Belletristik
Herbst 2021

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Aamina Ahmad

THE RETURN OF FARAZ ALI

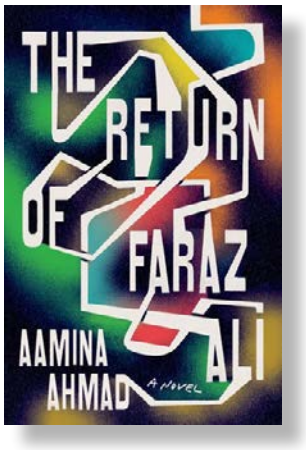
Publisher
Riverhead

April 2022
352 pages

Client
Ayesha Pande Literary

Contact
Anja Kretschmann

UK Hachette/Sceptre
India Westland
Film House Productions



Sent back to his birthplace – Lahore's notorious red-light district – to hush up the murder of a child prostitute, a man finds himself in an unexpected reckoning with his past.

Not since childhood has Faraz returned to the Mohalla, Lahore's infamous walled inner city, where women still pass down the profession of courtesan to their daughters. But he still remembers the day he was abducted from the home he shared with his mother and sister there, at the direction of his powerful father, who wanted to give him a chance at a respectable life. Now Wajid, once more dictating his fate from afar, has sent Faraz back to Lahore, installing him as head of the Mohalla police station and charging him with a mission: to cover up the violent death of a young kanjari.

It should be a simple assignment to carry out in a marginalized community, but for the first time in his career, Faraz finds himself unable to follow orders. As the city assails him with a jumble of memories, he cannot stop asking questions or chasing down the walled city's labyrinthine alleyways for the secrets – his family's and his own – that risk shattering his precariously constructed existence.

Profoundly intimate and propulsive, THE RETURN OF FARAZ ALI is a spellbindingly assured first novel that poses a timeless question: Whom do we choose to protect, and at what price?

Aamina Ahmad grew up in London and visited Pakistan often with her father, an airline pilot. A Stegner Fellow, she holds an MFA in fiction from the Iowa Writers' Workshop and is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize and a Rona Jaffe Award. Her short fiction has appeared in *One Story*, *The Southern Review*, and other journals. She teaches writing at San Jose State.

Mai Al-Nakib

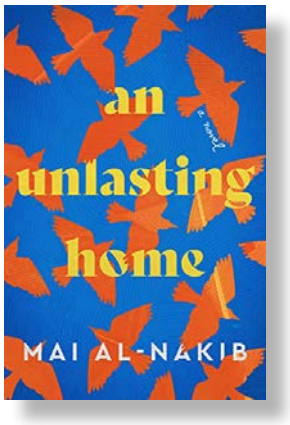
AN UNLASTING HOME

Publisher
Custom House

April 2022
393 pages

Client
Ayesha Pande Literary

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



A multigenerational saga which spans Lebanon, Iraq, India, the United States, and Kuwait to bring to life the triumphs and failures of three generations of Arab women – For readers of Ann Patchett, Jhumpa Lahiri, Elena Ferrante, and Ahdaf Soueif

In 2013, Sara is a philosophy professor at Kuwait University, having returned to Kuwait from Berkeley in the wake of her mother's sudden death eleven years earlier. Her main companions are her grandmother's talking parrot, Bebe Mitu; the family cook, Aasif; and Maria, her childhood ayah and the one person who has always been there for her.

When she is faced with the twin calamities of an accusation of blasphemy (for teaching Nietzsche in her Intro to Philosophy course), which carries with it the threat of execution, and Maria's sudden heart-attack, Sara begins to unravel. As the days leading up to her trial tick down, Sara finds herself retracing the past, excavating what she remembers of her own choices and those of the women who made her, hoping that if she can understand what led her home in the first place, she might figure out how to leave behind this country she no longer recognizes – if it is not too late.

Mai Al-Nakib was born in Kuwait, but spent the first six years of her life in London, Edinburgh, and St. Louis, Missouri. She holds a PhD in English from Brown University and is an associate professor of English and comparative literature at Kuwait University. Her short story collection, *The Hidden Light of Objects*, was published by Bloomsbury Qatar in 2014. It won the Edinburgh International Book Festival's 2014 First Book Award. Her stories and essays have been widely published, and she is a frequent contributor to *World Literature Today* and the BBC. She divides her time between Kuwait and Greece.

DeMisty D. Bellinger

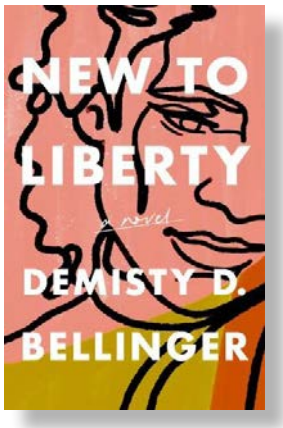
NEW TO LIBERTY

Publisher
Unnamed Press

April 2022
181 pages

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



NEW TO LIBERTY showcases the growth and strength of three unforgettable women as they evolve in a society that refuses to. DeMisty Bellinger brings the quiet, but treacherous landscape to life, offering a snapshot of mid-century America and keeping readers guessing until the end as to how these three women are connected.

In 1966, teenage Sissily is on her way to California with an older man to begin a life together, when he insists on stopping at his family ranch in Kansas to see his mother. This family reunion is a painful reminder for Sissily about the truth about her own heritage and why she ran away, as she meets women who, decades later, are permanently scarred by the Great Depression.

In 1947, Nella's family relocates to Kansas from Milwaukee during the summer before her senior year, where she begins an interracial relationship with a white man called Lucky. They can only meet in secret, or as Lucky is in a wheelchair sometimes Nella pretends to be his nurse. When three white men stumble upon "Nurse Nella" one catastrophic afternoon, the violence of a racist society forces Nella to face the reality of their situation. At the height of the dust bowl and brutal jackrabbit roundups, surrounded by violence and starvation, Greta finds love with another farm woman. Their clandestine encounters will be unsustainable for obvious reasons but will have consequences for generations.

DeMisty D. Bellinger has an MFA in creative writing from Southampton College and a PhD in English from the University of Nebraska. She teaches creative writing at Fitchburg State University in Massachusetts. She serves as poetry editor at Porcupine Literary and Malarkey Books. DeMisty's writing has appeared in many journals and anthologies, including *The Rumpus* and *The Best Small Fictions: 2019*. Her chapbook of poems *Rubbing Elbows* is now available and her fulllength poetry collection, *Peculiar Heritage*, is forthcoming with Mason Jar Press.
www.demistybellinger.com

Tom Benn

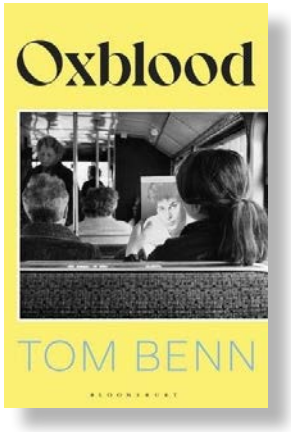
OXBLOOD

Publisher
Bloomsbury UK

April 2022
254 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



"An extraordinary book that delivers constantly at the level of the line. It's full of iraculous phrasing and detail, brilliant dialogue, and satisfying clicks as the structure locks into place… A fully-rewarding literary experience."
—Andrew Cowan, author of *Pig* and *Your Fault*

A blistering portrait of a family on fire, laying bare the desperation of poverty, the exile of grief, and the redemptive powers of love.

Wythenshawe, South Manchester. 1985. The Dodds family once ruled Manchester's underworld; now the men are dead, leaving three generations of women trapped in a house haunted by violence, harbouring an unregistered baby. Matriarch Nedra presides over the household, which bustles with activity as she prepares the welcome feast for her grandson Kelly's return from prison. Her grieving daughter-in-law Carol is visited by both the welcome, intimate ghost of her murdered lover, and by Mac, an ageing criminal enforcer, a man who may just offer her a real and possible future.

And then there is Jan – the teenage tearaway running as fast as she can from her mother, her grandmother, and her own unnamed baby. Over the course of a few days, the Dodds women must each confront the true legacy of the men who have defined their lives; and seize the opportunity to break the cycle for good. A blistering portrait of a family on fire, OXBLOOD lays bare the horror of violence, the exile of grief, and the extraordinary power of love.

Tom Benn is an author, screenwriter and lecturer from Stockport, England. His first novel, *The Doll Princess*, was shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Portico Prize, longlisted for the CWA's John Creasey Dagger, and was *The Daily Mirror's* Book of the Week. His other novels are *Chamber Music* (Cape) and *Trouble Man* (Cape). He won runner-up prize in the 2019 International Desperate Literature Prize for Short Fiction. His creative nonfiction has appeared in *The Paris Review Daily* and he won the BFI's iWrite scheme for emerging screenwriters. His first film *Real Gods Require Blood* premiered in competition at the Cannes Film Festival, and was nominated for Best Short Film at the BFI London Film Festival.

Cedar Bowers

ASTRA

Publisher
McClelland and Stewart

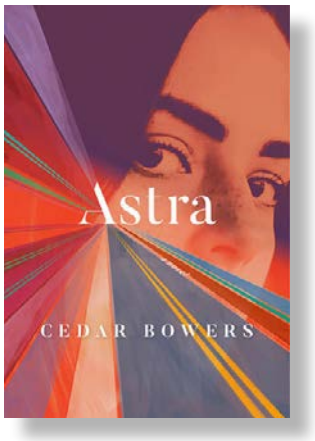
June 2021
304 pages

Client
The Cooke Agency International

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

France Gallmeister
Czech Republic Jota
Macedonia Macedonia Presents

2021 Giller Prize Longlist



"A nuanced portrait of a complex character and the many ways in which she touches people's lives. … ASTRA is a beautifully written book that challenges us to explore the idea of self and how we can appear to be so many different things to so many people. As her husband, Nick, notes, 'If I mentioned everything outstanding about Astra, we'd be here for hours.'"
—Toronto Star

"Bowers is very good at tracking atmospheric shifts in domestic arrangements, things usually unspoken or misplaced that can only bloom in the wake of emotional risk."
—Quill & Quire

ASTRA is a beguiling debut novel that reveals the different faces of one woman, as seen through the eyes of ten people over a lifetime.

Born and raised on a remote British Columbia commune, Astra Brine has long struggled to find her way in the world, her life becoming a study of the thin line between dependence and love, need and desire. Over the years, as her path intersects with others – sometimes briefly, but always intensely – she will encounter people who, by turns, want to rescue, control, become, and escape her, revealing difficult yet shining truths about who they are and what they yearn for.

Even as Astra herself remains the elusive yet compelling axis around which these narratives turn, her story reminds us of the profound impact that a woman can have on those around her, and the power struggles at play in all our relationships, no matter how intimate. A beautifully constructed and revelatory novel, ASTRA explores what we're willing to give and receive from others, and how well we ever really know the people we love the most.

Cedar Bower's fiction has been published in *Joyland* and *Taddle Creek*. ASTRA is her first novel. With her husband, novelist Michael Christie, and their two children, she divides her time between Galiano Island, where she grew up, and Victoria.

