
FICTION

Todd Babiak | The Empress of Idaho [CookeMcDermid Agency] (Fiction—Literary)

- The bestselling and award-winning author returns with a compulsively readable novel about a small-town sexual scandal – older woman, teenage boy – that is at once a masterpiece of suspense and an elegy for lost youth
- 14-year-old Adam Lisinsky, a handsome honor roll student and a football player, the son of a struggling single mother, is well on his way to moving up in the world but things begin to fall apart as soon as Beatrice, a magnetic woman in her late 30s and the new bride of Adam’s down-and-out neighbour Marv, arrives next door
- This semi-autobiographical account is perfect for readers of **Zoe Whittall’s *The Best Kind of People*** and **Alissa Nutting’s *Tampa***
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (McClelland & Stewart); 1st Pages Available; Pub date: Spring 2019; Page extent: 336 (hc)

Michael Crummey | The Blinder [CookeMcDermid Agency] (Fiction—Literary)

- From the winner of the Commonwealth Writer’s Prize for Best Book, finalist for the IMPAC Dublin Prize, the Giller Prize, and the Governor General’s Award, and national bestselling author comes one of the most-buzzed-about-books of 2019, a novel where the classic Canadian literature of Alistair MacLeod meets Gabriel Tallent’s ***My Absolute Darling*** and Emma Donoghue’s ***Room***
- A searing, brilliant, and immersive story of pre-adolescent brother and sister Evererd and Ada, orphaned, living alone, isolated from society, who create a world of two, with devastating consequences
- Recognized as one of the most important writers in Canada, Crummey’s previous works, including ***Sweetland***, ***Galore***, and ***River Thieves***, have been shortlisted for every major Canadian prize and have **sold over 225,000 copies** in North America
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (Doubleday Canada); Ms available; Pub date: Fall 2019; Page extent: 241 (ms)

Anthony De Sa | Children of the Moon [CookeMcDermid Agency] (Fiction—Historical)

- The latest novel from critically-acclaimed author and Giller Prize finalist **Anthony De Sa**, ***Children of the Moon*** is the raw story of Pó, an albino child growing up in Tanzania, and Ezequiel, a half-Portuguese, half-Mozambican boy raised by missionaries and kidnapped by armed insurgents at the age of 13, who meet and fall in love during the Mozambican War of Independence—it is a story of human resilience, the weight of history, and unquenchable hope—of two damaged souls caught in a violent world, and the redemptive, life-changing power of love
- **Colm Tóibín** says of De Sa’s ***Barnacle Love***, “Anthony De Sa moves with skill and ingenuity between folk tale, myth and narratives of contemporary displacement. The tone is spare and elegiac; the stories are filled with carefully chosen details and sharply drawn characters. They have immense emotional and truthful power De Sa’s short fiction as the stories are filled with carefully chosen details and sharply drawn characters. They have immense emotional and truthful power.”
- For readers of **Khaled Hosseini**, **Jennifer Clement’s *Prayers for the Stolen***, and ***Beasts of No Nation***
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (Doubleday Canada); Ms available Nov 2018; Pub date: April 2019; Page extent: 268 (ms)

Amy Jones | Every Little Piece of Me [CookeMcDermid Agency] (Fiction—Upmarket Commercial)

- The award-winning author **Amy Jones** returns to the subject of family, friendship, and the perils of internet fame in this exploration of the troubling ways women are depicted, talked about, and treated in our society, whether on social media or on the street
- Ava Hart is the most reluctant member of a feel-good, reality TV show based on her ‘Famous Big City’ family’s (largely staged) attempts to run a Bed & Breakfast in small-town Nova Scotia – she hides from the cameras and tries to sabotage every scene she’s in; Mags Kovach is the lead singer –and only woman– in a struggling Halifax rock band hoping to be the Next Big Thing, whose demons and the exhausting grind that is the everyday sexism of the music world begin to catch up with her after a devastating loss and she suddenly finds herself on the brink of self-destruction – the first time they meet, Mags saves Ava’s life and the second time, Ava saves Mags’s
- And after playing by everyone else’s rules for so long, Ava and Mags will not only stop playing the game, they will take control and together they will #BurnItAllDown
- ***Every Little Piece of Me*** is a compulsive read and a fun, fresh take on what it means when we talk about “women behaving badly”, for readers of **Maria Semple**, **Celeste Ng**, and **Kevin Wilson’s *The Family Fang***
- Rights Held: World excl. Canada English (McClelland & Stewart); Ms available; Pub date: June 2019; Page extent: 393 (ms)

