

WESTWOOD CREATIVE ARTISTS

FRANKFURT
CATALOGUE

FALL 2021



WESTWOOD CREATIVE ARTISTS



Westwood Creative Artists

FALL CATALOGUE 2021

INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS

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Table of Contents

[News from WCA](#)
[Recent Prizes](#)
[Recent Sales](#)

pages 3 – 6
 pages 7 – 8
 pages 9 – 11

Fiction

[John Bemrose, *The River Twice*](#)
[Michael Blouin, *I Am Billy the Kid*](#)
[Bobbi French, *The Good Women of Safe Harbour*](#)
[Kim Fu, *Lesser Known Monsters of the 21st Century*](#)
[Tamara Goranson, *The Voyage of Freydis*](#)
[Wayne Johnston, *The Mystery of Right and Wrong*](#)
[Susan Juby, *Mindful of Murder*](#)
[Wab Kinew, *Walking in Two Worlds*](#)
[Thomas King, *Sufferance*](#)
[Thomas King, *Deep House*](#)
[Tessa McWatt, *The Snow Line*](#)
[Jack Mitchell, *The Odyssey of Star Wars*](#)
[David A. Robertson, *The Barren Grounds & The Great Bear*](#)
[Lisa Rochon, *Tuscan Daughter*](#)
[Shyam Selvadurai, *Mansions of the Moon*](#)
[Craig Shreve, *African Samurai*](#)
[Carrie Snyder, *Francie's Got a Gun*](#)
[Heather Tucker, *Cracked Pots*](#)
[M.G. Vassanji, *What You Are*](#)
[A.J. Vrana, *The Chaos Cycle series*](#)
[Sam Wiebe, *Hell and Gone*](#)

Non-fiction

13	Kamal Al-Solaylee, <i>Return</i>	35
14	Diane Borsato, <i>Mushrooming</i>	36
	Andrea Constand, <i>The Moment</i>	37
15	Sam Cooper, <i>Wilful Blindness</i>	38
	Antonio Michael Downing, <i>Saga Boy</i>	39
16	Dr. David Goldbloom, <i>We Can Do Better</i>	40
17	Tomson Highway, <i>Permanent Astonishment</i>	41
	Chris Honey, MD, <i>The Tenth Nerve</i>	42
18	Michael Ignatieff, <i>On Consolation</i>	43
19	Dean Jobb, <i>The Case of the Murderous Dr. Cream</i>	44
20	Wayne Johnston, <i>Jennie's Boy</i>	45
21	Cheuk Kwan, <i>Have You Eaten Yet?</i>	46
22	Simu Liu, <i>We Were Dreamers</i>	47
23	Jeannie Marshall, <i>Seeing Things in the Sistine Chapel</i>	48
24	Omar Mouallem, <i>Praying to the West</i>	49
	Michael Posner, <i>Leonard Cohen Volume One & Two</i>	50
25	Dr. Adam Pottle, <i>Voice</i>	51
26	Marc Raboy, <i>Looking for Alicia</i>	52
27	Bob Ramsay, <i>Love or Die Trying</i>	53
28	Jennifer Robertson, <i>Bitcoin Widow</i>	54
29	Jamal Saeed, <i>The Road From Damascus</i>	55
30	Jaspreet Singh, <i>My Mother, My Translator</i>	56
31	Andrew Stobo Sniderman and Douglas Sanderson (Amo	
32	Binashii), <i>Valley of the Birdtail</i>	57
33	Don Thompson, <i>The Curious Economics of Luxury Fashion</i>	58
	Richard Wagamese, <i>Selected</i>	59

[Selected client list](#)
[Co-agents](#)

page 60
 page 61

October 2021

Welcome to the Fall 2021 edition of Westwood Creative Artists' rights catalogue. Please allow us to highlight some of the impressive feats our authors and clients achieved in recent months.



(c) Christie Vuong / The Globe & Mail

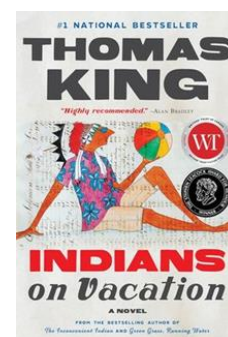
We are delighted to see so many WCA titles included in this year's Fall Books Preview in *The Globe & Mail*: **Wayne Johnston's** *The Mystery of Right and Wrong* ([p. 18](#)); **Tomson Highway's** *Permanent Astonishment* ([p. 41](#)); **Chief Clarence Louie's** *Rez Rules: My Indictment of Canada's and America's Systemic Racism Against Indigenous Peoples*; **Omar Mouallem's** *Praying to the West: How Muslims Shaped the Americas* ([p. 49](#)); **Kamal Al-Solaylee's** *Return: Why We Go Back to Where We Come From* ([p. 35](#)); and **Richard Wagamese's** *Selected: What Comes From Spirit* ([p. 59](#)).

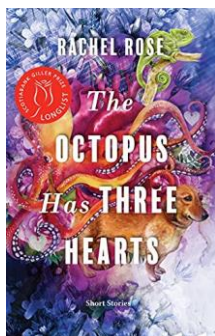
FICTION



Jack Wang's *We Two Alone* has won the [2021 Danuta Gleed Literary Award](#) for best first short story collection. The jury praised the writing as "atmospheric, highly visual, and peppered with startling and persuasive detail" and the collection as "a compassionate work by a profoundly talented writer who cares deeply about what it means to be human in turbulent times." Published by House of Anansi Press in Canada and HarperVia in the U.S. and U.K., the stories in the collection trace the long arc and evolution of the Chinese immigrant experience across five continents and span nearly a century. *We Two Alone* has been optioned for film and television by Feodor Chin and Jennifer Chang.

Award-winning Indigenous author **Thomas King** has won the [2021 Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour](#) for his novel *Indians on Vacation*, which continues to enjoy national bestseller status a full year following original publication and which has just garnered a new translation deal, this one for Brazilian Portuguese rights. The story follows a couple named Bird and Mimi who travel through Europe after discovering postcards from Mimi's long-lost Uncle Leroy, who sent them while on his own European adventure almost 100 years ago; the novel was a finalist for both the Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the 2021 Governor General's Literary Awards for Fiction, and is currently being adapted into an opera. Meanwhile, King's latest novel, *Sufferance* ([p. 21](#)), was hailed by the *Toronto Star* as "a novel entirely of its time – our time – with the timeless air of greatness." And the highly anticipated sixth book in his successful mystery series, *Deep House* ([p. 22](#)), will be publishing in January 2022.





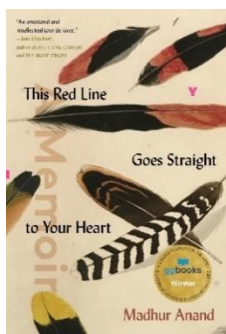
Rachel Rose's *The Octopus Has Three Hearts* has been longlisted for the [2021 Scotiabank Giller Prize](#)! The short story collection has received a welcome splash of media attention since its March release, being praised as an "impressive short-fiction debut" by [Quill & Quire](#); "an appealing and substantial collection... with a delectable title" by the [Vancouver Sun](#); and "compassionate, skilfully written" stories by the [Winnipeg Free Press](#). [49th Shelf](#)'s list of "Exciting Fiction to Read This Spring" praised how the stories "combine vivid characters and original premises with Rose's trademark combination of whimsy and irony... [A] collection that will appeal to animal lovers, readers of literary fiction, and anyone looking for their place to belong."

A.J. Vrana's second novel, *The Echoed Realm* ([p. 32](#)), was reviewed in [Three Crows Magazine](#) and [Publishers Weekly](#); and its predecessor *The Hollow Gods* was selected as the Nerdy Book Box subscription selection in February 2021. Vrana was a featured author with the Imaginarium Book Festival 2021; Toronto Word on the Street 2021; a Beyond the Books Annual Author Spotlight talk at Western University; and was an assistant curator and consultant for the Bloodsuckers Exhibit at the Royal Ontario Museum. Most recently, she was featured in [Business Insider Magazine](#), and her short story "These Silent Walls" was published in Issue 7 of *Three Crows Magazine* and featured in their "Best of the Year" Special Edition 2021.



After four offers (and three broken hearts), Canadian rights for **Craig Shreve's** *African Samurai* ([p. 28](#)) have just been sold to Janie Yoon at Simon & Schuster. Set in late sixteenth-century Africa, India, and Japan, this incredible work of literary fiction is based on the true-life story of Yasuke, history's first foreign-born samurai, and the only one of African descent. Featuring a beautifully examined study of a complex period in history, an enthralling narrative, and a most unforgettable hero, *African Samurai* is a timeless, epic story; a novel for the ages.

NON-FICTION

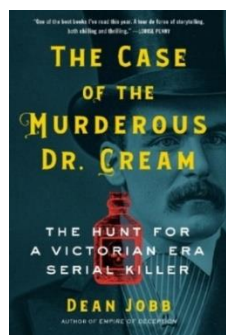


Madhur Anand's *This Red Line Goes Straight to Your Heart* has won the [Governor General's Literary Award for Non-fiction](#). The jury praised the "innovative, moving account of three generations of a South Asian Canadian family as they negotiate time, history, memory, and loss" and the ways that it blended "science, personal narrative, and fictional elements to push the non-fiction form into bold new territory." Earlier this summer, Anand shared with [Quill & Quire](#) what it meant to her to win for such a personal account of her family's story, how she envisioned the unique structure of the book, and what's next for her.

Internationally celebrated Indigenous author and playwright **Tomson Highway's** highly anticipated memoir, *Permanent Astonishment* ([p. 41](#)), is a finalist for the \$60,000 [2021 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-fiction](#), the richest annual literary award for a Canadian book of non-fiction. The jury praised this "mesmerizing story rich in detail about growing up in a Cree-speaking family in Northern Manitoba and later in a residential school... While unstinting about the abuse he and others suffered, Highway makes a bold personal choice to accentuate the



wondrousness of his school years resulting in a book that shines with the foundational sparks of adolescence: innocence, fear, and amazement.” In other exciting news, both *Permanent Astonishment* and Highway’s seminal novel, *Kiss of the Fur Queen*, have been optioned for film.



Dean Jobb's *The Case of the Murderous Dr. Cream* (p. 44), a true crime account that investigates one of the Victorian era’s most horrifying murderers, has received a fantastic review from [The New York Times Book Review](#), which called it an “excellent new history” and said that “Jobb’s excellent storytelling makes the book a pleasure to read.” *Booklist* praised Jobb for “a masterful job of following the investigation” and stated: “True crime doesn’t get any better than this.” It was also chosen as the true crime television network [Oxygen’s July Book Club](#) pick, and was described as “a must for true crime fans” in [CNN Underscored](#)’s highly anticipated new July books list. An excerpt from the book was featured in [Buzzfeed](#) and publisher Algonquin Books arranged a blog tour during which over 95 influencers with a combined following of 325,000 followers posted reviews and photos of the book! Japanese rights have just sold to Aki Shobo.

Andrea Constand’s riveting courtroom drama and inspiring personal story, *The Moment: Standing Up to Bill Cosby, Speaking Up for Women* (p. 37), has earned effusive praise from *Publishers Weekly* (“a searing debut... a road map for others”) and significant North American media coverage including [this feature article in The New York Times](#) and [this exclusive television interview with NBC](#). Constand has been praised by *The New York Times* as “the linchpin of the Bill Cosby case,” and by *The New York Daily News* as “the true hero of #MeToo... the first female courageous enough to stand up to all the power of Hollywood and demand the impossible and win the unbelievable.” Film rights have been optioned by Prospero Pictures.



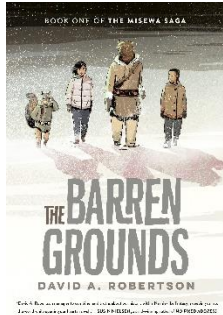
We can’t wait for you to read [Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings](#) star **Simu Liu**’s memoir, *We Were Dreamers: An Immigrant Superhero Origin Story* (p. 47). Best known as the Asian lead in Marvel’s latest blockbuster, superstar Liu has appeared on [Jimmy Kimmel Live](#), [The Kelly Clarkson Show](#), [Good Morning America](#), and on magazine covers all over the world this fall. But *We Were Dreamers* is much more than a celebrity memoir – it’s a story about growing up between cultures, finding your family, and becoming the master of your own extraordinary circumstances. HarperCollins will publish in North America in May 2022; Liu, who started acting after a failed accounting career, has 1.5 million Instagram followers, and is set to appear next in eOne’s *Arthur the King*, opposite Mark Wahlberg and Nathalie Emmanuel.

Professor **Shohini Ghose**’s *(In)visible*, which recounts the lives of over twenty unseen, unheralded, and under-rewarded women physicists from around the world, has stirred considerable excitement and rapid sales to three English-language publishers. MIT Press, who will publish it as a lead title in Spring 2023, secured World English rights with the exception of Canada and the Indian subcontinent, where Random House of Canada and Jaico, respectively, will publish. Ghose, herself a multi-award-winning quantum physicist and Professor of Physics and Computer Science at Wilfrid Laurier University, understands on a first-hand basis what it means to be a



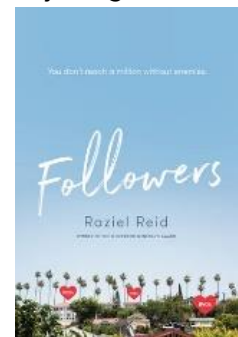
woman in science. Her own career in physics and her observations on the gender prejudice that still afflicts so much of contemporary science are key to the book.

YOUNG READERS



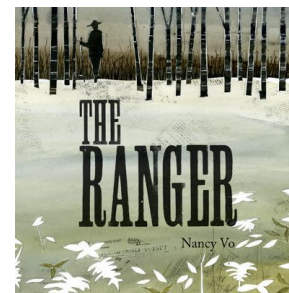
Bestselling Indigenous author **David A. Robertson** is featured in Canada's Guest of Honour program at the Frankfurt Book Fair. His #1 bestselling middle-grade novel *The Barren Grounds* ([p. 25](#)) – the first installment in the much lauded Misewa Saga series (Penguin Random House Canada) – has been shortlisted for the \$50,000 [2021 TD Canadian Children's Literature Award](#) or the most distinguished book of the year. Praised by the jury as "equal parts thrilling and heartfelt," this fantasy quest novel is completely original while also nodding to the classic fantasy novels of the past. Robertson has just sealed a deal with Penguin Random House of Canada for six new books for young readers, including a fifth installment in The Misewa Saga. Film rights to The Misewa Saga have been optioned by ABC Signature.

Congratulations to **Raziel Reid** whose book *Followers* is a finalist for the [Amy Mathers Teen Book Award](#)! It's also been named one of the Canadian Children's Book Centre's Best Books for Kids and Teens, Fall 2021. The book is a gossipy, satirical romp that follows a naïve teenager as she is thrown into the high-stakes and back-stabbing world of reality television.



Sara Cassidy, winner of the [2021 Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize](#), is celebrating several other award nominations for *Genius Jolene*: it is a finalist for the [2022 Chocolate Lily Award](#) and the [2021 Silver Birch Express Award](#). *Genius Jolene* takes readers on a road trip with Jolene and her father as they grapple with Jolene's parents' recent separation and her father's coming out, all while sampling onion rings at every stop en route.

Author-illustrator **Nancy Vo** (*The Ranger*, Groundwood Books) will be appearing in several in-person events during the Frankfurt Book Fair as part of Canada's Guest of Honor program. During the week of October 20-23, she will participate in a panel, The Audacity of Children's Literature, and provide Live Drawing demonstrations both in the Guest of Honor Pavilion and at Frankfurt's award-winning [Weltenleser Bookstore](#). Prior to the fair, she appeared at the Internationales Literaturfestival Berlin; you can watch her interview and live drawing demonstration [here](#).



The pages that follow comprise our current title list for our Fall 2021 catalogue. We welcome inquiries to our International Rights Director, [Meg Wheeler](#), and invite you to visit our [website](#) and follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

Thank you for your ongoing interest in our writers and we wish you every success for the upcoming publishing season.

Be well,
The Team at Westwood Creative Artists

RECENT PRIZES

FICTION

Charles Demers, *Primary Obsessions*, shortlisted for the Bill Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award (BC and Yukon Book Prizes)

Thomas King, *Indians on Vacation*, winner of the 2021 Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, finalist for the 2021 Ontario Library Association's Evergreen Award; *Obsidian* (DreadfulWater Book 5), shortlisted for the 2021 Bony Blithe Bloody Words Light Mystery Award

Annabel Lyon, *Consent*, finalist for the 2021 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize (BC and Yukon Book Prizes)

Rachel Rose, *The Octopus Has Three Hearts*, longlisted for the 2021 Scotiabank Giller Prize

Jack Wang, *We Two Alone*, winner of the 2021 Danuta Gleed Literary Award

NON-FICTION

Madhur Anand, *This Red Line Goes Straight to Your Heart*, winner of the 2020 Governor General's Award for Non-fiction

Desmond Cole, *The Skin We're In*, finalist for the 2021 Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing

Ronald Deibert, *Reset: Reclaiming the Internet for Civil Society*, winner of the 2021 Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing

Antonio Michael Downing, *Saga Boy*, longlisted for the City of Toronto Book Prize

Tomson Highway, *Permanent Astonishment*, finalist for the 2021 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-fiction

Liz Levine, *Nobody Ever Talks About Anything but the End*, shortlisted for the 2021 Hubert Evans Non-fiction Prize (BC and Yukon Book Prizes)

Tessa McWatt, received designation of Fellow of The Royal Society of Literature (RSL)

David A. Robertson, *Black Water: Family, Legacy, and Blood Memory*, winner of the 2021 High Plains Book Awards (Creative Nonfiction category), shortlisted for the 2021/22 First Nation Communities READ Awards

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK & MIDDLE-GRADE

Linda Bailey, *Princesses Versus Dinosaurs*, shortlisted for the Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize (BC and Yukon Book Prizes), shortlisted for the Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Award

Dan Bar-el, *Just Beyond the Very, Very Far North*, shortlisted for the Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize (BC and Yukon Book Prizes)

Sara Cassidy, *Genius Jolene*, winner of the 2021 Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize (BC and Yukon Book Prizes); finalist for the 2022 Chocolate Lily Award and the 2021 Silver Birch Express Award. Alexandra Latos, *Under Shifting Stars*, shortlisted for the W.O. Mitchell Book Prize

RECENT PRIZES

Kyo Maclear, *Story Boat*, winner of the 2021 Sheila Barry Best Canadian Picturebook Award
Riel Nason, *Waiting Under Water*, winner of the Mrs. Dunster's Fiction Book Prize (New Brunswick Book Awards)

Susin Nielsen, *No Fixed Address*, shortlisted for the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis; *Princess Puffybottom...and Darryl*, winner of the 2021 Chocolate Lily Award

Raziel Reid, *Followers*, finalist for the Amy Mathers Teen Book Award (The Canadian Children's Book Centre Book Awards)

David A. Robertson, *The Barren Grounds*, shortlisted for the 2021 TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, shortlisted for the 2020 Governor General's Award for Young People's Literature (Text), nominated for the 2021/2022 Red Cedar Children's Book Awards, shortlisted for the 2021 Chinese Panda Book Award

Jordan Scott, *I Talk Like a River*, winner of the 2021 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for Best Picture Book, shortlisted for the Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize (BC and Yukon Book Prizes), shortlisted for the Governor General's Award for Young People's Literature (illustrated text), shortlisted for the Kids' Book Choice Awards, 2021 ILA Primary Fiction honoree

Lauren Soloy, *When Emily Was Small*, shortlisted for the 2021 TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, shortlisted for the 2021 Sheila Barry Best Canadian Picturebook Award

Nancy Vo, *Outlaw* and *The Ranger*, winners of the 2021 Kimi Seal Award for Diversity in Children's and Young Adult Literature

RECENT SALES

FICTION

John Bemrose, *The River Twice*, Canadian English: Thistledown Press

Michael Blouin, *I Am Billy the Kid*, North American English: Anvil Press

Timothy Findley, *Pilgrim*, Italy: Neri Pozza Editore; Turkey: Koridor Yayinlari

Bobbi French, *Good Women of Safe Harbour*, Israel: Kinneret

Elyse Friedman, *Patrimony* and untitled, World: HarperCollins Canada

Kim Fu, *The Lost Girls of Camp Forevermore*, French (World): Héliotrope

Bruce Geddes, *Chasing the Black Eagle*, World English: Dundurn Press

Tamara Goranson, The Vinland Viking Saga series, Italy: Mondadori

Erum Hasan, *What They Deserve* and untitled, Canadian English: ECW Press

Jack Hodgins, *Broken Ground*, Denmark: Gyldendal

Thomas King, *Indians on Vacation*, Brazil: Dublinense

Lydia Kwa, The Chuanqi Duology, Audio (World English): Tantor Publishing

Yann Martel, *Life of Pi*, Arabic: Dar Kalamat; Azerbaijan: Fabula; Portugal: Presenca (extension); *The High Mountains of Portugal*, Korea: Jakkajungsin Publishing Co. (extension)

Rohinton Mistry, *Such a Long Journey* and *Family Matters*, Denmark: Gyldendal; Russia: AST / Ne Classics; *A Fine Balance*, Italy: Mondadori; *Such a Long Journey*, *Family Matters*, and *Tales from Firozsha Baag*, Germany: S. Fischer Verlag (extensions); *Family Matters*, Arabic: Mahrousa Center for Publishing, Information, and Press Services

Kathryn Nicolai, *Nothing Much Happens*, Podcast (World): Stitcher Media, LLC; Vietnam: Bloom Books

Kelly Ohlert, *To Get to the Other Side*, World: Alcove Press

Rachel Rose, *When The Sun Comes Out*, Stage (U.S.): Portland Opera Association

Josef Skvorecky, *The Engineer of Human Souls*, Poland: Fundacja Instytut Reportazu (extension); *The Menorah*, Germany: Braumüller Verlag

Scott Thornley, *Ruck Jack, Run*, World: House of Anansi Press

M.G. Vassanji, *Everything There Is*, North American English: Doubleday / Penguin Random House Canada

RECENT SALES

NON-FICTION

Kamal Al-Solaylee, *Intolerable: A Memoir of Extremes*, French (World): Perspective cavalière (sale by HarperCollins Canada)

Abi Balingit, *Mayamu: Filipino American Desserts Remixed*, World English: HarperCollins U.S.

