

SPARKPRESS CATALOG²⁰¹⁸



SparkPress is an independent, hybrid imprint focused on merging the best of the traditional publishing model, such as manuscript vetting and traditional distribution through Ingram, with new and innovative strategies, such as higher royalties and more creative control to the authors. We are proud to bring to market this list of New York Times best-selling, award-winning, and debut authors with an array of fiction and nonfiction titles to entertain, empower, and change readers everywhere.

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HIGHLIGHTS

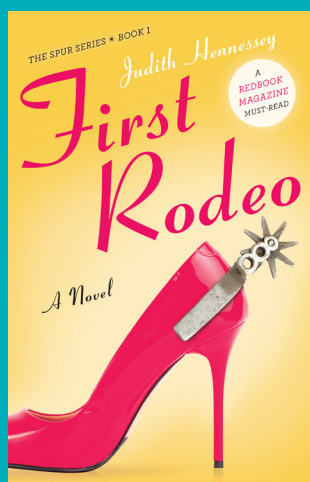
Since launching in 2014, SparkPress has....

Published more than
12 best-selling authors

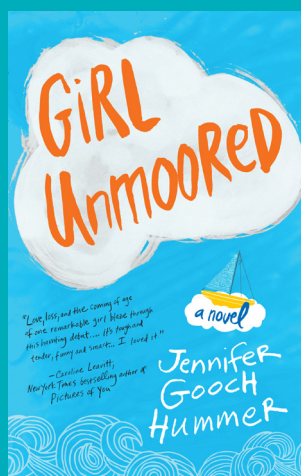
Sold multiple rights in foreign
countries and film rights

Sold and transitioned a
best-selling book series to
HarperCollins

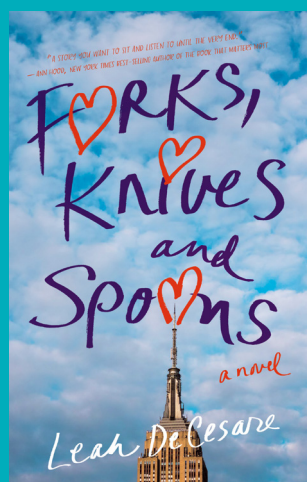
Seen its authors earn
more than 105 awards
and finalist titles



Named a "Top 10
Romance Debut
of 2016" by
Booklist



Winner of 13 awards
for Young Adult,
Teen, and
Cross-Genre Fiction



2017 IAN Book of
the Years Awards,
Outstanding Women's
Fiction



Series winner of 11
awards, including 2
IBPA Benjamin Franklin
Awards Gold medals.

In 2016/2017, SparkPress received rave reviews from...

Booklist

First Rodeo, named
a "Top 10 Romance
Debut of 2016"

So Close

The Goodbye Year

Hindsight

LIBRARY JOURNAL

*The House that Made
Me*, starred review

*A Dangerous Woman
from Nowhere*

Kalifus Rising

So Close

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

Hindsight, starred
review

*The House that
Made Me*

KIRKUS

The Rules of Half
The Santa Thief

The Absence of Evelyn

Raven God

Quiet the Rage

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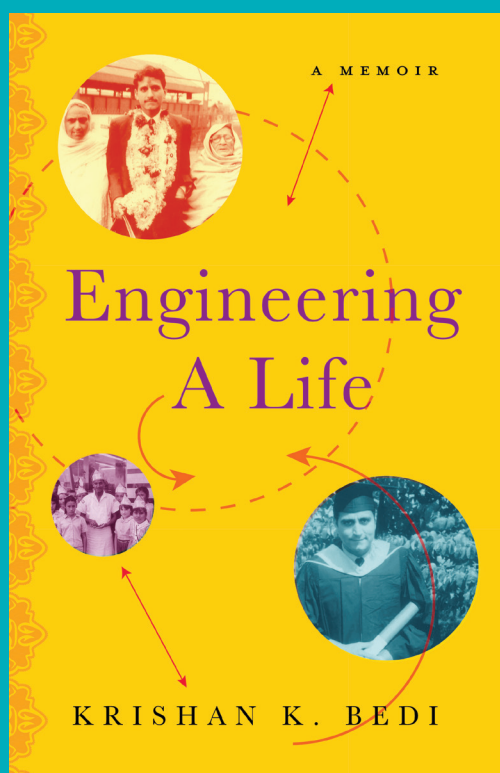
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SPRING 2018

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 3, 2018

Collections: Memoir

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-43-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-42-7

ENGINEERING A LIFE

A MEMOIR

KRISHAN K. BEDI

DESCRIPTION:

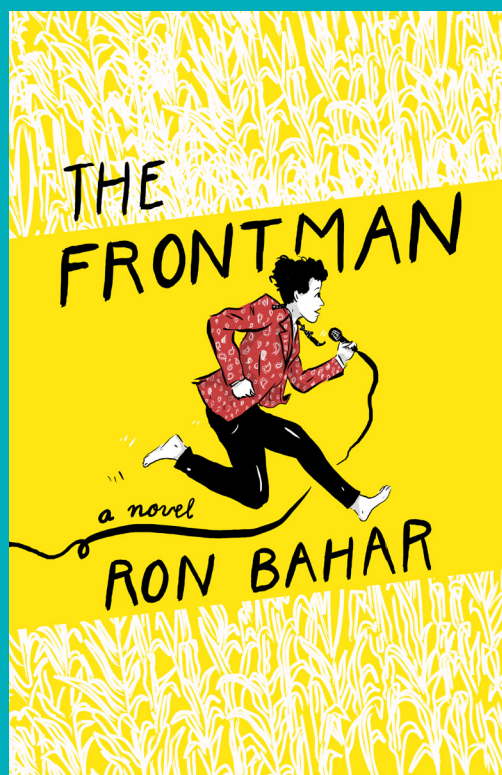
Krishan Bedi came to the United States in December of 1961 at the tender age of twenty. He had only \$300 in his pocket, and he had made it out of his small village in India on sheer faith, determined to get education in the US. For him, there was no option but to succeed—so he began his new life in Knoxville, Tennessee, where he had to adapt to the culture shock not only of being in the US but a Punjabi man in the South in the 1960s.

Engineering a Life is an examination of Bedi's life and how he has handled the plethora of curve balls thrown his way with determination, humor, and an unwavering belief that everything would work out. This is a book about values and faith and the importance of friendship, family, and hard work. It's a story about achieving the American Dream, proving that no matter how thoroughly you map out your life's journey, no matter how many blueprints you draw up, when you veer off the course you've plotted—as we all do, somehow, in the end—you end up where you're supposed to be.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Krishan K. Bedi came to the US by boat with only \$300 in his pocket in December 1961. A twenty-year-old from the tiny village of Punjab, India, he had big dreams and ideas of what he wanted to do with his life. He eventually earned a master's degree in industrial engineering at the University of Tennessee. After nine years in the US, he returned to India to have an arranged marriage; together, he and his wife returned to the States, where Bedi developed a career as a healthcare executive. He's since served as member of several healthcare professional organizations and is currently a member of the board of Indo-American Society of Peoria. Bedi is a contributing author to *The Magic of Memoir*, edited by Linda Joy Myers and Brooke Warner. He now lives with his wife in Peoria. They have three successful sons and five grandchildren.

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 3, 2018

Collections: YA

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-44-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-45-8

"In the tradition of Philip Roth's *Portnoy's Complaint*, *The Frontman* is a fresh, musical look at faith, family and fidelity through the lens of a first-generation Jewish protagonist. Ron Bahar's debut novel is hilariously funny and gut-wrenchingly emotional (you'll have to read the book to understand that)."

— Ed Decter, screenwriter of *There's Something About Mary*

"...a celebration of family relations, the healing power of music, and identity."

— Holly Bario, President of Production, DreamWorks Studios

THE FRONTMAN

A NOVEL

RON BAHAR

DESCRIPTION:

Ron Bahar is an insecure, self-deprecating, seventeen-year-old Nebraskan striving to please his Israeli immigrant parents, Ophira and Ezekiel, while remaining true to his own dreams. During his senior year of high school, he begins to date longtime crush and non-Jewish girl Amy Andrews—a forbidden relationship he hides from his parents. But that's not the only complicated part of Ron's life: he's also struggling to choose between his two passions, medicine and music. As time goes on, he becomes entangled in a compelling world of sex, drugs, and rock and roll. Will he do the right thing?

A fictionalized memoir of the author's life as a young man in Lincoln, Nebraska, *The Frontman* is a coming-of-age tale of love and fidelity.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Ron Bahar is the child of Israeli immigrants. He was born in 1965 in Boulder, Colorado, and was raised in Lincoln, Nebraska. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in zoology with honors/Phi Beta Kappa before attending medical school at the University of Nebraska and graduating with honors. He completed all of his post-graduate training at UCLA, where he went on to serve as a full-time Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics from 1997 to 2000, after which time he started his own private practice in the Los Angeles suburb of Encino. Bahar has two children, Ethan and Matthew, and two energetic Goldendoodles, Olivia and Diego. He and his wife, Laurie, like to travel and exercise, and spend many weekends at their family mountain retreat in Lake Arrowhead, CA.

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 10, 2018

Collections: YA

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-46-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-47-2

"Kristin Kaye's coming of age novel artfully places her young heroine in the midst of the burning questions facing the entire world such as climate change and culture wars. At the same time, she manages to weave her into a discovery of the ancient human connections to both trees and dreams.

This is a work of wit and imagination that informs as it inspires; it also marks a trail of encouragement for the mutual lives of people and trees."

— Michael Meade, author of *The Genius Myth* and *Why the World Doesn't End*

TREE DREAMS

A NOVEL

KRISTIN KAYE

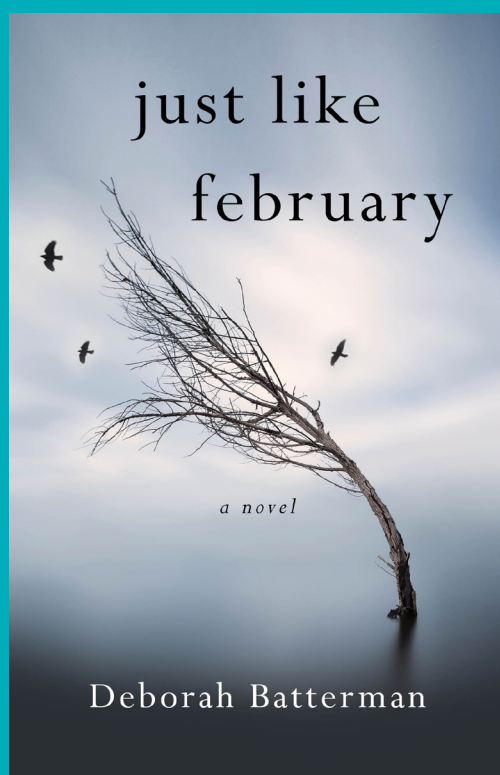
DESCRIPTION:

When seventeen-year-old Jade Reynolds witnesses a violent clash between a protesting tree sitter and a local logger, she is forced to flee the California town she grew up in. Jade runs as far as she can from the battles that plague her home and from the mysteries of the redwood forest, but the ancient trees are embedded in her psyche—she feels their call even in the dark and forgotten back alleys of Portland, Oregon where she's hiding out. She soon becomes entangled with a lovable misfit and a band of radical slackers, environmentalists, and anarchists, and finds herself living 100 feet high in the canopy of a redwood grove, trying to decide whose side she's on: the logging community she's known her entire life or the environmentalists who are risking their lives for the future of the forest. When choosing sides only makes matters worse, Jade turns to the ancient trees themselves—and the thread-thin web that connects us all.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kristin Kaye is an author, ghostwriter, and teacher. She was the playwright and director of an off-Broadway show featuring twenty-five of the world's strongest and most muscular women (the wonder of the event was captured in a "Talk of the Town" cartoon in *The New Yorker*). The book about the show, *Iron Maidens: The Celebration of the Most Awesome Female Muscle in the World*, was a finalist for the Oregon Book Awards and named by *Utne* magazine as "one of 5 new titles for women who resist easy definition." *Tree Dreams* has given rise to a global tree-tagging campaign that celebrates the myriad ways we are connected to each other, nature, and our future. Visit www.treedreams.net to join in.

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 10, 2018

Collections: Literary Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-48-9

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-49-6

JUST LIKE FEBRUARY

A NOVEL

DEBORAH BATTERMAN

DESCRIPTION:

"The summer I was born Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, Ted Kennedy put Chappaquiddick on the map, and my parents, along with my uncle Jake and me, set out on a pilgrimage to Woodstock. Only Jake got there . . ."

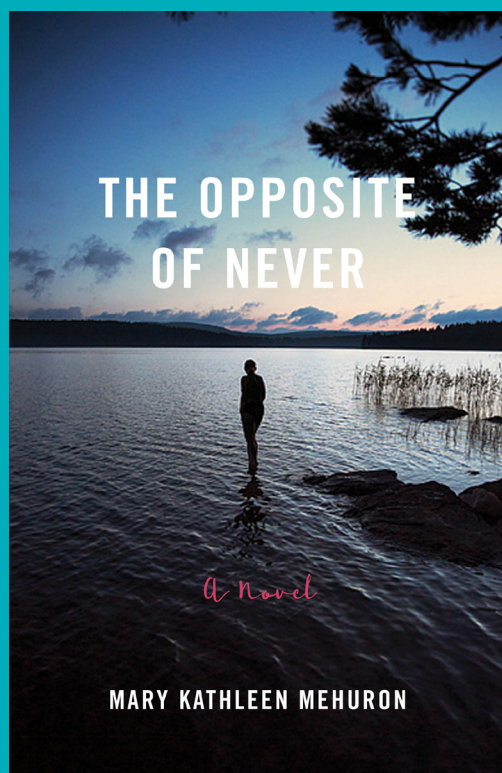
With its opening allusion to the summer of '69, *Just Like February* weaves together a narrative framed by the passions of the '60s and the tragic undercurrent of the '80s.

Part love story, part story of a family's unraveling, the novel begins with Rachel's parents' wedding--which takes place when she's five and ends with her sexual awakening as Jake is dying. Driving the narrative is Rachel's keen awareness of the world around her: the stormy love between her mother (a social worker) and her father (a Vietnam veteran); the strong opinions and quirky beliefs of her grandmother, Ruth; the changing landscape on the streets of Brooklyn, where she lives; and the homophobia exacerbated by the AIDS crisis. Then there's Jake, as much beloved uncle as metaphor. His birth date, February 29th, is a reminder of the random forces at play in the way our lives pan out--and February itself, as the shortest month of the year, evokes a life cut short too soon.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

A native New Yorker, Deborah Batterman is the author of *Shoes Hair Nails*, a short story collection framed around everyday symbols in our world and their resonance in our lives. She is a Pushcart nominee and her award-winning fiction will appear in a forthcoming Women's National Book Association anthology, timed to the organization's October 2017 centennial celebration. Her stories and essays have appeared in anthologies as well as various print and online journals, including *Dr. T. J. Eckleburg Review*, *Akashic Book's Terrible Twosdays*, *Every Mother Has a Story, Vol. 2*, *Open to Interpretation: Fading Light*, and *Mom Egg Review, Vol. 14*. Learn more about her at <http://deborahbatterman.com>.

APRIL 2018



Publication Date: April 24, 2018

Collections: Women's Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-50-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-51-9

THE OPPOSITE OF NEVER

A NOVEL

MARY KATHLEEN MEHURON

DESCRIPTION:

Life is mostly a mixed bag.

Devastated when they lose their spouses, both Kenny Simmons and Georgia Best carry on for the sake of their children, although they are certain that the best part of their lives is long over. Then Georgia and her lifelong companions, Linda and Yvonne, meet Kenny while walking down a dusty Vermont country road, and the four of them hit it off. Soon, Kenny becomes a regular part of their hiking group, and he and Georgia grow more than fond of each other.

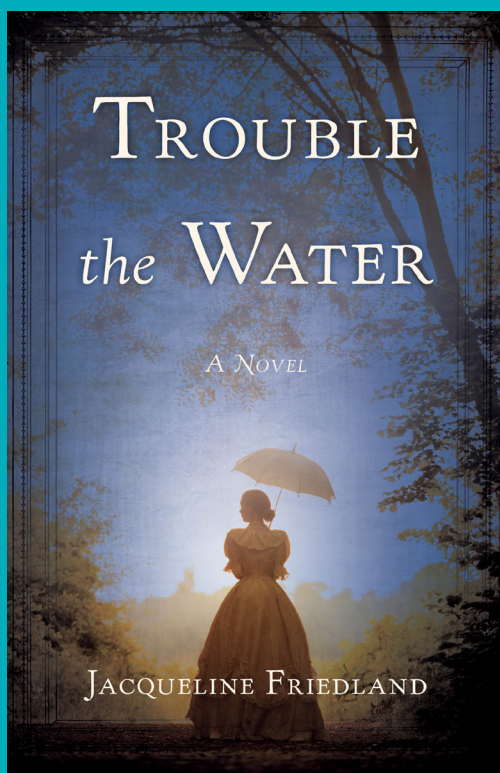
Kenny's stepdaughter, Zelda, and Yvonne's teenage son, Spencer, also fall in love—at first sight. Through surprisingly relatable circumstances, they are drawn into opiate use, shocking everyone, and the two of them struggle through the torment of addiction together.

In an impulsive and daring attempt to create a grand finale out of difficult times, Kenny takes Georgia off to vacation in Cuba just as it is opening up to Americans—and what they discover in the golden light of Old Havana is another startling surprise.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Mary Kathleen Mehuron is a career educator who made a splash with her first book, *Fading Past*, an autobiographical novel whose protagonist, like Mehuron, grew up Irish-Catholic in New Jersey. *The Opposite of Never* is Mehuron's second book, and to finish it, she traveled alone to Havana in January 2015 in order to experience the city before it became Americanized. She lives and teaches in a ski town in Vermont where she and her husband raised three sons. She is an occasional contributor to the local newspaper, *The Valley Reporter*, and writes curriculum daily for private students. She takes extended time to work on her novels on Grand Turk Island and in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

MAY 2018



Publication Date: May 8, 2018

Collections: Literary Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

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E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-55-7

“With compelling characters, a charming peek into Charleston society, a heart-racing romance, rich historical detail, and an epilogue that will have you holding your breath, Friedland has written a well-crafted novel that will stay with you long after you turn the final page.”

— Susie Orman Schnall, award-winning author of *The Subway Girls*, *The Balance Project*, and *On Grace*

“Friedland is a modern Bronte sister remixed with Kathleen Grissom or Leila Meacham... Lovers of Civil War-era historical fiction will rejoice at Friedland’s triumphant novel of love, friendship, and the most important issues of the day.”

— Bethany Ball, author of *What to do About the Solomons*

TROUBLE THE WATER

A NOVEL

JACQUELINE FRIEDLAND

DESCRIPTION:

Abigail Milton was born into the British middle class, but her family has landed in unthinkable debt. To ease their burdens, Abby’s parents send her to America to live off the charity of their old friend, Douglas Elling. When she arrives in Charleston at the age of seventeen, Abigail discovers that the man her parents raved about is a disagreeable widower who wants little to do with her. To her relief, he relegates her care to a governess, leaving her to settle into his enormous estate with little interference. But just as she begins to grow comfortable in her new life, she overhears her benefactor planning the escape of a local slave—and suddenly, everything she thought she knew about Douglas Elling is turned on its head.

Abby’s attempts to learn more about Douglas and his involvement in abolition initiate a circuitous dance of secrets and trust. As Abby and Douglas each attempt to manage their complicated interior lives, readers can’t help but hope that their meandering will lead them straight to each other. Set against the vivid backdrop of Charleston twenty years before the Civil War, *Trouble the Water* is a captivating tale replete with authentic details about Charleston’s aristocratic planter class, American slavery, and the Underground Railroad.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jacqueline Friedland holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and a JD from NYU Law School. She practiced as an attorney in New York before returning to school to receive her MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. She lives in New York with her husband, four children, and a tiny dog. This is her first novel.

JUNE 2018



Publication Date: June 5, 2018

Collections: YA

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-56-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-57-1

ABOVE THE STAR

THE 8TH ISLAND SERIES, BOOK 1

ALEXIS MARIE CHUTE

DESCRIPTION:

When Archie goes in search of his missing son, Arden, in the Spanish Canary Islands, he stumbles upon a higher mission: the rescue of his ailing fourteen-year-old granddaughter, Ella. Using a portal-jumping device called the Tillastrion, Archie and a strange creature, a Bangol named Zeno, are transported—along with a cruise ship full of people, including Ella and her mother, Tessa—to a magnificent yet terrifying island in another realm, a place called Jarr-Wya, where Archie hopes to locate Ella's cure.

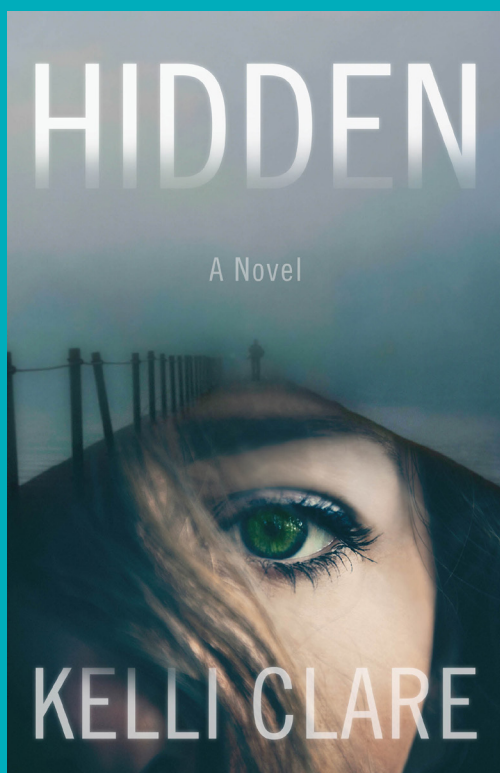
On Jarr-Wya, the Bangols battle the Olearons—creatures made of fire—and the evil Millia sands for control of Jarr-Wya. When Ella is captured by the Bangols, her wit and resourcefulness emerge as she fights against all odds, and against all manner of creatures, to survive. Meanwhile, Tessa must confront her long-buried secrets, broken marriage, and a confusing new love triangle, all while navigating the mysterious island in search of her daughter. And unbeknownst to everyone, there is an even greater foe to contend with: a wicked star anchored in the sea beneath them that is poisoning the island.