Rachel M. Harper

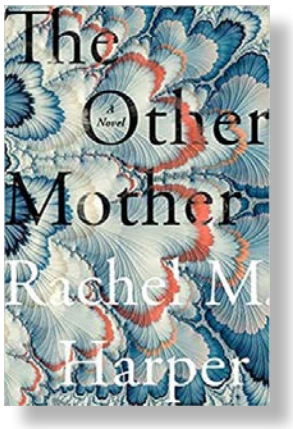
THE OTHER MOTHER

Publisher
Counterpoint

May 2022
448 pages

Client
Ayesha Pande Literary

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



A page-turning generational saga about a young man's search for a parent he never knew, and a moving portrait of motherhood, race, and the truths we hide in the name of family. For fans of Jesmyn Ward, Rebecca Makkai, and Justin Torres.

Jenry Castillo is a musical prodigy, raised by a single mother in Miami, who arrives at Brown University on a scholarship – but also to learn more about his late father, Jasper Patterson, a famous ballet dancer who died tragically when Jenry was two. On his search, he meets his estranged grandfather, Winston Patterson, a legendary professor of African American history and a fixture at the Ivy League school, who explodes his world with one question: Why is Jenry so focused on Jasper, when it was Winston's daughter, Juliet, who was Jenry's mother's lover? Juliet is the parent he should be looking for – his other mother.

Revelation follows revelation as each member of Jenry's family steps forward to tell the story of his origin. Cartwheeling between the past and the present to stitch together the web of secrecy binding this family together while keeping them apart, THE OTHER MOTHER is a celebration of love and resilience – masterfully exploring the intersections of race, class, and sexuality; the role of biology in defining who belongs to whom; and the complicated truth of what it means to be a family.

Rachel Harper is the author of the novels *Brass Ankle Blues* and *This Side of Providence*, which was short-listed for the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence. Her work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and has been widely published and anthologized. Harper has received fellowships from Yaddo and MacDowell, and is on the faculty at Spalding University's School of Writing. She lives in Los Angeles. Find out more at www.rachelmharper.com.

Mai Jia

THE COLONEL & THE EUNUCH

Publisher
ThinKingdom

2019
352 pages

Client
The Grayhawk Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann

Taiwan Ink

2020 South Literary Award
2020 Shi Nai'an Literary Award



"Reading this book is akin to summiting a perilous peak, trekking upwards until a faint path reveals itself, then looking back on the expansive view below… Mai Jia takes many risks, occasionally writing himself into what seem to be impossible situations, but he always dances away from disaster. We fear for him, but then we are forced to admire his skill even more."
—Mo Yan

The new novel in eight years from China's preeminent novelist

The boy grows up in a small village in south China listening to stories about the Colonel: some say he was a legendary army doctor during the war, some say he was a traitor to the Party, still others say he is a wicked sex machine. The stories are bawdy and mesmerizing, always larger than life. Yet in reality, the Colonel is just a middle-aged man who loves his cat. And why on earth does everyone call him "the Eunuch"??

From these disparate sources, the boy tries to piece together who the Colonel really is, just as he himself grows up in a rapidly changing China. It is not until many years later, when the boy also becomes a middle-aged man, that he would look back and finally solve the puzzle.

THE COLONEL AND THE EUNICH is Mai Jia's first new novel in eight years and his most ambitious work to date. An exciting departure from spy thrillers, this is a coming-of-age story, a family saga, as well a searing exploration of what makes a hero. The Colonel is Mai Jia's singular creation: an almost mythic figure shrouded in the tragedy of war and history, whose story will move even the most stone-hearted reader to tears.

Mai Jia, born 1964, is arguably the most successful writer in China today, who enjoys the popularity of Dan Brown and a literary status that rivals Mo Yan and Yu Hua. He is winner of the Mao Dun Literature Prize, the highest literary honor in China. Mai Jia's novels have sold over 12 million copies in China alone and have been translated into over twenty languages. He lives in Hangzhou with his wife and children.

Jessica Johns

BAD CREE

Publisher
HarperCollins Canada

Winter 2023
263 pages

Client
The Cooke Agency International

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

US Doubleday



Sold at auction to HarperCollins in Canada and Doubleday in the U.S.

A gripping debut exploring themes of grief, memory, and community, adapted from a Writer's Trust Journey Prize and National Magazine Award-winning short story.

When Mackenzie – a young Cree woman estranged from her family – wakes up with a severed crow's head in her hands, one she was holding only moments earlier in the middle of a snow covered forest in her dream, she panics: this isn't the first time she has brought back something from her dreams, but it is the scariest. As she continues bringing to life items from her dreams (dreams that are eerily similar to real memories of her older sister and grandmother before their untimely deaths), her life spirals into a living nightmare, and she is forced to return home and to her past failures to learn how to escape.

For readers of Cherie Dimaline, Alice Sebold's *The Lovely Bones*, and Stephen Graham Jones's *The Only Good Indians*, BAD CREE is moving, crushing, and dazzling. Infused with humour, poetry, and a dose of the supernatural, it leaves you certain that dreams are real, aunties always know the way, and shame is no match for kinship.

Jessica Johns is a Nehiyaw-English-Irish aunty and member of Sucker Creek First Nation in Treaty 8 Territory in Northern Alberta. She is the managing editor for *Room magazine* and a co-organizer of the *Indigenous Brilliance Reading* Series. Her short story *The Bull of the Cromdale* was nominated for a 2019 National Magazine Award in fiction and her debut poetry chapbook, *How Not to Spill*, won the 2019 BP Nichol Chapbook Award. Her short story *Bad Cree* won the 2020 Writers' Trust Journey Prize, as well as a silver medal for fiction at the 2020 National Magazine Awards.

Zakes Mda

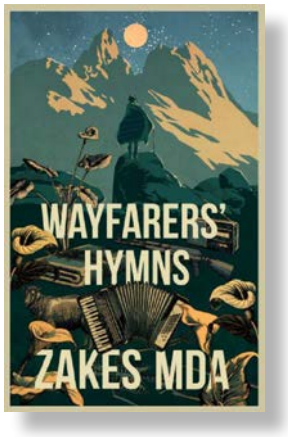
WAYFARER'S HYMNS

Publisher
PRH South Africa

October 2021

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



"Mda writes from the inside with a rare combination of passion and truth that will connect with readers everywhere."
–Booklist

A vibrant new novel about art, love and outsiders from South Africa's great and much-beloved storyteller.

Master storyteller Zakes Mda takes us from Lesotho's Mountain Kingdom to Joburg, the City of Gold, through the fascinating history of Lesotho's traditional and ever-evolving famo music and a cast of memorable characters.

We meet the boy-child minstrel kheleke, a wonderful, endearing character, an innocent in a world of fierce musical rivalry. Still playing a humble concertina in The Time of the Accordion, the boy-child yearns to acquire his own accordion, and to win the attention of his famo music heroes, and indeed the admiration of all, with his musical prowess. But in heading to the great city where fortunes are made and lost, he becomes entangled in a darker world of organised crime and vicious gangs, which coalesce – as they do in real life today – round the warring famo music groups. Focused only on his art, but drawn by his fierce ambition to be a legendary musical creator and performer too, he is blind to the truths of love that are right in front of him.

With the wandering boy-child's own story interwoven with the incredible yet true social history of the music, the Time of the Concertina and the Accordion – and the wars of the famo gangs, the battle for control of illegal mines, and more, WAYFARERS' HYMNS is a resonant, triumphant new work. As Mda ends the novel, with his classic grace note: The end is always a journey … And what a journey!

Zakes Mda divides his time between South Africa and his work as Professor of Creative Writing at Ohio University. He has been the recipient of major awards including the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, the Sunday Times Fiction Prize, the Commonwealth Writer's Prize and South African Silver Order of Ikhamanga for Excellence in Arts and Culture. *The Heart of Redness* and *Ways of Dying* are often cited as among South Africa's Top Ten classics.

Sequoia Nagamatsu

HOW HIGH WE GO IN THE DARK

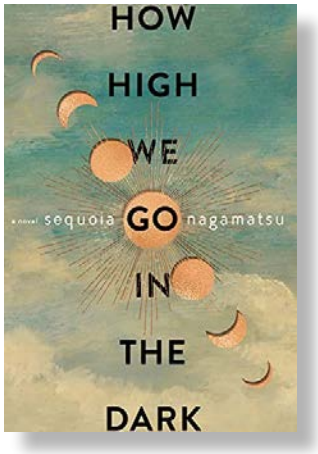
Publisher
William Morrow

Spring 2022
291 pages

Client
Ayesha Pande Literary

UK Bloomsbury

Contact
Anja Kretschman



"Haunting and luminous, HOW HIGH WE GO IN THE DARK orchestrates its multitude of memorable voices into beautiful and lucid science fiction that resembles a fitful future memory of our present. An astonishing debut."
—Alan Moore, creator of *Watchmen* and *V for Vendetta*

"…both deadly serious and outrageously playful, deeply affecting as well as wildly imaginative. By the time I had finished it, I was convinced that this was a major work of fiction by a new literary star."
—Paul Baggaley, Bloomsbury UK Editor in Chief

For fans of *Cloud Atlas* and *Station Eleven*, a spellbinding and profoundly prescient debut that follows a cast of intricately linked characters over hundreds of years as humanity struggles to rebuild itself in the aftermath of a climate plague – a daring and deeply heartfelt work of mind-bending imagination from a singular new voice.

Beginning in 2030, a grieving archeologist arrives in the Arctic Circle to continue the work of his recently deceased daughter at the Batagaika crater, where researchers are studying long-buried secrets now revealed in melting permafrost, including the perfectly preserved remains of a girl who appears to have died of an ancient virus.

Once unleashed, the Arctic Plague will reshape life on Earth for generations to come, quickly traversing the globe, forcing humanity to devise a myriad of moving and inventive ways to embrace possibility in the face of tragedy. In a theme park designed for terminally ill children, a cynical employee falls in love with a mother desperate to hold on to her infected son. A heartbroken scientist searching for a cure finds a second chance at fatherhood when one of his test subjects – a pig – develops the capacity for human speech. A widowed painter and her teenaged granddaughter embark on a cosmic quest to locate a new home planet.

From funerary skyscrapers to hotels for the dead to interstellar starships, Sequoia Nagamatsu takes readers on a wildly original and compassionate journey, spanning continents, centuries, and even celestial bodies to tell a story about the resiliency of the human spirit, our infinite capacity to dream, and the connective threads that tie us all together in the universe.

Sequoia Nagamatsu is a Japanese-American writer and managing editor of *Psychopomp Magazine*, an online quarterly dedicated to innovative prose. Originally from Hawaii and the San Francisco Bay Area, he holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Southern Illinois University and a BA in Anthropology from Grinnell College. His work has appeared in such publications as *Conjunctions*, *The Southern Review*, and *Fairy Tale Review*. He is the author of the award-winning short story collection *Where We Go When All We Were Is Gone* and teaches creative writing. He currently lives in Minnesota with his wife, cat, and a robot dog named Calvino.

Joseph O'Connor

THE SNOWSTORM CHOIR

Publisher
Harvill Secker

2022
360 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

France Editions Rivagey
Sweden Natur och Kultur
Italy Guanda



"Joseph O'Connor has the magic touch, he brings whole eras alive."
—Colum McCann

"A great writer performing Olympian literary storytelling."
—Sir Bob Geldof

"Ireland's greatest storyteller."
—The Sunday Independent

A powerful literary thriller, which will transport you to WWII Rome, and break your heart

Based on the true story of Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, an Irish priest in the Vatican who risked his life to smuggle thousands of Jews and escaped Allied prisoners out of Italy under the nose of his nemesis, the Nazi Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Kappler.

A deadly high-stakes battle of wits ensues in this astonishing, unforgettable story of love, faith and sacrifice, exploring what it means to be truly human in the most extreme circumstances.

