

Belletristik

Herbst 2023

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Victoria Amelina

DOM'S DREAM KINGDOM

Publisher

Old Lion Publishing House

2024

384 pages

Client

Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact

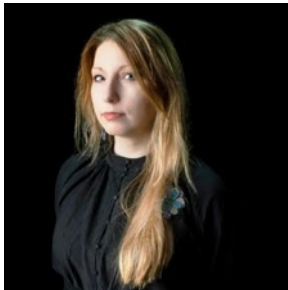
Leonie Kess



Poland Wrocławski Dom Literatury
Spain Avizor Ediciones
UK under offer



Finalist for Lviv UNESCO City of
Literature Prize
Finalist for the European Prize for
Literature
Winner of the Joseph Conrad Literary
Award



"Amelina left us a children's book, poetry, several essays, two novels and an unfinished nonfiction book of testimonies about the war, collected in Ukraine during the last 16 months. She wrote this book in English to speed up its delivery to foreign readers. She felt the world lacks a clear understanding of what is happening in Ukraine. I am sure that this book, WAR AND JUSTICE DIARY: LOOKING AT WOMEN LOOKING AT WAR, will be published in its unfinished state."

—Andrey Kurkov in seinem Nachruf auf Victoria Amelina

DOM'S DREAM KINGDOM tells the story of a city with a dramatic history, where the silences about past wars and mass murders are so unbearable that only an abandoned dog can trace the secrets and "speak" for the people who still cannot speak for themselves.

The story follows three generations of the family of an old Soviet military pilot – a Korean war veteran – who settle in a city once a cultural centre of Europe, a place variously called Lemberg, Lwów, Lvov, and Lviv. The apartment that this Soviet family has inhabited since the '70s is, by coincidence, the former childhood home of Stanislaw Lem. A Polish writer of Jewish origin, Lem is one of the few survivors of the Holocaust in Lviv, who leaves the city forever after World War II. Because it is hard, if not impossible, for the humans to talk about the city's complicated past and their own traumatic memories of Soviet and Nazi atrocities, it is a dog named Dom who accepts the challenge to pick up the pieces of the family story and Ukraine's history.

Through Dom's voice, Amelina presents a fresh perspective on critical issues such as the supposed east-west divide in Ukraine, themes of migration and displacement, Lviv's history as a major Polish and Jewish metropolis, its dark history with the Holocaust, and its multiple transformations over the tumultuous twentieth century.

Victoria Amelina (1 January 1986–1 July 2023) was a Ukrainian novelist, essayist, poet, and human rights activist. She was a winner of the Joseph Conrad Literary Award (2021), and a finalist for the European Union Prize for Literature finalist (2019) and Lviv UNESCO City of Literature Prize (2018). She was the author of *Fall Syndrome*, as well as two children's books. Victoria's prose and poems have been translated into Polish, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, German, Croatian and English. Victoria wrote both in Ukrainian and English. Her essays have appeared in *Irish Times*, *Dublin Review of Books*, and *Eurozine*. In 2021, she founded a literary festival in the Donetsk region, Ukraine. Victoria died on 1 July 2023 as a result of injuries sustained in a Russian missile strike on a pizza restaurant in Kramatorsk.

Sophie Divry

FANTASTIQUE HISTOIRE D'AMOUR

Publisher

Seuil

January 2024

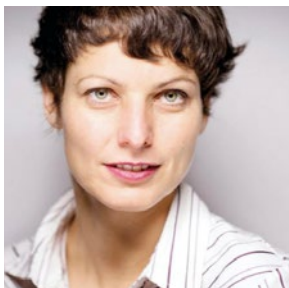
512 pages

Client

Monte-Charge Culturel Literary Agency

Contact

Marc Koralnik



"The common thread running through Divry's books is the commitment of a writer who deconstructs the societal and novelistic systems that pose so many obstacles for those who are in search of alternative paths."

—Elisabeth Jodin, *Le Temps*

"Because she is innovative, ambitious and generous, Sophie Divry's work is to be discovered unconditionally."

—Estelle Lenartowicz, *L'Express*

"Sophie Divry's novels, so spectacularly different from each other, bring an invigorating air to the literary scene."

—Raphaëlle Leyris, *Le Monde*

Happy love stories are rare in literature, but Sophie Divry rises to the challenge by portraying two lonely souls who are yet to meet.

Bastien Fontaine is a labor inspector vaguely inclined to alcohol and slightly misanthropic. Maïa di Natale is a science journalist, rational and somehow melancholic. Both are grappling with professional challenges: Fontaine is deeply affected by a workplace accident that resulted in a worker's death, shrouded in mystery. Meanwhile, Maïa must navigate the mounting pressures for profitability within the science magazine she is employed by.

In an alternating pattern of chapters that take on the perspectives of Bastien and Maïa, Sophie Divry masterfully orchestrates the coming together of these two lonely souls, whose destinies are, in fact, inherently intertwined. Bastien, unaware, needs Maïa to save him from a danger he doesn't know exists, while Maïa seeks to solve a mystery without realizing that Bastien is the key. Both will be swept up in a thrilling quest all the while escaping their own solitude.

Sophie once again reveals the extent of her talent, delivering a thrilling and moving novel that combines elements of detective fiction, social drama, and romantic comedy.

Sophie Divry worked as a journalist for several years before devoting herself entirely to writing novels. Her first book, *La Cote 400* (2010), was published by Les Allusifs. It was followed by the publication of five other novels, such as *La Condition Pavillonnaire* (Notabilia, 2015), special mention of the Prix Wepler, an essay and a collection of testimonies. Her work has been translated into several languages and unanimously acclaimed by critics.

Uthis Haemamool

THE FABULIST

Publisher

Juti

March 2015

384 pages

Client

The Grayhawk Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress

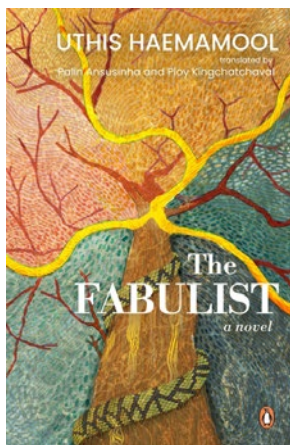


English SEA PRH SEA
First Thai Novel published by Penguin
Random House SEA



Shortlisted for the S.E.A. Write Award
2015

Full English translation available



From one of Thailand's most prominent writers, **THE FABULIST** is a mesmerizing family saga told in five parts, each by a different narrator and written in a distinctive genre/format.

The story follows four generations of a Thai family, from the matriarch (who was a tree, a naga, a deer, and a rock before she became a woman) to her eldest son, a doctor who embarks upon a quest for justice in the afterlife after suffering a stroke, from the doctor's wife (who lives out the soap opera of her dreams) to a ghostwriter who turns family tragedy into fiction.

Their stories contradict each other and the reader is left with more questions than answers, but all is revealed in the last chapter as a young woman from the next generation returns to her hometown and the truth is finally out.

