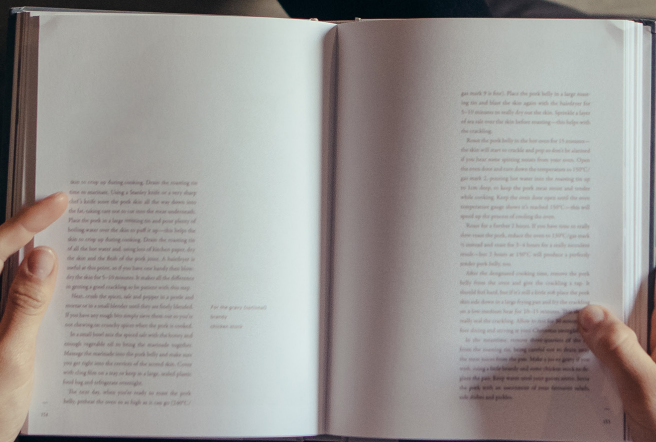


# SPARKPRESS CATALOG<sup>2020</sup>



*SparkPress is an independent, hybrid imprint focused on merging the best of the traditional publishing model, such as manuscript vetting and traditional distribution through Ingram Publisher Services, with new and innovative strategies, such as higher royalties and more creative control for authors. We are proud to bring to market this list of New York Times best-selling, award-winning, and debut authors with an array of fiction and nonfiction titles to entertain, empower, and change readers everywhere.*

**GoSparkPress.com**

# HIGHLIGHTS

Since launching in 2014, SparkPress has . . .

Published more than  
12 best-selling authors

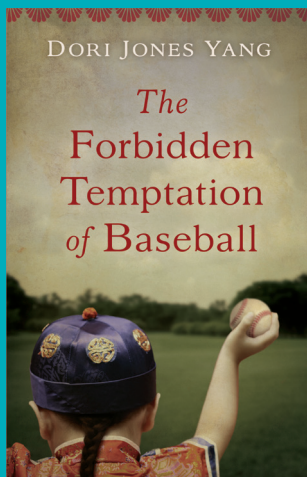
Sold multiple rights in foreign  
countries and film rights

Sold and transitioned a  
best-selling book series to  
HarperCollins

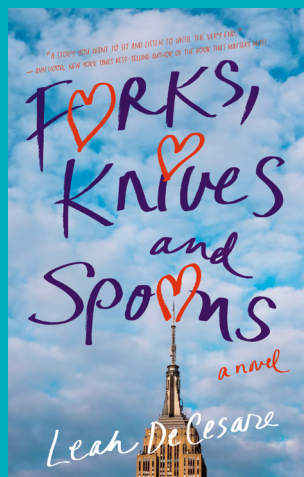
Seen its authors earn  
more than 160 awards and  
finalist titles



SPARK Award for  
Excellence in Independent  
Publishing for Children:  
Illustrated Book category



2018 Gold IPPY,  
Multicultural  
Fiction – Juvenile/  
Young Adult



2017 IAN Book of  
the Year Awards,  
Outstanding Women's  
Fiction



Series winner of 12  
awards, including 2  
IBPA Benjamin Franklin  
Awards Gold medals.

SparkPress has received rave reviews from . . .

## Booklist

*The House Children*  
*Echoes of War*  
*Tree Dreams*  
*So Close*  
*The Frontman*  
*Hindsight*

## LIBRARY JOURNAL

*The Leaving Year*,  
starred review  
*The House that Made  
Me*, starred review  
*A Dangerous Woman  
from Nowhere*  
*The Thorn Queen*,  
starred review  
*The Leaving Year*

## PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

*Firewall*  
*Hindsight*, starred  
review  
*Girl With a Gun*  
*Deepest Blue*  
*Resistant*

## KIRKUS

*Above the Star*  
*Just Like February*  
*A Song for the Road*  
*The House Children*  
*The Restless Hungarian*  
*The Opposite of Never*  
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SPRING 2020

APRIL 2020



Publication Date: April 7, 2020

Collections: Fiction, For Kids

Trim size: 6 x 9

Price: \$12.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-028-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-029-5

"This charming and brilliant novel is superbly plotted and will win over readers . . . Phoebe's voice is dead on and authentic, as are those of her friends. The author's masterful prose and style serve the story instead of merely taking center stage. . . . This author and novel are ready for prime time and the big time."

—*Publishers Weekly*, BookLife Prize Critic's Report

# THE EYE OF ZEUS

## LEGENDS OF OLYMPUS, BOOK 1

ALANE ADAMS

### DESCRIPTION:

Meet Phoebe Katz, a twelve-year-old foster kid from New York City who's been bounced around the system her entire life. Things happen around Phoebe, but it's not like they're her fault! But when a statue of Athena comes to life, Phoebe gets the stunning news that she's the daughter of Zeus, has a twin brother named Perseus—and was sent away from ancient Greece as a baby to stop a terrible prophecy that predicted she would one day destroy Olympus. Athena warns Phoebe to stay in hiding, but when the vengeful god Ares kidnaps her beloved social worker, Phoebe has no choice—she has to travel back to ancient Greece and rescue him. There, Phoebe and her friends Angie and Damian discover a new prophecy, one that may fix everything. The catch: Phoebe has to collect talismans from six Greek monsters, including the fang from a nine-headed hydra, a talon from the Nemean lion, and a feather from the sphinx. No problem for a girl with the power to call up lightning bolts and change the weather! But can Phoebe collect them all and stop the prophecy before she destroys Olympus?

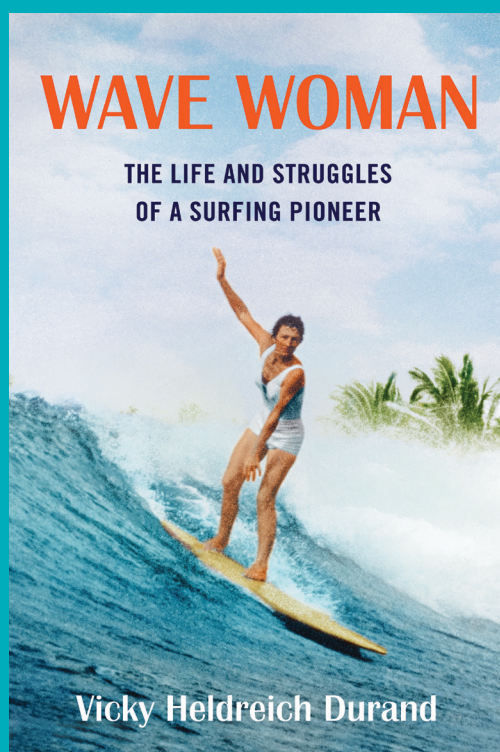
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is an award-winning author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and the Witches of Orkney series, as well as *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, *The Santa Thief*, and *The Circus Thief* picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

### AWARDS:

Alane Adams has won over 10 awards for The Legends of Orkney series and 2 awards for The Witches of Orkney series.

APRIL 2020



Publication Date: April 7, 2020

Collections: Memoir

Trim size: 6 x 9

Four-color

Price: \$29.95 hardcover / \$14.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-042-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-043-1

“There are some people who venture into uncharted territory. They are referred to as pioneers, and that they are. In the world of surfing, one such pioneer was Betty. She was prominent, accomplished, and a champion surfer when women were not supposed to surf. She also ventured into bigger waves when most others were content to watch.

Every young woman enjoying surfing in contemporary times should remember and appreciate Betty Heldreich. She made it ‘happen.’”

—Fred Hemmings, author, keynote speaker,  
and former surfing champion

# WAVE WOMAN

## THE LIFE AND STRUGGLES OF A SURFING PIONEER

VICKY HELDREICH DURAND

### DESCRIPTION:

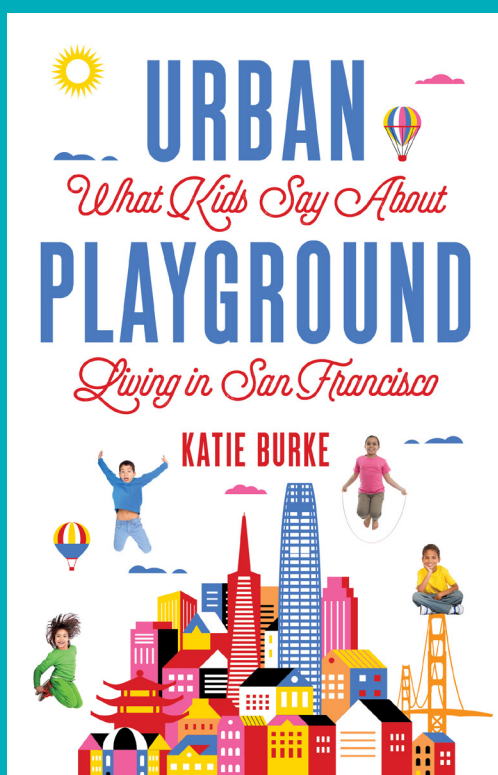
*Wave Woman* is the untold story of an adventurer whose zest for life and learning kept her alive for ninety-eight years. Betty Pembroke Heldreich Winstedt was the granddaughter of Mormon pioneers who, after spending an active and athletic childhood in Salt Lake City, moved to Santa Monica with her family and enrolled at USC to study dental hygiene. Betty went on to elope with a man she hardly knew, and to have two daughters.

In middle age, Betty finally followed her dream of living near the ocean: she moved to Hawaii and, at age forty-one, took up surfing. She lived and surfed at Waikiki during the golden years of the mid-1950s and was a pioneer surfer at Makaha Beach. She was competitive in early big-wave surfing championships and was among the first women to compete in Lima, Peru, where she won first place. Betty was an Olympic hopeful, a pilot, a mother, a sculptor, a jeweler, a builder, a fisherwoman, an ATV rider, and a potter who lived life her way, dealing with adversity and heartache on her own stoic terms. A love letter from a daughter to her larger-than-life mother, *Wave Woman* will speak to any woman searching for self-confidence, fulfillment, and happiness.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Vicky Heldreich Durand first fell in love with Hawaii at age twelve, when she spent a summer with her aunt and uncle on the island of Molokai. She returned home and talked her mother, Betty, into a trip the following summer, and by the following winter, Betty, Vicky, and Vicky's sister had moved to Honolulu. Vicky spent her formative years surfing with her mother; they both competed in the Makaha International Surfing Contest in Hawaii, and they traveled as invited guests to Lima, Peru, on behalf of The Club Waikiki's efforts to interest women in surfing. She is the mother of two grown daughters and grandmother of six grandchildren, gardens avidly, and is passionately involved in animal rescue, working mainly with cats and dogs. *Wave Woman* is her first book.

APRIL 2020



Publication Date: April 7, 2020

Collections: Nonfiction, Self-help

Trim size: 5 x 8.25

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-016-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-017-2

# URBAN PLAYGROUND

## WHAT KIDS SAY ABOUT LIVING IN SAN FRANCISCO

KATIE BURKE

### DESCRIPTION:

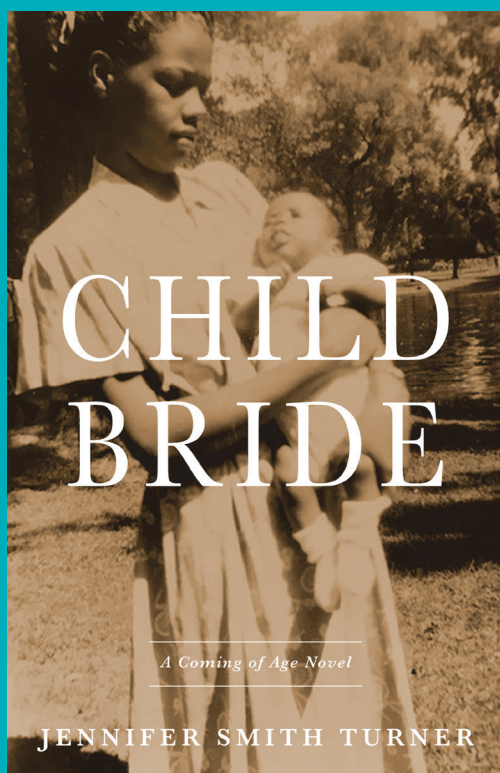
Rural areas cover 97 percent of the United States—yet more than 80 percent of the US population lives in urban areas. What is life like for the millions of children who populate our nation's cities?

*In Urban Playground*, Katie Burke interviews fifty children, ages five to nine, who live in San Francisco. In each conversation, she explores one of ten different themes—family, school, pets, vacation, work, heroes, holidays, favorite foods, talents, and sports—followed by insights on the topic. She rounds out each segment with five questions for adults and kids to discuss after they've read it together, encouraging open, honest dialogue about young readers' thoughts on the subject matter at hand. Future books in the series will expand into other major US cities. Fun, accessible, and interactive, *Urban Playground* is an important window into the ways children in cities think about and describe the most important aspects of their lives—which is every aspect of their lives!

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Katie Burke is a family law attorney and writer in San Francisco. Prior to entering law school, she earned a master's degree in counseling. She owns Burke Family Law and writes Noe Kids, a monthly column for *The Noe Valley Voice*. Burke has been published by HarperCollins, the *LA Times*, *The Journal of Law and Social Challenges*, *Trial Insider*, *BASF Bulletin* (the Bar Association of San Francisco's newspaper), *Legal by the Bay* (the Bar Association of San Francisco's blog), the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Examiner*, *The Fairfield Citizen-News*, *The SoMa Literary Review*, *Women's Voices*, *The Sitting Room*, *The Compass*, *Culture-Voice*, and *Street Spirit*. She has had her essays broadcasted on KQED, read at Litquake, and taught writing at City College of San Francisco.

APRIL 2020



Publication Date: April 14, 2020

Collections: Historical Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-038-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-039-4

"Jennifer Smith Turner's *Child Bride* offers a rich and immersive evocation of life for a young black American woman in the mid-twentieth century. Her portrayals of both rural, segregated Louisiana and Boston, Massachusetts, are vivid, powerful, and striking in their historical accuracy. But it is protagonist Nell's journey as a woman seeking independence that makes this book stand out: her evolution from a child bride into a forceful and self-assured adult testifies to the incalculable value of a warm heart and an inquiring mind."

—Ursula DeYoung, Editor, *Embark Literary Journal*

# CHILD BRIDE

## A NOVEL

JENNIFER SMITH TURNER

### DESCRIPTION:

In the segregated South of the mid-1900s, fourteen-year-old Nell bears witness to a world that embraces the oppression of women. She is fascinated with the prospect of being an independent person—but when she turns sixteen, she is married off and brought to the city of Boston as a bride.

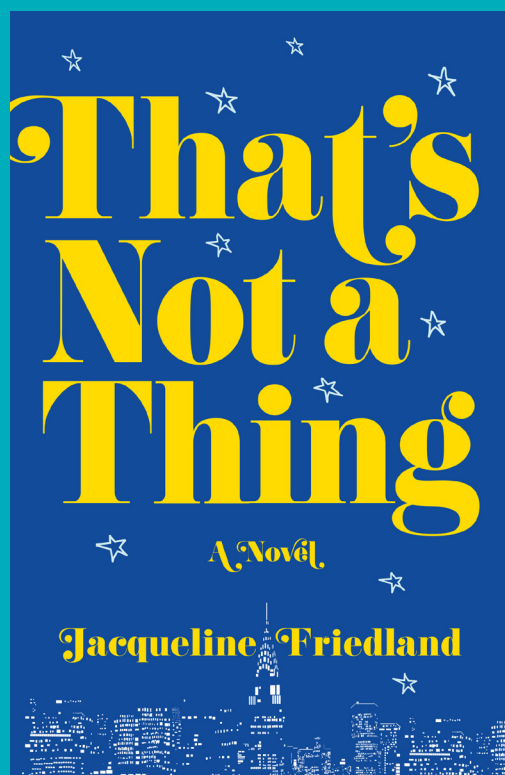
Nell is a shy girl who must quickly learn how to be a wife and mother. She discovers that she must acquire new skills to navigate the unknown territory of the North, as well as her relationship with her husband, Henry, who is controlling and emotionally abusive. After giving birth to three children, her body begins to fail her and Henry, concerned for her health, pulls away from her physically. But this void of intimacy drives Nell into the arms of another man.

It's through her encounter with Charles in the church kitchen, at the point when she is most vulnerable, that Nell finds escape from her depressing life with Henry. The cost though, is another pregnancy. When Charles finds out the baby is his, at first it appears he plans to leave Nell; ultimately, however, his love for her brings him back.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jennifer Smith Turner is a New England-born writer. She is the author of two poetry books, *Lost and Found: Rhyming Verse Honoring African American Heroes* and *Perennial Secrets: Poetry & Prose*. She is the retired CEO of Girl Scouts of Connecticut. During her professional career, she served as an appointed government official with the State of Connecticut and the City of Hartford as a corporate and nonprofit executive, and as a member of many academic and nonprofit boards of directors. She retired to Martha's Vineyard with her husband, Eric Turner, in 2012.

APRIL 2020



Publication Date: April 14, 2020

Collections: Women's Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-030-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-031-8

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"Fun, flirty and fabulous . . . I devoured this read!"

—Stephanie Evanovich, *New York Times*  
best-selling author of *Big Girl Panties* and  
*The Sweet Spot*

"In *That's Not a Thing*, Friedland has created  
a delightful and generous novel about the  
type of love that never leaves us and the  
people we hope to become in the aftermath."

—Laura Dave, international best-selling  
author of *Eight Hundred Grapes*

# THAT'S NOT A THING

## A NOVEL

JACQUELINE FRIEDLAND

### DESCRIPTION:

Meredith Altman's engagement to Wesley Latner ended in spectacular disaster. When Wesley lost his parents in an accident, mere weeks before the wedding date, he blamed Meredith and left for an open-ended journey to Europe, breaking off their engagement and shattering Meredith.

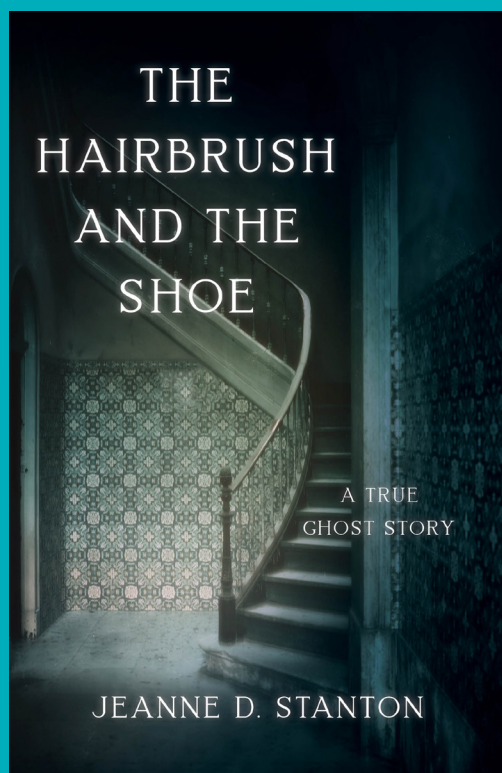
It was Aaron Rapp, a former Ivy League football player and baby-saving doctor who finally helped lift her heart off the floor. Now a couple of years into their courtship, Aaron and Meredith have just gotten engaged, and she feels her life is on a positive trajectory at last. As they celebrate their engagement at a new TriBeCa hotspot, however, Meredith is stunned to discover that the restaurant owner is none other than Wesley, the man she is still secretly trying to forget.

Now that Wesley is back in the States, Meredith is bumping into him everywhere, and he clearly still has the feels for her. Before long, she learns that he has been diagnosed with ALS, and her feelings about their past become all the more confusing. As Meredith spends more time with Wesley and is pulled further under his spell, she learns what kind of man her new fiancé really is—and what kind of woman she wants to be.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jacqueline Friedland holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and a JD from NYU Law School. She practiced as an attorney in New York before returning to school to receive her MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. She lives in New York with her husband, four children, and two overly pampered dogs.

APRIL 2020



Publication Date: April 21, 2020

Collections: Memoir

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-034-9

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-035-6

# THE HAIRBRUSH AND THE SHOE

## A TRUE GHOST STORY

JEANNE D. STANTON

### DESCRIPTION:

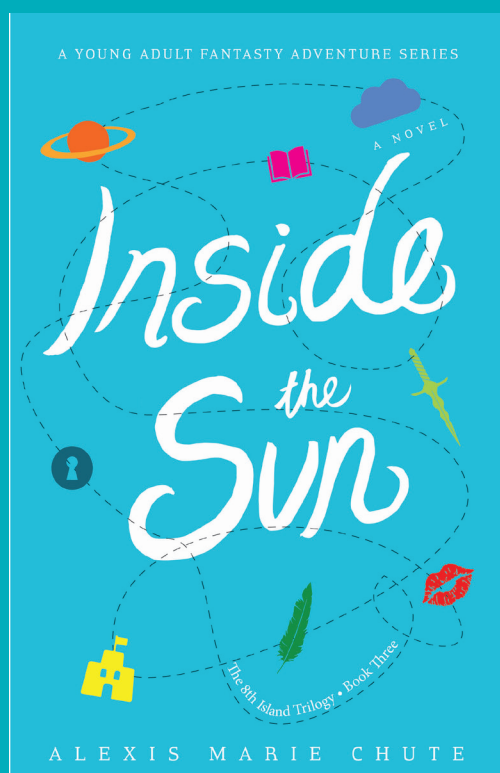
When a workman is pushed and hissed at by something invisible on the stairs of her family's 150-year-old townhouse, Jeanne Stanton must confront the possibility that a ghost inhabits the space. She proceeds in the way any former Harvard Business School case writer would: she embarks upon a rigorous search for proof of the ghost's existence and identity, exploring the literature and lore of ghosts; the practices of mediums, psychics, and "ghost busters"; and the various attempts that have been made over the decades to verify ghostly sounds and sights through scientific methods. After visits to a psychic provide insights but not proof, Stanton enters the equally mysterious realms of physics and neurology, hoping science has answers.

Notables encountered during her research efforts include Henry James, Arthur Conan Doyle, Oliver Sacks, and Sigmund Freud, the latter a colleague of her home's original owner. Wry and witty, Stanton takes time out to laugh at her own futile attempts at ghost detection—spending a sleepless night in an allegedly haunted bedroom, creeping along the edges of rooms in search of cold spots—along the way. Determined to get to the bottom of the ghost business, Stanton wavers between skepticism and belief, searching for definitive evidence—and almost failing to find it. Almost.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jeanne D. Stanton lives and writes in an 1875 townhouse in Boston's historic Back Bay. Formerly a faculty member at Harvard Business School and the Simmons College Graduate School of Management, her book *Being All Things* profiles women attempting to manage family and careers.

APRIL 2020



Publication Date: April 21, 2020

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-045-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-046-2

*"A Wrinkle in Time meets  
The Princess Bride . . ."*

—Lee Lee Thompson, *The Perpetual You*  
magazine

*"Will hold you spellbound until the last page."*

—Readers' Favorite

# INSIDE THE SUN

## THE 8TH ISLAND TRILOGY, BOOK 3

ALEXIS MARIE CHUTE

### DESCRIPTION:

All worlds are dying, and it's up to one broken and dysfunctional family from Earth—the Wellsleys—to save the day. Cancer-ridden Ella celebrates her fifteenth birthday beneath an enchanted mountain, but it is what lies even farther below—the mysterious Star in the sea—that demands she grow up quickly. While Ella grapples with the sacrifice she must make and the lies she is forced to tell, her mother, Tessa, is hell-bent on protecting her. Through bizarre encounters, love-sick Tessa realizes that she is not the lonely orphan she believes. Her husband, Arden, and father-in-law, Archie, are not the only ones with magical bloodlines. This revelation changes everything. As Archie chooses to embody his unexpected ancestry, he learns that leading the charge in the ultimate battle against evil won't be as easy as he thought. He'll need his family—and the strange allies he has gained—by his side to give Ella enough time to set things right. Can they defeat the unstoppable Millia sands—and another unexpected foe—before everything they hold dear is destroyed? Or will their adventure tear them apart for good? The finale to The 8th Island Trilogy will hold you spellbound until the final page, and long after.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alexis Marie Chute is an award-winning author, artist, filmmaker, curator, and inspirational speaker. Her memoir, *Expecting Sunshine: A Journey of Grief, Healing, and Pregnancy After Loss*, was a Kirkus Best Book of 2017 and received many literary awards. *Expecting Sunshine* is also a highly acclaimed feature documentary film, produced, and directed by the author that was screened around the world in 2018 and 2019. Her 8th Island Trilogy—including the novels *Above the Star*, *Below the Moon*, and *Inside the Sun*—has been called "A Wrinkle in Time meets *The Princess Bride*" (Lee Lee Thompson, *The Perpetual You*) and was a 2018 "Top 15 Unputdownable YA Reads" pick (Bookstr) and a 5/5 Readers' Favorite book.

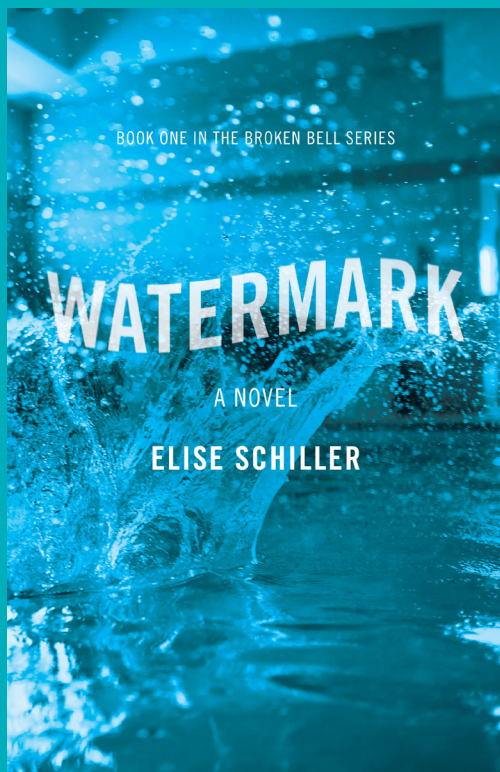
### AWARDS:

Above the Star, Book 1:

2018/2019 Readers View Literary Awards, Winner: YA

2018 International Book Awards: Finalist in Fiction: Young Adult;  
Fiction: Fantasy; and Best New Fiction

**MAY 2020**



Publication Date: May 5, 2020

Collections: Fiction, Thriller

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-036-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-037-0

# **WATERMARK**

## **THE BROKEN BELL SERIES, BOOK ONE**

**ELISE SCHILLER**

### **DESCRIPTION:**

The oldest child in a troubled Philadelphia family, Angel Ferente struggles to care for her three sisters while pursuing her goal of attending college on a swimming scholarship. She has a problematic relationship with her mother, Pic, who uses alcohol and drugs to self-medicate and at one point lost custody for a year, and an outright hostile relationship with her stepfather, the only father figure in her life. Angel is the center of stability in the household—making sure the younger girls get to school, ensuring that holidays are observed, doing the family’s laundry at her part-time job at a Laundromat, and even taking care of Pic when she is sick or depressed. It’s 1993, the midst of the crack epidemic, and Angel and her sisters are witness to the everyday events of life in a community beset by poverty and drugs: dealers on the corner, shoot-outs that kill bystanders, prostitutes on the job, and more. Then Angel goes to a team party on New Year’s Eve—and doesn’t come home afterward. In the wake of her disappearance, her teammates, her coach’s church, and her family search the city for her. The result changes their lives forever.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Elise Schiller has been writing fiction and actively participating in writing groups since adolescence. After a thirty-year career in education and family services in Philadelphia, she retired to write full time. In 2019, SparkPress published *Even If Your Heart Would Listen: Losing My Daughter to Heroin*, her memoir about her daughter’s illness, treatment, and death. When not writing or reading, Schiller enjoys visiting museums and historical sites, often with one of her seven grandchildren or various nieces and nephews in tow.

MAY 2020



Publication Date: May 12, 2020

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-026-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-027-1

# ENEMY QUEEN

## A NOVEL

**ROBERT STEVEN GOLDSTEIN**

### DESCRIPTION:

When Stanley Berman, a Jewish New York attorney, is appointed Chief Counsel at a North Carolina University, he opts to share a house with his good friend, Thomas McClellan, a professor in the school's English Department. The men spend their evenings drinking wine, playing chess, and lamenting their ineptitude with women. Then the Professor, a southern good old boy, former high school football lineman, and avid hunter, hatches a scheme to bring a young woman into the house, insisting that as a creative writing teacher, such women find him alluringly subversive and artistic. The Counselor is dubious but persuaded nonetheless—much to his detriment.

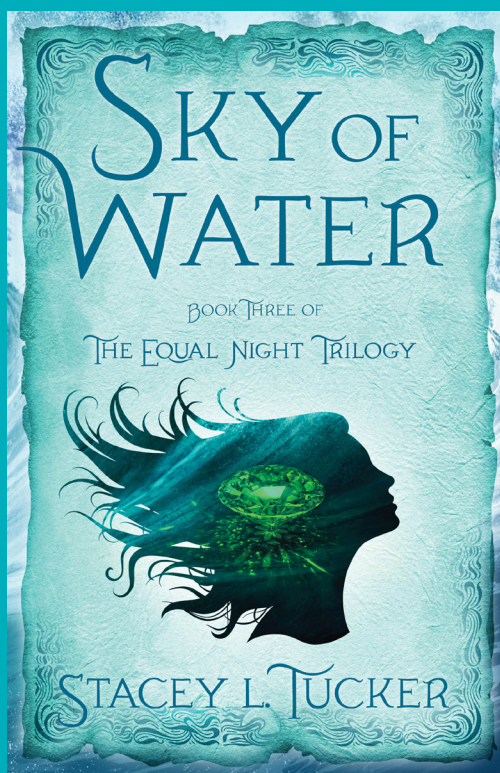
The articulate but bumbling Counselor and Professor find themselves outwitted at every turn by Victoria, a young woman who is clever, inscrutable, and superb at finishing what she starts. She initiates passionate sexual encounters with the men, but as time goes on, what she demands in return becomes untenable. When she goes missing, John Watson, the county sheriff—and the Professor's lifelong friend—feels compelled to open a murder investigation.

Full of wicked humor, artful eroticism, scintillating dialogue, and a bit of intrigue, *Enemy Queen* is an exhilarating romp set in a North Carolina college town.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Robert Steven Goldstein retired from his job as a healthcare information executive at age fifty-six and has been writing novels ever since. His first novel, *The Swami Deheftner*, about the problems that ensue when ancient magic and mysticism manifest in the twenty-first century, has developed a small cult following in India. *Cat's Whisker*, his second novel, will be published soon; an excerpt from it, entitled "An Old Dog," was featured in the fall 2018 edition of *Leaping Clear*, a literary journal. *Enemy Queen* is his third novel. Robert Steven Goldstein has practiced yoga, meditation, and vegetarianism for over fifty years. Born and raised in Brooklyn, he now lives in San Francisco with his wife of thirty years and two rambunctious dogs.

