

the friedrich



agency



For international rights queries, please contact:
Hannah Brattesani
hbrattesani@friedrichagency.com
For film & tv:
Lucy Carson
lcarson@friedrichagency.com

contents



Film & TV

p.3

Fiction

NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED by Yu-Mei Balasingamchow	p.6	LUMINIOUS by Silvia Park	p.14
NYMPH by Sofia Montrone	p.7	AFTERTASTE by Daria Lavelle	p.15
DIAMONDS by Amy Feltman	p.8	A STORY CAN BE TOLD ABOUT PAIN by Lisa Martin	p.16
SALTE WATER BLOOD by Manuia Heinrich	p.9	SUCH A GOOD MAN by Dustin Hoffman	p.17
THE WEDDING PEOPLE by Alison Espach	p.10	MRS GULLIVER by Valerie Martin	p.18
THE GIRLS WHO GREW BIG by Leila Mottley	p.11	CROW TALK by Eileen Garvin	p.19
MASQUERADE by Mike Fu	p.12	LUCKY by Jane Smiley	p.20
BLUEBIRD DAY by Megan Tady	p.13	MRS PLANSKY'S REVENGE by Spencer Quinn	p.21
		THE VIPER by John Verdon	p.22

Non-Fiction

NIGHT MAGIC by Leigh Ann Henion	p.26	LEG by Greg Marshall	p.29
FOUR MOTHERS by Abigail Leonard	p.27	EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE by Lillian Stone	p.30
SHAKESPEARE WAS A WOMAN by Elizabeth Winkler	p.28	THE QUESTIONS THAT MATTER MOST by Jane Smiley	p.31

World Rights

p.32

film & tv



Alison Espach's instant New York Times Bestseller **THE WEDDING PEOPLE** has made great strides in its development as a feature film. There is now a polished draft of the screenplay, by an Oscar-nominated screenwriter, which Alison recently reviewed in her capacity as Executive Producer.

Terry McMillan's branded Lifetime films premiered in August 2024 to great success on the Lifetime channel. Due to the audience reception, Lifetime is now developing a third film, to be branded under the "Terry McMillan Presents" banner, for a 2025 release.

KINGDOMS OF SAVANNAH, the gritty Southern crime novel by George Dawes Green, which has been in development with a production company, now has a pilot script for its television adaptation, by the acclaimed screenwriter (and award-winning novelist) Sheri Holman.

THE RADIANT DARK, a new novel by Alexandra Oliva (recently pre-empted by Sarah Jessica Parker's publishing imprint) was optioned by a major studio for development as a Television series, moments before its publishing deal. The book follows an American family over the course of several decades as the world around them grapples with proof of intelligent alien life.

Jane Smiley's charming 2020 novel **PERESTROIKA IN PARIS** continues to gain traction as an animated film in development, with a multimedia (stop motion animation and illustration) writer/director team joining the package.

Sue Grafton's bestselling alphabet series centered on the beloved Private Investigator Kinsey Millhone has been in development as a Television series with A&E Networks, and now has a pilot script.



fiction



NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED

Yu-Mei Balasingamchow (2026, *Tiny Reparations/Plume*)

Film/TV agent: Hilary Zaitz Michael at WME

R.F. Kuang's *Yellowface* meets Susie Yang's *White Ivy* in NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED; a stylish, fast-paced story told through confessional-style podcast episodes.

Ophir isn't her real name, but she likes it fine for now, and if she's going to get through this story—the real story of her last 12 years on the run—she's going to do it on her own terms. This is what our narrator promises as she sets out to broadcast (with the help of a mysterious friend, from an undisclosed location) her tumultuous life as a fugitive, forever estranged from her home and family in Singapore, where it all began.

Entrancing her listeners with a tale that transports us from Thailand to Tokyo, and from London to America's Midwest, it is Ophir's loneliness and longing for connection that eventually jeopardizes her hard-won freedom.



Yu-Mei Balasingamchow was born and raised in Singapore, and now lives and teaches writing in Boston, where she was a bookseller at Papercuts Sewanee for many years. She has been supported by the Elizabeth George Foundation, Sewanee, Tin House, and Bread Loaf.

NYPMH

Sofia Montrone

Rights sold: Germany (Rowohlt)

NYMPH pairs *Call Me by Your Name* with the precise, elevated prose of Elena Ferrante. Sofia Montrone's debut revels in the exuberant highs and awkward lows of girlhood, set to the backdrop of rural Lombardy.

Leo spends her mornings tidying the rooms of her Nonna Tina's timeworn Italian agriturismo, carefully accumulating the curious left-behind detritus from guests—a pearl earring, a lock of hair. At night, she gathers the stories that flow from her father's lips—liquor-spun tales of Odysseus and the Trojans in secret battle. When an accident rips the gentle membrane of Leo's childhood, she is left vulnerable to the pains and pleasures of growing up.

Years later, in a sultry summer not unlike the many that came before, the agriturismo is the only thing that remains the same. Nonna Tina has grown older, Leo's brother Max is intractable and mercurial, and the curiosity Leo so loved to feed as a child has turned into something more confusing. When she meets Dolores, an American girl, she can't help but gather all the experiences first love promises, while shedding parts of the past she no longer fits into.



Sofia Montrone is an adjunct assistant professor in Columbia's Undergraduate Writing Program, served as Editor-in-Chief of *The Columbia Review* and the Director of Columbia Artist/Teachers.

DIAMONDS

Amy Feltman

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Bonnier)

Three sisters collide in this quirky, queer, and Jewish take on *Hello Beautiful* that will delight readers of Claire Lombardo.

Mari, who has severed ties with her manipulative mother Perry to start anew in Europe, leaves behind her twin sister Elena and their younger sister Bronwyn, both of whom are caught in their own struggles. Elena, a gifted harpist, is entangled in her mother's unpredictable moods, while Bronwyn's dreams of an acting career in New York are derailed by health issues and a misguided romance.

