





For film & tv: Lucy Carson at lcarson@friedrichagency.com



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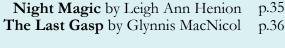
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**NON-FICTION** 

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#### FILM & TV

Rachel Harrison's BLACK SHEEP, which follows a young woman returning to her estranged family's home for a wedding, having broken away from their cult-like religion (Satanic worship) years before, is now in development as a continuing TV series with a major streaming network, and has both a writer and a showrunner attached, in addition to the original team of producers.

Meanwhile, the Emmy-nominated TV writing team for THE RADIANT DARK, a new novel by Alexandra Oliva (Sarah Jessica Parker's publishing imprint will release in April 2026) has a fully developed multiple-season pitch that the showrunners are currently presenting to studios and networks.

Alison Espach's internationally bestselling novel THE WEDDING PEOPLE has just been renewed by Sony's Tristar Pictures for an additional development period as a feature film, and progress on the screenplay continues apace.

Jane Smiley's beloved 2020 bestseller, PERESTROIKA IN PARIS, is in development as an animated feature, with a finished pitch deck that will soon be presented to buyers and financiers.

Mike Fu's spell-binding debut novel MASQUERADE is now in development as a feature film with an award-winning independent producer.

Lifetime has recently announced that there will be 3 additional films released under the "Terry McMillan Presents" banner, starring Taye Diggs and a variety of other big names, to be released in 2025 and 2026.

Silvia Park's speculative masterpiece LUMINOUS has just been renewed for an additional development period with the same team of writers, Director and producers who have been developing it for a continuing television series since it was first acquired for publication.



# IN EVERY BIRD: BEFORE THE GARDEN

Katy Sewall

Sold in a heated 9-person auction in the US, right before Frankfurt, 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. IN EVERY BIRD: BEFORE THE GARDEN 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.



**Publisher:** Random House Territory: Spring 2027 Materials: Submission ms

Rights sold: **Hungary**: Agave Italy: finalizing offer

Film/TV: Sylvie Rabineau /

WME

#### Advance Praise for IN EVERY BIRD: BEFORE THE GARDEN:

"I was captivated and charmed by Katy Sewall's debut novel, which more than does justice to its classic inspiration. I came into this book knowing as much about The Secret Garden as I did the Olive Garden, but by the end, I wanted nothing more than to stay a little longer in her rich and insightful world."

- Jess Walter, 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.

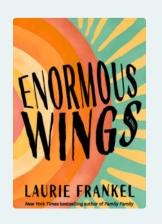
### **ENORMOUS WINGS**

Laurie Frankel

An urgent novel about female agency and bodily autonomy, morality, and mortality, combined 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.

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.



Holt (May 2026) Territory: NA Materials: 2P

Film/TV: Dana Spector /

CAA

#### Praise for Laurie Frankel:

"Fun, thought-provoking, and an enjoyable reflection of culture and family."

— Good Morning America

**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 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 longdeceased 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.

### Praise for The Book of Form and Emptiness:

- "There's powerful magic here."
- New York. Times Book Review
- "A masterful meditation on consumer culture."
- USA Today



Viking (June 2, 2026) Materials: Revised ms 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

Option Publishers: **Arabic:** Kalemat **Brazil:** Morro Branco France: Belfond Israel: Am Oved Italy: Edizioni E/O

Lithuania: Balthos Lankos Russia: AST Spain: Alianza

Taiwan: Yuan-Liou Turkey: Ithakivia

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.

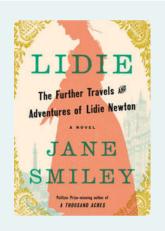
### LIDIE

Jane Smiley

From the bestselling, Pulitzer Prizewinning 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: 1P

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.

### **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 (Spring/Summer 2026) **Territory**: NA Materials: Edited ms in Jan '26

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.

### GOOD BOY

Neil McRobert

A cosmic horror, love story, and coming of age all deftly braided into one hairraising 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 available

Rights sold:

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.



**Avid Reader Press** (Summer 2026) Territory: NA

Materials: 1P due Nov

2025

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.

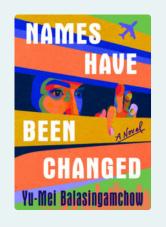
### NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED

Yu-Mei Balasingamchow

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: 1P

Film/TV: Hiliary Zaitz Michael / WME

### Praise for Names Have Been Changed:

"A spiky, smart story about an itinerant Singaporean ex-con who yearns above all, to return... A book about displacement, friendship, diaspora, love, and criminal enterprise, but above all, the gasping need for connection, when home is out of reach."

