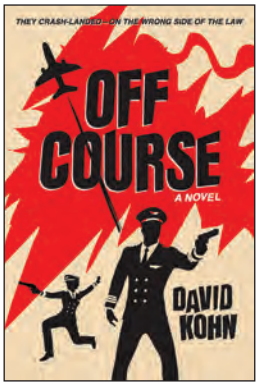
Akashic Books

Frankfurt Book Fair 2026—Rights List



FICTION

***Off Course,* debut international thriller by David Kohn**

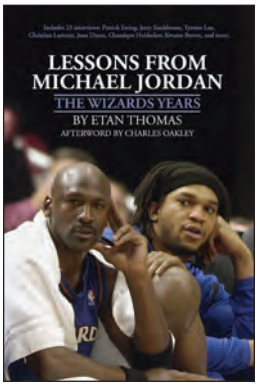
***Veritas,* science fiction by Kaylie Jones**

***Bingo the Elf: Assassin,* crime fiction by Penn Jillette**

***All Hands on Deck,* a novel by Lucy Jane Bledsoe**

***Foreign Body,* a novel by Robert Antoni**

***Quiet City,* an illustrated novel by Joe Meno and Cody Hudson**



NONFICTION/SPORTS

***Lessons from Michael Jordan* by Etan Thomas; with a foreword by NBA All-Star Charles Oakley**

***The Vision Through My Lens: My Life in Basketball and Beyond* a memoir by 3-time WNBA champion Natasha Howard**

NONFICTION/MUSIC

***Useless Europeans: Refused as Rock Band 2012–2025* by Dennis Lyxzén and David Sandström; photographs by Robin Laananen**

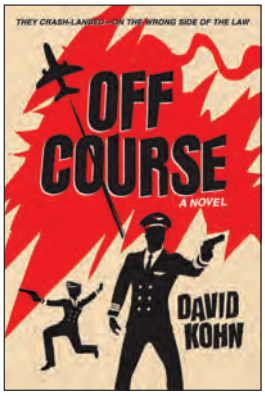
***Making Music: Conversations with Record Producers* by Larry Crane with John Baccigaluppi (*Tape Op* magazine)**

AKASHIC BOOKS

Off Course

AN INTERNATIONAL THRILLER BY DAVID KOHN

Ozark meets Ted Lasso—an upmarket thriller about an ex-fighter pilot who finds himself trapped in the middle of the international drug trade



BOOK DETAILS: 1 June 2027; 256 pages; crime fiction/thriller

COMP TITLES: *The Flight Attendant* by Chris Bohjalian; *Gone Before Goodbye* by Reese Witherspoon and Harlan Coben

FOR FANS OF . . . Ruth Ware, Lisa Jewell, Tana French, Raymond Chandler, and Elmore Leonard

EX-FIGHTER PILOT FRANK ROBINSON thinks he's in the clear. After a well-paid side gig flying cocaine from Venezuela to West Africa, he is finally out of debt. He goes back to his quiet, predictable life: airline pilot and divorced dad in suburban Baltimore.

But then his old boss, ruthless Detroit gangster Fisnik Marku, decides that Frank is a snitch, and kidnaps him. Using all his guile and charm, Frank persuades Fisnik not to kill him; instead he goes back to work as a "volunteer" narco-pilot. What follows is high-octane chaos: rival cartels try to shoot him down; the DEA pressures him to be an actual informant; he gets bitten by a killer snake and busted in Guinea-Bissau. Then there's his complicated personal life: his child is transitioning and he's trying to win back his ex-wife, Jeanine, who left after he had an ill-advised fling.

His only friend is his copilot, Vanessa Rodriguez, a fellow conscript who just wants to get back to her girlfriend in Miami. To win their freedom, Frank and Vanessa offer themselves as pilots in a transatlantic heist to steal a fortune in cocaine and jewels from Fisnik's nemesis. The heist goes smoothly . . . until it doesn't, and they find themselves being chased by furious gangster in an armed jet.

Off Course is *Ozark* meets *Ted Lasso*—a darkly comic fish-out-of-water tale packed with sharp dialogue, unforgettable characters, and gripping life-or-death adventure.

DAVID KOHN is a writer and editor who has worked for a range of media outlets, including CBS News and the *Baltimore Sun*; his work has also appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *Atlantic*, the *New York Times*, the *Guardian*, and on NPR. A former Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, he has written about a variety of topics, including how hibernation could help humans get to Mars, how elephants keep cancer at bay despite their size, and the hidden earthquake threat in the Midwest. He lives in Baltimore with his wife, two children, a very athletic dog, and a few dozen tiny snails.

Akashic controls world rights; PDF available upon request

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Veritas

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY BY KAYLIE JONES

Hope Boissevain must escape the clutches of the tyrannical New Moral Majority government to fulfill her family's ancient, sacred mission of protecting the future from those who seek to control it

BOOK DETAILS: 1 June 2027; 336 pages; science fiction

COMP TITLES: *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel, *A Discovery of Witches* by Deborah Harkness

PREVIOUS LICENSING: *A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries* to Japan (Kadokawa), Germany (Th. Knaur Nachfolger), Italy (Garzanti Libri), Spain (Mondadori), France (Belfond), and Poland (Muza); *Speak Now* to France (Belfond), Turkey (Istiklal Kultur ve Turizm)

"Although we've got used to second-generation actors equaling or surpassing the accomplishments of their parents, the same hasn't happened with second-generation novelists. Nonetheless there are a few . . . and added to their small number ought to be Kaylie Jones." —***New York Times***

HOPE BOISSEVAIN AND HER MOTHER have spent their lives on the run. In a near-future America ruled by despotism and fear, her mother claims to see the future in visions and insists their family has a special destiny. Hiding in a remote cabin in Northern California, Hope finds stability through Master Canegata's martial arts training and meets Eerik, an idealistic tech warrior. Together they have a daughter, Remy.

But when Remy begins having visions like her grandmother, Hope must confront an impossible truth: her mother's gift is real—the lost Veritas exists. The Boissevains are the descendants of an ancient line of seers dating back to the early 1300s, but with this powerful gift comes a weighty responsibility that Hope doesn't yet understand.

Pursued by a faction of the New Moral Majority government, which will stop at nothing to amass more power, Hope and Remy race across worlds as they uncover their family's secret history that reaches back to the Crusades. A storm is coming, and survival means embracing an ancient mission: to protect the future from those who seek to control it.

