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2021 London Book Fair Rights Guide

SELECTED NEW TITLES



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The Venice Sketchbook

RHYS BOWEN

APRIL 13, 2021

Love and secrets collide in Venice during World War II in an enthralling novel of brief encounters and lasting romance by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Tuscan Child*.

Caroline Grant is struggling to accept the end of her marriage when she receives an unexpected bequest. Her beloved great-aunt Lettie leaves her a sketchbook, three keys, and a final whisper...*Venice*. Caroline's quest: to scatter Juliet "Lettie" Browning's ashes in the city she loved and to unlock the mysteries stored away for more than sixty years.

It's 1938 when art teacher Juliet Browning arrives in romantic Venice. For her students, it's a wealth of history, art, and beauty. For Juliet, it's poignant memories and a chance to reconnect with Leonardo Da Rossi, the man she loves whose future is already determined by his noble family. However star-crossed, nothing can come between them. Until the threat of war closes in on Venice and they're forced to fight, survive, and protect a secret that will bind them forever.

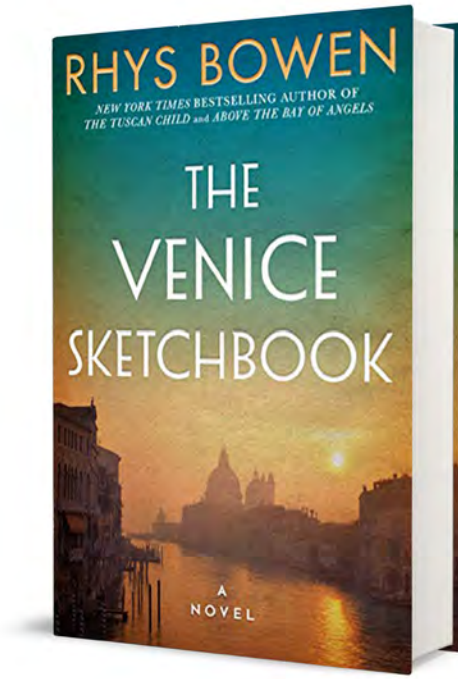
Key by key, Lettie's life of impossible love, loss, and courage unfolds. It's one that Caroline can now make right again as her own journey of self-discovery begins.

About Rhys Bowen

Rhys Bowen is the *New York Times* bestselling author of more than forty novels, including *Above the Bay of Angels*, *The Victory Garden*, *The Tuscan Child*, and the World War II-based *In Farleigh Field*, the winner of the Macavity and Left Coast Crime Awards for Best Historical Mystery Novel and the Agatha Award for Best Historical Mystery. Bowen's work has won twenty honors to date, including multiple Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity Awards. Her books have been translated into many languages, and she has fans around the world. A transplanted Brit, Bowen divides her time between California and Arizona. To learn more about the author, visit www.rhysbowen.com.

Praise for *The Venice Sketchbook*

"*The Venice Sketchbook* is that rare book, both epic and personal, and utterly compelling. Two women, decades apart, escape to Venice, each forced to grapple with the influence of world events on her own life. This is a tale brimming with secrets, romance, and possibilities, cast against the colorful setting of irresistible Venice. I was utterly captured." —Barbara O'Neal, bestselling author of *When We Believed in Mermaids* and *The Lost Girls of Devon*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
PAGE COUNT	412

Rights Available

All Languages

Rights Sold

Russian

The Last One Home

VICTORIA HELEN STONE

MARCH 30, 2021

A razor-sharp novel of suspense about the lies families tell—and those we choose to believe—by the Amazon Charts bestselling author of *Jane Doe*, which will be translated into nine languages!

Lauren Abrams wants nothing to do with her damaged mother, whose spurious testimony sent Lauren's father to prison for murder years ago. After a serial killer's confession to the crime restored justice, Lauren chose to live with her father and grandmother. Now an adult, Lauren has come home to the Sacramento family estate for good, her mother's lies be damned...

It's been decades since Donna made her cheating boyfriend pay, but she hasn't forgotten the past. She knows her estranged daughter has made a terrible mistake by returning to the estate. There's more to the story of the welcoming old homestead—and her childhood—than Lauren knows.

As Lauren settles in, she is haunted by the questions of what really happened with her father, what her mother might be hiding, and what secrets the family ranch holds. It's getting so dark, Lauren may not be able to see the truth to save her life.

About Victoria Helen Stone

Victoria Helen Stone is the Amazon Charts bestselling author of *Jane Doe*, which has been optioned by Sony Pictures Television, and *Problem Child*, as well as the critically acclaimed thrillers *False Step*; *Half Past*; and *Evelyn, After*. Formerly writing as *USA Today* bestselling novelist Victoria Dahl, she is originally from the Midwest but now writes from an upstairs office high in the Wasatch Mountains of Utah. After a career in romance that included winning the American Library Association's prestigious Reading List Award, Victoria turned toward the darker side of fiction. For more on the author and her work, visit www.victoriahelenstone.com.

Praise for *The Last One Home*

"*The Last One Home* is elegant and chilling, an indelible novel of family secrets. I couldn't put it down until I learned the truth about these finely-drawn characters—the ending left me absolutely shocked and amazed, and I can't stop thinking about it." —Luanne Rice, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Shadow Box*

"Gripping and relentless, *The Last One Home* stalks you like the serial killer within its pages: you know danger is right around the corner, but you don't know when it'll strike. And just when you think you have the story figured out, Victoria Helen Stone rips the rug right out from under your feet. Highly recommend!" —Avery Bishop, author of *Girl Gone Mad*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Suspense
PAGE COUNT	301

Rights Available

All Languages

The Light Through the Leaves

GLENDY VANDERAH

APRIL 1, 2021

Go on a powerful journey of forgiveness and healing with *The Light Through the Leaves*, a transcendent novel of love, loss, and self-discovery by the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *Where the Forest Meets the Stars*, which will be translated into twenty-three languages!

One unbearable mistake at the edge of the forest. In a moment of crisis, Ellis Abbey leaves her daughter, Viola, unattended—for just a few minutes. But when she returns, Viola is gone. A breaking point in an already fractured marriage, Viola’s abduction causes Ellis to disappear as well—into grief, guilt, and addiction. Convinced she can only do more harm to her family, Ellis leaves her husband and young sons, burying her desperate ache for her children deeper with every step into the mountain wildernesses she treks alone.

In a remote area of Washington, a young girl named Raven keeps secrets inside, too. She must never speak to outsiders about how her mother makes miracles spring from the earth, or about her father, whose mysterious presence sometimes frightens her. Raven spends her days learning how to use her rare gifts—and more important, how to hide them. With each lesson comes a warning of what dangers lie in the world beyond her isolated haven. But despite her mother’s cautions, Raven finds herself longing for something more.

As Ellis and Raven each confront their powerful longings, their journeys will converge in unexpected and hopeful ways, pulled together by the forces of nature, love, and family.

About Glendy Vanderah

Glendy Vanderah is the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and Amazon Charts bestselling author of *Where the Forest Meets the Stars*. Glendy worked as an avian biologist before she became a writer. Originally from Chicago, she now lives in rural Florida with her husband and as many birds, butterflies, and wildflowers as she can lure to her land. For more information, visit www.glendyvanderah.com.

Praise for *The Light Through the Leaves*

“A unique page-turner of remarkable richness, a tale of unthinkable trauma and the powerful, steady healing to be found in the natural world. I love the women in Vanderah’s novels, women who are allowed to be as flawed and raw and brave and fierce as men. And I loved the unfolding layers in this book, layers of love and disaster, secrets and longings, mothers and children, and always, nature as the steady backdrop to all life, offering the hope of renewal at all turns. Exquisite.” —Barbara O’Neal, *USA Today* bestselling author of *When We Believed in Mermaids*

“Glendy Vanderah’s love for nature shines through in this captivating story about love and loss and carrying on in the face of tragedy. Bursting with extraordinary moments of magic and beauty, it is an enchanting story that tugged at my heartstrings from the very first page and did not let go.” —Suzanne Redfearn, bestselling author of *In an Instant*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	463

Rights Available

All Languages

first reads

Take What You Can Carry

GIAN SARDAR

MAY 1, 2021

An aspiring photographer follows her dreams and faces her fears in a poignant novel about finding beauty, promise, and love amid the chaos of war-torn Kurdistan.

It's 1979. Olivia Murray, a secretary at a Los Angeles newspaper, is determined to become a photojournalist and make a difference with her work. When opportunity arrives, she seizes it, accompanying her Kurdish boyfriend, Delan, to northern Iraq for a family wedding, hoping to capture an image that lands her a job in the photo department. More important, though, the trip is a chance to understand Delan's childhood and bridge the differences of their pasts. Yet when the return home proves less safe than Delan believed, Olivia is confronted with a reality she had not expected, and is awakened to the dangers of a town patrolled by Iraqi military under curfew and constant threat.

But in this world torn apart by war, there are intoxicating sights and scents, Delan's loving family, innocence not yet compromised, and small acts of kindness that flourish unexpectedly. All of it will be tested when Olivia captures a shattering, tragic moment on film, one that upends all their lives and proves that true bravery begins with an open heart.

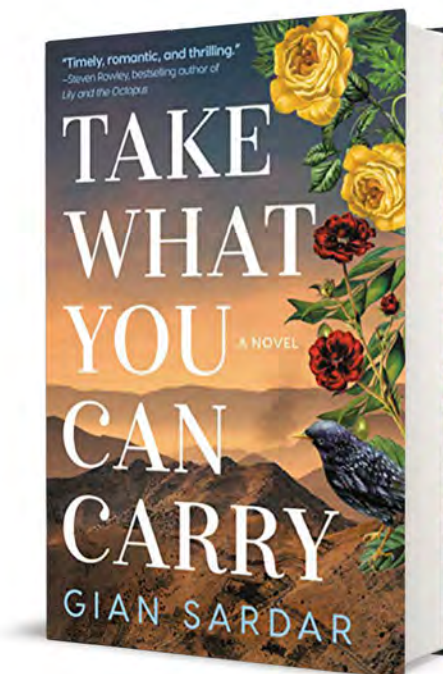
About Gian Sardar

Gian Sardar was born in Los Angeles, California. Her father is from Kurdistan of Iraq, and her mother is from Minnesota. She studied creative writing at Loyola Marymount University, is the author of the novel *You Were Here*, and is the coauthor of the memoir *Psychic Junkie*. Gian's work has appeared in the *New York Times* and *Confrontation Magazine*, and on Salon.com, among other places. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, son, and insane dog, and she enjoys gardening, cooking, and other forms of procrastination. For more information, visit www.giansardar.com.

