History of Wolves

A Novel

Emily Fridlund

“As exquisite a first novel as I’ve ever encountered. Poetic, complex, and utterly, heartbreakingly beautiful.”

—T. C. Boyle

Fourteen-year-old Linda lives with her parents in the beautiful, austere woods of northern Minnesota, where their nearly abandoned commune stands as a last vestige of a lost counterculture world. Isolated at home and an outsider at school, Linda is drawn to the enigmatic, attractive Lily and new history teacher Mr. Grierson. When Mr. Grierson is charged with possessing child pornography, the implications of his arrest deeply affect Linda as she wrestles with her own fledgling desires and craving to belong.

And then the young Gardner family moves in across the lake and Linda finds herself welcomed into their home as a babysitter for their little boy, Paul. It seems that her life finally has purpose, but, with this new sense of belonging, she is also drawn into secrets she doesn’t understand. Over the course of a few days, Linda makes a set of choices that reverberate throughout her life. As she struggles to find a way out of the sequestered world into which she was born, Linda confronts the life-and-death consequences of the things people do—and fail to do—for the people they love.

Winner of the McGinnis-Ritchie Award for its first chapter, Emily Fridlund’s gorgeously written History of Wolves introduces a new writer of enormous range and talent.
Excerpt

It's not that I never think about Paul. He comes to me occasionally before I'm fully awake, though I almost never remember what he said, or what I did or didn't do to him. In my mind, the kid just plops down into my lap. Boom. That's how I know it's him: there's no interest in me, no hesitation. We're sitting in the Forest Center on a late afternoon like any other, and his body moves automatically toward mine—not out of love or respect, but simply because he hasn't yet learned the etiquette of minding where his body stops and another begins. He's four, he's got an owl puzzle to do, don't talk to him. I don't. Outside the window, an avalanche of poplar fluff floats by, silent and weightless as air. The sun sets, the puzzle cleaves into an owl and comes apart again, I prod Paul to standing. Time to go. It's time. But in the second before we rise, before he whines out his protest and asks to stay a little longer, he leans back against my chest, yawning. And my throat cinches closed. Because it's strange, you know? It's marvelous, and sad too, how good it can feel to have your body taken for granted.

EMILY FRIDLUND grew up in Minnesota and currently resides in the Finger Lakes region of New York. Her fiction has appeared in a variety of journals, including *Boston Review*, *Zyzzys*, *FiveChapters*, *New Orleans Review*, *Sou’wester*, *New Delta Review*, *Chariton Review*, *Portland Review*, and *Painted Bride Quarterly*. Fridlund’s collection of stories, *Catapult*, won the Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction and will be published by Sarabande in 2017.

PRAISE FOR HISTORY OF WOLVES

“Winter collapsed on us that year. It knelt down, exhausted, and stayed. ’ So much is accomplished here, not least a kind of trust that this writer will make everything count, including the kind of data that is usually left for dead in a story. What is literary authority, after all, but the ability to regularly, without apparent effort, make the most of every sentence, build feeling in every line and do it in such a way that is tough, tight, funny, and often brilliantly disruptive?” —Ben Marcus

“So delicately calibrated and precisely beautiful that one might not immediately sense the sledgehammer of pain building inside this book. And I mean that in the best way. What powerful tension and depth this provides! I’m so excited for readers to encounter the talent and roiling intelligence of Emily Fridlund.” —Aimee Bender

“So compelling, so filled with tension that I could not stop reading. A first novel this good gives me such incredible faith in the literary world that this young talent will bring us readers more and more of this exquisite prose and choice of words. She gets this close with sexual tension and then moves away in a way that allows you to let your breath out. And Paul, the innocent in this whole mess, is a victim but are the others as well? I love this so much!” —Annie Philbrick, Bank Square Books

“A punch to the heart lies at the center of *History of Wolves*—a punch readers may not see coming until some critical point when they look up from the page and realize what Fridlund has been doing to them all along: setting them up to knock them down. Hard. In this tremendous debut, she writes with unbelievable craft and depth of feeling about girlhood, sexual awakening, guilt, belief, and above all, the shattering limits of faith. The result is a novel of huge power, one destined to be among the most talked-about of the season.” —Brandon Stout, Changing Hands Bookstore
A riveting new novel by award-winning thriller writer Belinda Bauer, in which a desperate crime reporter unwittingly becomes the accomplice of a serial killer hungry for attention

The Beautiful Dead
Belinda Bauer

“Belinda Bauer is a marvel. Her novels are almost indecently gripping and enjoyable.”
—Sophie Hannah, New York Times bestselling author of The Monogram Murders and Woman with a Secret

Belinda Bauer is an award-winning crime writer of the highest caliber, whose smart, stylish novels have captivated readers and reviewers on both sides of the Atlantic and earned her a reputation as “the true heir to the great Ruth Rendell” [Mail on Sunday (UK)]. Her latest, The Beautiful Dead, is a riveting narrative centered on a down-on-her-luck journalist and a serial killer desperate for the media spotlight.

TV crime reporter Eve Singer’s career is flagging, but that starts to change when she covers a spate of bizarre murders—each one committed in public and advertised like an art exhibition. When the killer contacts Eve about her coverage of his crimes, she is suddenly on the inside of the biggest murder investigation of the decade. But as the killer becomes increasingly obsessed with her, Eve realizes there’s a thin line between inside information and becoming an accomplice to murder—possibly her own.

A seamlessly plotted thriller that will keep readers breathless until the very end, The Beautiful Dead cements Belinda Bauer’s reputation as a master of heart-stopping suspense.

“Belinda Bauer’s thrillers are always compelling, always original, always brilliant. I will rush to read anything she writes.”
—Mark Billingham

MARKETING
Rubbernecker won the 2014 Theakston’s Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award and was one of the Guardian’s “Best Crime and Thrillers of 2013” and an Amazon Editors’ Best Book of the Month (Mystery, Thriller & Suspense)
The Shut Eye was shortlisted for the 2015 CWA Goldsboro Gold Dagger Award
Bauer won the CWA Gold Dagger Award for Crime Novel of the Year for her first novel, Blacklands, and the CWA Dagger in the Library Award for outstanding body of work
major review coverage
targeted outreach to mystery/thriller press
library marketing including Midwinter ALA mystery and thriller advertising campaign

BELINDA BAUER is the author of seven award-winning novels that have been translated into twenty-one languages. The Beautiful Dead is her fifth novel to be published in North America. She lives in Wales.

belindabauer.co.uk
@belindabauer
Layla didn’t scream. The thought of her own scream bouncing endlessly up and down the stairwell only frightened her more—and she was trying not to panic; trying to think. She ran as fast as she dared, clutching the black plastic-covered handrail in case she lost her footing, watching the stairs blur underfoot with eyes that bulged in concentration, desperate not to fall, her long blonde hair swinging into her mouth, her bag bumping the back of her ribs.

There would be someone on the fourth floor. She had once come halfway up in the lift with a woman who’d bitched about working at weekends.

Layla stopped above the fourth floor landing, panting, gasping. She forced herself to be quiet so she could listen.

She heard nothing. No one.

Maybe he wasn’t coming after her. Maybe he’d never planned to.

Maybe he hadn’t even had a knife?

He had though . . .

She started downstairs again—slowly this time—her knees like jelly and her toes on fire.

She pulled open the door marked with a giant 4.

She took a tentative step onto the carpet.

‘Hello!’

The lift door in front of her slid open. The man was inside. Calm and still, and with the knife—it was a knife!—held casually by his side.

He smiled.

"Surprise, of course, is the most potent aspect of suspense. And Belinda Bauer knows exactly how to manipulate that element, right until the very end . . . She’s shown, not just how to keep surprise bubbling explosively away, but to do it with extraordinary dexterity, maturity and feeling . . . Brilliant."

—Daily Mirror (UK)

Finders Keepers
Belinda Bauer

“This chilling thriller from award-winning writer Belinda Bauer centered on a serial kidnapper who takes children whose parents, he believes, don’t love them

PRAISE FOR BELINDA BAUER

“Deliciously macabre . . . Sizzling with tension . . . A tour de force of plotting and writing.”
—Marilyn Stasio, New York Times Book Review, on Rubbernecker

“Bauer’s ability to get under the skins of her characters is second to none.”—Guardian (UK), on The Shut Eye

“Astonishing . . . A terrifying knockout.”
—Los Angeles Times, on Blacklands

“Bauer takes astonishing risks but—like a brilliant ski-jumper—arcs down to the perfect landing.”
—Independent (UK), on Darkside

Also Available:
Rubbernecker
(978-0-8021-2502-6 • $16 • USCOxEx)
The Shut Eye
(978-0-8021-2485-2 • $14 • USCOxEx)
An eye-opening history of science in the Soviet Union, following the generation of scientists who survived Stalin’s rule and helped to reshape the world

Stalin and the Scientists

A History of Triumph and Tragedy

Simon Ings

Scientists throughout history, from Galileo to today’s experts on climate change, have often had to contend with politics in their pursuit of knowledge. But in the Soviet Union, where the ruling elites embraced, patronized, and even fetishized science like never before, scientists lived their lives on a knife edge. The Soviet Union had the best-funded scientific establishment in history. Scientists were elevated as popular heroes and lavished with awards and privileges. But if their ideas or their field of study lost favor with the elites, they could be exiled, imprisoned, or murdered. And yet they persisted, making major contributions to twentieth-century science.

Stalin and the Scientists tells the story of the hugely gifted scientists who worked in Russia from the years leading up to the Revolution through the death of the “Great Scientist” himself, Joseph Stalin. It weaves together the stories of scientists, politicians, and ideologues into an intimate and sometimes horrifying portrait of a state determined to remake the world. They often wreaked great harm. Stalin was himself an amateur botanist, and by falling under the sway of dangerous charlatans like Trofim Lysenko (who denied the existence of genes), and by relying on antiquated ideas of biology, he not only destroyed the lives of hundreds of brilliant scientists, he caused the death of millions through famine. But from atomic physics to management theory, and from radiation biology to neuroscience and psychology, these Soviet experts also discovered breakthroughs that forever changed agriculture, education, and medicine.

A masterful book that deepens our understanding of Russian history, Stalin and the Scientists is a great achievement of research and storytelling, and a gripping look at what happens when science falls prey to politics.
The controversies over genetics came to a head at the fourth annual session of the Lenin Academy, that vast conglomerate of all things agricultural. The organizers of the session, which ran from December 19 to 26, 1936, had never planned it to be some kind of extra-judicial venue to try genetics. Nicolai Ivanovich Muralov, the new head of the Lenin Academy, tried to maintain an even-handed debate. Muralov’s reputation was one of warmth and fairness—but he was in serious trouble. Trotsky had been his friend and champion. That sort of affiliation was by now quite enough to get a person killed.

There was another problem with Muralov—one which came to shape the Lenin Academy’s session in a way that sent a chill through Vavilov and the field of genetics: Muralov knew nothing whatsoever about genetics.

SIMON INGS, a science writer and novelist, is the author of A Natural History of Seeing: The Art and Science of Vision. He edits the culture section of New Scientist and regularly contributes to publications including the Guardian (UK), Times (UK), Telegraph (UK), Independent (UK), and Nature. He lives and works in London.

PRAISE FOR A NATURAL HISTORY OF SEEING

“Ings’ voracious curiosity about the physics—and psychology—of vision, ranging across history, biology, philosophy, and myth, makes this book a brilliantly lucid read.”
—O, The Oprah Magazine

“Ings covers vision from A to Z and includes remarkably up-to-date information about what we know about seeing, how we know it, who discovered it, and how that discovery happened . . . Who will want to read this book? Anyone who wants a deeper knowledge of how vision works.”—New England Journal of Medicine

“An eclectic presentation. [Ings’s] personal train of thought . . . is robustly reinforced by [his] engagement with research on vision from ancient times to the present . . . Ings’ excitement about sight will entice science buffs.”—Booklist

“Ings . . . compresses an encyclopedia’s worth of information about the evolution, makeup and function of the eye into an energetic, accessible volume . . . A keen, colorful contribution to popular science.”—Kirkus Reviews

“[A] thoroughly engaging book, with refreshing clarity, enthusiasm and vigour. It’s a real eye-opener, if you’ll pardon the pun.”—Times (UK)

“A rich and eclectic survey, with an intriguing nugget on almost every page.”
—Sunday Telegraph (UK)

“Ings has succeeded in writing an elegant, entertaining and up-to-date overview of cutting-edge research . . . Utterly compelling.”—Independent (UK)
From the acclaimed Hollywood writer/director and author of *The Player* and *Among the Dead*, a panoramic vision—suspenseful, comic, prophetic—set in a near-future California that has been devastated by NK3, a memory-destroying virus from North Korea.

**MARKETING**

For the screenplay adaptation of his seminal Hollywood satire, *The Player*, Tolkin won the Writers Guild Award, among other awards, and was nominated for an Academy Award. The film, directed by Robert Altman, is a cult classic.

Tolkin wrote and directed *The Rapture* and *The New Age*; cowrote the screenplays for *Deep Cover*, *Deep Impact*, *Changing Lanes*, and *Nine*; and was nominated for an Emmy for his work on HBO’s *The Burning Season*.

**With The Player and The Return of the Player, Michael Tolkin established himself as the master novelist of modern Hollywood. In his new novel, NK3, the HLYWOD sign presides over a Los Angeles devastated by a weaponized microbe that has been accidentally spread around the globe, deleting human identity.**

In post-NK3 Los Angeles, a sixty-foot-tall fence surrounds the hills where the rich used to live, but the mansions have been taken over by those with the only power that matters: the power of memory. Inside the Fence, life for the new aristocracy, a society of the partially rehabilitated who call themselves the Verified, is a perpetual party. Outside the Fence, in downtown Los Angeles, the Verified use an invented mythology to keep control over the mindless and nameless Drifters, Shamblers, and Bottle Bangers who serve the new aristocracy until no longer needed. The ruler, Chief, takes his guidance from gigantic effigies of a man and a woman in the heart of the Fence. They warn him of trouble to come, but who is the person to watch: the elusive Eckmann, holed up at LAX; Shannon Squier, a chisel-wielding pop superstar from the pre-NK3 world; a treacherous member of Chief’s inner circle; or Hopper, a Drifter compelled by an inner voice to search for a wife whose name and face he doesn’t know? Each threatens to upset the delicate power balance in this fragile world.

In deliciously dark prose, Tolkin winds a noose-like plot around this melee of despots, prophets, and rebels as they struggle for command and survival in a town that still manages to exert a magnetic force, even as a ruined husk.
Excerpt

Seth followed his new mentor through the hospital to the surgery ward, where Piperno turned on the lights in a large operating room. Trays in the middle of the room, under bright lights, surrounded a hospital bed with surgical knives and clamps, and an electrocardiogram machine, an oxygen monitor; everything needed to keep a patient alive during a long operation.

“We set this room up for you.”

“This is where they cut people,” said Seth.

“Very good. Yes, this is an operating room. We’ll show you more videos and help you read the books. Do you remember how to read?”

“Read?” Seth didn’t know if the answer should be yes or no. Piperno pointed to a label on the wall.

“What does that say?”

“It’s not saying anything.” Seth lied. The label said “Oxygen.”

“It’d help if you could read, but we’ll do what we can with the videos. Until you pass the tests, you’ll sleep here to absorb the vibrations of the room, to bring back the feeling of your training by setting you in the place of your work.”

“I’m supposed to become a doctor by sleeping in an operating room?”

“Do you know a better way?”

MICHAEL TOLKIN is an award-winning writer, director, and producer. His novels include The Player, The Return of the Player, Among the Dead, and Under Radar. For the film adaptation of The Player, Tolkin won the Writers Guild Award, the BAFTA Award for Best Adapted Screenplay, the PEN Center USA West Literary Award, and the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Crime Screenplay. Most recently, he has been a consulting producer and writer for the Showtime series Ray Donovan.

