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# RECENT ACQUISITIONS AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Banks, Kelly
THE ART OF CHAOTIC DISCIPLINE
April 2027 | Hardcover Nonfiction
Translation | Proposal available

Agent: Jean V Naggar Literary Agency | Editor: Michelle Howry

THE ART OF CHAOTIC DISCIPLINE starts from a radical premise: "Productivity" books don't work for everyone because everyone's brains aren't the same. It's natural to have bursts of activity (fire days) followed by less fruitful days (potato days). In this fresh, exciting book, Kelly Banks offers readers a new paradigm of getting things done she calls chaotic discipline. Blending psychological insight, flexibility, permission to chill, and evidence-based strategies, she presents a sustainable, affirming way to work with our natural rhythms (not against them) and rebuild our relationship to productivity and motivation. The result is a compassionate framework that replaces shame with recovery and self-trust.

<u>Kelly Banks</u> is a writer, creator, ADHD coach, and former mental health provider with a master's degree in social work and social policy from the University of Michigan. She draws on her clinical background and lived experience as an ADHDer to coach adults who have been failed by traditional models of productivity and discipline, offering sustainable strategies rooted in flexibility and emotional safety.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Ebury); Korean (Bookie); Portuguese/Brazil (Fontanar); Spanish (PRH Mexico)

Kendall, Josh
I'M NOT HERE TO HUNT RABBITS
April 2027 | Hardcover Fiction
Translation | Manuscript expected in October
Agent: The Gernert Company | Editor: Daphne Durham

I'M NOT HERE TO HUNT RABBITS is a gripping page-turner and fresh spin on the spy thriller about Smith, a private security contractor grieving the death of his handler (and lover) Helen, who is sent to Ethiopia to protect a family but has ulterior motives. It has the intrigue and romance of Lauren Wilkinson's *American Spy* and Olen Steinhauer's *All the Old Knives*, and the on-the-ground verisimilitude of Jason Matthews' *Red Sparrow*.

**Josh Kendall** is the editorial director of Mullholland Books and executive editor for many bestselling and award-winning books.

# **FALL 2026**

D'Ercole, Christine

**TALKING TO OURSELVES: How to Rewrite the Stories That Define Our Lives** 

January 2027 | Hardcover Nonfiction

UK and Translation | Manuscript expected March 2026 Agent: Park, Fine & Brower | Editor: Michelle Howry

A self-proclaimed "big-boned ballerina" turned New York City bike messenger, Christine D'Ercole was a pro at undercutting herself and downplaying her achievements. But the more time she spent on the seat of her trusty bicycle—first winding her way through dangerous Manhattan streets, then navigating the even-more-treacherous paths of the high-flying fitness world—the more she started to think of herself as an athlete. Along the way, she developed a mantra—I am, I can, I will, I do—that changed the way she talked to (and about) herself, flipping the negative self-talk script that had held her back for far too long. Today Christine is not just a Masters World Champion cyclist and beloved Peloton instructor; she is a teacher who uses her hard-won wisdom to transform the way her students think and speak about themselves. TALKING TO OURSELVES shares the proven tools, exercises, and writing prompts she's developed in her acclaimed Wordshop<sup>TM</sup> program, offering readers a way to flip the script and start talking to themselves with kindness, respect, and love.

<u>Christine D'Ercole</u> is a writer, speaker, decorated competitive track cyclist, and original Peloton cycling instructor. She's the founder of Wordshop™ self-talk workshops and retreats. When Christine is not working, she's tending to a very needy Mr. Cat, gardening with her husband, or baking cakes with her daughter.

Franco, Marisa G.

**WORTH: The Surprising New Science of Self-Esteem and Secure Attachment** 

**September 2026 | Hardcover Nonfiction** 

**UK and Translation | Manuscript expected early November** 

Agent: Calligraph | Editor: Michelle Howry

Friendship expert Marisa G. Franco wrote the *New York Times* bestselling book *Platonic*, about how to become a securely attached friend. But, after finishing it, she realized that connecting securely with *others* was a different skill set entirely than connecting securely with *herself*. Simply put: the anxiety, shame, and trauma in her past was torpedoing her self-esteem and undermining her sense of inner self-worth. Until she could figure out how to heal that, it didn't matter how securely attached she might be to other people. She needed, like so many of us, to the deeper work to become secure, to feel worthy, to treat herself as if she truly mattered. WORTH introduces actionable practices that help us change the damaging memories that keep us insecure. This book shows us how to love our true selves – by reconciling the person we always wanted to be with the perfectly imperfect person we have become.

<u>Dr. Marisa G. Franco</u> is a professor at the University of Maryland and author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Platonic*. She writes for *Psychology Today* and she has been a featured psychologist in *The New York Times*, NPR, and *Good Morning America*.

Johnson, Micaiah
THE UNHAUNTING
September 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript expected mid-October
Agent: Donald Maass Literary Agency | Editor: Ruoxi Chen

At the end of the Civil War, a daughter of the confederacy made a wish: to build a house where nothing bad could happen. But peace came at a price, and one hundred and seventy years later Shantell and her friends are about to discover where all that darkness ended up. When Shantell's best friend, Avery, inherits a house big enough to make their dreams of a sanctuary come true, she's too cautious to be optimistic. A lifetime of loss—her father to the Iraq war, her brother to police violence, and her mother to suicide—has taught her cynicism, and even though Avery swears the house has never experienced a tragedy, she goes along expecting everything from black mold to evil spirits. But not only is the house in better shape than they'd expected, it makes them better too: Shantell's anxiety stops flaring up, terminally shallow Avery is suddenly capable of deeper emotions. Tobias, Avery's older brother and their contractor for the job, even stops chain smoking. There's an eeriness to the calm, and it's almost a relief when they realize they do not walk alone in Abernathy House. If nothing bad has never happened here, where are all these ghosts coming from? As they dig into the house's history, Shantell, Avery, and Tobias discover that there's only one thing worse than a house that's haunted: a house that desperately wants to be.