Uthis Haemamool blends origin myths, recorded history, religious fables and domestic high-drama into **THE FABULIST**, offering a rare look at Thailand's ordinary people. A challenging but highly satisfying read, just like the best kind of literature.

Uthis Haemamool (b.1975) has published seven novels and four short stories collection, he became widely known for the *Kaeng Khoi* Trilogy containing the novels *The Brotherhood of Kaeng Khoi*, which won him the Seven Book Awards and the S.E.A. Write Award in 2009; *The Elegy*, and **THE FABULIST**. In 2017, his novel *Silhouette of Desire* was translated and published in Japanese, followed by an art exhibition of the same name that showcases his drawings and paintings. The novel was then adapted for the stage under the direction of Toshiki Okada, which premiered in Bangkok and staged at Centre Pompidou Paris in 2018 and Tokyo in 2019.

Catherine Hernandez

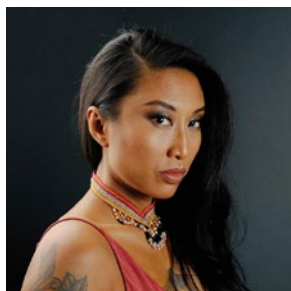
BEHIND YOU

Publisher
HarperCollins Canada

2024

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Praise for *Crosshairs*:

"Hernandez is unrelenting in her portrayal of the regular violence, assault and abuses faced by these Otherized people in 'civil societies.' She excels in her ability to show the ease of even the most brazen fascism and the pervasiveness of the feelings and scenarios that elicit its subsequent rise."

—USA Today

From the author of *Scarborough*, *Crosshairs*, and *The Story of Us*, comes a story about the insidiousness of rape culture, centred not on the serial killers but on the people they terrorize, their survivors, and those who were spared.

In 1987, Alma, a young Filipina girl, comes into womanhood while a serial killer is at large in her neighborhood, attacking women and girls. Now a film editor, Alma is the wife of Nira, and mother to her teenage son, Mateo. When Alma has to edit a true crime series, she remembers coming of age while a serial rapist and killer (who is never named) was attacking women and girls in Scarborough in the late 80s and early 90s.

Weaving today's #MeToo movement with a terrifying chapter in Toronto's history, *Behind You* turns the whodunit genre on its head by asking the question "Who hasn't done it?" As in, who has not been complicit in sexual harm?

Catherine Hernandez (she/her) is a queer woman of Filipino, Spanish, Chinese, and Indian descent who married into the Navajo Nation. Her first novel, *Scarborough*, was a finalist for Canada Reads 2022, and the film adaptation, for which she wrote the screenplay, won eight Canadian Screen Awards. Her second novel, *Crosshairs*, was shortlisted for the Toronto Book Award. *The Story of Us*, her third novel, was published in February, 2023.

Omar Khalifah

SAND-CATCHER

Publisher
Dar al-Ahlia

2020
206 pages

Client
Monte-Charge Culturel Literary Agency **France** Liana Levi



Contact
Marc Koralnik



A dark-humored fable on Palestinian identity, exile and collective memory.

Four Palestinian journalists employed at a Jordanian newspaper are tasked with producing a report for the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the Nakba, the "ataclysm that upended Palestine in 1948. They are initially confident in the outcome of their assignment to interview an elderly Palestinian who is the last surviving member of his family to have witnessed the catastrophe known as the Nakba. Very soon, however, they are rudely confronted by his seemingly perverse refusal to speak to them - or to anyone - about his background. After the journalists' feet are held to the fire by their editor-in-chief, they grow increasingly desperate to wrest the old man's story from him.

Omar Khalifah's first novel is a breath of fresh air in the Arabic literary landscape. With a well-conducted plot and a sarcastic tone, fairly uncommon in Arabic literature, the writer reflects on the Palestinian identity, in all its nuanced diversity, exile and collective memory, topics that are also at the heart of his academic research.

Of Palestinian background, **Omar Khalifah** grew up in Jordan. He holds a PhD from Columbia University and currently teaches Arabic literature and culture at Georgetown University's Qatar campus. His previous publications include *Nasser in the Egyptian Imaginary* (Edinburgh University Press, 2017) and a short story collection, *Ka'annani Ana (As if I Were Myself)*, published in 2010. SAND-CATCHER is his first novel.

Benjamin Hertwig

JUICEBOXERS

Publisher

Freehand Books

Fall 2024

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress



From award-winning poet and writer, Benjamin Hertwig, comes his debut novel, drawn from the author's experiences as a soldier in Afghanistan.

Told from the perspective of sixteen-year old Plinko, Juiceboxers tenderly traces the stories of four friends, from 9/11 to the election of Donald Trump, from the battlefields of Kandahar to the oilfields of Alberta. Spanning continents and two decades, the novel braids together questions of masculinity and militarism, violence, and the propagation of white supremacist ideology. What does survival look like when war never really ends? How does one process a war that is already being forgotten? The novel chronicles a world unravelling, connecting the War on Terror to the violence against Indigenous people on urban streets. Memory and remembering, friendship and longing, guilt and culpability – all become central to Plinko's experience of the world and his place in it.

Benjamin Hertwig is an artist and writer whose work has appeared in *The New York Times* and *The Globe & Mail* among others. He holds dual Canadian/German citizenship and his debut poetry collection received the Alberta Poetry Prize and was short-listed for three other awards. He has taught writing workshops for inmates, veterans, and secondary students across Canada.

Christine Lai

LANDSCAPES

Publisher
Doubleday Canada

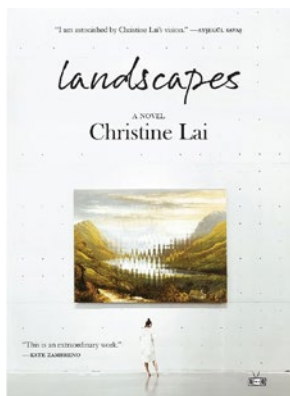
September 2023
230 pages

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



US Two Dollar Radio



“LANDSCAPES is a darkly absorbing, prismatic debut novel from Christine Lai, set in a near future that is fraught with ecological collapse and geopolitical upheaval, exploring memory, empathy, and art as an instrument for recollection and renewal.”

—49thShelf

“With its careful attention to landscape painters and diary entries leading up to the demolition of the house, this is the ultimate piece of fiction about noticing what’s been overlooked.”

—Los Angeles Times

An entrancing and prismatic debut novel, set in a near future fraught with ecological collapse, LANDSCAPES brilliantly explores memory, empathy, preservation, and art as an instrument for recollection and renewal.

In the English countryside – decimated by heat and drought – Penelope archives what remains of an estate’s once notable art collection. The crumbling country house has been her home for two decades and a refuge for those who have been displaced by disasters, but it is scheduled for demolition in a few months’ time. With this pressing deadline comes the impending return of Aidan’s brother, Julian, at whose hands Penelope suffered during a brief but violent relationship twenty-two years before. As Julian’s visit looms, Penelope finds herself unable to suppress the past, and she clings to art as a means of understanding, of survival, and of reckoning.