As Mari grapples with the balance between family ties and her quest for independence, she uncovers startling truths about their estranged father, revealing a shared legacy that binds them more closely than they realized. Spanning from the early 2000s to 2014, *DIAMONDS* crescendos at Perry's extravagant wedding, a final collision for this fractured family.

Praise for Amy Feltman:

“Big-hearted, humane, and governed by a keen emotional intelligence.”

—**Claire Lombardo, author of *The Most Fun we Ever Had***

“Amy Feltman is a master storyteller.”

—**Sanaë Lemoine, author of *The Margot Affair***

“A genius for imbuing the most specific of details with universal emotions.”

— **Julia Fine, author of *Maddalena and the Dark***



Amy Feltman is the National Jewish Book Award longlisted author of *Willa & Hesper* and *All the Things We Don't Talk About*.

SALT WATER BLOOD

Manuia Heinrich

Inspired by the impact of France's nuclear tests on the people of Mā'ohi Nui, **SALT WATER BLOOD** is a YA thriller set on an alternate Polynesian island for fans of Angeline Boulley's *Firekeeper's Daughter* and Disney's *Moana*.

Eighteen-year-old Moe hears the sea's prophetic thoughts. Correction: Moe doesn't just hear them—the sea makes Moe *feel* them. This is how Moe learned years ago that her father would drown and her mother would abandon her and her younger brother, Tao. So, when the sea warns that Tao will follow their father's fate, Moe is determined to secure them a way off the island. All those plans fall a part when Tao's girlfriend is then found dead and Tao is blamed.

As incriminating evidence piles up, Moe will do all she can to protect the only family she has left, even if it means swallowing her pride and teaming up with her archenemy Temanea. Even if it means relying on the sea and its prophecies—because her dreaded gift might be the only way to stop the killer.



Manuia Heinrich holds a PhD in Pacific Studies and is the co-founder of APIpit and Pacific Islanders in Publishing. She is a We Need Diverse Books mentee, and was selected for the Write Mentor and New Zealand Society of Authors program. She currently lives in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

THE WEDDING PEOPLE

Alison Espach (Holt/July 30th 2024)

Rights sold: Brazil (HarperCollins); Finland (Bazar); France (Editions Leduc); Germany (Lübbe); Hungary (Athenaeum); Israel (Tchelet); Italy (Bollati); Lithuania (Baltos); Poland (Wydawnictwo Poznanskie); Portugal (LeYA); Romania (Bookzone); Serbia (Vulkan); Slovakia (Vydavateľstvo Motýľ); Slovenia (HKZ); Spain (V&R); Sweden (Forum); UK/ANZ (Orion), Ukraine (Fabula)



Film/TV agent: Dana Spector at CAA

#2 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

For fans of Monica Heisey's *Really Good, Actually* and Kevin Wilson, *The Wedding People* is a pitch-perfect balance of humor and heartbreak.

It's a beautiful day in Newport, Rhode Island, when Phoebe Stone arrives at the grand Cornwall Inn wearing a green dress and gold heels, not a bag in sight. She's immediately mistaken by everyone in the lobby for one of the wedding people, but she's the only guest at the Cornwall who isn't here for the big event. Meanwhile, the bride has accounted for every detail and every possible disaster the weekend might yield except for, well, Phoebe—which makes it that much more surprising when the women can't stop confiding in each other.

Praise for *The Wedding People*:

“Espach has an eye for the full gamut of emotions that go hand in hand with lifelong commitment, from humor to self-involvement to pathos.”

—Elisabeth Egan, *The New York Times Book Review*



Alison Espach is the author of the novels *The Adults* and *Notes on Your Sudden Disappearance*. Her short stories and essays have appeared in *Vogue*, *Glamour*, and *McSweeney's*, among other places. She is currently a professor of creative writing at Providence College in Rhode Island.

THE GIRLS WHO GREW BIG

Leila Mottley (Knopf/June 2nd 2025)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Fig Tree); France (Albin Michel); Germany (btb); Italy (Bollati Boringhieri)

Film/TV agent: Brooke Ehrlich at CAA

Booker Prize nominated and *New York Times* bestselling author, Leila Mottley returns with a new novel for readers of Jesmyn Ward's *Salvage the Bones* and Brit Bennett's *The Mothers*, about the joys and entanglements of a fierce group of teenage mothers in a small town on the Florida panhandle.

Adela is sixteen years old. When she tells her parents she's pregnant, they send her from their home in Indiana to her grandmother's in Padua Beach, Florida. There, Adela meets Emory, who brings her own baby to high school, strapped to her chest; and Simone, ringleader of "the Girls," young moms who hang out with their growing brood in the back of her red truck—dancing defiantly, breastfeeding, watching each other's backs. The town thinks they've lost their way, but really they are finding it: looking for love, making and breaking friendships, navigating the miracle of motherhood and the paradox of girlhood.

Praise for Leila Mottley:

"A bold new voice in fiction."

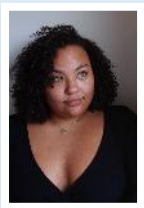
—*Associated Press*

"Mottley writes with a lyrical abandon."

—*New York Times Book Review*

"A young phenom who isn't a product of privilege."

—*Los Angeles Times*,



Leila Mottley is the author of *Nightcrawling*, an Oprah's Book Club pick and a *New York Times* best seller, which was nominated for the Booker Prize, making her the youngest author to have been nominated for the award. At age 16, Leila was named the Youth Poet Laureate of Oakland.