Stephen Bown, *The Company: The Rise and Fall of the Hudson's Bay Empire*, China: Social Sciences Academic Press [rig](#)

Darrell Bricker and John Ibbitson, *Empty Planet: The Shock of Global Population Decline*, Turkey: Yeditepe Yayınevi

Mitchell Consky, *Home Safe*, World: Dundurn Press

Andrea Constand, *The Moment: Standing Up to Bill Cosby, Speaking Up for Women*, Film (World): Prospero Pictures

Sam Cooper, *Wilful Blindness: How a Network of Narcos, Tycoons and CCP Agents Infiltrated the West*, Film (World): Collective Pictures Inc.

Shohini Ghose, *(In)visible: Remarkable Women Physicists who Transformed Science and Society*, Canadian English: Random House / Penguin Random House; India (English): Jaico; World English excluding Canada and India: The MIT Press

Catherine Gildiner, *Good Morning, Monster*, French (World): Editions Jouvence; Poland: Znak Publishers; Turkey: Yakamoz Yayın (sales by Penguin / Penguin Random House Canada); Podcast (World): Dear Media

Tomson Highway, *Kiss of the Fur Queen*, Film (World): Imogen West

John Ibbitson, *The Duel: Diefenbaker, Pearson and the Making of Modern Canada*, World: Signal / McClelland & Stewart / Penguin Random House Canada

Jay Ingram, *Future Science*, North American English: Simon & Schuster Canada

Dean Jobb, *The Case of the Murderous Dr. Cream*, French (World): Groupe Homme; Japan: Aki Shobo (sales by Algonquin Books)

Allan Levine, *Details Are Unprintable*, Film/TV (World): Three Film and Television Inc.; *Seeking the Fabled City*, Stage (World): Winnipeg Jewish Theatre

Matthew R. Morris, *Black Boys Like Me*, World: Penguin / Penguin Random House Canada

Marc Raboy, *Looking For Alicia: The Unfinished Life of an Argentinian Rebel*, Canadian English: House of Anansi Press; U.S.: Oxford University Press

Mary Rubio, *The Gift of Wings*, Film (World): Caspian Films Productions Ltd.

Len Senater, *The Depanneur Cookbook*, World English: Simon & Schuster Canada

Craig Shreve, *African Samurai*, Canadian English: Simon & Schuster

RECENT SALES

Gary Smith, *Ice War Diplomat*, Documentary (World): White Pine Pictures

Rosemary Sullivan, *Where the World Was*, Canadian English: Goose Lane

Tanya Talaga, *Seven Truths* and two untitled, World: HarperCollins Canada

Don Thompson, *The Curious Economics of Luxury Fashion*, China: Jiangsu Kuwei Culture Development, Ltd.: Russia: Atticus-Azbooka

Eleanor Wachtel, *More Writers & Company* and *Original Minds*, Korea: X-Plex (extensions)

Patricia Westerhof, *The Canadian Guide to Creative Writing and Publishing*, World English: Dundurn Press

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK, MIDDLE GRADE, AND YOUNG ADULT

Linda Bailey, *The Three Little Mittens* and untitled, World: Tundra Books / Penguin Random House Canada

Marie Hoy-Kenny, *The Girls from Hush Cabin*, World English: Blackstone Publishing

Maggie Knaus, *Eleanor's Moon*, World: Owlkids Books

Alice Kuipers, *Ice Quest*, World: Fiction Express

Ben Lefebvre, *In the Key of Dale*, World English: Arsenal Pulp Press

Brittany Luby (author) and Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley (illustrator), *Seed*, World: Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press

Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley, *The Great Ball Game*, World: Storey Publishing

David A. Robertson, *Earth's End* (Book 4) and Untitled Book 5 (The Misewa Saga), World: Puffin Canada / Penguin Random House; The Misewa Saga series, Film & TV (World): ABC Signature; *Lauren Goes Explorin'*, *Little Shoes*, *The Seven Birds and the Lizard* & Two Untitled Picture Books, World: Tundra Books / Penguin Random House Canada; *The Kodiaks*, World: Highwater Press / Portage & Main Press

Richard Scrimger, *My Problem Is...*, World: Scholastic Canada

Tasha Spillett, *Raven's Ribbons*, Canadian English & French: Owlkids Books; World excluding Canadian English & French: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers / Hachette U.S.

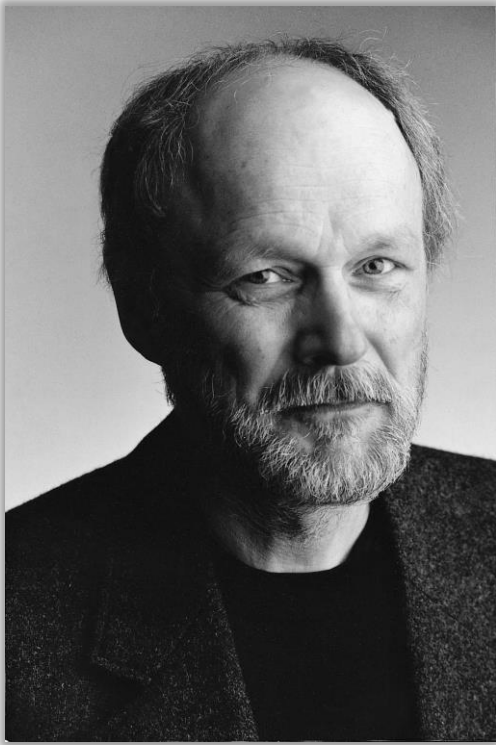
Kevin Sylvester, *Hockey SuperSix* series books 5 - 6, World English & French: Scholastic Canada

Gillian Sze, *My Love For You is Always*, French (North American): Scholastic Canada; Israel: Tchelet; Turkey: Okuyan (sales by Philomel / Penguin Random House U.S.); *When Sunlight Tiptoes*, World: Orca Books

Zenia Wadhwani, *Once Upon a Sari* & Untitled Picture Book, World: Tundra Books / Penguin Random House Canada

FICTION

FICTION



“Encompassing, bountiful, beautiful...”

– *The Globe & Mail*, on *The Island Walkers*

“The book’s sense of place, its sense of the acceleration of time between generations, its sudden, surprising insights, give the story its impressive weight... A riveting read...”

– *London Free Press*, on *The Island Walkers*

“John Bemrose’s characters [...] live as real people live: contradictory, capable of kindness and disdain, of near simultaneous love and hate, of gross betrayal...”

– *Times Literary Supplement*, on *The Last Woman*

“Lush and poetic, polished and crisp.”

– *Quill & Quire*, on *The Last Woman*

Rights sold: Canadian English: Thistledown Press (Spring 2023)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Hilary McMahon

John Bemrose THE RIVER TWICE

Wounded in body and spirit, Ted Whitfield returns home from the trenches of WWI. Untalkative and angry, he is a troubling mystery to his wife, Miriam. Yet her sister, Grace, who is suffering from her own secret trauma, has an uncanny ability to draw him out, and before long he is telling her a story from the front lines as shocking as it is unusual. Their fraught love triangle anchors the novel, but *The River Twice* also reflects the collective trauma that grips their Ontario town, which has lost scores of young men in the fighting.

The River Twice explores issues of gender and class, as well as the effects of war on locals of all ages and circumstances. Alternating between battlefield scenes and the struggles of the home front, the novel is written in spare, lyric prose that generates an irresistible momentum and brings a fine emotional intelligence to the creation of its many characters.

Giller Prize finalist John Bemrose has crafted an immersive, deeply moving novel that will resonate with readers of *Atonement*, *Regeneration*, and *Deafening*. Universal and timeless, *The River Twice* is destined to be a future classic.

JOHN BEMROSE is the author of two novels, an arts journalist, and a Professor of Creative Expression and Society at the University of Toronto. His first novel, *The Island Walkers*, was a national bestseller, finalist for the Giller Prize, and was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. He has also written a play, *Mother Moon*, and has published two poetry collections. Bemrose lives in Toronto.



What if Billy the Kid didn't die, and was saved by a woman?

"Take a few consecutive hours out of your life, and read, in one sitting, a book that is compelling, insightful, and thoroughly unconventional."

– *National Post*, on *I Don't Know How To Behave*

"[Blouin] creates vivid images using a storytelling format that bounces readers from one seemingly random memory to another... Each recollection revealed in the author's beautifully lean and powerful voice."

– *Ottawa Citizen*, on *Chase and Haven*

Rights sold: North American English: Anvil Press (April 22, 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Michael Blouin

I AM BILLY THE KID

A Novel

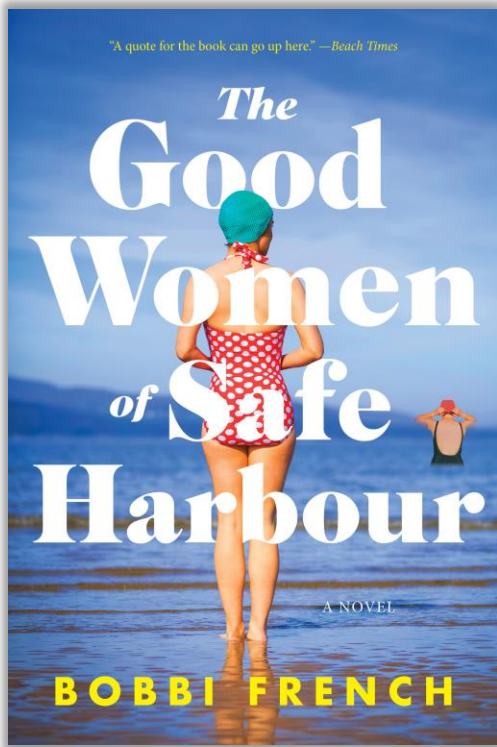
History tells us that the short and violent life of William Bonney, better known as Billy the Kid, ended at the hands of Pat Garrett on the moonless night of July 14, 1881. But *I Am Billy the Kid* tells a different story, straight from Billy himself. This revisionist history seen through a 21st century sensibility features the picaresque hero we thought we knew and the unexpected one that we don't; a fearless and determined young woman who is in no mood to be saved and would much prefer exacting her own revenge.

Billy has been in an alcoholic haze since a failed attempt to escape notoriety by faking his own death. By 1915, his fame has only increased, and when word of a possible ruse leaks out, Billy once again finds himself on the run. He agrees to follow his elder brother Joseph north from New Mexico Territory, to possible sanctuary in Canada. En route they encounter Turner Wing, a young woman with a fierce sense of self-determination and the skills with a gun to back it up, and her father, a man with a past and a burlap sack over his head due to a significant facial disfiguration. They are in desperate search of Turner's sister, who has been abducted by a pair of marauding thieves. Billy and Joseph know the truth about the girl's fate and, following their own code of honor, form an uneasy alliance with the Wings to avenge her death.

A propulsive and satisfying read, *I Am Billy the Kid* is a gripping blend of *The Sisters Brothers* and *Blood Meridian* by way of 'O Brother, Where Art Thou?', transporting us to a side of the wild west we've never seen before.



MICHAEL BLOUIN has been a finalist for the Amazon First Novel Award, bpNichol Award, CBC Literary Award, and his first novel won the ReLit Award. His novel *Skin House* won the ReLit Award for Best Novel and was included on NASA's Peregrine Mission to the Moon and the upcoming SpaceX lunar landing. *I Am Billy the Kid* is his sixth book.



*An unforgettable, life-affirming novel about a woman living on her own terms at last and reclaiming the friendship of a lifetime, for readers of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Frye* and *Me Before You*.*

Rights sold: Israel: Kinneret

North American English including audio:
HarperCollins Canada (March 8, 2022)

Status: Galleys available

Author's website: www.bobbifrench.com

Agent: Hilary McMahon

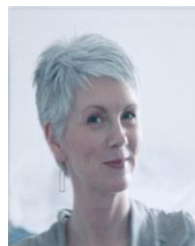
Bobbi French

THE GOOD WOMEN OF SAFE HARBOUR

A Novel

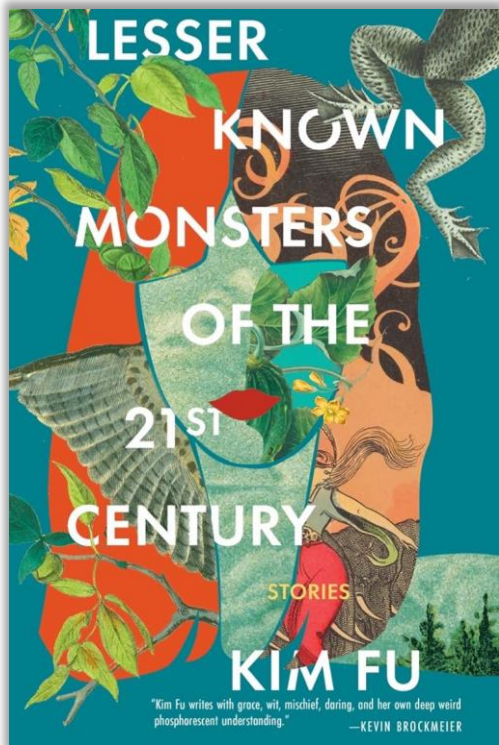
Frances Delaney is staring down the last days of her life. Looking back over her 58 years with wit and no small amount of regret, she sees not the life she wanted but the one that happened. An idyllic childhood in the small Newfoundland fishing town of Safe Harbour was darkened by the loss of her father at sea, an unwanted pregnancy, and a betrayal by her closest friend, Annie Malone. Frances and Annie were inseparable, and this rupture rocked Frances to the core. In the aftermath, she fled to St. John's and to a solitary life nothing like what she and Annie had dreamed of as their grand escape. Now, with the help of her young, optimistic friend Edie, Frances begins a journey toward resolution and back to Annie and Safe Harbour. With these good women in her corner, Frances can at last chart her course to living on her own terms, right to the very end.

A powerfully touching celebration of friendship and forgiveness, *The Good Women of Safe Harbour* is about a woman who finally gives herself a chance to love and be loved. It's a story that is impossible to read with dry eyes.



BOBBI FRENCH is a former psychiatrist and the author of *Finding Me in France*, a memoir that follows her year after leaving medicine to pursue writing. She lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

FICTION



A dazzling and daring debut collection by PEN/Hemingway finalist Kim Fu.

“Kim Fu writes with grace, wit, mischief, daring, and her own deep weird phosphorescent understanding.”

– Kevin Brockmeier, author of *The Ghost Variations*

“I love the cool wit of these speculative stories.”

– Peter Ho Davies, author of *The Fortunes*

“Lyrical, sometimes brutal, always beautiful.”

– Garth Greenwell, author of *Cleanness*

“Skillfully measures how long and loudly one formative moment can reverberate.”

– Celeste Ng, author of *Little Fires Everywhere*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Coach House Books (February 1, 2022)
U.S. including audio: Tin House Books (February 1, 2022)

Status: Galleys available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Kim Fu

LESSER KNOWN MONSTERS OF THE 21ST CENTURY

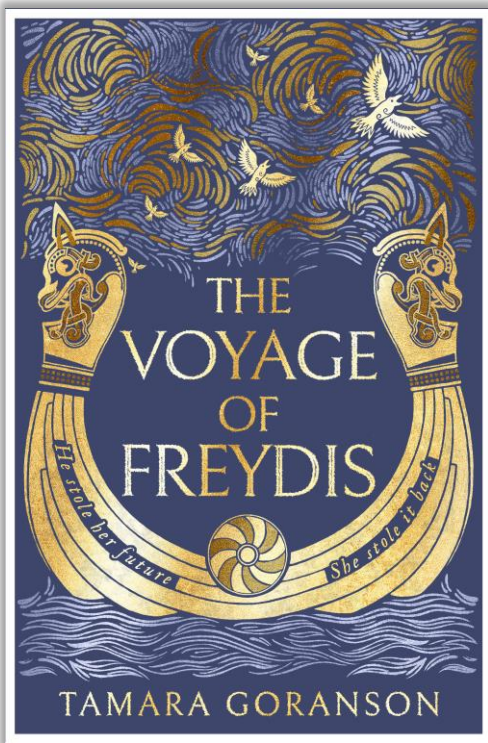
Stories

In the twelve unforgettable tales of *Lesser Known Monsters of the 21st Century*, the strange is made familiar and the familiar strange, such that a girl growing wings on her legs feels like an ordinary rite of passage, while a bug-infested house becomes an impossible, Kafkaesque nightmare. Each story builds a new world all its own: a group of children steal a haunted doll; a runaway bride encounters a sea monster; a vendor sells toy boxes that seemingly control the passage of time; an insomniac is seduced by the Sandman. These visions of modern life wrestle with themes of death and technological consequence, and guilt and sexuality, as they unmask the contradictions that exist within all of us.

Mesmerizing, electric, and wholly original, Kim Fu’s *Lesser Known Monsters of the 21st Century* blurs the boundaries of the real and fantastic, offering intricate and surprising insights into human nature.



KIM FU is the author of *For Today I Am a Boy* which won the Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction and was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award, as well as a *New York Times Book Review* Editor’s Choice. Her second novel, *The Lost Girls of Camp Forevermore*, was a finalist for the Washington State Book Award and the OLA Evergreen Award. Fu’s writing has appeared in *Granta*, *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *Hazlitt*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. She lives in Seattle.



National Bestseller

An Indigo pick for Most Anticipated Canadian Books in 2021

Featured in Canadian Living Magazine, September 2021, as a Notable New Release

“I have never felt so angry on behalf of how a character has been treated before, but all of Freydis’ pain and shame she felt just radiated off the page, as did her hope and happiness in later parts of the book.”

– Jessica C., early reviewer via NetGalley

“This author finally tells that story and gives [Freydis] a voice that has been ignored for years. This was very lyrically written, I felt as if I was reading a song.”