An epic adventure of three unlikely heroes, *Above the Star* reminds us that no matter how young, or how old, our bravery transforms not only our lives but the world around us.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alexis Marie Chute is the author of the award-winning, best-selling memoir *Expecting Sunshine: A Journey of Grief, Healing and Pregnancy After Loss*, published by She Writes Press. She is also a distinguished artist, photographer, and filmmaker. Chute has been named an "Emerging Canadian Photographer" by *Photo Life Magazine* and a "Top 40 Under 40" by *Avenue Magazine*, and was awarded the John Poole Award for Promotion of the Arts. She is also the director-producer of a feature film to accompany *Expecting Sunshine*. Her writing has been widely published in places including *TIME*, *Today's Parent*, *Scary Mommy*, *PhotoEd*, and *WestWord Magazine*. Her artwork is represented by the AR&S Gallery at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Learn more at www.AlexisMarieChute.com.

JUNE 2018



Publication Date: June 5, 2018

Collections: Women's Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-52-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-53-3

"Beautiful work. Distinctive voice. Clare has a strong narrative gift . . . I was totally drawn in."

— William Bernhardt, best-selling author of the Ben Kincaid legal thriller series

"Darkly intriguing and scorchingly sexy; the premise is electrifying. A perfectly delicious combination of mystery, intrigue, romance, and action make this book a must-read. Kelli Clare is a dynamic new voice in the genre."

— Julie Ann Walker, *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author

HIDDEN

A NOVEL

KELLI CLARE

DESCRIPTION:

Beware the family secrets. Sometimes those truths are deadly . . .

Small-town Connecticut art teacher Ellie James finally finds the intense connection she's longing for when she meets Will Hastings, a handsome foreigner with a powerful, alluring darkness, at the town's old fishing pier.

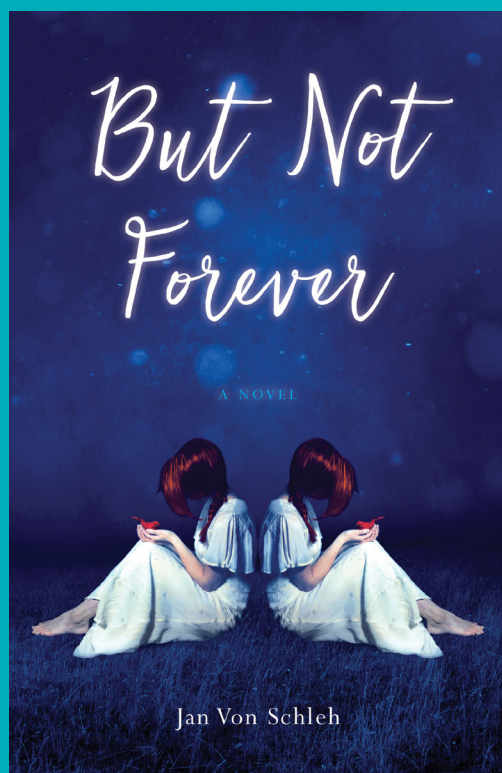
But just days later, England's brutal past collides with the present, and Ellie discovers the bodies of her murdered sister and grandmother. There's no one to reveal the truth about what happened, not even the police, and there's nowhere to run. Not until Will arrives. If she and her young niece, Lissie, are to survive, Ellie must confront the unthinkable: is he a man she can trust, a murderer—or both?

In a desperate move after surviving another near-fatal attack, she flees across the Atlantic with Will. There, danger follows and London paparazzi call her by a different name. But who wants her dead, and why? Soon, stunning realities about Ellie's family emerge, obsessive love refuses to be denied, and betrayals unravel—and ultimately, she must find the strength to disentangle herself from the haunting lies she's lived for twenty-seven years.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kelli Clare is a former human resource executive and contributing writer for a *Forbes-* and *TIME-*recognized website for women. She has been a progressive voice for a specialized global coalition of bloggers focused on issues involving women and girls, maternal health, children, and world hunger. *Hidden* is her debut novel. Clare lives in Northwest Ohio with her two children and sock-thieving spaniel. Visit her at www.kelliclare.com.

JUNE 2018



Publication Date: June 12, 2018

Collections: YA

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-58-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-59-5

“Satisfying romance, a good comeuppance, and a plan that comes together all add up to a great read. A time-travel story that entertains with distinct characters, well-observed details, and an exciting finish.”

— *Kirkus Indie Reviews*

BUT NOT FOREVER

A NOVEL

JAN VON SCHLEH

DESCRIPTION:

Could she be everything you aren't, but somehow—still be you?

It's the year 2015 and Sonnet McKay is the smarty-pants daughter of a globe-trotting diplomat, home for the summer from her exotic life. Everything would be perfect if not for her stunning sister, whose bright star has always left her in the shadows. In 1895, passionate Emma Sweetwine is trapped in a Victorian mansion, dreaming of wings to fly her far beyond her lonesome mountain home. As the mistreated daughter of the richest man in town, she lives with the heartbreaking knowledge that her mother loves her brothers but doesn't love her.

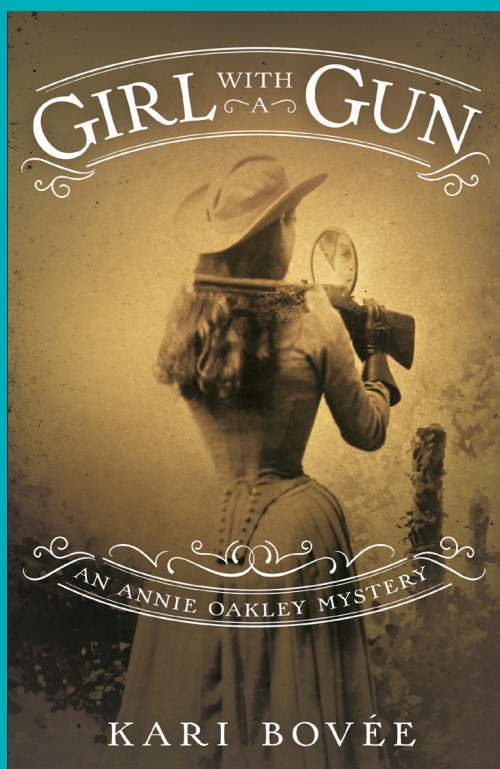
In the same house at the same moment, 120 years apart, fierce storms attack and the identical fifteen-year-olds are mysteriously switched in time. As both girls struggle to adapt to this sudden change, destiny intervenes—Sonnet falls in love with a boy and Emma falls in love with a life—and in both their new worlds, astonishing family secrets are discovered. Torn, both girls find themselves wanting to go home yet reluctant to give up what they now have.

But Not Forever is an enchanting story of love and longing, and the heart's quest to find where it belongs.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jan Von Schleh is a third-generation Seattleite who has lived and worked around the world in fascinating places including Zimbabwe, Nicaragua, Democratic Republic of Congo, Turkmenistan, and the Kingdom of Bahrain. When she's not writing, she likes to explore ancient buildings wherever she can find them and wonder about the stories they would tell—if only they could talk. She is sure that whatever those stories are, they most probably have to do with love.

JUNE 2018



Publication Date: June 19, 2018

Collections: Women's Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ ebook \$9.95

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-60-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-61-8

GIRL WITH A GUN

AN ANNIE OAKLEY MYSTERY

KARI BOVÉE

DESCRIPTION:

Fifteen-year-old Annie Oakley is the sole supporter of her widowed mother and two siblings. An expert markswoman and independent spirit, she hunts game to sell to the local mercantile to make ends meet instead of accepting a marriage proposal that could solve all her problems.

After a stunning performance in a shooting contest against the handsome and famous sharpshooter Frank Butler, Annie is offered a position in the renowned Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Finally, she has a chance to save the nearly foreclosed family farm and make her dreams come true. But then her Indian assistant is found dead in her tent, and Annie is dubious when the local coroner claims the death was due to natural causes. When another innocent is murdered, Annie begins to fear the deaths are related to her. And to make matters worse, her prized horse, Buck, a major part of her act, is stolen.

Annie soon discovers that the solution to her problems lies buried in a padlocked Civil War trunk belonging to the show's manager, Derence LeFleur. With the help of a sassy, blue-blooded reporter, Annie sets out to find her horse, solve the murders, and clear her name.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

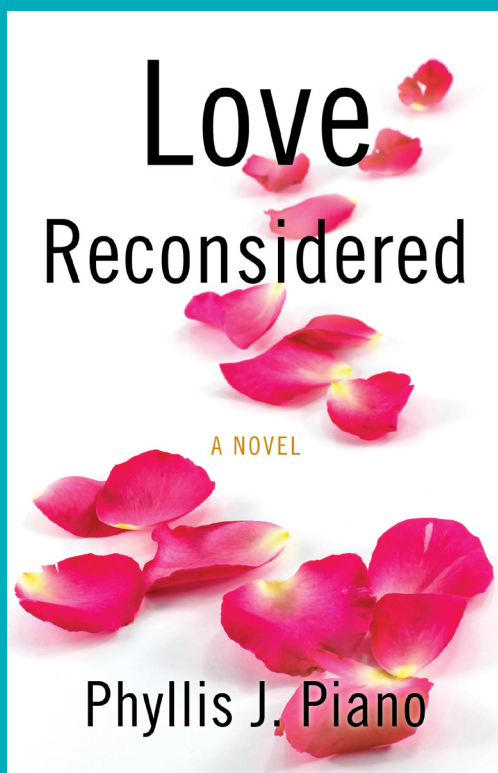
Empowered women in history, horses, unconventional characters, and real-life historical events fill the pages of Kari Bovée's articles and historical mystery musings and manuscripts. Bovée is an award-winning writer: She was a finalist in the Romantic Suspense category of the 2012 LERA Rebecca contest, the 2014 NTRWA Great Expectations contest, and the RWA 2016 Daphne du Maurier contest for her unpublished manuscript *Grace in the Wings*. She was also honored as a finalist in the NHRWA Lone Star Writer's contest in 2012 with the unpublished manuscript of *Girl with a Gun*. Bovée and her husband, Kevin, live and run their software development company in New Mexico with their cat, four dogs, and four horses. Their children, who live happy lives as productive entrepreneurs and professionals, are their greatest achievements.

A person wearing a dark blue V-neck sweater with light green buttons is holding a light-colored wooden tray. On the tray is a white ceramic cup filled with brown tea, sitting on a matching saucer. Wispy steam rises from the cup, forming a heart shape. The person's hands are visible at the bottom of the frame, holding the tray. The background is a warm, out-of-focus brown.

BACKLIST

2017

AUGUST 2017



Publication Date: August 8, 2017

Collections: Women's Fiction,
Contemporary Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-20-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-22-9

"Love Reconsidered is a touching story filled with extraordinary characters put in heartbreaking situations. Enjoyable and engrossing, with surprising twists, this is a book that is hard to put down."

— Foreword Reviews

"Fans of stories of good, earnest people entangled in messy relationships will find plenty here to enjoy. . . . A charming work about two damaged, intertwined families."

— Kirkus Reviews

LOVE RECONSIDERED

A NOVEL

PHYLLIS J. PIANO

DESCRIPTION:

When Aleen Riddick's marriage falls apart after her eighteen-year-old daughter, Sunny, loses her beloved boyfriend in a tragic accident, they look to the dead boy's father, grief-stricken Ted Hammand, to help them heal and redefine life. When shocking developments force them to confront those who deceived them, Aleen, Ted, and Sunny must decide if forgiveness will drive them back to the pain of the past or forward to a future of possibilities. *Love Reconsidered* is about families—their grief, guilt, compassion, love, forgiveness, and hope.

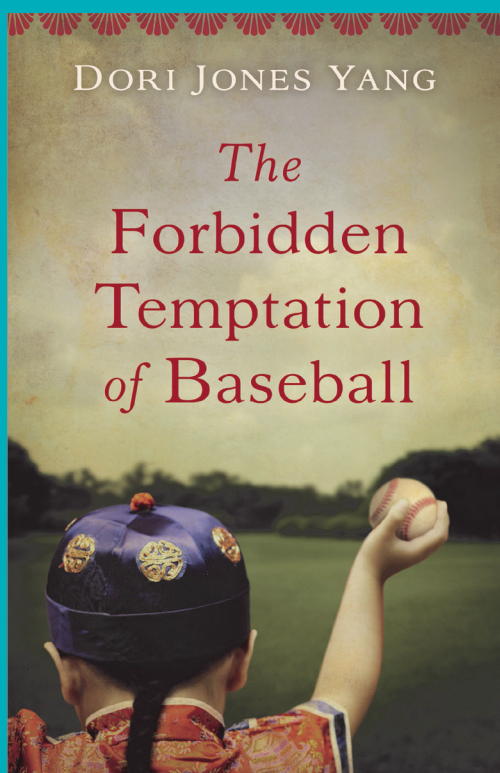
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Phyllis J. Piano spent more than thirty years as an award-winning corporate communications expert for some of the world's largest companies. She has somehow managed to maintain her sense of humor, love of writing, and passion for life and the people she loves and cares about throughout it all. A world traveler, Piano has since left the corporate world and fallen back into the arms of her own first love: writing. She and her husband divide their time between California, England, and the Midwest. When she is not packing a bag, making artisan sourdough bread, or cooking with lots of garlic, Piano is working on her next novel.

AWARDS

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction, Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist

AUGUST 2017



Publication Date: August 15, 2017

Collections: Middle Grade Fiction

Price: \$12.95 paperback / \$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-32-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-33-5

“As I read this story, I was continually amazed about what those boys went through not only in traveling to the States but in adjusting to life, education, and customs here.”

— Kirby Larson, author of Newbery Honor Book *Hattie Big Sky*

“Through the eyes of the ever curious “Leon” (Woo Ka-Leong), America is a play of both dazzling light and layered shadows. *The Forbidden Temptation of Baseball* turns our assumptions of America, and the Chinese impact on our history, upside down. A riveting and revealing story for the ages.”

— Conrad Wesselhoeft, author of *Dirt Bikes, Drones, and Other Ways to Fly*

THE FORBIDDEN TEMPTATION OF BASEBALL

DORI JONES YANG

DESCRIPTION:

Despite his impulsive and curious nature, twelve-year-old Leon is determined to follow the Emperor’s rules—to live with an American family, study hard, and return home to modernize China. But he also must keep the braid that shows his loyalty—and resist such forbidden American temptations as baseball. As Leon overcomes teasing and makes friends, his elder brother becomes increasingly alienated and disturbed. Eventually, Leon faces a tough decision, torn between his loyalty to his birth country—and his growing love for his new home.

The Forbidden Temptation of Baseball is a lively, poignant, and nuanced novel based on a little-known episode from history when 120 boys were sent to New England by the Emperor of China in the 1870s. This story dramatizes both the rigid expectations and the wrenching alienation felt by many foreign children in America today—and richly captures that tension between love and hate that is culture shock.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dori Jones Yang is a Seattle-area writer. Raised in Ohio, she lived and worked in Singapore and Hong Kong and covered the opening of China as a journalist for *Business Week*. Married to a Chinese man, she has traveled widely throughout Asia. Her previous books include a young-adult historical novel set in China at the time of Marco Polo and a middle-grade novel about a girl from China who begins fifth grade in Seattle only to discover she has lost her voice. After studying Chinese for many years, Dori knows what it feels like to struggle to express your thoughts in an unfamiliar language. Learn more at www.booksbydori.com.

AWARDS:

2017 Moonbeam Children’s Book Awards: Gold Award,
Pre-Teen Fiction – Historical/Cultural

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Winner, Children’s Fiction

SEPTEMBER 2017



Publication Date: September 12, 2017

Collections: Fiction, YA, Middle Grade

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ \$9.95 e-book

6 x 9

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-36-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-37-3

"Gorgeously written, *The Raven God* delivers a fresh, lively fantasy with enough twists and turns to keep a young reader captivated. A magical read filled with other-worldly beings both good and evil—and always entertaining."

— Jennifer Gooch Hummer, award-winning author of *Girl Unmoored* and *Operation Tenley*

"A fast-paced, satisfying caper to a trilogy that's sure to enchant fans of adventure-driven fantasy."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

THE RAVEN GOD

LEGENDS OF ORKNEY: BOOK 3

ALANE ADAMS

DESCRIPTION:

After defeating the Volgrim witches, life in Orkney is quiet. Too quiet. Before Sam Baron can catch his breath, an army of fire giants led by Surt gather in the Eighth Realm of Muspell, determined to destroy Orkney—and it's all Sam's fault. After all, he took Odin's life with an ancient cursed dagger, and now, mankind has lost its protector. To make matters worse, the God of Mischief, Loki, is on the loose and determined to reunite with his evil wife, Angerboda, and their three children: Fenrir the wolf, Jormungand the sea serpent, and Helva, Goddess of Death.

Orkney's only hope lies with Sam and his stalwart friends. As Surt prepares to launch his forces against Orkney, Sam and two of his fellow witches, Perrin and Mavery, set out on a journey to rescue Odin, aided by Skidbladnir, a magical ship of the gods that can fly over land and sea, and Geela, a Valkyrie who can transform into a battle-ready goose. Meanwhile, Leo and Keely travel north to stop Loki from starting a war between the Eifalians and the Vanir, while Howie is left to watch over Skara Brae. With time running out, our heroes try frantically to prove once again that they can find the courage to do what's needed when the odds are stacked against them—even when the sacrifice asked is greater than any of them could imagine.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

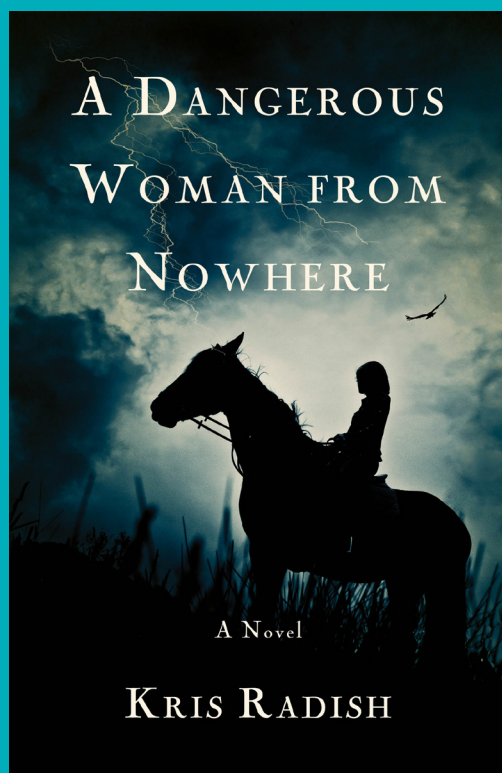
Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief* and *The Egg Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

AWARDS:

2017 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards: Gold Award, Pre-Teen Fiction – Historical/Cultural

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Young Adult, Finalist

SEPTEMBER 2017



Publication Date: September 12, 2017
Collections: Women's Fiction, Historical Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/ \$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services
Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-26-7
E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-27-4

"As in her previous best-selling novels (*A Grand Day To Get Lost*), Radish weaves an engaging story of inspiring women who discover the importance of being true to one's ideal."

— *Library Journal*

"Radish's characters know how to have a good time on their way to matriarchal nirvana."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

A DANGEROUS WOMAN FROM NOWHERE

A NOVEL

KRIS RADISH

DESCRIPTION:

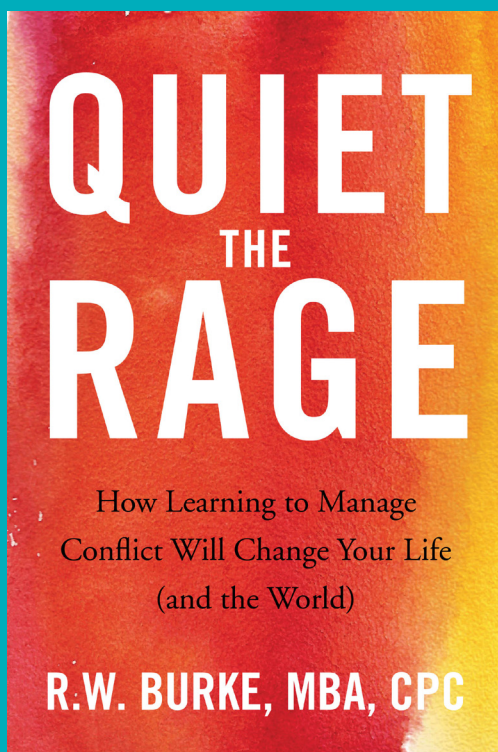
Briar Logan is a loner who has already survived a wretched childhood, near starvation, and the harsh western frontier in the 1860s. Just when she is on the brink of finally opening her heart to the possibilities of happiness, the love of her life is kidnapped by lawless gold miners—and she steels herself for what could be the greatest loss of her life.

Desperate to save her husband and the solitary life they have carved out of the wilderness, Briar is forced to accept the help of a damaged young man and a notorious female horse trainer. Facing whiskey runners, gold thieves, unpredictable elements, and men who will stop at nothing to get what they want, the unlikely trio must forge an uncommon bond in order to survive. Full of lessons of love, letting go, and the real meaning of family, *A Dangerous Woman From Nowhere* is a timeless western adventure story about courage, change, risk, and learning how to unlock damaged hearts and live in the sweet moments of now.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kris Radish is the best-selling author of twelve novels and three works of nonfiction. Her empowering books focus on the very real issues women face in their lives, and she celebrates the important and amazing power of female friendship via her novels and with the yearly retreats she holds for women. Radish lives in St. Petersburg, Florida.

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 10, 2017

Collections: Self-Help

Price: \$22.95 paperback / \$9.95 e-book
6 x 9

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-41-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-40-3

"In this thorough, explorative, and highly personal work, Burke gives readers tools and ideas for self-examination, growth, and conflict resolution . . . successfully tackles a complex subject that's relatively uncommon in self-help titles . . . What makes it particularly stand out is Burke's willingness to show his story in all lights in the service of his project—what his wife, Denise Burke, in a preface, calls 'the good, the bad, and the ugly of my husband's life.'"