Shandi Mitchell | The Waiting Hours [CookeMcDermid Agency] (Fiction—Literary)

- The latest novel from the author of the award-winning and bestselling novel ***Under This Unbroken Sky***, this is an electric, timely novel about the ordinary people with the extraordinary jobs of rescuing strangers
- Reminiscent of **Andre Dubus III's *House of Sand and Fog***, this is the story of tough-as-nails Kate, a trauma nurse and search-and-rescue volunteer who spends her off-duty hours trying to forget what she has seen; Mike, a respected police officer on the edge of burnout and drug addiction that are beginning to impact his family; and Tamara, an agoraphobic 911 dispatcher who is trying her hardest to remain as calm and emotionless as an automated message – when the tragic shooting of 12-year-old boy brings them together, they are forced to make fateful choices that will alter their lives and others
- Set against the backdrop of a city prickling under a heat wave and a hurricane threatening to make landfall, ***The Waiting Hours*** is compassionate, illuminating look at the lives of the people at the front lines of tragedy, perfect for readers of **J. G. Ballard's *Crash***
- Previous Publishers: China—complex characters (Commonwealth); Israel (Kinneret); Italy (Fazi); The Netherlands (Orlando)
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (Penguin Canada); Ms available; Pub date: Spring 2019; Page extent: 308 (ms)

Sara Peters | I Become a Delight to My Enemies [Strange Light] (Fiction—Literary/Experimental)

- In the spirit of **Carmen Maria Machado's *Her Body and Other Parties***, **Sara Peters'** sophomore work of fiction is a timely, gut-wrenchingly powerful, and breathtakingly beautiful mediation on the violence and shame inflicted on the female body and psyche
- The first offering from Strange Light, Penguin Random House Canada's newest imprint, ***I Become a Delight to My Enemies*** perfectly embodies the kinds of books they aim to publish: personal, provocative, cutting-edge, and driven by voices and perspectives that are often overlooked
- Using different voices and forms including poetry and short prose vignettes, Sara Peters tells the stories of the women who live in an uncanny Town, in which the lives of girls and women are shaped by the brutality meted upon them and by their acts of defiance and yearning towards places of safety and belonging. **Sara Peters'** individual characters and the collective of The Town leap vividly, fully formed off the page through lucid detail and sparkling imagery
- The poignancy of **Roxane Gay** meets the influence of **Maggie Nelson** in Peters' timely, urgent, genre-bending work
- Rights Held: World, excl. North America English (Strange Light); Pages Available; Pub Date: May 2019; Page extent:: 160 (pb)

Andrew Pyper | The Homecoming [CookeMcDermid Agency] (Fiction—Psychological Thriller)

- The #1 internationally bestselling author of all things dark and thrilling, **Andrew Pyper**, is back with a riveting psychological thriller for fans of **Iain Reid's *I'm Thinking of Ending Things*** and **The Foe** and **Gillian Flynn's *Sharp Objects***
- After the death of their absentee father, Aaron and Bridge Quinlan travel to a vast rainforest property in the Pacific Northwest to hear the reading of his will. There, they meet up with their mother and troubled sister, Franny, and are shocked to discover the will's terms: in order to claim their inheritance they must all remain at the estate for thirty days without any contact with the outside world. Despite their concerns, they agree and are plunged into a terrifying journey of discovery
- ***The Homecoming*** is a gripping thriller, a chilling exploration of how our memories can both define and betray us, and an enthralling page-turner about how the people you've known your whole life can suddenly become strangers
- **"Pyper's gift is that he deeply respects his readers, yet still insists on reducing them to quivering children. I like that in a writer."** — **Gillian Flynn**, bestselling author of ***Gone Girl***
- Previous Publishers: Brazil (Darkside); Bulgaria (Bard); China (Beijing Time Chinese Publishing); Czech (Jota); France (L'Archipel); Greece (Klidarithmos); Italy (Fanucci); Japan (Shinchosha); The Netherlands (Ambo-Anthos); Poland (Zysk); Russia (Eksmo); Serbia (Evro Book); Slovak (IKAR); Spain (Planeta); Taiwan (Locus Publishing); Turkey (Dogan Egmont)
- Rights Held: World, excl. North America English (Simon & Schuster), UK English (Simon & Schuster UK); Pages available; Pub date: Feb 2019; Page extent: 368 (pb)