Recalling the works of Rachel Cusk and Kazuo Ishiguro, Landscapes is an elegiac and spellbinding blend of narrative, essay, and diary that reinvents the country house novel for our age of catastrophe, and announces the arrival of an extraordinarily gifted new writer.

Christine Lai holds a PhD in English Literature from University College London and an MPhil from the University of Cambridge. She lives in Vancouver, Canada.

Tom Lloyd

FERVOUR

Publisher
Sceptre

February 2024
245 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Russia AST
US Avid Reader Press
France Gallimard
Italy Neri Pozzi
Finland Kosmos



A contemporary Jewish story that will appeal to readers of Francine Prose and Philip Roth.

Hannah and Eric are a successful couple living in North London with their three children, and Eric's father Yosef, a survivor of the camps. They are devout Jews who believe in the literal truth of the Old Testament, all except for their youngest son Tovyah. The death of Yosef – the family's link to pre-war Europe – throws the family into disarray. Elsie, the model daughter, disappears for four days, plunging the family into a living nightmare. When she returns, just as mysteriously as she left, she is strangely altered. Witnessing the complete transformation of their daughter's personality and some increasingly hard-to-explain events, Hannah and Eric begin to suspect Elsie is under the influence of black magic. Tovyah, a brilliant university student, believes his sister is suffering a mental collapse caused by his parents' antiquated beliefs. But who is right? And can the family be reconciled before tearing itself apart?

At the heart of the novel are two questions. What does it mean to be bound to an ethical and metaphysical system thousands of years old? And if you reject that system, what is left of your Jewish identity? Through revolving points of view, any certainty in the face of these questions is undermined, and we witness a family trying to reckon with both historical and personal tragedy. The result is a fastpaced literary novel, with elements of horror.

Toby Lloyd was born in London to a secular father and a Jewish mother. He studied English at Oxford University, before moving to America to pursue an MFA in Creative Writing at NYU where he was taught by E.L. Doctorow and Jonathan Safran Foer. Now thirty-three, he's returned to London where he works as a freelance tutor and writer. He has published short stories and essays in various journals, including *Carve Magazine* and *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, and has been shortlisted for the VS Pritchett Prize and for the Jewish Book Week Emerging Writers Programme.

Aleksandra Lun

LOS PALIMPSESTOS

Publisher
Minuscula

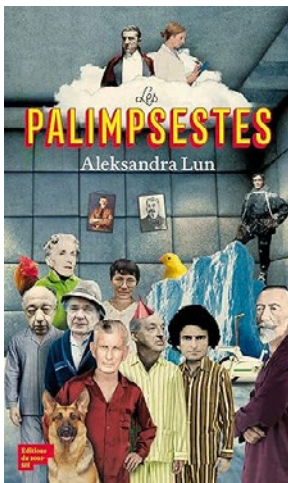
October 2015
164 pages

Client
Monte-Charge Culturel Literary Agency

Contact
Marc Koralnik



Netherlands Uitgeverij Pluim
USA David R. Godine
France Editions du sous-sol



"A mind-boggling literary feat."

—Arianne Singer, *Le Monde*

"Dark, hilarious – with cameos from Beckett, Conrad, Melville & more, all in a Belgian asylum! A meditation on language & mother tongues. It's a jewel."

—Mark Haber, author of *Reinhardt's Garden*

"Aleksandra Lun has produced a virtuoso concerto in these pages, the kind of verbal music that is strangely relevant for our moment, and yet also for any moment. This book is a wild ride that you won't soon forget."

—Ilya Kaminsky, author of *Deaf Republic*

A brilliant and whimsical satire, reminiscent of Kafka and Gombrowicz, on the topics of literature, exile, genius and madness.

Things haven't been going very well lately for Czesław Prześnicki. At thirty-five years old, this self-proclaimed "failed writer," a Polish national of Antarctic expression, finds himself interned in a psychiatric hospital in Belgium. A frustrated veterinarian, author of a debut novel that sold six copies, plagued by severe sexual frustration and the anguish of writer's block, Czesław senses that his nerves will soon give way as well. He wanders through the corridors of a strange institution where the patients are named Nabokov, Beckett, Cioran, and even Ionesco. "Flight over a Nest of Geniuses" – all these great figures of exile, accused of having forsaken their mother tongue, must submit to an enigmatic "Bartlebian therapy" meant to set them back on the linguistic straight and narrow.

An astonishingly cosmopolitan novel full of wit and inventiveness, *The Palimpsests*, beneath its whimsical homage to literature, paints a portrait as touching as it is hilarious of a character in crisis, torn between multiple languages, identities, and masks.

Aleksandra Lun (Gliwice, Poland, 1979) lived in Spain between 1999 and 2010. She studied Spanish language and literature and translation. Currently she lives in Belgium, where she works as a translator. She translates into her mother tongue, Polish, from English, French, Spanish, Catalan, Italian, and Romanian. *LOS PALIMPSESTOS*, written in Spanish, is her debut-book.

Anna Julia Stainsby

THE AFTERPAINS

Publisher

Random House Canada

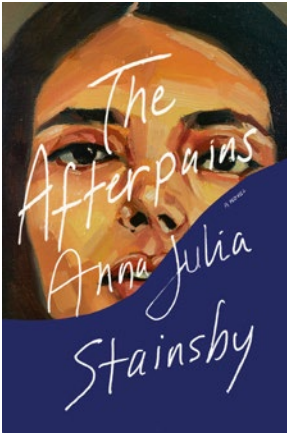
March 2024

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress



"A potent, glimmering debut. Anna Julia Stainsby's prose is luscious and wise, and I read *The Afterpains* with my heart in my throat."

—Harriet Alida Lye, author of *The Honey Farm* and *Let It Destroy You*

A skillful and impressive debut and a female-driven literary novel in the vein of *The Mothers* and *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, with familial curses and fantastical elements reminiscent of Marquez, told through the perspective of four women, one of whom is telling her story from the after-life.

Twenty years after losing her daughter, Vivian, Rosy is determined to finally lay her grief to rest and begin a new chapter with her husband, Desmond, and son, Eddie. At the same time, Isaura is struggling with the prospect of a new life following the discovery of a pregnancy test in her teen daughter Mivi's bathroom. Haunted by a centuries-long curse that has subjected all the young women in Isaura's family to teenage motherhood and the untimely death of the men who caused it, Isaura is devastated to find out that her daughter, miles and almost a whole lifetime away from their Honduran homeland, has not been spared. Soon the mothers become connected through Mivi's pregnancy, that unbeknownst to Isaura, is Eddie's baby.

Anna Julia Stainsby is a Honduran-Canadian writer from Toronto. She is a recent graduate of the University of Toronto's MA in English in the Field of Creative Writing and currently lives in Copenhagen, Denmark. Her work has appeared in publications such as *The Literary Review of Canada*, *FreeFall Magazine*, *FLARE*, *Lake Effect 8*, and has been supported by the Toronto Arts Council as well as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Jendella Benson

ALL THAT WE'VE GOT

Publisher
Trapeze

2024

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Praise for *Hope & Glory*:

"Filled with unexpected, but earned, twists, Benson's novel balances moments of rich humor and devastating profundity. But Benson's greatest success is her ability to write characters and family dynamics that feel deeply authentic. A meditation on the sacrifices we make for love."