— *Kirkus Reviews*

"Intense, personal and vulnerable. This is a life lesson, generously shared, that might strike a chord and change a life."

— Seth Godin, author of *Linchpin* and *The Icarus Deception*

QUIET THE RAGE

HOW LEARNING TO MANAGE CONFLICT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE (AND THE WORLD)

R.W. BURKE, MBA, CPC

DESCRIPTION:

In a world with more than 7 billion people, 196 countries, 7,000 spoken languages, and close to 30 religions, the probability of one group or one person intentionally or unintentionally offending another group or another person is absolutely certain. Many people limit themselves in life based on their inability to get along with others, and too often we allow ourselves to be ruled by our emotions. When we're emotionally reactive, we're not our best selves, nor do we produce the smartest outcomes. Emotional reactions create winners and losers. And winning directly at the expense of another is actually losing in disguise, due to the resentment it inspires in the loser. Often, people get stuck in a pattern of reacting emotionally, long past the time when the combativeness that once served them no longer does; long past the time when the pattern has become destructive without them being aware of it. For everyone who wants to change that part of themselves—everyone who wants more peaceful interactions and more successful outcomes, but doesn't know how to achieve that—*Quiet the Rage* is the answer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

R.W. Burke is a Certified Professional Coach through the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching (iPEC). He holds BS in accountancy from Providence College and a master's of business administration degree with a concentration in finance from Providence College's School of Business. For thirty years, he's worked in and around the automobile business. For the last six of those years, he's worked to become the top coach on Ford Motor Company's Consumer Experience Movement (CEM) project, covering twenty-three dealerships in seven states. He is also responsible for CEM Inside, Ford Motor Company's regional initiative to bring the work done by coaches in the field to its own field staff, and has worked with BMW North America and their half-owned subsidiary, The Retail Performance Company, to develop a coaching initiative and workshop.

AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Self-Help/Relationships, Finalist

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 10, 2017

Collections: Fantasy/Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-28-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-29-8

"When a mystical book comes into her hands, Skylar's eyes are opened to the underlying magic in her life and the forces that are working to anoint her as the next great successor. Stacey Tucker has filled the pages with dangerous romance, explosive family secrets, and a nail-biting ending that will leave readers pining for the next installment."

— Alane Adams, author of *The Legends of Orkney* series

"Tucker's gift for dialogue asserts itself often... A romantic fantasy series starter full of intriguing concepts from science and spirituality."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

OCEAN'S FIRE

BOOK ONE OF THE EQUAL NIGHT TRILOGY

STACEY TUCKER

DESCRIPTION:

Once the Greeks forced their male gods upon the world, the belief in the power of women was severed. For centuries it has been thought that the wisdom of the high priestesses perished at the hand of the patriarchs—but now the ancient Book of Sophia has surfaced. Its pages contain the truths hidden by history, and the sacred knowledge for the coming age. And it is looking for Skylar Southmartin.

Busy picking up the pieces after her mother's untimely death and trying to finish her veterinary degree, Skylar has no idea that she is the link between four mystical women in her life, and the perfect storm the Great Mothers have been waiting for. Meanwhile, she's just reconnected with the first and only love of her life, Argan—but Joshua, a dangerous, irresistible stranger, threatens to ruin everything she's trying to build. Amidst unraveling family secrets that shatter her views of the world and call into question everything she's ever known, Skylar must fight off Joshua's maddening pull and get a handle on her own budding powers—before it's too late.

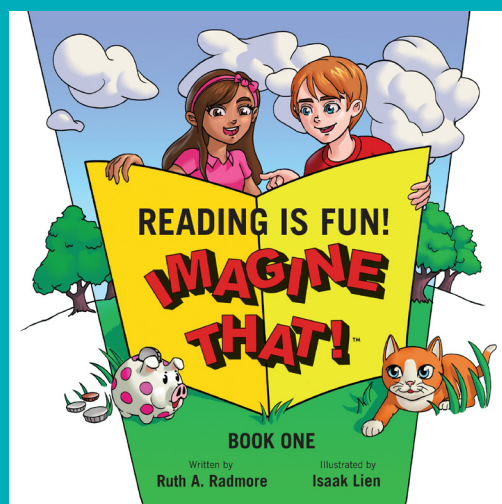
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

After her own mother's death a decade ago, Stacey Tucker started down a path that taught her our world is far from what it seems. A desire to build a bridge between today's science and the magic of a time forgotten has landed her in the world of fiction writing. She continues to redefine the word "feminine" in America by speaking to women's groups on cultivating the fire within as a catalyst for self-transformation. Tucker self-published *Eat, Drink and ReMarry: StaceyLu's Guide to Planning the Second Time Around* as a way to survive planning her second wedding. She also previously published the essay "I Got a Boy" in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: New Moms*. Her blog can be found at www.staceylu.com.

AWARDS:

2017 Living Now Book Awards: Adventure Fiction, Gold Medal Winner

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 24, 2017

Collections: Educational/Children

Price: \$19.95 hardback/ \$9.95 e-book

8.5 x 8.5

Distribution by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-38-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-39-7

“These booklets are absolutely incredible. An excellent job of inspiring children’s creativity activities.”

— Mosun Johnston Smith, former teacher, principal, and member of the Ministry of Education, Nigeria

“I think these booklets are perfect for children. They are colorful, bright, and the illustrations are awesome. I regret there were no such booklets in my childhood.”

— Ludmila Levine, Chairman of the American English Department at the Linguistics University in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia

READING IS FUN! IMAGINE THAT!

BOOK ONE

RUTH A. RADMORE

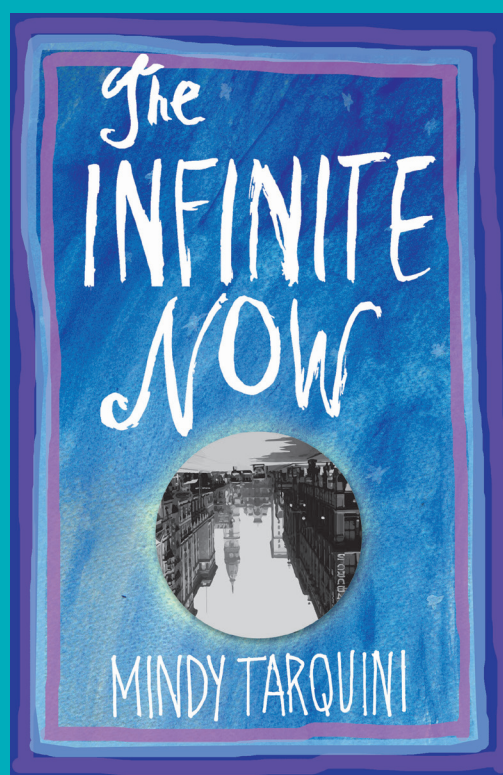
DESCRIPTION:

The first installment in a new educational activities series designed to help children expand their creativity and improve their reading and language skills, *Reading is Fun!* is a collection of children’s story-poems that encourage children to respond by creating artworks and writings using their own ideas. There are two story-poems on each of six topics: Art Activities, Construction Activities, Creative and Imaginative Thinking, Decision Making, Planning Ahead, and Self-Awareness. Following each set of three story-poems, there are two educational pages with topics such as “Our Amazing Memories” and “The Wonder of Words.” Curiosity, imagination, positive views, and personal abilities are encouraged. This material is ideal for use at home, school, club groups, summer camps, and for learning English as a second language.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Ruth Radmore received her BA in art education at UCLA and her MA in art education at the University of the Pacific. After teaching art at the secondary level and at a teacher training college, she operated an advertising business for seventeen years. Ruth and her husband have traveled abroad independently by bicycle, motorcycle, and camper. They have also served in the Peace Corps and hosted visitors from eighteen nations. Ruth’s series of creative children’s booklets, which comprise part of *Reading is Fun!*, have received enthusiastic endorsements from students and educators in five nations. A past president of the California PTA stated that they should be available in all of California’s elementary schools.

OCTOBER 2017



Publication Date: October 24, 2017

Collections: Women's Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$9.95 e-book

5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-34-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-35-9

"Replete with poignant details, Mindy Tarquini's *The Infinite Now* is an engrossing tightrope walk over the relational lines that connect human beings to each other and to time itself . . . *The Infinite Now*'s potent sorcery doesn't lie primarily in its forays into fantasy and myth, but rather in the humanity of its characters and the energy of its storytelling."

— *Foreword Reviews*, 5 out of 5 stars

"This book offers a well-researched and engagingly drawn portrait of a displaced Italian community in one of America's most turbulent years. Fiora is a forceful, determined protagonist among an intriguing cast of supporting characters."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

THE INFINITE NOW

A NOVEL

MINDY TARQUINI

DESCRIPTION:

On a rainy night in Philadelphia's Ninth Street Market, sixteen-year-old Fiora, newly orphaned by the 1918 influenza epidemic, is dumped at an old man's door. Daughter of the local fortune teller, Fiora arrives with a little money, a lot of attitude, and her mother's formidable reputation. The old man, a widowed shoemaker ticking down his clock, is the only person in their superstitious immigrant community brave enough to stand between Fiora and an orphanage.

Fiora's a modern, forward-thinking young woman, uninterested in using old-world magic to make a way for herself—but when her mother's magical curtain shows her that the old man will shortly die of a heart attack, Fiora panics and casts her entire neighborhood into a stagnant bubble of time. A bubble where everything continues but nothing progresses—tomatoes won't ripen, babies refuse to be born, and the sick suffer under the weight of a never-ending stream of unspent seconds. Not everything in the bubble is bad. Love, fresh and fascinating, ignites. Friendships take root. But as day drags into interminable day, the pressure inside the bubble world builds. Fiora must accept that not everything found can be kept and not everything saved will remain—and that unless she finds the courage to collapse the bubble, every one of her hopes will be trapped inside an unbearable, unyielding, unpredictable, and infinite Now.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Raised by traditional people in a modern world, Mindy Tarquini is a second-generation Italian American who grew up believing that dreams are prophecy, the devil steals lost objects, and an awkward glance can invite the evil eye. She is an assistant editor with the Lascaux Review and a member of the Perley Station Writers' Colony, as well as the author of the novel *Hindsight*. A native Philadelphian, Tarquini resides in Phoenix with her husband. She loves writing heroines with special powers. Alas, she has none herself.

AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Winner, Fiction: LGBTQ

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Fantasy, Finalist

NOVEMBER 2017



Publication Date: November 7, 2017

Collections: Children's Picture Books

Price: \$15.00 paperback / \$9.95 e-book
8 x 10

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-86-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-87-9

"The appealing illustrations glow with lamplight and provide many small details that ground this story in a Pennsylvania farmhouse in the 1920s, and Georgie's dark eyebrows and freckles give him."

— *School Library Journal*

"A delightful take on the theme of a boy and his dog, full of detailed—and frequently funny—images and a valuable message about paying attention to the needs of your neighbors."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

THE SANTA THIEF

ALANE ADAMS

DESCRIPTION:

It's winter in Girard, Pennsylvania and the pond is completely frozen over—ready for a young boy to go skating!—but Georgie's ice skates are too small. All Georgie wants for Christmas is a new pair of skates. But times are tough in 1920s Pennsylvania, and he gets the disappointing news Santa might not come this year. Follow Georgie as he decides to take matters into his own hands—and discovers what Christmas is all about. *The Santa Thief* is a heartwarming tale of boyhood set in 1920s Pennsylvania for children ages 4–8.

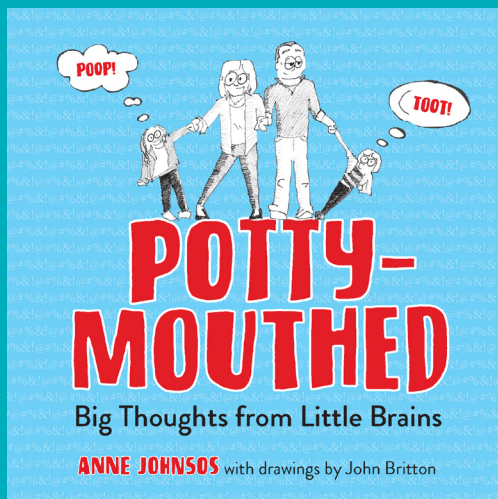
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is a children's author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and writes Early American picture books for young children. Adams lives in Southern California.

AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Winner, Children's Picture Book/Hardcover Fiction

NOVEMBER 2017



Publication Date: November 7, 2017

Collections: Parenting, Educational

Price: \$19.95 paperback / \$9.95 e-book

6 x 6

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-30-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-31-1

POTTY-MOUTHED

BIG THOUGHTS FROM LITTLE BRAINS

ANNE JOHNSOS
JOHN BRITTON

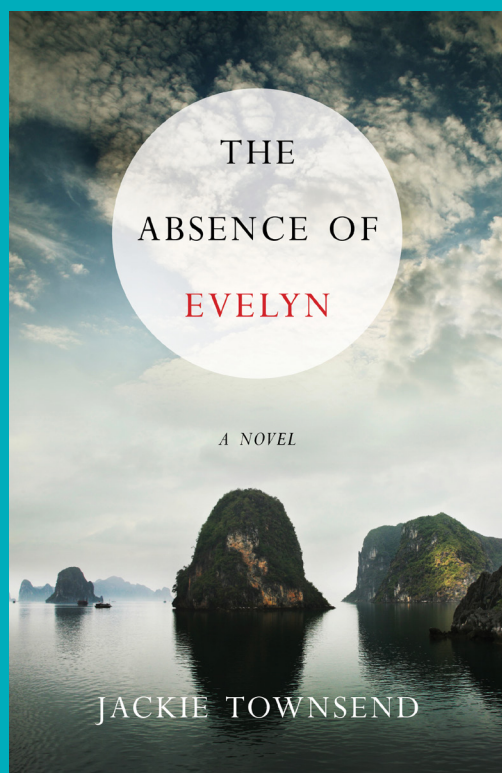
DESCRIPTION:

Potty-Mouthed documents actual conversations one mom has had with her smalls. And while that may sound saccharine and self-congratulatory, it's neither. It's a collection of oofs and acks with a sprinkling of aahs, and it's written the way kids talk. This is the book you give your friend who secretly agrees that kids are the meanest kind of truth tellers. This is the book you give your coworker who's about to be a parent and who thinks it's all unicorns and lollipops. This is the book you give those grownups who chose not to play the parenting game. It's a chance for them to sit back and stroke their inner gloat. And, by the way, the illustrations are hilarious.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Anne Johnsos is an award-winning journalist determined to document the "oofs" and "acks" of parenting. After years of recording the ways her kids interpreted the world, she realized their words needed pictures, so she reconnected with a fellow former performer from Yale who happens to be an illustrator, and *Potty-Mouthed* was born.

APRIL 2017



Publication Date: April 4, 2017

Collections: Contemporary Fiction,
For Women

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-21-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-23-6

"The Absence of Evelyn is a powerful testimony to the value of love, in all its forms, but also a testimony to the need to let go, whether of one's own carefully-laid plans or of a loved one. One by one, the characters see their masks, their old comfortable behavior patterns, and their secrets stripped away, leaving only the core of who they really are and what they really want . . . an engaging book, with well-drawn characters set in vivid context, and an engrossing and thought-provoking plot."

— IndieReader

"A careful examination of family ties with an international flavor."

— Kirkus

THE ABSENCE OF EVELYN

A NOVEL

JACKIE TOWNSEND

DESCRIPTION:

Newly divorced Rhonda, haunted by her sister Evelyn's ghost, travels to an old palazzo in Rome to confront Marco, the man who stole her sister's heart—only to find out he's vanished in the wake of Evelyn's death. Meanwhile, Rhonda's nineteen-year-old daughter Olivia, adopted by Rhonda at birth, travels to the mysterious and lush waters of northern Vietnam, where she's been summoned by the missing Marco—a man she only knows from her parents' whispers, a man she has never met or seen. Soon, truths are exposed and lives unraveled, and the real journey begins. Four lives in all, spanning three continents, are now bound together in an unfathomable way—and they tell a powerful story about love in all its incarnations, filial and amorous, healing and destructive.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jackie Townsend is the award-winning author of *Imperfect Pairings*. A native of Southern California with an MBA from UC Berkeley, she is a management consultant turned author. Married to an Italian and incessant world traveler, Townsend spends a lot of her time in places not her own. As the youngest of four children, she carries a strong sense of family with her to these places, often foreign, and writes about belonging (or not belonging), loss, and love. She lives in New York City with her husband, and sometimes they are even there at the same time.

AWARDS:

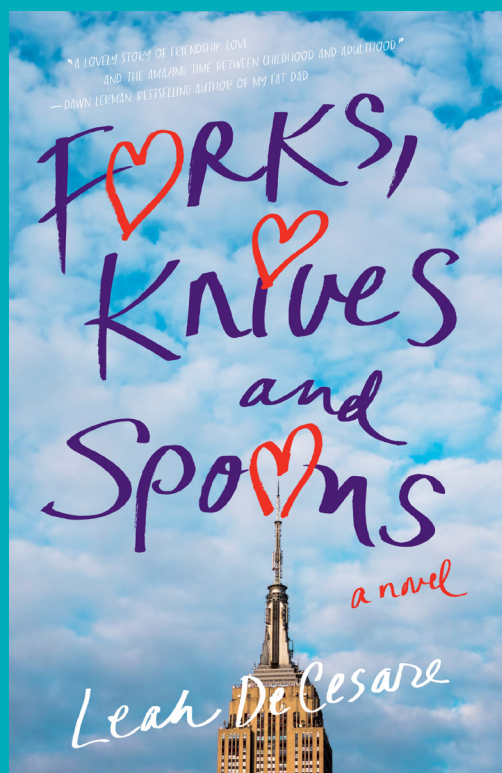
2017 Next Generation Indie Awards: Finalist, General Fiction

2017 International Book Awards: Finalist, Women's Lit

2017 NextGen Indie Book Awards: ChickLit, finalist

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Chick Li/Women's Lit,
Finalist

APRIL 2017



Publication Date: April 18, 2017

Collections: Contemporary Fiction,
For Women

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-10-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-11-3

“The novel’s construct of categorizing men’s qualities according to a Utensil Classification System when looking for a romantic partner is memorable, wittily practical, and has the power to influence readers’ real-life choices. For that, *Forks, Knives, and Spoons* breaks new ground.”

— The BookLife Prize

FORKS, KNIVES, AND SPOONS

A NOVEL

LEAH DECESARE

DESCRIPTION:

There are three kinds of guys: forks, knives, and spoons. That is the final lesson Amy York’s father sends her off to college with, never suspecting just how far his daughter will take it. Clinging to the Utensil Classification System as her guide, Amy tries to convince her skeptical roommate, Veronica Warren, of its usefulness as they navigate the heartbreaks and soul mates of college and beyond. Beginning in 1988, their freshman year at Syracuse University, Amy and Veronica meet an assortment of guys—from slotted spoons and shrimp forks to butter knives and sporks—all while trying to learn if the UCS holds true. On the quest to find their perfect steak knives, they learn to believe in themselves—and not to settle in love or life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Leah DeCesare is the author of the nonfiction parenting series *Naked Parenting*, based on her work as a doula, early parenting educator, and mom of three. Her articles on parenting have been featured in the *Huffington Post*, the *International Doula*, and *The Key*, among others. In 2008, she cofounded the nonprofit *Doulas of Rhode Island*, and in 2013 she spearheaded the Campaign for Hope to build the Kampala Children’s Centre for Hope and Wellness in Uganda. In a past life, DeCesare worked in public relations and event planning. She now writes, teaches, and volunteers in Rhode Island, where she lives with her family and talking cockatiel.

AWARDS:

2017 NYC Big Book Awards: Winner, Women’s Fiction

2017 Independent Press Awards Distinguished Favorites: New Fiction (First Time Published)

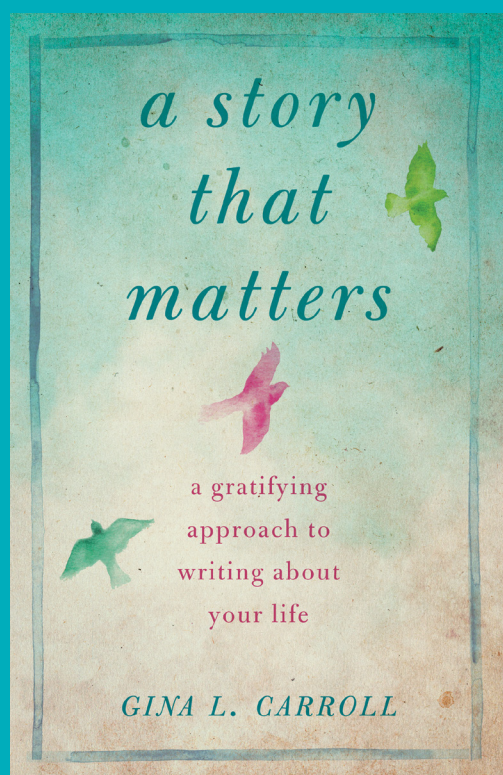
2017 National Indie Excellence Book Awards: Winner, Contemporary Fiction

2017 National Indie Excellence Book Awards: Women’s Fiction, Finalist

2017 IAN Book of the Year Awards: Winner, Women’s Fiction

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

MAY 2017



Publication Date: May 2, 2017

Collections: Creative writing, Reference

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book

5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-12-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-13-7

"Gina L. Carroll believes everyone has a story and a unique voice to tell it. She also thinks each account will impact others, which makes telling it almost a duty. This is especially true for women, people of color, and anyone struggling with a transformative experience. Carroll gently nudges, including practical strategies and personal examples, hopefully generating voices we've long needed to hear."

— Nan Cuba, award-winning author of *Body and Bread*

A STORY THAT MATTERS

A GRATIFYING APPROACH TO WRITING ABOUT YOUR LIFE

GINA L. CARROLL

DESCRIPTION:

No matter who you are, your story is a part of something big—the fabric of history and the human experience. Once written and shared, your story will change someone. And that someone is most likely you.