MAY 2020



Publication Date: May 12, 2020

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-040-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-041-7

"Tucker's gift for dialogue asserts itself often . . . A romantic fantasy series starter full of intriguing concepts from science and spirituality."

—Kirkus Reviews

"It is time for the power of women, and women's mysteries, to reclaim their rightful place in world cosmology . . . the lore behind the book came across as well researched. Enjoyable."

—San Francisco Book Review

# SKY OF WATER

## BOOK THREE OF THE EQUAL NIGHT TRILOGY

STACEY L. TUCKER

### DESCRIPTION:

This final installment of the Equal Night trilogy will put Skylar to her biggest test to date. After Magus takes her through the alchemical door in the Quine library, she quickly remembers her strange surroundings and the reason she's been brought back to the First Age. Here, she will have to rely on her own magic to navigate the overlapping timelines that will allow her to rewrite history. But if she's not careful, she could destroy it completely. Back home, it will take every one of Skylar's loved ones to execute Ocean's plan, and Argan has the biggest role among them: the impossible task of retrieving Skylar home from the past. Luckily, it's something he's been training for his entire life.

Meanwhile, a woman now sits in the Oval Office, the corrupt scaffolding of the US government collapsing around her. Mica Noxx has a vision for the US, one that returns it to the original intention of the Founding Fathers. With Skylar held in the First Age and Mica planted in current day, they have one shot to banish the darkness that's held control for centuries, and return the United States to a trajectory toward its true destiny: becoming the New Atlantis.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Stacey L. Tucker uses the fantasy fiction genre to bridge science and spirituality in her Equal Night series. Tucker's first book in the trilogy, *Ocean's Fire*, took Gold at the Living Now Book Awards. She is passionate about helping women and teens see their untapped potential and follow the voice within. She has written for *Women's World*, *Working Mother*, and *PopSugar*, and speaks to teen groups about self-empowerment and awareness in today's social media-saturated climate. You can find her at [www.staceyltucker.com](http://www.staceyltucker.com).

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Book 1, *Ocean's Fire*:

2017 Living Now Book Awards, Gold Medal, Adventure Fiction

MAY 2020



Publication Date: May 19, 2020

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-032-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-033-2

# THE GODDESS TWINS

## A NOVEL

**YODASSA WILLIAMS**

### DESCRIPTION:

After years of traveling the world, and just when they think they've finally settled into normalcy in Ohio, black identical twins Aurora and Arden find themselves forced into a wild new reality. Days before their eighteenth birthday, the snarky twins develop powers in telekinesis and telepathy—at the same time as their famous mother, on tour in London, disappears.

Searching for answers and determined to rescue her, the sisters unearth truths that threaten to extinguish their bond and demolish their strength as individuals. Can they trust their beguiling, newly discovered British cousins when they barely trust one another? Should they heed the warnings of their immortal grandmother, a Patoi-chatting goddess, who says she's friendly with The Fates and can see inside a person's very soul?

In order to succeed in their quest, these goddess twins must work together, master their powers, and unveil a horrifying, century-old family mystery. Otherwise, they may not live to see eighteen, let alone see their mother ever again.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Yodassa Williams is a Jamaican American writer, entrepreneur, and award-winning performing storyteller. Born in Ohio and now living in the Bay Area, she is known as the “Black Burning Man Girl” for her tales of adventure and transformation at the festival. She has a storytelling podcast, *The Black Girl Magic Files*, and has been published online in *Splinter*. She is an alumna of the VONA/Voices Travel Writing program, completed a writing residency with Yefe Nof, and was selected for 2018's Fortify Writer's Retreat. When not writing or working in fashion styling, Yodassa teaches storytelling craft to young girls of color through Girls, Inc. in Oakland. *The Goddess Twins* is her debut novel.

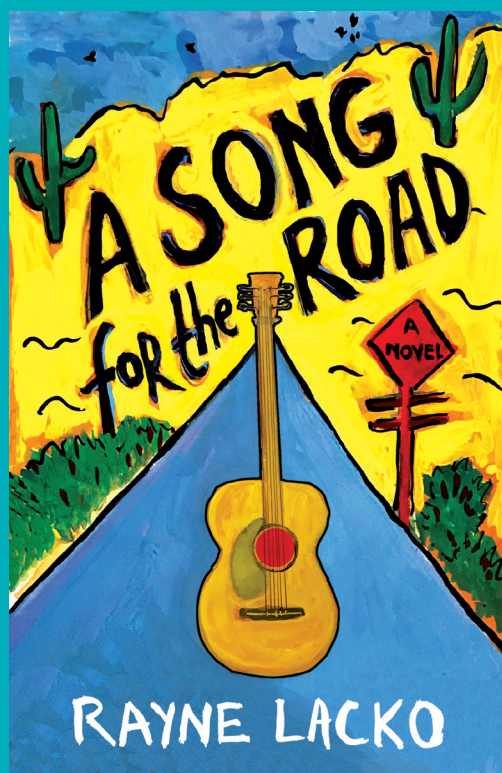
### AWARDS:

2018 STEP Award contest winner

A photograph of a person's arm and hand holding an open book. The person is wearing a grey t-shirt and blue jeans. The book is open to a page with dense text. A white box with the year '2019' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

2019

AUGUST 2019



Publication Date: August 27, 2019

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-002-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-003-5

"A sweet, twangy tale about a boy finding his future on the way to his past."

—Kirkus Reviews

"I really loved Carter's gentle, sweet soul and the magic of his journey. Really lyrical and exquisite moments; I felt really drawn in by its tenderness and charm. Very nicely done!"

—Noelle August, author of the Boomerang novels

# A SONG FOR THE ROAD

## A NOVEL

RAYNE LACKO

### DESCRIPTION:

When a tornado destroys his Tulsa home, fifteen-year-old Carter Danforth is trapped in the pawnshop where his daddy hawked his custom, left-handed Martin guitar six years ago—and then took off, leaving Carter with nothing but a hankering to pluck strings and enough heartache to sing the blues. Carter's mother, meanwhile, is laid up in the hospital with an injury sustained during the storm. She wants Carter to fly out to Reno and stay with her sister. Too bad Carter already spent her hidden cash stash to buy his dad's guitar. Rather than tell her the truth, he embarks on an epic road trip in search of his father in Santa Monica. But Carter isn't a runaway. He reckons he's a "running to."

On his way west, Carter picks up licks, chord changes, and performance techniques from a quirky cast of southwestern charmers: a rock star, a thief, a bluesman, a chanteuse-turned-chef, and the dream of a girl back home. *A Song for the Road* reads like a mash-up of *The Wizard of Oz* and *Easy Rider*—by the time he reaches the end of old US Route 66, Carter has learned how to deep-fry yucca blossoms and tell the truth of his life through music.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Rayne Lacko believes music, language, and art connect us, and she explores those themes in her novels, *Listen To Me* and *A Song for the Road*, and the guided journal *Dream Up Now*, an interactive exploration of emotions for teens. She now resides on a lush, forested island in the Pacific Northwest, where she sits on the board of trustees at a performing arts organization. She cohosts a library youth writing workshop and an annual filled-to-capacity writing camp, and she established Teen Story Slam, a twice-annual spoken word event for teens. Rayne is married with two children (a pianist and a drummer), and she and her family share their home with a noisy cat and their canine best friend.

AUGUST 2019



Publication Date: August 27, 2019

Collections: Memoir

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-008-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-009-7

“A heart rending story of a mother’s anguished journey to understand her daughter’s addiction. It indicts a treatment industry that often does more harm than good and a drug policy that fails to help parents save their children’s lives.”

—Maia Szalavitz, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Unbroken Brain: A Revolutionary New Way of Understanding Addiction*

“Through her bravery and strength, Schiller strives to make a difference in our country and the way we treat addiction both within our own homes and on a national scale.”

—*Parade*, “These Are the 10 Most Inspiring Books by Women in 2019”

# EVEN IF YOUR HEART WOULD LISTEN

## LOSING MY DAUGHTER TO HEROIN

ELISE SCHILLER

### DESCRIPTION:

In January 2014, Elise Schiller’s youngest child, thirty-three-year-old Giana Natali, died of a heroin overdose while a resident in a treatment program in Boulder County, Colorado. *Even if Your Heart Would Listen* is about Giana’s life, which was full of accomplishments, and her mental illness, addiction, and death. Using excerpts from the journals, planners, and letters Giana left behind, as well as evidence from her medical records, Schiller dissects her daughter’s treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD) at the five residential and several outpatient programs in eastern Pennsylvania where she tried to recover, taking a close look at the lack of continuity and solid medical foundations in the American substance-use treatment system even as she explores the deeply personal experience of her own loss.

Poignant and timely, *Even if Your Heart Would Listen* is a meditation on a family’s grief, an intimate portrayal of a mother-daughter bond that endures, and an examination of how our nation is failing in its struggle with the opioid epidemic.

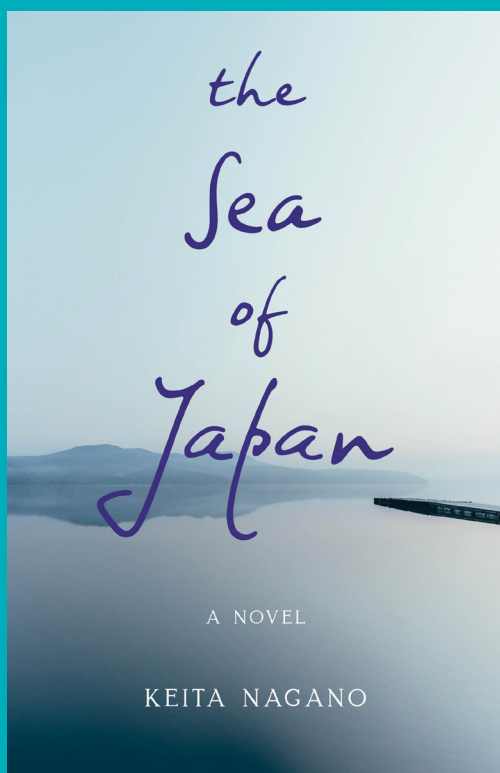
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Elise Schiller has been writing fiction and actively participating in writing groups since adolescence. After a thirty-year career in education and family services in Philadelphia, she retired to write full time. She is currently working on a fiction series about Philadelphia; SparkPress will be publishing the first book in the series. Schiller sits on the advisory board of the Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS), and she has served on the Philadelphia Mayor’s Task Force on the Opioid Epidemic. When not writing, reading, or volunteering, she enjoys visiting museums and historical sites, often with one of her seven grandchildren or various nieces and nephews in tow.

### AWARDS:

2019 Philadelphia Writers’ Conference, Nonfiction, 3rd place

SEPTEMBER 2019



Publication Date: September 3, 2019

Collections: Women's Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-012-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-013-4

"... perfect for fans of post-apocalyptic worlds who are looking for more of a science fiction twist."

—ScienceFiction.com, 4/5 atoms

# THE SEA OF JAPAN

## A NOVEL

KEITA NAGANO

### DESCRIPTION:

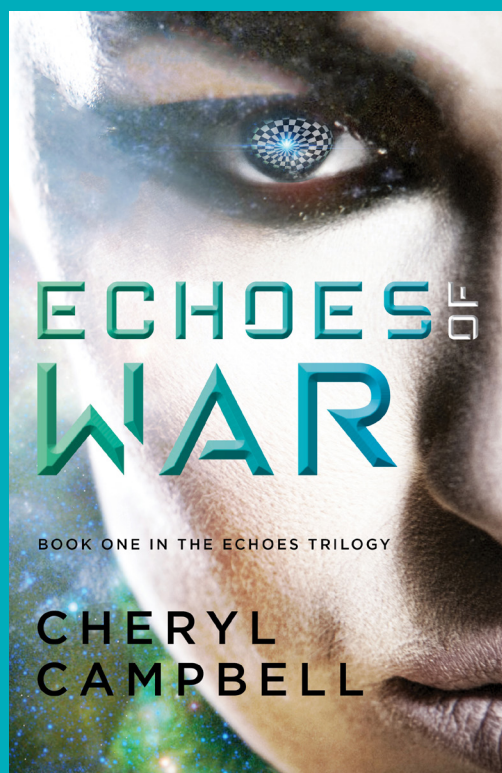
After fleeing a disastrous teaching job (and a bad gambling habit) in Boston, Lindsey starts teaching English in Hime, a small fishing town in Japan. One morning, while trying to snap the perfect ocean sunrise photo for her mother, she slips off a rock at the edge of Toyama Bay, hits her head, and plunges into the sea—and in doing so, sets off an unexpected chain of events.

When Lindsey comes to in the hospital, she learns that she owes her life to a young man named Ichiro—a local fisherman who also happens to be the older brother of one of her students. She begins to spend time with her lifesaver, and in the ensuing months, when she is not busy teaching, she splits her time between an apprenticeship with the local master sushi chef and going out fishing with Ichiro. As she and Ichiro grow closer, however, she also learns that not all is well in Hime, and she is drawn into a war to stop the town next door from overfishing their shared bay. Soon, she, Ichiro, and her pastrami-obsessed best friend, Judy—the person who talked Lindsey into coming to Japan in the first place—are spending all their free time working together to rescue the town. But when their efforts backfire, Hime gets closer to falling apart—putting Lindsey's friends, her budding relationship with Ichiro, and her career in jeopardy. To save Hime, Lindsey realizes, she'll have to become a true American fisherwoman and fight for her new home with everything she has.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Keita Nagano is an award-winning Japanese author who has lived almost equally in Nevada and Tokyo—more than twenty years in each place—and reflects the difference of the two cultures in his novels. He has a bachelor's degree in economics from Keio University in Japan, as well as an MBA in global business and PhD in management from Walden University in Minnesota. The pursuit of the authentic American experience is his hobby: he has been to all fifty states, all thirty major league ballparks, and the top sixty big cities in America. He has published seventeen business nonfiction and eight fiction books in Japan. In 2013, he received a Nikkei (Japanese *Wall Street Journal*) Award for Contemporary Novel for his missing-child thriller, *Kamikakushi*. He is also an official weekly columnist for *Forbes Japan*. Nagano lives in Henderson, Nevada, with his wife and Welsh corgi. Their teenage daughter is currently studying in Tennessee.

SEPTEMBER 2019



Publication Date: September 10, 2019

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-006-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-007-3

"Readers who enjoy a blend of action and character exploration will eagerly anticipate the next book in the trilogy."

—Booklist

## ECHOES OF WAR

### BOOK ONE IN THE ECHOES TRILOGY

CHERYL CAMPBELL

#### DESCRIPTION:

Decades of war started by the Wardens—a genocidal faction of nearly immortal aliens called Echoes—threatens the existence of any human or alien resisting their rule on Earth. Dani survives by scavenging enough supplies to live another day while avoiding the local military and human-hunting Wardens. But then she learns that she is an Echo—not the human she's always thought herself to be—and suddenly nothing in her life seems certain.

Following her discovery of her alien roots, Dani risks her well-being to save a young boy from a violent kidnapping—a move that only serves to make her already tenuous existence on the fringes of society in Maine even more unstable, and that forces her to revisit events and people from past lives she can't remember. Dani believes the only way to defeat the Wardens and end their dominance is to unite the Commonwealth's military and civilians, and she becomes resolved to play her part in this battle. Her attempts to change the bleak future facing the humans and Echoes living on Earth if the Wardens are allowed to maintain their grip on the planet will lead her to clash with a tyrant determined to kill her and all humankind—a confrontation that even her near-immortal heritage may not be able to help her survive.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Cheryl Campbell was born in Louisiana and lived there and in Mississippi prior to moving to Maine. Her varied background includes art, herpetology, emergency department and critical care nursing, and computer systems. She lives in Maine and has won four awards through the New England Book Festival for her fantasy series. *Echoes of War* is her first science fiction novel and is the first volume of a trilogy.

SEPTEMBER 2019



Publication Date: September 24, 2019

Collections: Women's Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-000-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-001-1

# AND NOW THERE'S YOU

## A NOVEL

SUSAN S. ETKIN

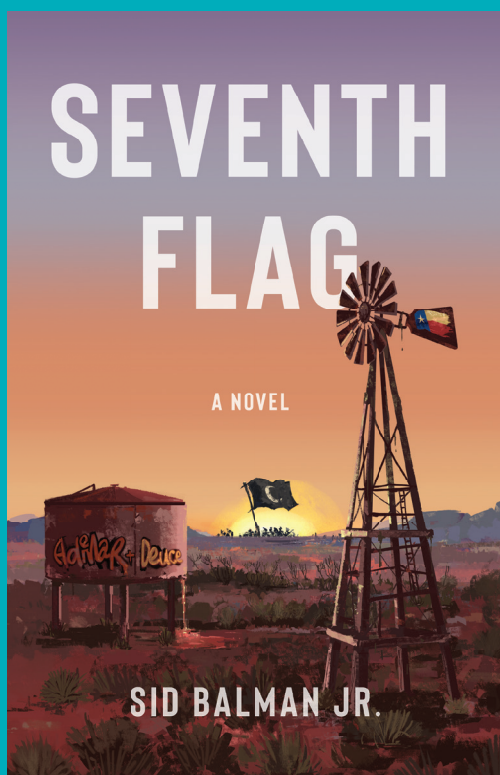
### DESCRIPTION:

Leila Brandt lost her husband—her perfect match—to cancer five years ago. Now, still single and squarely in her mid-fifties, she copes with her profound loneliness by channeling her energies into her interior design business and close circle of grown children, family, and friends. Her formula works until she meets Ayden Doyle, an arrogant but hypnotically appealing architect, at a new client's home. Ayden has been divorced for twenty-five years and is open about his aversion to commitment and the family obligations that go along with long-term relationships. He's also had significant experience with wooing women, and Leila gets to know firsthand that he's very good at it. A little too good. Still, despite her reservations, the astounding chemistry between them is impossible to ignore, and she finds herself beginning to fall under his spell. Ayden, meanwhile, finds Leila unlike the younger women who have occupied his time in the past, and is drawn to her intellectual depth, style, creativity, sense of humor, and sexual allure. Leopards may not change their spots—but if anyone can tame the beast, it will be Leila.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Susan S. Etkin grew up on Philadelphia's Main Line and graduated from Temple University with a bachelor's in English for secondary education. She also holds a master's in literacy and a doctorate in curriculum and instruction, both earned at the University of Cincinnati. Her professional life has entailed writing and teaching experiences, as well as entrepreneurship in the art and design fields. Her husband's career within a large US conglomerate prompted numerous moves. Etkin and her two sons always viewed Dad's relocations, which took the family to four states on the East Coast, as well as to Ohio, as adventures. Etkin now lives in a suburb of Philadelphia and is grateful that her sons and daughters-in-law decided to raise their families nearby. She devotes her days to reading and writing novels that focus on romance and topics of interest to women.

OCTOBER 2019



Publication Date: October 8, 2019

Collections: Literary Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-014-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-015-8

"At precisely the moment when our diverse and multi-ethnic nation needs a spiritual lift, Sid Balman gives us a portrait of the complex racial and generational relations that define who we really are as Americans. You can smell the creosote of the desert and taste the huevos rancheros in this tale of West Texas . . . a splendid account of what being American is all about, a rich portrait useful to us all . . . The book Donald Trump doesn't want you to read."

—Mike McCurry, former White House Press Secretary (1995–1998) and Director/Professor, Center for Public Theology, Welsey Theological Seminary, Washington DC

# SEVENTH FLAG

## A NOVEL

**SID BALMAN, JR.**

### DESCRIPTION:

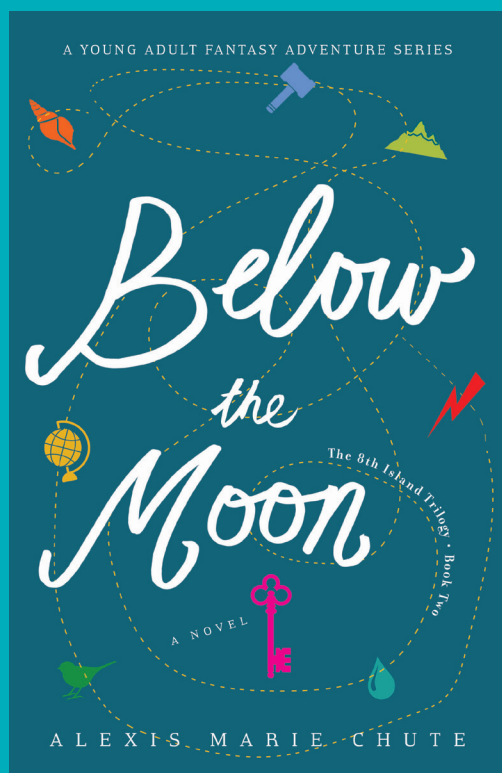
The US and Europe have unraveled since World War II and radicalism has metastasized into every community, tearing away the decency, optimism, and security that shaped those robust democracies for more than eight decades. No place is immune, including the small West Texas town of Dell City, where four generations of an iconic American family and a Syrian Muslim family have carved a farming empire out of the unforgiving high desert.

These families' partnership is as unlikely as the idea of a United States, and their powerful friendship can be traced back to a bloody knife fight in a Juarez cantina just after World War II. The bond forged that night between Jack Laws, an Irish American who staked his claim in West Texas after the war, and Ali Zarkan, whose great-grandfather sailed from the Middle East to Texas in the mid-1800s as part of President Franklin Pierce's attempt to create the US Army Camel Corps, shapes each generation of the families as they come of age and adapt to shifting paradigms of gender, commerce, patriotism, loyalty, religion, and sexuality. From the beaches of the Western Pacific to the battlefields of the Middle East and from the lawless streets of Juarez to the darkest corners of the Internet, the two families fight real and perceived enemies—journeying, as they do, through the football fields of Texas and West Point, the hippie playgrounds of Asia, the music halls of Austin, the terrorist cells of Europe, and the political backrooms where fortunes are gained or lost over the rights to Western water.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

A Pulitzer-nominated national security correspondent, Sid Balman has covered wars in the Persian Gulf, Somalia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Kosovo, and has traveled extensively with two American presidents and four secretaries of state on overseas diplomatic missions. With the emergence of the web and the commoditizing of content, Balman moved into the business side of communications. In that role, over two decades, he helped found a news syndicate focused on the interests of women and girls, served as communications chief for the largest consortium of US international development organizations, led two successful progressive campaigning companies, and launched a new division centered on security issues at a large international development firm. A fourth-generation Texan, as well as a climber, surfer, paddler, and benefactor to Smith College, Balman lives in Washington DC with his wife, three kids, and two dogs.

OCTOBER 2019



Publication Date: October 15, 2019

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-004-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-005-9

Praise for *Above the Star*, Book 1 of the 8th Island Trilogy:

“Will hold you spellbound until the last page.”

—Readers' Favorite

“Think of *Star Wars*, *The Lord of the Rings*, and *Homer's Odyssey* all wrapped up together.”

—Raymond Gariepy, editor of *WestWord* magazine

“Shows readers that there is a power within all of us to change the world.”

—Jessica Kluthe, author of *Rosina, The Midwife*

# BELOW THE MOON

## THE 8TH ISLAND TRILOGY, BOOK 2

ALEXIS MARIE CHUTE

### DESCRIPTION:

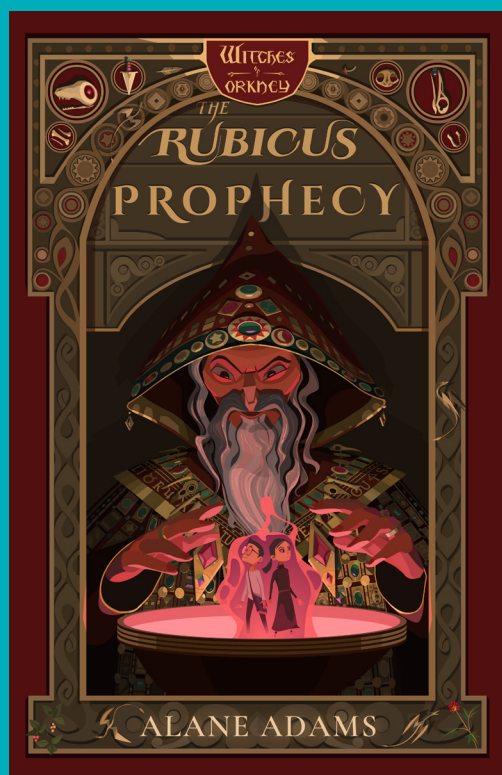
Ella Wellsley is not your typical teenager. Cancer has left her mute, but not powerless. Trapped in a parallel dimension, Ella rallies her strength to join her family—her mother, Tessa, her grandpa Archie, and her magical boyfriend—in locating the cure to her illness. This cure is entangled in the fate of all worlds, and threatened by the presence of an evil Star anchored in the sea. The Star has thrown life everywhere into chaos—and it is Ella who holds the key to unlocking its mystery.

Caught in a web of betrayal, mistaken identities, secrets, and love triangles, Ella, Tessa, and Archie must overcome their troubled pasts to ensure a future for all worlds. On this journey—armed with unearthly abilities and unexpected allies—each member of the Wellsley family will learn the power of love in the face of their greatest fears.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alexis Marie Chute is an award-winning author, artist, filmmaker, curator, and inspirational speaker. Her memoir, *Expecting Sunshine: A Journey of Grief, Healing, and Pregnancy After Loss*, was a Kirkus Best Book of 2017 and received many literary awards. *Expecting Sunshine* is also a highly acclaimed feature documentary film, produced and directed by the author, that was screened around the world in 2018 and 2019. Chute holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art and Design and a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. She is an internationally exhibited painter and photographer, a curator of InFocus Photography Exhibition, and a widely published writer of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Her 8th Island Trilogy has been called “A *Wrinkle in Time* meets *The Princess Bride*” (Lee Lee Thompson, *The Perpetual You*), and was a 2018 “Top 15 Unputdownable YA Reads” pick (Bookstr). She lives in snowy Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, with her husband, Aaron, and their three living children.

OCTOBER 2019



Publication Date: October 15, 2019

Collections: Middle Grade Fiction

Trim size: 6 x 9

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-98-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-99-1

"Adams' concise prose delivers a quick read that's packed with colorful characters and subplots . . . Returning illustrator Stroh's bold black-and-white artwork, as in the previous book, perfectly captures the author's stunningly detailed world."

—Kirkus Reviews

"Bright, brave characters star in this exhilarating tale of magic and mystical creatures."

—Kirkus Reviews

# THE RUBICUS PROPHECY

## THE WITCHES OF ORKNEY, BOOK 2

ALANE ADAMS

### DESCRIPTION:

Abigail has just started her second year at the Tarkana Witch Academy and is already up to her ears studying for Horrid Hexes and Awful Alchemy! Worse, Endera's malevolent spellbook has its hooks in her, whispering in her ear to use its dark magic. Meanwhile, the entire school is talking about the Rubicus Prophecy; a sign has arrived that the chosen witchling is among them, the one who will one day break Odin's curse over them.

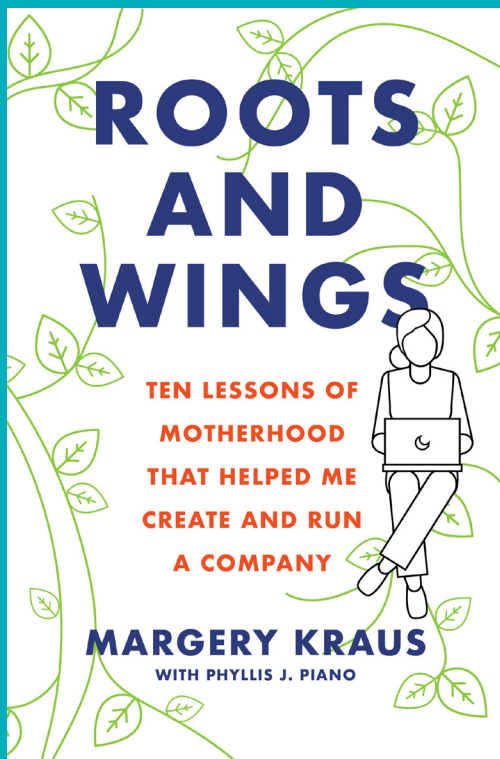
When an Orkadian warship arrives carrying troubling news, Abigail and her friend Hugo are swept into a new mystery after a young boy from the ship, Robert Barconian, asks for their help retrieving a missing item. Along with the former glitch-witch, Calla, the four friends end up deep in the catacombs beneath the Tarkana Fortress—a place where the draugar, the living dead, wander about. Abigail discovers there is more to the Rubicus Prophecy than anyone ever imagined. Can she stop it in time before she and her friends are destroyed?

Filled with magical spells, spine-tingling ghosts, and visits from the Norse gods, *The Rubicus Prophecy* pits Abigail against a sinister power greater than anything she has ever imagined.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, *The Santa Thief*, and *The Circus Thief* picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

OCTOBER 2019



Publication Date: October 22, 2019

Collections: Nonfiction, Business

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-024-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-025-7

"Kraus is a transformational leader who has proven that one can be brilliant, decent, and forward-thinking in life generally, and specifically in building a company that helps to prove that one can do well by doing good. Her life lessons as a wife and a mother provide a clear guide for success and leadership, which can be replicated in so many ways."

