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RIDER - JOHN WATTS



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RIDER - F. ARCHER



The Friedrich Agency

FBF 2026



FAVERDALE COLT, WINNER
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RIDER - W^m MARTIN



FIRENZE, WINNER OF THE
GREAT LONG ISLAND STAKES 1888
RIDER - E. GARRISON





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PRIZES



Elizabeth Strout is longlisted for the 2026 [Booker Prize](#) for her stellar novel, **THE THINGS WE NEVER SAY**.

THE THINGS WE NEVER SAY by Elizabeth Strout is the winner of the 2026 [New England Book Awards](#), which awards works about, set in, or written by an author residing in New England. **THE TYPING LADY** by Ruth Ozeki was a finalist.



LUMINOUS by Silvia Park won the 2026 LA Times Book Prize for SFF & Speculative Fiction and the Otherwise Award. The novel was also recently shortlisted for the Arthur C. Clarke Award.



Jiyoung Han's lyrical, suspenseful debut novel, **HONEY IN THE WOUND**, was a finalist for the [Waterstones Debut Fiction Prize](#) and is longlisted for [The Center for Fiction 2026 First Novel Prize](#), described as “an unflinching, heartbreaking tale” and “a story you will never forget.”

A vintage-style illustration featuring a jockey in a yellow and grey uniform riding a dark brown horse. The scene is framed by a large red circle. Several blue, teardrop-shaped objects float around the circle. In the bottom left corner, a smaller scene shows a horse running over a wooden fence with a person in the background.

FICTION

HORSE GIRLS

Vivian DeRosa

A worldwide frenzy in the dead of summer, culminating in a 13-imprint auction in the US, as well as a 12-imprint auction in Germany.

Jessica, Em, and Courtney are part of the same herd; they've been riding together for so long it's hard to differentiate whose lush ponytail is whose. Manure under their manicures. Thigh chafing exposed by short-shorts. They know the sort of things you say about them.

Horse Girls skip like they're galloping.

Horse Girls tighten the girth and loosen belt buckles.

Horse Girls still sleep with stuffed ponies.

Horse Girls will sleep with anyone.

Some people argue that Horse Stories aren't really about horses, that you could replace the stallion with a boy on a motorcycle and not much would change.

Let's be clear. This is not that kind of Horse Story.



Riverhead (Spring 2028)
Territory: NA
Materials: sub ms
Page count: 308

Rights sold:
Denmark: Politikens
Finland: Otava
France: Calmann-Levy
Germany: Kiepenheuer & Witsch
Italy: Mondadori
Netherlands: Atlas
Contact
Norway: Cappelen Damm
Poland: Publicat S.A.
Spain: Blackie Books
Sweden: Albert Bonniers
UK: Borough Press
Ukraine: Family Leisure Club

Film/TV: Addison Duffy / UTA

Vivian DeRosa graduated from Smith College, where she studied writing with Ruth Ozeki and Kelly Link. She later submitted HORSE GIRLS to the Adroit Prize, where it was selected as a runner-up by Kaveh Akhbar in 2024. She is a Lambda Literary Emerging LGBTQ+ Writer, an Aspen Words Emerging Writer, a Presidential Scholar in the Arts, and she recently received her M.A. in History and Museum studies at Tufts University.

BEYOND THE GARDEN WALL

Katy Sewall

Sold in a heated 9-person auction in the US, right before Frankfurt '25, a prequel to Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic *The Secret Garden*, for fans of *Broken Country* and *The Thornbirds*.

A sweeping emotional tale and love story. BEYOND THE GARDEN WALL begins at the moment *The Secret Garden* starts—just as a cholera epidemic is sweeping through India—except this time, we flash back into the life of Mary Lennox's mother, and the boy who will help her realize how expansive life can be.



Random House (Nov 2, 2027)

Territory: NA

Materials: copyedited ms in early Oct

Page count: 438 (pre CE)

Rights sold:

ANZ: Allen & Unwin

Germany: Goldmann

Hungary: Agave

Italy: Newton Compton

Poland: Prószyński Media

Advance Praise for *Beyond the Garden Wall*:

"Beyond the Garden Wall is a moving, beautifully-written book about the eternal struggle between society and self-discovery. Katy Sewall has taken a beloved story and brilliantly reconsidered it into something wholly new and original, a modern novel with the literary soul of a classic."

—Jess Walter, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Beautiful Ruins*

Katy Sewall is a writer and radio professional based in Seattle. She spent more than two decades working with NPR and currently hosts a weekly podcast called *The Bittersweet Life*, now in its 11th year.

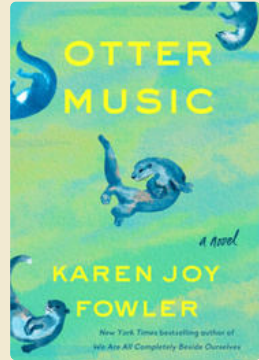
OTTER MUSIC

Karen Joy Fowler

***New York Times* bestseller and Man Booker Prize finalist Karen Joy Fowler returns with a luminous, emotionally resonant story of a marine researcher grappling with whether ecosystems—and people—can truly be saved, set along the shimmering Santa Cruz coast.**

Lainey Miller spends her days studying endangered wildlife, and her nights worrying about the slow unspooling of democracy. An introverted marine researcher studying sea otters, Lainey felt reasonably happy with the post divorce life she'd made for herself in Santa Cruz until her beloved niece says with careful casualness: Mom thinks you don't have any fun.

Sparky, wise, and disarmingly funny, Karen Joy Fowler's new novel exposes ways to find hope in the simple things—even amidst chaos--and how we might all summon the fortitude to move into the awaiting future with love, courage, and kindness, to ourselves and the planet.



Putnam (Feb/March 2027)

Territory: NA

Materials: 1P

Page count: 133

Rights sold:

UK: Serpent's Tail

German: Aufbau

Option Publishers:

France: Presses de la Cite

Film/TV: Sylvie Rabineau / WME

Karen Joy Fowler is the *New York Times* bestselling author of seven novels and three short story collections. Her 2004 novel, *The Jane Austen Book Club*, spent 13 weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list and *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* won the 2014 PEN/Faulkner Award and was shortlisted for the 2014 Man Booker Prize. Her most recent novel *Booth* was longlisted for the 2022 Booker Prize. She lives in Santa Cruz, California.

UNTRAVELLED WORLD

Martha Perotto-Wills

A heart-pounding, otherworldly adventure, mixed with the thorny, sexy lesbian dynamics of a Julia Armfield novel. For fans of *The Ministry of Time* and *Annihilation*.

Ten years ago, the door opened to reveal a surreal, uncharted world adjoining our own: a terrifyingly beautiful expanse of glass which shifts at its own whims—every two hours, every two days—unpredictably gifting clear, flat planes or delivering dangerous crevasses hiding reality-bending hallucinations.

For Teddy, newly graduated and directionless, the era-defining mystery of the other world is merely an icebreaker, a conversation topic on dates gone cold. But then Adrian Clermont, an old family friend, appears in Teddy's living room seeking funding for an expedition into the other world. Teddy, seeing a chance for purpose and an escape from her privileged, hermetic world, begs to join Adrian's team.

When the Clermont party make it through the door, Teddy falls helplessly in love with both the landscape and with Jenny Cattaneo, a flinty meteorologist with a strangely deep connection to the other world. When Teddy makes a staggering discovery about a missing explorer, she is forced to reckon with the true cost of the life she's built in the other world—the first real home she's ever known.



Random House (Fall 2027/ Winter 2028)

Territory: NA

Materials: sub ms

Page count: 313

Rights sold:

UK: Serpent's Tail

Italy: Mercurio

Film/TV: Jiah Shin / CAA

Martha Perotto-Wills is a writer from London. She has a BA in History and an MA in Queer History. After spending several years as a bookseller and cataloguer in crumbling second-hand bookshops she moved into trade publishing, and now works as an associate agent at a literary agency. She lives in south London with her girlfriend and their cat. *Untravelled World* is her first novel, partially born from her obsession with Apsley Cherry-Garrard's 1922 memoir *The Worst Journey in the World*.

