

# HILL NADELL LITERARY AGENCY



RIGHTS LIST &  
CATALOGUE  
LONDON 2025

**FICTION**

COVER  
TO BE  
REVEALED

# RETURNS AND EXCHANGES

By Kayla Rae Whitaker

Following her “dazzling” (*The Guardian*) debut, *The Animators*, Kayla Rae Whitaker tells the sweeping story of one family’s rise and fall in 1980s Kentucky, a tragicomic tour de force about love and marriage, parents and children, and the promise and limitations of the American Dream

Random House  
Spring 2026  
Fiction  
Translation rights: HNLA  
**UK+ANZ/Scribe**

Baker-Taylor’s is a family business. Fran (née Baker) and Fred Taylor run a successful chain of discount retail stores in Kentucky and they’re cautiously expanding: Ataris and Hot Wheels, new branches and new management. With four healthy children and financial stability their own parents could have only dreamed of, Fred and Fran are the American dream: rags to riches, a family dynasty built on years of hard work and long hours. Underneath the surface, however, the business is changing at a breakneck pace, and each member of the family is struggling to keep up.

Money is transforming Fred, and the extremes he will go to in order to fit in with the high society crowd are embarrassing, if not downright dangerous. Oldest son Josiah wants nothing to do with the family business, Sam is seeing things that might not really be there, and Benny and Birdie are growing up with a fraction of the parenting that their older brothers did. Meanwhile, Fran, her family’s stable core, is falling for Wendy, a cashier at Baker-Taylor’s, risking everything along the way. While trying to maintain the facade of a perfect success story, Fred and Fran discover that in matters of love and money, once it’s gone, it’s gone—no returns, no exchanges.

## ALSO AVAILABLE

### THE ANIMATORS

A debut novel about two young women, their artistic partnership, and how they betray the people they love for art

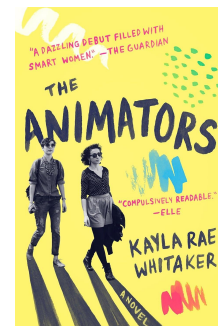
- NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY:  
*Entertainment Weekly*, NPR, *Kirkus Reviews*, *BookPage*

“Unusual and appealing . . . *The Animators* covers familiar debut-novel territory: the search for identity, the desire for success, the bewildering experiences of small-town misfits leaving home for the bright lights of New York City. But Whitaker turns these motifs on their heads simply by changing the direction of the road and populating it with women.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

“[An] outstanding debut . . . Whitaker skillfully charts the creative process, its lulls and sudden rushes of perfect inspiration. And in the relationship between Mel and Sharon, she has created something wonderful and exceptional: a rich, deep, and emotionally true connection that will certainly steal the hearts of readers.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“Unexpected and nuanced and pulsing with life . . . Sweeping and intimate . . . Empathetic but never sentimental; a book that creeps up on you and then swallows you whole.”  
—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

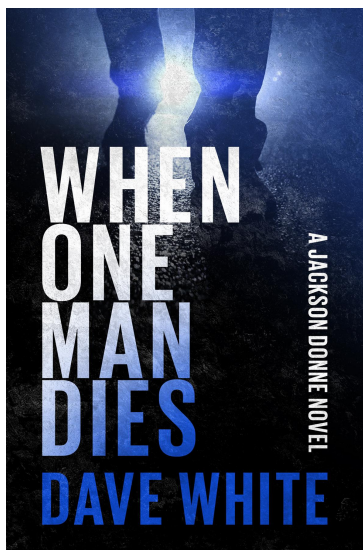
“A wildly original novel that pulses with heart and truth . . . That this powerful exploration of friendship, desire, ambition, and secrets manages to be ebullient, gripping, heartbreaking, and deeply *deeply* funny is a testament to Kayla Rae Whitaker’s formidable gifts. I was so sorry to reach the final page. Sharon and Mel will stay with me for a very long time.”—*Cynthia D’Aprix Sweeney*, author of *The Nest*



Random House, 2017  
Fiction, 384 pages  
Translation Rights: HNLA  
**UK/Scribe**  
**Turkey/Yabancı**



**KAYLA RAE WHITAKER** was born and raised in Kentucky. She is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and of New York University’s MFA program, which she attended as a Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholar. She teaches high school English in New York City.



## WHEN ONE MAN DIES:

A Jackson Donne Novel

By Dave White

Open Road Media

April 2025

Fiction, 273 pages

Translation rights: HNLA

**“A terrific novel, a unique and artful blend of the PI and the Police Procedural in a plot as nicely tangled and sexually violent as a cat fight.”  
—James Crumley, Dashiell Hammett Award-winning author**

- Derringer-Award winning Dave White's JACKSON DONNE Series redesigned and reissued ahead of new and final book in the series in 2026

It's been four years since Jackson Donne went from cop to private investigator, so he's seen his share of trouble in New Brunswick, New Jersey. And he doesn't like it when it hits too close to home—or, in this case, too close to the Olde Towne Tavern, Donne's home-away-from-home. His drinking buddy, Gerry Figueroa, gets killed right outside the bar in a hit-and-run. Just when Donne is looking for a fresh start by returning to college at twenty-eight years old, he's drawn back into the game. All this while investigating a suspected cheating husband.

Donne soon discovers that Gerry was not the man he thought he knew. Instead, he's someone whose secrets will bring down a world of pain on his friends and relatives. And when Donne realizes that both of his cases have dangerous underworld connections, he's about to be launched into a world of violence . . .

### PRAISE FOR THE JACKSON DONNE SERIES

“[A] remarkable debut novel. . . . White manages the neat trick of respecting the genre's traditions while daring to nudge it toward something new and unexpected.” —**Laura Lippman, *New York Times*–bestselling author**

“White has written a PI novel that is both traditional and fresh, one of the few new talents to join this much-plowed field with something interesting and original to say.” —***Chicago Sun-Times***

“Derringer Award–winner White's engrossing, evocative debut novel will grab most readers from its opening sentences.” —***Publishers Weekly* (starred review)**

“Dave White is everything you hope for in a crime novelist, delivering both white-knuckle suspense and nuanced characters, propulsive action and an emotional wallop. These are books that both invigorate the genre and are also, truly, built to last.” —**Megan Abbott, *New York Times*–bestselling author**

“It is amazing how good an author [White] has become, breathing life into the PI genre like Dennis Lehane did years ago with *Gone Baby Gone*.” —***Sons of Spade***



**DAVE WHITE** is the Derringer Award–winning author of six novels. In the Jackson Donne Series: *When One Man Dies*, *The Evil That Men Do*, *Not Even Past*, *An Empty Hell* and *Blind to Sin*. His acclaimed stand alone thriller *Witness to Death* was an ebook bestseller upon release and named one of the Best Books of the Year by the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*. He lives in Nutley, NJ.



HILL NADELL LITERARY AGENCY  
LONDON BOOK FAIR 2025

The JACKSON DONNE Series  
Reissue with updated covers, April 2025  
Open Road Media  
Translation rights: HNLA

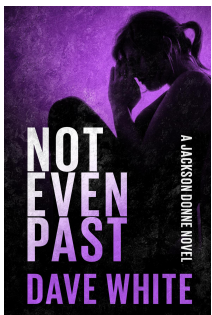


**BOOK TWO: THE EVIL THAT MEN DO**

Life looks bleak for Jackson Donne, who had his PI license stripped during the course of his last case. Now, he's working nighttime security at a storage facility in New Jersey, a job that gives him plenty of time to think about what went wrong.