<u>Micaiah Johnson</u> is a Carl Brandon and Compton Crook Award-winning author. Her debut novel, *The Space Between Worlds*, was a *Sunday Times* Bestseller, a Locus Award finalist, an Editors' Choice at *The New York Times* and was named one of best books of 2020 and one of the best science fiction books of the last decade by NPR. Her follow-up novel, *Those Beyond the Wall*, a timely look at violence during apartheid, was released in March 2024 and has been named as a Best Books of 2024 by NPR, *Reactor*, *Esquire* and *Lithub*.

Katsu, Alma
INCARNATE
September 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript expected in November
Agent: InkWell Management | Editor: Daphne Durham

Marion Wagner has spent her whole life wanting nothing more than to be seen. But after failing to make her mark (any mark, really) as an influencer, she takes a job at a company focused on cutting-edge deepfake technology. And there, in secret, is where creates her salvation. *Isabella*. An impossibly gorgeous girl who takes social media by storm. Marion's code is brilliant, and Isabella seems real. So real that she garners millions of followers. Brands beg to partner with her. Everyone wants to meet her IRL. The adoration—and the cash—flows in. Marion is finally happy. She's getting all the attention she ever wanted—isn't she? Then the cracks begin to show. Marion can barely stay ahead of the partnership requests, and love letters and the rabid fans filling her DMs trying to track Isabella down. All this time working in secret with all this pressure is getting to Marion—she can't tell where she ends, and her creation begins. And when someone gets a little too close to her secret, a violent confrontation sends Marion on the run, forcing her to confront what she's willing to sacrifice to keep her secrets. A modern reimagining of Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, INCARNATE is an illuminating, haunting tale of algorithmic worship and beauty that can kill.

<u>Alma Katsu</u> is the author of *Fiend, The Hunger, The Deep, The Fervor,* and five other novels. Her work has won or been nominated for the Bram Stoker, Locus, Western Heritage, and International Thriller Writers awards, among others.

Previous publisher: UK Commonwealth (Titan)

Leamer, Laurence

LADIES' MAN: The Women Loved, Left, and Betrayed by JFK

October 2026 | Hardcover Nonfiction

**UK Commonwealth | Manuscript expected early November** 

Agent: David Halpern Literary Management | Editor: Michelle Howry

John Fitzgerald Kennedy was a born leader—bold, charismatic, and able to charm his peers and disarm critics with nothing more than a witty phrase and a winning smile. He was also obsessive, manipulative, and haunted by his complex desires. More than drugs, JFK was addicted to remarkable women, collecting them voraciously and carelessly on his rise to the White House and beyond. In LADIES' MAN, bestselling biographer Laurence Leamer reveals the harrowing, definitive life of JFK, from his early years to his shocking assassination, through the lens of the diverse, fascinating women he surrounded himself with. From his early connections with women like Pamela Turnure and Diana De Vegh, to his affair with Scandinavian aristocrat Gunilla Von Post just before marrying the stately Jacqueline Bouvier, to his Oval Office interactions with Judith Exner and Mimi Beardsley, to his liaisons to Marilyn Monroe before her death, JFK's relationships were multifaceted and often tragic. Insightful and wildly entertaining, LADIES' MAN gives voice to the women left as a footnote in JFK's legacy, while portraying a larger-than-life existence as troubled as it was extraordinary.

New York Times bestselling author <u>Laurence Leamer</u> is a leading biographer of the rich and powerful, including *Capote's Women*, *Hitchcock's Blondes*, *Warhol's Muses*, and *Madness Under the Royal Palms*, among many other books.

Previous publisher: UK Commonwealth (Bloomsbury Continuum)

Lupica, Mike
ROBERT B. PARKER'S FRAMED
November 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript expected late March 2026
Agent: Creative Artists Agency | Editor: Tom Colgan

There has never been a more admired figure in the history of the Boston Police Department than Martin Quirk, Spenser's friend. Now an unknown adversary has devised an elaborate plan to ruin his reputation—and his life. His bosses believe the lie. So does the whole city. The BPD won't allow Quirk to defend himself and clear his name. That's Spenser's job.

Robert B. Parker was the author of seventy books, including the legendary Spenser detective series, the novels featuring Police Chief Jesse Stone, the acclaimed Virgil Cole-Everett Hitch Westerns, and the Sunny Randall novels. Winner of the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Award and long considered the undisputed dean of American crime fiction, he died in January 2010.

<u>Mike Lupica</u> is a Hall of Fame sports columnist and *New York Times* bestselling author of more than forty works of fiction and nonfiction, in addition to being a frequent co-writer with James Patterson.

Previous publisher: UK Commonwealth (No Exit Press)

McGinnis, Mindy
THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST
January 2027 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript expected in December
Agent: Folio Literary Management | Editor: Daphne Durham

Set list? Check. Hair and makeup? Check. Alibis? ...Check. A year ago, Gretchen Murphy's bedroom-produced breakup anthem accidentally became the internet's favorite squat song, catapulting her into internet stardom. Now, she's landed her dream gig: opening for Fae Deeds, the most beloved pop icon on earth. Gretchen has a front-row seat to the life she's always dreamed of, filled with stadiums, sequins, and a feature track that could launch her into the stratosphere. The price? Keep the beat, keep the secrets, and keep the bodies from piling up. As Gretchen finds herself pulled deeper into Fae's orbit, she gets a peek behind the curtain. As it turns out, Fae's chart-topping hits require a certain kind of... inspiration. Not just the heartbreak kind, but the axe-wielding, totally illegal, googling "how to properly dispose of human remains" kind. But Fae's only targeting toxic, lying, cheating men—people who really deserve it. So, it can't be that bad... right? As the tour crescendos and tensions between the two women build, Gretchen must decide what—and who—she's willing to sacrifice for fame.

