

Belletristik

Herbst 2024

Literatur & Upmarket	3
Commercial	17
Spannung	25
Weitere Highlights	33

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Alison Acheson

BLUE HOURS

Publisher

Freehand Books

Spring 2025

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Keith is a “house-band” – that is, house husband – and daddy blogger whose life is upended by the death of his wife and the revelations that loss brings.

Keith and Charlie’s lives as they knew them are over – gone in the month that it took for Raziel’s advanced leukemia diagnosis to take her from them forever. When six-year-old Charlie goes back to school, Keith is left with a living room of boxes from Raziel’s photography studio. He goes through the contents; it becomes clear that Raziel was not someone he knew. Even worse? He begins to wonder if his beloved son is his. Everything that has given life meaning is not what he thought. And that’s all before Charlie stops talking.

Alison Acheson is the author of *Dance Me to the End: Ten Months and Ten Days with ALS* (Brindle & Glass), which was praised by the *Toronto Star* as “An achingly painful memoir ... told with honesty and grace” and the short story collection *Learning to Live Indoors* (Porcupine’s Quill), which was praised by the *Globe & Mail* for its “arresting and crystalline clarity.” She has also published nine books for young readers, including the Canadian Library Association’s Young Adult Book of the Year finalist, *Mud Girl*. She lives and writes in Vancouver.

Robert P. Baird

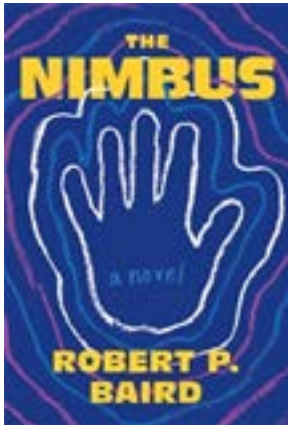
THE NIMBUS

Publisher
Henry Holt

June 2025
384 pages

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Leonie Kress



“Baird is brilliant, and so is his remarkable novel about faith, family, and the life of the mind. Read this wonderful book. You’ll be glad to own it.”

—Annie Dillard

“I think that there are miracles in the world, but realistic novels don’t usually tackle them. Baird’s intelligence, compassion and humor illuminate this astonishingly original debut, which somehow manages to ask hard questions about how to live while also being enormously fun to read.”

—Nell Freudenberger

An exhilarating debut novel about a child whose literal enlightenment sets the stage for an exuberant tragicomedy of marriage, religion, and parenthood.

On an otherwise ordinary fall day on a university campus in Chicago, the toddler son of an ambitious divinity school professor named Adrian Bennett mysteriously starts to glow. The nimbus, as the strange, soft light comes to be known, offers no clues to its origin and frustrates every attempt at rational explanation.

Though the nimbus appears only intermittently, and not to everyone, the otherworldly glow quickly upends the lives of all those who encounter it, including Paul Harkin, Adrian’s broke and feckless graduate student, who likes being a graduate student a little too much for his own good; Renata Bennett, Adrian’s omniscient wife, who can’t see her son glowing even though the nimbus is turning her life upside down; and Warren Kayita, a down-on-his-luck librarian and aging div school alumnus on the run from a violent criminal. As news about the nimbus spreads around the university and beyond, Adrian, Paul, Renata, and Warren are set on a collision course that will threaten their lives and put their deepest convictions to the test.

At once a rollicking intellectual satire, a searing portrait of a family in crisis, and a thrilling metaphysical page-turner, *THE NIMBUS* offers a comic and profound examination of the persistence of spiritual belief in a secular age and humanity’s timeless search for meaning.

Robert P. Baird holds a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago Divinity School, and has worked as an editor at *The New Yorker*, *Harper’s Magazine*, *The Paris Review*, *Esquire*, and *Chicago Review*. He has written for all those places, as well as for *The New York Times*, *The London Review of Books*, *The Guardian*, and *Poetry*, among other publications.

Simon Chevrier

PHOTO UPON REQUEST

Publisher
Editions Stock

2025
192 pages

Client
Le Monte-charge culturel



Contact
Marc Koralnik



The narrator of PHOTO UPON REQUEST is a young man in his twenties, in search of emotions and validation. At the root of his wanderings is his father's illness, who is battling cancer and whose days are numbered. He lives in a shared apartment, looks for a job, meets men on Grindr, and supplements his income by offering sexual services through the app Giton.



"I completely fell under the spell of Simon's writing and restraint. The narrator's voice has a clinical precision, yet it remains deeply literary, and the combination of the two is emotionally explosive. I found this novel profoundly moving, both dark and luminous, and believe it heralds a sensational debut in the literary world."

—Paloma Grossi

When he sees that black-and-white photo, hanging above a bed – a young man with his body folded, his toe brought to his mouth like a child's thumb, the shock is sudden, brutal. Who is this man? What is his story? Thus begins an investigation that gradually takes on the shape of a rebirth.

PHOTO UPON REQUEST paints a poignant portrait of a young man in search meaning. Don't be deceived by its brilliant nonchalance. Beneath the surface, the emotion builds, intensifying until it grips you by the throat.

Simon Chevrier (1992) holds a degree in English. He wrote his first novel, PHOTO UPON REQUEST as part of the Master's program in Creative Writing of Le Havre University, from which he graduated in June 2023.

Karen Campbell

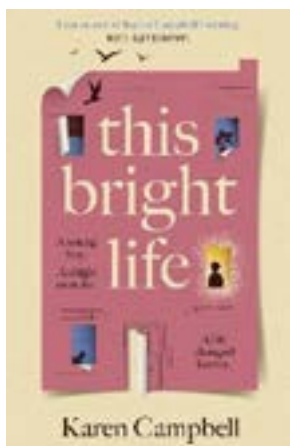
THIS BRIGHT LIFE

Publisher
Canongate

March 2025
298 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Written with great heart and empathy, **THIS BRIGHT LIFE** is a profound, urgent novel about the huge ripples that small actions create.

A young boy.
A single mistake.
Many lives changed forever.

Gerard is twelve. He loves flying round the streets of Glasgow on his bike, or mucking about with his gang, the Broncos. He's a bright kid, but trouble seems to follow him. No one knows what it's like at home for Gerard; he's used to carrying a lot on his small shoulders.

Gerard doesn't always make good decisions. And on one April morning, he makes a very bad one – one that will upend his whole world – and the worlds of two women he encounters in a moment that changes all their lives. For Margaret, the shocking incident brings her back from the edge of grief; for Clare it's the start of a new friendship that she desperately needs to propel her forward.

Gerard faces a bewildering stream of concerned adults clutching files, unfamiliar streets to navigate, a strange bed to sleep in, and the very real chance he won't see his wee brother and sister again. But is there, finally, a more hopeful future ahead for all three of them?

Heartbreaking, and yet brimful of humour, compassion and hope, **THIS BRIGHT LIFE** is a story about messy lives, second chances and the many hands it takes to build a good life.

Karen Campbell is originally from Glasgow, and now lives in south west Scotland. She graduated with distinction from Glasgow University's Creative Writing Masters, and won an SAC New Writers Award and a Creative Scotland Bursary. Before turning to writing, she was a police officer in Glasgow, then press officer with Glasgow City Council. She also tutors in creative writing and was Writer in Residence at Dumfries & Galloway Council. The disconnect between what we see on the surface and the reality underneath runs through much of her work, with Karen going on to write novels such as *This Is Where I Am* (Bloomsbury 2013), which was a Radio 4 Book at Bedtime. Her eighth novel, *Paper Cut* (Canongate 2022) was a Waterstones Scotland Book of the Month and won the 2023 Blairgowrie Bookmark Prize. Karen's appeared on Radio 4 Women's Hour, Radio 3's The Verb, Radio Scotland and BBC television's Big Scottish Book Club.



Praise for *Paper Cup*:

"A truly original, brilliant novel"

–*Daily Mail*

"Very special indeed . . . your world will be a better place for reading this stor"

–*Joanna Cannon*

Sheldon Costa

THE GREAT WORK

Publisher
Quirk Books

October 2025

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



True Grit meets *Annihilation* in a supernatural ride through the violent, collapsing dream of the great American frontier.

In the Pacific Northwest of 1876, a dragon is causing widespread fear and delusion among those who encounter it. Gentle Montgomery, who has led a quiet life with his business partner and best friend Liam O’Kelly, selling tinctures and studying alchemy, finds his world shattered when Liam drowns while pursuing the creature, believing it to be a mythical salamander that holds the secret to eternal life. Devastated, Gentle vows to find the monster to resurrect Liam, but his quest is complicated by the arrival of Kitt, his fourteen-year-old nephew, who is fleeing their abusive family.