—Kirkus

Over one relentlessly hot summer, two young women's lives are about to collide in the most unexpected ways.

Mimi is a young single mother looking to break free from her mother's judgements and her church's oppressive, hypocritical gossip to establish who she is on her own. But a dangerous new romance could lead her into trouble...

Meanwhile, fifteen year old Abi lives her life vicariously through social media – and is eager to help her mother with the bills. When she's offered the chance to make money fast by helping a group of local boys, she and her friends jump at it. But soon they're crossing county lines, and Abi finds she's in over her head...

Could Mimi and Abi forge a bond that could free them both, at the heart of a community they've taken for granted?

A powerful commentary on the city we don't always see, this is the stunning new novel from the author of the acclaimed *Hope & Glory*.

Jendella Benson is a popular writer and editor for *Black Ballad*, and her work has appeared in the *Guardian*, BuzzFeed, MTV News UK, *The Metro*, *The Huffington Post*, and on *MumsNet*, amongst many others. She contributed a piece to *Loud Black Girls* (4th Estate) and her short story, *Kindling*, was published in *The Book of Birmingham*. Jendella originated, crowd-funded and published a book of photography and interviews, *Young Motherhood*, in 2016. She is a TEDx speaker and has also appeared on Woman's Hour, BBC World Service, London Live and OH TV.

Yangsze Choo

THE FOX WIFE

Publisher
Henry Holt

February 2024
490 pages

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Leonie Kress



Spanish Urano/Plata



“Masterfully plotted and superbly surprising, *The Fox Wife* will entice you into a world of magic and heartbreak, a beautiful tapestry woven from love and revenge and forgiveness. But beware: once you start, you may not be able to put it down!”

—Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, author of *Independence* and *The Last Queen*

“THE FOX WIFE is a rich tangle of myth, mystery, and history, delivered with Choo’s inimitable grace and precision. It’s not a book so much as a beguilement; it enchanted me entirely.”

—Alix E. Harrow, *New York Times* best-selling author of *Starling House*

Some people think foxes go around collecting qi, or life force, but nothing could be further than the truth. We are living creatures, just like you, only usually better looking...

Manchuria in 1908. In the last years of the dying Qing Empire, a courtesan is found frozen in a doorway. Her death is clouded by rumors of foxes, believed to lure people by transforming themselves into beautiful women and handsome men. Bao, a detective with an uncanny ability to sniff out the truth, is hired to uncover the dead woman’s identity.

Meanwhile, the family of a Chinese medicine shop can cure ailments, but not the curse that afflicts them. When a disruptively winsome servant named Snow enters their household, the family’s luck seems to change. Or does it? Snow is a creature of many secrets, but most of all, she’s a mother seeking vengeance for her lost child. The trail will take her from northern China to Japan, even as Bao follows doggedly behind. Navigating the myths and misconceptions of fox spirits, both Snow and Bao will touch on old friends and new foes, even as more deaths occur.

New York Times bestselling author Yangsze Choo brilliantly explores a world of mortals and spirits, humans and beasts, and their dazzling intersection. Epic in scope and full of singular, unforgettable characters, *The Fox Wife* is a stunning novel about old loves and second chances, the depth of maternal love, and ancient folktales that may very well be true.

Yangsze Choo is a Malaysian author of Chinese descent. After graduating from Harvard, she worked at various corporate jobs before writing her *New York Times* bestselling debut novel, *The Ghost Bride*, now a Netflix Original series. Her second novel, *The Night Tiger*, was a Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick and a Big Jubilee Read selection for Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee.

Emma Knight

THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE COMMON OCTOPUS

Publisher
Penguin Canada

Spring 2025
247 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Netherlands Uitgeverij Mozaiek
UK Quercus
US Pamela Dorman Books/Viking



From entrepreneur and bestselling cook-book author Emma Knight comes her highly anticipated debut novel following childhood friends Pen and Alice on their shift into adulthood through their friendships and relationships while attending the University of Edinburgh. For fans of *The Whalebone Theatre*, Dolly Alderton, Sally Rooney and Curtis Sittenfeld.

Childhood friends from Toronto, Pen and Alice, are in their first year at the University of Edinburgh, but each has come for her own reasons. Pen knows her divorced parents are hiding something and goes hunting for clues in Scotland, where a former friend of her father's – now a famous writer – lives. After a weekend at his centuries-old estate, she begins to unravel her parents' secret and sparks a love interest, while allowing a previous version of herself to fall from grace. Alice, an aspiring actor, is starring in a play and making the most of her power as an object of desire – until an affair with her tutor begins to slip from her control. Exploring the generational pursuit of female selfdetermination, the novel asks to what extent we need to look back in order to move forward.

Emma Knight is an author, journalist and entrepreneur based in Toronto. Emma's writing about books, maternal health and more has appeared in *Literary Hub*, *British VOGUE*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Walrus* and the international *New York Times*.

Upmarket

Amanda Peters

THE BERRY PICKERS

Publisher

HarperCollins Canada

April 2023

320 pages

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

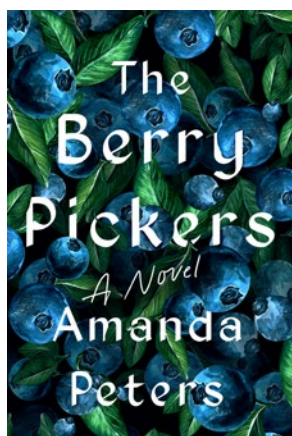
Contact

Leonie Kress



US Catapult

French Editions Hashtag



"One family's secret is the source of another family's pain in this poignant debut that reads like a modern literary classic. Moving, heartbreaking, and hopeful, *The Berry Pickers* is a powerful tale of haunting regret, bonds that will never be broken, and unrelenting love. Amanda Peters' skilled storytelling evokes all the sensations of summer in Maine, singing around a fire, and the horror that takes hold when a child goes missing."

—Nick Medina, author of *Sisters of the Lost Nation*

"Amanda Peters writes with beautiful simplicity... In *The Berry Pickers* every word counts."

—*New York Journal of Books*

A heart-rending, debut literary novel, sold in a six-figure pre-empt.

In dual first-person voices, Amanda Peters tells the story of Ruthie/Norma, born Mi'kmaw, but a rich, white family, disingenuously assumes she's been abandoned and steals her away. Norma is haunted by strange dreams and burdened by an overprotective mother, who is prone to headaches whenever anyone questions her lies. Joe, Ruthie's brother, tells readers about Ruthie's sudden disappearance from the rock she loved to sit on beside the berry fields, and how, as a family, after that shocking event, they never could return to Maine. But Joe's mother never gave up hope. And a chance sighting of Ruthie years later leads to the unravelling of the truth. With Joe on his deathbed, he and Ruthie reunite in a stunningly emotional conclusion.