Praise for *Take What You Can Carry*

"*Take What You Can Carry* is a poignant tale of love and loss, persecution and betrayal. Gian Sardar vividly portrays the heartbreak of two lovers swept up in a political turmoil that threatens to tear them apart as it rips at the fabric of the Kurdish way of life. It's both a sweeping love story and an epic adventure that will have you frantically turning pages while brushing away tears." —Bianca Marais, author of *Hum If You Don't Know the Words* and *If You Want to Make God Laugh*

"Set forth in vivid, propulsive writing, *Take What You Can Carry* is a love story that is also a love song to the Kurdish people and an adventure tale that balances the risks of ambition with the costs of responsibility. Blending romance and near history, Gian Sardar has produced a tale filled with indelible images and characters one comes to know as family. A rich and satisfying read." —Meg Howrey, author of *The Wanderers*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Literary Fiction
PAGE COUNT	336

Rights Available

All Languages

Reluctantly Home

IMOGEN CLARK

APRIL 29, 2021

From the bestselling author of *Where the Story Starts* comes a tale about dealing with the past—and finally facing the future.

Pip Appleby seems to have it all, with her prestigious job as a human rights lawyer and her enviable London home. But then a tragic accident stops her life in its tracks, and in an instant everything changes. Retreating to her family's rural farm and the humble origins she has been trying to hide, Pip is haunted by what she has done.

When she discovers the diary of actress Evelyn Mountcastle in a box of old books, Pip revels in the opportunity to lose herself in someone else's life rather than focus on the disaster that is her own. But soon she sees parallels—Evelyn's life was also beset by tragedy, and, like Pip, she returned to Southwold under a dark cloud.

When Pip and Evelyn's paths cross in real life, they slowly begin to reveal the hidden stories that are holding them back. Can they help each other forgive what happened in the past and, perhaps, find happiness in the future?

About Imogen Clark

Imogen Clark lives in Yorkshire, England, with her husband and children. Her first burning ambition was to be a solicitor, so she read law at Manchester University and then worked for many years at a commercial law firm. After leaving her legal career behind to care for her four children, Imogen turned to her second love—books. She returned to college, studying part-time while the children were at school, and was awarded a BA in English literature with first-class honors.

Her first three novels, *Postcards from a Stranger*, *The Thing About Clare*, and *Where The Story Starts*, have all reached the #1 spot on the UK Kindle charts, and her books have been #1 in Australia and Germany as well. She is also the author of a Christmas novella, *Postcards at Christmas*, which is a sequel to *Postcards from a Stranger*.

Imogen loves sunshine and travel and longs to live by the sea someday.

Praise for the Author

"Once again...Imogen Clark urges readers to turn the pages as the delightfully pleasant facade of her characters' lives begins to crack when the mysteries of the past come to call. Both soothing and riveting, *Where The Story Starts* asks: What if your greatest secret is the one you don't even know exists?" —Amber Cowie, author of *Rapid Falls* and *Raven Lane*

"A poignant page-turner about the devastating effects of abusive relationships and the ripples that can impact future generations...*Postcards from a Stranger* drew me in from the beginning and didn't let me go until its final pages...Clark doesn't offer any easy solutions yet the book is filled with hope and the possibility of second chances." —Emily Cavanagh, author of *This Bright Beauty* and *The Bloom Sisters*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	320

Rights Available

All Languages

The Girls in the Attic

MARIUS GABRIEL

JUNE 1, 2021

From the bestselling author of *The Designer*, Marius Gabriel, whose books will be translated into thirteen languages, comes the story of two girls hiding from the Gestapo, and the man whose heart they must change if they are to survive.

Max Wolff is a faithful soldier of the Reich. So when he is injured and unexpectedly forced home to Germany, only to discover that his mother is sheltering two young Jewish women in their home, he is furious. The girls' presence is a gross betrayal of everything Max stands for. He has dedicated his life to Nazism and the achievement of Aryan perfection, fighting mercilessly to atone for the shame of his father's anti-Nazi rhetoric.

But Max cannot ignore the sisters in the attic. As they nurse him back to health and he is drawn into the task of protecting them, he finds himself captivated by their innocence and spirit. When the town is attacked by the Russians, Max must choose his side. Forced to confront his core beliefs, he must face the brutality of war in order to defend the people he loves. But can allegiances so deeply felt be overcome?

About Marius Gabriel

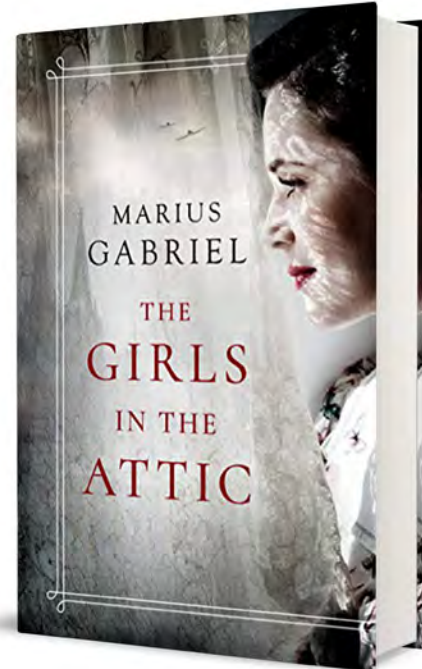
Marius Gabriel was accused by *Cosmopolitan* magazine of "keeping you reading while your dinner burns." He served his author apprenticeship as a student at Newcastle University, UK, where, to finance his postgraduate research, he wrote thirty-three steamy romances under a pseudonym. Gabriel is the author of twelve historical novels, including the bestsellers *The Designer*, *The Ocean Liner*, and *The Parisians*. Born in South Africa, he has traveled and worked in many countries, and now lives in Lincolnshire. He has three grown children.

Praise for the Author

"Suspenseful...highly atmospheric...harrowing." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Gabriel has a gift for suspense that can make you read 351 pages in a sitting." —*The Charlotte Observer*

"Pulsing with romance, danger, and suspense...A compelling read." —*Publishers Weekly*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
PAGE COUNT	365

Rights Available

All Languages

Hadley and Grace

SUZANNE REDFEARN

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

The author of *In an Instant*, which will be translated into sixteen languages, delivers a heart-pounding and emotional roller-coaster ride of self-discovery in the tradition of *Thelma and Louise*.

Needing to escape her abusive marriage, Hadley flees with her two kids, knowing it might be her only chance. A woman who can't even kill a spider, Hadley soon finds herself pushed to the limits as she fights to protect her family.

Grace, the new mother of baby Miles, desperately wants to put her rough past behind her for good, but she finds it impossible when her path crosses with Hadley's, and her quest for a new start quickly spirals out of control and turns into a terrifying flight for survival.

Stronger together than apart, the two find their fates inextricably entwined, and as the danger closes in, each must decide how much she is willing to risk for the other.

A powerful story of self-discovery, *Hadley and Grace* is the heart-racing tale of two women facing insurmountable odds, racing to stay one step ahead of the trouble that is chasing them, and discovering new kinds of love and family along the way.

About Suzanne Redfearn

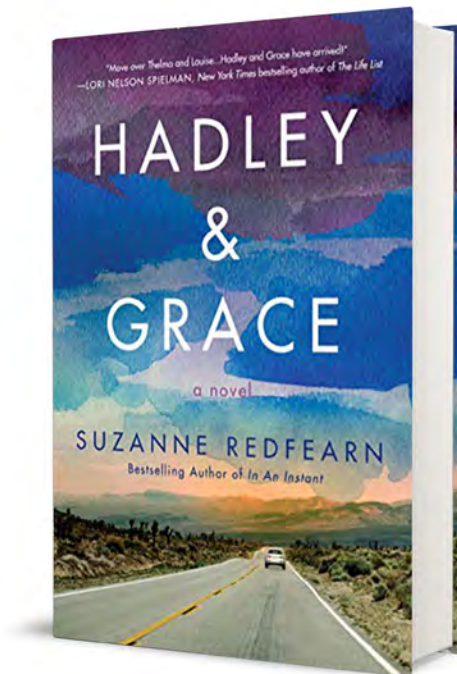
Suzanne Redfearn is the bestselling author of four novels: *Hush Little Baby*, *No Ordinary Life*, *In an Instant*, and *Hadley and Grace*. In addition to being an author, she's also an architect specializing in residential and commercial design. She lives in Laguna Beach, California, where she and her husband own two restaurants: Lumberyard and Slice Pizza and Beer. You can find her at her website, www.SuzanneRedfearn.com, on Facebook at [SuzanneRedfearnAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/SuzanneRedfearnAuthor), or on Twitter @SuzanneRedfearn.

Praise for *Hadley and Grace*

"Redfearn (*In an Instant*) tips a hat to *Thelma & Louise* in this entertaining, fast-paced romp about an unlikely friendship formed during a heist... Redfearn keeps the reader rooting for her engaging heroines. This rollicking tale of crime, friendship, and love delivers the goods." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Redfearn's latest (after *In an Instant*) starts as a domestic drama but quickly morphs into an unexpected *Thelma & Louise*-style adventure. The quickly moving story and well-drawn characters will keep readers turning pages even if the madcap road chase and happy ending seem unlikely." —*Library Journal*

"Redfearn's characters are sympathetic and appealing, and she highlights the strengths that both women bring to life-or-death decisions, as well as the ways the journey transforms everyone involved. This is tense, affecting relationship fiction with elements of domestic suspense, ideal for readers of Sally Hepworth and Kimberly Belle." —*Booklist*



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Family Drama
PAGE COUNT	347

Rights Available

All Languages

first reads

The Songbook of Benny Lament

AMY HARMON

MARCH 16, 2021

From the bestselling author of *What the Wind Knows* and *From Sand and Ash* comes a powerful love story about a musical duo who put everything on the line to be together.

New York, 1960: For Benny Lament, music is his entire life. With his father's deep ties to the mob, the Bronx piano man has learned that love and family can get you in trouble. So he keeps to himself, writing songs for other musicians, avoiding the spotlight...until the night his father brings him to see Esther Mine sing.

Esther is a petite powerhouse with a gorgeous voice. And when Benny writes a hit song and performs it with her, their collaboration thrusts the duo onto the national stage...and stirs up old issues and new scrutiny that the mob—and Benny—would rather avoid. It would be easier to walk away. But the music and the woman are too hard for the piano man to resist. Benny's songs and Esther's vocals are an explosive combination, a sound that fans can't get enough of. But though America might love the music they make together, some people aren't ready for Benny Lament and Esther Mine on—or off—the stage.