MY FUTURE

Sasha Graybosch

Marrying the vignette structure and propulsion of Katie Yee's *Maggie* or Jenny Offill's *Dept. of Speculation*, MY FUTURE is a slim, inventive literary novel for fans of Maggie Nelson and Sheila Heti.

In the future, Sasha will die young, leaving a child behind. In the future, Sasha will live to old age, skin lined and spotted by the sun. In the future, Sasha will leave her partner and live a childless life of hedonism. In the future, the plumber will come on time.

When Sasha learns that she may be the carrier of a rare, life-limiting genetic mutation—one that explains the premature deaths of several relatives—she begins to imagine what her future will be like even if she might not be there to live it. As she and her two sisters decide whether to undergo testing and receive the news of their results, Sasha tries furiously to will her future into existence through a series of increasingly surreal and imaginative leaps.



McSweeney's (Spring 2028)
Territory: NA
Materials: sub ms
Page count: 207

Sasha Graybosch's fiction and essays have appeared in *Zoetrope: All Story*, *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*, the *New York Times* Audio, *Electric Literature*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books Quarterly* and *the Rumpus*, among other publications. She holds an MFA in Fiction Writing from New York University. Her story "In Nature," published in *Zoetrope*, is the winner of a 2027 Pushcart Prize. She works in City University of New York writing centers and facilitates creative writing workshops for medical students. Originally from Nebraska, she lives in Brooklyn.

GARBAGE GIRL

Emily Austin

For readers of Jen Beagin and Melissa Broder, Emily Austin returns to the wacky existentialism that made her debut a cult sensation.

Rob, a twenty-eight-year-old grocery store custodian, doesn't know why she can't keep a friend, and she's getting tired of cleaning up other people's shit—literally. Eager to understand what she's doing wrong, Rob becomes consumed with figuring out why her childhood best friend Dinah ghosted her ten years ago. Between being berated by her Superstore manager, cleaning up after the serial men's room vandal, and obsessing over her new crush, Bones, Rob tries to track down Dinah. But the more she searches, the more she's overcome by the creeping feeling that something might be very wrong. What if Dinah didn't just ghost her—what if something terrible happened?



Bloomsbury (Spring 2028)

Territory: World English

Materials: edited ms in October

Page count: 325

Option Publishers:

Germany: Lübbe

Spain: Urano

Thailand: Marshmallow

Praise for Emily Austin:

“The perfect blend of macabre and funny.”

—*Buzzfeed*

“If you haven't read her debut, I'm jealous: everything Austin writes is swoonworthy, full of lovely humans struggling to find meaning, love, and belonging in a world that's too often cold. Enid is a marvel.”

—**Andrew Macdonald, author of *When We Were Vikings***

Emily Austin is the author of four novels, most recently *IS THIS A CRY FOR HELP?*, an instant USA Today, Globe & Mail, Quill & Quire, and Toronto Star bestseller. All four of her novels have been Indie Next picks, and her work has been published around the world.

AT YOUR SERVICE

Kimberly Glassman

A heartwarming and charming debut novel about connection, second chances, and the meaning found in service to others, for fans of Richard Osman and Nita Prose.

Jameson Arthur Evans, proud graduate of the International Butler Academy, never expected to find himself in the Midwest. But that's where his new employer, American finance tycoon Mr. Upton, needed him, so Evans has settled in and is preparing Upton's newest residence... Right up until the FBI arrives at the front door, looking for Evans' employer. Mr. Upton, it seems, is not so much a finance whiz as he is a white-collar criminal, accused of stealing millions from the clients whose investments he oversaw, including Evans himself. Worse, Upton has disappeared, leaving Evans homeless, unemployed, and forbidden to leave the state until the matter is resolved.

With few options and his savings dwindling, Evans reluctantly accepts a job with Mattie Gardiner, a mother of four-year-old twin boys. The daily tasks might be unusual for Evans, but he brings stability and calm (and excellent coffee) to the Gardiner household, as well as the support that Mattie has found lacking in her fraught marriage.

Then disaster arrives on the night of Halloween, leaving Evans and the Gardiner family caught between the criminals and the FBI, as everyone converges. Hidden treasures are uncovered, secrets are revealed, and threats become all too real. Will Evans truly be able to take care of everyone... even himself?



Dial (Fall 2027)
Territory: NA
Materials: revised ms
Page count: 448

Film/TV: Dana Spector /
 CAA

Kimberly Glassman's AT YOUR SERVICE pulls from some of her own experiences as a research molecular biologist, but there are no butlers in her midst! She raised her children in Des Moines, where this novel is set, and lived there for 23 years, but now resides in Arizona.

AMERICAN INNOCENTS

Valerie Martin

A taut literary horror novella exploring the complexities of marriage, told with devastating control.

Determined to take a scenic tour of a historic Scottish estate, a middle-aged American woman leaves behind her grumpy husband in their Edinburgh B&B towards the end of their disastrous European trip. A fine decision, until she boards the wrong bus and—even worse in this day and age—realizes she's left her phone behind. But it's not until the bus breaks down and she's on foot, headed toward a secluded cottage, that her life is suddenly in grave danger.



Union Sqaure Press

(July 2027)

Territory: NA

Materials: pre-CE

Page count: 142

Rights sold:

UK: Serpent's Tail

Praise for Valerie Martin:

“Few have written so surprisingly, so convincingly as Valerie Martin about sexual obsession and the perverse twistings of the human heart.”

—**Margaret Atwood**

“[Martin’s] writing--so prized and clean limbed--is a marvel.”

—**Toni Morrison**

“An enrapturing and ruthless storyteller, Valerie Martin possesses a predator’s ability to mesmerize her prey.”

—**Chicago Tribune**

Valerie Martin is the author of eleven novels, four collections of short fiction, and a biography of Saint Francis of Assisi, titled *Salvation*. She has been awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, as well as the Kafka Prize (for *Mary Reilly*) and Britain’s Orange Prize (for *Property*).

OLD WIVES' TALES

Julie Zhou

A brilliant sliding doors debut where the same couple is told and retold, echoing oral storytelling traditions from Chinese folklore to childhood nursery rhymes.

In one story, Elizabeth and Simon are having a baby, and as they convert a closet into a nursery, Elizabeth is cursed with a magical second sight.

In another, Elizabeth and Simon can't get pregnant, and something unseen is leaving bruises on Elizabeth's body as she sleeps, making rest impossible.

Each story retells an old wives' tale: from the Persephone myth to The Princess and the Pea, pulling from legends across time and geography.



Cardinal/Hachette

(March 9, 2027)

Territory: NA

Materials: 2P

Page count: 224

Rights sold:

UK: Verve

Julie Zhou is a Chinese American writer from the Midwest. She is the author of *Generics*, winner of the 2017 Gold Line Press Fiction chapbook prize, selected by Danzy Senna. She lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota, where she serves as a communications consultant for organizations working towards reproductive and gender justice, food justice, disability justice, prison abolition, and the many intersections of those movements.

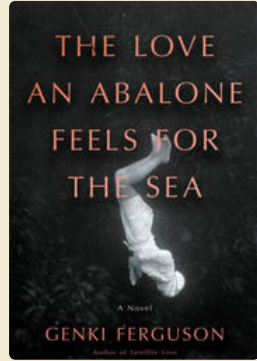
THE LOVE AN ABALONE FEELS FOR THE SEA

Genki Ferguson

In a remote Japanese fishing village, a grief-stricken boy searches for answers after his sister's mysterious drowning—only to fall in love with a woman who may hold the secret of her final tragic dive.

Haunting and buoyant, *The Love an Abalone Feels for the Sea* is situated within the world of Japan's traditional freedivers, or Amas, who support the local economy by hunting abalone and other shellfish—reaching depths of up to 65 feet without any scuba gear—a practice that stretches back over 2,000 years. In this treacherous line of work, breath and timing is everything, and it is crucial to train the lungs from a young age. But a determined young woman named Nagisa joins the ama as a teen, and during one fateful dive, she doesn't return to the surface. Only a mysterious pile of wakame (seaweed) is left behind in her recovered basket.

