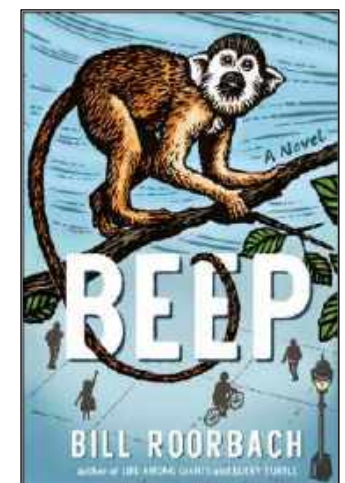
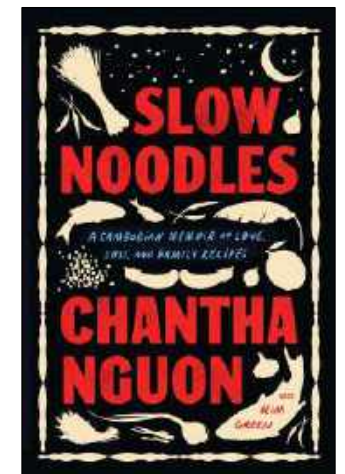
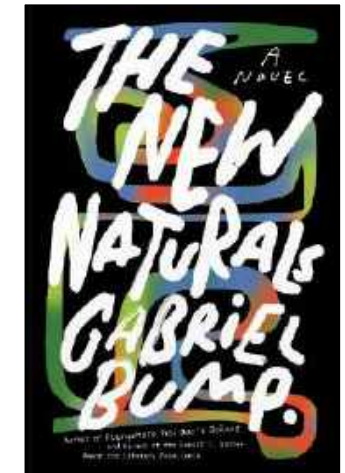
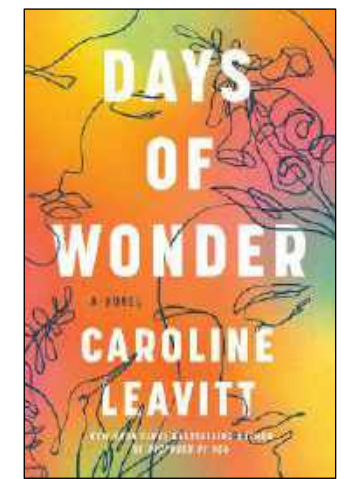
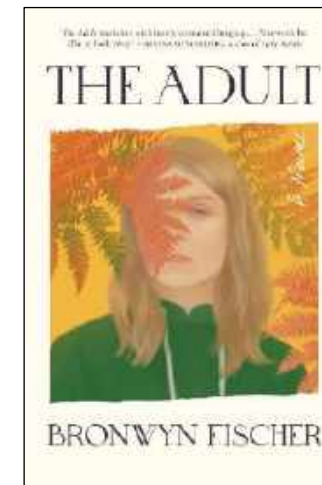
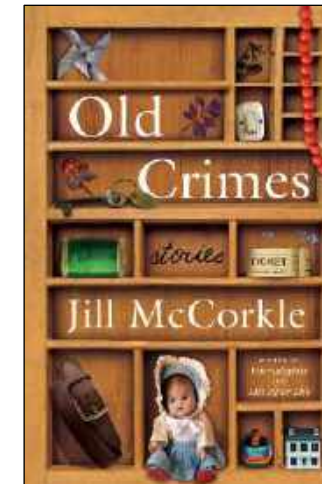
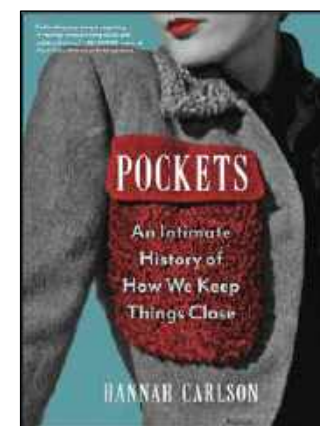
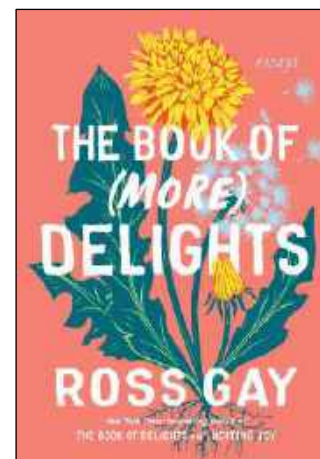
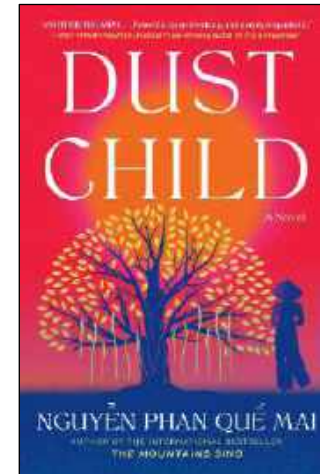
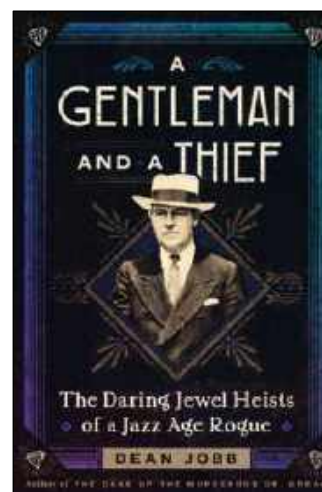
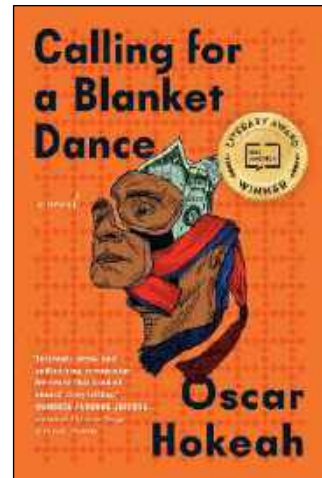
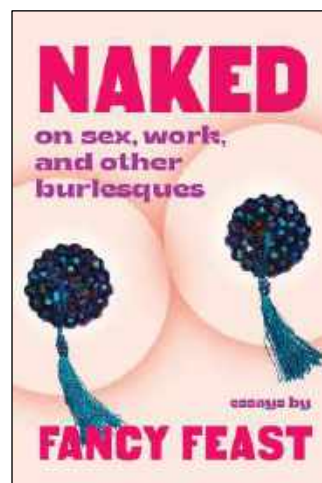
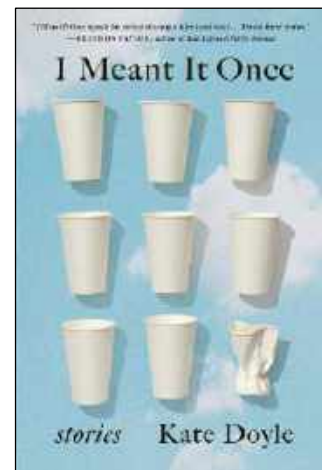
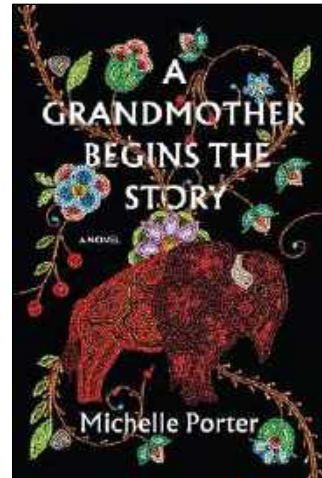
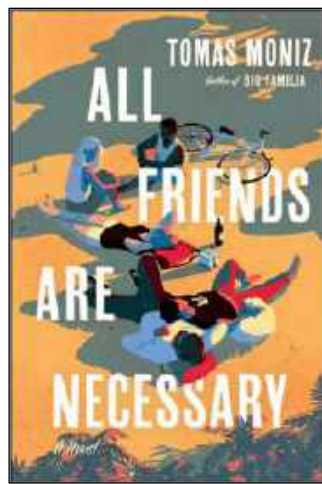


ALGONQUIN BOOKS

Frankfurt Book Fair 2023

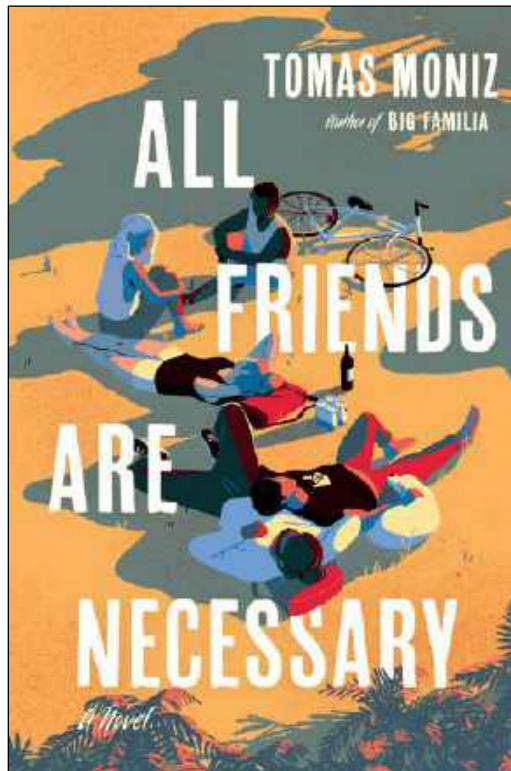
RIGHTS GUIDE



FICTION

ALL FRIENDS ARE NECESSARY

Tomas Moniz



June 2024 • 256 pages
World rights: Algonquin



In this joyous, big-hearted novel, finalist for the PEN/Hemingway and Lambda Literary Award Tomas Moniz delivers a commanding story about the power of friendship, community, and the families we create for ourselves.

Efren “Chino” Flores has just moved back to the Bay Area from Seattle, jumping from apartment to apartment. In Washington, he was a beloved middle school biology teacher with an adoring wife, and a child on the way. Now, he’s working temporary jobs, terrified of commitment and struggling to confront the things he’s left behind.

But there to nurture Chino are a coterie of new and old friends and lovers, and as he struggles to put himself back out into the world, they form a protective web around him. Closest to him are Metal Matt: a red-haired metalhead with a soft spot for Courtney Love and a rangy dog named Sabbath; and Mike and Kay: a mixed-race couple whose literary edge and commitment to the bit are matched only by the success of their secret OnlyFans account. As Chino begins to date more men and women—and to open himself up again to life—his closeness only deepens to the many people he calls friends. Like a fern blooming in the wake of a forest fire, new life comes after even the most devastating upheaval.

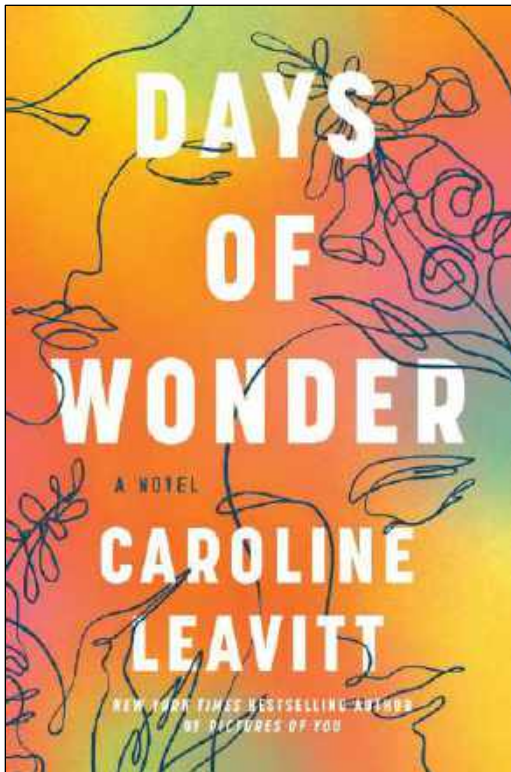
With gorgeous, heart-rending detail and a seemingly infinite catalogue of tender, unexpected interactions, Tomas Moniz has created a striking mosaic of desire and belonging. An anthem to queer and platonic love, *All Friends Are Necessary* evinces the wonder of friendship and the joy of giving yourself up to the essential force of community.

Tomas Moniz’s debut novel, *Big Familia*, was a finalist for the 2020 PEN/Hemingway, the LAMBDA, and the Foreward Indies Awards. He edited the popular *Rad Dad* and *Rad Families* anthologies. He is the recipient of the prestigious SF Literary Arts Foundation’s 2016 Award and the 2020 Artist Affiliate for Headlands Center for Arts. A Latinx writer who lives in California, he currently teaches at Berkeley City College and the Antioch MFA program.

DAYS OF WONDER

Caroline Leavitt

Algonquin / FICTION



April 2024 • 352 pages
World rights: Algonquin



***New York Times* bestselling author Caroline Leavitt returns with a tantalizing, courageous story about mothers and daughters, guilt and innocence, and the lengths we go for love.**

As a teenager, for a moment, Ella Fitchburg found love—yearning, breathless love—that consumed both her and her boyfriend, Jude, as they wandered the streets of New York City together. But her life was upended when she was accused of trying to murder Jude’s father, a judge, and sentenced to twenty-five years in prison. When she learns she’s pregnant shortly after sentencing, she reluctantly decides to give up the child.

Ella is released after serving only six years. While she is desperate to turn the page on a new life, she can’t seem to let go of her past. With only an address as a possible lead, she moves to Michigan, determined to get her daughter back. Forced to hide her identity and complicated past and live in a constant state of deception, she finds that what she’s been searching for all along is a way to uncover and live with the truth. Yet a central mystery endures: Ella cannot remember the events leading up to the attempted murder—that fateful night which led to her conviction.

