



FRANCES GOLDIN LITERARY AGENCY, INC.

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London 2023

INDEX

NONFICTION	5
CHRIS BELCHER	6
EULA BISS	7
ANDREW BOMBACK.....	8
JACOB MIKANOWSKI	9
KYLE CHAYKA	10
JOAN DEJEAN.....	11
CODY DELISTRATY	12
ARWEN DONAHUE	13
JARED FISHMAN.....	14
JUDITH GRISEL	15
COURTNEY GUSTAFSON	16
JAMIE HOOD.....	17
EMMANUEL IDUMA	18
MARGARET JUHAE LEE	19
BARBARA J. KING	20
MIRIAM LEWIN	21
HORACIO LUTZKY	21
THERESA LEVITT	22
PAUL LISICKY.....	23

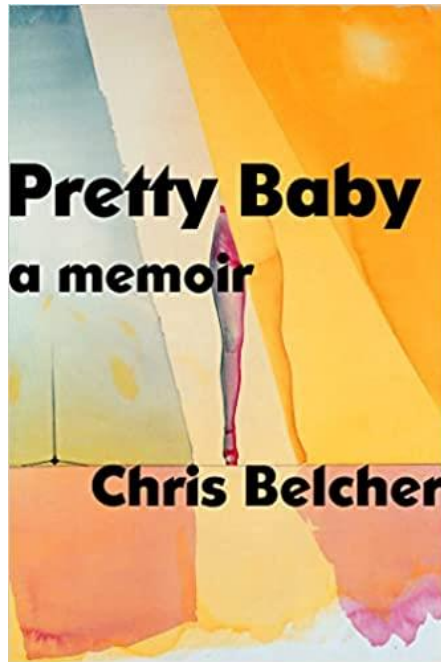
MADISON MAINWARING	24
DANIEL MEDWED.....	25
MEGHAN O’GIEBLYN	26
JENNY ODELL	27
TILLIE OLSEN	28
CAMERON RUSSELL.....	29
DAVID SHIELDS	30
MARGO STEINES	31
MICHELLE TEA.....	32
SARAH VIREN.....	33
MARCO VERDONI.....	34
FICTION	35
DELIA CAI.....	36
SCOTT ALEXANDER HOWARD	37
JAMES FRANKIE THOMAS.....	38
ÁLVARO ENRIGUE	39
ÁLVARO ENRIGUE	40
BRIAN EVENSON	41
LINDA RUI FENG.....	42
ESSEX HEMPHILL	43
BARBARA KINGSOLVER	44
RUTU MODAN	45
TILLIE OLSEN	46

SIOBHAN PHILLIPS.....	47
SHELLY JAY SHORE	48
P.J. TRACY.....	49
DONNA ANDREWS	50
MICHELLE WEBSTER HEIN.....	51
HELENE WECKER	52
ASHLEY WURZBACHER	53
ASHLEY WURZBACHER	54
YE CHUN	55
YE CHUN	56
FGLA Sub-Agents.....	57



FRANCES GOLDIN LITERARY AGENCY, INC.

NONFICTION



CHRIS BELCHER is a writer, professor, and former sex worker. She completed a PhD in English at the University of Southern California, where she is now Assistant Professor (Teaching) of Writing and Gender Studies. Under her working name, Natalie West, she edited the acclaimed anthology *We Too: Essays on Sex Work and Survival*. Born and raised in West Virginia, she now lives in Los Angeles.

US + Can: Avid Reader Press (S&S)

UK: Footnote Press (Bonnier Books)

Translation: FGLA

Books & Final MS Available

Publication: July 2022

Domestic Agent: Jade Wong-Baxter

PRETTY BABY: *A Memoir*

****Lambda Literary Award Finalist****

A queer teen rebel escapes small-town Appalachia and becomes Los Angeles's Renowned Lesbian Dominatrix in this searing and darkly funny memoir that upends our understanding of sexuality, class, and power.

From an early age, Belcher appeared destined for a life of conventional femininity. At all of eight months old, she took first place in an infant beauty contest, a minor glory that tends to follow you around a working-class town of 1,600 people in rural Appalachia. But admiration is fleeting, double standards are enraging, and Belcher is restless for a chance to act on her own desires. When she falls in love with another girl and shares the secret of her queerness, the conservative community that had once celebrated its prettiest baby swiftly turns on her.

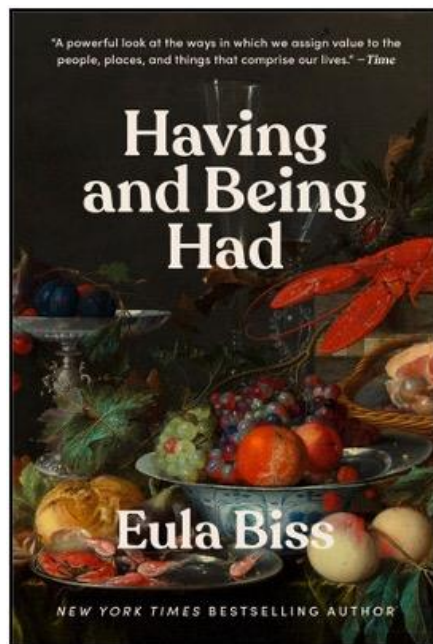
A decade later and two thousand miles away, living in Los Angeles and trying to stay afloat in the early years of a PhD program, Belcher plunges into the work of a pro-domme. Branding herself as LA's Renowned Lesbian Dominatrix, she specializes in male clients who want a woman to make them feel worthless, shameful, and weak—all the abuse regularly heaped upon women for free. Belcher is paid to be the keeper of the fantasies that they can't enact in their everyday relationships. But moonlighting as a sex worker also carries risks, like the not-so-submissive who tries to turn the tables and the jealous client who seeks revenge through blackmail. Belcher refuses to feel shame about the work she does, but fear that her doctorate program won't approve—even in the field of gender and sexuality studies—burdens her with a double life. *Pretty Baby* is her second coming out.

As Lisa Taddeo's *New York Times* bestseller *THREE WOMEN* gave us a revelatory look inside female desire, this sharp and discerning memoir dissects male desire—its harm, its greed, and its secrets—and examines how queerness could hold the answers to subverting it.

"Pretty Baby shimmers with rage and insight and I couldn't put it down. What a fucking gorgeous book."
—**Carmen Maria Machado**

"Count me among Chris Belcher's forever fans. Pretty Baby is a taut and intelligent story of defining one's selfhood and relationship ideals while toggling between the seemingly disparate worlds of sex work and academia."
—**Melissa Febos, author of Whip Smart and Body Work**

"Belcher's account of labor, sexuality, identity, queerness, and femininity is absolutely not to be missed."
—**Vogue**



EULA BISS is the author of three books, including *The New York Times* bestseller *On Immunity: An Inoculation*, which was named one of the 10 Best Books of 2014 by *The New York Times Book Review*, and *Notes from No Man's Land: American Essays*, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism.

US & Can: Riverhead

UK: Faber | **Aus/NZ:** Text

Germany: Hanser

France: Rivages | **Italy:** Luiss

Spain: Escrituras Verticales

Korea: Open Books

Danish: Harpyie

Other Translation: FGLA

Books & Final Manuscript Available

Publication: September 2020

Domestic Agent: Matt McGowan

HAVING AND BEING HAD

A timely and arresting new look at affluence by a consistently surprising writer

“My adult life can be divided into two distinct parts,” Eula Biss writes, “the time before I owned a washing machine and the time after.” Having just purchased her first home, she now embarks on a roguish and risky self-audit of the value system she has bought into. The result is a radical interrogation of work, leisure, and capitalism. Described by *The New York Times* as a writer who “advances from all sides, like a chess player,” Biss brings her approach to the lived experience of capitalism. Playfully ranging from IKEA to Beyoncé to Pokemon, across bars and laundromats and universities, she asks, of both herself and her class, “In what have we invested?”

A NEW YORK TIMES EDITORS' CHOICE

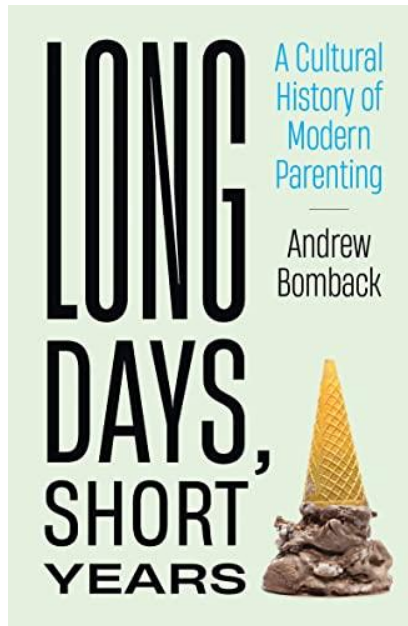
NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY TIME, NPR, INSTYLE, AND GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

“A sensational book . . . Keenly aware of her privilege as a white, well-educated woman who has benefited from a wide network of family and friends, Biss has written a book that is, in effect, the opposite of capitalism in its willingness to acknowledge that everything she’s accomplished rests on the labor of others.” —*Associated Press*

“Incisive, impressive and often poetic . . . [Biss] turns what is essentially a chronicle of white guilt and anxious privilege into a thoughtful and nuanced meditation on the compromises inherent in having a comfortable life.” —*The Wall Street Journal*

“[Biss explores] the candid ways we reveal our own biases around money, class, wealth, property & work. . . . *Having and Being Had* is a reminder that even discussing our contemporary chaos is an act of awakening & a call to action.” —*Los Angeles Times*

“A major achievement. *Having and Being Had*, rather than leading through narrative, turns individual words and phrases, like capitalism, consumers, great America, husbandry, art, and work, into fields of inquiry in order to frame a life. With astute consideration, this expansive and intimate accumulation asks the questions that touch all our lives.” —**Claudia Rankine, author of *Citizen***



ANDREW BOMBACK is Associate Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Irving Medical Center and the author of *Doctor (Object Lessons)*. His essays have appeared in the *Atlantic*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *McSweeney's*, and elsewhere.

- **WO English:** MIT Press
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final MS Available**
- **Publication:** August 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Matt McGowan

LONG DAYS, SHORT YEARS

A cultural history of modern parenting, investigating the emergence of an immersive, all-in approach to raising children—from Dr. Spock and June Cleaver to baby whispering and free-range kids.

Drawing on parenting books, blogs, and historical accounts of parental duties as well as novels, films, podcasts, television shows, and his own experiences as a parent, Bomback charts the cultural history of parenting as a skill to be mastered, from the laid-back Dr. Spock's 1950s childcare bible—in some years outsold only by the actual Bible—to the more rigid training schedules of *Babywise*. Along the way, he considers the high costs of commercialized parenting, the pressure on mothers to have it all (and do it all), scripted parenting as laid out in *How to Talk So Kids Will Listen*, parenting during a pandemic, and much more.

Praise for *Doctor*:

“Bomback’s work on modern parenthood takes on many prevalent topics, including economic anxiety, social pressures, and the tension between careers and family life. His narrative also reveals the internal pressures that parents face to become the best they can be in that role, while recognizing the limits of their resources, patience, and personalities...His empathy and frankness shine through on each page. This book is enjoyable to read and likely to be validating for many parents of young children.”

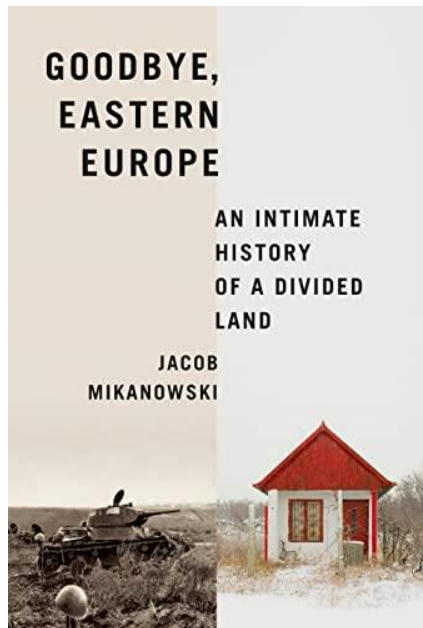
—*Library Journal*

“Physician and father Andrew Bomback brings remarkable compassion to this meditation on the work of parenting. *Long Days, Short Years* is an insightful and enjoyable read.”

—**Amy Fusselman, author of *The Means***

“Illuminating while never pedantic, *Long Days, Short Years* reflects on the pitfalls, lessons, and pleasures of modern parenting. With a keen yet relaxed narrative style, Andrew Bomback explains how being a parent became a culturally supercharged job: punishingly mundane, sometimes sublime, always a moving target.”

—**Christopher Schaberg, author of *Pedagogy of the Depressed***



JACOB MIKANOWSKI is a writer, academic and journalist with 20 years' experience studying and writing about Eastern Europe. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *The Guardian*, *Lapham's Quarterly*, and elsewhere.

- **US & Can:** Pantheon
- **UK:** Oneworld
- **Germany:** Rowohlt Berlin
- **Italy:** Keller
- **Hungary:** Maxim
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Edited manuscript available**
- **Publication:** July 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Sam Stoloff

GOODBYE, EASTERN EUROPE: *An Intimate History of a Divided Land*

In light of Russia's aggressive 2022 invasion of Ukraine, Goodbye, Eastern Europe is a crucial, elucidative read, a sweeping epic chronicling a thousand years of strife, war, and bloodshed, from pre-Christianity to the fall of Communism—illuminating the remarkable cultural significance and richness of a place perpetually lost to the margins of history.

Eastern Europe, the moniker, has gone out of fashion since the fall of the Soviet Union. Ask someone now, and they might tell you that Estonia is in the Baltics, or Scandinavia, that Slovakia is in Central Europe and Croatia is in the Eastern Adriatic or the Balkans. In fact, Eastern Europe is a place that barely exists at all, except in cultural memory. Yet it remains a powerful marker of identity for many, with a fragmented and wide history, defined by texts, myths, and memories of centuries of hardship and suffering.

Goodbye, Eastern Europe is a masterful narrative about a place that has survived the brink of being forgotten. Beginning with long-lost accounts of early pagan life, Mikanowski offers a kaleidoscopic tour recounting the rise and fall of the great empires—Ottoman, Hapsburg, and Russian—the dawn of the modern era, the ravages of Fascism and Communism, as well as Capitalism, the birth of the modern nation-state, and more. A student of literature, history, and the ghosts of his own family's past, Mikanowski paints a magisterial portrait of a place united by diversity, and eclecticism, and a people with the shared story of being the dominated rather than the dominating.

The result is a loving and ebullient celebration of the distinctive and vibrant cultures that stubbornly persisted at the margins of Western Europe, and a powerful corrective that re-centers our understanding of how the modern Western world took shape.

“Ambitious. . . . stunning. . . . Shot through with lyrical reflections and astute analysis, this is a rewarding portrait of a diverse and complex part of the world.”

— ★ *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“An epic history. . . . of a part of the world too often ignored, told with vigor, color, and authority.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*



KYLE CHAYKA covers technology and culture on the internet for *The New Yorker*. He has contributed chapters to *READING POP CULTURE: A Portable Anthology* and *A Companion to Digital Art* and his writing has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *New York Magazine*, *The New Republic*, *Rolling Stone*, *n+1*, *The Verge*, *The Paris Review*, and other publications. He began his career as a visual art critic for *Hyperallergic* in Brooklyn, and now lives in Washington, D.C.

- **US & Can:** Doubleday
- **UK:** Bonnier
- **Korea:** MiraeBooks
- **Spain:** Gatopardo
- **China (simple):** China Translation & Publishing House
- **Dutch:** Ten Have
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Proposal available**
- **MS Due:** Fall 2022
- **Publication:** Fall 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

FILTERWORLD: How Algorithms Flattened Culture

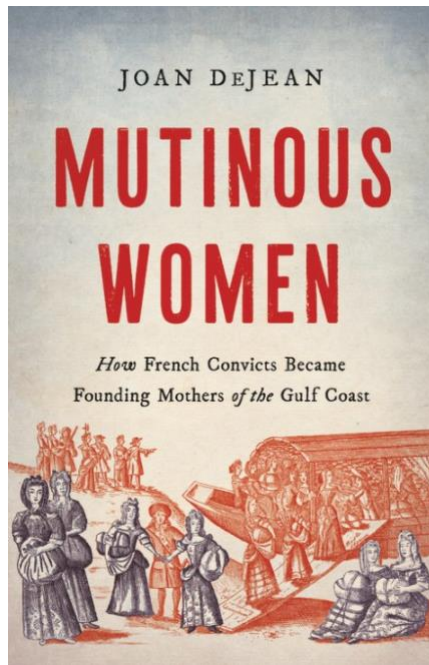
From *New Yorker* staff writer and author of *The Longing for Less* Kyle Chayka comes a timely history and investigation of a world ruled by algorithms, which determine the shape of culture itself.

From coffee shops to rental apartments to social media posts the world round, a sleek and deceptively simple aesthetic has come to predominate. It's in the neon signs and exposed brick of an internet cafe in Nairobi or the skeletal, modern furniture of an Airbnb in Portland. These designs are easy to identify, but even more crucially, they photograph well. In their simplicity and studied airiness, these images fit seamlessly into the Instagram grid.

But this aesthetic is only one small aspect of a broader program of curation that is determined by the algorithm—a network of mathematically determined choices that ramify into the development of city grids and music playlists alike. To have our tastes, behaviors, and emotions governed by computers, does nothing short of call the very notion of free will into question.

Over the last decade, Kyle Chayka has studied the homogeneity of this curation of reality. Working as a contributor for *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *The New Republic*, he has traveled to Berlin, Reykjavik, and Los Angeles tracing the algorithm's lineage. In *Filterworld*, Chayka lucidly examines how this deeply filtered aesthetic—spanning digital and physical spaces—creates an uncanny blend of work, home, and social life. As the algorithm determines our choices, other important questions arise: What happens when shareability supersedes messiness, innovation, and creativity—the very nature of being human? What does the notion of choice mean when the available options have been so carefully arranged for us?

Filterworld offers a way out. Kyle Chayka shows us how to disconnect from the tyranny of the algorithms that continue to override our sensibilities, and inform even our most intimate, real-world interactions. Most importantly, he shows us how to reclaim our individual freedom.