—Daniel Glickman, former chairman and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, and former Secretary, US Department of Agriculture, and Congressman

# ROOTS AND WINGS

## TEN LESSONS OF MOTHERHOOD THAT HELPED ME CREATE AND RUN A COMPANY

MARGERY KRAUS WITH PHYLLIS J. PIANO

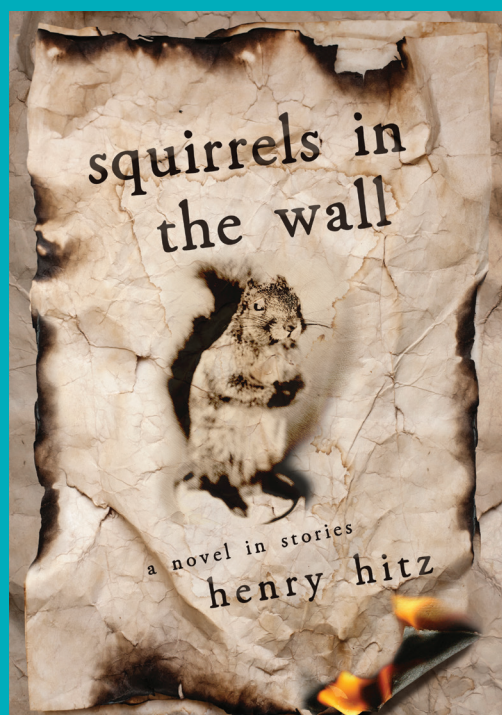
### DESCRIPTION:

A child of immigrants, Margery Kraus knew the value of hard work from an early age. Graduating from college before she had finished high school, she learned to be a risk taker. As a young wife and mother coming of age in the 1960s, she faced plenty of people who told her, "You can't do that." But in the end, she did: she founded APCO Worldwide, a global consulting firm headquartered in Washington DC, specializing in public affairs, communication, and business consulting for major multinationals. Under her leadership, the company grew from nothing to almost \$150 million in revenues. In *Roots And Wings*, Kraus shares the ten lessons she learned from motherhood and leadership that guided her along the way—an inspiration to all seeking to overcome obstacles, achieve career and personal success, and do the right thing.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Margery Kraus, founder and executive chairman of APCO Worldwide, a global consulting firm headquartered in Washington DC, specializes in public affairs, communication, and business consulting for major multinationals. She is the author of numerous articles in the fields of public affairs management and corporate reputation; has been a guest lecturer throughout the world; and has received many prestigious awards. Kraus serves as a trustee of American University and sits on the advisory board of the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, is the Chair of Women's Presidents Organization, and has served on the boards of various industry, professional associations, and corporations. She has been married to her husband, Steve, for more than fifty years, is a mother of three, and has nine grandchildren.

OCTOBER 2019



Publication Date: October 29, 2019

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-022-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-023-3

"My mind is **BLOWN**. Hitz has exposed and bared his soul, poured his guts out, expounded on every profound question surrounding the mysteries of life, time, space, eternity, death . . . and offered meaningful solutions."

—Will Wright, author of *The Poetry of Living*

"*Squirrels in the Wall* is a unique collection of interwoven stories that explore the interactions between humans and animals in a single habitat. The stories range from hilarious to poignant. Henry Hitz's sensitive portrayal of both humans and animals reminds us of the interconnectivity of nature."

—Alon Shalev, author of 2013 Eric Hoffer YA Book Award winner *At the Walls of Galbrieth*

# SQUIRRELS IN THE WALL

## A NOVEL IN STORIES

HENRY HITZ

### DESCRIPTION:

*Squirrels in the Wall*—a novel told in stories by a collection of interspecies voices—presents a unique and darkly hilarious blend of human and animal perspectives in a single setting on a Wisconsin lake. The stories provide a kaleidoscope of heartbreak among both human and animal characters as they confront abuse and death.

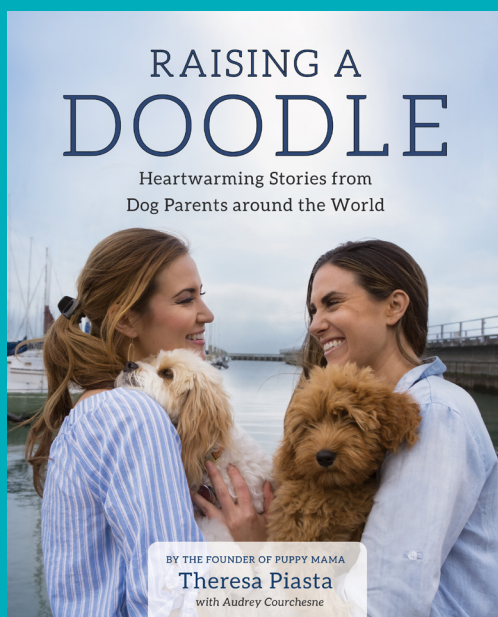
"They call me Herziger, but my real name is Woof," the first story opens. "They call me a dachshund, but in reality, I am just a dog. I live with my mother among a pack of wild humans in a big house on a lake." In the second story, "Squirrels in the Wall," Herzie's "human," Barney Blatz, experiences a fire in that house when he is just four. The stories follow Barney from infancy to death, tracing the epic, ongoing conflict between him and Father—a bumbling tyrant guilty of shocking abuse but also capable of poignant redemption.

On this rollicking journey, we meet a suicidal toad, a cat, two mice, a bee, Grandfather's ghost, and a turtle who possesses Barney in a climactic tale of environmental activism gone awry. Other stories reflect the points of view of Barney's mother, sister, and older brother; together, they construct a collage of spectacular family dysfunction—and of healing love.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Henry Hitz taught preschool for thirty years. He divides his time between Oakland, California—where he lives with his wife, son, two sisters, two dogs, and a cat—and San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, where he first observed how the boat-tailed grackles and local teenagers all gather at the central jardín at sunset for precisely the same reason. He has published stories in *Cube Literary Magazine*, *Magnolia Review*, *Scarlet Leaf Review*, and *Moonfish*. His first novel, *Tales of Monkeyman*, won the Walter Van Tilburg Clark Prize. His novel *White Knight* was published in January 2016 by Wordrunner Press and reissued last year for the fortieth anniversary of Jonestown. He blogs at [HenryHitz.com](http://HenryHitz.com).

# NOVEMBER 2019



Publication Date: November 4, 2019

Collections: Nonfiction

Trim size: 7.5 x 9.25

French flaps, Four-color

Price: \$34.95 paperback / \$14.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-020-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-021-9

## RAISING A DOODLE

### HEARTWARMING STORIES & PRACTICAL TIPS

#### THERESA PIASTA WITH AUDREY COURCHESNE

#### DESCRIPTION:

*Raising a Doodle: Heartwarming Stories & Practical Tips* is a source of guidance and support for new and experienced doodle parents alike. With interviews featuring dog experts who cover practical advice on training, health, grooming, and canine therapy, plus heartwarming stories and beautiful photos from more than sixty puppy mamas, this book is your guide to doodle parenthood.

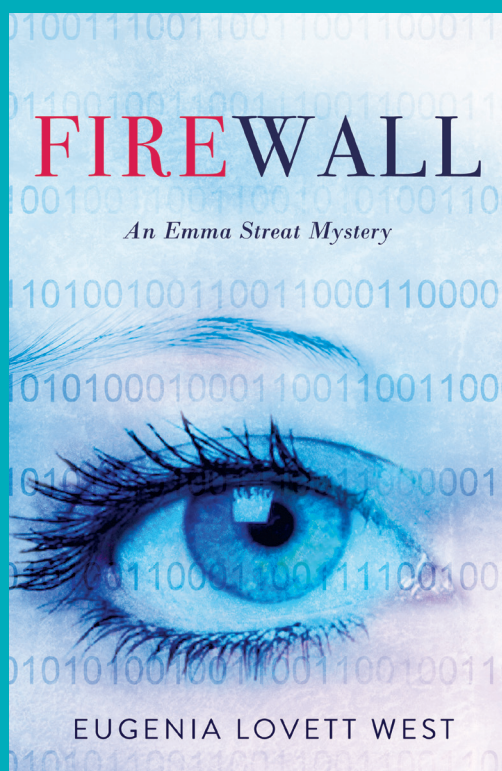
#### You'll find:

- Information on dog developmental phases and stages
- Tips for training and socializing your doodle
- Guidance to help keep your fluffy best friend healthy
- Advice for exploring the world with your doodle
- 60+ stories about unconditional love and canine therapy
- And so much more!

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Theresa Piasta is the Founder and CEO of Puppy Mama, a pet-tech company enhancing the lives of dog moms. Together, the Puppy Mama community is advocating for a more dog-friendly world and for the healing power of canine therapy. Before founding Puppy Mama, Theresa Piasta was a vice president at JPMorgan and an Army Captain. From 2008–2009, Theresa served fourteen months in the Iraq War, earning the Bronze Star Medal for her leadership. Theresa attended the Stanford GSB Ignite program in 2016 and received a BA in Economics from Wellesley College in 2006.

NOVEMBER 2019



Publication Date: November 5, 2019

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-68463-010-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-68463-011-0

"West spins a plausible tale and flawed, grieving Emma makes an appealing heroine."

—*Publishers Weekly*

# FIREWALL

## AN EMMA STREAT MYSTERY

EUGENIA LOVETT WEST

### DESCRIPTION:

Former opera singer Emma Streat has survived the murder of her husband and the destruction of her beautiful old house. Now a full-time single mother, she struggles to move forward and make a home for her two sons. Because of her detection skills, she has become a go-to person for help—so, when her rich, feisty, socialite godmother is blackmailed, she turns immediately to Emma.

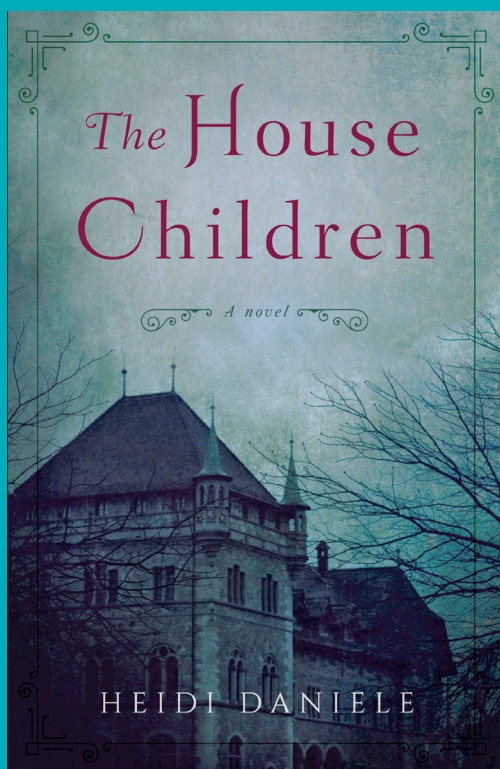
Soon, Emma finds herself thrust into the dark world of cybercrime. Mounting challenges take her to exclusive European settings where she mixes with top people in the financial and art collecting worlds and has intriguing and emotion-packed experiences with men—including her dynamic ex-lover, Lord Andrew Rodale. When she is targeted by a cybercrime network using cutting-edge technology, it takes all of Emma's resilience and wits to survive and bring the wily, ruthless criminal she's hunting to justice.

Action-packed and full of twists and turns, this third book of the Emma Streat Mystery series does not disappoint!

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Eugenia Lovett West (known to her friends as Jeannie) was born in Boston, MA. Her father was Reverend Sidney Lovett, the widely known and loved former chaplain at Yale. She attended Sarah Lawrence College and worked for *Harper's Bazaar* and the American Red Cross. Then came marriage, four children, volunteer work, and freelancing for local papers. Her first novel, *The Ancestors Cry Out*, was published by Doubleday; it was followed by two mysteries, *Without Warning* and *Overkill*, published by St. Martin's Press. West divides her time between Essex, CT, and Holderness, NH, where she summers with her large extended family. Visit her at [www.eugenialovettwest.com](http://www.eugenialovettwest.com).

APRIL 2019



Publication Date: April 9, 2019

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-94-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-95-3

**"An unassuming but riveting tale of the hardships and ultimate rewards of family."**

**—Kirkus Reviews**

**"Peg's story includes dark themes: the shame of being a House Child in a society that degrades them, the dangers of being a young woman in a period when they had no rights, the struggles to find happiness while hiding who you are . . . however, those who read Peg's tale are sure to root for her and be drawn in by her determination to secure a better life for herself."**

**—Booklist**

# THE HOUSE CHILDREN

## A NOVEL

HEIDI DANIELE

### DESCRIPTION:

In 1937, Mary Margaret Joyce is born in the Tuam Home for unwed mothers. At age five she is sentenced to an industrial school with one hundred other unwanted girls, where she is given the name Peg and assigned the number 27. Peg quickly learns the rigid routine of prayer, work, and silence under the watchful eye of Sister Constance. Her only respite is an annual summer holiday with the Hanleys, a kindly host family from Galway that has taken an interest in Peg.

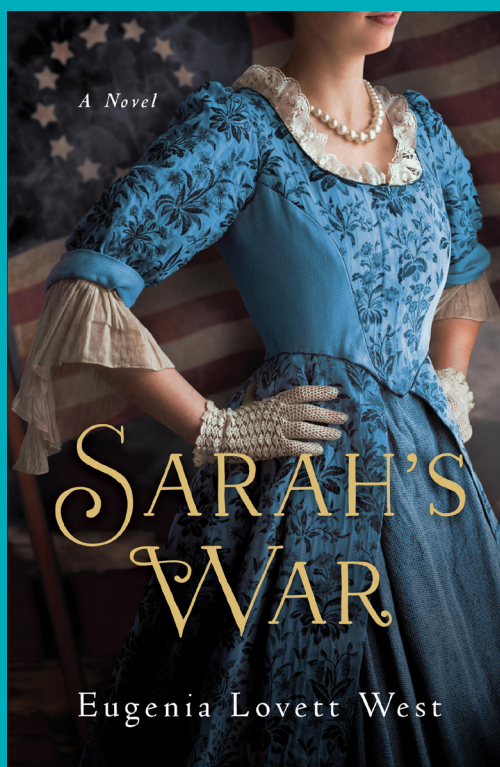
At the tender age of thirteen, Peg accidentally learns that Norah Hanley is her birth mother. Once the truth is out, she struggles with feelings of anger and abandonment; meanwhile, Norah, though she loves Peg, also grapples with the shame of having born a child out of wedlock. The tension between them mounts as Peg, now becoming a young adult, begins to make plans for her future beyond Ireland.

Based on actual events, *The House Children* is a compelling story of familial love, shameful secrets, and life inside Ireland's infamous industrial schools.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Heidi Daniele's passion for history and genealogy opened the door for *The House Children*, which is her debut novel. She has a degree in communications and media arts and has worked on several short independent films. She earned the Learning in Progress Award for Excellence at a Dutchess Community College Film Festival for coproducing, writing, filming, and editing the film *Final Decisions*. She also volunteers at The Lisa Libraries, an organization that donates new children's books and small libraries to organizations that work with kids in poor and underserved areas. An empty nester who lives in the Hudson Valley with her husband, Daniele enjoys gardening, photography, and exploring her family tree.

APRIL 2019



Publication Date: April 16, 2019

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-92-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-93-9

"West provides excellent ingredients in this well-told historical novel, including scheming, flirting, romance, and villainy. There is also some fine period detail that helps to set the scene. . . . An entertaining blend of intrigue and romance . . ."

—Kirkus Reviews

"This outstanding historical novel is filled with exciting twists and surprises to the very end. . . . Enthusiastically recommended."

—The Historical Novel Society

# SARAH'S WAR

## A NOVEL

EUGENIA LOVETT WEST

### DESCRIPTION:

1777 is a pivotal year in the United States. George Washington and his untrained militia struggle to survive. The thirteen states are torn apart by politics. Amidst all this chaos, Sarah Champion—a beautiful young Patriot and parson's daughter whose twin brother was killed in the Battle of Long Island—is sent from rural Connecticut to live with a rich Loyalist aunt in Philadelphia. There, she is plunged into a world of intrigue and treachery. She spies on British officers enjoying festivities in winter quarters. She goes to Valley Forge with information about a plot to kill Washington.

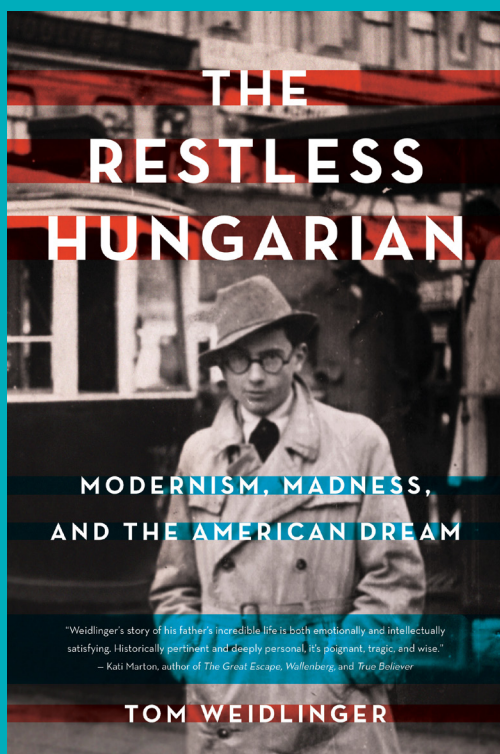
During her time in Philadelphia, Sarah experiences passion and heartbreak, and learns that love comes in many forms. Ultimately, she must dig deep for courage in order to overcome deadly threats—and to fulfill her dream of helping to create a new and independent country.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Eugenia Lovett West (known to her friends as Jeannie) was born in Boston, MA. Her father was Reverend Sidney Lovett, the widely known and loved former chaplain at Yale. She attended Sarah Lawrence College and worked for *Harper's Bazaar* and the American Red Cross. Then came marriage, four children, volunteer work, and freelancing for local papers. Her first novel, *The Ancestors Cry Out*, was published by Doubleday; it was followed by two mysteries, *Without Warning* and *Overkill*, published by St. Martin's Press. West divides her time between Essex, CT, and Holderness, NH, where she summers with her large extended family.

Visit her at [www.eugenialovettwest.com](http://www.eugenialovettwest.com).

APRIL 2019



Publication Date: April 16, 2019

Collections: Memoir

Trim size: 6 x 9

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-96-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-97-7

**"[A] story of the visionary upheavals of the 20th century. . . . An immersive and well-told account of a father and his legacy."**

**—Kirkus Reviews**

**"*The Restless Hungarian* is a warm, heartfelt family memoir revolving around complicated relationships defined by world events."**

**—Foreword Reviews**

# THE RESTLESS HUNGARIAN

## MODERNISM, MADNESS, AND THE AMERICAN DREAM

TOM WEIDLINGER

### DESCRIPTION:

*The Restless Hungarian* is the saga of an extraordinary life set against the history of the rise of modernism, the Jewish Diaspora, and the Cold War. A Hungarian Jew whose inquiring spirit helped him to escape the Holocaust, Paul Weidlinger became one of the most creative structural engineers of the twentieth century. As a young architect, he broke ranks with the great modernists with his radical idea of the "Joy of Space." As an engineer, he created the strength behind the beauty in mid-century modern skyscrapers, churches, and museums, and he gave concrete form to the eccentric monumental sculptures of Pablo Picasso, Isamu Noguchi, and Jean Dubuffet.

In his private life, he was a divided man, living behind a wall of denial as he lost his family to war, mental illness, and suicide. In telling his father's story, the author sifts meaning from the inspiring and contradictory narratives of a life: a motherless child and a captain of industry, a clandestine communist who designed silos for the world's deadliest weapons during the Cold War, a Jewish refugee who denied he was a Jew, a husband who was terrified of his wife's madness, and a man whose personal saints were artists.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Tom Weidlinger is an independent filmmaker who has been writing, directing, and producing documentary films for thirty-five years. Many of his films have won festival awards, and twenty-one have aired nationally on public television. Concerned with themes of social justice, his work deals with a broad range of topics, from the dilemmas of humanitarian aid in the Congo to the struggles of high school students with learning differences. After a lifetime of city dwelling and global travel, Weidlinger moved to the rural foothills of the Sierras. He and his wife, Sharon, live in a straw-bale house on twenty acres of land forested with oak and manzanita. When he is not writing or working on a film in his editing room, he volunteers at a community center, helping teenagers find their voice through filmmaking.

MAY 2019



Publication Date: May 7, 2019

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-90-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-91-5

"Anyone who has always wanted to ride next to the amazing Annie Oakley will love to hop into this novel and travel across the ocean with America's sweetheart! A fast read with real-life characters and a lovely look into a woman who dared to be true to her own heart."

—Kris Radish, best-selling author of fourteen books, including *A Dangerous Woman from Nowhere* and *The Year of Necessary Lies*

"A meandering mystery with plenty of suspects cleverly weaves the true facts of Annie's storied life with plenty of historical tidbits."

—Kirkus Reviews

# PECCADILLO AT THE PALACE

## AN ANNIE OAKLEY MYSTERY

KARI BOVÉE

### DESCRIPTION:

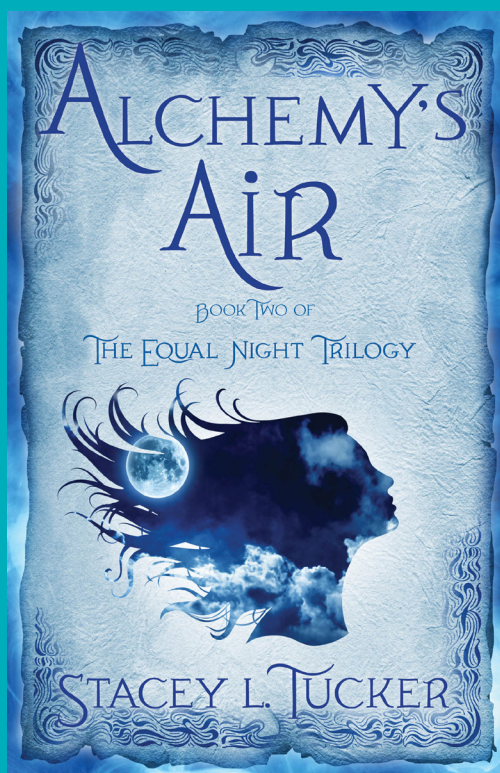
It's 1887, and Annie and Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show are invited to Queen Victoria's Jubilee celebration in London, England. But their long journey across the Atlantic takes a turn for the worst when the queen's royal servant ends up dead and Annie's husband, Frank Butler, falls suspiciously ill. Annie soon discovers that the two events are connected—and may possibly be precursors to an assassination attempt on the queen.

In London, it becomes clear there is rampant unrest in the queen's kingdom: the Irish Fenian Brotherhood, as well as embittered English subjects, are teeming in the streets. But amid the chaos, even while she prepares for the show, Annie is determined to find the truth. With the help of a friend and reporter, Emma Wilson, the renowned poet Oscar Wilde, and the famous socialite Lillie Langtry, Annie sets out to hunt down the queen's enemies—and find out why they want to kill England's most beloved monarch.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Empowered women in history, horses, unconventional characters, and real-life historical events fill the pages of Kari Bovée's articles and historical mystery musings and manuscripts. She is an award-winning writer: She was honored as a finalist in the Romantic Suspense category of the 2012 LERA Rebecca contest, the 2014 NTRWA Great Expectations contest, and the RWA 2016 Daphne du Maurier contest for her unpublished manuscript *Grace in the Wings*. She was also honored as a finalist in the NHRWA Lone Star Writer's contest in 2012 with the unpublished manuscript of the first book in her Annie Oakley series, *Girl with a Gun*. Bovée has worked as a technical writer for a Fortune 500 Company, has written nonfiction for magazines and newsletters, and has worked in the education field as a teacher of literature, reading, and drama. She and her husband, Kevin, live on a horse property in the beautiful Land of Enchantment, New Mexico, with their cat, four dogs, and four horses.

MAY 2019



Publication Date: May 14, 2019

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-84-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-85-4

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**Praise for *Ocean's Fire*:**

"Tucker's gift for dialogue asserts itself often. . . . A romantic fantasy series starter full of intriguing concepts from science and spirituality."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

## ALCHEMY'S AIR

### BOOK TWO OF THE EQUAL NIGHT TRILOGY

STACEY L. TUCKER

#### DESCRIPTION:

Skylar Southmartin is not the naïve girl she was a short year ago. She's made some mistakes and learned a few secrets to life, all the while clinging to the faith her mother instilled in her as a child . . . in herself. And now that she has discovered her life's purpose within the pages of the ancient Book of Sophia, she knows what she must do: restore a vital memory to the Akashic Library, located deep within the Underworld of Earth. This library is sought after by many who are aware of its existence, for they know the future of human potential rests at its core.

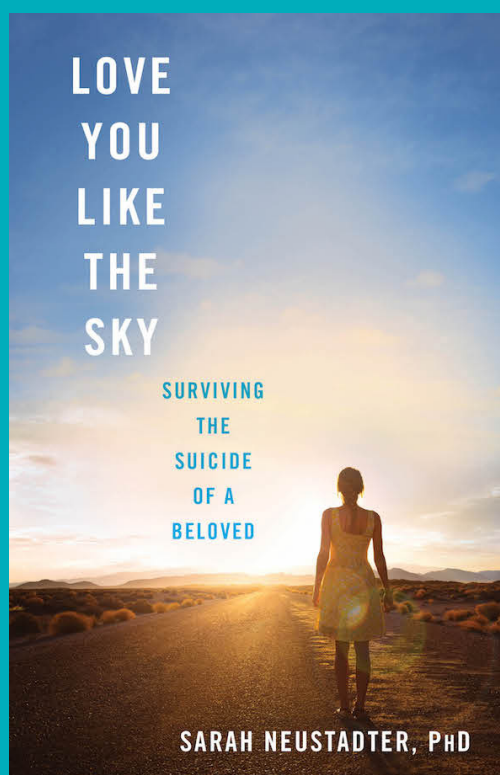
Meanwhile, Devlin Grayer has been elected as the 46th President of the United States and his wife, Milicent, is miserable in her new role as First Lady—especially because the Great Mothers have asked her to use her new status to help their cause, and she has no interest in tackling that task.

With the help of friends in the unlikeliest of places, Skylar's journey reveals the significance of the darkness within all of us, and its potential to save or destroy the most precious part of us all: our soul.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Stacey L. Tucker uses the action/adventure genre to bridge science and spirituality in her Equal Night series. Tucker's first book in the trilogy, *Ocean's Fire*, took gold at the Living Now Book Awards. She has written for *Women's World*, *Working Mother*, and PopSugar, and speaks to teen groups about self-empowerment and awareness in today's social media-saturated climate. You can find her at [www.staceyltucker.com](http://www.staceyltucker.com).

JUNE 2019



Publication Date: June 4, 2019

Collections: Memoir, Self-Help

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-88-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-89-2

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“Genius. Heart-wrenching. Just masterful. An important book, enabling of life after death and loss.”

—Michele Rittnerman, PhD, author of *The Tao of a Woman* and *Using Hypnosis in Family Therapy*

“Honest, poignant, and filled with hard-earned advice and healing strategies. Highly recommended for anyone who has lost a loved one to suicide and is struggling to find hope and purpose.”

—Karen Meadows, author of *Searching for Normal*

# LOVE YOU LIKE THE SKY

## SURVIVING THE SUICIDE OF A BELOVED

SARAH NEUSTADTER, PHD

### DESCRIPTION:

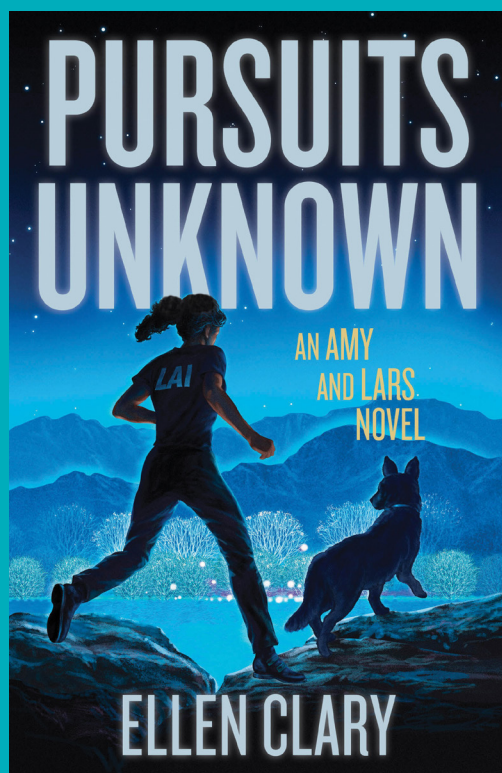
Writing from the unique point of view of a suicide survivor who is also a psychologist, Sarah Neustadter presents a selection of the emails she sent to John, her deceased beloved, over a three-year period following his death. Documenting the raw emotions she experienced during this time period—grief, despair, abandonment, confusion, and the seductive feeling of wanting to die—she seeks to answer the hard existential and psychological questions: *Why is this happening? What does this mean about mortality? How do I go on with the rest of my life without my beloved? How do I heal my broken heart? Will I ever love again?*

*Love You Like the Sky* is a companion guide and roadmap for supporting younger women and men through intense and complicated grief as an access point toward deeper transformation—shifting awareness from despair to beauty.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dr. Sarah Neustadter is a licensed clinical and spiritual psychologist based in Venice Beach, Los Angeles, who specializes in spiritual growth, suicide survivor grief, suicide prevention, grief, loss, existential heartbreak, and millennial issues. Her passion lies in exploring metaphysical and existential concerns and helping others understand grief as an entryway into a deeper process of spiritual transformation.

JULY 2019



Publication Date: July 9, 2019

Collections: Fiction, Sci-Fi, Mysteries/  
Thrillers

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-86-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-87-8

"With a deft combination of nearly real science and savvy observations of human nature, *Pursuits Unknown* spins a crime-fighting story in which dogs partner with humans in novel and unexpected ways. Like Sue Grafton, Ms. Clary will have readers eagerly anticipating more tales about Amy and Lars!"

—Patricia Minger, author of *Magic Flute*

## PURSUITS UNKNOWN

### AN AMY AND LARS NOVEL

ELLEN CLARY

#### DESCRIPTION:

Amy and her kelpie-shepherd mix, Lars, work with a search team that specializes in finding lost people. Despite his average-mutt appearance, Lars is no ordinary dog: he and Amy have a telepathic connection, and while he has a lot to learn about human language, their bond allows them to communicate in unusual ways and is a boon to their success rate.

When Amy and Lars find a missing scientist suffering from the Alzheimer's-like disorder "Disorientation," Amy and her support team realize this is not a typical lost-person case. Instead, this assignment appears to be an attempt to steal this man's highly sensitive research—which, if misused, could have serious consequences for their overpopulated world. During their quest, Amy discovers and confronts her own limitations; to succeed, she must surpass them.

