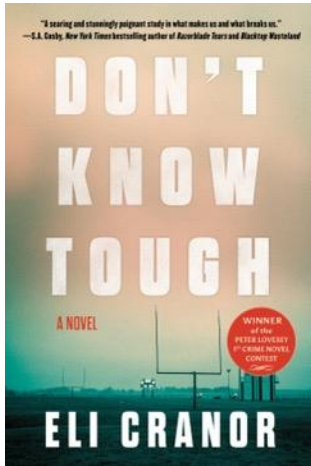
—Alexander McCall Smith, bestselling author of the **No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency** series

"A poignant and entertaining read . . . Sergeant Akal Singh is a charmingly imperfect and captivating protagonist. I love Akal and hope we'll be seeing a lot more of him!"

—Ovidia Yu, author of the **Aunty Lee Singaporean Mysteries**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Rhys Bowen, Ovidia Yu, Nev March, Sujata Massey, and Carl Hiaasen; humorous mysteries; historical mysteries; fiction confronting colonialism; procedural mysteries; relatable, flawed protagonists in crime fiction; fiction about the Indian diaspora.
- **HISTORICALLY IMMERSIVE:** The author's painstaking research shines through in her pitch-perfect portrayal of 1915 Fiji.
- **DESIRABLE DESTINATION:** Perfect for armchair travelers. Reading this book makes you feel like you're enjoying the sun in tropical paradise, even as you work to solve the mystery at the heart of the plot.
- **FULL OF LAUGHS:** Although the subject matter at the heart of the plot is serious, both the narration and the dialogue are infused with whimsy and humor, and most pages feature a chuckle-out-loud moment.
- **GROWING SERIES:** The first book, *A Disappearance in Fiji*, was very well received by the mystery community. Readers will be delighted to see what Akal and Taviti have been up to since the events of the first book.



## DON'T KNOW TOUGH

by Eli Cranor

*Friday Night Lights* gone dark with Southern Gothic; Eli Cranor delivers a powerful noir that will appeal to fans of Wiley Cash and Megan Abbott.

In Denton, Arkansas, the fate of the high school football team rests on the shoulders of Billy Lowe, a volatile but talented running back. Billy comes from an extremely troubled home: a trailer park where he is terrorized by his mother's abusive boyfriend. Billy takes out his anger on the field, but when his savagery crosses a line, he faces suspension.

Without Billy Lowe, the Denton Pirates can kiss their playoff bid goodbye. But the head coach, Trent Powers, who just moved from California with his wife and two children for this job, has more than just his paycheck riding on Billy's bad behavior. As a born-again Christian, Trent feels a divine calling to save Billy—save him from his circumstances, and save his soul.

Then Billy's abuser is found murdered in the Lowe family trailer, and all evidence points toward Billy. Now nothing can stop an explosive chain of violence that could tear the whole town apart on the eve of the playoffs.

**Winner of the Peter Lovesey First Novel Contest**  
**Winner of the Edgar Award for Best First Novel**  
**Nominated for the Lefty Award for Best Debut Mystery Novel**  
**Finalist for the 2022 Dashiell Hammett Award**  
**A *New York Times* Book Review Best Crime Novel of 2022**  
**A *USA Today* Best Book of 2022**

### US Publication Date:

March 2022, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- UK/Commonwealth (Headline)
- Japan (Hayakawa)
- France (Sonatine)
- Germany (Atrium Verlag)

### Praise for *Don't Know Tough*

"Eli Cranor's top-shelf debut, *Don't Know Tough*, is Southern noir at its finest . . . There is a raw ferocity to Cranor's prose, perfectly in keeping with the novel's examination of curdling masculinity." —**Sarah Weinman, *The New York Times Book Review***

"[A] brilliant debut . . . which is less *Friday Night Lights* and more a Daniel Woodrell Ozark gothic noir . . . A major work from a bright, young talent." —***USA Today*, \*\*\*\* out of \*\*\*\* stars**

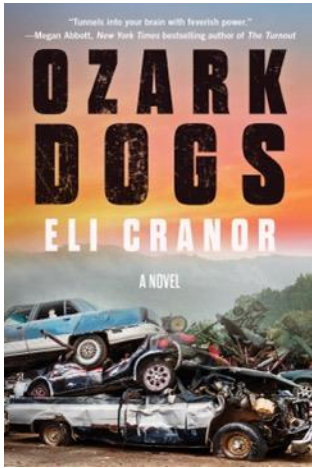
"Eli Cranor knows the underbelly of Friday night lights in this stunning debut that bleeds authenticity and raw emotion. This young author is a new voice of the South to watch." —**Ace Atkins, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Fallen* and *The Sinners***

**Eli Cranor** played quarterback at every level: peewee to professional, and then coached high school football for five years. These days, he's traded in the pigskin for a laptop, writing from Arkansas where he lives with his wife and kids. His work has won *The Greensboro Review's* Robert Watson Literary Prize and been featured in *Missouri Review*, *Oxford American*, *Elle*, *Queen*, *The Strand* and others. Eli also pens a weekly column, "Where I'm Writing From" for the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, and his craft column, "Shop Talk," appears monthly at CrimeReads. He is the author of *Don't Know Tough*, which won the Peter Lovesey First Crime Novel Contest, and *Ozark Dogs*. For more information visit [elcranor.com](http://elcranor.com).

### Key Sales Handles

- **A FEROCIOUS NEW VOICE:** Author's debut is sparkling in its use of language and characters. It is the winner of the inaugural Peter Lovesey First Crime Novel Contest.
- **AMERICAN VIOLENCE AND SPORT:** The novel exposes the underlying violence of American football, and how that violence can ripple beyond the field with deadly consequences.
- **NOIR GEM:** This isn't your typical sports story—it is by turns so much darker; for readers of both literary fiction and sports fiction looking for an authentic experience.
- **WORLD APPEAL:** This novel, and the author's follow-up, *Ozark Dogs*, have sold to the UK and Japan in multi-book deals.





## OZARK DOGS

by Eli Cranor

In this Southern thriller, two families grapple with the aftermath of a murder in their small Arkansas town.

After his son is convicted of capital murder, Vietnam War veteran Jeremiah Fitzjurls takes over the care of his granddaughter, Joanna, raising her with as much warmth as can be found in an Ozark junkyard outfitted to be an armory. He teaches her how to shoot and fight, but there is not enough training in the world to protect her when the dreaded Ledfords, notorious meth dealers and fanatical white supremacists, come to collect on Joanna as payment for a long-overdue blood debt.

Headed by rancorous patriarch Bunn and smooth-talking, erudite Evail, the Ledfords have never forgotten what the Fitzjurls family did to them, and they will not be satisfied until they have taken an eye for an eye. As they seek revenge, and as Jeremiah desperately searches for his granddaughter, their narratives collide in this immersive story about family and how far some will go to honor, defend—or in some cases, destroy it.

*“Ozark Dogs is a gripping family drama that mixes murder with mistaken identity and hidden secrets. Each revelation shocked me more than the last. I simply could not put it down.”*

*—Brendan Slocumb, New York Times bestselling author of The Violin Conspiracy*

*“Raw, gritty, and darkly beautiful noir at its finest. Cranor digs deep into the hard places, the hard choices that crush and grind. And he does so with great tenderness for his flawed and broken characters as they seek revenge, cling to honor, and sacrifice everything for family. This is a writer to watch.”*

*—Lisa Unger, New York Times bestselling author of Secluded Cabin Sleeps Six*

### US Publication Date:

April 2023, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- UK/Commonwealth (Headline)
- Japan (Hayakawa)
- France (Sonatine, 10/18)
- Germany (Atrium Verlage)

### Praise for *Ozark Dogs*

“Eli Cranor’s superb new novel *Ozark Dogs* tunnels into your brain with feverish power. A story of family burdens and dark legacies, it’s thrillingly told, deeply wrenching, not to be missed.” *—Megan Abbott, New York Times bestselling author of The Turnout*

“There’s a little more hope in Eli Cranor’s *Ozark Dogs*, but just like his acclaimed debut, *Don’t Know Tough*, it dwells in the murky recesses of rural Arkansas, where people often commit acts of violence out of desperation . . . Cranor doesn’t hide the horror or the emotional wreckage, but he also never resorts to gratuitous descriptions.”

*—Sarah Weinman, The New York Times Book Review*

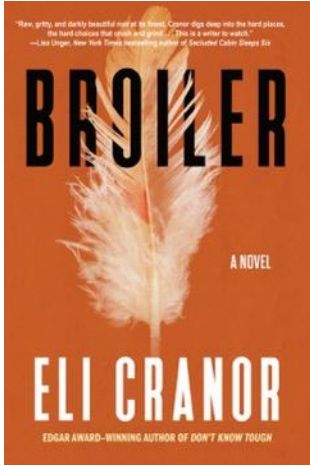
“Sweeps the reader in from the first page . . . *Ozark Dogs* is a gritty, authentic triumph, one howling to be turned into a film or TV series.”

*—Financial Times*

### Key Sales Handles

- **POWERFUL FOLLOW-UP:** Eli Cranor's debut, *Don't Know Tough*, was a hit with critics and readers alike. *Ozark Dogs* confirms him as a confident and powerful player in modern crime fiction.
- **SOUTHERN AUTHENTICITY:** The genre of “Southern noir” has seen a huge boom in recent years. The author is from rural Arkansas and writes with the kind of authority that only a local can have.
- **POLITICALLY RELEVANT:** With neo-white supremacist movements on the rise, the dark undercurrent running through this book is, sadly, more relevant than ever.
- **WORLD APPEAL:** This novel, and the author’s follow-up, *Ozark Dogs*, have sold to the UK and Japan in multi-book deals.





**BROILER**

by Eli Cranor

The troubles of two desperate families—one white, one Mexican American—converge in the ruthless underworld of an Arkansas chicken processing plant in this new thriller from the award-winning author of *Don't Know Tough*.

Gabriela Menchaca and Edwin Saucedo are hardworking, undocumented employees at the Detmer Foods chicken plant in Springdale, Arkansas, just a stone's throw away from the trailer park where they've lived together for seven years. While dealing with personal tragedies of their own, the young couple endures the brutal, dehumanizing conditions at the plant in exchange for barebones pay.

When the plant manager, Luke Jackson, fires Edwin to set an example for the rest of the workers—and to show the higher-ups that he's ready for a major promotion—Edwin is determined to get revenge on Luke and his wife, Mimi, a new mother who stays at home with her six-month-old son. Edwin's impulsive action sets in motion a devastating chain of events that illuminates the deeply entrenched power dynamics between those who revel at the top and those who toil at the bottom.

From the nationally bestselling and Edgar Award-winning author of *Don't Know Tough* and *Ozark Dogs* comes another edge-of-your-seat noir thriller that exposes the dark, bloody heart of life on the margins in the American South and the bleak underside of a bygone American Dream.

**US Publication Date:**

July 2024, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- France (Sonatine)

**Praise for *Broiler***

"*Broiler* is the most powerful kind of crime novel—relentlessly tense, ruthlessly observed, and deeply illuminating. It will sing you a lullaby as it grips you by the throat. I loved this novel."

—Katie Gutierrez, author of *More Than You'll Ever Know*

"Eli Cranor has a restless imagination that serves him—and his readers—well. *Broiler* is his latest Trojan Horse of a novel, a satisfying hunk of noir that tells us far more about the American South than those endless newspaper think pieces set in diners and gas stations."

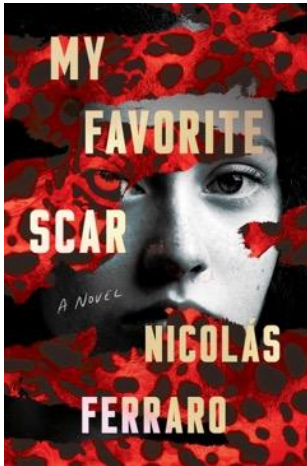
—Laura Lippman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Prom Mom*

"Eli Cranor proves all the promise of his Edgar-winning debut and doubles down on it with each new effort. *Broiler* is grit and muscle on the surface, but it hits deep, populated with characters who linger. Cranor delivers the thrills while in pursuit of bigger game, those special stories born at the intersection of desperation and hope. Don't miss his work."

—Michael Koryta, *New York Times* bestselling author of *An Honest Man*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF:** Voice-forward noir writers like Steph Cha, Wiley Cash, Joe R. Lansdale, David Joy; readers of Southern literature; readers of crime fiction; readers of noir.
- **THE PERILS OF PARENTHOOD:** At the core of this book are two very different families, and their very different approaches to parenting. Cranor drew from his own life experience to portray these relationships.
- **BRUTAL WITH A HEART:** Although this book is as gritty as Cranor's first two, the characters' struggles are poignant and heart-wrenching.
- **ARKANSAS NOIR:** Eli Cranor, a born and raised Arkansan, writes with authority and sincerity about the reality of life in this often under-explored Southern state. Locals and out-of-towners both will be fascinated!
- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Eli Cranor's debut was adored by critics and won multiple crime fiction awards. His follow-up, *Ozark Dogs*, saw similar success. Critics and readers alike will be thrilled by this third book in his informal "Arkansas trilogy."



**MY FAVORITE SCAR**

by Nicolás Ferraro, translated by Mallory N. Craig-Kuhn

**A teenage girl and her gangster father set off on a road trip toward revenge in this award-winning coming-of-age Argentinian noir.**

Fifteen-year-old Ámbar has never known any parent other than her father, Víctor Mondragón, nor any life other than his—the life of a criminal. On any given Friday night, Ámbar longs to be at the arcade or a rock concert, but she’s more likely to be patching up Víctor’s latest bullet hole in a dingy motel or creating a new set of fake identities for the both of them. Although she has come to terms with the realities of her life and enjoys aspects of the freedom from societal constraints that lawlessness offers her, she yearns for love and stability—to be like every other teenage girl.

When a tattooed mercenary kills Víctor’s best friend and vows that Víctor is next, father and daughter set off on a joyride across Argentina in search of bloody retribution—kill or be killed. But Ámbar’s growing pains hurt worse than her beloved sawed-off shotgun’s kickback as she begins to question the structure of her world. How much is her father not telling her? Could her life ever be different? And will she survive long enough to find out?

*My Favorite Scar* is bitterly poetic, as gritty as it is devastating. Buenos Aires–based author Nicolás Ferraro has once again proven himself to be the king of Argentinian noir with this atmospheric, emotional character study that won Spain’s prestigious Dashiell Hammett Prize in 2022.

**US Publication Date:**

January 2024,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World excluding  
Spanish and Portuguese

**Territories Sold:**

- France (Rivages)
- Germany (Pendragon Verlag)
- Ukraine (Ranok)
- Japan

**Praise for Nicolás Ferraro**

**Nominated for the Edgar Award for Best Novel**

“Visceral, violent crime noir . . . *My Favorite Scar* never shies away from blood, literal or figurative . . . While the high-octane adventure will certainly entice action fans, it’s Ámbar’s conflicted coming-of-age tale that pierces deepest.”

—**ELLE**

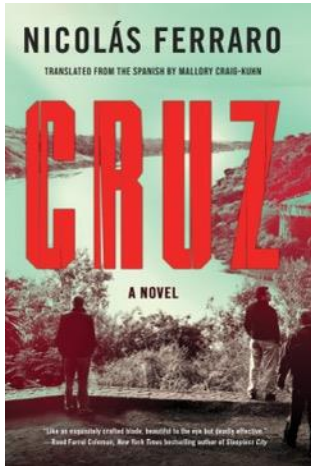
“Knocked my socks off . . . This is a wonderful coming-of-age story, ably written and delicately translated by Mallory Craig-Kuhn, of two lovable characters and a supporting cast of colorful deplorables.”

—**The Durango Telegraph**

**Key Sales Handles**

- **COMING-OF-AGE:** Following the struggles of a teenage girl to adjust to the violence of her father’s lifestyle, *My Favorite Scar* is a poignant and bittersweet coming-of-age story.
- **BEAUTY AND GRIT:** The poetic writing and poignant themes present an excellent counterpoint to the gory, often shocking violence of the plot.
- **AWARD WINNER:** The Spanish-language edition won the prestigious Dashiell Hammett Award in 2022.

**Nicolás Ferraro** was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1986. He works as the coordinator at the Center for Crime Fiction at Argentina’s National Library. Ferraro’s debut novel, *Dogo*, was published in Argentina in 2016, and was a finalist for the Extremo Negro Award. *Cruz*, his first novel to be translated into English, has been published in Argentina, Mexico, Spain, and was a finalist for the Dashiell Hammett Award. His writing is frequently anthologized and he is currently at work on his fourth novel.



**CRUZ**

by Nicolás Ferraro, translated by Mallory N. Craig-Kuhn

Set in northern Argentina, the gorgeous and gruesome story of two brothers following in their criminal father’s footsteps in a bloody battle to save their family from drug lords, perfect for fans of Don Winslow and *Narcos*.

Tomás Cruz swore he would never be like his father, an abusive cocaine junkie whose gangland exploits are notorious throughout the underbelly of northern Argentina. When Samuel Cruz is sentenced to thirteen years in prison, he leaves a laundry list of unfinished cartel business. Seba, Tomás’s revered older brother, has no choice but to abandon his straight life and take over his father’s underworld debt.

Now fifteen years has passed, Seba has been arrested, and the ruthless cartel boss is holding his wife and daughter as collateral—just in time for the holidays. Tomás is forced to choose between protecting his family and his soul as he assumes the to-do list where Seba left off, plunging into the shocking depravity of the cartel to track a drug deal gone wrong. On a bloody quest for underworld justice that will take him from a nightmarish bar staffed by teenage sex slaves to the murky depths of the Paran River, Tomás discovers himself capable of violence he never thought possible. He must ask himself if he really is his father’s son . . . and he may not like the answer.