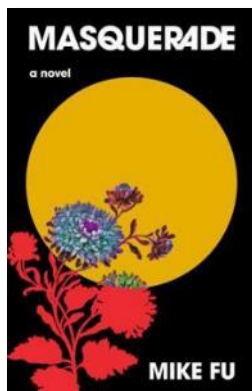
MASQUERADE

Mike Fu (Tin House, October 29th 2024)

Film/TV agent: Jiah Shin at CAA

INDIE NEXT PICK
GOODREADS EDITOR'S PICK

Exploring social, cultural, and sexual identities in New York, Shanghai, and beyond, **MASQUERADE** is a skillfully layered debut novel for readers of Jason Mott's *A Hell Of A Book* and Paul Auster's *The New York Trilogy*.



Newly single Meadow Liu is house-sitting for his friend, artist Selma Shimizu, when he stumbles upon *The Masquerade*, a translated novel about a masked ball in 1930s Shanghai. The author's name is the same as Meadow's own, Liu Tian--a coincidence that proves to be the first of many strange happenings. Over the course of a single summer, Meadow must contend with a possibly haunted apartment, a mirror that plays tricks, a stranger speaking in riddles at the bar where he works, as well as a startling revelation about a former lover. And when Selma vanishes from her artist residency, Meadow is forced to question everything he knows as the boundaries between real and imagined begin to blur.

Praise for *Masquerade*:

“A surreal journey into the strangeness and beauty of youth.”
—*Chicago Review of Books*

“Intoxicating” —*Foreword Magazine*



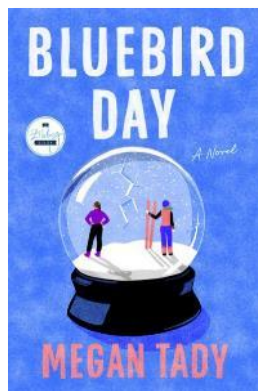
Mike Fu is a Tokyo-based writer, editor, and translator. He is a co-founder and editor of *The Shanghai Literary Review*, and currently teaches fiction and translation at Antioch University's MFA in Creative Writing program.

BLUEBIRD DAY

Megan Tady (Zibby Books/December 3rd 2024)

Film/TV agent: Jill Gillette & Carolina Beltran at WME

In this hilarious, heartwarming tale, mother-daughter skiing champs face the bumps in their own relationship when an avalanche in a Swiss village forces them together.



Alpine skiing champion Claudine Potts and her daughter, Wylie, have been bred for gold medal glory. They're skiing their way to fame, but this gilded future is cut short when a fall forces Claudine's retirement and Wylie's debilitating anxiety sends her off the slopes.

With the collapse of their ski careers, their relationship falters and now it's been years since Wylie and Claudine have even spoken. They live on opposite coasts, pursuing different passions, until a chance opportunity to pair up in a European fitness competition drives them back together. Can this duo survive snow-buried regrets and family secrets and have the happy reunion they're hoping for?

Praise for *Bluebird Day*:

"A sweet tale with likable characters and heart."

– **Booklist**

"Though the snow-globe vibes are delightful, Tady's narrative shines in its nuanced portrayal of mother-daughter dynamics."

– **Shelf Awareness**



Megan Tady is the author of *Super Bloom* (Zibby Books, 2023), a journalist and editor. She founded Word-Lift, a communication consulting and copywriting firm. Originally from Nebraska, she now lives in New England with her husband and two kids.

LUMINOUS

Silvia Park (Simon & Schuster, March 2025)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (One World); Hungary (Europa); Korea (Golden Bough)

Film/TV agent: Jiah Shin at CAA

Set in a unified Korea where robots have integrated seamlessly into society, *Luminous* is a poignant debut novel for readers of Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* and Karen Joy Fowler's *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*.



Adult siblings Jun and Morgan Cho haven't seen or spoken to each other in several years. Both, in their dysfunctional way, are still processing grief over the sudden loss of their brother Yoyo years prior. Yoyo, designed by their famous father, was the earliest prototype for what the humanoid robots have now become—nearly indistinguishable from the real thing.

When a neighbor's missing robot thrusts Morgan back into Jun's life, the investigation sees the three siblings' lonely worlds finally collide again.

Praise for *Luminous*:

“A novel full of pleasures, big and small.”
—Charles Yu, author of *Interior Chinatown*

“Utterly beautiful.”
—Raven Leilani, author of *Luster*



Silvia Park is a Korean/American writer and Professor of Fiction at University of Kansas. A graduate of Columbia, NYU, and the Clarion Workshop, their work has appeared in *Black Warrior Review*, *Tor.com*, and *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy*, among others.

AFTERTASTE

Daria Lavelle (Simon & Schuster, June 2025)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Bloomsbury); Hungary (Alexandra Group); Italy (Mondadori); Brazil (Companhia das Letras); Lithuania (Alma Littera); France (Le Cherche Midi); Germany (Fischer); Hungary (The Alexandra Group); Israel (Keter); Korea (ClayHouse); Serbia (Vulkan)

Film/TV agent: Sylvie Rabineau at WME

An epic love story, dark comedy, and synesthetic adventure through food and grief, *Aftertaste* will delight readers of Alice Hoffman and *Sweetbitter*.

Konstantin “Kostya” Duhhovny’s father passed shortly after they immigrated to Brooklyn from Ukraine, and ghosts have been hovering around Kostya ever since. He can’t see them, but his mouth will often flood with the tastes of meals he’s never consumed, and Kostya understands that this is how they haunt him.

Keeping to himself has served him well for most of his life, but on the night when Kostya decides to let the phantom flavors guide his hand, everything changes. Could this be his true purpose, offering real closure to grieving strangers? He sets out to learn everything he can by taking on the New York culinary scene. As his kitchen skills begin to catch up with his ambitions, Kostya cannot see the catastrophe that looms. The one person who knows Kostya must be stopped... also happens to be falling in love with him.



Daria Lavelle is a debut novelist who earned her MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. She was born in Kyiv before immigrating to the US as a child, and currently lives in New Jersey with her family.