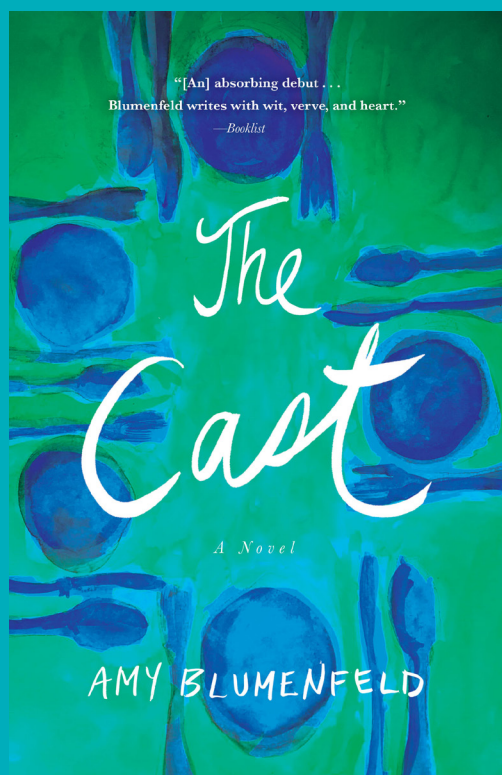
#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Ellen Clary is a dog-owning computer professional who has both literary and technical college degrees. She has a love of dog behavior and training, as well as a dog sports habit. Formerly a humor writer, she now devotes her time to writing dog-related novels that she, and others, would like to read. A California native, she lives in a Victorian house in the San Francisco Bay Area with her wife and dogs.



2018

# AUGUST 2018



Publication Date: August 14, 2018

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-72-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-71-7

"In *The Cast*, Blumenfeld deftly reminds us how friendship and love, when cultivated over decades, can transcend even the darkest moments. A heartfelt, moving page-turner."

—Fiona Davis, best-selling author of *The Address*

"In her captivating and wholly engrossing debut, Blumenfeld pulls the reader in from the very beginning. She deftly handles the perspective of multiple characters, and writes about complicated issues with levity and grace. This well-told story is timely and relatable and leaves the reader wondering how she would handle similar situations."

—Susie Orman Schnall, author of *Subway Girls* and *The Balance Project*

## THE CAST A NOVEL

### AMY BLUMENFELD

#### DESCRIPTION:

Twenty-five years ago, a group of ninth graders produced a *Saturday Night Live*-style videotape to cheer up their ailing friend. The show's running time was only ninety minutes, but it had a lasting impact: Becca laughed her way through recovery, and the group—Jordana, Seth, Holly, and Lex—became her supporting cast for life.

On the silver anniversary of *Becca Night Live*, the friends reunite over the Fourth of July to celebrate Becca's good health—but nothing goes as planned. The happy holiday card façades everyone's been hiding behind quickly crumble and give way to an unforgettable three days filled with complex moral dilemmas and life-altering choices. Through humor, drama, and the alternating perspectives of five characters, *The Cast* explores the power of forgiveness, the importance of authenticity, and the immeasurable value of deep, enduring friendships to buoy us when life plays out differently than expected.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Amy Blumenfeld's articles and essays have appeared in various publications, including *The New York Times*, *Huffington Post*, *O, The Oprah Magazine*, *George*, and *Moment*, as well as on the cover of *People*. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, where she was the recipient of the James A. Wechsler Award for National Reporting. She has been interviewed on the CBS Evening News, FOX News, MSNBC, and NY1, and has contributed to two nonfiction books. She lives in New York with her husband and daughter. This is her first novel.

#### AWARDS:

2018 IPPY Awards: Gold Medal, Popular Fiction  
2018 IPPY Gold Medal in Popular Fiction  
2018 International Book Award Finalist in Best New Fiction  
2018 International Book Awards Finalist, Best New Fiction  
2018 Best Book Awards, Winner, Best New Fiction  
2018 Best Book Awards, Finalist, Chick Lit/Women's Lit  
2019 Foreword Indies, Finalist, Adult Fiction—General

AUGUST 2018



Publication Date: August 14, 2018

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-81-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-82-3

"This debut novel is a masterly coming-of-age story. . . . This indie delight will charm readers with its story about family and self-discovery."

—*School Library Journal*, starred review

"A charming, emotional story about family, fishing, and self-discovery."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

# THE LEAVING YEAR

## A NOVEL

PAM MCGAFFIN

### DESCRIPTION:

As the Summer of Love comes to an end, fifteen-year-old Ida Petrovich waits for a father who will never come home. While commercial fishing in Alaska, he has been lost and likely drowned, but with no body and no wreckage, Ida and her mother are forced to accept a "presumed" death that tests their already strained relationship. While still in shock over the loss of her father, Ida overhears an adult conversation that shatters everything she thought she knew about him. This prompts her to set out on a search for the truth that takes her from her Washington State hometown to Southeast Alaska, where she works at a salmon cannery, develops love for a Filipino classmate, and befriends a Native Alaskan girl. In this wild, rugged place, she also begins to understand the physical and emotional bonds that took her father north and why he kept them secret—a journey of discovery that ultimately brings her family together and helps them heal. Insightful and heartfelt, *The Leaving Year* is a tale of love and loyalty, family and friendship, and the stories we tell ourselves in our search for meaning.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Pam McGaffin is an award-winning former journalist who returned to her original passion of writing fiction after a long career in newspapers and public relations. Her short stories have appeared in online literary journals, and her articles and essays have been featured in newspapers and magazines. She and her family live in Seattle. This is her first novel.

### AWARDS:

2018 Best Book Awards Winner in Fiction: Young Adult

2018 Wishing Shelf Awards Finalist in Books for Teenagers

2019 Foreword Indies, Finalist, Children's—Young Adult Fiction

2019 IBPA Ben Franklin Awards, Finalist, Teen: Fiction

SEPTEMBER 2018

# MISSION AFGHANISTAN

AN ARMY DOCTOR'S MEMOIR



ELIE PAUL COHEN  
TRANSLATED BY JESSICA LEVINE

Publication Date: September 18, 2018

Collections: Memoir

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-65-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-66-3

"It's absorbing, staggering, comic and tragic . . . Run fast and buy it, you won't regret it."

—*Chronique santé intégrative*

"Elie's astonishing destiny, vividly and poignantly narrated, offers a vertiginous dive into the heart of this new contemporary situation that has disrupted our lives, wars without front lines and terrorism. A journey that is out of the ordinary, thrilling, and marked by a great humanity."

—*Handicap. Fr*

## MISSION AFGHANISTAN AN ARMY DOCTOR'S MEMOIR

ELIE PAUL COHEN, TRANSLATED BY JESSICA LEVINE

### DESCRIPTION:

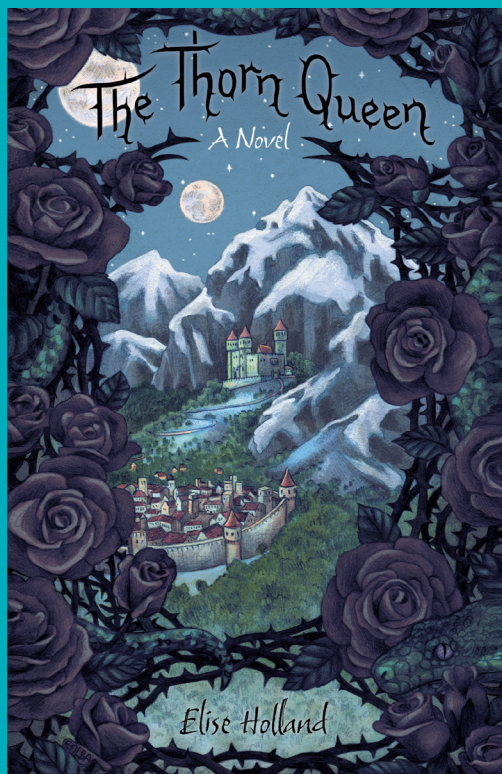
Elie Paul Cohen, a Franco-British civilian emergency doctor, was in his youth an anti-militarist who evaded conscription. But decades later, his military record comes back to haunt him when it turns up in his professional dossier. In a surreal coincidence, the French, British, and Israeli secret services suddenly become interested in recruiting him, and Cohen accepts the deal the French Army offers: he can settle his accounts by serving as a liaison emergency doctor in Afghanistan. After a year and a half of training, Cohen is in 2011 deployed at Camp Bastion, the largest British Military base since World War II. His mission is twofold: First, to study Damage Control Resuscitation, a new treatment for polytraumatized soldiers that was developed by British doctors in Afghanistan. Second, to share these advanced protocols with the French Military Health Service. Combining elements of spy thriller and adventure story with reflections on the costs of war, Cohen's memoir offers a unique perspective on the conflict in Afghanistan, and on the medical challenges presented by the expansion of terrorism into Europe and America.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dr. Elie Paul Cohen was recruited in 2009 by the French Army and deployed in 2011 at Camp Bastion in Afghanistan, where he worked with the British and studied their new treatment for polytraumatized soldiers. *Mission Afghanistan* is a memoir of his experience. The original French edition was nominated for the Erwan Bergot Prize, given in recognition of works celebrating service to France and its values. A Franco-British citizen, Cohen now works as an emergency doctor in the emergency services of Paris. He has a special interest in integrative medicine and works as an osteopath in private practice. He is also a composer of experimental music. His album *Le Cinquième Élément* was released by Radio France in 2018. You can visit him at [www.eliepaulcohen.com](http://www.eliepaulcohen.com).

Jessica Levine has translated several books from French and Italian into English. She is also the author of two novels published by She Writes Press, *Nothing Forgotten* and *The Geometry of Love*, a *Booklist* Top 10 Women's Fiction Title for 2015. Her other works include *Delicate Pursuit: Discretion in Henry James and Edith Wharton*, as well as essays, short stories, and poetry. Levine holds a PhD in English Literature from the University of California at Berkeley, where she was a Mellon Fellow. She was born in New York City and now lives in Northern California. You can find her at [www.jessicalevine.com](http://www.jessicalevine.com).

SEPTEMBER 2018



Publication Date: September 18, 2018

Collections: Middle Grade Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-79-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-80-9

“This middle-grade debut sees a young outcast discover her true potential while on a quest to save others . . . Holland excels in burying twists that flip the whole narrative on its head. Readers should wish for a longer stay in Glendoch. An effervescent fantasy crafted from the heart.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“With clever writing and detailed world building, Holland draws us into the many wonders of Glendoch and its surrounding lands, all the while deceiving us with her nefarious plot twists that leave the reader wanting to know just how she fooled them.”

—Alane Adams, author of the award-winning Legends of Orkney series

# THE THORN QUEEN

## A NOVEL

ELISE HOLLAND

### DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to Glendoch!

Hidden to most, this glacial world once crackled with alchemy. Now it waits for war—divided and bound by strict rules. So when twelve-year-old Meylyne falls from a tree onto Glendoch’s sickly prince, she must flee or face imprisonment in the Shadow-Cellars. The only way she may return home is with a cure for the prince’s peculiar disease.

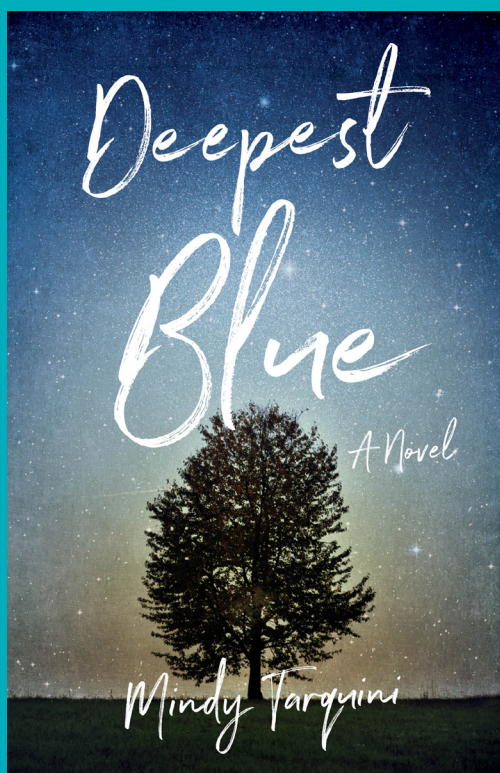
Convinced she will perish, Meylyne and her companions embark on their journey—and before they know it, they are knee-deep in a plot to sink Glendoch into shadow, like other worlds before it. Poisoned guardians, cursed wizards, and cunning witch-spirits bound into wands are just some of the dangers that dot the way of their travels.

And behind it all is the Thorn Queen. Mysteriously magnetic (or murderously vengeful, depending on whose side you’re on), she is always one step ahead of them . . .

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Elise Holland grew up in England before moving to the US in her teens. Now she lives in Mill Valley, CA, with her husband, daughter, dog, and cat. In addition to fueling her tea addiction, she enjoys hiking, yoga, and spending time with family and friends.

SEPTEMBER 2018



Publication Date: September 25, 2018

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-69-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-70-0

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"There's a lot to like about Tarquini's Italian-inflected fantasy story, starting with her often lyrical prose."

—Kirkus Reviews

"Tarquini spins a haunting, lyrical fantasy dealing with love, loss, and political turmoil . . . Patient readers will be rewarded by the mysteries at the heart of these brothers' struggles, which slowly unfold until the last page."

—Publishers Weekly

# DEEPEST BLUE

## A NOVEL

MINDY TARQUINI

### DESCRIPTION:

In an enchanted city seen only at twilight, a resentful second son uncovers secrets that could cause his world's star to set.

In Panduri, everyone's path is mapped, everyone's destiny determined, their lives charted at birth and steered by an unwavering star. Everyone has his place, and Matteo, son of Panduri's duca, is eager to take up his position as Legendary Protector—at the border and out from under his father's domineering thumb. Then Antonio, Matteo's older brother and also Panduri's heir, pulls rank and heads to the border in Matteo's stead, leaving Panduri's orbit in a spiral and Matteo's course on a skid.

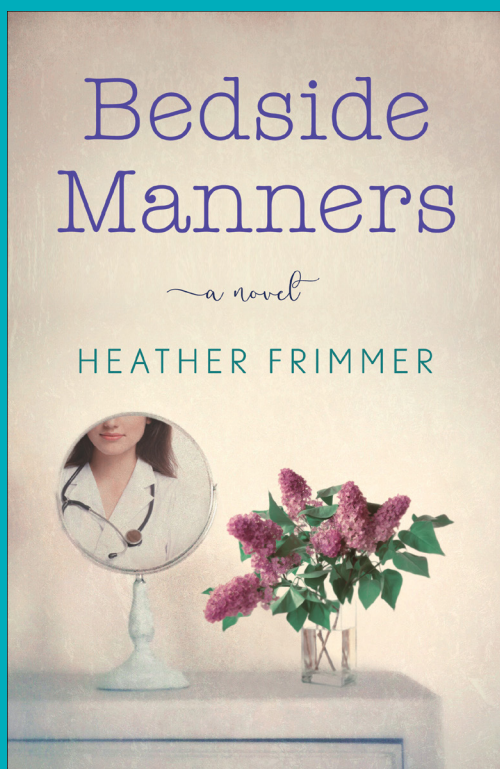
Forced to follow an unexpected path, Matteo is determined to rise, and he pursues the one future Panduri's star can never chart: a life of his own.

*Brigadoon* meets *Pippin* in this quirky tale of grief, drawn from Italian folklore, that reminds the reader to remember what helps, forget what hurts, and give what remains permission to soar.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Mindy Tarquini grew up convinced that there are other worlds just one giant step to the left of where she's standing. Author of the critically acclaimed and award-winning *Hindsight* (SparkPress, 2016) and *The Infinite Now* (SparkPress, 2017), Tarquini's writing has appeared in *Writer's Digest*, *BookPage*, *Hypable*, and other venues. An associate editor on the *Lascaux Review* and a member of the Perley Station Writers Colony, Tarquini is a second-generation Italian American who believes words have power. She plies hers to the best of her ability from an enchanted tower a giant step left in the great Southwest.

OCTOBER 2018



Publication Date: October 16, 2018

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-68-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-67-0

“Drawing from her experience as a radiologist, Frimmer’s poignant debut examines a beautifully authentic mother-daughter relationship and the challenges inherent in a breast cancer diagnosis. Her writing is both heartfelt and astute—this book will stick with you long after you’ve finished reading it.”

— Emily Liebert, *USA Today* best-selling author

“A warm and insightful glimpse from both sides of the examining table. Frimmer merges the experiences of doctor and patient as this mother-daughter relationship faces a frightening diagnosis.”

— Leah DeCesare, award-winning author of *Forks, Knives, and Spoons*

# BEDSIDE MANNERS

## A NOVEL

HEATHER FRIMMER

### DESCRIPTION:

As Joyce Novak’s daughter, Marnie, completes medical school and looks ahead to a surgical internship, her wedding, and a future filled with promise, a breast cancer diagnosis throws Joyce’s own future into doubt. Always the caregiver, Joyce feels uncomfortable in the patient role, especially with her husband and daughter. As she progresses through a daunting treatment regimen including a biopsy, lumpectomy, and radiation, she distracts herself by planning Marnie’s wedding.

When the sudden death of a young heroin addict in Marnie’s care forces Marnie to come face-to-face with mortality and her professional inadequacies, she also realizes she must strike a new balance between her identity as a doctor and her role as a supportive daughter. At the same time, she struggles with the stark differences between her fiancé’s family background and her own, and comes to understand the importance of being with someone who shares her values and experiences.

Amid this profound soul-searching, both Joyce and Marnie’s futures change in ways they never would have expected.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Heather Frimmer is a physician by day, specializing in diagnostic radiology and breast imaging, and an avid reader and writer at all other times. A published book reviewer across multiple websites, including Books, Ink and Booktrib, she lives in Connecticut with her husband and two sons.

### AWARDS:

2019 Connecticut Press Club, 2nd place, Fiction for Adult Readers

OCTOBER 2018



Publication Date: October 16, 2018

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-73-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-74-8

**"A chilling examination of a possible future, filled with lovable characters, excellent pacing, and sharp sociopolitical criticism."**

**—Publishers Weekly**

# RESISTANT

## A NOVEL

RACHAEL SPARKS

### DESCRIPTION:

When antibiotics ceased to work, Rory Stevigson lost her mother to an infection, the same type that has killed a seventh of the world's population. Then stoic and scarred Navy, a young military veteran, enters the quiet life Rory leads with her father on their farm, and Rory finds herself drawn to him despite his mysterious past . . . until he reveals the secrets her parents kept from her, including the fact that her own blood may hold the cure the world needs and she is a target because of it.

The government's research arm, TEAR, wants to sell the cure only to those who can afford it. The Resistance would give the cure away to all, and they've sent Navy to find her before TEAR can. Fleeing the dangerous government who would use her to gain power and struggling to survive a world turned upside down, Rory, her father, and their new protector narrowly avoid capture and death in their efforts to keep her hidden. Can she find the new path of human evolution before TEAR finds her?

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Rachael Sparks was born in Waco, Texas. She graduated with a degree in microbiology from Texas A&M University and her first post-college job was ghostwriting a nonfiction science book. After a decade-long career in Austin, Texas, as a transplant specialist, she joined a startup fighting healthcare-acquired infections. After relocating with her husband, young daughter, and mother to Asheville, North Carolina, she finally put her first novel on the page. In her free time, she serves on the board of the Asheville Museum of Science and loves to cook, brew, garden, and spend time with friends and family in between obsessively researching emerging science concepts, history, or new recipes.

### AWARD:

Shortlisted for the Global Thriller Award, a division of the Chanticleer International Book Awards

OCTOBER 2018



Publication Date: October 23, 2018

Collections: Middle Grade Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$12.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-77-9

E-ISBN: 978-1-63152-461-5

"An enchanting new book full of magical mischief and adventure, Alane Adams's *The Blue Witch* is guaranteed to please"

—Foreword Clarion Reviews

"Bright, brave characters star in this exhilarating tale of magic and mystical creatures."

—Kirkus Reviews

# THE BLUE WITCH

## THE WITCHES OF ORKNEY, BOOK 1

ALANE ADAMS

### DESCRIPTION:

Nine-year-old Abigail Tarkana is about to fail Spectacular Spells class because her witch magic hasn't come in yet! Even worse, her nemesis, Endera, is making her life miserable by pulling pranks and trying to get her kicked out. Then her new friend Hugo's life is put in danger by a stampeding sneevil, and a desperate Abigail manages to call up her magic—only to find out it's unlike that of any other witchling at the Tarkana Witch Academy. When a competition is announced to see who can bespell a wild creature in the swamps, Abigail is first attacked by a strange creature known as a viken, then snatched out of its grasp by an Omera, a powerful winged beast capable of tearing Abigail to pieces. This one is a mother with a hatchling that won't hatch—and if Abigail can't find a way to use her magic to get her stubborn baby out of its shell, Big Mama may just decide to eat her. As Abigail learns more about her mysterious magic, she and Hugo must travel to the Netherworld, home to Queen Octonia and her nasty spiderlings, to rescue her nemesis and keep from being kicked out of the coven.

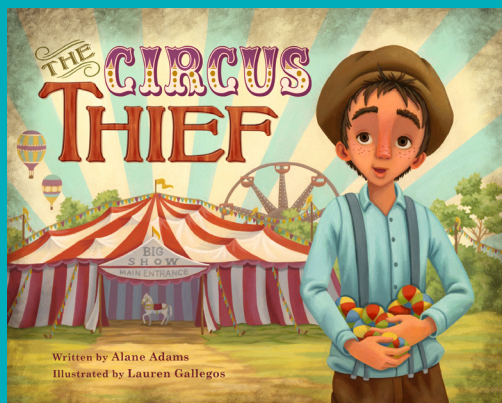
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, and *The Santa Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

### AWARDS:

Alane Adams's Legends of Orkney series has won more than eleven awards and finalist titles, including the Moonbeam Children's Book Awards: Gold Medal, Best Book Series – Chapter Book

NOVEMBER 2018



Publication Date: November 6, 2018

Collections: Children

Trim size: 8 x 10

Price: \$15.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-75-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-76-2

“The circus is bursting with amazing sights and sounds, from clowns and elephants to a lady with a beard, in *The Circus Thief*, a delightfully nostalgic tale of compassion, kindness, and generosity.”

—Foreword Clarion Reviews

# THE CIRCUS THIEF

ALANE ADAMS, ILLUSTRATED BY  
LAUREN GALLEGOS

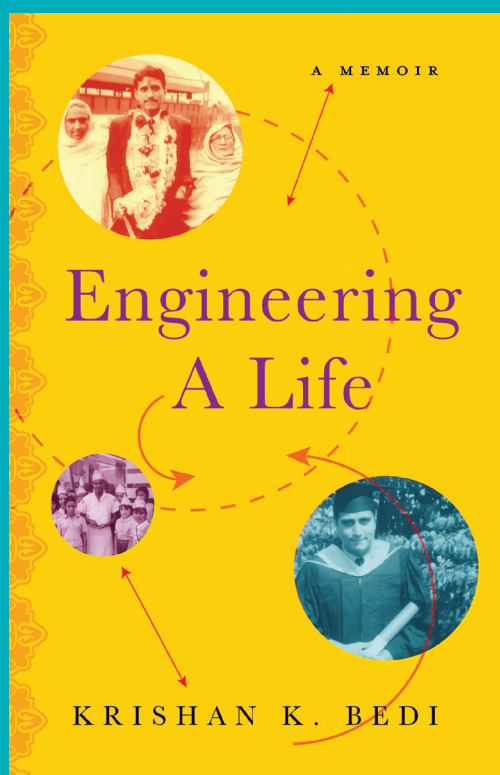
## DESCRIPTION:

The circus is in town, and Georgie has his heart set on going. When Papa agrees to take him and his friend Harley, the boys marvel at the amazing elephants and clowns. But the best act of all is the amazing Roxie, a trained horse who can do all sorts of tricks. When Georgie is invited to ride on her back, he discovers it's her last show—Roxie is going to be sent to the work farm! When Roxie bolts with Georgie on her back, Papa must come to his rescue. *The Circus Thief* is a heartwarming tale of boyhood set in 1920s Pennsylvania for children ages 4–8.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, and *The Santa Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 3, 2018

Collections: Memoir

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-43-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-42-7

*"Engineering a Life is a story not only of determination and grit but also of hope. Bedi's indomitable spirit, positive attitude, and work ethic are a joy to read about."*

—Foreword Reviews

*"A remarkable memoir about a young immigrant who becomes a successful engineer in the U.S. after years of hardship. . . . Throughout his vivid account, Bedi shows amazing resolve and determination in achieving his dreams. Readers will likely applaud the author as he skillfully narrates his many trials on the road to forging a stable life in his new home. This engrossing and timely book should appeal to anyone wishing to learn more about the immigrant experience in America."*

—Kirkus Reviews

# ENGINEERING A LIFE

## A MEMOIR

KRISHAN K. BEDI

### DESCRIPTION:

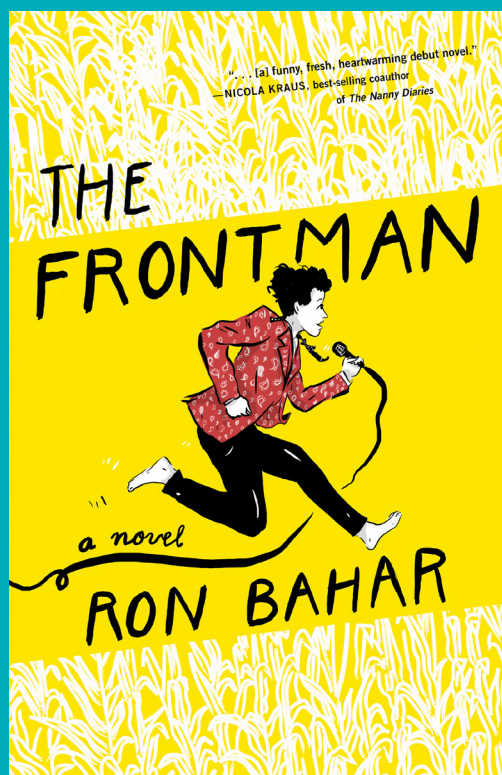
Krishan Bedi came to the United States in December of 1961 at the tender age of twenty. He had only \$300 in his pocket, and he had made it out of his small village in India on sheer faith, determined to get an education in the US. For him, there was no option but to succeed—so he began his new life in Knoxville, Tennessee, where he had to adapt to the culture shock not only of being in the US but also being a Punjabi man in the South in the 1960s.

*Engineering a Life* is an examination of Bedi's life and how he has handled the plethora of curve balls thrown his way with determination, humor, and an unwavering belief that everything will work out. This is a book about values and faith and the importance of friendship, family, and hard work. It's a story about achieving the American Dream, proving that no matter how thoroughly you map out your life's journey, no matter how many blueprints you draw up, when you veer off the course you've plotted—as we all do, somehow, in the end—you end up where you're supposed to be.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Krishan K. Bedi came to the US by boat with only \$300 in his pocket in December 1961. A twenty-year-old from the tiny village of Punjab, India, he had big dreams and ideas of what he wanted to do with his life. He eventually earned a master's degree in industrial engineering at the University of Tennessee. After nine years in the US, he returned to India to have an arranged marriage; together, he and his wife returned to the States, where Bedi developed a career as a healthcare executive. He's since served as member of several healthcare professional organizations and is currently a member of the board of Indo-American Society of Peoria. Bedi is a contributing author to *The Magic of Memoir*, edited by Linda Joy Myers and Brooke Warner. He now lives with his wife in Peoria. They have three successful sons and five grandchildren.

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 3, 2018

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-44-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-45-8

"Fans of Matthew Norman and Jonathan Tropper will enjoy this immersive and heart-opening novel."

—Booklist

"Bahar wields biting humor like a sword, skewering everything from the trials and tribulations of growing up to rock 'n' roll and the expectations of parents and peers."

—Kirkus Reviews

# THE FRONTMAN

## A NOVEL

RON BAHAR

### DESCRIPTION:

Ron Bahar is an insecure, self-deprecating, seventeen-year-old Nebraskan striving to please his Israeli immigrant parents, Ophira and Ezekiel, while remaining true to his own dreams. During his senior year of high school, he begins to date longtime crush and non-Jewish girl Amy Andrews—a forbidden relationship he hides from his parents. But that's not the only complicated part of Ron's life: he's also struggling to choose between his two passions, medicine and music. As time goes on, he becomes entangled in a compelling world of sex, drugs, and rock and roll. Will he do the right thing?

A fictionalized memoir of the author's life as a young man in Lincoln, Nebraska, *The Frontman* is a coming-of-age tale of love and fidelity.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Ron Bahar is the child of Israeli immigrants. He was born in 1965 in Boulder, Colorado, and was raised in Lincoln, Nebraska. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in zoology with honors/Phi Beta Kappa before attending medical school at the University of Nebraska and graduating with honors. He completed all of his post-graduate training at UCLA, where he went on to serve as a full-time Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics from 1997 to 2000, after which time he started his own private practice in the Los Angeles suburb of Encino. Bahar has two children, Ethan and Matthew, and two energetic Goldendoodles, Olivia and Diego. He and his wife, Laurie, like to travel and exercise, and spend many weekends at their family mountain retreat in Lake Arrowhead, CA.

### AWARDS:

2018 IPPY Awards: Bronze Medal, Young Adult Fiction

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 10, 2018

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-46-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-47-2

"In brilliantly onomatopoeic prose, Kaye shows how Jade comes to several epiphanies about her tree dreams while also coming to know the people that her family considers enemies. Throughout, the author relates the protagonist's tale of redemption in delightfully sparse language, like a long poem in which small details matter, every word counts, and images are so cogent that they anchor readers in the fictive reality like tree roots . . . A superbly written tale filled with realistic, engaging, and quirky characters."

—Kirkus Reviews

# TREE DREAMS

## A NOVEL

KRISTIN KAYE

### DESCRIPTION:

When seventeen-year-old Jade Reynolds witnesses a violent clash between a protesting tree sitter and a local logger, she runs as far as she can from the battles that plague her home and from the mysteries of the redwood forest. But the ancient redwoods are embedded in her psyche—she feels their call even in the dark and forgotten back alleys of Portland, Oregon where she's hiding out. She soon becomes entangled with a lovable misfit and a band of radical slackers, environmentalists, and anarchists, and finds herself living 100 feet high in the canopy of a redwood grove, trying to decide whose side she's on: the logging community she's known her entire life or the environmentalists who are risking their lives for the future of the forest. To find a way beyond the division between Us and Them, Jade turns to the ancient trees themselves—and the thread-thin web that connects us all.

*Tree Dreams* is an eco-literary, coming-of-age novel relevant for teenagers and adults alike, for this rite of passage asks the same of us all—whatever our age or life stage, we each must discover our one true voice, and learn how to offer it to the world.