Ren Ioka, Nagisa's seventeen-year-old brother, finds himself unmoored by grief and uncertainty. After discovering an unsent love letter written by his sister years earlier, Ren becomes convinced that this confession holds the secret behind her inexplicable final dive. While retracing his sister's hidden love, Ren meets Aiko, an inscrutable ama who dove with Nagisa. As Ren gradually uncovers the truth behind his sister's confession, he finds himself falling for Aiko, not realizing that she's harboring a secret herself.



Counterpoint (March 2027)

Territory: NA

Materials: 1P

Page count: 304

Film/TV: Ellen

Goldsmith-Vein / Gotham

Genki Ferguson is a Canadian-Japanese writer and filmmaker, who spent the Spring of 2023 immersed in the world of ama divers in Mie, Japan, and based much of this story on his experiences living and working in their village. Genki's previous novel, *Satellite Love*, was published in 2021 by McClelland & Stewart to critical acclaim and several award nominations.

GHOST BARN

John Verdon

The thrilling conclusion to the retired NYPD detective Dave Gurney saga.

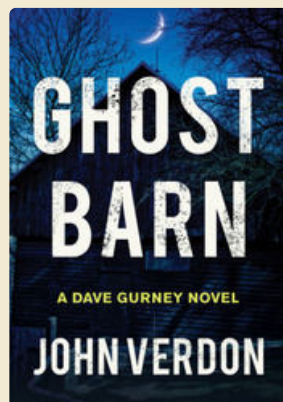
Ghosts are returning from the past to trouble Dave Gurney's peace as a local election sees a powerful real estate mogul with plans for a massive development face off against a librarian and ardent conservationist. When bodies start turning up and the local police turn a blind eye, Gurney suspects he's the town's only hope.

But involvement comes at a price. His last case nearly got his best friend killed, and it shattered his marriage. In the aftermath, he's focused on breaking his reliance on police work in hopes of rekindling things with his wife, Madeleine. Can he ignore what's happening and potentially let a murderer run amok, or will he once again dive into the darkness, giving in to his obsessive need to solve the unsolvable—even if it costs him Madeleine for good? One thing is clear: This harrowing, confounding case will be his last.

THE DAVID GURNEY SERIES

Rights sold: Spain & Catalonia (Roca); Finland (Gummerus); Israel (Keter); Greece (Dioptra); Turkey (Koridor)

Ex-homicide detective and puzzle-solving master David Gurney comes out of retirement to solve seemingly impossible murder cases. Blending hard-boiled noir fiction with the pleasures of classic “whodunit” puzzle-solving, Verdon has written a “hero for the ages” (David Baldacci).



Counterpoint (September 29, 2026)

Territory: World English

Materials: final pdf

Page count: 400

Rights sold:

Finland: Gummerus

Greece: Dioptra

Israel: Keter

Spain: Roca

Turkey: Koridor

Film/TV: Bruce Vinokour/CAA



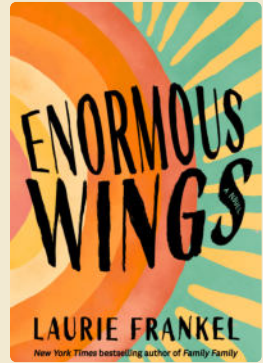
John Verdon is the author of the Dave Gurney series of thrillers, international bestsellers published in more than two dozen languages: *Think of a Number*, *Shut Your Eyes Tight*, *Let the Devil Sleep*, *Peter Pan Must Die*, *Wolf Lake*, *White River Burning*, *On Harrow Hill*, and *The Viper*.

ENORMOUS WINGS

Laurie Frankel

An urgent novel about female agency and bodily autonomy, morality, and mortality, told with Laurie Frankel's signature warmth and wit.

At seventy-seven, Pepper Mills is too old to be a stranger in a strange land. She didn't choose the Vista View Retirement Community of Austin, Texas—that would be her three grown children—but when she grudgingly moves in, she not only makes new friends, she falls in love. Then the exhaustion, vomiting, and confusion start. Her children and grandchildren worry it's cancer, dementia, a stroke. But a raft of tests later, the news is even more shocking: she's pregnant.



Holt (May 2026)

Territory: NA

Materials: final pdf

Page count: 304

Rights sold:

Hebrew: Kimmeret

Film/TV: Dana Spector /
CAA

Once word gets out, everyone wants a piece of her: the press and the paparazzi, activists and medical researchers, all descending on Vista View as Pepper tries to determine her next move. Soon Pepper has some hard decisions to make—and some she's not allowed to make.

Praise for *Enormous Wings*:

“Only the fearless, funny, and endlessly inventive Frankel could have written this one-of-a-kind yet amazingly down-to-earth book about a woman's right to choose (Pepper is not the only pregnant character in the novel)—no matter what that choice may be.”

—*Oprah Daily*

Laurie Frankel is the *New York Times* bestselling, award-winning author of the novels *Family Family*, *One Two Three*, *Goodbye for Now*, *The Atlas of Love*, and the Reese's Book Club Pick *This Is How It Always Is*. Frankel lives in Seattle with her husband, daughter, and border collie. She makes good soup.

THE TYPING LADY

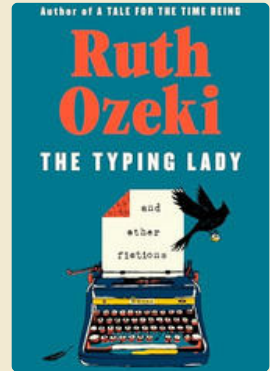
Ruth Ozeki

A Goodreads Editors' Pick
**A Boston Globe and Globe and Mail
 Best Book of the Summer**
A People Best Book of June
**Named a Most Anticipated Book by:
 TIME, People, and LitHub**

A spellbinding debut short story collection from Booker Prize finalist Ruth Ozeki, grappling with faded ideals, evolving identities, and the inevitable compromises that shape a life—all with her distinctive blend of wit, warmth, and deep humanity.

A college student falls for her professor and learns to transmute longing into language. A disquieted husband watches with tenderness and unease as the ghost of his wife's ambition roams the woods outside their home. A long-deceased Beat poet hijacks the mind of a young publishing assistant during a sales meeting, railing against the state of modern literature. A curious grandmother creates a fake online dating profile to spy on her granddaughter's romantic life—and sets in motion a deception she can't control.

Ruth Ozeki brings us twelve richly imagined stories of characters standing at life's thresholds.



Viking (June 2, 2026)

Materials: final pdf
Page count: 304

Film/TV: Sylvie
 Rabineau / WME

Territory: Canongate
 holds world rights EXCEPT
 for France, Brazil, and
 Israel.

Rights sold:

ANZ: Text

Canada: Penguin Canada

UK: Canongate

Italy: Edizioni E/O

Russia: AST

Option Publishers:

Arabic: Kalematt

Brazil: Morro Branco

France: Belfond

Israel: Am Oved

Lithuania: Balthos Lankos

Spain: Alianza

Taiwan: Yuan-Liou

Turkey: Ithakivya

Ruth Ozeki is a novelist, filmmaker, and Zen Buddhist priest. She is the award-winning author of four novels: *The Book of Form and Emptiness*, winner of the UK's 2022 Women's Prize for Fiction; *My Year of Meats*; *All Over Creation*; and *A Tale for the Time Being*, which was a finalist for the 2013 Booker Prize.

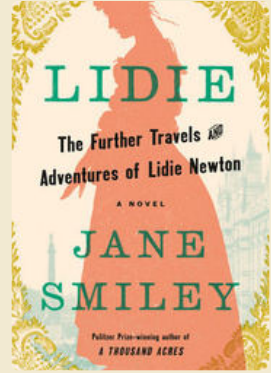
LIDIE

Jane Smiley

From the bestselling, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jane Smiley, a sequel to *The All-True Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton*, a 1998 *New York Times* bestseller.

After her abolitionist husband is murdered, Lidie Newton returns, in mourning, to her hometown of Quincy, Illinois. Haunted by the memories of her failures, when her niece Annie is offered the opportunity to perform abroad, Lidie accompanies her, armed with her pistol and wit.