Despite wanting to protect Kitt, Gentle reluctantly becomes his guardian as they journey into the perilous Olympic Peninsula, where the dragon’s influence brings forth horrors from both nature and humanity. As they track the salamander, they realize they are not alone in the hunt and must confront their own troubled pasts, uncovering dark truths about the American West.

Imaginative and gripping, THE GREAT WORK is a hard-charging yet deeply felt story about the toxic myth of American expansion, the demands of masculinity and the strange territory of male friendship, and what it means to form a family. A speculative Western with the racing pulse of a supernatural thriller or horror novel, the novel will appeal to genre-bending readers of *Red Rabbit*, or those drawn to books like *Our Wives Under the Sea* or *Our Share of Night* which mix magic with serious thematic and emotional impact.

Sheldon Costa is a writer originally from Post Falls, Idaho. His fiction has appeared in or is forthcoming from *Electric Literature*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Conjunctions*, *The Georgia Review*, and *Crazyhorse*, among others. He is a winner of the AWP Intro Journal Project, the 2018 Helen Earnhart Harley Creative Writing Fellowship Award, and the Cream City Review’s 2019 Summer Prize in Fiction, judged by Ramona Ausubel. His work has been selected as a runner-up in both the Pinch Literary Awards and the Masters Review’s Short Story Award for New Writers, and nominated for a pushcart.

Michael Antonio Downing

BLACK CHEROKEE

Publisher
Scribner Canada

Spring 2025
300 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Praise for *Saga Boy*:

“A vibrant, evocative, and searing account of the lives of Black immigrants. Downing helps us understand the rage and resilience of Black boys – motherless, fatherless, itinerant – and the communities that intervene to raise them. The triumph of *Saga Boy* is the triumph of Blackness everywhere – the irrepressible instinct for survival in a world where Blacks are prey.”

—Ian Williams

A timeless story of self-discovery and the search for identity, chronicling Ophelia Blue Rivers’ struggles to find her place in the world while being raised by the indomitable Grandma Blue, an old Black descendent of Cherokee freedmen in rural South Carolina in the 1990s.

Ophelia is perpetually not fitting in and must reconcile the loss of the family she never had with the imperfect reality of the one that has her. Along the way she encounters moments of meanness and magic that shape her emergence and asks profound questions about the forces that make us who we are.

Written in prose that ranges from the poetic to the precise to the prophetic, Downing unfolds his vision of an American South where a culture of sumptuous soul food and deep ecclesiastical faith sit side by side with a legacy of erasing and enslaving Indigenous and Black peoples. These are the waters Ophelia must swim in to find her way to herself. Born into an estranged and unconventional family, she journeys through her youth haunted by a past she never lived. She has no simple answers to the questions troubling her: “Who am I?” “Where do I belong?” “Why is my family so scattered?” Ghosts return, patterns repeat, myths become reality, and the lush southern landscape persists like time itself.

BLACK CHEROKEE is at once a vital portrait of 1990s American life and an intensely imaginative, lyrical meditation on family, love and belonging.

Antonio Michael Downing is the author of *Saga Boy* (Penguin / PRH and Milkweed) – an acclaimed memoir admired by both Giller winner Ian Williams, who called it “...the triumph of Blackness everywhere,” and Kiese Laymon, who called it: “Singularly dazzling...” He has been shortlisted for several awards including as emerging author at the 2019 Taylor Prize and the 2021 Speaker’s Book Award. He is also the author of the children’s picture book *Stars in My Crown* (Tundra Books) and writes and performs music as John Orpheus. BLACK CHEROKEE is his debut novel.

Bobbi French

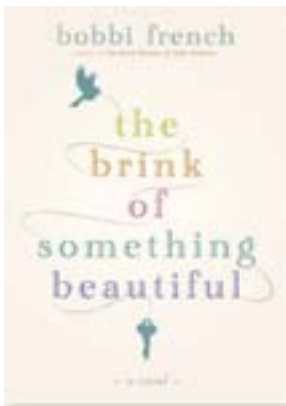
THE BRINK OF SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Publisher
HarperCollins Canada

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Spring 2026
293 pages

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Praise for *The Good Women of Safe Harbour*:

“Heartfelt and moving... Honest, deeply satisfying, and with a gut-punch of an ending... A triumphant first novel.”

—*The Miramichi Reader*

“Masterfully crafted, graceful and compassionate ... French’s intertwining of heartbreaking and hilarious is nothing short of spectacular and advances a profound, satisfying, and rewarding experience.”

—Thomas Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award jury citation

“Moving and humorous at the same time. Emotionally told and with a character whose voice sings, Bobbi French creates a story that is entirely dedicated to forgiveness and the power of female friendships.”

—Gail Anderson-Dargatz

A heart-stirring novel of loss, healing and hope, and the second chances made possible by strong women, enduring friendships and found family.

Ruby Nolan is a new widow. Hidden in the grief and guilt for her husband Joe is a sense that she is free from a marriage she never wanted. As her mother Vera descends into dementia, Ruby starts thinking about who she will be as these dominant figures in her life move on.

An encounter with Maxine, a pregnant teen who reminds Ruby of her own sorry past, and a shocking revelation from Vera send Ruby on a collision course with old truths and regrets, and on a mission to help Maxine whether she wants the help or not.

While a friend warns Ruby that you can’t help anyone until you help yourself, it’s a lesson Ruby has to learn the hard way if she wants to find peace and redemption.

Set over the course of one winter in 1990s Newfoundland, *THE BRINK OF SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL* is the life-affirming, ultimately hopeful story of how women lift each other up and figure themselves out.

Bobbi French’s acclaimed novel *The Good Women of Safe Harbour* won Newfoundland Reads, was a finalist for the Dartmouth Book Award and the Thomas Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award, and was longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award and the Leacock Medal Award. It was translated into German (Diederichs Verlag) and Hebrew. A former psychiatrist, she is also the author of *Finding Me in France*, a memoir chronicling the year following her decision to leave medicine to pursue writing. She lives in Nova Scotia.

Yann Martel

SON OF NOBODY

Publisher
Knopf Canada

Fall 2025
250 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



UK & Commonwealth Canongate
Books
Netherland Prometheus
French Canada Éditions XYZ
ANZ Text Publishing



“Readers’ appetites for new versions of popular – and obscure – tales from Greek and Roman times are limitless. The latest author to join the fray is *Life of Pi*’s Yann Martel. The Booker prize winner will publish *Son of Nobody*, a retelling of the Trojan war with a “modern twist.” –*The Guardian*

Praise for Yann Martel *Life of Pi*:
“A story to make you believe in the soulsustaining power of fiction.”
–*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

A singularly ambitious, creatively adventurous novel that draws on history, the imagination, and Homer’s *Iliad* to offer a fresh and original take on the Trojan War, and on the conflicts and losses incurred in the quest for a meaningful life.

A man arrives on a foreign shore. His expedition holds promise and he has high hopes. He strives mightily. It all goes wrong. He has much he could say about that, but his story is lost – until another man arrives on another foreign shore, he too with high hopes.

Psoas of Midea is a goatherd’s son who leaves his wife and children behind in order to help Menelaus get his beautiful wife back. His story is discovered 30 centuries later by a scholar who has left his own wife and child behind in order to accept a fellowship at Oxford where he is intrigued by papyrus fragments he believes comprise a lost Trojan War epic, the Psoad.

SON OF NOBODY is composed in two voices: the first, a series of fragments from antiquity that tell the epic story of Troy from a lost, alt-Homeric tradition; the second, the voice of the modern-day scholar who assembles and comments on these fragments while navigating a conflict of his own.

By centering his tale on the story of a commoner, Martel upends the regal perspective of the Epic Cycle, which has been handed down to us through millennia; by providing a dual storyline, he offers a poignant glimpse into the foibles that lead to the folly of war, and those that lead to the folly of failed relationships.

For its sheer inventiveness, puzzle-like quality, and mingling of the serious and the playful, SON OF NOBODY is both thoroughly unique and distinctly Yann Martel.

Yann Martel is the author of the Man Booker Prize-winning novel *Life of Pi*, a #1 international bestseller that has been published in more than 50 territories, sold more than 15 million copies, spent more than a year on *The New York Times* best-seller list, and been adapted into an Oscar-winning film and a Broadway play. Martel is also the author of the novels *The High Mountains of Portugal*, *Beatrice and Virgil*, and *Self*, the collection of stories *The Facts Behind the Helsinki Roccatios*, and *101 Letters to a Prime Minister*. He lives in Saskatchewan.