But life can change in one phone call—especially if it's about Donne's estranged family. His sister, Susan, delivers the news that their mother is in hospice suffering from dementia and keeps rambling about their grandfather murdering someone. Susan wants Donne to investigate. Within twenty-four hours, his aunt and uncle turn up dead, and his brother-in-law's Manhattan restaurant has been blown up. Now it's up to Donne to right the wrongs of his family—or die trying . . .

"White's stunning second crime novel to feature ex-cop and ex-PI Jackson Donne fulfills the promise of his debut, *When One Man Dies*." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)



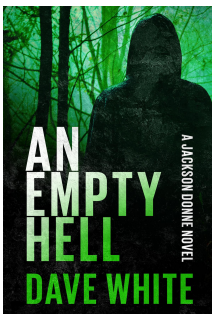
**BOOK THREE: NOT EVEN PAST**

Six years ago, Jackson Donne's fiancée, Jeanne, died in a car crash—a hit-and-run with a drunk driver. It was an open-and-shut case with few questions asked, mostly because Donne was in no state to ask any.

Now the former-PI-turned-college-student has finals coming up and a wedding to plan with the new woman in his life. He's something he hasn't been in a long time: happy. But that unfamiliar feeling doesn't last. Donne receives an email with a link to a video of Jeanne being held captive, alive—for now.

Donne's investigative skills have faded. He has no contacts, no one to turn to—except for the dodgy ex-partner he had when he was a cop, the other man who loved Jeanne. Donne knows that each step into the past is a piece of the future he's throwing away. But the truth is out there—on the violent New Jersey streets he once knew like the back of his hand . . .

"The acclaimed author delivers a tremendous jolt of adrenaline . . . then ratchets the action back up for a breakneck finish in this gritty crime thriller." —*The Florida Times-Union*



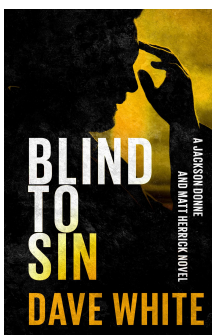
**BOOK FOUR: AN EMPTY HELL**

Two former cops are dead and they have one thing in common: Jackson Donne, who helped take them down when he was on the force. The prevailing thought is that Donne has finally lost it and is murdering old colleagues. But New Jersey's most wanted is now in rural Vermont with a new name and a new life.

Donne is scraping by doing odd jobs at a motel, thanks to the owner, Mario, who asks no questions as long as the work is done. But when Mario disappears, Donne uncovers connections between them that are more than coincidences. Both men ran from their pasts. Both men have blood on their hands. And now someone is using Mario to get to Donne.

If Donne has learned anything, it's this: you can run from the dirty cops in New Jersey, but you can't hide. And this time, they're unleashing hell . . .

"Dynamite . . . the characters, the situations, the pacing, the structure, and the writing are so good." —*Publishers Weekly*



**BOOK FIVE: BLIND TO SIN: A JACKSON DONNE AND MATT HERRICK NOVEL**

Though he's a former narcotics cop, Jackson Donne doesn't hate being in prison. It's his penance after pleading guilty to murdering a state senator. He's even made a friend, a protector. High school basketball coach and private investigator Matt Herrick's father Kenneth is Donne's cellmate. Things could always be worse . . .

Herrick hasn't seen his parents in years—not since they pulled a bank heist which resulted in his father's arrest and his mother's disappearance. All that's about to change. Someone with a lot of power and money is springing his father from prison for the job of a lifetime, stealing millions from the Federal Reserve in New Jersey. And Donne is going along for the ride.

Given the freedom he never wanted, Donne finds himself torn between loyalty and the law, between father and son, between heaven and hell . . .

Both he and Herrick will have to choose who they're willing to live for—and who they'd die to protect . . .

The line between good and evil explodes in this pulse-pounding crime thriller from "a fresh, vital voice energizing the private-eye novel." —*Laura Lippman, New York Times*—bestselling author

COVER  
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# EVERYTHING WE COULD DO

A Novel

By David McGlynn

TriQuarterly Books/  
Northwestern University Press Fall  
2025  
Manuscript available  
Fiction  
Translation rights: HNLA

**A gorgeous debut novel by acclaimed writer David McGlynn  
about two families forever bonded by a neonatal ward**

After a decade of miscarriages, Brooke Jensen is finally pregnant — with quadruplets. But when she unexpectedly goes into labor after just twenty-three weeks, she's plunged into the terrifying and mysterious world of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, where a team of doctors and nurses work around the clock to save her surviving children. Frightened and confused, and increasingly at odds with her local newscaster husband, Brooke bonds with Dash Coenen, a senior nurse whose own son had been born prematurely and had been, like Brooke's babies, in the NICU. Now nearing his eighteenth birthday, Dash's son Landon is growing increasingly violent and straining his parents' abilities to care for him.

Set on the shore of a sprawling, wooded lake, Hanover, Wisconsin has fallen on hard times in the wake of the Great Recession. The paper mills that once drove the region's economy have begun to close, leaving many in town, including Dash's husband, working odd jobs to make ends meet. A series of devastating events thrusts Landon out of the only home he's ever known and sends Brooke fleeing the hospital in the company of a sketchy fellow NICU parent. Holed up in a ramshackle cottage on the lake's ice-bound northern shore, Brooke encounters a little girl, all but abandoned by her drug-addled father, a meeting that helps Brooke find the courage to reclaim her future as a mother. Interweaving the stories of Brooke and Dash, *Everything We Could Do* illuminates the ways families are formed and remade in times of crisis.

## ADVANCE PRAISE

"In the great tradition of Wally Lamb, Chris Bohjalian, and Stewart O'Nan, this stunning first novel by David McGlynn is a beautiful and riveting portrait of parents living through heart-wrenching life experiences that offer no easy answers. The two women at the center of the book—first-time mother Brooke, whose premature infants occupy the liminal world of a small midwestern hospital's neonatal intensive care unit; and Dash, one of the nurses, who works tirelessly to save these babies while coping with her own troubled adolescent son—are so fully imagined that I read the book as tirelessly as I would have read an account of the travails of dear friends. Full of the pain, the pride, the fear, and the love that every parent knows, *Everything We Could Do* is a gorgeous novel from a writer destined for a major career."—**Ann Packer, bestselling author of *The Children's Crusade* and *The Dive from Clausen's Pier***

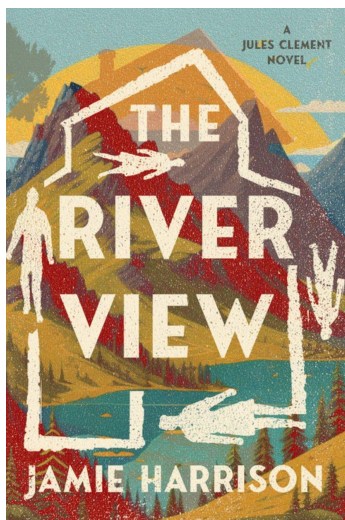
"David McGlynn writes about the deep things—love and connection and survival—and he brings beauty and peril into his narrative. His is a wonderful new voice in the literary landscape."—**Roxana Robinson, author of *Cost* and *Sparta***

"*Everything We Could Do* is a magnificent, realist novel in the tradition of Raymond Carver and Richard Yates. Through his characters' experiences as parents or nurses in the NICU, McGlynn explores the deepest topics—parenthood, mortality, love with tenderness, precision and fierceness. The characters are some of the most vivid and layered I've read, as they struggle with the power and powerlessness of parenthood. This is a brave and unforgettable novel."