About Amy Harmon

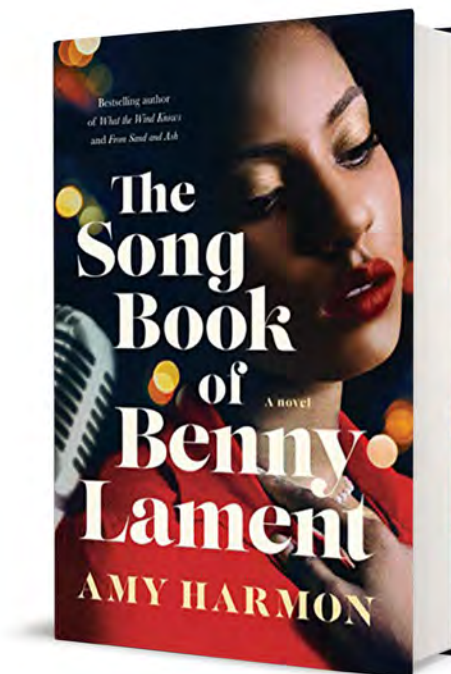
Amy Harmon is a *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, and *New York Times* bestselling author. Her books have been published in two dozen languages—truly a dream come true for a little country girl from Utah. Harmon has written sixteen novels, including the *Wall Street Journal* and *Washington Post* bestseller *What the Wind Knows*; the *USA Today* bestsellers *The Smallest Part*, *Making Faces*, and *Running Barefoot*; and the #1 Amazon bestselling historical novel *From Sand and Ash*, which won a Whitney Award for Book of the Year in 2016. Her novel *A Different Blue* is a *New York Times* bestseller. Her *USA Today* bestselling fantasy *The Bird and the Sword* was a Goodreads Best Book of 2016 finalist. For updates on upcoming book releases, author posts, and more, go to www.authoramyharmon.com.

Praise for the Author

"Amy Harmon is a fresh and creative voice in fiction. I marvel at her ability to weave together a story that grips hold of my heart and my imagination."
—Debbie Macomber, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Amy Harmon brings a tragic and fascinating period of history to life with a poignant love story that plays out across time and oceans. Skillfully woven around vividly depicted historical events and figures, this is a page-turner, hard to put down until the end." —Helen Bryan, international bestselling author of *War Brides*, *The Sisterhood*, and *The Valley*

"I don't often find a book I can't put down, but I devoured *What the Wind Knows*. It's magical, atmospheric, and compelling, a book that will haunt you for a long time." —Rhys Bowen, *New York Times* and #1 Kindle bestselling author of *The Tuscan Child*, *In Farleigh Field*, and the Royal Spyness novels



IMPRINT	Lake Union Publishing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
PAGE COUNT	448

Rights Available

All Languages

Rights Sold

Russian

Gerta

KATEŘINA TUČKOVÁ

TRANSLATED BY VÉRONIQUE FIRKUSNY

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

The award-winning novel by Czech author Kateřina Tučková—her first to be translated into English—about the fate of one woman and the pursuit of forgiveness in a divided postwar world.

1945. Allied forces liberate Nazi-occupied Brno, Moravia. For Gerta Schnirch, daughter of a Czech mother and a German father aligned with Hitler, it's not deliverance; it's a sentence. She has been branded an enemy of the state. Caught in the changing tides of a war that shattered her family—and her innocence—Gerta must obey the official order: she, along with all ethnic Germans, is to be expelled from Czechoslovakia. With nothing but the clothes on her back and an infant daughter, she's herded among thousands, driven from the only home she's ever known. But the injustice only makes Gerta stronger, more empowered, and more resolved to seek justice. Her journey is a relentless quest for seemingly impossible forgiveness. And one day, she will return.

Spanning decades and generations, Kateřina Tučková's breathtaking novel illuminates a long-neglected episode in Czech history. One of exclusion and prejudice, of collective shame versus personal guilt, all through the eyes of a charismatic woman whose courage will affect all the lives she's touched. Especially that of the daughter she loved, fought for, shielded, and would come to inspire.

Winner of the Magnesía Litera Readers' award; short-listed for the Jiří Orten Award, the Škvorecký Award, and Magnesía Litera in the prose category.

About Kateřina Tučková

Kateřina Tučková is a Czech playwright, publicist, biographer, art historian, exhibition curator, and the bestselling author of *Gerta* and *The Žitková Goddesses*. She has won several literary awards, including the Magnesía Litera Award (for both *Gerta* and *The Žitková Goddesses*), the Brno City Award for literature, the Josef Škvorecký Award, and the Czech Bestseller Award. Kateřina is also the recipient of the Freedom, Democracy, and Human Rights Award by the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, and of the Premio Libro d'Europa at the Book Fair in Salerno, Italy. Between 2015 and 2018, she was a founder and first president of the Meeting Brno festival, focusing on international and intercultural dialogue. Kateřina currently lives in Prague and Brno, Czech Republic. Her books have been translated into seventeen languages, and *Gerta* is her first to be translated into English. In December 2020, her novel *Bílá Voda* will be published in Czech. For more information, visit www.katerina-tuckova.cz/en/.

Praise for *Gerta*

"A great book...Immediately after reading, [*Gerta*] is unforgettable... Although she certainly did not plan for it, Kateřina Tučková wrote a novel that should be required reading." —Jan Hübsch, Lidovky



IMPRINT	Amazon Crossing
GENRE	Historical Fiction
PAGE COUNT	459

Rights Available

All Languages, excluding Czech, German, Hungarian, Italian, Macedonian, Polish, and Slovak

first reads

Lies We Bury

ELLE MARR

APRIL 1, 2021

A chilling and suspenseful read that delves into sinister family secrets and revenge by the #1 Amazon Charts bestselling author of *The Missing Sister*.

It's only by confronting who she was then that she can understand who she is now.

I was born in captivity...

Two decades ago Marissa Mo escaped a basement prison—the only home she'd ever known. At twenty-seven, Marissa's moved beyond the trauma and is working under a new name as a freelance photographer. But when she accepts a job covering a string of macabre murders in Portland, it's impossible for Marissa not to remember.

Everything is eerily familiar. The same underground lairs. Sad trinkets and toys left behind, identical to those Marissa had as a child. And then there is the note meant just for her that freezes Marissa's blood: *See you soon, Missy*.

To determine the killer's next move, Marissa must retrieve her long-forgotten memories and return to a past she's hidden away. But she won't be facing her fears alone. Someone is waiting for her in the dark.

About Elle Marr

Elle Marr is the #1 Amazon Charts bestselling author of *The Missing Sister*. She graduated from UC San Diego before moving to France, where she earned a master's degree from the Sorbonne University in Paris. Originally from Sacramento, Elle now lives in Oregon with her husband, son, and one very demanding feline. For more information, visit the author at www.ellemarr.com.

Praise for *Lies We Bury*

"A deep, deep dive into unspeakable memories and their unimaginably shocking legacy." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"Dark and compelling, Elle Marr has written another atmospheric and twisted thriller that you don't want to miss. *Lies We Bury* delves into the darkest of pasts and explores the fascinating tension between moving on and revenge. This is a fly-through-the-pages thriller." —Vanessa Lillie, Amazon bestselling author of *Little Voices* and *For the Best*



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	304

Rights Available

All Languages

first reads

The Secrets of Us

LUCINDA BERRY

JUNE 1, 2021

Dangerously addictive, *The Secrets of Us* is a pulse-pounding exploration of a disturbed psyche and the bond between two sisters desperate to escape a troubled past by the *Washington Post* and Amazon Charts bestselling author whose books will be translated into nine languages.

Foster sisters Krystal and Nichole have always been there for each other, so when Nichole is committed to a psychiatric hospital after trying to kill her husband, Krystal drops everything to defend her.

Scarred by a hard upbringing, Nichole and Krystal managed to construct comfortable lives for themselves. Krystal became a respected lawyer, and Nichole was happily married to an architect—until Nichole starts raving that her husband isn't her husband, believing that he's an impostor.

Driven by fierce loyalty, Krystal starts asking questions, but she's not sure she can bear the answers. Her investigation leads to the sisters' dark shared past...to a horrible tragedy and a well-guarded lie that cemented their sisterly bond.

But that lie can't kill the truth—the battered, gasping, clawing truth that's coming for them both. Now Krystal and Nichole must both fight for the lives they've built before they're consumed by the one they left behind.

About Lucinda Berry

Dr. Lucinda Berry is a former psychologist and leading researcher in childhood trauma. Now she writes full-time, using her clinical experience to blur the line between fiction and nonfiction. She enjoys taking her readers on a journey through the dark recesses of the human psyche.

If Berry isn't chasing after her son, you can find her running through Los Angeles, prepping for her next marathon. To hear about her upcoming releases, visit her on Facebook or sign up for her newsletter at www.lucindaberryauthor.com.

Praise for the Author

"A mother's worst nightmare on the page. For those who dare."
—*Kirkus Reviews*

"[It] gripped me from the stunning opening to the emotional, explosive ending. In this moving novel, Berry creates a beautifully crafted study of secrets and grief among a tight-knit group of friends and how far a mother will go to discover the truth and protect her children."
—Heather Gudenkauf, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Weight of Silence* and *This Is How I Lied*

"Intense, terrifying, and at times utterly heartbreaking. Absolutely unputdownable." —Kimberly Belle, international bestselling author of *Dear Wife* and *Stranger in the Lake*



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	272

Rights Available

All Languages

Her Last Breath

HILARY DAVIDSON

JULY 1, 2021

From the award-winning and Amazon Charts bestselling author of *One Small Sacrifice* comes a suspenseful thriller about a dead woman who predicted her own murder, and the sister who won't let the truth be buried.

When her beloved sister, Caroline, dies suddenly, Deirdre is heartbroken. However, her sorrow turns to bone-chilling confusion when she receives a message Caroline sent days earlier warning that her death would be no accident. Long used to being a pariah to her family, Deirdre covers her tattoos and heads to Manhattan for her sister's funeral.

The message claimed Caroline's husband, Theo, killed his first wife and got away with it. Reeling from the news, Deirdre confronts Theo on the way to the cemetery, and he reveals both his temper and his suspicion that Deirdre's "perfect" sister was having an affair.

Paranoid and armed with just enough information to make her dangerous, Deirdre digs into the disturbing secrets buried with Caroline. But as she gets closer to the truth, she realizes that her own life may be at risk...and that there may be more than one killer in the family.

About Hilary Davidson

Hilary Davidson is the bestselling author of *One Small Sacrifice* and the winner of two Anthony Awards. Her novels include the Lily Moore series—*The Damage Done*, *The Next One to Fall*, and *Evil in All Its Disguises*—and the stand-alone thriller *Blood Always Tells*. Her widely acclaimed short stories have won numerous awards and have been featured everywhere from *Ellery Queen* to *Thuglit*, as well as in her collection *The Black Widow Club*. A Toronto-born travel journalist who's lived in New York City since October 2001, Davidson is also the author of eighteen nonfiction books. Visit her online at www.hilarydavidson.com.

Praise for the Author

"A fast-paced winner. Highly recommended." —#1 *New York Times* bestselling author Harlan Coben

"Twisty, absorbing, and deeply humane, it's a thriller you won't want to miss." —*New York Times* bestselling author Megan Abbott



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Suspense
PAGE COUNT	300

Rights Available

All Languages

The Shadow Box

LUANNE RICE

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

The Amazon Charts bestselling author of *Last Day* delivers a haunting thriller about how far one wife is willing to go to expose the truth, and the lengths someone will go to stop her.

After artist Claire Beaudry Chase is attacked and left for dead in her home on the Connecticut coast, she doesn't know whom she can trust. But her well-connected husband, Griffin, who is running for governor, is her prime suspect.