***Veritas* will appeal to fans of Emily St. John Mandel and Deborah Harkness and was inspired by the novels of Arturo Pérez-Reverte and Fred Vargas.**

KAYLIE JONES is an American writer born and raised in Paris. She the author of six novels, including *A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries*, released as a Merchant Ivory film; *Celeste Ascending;* and *The Anger Meridian*. She is also the author of the acclaimed memoir *Lies My Mother Never Told Me*. Jones cochairs the James Jones First Novel Fellowship and is a full professor in the SUNY Stony Brook Department of Creative Writing, Film, and Television. In 2011, Jones was honored to receive the National Coalition Against Censorship Award, for restoring the unexpurgated version of her father James Jones's 1951 novel *From Here to Eternity.*

Akashic controls world rights; PDF available upon request

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Quiet City

AN ILLUSTRATED NOVEL BY **JOE MENO**
Illustrations by **Cody Hudson**

A hauntingly illustrated novel that follows a film student through her artistic and existential fears in an age of profound uncertainty

BOOK DETAILS: 11 May 2027; 160 pages w/full-color illustrations; literary fiction

PREVIOUS LICENSING for JOE MENO's FICTION: *Hairstyles of the Damned* to Germany (Heyne), France (Agullo & Poche), Mexico/Spanish language (Arlequín), Russia (Limbus), Spanish audio (StoryTel), Italy (E/O), Turkey (Ayrinti); *The Boy Detective Fails* to Italy (Pidgin), Korea (Nulbom), Russia (AST); *Demons in the Spring* to Korea (Nulbom), Russia (Gayatri/Livebook); *How the Hula Girl Sings* to France (Agullo), Russia (AST); Marvel and a Wonder to France (Agullo); *Office Girl* Spanish print (Paprika)/Spanish audio (StoryTel), UK (Telegram)

***QUIET CITY* IS A POETIC, VISUALLY STUNNING NOVEL** that follows a determined film student confronting questions of identity, disillusionment with cinema, and what feels like the end of the world.

The unnamed protagonist—a sophomore in film school in New York City—struggles with a lack of confidence while navigating the challenges of living in the city. Back home, her father faces early onset dementia, while her relationship with her sister is complicated at best. After the sudden loss of a close friend, she begins an internship with a former film producer named Mr. Mesmer, who is contending with the loss of his sight and hearing. Her job: to describe cinema's most beloved films to him before it's too late. Soon the film student finds herself reimagining some of cinema's greatest movies, all the while experiencing moments of unexpected discovery.

Novelist Joe Meno and groundbreaking visual artist Cody Hudson brilliantly capture the difficulty of finding your way through an endless modern labyrinth of uncertainty, loss, and fear in this one-of-a-kind narrative experience. *Quiet City* is a visually stunning, emotionally resonant novel that asks: Where do we find meaning in a world of seemingly endless noise, and how might imagination contain the answer to all our most difficult questions?

JOE MENO is a fiction writer and journalist who lives in Chicago. He is the winner of the Nelson Algren Award, a Pushcart Prize, the Great Lakes Book Award, and was a finalist for the Story Prize. He is the best-selling author of nine novels and two short story collections, including *Marvel and a Wonder, Hairstyles of the Damned,* and *The Boy Detective Fails*. His nonfiction book on US asylum, *Between Everything and Nothing*, was a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and one of *Kirkus Reviews*'s Best Books of the Year. Meno is a professor in the School of Communication and Culture at Columbia College Chicago.

CODY HUDSON is a Chicago-based artist and designer. His work has been shown widely across the United States and abroad, including solo exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Elmhurst Art Museum, Andrew Rafacz gallery, and Mini Galerie; he has also been featured in group exhibitions at the Design Museum of Chicago, Hyde Park Art Center, and HELLERAU—European Centre for the Arts.

Akashic controls world rights; PDF available upon request.

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Bingo the Elf: Assassin

CRIME FICTION BY **PENN JILLETTE**

A diminutive magician named Bingo the Elf is contracted by a wealthy female tech billionaire to unleash violence in order to save magic's reputation

BOOK DETAILS: 4 May 2027; 240 pages; crime fiction

COMP TITLES: *Bad Monkey* by Carl Hiaasen; *Tricky Business* by Dave Barry

HIGHLIGHTS: Jillette is best-known as the talking half of award-winning magic duo Penn & Teller; his nonfiction book *Presto!* was a *New York Times* bestseller

AFTER ASSASSINATING A BAD GUY IN BEIRUT at the turn of this century, the sniper completely vanishes. He becomes Bingo the Elf, eventually headlining his own show in Vegas. A full-time elf, the diminutive Bingo is never without the clothes, shoes, hat, even the ears of his new identity. An odd little elf doing an even odder magic act, he manages to sell enough tickets to his shows to keep the lights on.

Magenta, once a homeless street magician, has become a tech billionaire. She still loves magic, is the owner of a Magic Castle–type joint, and cares deeply about magic's image in the world. Alister is a magician and a pedophile, and Magenta knows it's only a matter of time before he makes magic look very, very bad. With all the tech at her fingertips, and enough money to get what she wants, she discovers just who Bingo once was.

Magenta approaches Bingo for one more hit, this time for magic's good name (and a chance to make his glued-on elf ears permanent). It's not easy, but with sex, money, and threats, Magenta contracts Bingo to whack Alister. As cover for the deed, Bingo goes on the road for the Bingo Bongo Bango Tour, along with Penn Jillette of Penn & Teller. While playing comedy clubs in Florida, things go very wrong, and many more people than Alister lose their lives.

The cast of characters are all real Vegas magicians and real friends of Penn, but some of the murders might be made up.

PENN JILLETTE is a cultural phenomenon as a solo personality and as half of the world-famous Emmy Award–winning magic duo Penn & Teller, whose live show spent years on Broadway and is now the longest-running headlining show in Las Vegas. The pair have their own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Jillette cohosted the Showtime series *Penn & Teller: Bullshit!* which was nominated for thirteen Emmy Awards and won him a Writers Guild Award. He currently cohosts the CW Network competition series *Penn & Teller: Fool Us!* His weekly podcast, *Penn's Sunday School,* was the number one downloaded podcast on iTunes during its debut week and was named by iTunes as Best New Comedy Podcast. He is the author of numerous books, including, most recently, the novels *Felony Juggler* and *Random*, and the nonfiction *New York Times* best-selling books *Presto!: How I Made Over 100 Pounds Disappear and Other Magical Tales* and *God No!: Signs You May Already Be an Atheist and Other Magical Tales;* the novel *Sock*; and the essay collection *Every Day Is an Atheist Holiday!*

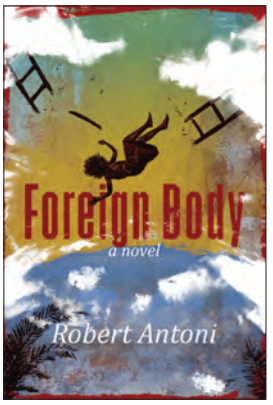
Akashic controls world rights; PDF available upon request.