A STORY CAN BE TOLD ABOUT PAIN

Lisa Martin (NeWest Press, May 2025)

With evocative, lyrical prose reminiscent of Emily Ruskovich's *Idaho* and the philosophical rigor of Marilynne Robinson, *A Story Can be Told About Pain* is a profound story about the power of care.

In the lower mainland of British Columbia, Canada, in a no-man's-land of malls and abandoned fields, sits the ruins of a once-thriving psychiatric hospital, The Pacific Hospital for the Mind. Vines have overtaken its cathedral-like rooms; moss has swiftly reclaimed the low stone wall surrounding the grounds—but those in need still pass through its derelict halls, in search of asylum.

Over the course of one summer, six characters' lives intersect on the hospital grounds and in the adjacent housing complex—among them are 90-year-old Madeleine, a former nurse at the hospital; Raymond, a handyman whose father lives in the housing complex; and Dave, a pastor at a mall church in town. But the novel's beating heart is fourteen-year-old Shiloh, new to town and reeling from her father's death. As she becomes involved with an underclass of teenagers who frequent the abandoned buildings, her rebellion on the grounds of the ruined asylum culminates in an act of violence that changes everything.



Lisa Martin is an award-winning poet and essayist. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at MacEwan University.

SUCH A GOOD MAN

Dustin Hoffman (University of Wisconsin Press, March 2025)

An inventive and formally daring story collection which shines a light into the dark corners of American suburbia.

The housepainters, contractors, formerly incarcerated carnival workers, and fathers that populate these pages are doing their best to overcome life's brutal indifference. Characters sometimes face unusual situations: one plays infinite games of Monopoly with God, while the Man in the Yellow Hat must decide how to react when a window washer is hospitalized with serious injuries. Mostly, though, they navigate the challenges of grief, poverty, and arguments with siblings that many of us will find all too familiar.



With brilliance and perception, Hoffman interrogates the intersections of labor and masculinity, peeling back the spackled facades of class, family, and domesticity. *Such a Good Man* depicts darkness, cruelty, and absurdity without flinching—and reveals the eternal human desire for intimacy, especially when it remains just out of reach.

Praise for *Such a Good Man*:

“There is much to admire in these stories of working-class lives—the fine writing, superb pacing, pitch-perfect dialogue—but what I find most impressive is Hoffman’s refusal to condescend to his characters.”

— Ron Rash, author of *The Caretaker*



Dustin M. Hoffman is the author of *One-Hundred-Knuckled Fist*, winner of the Prairie Schooner Book Prize, *No Good for Digging*, and *Secrets of the Wild*. He spent ten years painting houses before earning his MFA and PhD in creative writing.

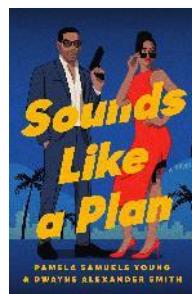
SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN

Dwayne Alexander Smith &
Pamela Samuels Young

(Atria/July 9th 2024)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Faber)

Film/TV agent: Eric Reid at WME



A dual-POV romantic suspense novel from two NAACP award-winning authors.

Jackson Jones and Mackenzie Cunningham have a lot in common. They are both hard-working private investigators with their own firms in Los Angeles. They are both Black, happily single, and very good at their jobs. But when they're together, they are like oil and water.

When they find themselves working the same missing persons case, the idea of collaborating seems about as likely as a blizzard in Beverly Hills. But once it's clear that they have been set up to take the fall for a murder, they have no choice but to work together.

Bickering their way from Century City to Malibu and beyond, it becomes increasingly hard for them to deny the sparks flying between them. But with a small army of killers in hot pursuit, there's no time to sort through their complicated feelings in this witty, fast-paced, and swoon-worthy mystery.



Dwayne Alexander Smith is the author of *Forty Acres*, which was recently in development as a Feature Film at Netflix. Dwayne is currently working with Audible to write an original radio play for Kevin Hart and Charlamagne Tha God's imprint.

Pamela Samuels Young has been widely published in both commercial suspense and erotica. Netflix optioned the first two books in her *Vernette Henderson* series, which follows a Black female attorney from Compton.



MRS. GULLIVER

Valerie Martin

(Doubleday/February 20th 2024)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Serpent's Tail)

Film/TV agent: Rich Green at Gotham

From prize-winning and beloved author Valerie Martin comes an inventive tale of female subversion and agency in a patriarchal world.



It's 1954 on far-flung Verona Island, a tropical paradise with a fragile economy and a rising crime rate. Lila Gulliver is proud of her business, a high-end brothel where her clients are guaranteed privacy and discretion. When Carità Bercy, a young, destitute, and beautiful blind woman arrives at her door seeking employment, Lila decides to give her a chance.

Carità proves a valuable asset, as well as a psychological puzzle to her employer. One hot night, Ian Drohan, the handsome scion of the wealthiest family on the island, visits Lila's house and falls madly in love with Carità. She doubts his sincerity and fears for Carità's future. Carità, however, has no such fears.

Praise for *Mrs Gulliver*:

“Irresistible—a funny, sexy romp that’s also smart, even wise.”

—*Kirkus* (starred review)

“Captivating...In *Mrs. Gulliver*, Valerie Martin offers us an idyll, perhaps even a comedy. All's well that ends well. We hope.”

—*Bookpage* (starred review)



Valerie Martin is the author of 11 novels. She has been awarded grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, as well as the Kafka Prize (for *Mary Reilly*) and Britain's Orange Prize (for *Property*).

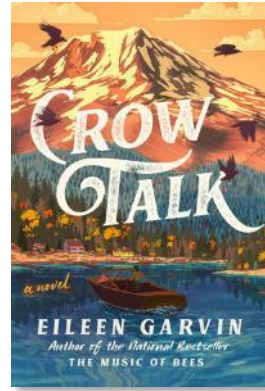
CROW TALK

Eileen Garvin

(Dutton/April 30th 2024)

Film/TV agent: Dana Spector at CAA

Nationally bestselling author Eileen Garvin returns with a moving story of hope, healing, and unexpected friendship set amidst the wild natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest.