<u>Mindy McGinnis</u> is the Edgar Award-winning author of *Heroine, The Female of the Species,* and other novels. A ninth-generation farmer and former school librarian, she still lives and works in her hometown in Ohio.

McKee, Rebecca
MR. MENDLEBEE'S PANDIMENSIONAL LITERARY REPOSITORY (AND YARN)
September 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript expected in October
Agent: Trellis Literary Management | Editor: Molly Donovan

Living at the center of the universe, Mr. Mendlebee's Pandimensional Literary Repository (and Yarn) has always been home to lost things, forgotten objects, and dark and dangerous items best left unseen (and yes, that includes books with teeth). With help from the Yeti-like Book Keeper, wizened Yarn Master, and Muriel the cat, the store opens its doors only to those who need it most, with one caveat: its patrons can never return once they've found what they seek. But Mr. Mendlebee's is hiding a secret. The repository is coming undone and won't stop until the truth is out. With an echoing knock that sounds from nowhere and a yarn-fueled apocalypse on the horizon, the bookstore's staff enlist the help of the first person to find the store more than once, a young woman investigating her great-great grandmother's disappearance, alongside a PhD student desperate to escape the ghosts of his past, who are surprised by the companionship they find with one another. Will all their combined forces be enough to save the bookstore and the universe that surrounds it? This rescue won't be easy, especially when these particular heroes will have to learn to lean on each other before they have any hope of reclaiming the world they've known.

**Rebecca McKee** is a graduate of the University of Iowa. Her work has received the Iowa Chapbook Prize and has appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *Grain Magazine*, *apt*, among other publications. This is her debut novel.

Singer, Matthew

FUNNY BUSINESS: The Old-School Wedding Crashers and Knocked-Up Virgins Who Changed Comedy

Forever

October 2026 | Hardcover Nonfiction

UK and Translation | Manuscript expected January 2026 Agent: United Talent Agency | Editor: Michelle Howry

If you were a movie-goer in the early aughts, you had a front row seat to what in retrospect is a golden age of comedy—an era when brash actors like Ben Stiller, Seth Rogan, Will Ferrell, Owen and Luke Wilson, and Vince Vaughn transitioned from supporting roles to the center of the screen. In FUNNY BUSINESS, award-winning author and film critic Matt Singer traces the path that took these gonzo stars and directors from the fringes of comedy to the mainstream—beginning on tiny stages like Second City and the Groundlings, then infiltrating into talent incubators like SNL, eventually leading to Big Screen domination in Hollywood. Along the way, he offers insider stories of the films that raised a generation, including: *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, *Zoolander, Borat, Old School*, and *The Hangover*. How did these movies and their stars come to dominate a generation of moviemaking? Who won—and who was left out—of this comedy boom? Can studio comedies come back in our digital and streaming era? A love letter to a bygone era, FUNNY BUSINESS celebrates the legacy of comedies that came before and points the way forward to a (possible) new future for cinema.

<u>Matt Singer</u> is the editor and film critic of ScreenCrush.com and a member of the New York Film Critics Circle. He is the author of *Marvel's Spider-Man* and *Opposable Thumbs*.

Sosa, Mia
THE GIRL FROM IPANEMA
January 2027 | Trade Paperback Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript expected in January 2026
Agent: Nancy Yost Literary Agency | Editor: Kate Dresser

Bianca Thompson can't catch a break. After experiencing multiple setbacks in her pursuit of becoming a documentary filmmaker, she's finally accepted that fetching coffees is the closest she'll ever get to a movie set. Her luck changes, however, when she wins a prestigious filmmaking grant that could completely change the trajectory of her career. Her pitch? A behind-the-scenes documentary about Brazil's first all-female samba school, the president and founder of which is Bianca's aunt, Camila Conçalves Almeida. Never mind that Bianca doesn't speak a lick of Portuguese. Never mind that Bianca knows nothing about samba schools. Never mind that she's never even *met* her aunt. But when Bianca finds a series of letters sent between her aunt and her mother, highlighting just how strained their relationship was before Bianca's mother passed, Bianca is caught between prioritizing family and the truth, and finally making a name for herself with her documentary. But which story deserves her attention more? Or more importantly, which story should be the one that Bianca tells?

<u>Mia Sosa</u> is a *USA Today* bestselling author of romantic comedies and contemporary romances that celebrate our multicultural world. She has received praise from *The Washington Post, Bustle*, NPR, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Popsugar*, *Buzzfeed*, *Oprah Daily*, and many more.

Rights sold: Portuguese/Brazil (HarperCollins Brasil)

<u>Previous publishers</u>: UK Commonwealth (Headline Eternal); Portuguese/Brazil (HarperCollins Brasil); Spanish (V&R)

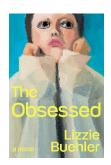
# **SUMMER 2026**

Blake, Ellis
NO PRISONERS
June 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript available
Agent: InkWell Management | Editor: Daphne Durham

Hannah Lyon is a brilliant, celebrated physicist, employed by a think tank outside of Albuquerque to question the very nature of how the world works. And her husband is missing. But not only is she struggling to cope with his sudden, baffling disappearance, no one believes her when she insists that Adam would never just leave. He was a loving husband, but more than that, a devoted father. He would never leave their young son Joe behind. Detective Aloysius Hunt assures Hannah they're doing everything they can to find Adam, but Hannah doesn't trust him. Lou Hunt has done nothing but stonewall her at every turn. With no help from the authorities, Hannah is on her own to find Adam and bring him home, but uncovering the truth means revealing dark secrets in her husband's past, and her own. Secrets better left buried. When Hannah notices a red SUV stalking her every move, she takes matters into her own hands and sets NO PRISONERS speeding towards its shocking conclusion.