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Foreign Body

A NOVEL BY ROBERT ANTONI

Bee, a resilient young woman with an infectious narrative voice, travels from her Caribbean home to Brooklyn, in search of safety, employment, and a truly rewarding partnership



BOOK DETAILS: 14 Feb. 2027; 336 pages; literary fiction

COMP TITLES: *A Brief History of Seven Killings* by Marlon James

PREVIOUS LICENSING: *As Flies to Whatless Boys* to UK (Peepal Tree), France (Éditions Long Cours); *My Grandmother's Erotic Folktales* to Finland (Like), UK (Faber), Spain (Editorial Anagrama), France (du Rocher); *Carnival* to Finland (Like), UK (Faber), Spain (Editorial Anagrama), France (Éditions Denoël)

"Trinidad, indeed the whole of the Caribbean, has its James Joyce." —George Plimpton

IN *FOREIGN BODY,* BEE TELLS HER STORY IN THE LILTING VERNACULAR voice of a young Black West Indian woman—wise, humorous, resourceful, and resilient. She is the victim of multiple assaults in her brutally patriarchal village, with the sole support of a stalwart grandmother. In spite of this, Bee becomes a record-winning sprinter, expert seamstress, trusted housekeeper, a successful "cutterman" in the sugarcane fields, and a voracious reader.

Along the way, Bee falls in love with Cherry, a beguiling character equal parts tender and violent, with whom she has two children. But, eventually, Cherry's tender qualities are subsumed by heavy drinking and infidelities. Sinking into a deep depression, Bee leaves their son and daughter with her grandmother and escapes to Brooklyn, New York to take a job as the caretaker of an Orthodox Jewish family.

In Brooklyn, she forms a special bond with Mistress Kuchinski—particularly after an attempted assault on Bee by Kuchinski's rabbi-husband that ends up resulting in Bee's own imprisonment. After she is released with Mistress Kuchinski's help, Bee starts a lucrative sewing business and sends for her two children. Despite herself, Bee falls deeply in love with Pastor Amy, the Jamaican-American minister of an Anglican church—and an outspoken lesbian. Pastor Amy moves into the brownstone with Bee and her children, and together they start a new life together that will hopefully bring Bee the peace and stability she's so longed for.

ROBERT ANTONI is equal parts Trinbagonian, Bahamian, and US citizen. His fictional world is the British West Indies—the region's history, geography, mythology, folklore, and above all its vernacular languages. His books have garnered a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, an NEA grant, the Bocas Prize for Best Book from the Caribbean, the Aga Kahn Prize from the *Paris Review,* and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Trinidad & Tobago National Library. Antoni's work has been translated into five languages. He holds an MA from the Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins University, and an MFA and PhD from the Writers Workshop at the University of Iowa. Antoni has taught in writing programs across the United States, and he presently teaches in the Pan-European MFA for Creative Writing, with alternating residencies in Barcelona, Vienna, and Dublin.

Akashic controls world rights, excluding UK + Commonwealth; PDF available upon request.

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

The Angel at the Gates

A NOVEL BY **KAREN LORD**

Award-winning author Lord's chilling, Gothic novel set in the not-too-distant future explores an alternate United Kingdom splintered and consumed by war

BOOK DETAILS: 6 Oct. 2026, 160 pages, literary/speculative fiction

COMP TITLES: *Orbital* by Samantha Harvey; *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

LICENSING: UK + Commonwealth to Jacaranda

HIGHLIGHTS: Lord has been praised by the *Financial Times* (UK) as "**the natural heiress to Octavia E. Butler and Ursula Le Guin**."

HOPING TO MAKE SENSE OF HIS GRANDFATHER'S UNSPOKEN TRAUMA, Malachi travels across the country to return a family heirloom to the land of its origin. He finds himself in a seaside town surrounded by rumors of war. He visits the town's priory, a place of welcome that quickly draws him in—and also a place of duty that refuses to let him go.

The priory, its people, and its resident Angel have their own purpose in a far larger history of trauma and conflict. Malachi learns of ancient and modern atrocities and his grandfather's helplessness in the face of both. Past echoes become present concerns as a new battle approaches. Malachi repeatedly tries and fails to leave the escalating danger.

This is not his land, nor is it his war. He did not inherit his grandfather's vocation, nor take his grandfather's vows. None of this is his fault, nor even his responsibility. And yet the Angel will not let him go until Their last judgment is complete.

DR. KAREN LORD is the author of *Redemption in Indigo* (winner of the 2008 Frank Collymore Literary Award). Her other works include *The Best of All Possible Worlds* (winner of the 2009 Frank Collymore Literary Award), and *The Blue, Beautiful World* (**long-listed for the 2024 Women's Prize for Fiction**). She also edited *New Worlds, Old Ways: Speculative Tales from the Caribbean,* and coedited *We Will Rise Again: Speculative Stories and Essays on Protest, Resistance, and Hope* with Annalee Newitz and Malka Older. Lord was born and still lives in the island-nation of Barbados.

PRAISE FOR LORD'S PREVIOUS NOVELS:

"This complex, engaging novel takes an unusual approach to the classic trope of aliens in our midst, with a warmth and intelligence reminiscent of Ursula K. Le Guin." —***Guardian*** on *The Blue, Beautiful World*

"Lord manages to compress her story while balancing the cosmic and the personal—all with a verve that would be the envy of many veteran novelists." —***New York Times Book Review*** on *Redemption in Indigo*

Akashic controls world rights; PDF/hard copies available upon request

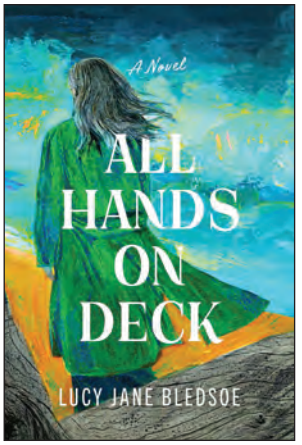
CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Akashic Books | Frankfurt Book Fair 2026 | Akashic Noir Series

All Hands on Deck

A NOVEL BY **Lucy Jane Bledsoe**

A queer, literary rom-com about sex, death, and climate justice



BOOK DETAILS: 2 February 2027; 296 pages; literary fiction

HIGHLIGHTS: Bledsoe is an award-winning author, whose fellowships with the National Science Foundation brought her to Antarctica twice, where she spent months studying penguins, cosmology, climate change, and krill.