For fans of Miranda Cowley Heller’s *The Paper Palace* and Allegra Goodman’s *Sam*, Caroline Leavitt’s *Days of Wonder* is a gripping page-turner about the elusive nature of redemption and the profound reach of love.

“Caroline Leavitt has crafted a novel rich in empathy and a story that will resonate with every reader.”—**Ann Napolitano**, author of *Hello Beautiful*

“What a phenomenal novel! Poignant, thrilling and moving, Caroline Leavitt’s *Days of Wonder* grabbed me from the very first page and wouldn’t let go. Leavitt is a master of plotting, pacing and language. This intricately woven, beautifully written novel is a joy.”—**Jean Kwok**, author of *Searching for Sylvia Lee*

“As compassionate as it is complex, *Days of Wonder* is a completely absorbing story of loss, injustice, and the canyons of misconception left behind. Both a coming-of-age love story and a tale of motherhood, the emotional resonance will stay with you long after the final page.”—**Jamie Ford**, author of *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy*

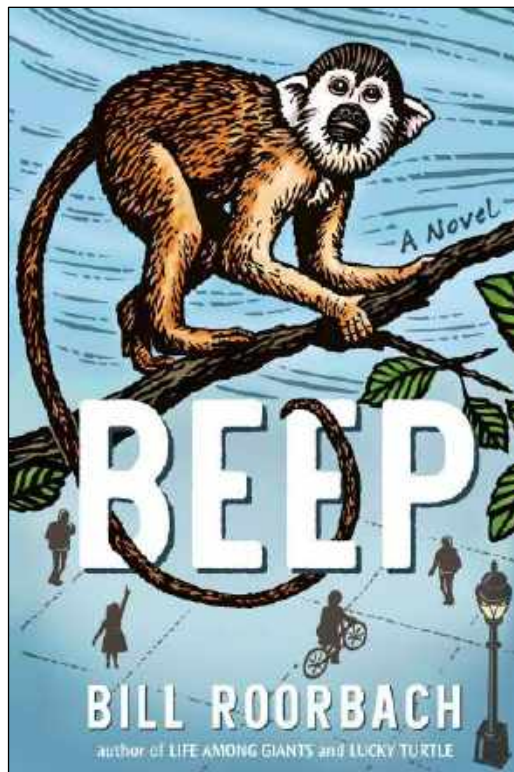
“*Days of Wonder* is unputdownable for all the best reasons. It’s packed with style, pathos, and humor. It’s got a killer plot, a great heroine, and brilliance on every page. It is, in short, a masterpiece.”—**Darin Strauss**, author of *Half a Life*

“Caroline Leavitt is a national treasure . . . no one writes about the bond of motherhood like Leavitt. I loved *Days of Wonder* and simply couldn’t put it down. A warm, big-hearted story of love and longing, the novel gets at the very essence of what it means to be a mother and a daughter, a friend and a wife.”—**Joanna Rakoff**, author of *My Salinger Year* and *A Fortunate Age*

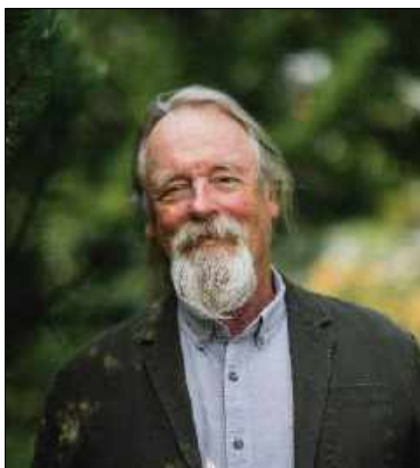
Caroline Leavitt is the award-winning author of twelve novels, including the *New York Times* bestseller *Pictures of You* and *Is This Tomorrow*. A book critic for *People* magazine, her essays, articles and stories have been included in *New York* magazine, “Modern Love” in the *New York Times*, *Salon*, and *The Daily Beast*, among others. She is the recipient of a New York Foundation of the Arts Award for Fiction and a Sundance Screenwriters Lab finalist.

BEEP

Bill Roorbach



July 2024 • 224 pages
World rights: Algonquin



In the tradition of Shelby Van Pelt's *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, an ebullient and funny—and hugely original—short novel about the friendship between a brilliant young girl and a perceptive monkey, the power of youth, and the way forward for a planet in crisis.

In this immensely enjoyable novel, it takes a sweet and personable squirrel monkey, Beep, to help us see the world we live in more clearly. While intending only to go deeper and higher into the Costa Rican rain forest to find a mate, he instead meets Inga, a kindly and loving American teenager on vacation with her family. Inadvertently, often hilariously, Beep makes his way back to New York with Inga, and with her courageously devoted help, as well as a bit of inspiration from a visiting Greta Thunberg, a dramatic zoo escape, and the assistance of just about every animal on earth, Beep manages to change the destiny of the world. Along the way, he has a great deal to say about humanity and the divisions among us, our alien cities, our strange practices, our false superiority, our vanity, our entitlement, our folly, and yet our beauty, too, and our promise, unfulfilled.

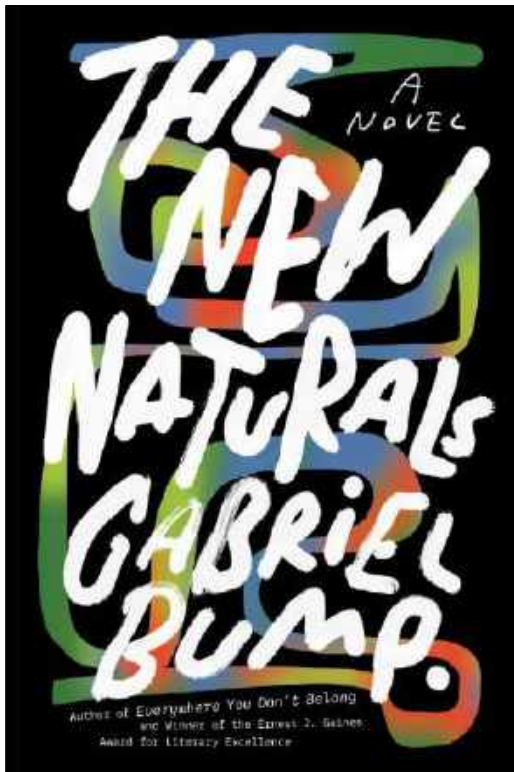
Full of a cast of equally engaging and perceptive animals, *Beep* is irresistibly appealing. Neither earnest nor preachy, but full of humor and inspiration and remarkable new ways of understanding how we live, this is a book that conveys an urgent message—the increasing threats to our planet—lightly, urging us to wake up while there is still time.

Bill Roorbach is the author of five previous books of fiction, including *The Girl of the Lake*, the Kirkus Prize finalist *The Remedy for Love*, the bestselling *Life Among Giants*, and the Flannery O'Connor Award–winning collection *Big Bend*. Roorbach has received fellowships from the Civitella Ranieri Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. His craft book, *Writing Life Stories*, has been in print for twenty-five years. His writing has appeared in *Harper's*, the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Atlantic*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Granta*, *Ecotone*, *New York* magazine, and other publications.

THE NEW NATURALS

Algonquin / FICTION

Gabriel Bump



November 2023 • 272 pages
World rights: Algonquin



Included in these Fall Preview /
Most-Anticipated Lists, so far:
[New York Times](#), [Washington Post](#),
[The Boston Globe](#), [Vulture](#), [ELLE](#),
[The Millions](#), [Lit Hub](#)

For readers of Paul Beatty’s *The Sellout* and Percival Everett’s *The Trees*, a moving and darkly funny novel about an attempt to found a new Utopia, from the award-winning author of *Everywhere You Don’t Belong*.

An abandoned restaurant on a hill off the highway doesn’t look like much. But to Rio, a young Black woman bereft after the loss of her newborn child, this hill becomes more than a safe haven—it becomes a place to start over. She convinces her husband to help her construct a society underground, somewhere safe, somewhere everyone can feel loved, wanted, and accepted, where the children learn actual history, where everyone has an equal shot.

She locates a Benefactor and soon their utopia begins to take shape. Two unhoused men hear about it and immediately begin their journey by bus to get there. A young and disillusioned journalist stumbles upon it and wants in. And a former soccer player, having lost his footing in society, is persuaded to check it out too. But no matter how much these people all yearn for meaning and a sanctuary from the existential dread of life above the surface, what happens if this new society can’t actually work? What then?

From one of the most exciting new literary voices, *The New Naturals* is a fresh and deeply perceptive feat of imagination that captures the absurdity of life in the 21st century.

“*The New Naturals* is a tragicomedy for our times, exploring that age-old question of how to connect with our fellow human beings and build community, even as the world makes increasingly less sense. A tour-de-force, full of heart and asking the big questions about life and the mind.”—**Kaitlyn Greenidge**, author of *Libertie*

“Wry and astonishing . . . Brisk dialogue and flashes of mordant humor pay off. This is a scalding study in human nature.”—**Publishers Weekly**

“Bump writes so tenderly about the human error endemic to man-made things—community, partnership, love.”—**Raven Leilani**, author of *Luster*

“Bump captures our contemporary condition with grace . . . [A] sharp, imaginative novel”—**The Boston Globe**

“Gabriel Bump’s brilliant and surprising novel takes us inside a utopian world and, even more deeply and wondrously, inside the souls of an impressive array of characters. Intricate and intimate, Bump’s prose is simply masterful.”—**Deesha Philyaw**, author of *The Secret Lives of Church Ladies*

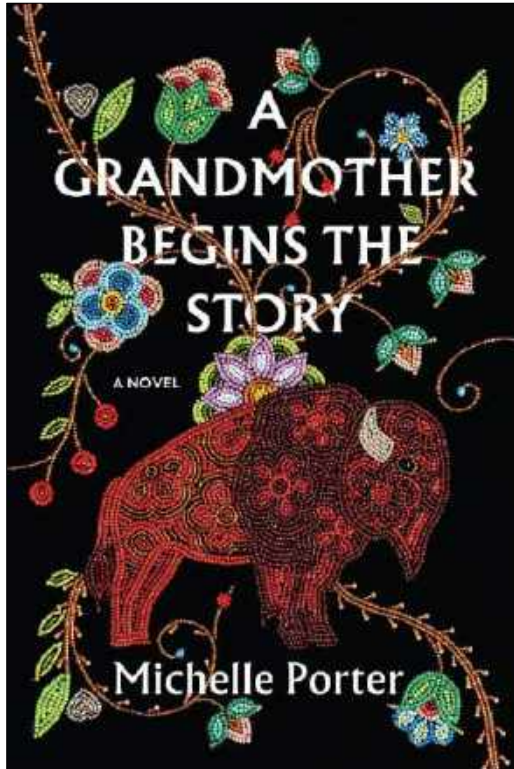
“Gorgeous and lyrical . . . An effecting, experimental tale of race and reinvention”—**Kirkus Reviews**

Gabriel Bump’s debut novel, *Everywhere You Don’t Belong*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2020 and won the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence, the Great Lakes Colleges Association New Writers Award for Fiction, the Heartland Booksellers Award for Fiction, and the Black Caucus of the American Library Association’s First Novelist Award. Bump teaches at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

A GRANDMOTHER BEGINS THE STORY

Algonquin / FICTION

Michelle Porter



November 2023 • 336 pages
World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:
Canada – Viking/PRH



A unique, literary, and very moving debut novel about the desire for healing and forgiveness and the power of familial bonds across five generations of Métis women and the land and bison that surround them.

Carter is a young mother, recently separated. She is curious, angry, and on a quest to find out what the heritage she only learned of in her teens truly means. Allie, Carter's mother, is trying to make up for the lost years with her first born, and to protect Carter from the hurt she herself suffered from her own mother. Lucie wants the granddaughter she's never met to help her join her ancestors in the Afterlife. And Geneviève is determined to conquer her demons before the fire inside burns her up, with the help of the sister she lost but has never been without. Meanwhile, Mamé, in the Afterlife, knows that all their stories began with her; she must find a way to cut herself from the last threads that keep her tethered to the living, just as they must find their own paths forward.

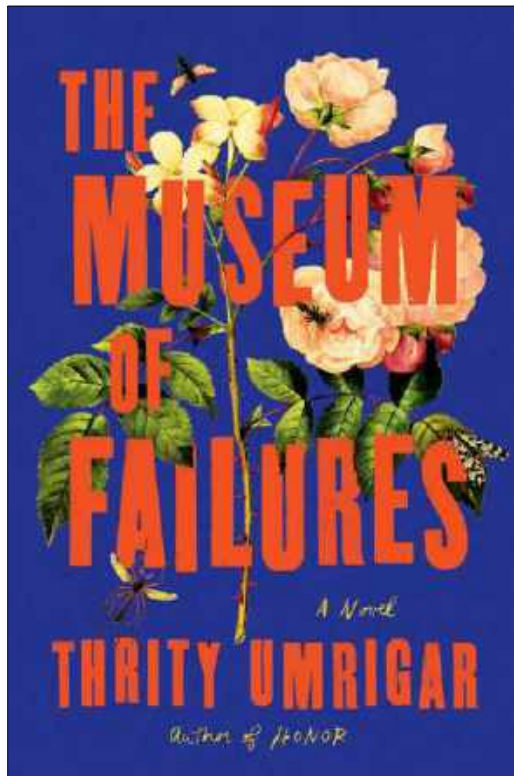
This extraordinary novel, told by a chorus of vividly realized, funny, wise, confused, struggling characters—including descendants of the bison that once freely roamed the land—heralds the arrival of a stunning new voice in literary fiction.