JOAN DEJEAN is Trustee Professor at the University of Pennsylvania and has taught at Yale and Princeton. She is the author of eleven books on French literature, history, and material culture of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, including most recently *How Paris Became Paris: The Invention of the Modern City* (2014).

- **US & Can:** Basic Books
- **UK & Translation:** FGLA
- **Books + final manuscript available**
- **Publication:** April 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Sam Stoloff

MUTINOUS WOMEN: *How French Convicts Became Founding Mothers of the Gulf Coast*

The secret history of the rebellious Frenchwomen who were exiled to colonial Louisiana and found power in the Mississippi Valley

In 1719, a ship named *La Mutine* (the mutinous woman), sailed from the French port of Le Havre, bound for the Mississippi. It was loaded with urgently needed goods for the fledgling French colony, but its principal commodity was a new kind of export: women.

Falsely accused of sex crimes, these women were prisoners, shackled in the ship's hold. Of the 132 women who were sent this way, only 62 survived. But these women carved out a place for themselves in the colonies that would have been impossible in France, making advantageous marriages and accumulating property. Many were instrumental in the building of New Orleans and in settling Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, and Mississippi.

Drawing on an impressive range of sources to restore the voices of these women to the historical record, *Mutinous Women* introduces us to the Gulf South's Founding Mothers.

“Gripping from its opening scene of a corpse discovered on a Paris side street, Joan DeJean’s *Mutinous Women* tells the stories of these French women, deported as unwanted criminals to what would become, less than a century later, part of the United States... Through astounding research in French and Louisiana archives... Ms. DeJean uses her knowledge as a scholar of early modern France to great effect. ... a fascinating history” —*Wall Street Journal*

“DeJean traces the constellation of forces—including avarice, corruption and misogyny—that permitted the rapid roundup of another 96 or so female prisoners to be transported in the dank hold of *La Mutine*. The horrific conditions of the women’s journey and the will to survive ... are evoked in vivid detail.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“[W]ell-written, often gripping prose....Readers will come away fascinated and inspired by this relatively unknown tale of strength and the human spirit.” —★*Kirkus Reviews* (Starred Review)



CODY DELISTRATY is the culture editor at *The Wall Street Journal Magazine*. He has written essays and criticism for *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic* and, while living in Paris for several years, he was the European arts columnist for *The Paris Review*. He has degrees in politics from New York University and history from the University of Oxford. *British Vogue* named him a best young writer of the year; and he has given corporate talks about tragedy, art, and creativity to companies like PwC.

- **US & Can:** HarperCollins
- **Korea:** Booken
- **UK:** Matt Turner / RCW
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Proposal available**
- **Delivery:** September 2023
- **Publication:** June 2024

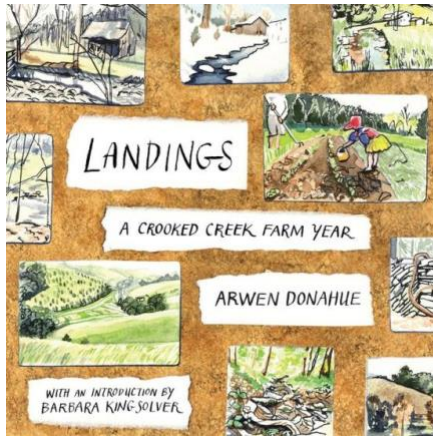
THE GRIEF CURE: *The High-Stakes Business of Making Tragedy Disappear*

When we actually talk about it, it's mostly behind closed doors: in therapist's offices, in support groups, or with close friends and family, if they're willing to listen. There are few human experiences as hugely universal, and yet as intensely private, as grief. A wave of public sympathy is offered when tragedy occurs, but then we're expected to work through our feelings on our own, with the goal of returning to normal life as soon as possible.

This was writer and critic Cody Delistraty's expectation after his mother died of cancer. Except he found himself struggling with how little of a roadmap there was for his grief—or the way that it derailed his life, defying commonly-held notions of what normal mourning might look and feel like. He began to ask himself: was it possible that he was grieving wrong? Did other people actually feel like this? That dissonance sparked the beginning of an obsession: to understand how we handle tragedy and grief today, and how his own feelings measured up.

What he found, through both reporting and academic study, is that our modern conception of grief is different than it's been through much of history. Since about the Second World War, Americans have largely believed they should grieve alone and get over it. This attitude is relatively new—historically, grief has had a commonly accepted place in public life—but our highly individual, productivity-obsessed culture has transformed grief into a solitary experience, and one we think of as a form of virtuous work.

THE GRIEF CURE takes the reader through our contemporary understanding of grieving—and how so many of our foundational notions, like the five stages of grief, deeply miss the mark. The book then moves through the big business that has emerged to capitalize on this private and commodified form of mourning: the Silicon Valley companies developing a technological cure to grief, grifters selling quick solutions, the consultants treating tragedy as a productivity drag. Drawing deeply on a cultural and social history of grief and tragedy, as well as those on the forefront of developing new communal approaches to mourning, the book finally looks towards what more functional responses to grief might look like moving forward.



ARWEN DONAHUE lives on a farm in Kentucky, where her family has raised produce for local markets for over 20 years. Her comics and graphic stories have been featured in *The Nib*, *The Rumpus*, *The Indiana Review*, and the forthcoming *Field Guide to Graphic Literature*. She has received grants from the Sustainable Arts Foundation, the Kentucky Foundation for Women, the Kentucky Humanities Council, and an Al Smith Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council.

- **WO English:** Hub City Press
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Final manuscript available**
- **Publication:** October 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Sam Stoloff

LANDINGS: *A Crooked Creek Farm Year*

A hybrid memoir / art book, with an introduction by New York Times Bestselling author Barbara Kingsolver.

In 130 ink-and-watercolor drawings, the story of one year on a family farm in Kentucky unfolds in captured moments of daily life: Donahue's husband chopping wood, a cow sniffing her head, her daughter tending to goats after a hard day at school. Each visual is paired with a written reflection on the day's doings, interwoven with the longer-arc history of her family, the farm, and their community.

In telling the story of a farm family's struggle to survive and thrive, *Landings* grapples with the legacy of our cultural divide between art and land, and celebrates the beauty discovered along the way.

"The world needs books like *Landings* to record 'the joy, delight and awe of our creaturely lives on earth.' To reveal daily labors like these from the inside out, and explain how Efficiency, the god that rules so much of modern life, can be a soul-killing taskmaster."

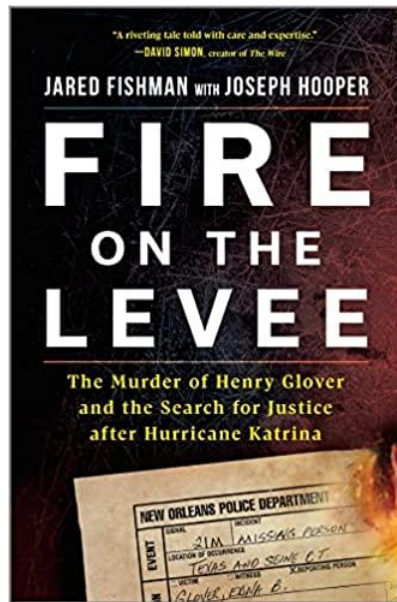
—**Barbara Kingsolver, from the introduction**

"A distinguished book that puts [Donahue] into the company of Aldo Leopold, Harlan Hubbard, and David Kline. Anybody who passes attentively through its pages will love it."

—**From Wendell Berry's Letter to the Author**

"If you want to become wealthy, read this book and live this life. Arwen Donahue is rich beyond measure because her careful attention to each glimpse of the natural world brings joy and awe." —**Jenny Hamilton, Booklist**

"The most human (and animal and vegetable!) thing I've read in quite a while... This is such an important contribution to the literature of [Kentucky]." —**Erik Reece, author of *Lost Mountain: A Year in the Vanishing Wilderness***



JARED FISHMAN, is the founder and executive director of Justice Innovation Lab, an organization that designs solutions for a more equitable and effective justice system. He served for 14 years as a federal prosecutor in the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, and serves as adjunct faculty at the George Washington University Law School and Georgetown University. His work and analysis have been featured on CNN, CBS, CBC, and in The New York Times and The Washington Post.

- **US & Can:** Hanover Square
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Final MS Available**
- **Publication Date:** April 25, 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Sam Stoloff

FIRE ON THE LEVEE: *The Murder of Henry Glover and the Search for Justice after Hurricane Katrina*

The former federal prosecutor and founder of Justice Innovation Lab tells the story of his struggle to unravel the cover-up of a police shooting, and subsequent incineration of the shooting victim, in Hurricane Katrina-era New Orleans.

In 2009, Jared Fishman was a young prosecutor working on low-level civil rights cases in the Justice Department when a file landed on his desk. That folder contained two items: a story from The Nation magazine examining a mysterious death in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, and an autopsy report for a man named Henry Glover, whose charred remains were found in a burned-out car two weeks after the storm. The autopsy report, bafflingly, listed no cause of death. But according to The Nation story, a gravely wounded Glover had last been seen in a car driven by a New Orleans police officer.

Intrigued despite the lack of evidence, Fishman set out to learn what happened to Glover. He flew to New Orleans and teamed up with a rookie FBI agent, and together they started to track down anyone with information about what had happened to Glover on that day.

Fire on the Levee tells the story of a young idealistic prosecutor determined to bring the truth to light. The case would lead to major reforms in the New Orleans Police Department and ultimately change our understanding of race, policing and justice in post-Katrina New Orleans and beyond.

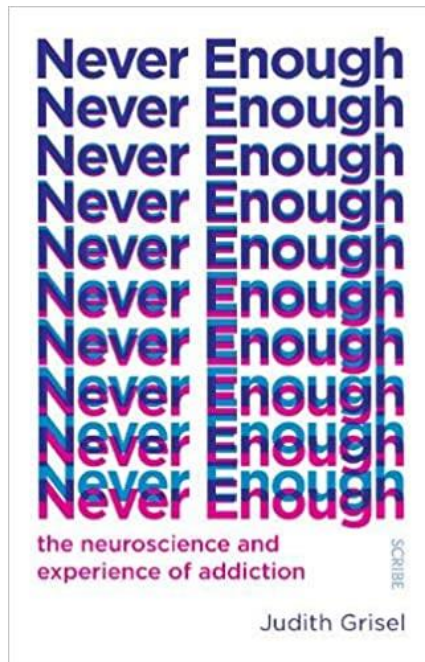
Praise for FIRE ON THE LEVEE:

"A riveting tale told with care and expertise." —David Simon, creator of *The Wire*

"A true crime whodunit set against the backdrop of Hurricane Katrina where all the prime suspects are police. The effort to solve this senseless murder and its grisly cover-up is a miracle of dogged investigation, told in a way that keeps the reader turning the page. Mandatory reading for anyone who cares about better policing in the U.S." —Gary Rivlin, author of *Katrina: After the Flood*

"[A] riveting true crime saga... Readers will be gripped." —★ *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"A cautionary tale of unchecked police power and failed justice."—*Kirkus Review*



JUDITH GRISEL, Ph.D., is an internationally recognized behavioral neuroscientist and a professor of psychology at Bucknell University. Her recent research helps explain the different trajectories of alcohol abuse in men and women.

- **US&C:** Doubleday
- **UK:** Scribe
- **China:** China Renmin U Press
- **Spain:** Next Door Publishers
- **Brazil:** Alta Books
- **Korea:** Prunsoop
- **Russia:** Progress Kniga
- **Ukraine:** Yakaboo | **Poland:** Dom
- **Romania:** Editura Trei SRL
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** February 2019
- **Domestic Agent:** Ellen Geiger

NEVER ENOUGH: *The Neuroscience and Experience of Addiction*

****A New York Times Bestseller****

From a renowned behavioral neuroscientist and recovering addict, a rare page-turning work of science that draws on personal insights to reveal how drugs work, the dangerous hold they can take on the brain, and the surprising way to combat today's epidemic of addiction.

Judith Grisel was a daily drug user and school dropout when she began to consider that her addiction might have a cure, one that she herself could discover by studying the brain. Now, in NEVER ENOUGH, after twenty-five years as a neuroscientist, she shares what she and other scientists have learned about addiction: how all drugs act on the brain, the different kinds of effects different drugs generate, and the specific reasons why many are so hard to kick. Grisel reveals what is different about the brains of addicts even before they first pick up a drink or drug, highlights the changes that take place in the brain and behavior as a result of chronic using, and shares the surprising hidden gifts that addiction can expose.

With more than one in every five people over the age of fourteen addicted, drug abuse has been called the most formidable health problem worldwide. Urgent, revelatory, and set apart by its personal insights and captivating storytelling, NEVER ENOUGH will inform a more coherent and compassionate response to the epidemic in our homes and communities.

Praise for NEVER ENOUGH:

“Grisel’s account of her wayward early 20s, chasing one high after another, is harrowing . . . She writes clearly and unsparingly about both her experiences and the science of addiction—tobacco and caffeine figure in, as well—making plain that there is still much that remains unknown or mysterious about the brain’s workings. . . Illuminating reading for those seeking to understand the whos, hows, and wherefores of getting hooked.” —Kirkus Reviews

“The science behind addiction comes alive in its sorrow and grandeur. When you pick up this book get ready for an intense ride.” —Paul H. Earley, M.D., DFASAM; President-elect, American Society of Addiction Medicine



COURTNEY GUSTAFSON, is the creator of @PoetsSquareCats on TikTok (962k) and Instagram (71k). Her cats and rescue work have been featured on *The Dodo*, *Newsweek*, *Best Friends Animal Society Magazine*, and elsewhere. Before she had thirty cats, she completed a master's degree and PhD coursework in rhetoric and composition at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

- **US&C:** Crown (PRH)
- **UK:** Fig Tree (Penguin UK)
- **German:** Ullstein
- **Italian:** Modadori Oscar
- **Dutch:** Nieuw Amsterdam
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Manuscript:** Due Jan 2024
- **Publication:** Spring 2025
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

POETS SQUARE: *Essays on Cats & Community*

****Sold in a six figure preempt****

When Courtney Gustafson moved into a new rental in the Poets Square neighborhood in Tuscon, Arizona, she would have never guessed that a colony of feral cats living in her driveway would change her life forever. Settling into a secure romantic relationship while it felt like the world around her was burning down, she couldn't know how reluctantly, then profoundly, she would come to care about the health and safety of those thirty-some-odd neglected cats. She had no idea about the grief and hardship of animal rescue, the staggering size of the problem. And she couldn't have imagined how that struggle—towards an ethics of care, of individuals trying their best amidst spectacularly failing systems—would help pierce a personal darkness she'd wrestled with much of her life.

POETS SQUARE: *Essays on Cats & Community* is a memoir-in-essays about becoming an accidental cat rescuer, going viral, creating community, and surviving capitalism. These essays tell the brutal and tender stories of cats Courtney has saved (or failed to save) as a lens to explore everything from poverty and mental health to morality and misogyny. We see how cat rescue—despite its often-enormous sadness—paradoxically helped in a struggle with depression, showing the way towards an interrelated community of cats and care. The book explores caretaking and kindness in the face of a broken system: what it means for an individual to refuse to throw their hands up, to insist on showing up regardless of insurmountable problems, to search for ways to be a good person in the face of crushing overwhelm.

POETS SQUARE is beautifully written literary nonfiction about animals with a profound core like *H IS FOR HAWK* and *FOX AND I*. Structured in smart, snappy personal essays that probe at the problems of personhood in the internet age, it will appeal to fans of Melissa Broder or Jia Tolentino, and its introspective, generous thinking on self and society evokes *WINTERING*.



JAMIE HOOD is a critic, memoirist, and poet, and the author of *how to be a good girl* (Grieveland 2020). Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Baffler*, *The Nation*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The New Inquiry*, *Observer*, *The Drift*, *SSENSE*, *Bookforum*, *Vogue*, and elsewhere. She lives in Brooklyn.

- **US:** Pantheon/Random House
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Proposal Available**
- **Delivery Date:** Spring 2024
- **Publication:** Spring, 2025
- **UK Rep:** Holly Faulks at Greene & Heaton
- **Domestic Agent:** Ayla Zuraw-Friedland

RAPE GIRL: A Study in Nine Parts

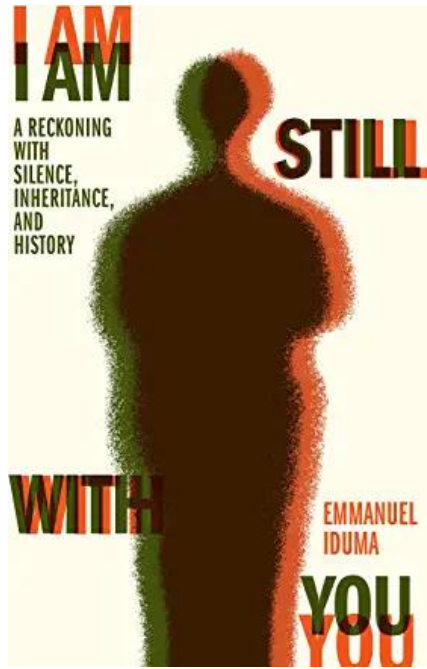
*****Sold in a six figure pre-empt*****

In many ways, *RAPE GIRL: A STUDY IN NINE PARTS* is the book that essayist, critic, and poet Jamie Hood has been writing her entire life. In the thirty years since her first sexual assault (age six, by the neighbor), it has taken many forms: a chronological, straight memoir of violence; a book-length poem; a manifesto; a novel. In the wake of each subsequent attack (twice as a teenager, several times in graduate school, most recently at a Brooklyn bar), and resultant attempt to narrativize the violence, what became clear was that no single genre was able to capture the entirety of what she was trying to say.

Trauma disorients the very possibility of straightforward narrative, so then why do we expect our tellings of it to be linear and easily digestible? *RAPE GIRL* asks: what is rape at its core? And beyond: how would an account of rape that acknowledges and incorporates the truth of trauma as an experience shift the conversation?

Told in nine parts—media historical, political, poetic, autofictional, literary critical, and memoiristic—*RAPE GIRL* reckons with the confessional imperative of survivors and the role of rape narratives in our collective consciousness. Weaving between genres and throughout history, Hood consults Artemesia Gentileschi and other foremothers in revenge and witness, documents a month of walking the exact route that she took to escape an assailant, tangles with the specter of Dick Wolf and *Law and Order*, reflects on her own coping mechanisms and childhood in Virginia, probes the specific silence around trans women's experience of rape, and interrogates what it means to enter a post-#MeToo era of backlash in 2022.

