

# Belletristik

# Herbst 2020

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Kasim Ali

# GOOD INTENTIONS

**Publisher**  
4TH Estate

Spring 2022  
320 pages

**Client**  
Blake Friedmann Literary,  
TV and Film Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



US Henry Holt and Company  
Russia Eksmo



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

As Nur's family count down to midnight on yet another New Year's Eve, Nur is watching the clock more closely than most: he has made a pact with himself, and with his girlfriend, Yasmina, that he will finally tell his parents that he is dating. But Nur is not just dating, he has been in a relationship for four years and is living with a woman he loves deeply, but cannot be honest about: a Black woman.

Nur wants to be a good son to his parents and a good boyfriend to Yasmina. He wants the best for his family, but also the best for his future. Nur has kept Yasmina a secret, putting growing strain on his first serious relationship, because despite his parents being relatively liberal he doesn't want to upset them with his choices. But is love really a choice for a second-generation immigrant like him, and how does Nur decide where his loyalties lie?

GOOD INTENTIONS follows Nur over the course of four years, as he leaves home, falls in love, moves on from university and sets up home with Yasmina, while struggling with the pressure his decisions wreak on his mental health. It's a fresh take on millennial relationships as told in *Normal People*, and on immigrant obligation, as explored in *The Namesake*.

Kasim writes with great flair, creating palpable chemistry between his characters, and depicting their highs and lows with an acute sensitivity and a deft touch of wry humour.

**Kasim Ali** is a very talented new writer who has previously been shortlisted for Hachette's Mo Siewcherran Prize, longlisted for the 4th Estate BAME Short Story Prize, and has contributed to *The Good Journal*. He works at Penguin Random House, and GOOD INTENTIONS is his first novel.

Kristen Arnett

# WITH TEETH

Publisher  
Riverhead

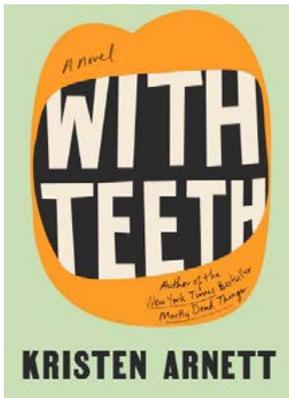
Spring 2021  
284 pages

Client  
Ayesha Pande Literary

Contact  
Anja Kretschmann



Brazil HarperCollins Brazil



In the vein of Lionel Shriver's *We Need to Talk about Kevin* and *Baby Teeth* by Zoje Stage, *WITH TEETH* is about the dynamics within a queer Florida household, specifically between a mother and her son, and the ways in which families can gaslight each other.

Samandra (Sammie) Lucas is a stay-at-home mother who finds her life increasingly complicated by the unsettling and terrifying behavior of her son, Samson. Her wife, Monika, works longer and longer hours as the household deteriorates, refusing to see anything outside of the perfect queer family. As Samson grows, so do the problems between them, widening the rift in Sammie and Monika's relationship.

When a teenaged Samson commits a heinous act in their home, Sammie must make a decision that will affect not only her son's life, but ultimately the trajectory of her own.

**Kristen Arnett** is the *NYT* bestselling author of the debut novel *Mostly Dead Things* (Tin House, 2019). She is a queer fiction and essay writer. She was awarded The Ninth Letter's Literary Award in Fiction and is a columnist for *Literary Hub*. Her work has appeared at *North American Review*, *The Normal School*, *Gulf Coast*, *TriQuarterly*, *Guernica*, *Buzzfeed*, *Electric Literature*, *McSweeney's*, *PBS Newshour*, *Bennington Review*, *Tin House Flash Fridays/The Guardian*, *Salon*, *The Rumpus*, and elsewhere. Her story collection, *Felt in the Jaw*, was published by Split Lip Press and was awarded the 2017 Coil Book Award. She is a Spring 2020 Shearing Fellow at Black Mountain Institute. You can find her on Twitter here: @Kristen\_Arnett

# Tom Benn

# OXBLOOD

**Publisher**  
Bloomsbury UK

254 pages

**Client**  
Blake Friedmann Literary,  
TV and Film Agency

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



Praise for *Henry Bane* novels

**'Depicts the criminal underbelly of Manchester with force and style. Good story, superior characterisation, convincingly bleak atmosphere.'**

—Marcel Berlins, *The Times*

**'It's the characters, and the potent, nebulous air they breathe – so brilliantly evoked by a writer who atomises reality, turning speech into riveting rap – that keeps us hypnotically immersed. It's so good, I almost forgot to breathe.'**

—Tom Adair, *The Scotsman*

**'This punchy debut does for low-life Manchester what *Train-spotting* did for Leith, Edinburgh ... spliced with stretches of prose filled with arresting imagery, and infused with a strange nostalgia.'**

—Maggie Fergusson, *Intelligent Life*

OXBLOOD is the story of three women who have given up on the present, since the present has given up on them. It is a novel of secrets and denial, revealing how these women's identities and ambitions have been predetermined by society, and asking how they might free themselves from the prison of the past.

OXBLOOD is the story of three seething and forgotten mothers – a teen mother, a grandmother, and a great-grandmother, living together in a house in mid-1980s' Wythenshawe, England. Each must contend with the ruinous disappointments of their men. The family's dead patriarchs once ruled Manchester's underworld; now their house harbours an unregistered baby, and is haunted by a ghost of a murdered man – still an otherworldly lover to one of these women.

Nedra must contend with her husband's true legacy as a monster whom she no longer needs to deify in order to live.

Carol is visited by both the welcome, intimate ghost of her lover, and by Mac, an ageing criminal enforcer, who may just offer her a real and possible future.

Jan meanwhile receives a visit from her brother Kelly, fresh from prison – and soon becomes the only one who can break the cycle of crime and violence, when her dead father's shady associate tries to draw Kelly into his world.

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

James Cahill

# TIEPOLO BLUE

**Publisher**

on submission in UK,  
first offers in

**Client**

Blake Friedmann Literary,  
TV and Film Agency

**Contact**

Hanna Vielberg



Celebrated art historian Donald Lamb embarks upon an exhilarating journey of self-discovery, but his own character flaws and the manipulations of others lead to a devastating fall from grace.

When a disturbing work of contemporary art appears on the lawn of his Cambridge college, Don's hostility becomes an obsession, sparing a crisis which ends his academic career. His old friend and mentor, Val, eases him into a new life, offering Don the Directorship of a gallery in south London, and the use of his house in Dulwich Village, where he is watched over by Ina, Val's housekeeper.

Away from Cambridge, Don begins to embrace life – and love – in ways he has never contemplated. An intense friendship with Ben, an enigmatic young artist, introduces him to the heady contemporary art scene of 1990s London. But a series of misjudgments and embarrassments endangers his role at the gallery. As his standing falters once more, Don is forced to reconsider his old friend Val – what has Don forgotten? What has he failed to see? When Ben disappears, Don begins to unravel, beginning an odyssey around London that brings both scandal and liberation.

TIEPOLO BLUE is a wonderfully allusive novel with art at its heart, shaping its remarkably vivid visual sensibility and illustrating Don's changing psyche as he opens up to new way of seeing the world. TIEPOLO BLUE is also intrinsically a London novel, set during a vibrant period in the city's cultural history and full of darkly humorous social observation. Readers of Alan Hollinghurst's and Andre Aciman's novels, and Javier Marias's *All Souls*, will enjoy TIEPOLO BLUE, as well as those who love Christopher Isherwood's *A Single Man*, including Tom Ford's film adaptation.

James Cahill's work has combined academia with a role at a leading contemporary art gallery. He is currently a Fellow at King's College London. His writing has been published in the *TLS*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, the *London Review of Books*, and *The Burlington Magazine*, among other publications. James was the lead author of *Flying Too Close to the Sun* (Phaidon, 2018) a non-fiction survey of classical myth in art from antiquity to the present day. TIEPOLO BLUE is his first novel.

Jerome Charyn

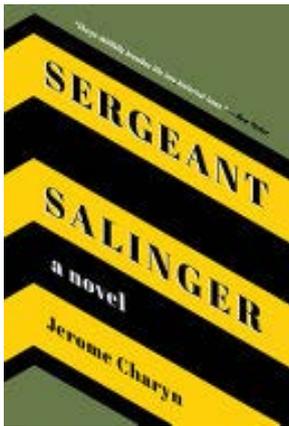
# SERGEANT SALINGER

**Publisher**  
Bellevue Literary Press

January 2021  
288 pages

**Client**  
Georges Borchardt

**Contact**  
Marc Koralnik



**“Charyn skillfully breathes life into historical icons.”**

—The New Yorker

**“Charyn is one of the most important writers in American literature.”**

—Michael Chabon

Grounded in biographical fact and reimagined as only Charyn could, **SERGEANT SALINGER** is an astonishing portrait of a devastated young man on his way to becoming the mythical figure behind a novel that has marked generations.

J.D. Salinger, mysterious author of *The Catcher in the Rye*, is remembered today as a reclusive misanthrope. Jerome Charyn’s *Salinger* is a young American WWII draftee assigned to the Counter Intelligence Corps, a band of secret soldiers who trained with the British. A rifleman and an interrogator, he witnessed all the horrors of the war – from the landing on D-Day to the relentless hand-to-hand combat in the hedgerows of Normandy, to the Battle of the Bulge, and finally to the first Allied entry into a Bavarian death camp, where corpses were piled like cordwood.

After the war, interned in a Nuremberg psychiatric clinic, Salinger became enchanted with a suspected Nazi informant. They married, but not long after he brought her home to New York, the marriage collapsed. Maladjusted to civilian life, he lived like a “spook,” with invisible stripes on his shoulder, the ghosts of the murdered inside his head, and stories to tell.

**Jerome Charyn** is the author of more than fifty works of fiction and non-fiction, including *Cesare: A Novel of War-Torn Berlin*; *The Perilous Adventures of the Cowboy King: A Novel of Teddy Roosevelt and His Times*; *In the Shadow of King Saul: Essays on Silence and Song*; *Jerzy: A Novel*; and *A Loaded Gun: Emily Dickinson for the 21st Century*. Among other honors, his novels have been selected as finalists for the Firecracker Award and the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction. Charyn has also been named a Commander of Arts and Letters by the French Minister of Culture and received a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Rosenthal Family Foundation Award for Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He lives in New York.

# Négar Djavadi

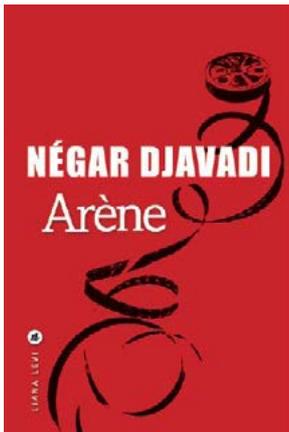
# ARÉNE

**Publisher**  
Éditions Liana Levi

August 2022  
432 pages

**Client**  
Éditions Liana Levi

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



Paris in the age of viral videos and in a time of riots. A series producer, one of those new media moguls, could well be the spark that lit a fire, which is then fuelled by the marginalized. A great, gripping, realistic panorama, by the Dublin Literary Award nominated author of *Désorientale*.

A telephone is stolen in a bar in Belleville. A kid in a tracksuit jostles the customers. A series producer is distraught by the loss of his portable. A policewoman responds to an incident filmed by a rebellious high-school student. A secretly filmed video circulates in social media, showing the lifeless body of a teenager at the foot of the Louis-Blanc Bridge. Benjamin Grossmann, the shaman of new fiction, and Camille Karvel, the rogue thief of clandestine images, each in their own way, impact on the Belleville-Jaurès-Buttes-Chaumont neighborhood and light the spark that will set eastern Paris ablaze. A long chain-reaction of events is set in motion – and no one will emerge unscathed: neither the youths in the tower blocks, nor the cops, nor the mothers, nor the Chinese illegal workers, nor the tele-evangelist, nor the candidate campaigning for the mayoralty. They're all captives of "the arena", a new explosive series.