<u>Ellis Blake</u> is the pseudonym of Ben Sanders, award-winning author of *American Blood* and other books in the Marshall Grade series. He lives in New Zealand.

Rights sold: Australia & New Zealand (Hachette Aotearoa New Zealand)



Buehler, Lizzie
THE OBSESSED
June 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript available
Agent: Janklow & Nesbit Associates | Editor: Tarini Sipahimalani

Astrid is obsessed with the Russian-American novelist Sofiya Sova, whose life trajectory serendipitously parallels Astrid's own and whose writing seems to encompass every thought and anxiety that Astrid has ever had. Sofiya Sova isn't the only Sofiya that Astrid is

fixated on—she's had a longstanding obsession with her boyfriend's ex-girlfriend, who also happens to be Russian and named Sofiya. In hopes of gaining the purpose she so desperately craves, she begins her PhD with the resolve to live her life after the ethos gleaned from Sofiya Sova's novel. But she and her boyfriend break up, Astrid quickly falls into a new relationship with Elijah, who it turns out is a Sofiya Sova superfan just like her and dated the less famous Sofiya in college. As Astrid seeks to transcribe the love plot of Sofiya Sova's novel onto her own life, Elijah begins to pull away and Astrid is left flailing in a life scaffolded by obsession. With erudite humor and an endearing sensitivity to millennial neuroses, THE OBSESSED explores the trials of modern dating, the strange ennui of academia, and the question of how to create a world for yourself within and without the confines of your influences.

<u>Lizzie Buehler</u> is the translator of *The Disaster Tourist* (winner of the CWA Dagger for crime fiction in translation), *Art on Fire* and *Table for One* by Yun Ko-eun, and *Korean Teachers* by Seo Su-Jin. She holds an MFA in literary translation from the University of Iowa and has studied comparative literature at Harvard and Princeton. THE OBSESSED is her debut novel.

Currie, Ron
WE WILL SEE YOU BLEED
July 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript available
Agent: Writers House | Editor: Daphne Durham

It's late summer 1984, and Babs Dionne's hometown of Waterville, Maine is on the verge of collapse. A strike at the paper mill has dragged on for a year, leaving everyone broke and exhausted. As president of the local union, Babs has presided over Little Canada's downfall. She's sworn off violence since she killed her rapist Sacha Marquis fifteen years earlier. When Babs' best friend and sister, Rita, returns home after five years away, she is shocked by the state of things. And as the strike comes to a head, Rita notices something else: the men may be broken, but the women are furious, ready to do whatever it takes—legal or otherwise—to take back Little Canada. They just need Babs to be the woman who emerged from the woods fifteen years ago, covered in Sacha's blood. Soon enough, Babs faces what she has known all along: she is that woman. And the only way to fix things is to assume control. Completely. Ruthlessly. In short order, Babs and her friends find themselves fighting a war on multiple fronts: with the chief of police, with mill management, and with Harold Aucoin, a Franco mobster from out of town who's been hired to put down Babs' rebellion by whatever means necessary. Poignant, unflinching, and brimming with sharp humor, this is an unputdownable second installment in this electrifying crime thriller series by critically acclaimed author Ron Currie.

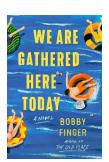
Ron Currie is the author of five novels. He has won the New York Public Library's Young Lions Award, the Addison M. Metcalf Award, the Alex Award, and the Pushcart Prize.

<u>Rights sold</u>: UK Commonwealth (Atlantic Books); German (btb)
<u>Previous publishers</u>: UK Commonwealth (Atlantic Books); French (Flammarion); German (btb)

Ellis, David
KEEP THEM CLOSE
June 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript expected in November
Agent: Dunow, Carlson & Lerner | Editor: Melanie Fried

Siblings Allison and Luke have been through a lot together. They've always stood by each other. They'd do anything for each other. When Allison's husband, Finley, is murdered, Luke is right there by her side. Until the murder investigation exposes secrets that could tear their family apart. An illicit affair. A decades-old accident. A shocking betrayal. How do they explain Finley's death? And why are the siblings suddenly avoiding each other? As past tensions resurface, the truth might lie a little too close to home...

<u>David Ellis</u> is a judge and a #1 *New York Times* bestselling, Edgar Award—winning author of eleven novels of crime fiction, as well as ten books coauthored with James Patterson.



Finger, Bobby
WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY
June 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript expected mid-October
Agent: Howard Morhaim Literary Agency | Editor: Ashley Di Dio

At 36, Finlay Hightower has become the ultimate wedding guest, having attended nineteen incredible, cringe-worthy, and disastrous celebrations with his best friends. Their secret to surviving wedding chaos? The Hour of Disrespect—a pact to reserve judgement

to one hour after the couple's Big Day, protecting the wedding glow and leaving only with the good memories. But this next wedding will test their decade-old tradition in more ways than one. Now, one of their own is getting married—Fin's beloved cousin, Elaine—at a Wild West-themed venue in the sweltering Texas summer heat that is as meticulously itineraried as it is kitchy. Reserving opinions won't be easy, and on top of that Fin has a secret that threatens his officiant duties: he's just gotten engaged to the man of his dreams, and a sense of unease has him questioning if he believes in the institution of marriage at all. As Fin joins the rambunctious and increasingly unhinged "queer table", old friendships are tested and new relationships are formed. Will each guest hold back their particular views on love, commitment, and the wedding before Elaine can say "I do"? And if not, could those confessions ultimately give Fin the courage to uncover his truth?