Just before the attack, Claire was preparing for an exhibit of her shadow boxes, one of which clearly accuses Griffin of a violent crime committed twenty-five years ago. If the public were to find out who her husband is, his political career would be over. Claire's certain her husband and his powerful supporters would kill her to stop the truth from getting out.

When one of Claire's acquaintances is murdered, the authorities suspect the homicide is linked to the attack on Claire. As the dual investigations unfold, Claire must decide how much she's willing to lose to take down her husband and the corrupt group of elites who will do anything to protect Griffin's interests and their own.

About Luanne Rice

Luanne Rice is the *New York Times* bestselling author of thirty-five novels that have been translated into twenty-four languages. In 2002, Connecticut College awarded Rice an honorary degree, and she also received an honorary doctorate from the University of Saint Joseph. In June 2014, she received the 2014 Connecticut Governor's Arts Award for excellence as a literary artist.

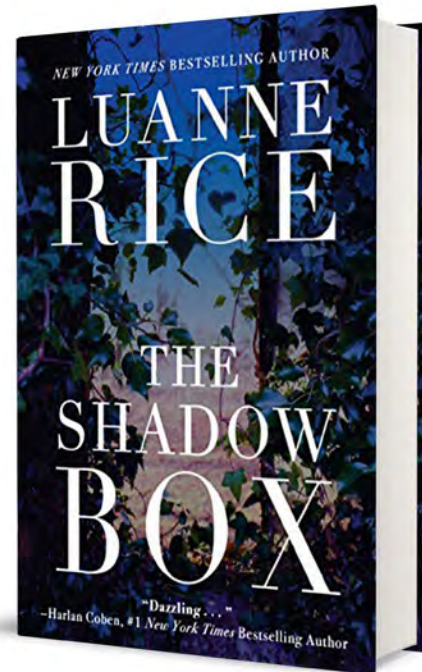
Several of Rice's novels have been adapted for television, including *Crazy in Love*, for TNT; *Blue Moon*, for CBS; *Follow the Stars Home* and *Silver Bells*, for the Hallmark Hall of Fame; and *Beach Girls*, for Lifetime.

Rice is a creative affiliate of the Safina Center, an organization that brings together scientists, artists, and writers to inspire a deeper connection with nature—especially the sea. Rice is an avid environmentalist and advocate for families affected by domestic violence. She lives on the Connecticut Shoreline.

Praise for *The Shadow Box*

"*The Shadow Box* is Luanne Rice at her dazzling best. Filled with dark family secrets and wells of deep emotion, this novel will stick with you long after you've finished reading." —Harlan Coben, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Run Away*

"As always, Luanne Rice gives us characters so real they feel like family and families so flawed they give us chills. Shocking, compassionate, and told with the unerring eye of a true and gifted observer, *The Shadow Box* will keep you turning the pages long past your bedtime." —Tami Hoag, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Boy*



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	368

Rights Available

All Languages

first reads

Tell Me the Truth

Adler and Dwyer Series

Book 2

MATTHEW FARRELL

JUNE 22, 2021

From the bestselling author of *What Have You Done* comes a gripping whodunit about the bloody crimes that keep families together and tear them apart.

Eighteen-year-old Jenny Moore is looking forward to a fresh start at college. There's just one problem: the people in her life won't let her go.

When Jenny is viciously stabbed and left for dead, it's her mother who finds Jenny's body underneath the pines outside their home in the upscale town of Lewisboro, New York. State police investigator Susan Adler and her consultant partner Liam Dwyer are called to investigate the crime scene, but they sense something's off right away.

The clues contradict the story Jenny's parents keep telling, which makes the entire family suspects in Jenny's murder. But who did it? Was it the wealthy father? The disappointed mother? The strange, quiet little brother? The jealous best friend? An ex-lover?

So many suspects. Too many secrets. One town with a history of hiding the truth.

But this is only the beginning of Susan and Liam's investigation...because the killer is just getting started.

About Matthew Farrell

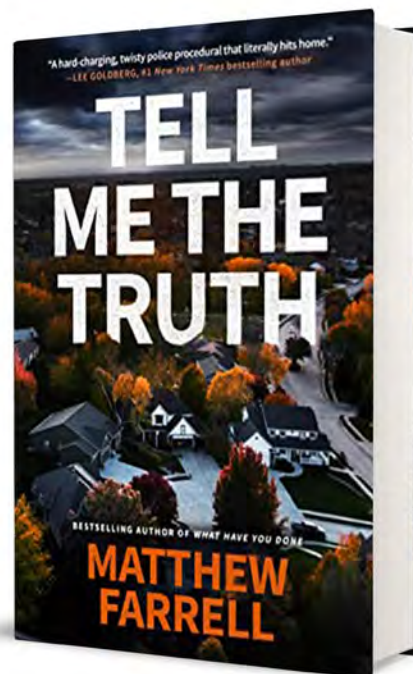
Matthew Farrell lives in the Hudson Valley, just outside of New York City, with his wife and two daughters. Get caught up on the progress of his next thriller along with his general musings by following him on Twitter @mfarrellwriter and Instagram at mfarrellwriterbooks or by liking him on Facebook: www.facebook.com/mfarrellwriter2.

Praise for the Author

"Farrell keeps you turning the pages." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"The intricate plot takes many twists and turns. Farrell knows how to keep the pages turning." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Farrell has done it again! A crime thriller that grabs you from page one. Engrossing, haunting, and compelling, *Don't Ever Forget* is his best yet." —Liv Constantine, international bestselling author of *The Last Mrs. Parrish*



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Psychological Thriller
PAGE COUNT	368

Rights Available

All Languages

The Whitby Murders

A Yorkshire Murder Mystery Series

Book 6

J. R. ELLIS

MAY 27, 2021

The latest installment from the *Yorkshire Murder Mystery* series by the Amazon Charts bestselling author J. R. Ellis.

A murder with three witnesses. But one of them doesn't believe what she saw...

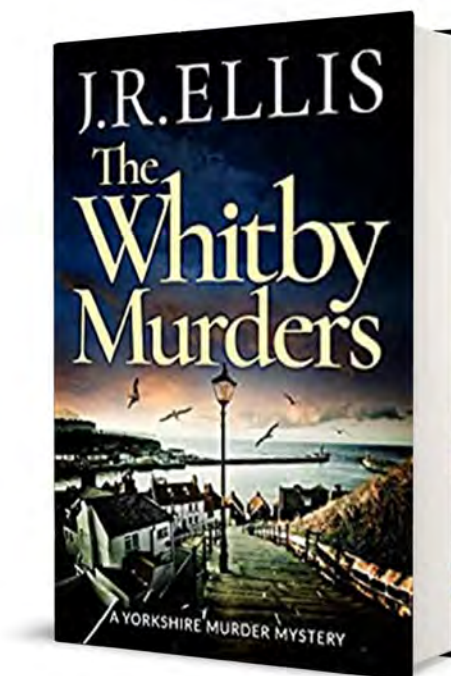
Halloween, Whitby. DCI Jim Oldroyd's daughter, Louise, is in town with friends for a goth festival. But their visit to an escape room ends in bloody murder when one of the group stabs his girlfriend and flees the scene. It's a crime with three witnesses—but Louise refuses to take what she saw at face value.

Oldroyd and DS Carter are called in to solve the case, assisted from the sidelines by Louise. But the closer they investigate, the more complex the web of deceit appears. This is no straightforward crime of passion.

With a violent murderer on the loose, it's only a matter of time before they strike again. And this time it's personal. Oldroyd must expose the truth, protect his daughter, and stop the horror before it's too late.

About J. R. Ellis

John R. Ellis has lived in Yorkshire for most of his life and has spent many years exploring Yorkshire's diverse landscapes, history, language, and communities. He recently retired after a career in teaching, mostly in further education in the Leeds area. In addition to the Yorkshire Murder Mystery series, he writes poetry, ghost stories, and biographies. He has completed a screenplay about the last years of the poet Edward Thomas and a work of fiction about the extraordinary life of his Irish mother-in-law. He is currently working on his memoirs of growing up in a working-class area of Huddersfield in the 1950s and 1960s.



IMPRINT	Thomas & Mercer
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	400

Rights Available

All Languages

Dead as the Night, Just Like Your Soul (Dunkeltot, wie deine Seele)

A Case for Targa Hendricks Series
Book 3

B.C. SCHILLER

JANUARY 26, 2021

Willful and fearless, Targa Hendricks penetrates the dark souls of a serial-killer couple in this new thriller from the BILD bestselling author B.C. Schiller, whose books have reached over a million readers.

"Dark as the night, your soul is like my heart."

In a dark forest, an undernourished girl appears on the roadside and dies. A year earlier, the police found a girl who was chained and starved to death in an old GDR bunker on the outskirts of Berlin. Suspicion falls upon siblings Zoey and Adam Yankowski, who study at an elite college in the mysterious town of Blumenthal. In order to convict them, the BKA deploys their best undercover investigator, Targa Hendricks. Targa senses that something terrible has happened in Zoey and Adam's past. But when she discovers the secret, it is already too late...

About B.C. Schiller

Barbara and Christian Schiller live and work in Vienna and Mallorca. After working in the marketing and advertising industry for over twenty years, they now write gripping thrillers together under the name B. C. Schiller. They are among the most successful suspense authors in German-speaking countries, and have so far delighted over 1.5 million readers with their books.



IMPRINT	Edition M
GENRE	Police Procedural
PAGE COUNT	346

Rights Available

All Languages excluding Czech

The Mixtape

BRITTAINY CHERRY

JULY 1, 2021

From the author of *The Wreckage of Us*, which has been translated into five languages, comes a story about a broken rock star who falls in love with a single mother doing her best to raise her child—even if he shakes their world upside down.

Since the death of his twin brother, Oliver's caught between pleasing his fans and finding himself. Emery finds him first.

Emery has never felt more alone. Raising her daughter is both her pleasure and her pain as she struggles to hold on to her job as a bartender and keep a roof over their heads. With no one to help them, and no support system, any unexpected expense or late bill could turn their whole world upside down.

Reeling from the death of his twin brother and bandmate, rock star Oliver Smith is trying to drink his problems away. Apparently he isn't very good at it; they follow him wherever he goes. Also in hot pursuit are the paparazzi, who catch Oliver at his lowest low.

He could have walked into any bar in California, but he walked into hers. Emery helps Oliver lose the crowd, and they find themselves alone: two people whose paths are marked with loss and pain. However, they hold an unshakable hope for healing. They find solace together, but can their love withstand the world?

About Brittainy Cherry

Brittainy Cherry has been in love with words since she took her first breath. She graduated from Carroll University with a bachelor's degree in theater arts and a minor in creative writing. She loves writing screenplays, acting, and dancing—poorly, of course. Coffee, chai tea, and wine are three things she thinks every person should partake in. Cherry lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. When she's not running a million errands and crafting stories, she's probably playing with her adorable pets.