RAPE GIRL is a necessarily illuminating text, imagining stranger, more radical models of storytelling. Combining the hybridity of Camen Maria Machado's *IN THE DREAM HOUSE* with the intensity of Maggie Nelson's *THE ART OF CRUELTY*, *RAPE GIRL* promises to do for sexual violence what *CITIZEN* did for conversations around race, and become part of a new wave of cultural resistance.



EMMANUEL IDUMA was born and raised in Nigeria, where he trained as a lawyer. He is the author of the travelogue *A STRANGER'S POSE*, which was longlisted for the 2019 RSL Ondaatje Prize. He holds an MFA in art writing from the School of Visual Arts, New York City and has received many grants and awards, including the Windham-Campbell Prize.

- **US&C:** Algonquin
- **UK:** William Collins
- **Nigeria (English):** Masobe Books
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** February 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Alison Lewis

I AM STILL WITH YOU: *A Reckoning with Silence, Inheritance, and History*

“A compelling, sharply observed story of discovery, beautifully paced and haunting in its details.”—Amitava Kumar, author of *Immigrant, Montana*

In inimitable, rhythmic prose, the author and winner of the prestigious Windham-Campbell Prize Emmanuel Iduma tells the story of his return to Nigeria, where he grew up, after years of living in New York. He traveled home with an elusive mission: to learn the fate of his uncle Emmanuel, his namesake, who disappeared in the Nigerian Civil War in the late 1960s. A conflict that left so many families broken, the war remains at the margins of the history books, almost taboo to discuss. To find answers, Iduma stopped in city after city throughout the former Biafra region, reconnecting with relatives dear and distant to probe their memories, prowling university libraries to furtively photocopy illicit books, and visiting half-abandoned monuments along the highway. Perhaps, he realized, if he could understand how his father grieved the loss of a brother in the war, he might learn how to grieve his late father in turn.

His is also the story of countless families across the country and across the world who will never have answers or proper funerals for their loved ones. It's a story about the birth of an artist, about writing itself as an act both healing and political, even dangerous. And it's a story about family history and legacy, and all the questions the dead leave unanswered. How much of the author's identity is wrapped up in this inheritance? And what does it mean to return home, when the people who define it are gone? Equal parts memoir, national history, and political reckoning, *I AM STILL WITH YOU* is a deeply personal story of collective loss and making peace with the unknowable.

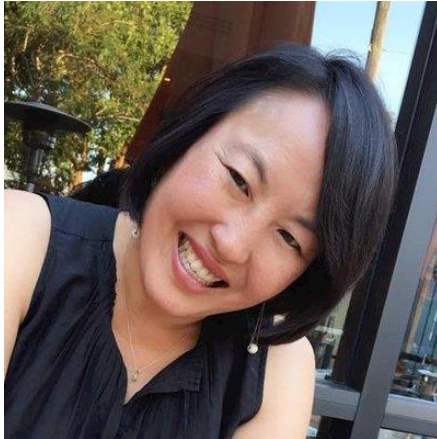
Praise for I AM STILL WITH YOU:

“A poignant story rescued from silences and lacunae.”—*Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**

“In clear, elegiac prose, Iduma's search leads to an affecting conclusion.”—*The New Statesman*

“*I Am Still With You* is both epic and intimate. It gives us the beauties and consolations of an ethnical imagination.”—*Margo Jefferson*, **Pulitzer-Prize winning author of *Negroland* and *Constructing a Nervous System***

“Iduma writes with such startling clarity that the book ultimately becomes both powerful and transcendent.” —*Chigozie Obioma*, **Booker Prize-shortlisted author of *The Fishermen***



MARGARET JUHAEE LEE is an Oakland-based writer and a former literary editor of *The Nation* magazine. She has been the recipient of a Bunting Fellowship from Harvard University, a Korean Studies Fellowship from the Korean Foundation. She is also a Tin House scholar, and has been awarded residencies at the Mesa Refuge, the Anderson Center, and Mineral School. Her articles, reviews, and interviews have been published in *The Nation*, *Newsday*, *Elle*, *ARTnews*, *The Advocate*, *The Progressive* and most recently in *The Rumpus*.

- **US:** Melville House
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Edited Manuscript Available March, 2023; Final, August, 2023**
- **Publication:** Spring/Summer 2024
- **Domestic Agent:** Ayla Zuraw-Friedland

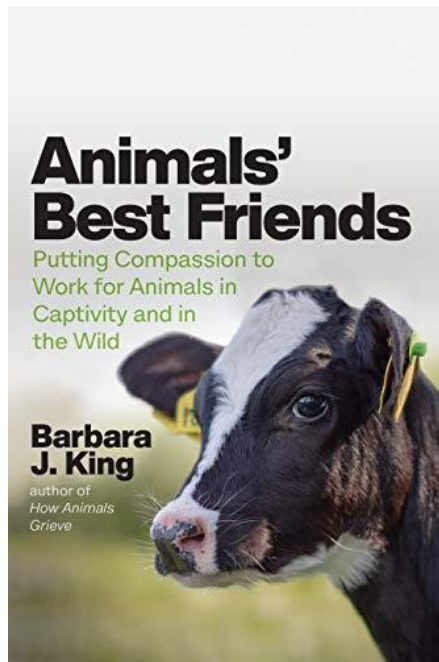
STARRY FIELD: *A Memoir of Lost History*

Journalist Margaret Juhae Lee never met her grandfather, Lee Chul Ha (code name, Starry Field)—he died at 27 after a long imprisonment by Japanese occupiers who ruled Korea through the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Her grandmother, her Halmani, never wanted to talk about him either—not to her son, Margaret’s father, nor to her grandchildren. Even after Chul Ha was exhumed and reburied with honors from the Korean government for his resistance against the Japanese, clearing his name and installing him as a hero of Korean history, Halmani couldn’t bear to talk about the stranger she married as a teenager who chose his political ideals over his family.

When Margaret first set out to learn more about her family’s history, it was ostensibly to help her father, who had lost large parcels of memory in the aftermath of emergency surgery to treat scarred lung tissue caused by a bout of tuberculosis he suffered as a young man. But, it was as though the internal rupture had opened something deeper. Margaret’s stern, taciturn father revealed things about his childhood as a fatherless boy in colonial Korea she had never heard before. As they raced to recover his memory, her own life began to fall apart—her partner’s struggles with mental illness propelled her toward her family’s past.

STARRY FIELD: A MEMOIR OF LOST HISTORY tells the story of four generations of the Lee family and all they passed down to one another. Here, Margaret traces her own path back to Korea to excavate the truth of her grandfather’s disappearance. Combining investigative journalism, oral history, archival research, and imagined scenes, **STARRY FIELD** weaves together the stories of Margaret’s grandparents, parents, and herself against the backdrop of Korea’s tumultuous modern history, from the colonial era to its technological boom at the beginning of a new century. The memoir is told in a series of short chapters anchored by three long-form interviews Margaret conducted with Halmani before her death.

Fiercely wrought and deeply researched, **STARRY FIELD** combines the emotional poignancy and breadth of **PACHINKO** as readers are introduced to a family that continues to feel the aftershocks of a period of Korean history that has captured readers’ imaginations, and the deft combination of personal and political narratives seen in Hisham Matar’s **THE RETURN**. Here, we see all that is possible for a person to inherit: silence, disease, resilience, and a drive to find a place to call home.



BARBARA J. KING is an anthropology professor emerita at the College of William and Mary and a contributor to the NPR blog 13.7: Cosmos & Culture. Her previous books include *HOW ANIMALS GRIEVE* AND *EVOLVING GOD*, and her work has been chosen for inclusion in the *THE BEST AMERICAN SCIENCE AND NATURE WRITING*. She was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2002.

- **World English:** U. of Chicago Press
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** March 2021
- **Domestic Agent:** Sulamita Garbuz

ANIMALS' BEST FRIENDS

As people come to understand more about animals' inner lives—the intricacies of their thoughts and the emotions that are expressed every day by whales and cows, octopus and mice, even bees—we feel a growing compassion, a desire to better their lives. But how do we translate this compassion into helping other creatures, both those that are and are not our pets? Bringing together the latest science with heartfelt storytelling, *Animals' Best Friends* reveals the opportunities we have in everyday life to help animals in our homes, in the wild, in zoos, and in science labs, as well as those considered to be food.

Barbara J. King, an expert on animal cognition and emotion, guides us on a journey both animal and deeply human. We meet cows living relaxed lives in an animal sanctuary—and cows with plastic portals in their sides at a university research station. We observe bison free-roaming at Yellowstone National Park and chimpanzees confined to zoos. We learn with King how to negotiate vegetarian preferences in omnivore restaurants. We experience the touch of a giant Pacific octopus tasting King's skin with one of his long, neuron-rich arms. We reflect on animal testing as King shares her own experience as the survivor of a particularly nasty cancer. And in a moment all too familiar to many of us, we recover from a close encounter with two spiders in the home.

Throughout this journey, King makes no claims of personal perfection. Though an animal expert, she is just like the rest of us: on a journey still, learning each day how to be better, and do better, for animals. But as *Animals' Best Friends* makes clear, challenging choices can bring deep rewards. By turning compassion into action on behalf of animals, we not only improve animals' lives—we also immeasurably enrich our own.

Praise for ANIMALS' BEST FRIENDS:

“King’s *Animals’ Best Friends* is the most comprehensive exploration I’ve read of the complex relationship between the human and nonhuman, full of great insights and practical information.”—Jeff VanderMeer, *New York Times Book Review*, “By the Book”

“An expert on animal cognition and emotion reveals the reasons and opportunities we have in everyday life to help animals in our homes, zoos, science labs and farms.”—*Bookseller*



MIRIAM LEWIN is a radio and television journalist with over 30 years' experience. She is the author of *Skyvan, Aircrafts, Pilots And Secret Archives*, an investigation on the death flights as a method of exterminating prisoners during the dictatorship.

HORACIO LUTZKY is a lawyer and journalist based in Buenos Aires. He is the author of *Toasting Over The Rubble: The Jewish Leadership And The Attacks: Between Denunciation And Cover-Up*.

- **WO Spanish:** PRH, Argentina
- **ENG + Translation:** FGLA
- **Final Spanish MS + English language sample chapter and prologue + Amazon press kit on TV series available**
- **Domestic Agent:** Ria Julien

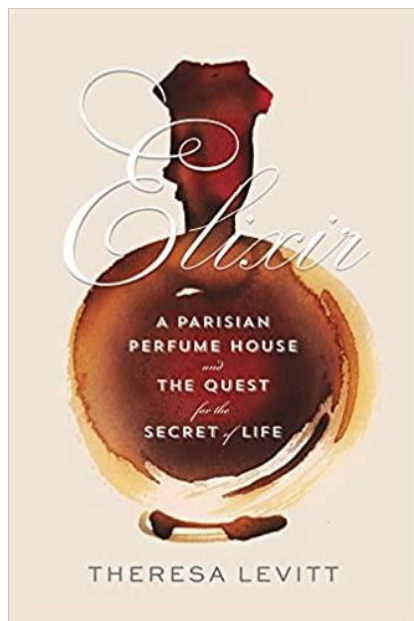
IOSI: The Spy Who United Us

Now an Amazon Prime series premiering at the Berlinale 2022, **IOSI** tells an incredible true story of domestic terrorism, spies, and a cover-up of the bloodiest anti-Semitic attacks in the history of Argentina.

Told in three alternating first-person narratives, **IOSI** is the story of two journalists tracking a spy named Iosi—a young intelligence agent whose infiltration of the Jewish community in Argentina paved the way for the terrorist attacks on the Israeli embassy in Argentina and the building of the Israelite Argentine Mutual Association, which killed 85 people in 1994.

Haunted by the ghosts of the dead, Iosi cannot ignore the fact that his efforts to spy on this fellow citizens yielded information that would be instrumental to the bombings. Wracked by guilt, Iosi turns against his superiors, and joins forces with journalists Miriam Lewin and Horacio Lutzky to uncover the full extent of the government's involvement in the murders.

Recounting their efforts over more than a dozen years, Iosi, Lewin, and Lutzky tell of their harrowing journey, marked by corrupt judges, an official state coverup, and the murder of the prosecutor to whom Iosi hoped to testify. In a startling epilogue, Iosi is vindicated when in 2021, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights confirmed Argentina's knowledge of the attack, their failure to prevent it, and the existence of "deliberate coverup."



THERESA LEVITT is a historian of science and a professor at the University of Mississippi. She is the author of *A SHORT BRIGHT FLASH* (W. W. Norton) and *THE SHADOW OF ENLIGHTENMENT* (Oxford U. Press). She received her B.S. in physics from MIT, a MA in History from Iowa State University, and a PhD from Harvard. She was the recipient of a National Science Foundation grant and a Fulbright IIE Graduate Research Fellowship, among other honors.

- **US & Can:** Harvard University Press
- **UK:** Basic Books
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Edited manuscript available**
- **Publication:** April 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

ELIXIR: *A Parisian Perfume House and the Quest for the Secret of Life*

A story of alchemy in Bohemian Paris, where two scientific outcasts discovered a fundamental distinction between natural and synthetic chemicals that inaugurated an enduring scientific mystery.

For centuries, scientists believed that living matter possessed a special quality—a spirit or essence—that differentiated it from nonliving matter. But by the nineteenth century, the scientific consensus was that the building blocks of one were identical to the building blocks of the other. *Elixir* tells the story of two young chemists who were not convinced, and how their work rewrote the boundary between life and nonlife.

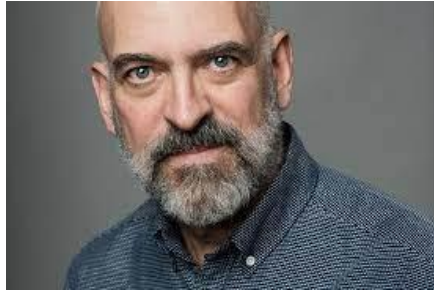
In the 1830s, Édouard Laugier and Auguste Laurent were working in Laugier Père et Fils, the oldest perfume house in Paris. By day they prepared the perfumery’s revitalizing elixirs and rejuvenating eaux, drawing on alchemical traditions that equated a plant’s vitality with its aroma. In their spare time they hunted the vital force that promised to reveal the secret to life itself. Their ideas, roundly condemned by established chemists, led to the discovery of structural differences between naturally occurring molecules and their synthetic counterparts, even when the molecules were chemically identical.

Scientists still can’t explain this anomaly, but it may point to critical insights concerning the origins of life on Earth. Rich in sparks and smells, brimming with eccentric characters, experimental daring, and the romance of the Bohemian salon, *Elixir* is a fascinating cultural and scientific history.

Praise for ELIXER:

“If you read this book you will be changed. For those of us who make a living assembling words to describe smells, this book feels like an actual elixir. Absolutely stunning.” —Kiese Laymon, MacArthur Fellow and author of *Heavy: An American Memoir*

“With remarkable historical and literary skill, Levitt reveals how the quest to supply queenly scents and Napoleon’s bathwater ended up interrogating the most profound questions of life and death.” —Matthew Stanley, author of *Einstein’s War: How Relativity Triumphed Amid the Vicious Nationalism of World War I*



PAUL LISICKY is the author of five books, including *THE NARROW DOOR* and *FAMOUS BUILDER*. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, his awards include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the James Michener/Copernicus Society, and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, among others. He teaches in the MFA program at Rutgers University and lives in Brooklyn.

- **US & Can.:** HarperOne
- **UK & Translation:** FGLA
- **Manuscript:** Due Fall 2023
- **Publication:** Summer 2024
- **Domestic Agent:** Matt McGowan

THE SKY IN IT

From the author of *THE NARROW DOOR* and *LATER*, Paul Lisicky's *THE SKY IN IT* will be a look back at the life of a writer forged by the distinctive and radical artistry of Joni Mitchell. It will be a book about creativity, about Lisicky's beginnings as a songwriter, studying music as a kid, publishing and recording music his late teens, before bringing that energy to writing. At the same time it will be a book about building and revising a self over time. Does Joni Mitchell offer lessons in survival? *THE SKY IN IT* makes a case for that by thinking about Lisicky's own doubts and beliefs up against Mitchell's, especially as dramatized in her individual songs.

Praise for *THE NARROW DOOR*:

"The most moving account of love among artists I've ever read. *The Narrow Door* is astonishing."
—**Garth Greenwell**

"Paul Lisicky always has the capacity to break your heart for he has the diviner's gift for finding the wellsprings of the quietest sorrows." —**Joy Williams**

"Breathtaking and heartbreaking."—***Publishers Weekly***

"An elegy, an apologia, and a triumph."—**Alexander Chee, *The New York Times Book Review***

"Mr. Lisicky has a gift for understanding suffering, an added bundle of receptors for detecting loneliness."—***The New York Times***

"Paul Lisicky's *The Narrow Door* circumnavigates the often inscrutable forces that bring us in and out of each other's lives and hearts, while paying welcome homage to the oft-unsung role of friendship in them. While Lisicky bears witness to "the hell of wanting [that] has no cure," his ship always feels buoyant, by virtue of a narrator whose attentiveness to feelings both big and small is marked throughout by honesty and devotion."—**Maggie Nelson, author of *The Argonauts***



MADISON MAINWARING is a journalist and cultural critic based in Paris, writing for *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, *The Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, and *The Paris Review Daily*. She is a PhD candidate in French Studies at Yale, where she has received the highest honors available to junior scholars in the field. She won a 2022-23 MacDowell Fellowship to support her research for *Her Life to Live*.

US, Can., & France: PublicAffairs / Hachette

UK: Angelique Tran Van Sang / Felicity Bryan Associates

Translation: FGLA

Proposal available

MS due: Late Winter 2024

Publication: Winter 2025

Domestic Agent: Alison Lewis

HER LIFE TO LIVE: *Anna Karina and the Women of the New Wave*

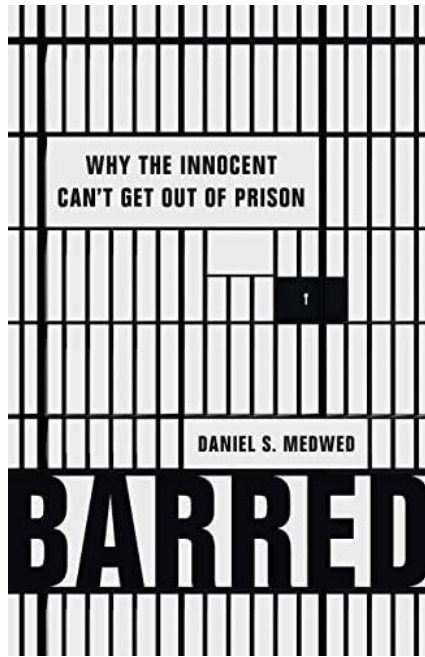
A wildly glamorous, sharply feminist forgotten history of the actresses who changed the course of the movies, and the possibilities for 20th century women's lives.