—**Karen Bender, author of *Refund*, National Book Award Finalist**



**DAVID MCGLYNN** is the author of three books – *One Day You'll Thank Me: Lessons From an Unexpected Fatherhood*, *A Door in the Ocean*, and *The End of the Straight and Narrow*. In addition to his books, David's a frequent contributor to *Men's Health* and *Swimmer* magazines. His writing has appeared in *Story*, *Yale Review*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Best American Sports Writing*, and numerous literary journals. Three of his essays have been named Distinguished Essays in *Best American Essays* and *Best American Nonrequired Reading*. He teaches at Lawrence University and lives in Madison, Wisconsin.



# THE RIVER VIEW

By Jamie Harrison

Counterpoint Press

August 2024

Fiction, 352 pages

World rights: HNLA

- A *NEW YORK TIMES* NOTABLE CRIME NOVEL
- LONGLISTED FOR THE READING THE WEST BOOK AWARD

**Former Sheriff Jules Clement returns in this new installment of the celebrated mystery series, set once again in the wild, strange, windy town of Blue Deer, Montana, where your neighbors or the tourists can be just as deadly as the weather**

It's 1997 and Jules Clement has everything he's ever wanted: a happy marriage, a new baby, and a job as an archaeologist with a sideline as a private investigator. He and his wife Caroline are planning to build a house on an idyllic patch of river bottomland in Blue Deer, Montana. But everything that can go wrong will, in terms of money, love, land, murder: the neighbors hire Jules to spy on each other, the county hires him to find out if a road runs over some misplaced bodies in a long abandoned potter's field, a former priest with a sideline in extortion ends up very dead, a crew of Russians in fast cars is running amok through the Montana summer, and Jules' nemesis returns, forcing him to confront the death he's been avoiding his whole adult life: his father's.

Published alongside new editions of the the entire series *The River View* is further proof that you "haven't been west in any meaningful sense until you've been to Blue Deer" (*The New York Times*).

## PRAISE

"A singularly refreshing detective story. With humor and flair, Harrison takes us back to the wildest small town in the real-deal west. These novels keep getting better." — **Ivy Pochoda, author of *Sing Her Down***

"A resonant crime novel that evokes both the vastness of the west and the narrowness of the human heart. These are real people, in all their gritty splendor, and Jules Clement is the hero we all need right now: Smart, funny, and defined by a world view that's a little skewed. But more than that? It's just nice to be back in Harrison's town of Blue Deer, with all the grotesques in place." — **Tod Goldberg, author of *Gangsters Don't Die***

"An ornery coyote of a novel." — **Barry Gifford, author of *Ghost Years and Sailor & Lula: The Complete Novels***

"A welcome antidote to those sprawling, prime-time renditions of the New West. The heroes and villains of small-town Montana are way more intriguing—the crime is grubbier, the passion is bloodier, the revenge is sloppier—but the mountain views are just as spectacular. And Jules is beyond cool."— **Carl Hiaasen**

"Harrison's riveting fifth adventure for Montana PI Jules Clement is worth the wait...The episodic structure works wonders, with each vignette highlighting Jules's damage as well as his brilliance."—***Publishers Weekly*, starred review**

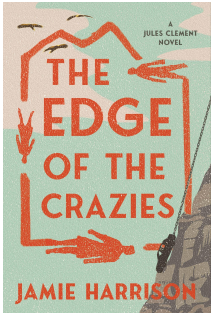


**JAMIE HARRISON** is a bestselling novelist and has lived in Montana with her family for more than thirty years. The author of seven novels, she was awarded the Mountains & Plains Independent Booksellers Association Reading the West Book Award for *The Widow Nash*, which was also a finalist for the High Plains Book Award.



HILL NADELL LITERARY AGENCY  
LONDON BOOK FAIR 2025

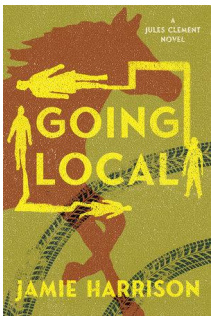
The JULES CLEMENT Series  
Reissue with updated covers, July 2024  
Counterpoint Press  
Translation Rights: HNLA  
Previously Published: **France**/Gallimard



**BOOK ONE: THE EDGE OF THE CRAZIES**

Blue Deer, Montana may seem to be a tranquil town nestled at the foot of the Crazy Mountains, but an influx of writers, artists, and actors has driven its inhabitants a little nuts. But when a series of killings brings up a number of suspects, Sheriff Jules Clement must reluctantly dig into the seamy side of his hometown, finding himself swamped by bad dreams, bad press, and an increasing distaste for his job.

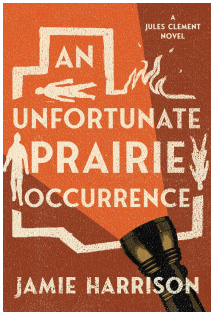
“A sparkling, caustic first novel... In this madly original debut, Ms. Harrison speaks up in a fresh, animated voice to say something worth saying about the festering animosities of small minds cooped up in small towns.”—*The New York Times Book Review*



**BOOK TWO: GOING LOCAL**

When the bodies of an environmental lawyer and his lover are found bobbing inside a tent in a reservoir, Sheriff Jules Clement follows the evidence through the intricacies of mining law, rodeos, and explosions, while the inhabitants of Blue Deer gear up for the annual Fourth of July rodeo.

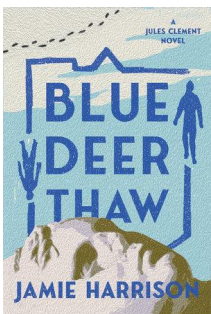
“What seems characteristic of the best crime writing is surpassingly true of Jamie Harrison: she is creating entertainment and diversion, but she is also writing social history as accurate in its essences as a road map and generating a most admirable work of literature.”—*Los Angeles Times*



**BOOK THREE: AN UNFORTUNATE PRAIRIE OCCURRENCE**

It's the fall season in Blue Deer, and Jules is once again up to his crooked grin in trouble. A camper's discovery of old bones threatens to expose secrets long and deliberately buried in the hearts and minds of the town's oldest citizens. Jules's investigation mushrooms into a nightmare of long-simmering enmities, love affairs, arson, and murder.

“Harrison can really write. *An Unfortunate Prairie Occurrence* is so full of pithy and thoughtful language that almost every page has at least one memorable line.”—*The Seattle Times*



**BOOK FOUR: BLUE DEER THAW**

A woman freezes to death in a snowdrift, and Jules follows the mystery back to the newly renovated Sacajawea Hotel, where he's cataloging antiquities for the owner. What seems like a simple tragedy plays out as a more complex story of family greed and revenge; for Jules, it will mean both love and tragedy. The reluctant sheriff will have to face the arctic winter in his search for clues to multiple murders, and the town of Blue Deer will never be the same.