The reader is carried along by Négar Djavadi's fast-paced plot. Anchored in the complexities of our times, ARÉNE unfolds in life-sized fiction: Paris, a city overtaken by fear, uncertainty, and absurd violence.

**Négar Djavadi** is a novelist and screenwriter. Born in Teheran in 1969, she grew up in Paris. Following cinema studies in Brussels, she started out behind the camera as an assistant operator. For ten years, she collaborated in the filming of numerous movies. Her first award-winning screenplay decided her to devote herself to writing. TV films and series followed one after the other. In 2016, she published her first novel *Désorientale* to real success in the bookshops (130,000 copies), translated in a dozen languages, Albertine Prize and Lambda Literary Award 2019 and on the Dublin Literary Award's shortlist 2020.

Zsuzsi Gartner

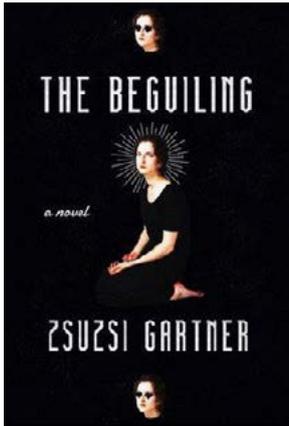
# THE BEGUILING

**Publisher**  
Hamish Hamilton

September 2020  
288 pages

**Client**  
Westwood Creative Artists

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



**“THE BEGUILING is a sucker punch of a book; you know it’s good, but just how good beggars description. You have to experience it: It’s apt to be one of the finest books you read this year.”**

–Toronto Star

**THE BEGUILING, is described as “a book that disrupts convention and further entrenches Gartner outside the tradition of staid, comfortable Canadian fiction.”**

–Quill & Quire

From a Scotiabank Giller Prize-shortlisted writer, an electrifying debut novel about a lapsed Catholic whose adolescent pretensions to sainthood are unexpectedly revived.

It all starts when Lucy’s cousin Zoltan, in a hospital following a bizarre accident at a party, offers her a disturbing deathbed confession. As Lucy’s grief takes an unusual turn and strangers begin to unburden themselves to her, Lucy is transformed into a self-described “flesh and blood Wailing Wall.” Then she becomes addicted to the dark stories and finds herself seeking them out.

As the confessions pile up, Lucy begins to wonder if Zoltan’s death was as random and unscripted as it appeared. She clutches at alarming synchronicities and seeks meaning in the stories of strangers. Why do the increasingly bizarre confessions seem connected to one another or eerily echo elements of her own life? Could it be because Lucy has her own transgressions to acknowledge? And then there is that stubbornly resurfacing past, like a tell-tale ribbon of hair snagged on a fish hook.

With ruthless wit and dizzying energy, THE BEGUILING explores blessings and curses, sainthood and sin, mortality, and guilt in all its guises. Weaving together tales of errant mothers, vengeful plants, canine wisdom, and murder, it lays bare the flesh and blood sacrifices people are willing to make to get what they think they desire.

Zsuzsi Gartner, the Scotiabank Giller Prize-shortlisted author of two widely acclaimed story collections, was the inaugural Frank O’Connor International Short Story Fellow in 2016 in Cork, Ireland. She lives in Vancouver.

# Danny Héricourt

# LA CUILLÈRE

**Publisher**  
Éditions Liana Levi

September 2020  
240 pages

**Client**  
Éditions Liana Levi

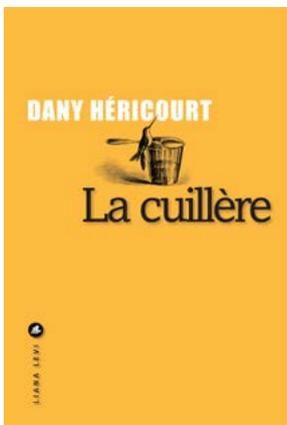
**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



Sélection 2020 Prix  
"Envoyé par la poste"



Italy Solferino



How does one proceed with Life after the sudden death of a beloved father? Seren Madeleine Jones has no idea, but she'd like to find out. A novel about death, departure and silverware.

Armed with a wry sense of humour, a fierce imagination and the last object her father used – a silver spoon – Seren Madeleine Jones sets off on an initiatory journey from Pembrokeshire to Burgundy. Where, potentially, the story first began. A quirky, heartfelt road-movie of a novel.

The shiny object stands mute, in a mug, on the bedside table. Eighteen-year-old, Seren should be staring at the body of her father, stone-dead beneath a pink sheet, surrounded by her grief-stricken brothers, grand-parents, mother and Labrador. But it's the silver spoon that hypnotizes her. How on earth did it turn up in their hotel?

To escape the "tragic circumstances", and the invisible slag heap that has settled in her chest, Seren feverishly sketches the engraved spoon. When her ex-future-alcoholic grandfather points out its coat of arm's resemblance to a tastevin from Burgundy, Seren decides to drive across the Channel to find the spoon's origins.

She will need a strong dose of humour and imagination to negotiate the right side of the road, the wrong turns, false starts, wild forests and odd campsites, and to befriend "The French", who occasionally confuse Gallic and Gaulois. As the road ignites memories and unconventional meditations, Seren's candid quest for the Holy Grail leads to a château where History and her own story are deeply connected. And where love and loss can at last be spoken.

Of Anglo-French origin, **Dany Héricourt** grew up in Ghana and the United Kingdom before settling in France. After studying drama in Wales, she contributed to various humanitarian projects then entered the film industry where she now works as an acting and dialogue coach, notably with Eric Rochant, Thomas Vinterberg and Ralph Fiennes. She recently adapted Damian Chazelle's series *The Eddy* for Netflix. She is the author of three non-fiction books. LA CUILLÈRE is her first novel.

David Stuart MacLean

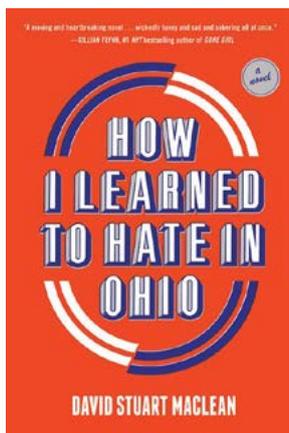
# HOW I LEARNED TO HATE IN OHIO

Publisher  
Overlook

January 2021  
256 pages

Client  
Abrams

Contact  
Anja Kretschmann



**“A moving and heartbreaking novel about what it means to be an outsider in America. David Stuart MacLean’s penetrating look at growing up in the American Midwest in the 1980s is wickedly funny and sad and sobering all at once, a book that will spur endless conversation and thought.”**

–Gillian Flynn

A brilliant, hilarious, and ultimately devastating novel about the beginnings of racial discord in America.

In late-1980s rural Ohio, bright but mostly friendless Barry Nadler begins his freshman year of high school with the goal of going unnoticed as much as possible. But his world is upended by the arrival of Gurbaksh, Gary for short, a Sikh teenager who moves to his small town and instantly befriends Barry. As their friendship deepens, Barry’s classmates and neighbors react to the presence of a family so different from theirs. Through darkly comic and biting intelligent asides and wry observations, Barry reveals how the seeds of xenophobia and racism find fertile soil in this insular community.

HOW I LEARNED TO HATE IN OHIO shines an uncomfortable light on the roots of white middle-American discontent and the beginnings of the current cultural war. It is at once bracingly funny, dark, and surprisingly moving, an undeniably resonant debut for our divided world.

David MacLean teaches creative writing at the University of Chicago. His work has appeared widely in places such as the *New York Times*, *Ploughshares*, *Guerinica*, and on the radio program *This American Life*. He is the winner of the PEN Emerging Writing Award for Nonfiction, and he is the author of the award-winning memoir *The Answer to the Riddle Is Me*. He grew up in central Ohio and now lives in Chicago.

Tom McCarthy

# THE MAKING OF INCARNATION

Publisher  
Knopf

Winter 2022

Client  
Melanie Jackson Agency

Contact  
Marc Koralnik

  
UK Cape  
Canada Knopf



From the two-time Booker Prize finalist, a new novel of embedded love stories following a young motion capture engineer who investigates our fascination with motion, and how our efforts to imagine ourselves as agents, actors, characters or individuals are fictions that both sustain and derail us.

Tom McCarthy is the author of the novels *Satin Island* (Booker Prize finalist), *C* (Booker Prize finalist), *Remainder*, and *Men in Space*, as well as the essay collection *Typewriters Bombs Jellyfish*. He was awarded the inaugural Windham-Campbell Prize for Fiction by Yale University in 2013.

Sophie McCreesh

# ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING

**Publisher**  
Doubleday

Spring 2021  
188 pages

**Client**  
Transatlantic Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



Calling to mind smart, raunchy and unrepentant popular series and novels such as *Fleabag*, *Normal People* and *My Year of Rest and Relaxation* comes Sophie McCreesh's distinctive and arresting debut novel **ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING**.

The novel **ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING** follows a young artist named Jane as she navigates her closest relationships while struggling with her own self doubt and isolation. Jane and her friend Kitty begin to examine their feelings of futility in relation to their confidence in their art. Their respective artistic practices and the dynamic of their friendship transforms as they collaborate to show their work at a competition in England. As one friend thrives, Jane's loneliness and personal devastation begin to get in the way of her artistic ambitions. Her most important relationships – that with Kitty, her absent lover Alex, and with a discredited therapist named Anna – begin to deteriorate as Jane starts to examine her growing dependence on substances.

**Sophie McCreesh** is a fiction writer living in Toronto. She completed an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Guelph. Her writing has appeared in *Peach Mag*, *Bad Dog Review*, *Bad Nudes*, *Hobart*, the *Minola Review*, *Cosmonauts Avenue*, and elsewhere.

# Annabel Lyon

# CONSENT

**Publisher**  
Knopf Canada

September 2020  
224 pages

**Client**  
Westwood Creative Artists

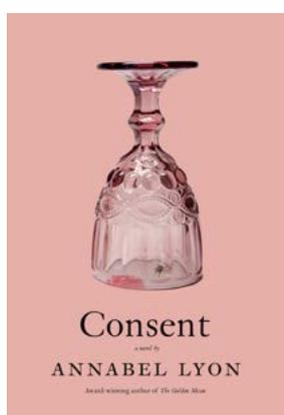
**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



Scotiabank Giller Prize 2020 longlist



UK Atlantic Books  
US Knopf



A smart and thrilling page-turner about two complex families, and two sets of sisters whose lives are braided together by tragedy.

Saskia and Jenny are twins who are alike only in appearance. Saskia is a hard-working grad student whose interests are solely academic, while Jenny, an interior designer, is glamorous, thrill-seeking, capricious, and narcissistic. Still, when Jenny is severely injured in an accident, Saskia puts her life on hold to be with her sister.

Sara and Mattie are sisters with a difficult relationship. Mattie, the younger sister, is affectionate, curious, and intellectually disabled. As soon as Sara is able, she leaves home, in pursuit of a life of the mind and the body: she loves nothing more than fine wines, sensual perfumes, and expensive clothing. But when their mother dies, Sara inherits the duty of caring for her sister. Arriving at the house one day, she finds out that Mattie has married Robert, her wealthy mother's handyman. Though Mattie seems happy, Sara cannot let this go, forcing the annulment of the marriage and the banishment of Robert. With him out of the picture, though, she has no choice but to become her sister's keeper, sacrificing her own happiness and Mattie's too.