Praise for the Author

"It had so much heart and held so much wisdom within its pages that I thought about the story and these characters both day and night. I eagerly anticipated getting to read it when I got home from work. Two nights was all it took to finish (with work and family life, it can take 5 days for me to finish a book), and now I want to start it again." —*Feeding my Addiction*

"I've said it before, but I'll say it again. Brittainy C. Cherry has a way with words. There's a beauty and magical quality to the words she strings together and the stories she creates. I get excited each time she releases a new book because I know whatever story is coming my way is going to move me. *The Wreckage of Us* did just that." —*A Novel Glimpse*



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	336

Rights Available

All Languages

Rights Sold

German, Italian, and Spanish

An Invincible Summer

Wyndham Beach Series

Book 1

MARIAH STEWART

MAY 1, 2021

An endearing novel of friendship, forgiveness, and second chances by *New York Times* bestselling author Mariah Stewart.

It was a lifetime ago that recently widowed Maggie Flynn was in Wyndham Beach. Now, on the occasion of her fortieth high school reunion, she returns to her hometown on the Massachusetts coast, picking up right where she left off with dear friends Lydia and Emma. But seeing Brett Crawford again stirs other emotions. Once, they were the town's golden couple destined for one another. He shared Maggie's dreams—and eventually, a shattering secret that drove them apart.

Buying her old family home and resettling in Wyndham Beach means a chance to start over for Maggie and her two daughters, but it also means facing her rekindled feelings for her first love and finally confronting—and embracing—the past in ways she never thought possible. Maggie won't be alone. With her family and friends around her, she can weather this stormy turning point in her life and open her heart to the future. As for that dream shared and lost years ago? If Maggie can forgive herself, it still might come true.

Stay tuned for the next two books in the series, which will be released in Spring 2022 and 2023!

About Mariah Stewart

Mariah Stewart is the *New York Times*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *USA Today* bestselling author of several series, including *The Chesapeake Diaries* and *The Hudson Sisters*, as well as stand-alone novels, novellas, and short stories. A native of Hightstown, New Jersey, she lives with her husband and two rambunctious rescue dogs amid the rolling hills of Chester County, Pennsylvania, where she savors country life, tends her gardens, and works on her next novel. She's the proud mama of two fabulous daughters who—along with her equally fabulous sons-in-law—have gifted her with six adorable (and yes, fabulous) granddarlings. For more information, visit www.mariahstewart.com.

Praise for *An Invincible Summer*

"Appealing down-home characters and tantalizing hints of mystery that will hook readers immediately.... Stewart expertly combines the inevitable angst of a trio of sisters, a family secret, and a search for an heirloom necklace; it's an irresistible mix that will delight readers. Masterful characterizations and a well-timed plot are sure to pull in fans of romantic small-town stories." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Highly recommend this series for WF fans and even romance fans, there's plenty of that sweet, small town romance to make you swoon a little." —*Novel Gossip*



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Women's Fiction
PAGE COUNT	377

Rights Available

All Languages

The Bennet Women

EDEN APPIAH-KUBI

JULY 20, 2021

This sparkling, delightful debut from author Eden Appiah-Kubi puts a modern spin on *Pride and Prejudice*, where love is a goal, marriage is a distant option, and self-discovery is a sure thing.

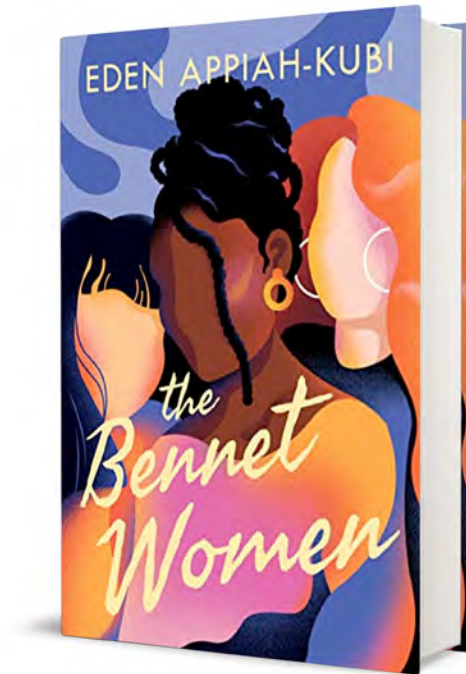
Welcome to Bennet House, the only all-women's dorm at prestigious Longbourn University, home to three close friends who are about to have an eventful year. EJ is an ambitious Black engineering student. Her best friend, Jamie, is a newly out trans woman studying French and theater. Tessa is a Filipina astronomy major with guy trouble. For them, Bennet House is more than a residence—it's an oasis of feminism, femininity, and enlightenment. But as great as Longbourn is for academics, EJ knows it can be a wretched place to find love.

Yet the fall season is young and brimming with surprising possibilities. Jamie's prospect is Lee Gregory, son of a Hollywood producer and a gentleman so charming he practically sparkles. That leaves EJ with Lee's arrogant best friend, Will. For Jamie's sake, EJ must put up with the disagreeable, distressingly handsome, not quite famous TV actor for as long as she can.

What of it? EJ has her eyes on a bigger prize, anyway: launching a spectacular engineering career in the “real world” she's been hearing so much about. But what happens when all their lives become entwined in ways no one could have predicted—and EJ finds herself drawn to a man who's not exactly a perfect fit for the future she has planned?

About Eden Appiah-Kubi

Eden Appiah-Kubi fell in love with classic novels in fourth grade when her mom read her *Jane Eyre*, chapter by chapter, as a bedtime story. She's an alumna of a small New England university with a weird mascot (Go Jumbos!) and a former Peace Corps volunteer. Eden developed her fiction writing through years spent in a small Washington, DC, critique group. Today she works as a librarian and lives in the DC suburbs with her husband and hilarious daughter.



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	366

Rights Available

All Languages

Hummingbird Lane

CAROLYN BROWN

APRIL 6, 2021

The healing powers of art and friendship work together in this inspiring and heartwarming novel by *New York Times* bestselling author Carolyn Brown, whose books have reached over six million readers and will be translated into ten languages.

Ever since childhood, Emma Merrill and Sophia Mason were bound by a passion for painting. Like all young best friends, they promised to never lose touch. But the girls came from different worlds, and their paths diverged when Emma went to an elite college and Sophie worked her way through state school.

After a decade they've reconnected, both in a time of need. Emma has been struggling with depression since her college years, and she's lost herself under the suffocating influence of her controlling and manipulative mother. Sophie, under pressure to prepare for an upcoming gallery show, whisks the fragile Emma away to a small artist's colony in south Texas. It's a raw and beautiful landscape where wildflowers bloom—and perhaps Emma can bloom there, too. In the company of such nurturing and creative strangers, especially Josh Corlen, the openhearted manager of the commune, Emma allows herself to breathe again.

For Sophie and Emma, it's the perfect place for reflection and to finally share the secret burdens each has carried. Most of all it's a chance to rediscover their true selves and to make good on the old promise that their friendship would last forever.

About Carolyn Brown

Carolyn Brown is a *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author and a RITA finalist with more than one hundred published books to her name. They include women's fiction and historical, contemporary, cowboy, and country-music romances. She and her husband live in the small town of Davis, Oklahoma, where everyone knows everyone else, including what they are doing and when—and they read the local newspaper on Wednesdays to see who got caught. They have three grown children and enough grandchildren and great-grandchildren to keep them young. For more information, visit www.carolynbrownbooks.com.

Praise for the Author

"Fans of beloved Southern films, like *Steel Magnolias* and *Fried Green Tomatoes*, will flip for this charming small-town tale." —*Woman's World*

"Carolyn Brown is one of my go-to authors when I want a feel-good story that will make me smile." —*Fresh Fiction*

"The story is full of emotion...and the joy of friendship and family. Carolyn Brown is known for her strong, loving characters and this book is full of them." —*Harlequin Junkie*



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	320

Rights Available

All Languages

Adulting

LIZ TALLEY

APRIL 1, 2021

USA Today bestselling author Liz Talley's emotional and heart-lifting novel about facing the past, unconditional love, and a woman on the verge of a breakthrough.

After another all-night bender, one more failed stint at rehab, and a parole violation, self-destructive actress Chase London has to deal with her demons. She's been written off as a Hollywood casualty by almost everyone, including her own mother. But handsome superstar Spencer Rome has her back. So does an uncompromising stranger determined to start Chase at square one and help her pull her future into focus. If Chase is willing.

Life coach Olivia Han is devoted to "adulting" boot camp therapy. It's not just her professional specialty, though—it's also one way to avoid focusing on building a life of her own. To escape the pressures of Tinseltown, the two women head to Olivia's cabin in the wilds of Northern California. There they discover a place in need of TLC. As they work together to rehab the once-charming cabin, they create a refuge where Chase can come to terms with her unsettled past, and where Olivia has an unexpected reckoning with her own troubling history.

For two women doing damage control, this is a time for second chances—in life, in finding love, in forgiving family, and in an emerging friendship that might be exactly what each of them needs to heal.

About Liz Talley

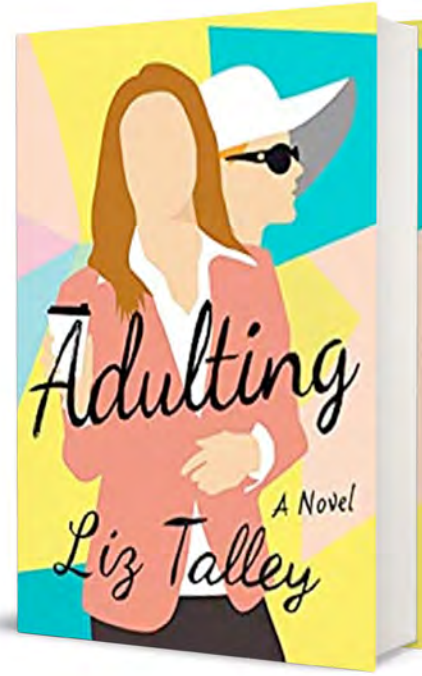
Liz Talley is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Wedding War*, *Room to Breathe*, and *Come Home to Me*, as well as the *Morning Glory* series, the *Home in Magnolia Bend* series, and many more novels, novellas, and short fiction. A finalist for the Romance Writers of America's prestigious Golden Heart and RITA Awards, Liz has found a home writing heartwarming contemporary romance. Her stories are set in the South, where the tea is sweet, the summers are hot, and the porches are wide. Liz lives in North Louisiana with her childhood sweetheart, two handsome children, three dogs, and a naughty kitty. To learn more about the author and her upcoming novels, readers can visit www.liztalleybooks.com.

Praise for *Adulting*

"[This] touching tale of female friendship and personal growth...teeters on the line between romance and women's fiction." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Witty, warm, and engaging, *Adulting* explores the most unlikely friendship between life coach Olivia Han and her self-destructive client Chase London as each woman—by facing past secrets on a journey of personal growth—discovers a second chance at love." —Christine Nolfi, bestselling author of *The Passing Storm*

"In *Adulting*, Liz Talley gives us an uplifting story of second chances and paints a poignant reminder that sometimes in life you have to stop living what others expect of you, and hit restart knowing what you expect of yourself." —Kay Bratt, international bestselling author of *Wish Me Home*



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Contemporary Romance
PAGE COUNT	333

Rights Available

All Languages

first reads

Near You

MARY BURTON

APRIL 13, 2021

In a scorching novel of obsession and revenge, *New York Times* bestselling author Mary Burton ignites fear in the heart of a woman targeted by a killer who knows her secrets.

