



Soho Press  
London 2026  
World Rights Priorities

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Soho Press  
Soho Crime  
Hell's Hundred

World Rights with  
Translation

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## SALVATION

by Michael Nava

The staff attorneys at San Francisco's Capital Post-Conviction Center are united by a common ethos: in a truly civilized society, the state wouldn't be executing anyone. Their primary work is to take up cases denied on appeal, to investigate any extralegal prejudices that could've led to a wrongful conviction, a violation of habeas corpus. The CPCC is the final line of resistance before capital punishment is enacted.

When CPCC's head attorney Tony Meija-Jones gets wind of the case of Aurelio Santos, he knows he has to take it on. Something about the decision doesn't sit right with Tony. Santos is a Mexican immigrant farmworker—convicted in 1994 of a horrendous crime and incarcerated in San Quentin's death row for twenty years. But the testimony is contradictory and littered with prejudice; the defense, weak at best; the jury who tried Santos, all white, in a notoriously racist county. Guilty or not, and no matter their slim chances at overturning the decision, Tony and his team at the CPCC are Santos's last shot at salvation.

Based on a real-life legal case, award-winning author Michael Nava's thrilling magnum opus is a powerful, deeply affecting work, an unflinching examination of the American criminal justice system shaped by prejudice and power, and a testimony, timelier than ever, of the ongoing battle to protect people's right to liberty, dignity, and fairness at all costs, no matter who they are or where they come from.

**US Publication Date:**

June 2027

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for Michael Nava**

"Nava is an impassioned writer who has once again created a fascinating picture of Los Angeles at an earlier, less enlightened time, centering on gay men trying to shed the shame they have been taught and becoming proud agents of social change."

—**John M. Clum, *New York Journal of Books***

"This realistic, gritty mystery set during the AIDS crisis is an eye-opener."

—***Publishers Weekly***

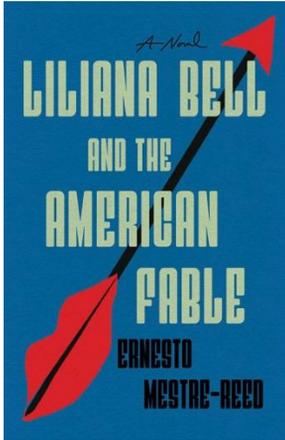
"John Grisham is usually the first name to come up in discussions of legal fiction—and justifiably so. But it's time to recognize another master of the genre: Michael Nava."

—***The Washington Post***

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR READERS OF:** John Grisham, James Patterson, Michael Connelly, legal thrillers, LGBTQ+ themes.
- **GROUNDBREAKING NARRATIVE:** Author is foundational in the crime community, especially a leader in portraying LGBTQ characters as central to his narratives.
- **HIGHLY CONNECTED:** Author has been a pillar in the crime writing community for decades.
- **BREAKOUT MOMENT:** Author has self-published for almost his entire career; Soho is proud to break out this author to a mainstream audience.
- **BESTSELLING AUTHOR:** Author is a multi-award-winning author with serious crime fiction bonafides. We're thrilled to be publishing him at Soho Crime.

**Michael Nava** is the seven-time Lambda Literary Award–winning author of an acclaimed series of eight novels featuring gay, Latino criminal defense lawyer Henry Rios who Garth Greenwell, writing in *The New Yorker*, called "a detective unlike any previous protagonist in American noir." *The New York Times Book Review* has called Nava "one of our best" writers. He is also the author of a historical novel, *The City of Palaces*, set in Mexico at the beginning of the 1910 Mexican revolution.



## LILIANA BELL AND THE AMERICAN FABLE

by Ernesto Mestre-Reed

**From Havana to Miami to Washington, a darkly exuberant novel of ambition and mythmaking—a sweeping portrait of power, sacrifice, and the stories that shape nations and the families who survive them.**

Seventeen and pregnant, Cuban immigrant Liliana Bell delivers a mysterious package to *el señor Presidente*—the disgraced former U.S. leader and self-styled savior of the Western Hemisphere. When her water breaks in his Miami Beach suite, an unlikely covenant is forged. Naming her newborn *Victoria Ricarda* in his honor, Liliana leaves her abusive husband for Bobo Delgado, a banking magnate and *el señor Presidente*'s closest confidant—unaware of the grand, delusional plans the two men share to liberate Cuba and redeem their legacies.

In the ensuing decades, Liliana ascends through the corridors of American politics, becoming many things—immigrant, survivor, senator, spy—until the myths that made her threaten to consume her family. Her grandson preaches revolution from the wilderness, her daughter vanishes into the hills, and her namesake rises in Washington, torn between loyalty and escape.

Roiling through the tumult of half a century of American political history with its island neighbor, the novel closes on the days after the insurrection at the Capitol, as the boogeymen of the past crown this tale of cabals, compromises, and conspiracies that make both countries and their powerbrokers seem more similar than either would deign to admit.

### US Publication Date:

April 2026

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Ernesto Mestre-Reed

“Flourishing in its suspense and realism, the novel tells a story of recovery and resistance; Rafa puts his grief to work as he grapples with the political deeds of the deceased and the death-dealing of the state that looms over them all.”

—**Vulture**

“A sprawling historical novel that manages to be intimate in its humanity, *Sacrificio* drew me in and held me in its grip until the very last page . . . Funny and daring, with a plot that will keep readers guessing until the very end, this is the perfect read for anyone looking for fiction that is epic and socially conscious. Its length may seem daunting at first, but trust me, you won't be able to put it down.”

—**Buzzfeed**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** culture-forward literary fiction, epic fiction, Min Jin Lee, Jhumpa Lahiri, Namwali Serpeli, and literature about Cuba or Cuban Americans.
- **THE CUBAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE:** Following Cuban immigrant Liliana Bell, this novel painstakingly depicts the reality of life in Cuba and the US.
- **POLITICAL TURMOIL:** Perfect for these fractured times. Mestre-Reed uses Liliana's story as a lens through which to view the absurd state of American politics over decades.
- **IMMERSIVE:** Mestre-Reed's writing is spectacular as always. You'll be swept away by his words.
- **ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Guggenheim and MacDowell Fellow Mestre-Reed is a critical darling and a powerhouse mind. We're honored to publish him at Soho.

**Ernesto Mestre-Reed** was born in Guantánamo, Cuba, and lives in New York City. He is the author of the novels *The Lazarus Rumba*, *The Second Death of Única Aveyano*, and *Sacrificio*. He is a Guggenheim Fiction Fellow and a MacDowell Fellow and teaches at Brooklyn College. He has also translated many novels from Spanish, including Laura Esquivel's *Malinche*.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## INTO THE MILKIVERSE

by Kelly Murashige

**When a neurodiverse woman working at a cereal bar discovers sipping her customers' leftover cereal milk allows her to enter alternate worlds in which she is finally happy, she must see just how deep into the milk she will go to find success, forgiveness, and grace in a world that seems to be milking her for more than she feels she's worth.**

Twenty-seven year-old cereal bar worker Beverly "Bev" Kitsuragi struggles to connect with people around her. Her small world is populated by: her coworker Raf, a quiet ex-con; her other coworker, Sylvie, a cute but sardonic college student; and lastly, her roommate, Naoko, a copy editor for a book publisher. Lost, she is desperate to finish writing her debut novel about a boy she romantically scorned in her first year of college—she wants to complete it as an apology to him before she turns twenty-eight, ten years later. Then, one day, Bev discovers she can enter alternate timelines by drinking other people's leftover cereal milk.

In these alternate timelines, Bev discovers connections that seem impossible in life, including a bond with a sandy-haired customer she's had a long-term crush on. In another, she's an MFA student rooming with Sylvie, who says they're best friends. However, as she gets deeper into these alternate worlds, she finds even they begin to go horribly wrong.

Between these magical experiences, real-world Bev attempts to salvage her world before she loses everything.

**US Publication Date:**  
December 2026

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
Available

### Praise for Kelly Murashige

"[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**

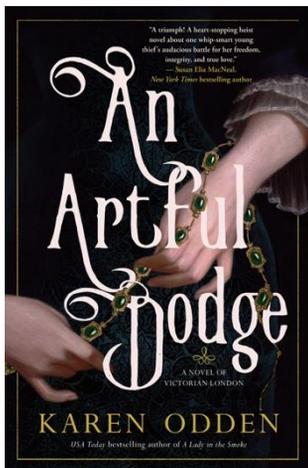
"It would be so easy to say that *The Lost Souls of Benzaiten* is a good read because it is thoughtful and intelligent and also, on more than one occasion, quite funny . . . But this book, and Machi's story, is SO MUCH MORE! . . . *The Lost Souls of Benzaiten* is a surprise; a truly lovely reading experience that I recommend most strongly to anyone who has ever been lost in a whirlwind and needs a gentle hand to lead them back."

—**Locus Magazine**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF CONVENIENCE STORE WOMAN:** and Gabrielle Zevin, Toshikazu Kawaguchi, Maggie Su; readers of magical realism, interested in Japan, Asian American literature, literary fiction about grief.
- **WRITERS ON WRITERS:** Somewhat metafiction, this is the story of a young writer trying to complete her debut novel, and the publishing world.
- **NEURODIVERSE REPRESENTATION:** Protagonist is a neurodiverse character with authenticity.
- **ADULT FICTION DEBUT:** Author is known for her magical YA novels—this is her debut into the adult fiction world, and we are so excited to be publishing her into this new space.

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.



## AN ARTFUL DODGE

by Karen Odden

Victorian London comes to vivid life in this riveting heist novel about an all-female thieving gang and one young woman's heroic plan to escape a life of crime, from the *USA Today* bestselling author of *Down a Dark River*.

She's stolen gems, purses, and hearts—but can she steal her life back from the ring of thieves that's claimed it?

London, 1879: Twenty-year-old Kit Jameson has fingers so nimble she can nick a necklace off a lady in a crowded theater without raising alarm. Kit and her dodge partner, Mary, are the highest earners in the notorious all-women thieving ring in South London's Elephant and Castle district.

Kit, whose mother had been a thief before her, dreams of a different life, one where she's not constantly on the lookout for constables and plainclothes detectives, and where a mistake or pure bad luck won't land her in the hangman's noose. She has been saving up her earnings so her younger sister, a maid for a wealthy Mayfair family, might have a shot at respectability.

Kit is very close to leaving the life entirely when the legendary former thief Maggie O'Connell brings her plans to a halt. Beautiful, charismatic Maggie has returned to reclaim leadership of the ring after twenty years in a brutal Australian penal colony. But Maggie desires more than mere wealth or power: She longs for revenge against those who sent her away. Kit, with her quick mind and dangerously clever hands, is Maggie's best weapon. If Kit wants to walk away with her life, she must carry out a heist that will demand every skill she possesses.

### US Publication Date:

June 2026

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Karen Odden

"Period and place are exceptionally well-drawn."

—**Oprah Daily**

"Enter a world of teeming and dangerous cities portrayed in vitality and amazing detail. Meet characters with tremendous courage and appetite for life, and be glad you can return at will to the present."

—**Anne Perry, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Odden's expertise in Victorian London [offers] readers a vivid depiction of life on the River Thames."

—**The Big Thrill**

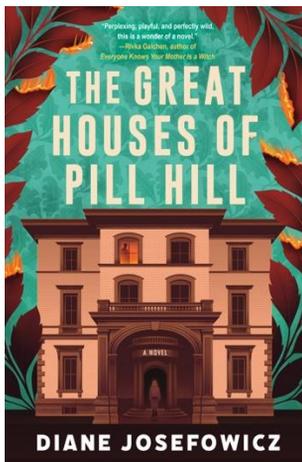
"Impossible to put down."

—**Historical Novel Society**

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF THE VICTORIAN ERA:** and readers of Deanna Raybourn, Erin Bledsoe, and Sarah Waters; for readers interested in heists and crime fiction; for readers seeking exciting female-centric historical novels.
- **GIRL GANG:** At the heart of this book is an incredible "bling ring" of lady thieves. You'll love learning about every single character as they terrorize the upper crust of 1870s London.
- **VICTORIAN LONDON AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE:** A familiar era depicted in a totally unfamiliar way.
- **IMMERSIVE AND COMPELLING:** The writing is as entrancing as the plot is thrilling!
- **BESTSELLING AUTHOR:** Karen Odden is a multi-award-winning author with serious historical and crime fiction bonafides. We're thrilled to be publishing her at Soho Crime.

**Karen Odden** received her PhD in Victorian literature from New York University. She is the author of five crime novels set in 1870s London: her *USA Today* bestselling debut, *A Lady in the Smoke*; *A Dangerous Duet* and *A Trace of Deceit*, both winners of the New Mexico-Arizona Book Awards; *Down a Dark River*, an Oprah Daily Pick; and *Under a Veiled Moon*, nominated for the Lefty, Anthony, and Agatha Awards for Best Historical. Karen serves on the national board of Sisters in Crime and is the recipient of a Friends of Scottsdale Library's annual Spirit of Literacy Award for her community outreach. She divides her time between Arizona and Utah, where she loves plotting murder while hiking the desert and mountains.



## THE GREAT HOUSES OF PILL HILL

by Diane Josefowicz

A scintillating, wickedly intricate locked-room mystery following an unconventional woman who makes miniatures of murder scenes and finds herself entangled in a real one when the client of her dream job turns up dead.