When Robert turns up again, another tragedy happens. The waves from these tragedies eventually engulf Sara and Saskia, sisters in mourning, in a quest for revenge.

CONSENT is a startling, moving, thought-provoking novel on the complexities of familial duty and on how love can become entangled with guilt, resentment, and regret.

Annabel Lyon is the author of the novel *The Golden Mean*, a bestseller in Canada that won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, was shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor-General's Award, and has been translated into fourteen languages. She is also the author of a story collection, *Oxygen*; a book of novellas, *The Best Thing for You*; and two juvenile novels, *All-Season Edie* and *Encore Edie*. She teaches Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia.

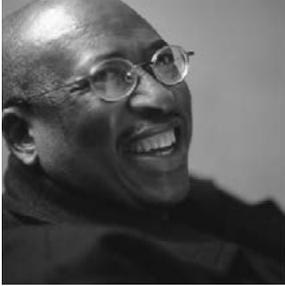
Zakes Mda

# WAYFARER'S HYMNS

**Publisher**  
on submission

**Client**  
Blake Friedmann Literary,  
TV and Film Agency

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



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

–Booklist

**A vibrant new Mda novel about art, love and outsiders – this iconic South African writer's best work yet.**

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

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

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

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

# Georgina Parfitt

# MONA

**Publisher**  
on submission in UK

180 pages

**Client**  
Blake Friedmann Literary,  
TV and Film Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



A compelling high-concept literary debut: Written in spare but sophisticated prose, readers will be spell-bound by MONA's powerful writing and struck by the emotional resonance of the novel's themes, which will appeal to readers who loved Ottessa Moshfegh's *My Year of Rest and Relaxation* and Leila Slimani's *Adele*.

MONA follows a group of women as they explore their relationship with desirability and seek to gain control over their identities. In a Boston department store a new cosmeceutical skincare range is unveiled. MONA looks like ordinary makeup – blush, lipstick – but it is custom-made for each user. It promises to perfect its wearers by enhancing their 'unique hormone profile'.

Shelly is feeling bruised and disoriented by a break-up with her boyfriend P. She believes MONA could give her the confidence – the wildness – to win P. back. But MONA is addictive and its potent side effects are destabilising and regressive, mimicking the emotional turbulence of adolescence. By the time Shelly reunites with P., she is losing her sense of self.

At Therese Beverly, Shelly's old girls' school, four teenage friends obtain their own batch of MONA. They experiment together, using MONA to draw closer to each other as their graduation approaches. As they reveal intimacies, Mally, a student in the year below, secretly observes them. Mally has fallen hard for one of the group and is questioning her identity. When they discover her eavesdropping, they seek to secure her silence with an invitation. But by graduation day – and as a fraying Shelly visits the school for the celebration – the group has fractured and one of the friends is missing.

Interspersed between the narratives following Shelly and Mally are vignettes featuring women across America, building a kaleidoscopic portrait of the MONA phenomenon and women's responses to it.

**Georgina Parfitt** grew up in Norfolk but moved to the US aged 19 to study English Literature at Harvard and then teach Creative Writing at Boston University. She now lives in London. Her stories and essays have been published in *The Atlantic*, *The Southampton Review*, *The Common*, and *The Dublin Review*, among other publications. MONA is her debut novel.

Neel Patel

# TELL ME HOW TO BE

Publisher  
Flatiron

2021  
384 pages

Client  
Union Literary

Contact  
Hanna Vielberg



India Penguin Random House India



In **TELL ME HOW TO BE**, a family comes together to share one final summer before going their separate ways.

One year after the death of his father, Akash, a songwriter in Los Angeles, is living a double life, sharing an apartment with his boyfriend while evading his mother's pleas that he find a wife. When Akash learns his mother has sold his childhood home in Illinois in order to move back to London, he returns to pack up his things, honor the death of his father, and mend his strained relationships with his mother and brother. What he doesn't anticipate is running into Parth – a childhood friend with whom he'd shared his first romantic connection. Parth, too, has returned home, managing his parents' motel while they are away in India. What starts as a farewell soon becomes the beginning of a love affair between the two, and Akash must decide between the life he left behind and the one he's since created.

Set against the backdrop of the Trump era, as racial tensions simmer, **TELL ME HOW TO BE** is a story of betrayal and the journey toward reconciliation. But most of all, it is a testament to the overpowering force of first love and how it teaches us to be in the world.

**Neel Patel** is a first-generation Indian American who grew up in Champaign, Illinois. He has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and his short stories have appeared in *The Southampton Review*, *Indiana Review*, *The American Literary Review*, *Hyphen Magazine*, and on *BuzzFeed* and *Nerve.com*. He currently lives in Los Angeles, where he is at work on a novel. His debut was *If You See Me, Don't Say Hi*.

Richard Powers

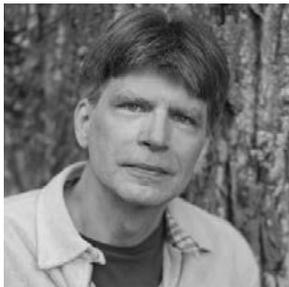
# BEWILDERMENT

Publisher  
Norton

October 2021  
165 pages

Client  
Melanie Jackson Agency

Contact  
Marc Koralnik



*"I never believed the diagnoses the doctors settled on my son. When a condition gets three different names over as many decades, when it goes from non-existent to the country's most commonly diagnosed childhood disorder in one generation, when two different physicians want to prescribe three different medications, there's something wrong..."*

Theo Byrne is a promising young astrobiologist who has found a way to search for life on other planets dozens of lightyears away. He is also the widowed father of a most unusual nine-year-old. His son Robin is funny, loving, and filled with plans. He thinks and feels deeply, adores animals, and can spend hours painting elaborate pictures. He is also on the verge of being expelled from third grade, for smashing his friend's face with a metal thermos.

What can a father do, when the only solution offered to his rare and troubled boy is to put him on psychoactive drugs? What can he say when his boy comes to him wanting an explanation for a world that is clearly in love with its own destruction? The only thing for it is to take the boy to other planets, while all the while fostering his son's desperate campaign to help save this one.

**Richard Powers** is the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of twelve novels, including *Orfeo*, *The Echo Maker*, *The Time of Our Singing*, and *Plowing the Dark*. He is the recipient of a MacArthur grant and the National Book Award, and a four-time NBCC finalist.

Mira Sethi

# ARE YOU ENJOYING?

Publisher  
Knopf

Winter 2021  
Manuscript available November 2020

Client  
Melanie Jackson Agency

Contact  
Anja Kretschmann



An exhilarating debut by a young writer from Pakistan: provocative, funny, disarmingly original stories that upend traditional notions of identity and family, and peer into the vulnerable workings of the human heart.

From the high-stakes worlds of television and politics to the intimate corridors of home – including the bedroom – these wryly observed, deeply revealing stories look at life in Pakistan with humor, compassion, psychological acuity, and emotional immediacy. Childhood best friends agree to marry in order to keep their sexuality a secret. A young woman with an anxiety disorder discovers the numbing pleasures of an illicit love affair. A radicalized student's preparations for his sister's wedding involve beating up the groom. An actress is forced to grow up fast on the set of her first major tv show, where the real intrigue takes place off-screen. Every story bears witness to the all-too-universal desire to be loved, and what happens when this longing gets pushed to its limits.

ARE YOU ENJOYING? is a free-spirited, confident, indelible introduction to a galvanizing new talent.

**Mira Sethi** is an actor and a writer. She grew up in Lahore and attended Wellesley College, after which Sethi worked as a books editor at *The Wall Street Journal*. She has written op-ed pieces for *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Guardian*. Sethi regularly appears in mainstream Pakistani drama series on television. She lives in Lahore, Karachi, and San Francisco.

Mihret M. Sibhat

# THE HISTORY OF A DIFFICULT CHILD

**Publisher**  
Viking Press

January 2021  
256 pages

**Client**  
Ayesha Pande Literary

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



UK Chatto & Windus



Elena Ferrante meets Abraham Verghese meets Gabriel García Márquez in this captivating tragicomic family saga set in a small town in Ethiopia that takes the reader into the heart of the Asmelash family.

Wisecracking, inquisitive, and bombastic, Selam Asmelash, the youngest child in her large, boisterous family, beguiles the reader with her wry omniscience before she even emerges from her mother's cancerous uterus. Her voice, at once brash and vulnerable, brings the book to vibrant life and provides a perspective both intimate and sweeping: a small Ethiopian town in the 80's, floundering in the social upheaval induced by a socialist dictatorship, civil war and famine; a formerly land-owning family, stripped of their property after the revolution and persecuted for their conversion to Pentecostalism; and of course gossipy neighbors, a greek chorus that documents all the turmoil – personal and political.

As she grows up, Selam, wise beyond her years yet thoroughly naive, must contend with poverty, bullies, and the death of loved ones. She deals with all of it through humor and megalomania, endowing herself with various powers to gain control of her situation and escape sadness. Will she succeed? The answer is not immediately apparent as *THE HISTORY OF A DIFFICULT CHILD* is the first book of a planned trilogy that continues to follow Selam into her teenage years as an aspiring evangelist and exorcist and her adulthood in America as an atheist lesbian.

*THE HISTORY OF A DIFFICULT CHILD* will appeal to readers of *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and *Midnight's Children* by Salman Rushdie.

**Mihret Sibhat** grew up in a Pentecostal family in a southwestern Ethiopian town. She moved to the United States when she was seventeen, and attended Santa Monica College and Cal State Northridge for her BA in politics, and then did her MFA in creative writing at the University of Minnesota. She has worked in many jobs. At sixteen she was performing exorcisms and preaching. In the US, she worked as an undocumented waitress in an LA Ethiopian restaurant, and also as a nanny, shoeshiner, uber driver, office manager, and radio presenter.

Wole Soyinka

# CHRONICLES

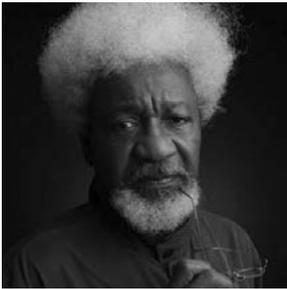
From the Land of the Happiest People on Earth

**Publisher**  
Knopf

Fall 2021  
395 pages

**Client**  
Melanie Jackson Agency

**Contact**  
Marc Koralnik



## Nobel-Prize winning Wole Soyinka's first novel in 48 years.

A major literary event and a testament to Soyinka's genius, *CHRONICLES from the Land of the Happiest People On Earth* is a master at the top of his game. Wry, shrewd, hilarious in parts, frightening in others, profoundly political; this is a tale of intrigue that is uniquely Soyinka. With wit and spellbinding language *CHRONICLES* recounts a good old fashioned who-done-it of deadly serious ancestral and political machinations. All told in a voice that is as original as it is undeniable.

Cervantes. Marquez. Voltaire. Twain. Kafka. Waugh. A masterful lightness of touch. Incomparable vision, superb craft, enormous generosity of spirit. In short, world class literature. A classic.

**Wole Soyinka** one of the world's foremost writers, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1986. A novelist, playwright, poet, essayist, memoirist, and translator, his works include *Death and the King's Horseman*, *The Interpreters*, *Aké* and *Season of Anomy*.

Dana Spiotta  
**WAYWARD**

**Publisher**  
Knopf

July 2021  
276 pages

**Client**  
Melanie Jackson Agency

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



From the acclaimed author of *Innocents and Others* and *Stone Arabia*, a moving and humorous new novel for readers of Joan Didion, Jennifer Egan, Don DeLillo and Meg Wolitzer, about mothers and daughters, and one woman's midlife reckoning.