“Harrison demonstrates once again that she's among the most talented writers to grace the genre in recent years.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

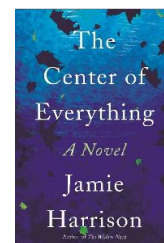
ALSO AVAILABLE

**THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING**

- LONGLISTED FOR THE 2022 READING THE WEST AWARD FOR FICTION
- ABA INDIE NEXT PICK

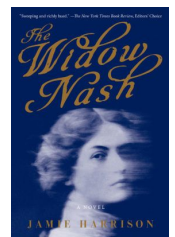
**THE WIDOW NASH**

- WINNER 2017 READING THE WEST AWARD FOR FICTION
- NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITORS' CHOICE
- NPR MORNING EDITION SUMMER READING SELECTION
- PNBA INDIEBOUND BESTSELLER



Counterpoint Press  
January 2021  
Fiction, 304 pages  
World Rights: HNLA

Counterpoint Press  
June 2017  
Fiction, 304 pages  
World Rights: HNLA





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## BEYOND THE MANGO TREES

By Monica Rana

Penguin Random House India

June 2025

Fiction

World rights: HNLA

**A vivid and compelling tale of friendship and loyalty set against the backdrop of civil war in Nepal**

Sumnima and Rita are teenage cousins growing up in a remote Nepalese village, dreaming of a larger life than being married off and becoming a servant in a strange man's household. Sumnima, the fearless elder one, is eager to join the leftist rebels and take a stand against men like her abusive and alcoholic father but Rita - younger and more studious - is cautious. When Sumnima starts sneaking off into the forests to train with the guerillas and takes up with a boy from a lower caste, Rita is left alone. Feeling angry and forgotten, Rita betrays Sumnima and her friends to the Nepalese secret police and sets in motion events that upend all their lives. After rebel forces are killed by government troops in their mountain village, Sumnima disappears and Rita becomes a danger to herself, her mother and aunt. Sent to Kathmandu where she will be safe, Rita is exposed to a larger world for the first time. But caste and class still matter as Rita discovers living in the glamorous and traditional household of the Jarsap, a prominent Nepalese general.

Now a servant to the elderly and formidable Ranisab, the General's mother, Rita must decide who she wants to be and reckon with her decisions. Full of authentic details and insights, *Beyond the Mango Trees* is based on historical events at the turn of the 21st century. Like a Nepalese "Downton Abbey," the novel gives readers an insider's view of the mansions and customs of the wealthy in Kathmandu.



**MONICA RANA's** family were the hereditary Prime Ministers of Nepal from 1846 until 1951. The author grew up in Kathmandu before attending Harvard University. While at Harvard she studied with Jamaica Kincaid, Samantha Chang and Patricia Powell and won the Cyrilly Abels Short Story Prize in 2004, the Edward Eager Award for Fiction in 2003 and was published by the Harvard Advocate. She now lives in London where she works in finance.

COVER  
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## CITY OF CLANS

By Geoff Peck

University of Iowa Press

September 2025

Fiction

World rights: HNLA

**A debut novel about a young man's escape from toxic masculinity**

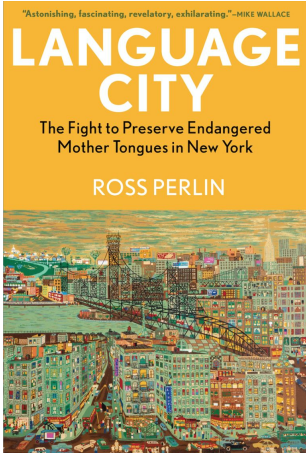
Set in Pittsburgh - a true city of clans - after the devastating 2008 financial crisis has taken hold, the novel follows Jeremy, a sexually confused young man as he struggles with a close friendship gone awry and how to separate himself from his family's expectations of who he is and isn't. The son of a former professional baseball player, Jeremy has grown up playing sports and following the rules for being a certain type of "tough guy" even though it's destroying his soul and spirit.

But when Scott, his best friend and roommate becomes a sexual predator, Jeremy is forced to confront everything he has tried to suppress in order to find his way back to his family and his one true friend. This moving debut novel melds elements of *The Art of Fielding* in how it describes the joy of baseball as a physical endeavor and Paul Murray's *The Bee Sting* as it explores one family's brokenness and enduring love.



**GEOFF PECK** is a writer, editor, podcaster, and English Professor at Grand Rapids Community College. He was nominated for Best New American Poets after winning the Thomas McGrath Award from The Academy of American Poets. He received his PhD in English & Creative Writing from the University of North Dakota and MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Pittsburgh. His short fiction and poetry have appeared in over twenty publications.

**NONFICTION**



# LANGUAGE CITY:

## The Fight to Preserve Endangered Mother Tongues in New York

By Ross Perlin

Grove Atlantic  
February 2024  
Nonfiction, 432 pages  
World rights: Grove Atlantic  
UK/Atlantic Books

- Winner of the British Academy Book Prize
- Longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction
- A *New York Times* Notable Book
- *USA Today* Bestseller
- A *New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice
- Nominated for the GANYS Apple Award in Outstanding Achievement in Book Writing (Non-Fiction)
- To be featured as a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week, April 2025

Half of all 7,000-plus human languages may disappear over the next century and—because many have never been recorded—when they're gone, it will be forever. Ross Perlin, a linguist and co-director of the non-profit Endangered Language Alliance, is racing against time to map little-known languages across the most linguistically diverse city in history: contemporary New York. Seke is spoken by 700 people from five ancestral villages in Nepal, and a hundred others living in a single Brooklyn apartment building. N'ko is a radical new West African writing system now going global in Harlem and the Bronx. Perlin explores the languages themselves, from rare sounds to sentence-long words to bits of grammar that encode entirely different worldviews.

On the 100th anniversary of a notorious anti-immigration law that closed America's doors for decades and the 400th anniversary of New York's colonial founding, Perlin raises the alarm about growing political threats and the onslaught of "killer languages" like English and Spanish. At the same time, *Language City* celebrates the profound linguistic diversity of a single city and the joy of tuning into this unprecedented Babel.

### PRAISE

"Superb...The heart of *Language City* is portraits of individual New York-based speakers. Mr. Perlin can set a scene with quick, sure strokes . . . Wonderfully rich, *Language City* is in part an introduction to the diverse ways different languages work."

—Timothy Farrington, *Wall Street Journal*

"[*Language City* is] what might be called a 'glorious mosaic' book. It brings that language map to life in an exhilarating way."

—Ian Frazier, *New York Review of Books*

"[A] gorgeous new narrative of New York, as told through the hundreds of languages spoken in its five boroughs...Perlin's excellent account of the present-day city chronicles six New Yorkers all working, in some way, to extend the lives of their languages."

—Deirdre Mask, *New York Times Book Review*

"Exuberant, radical...Perlin writes fiercely and finely about genocide, forced migration, forced education, suppression and racism; but these pages also thrum with action and hope."—Samantha Ellis, *Spectator UK*

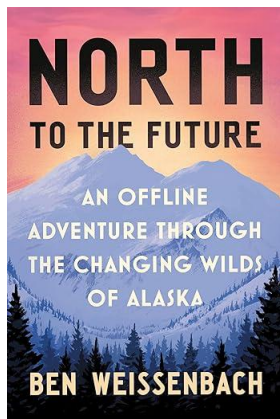
"Panoramic, enthralling...Perlin builds his arc from lavish asides and anecdotes . . .These six figures imbue Perlin's arguments about linguistics in the here and now, surviving and striving and indeed thriving across the five boroughs. He travels with them back to their hometowns, fleshing out encounters large and small, distilling a history of diaspora and pain that reads like equal parts travelogue and thriller. His pursuit of endangered languages is forensic, examining Creoles like fibers left at the scene of a crime: who did what to whom, and why?...*Language City* will be one of 2024's superlative nonfiction titles, a love letter to this inclusive, quixotic, exuberant metropolis."—Hamilton Cain, *On the Seawall*

"Enthralling...Perlin uses language as a window into N.Y.C. history...The result is an immersive meander through N.Y.C.'s past and present that brings to the fore its multitudinous nature. Readers will be engrossed."—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"A spirited celebration of a polyglot city. Linguist Perlin, co-director of the Endangered Language Alliance and author of *Intern Nation*, makes a strong case for the need to support endangered, Indigenous, and primarily oral languages... New York's cultural richness, Perlin asserts, is nourished by languages. A convincing argument for linguistic multiplicity."—*Kirkus Reviews*



**ROSS PERLIN**, a linguist, writer, and translator, is co-founder of the Endangered Language Alliance which has been profiled by the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, *BBC*, *NPR*, and many others. A graduate of Stanford University, he was a Marshall Scholar at Cambridge University and SOAS in London, and teaches linguistics at Columbia University. He has written for the *New York Times*, the *Guardian*, *Harper's*, and *n+1*.



