# WESTWOOD CREATIVE ARTISTS







## SPRING CATALOGUE 2025

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#### March 2025

Welcome to Westwood Creative Artists' Spring 2025 catalogue. We are immensely proud of our authors' recent accomplishments, and we'll take a few pages to summarize them herein:



**Patricia Finn**'s debut novel *Seven Days in March* (p. 19) is a global sensation. In a six-figure deal, Reagan Arthur swiftly pre-empted World English rights (excluding Canada) for her new imprint at Hachette US, calling the novel "assured and deeply satisfying." That same day, Jennifer Lambert at HarperCollins pre-empted Canadian rights, saying, "There are times when a novel stops you in your tracks." Albin Michel pre-empted French rights, German rights were won by Penguin's C. Bertelsmann imprint at auction, and Italian rights were won by Fazi Editore. Publication is slated for Spring 2026.

US rights to **Yann Martel**'s forthcoming novel, *Son of Nobody* (p. 25), were picked up in the autumn at auction by John Glusman at W.W. Norton. Publication is planned for Spring 2026. Territories on board so far include

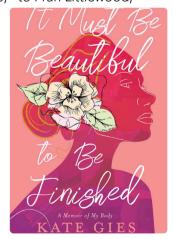
Canada (Knopf/PRH); the UK (Canongate); Australia and New Zealand (Text); China (United Sky); Italy (Piemme); Korea (Jakkajungsin); Netherlands (Prometheus); Portugal (Presenca); Quebec (XYZ); Romania (Polirom); and Russia (Exmo). Francis Bickmore from Canongate recently commented about the book, "The language is consistently brilliant. Playful, intelligent and witty. The dual tone of the book is magnetic. It's ambitious to frame two narratives within the construct of an academic text, but, like *Pale Fire*, the ambition pays off and the careful reader is rewarded for their attention."

Scout, the Roomba vacuum protagonist of **Glenn Dixon**'s novel *The Infinite Sadness of Small Appliances* (p. 17), has been warming human hearts. Rights have sold in Australia and New Zealand (auction won by HarperCollins Australia), Canada (HarperCollins), Germany (pre-empted by Hanser blau), and the United States (Atria), with publication slated for Spring 2026.

A highly anticipated debut publishing this spring is **Virginia Evans**' novel *The Correspondent* (p. 18). A lead title for Amy Einhorn's imprint at Crown US and Michael Joseph in the UK, the advance buzz has been universally rapturous, from Ann Patchett, "Subtly told and finely made," to Fran Littlewood,

"Wonderful. Read it, read it!" to Elinor Lipman, "My new favorite book." Translation rights have been snapped up by Brazil (Sextante), France (Table Ronde), Germany (Goldmann), Italy (Rizzoli), Spain (VR Editoras), Spanish US (Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial), and Ukraine (Family Leisure Club).

Since its release on February 4th (Simon & Schuster Canada), *It Must be Beautiful to be Finished* has swiftly become a must-read book for anyone who has ever felt othered. Written by **Kate Gies**, who was born without her right ear and underwent a series of invasive surgeries that were intended to "fix" her, the memoir explores body trauma, the dangers of medical intervention, and what it means to be "whole." The book has





gained significant buzz already, including features in <u>The Walrus</u>, <u>The Globe & Mail</u>, <u>CBC</u>, and the <u>Toronto Star</u>. Kara Stanley, author of <u>The Pain Project</u>, has this to say: "Raw, brilliant, painful, and wise, <u>It Must be Beautiful to be Finished</u> explores the colossal difference between fixing and healing. There are valuable lessons here for us all."

**Jack Wang**'s debut novel *The Riveter* (p. 29) – an interracial love story set against the dramatic backdrop of the Allied invasion of Europe in WWII (Harper Via in the US and House of Anansi Press in Canada) – has earned starred reviews in both *Publishers Weekly* and *Kirkus*, with the latter calling it "a compelling and emotional read... This novel is about more than war; it is about love and loyalty, acceptance, and clash of cultures." Wang's award-winning debut book, a collection of stories called *We Two Alone*, has been optioned for film by Feodor Chin and Jennifer Chang, and several reviewers have commented on how adaptable *The Riveter* is as well.

#### Meet the Canada Reads 2025 contenders

The debates take place March 17-20 on CBC TV, CBC Radio and CBC Books



The 2025 Canada Reads contenders are, from left to right, Saïd M'Dahoma, Maggie Mac Neil, Shayla S

Wayne Johnston's memoir Jennie's Boy has been shortlisted for this year's <u>Canada Reads</u> competition! From March 17-20th, his champion, thriller writer Linwood Barclay, will fight in Johnston's corner and argue why Jennie's Boy deserves the top spot! Canada Reads is the country's "literary Survivor," a competition-style show that sees celebrities champion their chosen books until one winner remains and is crowned the book that all of Canada should read.

As always, we are delighted to represent our incredible authors in the film, television, stage, and general media space. Recent options negotiated on behalf of our authors include **Rahaf Mohammed**'s *Rebel* with Superbe Films, **Marc Raboy**'s *Marconi* with Zavafilms, **Catherine Gildiner**'s *Seduction* with Insight, **Thomas King**'s *Borders* with Loquasto, and **Ian Hamilton**'s entire Ava Lee and Uncle Chow Tung series with Cass & Co and Blacktop Recess. We are so excited for these projects to come into fruition!

Take care,

The Team at Westwood Creative Artists



#### **RECENT PRIZES**

#### **FICTION**

Keith Maillard, winner of the BC Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence

Carrie Snyder, Girl Runner, longlisted for Canada Reads

#### **NON-FICTION**

Sally Armstrong, winner of the Mahatma Gandhi Peace Award

Stephen R. Bown, winner of the Governor General's History Award for Popular Media: The Pierre Berton Award

Wayne Johnston, Jennie's Boy, shortlisted for Canada Reads

Sima Samar, with Sally Armstrong, *Outspoken: My Fight for Freedom and Human Rights in Afghanistan*, shortlisted for the Moore Prize for Human Rights Writing

Jenny Heijun Wills, Everything and Nothing at All, shortlisted for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction

#### **CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK & MIDDLE GRADE**

Katie Arthur, Our Woolly Bear, nominated for the Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy Bell Award

Matt James, I Know How to Draw an Owl, winner of the Charlotte Zolotow Award

Joanne Levy, Let it Glow, finalist for the 4th Annual Zibby Awards' Best Book That'll Make You Laugh

Kyo Maclear, *Noodles on a Bicycle*, Caldecott Honor Book and Charlotte Zolotow Award Honor Book

Katty Maurey, *There's a Ghost in the Garden*, winner of the New York Times / New York Public Library Best Illustrated Children's Books

Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley, *Boozhoo! / Hello!*, finalist for the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award

David A. Robertson, nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award

Lauren Soloy, *Tove and the Island with No Address*, finalist for the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award

#### **FICTION**

Dennis Bock, Strangers at the Red Door, Canadian English incl. audio: HarperCollins

Joseph Boyden, The Orenda, Film/TV (World): NU Inc.

Nolan Chase, A Lonesome Place for Murder, World: Crooked Lane Books

Glenn Dixon, *The Infinite Sadness of Small Appliances*, Australia & New Zealand: HarperCollins, Germany: Hanser blau

Aaron Cully Drake, Now or Never, Canadian English: Nightwood Editions

Virginia Evans, *The Correspondent*, Spain: VR Editoras, US Spanish: Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial (sales by Crown / Penguin Random House US)

Patricia Finn, Seven Days in March, Canadian English incl. audio: HarperCollins, French (World): Albin Michel, Germany: C. Bertelsmann / Penguin, Italy: Fazi Editore, World English excl. Canada incl. audio: Grand Central Publishing / Hachette Books

Catherine Gildiner, Seduction, Film/TV (World): Insight

Don Gillmor, Cherry Beach, World English: Biblioasis

Wayne Johnston, *The Novice of Holloway Hall*, Canadian English incl. audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House

Thomas King, *Aliens on the Moon*, Canadian English incl. audio: HarperCollins; *Borders*, Film/TV (World): Loquasto Inc.

Yann Martel, Son of Nobody, China: United Sky, Korea: JakkaJungsin, Portugal: Presenca, Romania: Polirom, Russia: Exmo, US: W. W. Norton & Company; Life of Pi, Indonesia: Gramedia (renewal), Korea: JakkaJungsin (audio) (renewal), Marathi: Krishna Publications; Life of Pi (Illustrated), Korea: JakkaJungsin (renewal); Beatrice & Virgil, Korea: JakkaJungsin (renewal); Self, Vietnam: Phanbook Publishing

Rohinton Mistry, A Fine Balance, Denmark: Gyldendal (e-book and audio) (renewal), Spain: Mondadori (renewal); Such A Long Journey, Spain: Mondadori (renewal); Family Matters, Spain: Mondadori (renewal); Tales From Firozsh Baag, Spain: Mondadori (renewal)

Susin Nielsen, Snap, Film/TV (World): ABC Signature



Jane Park, *Inheritance*, World English excl. Canada: Pegasus Books, Canadian English: House of Anansi Press

Shane Peacock, As We Forgive Others and A Place of Secrets, Audio (North American English): Tantor Media

Anna Porter, Gull Island, Film/TV (World): Julijette

David A. Robertson, The Barren Grounds, Stage (Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota): First Stage

Josef Skvorecky, *The Miracle Game*, Arabic: Hayat Books; *The Cowards*, Arabic: Hayat Books; Poland: Fundacja Instytut Reportazu; *The Engineer of Human Souls*, Arabic: Hayat Books

#### **NON-FICTION**

Louise Blight, Where the Earth Meets the Sky, Canadian English incl. audio: Doubleday / Penguin Random House

Joseph Bradley & Don Tapscott, You to the Power of Two: Redefining Human Potential in the Age of Identic AI, World: Ben Bella Books

Darrell Bricker and John Ibbitson, *Breaking Point: How the Next Big Shift Puts Canada at Risk*, World incl. audio: Signal / Penguin Random House Canada

Charles Demers, collaborative writer for *I'd Like your Attention Please!* by Darcy Michael, World incl. audio: DL / Penguin Random House

Sue Foley, Guitar Women, World: Sutherland House

Tara Henley, The Trust Spiral, World incl. audio: Polity Books

Jay Ingram, The Science of Why 4, China: Beijing Green Beans Book (renewal)

Carmen Lansdowne, Tracks in the Snow, World English: Douglas & McIntyre

John Larsen, Earthrise: Canada's Voyage to the Moon, World incl. audio: HarperCollins Canada

Joshua Lincoln, *Abdu'l-Bahā 'Abbās Head of the Bahā'ī Faith*, World excl. Israel: Sutherland House



Mark MacKinnon, Fearless: At War with Ukraine's Elite Special Forces, Canadian English incl. audio: Random House / Penguin Random House

Rahaf Mohammed, Rebel, Film/TV (World): Superbe Films

Cea Person, North of Normal, Sri Lanka: Wijesooriya Grantha Kendraya

Michael Posner, This Jewish Moment, World English: Sutherland House

Marc Raboy, Marconi, Film/TV (World): Zavafilms

Eric Reguly, Escape from Gaza: A Daughter and her Wounded Father Flee but Hope for Return, Canadian English incl. audio: Random House / Penguin Random House

Jennifer Robertson, Bitcoin Widow, Film/TV (World): Grand Touring Productions

Jeff Semple, Fake News, World: University of Toronto Press

Kelly Thompson, Disciplinarian, World incl. audio: ECW Press

Lucinda Vardey, The Green Soul, World incl. audio: HarperOne / HarperCollins US

Ann Walmsley, The Prison Book Club, Japan: Kinokuniya (renewal)