Amanda Peters is a mixed race Mi'kmaw/Settler, who holds a certificate in creative writing from the University of Toronto and graduated this spring with a Masters of Arts degree in creative writing from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. She was for many years the CEO and then Director of Policy and Development for the Glooscap First Nation. She lives in the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia.

Upmarket

Melissa R. Collings

THE FALSE FLAT

Publisher
Montlake

June 2024

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kess



Penelope Auberge, a biracial, 35-year-old financial planner with the buttoned-down, emotionally distant look of someone who's got it all together, has just had her life turned upside-down.

When her boss gives her high-net-worth client to the new male trainee, and she catches her boyfriend kissing another woman...his wife, Pen decides she needs a fresh start. Ignoring her overbearing mother and dumping her suddenly-married boyfriend, Pen moves across the country into a house that's just like her... a fixer-upper.

Self-treating her panic attacks with cycling and junk food, Pen finds herself in battle with a way-too-perky woman at the grocery store over the last box of Cap'n Crunch. Of course, she doesn't expect to befriend the cereal stealer or to become enchanted by the woman's family, the picture of everything Pen lost over twenty years ago. As Pen develops her first real friendship in years, she struggles not to fall for her friend's brother, a pompous, mustached cyclist, who lives life like Pen wants to and possesses the irritating ability to see past her mask.

Just as her barriers start to break down, everything she hopes for begins to crumble as her past threatens to repeat itself. Pen is about to find out that happiness takes courage, and that embracing life might mean letting some things go.

Perfect for fans of Katherine Center and Jojo Moyes, THE FALSE FLAT is a poignant novel about resilience and accepting love and friendship.

Melissa R. Collings is a Physician Assistant and mother of two. Her short story *Just Start* was published in *Etched Onyx Magazine* in 2021. She's an active member of The Nashville Novelists and Richland Park Library writing group. THE FALSE FLAT is her debut.

Olesya Salnikova Gilmore

THE HAUNTING OF MOSCOW HOUSE

Publisher
Ace

September 2024

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kess



US AUDIO Penguin
UK Harper (pre-empt)



Praise for *The Witch and the Tsar*:
"A fantastically spun tale like nothing you've ever read before."

—*Buzzfeed*

"Enchanting debut...a fresh, exciting take sure to capture fans of Madeline Miller's *Circe* and Jennifer Saint's *Ariadne*."

—*Publishers Weekly*

A Gentleman in Moscow meets *The Hacienda* in this gothic horror tale set in post-revolutionary Russia.

Sonya and Sasha Goliteva are young, vibrant, and eager to find their place in this new Russia – except they were born noble, and the Soviet government intends to eradicate "former people" such as them. The sisters are oppressed by a regime that would rather see them dead, and their grief-stricken aunt, Anna Marie, refuses to let go of their noble past, one she longs to bring back.

In the Summer of 1921, when a group of Bolsheviks appropriates the Golitevos's ancestral home in Moscow, Sonya and Sasha are desperate to escape their oppressive new landlords and their house that whispers of a past not as long dead as they thought. They find jobs with the newly arrived American Relief Administration, meant to ease the post-revolutionary famine in Russia. But the spirits of the dead are desperate to be seen, to return to life, or else, to claim the living for themselves. The sisters must discover what led to their family's deaths all those years ago before more people die, and before the government discovers them prying into lives they have been ordered to forget.

Born in Moscow, Russia, **Olesya Salnikova Gilmore** graduated from Pepperdine University with a BA in English and political science, and Northwestern Pritzker School of Law with a JD. After law school, she practiced litigation at a large law firm in Chicago for several years. She is the author of *The Witch and the Tsar* (Ace, 2022), and has written for *Modern Luxury Magazine* and *Northwestern's Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*.

Unterhaltung

Marissa Stapley

THE LIGHTNING BOTTLES

Publisher

Simon & Schuster Canada

Fall 2024

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress



US Simon & Schuster
UK Hodder & Stoughton



Praise for *Lucky*:

"Who can you trust when everything you've ever known is a lie? That's the fundamental question in Stapley's fourth book, a Bonnie-and-Clyde meets *Gone Girl* tale of family and the search for stability."

—*Booklist*

"A page-turning novel... Stapley brings up interesting questions about punishment, redemption, and forgiveness, as the story unfolds in a delicious manner. *Lucky* is a ride with a badass friend who just happens to be that much smarter and sneakier than anyone else around."

—*Quill & Quire*

Against the backdrop of the nineties, in the lead up to Y2K, *THE LIGHTNING BOTTLES* weaves the fascinating story of a doomed famous couple with a tale of art, music, destiny, and friendship.

In 1995, Elijah Hart – tortured frontman of the wildly successful alternative rock duo The Lightning Bottles – cancelled a European tour, rented an Italian villa with his volatile wife and bandmate, Jane Pyre, and promptly disappeared. After interviews with police and one media statement – that Elijah had taken a rowboat out into the stormy ocean and never returned, that she had lost the love of her life – Jane refused to speak about his disappearance with anyone.

Now it's 1999, and Jane has had it with rumours, accusations, and a neverending string of lawsuits launched by Elijah's former best friend and bandmate, Kim Beard. Now she's retreated to a rural farmhouse in a quaint German hamlet called Wölf. But when she gets to Wölf, it turns out her closest neighbour, Hen – the only teenager within a twenty-mile radius – is a Lightning Bottles superfan and recognizes Jane. Unlikely duo Jane and Hen embark on a road trip through Eastern Europe, gathering clues about Elijah's whereabouts and slowly revealing their own secrets and dreams along the way.

Marissa Stapley is the internationally bestselling author of the novels *Lucky*, a Reese's Book Club December 2021 Pick, *The Last Resort*, *Things to do When It's Raining*, and *Mating for Life*. Her work has been published in fifteen countries and two of her novels, including *Lucky*, have been optioned for television. She also co-writes holiday rom-coms (*The Holiday Swap*, *All I Want for Christmas*) under the pen name Maggie Knox. She lives in Toronto with her family.

Anne-Marie Varga

HAPPY ENDING

Publisher
on submission

92,000 words

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



**Witty,
contemporary and
the perfect read for
all Enemy-to-Lovers
fans!**

Beach Read meets *Emily in Paris* in this fresh and poignant romantic comedy.

Twenty-six-year-old one-hit wonder novelist Rosie Watkins wants to get one thing straight: she is not running away. Has she sub-let her apartment in New York City? Yes. Has she deleted her social media so that no one besides her family knows what she's doing? Yes. Has she booked a oneway ticket to London? Also, yes. But that does not mean she's running away. She just needs... something new.

Hence, London. Maybe once she's there, she'll finally be able to get over everything the past year has thrown at her and move on with her life. Rosie quickly finds her footing with some new friends: magnetic Tara who might be secretly in love with her friend, Pat; Saoirse, a serial dater who doesn't believe in love and Deepti, who's navigating a career crisis that could change the course of her life. They all welcome Rosie with open arms — all except George: moody, arrogant, full-of-himself George, who just happens to think that Rosie is an "entitled, annoying, energetic American." He also just happens to be Tara's twin brother — tall, dark, tattooed, super hot and definitely off limits.