## NORTH TO THE FUTURE:

An Offline Adventure through the Changing Wilds of Alaska  
By Ben Weissenbach

Grand Central Publishing  
July 2025  
Nonfiction, 320 pages  
Translation rights: HNLA

**Ben Weissenbach—a digital native with little prior wilderness experience—embarks on a series of scientific adventures across the wilds of Alaska with some of the state’s most distinguished, and audacious, researchers**

At the age of twenty, college student Ben Weissenbach went north to Arctic Alaska armed with little more than inspiration from his literary heroes and a growing interest in climate change. What met him there was a world utterly unlike the 21st century Los Angeles in which he grew up—a land of ice, rock, and grizzlies seen by few outside a small contingent of scientists with big personalities.

There’s Roman Dial, the larger-than-life ecologist with whom Ben walks and rafts 1,000 miles across Alaska’s Brooks Range. There’s Kenji Yoshikawa, the reindeer-herding permafrost expert who leaves Ben alone for eleven days to care for his off-grid homestead, where temperatures drop to -49 degrees Fahrenheit. And there’s Matt Nolan, the independent glaciologist who flies him to the largest glaciers in the American Arctic.

As these scientists teach Ben to read Alaska’s warming landscape, he confronts the limits of digital life, and the complexity of the world beyond his screens. He emerges from each adventure with a new perspective on our modern relationship to technology, and a growing wonder for our fast-changing—*ever-changing*—planet.

### ADVANCE PRAISE

*"North to the Future* is a kind of bildungsroman of perception—a story of learning to see and hear and feel by venturing out in the wild. It is a beautiful and necessary book." —**Elizabeth Kolbert, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Sixth Extinction***

"Ben Weissenbach’s absorbing *North to the Future* is packed with fascinating and eccentric adventurer/scientists, hair-raising wildlife encounters and haunting landscapes—all in the tradition of his teacher, John McPhee. But Weissenbach offers a contrasting dimension unique to a writer of his era: how all this reality feels to a 20-something raised on the airless virtual world of the 4"x2" screen. The book thus carries a double warning: of a threatened external environment and an internal one, too." —**John Colapinto, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This is the Voice***

"Far and away the best outdoor adventure book I’ve read in years. It takes a dire but somewhat distant topic, climate change, and brings it to within inches of your face, so you can hear the snuffle of grizzlies and the glassy crackling as the glaciers recede. In the process, it gently nudges us to relearn the raw art of being human: to walk softly, to see sharply, to be—*vitally*—present." —**Robert Moor, *New York Times* bestselling author of *On Trails: An Exploration***

"In the company of moody bears, eccentric scientists, and a rapidly changing landscape, Weissenbach takes readers on a rollicking adventure through the Alaskan wilds. Here, the art of humility meets the necessity of paying attention, offering a fresh perspective on the future of the Arctic." —**Caroline Van Hemert, author of the award winning *The Sun is a Compass***

"In his highly entertaining and insightful debut, Ben Weissenbach explores the realities of climate change, not through online posturing and digital outrage, but instead by setting off into the wilds of Alaska to encounter nature directly." —**Cal Newport, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Slow Productivity* and *Digital Minimalism***



**BEN WEISSENBACH** is a writer from Los Angeles. He studied under John McPhee at Princeton University and was awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship to pursue a PhD in Polar Studies. His work has appeared in the *L.A. Times*, *National Geographic*, *Scientific American*, and *Smithsonian*, among other publications.



COVER  
TO BE  
REVEALED

## THE CHANNEL:

The History, Science, and Insanity  
of the World's Most Famous Swim

By David McGlynn

***The Channel* aims to do for marathon swimming what *Born to Run* has done for ultrarunning: give readers an up-close examination of what it takes to accomplish the world's most iconic swim wrapped in a tale of personal, high-stakes adventure**

Gallery/S&S, 2028

Proposal available

Nonfiction

Translation rights: HNLA

In the aftermath of a near-fatal accident, and facing a full-blown midlife crisis, writer and accomplished swimmer David McGlynn conceives of a wild idea: to swim the English Channel. The undertaking is not for the faint of heart—the Channel is nearly twenty-one miles across at its narrowest point, full of jellyfish and enormous shipping vessels, with water temperatures, even at the height of summer, hovering near (and often below) 60 degrees. Indeed, far more people have climbed Mount Everest than have made the swim between England and France.

As McGlynn sets out to train for the swim (officially scheduled for 2026), he plunges into the history, logistics, and science of channel swimming. He takes his readers on a swift-moving, far-flung adventure, from the sunny waters of the Sea of Cortez to Harvard Medical School and extreme environments labs in England; from a four-day, 40-mile swim in the reservoirs of Arizona's Salt River, to an infamous nine-day training camp in Ireland. Along the way, he swims with the best open-water swimmers in the world, joining world-record holder Sarah Thomas in the not-quite-thawed mountain lakes of Colorado and traveling to Italy for the Ice Swimming World Championships, where competitors race in a "pool" chainsawed into a frozen lake. In the final climactic chapters, having logged thousands of miles in the pool, lakes, and ocean, he journeys to Dover, England to take his shot at the famous swim.

A columnist for *Swimmer Magazine*, and a frequent contributor to *Men's Health*, *The New York Times*, and *Washington Post*, David McGlynn has been writing about swimming for much of his career. While books about endurance sports—such as running and cycling—are increasingly popular, few writers have the chops to plunge into an undertaking quite like swimming the English Channel. But David does.