"A Grandmother Begins the Story will leave you forever charmed and soulspun. What a vision. What courage to blow a hole through all expectations of what a story can be and how it's told, and what a masterwork from a voice I'd follow anywhere. This is why we read and this is why we write: to discover places and voices and visions like these."—**Richard van Camp**, author of *Godless but Loyal to Heaven* and *The Moon of Letting Go*

"Michelle Porter's novel is charged with huge blasts of imaginative force—magical in every way. Porter is sometimes knee-slappingly funny, sometimes wry, poignant, nuanced, and gleefully irreverent. Porter's characters are tough and tender, courageous and flawed, and so true to life you'll go back to the beginning as soon as you turn the last page, because you can't stand for it to be over. Michelle Porter's voice is unique, uber-alive, utterly gorgeous. Just, WOW!"—**Lisa Moore**, author of *This is How We Love* and *Caught*

"The author juggles the myriad story lines with élan, touching on family relationships in the human and animal world, the pull of the living on the spirits of the dead, and the stories and songs passed down from generation to generation."—**Publishers Weekly**

Michelle Porter is the descendent of a long line of Métis storytellers. Many of her ancestors told stories using music, and today she tells stories using the written word. She is the author of *Scratching River*, a memoir that explores the meaning of her Métis heritage through her older brother's life story, a book of poetry, *Inquiries* (shortlisted for the Pat Lowther Memorial Award for Best Book of Poetry in Canada in 2019), and a book of creative nonfiction about her great grandfather, a fiddler from the Red River, called *Approaching Fire* (shortlisted for the Indigenous Voices Award 2021). She's the winner of the 2021 Cox & Palmer SPARKS Creative Writing Award. She holds degrees in Journalism (BA), Folklore (MA), English (MA), and Geography (PhD). Her academic research and creative work focus on home, memory, and women's changing relationships with the land. She's won numerous awards for her poetry and journalism and her work has been published in literary journals and magazines across the country. She teaches creative writing and Métis Literature at Memorial University. She is a member of the Manitoba Métis Federation and she lives in Newfoundland and Labrador.



September 2023 • 356 pages
World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:
UK/Comm – Swift Press

THE MUSEUM OF FAILURES

Thrity Umrigar

An immersive story about family secrets and the power of forgiveness from the bestselling author of Reese's Book Club pick *Honor*.

When Remy Wadia left India for the United States, he carried his resentment of his cold and inscrutable mother with him, and has since kept his distance from her. Years later, he returns to Bombay, planning to adopt a baby from a young pregnant woman—and to see his elderly mother again before it is too late. She is in the hospital, has stopped talking, and seems to have given up on life.

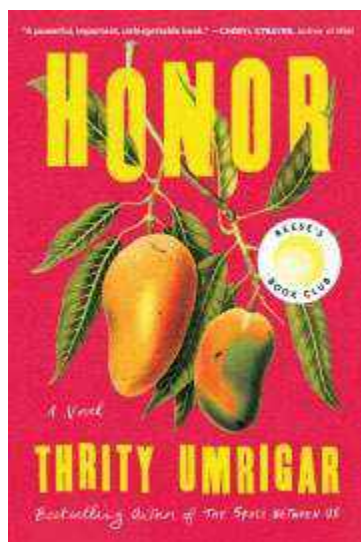
Struck with guilt for not realizing just how ill she had become, Remy devotes himself to helping her recover and return home. But one day in her apartment he comes upon an old photograph that demands explanation. As shocking family secrets surface, Remy finds himself reevaluating his entire childhood and his relationship to his parents, just as he is on the cusp of becoming a parent himself. Can Remy learn to forgive others for their human frailties, or is he too wedded to his sorrow and anger over his parents' long-ago decisions?

“This is a beautifully wrought novel about the complicated relationships between parents and children, the secrets we keep — and those we reveal.”—*B&N*

“[A] rich and emotionally gripping story about familial love and the destructive power of secrets . . . Umrigar continues to impress.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“[Umrigar] creates interesting characters and complex relationships, builds thematic tension and narrative suspense, and delivers emotionally resonant moments at just the right pace . . . [A] rich, heartfelt novel. This is a touching story about what it really means to grow up and into an authentic life.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“The story of the Wadia family is a sensitive exploration of love in its different forms—romantic, maternal, filial, platonic—and forgiveness. Paired with the emotionally demanding story line, this is a compelling read.”—*Booklist*



Rights sold to HONOR:
UK/Comm – Swift Press
Czech – Gorila
Indonesian – PT Elex Media
Portuguese/Brazil – Globo
Russian – MTS



Thrity Umrigar is the best-selling author of *The Space Between Us*, which was a finalist for the PEN/Beyond Margins Award, as well as six other novels, a memoir, and three picture books. She is the winner of a Lambda Literary Award and the Seth Rosenberg Prize. *Honor*, her first novel with Algonquin Books, was a Reese's Book Club pick.



June 2023 • 364 pages

World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:

UK/Comm – Oneworld

Dutch – Pelckmans

French – Editions de l'Aube



Author of Reese's Book Club pick *His Only Wife* (also shortlisted for the UK's Diverse Book Awards), Peace Adzo Medie returns with a moving novel about the power of female friendship, which was named a Most Anticipated Book of Spring/Summer 2023 by *ELLE*, *Essence*, *The Root*, *SheReads*, *African Arguments*, *Ms. Magazine*, *Dandelion Chandelier*, *The Messenger*, & *The Floor Magazine*.

When Selasi and Akorfa were young girls in Ghana, they were more than just cousins; they were inseparable. Selasi was exuberant and funny, Akorfa quiet and studious. They would do anything for each other, imploring their parents to let them be together, sharing their secrets and desires and private jokes.

Then Selasi begins to change, becoming hostile and quiet; her grades suffer and she builds a space around herself, shutting Akorfa out. Meanwhile, Akorfa is accepted to an American university with the goal of becoming a doctor. Although hopeful that she can create a fuller life as a woman in America, she discovers the insidious ways that racism places obstacles in her path once she leaves Ghana. It takes a crisis to bring the friends back together, with Selasi's secret revealed and Akorfa forced to reckon with her role in their estrangement.

“Medie’s first novel, *His Only Wife*, was a knockout and her sophomore venture doesn’t disappoint. Focused on friendship, secrets, courage and truth, *Nightbloom* addresses complex issues with nuance, candor and tenderness.”—*Ms. Magazine*

“Evocative . . . [Medie] immerse[s] the reader in the details of these two otherwise ordinary lives . . . The shifts in perspective—from Akorfa’s to Selasi’s to a short final section narrated in the third person—add tension and dramatic irony.”—*New York Times Book Review*

“Thought-provoking and beautifully told.”—*Booklist*

“Peace Adzo Medie is the doyenne of the emotional plot twist. Just when you’re sure you’ve figured it out, she reminds you there are two sides to every story. A book to read and then find someone to discuss it with.”—**Chibundu Onuzo**, author of *Sankofa*

“*Nightbloom* is a book about secrets; not just the ones passed between sister-cousins giggling in the dark, but the kinds our families require us to keep, the ones that reshape the landscape of who we become. In this stunning novel, Akorfa and Selasi share common wounds inflicted by the same adults who have vowed to care for them, but those wounds wield drastically different results in each woman.”—**Destiny O. Birdsong**, author of *Nobody’s Magic*

Peace Adzo Medie’s debut novel, *His Only Wife*, was a *New York Times Book Review* Editors’ Choice, a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2020, and a *Time Magazine* Must-Read Book of 2020, and has been translated into Croatian, Dutch, French, Italian, and Russian. It was also a Reese’s Book Club pick. The author of *Global Norms and Local Action: The Campaigns to End Violence Against Women in Africa*, Medie has won numerous awards for her scholarship and has held fellowships including the Oxford-Princeton Global Leaders Fellowship. She holds a PhD in public and international affairs from the University of Pittsburgh and a BA in geography from the University of Ghana.

OLD CRIMES

Jill McCorkle

Compassionate, perceptive, and often funny richly plotted stories about past mistakes and missed opportunities, by a master short story writer and bestselling author, for readers of Alice Munro, Elizabeth Strout, and Lily King.

Bestselling author Jill McCorkle, whom Rebecca Makkai has called “one of our wryest, warmest, wisest storytellers,” and whose work has been included four times in *Best American Short Stories*, delivers a breathtaking collection of stories that are as intimate as they are shattering.

Each story in *Old Crimes* takes readers deep into the lives of characters still holding their secrets and misdeeds close, despite the ways the past continues to reverberate over time and across generations—and despite the characters’ yearnings for connection, even when they can’t tell the whole truth. In one story, a woman uses her hearing impairment as a way to guard herself from her husband’s commentary. In another, a telephone lineman tries to keep his family close even as he feels himself pushed aside in a digital world. The young couple in another story buys a confessional for fun, only to discover the cost of honesty. Each like a compact, brilliantly condensed novel, these are stories of great intensity, of longing and affection, of deep regret, and of the inability to ever forget an old crime.

“Jill McCorkle has had an extraordinary ear for the music of ordinary life since the beginning of her career, able to work with the voices we know so well to write these stories about what they will not tell us, what they would rather not tell us, what they hope to tell us, what too often goes unsaid. And this collection is a new wonder.”

—**Alexander Chee**, author of *How to Write An Autobiographical Novel*

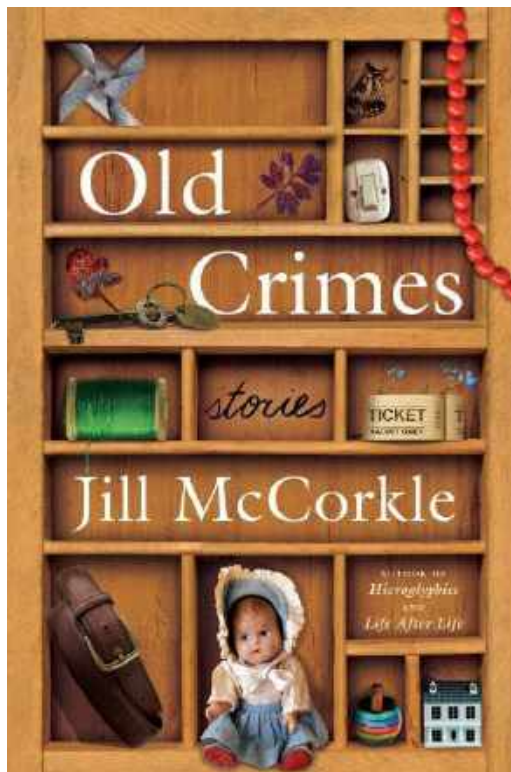
“With her wry humor, deep understanding of human connection and disconnection, and a tremendous sense of fun, Jill McCorkle has given us another dazzling collection of stories.”

—**Lily King**, author of *Five Tuesdays in Winter*

“A splendid, wide-ranging collection that once again proves McCorkle is a master of the form.”

—**Jenny Offill**, author of *Weather*

Jill McCorkle has the distinction of having published her first two novels on the same day in 1984. Of these novels, the *New York Times Book Review* said: “one suspects the author of *The Cheer Leader* is a born novelist. With *July 7th*, she is also a full grown one.” Since then she has published five other novels—most recently, *Hieroglyphics*—and four collections of short stories. Five of her books have been named *New York Times* notable books and four of her stories have appeared in *Best American Short Stories*. McCorkle has received the New England Booksellers Award, the John Dos Passos Prize for Excellence in Literature, the North Carolina Award for Literature, and the Thomas Wolfe Prize; she was recently inducted into the NC Literary Hall of Fame. McCorkle has taught at Harvard, Brandeis, and NC State, where she remains affiliated with the MFA Program in creative writing, and she is core faculty in the Bennington Writing Seminars.



January 2024 • 320 pages
World rights: Algonquin



I MEANT IT ONCE

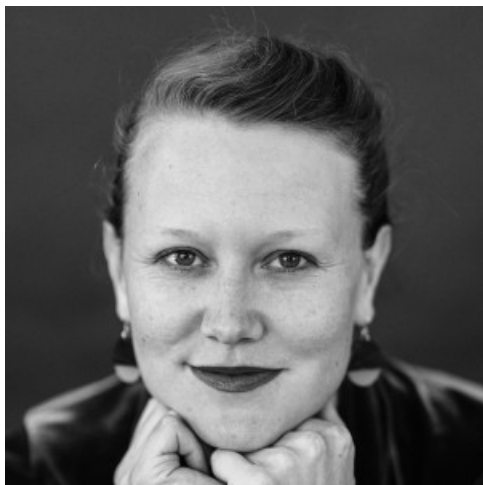
Kate Doyle

Algonquin / FICTION



July 2023 • 304 pages
World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:
UK/Comm – Little, Brown UK



This “gorgeous, electric” collection of short stories is about the inner lives of young women during their transformative twenties, navigating relationships, nostalgia for the past, and the uncertainty of the future (Mary-Beth Hughes, author of *The Ocean House*).

With this sharp and witty debut collection, author Kate Doyle captures precisely that time of life when so many young women are caught in between, preoccupied by nostalgia for past relationships—with friends, roommates, siblings—while trying to move forward into an uncertain future. In “That Is Shocking,” a college student relates a darkly funny story of romantic humiliation, one that skirts the parallel story of a friend she betrayed. In others, young women long for friends who have moved away, or moved on. In “Cinnamon Baseball Coyote” and other linked stories about siblings Helen, Evan, and Grace, their years of inside jokes and brutal tensions simmer over as the three spend a holiday season in an amusing whirl of rivalry and mutual attachment, and a generational gulf widens between them and their parents. Throughout, in stories both lyrical and haunting, young women search for ways to break free from the expectations of others and find a way to be in the world.