Bora Lee Reed

LETTERS TO ANOTHER HOME

Publisher

Simon and Schuster

Spring 2026

Client

Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress



A powerful story about what it means to build a life for yourself and your family against all odds.

North Korea, 1950: Oksoon believes that the war is finally over in Pyongyang. The Americans are here to stay, she's told, but her father and eldest brother have gone south and she anxiously waits for their return. When the Chinese army unexpectedly attacks, Oksoon must flee with her mother and second brother in search of safety and to reunite their family. Journeying from freezing winter in the rural north to the seedy back alleys of Seoul during the summer, Oksoon and her family fall in with an unlikely group of miscreants – a prostitute, a baduk gambler, an opportunistic ferryman – and question how far they'll go, and what moral boundaries they'll cross, to find their missing relatives.

Meanwhile, far to the south near Jinju, Oksoon's close cousin Junho flees the war to find refuge at the Lord's Beloved Home for Children. As the orphanage struggles to keep its doors open, Junho is put in charge of drafting letters to rich American benefactors, convincing them to send money to Korea. But when the enigmatic orphanage director brings her aristocratic niece to stay at the Home – a beautiful young woman harboring a secret – Junho finds himself caught between his impulse for survival and his growing affections, which put him at risk of being expelled from the only safe place he knows.

As Oksoon and Junho make their way towards each other and eventually unite, they fight to save themselves and hold their family together, even as the war threatens to tear everything apart. Told in alternating points of view, *LETTERS TO ANOTHER HOME* highlights the tension between personal dreams and duty to family, the power of resilience, and how choices made in a brief moment have consequences that reverberate for lifetimes.

Bora Lee Reed was born in Seoul, South Korea, and immigrated to the U.S. as a young child. She grew up in Southern California, among a vibrant Korean immigrant community. She holds an MFA from Warren Wilson College and has been awarded residences from Hedgebrook, Ragdale, and UCross. Bora, a Reese's Book Club LitUp Fellow, now lives in Berkeley, CA, where she works as the director of communications for UC Berkeley's public policy school.

Heather O'Neill

THE IRISH GOODBYE

Publisher
Henry Holt

October 2025
152 pages

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Leonie Kress



UK Mantle/Pan Macmillan



Heather Aimee O'Neill's masterful **THE IRISH GOODBYE** is a hearty, engrossing debut, an exploration of how family ties can both lift and limit, and a celebration of the complicated bonds of sisterhood.

It's been years since the three Ryan sisters were all home at the same time. Two decades ago their lives were upended by an accident on their brother Topher's boat: a friend's brother was killed, the lawsuit nearly bankrupted their parents, and Topher spiraled into suicide. Now the Ryan women are back for Thanksgiving, hungry to reconnect – and each sister is carrying a heavy secret. The eldest, Cait, feels responsible for the crash, and is rekindling a flame with her high school crush Luke – Topher's best friend, and the brother of the boy who died. Middle sister Alice's surprise pregnancy threatens the career she's restarting after raising kids, but she worries her marriage will be equally doomed if she terminates. And the youngest, Maggie, is finally taking the risk of bringing a woman she loves home to her Irish Catholic mother, at the same time deeply regretting her recent reunion with her ex. Infusing everything is the grief for Topher that none of the Ryans have figured out how to carry together instead of separately.

When Cait invites Luke to Thanksgiving dinner, old tensions boil over and new truths surface, nearly overpowering the flickering light of their family bond. Far more than a family holiday will be ruined unless the sisters can find a way to forgive themselves-and each other.

Heather Aimee O'Neill teaches creative writing at CUNY Hunter College of New York and is the Assistant Director of the Sackett Street Writers' Workshop. She lives in Brooklyn with her partner and their sons.

Youssef Rakha

THE DISSENTERS

Publisher
Graywolf

February 2025
272 pages

Client
Ayesha Pande Literary

Contact
Leonie Kress



UK Peninsula Press



Praise for *The Crocodiles*:

“Rakha writes with keen authenticity and imbues each scene in this kaleidoscopic, intelligent, and unconventional novel with unparalleled verisimilitude, essential reading for our turbulent times.”

—*Booklist*

THE DISSENTERS is a tour de force, a transgressive novel about love and revolution that spans seventy years of Egyptian history.

Amna, Nimo, Mouna – these are all names for a single Egyptian woman whose life has mirrored that of her country. After her death in 2015, her son, Nour, ascends to the attic of their house where he dreams of his mother in a series of ever more immersive visions: Amna as a young woman forced into an arranged marriage in the 1950s; a coquettish student of French known to her confidants as Nimo; a self-made divorcee and a lover; a “pious mama” donning her hijab; and, finally, a feminist activist during the Arab Spring. Charged and renewed by these visions of a woman he has always known as Mouna, Nour begins a series of fevered letters to his sister – who has been estranged from Mouna and from Egypt for many years – in an attempt to reconcile what both siblings know about this mercurial woman, their country, and the possibility for true revolution after so much has failed.

Hallucinatory, erotic, and stylish, THE DISSENTERS is a transcendent portrait of a woman and an era that explodes our ideas of faith, gender roles, freedom, and political agency.

Youssef Rakha is an Egyptian writer of fiction and nonfiction working in both Arabic and English. He is the author of *The Book of the Sultan's Seal*, *The Crocodiles*, and *Paulo*, which was long-listed for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction and won the 2017 Sawiris Award.

Ailsa Ross

HOVEL

Publisher
Strange Light

March 2026
300 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A year in the life of a restless woman who resists the temptation to run away from her disheveled life, and tries instead to make a familiar world unfamiliar, and a small life big.

A Scottish woman has moved across the ocean, to a grubby, over-priced apartment in a town deep in the Canadian mountains, to be with a man. To stop herself from running away, for a year she devises weekly projects to keep herself in one place. Taking lessons from ascetics and anchoresses, adventurers and artists, she seeks to make her small world big and the familiar unfamiliar. She tries to accept the undesirable parts of her life. She thinks if she can just find a way of loving all that, she will accept her fate of living far from family and friends, four thousand miles across the sea.

The projects are varied, and they often break down amid bouts of homesickness. She photographs everything she dislikes in an attempt to turn that hate into love, practices walking barefoot, follows wolf and lynx tracks through the frost, writes letters advocating for foraging and birds, learns a Hebridean chant, sleeps in snow banks, and dreams up meetings with foxes and cabbages. She immerses herself, and the reader, in disappointment and wonder, loss and hope. Ultimately, she asks, can we accept our situation while also taking control of our story?

Set in Canada and Scotland, interspersed with beautifully curated black and white photographs, and rich in atmosphere like an old tapestry woven through with the strange, bright threads of these times, HOVEL is an act of foraging – a fusion of lived moments and imagined ones that brings readers on a fresh trip through the instants that define us humans, and as beings.

For fans of Claire-Louise Bennett's *Pond*, Kyo Maclear's *Birds Art Life*, Sheila Heti's *Motherhood*, and Doireann Ní Ghríofa's *A Ghost in the Throat*.

Alisa Ross writes about people, places, and art for *Outside*, *Guardian*, BBC, *National Geographic Traveler*, and many others, and her work has been syndicated by Cambridge University Press. She is also the author of the illustrated children's book *The Woman Who Rode a Shark: and Other Stories of Daring Women*. Born and raised in the north of Scotland, Ross now lives on Treaty 4 territory in the Canadian Badlands.

Daniel Simon

ASHLAND

Publisher
Europa Editions

Winter 2026
196 pages

Client
Ayesha Pande Literary

Contact
Leonie Kress



Let me not be one of them, one of the many who belong nowhere. Let me have this place of my own making.

ASHLAND is, in the author's words, "a story that's been with me for so long that I think it really happened even though I made it up." In rich and beautiful language, and in a chorus of many voices, Simon tells the story of a once booming New Hampshire mill town, bounded by dammed rivers and checkered with fallow fields, and of a family stubbornly clinging to their home, their land, and their memories.

Ellie and Jennie's mother – Carolyn's grandmother – abandoned her two daughters when they were small, chasing a dream of freedom, a fact of which Carolyn is secretly proud. Ellie and Jennie each declared their own independence, in a sense. Ellie gave birth to Carolyn at the age of 17, and Jennie gave birth to her daughter Marie at 14. Neither married their children's fathers. By novel's end, we learn that Carolyn, too, is pregnant and on her own.