— Vanessa Chan, author of international bestseller, The Storm We Made

"A brave debut... The novel is ingeniously conceived and written in an intelligent, fierce style. It's a fine contribution to migrant literature of our time."

— Ha Jin, National Book Award winning author of Waiting

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 by the Elizabeth George Foundation, Sewanee, Tin House, and Bread Loaf.

#### HONEY IN THE WOUND

Jiyoung Han

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 Tokyoborn 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.



Avid Reader Press (April 7, 2026) **Territory**: NA

Materials: 3P in October 2025

Rights sold: Italy: Nord **Hungary**: Libri

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.

# THE LOVE AN ABALONE FEELS FOR THE SEA

Genki Ferguson

Take a cool dive into the waters of coastal Japan, the setting for Genki Ferguson's exquisitely rendered coming-of-age novel, featuring traditional "ama" freedivers.

During one fateful dive, Nagisa, a determined young woman joins the ama—who dive to depths of up to 65 feet without any scuba gear to hunt abalone and other shellfish —and doesn't return to the surface.

Ren Ioka, Nagisa's seventeen year old brother, finds himself unmoored by grief and uncertainty upon his sister's disappearance. But after discovering an unsent love letter written by Nagisa years earlier, Ren becomes convinced that this confession holds the secret behind her inexplicable final dive.

In the process of retracing his sister's hidden love, Ren meets Aiko, an inscrutable ama who once 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.



Publisher: Counterpoint (Spring 2027) Territory: NA

Materials: Submission ms 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.

### 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.



**Kentucky University Press** (2026)**Territory**: World English Materials: pre-CE

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.

### **BUMBLEBEE SEASON**

Eileen Garvin

A heartwarming new story that returns to the vibrant world of The Music of Bees and beekeeping.

Beekeeper Jake Stevenson should be celebrating: his fledging honey farm has been inundated with orders. But as he approaches his largest harvest ever, Jake is worried—there's no way he can do it all by himself.

Meanwhile Flaco López, a Mexican teen fleeing growing danger in his village, has become separated from his companions and is lost on Mount Hood when he stumbles upon Jake's beehives.

And Abigail Plue, an entomology graduate student who prefers insects to people, is studying Mount Hood's threatened Western bumblebee—and her research might be the only thing standing between the pristine wilderness and a controversial plan to build a commercial hunting camp there.

Soon, these three loners meet and forge an unexpected friendship as they come together to protect everything they hold dear.



**Dutton** (April 21, 2026) **Territory: NA** 

Materials: 1P in Sep 2025

**Option publishers:** 

**UK:** Headline

Korea: Munhakdongne **Germany: Piper** 

Netherlands: HarperCollins Portugal: Casa Das Letras

Russia: AST

Czech: Dobrovsky/Omega

Film/TV: Dana Spector /

CAA

### Praise for Eileen Gavin:

"A song of praise to the dazzling beauty and power of connecting with creatures other than ourselves."

— Sy Montgomery, NYT bestselling author of The Soul of an Octopus

"A beautiful, unforgettable book."

— Shelby Van Pelt, NYT bestselling author of Remarkably Bright Creatures

Eileen Garvin is a beekeeper and writer living in Hood River, Oregon. She is the author of *The Music of Bees*, which was a Good Housekeeping book club pick and indie bestseller, and the memoir How to be a Sister.

### THE GIRLS WHO GREW BIG

Leila Mottley

From the author of Oprah's Book Club pick and New York Times bestseller Nightcrawling, an astonishing new novel-full of heart and life and hope—about the joys and entanglements of a fierce group of teenage mothers in a small town in Florida.

Adela Woods is sixteen years old and pregnant. Her parents banish her from her comfortable upbringing in Indiana to her grandmother's home in the small town of Padua Beach, Florida. When she arrives, Adela meets Emory, who brings her newborn to high school, determined to graduate despite the odds; Simone, mother of four-yearold twins, who weighs her options when she finds herself pregnant again; and the rest of the Girls, a group of outcast young moms who raise their growing brood in the back of Simone's red truck.

The town thinks the Girls have lost their way, but really they are finding it: looking for love, making and breaking friendships, and navigating the miracle of motherhood and the paradox of girlhood.