In the spring of 1958, as the world was busy remaking itself in the turbulent wake of WWII, a Danish teenager hitchhiked to Paris with no money or prospects, but a dream of acting. Within four years, she became the face of a movement that exploded the possibilities of film, and offered the world a vision of liberated womanhood.

The French New Wave has been remembered through its male directors, famed for elevating film from lowbrow entertainment to art. Jean Luc Godard and Francois Truffaut were cultural heroes of their time, their work in film compared to what Picasso did to painting. They are beloved and celebrated to this day for forever changing the way we make and watch movies.

Forgotten behind these men's long shadow are the women who brought their films to life. It was the verve and nonchalance of Anna Karina, Brigitte Bardot, Jean Seberg, Jean Moreau, and a dozen fellow actresses, that made the New Wave so revolutionary, its charm so modern, its influence so widespread and lasting. They became international icons, at once beloved, reviled, and abused for their insistent independence. Yet their part in this sea change has been brushed aside, their strength in the face of trenchant misogyny quickly forgotten.

Recovering the courageous work and lives of these New Wave sisters, *Her Life to Live* spirals outwards from the dramatic narrative of Anna Karina, the boldest of the set, to paint a vibrant portrait of this remarkable community of women and their revolutionary moment. As dramatic and sensitive as Mary Gabriel's *Ninth Street Women*, Tove Ditlevsen's *The Copenhagen Trilogy*, and Sarah Bakewell's *At the Existentialist Café*, it is a story of courage and talent, romance and violence, survival and creation – cinematic in its own right.



DANIEL MEDWED is distinguished professor of law and criminal justice at Northeastern University School of Law. A renowned innocence advocate, he is the author of *Prosecution Complex*. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

- **WO English:** Basic Books / Hachette
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Books + final manuscript available**
- **Publication:** September 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Sam Stoloff

BARRED: *Why the Innocent Can't Get Out of Prison*

A groundbreaking exposé of how our legal system makes it nearly impossible to overturn wrongful convictions

Thousands of innocent people are behind bars in the United States. But proving their innocence and winning their release is nearly impossible.

In *Barred*, legal scholar Daniel S. Medwed argues that our justice system's stringent procedural rules are largely to blame for the ongoing punishment of the innocent. Those rules guarantee criminal defendants just one opportunity to appeal their convictions directly to a higher court. Afterward, the wrongfully convicted can pursue only a few narrow remedies. Even when there is strong evidence of a miscarriage of justice, rigid guidelines, bias, and deference toward lower courts all too often prevent exoneration.

Offering clear explanations of legal procedures alongside heart-wrenching stories of their devastating impact, *Barred* exposes how the system is stacked against the innocent and makes a powerful call for change.

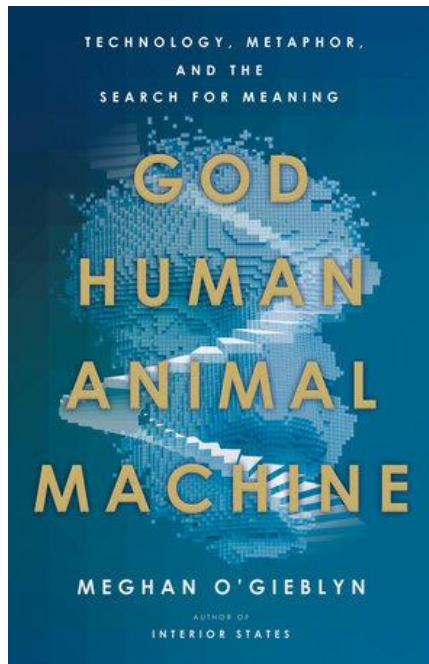
Praise for BARRED:

"Informative and poignant... [An] important addition to the literature on America's addiction to incarceration." —*Kirkus*

"Eye-opening... Readers interested in criminal justice will find an elucidating look at the challenges and possibilities for the wrongfully convicted." —*Booklist*

"Clear, accessible, and often astounding, *Barred* explains why strong evidence of innocence doesn't matter once a trial is over, and how our criminal system routinely sacrifices accuracy for finality. A leading scholar and expert on innocence, Medwed is also a wonderful educator.

—Alexandra Natapoff, author of *Punishment Without Crime*



MEGHAN O'GIEBLYN is the author of the essay collection *Interior States*, which was published to wide acclaim and won the Believer Book Award for Nonfiction. Her writing has received three Pushcart Prizes and has been published in *The Best American Essays* anthology, *Harper's Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *The Guardian*, *Wired*, *The New York Times*, and elsewhere. She lives with her husband in Madison, Wisconsin.

World English: Doubleday
Turkey: Altın Kitaplar
Romania: Humanitas
Korea: Galmabaram
Other translation: FGLA
Books + Final Manuscript available
Publication: August 2021
Domestic Agent: Matt McGowan

GOD, HUMAN, ANIMAL, MACHINE

****Finalist for the 2022 LA TIMES Book Award****

From the author of the critically-acclaimed *Interior States*, a strikingly original exploration of what it might mean to be authentically human in the age of artificial intelligence.

Meghan O'Gieblyn deftly weaves anecdotes from her life as a formerly religious believer with a sharp analysis of the rapid rise of technology, its impact on our understanding of identity, and the claims for transhumanism that bear a striking resemblance to Christian prophecies of resurrection and immortality.

For most of human history the world was a magical and enchanted place ruled by forces beyond our understanding. The rise of science and Descartes's division of mind from world made materialism our ruling paradigm, in the process asking whether our own consciousness--i.e., souls--might be illusions. Now the inexorable rise of technology, with artificial intelligences that surpass our comprehension and control, and the spread of digital metaphors for self-understanding, the core questions of existence--identity, knowledge, the very nature and purpose of life itself--urgently require rethinking.

Meghan O'Gieblyn tackles this challenge with philosophical rigor, intellectual reach, essayistic verve, refreshing originality, and an ironic sense of contradiction. She draws deeply and sometimes humorously from her own personal experience as a formerly religious believer still haunted by questions of faith, and she serves as the best possible guide to navigating the territory we are all entering.

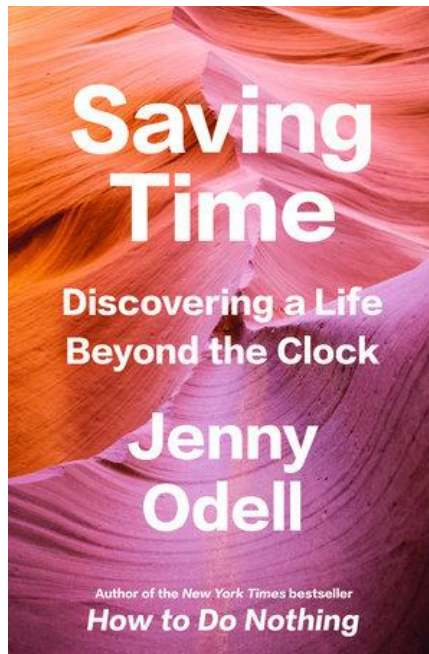
Praise for GOD, HUMAN, ANIMAL, MACHINE:

"GOD, HUMAN, ANIMAL, MACHINE is a hybrid beast, a remarkably erudite work of history, criticism and philosophy, but it is also, crucially, a memoir." —**Becca Rothfeld, *The New York Times***

"A captivating portrait of how digital technology has fundamentally transformed both intellectual and religious thinking." —***Los Angeles Review of Books***

"Illuminating ... [A] very personal account of a painful philosophical evolution. A compelling reminder that the deepest philosophical queries guide and shape life." —**★*Booklist* (starred review)**

"One of the strongest essayists to emerge recently on the scene has written a strong and subtle rumination of what it means to be human. At times personal, at times philosophical, with a bracing mixture of openness and skepticism, it speaks thoughtfully and articulately to the most crucial issues awaiting our future." —**Phillip Lopate**



JENNY ODELL's is the author of *HOW TO DO NOTHING*, which was a *NYT* bestseller and one of Barack Obama's favorite books of 2019.

US & Can: Random House
UK: Bodley Head
Germany: Beck | **Spain:** Planeta Ariel
BR Portuguese: Companhia das Letras
Italy: NR Edizioni | **Dutch:** Ten Have
China (Simplified): CTPH
China (Complex): Crown
Korea: SangSangSquare
Japan: Sayusha
Lithuania: Alma Littera
Other Translation: FGLA
Final pages available
Publication: March 2023
Domestic Agent: Caroline Eisenmann

SAVING TIME: *Discovering A Life Beyond the Clock*

****US RIGHTS SOLD IN A 12 BIDDER (17 IMPRINT) AUCTION ****
****UK RIGHTS SOLD IN AN 11 BIDDER AUCTION ****

A radical argument that we are living on the wrong clock—one that tells us time is money—and that there are other ways of experiencing time that offer bold, hopeful possibilities for ourselves and the planet from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *How to Do Nothing*.

Our daily experience, dominated by the corporate clock that so many of us contort ourselves to fit inside, is destroying us. It wasn't built for people, it was built for profit. This is a book that tears open the seams of reality as we know it—the way we experience time itself—and rearranges it, reimagining a world not centered around work, the office clock, or the profit motive. Explaining how we got to the point where time became money, Odell offers us new models to live by—inspired by pre-industrial cultures, ecological, and geological time—that make a more humane, more hopeful way of living seem possible.

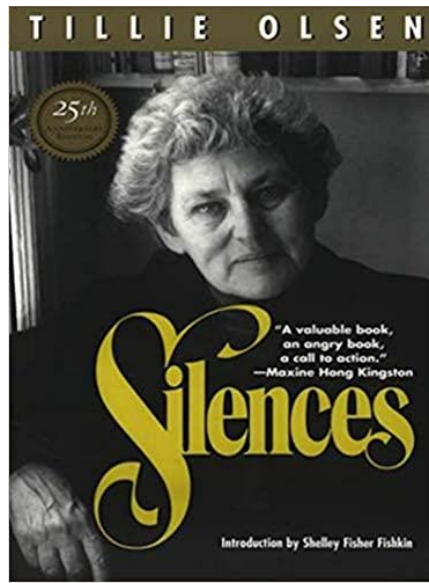
In this dazzling, subversive, and deeply hopeful reframing of time, Jenny Odell takes us on a journey through other temporal habitats. As planet-bound animals, we live inside shortening and lengthening days, alongside gardens growing, birds migrating, and cliffs eroding. The stretchy quality of waiting and desire, the way the present may suddenly feel marbled with childhood memory, the slow but sure procession of a pregnancy, or the time it takes to heal from injuries—physical or emotional. Odell urges us to become stewards of these different rhythms of life, to imagine a life, identity, and source of meaning outside of the world of work and profit, and to understand that the trajectory of our lives—or the life of the planet—is not a foregone conclusion. In that sense, “saving” time—recovering its fundamentally irreducible and inventive nature—could also mean that time saves us.

****A *New York Times* Bestseller ****

“Saving Time is an exposé of our past, an antidote to our present, and a manifesto for the future. ... It is one of the most important books I've read in my life.”
 — Ed Yong, author of *An Immense World*

“Odell's journey to find the best way to use our limited time on earth is an eye-opening look at what it really means to be alive” — *TIME*

It is in the gap between present and future, where outcomes are not yet determined, that Jenny Odell enters with her paradigm-destroying new book ... [A] grand, eclectic, wide-ranging work
 — *New York Times*



TILLIE OLSEN (1912-2007) is internationally renowned for her powerful writing about the inner lives of working-class families, women, and minorities. Her books, *TELL ME A RIDDLE*, *YONNONDIO*, *SILENCES*, and her essays and lectures, have been translated into twelve languages.

- **WO English:** The Feminist Press
- **Spain:** Las Afueras
- **Simplified Chinese:** Ginkgo
- **Germany:** Aufbau Verlag
- **Italy:** Bompiani
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** Reissued, 2003
- **Domestic Agent:** Jade Wong

SILENCES

“What Tillie Olsen has to say . . . is of primary importance to those who want to understand how art is generated or subverted and to those trying to create it themselves.” —Margaret Atwood, *New York Times Book Review*

“Language is power, and Olsen does a masterful and compassionate job here of showing who has been denied language in America, and why, and by whom.” —George Saunders, *Vulture*

First published in 1978, *SILENCES* single-handedly revolutionized the literary canon. In this classic work, Olsen broke open the study of literature and discovered a lost continent—the writing of women and working-class people. From the excavated testimony of authors’ letters and diaries we learn the many ways the creative spirit, especially in those disadvantaged by gender, class and race, can be silenced. Olsen recounts the torments of Melville, the crushing weight of criticism on Thomas Hardy, the shame that brought Willa Cather to a dead halt, and struggles of Virginia Woolf, Olsen’s heroine and greatest exemplar of a writer who confronted the forces that would silence her. The reissued twenty-fifth-anniversary edition includes Olsen’s now infamous reading lists of forgotten authors and a new introduction and author preface.

Praise for *SILENCES*:

“A valuable book, an angry book, a call to action.” —Maxine Hong Kingston

“Silences helped me to keep my sanity many a day.” —Gloria Naylor, author of *Mama Day*

“[Silences is] ‘the Bible.’ I constantly return to it.” —Sandra Cisneros, author of *The House on Mango Street*

“Silences will, like *A Room of One’s Own*, be quoted where there is talk of the circumstances in which literature is possible.” —Adrienne Rich, author of *Diving into the Wreck*



CAMERON RUSSELL has spent the last eighteen years working as a model. With over 38 million views and counting, she gave one of the **top ten most popular TED talks of all time** on the power of image. She is the recipient of the 2018 *Harpers Bazaar Women of the Year Award* and the *GCFA's Changemaker Award*, and was nominated for a Shorty Award for her work organizing models to expose systemic sexual harassment and abuse in fashion. She has twice been named model of the year (humanitarian and social media star) by models.com, provider of the industry's most influential model rankings. In 2012 she graduated with honors from Columbia University with a degree in economics and political science.

- **US & Can:** Random House
- **UK:** Oneworld
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Unedited MS Available**
- **Edited MS Expected May 2023**
- **Publication:** Spring 2024
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

HOW TO MAKE HERSELF AGREEABLE TO EVERYONE: A *Memoir*

From one the most photographed women in the world, a fierce and innovative memoir that explores the contradictions of modeling, activism, and womanhood—commodity and human, victim and accomplice, power and silence.

As a leading activist and organizer, fashion model Cameron Russell is an unlikely insider within an industry that profits off of the disposability of garments, labor, faces, and trends. Having modeled for the likes of Prada, Calvin Klein, and Victoria's Secret since she was sixteen years old, Russell first approached her job with reservations. But modeling seemed to offer young women unique access to fame, power, and influence, and she was often reminded, "There's a million girls in line behind you."

In **HOW TO MAKE HERSELF AGREEABLE TO EVERYONE**, Russell chronicles learning to navigate the dizzying space between physical appearance and interiority, and making money in an often-exploitative system. She recalls how, during her earliest experiences as a teenage fashion model—sharing her first kiss on camera, posing in her underwear—her ability to identify and resist coercion gradually eroded. Being agreeable led to success: more bookings, more opportunities to work with the world's top photographers.

But as her prominence as a model grew, she found herself deeply dissatisfied with the solitary, individual power the industry offered. She had already begun organizing with her peers when, in the fall of 2017, she started to receive text messages—accounts of sexual abuse, exploitation, harassment. She began sharing these stories on social media, and just days before the viral #metoo would sweep the internet, brought the movement to fashion using the hashtag #MyJobShouldNotIncludeAbuse, demonstrating how change can emerge from a chorus of voices.

Embodying that vision of collective power, her memoir ends in conversation with a host of fashion insiders, an industry whose long fight for gender equity and labor rights is often overlooked. Intimate, illuminating, and deeply honest, **HOW TO MAKE HERSELF AGREEABLE TO EVERYONE** is a nuanced, deeply felt work about performance, complicity, resistance and repair.



DAVID SHIELDS is the internationally bestselling author of more than twenty books, and has had his books translated into two dozen languages. James Franco's film adaptation of *I Think You're Totally Wrong: A Quarrel*, which Shields co-wrote and co-stars in, was released in 2017.

- **WO English:** NYRB
- **Turkey:** Ketebe Yayinlari
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** April 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Matt McGowan

THE VERY LAST INTERVIEW

In the spirit of his highly acclaimed and influential book **REALITY HUNGER**, David Shields has composed a mordantly funny, relentlessly self-questioning self-portrait based on questions that interviewers have asked him over forty years.

David Shields decided to gather every interview he's ever given, going back nearly forty years. If it was on the radio or TV or a podcast, he transcribed it. He wasn't sure what he was looking for, but he knew he wasn't interested in any of his own answers. The questions interested him—approximately 2,700, which he condensed and collated to form twenty-two chapters focused on such subjects as Process, Childhood, Failure, Capitalism, Suicide, and Comedy. Then, according to Shields, "the real work began: rewriting and editing and remixing the questions and finding a through-line."

The result is a lacerating self-demolition in which the author—in this case, a late-middle-aged white man—is strangely, thrillingly absent. As Chuck Klosterman says, "Logic suggests that people are best understood through the things they say, but that's not how journalism works. People are actually defined by the questions they get asked (and the degree to which their answers can be framed to prove whatever was already assumed to be true). **THE VERY LAST INTERVIEW** is David Shields doing what he has done dazzlingly for the past twenty-five years: interrogating his own intellectual experience by changing the meaning of what seems both obviously straightforward and obviously wrong."