Hannah “Cookie” Cooke, an interior decorator with a sideline making miniature reproductions of crime scenes for the local police department, lands her dream job when New Preston’s wealthiest couple hires her to renovate their historic New England home. But things go spectacularly wrong when her client Chuck—with whom she is having an affair—is murdered at the housewarming party.

The detective on the case commissions one of Cookie’s miniatures to help solve the baffling murder. While grappling with her own complicated role in Chuck’s life—and the thorny layers of her own envies, resentments, and ambitions—Cookie delves into the strange details of his death, including his overly involved therapist, his wife’s nebulous textile empire, and a room decorated in nineteenth-century Egyptian kitsch hidden on the premises. In untangling the mystery, Cookie reveals an ugly truth about New Preston’s elite that might prove deadly.

At once an irreverent interpretation of the hard-boiled genre and a skewering of traditional domesticity, this show-stopping work of crime fiction is crackling with narrative voice, resulting in a read that is equally engrossing and electrifying.

**US Publication Date:**  
May 2026

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
Available

### Praise for *The Great Houses of Pill Hill*

“*The Great Houses of Pill Hill* is a witty, engrossing mystery with an immersive sense of place. Atmospheric and smart, this fresh take on the locked-room whodunit will keep you wonderfully off-balance until the very end.”—**Danielle Trussoni**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Puzzle Box*

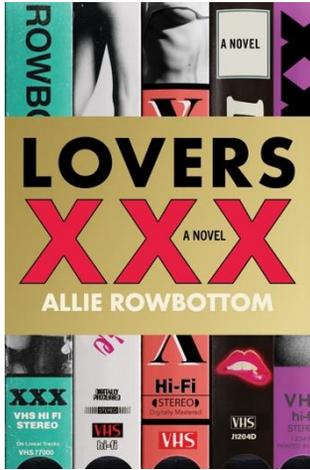
“Perplexing, playful, and perfectly wild, *The Great Houses of Pill Hill* is a wonder of a novel, one that manages its mysteries with singular style. Cookie’s way of seeing the world will upend your sense of what knowledge looks like, and of how often we know what we don’t know and don’t know what we do. Josefowicz has assembled an uncanny delight.”—**Rivka Galchen**, author of *Everyone Knows Your Mother Is a Witch*

“*The Great Houses of Pill Hill* crackles with historicity, jerry-rigged electricity, and unspent secrets between the walls. Keen, cutting, haunting . . . Josefowicz spins socio-noir into gold at every twist and dark turn.”—**Kirstin Allio**, author of *Double-Check for Sleeping Children* and winner of the **National Book Foundation’s 5 Under 35 Award**

**Diane Josefowicz** is the author of *Guardians & Saints: Stories*, *L’Air du Temps* (1985), and *Ready, Set, Oh: A Novel*. She is also the author, with Jed Z. Buchwald, of two histories of Egyptology: *The Zodiac of Paris* and *The Riddle of the Rosetta*. She serves as managing editor of the Victorian Web, the internet’s oldest and largest website devoted to Victoriana. A graduate of Brown University, she holds a PhD in History of Science from MIT and an MFA in fiction from Columbia University. She lives in Providence, Rhode Island. Find her online at [www.dianejosefowicz.com](http://www.dianejosefowicz.com).

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF:** Jonathan Lethem, Ottessa Moshfegh, and Gail Honeyman; readers of female-driven crime and literary fiction; readers with an interest in art and architecture.
- **CRIME IN MINIATURE:** Cookie makes painstakingly detailed miniatures of crime scenes—inspired by Frances Glessner Lee, “the mother of forensic science.” Fascinating and beautiful.
- **NEW ENGLAND:** Set in a fictional town in Rhode Island, this book perfectly explores the friction between old and new money in New England.
- **FANTASTIC NEW VOICE:** From the very first page, readers will be hooked on Josefowicz’s filigreed narration.
- **WELL-CONNECTED AUTHOR:** Diane Josefowicz has already published fiction and non-fiction books and has significant connections in the New England literary community. We’re honored to be bringing her into the Soho Crime family!



**LOVERS XXX**

by Allie Rowbottom

A raw and unforgettable portrait of sex, friendship, and the perilous edge of liberation for two young women—set against the neon-lit porn world of 1980s Los Angeles, from the author of *Aesthetica*

Los Angeles, 1982. Jude is eighteen, newly out of reform school and hungry for more than her small-town past can offer. Searching for her best friend, Winnie, she instead falls under the spell of Laird, an older man with a motorcycle, a needle, and a taste for danger. What begins as escape soon unravels into motel rooms, stickups, and drug binges.

Then Jude finds Winnie, reinvented as Velvet at a Sunset Strip club. Together, the two girls imagine a future: bartending, dancing, writing the novels they dream of, building a home of their own. But the same world that promises glamour and freedom is poised to consume them, and survival demands that they navigate the men who offer love, power, and escape—always at a cost.

With Joan Didion’s eye for California’s allure and shadows, and told in a two-part structure reminiscent of Lauren Groff’s *Fates and Furies*, *Lovers XXX* is a hypnotic novel of friendship and self-invention, of sexual identity beyond binaries, and of the costs of giving one’s body to the performance of sex. Above all, it is a love story like no other—between two ardent, vulnerable, and revelatory women.

**US Publication Date:**

June 2026

**Rights Available:**

World (Except France)

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for *Lovers XXX***

“*Lovers XXX* is *Persona* set in the '80s pom world—thrillingly literate; thrillingly sleazy.”

—Lili Anolik, author of *Didion and Babitz*

“You’re thrown right into *Lovers XXX* and it doesn’t stop. Allie writes about desire, survival, intimacy, and exploitation with a kind of feral tenderness. She turns stick-ups, strip clubs, and motel rooms into a fever dream that makes ruin look romantic. Impossible to put down!”

—Madeline Cash, author of *Lost Lambs*

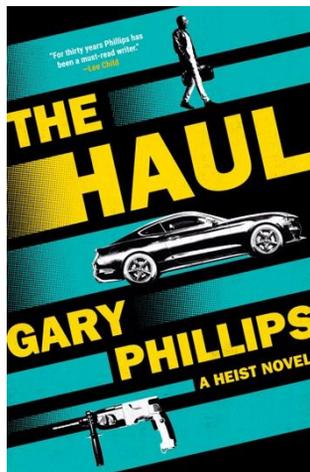
“A glamorous, sun-drenched Los Angeles epic set in the early '80s, during the so-called Golden Age of pornography... Raw and moving, [*Lovers XXX*] explores the intimate and complex friendship between two adult film starlets as they navigate sex, drugs, and life on the neon-lit margins.”

—*Playboy*

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF MARY GAITSKILL:** and other female authors who write boldly about sexuality; for readers of literary fiction by and about women; for readers interested in sex work; for fans of Sean Baker’s films.
- **“THE VALLEY”:** Allie Rowbottom takes readers into the heart of the San Fernando Valley, home of the porn industry in Los Angeles. Her take on the people who work in the industry is nuanced and fascinating.
- **COMPLEX FEMALE CHARACTERS AND RELATIONSHIPS:** Pearl and Joan are both fascinating in their own right, but their relationship takes this book to a whole new level. Readers' hearts will ache for both of them.
- **CONNECTED AUTHOR:** Allie Rowbottom is extremely online and her books do extremely well with the Instagram crowd. This is definitely going to be another trendy, buzzy book!

**Allie Rowbottom** is the author of the novel *Aesthetica* and the memoir *Jell-O Girls*, a *New York Times* Editors’ Choice Selection, Amazon Best Book of the Month, Indie Next Pick, and *Real Simple* Best Book of the Year. Allie’s essays and short fiction can be found in *Vanity Fair*, *Salon*, *Lit Hub*, *No Tokens*, *NY Tyrant*, *The Drunken Canal*, *Alta Journal*, *Bitch*, and elsewhere. She holds a PhD in literature and creative writing from the University of Houston and an MFA from the California Institute of the Arts and lives in Los Angeles with her husband, the writer Jon Lindsey.



## THE HAUL

by Gary Phillips

**A professional thief takes the chance of a lifetime—his biggest score yet—in this tense heist novel set in the heart of contemporary Los Angeles.**

After years of close calls, O’Conner—the former “Warlord of Willow Ridge”—spends most of his time in semi-retirement, running his legitimate businesses and playing pickleball. Except for his longtime girlfriend, no one in his middle-class subdivision is the wiser to his double-life.

But O’Conner’s past refuses to stay dead, and when he’s approached with a job he can’t resist, he agrees to mastermind his biggest score yet: a multi-million-dollar raid of a tech billionaire’s secret bunker, which is hidden beneath his newly constructed basketball arena. As the job goes down, testing O’Conner’s mettle with unexpected challenges, the promise of the score attracts ghosts from his past that he thought were long buried.

Interwoven with flashbacks to O’Conner’s coming-of-age in Los Angeles, this pulse-pounding thriller is both an homage to Donald Westlake’s Parker series and a rich portrait of a morally gray thief at a crossroads.

### US Publication Date:

July 2026

### 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.



## 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?

Donna Freitas has drawn from groundbreaking 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.

**A BOOK OF THE MONTH SELECTION FOR NOVEMBER 2025**

**US Publication Date:**  
November 2025

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
- Ukraine (One More Page)

### Early Praise for *Her One Regret*

**A *New York Times* Best Mystery Novel of the Year**  
**A Book of the Month November Selection**  
**A *Library Journal* Editors' Pick of the Year and Mystery Pick of the Month**  
**A CrimeReads Best Psychological Thriller of the Year**

"This book manages to be simultaneously a page-turning crime thriller and a deep exploration of one of the ultimate mothering taboos—regret. Absolutely extraordinary."

—Emily Oster, bestselling author of *Expecting Better*

"*Her One Regret* is a virtuosic exploration of one of the most forbidden confessions a woman can make: regretting motherhood. This gripping, character-driven thriller kept me reading late into the night."

—Julia Bartz, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Writing Retreat*

### 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*.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## WOLVES OF SUMMER

by Donna Freitas

A girl goes missing in a Rhode Island beach community, revealing the secrets local women have been expected to keep—from the bestselling author of *The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano* and *Her One Regret*.

July 1979: The Rhode Island beach town of Bonnet is shaken to its core when local 12-year-old Christina Grove disappears. The tight-knit community is still reeling from a series of home invasion burglaries the previous summer, and this new crime threatens to collapse the summer paradise's whole economy.

Everyone comes out to help find her: from Bonnet royalty—like Joan Mansolillo, whose husband's family owns the town's beach resort—to working-class neighbors who pick up Dunkin' Donuts for the search parties. Christina's 15-year-old sister, Maddie, is riddled with guilt—was Christina out on her bike trying to find her sister the night she didn't come home? The Groves' next-door neighbor, twenty-one-year-old criminal justice student Diana González, works part-time at the Narragansett police department, and is immediately assigned to assist the detectives working Christina's case. Diana knows that Bonnet's idyllic veneer conceals an ugly underbelly: the entrenched class privilege that favors a few and traps the rest, knotting all the residents together in a web of personal vendettas and broken hearts. Everyone survives the system by keeping secrets—everyone from Maddie Grove to Joan Manzollilo. But now a little girl's life is at stake—if the truth came out, could it save Christina Grove's life? Or would it bring the whole community crashing down on itself?

**US Publication Date:**  
November 2026

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
Available

Early Praise for *Her One Regret*

“Engaging. And thought-provoking. I could not put it down. This book is brilliant, subversive, enjoyable, and deeply revelatory about the inner lives of women and mothers.”

—**Lyz Lenz**, author of *This American Ex-Wife*

“A lively and fast-moving novel about women and the complexity of their interior lives. There is not enough literature about motherhood regret and Donna Freitas has done something unique and brave—opening up the topic in a courageous, unique, passionate way through this suspenseful story of Lucy, Michelle, Julia and Diana and countless other women.”

—**Emma Gannon**, author of *Olive* and *Table for One*

Key Sales Handles

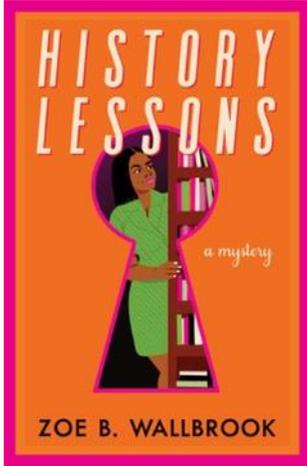
**FOR FANS OF REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICKS:** and readers of women's fiction, crime fiction with female protagonists, fans of Liz Moore and Ivy Pochoda.

**OCEAN STATE THRILLER:** Though standing entirely alone plot-wise, this book does feature a tie-in to Freitas's smash hit *HER ONE REGRET*—the character of Diana, here just starting her detective career.

**THE SECRETS WOMEN KEEP:** Freitas never shies away from exploring the difficult realities of being a woman in her fiction. This book is her most excoriating yet.

**TWISTY AND PROPULSIVE:** There's a reason Freitas's previous novel, *Her One Regret*, was a Book of the Month pick. Her plots are totally unputdownable!

**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!



## 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, working on her next 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 her own 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.

**Nominated for the NAACP Award for Outstanding Literary Work by a Debut Author**  
**Nominated for the ITW Thriller Award for Best First Novel**  
**A New York Times Editors' Choice**  
**A New York Times Best Mystery Novel of the Year**  
**Nominated for the Edgar Award for Best First Novel**

**US Publication Date:**

July 2025

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for *History Lessons***

"History professor Daphne Overture might be your next favorite unsuspecting sleuth."