Argentinian noir wunderkind Nicolás Ferraro’s first novel to be translated into English, *Cruz* was a finalist for the prestigious Dashiell Hammett Award for Best Crime Novel.

**US Publication Date:**

October 2022,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World excluding  
Spanish and French

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for *Cruz***

**An NPR Best Book of 2022**  
**The Best International Crime Fiction of Fall 2022**

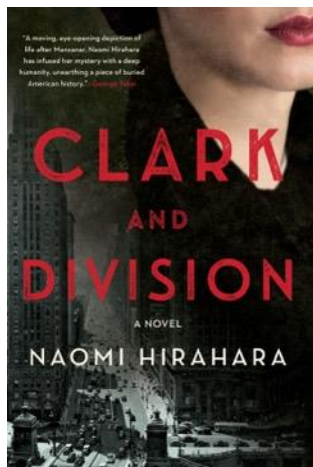
“*Cruz* boldly examines the propensity for violent upheaval in the patriarchal and retaliatory system of cartels in northern Argentina. Such systems often mirror the corrupt and tyrannical political systems with which they work hand in hand. But Ferraro also portrays the personal moral rot that such systems create even in those well intentioned not to participate.” —**Oprah Daily**

“A vivid, bloody noir set amidst prison and gangland violence in northern Argentina, where two brothers swear themselves to different paths and wrestle with their father’s violent legacy.” —**CrimeReads**

“Written with a relentless pace, *Cruz* explores the ferocity of family loyalty and treachery. This is a window into a world most people don’t know and no one will forget.” —**Chris Offutt, author of *Shifty’s Boys***

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR CLASSIC NOIR FANS, WITH A TWIST:** This book is ideal for readers who enjoy noir, organized crime, and reluctant anti-heroes, but also appeals to readers of translated literature and fans of Oyinkan Braithwaite, Elmore Leonard, *Narcos*, and *Die Hard*.
- **AN EXCITING NEW VOICE:** Nicolás Ferraro is only 32, and has already written three novels, of which *Cruz* is the first to be translated into English. He is energetic and a bit of a wunderkind when it comes to noir; his career promises to be long and exciting, and *Cruz* is a fantastic introduction to English-speaking audiences.
- **SEASONAL APPEAL:** *Cruz* is set during the Christmas holidays, infusing the violence and drama with a wry bittersweet energy.
- **ARGENTINA:** Written by an Argentine who lives in Buenos Aires and set in the wilds of Argentina, *Cruz* is as authentically local as it gets.



## CLARK AND DIVISION

by Naomi Hirahara

Set in 1944 Chicago, Edgar Award-winner Naomi Hirahara's eye-opening and poignant new mystery, the story of a young woman searching for the truth about her revered older sister's death, brings to focus the struggles of one Japanese American family released from mass incarceration at Manzanar during World War II.

Chicago, 1944: Twenty-year-old Aki Ito and her parents have just been released from Manzanar, where they have been detained by the US government since the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, together with thousands of other Japanese Americans. The life in California the Itos were forced to leave behind is gone; instead, they are being resettled two thousand miles away in Chicago, where Aki's older sister, Rose, was sent months earlier and moved to the new Japanese American neighborhood near Clark and Division streets. But on the eve of the Ito family's reunion, Rose is killed by a subway train.

Aki, who worshipped her sister, is stunned. Officials are ruling Rose's death a suicide. Aki cannot believe her perfect, polished, and optimistic sister would end her life. Her instinct tells her there is much more to the story, and she knows she is the only person who could ever learn the truth.

Inspired by historical events, *Clark and Division* infuses an atmospheric and heartbreakingly real crime with rich period details and delicately wrought personal stories Naomi Hirahara has gleaned from thirty years of research and archival work in Japanese American history.

**Winner of the Mary Higgins Clark Award**  
**Winner of The Lefty Award for Best Historical Novel**  
**A New York Times Best Mystery Novel of 2021**  
**A Parade Magazine 101 Best Mystery Books of All Time**  
**A Washington Post Best Mystery and Thriller of 2021**

### US Publication Date:

August 2021,  
 Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- France (10/18)  
 - Japan (Shogakukan)  
 - Germany  
 (arsveivendi)

### Praise for *Clark and Division*

"Searing . . . This is as much a crime novel as it is a family and societal tragedy, filtering one of the cruelest examples of American prejudice through the prism of one young woman determined to assert her independence, whatever the cost."

—Sarah Weinman, *The New York Times Book Review*

"Just as only James Ellroy could have written the Los Angeles Quartet and only Walter Mosley could have crafted Black Angelenos' experiences into the Easy Rawlins mysteries, crime novelist and research maven Naomi Hirahara was destined to write *Clark and Division* . . . The vibrant characters, the history and the aura of determined optimism that permeate the novel make it feel like the beginning of a saga not unlike Jacqueline Winspear's Maisie Dobbs mysteries."

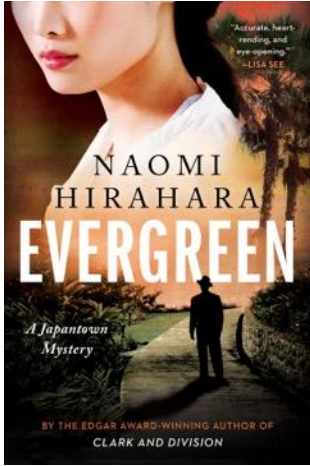
—Paula Woods, *Los Angeles Times*

### Key Sales Handles

- **INSPIRED BY HISTORY:** This is a fascinating time in American history. The sights and sounds of Chicago's Little Toyko is a sharp new perspective on the history of one of the most iconic cities in the world.
- **TRUE-CRIME:** The central mystery is also based on a true crime that terrorized the resettled Japanese Americans in Chicago, and how the police ignored the issues, is as fascinating as it is disturbing.
- **FEMINIST THEMES:** The novel explores the restriction of women's rights during the era, thus providing a necessary mirror to our own times.
- **CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** The novel went on to win almost every American mystery award, as well as landed on many Best Of the Year lists.

**Naomi Hirahara** is the Edgar Award-winning author of the Mas Arai mystery series, including *Summer of the Big Bachi*, which was a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year and one of *Chicago Tribune's* Ten Best Mysteries and Thrillers; *Gasa Gasa Girl*; *Snakeskin Shamisen*; and *Hiroshima Boy*. She is also the author of the LA-based Ellie Rush mysteries. A former editor of *The Rafu Shimpo* newspaper, she has co-written non-fiction books like *Life after Manzanar* and the award-winning *Terminal Island: Lost Communities of Los Angeles Harbor*. The Stanford University alumna was born and raised in Altadena, CA; she now resides in the adjacent town of Pasadena, CA.





**EVERGREEN**

by Naomi Hirahara

**A Japanese American nurse's aide navigates the dangers of post-WWII and post-Manzanar life as she attempts to find justice for a broken family in this follow-up to the Mary Higgins Clark Award-winning *Clark and Division*.**

It's been two years since Aki Ito and her family were released from Manzanar detention center and resettled in Chicago with other Japanese Americans. Now the Itos have finally been allowed to return home to California—but nothing is as they left it. The entire Japanese American community is starting from scratch, with thousands of people living in dismal refugee camps while they struggle to find new houses and jobs in over-crowded Los Angeles.

Aki is working as a nurse's aide at the Japanese Hospital in Boyle Heights when an elderly Issei man is admitted with suspicious injuries. When she seeks out his son, she is shocked to recognize her husband's best friend, Babe Watanabe. Could Babe be guilty of elder abuse?

Only a few days later, Little Tokyo is rocked by a murder at the low-income hotel where the Watanabes have been staying. When the cops start sniffing around Aki's home, she begins to worry that the violence tearing through her community might threaten her family. What secrets have the Watanabes been hiding, and can Aki protect her husband from getting tangled up in a murder investigation?

*"I have long been a fan of Naomi Hirahara's writing, but *Evergreen* may be my favorite of her novels. The mystery is set against the backdrop of Japanese Americans returning to their homes in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo after World War II as they try to rebuild their lives after either having been unfairly held in detention camps or fighting with the 'Go for Broke' battalion, with everyone dealing with different types of discrimination, fear, and trauma. The historical details are accurate, heartrending, and eye-opening."*

*—Lisa See, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Island of Sea Women**

**US Publication Date:**

August 2023,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- France (10/18)
- Japan (Shogakukan)
- Germany (arsveivendi)
- Russia (AST)

**Praise for *Evergreen***

*"Absorbing . . . Like Walter Mosley in his great Easy Rawlins books, Hirahara shows us a corrupt LA whose most endemic corruptions come steeped in racism. But—and this too recalls Mosley—she doesn't wallow in the self-indulgent cosmic nihilism that defines too much noir."*—**John Powers, NPR's *Fresh Air***

*"Hirahara humanizes the struggles of Japanese Americans rebuilding their lives from scratch. Her evocation of Little Tokyo haunts will bring a flood of memories for some Angelenos while introducing a new generation of readers to a pivotal period in L.A. history."*—**Paula Woods, *The Los Angeles Times***

*"Intriguing and provocative . . . Hirahara cleverly weaves together a riveting mystery with historical details of postwar Little Tokyo, touching on issues of race, postwar trauma and the rebuilding of community. Her extensive research as a non-fiction writer offers a solid base for her insightful reimagining of postwar resettlement."*—**Nichi Bei**

**Key Sales Handles**

- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED SERIES:** Previous book in series won the Mary Higgins Clark Award; author's previous works have won the Edgar Award and the T. Jefferson Parker Mystery Award, and were also finalists for the Anthony and Macavity Awards.
- **HISTORICALLY IMMERSIVE:** Just like its predecessor *Clark and Division*, *Evergreen* is a pitch-perfect portrayal of a fascinating time in American history, as Japanese Americans continue to confront the aftermath of incarceration during WWII.
- **COMPLEX THEMES:** The novel explores the restriction of women's and immigrant rights during the era, thus providing a necessary mirror to our own times.
- **FOR FANS OF:** Jacqueline Winspear, Steph Cha, and Sujata Massey; historical fiction, mysteries, female-centered crime fiction; for readers interested in the Japanese American experience, the WWII era, women's rights, and Los Angeles.



Cover  
Coming  
Soon

**US Publication Date:**

February 2026,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**CROWN CITY**

by Naomi Hirahara

Pasadena, 1903: Ryunosuke Wada, the orphaned son of one of Yokohama's most esteemed carpenters, is only a teenager when he sails for California to take a job working for a famous dealer of Japanese arts and antiques. Ryui's curiosity and rarified skills help him survive the culture shocks of the new American city, a place where businesses and artists thrive, and where immigrants and laborers of every race and ethnicity mingle in the same boarding houses.

But under Pasadena's bustling prosperity, dangerous tensions seeth. Ryui learns that the boarding house bed he is sleeping in was recently occupied by another young Japanese man who has disappeared under very mysterious circumstances. And a masked assailant is attacking Japanese immigrants with terrifying hate messages. When Toshio Aoki, a wildly successful Japanese painter, learns Ryui was attacked at one of his events, he hires Ryui and his enigmatic photographer roommate, Jack, to investigate. They launch their sideline detective business to protect the growing local Japanese community, but it's not long before their investigations lead them to bigger crimes--like murder. Ryui's just a kid in a foreign country--has he bitten off more than he can chew? Or is he exactly what Pasadena needs most?

In this rich period mystery, studded with cameos by real historical figures, Edgar Award-winner Naomi Hirahara brings to life a fascinating slice of California history.

**Praise for the Japantown Mysteries**

“Engrossing . . . The best historical fiction shows how events affected the people who lived that era.”

—**Oline Cogdill, *The South Florida Sun-Sentinel***

“A novel Naomi Hirahara was destined to write . . . Hirahara gives us a rich and vibrant portrayal of Nisei life in multicultural Chicago: the nightclubs, the hoodlums, the young people looking for connection, looking for their place in a world that up until previously had not merely excluded them but incarcerated them.”

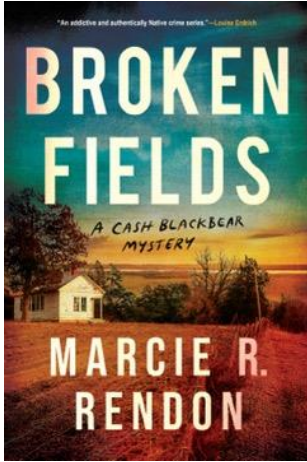
—**Désirée Zamorano, *Los Angeles Review of Books***

“A heart-pounding read for thriller aficionados, true-crime buffs and anyone who wants to learn more about the bitter history of Japanese Americans in the 20th century.”

—***Reader's Digest***

**Key Sales Handles**

- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED SERIES:** Previous book in series won the Mary Higgins Clark Award; author's previous works have won the Edgar Award and the T. Jefferson Parker Mystery Award, and were also finalists for the Anthony and Macavity Awards.
- **HISTORICALLY IMMERSIVE:** Just like its predecessors, this novel is a pitch-perfect portrayal of a fascinating time in American history.
- **ANTHOLOGY SERIES:** This third novel in the Japantown Mysteries pulls the reader out of a chronological series, and into a different character's perspective, in a different time period. Can definitely be read as a standalone.
- **FOR FANS OF:** Jacqueline Winspear, Steph Cha, and Sujata Massey; historical fiction, mysteries, female-centered crime fiction; for readers interested in the Japanese American experience, the WWII era, women's rights, and Los Angeles.



## BROKEN FIELDS

by Marcie R. Rendon

Cash Blackbear, a young Ojibwe woman, is back on the case after two men are found dead on a rural farm in Minnesota in the next installment of the acclaimed Native crime series.

1970s Minnesota. It's spring in the Red River Valley and Cash Blackbear is hoping to make some spending money doing spring field work for local farmers while attending college—and she finds a dead man on the kitchen floor of the property's rented farmhouse. The only possible witness to the murder is the young daughter of a Native laborer. The girl is too terrified to speak about what she's witnessed, and her parents seem to have vanished.

In the wake of the murder, Cash can't deny her intuitive abilities: she is suspicious of the dead man's grieving widow, who offers to take in the girl temporarily. While Cash scours the county and White Earth reservation trying to find the missing mother before the girl is placed in the care of a social worker—the same woman who placed Cash in foster care a decade earlier—another body turns up. Concerned about the girl's fate, and with the help of local Sheriff Wheaton, Cash races against the clock to figure out the truth of what happened in the farmhouse.

*Broken Fields* is a compelling, fast read with seamlessly woven in details of rural life, the American Indian Movement, abusive labor practices, and women's liberation.

**“Marcie Rendon is writing an addictive and authentically Native crime series propelled by the irresistible Cash Blackbear—a warm, sad, sharp, funny and intuitive young Ojibwe woman. I want a shelf of Cash Blackbear novels! To my delight I have a feeling that Rendon is only getting started.”—Louise Erdrich, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Night Watchman***

### US Publication Date:

March 2025, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for the Cash Blackbear series

“[A] winning 1970s-set series.”—**Sarah Weinman, *The New York Times Book Review***

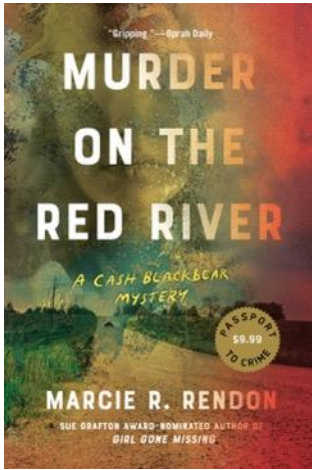
“Like Cash's life, there's a rawness and a poetic leanness to Rendon's prose. The plot is quick with no excess, building to a confrontation that's inevitable and electrifying. Rendon's writing is quick and sharp and unflinching in its honesty . . . Haunting and truly gripping.” —**Carole E. Barrowman, *Star Tribune***

“As a storyteller in general, Rendon is masterful. She is straightforward in her writing and plot building, avoids hyperbole, and makes you care about her characters. The violence she described in *Sinister Graves* is not gratuitous. Instead, through her superhero, Cash, Rendon shines a light on the actual epidemic of violence against American Indian women in the U.S.” —**The Circle: Native American News and Arts**

**Marcie Rendon** is an enrolled member of the White Earth Nation, a Pinckley Prize-winning author, playwright, poet, freelance writer, and a community arts activist. Rendon was awarded the McKnight Distinguished Artist Award for 2020. She is a speaker on Native issues, leadership, and writing. Her second novel in her Cash Blackbear mystery series, *Girl Gone Missing*, was nominated for the Sue Grafton Memorial Award. Rendon was recognized as a 50 over 50 Change-maker by Minneapolis AARP and Pollen in 2018. She lives in Minneapolis.

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Stephen Graham Jones, Silvia Moreno-Garcia, and *Reservation Dogs* (TV series on FX); for readers who enjoy supernatural-tinged mysteries; for those interested in Native American culture and issues.
- **UNIQUE PROTAGONIST:** Tough-talking, independent Cash isn't exactly your goody-two-shoes college student.
- **REPRESENTATION IN CRIME:** Native American voices are rare in fiction, even more so in the genre. Rendon's work always explores indigenous experiences that are not often examined.
- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Marcie R. Rendon has won multiple awards and is extremely well-connected in the Minnesota-North Dakota region.



The Cash Blackbear series by Marcie R. Rendon

Cash Blackbear is a young Ojibwe woman whose visions and grit help her solve brutal crimes in the 1970s in the Red River Valley.

MURDER ON THE RED RIVER (Book 1)

Introducing Cash Blackbear, a young Ojibwe woman whose visions and grit help solve a brutal murder in this award-winning debut.