**Knopf** (June 24, 2025) Territory: World English Materials: Final available

#### Rights sold:

**UKANZ**: Fig Tree France: Albin Michel Germany: btb Italy: Bollati Boringhieri

Spain: Urano

Film/TV: Brooke Ehrlich /

CAA

### Praise for Leila Mottley:

"A bold new voice in fiction."

— Associated Press

"Mottley writes with a lyrical abandon."

— New York, Times Book, Review

**Leila Mottley** is the author of *Nightcrawling*, an Oprah's Book Club pick and a New York Times best seller, which was nominated for the Booker Prize, making her the youngest author to have been nominated for the award. At age 16, Leila was named the Youth Poet Laureate of Oakland.

### THE WEDDING PEOPLE

Alison Espach

\*Over a million copies sold in the US\* \*An instant NYT bestseller\* \*International bestseller in multiple countries\*

A propulsive and uncommonly wise novel about one unexpected wedding guest and the surprising people who help her start anew.

It's a beautiful day in Newport, Rhode Island, when Phoebe Stone arrives at the grand Cornwall Inn wearing a green dress and gold heels, not a bag in sight, alone.

She's immediately mistaken by everyone in the lobby for one of the wedding people, but she's actually the only guest at the Cornwall who isn't here for the big event. Phoebe is here because she's dreamed of coming for years—she hoped to shuck oysters and take sunset sails with her husband, only now she's here without him, at rock bottom, and determined to have one last decadent splurge on herself.

Meanwhile, the bride has accounted for every detail and every possible disaster the weekend might yield except for, well, Phoebe and Phoebe's plan-which makes it that much more surprising when the two women can't stop confiding in each other.

### Praise for *The Wedding People*:

"Espach has an eye for the full gamut of emotions that go hand in hand with lifelong commitment, from humor to selfinvolvement to pathos."

### -Elisabeth Egan, The New York Times Book Review

"A feel-good testament to the life-altering magic of chance meetings."

-People







Materials: Final available Film/TV: Dana Spector / CAA Film rights optioned by TriStar

Albania: Pegi **Brazil**: HarperCollins Bulgaria: Ciela Norma AD

Croatia: Znaje

**Territory**: NA

Czech: Pavel Dobrovsky-BETA **Denmark:** Politikens

Estonia: Festi Raamat Finland: Bazar France: Editions Leduc Germany: Lübbe Greece: Klidarithmos **Hungary**: Athenaeum Iceland: Bokabeitan Indonesia: Gramedia

Israel: Tchelet Italy: Bollati

Korea: The Bookman Group Latvia: Latvijas Mediji Lithuania: Baltos

Macedonia: TRI Netherlands: Atlas Contact

Norway: Gursliberg

Poland: Wydawnictwo Poznanskie

Portugal: LeYa Romania: Bookzone Serbia: Vulkan

Slovakia: Vydavateľ stvo Motyl

Slovenia: HKZ Spain: V&R Sweden: Forum Taiwan: Delight Press Thailand: Salmon Books Turkey: Nemesis

Ukraine: Fabula UK/ANZ: Orion

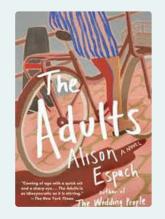
### THE ADULTS

Alison Espach

From the author of the Read with Jenna pick The Wedding People, a ruefully funny debut novel that deftly dissects matters of the heart and captures the lives of children and adults as they come to terms with life, death, and love.

At the center of this affluent suburban universe is Emily Vidal, a smart and snarky teenager, who gets involved in a dangerous relationship. Among the cast of unforgettable characters is Emily's father, whose fiftieth birthday party has the adults descending upon the Vidals' patio; her mother, who has orchestrated the elaborate party even though she and her husband are getting a divorce; and an assortment of eccentric neighbors, high school teachers, and teenagers who teem with anxiety and an unbridled desire to be noticed, and ultimately loved.

An irresistible chronicle of a young woman's struggle to grow up, The Adults lays bare a world where an adult and a child can so dangerously be mistaken for the same thing.



Scribner (February 1, 2011)

Territory: NA

Materials: Final available

Rights sold: Italy: Bollati

Film/TV: Dana Spector /

CAA

#### Praise for The Adults:

"Coming of age with a quick wit and sharp eye... The Adults is as idiosyncratic as it is stirring."

-The New York, Times

**Alison Espach** is the author of New York Times bestseller The Wedding People, The Adults, and Notes on Your Sudden Disappearance. Her short stories and essays have appeared in Vogue, Glamour, and McSweeney's, among other places. She is currently a professor of creative writing at Providence College in Rhode Island.