COMP TITLES: *The Overstory by Richard Powers; Whistler* by Ann Patchett

"*All Hands on Deck* is a brilliant meditation on the ways we cope with loss and the patience required to find ourselves again. Set against a backdrop of environmental threats, Bledsoe offers a layered and emotionally insightful portrait of what it means to be a survivor when so much has been lost. Intimate, absorbing, and masterfully written, this is a story that explores 'the gulf between happiness and survival,' and the quiet courage it takes to cross it."
—**Andrew Porter,** author of *The Imagined Life*

ANTARCTICA, A LOCALE OF EXISTENTIAL RECKONING, was the crucible for Sarah's two most defining moments: there, she conducted groundbreaking krill research with her wife, Kendra—work that could help save the planet; and she also shared a passionate, fleeting love affair with a married scientist she would never see again.

Now in her early sixties, Sarah's days on the ice are done, but her world has not stopped spinning. Still recovering from Kendra's sudden death three years earlier, Sarah finds fragile peace in her coastal fort and a surprising kinship with Blue, a homeless beachcomber. But it's her burgeoning alliance with Ramona, an impulsive young climate activist hired to care for Sarah's garden, that pulls her into an entirely new kind of danger.

When a desperate Ramona shows up at her doorstep, Sarah makes a high-risk decision: a wild, cathartic run for the Canadian border. As she navigates the legal and emotional perils of aiding a fugitive, Sarah must confront grief, climate anxiety, and her own complicated past. Misadventure becomes its own salvation, giving Sarah a chance to carve out a future that is truly her own—and perhaps, to rediscover a love she thought was lost forever in the frozen silence of Antarctica.

LUCY JANE BLEDSOE's eighth novel, *Tell the Rest*, received starred reviews in both *Library Journal* and *Kirkus Reviews*, and the *New York Times* has said her work "triumphs as an intimate and humane evocation of day-to-day life under inhumane circumstances." Her fiction has won many awards, including a California Arts Council Fellowship in Literature, an American Library Association Stonewall Award, the *Arts & Letters* Fiction Prize, and a Yaddo Fellowship. Two separate National Science Foundation Artists & Writers Fellowships have taken Bledsoe to Antarctica, where she spent months in the field with scientists studying penguins, cosmology, climate change, and krill. As a social justice activist, she focuses on voting rights. *All Hands on Deck* is her most recent novel.

Akashic controls world rights; PDF available upon request

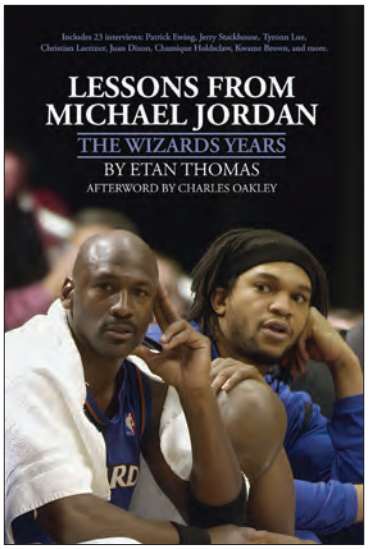
CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Lessons from Michael Jordan

The Wizards Years

BY **ETAN THOMAS**

A truly groundbreaking exploration of the lessons learned from the basketball GOAT, Michael Jordan, from those who competed with and against him



BOOK DETAILS: 5 Jan. 2027; 252 pages; nonfiction/sports

HIGHLIGHTS: Michael Jordan is widely considered the GOAT—Greatest of All Time—of men's basketball, having won SIX NBA championships, and numerous other accolades. Jordan is supporting the book, including approving the cover photo of Jordan with author/fellow NBA star Etan Thomas

COMP TITLES: *Michael Jordan: The Life* by Roland Lazenby; *The Mamba Mentality* by Kobe Bryant; *The Jordan Rules* by Sam Smith

"This book presents many insights into the *real* Michael Jordan. Many readers will be surprised by what his teammates have to say about him, because it provides such a stark contrast with what they've previously heard. This is an in-depth look at the *totality* of MJ, and there's a lot more than meets the eye."
—Charles Oakley, from the foreword

REFLECTIONS ON MICHAEL JORDAN—the true GOAT of men's basketball—often center around his six championships with the Chicago Bulls. There has been remarkably little in-depth coverage of his two years with the Washington Wizards at the tail end of his NBA career. *Lessons from Michael Jordan* is a fascinating exploration of this surprisingly fertile, influential, and largely ignored period in MJ's life.

This volume is a conversation—a collection of personal reflections, raw insights, and lived moments shared by the people who actually played alongside Michael Jordan, learned from him, competed against him, and saw him up close during this time in his career. *Lessons from Michael Jordan* includes twenty-three interviews (an homage to the #23 on MJ's jersey) conducted by Etan Thomas, with Patrick Ewing, Juan Dixon, Jerry Stackhouse, Phil Chenier, Kwame Brown, Jahidi White, Chamique Holdsclaw, Popeye Jones, Christian Laettner, Tyronn Lue, Wes Unseld Jr., and more.

Whether a reader is drawn to a specific voice or a theme (leadership, legacy, work ethic, media pressure, etc.), they will find a great deal to hold on to. This is a book you keep close, not just read once and shelve; it is designed so readers can pick it up, drop into any section, and walk away with something powerful.

Lessons from Michael Jordan reads like a locker room conversation turned life lesson. The tone stays raw but reflective. Each contributor brings their truth, and Etan Thomas steps in as a guide. It's for the student who needs a shot of belief, the athlete grinding in silence, the young person wondering if they're seen or understood—or anyone interested in learning life and basketball lessons from the greatest player to ever grace the hardwood.