PRAISE FOR MICHAEL TOLKIN

“Michael Tolkin is an L.A. Antonioni with a sense of humor.”—New Yorker

“One of the most wounding and satirical of all Hollywood exposés: dark and mordant . . . A nightmare rendered with icy precision.”—Los Angeles Times, on The Player

“A pungently witty and entertaining read . . . A perceptive denunciation of contemporary life . . . Tolkin proves himself a master of black comedy.”—Washington Post, on Among the Dead

“Startling . . . There is a fearlessness to Mr. Tolkin’s book that remains forceful.”—New York Times, on Under Radar

“Stunning . . . Provocative . . . A terrifyingly beautiful book.”—Newsday, on Among the Dead

“So unexpected, so full of startling insights, that it seems to be blazing a fresh trail. At the same time, it reveals a character who is bound inevitably to a disastrous past.”—Oregonian, on Under Radar

Also Available:
The Player
(978-0-8021-3513-1 • $13 • USCO)
The Return of the Player
(978-0-8021-4302-0 • $13 • USCO)
Under Radar
(978-0-8021-3990-0 • $12 • USCO)
Among the Dead
(978-0-8021-3882-8 • $13 • USCO)
“Mark Billingham takes us on a very unhappy holiday in this sizzling thriller that starts in Florida and moves back to Britain . . . Billingham is brilliant with both characters and narrative and he’s at his very best in this . . . tale of love and loss.”—Globe & Mail (Canada)

Rush of Blood
Mark Billingham

MARKETING
Billingham is a #1 bestseller in the UK. His books have sold over 4 million copies worldwide.

In the Dark, a four-part BBC adaptation of Billingham’s novel of the same name combined with Time of Death, will air in fall 2016. A BBC adaptation of Rush of Blood is also under development.

eGalleys available on NetGalley and Edelweiss.

Targeted outreach to mystery/thriller press.

Library marketing including Midwinter ALA.

Backlist eBook promotions.

Mystery and thriller advertising campaign including Crimespree, Mystery Scene, and Strand Magazine.

Also available as a HighBridge audiobook.

perfect strangers. A perfect holiday. The perfect murder.

In the stand-alone novel Rush of Blood, internationally bestselling author Mark Billingham puts a sinister twist on a deceptively innocent topic: the beach vacation.

Three British couples meet around the pool on their Florida holiday and become fast friends. But on Easter Sunday, the last day of their vacation, tragedy strikes: the fourteen-year-old daughter of an American vacationer goes missing, and her body is later found floating in the mangroves. When the shocked couples return home to the UK, they remain in contact, and over the course of three increasingly fraught dinner parties they come to know one another better. But they don’t always like what they find. Buried beneath these apparently normal exteriors are some unusual kinks and unpleasant vices. Then, a second girl goes missing, in Kent—not far from where the couples live. Could it be that one of these six has a secret far darker than anybody can imagine?

Ambitiously plotted and laced with dark humor, Rush of Blood is a first-rate suspense novel about the danger of making new friends in seemingly sunny places.

“The suspense is expertly built and the resolution of the mystery is unexpected and deeply chilling, the perfect ending to an extremely gripping book.”

—Daily Express (UK)
Excerpt
The light winking on the blue mirror of the pool, the sunhats and the sweating beer bottles clutched in their fists. The drone of insects. The smell of warm skin slick with suntan lotion.
All of it.
It couldn't really be any more unsuitable, bearing in mind what's happening. One of them thinks there's a word for it, for that . . . clash, but he can't remember what the word is. The six of them just listen and shake their heads, trying their best not to let the woman see how awkward they're feeling—God, that would be terrible, all things considered—but it only makes the situation worse. Now, they're worried that they just look even more relaxed, even more insensitive. Like they don't give a shit about the missing girl.
It makes them all feel even guiltier.

MARK BILLINGHAM has twice won the Theakston’s Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award and also won the Sherlock Award for Best Detective Created by a British Author. His books, which include the critically acclaimed Tom Thorne series, have been translated into twenty-five languages and have sold over four million copies. He lives in London.

PRAISE FOR RUSH OF BLOOD
“The twists and turns are smart and original, but more than that, Billingham is one of a handful of authors whose words flow as smoothly as his plot.” —Sunday Express (UK)
“Hugely effective and entertaining . . . many twists and shocks.” —Times (UK)
“A real contender for the title of nation's top crime writer.” —Daily Mirror (UK)
“Dialogue is perfectly pitched . . . All six ‘friends’ tell small lies to the police, all have their sadnesses and their secrets. Almost any one of them seems capable of murder and any reader trying to guess the culprit’s identity will be doing so to the very end.” —Scotsman (UK)
“Billingham’s characters are cleverly drawn . . . Rush of Blood is a book not to be missed.” —Reviewing the Evidence
“This high-tension, fast-paced, character-driven story is masterfully plotted and flawlessly told.” —Crime Thriller Girl (UK)
A poignant and engaging family memoir about a daughter who is racing to assemble her father’s story—one that includes parachuting into France and Burma for British special forces during World War II—as his mind dissolves into dementia.

**Dadland**

Keggie Carew

“Dazzling . . . An unforgettable portrait of a maverick father . . . But it’s so much more besides: a detective story, a family history, a thrilling tale of derring-do, and the most distinctive and affecting memoir I’ve read since *H Is for Hawk.*”

—Bookseller (UK), Book of the Month

Keggie Carew grew up in the gravitational field of an unorthodox father who lived on his wits and dazzling charm. For most of her adult life, Keggie was kept at arm’s length from her father’s personal history, but when she is invited to join him for the sixtieth anniversary of the Jedburghs—an elite special operations unit during World War II—a new door opens in their relationship. As dementia stakes a claim over his memory, Keggie embarks on a quest to unravel her father’s story and soon finds herself in a far more consuming place than she had bargained for.

Tom Carew was a maverick, a left-handed stutterer, a law unto himself. As a Jedburgh he was parachuted behind enemy lines to raise guerrilla resistance first against the Germans in France, then against the Japanese in Southeast Asia, where he won the moniker “Lawrence of Burma.” But his wartime exploits are only the beginning. Part family memoir, part energetic military history, *Dadland* takes us on a spellbinding journey, in peace and war, into surprising corners of twentieth-century politics, Keggie’s rackety English childhood, the poignant breakdown of her family, the corridors of dementia, and beyond. As Keggie pieces her father—and herself—back together again, she celebrates the Technicolor life of an impossible, irresistible, unstoppable man.

MARKETING

*Dadland* was a *Bookseller* Book of the Month and received a huge media push in the UK. The book is beautifully designed with images throughout, including family photos, images of military training documents, and heartbreaking reproductions of notes Tom Carew wrote to himself as a means of coping with his dementia.

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I’ve been in thrall to Dad too many years. It’s been hard to grow out of the need to impress. Be more fearless. Be wilder. Be braver. Be different. Think differently. I knew Dad was out of the ordinary and I wanted to be too. He disliked authority and taught me, by default, to distrust it as well. Dad’s response to pretty much everything was usually different to everyone else’s response. Rules were there not just to be broken but to pit yourself against, to outwit. It was an intellectual exercise for him. He thought nothing of allowing us to duck out of school for a day if there was something better on. He had no respect for anything if it clashed with common sense: his, that is. On one occasion, I must have been about twelve or thirteen, I skived off to go riding. The next day, on the bus into school something (the sly way Dad had licked the envelope?) made me open the sick note he’d written to my teacher. One sentence. It said: ‘I am sorry Keggie was not at school yesterday, she had a bad hangover.’ Of course I was furious. I suppose the question is, Did he know I would open it?

KEGGIE CAREW has lived in London, West Cork, Barcelona, Texas, and New Zealand. Before writing, her career was in contemporary art. She has studied English literature at Goldsmiths University of London, run an alternative art space called JAGO, and opened a pop-up shop in London called theworldthewayiwanit. She lives near Salisbury, in the UK.

PRAISE FOR DADLAND

“I was so absorbed and moved by Dadland I haven’t been able to read anything else. It is beautifully written—deft and funny and so tender . . . I loved it.”—Rachel Joyce, New York Times bestselling author of The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

“Dadland is a wonderful, haunting, and beautifully written memoir unlike any other I have ever read. While it is the journey of one man’s life . . . it is also the voyage of his daughter as she tries to reclaim the father lost to her and unravel the past she never knew. I found myself laughing out loud at times and, at others, unable to hold back the tears . . . A profoundly rewarding and life-affirming book of many layers and a deeply moving homage to that extraordinary generation who lived, loved, and fought through the Second World War . . . Absolutely stunning.”—James Holland, author of The Rise of Germany, 1939–1941

“Dadland is Keggie Carew’s compelling attempt to understand her charismatic, unconventional father.”—Daily Express (UK)

“A mesmerizing performance by a natural storyteller gifted with the most seductive material possible, in the wild and wonderful life of her exasperating Irish father . . . A brave, risk-taking tale that alarms, delights, and moves.”—Iain Sinclair, author of American Smoke
In his powerful new short story cycle, Alabama-born Michael Knight illuminates the everyday beauty and heartache of life along the shores of serene, history-haunted Mobile Bay in the days leading up to a powerful hurricane.

**Eveningland**
Stories
Michael Knight

Long considered a master of the form and an essential voice in American fiction, Michael Knight's stories have been lauded by writers such as Ann Patchett, Elizabeth Gilbert, Barry Hannah, and Richard Bausch. Now, with *Eveningland*, he returns to the form that launched his career, delivering an arresting collection of interlinked stories set among the “right kind of Mobile family” in the years preceding a devastating hurricane.

Grappling with dramas both epic and personal, from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to the “unspeakable misgivings of contentment,” *Eveningland* captures with crystalline poeticism and perfect authenticity of place the ways in which ordinary life astounds us with its complexity. A teenaged girl with a taste for violence holds a burglar hostage in her house on New Year’s Eve; a middle-aged couple examines the intricacies of their marriage as they prepare to throw a party; and a real estate mogul in the throes of grief buys up all the property on an island only to be accused of madness by his daughters. These stories, told with economy and precision, infused with humor and pathos, excavate brilliantly the latent desires and motivations that drive life forward.

*Eveningland* is a luminous collection from “a writer of the first rank.” (*Esquire*)
PRAISE FOR EVENINGLAND

“There’s something almost holy in the way Michael Knight writes about his native Alabama, emotional honesty and acuteness of vision leavened with genuine reverence for these people and this place. Taken individually these stories are beautifully crafted—often funny, just as often heartbreaking, always surprising. Taken together, they paint a portrait that is on its surface as refined as the region’s most wistful vision of itself. Beneath that gracious veneer, however, lurk depths of loss and longing that speak to what it means to be alive no matter where you live. This collection of linked stories is as potent as any novel I have read in a long, long time.”

—Adam Johnson

“Over the last two decades, Michael Knight has quietly become one of his generation’s premier short story writers. And he might just be the best writer of novellas in the country. This collection gives us a handful of new, shorter gems and one long, beautiful piece you'll not be able to forget. With each selection, Knight finds people in crisis—whether it’s a cuckolded husband, a down-and-out burglar, or a family preparing for an impending hurricane—and makes that crisis both deeply personal and deeply universal. His literary god-uncles, Fitzgerald and Cheever, would be proud of their nephew and his work. As for the rest of us, how fortunate we are, how truly fortunate, to be able to read his fiction. Michael Knight is an American master.”

—Tom Franklin

PRAISE FOR DIVINING ROD

“Every word in this deeply resonant novel is pure gold.”
—Washington Post Book World

“In the lineage of writers such as Flannery O’Connor and Eudora Welty . . . Knight is without a doubt a new writer of considerable talent and promise.”
—San Francisco Chronicle

PRAISE FOR DOGFIGHT

“Wonderfully humane.”—Playboy

“Has a bite more than equal to its bark.”
—Madison Smartt Bell

PRAISE FOR GOODNIGHT, NOBODY

“Arresting.”—New York Times Book Review

“Touchingly human.”—Boston Globe

“Seductive . . . memorable and intimate.”
—Atlantic Monthly

PRAISE FOR THE TYPIST

“Reminiscent of The English Patient—slow, sad, wistful and romantic.”—Los Angeles Times

“Elegant . . . a memorable read.”
—Chicago Tribune

Also Available:
Dogfight (978-0-8021-4330-3 • $13 • W)
Goodnight, Nobody (978-0-8021-4055-5 • $12 • W)
Divining Rod (978-0-8021-4497-3 • $14 • USCO)
The Typist (978-0-8021-4536-9 • $14 • W)
The Holiday Season (978-0-8021-4369-1 • $14 • USCO)
No comedian could have written the joke this election cycle has been. The punch line is too ridiculous (whoever the punch line is going to be). Or, as celebrated political satirist, journalist, and die-hard Republican P. J. O’Rourke put it in his exasperated endorsement of Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton: “America is experiencing the most severe outbreak of mass psychosis since the Salem witch trials of 1692.”

In his latest book, P. J. brings his critical eye and inimitable voice to some serious risky business. How the Hell Did This Happen? begins with him donning a hazmat suit and diving into the pig pile of presidential candidates circa June 2015 including Jim (“who?”) Webb, Scott Walker (“America’s chance to have a President who gets carded every time he orders a beer”), Ted Cruz (“crazy like a fox—no, like a Fox News broadcast), Bernie Sanders (“Donald Trump for people still living in their parents’ basements”), and Donald Trump (“Landlord of the Flies”). P. J. eviscerates each front-runner as he or she emerges from under the rock where they’ve all been living. He covers the dreadful key primaries and candidate debates. P. J. takes us through his come-to-Satan moment with Hillary—“She’s the second worst thing that could happen to our nation. I endorse her.”—and into the Beginning of End Times in November.

How the Hell Did This Happen? answers the key question of the 2016 presidential election: Should we laugh or should we cry or should we hurl? (They are not mutually exclusive.)
Who are these jacklegs, highbinders, wire-pullers, mountebanks, swellheads, buncombe spigots, boodle artists, four-flushers and animated spittoons offering themselves as worthy of the nation’s highest office?

Do they take us voters for fools?

Of course they do. But are they also deluded? Are they also insane? Are they receiving radio broadcasts on their dental fillings telling them they have what it takes to be a good president?


That’s not a list of presidential candidates. That’s the worst law firm in the world.

These people don’t have what it takes to be a bad president.

P. J. O’ROURKE has written seventeen books on subjects as diverse as politics and cars and etiquette and economics. Parliament of Whores and Give War a Chance both reached #1 on the New York Times bestseller list. He is a contributing editor at the Weekly Standard, H. L. Mencken Research Fellow at the Cato Institute, a regular panelist on NPR’s Wait Wait . . . Don’t Tell Me, and a columnist for the Daily Beast. He lives in rural New England, as far away from the things he writes about as he can get.

Also Available:
Thrown Under the Omnibus (978-0-8021-2567-5 • $20 • USCO)
The Baby Boom (978-0-8021-2290-2 • $15 • USCO)
Don’t Vote—It Just Encourages the Bastards (978-0-8021-4543-7 • $14.95 • USCO)
Holidays in Heck (978-0-8021-4595-6 • $15 • USCO)
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“A magnificent feat of storytelling. The Sympathizer is a novel of literary, historical, and political importance.”
—Maxine Hong Kingston

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**Difficult Women**

Roxane Gay

**MARKETING**

An *Untamed State* was:

* named one of the best books of the year by the *Washington Post, Boston Globe,* NPR, and *Kirkus Reviews*
* a finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, and PEN Open Book Award*
* a semifinalist for the VCU Cabell First Novelist Award; and nominated for the NAACP Image Award for Literary Work in Fiction and the Goodreads Choice Award in Fiction*

Gay was awarded the 2015 PEN Center USA Freedom to Write Award

prepublication reading copies
eGalleys available on NetGalley and Edelweiss
author appearances
national media campaign including print and radio interviews
prepublication advertising and promotion in *Shelf Awareness* and *PW; early giveaways on Goodreads*
IndieBound bookseller outreach campaign

“[Roxane Gay] writes candidly, vividly, and necessarily . . . You will find it difficult to resist her flawless pacing [and] sharp, clear prose.”

—Ariel Gonzalez, *Miami Herald,* on *An Untamed State*

Award-winning author and livewire talent Roxane Gay burst onto the scene with the widely acclaimed novel *An Untamed State* and the *New York Times* bestselling essay collection *Bad Feminist* (Harper Perennial). Gay returns with *Difficult Women*, a collection of stories of rare force and beauty, of hardscrabble lives, passionate loves, and quirky and vexed human connection.