– Tiffany K., early reviewer via NetGalley

Rights sold: World English including audio: HarperCollins U.K. (July 22, 2021)
Italy: Mondadori

Status: Books available

Agent: Emmy Nordstrom Higdon

Tamara Goranson

THE VOYAGE OF FREYDIS

The Vinland Viking Saga

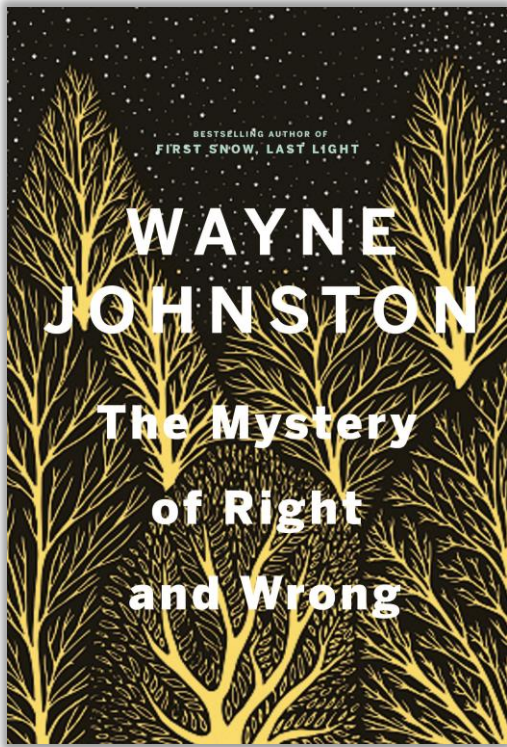
The Voyage of Freydis is the first book in The Vinland Viking Saga, all of which offer gut-punch revisionist accounts of the lives of the fierce Norsewomen whose stories have been neglected in the ancient Viking sagas. *The Voyage of Freydis* combines the unflinching historical authenticity of *The King’s Daughter* by Suzanne Martel with the unforgiving setting of Michael Crummey’s *The River Thieves*, and the biting feminist lens of Pat Barker’s *The Silence of the Girls*.

The Voyage of Freydis tells the story of Freydis Eiríksdóttir. Painted as a murderer, a mercenary, and a thief in the ancient Norse sagas, Freydis’s intrigue is her curse.

The year is 1000 AD. Freydis, daughter of the revered Norse explorer Erik the Red, finds herself traumatized and trapped in a merciless, abusive marriage. To break the chains of terror and shame that prevent her from divorcing her husband, Freydis becomes the first and only Norsewoman to lead a Viking expedition to North America. With her husband Thorvard of Gardar at her heels, Freydis embarks on a harrowing journey across the icy North Atlantic on a longboat bound for Vinland shores. Freydis must manage to transcend trauma with only the help of her fiercely protective companion Logatha, and Achak, an honorable man from a Beothuk tribe. When Thorvard hunts her down, Freydis is forced to make the ultimate sacrifice in order to save the lives of those she loves.



TAMARA GORANSON is an author and psychologist based in Victoria, B.C., Canada. The Vinland Viking Saga comprises her first novels.



National Bestseller

One of Canada's most critically acclaimed and beloved writers reveals haunting family secrets he's kept for more than 30 years, in a compulsively readable, heart-stopping novel that grapples with sexual abuse, male violence, and madness.

"[A] dark fairy tale, an epic poem, a case study of pathology, a tragedy of Shakespearean proportions... An absolutely unforgettable novel. As morally and formally challenging as Nabokov. I'm still reeling."

— Ian Williams, author of *Reproduction*

"Johnston is the most prodigiously talented and morally complex novelist this country has produced since Mordecai Richler."

— *The Globe & Mail*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House (September 21, 2021)

Status: Books available

Author's website: www.waynejohnston.ca

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Wayne Johnston

THE MYSTERY OF RIGHT AND WRONG

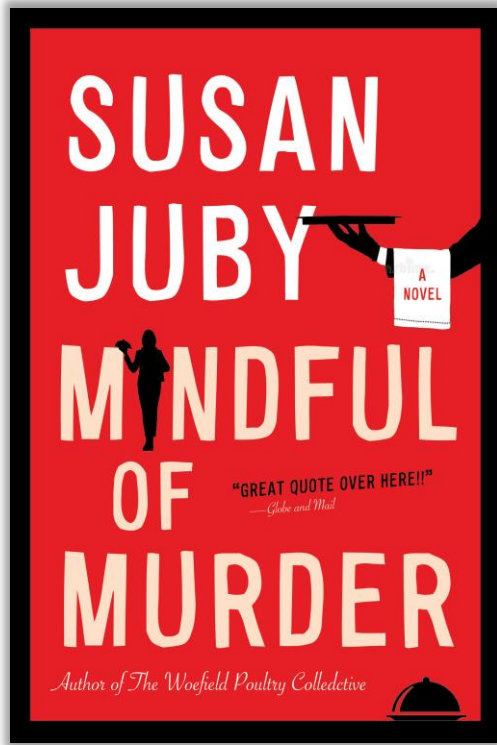
Rachel, a hyper-graphic, hyper-lexic South African expat who is obsessed with *The Diary of Anne Frank*, is the youngest of four van Hout daughters whose father Hans, a Dutch-South African accounting professor, moves his family to Newfoundland to make a new start.

When Wade, a young writer, meets and falls in love with Rachel, he learns that nothing in the world of the van Houts is what it seems, and that Rachel's obsessions have deeper and more disturbing roots than he could have ever imagined. Each of the four beautiful, dutiful daughters is, in her distinctive way, a wounded soul. The oldest, Gloria, is a hyper-sexual exhibitionist (or is she?) who, by the age of 28, has been married five times. Carmen is addicted to every drug her Afrikaans drug-pusher husband Fritz can lay his hands on. Sardonic and self-deprecating Bethany, aka Deathany, is fighting a losing battle with anorexia. And then there is Rachel, who reads and writes obsessively, diarizing her days in a secret language of her own invention.

Set in Newfoundland, apartheid era South Africa, wartime Amsterdam, and two concentration camps, this is an intricately woven and propulsive novel that chronicles the unmasking of a mythomaniacal family and the sisters' fight for love and their very lives. Informed by real events, it is a real tour de force.



WAYNE JOHNSTON is celebrated internationally for his magical weaving of fact and fiction, his master plotting, and his gift for both description and character.



A comedic murder mystery featuring high-end domestic service, unusual spiritual pursuits, the death positive movement, and the best organized investigator you've ever met.

"Hilarious, deliciously provocative, and slyly thought-provoking."

– *Kirkus Reviews* (starred), on *The Truth Commission*

"Genuinely funny and tremendously charming."

– *National Post*, on *The Woefield Poultry Collective*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: HarperCollins (March 8, 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Author's website: www.susanjuby.com

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Susan Juby

MINDFUL OF MURDER

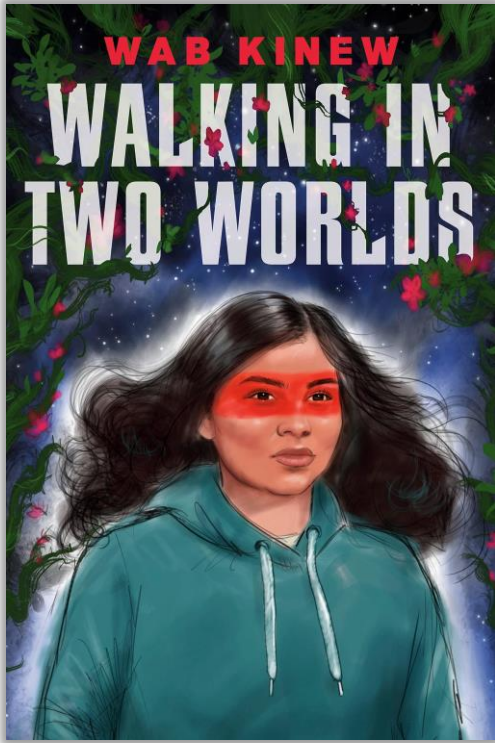
Meet Helen Thorpe. She's smart, preternaturally calm, deeply insightful, and a freshly trained butler. On the day she is supposed to start her career as an unusually equanimous domestic professional, serving one of the wealthiest families in the world, she is called back to a spiritual retreat where she used to work, the Yatra Institute, on one of British Columbia's gulf islands. The owner of the lodge, Helen's former employer Edna, has died while on a three-month silent self-retreat, leaving Helen instructions to settle her affairs.

But Edna's will is more detailed than most, and getting things in order means Helen must run the retreat for a select group to determine which of Edna's relatives will inherit the institute. Helen's classmates, newly minted butlers themselves, decide they can't let her do it alone and arrive to help Helen pull things off. After all, is there anything three butlers can't handle? As Helen carries out the will's instructions, she begins to think that someone had reason to want Edna dead. A reluctantly suspicious investigator, Helen and her band of butlers find themselves caught up in the mystery.

'Knives Out' meets P.G. Wodehouse, in the hands of a gifted novelist acclaimed for her originality and wit.



SUSAN JUBY is the author of eight acclaimed, internationally published titles for middle grade and young adult readers, a memoir, and two novels. She won the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour for *Republic of Dirt*, and was nominated for the Edgar Award and the Arthur Ellis Award for *Getting the Girl*.



An Indigenous teen girl is caught between real and virtual worlds in this YA fantasy for fans of Ready Player One and the Otherworld series by Jason Segel and Kirsten Miller.

“Masterfully descriptive and character-rich.”

– Cherie Dimaline, award-winning, bestselling author of *The Marrow Thieves*

“A thrilling, high-tech page-turner.”

– *Kirkus Reviews*

“Smart, entertaining... Gives readers a unique and moving portrait of young life – and the possibilities for gaming life – from a tribally specific corner of the world.”

– *Publishers Weekly*

“Stands out in the field of speculative fiction.”

– *Booklist* (starred)

Rights sold: World including audio: Penguin Teen / Penguin Random House Canada (September 14, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Wab Kinew WALKING IN TWO WORLDS

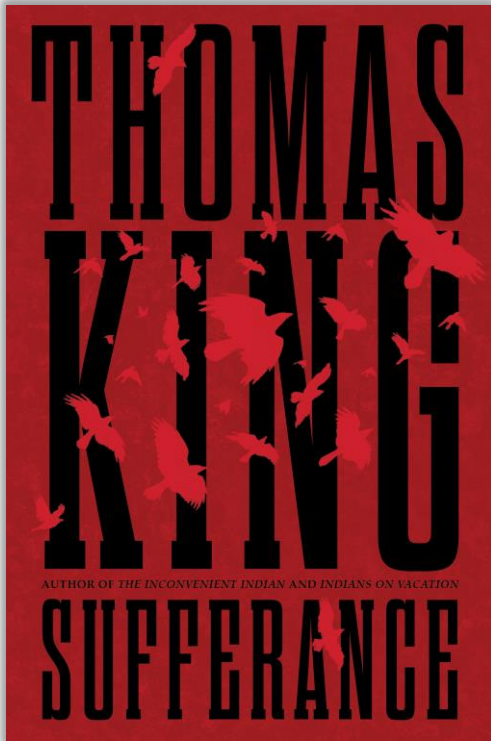
Bugz is caught between two worlds. In the real world, she’s a shy and self-conscious Indigenous teen who faces the stresses of teenage angst and life on the Rez. But in the virtual world, her alter ego is not just confident, but dominant in a massively multiplayer video game universe.

When Feng arrives from China to live with his aunt, a doctor on the Rez, Bugz and Feng immediately relate to each other as outsiders and as avid gamers. And as their connection is strengthened through their virtual adventures, they find that they have much in common in the real world, too: Both must decide what to do in the face of temptations and pitfalls, and both are dealing with family challenges and community trauma.

When betrayal threatens everything Bugz has built in the virtual world, as well as her relationships in the real world, it will take all her newfound strength to restore her friendship with Feng and reconcile the dual aspects of her life: the traditional and the mainstream, the east and the west, the real and the virtual.



WAB KINew is the bestselling, award-winning author of *Go Show the World* and *The Reason You Walk*. A member of the Midewiwin and an Honorary Witness for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, he is a former journalist, hip-hop artist, and television host who was named one of “9 Aboriginal movers and shakers you should know.” Kinew, who is leader of the Manitoba New Democrat Party, lives in Winnipeg.



A timely, potent political thriller from the internationally celebrated, award-winning, #1 bestselling Indigenous writer Thomas King, one of Oprah Magazine's 31 Best Native American Authors to Read in 2020.

"[D]azzling... *Sufferance* is a novel entirely of its time – our time – with the timeless air of greatness."

– *Toronto Star*

"[S]atirical gem of a story..."

– *Chatelaine*

"[T]hought-provoking, intelligent, and funny..."

– *Metroland Media*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: HarperCollins (May 18, 2021)

French (World): Memoire d'encrier

Status: Books available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Thomas King SUFFERANCE

Jeremiah Camp, a.k.a. the Forecaster, can look into the heart of humanity and see the patterns that create opportunities and profits for the rich and powerful. Problem is, Camp has looked one too many times, has seen what he hadn't expected to see, and has come away from the abyss with no hope for himself or for the future.

So Jeremiah does what any intelligent, sensitive person would do. He runs away. Goes into hiding in a small town, at an old residential school on an even smaller Indian reserve, with no phone, no Internet, no television. With the windows shut, the door locked, and the mailbox removed to discourage any connection with the world, he feels safe at last. Except nobody told the locals that they were to leave Jeremiah alone.

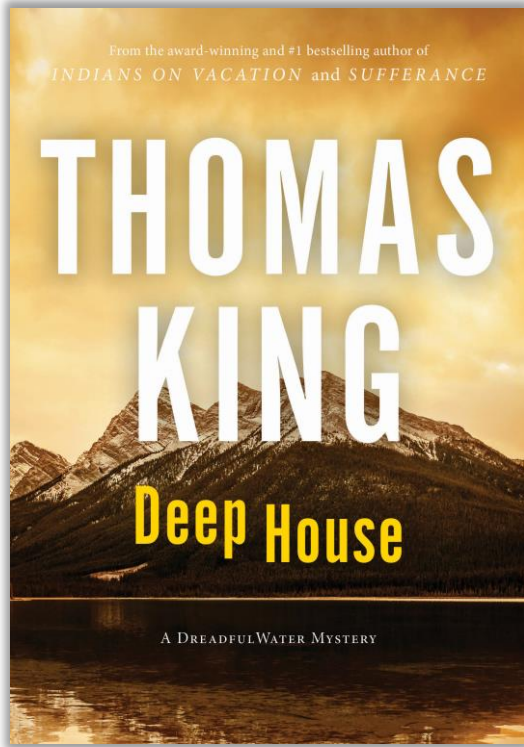
And then his past comes calling. Ash Locken, head of the Locken Group, the multinational consortium that Jeremiah has fled, arrives on his doorstep with a simple proposition. She wants our hero to formulate one more forecast, and she's not about to take no for an answer. Before he left the Locken empire, Jeremiah had created a list of twelve names, every one a billionaire. The problem is, the people on the list are dying at an alarming and unnatural rate. And Ash Locken wants to know why.

A sly and satirical look at the fractures in modern existence, *Sufferance* is a bold and provocative novel about the social and political consequences of the inequality created by privilege and power – and what we might do about it.



THOMAS KING is one of Canada's most critically acclaimed and commercially successful writers. Originally from California, he is of Cherokee and Greek descent, and lives in Guelph, Ontario.

FICTION



The sixth novel in an Indigenous mystery series from award-winning, #1 bestselling author Thomas King, one of Oprah Magazine's 31 Best Native American Authors to Read in 2020.

"Packed with sly humor, off-the-wall characters, and assured writing, King introduces a Native American detective who is sure to entertain."

– Michael McGarrity, crime novelist, on the DreadfulWater series

"The dialogue is crisp and just begs to head to the screen."

– *The Globe & Mail*, on the DreadfulWater series

"Whimsical and wry, large-hearted and at times laugh out loud funny, but with an underlying gravitas and significance."

– *Quill & Quire*, on the DreadfulWater series

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: HarperCollins (January 18, 2022)

Film/TV: Prospero Pictures

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Thomas King DEEP HOUSE

A DreadfulWater Mystery, Book 6

For the first time since the pandemic, Thumps DreadfulWater has finally found some peace in small-town Chinook. Sure, his beloved cat is still missing and his relationship with Claire is more than uncertain, but at least he can relax in the comfort of his home. And now that local businesses are starting to open their doors again, everything can go back to normal.

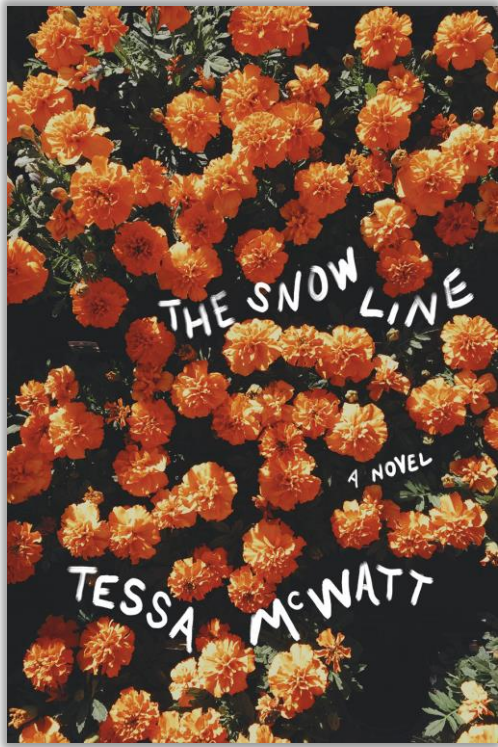
But when Thumps unintentionally discovers a body at the bottom of a treacherous canyon, he becomes entangled once again in an inexplicable mystery. As more puzzling details come to the surface, Thumps begins to question who he can truly trust – especially when an unexpected visitor walks back into his life.

In the follow-up to *Obsidian* – a *Globe & Mail* Favourite of 2020 and finalist for the Arthur Ellis Best Crime Novel Award 2021 – Thumps DreadfulWater returns with wit and wry humor to solve a mystery that only Thomas King could create. *Deep House* is a highly anticipated addition to the DreadfulWater mystery series, which has been published in four different territories and optioned for film.



THOMAS KING's writing has been published around the world and praised by Margaret Atwood as "funny but not funny." Beloved by readers of all ages, he is one of Canada's most critically acclaimed and commercially successful writers. Originally from California, he is of Cherokee and Greek descent, and lives in Guelph, Ontario.

FICTION



Four strangers arrive in India for a wedding. Together, they climb a mountain – but will they see the same thing from the top?

“McWatt deftly draws together characters, places, ideas... We don’t feel the full effect of its rare wisdom and gravitational pull until we are finished.”

– *The Guardian*

“A profound meditation on love, ageing, and what it is to be a woman of mixed racial identity and culture.”

– Monique Roffey, author of *The Mermaid of Black Conch*

“A moving epic... [W]ritten with tenderness and precision.”

– *The Sydney Morning Herald*

Rights sold: North American English including audio: Random House / Penguin Random House Canada (August 10, 2021) U.K. & Commonwealth excluding Canada: Scribe (July 8, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Tessa McWatt

THE SNOW LINE

A Novel

Northern India, 2009. Four travelers disembark from the Dhauladhar Express at the Pathankot train station, having arrived in Punjab to attend a wedding. Yosh, 30, a yoga teacher from Vancouver; Monica, 30, the bride’s cousin from Toronto; Reema, 26, the bride’s childhood friend, a mixed-heritage Londoner in search of her Indianness; and Jackson, 86, who is returning to India after a long hiatus in Boston, and who carries with him a small tea canister in which he has placed his wife Amelia’s ashes.