ETAN THOMAS, a former eleven-year NBA player (and Michael Jordan's teammate), was born in Harlem and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He has published multiple books including: *We Matter: Athletes and Activism, More Than an Athlete, Fatherhood: Rising to the Ultimate Challenge,* and *Police Brutality and White Supremacy: The Fight Against American Traditions*. Thomas received the 2010 National Basketball Players Association Community Contribution Award as well as the 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Foundation Legacy Award—both honoring his advocacy for social justice. He is a senior writer for BasketballNews.com and a regular contributor to the *Guardian*. He can frequently be seen on MSNBC as a special correspondent and cohosts a weekly radio show/podcast with Dave Zirin called, *The Collision: Where Sports and Politics Collide.*

Akashic controls world rights; PDF available upon request

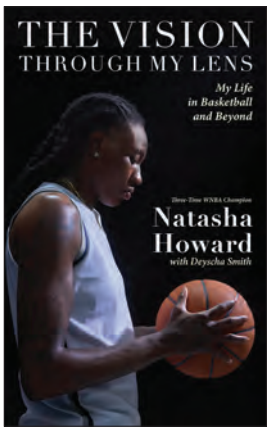
CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

The Vision Through My Lens

My Life in Basketball and Beyond

A MEMOIR BY **NATASHA HOWARD**

Amid the current firestorm of interest in women's basketball, Natasha Howard reveals the tremendous obstacles she overcame to become a three-time WNBA champion who continues to excel on the hardwood



BOOK DETAILS: 15 Sept. 2026; 224 pages; sports memoir

COMP TITLES: *One Life* by Megan Rapinoe; *All In* by Billie Jean King

HIGHLIGHTS: Howard is a 3-time WNBA champion; the 2025 Commissioner's Cup MVP; and the 2019 Defensive Player of the Year. **She has also played internationally in China, Turkey**, etc. She was the Women's Chinese Basketball Association's International Player of the Year for the 2025–26 season. While playing in Turkey, she won the Turkish KBSL championship title and the cup, both in 2024, and she was voted to Eurobasket.com Turkish KBSL All-Imports Team in 2024.

THE PAST THREE YEARS HAVE SEEN A WORLDWIDE EXPLOSION of interest in women's basketball and the rise of young supersta2rs like Caitlin Clark, Angel Reese, and Paige Bueckers. As the audience grows exponentially, the public is hungry to know more about some of the women who have ushered the sport into this bright spotlight, including elite and still-active veterans like Breanna Stewart, A'ja Wilson, Natasha Howard, Napheesa Collier, and others.

Before Natasha Howard was a three-time WNBA champion, before she was named Defensive Player of the Year, she was a thoughtful girl growing up in very difficult circumstances. Her mother faced challenges of her own while shepherding her four children between cities, and sometimes in and out of homeless shelters.

Young Natasha's life changed when her uncle Greg introduced her to basketball—with a bribe that included candy. Tash was instantly hooked. But what does a basketball player do when her school doesn't have a girls' team? She joins together with a friend to demand that they be allowed to try out for the boys' team. Which is what Tash did—and then became a starter.

In 2025 Natasha Howard was named MVP of the 2025 WNBA Commissioner's Cup. She currently plays with the Minnesota Lynx and shows no signs of slowing down at the age of thirty-four. *The Vision Through My Lens* is her powerful story of building a life for herself through basketball. As a gay, Black woman, she used all her strength to forge forth, to triumph over an astonishing array of obstacles. Coauthored by Deyscha Smith, this memoir tells an unusually empowering tale of a strong girl becoming a stronger woman.

NATASHA HOWARD is an international basketball star and a thirteen-year veteran of the WNBA. She has won three WNBA championships—two in Seattle and one in Minnesota—has been selected as an All-Star twice, won Defensive Player of the Year in 2019, and was named the MVP for the 2025 WNBA Commissioner's Cup. She has also won multiple championships in overseas leagues, including in Turkey and China. In April 2026 she signed a new contract with the Minnesota Lynx. She was born in Toledo, Ohio, and currently lives in Minneapolis.

Akashic controls world rights; PDF/hard copies available upon request.

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Useless Europeans

Refused as Rock Band 2012–2025

BY **DENNIS LYXZÉN & DAVID SANDSTRÖM**

PHOTOS BY **ROBIN LAANANEN**

Beautiful photography and passionate writing tell the story of legendary Swedish punk band Refused's reunion years of 2012–25

BOOK DETAILS: 6 July 2027; 224 pages (approximately 50K words) w/full-color and b&w photos throughout; music

COMP TITLES: *Do What You Want: The Story of Bad Religion; My Damage: The Story of a Punk Rock Survivor* by Keith Morris

THE POPULAR SWEDISH HARDCORE PUNK BAND REFUSED broke up in spectacular fashion in the middle of a US tour in 1998. They had started out as a fairly straightforward hardcore band in northern Sweden in the early 1990s, but morphed creatively throughout their seven-year run. Their swan song 1998 hit album *The Shape of Punk to Come* was a bold artistic and political statement that resonated with music lovers across the globe.

A Refused comeback seemed highly unlikely, but that's exactly what happened, out of the blue, in 2012. For the next thirteen years, they attempted to become a functioning band once again. They never quite got there, so in 2025 they took their bow in sold-out theaters all over the Western world.

This is the story of those sometimes glorious reunion years, told through the magnetic photography of Robin Laananen and text by original band members Dennis Lyxzén and David Sandström.

"Most of the triumphs and failures in your life, small or epic, are private," says Sandström, when asked about the making of this book. "Very few people, if any, know about them. But when you triumph and/or fail in an artistic context, it's there for everyone to see, and how you deal with the fallout determines your trajectory as an artist and person . . . I played in a band called Refused and we mattered to some people, but to me and my friends, for a time, it was almost everything. This book was an opportunity to look cleanly and without pretense at the small triumphs and epic failures of that band between 2012 and 2025, the years of our reunion."

DENNIS LYXZÉN is a Swedish singer, songwriter, and political activist who is best known for his work with the bands Refused and the (International) Noise Conspiracy. He has also fronted and played in numerous other acts, including INVSN, Fake Names, AC4, Backengrillen, and Final Exit. Lyxzén is a record-collector nerd who has run a couple of different labels and venues in his hometown of Umeå, Sweden.

DAVID SANDSTRÖM, born and raised in Sweden, is the drummer of Refused, an author, and father of two. He has made records in the following genres: hardcore punk, experimental, folk, rock, and jazz. He's in therapy, he punched a cop once (unrelated), and his favorite author is Joseph Roth.

ROBIN LAANANEN is a photographer based in Los Angeles who has shot for various publications including *MOJO, Rolling Stone*, and *Rock Sound*, and for record labels such as Rough Trade, Epitaph, and Sub Pop. She published a book of photography titled *US/THEN*, documenting her time touring the world with the LA–based band Warpaint. The book drew international acclaim and some of the photos were displayed at the Somerset House in London.

Akashic controls world rights; PDFs available upon request.

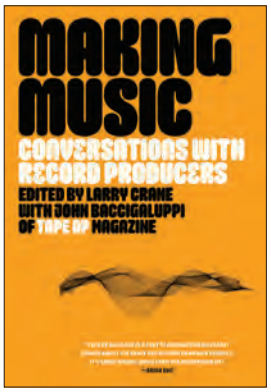
CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Making Music

Conversations with Record Producers

EDITED BY **LARRY CRANE** WITH **JOHN BACCIGALUPPI**

Groundbreaking conversations with the music producers behind the most successful recording artists on the planet



BOOK DETAILS: 1 September 2026; 336 pages; music history & criticism

HIGHLIGHTS: For fans of *Our Band Could Be Your Life* by Michael Azerrad; and Dave Grohl's (of Nirvana) *Sonic Highways* TV series and *Sound City* documentary film.