“A collection of sparkling prose that beautifully tangles life’s changes, uncertainties, and self-discoveries . . . delightfully entertaining and often subtly profound . . . vulnerable, honest, and intimate. Doyle’s characters are brightly imagined and, at moments, darkly humorous. She captures womanhood’s intense and precarious state of deciding whose expectations to rise to and whose to break away from. Brilliantly conceived, written, and compiled.”—*Shelf Awareness*

“[A] lively debut collection . . . Doyle’s prose reads like Lydia Davis at her most arch and pensive.”—*Washington Post*

“[With] wry dialogue and distinctive eye for details . . . [and] masterful prose . . . Fleet, funny, and perceptive, *I Meant It Once* entertains even as it contemplates what people actually mean to each other, and what it all means.”—*New York Journal of Books*

“Doyle’s brutally honest debut collection explores the joy and disappointment of familial, platonic, and romantic relationships . . . Doyle exposes family dynamics with humor and sincerity, skillfully exploring the interplay between devotion and betrayal. Readers will savor Doyle’s bracing blend of wit and candor.”—*Publishers Weekly*

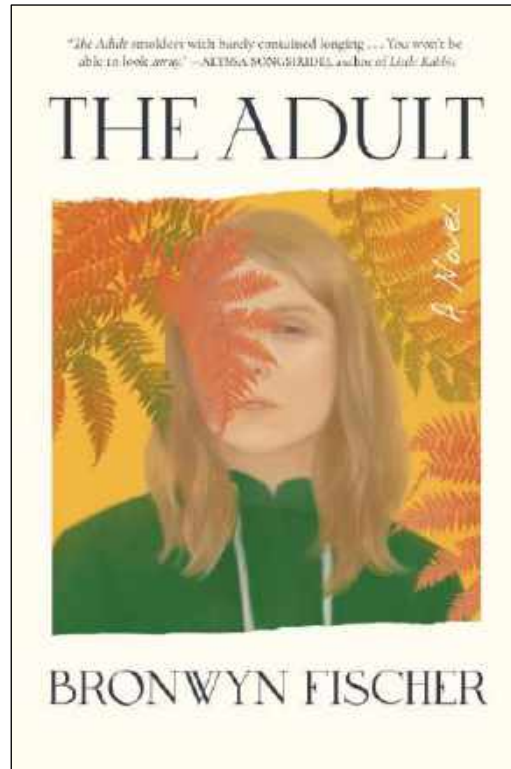
“[A] collection of such stories, linked in subtle ways, that perfectly encapsulate what it’s like to reflect on your youth while you’re still in it.”—*Chicago Review of Books*

“Doyle’s debut story collection plumbs the inner lives of young women faced with the uncertainty, nostalgia, and romantic tribulations that are part and parcel of being alive in your twenties. This one is pitched for readers of Batuman, Moshfegh, and Lockwood—a holy trinity of sharp, searching female characters. Say no more.”—*The Millions*

Kate Doyle is a Pushcart Prize nominee, an A Public Space Writing Fellow, and has received residencies and fellowships from Virginia Center for Creative Arts, Hawthornden, the Adirondack Center for Writing, NYU Paris, and others. Her stories appear in *Electric Literature*, *A Public Space*, *No Tokens*, *Anomaly*, *Wigleaf*, *Cordella*, and elsewhere. Doyle studied fiction at New York University and nonfiction writing at Brown University.

THE ADULT

Bronwyn Fischer



May 2023 • 352 pages
World rights, excl. UK and Canada:
Algonquin

Rights sold:
Canada – Penguin Random
House Canada



An addictively gripping coming-of-age story about an all-consuming, insidious love affair between a college freshman and a mysterious older woman, from an unforgettable new voice in fiction.

Eighteen-year-old Natalie has just arrived at her first year of university in Toronto, leaving her remote, forested hometown for the big, impersonal city. Everyone she encounters seems to know exactly who they are. She reads advice listicles and watches videos online and thinks about how to fit in, how to really become someone, whoever that might be.

And then she meets Nora, an older woman who takes an unexpected interest in her, and is drawn unstoppably into Nora's orbit. She begins spending more and more of her time at Nora's perfect, tidy home in her beautiful, quiet world. Natalie lies to her floormates about her absence, inventing a fake off-campus boyfriend, and carefully protects this sacred, adult relationship. This only deepens her obsession, even as she comes to suspect Nora is hiding something. As the secrets multiply and the intensity of the romance threatens to overwhelm her, Natalie realizes that the new, adult identity she had imagined for herself is far from the one she's actually coming to know.

"Fischer captures teenage uncertainty brilliantly . . . This insightful novel is alive with vibrant prose, emotional acuity, and complex female characters. A meditation on what it means to step into your authentic self—with all the subsequent confusion and pain laid bare."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"A powerful, queer coming-of-age story about a young woman in the throes of first love . . . This gripping novel has the distinct pang of nostalgia mixed with the discomfort of growing up—a bittersweet but delicious experience."

—*Buzzfeed*

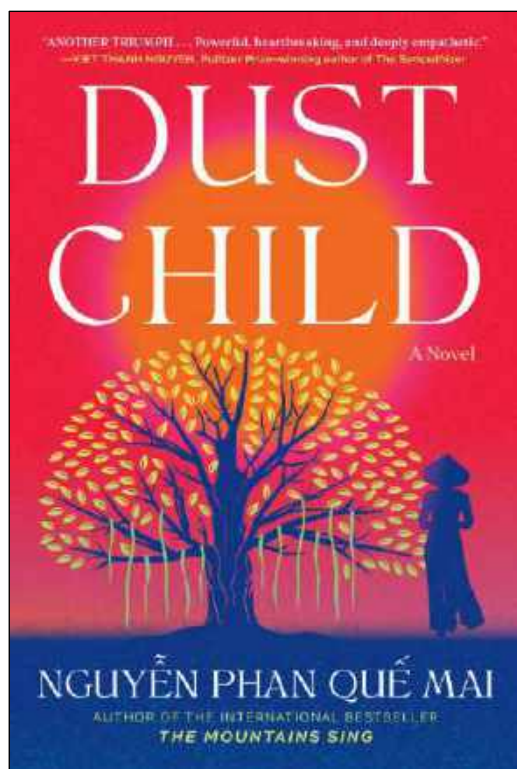
"[An] engrossing debut . . . Fischer paints Natalie with care, exploring the depths of her spinning, developing mind. Full of heart, this perfectly captures the lonely messiness of youth."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"A compelling and quietly disturbing coming-of-age novel . . . Fischer expertly captures the intensity of a first relationship and the constant self-questioning of an insecure young woman."

—*Booklist*

Bronwyn Fischer is a graduate of the University of Guelph's MFA program in Creative Writing. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto. She was born in Bahrain. A recent ultramarathoner, she now lives in Toronto with her wife.



March 2023 • 336 pages
World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:

UK/Comm – Oneworld

Croatian – Hena

Czech – Jota

Dutch – Signatuur/Bruna

Finnish – Sitruuna Kustannus

French – Charleston/Leduc

German – Insel/Suhrkamp

Italian – Nord

Portuguese/Portugal – Alma dos Livros

Russian – Arkadia

Spanish – Alianza de Novelas

Swedish – Historiska Media

Vietnamese – Nhã Nam



DUST CHILD

Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai

Algonquin / FICTION

From the internationally bestselling author of *The Mountains Sing*, a richly poetic and suspenseful saga about family secrets, hidden trauma, and the power of forgiveness, set during the war and in present-day Việt Nam.

In 1969, sisters Trang and Quỳnh, desperate to help their parents pay off debts, leave their rural village and become “bar girls” in Sài Gòn, drinking, flirting (and more) with American GIs in return for money. As the war moves closer to the city, the once-innocent Trang gets swept up in an irresistible romance with a young and charming American helicopter pilot. Decades later, an American veteran, Dan, returns to Việt Nam with his wife, Linda, hoping to find a way to heal from his PTSD and, unbeknownst to her, reckon with secrets from his past. At the same time, Phong—the son of a Black American soldier and a Vietnamese woman—embarks on a search to find both his parents and a way out of Việt Nam. Abandoned in front of an orphanage, Phong grew up being called “the dust of life” and “child of the enemy,” and he dreams of a better life for himself and his family in the United States.

Past and present converge as these characters come together to confront decisions made during a time of war—decisions that force them to look deep within and find common ground across race, generation, culture, and language. Suspenseful, poetic, and perfect for readers of Min Jin Lee’s *Pachinko* or Yaa Gyasi’s *Homegoing*, *Dust Child* tells an unforgettable and immersive story of how those who inherited tragedy can redefine their destinies through love, hard-earned wisdom, compassion, courage, and joy.

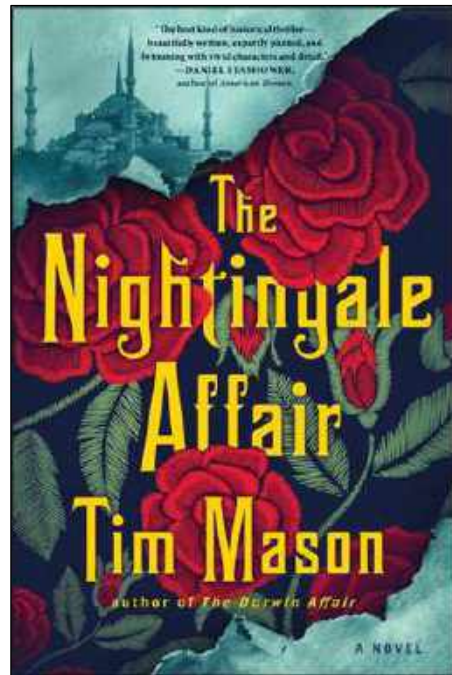
“Dazzling. Sharply drawn and hauntingly beautiful.”—**Elif Shafak**, author of *The Island of Missing Trees*

“*Dust Child* brings together an unforgettable cast of characters . . . [and] deftly explores the ways we both inherit trauma and redefine our own paths forward.”—**Chicago Review of Books**

“An exquisite novel . . . It is one of the many pleasures of *Dust Child* that despite its portrayal of suffering and difficulty, the novel is also infused with joy. Nguyễn beautifully summons the daily lives of her characters . . . In telling their stories over a lifetime, she gives each of the characters opportunities to inhabit their full humanity, and chances to learn and change.”—**Boston Globe**

“From the horrors of war and its enduring afterlife for men and women, lovers and children, soldiers and civilians, she weaves a heartbreaking tale of lost ideals, human devotion, and hard-won redemption. *Dust Child* establishes Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai as one of our finest observers of the devastating consequences of war, and proves, once more, her ability to captivate readers and lure them into Việt Nam’s rich and poignant history.”—**Viet Thanh Nguyen**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sympathizer* and *The Committed*

Born into the Red Delta of Northern Việt Nam, **Dr. Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai** grew up in the Mekong Delta, Southern Việt Nam. She is a writer and translator who has published twelve books of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction in Vietnamese and English and has translated seven books. Her last book, *The Mountains Sing*, was an international bestseller, runner-up for the 2021 Dayton Literary Peace Prize, winner of the 2021 PEN Oakland/Josephine Miles Literary Award, the 2020 Lannan Literary Award Fellowship, and other prizes, and has been translated into 19 languages. She has a PhD in Creative Writing from Lancaster University. For more information, visit www.nguyenphanquemail.com.



May 2023 • 320 pages
World rights: Algonquin

THE NIGHTINGALE AFFAIR by Tim Mason

“Richness of incident, absorbing details and a breathtaking finale elevate *The Nightingale Affair* to the top rank of historical shockers.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

“Mason’s second Field thriller is a deep, gritty dive into Victorian London that’s perfect for fans of Alex Grecian’s *Scotland Yard’s Murder Squad* series and Caleb Carr’s *The Alienist*.”

—*Booklist*

“Inspector Charles Field makes a welcome return in Mason’s stellar second historical whodunit... The action alternates between past and present, each switch masterfully heightening the tension. Mason’s superb plotting and well-drawn lead bode well for future installments.”

—*Publishers Weekly*



April 2023 • 240 pages
World rights: Algonquin

SILVER ALERT by Lee Smith

“*Silver Alert* is Lee Smith at the top of her game, and that is a high bar indeed. It’s brilliantly paced with some of the most energetic prose I’ve ever had the pleasure of reading. The characters of Herb Atlas and Dee Dee are a pair for the ages, who you will long remember after the fall of the last page.”

—**David Baldacci**, author of *Dream Town*

“There are many ways to read Lee Smith’s excellent new novel *Silver Alert*, but I view it as the toll old age has taken on her characters, with all its indignities and absurdities, as well as a wry view of America itself. Staged in iconic Key West, the improviser’s Paradise, it’s an implied prayer for our expressing kindness in gestures large and small.”