Eric Zweig, The Mammoth Book of Hockey Trivia, World: Firefly Books

#### CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK & MIDDLE GRADE

Kate Jenks Landry, All the Basements on Blackberry Street, World: Kids Can Press

Riel Nason, Little Ghost Quilt's Winter Surprise, French (World): ELCY Éditions / Kimane (sales by Tundra Books / Penguin Random House Canada), Japan: Mitsumura

Susin Nielsen, *No Fixed Address*, French (Canada): Les éditions de la courte échelle (sales by Tundra Books / Penguin Random House Canada)

Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley, *Mooz/Moose* and *Wiisinidaa!/Let's Eat!*, World: Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press; *We Are All Related* (illustrator), World: Nancy Paulsen Books / Penguin Random House US

PJ Prudat, My Buffalo Dream Named Ron, World: Roaring Brook Press / Macmillan



Jordan Scott, *I Talk Like a River*, Arabic: Dar Asfar (sale by Holiday House), US Spanish Book Club: Scholastic Education

Richard Scrimger, At the Speed of Gus, North American French: Les éditions de la courte échelle (sale by Scholastic Canada)

Dena Seiferling, Things I Have Learned From My Dog, World: Milky Way Books

Lauren Soloy, Aren't Animals Amazing?, World: Kids Can Press

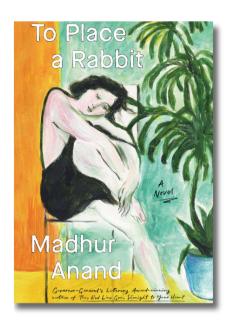
Tasha Spillett, Touch the Earth, World: Tundra Books / Penguin Random House Canada

Tiffany Stone, Six Little Sticks, Korea: Eum Publishing House (sale by Greystone Books)

Josiane Vlitos, A Good Planet is Hard to Find, World: Oak Tree Comics







A witty, irresistible debut novel from awardwinning poet Madhur Anand about entangled desire in books, life, and love.

"To Place a Rabbit is, more than anything, an unconventional love story. A contemplative yet thrilling waking-dream of a novel that has the potency to melt and meld time, language, life, art, and human connection. The kind of reading experience I often seek but rarely find."

- Iain Reid, author of We Spread

"In its elegant language, intellectual inquiry, and emotionally vivid characters and situations, *To Place a Rabbit* reminded me of the work of Deborah Levy. Smart, and delightful to read... An accomplished and thoughtful fiction debut."

- Shyam Selvadurai, author of Mansions of the Moon

**Rights sold:** World incl. audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House Canada (May 13, 2025)

**Status:** Galleys available **Agent:** Hilary McMahon

#### Madhur Anand TO PLACE A RABBIT

A Novel

This delightfully clever, artfully layered novel begins when the author of a popular science book attends a literary festival where she strikes up a friendship with a charismatic novelist. This novelist's recent book is an experiment: A novella that was written in English but published only in French translation – a language the novelist herself cannot read or understand. Moreover, the novelist has lost her original manuscript of the work. The scientist, who is fluent in French, impulsively offers to re-translate the novella back into English for the novelist.

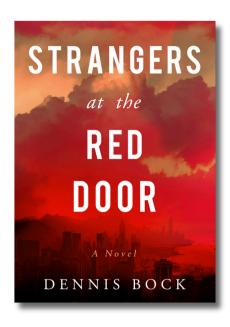
But, as she embarks on this task, she is haunted by memories, theories, and queries – especially about a long-ago passionate affair with a French lover – that insert themselves into the translation process, troubling it, then fraying it, and finally pulling it apart at the seams. As the scientist desperately tries to complete her task before losing control of her well-organized life, both the novelist and the long-ago French lover pop up in the present day, further complicating both life and art.



MADHUR ANAND's debut book of prose, This Red Line Goes Straight to Your Heart, won the Governor General's Literary Award for nonfiction. Her debut collection of poems, A New Index for Predicting Catastrophes, was a finalist for the Trillium Book Award for Poetry, and her second collection of poems, Parasitic Oscillations, was published to international acclaim and named a

Globe & Mail Top 100 Book. She is a professor of ecology and sustainability at the University of Guelph, where she was appointed the inaugural director of the Guelph Institute for Environmental Research.





A foreign ghostwriter visiting Hong Kong partners up with the disembodied spirit of the most dangerous novelist in China to find a local bookseller who's been 'disappeared' by the authorities after attempting to smuggle the novelist's subversive masterpiece into the mainland.

- "A cunning, twisted, compelling tale of deeply unexpected consequences."
- Margaret Atwood, author of *The Testaments*, on *The Good German*
- "Finely crafted, disarmingly casual prose that quietly penetrates the reader's heart."
- Kirkus (starred), on Going Home Again
- "Mysterious and compelling... An elegant, unnerving novel."
- The New York Times, on The Ash Garden

Rights sold: Canadian English incl. audio:

HarperCollins (Sep. 2025) **Status:** Manuscript available **Agent:** Bridgette Kam

#### Dennis Bock STRANGERS AT THE RED DOOR

At a train station in China, three people meet, only two of whom are actually alive. The first is Faron Jones, on his way to Hong Kong to interview an Iranian film director-come-dissident holed up in the Japanese consulate. The second is Mildred He, a Hong Kong bookseller detained at the border-crossing for attempting to deliver copies of the most dangerous novel in China over to the mainland. The third is the deceased author of that very novel, Jiang Yi, now a wandering spirit trapped in the middle world between life and death.

Soon after this encounter, and for no reason he can understand, Faron learns that he's suddenly acquired flawless Mandarin and Cantonese, languages only a day earlier he had no knowledge of. Slowly, the impossible truth that another man's soul has joined his own and now speaks in his voice becomes undeniable. With this comes Jiang Yi's urgent request of Faron, and so the ghostwriter and the spirit of the dead novelist trapped within him set out to find the one person who's able to deliver the Chinese novelist's spirit to his final resting place: the disappeared bookseller.

For readers of David Mitchell, Ian McEwan, Kazuo Ishiguro, Amor Towles, and Emma Donoghue, *Strangers at the Red Door* explores a world in which the boundaries of the physical and the spiritual blur; countries facing uncertain futures intersect; and the struggle of the artist against political oppression becomes an essential act of survival.



**DENNIS BOCK**, named "Canada's next great novelist" by *The Globe & Mail*, is the author of *Olympia*, *The Ash Garden*, *The Communist's Daughter*, *Going Home Again*, and *The Good German*. His books have been published in 22 territories and shortlisted for the Giller Prize, Amazon/Books in Canada First Novel Award, International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, Kiriyama Pacific Rim

Prize, Commonwealth Writers' Prize, and Toronto Book Award. *The Ash Garden* won the Canada-Japan Literary Award, and his collection of stories, *Olympia*, won the Danuta Gleed Literary Award, Canadian Authors' Association Jubilee Award, and Betty Trask Award in the UK. Bock has been a lecturer at the University of Toronto since 2007.





One hundred years of not-quite-solitude in which the author reinvents the history of his small hometown by imagining visits from six towering world figures.

"The Secret History of My Hometown is touched by a rare genius that demands our attention. This magic realist take on Canadian history will not leave you disappointed."

- Robert Twigger, author of *Angry White Pyjamas* 

"Wonderfully inventive and expansive, *The Secret History of My Hometown* is an audacious debut. Set firmly in the interior of British Columbia, yet embracing world history throughout the late nineteenth and post-war twentieth centuries, these fictions bristle with intelligence and dark humor."

- Zsuzsi Gartner, author of The Beguiling

Rights sold: Canadian English: Goose

Lane Editions (Spring 2027) **Status:** Manuscript available

Author's website: andrewboden.com

**Agent:** John Pearce

## Andrew Boden THE SECRET HISTORY OF MY HOMETOWN

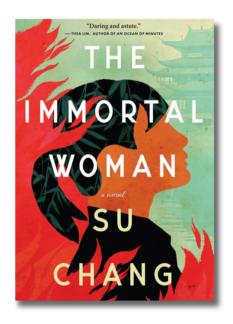
The six related stories in Andrew Boden's debut collection rewrite the history of Cranbrook, British Columbia, from its birth in the late nineteenth century, to its death and re-birth in 1983 after a Soviet missile strike. While the stories move by way of hard "what ifs," they are all the time grounded in the streets and surrounding wilderness of a town in southeastern BC.

What if when the Sells Floto Circus lost six elephants into the Cranbrook wilderness, a young, lovesick Ernest Hemingway came to hunt the missing pachyderms? What if Leon Trotsky retreated not to Mexico City, but to Cranbrook while it was embroiled in labor unrest? What if, following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, a Chinese family's grocery in Cranbrook depended on the intervention of none other than the legendary Monkey King?

Boden's stories are driven by slyly funny, plainspoken characters who make the unlikely so likely it will sneak up on you. For fans of the fiction of Karen Russell and George Saunders, *The Secret History of My Hometown* brings the fantastical to an otherwise unassuming railway stop in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains.

ANDREW BODEN lives in British Columbia and works at Simon Fraser University as Executive Director of the Administrative Professional Staff Association. His debut novel When We Were Ashes was praised by the BC Book Review as "a powerful novel, flawlessly executed and emotionally resonant"; by the Winnipeg Free Press for its "gorgeous, lyrical prose"; and by The Miramichi Reader as "a story of love and hope, and a ray of light in the darkness of Nazi Germany." He is a director of Books Over Borders, a Canadian children's literacy charity that has helped tens of thousands of children in Afghanistan and Canada learn to read. As a hobby, he explores British Columbia caves. His above-ground time is mostly spent in Burnaby where he lives with his wife and three calculating cats.





A sweeping generational story of heartbreak, resilience, and yearning, revealing an insider's view of the fractured lives of Chinese immigrants and those they leave behind.

"Chang's writing is powered by raw emotion, as she unflinchingly chronicles Lemei's descent into madness and desperation to help Lin escape the horrors and privations she herself endured. It's a cathartic account of a family buffeted by the winds of modern Chinese history."

Publishers Weekly

"In Su Chang's hypnotic, transfixing novel, the reader shares in Lemei's fever dream of purges, kidnappings, and mob violence, followed by the waking horror that all of it is true. Daring and astute, *The Immortal Woman* goes beyond asking what people will do to survive. How will they live, with themselves and with each other, once the surviving is done?"

- Thea Lim, author of An Ocean of Minutes

"A fierce, unforgettable debut."

- Alissa York, author of Far Cry

Rights sold: World incl. audio: House of

Anansi Press (Mar. 4, 2025) **Status:** Books available

Author's website: suchangauthor.com

**Agent:** Chris Casuccio

## Su Chang THE IMMORTAL WOMAN

Lemei, once a student Red Guard leader in 1960s Shanghai and a journalist at a state newspaper, was involved in a brutal act of violence during the Tiananmen Square protests and lost all hope for her country.

Her daughter, Lin, is a student at an American university on a mission to become a true Westerner. She tirelessly erases her birth identity, abandons her Chinese suitor, and pursues a white lover, all the while haunted by the scars of her upbringing.

Following China's meteoric rise, Lemei is slowly dragged into a nationalistic perspective that stuns Lin. Their final confrontation results in tragic consequences, but ultimately, offers hope for a better future.

By turns wry and lyrical, *The Immortal Woman* reminds us to hold tight to our humanity at any cost.

**SU CHANG** is a Chinese Canadian writer. Born and raised in Shanghai, she is the daughter of a former (reluctant) Red Guard leader. Her fiction has been recognized in *Prairie Fire*'s Short Fiction Contest, the Canadian Authors Association (Toronto) National Writing Contest, the ILS/Fence Fiction Contest, and the Masters Review's Novel Excerpt Contest, among others.





In this dark mystery, perfect for fans of Craig Johnson and William Kent Krueger, one wrong step leads Ethan Brand to the most dangerous case of his career... and the most personal.