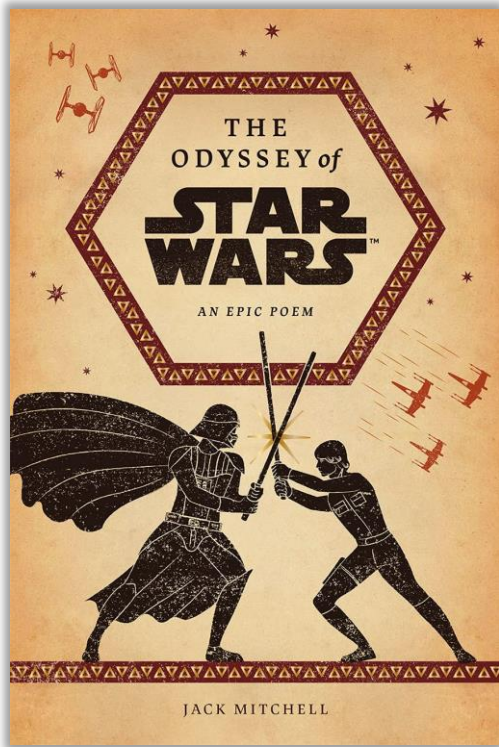
As they gather with other guests at a traditional Indian wedding, Jackson and Reema develop an unlikely friendship that grows through mutual need and a slowly developing trust, and together with Yosh and Monica, they embark on a post-wedding journey to the Himalayas, seeking the perfect place to scatter Amelia’s ashes. As they travel together, secrets are revealed, and each of them is opened up to more questions than answers.

These intergenerational and intercultural relationships are a meeting of the past and the future, a reconciliation of past wrongs, and a possibility that the future might be less violent, less selfish, and less segregated. But can it be?



TESSA McWATT won the 2018 Eccles British Library Writers Award and the 2020 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, in the non-fiction category, and was a finalist for the 2020 Hilary Weston Writers’ Trust Prize for Non-fiction for *Shame on Me: An Anatomy of Race and Belonging*. She co-edited, with Dionne Brand and Rabindranath Maharaj, *Luminous Ink: Writers on Writing in Canada*. Her fiction has been nominated for a wide array of prizes. A Professor of Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia, she lives in London, U.K.

FICTION



A thrilling retelling of the Star Wars saga in the style of classic epic poetry.

Rights sold: World: Abrams Image / Abrams Books (September 28, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Jack Mitchell THE ODYSSEY OF STAR WARS

An Epic Poem

“I look not to myself but to the Force, in which all things arise and fall away.”

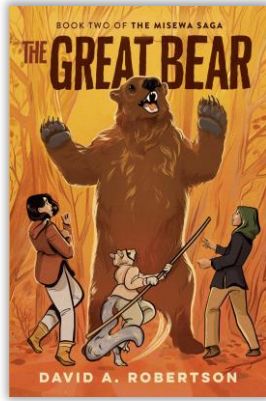
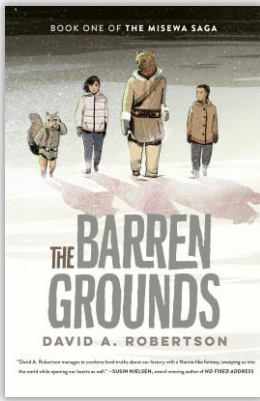
Journey to a galaxy far, far away like never before – through lyrical verse and meter. Like the tales of Odysseus and Beowulf, the adventures of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, Princess Leia, Jyn Erso, Obi-Wan Kenobi, Darth Vader, and the Emperor are fraught with legendary battles, iconic heroes, fearsome warriors, sleek ships, and dangerous monsters. Beginning with *Rogue One*’s rebel heist on Scarif to secure the plans to the Death Star and continuing through the climax of *Return of the Jedi*, author Jack Mitchell uses the ancient literary form of epic poetry to put a new spin on the *Star Wars* saga.

Punctuated with stunning illustrations inspired by the terracotta art of Greek antiquity, *The Odyssey of Star Wars: An Epic Poem* presents the greatest myth of the twentieth century as it would have been told nearly 3,000 years ago.



JACK MITCHELL is a Stanford-educated poet and scholar who has taught at Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and is currently Associate Professor of Classics at Dalhousie University. He is based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he lives with his wife and two kids – both big *Star Wars* fans.

FICTION – MIDDLE GRADE



#1 National Bestseller

Finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award for Young People's Literature

Shortlisted for the Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Diamond Willow Award
Shortlisted for the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award

Nominated for the Red Cedar Children's Book Awards

"Reminiscent of C.S. Lewis's *Narnia* stories, this fantasy is very much its own tale of ruptured Indigenous culture, of environmental reciprocity and care."

– *Toronto Star*, on *The Barren Grounds*

"A cliffhanger ending compels a return to this absorbing Indigenous fantasy."

– *Kirkus Reviews* (starred), on *The Great Bear*

Rights sold: World including audio: Puffin / Penguin Random House Canada (Book 1: September 8, 2020; Book 2: September 28, 2021)

Film/TV (World): ABC Signature

Status: Books available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser



DAVID A. ROBERTSON is an award-winning writer and educator whose work focuses on Canada's Indigenous Peoples, reflecting their cultures, histories, communities, as well as illuminating many contemporary issues. Robertson is a member of Norway House Cree Nation. He lives in Winnipeg.

David A. Robertson

THE BARREN GROUNDS

The Misewa Saga, Book 1

Narnia meets traditional Indigenous stories of the sky and constellations in Book 1 of an epic middle-grade fantasy series.

Morgan and Eli, two Indigenous children forced away from their families and communities, are brought together in a foster home and struggle to fit in. Then they find a secret portal in an unfinished attic bedroom that opens to another reality.

Arriving onto frozen, barren grounds, they meet Ochek (Fisher), the only hunter supporting his starving community, Misewa. Ochek welcomes the human children, teaching them traditional ways to survive. When the need for food becomes desperate, they embark on a dangerous mission accompanied by Arik, a sassy Squirrel they catch stealing from the trapline. Together they try to save Misewa before the icy grip of winter freezes everything – including them.

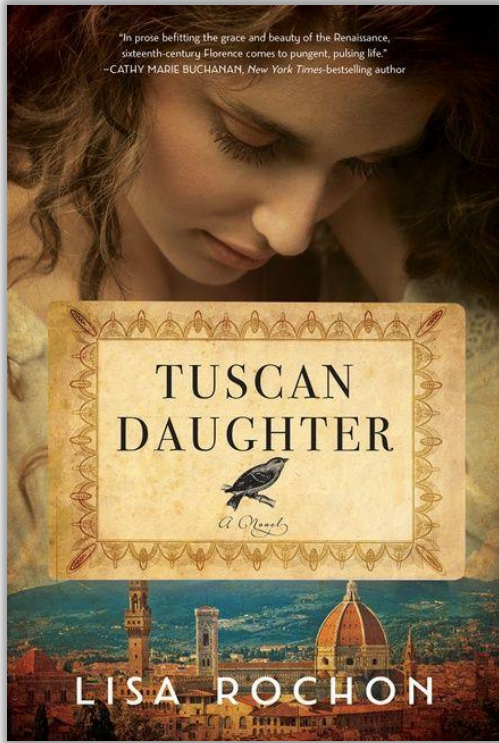
THE GREAT BEAR

The Misewa Saga, Book 2

Eli and Morgan return to Misewa to visit their animal friends, only to realize they've traveled back farther than expected.

Back at home after their first adventure in the Barren Grounds, Eli and Morgan each struggle with personal issues: Eli is being bullied at school, and tries to hide it from Morgan, while Morgan has to make an important decision about her birth mother. They return to the place where they know they can learn the most.

This time they travel back in time and meet a young fisher that might just be their lost friend. But they discover that the village is once again in peril, and they must dig deep within themselves to find the strength to protect their beloved friends. Can they carry this strength back home to face their own challenges? The Misewa Saga Book 3, *The Stone Child*, will publish in Summer 2022; Books 4 and 5 in the series will publish in Summer 2023 and Summer 2024 respectively.



National Bestseller

A novel of beauty and inspiration set during the Italian Renaissance about a young and defiant artist searching for her mother.

“Superbly researched and vividly imagined... In prose befitting the grace and beauty of the Renaissance, sixteenth century Florence comes to pungent, pulsing life.”

– Cathy Marie Buchanan, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Daughter of Black Lake*

“The cobblestone streets of Florence come alive in this heartfelt tale of the high renaissance...”

– Glenn Dixon, author of *Juliet’s Answer*

Rights sold: World including audio: HarperCollins Canada (July 13, 2021) (Italy: HarperCollins)

Status: Books available

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Lisa Rochon

TUSCAN DAUGHTER

A Novel

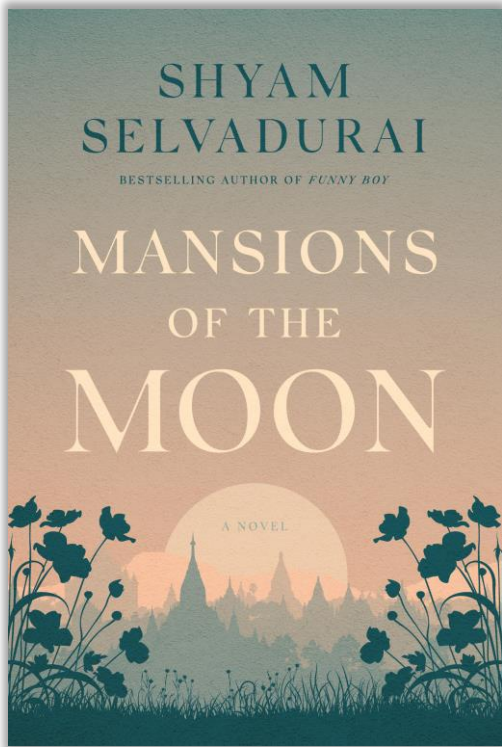
Florence, 1500 – a city that glitters with wealth and artistic genius is also a place of fierce political intrigue, walled off from the unrest in the surrounding Tuscan countryside. In this moment, a peasant girl finds herself alone after her father is killed and her mother disappears. Young Beatrice must dare to enter the city to sell her family’s olive oil in order to survive, but also to search the streets and opium dens for her missing, grieving mother.

Walking barefoot from her outlying village, Beatrice is given grudging permission to pass through the city gates to sell olive oil to the artists – Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli – who toil to elevate the status of the Florentine Republic. Lonely yet defiant, the peasant girl draws on the stone walls of Florence in secret as a way to express her pain. While desperately searching the city for her mother, Beatrice befriends the upstart Michelangelo as he struggles to sculpt the *David*. She also comes to know a cloth merchant’s wife who is having her portrait painted by the aging Leonardo da Vinci, renowned through the land as Master of the Arts. Bonds deepen even while Michelangelo and Leonardo are pitted against each other.

Set during five epic years in the early 1500s when Florence was rebranding itself through its creative geniuses, *Tuscan Daughter* reveals the humanity and struggles of a young woman longing to find the only family she has left and be an artist in her own right, and the way she influences the artistic masters of the time to stake everything on the power of beauty to transform and heal.



LISA ROCHON is as an award-winning architecture critic, cultural essayist, author, and the recipient of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada’s Award for Journalism. She traveled to Florence four times to research this novel, and was granted rare access to Leonardo’s original drawings in London, U.K..



“A powerful and beautifully written novel.”

– *Literary Review* (U.K.), on *Funny Boy*

“Faultlessly elegant... Selvadurai is expert in capturing the nuances of this particularly precious time and place.”

– *The New York Times Book Review*, on *Cinnamon Gardens*

“Richly rewarding... This is a novel that deserves, and will surely gain, a wide readership.”

– *Sunday Times* (U.K.), on *Cinnamon Gardens*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House (May 3, 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Author's website:

www.shyamselvadurai.com

Agent: Bruce Westwood

Shyam Selvadurai MANSIONS OF THE MOON

This stunning portrait of a famous marriage in ancient India tells the story of Yasodhara, wife of the Buddha, as intimately reimagined by the bestselling author of *Funny Boy*.

In this sweeping story, at once epic and startlingly intimate, Selvadurai introduces us to Siddhartha Gautama, otherwise known as the Buddha, a promising and politically astute young man settling into his life as a newlywed to Yasodhara, a young woman of great intelligence and spirit. The novel traces their early life together, and then the unthinkable turmoil as Siddhartha's spiritual calling takes over and their partnership slowly, inexorably crumbles. How does a woman live in ancient India if her husband abandons her? Even a well-born woman with a revered husband? And what path might she take towards enlightenment herself? Selvadurai examines these questions with empathy and insight, creating a rich, strikingly relevant portrait of a singular marriage, and of the woman who until now has been a shadow in the historical record. *Mansions of the Moon* is a literary event, and a remarkable moment in a beloved author's career.



SHYAM SELVADURAI was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka and moved to Canada at age nineteen. *Funny Boy*, his first novel, was published to immediate acclaim, was a national bestseller, and won the W.H. Smith/Books in Canada First Novel Award and the Lambda Literary Award, and was named a Notable Book by the American Library Association. *Cinnamon Gardens*, his second novel, was shortlisted for the Trillium Award and has been published in the U.S., U.K., India, and numerous other countries.



Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Simon & Schuster (Spring/Summer 2023)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Chris Casuccio

Craig Shreve

AFRICAN SAMURAI

In 1579, a Portuguese trade ship sails into port at Kinchotsu, Japan, loaded with European wares and weapons. Also aboard is an enormous East African slave named Yasuke. Taken from his village as a boy, sold as a slave to mercenaries, and forced to fight in Indian wars that meant nothing to him, he is a young but experienced soldier. Serving as the protector for a high-ranking Italian priest, Yasuke joins an expedition pushing inland towards the capital city of Kyoto.

In central Japan, Oda Nobunaga, the land's most powerful warlord, is preparing a campaign to complete the unification of a nation that's been torn apart by over a 100 years of civil war.

At the center of these complex political machinations rises the most unlikely of heroes: the great warrior Yasuke, who against all odds becomes Japan's first foreign samurai, and the only one of African descent. His moral preoccupation is not a question of power, as it is for Nobunaga, but one notably and poignantly of freedom.

African Samurai is based on the true-life story of Yasuke, history's first foreign-born samurai. It is an incredible work of literary fiction; a magnificent reconstruction and moving study of a lost historical figure; and a truly enthralling narrative, thrilling in its dramatization, whether on a vessel traversing the ocean, in the ring depicting a sumo wrestling match, on stage recreating the songs and stories of Africa, or in the mounting of a final defense against an army of samurai. This is a timeless, epic story; a novel for the ages.

CRAIG SHREVE was born and raised in North Buxton, Ontario and is a descendant of Abraham Doras Shadd, the first Black person in Canada to be elected to public office, and of his daughter Mary Ann Shadd, the pioneering abolitionist, suffragette, and newspaper editor/publisher. Shreve is the author of *One Night in Mississippi*. He lives in Toronto.



“Snyder’s imagination has here worked overtime to produce a novel of intriguing originality. The book is well written and totally captivating...”

– *London Free Press*, on *Girl Runner*

“A page turner... Revelatory.”

– *Waterloo Chronicle*, on *Girl Runner*

“Well-crafted and imaginative... Snyder’s tone and style is vivid and compelling.”

– *The Globe & Mail*, on *The Juliet Stories*

“Carrie Snyder is a writer that we’re bound to hear more of in the future. Her razor-sharp prose is insightful and rich throughout.”

– *Rover Arts*, on *The Juliet Stories*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House (Spring 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Author’s website: www.carriesnyder.com

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Carrie Snyder

FRANCIE’S GOT A GUN

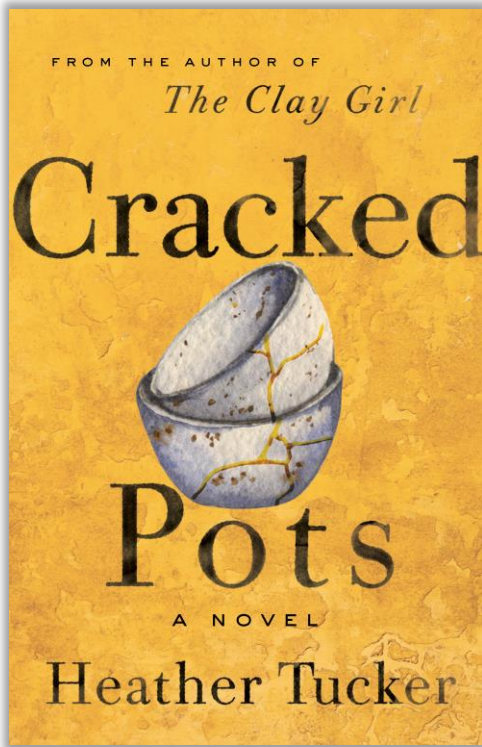
Everyone’s looking for their own fix, their own high. Francie’s on the run, with a weapon. And somebody’s not going to survive.

Growing up in a small southern Ontario city in the mid-2000s during the early years of the opioid crisis, Francie Fultz is a skinny kid with an imagination; a kid from a dysfunctional family trying to fix some big problems. Francie’s best friend Alice is never sure: is Francie making this stuff up, or is some of it real? When the girls go on a search for some jewels, they discover instead a gun – belonging to Francie’s dad, Luce, who’s running low on luck. As Luce’s trajectory spins out of control, Francie’s mom, Marietta, makes a call to an old friend, sparking flames and complications, while Grandma Irene prays for divine intervention.

On the day of Francie’s big school concert, Luce turns up with other plans. With a gun in her hand, can Francie imagine her way back home?

Carrie Snyder’s masterful storytelling and vivid characters were acclaimed in *Girl Runner*, her debut novel, and are hallmarks of this new propulsive, multi-layered tale. *Francie’s Got a Gun* explores our lack of spiritual connection and the resulting social breakdown, through characters who make bad decisions, gamble on unlikely ventures, risk their hearts, and search for meaning. With humor and pathos in equal measure, *Francie’s Got a Gun* promises to make you feel all the feelings as it carries you home.

CARRIE SNYDER’s debut novel *Girl Runner* sold in twelve territories, was a finalist for the Rogers Writers’ Trust Award for Fiction, and has been optioned for film. She’s also the author of two collections of short fiction: *Hair Hat*, which was shortlisted for the Danuta Gleed Award for Short Fiction; and *The Juliet Stories*, which was a finalist for the 2012 Governor General’s Literary Award.



From the author of the Indie Next List pick The Clay Girl comes a deeply moving novel about the resilience of a remarkable young woman unraveling the mystery of a missing friend while struggling to grow past the trauma of her calamitous upbringing.

“It is the voice of the characters, the kindness of strangers, and the ingenuity and determination of our protagonist against terrible forces that make this story sing.”

– *San Francisco Chronicle*, on *The Clay Girl*

“Tucker’s triumphant debut novel is the story of a childhood lost, a family found, and a coming-of-age, recounted in precise and poetic language... [A]t times difficult to read, but this novel is worth every moment of pain and every tear.”

– *Publishers Weekly* (starred), on *The Clay Girl*

Rights sold: World English including audio: ECW Press (October 5, 2021)

Status: Books available

Author’s website: www.heathertucker.ca

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Heather Tucker

CRACKED POTS

A Novel

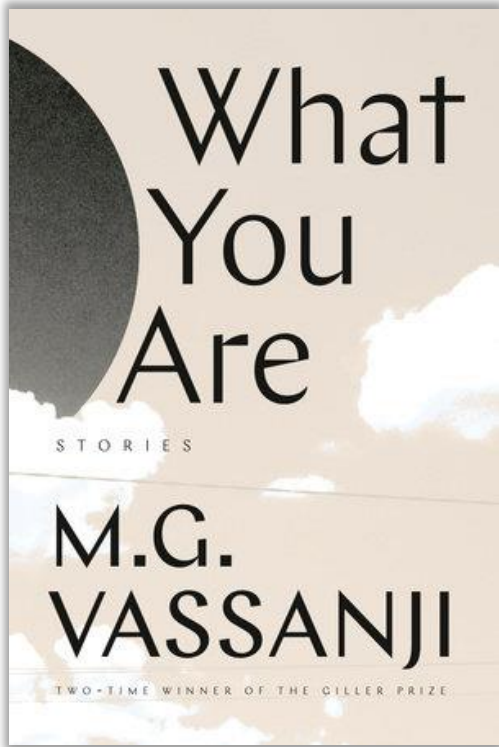
From the waning flower-power in the 1960s in Toronto through her East Coast university years, Ari fights to discover who she is and what it means to be the child of an addicted mother and depraved father. When her friend Natasha, the perfect girl from the nicest family, suddenly vanishes, Ari sets out to find out what has happened to her – are her troubled parents to blame? With wit, tenacity, and the incessant meddling of Jasper the seahorse in her head, Ari rides turbulent waves of devilry and discovery, calamity and creation, and abandonment and atonement on a journey to find her true self, and to find Natasha.

