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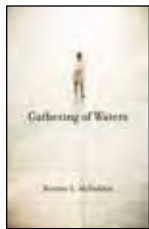
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FEBRUARY 2012

FICTION

TRADE PAPERBACK

256 PAGES, 5.25 x 8.25

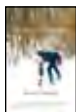
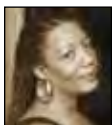
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GATHERING OF WATERS

 A NOVEL BY **BERNICE L. McFADDEN**

Following her best-selling, award-winning novel Glorious, McFadden produces a fantastical historical novel featuring the spirit of Emmett Till.

“As strange as this may sound, Bernice L. McFadden has created a magical, fantastic novel centered around the notorious tragedy of Emmett Till’s murder. This is a startling, beautifully written piece of work.”
—**Dennis Lehane, author of *Mystic River***

“In her new novel, McFadden brings her own special vision to the unfortunate story of Emmett Till and his murder in Money, Mississippi. This moving and magical novel, which traces the generations leading up to and away from that horrible night in 1955, drew me in immediately and swept me along through its richly imagined world. I couldn’t stop reading . . . What a rich chorus of voices Bernice McFadden has fashioned from this place called Money.” —**Lee Martin, author of *Break the Skin***

BERNICE L. McFADDEN is the author of seven critically acclaimed novels including the classic *Sugar* and *Glorious*, which was featured in *O, The Oprah Magazine* and was a finalist for the NAACP Image Award. Her sophomore novel, *The Warmest December*, was praised by Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison as “searing and expertly imagined.” McFadden lives in Brooklyn, New York.

ALSO BY **BERNICE L. McFADDEN** AND AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

The Warmest December FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK, 256 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-035-9

Glorious FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 240 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-11-4



OCTOBER 2011

FICTION

HARDCOVER

256 PAGES, 5.25 x 8.25

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BOUNDARIES

 A NOVEL BY **ELIZABETH NUNEZ**

A powerful immigrant story of family, love, assimilation, and a provocative look inside the contemporary book business.

“There are many moments [in the novel] of elegant, overarching insight that bind the personal to the collective past . . . It is quieter and more gradual than most, but it fills the gaps better than a plane ride to the tropics.” —***New York Times Book Review (Editors’ Choice)***

“In Nunez’s latest, the author further explores immigrant life, a life where a hard-working woman can progress up the corporate ladder, buy an apartment in a soon-to-be trendy neighborhood, and still be plagued by outsider’s angst . . . A thoughtful literary novel exploring the shadows of cultural identity and the mirage of assimilation.” —***Kirkus Reviews***

ELIZABETH NUNEZ is the award-winning author of eight novels. Her most recent, *Anna In-Between*, was a *New York Times* Editors’ Choice and was selected for the 2010 PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award. She is a Distinguished Professor at Hunter College, CUNY, where she teaches creative writing and fiction. She divides her time between Amityville, New York, and Brooklyn.

ALSO BY **ELIZABETH NUNEZ** AND AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

Anna In-Between FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK, 320 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-69-5

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Following the international success of the Noir Series, Akashic launches a new drug-based sister series.

"Just reading the table of contents for this fucker makes me want to hop in my time machine, zoom back to 1966, and find those two dubious physicians who used to write me scripts for Dexedrine, even though I was too tall and skinny to live already. Mainline this book now!"

—James Ellroy on *The Speed Chronicles*

THE SPEED CHRONICLES features brand-new stories by: Sherman Alexie, William T. Vollmann, James Franco, Megan Abbott, Jerry Stahl, Beth Lisick, Jess Walter, Scott Phillips, James & Greer, Tao Lin, Joseph Mattson, Natalie Diaz, Kenji Jasper, and Rose Bunch.

"*The Cocaine Chronicles* is a pure, jangled hit of urban, gritty, and raw noir. Caution: these stories are addicting." —Harlan Coben, author of *Just One Look*

THE COCAINE CHRONICLES features brand-new stories by: Susan Straight, Lee Child, Laura Lippman, Ken Bruen, Jerry Stahl, Nina Revoyr, Bill Moody, Emory Holmes II, James Brown, Gary Phillips, Jervy Tervalon, Kerry E. West, Donnell Alexander, Deborah Vankin, Robert Ward, Manuel Ramos, and Detrice Jones.