A Story That Matters offers an accessible and simplified way to get your stories written. Each chapter is divided into three sections: the first discusses memoir writing in the context of themes—motherhood, childhood, relationships, professional life, and spiritual journey; the second provides basic writing and editing prescription, with a focus on common beginner mistakes and roadblocks; and the third provides a sample story related to the life theme discussed in the first section of the chapter. Chock full of writing and editing lessons that focus on how to get a first draft written and how to craft that draft into a compelling story, *A Story That Matters* explores our ability to help, heal, and connect to others through story, reminding us of the greater need for a broader array of authentic voices in the story-sharing universe.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Gina L. Carroll is an author, speaker, and editor who believes everyone has a story that matters. Also the author of *24 Things You Can Do with Social Media to Help Get into College*, she helps students use their social media to share their best stories and show their highest selves online; and as a partner at Inspired Wordsmith, a writing services business, Gina helps aspiring writers and business professionals get their life stories in print. Born and raised in Los Angeles, she currently lives with her husband and children in Houston, Texas.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Self-Help/Motivational, Finalist
2017 Living Now Book Awards: Bronze Medal, Personal Growth/Self-Help

MAY 2017



Publication Date: May 16, 2017

Collections: Literary Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-14-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-15-1

"An often engaging and heartwarming
novel . . ."
— Kirkus Reviews

"The true wizardry of *The Half-Life of Remorse* is how the random intersection of two homeless men evolves into a story of irresistible forward motion, stunning revelations, deepest human complexities and highest consequences. Underwriting this feat is Jarrett's ability to inhabit his fated characters absolutely, conjuring their voices, their minds, their wounds, their guilt, their haunted and mingled histories, with such spooky fidelity that you feel you are each one of them, and all of them, all at once. Original, gorgeous, exciting and deeply moving, *The Half-Life of Remorse* put my heart through all the paces."
—Tim Johnston, author of *New York Times* bestseller *Descent*

THE HALF-LIFE OF REMORSE

A NOVEL

GRANT JARRETT

DESCRIPTION:

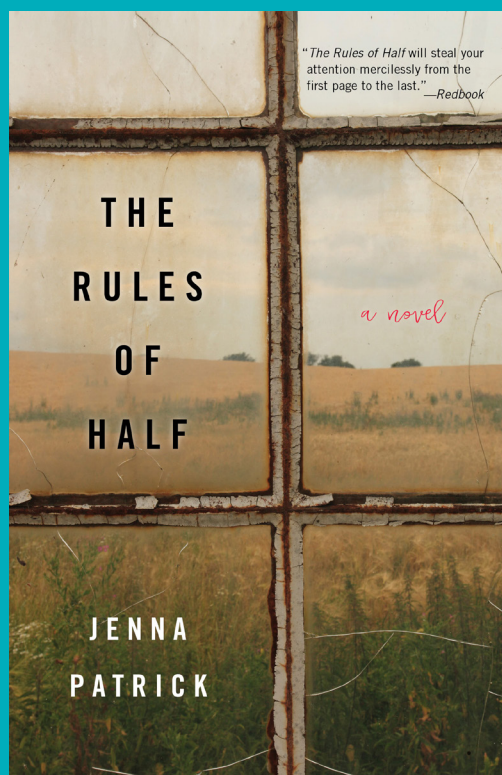
When two vagrants meet on the streets of Muncie, Indiana, they are both unaware that their paths crossed years before. Chic, crude and uneducated, is convinced that Sam is nothing more than a harmless lunatic, and Sam, emotionally scarred and psychologically traumatized by events long past, regards Chic as just another denizen of the street. But Chic has spent his adult life trying to purge his soul of the brutal crime he committed as a teenager—the same botched burglary that resulted in the deaths of Sam's wife and son. Meanwhile, Sam's daughter, Claire, is still unable to give up hope that her father might someday reappear.

When these three lives converge, the puzzle of the past gradually falls together, but redemption commands a high price, and what is revealed will test the limits of love and challenge the human capacity for forgiveness.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Originally from northeastern Pennsylvania, Grant Jarrett lived in Manhattan for twenty years before moving to Marin County, CA, where he now works as a writer, ghostwriter, editor, musician, and occasional songwriter. His publishing credits include numerous magazine articles, essays, short stories, and *More Towels*, his coming-of-age memoir about life on the road. His debut novel, *Ways of Leaving*, won the Best New Fiction category in the 2014 International Book Awards. *The House That Made Me*, his 2016 anthology about the meaning of home, was chosen as an *Elle* "Trust Us" book. Jarrett is an avid cyclist, skier, and surf skier.

JUNE 2017



Publication Date: June 6, 2017

Collections: Contemporary Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-18-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-19-9

"In her debut novel, Patrick writes with sensitivity about the trials of mental illness for both sufferers and caregivers. . . . [A] novel that's strengthened by its attention to how people forgive and connect."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

"In her debut novel *The Rules of Half*, Patrick flawlessly delivers both a deeply thoughtful depiction of mental illness and a heartwarming, and dare I say humorous, story about the scars people carry, the healing power of human connections, and the wondrous child that lives in us all."

— Brady Stefani, award-winning author *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman*

THE RULES OF HALF

A NOVEL

JENNA PATRICK

DESCRIPTION:

If Will Fletcher's severe bipolar disorder isn't proof he shouldn't be a parent, his infant daughter's grave is. Once a happily married, successful veterinarian, he now lives with his sister and thrives as the small-town crazy of Half Moon Hollow. But when a fifteen-year-old orphan claims she's his daughter, Will is forced back into the role he fears most: fatherhood. Her biological dad isn't the hero Regan Whitmer hoped for, but he's better than her abusive stepfather back in Chicago. Still haunted by her mother's suicide and the rebellious past she fears led to it, Regan is desperate for a stable home and a normal family—things Will can't offer. Can she ride the highs and lows of his illness to find a new definition of family?

The Rules of Half explores what it is to be an atypical family in a small town and to be mentally ill in the wake of a tragedy—and who has the right to determine both.

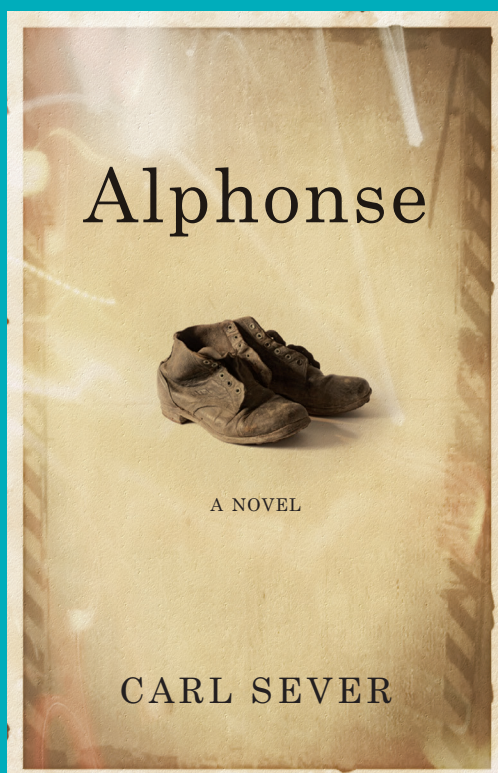
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Raised in northern Ohio, Jenna Patrick moved to North Carolina in 1998 to attend the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where she received a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering. After ten years of devoting her brain to science and math, she returned to her true passion: writing fiction. She and her husband reside on Lake Norman with their two daughters and two rescue dogs. *The Rules of Half* is her debut novel.

AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

JUNE 2017



Publication Date: June 27, 2017

Collections: Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-24-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-25-0

ALPHONSE

A NOVEL

CARL SEVER

DESCRIPTION:

After twenty years of riding the rails, Alphonse has earned a reputation for being a kindhearted soul always ready to help. When he helps the Sadlers, a young couple seeking a better life in small-town 1950s Indiana, he doesn't intend to stay. But stay he does, keeping a close eye on the Sadlers and their two young sons—and an even closer eye on the town's new priest, Father Brennon. On the surface, Brennon seems perfect for the job—but Alphonse crossed paths with him years earlier in the railyard jungle, and he knows better. Brennon doesn't recognize Alphonse, but Alphonse has never forgotten Brennon . . . or his crimes. So when Brennon assigns the Sadlers' son, Francis, who is now thirteen, the thankless task of cleaning and maintaining the church's bell tower—work that often continues into the night—Alphonse immediately grows suspicious. Soon, he discovers that his worst fears have come to pass, and he races to find a way to protect Francis and reveal the truth to the Sadler family.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

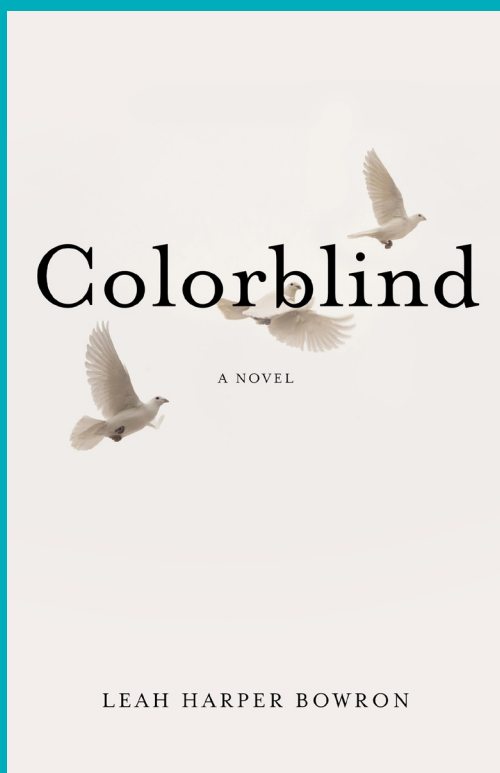
Carl Sever began writing fiction in part because of his interest in the 1930s Dust Bowl, hobo culture and lore, and small-town midwestern life, especially in areas dominated by the Roman Catholic Church. His writing has also been an important part of recovery from a traumatic brain injury he suffered in a car accident in 1990. Carl has been a teacher, a journalist, and nature photographer. He has also been a businessman and co-owner of an exclusive wholesale photo lab. He's an avid outdoorsman, passionate fly-fisherman, and adventurer who has explored the mountains of Colorado, Montana, Canada, and Alaska. His travels have taken him to Costa Rica and Panama, reinforcing his study of Spanish as a second language. He's a lifelong learner, with studies ranging from screenwriting and sculpture to nature photography. *Alphonse* is his first novel.

AWARDS:

2017 International Book Awards: Fiction, General, Finalist

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction, General, Finalist

JULY 2017



Publication Date: July 11, 2017

Collections: YA Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-08-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-09-0

“Bowron’s debut novel is a short and fast-paced novel that will appeal to reluctant readers . . . The story demonstrates the bravery required to stand up to ignorance and cruelty; readers will appreciate the overall message of tolerance and acceptance embedded in this historical fiction novel.”

— VOYA Magazine

COLORBLIND

A NOVEL

LEAH HARPER BOWRON

DESCRIPTION:

The time is 1968. The place is Montgomery, Alabama.

The story is one of resilience in the face of discrimination and bullying. Using the racially charged word “Negro,” two Caucasian boys repeatedly bully Miss Annie Loomis—the first African-American teacher at the all-white Wyatt Elementary School. At the same time, using the hateful word “harelip,” the boys repeatedly bully Miss Loomis’s eleven-year-old Caucasian student, Lisa Parker, who was born with cleft palate and cleft lip. Who will best the bullies? Only Lisa’s mood ring knows for sure.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Leah Harper Bowron is a lawyer and James Joyce scholar. Her article “Coming of Age in Alabama: Ex parte Devine Abolishes the Tender Years Presumption” was published in the *Alabama Law Review*. She recently lectured on Joyce’s novel *Ulysses* at the University of London and the Universite de Reims. She lives in Texas and has a daughter named Sarah and a cat named Jamie.

AWARDS:

2017 International Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

2017 International Book Awards: Social Change, Finalist

2017 Living Now Book Awards: Silver Medal, Inspirational Fiction

JULY 2017



Publication Date: July 18, 2017

Collections: YA Fantasy Fiction

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-16-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-17-5

"The *Wendy Darling* series is a gripping adventure and the final installment does not disappoint. *Shadow* provides a satisfying conclusion to Wendy and Peter's story, with Wendy far from the prim, strait-laced girl of her beginnings."

— VOYA Magazine

"The soaring conclusion to a brilliant trilogy, *Shadow* is the icing on Colleen Oakes masterful retelling of the Peter Pan and Wendy story. Oakes sweeps us along effortlessly to the jaw-dropping climax that will leave readers gasping and crying for more."

— Alane Adams, award-winning author of
The Legends of Orkney series

WENDY DARLING

VOLUME 3: SHADOW

COLLEEN OAKES

DESCRIPTION:

Wendy Darling has found herself once again in the arms of charming Peter Pan, the god-child who desires power above all things. This time, though, Wendy burns not with passion but with a secret: with Hook as her ally, she is there to defeat the evil that lies inside of Peter, the evil that holds all Neverland hostage—the Shadow.

To do this, Wendy must quietly undo Peter from inside his heart while at the same time convincing Tink to betray the twisted love that binds them together. This is a task made nearly impossible by the arrival of Booth, her sweetheart from London and a new pawn in Peter's manipulative game—a boy whose heart she must break in order to save his life. As all of Neverland prepares to fight, Wendy races to untangle Peter's connection to the Shadow, a secret long buried in the Forsaken Garden. When the time comes, pirates, mermaids, Lost Boys, and the Darling family will all rise—but if Wendy can't call the Shadow, they will all be destroyed by Peter's dark soul. War has come to paradise, and Neverland will never be the same. *Wendy Darling: Shadow* is the thrilling final installment in Colleen Oakes's Wendy Darling Trilogy.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

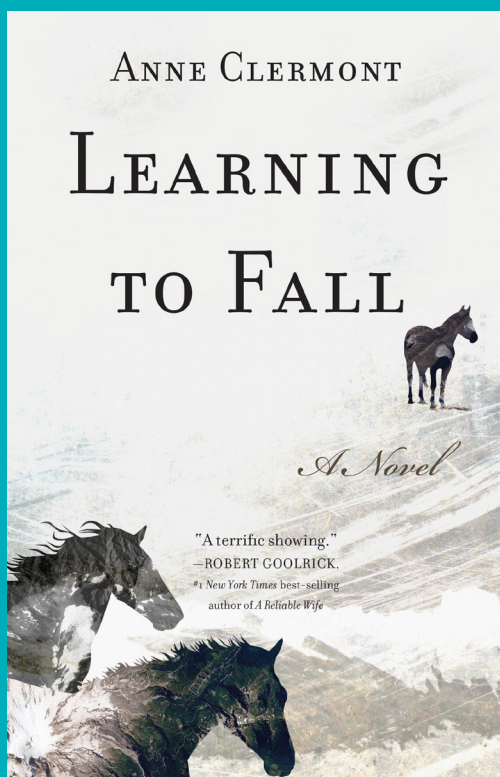
Colleen Oakes is the author of books for both teens and adults, including The Queen of Hearts Saga and the Wendy Darling Saga. She lives in North Denver with her husband and son and surrounds herself with the most lovely family and friends imaginable. When not writing or plotting new books, she can be found swimming, traveling, and totally immersing herself in nerdy pop culture. She is currently at work on her third YA fantasy series, a children's book, and a stand-alone YA novel.

A glass bottle with dried flowers sits on a dark green book with gold-leaf decorations. The background is a soft-focus floral arrangement. The text 'BACKLIST' is centered over the bottle.

BACKLIST

2016

AUGUST 2016



Publication Date: August 2, 2016

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-78-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-79-4

"In her debut novel *Learning to Fall*, Anne Clermont tells a compelling, page-turning story about one young woman's search for success and love in the world of horse show jumping. Clermont writes with great compassion and insight. I thoroughly enjoyed this novel."

— Ellen Sussman, *New York Times* best-selling author of *French Lessons* and *A Wedding in Provence*

"Clermont's passionate storytelling captures the essence of life as an equestrian."

— John Pearce, Canadian Show Jumping Team Olympian

LEARNING TO FALL

A NOVEL

ANNE CLERMONT

DESCRIPTION:

Brynn honors her passion for horses by studying at the toughest veterinary program in the country. Months from graduating, tragedy strikes—tragedy for which she can't help but feel responsible. Brynn feels suffocated by the weight of her father's legacy and his dusty hopes for horse show jumping success. When her frenetic efforts to dig the family business out of debt fail, she's down to one desperate hope. Enter Jason Lander, who understands what it's like to walk away from the ring. The one-time champion agrees to train Brynn, and her horse Jett, for an all-or-nothing run at the prestigious Million Dollar Gold Cup. But going all the way means doing it his way, which has Brynn questioning her decisions, her loyalties, and her growing feelings for Jason—complicating her relationship with her lover. Set in Northern California against a stunning backdrop of coastal hills and valleys, *Learning to Fall* is about discovering how to let go—and how to hang on with your heart. Fans of *Seabiscuit* and *The Horse Whisperer* will love this beautifully written debut—one they're bound to add to their shelf of favorites.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Anne Clermont is a Canadian living in the US, born in Kraków and raised outside of Toronto. She spent fifteen years in California before relocating to the beautiful Pacific Northwest. She holds a BS in animal biology and an MBA. Her background ranges from studying animal behavior to carrying out pancreatic cancer research at one of the world's largest and most innovative biotech companies. Inspired to write *Learning to Fall* in part by her own experience of running a show jumping business, she now devotes her time to writing and working as a developmental editor. She lives on an island in the middle of Puget Sound with her husband and two children.

AWARDS:

2016 Foreword INDIE: General, Finalist

SEPTEMBER 2016



Publication Date: September 6, 2016

Collections: Fiction, YA

Price: \$16.95 paperback / \$24 hardcover

\$9.95 e-book

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-84-8 (pbk)

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-85-5

“Adams is a master of exposition, never letting it slow the narrative by immersing it in rapid-fire dialogue . . . Indelible characters, both good and evil, and a rescue storyline that refuses to dawdle.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

“Combined with strong female leads, both heroic and villainous, the ever growing and changing cast of characters has something for everyone. Fantasy, mythology, a touch of romance, and enough sword fights and battles to appease even the most action-hungry make *Kalifus Rising* a well-rounded, solid choice for those craving a new type of adventure.”

— *Foreword Reviews* FIVE STAR review

KALIFUS RISING

LEGENDS OF ORKNEY: BOOK 2

ALANE ADAMS

DESCRIPTION:

Sam Baron just freed Orkney from the ravages of the Red Sun—but now, imprisoned by Catriona, leader of the Volgrim Witches, Sam finds the darker side of his half-god, half-witch heritage released, and he fears he might destroy what he saved. Unable to resist the witches’ enchantments, Sam has become their most potent weapon and is leading an army of monstrous men against Skara Brae. Sam’s only hope for salvation lies with his three best friends and a mystical artifact known as the Moon Pearl. Keely travels north in search of the pearl, while Howie prepares for the gathering onslaught. Leo seeks a powerful artifact in the underworld, and faces an ancient evil that could be an even greater threat than Catriona and her cronies.

As Sam’s friends rush to save him, other forces are at work in Orkney’s shadows—forces that could help free Sam, or condemn him to the darkness forever.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief* and *The Egg Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

AWARDS:

A #1 hot new release pick on Amazon

2017 NextGen Indie Book Awards: Winner, Children’s/Juvenile Fiction

2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Gold Medal for both Children/Young Adult Cover Design and Young Reader Fiction

2017, 2016 International Book Awards: Fiction: Young Adult Finalist

2017, 2015 USA Best Book Awards: Best Cover Design: Fiction, Winner

2016 USA Best Book Awards: Children’s Fiction, Winner

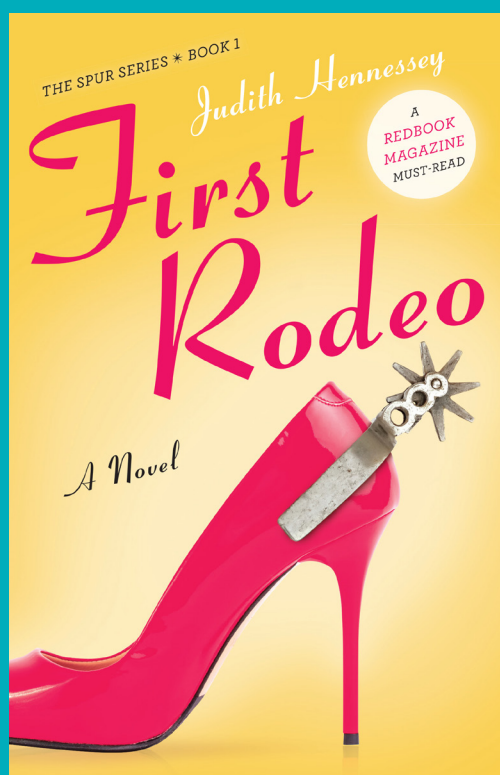
Beverly Hills Book Award: Best Juvenile Fiction, Winner

2016 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Best New Voice Children’s/Young Adult, Silver Medal

Readers Favorite Awards Children Preteen: Silver Medal Winner

2016 Foreword INDIE: Juvenile Fiction Finalist

SEPTEMBER 2016



Publication Date: Sept 20, 2016

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book

5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-03-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-04-5

Booklist named *First Rodeo* by Judy Hennessey one of the Top 10 Romance Debuts of 2016.

“... at its heart this story about a single mother blazing new trails after finding business success is plenty appealing.”

— *Booklist*

“*First Rodeo* is a celebration of one of life’s most underrated truths: The most precious relationship is the one you have with yourself.”

— *Redbook*

FIRST RODEO

A NOVEL

JUDITH HENNESSEY

*Please note that the first printing of Judith’s novel, *First Rodeo*, has transposed pages (a printer error). SparkPress is eager to remove these books from circulation and replace all misprinted copies free of charge. If you have one of these books, please contact Lauren Wise (lauren@sparkpointstudio.com) for a replacement copy.