Cracked Pots is a story about a girl broken by both cruelty and truth. It is a revelation that destiny is shaped in clay, not stone. It is also a celebration of rising after the blows, gathering the fragments, and piecing together a remarkable life through creativity, kindness, and belonging.



HEATHER TUCKER’s novel *The Clay Girl* is an enduring book club favorite that was a finalist for the Kobo Emerging Writer Prize and the Atlantic Book Award, and also an American Booksellers Association Indie Pick. She has won many prose and short-story writing competitions, and her stories have appeared in anthologies and literary journals. She lives in Ajax, Ontario.

FICTION



“Vassanji is a master storyteller, negotiating the in-between worlds of past and present, east and west, young and old.”

– *Quill & Quire*, on *When She Was Queen*

“The kind of sweeping, multilayered, turbulent narrative of near-hallucinatory power that is the hallmark of Vassanji’s best work.”

– *The Globe & Mail*, on *When She Was Queen*

“A sensory bouquet... Vassanji is a wizard with mood and atmosphere.”

– *Edmonton Journal*, on *Uhuru Street*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Doubleday / Penguin Random House (May 11, 2021)

Status: Books available

Author’s website: www.mgvassanji.com

Agent: Bruce Westwood

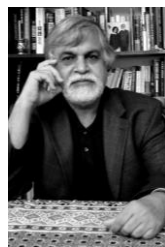
M.G. Vassanji WHAT YOU ARE

Stories

From M.G. Vassanji, two-time Scotiabank Giller Prize winner and winner of the Governor General’s Literary Award, comes a finely crafted collection of short fiction that explores the tensions between remembering past homes and belonging in new ones.

Weaving between wistful memories of youthful ambition and the compromises and comforts of age, traveling between the streets of Dar es Salaam and Toronto, the characters in these stories must negotiate distance – between here and there; between lives imagined and lives lived; between expectation and disappointment; between inclusion and exclusion.

Throughout, Vassanji engages passionately with the intellectual and political questions that inspire him as a writer and a citizen, while always matching the energy of his ideas with the empathy and emotional depth he invests in his characters. As with all of Vassanji’s finest work, *What You Are* stands as a model of artistic integrity and clarity of vision.



M.G. VASSANJI is the author of nine novels, two collections of short stories, two memoirs, and a biography of Mordecai Richler. He is twice winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize (1994, 2003); the Governor General’s Literary Award (2009); the Harbourfront Festival Prize; the Commonwealth First Book Prize (1990); and the Bressani Prize. *The Assassin’s Song* was also shortlisted for the Giller Prize, the Governor General’s Literary Award, the Writers’ Trust Award, and India’s Crossword Prize. His work has been translated into eleven languages. In June 2015, M.G. Vassanji was awarded the Canada Council Molson Prize for the Arts.

FICTION



“Vrana’s dark, folklore-infused debut, the first of a duology, introduces readers to the residents of Black Hollow, who hold their daughters close and their twisted secrets closer... Vrana crafts a unique local mythology and draws from existing lore to create a sense of creeping dread. Vrana is off to a strong start with this... suspenseful tale.”

– *Publishers Weekly*, on *The Hollow Gods*

“*The Echoed Realm* pulls no punches and offers a masterfully crafted supernatural horror that’s not afraid to face the hard truths and imagine a different kind of world. *The Echoed Realm* leaves an aftertaste of a promise, of something bigger and better, deeper and even bolder than this.”

– *Three Crows Magazine*, on *The Echoed Realm*

Rights sold: Audio (North American English):
Tantor Audio

North American English: Parliament House
Press (Book 1: July 28, 2020; Book 2: August
10, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agent: Emmy Nordstrom Higdon



A.J. Vrana is a Serbian-Canadian lifelong resident of Toronto. Growing up between two cultures has always given her a sense of liminality, of being neither here nor there. This has given her a unique perspective that has served as inspiration in both her professional life and her creative endeavors.

A.J. Vrana

THE HOLLOW GODS

The Chaos Cycle, Book 1

Black Hollow is a town with a dark secret.

For centuries, residents have foretold the return of the Dreamwalker – an ominous figure from local folklore said to lure young women into the woods and possess them. Yet the boundary between fact and fable is blurred by a troubling statistic: Occasionally, women do go missing. And after they return, they almost always end up dead.

Miya is a twenty-something lifelong resident of Black Hollow, a student struggling with poverty, insomnia, and anxiety, who fears that she may be the next victim. Kai is haunted by a sinister presence – a voice that tries to convince him that he is responsible for the death of one of Black Hollow’s missing girls. Mason is a big city oncologist traumatized by the death of his first patient, who arrives in Black Hollow hoping to escape his grief, but instead finds himself hopelessly consumed by the myths that permeate the small town. When the three protagonists are finally united, they discover that behind the town’s troubled history is an age-long spiritual battle.

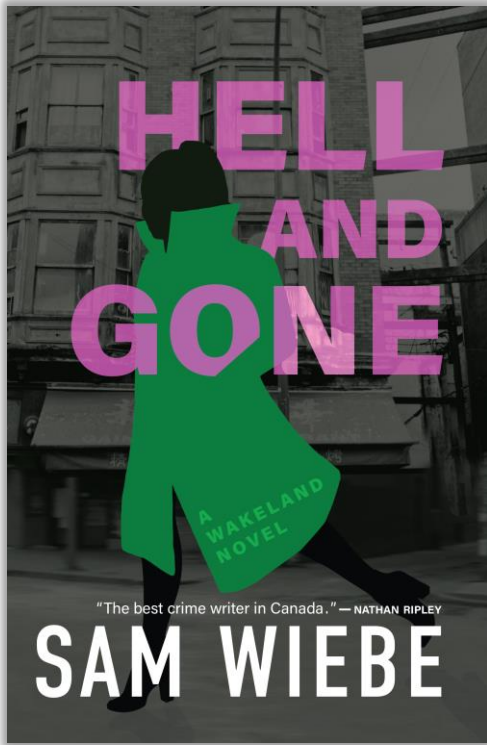
THE ECHOED REALM

The Chaos Cycle, Book 2

Sharpen your claws and bloody your teeth. There’s fear to be sown.

It’s been three years since the Dreamwalker upended Miya’s life. A fledgling to the ethereal realm, she stumbles in and out of haunting nightmares. Kai has found a new purpose as her companion, but the price is his freedom. Bound and beholden to Miya, he struggles to adjust to his new role as her vanguard. Meanwhile, Mason discovers he may be a pawn trapped in a web of schemes.

As Black Hollow’s bloody stain spreads beyond its wooded borders, Miya fights to evade a past she barely understands. The Dreamwalker’s legacy is a vise grip, and it isn’t letting go. Primordial horrors draw near, fables come alive, and long-buried histories rise from the grave, ready to hunt.



A captivating new thriller in the Wakeland detective series that explores the depths of Vancouver's criminal underworld.

“A gripping, wrenching, brilliant piece of fiction, quite possibly the definitive Vancouver crime novel. If *Last of the Independents* announced Sam Wiebe's arrival, *Invisible Dead* places him in the ranks of the best young mystery writers working today – on either side of the border. This book is outstanding.”

– Owen Laukkanen, author of *The Professionals*, on *Invisible Dead*

“Convincingly brings Raymond Chandler into the 21st century.”

– *Publishers Weekly* (starred), on *Cut You Down*

Rights sold: Audio (North American English): Blackstone

North American English: Harbour Publishing (October 23, 2021)

Status: Books available

Author's website: www.samwiebe.com

Agent: Chris Casuccio

Sam Wiebe

HELL AND GONE

A Wakeland Novel

In one moment of public violence, everything changes for Dave Wakeland. When masked men and women storm an office building in Chinatown, leaving a trail of carnage, the Vancouver private investigator and his partner, Jeff Chen, find themselves caught up in a mystery that won't let them go.

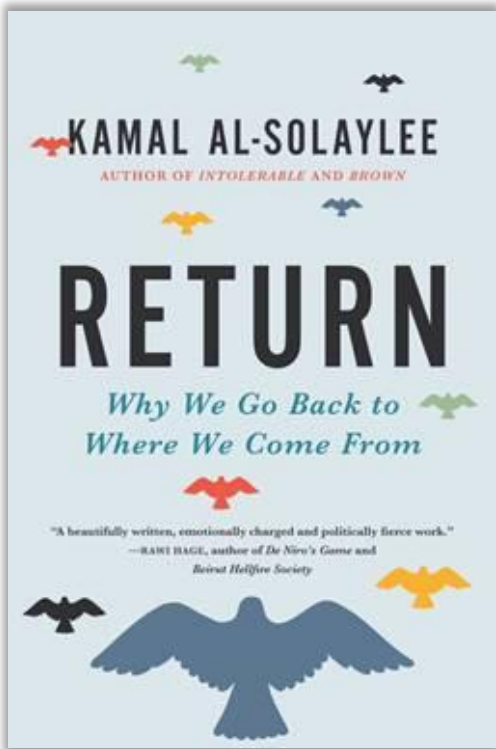
The police have a vested interest in finding the shooters, and so does the leader of the Exiles motorcycle gang. Both want Wakeland's help. The deeper he investigates, the more connections he uncovers: a reclusive millionaire with ties to organized crime, an international security company with a sinister reputation, and a high-ranking police officer who seems to have a personal connection to the case. When the shooters themselves start turning up dead, Wakeland realizes the only way to guarantee his own safety, and that of the people he loves, is by finding out who hired the shooters and why.

What Wakeland uncovers are secrets no one wants known – a botched undercover operation, an ambitious gangster, and a double-crossing killer who used the shooting to cover up another crime. With a setup like this, anything can go wrong, and does. Skill and luck are needed for Wakeland and Chen to emerge with the killers, the money, and their own lives.



SAM WIEBE is the award-winning author of the Vancouver crime novels *Cut You Down*, *Invisible Dead*, *Never Going Back*, and *Last of the Independents*, and he is the editor of the anthology *Vancouver Noir*. Wiebe's work has won an Arthur Ellis award and the Kobo Emerging Writers Prize, and has been shortlisted for the Edgar, Hammett, Shamus, and City of Vancouver Book awards. He lives in British Columbia.

NON-FICTION



“Return is the book I didn’t realize I needed until it arrived on my desk during lockdown. The dispossessed make up a nation all their own. Al-Solaylee explores what it means to be one of its citizens, and how strongly the call of elsewhere can unsettle us. This is an urgent, thought-provoking read with much to say about our future.”

– Esi Edugyan, Giller Award-winning author of *Washington Black*

Rights sold: World including audio: HarperCollins Canada (September 7, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agent: John Pearce

Kamal Al-Solaylee

RETURN

Why We Go Back to Where We Come From

Kamal Al-Solaylee yearns to return to his homeland of Yemen, now wracked by war, starvation, and daily violence, to reconnect with his family.

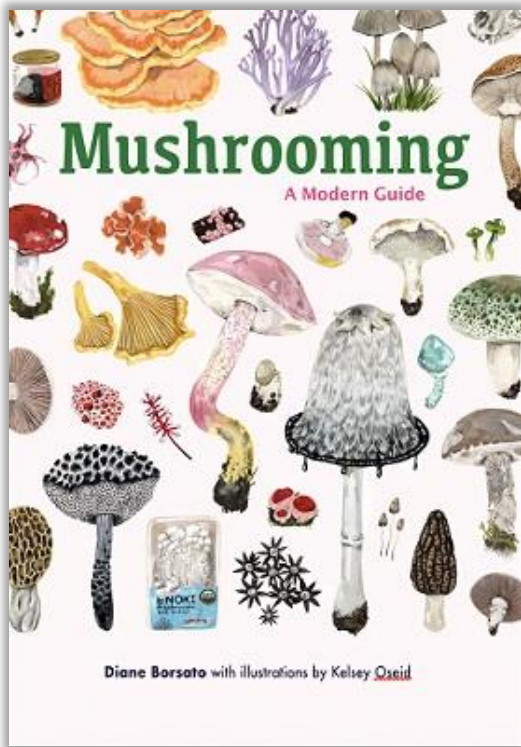
In *Return*, Al-Solaylee interviews dozens of people who have chosen to or long to return to their homelands, from the Basque to the Irish to the Taiwanese to Ghanaians. He does make a return of sorts, to the Middle East, visiting Israel and the West Bank, and also Egypt to meet up with his sisters. He finds his Arabic stilted and his mannerisms foreign, the English language and Western customs now his only cultural currency.

Return is a chronicle of love and loss, of global reach and personal desires. It places the narrative of going home against geopolitical forces that are likely to shape the rest of this century and beyond. Beautifully crafted and elegant to the last word, it’s a book for everyone who has ever wondered what it would be like to return to their roots.



KAMAL AL-SOLAYLEE was recently appointed Director of the School of Journalism, Writing, and Media at the University of British Columbia, and was previously Professor of Journalism at Ryerson University. He is the author of the national bestselling memoir *Intolerable: A Memoir of Extremes*, which was shortlisted for numerous awards. His second book, *Brown: What Being Brown in the World Today Means (to Everyone)*, won the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing. Born in Yemen and educated in the U.K., Al-Solaylee has written reviews and features on arts and politics for all major Canadian publications.

NON-FICTION



A beautiful, modern guide to more than 100 common and charismatic mushroom species found across the northern hemisphere.

“Mushroom foraging, water witching, and honey extracting are but a few of the outdoor activities that, according to Toronto artist Diane Borsato... can help us shift our views of nature away from scientific, commercial, and colonial perceptions of land... *Outdoor School* is a primer for a new generation of ecologically inspired art, showcasing a variety of recent experiential and community-based projects.”

– *AGO Insider*, on *Outdoor School*

Rights sold: North American English & French: Douglas & McIntyre (Canada: Fall 2022; U.S.: Spring 2023)

Status: Manuscript available

Author's website: www.dianebersato.net

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Diane Borsato

MUSHROOMING

A Modern Guide

For everyone from beginner mushroomers to advanced mycophiles, learn about the edible, the poisonous, and the strange – from candy caps to earth stars, puff balls to poison pie, prized chanterelles, morels and hedgehogs, to deadly destroying angels. There are mushrooms named after fairies and demons, and mushrooms that are the color of precious jewels. Some mushrooms look so much like woodland birds that they are shot at by hunters, and some literally glow in the dark.

Written by artist and educator Diane Borsato, and including 120 full-color illustrations by Kelsey Oseid, *Mushrooming* looks at the culture of nature and the ways contemporary artists use mushrooms to explore the unexpected wilderness of cities, to live more sustainably with other beings, and to propose new ways for us to perceive the world and to see ourselves.

With nature hobbies like birding and foraging on the rise, this book proposes mushrooming as a compelling cultural practice, and describes how “the quiet hunt” can teach us to see what is often unseen, and to experience the world with greater intimacy and intelligence. Start foraging wherever you are, in the forest, the city park, the market, or the museum; there may even be mushrooms in your basement!



DIANE BORSATO is an award-winning artist, naturalist, and educator. Her works in performance, video, and photography have been exhibited in galleries and museums around the world. Her book on contemporary environmental art *Outdoor School*, edited with Amish Morrell, was released in 2021. She is Associate Professor of Studio Art at the University of Guelph, and lives in Toronto.



A riveting courtroom drama and an inspiring personal story: a behind-the-scenes account of a courageous woman's journey to justice and accountability, for herself and other sexual assault survivors.

"A searing debut... The depth of Constand's wounds and the purposeful nature of her resilience shine through as road map for others. The hope here is astounding."

– *Publishers Weekly*

"The true hero of #MeToo... The first female courageous enough to stand up to all the power of Hollywood and demand the impossible and win the unbelievable."

– *The New York Daily News*

"The linchpin of the Billy Cosby case."

– *The New York Times*

Rights sold: North American English including audio: Penguin / Penguin Random House Canada (September 7, 2021)

Film/TV (World): Prospero Pictures

Status: Books available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Andrea Constand

THE MOMENT

*Standing Up to Bill Cosby,
Speaking Up for Women*

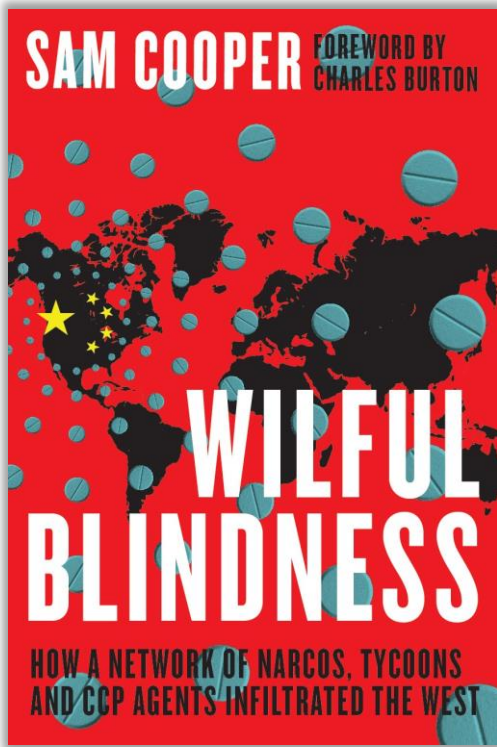
When Bill Cosby was convicted on three counts of aggravated indecent assault in 2018, the verdict sent shock waves around the globe. Some were outraged that a beloved icon of family values, "America's dad," had been accused, let alone convicted. Others were stunned as they'd waited so long to see justice; in accusations going back decades, over 60 women recounted how they'd been drugged, raped, and assaulted at Cosby's hands.

Constand's legal marathon required her to endure an excruciating civil suit and two harrowing criminal trials. Her deep sense of personal and social responsibility, fostered by her close-knit immigrant family and values earned through team sports, gave her the courage to testify at the criminal trial – something she agreed to do not for herself, but for the over 60 other women whose stories would never be told in court. Ultimately, Constand's testimony brought a powerful man to account. Cosby spent nearly three years in prison before his conviction was overturned on a procedural technicality in June 2021.

In *The Moment*, Constand opens up about the emotional, spiritual, and psychological work she did to strengthen and recover from the assault. It's a memoir about the moment a life changes, as hers did when she was assaulted; about the moment, nearly a decade later, when she stood up for voiceless victims and put herself through an arduous criminal trial; and about the cultural moment, signified by the #MeToo movement, that made justice and accountability possible.



ANDREA CONSTAND is a Registered Massage Therapist specializing in medical massage. She has been the operations manager for Temple University's women's basketball program, a sports marketing specialist for Nike, and a professional basketball player in Europe. She lives in Toronto.



“I’m astonished that some Hollywood production company hasn’t already signed him for a big-screen treatment of this story. It’s a huge story.”

– Terry Glavin, *National Post*

Rights sold: North American English and English in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Africa, and Taiwan including audio; complex Chinese in Taiwan: Optimum Publishing International (May 18, 2021)

Film/TV (World): Collective Pictures

Status: Books available

Author’s website:

www.twitter.com/scoopercooper

Agent: Michael A. Levine

Sam Cooper

WILFUL BLINDNESS

How a Network of Narcos, Tycoons and CCP Agents Infiltrated the West

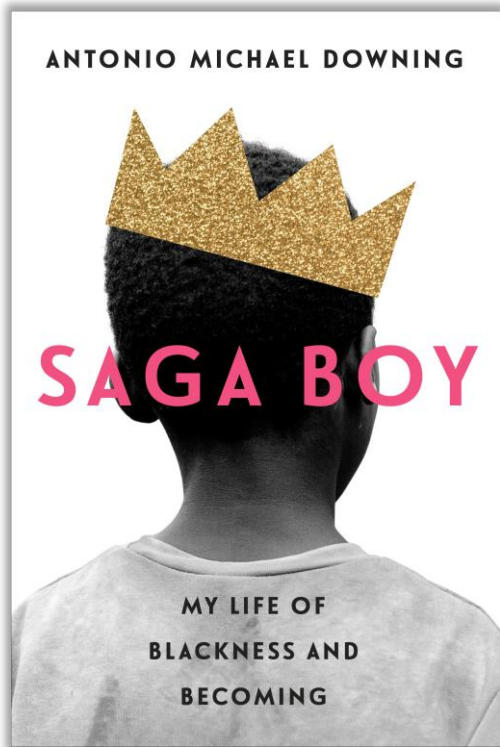
International drug cartels, espionage, murder, and political corruption. When one thinks of the international stereotypes that bless, or, depending on how you perceive it, plague Canada, these are not the things that come to mind. How did Canadian cities such as Vancouver and Toronto become hubs of Chinese Communist Party operations, and global money laundering?