Upon arriving in Liverpool, England, they vanish into new roles in the household of Annie's benefactor: Annie takes a stage name and finds her way to a career, while Lidie becomes her ladies' maid. But will either of them be content with her new lot in life?



Knopf (April 21, 2026)

Territory: NA

Materials: final pdf

Page count: 336

Rights sold:

France: Rivages

Film/TV: Ellen Goldsmith-Vein / Gotham

Praise for Jane Smiley:

“America’s Tolstoy.”

—*The Guardian*

Praise for *Lucky*:

“A robust, atmospheric coming-of-age story.”

—*People*

Jane Smiley is the author of numerous novels, including *A Thousand Acres*, which won the Pulitzer Prize. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, she has also received the PEN Center USA Lifetime Achievement Award for Literature. She lives in Northern California.

GOOD BOY

Neil McRobert

A cosmic horror, love story, and coming of age all deftly braided into one hair-raising debut, GOOD BOY is an ode to buried secrets and one man's courageous best friend.

After a boy vanishes on the outskirts of a small North England town, everyone is living on a razor's edge—especially Margie, whose house sits across from the patch of land where the boy disappeared. So when she sees Jim Howarth digging a grave in the exact same spot, she doesn't hesitate to act.

What's unearthed through her confrontation are truths much more sinister than anything Margie could have imagined, as the fatal past of the town, Jim Howarth's real purpose that day, and one dog's lifelong mission to protect his village from the monster who still dwells there all—finally—come to light.



Wild Hunt Books (Oct 9, 2025)

Territory: World English

Materials: Final pdf

Page count: 150

Rights sold:

Italy: Mercurio

Spain: Muneca Infinita

Film/TV: Hilary Zaitz

Michael & Sylvie Rabineau / WME

Praise for *Good Boy*:

“An excellent story – reminded me of classic English stories of the supernatural. People like M.R. James and Arthur Machen. Heady company to be in!”

—**Stephen King**

“There’s good dogs, there’s excellent writers, and there’s extraordinary novellas. What you’re holding in your hands now is all three.”

—**Stephen Graham Jones, author of *The Buffalo Hunter Hunter***

Neil McRobert is a writer, journalist, and podcast host of *Talking Scared*, the premier show devoted to horror writing and creativity. When he isn't writing for *Vulture*, *The Guardian*, *Elle*, or *Esquire*, he's usually outside in Northern England, running with his dog Ted.

NYMPH

Sofia Montrone

Sensuous and precise, searching and knowing, *NYMPH* captures so potently the exquisite pain and exhilaration of first love, and will sit on the shelf alongside sultry summer classics such as *Call Me By Your Name*, *The Lost Daughter*, and *Bonjour Tristesse*.

Ten-year-old Leo spends her mornings tidying the rooms of her nonna's time-worn Italian hotel, quietly accumulating the junk and treasures left behind by guests – a pearl earring, a lock of hair. Her nights are suffused with her father's liquor-spun tales of his childhood, mingled with stories of Greek heroes of old.

Years later, over another hot, endless Italian summer, the hotel is one of the only things in Leo's life that has remained constant. An accident has knocked her family sideways; her brother Max is distant and Nonna has grown frail. But then she meets Dolores, an American girl who sets something alight in Leo that she didn't know existed.

Heat-soaked, sensual and steeped in an exquisite longing, *Nymph* traverses the extraordinary pains, soaring pleasures and many metamorphoses it takes to finally grow up.

Praise for *Nymph*:

"An immersive, queer, and atmospheric coming-of-age story. This book transports you to Italy and into the mind of a contemplative, curious, and resilient young person. Nostalgic, wistful, and beautifully written. The perfect summer read." —**Emily Austin**, author of *Everyone in This Room Will Someday Be Dead*








Avid Reader Press (June 9, 2026)
Territory: NA
Materials: final pdf
Page count: 256

Rights sold:
UK: Canongate
Germany: Rowohlt
Canada: S&S Canada
Netherlands: Meulenhoff
ANZ: Text

Sofia Montrone is a writer based in New York. She teaches at Columbia University, where she earned her MFA. Her fiction and criticism have appeared in *The Columbia Review*, *Quarto*, and *Adroit*.

NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED

Yu-Mei Balasingamchow

One of NPR's 15 Books Our Critics Can't Wait for This Summer

One of E! News' Books to Read This Summer

One of Marie Claire's Best Mystery-Thriller Books of 2026

One of Kirkus' 40 Hottest Reads for Summer 2026

Named a Most Anticipated Book By: Debutiful, Electric Literature

R.F. Kuang's *Yellowface* meets Susie Yang's *White Ivy* in **NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED**; a stylish, fast-paced story about friendship, betrayal, and the masks we wear to survive.

Ophir isn't her real name, but she likes it fine for now, and if she's going to get through this story—the real story of her last 12 years on the run—she's going to do it on her own terms. This is what our narrator promises as she sets out to broadcast (with the help of a mysterious friend, from an undisclosed location) her tumultuous life as a fugitive, forever estranged from her home and family in Singapore, where it all began.

Entrancing her listeners with a tale that transports us from Thailand to Tokyo, and from London to America, it is Ophir's loneliness and longing for connection that eventually jeopardizes her hard-won freedom.



Tiny Reparations (June 2026)

Territory: NA

Materials: final pdf

Page count: 272

Film/TV: Hiliary Zaitz
Michael / WME

Yu-Mei Balasingamchow was born and raised in Singapore, and now lives and teaches writing in Boston, where she was a bookseller at Papercuts Sewanee for many years. She has been supported by the Elizabeth George Foundation, Sewanee, Tin House, and Bread Loaf.

HONEY IN THE WOUND

Jiyoung Han

2026 Waterstones Debut Fiction Prize finalist

A lyrical and suspenseful debut family saga about a mysteriously gifted Korean family confronting the brutality of the Japanese empire--an epic tale of survival and the reclamation of power.

Young-Ja, a girl who is able to infuse food with her emotions, revels in her gift for cooking, nourishing the people she loves with her cheerfulness. But her sunny childhood comes to an end in 1931 when Japanese soldiers crush her family's defiance against the Empire. Young-Ja is cast adrift, her food turning increasingly bitter with grief.

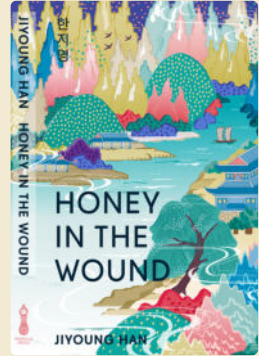
When a Korean rebel fighter notices her talents, however, she is whisked off to Manchuria to join a secretive sisterhood of beautiful teahouse spies. There, Young-Ja finds a new sense of belonging and starts using her abilities for the resistance. But the Imperial Army is not yet finished with her...

Decades later, Young-Ja lives alone in Seoul, withdrawn from the world until her Tokyo-born granddaughter Rinako bursts into her life with the ability to see into dreams. In cultivating a tentative bond, they confront the long-buried past in a stunning emotional climax.

Praise for *Honey in the Wound*:

"Honey in the Wound is a spellbinding debut, both a lyrical fable and unflinching testimony... The resulting work leaves one shaken. Absolutely unforgettable."

—Karissa Chen, author of *Homeseeking*



Avid Reader Press

(April 7, 2026)

Territory: NA

Materials: final pdf

Page count: 320

Rights sold:

Italy: Nord

Hungary: Libri

Korea: Dasan Books

Spain: Quaterni

Ediciones

Turkey: April

UK: Manilla

Press/Bonnier

Jiyoung Han is a Korean American woman who only learned as an adult about her grandparents' experience under Japanese rule. She's since committed to studying this history, in part for her BA at UChicago and Master's at Harvard. Her debut novel is an attempt to bring this history to life for more readers and to make amends for the ignorance of her youth.

BUT FOR FORTUNE

Erin Miller Reid

A sweeping debut grappling with the legacy and stigma of mental health in intertwined, dual storylines set 50 years apart, inspired by the author's family history.