DESCRIPTION:

Kate is an attractive, thirty-something-year-old workaholic single mother with a tendency of always pleasing others. At the top of her “yes” list is her sometimes surly and controlling boss: her father. But when a crisis at work spurs Kate to examine her life, she surprises everyone by taking her young son and heading where few high heels have ever gone: Wyoming, home to more cows than humans. There, at the Prickly Pear Ranch, she meets a young, sexy bull rider who’s lived a lifetime in just over decades and is full of big dreams of training horses. His passion fuels Kate’s dormant dreams of becoming an artist, and sparks fly—and once again, Kate shocks everyone, even herself, and jumps on for the romantic ride of her life. Fast-paced and wildly entertaining, *First Rodeo* is filled with humorous scenes of a city girl gone country, encounters with handsome cowboys, the struggles of the creative process, and a powerful message: the greatest love of all is the love you have for yourself.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

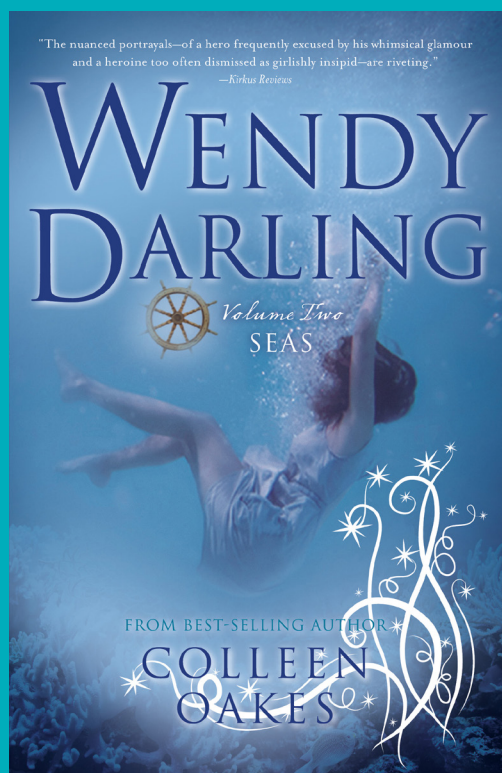
Judith Hennessey was in the automobile industry for twenty-five years, formerly operated her own advertising agency, and is a full time-writer. Her works have appeared in multiple magazines and newspapers, including the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Actively involved in the film industry, she is the executive producer of *20 Ways*, an award-winning short film; has served on the board of New Mexico Women in Film; and is partners in the New Mexico based production company White Crow Raven Productions. She is also a cowriter of the screenplay adaption of *First Rodeo*. Judy lives on an organic farm with her husband in Missouri.

AWARDS:

2016 USA Best Book Awards: Best New Fiction, Finalist

2016 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction, Chick Lit/Women’s Lit, Finalist

SEPTEMBER 2016



Publication Date: September 20, 2016

Collections: Fiction, YA

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-88-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-00-7

"For readers craving a whimsical adventure and an unforgettable sequel to the first *Wendy Darling*, this swashbuckling plot will leave readers stunned well beyond the last page."

— *The Reading Room*

"In this extraordinary, stunningly written adventure, readers will encounter a darkly suspenseful twist on an old tale which reminds readers of every age of a Neverland-lesson: we never truly grow up."

— *Redbook* magazine

WENDY DARLING VOLUME TWO: SEAS

COLLEEN OAKES

DESCRIPTION:

From the author of *Queen of Hearts* comes the much anticipated sequel to *Wendy Darling*.

Wendy Darling: Seas finds Wendy and Michael aboard the dreaded *Sudden Night*, a dangerous behemoth sailed by the infamous Captain Hook and his bloodthirsty crew. In this exotic world of mermaids, spies, and pirate feuds, Wendy finds herself struggling to keep her family above the waves. Hunted by the twisted boy who once stole her heart and struggling to survive in the whimsical Neverland sea, returning home to London now seems like a distant dream—and the betrayals have just begun. Will Wendy find shelter with Peter's greatest enemy, or is she a pawn in a much darker game, one that could forever alter not only her family's future but also the soul of Neverland itself?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Colleen Oakes is the author of books for both teens and adults, including *The Queen of Hearts Saga* and the *Wendy Darling Saga*. She lives in North Denver with her husband and son and surrounds herself with the most lovely family and friends imaginable. When not writing or plotting new books, she can be found swimming, traveling, and totally immersing herself in nerdy pop culture. She is currently at work on her third YA fantasy series, a children's book, and a stand-alone YA novel.

OCTOBER 2016



Publication Date: October 4, 2016

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-82-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-83-1

“What goes best with professional affairs? A lover who cons you. Fans of the *The Catch* will simply consume this entertaining cocktail of first love and business acquisitions which will put our heroine in the ultimate conundrum: should she follow her heart and risk losing everything or choose the safety net of her career? Gorgeously entertaining, expertly crafted and wildly addictive, readers of *Hostile Takeover* will be left with a stomach full of butterflies and a new favorite soul-warming love story on their bookshelf.

— *Elle* magazine

HOSTILE TAKEOVER

A LOVE STORY

PHYLLIS J. PIANO

DESCRIPTION:

Long-lost love, a hostile corporate takeover, and the death of her beloved husband turn attorney Molly Parr's life into a tailspin that threatens to ruin everything she has worked for. Molly's all-consuming job is to take over other companies, but when her first love, a man who she feels betrayed her, appears out of nowhere to try and acquire her business, long-hidden passions and secrets are exposed.

Can Molly trust the man who broke her heart years ago, and who may be manipulating her now to get what he wants? Further complicating matters is the reemergence of her lost love's brother, who was a dear friend and knows the shocking truth about their past. As Molly painfully revisits the old betrayal, she partners with her boss and mentor to fight the takeover at all costs—and the chaos that ensues forces her to chart a dramatic new direction for her life. She must decide: does she have the courage to follow her heart and expose her painful past—a decision that may cost her everything?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Phyllis J. Piano spent more than thirty years as an award-winning corporate communications expert for some of the world's largest companies. She has somehow managed to maintain her sense of humor, love of writing, and passion for life and the people she loves and cares about throughout it all. A world traveler, Piano has since left the corporate world and fallen back into the arms of her own first love: writing. She and her husband split their time between California, England, and the Midwest. When she is not packing a bag, making artisan sourdough bread, or cooking with lots of garlic, Piano is working on a screenplay and her next novel.

AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist
2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Fiction Romance, Finalist
2017 National Indie Excellence Awards: Romance, Finalist
2017 Independent Press Awards: Winner, Romance

OCTOBER 2016



Publication Date: October 18, 2016

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-80-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-81-7

“Brett’s nursing background imbues her writing with authentic details of the physical and emotional challenges of patient care.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

“Full of adventures to exciting and exotic places with colorful characters and sexy men, *Found* is a fast-paced debut novel with unexpected twists and turns.”

— Elena Mikalsen, PhD, clinical psychologist and member of the Women’s Fiction Writers Association

FOUND A NOVEL

EMILY BRETT

DESCRIPTION:

Twenty-seven-year-old ICU nurse Natalie Ulster has a desire to see the world, in case she dies young like her mother, and a need to heal, which is compensation for her own damaged heart. Armed with an independence and self-reliance that stems from her father’s emotional abandonment—and wanting to separate herself from a deranged nurse whose husband just died under suspicious circumstances on Natalie’s watch—Natalie grabs life by the globe and accepts successive assignments in Belize, Australia, and Arizona. When Natalie meets Dr. Joel Lansfield, a physician who is also familiar with grief, she finds that Joel sees her for the strong woman she is and loves her for all she has yet to figure out—but she’s not sure she’s ready to make room in her heart for love.

Desperate to maintain her emotional distance with Joel, Natalie continues to travel. In each country, however, she finds herself confronted with near-death accidents, from a poisoned drink to a severe food allergy to being thrown overboard in the Great Barrier Reef. Too many coincidences force her to ask herself a frightening question: Is someone trying to kill her?

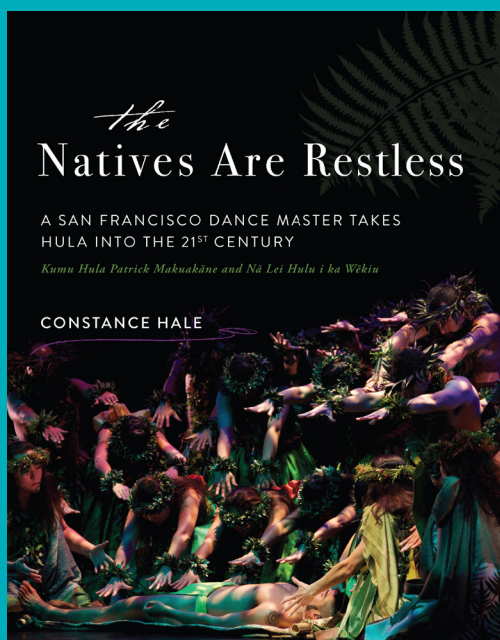
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Emily Brett received her first bachelor’s degree from the University of Colorado Boulder in kinesiology, after which she went on to Arizona State University to receive a bachelor’s degree in nursing. While working as an ICU nurse, she earned a master’s degree in nursing at Arizona State. She is board-certified as an Adult Nurse Practitioner and has been in the nursing profession for over ten years. Presently she serves on the Advanced Practice Committee with the Arizona State Board of Nursing and shares a medical practice with her husband, a physician. She has been published in a number of medical journals, including *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners* and the *Online Journal of Nursing Scholarship*. She is also a member of the Women’s Fiction Writers Association.

AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: Best New Fiction, Finalist

OCTOBER 2016



Publication Date: October 11, 2016

Collections: Performing Arts, Dance

Price: \$40.00 hardcover

11.5 x 9

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-943006-06-9

“The departures from the traditional, lovingly preserved and beautifully danced, were the most fascinating parts of the evening. Mr. Makuakāne retained the purity of the form and intent in choreography that clearly held tradition in esteem.”

— *The New York Times*

“Nā Lei Hulu I Ka Wēkiu is something else. Lines of dancers provided an ineffably smooth unison reminiscent of the best corps de ballet moments of classical masterpieces. The lasting aftereffect is something like having seen flowers that breathe and butterflies that think.”

— *Los Angeles Times*

THE NATIVES ARE RESTLESS

A SAN FRANCISCO DANCE MASTER TAKES HULA INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

CONSTANCE HALE

DESCRIPTION:

The art of hula is thriving in cities all over the country and the world, but it is not always understood. In *The Natives Are Restless*, journalist Constance Hale presents the largely untold story of the dance tradition, using the twin keyholes of Kumu Patrick Makuakāne, a Hawai'i-born, San Francisco-based hula master and his 350-person arts organization, Na Lei Hulu i ka Wēkiu. In the background, she weaves the poignant story of an ancient people and the resilience of their culture. In the foreground, she tells the story of an electrifying new form of hula that has emerged from a restless generation of artists like Makuakāne. The crisp narrative is complemented by full-color photographs and illustrations. Hale's love for hula, and her history with the dance, inform her prose on every level. She makes Makuakāne's exuberant, fierce, sensuous dance style come alive on the page.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Constance Hale is a Hawaii-born, San Francisco-based journalist who has been writing about Hawaiian culture for more than twenty-five years. Her award-winning features on slack-key guitar, the sovereignty movement, the Hawaiian language, Big Island cowboys, and Spam sushi have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *National Geographic Adventure*, *Afar*, *Smithsonian*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Miami Herald*, and *Honolulu Magazine*. She has also worked as a staff reporter and editor at the *Oakland Tribune*, the *San Francisco Examiner*, *Wired*, and *Health* magazine. She has written three books on language and literary style, including the best-selling *Sin and Syntax*, and her eight-part series on writing a sentence is on *The New York Times's* “Opinionator.” Hale started dancing the hula at seven and performed each year in May Day festivals at Hale'iwa Elementary School, switching to ballet and jazz dance while at Punahou School and Princeton University. She holds a bachelor's degree from Princeton and a master's degree from UC Berkeley. She has studied hula with Patrick Makuakāne for twenty years and edits the hālau's annual newsletter, *Kaholo'ana*.

NOVEMBER 2016

"Tarquini's innovative concept is paired with realistic characters and sparkling wit, making this enjoyable novel a keeper."
—Publishers Weekly, Starred Review



Publication Date: November 8, 2016

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$16.95 paperback/\$9.95 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: N978-1-943006-01-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-943006-02-1

Redbook Best Books of 2016

"Hindsight is an evocative and inventive reincarnation tale. Drawing on snippets of wisdom from long-gone literary giants, including Chaucer, Dante, Goethe, and Kipling, Tarquini illustrates the eternal universality of human behavior . . . the narrative emphasizes the importance of acting in the here and now: saying what should be said, forgiving what needs to be forgiven, embracing opportunities to deepen connections with others, and seizing moments of happiness when they're presented."

— Foreword Reviews, FIVE STARS, Book of the Day Selection

HINDSIGHT

A NOVEL

MINDY TARQUINI

DESCRIPTION:

Eugenia Panisporchi, a thirty-three-year-old Chaucer professor who remembers all her past lives, is desperate to change her future.

Born this time around into an Italian-American family so traditional that neither she nor any of her adult siblings have escaped their mother's tiny South Philly row home, Eugenia lives a simple life—no love connection, no controversy, no complications. Her hope is that the Blessed Virgin Mary (who oversees her soul's progress) will grant her heart's desire, the option to choose the circumstances of her next life. But when a student reveals he shares her ability, Eugenia suddenly finds herself setting up a Facebook page and sponsoring a support group for others like her on an oddball odyssey, during which she discovers she must confront her current shortcomings before she can break the cycle and finally live the life of her dreams.

A layered contemporary fable, *Hindsight* reminds us to live this life like it's the only one we'll have.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Raised by traditional people in a modern world, Mindy Tarquini is a second-generation Italian American who grew up believing dreams are prophecy, the devil steals lost objects, and an awkward glance can invite the evil eye. She is an assistant editor with *The Lascaux Review* and a member of the Perley Station Writers' Colony. A native Philadelphian, Ms. Tarquini resides in Phoenix with her husband, where she divides her time between writing and wrestling with her bread machine. She does not have hindsight.

AWARDS:

2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award: Gold Medal, Fiction/Science Fiction/Fantasy

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, General, Finalist

APRIL 2016



Publication Date: April 5, 2016

Collections: Non-Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-58-9

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-57-2

“Brutally honest and laugh-out-loud funny, with chapters short enough to read between trips to the bathroom, this is a welcome addition to the expectant parent’s bookshelf.”

— *Booklist*

“You won’t find out what fruit your budding babe resembles, but you will get her sometimes humorous, always candid take on baby-making—the good, the bad and the gross—so you’re prepared for it all.”

— *Pregnancy and Newborn Magazine*

FUNNY LITTLE PREGNANT THINGS

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY PREGNANCY FACTS
THOSE OTHER BOOKS WON'T TELL YOU

EMILY DOHERTY

DESCRIPTION:

Today’s pregnancy books may no longer recommend martinis and cigarettes to help pregnant women relax, but most offer moms an abundance of worthless information—like what kind of fruit your baby is the size of at Week 16. Is there any practical value in knowing that your child resembles produce? And where’s the good stuff—the useful details, like beware of the baby registry and all the crap you will never use, or be prepared to get breast milk all over everything you own?

Hilarious, candid, and easy to read, *Funny Little Pregnant Things* is full of helpful information about all the stuff people don’t tell you about pregnancy—the good, the bad, and the ugly.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Emily Doherty is a full-time working mother of two. A graduate of Northeastern University and once an avid rugby player, she is driven to succeed. She is currently a director of mutual fund sales for MFS Investment Management, where she has spent the last eight years educating financial advisors as well as doing public presentations on the stock market and other investment related topics. When she is not traveling around the state of Virginia and Washington, DC, Doherty is at home with her husband, Patrick, raising her two young sons, Cullen and Lachlan.

AWARDS:

Next Generation Indie Book Awards 2016: Gift/Specialty/
Novelty: Finalist

APRIL 2016



Publication Date: April 5, 2016

Collections: Juvenile Fiction, Ages 4-8

Price: \$15.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book

10 x 8

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-36-7

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-37-4

“A delightful take on the theme of a boy and his dog, full of detailed—and frequently funny—images and a valuable message about paying attention to the needs of your neighbors . . . Adams uses challenging, but perfectly appropriate, vocabulary words . . . The story’s hint about the importance of kindness resonates, especially in light of so many recent news reports about bullying.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

“Best Indie Book of 2016”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

“This Depression-era tale gently impacts lessons about persistence, honesty, and helping those in need.”

— *Foreword Reviews*

THE EGG THIEF

ALANE ADAMS, ILLUSTRATED BY
LAUREN GALLEGOS

DESCRIPTION:

Young Georgie wakes up to a morning of chores back in 1920s Pennsylvania when he gets the bad news: someone has stolen all the eggs in the henhouse. The culprit is Buster, a stray dog who takes Georgie on an adventure to find more eggs. Follow Buster and Georgie and their mischievous antics in this heartwarming tale of farm life in America’s storied past.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is a children’s author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and writes Early American picture books for young children. Adams lives in Southern California.

AWARDS:

Kirkus’s Indie Book of the Month in May 2016

2017 Foreword Indie: Picture Book Finalist

2017 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Children’s Picture Book (4-7 years), Finalist

Starred *Kirkus* review

APRIL 2016



the
WRITERS REFLECT
house
ON THE PLACES
that
AND PEOPLE THAT
made
DEFINED THEM
me

edited by GRANT JARRETT, author of *Ways of Leaving*

Publication Date: April 5, 2016

Collections: Non-Fiction, Literary
Collection, Memoir

Price: \$17 Paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8 paperback

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-31-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-32-9

"Slim and succinct, this exquisite compilation shows how the universal nature of childhood experiences trump both cultural and geographical differences."

— *Library Journal*, starred review

Featured as an *Elle* magazine's "Trust Us" book, May 2016

THE HOUSE THAT MADE ME

WRITERS REFLECT ON THE PLACES AND
PEOPLE THAT DEFINED THEM
EDITED BY GRANT JARRETT

DESCRIPTION:

Home—the place where we were born, where we learned our first lessons, where family was defined. The very notion evokes powerful feelings, feelings as individual as our fingerprints, as enduring as the universe, and as inescapable as gravity. In this candid, evocative collection of essays, a diverse group of acclaimed authors reflects on the diverse homes, neighborhoods, and experiences that helped shape them—using Google Earth software to revisit the location in the process. Moving and life-affirming, this poignant anthology gives fresh insight into the concept of Home. Essays include submissions by several award-winning authors, including Alice Eve Cohen, Antonya Nelson, Tim Johnston, Jeffrey Renard Allen, Lee Upton, and more.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Grant Jarrett lives in New York City, where he earns his living as a writer, ghostwriter, editor, and musician. His work has appeared in the *San Francisco Book Review*, *Eclectica Magazine*, and numerous other publications. His first novel, *Ways of Leaving*, won the "Best New Fiction" category in the 2014 International Book Awards.

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 3, 2016

Collection: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-33-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-71-8

Author was included in *Forbes* magazine's "Top Women to Follow on Twitter"

Named a "Best Book of Spring" by *Redbook* magazine

"Rouda deftly examines the difficult transition parents and their children face as they prepare for the end of one life and the beginning of another . . . a compelling story and a thoughtful examination of the nature of change and the importance of working to accept it."

— *Booklist*

THE GOODBYE YEAR

A NOVEL

KAIRA ROUDA

DESCRIPTION:

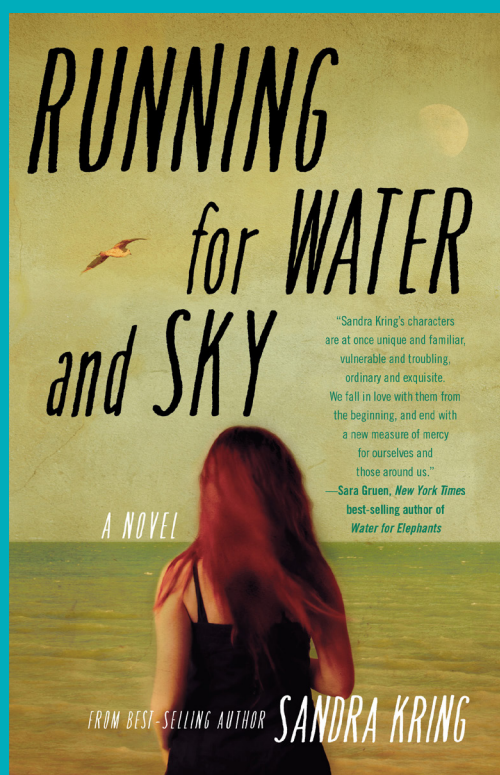
Melanie, a perfectionist mom who views the approaching end of parenting as a type of death, can't believe she has only one more year to live vicariously through her slacker senior son, Dane. Gorgeous mom Sarah has just begun to realize that her only daughter, Ashley, has been serving as a stand-in for her traveling husband, and the thought of her daughter leaving for college is cracking the carefully cultivated façade of her life. Will and his wife are fine—as long as he follows the instructions on the family calendar and is sure to keep secret his whole other life with Lauren, the woman he turns to for fun (and who also happens to have a daughter in the senior class).

Told from the points of view of both the parents and the kids, *The Goodbye Year* explores high school peer pressure, what it's like for young people to face the unknown of life after high school, and how a transition that should be the beginning of a couple's second act together—empty nesting—is often actually the end.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kaira Rouda is a *USA Today* best-selling, award-winning author of contemporary women's fiction and modern romance novels that sparkle with humor and heart. Her previous award-winning and best-selling women's fiction novels include *Here, Home, Hope* and *In the Mirror*. When she's not writing, she can be found walking the beach, practicing yoga, playing Pickleball, and enjoying as much time as possible with her family. Connect with her at www.kairarouda.com.

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 10, 2016

Collection: YA Fiction

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-93-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-92-3

"Sandra Kring's characters are at once unique and familiar, vulnerable and troubling, ordinary and exquisite. We fall in love with them from the beginning, and end with a new measure of mercy for ourselves and those around us."