But the more settled Rosie becomes in London, the more her past continues to haunt her. So, what exactly is Rosie hiding? Just how bad was that break-up back in the city? And can don't-even-go-there George be that someone to help her move on?

Anne-Marie Varga brings her Midwestern charm to the Big Apple. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a Master's from New York University. Anne-Marie spent five years working in publishing at Penguin Random House USA and now spends her time writing romantic comedies. She works in fitness and is a contributing writer for Healthline.com.

Kristin Vuković

THE CHEESEMAKER'S DAUGHTER

Publisher
Regalo Press

August 2024

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



US Audio Penguin



"A magical debut... a sensual exploration of cultural identity, loss, and love... Amid the backdrop of Croatia's war-torn history, Kristin Vukovic conjures up the island's wild landscape – its glittering sea, sheep-dotted hills, extreme weather, and complex scents of antiquity – with spellbinding beauty."

—Jessica Keener, author of *Strangers In Budapest*

"A literary page-turner with unforgettable heart."

—Caroline Leavitt, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Pictures of You*

How do you begin again when the past threatens to drown you?

In the throes of an unraveling marriage, New Yorker Marina Maržić returns to her native Croatian island where she helps her father save his struggling cheese factory, Sirana. As she gradually settles into a place that was once home, her life becomes inextricably intertwined with their island's cheese. When her past with the son of a rival cheesemaker stokes further unrest on their divided island and her father falls ill, she must find a way to save Sirana – and in the process, learns to belong on her own terms.

Exploring underlying cultural and ethnic tensions in a complex region mired in centuries of war and turmoil, *THE CHEESEMAKER'S DAUGHTER* takes us through the year before Croatia joins the European Union. On the dramatic moonscape island of Pag, we are transported to strikingly barren vistas, medieval towns, and the mesmerizing Adriatic Sea, providing a rare window into a tight-knit community with strong family ties in a corner of the world where divisions are both real and imagined.

Kristin Vuković's work has appeared in print in *The New York Times*, BBC's *Good Food Magazine*, *Travel + Leisure*, *Coastal Living*, *Virtuoso: The Magazine*, and *Hemispheres*, among others, and online in BBC Travel, The Daily Beast, AFAR and Public Books. An early excerpt of her novel was long listed for the Cosmonauts Avenue Inaugural Fiction Prize. She was named a "40 Under 40" honoree by the National Federation of Croatian Americans Cultural Foundation, and received a Zlatna Penkala (Golden Pen) award for her writing about Croatia.

Shelley Wood

THE LEAP YEAR GENE

Publisher

Harper Collins Canada

August 2024

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress



A fast-paced race through the past century's burgeoning understanding of genetics, eugenics, and what constitutes 'normal,' while exploring the tensions, love, and sense of duty that can bind families together or split them in two.

World War I is at its peak when Lillian McKinley, a fledgling botanist and suffragette learns that her husband has been killed in France. The devastating news has a curious impact on her unborn daughter, who gestates far longer than she should. By the time Kit McKinley is born, February 29, 1916, the timing of her birth raises questions for her war-widow mother. Then, as the months and years go by and the baby stays a baby, Lillian risks catching the attention of her fellow suffragettes, who've embraced the Eugenics craze sweeping North America targeting unfit, unwed mothers and defective children.

Sweeping and epic, THE LEAP YEAR GENE is told through multiple voices, but has a funny, flawed, and mostly loveable heroine at its center, whose story – she's well aware – was never entirely hers to tell.

Shelley Wood is a writer, journalist, and editor. Her bestselling breakout debut novel, *The Quintland Sisters* debuted as a #1 bestseller on the *Toronto Star* and *Globe & Mail's* fiction lists. Her work has appeared in the *New Quarterly*, *Room*, the *Antigonish Review*, *Causeway Lit*, and the *Globe and Mail* (UK). Born and raised in Vancouver, she has lived in Montreal, Cape Town, and the Middle East, and now has a home, a man, and a dog in British Columbia, Canada.

Unterhaltung

Nina Berkhout

BY THE RIVER OF MANY ROSES

Publisher

Goose Lane Editions

Fall 2024

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress



Praise for *Why Birds Sing*:

"... Nina Berkhout has written a gorgeous, multi-layered novel that illustrates the beauty that can be revealed when the collapsing of one life leads to the building of another."

—Urban Info Girl blog

"Capturing the joy that's brought through camaraderie and passion, *Why Birds Sing* is an inspiring novel focused on the power of connections."

—Foreword Reviews

This beautifully taut, poetic and resounding work of historical fiction follows the last residents of a drought-ridden farming community in the Canadian Prairies during the Great Depression.

Taking place months before the outbreak of the Second World War and toward the end of the Great Depression, *BY THE RIVER OF MANY ROSES* introduces us to a community situated along the rail line as they await the arrival of the Royals on their Royal Tour across Canada. While Abel and his neighbour, Una, share a stubborn determination to remain on their farms despite near-unlivable conditions, they differ in their thoughts on the impending Royal visit.

Recounting a longforgotten occasion in Canadian history, it's at once a quietly beautiful story of love, perseverance and loss, while bringing forth resonant parallels for readers today, exploring the realities of climate ravages, regional alienation and working class struggles.

Nina Berkhout is the author of three novels, most recently *Why Birds Sing* (ECW Press), which appeared in France this year, named "must read" by *The Globe and Mail* and the *Ottawa Citizen*, and a Best Book of the Year (Canada) by Amazon's Audible audiobooks. The book has been optioned by Mountain Goat Film. Her award-nominated young adult novel *The Mosaic* was named an Indigo Best Teen Book, and her novel *The Gallery of Lost Species* was named an Indigo and Kobo Best Book and a Harper's Bazaar Hottest Breakout Novel. Berkhout is also the author of five poetry collections. Her poetry is forthcoming in Best Canadian Poetry 2024. Originally from Alberta, she now lives in Ontario.

Loghan Paylor

THE CURE FOR DROWNING

Publisher

Random House Canada

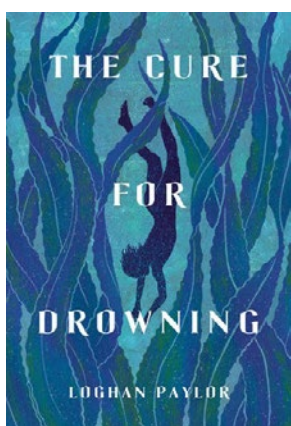
January 2024

Client

Westwood Creative Artists

Contact

Leonie Kress



“To anyone who has ever wondered what makes a Great Canadian Novel, Paylor has delivered the answer.”

—Jasmine Sealy, author of *The Island of Forgetting*, winner of the Amazon First Novel Award

Evocative, magical and luminously written, **THE CURE FOR DROWNING** is not only a brilliant, boundary-pushing love story but an historical novel that boldly centers queer and non-binary characters in unprecedented ways.