Joseph O'Connor is the author of nine novels, two collections of short stories, and several bestselling works of non-fiction. He has also written film scripts and radio and stage-plays.His novel *Star of the Sea* was an international bestseller, selling more than a million copies and being published in 38 languages. Published in 2019, his last novel, *Shadowplay* has won him extraordinary praise, was shortlisted for the Walter Scott Prize, The Dalkey Novel Prize, the Costa Novel Prize, among others, and won him Novel of the Year at the An Post Irish Book Awards. The French edition was shortlisted for the Jean Monnet Prize and the Vintage paperback was a Richard and Judy Winter 2020 pick. He holds an honorary Doctorate in Literature from University College Dublin and received the Irish PEN Award for Outstanding Contribution to Irish Literature in 2012. He is the inaugural Frank McCourt Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Limerick.

Siobhan Phillips

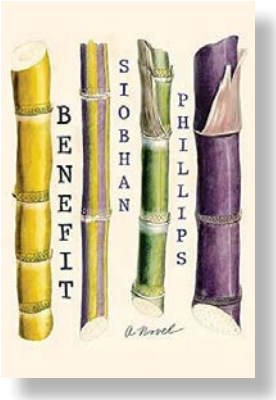
BENEFIT

Publisher
Bellevue Literary Press

April 2022

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"A compelling novel about friendship, education, and purpose, all illustrated through a cast of flawlessly realized characters."
—Susan Perabo, author of *The Fall of Lisa Bellow*

"Siobhan Phillips's portrait of a stalled would-be academic is thrillingly intimate and ambitious in its scope, evoking at turns Rachel Cusk, Lynn Steger Strong's *Want*, and Christine Smallwood's *The Life of the Mind*. Deadpan and dread-filled, shadowed by the specters of war and late capitalism, BENEFIT probes both the futility and necessity of intellectual work, all in the wry, wise voice of an uncommonly clear-eyed friend."
—Jessica Winter, author of *Break in Case of Emergency* and *The Fourth Child*

"A smart, razor-sharp exploration of the precarious island of academic life and the cold unforgiving waters that surround it." —Jenny Offill, author of *Dept. of Speculation* and *Weather*

Laura, a student from a modest background, escapes her small town to join the ranks of the academic elite on a Weatherfield fellowship to study at Oxford University. She enthusiastically throws herself into her coursework, yet she is never able to escape a feeling of unease and dislocation among her fellow chosen "students of promise and ambition."

Years later, back in the United States with a PhD and dissertation on Henry James, she loses her job as an adjunct professor and reconnects with the Weatherfield Foundation. Commissioned to write a history for its centennial, she becomes obsessed by the Gilded Age origins of the Weatherfield fortune, rooted in the exploitation and misery of sugar production. As she is lured back into abandoned friendships within the glimmering group, she discovers hidden aspects of herself and others that point the way to a terrifying freedom.

BENEFIT is a vivid story of personal awakening that offers a withering critique of toxic philanthropy and the American meritocracy.

Siobhan Phillips is a Rhodes Scholar who studied at Yale and Oxford Universities. An associate professor of English at Dickinson College, she lives in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. BENEFIT is her first novel.

Hanna Pylväinen

THE END OF DRUM-TIME

Publisher
Henry Holt

March 2023

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



For readers of Rivka Galchen, Lauren Groff, and Marilynne Robinson comes a sweeping saga set in the 1850s far north of the Arctic Circle in the land of the Sámi reindeer herders, where the daughter of a renegade Lutheran preacher falls into a scandalous affair with a rebellious young Sámi herder, defying the wishes of her father, whose teachings are upending the Sámis' way of life.

Hanna Pylväinen, born into a Lutheran Laestadian family, lived on the tundra within the indigenous Sámi community of reindeer herders, in a cabin on the edge of the Arctic Sea, while she wrote this novel. THE END OF DRUM-TIME uses characters from all sides of a cultural and religious and political conflict to put a reader who has never heard the words Sámi or Laestadian into its compelling fray.

Hanna Pylväinen graduated from Mount Holyoke College and received her MFA from the University of Michigan, where she was also a postgraduate Zell Fellow. She is the recipient of the Whiting Award, a MacDowell Colony residency and a fellowship at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts. She is the author of the book *We Sinners* (2012) and is from suburban Detroit.

Danny Ramadan

THE FOGHORN ECHOES

Publisher
Penguin Canda

Fall 2022

Client
The Cooke Agency International

UK Canongate

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



“A remarkable read. Danny Ramadan opens a world for his readers and guides them through it with sensitivity and suspense.”
—Bernhard Schlink on *The Clothesline Swing*

The follow up to Danny Ramadan’s internationally published and multiple award-winning debut *The Clothesline Swing*, THE FOGHORN ECHOES is a dazzling novel that reads as if Khaled Khalifa crossed paths with Garth Greenwell.

Hussam and Wassim are teenaged boys living in Syria in the early 2000’s when they start exploring feelings for one another. When they are caught kissing by Hussam’s father, their lives are shattered and although Wassim promises Hussam that he can and will protect him, their lives take drastic and heartbreaking turns.

Fast forward to the present day, and Wassim, homeless on the streets of Damascus – a shell of his former self – finds an abandoned villa that he uses for shelter from both the harsh streets of the city, and the civil war storming the country. Hussam has settled in Vancouver, changed his name to Sam, and is struggling with PTSD and haunted by his own ghosts, ghosts he is doing his best to drown with casual sex and substance abuse.

Danny Ramadan is a Syrian-Canadian author and LGBTQ-refugees advocate. His debut novel, *The Clothesline Swing*, won multiple awards. His children’s Book *Salma the Syrian Chef*, continues to receive accolades. Both books were translated to multiple languages. His short stories and essays appeared in publications across North America and Europe.

Shyam Selvadurai

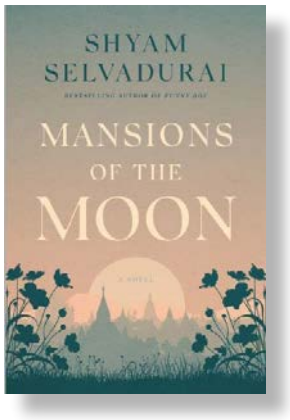
MANSIONS OF THE MOON

Publisher
Knopf Canada

May 2022
500 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"Richly rewarding (…) this is a novel that deserves, and will surely gain, a wide readership."
—The Sunday Times on *Cinnamon Gardens*

"Shyam Selvadurai writes as sensitively about the emotional intensity of adolescence as he does about the wonder of childhood."
—The New York Times Book Review on *Funny Boy*

This stunning portrait of a famous marriage in ancient India tells the story of Yasodhara, wife of the Buddha, as intimately reimagined by the bestselling author of *Funny Boy*.

In this sweeping story, at once epic and startlingly intimate, Selvadurai introduces us to Siddhartha Gautama, otherwise known as the Buddha, a promising and politically astute young man settling into his life as a newlywed to Yasodhara, a young woman of great intelligence and spirit.

The novel traces their early life together, and then the unthinkable turmoil as Siddhartha's spiritual calling takes over and their partnership slowly, inexorably crumbles.

How does a woman live in ancient India if her husband abandons her? Even a well born woman with a revered husband? And what path might she take towards enlightenment herself? Selvadurai examines these questions with empathy and insight, creating a rich, strikingly relevant portrait of a singular marriage, and of the woman who until now has been a shadow in the historical record. MANSIONS OF THE MOON is a literary event, and a remarkable mo ment in a beloved author's career.

Shyam Selvadurai was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka and moved to Canada at age nineteen. *Funny Boy*, his first novel, was published to immediate acclaim, was a national bestseller, and won the W.H. Smith/Books in Canada First Novel Award and the Lambda Literary Award, and was named a Notable Book by the American Library Association. *Funny Boy* was adapted for film by Oscar nominee Deepa Mehta and premiered on CBC and Netflix in December 2020. *Cinnamon Gardens*, his second novel, was shortlisted for the Trillium Award and has been published in the U.S., U.K., India, Germany (Kiepenheuer & Witsch, Goldmann) and numerous other countries.

Kai Thomas

IN THE UPPER COUNTRY

Publisher
Viking

Spring 2023

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

UK Hodder & Stoughton



With an intricately-constructed narrative that weaves together the lives and delicate stories of its protagonists, readers of Esi Edugyan's *Washington Black* and Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad* will find themselves mesmerized by IN THE UPPER COUNTRY.

It's 1859, and the height of the Underground Railroad. Two gunshots break the calm of a summer evening in Dunmore, a black town at the southern tip of Canada. In the aftermath of the shooting, Lensinda Martin, a journalist and healer of the town, finds herself the interviewer of a very old woman whosetales push the bounds of what Lensinda is willing to believe.

With sheer proficiency, Thomas braids together unlikely stories of love, survival, and familial upheaval, that together echo the nuanced and layered experience of being a Black North American.

Kai Thomas is a graduate of University of Guelph's Creative Writing MFA, for which the manuscript of IN THE UPPER COUNTRY was his thesis work. He has worked on the land in various capacities: building, small-scale farming, outdoor educating, planting trees. His writing stems from those experiences. He is Afro-Canadian, born and raised in Ottawa, descended from Trinidad and the British isles. IN THE UPPER COUNTRY is his first novel, he is at work on his next.

Maria Adelmann

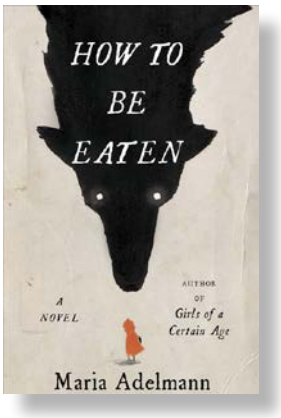
HOW TO BE EATEN

Publisher
Little, Brown

May 2022
282 pages

Client
Union Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Dark, edgy, and wickedly funny, this debut for readers of Carmen Maria Machado, Kristen Arnett, and Kelly Link takes our coziest, most beloved childhood stories, exposes them as anti-feminist nightmares, and transforms them into a new kind of myth for grown-up women.

In present-day New York City, Ruby (Little Red Riding Hood), Gretel, Bernice (Bluebeard's widow), Marlena (the miller's daughter from Rumplestiltskin), and Ashlee (the winner of a Love Island-esque dating show, a new kind of fairy tale heroine) all meet in a basement support group to process their traumas.

Though they start out wary of one another, judging each other's stories, gradually these women begin to realize that they may have more in common than they supposed…What brought them here? What will they reveal? And is it too late for them to rescue each other?

Maria Adelmann is the author of the short story collection *Girls of a Certain Age*, which explores the many impossible choices of modern girl and womanhood. Her work has been published by *Tin House*, *n+1*, *Electric Literature*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, *The Threepenny Review*, the *Indiana Review*, *Epoch*, *AQR*, *MQR*, and many others, and has been selected by The Best American Short Stories as a distinguished story. You can follow her on Twitter or Instagram @ink176. She lives in Denmark.

Upmarket

K.S. Covert

THE PETTING ZOOS

Publisher
Dundurn Press

Spring 2022
274 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A debut novel for fans of the HBO series *The Leftovers*.

Unsettling, philosophical and erotic by turns, this eerily prescient novel set a decade after a pandemic, but before the removal of mask-and-glove laws, looks at the necessity of human contact and the chaos that results from its scarcity. Not all the victims of the pandemic died.