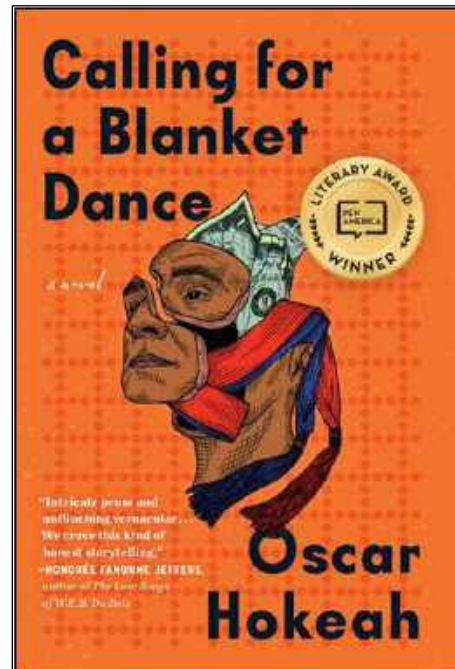
—**Ann Beattie**, author of *The Accomplished Guest*

“Lee Smith’s *Silver Alert* doesn’t just soar. It seems at times to defy the laws of literary gravity. That a book so full of hope should emerge right now is truly remarkable.”

—**Richard Russo**, author of *Empire Falls* and *Chances Are....*

“This hilarious, timely and emotional novel will reframe the way you think about the golden years. Herb and Renee’s friendship leads to a high-octane twist that will leave you breathless. *Silver Alert* is a shimmering arrow that aims straight for the heart.”

—**Adriana Trigiani**, author of *The Good Left Undone*



July 2022 • 272 pages
World rights: Algonquin

CALLING FOR A BLANKET DANCE by Oscar Hokeah

Winner of the 2023 PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel

A *TIME* Must-Read Book of 2022

A *BookPage* Best Fiction Book of 2022

A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Fiction and Best Debut Book of 2022

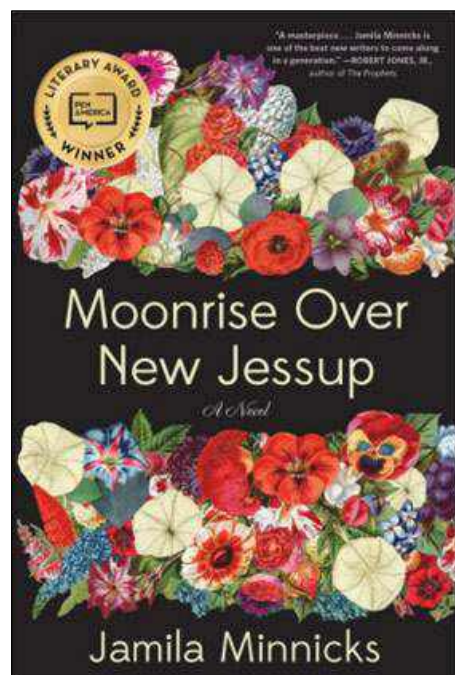
“Quaking with age-old righteous anger but nevertheless luminescent with hope.”—*ELLE*

“Told from a variety of voices, this story is one of love, loss, growth, tradition and evolution. Not to be missed.”—*Ms. Magazine*

“[A] captivating debut . . . with striking insight into human nature and beautiful prose, this heralds an exciting new voice.”—*Publishers Weekly*, **starred** review

“This miraculous story presents a collective imagining not only of who its main character is, but who everyone else anticipated and dreamed he could become. It is a must-read.”—*BuzzFeed*

“An auspicious debut . . . Recalling both Tommy Orange and Gabriel Garcia Marquez in its narrative structure . . . A book to deeply invest in.”—*Chicago Review of Books*



January 2023 • 336 pages
World rights: Algonquin

MOONRISE OVER NEW JESSUP by Jamila Minnicks

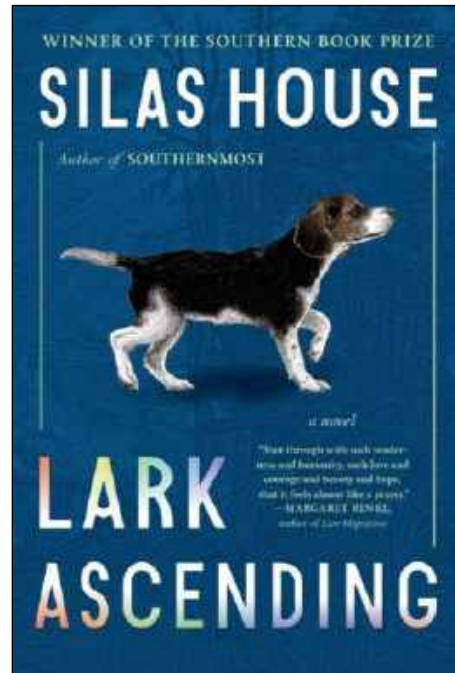
Winner of the 2021 PEN/Bellwether Prize for Socially Engaged Fiction

“With compelling characters and a heart-pounding plot, Jamila Minnicks pulled me into pages of history I’d never turned before.”—*Barbara Kingsolver*

“Jamila Minnicks has written an unforgettable debut, and announced herself as a writer to watch for years to come.”—*Chicago Review of Books*, “12 Must-Read Books of January 2023”

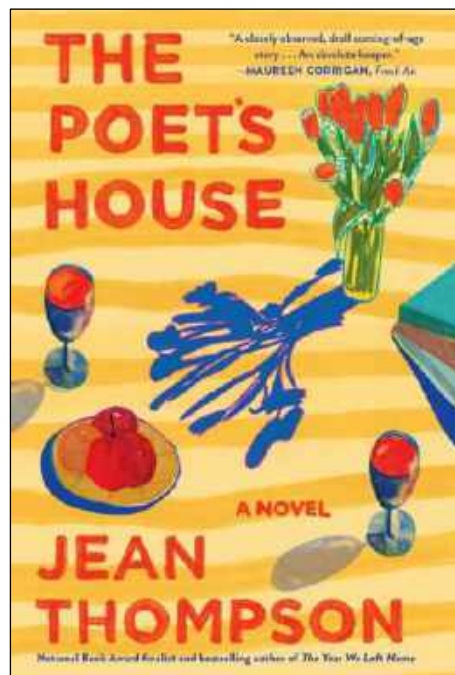
“An outstanding writer, Minnicks excels at capturing the atmosphere and issues of a specific locale at a particular time . . . This highly recommended title is an excellent choice for book discussion groups and would make a great movie.”—*Library Journal*

“The novel delves smartly into the distinction between the fight for equal rights and the fight for integration . . . Minnicks provides a nuanced and realistic portrayal of the personal costs of fighting for change.”—*The New York Times Book Review*



September 2022 • 288 pages
World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:
Italian – Jimenez Edizioni



July 2022 • 320 pages
World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:
Russian – Dreambooks

LARK ASCENDING by Silas House

“A postapocalyptic epic that is quiet and lyrical . . . an emotional testament to the power of hope.”—**Booklist**, **starred** review

For readers of *Station Eleven*, *The Dog Stars*, and *Migrations*, *Lark Ascending* is a “fiercely visceral reading experience.”—**Publishers Weekly**

“Silas House casts an irresistible spell, conjuring a near future that is both familiar and unbearable, illuminating the brutality and suffering that our own thoughtless age seems determined to invoke. But *Lark Ascending* is not merely, or even mainly, a tale of pain and grief. This beautiful book is shot through with such tenderness and humanity, such love and courage and beauty and hope, that it feels almost like a prayer.”—**Margaret Renkl**, author of *Late Migrations*

“I was sucked into this urgent story where survival in the not-too-distant future depends on forging connections with strangers and nurturing tenderness and hope within. An essential, heartbreaking but ultimately uplifting read.”—**Michelle Gallen**, author of *Factory Girls* and *Big Girl, Small Town*

“The gifted Silas House has, with the most deft and masterful touches, forged a quite terrifying and all-too-plausible glimpse of our near future and somehow imbued it with almost impossible quantities of poetry and humanity. A gripping story of endurance, suffering and loss, but also of overwhelming love, loyalty and hope, the result is a hugely impressive feat of the imagination . . . A beautiful, haunting piece of work, and a compulsive read.”—**Billy O’Callaghan**, author of *Life Sentences* and *The Dead House*

THE POET’S HOUSE by Jean Thompson

“The brilliantly rendered mise-en-scène of quarrelsome, ego-ridden yet touchingly fragile poets and the literary entrepreneurs who circle around them makes a vivid backdrop for this classic coming-of-age tale.”—**Kirkus Reviews**, **starred** review

“Wry, canny, and delectable . . . As a tribute to the soul-saving value of art, a cri de coeur for women striving to make authentic lives, and a pipeline of guidance from the elders to the emerging, *The Poet’s House* offers many rooms, infinitely worth the tour.”—**The San Francisco Chronicle**

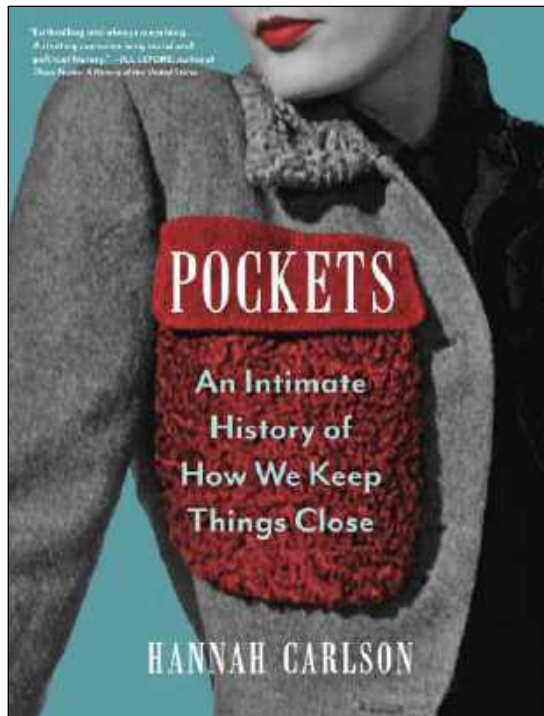
“There’s no doubting and no escaping the joyful, hopeful spirit that inhabits *The Poet’s House*—the spirit of poetry that by the end of this charming novel Carla so clearly embodies.”—Ellen Akins, **The Washington Post**

“Ever insightful, imaginative, compassionate, and funny, Thompson is a virtuoso of thorny interactions between wholly realized characters rife with contradictions. And she is so in her element, bringing this richly dimensional book-anchored mise-en-scène to life with lacerating wit and rueful tenderness while adeptly interleaving a poet’s long, covert battle against sexism and regret with the verdant tale of a young woman taking root in an unexpectedly sustaining realm.”—**Booklist**, **starred** review

NONFICTION

POCKETS

An Intimate History of How We Keep Things Close Hannah Carlson



September 2023 • 320 pages
With color illustrations throughout
World rights: Algonquin



Who gets pockets, and why?

It's a subject that stirs up plenty of passion: Why do men's clothes have so many pockets and women's so few? And why are the pockets on women's clothes often too small to fit phones, if they even open at all? In her captivating book, Hannah Carlson reveals the issues of gender politics, security, sexuality, power, and privilege tucked inside our pockets.

Throughout the medieval era in Europe, the purse was an almost universal dress feature. But when tailors stitched the first pockets into men's trousers five hundred years ago, it ignited controversy and introduced a range of social issues that we continue to wrestle with today, from concealed weapons to gender inequality. See: #GiveMePocketsOrGiveMeDeath.

Filled with incredible images, this microhistory of the humble pocket uncovers what pockets tell us about ourselves: How is it that putting your hands in your pockets can be seen as a sign of laziness, arrogance, confidence, or perversion? And what else might be hiding in the history of our pockets? Thinking about the future, Carlson asks whether we will still want pockets when our clothes contain "smart" textiles that incorporate our IDs and credit cards.

"Who knew the humble pocket could hold so much history? In this enthralling and always surprising account, Hannah Carlson turns the pocket inside out and out tumble pocket watches, coins, pistols, and a riveting centuries-long social and political history."—**Jill Lepore**, author of *These Truths*

"If you're a man, you might wonder why someone would write an entire book about pockets . . . if you're a woman, the story of *Pockets* pretty much illuminates all of human history."—**Faith Salie**, contributor to *CBS News Sunday Morning* and regular panelist on *NPR's Wait Wait . . . Don't Tell Me!*

"Sweeping gracefully over half a millennium of Western culture . . . Carlson's study showcases the best features of cultural history . . . As sumptuously illustrated as it is learned . . . this highly inventive and original book demands a pocket sequel."—**Wall Street Journal**

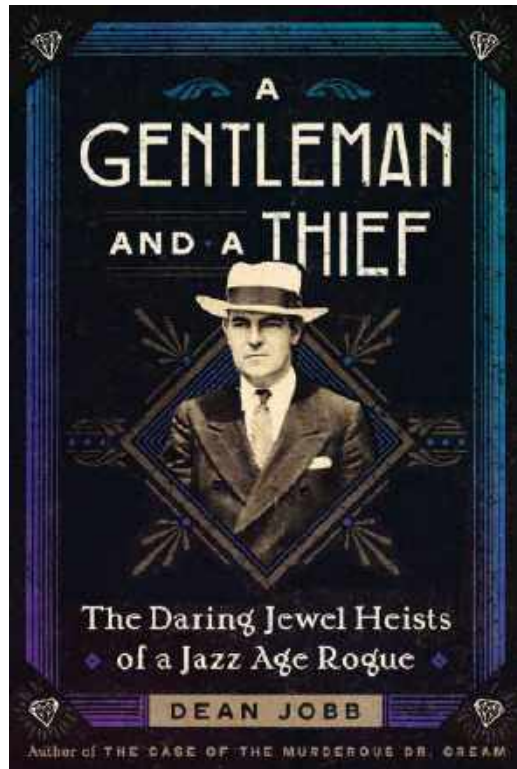
"Fascinating insight as to how something as simple as a pocket can influence culture, gender, and society as a whole. Full color images and photos are abundant throughout the text, wonderfully illustrating that which is being discussed. Perfect for readers interested in history and textiles as well as culture, sociology, and gender."—**Booklist**

Hannah Carlson is an authority on the history of clothing and an award-winning researcher and author. She has been featured on the podcast *99% Invisible*, as well as in *The Los Angeles Times*, *Fast Company*, and *The New Yorker*. A senior lecturer in the apparel design department at the Rhode Island School of Design, she has acted as the faculty fellow in Costumes and Textiles at the RISD Museum and trained as a Conservator of Costume and Textiles at the Fashion Institute of Technology. She earned a master's degree from FIT, and a Ph.D. in material culture from Boston University.