"*Tape Op* magazine is a font of information and great stories about the craft and history of making records. It's about making music from the microphone up."
—Brian Eno (David Bowie, U2, Talking Heads)

"I've pretty much read every issue of *Tape Op* magazine since I've known of its existence many years ago. *Tape Op* is my inside track on the people who make the music that lives on my stereo. These are my heroes and my peers."
—Joe Chiccarelli (White Stripes, Elton John, Beck, U2, the Killers)

"Wide-ranging conversations about musical alchemy . . . Drawn from *Tape Op* magazine, these interviews feature music producers from the 1960s to the present . . . A lively and informative collection about the art, craft, psychology, and technology of hit records." ***—Kirkus Reviews***

"An excellent title for readers interested in the intricacies of making records." ***—Booklist***

THIS BOOK IS A COLLECTION OF INTERVIEWS with people who have made records with some of the biggest names in music. Along the way, they might be engineering the recordings, picking the songs, guiding the singers, picking the best takes of songs, balancing egos, fixing the lyrics, booking the studio time, buying lunch, playing instruments, pushing artists further, writing or cowriting the songs, selecting the musicians to use, overseeing the mixes, and many other tasks. Making records is always a combination of many skills and goals, and the producer needs to have what it takes to make the session productive and the music compelling.

In this book, interviewees include people who have worked with the **Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Public Enemy, Taylor Swift, Doja Cat, Bob Dylan, P!nk, U2, Peter Gabriel, Emmylou Harris, Willie Nelson, Wu-Tang Clan, David Bowie, T.Rex, Johnny Cash, Aretha Franklin, Amy Winehouse, Paul McCartney, Dolly Parton, Duran Duran, the Replacements, Christina Aguilera, Alicia Keys, Kendrick Lamar, and Tom Petty**. And that's just the beginning of the credits the producers interviewed collectively hold.

LARRY CRANE founded *Tape Op* magazine in 1997; and Crane's Jackpot! recording studio has hosted R.E.M., Sonic Youth, Eddie Vedder, Pink Martini, Spoon, Death Cab for Cutie, and Built to Spill. Crane has worked with Elliott Smith, the Go-Betweens, the Decemberists, Sleater-Kinney, Jenny Lewis, Quasi, She & Him, M. Ward, Moon Duo, Team Dresch, Stephen Malkmus, Jolie Holland, Jason Lytle, and the Walkabouts.

JOHN BACCIGALUPPI is a producer, engineer, and studio owner; he came aboard *Tape Op* in 1999 as the publisher, designer, and co-owner. Since then, *Tape Op* has become the largest-circulation recording magazine in the world. Baccigaluppi currently runs Panoramic House Studio and has worked with My Morning Jacket, Devendra Banhart, Kurt Vile, Cate Le Bon, Hurray for the Riff Raff, Feist, Deftones, Thee Oh Sees, Ty Segall, 7 Seconds, and Little Wings. Crane and Baccigaluppi have worked with some of the most important artists of the last thirty years, while also running a magazine that discusses the art of making records.

Akashic controls world rights; PDF/hard copies available upon request

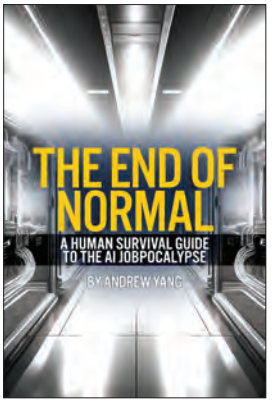
CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

The End of Normal

A Human Survival Guide to the AI Jobpocalypse

BY **ANDREW YANG**

In this essential follow-up to his* New York Times *best-selling* The War on Normal People, *former US presidential candidate, Andrew Yang articulates a clear vision for navigating our AI–engulfed economy



BOOK DETAILS: 6 April 2027; 240 pages; political science

HIGHLIGHTS: Yang's prequel to this book, *The War on Normal People,* Bookscanned over 90,000 copies; was a *New York Times* bestseller; and was licensed into Dutch, Chinese, and Korean.

COMP TITLES: *The Algebra of Happiness* by Scott Galloway; *Burn Book* by Kara Swisher; *Rise of the Robots* by Martin Ford; *The Industries of the Future* by Alec Ross

THE END OF NORMAL: A HUMAN SURVIVAL GUIDE TO THE AI JOBPOCALYPSE is a practical guidebook for individuals and the average American family to manage the most dramatic transformation of the economy and labor market in human history. **This is a powerful and cautionary sequel to Yang's 2018 *New York Times* bestseller *The War on Normal People: The Truth about America's Disappearing Jobs and Why Universal Basic Income Is Our Future,*** which sounded the alarm about the automation of work due to advancing technology.

Today, millions of jobs are being replaced by AI, and college graduates are underemployed at record numbers. What happened to manufacturing workers when robots hit the assembly lines thirty years ago is now happening to knowledge workers as offices empty out. How should individuals respond and adapt?

The End of Normal breaks down how the economy will change; what jobs will be here to stay and which will disappear; how education will evolve; how different demographics will be impacted; how our leaders and institutions should respond; and more. This is the authoritative resource and road map for people and families who want to stay ahead of the curve and prosper in a difficult time.

ANDREW YANG is an entrepreneur and former 2020 Democratic presidential candidate whose campaign outlasted over a dozen established political officeholders and attracted support from hundreds of thousands of everyday Americans, dubbed "the Yang Gang." His best-selling books *The War on Normal People* and *Forward: Notes on the Future of Our Democracy* helped introduce the ideas of Universal Basic Income and ranked-choice voting into the mainstream. He is also the author of the essay collection *Hey Yang, Where's My Thousand Bucks?* and coauthor of the novel *The Last Election*. Named by President Obama as a Presidential Ambassador of Global Entrepreneurship, Yang is the cofounder of the Forward Party, the founder of Humanity Forward and Venture for America, and currently serves as the founder and CEO of Noble Mobile, a new wireless carrier designed to save Americans money and get us to look up more. He lives with his family in New York.

Akashic controls world rights; PDF available upon request.