Silvia Park

Set in a unified Korea where robots have integrated seamlessly into society, *Luminous* is a poignant debut novel for readers of Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* and Karen Joy Fowler's *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*.

Eleven-year-old Ruijie sifts through the scraps in a junkyard filled with abandoned robots, searching for a piece that might support her failing body. There among the piles of trash, something catches her eye: a robot boy—so lifelike and strange, unlike anything she's ever seen before.

Siblings Jun and Morgan haven't spoken for years. When they were children, their brother Yoyo disappeared suddenly, leaving behind only distant memories of his laughter and near-human Yoyo—an warmth. early prototype of a humanoid robot designed by father—was always their bound something darker and more complex. And whether they like it or not, Ruijie's discovery will thrust their family back together in ways they could have never imagined.



S&S (March 11, 2024) Territory: NA

Materials: Final available

Rights sold: UK/ANZ: One World Hungary: Europa Korea: Golden Bough Japan: Shinchosha Taiwan: Linking

Film/TV: Jiah Shin / CAA
TV rights optioned to Media Res

#### Praise for *Luminous*:

"Wildly and yes, luminously emotional."

— Matt Haig, New York Times bestselling author of The Midnight Library

"A novel full of pleasures, big and small."

- Charles Yu, author of Interior Chinatown

**Silvia Park** is a Korean/American writer and Professor of Fiction at University of Kansas. A graduate of Columbia, NYU, and the Clarion Workshop, their work has appeared in *Black Warrior Review*, Tor.com, and *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy*, among others.

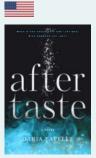
### **AFTERTASTE**

Daria Lavelle

The magic of *Under the Whispering Door* with the high-stakes culinary world of *Sweetbitter*, *Aftertaste* is an epic love story, a dark comedy, and a synesthetic adventure through food and grief.

Ghosts have been hovering around Konstantin Duhovny ever since his father's death. He can't exactly see them, but he can taste their favorite foods. Kostya has kept these aftertastes a secret for most of his life, but one night, he decides to act on what he's tasting. And everything changes.

Kostya discovers that he can reunite people with their deceased loved ones—at least for the length of time it takes them to eat a dish that he's prepared. He thinks his life's purpose might be to offer closure to grieving strangers, and sets out to learn all he can by entering a particularly fiery ring of Hell: the New York culinary scene. But as his kitchen skills catch up with his ambitions, Kostya is too blind to see the catastrophe looming in the Afterlife. And the one person who knows Kostya must be stopped also happens to be falling in love with him.





S&S (May 20, 2024) Territory: NA Materials: 4P

Rights sold:

**UK/ANZ**: Bloomsbury **Hungary**: Alexandra Group

Korea: Clayhouse Italy: Mondadori

Brazil:CompanhiadasLetras Lithuania: Alma Littera France: Le Cherche Midi Germany: Fischer

Israel: Keter Serbia: Vulkan

Poland: Proszynski Media Romania: Editura Trei Ukraine: Athena Turkey: Ithaki

Film/TV: Sylvie Rabineau / WME

Film/TV rights optioned

### Praise for Aftertaste:

"A haunting evocation of pain and pleasure, and the power of food."

### - Nigella Lawson

"An original concept perfectly realized. Witty and poignant, surprising and satisfying, this lovely book about death is brimming with life."

— Karen Joy Fowler, author of We Are Completely Beside Ourselves

**Daria Lavelle** is a debut novelist who earned her MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. She was born in Kyiv before immigrating to the US as a child, and currently lives in New Jersey with her family.

### **MASQUERADE**

Mike Fu

### \*INDIE NEXT PICK\* \*GOODREADS EDITOR'S PICK\*

Exploring social, cultural, and sexual identities in New York, Shanghai, and beyond, MASQUERADE is a skillfully layered debut novel for readers of Jason Mott's Hell of A Book and Paul Auster's The New York Trilogy.

Newly single Meadow Liu is house-sitting for his artist friend, Selma Shimizu, when he stumbles upon The Masquerade, a translated novel about a masked ball in 1930s Shanghai. The author's name is the same as Meadow's own. Liu Tian--a coincidence that proves to be the first of many strange happenings. Over the course of a single summer, Meadow must contend with a possibly haunted apartment, a mirror that plays tricks, a stranger speaking in riddles at the bar where he works, as well as a startling revelation about a former lover. And when Selma vanishes from her artist residency, Meadow is forced to question everything he knows as the boundaries between real and imagined begin to blur.