Born Kathleen to an immigrant Irish farming family in rural Ontario, Kit McNair has been a troublesome changeling since, at ten, they fell through the river ice and drowned, only to be nursed back to life by their mother’s Celtic magic. A daredevil in boy’s clothes, Kit chafes at every aspect of a farmgirl’s life, driving that same mother to distraction with worry about where Kit will ever fit in. When Rebekah Kromer, an elegant German doctor’s daughter, moves to town with her parents in April 1939, Rebekah has no doubt as to who nineteen-year-old Kit is. Soon she and Kit, and Kit’s older brother, Landon, are drawn tight in a love triangle that will tear them and their families apart, and send each of them off on a separate path to war.

Landon signs up for the Navy. Kit, now known as Christopher, joins the Royal Air Force, becoming a bomber navigator relied on for his luck and courage. Rebekah serves with naval intelligence in Halifax, until one more collision with Landon changes the course of her life and draws her back to the McNair farm – a place where she’d once known love. Fallen on even harder times, the McNairs welcome all the help she is able to give, and she believes she has found peace at last. Until, with the war over, Kit and Landon return home.

Told in the vivid, unforgettable voices of Kit and Rebekah, *The Cure for Drowning* is a powerfully engrossing novel that imagines a history that is truer than true.

Logan Paylor is a queer, trans author who lives in Abbotsford, British Columbia. Their short fiction and essays have previously appeared in *Room* and *Prairie Fire*, among others, and their essay *Escape Velocity* won first place in Room’s Creative Non-Fiction Contest. Paylor has a Masters in creative writing from the University of British Columbia, and a day job as a professional geek. **THE CURE FOR DROWNING** is their first novel.

Will Dean

THE CHAMBER

Publisher
Hodder & Stoughton

June 2024
80,000 words

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Praise for *The Last One*:

"*The Last One* is the latest in brilliant novels by the ultra-talented Will Dean, who year after year proves he is one of the best writers doing it today... Chapter-ending cliff hanger after chapter-ending cliff hanger, *The Last One* is a horrifying, nightmare-inducing thrill ride."

—*Best Thriller Books*

Praise for *The Last Thing to Burn*:

"Ratchets up the tension to the point where I had to check my pulse."

—Liz Nugent, critically-acclaimed author of *Little Cruelties*

The electrifying stand-alone thriller from the author of *The Last Thing to Burn*, *First Born* and *The Last One*.

Brooke Adams has been a professional saturation diver for five years. After checking her dive helmet and suit, she climbs into a ship's saturation chamber through a steel hatch. She's the last of the six-person team to enter a space no larger than an average bathroom. When the hatch is closed and sealed, blow-down begins. Brooke pinches her nose to equalise her ears and the heat inside rises to tropical levels as divers breathe Heliox in order to survive the pressure of being 800 feet below the surface of the North Sea.

But when Brooke and her bellman ascend, they discover one of their colleagues on the cusp of death. As medics assist via the intercom, and the ship's captain watches impotently through a chamber porthole, the man succumbs to his injuries. Now, they must all live in close quarters with a corpse who died from an unknown cause...

It will take seven more days of decompression, locked away together, before the hatch can be opened. How do the remaining divers protect themselves from an unknown threat amongst them?

And There Were None meets *The Last Breath*. The beauty of an undersea world juxtaposed against bare steel, intrusive thoughts, and the constant struggle not to give way to panic. Mind games, exhaustion, suspicion, and most of all... pressure.

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 is also the author of the sensational standalone thrillers *The Last Thing to Burn*, *First Born* and *The Last One* and the Tuva Moodyson crime series.

Spannung

Jaima Fixsen

THE SPECIMEN

Publisher
Sourcebooks

September 2024

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



US Audio Recorded Books



Pressestimmen für *Die Chirurgin von London*:

“Fesselnder und sehr gut recherchierter Roman über eine Zeit, als allein den Männern das Denken vorbehalten war.”

—*Mainhattan Kurier*

“Eine tolle Geschichte rund um eine hartnäckige junge Frau, die für ihre Leidenschaft, als Ärztin wirken zu dürfen, kämpft. Herrlich skurrile Situationen und Charaktere bilden einzelne Höhepunkte. Es ist eine gelungene Mischung aus sehr gut recherchiertem medizinischem Wissen, Frauenrechte und Romantik.”

—*Histo-Couch*

Inspired by the infamous Burke and Hare murders that scandalized 19th century Edinburgh, *THE SPECIMEN* is a fast-paced thriller about a mother's revenge against a proxy killer obsessed with acquiring human organs for display.

The world hasn't been kind to Isobel Tait but she makes do. Lately, however, her four-year old, Thomas, is sick. One of her employers arranges a consultation with Dr. Connall Burnett, a famed anatomist from the university and an expert with the newly invented stethoscope. Burnett explains to Isobel that the fever has scarred her son's heart. The murmur, a shushing syncopation that reminds her of Vivaldi, is unlikely to heal, but with care, Thomas may live a year or two yet. Isobel vows to make the best of them. But only months later, Thomas disappears and is never found.

Broken, bitter, and isolated by her neighbors' suspicion, everything changes when Isobel joins a well-meaning friend to view the curiosities on display in Dr. Connall Burnett's house. There, amid stuffed lizards, pickled lungs, giant bones and human skulls, is a heart in a jar, labelled human specimen with mitral valve arrhythmia. Crimson, purple, and heartbreakingly small, the sight of the heart fills Isobel's ears with Vivaldi.

The use of stolen bodies by Edinburgh's medical men is a controversial but open secret. But Burnett is not happenstance collector of bodies dug up from churchyards. He's a killer. When Isobel brings her knowledge to the incredulous magistrate, he believes her mind is deranged. Still, he questions one of Burnett's thugs – two days later, Isobel is attacked in an alley.

Forced to hide among Edinburgh's poor, she hunts for ways to reach Burnett. Eventually, she's hired as his housekeeper. Working within Burnett's house, Isobel schemes a plan to exact justice for Thomas's death – and not get caught.

Jaima Fixsen is the author of the popular *Fairchild* regency romance series. Fixsen also writes with Regina Sirois under the bestselling pen name Audrey Blake, whose novels include *The Woman with No Name* (Sourcebooks, forthcoming 2024), *The Surgeon's Daughter* (2022) and *The Girl In His Shadow* (2021). Jaima resides in Alberta, Canada.

Spannung

Emily Freud

HER LAST SUMMER

Publisher
Quercus

April 2024

Client
Teresa Chris Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Praise for *What She Left Behind*:

"An author whose work I'd be interested to read again and who appreciates how to leave enough breadcrumbs to tantalise thriller readers all book long"

—*Peterborough Telegraph*

"One of the best twists I've read in years. You won't want to miss this clever, addictive novel from Emily Freud."

—Sarah Lawton

This psychological thriller follows filmmaker Cassidy Chambers as she makes a true crime series about a teenage girl who went missing in the Thai jungle twenty years ago while backpacking with her boyfriend, Luke Speed.