### ADVANCE PRAISE

"I am confident that David McGlynn's *The Channel* will make a terrific contribution to the canon of books on the Channel and open water swimming. He is more than capable of stylishly communicating the intense physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual challenges swimming the Channel requires." —**Glenn Stout, *Young Woman and the Sea***

"Talented and accomplished in both water and ink, David McGlynn is built to explore and demystify the intense suffering, wild imagination, great drama and the countless small triumphs inherent to one of the sports world's greatest and most historic challenges. I am confident that he will make it across the tempestuous Channel no matter the conditions and return with one hell of a story." —**Adam Skolnick**

"Of course there should be a book about swimming the English Channel, and of course David McGlynn should write it. His passion for the water, coupled with an uncommon ability to convey the transportive feeling of being—of *needing* to be—there, is magnetic. I can't wait to read it." —**Lynn Sherr, *Swim: Why We Love the Water***



**DAVID MCGLYNN** is the author of the forthcoming novel *Everything We Could Do*. Previous books include *One Day You'll Thank Me: Lessons From an Unexpected Fatherhood*, *A Door in the Ocean*, and *The End of the Straight and Narrow*. His work has won the Council for Wisconsin Writers' Nonfiction Book Award the Utah Book Award. He is a frequent contributor to *Men's Health* and *Swimmer* magazines. His writing has appeared in *Story*, *Yale Review*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Best American Sports Writing*, and numerous literary journals. Three of his essays have been named Distinguished Essays in *Best American Essays* and *Best American Nonrequired Reading*. He teaches at Lawrence University and lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Simon & Schuster

Spring 2026

Nonfiction

Translation rights: HNLA

Germany/Insel-Suhrkamp

# IN TREES

By Robert Moor

COVER  
TO BE  
REVEALED

**"THE BEAUTIFUL, BRUTAL WORLD OF BONSAI" PUBLISHED IN *THE NEW YORKER***

- ONE OF THE MOST READ ESSAYS OF NOVEMBER
- OPTIONED BY CONDÉ NAST ENTERTAINMENT

**RESEARCHER, WRITER, AND NARRATOR OF THE PODCAST *JOE EXOTIC: TIGER KING***

- SPARKED INTEREST IN THE HIT NETFLIX SHOW AND WAS ADAPTED INTO THE TELEVISION SERIES *JOE VS CAROLE* STARRING KATE MCKINNON

The long awaited sequel to the bestselling *On Trails*, *In Trees* will explore the complicated role of trees in the world through narratives about the surprisingly brutal art of bonsai in Japan, tree house dwelling inhabitants in New Guinea, and how trees factor into human imagination. Weaving together science, philosophy, political activism, adventure, and mythology, Moor follows what branches mean in terms of the natural world, family history, and how we can learn to live our lives with and in trees.

## ALSO AVAILABLE

### ON TRAILS: AN EXPLORATION

From a talent who's been compared to Annie Dillard, Edward Abbey, David Quammen, and Jared Diamond, *On Trails* is a wondrous exploration of how trails help us understand the world—from invisible ant trails to hiking paths that span continents, from interstate highways to the Internet.

- *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER IN SCIENCE AND TRAVEL
- WINNER OF THE WILLIAM SAROYAN INTERNATIONAL PRIZE 2018
- WINNER OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST BOOK AWARD 2017
- A NATIONAL OUTDOOR BOOKS AWARD WINNER
- AN INDIEBOUND BESTSELLER

**"A wanderer's dream, even from an armchair."**—*The Economist*

"Like Montaigne, Moor writes about one subject as a way of touching on 100 others. *On Trails* considers Greek mythology and the origins of life, the intricacy of caterpillar nests and the stealth of elephants. **He's a philosopher on foot**, recording his journey through miles of wilderness and through a mind sorting out the meaning of travel itself."

—*The Wall Street Journal*

"You might think of Robert Moor as the Roger Angell of trail-walking. Just as Angell's reports on specific baseball games segue effortlessly into reflections on the venerable sport itself, so Moor looks up from whatever trail he may be on to see the big picture . . .

***On Trails* is an engaging blend of travelogue, sociology, history, and philosophy that might be summed up as a meditation on the centrality of trails to animal and human life.**—*The Washington Post*

Simon & Schuster

July 2016

Nonfiction, 352 pages

Translation Rights: HNLA

China/Posts and

Telecommunications

Germany/Insel/Suhrkamp

Italy/Corbaccio

Japan/A+F Publishing

Korea/Mirae

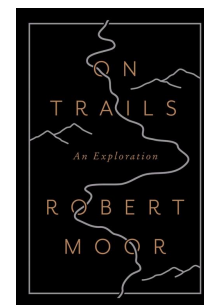
The Netherlands/Ten Have

Russia/Ripol

Taiwan/The Walk Publishing

Turkey/Kolektif

Vietnam/Huy Huang



**ROBERT MOOR** has written for *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *n+1*, *New York*, *GQ*, *Outside Magazine*, *The New York Times*, and *The Paris Review*, among other publications. He is a graduate of Brown University and New York University's Arthur L. Carter Journalism School.

COVER  
TO BE  
REVEALED

# MY GIRLS:

The Iconic Young Women of Literature  
and How They Shaped Me  
By Shannon Reed

Hanover Square Press  
Spring 2027  
Nonfiction  
World rights: Hanover Square Press

Thurber Prize finalist and author of *Why We Read* Shannon Reed's *My Girls*, will be a blend of memoir, cultural history, and criticism celebrating the author's favorite iconic young women in literature and their often female creators. From Elizabeth Bennet in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* to Katniss Everdeen in *The Hunger Games* series by Suzanne Collins, Reed will delve into the many facets of girlhood and how these famous and beloved heroines have taught us how to be courageous in a turbulent world.

## ALSO AVAILABLE

### WHY WE READ: ON BOOKWORMS, LIBRARIES, AND JUST ONE MORE PAGE BEFORE LIGHTS OUT

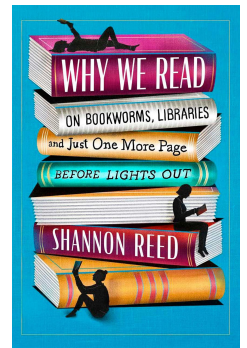
- NATIONAL BESTSELLER
- A WGN RADIO BEST BOOK OF 2024
- A *GOOD HOUSEKEEPING* READS PICK
- NOTABLE NONFICTION PICK –LIBRARY READS
- EXCERPTED IN GEORGE SAUNDERS' SUBSTACK "STORY CLUB"
- EXCERPTED IN *THE NEW YORKER*

"In this charming collection of essays, Reed digs into the many pleasures of reading, interweaving poignant and amusing stories from her life as a bibliophile and teacher to advocate for the many joys of a life spent between the pages."—*The New Yorker*

"A warm and funny memoir in essays... witty and joyful... *Why We Read* would be a delightful addition to any bookworm's shelves. In exploring the comfort and companionship books offer us, Reed gives her reader those gifts, as well."—*Washington Post*

"A lovely, funny read."—**George Saunders**

"Exactly what I needed to make me feel less alone in the world....*Why We Read* reminds us not only of where we began as readers but also where we could go if we release our inhibitions and allow ourselves to simply enjoy reading."—*The Rumpus*



Hanover Square Press  
February 2024  
Nonfiction, 331 pages  
World rights: Hanover Square Press  
**Vietnam/Minh Long**



**SHANNON REED** is a contributor to *The New Yorker's* "Shouts & Murmurs." Her work has appeared in *Real Simple*, *The Paris Review*, *Slate*, *LitHub*, *Longreads*, *The Guardian*, *AFAR*, *The Washington Post*, *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, and *McSweeney's*. Her previous book *Why Did I Get a B* was a semifinalist for the Thurber Prize.

WHY  
SOUND  
MATTERS



DAMON  
KRUKOWSKI

## WHY SOUND MATTERS

By Damon Krukowski

**A poignant consideration of the material aspect of sound and how it fundamentally shapes our experience of the world, both in its presence and absence**

Yale University Press

October 2025

Nonfiction, 128 pages

World rights: Yale University Press

From the joyous communal connections fostered through shared auditory experience to the devastating impact of noise pollution in the deep sea, musician and author Damon Krukowski urges readers to reconsider the significance of sound and its role in both our personal and collective well-being. He looks despairingly at how the multipronged efforts of urban dwellers to mitigate city noise have led to increased isolation, loss of community, and a sense of physical detachment from one's surroundings. He considers the consequences of the commodification of sound in the digital era. And he looks at what's at stake in trying to preserve the world's dwindling quiet places.