ASHLAND doesn't follow a linear progression, rather the narration is passed like a baton from Carolyn to Jennie, to Jennie's partner, Andy, to Ellie and Carolyn's nearest neighbors, Edith and Gordon; and to Carolyn's writing professor, Geoff. Each character shares their story of love and loss, their bitter or ecstatic attachment to the land, their yearning for connection or freedom. Patterns repeat, for good or ill, and tragedies and choices echo through the generations. But the final word is with Carolyn, on the cusp of adulthood (and motherhood). She is the writer and keeper of memories, forever recovering the past and making a place for herself to belong.

Daniel Simon is the founder and publisher of Seven Stories Press. He is the co-author, with Jack Hoffman, of *Run Run Run: The Lives of Abbie Hoffman* and translator of *Van Gogh: Self Portraits* by Pascal Bonafoux.

Etienne van Heerden

HOW TO STEAL THE MILKY WAY

Publisher
Tafelberg

September 2023
408 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



A rich and compelling novel – think Thomas Mann and Gabriel Garcia Marquez in an African landscape.

Just outside the remote semi-desert village of Gebeente (‘Skeleton’), near Sutherland’s great astronomical observatory, a woman, the Observatory’s cleaner, lives alone. Once a young single mother, shunned by her family and the community, she had come to live here with her flame-haired child, her own ‘moon-and-star child of the Immaculate Conception’. But one day Social Services took her boy away from her. Thirty years later, he returns from the city, a Second Coming, but he is again rejected, accused of a brutal murder – and also, strangely, of having stolen the Milky Way.

The case, to be tried in a local court, brings outsiders to town. The Magistrate arrives by train on a line not used for many years. His old legal rival, the Prosecutor, arrives by car – and the City and The Law come face to face with a village rife with secrets, rich in rumour and myth-making, astronomy and mystery. In a layered and resonant narrative peopled with memorable characters, Van Heerden examines guilt, revenge and forgiveness, faith and imagination, and the truth, lies and legacies of a complex land.

As with his earlier classic, *The Long Silence of Mario Salviati*, Van Heerden tells an extraordinary, compelling story ‘weaving magic realism and history... capturing the stark beauty of the Karoo region and its people’ – his own ‘landscape of the mind’.

Etienne van Heerden’s debut novel *Tooberg* (1986) was internationally acclaimed and awarded many of South Africa’s major prizes. Among an impressive body of work, notable novels on the global stage include *The Long Silence of Mario Salviati* (2000), *In Love’s Place* (2005) and *30 Nights in Amsterdam* (2008). He has taught literature at the University of Cape Town, where he is Professor Emeritus, for many years. His work has been translated into twelve languages.



“The full extent of Etienne van Heerden’s talent is exhibited in this work: his unbridled imagination... a sharp analysis of society; a fine sense of humour and irony; a master storyteller... nothing short of a tour de force.”

–LitNet

“Monumental, overwhelming, resounding confirmation of Van Heerden’s exceptional powers.”

–Rapport

“Van Heerden’s words blast the reader’s mind through a clear, blue African sky.”

– The Telegraph

Barbara Erskine

THE STORY SPINNER

Publisher

Harper Collins
sold in a two book deal

Client

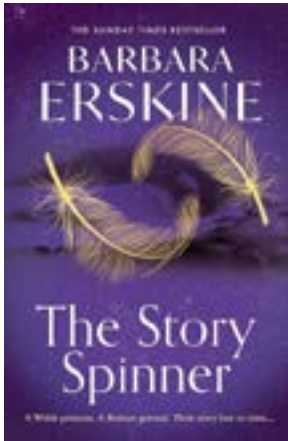
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

August 2024

512 pages

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



A thrilling tale of lost love, betrayal and secrets that have lain buried over a thousand years...

An immediate No.1 *Sunday Times* bestseller

One of Waterstones' 'Best New Historical Fiction Hardbacks'

THE STORY SPINNER follows Cadi, a Welsh writer who stumbles across the story of an ancient Welsh princess and a mystery dating back to the Roman era when she desperately tries to save the meadow next to her home from housing developers.

The land of the Silures, 382 AD: Elen is a princess promised to a general of Rome. Macsen came to Wales seeking an alliance that would advance his quest for power. Despite warnings her marriage is destined for heartache, Elen is determined to honour her vows. But this union will change her destiny forever..

Camp Meadow, 2024: Cadi is a writer who has discovered Elen's lost story. As she puts pen to paper, she hears the sound of ghostly marching feet. Opening the gate to the ancient meadow behind her cottage, could the secret behind Elen's fate lie closer than she thinks? But someone is desperate to keep the past buried, plotting to destroy the meadow...

Can Cadi uncover Elen's story before it's lost to time?

Barbara Erskine is the acclaimed author of many internationally best-selling novels beginning with the much loved classic, *Lady of Hay*, which has been continuously in print for more than 37 years. In addition to her much-loved novels, Barbara has also written three bestselling volumes of short stories. Her books have been published around the world in English and also in more than 25 other languages. She lives in Hay-on-Wye. Barbara is currently writing her next novel, *The Valley Of Ravens*, also set in Wales.

Commercial



"The full extent of Etienne van Heerden's talent is exhibited in this work: his unbridled imagination... a sharp analysis of society; a fine sense of humour and irony; a master storyteller... nothing short of a tour de force."

—Santa Montefiore

"A thoroughly enjoyable novel – this is Barbara Erskine at her best. Both stories were so absorbing and so well intertwined. I looked forward every day to my reading time knowing this was waiting for me – what a treat! Definitely going on my best books of the year list"

—Elizabeth Chadwick

"Erskine never disappoints."

—Historical Novel Society

"A first-rate storyteller"

—The Bookseller

Seo Eun-chaе

A WEEK BEFORE I DIE

Publisher

Goldenbough (Minumsa)

March 2018

272 pages

Client

The Grayhawk Agency Ltd.

Contact

Leonie Kess



Film CJ ENM

Indonesia Shira Media

Complexе Chinese Titan

Russia Azbooka-Atticus



In Korea, there’s a belief that the Grim Reaper appears in the form of someone you love the most, calling your name with the voice you long to hear, before taking you away.

Hui-wan can’t believe her eyes when she sees her childhood crush Ram-wu stand in front of her again – since he already died in a car accident to save her six years ago. Ever since his death, Hui-wan has been drowning in guilt and grief. Yet now, he suddenly returns as a messenger from the underworld.

Ram-wu warns Hui-wan that she, too, is fated to die painfully in a car accident in seven days. However, he offers her a peaceful early death if she calls his name three times. Hui-wan hesitates, longing for more time with him, and the two end up spending her final week together. Determined to make every moment count, Ram-wu decides to create a bucket list for her – a chance to truly live before it’s too late. Throughout the week, Hui-wan rediscovers the bittersweet rush of first love and the simple joy of being alive, all with Ram-wu by her side. As the time ticks down, will Hui-wan meet the end Ram-mu foretells, or is his return meant for something more?

Intertwining past and present, A WEEK BEFORE I DIE unfolds a heart-wrenching tale of love, loss, regret, and hope. Through the voices of Hui-wan, Ram-wu, his mother, and their friends, the novel transcends its romantic core and becomes a soothing letter to those who have survived and those still healing from loss.

Seo Eun-chaе was born in 1988 in a coastal village in Korea, where she still lives. While working various jobs, she has been publishing her stories on the webnovel platform BritG. A WEEK BEFORE I DIE is her debut novel and has been adapted into a web-series by CJ ENM, set to premiere in 2025.



“As the story unfolds, secrets are gradually revealed, unveiling a complex web of relationships that goes beyond mere first love. When the truth about the Grim Reaper is finally uncovered, you’ll find yourself with a lump in your throat.”

–*The Asia Economy Daily Reviews*

Quotes from Korean readers:

“I absolutely love the storylines and the emotions of each character. The descriptions are equally amazing. Thank you – I truly enjoyed reading it”

“Each chapter is heartbreaking, filled with bittersweet emotions. However, it’s not completely dark, so I ended up reading it all in one sitting.”

Romance

Hayley Gelfuso

THE BOOK OF LOST HOURS

Publisher
Atria Books

Client
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

August 2025
479 pages

Contact
Leonie Kress



Hayley Gelfuso's gorgeous debut **THE BOOK OF LOST HOURS** evokes the love story and touch of magic mix of *All The Light You Cannot See* and *The Midnight Library*.