When Corinth discovers her grandmother's chart at the site of her month-long rotation for medical school, she's desperate to make sense of the story in its pages, which her family refuses to discuss. The Granny she knows is docile and incoherent from decades of overmedication, unable to tell her own story.

But what if Corinth's assignment to Maxwood was fate? What if there's a connection between her and Granny that reveals something about herself even she can't ignore?

With the layered complexity and lyricism of Yaa Gyasi's *Transcendent Kingdom*, Erin Miller Reid's debut follows in the footsteps of writers like Barbara Kingsolver and Carter Sickels, exploring the underrepresented and often misunderstood region of Appalachia with nuance and empathy.

Praise for *But For Fortune*:

"But for Fortune introduces Erin Miller Reid as an important new voice in Southern literature. Reid presents Appalachia in ways it has rarely been shown. In this moving meditation on family legacy, written in intelligent prose that is lovely as the plot is compelling, Reid takes us vividly to the town of Fawn Gap and into the minds of Mary Esther and Corinth, two characters you will never forget."

—Silas House, author of the Southern Book Prize-winning *All These Ghosts*

Erin Miller Reid is a physician and writer. She merged her appreciation for both medicine and the humanities by studying narrative medicine at Columbia University. Originally from Kentucky, she now lives in northeast Tennessee with her husband and three children. *But For Fortune* is her first novel.



Kentucky University Press

(September 15, 2026)

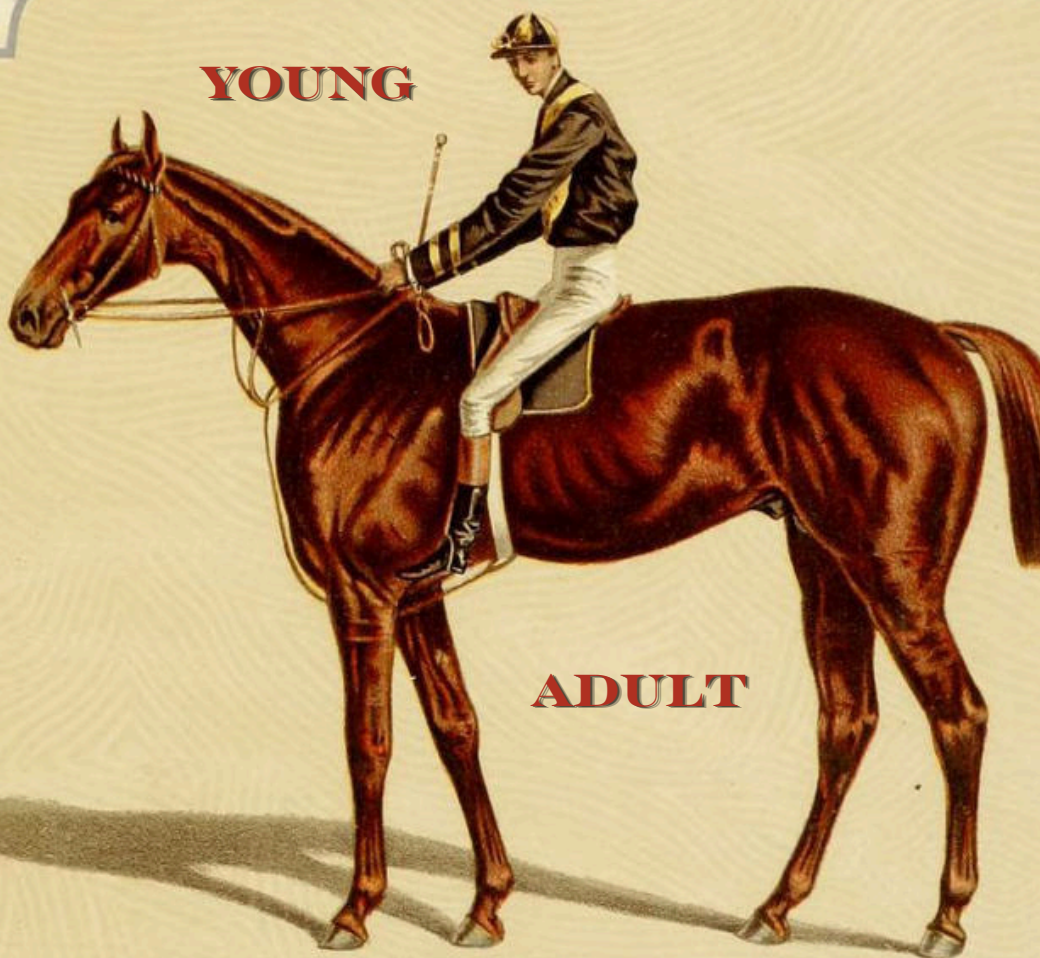
Territory: World English

Materials: final pdf

Page count: 359 (CE)



YOUNG



ADULT

STRANGEBLOOD

alex terrell

For fans of *The Wicked Deep* by Shea Ernshaw and *Practical Magic*, **STRANGEBLOOD** is a lush, gripping novel that asks how one might find true power in unexpected places.

15-year-old Halle Kessell has always felt like the black sheep in her family: she and her three sisters are the latest in a long lineage of Wise Women—Black women imbued with potent and unpredictable magical abilities—only, Halle has already passed the age when Wise Women get their powers.

When Momma passes in mysterious (and mystical) circumstances, her power gets divided up between the sisters—excluding Halle—and the chasm only widens. As her sisters use their power to pursue their deepest ambitions and secrets, Halle turns her attention to uncovering the details of Momma’s mysterious death. But as sinister, hard-to-explain accidents increase throughout town, her investigation leads her deep into Witchurch’s dark past and might be the key to saving them all.



Feiwei & Friends (Fall 2027)

Territory: NA

Materials: pre-CE

Page count: 318

Film/TV: Mary Pender / WME

alex terrell (she/her) is a Black Southern writer. Her work has appeared in *Black Warrior Review*, *The Offing*, *The Kenyon Review*, and elsewhere. She is a recipient of the 2018 PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize for Emerging Writers. Originally from Tennessee, she works at Smith College and is now based in Massachusetts with her sister and two cats.

SALT WATER BLOOD

Manuia Heinrich

Sold in a 7-imprint US auction, and a 4-way ANZ auction during Frankfurt 2024

An Indigenous teen fights to clear her brother of a murder charge by embracing her gift of hearing the sea's prophetic thoughts in this debut young adult speculative thriller that's *Firekeeper's Daughter* meets *Moana*.

Eighteen-year-old Moe hears the sea's prophetic thoughts. Correction: Moe doesn't just hear them—the sea makes Moe *feel* them. This is how Moe learned years ago that her father would drown and her mother would abandon her and her younger brother, Tao. So, when the sea warns that Tao will follow their father's fate, Moe is determined to secure them a way off the island. All those plans fall apart when Tao's girlfriend is then found dead and Tao is blamed.

As incriminating evidence piles up, Moe will do all she can to protect the only family she has left, even if it means swallowing her pride and teaming up with her archenemy Temanea. Even if it means relying on the sea and its prophecies—because her dreaded gift might be the only way to stop the killer.

Praise for *Salt Water Blood*:

"Salt Water Blood is a triumphant tidal wave of a book; a compelling mystery wrapped in a searing tale about family, siblings, culture and community. Listen to me and the sea, and let this incredible book sweep you away."