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

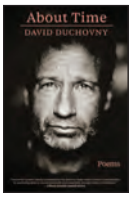
Akashic Books | Frankfurt Book Fair 2026 | Backlist Highlights

A History of the African-American People (Proposed) by Strom Thurmond (as Told to Percival Everett & James Kincaid)

3 February 2026; 320 pages, literary fiction/satire

This reissue of Pulitzer Prize–winning author Percival Everett and Kincaid's classic political satire lampoons conservative hysteria for a new generation

"[A] truly funny send-up of the corrupt politics of academe, the publishing industry, and politics, as well as a subtle but biting critique of racial ideology." —***Publishers Weekly***

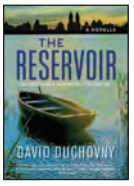


About Time: Poems by David Duchovny

1 September 2026; 96 pages, poetry *Licensed to Denmark

From acclaimed author, actor, and singer-songwriter David Duchovny, a deeply personal, existential, and insightful debut poetry collection

"[T]his poetry collection further establishes him as a talented writer, as capable of mining Milton as he is of reflecting on ephemera and incidentals . . . Duchovny approaches poetry as a uselessness that demands to be used, an unneeded form that he needs, and his poems clearly communicate the desire to make words of what is unspeakable by anchoring them to unconventionally and beautifully wrought poetic conventions." —***Library Journal,* STARRED review**



The Reservoir by David Duchovny

7 June 2022; 122 pages, novella + bonus short story in paperback edition

*Licensed to Lebanon (Arabic), Brazil, France, Hungary, and Romania

"Evocative, chilly prose that wouldn't be out of place in a late Don DeLillo novel. Like his previous novels *Bucky F*cking Dent* and Miss Subways, it's a love letter to Duchovny's native New York. But it's also a smart story about obsession. A slim, compelling tale of a man on the brink."
—***Kirkus Reviews***

John Crow's Devil by Marlon James

10 August 2010, 232 pages, literary fiction

*Licensed to Egypt (Arabic), France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Turkey, and the UK

The debut novel from Booker Prize winning author Marlon James

"A powerful first novel . . . Writing with assurance and control, James uses his small-town drama to suggest the larger anguish of a postcolonial society struggling for its own identity."
—***New York Times,* Editors' Choice**

An Unkindness of Ghosts, science fiction by Rivers Solomon

3 October 2017, 340 pages, science fiction

*Licensed to: Brazil, Finland, France, Hungary, India, and Korea

A breathtaking science fiction debut from a worthy successor to Octavia Butler.

One of ***Esquire*'s 50 Best Sci-Fi Books of All Time**; One of **NPR**'s Best Science Fiction/Fantasy Books of the Past Decade (2021); named a "**Best Book of 2017**" by the ***Guardian, Library Journal, Publishers Weekly,*** the **Chicago Public Library, National Public Radio (NPR)**, and more!

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Akashic Books | Frankfurt Book Fair 2026 | Noir Series

Launched in 2004 with *Brooklyn Noir,* the award-winning Akashic Noir Series features original noir anthologies with each volume comprised of all new stories, each one set in a distinct neighborhood or location within the respective city or locale. The series includes best-selling authors like **Dennis Lehane, Michael Connelly,** and **Joyce Carol Oates,** as well as new, rising stars. With over 100 titles now available, many of our international partners are finding success by publishing volumes local to their publishing house alongside a selection of existing titles.

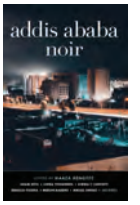
Recent releases include ***Toulouse Noir*** edited by Charles-Henri Lavielle and ***Virgin Islands Noir*** edited by Tiphanie Yanique and Richard Georges.

Forthcoming releases include: *Harare Noir, Key West Noir,* and *Native Noir*

Locations we are hoping to add soon, in collaboration with a publisher based in the cities: Tokyo, Japan; Athens, Greece; Warsaw, Poland; Johannesburg, South Africa; Oslo, Norway; Bangkok, Thailand, and more!

INTERNATIONAL ACQUISITIONS

- o Africa: Cassava Republic: ***Accra, Addis Ababa, Lagos, Nairobi***
- o Argentina (Spanish): Penguin Random House: ***Buenos Aires***
- o Australia: Xoum: ***Sydney***
- o Brazil: Casa da Palavra: ***Rio, USA, London, Paris, São Paulo***
- o Brazil: Tabla: ***Baghdad, Beirut, Delhi, Istanbul, Marrakech, Tehran***
- o Canada (French): Guy St.-Jean: ***Montreal***
- o Croatia: Durieux: ***Barcelona, Dublin, Istanbul, Rome, Stockholm, USA, Zagreb***
- o Czech Republic: Paseka: ***Prague***
- o Denmark: People's Press: ***Brooklyn, Copenhagen***
- o Ethiopia & Eritrea: Tsehai: ***Addis Ababa***
- o Finland: Like: ***Helsinki, London***
- o France: Asphalte Éditions: ***Barcelona, Beirut, Brooklyn, Brussels, Buenos Aires, D.C., Delhi, Haiti, Havana, London, Los Angeles, Marseille, Mexico City, Paris, Paris The Suburbs, Rome***
- o France: Rivages: ***Boston***
- o Germany: CulturBooks: ***Berlin, Hamburg, Paris, USA***
- o Greece: Fantastikos Kosmos: ***Brooklyn, Havana, Istanbul, New Orleans***
- o Hong Kong (English): Blacksmith: ***Hong Kong***
- o India: HarperCollins: ***Delhi, Mumbai***
- o Iraq (Arabic): Alca: ***Baghdad, Beirut, Marrakech, Pittsburgh***
- o Israel: Kinneret: ***West Jerusalem, Tel Aviv***
- o Italy: Alet: ***Brooklyn, D.C., Havana, Los Angeles, London, San Francisco, Wall Street***
- o Italy: Metropoli d'Asia: ***Delhi***
- o Italy: RCS-Fabbri: ***USA Noir***
- o Japan: Futami: ***Manhattan***
- o Korea: Eyes & Heart: ***Brooklyn***
- o Malaysia: Buku Fixi: ***Tel Aviv***
- o Mexico (Spanish): Random House: ***Mexico City, Los Angeles***
- o Mexico (Spanish): Fondo de Cultura Economica: ***Baghdad***
- o Morocco (French): ***Marrakesh***
- o Netherlands: Ambo Anthos: ***Amsterdam Noir***
- o Philippines: Anvil: ***Manila***
- o Poland: Claroscuro: ***Barcelona, Belfast, Brussels, Hong Kong, Jerusalem Noir (East and West), Mexico City, Moscow, Paris The Suburbs, Prague, Singapore, St. Petersburg, Tel Aviv, USA, Venice***
- o Russia: Arabesque: ***London, Los Angeles***
- o Russia: Eksom: ***Moscow***
- o Russia: Atticus-Azbooka: ***St. Petersburg***
- o Serbia: ***Belgrade, USA, Dublin, Istanbul, St. Petersburg***
- o Singapore: Monsoon Press: ***Singapore***
- o Spain: StorySide (AUDIO): ***Mexico City***
- o Spain: Edhasa: ***Barcelona***
- o Spain: Maresia: ***Rio***
- o Sweden: Bokfabriken: ***Stockholm***
- o Turkey: Everest: ***Brooklyn, Istanbul, London, Manhattan***
- o Turkey: Soyka Yayinlar: ***Beirut***
- o UK: Cassava Republic: ***Accra, Addis Ababa, Lagos, Nairobi***



There are over 120 in-print titles; full list available upon request. Akashic controls world rights; PDFs available upon request.