1970s, Red River Valley between North Dakota and Minnesota: Renee “Cash” Blackbear is 19 years old and tough as nails. She lives in Fargo, North Dakota, where she drives truck for local farmers, drinks beer, plays pool, and helps solve criminal investigations through the power of her visions. She has one friend, Sheriff Wheaton, her guardian, who helped her out of the broken foster care system.

**US Publication Date:**  
April 2022

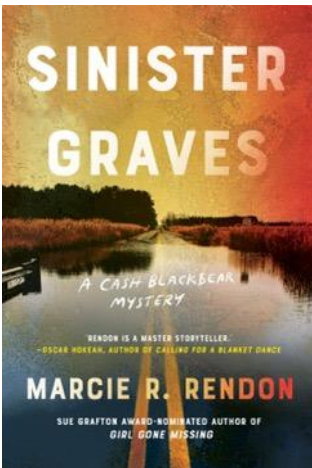


One Saturday morning, Sheriff Wheaton is called to investigate a pile of rags in a field and finds the body of an Indian man. When Cash dreams about the dead man’s weathered house on the Red Lake Reservation, she knows that’s the place to start looking for answers. Together, Cash and Wheaton work to solve a murder that stretches across cultures in a rural community traumatized by racism, genocide, and oppression.

GIRL GONE MISSING (Book 2)

Nineteen-year-old Cash Blackbear helps law enforcement solve the mysterious disappearance of a local girl from Minnesota's Red River Valley.

**US Publication Date:**  
April 2022



SINISTER GRAVES (Book 3)

Set in 1970s Minnesota on the White Earth Reservation, Pinckley Prize–winner Marcie R. Rendon’s gripping new mystery follows Cash Blackbear, a young Ojibwe woman, as she attempts to discover the truth about the disappearances of Native girls and their newborns.

Praise for the Cash Blackbear series

“[Rendon] is one heck of a mystery novelist. Rendon’s Cash Blackbear books are gripping vehicles that tell broader stories about the historical persecution of American Indians.”

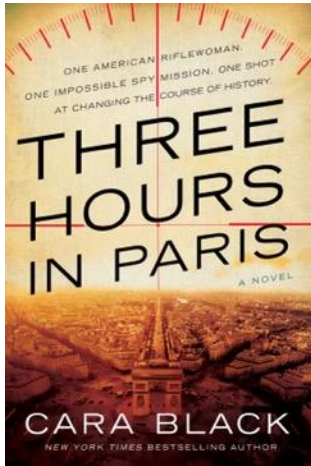
—Oprah Daily

“Marcie R. Rendon has me cheering on Cash Blackbear even more vociferously in her latest mystery! Marcie writes the way Anishinaabe people view the world—full of rich descriptions and layered storytelling. While confronting difficult truths about religion and the value of Indigenous lives, Marcie shares revelatory moments of Cash awakening to her own worth.”

—Angeline Bouley, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Firekeeper’s Daughter*

**US Publication Date:**  
October 2022

**Rights Available:** World;  
**Territories Sold (Book 1 and 2):** Italy and Germany



## THREE HOURS IN PARIS

by Cara Black

In June of 1940, when Paris fell to the Nazis, Hitler spent a total of three hours in the City of Light—abruptly leaving, never to return. To this day, no one knows why.

Kate Rees, a young American markswoman, has been recruited by British intelligence to drop into Paris with a dangerous assignment: assassinate the Führer. Wrecked by grief after a Luftwaffe bombing killed her husband and infant daughter, she is armed with a rifle, a vendetta, and a fierce resolve. But other than rushed and rudimentary instruction, she has no formal spy training. Thrust into the red-hot center of the war, a country girl from rural Oregon finds herself holding the fate of the world in her hands. When Kate misses her mark and the plan unravels, Kate is on the run for her life—all the time wrestling with the suspicion that the whole operation was a set-up.

*New York Times* bestselling author Cara Black is at her best as she brings Occupation-era France to vivid life in this masterful, pulse-pounding story about one young woman with the temerity—and drive—to take on Hitler himself.

**US Publication Date:**  
April 2020, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
Available

**A National Bestseller**

**A *Wall Street Journal* Best Mystery of 2020**

**A *Washington Post* Best Thriller and Mystery Book of 2020**

**A *Seattle Times* Best Crime Novel of 2020**

**Finalist for the 2020 Dashiell Hammett Prize for Literary Excellence**

### Praise for *Three Hours in Paris*

“Heart-racing . . . *Three Hours in Paris* isn’t just any old formulaic ‘Get out!’ tale. It’s mystery master Cara Black’s first standalone novel, a spy story set during World War II in Occupied Paris . . . Chances that you’ll be able to put Black’s thriller down once you’ve picked it up? Slim to none.”

—Maureen Corrigan, *The Washington Post*

“Beyond Black’s encyclopedic knowledge of Paris, her deft interweaving of WWII history and spycraft with a relatable female protagonist puts *Three Hours in Paris* on par with other top thrillers about botched missions followed by harrowing escapes—such masterworks as Frederick Forsyth’s *The Day of the Jackal*, Jack Higgins’ *The Eagle Has Landed* and Tom Clancy’s *Patriot Games*.” —Paula Woods, *The Los Angeles Times*

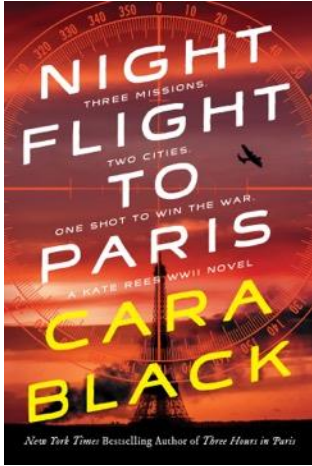
“*Three Hours in Paris*, with its timetable structure and its hunt for a covert operative, recalls such comparable works as Frederick Forsyth’s *The Day of the Jackal* and Ken Follett’s *Eye of the Needle*.” —Tom Nolan, *The Wall Street Journal*

### Key Sales Handles

- **NEW SERIES FROM ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** The *New York Times* bestselling author of the Aimée Leduc mysteries has started a new series.
- **FOR FANS OF:** Alan Furst, Susan Elia MacNeal, and Daniel Silva; for readers interested in mysteries set in World War II, espionage, female soldiers, female protagonists, and feminist fiction.
- **CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** The book received massive critical acclaim, becoming a national bestseller, and landed on many Best of the Year lists.
- **THRILLING FICTION:** The cat-and-mouse game, the ticking clock of each chapter, each decision a matter of life and death—you’ll be on the edge of your seat.

**Cara Black** is the author of twenty-one books in the *New York Times* bestselling Aimée Leduc series. She has received multiple nominations for the Anthony and Macavity Awards, and her books have been translated into German, Norwegian, Japanese, French, Spanish, Italian, and Hebrew. She lives in San Francisco with her husband and son and visits Paris frequently.





## NIGHT FLIGHT TO PARIS

by Cara Black

It is once again up to American markswoman **Kate Rees** to take the shot that just might win—or lose—World War II, in the followup to national bestseller *Three Hours in Paris*.

**Three missions. Two cities. One shot to win the war.**

October 1942: it's been two years since Kate Rees was sent to Paris on a British Secret Service mission to assassinate Hitler. Since then, she has left spycraft behind to take a training job as a sharpshooting instructor in the Scottish Highlands. But her quiet life is violently disrupted when Colonel Stepney, her former handler, drags her back into the fray for a risky three-pronged mission in Paris.

Each task is more dangerous than the next: Deliver a package of forbidden biological material. Assassinate a high-ranking German operative whose knowledge of invasion plans could turn the tide of the war against the Allies. Rescue a British agent who once saved Kate's life—and get out.

Kate will encounter sheiks and spies, poets and partisans, as she races to keep up with the constantly shifting nature of her assignment, showing every ounce of her Oregonian grit in the process.

*New York Times* bestselling author Cara Black has crafted another heart-stopping thrill ride that reveals a portrait of Paris at the height of the Nazi occupation.

### US Publication Date:

March 2023, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *Night Flight to Paris*

“Split-second timing, last-minute pivots, life-or-death decisions—all dial up the tension . . . Black provides plenty of local color and emotional turns, but it’s her book’s breakneck action that most excites.”

—Tom Nolan, *The Wall Street Journal*

“In stripped-down prose, Black brings the invaded city sharply to life as Kate tries to navigate ground that is always shifting beneath her... Kate’s motivation is simple and powerful: straight-up revenge for the deaths of her husband and child in a German bombing. Staying alive—and ridding the world of at least one more Nazi—is her aim in this sustained adrenaline rush of a thriller.”

—Lisa Henrickson, *Air Mail*

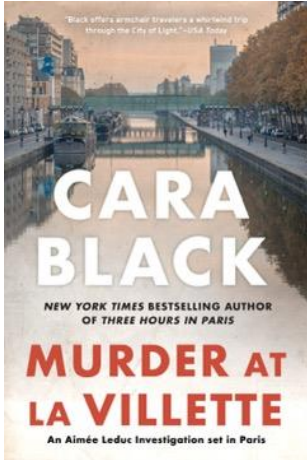
“Stirring . . . Kate is a heroine for the ages.”

—Publishers Weekly

### Key Sales Handles

- **SPECTACULAR SERIES:** The first book in the Kate Rees series, *Three Hours in Paris*, was a national bestseller. Fans will be thrilled to find out what Kate has been up to since her first mission—and Cara Black does not disappoint.
- **HISTORICAL DETAIL:** Cara Black is renowned for her expert portrayal of Paris, but here, her attention to historical detail as she describes the 1942 setting is no less impressive.
- **THRILLING PLOT:** This is a fast-paced, edge-of-your-seat thriller from start to finish—readers will never know whom to trust.
- **UNDERDOG PROTAGONIST:** Kate Rees, just a farmgirl from Oregon turned war hero, is resilient, brave, and determined not to let her past—or her trauma—define her. A strong woman well worth rooting for.





## MURDER AT LA VILLETTE

by Cara Black

Parisian private investigator Aimée Leduc has been framed for the murder of her daughter's father—now she's on the lam, and must find the real killer to clear her name in this thrilling 21st installment of Cara Black's *New York Times* bestselling mystery series.

Melac, Aimée Leduc's ex, has been hounding her for weeks, pressuring her to move little Chloé to Brittany, threatening to take her to court for custody—all but stalking her. Harassed and fed up, Aimée has stopped taking his calls. That's why she doesn't know as she's leaving a client's office late one night that Melac is waiting for her by the Bassin de la Villette—where an assailant attacks him just in time for Aimée to find his still-bleeding body in the canal. Interrupted, the killer knocks Aimée unconscious and plants the bloody knife in her hands for the police to find.

Now Aimée is in police custody, debilitated by her concussion, with overwhelming evidence working against her. She has to figure out who murdered Melac—not an easy job, given the target on his back as a former homicide investigator. Cut off from her typical network and forced to operate under multiple layers of cover, Aimée must go deep into the underbelly of Paris's 19th *arrondissement*, where she rubs shoulders with biker gangs, paranoid journalists, grieving parents, and frustratingly tight-lipped ex-cops on her hunt for justice.

### US Publication Date:

March 2024, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for the Aimée Leduc investigations

“Wry, complex, sophisticated, intensely Parisian . . . One of the very best heroines in crime fiction today.”—**Lee Child**

“Captivating . . . Aimée doesn't need to pack heat on these adventures; the stiletto heels of her Louboutin ankle boots are weapon enough.” —**Marilyn Stasio, *The New York Times Book Review***

“Transcendently, seductively, irresistibly French.” —**Alan Furst**

“So authentic you can practically smell the fresh baguettes and coffee.” —**Val McDermid**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF PI MYSTERIES:** And also for readers of female-centric crime fiction, private investigator fiction, and novels about Paris.
- **BLACK IS BACK:** Soho Crime's Grand Dame shows no sign of slowing as she returns with her 21st entry to the bestselling series.
- **YEAR OVER YEAR BESTSELLER:** Black's audience has expanded with the widely successful novel *Three Hours in Paris*. New readers and her dedicated fanbase will flock to this new title.
- **CLASSIC CHARACTER, NEW CIRCUMSTANCES:** Aimée Leduc finds herself cut off from her network and resources in this taut, thrilling mystery.
- **NEW LOOK AT ICONIC SETTING:** The 19th *arrondissement* isn't the most often-visited spot in Paris; Black takes us on a deep dive through the cobbled streets and murky canals of this colorful region.

**The Aimée Leduc series by Cara Black**

Paris, 1990s: Aimée Leduc is a chic, no-nonsense former hacker who took over her family's private investigation agency when her father was killed by a car bomb. She runs Leduc Détective with her best friend, René Friant, and her cases bring her to every corner of Paris, as she uncovers secrets from her own past.

**#1 - Murder in the Marais**

In Paris's historic Jewish quarter, Aimée finds a dead woman with a swastika carved in to her forehead, plunging her into a web of ancient secrets and buried war crimes.

**#2 - Murder in Belleville**

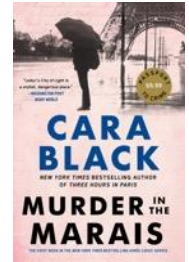
Tension runs high as a hunger strike escalates among Algerian immigrants. Aimée barely escapes a car bombing in this tale of terrorism and greed.

**#3 - Murder in the Sentier**

When a mysterious visitor promises contact with her long-lost mother, Aimée finds herself hot on the trail of 70s radicals.

**#4 - Murder in the Bastille**

Aimée is attacked in the shadowy Passage Boule Blanche. Regaining consciousness, she finds herself temporarily blinded but is determined to identify the assailant.



**#5 - Murder in Clichy**

An act of kindness ends in a stranger's death, leaving Aimée with a bullet wound, a check for 50,000 francs, and a trove of Vietnamese jade artifacts whose provenance is a mystery.

**#6 - Murder in Montmartre**

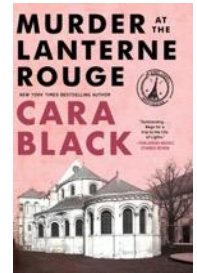
In an attempt to clear a friend's name, Aimée encounters Corsican separatist terrorists, Montmartre prostitutes, and leams of the French "ear in the sky."

**#7 - Murder on the Ile Saint-Louis**

Aimée tries to identify the mother of a missing child while bomb threats by environmental protestors terrify the entire city.

**#8 - Murder in the Rue de Paradis**

Finding out who cut her lover's throat leads Aimée into Kurdish and Turkish politics as she tries to track down his contacts.



**#9 - Murder in the Latin Quarter**

Aimée, a virtual orphan, embraces a Haitian woman claiming to be her half-sister, involving her in murky Haitian politics that lead to murder in the old university.

**#10 - Murder in the Palais Royal**

René Friant, Aimée's partner at Leduc Détective, is wounded, and eye-witnesses have pegged her as the culprit. Someone is impersonating Aimée—someone who wants her killed.

**#11 - Murder in Passy**

In one of Paris's wealthiest neighborhoods, a murder investigation leads Aimée to police corruption, a radical Basque terrorist group, and a kidnapped Spanish princess.

**#12 - Murder at the Lanterne Rouge**

A missing woman, an illegal immigrant raid, botched affairs of the heart, the French secret service, scientific secrets and a murderer on the loose—what has Aimée got herself into?



**#13 - Murder Below Montparnasse**

A man who claims to know Aimée's mother suspects that a long-lost Modigliani in his possession puts him in danger. When he is viciously murdered, Aimée is on the hunt for a killer.

**#14 - Murder in Pigalle**

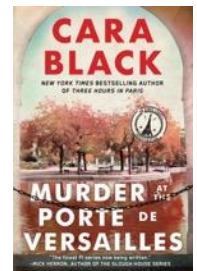
A serial rapist is terrorizing Pigalle, targeting schoolgirls. Aimée, five months pregnant, stays away from the investigation—until her young neighbor Zazie disappears.

**#15 - Murder on the Champ de Mars**

A Romany boy begs Aimée to visit his ailing mother, who may hold the key to her father's murder. But the woman has vanished; the ensuing search leads to the city's seats of wealth and power.

**#16 - Murder in Saint-Germain**

Aimée is approached by a Brigade Criminelle agent claiming to be targeted by a Serbian warlord her team killed—is she losing her mind, or is the man still alive?



**#17 - Murder on the Quai (Prequel)**

Aimée, still in medical school, is left to run the family detective agency when her father leaves Paris on a mysterious errand.

**#18 - Murder on the Left Bank**

When a young man is murdered for a notebook with a list of corrupt *gendarmes*, Aimée tries to stop the body count from rising, afraid her own father's name might be on the list.

**#19 - Murder in Bel-Air**

Aimée Leduc is embroiled in a thickweb of international spycraft, post-colonial African politics, and neighborhood secrets in Paris's 12th arrondissement.

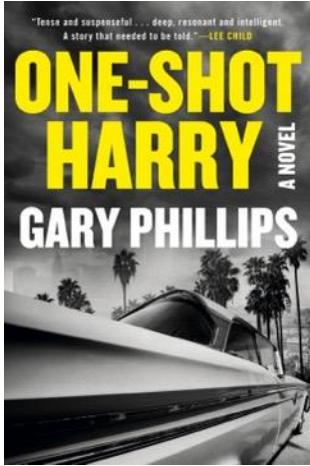
**#20 - Murder at the Porte de Versailles**

Aimée must find the truth behind a terrible bombing at a police station, and also the truth behind her daughter's biological father.

**Rights Available:** World

**Territories Previously Sold:**

UK (Reverted); Spain (Factoria des Ideas); Germany (Thiele & Brandstattere); France (Editions Anatolia, City Editions); Norway (Schibste Forlag); Japan (Hayakawa); Israel (Keter Books)

**US Publication Date:**

April 2022, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- Germany (Polar Verlag)

**ONE-SHOT HARRY**

by Gary Phillips

Race and civil rights in 1963 Los Angeles provide a powerful backdrop in Gary Phillips's riveting mystery about an African American crime scene photographer seeking justice for a friend—perfect for fans of Walter Mosley, James Ellroy, and George Pelecanos.