A GENTLEMAN AND A THIEF

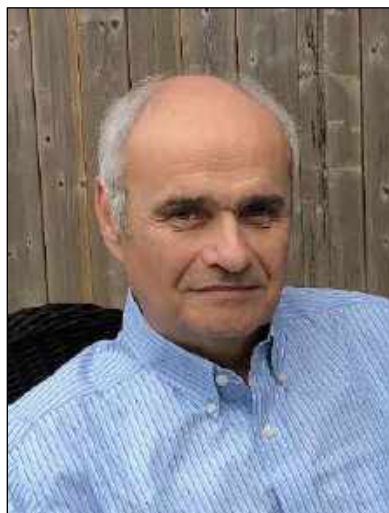
The Daring Jewel Heists of a Jazz Age Rogue

Dean Jobb



June 2024 • 288 pages
World rights: Algonquin

Rights sold:
Canada – HarperCollins Canada



A Jazz Age tale of crime, detection, and a master jewel thief who charmed celebrities and socialized with New York’s millionaires as he planned and executed the most audacious and lucrative heists that would relieve them of their treasures. Smart and smooth, a skilled con artist, Arthur Barry was one of the most successful burglars in history—“the greatest jewel thief who ever lived,” according to *Life* magazine. He was adept at slipping in and out of bedrooms undetected as his victims slept only inches away. He became a folk hero, a gentleman bandit touted in the press as the “Prince of Thieves” and the “Aristocrat of Crime.”

In a span of seven years, Barry stole pearls, diamonds, and other precious gems worth as much as \$85 million today. Among his many victims were a Rockefeller and a Vanderbilt, an heiress to the Woolworth Department Store fortune, an oil magnate, the co-founder of automotive giant General Motors, an aviation pioneer, members of the Royal Family who were touring America, a champion polo player and, ironically, a prominent architect who designed a prison. The rollicking, caper-filled rise and dramatic downfall of this master thief is a high-speed ride told in stylish prose by author Dean Jobb. Beyond its true crime bona fides, *A Gentleman and a Thief* is also a love story. Barry eventually confessed his crimes to protect his wife, Anna Blake, and was convicted of an astounding 150 robberies (and would later confess to countless more that had remained unsolved for decades). He broke out of prison—after inciting a bloody inmates’ riot—when Anna got sick so they could relish a few more years together as fugitives.

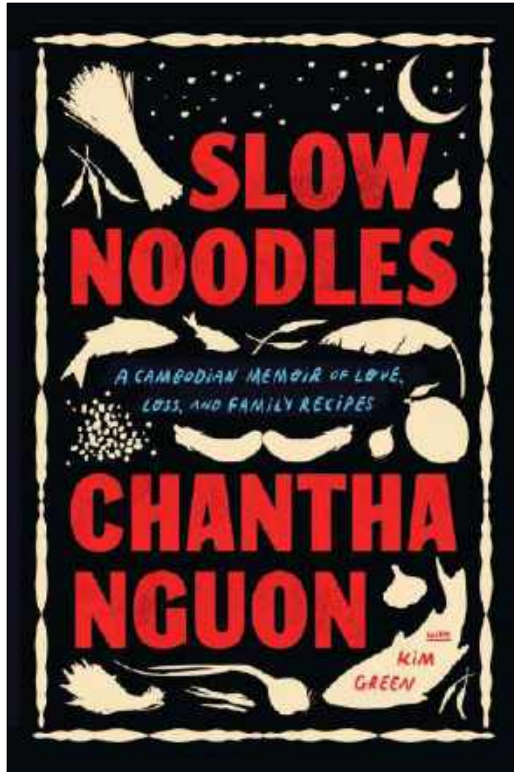
Page-turning, escapist, and sparkling with insight into the allure of gemstones and our fascination with well-planned crimes and the suave, clever criminals who pull them off, *A Gentleman and a Thief* is perfect for fans of both true crime and *The Pink Panther*.

Dean Jobb is an award-winning author and journalist and a professor at the University of King’s College in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he teaches in the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Nonfiction program. He is the author of eight previous books, including *Empire of Deception*, which the *New York Times Book Review* called “intoxicating and impressively researched” and the Chicago Writers Association named the Nonfiction Book of the Year. Jobb has written for major newspapers and magazines, including the *Chicago Tribune*, Toronto’s *Globe and Mail*, and the *Irish Times*. He writes a monthly true-crime column, “Stranger Than Fiction,” for *Ellery Queen’s Mystery Magazine*. His work as an investigative reporter has been nominated for Canada’s National Newspaper and National Magazine awards, and Jobb is a three-time winner of Atlantic Canada’s top journalism award.

SLOW NOODLES

A Cambodian Memoir of Love, Loss, and Family Recipes

Chantha Nguon, with Kim Green



February 2024 • 352 pages
World rights: Algonquin



A haunting and evocative memoir from a Cambodian refugee who lost her house, her country, her parents, her siblings, her friends—everything but the joyous memories of cooking with her mother. Reclaiming those Khmer dishes will become an act of resistance and a path to survival.

Having fled Pol Pot’s “Year Zero” in 1975, nine-year-old Chantha Nguon is forced to live as a refugee in war-ravaged Southeast Asia. In her early twenties, orphaned and penniless, alone in a Saigon refugee camp, all she has left are her mother’s recipes and difficult decisions to make about her future. Yet it would be these recipes that would carry a bereft daughter through the worst years of her life, by inspiring her to fight for a world she knew could be better—“because I had tasted it once before.”

Slow Noodles starts right there in the magical years of Chantha’s childhood, where she cooks delicious foods with her mother and sister, and then: we follow Chantha as the “cleansing” of ethnic Vietnamese begins and she escapes amid bombs to Saigon, her many years in a refugee camp, her decision to flee Vietnam, crossing mountains and rivers into Thailand, and staying in lawless border towns along the way, until finally she arrives back to her homeland. Along the route, she survives by cooking in a brothel, serving drinks in a nightclub, making and selling street food, becoming a suture-nurse treating refugees abused by Thai authorities, and weaving silk.

Scrounging for food and recreating the dishes of her youth becomes, for Chantha, an act of resistance, a way to uphold those values that the Khmer Rouge sought to destroy. “The past cannot be erased so easily,” she insists. And one way to keep it alive, Chantha comes to see, is by reclaiming the culinary traditions of its mothers and grandmothers. Recipes for chicken lime soup, paté de fois, banh sung noodles, curries, spring rolls, stir-fries, and many others are woven through the chapters of the narrative. Together they represent what Chantha calls a “slow noodles” approach to healing and to cooking, one that prioritizes time and care over expediency as a way to rebuild the culture of a people lost to unimaginable violence.

“I’ve never read a book that made me weep, wince, laugh out loud, and rejoice like *Slow Noodles*. In Chantha Nguon’s harrowing, wise, and fiercely feminist memoir, cooking is a language—of love, remembrance, and rebellion—and stories are nourishment.”

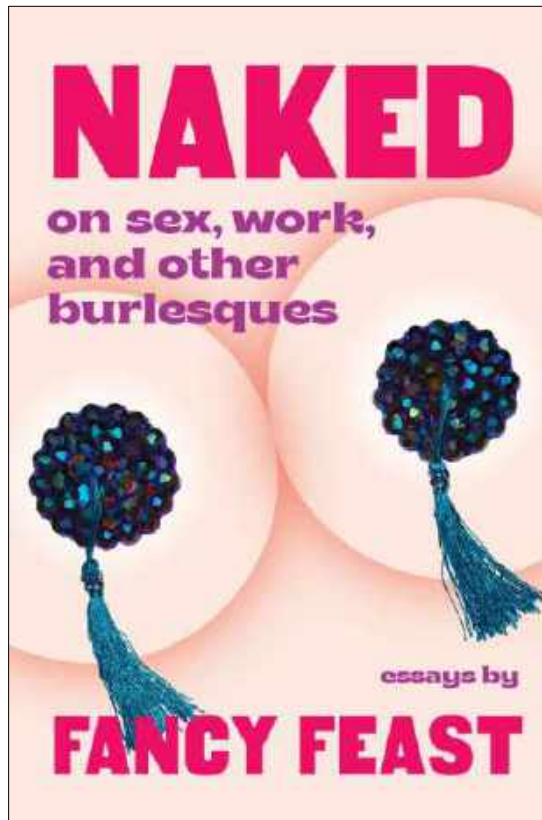
—*Maggie Smith*, author of *You Could Make This Place Beautiful*

Chantha Nguon was born in Cambodia, and was a refugee for two decades until she was finally able to return to her homeland. Today she is the co-founder of the Stung Treng Women’s Development Center, a social enterprise that offers a living wage, education, and social services to women and their families in rural northeastern Cambodia. A gifted public speaker, she has appeared at universities and on radio and TV news programs, including NPR’s Morning Edition. She cooks often for friends and family.

NAKED

On Sex, Work, and Other Burlesques

Fancy Feast



April 2024 • 320 pages
World rights: Algonquin



In *Naked*, a celebrated burlesque performer, sex educator, and social worker bares it all, with incisive and hilarious essays about selling, performing, and consuming desire.

Fancy Feast draws back the curtain to reveal a world that most denizens of the daytime never see. Part exclusive backstage pass, part long-form literary striptease, these essays confront our tightly held beliefs about sex, communication, power, and the messiness of life on the margins of respectability. In “Dildo Lady,” Fancy recounts her time compensating for the failures of the American sex education system while working retail at a sex toy store. In “Doing Yourself,” Fancy tackles fatphobia and dating, self-love, and fantasies. In “Yes/No/Maybe,” Fancy brings the reader from sex parties to polyamorous relationships as she contrasts the undeniable sexiness of enthusiastic consent with the devastating effects of miscommunication and entitlement.

Fancy Feast does this all as a fat woman who makes a living taking off her clothes—a triumphant punch-back at a culture that wants fat people to be self-hating or sexless. For fans of Lindy West and Melissa Febos, *Naked* is by turns splashy, vulnerable, and always powerful.

“Electrifying . . . the author and her stories are captivating and infused with vulnerability and humor . . . a powerful, entertaining testament to embracing all of the facets of oneself.”

—*Library Journal*

“A meaningful, vulnerable look at the world of burlesque from a storyteller who isn’t afraid to show a little skin.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Honest, explicit, and sometimes vulnerable, this revealing debut offers much for readers to enjoy.”

—*Booklist*

“*Naked* is a triumphant collection of essays about navigating sex industries as an unapologetic, empathetic, big-hearted millennial. I was laughing, clapping, and wincing as Fancy Feast lays bare the sexual hang-ups and misconceptions that shape our culture. I’m so glad she pointed her razor-sharp wit dead center on the things that matter: namely, the things we hide our sexuality behind, and what can be gained (and lost) from nakedness.”

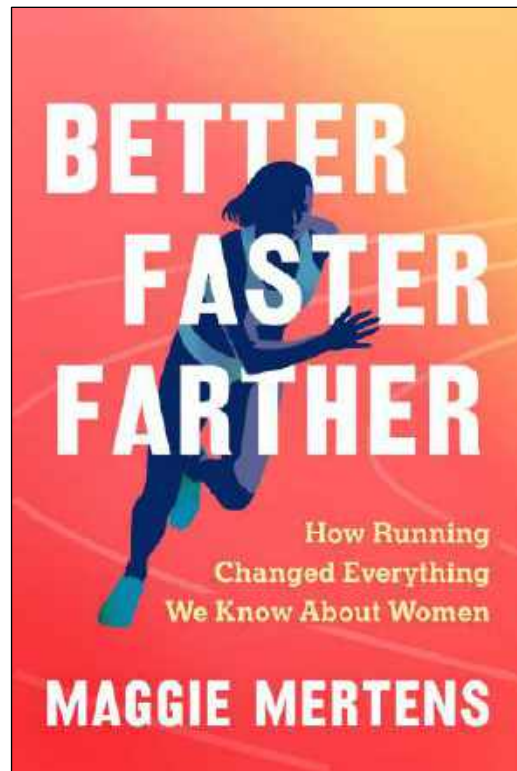
—*Gabrielle Korn*, author of *Everybody (Else) Is Perfect* and *Yours for the Taking*

Fancy Feast is a Brooklyn-based burlesque performer, writer, and sex educator. She holds the title of Miss Coney Island 2016 and is the recipient of the Revolutionary Award at the 2017 New York Burlesque Festival. She has performed at venues including The Whitney, the Brooklyn Museum, St. Ann’s Warehouse, the Metropolitan Opera, and Meow Wolf in Santa Fe. She is the subject of Leon Chase’s documentary, *Character NYC*. She regularly contributes essays to BuzzFeed, and her burlesque work has been profiled by NPR, Refinery29, and the *Huffington Post*.

BETTER FASTER FARTHER

How Running Changed Everything We Know About Women

Maggie Mertens



June 2024 • 272 pages
World rights: Algonquin



Award-winning sports journalist Maggie Mertens tells the propulsive, edge-of-your-seat story of how women broke into competitive running over the last century, getting faster and fiercer with every race and changing our understanding of gender and power in athletics and beyond.