Some just lost their lives. Now the biggest threat is isolation. Lily has been a hermit since her best friend, Sophie, abandoned her near-death just before the vaccine came online. But she is forced out of isolation when her editor assigns her a story about the petting zoos, a dangerous underground network of places where people go to touch and be touchedby strangers.

As Lily goes deeper into the zoos, and her relationship with the man who runs them, she rediscovers herself. But the more she opens up, the more vulnerable she becomes, forcing her to reckon with a dependency on human touch that comes at the expense of human connection.

K.S. Covert is a proud native of Nova Scotia, who has lived away from the ocean for too long. A former journalist she now works in communications. This is her first novel, she is at work on her next.

Upmarket

Danielle Daniel

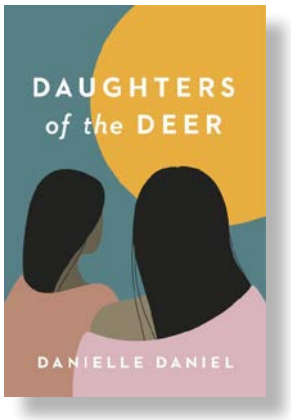
DAUGHTERS OF THE DEER

Publisher
Random House Canada

Spring 2022
344 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



For readers of Katherena Vermette's *The Break* and *The Book of Negroes* by Lawrence Hill.

DAUGHTERS OF THE DEER is a family story which centers on the marriage between Marie, our protagonist, an Algonkin woman from the Weskarini Deer Clan, and Pierre, a French settler from Cognac, France. Together they have many children and grandchildren, but their lives and those of future generations will forever be impacted by the story of their first born, two-spirited daughter, Jeanne.

There has been very little written about the Indigenous women's experience at the onset of colonization. Danielle Daniel's novel DAUGHTERS OF THE DEER will help shine a light into the past and create an essential link to our present-day crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Danielle Daniel is a Métis award-winning children's book author and illustrator. DAUGHTERS OF THE DEER is her first novel. Her memoir *The Dependent* was a finalist for a 2017 Northern Lit Award. Her multiple award winning picture books include *Sometimes I Feel Like a Fox* and *You Hold Me Up*. She has a forthcoming middle grade fiction novel with HarperCollins in 2021 and she is at work on her next adult novel, loosely linked to DAUGHTERS OF THE DEER.

Upmarket

Alison Espach

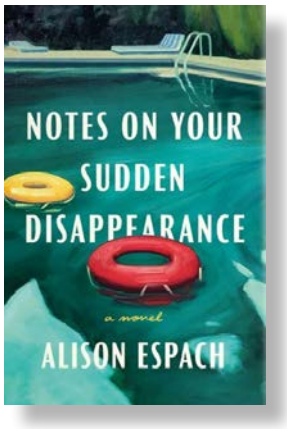
NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE

Publisher
Henry Holt

May 2022
352 pages

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE is a tender, funny coming of age tale. It's also a wrenching but delicately handled depiction of loss. And, ultimately, it's a moving and unconventional love story.

The summer before Sally Holt starts the 8th grade begins as a gloriously uneventful one, full of family trips to the beach and long afternoons at the local pool with her older sister Kathy, which they mostly use as an excuse to ogle Billy Barnes, who works the concession stand there. A rising senior and local basketball star, Billy has been an unending source of intrigue for both girls since he jumped off the school roof in fifth grade, and their fascination with him is one of the few things the increasingly different sisters have in common. By summer's end Billy and Kathy are an item – an unthinkable stroke of luck that ends in an even more unthinkable tragedy.

Set over the course of fifteen years, NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE is narrated by Sally as she addresses Kathy before, during and after Kathy's death. We watch as Kathy's absence creates a gaping hole that only Billy – now firmly off limits to Sally – understands and might possibly begin to fill. Charting years of their shared history and missed connections, NOTES is both a breathtaking love story between two broken people who are unexplainably, inconveniently drawn to each other, and a wry, sharply observant coming of age story that looks at the ways the people we love the most continue to shape our lives long after they're gone.

A deeply humane, compulsively readable novel for literary and upmarket literary lists, this will appeal to fans of *Ask Again, Yes* by Mary Beth Keane and the work of Celeste Ng.

Alison Espach is the author of the novel *The Adults,* a *New York Times'* Editor's Choice and a Barnes and Noble Discover pick. Her short story series *In-Depth Market Research Interviews with Dead People* is an Audible Original and her work has appeared in *McSweeney's*, *Vogue*, *Joyland*, *Glamour*, *Salon*, among other places. She teaches creative writing at Providence College in Rhode Island.

Upmarket

Bobbi French

THE GOOD WOMEN OF SAFE HARBOUR

Publisher
HarperCollins Canada

March 2022
277 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



An unforgettable, life-affirming novel about a woman living on her own terms at last and reclaiming the friendship of a lifetime, for readers of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Frye* and *Me Before You*.

Frances Delaney is staring down the last days of her life. Looking back over her 58 years with wit and no small amount of regret, she sees not the life she wanted but the one that happened. An idyllic childhood in the small Newfoundland fishing town of Safe Harbour was darkened by the loss of her father at sea, an unwanted pregnancy and a betrayal by her closest friend, Annie Malone. Frances and Annie were inseparable, and this rupture rocked Frances to the core. In the aftermath, she fled to St. John's and to a solitary life nothing like what she and Annie had dreamed of as their grand escape .

Now, with the help of her young, optimistic friend Edie, Frances begins a journey toward resolution and back to Annie and Safe Harbour. With these good women in her corner, Frances can at last chart her course to living on her own terms, right to t he very end.

A powerfully touching celebration of friendship and forgiveness, THE GOOD WOMEN OF SAFE HARBOUR is about a woman who finally gives herself a chance to love and be loved. It's a story that is impossible to read with dry eyes.

Bobbi French is a former psychiatrist and the author of *Finding Me in France*, a memoir that follows her year after leaving medicine to pursue writing. She lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Upmarket

Rae Meadows

MOTHERLAND

Publisher
Henry Holt

2023
352 pages

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Anja Kretschmann

Croatia Znanje



MOTHERLAND is set in 1970s Soviet Union in which a young girl whose mother has disappeared is tapped to be one of the chosen by the state-sponsored gymnastics machinery.

In 1973 Soviet Union, there was no greater honor for a young girl than to be chosen by the motherland to be a part of their famed gymnastics program. Eight year old Anya Yurievna is an unlikely candidate. She lives in Norilsk, north of the Arctic Circle, 3000 kilometers from Moscow. Her father is an alcoholic. Her mother, a former ballerina, disappeared three years ago. And her best friend is her elderly neighbor who spent ten years in the gulag as a political prisoner who fills her head with things Anya knows not to repeat.

When strong willed Anya is selected, everyone around her realizes there is really no choice. There is no free will in the Soviet Union. She will leave school, her friends, and her home, to train. She will give up everything to honor the motherland. She will risk her health, her family, her life, for gold, but she will never stop looking for her mother.

Rae Meadows is the author of *Calling Out*, which received the 2006 Utah Book Award for fiction, *No One Tells Everything*, a Poets & Writers Notable Novel, and the widely praised novel, *Mercy Train*. She lives with her husband and two daughters in Brooklyn, New York. https://raemeadows.com/

Upmarket

Nicholas Ruddock

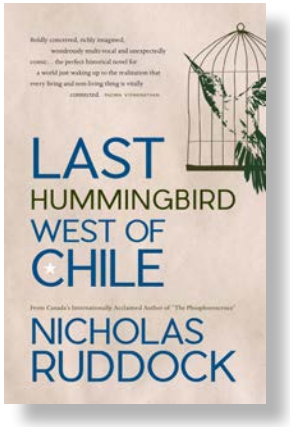
LAST HUMMINGBIRD WEST OF CHILE

Publisher
Breakwater Books

June 2021
296 pages

Client
Breakwater Books

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"Stunning! Absolutely stunning! I was captivated by the story and the story telling. To say it is beautifully written is an understatement! This is one of the best books I have read this year!"
—goodreads (Ramona Jennex)

Set in the 19th century, we follow the adventures of a young man with a good heart who defies his privileged upbringing. Narrated from the perspectives of humans, animals – and and old white oad tree.

A stunning work of imaginative fiction, LAST HUMMINGBIRD WEST OF CHILE spins a tale of adventure that is in turn comedic, violent, poignant and thoughtful. Through the exploits of a young sailor born in questionable circumstance and a pair of murderous servants, as well as an assortment of other 19th century regulars, the vital subjects of today – race, religion, sexuality, environment – are framed in history and human culture.

Through narration by human protagonists, a tree, a hummingbird, various beasts, and the landscape itself, Ruddock tells a story of colonialism and environment, brutality and privilege, and the best and worst of human nature.

Nicholas Ruddock is a Canadian physician and writer. He has won numerous international prizes and was shortlisted for the Moth International Poetry Award (Ireland) in 2020. His first novel, *The Parabolist* (2010), was shortlisted for the Toronto Book Award and the Arthur Ellis Award. His second novel, *Night Ambulance* (2016), was a Next Generation Indie Book Awards finalist. Nicholas has been published in numerous international publications in Canada, England, Northern Ireland, and Ireland. He lives in Guelph, Ontario.

Naben Ruthnum

A HERO OF OUR TIME

Publisher
McClelland & Stewart

January 2022
250 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A discomforting examination of racial politics and identity, akin to Rumaan Alam´s *That Kind of Mother*, combined with thte wit and topicality of Ben Lerner´s *The Topeka School*, A HERO OF OUR TIME is more than the novel we want, it´s the one we deserve.

Osman Shah is the son of a professor but has been exiled from his own family after taking a job at AAP – a higher education automating firm. He's confronted by his ethical failings when Olivia Robinson, an efficient and manipulative new hire from an evangelical background, begins to take control of the company. Robinson uses her ostentatious support for Osman's subject position to launch herself, and gradually uses the identities of racialized employees as political tools in her ascent.

The constantly self-ironizing Osman struggles to find a version of leadership he can accept and a stable vision of his own identity as he tries to expose Olivia's political machinations. Osman is a deeply drawn character, constantly self-critical and flawed in ways he never recognizes, but the reader will.

Award-winning author and screenwriter **Naben Ruthnum's** first novel *Find You in the Dark*, was an instant bestseller, an Arthur Ellis Awards finalist for Best First Novel and optioned for TV by eOne and sold in the UK/ANZ, Germany, Spain, and Azerbaijan. Now under development with Corus Entertainment, Naben is cowriting multiple episodes with showrunner Patrick Tarr. His latest thriller, *Your Life Is Mine*, also an instant bestseller, was recently optioned by Markham Street Productions. Ruthnum is cowriting his original series in development with Sphere Media called The Cuckoo Treatment. He is at work on two new thrillers under his Nathan Ripley pseudonym as well.

Sarai Walker

THE CHERRY ROBBERS

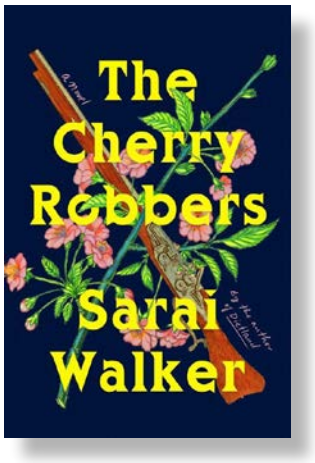
Publisher
HarperCollins

February 2022
495 pages

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann

UK Serpent's Tail
France Gallmeister
Russia Exmo



The highly anticipated second novel from Sarai Walker, following her "slyly subversive" *(EW)* cult-hit *Dietland* – a feminist gothic about the lone survivor of a cursed family of sisters, whose time may finally be up.