The women in these stories live lives of privilege and of poverty, are in marriages both loving and haunted by past crimes or emotional blackmail. A pair of sisters, grown now, have been inseparable ever since they were abducted together as children and must negotiate the elder sister’s marriage. A woman married to a twin pretends not to realize when her husband and his brother impersonate each other. A stripper putting herself through college fends off the advances of an overzealous customer. A black engineer moves to Upper Michigan for a job and faces the malign curiosity of her colleagues and the difficulty of leaving her past behind. From a girls’ fight club to a wealthy subdivision in Florida where neighbors conform, compete, and spy on each other, Gay gives voice to a chorus of unforgettable women in a scintillating collection reminiscent of Merritt Tierce, Jamie Quatro, and Miranda July.
Excerpt

From "I Will Follow You"

My sister decided we had to go see her estranged husband in Reno. When she told me, I was in a mood. I said, “What does that have to do with me?”

Carolina married when she was nineteen. Darryl, her husband, was a decade older but he had a full head of hair and she thought that meant something. They lived with us for the first year. My mom called it getting on their feet but they spent most of their time in bed so I assumed getting on their feet was a euphemism for sex. When they finally moved out, Carolina and Darryl lived in a crappy apartment with pea green wallpaper and a balcony where the railing was loose like a rotting tooth. I’d visit them after my classes at the local university. Carolina usually wasn’t home from her volunteer job yet so I’d wait for her and watch television and drink warm beer while Darryl, who couldn’t seem to find work, stared at me, telling me I was a pretty girl. When I told my sister she laughed and shook her head. She said, “There’s not much you can do with men but he won’t mess with you, I promise.”

ROXANE GAY is the author of the novel An Untamed State; the essay collection Bad Feminist; Ayiti, a multi-genre collection; and the memoir Hunger, forthcoming from Harper in 2017. She lives in Indiana.

PRAISE FOR AN UNTAMED STATE

“Gay’s . . . style is wholly her own: direct, bracing and propulsive . . . [A] smart, searing novel.”—Ron Charles, Washington Post

“[A] commanding début . . . powerful.”—New Yorker

“Riveting . . . captivates from its opening sentence and doesn’t let go . . . Let this be the year of Roxane Gay: you’ll tear through An Untamed State, but ponder it for long after.”—Time.com

“A fairy tale . . . its complex and fragile moral arrived at through great pain and high cost.”—Holly Bass, New York Times Book Review

“[A] riveting debut novel . . . There is such a staggering sense of strength, confidence and integrity to Gay’s telling . . . An Untamed State is a gem, blasted into beauty by the world’s harshest conditions. This gripping debut has set the table for many great works to come.”—Bookforum

“Poignant . . . haunting . . . Gorgeous writing . . . A wonderful and affecting read.”—Associated Press

“Excellent . . . Brilliant, eye opening, and necessary . . . Gay’s prose is direct and muscular, unflinchingly confronting the reality she’s created.”—Portland Mercury

“Wrenching . . . Vividly written.”—Jennifer Weiner, USA Today

Also Available:
An Untamed State
(978-0-8021-2251-3 • $16 • USCO)
The internationally bestselling author of *Thomas Cromwell* and *Elizabeth’s Women* takes readers behind the closed doors and into the intimate lives of the Tudor monarchs

**The Private Lives of the Tudors**

*Uncovering the Secrets of Britain’s Greatest Dynasty*

*Tracy Borman*

“Tracy Borman’s eye for detail is impressive; the book is packed with fascinating courtly minutiae . . . [Borman is] a very good historian and this is a wonderful book.” — *Times* (UK)

England’s Tudor monarchs—Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VII, Mary I, and Elizabeth I—are perhaps the most celebrated of all royal families in history. Their love affairs, their political triumphs, and their religious reforms are the subject of countless works of scholarship. But for all we know about Henry’s quest for male heirs, or Elizabeth’s virginity, the private lives of the Tudor monarchs remain largely beyond our grasp.

In *The Private Lives of the Tudors*, acclaimed historian Tracy Borman shows what their lives were like beyond the stage of court. Drawing on the original material from those closest to them—courtiers like the “groom of the stool,” surprisingly a much-coveted position—Borman examines Tudor life in fine detail. What did the monarchs eat? What did they wear, and how were their clothes designed, bought, and cared for? How did the Tudors wield power? When sick, how were they treated? What games did they play? How did they practice their faith? And in earthlier moments, whom did they love, and how did they give birth to the all-important heirs?

Delving deep into their education, upbringing, and sexual lives, and into the kitchens, bathrooms, schoolrooms, and bedrooms of court, Borman charts out the course of the entire Tudor dynasty, surfacing new and fascinating insights into these celebrated figures.
Excerpt

The royal bedding ceremony was subject to a similarly strict set of rules as the marriage ceremony and wedding feast. At around 8 o’clock in the evening, the bride was escorted to her chamber by her ladies, who undressed her and put her to bed. The groom, meanwhile, was stripped down to just his shirt—an undergarment that would have reached to at least mid-thigh and, in Henry’s case, would have been delicately embroidered. Then, accompanied by his gentlemen attendants, musicians, priests and bishops, he joined his wife in the bedchamber. The clerics would pronounce their blessings, and then a concoction of wine and spices would be served. Known as the void or voidee, this was a mixture of expensive sweet and sharp spices such as pepper, saffron, ginger, cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg. It was thought to be beneficial to health and digestion, as well as sweetening the breath and engendering strength and courage.

The onlookers were often slow to leave. Sometimes, they demanded to see the naked legs of the couple touching, which in some cases was accepted as a sign of consummation. Others expected to witness the royal newlyweds kissing or embracing. It was a crude reminder that a royal body was the property of the state; its functions of great interest to the people of the realm. Even after the throng of courtiers had bidden the couple goodnight and left the chamber, some may have lingered outside the closed door, straining their ears for any sound that might indicate the act of consummation was underway.

PRAISE FOR THOMAS CROMWELL

“An exceptional and compelling biography . . . With expert insights based on a wealth of research, and riveting detail, she has brought Thomas Cromwell to life as never before . . . Above all, her book is a joy to read—a remarkable tour de force by one of our most accomplished historians.”—Alison Weir

“An intelligent, sympathetic, and well researched biography.”—Wall Street Journal

“Should be catnip to fans of Hilary Mantel’s bestselling Wolf Hall novels about Cromwell.”—USA Today

“If you want the inside story of Thomas Cromwell . . . this is the book for you.”—Weekly Standard

“Engrossing . . . A fine rags-to-riches-to-executioner’s-block story of a major figure of the English Reformation.”—Kirkus Reviews

“An insightful biography of a much-maligned historical figure.”—Booklist

“Excellent . . . This deeply researched and grippingly written biography brings Cromwell to life and exposes the Henrician court in all its brutal, glittering splendor.”—Independent (UK)

“[An] elegant historical biography . . . [Borman’s] prose, as ever, glides beautifully along.”—Sunday Times (UK)

TRACY BORMAN is England’s joint chief curator of Historic Royal Palaces and chief executive of the Heritage Education Trust. She has written six previous books, including the highly acclaimed Thomas Cromwell and Elizabeth’s Women. She has a PhD in history from the University of Hull and lives in Surrey with her family.

**The Refugees**

Viet Thanh Nguyen

"An exciting new voice in American literature.” —David Takami, *Seattle Times*

Viet Thanh Nguyen’s *The Sympathizer* was one of the most widely and highly praised novels of 2015, the winner not only of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction but also the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize, the Edgar Award for Best First Novel, the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature, and the California Book Award for First Fiction. Nguyen’s next fiction book, *The Refugees*, is a collection of perfectly formed stories written over a period of twenty years, exploring questions of immigration, identity, love, and family.

With the coruscating gaze of *The Sympathizer*, in *The Refugees* Viet Thanh Nguyen gives voice to lives led between two worlds, the adopted homeland and the country of birth. From a young Vietnamese refugee who suffers profound culture shock when he comes to live with two gay men in San Francisco, to a woman whose husband is suffering from dementia and starts to confuse her for a former lover, to a girl living in Ho Chi Minh City whose older half sister comes back from America having seemingly accomplished everything she never will, the stories are a captivating testament to the dreams and hardships of immigration.

The second piece of fiction by a major new voice in American letters, *The Refugees* is a beautifully written and sharply observed book about the aspirations of those who leave one country for another, and the relationships and desires for self-fulfillment that define our lives.

"Also Available:

*The Sympathizer*(978-0-8021-2494-4 • $16 • USCO)
Excerpt

From "Black-Eyed Women"

Ever since my father died a few years ago, my mother and I had lived together politely. We shared a passion for words, but I preferred writing in silence while she loved to talk. She constantly fed me gossip and stories. The only kind I enjoyed concerned my father when he was a man I did not know, young and happy. Then came stories of terror like the one about the reporter, the moral being that life, like the police, enjoys beating people now and again. Finally there was her favorite kind, the ghost story, of which she knew many, some even firsthand.

Aunt Six died of a heart attack at seventy-six, she told me once, twice, or perhaps three times, repetition being her habit. I never took her stories seriously. She lived in Vung Tau and we were in Nha Trang, she said. I was bringing dinner to the table when I saw Aunt Six sitting there in her nightgown. Her long gray hair, which she usually wore in a chignon, was loose and fell over her shoulders and in her face. I almost dropped the dishes. When I asked her what she was doing here, she just smiled. She stood up, kissed me, and turned me towards the kitchen. When I turned around again to see her, she was gone. It was her ghost. Uncle confirmed it when I called. She had passed away that morning, in her own bed.

VIET THANH NGUYEN was born in Vietnam and raised in America. His novel The Sympathizer won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, as well as five other awards. He is also the author of the nonfiction books Nothing Ever Dies and Race and Resistance. The Aerol Arnold Professor of English and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California, he lives in Los Angeles.

PRAISE FOR THE SYMPATHIZER

“A magnificent feat of storytelling. The Sympathizer is a novel of literary, historical, and political importance.”—Maxine Hong Kingston


“A dark, funny—and Vietnamese—look at the Vietnam War . . . rife with insight and criticism.”
—Arun Rath, NPR’s All Things Considered

“So skillfully and brilliantly executed that I cannot believe this is a first novel.”
—John Warner, Chicago Tribune

“Welcome a unique new voice to the literary chorus . . . dazzles on all fronts.”
—Tricia Springstubb, Cleveland Plain Dealer

“Intelligent, relentlessly paced and savagely funny.”—Wall Street Journal

“A very special, important, brilliant novel . . . I don’t say brilliant about a lot of books, but this is a brilliant book . . . A fabulous book . . . that everyone should read.”—Nancy Pearl

“[A] marvelously worldly debut novel, redolent of Graham Greene and Evelyn Waugh.”
—Laura Miller, Slate

“Nguyen does nothing less than turn the familiar Western narratives of the Vietnam War on their heads . . . that rare novel that will make you see the world just a bit differently.”
—James Grainger, Toronto Star
After the Blue Hour is a bold, enthralling novel of psychosexual gamesmanship on a luxurious private island during the sweltering summer of 1960.

**After the Blue Hour**

John Rechy

"One of the few original American writers of the last century."—Gore Vidal

John Rechy’s first novel, *City of Night*, an international bestseller, is now considered a modern classic. Subsequent work asserts his place among America’s most important writers.

The author’s most daring work, *After the Blue Hour* is narrated by a twenty-four-year-old writer named John Rechy. Fleeing a turbulent life in Los Angeles, he accepts an invitation to a private island from an admirer of his work. There, John joins Paul, his imposing host in his late thirties, his beautiful mistress, and his precocious teenage son. Browsing Paul’s library and conversing together on the deck about literature and film during the spell of evening’s “blue hour,” John feels surcease, until, with unabashed candor, Paul shares intimate details of his life. Through cunning seductive charm, he married and divorced an ambassador’s daughter and the heiress to a vast fortune. Avoiding identifying his son’s mother, he reveals an affinity for erotic “dangerous games.” With intimations of past decadence and menace, an abandoned island nearby arouses tense fascination over the group. As “games” veer toward violence, buried secrets surface in startling twists and turns. Explosive confrontation becomes inevitable.

“John Rechy is expert on the mechanics of desire and on the subtle ways we clothe that universal drive.” —Los Angeles Magazine on *About My Life and the Kept Woman*

Author of seventeen books, **JOHN RECHY** has received several lifetime achievement awards, including from PEN Center USA, William Whitehead Foundation, University of California at Riverside, and Luis Leal Foundation for Contribution to Chicano/Latino Literature.
After dinner we sat on the deck in cushioned wooden chairs. The deck extended partially over the lake, at the edge of which the sun had left behind hints of the blue radiance soon to come. We lingered, drinking cool wine Paul had just opened.

I stared out into the horizon, Sonya next to me. All that remained of the sunlight was a golden arc already fading as a thin veil of darkness glided over it. A deep blue glow loomed over the water.

“I never tire of the sunset on the lake,” Sonya said, “especially at its last moments.”

“It’s the blue hour,” I told her.

“How beautiful. The blue hour. What is that, John?” she asked.

“It’s not an hour at all, just a few seconds of blue light between dusk and night,” I said. It was a light I cherished. On the beach in Santa Monica, I would linger on the sand waiting for the start of sunset, an orange spill over the horizon, soon veiled by a blue darkening light. Gulls would fly onto the beach, gathering at the shoreline, beaks pointed at the water. Often, lithe bodies came to perform a dance of Tai-chi at the edge of the ocean. Their graceful motions seemed to me to acknowledge and confront the night. “Some people claim that’s when everything reveals itself as it is, Sonya.” I was cherishing her rapt attention.

“They say everything is both clearest and most obscure—a light that challenges perception, revealing and hiding.”

“I like that,” Sonya said, “revealing and hiding.”

PRAISE FOR JOHN RECHY

“John Rechy, rather like Henry Miller, is best known for his depiction of raw and shocking sexuality and yet best loved by some readers for his expression of a passion so sublime that it approaches a state of rapture.” —Jonathon Kirsch, Los Angeles Times Book Review, on The Life and Adventures of Lyle Clemens

“John Rechy is one of the few major American writers whose life is almost as interesting, and as meaningful, as his work.” —Michael Cunningham

“Fresh, beautiful, totally courageous—and totally cool . . . John Rechy doesn’t fit into categories. He transcends them. His individual vision is unique, perfect, loving and strong.” —Carolyn See, presenting PEN-USA West’s Lifetime Achievement Award

“[Rechy] has spent his life excavating the cracks at the periphery of American culture . . . A substantial artist.” —Frank Browning, Salon.com, on The Coming of the Night

“What he has given us for more than thirty years is a wonderful and terrifying gift . . . He has given us life and literature.” —Michael Bronski, presenting The Publishing Triangle’s William Whitehead Lifetime Achievement Award

“One of the most talented writers of his generation.” —Bruce Benderson, Paper, on The Coming of the Night
There’s nothing quite like a mother’s love . . . but how much is too much before maternal ambition for a perfect child jeopardizes the delicate balance of family life and threatens its very existence?

The Trophy Child
A Novel
Paula Daly

Paula Daly is acclaimed for her distinctive voice, masterful plotting, and terrifying depictions of ordinary people whose everyday lives are turned upside down through deception and betrayal. In her unsettling new domestic thriller, The Trophy Child, Daly digs beneath the serene surface of the idyllic Lake District community, delivering a suspenseful story of motherhood and fallibility.

Karen Bloom is not the coddling mother type. She believes in raising her children for success. Some in the neighborhood call her assertive, others say she’s driven, but in gossiping circles she’s known as “the tiger mother.” Karen believes that tough discipline is the true art of parenting and that achievement leads to ultimate happiness. She expects her husband and her children to perform at 200 percent—no matter the cost. But in a quest for excellence, her seemingly flawless family starts to rebel against her.