—Dhonielle Clayton, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Marvellers*



Sarah Barley/S&S (Nov 17, 2026)

Territory: NA

Materials: final pdf

Page count: 358

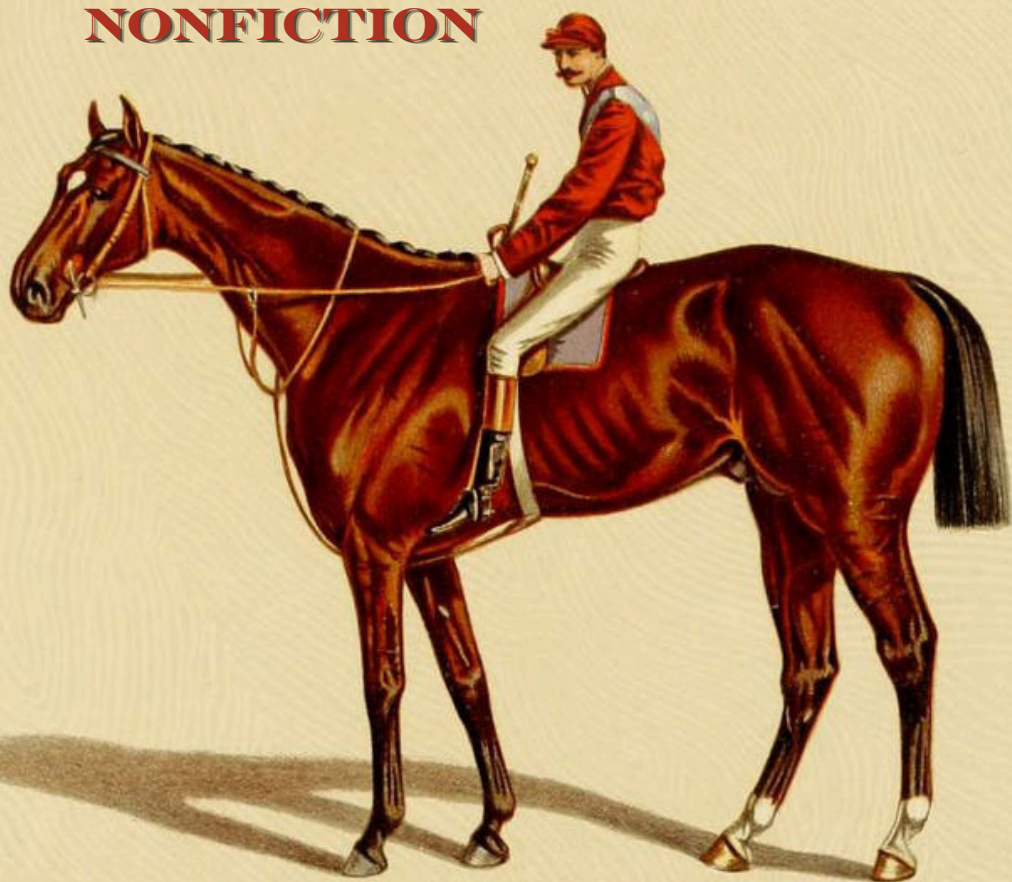
Rights sold:

ANZ: Allen & Unwin

Italy: Giunti

Manuia Heinrich holds a PhD in Pacific Studies and is the co-founder of APIpit and Pacific Islanders in Publishing. She is a We Need Diverse Books mentee, and was selected for the Write Mentor and New Zealand Society of Authors program. She currently lives in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

NONFICTION



WILD GRIEF: Animal Lessons on Loss

Emily Arden Polk

A window of light into the strange, poignant, and sometime hilarious habits of other creatures, and what humans can take away from these practices—leaving readers with a sense of relief, comfort, and hope; perfect for fans of Ed Yong and Sy Montgomery.

Wild Grief explores how wild animals experience and respond to loss, while revealing how the customs and rituals of grief in the more-than-human world can help us process our own personal and ecological pain. Blending personal narrative, cultural mythologies, and folklore with the most recent science from leading experts in comparative thanatology—the emerging scientific field on nonhuman animal responses to the dead and the dying—Emily Polk takes readers to animal sanctuaries, the world’s largest pet cemetery, a falconry training center, and the Cavy Clubs Championship Guinea Pig Show, to name a few.

Wild Grief presents cutting-edge research while taking readers by the hand with humor and hope to illuminate how connecting with the world outside ourselves can allow us to better take care of one another, and our ailing planet.



Putnam (Fall 2027)

Territory: NA

Materials: Proposal; full ms available end of 2026

Rights sold:

China: Unread Sky

Germany: Klett-Cota

Italy: Sonda

Korea: Next Wave Media

UK: Viking UK

Emily Polk currently serves on the faculty of the Program in Writing and Rhetoric at Stanford University and as the Writing and Arts Coordinator for Stanford’s Doerr School of Sustainability. She holds a Ph.D. in Communication from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Before Stanford, she worked internationally as a human rights and environment-focused writer and editor.

FOUR MOTHERS

Abigail Leonard

****The Sunday Times* Book of the Week**
featured on PBS News Weekend, live
news broadcasts, and NPR*

A page-turning narrative of four real women—Anna from Finland, Tsukasa from Japan, Sarah from the U.S., and Chelsea from Kenya—through the first year of motherhood.

Utterly moving and propulsively readable, Leonard interweaves these four stories with a critically researched exploration of how parental support programs evolved in each country—and why some provide more help than others.

As nations around the world debate programs like paid leave, universal daycare, reproductive healthcare, and family tax incentives, *Four Mothers* offers a uniquely intimate, moving portrait of what those policies mean for parents on the ground—and considers what modern families really want.

Praise for *Four Mothers*:

“Leonard is a masterly reporter. The four women share intimate details of their shifting post-baby lives, which read like gripping fiction... It’s public interest journalism at its best.”

—*The Sunday Times*

“This is real motherhood on the page, bolstered by rigorous research to explain why our current systems have failed families and offer insights for a brighter future.”

—Jo Piazza, bestselling author of *How to be Married*



Algonquin (May 6, 2025)

Territory: NA

Materials: Final available

Page count: 288

Rights sold:

UK/ANZ: Sceptre

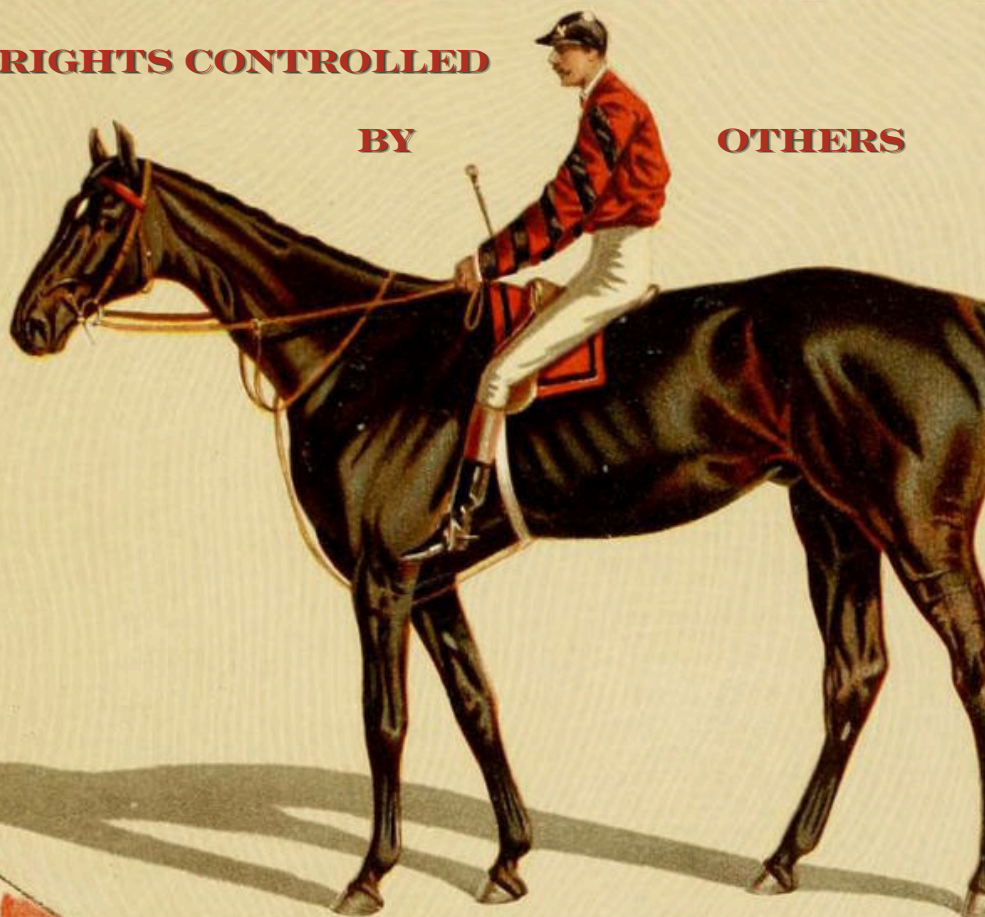
Simplified Chinese: Citic

Abigail Leonard is an award-winning international reporter and news producer. Her work has appeared in NPR, *Time Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, and *Vox*. She has written and produced long-form news documentaries for PBS, ABC and Al Jazeera America.