—**USA Today**

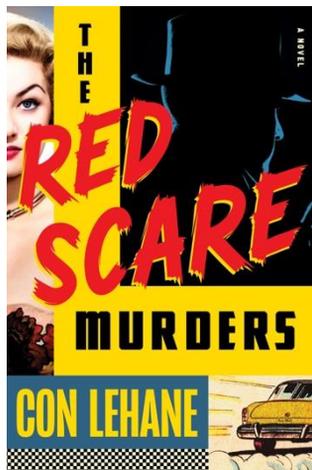
"*History Lessons* brilliantly mixes pointed satire, fabulous characters (especially Daphne's two besties) and a thoughtful meditation on whose fortunes get to rise, and whose are ground down on the altar of power."—**Sarah Weinman, *The New York Times Book Review***

"Wallbrook has crafted a campus mystery that's both propulsive and cerebral. The book blends classic whodunit pleasures with a reflective exploration of race, power and who gets believed. Also: 'Drag Race' jokes, squirrel riots and a simmering romance with a bookish ex-cop. Top marks."—**The Seattle Times**

**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 Gigil, 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.



## THE RED SCARE MURDERS

by Con Lehane

This wry, big-hearted noir brings 1950s New York to life, from the tenements of Hell's Kitchen to the mansions of Riverdale, from Sing Sing to City Hall, with a gripping murder mystery laying bare the explosive conflicts between its big wheels, its working stiffs, its gangsters, and its dreamers.

July 1950: Mick Mulligan has just hung out his shingle as a private investigator in New York's sweaty Hell's Kitchen. A former Hollywood cartoonist who was blacklisted during a communist witch hunt, Mick is broke, divorced, and in need of a paying gig to make his child support payments. But maybe not *this* gig. First off, it's impossible. Worse, it's liable to get him killed.

Last year, universally reviled cab company owner Irwin Johnson was murdered. One of his drivers, an African American Communist Party member named Harold Williams, was arrested, tried, and found guilty, despite scant evidence. Now his execution date is two weeks away. New York City labor leader Duke Rogowski asks Mick to find fresh evidence that might buy Harold a stay of execution.

Lots of people might have wanted Irwin Johnson dead—anyone from his betrayed wife to his jilted mistresses' jealous husbands to the mafiosi he was stealing business from. But no one has any reason to help Mick exonerate Harold Williams, and some of Irwin's former associates are happy to take a blunt object to the head of anyone asking awkward questions. Yet Mick can't abandon a potentially innocent man to the electric chair. Can he pull off a miracle?

**US Publication Date:**  
December 2025

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
Available

### Praise for *The Red Scare Murders*

"PI Mick Mulligan is an engagingly dogged and wry protagonist, his murder investigation's supporting cast varied and interesting. But the real star is New York City in the summer of 1950, with a cab strike led by duelling communists and mobsters, and ordinary people still expecting a fair shake. A picture of America which these days feels like 'fake history.' But isn't."

—David Downing, author of *Zoo Station*

"Lehane's pacing and hardboiled dialogue are hard to beat, and he makes the jittery paranoia of the period jump off the page. Fans of James Ellroy will get a kick out of this."

—*Publishers Weekly*, **Starred Review**

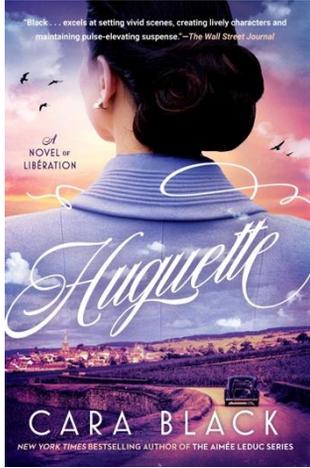
"Leaving behind the quiet yet murderous settings of *Murder at the College Library* (2024) and its predecessors, Lehane's most impassioned and ambitious novel plunges into the anti-communist frenzy of 1950."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

### 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.



## HUGUETTE

by Cara Black

**In the lawlessness of post–World War II France, a resilient young woman fights to survive and make a living, no matter the cost—from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Three Hours in Paris* and the Aimée Leduc series**

After Libération, spring 1945: Seventeen-year-old Huguette Faure is a survivor. The war has taken everything from her—both her parents and her sense of safety. Now, pregnant and on the lam, she cannot return to her childhood home in Paris. Forced to reinvent herself, she must outrun her father’s enemies, who want her dead. After narrowly avoiding jail time—thanks to the help of a kindhearted police officer named Claude Leduc—Huguette lands a job assisting a legendary film director. As her role develops from helping him with chores to cooking his books, she sees an opportunity to break free from the ghosts of her past once and for all.

In this big-hearted story of resilience, *New York Times* bestselling author Cara Black offers a wholly original depiction of postwar France as well as introduces Claude Leduc—the man who decades later inspired his granddaughter, Aimée, to become a private investigator.

**US Publication Date:**

December 2025

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- Ukraine (Ranok)

Early Praise for *Huguette*

**Nominated for the Lefty Award for Best Historical Mystery Novel**

**An Amazon Top 10 Best Books of the Month Pick**

**A *Historical Novels Review* Editors’ Choice**

**A BookTrib Editors’ Pick**

"With its spirited cast of characters, sharply drawn settings and well-maintained suspense, *Huguette* should earn many votes as one of the best historical thrillers of the year."

—Tom Nolan, *The Wall Street Journal*

"Cara Black’s *Huguette* is a propulsive dive into the demi-monde of postwar France, full of moral ambiguity and striking characters."

—Sasha Vasilyuk, author of *Your Presence Is Mandatory*

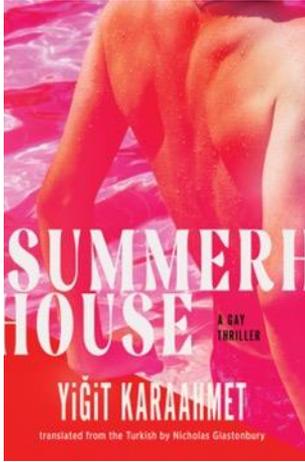
"A fast-paced, gritty thriller . . . A wonderful novel about a natural survivor whose actions often fall outside the law, but who is so likeable that you cannot help but root for her . . . Highly recommended."

—*Historical Novels Review*

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 Büyükkada, 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, Yiğit 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.

**One of PEOPLE's Best Books of May 2025**  
**A Publishers Weekly Summer Reads Mystery Pick**

### US Publication Date:

May 2025

### 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**

“Riveting . . . *Summerhouse* is redolent of the Mediterranean atmosphere of a Highsmith plot: sharp, spicy and humor black as night.”

—**Lorraine Berry, *Los Angeles Times***

“A stunning love story, a thrilling mystery, and a luscious ode to a gorgeous landscape.”

—**CrimeReads**

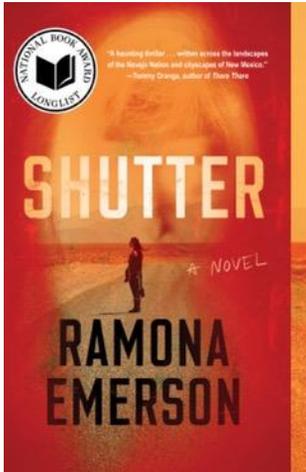
“For fans of *The White Lotus* and Patricia Highsmith!”

—**Book Riot**

### 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.

**Yiğit 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 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.

### US Publication Date:

August 2022

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- Japan (Hayakawa)
- Turkey (The Kitap)

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**

### 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*

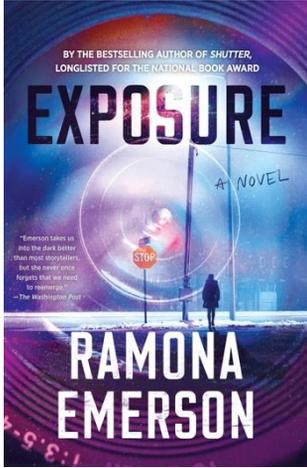
“*Shutter* is utterly unputdownable. It is a haunting thriller, written with exquisite suspense, and filled to the brim with beautiful writing, through the lens of cameras and memory . . . It is fun, and funny, and chilling. This is a story that won't let you go long after you finish, and you won't want 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.



**US Publication Date:**  
October 2024

**Rights Available:**  
World

**Territories Sold:**  
- Turkey (The Kitap)

## 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 ratting 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 . . .

### Praise for *Exposure*

“The prose style seems even more visceral and sharpened, and Rita, with her visions of the dead and her righteous need to find justice for the marginalized, remains an indelible protagonist . . . *Exposure* confirms Emerson's talents.”

—*The New York Times Book Review*

“Emerson takes us into the dark better than most storytellers, but she never once forgets that we need to reemerge.”

—E.A. Aymar, *The Washington Post*

“Hauntingly mysterious.”

—*Ms. Magazine*

### 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

## DARK ROOM

by Ramona Emerson

Diné forensic photographer Rita Todacheene has left her dangerous job with the Albuquerque to move home to the Navajo reservation. But she hasn't been able to leave the most dangerous element of her work behind her: Rita cracks cases because she can see ghosts. Stepping away from the crime scenes hasn't stopped the desperate dead from following her home, begging her to help them seek justice, or revenge.

And they're not the only ones. Now that Rita's back on the reservation, Navajo Nation detective Lt. Arviso, whom Rita assisted in a serial killer investigation, is pressuring Rita to join her in fighting crime closer to home. Teenage girls have been disappearing all over New Mexico, and authorities suspect a ruthless and allusive sex trafficking ring that they haven't been able to pin down. Rita and her special skill might be the only way Arviso and her team can ever stop the monsters responsible.

This eagerly-awaited return by fan-favorite Ramona Emerson—author of the national bestselling *Shutter*; a National Book Award longlist, Bram Stoker shortlist, and Edgar Award nominee—centers the urgent issue of missing and murdered indigenous women, a crisis that amounts to a murder rate of Native women that is more than ten times the national average, and thousands of unsolved abductions and disappearances.

**US Publication Date:**

April 2027

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

### Praise for Ramona Emerson

**A Barnes & Noble Monthly Pick**

**Longlisted for the 2022 National Book Award**

**Finalist for the 2023 PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel**

**Finalist for the 2023 PEN Open Book Award**

**Finalist for the 2022 Edgar Award for Best First Novel**

**Finalist for the Anthony Award for Best First Novel**

**Winner of the 2022 Lefty Award for Best Debut Mystery Novel**

**Nominated for the Macavity Award for Best First Mystery Novel**

**Nominated for the 2022 Strand Magazine Critics Award for Best Debut**

**Nominated for the Barry Award for Best Debut Mystery or Crime Novel**

**The *Boston Globe* Best Books of the Year**

**An NPR Best Book of the Year**

“A perfect blend of thriller, horror, and coming-of-age story.”

—*The Boston Globe*

“This paranormal police procedural is unusual and multilayered, but what stands out is the gorgeously expressive and propulsive first-person storytelling, which is split between Rita’s present and her past. A former forensic photographer herself, the pictures Emerson paints with words are as vivid as they are brutal.”

—*Oprah Daily*

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## MURDER COMES TO GRAVIGNA

by Camilla Trinchieri

**Big changes are coming to Gravigna, the place ex-NYPD officer Nico Doyle has come to call home, and not all of them are positive. In the final Tuscan mystery, old tempers flare, change is in the air, and all will be laid bare as Nico solves one final case.**

When Sergio Macchi, the local butcher, is found dead, the whole town of Gravigna is affected, namely Nico who takes the loss personally. At the local bar the town commemorates Macchi by drinking grappa, but the cheers soon turn into ugly accusations as people question the ruling of suicide and begin to point fingers at his young French wife, Delphine, who has conveniently left Italy for the Easter Holiday.

Delphine asks Maresciallo Perillo to get Nico involved in the investigation as Macchi respected him. Perillo, who is growing tired of his job, accepts the help, but Nico struggles to work on a case that hits so close to home and embraces his time cooking with Tilde at Sotto il Fico, where he is at peace.

As the investigation simmers and tensions with his partner, Nelli, bubble to the surface, Nico learns from Macchi's files that he owned several buildings in town and had just informed his tenants—Gino who runs trattoria Da Gino, Luciana the florist, Oreste the barber, and Piero Leonardi who runs an enoteca—that he was raising their rent 15 percent, news that surely wouldn't have been taken well. Could that have been enough to get him killed? Nico will have to turn to an unlikely outside source if he is to solve what might be his last case ever.

**US Publication Date:**

December 2026

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**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.

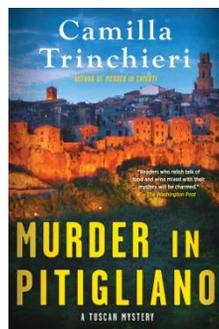
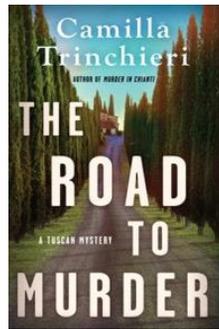
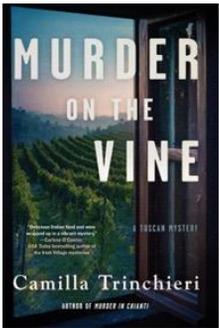
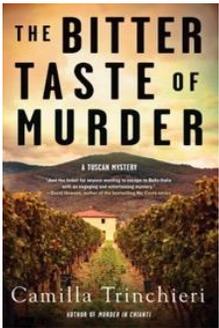
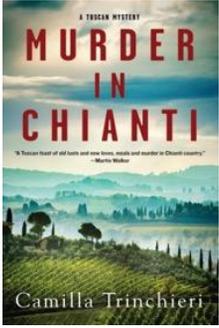
MURDER IN PITIGLIANO (Book 5)

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.