It's the eve of Kristalnacht and the child of a German Jewish watchmaker, Lisavet Levy, finds herself trapped in a mysterious place called the time space, where she walks like a shadow among the dead through memories of the past. When she discovers that living timekeepers are entering the time space intent on destroying memories in order to maintain a version of history they deem to be best, Lisavet sets about trying to salvage the past in a book of lost memories. As history outside of the time space marches into the Cold War era, Lisavet finds herself being followed by American timekeeper Ernest Duquesne, who is intent on keeping her from her task. What ensues between them will change the course of history forever.

Decades later, Ernest Duquesne mysteriously disappears, presumed dead at the hands of a Russian timekeeper. At his funeral, his niece, Amelia, is approached by a CIA agent named Moira who tells her about her uncle's past and enlists her help in recovering his memories from the time space. However, as things progress, Amelia quickly becomes aware that the past is not as straightforward as she would like to believe, and that Moira, along with those she works for, might not be telling the whole truth of how Ernest Duquesne was killed.

THE BOOK OF LOST HOURS will keep you enthralled from the first page with its heart and at the edge of your seat with its twists and turns! And, when you finish, you will leave wondering about the precious commodity of memories. As Lisavet soon comes to realize, history as she knows it is not set in stone, and the past, though a memory, can still be altered.

By day, **Hayley Gelfuso** works in marketing and development for the Brookfield Zoo. She has a masters in sustainability and wrote her thesis on the intersection between history, storytelling, and the natural world. As a writer, she is drawn to stories of the wild and wonderful that are rooted in real world history and science. Her poetry about her experiences working in the conservation field has been published in the Plumwood Mountain Journal. She lives in the Chicago suburbs with her husband.

E.K. Johnston

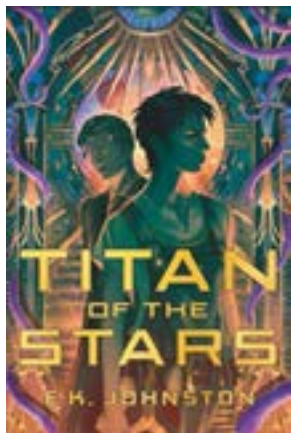
TITAN OF THE STARS

Publisher
Tundra/PRH

Summer 2025
268 pages

Client
Inked Entertainment

Contact
Leonie Kress



From #1 NYT Bestselling author E.K. Johnston comes TITAN OF THE STARS – a claustrophobic love story against an impossible backdrop – where *Titanic* meets *Aliens*.

Celeste knows every inch of this ship, and she watches from the deck, proud of her work as the maiden voyage of the Titan of the Stars launches. She's been an apprentice engineer on the ship for six months and is optimistic for the promises of this new journey—this new life.

Dominic arrives at his suite where a maid is busy unpacking his things. His chest is tight, already feeling anxious inside his dad's precious new ship. Once it launches, he's trapped, inside the ship, and inside the life his father has chosen for him – a life that will leave his dreams of art school in the ashes.

Dominic and Celeste are decks away, but it might as well be worlds as the ship makes its way to the colony on Mars, hosting the working class stiffs in the lower decks and the creme de la cream of society in the upper decks, sipping their champagne as they wander through ballrooms, casinos, museums, and even an art installation of newly collected alien life forms frozen in layers of glass plating.

Discovered under melted ice caps and intended for delivery to a highly advanced research station on Mars, the aliens are monitored around the clock, and sealed behind massive layers of shatterproof glass... Until a malfunction releases them into the ship, with zero discrimination for class, decks, or human life. Both Earth and Mars agree the ship must be destroyed before it docks at the Mars station, but when the final escape pod malfunctions, Dominic and Celeste must work together before they are torn apart.

E.K. Johnston's books range from contemporary fantasy to fairy-tale reimaginings, from hopeful sci-fi to quiet epics, and from small town Ontario to a galaxy far, far away. She has no plans to rein anything in.

Susin Nielsen

SNAP

Publisher
Harper Collins Canada

Spring 2025
319 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Film/TV ABC Signature
(intention of producing a Serie)



Frances Partridge, 55, is a beloved children's author. Geraint Blevins, 41, is an auto mechanic and devoted family man. Parker Poplawski, 23, is just starting her career as a wardrobe assistant on a hit TV show. What do these three people have in common?

Nothing, that's what. Until each of them reaches a breaking point, and snaps in truly spectacular ways. They meet in a court-mandated anger management class: three very different people forced to spend a lot of time together, who slowly end up bonding and helping one another in unexpected ways – whether it's to move on, or to exact revenge.

Lighthearted, timely and laugh-out-loud funny, SNAP is Nielsen at the top of her story-telling game, featuring flawed but relatable characters whose heartaches, foibles and experiences are recognizable and universal. The novel explores marriage, parenthood, friendship, power, sexual assault and justice with a propulsive narrative that hits the upmarket commercial bull's-eye.

Susin Nielsen is the multiple-award winning author of seven middle grade and young adult novels and two picture books. Her books have won the Governor General's Literary Award, the Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Award, the UKLA Award and over a dozen young readers' choice awards. A number of her titles have been nominated for the prestigious Carnegie Medal. Her books have been translated into more than fifteen languages, from French to Japanese to Ukrainian. Her latest award-winning creation as a TV writer, *Family Law*, aired on the CW in the US and on Global in Canada and AppleTV+ in the UK, and has fans around the world from Australia and Italy to Iceland and Brazil. Her following and proven success as well as her wit will make her a tremendous partner in the promotion of this book. She lives in Vancouver with her family and two extremely destructive cats.

Commercial



"A beautifully wrought, compassionate and entertaining novel."

—*Sunday Times UK*, on *No Fixed Address*

"A humorous, heart-breaking account of grief-induced anxiety."

—*The Guardian*, on *Optimists Die First*

"This savvy, insightful take on the modern family makes for nearly non-stop laugh."

—*Kirkus* (starred), on *We Are All Made of Molecules*

"A charming wonder of a book... with an emotional acuity and force all its own.."

—*Quill & Quire* (starred), on *No Fixed Address*

Alyson Richman

THE MISSING PAGES

Publisher
Union Square

October 2025
390 pages

Client
Union Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



THE MISSING PAGES grapples with life and death, and the afterlife. Richly historic, touching upon Harry Widener's gilded age life, cut short by the sinking of the Titanic but so emotionally propulsive. It is ghost story, a family mystery, and a meditation on mortality AND a celebration of books.

The first seeds of inspiration for THE MISSING PAGES were given to the author by her daughter, who as part of a summer enrichment program, found herself taking a tour of Harvard University. As she stood outside the steps of The Harry Elkins Memorial Library there, the tour guide shared the story of how Harry, a graduate of Harvard College and a passionate bibliophile, had been on board the Titanic with his parents after a book buying trip in Europe.

According to the lore, Harry did not get on a lifeboat after the Titanic struck an iceberg, because he instead chose to go back to his cabin to retrieve a priceless book. After the news of his death was confirmed, his mother, Eleanor Widener, decided to honor his memory by creating a new library at his alma mater, ensuring his book collection would always have a home and be enjoyed by both students and scholars.

Alyson Richman is the *USA Today* bestselling and #1 international bestselling author of several historical novels including *The Velvet Hours*, *The Garden of Letters*, and *The Lost Wife*, which is currently in development for a major motion picture. Alyson graduated from Wellesley College with a degree in art history and Japanese studies. She herself is an accomplished painter and her novels combine her deep love of art, historical research, and travel. Alyson's novels have been published in twenty-five languages and have reached the bestseller lists both in the United States and abroad. She lives on Long Island with her husband and two children, where she is currently at work on her next novel.

Commercial

Cortney Winn

VESSELLESS

Publisher
Self-Published

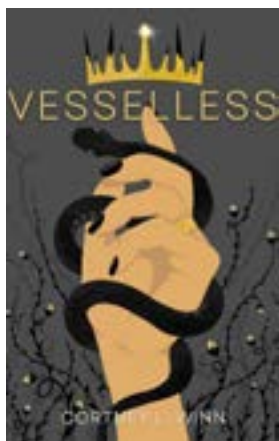
March 2024
491 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Spain Auction underway



Amazon Charts (September 2024):
#2 the Enemies-to-Lovers list
#3 New Adult romance
#4 in fantasy romance ebooks

VESSELLESS is a tantalizing slow burn with a strong female lead who dares to challenge patriarchal regimes. This gripping enemies to lovers story will have you hooked until the very last page. For fans of *Fourth Wing* and *The Serpent and the Wings of Night*.

Nizzara, reluctant heir to the Kingdom of Zarr, has always been able to perceive spirits better than the average caster. When she enters a deadly tournament to end her betrothal, she's determined to win without succumbing to the addictive spirit magic she channels or taking a life in the duel ring. But finding herself outmatched, Nizzara must face her fear of power and team up with Dagen – an enemy who is half-ghost and all charm – to survive the tournament.