**Bobby Finger** is the author of *The Old Place* and *Four Squares*, and cohost of the popular celebrity and entertainment podcast, *Who? Weekly*. A Texas native, he lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Gómez, Cynthia MUÑECA June 2026 | Hardcover Fiction UK and Translation | Manuscript available Agent: Liza Dawson Associates | Editor: Daphne Durham

It is 1968 Oakland, and Natalia Fuentes has been hearing rumors about the beautiful Violeta Miramontes. A young heiress to Spanish colonial wealth, she has been left paralyzed by a mysterious illness. But Nati is certain that this is the work of dark magic. Nati knows just how important image is to the Miramontes family—her mother had worked for the family for years, before she was fired when her health began to decline—and she knows just how much they'll be willing to pay to save it. Working her way into the house as Violeta's caretaker, Nati is at her bedside day and night and immediately discovers her suspicions of dark magic are true. But who cursed Violeta? Her dangerous husband? Or her duplicitous mother? As feelings between the two women bloom into romance, Nati grows more and more reckless. She wants revenge—for Violetta, and for her family. When unraveling the spell around Violeta becomes more complicated the dangerous than expected, Nati is forced to face her own ghosts— ones she hoped would stay gone forever. Riveting and richly layered, MUÑECA explores how far one will go to save the person they love—even if that means damning themselves.

**Cynthia Gómez** is a Tin House and VONA alumnus whose short fiction is published or forthcoming in *Fantasy Magazine*, *Strange Horizons*, *Nightmare Magazine*, and elsewhere. She is the author of THE NIGHTMARE BOX AND OTHER STORIES (Cursed Morsels Press).

Herrera, Jennifer
SIREN SAYS
August 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript available

Agent: Heather Jackson Literary Agency | Editor: Brianna Fairman

Raven Wynn knows the ancient Celtic magic that runs through her veins brings nothing but chaos. It doomed her ancestors. It killed her mother. It's the reason she's now bound by a painful curse, one that will destroy her if she can't find a way to break its hold. Raven's estranged aunt, Delilah Wynn, comes storming into her life and points her towards a cure. But Raven's freedom from pain comes at an unwanted price: her magic has been fully unbound, making her more powerful—and more dangerous—than anyone thought possible. Desperate to tame powers she never wanted, Raven makes a pact with Delilah: in exchange for learning to control her magic, Raven will help capture a mysterious spirit called a gwll. With the help of her new friend, Cherry, and the infuriatingly handsome stone smith, Idris, Raven learns that capturing the spirit is even more dangerous than she imagined—one false move and the gwyll has the power to trap her soul—forever.

<u>Jennifer Herrera</u> is the author of *The Hunter*. She is a former philosophy grad student turned literary agent, who is fascinated by the stories we tell ourselves to live and the lies we cling to that sabotage our chances of a good life.

Meyers, Laura Marie
THE MASH-UP
July 2026 | Trade Paperback Original
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript available
Agent: Andrea Brown Literary Agency | Editor: Kate Dresser

Mansion. Apartment. Shack. House. Ruby Wynne is a staunch rule-follower who lives by the numbers. So when a surprising breakup ruins all her well-laid plans—on her thirty-fifth birthday, no less—Ruby makes a wish to get her life back...only to wake up inside a M.A.S.H. game from seventh grade. Living in a Technicolor mansion, driving a tie-dye Jeep, and running a roller-disco restaurant, all of Ruby's childhood dreams have come true—except for one. Ruby's "other half" is supposed to be Penn Hayes, her brother's annoying, and annoyingly handsome, best friend. But there's zero romance between them. Just like in real life, all they share is sarcastic banter. With no rules to follow and desperate to return to reality, Ruby must make her best guess at an escape plan: win Penn's heart so the game comes completely true. It's unthinkable. On Ruby's list of dos and don'ts, Penn Hayes is a lifelong don't. But as Ruby navigates the magical world she dreamed up at thirteen, she wonders if, by finally throwing out her rules, she can find her way home to the life and love she deserves.

<u>Laura Marie Meyers</u> is an author and journalist whose work is focused on books, trends, and pop culture. As an interviewer and event moderator, she's led conversations with actors, experts, and bestselling authors. THE MASH-UP is her first novel.



Monaghan, Annabel
DOLLY ALL THE TIME
May 2026 | Trade Paperback Original
Translation | Manuscript available

Agent: Marly Rusoff & Associates | Editor: Tara Singh-Carlson

Dolly Brick is a woman you can rely on. She's never met a problem she couldn't solve. Not when her mom left when she was ten and her busy dad and perplexed siblings needed taking care of, and not at thirty-nine when she moves home with her son to Wickford,

Rhode Island for the summer to keep her dad and brother from losing the house. So when she comes across Stewart Wickford—annoyingly handsome scion of the Wickford family—with a flat tire and a newspaper headlining how his fiancé dumped him for a NY Yankee, it's in her nature to help. But the arrangement Stewart proposes is more than she bargained for, because for the first time in her life she's forced to make space for something other than taking care of everyone else. As public dinners and high society benefits turn into boat rides and Red Sox games, Dolly starts to feel something more than helpful. But she's never relied on anyone besides herself, can she really start now?