The plot goes back to Britain’s handover of Hong Kong, a geopolitical event with consequences now unfolding in Western capitals. Author Sam Cooper traces the infiltration of casino and real estate businesses in Canada – and the Five Eyes allies – through heroin, methamphetamine, and fentanyl cartels tied to the Chinese state.

Wilful Blindness uncovers an international plot many may find hard to believe, until they read this gripping investigative narrative. British readers that know the name of Chi Lop Tse or the case of EncroChat, an encryption tech company used by London drug bosses to plan executions, will be stunned to learn how transnational narco networks tie to a major corruption scandal in Canada.



SAM COOPER is a national investigative journalist for Global News, focusing on political corruption, organized and financial crime, foreign influence, and national security and intelligence. His aim is to uncover important truths and hold accountable those in power.



“Singularly dazzling, *Saga Boy* is a brilliant collage of the twenty-first century’s most incredible memoirs. Told with an unforgettable and innovative pace, this a book I will reread forever.”

– Kiese Laymon, author of *Heavy*

“[A] deeply moving memoir... [and] lyrical story... Suffused with poetic prose that jumps off the page, this inspiring account sings.”

– *Publishers Weekly* (starred)

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Viking / Penguin Random House (January 19, 2021)
U.S.: Milkweed Editions (September 14, 2021)
Status: Books available
Author’s website:
www.antoniomichaeldowning.com
Agents: Chris Casuccio and John Pearce

Antonio Michael Downing

SAGA BOY

My Life of Blackness and Becoming

Raised by his indomitable grandmother in the lush rainforest of southern Trinidad, Downing, at age eleven, is uprooted to Canada when she dies. But to a very unusual part of Canada: He and his older brother are sent to live with his stern, evangelical Aunt Joan, in Wabigoon, a tiny northern Ontario community where they are the only black children in the town. In this wilderness, he begins his journey as an immigrant minority, using music and performance to dramatically transform himself. At the heart of his odyssey is the longing for a home.

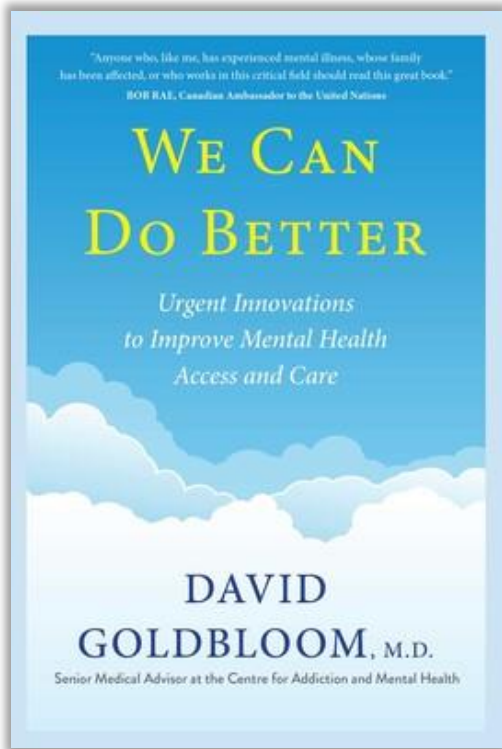
Downing tries to flee his messy life by transforming into a series of extravagant musical personalities, yet like his father and grandfather, he has become a “Saga Boy,” a Trinidadian playboy, addicted to escapism, attention, and sex. When the inevitable crash happens, he finds himself in a cold stone jail cell. He has become everything he was trying to escape and must finally face himself.

Richly evocative, *Saga Boy* is a heart-wrenching but uplifting story of a lonely immigrant boy who overcomes adversity and abandonment to reclaim his Black identity and embrace a rich heritage.



ANTONIO MICHAEL DOWNING grew up in southern Trinidad; Northern Ontario; Brooklyn, New York; and Kitchener, Ontario. He is a musician, writer, and activist based in Toronto. His novel, *Molasses*, was published to critical acclaim. In 2017, he was named by the RBC Taylor Prize as one of Canada’s top Emerging Writers of Non-Fiction. He performs and composes music as John Orpheus.

NON-FICTION



A leading psychiatrist and expert reveals important issues in mental health care today and introduces innovations to revolutionize and improve mental health for everyone.

“Anyone who, like me, has experienced mental illness, whose family has been affected, or who works in this critical field (have I missed anyone?), should read this great book. David Goldbloom is putting his knowledge to work in an engaging, thoughtful, and personal way. Bless him for sharing his wisdom and talent in a huge cause.”

– Bob Rae, Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations

Rights sold: World English: Simon & Schuster Canada (May 4, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agent: Michael A. Levine

David Goldbloom

WE CAN DO BETTER

Urgent Innovations to Improve Mental Health Access and Care

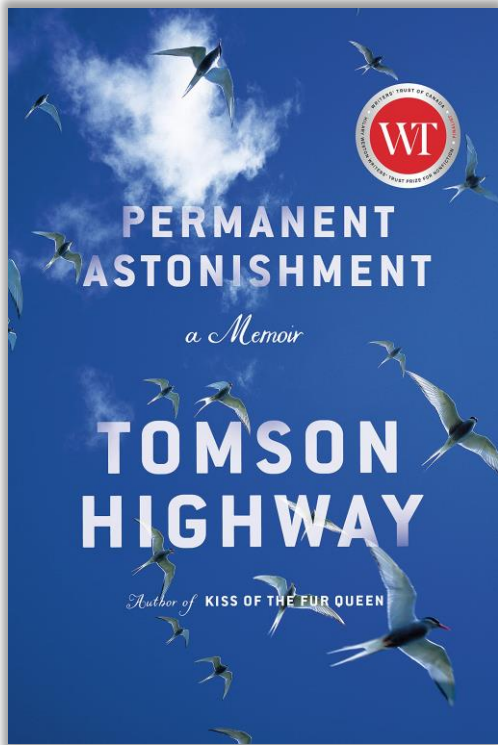
Mental health care systems are falling short and the consequences, for individuals and societies, are dire. In this urgent book, celebrated psychiatrist and mental health care advocate Dr. David Goldbloom outlines proven innovations in medicine and health care delivery that we all could benefit from today.

Using fictional – but all too real – examples of people suffering from various mental illnesses, from depression to addiction, and drawn from his real-life experiences in this field, Dr. Goldbloom shows barriers to care and other faults in mental health care systems. He then reveals simple, yet startlingly effective tools for improving access and treatment that can help people now – if we only had the will to share, use, and fund these brilliant innovations such as self-referrals, for faster access to care and remote coaching for effectively treating common childhood problems.

While technologies such as smartphones and genetic testing play a role, these innovations focus on people. They address waiting times to see specialists, the lack of coordination between health care institutions, and the stigma that often comes with seeking help, including stigma among health care providers. They broaden the definition of what mental health care can even be, such as providing housing, or low-intensity training for day-to-day life. Smart, candid, personal, and persuasive, this new book is a timely call for better access to and quality of help. It is a roadmap to better well-being for everyone.



DAVID GOLDBLOOM, MD, is Senior Medical Advisor at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto. He is a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. He has authored over 100 scientific articles and book chapters, and edited two psychiatric textbooks. He lives in Toronto.



Shortlisted for the 2021 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-fiction

Capricious, big-hearted, joyful: an epic memoir from one of Canada's most acclaimed Indigenous writers and performers.

"Mesmerizing... A book that shines with the foundational sparks of adolescence: innocence, fear, and amazement."

– 2021 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-fiction jury

"Beautiful, lyrical... Emotionally complex, witty, symphonic, and sad... Remarkable."

– *Vancouver Sun*, on *Kiss of the Fur Queen*

"Haunting and evocative... Pure magic."

– *Quill & Quire*, on *Kiss of the Fur Queen*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Doubleday / Penguin Random House (September 28, 2021)

Film: White Pine Pictures

Status: Books available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Tomson Highway PERMANENT ASTONISHMENT

A Memoir

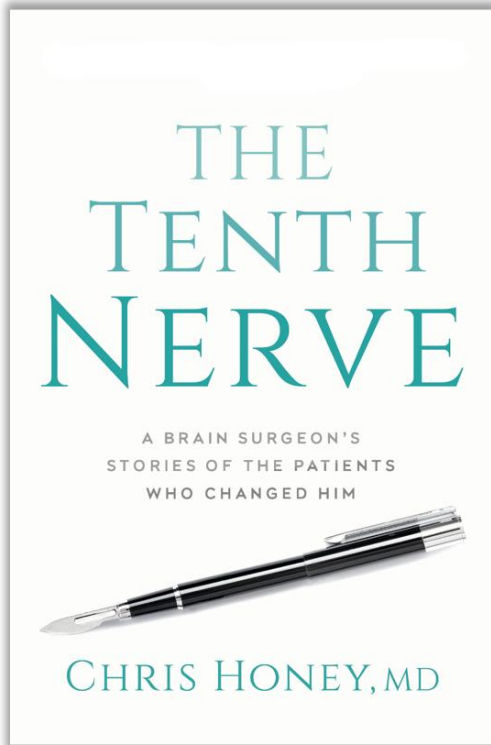
Tomson Highway was born in a snowbank on an island in the sub-Arctic, the eleventh of twelve children in a nomadic, caribou-hunting Cree family. Growing up in a land of 10,000 lakes and islands, Highway relished being pulled by a dogsled beneath a night sky alive with stars, sucking the juices from roasted muskrat tails, and singing country music songs with his impossibly beautiful older sister and her teenaged friends. Surrounded by the love of his family and the vast, mesmerizing landscape they called home, his was in many ways an idyllic far-north childhood.

But five of Highway's siblings died in childhood, and Balazee and Joe, who loved their surviving children profoundly, wanted their two youngest sons, Tomson and Rene, to enjoy opportunities as big as the world. And so when Highway was six, he was flown south by float plane to attend a residential school. A year later Rene joined him to begin the rest of their education.

In 1990 Rene Highway, a world-renowned dancer, died of an AIDS-related illness. An extravagant embrace of his younger brother's final words – "Don't mourn me, be joyful" – *Permanent Astonishment* offers insights, both hilarious and profound, into the Indigenous experience of culture, conquest, and survival.



TOMSON HIGHWAY's bestselling novel *Kiss of the Fur Queen* is optioned for film, and the plays *The Rez Sisters* and *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing* have been staged around the world. A full-blood Cree, he is widely recognized for his tremendous contribution to the development of Indigenous theater around the world. He has traveled to 62 countries and divides his time between Gatineau, Quebec and Naples, Italy.



“The Tenth Nerve lifts the veil of the surgeon’s mask in a riveting and insightful peek into the world of neurosurgery. In this revealing memoir, Dr. Chris Honey weaves impressive surgical knowledge and thrilling medical history with real patient cases, allowing the reader to bear witness to a modern-day medical breakthrough. Beautifully written and accessible to all, The Tenth Nerve features the touching stories of patients who profoundly impacted Dr. Honey’s career and transformed him personally. A rare, heartwarming gem of a read.”

– Christian Smith, author of *The Scientist and the Psychic: A Son’s Exploration of His Mother’s Gift*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Random House / Penguin Random House (Spring 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: John Pearce

Chris Honey, MD

THE TENTH NERVE

A Brain Surgeon’s Stories of the Patients Who Changed Him

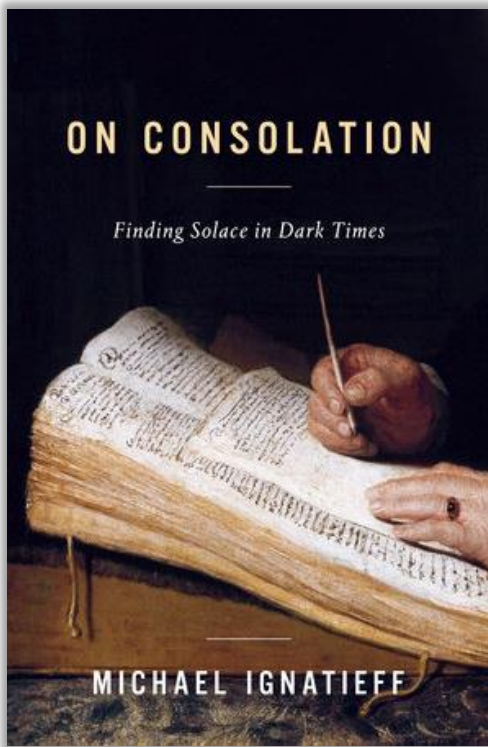
The Tenth Nerve takes you inside a neurosurgeon’s life in an engaging, sympathetic, and frequently dramatic way. Dr. Honey is a natural story-teller – and not just about his surgeries, though the latter make for riveting, edge-of-the-seat reading. There’s intriguing information about the brain – but the book always comes back to people and their stories.

The first story takes place in Africa. Dr. Honey was persuaded to operate on Saika, a remarkable boy in Liberia with an “inoperable” brain condition. Saika died soon afterwards, but the results of the operation brought great benefits to his village. This taught Dr. Honey that while he could fail as a physician, he must always try. Jeff, the patient who crystalized Dr. Honey’s decision to study surgery, had fallen from a construction site in Toronto. He nearly died twice in the ER but was dramatically saved. The other five stories all carry lessons. Emily and Leo, for example, had a serious, but hitherto unknown, coughing/choking condition, later named HeLPS. But they refused to give up in the face of specialists’ inability to resolve the issue – until the condition was finally identified and cured by Dr. Honey and his team.

The Tenth Nerve pays tribute to seven brave patients who allowed Dr. Honey to glimpse some fundamental truths in medicine and humanity, and in so doing made him a better person. “The scalpel can only go so deep,” he says. “*The Tenth Nerve*, I hope, is a book about curiosity, courage, and caring.”



CHRIS HONEY, MD is a pioneering Canadian neurosurgeon based at Vancouver General Hospital. In addition to his research on understanding and treating movement disorders and human pain pathways, he has given over 200 lectures on six continents. He has provided pro bono, humanitarian surgical care in Liberia and Ghana and has been invited to operate in China, Indonesia, and Kuwait.



“In an age when we are so much in need of solace, Michael Ignatieff went looking for it in texts and times whose assumptions are profoundly different from our own. The result is a secular reinterpretation of a landscape that has often seemed visible only through a religious lens: it is elegant, humane, and intensely rewarding.”

– Kwame Anthony Appiah, philosopher and novelist

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Random House / Penguin Random House (November 9, 2021)

Germany: Ullstein

Netherlands: Cossee

Romania: Editura Trei Srl

Spain: Taurus / Penguin Random House

Taiwan: Business Weekly Publications

U.K. & Commonwealth: Picador / Pan Macmillan (January 11, 2022)

U.S.: Henry Holt / Macmillan (November 9, 2021)

Status: Galleys available

Author's website: www.michaelignatieff.ca

Agent: Michael A. Levine

Michael Ignatieff ON CONSOLATION

Finding Solace in Dark Times

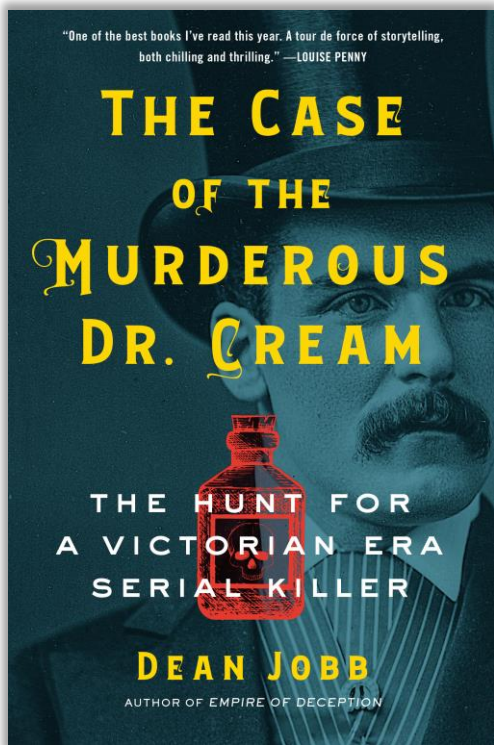
When we lose someone we love, when we suffer loss or defeat, when catastrophe strikes – war, famine, pandemic – we go in search of consolation. Once the province of priests and philosophers, the language of consolation has largely vanished from our modern vocabulary, and the places where it was offered – houses of religion – are often empty. Rejecting the solace of ancient religious texts, humanity since the sixteenth century has increasingly placed its faith in science, ideology, and the therapeutic.

In a series of meditations on writers, artists, musicians, and their works – from the books of Job and Psalms to Albert Camus, Anna Akhmatova, and Primo Levi – esteemed writer and historian Michael Ignatieff shows how men and women in extremity have looked to each other across time to recover hope and resilience. He answers the question of how we console one another in an age of unbelief.

Recreating the moments when great figures found the courage to confront their fate and the determination to continue unafraid, *On Consolation* takes those stories into the present, movingly contending that we can revive these traditions of consolation to meet the anguish and uncertainties of our precarious 21st century.



MICHAEL IGNATIEFF is the author of *Isaiah Berlin* and *The Warrior's Honour*, as well as sixteen other acclaimed books. He writes regularly for *The New York Times*, *The New York Review of Books*, and the *London Review of Books*. Former head of Canada's Liberal Party, he is currently the president of Central European University in Budapest.



“Jobb’s excellent storytelling makes the book a pleasure to read.”

– *The New York Times*

“Vividly written... A splendidly atmospheric journey through the halls of Victorian vice, virtue and, above all, hypocrisy.”

– *The Times* (U.K.)

“[An] enthralling real-life thriller... A true crime masterpiece that will easily sit alongside *The Devil in the White City*.”

– *Publishers Weekly* (starred)

“A vivid, engaging revival of a forgotten Victorian villain.”

– *Kirkus Reviews*

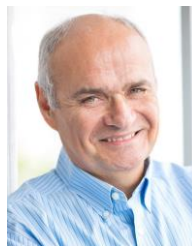
Rights sold: World including audio:
Algonquin Books (July 13, 2021) (Canadian
English: HarperCollins; French [World]:
Groupe Homme; Japan: Aki Shobo)
Status: Books available
Agent: Hilary McMahon

Dean Jobb THE CASE OF THE MURDEROUS DR. CREAM

The Hunt for a Victorian Era Serial Killer

“When a doctor does go wrong, he is the first of criminals,” Sherlock Holmes observed during one of his most puzzling murder investigations. Incredibly, at the time the words of the world’s most famous fictional detective appeared in print in the *Strand Magazine*, a real-life Canadian doctor was stalking and murdering women in London’s downtrodden Lambeth neighborhood. Dr. Thomas Neill Cream had been a suspect in the deaths of two women in Canada, and had killed as many as four people in Chicago before he arrived in London in 1891 and began using pills laced with strychnine to kill sex workers. The Lambeth Poisoner, as he was dubbed in the press, became one of the most prolific serial killers in history.

In this fascinating book, Dean Jobb reveals how bungled investigations, corrupt officials, and failed prosecutions allowed Dr. Cream to evade detection or freed him to kill, again and again. The first complete account of Dr. Cream’s crimes and his many victims explores how the stifling morality and hypocrisy of the Victorian era allowed this monster to poison vulnerable and desperate women, many of whom had turned to him for medical help. It offers an inside account of Scotland Yard’s desperate search for a killer as brazen and efficient as Jack the Ripper.