**Rights Available:** World

**Territories Sold:**

UK (Alison & Busby); Germany (Insel Verlag), Estonia (Tänapäev)





## THE STALKER

by Paula Bomer

**An Untalented Mr. Ripley, a Dumb American Psycho: A young man combines boundless self-confidence with perpetual failure and ineptitude as he tries to manipulate his way into a better life, preying on women in New York City in the early '90s.**

Robert Doughten Savile, aka “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 status. While he has little 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 the early '90s in New York City, a place brimming with both prosperity and desperation.

He cons his way from a bed at the YMCA into the posh Soho loft of a middle-aged book editor, while pursuing a young bartender, whom he also abuses and gaslights. He spins elaborate tales about his imaginary high-power job in real estate while, in reality, he passes his days watching comedy specials on VHS, smoking crack in Tompkins Square Park, and engaging in occasional sex work in the restrooms of Grand Central Station. His many failures, however, only serve to sharpen his one true gift: Doughty is a skilled predator, and the damage he inflicts on the women around him is real and remorseless. As shocking as it is illuminating, *The Stalker* confirms Paula Bomer as a contemporary master of the pitch-black comic novel.

**US Publication Date:**

May 2025

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

*Vogue's* Best Books of the Year  
 A *Publishers Weekly* Editors' Pick

**Praise for *The Stalker***

“Brilliant, disturbing, and hilarious . . . [Doughty’s] deficiencies only make Bomer’s perverse odyssey more compelling . . . For all the obvious comparisons to Patricia Highsmith’s Tom Ripley or Bret Easton Ellis’s Patrick Bateman, Doughty also serves as a male counterpart of Ottessa Moshfegh’s narrator in *My Year of Rest and Relaxation*: a blond narcissist who stares out onto a vanished Manhattan skyline through a cloud of drugs, desperation, and delusion. The final pages, as in Moshfegh’s work, will move readers with their unlikely and ultimately transcendent beauty.” —*Vogue*

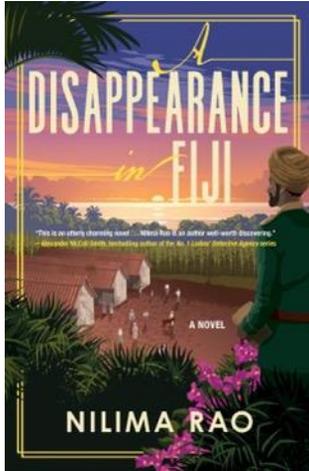
“Shocking . . . Beautifully executed. [Bomer] forces readers to get uncomfortably close to Doughty, a uniquely repellent character whose obliviousness makes him grimly fascinating . . . This is, in part, a darkly funny novel, and Bomer walks a fine line brilliantly — the moments of humor don’t detract from the seriousness of the themes.” —*NPR.org*

“Exhilaratingly ghastly . . . To nauseating effect, his skill escalates operatically as the book continues. It’s a knockout novel.” —*The Guardian*

**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*.



## 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.

**Winner of the 2024 ALA Reading List for Mystery Fiction  
Booklist’s Top 10 Debut Mysteries and Thrillers  
Library Journal Best Crime Fiction of the Year  
An Amazon Best Debut of the Year  
CrimeReads Best Historical Fiction of the Year**

**US Publication Date:**

June 2023

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- UK/Commonwealth, Australia (Bonnier Books UK, Zaffre)
- France (Au vent des îles)
- Russia (Azooka)

**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*

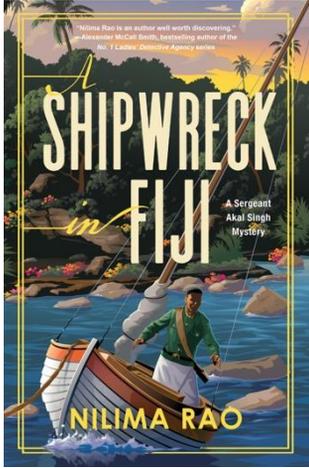
“Combining a tightly plotted mystery with a thoughtful critique of colonialism, *A Disappearance in Fiji* establishes debut author Rao as a writer to watch.”

—*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.
- **START OF A HIT SERIES:** This series has been a hit for readers and critics alike.

**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.



## 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.

### US Publication Date:

June 2025

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- Australia/NZ (Echo)
- Russia (Azooka)

### Praise for *A Shipwreck in Fiji*

**A Library Journal Best International Crime & Mystery Book of the Year and Mystery Pick of the Month**  
**A CrimeReads Best Historical Fiction Book of 2025**

"Rao's winning characters ground the historical tale of community and identity."

—**Christian Science Monitor**

"Beautifully written, unpredictable and highly entertaining . . . Without exaggeration, one of the best new series created in recent years."

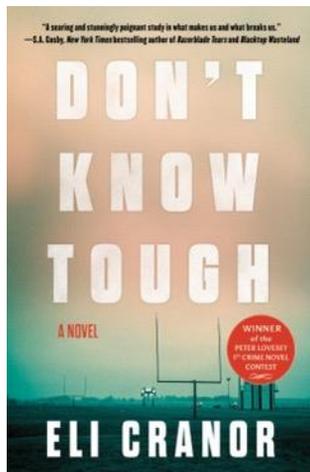
—**BookTrib**

"Absurdly charming . . . Rao once again blends history, humor, and heartfelt drama for what has quickly become my favorite historical series of the last ten years."

—**Molly Odintz, CrimeReads**

### 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

### 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***

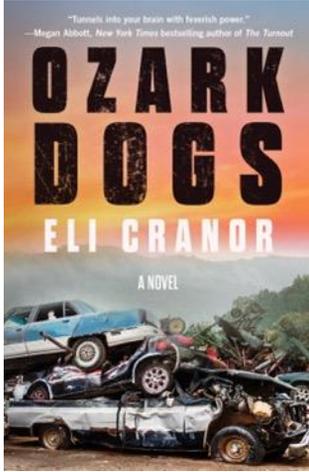
"[A] brilliant debut . . . which is less *Friday Night Lights* and more a Daniel Woodrell Ozark gothic noir . . . A major work from a bright, young talent." —**USA Today, \*\*\*\* out of \*\*\*\* stars**

"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*, *Ellely 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.

### US Publication Date:

April 2023

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

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

*“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*

### 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.”

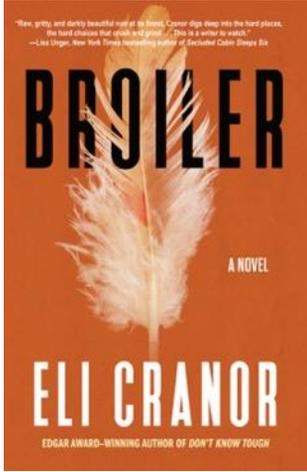
*—Sarah Weinman, The New York Times Book Review*

“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.

**Finalist for the Dashiell Hammett Award for Literary Excellence in Crime Writing**  
**Longlisted for the Mark Twain American Voice in Literature Award**

**US Publication Date:**

July 2024

**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.”

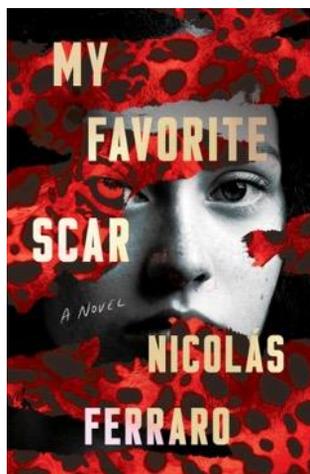
—Laura Lippman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Prom Mom*

“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.

**Winner of the Spanish-language Dashiell Hammett Prize**  
**Nominated for the Edgar Award for Best Novel**  
**CrimeReads Most Anticipated Crime Fiction of 2024**

### US Publication Date:

January 2024

### Rights Available:

World excluding  
Spanish and Portuguese

### Territories Sold:

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

### Praise for Nicolás Ferraro

“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*

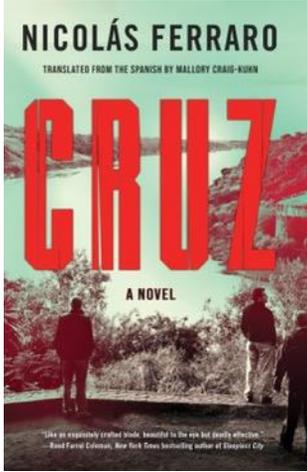
“Knocked my socks off . . . This is a wonderful coming-of-age story, ably written and delicately translated by Mallory Craig-Kuhn, of two lovable characters and a supporting cast of colorful deplorables.”

—*The Durango Telegraph*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR 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 female-centered translated literature and fans of Gabriel Tallent, Jordan Harper, Elmore Leonard, and *Nanos*.
- **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.
- **ARGENTINA:** Written by an Argentine who lives in Buenos Aires and set in the wilds of Argentina, *My Favorite Scar* is as authentically local as it gets.

**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

### 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**

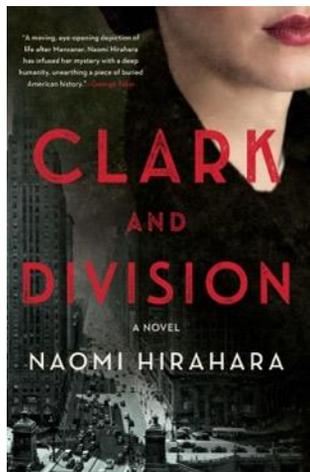
"*Cruz* boldly examines the propensity for violent upheaval in the patriarchal and retaliatory system of cartels in northern Argentina. Such systems often mirror the corrupt and tyrannical political systems with which they work hand in hand. But Ferraro also portrays the personal moral rot that such 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." —**Crime Reads**

"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

**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*

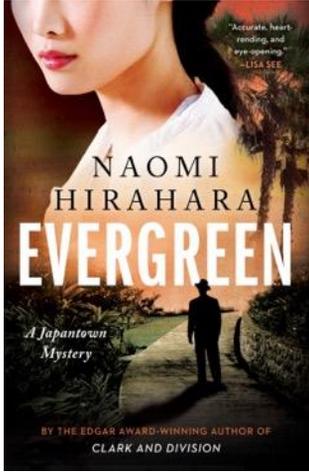
"Just as only James Ellroy could have written the Los Angeles Quartet and only Walter Mosley could have crafted Black Angelenos' experiences into the Easy Rawlins mysteries, crime novelist and research maven Naomi Hirahara was destined to write *Clark and Division* . . . The vibrant characters, the history 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

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for *Evergreen***

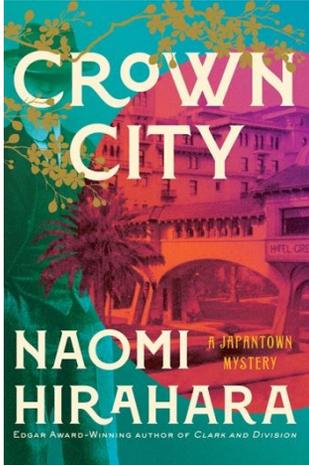
"Absorbing . . . Like Walter Mosley in his great Easy Rawlins books, Hirahara shows us a corrupt LA whose most endemic corruptions come steeped in racism. But—and this too recalls Mosley—she doesn't wallow in the self-indulgent cosmic nihilism that defines too much noir."—John Powers, *NPR's Fresh Air*

"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.



## CROWN CITY

by Naomi Hirahara

Two Japanese American men hired to investigate an art theft discover something much more sinister in turn-of-the-century California—from the Mary Higgins Clark Award-winning author of *Clark and Division*.

Pasadena, 1903: Eighteen-year-old Ryunosuke “Ryui” Wada staggers off the boat from Yokohama, Japan, ready to reinvent himself after the untimely deaths of his parents. Though battling loneliness and culture shock, Ryui does his best to settle into his work as an art dealer’s apprentice while adjusting to his new home. From his enigmatic photographer roommate, Jack, to the beautiful seamstress living downstairs, Ryui finds himself surrounded by colorful characters and unbelievable opportunities and is soon utterly swept up in all “Crown City” has to offer.

But tensions are seething under Pasadena’s bustling prosperity. Ryui is the victim of an anti-Japanese attack, and a painting is stolen from the studio of Toshio Aoki, Pasadena’s most successful Japanese artist, who then hires Ryui and Jack to investigate. It’s not long before their sleuthing leads them into real danger. Ryui is a naive young man in a foreign country—has he bitten off more than he can chew?

In this fish-out-of-water mystery, studded with cameos by real historical figures, Edgar Award-winner Naomi Hirahara brings to life a little-known slice of California history.

### US Publication Date:

February 2026

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for the Japantown Mysteries

“The language is evocative and immersive, lending weight to Ryui’s observations, and real people and events add historical credence and narrative depth to the mystery. *Crown City* is a measured coming-of-age novel in which a man ponders what must be preserved for the sake of one’s cultural identity.”