Interspersed with personal reflections from years of working in the music business, this book investigates sound's role in the environment, its value as a material, its relationship to labor, and how it affects our interactions with one another. Krukowski invites you to hear the world anew and renew your relationship with one of our most precious natural resources. So listen up!

### ALSO AVAILABLE

#### WAYS OF HEARING

"*Ways of Hearing* poses a compelling counter narrative to typical tech criticism: instead of glibly lamenting how digital life destroys intimacy, Krukowski asks listeners to pay attention to both the sonic as well as the political qualities of sound. Krukowski makes us consider sound—what we hear, what we don't, how, and why—as a means of listening but also, perhaps, of resisting."—*The Baffler*

MIT Press

2019

Nonfiction, 136 pages

World rights: HNLA



#### THE NEW ANALOG: Listening and Reconnecting in a Digital World

"If you're a devoted music fan who's dubious about both rosy nostalgia and futuristic utopianism, Damon Krukowski's *The New Analog* is for you."—*The New York Times Book Review*

"A pointedly passionate look at what's been lost in the digital era."  
—*Los Angeles Times*

The New Press

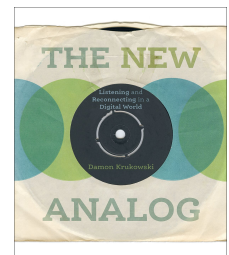
2017

Nonfiction, 224 pages

World rights: HNLA

Spain/Alpha Decay

Italy/Edizioni SUR



**DAMON KRUKOWSKI** is a writer, publisher, and musician, and is the author of *The New Analog* and *Ways of Hearing*. He was in the indie rock band Galaxie 500 and is currently one-half of the folk-rock duo Damon & Naomi, and he has taught writing and sound (and writing about sound) at Harvard University. He lives in Cambridge, MA.



# **GRAPHIC NOVELS & CHILDREN'S**



## UNICO Vol 2: HUNTED

By Samuel Sattin, illustrated by Gurihiru,  
based on the original manga by Osamu Tezuka

"A spellbinding masterpiece."—Dav Pilkey,  
#1 bestselling creator of *Dog Man*

**A brave young unicorn continues to discover  
his power in a battle against gods and monsters**

Lost in space and time, Unico awakens in an abandoned factory town. Saved by the resourceful mouse, Garapachi, Unico befriends Chiko, a human girl. But he soon learns that a sinister force is at work in the town's factory, bent on killing all living things. Meanwhile, Venus unleashes a fierce hunter who will stop at nothing to find Unico. Can Unico save Chiko? Can the West Wind save Unico?

Conceived anew by Eisner-nominated author Samuel Sattin and Eisner-winning artist team Gurihiru, and developed in collaboration with Tezuka Productions, *UNICO: Hunted* is the second volume in a bestselling and groundbreaking reboot of a beloved manga by Astro Boy creator Osamu Tezuka, the "God of Manga." With striking full-color artwork and reading left to right in the Western comics style to match the original manga, UNICO is a brilliant series featuring storytelling at its best. Join Unico on an unforgettable journey!

### ALSO AVAILABLE

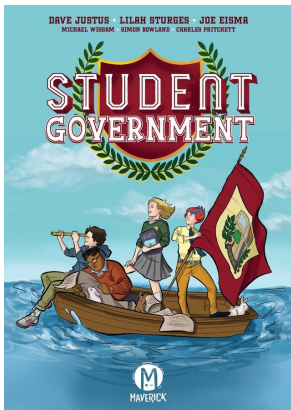
#### UNICO Vol 1: AWAKENING

By Samuel Sattin, illustrated by Gurihiru,  
based on the original manga by Osamu Tezuka

- **Best Manga of 2024** — *School Library Journal*; *Kobo Books*
- **National Bestseller**



Graphix / Scholastic  
July 2024  
Middle Grade Graphic Novel, 224 pages  
World rights: Scholastic  
**Czech Republic**/Albatros  
**Brazil**/Rocco  
**Denmark**/Politikens  
**France**/Flammarion  
**Germany**/Loewe  
**Israel**/Kinneret Zmora  
**Italy**/TUNUE  
**Japan**/ShoPro  
**Latvia**/Apģāds Zvaigzne  
**The Netherlands**/De Fontein  
**Norway**/Bonnier Norsk  
**Portugal**/PRH Grupo Editorial  
**Slovakia**/IKAR  
**Spain**/Fundacion Santa Maria  
**Sweden**/Wahlströms  
**Turkey**/Destek



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT

By Dave Justus and Lilah Sturges,  
Illustrated by Joe Eisma, colors by Michael Wiggam

At America's second-oldest university, four earnest, clever, and desperate teens on the interim student government exploit a charter loophole in an effort to save their school from being demolished, facing down pressures on campus and escalating hostility from the Board of Regents in a story both hilarious and heartfelt.

Maverick / Mad Cave Studios

March 2025

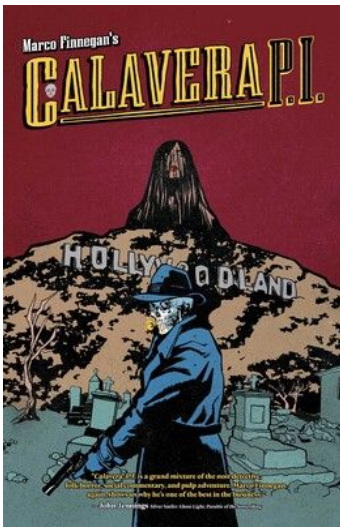
YA Graphic Novel, 180 pages

World rights: Maverick

**LILAH STURGES** is the writer of numerous comics, including the PRISM Award winning *Lumberjanes: The Infernal Compass* and *The Magicians* and Legendary Comics' upcoming *The Science of Ghosts*, as well as titles from DC, Marvel, IDW, and others. She lives in Austin, Texas with two daughters and two cats.

**DAVE JUSTUS** is an American writer known for comics such as *Fables: The Wolf Among Us* and *Everafter: From the Pages of Fables*.

**JOE EISMA** is the artist and co-creator of the Eisner-nominated and New York Times Bestselling series *Morning Glories* and *Engineward*.



## CALAVERA P.I.

By Marco Finnegan

Oni Press

September 2025

Adult Graphic Novel, 128 pages

World rights: Oni Press

**“A grand mixture of the noir detective, folk horror, social commentary and pulp adventure. Marco Finnegan, again, shows us why he’s one of the best in the business. You’ll instantly fall in love with this genre-bending delight.”**

—John Jennings, Hugo Award winning #1 New York Times Bestselling Author

In 1925, Juan Calavera died a hero. After a career spent outside the law defending the Chicano barrios where the police refused to operate, he earned a reputation for fearlessness . . . and a gunshot in the stomach. Now, five years later, on Día de los Muertos, his restless spirit has been summoned from the grave to help a desperate former colleague unravel a kidnapping all too close to home. With only days to solve the case before he is called back to the underworld, can Calavera reveal the identity of the masked human trafficker known as La Fantasma before tragedy strikes again . . . and solve the mystery of his own murder in the process?

From the desk of rising star **MARCO FINNEGAN** (*Morning Star*, *Night People*), walk the shadow-shrouded alleys of Hollywoodland to solve the mystery of Calavera—a newly resurrected private investigator whose first case is about to straddle the blood-soaked boundaries between the living and the dead!