Her husband, Noel, is a handsome doctor with a proclivity for alcohol and women. Their prodigy daughter, Bronte, is excelling at school, music lessons, and dance classes, yet she longs to run away. Verity, Noel’s teenage daughter from his first marriage, is starting to display aggressive behavior. And Karen’s son from a previous relationship embraces the aimless stoner lifestyle. When tragedy strikes the Blooms, Karen’s carefully constructed facade begins to fall apart—and once the deadly cracks appear, they are impossible to stop.

A thrilling tale of ambition and murder, Daly’s richly imagined world of suburban striving and motherly love is an absorbing page-turner about the illusions of perfection and the power games between husband and wife, parent and child.
Excerpt

The thing that people didn't get when they accused Karen Bloom of being a tiger mother was that she wasn't at all offended by it. Even when it wasn't said in a jokey, leg pulling kind-of-way. Even when it was meant as an insult.

Karen was a tiger mother and she was proud of it. Why shouldn't she be? Just because ordinary mothers had decided it was wrong to push their offspring, just because they took the easy way out, saying it wasn't a mother's place to mould and pressure a child into greatness, didn't mean Karen had to go along with it. Because they would say that, wouldn't they? It was an easy way to justify their own lazy lives, their own acceptance of mediocrity. And Karen was very sorry, but she just wasn't having that for Bronte.

It was her responsibility, her duty in fact, to prepare Bronte for her life ahead in the best way she knew how. Life was a competition. Only the best and brightest succeeded, and if that meant Karen had to put her own hopes and dreams on the back burner while she invested everything she had into Bronte's future, so be it.


PRAISE FOR THE MISTAKE I MADE

“[Daly] has a real gift for mixing insightful writing on domestic life with a suspenseful premise.”—Booklist
“Daly heats things up fast . . . Hypnotic.”—Kirkus Reviews
“A big-hearted, empathetic novel about ordinary lives and the tremors that can rock them.”—Guardian (UK)

PRAISE FOR KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE

“Daly’s affinity for psychological intrigue shines . . . Superbly sinister.”—Mystery Scene
“This nail-biter will leave readers breathless . . . A taut thriller.”—Shelf Awareness
“Page-turning . . . Daly writes convincingly of a warped mind, the cracks in family life and the small triggers that send events spiraling out of control.”—Daily Mail (UK)

PRAISE FOR JUST WHAT KIND OF MOTHER ARE YOU?

“[A] taut novel . . . We all need a reminder that no woman has it all under control.”—O, The Oprah Magazine, "5 Page-Turners That Will Surprise You More Than Once"

“Anything but predictable . . . a true mystery thriller that takes readers down a circuitous, agonizing path.”—Florida Times-Union

“A highly suspenseful tale . . . [it] will keep readers riveted.”—Booklist (starred review)
A collection of searing and heart-wrenching stories by an anonymous North Korean writer who is still living in North Korea and whose manuscript was smuggled out to be published abroad—the first piece of dissident fiction to ever come out of the country

The Accusation

Bandi
Translated from the North Korean by Deborah Smith

“Very rare fiction to emerge from the secretive dictatorship . . . on its way to becoming an international literary sensation.” —Alison Flood, Guardian (UK)

The Accusation is a deeply moving and eye-opening piece of fiction that exposes the truth of the North Korean regime. Set during the period of Kim Jong-Il’s leadership, the seven stories that make up The Accusation throw light on different aspects of life in this most bizarre and horrifying of dictatorships.

One story, “Life of a Swift Seed,” tells the tale of a war hero and former ardent Communist who plants an elm tree in his back garden to commemorate one of his brothers-in-arms. A family friend who works at a nearby factory must decide whether he will intercede on this man’s behalf when the tree is to be cut down to make way for a new power line and the war hero is prepared to defend it with his life. In another story, “City of Specters,” a Pyongyang mother’s young son misbehaves during a party rally, crying out when he sees a portrait of Karl Marx, whom he thinks is a monster of Korean myth known as the Eobi. In one other story, a mother attempts to feed her husband during the worst years of North Korea’s famine, and in another, a woman in a perilous situation meets the Dear Leader himself.

As a whole, The Accusation is a vivid and frightening portrait of what it means to live in a completely closed-off society, and a heartbreaking yet hopeful portrayal of the humanity that persists even in such dire circumstances.
Excerpt

From "City of Specters"

It was getting on evening the previous Saturday when it first happened. A citizens’ rally was taking place in Kim Il-Sung Square, with the aim of encouraging people to be ever more energetic in preparing for the celebrations. Everyone was pushed for time, so the rally had been organized at an hour when most workers would be heading home for the day. Myeong-shik had had a cold, and Gyeong-hee, reluctant to leave him in that state, couldn’t very well absent herself from the rally, so in the end she’d strapped him to her back and gone into the square. Myeong-shik was prone to colds, seemingly a product of his weak constitution, but this was something different—his tiny body burning hot against her back told Gyeong-hee that this fever wasn’t to be dismissed as a mere sniffle. Her group was at the head of the square’s far-left column, directly beneath the glowering gaze of Karl Marx. In the haze of dusk, before the square’s electric lighting was switched on, that reddish black face with its great swathe of hair would have sent shivers down the spine of even the most stolid Party cadre. Perhaps it was that which accounted for Gyeong-hee’s unwonted recollection of a line from the first passage of The Communist Manifesto, which she’d read at some point during college.

“A specter is haunting Europe—the specter of Communism.”

Had Marx inadvertently been writing his autobiography? The phrase was a mysteriously fitting description of how his portrait appeared just then: closer in form to some spectral presence than an actual human being, plucked from some ghastly legend.

PRAISE FOR THE ACCUSATION

“Plunges us into the daily life of families in North Korea. These stories are the cry of a man suffocated by totalitarianism. These are also the cry of an entire people . . . The writing is simple, humble, which gives it its beauty. The seven stories shine with humanity and tenderness.” —Aleteia

“Of incredible value . . . The classic construction reminds us of Gogol and Chekhov, and for their taste for absurdist satire, Ionesco and Bulgakov.” —Books Magazine

“The appearance of this collection of seven stories is a true publishing event.” —Livres Hebdo

“Describes in very impressionistic, subtle, almost veiled tones the daily life of a dictatorship . . . I was almost groggy by the time I finished reading, reminding myself of just how lucky I am to live in a democracy . . . I thought of Orwell and Kafka but realized that the country described here really exists and that there are people who are living there, perhaps not even knowing that a different kind of life is possible.” —L’Express

“The force of this collection of novellas evokes the classics of world literature about totalitarianism.” —L’ours

“A message in a bottle that is so precious that we should all reach out to grab it and thus better understand the tragedy of the last Marxist regime in the world.” —Le Revenu

“A book to burst the silence.” —La Vie
In Anatomy of a Song, based on the ongoing Wall Street Journal column, writer and music historian Marc Myers brings to life five decades of music through forty-five transformative hits and oral-history interviews with the artists who created them.

(978-0-8021-2559-0 • $26 • USCO • eISBN: 978-0-8021-8965-3)

The new novel by National Book Award finalist, Rabih Alameddine, about an Arab American poet whose adult life in San Francisco spans the AIDS decades and his hilarious and heartbreaking struggle to remember and forget the events of an astonishing life.

(978-0-8021-2576-7 • $26 • USCO • eISBN: 978-0-8021-9011-6)

“Every Man a Menace is everything you could want in a thriller—lightning pace, dead-on dialogue, and a twisting, high-torque plot. But, most of all, this novel is smart and authentic, a welcome jolt at a time when so much fiction reads like it rolled off an assembly line.”
—Carl Hiaasen

(978-0-8021-2544-6 • $25 • USO • eISBN: 978-0-8021-9013-0)

“What I so like about Perfume River is its plainly put elegance. Enough time has passed since Viet nam that its grave human lessons and heartbreaks can be—with a measure of genius—almost simply stated. Butler’s novel is a model for this heartbreaking simplicity and grace.”
—Richard Ford

(978-0-8021-2575-0 • $25 • USCO • eISBN: 978-0-8021-9010-9)

A moving epic of football and industrial America, Playing Through the Whistle tells the story of Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, its now-shuttered steel mill, and its legendary high school football team.

(978-0-8021-2564-4 • $27 • USCO • eISBN: 978-0-8021-9009-3)

From legendary American journalist Gay Talese, The Voyeur’s Motel is at once an examination of one unsettling man and a portrait of the secret life of the American heartland over the latter half of the twentieth century.

(978-0-8021-2581-1 • $25 • USCO • eISBN: 978-0-8021-8973-8)
“Every Man a Menace is everything you could want in a thriller—lightning pace, dead-on dialogue, and a twisting, high-torque plot. But, most of all, this novel is smart and authentic, a welcome jolt at a time when so much fiction reads like it rolled off an assembly line.”

—Carl Hiaasen

From legendary American journalist Gay Talese, The Voyeur’s Motel is at once an examination of one unsettling man and a portrait of the secret life of the American heartland over the latter half of the twentieth century.

(978-0-8021-2581-1 • $25 • USO • eISBN: 978-0-8021-8973-8)
An epic and award-winning crime novel, *The Borrowed* follows a preternaturally gifted Hong Kong police detective’s eventful career, delving deep into the city’s momentous history over the past fifty years.

**The Borrowed**

Chan Ho-kei  
Translated from the Chinese by Jeremy Tiang

"Chan Ho-kei’s *The Borrowed* is full of surprises . . . A brilliant detective novel."
—Taiwanese novelist and crime editor extraordinaire Wolf Hsu

From award-winning Hong Kong writer Chan Ho-kei, *The Borrowed* tells the story of Kwan Chun-dok, a Hong Kong detective whose career spans fifty years of the territory’s history. A deductive powerhouse, Kwan becomes a legend in the force, nicknamed “the Eye of Heaven” by his awe-struck colleagues. Divided into six sections told in reverse chronological order—each of which covers an important case in Kwan’s career and takes place at a pivotal moment in Hong Kong history from the 1960s to the present day—*The Borrowed* follows Kwan from his experiences during the Leftist Riot in 1967, when a bombing plot threatens many lives; the conflict between the HK Police and ICAC (Independent Commission Against Corruption) in 1977; the Tiananmen Square Massacre in 1989 to the Handover in 1997; and the present day of 2013, when Kwan is called on to solve his final case, the murder of a local billionaire, while Hong Kong increasingly resembles a police state. Along the way we meet Communist rioters, ultraviolent gangsters, stallholders at the city’s many covered markets, pop singers enmeshed in the high-stakes machinery of star-making, and a people always caught in the shifting balance of political power, whether in London or Beijing—all coalescing into a dynamic portrait of this fascinating city.

Tracing a broad historical arc, *The Borrowed* reveals just how closely everything is connected, how history always repeats itself, and how we have come full circle to repeat the political upheaval and societal unrest of the past. It is a gripping, brilliantly constructed novel from a talented new voice.
Excerpt

After Mrs. Kwan departed, Sonny Lok settled in to wait for his mentor. He paced around the living room several times, and then went into Kwan’s study.

The wall was covered in framed photos, many of them faded, quite a few in black and white. The oldest one was by the window, showing Kwan Chun-dok in his twenties – Sonny knew this had been taken in 1970, when his mentor was in England for training. It was said that his outstanding performance in preventing a bomb blast during the ’67 unrest had caught the attention of his British superior, and that started him on his career as ‘genius detective’. Yet Lok had never heard Kwan mention those riots.

Kwan’s desk was covered in random objects, a confusion of documents and notebooks. There were ink brushes, a magnifying glass, a microscope, test tubes, lock picks, fingerprint dust, pinhole cameras, a recording device disguised as a ballpoint pen, putty for copying keys . . . It seemed more like the setup of a private detective or spy than a police investigator.

Lok sat down in his mentor’s chair. Crossing his legs, in the position Kwan assumed when he was thinking. Picking up a glass vial containing a single bullet, he played with it idly, again just as his mentor did. As Sonny rotated the vial, the bullet tinkled clearly against the glass walls. His gaze drifted aimlessly across the mess on the desk, but was abruptly arrested by the name on a manila folder, which pulled him back to full attention: Yam Tak-ngok.

Although nosing around in his mentor’s papers would probably earn him a scolding, Lok didn’t think twice.

And below Uncle Ngok’s folder lay an envelope stamped ‘Top Secret.

PRAISE FOR THE BORROWED

“[Chan’s] latest award-winning book is about the evolution of the police force and graft-busting in the city. . . [It] spans 50 years and is a tale about a prominent local policeman that takes in watershed events in Hong Kong, including the leftist riots in the 1960s, the Sino-British negotiations, the 1997 handover and the Sars outbreak in 2003. It is likely to strike a chord.”—South China Morning Post

“With the police force and social conflicts as its background, covering 50 years of politics, history and economics, intertwined with clever detective fiction, The Borrowed fits peculiarly with the current social situation in Hong Kong, and will surely stir up readers’ emotions.”—Macau Closer

“This naturally reminded me of Soji Shimada, and the strength of his detective Takeshi Yoshiki’s passion and determination to unravel clues. I also thought of . . . American novelist Ed McBain . . . The strong sense of social responsibility in the books by the Swedish Maj Sjöwall and Per Wahlöö came to mind too.”—OKAPI
A celebrated bestseller in Sweden, and the winner of the prestigious Per Olov Enquist Literary Prize, *The White City* is a novel “with a vulnerability that brings to mind Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*” (Expressen) about a criminal’s girlfriend left alone to pick up the pieces of her imploding existence.

**The White City**  
* A Novel  
Karolina Ramqvist  
Translated from the Swedish by Saskia Vogel

**MARKETING**

*The White City* is Ramqvist’s English debut

*The White City* won the prestigious Per Olov Enquist Literary Prize and it was shortlisted for the Literary Prize of Svenska Dagbladet, one of Sweden’s biggest newspapers

Editions are published or forthcoming in eight countries, including Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Norway, and Spain

eGalleys available on NetGalley and Edelweiss

major review coverage  
online reviews and features

Karolina Ramqvist has been hailed as “one of Sweden’s truly interesting young writers” (Dagens Nyheter) with a powerful new literary voice on contemporary issues of female sexuality, commercialization, and belonging. An immediate bestseller upon publication, *The White City* is an arresting novel of betrayal and empowerment from a bold, fearless writer.

Karin knew what she was getting herself into when she fell for John, a high-flying criminal and the love of her life. But she never imagined things would turn out like this: John is gone and the coke-filled parties, seemingly endless flow of money, and high social status have been replaced by cut telephone lines, cut heat, and cut cash. All that remains of Karin's former life is the big house he bought for her—and his daughter, the child Karin once swore she would never bring into their dangerous world. Now Karin is alone with baby Dream, and the old promise of “the family” has proved alarmingly empty. As the authorities zero in on organized crime, John’s shady legacy is catching up with her, and the house is about to be seized. Over the course of a few nerve-racking days, Karin is forced to take drastic measures in order to claim what she considers rightfully hers.

With slow-burning psychological suspense and a dreamlike atmosphere, *The White City* is an intimate portrayal of one woman’s struggle to pull herself up from the paralyzing depths of despair and an unflinching examination of what it means to lose control—over your body, your life, and your fate.
The hall was dark, as if it weren't morning at all. A dirty mirror hung askew. Karin, barefoot and naked, stood before it, while propping open the door to the bathroom so its light would fall across her body. Her skin was goose-pimpled from the cold, pale and bluish. Her stomach sagged and her breasts were heavy and unshapely. The left one had swelled during the night, and the skin was stretched so thin a web of veins showed through.

She pulled the skin on her belly until it was smooth and leaned forward to study the stretch marks rising in glossy relief from groin to navel. During her last flight to New York, she'd been woken by the pilot's voice on the speakers, suggesting they take in the view over Iceland. She'd sat up and gazed down at the island, which was almost entirely covered by glaciers, and had noticed streaks in the ice. Black rivers spreading out like a giant's mane, thousands of strands running across the frozen ground.

The traces pregnancy had left on her stomach looked just like that. Seeing these marks now, she felt as far away from them as she'd felt from the ice, flying thirty thousand feet above it.

During her pregnancy, she'd convinced herself that if she worried enough about getting stretch marks, she wouldn't get any.

Now she knew that wasn't how it worked.