LOS ANGELES, 1963: Korean War veteran Harry Ingram earns a living as a news photographer and occasional process server: chasing police radio calls and dodging baseball bats. With racial tensions running high on the eve of Martin Luther King's Freedom Rally, Ingram risks becoming a victim at every crime scene he photographs.

When Ingram hears about a deadly automobile accident on his police scanner, he recognizes the vehicle described as belonging to his good friend and old army buddy, a white jazz trumpeter. The LAPD declares the car crash an accident, but when Ingram develops his photos, he sees signs of foul play. Ingram feels compelled to play detective, even if it means putting his own life on the line. Armed with his wits, his camera, and occasionally his Colt .45, "One-Shot" Harry plunges headfirst into the seamy underbelly of LA society, tangling with racists, leftists, gangsters, zealots, and lovers as he attempts to solve the mystery.

Master storyteller and crime fiction legend Gary Phillips has filled the pages of *One-Shot Harry* with fascinating historical cameos, wise-cracks, tenderness, and an edge-of-your-seat thrill ride of a plot with consequences far beyond one dead body.

**A *Washington Post* Best Mystery & Thriller of 2022**

**A *Booklist* Editor's Choice Best Books of 2022**

**Praise for *One-Shot Harry***

"Terrific . . . What makes *One-Shot Harry* a standout is the cityscape of mid-century L.A. it summons up — its music, chromium cars, hateful slurs, "invisible" racial boundaries and cautious hopes." —**NPR's *Fresh Air***

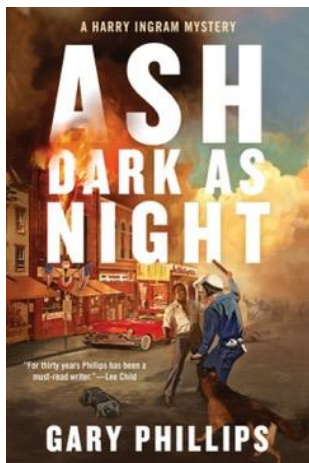
"Phillips is a storyteller first, and the social chronicling never becomes didactic or overtakes the narrative. The wounds of 1963, and the foreshadowing of both better days and harsher ones, feel unnervingly fresh, and a reminder that progress, much as we wish otherwise, never adheres to a linear timeline." —***The New York Times Book Review***

"*One-Shot Harry* is fast-paced, tough, wry and smart, but what makes this novel a singular sensation is the diverse cityscape of mid-century L.A. that Phillips summons up." —**Maureen Corrigan, *The Washington Post***

**Key Sales Handles**

- **HISTORICAL LOS ANGELES.:** LA in the early 1960s is rife with interesting American historical details: the end of the '50s, the rise of free love, pressurized racial divisions—and the author does a perfect job depicting these tensions.
- **HISTORICAL CAMEOS:** *One-Shot Harry* is full of real-life historical people, places, and events, presenting a fascinating backdrop over which the main action takes place. Eagle-eyed readers will enjoy catching all these names and references as they read.
- **MASTER STORYTELLER:** The award-winning author has been named one of the best writers of LA crime. He also is a story editor on the hit FX TV show *Snowfall*.
- **WINNING PROTAGONIST:** Harry Ingram, the main character, is a Black veteran who is resourceful, charming, and relatable. The racist interactions he must endure could be pulled from today's headlines.
- **SERIES DEBUT:** This is the entry to what will become a bestselling series.

**Gary Phillips** has published novels, comics, novellas, short stories and edited or co-edited several anthologies, including the Anthony-winning *The Obama Inheritance: Fifteen Stories of Conspiracy Noir*. Almost 30 years after its publication, his debut, *Violent Spring*, was named one of the essential crime novels of Los Angeles. He was also a writer and co-producer on *Snowfall*, a show streaming on Hulu about crack and the CIA in 1980s South Central where he grew up.



## ASH AS DARK AS NIGHT

by Gary Phillips

In the follow-up to *One-Shot Harry*, fearless crime photographer and occasional private eye Harry Ingram finds himself in the LAPD's crosshairs after capturing damning evidence of police brutality.

An atmospheric dive into a city on the brink that's brimming with remarkable historical detail, *Ash Dark as Night* is perfect for fans of Walter Mosley and James Ellroy.

Los Angeles, August 1965. Anger and pent-up frustrations boil over in the Watts neighborhood after a traffic stop of two Black motorists. As the Watts riots explode, crime photographer Harry Ingram snaps photos at the scene, including images of the police as they unleash batons, dogs, and water hoses on civilians. When he captures the image of an unarmed activist being shot down by the cops, he winds up in the hospital, beaten, his camera missing. Proof of the unjust killing seems lost—until Ingram's girlfriend, Anita Claire, retrieves the hidden film in a daring rescue. The photo makes front-page news.

A recuperating Ingram is approached by Betty Payton, a comrade of Anita's mother, who wants Ingram's help tracking down her business associate Moses "Mose" Tolbert, last seen during the riots. Ingram follows the investigation down a rabbit hole of burglary rings, bank robberies, looted cash, and clandestine agendas—all the while grappling with his newfound fame, which puts him in the sightlines of LAPD's secretive intelligence division.

*Ash Dark as Night* is a nail-biting ride-along through midcentury Los Angeles with a crime fiction legend in the driver's seat.

### US Publication Date:

April 2024, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *Ash as Dark as Night*

#### **A Parade Best Mystery Book of 2024**

"Evocative . . . This novel is steeped in period details like snap-brim hats and ragtop Chevy Bel Air convertibles . . . But it's Harry's clear-eyed take on the fallen world around him that makes this series so powerful."

—Maureen Corrigan, NPR's *Fresh Air*

"Excellent . . . Phillips' descriptions of the utter conflagration that was Watts as well as the mysterious fictional events that follow capture the spirit of the social and political upheaval of 1960s Los Angeles with a veracity that chilled me."

—Paula Woods, *Los Angeles Times*

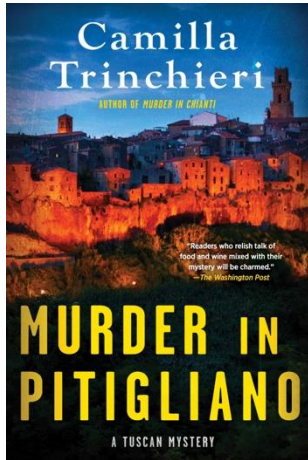
"[Phillips] has evoked this milieu in many sharply rendered novels over the past three decades. *Ash Dark as Night* shows him at the top of his game."

—Tom Nolan, *The Wall Street Journal*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Walter Mosley, James Ellroy, Raymond Chandler; classic noir and crime series; crime fiction with Black protagonists; historical crime fiction.
- **ANTICIPATED SEQUEL:** The first book in the series, *One-Shot Harry*, made multiple best-of roundups in 2022. New fans and old will be delighted to read more about Harry Ingram's risky adventures in Los Angeles.
- **THE WATTS REBELLION:** The plot of this book revolves around the Watts Rebellion of August 1965 in Los Angeles. Phillips has filled these pages with specific and fascinating historical detail about those culture-altering events.
- **WINNING PROTAGONIST:** Harry Ingram, the main character, is a Black veteran who is resourceful, charming, and relatable. The racist interactions he must endure could be pulled from today's headlines.





## MURDER IN PITIGLIANO

by Camilla Trinchieri

**Ex-NYPD detective Nico Doyle finds himself unwittingly stepping into the role of a PI to investigate a murder that has torn a young family apart in this rustic mystery set in the beautiful Medieval village of Pitigliano, Italy.**

One morning at the café, Nico notices Cilia, a seven-year-old girl he has never seen before, playing with OneWag on the floor. He later discovers she has left a note in the dog’s collar—*Please help my babbo.*

With help from Daniele of the local carabinieri, Nico discovers that Cilia’s father, Saverio, has fled town following an unfortunate incident. His business partner was killed at their electronics store, and Saverio is the main suspect. Cilia’s mother, who just moved to Gravigna to get away from Pitigliano’s wagging tongues, asks Nico to find the real killer. Against his better judgment, Nico accepts for Cilia’s sake and soon finds himself tangling with a large cast of suspects and an unhelpful local carabinieri as he pursues the truth.

**US Publication Date:**

July 2025, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Germany (Insel Verlag)

**Praise for the Tuscan Mystery series**

“A Tuscan feast of old lusts and new loves, meals and murder in Chianti country with an ex-NYPD cop and a dog.”

—**Martin Walker, author of the internationally bestselling Bruno, Chief of Police series**

“Just the ticket for anyone wanting to escape to Bella Italia with an engaging and entertaining mystery.”

—**David Hewson, author of the bestselling Nic Costa series and The Garden of Angels**

“If you enjoy both Stanley Tucci’s *Searching for Italy* and *Murder She Wrote*, then read *Murder on the Vine* by Camilla Trinchieri. Delicious Italian food and wine wrapped up in a vibrant mystery complete with a dogged ex-NYPD detective and a loyal dog. Salute!”

—**Carlene O'Connor, USA Today Bestselling author of the Irish Village mysteries**

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR READERS OF:** International mysteries, Italian fiction, detective fiction, fish-out-of-water stories, buddy cop stories; for readers interested in the Tuscany/Chianti region of Italy.
- **POPULAR SERIES:** This series is Soho Crime wheelhouse with its classic procedural setup and rich Tuscan setting, complete with food, wine, and scintillating murder mystery.
- **THE TUSCAN SUN:** Who doesn't want to be transported to Italy to solve a murder? Especially when its protagonist has some serious cross-cultural charm and a dog for a sidekick.
- **FISH-OUT-OF-WATER:** Half-Italian Doyle has been accepted into his wine-soaked countryside town, though the reasons for his dismissal from the NYPD still follow him.
- **NOT-SO-COZY:** The title, plot, and setting dips its toe into the cozy mystery genre, though it is definitely not. Readers of all mysteries will find lots to love here.

**Camilla Trinchieri** worked for many years dubbing films in Rome with directors including Federico Fellini, Pietro Germi, Franco Rosi, Lina Wertmüller and Luchino Visconti. She immigrated to the US in 1980 and received her MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia University. Under the pseudonym Camilla Crespi, she has published eight mysteries. As Camilla Trinchieri, she is the author of *The Price of Silence*, *Seeking Alice*, and four Tuscan mysteries.



The Tuscan Mystery series *by* Camilla Trinchieri

Following the death of his wife, Bronx homicide detective Nico Doyle decides to move to the idyllic Tuscan countryside, looking for a change of scenery—and maybe a new lease on life. But he finds wine country has secrets of its own and teams up with the local authorities to help when things go awry between mouth-watering bowls of pasta.

MURDER IN CHIANTI (Book 1)

Set in the heart of Tuscan wine country, Camilla Trinchieri's new mystery introduces Nico Doyle, a former NYPD homicide detective who's just looking for space to grieve when he finds himself pulled into a local murder investigation.

Mourning the loss of his wife, Rita, former NYPD homicide detective Nico Doyle moves to her hometown of Gravigna in the winesoaked region of Chianti. Half Italian and half Irish, Nico finds himself able to get by in the region with the help of Rita's relatives, but he still feels alone and out of place. He isn't sure if it's peace he's seeking, but it isn't what he finds. Early one morning, he hears a gunshot and a dog's cries near his new home and walks out to discover a dead body in the woods, flashily dressed in gold tennis shoes. When the police arrive, Nico hastily adopts the fluffy white dog as his own and wants nothing more to do with the murder.

But Salvatore Perillo, the local maresciallo, discovers Nico's professional background and enlists him to help with the case. It turns out more than one person in this idyllic corner of Italy knew the victim, and with a very small pool of suspects, including his own in-laws, Nico must dig up Gravigna's every last painful secret to get to the truth.

THE BITTER TASTE OF MURDER (Book 2)

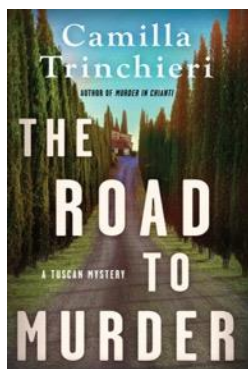
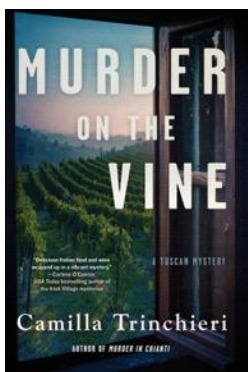
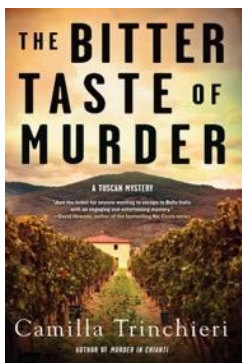
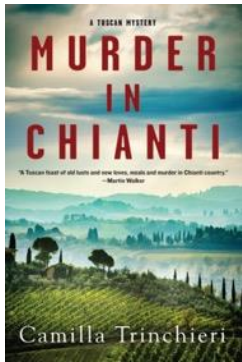
The follow-up to *Murder in Chianti* finds ex-NYPD detective Nico Doyle recruited by Italian authorities to investigate the murder of a prominent wine critic.

MURDER ON THE VINE (Book 3)

Ex-NYPD homicide detective Nico Doyle investigates the murder of a local bartender in the Tuscan countryside.

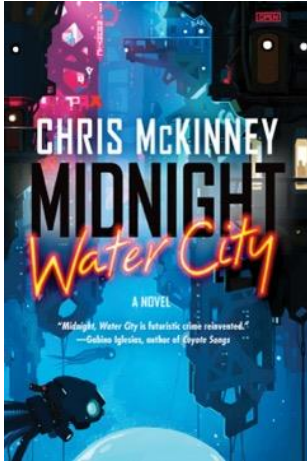
THE ROAD TO MURDER (Book 4)

In the latest installment of the acclaimed Tuscan Mystery series, the sole witness at a crime scene speaks only English, and ex-NYPD detective turned amateur chef Nico Doyle is summoned by the local carabinieri to help.



**Rights Available:** World

**Territories Sold:**  
UK (Alison & Busby); Germany (Insel Verlag),  
Estonia (Tänapäev)



## MIDNIGHT, WATER CITY

by Chris McKinney

Hawai'i author Chris McKinney's first entry in a brilliant new sci-fi noir trilogy explores the sordid past of a murdered scientist, deified in death, through the eyes of a man who once committed unspeakable crimes for her.

Year 2142: Earth is forty years past a near-collision with the asteroid Sessho-seki. Akira Kimura, the scientist responsible for eliminating the threat, has reached heights of celebrity approaching deification. But now, Akira feels her safety is under threat, so after years without contact, she reaches out to her former head of security, who has since become a police detective.

When he arrives at her deep-sea home and finds Akira methodically dismembered, this detective will risk everything—his career, his family, even his own life—and delve back into his shared past with Akira to find her killer. With a rich, cinematic voice and burning cynicism, *Midnight, Water City* is both a thrilling neo-noir procedural and a stunning exploration of research, class, climate change, the cult of personality, and the dark sacrifices we are willing to make in the name of progress.

### US Publication Date:

July 2021, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- Russia (AST)

**A HONOLULU Magazine Essential Hawai'i Book**

**A CrimeReads Best Speculative Mystery of 2021**

**A Publishers Weekly Best Mystery of 2021**

### Praise for *Midnight, Water City*

"This distinctive novel brims with delightful innovations, razor-sharp social commentary and richly wrought characters, all set against a teeming underwater city." —*Newsweek*

"The whodunit angle may be familiar but Chris McKinney makes it work with his world-building chops and the creation of an authentic protagonist." —*The Toronto Star*

"This gritty noir set in a sci-fi landscape is a real page-turner." —*Buzzfeed*

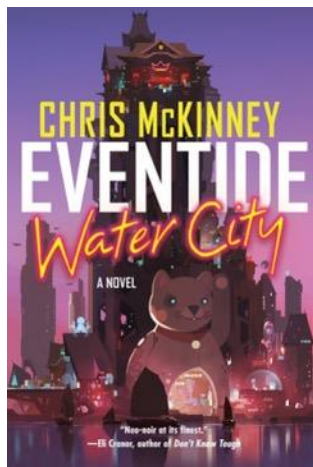
"Many writers use crime fiction to reveal hidden elements of society or expose the abuses of those in power . . . And that sense of powerful people concealing crucial secrets from the general public is very much on display in Chris McKinney's *Midnight, Water City*—a novel which makes the most of its slow-burning narrative of detection."

—*Tor.com*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Phillip K. Dick, Ben H. Winters, and Lauren Beukes; for readers of detective and crime fiction, commercial science and speculative fiction.
- **REAL-LIFE INSPIRATION:** Inspired by a hidden contextual layer that is loosely based on Hawaii and the ongoing TMT telescope controversy. McKinney (who is Korean and Japanese American) has also layered multicultural elements into the story.
- **CINEMATIC:** Accessible and fascinating world building. Due to the author's screenwriting background the prose comps to film/TV: *Blade Runner*, *Minority Report*, and *Altered Carbon*.
- **GENRE-BENDING:** Fits perfectly in the very popular intersection between hardboiled detective fiction and sci-fi. There is a large appetite for this type of gritty escapism.
- **FULL TRILOGY:** Soho Crime is excited to launch this trilogy! Check out [www.watercitytrilogy.com](http://www.watercitytrilogy.com) for concept art. The second and third novels publish in 2023.

**Chris McKinney** was born and raised in Hawai'i, on the island of O'ahu. He has written six novels, including *The Tattoo* and *The Queen of Tears*, a coauthored memoir, and the screenplays for two feature films and two short films. He is the winner of the Elliot Cades Award and seven Ka Palapala Po'okela Awards and has been appointed Visiting Distinguished Writer at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.