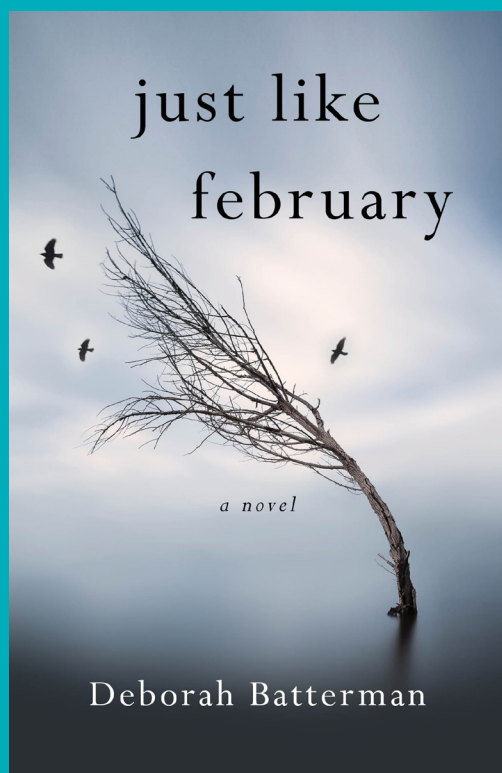
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kristin Kaye is an author, ghostwriter, and teacher whose work sits at the intersection of nature, narrative, and spirituality. *Tree Dreams* has given rise to a global tree-tagging campaign that celebrates the myriad ways we are connected to each other, to nature, and to our future ([treedreams.net](http://treedreams.net)). Kristin's previous work includes *Iron Maidens: The Celebration of the Most Awesome Female Muscle in the World*, a work of literary nonfiction about her experience directing twenty-five of the world's strongest and most muscular women in their off-Broadway debut. *Iron Maidens* was a finalist for the Oregon Book Awards and described by *Utne* magazine as "one of 5 new titles for women who resist easy definition."

### AWARDS:

2018 International Book Awards Winner in Fiction: Young Adult

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 10, 2018

Collections: Literary Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-48-9

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-49-6

*"Just like February is a chronicle of love, family, heartbreak, and healing, jam-packed with warmth and humor. Deborah Batterman's portrayals of the lives and travails of her characters are so clear-eyed, so perceptive and poetic, that this reader hated to see the story end."*

—Rossandra White, author of *Monkey's Wedding* and *Loveyoubye*

*"An ultimately optimistic and hopeful novel about growing up amid personal and political disarray."*

—Kirkus Reviews

# JUST LIKE FEBRUARY

## A NOVEL

DEBORAH BATTERMAN

### DESCRIPTION:

To Rachel, there's no one in the world like her uncle Jake. Handsome and mysterious, he fills her with stories, sends postcards and gifts from exotic places. And he's so much more fun to be with than her parents, who are always fighting. When she learns he's gay, she keeps it under wraps. And when he gets sick, she doesn't even tell her best friends. Until she realizes that secrecy does more harm than good.

Framed by the passions of the '60s and the AIDS crisis of the '80s, *Just Like February* begins with the wedding of Rachel's parents when she's five and ends with her sexual awakening as Jake is dying. As this poignant coming-of-age story unfolds, Rachel is forced to reckon with a home broken by the stormy love between her mother (a social worker) and her father (a Vietnam veteran) and a heart broken by the realities of homophobia and AIDS.

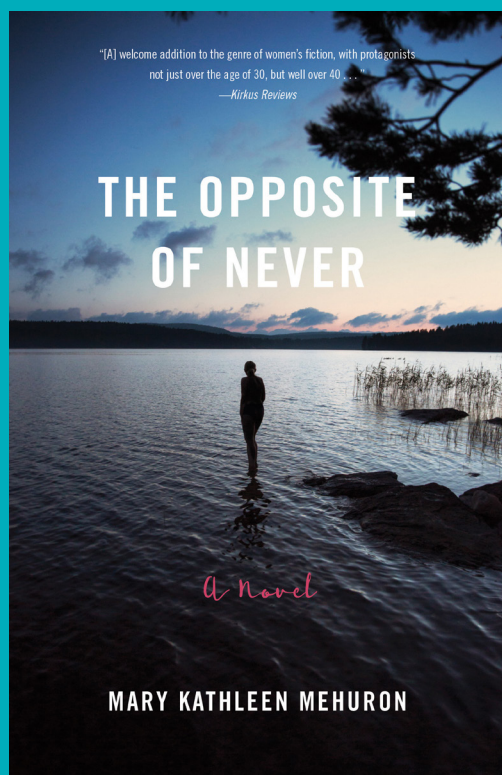
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

A native New Yorker, Deborah Batterman has worked over the years as a writer, editor, and teaching artist. A story from her debut collection, "Shoes Hair Nails," was nominated for the Pushcart Prize. Her stories and essays have appeared in anthologies as well as various print and online journals, including Akashic Books's *Terrible Twosdays*, *Dr. T. J. Eckleburg Review*, *Every Mother Has a Story*, Vol. 2, *Open to Interpretation: Fading Light*, and *Mom Egg Review*, Vol. 14. Her blog continues to be an exploration of all the small things, and the big ones, that impact our day-to-day lives. To find out more about her, please visit [www.deborahbatterman.com](http://www.deborahbatterman.com).

### AWARDS:

2018 International Book Awards Finalist in Fiction: Literary  
2018 American Fiction Awards Finalist in Coming of Age  
2018 Best Book Awards Finalist in Fiction/Literary

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 24, 2018

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-50-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-51-9

"The characters are identifiable, sympathetic, vivid, and clear even in their human damage and wonderful redemption. Mehuron pens a memorable story of friendship, love, romance, and . . . life."

—Marley Gibson, best-selling author of the *Glamorous Life* series

"*The Opposite of Never* is a lovely story about loss, love, redemption, the power of female friendship, and one of the most important emotions needed to become whole again—forgiveness."

—Kris Radish, best-selling author of *A Dangerous Woman From Nowhere*

# THE OPPOSITE OF NEVER

A NOVEL

MARY KATHLEEN MEHURON

## DESCRIPTION:

Life is mostly a mixed bag.

Devastated when they lose their spouses, both Kenny Simmons and Georgia Best carry on for the sake of their children, although they are certain that the best part of their lives is long over. Then Georgia and her lifelong companions, Linda and Yvonne, meet Kenny while walking down a dusty Vermont country road, and the four of them hit it off. Soon, Kenny becomes a regular part of their hiking group, and he and Georgia grow more than fond of each other.

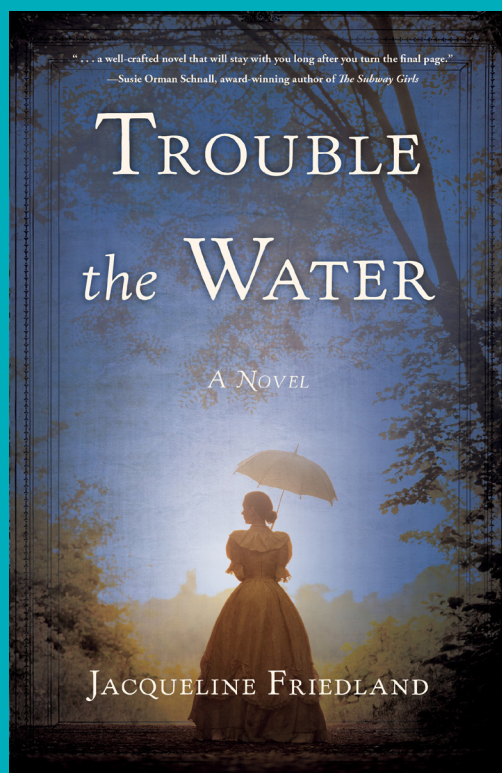
Kenny's stepdaughter, Zelda, and Yvonne's teenage son, Spencer, also fall in love—at first sight. Through surprisingly relatable circumstances, they are drawn into opiate use, shocking everyone, and the two of them struggle through the torment of addiction together.

In an impulsive and daring attempt to create a grand finale out of difficult times, Kenny takes Georgia off to vacation in Cuba just as it is opening up to Americans—and what they discover in the golden light of Old Havana is another startling surprise.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Mary Kathleen Mehuron is a career educator who made a splash with her first book, *Fading Past*, an autobiographical novel whose protagonist, like Mehuron, grew up Irish-Catholic in New Jersey. *The Opposite of Never* is Mehuron's second book; to finish it, she traveled alone to Havana in January 2015 in order to experience the city before it became Americanized. She lives and teaches in a ski town in Vermont where she and her husband raised three sons. She is an occasional contributor to the local newspaper *The Valley Reporter* and writes curricula daily for private students. She takes extended time to work on her novels on Grand Turk Island and in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

MAY 2018



Publication Date: May 8, 2018

Collections: Literary Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-54-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-55-7

"With compelling characters, a charming peek into Charleston society, a heart-racing romance, rich historical detail, and an epilogue that will have you holding your breath, Friedland has written a well-crafted novel that will stay with you long after you turn the final page."

—Susie Orman Schnall, award-winning author of *The Subway Girls*, *The Balance Project*, and *On Grace*

"This is a promising debut from Friedland, who writes with an enviable emotional intuitiveness . . . engaging characters that readers will care about. . . . A vibrant, solidly entertaining story that will seize readers from the first page and not let go."

—Kirkus Reviews

# TROUBLE THE WATER

## A NOVEL

JACQUELINE FRIEDLAND

### DESCRIPTION:

Abigail Milton was born into the British middle class, but her family has landed in unthinkable debt. To ease their burdens, Abby's parents send her to America to live off the charity of their old friend, Douglas Elling. When she arrives in Charleston, seventeen-year-old Abby discovers that the man her parents raved about is a disagreeable widower who wants little to do with her. To her relief, he relegates her care to a governess, leaving her to settle into his enormous estate with little interference. But just as she begins to grow comfortable in her new life, she overhears her benefactor planning the escape of a local slave—and suddenly, everything she thought she knew about Douglas Elling is turned on its head.

Abby's attempts to learn more about Douglas and his involvement in abolition initiate a circuitous dance of secrets and trust. As Abby and Douglas each attempt to manage their complicated interior lives, readers can't help but hope that their meandering will lead them straight to each other. Set against the vivid backdrop of Charleston twenty years before the Civil War, *Trouble the Water* is a captivating tale replete with authentic details about Charleston's aristocratic planter class, American slavery, and the Underground Railroad.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jacqueline Friedland holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and a JD from NYU Law School. She practiced as an attorney in New York before returning to school to receive her MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. She lives in New York with her husband, four children, and a tiny dog. This is her first novel.

### AWARDS:

2018 IPPY Awards: Silver Medal, South-Best Regional Fiction  
2019 Foreword Indies, Finalist, Adult Fiction—Historical

JUNE 2018



Publication Date: June 5, 2018

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-56-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-57-1

"*Above the Star* is a creative tour de force from the wildly talented author/artist Alexis Marie Chute. Part adventure, part fantasy, part family saga, part quest, the novel leads its heroines and heroes—some human, some extra-human—into peril and redemption, love and loss, and terrors generated by both illness and magic, until they finally emerge into a world where courage makes everything possible. The first in the 8th Island Trilogy, *Above the Star* ingeniously incorporates Chute's own drawings as important clues that keep the tale racing forward. Her images help to create a strange new world so thoroughly real that when you put the book down—if you do—you won't remember where you are."

—Pamela Petro, author of *Sitting Up with the Dead* and the artist's book *AfterShadows*

# ABOVE THE STAR

## THE 8TH ISLAND SERIES, BOOK 1

ALEXIS MARIE CHUTE

### DESCRIPTION:

When frumpy senior citizen Archie goes in search of his missing son in the Spanish Canary Islands, he stumbles upon a higher mission: locating a magical cure for his ailing fourteen-year-old granddaughter, Ella. Using a portal-jumping device called the Tillastrion, Archie and a stone-headed creature named Zeno are transported—along with a cruise ship full of people, including Ella and her mother, Tessa—to Jarr-Wya, a magnificent yet terrifying island in another realm where Archie hopes to locate Ella's cure.

What they find on Jarr-Wya is an island tortured by a wicked Star anchored in the sea. There, a three-way battle for dominion rages between the stone-wielding Bangols, the fiery Olearons, and the evil Millia sands. When Ella is captured, her wit and resourcefulness emerge as she fights against all odds to survive. At the same time on another part of the island, an enchanted river exposes Tessa's long-buried secrets and forces her to confront her broken marriage and a confusing new love triangle. She and Archie—with the help of a company of peculiar allies—track Ella and seek to unravel the terrible mystery of her cure. A mesmerizing, stay-up-all-night adventure of three unlikely heroes, *Above the Star* reminds us that no matter how young we are, or how old, even the smallest act of bravery can transform our lives and the fates of the worlds around us.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alexis Marie Chute is the author of the award-winning, best-selling memoir *Expecting Sunshine: A Journey of Grief, Healing, and Pregnancy After Loss*, published by She Writes Press. She is also a distinguished artist, photographer, and filmmaker. Chute has been named an "Emerging Canadian Photographer" by *Photo Life Magazine* and a "Top 40 Under 40" by *Avenue Magazine*, and was awarded the John Poole Award for Promotion of the Arts. She is also the director-producer of a feature film to accompany *Expecting Sunshine*. Her writing has been widely published in places including *TIME*, *Today's Parent*, *Scary Mommy*, *PhotoEd*, and *WestWord Magazine*. Her artwork is represented by the AR&S Gallery at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Learn more at [www.alexismariechute.com](http://www.alexismariechute.com).

### AWARDS:

2018 IPPY Awards: Bronze Medal, Fantasy

2018 International Book Awards Finalist in Best New Fiction

2018 International Book Awards Finalist in Fiction: Fantasy

2018 International Book Awards Finalist in Fiction: Young Adult

JUNE 2018



Publication Date: June 12, 2018

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-58-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-59-5

“Satisfying romance, a good comeuppance, and a plan that comes together all add up to a great read. A time-travel story that entertains with distinct characters, well-observed details, and an exciting finish.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“*But Not Forever* is a magical time-traveling adventure that captivates readers from the start. Von Schleh’s sparkling prose sets the stage for the thrilling, intertwining journeys of Sonnet and Emma. Doppelgangers born into separate worlds, both are forced to face family dysfunction and reexamine societal conventions.”

—Heather Cumiskey, award-winning author of *I Like You Like This*

# BUT NOT FOREVER

## A NOVEL

JAN VON SCHLEH

### DESCRIPTION:

Could she be everything you aren’t, but somehow—still be you?

It’s the year 2015, and Sonnet McKay is the smarty-pants daughter of a globe-trotting diplomat, home for the summer from her exotic life. Everything would be perfect if not for her stunning sister, whose bright star has always left her in the shadows. In 1895, passionate Emma Sweetwine is trapped in a Victorian mansion, dreaming of wings to fly her far beyond her lonesome mountain home. As the mistreated daughter of the richest man in town, she lives with the heartbreaking knowledge that her mother loves her brothers but doesn’t love her.

In the same house at the same moment, 120 years apart, fierce storms attack and the identical fifteen-year-olds are mysteriously switched in time. As both girls struggle to adapt to this sudden change, destiny intervenes—Sonnet falls in love with a boy and Emma falls in love with a life—and in both their new worlds, astonishing family secrets are discovered. Torn, both girls find themselves wanting to go home yet reluctant to give up what they now have.

*But Not Forever* is an enchanting story of love and longing, and the heart’s quest to find where it belongs.

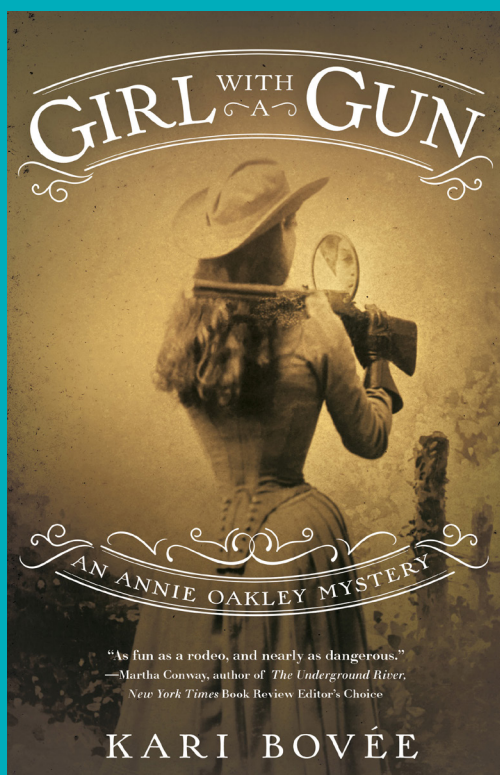
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jan Von Schleh is a third-generation Seattleite who has lived and worked around the world in fascinating places including Zimbabwe, Nicaragua, Democratic Republic of Congo, Turkmenistan, and the Kingdom of Bahrain. When she’s not writing, she likes to explore ancient buildings wherever she can find them and wonder about the stories they would tell—if only they could talk. She is sure that whatever those stories are, they most probably have to do with love.

### AWARD WINNER

Rossetti Book Awards Shortlist in Young Adult Fiction  
2019 Foreword Indies, Finalist, Children’s—Young Adult Fiction  
2019, IPPY, Silver medal, Juvenile/Young Adult Fiction E-Book  
2019 IBPA Ben Franklin Awards, Finalist, Teen: Fiction

JUNE 2018



Publication Date: June 19, 2018

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-60-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-61-8

"Absorbing, heartfelt, and thrilling, *Girl with a Gun* shows off young Annie Oakley's skills as a sharpshooter and as a loyal detective. From the period details to the Wild West setting, I was completely immersed in the story and in the larger-than-life characters. It's a fun as a rodeo, and nearly as dangerous. Like Annie herself, Bovée's prose sparkles with precision and skill."

—Martha Conway, author of *New York Times Book Review* Editor's Choice *Underground River*

"A fast-paced plot keeps the pages turning. Readers interested in strong American women will welcome this new series. . ."

—*Publishers Weekly*

# GIRL WITH A GUN

## AN ANNIE OAKLEY MYSTERY

KARI BOVÉE

### DESCRIPTION:

Fifteen-year-old Annie Oakley is the sole supporter of her widowed mother and two siblings. An expert marksman and independent spirit, she hunts game to sell to the local mercantile to make ends meet instead of accepting a marriage proposal that could solve all her problems.

After a stunning performance in a shooting contest against the handsome and famous sharpshooter Frank Butler, Annie is offered a position in the renowned Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Finally, she has a chance to save the nearly foreclosed family farm and make her dreams come true. But then her Indian assistant is found dead in her tent, and Annie is dubious when the local coroner claims the death was due to natural causes. When another innocent is murdered, Annie begins to fear the deaths are related to her. And to make matters worse, her prized horse, Buck, a major part of her act, is stolen.

Annie soon discovers that the solution to her problems lies buried in a padlocked Civil War trunk belonging to the show's manager, Derence LeFleur. With the help of a sassy, blue-blooded reporter, Annie sets out to find her horse, solve the murders, and clear her name.

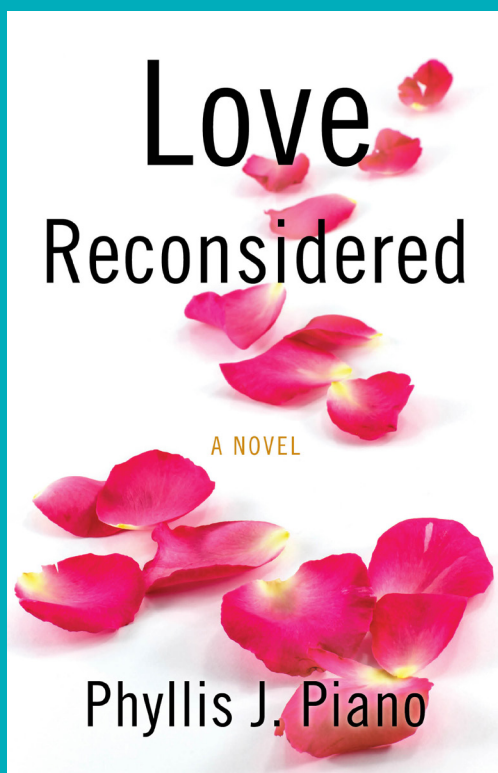
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Empowered women in history, horses, unconventional characters, and real-life historical events fill the pages of Kari Bovée's articles and historical mystery musings and manuscripts. Bovée is an award-winning writer: She was a finalist in the Romantic Suspense category of the 2012 LERA Rebecca contest, the 2014 NTRWA Great Expectations contest, and the RWA 2016 Daphne du Maurier contest for her unpublished manuscript *Grace in the Wings*. She was also honored as a finalist in the NHRWA Lone Star Writer's contest in 2012 with the unpublished manuscript of *Girl with a Gun*. Bovée and her husband, Kevin, live and run their software development company in New Mexico with their cat, four dogs, and four horses. Their children, who live happy lives as productive entrepreneurs and professionals, are their greatest achievements.

2017



AUGUST 2017



Publication Date: August 8, 2017

Collections: Fiction,  
Contemporary Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-20-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-22-9

*"Love Reconsidered is a touching story filled with extraordinary characters put in heartbreaking situations. Enjoyable and engrossing, with surprising twists, this is a book that is hard to put down."*

—Foreword Reviews

*"Fans of stories of good, earnest people entangled in messy relationships will find plenty here to enjoy. . . . A charming work about two damaged, intertwined families."*

—Kirkus Reviews

# LOVE RECONSIDERED

## A NOVEL

PHYLLIS J. PIANO

### DESCRIPTION:

When Aleen Riddick's marriage falls apart after her eighteen-year-old daughter, Sunny, loses her beloved boyfriend in a tragic accident, they look to the dead boy's father, grief-stricken Ted Hammand, to help them heal and redefine life. When shocking developments force them to confront those who deceived them, Aleen, Ted, and Sunny must decide if forgiveness will drive them back to the pain of the past or forward to a future of possibilities. *Love Reconsidered* is about families—their grief, guilt, compassion, love, forgiveness, and hope.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Phyllis J. Piano spent more than thirty years as an award-winning corporate communications expert for some of the world's largest companies. She has somehow managed to maintain her sense of humor, love of writing, and passion for life and the people she loves and cares about through it all. A world traveler, Piano has since left the corporate world and fallen back into the arms of her own first love: writing. She and her husband divide their time between California, England, and the Midwest. When she is not packing a bag, making artisan sourdough bread, or cooking with lots of garlic, Piano is working on her next novel.

### AWARDS

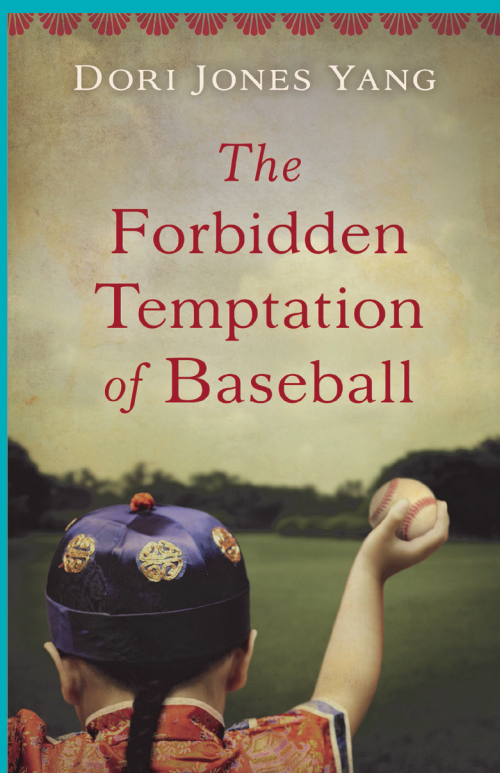
2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction, Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist

2018 Independent Press Award: Winner, Fiction

2018 Next Generation Indie Book Awards Finalist in Chick Lit

2018 International Book Awards Finalist in Fiction: Chick Lit/Women's Lit

AUGUST 2017



Publication Date: August 15, 2017

Collections: Middle Grade Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$12.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-32-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-33-5

"As I read this story, I was continually amazed about what those boys went through not only in traveling to the States but in adjusting to life, education, and customs here."

—Kirby Larson, author of Newbery Honor Book *Hattie Big Sky*

"Through the eyes of the ever curious 'Leon' (Woo Ka-Leong), America is a play of both dazzling light and layered shadows. *The Forbidden Temptation of Baseball* turns our assumptions of America, and the Chinese impact on our history, upside down. A riveting and revealing story for the ages."

—Conrad Wesselhoeft, author of *Dirt Bikes, Drones, and Other Ways to Fly*

# THE FORBIDDEN TEMPTATION OF BASEBALL

DORI JONES YANG

## DESCRIPTION:

Despite his impulsive and curious nature, twelve-year-old Leon is determined to follow the Emperor's rules—to live with an American family, study hard, and return home to modernize China. But he also must keep the braid that shows his loyalty—and resist such forbidden American temptations as baseball. As Leon overcomes teasing and makes friends, his elder brother becomes increasingly alienated and disturbed. Eventually, Leon faces a tough decision, torn between his loyalty to his birth country—and his growing love for his new home.

*The Forbidden Temptation of Baseball* is a lively, poignant, and nuanced novel based on a little-known episode from history when 120 boys were sent to New England by the Emperor of China in the 1870s. This story dramatizes both the rigid expectations and the wrenching alienation felt by many foreign children in America today—and richly captures that tension between love and hate that is culture shock.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dori Jones Yang is a Seattle-area writer. Raised in Ohio, she lived and worked in Singapore and Hong Kong and covered the opening of China as a journalist for *Business Week*. Married to a Chinese man, she has traveled widely throughout Asia. Her previous books include a young-adult historical novel set in China at the time of Marco Polo and a middle-grade novel about a girl from China who begins fifth grade in Seattle, only to discover that she has lost her voice. After studying Chinese for many years, Yang knows what it feels like to struggle to express your thoughts in an unfamiliar language. Learn more at [www.booksbydori.com](http://www.booksbydori.com).

## AWARDS:

2017 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards: Gold Award,  
Pre-Teen Fiction – Historical/Cultural

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Winner, Children's Fiction

2018 IPPY Awards: Gold Medal, Multicultural Fiction

2018 Freeman Book Awards: Winner, Young Adult

SEPTEMBER 2017



Publication Date: September 12, 2017

Collections: Middle Grade Fiction

Trim size: 6 x 9

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-36-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-37-3

"Gorgeously written, *The Raven God* delivers a fresh, lively fantasy with enough twists and turns to keep a young reader captivated. A magical read filled with otherworldly beings both good and evil—and always entertaining."

—Jennifer Gooch Hummer, award-winning author of *Girl Unmoored* and *Operation Tenley*

"A fast-paced, satisfying caper to a trilogy that's sure to enchant fans of adventure-driven fantasy."

—Kirkus Reviews

# THE RAVEN GOD

## LEGENDS OF ORKNEY, BOOK 3

ALANE ADAMS

### DESCRIPTION:

After defeating the Volgrim witches, life in Orkney is quiet. Too quiet. Before Sam Baron can catch his breath, Surt gathers an army of fire giants in the Eighth Realm of Musspell, determined to destroy Orkney—and it's all Sam's fault. After all, he took Odin's life with an ancient cursed dagger, and now mankind has lost its protector. To make matters worse, the God of Mischief, Loki, is on the loose and determined to reunite with his evil wife, Angerboda, and their three children: Fenrir the wolf, Jormungand the sea serpent, and Helva, Goddess of Death.

Orkney's only hope lies with Sam and his stalwart friends. As Surt prepares to launch his forces against Orkney, Sam and two of his fellow witches, Perrin and Mavery, set out on a journey to rescue Odin, aided by Skidbladnir, a magical ship of the gods that can fly over land and sea, and Geela, a Valkyrie who can transform into a battle-ready goose. Meanwhile, Leo and Keely travel north to stop Loki from starting a war between the Eifalians and the Vanir, while Howie is left to watch over Skara Brae. With time running out, our heroes try frantically to prove that they can once again find the courage to do what's needed when the odds are stacked against them—even when the sacrifice asked is greater than any of them could imagine.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

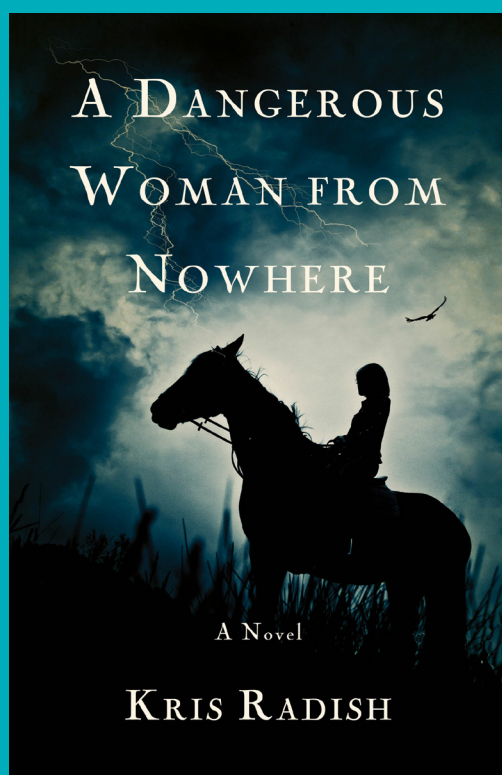
Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, and *The Santa Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

### AWARDS:

2017 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards: Gold Award,  
Pre-Teen Fiction – Historical/Cultural

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Young Adult, Finalist

SEPTEMBER 2017



Publication Date: September 12, 2017

Collections: Fiction, Historical Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-26-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-27-4

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“As in her previous best-selling novels (*A Grand Day To Get Lost*), Radish weaves an engaging story of inspiring women who discover the importance of being true to one’s ideal.”

—*Library Journal*

“Radish’s characters know how to have a good time on their way to matriarchal nirvana.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

# A DANGEROUS WOMAN FROM NOWHERE

## A NOVEL

KRIS RADISH

### DESCRIPTION:

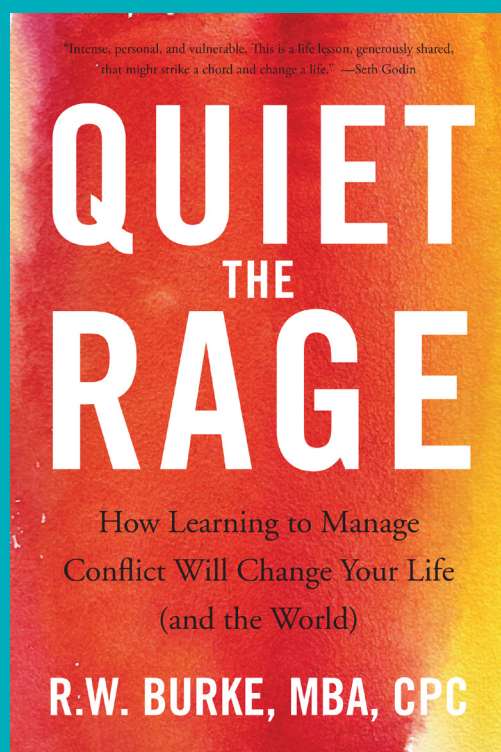
Briar Logan is a loner who has already survived a wretched childhood, near starvation, and the harsh western frontier in the 1860s. Just when she is on the brink of finally opening her heart to the possibilities of happiness, the love of her life is kidnapped by lawless gold miners—and she steels herself for what could be the greatest loss of her life.