Praise for **THE VERY LAST INTERVIEW**:

"David Shields's *The Very Last Interview* [is] an amusing compilation of hundreds of short, random-seeming questions that come unaccompanied by answers....Shields, a devoted postmodernist and mix master, seems eager to create new literary genres, or at least to sabotage the old ones." —**Deborah Solomon, *New York Times Book Review***

"A delightful and utterly Shields-ian work. . . a hilarious takedown of the interview process, of his own public persona, and of the journalists themselves, blessedly anonymous, who asked some of the most outrageously mean, out-there, self-important, stupid, and simply impossible questions imaginable. . . Totally deadpan and irresistibly hilarious." —★**Kirkus Reviews (Starred Review)**

"Shields is extraordinarily resourceful in finding new ways to explore the enigmas of identity and experience (while mercilessly satirizing the idiotic formulas of contemporary book talk)." —**Tim Parks**

"Very, very funny." —**Sheila Heti**



MARGO STEINES is a recent graduate from the University of Arizona MFA program and her work has appeared in *Brevity*, *The Sun*, and in the *New York Times*.

- **US & Can:** W.W. Norton
- **Translation & UK:** FGLA
- **Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** October 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Matt McGowan

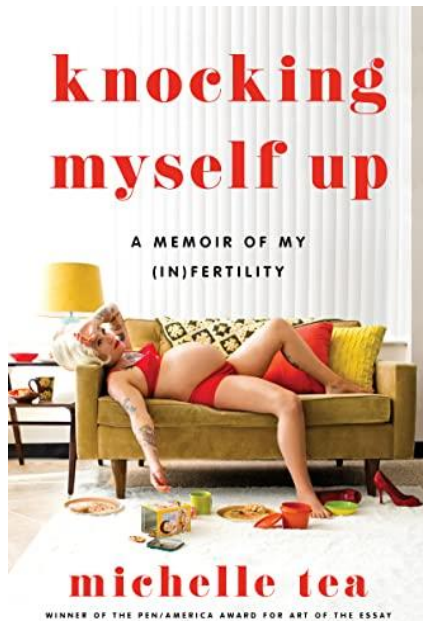
THE ZOOLOGY OF PAIN

In 2020 Margo Steines was pregnant and quarantined in a southwestern desert city during the hottest summer on record. As her life shrunk down to the space of her growing body in her small apartment, she was forced to reckon with the troubled history of her body and the bodies she has known. *The Zoology of Pain* alternates between these two timelines: the present, a ruminative memoir of her high-risk pregnancy, and her past experiences with various forms of violence and extremity: weird sex, compulsive athletics, farming for people who are not farmers, fighting in cages, chronic illness.

Steines has lived various lives that have positioned her well to tell these stories and to consider their meaning. As a teenager in New York City she became a professional dominatrix. Ten years later, she pivoted from sex worker to welder on a high-rise building crew. In both of those spaces she was afforded uncommon vantage points from which to see how masculinity and power coalesce. In each, her body was the price of that access. She also participated in competitive endurance sports as an athlete, and in combat sports as a writer and researcher. She ran two homestead farms, struggled through a mysterious chronic illness, and recovered from a number of addictions.

The Zoology of Pain is an intimate, witty, and propulsive memoir of a body at the brink that incorporates immersion journalism and cultural criticism. Often harrowing, the profound tension in this book comes in the nuanced and measured writing, a mindful essaying of roughness and kindness and a complicated sort of triumph over the desire to suffer. At its heart, it is a book about tenderness, and as such it is written to the reader who has struggled to treat themselves with care—who has had a troubled relationship to their own body, and who has made some questionable choices. There is a lot of redemption available here for that reader, without any falsely neat endings.

“The Zoology of Pain is a perfect book. Reading it felt like consuming something designed precisely for me and of course, I won’t be alone in this—that is the genius of great works of art: they reach our deepest interiors by naming the unspoken ordinary, the things we fear seeing or being seen as. There is nothing ordinary about this book, however. It is a brainy, elegant, erotic, brutal, funny, hypnotic achievement by an author obsessed with the far reaches of what it means to live in a body, and how some kinds of love look like violence while others can be medicine. It has made a devotee of me; I’ll read anything Margo Steines ever writes.” —Melissa Febos, author of *Girlhood* and *Whip Smart*



MICHELLE TEA is the author of over a dozen books of memoir and fiction, and the recipient of awards from PEN/America and the Guggenheim, Lambda Literary, and Rona Jaffe Foundations. She produces and hosts the *Your Magic podcast*, wherein she reads tarot cards for prominent artists including Roxane Gay, Alexander Chee, and Phoebe Bridgers. Her books have been translated into Japanese, Slovenian, German, Italian, and Swedish.

- **WO English:**
Dey Street Books / HarperCollins
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** August 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Alison Lewis

KNOCKING MYSELF UP: *A Memoir of My (In)Fertility*

****Sold in a six-figure deal, at auction****

From PEN/America Award winner, 2021 Guggenheim fellow, and beloved literary and tarot icon Michelle Tea, the hilarious, powerfully written, taboo-breaking story of her journey to pregnancy and motherhood as a 40 year-old, queer woman.

Written in intimate, gleefully TMI prose, *Knocking Myself Up* is the irreverent account of Tea's route to parenthood—with a group of ride-or-die friends, a generous drag queen, and a whole lot of can-do pluck. Along the way she falls in love with a wholesome genderqueer a decade her junior, attempts biohacking herself a baby with black market fertility meds (and magicking herself an offspring with witch-enchanted honey), learns her eggs are busted, and enters the Fertility Industrial Complex in order to carry her younger lover's baby.

With the signature sharp wit and wild heart that have made her a favorite to so many readers, Tea guides us through the maze of medical procedures, frustrations and astonishments on the path to getting pregnant, wryly critiquing some of the systems that facilitate that choice ("a great, punk, daredevil thing to do"). In *Knocking Myself Up*, Tea has crafted a deeply entertaining and profound memoir, a testament to the power of love and family-making, however complex our lives may be, to transform and enrich us.

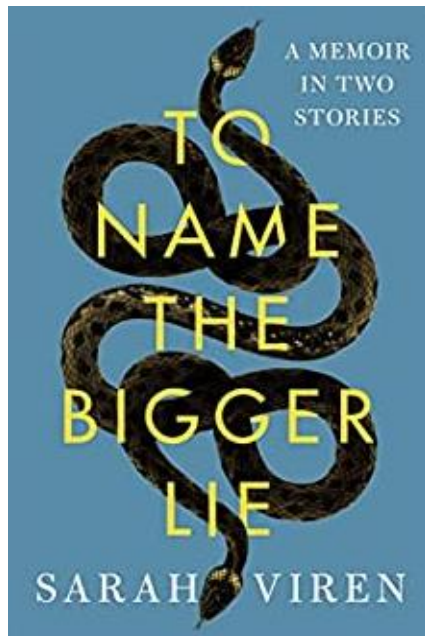
Praise for KNOCKING MYSELF UP

"With humor, candor and the ease of a veteran storyteller, Tea reminds us that there is no making life in pursuit of a prefigured plan. We learn from what we least expect, propelled toward 'the outer reaches of love, where it hits the limits of our understanding.'" — *New York Times Book Review*

"Strikingly, [Tea's] irreverence and humor reads less like a demystification of pregnancy and more like a re-enchantment of it...it's a story, like much of Tea's work, about how we take care of each other, in spite of so much." — *New Republic*

"Wry, witty, authentic...irresistible, evocative and wise." — *Washington Post*

"Author, poet, tarot legend, and organizer Michelle Tea has long been known as a fairy godmother of the millennial queer set, and in this blazing new memoir, she approaches the subject of parenthood with her signature verve." — *Vogue*



SARAH VIREN is a contributing writer for the *New York Times Magazine* and the author of *Mine*. Sarah's creative work has been supported by an NEA Fellowship and a Kerouac House Writing Residency, and her writing appears in the *New York Times Magazine*, *Oxford American*, *Texas Monthly*, and elsewhere. An assistant professor of creative nonfiction at ASU, she is a graduate of the Nonfiction Writing MFA at the University of Iowa.

- **World English:** Scribner
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Final Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** June 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Matt McGowan

A Memoir in Two Stories

Part coming-of-age story, part psychological thriller, part philosophical investigation, this unforgettable memoir traces the ramifications of a series of lies that threaten to derail the author's life—exploring the line between truth and deception, fact and fiction, and reality and conspiracy.

Sarah's story begins as she's researching what she believes will be a book about her high school philosophy teacher, a charismatic instructor who taught her and her classmates to question everything—in the end, even the reality of historical atrocities. As she digs into the effects of his teachings, her life takes a turn into the fantastical when her wife, Marta, is notified that she's been investigated for sexual misconduct at the university where they both teach.

Based in part on a viral New York Times essay, *To Name the Bigger Lie* follows the investigation as it upends Sarah's understanding of truth. She knows the claims made against Marta must be lies, and as she uncovers the identity of the person behind them and then tries, with increasing desperation, to prove their innocence, she's drawn back into the questions that her teacher inspired all those years ago: about the nature of truth, the value of skepticism, and the stakes we all have in getting the story right.

A compelling, incisive journey into honesty and betrayal, this memoir explores the powerful pull of dangerous conspiracy theories and the pliability of personal narratives in a world dominated by hoaxes and fakes. *To Name the Bigger Lie* reads like the best of psychological thrillers—made all the more riveting because it's true.

"A thrilling, labyrinthine and ultimately illuminating reckoning with what it feels like to be caught up in a vortex of post-truth, conspiracy, and lies, Sarah Viren's *To Name the Bigger Lie* is a fascinating and deeply disturbing account of our contemporary age of weaponized falsehoods... This is a memoir, yes, but it's also a view into a terrifying aspect of modernity, and Viren's ability to unspool complicated tangles for the reader is unparalleled."

—**Alex Marzano-Lesnevich, author of *The Fact of a Body***

"Sarah Viren's *To Name the Bigger Lie* is a work of radical moral philosophy as much as a memoir of one woman's confrontation with the seeming contradictions of certainty and doubt, truth and conspiracy, of the sometimes unbridgeable distance between the truth we know and the one we can prove. This is one of the most astonishing books I've ever read — a beacon in these uncertain times."

—**Lacy M. Johnson, author of *The Reckonings***



MARCO VERDONI is a Fulbright scholar and prize-winning writer of fiction and non-fiction. He received his MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Texas at Austin, where he was a graduate of the New Writers Project, and was awarded a partial Michener fellowship in his final semester.

US + Can: Spiegel & Grau
UK + Translation: FGLA
Proposal available
MS expected Fall 2023
Publication: Summer 2024
Domestic Agent: Sulamita Garbuz

AN AMERICAN ADOLESCENCE: *My Decade Growing Up Behind Bars*

****sold in a six-figure deal****

At the age of 15, while still a sophomore in high school, Marco Verdoni was put on trial as an adult for attempted murder — a crime of revenge against his girlfriend’s alleged rapist — and given a ten-year minimum sentence in Michigan state prison. Tracing Marco’s story from the year before his arrest to a few years after his release, *An American Adolescence* follows Marco as he grows up in prison, transforming from a lovesick teenager into a hardened convict. Forced to adapt to the realities of the penal system in order to survive — Marco joins a prison gang, learns to fight over even minor acts of disrespect, and tries to come to terms with what happened the night of his arrest, all while contending with the ever-present threat of beatings, stabbings, rape, and the possibility that he may never get out.

A transformative story about a boy’s coming of age in prison, *An American Adolescence* will appeal to readers of *Orange is the New Black* by Piper Kerman, as well as those interested in stories about unconventional childhoods, such as *Educated* by Tara Westover and *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls.

Advance Praise:

“It’s not easy to write a heartbreaking book about growing up in prison and also make it funny, but that’s exactly what Marco Verdoni has accomplished with his brilliant memoir. .. Verdoni is a writer to watch.”

— Lara Prescott, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *The Secrets We Kept*

“Marco Verdoni is a writer with rare quantities of heart, wit, clarity, and talent ... His memoir will be an essential book.”

— Elizabeth McCracken, bestselling author of *Bowlaway* and *The Giant’s House*

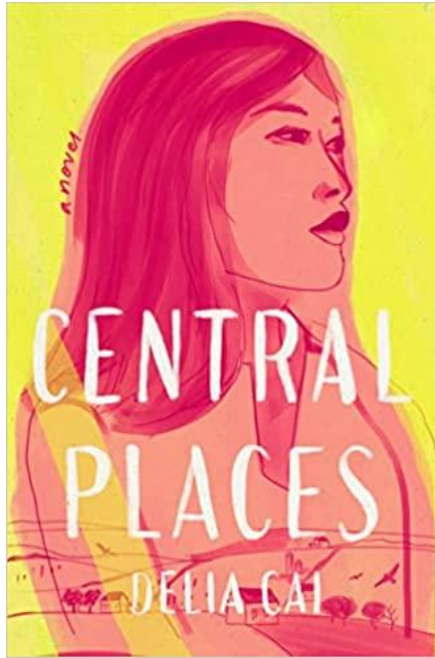
“I can think of few contemporary memoirs more captivating, timely, passionate, and beautifully written than Marco Verdoni’s *An American Adolescence*”

—Deb Olin Unferth, award-winning author of *Revolution* and *Barn 8*



FRANCES GOLDIN LITERARY AGENCY, INC.

FICTION



DELIA CAI is a graduate of the Missouri School of Journalism and her writing has appeared in *BuzzFeed*, *GQ*, *The Cut*, and *Catapult*. Her media newsletter, *Deez Links*, has been highlighted in *The New York Times*, *New York magazine*, and *Fortune*. She is currently a senior correspondent at *Vanity Fair* and lives in Brooklyn. *Central Places* is her first novel.

North American: Ballantine (PRH)
UK: Merky (PRH)
Translation: FGLA
Final manuscript and Books Available
Publication: January 2023
Domestic Agents: Caroline Eisenmann
 & Jade Wong-Baxter

CENTRAL PLACES

**** SOLD IN A SIX-FIGURE PREEMPT ****

A young woman's rootless past and uncertain future collide when she brings her white fiancé home to meet her Chinese immigrant parents, toppling her carefully constructed life, in this vibrant, insightful debut from an exciting new voice in fiction.

Audrey Zhou left Hickory Grove, the tiny central Illinois town where she grew up, as soon as high school ended, and she never looked back. She moved to New York City and became the person she always wanted to be, complete with a high-paying, high-pressure job and a seemingly faultless fiancé. But if she and Manhattan-bred Ben are to build a life together, in the dream home his parents will surely pay for, Audrey can no longer hide him, or the person she's become, from those she left behind.

But returning to Hickory Grove is . . . complicated. Audrey's relationship with her parents has been soured by years of her mother's astronomical expectations and slights. The friends she's shirked for bigger dreams have stayed behind and started families. And then there's Kyle, the easygoing stoner and her unrequited crush from high school that she finds herself drawn to again. Ben might be a perfect fit for New Audrey, but Kyle was always the only one who truly understood her growing up, and being around him again after all these years has Old Audrey bubbling up to the surface.

Over the course of one disastrous week, Audrey's proximity to her family and to Kyle forces her to confront the past and reexamine her fraught connection to her roots before she undoes everything she's worked toward and everything she's imagined for herself. But is that life really the one she wants?

"Delia Cai's *Central Places* is a sensitive, sharp-eyed, slyly funny story of venturing back into the foreign country that is your past—and discovering that you can never really shake the places and people that shaped you." —Celeste Ng, author of *Little Fires Everywhere*

"With prose that flies at a breakneck speed, "*Central Places*" digs deeper than the average romantic comedy into the social anxieties that underlie the characters who populate such stories... Cai ... paints a sobering portrait of small-town America, not as a place the ambitious and conscientious must flee but as a site of reckoning — between past and present, stereotype and reality, and the differences between those who call it home." — *The Washington Post*



SCOTT ALEXANDER HOWARD has a PhD in philosophy from the University of Toronto, where he wrote an award-winning dissertation on literary emotions and the passage of time. His articles have appeared in journals such as *Philosophical Quarterly* and *Analysis*. Upon completing a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard, he decided to pursue fiction. He now lives in Vancouver.

- **US:** Atria (S&S)
- **Canada:** Scribner Canada (S&S)
- **UK:** Atlantic
- **Germany:** Diogenes
- **Portugal:** Casa das letras | Leya group
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Film/TV:** Chris Lupo
- **Copyedited MS available**
- **Publication:** Spring 2024
- **Domestic Agent:** Roz Foster

THE OTHER VALLEY

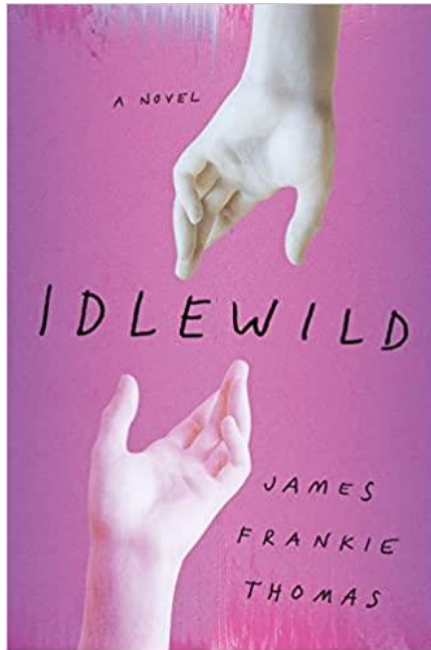
****Sold in a 6-figure preempt for two titles****

****Universal won television rights to the title in a heated 10-way auction with Working Title attached to produce****

Sixteen-year-old Odile Ozanne is an awkward, quiet girl, but everyone knows she's destined to land a coveted seat on the Conseil. In her apprenticeship, she competes to become one of the judges to decide who amongst the town's residents may travel across the border. If she earns the position, she'll decree who may be escorted deep into the woods, who may cross the border's barbed wire fence, who may make the arduous trek over the western mountain range — or perhaps the eastern range—to descend into the next valley over. It's the same valley, the same town. However, to the east, the town is twenty years ahead in time. To the west, it's twenty years behind. The towns repeat in an endless sequence across the wilderness. The only border crossings permitted by the Conseil are mourning tours: furtive viewings of the dead in towns where the dead are still alive.

Odile, wise beyond her years, will surely pass the Conseil's vetting. But when she happens upon a mourning tour she wasn't supposed to see, she realizes her dear friend Edme's parents have crossed the border from the east, from twenty years in the future, to view their son still alive in Odile's present. Edme, who's so funny and light. Edme, who's a violin virtuoso at just sixteen! Edme, who's the first boy to even see Odile, to really like her.... And it's Edme who's going to die.