Fear doesn't operate like a paternoster; it's an unease that wells up when you know what's at stake. It's not true that what you worry about the most isn't going to happen. Rather, it's highly likely that it will.

**PRAISE FOR THE WHITE CITY**

“*[The White City]* cements Karolina Ramqvist’s position as one of Sweden's most interesting writers.” —Expressen (Sweden)

“Ramqvist handles this small, frozen thriller masterfully.” —Dagens Nyheter (Sweden)

“From the very beginning a suspense is established that never yields.” —Vårt Land (Norway)

“A sharp, compelling examination of the human ideal of strength and perfection . . . *The White City* is as suspenseful as it is beautiful, a story told from the periphery of the criminal world, a painful portrayal of physical motherhood.” —Nöjesguiden (Sweden)

“An incredible novel that you experience with all your senses.” —Borås Tidning (Sweden)

“An incredibly skillfully written novel . . . It bears witness to a writer who knows her craft, who doesn't need to complicate things. That is high art.” —Arbetet (Sweden)

“[A] little gem of a book, that ought to be read both for its spare and beautiful language as well as for the sense of unease it creates in the reader.” —Skånskan (Sweden)
Set in the Mediterranean and Black Sea 3,250 years ago, *Bright Air Black* is David Vann’s exhilarating version of Medea as a slayer of kings who wants a world not ruled by men.

**Bright Air Black**

*A Novel*

David Vann

"A writer to read and reread. A man to watch carefully." — Economist

Following the success of *Aquarium*, which was a *New York Times* Editors’ Choice and garnered numerous rave reviews, David Vann transports us to the thirteenth century BC to give a nuanced and electric portrait of the life of one of ancient mythology’s most fascinating and notorious women, Medea.

In brilliant poetic prose, *Bright Air Black* brings us aboard the ship *Argo* for its epic return journey across the Black Sea from Persia’s Colchis—where Medea flees her home and father with Jason, the Argonauts, and the Golden Fleece. Vann’s reimagining of this ancient tale offers a thrilling, realistic alternative to the long-held notions of Medea as monster or sorceress. We witness with dramatic urgency Medea’s humanity, her Bronze Age roots and position in Greek society, her love affair with Jason, and her tragic demise.

Atmospheric and spellbinding, *Bright Air Black* is an indispensable, fresh, and provocative take on one of our earliest texts and the most intimate and corporal version of Medea’s story ever told.

“Vann is a writer who hunts big game. He tracks the same wild territory as Joseph Conrad and Cormac McCarthy—the violence and perversity at the root of what we call human nature, the animal savagery that is our first inheritance.” — Observer (UK)
Excerpt

All these men belong, all act as one, the rowers, the men who stand before her working the rudders, the men holding thick lines that guide the sail, even those who have stopped to eat or drink and sit low on the deck. They’ve fallen into a wordless routine, their minds blank, their hearts used only to pump blood. And meanwhile her world has ended, she kneels in her brother’s remains, and her father is out there still.

Jason, she calls. She can’t wait for him to notice.

He pauses, the other faces rolling away from him and returning and heaving away again. He lowers the handle of his oar to the deck and comes aft to kneel beneath the rudder posts. His hair in curls. His nose fine and straight, lips full, but his beauty is in the soft curve of his cheeks, the smooth fall away from that nose, an open plain beneath each eye. She pulls him close with both hands and presses her lips to this soft place, feels the blink of his lashes, feels his thick hair in her hands.

He doesn’t move, his breath caught, and she smiles, presses her lips to the other cheek. You are mine, she says in a tongue he won’t understand. By the old stars above and the new stars below, I will rule your heart. You are the land I conquer.

Published in twenty languages, DAVID VANN’s internationally bestselling books have won fifteen prizes, including best foreign novel in France and Spain, and appeared on seventy-five Best Books of the Year lists in a dozen countries. A former Guggenheim fellow, he is currently a professor at the University of Warwick in England and honorary professor at the University of Franche-Comté in France.

PRAISE FOR AQUARIUM

“Elegantly written and fiercely imagined . . . at times, this is a painful novel, but its beauty propels it toward redemption.”—Chicago Tribune

“Gripping, painful, but ultimately hopeful, Aquarium is a coming-of-age story that explores the limits of love and forgiveness. Vann submerges you so deeply in Caitlin’s world, you’ll be gasping for breath when you finally surface. A.”—Entertainment Weekly

“Much like the waters of the Seattle tourist attraction at its heart, David Vann’s new novel, Aquarium, virtually bends light, plunging the reader into the relentless darkness of tormented souls in a splintered family.”—Seattle Times

“Vann’s provocative prose is filled with a sense of wonder and beauty, even when the lives he describes are tragic.”—Los Angeles Times

“Cinematic . . . Aquarium is a genuine departure for Vann, an authentically new direction . . . Its delicate, coming-of-age sensuality and bright saltwater menagerie.”—New York Times Book Review

“As rich as good poetry and as addictive as a first-class detective novel.”—Spectator (UK)
THE MYSTERIOUS PRESS
“Reads like a recipe for evil and may well induce a nightmare or two . . . Sly pacing and a detached narrative voice give this horror story exceptional punch.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

The Cellar
Minette Walters

MARKETING
Walters has won the Edgar Award for Best Novel, the Macavity Award, two CWA Gold Dagger Awards, and the CWA John Creasey New Blood Dagger Award for Best First Crime Novel

Walters’s work has been translated into 36 languages

MINETTE WALTERS
is the critically acclaimed and internationally bestselling author of suspense novels including Innocent Victims, The Devil’s Feather, The Sculptress, Disordered Minds, and Acid Row. She is the recipient of an Edgar Award and two CWA Gold Dagger Awards, among other awards.

 “A dark, disturbing tale told very, very well . . . A remarkable achievement that starkly illustrates the horrors we are capable of inflicting upon one another.”
—Washington Independent Review of Books

From the internationally bestselling crime writer Minette Walters, The Cellar is a harrowing, compulsively readable novel about a family of African immigrants, the Songolis, and the dark secret they keep hidden in the depths of their seemingly respectable British house.

On the day Mr. and Mrs. Songoli’s younger son fails to come home from school, fourteen-year-old Muna’s fortunes change for the better. Until then, her bedroom was a windowless cellar, her activities confined to cooking and cleaning. Over the years, she had grown used to being abused by the Songoli family—to being a slave. As Scotland Yard swarms the Songoli home following the boy’s disappearance, Muna is given a real bedroom and a real clothing, and she is treated, at least nominally, as a daughter. But her world remains confined. She is not allowed to go outside, doesn’t know how to read or write, and cannot speak English. At least that’s what the Songolis believe. Before long, it becomes clear that young Muna is far more clever—and her plans far more terrifying—than the Songolis, or anyone else, could ever imagine.

“Powerful . . . A multi-layered novel packed full to the brim of its pages with quiet horror and realism.”
—Bookreporter

“[Walters] writes with the subtle cruelty and pitiless insights of [Ruth Rendell’s] alter ego, Barbara Vine.”
—New York Times Book Review
The toppling of a Middle Eastern government suddenly makes a decades-old case a priority for American military intelligence in this new high-wire act from New York Times bestselling author Thomas Perry

The Old Man
Thomas Perry

MARKETING
Stephen King recently named Perry on a list of “unheralded writers” more people should be reading

Poison Flower was named one of the "101 Best Crime Novels of the Past Decade" by Booklist

9-city tour
(Boston • New York City • Pittsburgh • Chicago • Houston • Tucson • Los Angeles • San Francisco • Seattle)

targeted outreach to mystery/thriller press
promotion at regional trade shows
library marketing including ALA
prepublication giveaways on Goodreads
print and online advertising campaigns in mystery publications
backlist eBook promotions
also available as a HighBridge audiobook

From Edgar Award–winning author Thomas Perry, comes a whip-smart and lethally paced stand-alone novel, The Old Man.

To all appearances, Dan Chase is a harmless retiree in Vermont with two big mutts and a grown daughter he keeps in touch with by phone. But most sixty-year-old widowers don’t have multiple driver’s licenses, savings stockpiled in banks across the country, and a bugout kit with two Beretta Nanos stashed in the spare bedroom closet. Most have not spent decades on the run. Thirty-five years ago, as a young hotshot in army intelligence, Chase was sent to Libya to covertly assist a rebel army. When the plan turned sour, Chase reacted according to his own ideas of right and wrong, triggering consequences he never could have anticipated. And someone still wants him dead because of his actions. Just as he had begun to think himself finally safe, Chase must reawaken his survival instincts to contend with the history he has spent his adult life trying to escape.

Armed mercenaries, spectacularly crashed cars, a precarious love interest, and an unforgettable chase scene through the snow—this is lethal plotting from one of the best in crime fiction.

THOMAS PERRY is the bestselling author of over twenty novels, including the critically acclaimed Jane Whitefield series, The Boyfriend, and The Butcher’s Boy, which won the Edgar Award. He lives in Southern California.

Also Available:
A String of Beads (978-0-8021-2444-9 • $16 • USCOxExE)
Poison Flower (978-0-8021-5511-5 • $14 • USCOxExE)
The Boyfriend (978-0-8021-5512-2 • $15 • USCOxExE)
Excerpt

Once a man has stolen something he is a thief. If what he stole is big enough, then always and forever, no matter what else he's done, he will always be a thief.

Again, for the ten thousandth time, he remembered standing in the North African sun, on the powdery dust of the road that ran along the desert's edge. He had just seen the car go by on its way from the office in the city to the place he had designated as the spot for the meeting he had demanded. At that moment, he could still have walked away. But if he kept going toward the meeting, he would die. He knew it would be a quiet death, not disturbing things on the surface. It would be so quiet it would seem civilized.

As Chase looked back on the day now, he could see it in its sun-bleached clarity. His first sin came right then. It was anger. He had risked his life bringing the shipment of money to Libya from the bank in Luxembourg. In order to preserve deniability he had been discharged from the army months earlier and moved into a civilian special ops status that left no records, and he carried a false passport. The military intelligence officers had ordered him to do everything the way a criminal would do it.

PRAISE FOR THOMAS PERRY

“Excellently engineered . . . Soul-searching and car chases too. What more could we ask from an escape artist like Perry?” —New York Times Book Review, on A String of Beads

“It’s nothing new to call Perry a master of the genre, but it’s no less true for being widely acknowledged.” —Booklist (starred review), on The Boyfriend

“Perry is so skillful with the old chase-and-pursuit routine, creates such interesting characters, and writes about them so tellingly, one wants more immediately, not next year—right now.” —Boston Globe, on Runner

“A tour de force . . . an hours-long jolt of pure, adrenaline-fueled plot.” —Kirkus Reviews, on Poison Flower

“A double-barreled Southern California thriller that moves almost faster than a speeding bullet.” —Wall Street Journal

Forty Thieves
Thomas Perry

“Perry offers a master class in narrative sleight of hand.” —Booklist (starred review)

Sid and Ronnie Abel are a husband-and-wife detective team, both ex-LAPD. Ed and Nicole Hoyt are assassins-for-hire living in the San Fernando Valley. Except for deadly aim with a handgun, the two couples have little in common—until both are hired to do damage control on the same murder case. The previous spring, a body was recovered from a storm sewer after two days of torrential rain. The corpse was identified as James Ballantine, a middle-aged African American who worked as a research scientist and was killed by two bullets to the back of the head. With the murder case turning cold, Ballantine’s former employers bring in the Abels to succeed where the police have failed, while the Hoyts’ mysterious contractors want to make sure that the facts about Ballantine’s death stay hidden.

A notorious ring of Eastern European diamond thieves are pulled into the plot as Forty Thieves races toward its high-octane climax, and the Abels circle ever closer to the dangerous truth.

“Plenty of action, intriguing characters, but most of all, some real chills down the spine.” —Globe and Mail (Toronto)

A finalist for the Strand Critics Award for Best Novel
One of Booklist’s “Top 10 Crime Novels of the Year”

also available as a HighBridge audiobook

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Residence: Studio City, California
The Whole Art of Detection

Lost Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes

Lyndsay Faye

Internationally bestselling author Lyndsay Faye was introduced to the Sherlock Holmes mysteries when she was ten years old and her dad suggested she read Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s short story “The Adventure of the Speckled Band.” She immediately became enamored with tales of Holmes and his esteemed biographer Dr. John Watson, and later, began spinning these quintessential characters into her own works of fiction—from her acclaimed debut novel, Dust and Shadow, which pits the famous detective against Jack the Ripper, to a series of short stories for the Strand Magazine, whose predecessor published the very first Sherlock Holmes short story in 1891.

Faye’s best Holmes tales, including two new works, are brought together in The Whole Art of Detection, a fascinating collection that spans Holmes’s career, from self-taught young upstart to lauded detective, both before and after his faked death over a Swiss waterfall in 1894. In “The Lowther Park Mystery,” the unsociable Holmes is forced to attend a garden party at the request of his politician brother and improvises a bit of theater to foil a conspiracy against the government. “The Adventure of the Thames Tunnel” brings Holmes’s attention to the baffling murder of a jewel thief in the middle of an underground railway passage. With Holmes and Watson encountering all manner of ungrateful relatives, phony psychologists, wronged wives, plaid-garbed villains, and even a peculiar species of deadly red leech, The Whole Art of Detection is a must-read for Sherlockians and any fan of historical crime fiction with a modern sensibility.
Excerpt
From "The Adventure of the Beggar's Feast"

When Holmes had given his promise, I readily agreed despite my perplexity, and the three of us walked to the back of the warehouse, entering a smaller room. A sharply descending staircase was revealed at the back of this chamber, and on the subterranean level, we found ourselves in a hallway lined with more unclaimed furnishings. Mr. Marwick reached behind a featureless bookshelf, and with the smallest click of a concealed lever, it swung to and revealed itself a doorway.

“My God,” I breathed.

“I never imagined I’d see it in person,” Holmes added lowly. “Thank you for your confidence, Mr. Marwick.”

The spacious room we entered, quite as long as the warehouse above us and filled with the happy sounds produced by flowing wine and rollicking cheer, was unmatched for opulence against any I have ever heard report of in England. It was walled in alternating dark carved rosewood and panels of mirror, while above our heads six enormous matched chandeliers blazed forth like small suns. On every surface was heaped the most sumptuous presentations of food.

And the people! Such elegance I had never before seen amassed in a single congregation, nor have I witnessed a gathering where the guests seemed to be enjoying themselves and each other more. Every attendee was bedecked in silk, velvet, and lace, and on every face a giddy smile shone forth. Then, with a comprehensive start of understanding, I noticed that a man a few yards distant from me had not shaved in months or perhaps even years, and that another neighbor was missing the furthest joints of three of his fingers, very probably due to their having been severely frostbitten.

LYNDSAY FAYE is the author of five critically acclaimed books: Dust and Shadow; The Gods of Gotham, which was nominated for the Edgar Award for Best Novel; Seven for a Secret; The Fatal Flame; and Jane Steele. Faye, a true New Yorker in the sense that she was born elsewhere, lives in New York City with her husband, Gabriel.

PRAISE FOR LYNSDAY FAYE

“Faye’s extremely impressive debut novel succeeds, on every level . . . It will instantly take a place of distinction among the best attempts of contemporary authors to continue the work of Arthur Conan Doyle, and is, quite simply, a must for Holmes fans.”

—Caleb Carr, on Dust and Shadow

“Lyndsay Faye’s depiction of Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Watson, and their world is exceptional . . . An exciting and grimly vivid tale that confronts the murderous Jack the Ripper with A. Conan Doyle’s immortal detective better than ever before.”

—Conan Doyle Estate, on Dust and Shadow

“Lyndsay Faye’s command of historical detail is remarkable, and her knowledge of human character even more so. I bought into this world in the opening pages and never once had the desire to leave.”—Michael Connelly, on The Gods of Gotham

“Faye’s book is swift but poignant, full of violent encounters and thrilling escapes.”

—Wall Street Journal, on Seven for a Secret

“Solid-gold entertainment.”—Lee Child, on The Fatal Flame
“[Bowden is] one of America’s pre-eminent practitioners of long-form journalism . . . *The Three Battles of Wanat* should please Bowden’s legions of fans.”