**The Water City Trilogy by Chris McKinney**

**EVENTIDE, WATER CITY (Book 2)**

The sequel to *Midnight*, *Water City* explores technology, class, climate change, and the lengths people will go to protect those they love.

Year 2150: Eight years after the murder of Akira Kimura, Water City’s renowned scientist and anointed “God,” the nameless antihero who tracked down Akira’s killer is no longer a detective, but a stay-at-home dad. While his wife climbs the corporate ladder of the city’s police department, he raises his now nine-year-old daughter and occasionally takes the odd job as a bounty hunter.

His domestic bliss is threatened when Ascalon’s Scar—the mark left by Akira’s destruction of Sessho-seki, the asteroid that nearly wiped out life on Earth—vanishes from the sky and a familiar face thought dead returns from the ocean depths to exact revenge on humanity. On a journey to the moon and back, Water City’s antihero will risk everything, including his family, to save the last of the human race—even if it means unraveling the dark conspiracy at the heart of their world.

*“Eventide, Water City is sci-fi, neo-noir at its finest. Chris McKinney doesn’t just build a world—he conjures up a glimpse at what the world could be if we’re not careful.”*

**—Eli Cranor, author of *Don't Know Tough***

**US Publication Date:**

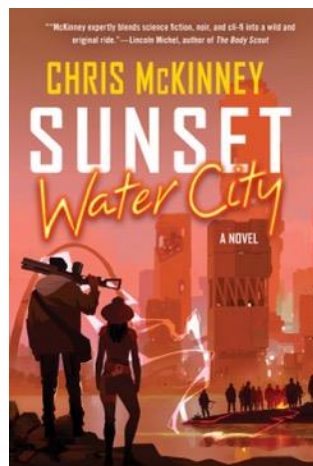
July 2023, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- Russia (AST)



**SUNSET, WATER CITY (Book 3)**

**Faith, technology, power, and parenthood clash in the last installment of the sci-fi noir Water City trilogy. Philip K. Dick meets *The Last of Us*.**

Year 2160: Ten years after the cataclysmic events of Eventide, Water City, where 99.7 percent of the human population was obliterated by Akira Kimura, Water City’s renowned scientist and Earth’s once-savior.

Our nameless antihero, a synesthete and former detective, and his daughter, Ascalon, navigate through a post-apocalyptic landscape populated by barbaric Zeroes—the permanent residents of the continent’s biggest landfill, The Great Leachate—who cling to the ways of the old world. They live in opposition to Akira’s godlike domination of the planet—she has taken control of the .03 percent of the population that viewed her as a God and converted them into her Gardeners, human “zombies” who plod along to build her vision of a new world.

What that world exactly entails, Ascalon is not entirely sure, but intends to find out. Now eighteen, she, a synesthete herself, takes over this story while her father succumbs to grief and decades of Akira’s manipulation. Tasked with the impossible, Ascalon must find a way to free what’s left of the human race.

*“McKinney nails the landing in the wrenching conclusion to his 22nd-century sci-fi noir trilogy . . . As in prior entries, McKinney’s worldbuilding is top-notch, and he successfully launches more rattling—and gratifying—surprises than most would expect from a series finale. This brings a superior series to a sharp, startling conclusion.”*

**—Publishers Weekly, Starred Review**

**US Publication Date:**

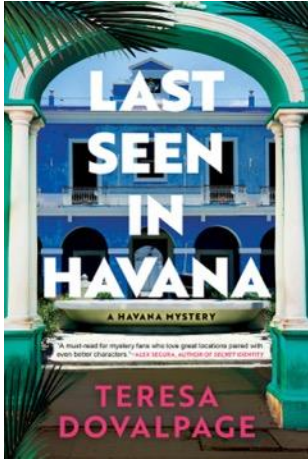
December 2023,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available



## LAST SEEN IN HAVANA

by Teresa Dovalpage

**A Cuban American woman searches for her long-lost mother and fights to restore a beautiful but crumbling Art Deco home in the heart of Havana in this moving, immersive new mystery, perfect for fans of *Of Women and Salt*.**

Newly widowed baker Mercedes Spivey flies from Miami to her native Cuba in 2019 to care for her ailing paternal grandmother. Mercedes’s life has been shaped by loss, beginning with the mysterious unsolved disappearance of her mother when Mercedes was a little girl. Returning to Cuba revives Mercedes’s hopes of finding her mother as she attempts to piece together the few scraps of information she has. Could her mother still be alive?

Thirty-three years earlier, in 1986, an American college student with endless political optimism falls deliriously in love with a handsome Cuban soldier while on a spontaneous visit to the island. She decides to stay permanently, but soon discovers that nothing is as it seems in Havana.

The two women’s stories proceed in parallel as Mercedes gets closer to the truth about her mother, uncovering shocking family secrets in the process . . .

### US Publication Date:

February 2024,  
Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *Last Seen in Havana*

“Explores how familial bonds can fray, yet manage to hold steady, across the decades.”

—*The New York Times*

“In this haunting novel, Havana once again becomes the main character as Dovalpage imparts her intimate knowledge of the city. It proves rather to be a slow-building sociological study of a deeply troubling political system observed by a disillusioned young person as the scales gradually fall from her eyes.”

—*Taos News*

“A page-turning, character-driven mystery that weaves back and forth between time and space, mother and daughter, truths and lies. Dovalpage grounds you in Cuba, both past and present, immersing readers in a heart-wrenching family drama that will keep you riveted until the end. I couldn’t put it down!”

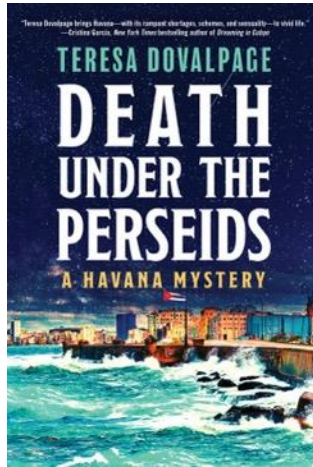
—*Mia P. Manansala, author of the Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity Award-winning *Arsenic and Adobo**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Gabriela Garcia and Wendy Walker; literature about Cuba; Latinx literature; crime fiction; stories about absent mothers.
- **CONNECTED UNIVERSE:** This is the continuation of a multi-book arc featuring the same characters to create a loose series and universe. Characters from the Havana Mysteries (her two previous novels) make appearances.
- **MYSTERIOUS AND MOVING:** The dual narrative as Mercy searches for her mother and as Sarah, in the past, adjusts to life in Cuba is poignant and builds narrative tension, as readers always have more information than the characters do.
- **A LOOK AT CUBA PAST AND PRESENT:** A timely and revealing portrait of Havana, with unflinching accuracy and historical detail about what it was like to live in Cuba in the 1980s--and how it has changed in the 21st century.
- **IMMERSIVE WRITING:** The narrative revolves around Mercy's homecoming, and readers will feel deeply connected to her family's story thanks to Dovalpage's beautiful, detailed writing.

**Teresa Dovalpage** was born in Havana, Cuba. 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 is the author of thirteen other works of fiction and three plays, and is the winner of the Rincón de la Victoria Award and a finalist for the Herralde Award. She lives in New Mexico.





## The Havana series *by* Teresa Dovalpage

Over the course of their careers on the Havana police force and even after retirement, investigators Padrino and Marlene Martínez solve murder cases in Cuba past and present.

### DEATH UNDER THE PERSEIDS

There's no such thing as a free cruise in Cuban American author Teresa Dovalpage's addictively clever new Havana mystery.

Cuban-born Mercedes Spivey and her American husband, Nolan, win a five-day cruise to Cuba. Although the circumstances surrounding the prize seem a little suspicious to Mercedes, Nolan's current unemployment and their need to spice up their marriage make the decision a no-brainer. Once aboard, Mercedes is surprised to see two people she met through her ex-boyfriend Lorenzo: former University of Havana professor Selfa Segarra and down-on-his-luck Spanish writer Javier Jurado. Even stranger: they also received a free cruise.

When Selfa disappears on their first day at sea, Mercedes and Javier begin to wonder if their presence on the cruise is more than coincidence. Mercedes confides her worries to her husband, but he convinces her that it's all in her head. However, when Javier dies under mysterious circumstances after disembarking in Havana, and Nolan is nowhere to be found, Mercedes scrambles through the city looking for him, fearing her suspicions were correct all along.

### QUEEN OF BONES

Set between Cubas twenty years apart, Havana native Teresa Dovalpage's new murder mystery explores lingering grudges between old friends and lovers separated by Castro's final sanctioned raft exodus.

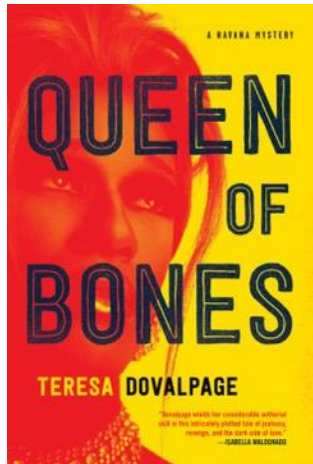
Juan, a Cuban construction worker who has settled in Albuquerque, returns to Havana for the first time since fleeing Cuba by raft twenty years ago. He is traveling with his American wife, Sharon, and hopes to reconnect with Victor, his best friend from college—and, unbeknownst to Sharon, he also hopes to discover what has become of two ex-girlfriends, Elsa and Rosita. Juan is surprised to learn that Victor has become Victoria and runs a popular drag show at the local hot spot Café Arabia. Elsa has married a wealthy foreigner, and Rosita, still single, works at the Havana cemetery. When one of these women turns up dead, it will cost Padrino, a Santería priest and former detective on the Havana police force, more than he expects to untangle the group's lies and hunt down the killer.

### DEATH COMES IN THROUGH THE KITCHEN

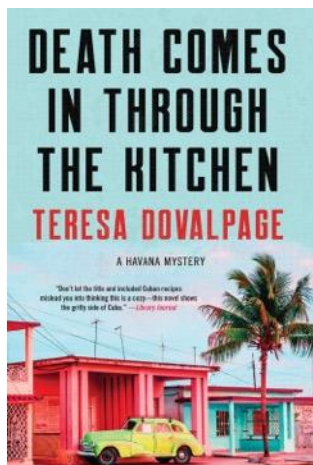
Don't let the authentic Cuban recipes fool you: This is no cozy mystery. Set in Havana during the Black Spring of 2003, a charming but poison-laced culinary mystery reveals the darker side of the modern Revolution.

Matt, a San Diego journalist, arrives in Havana to marry his girlfriend, Yarmila, a 24-year-old Cuban woman whom he first met through her food blog. But Yarmi isn't there to meet him at the airport, and when he hitches a ride to her apartment, he finds her lying dead in the bathtub. With Yarmi's murder, lovelorn Matt is immediately embroiled in a Cuban adventure he didn't bargain for. The police and secret service have him down as their main suspect, and in an effort to clear his name, he must embark on his own investigation into what really happened. The more Matt learns about his erstwhile fiancée, though, the more he realizes he had no idea who she was at all—but did anyone?

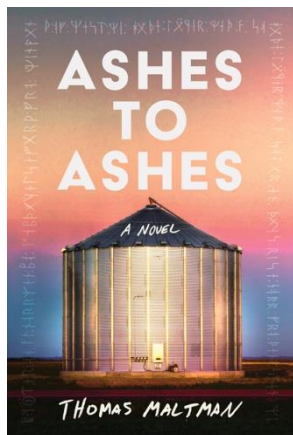
**US Publication Date:**  
December 2021  
**Rights Available:** World



**US Publication Date:**  
November 2019  
**Rights Available:** World



**US Publication Date:**  
March 2018  
**Rights Available:** World



## ASHES TO ASHES

by Thomas Maltman

Small-town Minnesota teenager Basil “The Brute” Thorson—a shy, reluctant wrestling star and “special” tracked into special education classes—vows to make his family whole again in the wake of multiple tragedies, during a year in which his community is roiled by strange religious and mythological events.

Another perceptive and empathetic novel from the author of *Indie Next* and *All Iowa Reads* selection *Little Wolves*, blending myth, history, and religion with a nuanced look at contemporary rural life, perfect for fans of Marilynne Robinson and Paul Harding.

In the prairie town of Andwhen, Minnesota, a small congregation doesn’t know if they’ve been blessed or cursed when the ashes administered during an Ash Wednesday service won’t wash off. This event leads Basil, a “gentle giant” of a teen, to make a secret vow to save his family through prayer and fasting. His family is in a difficult place, stricken by a recent farming accident and his mother’s decade-long confinement to a state mental hospital. Basil keeps his struggles secret from his two outsider friends, Lukas and Morgan (the three self-identifying as “a gay, a goth, and a giant”). When the trio discovers what may be the centuries-old remains of a Viking explorer in a local meadow, the find brings its own complications, as folk history clashes with the agendas of online racists. Meanwhile, Basil’s unrelenting commitment to his fast erodes the life he thought he knew, and the world around him sharpens with razor-edged clarity.

*Ashes to Ashes* explores the stories we tell ourselves about our families and our larger histories, blending elements of Norse saga with a fine-grained examination of rural Midwestern life at the start of the pandemic. This is Thomas Maltman’s most ambitious novel yet, mixing forms and eras to reveal the lives and struggles of the teens and adults of Andwhen, Minnesota.

**US Publication Date:**

July 2025, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for Thomas Maltman**

“Took my breath away . . . as rich in myth and metaphors as Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*.”

—*Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*

“A spiritual quest for meaning, a lamentation on loneliness, and a tense tale of the infectious nature of ‘paranoia and fear.’ If you ask me, it’s a parable for our time.”

—*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

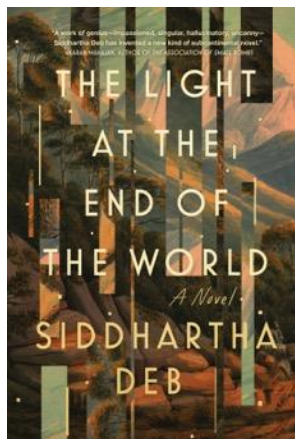
“What Maltman offers readers is nothing less than a brilliant, compelling tale steeped in allegory and dripping with menace. . . Once again, Thomas Maltman proves himself to be among the finest writers publishing today.”

—*William Kent Krueger, author of This Tender Land*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF:** Paul Harding, Louise Erdrich, Ottessa Moshfegh, and Marilynne Robinson; readers of thought-provoking literary fiction; anyone looking for stories with divine themes.
- **RELIGIOUS MYSTICISM:** The plot explores the wide-reaching impacts that religion has on vulnerable minds, written in Maltman’s trademark haunting style.
- **RURAL FICTION:** Maltman is best known for his work describing the realities of small-town life. This latest book is an excellent addition to that catalog.
- **ATMOSPHERIC:** Grit Lit at its finest. Author’s prose is beautiful, by turns sparse and soaring, and his characters authentic.
- **REGIONAL BESTSELLER:** Author is an award winner and a regional bestseller in the American Midwest.

**Thomas Maltman** has an MFA from Minnesota State University, Mankato. His first novel, *The Night Birds*, won an Alex Award, a Spur Award, and the Friends of American Writers Literary Award. His second novel, *Little Wolves*, was an Indie Next pick and an All Iowa Reads selection. He teaches at Normandale Community College and lives in the Twin Cities area.



## THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE WORLD

by Siddhartha Deb

**Connecting India's tumultuous 19th and 20th centuries to its distant past and its potentially apocalyptic future, this sweeping tale of rebellion, courage, and brutality reinvents fiction for our time.**

Delhi, the near future: Bibi, a low-ranking employee of a global consulting firm, is tasked with finding a man long thought to be dead but who now appears to be the source of a vast collection of documents. The trove purports to reveal the secrets of the Indian government, including detention centers, mutated creatures, engineered viruses, experimental weapons, and alien wrecks discovered in remote mountain areas.

Bhopal, 1984: an assassin tracks his prey through an Indian city that will shortly be the site of the worst industrial disaster in the history of the world.

Calcutta, 1947: a veterinary student's life and work connect him to an ancient Vedic aircraft that might stave off genocide.

And in 1859, a British soldier rides with his detachment to the Himalayas in search of the last surviving leader of an anti-colonial rebellion.

These timelines interweave to form a kaleidoscopic, epic novel in which each protagonist must come to terms with the buried truths of their times as well as with the parallel universe that connects them all, through automatons, spirits, spacecraft, and aliens. *The Light at the End of the World*, Siddhartha Deb's first novel in fifteen years, is a magisterial work of shifting forms, expanding the possibilities of fiction while bringing to life the India of our times.

### US Publication Date:

May 2023, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World, except South Asia

### Territories Sold:

- France (Editions Banyan)

### Praise for *The Light at the End of the World*

***A New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice  
*Library Journal* Best Literary Fiction of 2023**

"Extraordinary . . . I was in awe of Deb's imagination and razor-sharp prose. The hallucinatory quality of his narrative reminded me of William Burroughs's 'Naked Lunch,' while its apocalyptic trajectory had echoes of Cormac McCarthy's 'Blood Meridian' . . . Whatever the author's intent, I felt privileged to have been on an odyssey quite unlike any other."

—**Abraham Verghese, *The New York Times Book Review***

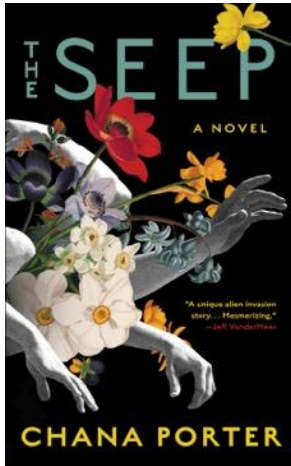
"*The Light at the End of the World* is full of intriguing puzzles and opacities, but what brings it to life is less its inventiveness than its galvanizing anger, its outraged awareness of exploitation and cruelty. It travels, unbounded, into the past and the future, yet it always meets the reader in the middle of these destinations, the broken world of the present."