New Mexico, 2017: Sylvia Wren is one of the most important American artists of the past century. Known as a recluse, she avoids all public appearances. There's a reason: she's living under an assumed identity, having outrun a tragic past. But when a hungry journalist starts chasing her story, she's confronted with whom she once was: Iris Chapel.

Connecticut, 1950: Iris Chapel is the second youngest of six sisters, all heiresses to a firearms fortune. They've grown up cloistered in a palatial Victorian house, mostly neglected by their distant father and troubled mother, who believes that their house is haunted by the victims of Chapel weapons. The girls long to escape, and for most of them, the only way out is marriage. But not long after the first Chapel sister walks down the aisle, she dies of mysterious causes, a tragedy that repeats with the second, leaving the rest to navigate the wreckage, to heart-wrenching consequences.

Ultimately, Iris flees the devastation of her family, and so begins the story of Sylvia Wren. But can she outrun the family curse forever?

Sarai Walker is the author of *Dietland*, which was adapted for a television series. She received her MFA in creative writing from Bennington College. Her magazine articles appeared in national publications, including *Seventeen* and *Mademoiselle*. She subsequently served as an editor and writer for *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, before moving to London and then Paris to complete a PhD. She currently lives in New Mexico.

Monica Byrne

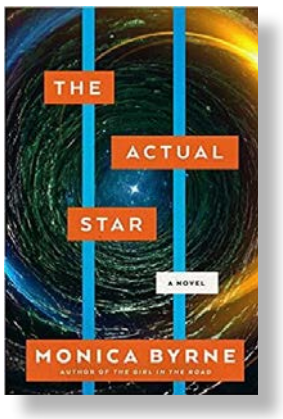
THE ACTUAL STAR

Publisher
Harper Voyager

Spring 2021
621 pages

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"Already drawing comparisons to Octavia Butler's *Earthseed* series and David Mitchell's *Cloud Atlas*, THE ACTUAL STAR is for those who love complexities and questions that transcend single lives."
—The Millions

"The Girl in the Road author Monica Byrne returns to stores with this sweeping sci-fi epic, which offers a brilliant origin story for humanity."
—Bustle

"THE ACTUAL STAR is a stone-cold masterpiece."
—New Scientist

David Mitchell's *Cloud Atlas* meets Octavia Butler's *Earthseed* series, as acclaimed author Monica Byrne spins a brilliant multi-generational saga spanning two thousand years, from the collapse of the ancient Maya to a far-future utopia on the brink of civil war.

THE ACTUAL STAR TAKES readers on a journey over thousands of years and six continents – collapsing three separate timelines into one mesmerizing cave in the jungles of Belize.

An epic saga of three reincarnated souls, this novel demonstrates the entanglements of tradition and progress, sister and stranger, love and hate. The book jumps forward and backward in time among a pair of twins who ruled a Maya kingdom, a young American on a trip of self-discovery, and two dangerous charismatics in a conflict that will determine the fate of the few humans left on Earth after massive climate change.

In each era, age-old questions about existence and belonging and identity converge deep underground. Because only in complete darkness can one truly see the stars.

Monica Byrne is a writer and playwright based in Durham, North Carolina. Her first novel, *The Girl in the Road* won the 2014 James Triptree Jr. Award, an annual literary prize for works of science fiction or fantasy that expand or explore our understanding of gender.

Delia Cai

CENTRAL PLACES

Publisher
Ballantine

Fall 2022
300 pages

Client
Frances Goldin Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A send-up of the age-old country mouse, city mouse fable as told through the lens of an intergenerational immigrant tale, CENTRAL PLACES combines a wicked sense of humor and propulsive plot with sharp social commentary about identity, family and belonging.

When her boyfriend Ben proposes, it seems like twenty-six-year-old Audrey Zhou really has it all: a handsome, successful fiancé, a skyrocketing career as a magazine sales rep, and an idyllic home in Brooklyn. The problem? She now finally has to introduce Ben to her strict Chinese immigrant parents, which means bringing him back to her tiny hometown, Hickory Grove: a place she hasn't visited since graduating high school and fleeing central Illinois eight years ago. Ben, with his born-and-bred New York upbringing and supportive WASP family, doesn't understand why Audrey never goes home, why she dreads fighting with her mom every time they're in the same room, or why she wants to avoid all her high school friends. Audrey is desperately hoping to just muddle through the week before retreating back to their real lives in New York.

But their visit to Hickory Grove becomes even more complicated when Audrey runs into an old high school flame. Kyle, an easygoing stoner and Audrey's longtime unrequited crush, knows what it's like to be an outsider in a small and overwhelmingly white town, and the connection between the two quickly rekindles despite the years apart. As Audrey and Kyle grow closer, and Ben struggles to fit in or to understand his fiancée's erratic behavior, Audrey begins to question the narratives she's constructed about her past. When her relationships with her family, Ben, and Kyle all reach a tipping point, Audrey must reexamine her fraught relationship to home before she shatters the new life she has so carefully built.

A darkly funny and intimate story – in the vein of Jenny Zhang, if she were to write a Hallmark movie – the novel will appeal to readers of *Queenie*, *Such a Fun Age*, and *Writers and Lovers*.

Delia Cai is a *Vanity Fair* staff writer, covering celebrity, style, and culture for the Vanities section. Previously, she was the trends lead at *BuzzFeed*, and is also the creator of the weekly media newsletter *Deez Links* (11K subscribers), which has been highlighted in *Vanity Fair*, *The New York Times*, and the *Columbia Journalism Review*. Her essays and reporting have appeared in *GQ* and *The Cut*.

Emma Cowell

ONE LAST LETTER FROM GREECE

Publisher
Avon

Summer 2022
380 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"A compelling and tender story, beautifully told by anexciting new voice."
—Santa Montefiore

"Emma Cowell tells an emotional, gripping tale about family secrets, love and loss… am reminded of page turners like *Eat, Pray, Love* and *Under the Tuscan Sun.*"
—*New York Times* bestselling author Adriana Trigiani

A warm, uplifting, romantic debut set in Greece for fans of Jojo Moyes and Victoria Hislop.

After the death of her artist mother, Sophie, a thirtysomething British woman decides to go to her mother's favourite place in Greece to track down an elusive lost painting of hers. There she finds unexpected love and adventure, and uncovers secrets about her mother's past that help her to re-evaluate her own life and move on.

Emma Cowell lives in Cornwall with her husband, Tony, and their fur baby, a Russian Blue called Papoushka Gerald Cowell. A former actress and BBC presenter Emma has worked in the fundraising division of children's palliative care for the last decade and is currently Head of Philanthropy for national charity Together for Short Lives. Segueing from being paid to talk for a living into writing was a natural progression, since story telling has been at the heart of her career to date. Outside of work, Emma is a keen angler and held a Cornish record for over 10 years until her crown was toppled. She is yet to get over it but tries to keep calm by practising yoga. Also, a keen linguist, Emma is attempting to learn Greek to maintain her love affair with the country where she has set her debut novel. She is yet to achieve a level of proficiency outside of tavernas and bakeries.

Tamara Goranson

THE VOYAGE OF FREYDIS

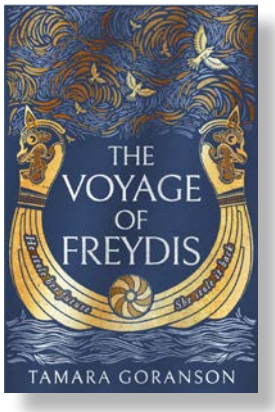
Publisher
HarperCollins UK

July 2021
358 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

Italy Mondadori



The Voyage of Freydis sings the silenced tale of Freydis Eiriksdöttir, the first and only woman to lead a Viking voyage across the Atlantic in this tempestuous retelling of the Vinland Sagas set at the dawn of the 11th century.

The year is 1000 AD. Freydis, daughter of the revered Norse explorer Erik the Red, finds herself traumatized and trapped in a merciless, abusive marriage. To break the chains of terror and shame that prevent her from divorcing her husband, Freydis becomes the first and only Norsewoman to lead a Viking expedition to North America. With her husband Thorvard of Gardar at her heels, Freydis embarks on a harrowing journey across the icy North Atlantic on a longboat bound for Vinland shores. Freydis must manage to survive with only the help of her fiercely protective companion Logatha, and Achak, an honourable man from a Beothuk tribe. When Thorvard hunts her down, Freydis is forced to make the ultimate sacrifice in order to save the lives of those she loves.

This is the first book in the *Vinland Vikings* Series, three books that offer revisionist accounts of the lives of the fierce Norsewomen whose stories have been neglected in the ancient Viking sagas… until now.

THE VOYAGE OF FREYDIS combines the unflinching historical authenticity of *The King's Daughter* by Suzanne Martel with the unforgiving setting of Michael Crummey's *The River Thieves* and the biting feminist lens of Pat Barker's *The Silence of the Girls*.

Tamara Goranson holds a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology as we as Adjunct Professor status at the University of Victoria in British Columbia. Her novels draw on her knowledge of the post-traumatic stress experiences endured by victims of violence, harassment, and discrimination. When she's not writing, she enjoys spending time outdoors hiking in the Canadian wilderness.

C. W. Gortner

THE AMERICAN ADVENTURESS

Publisher
William Morrow

May 2022
369 pages

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



A big, juicy biopic novel about the scandalous life of Jennie Jerome Churchill, mother of Winston, an heiress from New York who married into one of England's most storied families but who always lived life on her own terms.

Jennie was born in New York City to wealth – and scandal. When her parents separated, she and her sisters followed their mother to Paris, where the city became their finishing school. Determined to marry her daughters into the most elite families, Mrs. Jerome draped them in the finest gowns by Worth and introduced them at Queen Victoria's court.

Jennie quickly caught the eye of Randolph Spencer-Churchill, whose father, the Duke of Marlborough, was one of Britain's loftiest peers. But although the Marlboroughs' Bleinheim Palace was grander than Buckingham Palace, the family was cash-poor, and desperate to marry their sons to well-heeled American heiresses. Jennie wasn't prepared to stop at a duke's second son, though. With Randolph's tacit approval, she became mistress to the Prince of Wales, a celebrated bon vivant and womanizer. Their friendship, which lasted decades, greatly bolstered Jennie's social fortunes – and Randolph's career ambitions.

But with great highs came great lows. Randolph's life was cut short, and after losing him, Jennie dove into a disastrous marriage to George Cornwallis-West, much to the dismay of her two sons, who were the same age as their new stepfather. But as Winston began his own brilliant political career, it was Jennie who proved his most valuable supporter. And when she cast off her second husband and took on a third in the midst of the Great War, the American adventuress truly came into her own.

Internationally bestselling author, **C.W. Gortner** is the author of *The Romanov Empress* (Ballantine 2018), *Marlene* (William Morrow 2016) and *Mademoiselle Chanel* (2015), as well as the other acclaimed historicals: *The Last Queen* (Ballantine 2008), *The Confessions of Catherine de Medici* (2010), *The Queen's Vow* (2012), *The Vatican Princess* (2016), and *The First Actress* (2020). He also writes *The Spymaster Chronicles*, a historical thriller series including *The Tudor Secret* (St. Martin's 2011), *The Tudor Conspiracy* (2013), and *The Tudor Vendetta* (2014). He was named one of the top ten historical novelists by *The Washington Independent Review of Books*.