Tin House (Oct 29, 2024) **Territory**: NA Materials: Final available

Film/TV: Jiah Shin / CAA Film rights optioned by independent producer

### Praise for Masquerade:

"[A] beautiful, captivating novel."

— People

"A surreal journey into the strangeness and beauty of youth." — Chicago Review of Books

Mike Fu is a Tokyo-based writer, editor, and translator. He is a cofounder and editor of The Shanghai Literary Review, and currently teaches fiction and translation at Antioch University's MFA in Creative Writing program.

# A STORY CAN BE TOLD **ABOUT PAIN**

Lisa Martin

With evocative, lyrical prose reminiscent of Emily Ruskovich's Idaho and the philosophical rigor of Marilynne Robinson, A Story Can Be Told About Pain is a profound story about the power of care.

When an accident upends their lives, fourteenvear-

old Shiloh and her mother Ruth must leave their idyllic home to make a new life in the city. They find housing — through an evangelical church operating out of a strip mall — that backs onto the grounds of the abandoned Pacific Hospital for the Mind.

As Shiloh becomes involved with an undercurrent of teenagers who frequent the grounds of the ruined asylum, her rebellion and grief push her towards choices she can never take back.



NeWest Press (May 13, 2025) Territory: NA

Materials: Final available

Rights sold: Audio (NA): Recorded Books

### Praise for A Story Can Be Told About Pain:

"Nearly every paragraph of A Story Can Be Told About Pain, Lisa Martin's debut novel, reads like a prose poem. Martin constructs her words so carefully that each sentence sings with beauty. An award-winning poet and essayist, Martin proves equally adept at the novel."

- Angie Abdou in Alberta Views

**Lisa Martin** is an award-winning poet and essayist. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at MacEwan University.

### SUCH A GOOD MAN

Dustin Hoffman

An inventive and formally daring story collection which shines a light into the dark corners of American suburbia.

The housepainters, contractors, formerly incarcerated carnival workers, and fathers that populate these pages are doing their best to overcome life's brutal indifference. Characters sometimes face unusual situations: one plays infinite games of Monopoly with God, while the Man in the Yellow Hat must decide how to react when a window washer is hospitalized with serious injuries. Mostly, though, they navigate the challenges of grief, poverty, and arguments with siblings that many of us will find all too familiar.

With brilliance and insight, Hoffman interrogates the intersections of labor and masculinity, peeling back the spackled facades of class, family, and domesticity. Such a Good Man depicts darkness, cruelty, and absurdity without flinching—and reveals the eternal human desire for intimacy, especially when it remains just out of reach.



**University of Wisconsin** Press (March 25, 2025) Territory: NA Materials: Final available

#### Praise for Such a Good Man:

"There is much to admire in these stories of working-class lives—the fine writing, superb pacing, pitch-perfect dialogue—but what I find most impressive is Hoffman's refusal to condescend to his characters."

- Ron Rash, author of The Caretaker

**Dustin M. Hoffman** is the author of *One-Hundred-Knuckled Fist*, winner of the Prairie Schooner Book Prize, No Good for Digging, and Secrets of the Wild. He spent ten years painting houses before earning his MFA and PhD in creative writing.

### SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE

Pamela Samuels Young & Dwayne Alexander Smith

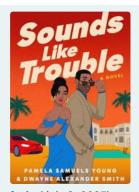
Two opposites. Undeniable attraction. Three mobsters. An offer they can't refuse. It sounds like trouble as Jackson Jones and Mackenzie Cunningham, reluctant partners and two of the best private investigators in Los Angeles, return to solve their most dangerous case yet.

Jackson Jones and Mackenzie "Mac" Cunningham can't agree on anything. After coming close to death on their last case, the two have decided to team up but they can't even decide on how to furnish their new office. Jackson wants to make a big splash. Mackenzie just wants a desk and some filing cabinets to clean up the mess. Before they can reach a truce on the decor, the two PIs get an offer they have no choice but to accept: infamous gangster Big Ced and two of his mafia dons want them to track down a package. Or else.

#### Praise for Sounds Like a Plan:

"This sexy, banter-filled mystery is so much fun you'll lust after a sequel."