—***The Wall Street Journal***

**Siddhartha Deb** was born in northeastern India and lives in Harlem, New York. He is the author of the novels *The Point of Return*, a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year, and *An Outline of the Republic*, longlisted for the International Dublin Literary Award. His nonfiction book, *The Beautiful and the Damned*, was a finalist for the Orwell Prize and received the PEN Open award. Deb's journalism and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *n+1*, *The Nation*, and *Dissent*.

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Don DeLillo, Arundhati Roy, Olga Tokarczuk, Karan Mahajan, and David Mitchell; readers of experimental, historical, and magical realism fiction; for readers interested in India, both present and historical.
- **TOPICALLY COMPLEX:** Covering a range of topics as diverse as political corruption, genetic experimentation, pollution, and steampunk technology, this book truly has something for everyone.
- **GENRE CROSSOVER:** With elements of speculative fiction, historical fiction, horror, and literary fiction, there is an angle here for nearly every kind of reader.
- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Siddhartha Deb's first three books, two fiction and one nonfiction, were extremely well-received at time of publication—critics will be excited to see him return.
- **IMMERSIVE READ:** Written in a detailed, almost dreamlike style, *The Light at the End of the World* is absolutely immersive, inviting readers to forget their current life in lieu of exploring the one Deb creates.



## THE SEEP

by Chana Porter

**A blend of searing social commentary and speculative fiction, Chana Porter's fresh, pointed debut explores a strange new world in the wake of a benign alien invasion.**

Trina FastHorse Goldberg-Oneka is a fifty-year-old trans woman whose life is irreversibly altered in the wake of a gentle—but nonetheless world-changing—invasion by an alien entity called The Seep. Through *The Seep*, everything is connected. Capitalism falls, hierarchies and barriers are broken down; if something can be imagined, it is possible.

Trina and her wife, Deeba, live blissfully under The Seep's utopian influence—until Deeba begins to imagine what it might be like to be reborn as a baby, which will give her the chance at an even better life. Using Seeptech to make this dream a reality, Deeba moves on to a new existence, leaving Trina devastated.

Heartbroken and deep into an alcoholic binge, Trina follows a lost boy she encounters, embarking on an unexpected quest. In her attempt to save him from The Seep, she will confront not only one of its most avid devotees, but the terrifying void that Deeba has left behind. A strange new elegy of love and loss, *The Seep* explores grief, alienation, and the ache of moving on.

**A 2021 Lambda Literary Award Finalist**  
**A *Times* (UK) Best Sci-fi Book of 2021**

**“A unique alien invasion story that focuses on the human and the myriad ways we see and don't see our own world. Mesmerizing.”**  
**—Jeff VanderMeer**

### US Publication Date:

December 2020,  
 Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- UK (Titan)
- Turkey (Penguin Kitap)
- Spain (Apache)

### Praise for *The Seep*

“The standard canard is that utopian settings are boring, monolithic, didactic, and make for bad fiction. How lucky we are to have Chana Porter to blow such nonsense out of the water with this moving and beautiful book.”

—China Miéville

“[A] deeply impressive debut novel”

—Open Letters

“*The Seep* is an alien life form that comes to inhabit humanity in Chana Porter's quasi-utopian, surreal fantasy . . . A love story, a story of loss.”

—A Novel Idea, KRCB-FM

### Key Sales Handles

- **LITERARY SCI-FI:** Half plague epic, half alien invasion story with a serious political bent, this is literary sci-fi at its short, sweet best.
- **WEIRD YET ACCESSIBLE:** The language of the novel is beautiful, with a unique tongue-in-cheek voice that is wonderfully accessible to this speculative world.
- **AUTHOR BIO:** MacDowell Colony fellow, and co-founder of The Octavia Project, a program for girls and gender non-conforming youth from underserved communities.
- **LGBTQ+ DEBUT NOVEL:** The author is a playwright and teachers. This debut novel explores LGBTQ+ through the lens of speculative fiction, something rare within the genre

**Chana Porter** is a playwright, teacher, MacDowell Colony fellow, and co-founder of the Octavia Project, a STEM and fiction-writing program for girls and gender non-conforming youth from underserved communities. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, and is currently at work on her next novel.



**US Publication Date:**

January 2025,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**OUR WINTER MONSTER**

by Dennis Mahoney

**Chilling holiday horror about an unhappy couple running from their problems and straight into the maw of a terrifying beast, perfect for fans of Paul Tremblay and Sara Gran**

For the last year, Holly and Brian have been out of sync. Neither can forget what happened that one winter evening; neither can forgive what's happened since. Tonight, Holly and Brian race toward Pinebuck, New York, trying to outrun a blizzard on their way to the ski village getaway they hope will save their relationship. But soon they lose control of the car—and then of themselves.

Now Sheriff Kendra Book is getting calls about a couple in trouble—along with reports of a brutal and mysterious creature rampaging through town, leaving a trail of crushed cars, wrecked buildings, and mangled bodies in the snow.

To Kendra, who lost another couple to the snow just seven weeks ago, the danger feels personal. But not as personal as it feels to Holly and Brian, who are starting to see the past, the present, and themselves in a monstrous new light . . .

Mahoney's exhilarating story moves like an avalanche, but its desperate characters, claustrophobic setting, and shocking displays of gore will stay with you long after the snow has melted. *Our Winter Monster* captures the horrifying moments that test if we're strong enough to weather the worst—and asks who we might survive the storm with.

**Praise for *Our Winter Monster***

“Like a couples therapy session straight out of our nightmares, *Our Winter Monster* serves up a slab of profoundly unsettling relationship terror—probing into the very nature of love by exploring what brings us together and what tears us apart—while ripping the reader to pieces in the process. Dennis Mahoney is just the horror counselor we readers need to see us through this gripping chiller and survive.”

—Clay McLeod Chapman, author of *What Kind of Mother and Ghost Eaters*

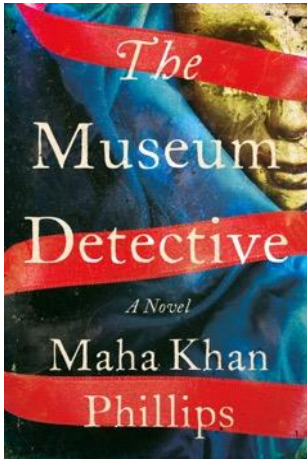
“Dennis Mahoney’s *Our Winter Monster* is all the fun of ’80s horror through a modern lens—wild, gleeful horror at its best.”

—Sarah Langan, Bram Stoker Award-winning author of *Good Neighbors*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF:** Paul Tremblay, Stephen Graham Jones, Iain Reid, Max Brooks; horror fiction centered around couples/relationships; classic horror fiction; very scary movies.
- **HOLIDAY HORROR:** Taking place over the winter holidays and in a seemingly idyllic ski town, this is the perfect read for when you're snowed in and feeling spooky.
- **CREATURE FEATURE:** The title isn't metaphorical . . . there is genuinely a winter monster in this book, and you'll love reading about the havoc it wreaks.
- **PSYCHOLOGICAL, PERSONAL:** Along with the monstrous terror, the real gut punches in this book come from the relationship between Holly and Brian. It's like couples' therapy gone very, very wrong.
- **BEAUTIFUL WRITING:** Dennis Mahoney's language is immersive and poetic—even when the blood is flowing.
- **GENRE AFICIONADO AUTHOR:** Dennis Mahoney is a huge fan both of classic and new horror, and is excited to commit to a career in horror at Hell's Hundred.

**Dennis Mahoney** is the author of *Fellow Mortals* (FSG, 2013), a Booklist Top Ten Debut; *Bell Weather* (Holt, 2015), an Indie Next Pick; *Ghostlove* (Audible Originals, 2020); and *My Heart is Full of Blood* (Audible Originals, 2022). He lives in Troy, NY with his wife, son, and dog.



## THE MUSEUM DETECTIVE

by Maha Khan Phillips

Archaeologist Dr. Gul Delani's investigation into a sensational discovery gets complicated—and personal—when it collides with her years-long search for a missing family member. Inspired by a real-life antiquities scandal in Pakistan, this gripping, whip-smart, and heart-wrenching series opener is perfect for fans of Sue Grafton and Elsa Hart—and introduces an unforgettable new sleuth to the crime fiction canon.

When Dr. Gul Delani receives a call in the middle of the night from the Sindh police, she thinks they may have finally found her niece, Mahnaz—a precocious, politically conscious teenage girl who went missing three years prior. Gul has been racked with grief since Mahnaz's disappearance, and distracts herself through work: she's a talented curator at the Museum of Heritage and History in Karachi, one of the country's leading experts in archaeology and ancient civilizations, a hard-won position for a woman.

### US Publication Date:

April 2025, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

But there is no news of Mahnaz. Instead, Gul is summoned to a narcotics investigation in a remote desert region in western Pakistan. In her wildest dreams, Gul couldn't have imagined what she'd find there: amid a drug bust gone wrong, there is a mummy—life-size, seemingly authentic, its sarcophagus decorated with symbols from Persepolis, the capital of the Achaemenid Empire. The discovery confounds everyone. It is both too good to be true, and for Gul, too precious to leave in careless or corrupt hands.

Aided by her team of unlikely misfits, Gul will stop at nothing to get to the bottom of it, even as her quest for the truth puts her in the throes of a dangerous conspiracy and threatens to collide with her ongoing search for Mahnaz. A portrait of a city fueled by corruption and a woman relentlessly in pursuit of justice, *The Museum Detective* is an exciting, gritty new crime thriller that announces a whip-smart and brilliant sleuth and builds to a stunning, emotional conclusion that readers won't soon forget.

### Praise for Maha Khan Phillips

“Here is some competition for Dan Brown in how to turn patchwork history into a page-turner . . . A delightful read.”

—*The Times of India*

“Unputdownable.”

—*Kamila Shamsie, author of Home Fire*

“With hints of James Bond, Lara Croft, Indiana Jones and yes, it must be said, the Dan Brown novels, it is hardly surprising that there isn't a dull moment in this frantically-paced historical thriller.”

—*Newsline Magazine*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Sue Grafton, Elsa Hart, and other authors of female-driven crime fiction; readers interested in archaeology; readers hungry for narratives about the Middle East.
- **ARCHAEOLOGY MYSTERY:** Inspired by a fascinating real-life case, this crime novel immerses readers in the world of modern museum archaeology.
- **EXPLORE PAKISTAN:** A country rarely depicted from the perspective of someone born and raised there, Pakistan emerges in this book as a vibrant and exciting place.
- **NEW SERIES:** We expect readers to fall in love with Gul Delani, the whip-smart titular museum detective, and follow her journey over the multiple books of this planned series.
- **BREAKOUT AUTHOR:** This will be the first time Maha Khan Phillips's books have been published in the US; she has a prominent platform in India, but we are excited to present her work to our audience.

**Maha Khan Phillips** is a multiple award-winning financial journalist, and the author of *Beautiful from This Angle*, *The Mystery of the Aagnee Ruby*, and *The Curse of Mohenjo Daro*. She grew up in Karachi, Pakistan. She has a bachelor's degree in Politics and International Relations and a masters in International Conflict Analysis from the University of Kent at Canterbury. In 2006, she completed a master's degree in Creative Writing from City University in London, where she currently lives with her husband and son.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## JACKSON ALONE

by Jose Ando; translated by Kalau Almony

**A thrilling prize-winning debut from one of Japan's brightest new novelists.**

Half-Japanese, half-somewhere-in-Africa-n. Used to work as a model. Apparently might be gay. Rumors abound about massage therapist Jackson. When someone accidentally scans a QR code on his shirt that links to a violent sexual video involving a Black man, no one believes Jackson's denials about it being him in the video.

Investigating himself, Jackson meets three other Black men entangled in the situation and they soon realize that people's inability to differentiate them is something they can turn to their advantage, exacting retribution on those who have wronged them in the past, including whoever is behind that enigmatic video . . .

With a razor-sharp opening that brings to mind *Such a Fun Age*, and reaching an explosive finale in a manner reminiscent of *I May Destroy You*, this is a page-turning exploration of race, digital culture, belonging, and the hostility of societies that are supposed to protect us. Written with bite but also with surprising tenderness, *Jackson Alone* asks complex questions about how we see ourselves and how we see others, as well as what it really means to get revenge.

**US Publication Date:**

January 2026,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

- UK (Footnote)

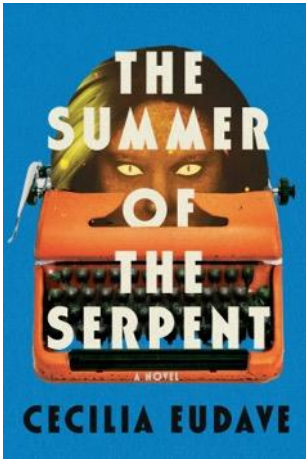
**Praise for *Jackson Alone***

TK!

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF:** literature in translation, Fuminori Nakamura, Kiley Reid, and James Han Mattson; readers of tech thrillers; readers with an interest in the Black experience.
- **BLACK IN JAPAN:** Writing from personal experience, Jose Ando's debut novel covers the reality of life as a mixed-race Black person living in Japan. Not a commonly found perspective in literature, and something worth learning about.
- **TECH THRILLER:** This book is perfectly tapped into the modern moment, as the action is kicked off via QR code; however, the themes of betrayal, identity, and revenge are timeless.
- **REVENGE:** Stories where underdogs get revenge on those who have hurt them are always popular. No punches are pulled here as Jackson and his new friends fight to get their lives back.
- **DEBUT AUTHOR:** Jose Ando is a quickly rising star in Japan, and this is his first novel—as well as his first work to be translated into English. We are excited to build his platform in the US and worldwide.

**Jose Ando** made his debut as a novelist with *Jackson Alone*. The novel was awarded the 59th Bungei Prize and was a finalist for the 168th Akutagawa Prize. His second novel, *The Camouflage Man*, was also a finalist for the Akutagawa Prize. Ando was born in Tokyo in 1994 and is of mixed Asian and African heritage.



## THE SUMMER OF THE SERPENT

by Cecilia Eudave; translated by Robin Myers

**A horror-infused, polyphonic work about the violence and cruelty seething in a late-70s Guadalajara neighborhood**

At a traveling fair, a young girl visiting with her family will ask a “serpent woman” to tell her future. The serpent woman’s answer is cryptic, but back in their neighborhood, the lives of the girl and her sister will be haunted by a ghost and a boa as their world shimmers between the real and unreal.

*The Summer of the Serpent* gives us a multi-faceted, multi-textured look at the sisters, their family, and their neighbors caught in the strange intense forces afflicting the neighborhood throughout that summer, much of it seemingly related from 40 years later, in more or less our own present.

### US Publication Date:

June 2026, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *The Summer of the Serpent*

TK!

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF SAMANTA SCHWEBLIN:** and other authors of the "narrative of the unusual" coming out of Latin America; readers of literature in translation; readers of horror-tinged literary fiction.
- **SURREAL SUMMER:** Taking readers through one twisted summer and its aftermath, this slim volume packs a haunting punch.
- **MEXICAN LITERATURE PROJECT:** Soho is planning to publish more boundary-pushing work from Mexico, and this is the perfect first title for this initiative.
- **IMMERSIVE AND CREEPY:** Thanks to Robin Myers' expert translation, the narration of this book is as intriguing as it is hypnotic.
- **ENGLISH DEBUT:** Though the author has published multiple volumes of short fiction and another novel in Spanish, this is the first time her work will be reaching an English-language audience. She was featured in a *New York Times* article about the subgenre she writes in and is well-positioned for a breakout moment.

**Cecilia Eudave** lives in Guadalajara, Mexico, and teaches at the Universidad de Guadalajara. She is the author of the story collections *Técnicamente humanos*, *En primera persona*, and *Registro de Imposibles*, as well as another novel, *Bestiaria vida*, which won the Juan García Ponce Literary Award.



Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## ABSENCE

by Andrew Dana Hudson

In a near-future America ravaged by Absence—the sudden disappearance of people into thin air, one-by-one, never to return—agents Harvey Ellis and Shonda Erins of the Bureau of Depopulation Affairs must unravel a mystery that could answer the impenetrable question of where the absent go. A disheveled woman with no identification appears at the sheriff's office in the small town of Dawnville, Kansas, claiming to have returned from Absence.

Providing a highly-detailed description of the “life after” and a mysterious post-Absence city called Strangertown, she's either just another charlatan styling herself as a prophet or she really is Gabby Reyes—a Dawnville teenager who popped a decade before under notorious circumstances. If true, her story holds the key to understanding humanity's future and would give hope to the millions of people mourning the unfathomable disappearance of their loved ones—a group that includes Agent Ellis.

Dispatched from Kansas City to investigate the woman's claims, the agents work to uncover the truth about the supposedly returned woman while navigating a hostile town awash in conspiracy theories and with its own secrets to hide. As they get closer to an answer, Harvey finds himself caught between his professional skepticism and his personal desire for the possibility of hope in a hopeless world. Harvey wants to believe in Gabby Reyes, while Shonda scoffs at his newfound credulity, driving a wedge into their partnership and their budding romance. As rumors of Gabby's supposed return spread through town, Absence begins to ravage Dawnville. Looking for someone to blame for this rolling tragedy, the townspeople focus their ire on Gabby and the agents. Now, in a world in which no one knows how long they have left, Harvey and Shonda must unravel the mystery of Gabby Reyes before Dawnville explodes into violence and before they themselves disappear.