—*Dallas Morning News*

**The Three Battles of Wanat**

*And Other True Stories*

Mark Bowden

**MARKETING**

An Amazon Editors’ Best Book of the Month

The title story, published as “Echoes from a Distant Battlefield” in *Vanity Fair*, was a National Magazine Award finalist

*Black Hawk Down* was a finalist for the National Book Award and *Killing Pablo* won the Overseas Press Club Cornelius Ryan Award

also available as an Audible audiobook

Also Available:

*Killing Pablo* (978-0-8021-2378-7 • $17 • USCO)

*Black Hawk Down* (979-0-8021-4473-7 • $16 • USCO)

MARK BOWDEN is the author of twelve books, including the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Black Hawk Down*. He reported at the *Philadelphia Inquirer* for twenty years and now writes for the *Atlantic*, *Vanity Fair*, and other magazines. He is the writer in residence at the University of Delaware and lives in Pennsylvania.

“A passionate advocate for long-form journalism and one of its more successful practitioners . . . Bowden is so good at what he does best—highlighting the human angle of battles large and small.”

—*Minneapolis Star-Tribune*

*The Three Battles of Wanat* features the best long-form pieces on war, profiles, sports reporting, and essays on culture from one of the nation’s top journalists, *New York Times* bestselling author Mark Bowden.

The title story—which begins on one of the bloodiest days in the war in Afghanistan and follows the father of one of the fallen soldiers into battle against the military establishment back home—is one of five rich, narrative pieces on war that form the heart of this thought-provoking collection. In “The Killing Machines,” a nineteen-year-old marine sits at a desk with a joystick and must decide whether or not to press the button that will launch an antitank missile thousands of miles away in Kandahar, Afghanistan. In “The Last Ace,” Bowden considers the faded glory of another type of air warfare through the eyes of one extraordinary retired fighter pilot. *The Three Battles of Wanat* also includes Bowden’s incisive sports writing, think pieces, and a selection of fascinating profiles on subjects ranging from Kim Jong-un to *The Wire* creator David Simon. This is an essential book for fans of Bowden’s writing and for anyone who enjoys first-rate narrative nonfiction.

“With his rigorous and respectful approach to his subjects, multifaceted viewpoint, and wry sense of humor, Bowden proves that American journalism hasn’t kicked the bucket yet.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“A first-rate collection from one of the finest writers in contemporary journalism.”

—*Booklist*
“An absorbing novel . . . reminds us of the complexity of the web woven by those threads of faith, nationality, politics and history.”
—New York Times Book Review

The Kindness of Enemies
A Novel
Leila Aboulela

“Rich, multilayered story . . . Aboulela moves confidently between dramatizing urgent, contemporary issues and providing her audience with sufficient background . . . about the changing meaning of jihad, the history of Sufism and the racial politics of the war on terror.”
—Washington Post

“Aboulela has written a book for grown-ups . . . that speaks more forcefully than a thousand opinion pieces . . . she has done more than breathe life into legend.”
—San Francisco Chronicle

From Leila Aboulela, the first winner of the Caine Prize for African Writing, The Kindness of Enemies is a powerful historical journey across time and continents and a riveting epic of love, betrayal, and war. It’s 2010 and Natasha, a half-Russian, half-Sudanese professor of history, is researching the life of Imam Shamil, the nineteenth-century Muslim leader who led the anti-Russian resistance in the Caucasian War. When Natasha discovers her star student, Osama (Oz), is not only descended from the warrior but also possesses Shamil’s legendary sword, the Imam’s story comes vividly to life. But when Oz is suddenly arrested at his home one morning, Natasha realizes that everything she values stands in jeopardy. Told with Aboulela’s inimitable elegance, The Kindness of Enemies is both an engrossing story of a provocative period in history and an important examination of what it is to be a Muslim in a post-9/11 world.

“Riveting . . . [this novel] hums in hushed and meditative tones.”—Los Angeles Times

“Richly imagined.”
—Travel + Leisure

“Radiant with historical detail and vivid descriptions.” —Los Angeles Review of Books

LEILA ABOULELA won the first Caine Prize for African Writing. She is the author of four books: Lyrics Alley; The Translator, a New York Times 100 Notable Books of the Year; Minaret; and a book of short stories, Colored Lights.

MARKETING
An Amazon Editors’ Book of the Month
One of the Guardian’s Best Books of the Year
One of Literary Hub’s “25 New Books by African Writers You Should Read”
also available as an Audible audiobook

Also Available:
Lyrics Alley
(978-0-8021-4575-8 • $15 • USO)
The Translator
(978-0-8021-7026-2 • $12 • USO)
Minaret
(978-0-8021-7014-9 • $14 • USO)
“A haunting memoir of a young Holocaust survivor . . . This is a small book with a big voice . . . [A] tender, anguished, remorseful letter of love . . . Punctuated by moments of humanity, affection and even humor . . . shot through with bleak restraint.”—Economist

But You Did Not Come Back

A Memoir

Marceline Loridan-Ivens

Translated from the French by Sandra Smith

“[A] searing, profoundly moving memoir . . . A beautiful testimony to filial love that sounds a powerful, dire alarm.” —Christian Science Monitor

“A vital account . . . Seldom do such short books make so big an impact . . . Her important and miraculous testimony will endure.” —Minneapolis Star Tribune

“A masterpiece of restraint and luminous precision . . . Exquisitely translated by Sandra Smith, But You Did Not Come Back is a human chronicle of rare power.” —Financial Times

“This reader, for one, wants to thank this courageous, honest woman for her transformative story.” —Jewish Chronicle

But You Did Not Come Back

Marceline Loridan-Ivens

Translated from the French by Sandra Smith

“You might come back, because you’re young, but I will not come back.” —Marceline Loridan-Ivens’s father to her, April 1944

A runaway international bestseller, But You Did Not Come Back garnered rave reviews and features on hardcover publication, including a New York Times profile on the author. Hailed as an important new addition to the library of books dealing with the Holocaust, it is the profoundly moving and poetic memoir by Marceline Loridan-Ivens, who at the age of fifteen was arrested in occupied France, along with her father, who later died in the camps. In But You Did Not Come Back, Marceline writes to her father, the man whose death overshadowed her whole life. And now, as France, and Europe in general, faces growing anti-Semitism, Marceline feels pessimistic about the future. Her testimony is a memorial, a confrontation, and a deeply affecting personal story of a woman whose life was shattered and never totally rebuilt.

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“In his lively debut history, journalist Leonard . . .
chronicles the evolution of the nation’s postal service . . .
brisk [and] informative . . . A spirited look at the
business and impact of delivering mail.”
—Kirkus Reviews

Neither Snow nor Rain
A History of the United States Postal Service
Devin Leonard

MARKETING
Featured on All Things Considered, ABC Radio, and Bloomberg Radio, and excerpted in Literary Hub
paperback review coverage
op-eds at publication
also available as a Recorded Books audiobook

 efter to widespread acclaim in hardcover, Devin Leonard’s Neither Snow nor Rain is the first major history of the United States Postal Service in over fifty years. The USPS is a wonder, carrying 40 percent of the world’s mail each day, and doing so more efficiently than anyone. And the USPS has a storied history. Founded by Benjamin Franklin, it was the information network that bound far-flung Americans together and helped American business to prosper. A first-class stamp remains a great bargain, and yet, the USPS is slowly vanishing.

Devin Leonard’s history recounts the centuries-long story of the USPS, from the early days when postmasters worked out of their homes and post roads cut new paths through the wilderness. Under Andrew Jackson, the post office was molded into a vast patronage machine. As the country boomed, USPS aggressively developed new technology, from mobile post offices on trains and air mail to mechanical sorting machines and optical character readers.

Neither Snow nor Rain is a rich, multifaceted history, full of remarkable characters, from the stamp-collecting FDR, to the revolutionaries who challenged USPS’s monopoly on mail, to the renegade union members who brought the system—and the country—to a halt in the 1970s, to the visionaries who saw the Internet coming and tried to prepare the USPS for the future.

“Delectably readable.”—Chicago Tribune

“Vivid history.”—USA Today

“Fascinating.”—Boston Globe

DEVIN LEONARD is a staff writer at Bloomberg Businessweek. Previously a senior writer at Fortune and a staff writer for the New York Observer, he has also written for the New York Times, New York magazine, Wired, and many other publications.

devinleonard.com
@devinleonard
From an interview with NPR’s Robert Siegel

ROBERT SIEGEL: For most of our history, the post office was central to American life. When it expanded free delivery to people’s homes in the second half of the 1800s, first in cities then in rural areas, it knitted the country together. It delivered newspapers. When presidents appointed local postmasters, they were patronage jobs and they strengthened the political parties. In the days before the telephone, not to mention email, what the post office did was big news.

DEVIN LEONARD: It was on the front page all the time. I mean, if you read about the dawn of airmail, that was a front-page story. The pilots were heroes. The coast-to-coast flights and sort of races to see who could deliver the mail faster by different pilots—everybody in the country followed that.

SIEGEL: I met Devin Leonard at the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. And as he explains, one of the most important figures in shaping the Postal Service was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He was effectively the U.S. philatelist in chief. He collected stamps from childhood.

LEONARD: When he got polio, one of the ways that he sort of relaxed and when he was recovering he looked at his stamps all the time. And when he got back into politics he became really involved in the post office department in all sorts of ways.

SIEGEL: He was drawing the designs for postage stamps.

LEONARD: Yeah, it’s incredible. He’s obviously no artist. I mean, you look at that eagle, you know, it’s pretty rudimentary. But that’s how important stamps were to him. He drew out the designs, and I think sometimes Farley came to him with sort of prototypes and Roosevelt said no, no, no, no. And he’d sketch out his own version.

He wanted these stamps to send a message to people. You know, he wanted to uplift them and to make them feel better about being an American at a time when the country was really in trouble and 25 percent of the people in the country were unemployed. So he saw the Postal Service as a way to convey that and to knit people together and it’s just—it’s pretty amazing.
“War and Peace meets The Leopard in a novel set among Italian aristocrats during the Great War . . . Rich and moving . . . A historical novel that speaks to the present as powerfully and clearly as it does of the past.”
—Wall Street Journal

Not All Bastards Are from Vienna
A Novel
Andrea Molesini
Translated from the Italian by Antony Shugaar and Patrick Creagh

MARKETING
A national bestseller in Italy, with editions published in over ten countries
Winner of the Campiello Prize, the Comisso Award, the Latisana Award, and the City of Cuneo First Novel Prize
Inspired by Molesini’s grand-aunt’s wartime notebooks
paperback review coverage
also available as an Audible audiobook

“Wonderfully alive—often terribly so—as a wartime adventure and story of youth arriving at manhood.”
—New York Times Book Review

In the autumn of 1917, Refrontolo—a small town near Venice—is invaded by Austrian soldiers as they advance into Northern Italy. The Spadas own the largest estate in the area, and orphaned seventeen-year-old Paolo lives there with his eccentric grandparents, headstrong aunt, and a loyal staff. When their villa is commandeered by the occupying army to house its senior officers, the family is forced to lodge them or face eviction. In retaliation, the household becomes a bastion of resistance, both clashing and cooperating with the enemy troops. As Paolo tries to find his footing in the shifting and complex alliances around him, he is recruited to help with a compromising covert operation—and his life is put in irrevocable jeopardy.

“A mesmerizing portrait of love, betrayal and an aristocratic family’s downfall . . . Molesini’s debut novel roars into life from the get-go . . . A riveting tale of courage and resistance . . . Gripping, harrowing and touching, Molesini’s novel illustrates the importance of family bonds and national pride while also revealing that divided loyalty comes at a price.”
—Minneapolis Star Tribune

“Riveting and heartwarming, Molesini balances a nuanced look at the nature of war with the minor triumphs and defeats that mark growing up and falling in love. Molesini’s moving and lyrical writing proves that Not All Bastards Are from Vienna belongs in the canon of great war fiction.”
—Paste magazine

“An excellent war novel, as well as a powerful depiction of a family’s strength and mankind’s justification for war’s barbarity, movingly told and full of vivid imagery.”
—Publishers Weekly (starred boxed review)

ANDREA MOLESINI lives in Venice, Italy, where he was born. He is a poet, an author of children’s stories, and a professor of comparative literature at Padua University.

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Previous ISBN: 978-0-8021-2434-0
Residence: Venice, Italy
“Kashua’s columns are conversational, confiding, anecdotal, centered on the rituals and trials of bourgeois life . . . While his writing is rarely explicitly political, a sense of uprootedness lurks.”—New Yorker

Native

Dispatches from an Israeli-Palestinian Life

Sayed Kashua

Translated from the Hebrew by Ralph Mandel

MARKETING

An Amazon Editors' Best Book of the Month

Drawn from Kashua’s popular weekly column for the Israeli newspaper Haaretz, this is his first book of nonfiction

Now living outside Chicago with his family, Kashua teaches at the University of Illinois and regularly lectures across the United States

tie-in with author lecture schedule

also available as an Audible audiobook

Also Available:
Second Person Singular
(978-0-8021-2120-2 • $16 • USCO)
Let It Be Morning
(978-0-8021-7021-7 • $16 • USCO)
Dancing Arabs
(978-0-8021-4126-2 • $14.95 • USCO)

SAYED KASHUA is the author of the novels Dancing Arabs, Let It Be Morning, which was shortlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award; and Second Person Singular, winner of the prestigious Bernstein Prize. He is a columnist for Haaretz and the creator of the popular, prizewinning sitcom, Arab Labor.

“Kashua simply narrates, column after column, the impossibility of living as an Arab in the Jewish state . . . This is among the most justified collections of newspaper columns ever published.”

—Haaretz

An Israeli-Palestinian who lived in Jerusalem for most of his life, Sayed Kashua started writing in Hebrew with the hope of creating one story that both Palestinians and Israelis could relate to, rather than two that cannot coexist. He devoted his novels and his satirical weekly column published in Haaretz to exploring the contradictions of modern Israel while also capturing the nuances of everyday family life. Over the last decade, Kashua’s humorous essays have been among the most widely read columns in Israel. He writes about fatherhood and marriage, the Jewish-Arab conflict, encounters with prejudice, his professional ambitions, and his love of literature. Kashua brings forth a series of brilliant, caustic, wry, and fearless reflections from the perspective of someone who straddles two societies. Native—a selection of his popular pieces—is comprised of unrestrained, profoundly thoughtful personal dispatches.

“[Kashua is] like Jerusalem’s version of Charles Bukowski . . . Not so pugnacious, maybe, but just as vulnerable. Just as aware and critical—of his city, his family, Israel, the Arabs, but most of all of himself.”

—NPR.org

“What is most striking in these columns is the universality of what it means to be a father, husband and man.”

—Toronto Star

“Funny, tragic, illuminating . . . His comedy is a kind of humanism, based on the principle that people all basically have the same weaknesses and foibles.”

—Tablet magazine

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(New York, tel.: 212-780-6050)
Carton: 32
Export: USCO
Residence: Champaign, Illinois
“Macdonald is a poet of vision and sound, oracular one moment and playful the next, whose first love and only loyalty is to the music of words.”
—O, The Oprah Magazine

Shaler’s Fish
Poems
Helen Macdonald

MARKETING
Shaler’s Fish is Macdonald’s debut collection of poetry
H Is for Hawk is a New York Times Bestseller, and was on more than 25 Best Books of the Year lists; it won the Samuel Johnson Prize and the Costa Book Award, was shortlisted for the National Book Critics Circle Award as well as the Kirkus Prize, and was a finalist for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction
Macdonald now writes for the New York Times Magazine
tie-in with author lecture schedule
paperback review coverage

HELEN MACDONALD is a writer, poet, illustrator, and naturalist, as well as an affiliated research scholar in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge. She is the author of the bestselling H Is for Hawk as well as a cultural history of falcons, titled Falcon.