“Marco Finnegan has crafted a heart-wrenching and powerful Latinx noir that’s pulsing with supernatural elements. It’s unlike anything I’ve read in a long time.”—**Alex Segura**, bestselling author of *Secret Identity* and *Alter Ego*



## AGENT CUPCAKE

By Mel Hilario and Lauren Davis,  
illustrated by Katie Longua

Oni Press

November 2025

Middle Grade Graphic Novel, 192 pages

World rights: Oni Press

**Go undercover and crack the case in *Agent Cupcake*, perfect for fans of *Mac B.* *Kid Spy* and *Spy School*!**

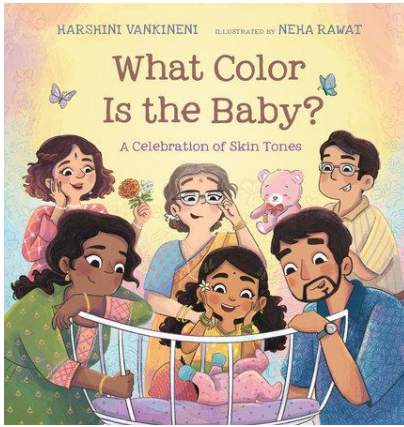
Twelve-year-old Miguel Mangayayam has always loved one thing: mystical beasts. So he’s thrilled when he’s hired by the Mystical Beasts Bureau (MBB) to be their first ever human spy where he’ll use his encyclopedic knowledge of hippogriffs, mermaids, dragons, and more to solve the latest cases. Even better? He’s partnered with the supercool unicorn superspy, Agent Cupcake! Together, they’ll go undercover, gather intel, crack codes, and collect clues to solve the MBB’s toughest mysteries. But when they receive reports that unicorns are losing their magical powers, Miguel and Agent Cupcake will have to put their spy skills to the test to figure out why, even if it means going up against a mega corporation like HOARD. Could someone be trying to steal magic to put unicorns out of business?

Join the MBB and solve the case in the candy-colored mystical world of *Agent Cupcake*, all while learning facts about real life spies and spycraft in the next graphic novel from the dream team that brought you *Debian Perl: Digital Detective*.

**KATIE LONGUA** has the power to make anything more magical. She’s done work for BANDAI NAMCO Entertainment, Image Comics, IDW Comics, Oni Press, and many others. With a personal color palette that is both art and manifesto, she lives in a haunted house with her partner, Josh, and a small army of transforming robots.

**MEL HILARIO** is a writer who empowers readers by helping them understand the world around them. She received her MFA in creative writing from Mills College, has been a recipient of the Elizabeth George Foundation Grant and residencies at VONA (Voices of our Nations Arts), Las Dos Brujas Writers Workshop, Writing by Writers, and Hedgebrook. She lives in Oakland, California, with two of the largest cats her friends have ever seen.

**LAUREN DAVIS** received her JD from the Georgetown University Law Center, and wrote for several years at *io9* and eventually got her MFA in comics at the California College of the Arts. In addition to making comics, Lauren is a teaching artist and a longtime organizer of San Francisco Zine Fest. She also collected, edited, and published the comics anthologies *The Comic Book Guide to the Mission* and *Sci-Fi San Francisco*. Her 12-year-old self would be proud that she wrote a book about unicorns.



## WHAT COLOR IS THE BABY?

A Celebration of Skin Tones

Harshini Vankineni, illustrated by Neha Rawat

Candlewick

April 2025

Picture Book, 40 pages

World rights: Candlewick

**“This sweet story tackles a loaded question. . . The tale gently reminds adult readers that children absorb attitudes and prejudices they see around them. . . A feel-good story that asks us to look beyond color to see the beauty in everyone.”**

—*Kirkus Reviews*

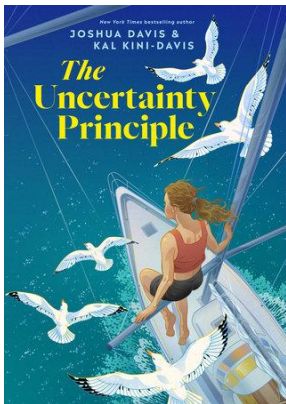
When Kundana meets her newborn sister, Kuku, she declares her the prettiest baby in the world. But as grandparents, aunts, and uncles welcome Kuku, all they want to know is what color she is. Is she a marigold like her sister? Or a white jasmine? As the family gazes at Kuku's brown skin, big sister Kundana wonders why her family would care what color Kuku is—she's beautiful! Inspired by first-time author Harshini Vankineni's own experiences with colorism—the practice of treating people differently because of how dark or light their skin is—*What Color Is the Baby?* is a moving journey of a big sister finding a new and loving way to describe and defend her adored baby sister, while Neha Rawat's warm illustrations delight with coziness and love of family.

### ADVANCE PRAISE

**“A poignant story that brilliantly tackles the important topic of colorism. In this well-told narrative, we follow a little girl speaking up to defend her newborn baby sister from micro-prejudices in the extended family.”** —**Meera Sriram, author of *A Garden in My Hands***

**“A tale of one sister's unconditional love for her new baby sister that will pull at the heartstrings of all who read this poignant story.”**—**Patrice Karst, best-selling author of *The Invisible String***

**HARSHINI VANKENINI** is a writer, and a perpetual student of literature and languages. She is an immigrant from India and lives in Southern California with two Light-bearers and a Rock, also known as children and husband.



## THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE

By Joshua Davis and Kal Kini-Davis

Penguin Workshop

June 2025

Young Adult, 272 pages

World rights: Penguin Workshop

**From *New York Times* best-selling author Joshua Davis and his son, Kal Kini-Davis, comes an epic, breathtaking story of self-discovery, love, and adventure—perfect for fans of Nina LaCour and John Green**

Sixteen-year-old Mia is stranded in the middle of the Caribbean. After a mortifying incident in the school cafeteria, her parents decided there was only one way to deal with her meltdown: move onto a battered sailboat and leave everything behind. Her mom and dad think it's the best decision they've ever made. Mia feels like she's been kidnapped and imprisoned in paradise with no internet and no destination.

Her only hope is to hack together a solar-powered satellite phone so she can call her best friend and fix everything. To do it, she'll have to build a mobile laboratory on the boat and ignore her neurotic mother, who thinks Mia is falling apart. The problem is, Mia is falling apart. By day, she scours deserted islands, looking for anything she can use to build the phone. At night, she squeezes into a narrow bunk and talks to an imaginary friend. She knows, with absolute certainty, that she needs to abandon her family to save her sanity. And then two teenagers sail into her world, promising friendship, and maybe even romance. Thoughtful, soulful Alby was raised in Australia but now his family calls the sea their home. The only thing missing is his soulmate. Bold, beautiful Nisha is simply vacationing on her dad's megayacht when a chance encounter upends her life. Now—with everything hanging in the balance—Mia must decide who she is and what she wants. And with this decision comes the revelation that her past and future are more uncertain than she thought.

**JOSHUA DAVIS** (he/him) is the *New York Times* best-selling author of *Spare Parts*, *The Underdog*, and *Entrenched*. He has been a finalist for the National Magazine Award in feature writing and produced the Sundance Audience Award-winning film *Radical*. He is the co-founder of *Epic Magazine*.

**KAL KINI-DAVIS** (he/him) is a sailor and writer. He recently graduated high school in San Francisco and is now studying wooden boatbuilding in the Pacific Northwest. He plans to cross the Pacific in a boat built by his own hands and believes that boats have souls, just as people do.