THE OTHER VALLEY is a dark, modern fable about grief, time and fate. Kazuo Ishiguro's literary speculative work is crossed with the inventive, foreboding thrillers of Ian Reid. Readers will rush breathlessly to the end to see if the spark of hope in their hearts for Odile will grow again into the bright promise of her youth—or collapse into unchangeable catastrophe.



JAMES FRANKIE THOMAS holds an MFA in fiction from the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Their fiction has been published in the *Paris Review online*, *Vol. 1 Brooklyn*, and *The Toast*, among other publications. One of these essays is included in the anthology *We Are the Baby-Sitters Club*, and another was adapted into a PBS NewsHour segment.

WO English: Overlook (Abrams)
Translation: FGLA
Final MS Available
Publication: September 2023
Domestic Agent: Ayla Zuraw-Friedland

IDLEWILD

Idlewild is a tiny, artsy Quaker high school in lower Manhattan. Students call their teachers by their first names, there are no grades or awards, and every day begins with 20 minutes of contemplative silence. It is during one of those moments of worship that two airplanes hit the World Trade Center.

For two Idlewild outcasts, 9/11 serves as the first day of an intense, 18-month friendship. Fay is a prickly, aloof rich kid who is obsessed with gay men; Nell is a shy, sensitive scholarship student who is obsessed with Fay. The two of them bond fiercely over being the only two openly queer kids at Idlewild. But, as they rehearse for the school's production of *Othello*, they notice two sexually ambiguous boys, Theo and Christopher, who are potential candidates for their exclusive Invert Society (née Gay-Straight Alliance). The pairs become mirrors of one another's desires, anxieties, and loneliness. Their devotion to one another becomes an obsession, driving them to do things that they'll regret for the rest of their lives.

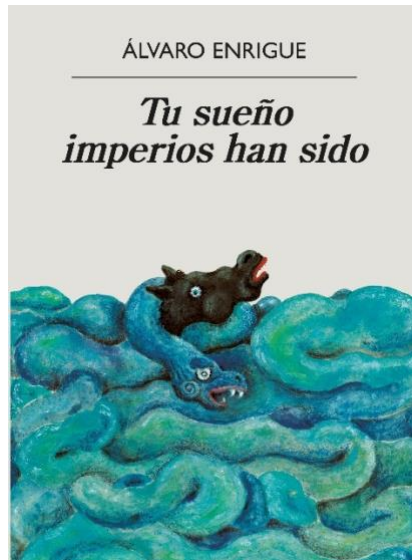
Looking back on these events as adults, Fay and Nell, who haven't spoken to each other in fifteen years, are haunted by shame over their Idlewild days. From alternating perspectives, they wonder if they could have done anything to save their friendship, or if it was meant to remain an artifact that couldn't have existed outside of Idlewild's walls.

A darkly funny and much gayer imagining of the classic prep school novel, IDLEWILD will appeal to readers of Curtis Sittenfeld's PREP and Donna Tartt's THE SECRET HISTORY.

Advance praise for IDLEWILD

"Idlewild toes the delicate line between darkly biting and empathetic. It's loud and funny and raucous, and yet, it sneaks up on you. With truths about living in the 2000s, the searing pain of looking back, and the absolute madness of having a best friend, James nails the heartbreak of being a theater kid and the humiliation of growing up."—Kiley Reid, author of SUCH A FUN AGE

"A crackling, blindingly funny, thrilling and poignant romp through queer youth, the early 2000s, 9/11 NYC, Quaker schools, and the maddening, heartrending, singular friendship between Fay and Nell that I will never forget. Thomas is a voice and mind we've been waiting for."—Sarah Thankam Mathews, author of ALL THIS COULD BE DIFFERENT



ÁLVARO ENRIGUE is the award-winning author of five novels and two books of short stories. His first novel *La muerte de un instalador* won the 1996 Joaquín Mortiz Prize. He was, in 2008, *GQ* Magazine's (Latin America) Writer of the Year. In 2011 he was awarded the Cullman Fellowship by the New York Public Library Center for Scholars and Writers. His novel *SUDDEN DEATH* (2013) was awarded the Premio Herralde and published in 14 languages.

US & Can: Riverhead (PRH)
UK: Harvill Secker
WO Spanish: Anagrama (Oct 2022)
Italy: Feltrinelli | **Germany:** Blessing
Translation: FGLA
****Final Spanish MS available**
****Unedited English MS available**
Publication: Fall 2023
Domestic Agent: Ria Julien

OF EMPIRES WAS YOUR DREAM

Álvaro Enrígue returns to sixteenth century Mexico, in his wildly inventive new novel, to reimagine the final face-off between Cortes and Moctezuma, where Malinalli and a hallucinogenic cactus will save the empire, rout Cortes, and rewrite the history of the world.

Part revisionist epic, part sublime comedy *Of Empires Was Your Dream* takes place over a span of seven hours, as the Aztec Emperor Moctezuma hosts Cortes and his fellow Spanish conquistadors at the Emperor's palace in Tenochtitlan, all the while unaware that the Spaniards have amassed enemy forces at the empire's gates.

Moctezuma, for his part, is an emperor in the late style—decadent, melancholic and retreating from political life into the company of his priests and shamans. Having sent his Empress, along with his priests and chief counsel, to host their guests, Moctezuma spends the better part of a languid afternoon locked away from the conflict, lunching, napping, and taking increasing doses of hallucinogens. Meanwhile, over an elaborate and nauseating meal with the Spaniards, the empress Atotozin and Tenochtitlan's mayor are confounded and overcome with concern that the empire will be lost to hostile guests whom they have welcomed.

Told in four parts—Before the Siesta, The Imperial Nap, The Afternoon and Hernan Cortes' Dream—the novel closely chronicles the unfolding diplomatic drama—from the folly of the conquistadors, to the palace intrigue of nobles, to the psychedelic religiosity of the emperor. Painting on a rich historic canvas, the novel takes up the question of civilization—turning on its head the civilized and the civilizer—with humor, levity, and not without blood.

Praise for *SUDDEN DEATH*:

“Brilliantly original. The best new novel I've read this year.” —Salman Rushdie

“[Enrígue's] approach has both great entertainment value and intellectual appeal... Splendid.”
 —Larry Rohter, *New York Times*



ÁLVARO ENRIGUE is the award-winning author of five novels and two books of short stories. His first novel *La muerte de un instalador* won the 1996 Joaquín Mortiz Prize. In 2007, the “Bogotá39” project named him one of the most promising Latin American writers of his generation. He was, in 2008, *GQ* Magazine’s (Latin America) Writer of the Year. In 2011 he was awarded the Cullman Fellowship by the New York Public Library Center for Scholars and Writers. His last novel *SUDDEN DEATH* (2013) was awarded the Premio Herralde and published in 14 languages.

US & Can: Riverhead

UK: Harvill Secker

WO Spanish: Anagrama (Sept. 2018)

Brazil: Companhia das Letras

Italy: Feltrinelli | **Germany:** Blessing

Translation: FGLA

****Final Spanish manuscript & English language sample and plot summary available****

Full English translation: Summer 2023

Publication: Fall 2024

Domestic Agent: Ria Julien

NOW I SURRENDER AND THAT IS ALL: THE BOOK OF GERONIMO

“Álvaro Enrígue... belongs to many literary traditions at once and shows a great mastery of them all” –Carlos Fuentes

In *THE BOOK OF GERONIMO*, his sweeping nineteenth century epic set in the shadows of the Mexican War of Independence, Herralde Prize winner (*SUDDEN DEATH*) Álvaro Enrígue chronicles the last days of the Apache Wars in this searching tale of conquest and resistance.

When the Apaches abduct Camila Ezguerra, a young widow from a northern outpost in the state of Chihuahua, this act of revenge sets off a search throughout the territory by a ragtag army of the nascent Mexican state. At the helm of this band of motley soldiers is Lieutenant Coronel Jose Maria Zuloaga, a Quixote of the Old West, whose troops include a gun-toting nun, an elderly dance teacher and a twin pair of freed Yaqui prisoners riding across the vast Apache territory in search of the abducted woman. As the story of Zuloaga and the Apaches unfolds, the novel telegraphs forward a half a century to Geronimo’s last stand against the US Army, and the curious allegiances and intrigues American officials that lead to Geronimo’s capture. Uniting these strands is a mystery at the center of the novel in the form of Camila and her ultimate transformation as she and her captors travel deep into Apache territory.

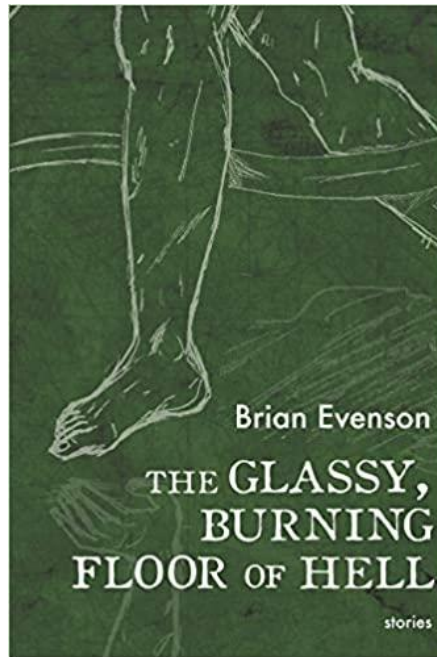
In this magisterial novel, Enrígue plumbs the depths of the North American imaginary of the Old West through a series of reversals that defy the narrative of cowboys and Indians, saviors and saved, Mexicans and Americans.

In turn brutal, tender, comic, and utterly masterful, *THE BOOK OF GERONIMO* displays Enrígue’s, penchant for the absurd and keen eye for the bloody history of the Americas. *THE BOOK OF GERONIMO* is a revisionist Western for our age.

Praise for *SUDDEN DEATH*:

“Engrossing... rich with Latin and European history.” —*The New Yorker*

“[A] bawdy, often profane, sprawling, ambitious book that is as engaging as it is challenging.”
—*Vogue*



BRIAN EVENSON is the author of several books of fiction. He is the recipient of the Shirley Jackson Award and the American Library Association's award for Best Horror Novel, and has been nominated for an Edgar award and an International Horror Guild Award. He lives in Los Angeles and teaches in the Critical Studies Program at CalArts.

- **US&C, Japan, Kor, Tai, China:** Coffeehouse
- **Arabic:** Athra
- **UK & Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript available**
- **Publication:** August 2021
- **Domestic Agent:** Matt McGowan

BURNING FLOOR OF HELL: *Stories*

“In the horror and short story spheres, there’s no contemporary writer in America whose collections excite me more than those of Brian Evenson.” —Mona Awad, *Author of BUNNY*

A sentient, murderous prosthetic leg; shadowy creatures lurking behind a shimmering wall; brutal barrow men—of all the terrors that populate *The Glassy, Burning Floor of Hell*, perhaps the most alarming are the beings who decimated the habitable Earth: humans. In this new short story collection, Brian Evenson envisions a chilling future beyond the Anthropocene that forces excruciating decisions about survival and self-sacrifice in the face of toxic air and a natural world torn between revenge and regeneration. Combining psychological and ecological horror, each tale thrums with Evenson’s award-winning literary craftsmanship, dark humor, and thrilling suspense.

Praise for SONG FOR THE UNRAVELING OF THE WORLD:

Winner of the 2019 Shirley Jackson Award for a single-author collection

Finalist for the 2019 Los Angeles Times Ray Bradbury Prize

New York Times, “Best Horror Fiction”

Washington Post, “Best Horror Fiction of the Year”

NPR, “Best Books of 2019”

Entropy, “Best of 2019”

“Evenson is one of our best living writers—regardless of genre.” —NPR

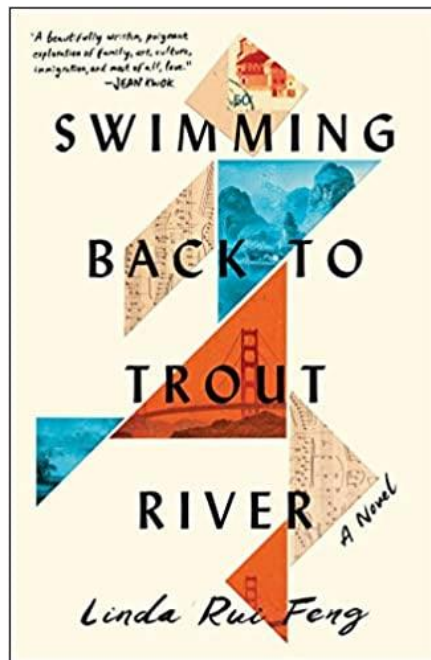
“Missing persons, paranoia and psychosis . . . the kind of writer who leads you into the labyrinth, then abandons you there. It’s hard to believe a guy can be so frightening, so consistently.” —**New York Times**

“Evenson at his most intense and discomfiting ... he makes our skin rise and crawl with the intimation that all, although outwardly normal, is certainly not. Why else are we paying attention so closely?”

—**Los Angeles Review of Books**

“Evenson’s fiction is equal parts obsessive, experimental, and violent. It can be soul-shaking.”

—**The New Yorker**



LINDA RUI FENG is a graduate of Harvard and Columbia University, and is currently a professor of Chinese cultural history at the University of Toronto. She has been twice awarded a MacDowell Fellowship for her fiction, and her writing has appeared in journals such as *The Fiddlehead*, *Kenyon Review*, and *Washington Square Review*. This is her first novel.

US: Simon & Schuster

UK: David Grossman / David Grossman Agency

Canada: Simon & Schuster Canada

Italy: Piemme

Translation: FGLA

Books & Final Manuscript available

Publication: August 2021

▪ **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

SWIMMING BACK TO TROUT RIVER

A lyrical novel set against the backdrop of China's Cultural Revolution that follows a father's quest to reunite his family before his precocious daughter's momentous birthday, which Garth Greenwell calls "one of the most beautiful debuts I've read in years."

In the summer of 1986 in a small Chinese village, ten-year-old Junie receives a momentous letter from her parents, who had left for America years ago: her father promises to return home and collect her by her twelfth birthday. But Junie's growing determination to stay put in the idyllic countryside with her beloved grandparents threatens to derail her family's shared future.

What Junie doesn't know is that her parents, Momo and Cassia, are newly estranged from one another in their adopted country, each holding close private tragedies and histories from the tumultuous years of their youth during China's Cultural Revolution. While Momo grapples anew with his deferred musical ambitions and dreams for Junie's future in America, Cassia finally begins to wrestle with a shocking act of brutality from years ago. In order for Momo to fulfill his promise, he must make one last desperate attempt to reunite all three members of the family before Junie's birthday—even if it means bringing painful family secrets to light.

In *SWIMMING BACK TO TROUT RIVER*, Linda Rui Feng elegantly weaves together the stories of Junie, Momo, Cassia, and Dawn—a talented violinist from Momo's past—while depicting their heartbreak and resilience, tenderly revealing the hope, compromises, and abiding ingenuity that make up the lives of immigrants.

LOONGLISTED FOR THE 2022 PEN/HEMMINGWAY AWARD FOR DEBUT NOVEL

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2021 CENTER FOR FICTION FIRST NOVEL PRIZE

LOONGLISTED FOR THE 2021 SCOTIABANK GILLER PRIZE

LOONGLISTED FOR THE 2022 ASPEN WORDS LITERARY PRIZE

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

"With disarmingly quiet prose, Feng digs beneath Cassia's and Momo's reluctance to mine their emotional depths as they struggle to grasp their individual experiences as well as their fractured relationship. Filled with tragedy yet touched with life-affirming passion."

—★*Kirkus* (starred review)



ESSEX HEMPHILL was a black and gay writer, editor and activist who died in 1995 at 38. Mr. Hemphill, who was one of the many queer creators lost in the AIDS epidemic, remains an instrumental figure in gay American letters and in the lives of queer black artists at large.

WO English: New Directions
Translation: FGLA
Manuscript Expected: Spring 2023
Publication: Spring 2024
Domestic Agent: Jade Wong-Baxter

THE SELECTED POEMS OF ESSEX HEMPHILL

The Selected Poems of Essex Hemphill is a new collection that celebrates the work and legacy of Essex Hemphill, a seminal poet known for his writing on Black and gay life in the late twentieth century.

“When I die,/honey chil’/my angels/will be tall/Black drag queens,” writes Essex Hemphill, who caught America by surprise – and grabbed its undivided attention – with his collection *Ceremonies*, first published to acclaim in 1992. *The Selected Poems of Essex Hemphill* brings together his charged, emotionally resonant poems from across his career, all of which reject popular notions of Black and gay tropes, and work to integrate all of Essex’s identities into a functioning self.

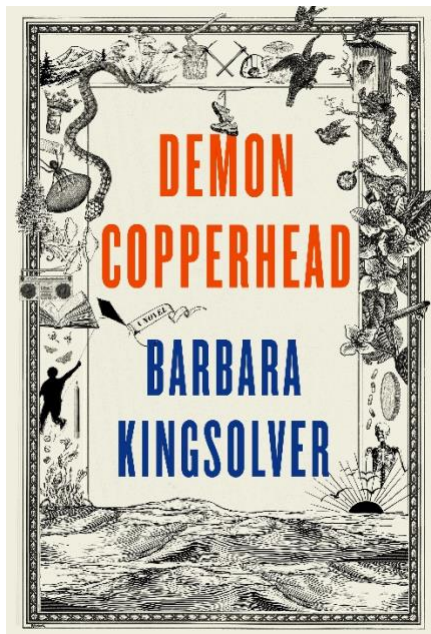
Edited by renowned literary critic Robert Reid-Pharr and award-winning poet John Keene (Annotations, Counternarratives), this selection will be the first publication of Essex Hemphill’s work in the twenty-first century. The result is a ceremony of life – Black, gay, outrageous, and brilliant.