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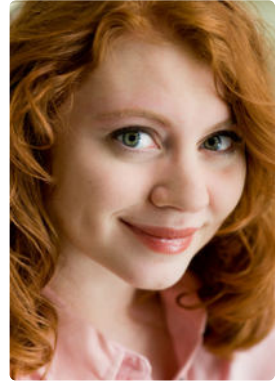
OTHERS



QUEEN BY NIGHT

J.N. Khoury (Voyager/TBD)

For Kaya, a girl born in a sandstorm and raised in the dunes, the desert has always been home—until the raiders hit, decimating her village. Forced to flee with her frail mother and younger brother to the coastal kingdom of Ashriya, their survival depends on anonymity, but it's not long before others notice Kaya doesn't belong. On the run for her life, Kaya stumbles into a hidden bath and a dangerous, handsome stranger offers her a mysterious coin that grants her access to work in the city's palace--by the time Kaya realizes that the stranger was the king himself, and the job is as a Companion in his royal harem...she is in no position to refuse.



THE KOOKABURRA

Charlotte Guest (S&S/Fall 2027)

Twelve months after the death of her husband, 70-year-old Diana finds herself unmoored; a veritable shut-in against life after death, hiding in her cottage in Tasmania. Diana has let herself go in more ways than one. There's her husband's death, yes, but she's also just come across intimate emails between him and her sister that, impossibly, have set her universe reeling once more. It's not until Diana encounters an injured Kookaburra that the delicate order of her grief is truly blown apart.

**Translation: handled by Jemma McDonagh at JMC Agency*

BAD FAITH

Peter Raffel (Holt/September 2027)

Margo and her boyfriend, Jersey, are caught messing around on campus, and true to form, only Margo is disciplined for the offense--with expulsion. Jersey, who has walked away scot-free, dumps her before leaving on a mysterious retreat. When Jersey is found dead just a few days later, Margo is the prime suspect. Narrated in turn by Margo and Jersey's best friend Finn, **BAD FAITH** is the moody Catholic mystery that never goes out of style, perfect for readers of Rebecca Makkai's *I Have Some Questions for You*, Curtis Sittenfeld's *Prep*, and the ever-growing fandom of Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*.



DARLENE

Jade Jones (FSG/August 2027)



Darlene LeJay is at a crossroads. After more than fifty years playing (mostly) by the rules and doing what she can to help her students make their way, she's suddenly/unceremoniously fired, her reputation damaged. The only job she can land is at a school even more down-on-its-luck than she is: The Seton School for Girls, where every lesson focuses on the students: LaShae, Everline, Breezy, Pookie, Terese, Beau. But then Darlene's ailing mother goes back to Georgia, stirring up echoes from Darlene's painful childhood, just when the girls most need her strength. To truly protect and empower, Darlene must confront her past and risk her future.

SALTWATER DREAMING

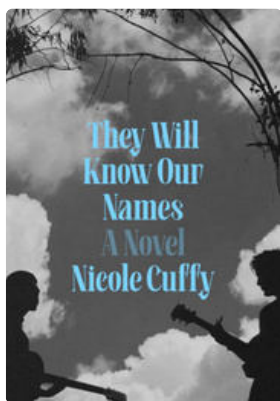
Lenika Cruz (Atria/May 2027)

A memoir of grief—of losing a mother, and losing one's identity—and of disillusionment with the stories we are told to accept without question. As an adult, looking back, Lenika must unfurl the layers of history and oppression that have shaped her life, her identity, and her understandings of power and freedom. *Saltwater Dreaming* is ultimately a moving story of homecoming and of reclamation: of indigenous stories, practices, and language, and of indigenous land and waters.



THEY WILL KNOW OUR NAMES

Nicole Cuffy (One World/March 2027)

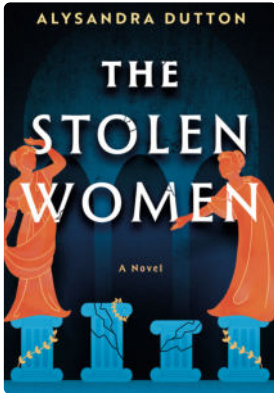
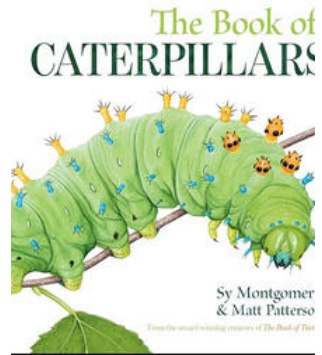


Hal Jansen, the artistic, sensitive youngest son of a successful department store executive, has just dropped out of college to begin a burgeoning folk music career when he stumbles into a chance performance by blues prodigy Rudy Amos. Amidst the political turmoil of the 1960's, the two immediately strike up a profound camaraderie and begin to write songs as letters to each other. Over decades—through addiction, mental health crises, societal expectations, profound personal loss, failed marriages—the pair's brotherhood sees them through as they put everything on the line for their dreams.

THE BOOK OF CATERPILLARS

Sy Montgomery and illustrated by Matt Patterson (Clarion/March 23, 2027)

In this gorgeously illustrated exploration for all ages, the award-winning team behind *The Book of Turtles* celebrates the remarkable lives of small but mighty caterpillars, revealing how these often-overlooked creatures help shape the world.



THE STOLEN WOMEN

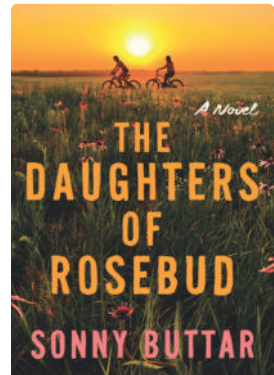
Alysandra Dutton (Park Row/Oct 7, 2026)

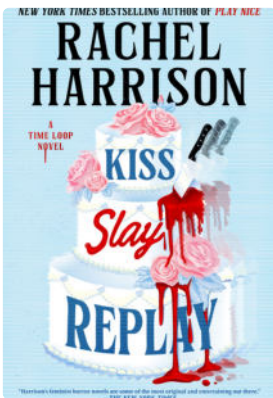
A queer, feminist retelling of the founding of Rome told through the eyes of a Sabine woman. With two vulnerable sisters to care for, Safinia has no intention of sticking her nose into anyone's business... until women, including her former lover, begin disappearing. All of the missing women have vanished from powerful households, but their formidable fathers are in utter denial, thwarting Safinia's investigation at every turn. As war looms, Safinia must face the reality that the only leader she can turn to is herself.

THE DAUGHTERS OF ROSEBUD

Sonny Buttar (Lake Union / October 1, 2026)

Salma and her older sister Asma were inseparable growing up in small-town Rosebud. While Asma was bold and fearless, Salma tried to keep the peace in their fractured family. But amid their mother's decline and their parents' rigid expectations, Asma makes a choice that tears the family apart. The fallout changes everything—and forces Salma to choose between her sister and her parents.