“Devoted readers of H Is for Hawk will find Macdonald’s gift for stunning language, patient curiosity, and expansive wisdom on full display in her poems.”
—Publishers Weekly

Before Helen Macdonald rose to international acclaim with her “beautiful and nearly feral” (New York Times) bestselling memoir H Is for Hawk, she wrote a collection of poetry, Shaler’s Fish. In robust, lyrical verse, this book roams both the outer and the inner landscapes of the poet’s universe, seamlessly fusing reflections on language, science, and literature, with the loamy environments of the natural worlds around her. Nothing escapes Macdonald’s eye, and every creature herein—from the smallest bird to the loftiest thinker—holds a significant place in her poems. This is an unparalleled collection from one of our greatest nature writers, and a poet of dazzling music and vision.

“A collection of poems that plumb the language of science and use knotty syntax to investigate what it means to watch . . . one glimpses an eager, ambitious mind digesting parallel realities—the Latinate, taxonomized world alongside an emotional world that drifts beyond category or naming.”
—Barnes & Noble Review

“The language abounds with richness and texture.”
—Santa Fe New Mexican

Also Available:
H Is for Hawk (978-0-8021-2473-9 • $16 • USO)
“Gripping . . . Collecting these stories—let alone doing so beautifully—requires a variety of lucky skills. Wood emerges as a dutiful and brave guide.” —Los Angeles Times

Walking the Nile
Levison Wood

MARKETING
An Amazon Editors’ Best Book of the Month

“Mr. Wood has a good eye for detail and a better ear for dialogue . . . What’s more, unlike many explorers who went before him, Mr. Wood seems to have remained composed and charming throughout.” —Wall Street Journal

The Nile has long been an object of fascination and obsession, enticing men into wild adventures, and Levison Wood is just the latest. Starting in Rwanda in November 2013, Wood set forth on foot, aiming to become the first person to walk the entire length of the fabled river. He followed the Nile for nine months, over four thousand miles, through six nations—Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, the Republic of Sudan, and Egypt—to the Mediterranean coast. Walking the Nile is Wood’s account of his triumphs and tragedy along the way. As he walks, often joined by local guides who help him to navigate foreign languages and customs, Walking the Nile explores African history and maps out contemporary life. An inimitable tale of survival, resilience, and sheer willpower, Walking the Nile is an inspiring chronicle of an epic journey down this lifeline of civilization.

“Wood’s remarkable achievement is one each reader can savor vicariously . . . This worthy effort . . . should satisfy even the most jaded armchair adventurers.” —Lincoln Journal Star

“Wood has set a standard that will be hard to surpass.” —Shelf Awareness

“Wood is a sharp observer and authoritative writer . . . A bold travelogue, illuminating great swathes of modern Africa.” —Kirkus Reviews

“Levison Wood is a writer, photographer, and explorer. He served in the British Army Parachute Regiment and is a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. His work has been featured in publications and media around the world, including the BBC, National Geographic, and Discovery Channel. When not abroad, he lives in London.”

levisonwood.com
@levisonwood
“A thrilling portrait of the artist as intrepid young adventure seeker.” —Vanity Fair

All Tomorrow’s Parties

A Memoir

Rob Spillman

“Truly exceptional memoirs have to do something more than recount a good origin story: they have to test the author’s youthful understanding of the world, and break down that world, even as it’s being built upon the page. All Tomorrow’s Parties is such a memoir. Not only is it a super-fun, shatter-the-mirror joyride through Spillman’s eccentric upbringing, but it’s also replete with insightful double visions . . . A thrill to read.” —Interview

Rob Spillman, the award-winning, charismatic cofounding editor of Tin House, has devoted his life to the rebellious pursuit of artistic authenticity. Born in Germany to two driven musicians, his childhood was spent backstage among the West Berlin cognoscenti, in a city two hundred miles behind the Iron Curtain. There, the Berlin Wall stood as a stark reminder of the split between East and West, between suppressed dreams and freedom of expression.

After an unsettled youth moving between divorced parents in disparate cities, Spillman would eventually find his way into the literary world of New York City, only to abandon it to return to Berlin, just months after the Wall came down. In search of the bohemian lifestyle of his idols, Spillman’s constant striving—for inspiration and for identity—ultimately led him to discover that he was chasing the one thing that had always eluded him: a place, or person, to call home. All Tomorrow’s Parties is an intimate, exhilarating, and heartfelt memoir; a colorful, music-filled coming-of-age portrait of an artist’s life; and an offbeat exploration of a shifting Berlin on the cusp of cultural renaissance.
Praise for ALL TOMORROW’S PARTIES

“One is reminded as much of Cyril Connolly’s anti-bildungsroman Enemies of Promise as Nick Hornby’s culture besotted High Fidelity.”
— New York Times Book Review

“[A] meditation on place and placelessness, and the thrilling, dangerous, necessary place that both art and the artist occupy in the world.”—NPR

“Convivial, page-turning . . . Spillman’s life is a good one to read.”
—Washington Post

“If you’ve ever been young, in love, and desperate to live an authentic life, this book is for you: a ravishing memoir about a young man’s quest for art, meaning, and a place to call home.”—Anthony Doerr

“Exquisite and revealing.”
—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

“Compelling . . . Impressive . . . His memoir says exactly the right things in the most engaging way.”
—Minneapolis Star Tribune

“Musically and culturally astute, this well-structured book is a delightful coming-of-age story couched within a travel narrative that deftly evokes one of the major historical moments of the 20th century.
A richly detailed and always engaging memoir on artistic discovery.”
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

—Toronto Star Metro

“[A] wondrous new memoir . . . Every page [is] an ecstatic celebration of this thing called life in all of its weird and short glory.”—Vol. 1 Brooklyn
“An intimate new collection . . . *Wait Till I’m Dead* expands our vision, takes us on a wild road trip with the poet and his friends through the second half of the 20th century . . . magnificent range, from traveling epics to lucid haiku.”
—*San Francisco Chronicle*

**Wait Till I’m Dead**

*Uncollected Poems*

**Allen Ginsberg**

Edited by Bill Morgan

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**MARKETING**

April 5, 2017, will mark the 20th anniversary of Ginsberg’s death

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**ALLEN GINSBERG** (1926–1997) was a poet, activist, and one of the Beat generation’s most renowned writers. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and cofounder of the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Naropa Institute. He won the National Book Award for Poetry, and his groundbreaking poem “Howl” is one of the most widely read and translated poems of the century.

**BILL MORGAN** has written and edited thirty-nine books, including *I Celebrate Myself: The Somewhat Private Life of Allen Ginsberg*.

---

*Rainy night on Union Square, full moon. Want more poems? Wait till I’m dead.*
—Allen Ginsberg, August 8, 1990, 3:30 a.m.

The first new Ginsberg collection in over fifteen years, *Wait Till I’m Dead* is a landmark publication, edited by renowned Ginsberg scholar Bill Morgan and introduced by award-winning poet Rachel Zucker. Ginsberg wrote incessantly for more than fifty years, often composing poetry on demand, and many of the poems collected in this volume were scribbled in letters or sent off to obscure publications and unjustly forgotten. *Wait Till I’m Dead*, which spans the whole of Ginsberg’s long writing career, from the 1940s to the 1990s, is a testament to Ginsberg’s astonishing writing and singular aesthetics. Containing 104 previously uncollected poems and accompanied by original photographs and extensive notes, *Wait Till I’m Dead* is the final major contribution to Ginsberg’s poetic oeuvre, a must-read for Ginsberg neophytes and longtime fans alike.

“These are not unlike other Ginsberg poems—fierce, funny, libidinous, subversive—but here they afford a fresh chronological tour of Ginsberg’s life, which is also one version of the story of the second half of the 20th century . . . Ginsberg . . . treats everything with an utterly absorbing present-tense vividness, which this book lets us view through grown-up eyes.”
—*Los Angeles Times* 

“Delights include the opening set of quatrains slamming student Allen’s congressman, a long ramble on America written during a cross-country flight in 1965, a final conversation with old friend Carl Solomon, and enough jokey or philosophical or contemplative or observational short poems to make those who’ve sworn off Ginsberg reconsider.”
—*Booklist*
“Buckley charts the generational branches of black Calhouns painstakingly, as though making up for the lost stories of so many other African Americans . . . meticulously detailed.” —New York Times Book Review

The Black Calhouns

From Civil War to Civil Rights with One African American Family

Gail Lumet Buckley

MARKETING

An Amazon Editors' Best Book of the Month and one of Essence's “6 Must-Read Books for Black History Month”

To be adapted into a miniseries by ABC

Received starred reviews from Booklist and PW, and fabulous blurbs from David Levering Lewis, Frances FitzGerald, and Jonathan Alter, among others


paperback review coverage

also available as an Audible audiobook

“Gail Lumet Buckley’s family portrait reminds us how personal African American history still is. From Reconstruction and the triumph of Jim Crow in the South to World War II and the beginnings of mass political activism for equality—Buckley relates black survival and progress through the experiences of her ambitious, complicated family.” —Darryl Pinckney, author of High Cotton and most recently Black Deutschland

In The Black Calhouns, Gail Lumet Buckley—daughter of actress Lena Horne—tells the story of her dynamic family during the most crucial century in African American history. Beginning with her great-great-grandfather Moses Calhoun, a house slave who used the rare advantage of his education to become a successful businessman in postwar Atlanta, Buckley follows her family’s two branches: one that stayed in the South, and the other that settled in Brooklyn. Through the lens of her relatives’ momentous lives, Buckley examines major events throughout American history. From Atlanta during Reconstruction and the rise of Jim Crow, to New York City during the Harlem Renaissance, from world wars to the civil rights movement, this brilliant family participated in the most crucial turning points of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

“Placing [her] story against a backdrop of historical shifts eloquently conveys . . . how politics and prejudice can shape a family.” —New Yorker

“A stunning saga of [a] gifted and privileged family . . . The book’s ultimate magic derives from the way the history of black America can be viewed through their story . . . [Buckley’s] command of her subject is vast; her narrative skill, masterful.” —Boston Globe

$16.00 (Canada: $20.99)

5½ x 8¼, 368 pp.

Memoir (BIO002000)

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Residence: New York, New York
Death waits inside us for a door to open.
Death is patient as a dead cat.
Death is a doorknob made of flesh.
Death is that angelic farm girl
gored by the bull on her way home
from school, crossing the pasture
for a shortcut. In the seventh grade
she couldn’t read or write. She wasn’t a virgin.
She was “simpleminded,” we all said.
It was May, a time of lilacs and shooting stars.
She’s lived in my memory for sixty years.
Death steals everything except our stories.

“Larson’s Holstein Bull”
from In Search of Small Gods by Jim Harrison
AT MIDMORNING ON THE THIRD DAY these three big ravens stood right outside of the thicket looking in at me. It was plain to me that these three ravens wanted to know why I was sitting there. I wasn’t so sure myself but I told them that the first day I had had a real short vision that I was going to get sick and die. This was more than two years before I got diagnosed. I told them I wasn’t too much bothered by my coming death because it’s what happens to all living things sooner or later. Later would be better but it’s not for me to decide. I also told these ravens about a funeral of their kind I had seen a few miles inland from Whitefish Point a few years back. A real old raven had fallen slowly down through the branches of a hemlock tree over a period of two hours, grabbing hold of a branch now and then with his or her last strength, while around the bird about three dozen of his family were whirling. I heard the soft sound when he finally hit the ground. I got the feeling that one of the three ravens had been there as it was less than a hundred miles away. They showed no signs of leaving so I also told them of my vision of my mother and father sitting beside a creek with a sleeping bear beside them as if it were a pet dog. My mother and father looked wonderful and they said, “Don’t be afraid to come home, son.”

When I came down the hill and drove to the Soo with my teacher I saw one of the same ravens just north of the city. I doubt if my experience was much different than anyone else who spent three days up there. It was good to finally know that the spirit is everywhere rather than a separate thing. I’ve been lucky to spend a life pretty close to the earth up here in the north. I learned in those three days that the earth is so much more than I ever thought it was. It was a gift indeed to see all sides of everything at once. This makes it real hard to say good-bye. My family will be with me just like that old raven falling slowly down through the tree.

from Returning to Earth by Jim Harrison
“No one writes more persuasively about the natural world . . . A writer still independent, fierce and feral. The wisdom of age hasn’t harmed him a bit.”

The Ancient Minstrel
Novellas
Jim Harrison

“My tales possess the hypnotic grace and momentum of a long-distance, freestyle swimmer, pages cleaving away like armstrokes . . . At the heart of all beats the essential Jim Harrison: big lives and full fare, start to finish; and at the book’s conclusion one hates to see that end.”
—Rick Bass, Boston Globe

A
New York Times
bestseller, The Ancient Minstrel is a stunning collection of novellas that highlight Jim Harrison's phenomenal range as a writer, shot through with his trademark wit and keen insight into the human condition. Harrison has tremendous fun with his own reputation in the title novella, about an aging writer in Montana who indulges his lifelong dream of raising pigs, struggles to write the “big novel” he’s rashly promised his editor, and attempts to rekindle the long marriage that has sustained him. In Eggs, a Montana woman recalls a life spent collecting eggs—at her grandparents’ farm in Montana and near Dorset, England, where she ends up during World War II. Eggs of a different sort preoccupy her when, unmarried but undeterred, she decides to try to have a baby. And in The Case of the Howling Buddhas, retired detective Sunderson is hired as a private investigator to look into a bizarre cult that achieves satori by howling along with howler monkeys at the zoo. Fresh and entertaining, with moments of both profound wisdom and sublime humor, The Ancient Minstrel is an exceptional reminder of why Harrison was one of our most beloved and critically acclaimed writers.
“Jim Harrison stands high among the writers of his generation. This book is rich, alive, and shatteringly visceral. A triumph.”—New Yorker

Legends of the Fall
Novellas
Jim Harrison

“Harrison at the height of his powers . . . Can stand with . . . novellas by Conrad, Chekhov, Mann, James, Melville, Lawrence, and Isak Dinesen.”

—Raymond Carver, San Francisco Review of Books

New York Times bestselling author Jim Harrison was one of America’s most beloved and critically acclaimed writers. The classic Legends of the Fall is a striking collection of novellas—two of which spawned films—written with exceptional brilliance and a ferocious love of life. An epic, heartrending tale that moves across decades and from early twentieth-century Montana to Europe, Cuba, Africa, and back again, the title novella is the powerful story of three brothers, from the madness of World War I that broke them apart, to the women they love and the ungovernable thirst for freedom that drives them. In Revenge, a Navy veteran is found nearly dead in Mexico. As he recovers health we learn of the betrayal that authored his fate, and his drive to regain lost love at any price. In The Man Who Gave Up His Name, a man emerges from post-divorce hibernation and in discarding his old life piece by piece finds the joy of the new. Legends of the Fall inspired the Chicago Sun-Times to write, “So much American legend is packed into these brief pages that Jim Harrison must be admired as an almost sacred writer.”

“[Legends of the Fall] may well be the best set of novellas to appear in this country during the last quarter century.”—Robert Houston, New York Times Book Review

Legends of the Fall is one of Harrison’s best-known works; it established him as one of the finest American voices of his generation and has become a modern classic. This book’s title novella was made into an award-winning film starring Brad Pitt, Anthony Hopkins, and Aidan Quinn.

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“Leon’s poignant 25th outing . . . Fans new and old should appreciate this escape into Brunetti’s elegant, sophisticated, yet troubled Venice.” —Publishers Weekly

The Waters of Eternal Youth

A Commissario Guido Brunetti Mystery

Donna Leon

MARKETING

The Waters of Eternal Youth debuted at #8 on the New York Times Bestseller List and reached #6 on the IndieBound list, #2 on the SCIBA list, #3 on the NCIBA list, and #4 on the NEIBA list.

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“Donna Leon’s Venetian mysteries never disappoint . . . The Waters of Eternal Youth [is] a bittersweet story that makes us appreciate Brunetti’s philosophical takes on the indignities, insanities, and cruelties of life.”

—Marilyn Stasio, New York Times Book Review

Published to rave reviews, the twenty-fifth Commissario Guido Brunetti mystery further cemented Donna Leon’s reputation as a masterful novelist, and this series as a modern classic. Brunetti has been called on to investigate many things over the years, from shocking to petty crimes, but here he finds himself drawn into a case that may not be a case at all.