On the heels of the election of 2016, Samantha Raymond's life begins to come apart: her mother is ill, her teenage daughter is increasingly remote, and at 52, she finds herself staring into "the Mids" – that hour of supreme wakefulness between three and four in the morning in which women of a certain age suddenly find themselves contemplating motherhood, mortality, and, in this case, the state of an unraveling nation.

When she falls in love with a beautiful, decrepit house in a hardscrabble neighborhood in Syracuse, she buys it on a whim and flees her suburban life – and her family – as she grapples with how to be a wife, a mother, and a daughter, in a country that is coming apart at the seams.

**Dana Spiotta** is the author of *Innocents an Others*, a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and The St. Francis College Literary Prize; *Stone Arabia*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award; *Eat the Document*, a finalist for the National Book Award; and *Lighting Field*. A Guggenheim Fellow and a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow, she was also awarded the 2008 Rome Prize in Literature and the 2017 John Updike Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. She lives in Syracuse and teaches in the Syracuse University MFA program.

Lee Wei-Jin

# THE MERMAID'S TALE

Publisher  
ThinKingdom

May 2019  
232 pages  
English translation available

Client  
The Grayhawk Agency

Contact  
Anja Kretschmann



Winner of the Taipei  
Book Fair Award



THE MERMAID'S TALE is a beautiful solo dance of a novel. It brings to mind the exploration of the female body in *The Vegetarian* and the madness of the dance world of *Black Swan*, but is told in a lighter voice at once dreamy, whimsical, and scintillating.

Summer is a young, single woman living in Taipei who dreams of becoming a national ballroom dance competitor. Yet her search for the right partner – that magical key to dance – drags on endlessly. Dancing with her female classmates feels like stealing their time; high-school age partners bring harsh parental scrutiny, while dancing with men whose partners are gone only sets her up for heartbreak.

Summer's teacher, Donny, can empathize with her plight. Though tremendously talented, he cannot keep a partner long enough to make it to the great stage at Blackpool. Even after he puts aside his own sexuality so he can offer to marry and care for the right partner, every woman he dances with eventually leaves him to find love elsewhere.

Lee Wei-Jin's bitter yet scintillating novel rewrites the fairy tale of the mermaid dreaming of walking on two feet in a way that pulls us closer to the true motivation behind it – not love, but freedom.

Lee Wei-Jin (1969–2018) was a veteran art critic and journalist in Taiwan's culture circle. She was Editorial Director for *China Times's* literary supplement before leaving to write full time. Lee's first book, *My Name is Hsu Liang-Liang* (2010), won the Taipei Book Fair Award and established her as one of the most important writers of her generation. Her first novel, *La dolce vita* (2015), was made into a movie in 2017.

Cherie Dimaline

# EMPIRE OF WILD

**Publisher**  
Random House Canada

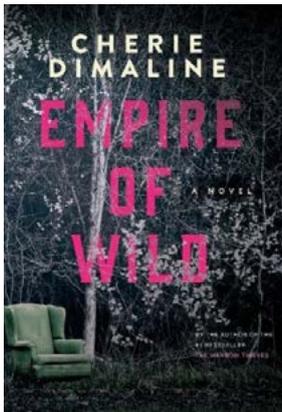
September 2019  
320 pages

**Client**  
The Cooke Agency International

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



UK Weidenfeld & Nicolson  
US William Morrow  
French Canada Éditions du Boréal



**“Deftly-written, gripping and informative EMPIRE OF WILD is a rip-roaring read! Ripping, roraring, fur flying, and more! Don’t try any of this at home.”**

—Margaret Atwood

**“Dimaline is a master of captivating storytelling, and this book will grip you from the first page.”**

—Shonda Rhimes

**“Cherie Dimaline is a voice that feels both inevitable and necessary.”**

—Tommy Orange, author of *There There*

From North America’s literary superstar Cherie Dimaline comes **EMPIRE OF WILD**, one of the most anticipated literary events of the year.

Broken-hearted Joan has been searching for her husband, Victor, for almost a year – ever since he went missing on the night they had their first serious argument. One hung-over morning in a Walmart parking lot in a little town near Georgian Bay, she is drawn to a revival tent where the local Métis have been flocking to hear a charismatic preacher. By the time she staggers into the tent the service is over, but as she is about to leave, she hears an unmistakable voice.

She turns, and there is Victor. Only he insists he is not Victor, but the Reverend Eugene Wolff, on a mission to bring his people to Jesus. And he doesn’t seem to be faking: there isn’t even a flicker of recognition in his eyes. With only two allies – her odd, Johnny-Cash-loving, 12-year-old nephew Zeus, and Ajean, a foul-mouthed euchre shark with deep knowledge of the old ways – Joan sets out to remind the Reverend Wolff of who he really is. If he really is Victor, his life, and the life of everyone she loves, depends upon her success.

Inspired by the traditional Métis story of the Rogarou – a werewolf-like creature that haunts the roads and woods of Métis communities – Cherie Dimaline has created a propulsive, stunning and sensuous novel.

Cherie Dimaline’s young adult novel *The Marrow Thieves* shot to the top of the bestseller lists in 2017. It won the Governor General’s Literary Award, the Kirkus Prize, the Burt Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Literature, was a finalist for the Trillium Book Award among other honours. Cherie became the first Indigenous writer in residence at the Toronto Public Library.

Upmarket

Glenn Dixon

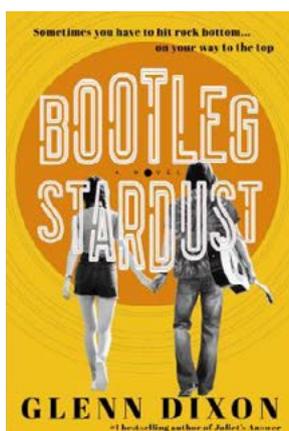
# BOOTLEG STARDUST

**Publisher**  
Simon & Schuster Canada

April 2021  
364 pages

**Client**  
Westwood Creative Artists

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



*Daisy Jones & The Six* meets Nick Hornby in this uplit debut about a young musician's wild, unexpected ride through rock and roll stardom.

It's 1974, and twenty year old Levi Jaxon, a talented guitarist and songwriter, wants to be famous.

He gets a break he doesn't expect, playing offstage with Downtown Exit to cover for a bandmate who drops so much acid he can no longer perform. When Pete's habits lead to his death, Levi takes his place in the band.

But its star, Frankie Novak, sees Levi as a threat musically and romantically, as they compete for the attentions of their photographer Ariadne.

When they embark on a European tour, Levi thinks he's finally overcome his troubled childhood. He doesn't realize because of his carefully hidden dyslexia that he's signed away the rights to his songs. The band's new album is overdue and the record company is demanding a hit or its money back.

BOOTLEG STARDUST is a coming of age story that captures triumph, insecurities

Glenn Dixon's memoir *Juliet's Answer* was a #1 national bestseller that was published in eleven countries and was one of *The Globe and Mail's* Best Books of the Year. His gritty rock and roll band, the Barrel Dogs, wrote and recorded songs for this novel, on the very real Rolling Stones Mobile Unit as well as at sessions in Abbey Road Studios. <http://www.glennixon.ca>. For BOOKFEST Glenn Dixon produced a video about the recording of the album that goes with BOOTLEG STARDUST. <https://vimeo.com/459490490>.

Patry Francis

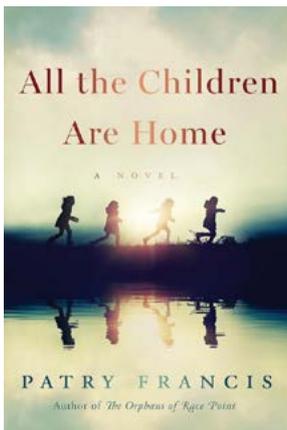
# ALL THE CHILDREN ARE HOME

**Publisher**  
HarperCollins

Spring 2021  
460 pages

**Client**  
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



A sweeping saga in the vein of *Ask Again*, Yes following a foster family through almost a decade of dazzling triumph and wrenching heartbreak – from the author of *The Orphans at Race Point*.

Set in the late 1950s through 1960s in a small town in Massachusetts, ALL THE CHILDREN ARE HOME follows the Moscatelli family – Dahlia and Louie, foster parents, and their long-term foster children Jimmy, Zaidie, and Jon – and the irrevocable changes in their lives when a six-year-old indigenous girl, Agnes, comes to live with them.

When Dahlia decided to become a foster mother, she had a few caveats: no howling newborns, no delinquents, and above all, no girls. A harrowing incident years before left her a virtual prisoner in her own home, forever wary of the heartbreak and limitation of a girl's life.

Eleven years after they began fostering, Dahlia and Louie consider their family complete, but when the social worker begs them to take a young girl who has been horrifically abused and neglected, they can't say no.

Six-year-old Agnes Juniper arrives with no knowledge of her Native American heritage or herself beyond a box of trinkets given to her by her mother and dreamlike memories of her sister. As the years pass and outside forces threaten to tear them apart, the children, now young adults, must find the courage and resilience to save themselves and each other. Heartfelt and enthralling, ALL THE CHILDREN ARE HOME is a moving testament to the enduring power of love in the face of devastating loss.

Patry Francis is the author of the *Orphans of Race Point* (Mare), *The Liar's Diary* and the blog *100 Days of Discipline for Writers*. Her poetry and short stories have appeared in the *Tampa Review*, *Antioch Review*, *Colorado Review*, *Ontario Review*, and *American Poetry Review*, among other publications. She is a threetime nominee for the Pushcart Prize and has twice been the recipient of the Massachusetts Cultural Council Grant. She lives in Massachusetts.

Kai Harris

# WHAT THE FIREFLIES KNEW

**Publisher**

Tiny Reparations

Spring 2022

Manuscript available November 2020

**Client**

Ayesha Pande Literary

**Contact**

Anja Kretschmann



WHAT THE FIREFLIES KNEW will appeal to readers across a wide age spectrum including fans of *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson and *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

After her father dies of an overdose and the debts incurred from his addiction cause the loss of the family home in Detroit, almost-eleven-year-old Kenyatta Bernice (KB) and her teenage sister Nia are sent by their overwhelmed mother to live with their estranged grandfather in Lansing. Pinballing between resentment, abandonment and loneliness, KB is forced to carve out a different identity for herself and find her own voice.

As she examines the jagged pieces of her recently shattered world, she learns that while some truths cut deep, a new life – and a new KB – can be built from the shards. Capturing all the vulnerability, perceptiveness, and inquisitiveness of a young girl on the cusp of puberty, Kai Harris’s prose perfectly inhabits that hazy space between childhood and adolescence, where everything that was once familiar develops a veneer of strangeness when seen through newer, older eyes. WHAT THE FIREFLIES KNEW poignantly reveals that heartbreaking but necessary component of growing up – the realization that loved ones can be flawed, sometimes significantly so, and that the perfect family we all dream of looks different up close.

Kai Harris is currently pursuing a PhD in Fiction at Western Michigan University, where she is also Editor-in-Chief of *Third Coast magazine*. Kai is a contributing writer at *The Everygirl*, and a proud VONA/Voices alumna. She recently won the Gwen Frostic Creative Writing Award in Fiction at her university for the short story, *While We Live*. Originally from Detroit, Kai now lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

# Susie Yang

# WHITE IVY

**Publisher**  
Simon & Schuster

November 2020  
368 pages

**Client**  
Union Literary

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



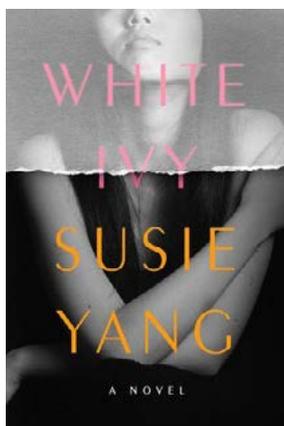
Italy Neri Pozza  
UK Wildfire (Headline)  
France Calmann-Levy



Center for Fiction First Novel Prize  
Longlist

#### Film and TV

Optioned by Netflix for Shonda Rhimes to Executive Produce as a limited series.