—*Foreword Reviews*

“Poignant, marvellously well imagined, and deeply moving, this latest from Hirahara is sure to engage fans of historical fiction.”

—*First Clue Reviews*

“A fascinating glimpse of turn-of-the century California, with a mystery kicker.”

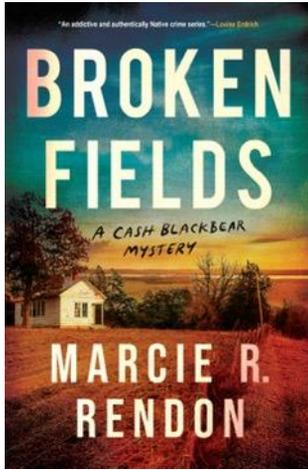
—*Kirkus Reviews*

“An immersive treat.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### 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.

**US Publication Date:**

March 2025

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- UK (Profile)

**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***

**Praise for the Cash Blackbear series**

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

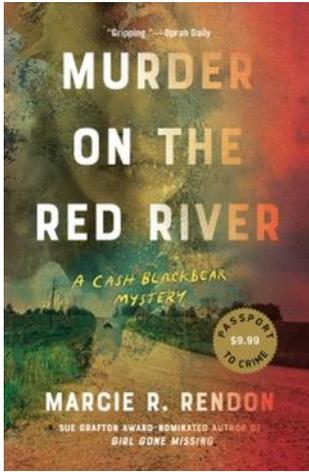
“Like Cash's life, there's a rawness and a poetic leanness to Rendon's prose. The plot is quick with no excess, building to a confrontation that's inevitable and electrifying. Rendon's writing is quick and sharp and unflinching in its honesty . . . Haunting and truly gripping.”—**Carole E. Barrowman,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

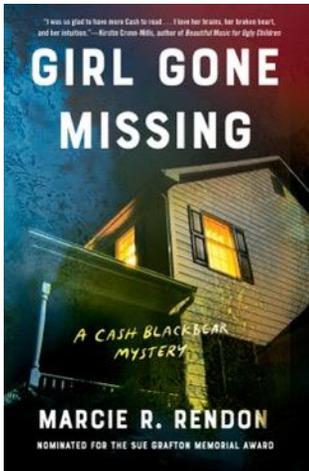
Cash Blackbear is a young Ojibwe woman whose visions and grit help her solve brutal crimes in the 1970s in the Red River Valley.

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

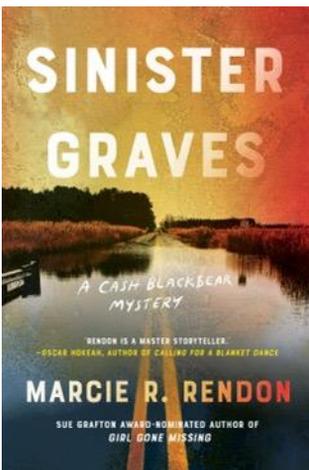


One Saturday morning, Sheriff Wheaton is called to investigate a pile of rags in a field and finds the body of an Indian man. When Cash dreams about the dead man’s weathered house on the Red Lake Reservation, she knows that’s the place to start looking for answers. Together, Cash and Wheaton work to 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.”

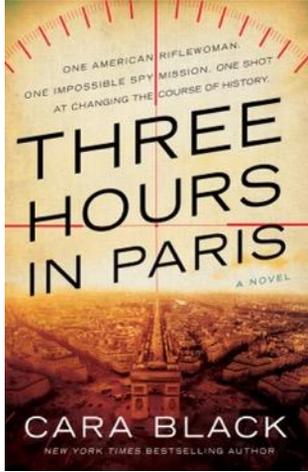
—Oprah Daily

“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:** UK, Italy, 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

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

- Ukraine (Ranok)

**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*

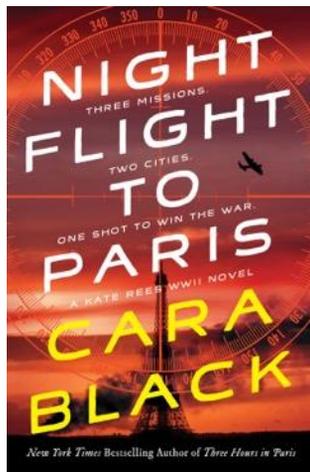
“Beyond Black’s encyclopedic knowledge of Paris, her deft interweaving of WWII history and spycraft with a relatable female protagonist puts *Three Hours in Paris* on par with other top thrillers about botched missions followed by harrowing escapes—such masterworks as Frederick Forsyth’s *The Day of 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

**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.”

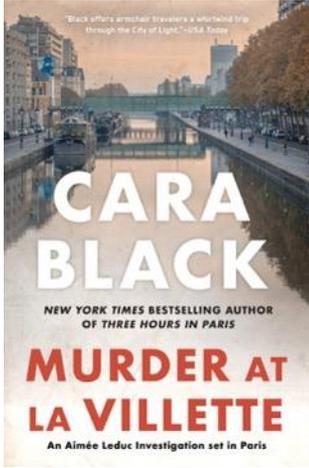
—Lisa Henrickson, *Air Mail*

“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

### 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 into her forehead, plunging her into a web of ancient secrets and buried war crimes.

**#2 - Murder in Belleville**

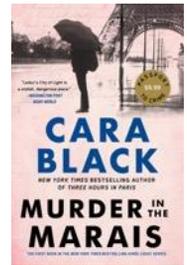
Tension runs high as a hunger strike escalates among Algerian immigrants. Aimée barely escapes a car bombing in this tale of terrorism and greed.

**#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**

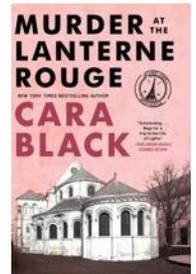
In an attempt to clear a friend's name, Aimée encounters Corsican separatist terrorists, Montmartre prostitutes, and leams of the French "ear in the sky."

**#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**

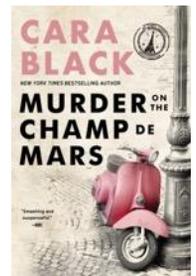
René Friant, Aimée's partner at Leduc Détective, is wounded, and eye-witnesses have pegged her as the culprit. Someone is impersonating Aimée—someone who wants her killed.

**#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**

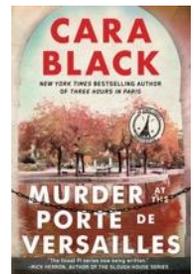
A serial rapist is terrorizing Pigalle, targeting schoolgirls. Aimée, five months pregnant, stays away from the investigation—until her young neighbor Zazie disappears.

**#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 thick web of international spycraft, post-colonial African politics, and neighborhood secrets in Paris's 12th arrondissement.

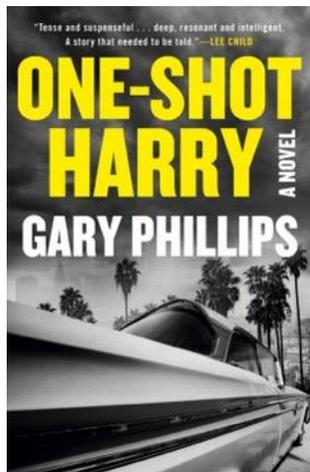
**#20 - Murder at the Porte de Versailles**

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

**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***

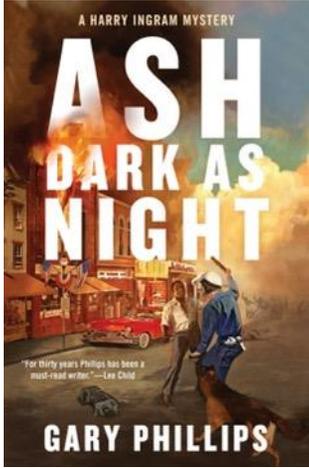
"Phillips is a storyteller first, and the social chronicling never becomes didactic or overtakes the narrative. The wounds of 1963, and the foreshadowing of both better days and harsher ones, feel unnervingly fresh, and a reminder that progress, much as we wish otherwise, never adheres to a linear timeline."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

### 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."

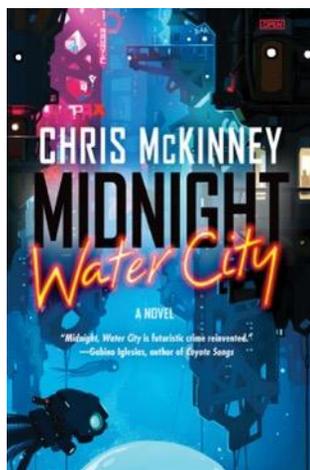
—Paula Woods, *Los Angeles Times*

"[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.



## 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

### 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*

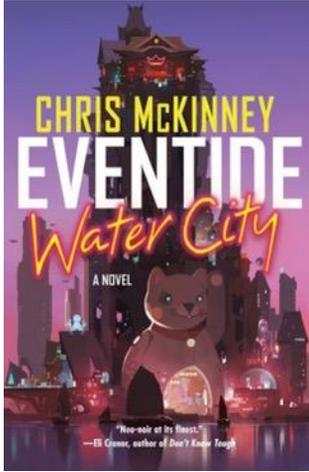
"This gritty noir set in a sci-fi landscape is a real page-turner." —*Buzzfeed*

"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*

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:**

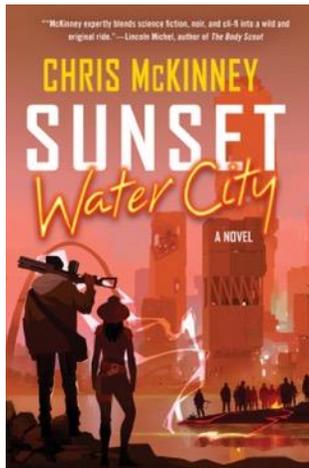
July 2023, Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

- Russia (AST)



**US Publication Date:**

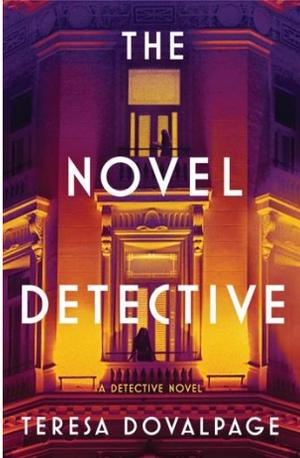
December 2023,  
Hardcover

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available



## THE NOVEL DETECTIVE

by Teresa Dovalpage

In 2020, Teresa, a Cuban-born mystery writer in her fifties, lives in the U.S. but is still haunted by two deaths at her Havana middle school in 1980—a classmate and a teacher who died under suspicious circumstances. The Manzana de Gómez building, where the school was then housed, is now the luxury hotel Manzana Kempinski.

Teresa’s childhood best friend, Estrella, urges her to return to Cuba to investigate the two deaths, and Teresa reluctantly agrees. Once in Havana, the past resurfaces. Together, they hope to uncover what really happened that day before the truth disappears for good.

**US Publication Date:**

July 2026

**Rights Available:**

World

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for Teresa Dovalpage**

“A surprising journey . . . The intricate plot and the descriptions of today’s Cuban culture and society make this novel an entertaining and illuminating read.”

—**NBC News**

“A lively murder mystery with a Cuban culinary twist. Teresa Dovalpage brings Havana—with its rampant shortages, schemes, and sensuality—to vivid life.

—**Cristina García, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dreaming in Cuban***

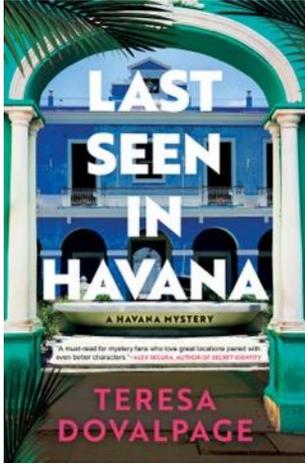
“Beautifully written and bursting with surprises!”

—**Margarita Engle, author of *Mountain Dog* and National Young People's Poet Laureate**

**Key Sales Handles**

- **FOR FANS OF *THE PLOT*:** and other book-within-a-book literature; for fans of Sulari Gentill, Serena Burdick, and Laura van den Burg; for readers of book club fiction and crime fiction about women; for readers interested in Cuba or the 1980s.
- **KILLER NOSTALGIA:** As Teresa dives back into her past, she learns first-hand the dangers of spending too much time in recollection. A relatable subject to be sure.
- **META-FICTION:** "Teresa Doval" is a self-insert of Teresa Dovalpage, the book's actual author. This is such a fun meta layer that makes this book all the more special.
- **RELATABLE AND POIGNANT:** Every reader will see themselves in Teresa/Teresita's dual journeys--we can never truly leave our teenage selves behind.
- **NEW BEGINNING:** We're excited to try a totally new direction with this book for Teresa Dovalpage! We'll be reaching an all-new audience.

**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.



## 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

**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.”

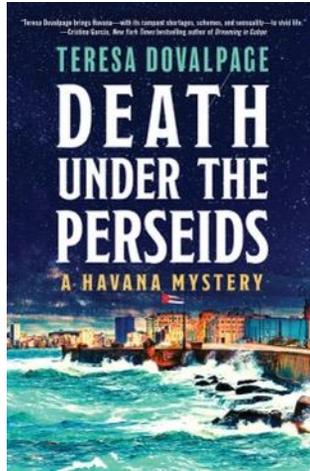
—*Taos News*

“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.