C. W. Gortner & M. J. Rose

TO CATCH A LEOPARD

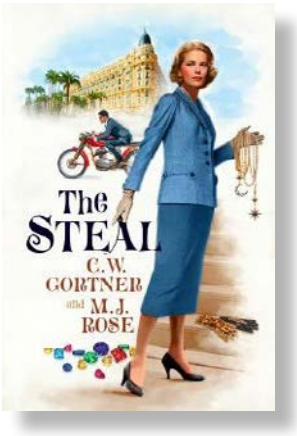
Book 1: The Steal

Publisher
Blue Box Press

August 2021
157 pages

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



"Taut, sexy, and dripping with old Hollywood glamour, The Steal is immersive, propulsive fun."
–Christina Lauren, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Unhoneymooners*

"High-speed chases, explosive secrets, and sudden romance abound as (an) unlikely pair chases a master thief across the sun-drenched Riviera to postwar Paris and beyond. The Steal is a sparkling gem of a tale from start to finish!"
–Kate Quinn, *New York Times bestselling* author of *The Rose Code*

A nail-biting romantic caper told in a 3-part novella series by bestselling authors C.W. Gortner and M.J. Rose!

They say diamonds are a girl's best friend – until they're stolen. Ania Thorne is devoted to her jewelry company. The daughter of one of the world's most famous jewelers, she arrives in Cannes with a stunning new collection. But a shocking theft by the notorious thief known as the Leopard throws her into upheaval – and plunges her on an unexpected hunt that challenges everything she believes. Jerome Curtis thinks he's seen it all, especially when it comes to crime. Until he's hired to investigate the loss of Ania Thorne's collection, his every skill put to the test as he chases after a mysterious master-mind responsible for some of the costliest heists in history – and finds himself in a tangled web with a woman he really shouldn't fall in love with.

From the fabled Carlton Hotel to the elegant boulevards of Paris, Ania and Jerome must race against time to catch a thief before the thief catches them. With everything on the line, can they solve the steal or will the steal take more than diamonds from them? Set in the late 1950s, THE STEAL is a romantic caper by bestselling authors C.W. Gortner and M.J. Rose.

Internationally bestselling author, **C. W. Gortner** is the author of *The Romanov Empress* (Ballantine 2018), *Marlene* (William Morrow 2016) and *Mademoiselle Chanel* (2015), as well as the other acclaimed historicals: *The Last Queen* (Ballantine 2008), *The Confessions of Catherine de Medici* (2010), *The Queen's Vow* (2012), *The Vatican Princess* (2016), and *The First Actress* (2020). He also writes *The Spymaster Chronicles*, a historical thriller series including *The Tudor Secret* (St. Martin's 2011), *The Tudor Conspiracy* (2013), and *The Tudor Vendetta* (2014). He was named one of the top ten historical novelists by *The Washington Independent Review of Books*.

New York Times, *USAToday*, *WSJ* bestseller **M. J. Rose** grew up in New York City exploring the labyrinthine galleries of the Metropolitan Museum and the dark tunnels and lush gardens of Central Park. She is the author of more than twenty novels and published in more than 30 countries. The TV series *Past Life*, was based on Rose's novel, *The Reincarnationist*. Rose is also the founder of the first marketing company for authors, AuthorBuzz.com, and co-founder of Evil Eye Press/Blue Box Press. She lives in Greenwich, Connecticut. Visit her online at www.MJRose.com.

Justin Myers

THE FAKE-UP

Publisher
Sphere

2022
384 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency/Lewinsohn Literary

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



The new novel by acclaimed novelist Justin Myers – a commercial rom-com that sees him move imprints to Sphere.

Dylan and Flo aren't quite star-crossed lovers, but sometimes it feels like the world is against them. Whether it's cliquey friends or unsupportive family, their relationship is under a constant microscope. So, together, they decide to stage a break-up – vowing to prove to the cynics that they can't live without each other… But when this time apart unexpectedly leads to the success they've both spent years chasing, a reunion becomes more difficult than the pair could have anticipated. Is love really all you need?

Justin Myers is a writer from Shipley, Yorkshire, who now lives in London. After years working in journalism, he began his popular blog *The Guyliner* in 2010. Justin spent five years writing dating and relationship advice for *Gay Times*, before joining British *GQ* as a weekly columnist in 2016. His work has appeared in a number of publications including *The Guardian*, *The I*, *Sunday Times Style* and *The Irish Times*. His debut novel, *The last Romeo*, was published in 2018, and a second, *The Magnificent Sons*, was published in 2020.

Joe Portman

LATER

Publisher
Welbeck

July 2022
282 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency/Lewinsohn Literary

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



LATER is a work of contemporary, commercial up-lit fiction with shades of Nick Hornby's *High Fidelity* and David Nicholls' *Us*.

Despite a lifelong love of travel, Pete Smith has lost his wanderlust and navigated himself to a place of self-pity not previously discovered by male explorers. His wife has divorced him and is having the time of her life, his children have flown the nest and his business is failing. The last thing he wants is his daughter's ex-boyfriend living with him. But, despite all Pete's attempts to kick him out, Niall turns out to be exactly what he needs. And the love of this man and a new friendship with his ex-wife are going to be his salvation.

LATER is funny, emotional and insightful about relationships and mental health. It looks unflinchingly at how unhappy it's possible to be while considering oneself fundamentally happy, and how hard it can be to ask for help. It's an everyday story of love, loss and redemption.

Tom Connolly (the author's real name) is the writer of two novels, *The Spider Truces* and *Men Like Air*, which were published as literary fiction by Myriad, and were well received; the first longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize, and shortlisted for the Writers' Guild of Great Britain Award. He intends to keep writing literary fiction, while simultaneously he wants to write — under the name **Joe Portman** — a series of up-lit novels, and LATER is the first of these.

Kate Thompson

THE LITTLE WARTIME LIBRARY

Publisher
Hodder & Stoughton

Spring 2022

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A gripping and heart-wrenching page-turner that remembers one of the greatest resistance stories of the war – based on a true story.

London, 1944. Clara Button is no ordinary librarian. While the world remains at war, in East London Clara has created the country's only underground library, built over the tracks in the disused Bethnal Green tube station. Down here a secret community thrives: with thousands of bunk beds, a nursery, a café and a theatre offering shelter, solace and escape from the bombs that fall above.

Along with her glamorous best friend and library assistant Ruby Munroe, Clara ensures the library is the beating heart of life underground. But as the war drags on, the women's determination to remain strong in the face of adversity is tested to the limits when it seems it may come at the price of keeping those closest to them alive.

Kate Thompson is an award-winning journalist, ghostwriter and novelist. She spent five years' working on national newspapers such as the *Daily Express* and *Daily Mail*, and also on all the major national woman's magazine titles. Over the past seven years, she has concentrated on writing ten fiction and non-fiction titles. Her debut novel, *Secrets of the Singer Girls*, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller in 2015, with first week sales of over 10,000. It has recently been optioned by Bandit Television. Kate's first non-fiction book, which uncovers the lives of extraordinary women of wartime East End, *The Stepney Doorstep Society*, was published by Penguin (Michael Joseph) in February 2019 and reached number one in the history categories on Amazon.

Helene Wecker

THE HIDDEN PALACE

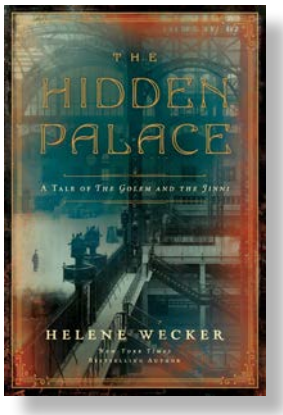
A Tale of the Golem and the Jinni

Publisher
Harper

June 2021
480 pages

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"A continuous delight – provocative, atmospheric, and superbly paced."
—Boston Globe

"Magical in all kinds of ways."
—USA Today

"(A) spellbinding blend of fantasy and historical fiction."
—Publishers Weekly

In this enthralling historical epic, set in New York City and the Middle East in the years leading to World War I Helene Wecker revisits her beloved characters Chava and Ahmad as they confront unexpected new challenges in a rapidly changing human world.

Chava is a golem, a woman made of clay, able to hear the thoughts and longings of the people around her and compelled by her nature to help them. Ahmad is a jinni, a perpetually restless and free-spirited creature of fire, imprisoned in the shape of a man. Fearing they'll be exposed as monsters, these magical beings hide their true selves and pretend to be human – just two more immigrants in the bustling world of 1900s Manhattan. Having encountered each other under calamitous circumstances, Chava and Ahmad's lives are now entwined – but they're not yet certain of what they mean to each other. Each has unwittingly affected the humans around them. Park Avenue heiress Sophia Winston, whose brief encounter with Ahmad left her with a strange illness that makes her shiver with cold, travels to the Middle East to seek a cure. There she meets a tempestuous female jinni who's been banished from her tribe. Back in New York, in a tenement on the Lower East Side, a little girl named Kreindel helps her rabbi father build a golem they name Yossele – not knowing that she's about to be sent to an orphanage uptown, where the hulking Yossele will become her only friend and protector.

Spanning the tumultuous years from the turn of the twentieth century to the beginning of World War I, THE HIDDEN PALACE follows these lives and others as they collide and interleave. Can Chava and Ahmad find their places in the human world while remaining true to each other? Or will their opposing natures and desires eventually tear them apart – especially once they encounter, thrillingly, other beings like themselves?

Helene Wecker's first novel, *The Golem and the Jinni* (German rights available, previously Hoffmann & Campe) was awarded the Mythopoeic Award for Adult Literature, the VCU Cabell Award for First Novel, and the Harold U. Ribalow Prize. A Midwest native, Wecker holds a BA in English and an MFA in Fiction Writing from Columbia University. Her work has appeared in literary journals and fantasy anthologies. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and children.

Jane Wenham-Jones

OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER

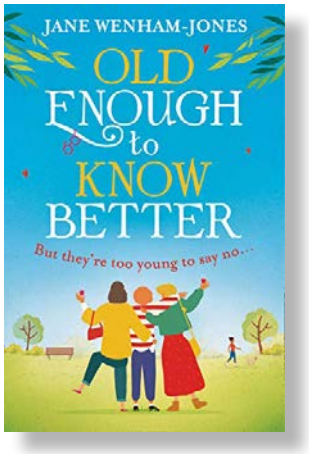
Publisher
Harper Collins UK

September 2021
260 pages

Client
Teresa Chris Literary Agency

Slovenia HKZ

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"So real, wise and funny… an absolute triumph!"
—Katie Fforde

It's never too late to have fun in this heart-warming and hilarious new novel for fans of Judy Leigh's *Five French Hens* and *The Old Girls' Network!*

When her twenty-something daughter, Ellie, brings home a new boyfriend, Clare can't put her finger on why she feels rattled by it. Is it because he's attractive and closer to her in age? Or maybe she's just jealous because all of her husband's passion seems to go into maintaining his wine cellar. Ellie's colleague, Anna, is feeling restless too. She's much younger than her husband and is still in her prime, and definitely isn't ready for crosswords and comfy slippers. When a new colleague starts to show a great deal of interest in her, it ignites a spark of attraction that feels impossible to ignore.

They say age isn't everything – can the women focus on what really matters and live life, and love, to the full?