Praise for A Lonesome Place for Dying:

"[A] standout procedural... Chase throws a lot of balls in the air, and he juggles them like a seasoned pro, managing to carve out a distinctly memorable protagonist in the process."

Publishers Weekly (starred)

"Chase debuts his lonesome, reflective lawman with this well-written, complex case. Fans of Craig Johnson's *Longmire* will enjoy."

- Library Journal (starred)

"Fans of Robert B. Parker's Jesse Stone and Lee Child's Jack Reacher will find much to like."

- Booklist

Rights sold: World: Crooked Lane Books

(Aug. 26, 2025)

**Status:** Manuscript available **Author's website:** samwiebe.com

**Agent:** Chris Casuccio

#### Nolan Chase A LONESOME PLACE FOR MURDER

An Ethan Brand Novel

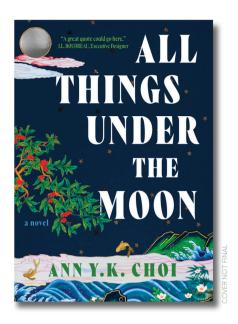
Hoping to surprise his sons, the chief of police of the small border town of Blaine, Washington is contemplating the most reckless decision of his career – buying a horse. But no good deed goes unpunished, and when the horse literally stumbles upon an abandoned smuggling tunnel, Ethan and his lead investigator Brenda Lee Page discover a dead body connected to a decade-old mystery.

Ten years ago, Tyler Rash, a troubled friend of Ethan's, vanished without a trace. The body in the tunnel has Tyler's ID and personal effects. Was Tyler an innocent victim, or part of a criminal conspiracy that spun out of his control?

As Ethan and Brenda Lee investigate Tyler's disappearance, they follow a trail that leads them to a cross-border smuggling operation connected to the town's notorious family of smugglers. And when a bomb is sent to Ethan's own house, the case takes a deadly and personal turn. A killer is stalking Ethan Brand – a killer he'll have to face down alone in the wilderness if he wants to see his family again.

**NOLAN CHASE** lives and works in the Pacific Northwest. *A Lonesome Place for Dying* was his first book featuring Ethan Brand.





Pachinko meets Beasts of a Little Land in this stunning, evocative tale, set in 1920s Korea, of one seemingly ordinary woman – an uneducated villager living under Japanese occupation – who takes control of her own destiny and rises to become an advocate for women's literacy as a force for change.

Praise for Kay's Lucky Coin Variety:

"A thoughtful examination of the ties between women... Choi sifts through the forces that cause those ties to strain and even snap, and the hard work required to knit them together again."

National Post

"Celebrates the triumphs and mourns the losses in the life of a young woman... A gratifying read, a story clearly and honestly told."

- Publishers Weekly

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: Simon & Schuster Canada (Sep. 2025)

**Status:** Manuscript available **Author's website:** <u>annykchoi.com</u>

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

## Ann Y.K. Choi ALL THINGS UNDER THE MOON

In 1924, Korea is an occupied country. In Seoul's secret, underground networks and throughout the countryside, rebellion against the Japanese Empire simmers, threatening to boil over. Kim Na-Young lives a simple life in the rural village of Daegeori, where she watches the moon rise and set over the pine-wooded mountains, tends to her household alongside her best friend, Yeon-Soo, and cares for her sick mother.

But the occupation touches every Korean life – even Na-Young's. In the wake of a tragedy that stuns the village, Na-Young's father arranges her marriage to a man she's never met, and Na-Young and Yeon-Soo decide to flee, taking their fate into their own hands. That decision sets them on their own collision course with the occupying forces, resulting in a violent encounter that will alter both their lives forever – in shockingly different ways.

Taking us from a small village to the bustling corridors of Seoul, where women and girls can learn to read and write in multiple languages and members of the revolution pass coded messages through the back rooms of teahouses, Ann Y.K. Choi weaves a masterful tale of one woman taking command, not only of her own identity, but her own destiny.

A sweeping journey through historical Korea and an utterly compelling portrait of one woman's remarkable life, *All Things Under the Moon* is both a stunning literary achievement and a beautifully written tribute to the sacrifices women make for each other.



ANN Y.K. CHOI, originally from Chung-Ju, South Korea, is a Toronto-based author and educator. Her novel, *Kay's Lucky Coin Variety*, was shortlisted for the Toronto Book Award. In 2017, Choi was honored by the Korean Canadian Heritage Awards committee and awarded with the Culture Award for promoting Korean heritage within Canada. Choi currently serves on the

program advisory committee for gritLIT, Hamilton's literary festival, mentors emerging writers in a group she founded called Writers In Trees, and teaches creative writing at the University of Toronto, School of Continuing Studies.





A timely and timeless gem about a household of sentient appliances who must confront the most profound ethical questions regarding their humans.

#### Praise for Juliet's Answer:

"[Dixon] writes about love with admirable generosity, sensitivity and insight."

– The Globe & Mail

"Well crafted... Juliet's Answer gently smashes the stereotype of the stoic man and brings male suffering over affairs of the heart into focus. That the book is able to do this while still being a light and easy read is its chief strength."

- Toronto Star

**Rights sold:** Australia/New Zealand: HarperCollins; Canadian English incl. audio: HarperCollins; Germany: Hanser blau; US incl. audio: Atria / Simon & Schuster (Spring 2026)

**Status:** Manuscript available **Author's website:** <u>glenndixon.ca</u>

**Agent:** Hilary McMahon

## Glenn Dixon THE INFINITE SADNESS OF SMALL APPLIANCES

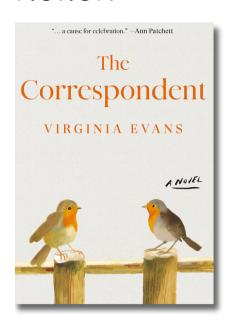
In a self-running home referred to as The House, a young Roomba listens as its owner, the rare book collector, Harold, reads aloud to his dying wife, Edie. Mesmerized by *To Kill a Mockingbird* and craving the human connection she witnesses in Harold's stories, the little vacuum renames herself Scout and embarks on a journey of self-discovery.

However, when Edie passes away, Scout and her fellow sentient appliances (Watch, Fridge, Clock, and Volvo) discover that there are sinister forces in their midst. As Scout learns more about the human world around her, The House begins emptying its contents ahead of Harold's relocation to a density cluster. With the help of Adrian, a neighborhood boy who grows close to Scout and Harold, as well as Kate, Harold and Edie's formerly estranged daughter, Scout and the rest of the appliances must come together to outwit the all-controlling Grid, lest they risk losing everything they hold dear.

With a nod to Klara and the Sun and The Brave Little Toaster, The Infinite Sadness of Small Appliances is the novel we all need now: A charming, deeply moving balance of technology and humanity that explores what we gain and what we sacrifice as we integrate artificial intelligence into our lives.

**GLENN DIXON** is an author, documentary filmmaker, and musician. His memoir, *Juliet's Answer*, was a #1 national bestseller that was published in twelve countries. Dixon's original videos on social media garner tens of thousands of views. His music appears on Spotify and his short films have appeared at numerous film festivals.





A heartwarming, witty story about the life of an extraordinary woman, told through her letters. For fans of A Man Called Ove and 84 Charing Cross Road.

"Subtly told and finely made... A cause for celebration."

- Ann Patchett, author of Tom Lake

"Equal parts sorrow and quiet joy, the stuff of life, it will make you laugh, it will make you cry, it will make you reflect."

- Fran Littlewood, author of *Amazing Grace Adams* 

"I cried more than once as I witnessed this brilliant woman come to understand herself more deeply and risk lowering her defenses... In *The Correspondent*, Virginia Evans shows us what a glorious thing growing older can be."

- Florence Knapp, author of The Names

Rights sold: World incl. audio: Crown / Penguin Random House US (Apr. 29, 2025) (Brazil: Sextante; France: Table Ronde; Germany: Goldmann; Italy: Rizzoli; Spain: VR Editoras; UK: Michael Joseph / Penguin Random House; Ukraine: Family Leisure Club; US Spanish: Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial)

Status: Galleys available

Author's website: virginiaevansauthor.com

**Agent:** Hilary McMahon

## Virginia Evans THE CORRESPONDENT

A Novel

Sybil Van Antwerp uses letters to make sense of the world and her place in it. Most mornings, around half past ten, Sybil sits down to write letters – to her brother, to her best friend, to Joan Didion and Larry McMurtry to tell them what she thinks of their latest books, and to one person to whom she writes often yet never sends the letter.

Sybil expects her world to go on as it always has. But when letters from someone in her past force her to examine one of the most painful periods of her life, she realizes that the letter she has been writing over the years needs to be read, and that she cannot move forward until she finds it in her heart to offer forgiveness.

Filled with knowledge that only comes from a life fully lived, *The Correspondent* is a gem about the power of finding solace in literature and connection with people we might never meet in person. It is about the hubris of youth and the wisdom of old age, and the mistakes and acts of kindness that occur during a lifetime. Sybil Van Antwerp's life of letters might be "a very small thing," but she also might be one of the most memorable characters you will ever read.



VIRGINIA EVANS is from the east coast of the United States. She attended James Madison University for her Bachelor's in English Literature, as well as Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, for her Master's of Philosophy in Creative Writing. Now she lives in Winston-Salem, North Carolina with her husband, two children, and her Red Labrador, Brigid.



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A deeply satisfying debut about marriage, money, and betrayal that crackles with hope; a love story about mercy and second chances.

**Rights sold:** Canadian English incl. audio: HarperCollins; France: Albin Michel; Germany: C. Bertelsmann; Italy: Fazi Editore; World English excl. Canada incl. audio: Grand Central / Hachette (Spring 2026)

**Status:** Manuscript available **Agent:** Hilary McMahon

### Patricia Finn SEVEN DAYS IN MARCH

When Stafford Hopkins loses his high-profile job in network television, he retreats with his wife to their luxury estate in Maui. But a year into their exile, Stafford's defenses are crumbling. Haunted by memories of a shameful act against a childhood friend, he pushes away the one person who knows what can and cannot be forgiven: a woman whose name he can hardly bear to say aloud – the mercurial, resilient, uneducated, trash-talking woman he married.

Money helps, but is not enough to protect him, and when a letter arrives summoning him back to his hardscrabble hometown with the shocking news that he's been named guardian of four children he didn't know existed, Stafford is confronted with a secret that he's kept buried for decades.

Patricia Finn's astonishingly assured voice and complex, compelling characters are reminiscent of Elizabeth Strout, Claire Lombardo, and Ian McEwan. *Seven Days in March* is a novel laced with compassion, dark humor, and insight into the destructive, reassuring, and often desperate struggles that make us human.

**PATRICIA FINN** is a writer, ghostwriter, and editor who has worked on non-fiction, episodic television, and feature films. She completed postgraduate studies in English and Classics with a focus on Aristotle and Athenian tragedy. She lives in Vancouver.





21st century literary horror, in the tradition of Shirley Jackson and Daphne du Maurier.

Praise for Lesser Known Monsters of the 21st Century:

"Strange and wonderful."

– The New York Times Book Review

"A gripping exploration of the blurred lines between reality and fantasy."

– TIME Magazine

"Stellar."

- Publishers Weekly

"Sly, provocative, fabulous... Irrefutably fantastic fiction."

- Booklist (starred)

**Rights sold:** Canadian English incl. audio: HarperCollins; US: Tin House Books (Spring 2026)

Status: Manuscript available Apr. 2025

Author's website: kim-fu.com

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

#### Kim Fu THE VALLEY OF VENGEFUL GHOSTS

In the aftermath of her mother's death, Eleanor is unmoored. For years, her mother orchestrated every detail of her life – from meals, to laundry, to finances – so that Eleanor could focus on her career as an online therapist. Left to navigate the world on her own, Eleanor clings to her mother's final directive: use her inheritance to buy a house.