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.

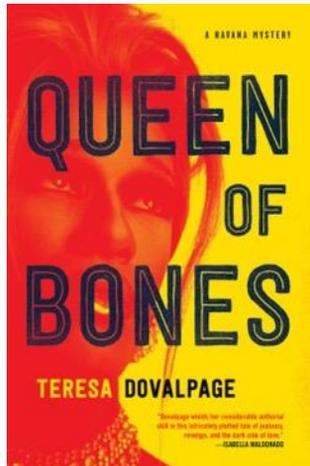
Juan, a Cuban construction worker who has settled in Albuquerque, returns to Havana for the first time since fleeing Cuba by raft twenty years ago. He is traveling with his American wife, Sharon, and hopes to reconnect with Victor, his best friend from college—and, unbeknownst to Sharon, he also hopes 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

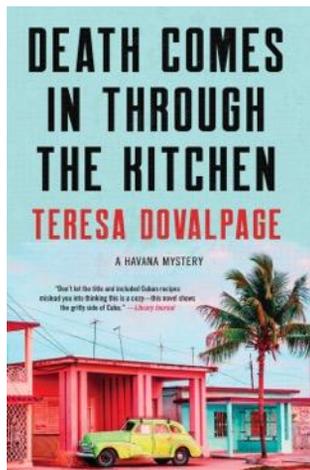
Don't let the authentic Cuban recipes fool you: This is no cozy mystery. Set in Havana during the Black Spring of 2003, a charming but poison-laced culinary mystery reveals the darker side of the modern Revolution.

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?

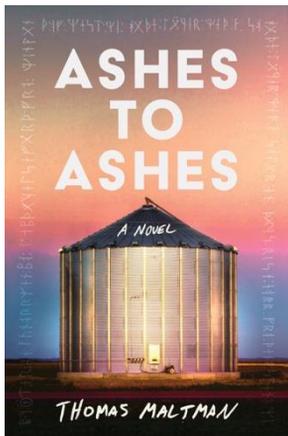
US Publication Date:  
December 2021  
Rights Available: World



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, Richard Russo, and Paul Harding.

When the ashes from an Ash Wednesday service in the prairie town of Andwhen, Minnesota, refuse to wash off, members of a small congregation are left wondering whether they’ve been blessed or cursed. For Basil—a “gentle giant” of a teen reeling from a farming accident that shattered his family and haunted by his mother’s decade-long confinement in a state mental hospital—the ashes become a sign. He embarks on a secret ritual of fasting and prayer, seeking meaning in his unraveling world.

Meanwhile, Basil and his friends, Lukas and Morgan (who self-identify as “a gay, a goth, and a giant”), stumble upon what may be the centuries-old remains of a Viking explorer in a local meadow, a find that brings its own complications, as folk history clashes with the agendas of online racists. As Basil’s relentless fasting warps his grip on reality, the danger he poses to himself and his family escalates.

Blending the fragments of a Norse saga with a finely observed portrait of rural Midwestern life at the start of the pandemic, Thomas Maltman delivers a novel of narrative daring and profound empathy—his most inventive and compassionate work yet.

### US Publication Date:

July 2025

### Rights Available:

World

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Thomas Maltman

“Thomas Maltman blends contemporary teen life with a Norse saga in this inventive novel, one of the best of this literary season.”

—*St. Paul Pioneer Press*

“Thomas Maltman’s poignant *Ashes to Ashes* is far and away the best novel I’ve read this year. Compassionate and lyrically written, it’s a story about mysteries, those of the past and the present, as well as the eternal mysteries of the human heart. I fell in love with this book from the very first page. I guarantee you will too.”

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

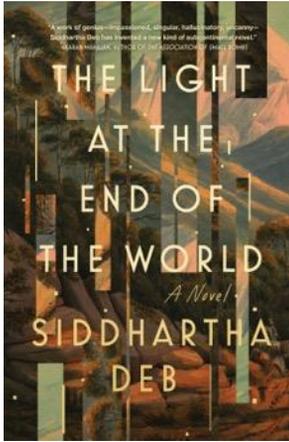
“Thomas Maltman has written a wise and deeply empathetic novel. As contemporary as an Instagram post and yet resonant with history, this is the best book I have read all year.”

—*Lin Enger, author of American Gospel*

### 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

### 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*

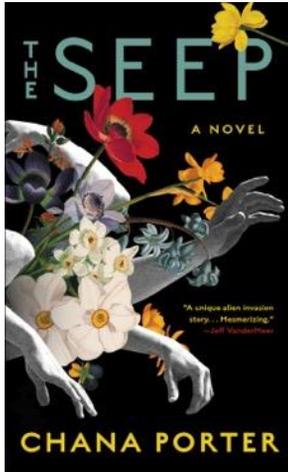
"*The Light at the End of the World* is full of intriguing puzzles and opacities, but what brings it to life is less its inventiveness than its galvanizing anger, its outraged awareness of exploitation and cruelty. It travels, unbounded, into the past and the future, yet it always meets the reader in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

**Rights Available:**  
 World

**Territories Sold:**  
 - UK (Titan)  
 - Turkey (Penguin Kitap)  
 - Italy (Zona 42)

***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.

Soho Press  
Soho Crime  
Hell's Hundred

World English Rights Only

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## SCHADENFREUDE

by Gina Apostol

In the aftermath of Trump's second election, six former Filipino activists from the Marcos-era resistance gather in New York to eat, bicker, sing songs of schadenfreude, and quote Gramsci. Calling themselves the Justice League of People-of-Color Schadenfreude, they've survived fascism once—and their hard-won understanding of the American moment leaves them clear eyed and mordantly funny. When a member of their circle becomes an accidental witness to a high-profile murder, the group is jolted into new political peril and unexpected forms of solidarity.

With her wild sense of play and razor-sharp satire, Gina Apostol delivers a novel unlike any she's written before, even as it extends her central preoccupations: the entanglements of the U.S. and the Philippines, empire and authoritarianism, the erasures of history and its stubborn return. Schadenfreude is fun and frustrating, passionate and distressing, terrifically funny and deeply serious—a comic fable for our stupid, evil times, told with insights only Apostol could conjure and with a cast impossible not to adore (or fear).

**US Publication Date:**

January 2027

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for Gina Apostol**

“A bravura performance in which war becomes farce, history becomes burlesque . . . Apostol is a magician with language (think Borges, think Nabokov) who can swing from slang and mockery to the stodgy argot of critical theory. She puns with gusto, potently and unabashedly, until one begins reading double meanings, allusions and ulterior motives into everything.”

—*The New York Times*

“Gina Apostol uses an array of literary and cinematic techniques: memoirs, jump cuts, close-ups, and reveries to set a story in Duterte's Philippines that shows us that though victors often write histories, survivors and artists can revise them.”

—*NPR's Weekend Edition*

“Dazzling . . . A tender character study erupting with blazing insights on the ethics of storytelling.”

—*Entertainment Weekly***Key Sales Handles**

**FOR READERS OF:** Lisa Ko, Mia Alvar, Viet Thanh Nguyen, and Elaine Castillo; for readers interested in the Philippine Revolution (or the Tagalog War), Filipino history, alternative histories; for readers interested in postmodern fiction that deals with philosophy and history.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** *Insurrecto* received glowing reviews from every major national outlet, and the continued long-tail sales shows the large readership that wants Filipino fiction; we expect the same U.S. reception for the author's first brand new novel since 2018.

**GROUNDBREAKING:** Readers of Roberto Bolano (*2666* and *Savage Detectives*) will be delighted to find his Filipino parallel here in language, themes, characters, and humor.

**MUST-READ:** Author's previous publications could be characterized as formally daring. This novel is a mind-bending incandescent feast for the literary senses.

**CULTURAL RELEVANCE:** The themes of race, culture, identity, and the makers of history are central to the novel. The author speaks to them with highly personal nuance.

**Gina Apostol** is the author of the novels *Insurrecto*, *La Tervera*, *Gun Dealers' Daughter*, *Bibliolepsy*, and *The Revolution According to Raymundo Mata*. She is the winner of two Philippine National Book Awards, the PEN/Open Award, and the Rome Prize. She lives in New York City and western Massachusetts and grew up in Tacloban, Leyte, in the Philippines.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## FIXED STARS

by Andromeda Romano-Lax

In the “what-if” tradition of Curtis Sittenfeld’s *Rodham*, Joyce Carol Oates’s *Blonde*, and Philip Roth’s *The Plot Against America*, *Fixed Stars* is an achingly personal and tenderly provocative re-imagining of the life and death of a world-famous writer.

Athens, 1998. Ted Hughes has just died and Sylvia Plath is alive. Plath, now middle-aged, has been shunted into the margins of her famous ex-husband’s legacy, and has spent the last three decades living out her days as a frustrated mother and a promising-yet-obscure writer. Jolted by Hughes’s death, Plath seizes on the chance to recalibrate her life. But while she attempts to heal the estrangement from her adult children and regain control of her interrupted literary legacy, Plath encounters another surprise—a doppelganger of her much younger self, who arrives with a warning from the past that she cannot ignore.

How does fate intertwine with chance to create tragic and triumphant personal histories? What happens when a legacy takes on a life of its own? Poignant and boldly envisioned, *Fixed Stars* is driven by questions of destiny and legend, and encourages readers to consider the many paths an ambitious, multi-faceted woman like Sylvia Plath might have taken if not for her death at the age of thirty.

### US Publication Date:

May 2027

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Andromeda Romano-Lax

“Timely and terrifyingly real, *What Boys Learn* is not to be missed. Andromeda Romano-Lax has created an emotional, page-turning mystery that’s both chilling and thought-provoking; it will keep you reading late into the night.”

—**Mary Kubica, *New York Times* bestselling author of *She’s Not Sorry***

“*What Boys Learn* is wholly original, addictively suspenseful, and beautifully written. Both an exploration of a mother’s unconditional love for her only son and a blazing critique of toxic masculinity, this thriller is nothing short of spellbinding from beginning to end.” —**Caitlin Mullen, author of the Edgar Award-winning novel *Please See Us***

“Simply yet beautifully written, *What Boys Learn* is the sum of all parental fears.” —**Peter Nichols, nationally bestselling author of *The Rocks***

### 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, Netflix’s *Adolescence*.
- **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 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.

## FAIL SONS

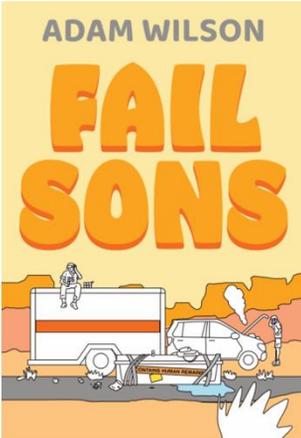
by Adam Wilson

**An absurdist road novel about two sons carrying their father's cryogenically frozen body to its final resting place**

When Scott Platt's brother, Nick, calls to ask him to fly to Arizona and retrieve their father's body from the Cryo Center where it's been frozen since the nineties, the timing couldn't be worse: he's forty, unemployed, and spiraling as he and his wife await the birth of their first child. Nick's as tightly wound as Scott is adrift, and the brothers have never gotten along. But the Cryo Center's shutting down, and they've got six days to haul their father's frozen body to a new facility in Massachusetts—without letting it thaw past  $-109^{\circ}$ . And Scott needs to get back home to New York before his wife goes into labor.

It's the summer of 2022. The country's still reeling from the pandemic. And driving a corpse cross-country in a U-Haul through Red State America proves predictably chaotic. Nick insists on wearing a KN95 the entire time. They pass through deserts, mountains, and plains, meeting Aryan cops, ex-Mormon hitchhikers, a Gen Z commune, and MAGA-hat-wearing Walmart clerks. They play blackjack, take shrooms, and swim under the stars—all while trying to keep the body frozen and their relationship from melting down.

*Fail Sons* is a darkly funny and deeply felt update of *As I Lay Dying* for the 21st century. Told in the fragmented style of *Dept. of Speculation*, Adam Wilson's novel is a brilliant exploration of masculinity, grief, and the ways we carry the dead—and each other—across a divided America.

**US Publication Date:**  
October 2026**Rights Available:**  
World English**Territories Sold:**  
Available**Praise for *The Audacity***

“Reads a little bit like Tom Wolfe in a futurist dystopia. There are full-throated riffs on materialism and tech surveillance, on simulation video gaming, white privilege and the lyrics of Eminem. A spirit of exhilaration fires the book's best moments. We may be going to hell, but at least it's fun to rant about.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

“A witty, incisive commentary on the fallout from a generation betrayed by the promise of the American dream that, it turns out, masked a foundation of greed, broken social structures, and the topsy-turvy values of capitalism first.”

—*The Daily Beast*

“Brilliant . . . A paranoid near-future thriller with a deep swirl of dark humor circling around it . . . Wilson is a stylist with few contemporaries.”

—*Inside Hook***Key Sales Handles**

**FOR FANS OF ABSURD LITERARY FICTION:** by authors like Sam Lipsyte and Melissa Broder; readers of fiction about parents and children; anyone interested in a very precise snapshot of 21st century America.