<u>Annabel Monaghan</u> is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *It's a Love Story, Summer Romance, Same Time Next Summer*, and *Nora Goes Off Script*. Her novels have been translated into twenty-one languages.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Head of Zeus)

<u>Previous publishers</u>: UK Commonwealth (Head of Zeus); Bulgarian (AMG); Czech (Grada); Dutch (Bruna); Estonian (Eesti Raamat); French (Eilean); German (Bastei Lübbe); Greek (Psichogios); Hebrew (Tchelet); Hungarian (Next21); Italian (Mondadori); Lithuanian (Svajoniu Knygos); Macedonian (Sakam); Polish (Insignis); Portuguese/Brazil (V&R); Portuguese/Portugal (Topseller); Romanian (Litera); Slovak (Zeleny Kocur); Slovene (Desk); Turkish (Nemesis); Ukrainian (Vivat)

Perri, Camille
SOCIAL ANIMALS
June 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript available

Agent: Levine Greenberg Rostan Literary Agency | Editor: Kate Dresser

Val Caruso, Alex Reed, and June Kennerson could not come from more different worlds—Val is a toughtalking private investigator; Alex is reticent, nervous and on the run from her past; and June is an athlete turned housewife whose true love is her pup. When Val is hired by June's husband to find out if June is cheating on him, it sets these three women on a collision course. Amid a colorful cast of characters who spend time at the shabby but beloved Hamilton Park Dog Park, they find they have more in common than they thought. Soon June is nearly brave enough to aim for what she wants, Alex finds excitement she never expected, and Val is reluctantly opening her heart to the most high-maintenance dog she's ever met. But when their secrets catch up with them, will their newfound friendships be able to withstand the pressure? Or will they find themselves in the doghouse?

<u>Camille Perri</u> is the author of *The Assistants* and *When Katie Met Cassidy*. She shares her time between New York City and the Hudson Valley with her wife and their Brussels griffon named Pip.

<u>Previous publishers</u>: UK Commonwealth (Piatkus); French (Denoel); German (dtv); Hebrew (Keter); Korean (Booklogcompany); Polish (Kobiece); Portuguese/Portugal (Topside); Spanish (Planeta Mexicana)

Pons, Chip
DEARLY DEPARTED
June 2026 | Trade Paperback Original
Translation | Manuscript expected mid-October
Agent: Sandra Dijkstra Literary Agency | Editor: Tarini Sipahimalani

Hayden Harlow, once the mighty Hades, has spent centuries quietly resenting his fall from immortality. Stripped of his godhood by the allegedly irreversible Immortal Retirement Act, Hayden now runs Harlow and Sons Funeral Home—a front for his eternal sentencing among mortals and an anchor to his former purpose. Still, he's determined to find a loophole, if only The Fates at City Hall will stop messing with him. Enter Levi Wilder: a florist with an artist's heart, an infectious smile, and a gift for seeing beauty in life's messiest moments. When Hayden storms into Levi's shop to complain about a bouquet of sunflowers—an offensive choice for a funeral, in his opinion—their worlds collide in a clash of differing ideologies. Hayden is all shadows and restraint; Levi is all sunshine and charm. But beneath the friction lies an undeniable spark that neither can ignore. As Hayden and Levi find their connection blossoming, the weight of Hayden's burdens start to lighten. But is finally letting go enough to fall in love what Hayden really needs? Or might giving into temptation ruin his century-long efforts? And what will be left of Levi when all is said and done?

<u>Chip Pons</u> spent his entire life swooning over the love stories filling up his shelves until one day, he was brave—or delusional—enough to write his own. He currently lives in the heart of Washington, DC. and when he is not writing or chasing his pup, Margot, around, he can be found daydreaming of untold happily ever afters or on <u>Bookstagram</u> shouting about the books he loves. And snacking, like, all the time.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Renegade Books)

Robinette, Melody
THESE VILE HEARTS
June 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript available
Agent: Park, Fine & Brower | Editor: Daphne Durham

Maddox Sinclair has run out of options. No job means no health insurance —a death sentence for a type one diabetic like herself. She flees to the forest to make a desperate deal with a dryad queen: kill the Redwood King and be cured of the illness that threatens her life. In the redwood treetops, Prince Castor, is cursed—anyone who loves him is doomed to die. Like Maddox, he has made an equally unwise pact with his brother, the Redwood King: get a mortal to fall in love with him by solstice and be free of his curse forever. When Maddox mistakes Castor for the king, sparks fly and troubles ensue. Each must decide what is more important—survival and freedom, or the love they (kind of, almost) feel in their traitorous, vile hearts.

<u>Melody Robinette</u> is a speculative fiction author with a love of all things gothic and macabre. When she isn't reading, writing, or checking her blood sugar app, she can be found playing D&D, binge-watching *Love Island*, or fawning over her feline son Edgar Allan Poe Tato. This is her debut novel.

Roche, Máire BROMANTASY June 2026 | Trade Paperback Original UK and Translation | Manuscript available Agent: InkWell Management | Editor: Ruoxi Chen

Juniper Reilly is good at only two things: demolishing a pint of mead and finding the perfect skincare routine. Everything else—taking care of the farm, bartering for goods, any sort of manual labor—falls to Juniper's best friend, the absurdly capable, endlessly patient Morn Elmthorn (Mo, for short). But when Juniper accidentally volunteers them both for a quest to kill a fearsome monster, he knows he's finally gotten in over his head. Juniper hates camping, he hates the dark, and there's no way all these foraged mushrooms are going to sit well in his stomach. One thing he doesn't hate? How good Mo's thighs look in his questing pants—he doesn't have time to think about that, though, with a monster to hunt and their futures on the line. But monsters come in all shapes and sizes. When Juniper and Mo realize that the terrifying beast they've sworn to kill is just a scared little girl torn from their family, they're off to find not only the true villain of the story, but maybe even a happy ending.

<u>Máire Roche</u> is a former teacher who now dreams up new worlds and characters for a living. She also writes thrillers and mysteries under the name Mary E. Roach.