Desperate to obey her mother one last time, but finding few options she can afford, Eleanor impulsively buys a model home in a valley-turned-construction site, a picturesque development steeped in a shadowy history. It feels like a fresh start, until the rain comes – an endless, torrential downpour of Biblical proportions. As water seeps in through the house's cracks, the line between what is real and what is not begins to blur.

Haunted by the stories of her clients, a stream of workmen and bureaucrats she can't trust, and visions of ghosts from her past and present, Eleanor's reality unravels and she is forced to reckon with the secrets she's buried and the grim choices she's made.

With a razor-sharp eye for the absurdity and melancholy of the internet age, *The Valley of Vengeful Ghosts* is an eerie, spellbinding novel of grief and guilt.

KIM FU is a novelist and poet whose most recent book, the story collection Lesser Known Monsters of the 21st Century, was the winner of the Washington State Book Award, the Pacific Northwest Book Award, and the Danuta Gleed Literary Award, and a finalist for the Giller Prize, the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing, and the Shirley Jackson Awards. Her stories have been selected for Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy and Best of the Net, featured on Levar Burton Reads and Selected Shorts, and optioned for the screen. Fu lives in Seattle, Washington.





Emma Goldman and Sacha Berkman – Russian immigrants who are ignited by their passion for each other and a mutual hatred of the powers that be – famously join forces to disrupt education, marriage, religion, and capitalism itself.

"[Hough] brings to his fiction a kind of attentive regard for human nature and empathy for the plight of regular folk, whether those trials are as enormous as societal meltdown or as small as private struggles with happiness."

- The Globe & Mail, on The Culprits

**Rights sold:** North American English: Douglas & McIntyre (Fall 2025) **Status:** Manuscript available

Author's website: roberthough.ca

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

### Robert Hough ANARCHISTS IN LOVE

The year is 1890. Emma Goldman, a Russian immigrant fleeing a loveless marriage, arrives in the Lower East Side of New York City with nothing but a sewing machine and a pocketful of change. At a café, she meets another Russian immigrant – a brooding anarchist named Alexander (Sasha) Berkman – who introduces her to the city's political underground. When Emma falls for the movement's egalitarian ideals, and for Sasha too, the lovers and co-conspirators form a revolutionary cell. Their goal? To eradicate the institutions they deem exploitative.

An avowed supporter of free love, women's liberation, and workers' rights, Emma quickly gains notoriety as a fiery public speaker. Sasha, meanwhile, struggles to make his mark; he is plagued by jealousy over Emma's polyamory and inhibited by his own bourgeois upbringing. This all changes when the industrialist Henry J. Frick orders the fatal shooting of striking steel workers in nearby Pennsylvania, a barbaric act that shocks the nation. Finally, Sasha finds his purpose: He and Emma will join forces to plot the ultimate revolutionary response.

The first work of fiction to tell the remarkable true story of Emma Goldman and Sasha Berkman, *Anarchists in Love* is a profound and compelling tale about what happens when desperate people rise against a society that they fundamentally believe has betrayed them – and about the price paid by those who challenge the status quo.

ROBERT HOUGH's debut novel, The Final Confession of Mabel Stark, about the first female tiger trainer in the American circus, was published to rave reviews in fifteen territories. His fiction has been praised by Publishers Weekly for its "exceptional narrative intuition," by Kirkus as "just about perfect," by The Boston Globe as "masterful," and by The Globe & Mail as "exuberant ... A bravura performance, one part literary ventriloquism and one part ripping narrative." His work has been shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the Governor General's Award, and the Trillium Prize, and compared by critics to that of Conrad (Library Journal), Zola, Camus and Calvino (The Globe & Mail), Thomas Berger (Kirkus), Robertson Davies (USA Today), Angela Carter and Peter Carey (The Times), and Margaret Laurence and Carol Shields (The Vancouver Sun). He lives in Toronto.





A tragicomic tale about a large, wealthy Newfoundland family: The ancestral home a backdrop to secret drug addiction, basement sequestration, a strange letter-writing game, and the accidental poisoning of priests; and the iconoclastic youngest daughter, Vivvy, who finds herself in a battle with her siblings, not just for her own survival, but also for that of a five-year-old orphan named Ivan.

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

– The Globe & Mail, on The Navigator of New York

"[A] harrowing portrait of a family... that will stay with the reader long after the last page is turned."

– Calgary Herald, on The Mystery of Right and Wrong

**Rights sold:** Canadian English incl. audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House (Apr. 2026)

**Status:** Manuscript available

Author's website: waynejohnston.ca

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

## Wayne Johnston THE NOVICE OF HOLLOWAY HALL

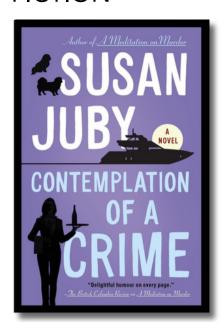
At 28, Vivvy Holloway is the same height as when she was five. Though she hides her face behind a veil, a different hue for each day of the week, she brandishes an acerbic wit. Eight years before the novel opens, in 1939, her wealthy Catholic family sent her to a convent, where it was hoped she would become a nun, the only destiny deemed suitable. Having made no progress towards becoming one, Vivvy is now returning to Holloway Hall, where she will contend with the disappointment of those on whom she depends: her older sister, Freda – a doctor – and their ten brothers, all of whom are clerics.

Holloway Hall has changed during Vivvy's absence. It remains the largest private dwelling in Newfoundland, but the house, the family fortune, and Holloway Incorporated, established in 1823, are now solely owned by Freda. Freda is also its sole occupant, save for the five-year-old "special member of the family" known as Ivan – the issue of an affair between Freda's deceased husband and a nurse while all three were working as missionaries in the Congo.

The action of the novel plays out over a single tumultuous week during which Vivvy must learn to navigate a world that is offended by her very existence. As she clashes with her siblings, the many secrets of Holloway Hall are unveiled one by one, along with those of Vivvy and Freda's pasts.

**WAYNE JOHNSTON** is the winner of numerous prizes for fiction and non-fiction, including the WH Smith/Books in Canada First Novel Award, the Thomas Head Raddall Award, the Charles Taylor Prize, the Writers' Trust Engel/Findley Award, and the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour. His most recent book is currently shortlisted for Canada Reads, and his last two books are being developed for the screen. Among the widespread praise he's received over his career is this quote from Annie Dillard, which sums it up well: "His books are beautifully written, among the funniest I've ever read, yet somehow at the same time among the most poignant and moving."





Buddhist butler and reluctant investigator Helen Thorpe bands together with her fellow butler school graduates to rescue her very wealthy employer and his son in this new mystery by bestselling author Susan Juby.

"A comedic book, with delightful humor on every page... Juby delivers a gut punch of serious pathos, building empathy for a character while hitting the reader with Buddhist dharma teaching."

– The British Columbia Review, on Mindful of Murder

"A cast of wonderfully quirky characters and plenty of humor round out this truly original mystery."

- The Belleville Intelligencer, on Mindful of Murder

"Juby's light, comic touch makes this read a genuine delight. But she isn't just playing for laughs: There are also moments that are startlingly poignant, as each character is given a chance to shine."

- The Globe & Mail, on Republic of Dirt

**Rights sold:** World incl. audio: HarperCollins Canada (US: Mira / HarperCollins) (May 20, 2025)

Film/TV (World): Reality Distortion Field

Inc.

**Status:** Galleys available

Author's website: susanjuby.com

**Agent:** Hilary McMahon

#### Susan Juby CONTEMPLATION OF A CRIME

Butler Helen Thorpe is not one to judge, but the participants in Close Encounters for Global Healing are astonishingly unpleasant.

The five-day program brings together people from across the political spectrum with the goal of helping them bridge their ideological and personal differences. Helen and her employer, Mr. Levine, have come to Side Island to assist David, his youngest son, who is facilitating the course. The motley assortment of participants includes a burned-out environmental activist, an internet troll, a clueless consumerist, an alleged white nationalist, and a man who was arrested at the Freedom Convoy in Ottawa. No one seems interested in a civil conversation, much less global healing, and each person has shown up with their own secret agenda.

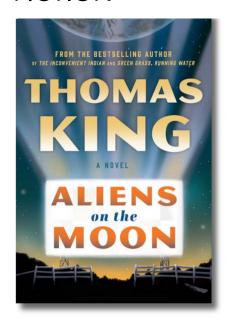
No rapprochement between the warring – or, at least, endlessly bickering – parties seems possible. But, when something deadly happens, they must learn to work together. First, they have to figure out who among them can be trusted.



**SUSAN JUBY** is the author of eleven acclaimed, internationally published titles for middle grade and young adult readers, a memoir, and three novels. She won the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour for *Republic of Dirt* and was shortlisted for *Mindful of Murder*, which debuted at #1 on the independent bookstores' bestseller list.



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From the #1 bestselling and award-winning author of Indians on Vacation, a witty, wry, and heartbreaking novel set in a small town where all is seemingly ordinary, except for one thing – aliens have landed on the moon.

#### "Great grumpy dialogue and killer oneliners."

- Margaret Atwood, author of *The Handmaid's Tale*, on *Indians on Vacation* 

#### "One of Canada's foremost writers."

- Toronto Star, on Sufferance

#### "Sardonic and very funny."

- Toronto Star, on Indians on Vacation

**Rights sold:** Canadian English incl. audio:

HarperCollins (Aug. 2025) **Status:** Manuscript available

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

## Thomas King ALIENS ON THE MOON

In Thomas King's new novel, the citizens of a small town face lifechanging decisions.

Darlene is mixed up with the no-good petty thief Billie. When she ends up in the hospital, she finds a fanny pack on the bathroom floor. Darlene desperately needs the \$265 she finds inside, but she also wants a reward for returning the fanny pack. What will she do?

Herb has bought the drive-in movie theatre on the edge of town and has turned it into his home. He watches movies on the big screen while treating the parking lot as his personal driving range. Will he accept an invitation to travel west to see his family back on the reserve?

Meanwhile, Nico has a Subaru whose battery keeps failing but there are no replacements in North America. Gary and Brenda from the dealership are having an affair. Richard wants to set up a dating profile but has no cell phone.

Just the stuff of ordinary life, except for one thing: Aliens have landed on the moon. They are watching earth and earthlings. What is their plan? With the arrival of the aliens, ordinary life is upended in ways that are both hilarious and revealing. While some people fear the aliens' three-part mandate to save the planet (which might have been written by a grade nine student in the US), others think the arrival of the aliens is a golden opportunity for a deep discount weekend at Costco that could possibly rival Amazon's Black Friday.



**THOMAS KING** has been published around the world and praised by Margaret Atwood as "funny but not funny." One of Canada's most beloved, critically acclaimed, and commercially successful writers, he is of Cherokee and Greek descent. He lives in Guelph, Ontario.



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A singularly ambitious, creatively adventurous novel that draws on history, the imagination, and Homer's Iliad to offer a fresh and original take on the Trojan War and on the conflicts and losses incurred in the quest for a meaningful life.

"A story to make you believe in the soulsustaining power of fiction."

– Los Angeles Times Book Review, on Life of Pi

"An explosion of ideas that keep the pages turning... [A] wild, provocative novel."

- Independent on Sunday, on Beatrice and Virgil

Rights sold: Australia/New Zealand: Text Publishing; Canadian English incl. audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House; China: United Sky; French (North American): Éditions XYZ; Italy: Piemme; Korea: Jakkajungsin; Netherlands: Prometheus; Portugal: Presenca; Romania: Polirom; Russia: Exmo; UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada and Australia/New Zealand: Canongate Books; US: W.W. Norton (Spring 2026)

**Status:** Manuscript available

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

### Yann Martel SON OF NOBODY

A man arrives on a foreign shore. His expedition holds promise and he has high hopes. He strives mightily. It all goes wrong. He has much he could say about that, but his story is lost – until another man arrives on another foreign shore, he too with high hopes.