DEAN JOBB’s most recent of his seven books, *Empire of Deception*, won the Arthur Ellis Award for Excellence in Canadian Crime Writing and the Chicago Writers Association Book of the Year Award, and was a finalist for the Hilary Weston Writers’ Trust Prize for Non-Fiction. After decades as a journalist, he now writes a monthly true crime column for *Ellery Queen’s Mystery Magazine*.

NON-FICTION



An eloquent and soulful memoir of a tragicomic childhood and a portrait of a way of life in Newfoundland that is fast disappearing.

“Beautiful, heartfelt, funny, and engrossing.”

– *San Francisco Chronicle*, on *Baltimore’s Mansion*

“An absorbing evocation of time and place, elegantly and passionately written.”

– Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-fiction jury, on *Baltimore’s Mansion*

“Much more than a memoir... A work of astonishing beauty and power.”

– *National Post*, on *Baltimore’s Mansion*

“A consummate storyteller.”

– *The Times* (U.K.), on *Baltimore’s Mansion*

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House (Fall 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Wayne Johnston

JENNIE’S BOY

My Misfit Childhood in Newfoundland

Hardship and perseverance, ignorance and wit, Catholicism and superstition, conflict and love: These themes are woven throughout *Jennie’s Boy*, the beautifully rendered, sometimes comic, always poignant story of a child few thought would survive boyhood, himself included; and of the strong, kind, witty, charismatic, and eccentric grandmother who saved him.

From age one onward, Wayne Johnston was a very sickly child. At least that’s what he was told, as if it was a doctor’s diagnosis; no doctor was ever able to put a name to what was wrong with him, in part because his mother, Jennie, eschewed doctors out of superstition. Before he was five, doctors had removed his tonsils, adenoids, and appendix. Because he coughed almost interminably, he was banished from his brothers’ bedroom, and spent his nights on a cot placed wherever there was room. His days were spent with his grandmother, who kept a statue of the Blessed Virgin in one of the empty rooms; Johnston lit a votive candle every day before she prayed, and he knelt and pretended beside her.

The childhood Johnston barely survived was full of laughter, tenderness, and the kind of wit that is peculiar to Newfoundlanders. Because of that wit and their love for each other – often expressed in the most unlove-like ways – he, and they, survived.

WAYNE JOHNSTON is the author of numerous award-winning, internationally acclaimed, bestselling books including *Baltimore’s Mansion*, a memoir about his father and grandfather; and *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams*, a novel that was nominated for sixteen national and international awards, including the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor General’s Award for English Fiction, and was defended by Justin Trudeau as a finalist on Canada Reads.



“Every once in a lifetime an author comes along that pulls all the strands of social history, migration diaspora, regional politics and, above all, food, into a most comprehensive and thoughtful tome. Cheuk Kwan has done just this.”

– Chef Ken Hom, OBE

“With a masterful blending of rich textures, contours, and flavours, Kwan takes us on a lively journey of the omnipresent Chinese restaurant capturing the enduring spirit of the Chinese diaspora. I hear their voices jumping off the pages. This is how history should be told!”

– Dora Nipp, historian and CEO of the Multicultural Historical Society of Ontario

Rights sold: Audio (North American English): Blackstone

North American English: Douglas & McIntyre (January 29, 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Chris Casuccio

Cheuk Kwan

HAVE YOU EATEN YET?

*Stories of Chinese Restaurants
and Global Migration*

Family-run Chinese restaurants are global icons of immigration, community, and good food. They dot even the most remote of landscapes, as cultural outposts of brave sojourners and unimagined culinary hybrids. But food is just an entry point.

A deeper look reveals a complicated history of cultural migration and world politics. The Jade Gardens and Golden Dragons that populate towns and cities from Africa to South America are intricately bound up in the social schisms and political movements that propelled the world into the twentieth century and beyond.

In *Have You Eaten Yet?* Cheuk Kwan draws out this global narrative by linking together the myriad personal stories of chefs, entrepreneurs, laborers, and dreamers who populate Chinese kitchens world-wide. At the core of this exploration is the examination of an intriguing paradox which characterizes almost all Chinese communities. That is, how at once Chinese immigrants have resisted (or have been prevented from) complete assimilation into the social fabric of their new homes and maintained a strong sense of cultural identity, but at the same time, how the engine of their economic survival, the Chinese restaurant and its food, have become seamlessly woven into it.

This is an intrepid travelogue of grand vistas and local colors, of adventure and serendipity. Entertaining and eye-opening, *Have You Eaten Yet?* maps out a living atlas of the Chinese diaspora, and charts the synergy of politics, culture, and family that have created its incredible stories.

CHEUK KWAN grew up in Singapore, Hong Kong, and Japan. Kwan studied film production at NYU, and his *Chinese Restaurants* series brings together his love of food, travel, and appreciation of the Chinese diaspora culture. Kwan speaks English, Japanese, French, as well as Cantonese and Mandarin.



This is the superhero origin story of Simu Liu, Marvel Cinematic Universe's first leading Asian superhero, who grew up torn between two cultures – until he found the courage to dream like his parents before him.

It is a story about growing up as a third culture kid, about losing and finding family, and about making your own luck.

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: HarperCollins (May 3, 2022)
U.S. including audio: William Morrow / HarperCollins (May 3, 2022)

Status: Manuscript available Fall 2021

Author's websites:

www.instagram.com/simuliu and
www.twitter.com/simuliu

Agents: Jackie Kaiser (WCA) and Cindy Uh (CAA)

Simu Liu

WE WERE DREAMERS

An Immigrant Superhero Origin Story

Witty, honest, inspiring, and relatable, *We Were Dreamers* weaves together the narratives of two generations in a Chinese immigrant family who are inextricably tied to one another even as they find themselves divided by deep cultural misunderstanding. Let's just say, it's really hard to be seen as cool amongst your peers when your parents assign you hours of extra homework every night. And it's similarly hard to admit to those parents, years later, not only that you've lost your respectable accounting job – the one they invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in to prepare you for – but also that you kinda want to be an actor.

Raised by his grandparents in China while his parents sought a future in North America, Simu Liu was in shock when the father he hardly remembered showed up to take him away from the only home he knew. In Canada, Liu and his parents struggled to become a family while dealing with culture gaps, racism, and wildly conflicting definitions of success.

Ultimately, it was Liu's singular determination to make his dreams come true that led him to succeed as an actor and opened the door to reconciliation with his parents. Because as it turns out, Liu and his parents have more in common than he ever understood – most notably their courage to dream, and to dream big.

SIMU LIU is the star of Marvel Studio's newest franchise, 'Shang Chi,' which broke Labor Day records, recording a four-day gross of \$96M and a Rotten Tomatoes score of over 90%. Previously, Liu played the role of Jung in the hit Netflix sitcom Kim's Convenience, for which he has received rave reviews. He will next be seen in eOne's 'Arthur The King,' opposite Mark Wahlberg and Nathalie Emmanuel. He is currently developing and producing projects for TV, film, and streaming.

NON-FICTION



A writer studies a famous work of art only to see herself and her own cultural moment revealed at its heart.

“Engaging... Admirably well-researched... A well-timed eye-opener.”

– *The Globe & Mail*, on *The Lost Art of Feeding Kids*

“Marshall’s clear, direct book ably captures the frustrations of trying to find the healthiest path and inspiring kids to do the same.”

– *Kirkus Reviews*, on *The Lost Art of Feeding Kids*

“An illuminating personal account of a journey that we all need to take.”

– Theresa Albert, author of *Ace Your Health*, on *The Lost Art of Feeding Kids*

Rights sold: World including audio: Biblioasis (March 8, 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Jackie

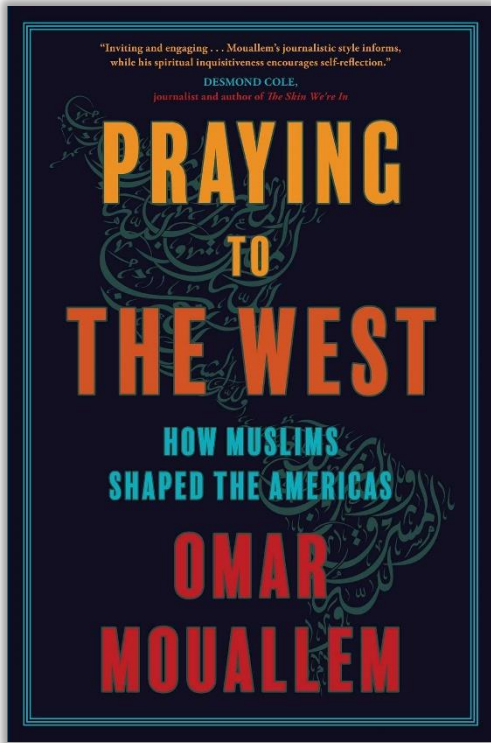
Jeannie Marshall

SEEING THINGS IN THE SISTINE CHAPEL

Jeannie Marshall lived in Rome for ten years without visiting the Sistine Chapel: She didn’t want to have a superficial experience of the frescos, but she wasn’t sure how, amidst the crowds of tour groups and the noise of pop culture allusions, she could have anything but. What’s more, she wondered what this very old, very Catholic art, created by a man who grew up under the warm Tuscan sun of the Renaissance, could possibly have to say to a modern woman raised in the New World by a family in retreat from Christianity – and what it could say to any of us living in the 21st century.

Seeing Things in the Sistine Chapel is Marshall’s story of her intentional encounter with one of the world’s most cherished artworks and an impassioned defence of the role of art in our lives. A personal account of finding meaning, and a model for how to engage deeply with the past, *Seeing Things in the Sistine Chapel* is a quietly sublime meditation on how art, once invested with the power to save our souls, can enlarge our lives if only we learn how to look.

JEANNIE MARSHALL is a writer who has been living in Italy with her family since 2002. She is the author of *The Lost Art of Feeding Kids*, a non-fiction book about the implications of the worldwide change in the way that children eat. She is a journalist and contributes articles to *Maclean’s* and *The Walrus*, and has published literary non-fiction essays in *The Common, Brick, Literary Review of Canada*, and *Literary Mama*. She was a staff features writer at the *National Post* in Toronto.



A journey to thirteen remarkable mosques and the surprising histories of their communities.

“You’ll never see Islam in the same way again.”

– Ziya Tong, science broadcaster and author of *The Reality Bubble*

“A towering achievement.”

– Kamal Al-Solaylee, author of *Return and Brown*

“Timely, vital, and thoroughly readable...”

– Omar El Akkad, bestselling author of *American War* and *What Strange Paradise*

Rights sold: World including audio: Simon & Schuster Canada (September 21, 2021)

Status: Books available

Author’s website:

www.omarmouallem.com

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Omar Mouallem

PRAYING TO THE WEST

How Muslims Shaped the Americas

Omar Mouallem grew up in a Muslim household, but questioned the role of Islam in his life. As an adult, he used his voice to criticize what he saw as the harms of organized religion. None of that changed the way others saw him. As a father, he fears the challenges his children will face.

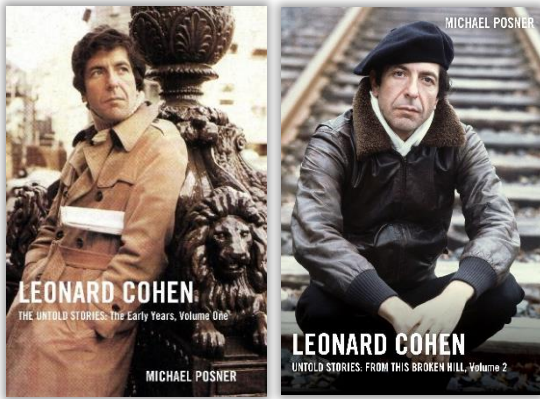
In *Praying to the West*, Mouallem explores the unknown history of Islam across the Americas, traveling to thirteen unique mosques in search of an answer to how this religion has survived and thrived so far from the place of its origin. Along this journey he comes to understand that Islam has played a fascinating role in how the Americas were shaped – from industrialization to the changing winds of politics. And he also discovers that there may be a place for Islam in his own life, particularly as a father, even if he will never be a true believer.

Original, insightful, and beautifully told, *Praying to the West* reveals the struggle for belonging taking place in towns and cities across the Americas, and points to a better, more inclusive future for everyone.



OMAR MOUALLEM’s journalism, essays, and documentaries have appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *The Guardian*, *The Ringer*, and the CBC. His reporting on religion has earned him three National Magazine Awards.

NON-FICTION



A Globe & Mail Top 100 Book of 2020

“Posner undertook dozens and dozens of interviews... Creating a unique oral history, as if they’re in a room together, sharing memories and stories... They’re linked together with a light narrative voice that gives this biography a very intimate and personal feel.”

– *Toronto Star*, on *The Early Years*

“Leonard Cohen’s posthumous album in 2019 proved he still had something profound to say, even in death. This book likewise confirms that hundreds of others have their own tales to tell about the master songwriter. The first of three volumes, it covers his early life via a myriad of fascinating interviewees, from rabbis to lovers.”

– *Evening Standard*, on *The Early Years*

“Posner masterfully weaves the story of the iconic musician’s life through hundreds of interviews with the people who knew him best, including family members, business partners, and lovers alike.”

– *Chatelaine*, on *The Early Years*

Rights sold: World English including audio: Simon & Schuster Canada (Book 1: October 20, 2020; Book 2: October 12, 2021)

Status: Books available

Author’s website: www.michaelposner.com

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Michael Posner LEONARD COHEN

Untold Stories

Volume One: The Early Years

Artist, poet, novelist, singer-songwriter, icon – there has never been a figure like Leonard Cohen. From his groundbreaking and bestselling novels, *Beautiful Losers* and *The Favourite Game*, to timeless songs such as “Suzanne” and “Hallelujah,” Cohen is one of the world’s most cherished artists. *The Early Years* follows Cohen from boyhood in Montreal, university, and his growing career into the 60s that took him to the world’s stage. It probes his public and private life, through the words of those who knew him best: his family, friends, colleagues, contemporaries, rivals, business partners, and many lovers. From Montreal to Greece, London to Paris and New York, Cohen touched lives everywhere. It’s also a snapshot of a golden era – the times that helped foster his talents and successes.

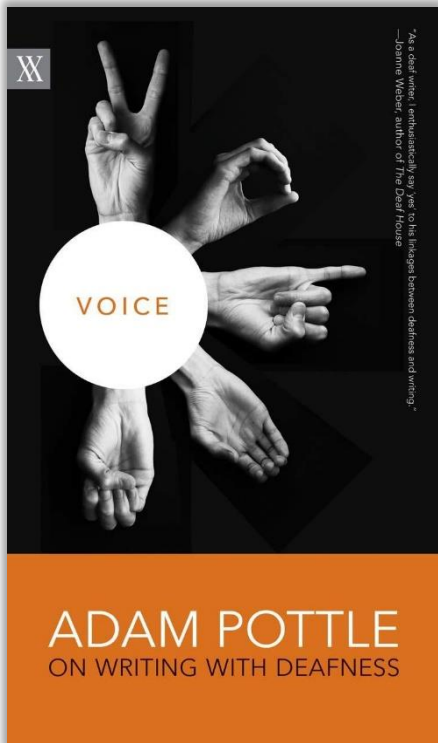
Volume Two: From This Broken Hill

From This Broken Hill follows Cohen from the end of his first international music tour in 1971 as he continued to compose poetry, record music, and search for meaning into the late 80s. It explores his decade-long relationships with Suzanne Elrod, with whom he had two children, and various other romantic partners, including French photographer Dominique Issermann and, simultaneously, a five-year relationship with a woman never previously identified. A challenging period, Cohen’s personal life is in chaos, his career stumbles, and other artistic endeavors fail to find an audience. But it also marks the start of his 40-year immersion in Zen Buddhism, connecting him to the legendary Zen master Joshu Sasaki and inspiring some of his most profound and enduring art.



MICHAEL POSNER is the author of three previous non-fiction books, including Mordecai Richler’s biography *The Last Honest Man* and Anne Murray’s biography *All of Me*. He is a former arts reporter and feature writer for *The Globe & Mail*.

NON-FICTION



“Important contribution to the growing roster of writing supplied by deaf academics, artists, writers, actors, and theatre directors and professionals. I felt a ‘coming home’ experience in reading this book. As a deaf writer, I enthusiastically say ‘yes’ to his linkages between deafness and writing.”

– Joanne Weber, author of *The Deaf House*

“Pottle’s prose is crisp, vivid, and frequently humorous... The challenges he faced imbue his literary output with uncommon characteristics. In part because of the ‘accent’ deafness can create in speech, deaf people experience a bifurcation between interior voice versus spoken language. Pottle’s relationship to voice, text, and the page is different from that of hearing writers.”

– *Quill & Quire*

Rights sold: Audio (North American English):

Tantor Audio

World English: University of Regina Press
(March 2, 2019)

Status: Books available

Agent: Emmy Nordstrom Higdon

Dr. Adam Pottle

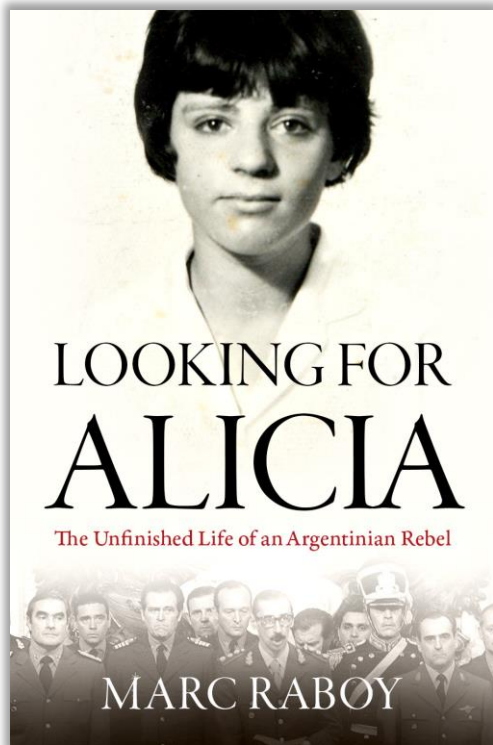
VOICE

On Writing with Deafness

In *Voice*, Dr. Adam Pottle explores the crucial role deafness has played in the growth of his imagination, and in doing so presents a unique perspective on a writer’s development. Born deaf in both ears, Dr. Pottle recounts what it was like growing up in a world of muted sound, and how his deafness has influenced virtually everything about his writing, from his use of language to character and plot choices. Salty, bold, and relentlessly honest, *Voice* makes us think about writing in entirely new ways and expands our understanding of deafness and the gifts that it can offer.



DR. ADAM POTTLE, PhD is an award-winning author whose work explores the fiery beauty of deafness, disability, and mental illness. His previous works include the novella *The Bus*. He is currently the writer in residence at Sheridan College.



“[Raboy] is especially adroit at portraying how Marconi was swept up in the modern world he helped create... *Marconi* really hums when Raboy details how his subject was implicated in the social and political effects of wireless... *Marconi*, which functions as a cultural history as much as a biography, reminds us that in its earliest incarnations, wireless had a romance and mystique.”

– Greg Milner, *The New York Times*, on *Marconi: The Man Who Networked the World*

Rights sold: Canadian English: House of Anansi Press (March 2022)
U.S. including audio: Oxford University Press (March 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Author's website: www.marcraboy.org

Agent: John Pearce

Marc Raboy

LOOKING FOR ALICIA

The Unfinished Life of an Argentinian Rebel

This is the dramatic and, for the author, very personal story of Alicia Raboy, one of the 30,000 who “disappeared” in Argentina in the 1970s.

In 1976, Alicia Raboy and her husband’s car was stopped by an unmarked vehicle. Her husband was shot and killed and she was grabbed off the street, but not before she managed to pass her eleven-month-old daughter to a bystander. Alicia was never seen again.