CONTACT: JOHANNA INGALLS | johanna@akashicbooks.com

Akashic Books | Frankfurt Book Fair 2026 | Contacts

BRAZIL
LAURA & JOÃO PAULO RIFF, RIFF AGENCY
AV. CALÓGERAS 6, SALA 1007
20030-070 RIO DE JANEIRO, RJ–BRASIL
TEL: 55-21-22876299, FAX: 55-21-22676393
E-MAILS: LAURA@AGENCIARIFF.COM.BR,
JOAOPAULO@AGENCIARIFF.COM.BR

CHINA & TAIWAN
GRAY TAN, THE GRAYHAWK AGENCY
14F, NO.63, SEC.4, XINYI RD.
TAIPEI, 10684, TAIWAN
TEL: 886-2-27059321, FAX: 886-2-27059610
E-MAIL: GRAYHAWK@GRAYHAWK-AGENCY.COM

CROATIA, ROMANIA, BULGARIA, SLOVAKIA
ANTONIJA RADIĆ, CORTO LITERARY
REPUBLIKE AUSTRIJE 23
10 000 ZAGREB, CROATIA
TEL: 385919012875
E-MAIL: ANTONIJA@CORTOLITERARY.COM

CZECH REPUBLIC (juvenile & YA only)
TEREZA PARIZKOVA, TWINKLE BOOKS AGENCY
PEKARSKA 490/11
779 00 OLOMOUC, CZECH REPUBLIC
TEL: 420-775-184-493
E-MAIL: TEREZA@TWINKLEBOOKSAGENCY.COM

FRANCE
VANESSA KLING, LA NOUVELLE AGENCE
7, RUE CORNEILLE
75006 PARIS, FRANCE
TEL: 33-1-43-25-85-60; FAX: 33-1-43-25-47-98
E-MAIL: VANESSA@LANOUVELLEAGENCE.FR

GERMANY
MARIE ARENDT, MOHRBOOKS LITERARY AGENCY
SEEFELDSTR. 303
CH-8008 ZURICH, SWITZERLAND
TEL: 41-43-244-86-22, FAX: 41-43-244-86-27
E-MAIL: SALES@MOHRBOOKS.COM

GREECE
ELIZABETH SPANTIDAKI, THE BOOK PROJECT AGENCY
13 PLATONOS STR,
GLYFADA 16675, GREECE
TEL: 30-694-2595583
EMAIL: LYLLEE.SPANTIDAKI@GMAIL.COM

HUNGARY
NORBERT UZSEKA, LEX COPYRIGHT OFFICE
SZEMERE U. 21, 1054 BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
TEL: 36-1-332-9340, FAX: 36-1-331-6181
EMAIL: LEXCOPY@LEXCOPYRIGHT.HU

ISRAEL
MARIA SHAPIRO, DEBORAH HARRIS AGENCY
P.O. BOX 52195, 9152101 JERUSALEM, ISRAEL
TEL: 972-2-5633237, FAX: 972-2-5618711
E-MAIL: MARIA@DHLITERARY.COM

ITALY
MAURA SOLINAS, PIERGIORGIO NICOLAZZINI LIT. AGENCY
VIA G.B. MORONI, 22, 20146 MILANO, ITALY
TEL: 39-02-487-13365, FAX: 39-02 487-13365
E-MAIL: MAURA.SOLINAS@PNLA.IT

JAPAN
MIKO YAMANOUCHI, JAPAN UNI AGENCY
TOKYODO JINBOCHO NO. 2 BLDG., 5F,
1-27, KANDA JINBOCHO, CHIYODA-KU
TOKYO 101-0051, JAPAN
TEL: 81-3-3295-0301, FAX: 81-3-3294-5173
E-MAIL: MIKO.YAMANOUCHI@JAPANUNI.CO.JP

KOREA
AMO NOH, AMO AGENCY
#1108, 17 TEHERAN-RO 87-GIL, GANGNAM-GU
SEOUL 06169, REPUBLIC OF KOREA
TEL: +1-631-601-3052
E-MAIL: AMONOH@GMAIL.COM

NETHERLANDS
WAMPE DE VEER, BLACKBIRD LITERARY AGENCY
PIETER DE HOOGHLAAN, 27
3741 RL BAARN, THE NETHERLANDS
TEL: 31-625129599
E-MAIL: B.LIT.AGENCY@GMAIL.COM

POLAND
TOMASZ BEREZINSKI, GRAAL LITERARY AGENCY
PRUSZKOWSKA 29/252
PL 02-119 WARSZAWA, POLAND
TEL: 48-22-8952000, FAX: 48-22-8952001
EMAIL: TOMASZ.BEREZINSKI@GRAAL.COM.PL

SCANDINAVIA & ICELAND
ULF TÖREGÅRD, ULF TÖREGÅRD AGENCY AB
VETTEKULLAVÄGEN 93-19
S-374 30 KARLSHAMN, SWEDEN
TEL: 46-454-84340
EMAIL: ULF@TOREGARDAGENCY.SE

SPAIN (WORLD SPANISH), PORTUGAL, & CATALAN
TERESA VILARRUBLA THE FOREIGN OFFICE
C/ ROSSELLÓ 104, ENTL 2A
08029 BARCELONA, SPAIN
TEL: 34-93-321-4290
EMAIL: TERESA@THEFOREIGNOFFICE.NET

TURKEY
AYŞENUR TURAL, ANATOLIALIT AGENCY
CAFERAGA MAHALLESI, GUNESLI BAHCE SOK.
NO:48 OR.KO APT., B BLOK D:4
34710 KADIKOY- ISTANBUL, TURKEY
TEL: 90-216-700-1088, FAX: 90-216-700-1089
E-MAIL: AYSENUR@ANATOLIALIT.COM

ALL OTHER TERRITORIES
JOHANNA INGALLS, AKASHIC BOOKS
232 THIRD ST., A115
BROOKLYN, NY 11215
TEL: 1 718-643-9193
E-MAIL: JOHANNA@AKASHICBOOKS.COM