The 2024 Olympics in Paris will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the first time women were permitted to compete in an Olympic marathon—88 years after the first modern men’s Olympic marathon. In fact, however, 2024 also marks 88 years since the first woman ran in that very race. She just did it without permission.

Mertens transports us to that first boundary-breaking marathon in Greece, 1896, which Stamata Revithi successfully finished, to the earliest sanctioned women’s races of the 20th century and into the present, showing how time and again, despite women proving their abilities on the track, men in the medical establishment, media, and athletic associations fought to keep women (or at least white women) fragile—and sometimes literally tried to push them out of the race (see Bobbi Gibb, Boston Marathon, 1966). Women ran barefoot or in nursing shoes, since there were no women’s running shoes. They ran without sports bras, which weren’t invented until 1977, or competed disguised as men. They faced down quack science, doctors who put them on bedrest, newspaper reports that women simply collapsed if they ran a mere 800 meters, and, still today, face relentless attention to their physical bodies: Is she too strong, too masculine, is she even a woman? And these questions have consequences, as some women are now banned from competition due to outdated concepts of gender and biology.

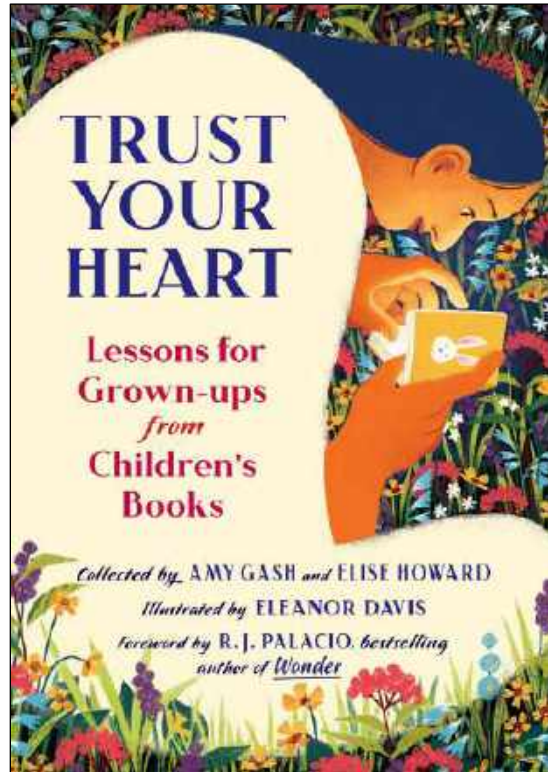
Better Faster Farther takes us inside the lives, the races, the victories of the women who changed society’s perception of what women can do, and how biology really influences athletics. And with this empowering narrative, we are reminded that today, in spite of ongoing sexism in the running world, women continue to run, and win—and the race has only just begun.

Maggie Mertens is a writer, journalist, and editor whose essays and reporting have appeared in *The Atlantic*, NPR, *Sports Illustrated*, ESPNw, *Deadspin*, VICE, *The Cut*, *Glamour*, *Pacific Standard*, Refinery29, and *Creative Nonfiction*, among others. Her work has also been included in *The Year’s Best Sports Writing 2021* and *Women and Sports in the United States*, and has been nominated for the Dan Jenkins Medal for Excellence in Sportswriting. She earned a B.A. in English Literature and Italian Studies from Smith College, and an M.F.A. in Creative Nonfiction Writing from The New School.

TRUST YOUR HEART

Lessons for Grown-ups from Children's Books

Edited by Amy Gash & Elise Howard
Foreword by R. J. Palacio; Illustrated by Eleanor Davis



August 2024 • 224 pages
With black & white line drawings
World rights: Algonquin

An inspiring and delightful illustrated collection of quotations from a diverse range of beloved children's books that will help teach all of us how to live in the world today.

Everything we need to know as adults can be found in the brilliant, imaginative, diverse world of children's books. That is the simple yet powerful promise offered by *Trust Your Heart*. This illustrated, giftable collection, with witty and inspirational quotations organized in chapters such as "How to Believe in the World" and "How to Have Fun in the World," reminds us not to lose sight of the values we learned as kids—to be courageous, to do good deeds, to respect our imaginations, and maybe even to break a few rules every once in a while. Some quotations will bring readers back to old favorites like *The Little Prince* or *Ramona Forever*, while others will lead to new discoveries inspired by the exciting new variety of children's books being published today. And all provide a roadmap to doing and being good in the world.

As one reviewer wrote about *Trust Your Heart*'s predecessor, *What the Dormouse Said*, published by Algonquin in 1999, "Whether you're looking for wisdom about goodness or sadness or even more practical matters, you will surely find it in this delightful collection."

Trust Your Heart lands in the sweet spot of nostalgic and entertaining; fresh and enlightening. And at the same time, it reminds us of the exhilaration of being a reader, young at heart, venturing forth into the world of storybooks and unforgettable characters and confirming that we are never too old to recapture the lessons, pleasures, and exuberance of childhood.



Amy Gash is an executive editor at Algonquin Books, where she acquires and edits narrative nonfiction and fiction for adults.

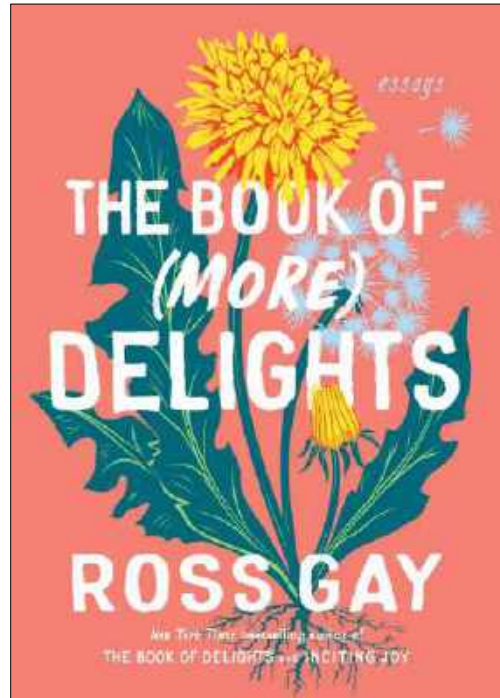


Elise Howard has worked for many years as a publisher and editor of children's books. With her husband, Elise divides her time among the children's literature capitals of New York, Paris, and coastal Maine.

THE BOOK OF (MORE) DELIGHTS

Ross Gay

Algonquin / NONFICTION



We all need more delight!

The *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Book of Delights* (over 150,000 copies sold) is back with a new record of small wonders—and it is exactly the book we need right now.

In Ross Gay’s new collection of daily wonders, again written over the course of a year, one of America’s most original voices continues his ongoing investigation of delight.

For Gay, what delights us is what connects us, what gives us meaning, from the joy of hearing a nostalgic song blasting from a passing car to the pleasure of refusing the “nefarious” scannable QR code menus, from the tiny dog he fell hard for to his mother baking a dozen kinds of cookies for her grandchildren. As always, Gay revels in the natural world—sweet potatoes being harvested, a hummingbird carousing in the beebalm, a sunflower growing out of a wall around the cemetery, the shared bounty from a neighbor’s fig tree—and the trillion mysterious ways this glorious earth delights us.

“Another startling, sensuous collection of miniature essays . . . again and again, joy wins out over despair as Gay pays tribute to a world of people ‘bumbling, flailing, hurting, failing, changing.’”

—**Booklist**

“Enormously delightful. Gay is a master at amplifying the delights all around us”

—**Literary Hub**

“His delightful observations of everyday life are a reminder that joy is all around us, we just have to be willing to look for it.”

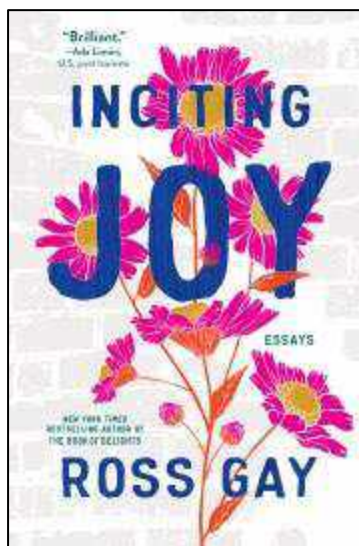
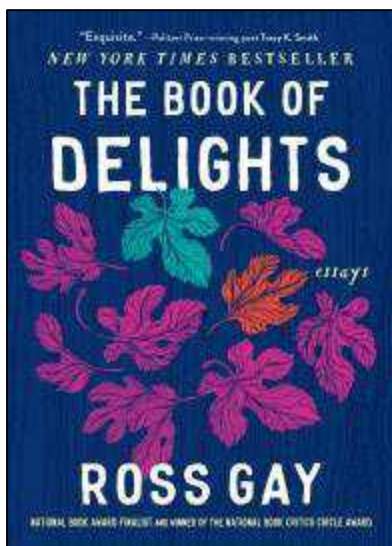
—**TIME.com**

“Keenly observed and delivered with deftness, these essays are a testament to the artfulness of attention and everyday joy.”

—**Kirkus Reviews, starred review**

“Enchanting . . . These unforgettable vignettes will enhance readers’ appreciation for their own surroundings.”

—**Publishers Weekly**



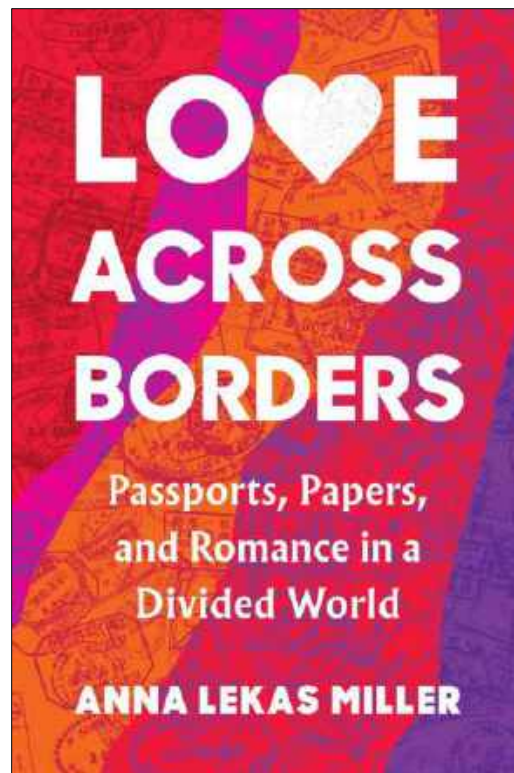
Ross Gay is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Book of Delights: Essays* and four books of poetry. His *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* won the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award and the 2016 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, and was a finalist for the National Book Award; and *Be Holding* won the 2021 PEN America Jean Stein Book Award. He is a founding board member of the Bloomington Community Orchard, a non-profit, free-fruit-for-all food justice and joy project. Gay has received fellowships from Cave Canem, the Bread Loaf Writer’s Conference, and the Guggenheim Foundation.



LOVE ACROSS BORDERS

Passports, Papers, and Romance in a Divided World

Anna Lekas Miller



June 2023 • 272 pages
World rights: Algonquin



We are told that love conquers all, but what happens when you don't have the right passport?

With deep empathy, rigorous reporting, and the irresistible perspective of a true romantic, journalist Anna Lekas Miller tells the stories of couples around the world who must confront Kafkaesque immigration systems to be together—as she did to be with her partner.

Love Across Borders takes readers across contentious frontiers around the world, from Turkey to Iraq, Syria to Greece, Mexico to the United States, to reveal the widespread prejudicial laws intent on dividing people. Lekas Miller tells her own story of meeting and falling deeply in love with Salem Rizk in Istanbul, where they were both reporting on the Syrian War. But when Turkey started cracking down on refugees, Salem, who is Syrian, wasn't allowed to stay in the country, nor could he safely return to Syria. He was a man without a country. Over the next few years, as they navigated Salem's asylum claims, the United States' Muslim ban, and labyrinthine regulations in several different countries, Lekas Miller learned about—and bonded with—other people whose spouses had been deported, who found love in refugee camps, whose differing immigration statuses caused complicated power dynamics and financial hardship or threatened the wellbeing of their children. Here, offering a uniquely diverse, international, and intimate look at the global immigration crisis, she interweaves these rich, complicated love stories with a fascinating look at the history of passports (a surprisingly recent institution), the legacy of colonialism, and the discriminatory laws shaping how people move through the world every day.

Ultimately, she builds a powerful, moving case for a borderless society—one where a border patrol agent can't keep anyone's love story from its happy ending.