— South Florida Sun Sentinel



Atria (July 8, 2025) **Territory**: NA

Materials: Copyedited Film/TV: Eric Beid / WME

Rights sold: UK/ANZ: Faber





Atria (July 9, 2024) Territory: NA Materials: final

Rights sold: **UK/ANZ**: Faber

TV rights optioned by a major

network

**Dwayne Alexander Smith** is the author of *Forty Acres*, which was recently in development as a Feature Film at Netflix. Dwayne is currently working with Audible to write an original radio play for Kevin Hart and Charlamagne The God's imprint.

Pamela Samuels Young has been widely published in both commercial suspense and erotica. Netflix optioned the first two books in her Vernette Henderson series, which follows a Black female attorney from Compton.

### MRS. PLANSKY GOES ROGUE

Spencer Quinn

This tale of the irresistible and unforgettable Mrs. Plansky, "a terrific character" (Stephen King), will lead her up and down coastal Florida and beyond in a brand-new, whirlwind adventure, MRS. PLANSKY GOES ROGUE!

Mrs. Plansky is fresh off of winning a thrilling senior tennis championship with her doubles partner, Kev Dinardo, and is gearing up to celebrate with him on his yacht. That is, until the yacht is destroyed in a fire. Kev claims the fire was caused by a lightning strike, pure bad luck, but there's one small problem—Mrs. Plansky didn't see any lightning.

Already certain there's more going on than she's being told, Mrs. Plansky's curiosity turns to concern when Kev goes missing. Her suspicion gets the better of her and leads her to break into his house, only to find it ransacked.

### Praise for Mrs. Planksy's Revenge:

"Nothing short of masterful."

— Los Angeles Times

"I absolutely adored this book. Really fun but with a few teeth, as well."

- Stephen King





Forge (July 15th, 2025) Territory: World English Materials: Final available

#### Rights sold:

**UK/ANZ**: Bedford Square Film/TV: Nicole Weinroth and Megan Pelson / WME





Forge (July 25th, 2023) Territory: World English Materials: Final available

### Rights sold:

**UK/ANZ**: Bedford Square

Korea: Book21

Poland: Heraclon International

**Spencer Quinn** is the bestselling author of the Chet and Bernie mystery series, as well as the #1 *New York Times* bestselling Bowser and Birdie series for middle-grade readers. He lives on Cape Cod with his wife Diana—and dogs Audrey and Pearl.

John Verdon

Pushed to his breaking point and accused of murder, retired NYPD detective Dave Gurney must face his greatest adversary yet to solve a mystery that is quickly tearing his world apart.

Tennis bad boy Ziko Slade is serving twenty years for the grisly murder of small-time criminal Lenny Lerman. The facts of the case —and Slade's checkered past—seem indisputable. What begins as a cursory review of the case as a favor to Dave Gurney's wife's friend soon spirals into something much more complicated. When Gurney's involvement threatens to expose a viper's nest of corruption, he finds himself framed for murder and pursued by a sensational media, a ruthless district attorney, and a coldblooded killer.



Counterpoint (July 18, 2023) Territory: World English Materials: Final available

Rights sold:

Finland: Gummerus

Israel: Keter Spain: Roca Turkey: Koridor

Yugoslavia: Soft Press

Film/TV: Bruce Vinokour / CAA
TV rights optioned by a major

network

### 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).







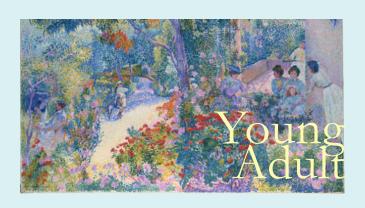








**John Verdon** is a former Manhattan advertising executive who lives with his wife in the mountains of upstate New York. His first three Dave Gurney novels, *Think of a Number, Shut Your Eyes Tight*, and *Let the Devil Sleep*, are all international bestsellers.



#### **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 four 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.



Feiwel & Friends (spring/summer 2027) Territory: NA Materials: Submission ms, revised ms due Jan 2027

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.\*

Inspired by the impact of France's nuclear tests on the people of Mā'ohi Nui, SALT WATER BLOOD is a YA thriller set on an alternate Polynesian island for fans of Angeline Boulley's Firekeeper's Daughter and Disney's 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.

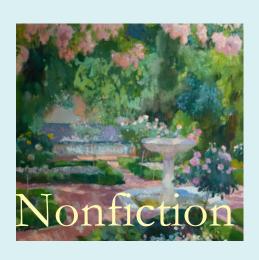


Sarah Barley/S&S (Fall 2026) Territory: NA Materials: Edited ms Nov

Rights sold: ANZ Allen & Unwin

25

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.