Jane Wenham-Jones is a novelist, journalist, columnist and presenter. She is the author of five novels and three non-fiction books and has regular columns in *Woman's Weekly Fiction* and *Writing Magazine*, where she is the agony aunt. Her features and articles are published in a wide range of magazines and national newspapers and she has appeared at many literary festivals as an interviewer, "in conversation with" hundreds of top authors and celebrities. She has hosted the RoNas – Romantic Novel of the Year Awards – for the past seven years and is a frequent guest on BBC radio. Very sadly Jane passed away a few weeks ago. She will be greatly missed.

Steve Almond

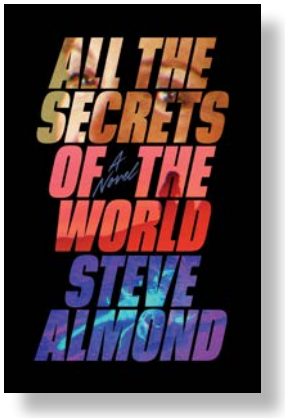
ALL THE SECRETS

Publisher
First acquisition and lead title for Molly Stern´s newly founded independent publishing company Zando

April 2022
400 pages

Client
Union Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"Almond, a master of the short form, has now set himself loose on a vast canvas, giving us a rollicking, wide-ranging, unpredictable novel – part crime story, part coming-of-age, part satire, part deadly serious. This book is sharp, fast-moving, juicy… a wild ride and a great deal of fun."
—Rebecca Makkai, Pulitzer finalist for *The Great Believers*

"With one unexpected twist after another, Steve Almond pulls you into this wild and engrossing novel about family, scorpions, and the rules of attraction... He shrewdly dissects the social and emotional landscape of 1980s California and creates a true page-turner."
—Hector Tobar, author of *The Barbarian Nurseries*

For fans of *Little Fires Everywhere* and *Breaking Bad*, Steve Almond's long-awaited debut novel is a propulsive tour de force by a beloved literary figure.

It's 1981 in Sacramento and 13-year-old Lorena Saenz has just been paired with Jenny Stallworth for the science fair by a well-meaning teacher hoping to unite two girls from starkly different worlds. The unlikely friendship they form will draw their families into a web of secrets and lies, one that sends Lorena on an unforgiving odyssey through the desert, past the gates of a religious cult in Mexico, and into the dark heart of America's criminal justice system.

A sweeping social novel, ALL THE SECRETS OF THE WORLD introduces readers to a cast of indelible characters while illuminating the moment in U.S. national history when the call for law and order became the dominant force within the public life.

Steve Almond is the author of ten books of fiction and nonfiction, including the *New York Times* bestsellers *Candyfreak* and *Against Football*. He teaches Creative Writing at the Neiman Fellowship at Harvard and Wesleyan, as well as Hugo House, Grub Street, and numerous literary conferences. His essays and reviews have been widely published in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *GQ*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Poets & Writers*, *Tin House*, and *Ploughshares*. His journalism has received numerous awards including the top national prize for feature writing from the Society of Professional Journalists.

Scarlett Brade

THE HIVE

Publisher
Zaffre

August 2022
200 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A fresh and unique psychological thriller. *I May Destroy You* meets *My Sister The Serial Killer* with a dash of *Queenie* thrown in too.

Set in London, THE HIVE opens with Charlotte Goodwin's chilling Instagram live stream and a public poll on whether or not she should murder her ex-boyfriend, professional boxer, Lincoln Jackson. She does it anyway, sending shockwaves through the social media community. Surely there's no way she could get away with that?

This novel isn't just a thriller — it's a story of love, obsession, and, most of all, sisterhood. It explores the toxic side of social media and yet cleverly uses Instagram as one of its hooks.

Scarlett Brade is the daughter of parents who migrated from the Caribbean to England in the early 1970s. She was born and educated in London, and is a keen theatre, music and Arsenal FC fan. As a child she spent her summers in Toronto, Canada which is where she developed her love affair with reading. She read her first *Harry Potter* book at the age of six and completed her own full-length novel by the age of twenty three. When not writing, Scarlett spends most of her time cooking, drinking fine wines, and entertaining family and friends.

William R. Dean

FIRST BORN

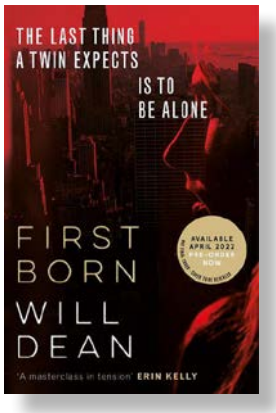
Publisher
Hodder & Stoughton

April 2022
350 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

US/Canada Simon & Schuster

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"Intense, gripping, taut, terrifying, moving, and brilliant prose"
–Lisa Jewell

A compelling psychological thriller about the dark secrets that emerge when a woman's twin sister is murdered, with Will Dean's signature.

Molly lives a quiet, contained life in London. Naturally risk averse, she gains comfort from security and structure. Every day the same. Her identical twin Katie is her exact opposite: gregarious and spontaneous. They used to be inseparable, until Katie moved to New York a year ago. Molly still speaks to her daily without fail.

But when Molly learns that Katie has died suddenly in New York, she is thrown into unfamiliar territory. Katie is part of her DNA. As terrifying as it is, she must go there and find out what happened. As she tracks her twin's last movements, cracks begin to emerge. Nothing is what it seems. And a web of deceit is closing around her.

Will Dean grew up in the East Midlands, living in nine different villages before the age of eighteen. After studying law at the LSE, and working many varied jobs in London, he settled in rural Sweden with his wife. He built a wooden house in a boggy forest clearing and it's from this base that he compulsively reads and writes. Will's novel *Red Snow* won Best Independent Voice in the Amazon Publishing Readers' Awards 2019. *Black River* was longlisted for the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year 2020. Will Dean's first standalone, *The Last Thing to Burn*, was a widely reviewed, word-of-mouth sensation.

Paul Finch

NEVER SEEN AGAIN

Publisher
Orion

Spring 2022
432 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



“A born storyteller.”
—Peter James

“A fast-paced, terrifying journey.”
—Rachel Abbott

A new standalone for the *Sunday Times* best-selling author

Jodie Martindale and her boyfriend were kidnapped a decade ago. Her boyfriend was found dead the next week. Jodie was never seen again.

Journalist David Kelman, once a hotshot but now washed up, illegally comes into possession of Jodie’s brother’s old phone. And on that phone is an unheard voicemail from two years ago.

The voice is unmistakeably that of Jodie Martindale. The message begins an obsession for Kelman – which takes him down a rabbit hole of lies, to a dark and deadly truth…

A former cop and journalist, **Paul Finch** was a writer for British TV crime drama, *The Bill*. Paul wrote two series for Avon (HarperCollins). *The Heck series* has so far reached combined sales of nearly half a million, and the *Lucy Clayburn series* shot him into the *Sunday Times* bestseller list. Winner of the British Fantasy Award 2002 & 2007, and the International Horror Guild Award 2007, he has also written four *Doctor Who* audio dramas and his *Doctor Who* novel, *Hunter’s moon*, was published by Woodland Books in 2011.

Matt Goldman

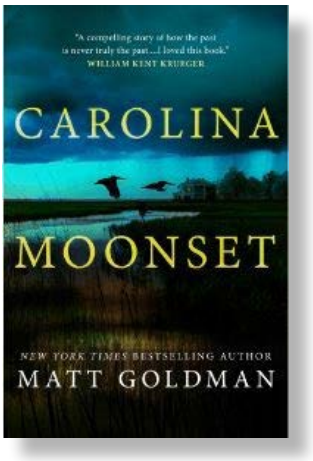
CAROLINA MOONSET

Publisher
Forge

May 2022
301 pages

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Anja Kretschmann



Both suspenseful and deeply moving, CAROLINA MOONSET is an engrossing novel about family, memories both golden and terrible, and secrets too dangerous to stay hidden forever, from *New York Times* bestselling and Emmy Award-winning author, Matt Goldman.

Joey Green has returned to Beaufort, South Carolina, with its palmettos and shrimp boats, to look after his ailing father, who is succumbing to dementia, while his overstressed mother takes a break. Marshall Green's short-term memory has all but evaporated, but, as if in compensation, his oldest memories are more vivid than ever. His mind keeps slipping backwards in time, retreating into long-ago yesterdays of growing up in Beaufort as a boy.

At first this seems like a blessing of sorts, with the past providing a refuge from a shrinking future, but Joey grows increasingly anxious as his father's hallucinatory arguments with figures from his youth begin to hint at deadly secrets, scandals, and suspicions long buried and forgotten. Resurfacing from decades past are mysteries that still have the power to shatter lives – and change everything Joey thought he knew. Especially when a new murder brings the police to his door.

Matt Goldman is a playwright and Emmy Award-winning television writer for *Seinfeld*, *Ellen*, and other shows. He brings his signature storytelling abilities and light touch to his *New York Times* Bestselling *Nils Shapiro* series (Forge Books). He lives in Minnesota with his wife, two dogs, two cats, and whichever children happen to be around.

Susan Juby

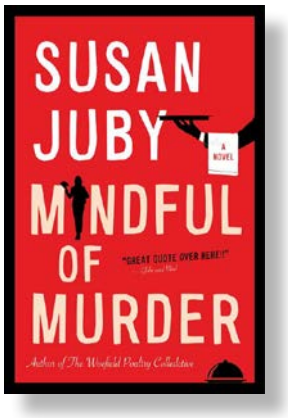
MINDFUL OF MURDER

Publisher
HarperCollins

Spring 2022
480 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"Hilarious, deliciously provocative, and slyly thought-provoking."
—*Kirkus Reviews (starred)*, on *The Truth Commission*

"Genuinely funny and tremendously charming."
—*National Post*, on *The Woefield Poultry Collective*

Knives Out meets P. G. Wodehouse, in the hands of a gifted novelist acclaimed for her originality and wit.

Meet Helen Thorpe. She's smart, preternaturally calm, deeply insightful and a freshly trained butler. On the day she is supposed to start her career as an unusually equanimous domestic professional, serving one of the wealthiest families in the world, she is called back to a spiritual retreat where she used to work, the Yatra Institute, on one of British Columbia's gulf islands. The owner of the lodge, Helen's former employer Edna, has died while on a three month silent self retreat, leaving Helen instructions to settle her affairs.

But Edna's will is more detailed than most, and getting things in order means Helen must run the retreat for a select group to determine which of Edna's relatives will inherit the institute. Helen's classmates, newly minted butlers themselves, decide they can't let her do it alone and arrive to help Helen pull things off. After all, is there anything three butlers can't handle?

As Helen carries out the will's instructions, she begins to think that someone had reason to want Edna dead. A reluctantly suspicious investigator, Helen and her band of butlers find themselves caught up in the mystery.

Susan Juby is the author of eight acclaimed, internationally published titles for middle grade and young adult readers, a memoir, and two novels. She won the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour for *Republic of Dirt*, and was nominated for the Edgar Award and the Arthur Ellis Award for *Getting the Girl*.

Sonya Lalli

ARE YOU SARA?

Publisher
Harper Canda

Summer 2022
294 pages

Client
The Cooke International Agency

US William Morrow

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A fresh and twisty take on the thriller genre sold in six-figure-pre-empts to Harper in Canada and William Morrow in the U.S.

In a picturesque, spooky university town (think Notre Dame or Cornell), Sara is a struggling law student working at a campus bar. One night, after a long shift, she mistakenly switches rideshares with a patron, another younger student with the same name (Sarah). When Sara finally makes it back home after the mix-up, she finds the other Sarah murdered on her doorstep.