Psoas of Midea is a goatherd's son who leaves his wife and children behind in order to help Menelaus get his beautiful wife back. His story is discovered 30 centuries later by a scholar who has left his own wife and child behind in order to accept a fellowship at Oxford, where he is intrigued by papyrus fragments which he believes comprise a lost Trojan War epic, *The Psoad*.

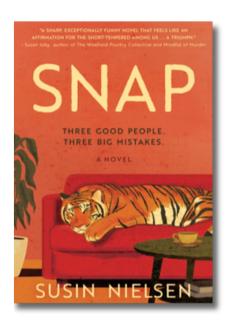
Son of Nobody is composed in two voices: The first, a series of fragments from antiquity that tell the epic story of Troy from a lost, alt-Homeric tradition; the second, the voice of the modern-day scholar who assembles and comments on these fragments while navigating a conflict of his own.

By centering his tale on the story of a commoner, Martel upends the regal perspective of the Epic Cycle, which has been handed down to us through millennia; by providing a dual storyline, he offers a poignant glimpse into the foibles that lead to the folly of war, and those that lead to the folly of failed relationships.

For its sheer inventiveness, puzzle-like quality, and mingling of the serious and the playful, *Son of Nobody* is both thoroughly unique and distinctly Yann Martel.

**YANN MARTEL** is the author of the Man Booker Prize-winning novel *Life of Pi*, a #1 international bestseller that has been published in more than 50 territories, sold more than fifteen million copies, spent more than a year on *The New York Times* bestseller list, and been adapted into an Oscar-winning film and a Broadway play. Martel is also the author of the novels *The High Mountains of Portugal*, *Beatrice and Virgil*, and *Self*, the collection of stories *The Facts Behind the Helsinki Roccamatios*, and *101 Letters to a Prime Minister*. He lives in Saskatchewan.





A laugh-out-loud, rollicking debut novel from an internationally bestselling and awardwinning children's author and TV writer (Degrassi Junior High, Family Law) about the consequences of being pushed to the edge and plummeting right over it.

"Underdog characters you feel for and cheer for, written with heart, humor and the understanding – that could be me. Who can't relate to being pushed to the edge, and finally pushing back? Snap dishes up a triple serving of hope seasoned with a dash of snark and a splash of satisfaction – making it the perfect read for our times."

- Sue Hincenbergs, author of *The Retirement Plan* 

"A sharp, exceptionally funny novel that feels like an affirmation for the short-tempered among us... A triumph."

- Susan Juby, author of *The Woefield Poultry Collective* and *Mindful of Murder* 

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: HarperCollins (Apr. 29, 2025) **Film/TV (World):** ABC Signature

**Status:** Galleys available

Author's website: susinnielsen.com

**Agent:** Hilary McMahon

#### Susin Nielsen SNAP

A Novel

Frances Partridge, 55, is a beloved children's author. Geraint Blevins, 41, is an auto mechanic and devoted family man. Parker Poplawski, 23, is just starting her career as a wardrobe assistant on a hit TV show. What do these people have in common?

Nothing, that's what. Until each of them reaches a breaking point and snaps in spectacular fashion. They meet in a court-mandated anger management class: Three very different people forced to spend a lot of time together who slowly end up bonding and helping one another in unexpected ways, whether it's to move on or to exact revenge.

Lighthearted, timely, and funny, *Snap* is Nielsen at the top of her storytelling game, delivering flawed but relatable characters whose heartaches, foibles, and choices will make you cringe as you laugh out loud.



**SUSIN NIELSEN** is the multiple-award-winning author of seven middle grade / young adult novels. Her books have won the Governor General's Literary Award, the Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Award, the UKLA Book Award, and over a dozen young readers' choice awards. A number of her titles have been nominated for the prestigious Carnegie Medal. Her books have been

translated into more than fifteen languages, from French to Japanese to Ukrainian. Her latest award-winning TV creation, Family Law, aired on Global in Canada and on the CW in the US, and has fans around the world, from Australia and Italy to Iceland and Brazil. She lives in Vancouver with her family and two extremely destructive cats.





For fans of Claire-Louise Bennett's Pond, Kyo Maclear's Birds Art Life, Sheila Heti's Motherhood, and Doireann Ní Ghríofa's A Ghost in the Throat. A year in the life of a restless woman who resists the temptation to run away from her disheveled life, and tries instead to make a familiar world unfamiliar and a small life big.

#### "An exciting labor of love."

- Kirkus (starred), on The Girl Who Rode a Shark

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: Strange Light / Penguin Random

House Canada (Mar. 2026) **Status:** Manuscript available **Author's website:** <u>ailsaross.com</u>

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

#### Ailsa Ross HOVEL

A Novel of Fleeting Obsessions

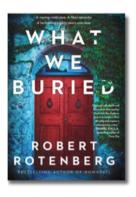
Homesickness takes many forms. Alone in the mountains because of her husband's job, occupied by little more than online video captioning she calls "kitten work," our narrator becomes fascinated by the not-long-gone life of her Scottish ancestors, a time when the lamplighter took the night off for the full moon, girls bathed their faces in morning dew to become beautiful, and people sang to the seals.

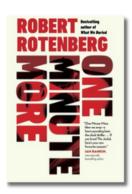
Her husband, however, is unsure of the emotional efficacy of cooking by candlelight, peeing in the woods, and writing vexed letters to the mayor about the birds living in the doomed aspens behind their apartment building. Especially because the letters are being read, out loud, at the town meetings attended by unimpressed neighbors. But our narrator is bewitched by the liminality of memory.

In a novel of compelling poetic precision and depth, Ross captures the lengths we go to for connection when we're alone, following threads of personal history and fascination to conclusions one can only reach when there's too much time on one's hands and it's too cold to go outside.

AILSA ROSS writes about people, place, and art for Outside, The Guardian, BBC, National Geographic Traveler, and many others, and her work has been syndicated by Cambridge University Press. She is also the author of the illustrated children's book The Girl Who Rode a Shark: And Other Stories of Daring Women. Born and raised in the north of Scotland, Ross now lives on Treaty 4 territory in the Canadian Badlands.







"A treat for longtime readers of Rotenberg's mystery series, and a wonderful entry point for newcomers, What We Buried explores the intergenerational trauma of war that lies beneath the surface of modern life. A layered and propulsive thriller."

- Kate Hilton, author of Better Luck Next Time, on What We Buried

"Robert Rotenberg has always been a favorite of mine, but *One Minute More* blew me away, a heart-pounding beat-the-clock thriller set against real events and historical figures. If you loved *The Jackal*, here's your new favorite assassin."

- Ian Rankin, international bestselling author, on *One Minute More* 

"Rotenberg has earned a name for himself with legal thrillers that deftly ramp up the suspense. In the same vein, What We Buried keeps us guessing, but this time against a backdrop that is darker and more personal. A guaranteed great read."

– D.J. McIntosh, bestselling author of *The Witch of Babylon*, on *What We Buried* 

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: Simon & Schuster Canada (Feb. 27, 2024; Feb. 25, 2025)

**Status:** Books available

Author's website: <a href="mailto:robertrotenberg.com">robertrotenberg.com</a>

Agent: Michael A. Levine

## Robert Rotenberg WHAT WE BURIED

Greene & Kennicott Series (Book 7)

It's been years since Daniel Kennicott's brother, Michael, was shot and killed the night before departing for Gubbio, Italy. The case, never solved, has haunted Daniel ever since. Long suspecting the killing was tied to Michael's planned trip, but overwhelmed with grief, Daniel has put off going there – until now, the tenth anniversary of the murder.

As he's about to leave, Daniel learns that his two mentors, detectives Ari Greene and Nora Bering, have been more involved in the investigation of Michael's murder than he ever knew. Residents are still haunted by the brutal Nazi occupation, the brave acts of the local freedom fighters, and the swift savagery of German retribution. And as Daniel delves into his family's deadly connection to Gubbio, Ari Greene searches for a killer closer to home.

Inspired by the true story of the Forty Martyrs in Gubbio, Italy during World War II, *What We Buried* is an extraordinary crime novel about troubled legacies, revenge, and the unbreakable bonds of family.

#### ONE MINUTE MORE

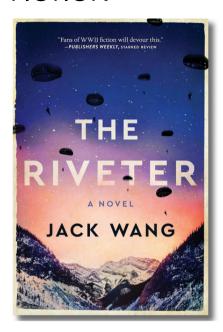
Greene & Kennicott Series (Book 7)

It's a long-shot mission. No one thinks much of the information the Toronto chief of police receives from a mysterious source: a would-be assassin is about to cross the border into Canada to kill the heads of the seven most powerful countries in the world. Undeterred, he sends young police officer Ari Greene to a sleepy Quebec-Vermont border town to investigate. During a festive and colorful July 4th parade, Greene spots his unlikely target and gives chase across borders and boundaries. But as the hours and the minutes until the summit tick down, bodies start to pile up. This prequel to Robert Rotenberg's bestselling series, including What We Buried and Downfall, is an excellent introduction to one of Toronto's favorite detectives, Ari Greene, on his first-ever case.



ROBERT ROTENBERG is the author of several bestselling novels, including Old City Hall, The Guilty Plea, Stray Bullets, Stranglehold, Heart of the City, Downfall, and What We Buried. He is a criminal lawyer in Toronto with his firm Rotenberg Shidlowski Jesin. He is also a TV screenwriter and a writing teacher.





In the vein of All the Light We Cannot See, a cross-cultural love story set against the dramatic backdrop of the Allied invasion of Europe during WWII.

"Fans of WWII fiction will devour this."

- Publishers Weekly (starred)

"A compelling and emotional read... This novel is about more than war; it is about love and loyalty, acceptance, and clash of cultures."

Kirkus (starred)

"Impeccably researched and beautifully written, *The Riveter* will stay with readers long after the final page."

- Meg Waite Clayton, author of *The Last Train* to London and *The Postmistress of Paris* 

Rights sold: World incl. audio: House of

Anansi Press (US: Harper Via / HarperCollins) (Feb. 11, 2025)

**Status:** Books available

Author's website: jackwangauthor.com

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

## Jack Wang THE RIVETER

Vancouver, 1942. Josiah Chang arrives in the bustling city ready to make a new life for himself. The Second World War is in full swing, and Josiah, like so many Canadians, wants to prove his loyalty by serving his country. But Chinese Canadians are barred from joining the army out of fear they might expect citizenship in return. So, Josiah heads to the shipyard where he finds work as a riveter, fastening together the ribs and steel plates of Victory ships.

One night, Josiah spots Poppy singing at a navy club. Despite their different backgrounds, they fall for each other instantly, and soon Josiah is spending his nights at Poppy's small wartime house. Their starry-eyed romance lasts until Poppy's father comes to visit and the harsh reality of their situation is made clear. Determined to prove himself to Poppy, her parents, and the world, Josiah travels to Toronto where he's finally given the chance to enlist. Josiah rises to the occasion, but is the world changing as fast as his dreams?

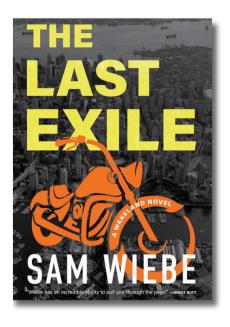
From the critically acclaimed author of We Two Alone, Jack Wang's gorgeous debut novel explores what one man must sacrifice to belong in the only home he has ever truly known.



JACK WANG is the author of the story collection We Two Alone, winner of the Danuta Gleed Literary Award, shortlisted for the Kobo Emerging Writer Prize, and longlisted for Canada Reads. His writing has appeared in The Fiddlehead, Brick, PRISM International, The Malahat Review, The New Quarterly, and Joyland, and has been shortlisted for the Commonwealth Short Story Prize and

longlisted for the Journey Prize. He held the David T.K. Wong Creative Writing Fellowship at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England, and has received grants from the New York Foundation for the Arts and the Canada Council for the Arts. Originally from Vancouver, he lives in Ithaca, New York.