For fans of detective noir and readers of Tom Perrota and Jeff VanderMeer, ABSENCE is a briskly paced and taut speculative mystery that builds in tension until the dam breaks in a kinetic and revelatory climax that readers won't soon forget.

### Praise for *Absence*

TK!

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF THE LEFTOVERS:** readers of Tom Perrota, Jeff VanderMeer, and other literary sci-fi authors, readers interested in climate fiction.
- **UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY:** Readers will be engrossed in the essential mystery: why are people disappearing? Reads like a ticking clock thriller as our protagonists go on their search.
- **PEDIGREED AUTHOR:** Author is well-known for this brand of climate adjacent speculative fiction. This novel will mark a high water point for his career.

**Andrew Dana Hudson** is a speculative fiction writer, sustainability researcher, and futurist. His nonfiction has appeared in Slate, Jacobin, and others. His fiction has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize, longlisted for the BSFA, and translated into Italian. He is an active member of SFWA and attended the prestigious 2022 Clarion Workshop.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## THE LIST OF ALL POSSIBLE DESIRES

by Dylan Landis

In the third work of fiction tracking the troubled and libertine Royal family, the vulnerable young daughter, Rainey, responds to abandonment by her mother with fledgling artistic work and dark humor. We follow Rainey's coming-of-age in 1970s/ 80s Greenwich Village—the risk-loving era of sex, drugs, jazz, performance art and the dawn of HIV. We also dip back into the 1940s and 50s to see family prehistory – Rainey's father as a manipulative boy, Rainey's aunt making a terrible choice to stop an elderly woman from abuse. Ultimately she confronts her father's cruelties to become an artist, reinventing a family and learning to fend for herself.

### US Publication Date:

May 2026, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Dylan Landis

"Lush, fierce, and stunning . . . Landis's words are a butterfly and a knife, both cutting you open in necessary ways."

—**Roxane Gay**

"[Rainey is] achingly vulnerable and cruelly intimidating . . . that in-your-face mix of fear and fearlessness, carnality, control and powerlessness that is what it sometimes takes to survive as a female in America . . . But Landis never lets you forget who the true victim is. In a world where the adults behave at best like wrinkled spoiled children and at worst like criminals, there's no one more lost and vulnerable than this raging, magnificent, abandoned little girl, who manages by persistence to grow up."

—**The New York Times Book Review**

"Dylan Landis's *Rainey Royal* is like its heroine: fierce, winning, and sharp as a blade."

—**Vanity Fair**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF SHORT FICTION:** and Mary Gaitskill, Rachel Kushner, and Lauren Groff; readers of female-centric literary fiction; readers with an interest in NYC.
- **THE ROYAL FAMILY (NOT THAT ONE):** Dylan Landis makes her triumphant return with another work of fiction about the Royal family, a group of troubled libertines based in NYC. These characters are vivid, complex, and compelling.
- **NOVEL IN STORIES:** These brief narratives all weave together to form a cohesive mood as Rainey and her relatives navigate life. Eminently readable.
- **MOVING AND EMPOWERING:** Rainey eventually breaks from her family's control and learns to fend for herself--it's incredibly moving.
- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AUTHOR'S RETURN:** Dylan Landis last published a Rainey Royal novel in 2015. All her past work has done extremely well with both readers and reviewers. We are so excited she's back!

**Dylan Landis** is the author of three works of fiction about the troubled, libertine Royal family in 1970s Greenwich Village: the forthcoming novel-in-stories *List of All Possible Desires*; the novel *Rainey Royal*, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice; and the linked story collection *Normal People Don't Live Like This*. Her work has appeared in the *O. Henry Prize Stories*, *Best American Nonrequired Reading* and other anthologies, and in *Harper's Magazine*, *Bomb*, *Tin House*, *Black Clock*, the *Santa Monica Review* and elsewhere. She has received a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in fiction and lives in Los Angeles.



## THE STALKER

by Paula Bomer

**A young man combines boundless self-confidence and profound stupidity as he attempts to con his way through New York City in the early '90s. You might call him an Untalented Mr. Ripley, a Dumb American Psycho—but even as his lies and delusions become increasingly absurd, the damage he inflicts is real and remorseless.**

Robert Doughten Savile, a.k.a. “Doughty,” is the son of a once-wealthy, now hard-up family from Darien, Connecticut. Doughty lives in a perpetual cloud of delusion, convinced of his own genius, and certain that the wealth and high status that he believes to be his birthright are just around the corner. While he has zero capacity to accurately assess his own abilities or prospects, he cruises through life on the sheer force of his own sense of entitlement, dropping out of college and landing in New York City in the early '90s, a city brimming with both prosperity and desperation. He cons his way from a bed at the YMCA to a posh Soho loft, and enters abusive, gaslighting relationships with a pair of women, a bartender and a middle-aged book editor. He spins elaborate tales about his imaginary high-power job in real estate while, in reality, he passes his days watching VHS tapes of George Carlin specials, smoking crack in Thompkins Square Park, and engaging in occasional sex work in the restrooms of Grand Central Station.

Fans of true crime podcasts about con men like *Dirty John* and *Who the Hell Is Hamish?* will revel in this novel and its portrait of the sociopath as a young loser. *The Stalker* is horrifying and illuminating, shocking yet hilarious, a novel that confirms Paula Bomer as a contemporary master of the pitch-black comic novel.

**US Publication Date:**

May 2025, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for *The Stalker***

“Rarely does a book come along that rearranges perception and sings with psychological acuity. *The Stalker* is an impeccable character study of the least self-aware man on earth . . . This novel is heart-pounding, endlessly entertaining, and in complete touch with humanity. Risky and brilliant, dark as hell and biting comic as only the masters can pull off. Wholly satisfying to the final glorious moment.”

—**Chelsea Bieker, author of *Madwoman* and *Godshot***

“In her gripping new novel *The Stalker*, Paula Bomer asks what it takes to survive the most destructive forms of masculinity. Ferocious and suspenseful, one part satire and two parts cautionary tale, its pages scorched my fingertips but I couldn’t put it down.”

—**Alison B. Hart, author of *The Work Wife***

“*The Stalker* is an eyeball-scorching wonder, another brilliant addition to the Bomer canon. Paula Bomer shows us once again why she’s one of the boldest, most intense but also most precisely observant and perversely funny novelists working today.”

—**Sam Lipsyte, author of *No One Left to Come Looking for You***

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF *YOU*:** and Bret Easton Ellis and Iain Banks; readers of satirical, dark literary fiction; readers interested in New York City; and Paula Bomer's existing readership.
- **ANTIHERO:** Doughty is a total love-to-hate-him type. Readers will enjoy reading, even though they may groan at Doughty's irredeemable antics.
- **INDULGENTLY SATIRICAL:** Just as *American Psycho* satirized yuppies, Bomer is lambasting a particular slice of the upper crust, and calling out the hypocrisy of the "elite" while also laughing at their expense.
- **DARK BUT CLEVER:** Bomer's skilled narrative voice makes Doughty's horrible actions profoundly enjoyable.
- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Paula Bomer is a critical darling; her novels always ask profound questions about human existence. We're excited to have her back with us for another book!

**Paula Bomer** is the author of the novels *Tante Eva* and *Nine Months* and the story collections *Inside Madeleine* and *Baby and Other Stories*, as well as the essay collection *Mystery and Mortality*. Her work has appeared in numerous journals and magazines, including *New York Magazine*, *LA Review of Books*, *BOMB*, *Fiction*, and *The Mississippi Review*.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## WHAT BOYS LEARN

by Andromeda Romano-Lax

A gripping novel of psychological suspense that unravels one woman's relationship to her son's possible role in the suspicious death of two teenage girls in a wealthy Chicago suburb.

Abby Rosso, a high school counselor, has reason to fear the worst—not only that she is partially to blame for the recent apparent suicides of two female students, but that her son Benjamin has somehow been involved in the deaths, the details of which are still murky. It's hard for Abby to know if Benjamin's stoic and sometimes sullen behavior is normal, if she should believe him when he claims to be innocent.

Abby doesn't want to believe Benjamin could do anything terrible—but she also recognizes signs of problematic behavior. She should. Her own brother Owen is currently in prison for crimes he committed when he was just a little older than Benjamin. And Abby has more troubling memories from her own adolescence that confirm what boys and men sometimes do. As Abby faces the idea that she has made excuses for her son for years, she begins to peel back uncomfortable truths about her son's behavior as well as her past.

What hope do boys have in a world that encourages men to be "alpha males?" How far will a mother go to protect her son? *What Boys Learn* is a twisty thriller laced with cultural commentary about how boys are raised—and what they are taught they can get away with—that leans into many mothers' worst nightmares in its investigation of family, memory, and psychopathy.

**US Publication Date:**January 2026,  
Hardcover**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for Andromeda Romano-Lax**

"Impressive and richly atmospheric."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

"Riveting."

—*People Magazine*

"With great care and skill, Romano-Lax teases out the human complexities, exploring the differing values, desires and fears of the various characters while creating [an] atmosphere of chilling menace and threat."

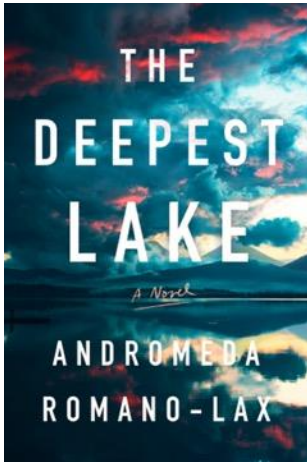
—*Sydney Morning Herald*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF:** Andrea Bartz, Lisa Jewell, Angie Kim, Celeste Ng; so-called "women's fiction"; crime fiction by and about women.
- **MOTHER-SON NARRATIVE:** This book explores the dark side of "boy moms", a very hot topic these days. The author's handling of it is nuanced and compelling.
- **CHILLING THRILLER:** The plot of *What Boys Learn* is twisty and unpredictable, as we both support and revile Abby and her son, Benjamin.
- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Author has received critical acclaim for her ability to blend genres as well as her attention to detail and beautiful prose. Her past books have each explored a totally different topic in glittering, painstaking detail, and this is her most commercial, accessible work so far.

**Andromeda Romano-Lax** is the author of five novels translated into 11 languages, including *The Spanish Boy*, A NYT Editors' Choice, and *Annie and the Wolves* (2021), selected by Booklist as a Top Ten Historical Novel. Her novels reflect her interest in topics as varied as art acquisition during the Nazi era (*The Detour*), psychological scandals of the 1920s (*Behave*), and artificial intelligence and the future of eldercare (*Plum Rains*). Born in Chicago, she lived in Alaska (where she co-founded 49 Writers), Taiwan and Mexico before settling on a small island in British Columbia, Canada.





## THE DEEPEST LAKE

by Andromeda Romano-Lax

In this atmospheric thriller set at a luxury memoir-writing workshop on the shores of Lake Atitlán, Guatemala, a grieving mother goes undercover to investigate her daughter's mysterious death.

Rose, the mother of 20-something aspiring writer Jules, has waited three months for answers about her daughter's death. Why was she swimming alone when she feared the water? Why did she stop texting days before she was last seen? When the official investigation rules the death an accidental drowning, the body possibly lost forever in Central America's deepest lake, an unsatisfied Rose travels to the memoir workshop herself. She hopes to draw her own conclusion—and find closure.

When Rose arrives, she is swept into the curious world created by her daughter's literary hero, the famous writing teacher Eva Marshall, a charismatic woman known for her candid—and controversial—memoirs. As Rose uncovers details about the days leading up to Jules's disappearance, she begins to suspect that this glamorous retreat package is hiding ugly truths. Is Lake Atitlán a place where traumatized women come to heal or a place where deeper injury is inflicted?

Perfect for fans of Delia Owens, Celeste Ng, and Julia Bartz, *The Deepest Lake* is both a sharp look at the sometimes toxic, exclusionary world of high-class writing workshops and an achingly poignant view of a mother's grief.

### US Publication Date:

May 2024, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *The Deepest Lake*

“An incisive critique of our cultural fascination with personal narrative and its concurrent demand that people—and women especially—divulge their deepest secrets for the purpose of voyeuristic entertainment. The plot keeps things moving forward at a brisk clip, but it is the deeper psychological concerns that elevate the novel.” —*Toronto Star*

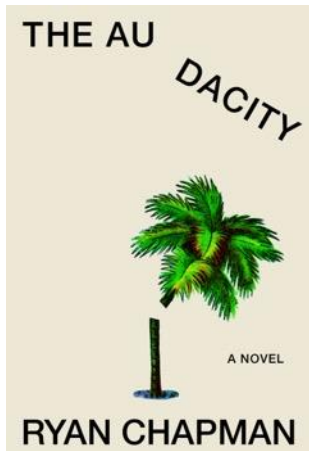
“As a seasoned novelist, Romano-Lax takes readers into Rose's point of view and also that of her daughter, Jules, to get to the bottom of this great mystery, which is as deep as the lake where Jules presumably drowned.” —*Observer*

“*The Deepest Lake* is a mesmerizing, twisty page-turner combined with a complex mother-daughter family drama. Andromeda Romano-Lax's insightful interrogation of the confessional memoir culture and the nature of obsession will stay with you long after the novel's last nail-biting pages. I couldn't put it down.” —*Angie Kim, New York Times bestselling author of Miracle Creek*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Andrea Bartz, Lisa Jewell, Jean Hanff Korelitz, Celeste Ng; so-called "women's fiction"; crime fiction by and about women.
- **SATIRICAL, EMOTIONAL:** This book explores in equal measure the toxic culture of high-profile writing retreats and the search for a missing woman. It will resonate with anyone who's ever had a complex relationship with a mentor.
- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Author has received critical acclaim for her ability to blend genres as well as her attention to detail and beautiful prose. Her past books have each explored a totally different topic in glittering, painstaking detail, and this is her most commercial, accessible work so far.
- **MOTHER-DAUGHTER NARRATIVE:** This book would make a perfect gift for the bookish mother and daughter in your life. Just warn them they might cry.
- **CHILLING THRILLER:** The plot is twisty and unpredictable; will you figure out what happened to Jules before it's too late?

**Andromeda Romano-Lax** is the author of five novels translated into 11 languages, including *The Spanish Bow*, A NYT Editors' Choice, and *Annie and the Wolves* (2021), selected by Booklist as a Top Ten Historical Novel. Her novels reflect her interest in topics as varied as art acquisition during the Nazi era (*The Detour*), psychological scandals of the 1920s (*Behave*), and artificial intelligence and the future of eldercare (*Plum Rains*). Born in Chicago, she lived in Alaska (where she co-founded 49 Writers), Taiwan and Mexico before settling on a small island in British Columbia, Canada.



## THE AUDACITY

by Ryan Chapman

A bracing satire about the implosion of a Theranos-like company, a collapsing marriage, and a billionaires' "philanthropy summit," for fans of Hari Kunzru and *The White Lotus*.

In 72 hours, a blockbuster exposé will reveal Victoria Stevens' multibillion-dollar startup as a massive fraud. And Victoria has gone missing. Has she faked her death, leaving her husband Guy Sarvananthan to face the fallout—and potential jail time? Should Guy flee to his native Sri Lanka, an outcast and a failure? Or embrace denial? Why not: He takes the corporate jet to a private Caribbean island, where the 0.0001% have gathered to decide which one of the world's biggest problems to "eradicate forever." Guy drinks and drugs his way into oblivion, through manicured jungles and aboard superyachts, amid captains of industry, legions of staff, and unlikely saboteurs. Meanwhile, Victoria narrates her side of the story from an off-the-grid location in the California desert. In scribbled diary entries shot through with cultish self-help mantras, she plots her comeback, confident she'll prove everyone wrong. Again.

Ryan Chapman's incisive novel is a swan dive into the abyss and "Martin Amis's *Money* for really late, late capitalism" (Amitava Kumar, author of *A Time Outside This Time*).

### US Publication Date:

April 2024, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *The Audacity*

"Fearless, irreverent, and so very funny, *The Audacity* skewers the ego-driven disruption culture of the uber rich. Chapman is a master of satire, and his hilarious runs are threaded through with moving looks at American identity, grief, self-loathing and self-worth. This is a dark, timely, super smart book."

—**Kimberly King Parsons, author of *Black Light***

"There are funny books, and then there is the occasional novel that actually makes you cackle—which I did, repeatedly, as I read Ryan Chapman's *The Audacity*. It's a satire that hits on the line level, sparing none of its characters or observation from its skewering wit. Timely in its reference points, but timeless in what it says about the relationship between America, inequality, and cultural assimilation, this book is *A Modest Proposal* by way of *Succession*."—**Kevin Nguyen, author of *New Waves***

"Ryan Chapman's outstanding comic sensibility is matched by acrobatic prose of the first rank. *The Audacity* is an immersively entertaining, tightly controlled bullet of a novel."—**Teddy Wayne, author of *The Great Man Theory and Loner***

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF *THE DROPOUT*:** Perfect for anyone interested in *The Dropout* and the Theranos saga; for readers of Hari Kunzru, Don DeLillo, social satire, literary fiction.
- **AFFLUENCE SATIRE:** With shows like *Succession* and *White Lotus* taking over social media, we're hungrier than ever to see tales of rich people in big trouble. This book fits perfectly into that category.
- **MODERN AND TIMELY:** It seems like only yesterday that Elizabeth Holmes was sentenced to prison time. Keep the party going by reading about a story even more outrageous than hers.
- **BITTERLY HILARIOUS:** The book is oozing with dark, satirical humor. Laugh while you cringe at the absurd antics of these .0001-percenters, and even cry as they go down in flames.
- **WELL-CONNECTED AUTHOR:** Ryan Chapman's short fiction and essays have appeared in such elite publications as *The New Yorker* and *GQ*. This book has already been blurbed by several illustrious authors such as Kimberly King Parsons, Kevin Nguyen, and Teddy Wayne.