Dagen, the last King of Zarr, was killed by Nizzara's father ten years ago. Now a half-ghost – able to phase between his human and spirit form – he is stuck in another realm, hunting wretched souls. When his keeper offers him a chance to reclaim his freedom in exchange for Nizzara's soul, Dagen takes the deal.

There's only one catch: she must freely give it to him by the tournament's end or his own soul is forfeit.

Cortney Winn is a well-connected BookTok sensation poised to take her writing to the next level with the right partnerships. She is married to her best friend and is a mom to two wild boys. Most days you'll find her in jeans and a hoodie (even if it's warm outside) with a Diet Coke nearby. Cortney writes early in the mornings, starting her days at 4:30am and ends every day with reading, which consists of a lot of textbooks as she nears the completion of her bachelor's degree in marketing. Her two favorite genres are romance and fantasy.

Romantasy

Kristine Winters

THE CHRISTMAS CURE

Publisher

Simon and Schuster Canada

November 2025

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



“Karma Brown keeps delivering knockout after knockout. She is an auto-buy author for me!”

—Taylor Jenkins Reid

A charming, pitch-perfect holiday rom-com about a big-city doctor who returns to her small town and, when she is knocked unconscious, wakes up in her past, with a chance to make different choices and maybe even find love – just in time for Christmas

When newly-single Dr. Elizabeth Munro heads home to charming Harmony Hills for her sister’s wedding, it’s as though she never left – and she can’t escape the questions about her own, recently canceled, wedding. The town has a legend that if it snows at precisely the same moment the holiday tree is lit, any wish made at the same time will come true. Elizabeth has an embarrassing fall in front of extremely handsome best man Liam at the moment the tree is lit, and all she can think is, “I wish I could erase the last five minutes, oh, and maybe also the past year of my life...”

When Elizabeth next opens her eyes she’s still in Harmony Hills, but it’s not this Christmas – it’s last Christmas, and she has a second chance.

Kristine Winters is a new pseudonym for Karma Brown, the author of six bestselling novels including the #1 international bestseller *Recipe for a Perfect Wife*, and most recently *What Wild Women Do*. She is also one half of the bestselling romcom writing duo Maggie Knox (*The Holiday Swap* and *All I Want For Christmas*). She is also the author of *The 4% Fix: How One Hour Can Change Your Life*.

Romance

Martin Davies

MRS HUDSON SERIES

Client

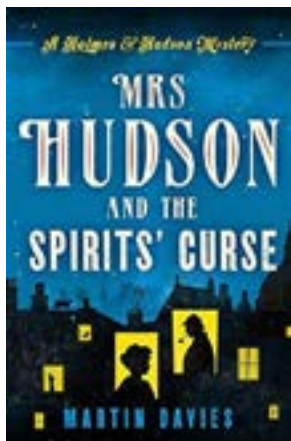
Teresa Chris Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



USA Berkley



Playfully breaking with convention, Martin Davies brings a fresh twist to classic Victorian mystery.

Book 1: MRS HUDSON AND THE SPIRIT'S CURSE (Canelo 2004) Entering into service as housekeeper for the distinguished investigator Sherlock Holmes and his associate Dr. Watson, Mrs. Hudson expands her duties beyond keeping things tidy.

The great detective's latest client is a traveler recently returned from the Far East-and nearly killed under mysterious circumstances. He says he's under a Sumatran curse that will end his life.

While Holmes and Watson seek a less superstitious solution to the man's dilemma, Mrs. Hudson and Flottie, the orphan girl in her care, take it upon themselves to investigate the case. They are determined to solve the mystery-even if it entails pointing Mrs. Hudson's employers in the right direction.

Book 7: MRS HUDSON AND THE CAPRICORN INCIDENT (Allison & Busby, Feb 2025) Spring in Baker Street, and the city is abuzz with speculation about the forthcoming nuptials of a beautiful foreign princess and her dashing blue-blooded betrothed. Sherlock Holmes, though, is more interested in reports from Wales of a woman who has vanished without trace from a moving train; and below stairs, Mrs Hudson is determined to assist a young man facing ruin at the hands of a blackmailer. But when the bride and groom go missing in mysterious circumstances, both detective and housekeeper find themselves plunged into a world of frauds and romance scams, of foreign spies and famous actresses, and must pit their wits against a master criminal of staggering ingenuity and ruthlessness.

Martin Davies grew up in north-west England. All his writing is done in cafes, on buses or on trains, and all his first drafts are written in longhand. He has travelled widely, including in the Middle East, India and Sicily. In addition to the Holmes & Hudson Mysteries, he is the author of four other novels, including *The Conjurer's Bird*, which sold over 150,000 copies and was selected for the Richard & Judy Book Club and *Havana Sleeping*, which has been shortlisted for the 2015 CWA Historical Dagger award. He works as a consultant in the broadcasting industry. The seventh book in the Mrs. Hudson series, MRS HUDSON AND THE CAPRICORN INCIDENT will be published in 2025.



Reader Reviews on Amazon:

"This book was excellent! I feel that it really caught the spirit of Holmes and Watson but brought in the added element of Mrs. Hudson and her kitchen help sidekick, a young girl rescued from dire circumstances. It was an enjoyable and fast-paced read and I would recommend this to any fan of historical mysteries! I plan on reading the next one in the series and any more that Mr. Davies writes! Fantastic!"

"Utterly delightful. Highly recommend all books in the series. Part of the new cozy style of story telling in which strong women do smart things and solve insoluble dilemmas! No more stupid women needing men to rescue them. Hooray! I can't wait for the next book."

Spanning

Will Dean

ICE TOWN

A Tuva Moodyson Mystery

Publisher

Random House Canada

November 2024

329 pages

Client

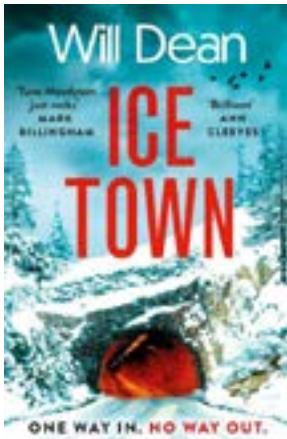
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



TV Under option



“Tuva Moodyson just rocks”

—Mark Billingham

“Brilliant” —Ann Cleeves

Chilling Scandi noir mystery, featuring deaf journalist, Tuva Moodyson, on the trail of a missing teenager.

Deaf teenager goes missing in Esseberg. Mountain rescue are launching a search party but conditions hinder their efforts. The tunnel is being kept open all night as an exception.

When journalist Tuva Moodyson reads this news alert she knows she must join the search. If this teenager is found, she will be able to communicate with him in a way no one else can.

Esseberg lies on the other side of a mountain tunnel: there is only one way in and one way out. When the tunnel closes at night, the residents are left to fend for themselves. And as more people go missing, it becomes clear that there is a killer among them...

ICE TOWN is the unputdownable new Tuva novel, which will delight existing fans of the series and bring many new readers to it.

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. The second instalment in the Tuva Moodyson series, *Red Snow*, won 'Best Independent Voice' in the Amazon Publishing Readers' Awards 2019. *Black River*, the third instalment, was longlisted for the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel Award 2020. Will is also the author of the sensational standalone thrillers *The Last Thing to Burn*, *First Born*, *The Last Passenger* and *The Chamber*.

Spanning

P.J. Nelson

BOOKED FOR MURDER

An Old Juniper Bookstore Mystery #1

Publisher

Minotaur Books

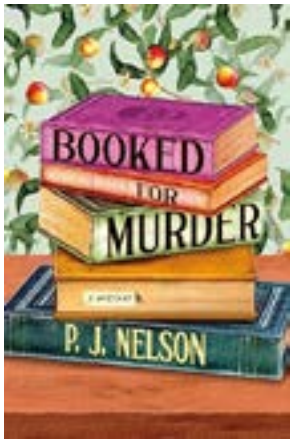
December 2024

Client

The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

Contact

Leonie Kress



“Booked for Murder is like slipping beneath a cherished comforter filled with memories and emotions. What could be better than a small-town bookstore—with a black cat and a hint of lingering ghosts in the village of Enigma, Georgia. ... Nelson knows how to spin a tale and hooked me with the first paragraph. Highly recommended.”

—Carolyn Haines

“A wonderfully rich narrative that ricochets between the past and the present, reminding us just how complex life can be”

—Firstclue

In this atmospheric southern cozy debut, Madeline Brimley returns to the bookstore she inherited, discovering that small towns hold deadly secrets.