**“In Ivy, Yang has created an ambitious and sharp yet believably flawed heroine who will win over any reader, and the accomplished plot is layered and full of revelations. This is a beguiling and shattering coming-of-age story.”**

—Publishers Weekly

**“Yang’s dark, spellbinding debut gives insight into the immigrant experience and life in the upper class, challenging the stereotypes and perceptions associated with both. The surprising twists, elegant prose, and complex characters in this coming-of-age story make this a captivating read.”** –Booklist

A dazzling debut novel about a young woman’s dark obsession with her privileged classmate and the lengths she’ll go to win his love – from prizewinning Chinese American author Susie Yang.

Ivy Lin is a thief and a liar – but you’d never know it by looking at her. Raised outside of Boston, Ivy’s immigrant grandmother relies on Ivy’s mild appearance for cover as she teaches her granddaughter how to pilfer items from yard sales and second-hand shops. Thieving allows Ivy to accumulate the trappings of a suburban teen – and, most importantly, to attract the attention of Gideon Speyer, the golden boy of a wealthy political family. But when Ivy’s mother discovers her trespasses, punishment is swift and Ivy is sent to China, and her dream instantly evaporates.

Years later, Ivy has grown into a poised yet restless young woman, haunted by her conflicting feelings about her upbringing and her family. Back in Boston, when Ivy bumps into Sylvia Speyer, Gideon’s sister, a reconnection with Gideon seems not only inevitable – it feels like fate.

Slowly, Ivy sinks her claws into Gideon and the entire Speyer clan by attending fancy dinners, and weekend getaways to the cape. But just as Ivy is about to have everything she’s ever wanted, a ghost from her past resurfaces, threatening the nearly perfect life she’s worked so hard to build.

Filled with surprising twists and offering sharp insights into the immigrant experience, WHITE IVY is both a love triangle and a coming-of-age story, as well as a glimpse into the dark side of a woman who yearns for success at any cost.

Susie Yang was born in China and came to the United States as a child. After receiving her doctorate of pharmacy from Rutgers, she launched a tech startup in San Francisco that has taught 20,000 people how to code. She has studied creative writing at Tin House and Sackett Street. She has lived across the United States, Europe, and Asia, and now resides in the UK. WHITE IVY is her first novel.

Monica Byrne

# THE ACTUAL STAR

**Publisher**  
Harper Voyager

Fall 2021  
560 pages

**Client**  
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



A masterful, mind-bending tale of epic scope, from the author of the groundbreaking novel *The Girl in the Road*.

THE ACTUAL STAR is a large, multi-layered speculative work, with three interwoven parts, one set in the world of the ancient Maya a thousand years ago (in which teen-age twins prepare to ascend the throne of their city-state, only to be toppled in a coup), one set in the present day (in which a young woman named Leah becomes fascinated by a cave complex in Belize), and one set a thousand years in the future (in which a new world religion has grown up, worshipping the memory of Leah's disappearance in the cave).

Each of the three stories is powerful in its own way. The world view of the pre-conquest Maya is persuasively evoked in vibrant, sensuous colors, in chapters that are based on extensive research. In the present-day story, Leah is a compelling mystic figure, a surprising yet satisfying first saint for a new world religion. And the future story is a magnificent feat of world-building, with a genuinely original vision of a post-climate-apocalypse, post-capitalist society of wanderers.

Braided together, the three stories create profound resonances, with a cast of complex characters who we come to realize are reincarnations of earlier selves; with echoes of Christian theology and history; and with themes of human sacrifice, bloodletting, utopias, and parallel worlds.

THE ACTUAL STAR is a rich, complex, challenging and satisfying work.

**Monica Byrne** graduated from the Clarion Workshop in 2008, where she studied with Neil Gaiman, Nalo Hopkinson, and Kelly Link. Her debut novel, *The Girl in the Road*, was published in 2014. It won the Tiptree Award and was listed for the Kitschie, Locus, and DSC Prize for South Asian Literature. She has performed original monologues twice at TED, hosted a technology series for ViceUK, and spoken across the US on futurism and science fiction. Her short stories and essays have been published in *The Baffler*, *The Atlantic*, *The Washington Post*, *Wired*, *Tor.com*, *Electric Velocipede*, *Fantasy Magazine*, *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, *Electric Literature*, and *Glimmer Train*. She has written five plays produced in Durham, NC, one of which, *What Every Girl Should Know*, has been performed from Berkeley to Dublin.

Molly Greeley

# THE HEIRESS

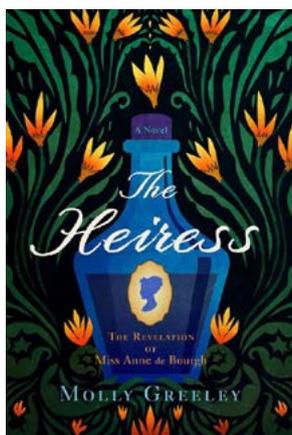
The Revelations of Anne de Bourgh

**Publisher**  
William Morrow

December 2020  
320 pages

**Client**  
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



In this gorgeously written and spellbinding historical novel based on *Pride and Prejudice*, the author of *The Clergyman's Wife* combines the knowing eye of Jane Austen with the eroticism and Gothic intrigue of Sarah Waters to reimagine the life of the mysterious Anne de Bourgh.

As a fussy baby, Anne de Bourgh's doctor prescribed laudanum to quiet her, and now the young woman must take the opium-heavy tincture every day. Growing up sheltered and confined, removed from sunshine and fresh air, the pale and overly slender Anne grew up with few companions except her cousins, including Fitzwilliam Darcy. Throughout their childhoods, it was understood that Darcy and Anne would marry and combine their vast estates of Pemberley and Rosings. But Darcy does not love Anne or want her.

In a frenzy of desperation, Anne discards her laudanum and flees to the London home of her cousin, Colonel John Fitzwilliam, who helps her through her painful recovery. Yet once she returns to health, new challenges await. Shy and utterly inexperienced, the wealthy heiress must forge a new identity for herself. The once wan, passive Anne gives way to a braver woman with a keen edge – leading to a powerful reckoning with the domineering mother determined to control Anne's fortune and her life.

An extraordinary tale of one woman's liberation, THE HEIRESS reveals both the darkness and light in Austen's world, with wit, sensuality, and a deeply compassionate understanding of the human heart.

**Molly Greeley** earned her bachelor's degree in English, with a creative writing emphasis, from Michigan State University, where she was the recipient of the Louis B. Sudler Prize in the Arts for Creative Writing. Her short stories and essays have been published in *Cicada*, *Carve* and *Literary Mama*. She works on social media for a local business, is married and the mother of three children but her Sunday afternoons are devoted to weaving stories into books. *The Clergyman's Wife* was her first novel.

Miranda Hill

# DISCRETION

**Publisher**  
Knopf Canada

Fall 2021  
Manuscript available November 2020

**Client**  
Transatlantic Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



For fans of *Downton Abbey* and *Upstairs, Downstairs*, DISCRETION is an epic reversal of fortunes story following two women who switch identities on a train.

It all begins in 1890. Lady Ada and Evelyn are traveling by train toward Pittsburgh and two very different futures, one affluent, the other quite the opposite. Ada is reluctantly making a journey toward a marriage to a man she has never met (arranged by her once-respected British family); Evelyn is on her way to work as a domestic servant in one of the city's finer houses. This chance meeting and the envy it triggers when they impulsively switch identities, is the beginning of a recurring connection, weaving together their contrasting lives – from the drawing rooms of upper class Pittsburgh homes, to its factories and slums, and then over the border to the golden age of the grand hotels of Muskoka, the destination of a new and glamorous set of “pleasure seekers.”

**Miranda Hill** is winner of Canada's most prestigious short story prize, the Writers Trust/McClelland & Stewart Journey Prize. Her stories have appeared in the *Globe & Mail*, *Reader's Digest*, *The New Quarterly* among others. Her debut collection *Sleeping Funny*, (Doubleday, 2012), was one of the bestselling and well-reviewed collections of the year. Hill is the founder of the literary charity Project Bookmark Canada. DISCRETION is her debut novel.

Annie Robertson

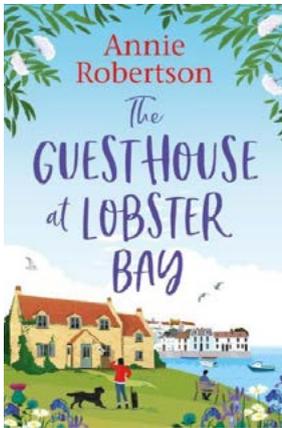
# THE GUESTHOUSE AT LOBSTER BAY

Publisher  
Welbeck

April 2021  
Manuscript available October 2020

Client  
Blake Friedmann Literary,  
TV and Film Agency

Contact  
Hanna Vielberg



A summery read, full of fun and romance,  
and the perfect escape...

When Emma sees The Guesthouse at Lobster Bay for sale online, she knows it is exactly the peaceful haven and fresh start she needs to recover from a recent trauma, but from the moment she picks up the keys Emma's dream of owning a successful guesthouse begins to unravel.

Emma has one month to get the handsome, terraced house with stunning sea views in order before her first guests arrive at the beginning of June, a task made all the harder by the discovery that the previous owner has included her elderly and enormous dog in the sale. And then there's the next-door neighbour, Aidan, the local lobsterman – self-assured and unwelcoming – who Emma is forced to turn to for help in a crisis.

As Emma and Aidan work together to get the guesthouse ready, they grow closer, but then Aidan is called away and Emma has to carry on, alone. Over the course of the summer Emma must navigate unforeseen dilemmas and new friendships, and keep her business afloat. But as she falls in love with Lobster Bay, is she also falling for Aidan?

**Annie Robertson** trained in London as a classical musician, then worked as an assistant for an Oscar winner, an acclaimed artist, a PR mogul and a Beatle. After several years of running errands for the rich and famous, she went to medical school where, hiding novels in anatomy textbooks, she discovered her true passion for writing, and went on to complete a Creative Writing MA with distinction.

Unterhaltung

Aamina Ahmad

# THE WALLED CITY

Publisher  
Riverhead 2021

370 pages

Client  
Ayesha Pande Literary

Contact  
Anja Kretschmann



UK Hachette  
India Westland

Film House Productions



A multigenerational literary crime story set during the anarchic years of Bhutto's rise to power in 1960s Pakistan and the subsequent partition of Bangladesh in 1971.

Inspector Jamshed is sent to the labyrinthine streets of Lahore's walled city to cover up the chilling murder of a child prostitute, a murder in which his father Wajid, a powerful political figure, may be implicated. The task upends Jamshed's orderly life by sending him back 'home' to the red light district of Lahore where he was born, the offspring of a prostitute, and from which his father took him as a boy, thereby giving him a chance at a respectable life.

Assailed by a jumble of memories, and appalled by the viciousness of the crime, he's suddenly aware of everything he's lost. Should he stop hiding his disreputable history and search for the mother and sister he hasn't seen since childhood? And should he defy his powerful father, and proceed with the investigation of the little girl's murder?

Combining the suspense of a Patricia Highsmith novel with the epic scope of Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko* or Vikram Chandra's *Sacred Games*, THE WALLED CITY takes us deep into the heart of one of Lahore's ancient and mysterious communities.