“Anyone interested in moving beyond the headlines to see the human face of immigration will find this book about the structural inequalities of cross-border relationships timely, thoughtful, and provocative. Eye-opening reading that ably blends the personal and the universal.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“This eye-opening account brings personal stories to the forefront of the international refugee crisis . . . Sometimes heartwarming, sometimes excruciating, these engrossing accounts are now documented by a woman who speaks for thousands of star-crossed lovers.”—*Booklist*, **starred** review

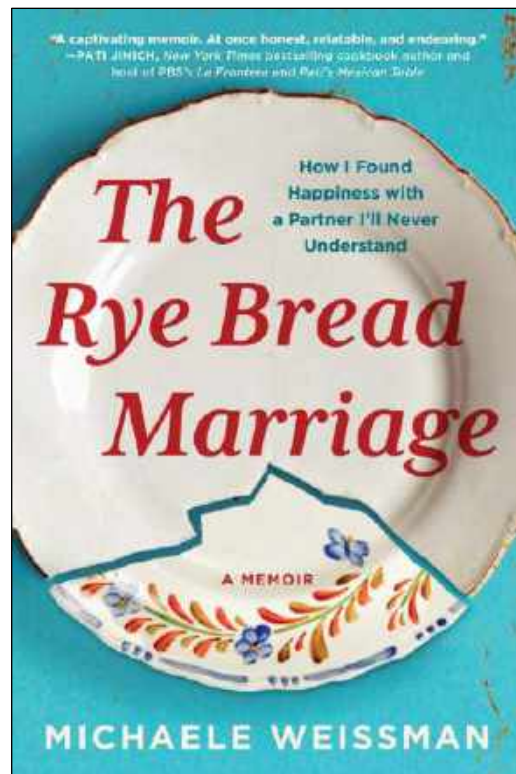
“This is an impassioned nonfiction narrative that interweaves the author's personal and professional lives to relate the hostile environment of a global migration crisis”—*Library Journal*

Anna Lekas Miller is a Lebanese-American journalist who has covered conflict and migration movements around the world. She holds an MA in Investigative Journalism from City University in London, and her work has appeared in *Vanity Fair*, *The Nation*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Intercept*, CNN, *The Daily Beast*, Al Jazeera, *The Guardian*, *Glamour*, *Marie Claire*, *Grazia* and more. Previously, Lekas Miller was the Editor-in-Chief of the Media Diversity Institute, a London-based charity that focuses on empowering minority voices in the media and advocating for fairer and more inclusive journalism. She lives in East London with her husband.

THE RYE BREAD MARRIAGE

How I Found Happiness With a Partner I'll Never Understand

Michaele Weissman



August 2023 • 288 pages
World rights : Algonquin



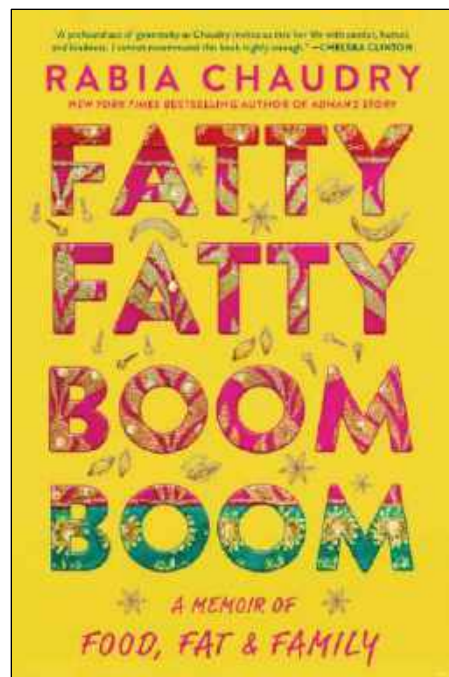
“You wake up one morning married to a stranger who loves Latvian rye bread,” writes Michaele Weissman. “It is a touchstone of his fractured identity. A talisman of his always-present past You wake up married to a rye bread-loving stranger and slowly you realize that your husband doesn’t want to be like you and he isn’t going to become like you. In fact, he wants you to be like him! From this nexus of unresolvable difference the decades-long battle is engaged. You fight about the thermostat and the thickness of the towels. You fight about the morality of French toast and buying new shoes for the baby. Sometimes you are mean. Sometimes he is mean. Still you wake up snuggling skin to skin. For better and for worse he loves you and you love him. And it is your peculiar fate to spend a lifetime trying to figure out what that means.”

When they met, John was a dashing European, a Latvian refugee, a physics PhD, a man ready to settle down. Michaele was a fast-talking American college student hungry for an independent life. And yet, years later, they did marry, and marriage went as marriage goes: John became the man who wouldn’t throw away his mother’s broken plates or the wooden clogs that hurt his feet, who wouldn’t spend money except when he did, who wouldn’t travel without a five-pound loaf of rye bread. There was always tenderness, even when there was contention. In time, Michaele would start to realize that John had not been the only one to come to the marriage with his own prejudices, misunderstandings, and blind spots. She would try to understand why the clogs were important, why the rye bread mattered, what Latvia meant to John. What her own history meant to her. The ways we see each other and don’t see each other.

The Rye Bread Marriage is about the history that makes us who we are, geopolitical and personal. It takes us from the Latvian town where John was born to Southwest Germany where he grew up, and excavates poignant stories of war, privation and resilience. It also invokes Latvian folklore and history, and includes musings about the nature of love. A frank, thoughtful, and beautifully crafted romance, it will appeal to everyone who is bemused by the complexities of living with another human, and by what to cook them for dinner.

“A charming, insightful meditation on the intersection of love, family, and food.”
—*Kirkus Reviews*

Michaele Weissman is a freelance journalist and author whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, and dozens of other publications. She is the co-author of *A History of Women in America*, which has sold nearly 250,000 copies. More recently, she is the author of *God in a Cup*, a travelogue and exploration of the specialty coffee scene. She teaches writing and is a member of the steering committee of New Directions, a writing program for scholars and psychotherapists offered by the Washington Center for Psychoanalysis. At Politics and Prose, she co-leads sold out workshops helping writers find the imagery—and language—that is uniquely theirs. She has been married for 38 years to her rye bread co-conspirator, John Melngailis.



November 2022 • 352 pages
World rights: Algonquin

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Star Press

FATTY FATTY BOOM BOOM

A Memoir of Food, Fat, and Family by Rabia Chaudry

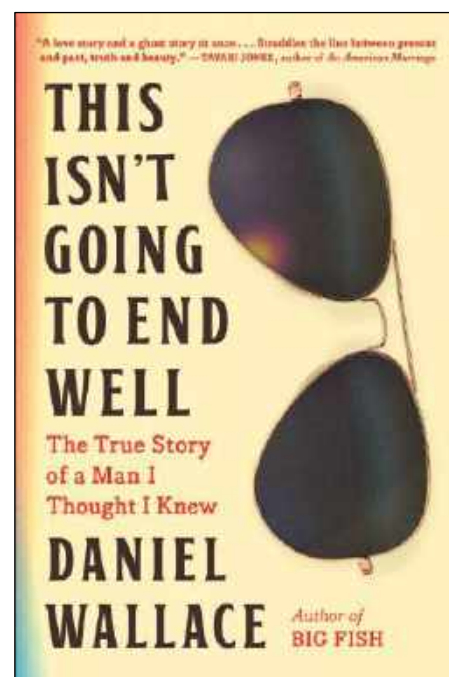
Algonquin / NONFICTION

“Those who know Chaudry [*Adnan’s Story*] from the podcast *Serial* may be surprised to read this bighearted, hilarious, and brutally honest journey told with candor, charm, and wit about learning how to love yourself and your body unapologetically while navigating a roller-coaster of a life populated with eccentric and lovable Pakistani family members, delicious food recipes, awkward childhood crushes, failed diets, and Husky pants. I laughed at characters and scenes that seemed lifted from my own Pakistani home and winced at the colorism and fat-shaming that is often so prevalent but unchallenged in our communities. The big-hearted book takes on all of it with an invitation for all of us to be better, while enjoying a glorious, fried samosa along the way.”—*Wajahat Ali, author of Go Back to Where You Came From*

“Engrossing . . . Chaudry refreshingly eschews conventional narratives about weight loss, as well as fat acceptance . . . Victory is sweet and savory in this ebullient tale of self-acceptance.”—*Publishers Weekly*, **starred** review

“Chaudry eloquently portrays the role of food in love and friendship. At the same time, she doesn’t flinch from reporting the humiliations heaped on the overweight at every turn . . . The literary equivalent of chaat masala fries: spicy, heady, sour, and uniquely delicious.”—*Kirkus*, **starred** review

“Chaudry is totally engaging, a perfect host . . . Utterly delicious!”—*Booklist*, **starred** review



April 2023 • 320 pages
World rights: Algonquin

THIS ISN'T GOING TO END WELL

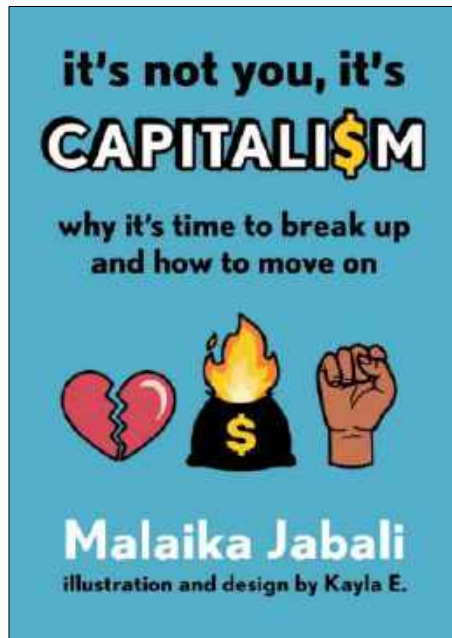
The True Story of a Man I Thought I Knew by Daniel Wallace

“Novelist Wallace (*Big Fish*) pays loving tribute to his late brother-in-law, William Nealy, in this deeply felt memoir . . . Wallace’s elegiac narrative shimmers with deep admiration for a man who always played by his own rules and stood by the people he loved. This will entrance readers from the first page.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“A bold and compassionate exploration of male friendship and the devastating impact of suicide.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Daniel Wallace has written a ghost story – not the kind you have read before. It is a haunting story about a person he loved and, at times, loathed, who influenced the author’s life in ways never to be fully known or seen—a shimmering. Wallace—whose prose is the truest kind, brave and somewhere between sharp-edged facts and magic—chooses to “get in the cage with the tiger”, in this case, his brother-in-law William Nealy. Nealy is the famed cartoonist, writer, and whitewater adventurer who lived to defy death daily, until he didn’t. Wallace takes us to the edge of what scares us, death by suicide, and miraculously (no, skillfully) writes a book on grace.”—*Terry Tempest Williams, author of Erosion – Essays of Undoing*

“Wallace’s storytelling skill captures the vibrant personality Nealy showed the world, and his emotional candor the tragedy of a good man ‘who was toxic only to himself.’”—*Booklist*



October 2023 • 208 pages
Illustrated throughout
 World rights: Algonquin

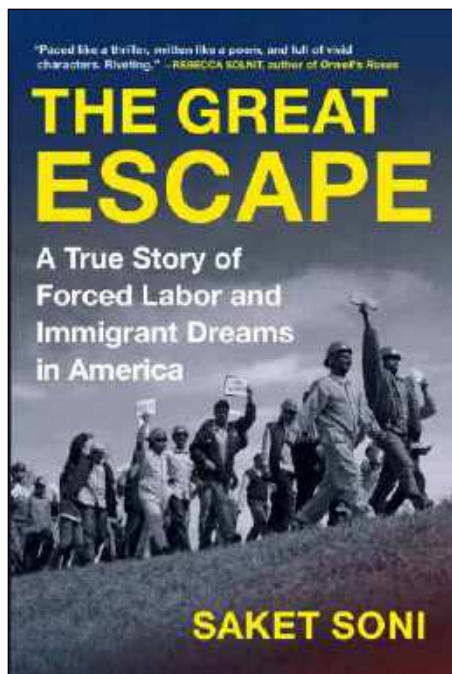
IT'S NOT YOU, IT'S CAPITALISM

Why It's Time To Break Up and How to Move On by Malaika Jabali

“A cheeky introduction to anti-capitalist theory with a focus on race . . . The author’s vibrant language works together with memes and emoji-esque graphics to make this book a breeze to read but . . . draws on a deep well of theory and historical analysis . . . A radical textbook for budding socialists, uncompromising in its attention to race in the story of global capitalism.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Jabali . . . takes on capitalism’s failures and injustices with humor and moxie in this dynamic, illustrated primer. The clever, irreverent, and hip relationship allegory makes for a zesty, thought-provoking, and liberating guide.”—*Booklist*

“Being radicalized has never been so much fun! Malaika Jabali’s brilliant little volume is a laugh-out-loud exploration of the toxic relationship most of us have with capitalism, and an inclusive and intersectional analysis of how supposedly free markets depend on the subjugation and oppression of wide swaths of the population. But more than just critique, Jabali offers a clear-eyed and compelling road map for how socialism can lead us all into a more just, equitable, and sustainable future.”—*Kristen R. Ghodsee, author of Everyday Utopia*



January 2023 • 368 pages
 World rights: Algonquin

THE GREAT ESCAPE

A True Story of Forced Labor and Immigrant Dreams by Saket Soni

“An eye-opening look at the world of global itinerant workers who spend years away from home to support their families, *The Great Escape* is a must-read for anyone organizing a union drive across cultural or racial lines.”

—*Farah Stockman, The New York Times Book Review*

“Beyond the research, this book stands out for its startlingly complex and intimate portraits. . . . This book will appeal to students of U.S. immigration and civil-rights history, as well as anyone who loves a beautifully told story.”—*Library Journal*, **starred** review

“Revelatory . . . Soni writes with empathy and conviction. This is a searing account of the harrowing road to justice.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“A searing exposé of corporate criminality and its governmental enablers.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Interwoven with the author’s own story of visa instability, *The Great Escape* illuminates the lives affected by human trafficking and the complexity of U.S. immigration bureaucracy.”—*Booklist*

“It’s paced like a thriller, written like a poem, and full of vivid characters who’d enliven any novel, but it’s the true story one of the largest modern-day trafficking incidents in recent history and how Saket Soni and his crew went after the powerful perpetrators. A story as important as it is riveting to read.”—*Rebecca Solnit, author of Orwell’s Roses*