Desperate to save her husband and the solitary life they have carved out of the wilderness, Briar is forced to accept the help of a damaged young man and a notorious female horse trainer. Facing whiskey runners, gold thieves, unpredictable elements, and men who will stop at nothing to get what they want, the unlikely trio must forge an uncommon bond in order to survive. Full of lessons of love, letting go, and the real meaning of family, *A Dangerous Woman From Nowhere* is a timeless Western adventure story about courage, change, risk, and learning how to unlock damaged hearts and live in the sweet moments of now.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kris Radish is the best-selling author of twelve novels and three works of nonfiction. Her empowering books focus on the very real issues women face in their lives, and she celebrates the important and amazing power of female friendship via her novels and with the yearly retreats she holds for women. Radish lives in St. Petersburg, Florida.

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 10, 2017

Collections: Self-Help

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$22.95 hardcover /

\$18.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-41-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-40-3

"In this thorough, explorative, and highly personal work, Burke gives readers tools and ideas for self-examination, growth, and conflict resolution . . . successfully tackles a complex subject that's relatively uncommon in self-help titles . . . What makes it particularly stand out is Burke's willingness to show his story in all lights in the service of his project—what his wife, Denise Burke, in a preface, calls 'the good, the bad, and the ugly of my husband's life.'"

—Kirkus Reviews

# QUIET THE RAGE

## HOW LEARNING TO MANAGE CONFLICT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE (AND THE WORLD)

R.W. BURKE, MBA, CPC

### DESCRIPTION:

In a world with more than 7 billion people, 196 countries, 7,000 spoken languages, and close to 30 religions, the probability of one group or one person intentionally or unintentionally offending another group or another person is absolutely certain. Many people limit themselves in life based on their inability to get along with others, and too often we allow ourselves to be ruled by our emotions. When we're emotionally reactive, we're not our best selves, nor do we produce the smartest outcomes. Emotional reactions create winners and losers. And winning directly at the expense of another is actually losing in disguise, due to the resentment it inspires in the loser. Often, people get stuck in a pattern of reacting emotionally, long past the time when the combativeness that once served them no longer does—long past the time when the pattern has become destructive without them being aware of it. For everyone who wants to change that part of themselves—everyone who wants more peaceful interactions and more successful outcomes, but doesn't know how to achieve that—*Quiet the Rage* is the answer.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

R.W. Burke is a Certified Professional Coach through the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching (iPEC). He holds BS in accountancy from Providence College and a master's of business administration degree with a concentration in finance from Providence College's School of Business. For thirty years, he's worked in and around the automobile business. For the last six of those years, he's worked to become the top coach on Ford Motor Company's Consumer Experience Movement (CEM) project, covering twenty-three dealerships in seven states. He is also responsible for CEM Inside, Ford Motor Company's regional initiative to bring the work done by coaches in the field to its own field staff, and has worked with BMW North America and their half-owned subsidiary, The Retail Performance Company, to develop a coaching initiative and workshop.

### AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Self-Help/Relationships, Finalist

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 10, 2017

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-28-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-29-8

"When a mystical book comes into her hands, Skylar's eyes are opened to the underlying magic in her life and the forces that are working to anoint her as the next great successor. Stacey Tucker has filled the pages with dangerous romance, explosive family secrets, and a nail-biting ending that will leave readers pining for the next installment."

—Alane Adams, author of the *Legends of Orkney* series

"Tucker's gift for dialogue asserts itself often. . . . A romantic fantasy series starter full of intriguing concepts from science and spirituality."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

# OCEAN'S FIRE

## BOOK ONE OF THE EQUAL NIGHT TRILOGY

STACEY TUCKER

### DESCRIPTION:

Once the Greeks forced their male gods upon the world, the belief in the power of women was severed. For centuries it has been thought that the wisdom of the high priestesses perished at the hand of the patriarchs—but now the ancient Book of Sophia has surfaced. Its pages contain the truths hidden by history, and the sacred knowledge for the coming age. And it is looking for Skylar Southmartin.

Busy picking up the pieces after her mother's untimely death and trying to finish her veterinary degree, Skylar has no idea that she is the link between four mystical women in her life and the perfect storm the Great Mothers have been waiting for. Meanwhile, she's just reconnected with the first and only love of her life, Argan—but Joshua, a dangerous, irresistible stranger, threatens to ruin everything she's trying to build. Amidst unraveling family secrets that shatter her views of the world and call into question everything she's ever known, Skylar must fight off Joshua's maddening pull and get a handle on her own budding powers—before it's too late.

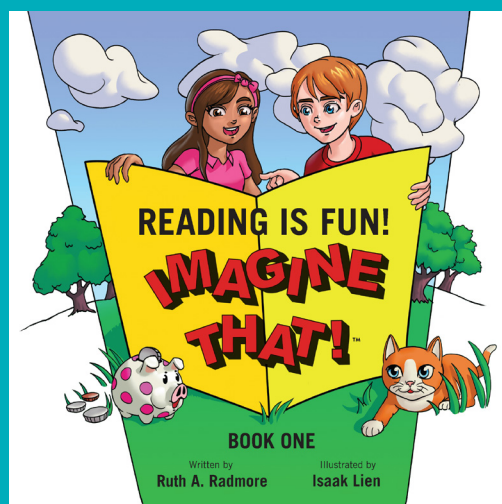
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

After her own mother's death a decade ago, Stacey Tucker started down a path that taught her our world is far from what it seems. A desire to build a bridge between today's science and the magic of a time forgotten has landed her in the world of fiction writing. She continues to redefine the word "feminine" in America by speaking to women's groups on cultivating the fire within as a catalyst for self-transformation. Tucker self-published *Eat, Drink and ReMarry: StaceyLu's Guide to Planning the Second Time Around* as a way to survive planning her second wedding. She also previously published the essay "I Got a Boy" in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: New Moms*. Her blog can be found at [www.staceylu.com](http://www.staceylu.com).

### AWARDS:

2017 Living Now Book Awards: Adventure Fiction, Gold Medal Winner

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 24, 2017

Collections: Educational, Children

Trim size: 8.5 x 8.5

Price: \$19.95 hardback / \$9.95 ebook

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-38-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-39-7

“These booklets are absolutely incredible. An excellent job of inspiring children’s creativity activities.”

—Mosun Johnston Smith, former teacher, principal, and member of the Ministry of Education, Nigeria

“I think these booklets are perfect for children. They are colorful, bright, and the illustrations are awesome. I regret there were no such booklets in my childhood.”

—Ludmila Levine, Chairman of the American English Department at the Linguistics University in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

# READING IS FUN! IMAGINE THAT!

## BOOK ONE

RUTH A. RADMORE

### DESCRIPTION:

The first installment in a new educational activities series designed to help children expand their creativity and improve their reading and language skills, *Reading is Fun!* is a collection of children’s story-poems that encourage children to respond by creating artworks and writings using their own ideas. There are two story-poems on each of six topics: Art Activities, Construction Activities, Creative and Imaginative Thinking, Decision Making, Planning Ahead, and Self-Awareness. Following each set of three story-poems, there are two educational pages with topics such as “Our Amazing Memories” and “The Wonder of Words.” Curiosity, imagination, positive views, and personal abilities are encouraged. This material is ideal for use at home, school, club groups, and summer camps, and for learning English as a second language.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

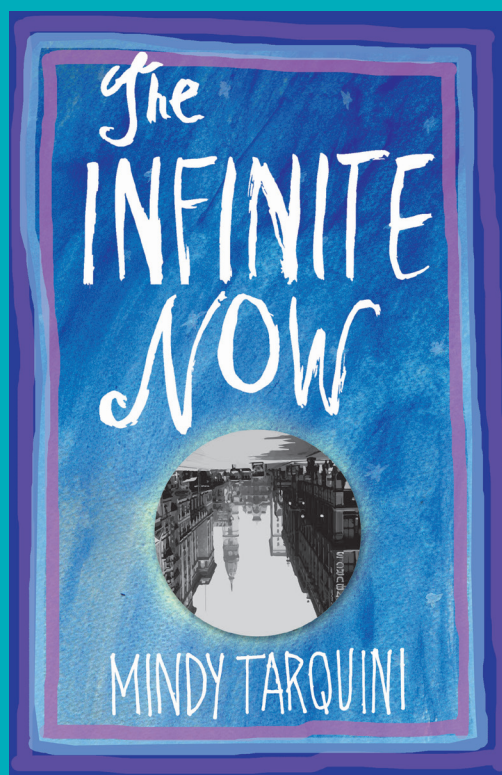
Ruth Radmore received her BA in art education at UCLA and her MA in art education at the University of the Pacific. After teaching art at the secondary level and at a teacher training college, she operated an advertising business for seventeen years. Radmore and her husband have traveled abroad independently by bicycle, motorcycle, and camper. They have also served in the Peace Corps and hosted visitors from eighteen nations. Radmore’s series of creative children’s booklets, which comprise part of *Reading is Fun!*, have received enthusiastic endorsements from students and educators in five nations. A past president of the California PTA stated that they should be available in all of California’s elementary schools.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

2018 National Indie Excellence Awards Finalist in Picture Books—Ages 4-8

2018 International Book Awards Finalist in Children’s Educational

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 24, 2017

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-34-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-35-9

“Replete with poignant details, Mindy Tarquini’s *The Infinite Now* is an engrossing tightrope walk over the relational lines that connect human beings to each other and to time itself. . . . *The Infinite Now*’s potent sorcery doesn’t lie primarily in its forays into fantasy and myth, but rather in the humanity of its characters and the energy of its storytelling.”

—Foreword Reviews, 5 out of 5 stars

“This book offers a well-researched and engagingly drawn portrait of a displaced Italian community in one of America’s most turbulent years. Fiora is a forceful, determined protagonist among an intriguing cast of supporting characters.”

—Kirkus Reviews

# THE INFINITE NOW

## A NOVEL

MINDY TARQUINI

### DESCRIPTION:

On a rainy night in Philadelphia’s Ninth Street Market, sixteen-year-old Fiora, newly orphaned by the 1918 influenza epidemic, is dumped at an old man’s door. Daughter of the local fortune teller, Fiora arrives with a little money, a lot of attitude, and her mother’s formidable reputation. The old man, a widowed shoemaker ticking down his clock, is the only person in their superstitious immigrant community brave enough to stand between Fiora and an orphanage.

Fiora’s a modern, forward-thinking young woman, uninterested in using old-world magic to make a way for herself—but when her mother’s magical curtain shows her that the old man will shortly die of a heart attack, Fiora panics and casts her entire neighborhood into a stagnant bubble of time. A bubble where everything continues but nothing progresses—tomatoes won’t ripen, babies refuse to be born, and the sick suffer under the weight of a never-ending stream of unspent seconds. Not everything in the bubble is bad. Love, fresh and fascinating, ignites. Friendships take root. But as day drags into interminable day, the pressure inside the bubble world builds. Fiora must accept that not everything found can be kept and not everything saved will remain—and that unless she finds the courage to collapse the bubble, every one of her hopes will be trapped inside an unbearable, unyielding, unpredictable, and infinite Now.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Raised by traditional people in a modern world, Mindy Tarquini is a second-generation Italian American who grew up believing that dreams are prophecy, the devil steals lost objects, and an awkward glance can invite the evil eye. She is an assistant editor with the Lascaux Review and a member of the Perley Station Writers’ Colony, as well as the author of the novel *Hindsight*. A native Philadelphian, Tarquini resides in Phoenix with her husband. She loves writing heroines with special powers. Alas, she has none herself.

### AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Winner, Fiction: LGBTQ

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Fantasy, Finalist

2017 Foreword Indies Winner in Adult Fiction—Fantasy

2017 Foreword Indies Finalist in Adult Fiction—LGBT

2017 INDIES Book of the Year Finalist

NOVEMBER 2017



Publication Date: November 7, 2017

Collections: Children

Trim size: 8 x 10

Price: \$15.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-86-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-87-9

“The appealing illustrations glow with lamplight and provide many small details that ground this story in a Pennsylvania farmhouse in the 1920s, and Georgie’s dark eyebrows and freckles give him personality.”

—*School Library Journal*

“An entertaining story with a plucky main character, a problem-solver rather than a thief.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

# THE SANTA THIEF

ALANE ADAMS, ILLUSTRATED BY  
LAUREN GALLEGOS

## DESCRIPTION:

It’s winter in Girard, Pennsylvania and the pond is completely frozen over—ready for a young boy to go skating!—but Georgie’s ice skates are too small. All Georgie wants for Christmas is a new pair of skates. But times are tough in 1920s Pennsylvania, and he gets the disappointing news Santa might not come this year. Follow Georgie as he decides to take matters into his own hands—and discovers what Christmas is all about. *The Santa Thief* is a heartwarming tale of boyhood set in 1920s Pennsylvania for children ages 4–8.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

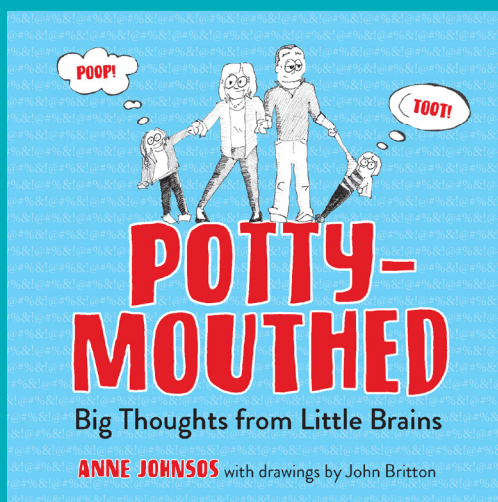
Alane Adams is a children’s author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, and *The Santa Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

## AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Winner, Children’s Picture Book/Hardcover Fiction

2018 IPPY Awards: Gold Medal, Holiday

NOVEMBER 2017



Publication Date: November 21, 2017

Collections: Parenting, Educational

Trim size: 6 x 6

Price: \$19.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-30-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-31-1

# POTTY-MOUTHED

## BIG THOUGHTS FROM LITTLE BRAINS

**ANNE JOHNSOS**

**DRAWINGS BY JOHN BRITTON**

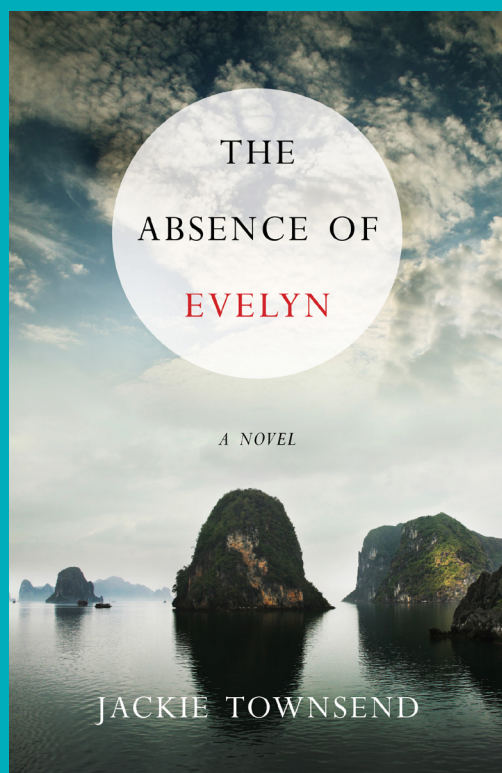
### DESCRIPTION:

*Potty-Mouthed* documents actual conversations one mom has had with her smalls. And while that may sound saccharine and self-congratulatory, it's neither. It's a collection of oofs and acks with a sprinkling of aahs, and it's written the way kids talk. This is the book you give your friend who secretly agrees that kids are the meanest kind of truth tellers. This is the book you give your coworker who's about to be a parent and thinks it's all unicorns and lollipops. This is the book you give those grownups who chose not to play the parenting game. It's a chance for them to sit back and stroke their inner gloat. And, by the way, the illustrations are hilarious.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Anne Johnsos is an award-winning journalist determined to document the "oofs" and "acks" of parenting. After years of recording the ways her kids interpreted the world, she realized their words needed pictures, so she reconnected with John Britton, a fellow former performer from Yale who happens to be an illustrator, and *Potty-Mouthed* was born.

APRIL 2017



Publication Date: April 4, 2017

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-21-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-23-6

*"The Absence of Evelyn is a powerful testimony to the value of love, in all its forms, but also a testimony to the need to let go, whether of one's own carefully-laid plans or of a loved one. One by one, the characters see their masks, their old comfortable behavior patterns, and their secrets stripped away, leaving only the core of who they really are and what they really want . . . an engaging book, with well-drawn characters set in vivid context, and an engrossing and thought-provoking plot."*

—IndieReader

*"A careful examination of family ties with an international flavor."*

—Kirkus Reviews

# THE ABSENCE OF EVELYN

## A NOVEL

JACKIE TOWNSEND

### DESCRIPTION:

Newly divorced Rhonda, haunted by her sister Evelyn's ghost, travels to an old palazzo in Rome to confront Marco, the man who stole her sister's heart—only to find out he's vanished in the wake of Evelyn's death. Meanwhile, Rhonda's nineteen-year-old daughter Olivia, adopted by Rhonda at birth, travels to the mysterious and lush waters of northern Vietnam, where she's been summoned by the missing Marco—a man she only knows from her parents' whispers, a man she has never met or seen. Soon, truths are exposed and lives unraveled, and the real journey begins. Four lives in all, spanning three continents, are now bound together in an unfathomable way—and they tell a powerful story about love in all its incarnations, filial and amorous, healing and destructive.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jackie Townsend is the award-winning author of *Imperfect Pairings*. A native of Southern California with an MBA from UC Berkeley, she is a management consultant turned author. Married to an Italian and incessant world traveler, Townsend spends a lot of her time in places not her own. As the youngest of four children, she carries a strong sense of family with her to these places, often foreign, and writes about belonging (or not belonging), loss, and love. She lives in New York City with her husband, and sometimes they are even there at the same time.

### AWARDS:

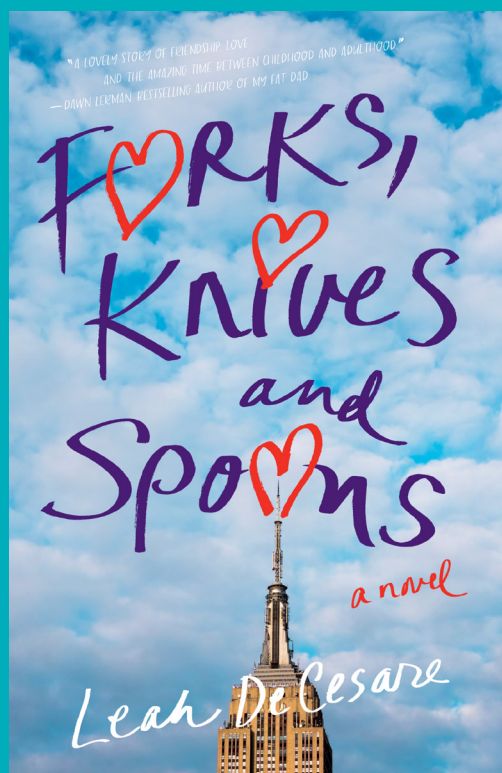
2017 Next Generation Indie Awards: Finalist, General Fiction

2017 International Book Awards: Finalist, Women's Lit

2017 NextGen Indie Book Awards: Chick Lit, finalist

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist

APRIL 2017



Publication Date: April 18, 2017

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-10-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-11-3

"The novel's construct of categorizing men's qualities according to a Utensil Classification System when looking for a romantic partner is memorable, wittily practical, and has the power to influence readers' real-life choices. For that, *Forks, Knives, and Spoons* breaks new ground."

—The BookLife Prize

# FORKS, KNIVES, AND SPOONS

## A NOVEL

LEAH DECESARE

### DESCRIPTION:

There are three kinds of guys: forks, knives, and spoons. That is the final lesson Amy York's father sends her off to college with, never suspecting just how far his daughter will take it. Clinging to the Utensil Classification System as her guide, Amy tries to convince her skeptical roommate, Veronica Warren, of its usefulness as they navigate the heartbreaks and soul mates of college and beyond. Beginning in 1988, their freshman year at Syracuse University, Amy and Veronica meet an assortment of guys—from slotted spoons and shrimp forks to butter knives and sporks—all while trying to learn if the UCS holds true. On the quest to find their perfect steak knives, they learn to believe in themselves—and not to settle in love or life.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Leah DeCesare is the author of the nonfiction parenting series *Naked Parenting*, based on her work as a doula, and an early parenting educator and mom of three. Her articles on parenting have been featured in the *Huffington Post*, the *International Doula*, and *The Key*, among others. In 2008 she cofounded the nonprofit *Doulas of Rhode Island*, and in 2013 she spearheaded the Campaign for Hope to build the Kampala Children's Centre for Hope and Wellness in Uganda. In a past life, DeCesare worked in public relations and event planning. She now writes, teaches, and volunteers in Rhode Island, where she lives with her family and talking cockatiel.

### AWARDS:

2017 NYC Big Book Awards: Winner, Women's Fiction

2017 Independent Press Awards Distinguished Favorites: New Fiction (First Time Published)

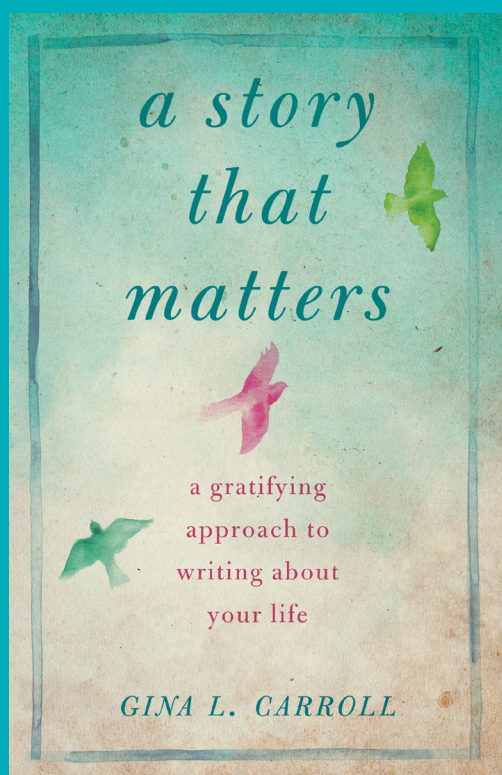
2017 National Indie Excellence Book Awards: Winner, Contemporary Fiction

2017 National Indie Excellence Book Awards: Women's Fiction, Finalist

2017 IAN Book of the Year Awards: Winner, Women's Fiction

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

MAY 2017



Publication Date: May 2, 2017

Collections: Creative Writing, Reference

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-12-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-13-7

"Gina L. Carroll believes everyone has a story and a unique voice to tell it. She also thinks each account will impact others, which makes telling it almost a duty. This is especially true for women, people of color, and anyone struggling with a transformative experience. Carroll gently nudges, including practical strategies and personal examples, hopefully generating voices we've long needed to hear."

—Nan Cuba, award-winning author of *Body and Bread*

# A STORY THAT MATTERS

A GRATIFYING APPROACH TO WRITING ABOUT YOUR LIFE

GINA L. CARROLL

## DESCRIPTION:

No matter who you are, your story is a part of something big—the fabric of history and the human experience. Once written and shared, it will change someone. And that someone is most likely you.

*A Story That Matters* offers an accessible and simplified way to get your stories written. Each chapter is divided into three sections: the first discusses memoir writing in the context of themes—motherhood, childhood, relationships, professional life, and spiritual journey; the second provides basic writing and editing prescription, with a focus on common beginner mistakes and roadblocks; and the third provides a sample story related to the life theme discussed in the first section of the chapter. Chock full of writing and editing lessons that focus on how to get a first draft written and how to craft that draft into a compelling story, *A Story That Matters* explores our ability to help, heal, and connect to others through story, reminding us of the greater need for a broader array of authentic voices in the story-sharing universe.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Gina L. Carroll is an author, speaker, and editor who believes everyone has a story that matters. Also the author of *24 Things You Can Do with Social Media to Help Get into College*, she helps students use their social media to share their best stories and show their highest selves online; and as a partner at Inspired Wordsmith, a writing services business, Gina helps aspiring writers and business professionals get their life stories in print. Born and raised in Los Angeles, she currently lives with her husband and children in Houston, Texas.

## AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Self-Help/Motivational, Finalist  
2017 Living Now Book Awards: Bronze Medal, Personal Growth/Self-Help

MAY 2017



Publication Date: May 16, 2017

Collections: Literary Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-14-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-15-1

"An often engaging and heartwarming novel . . ."

—Kirkus Reviews

"The true wizardry of *The Half-Life of Remorse* is how the random intersection of two homeless men evolves into a story of irresistible forward motion, stunning revelations, deepest human complexities, and highest consequences. Underwriting this feat is Jarrett's ability to inhabit his fated characters absolutely, conjuring their voices, their minds, their wounds, their guilt, their haunted and mingled histories, with such spooky fidelity that you feel you are each one of them, and all of them, all at once."

—Tim Johnston, author of *New York Times* bestseller *Descent*

# THE HALF-LIFE OF REMORSE

## A NOVEL

GRANT JARRETT

### DESCRIPTION:

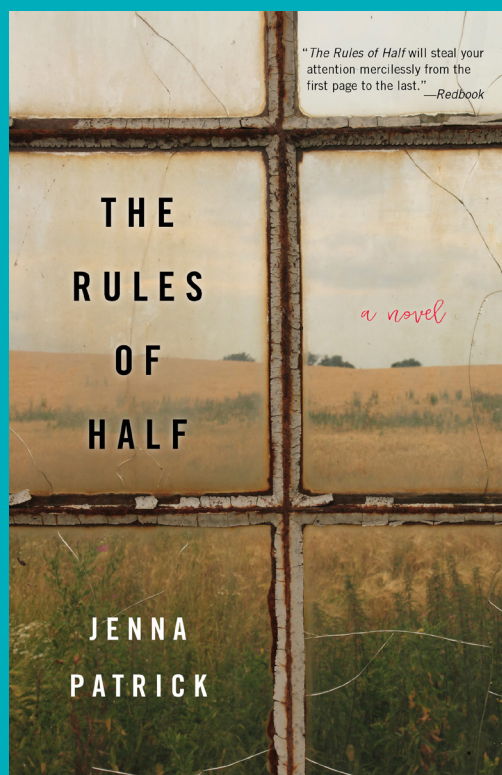
When two vagrants meet on the streets of Muncie, Indiana, they are both unaware that their paths crossed years before. Chic, crude and uneducated, is convinced that Sam is nothing more than a harmless lunatic, and Sam, emotionally scarred and psychologically traumatized by events long past, regards Chic as just another denizen of the street. But Chic has spent his adult life trying to purge his soul of the brutal crime he committed as a teenager—the same botched burglary that resulted in the deaths of Sam's wife and son. Meanwhile, Sam's daughter, Claire, is still unable to give up hope that her father might someday reappear.

When these three lives converge, the puzzle of the past gradually falls together, but redemption commands a high price, and what is revealed will test the limits of love and challenge the human capacity for forgiveness.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Originally from northeastern Pennsylvania, Grant Jarrett lived in Manhattan for twenty years before moving to Marin County, CA, where he now works as a writer, ghostwriter, editor, musician, and occasional songwriter. His publishing credits include numerous magazine articles, essays, short stories, and *More Towels*, his coming-of-age memoir about life on the road. His debut novel, *Ways of Leaving*, won the Best New Fiction category in the 2014 International Book Awards. *The House That Made Me*, his 2016 anthology about the meaning of home, was chosen as an *Elle* "Trust Us" book. Jarrett is an avid cyclist, skier, and surf skier.

JUNE 2017



Publication Date: June 6, 2017

Collections: Contemporary Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-18-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-19-9

"In her debut novel, Patrick writes with sensitivity about the trials of mental illness for both sufferers and caregivers. . . . [A] novel that's strengthened by its attention to how people forgive and connect."

—Kirkus Reviews

"In her debut novel, *The Rules of Half*, Patrick flawlessly delivers both a deeply thoughtful depiction of mental illness and a heartwarming, and dare I say humorous, story about the scars people carry, the healing power of human connections, and the wondrous child that lives in us all."

—Brady Stefani, award-winning author of *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman*

# THE RULES OF HALF

## A NOVEL

JENNA PATRICK

### DESCRIPTION:

If Will Fletcher's severe bipolar disorder isn't proof he shouldn't be a parent, his infant daughter's grave is. Once a happily married, successful veterinarian, he now lives with his sister and thrives as the small-town crazy of Half Moon Hollow. But when a fifteen-year-old orphan claims she's his daughter, Will is forced back into the role he fears most: fatherhood.

Her biological dad isn't the hero Regan Whitmer hoped for, but he's better than her abusive stepfather back in Chicago. Still haunted by her mother's suicide and the rebellious past she fears led to it, Regan is desperate for a stable home and a normal family—things Will can't offer. Can she ride the highs and lows of his illness to find a new definition of family?

*The Rules of Half* explores what it is to be an atypical family in a small town and to be mentally ill in the wake of a tragedy—and who has the right to determine both.

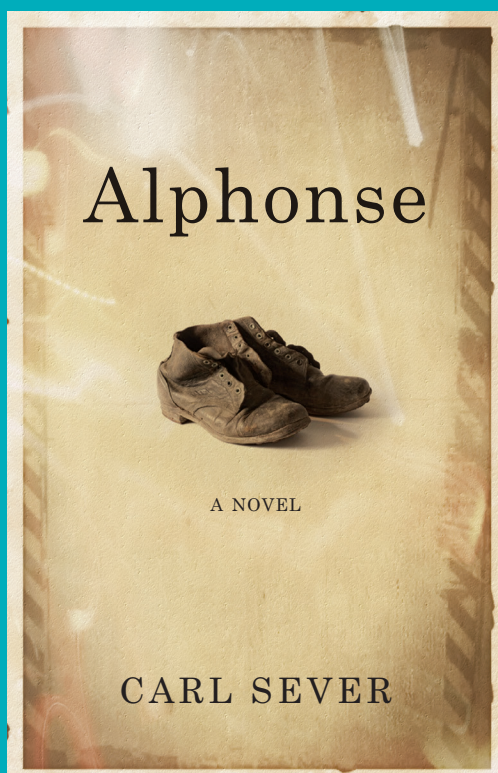
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Raised in northern Ohio, Jenna Patrick moved to North Carolina in 1998 to attend the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where she received a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering. After ten years of devoting her brain to science and math, she returned to her true passion: writing fiction. She and her husband reside on Lake Norman with their two daughters and two rescue dogs. *The Rules of Half* is her debut novel.

### AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

**JUNE 2017**



Publication Date: June 27, 2017

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-24-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-25-0

# ALPHONSE

## A NOVEL

**CARL SEVER**

### DESCRIPTION:

After twenty years of riding the rails, Alphonse has earned a reputation for being a kindhearted soul always ready to help. When he helps the Sadlers, a young couple seeking a better life in small-town 1950s Indiana, he doesn't intend to stay. But stay he does, keeping a close eye on the Sadlers and their two young sons—and an even closer eye on the town's new priest, Father Brennon. On the surface, Brennon seems perfect for the job—but Alphonse crossed paths with him years earlier in the railyard jungle, and he knows better. Brennon doesn't recognize Alphonse, but Alphonse has never forgotten Brennon . . . or his crimes. So when Brennon assigns the Sadlers' son, Francis, who is now thirteen, the thankless task of cleaning and maintaining the church's bell tower—work that often continues into the night—Alphonse immediately grows suspicious. Soon, he discovers that his worst fears have come to pass, and he races to find a way to protect Francis and reveal the truth to the Sadler family.

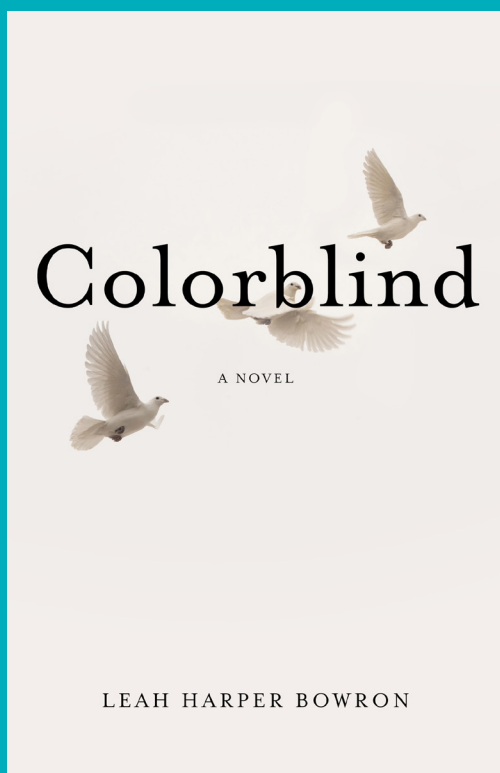
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Carl Sever began writing fiction in part because of his interest in the 1930s Dust Bowl, hobo culture and lore, and small-town midwestern life, especially in areas dominated by the Roman Catholic Church. His writing has also been an important part of recovery from a traumatic brain injury he suffered in a car accident in 1990. Sever has been a teacher, a journalist, and nature photographer. He has also been a businessman and co-owner of an exclusive wholesale photo lab. He's an avid outdoorsman, passionate fly-fisherman, and adventurer who has explored the mountains of Colorado, Montana, Canada, and Alaska. His travels have taken him to Costa Rica and Panama, reinforcing his study of Spanish as a second language. He's a lifelong learner, with studies ranging from screenwriting and sculpture to nature photography. *Alphonse* is his first novel.

### AWARDS:

2017 Beverly Hills Book Award Winner in General Fiction  
2017 Beverly Hills Book Award Finalist in New Fiction  
2017 International Book Awards: Fiction, General, Finalist  
2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction, General, Finalist  
2018 IPPY Awards: Gold Medal, Best First Book-Fiction

JULY 2017



Publication Date: July 11, 2017

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-08-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-09-0

**“Bowron’s debut novel is a short and fast-paced novel that will appeal to reluctant readers . . . The story demonstrates the bravery required to stand up to ignorance and cruelty; readers will appreciate the overall message of tolerance and acceptance embedded in this historical fiction novel.”**

**—VOYA Magazine**

# COLORBLIND

## A NOVEL

LEAH HARPER BOWRON

### DESCRIPTION:

The time is 1968. The place is Montgomery, Alabama.

The story is one of resilience in the face of discrimination and bullying. Using the racially charged word “Negro,” two Caucasian boys repeatedly bully Miss Annie Loomis—the first African American teacher at the all-white Wyatt Elementary School. At the same time, using the hateful word “harelip,” the boys repeatedly bully Miss Loomis’s eleven-year-old Caucasian student, Lisa Parker, who was born with cleft palate and cleft lip. Who will best the bullies? Only Lisa’s mood ring knows for sure.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Leah Harper Bowron is a lawyer and James Joyce scholar. Her article “Coming of Age in Alabama: Ex parte Devine Abolishes the Tender Years Presumption” was published in the *Alabama Law Review*. She recently lectured on Joyce’s novel *Ulysses* at the University of London and the Universite de Reims. She lives in Texas and has a daughter named Sarah and a cat named Jamie.

### AWARDS:

2017 International Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

2017 International Book Awards: Social Change, Finalist

2017 Living Now Book Awards: Silver Medal, Inspirational Fiction

JULY 2017



Publication Date: July 18, 2017

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-16-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-17-5

**"The Wendy Darling series is a gripping adventure and the final installment does not disappoint. *Shadow* provides a satisfying conclusion to Wendy and Peter's story, with Wendy far from the prim, strait-laced girl of her beginnings."**

**—VOYA Magazine**

**"The soaring conclusion to a brilliant trilogy, *Shadow* is the icing on Colleen Oakes's masterful retelling of the Peter Pan and Wendy story. Oakes sweeps us along effortlessly to a jaw-dropping climax that will leave readers gasping and crying for more."**

**—Alane Adams, award-winning author of the Legends of Orkney series**

# WENDY DARLING

## VOLUME 3: SHADOW

COLLEEN OAKES

### DESCRIPTION:

Wendy Darling has found herself once again in the arms of charming Peter Pan, the god-child who desires power above all things. This time, though, Wendy burns not with passion but with a secret: with Hook as her ally, she is there to defeat the evil that lies inside of Peter, the evil that holds all Neverland hostage—the Shadow.

To do this, Wendy must quietly undo Peter from inside his heart while at the same time convincing Tink to betray the twisted love that binds them together. This is a task made nearly impossible by the arrival of Booth, her sweetheart from London and a new pawn in Peter's manipulative game—a boy whose heart she must break in order to save his life. As all of Neverland prepares to fight, Wendy races to untangle Peter's connection to the Shadow, a secret long buried in the Forsaken Garden. When the time comes, pirates, mermaids, Lost Boys, and the Darling family will all rise—but if Wendy can't call the Shadow, they will all be destroyed by Peter's dark soul. War has come to paradise, and Neverland will never be the same. *Wendy Darling: Shadow* is the thrilling final installment in Colleen Oakes's Wendy Darling Trilogy.

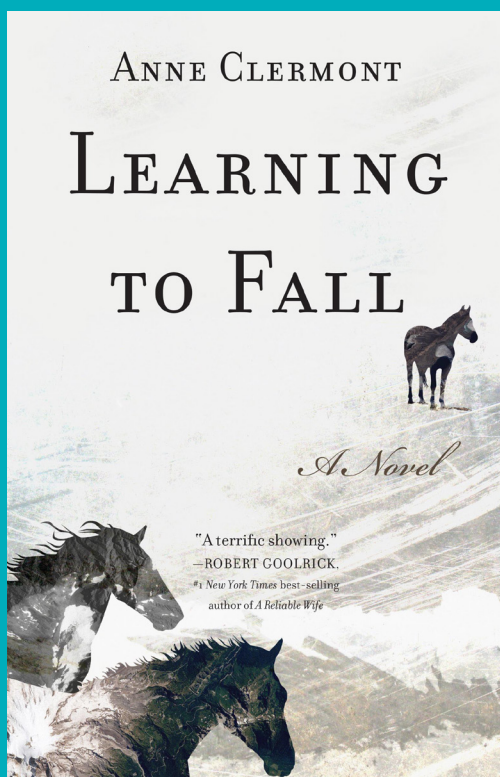
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Colleen Oakes is the author of books for both teens and adults, including The Queen of Hearts Saga and the Wendy Darling Saga. She lives in North Denver with her husband and son and surrounds herself with the most lovely family and friends imaginable. When not writing or plotting new books, she can be found swimming, traveling, and totally immersing herself in nerdy pop culture. She is currently at work on her third YA fantasy series, a children's book, and a stand-alone YA novel.

2016



AUGUST 2016



Publication Date: August 2, 2016

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-78-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-79-4

"In her debut novel, *Learning to Fall*, Anne Clermont tells a compelling, page-turning story about one young woman's search for success and love in the world of horse show jumping. Clermont writes with great compassion and insight. I thoroughly enjoyed this novel."

—Ellen Sussman, *New York Times*  
best-selling author of *French Lessons* and *A Wedding in Provence*

"Clermont's passionate storytelling captures the essence of life as an equestrian."

—John Pearce, Canadian Show Jumping  
Team Olympian

# LEARNING TO FALL

## A NOVEL

ANNE CLERMONT

### DESCRIPTION:

Brynn honors her passion for horses by studying at the toughest veterinary program in the country. Months from graduating, tragedy strikes—tragedy for which she can't help but feel responsible. Brynn feels suffocated by the weight of her father's legacy and his dusty hopes for horse show jumping success. When her frenetic efforts to dig the family business out of debt fail, she's down to one desperate hope. Enter Jason Lander, who understands what it's like to walk away from the ring. The one-time champion agrees to train Brynn, and her horse Jett, for an all-or-nothing run at the prestigious Million Dollar Gold Cup. But going all the way means doing it his way, which has Brynn questioning her decisions, her loyalties, and her growing feelings for Jason—complicating her relationship with her lover. Set in Northern California against a stunning backdrop of coastal hills and valleys, *Learning to Fall* is about discovering how to let go—and how to hang on with your heart. Fans of *Seabiscuit* and *The Horse Whisperer* will love this beautifully written debut—and are bound to add it to their shelf of favorites.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Anne Clermont is a Canadian living in the US, born in Kraków and raised outside of Toronto. She spent fifteen years in California before relocating to the beautiful Pacific Northwest. She holds a BS in animal biology and an MBA. Her background ranges from studying animal behavior to carrying out pancreatic cancer research at one of the world's largest and most innovative biotech companies. Inspired to write *Learning to Fall* in part by her own experience of running a show jumping business, she now devotes her time to writing and working as a developmental editor. She lives on an island in the middle of Puget Sound with her husband and two children.

### AWARDS:

2016 Foreword INDIE: General, Finalist

SEPTEMBER 2016



Publication Date: September 6, 2016

Collections: Middle Grade Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback /

\$24.00 hardcover / \$9.95 ebook

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-84-8

“Adams is a master of exposition, never letting it slow the narrative by immersing it in rapid-fire dialogue . . . Indelible characters, both good and evil, and a rescue storyline that refuses to dawdle.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Combined with strong female leads, both heroic and villainous, the ever growing and changing cast of characters has something for everyone. Fantasy, mythology, a touch of romance, and enough sword fights and battles to appease even the most action-hungry make *Kalifus Rising* a well-rounded, solid choice for those craving a new type of adventure.”

—*Foreword Reviews*, five-star review

# KALIFUS RISING

## LEGENDS OF ORKNEY, BOOK 2

ALANE ADAMS

### DESCRIPTION:

Sam Baron just freed Orkney from the ravages of the Red Sun—but now, imprisoned by Catriona, leader of the Volgrim Witches, Sam finds the darker side of his half-god, half-witch heritage released, and he fears he might destroy what he saved. Unable to resist the witches' enchantments, Sam has become their most potent weapon and is leading an army of monstrous men against Skara Brae. Sam's only hope for salvation lies with his three best friends and a mystical artifact known as the Moon Pearl. Keely travels north in search of the pearl, while Howie prepares for the gathering onslaught. Leo seeks a powerful artifact in the underworld, and faces an ancient evil that could be an even greater threat than Catriona and her cronies.

As Sam's friends rush to save him, other forces are at work in Orkney's shadows—forces that could help free Sam, or condemn him to the darkness forever.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, and *The Santa Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

### AWARDS:

A #1 hot new release pick on Amazon

2017 NextGen Indie Book Awards: Winner, Children's/Juvenile Fiction

2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Gold Medal for both Children/Young Adult Cover Design and Young Reader Fiction

2017, 2016 International Book Awards: Fiction: Young Adult Finalist

2017, 2015 USA Best Book Awards: Best Cover Design: Fiction, Winner

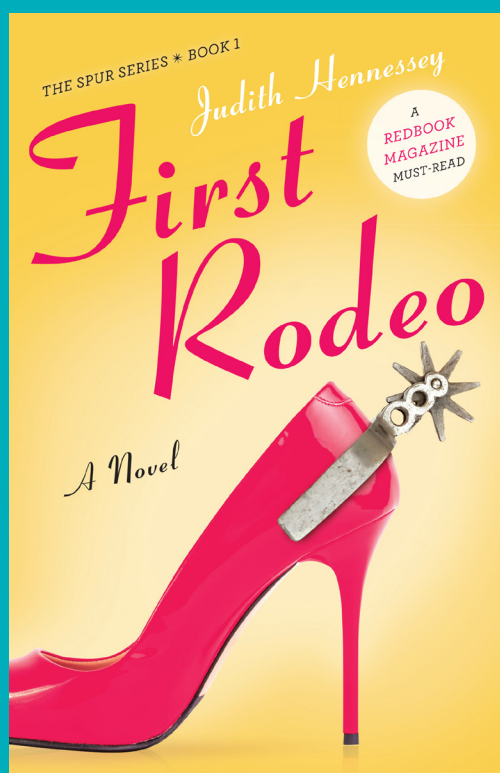
2016 USA Best Book Awards: Children's Fiction, Winner

Beverly Hills Book Award: Best Juvenile Fiction, Winner

2016 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Best New Voice Children's/Young Adult, Silver Medal

Readers Favorite Awards Children Preteen: Silver Medal Winner

SEPTEMBER 2016



Publication Date: September 20, 2016

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-03-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-04-5

**Booklist** named *First Rodeo* one of the  
Top 10 Romance Debuts of 2016.

“... at its heart this story about a single  
mother blazing new trails after finding  
business success is plenty appealing.”

—*Booklist*

“*First Rodeo* is a celebration of one of  
life’s most underrated truths: The most  
precious relationship is the one you  
have with yourself.”

—*Redbook*

# FIRST RODEO

## A NOVEL

JUDITH HENNESSEY

\*Please note that the first printing of Judith’s novel, *First Rodeo*, has transposed pages (a printer error). SparkPress is eager to remove these books from circulation and replace all misprinted copies free of charge. If you have one of these books, please contact Lauren Wise (lauren@sparkpointstudio.com) for a replacement copy.

### DESCRIPTION:

Kate is an attractive, thirty-something-year-old workaholic single mother with a tendency of always pleasing others. At the top of her “yes” list is her sometimes surly and controlling boss: her father. But when a crisis at work spurs Kate to examine her life, she surprises everyone by taking her young son and heading where few high heels have ever gone: Wyoming, home to more cows than humans. There, at the Prickly Pear Ranch, she meets a young, sexy bull rider who’s lived a lifetime in just over two decades and is full of big dreams of training horses. His passion fuels Kate’s dormant dreams of becoming an artist, and sparks fly—and once again, Kate shocks everyone, even herself, and jumps on for the romantic ride of her life. Fast-paced and wildly entertaining, *First Rodeo* is filled with humorous scenes of a city girl gone country, encounters with handsome cowboys, the struggles of the creative process, and a powerful message: the greatest love of all is the love you have for yourself.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

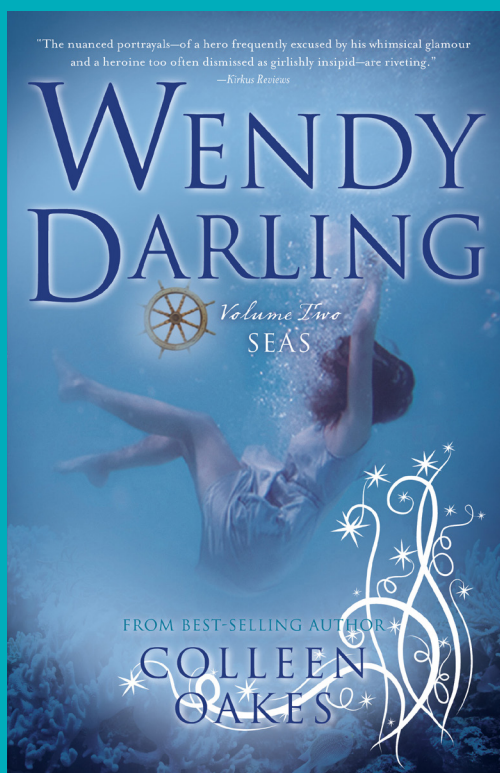
Judith Hennessey was in the automobile industry for twenty-five years, formerly operated her own advertising agency, and is a full-time writer. Her works have appeared in multiple magazines and newspapers, including the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Actively involved in the film industry, she is the executive producer of *20 Ways*, an award-winning short film; has served on the board of New Mexico Women in Film; and is partners in the New Mexico-based production company White Crow Raven Productions. She is also a cowriter of the screenplay adaptation of *First Rodeo*. Judy lives on an organic farm with her husband in Missouri.

### AWARDS:

2016 USA Best Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

2016 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction, Chick Lit/Women’s Lit, Finalist

SEPTEMBER 2016



Publication Date: September 20, 2016

Collections: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-88-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-00-7

**"For readers craving a whimsical adventure and an unforgettable sequel to the first *Wendy Darling*, this swashbuckling plot will leave readers stunned well beyond the last page."**

**—The Reading Room**

**"In this extraordinary, stunningly written adventure, readers will encounter a darkly suspenseful twist on an old tale which reminds readers of every age of a Neverland-lesson: we never truly grow up."**

**—Redbook**

# WENDY DARLING

## VOLUME TWO: SEAS

COLLEEN OAKES

### DESCRIPTION:

From the author of *Queen of Hearts* comes the much-anticipated sequel to *Wendy Darling*.

*Wendy Darling: Seas* finds Wendy and Michael aboard the dreaded *Sudden Night*, a dangerous behemoth sailed by the infamous Captain Hook and his bloodthirsty crew. In this exotic world of mermaids, spies, and pirate feuds, Wendy finds herself struggling to keep her family above the waves. Hunted by the twisted boy who once stole her heart and struggling to survive in the whimsical Neverland sea, returning home to London now seems like a distant dream—and the betrayals have just begun. Will Wendy find shelter with Peter's greatest enemy, or is she a pawn in a much darker game, one that could forever alter not only her family's future but also the soul of Neverland itself?

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Colleen Oakes is the author of books for both teens and adults, including the *Queen of Hearts* Saga and the *Wendy Darling* Saga. She lives in North Denver with her husband and son and surrounds herself with the most lovely family and friends imaginable. When not writing or plotting new books, she can be found swimming, traveling, and totally immersing herself in nerdy pop culture. She is currently at work on her third YA fantasy series, a children's book, and a stand-alone YA novel.

OCTOBER 2016



Publication Date: October 4, 2016

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-82-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-83-1

“What goes best with professional affairs? A lover who cons you. Fans of the *The Catch* will simply consume this entertaining cocktail of first love and business acquisitions which will put our heroine in the ultimate conundrum: should she follow her heart and risk losing everything or choose the safety net of her career? Gorgeously entertaining, expertly crafted and wildly addictive, readers of *Hostile Takeover* will be left with a stomach full of butterflies and a new favorite soul-warming love story on their bookshelf.”

—*Elle* magazine

# HOSTILE TAKEOVER

## A LOVE STORY

PHYLLIS J. PIANO

### DESCRIPTION:

Long-lost love, a hostile corporate takeover, and the death of her beloved husband send attorney Molly Parr's life into a tailspin that threatens to ruin everything she has worked for. Molly's all-consuming job is to take over other companies, but when her first love, a man who she feels betrayed her, appears out of nowhere to try and acquire her business, long-hidden passions and secrets are exposed.

Can Molly trust the man who broke her heart years ago, and who may be manipulating her now to get what he wants? Further complicating matters is the reemergence of her lost love's brother, who was a dear friend and knows the shocking truth about their past. As Molly painfully revisits the old betrayal, she partners with her boss and mentor to fight the takeover at all costs—and the chaos that ensues forces her to chart a dramatic new direction for her life. She must decide: does she have the courage to follow her heart and expose her painful past—a decision that may cost her everything?

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Phyllis J. Piano spent more than thirty years as an award-winning corporate communications expert for some of the world's largest companies. She has somehow managed to maintain her sense of humor, love of writing, and passion for life and the people she loves and cares about throughout it all. A world traveler, Piano has since left the corporate world and fallen back into the arms of her own first love: writing. She and her husband split their time between California, England, and the Midwest. When she is not packing a bag, making artisan sourdough bread, or cooking with lots of garlic, Piano is working on a screenplay and her next novel.

### AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist  
2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Fiction Romance, Finalist  
2017 National Indie Excellence Awards: Romance, Finalist  
2017 Independent Press Awards: Winner, Romance

OCTOBER 2016



Publication Date: October 18, 2016

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-80-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-81-7

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“Brett’s nursing background imbues her writing with authentic details of the physical and emotional challenges of patient care.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“Full of adventures to exciting and exotic places with colorful characters and sexy men, *Found* is a fast-paced debut novel with unexpected twists and turns.”

—Elena Mikalsen, PhD, clinical psychologist and member of the Women’s Fiction Writers Association

## FOUND A NOVEL

EMILY BRETT

### DESCRIPTION:

Twenty-seven-year-old ICU nurse Natalie Ulster has a desire to see the world, in case she dies young like her mother, and a need to heal, which is compensation for her own damaged heart. Armed with an independence and self-reliance that stems from her father’s emotional abandonment—and wanting to separate herself from a deranged nurse whose husband just died under suspicious circumstances on Natalie’s watch—Natalie grabs life by the globe and accepts successive assignments in Belize, Australia, and Arizona. When she meets Dr. Joel Lansfield, a physician who is also familiar with grief, she finds that Joel sees her for the strong woman she is and loves her for all she has yet to figure out—but she’s not sure she’s ready to make room in her heart for love.

Desperate to maintain her emotional distance from Joel, Natalie continues to travel. In each country, however, she finds herself confronted with near-death accidents, from a poisoned drink to a severe food allergy to being thrown overboard in the Great Barrier Reef. Too many coincidences force her to ask herself a frightening question: Is someone trying to kill her?

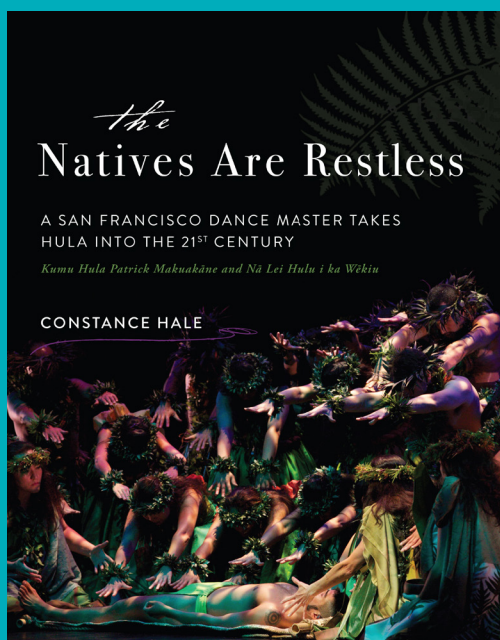
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Emily Brett received her first bachelor’s degree from the University of Colorado Boulder in kinesiology, after which she went on to Arizona State University to receive a bachelor’s degree in nursing. While working as an ICU nurse, she earned a master’s degree in nursing at Arizona State. She is board-certified as an Adult Nurse Practitioner and has been in the nursing profession for over ten years. Presently she serves on the Advanced Practice Committee with the Arizona State Board of Nursing and shares a medical practice with her husband, a physician. She has been published in a number of medical journals, including *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners* and the *Online Journal of Nursing Scholarship*. She is also a member of the Women’s Fiction Writers Association.

### AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: Best New Fiction, Finalist

OCTOBER 2016



Publication Date: October 11, 2016

Collections: Performing Arts, Dance

Trim size: 11.5 x 9

Price: \$40.00 hardcover

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-06-9

Praise for Kumu Patrick Makuakāne and  
Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu:

“The departures from the traditional, lovingly preserved and beautifully danced, were the most fascinating parts of the evening. Mr. Makuakāne retained the purity of the form and intent in choreography that clearly held tradition in esteem.”

—*The New York Times*

“Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu is something else. Lines of dancers provided an ineffably smooth unison reminiscent of the best corps de ballet moments of classical masterpieces. The lasting aftereffect is something like having seen flowers that breathe and butterflies that think.”

—*Los Angeles Times*

# THE NATIVES ARE RESTLESS

## A SAN FRANCISCO DANCE MASTER TAKES HULA INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

CONSTANCE HALE

### DESCRIPTION:

The art of hula is thriving in cities all over the country and the world, but it is not always understood. In *The Natives Are Restless*, journalist Constance Hale presents the largely untold story of the dance tradition, using the twin keyholes of Kumu Patrick Makuakāne, a Hawai'i-born, San Francisco-based hula master and his 350-person arts organization, Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu. In the background, she weaves the poignant story of an ancient people and the resilience of their culture. In the foreground, she tells the story of an electrifying new form of hula that has emerged from a restless generation of artists like Makuakāne. The crisp narrative is complemented by full-color photographs and illustrations. Hale's love for hula, and her history with the dance, inform her prose on every level. She makes Makuakāne's exuberant, fierce, sensuous dance style come alive on the page.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Constance Hale is a Hawai'i-born, San Francisco-based journalist who has been writing about Hawaiian culture for more than twenty-five years. Her award-winning features on slack-key guitar, the sovereignty movement, the Hawaiian language, Big Island cowboys, and Spam sushi have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *National Geographic Adventure*, *Afar*, *Smithsonian*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Miami Herald*, and *Honolulu Magazine*. She has also worked as a staff reporter and editor at the *Oakland Tribune*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, *Wired*, and *Health* magazine. She has written three books on language and literary style, including the best-selling *Sin and Syntax*, and her eight-part series on writing a sentence is on *The New York Times's* “Opinionator.” Hale started dancing the hula at seven and performed each year in May Day festivals at Hale'iwa Elementary School, switching to ballet and jazz dance while at Punahou School and Princeton University. She holds a bachelor's degree from Princeton and a master's degree from UC Berkeley. She has studied hula with Patrick Makuakāne for twenty years and edits the hālau's annual newsletter, *Kaholo'ana*.

### AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards Finalist in Performing Arts: Film, Theater, Dance, Music

NOVEMBER 2016

"Tarquini's innovative concept is paired with realistic characters and sparkling wit, making this enjoyable novel a keeper."  
—*Publishers Weekly*, Starred Review



Publication Date: November 8, 2016

Collections: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-01-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-02-1

**Redbook Best Book of 2016**

"*Hindsight* is an evocative and inventive reincarnation tale. Drawing on snippets of wisdom from long-gone literary giants, including Chaucer, Dante, Goethe, and Kipling, Tarquini illustrates the eternal universality of human behavior . . . the narrative emphasizes the importance of acting in the here and now: saying what should be said, forgiving what needs to be forgiven, embracing opportunities to deepen connections with others, and seizing moments of happiness when they're presented."

—Foreword Reviews, five-star review, Book of the Day Selection

# HINDSIGHT

## A NOVEL

MINDY TARQUINI

### DESCRIPTION:

Eugenia Panisporchi, a thirty-three-year-old Chaucer professor who remembers all her past lives, is desperate to change her future.

Born this time around into an Italian American family so traditional that neither she nor any of her adult siblings have escaped their mother's tiny South Philly row home, Eugenia lives a simple life—no love connection, no controversy, no complications. Her hope is that the Blessed Virgin Mary (who oversees her soul's progress) will grant her heart's desire, the option to choose the circumstances of her next life. But when a student reveals that he shares her ability, Eugenia suddenly finds herself setting up a Facebook page and sponsoring a support group for others like her—an oddball odyssey during which she discovers she must confront her current shortcomings before she can break the cycle and finally live the life of her dreams.

A layered contemporary fable, *Hindsight* reminds us to live this life like it's the only one we'll have.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Raised by traditional people in a modern world, Mindy Tarquini is a second-generation Italian American who grew up believing dreams are prophecy, the devil steals lost objects, and an awkward glance can invite the evil eye. She is an assistant editor with *The Lascaux Review* and a member of the Perley Station Writers' Colony. A native Philadelphian, Ms. Tarquini resides in Phoenix with her husband, where she divides her time between writing and wrestling with her bread machine. She does not have hindsight.

### AWARDS:

2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award: Gold Medal, Fiction/Science Fiction/Fantasy

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, General, Finalist

APRIL 2016



Publication Date: April 5, 2016

Collections: Nonfiction, For Women

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-58-9

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-57-2

**“Brutally honest and laugh-out-loud funny, with chapters short enough to read between trips to the bathroom, this is a welcome addition to the expectant parent’s bookshelf.”**

—*Booklist*

**“You won’t find out what fruit your budding babe resembles, but you will get her sometimes humorous, always candid take on baby-making—the good, the bad and the gross—so you’re prepared for it all.”**

—*Pregnancy and Newborn Magazine*

# FUNNY LITTLE PREGNANT THINGS

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY PREGNANCY FACTS  
THOSE OTHER BOOKS WON'T TELL YOU

EMILY DOHERTY

## DESCRIPTION:

Today’s pregnancy books may no longer recommend martinis and cigarettes to help pregnant women relax, but most offer moms an abundance of worthless information—like what kind of fruit your baby is the size of at Week 16. Is there any practical value in knowing that your child resembles produce? And where’s the good stuff—the useful details, like beware of the baby registry and all the crap you will never use, and be prepared to get breast milk all over everything you own?