On the surface, Frankie O’Neill and Anne Ryan have nothing in common. Frankie is a lonely ornithologist struggling to salvage her dissertation on the spotted owl after a rift with her advisor. Anne is an Irish musician far from home, raising her five-year-old, Aiden, who refuses to speak. Both women are reeling from recent losses and have come to remote June Lake to try and put their lives back together. When Aiden and an injured crow named Charlie bring the two women together, an unlikely friendship begins to bloom.

Praise for *Crow Talk*:

“A song of praise to the dazzling beauty and power of connecting with creatures other than ourselves.”

—Sy Montgomery, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Soul of an Octopus*

“A beautiful, unforgettable book.”

—Shelby Van Pelt, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*



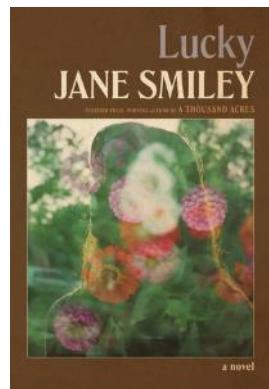
Eileen Garvin is a beekeeper and writer living in Hood River, Oregon. She is the author of *The Music of Bees*, which was a Good Housekeeping book club pick and indie bestseller, and the memoir *How to be a Sister*.

LUCKY

Jane Smiley (Knopf/April 23rd 2024)

Film/TV agent: Ellen Goldsmith-Vein at Gotham Group

From the best-selling, Pulitzer Prize–winning writer, a soaring, soulful novel for readers of *Daisy Jones and The Six* about a folk musician who rises to fame across our changing times.



Before Jodie Rattler became a folk sensation, she was just a little girl who struck lucky at a racetrack. That roll of two-dollar bills she won has never left her side since. Jodie comes of age in recording studios, backstage, and on tour, and tries to hold her own in the wake of Janis Joplin, Joan Baez, Judy Collins, and Joni Mitchell. Yet it feels like something is missing.

Praise for Jane Smiley:

“One of the great American writers .”
—The Society of American Historians

“America’s Tolstoy.”
—*The Guardian*

Praise for *Lucky*:

“Spellbinding . . . Smiley neatly reverses the usual story of a 1970s singer [and then] orchestrates a seismic twist of staggering magnitude . . . Every novel by Smiley is a surprise.”

— *Booklist* (starred)



Jane Smiley is the author of numerous novels, including *A Thousand Acres*, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, she has also received the PEN Center USA Lifetime Achievement Award for Literature. She lives in Northern California.

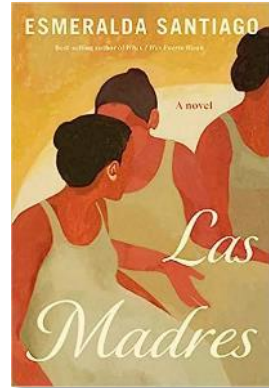
LAS MADRES

Esmeralda Santiago
(Knopf/August 1st 2023)

Rights sold: Spain (Vintage Español)

Film/TV agent: Alexandra Lefkowitz at
Anonymous

From the award-winning, bestselling, and beloved author of *When I Was Puerto Rican*, comes a powerful novel of family, race, faith, sex, and disaster.



Puerto Rico, 1975: Luz is an accomplished dancer, but stands out among a sea of petite ballerinas. One night, while driving home with her mother and father, their car crashes and she is orphaned at just sixteen. Luz suffers a brain injury, and her memory of the accident is wiped clean.

The Bronx, New York, 2017: Marisol wishes she better understood her mother, Luz. When their family friend plans a 70th birthday party in Luz's hometown, they all wonder if the trip might help unearth some long-buried memories. Together, Marisol, Luz, and Graciela and her mothers, Ada and Shirely, plan and scheme, inviting everyone they can find in old address books and online. But their homecoming brings shocking devastation: Two hurricanes and two secrets blow their lives wide open.

Praise for *Las Madres*:

“Elegantly woven”

—*Vogue*

“Powerful and heartbreakingly accurate.”

—*NBC*



Esmeralda Santiago is the author of numerous beloved memoirs and novels. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *House & Garden*, among other publications, and on NPR. Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, she lives in New York.

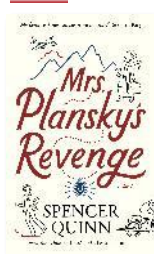
MRS. PLANSKY'S REVENGE

Spencer Quinn

(Forge/July 25th 2023)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Bedford Square);
Korea (Book21)

Film/TV agent: Nicole Weinroth and
Megan Pelson at WME



A life-affirming story for fans of Richard Osman by *New York Times* bestselling author, Spencer Quinn.

Meet Loretta Plansky. She's 71 and taking full advantage of her retirement. Of course, she still misses her late husband Norm every day, and fielding various cash requests from her adult children is taking its toll, but she's *mostly* content.

Late one night, she receives a call from her grandson, Will, claiming to have been arrested for driving while intoxicated and in need of bail money. Feeling the time crunch, Loretta willingly gives him her password and banking info. When she wakes up the next morning, her accounts are completely drained.

Furious and humiliated, Mrs. Plansky just can't accept that the money is gone. When an FBI agent nearing retirement lets slip that they've narrowed the call down to a small village in Romania, Mrs. Plansky goes to get her life and her dignity back.

Praise for MRS. PLANSKY'S REVENGE:

"I... love Mrs. Plansky." —*Globe & Mail*

"[A]briskly plotted nail-biter" — *Shelf Awareness*

"I absolutely adored this book. Really fun but with a few teeth, as well."