Praise for CEREMONIES:

“Astounding. No voice speaks with more eloquent, thought-provoking clarity about contemporary Black gay life than that of Essex Hemphill” –Marlon Riggs

“The prose sings with lyricism, the poetry sears with content. Hemphill is like an Old Testament prophet, exhorting us with ethical passion. He is exactly what we need at this hour.” –Martin Duberman

“This collection of poems, prose and essays by Essex Hemphill is my go-to carry-around book. It includes words of wonder, sadness and critique all centered around the black gay experience — especially heightened within the AIDS epidemic.” –Deb Hyne, (aka Blood Orange)



BARBARA KINGSOLVER is the bestselling author of *THE POISONWOOD BIBLE*, among other titles. Her work has been translated into more than 20 languages and has several earned literary awards including the *National Humanities Medal*, the *Dayton Literary Peace Prize*, and UK's *Orange Prize for Fiction*.

US&C: HarperCollins | **UK:** Faber & Faber | **France:** Albin Michel **Croatia:** Vorto Palabra | **Serbia:** Laguna **Romania:** Trei | **Bulgaria:** Erove **Poland:** Filia **Lithuania:** Balto | **Denmark:** Gyldendal **Germany:** dtv | **Netherlands:** Meulenhoff **Sweden:** Norstedts | **Italy:** Neripozza **Portugal:** PRH Suma | **Spain:** Navona
Translation: FGLA
Books & Edited MS Available
Publication: October 2022
Domestic Agent: Sam Stoloff

DEMON COPPERHEAD

****NYT TOP TEN BOOK OF THE YEAR****

****AN OPRAH'S BOOKCLUB SELECTION****

****22 WEEKS ON THE NYT FICTION BESTSELLER LIST AND COUNTING****

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Unsheltered* and *Flight Behavior*, a brilliant novel which enthralls, compels, and captures the heart as it evokes a young hero's unforgettable journey to maturity.

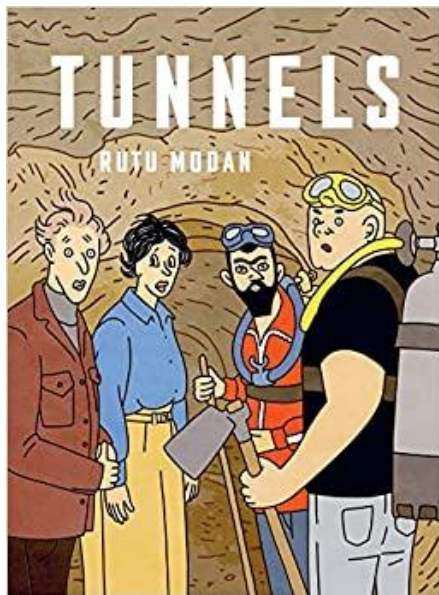
Demon Copperhead is set in the mountains of southern Appalachia. It's the story of a boy born to a teenaged single mother in a single-wide trailer, with no assets beyond his dead father's good looks and copper-colored hair, a caustic wit, and a fierce talent for survival. In a plot that never pauses for breath, relayed in his own unsparing voice, he braves the modern perils of foster care, child labor, derelict schools, athletic success, addiction, disastrous loves, and crushing losses. Through all of it, he reckons with his own invisibility in a popular culture where even the superheroes have abandoned rural people in favor of cities.

Many generations ago, Charles Dickens wrote *David Copperfield* from his experience as a survivor of institutional poverty and its damages to children in his society. Those problems have yet to be solved in ours. Dickens is not a prerequisite for readers of this novel, but he provided its inspiration. In transposing a Victorian epic novel to the contemporary American South, Barbara Kingsolver enlists Dickens' anger and compassion, and above all, his faith in the transformative powers of a good story. *Demon Copperhead* speaks for a new generation of lost boys, and all those born into beautiful, cursed places they can't imagine leaving behind.

"May be the best novel of 2022. . . . Equal parts hilarious and heartbreaking, this is the story of an irrepressible boy nobody wants, but readers will love." –Ron Charles, *Washington Post*

"An Appalachian David Copperfield. . . . Kingsolver's novel sweeps you along just as powerfully as the original does." — *New York Times*

"Kingsolver's tour de force is a serpentine, hard-striking tale of profound dimension and resonance."— ★*Booklist* (starred)



RUTU MODAN is the internationally acclaimed author of the graphic novels *EXIT WOUNDS* and *THE PROPERTY*. Both were winners of the Will Eisner Award for best graphic novel of the year. Modan is a widely published illustrator and children's book author, and a professor at Jerusalem's prestigious Bezalel Academy of Art & Design.

WO English: Drawn + Quarterly

Translation: FGLA

French: Actes Sud | **German:** Carlsen

Spanish: PRH Spain | **Catalan:** Finestres

Italian: Finestres | **Japan:** Thousands of Books | **Russian:** Boomkniga

Polish: Kultura Gnienu

Hebrew: Keter Books | **Croatia:** Fibra

Books + Final MS Available

Publication: October 2021

Domestic Agent: Sam Stoloff

TUNNELS

Two-time Eisner Award winner Rutu Modan's third graphic novel, *TUNNELS*, is her deepest and wildest yet. Potent and funny, Modan reveals the Middle East as no westerner could.

When a great antiquities collector is forced to donate his entire collection to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, his daughter Nili Broshi sees her last chance to finish an archaeological expedition begun decades earlier—a dig that could possibly yield the most important religious artifact in the Middle East. Motivated by the desire to reinstate her father's legacy as a great archaeologist after he was marginalized by his rival, Nili enlists a ragtag crew—a religious nationalist and his band of hilltop youths, her traitorous brother, and her childhood Palestinian friend, now an archaeological smuggler. As Nili's father slips deeper into dementia, warring factions close in on and fight over the Ark of the Covenant!

Backed by extensive research into this real-world treasure hunt, Rutu Modan sets her affecting novel at the center of a political crisis. She posits that the history of biblical Israel lies in one of the most disputed regions in the world, occupied by Israel and contested by Palestine. Often in direct competition, Palestinians and Israelis dig alongside one another, hoping to find the sacred artifact believed to be a conduit to God.

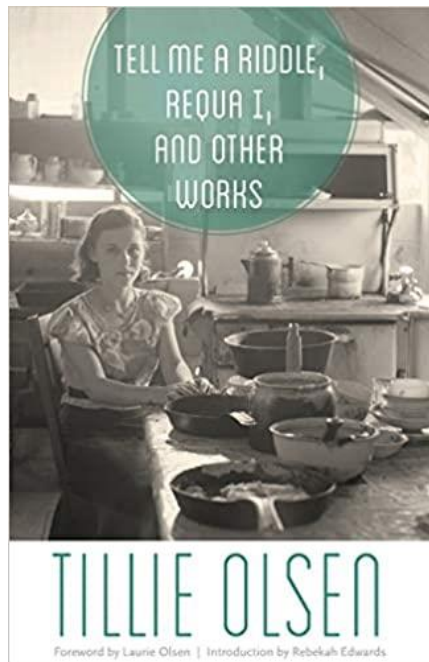
* *TUNNELS* was originally published in Hebrew by Keter Books, and was translated into English by Ishai Mishory.

Praise for *TUNNELS*:

****Named a best graphic novel of the year by *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Variety*, and *Forbes*****

"Affecting... brightly colored and perfectly paced, [Modan's three graphic novels] have established her as her country's most renowned comics artist." —Gal Beckerman, *The New York Times*

"Complex and thrilling... If Modan has given us a tightly plotted adventure story, she has also delivered a brilliantly daring satire. ... I expect *Tunnels* to win all the prizes, and to be read and reread for decades to come." —Rachel Cooke, *The Guardian*



TILLIE OLSEN (1912-2007) is internationally renowned for her powerful writing about the inner lives of working-class families, women, and minorities. Her books, *TELL ME A RIDDLE*, *YONNONDIO*, *SILENCES*, and her essays and lectures, have been translated into twelve languages.

- **US & Can:** Univ. Nebraska Press
- **UK:** Virago
- **Spain:** Las Afueras
- **Portugal:** Editores Anitgona
- **Sweden:** Bonnierförlagen
- **Simplified Chinese:** Ginkgo
- **Germany:** Aufbau Verlag
- **Other Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final MS Available**
- **Publication:** Reissued, 2013
- **Domestic Agent:** Jade Wong-Baxter

TELL ME A RIDDLE, REQUA I, & OTHER WORKS

“The four pieces in *TELL ME A RIDDLE* are lyrical bulletins of working-class family life, charged with emotional detail and delivered with an attention to the rhythms of consciousness more rigorous and powerful than most of what is called realism.” —A.O. Scott, *New York Times*

A century after her birth, Tillie Olsen’s writing is as relevant as when it first appeared; indeed, the clarity and passion of her vision and style have, if anything, become even more striking over time. Collected here for the first time are several of Olsen’s nonfiction pieces about the 1930s, early journalism pieces, and short fiction, including the four beautifully crafted, highly celebrated stories originally published as her short story collection entitled *TELL ME A RIDDLE*: “I Stand Here Ironing,” “Hey Sailor, What Ship?,” “O Yes,” and “Tell Me a Riddle.” Also included, for the first time since it appeared in the 1971 Best American Short Stories, is “Requa I.”

In these stories, as in all of her work, Olsen set a new standard for the treatment of women and the poor and for the depiction of their lives and circumstances. In her hands, the hard truths about motherhood and marriage, domestic life, labor, and political conviction found expression in language of such poetic intensity and depth that their influence continues to be felt today.

An introduction by Olsen’s granddaughter, the poet Rebekah Edwards, and a foreword by her daughter Laurie Olsen provide a personal and generational context for the author’s work.

Praise for *TELL ME A RIDDLE*:

“[Tillie] had invented a literary tradition of her own. . . . Every line is measured, compressed, resonant, stripped bare, so that paragraph after paragraph achieves the shocking brevity and power of the best poems. . . . By now I have read *TELL ME A RIDDLE* so often that it is essentially memorized.” —Scott Turow, on NPR’s *You Must Read This*

“As a great work of literary art [*TELL ME A RIDDLE*] will be read as long as the American language lasts.” —Julian Moynihan

“Everything [Olsen] has written has become almost immediately a classic.” —Robert Coles

“[*TELL ME A RIDDLE* is] enough to make [Olsen’s] name a truly important one in writing. . . . She can spend no word that is not the right one.” —Dorothy Parker



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

- **US & Can:** Bellevue Literary Press
- **UK + translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final MS Available**
- **Publication:** April 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Sam Stoloff

BENEFIT

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

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

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

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

Praise for BENEFIT:

“Phillips’s assured debut novel blends a complex journey of personal realizations with insights into the dark side of ambition and power.” —*Booklist*

“Incisive. . . . Pulls back the veil on university hierarchies and social privilege.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Highlight[s] the toxicity and ethical gaps that underlie much of modern academia and philanthropy . . . with striking social commentary. . . . absorbing in its forcefulness” —*Kirkus Reviews*



SHELLY JAY SHORE (she/they) is a writer, digital strategist, and nonprofit fundraiser. Their writing on queer Jewish identity has been published by Autostraddle, Alma, and the Bi Resource Center. **BODIES IN WATER** is her debut novel.

- **US & C:** Ballantine (PRH)
- **UK:** Trapeze/Orion (Hachette UK)
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Unedited MS available**
- **Edited MS expected Summer 2024**
- **Publication:** Spring, 2024
- **Domestic Agent:** Ayla Zuraw-Friedland

BODIES IN WATER

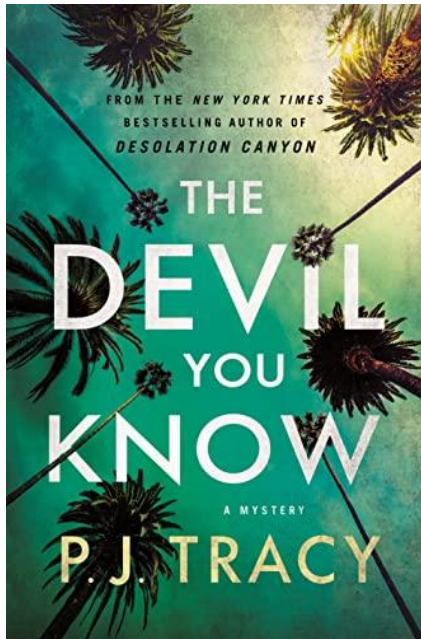
****Sold in a 6-figure preempt****

Twenty-eight-year-old Ezra Friedman is only a little bit clairvoyant, but enough to make growing up in a funeral home miserable. Maybe it wouldn't have been so bad if his Zayde's ghost didn't keep giving him this look of betrayal and disapproval as he went through an HRT-induced second puberty, or if the dead's hands weren't so cold. But, it's no wonder that Ezra would want to get as far away as possible from the family business.

With his parents' marriage imploding, Ezra finds himself pulled back into the effort to help save the Friedman Family Memorial Chapel from financial ruin. That means long days of puzzling out his mom's cryptic filing systems while surrounded by the ghosts no one else can see, while balancing his role as referee between the warring factions of his family. Add in his unfortunate crush on the cute funeral home volunteer who just happens to live downstairs from where Ezra and his ex are now living together as friends, and the new ghost who keeps breaking every spectral rule Ezra's managed to figure out about the dead, and Ezra's more than ready to make another run for the hills.

The more Ezra learns about the tangled web of secrets that haunt the Chapel's halls, the harder it is to maintain the distance that (he thought) kept him sane. As the pressure mounts to figure out how to keep the funeral home from being snapped up by a corporate "body farm", Ezra is forced to do something he never thought possible.

BODIES IN WATER combines the humor, fraught-but-loving family dynamics, and obsession with death seen in books like **MOSTLY DEAD THINGS**, **ONE LAST STOP**, and **FUN HOME**. It is the gay, Jewish, **SIX FEET UNDER** we've all been waiting for.



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—and it's a home run.

- **US & Can, UK:** St. Martin's Press
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript available**
- **Publication:** January, 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Ellen Geiger

THE DEVIL YOU KNOW

Detective Margaret Nolan Series #3

Darkness is nothing new to LAPD Detective Margaret Nolan, but in P.J. Tracy's *The Devil You Know*, even she isn't prepared for the scandalous deception of deadly proportions that shakes the very foundation of Hollywood and its untouchables...and leaves her entangled in its rotten core. Part of a series.

Los Angeles has many faces: the real LA where regular people live and work, the degenerate underbelly of any big city, and the rarefied world of wealth, power, and celebrity. LAPD Detective Margaret Nolan's latest case plunges her into this insular realm of privilege, and gives her a glimpse of the decay behind the glitter.

Beloved actor Evan Hobbes is found in the rubble of a Malibu rockslide, a day after a fake video ruins his career. It's not clear to Nolan if it's an accident, a suicide, or a murder, and things get murkier as the investigation expands to his luminary friends and colleagues. Meanwhile, Hobbes's agent is dealing with damage control, his psychotic boss, and a woman he's scorned.

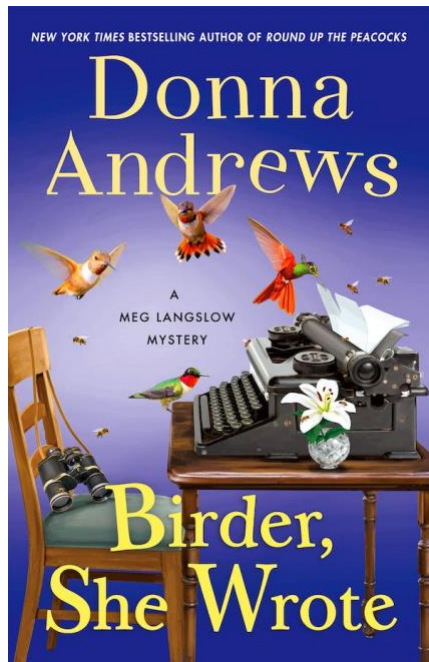
Praise for the THE DEVIL YOU KNOW:

"[A] terrific series. . . Tracy's creating a literary landscape similar to Margaret Millar and Robert Crais." —*Star Tribune*

"Great atmosphere, vivid characters, and an intricate fair play plot that surprises as it twists its way to a satisfying resolution make this a winner."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Who needs movies anyway when you have books as laden with dirty secrets as this one?" —*Kirkus Reviews*

"A fine series. . . Margaret Nolan is a strong, intelligent, and aggressive investigator, a cop who won't stop until she finds the truth. . . [Tracy] is an efficient storyteller. There is no excess weight here; every scene has a purpose, and there's no conversational time-wasting. Here's hoping there are many more Margaret Nolan mysteries to come." —*Booklist*



DONNA ANDREWS is a winner of the Agatha, Anthony, and Barry Awards, a Romantic Times Award for best first novel, and four Lefty and two Toby Bromberg awards for funniest mystery. She is a member of MWA, Sisters in Crime, and Novelists, Inc. Andrews lives in Reston, Virginia.

- **WO English:** Minotaur Books
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Edited Manuscript Available**
- **Publication:** August 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Ellen Geiger

BIRDER, SHE WROTE: A *Meg Langslow* Mystery

New York Times bestselling author Donna Andrews first introduced us to Meg Langslow as a crime-solving bridesmaid. In her 32nd mystery, *Birder, She Wrote*, Meg must return to her sleuthing ways once again...

Meg is relaxing in the hammock, taste-testing Michael's latest batch of Arnold Palmers and watching the hummingbirds at their feeders when her hopes for a relaxing early summer morning are dashed.

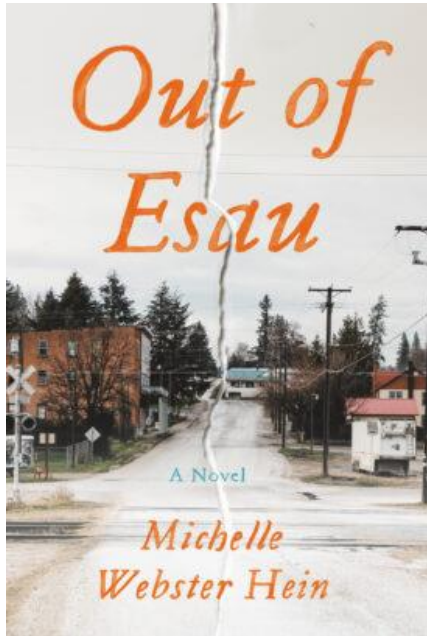
First her father recruits her to help him install a new batch of bees in the hive in her backyard. Then Mayor Shiffley recruits her to placate the NIMBYs (Not in my backyard), as she calls them – a group of newcomers to Caerphilly who have built McMansions next door to working farms and then do their best to make life miserable for the farmers. And finally Meg's grandmother, shows up, trailed by a nosy reporter who is writing a feature on her for a genteel Southern ladies' magazine.