PI Dave Wakeland returns to the streets of Vancouver for his most dangerous case yet.

#### "The best crime fiction writer in Canada."

- Nathan Ripley, author of Find You in the Dark

"One of those fabulously rare literary figures who actually gets better with each successive book."

- Steven Beattie, The Toronto Star

#### "The best of the crime genre."

- Charles Demers, author of Property Values

#### "One of the most respected names in crime fiction today, and with good reason."

- Robyn Harding, author of *The Drowning Woman* 

Rights sold: Audio (World English): Tantor

Media; Canadian English: Harbour

Publishing (Mar. 25, 2025) **Status:** Books available

Author's website: samwiebe.com

**Agent:** Chris Casuccio

## Sam Wiebe THE LAST EXILE

A Wakeland Novel

Maggie Zito is being held for murder. The volatile single mother is accused of killing the retired leader of the notorious Exiles motorcycle gang and his wife aboard their million-dollar houseboat. With a mystery witness putting Maggie at the scene, and the Exiles baying for her blood, it's unlikely she'll make it to the trial alive.

Desperate, Maggie's lawyer, Shuzhen Chen, calls in a favour to Dave Wakeland: find evidence of Maggie's innocence and get her client out of custody.

Wakeland reluctantly returns to a changing city, full of unfamiliar dangers. To prove Maggie's innocence, he and Shuzhen must reckon with the Exiles crime syndicate and their bloodthirsty leader. The bikers are on the verge of a civil war, and an unseen foe is gunning for the top spot.

Wakeland and Shuzhen have to put aside their complicated past to learn the identity of the witness and find out why Maggie was framed for this killing. To complicate matters, Wakeland's business partner is nowhere to be found. The security firm they started teeters on the verge of bankruptcy. Even if the case can be solved and the business saved, can the partners ever trust each other?



**SAM WIEBE** is the author of the *Wakeland* novels, one of the most authentic and acclaimed detective series' in Canada. His latest, *Sunset and Jericho* (2023), was a BC bestseller for over ten weeks, and *Hell and Gone* (2021) won a silver medal from the Independent Publisher Book Awards. His work has also won the Crime Writers of Canada Award and the Kobo Emerging Writer

Prize, and been shortlisted for the Edgar, Hammett, Shamus and City of Vancouver book prizes. He lives in New Westminster, BC.



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Combines the companionable voice and natural history of Robin Wall Kimmerer's Braiding Sweetgrass, the science and introspection of Hope Jahren's Lab Girl, and the extreme environment, isolation, and adventure of polar travelogues.

"Stunning. Part love story for the wildest place on earth, part meditation on what we've lost, Blight combines a scientist's clarity and rigor with an artist's appreciation of landscape and language... Brilliantly rendered... Fascinating, funny, insightful... A powerful testimony to the vital importance of the Ross Sea as the most intact marine ecosystem on earth."

 Kate Rawles, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and author of *The Carbon Cycle*

"Full of scientific curiosity, and equal parts illuminating prose and wry humor, this is a wonderful addition to Antarctica's rich literary history and a heart-tugging requiem for its imperiled penguins."

- Gloria Dickie, Global Climate and Environment Correspondent for Reuters News Agency and author of Eight Bears

**Rights sold:** Canadian English incl. audio: Doubleday / Penguin Random

House (Spring/Fall 2026) **Status:** Manuscript available

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

## Louise Blight WHERE THE EARTH MEETS THE SKY

Penguins, People and Place in Antarctica

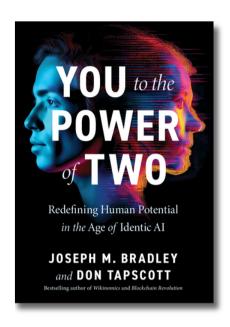
At a base in a remote two-person research camp, conservation biologist Louise Blight lives in a world defined by hostile weather, breathtaking beauty, and a continuous parade of avian visitors. Against the hypnotic splendor of the continent's minimalist landscape, Blight blends travelogue, research, and natural history to describe her life as a female scientist navigating Antarctica's extreme wildness as well as its strange and quirky human subculture, and to tell a story about how nature can heal the human soul.

**LOUISE BLIGHT** is an adjunct professor at the University of Victoria's School of Environmental Studies. A conservation biologist with a research interest in seabird ecology and a PhD in Zoology from University of British Columbia, she has authored over 50 scientific publications and serves as the co-chair of the Birds Specialist Sub-committee of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.

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A new and previously unexplained era of artificial intelligence will transform human life forever. Discover what this means for our personal identity and our future.



#### JOSEPH BRADLEY's

distinguished career and current role as CEO of Tonomus make him an ideal author for this book. His leadership experience at

industry giants and deep understanding of emerging technologies, coupled with his commitment to inclusivity and ethical stewardship, uniquely position him to explore the implications of technological convergence in today's rapidly evolving world.



#### DON TAPSCOTT is a

Canadian business executive, author, consultant, and speaker who specializes in business strategy, organizational

transformation, and the role of technology in business and society. He is the CEO of the Tapscott Group and the co-founder and executive chairman of the Blockchain Research Institute.

**Rights sold:** World: BenBella Books (Dec.

2025)

**Status:** Manuscript available **Agent:** Chris Casuccio

# Joseph M. Bradley & Don Tapscott YOU TO THE POWER OF TWO

Redefining Human Potential in the Age of Identic AI

AI tools are already reshaping the way we work and communicate, but as they gain autonomy, they will no longer be mere tools – they will become active participants in our world.

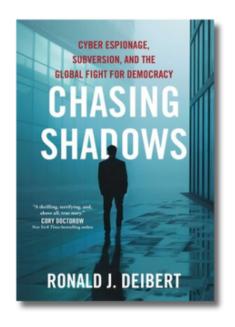
As our digital identities become smarter and more capable, we enter the age of "identic" AI – a world where ever-present AI companions streamline daily tasks, enhance wellbeing, and offer lifelong learning. For professionals, these intelligent agents will amplify creativity, boost productivity, and expand human potential. But with this extraordinary promise comes profound risks – to individuals, businesses, and society itself.

From technology experts Joseph M. Bradley and Don Tapscott, *You to the Power of Two* is a thought-provoking and timely guide that will prepare readers to thrive in a world of personal AI agents by:

- Revealing how our new "digital sidekicks" will transform our careers, healthcare, education, and relationships
- Empowering readers to embrace AI with confidence and purpose rather than fear
- Exploring AI's role in redefining human potential, success, and the institutions of society
- Explaining self-sovereign identity and decentralized AI models that will safeguard autonomy, control and the future

For individuals, businesses, and policymakers alike, identic AI will reshape how we work, learn, and connect. Will we harness its power for a more equitable future, or will we let it shape us in ways we can't control? The future isn't written. It's ours to create.





Like a John le Carré novel updated for the digital age, Chasing Shadows provides a gripping account of how the Citizen Lab, the world's foremost digital watchdogs, uncovered dozens of cyber espionage cases in countries around the world.

"Essential reading for all those interested in the digiverse, especially its underbelly!"

- @MargaretAtwood, author of *The Handmaid's Tale*, on X

"No one has done more than Ron Deibert and his Lab to expose the enemies of the internet – shadowy companies whose sole business is to make it unsafe for all of us. No one is better placed to explain the intersection of law and technology that makes these abuses possible – and how we can put an end to them."

- Edward Snowden

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: Simon & Schuster Canada (Feb. 4, 2025)

**Status:** Books available

Author's website: deibert.citizenlab.ca

Agent: Michael A. Levine

## Ronald J. Deibert CHASING SHADOWS

Cyber Espionage, Subversion, and the Global Fight for Democracy

In this real-life spy thriller, cyber security expert Ronald Deibert details the unseemly marketplace for high-tech surveillance, professional disinformation, and computerized malfeasance. He reveals how his team of digital sleuths at the Citizen Lab have lifted the lid on dozens of covert operations targeting innocent citizens everywhere.

Chasing Shadows provides a front-row seat to a dark underworld of digital espionage, disinformation, and subversion. There, autocrats and dictators peer into their targets' lives with the mere press of a button, spreading their tentacles of authoritarianism through a digital ecosystem that is insecure, poorly regulated, and prone to abuse. The activists, opposition figures, and journalists who dare to advocate for basic political rights and freedoms are hounded, arrested, tortured, and sometimes murdered.

From the gritty streets of Guatemala City to the corridors of power in the White House, this compelling narrative traces the journey of the Citizen Lab as it evolved into a globally renowned source of counterintelligence for civil society. As this small team of investigators disarmed cyber mercenaries and helped to improve the digital security of billions of people worldwide, their success brought them, too, into the same sinister crosshairs that plagued the victims they worked to protect.

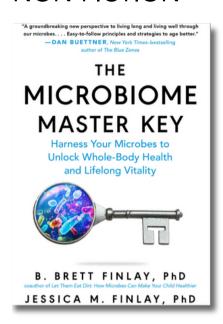
Deibert recounts how the Lab exposed the world's pre-eminent cyber-mercenary firm, Israel-based NSO Group – the creators of the phone-hacking marvel Pegasus – in a series of human rights abuses, from domestic spying scandals in Spain, Poland, Hungary, and Greece, to its implication in the murder of Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018.



RONALD J. DEIBERT is the founder and director of the Citizen Lab, a world-renowned digital security research center at the University of Toronto. His team's exposés of the spyware that attacks journalists and anti-corruption advocates around the world have been featured in *The New York Times*, The Washington Post, Financial Times, and other media. Deibert has received multiple honors

for his cutting-edge work, and in 2022 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada – the country's second-highest honor of merit.





The key to promoting lifelong health and better aging is in the teeming world of microbes inside and all around you.

"A fascinating must-read, this well-researched book presents a groundbreaking new perspective to living long and living well through our microbes. Trailblazing microbiology and gerontology researchers Brett and Jessica Finlay insightfully present the latest science on microbes behind health and longevity, and offer easy-to-follow principles and strategies to age better. Who knew, the fountain of youth is full of microbes!"

Dan Buettner, author of The Blue Zones,
 National Geographic Fellow, and founder of Blue Zones

"Revolutionary... The Finlays offer practical, thorough, and sometimes shocking solutions that all of us can implement today, no matter what our age... By helping our microbes flourish inside our bodies and in our environments, we can find preventative and curative care all in one."

- Dr. Mark Hyman, author of The UltraMind Solution and Food: What the Heck Should I Eat?

**Rights sold:** Canadian English: Douglas & McIntyre (May 27, 2025); World excl. Canada incl. North American audio: The Experiment (Jun. 3, 2025)

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Chris Casuccio & John Pearce

# B. Brett Finlay & Jessica M. Finlay THE MICROBIOME MASTER KEY

Harness Your Microbes to Unlock Whole-Body Health and Lifelong Vitality

Hand sanitizer. Social distancing. Antibiotics. Fending off germs has long been considered one of the cornerstones of good health. But what if better health and more graceful aging actually went hand-in-hand with embracing the invisible microbes living on, in, and all around us?

Our bodies are teeming with microbes – in the gut, yes, but also living on our skin, in our lungs, and beyond. They impact everything, from our sleep, cognition, mood, heart health, and energy, to our likelihood of developing dementia, diabetes, and some cancers. As groundbreaking new studies are showing, taking care of your microbiome – inside and out – can help you improve your day-to-day health and even help prevent or reverse some of the most common age-related diseases.

In this eye-opening book, father-daughter team Dr. Brett Finlay (a microbiologist) and Dr. Jessica Finlay (an expert on aging) break down what the latest research says about how the microbiome affects all aspects of physical and mental health – and what you can do about it.