—**Stephen King**



Spencer Quinn is the bestselling author of the Chet and Bernie mystery series, as well as the #1 *New York Times* bestselling Bowser and Birdie series for middle-grade readers. He lives on Cape Cod with his wife Diana—and dogs Audrey and Pearl.

THE VIPER

John Verdon

(Counterpoint/July 18th 2023)

Rights sold: Finland (Gummerus); Israel (Keter); Spain (Roca); Turkey (Koridor)

Film/TV agent: Bruce Vinokour at CAA



The bloody finale of Dave Gurney's previous case has left him and his wife Madeleine shell-shocked and determined to return to normality. But when an old friend comes calling for Gurney's insight on a cold case, it's Madeleine who pushes him to lend his thoughts. Try as he might, Gurney can't resist getting drawn into the case—this one, involving a debauched former tennis star and a beheaded corpse. His initial efforts incite fury from both sides of the law: the criminal forces behind it, and the police who stand to lose everything if Gurney succeeds in uncovering the truth. Gurney finds himself on the run but even the risk of losing his marriage, his reputation and his best friend can't stop his relentless quest for answers.



THE DAVID GURNEY SERIES

John Verdon (2012-2021)

Rights sold: Spain & Catalonia (Roca); Finland (Gummerus); Israel (Keter); Greece (Dioptra); Turkey (Koridor)

Ex-homicide detective and puzzle-solving master David Gurney comes out of retirement to solve seemingly impossible murder cases. Blending hard-boiled noir fiction with the pleasures of classic "whodunit" puzzle-solving, Verdon has written a "hero for the ages" (David Baldacci).



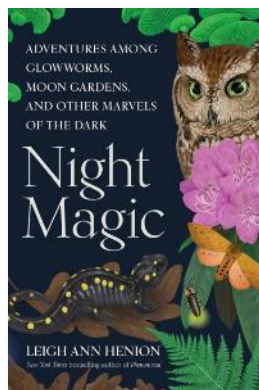
John Verdon is a former Manhattan advertising executive who lives with his wife in the mountains of upstate New York. His first three Dave Gurney novels, *Think of a Number*, *Shut Your Eyes Tight*, and *Let the Devil Sleep*, are all international bestsellers.

non-fiction



NIGHT MAGIC: Adventures Among Glowworms, Moon Gardens, and Other Marvels of the Dark

Leigh Ann Henion
(Algonquin/September 24th 2024)



Night Magic is a glorious celebration of the dark! *New York Times* bestselling writer Leigh Ann Henion invites us to leave our well-lit homes and step outside and embrace the night.

It turns out we don't have to go far to find marvels: We are surrounded by animals that rise with the moon, gigantic moths, and nocturnal blooms that reveal themselves, incrementally, as light fades. In her quest to know night with greater intimacy, Henion travels through forests alight with bioluminescent mushrooms and mountain valleys teeming with migratory salamanders. She ventures into the dark alongside naturalists, biologists, primitive-skills experts, and others who've dedicated their lives to cultivating relationships with darkness and the creatures who depend on it.

Praise for NIGHT MAGIC:

"[A] nature lover's guide to the dark that unfolds like a novel."

— *The Christian Science Monitor*

"Henion writes with poetic grace."

— *Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"This will fill readers with awe."

— *Publishers Weekly*



Leigh Ann Henion is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Phenomenal: A Hesitant Adventurer's Search for Wonder in the Natural World*. She has received four awards from the Society of American Travel Writers, and has been supported by the Alicia Patterson Foundation and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

FOUR MOTHERS

Abigail Leonard
(Algonquin/Fall 2025)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Sceptre);
Simplified Chinese (Citic)

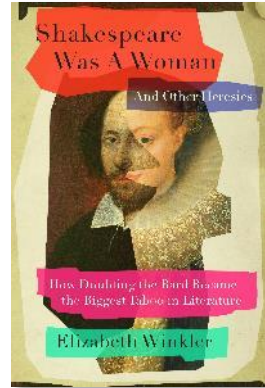
In the tradition of Lisa Taddeo's *Three Women* and Robert Kolker's *Hidden Valley Road*, *Four Mothers* follows four women—Anna from Finland, Tsukasa from Japan, Sarah from the U.S., and Chelsea from Kenya—through the first year of motherhood.

Abigail blends reporting, research, and history to create an international portrait of new motherhood and the policies that scaffold this transitional phase of life. As debates surrounding paid leave, universal daycare, and national healthcare rage on across different corners of the globe, *Four Mothers* is an intimate narrative of what those policies mean in the everyday lives of four women—and a compelling argument for the necessity and urgency of supporting parents.



Abigail Leonard is an award-winning international reporter and news producer. Her work has appeared in NPR, *Time Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, and *Vox*. She has written and produced long-form news documentaries for PBS, ABC and Al Jazeera America.

**SHAKESPEARE WAS A
WOMAN & OTHER
HERESIES:
How Doubting the Bard Became
the Biggest Taboo in Literature**
Elizabeth Winkler
(S&S/May 9th 2023)



Film/TV agent: Alexandra Lefkowitz at Gotham Group

A provocative investigation into the Shakespeare authorship question, exploring how doubting that William Shakespeare wrote his plays became an act of blasphemy... and who the Bard might *really* be.

Whisking readers from London to Stratford-upon-Avon to Washington, DC, Winkler pulls back the curtain to show how the forces of nationalism and empire, religion and mythmaking, gender and class helped create the version of the Bard we know and love today—and to explore who may have been hiding behind Shakespeare’s name. A forgotten woman? A disgraced aristocrat? A government spy? Hovering over the mystery are Shakespeare’s plays themselves—with their love for mistaken identities, disguises, and things never quite being what they seem.

Praise for SHAKESPEARE WAS A WOMAN:

“One of the most engaging, riveting, scholarly, and challenging whodunits anyone [...] can hope to read.”