# WILD GRIEF: Animal Lessons on Loss

Emily 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 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.



Algonquin (May 6, 2025) Territory: NA Materials: Final available

Rights sold: UK/ANZ Sceptre Simplified Chinese: Citic

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

**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.

# NIGHT MAGIC: Adventures Among Glowworms, Moon Gardens, and Other Marvels of the Dark

Leigh Ann Henion

\*Winner of the American Society of Journalism and Authors 2025 Nonfiction Award\*

New York Times bestselling nature writer Leigh Ann Henion invites us to leave our well-lit homes, step outside, and embrace the night—for readers of Entangled Life and World of Wonders.

No matter where we live, we are surrounded by animals that rise with the moon, and blooms that reveal themselves as light fades. Henion explores her home region of Appalachia, where she attends a synchronous firefly event in Tennessee, a bat outing in Alabama, and a moth festival in Ohio. In North Carolina, she finds forests alight with bioluminescent mushrooms, neighborhood trees full of screech owls, and valleys teeming with migratory salamanders. Along the way, Henion encounters naturalists, biologists, primitive-skills experts, and others who've dedicated their lives to cultivating relationships with darkness.



Algonquin (Sep 24, 2024) Territory: NA

Materials: Final available

### Praise for Night Magic:

"[A] nature lover's guide to the dark that unfolds like a novel."

— The Christian Science Monitor

"[A] revelation. A series of captivating field trips illuminating life in the wild at night."

— Minneapolis Star Tribune

**Leigh Ann Henion** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Phenomenal: A Hesitant Adventurer's Search for Wonder in the Natural World.* She has received four awards from the Society of American Travel Writers, and has been supported by the Alicia Patterson Foundation and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

### THE LAST GASP

Glynnis MacNicol

In her new zeitgeist-fueled nonfiction, celebrated memoirist Glynnis MacNicol has captured our current cultural moment with an escape back to the era that started it all, perfect for fans of Jonathan Mahler.

For Glynnis, 1999 marks her early love affair with New York City, but in a recent New York Times opinion piece, it occurred to her that, had she accidentally time-traveled to 2025 during the raucous Y2K New Year's Eve celebrations, she'd awake to find all of the same power players continuing to exert their influence on our lives— Gweneth Paltrow, Donald Trump, Sarah Jessica Parker, and even Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy. What was it about that year, 1999-- that explosive confluence of politics, fashion, and media-- that, as a culture, we cannot seem to shake and continue to recycle, even now?

THE LAST GASP documents a party-fueled, money-flooded, end-of-the-world year in the city where kings and queens are made, and with MacNicol's keen reporter's eye on the larger story here-- the cast of characters who emerged as cultural leaders (for better and worse) during this small slice of time.



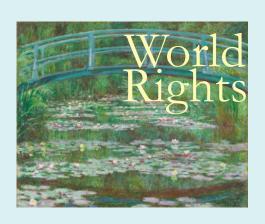
\*\*\*Currently on submission in the US\*\*\*

### Praise for I'm Mostly Here to Enjoy Myself:

"A delight, the literary equivalent of a long catch-up with a brilliant friend. And if that's not fun, I don't know what is."

— The New York, Times

**Glynnis MacNicol** is the author of No One Tells You This (S&S) and I'm Mostly Here to Enjoy Myself (Penguin Life), now in its 9th printing. She is a frequent contributor to the New York Times, with her op-eds regularly going viral, and has written also for The Guardian, Rolling Stone, Vogue, The Cut, New York Daily News, The Daily Beast, and ELLE, among others.



#### THE THINGS WE NEVER SAY

Elizabeth Strout (Random House/May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026)

Rights sold: UK (Penguin), Germany (Penguin Random House Verlagsgruppe GmbH), Catalan (Edicions de 1984)

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 KINGS OF VEGAS

Karen Mack & Jennifer Kaufman (William Morrow/Summer 2026)

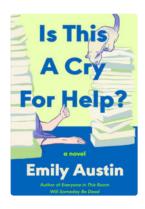
When Josie King is summoned back to her family's lavish Vegas ranch, it's with news of her father's death. Josie and her siblings learn that their father's will requires each of them to spend 3 years working for the family casino "The Jackpot", if they want to receive their inheritance. What at first 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.