— Sara Gruen, #1 *New York Times* best-selling author of *Water For Elephants*

"Richly realized storytelling, setting, and detailed characters paint a vivid picture of Bless' experiences in Nebraska."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

RUNNING FOR WATER AND SKY

A NOVEL

SANDRA KRING

DESCRIPTION:

They say that right before you die, your whole life flashes before your eyes. But what they don't say is that the same thing can happen when your soul mate is dying.

After spending most of her seventeen years being shuffled between families that don't want her, Bless Adler has no intention of opening her heart to anyone. And then she falls in love with Liam Reid.

The closer Bless lets Liam get, the more fearful she becomes. Then her new friend, Maylee, convinces her to go see a local psychic—and the woman's glimpse into the future is anything but reassuring: Bless's absent father, drunk and bitter. A frantic crowd gathered at the beach. Liam lying in a pool of blood, a gun at his side.

Now Bless has fourteen blocks to reach Liam on the shores of Lake Michigan. If he's still alive, she'll beg for him to fight for his life. If he's not, she'll say good-bye to the first person who made her want to fight for her own. Edgy, intense, and emotional, *Running for Water and Sky* is a story of the elation and angst that comes with love, and the challenge of learning to trust when betrayal is all you've ever known.

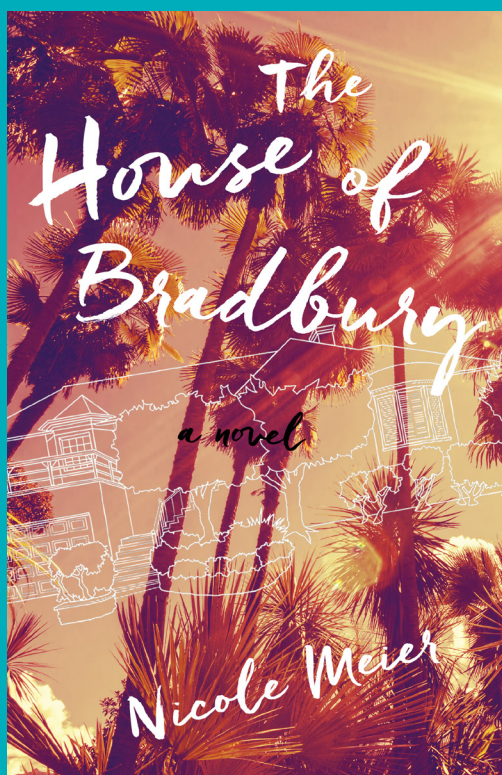
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Sandra Kring is the author of five novels, including bestseller *The Book of Bright Ideas*, which was named to the New York Public Library's Books for the Teen Age list in 2007. Her novel *Carry Me Home* was a Book Sense Notable Pick and Midwest Bookseller's Choice Award nominee. She lives in Northern Wisconsin with her high school sweetheart; they have three grown children. Writing is her greatest passion, but she also loves reading, music, and movies. *Running for Water and Sky* is her first YA novel.

AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, Cross Genre Fiction, Finalist

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 10, 2016

Collection: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-38-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-39-8

"Readers will find magic in *The House of Bradbury*, which weaves a contemporary Hollywood storyline with authentic Los Angeles literary history. The effect is a sparkling premise, memorable characters, and crisp dialogue that draws in the reader. Author Nicole Meier whips up a thoroughly enjoyable modern story of self-discovery."

— Lian Dolan, creator and host of *Satellite Sisters*, author of best-selling novels *Helen of Pasadena* and *Elizabeth the First Wife*

"Hot new book to read this summer."

— *Coastal Living*

THE HOUSE OF BRADBURY

A NOVEL

NICOLE MEIER

DESCRIPTION:

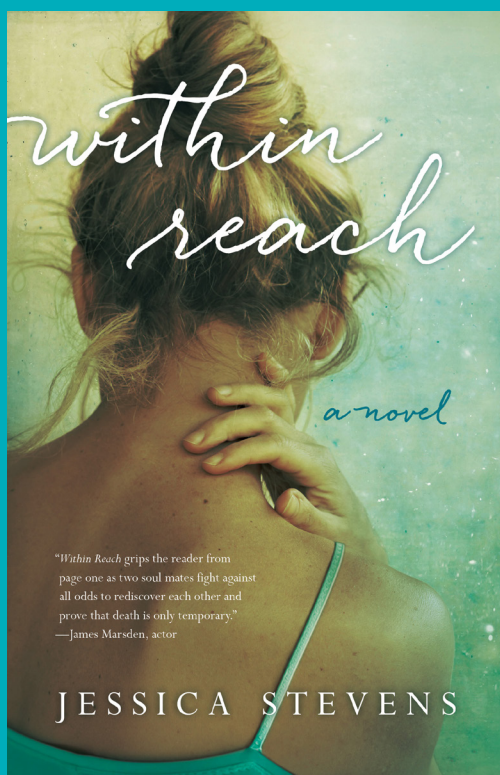
Mia Gladwell's life is going nowhere. The media has skewered her debut novel; her fiancé, Carson, a successful Hollywood producer, has jumped ship; and now she's living in her sister's carriage house—unattached, unemployed, and uninspired. Then she learns that the Los Angeles estate of iconic author Ray Bradbury is up for sale, and she feels an immediate urge to buy the wonky old house, convinced that moving into the late author's home will inspire her to create her best work yet.

Life in the Bradbury house is not what Mia imagined, however. Soon after moving in, to fulfill a debt she owes to Carson, she agrees to take in a pill-popping young actress as a tenant, and suddenly she finds herself in a balancing act between her needy ex, an unpredictable starlet, and her disapproving sister, who's keeping a close eye on her. Add to this a series of mysterious sketches left at her doorstep by a stranger, and Mia's life is more complicated than ever. As she searches for clues, though, Mia discovers insights into her own life. Maybe moving into Bradbury's house was a big mistake—but maybe not.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Nicole Meier is a native Southern Californian who pulled up roots and moved to the Pacific Northwest. She works as a freelance travel and lifestyle writer for several Oregon publications. When she's not working, she's fulfilling her wanderlust and writing about it at HaveToteWillTravel.com. She lives in Oregon with her husband and three children.

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 17, 2016

Collection: YA, Fiction

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-69-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-68-8

"In alternating chapters, the present-tense, frequently purple narrative of the vividly drawn Xan and Lila is urgent, keeping the intensity taught. An intense, at-times overwrought romance for genre fans."

— Kirkus Reviews

"*Within Reach* is an elegant and sometimes painful story of teenagers struggling with love, loss, and redemption. Jessica Stevens's unique portrayal of misguided souls finding their way through darkness dances confidently off the page. The story's ending lingers reflectively long after the music stops."

— Brady G. Stefani, author of *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman*

WITHIN REACH

A NOVEL

JESSICA STEVENS

DESCRIPTION:

Dying wasn't on sixteen-year-old Xander Hemlock's summer to-do list. Finding ways to spend more time with his girlfriend, Lila, was the most critical thinking he planned on doing. But that was before he found himself trapped in a realm of darkness with thirty days to convince Lila he's not actually dead—well, not completely, anyway.

As Xan tries to show Lila she isn't alone, she struggles to comprehend how her life has changed so completely. Six months ago her life was perfect: she was on her way to becoming a professional dancer, her parents were still married, and her boyfriend was alive. But now, with her anorexic tendencies stronger than ever, she must decide which is the lesser of two evils: letting go, or holding on to the unreasonable yet overpowering feeling that Xan is trying to tell her something.

Improbable and endearing, *Within Reach* is a story of two teenagers discovering that it sometimes takes more than one lifetime to get it right.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jessica Stevens grew up knowing without a doubt that she would become a professional ballet dancer. When life told her otherwise, she went to college like the rest of the world and earned a degree in psychology. Shortly after, while raising her two boys, she found herself glued to her computer, writing, all hours of the night while everyone else slept. Today she lives in suburbs of Milwaukee, where she spends as much time as possible on lakes and rivers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

2016 Best Book Awards: YA Fiction, Finalist

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction/Young Adult, Finalist

MAY 2016



Publication Date: May 24, 2016

Collection: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-30-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-29-9

"Henthorn's novel is absolutely a rare thing. It's wonderful, encompassing, and comforting in some way, because it perfectly captures what it feels like to be 25."

— *Literature Typeface*

"25 Sense is funny, sad, and keeps the reader engaged."

— *Synchronized Chaos*

"A book every badass woman should read."

— *San Francisco Book Review*

25 SENSE

A NOVEL

LISA HENTHORN

DESCRIPTION:

Claire Malone didn't mean for this to happen when she moved to New York. She just wanted to live the city life and gain experience in television writing, her dream career. It's not like she meant to reciprocate when her married boss, Sean Vared, sent her flirty e-mails. And you can't blame her for coming into the office on the weekend when Sean told her he was going to be there . . . alone. She didn't mean to sleep with him—but hey, she wanted to experience the city life, so no big deal, right?

Wrong. By the time Claire wakes up on her twenty-fifth birthday, she's very much in love with Sean. At work, she struggles to hold it together when he passes her desk—the very desk that they used to make love on. Soon Sean has turned his affection to the show's starring actress, and Claire is devastated. Can she break away from Sean without ruining her barely started career? Will someone find out what happened? Will she ever grow up and stop making stupid mistakes? *25 Sense* is about the time in a young woman's life when the world starts to view her as a responsible adult—but all she feels is lost.

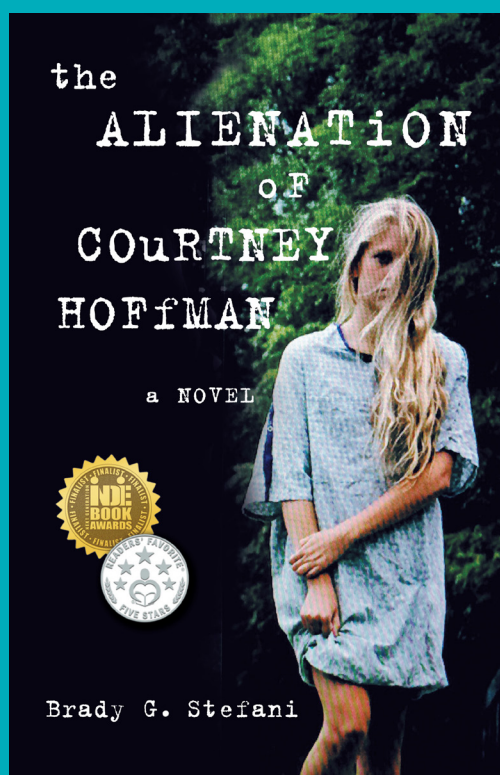
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Lisa Henthorn is a television writer who has written on the CBS show *Swingtown*, the CW show *The Beautiful Life*, and the A&E show *The Glades*. She lives in Santa Monica, California with her husband.

AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: General Fiction, Finalist

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 7, 2016

Collection: Fiction, For Women,
Science Fiction

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-34-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-35-0

"This novel has a breakneck pace and Stefani's writing is fluid and perfectly suited to this most extraordinary tale that blends the coming of age, adventure, science fiction, and post-apocalyptic genres—and it all works beautifully."

— *Readers' Favorite, Five Stars*

"If you love *Stranger Things*, read *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman*."

— *Elle magazine*

THE ALIENATION OF COURTNEY HOFFMAN

A NOVEL

BRADY G. STEFANI

DESCRIPTION:

Fifteen-year-old Courtney Hoffman is determined not to go insane like her crazy grandfather did—right before he tried to drown her when she was seven. But something is happening to her. She's being visited in her bedroom at night by aliens who claim to have shared an alliance with her now-dead grandfather. Since Courtney knows that aliens aren't real, this means she must be going crazy. And her mother and her new boyfriend have zero tolerance for craziness.

Then Courtney meets Agatha Kirlich, a mysterious older girl with sleuthing skills and alien-obsession issues of her own, and together—armed with ancient stories of a human-alien bloodline, a few photographs, and the creepy tattoo left on Courtney's rib cage by her grandfather before he disappeared—the girls embark on a mission to uncover the truth about Courtney's alien visitors. Ultimately, Courtney must put her fears aside, defy her mother, embrace her true identity, and risk everything in order to save herself—and the world.

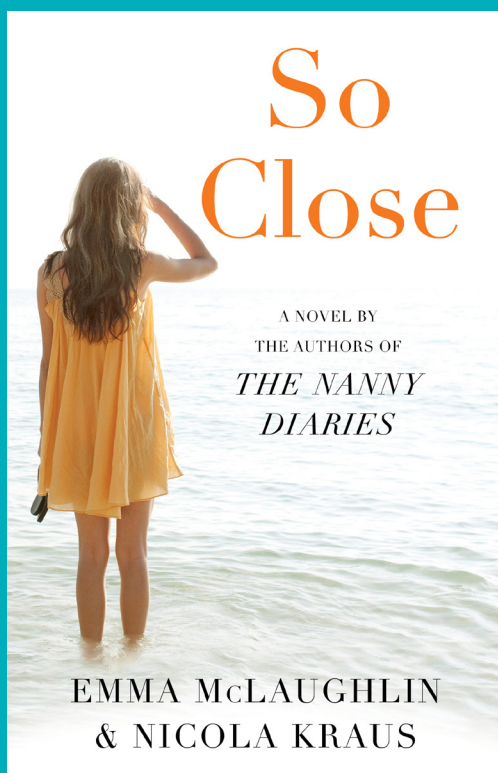
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Brady G. Stefani has a bachelor's degree in creative writing and a graduate degree in law. During law school, he spent time as an involuntary commitment caseworker for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, where he interacted with patients suffering from severe thought disorders, including numerous patients presenting with subjectively real memories of being visited and abducted by alien beings. After law school, Stefani wrote and directed a feature film, *The Wind Cried Larry*, which received honorable mentions at the East Lansing Film Festival. In addition to working on a second YA novel that continues the storyline from *The Alienation of Courtney Hoffman*, Stefani continues to write YA fiction for his website, exploring issues of mental health in the context of our boundaryless imaginations.

AWARDS:

2017 International Book Awards: Fiction/Science Fiction/Fantasy, Finalist
2017 Independent Press Awards Distinguished Favorites: Science Fiction
2017 Independent Press Awards: New Fiction (First Time Published), Winner
2016 NextGen Indie: Finalist in the First Novel category
2016 Readers' Favorite Awards: Finalist in Young Adult Fiction
2016 New Apple Annual Book Awards for Excellence in Independent Publishing: Young Adult Science Fiction Medalist Winner
2016 NextGen Indie Book Awards: Finalist in the First Novel category
2016 Readers' Favorite Awards: Finalist in Young Adult Fiction

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 7, 2016

Collection: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-76-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-77-0

Included in *Parade's* "10 of the Best Beach Reads to Indulge in This Summer"

"A skillful follow-up to their juggernaut *The Nanny Diaries*, *So Close* is a sharp cultural examination of ambition, politics, and the exhausting climb that can be chasing dreams. Amanda Beth is both a heart-breaking and refreshingly relatable protagonist. Female readers will enjoy smiling and crying with her as we see Amanda battling the wrong attractions while trying to rise above her life's cruel station. Playfully barbed commentary makes this all the more fun."

— Colleen Oakes, best-selling author of the Elly series, *The Queen of Hearts* series, and the Wendy Darling series

SO CLOSE A NOVEL

EMMA McLAUGHLIN AND NICOLA KRAUS

DESCRIPTION:

Named "Summer Book Pick" by *Us Weekly* * *Redbook Magazine* * *Brit + Co* * *Buzzfeed* * *SheKnows* * *Bustle* *

From international #1 best-selling authors Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus comes a story about a girl from the trailer parks of central Florida and the two powerful men who shape her life—one of whom will raise her up to places she never imagined, the other who will threaten to destroy her.

Amanda Beth Luker has spent her whole life desperately looking for someone who can show her the way out of her trailer park Florida town. And then, finally, help arrives—in the form of Tom Davis, a successful lawyer who grew up just a few miles over from Amanda and has aspirations of making a difference in towns just like hers all across the country. But it's his wife, Lindsay, who really captures Amanda's imagination. Strong, smart, and determined, she gives Amanda something she's never had—a role model. Meanwhile, Amanda is introduced to the wealthy, charismatic, and deeply troubled Pax Westerbrook. He clearly desires Amanda, but if she gives in will that move her closer to the life she's always dreamed of—or make it impossible?

Can a girl from a trailer park make it to the White House? What will it cost her? When her loyalty is tested will she save the only family she's ever known—even if it means keeping a terrible secret from the American people?

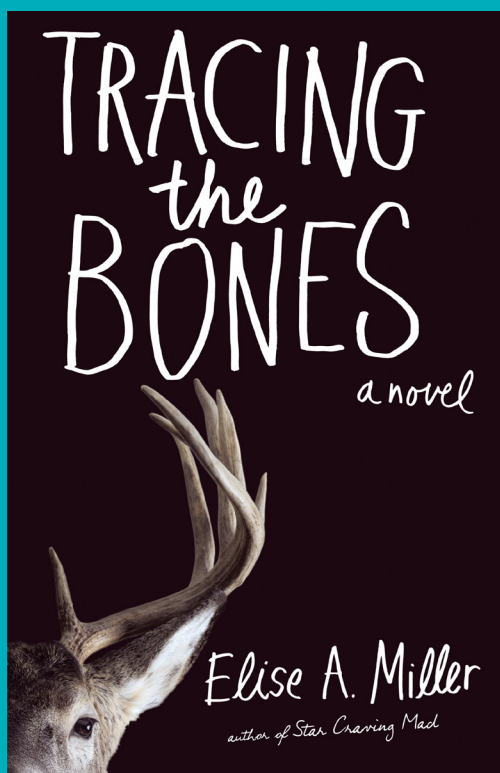
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Newsweek declared Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus's *The Nanny Diaries* a "phenomenon." It is a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and the longest-running hardcover bestseller of 2002. In 2007 it was released as a major motion picture starring Scarlett Johansson, Laura Linney, and Alicia Keys. McLaughlin and Kraus are also the authors of three other *New York Times* bestsellers—*Citizen Girl*, *Dedication*, and *Nanny Returns*—as well as the soon-to-be-released novels *Between You & Me* and *Over You*. They have appeared numerous times on CNN, MSNBC, *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *Entertainment Tonight*, and *The View*. In addition to writing for television and film, McLaughlin and Kraus travel around the country speaking to young women about feminism and gender issues in American corporate culture.

AWARDS:

2016 USA Best Book Awards: Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 14, 2016

Collection: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$\$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book

5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-48-0

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-49-7

“Elise’s writing is smart, beautiful, dark, funny, unflinchingly honest, and downright poetic. As a fellow writer, I find the whole thing infuriating.”

— Jon Gunn, writer/director of *Mercy Streets*, *My Date With Drew*, *Like Dandelion Dust*, *Do You Believe?* and *The Week*

“New-age bodywork, inter-dimensional sex, a possible murder, and a really hot yoga guy—Elise Miller is lighting up all my chakras with her page-turner *Tracing the Bones*!”

— Mike Albo, author of *Spermhood*

TRACING THE BONES

A NOVEL

ELISE A. MILLER

DESCRIPTION:

Cynical housewife Eve Myer has two kids, chronic back pain, and a decaying writing career—as well as a stagnant marriage haunted by her husband’s long-ago affair.

When a new family moves in next door, Eve becomes consumed with curiosity about beautiful life coach Anna, and with powerful lust for Billy, a sexy alternative healer with a troubled, mysterious past. As Eve begins healing sessions with Billy, an unthinkable tragedy strikes Anna and her small son. Eve’s obsession invites even more suspicion and mistrust into her marriage and as her life unravels, her sessions with Billy intensify, culminating in an alternative, experimental trip deep into the woods—a freezing winter’s journey that threatens the remaining bonds of Eve’s marriage and finally uncovers the reason for Anna’s death.

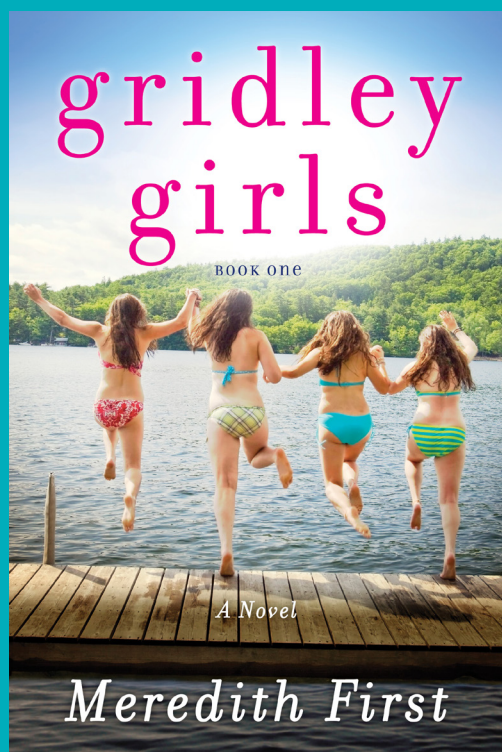
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Elise A. Miller is the author of the satirical romance *Star Craving Mad*. Her work has appeared in the anthology *Because I Love Her*, at Nerve.com and *Fresh Yarn*, and in the *Northern Liberties Review*, *Elephant Journal*, and *Schuylkill Valley Journal*. Miller is also an SFG kettlebell instructor and fitness trainer, as well as a creative writing coach and editor. She lives in Lower Merion, Pennsylvania with one husband, two kids, two dogs, and one constantly shedding wool shag rug.

AWARDS:

2016 Best Book Award: General Fiction, Finalist

JUNE 2016



Publication Date: June 21, 2016

Collection: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-97-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-96-1

"If you remember watching Gilligan's Island while drinking TAB and jotting your deepest secrets inside the pages of your gold leaf-edged diary, you'll discover many fond memories in the Gridley Girls. An enjoyable story of friendship and love, 1970s style."