—Bessel van der Kolk, MD, author of *The Body Keeps Score*

“A fascinating detective story... whose irreverence is part of its appeal.”

—*The Guardian*



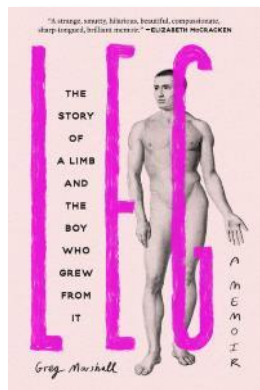
Elizabeth Winkler is a journalist and book critic. She received her undergraduate degree from Princeton University and her master’s in English literature from Stanford University. Her essay “Was Shakespeare a Woman?” was selected for *The Best American Essays 2020*. She lives in Washington, DC.

LEG: The Story of a Limb and the Boy Who Grew from It
Greg Marshall
 (Abrams/June 13th 2023)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Orion)
Film/TV agent: Danny Hertz at Gotham Group

A hilarious and poignant memoir grappling with family, disability, and coming of age in two closets—as a gay man and as a man living with cerebral palsy.

Rewind Greg’s VHS tapes (this is the nineties) and you’ll see a lopsided teenager limping across a high school stage, or in a wheelchair after leg surgeries, pondering why he’s crushing on half of the Utah Jazz. Add to this home video footage a mom clacking away at her newspaper column between chemo, a dad with ALS, and a cast of foulmouthed siblings. Fast forward the tape and you’ll find Marshall happily settled into his life as a gay man only to discover he’s been living in another closet his whole life: he has cerebral palsy. Here, in the hot mess of it all, lies Greg Marshall’s wellspring of wit and wisdom.



Praise for LEG:

“[A] witty memoir.”—*USA Today*, **10 Best Memoirs of 2023**

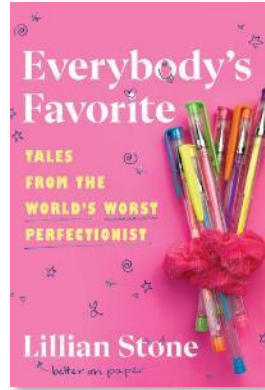
“This book has charm for days.”
 —*People Magazine*

“Insightful, and often laugh-out-loud funny.”
 — **NPR**



Greg Marshall was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. A National Endowment for the Arts Fellow in Prose, Marshall is a graduate of the Michener Center for Writers. His work has appeared in *The Best American Essays* and been supported by MacDowell and the Corporation of Yaddo. *Leg* is his first book.

EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE:
**Tales from the World's Worst
 Perfectionist**
 Lillian Stone
 (Dey Street/July 18th 2023)



From one of the Internet's favorite self-deprecating commentators comes a laugh-out-loud essay collection that tackles the pursuit of perfection alongside the sometimes painful, and often hilarious negotiations that happen within the obsessive-compulsive brain.

Set largely during the early 2000s, and peppered with Stone's biting satire and gloriously self-deprecating personal anecdotes, *Everybody's Favorite* is a wry, empathetic look at the chaos that ensues when we contort ourselves into an ever-changing assortment of socially acceptable shapes—only to fall out of place, twist an ankle, pee your pants a little, and realize that the pursuit of perfection isn't really all that interesting.

Praise for EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE:

“None have come close to the comedic perfection Lillian Stone nails again and again.”

—*Glamour*, Best Nonfiction Books of 2023

“Relatable, moving, and emotionally hilarious.”

—*Vulture*

“Bitingly funny”

—*Chicago Reader*



Lillian Stone is a humor writer, journalist, and regular contributor to *The New Yorker*, *McSweeney's*, *Internet Tendency*, *Men's Journal*, *Allure*, and many more. A leader in the online satire space, she was named one of *Paste Magazine's* 15 Best Humorists Writing Today.

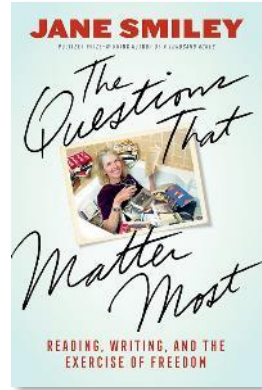
THE QUESTIONS THAT MATTER MOST:

Reading, Writing, and the Exercise of Freedom

Jane Smiley

(HeyDay Books/June 6th 2023)

One of America's preeminent novelists, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in fiction, presents her first nonfiction volume on writing since 2005's best-selling *Thirteen Ways of Looking at the Novel*.



Jane Smiley is an unparalleled observer of the craft of writing. In *The Questions That Matter Most* this beloved writer offers steady and penetrating essays on some of the aesthetic and cultural issues that mark any serious engagement with reading and writing. Beginning with a personal introduction tracing Smiley's migration from Iowa to California, the author reflects on her findings in the varied literature of the Golden State, whose writers have for decades litigated the West's contested legacies of racism, class conflict, and sexual politics through their pens. As she considers the ambiguity of character and the weight of history, her essays provide new entry points into literature, and we see how Smiley draws inspiration from across the literary spectrum to invigorate her own writing.

Praise for Jane Smiley:

"She turns literary and stylistic cartwheels. ... Is there anything Jane Smiley cannot do?"— **Pico Iyer, *Time***

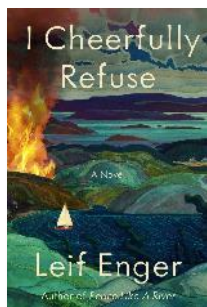
"Smiley has started to look like the best living American novelist."
—**The Observer**



Jane Smiley is the author of numerous novels, including *A Thousand Acres*, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, she has also received the PEN Center USA Lifetime Achievement Award for Literature. She lives in Northern California.

world rights





I CHEERFULLY REFUSE

Leif Enger (Grove/April 2nd 2024)

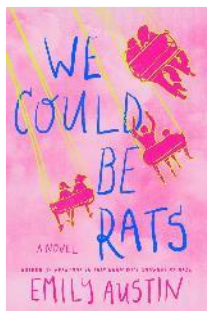
Enger debuted in the literary world with *Peace Like a River* which sold over a million copies and captured readers' hearts around the globe.