**Ryan Chapman** is a Sri Lankan-American writer originally from Minneapolis, Minnesota and currently based in Kingston, New York. He is the author of *Riots I Have Known*, which NPR named "one of the smartest—and best—novels of the year," among other accolades. His work has appeared online at *The New Yorker*, *GQ*, *McSweeney's*, *BookForum*, *BOMB*, *Guernica*, and *The Believer*.



## WHEN MIMI WENT MISSING

by Suja Sukumar

The splintered relationship between two Indian American cousins is at the center of this dark, twisty YA mystery—perfect for fans of Tiffany D. Jackson, Karen McManus, and Angeline Boulley.

Shy, nerdy Tanvi has always thought of her perfect cousin Mimi as her sister. Not only did Mimi's family raise Tanvi after the tragic death of her parents, fierce Mimi has always protected Tanvi at school. At least until Mimi fell under the spell of their flawless, rich classmate, Beth . . . Tanvi's biggest bully. Fearing another terrible year, Tanvi decides to take a desperate, preemptive strike—and captures an incriminating photo of Mimi and Beth at a party. When Tanvi wakes up the next day with a bump on her head, scratches on her leg, and no memory of what caused her injuries, Mimi is gone.

Tanvi begins to fill the gaps in her memory and question Mimi's friends and enemies, hoping to bring her cousin home. But when new evidence comes to light, the search for Mimi takes a dark turn as the cops announce that they are now hunting a murderer. Could Tanvi be the killer?

To save her family, Tanvi must revisit the worst night of her life and the darkest parts of her past to discover if she's capable of murder—and the truth of what happened to Mimi.

### US Publication Date:

November 2024,  
Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Suja Sukumar

“[A] heartstopping debut.”—**Teen Vogue**

“*When Mimi Went Missing* is a chilling psychological thriller that delves deep into the bonds of sisterhood, grief, trauma, and loss. Suja Sukumar displays a real gift at portraying the complex dynamics between teen girls. A promising debut!”

—**Tanaz Bhathena, award-winning author of *A Girl Like That***

“*When Mimi Went Missing* had me up all night missing sleep, but I had to find out what happened to Tanvi and her cousin. It's a fast-paced, heart pounding, character driven story that's perfect for thriller lovers. It's hard to believe this is Suja Sukumar's debut novel. A much needed addition to the YA crime fiction genre, she's already been added to my must-read author list!”—**Kellye Garrett, award-winning author of *Missing White Woman***

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** YA mystery/thrillers, Kara Thomas, Courtney Summers, and Tiffany Jackson.
- **AUTHENTIC VOICE:** Suja Sukumar drew from her own experiences growing up Indian American in Michigan to write *When Mimi Went Missing*.
- **YA MYSTERY:** Readers will love trying to figure out what happened to Mimi, and they'll be shocked when they discover the truth.
- **AFFECTING CHARACTER:** Tanvi is a complex protagonist whose struggles feel viscerally real.

**Suja Sukumar** loves hanging out in coffee shops and Indian restaurants, drawing inspiration from naan and malai kofta, masala chai and lassi. She is a senior staff physician at a health system in suburban Detroit, where she lives with her husband, two wonderful, beautiful kids, and an elderly cat. She is also a member of SCBWI and an alum of Author Mentor Match.



## THE YOMIGAERI TUNNEL

by Kelly Murashige

This speculative coming-of-age YA novel follows a teenager as she undertakes a magical journey to bring her deceased childhood friend back to life.

A poignant quest for hope with original, fantastical twists, perfect for fans of Dustin Thao and Ann Liang.

Monika can't bring herself to celebrate her last summer before college. Instead, she's still grieving the loss of the one classmate who didn't make it to graduation, a boy named Shun with whom she had a complicated relationship.

Then, during her final Japanese Club meeting, Monika hears about the Yomigaeri Tunnel, a local urban legend. Those who venture into this mythological passageway undergo harrowing trials to confront their hidden secrets and worst fears. According to the lore, anyone who makes it through the journey is rewarded with the ability to resurrect one soul from the dead.

Monika jumps at the chance to bring back Shun, but she soon discovers she's not alone. Sharp-tongued and fierce Shiori is hell-bent on reviving her mother and won't let anyone stop her. As Monika and Shiori confront the ghosts of their pasts, they have to decide: Are they friends, or foes?

This emotional, offbeat book about hope and healing is an essential read for anyone who's ever needed a friend in the darkness.

### US Publication Date:

July 2025, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *The Yomigaeri Tunnel*

"I loved this book. It's a beautifully written, heartfelt, and imaginative journey through interconnected layers of grief, hope, love, and friendship. I laughed and cried and saw life at the end of the tunnel."

—Cynthia Hand, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lady Janies* series

"A haunting, gorgeous meditation on coming of age, forging human connections, and walking into the light from grief's shadow. Get ready for this book to move and heal you."

—Jeff Zentner, award-winning author of *The Serpent King*

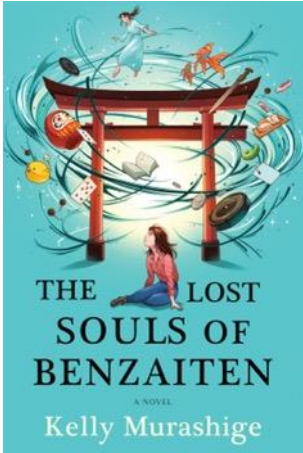
"A highly inventive story about grief and the long path to healing told with aching clarity."

—Shivaun Plozza, author of *The Worst Perfect Moment*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF URBAN FANTASY:** And for readers of Dustin Thao, Ann Liang, and Adam Silvera; for readers of YA interested in magical realism and mental health; for readers of low-concept "soft" fantasy; for readers with interest in Japanese mythology.
- **GRIEF AND FRIENDSHIP:** Following a teenage girl who's willing to make big sacrifices to resurrect a classmate, this book explores moving themes of memory and trauma.
- **OFFBEAT, EMOTIONAL:** While the action and plot of this book are sometimes quirky, the energy is fundamentally poignant and heartwrenching as Monika comes into her own—all the pain of adolescence is on beautiful, bittersweet display here.
- **MENTAL HEALTH REPRESENTATION:** Murashige depicts the protagonist's mental health experience with tenderness and nuance.
- **PROMISING AUTHOR:** Kelly's debut, *The Lost Souls of Benzaiten*, is already racking up praise from other authors and media outlets for its refreshing take on YA fiction. This book is even stronger, and we can't wait to share it with the world.





## THE LOST SOULS OF BENZAITEN

by Kelly Murashige

This heartfelt and quirky young adult fantasy debut follows a young outcast on a journey of transformation . . . into a robot vacuum cleaner.

A fresh twist on Japanese mythology that doubles as a deep, honest dive into mental health.

“I wish to become one of those round vacuum cleaner robots.” That’s what Machi prays for at the altar of Japanese goddess Benzaiten. Ever since her two best friends decided they want nothing to do with her, Machi hasn’t been able to speak. After months of online school and a carousel of therapists, she can no longer see the point of being human. She doesn’t expect Benzaiten to hear her prayer, much less offer a different prayer on Machi’s behalf—that Machi discover the beauty of humanity, ultimately restoring her to her previous self.

### US Publication Date:

July 2024, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

Benzaiten is enamored with the human world and, as she’s the goddess of love, humanity is enamored right back. Being second-best once again isn’t helping Machi move past her trauma, and with each adventure they share, Machi is reminded of everything she’s lost. It isn’t until Machi starts interacting with the souls of the dead—which tends to happen around Benzaiten—that she starts to rediscover her place among the living.

From an author to watch, *The Lost Souls of Benzaiten* is a highly original debut about the nature of happiness and the potential for healing.

### Praise for *The Lost Souls of Benzaiten*

“[A] novel about trauma, mental health, and understanding how many ways a person who doesn’t speak can still communicate . . . While the story frequently feels so grounded in reality, and in the struggles of coping—and of wanting to cope—that come with losing friends and loved ones, that makes the divine elements feel even more whimsical and dazzling.”

—**Paste Magazine**

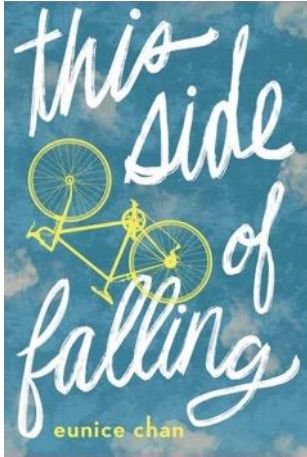
“A shimmering story for anyone who’s ever been hurt enough to want to be somewhere—or even something—else, Kelly Murashige’s vulnerable, magical tale chronicles the sweetness that can draw us back into the world and toward each other, even after our hearts are broken.”

—**Jodi Lynn Anderson, *New York Times* bestselling author**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF URBAN FANTASY:** And for readers of Emily XR Pan, Ann Liang, and Ashley Woodfolk; for readers of YA interested in magical realism; for readers of low-concept “soft” fantasy; for readers with interest in Japanese mythology.
- **UNIQUE DEBUT:** What other book stars a girl trying to turn into a Roomba? Murashige’s debut is sure to rocket her onto the YA scene with a bang.
- **WHIMSICAL, EMOTIONAL:** While the action and plot of this book are quirky and lively, the energy is often poignant and heartwrenching as Machi comes into her own—all the pain of adolescence is on beautiful, bittersweet display here.
- **DISABILITY REPRESENTATION:** The protagonist of this book, Machi, has selective mutism. Murashige depicts her experience with tenderness and nuance.
- **JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY:** Myth retellings are hotter now than ever, and this book will appeal to readers of that genre, while introducing them to a new pantheon they might not be as familiar with.

Born and raised in Hawai‘i, **Kelly Murashige** is a writer, reader, and dreamer. She writes for both young adult and adult audiences and specializes in contemporary fiction with fantastical twists based on Japanese mythology and culture. Despite being a total introvert, she hopes to connect with readers around the world.



## THIS SIDE OF FALLING

by Eunice Chan

In a devastatingly honest coming-of-age debut, a Chinese American teen navigates grief in the wake of her first love's death by suicide.

Lyrical and deeply affecting, this nuanced depiction of teen heartache is perfect for fans of Dustin Thao, Kathleen Glasgow, and Laura Nowlin.

*Not real.* The mantra seventeen-year-old Nina repeats to herself the morning after her almost-boyfriend, Ethan Travvers, jumped onto the tracks in front of a freight train. The two words that keep the truth just far enough away so the loss can't touch her, grief can't break her. After all, there is the family image to uphold, especially when her father's startup is falling apart. Maintaining the illusion of wholeness and success is everything to Nina's mom and grandma.

The pretense is working—until Nina's all-star older sister, Carmen, is dismissed from college and abruptly returns home. Carmen's arrival and strange behavior dig up buried memories, leading Nina to wonder if there is more to the story of Ethan than even she knew. The truth is not what she wants to believe: about Carmen, about Ethan, but mostly, about herself.

### US Publication Date:

June 2025, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Eunice Chan

TK!

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Jennifer Niven, Emily XR Pan, Jasmine Warga; YA fiction dealing with mental health; coming-of-age novels.
- **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS:** Although this book is appropriate for young readers, it portrays the topic of mental health in detail, as the protagonist grieves her boyfriend's suicide.
- **CHINESE-AMERICAN REPRESENTATION:** The author is also Chinese-American, and drew from her experience growing up in California to write Nina's story.
- **POIGNANT DEBUT:** This moving, emotional coming-of-age novel is an amazing way to introduce Eunice Chan to readers all over the globe. They'll be eager to see what she writes next.

**Eunice Chan** hails from Davis, California and is a graduate of UC Davis. She has completed a program in Special Publishing with the Institute of Children's Literature and has published fiction with Clubhouse magazine. Currently, she lives in Phoenix, Arizona and works full time as a civil engineer and part time as a freelance editor.



## SUNLIGHT PLAYING OVER A MOUNTAIN

by Selina Li Bi

**A lyrical, mythology-tinged debut novel about a Chinese-Filipino teenager whose world of daydreams is destroyed by a family secret—perfect for fans of Emily X.R. Pan and Ann Liang.**

Jasmine Cheng has grown up on stories spun by her beautiful, free-spirited mother. Together, they're the Phoenix and Dragon. Jasmine's father is the god Pangu, creator of the heavens and earth. Her mother may have boyfriends, but Jasmine chases them away. For her mother, love brings chaos, sleepless nights, and frightening episodes, and it's Jasmine's job to keep their home life stable—especially now that a social worker has started to keep tabs on them.

When the sudden arrival of Cal, her mother's old flame, fractures their delicate world, events unfold that will send Jasmine on a cross-country journey to the West Coast—and into her past. Trapped in a tangle of fantasy and reality, Jasmine becomes determined to find the truth, even while her mother's refusal to be honest drives a deeper wedge between them. Will the crack in their fantasy destroy her, or finally let the light in?

Selina Li Bi's magical debut perfectly portrays the pain of growing up in a less-than-magical world and introduces a remarkable new voice in young adult fiction.

### US Publication Date:

April 2025, Hardcover

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *Sunlight Playing over a Mountain*

“Jasmine contends with racism, the prospect of foster care, first love, and complicated feelings surrounding her mother's condition, circumstances which Li Bi depicts in dreamlike, Chinese mythology-tinged prose.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Emily X. R. Pan, Kelly Loy Gilbert, and Ann Liang; young adult fiction featuring AAPI characters; Chinese mythology.
- **FANTASY ELEMENTS:** Although there is no actual magic or fantasy in the book, the writing style and the content of Jasmine and her mother's daydreams is certainly fantastical.
- **MOTHER-DAUGHTER COMING-OF-AGE:** The relationship between Jasmine and her mother is central to this book, as Jasmine learns how to stand on her own and escape the "magical" world her mother has kept her living in.
- **CHINESE MYTHOLOGY:** The stories Jasmine's mother tells her are heavily influenced by classic Chinese mythology—both fascinating and informative!
- **EXCITING YA DEBUT:** Selina Li Bi draws from her own Chinese Filipino background to tell this very special story.

Selina Li Bi's writing has appeared in *Nonwhite and Woman: 131 Micro Essays on Being in the World*, *riksba: Asian American Creative Arts in Action*, *Cha: An Asian Literary Journal*, *Cricket*, and *Red Weather* Literary Magazine. She is the author of a poetry chapbook, *Displaced*, and has written several books for the children's educational market. She has an MFA in Creative Writing from Minnesota State University Moorhead and is also a certified Creativity Coach. As she is a second generation Asian American, the dichotomy of cultures in which she grew up in has weaved its way into much of her work.

**US Publication Date:**

November 2023,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

## NO ONE LEFT BUT YOU

by Tash McAdam

**A trans teen is swept up in a whirlwind friendship with lethal consequences in this taut YA thriller, for fans of Sadie, K. Ancrum and HBO's *Euphoria*.**

**BEFORE.** Newly out trans guy Max is having a hard time in school. Things have been tough since his summer romance, Danny, turned into his bully. This year, his plan is to keep his head down and graduate. All that changes when new It-girl Gloss moves to town. No one understands why perfect, polished Gloss is so interested in an introverted skater kid, but Max blooms in the hothouse of her attention. Caught between romance and obsession, he'll do whatever it takes to keep her on his side.

**AFTER.** Haircuts, makeovers, drugs, parties. It's all fun and games until someone gets killed at a rager gone terribly wrong. Max refuses to believe that Gloss did it. But if not Gloss, who? Desperate to figure out truth in the wake of tragedy, Max veers dangerously close to being implicated—and his own memories of that awful night are fuzzy.

Both sharp-edged thriller and moving coming-of-age, this gorgeously wrought novel is perfect for readers who want stories with trans characters front-and-center.

**Praise for *No One Left But You***

“Tash McAdam’s *No One Left But You* hits like lightning in the blood. A brilliant thriller, a gentle panic attack that ends so sweet and tender, it’s easy to forget you couldn’t breathe.”

—**K. Ancrum, author of *The Wicker King***

“Poignant and intoxicating.”

—**Kirkus, Starred Review**

“*No One Left But You* is a suspenseful mystery novel about grief and obsession.”

—**Foreword Reviews**

“McAdam persuasively delivers a sensitive portrait of one trans teenager’s experience navigating the roiling, uncertain emotions of adolescence amid a nail-biting murder mystery.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF *EUPHORIA*:** This book will appeal to anyone who enjoyed *Euphoria* or *Skins*; to readers of Malinda Lo, Kara Thomas, Megan Abbott, and Courtney Summers; to readers seeking queer and trans fiction; and to fans of YA thrillers.
- **COMPELLING CHARACTERS:** Readers' hearts will ache for Max, Gloss, and Dylan as the characters' choices hurtle them into danger.
- **AUTHENTIC QUEER NARRATIVE:** Since the author is trans, their portrayal of Max's struggles and successes as a newly out trans teen is sincere and detailed. Readers familiar with the topic will be able to relate to the issues McAdam expresses; readers new to queer literature will learn about various rarely-discussed aspects of being trans.
- **PULSE-POUNDING THRILLER:** Starting as a sweet story about friendship and belonging, *No One Left But You* quickly burns into a shocking and fast-paced thriller where no one can—or should—be trusted.

**Tash McAdam** is a Welsh-Canadian author, activist, and high school educator. Their publications include *The Psionics*, and the Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selections *Blood Sport* and *Sink or Swim*. They are also featured in multiple anthologies. Tash is a recipient of the Shoot for the Moon fund for trans writers, and a founding mentor with the Gender Generations Project. When they're not writing or reading you can probably find Tash in a lake, lying on the carpet thinking about monsters, or getting a new tattoo. They enjoy regular cups of tea, existential philosophy, and sharp objects.