Hilarious, candid, and easy to read, *Funny Little Pregnant Things* is full of helpful information about all the stuff people don’t tell you about pregnancy—the good, the bad, and the ugly.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Emily Doherty is a full-time working mother of two. A graduate of Northeastern University and once an avid rugby player, she is driven to succeed. She is currently a director of mutual fund sales for MFS Investment Management, where she has spent the last eight years educating financial advisors as well as doing public presentations on the stock market and other investment related topics. When she is not traveling around the state of Virginia and Washington, DC, Doherty is at home with her husband, Patrick, raising her two young sons, Cullen and Lachlan.

## AWARDS:

Next Generation Indie Book Awards 2016: Gift/Specialty/  
Novelty: Finalist

APRIL 2016



Publication Date: April 5, 2016

Collections: Children

Trim size: 10 x 8

Price: \$15.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-36-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-37-4

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**Kirkus Reviews Best Indie Book of 2016**

“A delightful take on the theme of a boy and his dog, full of detailed—and frequently funny—images and a valuable message about paying attention to the needs of your neighbors . . . Adams uses challenging, but perfectly appropriate, vocabulary words . . . The story’s hint about the importance of kindness resonates, especially in light of so many recent news reports about bullying.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“This Depression-era tale gently impacts lessons about persistence, honesty, and helping those in need.”

—Foreword Reviews

# THE EGG THIEF

ALANE ADAMS, ILLUSTRATED BY  
LAUREN GALLEGOS

## DESCRIPTION:

Young Georgie wakes up to a morning of chores back in 1920s Pennsylvania when he gets the bad news: someone has stolen all the eggs in the henhouse. The culprit is Buster, a stray dog who takes Georgie on an adventure to find more eggs. Follow Buster and Georgie and their mischievous antics in this heartwarming tale of farm life in America’s storied past.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is a children’s author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief*, *The Egg Thief*, and *The Santa Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

## AWARDS:

Kirkus Indie Book of the Month, May 2016

2017 Foreword Indie: Picture Book Finalist

2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Children’s Picture Book (4–7 years), Finalist

Starred Kirkus review

APRIL 2016



the  
WRITERS REFLECT  
house  
ON THE PLACES  
that  
AND PEOPLE THAT  
made  
DEFINED THEM  
me

edited by GRANT JARRETT, author of *Ways of Leaving*

Publication Date: April 12, 2016

Collections: Nonfiction,

Literary Collection, Memoir

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-31-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-32-9

Featured as an *Elle* magazine's "Trust Us" book, May 2016

"Slim and succinct, this exquisite compilation shows how the universal nature of childhood experiences trump both cultural and geographical differences."

—*Library Journal*, starred review

# THE HOUSE THAT MADE ME

WRITERS REFLECT ON THE PLACES AND  
PEOPLE THAT DEFINED THEM  
EDITED BY GRANT JARRETT

## DESCRIPTION:

Home—the place where we were born, where we learned our first lessons, where family was defined. The very notion evokes powerful feelings, feelings as individual as our fingerprints, as enduring as the universe, and as inescapable as gravity. In this candid, evocative collection of essays, a diverse group of acclaimed authors reflects on the diverse homes, neighborhoods, and experiences that helped shape them—using Google Earth software to revisit the location in the process. Moving and life-affirming, this poignant anthology gives fresh insight into the concept of Home. Essays include submissions by several award-winning authors, including Alice Eve Cohen, Antonya Nelson, Tim Johnston, Jeffrey Renard Allen, Lee Upton, and more.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Originally from northeastern Pennsylvania, Grant Jarrett lived in Manhattan for twenty years before moving to Marin County, CA, where he now works as a writer, ghostwriter, editor, musician, and occasional songwriter. His publishing credits include numerous magazine articles, essays, short stories, and *More Towels*, his coming-of-age memoir about life on the road. His debut novel, *Ways of Leaving*, won the Best New Fiction category in the 2014 International Book Awards. *The House That Made Me*, his 2016 anthology about the meaning of home, was chosen as an *Elle* "Trust Us" book. Jarrett is an avid cyclist, skier, and surf skier.

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 3, 2016

Collection: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-33-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-71-8

Author was included in *Forbes* magazine's "Top Women to Follow on Twitter"

Named a "Best Book of Spring" by *Redbook* magazine

"Rouda deftly examines the difficult transition parents and their children face as they prepare for the end of one life and the beginning of another . . . a compelling story and a thoughtful examination of the nature of change and the importance of working to accept it."

—Booklist

# THE GOODBYE YEAR

## A NOVEL

KAIRA ROUDA

### DESCRIPTION:

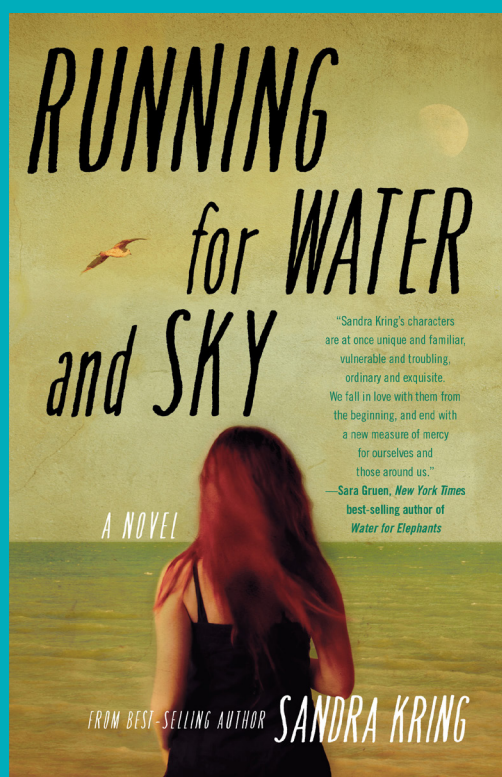
Melanie, a perfectionist mom who views the approaching end of parenting as a type of death, can't believe she has only one more year to live vicariously through her slacker senior son, Dane. Gorgeous mom Sarah has just begun to realize that her only daughter, Ashley, has been serving as a stand-in for her traveling husband, and the thought of her daughter leaving for college is cracking the carefully cultivated façade of her life. Will and his wife are fine—as long as he follows the instructions on the family calendar and is sure to keep secret his whole other life with Lauren, the woman he turns to for fun (and who also happens to have a daughter in the senior class).

Told from the points of view of both the parents and the kids, *The Goodbye Year* explores high school peer pressure, what it's like for young people to face the unknown of life after high school, and how a transition that should be the beginning of a couple's second act together—empty nesting—is often actually the end.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kaira Rouda is a *USA Today* best-selling, award-winning author of contemporary women's fiction and modern romance novels that sparkle with humor and heart. Her previous award-winning and best-selling women's fiction novels include *Here, Home, Hope* and *In the Mirror*. When she's not writing, she can be found walking the beach, practicing yoga, playing Pickleball, and enjoying as much time as possible with her family. Connect with her at [www.kairarouda.com](http://www.kairarouda.com).

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 10, 2016

Collection: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-93-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-92-3

**“Sandra Kring’s characters are at once unique and familiar, vulnerable and troubling, ordinary and exquisite. We fall in love with them from the beginning, and end with a new measure of mercy for ourselves and those around us.”**

**—Sara Gruen, #1 New York Times best-selling author of *Water For Elephants***

**“Richly realized storytelling, setting, and detailed characters paint a vivid picture of Bless’s experiences in Nebraska.”**

**—Kirkus Reviews**

# RUNNING FOR WATER AND SKY

## A NOVEL

SANDRA KRING

### DESCRIPTION:

They say that right before you die, your whole life flashes before your eyes. But what they don’t say is that the same thing can happen when your soul mate is dying.

After spending most of her seventeen years being shuffled between families that don’t want her, Bless Adler has no intention of opening her heart to anyone. And then she falls in love with Liam Reid.

The closer Bless lets Liam get, the more fearful she becomes. Then her new friend, Maylee, convinces her to go see a local psychic—and the woman’s glimpse into the future is anything but reassuring: Bless’s absent father, drunk and bitter. A frantic crowd gathered at the beach. Liam lying in a pool of blood, a gun at his side.

Now Bless has fourteen blocks to reach Liam on the shores of Lake Michigan. If he’s still alive, she’ll beg for him to fight for his life. If he’s not, she’ll say good-bye to the first person who made her want to fight for her own. Edgy, intense, and emotional, *Running for Water and Sky* is a story of the elation and angst that comes with love, and the challenge of learning to trust when betrayal is all you’ve ever known.

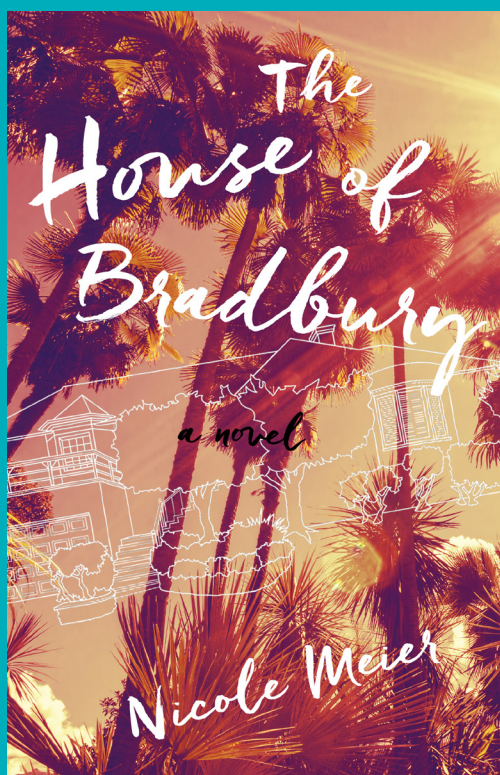
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Sandra Kring is the author of five novels, including bestseller *The Book of Bright Ideas*, which was named to the New York Public Library’s Books for the Teen Age list in 2007. Her novel *Carry Me Home* was a Book Sense Notable Pick and Midwest Bookseller’s Choice Award nominee. She lives in Northern Wisconsin with her high school sweetheart; they have three grown children. Writing is her greatest passion, but she also loves reading, music, and movies. *Running for Water and Sky* is her first YA novel.

### AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, Cross Genre Fiction, Finalist

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 10, 2016

Collection: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-38-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-39-8

"Readers will find magic in *The House of Bradbury*, which weaves a contemporary Hollywood storyline with authentic Los Angeles literary history. The effect is a sparkling premise, memorable characters, and crisp dialogue that draws in the reader. Author Nicole Meier whips up a thoroughly enjoyable modern story of self-discovery."

—Lian Dolan, creator and host of *Satellite Sisters* and author of best-selling novels *Helen of Pasadena* and *Elizabeth the First Wife*

"Hot new book to read this summer."

—Coastal Living

# THE HOUSE OF BRADBURY

## A NOVEL

NICOLE MEIER

### DESCRIPTION:

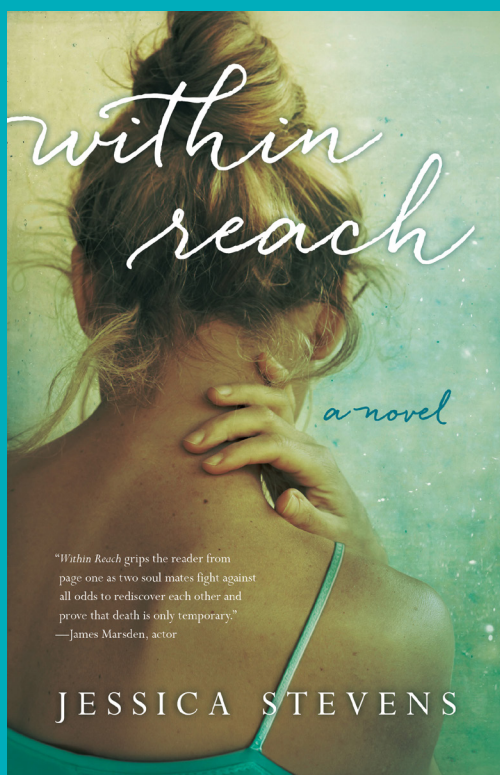
Mia Gladwell's life is going nowhere. The media has skewered her debut novel; her fiancé, Carson, a successful Hollywood producer, has jumped ship; and now she's living in her sister's carriage house—unattached, unemployed, and uninspired. Then she learns that the Los Angeles estate of iconic author Ray Bradbury is up for sale, and she feels an immediate urge to buy the wonky old house, convinced that moving into the late author's home will inspire her to create her best work yet.

Life in the Bradbury house is not what Mia imagined, however. Soon after moving in, to fulfill a debt she owes to Carson, she agrees to take in a pill-popping young actress as a tenant, and suddenly she finds herself in a balancing act between her needy ex, an unpredictable starlet, and her disapproving sister, who's keeping a close eye on her. Add to this a series of mysterious sketches left at her doorstep by a stranger, and Mia's life is more complicated than ever. As she searches for clues, though, Mia discovers insights into her own life. Maybe moving into Bradbury's house was a big mistake—but maybe not.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Nicole Meier is a native Southern Californian who pulled up roots and moved to the Pacific Northwest. She works as a freelance travel and lifestyle writer for several Oregon publications. When she's not working, she's fulfilling her wanderlust and writing about it at [HaveToteWillTravel.com](http://HaveToteWillTravel.com). She lives in Oregon with her husband and three children.

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 17, 2016

Collection: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-69-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-68-8

**"In alternating chapters, the present-tense, frequently purple narrative of the vividly drawn Xan and Lila is urgent, keeping the intensity taught. An intense, at-times overwrought romance for genre fans."**

**—Kirkus Reviews**

**"Within Reach is an elegant and sometimes painful story of teenagers struggling with love, loss, and redemption. Jessica Stevens's unique portrayal of misguided souls finding their way through darkness dances confidently off the page. The story's ending lingers reflectively long after the music stops."**

**—Brady G. Stefani, author of *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman***

# WITHIN REACH

## A NOVEL

JESSICA STEVENS

### DESCRIPTION:

Dying wasn't on sixteen-year-old Xander Hemlock's summer to-do list. Finding ways to spend more time with his girlfriend, Lila, was the most critical thinking he planned on doing. But that was before he found himself trapped in a realm of darkness with thirty days to convince Lila he's not actually dead—well, not completely, anyway.

As Xan tries to show Lila she isn't alone, she struggles to comprehend how her life has changed so completely. Six months ago her life was perfect: she was on her way to becoming a professional dancer, her parents were still married, and her boyfriend was alive. But now, with her anorexic tendencies stronger than ever, she must decide which is the lesser of two evils: letting go, or holding on to the unreasonable yet overpowering feeling that Xan is trying to tell her something.

Improbable and endearing, *Within Reach* is a story of two teenagers discovering that it sometimes takes more than one lifetime to get it right.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jessica Stevens grew up knowing without a doubt that she would become a professional ballet dancer. When life told her otherwise, she went to college like the rest of the world and earned a degree in psychology. Shortly after, while raising her two boys, she found herself glued to her computer, writing, all hours of the night while everyone else slept. Today she lives in suburbs of Milwaukee, where she spends as much time as possible on lakes and rivers.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

2016 Best Book Awards: YA Fiction, Finalist

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Young Adult, Finalist

2018 Next Generation Indie Book Awards in Young Adult (12 years to 16 years)

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 24, 2016

Collection: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-30-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-29-9

**"Henthorn's novel is absolutely a rare thing. It's wonderful, encompassing, and comforting in some way, because it perfectly captures what it feels like to be 25."**

*—Literature Typeface*

**"25 Sense is funny, sad, and keeps the reader engaged."**

*—Synchronized Chaos*

**"A book every badass woman should read."**

*—San Francisco Book Review*

## 25 SENSE

### A NOVEL

LISA HENTHORN

#### DESCRIPTION:

Claire Malone didn't mean for this to happen when she moved to New York. She just wanted to live the city life and gain experience in television writing, her dream career. It's not like she meant to reciprocate when her married boss, Sean Vared, sent her flirty emails. And you can't blame her for coming into the office on the weekend when Sean told her he was going to be there . . . alone. She didn't mean to sleep with him—but hey, she wanted to experience the city life, so no big deal, right?

Wrong. By the time Claire wakes up on her twenty-fifth birthday, she's very much in love with Sean. At work, she struggles to hold it together when he passes her desk—the very desk that they used to make love on. Soon Sean has turned his affection to the show's starring actress, and Claire is devastated. Can she break away from him without ruining her barely started career? Will someone find out what happened? Will she ever grow up and stop making stupid mistakes? *25 Sense* is about the time in a young woman's life when the world starts to view her as a responsible adult—but all she feels is lost.

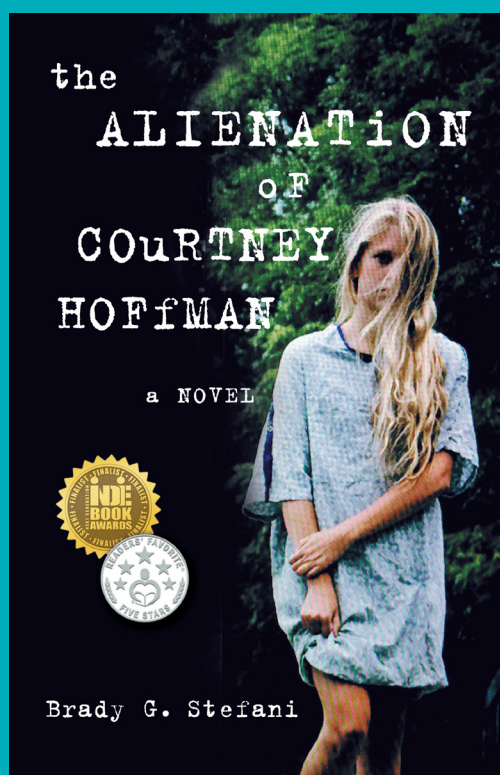
#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Lisa Henthorn is a television writer who has written on the CBS show *Swingtown*, the CW show *The Beautiful Life*, and the A&E show *The Glades*. She lives in Santa Monica, California with her husband.

#### AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: General Fiction, Finalist

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 7, 2016

Collection: YA Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-34-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-35-0

**“This novel has a breakneck pace and Stefani’s writing is fluid and perfectly suited to this most extraordinary tale that blends the coming of age, adventure, science fiction, and post-apocalyptic genres—and it all works beautifully.”**

**—Readers’ Favorite, five-star review**

**“If you love *Stranger Things*, read *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman*.”**

**—Elle magazine**

# THE ALIENATION OF COURTNEY HOFFMAN

## A NOVEL

**BRADY G. STEFANI**

### DESCRIPTION:

Fifteen-year-old Courtney Hoffman is determined not to go insane like her crazy grandfather did—right before he tried to drown her when she was seven. But something is happening to her. She’s being visited in her bedroom at night by aliens who claim to have shared an alliance with her now-dead grandfather. Since Courtney knows that aliens aren’t real, this means she must be going crazy. And her mother and her new boyfriend have zero tolerance for craziness.

Then Courtney meets Agatha Kirlich, a mysterious older girl with sleuthing skills and alien-obsession issues of her own, and together—armed with ancient stories of a human-alien bloodline, a few photographs, and the creepy tattoo Courtney’s grandfather left on her rib cage before he disappeared—the girls embark on a mission to uncover the truth about Courtney’s alien visitors. Ultimately, Courtney must put her fears aside, defy her mother, embrace her true identity, and risk everything in order to save herself—and the world.

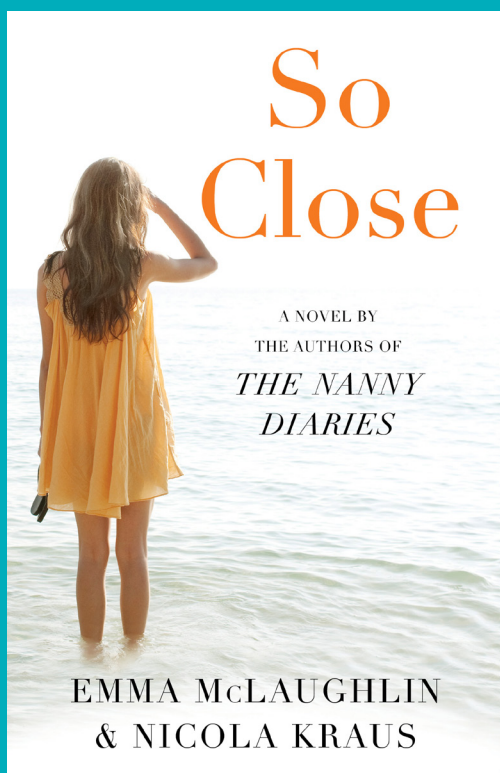
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Brady G. Stefani has a bachelor’s degree in creative writing and a graduate degree in law. During law school, he spent time as an involuntary commitment caseworker for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, where he interacted with patients suffering from severe thought disorders, including numerous patients presenting with subjectively real memories of being visited and abducted by alien beings. After law school, Stefani wrote and directed a feature film, *The Wind Cried Larry*, which received honorable mentions at the East Lansing Film Festival. In addition to working on a second YA novel that continues the storyline from *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman*, Stefani continues to write YA fiction for his website, exploring issues of mental health in the context of our boundaryless imaginations.

### AWARDS:

2017 International Book Awards: Fiction/Science Fiction/Fantasy, Finalist  
2017 Independent Press Awards Distinguished Favorites: Science Fiction  
2017 Independent Press Awards: New Fiction (First Time Published), Winner  
2016 NextGen Indie: Finalist in the First Novel category  
2016 Readers’ Favorite Awards: Finalist in Young Adult Fiction  
2016 New Apple Annual Book Awards for Excellence in Independent Publishing: Young Adult Science Fiction Medalist Winner  
2016 NextGen Indie Book Awards: Finalist in the First Novel category  
2016 Readers’ Favorite Awards: Finalist in Young Adult Fiction

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 7, 2016

Collection: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-76-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-77-0

Included in *Parade's* "10 of the Best Beach Reads to Indulge in This Summer"

"A skillful follow-up to their juggernaut *The Nanny Diaries*, *So Close* is a sharp cultural examination of ambition, politics, and the exhausting climb that can be chasing dreams. Amanda Beth is both a heartbreaking and refreshingly relatable protagonist. Female readers will enjoy smiling and crying with her as we see Amanda battling the wrong attractions while trying to rise above her life's cruel station. Playfully barbed commentary makes this all the more fun."

—Colleen Oakes, best-selling author of the Queen of Hearts, Elly in Bloom, and Wendy Darling series

## SO CLOSE

### A NOVEL

EMMA McLAUGHLIN AND NICOLA KRAUS

#### DESCRIPTION:

Named "Summer Book Pick" by *Us Weekly* \* *Redbook Magazine* \* *Brit + Co* \* *Buzzfeed* \* *SheKnows* \* *Bustle* \*

From international #1 best-selling authors Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus comes a story about a girl from the trailer parks of central Florida and the two powerful men who shape her life—one of whom will raise her up to places she never imagined, the other who will threaten to destroy her.

Amanda Beth Luker has spent her whole life desperately looking for someone who can show her the way out of her trailer park Florida town. And then, finally, help arrives—in the form of Tom Davis, a successful lawyer who grew up just a few miles over from Amanda and has aspirations of making a difference in towns just like hers all across the country. But it's his wife, Lindsay, who really captures Amanda's imagination. Strong, smart, and determined, she gives Amanda something she's never had—a role model. Meanwhile, Amanda is introduced to the wealthy, charismatic, and deeply troubled Pax Westbrook. He clearly desires Amanda, but if she gives in will that move her closer to the life she's always dreamed of—or make it impossible?

Can a girl from a trailer park make it to the White House? What will it cost her? When her loyalty is tested, will she save the only family she's ever known—even if it means keeping a terrible secret from the American people?

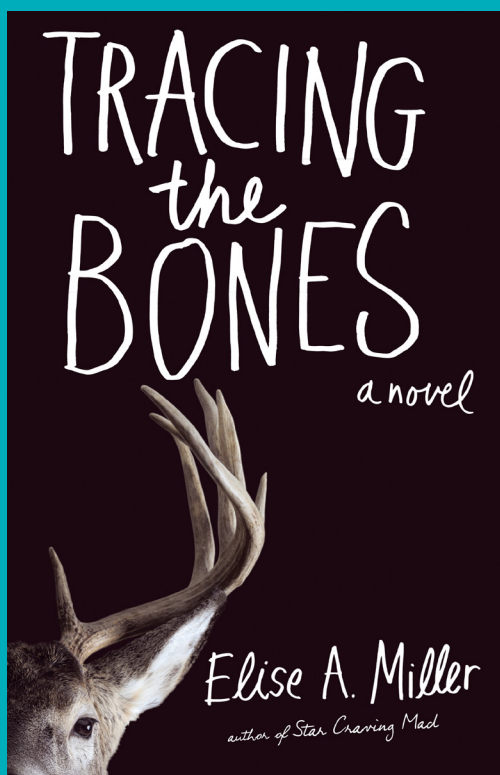
#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Newsweek declared Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus's *The Nanny Diaries* a "phenomenon." It is a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and the longest-running hardcover bestseller of 2002. In 2007 it was released as a major motion picture starring Scarlett Johansson, Laura Linney, and Alicia Keys. McLaughlin and Kraus are also the authors of three other *New York Times* bestsellers—*Citizen Girl*, *Dedication*, and *Nanny Returns*—as well as the soon-to-be-released novels *Between You & Me* and *Over You*. They have appeared numerous times on CNN, MSNBC, *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *Entertainment Tonight*, and *The View*. In addition to writing for television and film, McLaughlin and Kraus travel around the country speaking to young women about feminism and gender issues in American corporate culture.

#### AWARDS:

2016 USA Best Book Awards: Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 14, 2016

Collection: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-48-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-49-7

“Elise’s writing is smart, beautiful, dark, funny, unflinchingly honest, and downright poetic. As a fellow writer, I find the whole thing infuriating.”

—Jon Gunn, writer/director of *Mercy Streets*, *My Date With Drew*, *Like Dandelion Dust*, *Do You Believe?* and *The Week*

“New-age bodywork, interdimensional sex, a possible murder, and a really hot yoga guy—Elise Miller is lighting up all my chakras with her page-turner *Tracing the Bones*!”

—Mike Albo, author of *Spermhood*

# TRACING THE BONES

## A NOVEL

ELISE A. MILLER

### DESCRIPTION:

Cynical housewife Eve Myer has two kids, chronic back pain, and a decaying writing career—as well as a stagnant marriage haunted by her husband’s long-ago affair.

When a new family moves in next door, Eve becomes consumed with curiosity about beautiful life coach Anna and powerful lust for Billy, a sexy alternative healer with a troubled, mysterious past. As Eve begins healing sessions with Billy, an unthinkable tragedy strikes Anna and her small son. Eve’s obsession invites even more suspicion and mistrust into her marriage and as her life unravels, her sessions with Billy intensify, culminating in an alternative, experimental trip deep into the woods—a freezing winter’s journey that threatens the remaining bonds of Eve’s marriage and finally uncovers the reason for Anna’s death.

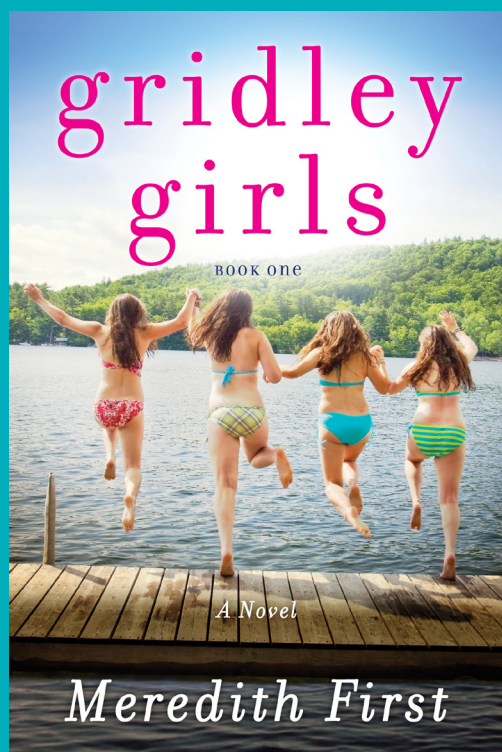
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Elise A. Miller is the author of the satirical romance *Star Craving Mad*. Her work has appeared in the anthology *Because I Love Her*, at Nerve.com and *Fresh Yarn*, and in the *Northern Liberties Review*, *Elephant Journal*, and *Schuylkill Valley Journal*. Miller is also an SFG kettlebell instructor and fitness trainer, as well as a creative writing coach and editor. She lives in Lower Merion, Pennsylvania with one husband, two kids, two dogs, and one constantly shedding wool shag rug.

### AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: General Fiction, Finalist

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 21, 2016

Collection: Fiction

Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5

Price: \$17.00 paperback / \$9.95 ebook

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-97-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-96-1

**"If you remember watching *Gilligan's Island* while drinking TAB and jotting your deepest secrets inside the pages of your gold leaf-edged diary, you'll discover many fond memories in the *Gridley Girls*. An enjoyable story of friendship and love, 1970s style."**

—Kaira Rouda, *USA Today* best-selling author  
of *The Goodbye Year*

# GRIDLEY GIRLS

## A NOVEL

MEREDITH FIRST

### DESCRIPTION:

Sometimes you have to go back before you can move forward.

In 1978, Meg, Anne, Jennifer, and Tonya were such close friends, they were known as "The Group" in their hometown of Gridley, California. But in ninth grade, their lives were changed forever. Loss, lies, and secrets separated them, but could not break their bonds of friendship. Thirty years later, Meg and Anne reminisce about those days—dealing with parents, school, boys, sex, love, and betrayal. Anne remembers their freshman year as an easier time, but Meg, still feeling guilty about a betrayal of Anne's trust, is haunted. Even now, Meg is keeping a secret she's not prepared to face, let alone share. In her debut novel, based on true events, Meredith First tells a timeless story about the bonds of friendship, loss, and betrayal—and the forgiveness that is within everyone. Can anyone really keep a secret forever?

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Meredith First left an insanely great recruiting career with Apple, Inc. to write books for anyone who survived high school with a little help from friends. After studying abroad at the University of London, she received a BA in communications/broadcasting from Oregon State University. Through the donation of 10 percent of the profits of the Gridley Girls series to children's charities, she hopes to help people who struggle with issues similar to those experienced in her books. First lives with her family in Minneapolis and Sacramento and is hard at work on *Gridley Girls Reunited*, the second of the Gridley Girls series.

### AWARDS:

2016 Next Generation Indie Book Awards: General Fiction Finalist

2015 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction: Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist

2016 Next Generation Indie Book Awards: General Fiction, Finalist

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, LGBTQ, Finalist

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Atlantic

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Book Review

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Book Review

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