NEW JERSEY NOIR

EDITED BY **JOYCE CAROL OATES**

Jonathan Safran Foer and Robert Pinsky join Oates and others to explore the Jersey underbelly.

"Oates's introduction to Akashic's noir volume dedicated to the Garden State, with its evocative definition of the genre, is alone worth the price of the book . . . Poems by C.K. Williams, Paul Muldoon, and others—plus photos by Gerald Slota—enhance this distinguished entry." —*Publishers Weekly*

"It was inevitable that this fine noir series would reach New Jersey. It took longer than some readers might have wanted, but, oh boy, was it worth the wait . . . It should go without saying that regular readers of the noir series will seek this one out, but beyond that, the book also serves as a very good introduction to what is a popular but often misunderstood term and style of writing."

—*Booklist*, starred review

FEATURING BRAND-NEW STORIES (AND A FEW POEMS) BY: Joyce Carol Oates, Jonathan Safran Foer, Robert Pinsky, Edmund White & Michael Carroll, Richard Burgin, Paul Muldoon, Sheila Kohler, C.K. Williams, Gerald Stern, Lou Manfredo, S.A. Solomon, Bradford Morrow, Jonathan Santlofer, Jeffrey Ford, S.J. Rozan, Barry Malzberg & Bill Pronzini, Hirsh Sawhney, and Robert Arellano.

JOYCE CAROL OATES is the author of a number of noir works of fiction including *Rape: A Love Story*, *Beasts*, *The Female of the Species*, *The Museum of Dr. Moses*, and, most recently, *Give Me Your Heart*. She has been a resident of Princeton, New Jersey, since 1978.



DECEMBER 2011

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NOVEMBER 2011

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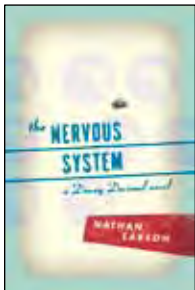
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JULY 2012

FICTION/MYSTERY

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256 PAGES, 5.25 x 8.25

\$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-079-3

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THE NERVOUS SYSTEM (a Dewey Decimal novel)

A NOVEL BY **NATHAN LARSON**

Larson's antihero is back in this bombastic and soulful sequel to *The Dewey Decimal System*.

"Nathan Larson's Dewey Decimal is a combination like no other—in a dystopian landscape, he's discur-sive, loves dissing fools, dissecting language and violence, and has a hell of a system. He's like Walter Mosley's sometime L.A. hit man Mouse, but with Chester Himes and Jerome Charyn threaded in . . . A love song to New York's streets and boroughs and people, even when they're decimated, and Larson's 'postracial' character, a mutt for all times, is someone I'd follow over and over again through whatever secret paths he finds in this world." —**Susan Straight, author of *A Million Nightingales***

AFTER A SERIES OF LARGE-SCALE TERRORIST ATTACKS, New York City is reduced to a shadow of its former self. As the city struggles to dig itself out of the wreckage, a nameless, obsessive-compulsive veteran with a spotty memory, a love for literature, and a strong if unique moral code, has taken up residence at the Main Branch of the New York Public Library. Dubbed "Dewey Decimal" for his desire to reorganize the library's stock, he gets by as bagman and muscle for unscrupulous politicians and underworld figures—as detailed in the first book in this series, *The Dewey Decimal System*.

IN THE NERVOUS SYSTEM, Decimal, attempting to clean up loose ends after the violent events of first book, stumbles upon information concerning the gruesome murder of a prostitute, and a prominent U.S. senator's involvement. Immediately he finds himself chasing ghosts and fighting for his life, pursued by Blackwater-style private military contractors and the ever-present specter of his own past. Decimal confronts a twilight world of Korean hostess bars, childhood bogeymen, and the face of the military-industrial complex gone haywire—all framed by a city descending toward total chaos.