Madeline Brimley left small town Georgia many years ago to go to college and pursue her dreams on the stage. Her dramatic escapades are many but success has eluded her, leaving her at loose ends. But then she gets word that not only has her beloved, eccentric Aunt Rose passed, but she’s left Madeline her equally eccentric bookstore housed in an old Victorian mansion in the small college town of Enigma. But when she arrives in her beat-up Fiat to claim The Old Juniper Bookstore, and restart her life, Madeline is faced with unexpected challenges. The gazebo in the back yard is set ablaze and a late night caller threatens to burn the whole store down if she doesn’t leave immediately.

But Madeline Brimley, not one to be intimidated, ignores the threats and soldiers on. Until there’s another fire and a murder in the store itself. Now with a cloud of suspicion falling over her, it’s up to Madeline to untangle the skein of secrets and find the killer before she herself is the next victim.

PJ NELSON is the pseudonym of an award-winning actor, dramatist, professor, and novelist (among other many other professions) who has done just about everything except run a bookstore. He lives in Decatur, Georgia.

Spanning

Nikki Allen

THE HIDEAWAY

Publisher

Pan Macmillan

Summer 2025

250 pages

Client

Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Set in the exotic rainforest of Costa Rica, **THE HIDEAWAY** is a fast-past thriller that will have you gripped from the opening page.

When five strangers are chosen for a money-can't-buy, all-expenses-paid trip of a lifetime to a famous social media influencer's exclusive retreat, they leap at the chance to rest, rejuvenate and get away from it all.

But their enchanting host, Hannah, isn't there when they arrive and, when a trek to a waterfall goes horribly wrong Carly, Ben, Scott, Mira and Naya soon realise that, beyond the idyllic nature of the rainforest, darkness lies and not all of them will make it out alive...

For fans of Lucy Clarke, Kate Gray and Liane Moriarty, **THE HIDEAWAY** is a gripping and twisty read that had me tearing through the pages. *Think Nine Perfect Strangers* meets *The White Lotus*! I love the setting, the pace and the twists, and think that Nikki offers something fresh and exciting to the destination thriller genre.

Nikki Allen is a former journalist and copywriter, and a qualified therapist. A voracious reader, Nikki was inspired to write **THE HIDEAWAY** after reading true stories of people disappearing in the Costa Rican rainforest. Nikki was born in Holland, grew up the only Jewish kid in her Worcestershire village, and now lives in North London with her family.

Spannung

Melissa Pace

THE ONCE AND FUTURE ME

Publisher
Henry Holt

August 2025
426 pages

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Leonie Kress



A captivating debut where a woman teetering between identities embarks on a journey to uncover her true self, challenging the notions of sanity and time as she fights to correct the course of the world and navigate the mystery of her very existence.

When a woman wakes up on a transport bus arriving at Hanover State Psychiatric Hospital, she remembers nothing of her life up to that moment, none of the dark things she's seen – and done – that have forged her into the steely survivor she is. Dr Sherman tells her she's Dorothy Frasier, a paranoid schizophrenic committed by the state for her violent delusions. And that it's 1954. She knows none of this is true. The only problem is, despite her fighting skills and uncanny ability to pick locks and find escape routes, she has no idea who she actually is.

Delusional episodes begin to happen more frequently, moments where she finds herself in a broken future with a ragtag team of young scientists urging her to find a doctor in 1954. Apparently, this doctor holds the key to something lying dormant in them all, something they call the Guest. When she's moved to the Unit, a section of the hospital where Dr. Sherman experiments with electroshock therapy, she knows that she has to get out – until she has a visitor. He's a man whose concerned, loving face she recognizes, a man her doctor says is Paul Frasier, her doting husband.

Now she is sure of nothing but she needs answers – about the Guest and about Paul, but most importantly about herself. But to find those answers, she will have to face the darkness inside her and use it as she risks her freedom, mind, and ultimately her life in a battle for the truth.

Melissa Pace, a Wesleyan University graduate, is a former editor and writer for Elle Magazine, and a past finalist in the Humanitas New Voices fellowship for emerging television and screenwriters. She is a middling soccer player, an erstwhile oil painter but a mother to three incredible grown children. Pace lives in Los Angeles with her husband. *THE ONCE AND FUTURE ME* is her first novel.

Spannung

Jen Sookfong Lee

THE HUNGER WE PASS DOWN

Publisher
McClelland & Stewart

Winter 2025
315 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



An electrifying work of literary horror exploring myths of the Asian diaspora, cursed twin doppelgängers, and the haunted origin stories of gendered violence and succubi immigrant women carry.

The novel follows single mother Alice Chow as she tries to navigate her overloaded life. As Alice starts to feel buried, an unsettling series of events leads her and her family down a path where all veneers are stripped away, and they are left to contend with unresolved demons – both real and imagined – that emerge from their personal and collective shadows. Set in contemporary Vancouver, where wealth and appearances just barely obscure the viscera that teems underneath, *THE HUNGER WE PASS DOWN* exposes the fears we all carry but desperately wish we could forget.

Jen Sookfong Lee was born and raised in Vancouver's East Side, and she now lives with her family in North Burnaby. Her books include the recently published memoir *Superfan: How Pop Culture Broke My Heart* (2023), *The Conjoined: A Novel* (2016) nominated for International Dublin Literary Award and a finalist for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize, *The Better Mother*, a finalist for the City of Vancouver Book Award, *The End of East*, *The Shadow List*, and *Finding Home*. Jen was, for many years, an instructor for Simon Fraser University's The Writers' Studio as well as a familiar voice on CBC Radio, and now acquires for ECW Press and co-hosts the literary podcast, *Can't Lit*.

Spannung

Mitsuda Shinzou, Xerses, JeTauZi, Xiao Xiang Shen, and
Chan Ho-Kei

CHOPSTICKS

Publisher
Apex

February 2020
416 pages

Client
The Grayhawk Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



TV Gift Pictures
Russia Eksmo
Vietnam Phuong Nam
Korea Gimm-Young
Thailand Biblio
Japan Kobunsha



English sample (aprox. 135'000 words) and full Japanese translation available



“The novel transforms the meanings of chopsticks and rituals several times to introduce different events and emotions. The stories are independent of one another, yet subtly connected. They compete for meaning, but at the same time, each story is a missing piece of the other, indispensable to the whole.”

—Chiou Chang-Ting

CHOPSTICKS: simple, ingenious, essential. A central and utterly unremarkable feature of life in East Asia. A symbol so powerful it is almost invisible – that is, until five authors invoke it as a central theme for five stories of horror and suspense.

Japanese author **Mitsuda Shinzou** opens the book with a kaidan about a young schoolboy who is seen at lunchtime performing a wish ritual before a pair of chopsticks stuck into his rice, which promises to bring a response from the spirits world. Taiwanese author **Xerses** echoes the schoolyard setting in her chapter, in which a boy who wears a pair of coral chopsticks around his neck finds himself the center of female attention. Under the female protagonist’s searching eye, his relationship to his chopsticks – and the divine power they store – does not stay secret for long.

Hong Kong writer **JeTauZi** turns things even darker in her tale of a famous YouTuber who is poisoned while livestreaming, and his girlfriend’s quest to uncover his killer. But all three stories come to a surprising climax in **Xiao Xiang Shen’s** fourth chapter, which weaves them together in a single tale of dark intrigue that ends with a bitter twist. Finally, award-winning author **Chan Ho-Kei** brings everything back to his native Hong Kong, rewriting history and transforming the backstory into a brilliant mix of science fiction, Chinese mythology, and Lovecraftian horror.

CHOPSTICKS is a unique collaboration between five award-winning and bestselling writers from Taiwan, Japan, and Hong Kong. They use urban legends, folklore, history, and myth to create a stunning work of Asian weird fiction.

Spannung

Luca Veste

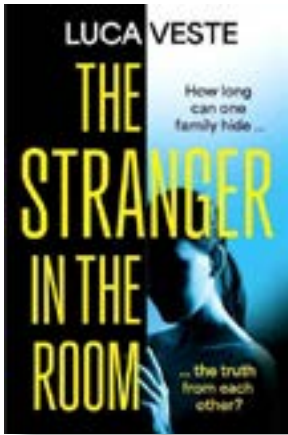
THE STRANGER IN THE ROOM

Publisher
Hodder & Stoughton

January 2025
368 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



“A writer who just gets better and better”

—Mark Billingham

An electrifying, edge of your seat thriller for fans of Harlan Coben and Linwood Barclay

Alison Lennon receives the worst news a parent can expect — her son, Ben, has been killed, in what looks at first like a random attack on a dark street in the middle of the night.