Set in a not-too-distant America, *I Cheerfully Refuse* is the tale of a bereaved and pursued musician embarking under sail on Lake Superior in search of his departed, deeply beloved, bookselling wife.

FAMILY FAMILY

Laurie Frankel (Holt/January 23rd 2024)

An actress does what you should never do — she tells a journalist the truth: it's a bad movie. Like so many movies about adoption, it tells only one story, a tragic one. Soon she's at the center of a media storm, battling accusations from the press and the paparazzi, from protesters on the right and advocates on the left. Her adopted daughter Fig knows they need help — and who better to call than family?



WE COULD BE RATS

Emily Austin (Atria/January 28th 2025)

A moving story about two very different sisters, and a love letter to childhood, growing up, and the power of imagination—from the bestselling author of *Everyone in This Room Will Someday Be Dead* and *Interesting Facts About Space*.

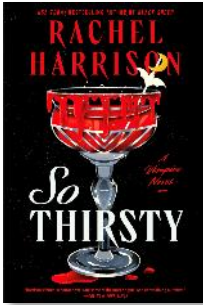
KÜNSTLERS IN PARADISE

Cathleen Schine (Holt/March 14th 2023)

Rights sold: Italy (Mondadori)

The beloved bestselling author of *The Three Weissmanns of Westport* brings forth a comedy of generational manners that glides between 1939 and 2020 L.A.





SO THIRSTY

Rachel Harrison (Berkley, September 10 2024)

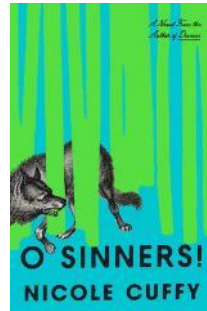
Rights sold: UK/ANZ (Titan)

When Sloane Parker's husband surprises her with a birthday weekend getaway—not with him, but with Sloane's longtime best friend, troublemaker extraordinaire Naomi—she anticipates a weekend of wine tastings and cozy robes and strategic avoidance of issues she'd rather not confront, like her husband's repeated infidelity. But when they arrive at their rental cottage, it becomes clear Naomi has something else in mind. They orchestrate a wild night out with a group of mysterious strangers, only for it to take a horrifying turn that changes Sloane's and Naomi's lives literally forever.

O SINNERS!

Nicole Cuffy (OneWorld/May 18th 2025)

A young journalist, reeling from loss, investigates a mysterious cult in the California redwoods, only to be drawn in by its charismatic leader in this addictive novel that asks why people give up control and what it takes, ultimately, to find one's place in the world.



A RADIANT DARK

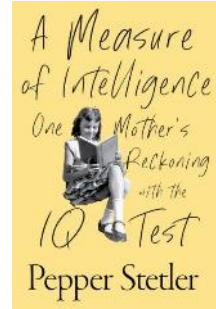
Alexandra Oliva (Zando/SJP Lit 2026)

Beginning in 1980, one American family is navigating a world where there is definitive proof of intelligent life on another planet. The other planet is 11 lightyears from Earth and communication is slow, so we follow this family as they grow and change over the course of 50 years, with increasing cultural and political tensions in the world around them.

A MEASURE OF INTELLIGENCE: *One Mother's Reckoning with the IQ Test*
Pepper Stetler

(Diversio Books/August 20th 2024)

In a quest to advocate for her daughter, Pepper Stetler uncovers the dark history of the IQ that leads her to question what exactly we are measuring when we measure intelligence.

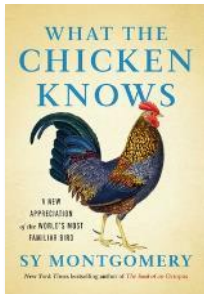
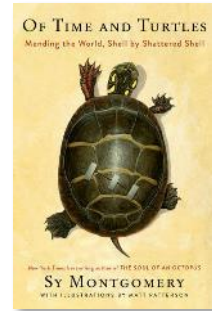


OF TIME AND TURTLES:

Mending the World, Shell by Shattered Shell

Sy Montgomery & illustrated by Matt Patterson
 (Mariner/September 19th 2023)

Rights sold: UK/ANZ (William Collins); Korea (Dolgorae Books); Germany (Diogenes); Italy (Aboca); Taiwan (Morning Star); Turkey (Ketebe)
 From National Book Award finalist and *New York Times* bestseller, Sy Montgomery's latest nonfiction investigation speaks to the wonder and wisdom of turtles.



**WHAT THE CHICKEN KNOWS: A
*New Appreciation of the World's Most Familiar Bird***

Sy Montgomery
 (Atria/November 5th 2024)

A charming and eye-opening exploration of the special relationship between humans and chickens from Sy Montgomery, “one of our finest chroniclers of the natural world” (*The New York Times*).

TELL ME EVERYTHING

Elizabeth Strout (Random House/August 13th 2024)

Option publishers: UK/ANZ (Viking); Finland (Tammi); Slovakia (Vydavateľstvo Inaque); Norway (Forlaget); Sweden (Bokforlaget); Spain (Alfagura); Portugal (Objectiva); Italy (Einaudi); Catalonia (Edicions 1984); Brazil (Companhia Das Letras); Holland (Atlas Contact); Germany (Luchterhand)

With her “extraordinary capacity for radical empathy” (*The Boston Globe*), Elizabeth Strout returns to the town of Crosby, Maine, and to her beloved cast of characters as they deal with a shocking crime in their midst; fall in love and yet choose to be apart; and grapple with the question, as Lucy Barton puts it: What does anyone’s life *mean*?





All images can be found in The Everett Collection