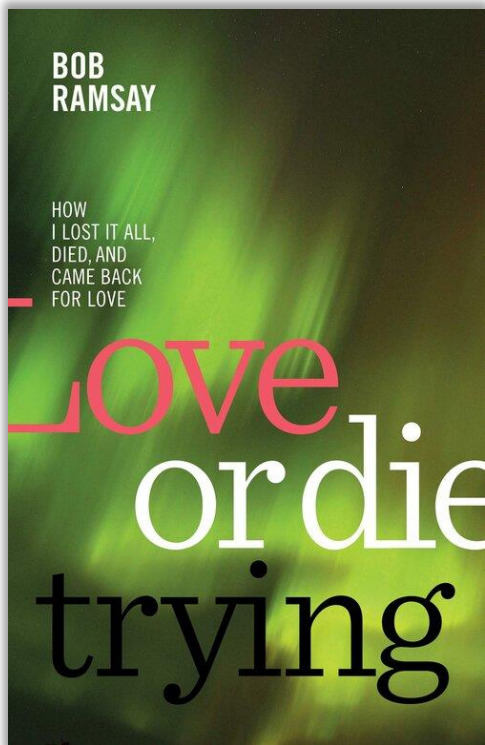
Marc Raboy, who lives in Montreal, visited Argentina twice and met with Alicia’s family, compelled by the possibility that Alicia and he were related (since Raboys from the same area of Ukraine did emigrate to Argentina).

What he discovers as he reconstructs Alicia’s life and untimely death is a powerful and frightening story that speaks volumes not only about Alicia and her comrades, but also about all “the disappeared.”

A cross between *Eleni* and *The Hare with Amber Eyes*, *Looking for Alicia* is a compelling personal story, but also a cultural and political history; A searing portrait of a horrific era.



MARC RABOY is Beaverbrook Professor Emeritus in Ethics, Media, and Communications in the Department of Art History and Communication Studies at McGill University. A former journalist in a wide variety of media, he is the author or editor of some twenty books, including most recently his celebrated biography of Marconi. He has been a visiting scholar at Stockholm University, the University of Oxford, and New York University, and has lectured all over the world. He is also a founding member of an international advocacy campaign for Communication Rights in the Information Society.



A story of addiction and recovery, love and perseverance, and a reminder that it's never too late to start over.

"A ruthlessly honest memoir of love, loss, and redemption."

– Wade Davis, author of *Passage of Darkness*

"We all need stories where love wins. We all need hope in the midst of the challenges we face. We all need to know what's possible when there seems no way out or no way up. Bob courageously shares his life story. A life filled with challenges yet love won out, hope was restored, and now hope is offered to each of us."

– Rev. Brent Hawkes, Senior Pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto

Rights sold: North American English including audio: Dundurn Press (June 29, 2021)

Status: Books available

Author's website: www.ramsayinc.com

Agent: Michael A. Levine

Bob Ramsay

LOVE OR DIE TRYING

How I Lost It All, Died, and Came Back for Love

This book is as unlikely a love story as you can find. A 50-year-old doctor and single mother of three angry kids falls in love with a younger man who's a cocaine addict. They date. They move in together. Neither gives their relationship a chance.

But they're now coming on 30 years of marriage, and between then and now, Jean's become a Boston Marathon champion and a provider of medically-assisted death, and the author, Bob Ramsay, has courted death, succumbed to it, and gone on to embrace life with an inspiring passion.

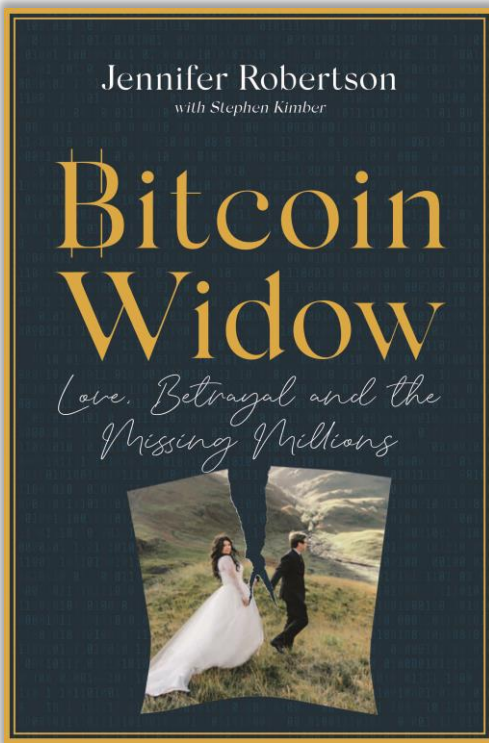
Who else but them would trek 1,000 miles of the Appalachian Trail just to see if they're meant for each other, or circumnavigate Manhattan by kayak on a weekend in New York?

Because this is not a death story; it's a love story for our times. As Bruce Springsteen wrote: "We all have our broken pieces... In this life, nobody gets away unhurt. We're always trying to find somebody whose broken pieces fit with our broken pieces, and something whole emerges."

Love or Die Trying will keep its readers up all night, even though they know the author doesn't die – again, even though he did that once already.



BOB RAMSAY is a communications consultant, writer, and founder of the speaker series RamsayTalks. He was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Medal in 2015 and the Bernier Medal from the Royal Canadian Geographic Society in 2017. He lives with his wife, Dr. Jean Marmoreo, in Toronto.



A memoir of love and loss, of unexpectedly having it all and just as suddenly losing everything; The Wolf of Wall Street meets A Beautiful, Terrible Thing.

Rights sold: Canadian English including audio: HarperCollins (January 22, 2022)

Status: Galleys available

Agent: Hilary McMahon

Jennifer Robertson

BITCOIN WIDOW

Love, Betrayal and the Missing Millions

What if your fairytale was built on fraud?

Gerry Cotten was a 30-year-old bitcoin wizard who amassed substantial wealth through his company, Quadriga. But on his honeymoon in India, Cotten died, and the password to his encrypted virtual vaults – containing about \$240 million owed to over 100,000 investors – died with him.

International media covered the subsequent criminal investigations and stoked rampant rumors, including that he was still alive and that his wife, Jennifer Robertson, was the real mastermind behind a sophisticated sting operation. It's now clear that Cotten gambled away about \$100 million.

Bitcoin Widow takes the reader on a shocking, immersive ride, from new love and unimaginable wealth, to grief and threats, and pressure to solve the mystery. Now living in a small rented apartment, Robertson's happy memories are tarnished by doubt. Cotten's promised "death-switch" email that will reveal the passwords has not yet arrived.



JENNIFER ROBERTSON is a teacher in Nova Scotia.



“Jamal writes with brutal clarity, and yet, there is a poetic quality to the telling. He manages to hold in balance the idyllic memories of growing up in a land he loves, alongside his experiences inside Syrian prisons, where he peels back the dark walls and allows us to witness and pay heed to the unthinkable.”

– Frances Itani, author of *Deafening*

Rights sold: World English including audio:
ECW Press (Spring 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Chris Casuccio

Jamal Saeed

THE ROAD FROM DAMASCUS

A Memoir

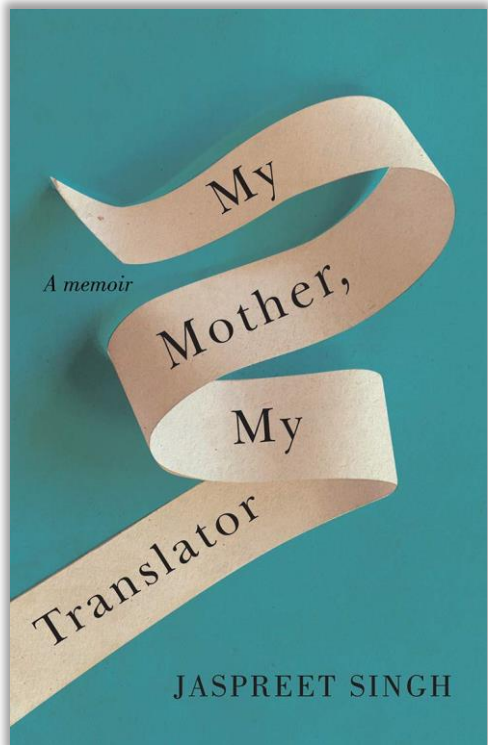
Jamal Saeed arrived as a refugee in Canada in 2016. In his native Syria, as a young man, his writing pushed both social and political norms. For this reason, as well as his opposition to the regimes of the al-Assads, he was imprisoned on three occasions for a total of twelve years. In each instance, he was held without formal charge and without benefit of judicial process.

The Road from Damascus not only tells the story of his twelve years in Syria’s most notorious military prisons, but also his life during the country’s dramatic changes. From the 1950s right up to his escape to Canada in 2016, Saeed chronicles the life of modern Syria and its descent from a country of potential to the pawn of cynical and corrupt powers. It paints a picture of village life, how he first rebelled as a young Marxist and then evolved into a free thinker; it explores how he lived in hiding as a teenager for 30 months while being hunted by the secret police; his youthful love affairs; how he survived twelve brutal years in various prisons; his final release; and his family’s harrowing escape to Canada.

While many prison memoirs focus on the cruelty of incarceration, *The Road from Damascus* offers a tapestry of Saeed’s whole life. It looks squarely at brutality, but also at beauty and poetry, and hope and love.

JAMAL SAEED spent twelve years as a prisoner of conscience in Syria before being invited to Canada in 2016. He continues to raise awareness about Syria’s ongoing civil war and humanitarian crisis through his work as an activist, editor, visual artist, and author. He lives in Kingston, Ontario.

NON-FICTION



“[A]n intensely pleasurable read... Singh is an unparalleled chronicler... [A]n indispensable, inimitable memoir.”

– *Quill & Quire* (starred)

“A powerful and moving memoir... Through a series of digressions, both playful and deeply serious, *My Mother, My Translator* reshapes memoir in an unforgettable way.”

– Daphne Marlatt, author of *Then Now*

“[A] complex elegy from son to mother that crosses cultures and languages... *My Mother, My Translator* defies genre and has a cumulative power that reveals literature as a home, a place to live.”

– Mark Anthony Jarman, author of *Czech Techno*

“[A]n unflinching work.”

– Ted Bishop, author of *The Social Life of Ink*

Rights sold: Canadian English: Véhicule Press (September 21, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

Jaspreet Singh

MY MOTHER, MY TRANSLATOR

A Memoir

In 2008, Jaspreet Singh made a pact with his mother. He would gladly give her the go-ahead to publish her significantly altered translation of a story from his collection, *Seventeen Tomatoes*, if she promised to write her memoir. After she died in 2012, he decided to take up the memoir she had started. *My Mother, My Translator* is a deeply personal exploration of a complex relationship. It is a family history, a work of mourning, a meditation on storytelling and silences, and a reckoning with trauma – the inherited trauma of the 1947 Partition of India and the direct trauma of the November 1984 anti-Sikh violence Singh experienced as a teenager.

Tracing the men and especially the women of his family from the 1918 pandemic through the calamitous events of Partition, *My Mother, My Translator* takes us through Singh’s childhood in Kashmir and with his grandparents in Indian Punjab to his arrival in Canada in 1990 to study the sciences, up to the closing moments of 2020, as he tries to locate new forms of stories for living in a present marked by COVID-19 and climate crisis.



JASPREET SINGH’s non-fiction work has appeared in *Granta*, *Brick*, and *The New York Times*. He is the author of two novels, *Chef* (Véhicule Press, 2008; Bloomsbury, 2010) and *Helium* (Bloomsbury, 2014); a story collection, *Seventeen Tomatoes* (Véhicule Press, 2004); and a poetry collection, *November* (Bayeux Arts, 2017). His work has been published internationally and has been translated into several languages. He lives in Calgary.

NON-FICTION



ANDREW STOBO SNIDERMAN is a trilingual writer, lawyer, and Rhodes scholar from Montreal. His profile of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Residential Schools won the award for best print feature of 2011 from the Canadian Association of Journalists. As a lawyer, Stobo has argued before the Canadian Supreme Court and represented Indigenous clients across Canada. He has also served as the human rights policy advisor to the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

DOUGLAS SANDERSON (AMO BINASHII) is Swampy Cree, Beaver clan, of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation. He is a lawyer, law professor, and Fulbright Scholar. He is currently the Decanal Advisor on Indigenous Issues to the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto, where he is also an Associate Professor, and holds the Pritchard Wilson Chair in Law and Public Policy.

Rights sold: World including audio:
HarperCollins Canada (Fall 2022)

Status: Manuscript available

Authors' websites:

www.stobosniderman.ca/;

www.utoronto.ca/faculty-staff/full-time-faculty/douglas-sanderson

Agent: Michael A. Levine

Andrew Stobo Sniderman & Douglas Sanderson (*Amo Binashii*)

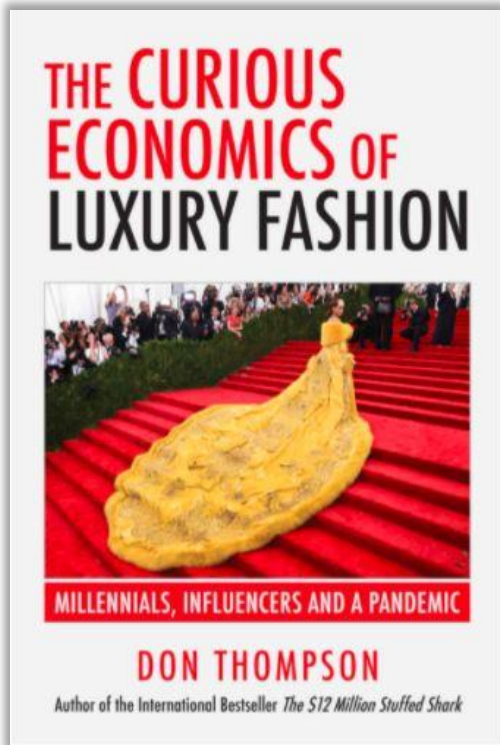
VALLEY OF THE BIRDTAIL

*An Indian Reserve, a White Town, and the Road
from Racism to Reconciliation*

Manitoba is famous for its flat, unchanging landscape. The Valley of the Birdtail interrupts that sameness, creating a divide. On one side lies Waywayseecappo, established by an Ojibway band, named after their Chief, meaning "The Man Proud of Standing Upright." On the other side is the town of Rossburn, established by Canadian settlers two years later. Their location is about all they have in common.

In recent years, there have been many discussions about the horror of Indian residential schools. Far fewer people realize that *after* Canada dismantled residential schools and apologized for them, the government continued to systematically underfund schools on reserves like Waywayseecappo. Today, the average family income in Rossburn is near the national average. More than a third of adults have graduated from university. By contrast, the average family income in Waywayseecappo is below the national poverty line, and less than a third of adults have graduated from high school.

Valley of the Birdtail follows multiple generations of two families – one Indigenous, one white – and provides a poignant narrative of a uniquely Canadian, but nearly universal, experience of colonialism. The result of years of research and several publications, Stobo Sniderman and Sanderson shed light on Canada's shameful history, how it affects the present, and in the end, offers an uncommon measure of hope.



“Despite the dizzying extravagance of the world he explores, Thompson’s [impeccably researched] work remains grounded in hard analysis. And in describing a world that seems insane in its fervour, lust, and escalation, his steady, thorough, and even approach is refreshingly cool.”

– *The Walrus*, on *The \$12 Million Stuffed Shark*

Rights sold: World English: DNT (February 27, 2021)

China: Jiangsu Kuwei Culture Development

Russia: Atticus-Azbooka

Status: Books available

Agent: John Pearce

Don Thompson

THE CURIOUS ECONOMICS OF LUXURY FASHION

Millennials, Influencers and a Pandemic

New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Benefit Ball, run by Anna Wintour, editor of *Vogue*, is the most difficult-to-obtain ticket for any cultural event in America – in spite of the hundred thousand dollars it costs to go.

The size of the logo on a Louis Vuitton handbag is inversely related to its price; less expensive bags have larger logos, the most expensive has the smallest.

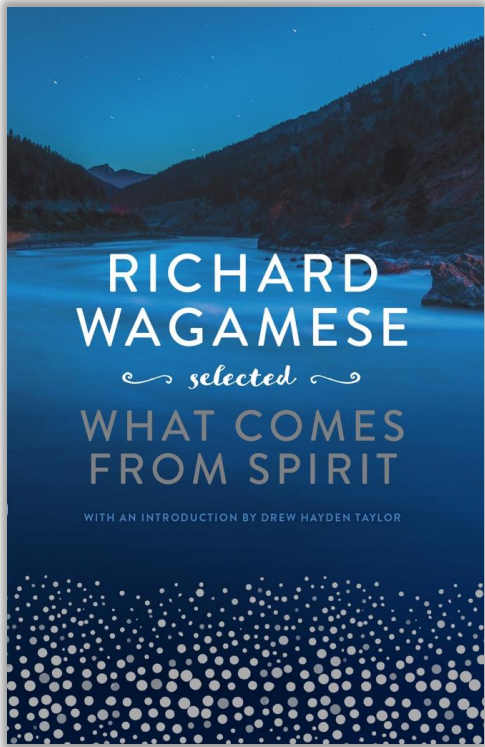
In *The Curious Economics of Luxury Fashion*, economist and bestselling author Don Thompson offers these and other insights and fascinating examples in discussing the intriguing and fast-evolving world of luxury fashion. Why does one handbag sell for 5x the price of another that looks and feels pretty much the same? How does a luxury label justify a runway show costing many millions of dollars, when most of the outfits paraded will never appear for sale? Why are fall fashions shown on the runway in March, and spring fashions in October?

The book includes stories of the people and workings of luxury fashion, from New York, London, Paris, Milan – and in the rapidly growing market of China. It includes a chapter on “Death by Amazon and AI,” about the inroads and existential threat of Amazon to the luxury fashion world as it previously existed.



DON THOMPSON is the author of twelve books, including the international bestseller *The \$12 Million Stuffed Shark: The Curious Economics of Contemporary Art*. He is a professor and economist and holder of the Nabisco Brands Chair Emeritus at the Schulich School of Business at York University. He has taught at Harvard Business School and the London School of Economics. He lives in Toronto.

NON-FICTION



“Feels less written than painstakingly etched into something more permanent than paper.”

– *The New York Times*, on *Medicine Walk*

“Richard Wagamese is a born storyteller.”

– Louise Erdrich, on *Dream Wheels*

“Treasure these words. Honour his thoughts. But don’t read it too fast. Soak it in. Enjoy every morsel. Linger on each page because every paragraph has nuggets of understanding. Lines of wisdom. Stories to appreciate.”

– Drew Hayden Taylor, author of *Motorcycles & Sweetgrass*

Rights sold: Audio (World English):
Blackstone

World: Douglas & McIntyre (September 18, 2021)

Status: Books available

Agents: Chris Casuccio and John Pearce

Richard Wagamese

SELECTED

What Comes from Spirit

Richard Wagamese, one of Canada’s most celebrated Indigenous authors and storytellers, was a writer of breathtaking honesty and inspiration. Always striving to be a better, stronger person, Wagamese shared his journey through writing, encouraging others to do the same.

Following the success of *Embers*, which has sold almost 70,000 copies since its release in 2016, this new collection of Wagamese’s non-fiction works brings together more of the prolific author’s short writings, many for the first time in print, and celebrates his ability to inspire.

Drawing from Wagamese’s essays and columns, along with preserved social media and blog posts, this beautifully designed volume is a tribute to his literary legacy.



RICHARD WAGAMESE, an Ojibway from the Wabaseemoong First Nation in northwestern Ontario, was one of Canada’s foremost writers. His acclaimed, bestselling novels included *Indian Horse*, which was a Canada Reads finalist, winner of the inaugural Burt Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Literature, and made into a feature film; and *Medicine Walk*. He was also the author of acclaimed memoirs, including *For Joshua*; *One Native Life*; and *One Story, One Song*, which won the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in Literature; as well as a collection of personal reflections, *Embers*, which received the Bill Duthie Booksellers’ Choice Award. He won numerous awards and recognition for his writing, including the National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Media and Communications, the Canada Council for the Arts Molson Prize, the Canada Reads People’s Choice Award, and the Writers’ Trust of Canada’s Matt Cohen Award. Wagamese died on March 10, 2017, in Kamloops, B.C.

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