Forensic psychologist and single mother Ann Bailey has joined forces with Montana Highway Patrol officer Bryce McCabe. An expert in untangling the motives of depraved minds, Ann is tasked to help solve the mystery of two murdered women doused with gasoline and set aflame. It's not hard for Ann to be reminded of the charismatic Elijah Weston, who served a decade in prison for arson—a crime that nearly cost Ann her life. Elijah may have been exonerated, but the connection to these rage killings is impossible for Ann to ignore. One of the victims has been identified as an obsessed Elijah groupie.

Elijah has obsessions, too. Ever since Ann returned to town, he can't take his eyes off her. And as a mother with a secret, she's the perfect victim for an infatuated psychopath. The deeper Ann and Bryce's investigation goes, the nearer they get to each other and to danger. After another murder hits close to home, Ann fears a clue is hidden in her own past. Only one thing terrifies her more than the reveal of her long-held secret. It's that the secret itself has put Ann into a killer's line of fire.

About Mary Burton

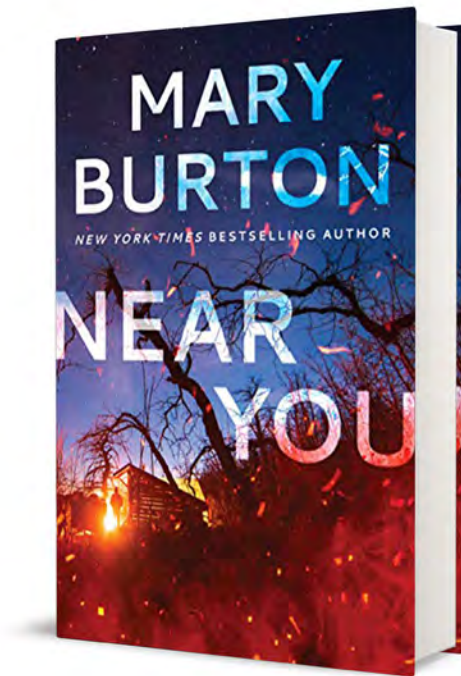
Mary Burton is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of thirty-five romance and suspense novels, including *Never Look Back*, *I See You*, *Hide and Seek*, and *Cut and Run*, as well as five novellas. She currently lives in Virginia with her husband and three miniature dachshunds. Visit her at www.maryburton.com.

Praise for the Author

"Burton does a good job balancing gentle romance with high-tension suspense." —*Publishers Weekly*

"...scorching action. The twists and turns keep the reader on the edge of their seat as they will not want to put the novel down."
—*Crimespree Magazine*

"A searing serial-killer thriller...Mary Burton's writing is compellingly readable as she spins a tale of arson, lust, and murder as friends and lovers are drawn back together to get to the truth of the event that changed their lives so drastically a decade ago." —*Criminal Element*



IMPRINT	Montlake
GENRE	Romantic Suspense
PAGE COUNT	347

Rights Available

All Languages

Black Boy Out of Time

HARI ZIYAD

MARCH 1, 2021

An eloquent, restless, and enlightening memoir by one of the most thought-provoking journalists today about growing up Black and queer in America, reuniting with the past, and coming of age their own way.

One of nineteen children in a blended family, Hari Ziyad was raised by a Hindu Hare Krishna mother and a Muslim father. Through reframing their own coming-of-age story, Ziyad takes readers on a powerful journey of growing up queer and Black in Cleveland, Ohio, and of navigating the equally complex path toward finding their true self in New York City. Exploring childhood, gender, race, and the trust that is built, broken, and repaired through generations, Ziyad investigates what it means to live beyond the limited narratives Black children are given, and challenges the irreconcilable binaries that restrict them.

Heartwarming and heart-wrenching, radical and reflective, Hari Ziyad's vital memoir is for the outcast, the unheard, the unborn, and the dead. It offers us a new way to think about survival and the necessary disruption of social norms. It looks back in tenderness as well as justified rage, forces us to address where we are now, and, born out of hope, illuminates the possibilities for the future.

About Hari Ziyad

Hari Ziyad is a cultural critic, a screenwriter, and the editor in chief of RaceBaitr. They are a 2021 Lambda Literary Fellow, and their writing has been featured in *BuzzFeed*, *Out*, the *Guardian*, *Paste* magazine, and the academic journal *Critical Ethnic Studies*, among other publications. Previously they were the managing editor of the Black Youth Project and a script consultant on the television series *David Makes Man*. Hari spends their all-too-rare free time trying to get their friends to give the latest generation of R & B starlets a chance and attempting to entertain their always very unbothered pit-bull mix, Khione. For more information about the author, visit www.hariziyad.com.

Praise for *Black Boy Out of Time*

"Although Ziyad writes explicitly as a Black writer with Black readers in mind, this extension of kindness in the place of opprobrium can be applied across cultures. They bring the same righteous energy in their writing about Black experience to the chapters on awakening to a queer identity. In the final sections, it's heartening to find Ziyad committed to a loving relationship. With eloquence and compassion, the author examines 'how to manage a serodiscordant relationship'—their fiancé is living with HIV, 'a widely criminalized disease'—and how 'to deal with the trauma from past sexual violence that refuses to stop rearing its hideous head from time to time.' It's an ongoing project, one that the author tackles with grace and insight via the act of writing...Ziyad successfully extracts the essence of being Black, queer, and full of tenderness."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Racebaitr editor-in-chief Ziyad merges astute sociopolitical analysis with soul-baring honesty in their striking debut memoir...with its candidness and sharp prose that doggedly links the personal to the political, Ziyad's tale is engrossing and necessary." —*Publishers Weekly*



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Memoir
PAGE COUNT	300

Rights Available

All Languages

first reads


There's a Hole in My Bucket

ROYD TOLKIEN

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

An inspirational, life-affirming memoir from the great-grandson of J.R.R. Tolkien.

Having grown up on their great-grandfather's stories, Royd Tolkien and his brother, Mike, have always enjoyed adventures. So when Mike is diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease, the brothers decide to use the time they have left to tick off as much as possible from Mike's bucket list, from remote camping in Norway to traveling through Royd's beloved New Zealand.

Yet, when Royd loses Mike, he discovers his brother had been writing another kind of bucket list: fifty things he wanted Royd to do after his death. His first task? Mike wants his mild-mannered brother to trip up on his way to the lectern to deliver his eulogy. What follows is a set of emotionally charged tests that will push Royd firmly out of his comfort zone.

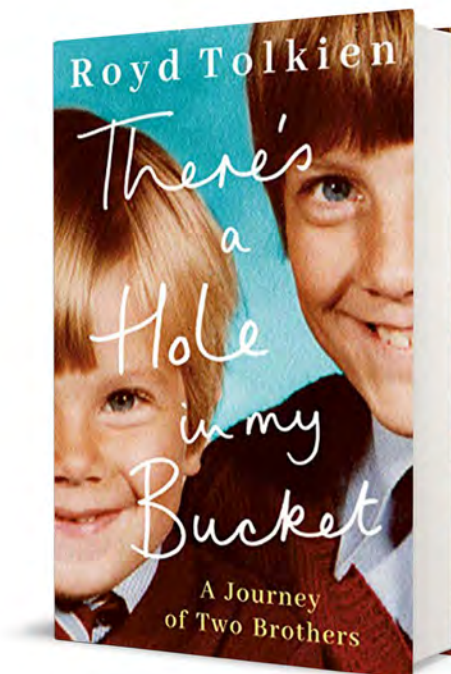
This is the story of Royd's journey to accomplish a challenging, humorous, and often heartbreaking list of unknown tasks that chart the brothers' lives from childhood to adulthood. But above all, it is a story of the sibling bond, of grief—and of treasuring every moment.

About Royd Tolkien

As the great-grandson of J.R.R. Tolkien, Royd Tolkien grew up on a diet of storytelling and entertainment, with the characters of *The Hobbit* firmly entrenched in his imagination.

Following acting roles in Peter Jackson's *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*, and *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*, Royd was inspired to become a producer. He went on to produce two films and was developing more when, in 2012, his younger brother, Mike, was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. Royd put everything on hold to care for Mike until he passed away, on January 28, 2015.

Since then, Royd has completed *There's a Hole in My Bucket*, a feature length documentary that follows his journey around New Zealand fulfilling the bucket list bequeathed to him by Mike. He lives in Wales.



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Memoir
PAGE COUNT	365

Rights Available

All Languages

Plenty

HANNAH HOWARD

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

A moving reflection on motherhood, friendship, and women making their mark on the world of food from the author of *Feast*.

Food writer Hannah Howard is at a pivotal moment in her life when she begins searching out her fellow food people—women who've carved a place for themselves in a punishing, male-dominated industry. Women whose journeys have inspired and informed Hannah's own foodie quests. On trips that take her from Milan to Bordeaux to Oslo and then always back again to her home in New York City, Hannah spends time with these influential women, learning about the intimate paths that led them each toward fulfilling careers. Each chef, entrepreneur, barista, cheesemaker, barge captain, and culinary instructor expands our long-held beliefs about how the worldwide network of food professionals and enthusiasts works.

But amid her travels, Hannah finds herself on a heart-wrenching private path. Her plans to embark on motherhood bring her through devastating lows and unimaginable highs. Hannah grapples with personal joy, loss, and a lifelong obsession with food that is laced with insecurity and darker compulsions. Looking to her food heroes for solace, companionship, and inspiration, she discovers new ways to appreciate her body and nourish her life.

At its heart, this lovely and candid memoir explores food as a point of passion and connection and as a powerful way to create community, forge friendships, and make a family.

About Hannah Howard

Hannah Howard is a writer and food expert who spent her formative years in New York eating, drinking, serving, bartending, cooking on hot lines, and flipping giant wheels of cheese in Manhattan institutions such as Picholine and Fairway Market. She has a BA from Columbia University and an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars. The author of *Feast: True Love in and Out of the Kitchen*, Hannah has also been published in *New York* magazine, *Salon*, and *SELF*. She also mentors women recovering from eating disorders by helping them build happy, healthy relationships with food and themselves. She lives in New York City. For more information, visit www.hannahhoward.nyc.