### THE RADIANT DARK

Alexandra Oliva (Zando/SJP Lit 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)

Rights sold: Spain (Urano)

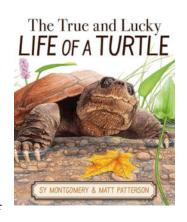
The bestselling "queen of darkly quirky, endearingly flawed heroines" (Sarah Haywood, author of The Cactus), returns with a luminous new novel following a librarian who comes back to work after a mental breakdown only to confront book-banning crusaders in an empowering story of grief, love, and the power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

## THE TRUE AND LUCKY LIFE OF A TURTLE

Sy Montgomery and illustrated by Matt Patterson (Clarion/September 9, 2025)

Rights sold: China (Beijing Tianlue Books)

The bestselling and Sibert Honor–winning creators of The Book of Turtles bring us the true story of a snapping turtle's extraordinary journey—and the amazing conservationists who helped give him a second chance. This feel-good, gorgeously illustrated story about beating the odds is complete with inspiring back matter and photos.





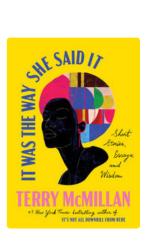
### PLAY NICE

# Rachel Harrison (Berkley/September 9, 2025)

In the New York Times bestselling novel Play Nice, Clio Louise Barnes leads a picture-perfect life as a stylist and influencer, but beneath the glossy veneer she harbors a not-so glamorous secret: she grew up in a haunted house. After her mother's sudden death, the supposedly possessed house passes to Clio and her sisters. Where her sisters see childhood trauma, Clio sees an opportunity for house flipping content. Only, as the home makeover process begins, Clio discovers there might be some truth to her mother's claims.

# IT WAS THE WAY SHE SAID IT Terry McMillan (Ballantine/Sep 9, 2025)

From the #1 New York Times bestselling novelist comes a remarkable, career-spanning collection of short fiction and nonfiction pieces capturing the struggles and triumphs of Black life in America, from the workaday factory man's malaise in "The End" to the cast-aside lover's resolve in "Touching" to the elderly woman's wiles in "Ma'Dear." Whether she's revealing life lessons, pontificating about aging, recalling her sources of inspiration, or laying bare the beginnings of her life as a writer, McMillan approaches every piece with enduring candor, wit, and fearlessness.





# WHAT WILL THEY SAY? Denise Soler Cox (Primero Sueño/August 2026)

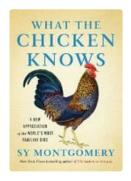
A liberating guide for Latinas to shed their secrets and embrace their dreams, exploring secrets, taboo, shame, and belonging in Latino culture and how we can create a paradigm for change

# O SINNERS!

# Nicole Cuffy (OneWorld/May 18th, 2025)

A young journalist, reeling from loss, investigates a mysterious cult in the California redwoods, only to be drawn in by its charismatic leader in this addictive novel that asks why people give up control and what it takes, ultimately, to find one's place in the world.





### WHAT THE CHICKEN KNOWS:

A New Appreciation of the World's Most Familiar Bird

Sv Montgomery (Atria/November 5th, 2024)

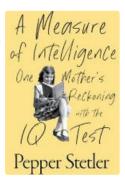
A charming and eye-opening exploration of the special relationship between humans and chickens from Sy Montgomery, "one of our finest chroniclers of the natural world" (The New York Times).

### A MEASURE OF INTELLIGENCE:

One Mother's Reckoning with the IQ Test Pepper Stetler (Diversion Books/August 20th, 2024)

Rights sold: Japan (Nippon Hyoron Sha Co., LTD)

In a quest to advocate for her daughter, Pepper Stetler uncovers the dark history of the IQ that leads her to question what exactly we are measuring when we measure intelligence.





# I CHEERFULLY REFUSE Leif Enger (Grove/April 2nd, 2024)

Enger debuted in the literary world with *Peace* Like a River which sold over a million copies and captured readers' hearts around the globe. Set in a not-too-distant America, I Cheerfully Refuse is the tale of a bereaved and pursued musician embarking under sail on Lake Superior in search of his departed, deeply beloved, bookselling wife.

### **FAMILY FAMILY**

### Laurie Frankel (Holt/January 23rd, 2024)

An actress does what you should never do — she tells a journalist the truth: it's a bad movie. Like so many movies about adoption, it tells only one story, a tragic one. Soon she's at the center of a media storm, battling accusations from the press and the paparazzi, from protesters on the right and advocates on the left. Her adopted daughter Fig knows they need help – and who better to call than family?