— Kaira Rouda, *USA Today* best-selling
author of *The Goodbye Year*

GRIDLEY GIRLS

A NOVEL

MEREDITH FIRST

DESCRIPTION:

Sometimes you have to go back before you can move forward. In 1978, Meg, Anne, Jennifer, and Tonya were such close friends, they were known as "The Group" in their hometown of Gridley, California. But in ninth grade, their lives were changed forever. Loss, lies, and secrets separated them, but could not break their bonds of friendship. Thirty years later, Meg and Anne reminisce about those days—dealing with parents, school, boys, sex, love, and betrayal. Anne remembers their freshman year as an easier time, but Meg, still feeling guilty about a betrayal of Anne's trust, is haunted. Even now, Meg is keeping a secret she's not prepared to face, let alone share. In her debut novel, based on true events, Meredith First tells a timeless story about the bonds of friendship, loss, and betrayal—and the forgiveness that is within everyone. Can anyone really keep a secret forever?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Meredith First left an insanely great recruiting career with Apple, Inc. to write books for anyone who survived high school with a little help from friends. After studying abroad at the University of London, she received a BA in communications/broadcasting from Oregon State University. Through the donation of 10 percent of the profits of the Gridley Girls series to children's charities, she hopes to help people who struggle with issues similar to those experienced in her books. First lives with her family in Minneapolis and Sacramento, and is hard at work on Gridley Girls Reunited, the second of the Gridley Girls series.

AWARDS:

2016 Next Generation Indie Book Awards: General Fiction Finalist

2015 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction: Chick Lit/Women's Lit, Finalist

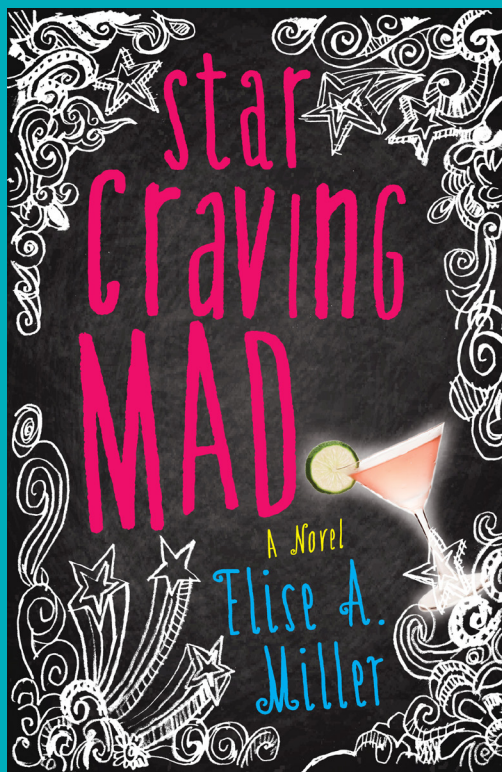
2016 Next Generation Indie Book Awards: General Fiction, Finalist

2016 Best Book Award: Fiction, LGBTQ, Finalist

A woman with long dark hair is lying down, reading a book. She is wearing a patterned top and a light-colored cardigan. Her hands are visible, holding the book, and she is wearing rings. In the background, there are more open books on a patterned surface. The year '2015' is overlaid in a white box in the center of the image.

2015

AUGUST 2015



Publication Date: August 4, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price:\$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book

5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-73-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-72-5

“Up-front funny, sexy fiction. A hilarious comedy that manages to be outlandishly satirical, weirdly plausible, and deliciously steamy all at the same time. Our extremely dumb, celebrity-soaked culture has been asking for a good parody—and here it is!”

— Mike Albo, author of *The Junket*

“Elise Abrams Miller’s debut novel, *Star Craving Mad*, is this year’s best guilty pleasure.”

— Cindy Elavsky for *King Features Syndicate*

STAR CRAVING MAD

A NOVEL

ELISE MILLER

DESCRIPTION:

Maddy Braverman, thirty and single, has taught first grade at an elite private school in Manhattan’s Greenwich Village for the past six years. Angry at herself for not moving on, Maddy is distracted from her pity party by a new student—Lola Magdalena, daughter of A-list celebrities Nic and Shelby Seabolt—a last-minute addition to her class roster. When Lola breaks her arm on the playground, Maddy has the chance to meet with Nic in his TriBeCa apartment. Maddy’s celebrity fantasies turn to reality—makeout sessions, sex, and even a Hamptons holiday bash, all of which leave Maddy yearning for Nic’s love.

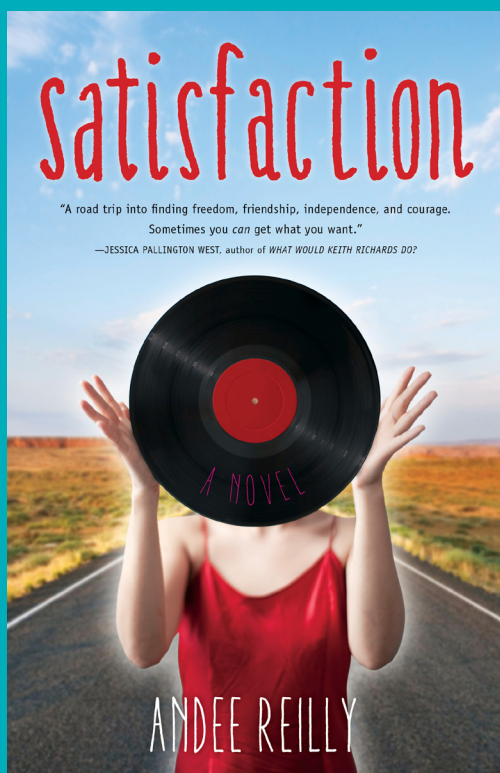
Romance turns nightmarish when Nic and Shelby steal a manuscript that Maddy’s been writing—a book called *Golden Ghost*, based on her Gold Rush curriculum, that she shares with the class, and that they illustrate throughout the year.

Nic’s betrayal and bloated ego lead Maddy to finally appreciate the unfamous and genuine friends she has at school, including her students and her assistant teacher, the scruffy, handsome musician James, who gets under Maddy’s skin from the beginning, and with whom she ultimately falls in love.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Elise A. Miller discovered her talent and passion for writing by accident, during a short-lived but rigorous acting pursuit in the late 1990s. She immediately began studying writing in earnest at Gotham Writers’ Workshop in New York City, and she hasn’t looked back since. Elise lives in Pennsylvania with her husband, two kids, and two teeny rescue dogs.

AUGUST 2015



Publication Date: August 4, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-63-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-64-0

“Smart, funny, and exhilarating, *Satisfaction* is more than a rock ‘n’ roll-fueled road trip—it is a poignant look at our struggle for independence amidst the bonds of love and friendship.”

— Tiffany Hawk, author of *Love Me Anyway*

“A road trip into finding freedom, friendship, independence, and courage. Sometimes you can get what you want.”

— Jessica Pallington West, author of *What Would Keith Richards Do?*

SATISFACTION

ANDEE REILLY

DESCRIPTION:

When twenty-two-year-old Ginny Martin discovers her husband has been cheating on her, she strikes back. Buying tickets to every concert on the Rolling Stones North American tour, this devastated suburban housewife packs up the car and takes to the road. Following the Rolling Stones from Los Angeles to Oklahoma City, Ginny experiences freedom for the first time, while coping with the insecurities and limiting beliefs that have kept this small-town girl's life far too small.

Bree Cooper is a nomad, a free-spirited drifter, and a mother who abandoned responsibility—and her young daughter—years ago. When Ginny meets Bree at a roadside diner, they impulsively make the decision to throw their lot in together. In each other they find a friendship that they both have longed for. Bree also gives Ginny a chance to have a mother-figure who inspires independence and encourages confidence, while Ginny gives Bree a chance to get parenting right on the second try.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Andee Reilly was born and raised in Los Angeles. She received her MFA in creative writing from the University of California, Riverside and teaches literature and writing at California State University, Channel Islands. When not teaching or writing, she can be found surfing the beaches of Southern California and Maui. She fell in love with the Rolling Stones as a teenager, and their music has long served as an inspiration to her writing. *Satisfaction* is her debut novel.

AUGUST 2015



Publication Date: August 4, 2015

Collections: Fiction, Young Adult

Price: \$17.00 paperback

\$24.00 hardcover / \$9.99 e-book

5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-24-4

Hardcover: 978-1-940716-26-8

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-25-1

"The Red Sun: Legends of Orkney by Alane Adams is a book that will take children on a roller coaster ride of adventure and fantasy where whimsical and menacing creatures and witches will enthrall readers."

— Readers' Favorite (5 stars out of 5)

"This novel may appeal to young readers who have enjoyed other 'chosen one' fantasy stories: It moves along at a speedy clip, and preteens will likely identify with Sam's anger and frustration with the world . . . it's a high fantasy tale that maintains a quick pace . . ."

— Kirkus Reviews

THE RED SUN

LEGENDS OF ORKNEY: BOOK 1

ALANE ADAMS

DESCRIPTION:

Sam Baron is about to get the shock of his life. First his substitute English teacher claims to have turned his old teacher into a lizard; then a strange dwarf named Rego arrives and claims Sam is from a magical realm called Orkney. When his friends are taken prisoner, it's up to Sam to save them.

Sam embarks on a journey to Orkney through a *stonefire* to find his friends—but when he arrives, he discovers that an ancient curse has turned the sun a poisonous red and threatens to destroy the land. With only a young witch girl to guide him, Sam must choose: save his friends, or stop the red sun from consuming the land?

Drawing on Norse mythology, *The Red Sun* follows Sam's journey to uncover the truth about his past—a journey during which he has to overcome the simmering anger inside of him, learn to channel his growing magical powers, and find a way to forgive the father who left him behind.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is an author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and *The Coal Thief* and *The Egg Thief*, picture books for early-grade readers. She lives in Southern California.

AWARDS:

USA Best Book Awards: Best Cover Design: Fiction, Winner

USA Best Book Awards: Children's Fiction, Winner

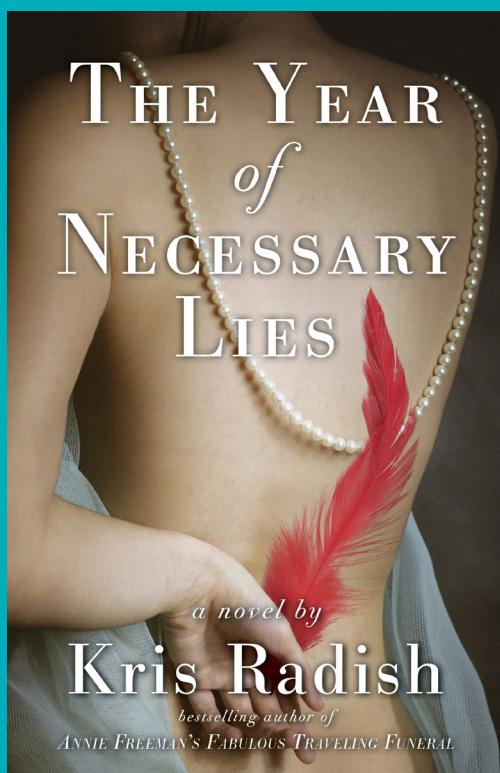
2016 International Book Awards: Fiction: Young Adult Finalist

Beverly Hills Book Award: Best Juvenile Fiction, Winner

IBPA Benjamin Franklin Awards: Best New Voice Children's/Young Adult, Silver Medal

Readers Favorite Awards Children Preteen: Silver Medal Winner

AUGUST 2015



Publication Date: August 11, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-51-0

“As in her previous best-selling novels (*A Grand Day To Get Lost*), Radish weaves an engaging story of inspiring women who discover the importance of being true to one’s ideal.”

— *Library Journal*

“Kris Radish’s tenth novel highlights women’s role in the Audubon Society campaign to eradicate feathers from ladies’ hats. Cameos from historical figures ranging from William Randolph Hearst to Mark Twain help place Julia in a convincing turn-of-the-century context of change and creativity.”

— *Foreword Reviews*

THE YEAR OF NECESSARY LIES

A NOVEL

KRIS RADISH

DESCRIPTION:

One amazing year in a remarkable woman’s life becomes the inspiration for generations when she takes a huge risk, follows her heart, embraces forbidden love, and unwittingly becomes the champion of a winged world that is on the brink of extinction. It’s 1903, the world is poised for drastic change, and Julia Briton is a naive, beautiful Boston socialite who suffers a series of devastating losses and discovers that her beloved husband is involved in the plume trade—the massive slaughter of birds for use in the fashion industry. When Julia is secretly ushered into the early 20th century by a group of brazen female activists, she boldly risks everything and embarks on a perilous journey to the wilds of untamed Florida, a place of great danger where men will stop at nothing to get what they want and where Julia is forced to make yet more life-changing decisions. Years later, when Julia’s great-granddaughter, Kelly, discovers some hidden tape recordings in her famous great-grandmother’s dresser and learns the real truth about Julia’s year, a year that changed the course of history, she must decide what to do with her grandmother’s incredible legacy. Will she keep the real “secret of the year,” or will she be brave enough to follow her own heart?

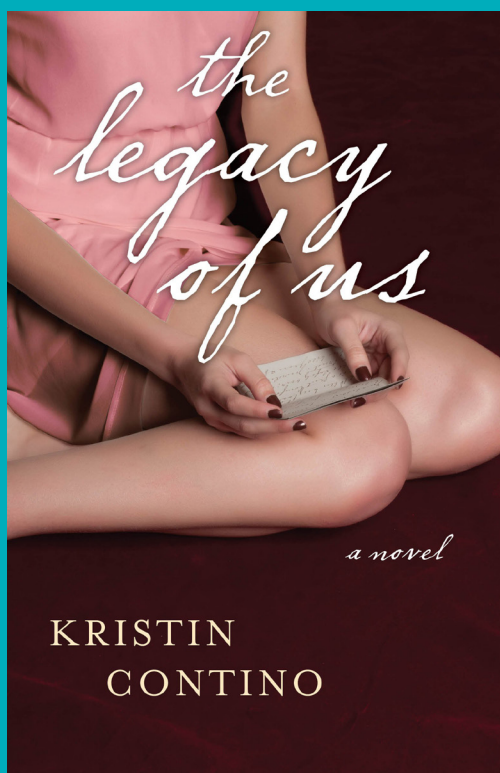
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kris Radish is the best-selling author of twelve novels and three works of nonfiction. Her empowering books focus on the very real issues women face in their lives, and she celebrates the important and amazing power of female friendship via her novels and with the yearly retreats she holds for women. Radish lives in St. Petersburg, Florida.

AWARDS:

USA Best Book Awards: Fiction: Historical, Finalist
2016 International Book Awards: Fiction/Historical: Finalist
2015 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction: Historical Finalist
2016 International Book Awards: Fiction: Historical Finalist

AUGUST 2015



Publication Date: August 18, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-17-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-16-9

"The Legacy of Us is a sweet story about love, family secrets, and the notion that everyone deserves a few secrets that don't have to be shared."

— Kris Radish, national best-selling author of
The Year of Necessary Lies

THE LEGACY OF US

A NOVEL

KRISTIN CONTINO

DESCRIPTION:

Taking readers from 1905 Italy to present-day Philadelphia, *The Legacy of Us* uncovers how the lives of three generations of women are changed by love, loss and one little necklace . . .

Liz Moretti thought she knew almost everything about her grandmother, Ella. But when Ella passes away and Liz finds a cameo locket with a marriage proposal engraved inside (from a man who was not her grandfather), she realizes that sometimes a person's secrets are discovered only after they're gone.

On top of losing Ella, Liz's career as a jewelry designer is stagnant and her love life lacks sparkle, too. When she reconnects with the one who got away, Liz thinks maybe things are finally starting to look up. But after a few drinks and a trip down a flight of stairs, Liz wakes up to realize the cameo is gone. Her ex offers to look for it, but so does Justin, the intriguing new guy in her apartment building. While dealing with her feelings for two very different men and generally trying to reinvent her mess of a life, Liz finds answers and solace in Ella's diary. The story of the cameo, and the relationship between her grandmother and great-grandmother, an outspoken socialite from Italy, inspires Liz to grow up and accept responsibility for her missteps. Eventually, she must choose between the life she thought she wanted and the promise of something better.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kristin Contino has been writing stories for as long as she can remember. Her childhood love of reading and writing translated into a career as a freelance writer, editor, and women's fiction reviewer. When she's not writing, Kristin enjoys travel, photography and spending time with her family, and dreams of moving to her favorite city, London. *The Legacy of Us* is her debut novel.

AUGUST 2015



Publication Date: August 18, 2015
Collections: Non-fiction, Cooking, Crafts
Price: \$24.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5
Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services
Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-70-1
E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-89-3

OH, WHAT A TREAT! 36 CUTE & CLEVER FOOD CRAFTS

SANDRA DENNELER

DESCRIPTION:

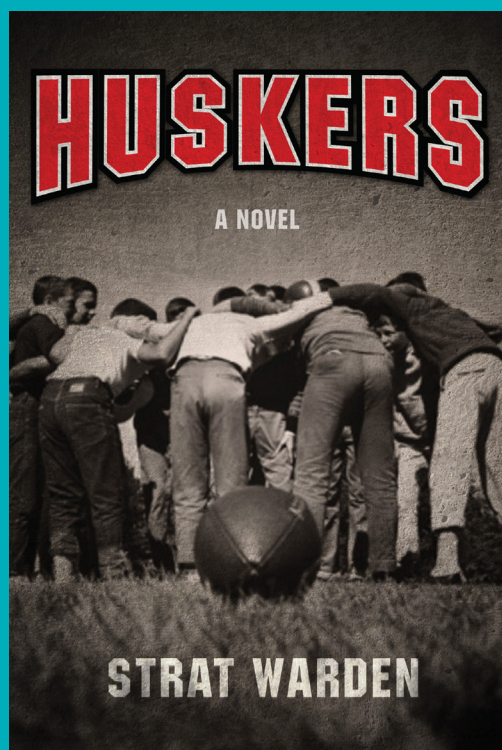
What can you do with peanut butter wafer cookies, tootsie rolls, and a dash of imagination? Create edible high heel treats, of course! And that's just one of the thirty-six delightful edible crafts you'll find in *Oh, What a Treat!*

These crafts are good enough to eat! Follow along as Sandra Dennerler, a graphic designer by day, food wizard by night, and SheKnows.com Expert reaching over 75 million women readers each month, creates delightfully delicious recipes that you can easily recreate in your own kitchen.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Growing up, Sandra Dennerler's favorite book was the 1973 World Book Encyclopedia's Childcraft Volume 11, Make and Do. She's been making and doing her entire life. An art director at Wichita State University, Sandra also enjoys creating edible art in her kitchen. Her son, Gus, and daughter, Bea, are completely unimpressed with her crazy baking skills. If given the choice, they would rather eat an Oreo cookie. Sandra and her super-talented, woodworker-hobbysit husband, Eric, have made a fun home together in Wichita, Kansas and do creative projects that can be seen on their blog, *Project Dennerler*. Sandra is also a SheKnows Expert in food.

SEPTEMBER 2015



Publication Date: September 8, 2015

Collections: Fiction, Middle Grade

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-99-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-98-5

“Sports teach us how to work together toward a common goal and find opportunities for all of us to improve on some level. *Huskers* illustrates the difference in the times from when we grew up and those of present-day kids. Although it may not be the main theme, it shows how kids took charge of their own recreation. The whole ‘parent piece’ of the modern day didn’t exist. There was an entirely different understanding of the meaning of what it was to be a parent . . .”

—Dr. Lynne Farmer, former professional athlete, physical educator, and school principal

HUSKERS

A NOVEL

STRAT WARDEN

DESCRIPTION:

Huskers is about an introspective and resourceful young boy who becomes a reluctant leader when six of his friends, losers all, choose to follow him on a journey. It is about their desire and their need to become more than the little boys they perceive themselves to be.

Huskers is an account of their quest and how, together, they learn to accept and overcome their individual flaws, struggle with their growing awareness of girls, and confront and conquer their personal demons. Along the broken and rocky climb, each finds inner strength and, as a team, they discover their character and realize the true value of sport. Seen through the clarity of a simpler time and place—rural Nebraska in 1960—*Huskers* is a testimony to the true values children should be learning through participation in youth sports.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Strat Warden grew up in Nebraska in the 1960s, was an accomplished high school and college athlete, and served as a corpsman with the US Marines before earning a commission in the US Navy Medical Corps. He completed his training as a general surgeon in the US Navy and served in that capacity until he entered private practice in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Dr. Warden retired in 2005 to spend more time with his children; devote more attention to ZirMed, Inc., where he currently serves as chairman of the board; and write *Huskers* to help his children understand the true rewards of participating in sports.

AWARDS:

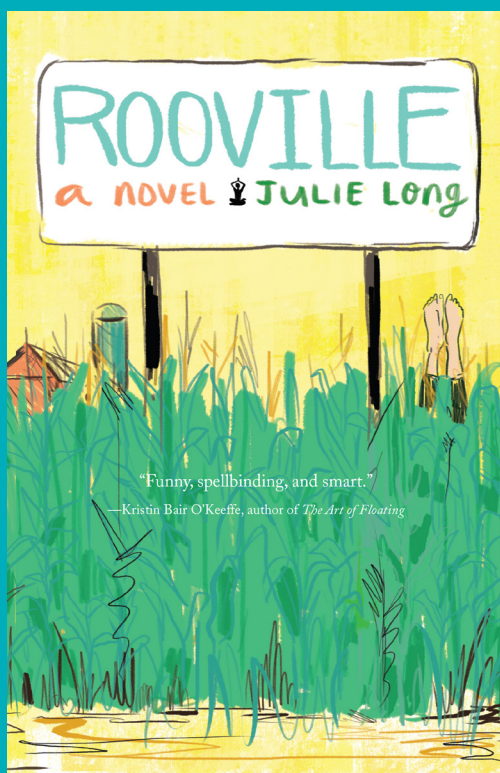
USA Best Book Awards: Fiction: General, Finalist

2016 International Book Awards: Fiction/General: Finalist

2016 International Book Awards: Finalist, Fiction: General

2015 USA Book Awards: Finalist, Fiction: General

SEPTEMBER 2015



Publication Date: September 8, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-60-2

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-59-6

"A funny, imaginative look at a small Iowa town and what happens when two worlds and cultures collide, *Rooville* combines meditation, romance, and small-town politics into an enjoyable debut novel from Julie Long."

— Kamy Wicoff, author of *Wishful Thinking*

"Fast-paced and fun. This heartwarming tale of love and self-discovery is set in a wholly unique locale, with an unexpected hero."