Winning, Josh
BE STILL MY UNBEATING HEART
August 2026 | Trade Paperback Original
Translation | Manuscript available

Agent: Perez Literary & Entertainment | Editor: Brianna Fairman

Bastian may be a vampire, but he doesn't bite. Not anymore, at least. These days, Bastian just wants to live his best undead life: visit charming Italian villages, maybe dance in the square with a cute boy, all with Whitby, his best friend (and magical talking cat) by his side. What he doesn't want? To stumble across a dead body on the beach, a girl who appears to have been killed by a vampire. It wasn't Bastian. He swears—on his own grave. But the local police chief doesn't trust Bastian, or any vampire, for that matter, so he assigns detective Nico De Luca to keep an eye on him until his trial. And while Bastian normally wouldn't complain about having a gorgeous, mysterious man by his side, he has more important things to worry about, because the police chief has called the Vampire Council, and if the real killer is still at large when they arrive, the whole town could be in danger. As more bodies begin to pile up, Bastian, Whitby, and De Luca must get to the bottom of who in Vernazza is framing vampires, before it's too late.

<u>Josh Winning</u> is the critically acclaimed author of *Burn the Negative*, which was long-listed for a Bram Stoker Award, *Heads Will Roll* and *The Shadow Glass*.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Michael Joseph)

Previous publishers: UK Commonwealth (Michael Joseph); Czech (Euromedia); German (Suhrkamp)

## **SPRING 2026**



Akers, W.M.
TO KILL A COOK
February 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript available
Agent: Dystel, Goderich & Bourret | Editor: Daphne Durham

Nobody in Manhattan eats better than Bernice Black. It's spring 1972 and she's the city's busiest restaurant critic, juggling her family with the demands of fine dining. She talks fast, walks fast, can't stand BS—and she writes the way she eats: with sympathy, humor and

love. Her favorite chef is also her mentor, Laurent Tirel, who introduced ultra-luxe French food to the city, making history—and countless enemies—along the way. Stopping by his kitchen one morning, Bernice is shocked to discover Laurent's severed head floating in a mold of jellied aspic. With layoffs looming at the newspaper, she stakes her career on a desperate gamble: promising her editor she can catch Laurent's killer before the week is out. Chasing the scoop of a lifetime with a murderer on her tail, Bernice dives into sleuthing, determined to hold onto her messy, wonderful life and serve up justice at the same time.

<u>W.M. Akers</u> is a novelist and game designer. His debut, *Westside*, was a *New York Times* notable book and spawned a critically-acclaimed three book series.

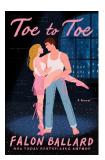


Baird, Leslie
SALOMÉ
May 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK Commonwealth | Manuscript available
Agent: Janklow & Nesbit Associates | Editor: Tarini Sipahimalani

Courtney notices Salomé the moment she steps on the plane. Courtney had never seriously doubted that she was straight before, but Salomé is quicksilver, impossibly tender, magnetic, and, best of all for incurable Francophile Courtney, French. When

Salomé invites Courtney to her small town in the Loire, Châteaubriant, Courtney doesn't even need to think about it. But things are, almost immediately, a little odd. While Courtney feels right at home with Salomé, Salomé's mother's odd behavior has Courtney on guard. The house is bespeckled with cameras, and while she is there, Courtney has dreams from which she can't wake up, in which she hears strange voices, intoning, Don't open your eyes... At the same time, something is amiss with Salomé's dangerously charismatic stepfather Marco, whose pyramid-scheme vitamin company offers baby steps into an even more insidious group obsessed with eternal life... or is it an actual cult? There is a story here, the kind that could make a career—if it doesn't kill you first.

**Leslie Baird** is an author and ghostwriter. She holds an MFA in fiction from Sewanee, the University of the South, and lives in Europe. SALOMÉ is her debut novel.



Ballard, Falon
TOE TO TOE
March 2026 | Trade Paperback Original
Translation | Manuscript available
Agent: The Whalen Agency | Editor: Kate Dresser

Ballerina Allegra Hart has been working most of her life to achieve one goal: to become a principal dancer at Ballet New York. So when her director starts holding auditions for the lead role in the company's latest production, Allegra sees this as her chance—maybe

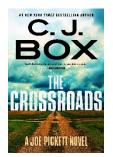
her *last* chance. The only problem is that the director wants someone with sex appeal, and after she unapologetically turned down his drunken advances one night, he tells her he doesn't think she's up to the task. Luckily, Allegra is introduced to a Magic Mike-esque troupe of dancers at her sister's bachelorette, who are not only hot but also happen to be classically trained. Allegra convinces the lead dancer to help her learn how to loosen up and be sexy on stage. In exchange, she promises to help him choreograph a new partner piece for his show. As Cord and Allegra get to work, fighting for their futures, they quickly find they're also fighting the growing attraction between them. Allegra can't allow a man to distract her from her career. But what if she could have both? Or will her involvement with Cord only threaten to take away everything she's ever dreamed of?

<u>Falon Ballard</u> is the *USA Today* bestselling author of several rom coms and the co-host of the *Happy to Meet Cute* podcast.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Headline Eternal)

<u>Previous publishers</u>: UK Commonwealth (Headline Eternal); Bulgarian (Ciela Norma); Catalan (Planeta/Crossbooks); Estonian (Eesti Raamat); Italian (Newton Compton); Polish (Muza); Spanish

(Planeta/Crossbooks); Turkish (Beyaz Balina)



Box, C.J.
THE CROSSROADS: A Joe Pickett Novel
February 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
Translation | Manuscript available

Agent: Ann Rittenberg Literary Agency | Editor: Daphne Durham

Marybeth Pickett gets the call she has always dreaded: her husband Joe has been found in his pickup truck with a gunshot wound to the head. Joe was found at Antler Creek Junction, a crossroads connecting three ranches. Each road leading to a dysfunctional,

dangerous family. Each family with a different bone to pick with the game warden. Marybeth and the new sheriff assume that Joe was ambushed by one of them, but they have no idea which one since Joe didn't say where he was going or why. With Joe unconscious and fighting for his life with Marybeth at his side, Sheridan, April, and Lucy race to find the truth about what happened to their father, before it's too late.