Luke phones Cassidy, claiming to be ready to finally tell his side of the story on camera after years of hiding from the press, having been vilified and accused of her murder for years. The story takes them from the bustling production houses of Soho to the posh private school in Cambridge, where the teenagers met, across to the lively travelling scene in Bangkok and finally to the terrifying heart of the very jungle Mari went missing all those years ago. As Cassidy becomes more entangled with her subject, her capacity to remain neutral diminishes, and she begins to have romantic feelings for Luke. She finds herself alone in the jungle with a man who could have killed there before – will Cassidy make it out alive? And what happened to Mari Castle all those years ago?

Emily Freud was born in North London, where she lives with her husband and two children. Her love of character and story led to a career in television, producing on some of the most acclaimed documentary series in recent years, including Emmy winning *Educating Yorkshire*, *SAS: Who Dares Wins* and *First Dates*. She has published two books – *What She Left Behind* (2022) and *Her Best Friend's Secret* (2021).

Spannung

Freddy Tang

PORT OF LIES

Publisher

Mirror Fiction

December 2021

456 pages

Client

The Grayhawk Agency

Contact

Leonie Kess



Japan Hayakawa
Korea Geulhangari
Vietnam NHA NAM

Full English manuscript available



Voted Mystery novel of the Year by
Taiwanese readers
Official "Books from Taiwan" Selection-
Winner of the Golden Tripod Award,
Taiwan Literature Award, Taipei Book
Fair Award, and Mirror Fiction Million
Dollar Award



**Taiwanese Netflix-Series
was launched in July this
year and immediately
ranked #1.**

Lawyer by training, now a successful director/screenwriter, who also happens to have written the biggest award-winning novel of the year? That about sums up Freddy Tang and his debut thriller, PORT OF LIES.

In 1950s Taiwan, large numbers of Ami tribesmen from the east coast moved north to work on fishing boats based in the port of Bachimen. Raised in these environs, Tung Pao-Chu watched his elders struggling to make ends meet as fishermen and decided he would pursue a different path.

After years as a public defense lawyer and just as he is preparing to leave the office to pursue more lucrative work, Tung is assigned a difficult murder case, with an illegal Indonesian immigrant as the suspect, and his childhood friend as the victim. The brutality of the murders combining the tensions of racial issues has thrust the case into the spotlight, not only from the public eyes, but also the government and big enterprise. Tung begins to doubt whether the case is as simple as it seems. What was the motive for the murders? And what transpired on the fishing boat during its final voyage?

PORT OF LIES is a fast-paced legal thriller that boldly tackles serious issues of the death penalty, immigrant workers, and racial identity. Cinematic in its storytelling and reminiscent of John Grisham's best courtroom drama, this is a page-turner with a lot of heart.

Freddy Tang was a lawyer for five years before he moved overseas to study screenwriting and directing at CalArts. Within his distinctly social realist and humanist writing, the legal system becomes a device that frames the human dilemmas of his characters. PORT OF LIES is his first novel. He is also the screenwriter and director for the TV adaptation slated for 2023 release.

Spannung

Cj Piper

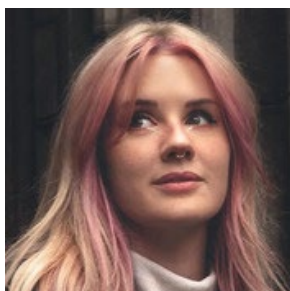
A CHILL IN THE FLAME/ A FROZEN PYRE

Publisher
Bloom Books

2025

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



A CHILL IN THE FLAME:

The first of two prequels to the USA Today and Barnes & Noble bestselling *The Night and It's Moon* series

Before the reeves kept peace throughout the land and demons filled the continent, before Sulgrave and Tarkhany became far-off lands with unknown monarchs, there was Princess Ophir, the last fae ruler of Farehold. Shattered by her sister's murder, Ophir's gift for flame engulfs the castle and those around her. A mysterious siren arrives to quell her fire as an unsuspecting ally works to keep the continent from falling into ruin. Caught between rivals, the princess's fire isn't the only source of heat as passions burn. From the Sulgrave Mountains to the Tarkhany Desert, enemies and allies from around the map arrive to witness the dark and powerful origin of Gyrradin's beasts.

A FROZEN PYRE:

Struggling under the unbearable weight of newfound power, Ophir seeks refuge in Raascot with the scorned fiancé of her slain sister. Manifestation is meant to be the glorious gift of the All Mother, but wherever the princess goes, chaos and demons follow. Torn between the past that scarred her and the future before her, love and rage fuel the princess's history-making steps. Curious eyes from around the continent turn to see what the princess will do as the clock runs out for her to make the most important decision Gyrradin has known. Vengeance, passion, and power uncover the betrayal that divided the land, and the blood that stained a kingdom.

Piper CJ has an M.A. in Folklore and a B.A. in Broadcasting. She is the author of the USA Today and Barnes & Noble bestselling adult fantasy series *The Night and It's Moon* (Bloom Books), and a member of the LGBTQIA+ community. When she isn't playing with her dogs, Arrow and Applesauce, she's making TikToks for her 1 million plus followers, studying fairytales, or creating worlds.

Kris Bertin & Alexander Forbes

THE HOBTOWN MYSTERY SERIES

Publisher
Oni Press

March 2024

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



France Groupe Delcourt



CASE 1: THE CASE OF
THE MISSING MEN



CASE 2: THE CURSED
HERMIT

CASE 3: THE SECRET OF
THE SAUCER

Perfect for fans of *Twin Peaks*, *Blue Velvet* and *Hardy Boys Mysteries*, THE HOBTOWN MYSTERY SERIES takes the teen investigator genre to new levels as they explore small town identity and the surreal in graphic novel form.

A gang of young teens have made it their business to investigate their town's strange occurrences as The Teen Detective Club. Their small world of missing pets and shed-fires is turned upside down when kid adventurer and globetrotter Sam Finch enlists them in their first real case – the search for his missing father. In doing so, he and the teens stumble upon a terrifying world of rural secret societies, weird-but-true folk mythology and more. Kris Bertin and Alexander Forbes have built a unique and discrete universe in Hobtown – an exploration of small town identity filtered through a lens of esoteric spirituality, skewed genre tropes, deft character work, and an incredible eye for detail.

Kris Bertin and Alexander Forbes are childhood friends who trained in separate disciplines in order to reunite as adults and make comic books. Kris Bertin is a writer of novels, short stories, graphic novels, and screenplays. His first collection of short stories, *Bad Things Happen*, won the 2016 Writer's Trust of Canada's Danuta Gleed Award. He is a two-time winner of the Jack Hodgins 'Founders' Award for Short Fiction and his stories have been published in *The Walrus*, *TNQ*, and many others. Bertin and screenwriting partner, Naben Ruthnum, also have projects in development at Oddfellows Entertainment. Alexander Forbes is an artist and graduate of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. Both THE CASE OF THE MISSING MEN and THE CURSED HERMIT were nominated for Doug Wright Awards.