**Aamina Ahmad** grew up in London. She holds an MFA in fiction from the Iowa Writers' Workshop and received a Stegner Fellowship from Stanford University. Her short fiction has appeared in *One Story*, *The Southern Review*, *The Normal School*, *The Missouri Review*, *Ecotone* and the anthology, *And the World Changed*. Her play, *The Dishonored* was produced by Kali and toured the UK in 2016. In addition to the Stegner, she has been a recipient of the Peden Prize and a Rona Jaffe Writer's Award.

Spannung

Kevin Chen

# GHOST TOWN

Publisher  
Mirror Fiction

December 2019  
232 pages  
English translation available

Client  
The Grayhawk Agency

Contact  
Anja Kretschmann



Golden Tripod Award

Taiwan Literature Award Shortlist 2020



*Sharp Objects* meets Flannery O'Connor in Garcia Marquez's *Macondo* – or rather its Taiwanese equivalent – in this bestselling literary mystery, in which a prodigal son returns to investigate a death in the family.

Yongjing, a small town in central Taiwan and whose name means "Eternal Peace", is anything but. It is the birthplace of Keith Chen – youngest of seven siblings and result of parents who desperately wanted a son but instead got only daughters. He turned out to be gay; of course, he had to run away.

The story begins many years later, when Keith has just been released from prison for killing his boyfriend in Berlin. He is about to return to Yongjing, now a poor and desolate place. With his parents gone, sisters married (to wrong guys), mad, or dead, there is really nothing left for him here. So why is he coming back? What happened more than a decade ago that tore this happy family apart? And why did Keith kill his German boyfriend?

Told in a myriad of voices – both living and dead – and moving through time with deceptive ease, *GHOST TOWN* weaves a mesmerizing web of family secrets and countryside superstitions, the search for identity and clash of cultures. Kevin Chen's first novel in over a decade is a sumptuous read, an irresistible fusion of rural noir, Gothic family saga, bildungsroman, and magical realist mystery.

**Kevin Chen**, born in 1976, began his artistic career as a cinema actor, starring in various Taiwanese and German films. Now based in Berlin, he is a staff writer for *Performing Arts Reviews* magazine. He has published several novels and short story collections.

Spannung

Paul Finch

# ONE EYE OPEN

**Publisher**  
Orion

August 2020  
448 pages

**Client**  
Blake Friedmann Literary,  
TV and Film Agency

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



**“A fast-paced, terrifying journey.”**

–Rachel Abbott

**“A born storyteller.”**

–Peter James

An electrifying, high-octane thrill ride; the new must-read standalone with new UK publisher from a *Sunday Times* best-selling author, that will appeal to fans of Stuart MacBride, Mari Hannah and Alex Cross.

A sports car has careened off a highway. The young couple driving are both critically injured. There are no witnesses.

There is also no record of the car's existence. It's a chop-shop special. Then there's the money they found all over the crash site – over thirty grand in untraceable banknotes. And the couple driving have no ID and still haven't woken up.

First responder Lynda Hagen can't begin to prepare herself for just how dangerous things are about to get. When petty thieves steal from major criminals, there will be violence. But when something as valuable as the 'Red Book' is stolen and an underworld empire is stripped of its greatest asset, seemingly unstoppable forces will be unleashed.

Lynda must protect the two badly injured people, and at the same time find whatever terrible secrets the mysterious Red Book contains, as well as finding the book itself.

Because it's still missing, and The Corporation has charged its deadliest killers with retrieving it.

A former cop, journalist, and screenwriter, Paul Finch's *Heck series* (Piper) has sold over 750,000 copies worldwide. *Strangers*, the first in Paul's female-led *Lucy Clayburn series* (Piper) was a *Sunday Times* Bestseller.

Spannung

Fiona Foster

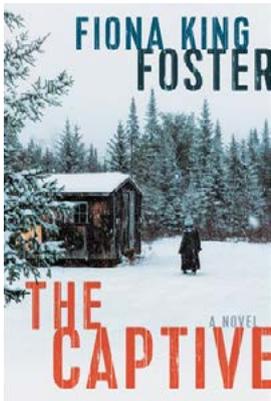
# THE CAPTIVE

**Publisher**  
HarperCollins Canada

January 2021  
246 pages

**Client**  
The Cooke Agency International

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



**"In this riveting debut, King Foster vividly brings to life a gritty, hardscrabble and all too plausible near-future and a resolute heroine who defends those she loves throughout a harrowing ordeal. THE CAPTIVE is a propulsive, word-perfect thriller about the ghosts that haunt us and the strengths that lie within."**

—Saleema Nawaz, author of *Songs for the End of the World*

**"Fiona Foster has written a tension-wire novel, suspenseful from the first line to the last. A story about a fractured country quickly transforms into a study of the ways in which the darkest parts of our history follow us around like shadows. There is something gripping here, a nuanced dissection of how violence begets violence, damage begets damage."**

—Omar El Akkad, author of *American War*

THE CAPTIVE is an assured, action-packed and heart-stopping debut – a feminist noir story of survival, difficult choices, and the enduring fierceness of a mother's love

Brooke, who lives on a farm with her husband and two young daughters, spots a 'WANTED' poster in town bearing the face of a man she recognizes from her childhood – a traumatic period of her life that she guards closely – and it's not long before she finds the pictured fugitive hiding in her shed. After beating and binding him, she quickly decides on a plan: take the prisoner, and with her family in tow, travel miles through the woods on foot to collect the bounty on his head, solving both her money problems and ensuring that no one from her past can ever threaten her family or her new life again ... or at least, that's the plan

THE CAPTIVE is as and riveting as it is stunningly written, and perfect for readers of *The Outlander* by Gil Adamson and *Winter's Bone* by Daniel Woodrell.

Fiona King Foster was raised in Brudenell, Ontario, a rural community now misleadingly referred to as a "ghost town." Her writing has appeared in the *Globe and Mail*, *Hobart*, *Maisonneuve*, *Midway Journal*, the *New Quarterly*, *New World Writing*, *NOON*, *New York Tyrant*, *le Panoptique* and *Room*. She lives in Toronto and works with the national literacy organization Frontier College. THE CAPTIVE is her first novel.

Spannung

Emily Freud

# CONFINEMENT

**Publisher**  
Quercus

188 pages

**Client**  
Teresa Chris Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



## One of them isn't going to have their baby.

The transition into motherhood is billed as the most exciting time in a woman's life. When Della, Sasha, and Lucy meet at a pre-natal class the trio begin a new friendship, and look forward to supporting each other through this shared intense journey.

Della is a high flying barrister who is hiding her own secrets about her pregnancy. And all nurse Sasha has ever wanted is to become a mum. Their husbands, Hugh and Colt, run a highly successful private security firm – they share everything, even lies.

But Lucy isn't really there to make friends. She's there to make sure one of them doesn't have their baby, so she can take back what is rightly hers. But who is she after, and which of the women's husbands is she trying to steal?

When the three take a break together, a last relaxing hurrah before night feeds kick in, Della begins to feel something amiss with this new woman. But caring Sasha can't believe that their new friend has anything but good intentions. But which of them isn't going to reach the end destination of motherhood?

**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*. Her debut novel *CLOSURE* is out in 2020.

Spannung

Bonnie Kistler

# THE CAGE

**Publisher**  
HarperCollins

Winter 2022  
360 pages

**Client**  
The Jean V. Naggar Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann



Two women enter an elevator. The power goes out. When the power is restored, one woman is dead – shot through the head. Is it murder or is it suicide?

So begins the cat and mouse game of two brilliant but desperate tacticians – one the woman left alive and the other her male boss out to make sure she is convicted of murder. *THE CAGE* by Bonnie Kistler keeps you guessing on the edge of your seat all the way to the propulsive end!

Bonnie Kistler's *House on Fire* (Atria, 2019) was featured in *USA Today*, on *Fansided* in the Amazon Advisor's March Release Roundup, *PopSugar's* 30 Must-Read Books of 2019, *CrimeRead's* Most Anticipated Crime Books of 2019 and Best Psychological Thrillers March Roundup as well as *The Nerd Daily's* Debut Authors Roundup. Bonnie is a former trial lawyer. She spent her career in private practice with major law firms and successfully tried cases in federal and state courts across the country, as well as teaching writing skills to other lawyers and lecturing frequently to professional organizations and industry groups. She and her husband now live in Florida and the mountains of western North Carolina. They have two daughters.

Spannung

Laura McHugh

# WHAT'S DONE IN DARKNESS

**Publisher**  
Spiegel & Grau

July 2021  
244 pages

**Client**  
Union Literary

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



In this riveting new novel from Laura McHugh, a woman finds that sometimes our attempt to loosen the ties to our past only bind us further. McHugh enthralls with this suspenseful tale of a woman who pulls a real-life *Gone Girl*.

A woman who was abducted as a teenager must confront her past and untangle the truth of what happened to her in this dark thriller from the author of *The Wolf Wants In*. Deeply rooted in a strong sense of place, like the novels of Gillian Flynn, Laura Lippman, and Daniel Woodrell.

On a hot, hazy summer day, Sarabeth is forced to work her family's farmstand in Arkansas. It was only recently that Sarabeth had a normal teenage life in town, able to see her friends, starting to date – but that was before her parents found God and moved her and her siblings to a farm in the middle of nowhere. Now she has to wear long dresses even in the blistering heat, can't cut her hair, and can't spend time with anyone her age. Sarabeth has become rebellious and wayward. Then she is taken minutes after arriving at the farmstand. Blindfolded and chained to a basement wall, Sarabeth is held captive for weeks by a person she never sees or speaks to, and just when she thinks her life is about to be over, she wakes up along the side of a highway, where she is discovered by a passing motorist. Now an adult, she goes by Sarah, has cut ties with her family entirely, who never believed her story of an abduction, and has made a contented, if solitary life for herself in St. Louis. That is, until Detective Nick Farrow with the Missouri Highway Patrol Missing Persons Unit calls her, wanting her help to investigate the recent disappearance of a young girl in a case which bears striking similarities to Sarah's own.

**Laura McHugh** is critically acclaimed and award-winning writer: *The Weight of Blood* won the 2015 International Thriller Writers Award for Best First Novel, the Missouri Author Award, and the Silver Falchion award for Best First Novel – Literary Suspense. It was nominated for a Barry Award, an Alex Award, and a GoodReads Choice Award, and Entertainment Weekly called it "an expertly crafted thriller." *Arrowood* was a *Sunday Times* bestseller and a finalist for the International Thriller Writers Award for Best Novel. *The Wolf Wants In* was one of Library Journal's Best Books of the Year.

Iain Reid

# WE SPREAD

**Publisher**  
Scout Press

Manuscript available December 2020

**Client**  
Transatlantic Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



**UK Scribner**  
**Canada** Simon & Schuster Canada

**Film** Anonymous Content,  
Reed Morano



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

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

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

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

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

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

Spannung

P.J. Tracy

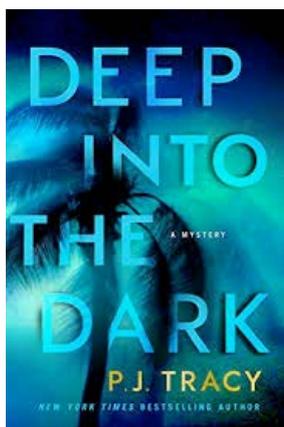
# DEEP INTO THE DARK

**Publisher**  
St. Martin's Press

January 2021  
352 pages

**Client**  
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



*New York Times* bestseller P. J. Tracy returns with DEEP INTO THE DARK, a brand new series set in LA and featuring up-and-coming LAPD Detective Margaret Nolan and murder suspect Sam Easton.