Only, she knows that he isn't the first victim.

Mia Johnstone has just turned eighteen. Ready for the next phase of her life, she should be looking forward to university, studying, partying. Instead, she's thinking about how her boyfriend Ben is the third person close to her who has died.

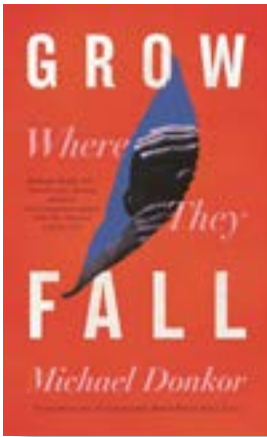
Alison believes that Mia killed her son.

Mia needs people to stop calling her a killer.

And someone is desperate for the truth to never come out...

Luca Veste is a writer of Italian and Liverpoolian heritage. He is the author of eight novels, including the Murphy & Rossi series, and standalone novels *The Bone Keeper* and *You Never Said Goodbye*. He is the co-organiser of the Locked Up Festival, which raised over £25,000 for the Trussell Trust, co-host of the Two Crime Writers and a Microphone podcast, and the bass player in the Fun Lovin' Crime Writers. He studied psychology and criminology at the University of Liverpool. He is married with two daughters and lives in Merseyside.

Spanning



Michael Donkor
GROW WHERE THEY FALL

Publisher
Fig Tree, March 2024

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

A richly-layered and insightful exploration of masculinity, written in the author's signature warm, lively voice. *GROW WHERE THEY FALL* is a beautifully written, spirited and deeply moving novel about a young man finding the courage to expand the limits of who he might become.

Michael Donkor's first novel *Hold* (UK: 4th Estate, US: Picador, Germany: Nautilus), was shortlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize 2019 and longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize 2019.



"Funny, fierce and full of throwbacks, *GROW WHERE THEY FALL* vividly captures the sticky, skin-tight vibrancy of inner-city life with refreshing authenticity..."

–Ashley Hickson-Lovence



Kuang Feng
THE SUNCAKE PASTRY SHOP

Publisher
Gaea, July 2022

Contact
Leonie Kress



Thailand Amarin
Poland Mando/WAM
Spain Urano/Plata
Italy Mondadori

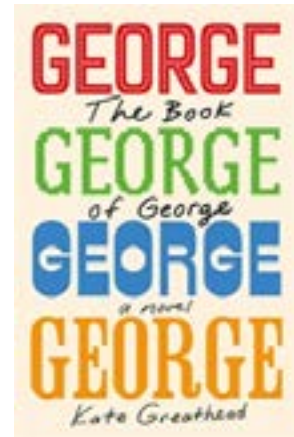
Scented with bittersweet love stories crossing time and cultures along with a lost soul's quest for life direction, *THE SUNCAKE PASTRY SHOP* is a delicious coming of age story, also a comforting and savory novel for those who still wander but yearn to find a sense of belonging.

Full English translation available (approx. 65'000 words)



"A story with a refreshingly simple style of writing yet emotionally intricate and compelling"

–Wang Shaudi, film director



Kate Greathead
THE BOOK OF GEORGE

Publisher
Henry Holt, October 2024

Contact
Leonie Kress



UK Atlantic Books

THE BOOK OF GEORGE is a razor-sharp but big-hearted excavation of millennial masculinity, for fans of *The Love Affairs of Nathaniel P* and *Wes Anderson*. It takes a deep, nuanced look at one hapless but loveable male to examine the way an entire generation is living in our current moment, and how we got here.



"Equally hilarious and heartbreaking, *THE BOOK OF GEORGE* reads like a modern epic."

–Camille Style

"Kate Greathead is an astonishingly talented writer. Every sentence in this novel glitters with insight and humor. A perceptive, funny and tender portrayal of the complicated relationships that define our adulthood."

–Alison Espach



Piper CJ
A CHILL IN THE FLAME
Villain Prequels 1

Publisher
Bloom Books, October 2024

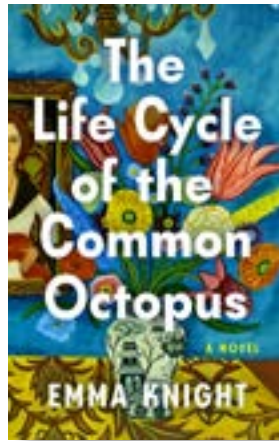
Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Spain Alfaguara
Italy Mandadori

In the Beginning, There Was Pain... The first of two prequels to the USA Today and Barnes & Noble bestselling *The Night and It's Moon* series.

Piper CJ has 1 million plus followers on TikTok, an M.A. in Folklore and a B.A. in Broadcasting. She is a member of the LGBTQIA+ community.



Emma Knight
THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE COMMON OCTOPUS

Publisher
Penguin Canada

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Netherlands Uitgeverij Mozaïek
UK Quercus
USA Pamela Dorman Books/Viking
TV/Film MGM and Escape Artists

An irresistible mystery surrounding an eccentric aristocratic British family. And a warm, wise and deeply felt coming of age story about motherhood, female friendship, first love, how we can avoid getting trapped in our parents' disappointments. It explores the generational pursuit of female self-determination and 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*.



Logan Paylor
THE CURE FOR DROWNING

Publisher
Random House Canada, January 2024

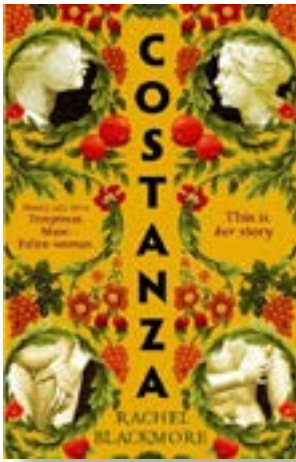
Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Longlisted for the 2024 Giller Prize

Evocative, magical and luminously written, this brilliant, boundary-pushing love story and historical novel boldly centers queer and nonbinary characters in unprecedented ways. **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.



Rachel Blackmore
Constanza

Publisher
Dialogue Books

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



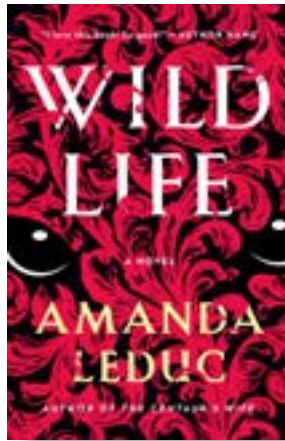
Croatia, Serbia, Spain, Lithuania,
Brazil, Poland, Italy, Russia, Bulgaria

History calls her a Muse. Temptress. Fallen woman. This is her story. Constanza is a dizzying, sensual novel that brings to life a feminist icon who has been written out of history. This utterly addictive tale of desire and betrayal is perfect for fans of *The Marriage Portrait* and *The Miniaturist*.



“Emotionally intense”
–*Daily Mail*

“A stunning, visceral portrait of a woman and her life and a story as relevant now as it was then. I was gripped”
–Jennie Godfrey



Amanda Leduc
WILD LIFE

Publisher
Random House Canada, Spring 2025

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

Everything is sprawling out of its cages in this gorgeous, ambitious and utterly alive work of fiction from disabled writer and author Amanda Leduc.

WILD LIFE follows the course of two strange messengers, hyenas who can walk and talk, as they interact with significant humans over generations. Inventive and audacious in its premise and scope, WILD LIFE shows us what might be possible in a world where humans realize that their connection to the creatures we share the planet with is far closer than we ever imagined.



Praise for *The Miracles of Ordinary Men* :

“A beautiful read, and Leduc’s observations and well placed descriptions lend the magical realism a lyrical quality... A strong debut.” –*National Post*



Marissa Stapley
THE LIGHTNING BOTTLES

Publisher
Simon and Schuster Canada,
September 2024

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



TV optioned by Toluca Pictures and MGM/Amazon
UK Hodder
USA Simon & Schuster US

A spellbinding story of rock ‘n’ roll and star-crossed love.



“Fiercely visceral and exquisitely written ... an ode to rock and roll, the 90s and the power of music to hurt and heal in equal measure” –*People Magazine*

“Both a page-turning mystery and a love letter to the grunge era. The set-up is simple and compelling: what if Courtney Love set out on a road trip across Europe with her internet sleuthing neighbor to uncover the real truth behind Kurt’s death?” –*Lit Hub*

“Perfect for fans of *Daisy Jones & The Six*” –*Tag 24*