<u>C. J. Box</u> is the author of twenty-six Joe Pickett novels, eight stand-alone novels, and a story collection. He has won the Edgar, Anthony, Macavity, Gumshoe, and two Barry awards, as well as the French Prix Calibre .38, the Western Heritage Award for Literature, and two Spur Awards.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Head of Zeus)

<u>Previous publishers</u>: UK Commonwealth (Head of Zeus); Bulgarian (Art Plus); Danish (Klim); Dutch (Luitingh-Sijthoff); French (Calmann-Levy); German (Heyne); Hebrew (Am Oved); Italian (Piemme); Japanese (Tokyo Sogensha); Korean (Gimm-Young)



Compton, Johnny
DEAD FIRST
February 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript available
Agent: The Tobias Agency | Editor: Daphne Durham

When private investigator Shyla Sinclair is invited to the looming mansion of mysterious Texan tycoon Saxton Braith, she's more than a little suspicious. The last thing she expects to see that night is Braith's assistant driving an iron rod straight through the back of his

skull. Scratch that—the last thing she expects to see is Braith's resurrection afterward. Braith can't die, it turns out, but he has no explanation for his immortality, and very few intact memories of his past. Which is why he wants to pay Shyla millions to investigate him and bring his long-buried history to light. Shyla can't help but be intrigued, but she's also trapped by the offer. Now that she's seen what he is, she can't unsee it, and her curiosity is already forging ahead for answers. That and the fact that Braith knows she's the only person he can trust with his secret, because he knows all about hers. Bold, atmospheric, and utterly frightening, Johnny Compton's DEAD FIRST is spine-chilling supernatural horror about the pursuit of power and the undying need for reckoning.

Johnny Compton is the Stoker Award nominated author of THE SPITE HOUSE and DEVILS KILL DEVILS.



Fehr, Colette
THE COST OF QUIET: How to Love Stronger by Showing Up and Speaking Out
February 2026 | Hardcover nonfiction
Translation | Manuscript available
Agent: Solow Literary Enterprises | Editor: Michelle Howry

It's a common myth that couples enter counseling fighting like cats and dogs. But as licensed marriage and family therapist Colette Fehr reveals, it isn't fighting, but rather conflict *avoidance*, that causes the deepest ruptures in romantic relationships. Avoidant

behavior—the need to "keep the peace" rather than dealing with conflict head on—is a silent relationship killer. And it isn't our fault: our ingrained attachment wiring urges us to sidestep day-to-day disputes and brush lingering problems under the rug. But staying silent is a losing proposition in the long term. Years of feeling overlooked, underappreciated, and misunderstood can lead us to essentially "quiet quit" our relationships, as tiny slights add up to big, irreparable hurts. In THE COST OF QUIET, Colette Fehr shines a light on the epidemic of avoidant attachment and shows us how to break the cycle once and for all. Drawing from the latest attachment science and evidence-based therapies she's used to repair hundreds of couples, Fehr gives us the tools to approach our partner with openness, honesty, and vulnerability.

<u>Colette Fehr</u> is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC), and Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC) in Orlando, Florida, where she's maintained a thriving couples therapy practice for ten years. Her professional training includes working with luminaries such as Esther Perel, Sue Johnson, John Gottman, and Terry Real.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Headline Home); Romanian (Trei)



Pokwatka, Aimee
ACCUMULATION
May 2026 | Hardcover Fiction
UK and Translation | Manuscript available
Agent: Dunow, Carlson & Lerner | Editor: Daphne Durham

When documentary filmmaker turned stay-at-home mom Tennessee Cherish moves into a colonial fixer-upper in an exclusive part of New York state, it's because her husband Ward has bought it for her as an apology and a fresh start. A mental health crisis has left them

mistrustful of each other, but Ward has a new, high-paying job and Tenn now has her dream house. And after they find a creepy doll in the yard and begin pranking each other with it, they recapture some of the joy and humor of their marriage—even if the kids are acting out after being uprooted. Between the pranks, the kids, and the idiosyncrasies of the old house itself, Tenn doesn't notice at first that strange things are happening. But as her family members are increasingly caught in loops, repeating everyday actions with dangerous—and then devastating—effects, she realizes she must find the source of what haunts them before her dream house kills them all.

<u>Aimee Pokwatka</u> is the author of *Self-Portrait with Nothing*, a *New York Times* Best of the Year and Amazon Editors' Pick, and *The Parliament*, a *Library Journal* Pick of the Month and an Amazon Best of the Month.



Sosa, Mia
THE STARTER EX
March 2026 | Trade Paperback Original
Translation (excluding audio rights) | Manuscript available
Agent: Nancy Yost Literary Agency | Editor: Kate Dresser

Vanessa Cordero used to run a profitable side gig: For a reasonable fee, she'd date your crush...and make his life miserable. Too clingy? Check. Jealous? Check. A mother's worst nightmare? She'd got the charade down. By the time Vanessa was done with him, your guy

was practically begging for you. Enter Jason Torres, a certified commitment-phobe who doesn't plan on getting married anytime soon, much to his mother's dismay. What he needs is a temporary girlfriend. A totally inappropriate girlfriend. Someone his mother will hate, so she'll get off his back. Vanessa's younger sister, Lisa, has her eye on Jason, and convinces Vanessa to come out of retirement for one last starter ex engagement. The rules are simple: no touching, no fooling around, and definitely no falling in love. But nothing's going according to plan. Because Vanessa can't ditch Jason no matter how hard she tries to scare him away. And the longer they're around each other, the more neither of them wants to be apart.

<u>Mia Sosa</u> is a *USA Today* bestselling author of romantic comedies and contemporary romances that celebrate our multicultural world.

Rights sold: UK Commonwealth (Headline Eternal); Portuguese/Brazil (Harlequin)

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