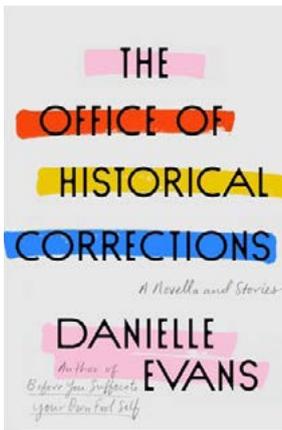
Sam Easton – a true survivor – is home from Afghanistan, trying to rebuild a life in his hometown of LA. Separated from his wife, bartending and therapy sessions are what occupy his days and nights. When friend and colleague Melody Traeger is beaten by her boyfriend, she turns to Sam for help. When the boyfriend turns up dead the next day, a hard case like Sam is the perfect suspect.

But LAPD Detective Margaret Nolan, whose brother recently died serving overseas, is sympathetic to Sam's troubles, and can't quite see him as a killer. She's more interested in the secrets Melody might be keeping and the developments in another murder case on the other side of town.

Set in an LA where real people live and work – not the superficial LA of Beverly Hills or the gritty underbelly of the city – DEEP INTO THE DARK features two really engaging, dynamic main characters and explores the nature of obsession, revenge, and grief.

P.J. Tracy is known for her "fast, fresh, and funny" characters (Harlan Coben) and her "sizzling" plots (*People*); the *Monkeewrench* series was her first, set in Minneapolis and co-written with her mother. Now with DEEP INTO THE DARK she's on her own.

Spanning



Danielle Evans  
**THE OFFICE OF HISTORICAL CORRECTIONS**

**Publisher**  
 Riverhead, November 2020

**Contact**  
 Anja Kretschmann



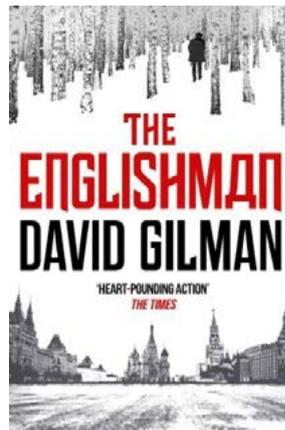
UK Picador

The award-winning author of *Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self* brings her signature voice and insight to the subjects of race, grief, apology, and American history.



**“A nuanced reflection of the world we are living in, one where the rules are changing, and truth is mutable and resentments about nearly everything have breached the surface of what is socially acceptable. These stories are wickedly smart and haunting in what they say about the human condition...”**

—Roxanne Gay, *New York Times*-best-selling author of *Difficult Women* and *Bad Feminist*



David Gilman  
**THE ENGLISHMAN**

**Publisher**  
 Head of Zeus, July 2020

**Contact**  
 Anja Kretschmann

A new high-octane international thriller series from the author of the *Master of War* series (Legenden des Krieges, Rowohlt)

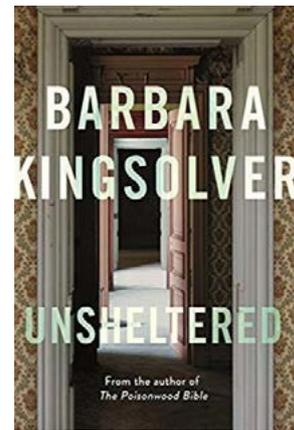


**“[David Gilman] writes convincingly about military and intelligence methods and mindsets ... The Englishman is a sweat-inducing tour de force”**

—The Times

**“The pace is relentless, the action and fight scenes superbly choreographed and Raglan is nicely complex: an action man with inner depths ... A cracking, finely crafted thriller”**

—Financial Times



Barbara Kingsolver  
**UNSHeltered**

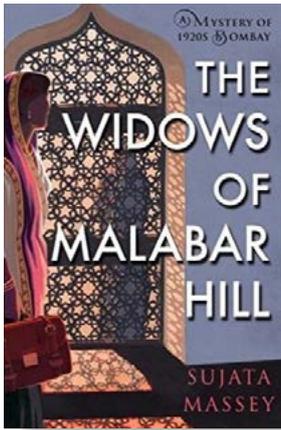
**Publisher**  
 HarperCollins, October 2018

**Contact**  
 Hanna Vielberg



UK Faber  
 China ThinKingdom  
 Netherlands orlando  
 Serbia Laguna  
 France Rivages

A compulsively readable story of two families, in two centuries, who live at the corner of Sixth and Plum in Vineland, New Jersey, navigating what seems to be the end of the world as they know it. With history as their tantalizing canvas, these characters paint a startlingly relevant portrait of life in precarious times when the foundations of the past have failed to prepare us for the future.



Sujata Massey  
**THE WIDOWS OF MALABAR HILL**

**Publisher**  
 Soho, January 2018

**Contact**  
 Hanna Vielberg

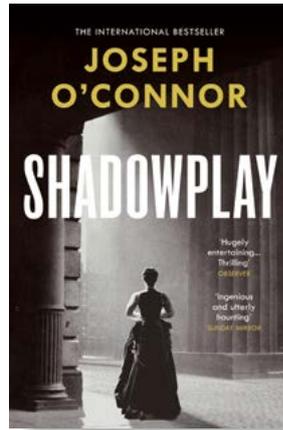


Italy Neri Pozza  
 India Penguin Random House  
 France Leduc  
 Finland Gummerus  
 Korea Delilah Books



2019 Macavity Award for Best Historical Novel

1920s India: Perveen Mistry, Bombay's first female lawyer, is investigating a suspicious will on behalf of three Muslim widows living in full purdah when the case takes a turn toward the murderous. The author of the Agatha and Macavity Award-winning *Rei Shimura* novels brings us an atmospheric new historical mystery with a captivating heroine.



Joseph O'Connor  
**SHADOWPLAY**

**Publisher**  
 Harvill Secker, June 2019

**Contact**  
 Hanna Vielberg

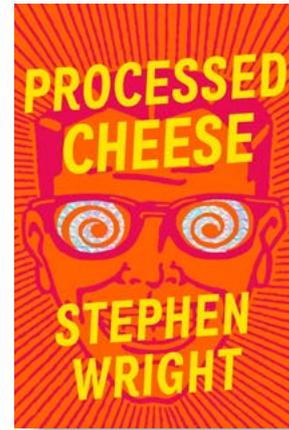


US Europa  
 France Editions Rivages  
 Sweden Natur och Kultur  
 Hungary Helikon  
 Italy Guanda  
 Turkey Sia Kitap  
 Serbia Karobna  
 Croatia Fraktura  
 China Shanghai Elegant People  
 UK audio WF Howes  
 Film offer under negotiation with a major Hollywood producer



Irish Book Award  
 (Eason Novel of the Year Prize)

Gorgeous, ingenious, a dazzling new work by a master novelist: A riveting imaginative recreation of Bram Stoker's life as a young man in London as he works with Henry Irving, the world's first superstar actor, and they both fall under the spell of dazzling actress Ellen Terry.



Stephen Wright  
**PROCESSED CHEESE**

**Publisher**  
 Little, Brown, January 2020

**Contact**  
 Anja Kretschmann

PROCESSED CHEESE is a savage, comic funhouse-mirror portrait of our maddened world, following *Graveyard* and *Ambience*, two ordinary citizens who come into some money in an America deranged by Mammon.

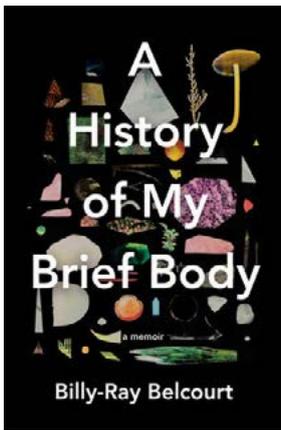


"PROCESSED CHEESE does for consumerism what *Catch-22* did for war."

—Stephen King

"Wright's prose spins a uniquely absurdist candy floss, reminding us of the pleasures and high-wire acts of the greats: think Kurt Vonnegut, Tom Wolfe, Don DeLillo on Dylar, the drug he invented in *White Noise*, and you've got Stephen Wright. If you read one novel this year—it should be PROCESSED CHEESE"

—A.M. Homes



Billy-Ray Belcourt  
**A HISTORY OF MY  
BRIEF BODY**

**Publisher**  
Hamish Hamilton, August 2020

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



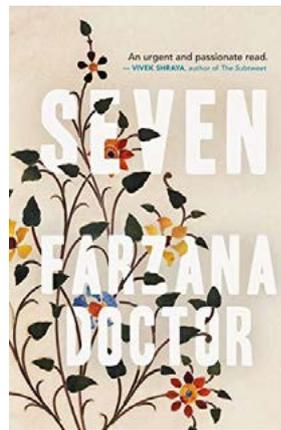
US Two Dollar Radio

The youngest ever winner of the Griffin Prize mines his personal history in a brilliant new essay collection seeking to reconcile the world he was born into with the world that could be. For readers of Ocean Vuong and Maggie Nelson and fans of *Heart Berries* by Terese Marie Mailhot, this is a brave, raw, and fiercely intelligent collection of essays and vignettes on grief, colonial violence, joy, love, and queerness.



**“This book is a monument for the future of poetic possibility.”**

—Ocean Vuong, author of *Night Sky with Exit Wounds*

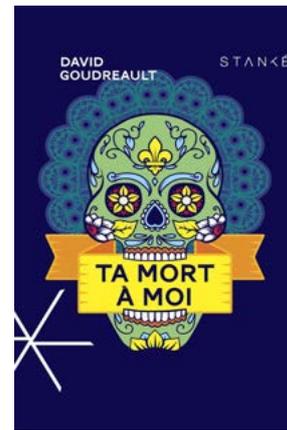


Farzana Doctor  
**SEVEN**

**Publisher**  
Dundurm Press, August 2020

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg

From activist, social worker and award-winning author Farzana Doctor, winner of the 2012 Lambda Literary Award and recipient of the 2011 Dayne Ogilvie Award from the Writers' Trust of Canada for an emerging lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender writer, the story of Sharifa, a woman who accompanies her husband on a marriage-saving trip to India, where she decides to research her great-great-grandfather and his four wives, uncovering secrets about her family's long and complicated history on both sides of the Khatna debate and her own deeply buried personal history.



David Goudreault  
**TA MORT À MOI**

**Publisher**  
Stanké, September 2019

**Contact**  
Anja Kretschmann

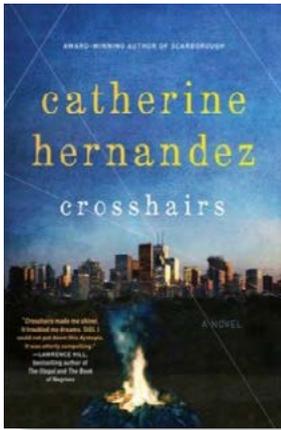


France Philippe Rey



Finalist Prix littéraire  
France-Québec 2020

A literary gem, by one of Quebec's most exciting new voices: An homage to literature and its most tormented authors and a musing on the limits and curses of creative genius, exploring the idea of fate through the eyes of Marie-Maude Pranesch-Lopez and the life of her dysfunctional family.



Catherine Hernandez  
**CROSSHAIRS**

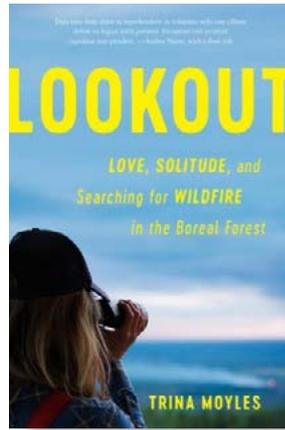
**Publisher**  
HarperCollins Canada,  
September 2020

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg



US Atria  
Commonwealth Jacaranda  
Spain Atria

The author of the acclaimed novel *Scarborough* weaves an unforgettable and timely dystopian account of a near-future when a queer Black performer and his allies join forces against an oppressive regime that is rounding up those deemed “Other” in concentration camps.