— Kathleen Shoop, author of *Love and Other Subjects*

ROOVILLE

A NOVEL

JULIE LONG

DESCRIPTION:

Even after thirteen years in Southern California, Owen Martin can feel the corners of his squareness still sharply evident. He's a TV weatherman bored by the beautiful climate. He wants to coach basketball but all the kids play soccer, and he seems to be the only person who thinks a fruit smoothie is a poor substitute for a vanilla shake. When he's fired from his job, he is relieved to head home to Iowa, to the town his ancestors founded and to the simple life he knew before his father died. He can't predict the atmospheric pressure he's about to encounter, which, as any meteorologist knows, is the key catalyst for change.

In his absence, Martinville has become the center of the Transcendental Meditation movement and host to all things alternative. There are golden domes for mass meditations, a vegan café where the burger joint stood, and all the shop doors around Town Square now face east. But far worse than anything is the danger to the Martin family farm. In a town divided between "Regulars" and "Roos" (gurus), Owen is clear where he stands until he falls for a levitator instead of the down-to-earth girl he had in mind. With old customs and open-mindedness clashing like warm and cold fronts, Owen gets caught in a veritable tornado. Can he save the farm, get the girl, and reunite the town? Maybe . . . if he's willing to embrace a change in the weather.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Julie Long was born in Fairfield, Iowa, a typical midwestern town (the kind with a bandstand in town square) that just happened to become the center of the Transcendental Meditation movement. For several years she lived in Southern California (where she never did find the center of town) before opting for the rural life in Western Pennsylvania. Today she lives on a farm with her husband, extended family, and an English bulldog. She coauthored *BABY: An Owner's Manual*, *A Mouthful of Truth*, and *Fat, Dumb & Lazy*. This is her first novel. Visit her at JulieLongWrites.com

AWARDS:

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Winner, Fiction/Multicultural

2017 USA Best Book Awards: Best Cover Design, Fiction, Finalist

OCTOBER 2015



Publication Date: October 13, 2015

Collections: Fiction, Young Adult

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book

5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-62-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-61-9

“Kristen Hunt has created a fully immersive world, one of tribal legends, towns that breathe with mystery, and attraction that comes with a high cost. Her descriptions of Alaska are keen and crisp, her prose light and youthful. Neiva Ellis is the kind of brave heroine that we’ve come to love in YA, and I can see middle-grade readers hungrily devouring this interesting saga of Eskimo myth, tradition, and romance.”

— Colleen Oakes, author of *Queen of Hearts*, *Elly in Bloom*, and *Wendy Darling*

BLONDE ESKIMO

A NOVEL

KRISTEN HUNT

DESCRIPTION:

Neiva Ellis knew the town of Spirit, Alaska held some kind of secret; a secret that her grandmother and the whole town were keeping from her. It was something so mysterious that Neiva was determined to find out what it was, but she wasn’t prepared for what lay ahead. On the night of her seventeenth birthday, the Eskimos’ rite of passage, Neiva is suddenly thrown into another world—a world full of mystical creatures, old traditions, and a masked stranger who awakens feelings deep within her heart. Along with her best friends, Neiva uncovers the truth behind the town of Spirit and herself, but when an evil force threatens those closest to her, she will stop at nothing to defend her family and friends. Eskimo traditions and legends become real as two worlds merge together to fight a force so ancient and evil it could destroy not only Spirit but the rest of humanity.

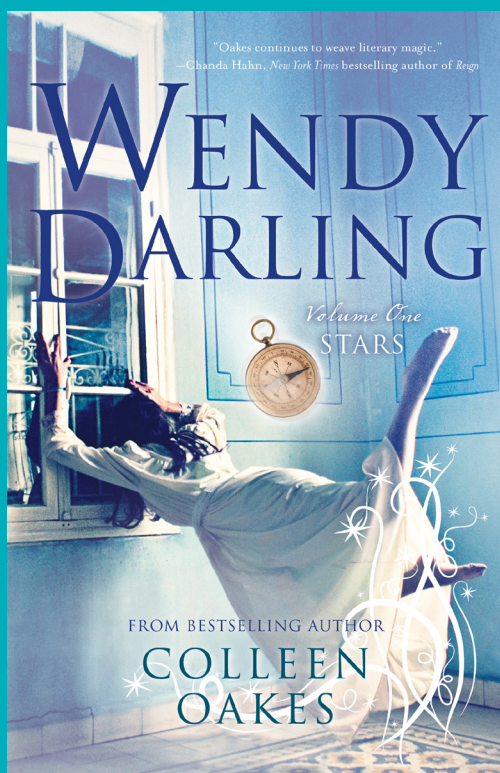
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Kristen Hunt is an artist and writer based in Phoenix, Arizona. She is an avid fan of movies, graphic novels, and young adult literature. Anything involving fantasy and supernatural experiences captures her interests. As a young child, Kristen visited her family in Nome, Alaska and learned of her Eskimo heritage. Her grandmother, known as the blonde Eskimo because of her golden hair and blue eyes, told Kristen the many legends found throughout Alaska, such as the Ishegocks, totems, and much more. It was these stories that inspired Kristen to write her current novel.

AWARDS:

2016 Annual Indie Excellence Awards: Finalist in the Young Adult Fiction Category

OCTOBER 2015



Publication Date: October 13, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$17.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-95-4

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-94-7

"A dark twist on a familiar tale that readers will have difficulty putting down."

— *School Library Journal*

"Dark, even horrific in its graphic bloodshed and psychological menace; but the nuanced portrayals—of a hero frequently excused by his whimsical glamour and a heroine too often dismissed as girlishly insipid—are riveting."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

WENDY DARLING

VOL 1: STARS

COLLEEN OAKES

DESCRIPTION:

Wendy Darling has a perfectly agreeable life with her parents and brothers in wealthy London, as well as a budding romance with Booth, the neighborhood bookseller's son. One night, while their parents are at a ball, the charmingly beautiful Peter Pan comes to the Darling children's nursery, and—dazzled by this flying boy with god-like powers—they follow him out of the window, straight on to morning, and into Neverland, an intoxicating island of freedom.

As time passes in Neverland, Wendy realizes that this Lost Boy's paradise of turquoise seas, mermaids, and pirates holds terrible secrets rooted in blood and greed. As Peter's grasp on her heart tightens, she struggles to remember where she came from—and begins to suspect that this island of dreams, and the boy who desires her, have the potential to transform into an everlasting nightmare.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Colleen Oakes is the author of books for both teens and adults, including *The Queen of Hearts Saga* and the *Wendy Darling Saga*. She lives in North Denver with her husband and son and surrounds herself with the most lovely family and friends imaginable. When not writing or plotting new books, she can be found swimming, traveling, and totally immersing herself in nerdy pop culture. She is currently at work on her third YA fantasy series, a children's book, and a stand-alone YA novel.

NOVEMBER 2015



Publication Date: November 17, 2015

Collections: Non-Fiction, Cookbook,
Healthy Living

Price: \$24.00 paperback/\$12.99 e-book
7.5 x 9.25

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-91-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-90-9

“Go Clean, Sexy You is the ultimate guide in how to balance and detox your body with easy-to-follow meal plans that are filled with delicious and nourishing whole food recipes. Lisa Consiglio Ryan explains how we can shed excess weight, achieve maximum health, and prepare seasonal meals in this inspiring, personal, and powerful book. Lisa tells of her own early struggles and how she was able to regain balance and wellness. This book is brimming with tips, expert advice, and mouthwatering photos and recipes that serve as your road map to wellness and optimum health.”

— Debbie Adler, award-winning author of *Sweet Debbie's Organic Treats: Allergy-Free & Vegan Recipes from the Famous Los Angeles Bakery*

GO CLEAN, SEXY YOU

A SEASONAL GUIDE TO DETOXING AND STAYING HEALTHY

LISA CONSIGLIO RYAN

DESCRIPTION:

Go Clean, Sexy You not only serves up a collection of delicious recipes but offers a holistic approach on how to live a healthier life—putting whole foods into your body, detoxing every season to regularly cleanse your system, associating with those who fuel you not bring you down, and managing stress with activities that bring you back to balance.

A certified health and nutrition coach, author Lisa Consiglio Ryan provides straightforward guidance on how to overcome the obstacles that keep you from losing those last ten pounds, make you feel exhausted every afternoon, and compel you to indulge in unhealthy habits. As a nationally acclaimed wellness expert, Lisa has worked with thousands in her detox programs. Her approach incorporates easy-to-adopt eating habits, free from counting calories and fat grams. As you navigate through the seasons with Lisa's whole food-based detox plans, you'll be tapping into your body's wisdom, forming sustainable habits, and developing a loving, respectful relationship with your body. Not only will you feel better, you'll look better too!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Lisa Consiglio Ryan is a certified health and nutrition coach, and the founder and CEO of Whole Health Designs, LLC, which provides detox programs and private coaching for those who desire to embrace clean living. She has a bachelor's of science degree and master's degree in education. Her work has been featured in *Fitness Magazine*, *Tiny Buddha*, *Elephant Journal*, *Kris Carr's Crazy Sexy Life*, *The Daily Meal*, and *Mind Body Green*. She loves green juice, Bikram yoga, and hanging out with her family in Baltimore, Maryland.

AWARDS:

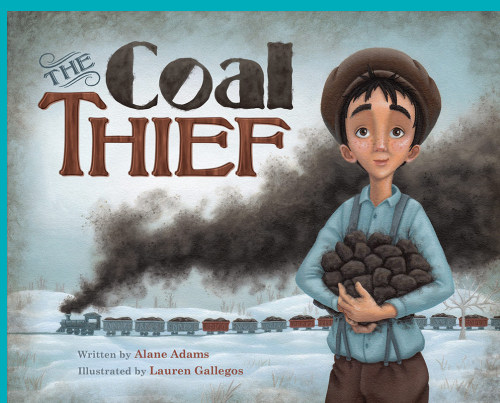
2016 International Book Awards: Cookbooks: General Finalist

2016 Next Generation Indie Book Awards: Food Finalist

2016 Next Generation Indie Book Awards: Health/Wellness Finalist

2015 USA Book Awards: Cookbooks: General Finalist

NOVEMBER 2015



Publication Date: November 17, 2015

Collections: Fiction, Juvenile

Price: \$15 Hardcover/\$9.99 e-book

10 x 8

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-27-5

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-28-2

“The dialogue between the characters feels natural to the time and place, and the text size and amount, as well as its approachable vocabulary, makes this a good choice for confident early-elementary readers . . . Gallegos’ art is compelling . . . Overall, Georgie is an appealing protagonist, and his adventure may encourage early elementary school readers to read more about why communities like Georgie’s struggled during the 1930s. A beautifully illustrated, realistic slice of history with a likable, repentant thief as its hero.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

“A beautiful book in so many ways, *The Coal Thief* will leave an impression on many hearts for a long time to come.”

— *Foreword Reviews*

THE COAL THIEF

ALANE ADAMS, ILLUSTRATED BY
LAUREN GALLEGOS

DESCRIPTION:

Charmingly told and lushly illustrated, *The Coal Thief* is a heartwarming tale of boyhood in 1920s Pennsylvania for children ages 4–8.

Brrr! Georgie wakes up to a freezing morning in 1920s Pennsylvania and gets the bad news that there is no coal to heat the farmhouse—and he knows there is no money to buy more, either. Just after he finds this out, along comes his friend Harley, who drags him off on an adventure to find some mysterious “black gold.” Before Georgie can catch his breath, he’s in a pile of trouble—all the way up to his ears! Take a trip back in time and join Georgie in this heartwarming tale of mischief made and lessons learned in America’s storied past.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Alane Adams is a children’s author, professor, and literacy advocate. She is the author of the Legends of Orkney fantasy mythology series for tweens and writes Early American picture books for young children. Adams lives in Southern California.

AWARDS:

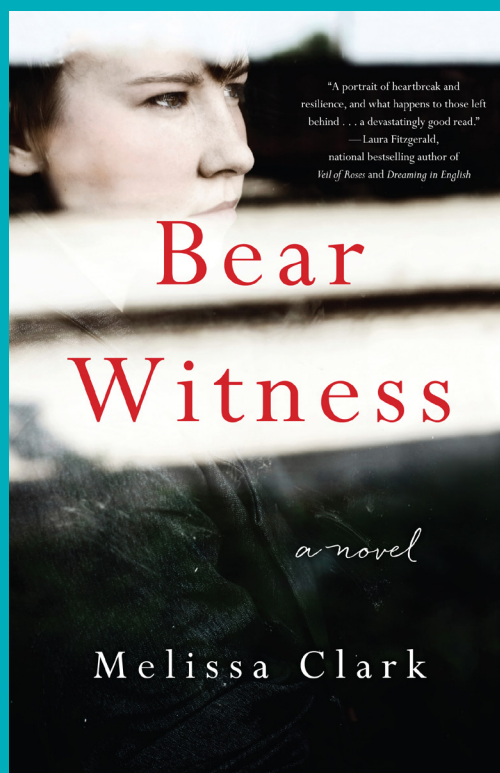
USA Best Book Awards: Children’s Picture Book: Hardcover Fiction, Finalist

2015 IPPY Awards: Bronze Medal

2016 International Book Awards: Children’s Picture Book: Hardcover Fiction Finalist

2015 IndieFab Awards: Picture Book (Children’s) Finalist

APRIL 2015



Publication Date: April 7, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$13.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-75-6

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-74-9

**"A portrait of heartbreak and resilience,
and what happens to those left
behind . . . a devastatingly good read."**

— Laura Fitzgerald, national best-selling
author of *Veil of Roses* and *Dreaming in English*

**"A glimpse inside an experience we all
would hope never to have to explore.
Melissa Clark has told a powerful story."**

— Davida Wills Hurwin, author of *A Time for
Dancing* and *Freaks and Revelations*

BEAR WITNESS

A NOVEL

MELISSA CLARK

DESCRIPTION:

Paige harbors a painful memory. Three years ago, she witnessed her best friend Robin's abduction from a sleepover the girls were attending. Two weeks later, Robin's body was found abandoned.

The effects of this gruesome crime continue to ripple through the community, family, and especially Paige's life, three years later. Struggling with debilitating flashbacks and immense guilt, Paige must continue to reconcile with her memories of the past and attempt to overcome the loss of innocence, her best friend, and her faith in the universe.

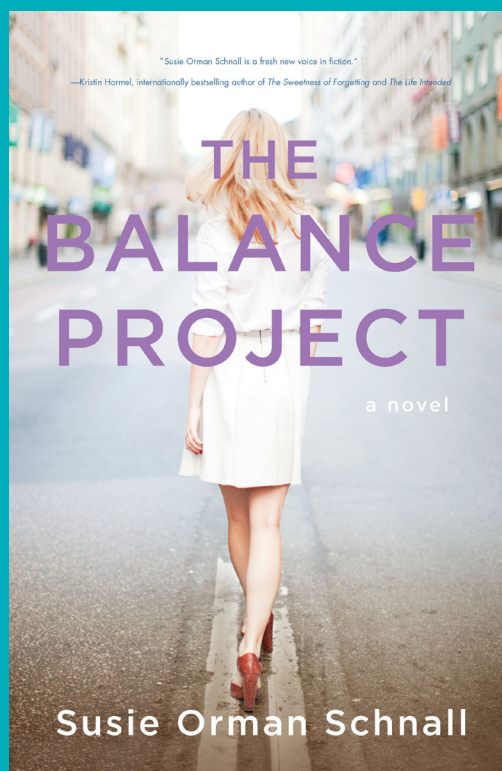
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Melissa Clark is an author, television writer, and college instructor. She is the author of the novels *Bear Witness*, *Swimming Upstream*, *Slowly*, and *Imperfect*. Her essay "Rachael Ray Saved My Life" is included in the anthology *The Cassoulet Saved Our Marriage*. She is also the creator of the animated television series *Braceface*, starring the voice of Alicia Silverstone, which aired on the ABC Family Channel. She has written scripts for *Rolie Polie Olie*, *Totally Spies*, and *Sweet Valley High*, among others. Melissa teaches creative writing and literature courses both privately and at Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles.

AWARDS:

2015 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction: Young Adult Finalist

APRIL 2015



Publication Date: April 28, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Women

Price: \$16.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-67-1

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-66-4

“A fast-paced tale of a twentysomething desperately trying to balance her own life while, ironically, working for a woman known as America’s Darling of Balance. If you liked *The Devil Wears Prada*, you’ll enjoy this charming romp, which delivers with heart, depth, and a perfectly satisfying conclusion.”

— Kristen Harmel, author of *Sweetness of Forgetting* and *The Life Intended*

“*The Balance Project* is a *Lean In*-esque romp which begs that perennially pertinent question: Can women really have it all?”

— *Self* magazine

THE BALANCE PROJECT

A NOVEL

SUSIE ORMAN SCHNALL

DESCRIPTION:

BuzzFeed: Ultimate Spring Book Guide, *Bustle*: Books That Will Help You Balance Your Life, *Huffington Post* Books, *POPSUGAR*: Books You Should Read on Your Summer Road Trip, Jenny McCarthy’s SiriusXM show, *New York Parenting*: Summer Reads, *Self* magazine: Mother’s Day Gift Guide, *Working Mother*: Mother’s Day Gift Guide, *San Francisco Book Review*: Unforgettable Memorial Day Weekend Reads, *Culturalist*: Best Stories of Moms Balancing It All

Loyal assistant Lucy Cooper works for Katherine Whitney, who seems to have it all: a high-powered job at a multibillion-dollar health and wellness lifestyle company, a successful husband, and two adorable daughters. Now, with the release of her book on work-life balance, Katherine has become a media darling and a hero to working women everywhere. In reality, though, Katherine’s life is starting to fall apart, and Lucy is the one holding it all together, causing her own life—and relationship with her boyfriend, Nick—to suffer. When Katherine does something unthinkable to Lucy, Lucy must decide whether to change Katherine’s life forever or continue being her main champion. Her choice will affect the trajectory of both of their lives and lead to opportunities neither one could have imagined.

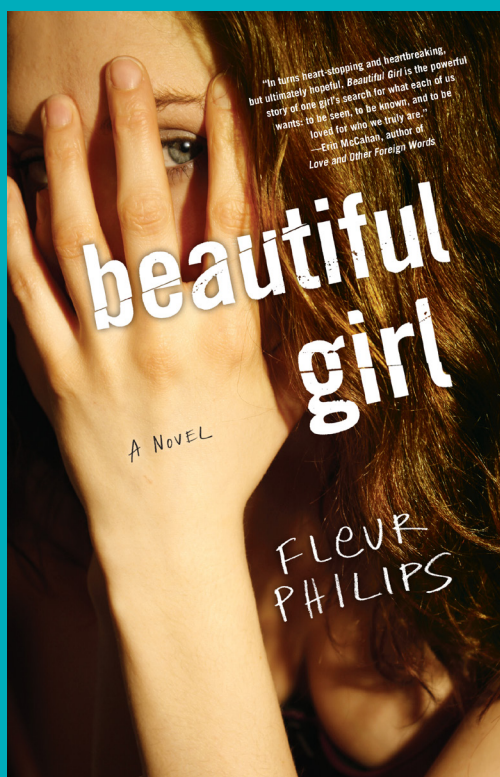
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Originally from Los Angeles, Susie Orman Schnall graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. Schnall has written for national and local publications about parenting and health. She lives in New York with her husband and their three young boys. *The Balance Project* is her second novel.

AWARDS:

2015 USA Best Book Awards: Fiction: Chick Lit/Women’s Lit, Finalist
2016 International Book Awards: Chick Lit/Women’s Lit Winner

JUNE 2015



Publication Date: June 9, 2015

Collections: Fiction, For Teens, Award-winning

Price: \$15.00 paperback/\$9.99 e-book
5.5 x 8.5

Distributed by Ingram Publisher Services

Print ISBN: 978-1-940716-47-3

E-ISBN: 978-1-940716-46-6

“Fleur Philip’s *Beautiful Girl* gorgeously illustrates that beauty definitely isn’t skin deep. Add to that a powerful first love and some meaningful self-discovery, and this book will find its way from the beach with you to a soft spot in your heart.”

— Jessica Hickam, author of *The Revealed*

BEAUTIFUL GIRL

A NOVEL

FLEUR PHILIPS

DESCRIPTION:

Seventeen-year-old Melanie Kennicut is beautiful. Her entire life revolves around this beauty, because her overly controlling mother has been dragging her to casting calls and auditions since she was four years old. According to Joanne Kennicut, Melanie was born to follow in her footsteps. But Melanie never wanted this life.

When a freak car accident leaves her with facial lacerations that will require plastic surgery, she can’t help but wonder if this is the answer to her prayers. For the first time in her life, she has a chance to live like a normal teenager—at least for a little while—away from the photo shoots and movie sets that have dominated her entire existence. But after Melanie allows her best friend to come to the house to see her, Joanne decides to hide her daughter in Montana for the remainder of the summer. There, Melanie won’t be seen by anyone they know, and her face will heal in time for the scheduled surgery in late August.

Joanne’s plan backfires, however, when Melanie meets Sam, a Native American boy hired by the home’s owner to tend to the property. Sam is nothing like the Hollywood boys Melanie knows—he’s poor, his father’s a drunk who possesses a bizarre gift inherited from a Kootenai Shaman, and his only brother disappeared into the mountains after the death of their mother eight years ago. What transpires over a mere thirty-six hours after Sam and Melanie meet changes both of their lives in ways they never thought possible.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Fleur Philips is an author who holds an MFA in creative writing from Antioch University and a Bachelor’s of Arts in English from the University of Montana. Her first novel, *I Am Lucky Bird*, was selected as a General Fiction Finalist for the 2011 Book of the Year Award from *Foreword Reviews*. Her novel *Crumble* was named Young Adult Winner from the 2013 San Francisco Book Festival and was selected as a Young Adult Fiction Finalist by the 2013 International Book Awards. Philips lives in Whitefish, Montana, and when she’s not writing, she’s cheering for her son in his athletic endeavors.

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CONTACT

Crystal Patriarche, SparkPress
Crystal@sparkpointstudio.com
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