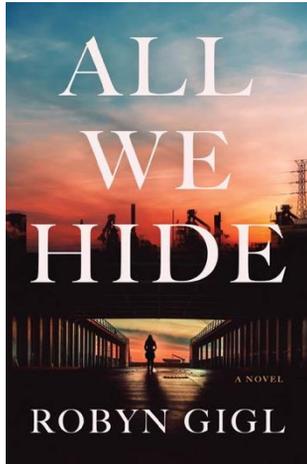
**FATHERS AND SONS:** In the grand tradition of *As I Lay Dying*, this novel expertly dissects familial relationships.

**POST-PANDEMIC LITERATURE:** Adam Wilson doesn't shy away from depicting the United States of America in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, in all its absurdity and splendor.

**SURREAL, YET RELATABLE:** Wilson's writing is exciting yet approachable.

**ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Wilson is a well-established, critically acclaimed writer of contemporary literary fiction. We're thrilled by his followup to his 2021 novel *Sensation Machines*.

**Adam Wilson** is the author of the short story collection *What's Important is Feeling* and the novels *Flatscreen* and *Sensation Machines*. His stories have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Tin House*, and *The Best American Short Stories*, among other publications, and *Flatscreen* was a National Jewish Book Award finalist and an Indie Next Pick and was translated into German and Italian. Wilson has taught in the creative writing programs at Columbia and NYU. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and son. Visit him online at [adamwilsonwriter.com](http://adamwilsonwriter.com).



## ALL WE HIDE

by Robyn Gigl

**A trans detective working for the District Attorney’s Office takes on the twisty, poignant cold case murder of a local trans woman, and her investigation unravels the threads of a mystery that’s haunted her since she was a child: her mother’s disappearance.**

When Lieutenant Lauren Kelly is exiled to the newly created Homicide Cold Case Unit at the DA’s office, she knows they’re sticking her there as punishment, hoping she does nothing for the next two years until she hits twenty-five years on the force and can quietly retire. That way, no one can claim they discriminated against the only trans detective in Donn County.

With her ex-detective father declining with Alzheimer’s, Lauren has a lot on her plate already—but with regards to the cold cases, she has other plans. She reopens the investigation into the death of Sherry Darling, a trans sex worker she went to high school with. As Lauren looks deeper into the events surrounding Sherry’s murder, she uncovers evidence of a cover up with implications beyond anything she could have ever imagined . . . and she becomes more and more convinced that what happened to Sherry is somehow tied to why her own mother disappeared when she was a child.

This brand new investigation from the acclaimed author of the Erin McCabe series is a nesting doll of pulse-pounding mysteries that dig deep into bias, corruption, and local scandal.

### US Publication Date:

August 2026

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for Robyn Gigl

“So good that it may end up counting among this year’s standouts . . . A groundbreaking series is poised to become a definitive one.”

—*The New York Times Book Review*

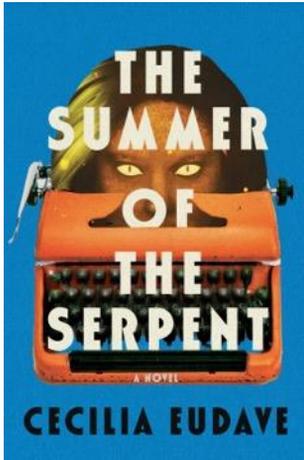
“What a wonder! *All We Hide* is a riveting police procedural with a massive, beating heart. Robyn Gigl introduces the terrific trans detective Lauren Kelly, a forensic force whose investigations are always personal, and who is dedicated to healing old wounds. If cold-case podcasts dominate your feed and you can hum the *Law & Order* theme song, get this superb thriller immediately. It will change the way you think about whose voices need to be heard. *All We Hide* is a gift for all of us, a procedural that feels as intimately tender and hopeful as it is intricately plotted. Your fingers will burn from turning the pages so fast.”

—*Margot Douaihy, bestselling author of Scorched Grace*

### Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF ERIN MCCABE:** and for readers of Ann Cleeves, Michael Connelly, Val McDermid, and Tana French; for readers of political crime fiction; for readers with interest in LGBTQ+ subject matter and cold cases.
- **TRANS DETECTIVE:** Lauren Kelly, a trans woman, struggles against the small-minded administration in her red-state small town.
- **INTRIGUING TWISTS:** This exciting cold-case mystery is personal and propulsive as Lauren races to get to the bottom of a case nobody before cared to solve.
- **ACCLAIMED, AUTHENTIC AUTHOR:** Robyn Gigl is the acclaimed author of the Erin McCabe series; she’s extremely well connected in the crime fiction community and writes from personal experience as a trans woman in the world of the law.

**Robyn Gigl** is the author of the critically acclaimed Erin McCabe Legal Thrillers, which include: *Survivor’s Guilt*, named one of the 100 Best Mystery/Thriller Books of All Time by *TIME* magazine and winner of the Joseph Hansen Award for LGBTQ+ Crime Writing; *By Way of Sorrow*, a CrimeReads Best Novel of the Year; *Remain Silent*, a Joseph Hansen Award nominee; and *Nothing but the Truth*, selected as one of the best crime novels of 2024 by *The New York Times*. Robyn practices law by day and writes novels at night. Fortunately, she has a very boring social life.



## THE SUMMER OF THE SERPENT

by Cecilia Eudave; translated by Robin Myers

This surreal, horror-tinged, Guadalajara-set work of Latin American “literature of the unusual” is a kaleidoscopic descent into the small violences and hidden horrors of one sweltering summer, forming a coil of vignettes that slither under the skin for a strange, deeply human portrait of memory, myth, and family.

For fans of Samanta Schweblin, Mónica Ojeda, and Brenda Lozano.

Guadalajara, Mexico, 1977. In a quiet residential neighborhood, children witness things they can never forget: a serpent girl weeping in a carnival glass box, a neighbor who dangles his dog from a tree, and a ghost who returns night after night, desperate to tell its story. Meanwhile, the grown-ups drift through the season half-oblivious, their spirits eroding as the relentless summer wears on.

Told in colliding voices—children and adults, ghosts and the haunted, the living and the almost-invisible—*The Summer of the Serpent* is a prismatic portrait of the past, where memory is shot through with myth. Each narrator offers a fragment of the truth, until the stories twist together into a shape as elusive and mesmerizing as the boa constrictor that winds its way through the neighborhood.

Strange yet deeply human, this brilliantly fragmented novel captures the moment when childhood innocence begins to corrode—and how those memories can coil through a lifetime.

### US Publication Date:

June 2026

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

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

“A voice that knows how to narrate, from a place of tenderness, humor, and amazement, the wonderful absurdity of being alive.”

—Patricia Esteban Erlés, author of *Las Madres Negras*

“Eudave weaves her *ars poetica* from threads of wonder and the uncanny, where the marvelous appears in every action of the protagonists, alongside chance and the inexorable verdict of a labyrinthine past and future—filled with secrets that demand to be revealed and destinies that must be fulfilled.”

—Alberto González, *Nexos*

### 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.



**ABSENCE**

by Andrew Dana Hudson

**In this moving, richly detailed speculative crime debut, the world is unraveling from an epidemic of human vanishing. Two novice investigators are dispatched to small-town Kansas to interview a woman who claims to have returned from Absence, offering answers to everything.**

People are “popping,” disappearing one-by-one, into thin air: an ongoing global cataclysm known as Spontaneous Human Absence. In a world where prospects for survival are increasingly grim, hopelessness prevails, political rifts widen, and doomsday predictions flourish.

Harvey Ellis works the night shift for the Bureau of Depopulation Affairs, an ad hoc federal agency meant to contain and catalog the crisis. His job: to investigate claims of Absence, and, if validated, issue a standard government stipend to boost morale. Still recovering from losses of his own, Harvey is content in his routine—until his life is shaken up by an unexpected assignment from the central office.

A woman long thought Absent has reappeared in her hometown of Dawnville, Kansas, claiming she’s been to the other side and back. Is her story true, or is she just the latest false prophet, offering hope to a world desperate for answers? Together with his no-BS partner Shonda Erins, Harvey travels to Dawnville to find out.

A sweeping portrait of a world beset by confusion and dismay, Andrew Dana Hudson’s debut novel is a vividly imagined speculative mystery of cosmic proportions, examining the stories we tell to get by.

**US Publication Date:**

May 2026

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for Andrew Dana Hudson**

“Hudson has found a way to strike together all the various facets of our rapidly changing climate future, sparking stories that are by turns, and often all at once, ingenious, energetic, provocative, and soulful. He is the face of this new movement in science fiction, and we’re lucky to have him.”

—**Kim Stanley Robinson, Nebula Award-winning author of *Red Mars***

“A fearless and funny and thought-provoking storyteller, interrogating our current social and cultural moment through a radical speculative lens.”

—**Sam J. Miller, Nebula Award-winning author of *Blackfish City***

“A fascinating thought-experiment in imagining worlds to come.”

—**Christopher Schaberg, author of *Searching for the Anthropocene***

**Key Sales Handles**

**FOR FANS OF HBO'S *THE LEFTOVERS*:** Jeff VanderMeer and Tom Perrota, readers of speculative literary and crime fiction.

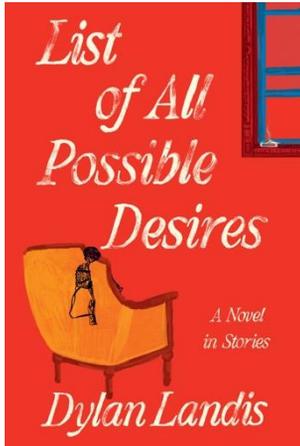
**SPEC-FIC:** There's a big supernatural mystery at the heart of this book—how can millions of people just disappear into thin air?

**COVID NOVEL (THAT'S NOT ABOUT COVID):** The author was heavily emotionally inspired by the experience of living through the COVID pandemic—both the lockdown, and the millions of deaths that ensued—in writing this novel about mysterious mass disappearances.

**IMMERSIVE AND INTRIGUING:** As agents Ellis and Erins work together, we learn more and more about what life is like post-Absence. Hudson raises fascinating questions about the structure of society after large-scale events like this one.

**WELL-CONNECTED AUTHOR:** Andrew Dana Hudson is well-connected with authors in solarpunk and cli-fi.

**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.



## THE LIST OF ALL POSSIBLE DESIRES

by Dylan Landis

**A dazzling novel-in-stories from a master of the form that follows the Royal family across generations of obsession, betrayal, and reinvention.**

**For fans of Mary Gaitskill and Lauren Groff.**

In postwar Paris, a boy is seduced by his mysterious nanny into a world of adult secrets. In 1950s New York, a young woman struggles to protect her stroke-stricken charge as bruises multiply on the woman's body. In the 1970s, a fragile cousin wanders into the Royals' jazz-soaked townhouse, where music, sex, and ruin intertwine. And at the heart of these stories is Rainey Royal herself, coming of age in Greenwich Village, inventing herself as an artist through the tumult of the '70s and '80s.

By turns shocking, erotic, and deeply humane, *List of All Possible Desires* is a haunting portrait of family and history—written with Landis's trademark intensity and precision.

This publication is joined by expanded reissues of the other two books in the Rainey Royal Cycle, the novel-in-stories *Normal People Don't Live Like This* and the novel *Rainey Royal*. Each book stands on its own, but together they echo and amplify one another, creating one of the richest and most intense worlds in contemporary American fiction.

### US Publication Date:

May 2026

### 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**

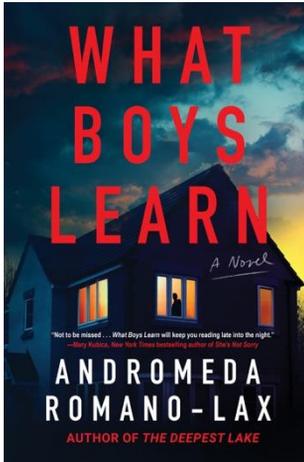
"Dylan Landis's *Rainey Royal* is like its heroine: fierce, winning, and sharp as a blade."

—**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.



## WHAT BOYS LEARN

by Andromeda Romano-Lax

A twisty, jaw-dropping psychological thriller that unravels a mother's worst nightmare—that her child is capable of terrible violence—when her teenage son becomes a suspect in the murder of two classmates, from the author of *The Deepest Lake*.

Over one terrible weekend, two teenage girls are found dead in a wealthy Chicago suburb. As the community mourns, Abby Rosso, the girls' high school counselor, begins to suspect that her son was secretly involved in their lives—and possibly, their deaths.

Abby doesn't want to believe Benjamin hurt anyone. But she's seen the warning signs before. Two decades ago, her brother was imprisoned for a disturbing crime—he was only a little older than Benjamin is now. And Abby has more troubling memories from her own adolescence that confirm what boys and men are capable of. As Abby searches for the truth about what happened to her students, she's forced to face the question: Has she been making excuses for Benjamin for years?

Swirling with sharp questions about family and masculinity, *What Boys Learn* unravels a mother's worst fears.

### US Publication Date:

January 2026

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *What Boys Learn*

“Admirably nuanced.. Its worthy themes (generational trauma, criminal psychopathy, toxic masculinity, the uses and abuses of therapy) are tucked inside a plot that initially seems sleepy but then roars into gear.”

—*The New York Times*

“An urgent and uncompromising take on parenting in the age of the manosphere.”

—*CrimeReads*

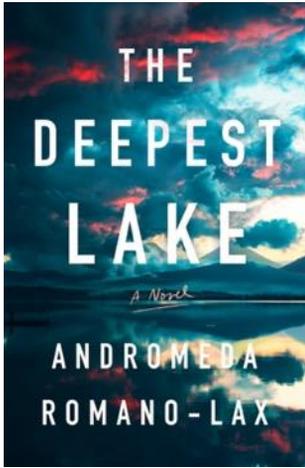
“A propulsive, horrifying psychological thriller rife with ambivalence, suspense, and maternal guilt.”