Not quite the "good Indian girl" others perceive, Sara is convinced that she was the real target. Fearing for her life, Sara tries to find out who killed Sarah before it's too late, all while struggling to pay for law school (without alarming her hardworking immigrant parents and teenage sister) and distancing herself from a questionable, dark past and acquaintances.

Sonya Lalli is a romance and women's fiction author of *Punjabi and Bengali heritage*. Her books have been featured in *Entertainment Weekly*, *NPR*, *The Washington Post*, *Glamour*, *The Globe and Mail*, *CBC*, *Toronto Star* and more. Her debut novel *The Matchmaker's List* was a Target Diverse Book Club Pick and a Cityline Book Club Pick. She writes psychological thrillers under the pen name S.C. Lalli and lives in Vancouver with her husband.

Hannah Mary McKinnon

NEVER COMING HOME

Publisher
Mira Books

May 2022
370 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Marriage makes an honest man out of you. At least, it's supposed to.

Lucas Forester didn't hate his wife. Sure, Michelle had extravagant spending habits, that petty attitude, a total disregard for anyone below her status. But she also had wealth that only the one percent could comprehend. For years, Lucas has honeda flawless plan to inherit Michelle's fortune. Unfortunately,it involves taking a hit out on her. Every track is covered, no trace left behind, and now Lucas plays the grieving husband. But when a photo and note show up, Lucas goes from hunter to prey.

Told with dark wit and a sharply feminist sensibility, AN HONEST MAN is a terrifying tale of duplicity that will have you side-eyeing your spouse as you dash to the breathtaking end.

Hannah Mary McKinnon is the author of *You Will Remember Me* (Mira Books, 2021), *Sister Dear* (Mira Books, 2020), the national bestseller *Her Secret Son* (Mira Books, 2019), and the critically acclaimed domestic suspense tale *The Neighbours* (Mira Books, 2018). She lives in the Toronto area with her family.

Iain Reid

WE SPREAD

Publisher
Scout Press

Fall 2022
150 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

Canada Simon & Schuster
UK Scribner
Film Anonymous Content



“Reid fuses suspense with philosophy, psychology, and horror… Capped with an ending that will shock and chill, this twisty tale invites multiple readings.”
—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review) for *I´m Thinking of Ending Things*

“Reid proves once again that he is a master of atmosphere and suspense. Readers won’t be able to put this one down.”
—*Publishers Weekly* on *Foe*

“Foe… [is] one of the most unsettling novels of the year.”
—*Literary Review of Canada*

From the bestselling author of *Foe*, in development with award-winning director Garth Davis, and *I’m Thinking of Ending Things* (rights sales in 24 countries), premiering Sept 2020 on Netflix, written and directed by Academy Award winning director Charlie Kaufman, comes Iain Reid’s new novel, WE SPREAD.

Penny is getting older and requires care – she knows that. And yet the home she finds herself in doesn’t always feel like a home. She remembers the past, recalls a time when she led a different life altogether, and yet here, in this place, her past feels remote and illusory, and in her present, she feels stalked.

There’s also the issue of Hilbert, another resident in the home. He’s a kind and gentle man, one of the few people she can really talk to – about the past, about the present, and about the strange, nagging feeling she has that someting in this place isn’t quite right.

Is her memory playing tricks on her, or is there something more sinister going on in this residence that isn’t really her home? Are she and Hilbert being watched? Are they being studied? Why are they never allowed out? And what really exists beyond the windows of this facility and in the dark forest outside its doors?

A mind-bending, genre-defying novel, WE SPREAD is a work of philosophical suspense that questions our understanding of aging, existence, and community.

Iain Reid is the author of two critically acclaimed, award-winning books of nonfiction. A recipient of the prestigious RBC Taylor Emerging Writer Award, Reid has written for a variety of publications, including *The New Yorker*. WE SPREAD is his highly anticipated third novel.

Lia Middleton

YOUR WORD OR MINE

Publisher
Penguin

June 2022
384 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

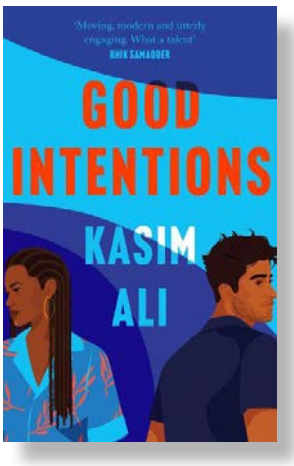


A gripping thriller for fans of *Anatomy of a Scandal*.

A traumatic event in Ava Knight's past drove her to becoming a prosecutor set on ensuring that guilty people do not evade justice. But that all changes when, one day in court, she reads a name in a file: Michael Osborne, the man who attacked her eighteen years ago. The man they let go.

But Michael isn't the defendant – he is the victim of a violent stabbing. And his assailant is teenager Lily Hawthorne who pleads guilty without hesitation. Is Lily another victim or is she really guilty? Is Ava's past blinding her to the apparent truth? And now that her attacker is back within her grasp, how far will Ava go to make sure he doesn't escape punishment again?

Lia Middleton is a barrister who specialises in crime and prison law, and lives with her husband and two young children in Buckinghamshire. Also available is Lia's first novel, *When they find her*, which was an Apple Books Number 1 bestseller, garnered high praise from reviewers and received over a thousand 4/5 star reviews on Amazon.



Kasim Ali
GOOD INTENTIONS

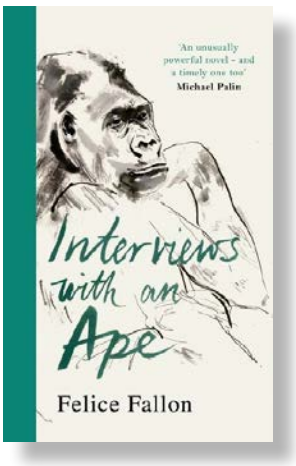
Publisher
4th Estate, Spring 2022

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

NA Henry Holt
Russia Eksmo

GOOD INTENTIONS is a fresh, contemporary novel about navigating your early twenties, defining identity outside of the family, exploring sexuality and pursuing love despite all the obstacles that culture, race and religion can throw at you.

„GOOD INTENTIONS is a magnificent and messy love story that broke my heart. Bittersweet and tender… This is a novel for anyone who has ever known what it is to be conflicted in falling in love, feeling the expectations of our families but also ourselves; it is for anyone who has ever felt their heart breaking under the weight of it all."
—Huma Qureshi, author of *How We Met*



Felice Fallon
INTERVIEWS WITH AN APE

Publisher
Arrow, June 2021

Contact
Anja Kretschmann

INTERVIEWS WITH AN APE is a book about all of us. Our pasts and our presents and the way we see the world. It's about despair and the triumph of hope, about our infinite capacities to endure and to love – and how we survive through the tales we tell. It is a story of beginnings and endings, destruction and restoration. A story of homecoming told through a remarkable gorilla called Einstein. Felice Fallon's debut is a work of imaginative daring, written with a direct simplicity, yet deep insight. The novel's many voices will linger long in the memory and the heart.

"An unusually powerful novel – and a timely one too."
—Michael Palin

"Wise, subtly political and above all compassionate."
—Alice Hughes, *Buzz Magazine*



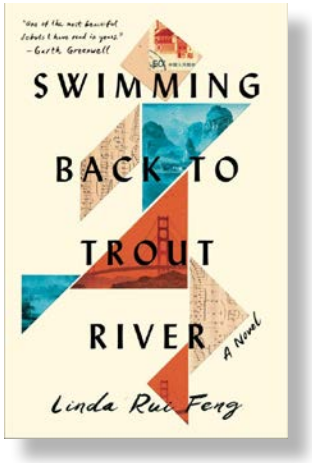
Paul Serge Forest
TOUT EST ORI

Publisher
VLB éditeur, March 2021

Contact
Anja Kretschmann

Prix Robert-Cliche
du premier roman 2021
Finalist Governor General's Literary Awards 2021

A contemporary story and crazy family saga that is anchored in the history and geography of Quebec, with a very universal appeal. The Lelarge family quietly lords over the seafood trade on the northern shores of the Gulf of the St. Lawrence. One day, a mysterious visitor, member of the Isumi Hues, Pigments, Colours, Mollusks and Shellfish Conglomerate, makes his arrival. Nobody knows at first that Mori Ishikawa has made an invention that will come to change the course of history. Nobody, that is, except for Frédéric Goyette, an official from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and a lover of aquavit and fusion jazz, and Laurie, the younger, rebellious Lelarge daughter, on whom Ishikawa exerts an irrepressible attraction.



Linda Rui Feng

SWIMMING BACK TO TROUT RIVER

Publisher
Simon & Schuster, May 2021

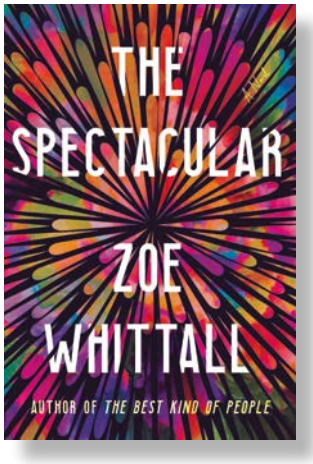
Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

Shortlisted for the 2021 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize
Longlisted for the 2021 Scotiabank Giller Prize

A lyrical novel set against the backdrop of China's Cultural Revolution that follows a father's quest to reunite his family before his precocious daughter's momentous birthday.

"With lean prose and assured storytelling, this debut novel describes a family fractured by geography, ambition and the ripple effects of China's tumultuous 20th-century history."
—New York Times Book Review

"Filled with tragedy yet touched with life-affirming passion."
—Kirkus Reviews (starred Review)



Zoe Whittall

THE SPECTACULAR

Publisher
Harper Canada, August 2021

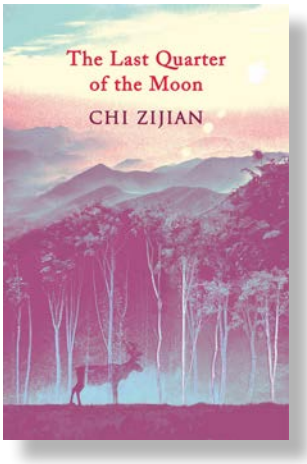
Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

UK Hodder & Stoughton

A rebellious young musician reconnects with the matriarchs in her family as three generations of women strive for real freedom in this brilliant novel of family, sexuality, and feminism from the acclaimed author of *The Best Kind of People*.

"Whittall's knockout novel is a multigenerational riot of grrrl-hood and womanhood, a brisk and wistful tour through the ambivalence of responsibility."
—Oprah Daily

"Zoe Whittall's taut novel THE SPECTACULAR **has all the trappings to become the season's dishiest read. It's also a gem of literary fiction… In Whittall's smart and capable hands, these unconventional women are given the space to experience their full, complicated lives."**
—BookPage



Chi Zijian

THE LAST QUARTER OF THE MOON

Publisher
October Arts & Literatur, 2006

Contact
Anja Kretschmann

UK Vintage
Netherlands House of Books
France Picquier
Italy Corbaccio
Turkey Dedalus
Korea Dulnyouk
Japan Hakusui-sha

Mao Dun Literature Prize

Winner China's highest literary honor, the Mao Dun Literature Prize, Chi Zijian's novel is an elegiac tale of the Evenki tribe. They wander the remote forests of north-eastern China with herds of reindeer, living in close sympathy with nature at its most beautiful and cruel. This is a dazzling epic about an extraordinary woman bearing witness to a vanishing way of life and the transformation of China.