KISS SLAY REPLAY

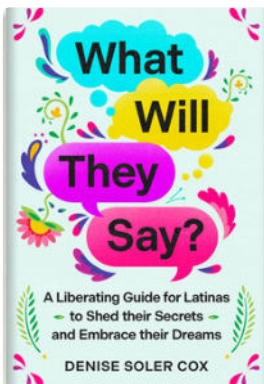
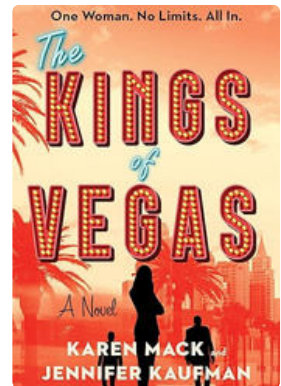
Rachel Harrison (Berkley/September 1, 2026)

Willa Sullivan is having a bad time. Her best friends finally have the big wedding they've always wanted, but this is the first time she's seen her ex-fiancé in months, and he brought a date. But things start to look up when Willa meets Danny, the groom's charming and single childhood best friend. When they sneak off together, their rendezvous is interrupted by a masked killer terrorizing the reception. Then she wakes up and it's the morning of the wedding. As the day unfolds, there are some uncanny coincidences, and Willa comes to understand that she's stuck in a loop of carnage and terror that she must learn how to escape.

THE KINGS OF VEGAS

Karen Mack & Jennifer Kaufman
(William Morrow/June 30, 2026)

When Josie King is summoned back to her family's lavish Vegas ranch, it's with news of her father's death. Josie and her siblings learn that their father's will requires each of them to spend 3 years working for the family casino "The Jackpot", if they want to receive their inheritance. What at first seems like a mere inconvenience quickly becomes a perilous situation for Josie, as she gets a glimpse at the much darker interior beneath The Jackpot's glistening veneer.



WHAT WILL THEY SAY?

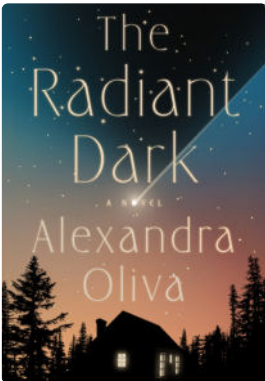
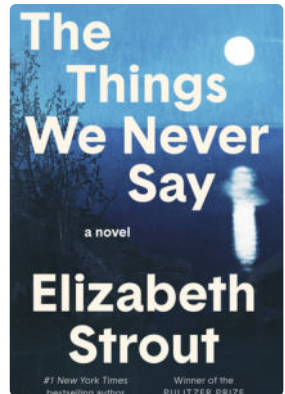
Denise Soler Cox (Primero Sueño/August 18, 2026)

A liberating guide for Latinas to shed their secrets and embrace their dreams, exploring secrets, taboo, shame, and belonging in Latino culture and how we can create a paradigm for change.

THE THINGS WE NEVER SAY

Elizabeth Strout (Random House/May 5, 2026)

Pulitzer Prize-winning, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Elizabeth Strout's new novel tells the story of a chance incident that sparks a powerful realization in a beloved teacher's life, turning the question over and over: How is it that we know so little about one another, even those closest to us? With exquisite prose and profound insight, *The Things We Never Say* takes one man's fears and loneliness and makes them universal.



THE RADIANT DARK

Alexandra Oliva (Zando/April 28, 2026)

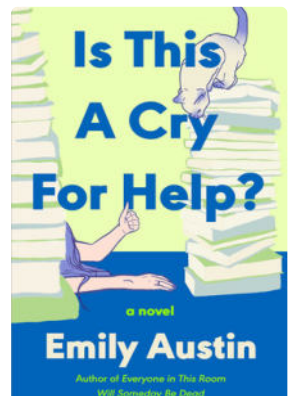
Beginning in 1980, one American family navigates a world where there is definitive proof of intelligent life on another planet, 11 lightyears from Earth. Over the course of 50 years, as communication is exchanged between the two planets, we follow this family as they grow and change, with increasing cultural and political tensions in the world around them.

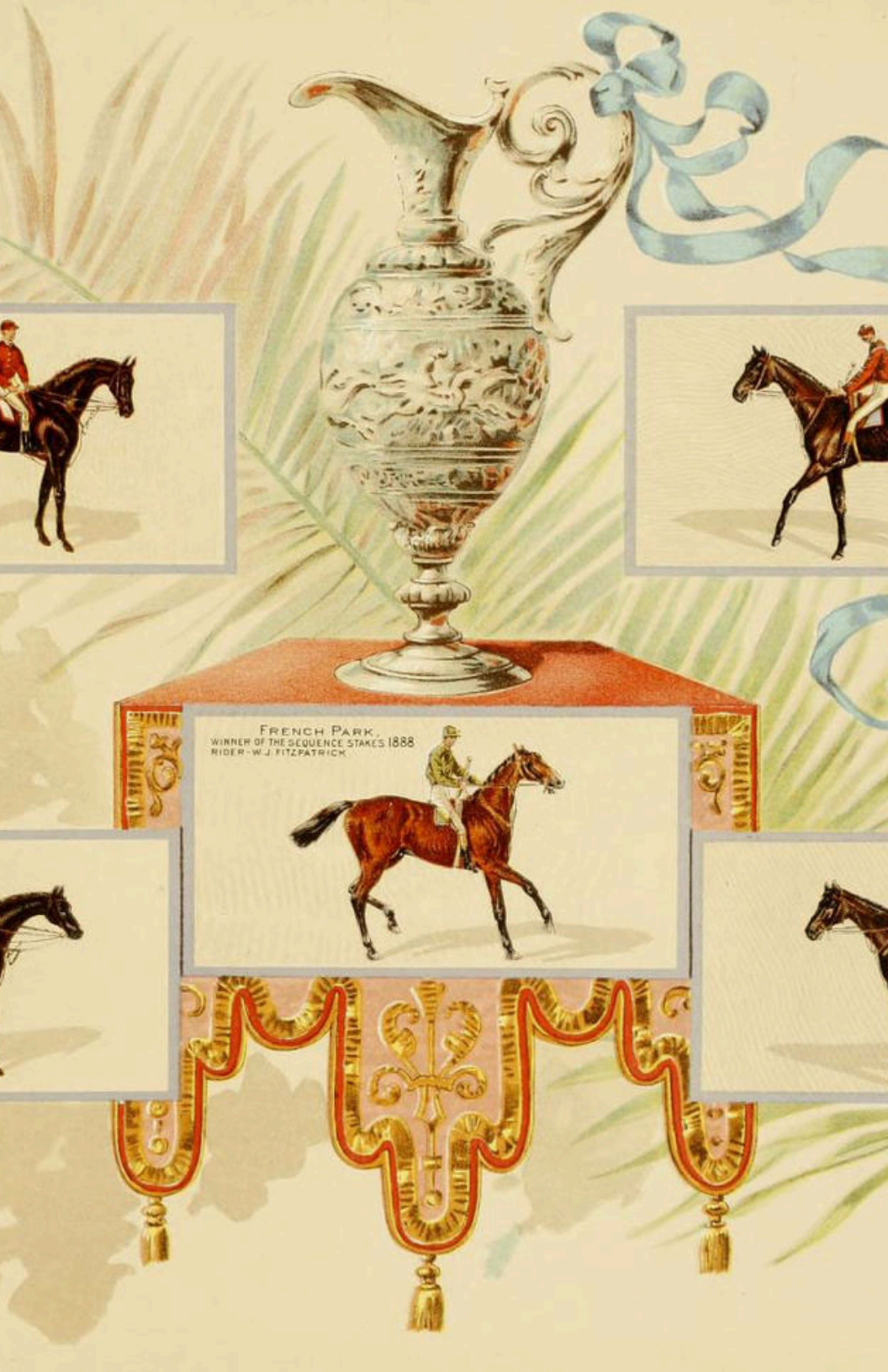
IS THIS A CRY FOR HELP?

Emily Austin (Atria/January 13, 2026)

Instant US & Canadian bestseller

The bestselling “queen of darkly quirky, endearingly flawed heroines” (Sarah Haywood, author of *The Cactus*), returns with a luminous new novel following a librarian who comes back to work after a mental breakdown only to confront book-banning crusaders in an empowering story of grief, love, and the power of libraries.





FRENCH PARK,
WINNER OF THE SEQUENCE STAKES 1888
RIDER - W. J. FITZPATRICK



CHAMPION, WINNER 1872
DUKE OF DEVON



MISS WOODFORD, WINNER OF
THE ONE HUNDRED GUINEA STAKES
AND THE ENGLISH 1883