—*The BC Review*

### 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, Netflix's *Adolescence*.
- **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 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 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 Atitlan 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

### 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*

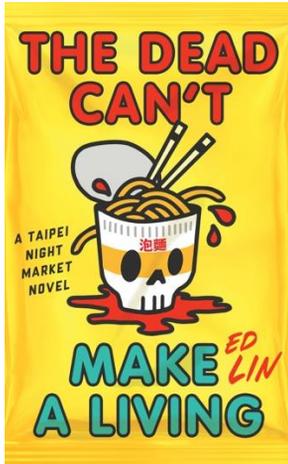
“As a seasoned novelist, Romano-Lax takes readers into Rose's point of view and also that of her daughter, Jules, to get to the bottom of this great mystery, which is as deep as the lake where Jules presumably drowned.” —*Observer*

“*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 DEAD CAN'T MAKE A LIVING

by Ed Lin

“A unique blend of tension, charm, tragedy, and optimism, with characters you’ll love and a setting so real you’ll think you’ve been there. Highly recommended.”—Lee Child, author of the Jack Reacher series

Ed Lin's big-hearted, eye-opening fifth installment in the fan-favorite Taipei Night Market series

Jing-nan, the owner of the most popular food stand in Taipei’s world-famous Shilin night market, is hauling trash after a successful evening of hawking Taiwanese delicacies to tourists when he finds a corpse propped up against the dumpsters. The dead man turns out to be Juan Ramos, a Philippine national who came to Taiwan for a job at a massive ZHD food processing plant.

Jing-nan is haunted by Ramos’s story, and by the heartbreak of his family, who arrive in Taipei looking for answers. ZHD has a history of safety violations, and activists have a hunch Ramos’s death might be part of a cover-up. Meanwhile, Jing-nan’s gangster uncle, Big Eye, has his own mysterious, probably illegal, reasons for being concerned about what’s going on in ZHD. He pressures Jing-nan into a daring and risky mission: going undercover as a migrant laborer to get a job at the food processing plant and reporting back about the conditions inside. Jing-nan hopes to find out the truth for the Ramos family, and to save other immigrant lives—but first he has to survive the spy operation.

A rollicking crime novel and a scorchingly timely examination of our global dependence on undocumented immigrants and inhumane labor conditions.

**US Publication Date:**

April 2026

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for the Taipei Night Market series**

“A smart, stylish thriller for the mind, heart, and gut. Sex, music, history, politics, food, humor, and just a touch of violence and death—you get it all.”

—Viet Thanh Nguyen, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sympathizer*

“Marvelously mordant.”

—*The New York Times Book Review*

“A master of Taipei noir. [Ed Lin] proves every good crime novel is a social novel.”

—*Los Angeles Times*

“A unique blend of tension, charm, tragedy and optimism, with characters you'll love, and a setting so real you'll think you've been there. Highly recommended.”

—Lee Child

**Key Sales Handles**

**FOR FANS OF:** humorous crime series, books about Taiwan, Jessica Lee, novels with themes of activism and immigration.

**ARMCHAIR TRAVEL:** With plenty of tastes, smells, and sights—you'll come out of the book dying for a ticket to Taipei to see the night markets and water lily parks for yourself.

**POLITICAL SUBJECT MATTER:** Every book in this series covers a different issue affecting Taiwan, and at the heart of this one is the treatment of migrant workers at food processing plants.

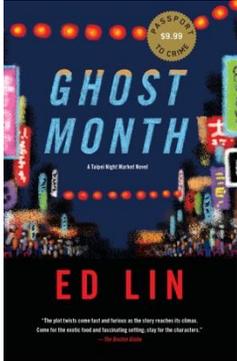
**ENSEMBLE CAST:** The cast of quirky characters are now as much a part of the book as the mystery itself.

**CRITICAL DARLING:** Author is known for his big-hearted story telling, atmospheric detail, and off-beat sense of humor. He is also a dynamic speaker, and is well-known in the Asian and crime literary community.

**Ed Lin** is a journalist by training and an all-around stand-up kinda guy. He’s the author of four other novels in the Taipei Night Market series: *Ghost Month*, *Incensed*, *99 Ways to Die*, and *Death Doesn't Forget*, as well as five other novels. Lin, who is of Chinese and Taiwanese descent, is the first author to win three Asian American Literary Awards. He lives in New York with his wife, actress Cindy Cheung, and son.

Taipei Night Market series *by* Ed Lin

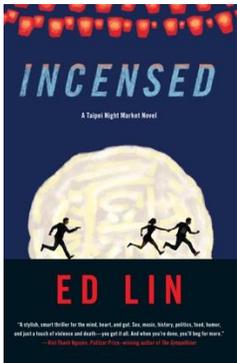
Taipei, Taiwan: A young man who runs a dumpling stand in a bustling night market crosses paths with some very dangerous gangsters—including his own uncle.



GHOST MONTH (Book 1)

Welcome to Unknown Pleasures, a food stand in Taipei's night market named after a Joy Division album, and also the location for a big-hearted new mystery set in the often undocumented Taiwan.

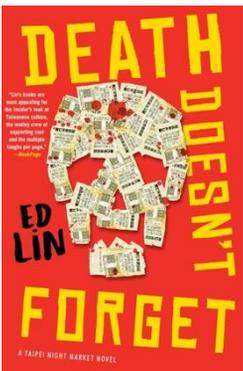
August is Ghost Month in Taiwan—a time to pay respects to the dead and avoid unlucky omens. Jing-nan, who runs a food stand in a bustling Taipei night market, isn't superstitious, but this August will haunt him nonetheless. He learns that his high school sweetheart has been murdered—found scantily clad near a highway where she was selling betel nuts.



Beyond his harrowing grief, Jing-nan is confused. “Betel nut beauties” are typically women in desperate circumstances, but Julia Huang was high school valedictorian, and the last time Jing-nan spoke to her, she was far away, happily enrolled in NYU’s honor program. The facts don’t add up. Julia’s parents don’t think so, either, but the police seem to have closed the case without asking any questions. The Huangs beg Jing-nan to do some investigating—reconnect with old classmates, see if he can learn anything more about Julia’s last years. Reluctantly, he agrees, for Julia’s sake. But nothing can prepare him for what he is about to learn, or how it will change his life.

INCENSED (Book 2)

Family secrets come to light in this dark, comedic crime caper set in Taipei during the annual Mid-Autumn Festival.



DEATH DOESN'T FORGET (Book 3)

Jing-nan, owner of a popular night market food stall, is framed for a string of high-profile murders—why does it seem like he's always the one left holding the skewer? The fourth entry to Ed Lin's Taipei mystery series is as hilarious and poignant as ever.

**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.

### US Publication Date:

January 2025

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available

### Praise for *Our Winter Monster*

“Dennis Mahoney continues to build off his explorations into our universal fears of loneliness & inadequacy with a novel firmly set in the horror genre.”

—WAMC's *The Roundtable*

“A wonderful mix of pulpy horror and crime . . . Fast-paced [and] full of chaos . . . *Our Winter Monster* is just like the blizzard at its core: relentless and constantly violent. There is a lot to like here, but the thing that stands out the most is how the author managed to fill a campy, gory monster tale with complex, engaging, diverse characters.”

—Gabino Iglesias, *Locus Magazine*

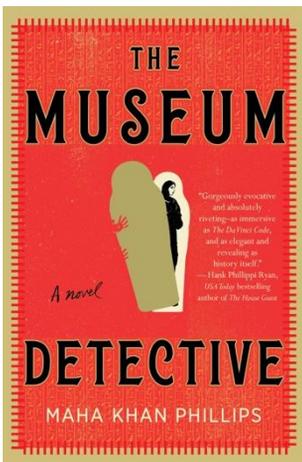
“Satisfying . . . A hectic, gory, and heartfelt horror story.”

—Reactor

**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.

### 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.



## 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

### 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 *The Museum Detective*

**A CrimeReads Best Debut Crime Novel of the Year**  
**A Paste Magazine Most Anticipated Book of the Year**

“The action of *The Museum Detective* largely unfolds in 21st-century Karachi, but it abounds in such arcane information about distant eras . . . But even as Ms. Khan Phillips fascinates us with antiquity, she fixes our attention on the modern mystery surrounding the gilded treasure and on Gul, whose investigations lead her to a very different underworld.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

“Inspired by a real-life antiquities scandal in Pakistan, Phillips's novel immerses readers in the teeming Pakistani city as she details how Delani's quest for the truth may imperil not just her but also her family and friends.”

—*The Washington Post*

### 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** was born in Karachi, Pakistan. She is the author of *Beautiful from This Angle*, *The Mystery of the Agnee Ruby*, and *The Curse of Mohenjodaro*. She is a multiple award-winning financial journalist and editor who writes across a number of different journals and magazines. She lives in London with her husband and son and frequently visits Pakistan, where she has a keen interest in exploring archaeological sites.

Cover  
Coming  
Soon

## CITY OF SPIRITS

by Maha Khan Phillips

In Maha Khan Phillips's latest archaeological mystery set in contemporary Pakistan, human remains are found near a precious heritage site compromised by a corporate mining company's drilling plans, forcing Dr. Gul Delani—the country's preeminent Egyptologist and museum curator—into action.

Two years after Gul Delani solved the sensational mummy hoax case, garnering her national attention as well as a promotion to museum director, her life has gone back to normal. Mostly. She's finally reunited with her daughter, Mahnaz, but the reunion is . . . icy. Mahnaz, twenty now, harbors resentment for the way her mother failed to protect her as a child, and in a fit of rebellion, Mahnaz has eschewed college plans for a fellowship at Mind Haven, a new-age psychotherapy clinic in Karachi headed by the brilliant Rubena Chaudhry, whose holier-than-thou healing wisdom more than a little bit irks Gul.

When Gul is made aware of a shocking discovery, in a precious cave complex in the Sindh province, known for its rich pre-Islamic history, both for early Dravidian societies and as the seat of a sixth-century Buddhist monastery, she can't resist another investigation. Bones are in the cave, the remains of a human, along with a locket with the Urdu letters *F* and *N*. Then, a six-year-old boy all the way back in Karachi claims to be speaking as the murdered man's reincarnated soul.

Diving headlong into another investigation—especially if it means demonstrating to her daughter how hellbent she is to find peace for the suffering boy, a patient at the Mind Haven clinic—Gul's investigation takes her from the streets of Karachi to the feudal lands of conservative Sindh, where she confronts family secrets long buried.

### US Publication Date:

April 2026

### Rights Available:

World English

### Territories Sold:

Available (excluding  
Asia)

### Praise for Maha Khan Phillips

"Phillips offers a smooth and well-paced style, with quick bursts of action, a steady stream of revelations about Karachi culture, and daring twists . . . [*The Museum Detective*] offers a parallel rhythm to the great mysteries of Agatha Christie."

—**New York Journal of Books**

"Inspired by true events, this series opener from Phillips (*The Curse of Mohenjodaro*) contains chilling, heart-pounding twists . . .

There is a delicate balance between Gul's professional investigation and her personal crisis regarding her family, all while being aided by a stalwart crew of friends and colleagues."

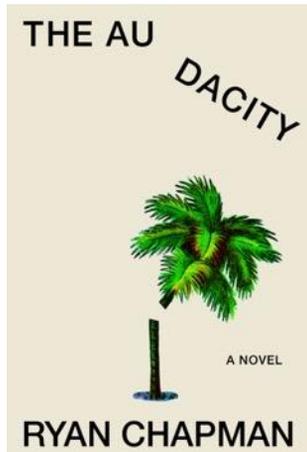
—**Library Journal, Starred Review**

"Phillips's pacing is brisk, and she peppers the action with plenty of well-timed plot twists. Readers will hope to hear more from Gul soon."

—**Publishers Weekly**

### 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:** Author has a prominent platform in India, but we are excited to present her work to our audience.



**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

**Rights Available:**

World English

**Territories Sold:**

Available

**Praise for *The Audacity***

“Chapman’s skewering of the rich, the very rich and the ultrarich as they debate the world’s ills is as incisive as it is hilarious.”

—*The Washington Post*

“Delicious satire.”

—*Vanity Fair*

“In this funny, observant novel, Ryan Chapman . . . looks closely at the state of wealth and the world today.”

—*Town & Country*

“If you enjoy your satire blistering, your characters memorable and your prose searing, you’ve come to the right place.”

—*Inside Hook*

**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*.

Soho Teen  
Young Adult

World Rights



## 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.

**Winner of the Anthony Award for Best YA Novel**

### US Publication Date:

November 2024

### 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

### 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."

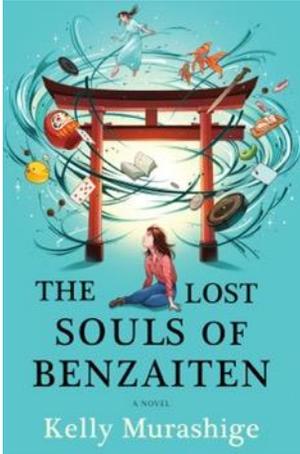
—**Jeff Zentner**, award-winning author of *The Serpent King*

"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

### 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.