Praise for the Author

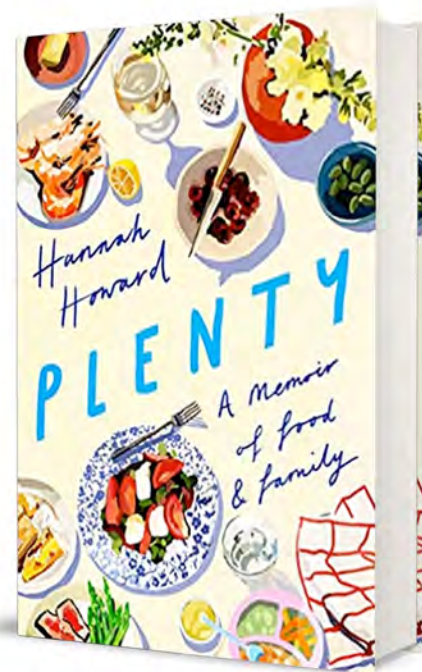
"In this candid and searching memoir, Howard offers a celebration of food as well as an account of the determination required to forge a path to self-acceptance. An inspirational memoir of food and finding oneself."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Those in recovery from substance abuse will recognize themselves throughout this honest memoir; for those without addiction issues, this story offers a painful glance into the lives of those who suffer."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"In this deeply felt memoir, Howard, who also mentors young women recovering from eating disorders, pens riveting accounts of the raging monster of bingeing and haunting tales of days of weakness. Readers who are untouched by an eating disorder will be shocked, and those who know its pain more intimately will find a compassionate and understanding friend in Howard." —*Booklist*



IMPRINT	Little A
GENRE	Memoir
PAGE COUNT	300

Rights Available

All Languages

Divine Lola: A True Story of Scandal and Celebrity

CRISTINA MORATÓ

TRANSLATED BY ANDREA ROSENBERG

AUGUST 17, 2021

Lola was the first “femme fatale” and one of the most famous women of the nineteenth century, dazzling all with her astonishing beauty and passionate, daring temperament. The first “social celebrity” in history, who rivaled Queen Victoria of England in prominence, turned out to be an impostor—a wildly ambitious woman born in Ireland with the name Elizabeth Gilbert, who reinvented herself as a Spanish Flamenco dancer named Lola Montez, claiming to be a descendant of Sevillian aristocrats. Artists, politicians, and even kings all fell under her spell; one king even abdicated the throne for her.

She lived a life of adventure, traveling all over the world, and was truly a woman ahead of her time. The author had access to all sorts of exclusive documents, unedited photos, private correspondence, press articles, royal archives, and so on, in order to write this book. She also traveled the main areas in which Lola's life unfurled: Paris, Munich, and the United States.

About Cristina Morató

Born in Barcelona in 1961, Cristina Morató is a journalist, reporter, and author dedicated to writing about the lives of great women innovators and explorers that history has overlooked. Her research, tracing the footsteps of these remarkable women, has led her to travel to more than forty countries and has resulted in eight biographies: *Viajeras intrépidas y aventureras* (Intrepid and Adventurous Women Travelers); *Las Reinas de África* (African Queens); *Las Damas de Oriente* (Ladies of the East); *Cautiva en Arabia* (Arabian Captive); *Divas rebeldes* (Rebel Divas); *Reinas malditas* (Tragic Queens); *Diosas de Hollywood* (Hollywood Goddesses); and *Divina Lola* (Divine Lola), Cristina's first to be translated into English. She is a founding member and the current vice president of the Spanish Geographical Society and belongs to the Royal Geographic Society of London. For more information visit www.cristinamorato.com.



IMPRINT	Amazon Crossing
GENRE	Narrative Nonfiction
PAGE COUNT	TBD

Rights Available

All Languages excluding Bulgarian, Catalan, Hungarian, Polish, and Spanish

Tabitha and Fritz Trade Places

KATIE FRAWLEY

ILLUSTRATED BY LAURIE STANSFIELD

JUNE 1, 2021

Pack your bags and join Tabitha and Fritz as they journey across the world to switch lives.

Tabitha the cat is tired of her easy, coddled life. An adventure across the world might spice things up! Fritz the elephant dreams of celebrating his birthday with an exciting voyage to a faraway place. So after the two connect online via Lair-bnb, they pack their bags and head across the globe to trade places. Will Fritz love the city life? Will the rain forest be all that Tabitha has hoped for? Join this adventurous pair as they find out whether the grass really is greener...on the other side of the world!

About Katie Frawley

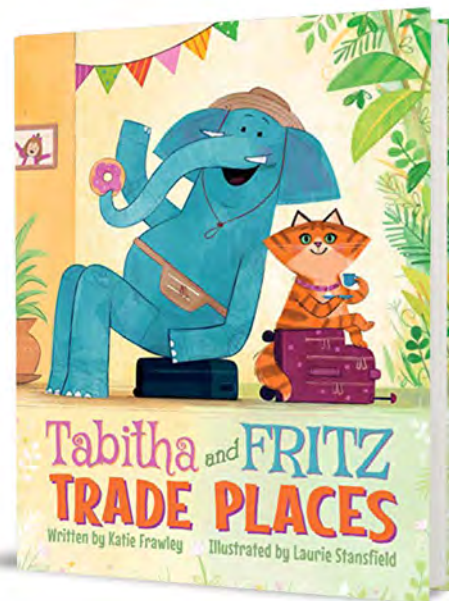
Katie Frawley grew up on a diet of *Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle* and *Madeline*. She went on to earn a bachelor's in English from the University of Florida and a master's in literature from Florida Atlantic University. These days, Katie lives in South Florida with her husband, four children, and a handsome mutt named Nantucket. When she's not reading or writing, Katie can be found building pillow forts, testing recipes with her teensy sous-chefs, or shooing iguanas from her garden. Learn more about the author at www.katiefrawley.wordpress.com.

Laurie Stansfield grew up in Oxford, England, but packed her bags and moved west to study illustration at the University of the West of England. She now works as a freelance illustrator. She is the illustrator of *Poems Out Loud!*, and has more books forthcoming. Her self-published work was highly commended by the Macmillan Prize for Illustration in the UK. Laurie lives with her husband in Bristol, United Kingdom. Learn more about the illustrator at www.lauriestansfield.co.uk.

Praise for *Tabitha and Fritz Trade Places*

"A satisfying spin on the trading-places trope." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Tabitha and Fritz are pretty much two of a kind, but debut author Frawley livens their epistolary exchanges with wordplay and knowing phrases... She gets a big assist from Stansfield (*Poems Out Loud!*), whose bright pastel settings, vivid expressions, and large cast of high-spirited supporting characters pull readers through the story." —*Publishers Weekly*



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Picture Book
PAGE COUNT	40

Rights Available

All Languages

Sadie Sprocket Builds a Rocket

SUE FLIESS

ILLUSTRATED BY ANNABEL TEMPEST

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Sadie Sprocket is a girl with a big dream—to go to Mars!

Told in cheery rhyming text with bright and quirky artwork, Sadie Sprocket sets out to build a rocket ship for her trip. She enlists a crew of her stuffed animals, and together they build the rocket, fly to Mars, get samples, and then come back to Earth, where Sadie is met with fanfare for her groundbreaking trip. The book features back matter with facts about Mars and about women in space.

About Sue Fliess

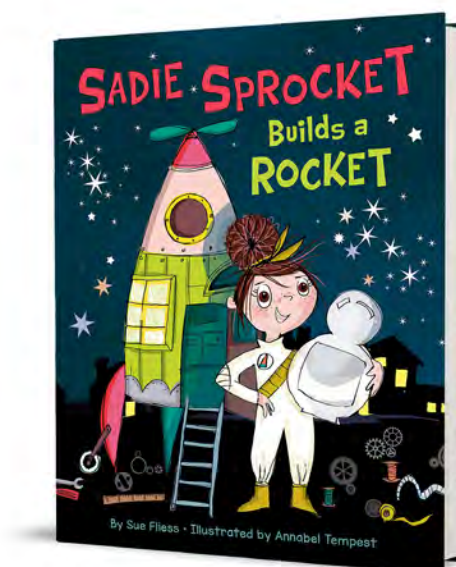
Sue Fliess is the award-winning, bestselling author of *Robots, Robots Everywhere!*, *How to Trap a Leprechaun*, *Mary Had a Little Lab*, *Ninja Camp*, *Mrs. Claus Takes the Reins*, and dozens more. Although she loves big thunderstorms with lightning, her very favorite kind of light is an ocean sunset. Sue lives with her family in Northern Virginia. Learn more at: www.suefliess.com.

Praise for *Sadie Sprocket Builds a Rocket*

"Inspiring, adventurous fun for aspirational kids." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"You aren't going to want to miss this delightful story full of girl power and whimsy!" —*Library Mom*

"This extremely cute exercise in feminist heroics delivers a subtle message through clever rhymes and good-natured humor." —*USA Today*



IMPRINT	Two Lions
GENRE	Picture Book
PAGE COUNT	40

Rights Available

All Languages

first reads

Bacchanal

VERONICA G. HENRY

JUNE 1, 2021

An atmospheric fantasy novel by debut author Veronica Henry about a young woman who must learn to control her magical powers to protect a traveling carnival from evil.

Evil lives in a traveling carnival roaming the Depression-era South. But the carnival's newest act, a peculiar young woman with latent magical powers, may hold the key to defeating it. Her time has come.

Abandoned by her family, and alone on the wrong side of the color line with little to call her own, Eliza Meeks is coming to terms with what she does have. It's a gift for communicating with animals. To some, she's a magical tender. To others, a she-devil. To a talent prospector, she's a crowd-drawing oddity. And the Bacchanal Carnival is Eliza's ticket out of the swamp trap of Baton Rouge.

Among fortune-tellers, carnies, barkers, and folks even stranger than herself, Eliza finds a new home. But the Bacchanal is no ordinary carnival. An ancient demon has a home there too. She hides behind an iridescent disguise. She feeds on innocent souls. And she's met her match in Eliza, who's only beginning to understand the purpose of her own burgeoning powers.

Only then can Eliza save her friends, find her family, and fight the sway of a primordial demon preying upon the human world. Rolling across a consuming dust bowl landscape, Eliza may have found her destiny.

About Veronica Henry

Veronica G. Henry was born in Brooklyn, New York, and has been a bit of a rolling stone ever since. Her work has appeared in various online publications. She is a graduate of the Viable Paradise Workshop and a member of SFWA.

Veronica is proud to be of Sierra Leonean ancestry and counts her trip home as the most important of her life. She now writes from North Carolina, where she eschews rollerballs for fountain pens and fine paper. Other untreated addictions include chocolate and cupcakes. For more information, visit www.veronicahenry.net.

Praise for *Bacchanal*

"Writer Veronica Henry pulls on a mix of African folklore, Black histories, and carnival culture to weave a story of mesmerizing, bizarre, and dangerous magic. With a heroine of unique powers and a cast as colorful as any sideshow, this story offers up its share of delights, adventure, and frights! Welcome to Bacchanal. Enjoy the sights. Hope you make it out alive!" —P. Djèlí Clark, author of *Ring Shout*, *The Haunting of Tram Car 015*, and *The Black God's Drums*

"Readers won't want their travels with the seductive and dangerous Bacchanal Carnival to end. Veronica Henry's debut impeccably conjures the 1930s and marks the bold entrance of a vital new voice in modern fantasy." —Gwenda Bond, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Stranger Things: Suspicious Minds*



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Contemporary Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	347

Rights Available

All Languages

Warrior's Ransom

The First Argentines Series

Book Two

JEFF WHEELER

MAY 18, 2021

A loyal knight is on a quest to save a dynasty from itself in the thrilling sequel to *Knight's Ransom* by *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Jeff Wheeler, whose books have reached over four million readers and been translated into eight languages.