Trina Moyles  
**LOOKOUT**  
Love, Loss, Solitude, and  
Searching for Wildfire in the  
Boreal Forest

**Publisher**  
Random House Canada, March 2021

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg

Part memoir, part adventure story, and part environmental crisis de coeur, *LOOKOUT* will delight readers of Annie Dillard, Cheryl Strayed, and Rebecca Solnit. In *LOOKOUT*, Moyles’ second book, she takes reader to the boreal forest in northern Alberta, where, from a 100-foot-high tower, she scans the horizon for any hint of wildfire. Alone at her station with her beloved dog, Holly, Moyles contemplates the love she had recently lost, the beauty of nature, her seemingly endless isolation and solitude, and the threat of environmental crisis. She takes readers inside the unique culture of wildfire detection and combat, with its rugged men, camaraderie, honoured traditions, and history. Throughout, she grapples with loss and longing, with both a personal and environmental lens.



Vivek Shraya  
**THE SUBTWEET**

**Publisher**  
EWC Press, April 2020

**Contact**  
Hanna Vielberg

Bestselling and award-winning performer, MAC ambassador, activist, recording artist and author of *I’m Afraid of Men* Vivek Shraya’s latest, *THE SUBTWEET* is a stirring examination of making art in the modern era, an authentic glimpse into the music industry, and a nuanced exploration of the promise and peril of being seen.



**“A beautifully crafted novel about race, music, and social media ... In this timely novel, Shraya speaks to a modern audience with bold cultural insight, confronting the difficulties of being a brown artist and the drastic impact social media can have on pop culture.”**

– Booklist

Ursula Fricker

# SPIELSACHEN

250 Seiten

Kontakt  
Marc Koralnik



Ein beunruhigender Roman über Vormacher und Nachmacher, über Ambivalenz, Einflussnahme und Selbstbestimmung.

Wie kommt Ines` Mantel in diese Zeitung?

Auf einem Feld nahe der polnischen Grenze ist die Leiche einer unbekanntenen Frau gefunden worden – und was, wenn, fragt sich Lenni, diese Frau nun tatsächlich Ines wäre? Nach allem, was geschehen ist.

Während einer nächtlichen Autofahrt lernt das Arztehepaar Eppert die charismatische Theaterregisseurin Edda Pratt kennen. Aus der Bekanntschaft erwächst bald eine enge Freundschaft. Ines uralter Traum vom Theater, längst abgehakt, scheint mit Edda und ihrem immersiven, gnadenlos authentischen Performance-Projekt eine neue Chance zu bekommen.

Ines beginnt sich zu verändern. Was ihr bislang wichtig gewesen ist, Beruf, Familie, Tochter Lea, tritt zurück in die zweite Reihe. Allmählich gerät die Freundschaft der beiden Frauen aus dem Gleichgewicht, aus Zuneigung und Bewunderung wird Hörigkeit; Ines scheint ohne Edda nicht mehr leben zu können.

Wird Ines, fragt sich Lenni, von Edda einfach nur skrupellos manipuliert und ausgenutzt? Oder ist Eddas totales Spiel, wie Ines überzeugt ist, tatsächlich ein geniales künstlerisches Projekt, das jedes Opfer aufwiegt? Lenni vertraut zunächst auf seine Vernunft – aber kann rationales Verhalten in einem komplexen Spiel überhaupt bestehen?

SPIELSACHEN erzählt vom Ringen um Identität in einer zunehmend polarisierten, individualisierten Gesellschaft. Woran orientieren wir uns, wenn nicht an anderen? Wie frei kann Denken überhaupt sein? Wie haltbar ist eine Haltung, die von niemandem geteilt wird?

*“Edda weiß, wie gewissenhaft der Mensch Gewissheiten sucht. Wie sehr er sie braucht, wie selten er sie in sich selber findet, wie enthusiastisch ein Mensch am Ende wollen kann, was er nie gewollt hat.”*

**Ursula Fricker**, geboren 1965 in Schaffhausen, lebt als freie Autorin in der Nähe von Berlin. Ihr vielbeachtetes Debüt *Fliehende Wasser* wurde 2004 mit dem Einzelwerkpreis der Schweizerischen Schillerstiftung und mit dem Werkjahr der Stadt Zürich ausgezeichnet. Verschiedene Anthologiebeiträge und Reportagen, u.a. für die *SZ am Wochenende* und *der Freitag*. Ihr Roman *Außer sich* war 2012 für den Schweizer Buchpreis nominiert. Ihr neuer Roman *SPIELSACHEN* wird von der Pro Helvetia mit einem Promotionszuschuss unterstützt.

# Frank Heer

# ALICE

256 Seiten

Kontakt  
Marc Koralnik



“Unreflektiert cool und brutal, aber auch witzig und schön komponiert. Die leichten, fast fröhlichen Klänge sind die wesentlichen. Die männliche Brutalität, von der ‘Flammender Grund’ vordergründig handelt, hält dem Humor und der ausgefeilten Komposition nicht stand. ‘Es war mein erster Überfall’, heißt es in wunderbar ironischer Lakonie zu Beginn des Romans. Und bestimmt wird er auch nicht Heers letzter sein.”

–taz

“Ein Tempo, das einem wie ein Techno-Beat um die Ohren peitscht.”

–ORF

“In der Sonne des amerikanischen Südwestens flirrt ‘Flammender Grund’ bald als Comicstrip, bald als Roadstory, bald als Thriller, bald als Trash.”

–NZZ

ALICE ist ein antidetektivischer Kriminalroman, eine Coming-of-Age Geschichte in Zeiten der Paranoia oder auch ein Pop-Roman kurz vor dem Ausbruch von Punk. Paul Auster oder Haruki Murakami dürften ebenso Pate gestanden haben wie die Songs von Nick Cave und PJ Harvey oder die Filme von David Lynch.

Als Max Rossmann, ein junger Lokalreporter bei der konservativen Tageszeitung *Der Kurier*, die rätselhafte Folksängerin Alice Bay in einem halbleeren Musikclub spielen sieht, bricht er in Tränen aus, ohne eine Erklärung dafür zu finden. Was passiert mit ihm? Wer ist diese Erscheinung und was hat sie mit ihm zu tun? Dass die Musikerin mit den dicken Brillengläsern den selben Vornamen wie seine Ex-Freundin trägt, hält er für eine überflüssige Ironie des Schicksals.

In der Absicht, mehr über Alice Bay zu erfahren, bemüht sich Max um ein Interview mit der Sängerin; als sein Artikel auf der “Jungen Seite” im Kurier erscheint, ist das nächste Konzert restlos ausverkauft. Zwischen Alice und Max entwickelt sich eine Freundschaft – bis die Musikerin spurlos verschwindet.

Zur gleichen Zeit ist Max mit der Recherche zu einer Reihe von blutigen Hunderissen beschäftigt, die sich in den Außenquartieren der Stadt häufen. Ein anonymes Anrufer der sich Händel nennt, behauptet, das “Biest” zu sein, das Max sucht. Max ist entschlossen, die Identität des Anrufers zu entschlüsseln. Die Suche führt ihn zu einem Blinden, den er für Händel hält und dessen Spur sich jäh hinter der Ladentür eines Tierpräparators verliert. Je enger die Schlinge sich zuzieht, umso mehr entfernt sich Max von sich selbst.. Dass seine Ex-Freundin Alice Zidane unverhofft wieder in sein Leben tritt, macht alles nur noch komplizierter.

Zeitliche Kulisse bilden die ausklingenden Monate des Jahres 1975: atomare Bedrohung, Angst vor dem Kommunismus, Heroin und die Überwachung von Bürgern durch den Staat. Ort des Geschehens: eine Stadt in der Schweiz.

Frank Heer, 1966 in Uzwil bei St. Gallen geboren, ist Kulturredaktor für Musik und Film bei der *NZZ am Sonntag*. Er schreibt regelmäßig für Publikationen wie *Das Magazin vom Tages-Anzeiger* oder *Die Zeit*. Von 1995 bis 2005 lebte er als Korrespondent in New York. 2005 erschien bei Hoffmann & Campe sein Romandebüt *Flammender Grund*. Frank Heer ist nebenberuflich Musiker und lebt in Zürich.

Tine Melzer  
**TROST**

128 Seiten

Kontakt  
Marc Koralnik



TROST von Tine Melzer ist eine monologische Erzählung des frisch pensionierten Anti-Flaneurs Johann Trost.

Im Verlauf eines Tages versucht der ehemalige Pilot durch den Bau einer Modell-Landschaft den richtigen Abstand zu seinen Versäumnissen und Mitmenschen zu gewinnen. Alltägliche Nebensächlichkeiten – der Urlaub der Anderen, die unwillkommene Treue zur ehemaligen Ehefrau, das Haustier Vicky der Nachbarin und das Schuhwerk des Gegenübers – verbinden sich zu einem Panorama zueinander verschobener Ansichten.

Diese eng abgesteckte Welt rückt einem dieser Tage sicher unfreiwillig näher.

TROST ist die poetisch-unverschämte Anklage eines Übersättigten. Es ist eine in verschiedenen Dimensionen greifende Parabel, die eine andere, leichtere Aussenperspektive öffnet.

**Tine Melzer**, geboren 1978, verbindet in ihrer Arbeit Sprachphilosophie mit bildender Kunst und Literatur und macht Bücher. Sie hat in Amsterdam Fine Arts und Philosophie studiert, an der Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten ein Atelierstipendium erhalten und in England über Ludwig Wittgenstein und Gertrude Stein promoviert. 2004–2009 war sie Dozentin an der Gerrit Rietveld Academie Amsterdam. Nach Stationen in Belgien, Deutschland, England, Finnland und den Niederlanden lebt sie jetzt in der Schweiz. Seit 2014 ist sie Dozentin an der Hochschule der Künste Bern. Ein Blick auf die Webseite der Künstlerin, Autorin, Dozentin und Büchermacherin Tine Melzer wird Sie neugierig auf das hier angebotenen Manuskript machen: <http://www.tinemelzer.eu/>

Eva Rottmann

# STERNE SIND NICHT ZU SEHEN

140 Seiten

Kontakt  
Marc Koralnik



STERNE SIND NICHT ZU SEHEN versammelt sieben lose zusammenhängende Erzählungen.

Eva Rottmann erzählt von einsamen Figuren, Bewohnern eines Hauses, die sich begegnen, sich trennen, sich verpassen, viel oder überhaupt nichts miteinander zu tun haben. Die Figuren sind greifbar und sie sind es nicht, ihre Begegnungen im richtigen Mass beiläufig und bedeutungsvoll. Die Autorin findet für ihre stories einen ganz eigenen, unangestregten und leise humorvollen Erzählton. Und sie schreibt am Puls der Zeit, über die gesellschaftlichen Fragen die junge Frauen und Männer gerade neu ausloten.

**Eva Rottmann**, geboren 1983, und aufgewachsen in einer kleinen, deutschen Stadt namens Wertheim (Provinz at its best und jenseits des Flusses war Bayern). Nach dem Abitur ein bald wieder abgebrochenes Philosophiestudium. Hospitanzen im Theater. Reisen. Partys. Bandgründungen. Theaterhochschule. Bereits während der Ausbildung erste Publikation von Texten. Heute als Autorin und Theaterschaffende tätig. Literaturvermittlung. Lehrtätigkeit an der Zürcher Hochschule der Künste. Mama von zwei Kindern. Wohnhaft in Zürich. Ein Jugendbuch, der Roman *Mats und Milad*, erscheint im Frühjahr 2021 bei Jacoby & Stuart. Zuletzt wurde Eva Rottmann unter anderem mit dem Kulturförderpreis der Stadt Basel und dem Baden-Württembergischen Jugendtheaterpreis ausgezeichnet.