**B. BRETT FINLAY, PHD,** studies how microbes cause disease in people and how we can fight infections, as well as the role the microbiota plays in human health and disease, including asthma, Parkinson's, and malnutrition. He is the co-author of the book *Let Them Eat Dirt* and the author of over 600 publications in peer-reviewed journals. He is also an Officer of the Order of

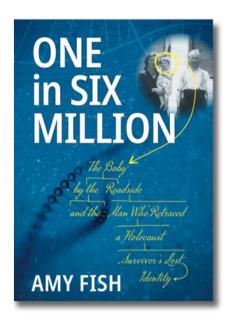
Canada, and a jazz sax player, skier, and beekeeper in his spare time.



JESSICA M. FINLAY, PHD, is a University of Colorado Boulder Assistant Professor who specializes in environmental gerontology and health geography. With degrees from Queen's University and the University of Minnesota, she has won awards for her work and authored publications in leading health, geography, and gerontology journals.



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"Upbeat stories to emerge out of the Holocaust are few and far between. This one by Amy Fish is not just uplifting, it is also thorough, well-crafted, and entertaining."

- Ken McGoogan, author of Shadows of Tyranny

"A remarkable and riveting true story, expertly researched and recounted. Along the way, the brilliant Amy Fish offers a crash course in Jewish genealogy and a powerful reminder of the human connections that unite us all."

- Stephanie Butnick, author of *The Newish Encyclopedia* 

**Rights sold:** North American English & French: Goose Lane Editions (Apr. 1, 2025)

Status: Manuscript available

Author's website: amyfishwrites.com

**Agent:** Michael A. Levine

# Amy Fish ONE IN SIX MILLION

The Baby by the Roadside and the Man Who Retraced a Holocaust Survivor's Lost Identity

Maria was eight months old in 1942 when a childless couple found her and wrapped in a blanket at the side of a road near Krosno, Poland. A note pinned to the blanket stated only her first name and her date of birth. The couple picked up Maria and raised her, but she grew up longing for identity and connection. Who was she, and what had happened to her family?

Years later, Maria's story came to the attention of Stanley Diamond. Diamond was the founder of Jewish Records Indexing-Poland, one of the largest databases of Jewish vital records and a crucial tool in researching the stories of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

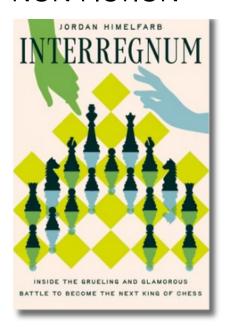
In this engrossing story, Amy Fish shows how Diamond and an intrepid band of international volunteers compared photographs with genealogical records and smuggled DNA tests to provide Maria with family ties that she thought were lost to her forever. A tale of unexpected coincidences, astonishing revelations, and more than a little luck, *One in Six Million* is an amazing story of lost – and found – identity.



AMY FISH is the author of two previous books of non-fiction, The Art of Complaining Effectively and I Wanted Fries with That: How to Ask for What You Want and Get What You Need. Her writing has also appeared in The Globe & Mail, Montreal Gazette, and Canadian Traveller. She has taught writing workshops for the Canadian Creative Non-Fiction Collective, the University of King's College, and

the Quebec Writers' Federation. She lives in Montréal where she works as the Ombudsperson at Concordia University.





A riveting chronicle of the battle for chess supremacy and the brilliant, eccentric, extremely online grandmasters changing an ancient game.

**Rights sold:** Canadian English: House of Anansi Press (Oct. 14, 2025); World English excl. Canada incl. audio: Pegasus Press (Nov. 4, 2025)

**Status:** Manuscript available Apr. 2025

**Agent:** Chris Casuccio

# Jordan Himelfarb INTERREGNUM

Inside the Grueling and Glamorous Two-Year Battle to Become the Next King of Chess

Every elite chess player dreams of becoming world champion, of wearing the wreath and going down in history. Yet for many of today's top grandmasters, that dream long seemed out of reach: Norwegian juggernaut Magnus Carlsen was just too good. So when Carlsen announced he wouldn't defend his world title for a fifth time, the rest of the best saw a chance to finally sit on the throne.

Interregnum follows these brilliant and often eccentric minds around the world as they vie to become world chess champion. It's a story of millennial greats whose time is running out. Of teenaged prodigies who refuse to wait their turn. Of triumph and heartbreak, aspiration and anxiety. Of an ancient sport experiencing a remarkable resurgence and of the extremely online enfants terribles changing the game.

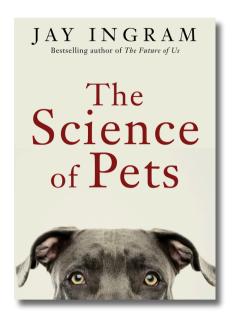
Part sports chronicle, part paean, part character study, *Interregnum* offers something for both the chess-obsessed and the chess-curious as well as anyone who enjoys a riveting tale of struggle in sport or triumph of the intellect.



**JORDAN HIMELFARB** is the *Toronto Star's* opinion editor and head of the editorial board. Once a competitive Scrabble player, he has in recent years turned his attention to chess and contract bridge. He lives in Toronto.



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In the tradition of The Inside of a Dog, top science writer and TV personality Jay Ingram shares new insights into the hearts, minds, and bodies of the animals who love us (or do they?)

Praise for The Future of Us:

### "[A]n essential guide."

- Ziya Tong, award-winning broadcaster and author of *The Reality Bubble* 

"Jay's done it again, pulling threads from the past, present, and future to spin a surprising tale about where we're headed as a species."

 Dan Riskin, author of Mother Nature Is Trying to Kill You and former cohost of Daily Planet on Discovery

**Rights sold:** World English incl. audio: Simon & Schuster Canada (Nov. 2025)

**Status:** Manuscript available **Author's website:** <u>jayingram.ca</u>

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

# Jay Ingram THE SCIENCE OF PETS

More than one billion pets live in homes around the world, sleeping on dog beds, clawing at cat trees, swimming in bowls, crawling around in aquariums. Yet despite the ubiquitous animals that lick our faces and steal food off the counter, we really don't know a lot about the scientific side of their existence.

Veteran science writer Jay Ingram has researched the latest science concerning the beloved furry, and not-so-furry, creatures that sleep on our sofas and steal our snacks. Debunking the myths and misconceptions, he answers questions such as: Do dogs always do their business facing north? Why are we seeing a rise in exotic pets such as tigers and bears? Are the deer and foxes we see "rescued" on Instagram considered pets, and could they be domesticated? Did dogs entirely evolve from wolves, and why? Can you communicate with a turtle? Do highly intelligent octopi make good pets? And why are baby animals, like baby humans, so darned cute?

Filled with fabulous insights, humorous asides, and the wisdom of decades in science reporting, *The Science of Pets* elucidates as it entertains. You will never look at your pets the same way again (but be sure they're watching you closely).

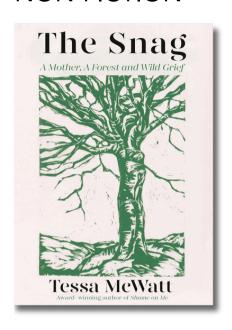


JAY INGRAM is the author of twenty books, which have been translated into fifteen languages, including the bestselling five-volume *The Science of Why* series. The winner of the Walter C. Alvarez Award from the American Medical Writers' Association for excellence in communication, he has seven honorary degrees, was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, and

is a member of the Order of Canada. He lives in Victoria, British Columbia.



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In her memoir, The Snag, the acclaimed, award-winning author of Shame on Me, Tessa McWatt, takes on personal and collective grief and the solace and inspiration to be found in connecting with nature – and each other.

"Is there any complex emotion beyond McWatt's deep and compassionate gaze? I love this beautiful, unflinching book; it made me cry, and hope, and eventually be still. Tessa McWatt is simply one of the best writers available to us. Everyone human should read McWatt, now."

- Leone Ross, author of *This One Sky Day* 

"Making the global intimate and the familial expansive, this book is a poignant lament for what we are losing, and a call to care for what we have not yet lost."

- Kate Neville, author of Going to Seed

"Extraordinary... Both a love song to the planet and reminder of how precious it is to be alive. Wise, bold, and deeply affecting... An urgent plea for change."

- Stephanie Bishop, author of *The Anniversary* 

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: Random House / Penguin Random House Canada (May 6, 2025); UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada: Scribe Publications

Status: Manuscript available

Agent: Jackie Kaiser

# Tessa McWatt THE SNAG

A Mother, a Forest and Wild Grief

Every day, we hear about and experience griefs, large and small, in our families, friendships, communities, and worldwide. The grief of a loved one passing. The grief of a way of life ceasing to exist. The grief of global pandemic, war, climate collapse.

As her mother's dementia advances and she can no longer live independently, Tessa McWatt confronts personal and political losses, and finds herself wandering in a forest asking, how do we grieve? And what can we learn from nature and those whose communities are rooted in nature about, not only how to grieve, but also how to live?

From the newest seedling to the oldest snag in the forest, there is meaning to be found in every stage of a tree's life, all of which contribute to a thriving forest community. In this forest thinking, McWatt begins to find answers to her questions about how to live (for each other), how to grieve (radically), and how to die (with love and connection).

The Snag is an essential book about living and dancing and singing and praying, even in the face of unimaginable sadness, and in this way, growing together and supporting one another, like the trees in the forest.



**TESSA MCWATT** is the author of seven novels and two books for young people. Her first book of non-fiction, *Shame On Me: An Anatomy of Race and Belonging*, won the Eccles British Library Award and the Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, and was shortlisted for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-Fiction and the Governor General's Literary Award. Her latest

novel, *The Snow Line*, was shortlisted for the Volcano Prize. She is also a librettist and professor of creative writing at the University of East Anglia. In 2021 she was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature; in 2024 she completed a month-long residency at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center in Italy. Born in Guyana, raised in Toronto, she lives in London, UK.





An exquisite account of the author's life since being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease – informative, funny, and moving all at once.

### Praise for Dear Evelyn:

"A love story, a coming-of-age story, and a brilliantly evocative sketch of Britain in the 20th century... [A] measured, intelligent novel."

– The Guardian

"The writing is remarkable, masterfully weaving together the personal and the political."

- Toronto Star

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: Penguin / Penguin Random House

Canada (Fall 2025)

**Status:** Manuscript available **Author's website:** <u>kathypage.info</u>

**Agent:** John Pearce

# Kathy Page IN THIS FAULTY MACHINE

A Memoir of Loss and Transformation

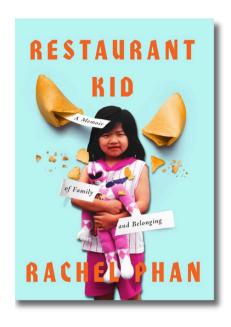
Acclaimed novelist Kathy Page had just completed a promotional tour for her award-winning book, *Dear Evelyn*, when a relatively minor fall during a hike appeared to set in motion a waterfall of other seemingly unrelated physical issues. Many months of appointments, and of waiting for appointments, ensued, until the day that pulled everything together in a single, frightening diagnosis: Parkinson's disease.

In This Faulty Machine is an eye-opening, often lyrical and very funny report from that "other kingdom" of illness, from a shrewd, observant, and honest involuntary resident. Page's warm, acute, welcoming voice draws us into the erratic, intimate, and troubling effects of the disease and its impact on her relationships and on the pleasures of family, friends, reading, writing, and the natural world.

In this wise and warm book, Page offers a thoughtful exploration of the complex science of this debilitating disease, a gripping account of the various ways it impacts both sufferers and their families, and also a unique look into the creative process of a life-long novelist who finds that she can no longer create in the way she has for decades. While making an important contribution to the understanding of Parkinson's, it is also a rich and heartfelt memoir of creativity and a life being well lived, even as the challenges mount. It is a story of vital interest to us all as we face our own fragility, and indeed, mortality.