After a pilgrimage to the East Kingdoms seeking a blessing from the Fountain, source of the land's magic, Sir Ransom Barton returns home in search of two dreams: Claire de Murrow, the heiress he loves, and a patron for his warrior skills. Unexpectedly, Ransom finds himself in the favor of Devon, the notorious Elder King. Brought into the ruler's mesnie and given two wards of his own, Ransom is devoted to his privileged new position. He's also privy to the running of the realm and to all its courtly intrigues—notably, the machinations of the king's three remaining sons, all engaged in a manipulative battle to become heir to the throne.

As Ransom is thrust into the middle of poisonous family conspiracies and betrayals, allegiances are shattered, and Ransom fears he may end up serving his worst enemy—or worse, face exile for demonstrating loyalty.

Drawing on his developing powers, Ransom takes up arms against the dark forces coming in a war that will test the limits of his courage and determine the fate of the dangerous and fractious Argentine dynasty.

About Jeff Wheeler

Jeff Wheeler is the *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *The Immortal Words*, *The Buried World*, and *The Killing Fog* in the Grave Kingdom series; the Harbinger, Kingfountain, and First Argentines series; and the Muirwood, Mirrowen, and Landmoor novels. He left his career at Intel in 2014 to write full-time. Jeff is a husband, father of five, and devout member of his church. He lives in the Rocky Mountains and is the founder of Deep Magic: The E-Zine of Clean Fantasy and Science Fiction. Find out more about Deep Magic at www.deepmagic.co, and visit Jeff's many worlds at www.jeff-wheeler.com.

Praise for the Author

"With this superlative epic fantasy...Wheeler does an expert job of reintroducing his fantasy world through the eyes of sympathetic characters that fans and new readers alike will root for. This is sure to be a hit."
—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Epic Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	412

Rights Available

All Languages

The Second Blind Son

The Chronicles of Saylok

Book 2

AMY HARMON

JULY 20, 2021

A lost girl and a blind boy discover that their greatest strength is their bond with each other in a beguiling fantasy by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The First Girl Child*, whose books will be translated into twenty-two languages.

An insidious curse is weakening the Norse kingdom of Saylok, where no daughters have been born in years. Washing up on these plagued shores is Ghisla, an orphaned stowaway nursed back to health by a blind cave dweller. Named for a mysterious god, the boy, Hod, is surrounded by prophecy. To Ghisla, he's a cherished new friend. To Hod, the girl is even more so. For when Ghisla sings, Hod can see.

Unable to offer safe shelter, Hod urges Ghisla onward to become a daughter of the temple, where all the kingdom's girl children have been gathered. But because of a magical rune, the two cannot be separated, no matter the time or the distance.

Now, subject to a ruthless king, Ghisla enters a desperate world of warring clan chieftains and catastrophic power struggles. Who among them can be trusted is unknowable. So are the sacrifices Ghisla and Hod must make to defeat the cursed forces that could destroy a kingdom and the fated bond between two souls.

About Amy Harmon

Amy Harmon is a *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, and *New York Times* bestselling author. Her books have been published in two dozen languages—truly a dream come true for a little country girl from Utah. Harmon has written sixteen novels, including the *Wall Street Journal* and *Washington Post* bestseller *What the Wind Knows*; the *USA Today* bestsellers *The Smallest Part*, *Making Faces*, and *Running Barefoot*; and the #1 Amazon bestselling historical novel *From Sand and Ash*, which won a Whitney Award for Book of the Year in 2016. Her novel *A Different Blue* is a *New York Times* bestseller. Her *USA Today* bestselling fantasy *The Bird and the Sword* was a Goodreads Best Book of 2016 finalist. For updates on upcoming book releases, author posts, and more, go to www.authoramyharmon.com.

Praise for the Author

"Addictive, engrossing, completely unputdownable. Amy Harmon's *The First Girl Child* needs to be at the top of everyone's reading list." —Penny Reid, *New York Times* bestselling author

"*The First Girl Child* is a unique and lovely read set in a world that is both familiar and strange. Rich, fast-paced, and romantic, this book will thoroughly satisfy fantasy readers craving a story with meat on its bones. It's going on my shelf next to Robin Hobb and Patricia McKillip." —Jared Garrett, bestselling author of *Lakhoni*

"Utterly brilliant. A sprawling tale of love and magic, of leadership and the sacrifice that comes with it. I cannot recommend this book enough." —bestselling author Staci Hart



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
PAGE COUNT	339

Rights Available

All Languages

Crown of Cinders

Wings of Fury Series

Book 2

EMILY R. KING

OCTOBER 5, 2021

For readers of Madeline Miller's *Circe*, *Crown of Cinders* is the second installment in this epic series that tells the story of Greece, Titans and treachery, and the women who dare to rise up against the tyranny of the Golden Age, by the author of the *Hundredth Queen* series.

Althea's head is still spinning from her discovery that she's Hera, daughter of Cronus, the terrible Titan king who murdered her adoptive mother. After Althea failed to cast Cronus down into the deepest pit of Tartarus, the king calls upon his powerful allies, the elder Titans who reign supreme over the heavens, earth, and seas. To force Althea to surrender, the elder Titans rain down wrath upon the mortal world with earthquakes, famine, pestilence, hurricanes, and all manner of destruction. Lukas, Althea's friend and confidant, hides her and her godly siblings, but they can't run forever. She must recruit allies from the younger Titans before the afflicted mortals turn them into Cronus in exchange for peace.

The last of Cronus's children are still unaccounted for—Poseidon and Hades are also in hiding. Althea sets out to find her long-lost brothers, but hunting them down without getting caught and persuading them to stand against their all-powerful father will be next to impossible. Althea has a lot to learn about her newly restored crown and Titaness powers. As the gods pick sides, she must divide heaven and earth to protect her mortal home and friends and unite her brothers and sisters in the war to end all wars.

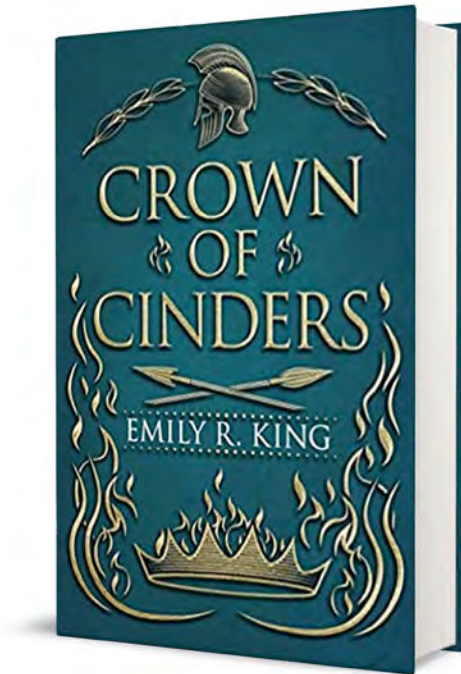
About Emily R. King

Emily R. King is the author of the *Hundredth Queen* series, as well as *Before the Broken Star*, *Into the Hourglass*, and *Everafter Song* in the *Evermore Chronicles*. Born in Canada and raised in the United States, she is a shark advocate, a consumer of gummy bears, and an islander at heart, but her greatest interests are her children and three cantankerous cats. For more information, visit her at www.emilyrking.com.

Praise for the Author

"Sumptuous...King ably weaves Greek mythology into a cat-and-mouse spectacle. Readers will cheer for Althea as she upholds her family's honor and fights belligerent gods with determination and confidence. This is a winner." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"King writes multiple strong female characters, led by Kalinda, who has the loyalty and bravery of spirit to defend her friends even if that means facing death. Strong characterization, deep worldbuilding, page-turning action scenes and intrigue, as well as social commentary, make this book stand out. This outing opens a trilogy; readers will be eager to get their hands on the next installment." —*Kirkus Reviews*



IMPRINT	47North
GENRE	Adventure
PAGE COUNT	218

Rights Available

All Languages

Brown Boy Nowhere

SHEERYL LIM

AUGUST 1, 2021

A story of sixteen-year-old skater boy Angelo Rivera who is determined to escape his all-white Midwest high school in the middle of nowhere. But then he meets an ex-cheerleader outcast who steals his heart and forever changes the way he views small-town America.

Welcome to Nowhere, kid. Life starts here.

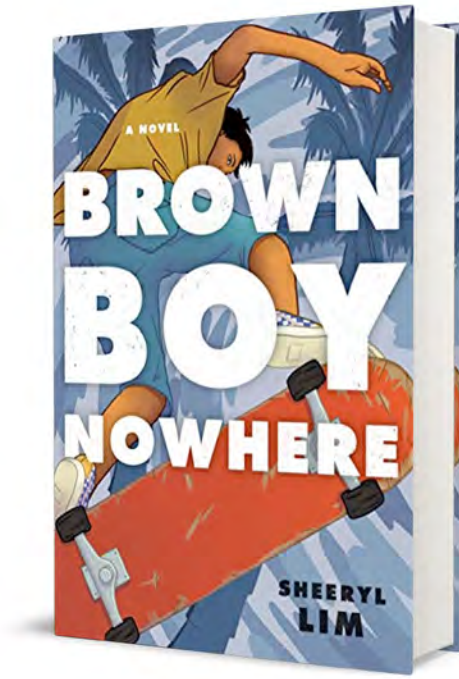
What's the problem? Sixteen-year-old Filipino American Angelo Rivera will tell you flat out. Life sucks. He's been uprooted from his San Diego home to a boring landlocked town in the middle of nowhere. Behind him, ocean waves, his girlfriend, and the biggest skateboarding competition on the California coast. Ahead, flipping burgers at his parents' new diner and, as the only Asian in his all-white school, being trolled as "brown boy" by small-minded, thick-necked jocks.

Resigned to being an outcast, Angelo isn't alone. Kirsten, a crushable ex-cheerleader and graffiti artist, and Larry, a self-proclaimed invisible band geek, recognize a fellow outsider. Soon enough, Angelo finds himself the leader of their group of misfits. They may be low on the high school food chain, but they're determined to hold their own.

Between shifts at the diner, dodging bullies, and wishing for home, Angelo discovers this might not be nowhere after all. Sharing it can turn it into somewhere in a heartbeat.

About Sheeryl Lim

Sheeryl Lim considers herself a bookworm since birth and boasts an unending TBR pile. If she isn't writing, she's eating popcorn or playing with her rescue dogs, Roscoe and Nollie. Originally from San Diego, California, the Filipino American author currently resides on the East Coast with her husband and fur babies. For more information, visit www.sheeryllim.com.



IMPRINT	Skyscape
GENRE	Young Adult
PAGE COUNT	TBD