Fifteen years ago, a teenage girl fell into a canal late at night. Unable to swim, she went under and started to drown. She survived when a nearby man, an alcoholic, pulled her out, though not before she suffered irreparable brain damage that left her unable to learn or mature. The man claimed he saw her being thrown into the canal, but the following day, he couldn’t remember a thing. Now Brunetti is asked by the girl’s grandmother to investigate. Unsure what to do, Brunetti nevertheless finds himself unable to let the case rest, if indeed there is a case. Awash in the rhythms of contemporary Venetian life, The Waters of Eternal Youth is a wonderful addition to this series.

“A new Brunetti adventure is always worth celebrating . . . marvelous and moving.”

—Booklist (starred review)

“Not only Leon’s 25th installment in her long-running series and one of the best, but also one of 2016’s standout novels.”

—Bookreporter

Donna Leon is the author of the highly acclaimed internationally bestselling Commissario Guido Brunetti mystery series. Leon has lived in Venice for thirty years and now divides her time between Venice and Switzerland.

donnelleon.net

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Suffer the Little Children

*A Commissario Guido Brunetti Mystery*

Donna Leon

“A perfect blend of characters, place, mystery, and social issues . . . [Leon’s] 16th Brunetti novel is also one of her best.” —Times (UK)

Summoned in the middle of the night to the hospital bed of a senior pediatrician, Commissario Brunetti is confronted with more questions than answers. Three men had burst into the doctor’s apartment while the family was sleeping, attacked him, and took away his eighteen-month-old boy. What could have motivated such a violent assault? Who would dare to take the doctor’s child? As Brunetti delves into the case, he begins to uncover a story of infertility, desperation, and illegal dealings.* Suffer the Little Children *is a powerful mystery, set in a beautifully realized Venice, a glorious town seething with big-city vice.

“[Her] ability to capture the city’s social scene and internal politics is first-rate, as always, but this installment carries extra gravity and welcome plot twists that make it one of the series’ better efforts.” —Sarah Weinman, *Baltimore Sun*

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Friends in High Places

*A Commissario Guido Brunetti Mystery*

Donna Leon

“Beautifully written and immaculately plotted, *Friends in High Places* is further proof still that Leon can do no wrong.” —Scotsman

“Carefully plotted and full of colorful as well as sinister character, this is crime writing of the highest order: powerful, relevant and all too full of human failings.” —Guardian (UK)

In Donna Leon’s ninth novel featuring her celebrated protagonist, Commissario Guido Brunetti finds himself caught up in a typically Venetian problem: red tape over renovations. Visited by a young bureaucrat, Brunetti learns that, officially, his apartment does not exist. The extra floor that was added years before was never approved. But what begins as a troublesome headache ends in murder when the bureaucrat is found dead after a mysterious fall from a scaffold. Brunetti starts an investigation that takes him into unfamiliar and dangerous areas of Venetian life, and shows him, once again, what a difference it makes to have friends in high places.

“All Donna Leon’s novels are excellent in their evocation of place, while in Brunetti she has created a character who . . . becomes more real in each book. *Friends in High Places* is, however, by far the best, and marks a quantum leap forward.” —Evening Standard (UK)

also available as a Blackstone audiobook
“What makes *Washington’s Immortals* different from most Revolutionary War accounts is its seamless blend of tactical acumen and human drama . . . Combat writing at its best.” — *Wall Street Journal*

**Washington’s Immortals**

*The Untold Story of an Elite Regiment Who Changed the Course of the Revolution*

Patrick K. O’Donnell

“Powerful . . . a must-read.” — *Journal of the American Revolution*

In August 1776, little over a month after the Continental Congress had formally declared independence from Great Britain, General George Washington’s young army faced off against over twenty thousand British and Hessian soldiers at the Battle of Brooklyn. This was the largest battle of the Revolution, and with the Americans outmanned and outmaneuvered, it was almost the end of the war as well. But thanks to a series of desperate bayonet charges by a single heroic regiment from Maryland, the Continental Army lived to fight another day. In *Washington’s Immortals*, bestselling military historian Patrick K. O’Donnell brings to life the story of these dauntless men. He chronicles their development into an elite unit and, through the prism of this regiment, he tells the larger story of the Revolutionary War. *Washington’s Immortals* is gripping history that will transport readers to the bloodiest battles and darkest days of the war in the company of men whose extraordinary sacrifices, endurance of unimaginable hardship, and valiant fighting helped make the difference between defeat and victory.

“Gritty . . . a ‘boots on the ground’ account, with great storytelling verve . . . For readers who enjoy well-researched military history, this is the book for you.” — *Washington Independent Review of Books*

“O’Donnell deploys a fusillade of fact and fresh research in a Revolutionary War history rich in irony and event.” — *Kirkus Reviews*
PRAISE FOR WASHINGTON’S IMMORTALS

“Washington’s Immortals tells the extraordinary story of the most important band of brothers, forgotten men who changed the course of American history. This is O’Donnell at his very best—a deeply moving, superbly researched page turner.” —Alex Kershaw, New York Times bestselling author of The Bedford Boys and The Longest Winter

“This is splendid history—intimate, immediate, sweeping, inspiring.” —Richard Brookhiser, author Founding Father: Rediscovering George Washington


“Patrick O’Donnell has written what portends to be the definitive history of the famous Revolutionary War era ‘Maryland Line’ . . . a thoroughly entertaining and highly readable story.” —Charles P. Neimeyer, Ph.D., director and chief of marine corps history, Marine Corps University, Quantico, Virginia

“O’Donnell weaves together first-hand accounts, many from archival sources never before published, to reveal the struggles and triumphs of this remarkable regiment and the men who were part of it.” —Don N. Hagist, author of British Soldiers, American War

“An amazing tale of pluck and devotion . . . Highly recommended.” —Joseph Balkoski, author of The Last Roll Call and director of the Maryland Museum of Military History

“I have read a lot of books on the American Revolution. Washington’s Immortals is one that will remain vivid in my mind.” —Thomas Fleming, author of The Great Divide: The Conflict Between Washington and Jefferson That Defined a Nation

REVIEWS IN:

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
The magnum opus from a notorious Beat writer, reissued and repackaged with a new introduction

**Young Adam**  
*A Novel*  
Alexander Trocchi  
Introduction by David L. Ulin

“Trocchi may be the greatest unknown writer in the world . . . What Trocchi was about, in life and art, was the testing of boundaries, the eradication of acceptable behavior in the name of something more engaged.” — Bloomsbury Review

Alexander Trocchi was one of the seminal Beat figures. Born in Scotland, he made his way in Paris and New York, and *Young Adam* is one of his most important works. Joe is a drifter who works as a hired hand on a barge traveling the Clyde River between Glasgow and Edinburgh. As *Young Adam* opens, Joe finds the corpse of a young woman floating in the water. Was it an accident or a suicide, or was she murdered? As the police investigate and arrest a suspect, Trocchi’s haunting novel reveals that Joe knows far more than he’s telling. Meanwhile, confined in the claustrophobic space of the barge, an unspoken attraction develops between Joe and the wife of the barge skipper. Originally published in 1954, this is an absorbing existential thriller, a forgotten gem by an important Beat writer.

“Everyone should read Young Adam.” — Times Literary Supplement (UK)

“Trocchi has the courage so essential to a writer. He writes about spirit, flesh, and death and the vision that comes through the flesh. He has been there and brought it back.” — William S. Burroughs

“The most brilliant man I’ve ever met.” — Allen Ginsberg

“Mr. Trocchi’s ideas (or, rather, his gropings toward the distant glow of ideas) are set down in prose that is always clean and sharp and often ferociously alive with poetry.” — New Yorker

“Trocchi’s most famous and critically acclaimed novel
Adapted into a film starring Ewan McGregor and Tilda Swinton in 2004

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ALEXANDER TROCCHI  
(1925–1984) was a Scottish novelist whose numerous works include *Cain’s Book*. He resided mainly in Paris and New York throughout his life. He was an editor of the literary journal *Merlin*, which published works by Eugène Ionesco, Samuel Beckett, Jean-Paul Sartre, and others.

© ESTATE OF ALEXANDER TROCCHI
“No fiction written by a Texan these days is as violent as James Carlos Blake’s. He likes it that way, and he’s not the only one... Blake... stands among the best explorers of our lost frontier.” — Texas Monthly

Borderlands
Short Fictions
James Carlos Blake

MARKETING

Blake’s The Rules of Wolfe was shortlisted for the CWA Goldsboro Dagger Award and was named one of the "Best 101 Crime Novels of the Past Decade" by Booklist

Grove Press is bringing two more of Blake’s backlist titles back into print: The Pistoleer and The Friends of Pancho Villa

A new novel in Blake’s Wolfe family series is forthcoming in spring/summer 2017

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JAMES CARLOS BLAKE is the author of twelve novels. He is a member of the Texas Institute of Letters and a recipient of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for In the Rogue Blood. He was born in Mexico, raised in Texas, and now lives in Arizona.

“Blake writes... about violent men living in violent times. His stories take the reader into a whirlwind of war, revolution, crime, and dark mayhem... Think of Sam Peckinpah movies. Think of a night in the Everglades during alligator mating season.” — Austin Chronicle

The scrublands of South Texas, the warm coastland of the Gulf of Mexico, a cinderblock flophouse near the produce fields of South Florida: all are borderlands of mixed blood and spilled blood, of generations forged in fight, failure, and hope.

In this extraordinary collection of short works, the masterful James Carlos Blake, author of In the Rogue Blood and the Wolfe family series of border noirs, journeys from the nineteenth-century Mexican frontier to the borderlands of today. Borderlands begins with an introductory piece of memoir, called “The Outsider,” about Blake’s own straddling of worlds and identities. In the following eight haunting stories, we meet Don Sebastián Cabrillo Mayor Cortés y Mendoza, a powerful landowner reduced to howling at the moon from behind the bars of a mental institution; an illegal immigrant in Florida who must reckon with his emotional turmoil after being robbed by a fellow Mexican; a Texas woman orphaned by disease and desertion, making her way into a violent world of men; and many more who pass through the shadows of the borderlands. Bold, honest, and humane, these pieces represent some of the best writing from one of the most original and authentic voices in contemporary fiction.

“Blake writes with a fearless precision... This is gritty, raw, bare-knuckled fiction.” — Publishers Weekly
“[A] superlative Cold War espionage story . . . Lawton’s gift for memorable atmosphere and characters, intelligent plotting and wry prose put him solidly at the top of anyone’s A-list of contemporary spy novelists.”—Adam Woog, Seattle Times

The Unfortunate Englishman

A Joe Wilderness Novel

John Lawton

“[Then We Take Berlin and The Unfortunate Englishman] are meticulously researched, tautly plotted historical thrillers in the mold of World War II and Cold War fiction by novelists like Alan Furst, Philip Kerr, Eric Ambler, David Downing and Joseph Kanon.”

—Wall Street Journal

“Outstanding . . . Intricate plotting, colorful characters, and a brilliant prose style put Lawton in the front rank of historical thriller writers.”

—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

JOHN LAWTON is the author of ten novels, including Then We Take Berlin and A Lily of the Field, which was named one of the best thrillers of the year by the New York Times. He lives in Derbyshire, England.

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Discover the British Crime Writer
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to Alan Furst, Philip Kerr, and
Joseph Kanon

John Lawton’s new novel about spying,
Kennedy, Khrushchev, and the Berlin Wall

By STEVE DOUGHERTY
March 3, 2016

A Soviet agent embedded in the British war ministry is nearly exposed for not showing proper love for upper-class delights like croquet, bridge and Dundee fruit cakes. And when a new MI6 station chief is summoned to Berlin to take over in the midst of a tense Cold War crisis, he takes three days to drive his 1954 Austin-Healey 100M roadster all the way from London. “Couldn’t leave the old bus behind, could I?” he says upon arrival.

Both characters appear in British author John Lawton’s new novel, “The Unfortunate Englishman” (Atlantic Monthly Press), due March 8, a Cold War espionage thriller laced with British manners. They also double as foils for Mr. Lawton’s working class hero, Joe Wilderness, a Cockney former jewel thief and safecracker turned highly valued MI6 agent whom he introduced in his 2013 novel “Then We Take Berlin.”

Both books are meticulously researched, tautly plotted, historical thrillers in the mold of World War II and Cold War fiction by novelists like Alan Furst, Philip Kerr, Eric Ambler, David Downing and Joseph Kanon.
“A brutal and unflinching portrait of the low life in the city of high rollers, Leaving Las Vegas is both shocking and curiously exhilarating. O’Brien was a stunningly talented writer who created poetry from the most squalid materials... A beautiful and horrifying novel.”—Jay McInerney

Leaving Las Vegas
John O’Brien

MARKETING
Leaving Las Vegas was first published in 1990; the book’s recent 25th anniversary inspired retrospectives in Esquire and other outlets. Leaving Las Vegas was adapted into a 1995 feature film directed by Mike Figgis and starring Elisabeth Shue and Nicolas Cage, who won the Golden Globe and Academy Award for Best Actor for his role. The film was nominated for three more Academy Awards. The novel also inspired Sheryl Crow’s 1994 single of the same name. Social media campaign via GroveAtlantic.com, Facebook, Twitter, and Tumblr giveaways on Goodreads.

“O’Brien has a strong tradition behind him here, that of American naturalism, and he fits into it well. From Stephen Crane to Hubert Selby, Jr... [O’Brien] achieves real power in his writing. You seldom encounter it anymore, but when you do you know you’ve been properly whacked by a real talent.”—New York Daily News

Leaving Las Vegas, the first novel by John O’Brien, is the disturbing and emotionally wrenching story of a woman who embraces life and a man who rejects it. Sera is a prostitute, content with the independence and routine she has carved out for herself in a city defined by recklessness. But she is haunted by a specter in a yellow Mercedes, a man from her past who is committed to taking control of her life again. Ben is an alcoholic intent on drinking his way toward an early death. Newly arrived from Los Angeles, he survived the four-hour intoxicated drive across the desert with his entire savings in his wallet and nothing else left to lose. Looking to satisfy hungers both material and existential, Ben and Sera stumble together on the strip and discover in each other a respite from their unforgiving lives.

A testimony to the raw talent of its young author, Leaving Las Vegas is a compelling story of unconditional love between two disenfranchised and lost souls—an overlooked American classic.

“O’Brien is simply terrific.”—Ron Carlson
“[An] immense writing talent.”—Esquire

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JOHN O’BRIEN was born in 1960 and lived most of his life in California. He died in 1994.
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From a promising young playwright, a viciously funny new drama set in a Manhattan private equity firm about the people shaping, and skewing, the American economy

Dry Powder

A Play

Sarah Burgess

MARKETING

Winner of the 2016 Laurents/Hatcher Foundation Award for emerging playwrights and a finalist for the 2015-2016 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize

Dry Powder was an instant success when it opened Off-Broadway at the Public Theater, featuring Claire Danes, Hank Azaria, and John Krasinski. The world premiere sold out its entire run before opening night.

Targeted outreach to theater press

“A lacerating dark comedy . . . Dry Powder feels extraordinarily timely. It’s a play every oligarch should see.” —Time Out New York

The same week his private equity firm forced massive layoffs at a national grocery chain, Rick threw himself an extravagant engagement party, setting off a publicity nightmare. Fortunately, Seth, one of Rick’s partners, has a win-win deal to invest in an American-made luggage company for a song and rescue his boss from a PR disaster. But Jenny, Seth’s counterpart, has an entirely different plan: to squeeze every last penny out of the company, no matter the consequences. The game is on in Sarah Burgess’s gripping, razor-sharp new play about the price of success and the real cost of getting the deal done. Dry Powder was originally performed in March 2016 at The Public Theater in New York, picked out personally by Oskar Eustis and brought to the stage by Hamilton director Thomas Kail. The play was an instant on-stage success and is the first production written by this preternaturally gifted playwright.

“A slick drama . . . Ms. Burgess’s grasp of the jargon of high finance is impressive.” —Charles Isherwood, New York Times

“Frighteningly funny . . . a timely play.” —Marilyn Stasio, Variety

“A curiously fascinating behind-the-numbers peek inside a New York private equity firm. You don’t have to work at a big bank to get sucked into Burgess’s story.” —EW.com

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