Cordelia drafts Meg to accompany her and Deacon Washington of the New Life Baptist Church – and the reporter, alas – in their search for a long-lost African-American cemetery. Unfortunately what they discover is not an ancient cemetery but a fresh corpse. Can Meg protect her grandmother – and Caerphilly – from the reporter who seems to see the worst in everything . . . and help crack the case before the killer finds another victim?

Praise for the *Meg Langslow* Mysteries series:

“If you long for more fun mysteries, a la Janet Evanovich, you'll love Donna Andrews's Meg Langslow series.” —*Charlotte Observer*

“A long-running series that gets better all the time. A fine blend of academic satire, screwball comedy, and murder.” —*Booklist*



MICHELLE WEBSTER HEIN and her family work a small homestead in the southern Michigan countryside where she was born and raised. *Out of Esau* is her first novel.

- **US + Can:** Catapult
- **UK + Translation:** FGLA
- **Books + Final MS Available**
- **Publication:** October 2022
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

OUT OF ESAU: A Novel

When a woman questioning her marriage encounters the kind and steadfast pastor of her small town, they are both forced to reconsider their pasts, their faith, and their future.

Robert Glory has never quite felt as though he fit in the small town of Esau, Michigan, but he finds solace in his role as the pastor of Esau Baptist and in his spare, orderly routine. When Susan Shearer arrives at his church seeking the strength to stay true to her increasingly volatile husband, neither expect that their immediate connection will upend both of their lives. As their relationship deepens and Susan's life at home becomes more unstable, Robert and Susan are forced to confront the wounds that have shaped them and discover if they still have the power to change.

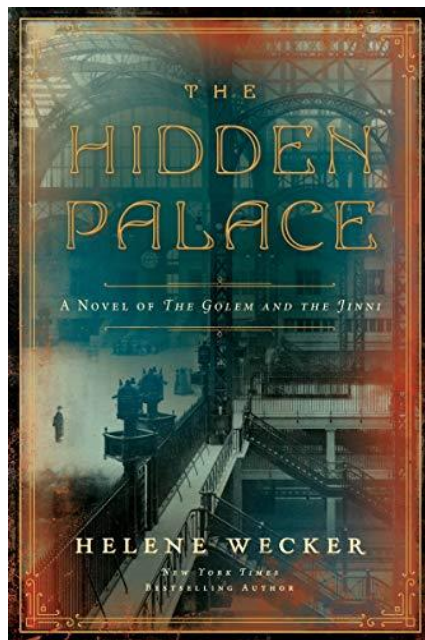
Told from five different perspectives—including Susan's husband, Randy, her brilliant but high-strung young daughter, Willa, and Robert's long-estranged mother, Leotie—*Out of Esau* is a visceral look at the dynamics of an abusive marriage, a nuanced portrait of faith and its loss, and a sweeping story of redemption.

Praise for OUT OF ESAU:

“*Out of Esau* is a tremendous achievement. A literary page-turner with prose that dips and soars, and characters that leap off the page. ... This wonderful novel is one of the best books of the year.”
—David Heska Wanbli Weiden, author of *Winter Counts*

“*Out of Esau* is a propulsive and masterfully spun web, one I can't wait to gift again and again.”
—Robin MacArthur, author of *Heart Spring Mountain*

“With gorgeous, glittering prose, Michelle Webster Hein explores a community in rural Michigan, looking at family, marriage, and faith with a precise, compassionate eye. A novel of rare honesty and beauty.”
—Karen E. Bender, author of *Refund* and *The New Order*



HELENE WECKER received her Bachelor's in English from Carleton College in Minnesota. After graduating, she worked a number of marketing and communications jobs in Minneapolis and Seattle before deciding to return to her first love, fiction writing. She received her MFA in fiction from Columbia University. She now lives near San Francisco with her husband and two children.

- **WO English:** HarperCollins
- **Brazil:** Darkside
- **Croatia:** Mitopeja
- **Russia:** Atticus
- **Bulgaria:** Studio of A
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript available**
- **Publication:** June 2021
- **Domestic Agent:** Sam Stoloff

THE HIDDEN PALACE

The long-awaited sequel to the *New York Times* bestseller **THE GOLEM AND THE JINNI**

Chava is a golem, a woman made of clay, able to hear the thoughts and longings of the humans around her, and compelled to help them. Ahmad is a jinni, a being of fire now imprisoned in the shape of a man, perpetually restless and free-spirited. Having met as two unlikely immigrants in 1899 Manhattan, their lives have become deeply intertwined, but they must decide what, exactly, they mean to each other—all while living disguised as humans, constantly fearing they'll be exposed as monsters.

Meanwhile, Park Avenue heiress Sophia Winston, whose brief encounter with Ahmad has left her with a strange illness that makes her shiver with cold, travels to the Middle East to seek a cure. There she meets a tempestuous female jinni who's been banished from her tribe for her own untreatable condition. And in a tenement on the Lower East Side, a little girl named Kreindel helps her rabbi father build a golem that she names Yossele. When she is sent to an uptown orphanage, the hulking golem will become her only friend and companion.

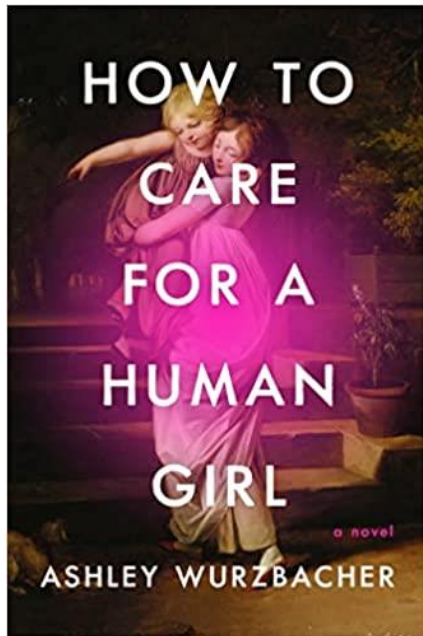
Spanning the tumultuous years from the turn of the 20th century to the beginning of World War I, *The Hidden Palace* follows these lives and others as they collide and interweave. Can Chava and Ahmad find their places in the human world while remaining true to each other? Or will their own natures and desires conspire to tear them apart—especially once they encounter, thrillingly, other creatures of their own kinds?

Praise for THE HIDDEN PALACE:

“A blend of romance, Mary Shelley-esque horror, and folklore.... Wecker skillfully combines the storylines of Chava the Golem and Ahmad the Jinni and numerous other players, good and evil, in an enchanting tale that pleases on every page.” —★*Kirkus Reviews* (Starred Review)

“Impressive...storytelling à la Dickens...A satisfying, mature sequel to *The Golem and the Jinni*, continuing the magical story of two immigrant mythological characters from the turn of the 20th century to the outbreak of WWI.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Fans of THE GOLEM AND THE JINNI have waited eight years for this sequel, a minor eternity perfectly in keeping with the precarious immortality of Wecker's hopeful monsters. It has been worth the wait.” —★*BookPage Magazine* (Starred Review)



ASHLEY WURZBACHER is the author of the story collection *HAPPY LIKE THIS*, which won the 2019 Iowa Short Fiction Award and was named a National Book Foundation “5 Under 35” honoree and a NYT Editors’ Choice. Born and raised in Western Pennsylvania, she currently lives in Birmingham, Alabama and teaches at the University of Montevallo.

- **US & Can:** Atria (S&S)
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **UK:** Laura Williams/ Greene & Heaton
- **Edited manuscript available**
- **Publication:** August 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

HOW TO CARE FOR A HUMAN GIRL

From “a writer at the top of her game” (*The New York Times*) comes a bighearted and sharply funny debut novel about two estranged sisters and the crossroads they face after becoming unexpectedly pregnant at the same time.

Two years after the death of their mother, Jada and Maddy Battle both face unplanned pregnancies. Jada, a thirty-one-year-old psychology PhD student living in Pittsburgh, quietly obtains an abortion without telling her husband, but the secret causes turmoil in her already shaky marriage. Back home in rural Pennsylvania, nineteen-year-old Maddy, who spends her time caring for birds at a wildlife rehabilitation center, is paid off by the man who got her pregnant to get an abortion. But an unsettling visit to a crisis pregnancy center adds to her doubts about whether to go through with it.

Although Maddy still hasn’t forgiven Jada for a terrible betrayal, she goes to her for support, only to discover the cracks in the façade of her sister’s seemingly perfect life. As their past resentments boil over, the sisters must navigate the consequences of their choices and determine how best to care for themselves and each other.

With luminous prose and laser-sharp psychological insight, *How to Care for a Human Girl* is a compassionate and unforgettable examination of the complexities of choice, the special intimacy of sisterhood, and the bizarre ways our heated political moment manifests in daily life.

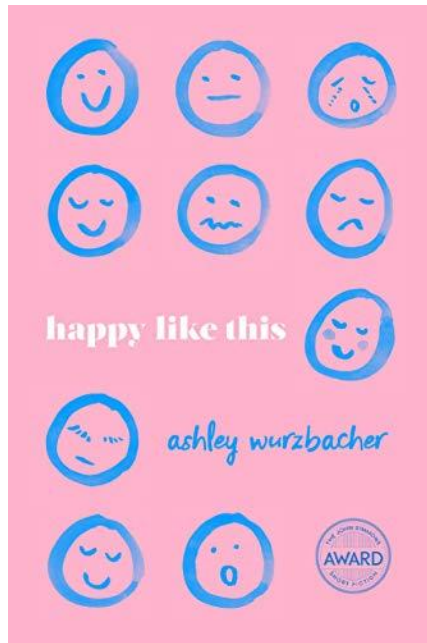
Praise for HOW TO CARE FOR A HUMAN GIRL:

“Ashley Wurzbacher’s *How to Care for a Human Girl* is a heartfelt, compelling story told in an artful blend of sophistication and beauty. This is a fierce look at family, resilience, and love.”

—Brandon Hobson, National Book Award finalist and author of *The Removed*

“Ambitious, evocative, and deeply empathetic, *How to Care for a Human Girl* eloquently examines the many facets of personal choice.” —Kimberly King Parsons, author of *Black Light*

“Ashley Wurzbacher has written the kind of page turner you want to reread as soon as you’re done, a book that belongs, tragically and comically, to our moment—and to every moment that led us here. I laughed and cried and saw myself—saw every woman I’ve ever known—in the story of the Battle sisters.” —Anna Solomon, author of *The Book of V*



ASHLEY WURZBACHER is the author of the story collection *HAPPY LIKE THIS*, which won the 2019 Iowa Short Fiction Award and was named a National Book Foundation “5 Under 35” honoree and a NYT Editors’ Choice. Born and raised in Western Pennsylvania, she currently lives in Birmingham, Alabama and teaches at the University of Montevallo.

- **US & Can:** University of Iowa Press
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **UK:** Laura Williams/ Greene & Heaton
- **Books & Final Manuscript available**
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

HAPPY LIKE THIS: *Stories*

The characters in *HAPPY LIKE THIS* are smart girls and professional women—social scientists, linguists, speech therapists, plant physiologists, dancers—who search for happiness in roles and relationships that are often unscripted or unconventional. In the midst of their ambivalence about marriage, monogamy, and motherhood and their struggles to accept and love their bodies, they look to other women for solidarity, stability, and validation. Sometimes they find it; sometimes they don’t. Spanning a wide range of distinct perspectives, voices, styles, and settings, the ten shimmering stories in *HAPPY LIKE THIS* offer deeply felt, often humorous meditations on the complexity of choice and the ambiguity of happiness.

Praise for *HAPPY LIKE THIS*:

****National Book Award 5 under 35 honoree****

****Winner of the 2019 Iowa Short Fiction Award****

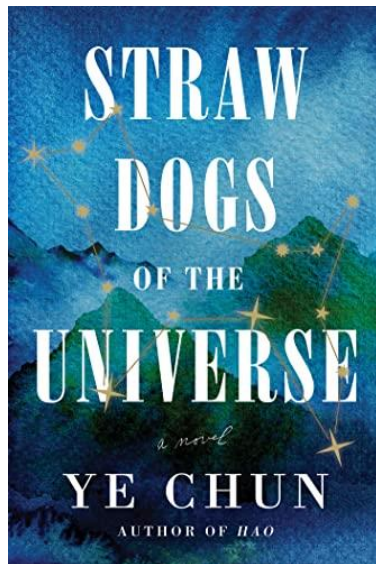
****New York Times Editor’s Choice****

“Wurzbacher...deploys her encyclopedic command of various ideas, regions, professions and lexicons with the authority of seasoned masters like Adam Johnson. This is a writer at the top of her game; but hopefully she’s only just getting started.” —*The New York Times*

“Wurzbacher’s incisive, polychromatic story collection centers on the dizzying complexities of female friendships: how they fray and mend over time and are often imbued with the intensity of love affairs.” —*Oprah Magazine*

“Wurzbacher dives into the lives of women in this brilliant collection, examining the ways they live and relate to each other while harboring their own secrets and feelings. Her lyrical prose and unflinchingly confrontational voice are powerful and captivating.” —★*Booklist* (Starred Review)

“I love these dark, lyrical, sinewy stories about women’s relationships with their bodies and with each other. It’s the sort of theme that could feel irritably well-trod, but that’s not the case here at all; these stories surprised me at every turn. And the writing is so gorgeous!” —Carmen Maria Machado, judge, 2019 John Simmons Short Fiction Award



YE CHUN is a bilingual Chinese American writer and literary translator. She has published two books of poetry, *Travel Over Water* and *Lantern Puzzle*; a novel in Chinese, 《海上的桃树》 (Peach Tree in the Sea); and four volumes of translations. A recipient of an NEA Literature Fellowship, a Sustainable Arts Foundation Award, and three Pushcart Prizes, she teaches at Providence College and lives in Providence, Rhode Island.

- **World English:** Catapult
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Edited manuscript available**
- **Publication:** October 2023
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

STRAW DOGS OF THE UNIVERSE

****Sold in a two-book deal, for a collection and a novel****

STRAW DOGS OF THE UNIVERSE follows the story of a Chinese father and daughter in late 19th Century America West: the daughter as she searches for her father, the father as he seeks a new life in a difficult land. Following a devastating famine in her village, ten-year-old Sixiang's mother reluctantly sells her to a human trafficker, who promises to bring Sixiang to a better life in America. Her mother gives Sixiang the profits of the sale as well as a photo of her absent father, Guifeng, who had travelled to Gold Mountain years ago before cutting off communication with his family at home. STRAW DOGS OF THE UNIVERSE follows Sixiang's brave journey through the unforgiving landscape of the American West—a place particularly hostile to Chinese immigrants—in hopes of finding her father and reuniting her family. The novel simultaneously traces the story of Guifeng who, little known to Sixiang, has found his attempts to build a new place for himself destabilized by both a long-lost passion from home and the seemingly inescapable violence of this new land.

A deeply felt generational story of little-known immigrant history in the vein of *PACHINKO* or *HOW MUCH OF THESE HILLS IS GOLD*, STRAW DOGS OF THE UNIVERSE considers what makes or breaks the ties of family, and shows the strength and courage it takes to survive in a new world.

PRAISE FOR HAO:

“Words are Ye Chun’s superpower ... These stories are immaculate, beautiful, tattered” —Hillary Kelly, *Vulture*

“Ye Chun captures the complexities of human emotion with a fine chisel and poet's eye, moving deftly between themes of motherhood, loss, and migration. Hao is a richly imagined, satisfying collection, one that invites you to stay, to linger and be moved.”—Te-Ping Chen, author of *Land of Big Numbers*

“Each of Ye’s dozen stories astounds.” —★*Booklist* (starred review)

“Ye Chun’s gorgeous collection turns our attention to Chinese women. They are wives and mothers. They are immigrants and graduate students. They are bridges between continents...More than anything, Hao is a love letter to language.” —*Lit Hub*



YE CHUN is a bilingual Chinese American writer and literary translator. She has published two books of poetry, *Travel Over Water* and *Lantern Puzzle*; a novel in Chinese, 《海上的桃树》 (Peach Tree in the Sea); and four volumes of translations. A recipient of an NEA Literature Fellowship, a Sustainable Arts Foundation Award, and three Pushcart Prizes, she teaches at Providence College and lives in Providence, Rhode Island.

- **World English:** Catapult
- **Translation:** FGLA
- **Books & Final Manuscript available**
- **Publication:** September 2021
- **Domestic Agent:** Caroline Eisenmann

HAO: *Stories*

****Sold in a two-book deal, for a collection and a novel****

An extraordinary debut collection of short stories by a three-time Pushcart Prize winner following Chinese women in both China and the United States who turn to signs and languages as they cross the alien landscapes of migration and motherhood.

“Hao is the most common word in Chinese, a ubiquitous syllable people utter and hear all the time, which is supposed to mean good. But what is hao in this world, where good books are burned, good people condemned, meanness considered a good trait, violence good conduct? People say hao when their eyes are marred with suspicion and dread. They say hao when they are tattered inside.”

By turns reflective and visceral, the stories in *Hao* examine the ways in which women can be silenced as they grapple with sexism and racism, and how they find their own language to define their experience.

In “Gold Mountain,” a young mother hides above a ransacked store during the San Francisco anti-Chinese riot of 1877. In “A Drawer,” an illiterate mother invents a language through drawing. And in “Stars,” a graduate student loses her ability to speak after a stroke. Together, these twelve stories create “an unsettling, hypnotic collection spanning centuries, in which language and children act simultaneously as tethers and casting lines, the reasons and the tools for moving forward after trauma. You’ll come away from this beautiful book changed” (Julia Fine, author of *The Upstairs House*).

Longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction

****An *Indie Next* selection, a *Lit Hub*'s Best Book of 2021, a New York Public Library's Best Book of 2021, & an *Electric Lit*'s Favorite Short Story Collection of 2021****

“Stunning . . . A powerful collection that explores what happens when lives break down, when it becomes hard to find a word—any word—to express profound loss and anguish . . . There's not a story in *Hao* that's anything less than gorgeous.” —*NPR*

“Slow, somber and often elegant, *Hao* thematically foregrounds language. Rather than reproducing the trite ethos of language as power, Ye shows how words operate as weapons, comforts, memories and insufficient — if sometimes beautiful — representations of intent.” —*The NYT Book Review*

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Sulamita Garbuz, Rights Director
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