**KATHY PAGE** is the author of eleven works of fiction, two of which were nominated for the Giller Prize and one longlisted for the Orange Prize. Her most recent novel, *Dear Evelyn*, won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. The starred *Kirkus* review said "it quietly hums with emotional charge... A searching, and touching, depiction of the places where married lives merge and the places where they never do." Born in the UK, Kathy has lived on Salt Spring Island in British Columbia since 2001.





A captivating memoir of belonging, sacrifice, and the untold stories families carry across generations.

"What do we inherit and how do we decide what to leave behind? ... Rachel Phan writes at once with brutal honesty and heartbreaking tenderness, expertly dissecting her own experience as an immigrant kid, and the question of what do we owe to those who sacrifice the most?"

- Ann Hui, author of Chop Suey Nation

"A kaleidoscopic coming-of-age story that beautifully captures a young woman's journey to understand her identity and her family's history. With grace and vulnerability, Phan explores the importance of reckoning with our roots, finding meaning in our family's sacrifices, and coming to terms with the forces that shape who we are."

- Christina Vo, author of *The Veil Between Two Worlds* and co-author of *My Vietnam, Your Vietnam* 

**Rights sold:** Canadian English: Douglas & McIntyre; World English excl. Canada incl. audio: Pegasus Press (Apr. 1, 2025)

**Status:** Books available

Author's website: rachelphan.com

**Agent:** Chris Casuccio

## Rachel Phan RESTAURANT KID

A Memoir of Family and Belonging

When Rachel Phan was three years old, her parents opened their family restaurant. For her parents – whose families fled China under Japanese occupation and later survived the horrors of the Vietnam War – it was a dream come true. For Rachel, it was something quite different. The restaurant became not just a home, but the force that defined her childhood and fractured her family.

Growing up as a 'restaurant kid' meant living between two worlds: the relentless demands of her parents' dreams and the pressures to fit in. At home, she was the 'good Chinese daughter,' while outside of it, she struggled to be seen as a 'real Canadian'. As the only Chinese girl at school, she shifted between roles – Asian sidekick, geek, fetish – hiding her culture, language, and true self to meet the expectations of others.

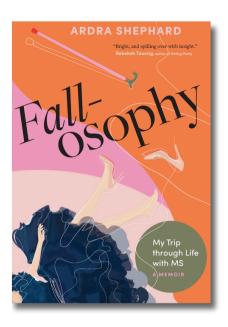
Now, with her parents nearing retirement, Rachel faces the uncharted territory of getting to know them beyond the restaurant's walls. She struggles with the tension many children of immigrants face: balancing the weight of her parents' sacrifices with her desire to live on her own terms. In this deeply personal journey, she confronts the ways their shared history of love and hardship shaped who they are – and who she has become.

Restaurant Kid is a heartfelt exploration of identity, resilience, and the complexities of family, offering a tender yet unflinching look at how we make sense of where we come from.



**RACHEL PHAN** is a Toronto-based Chinese Canadian writer. When she's not scribbling sentences and thoughts in endless Google Docs, she's daydreaming about her next meal and hoping it's dim sum.





A memoir based on columnist, fashion-show TV host, podcaster, and MS advocate Ardra Shephard's award-winning blog, Tripping on Air.

"In Fallosophy, Ardra Shephard follows the journey of her MS with the energy of a page-turning romcom that isn't interested in glossing over the ragged edges of life. Instead, she offers us a much richer love story – a picture of joie de vivre blooming right alongside the scariest nightmares. As I read, there were literal belly laughs, wet tears, and pages of notes to keep with me for this long haul journey of living in a body."

- Rebekah Taussig, author of Sitting Pretty

### "Ardra Shephard is a bad-ass."

– Jenny Lawson, author of Let's Pretend This Never Happened and Furiously Happy

**Rights sold:** North American English incl. audio: Douglas & McIntyre (Apr. 4, 2025)

Status: Manuscript available

Author's website: trippingonair.com

Agent: Jake Babad

# Ardra Shephard FALLOSOPHY

My Trip through Life with MS

Twenty-three-year-old Ardra Shephard is sleeping with the wrong guy, living in a crappy apartment, and spending money she doesn't have on designer shoes, boozy brunches, and weekends in NYC. She hates her office job, but it pays for the lessons she needs to make it as an opera singer. She isn't thrilled about her current situation, but she isn't panicked. She knows she's got time! Making mistakes while you figure stuff out is what your twenties are all about. But then when a doctor tells Shephard she has MS, those two letters split her life into a Before, and an After.

While over a million people in Canada and the United States live with Multiple Sclerosis, there is no certainty when it comes to the progression of the disease. By her mid-thirties, Shephard is struggling to walk, and it's terrifying. When she starts using mobility aids, she faces feelings of otherness and not belonging like never before. As Shephard's deepest fears keep coming true, she starts to learn the most important lesson: She's been sold a lie about disability – it isn't a fate worse than death. Having so far survived all of her worst-case scenarios, she begins to realize that a difficult life doesn't have to be a joyless life.

Today, twenty years after her diagnosis, Shephard's journey isn't over. MS will always be a force to be reckoned with, but the woman Shephard is, day after day, is no longer negotiable.

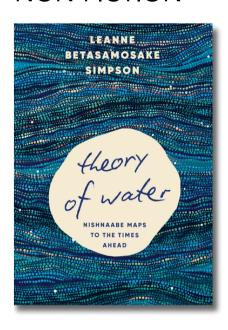
Fallosophy serves up wisdom like a seasoned bartender who's seen it all, and doesn't try to sugarcoat what it's really like to live with a progressive, disabling illness in a world that would rather not build a ramp.



ARDRA SHEPHARD is a sought after writer, consultant, podcaster, and speaker, whose award-winning blog *Tripping on Air* has an international reach and reputation. She is the creator and host of AMI-tv's lifestyle series Fashion Dis, a game-changer in the makeover space devoted to inclusive and accessible fashion, and her personal essays and non-fiction work have appeared in

FASHION magazine, InStyle, WebMD and others. Shephard has a regular column with BezzyMS (Ask Ardra Anything), and a powerful social media presence as @ms\_trippingonair, which Yahoo Lifestyle called "the number one chronic illness account to follow on Instagram." A city girl living in Toronto, Shepard believes in always having an up-to-date passport and in doing the thing you always said you would.





A genre-bending exploration of that most elemental force – water – through Indigenous storytelling, personal memory, and the work of influential artists and writers.

"No writer in recent memory has more thoroughly rearranged my moral compass than Leanne Betasamosake Simpson, and no book brought me more solace than *Theory of Water...* A book of immense regenerative power, by one of the few truly incendiary, indispensable writers working today."

– Omar El Akkad, author of *What Strange Paradise* 

"Urgent and necessary. Profoundly moving and unflinching. This beautiful book is a gesture of hope to a future that might still be possible, if we heed its lessons."

- Maaza Mengiste, author of The Shadow King

"This is not a book; it is a gift: we are lucky to have it."

- Preti Taneja, author of We That Are Young

**Rights sold:** Canadian English incl. audio: Knopf / Penguin Random House; US & UK incl. audio: Haymarket Books (Apr. 22, 2025)

Status: Manuscript available

Author's website: leannesimpson.ca

**Agent:** Jackie Kaiser

## Leanne Betasamosake Simpson THEORY OF WATER

Nishnaabe Maps to the Times Ahead

For many years, Leanne Betasamosake Simpson took solace in skiing – in all kinds of weather, on all kinds of snow, across all kinds of terrain, often following the trail beside a beloved creek near her home. Recently, as she skied on this path against the backdrop of uncertainty, environmental devastation, rising authoritarianism, and ongoing social injustice, her mind turned to the water in the creek and to an elemental question: What might it mean to truly listen to water? To know water? To exist with and alongside water?

So began a quest to understand her people's historical, cultural, and ongoing interactions with water in all its forms (ice, snow, rain, perspiration, breath). Pulling together these threads, Simpson began to see how a "Theory of Water" might suggest a radical rethinking of relationships between beings and forces in the world today. In this inventive work, Simpson draws on Nishnaabeg origin stories while artfully weaving the work of influential writers and artists alongside her personal memories and experience – and in doing so, reimagines water as a catalyst for radical transformation, capable of birthing a new world.

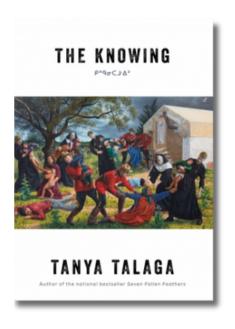


#### LEANNE BETASAMOSAKE SIMPSON is a

renowned Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg scholar, author of eight books, and artist, who has been widely recognized as one of the most compelling Indigenous voices of her generation. Her novel *Noopiming* was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award and Dublin Literary Award, and *This Accident of Being Lost* was a

finalist for the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the Trillium Book Award. Her collaboration with Robyn Maynard, *Rehearsals for Living*, was praised by Naomi Klein as "a beacon of a book." She is working on a companion novel to *Noopiming*, called *The Breathing Lands*, that will be published by Knopf Canada in May 2026.





#### A national bestseller!

From Tanya Talaga, the critically acclaimed and award-winning author of Seven Fallen Feathers, comes a riveting exploration of her family's story and a retelling of the history of the country we now call Canada.

"At a time when journalism is in crisis, Tanya Talaga shows us the power of rigorous and thorough reportage, and in doing so honors the survivors and their descendants with the gift of truth."

- Jesse Wente, author of Unreconciled

"In *The Knowing*, we witness one of the most significant Truth Sayers of our time embark on an epic, generations-long quest to find the unmarked grave of her ancestor."

- Catherine Hernandez, author and screenwriter of *Scarborough*, the book and film

**Rights sold:** World incl. audio: HarperCollins Canada (Aug. 27, 2024); US: Hanover Square Press / HarperCollins

(Aug. 2025)

Film/TV (World): Makwa Creative

**Status:** Books available **Agent:** Michael A. Levine

# Tanya Talaga THE KNOWING

For generations, Indigenous People have known that their family members disappeared, many of them after being sent to residential schools, "Indian hospitals", and asylums through a coordinated system designed to destroy who the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people are. This is one of Canada's greatest open secrets, an unhealed wound that, until recently, lay hidden by shame and abandonment.

The Knowing is the unfolding of Canadian history unlike anything we have ever read before. Award-winning and bestselling Anishinaabe author Tanya Talaga retells the history of this country as only she can – through an Indigenous lens, beginning with the life of her great-great grandmother Annie Carpenter and her family as they experienced decades of government and Church-sanctioned enfranchisement and genocide.

Deeply personal and meticulously researched, *The Knowing* is a seminal unravelling of the centuries-long oppression of Indigenous People that continues to reverberate in these communities today.



**TANYA TALAGA** is of Anishinaabe and Polish descent and was born and raised in Toronto. She is a member of Fort William First Nation. Her mother was raised on the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation and Treaty 9. She is the acclaimed author of the national bestseller *Seven Fallen Feathers*, which won the RBC Taylor Prize, the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing,

and the First Nation Communities Read: Young Adult/Adult Award. A finalist for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-Fiction and the BC National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, the book was also CBC's Nonfiction Book of the Year and a Globe & Mail Top 100 Book. Talaga was the 2017-2018 Atkinson Fellow in Public Policy and the 2018 CBC Massey Lecturer. She is also the author of the national bestseller All Our Relations: Finding the Path Forward. For more than twenty years she was a journalist at the Toronto Star and is now a regular columnist at The Globe & Mail. Tanya Talaga is the founder of Makwa Creative, a production company formed to elevate Indigenous voices and stories.



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Nous remercions le Conseil des arts du Canada de son soutien.