NATHAN LARSON is best known as an award-winning film music composer, having created the scores for over thirty movies, such as *Boys Don't Cry*, *Dirty Pretty Things*, and *The Messenger*. His highly acclaimed debut novel, *The Dewey Decimal System*, was published in the spring of 2011. In the '90s, he was the lead guitarist for the influential prog-punk outfit Shudder to Think. Larson lives in Harlem, New York City, with his wife and son.

ALSO BY NATHAN LARSON AND AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

The Dewey Decimal System FICTION/MYSTERY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 256 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-010-6

"A nameless investigator dogs New York streets made even meaner by a series of near-future calamities. [Larson's] dystopia is bound to win fans." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"*The Dewey Decimal System* is a winningly tight, concise and high-impact book, a violent, exhilarating odyssey that pitches its protagonist through a gratuitously detailed future New York."
—**New York Press**

"*The Dewey Decimal System* is proof positive that the private detective will remain a serious and seriously enjoyable literary archetype."
—**PopMatters**





(TRADE PAPERBACK EDITION)

OFFICE GIRL

A NOVEL BY **JOE MENO**

Best-selling novelist Joe Meno is back with fantastic new novel about two young people and a visionary, doomed art movement.

Published simultaneously in hardcover and trade paperback.

“Fresh and sharply observed, *Office Girl* is a love story on bicycles, capturing the beauty of individual moments and the magic hidden in everyday objects and people. Joe Meno will make you stop and notice the world. And he will make you wonder.”

—**Hannah Tinti, author of *The Good Thief***

NO ONE DIES IN OFFICE GIRL. Nobody talks about the international political situation. There is no mention of any economic collapse. Nothing takes place during a World War.

INSTEAD, THIS NOVEL IS ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE doing interesting things in the final moments of the last century. Odile is a lovely twenty-three-year-old art-school dropout, a minor vandal, and a hopeless dreamer. Jack is a twenty-five-year-old shirker who’s most happy capturing the endless noises of the city on his out-of-date tape recorder. Together they decide to start their own art movement in defiance of a contemporary culture made dull by both the tedious and the obvious. Set in February 1999—just before the end of one world and the beginning of another—*Office Girl* is the story of two people caught between the uncertainty of their futures and the all-too-brief moments of modern life.

JOE MENO’S LATEST NOVEL also features black-and-white illustrations by renowned artist Cody Hudson and photographs by visionary photographer Todd Baxter.

JOE MENO is a fiction writer and playwright who lives in Chicago. He is a winner of the Nelson Algren Literary Award, a Pushcart Prize, the Great Lakes Book Award, and was a finalist for the Story Prize. He is the author of five novels and two short story collections including *Hairstyles of the Damned*, *The Great Perhaps*, *The Boy Detective Fails*, and *Demons in the Spring*. He is an associate professor in the Fiction Writing Department at Columbia College Chicago.

ALSO BY JOE MENO AND AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

Demons in the Spring SHORT STORIES W/ILLUSTRATIONS THROUGHOUT, TRADE PAPERBACK, 280 PAGES, \$17.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-09-1

*A FINALIST FOR THE STORY PRIZE; A *KIRKUS REVIEWS* BEST BOOK OF 2008 AND *TIME OUT CHICAGO* BEST BOOK OF 2008

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(HARDCOVER EDITION)

JULY 2012

FICTION
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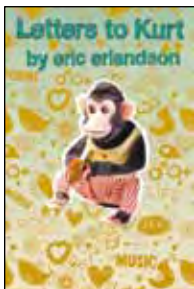
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APRIL 2012

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LETTERS TO KURT

BY **ERIC ERLANDSON**

A poetic elegy for Kurt Cobain from the cofounder of the band Hole.

LETTERS TO KURT IS AN ANGUISHED, angry, and tender meditation on the octane and ether of rock and roll and its many moons: sex, drugs, suicide, fame, and rage. It's part *Dream Songs*, part Bukowski, Ferlinghetti, Ginsberg, and the Clash. Rants, reflections, and gunshot fill these fifty-two prose poems. They are raw, funny, sad, and searching. This will make a beautiful book for anyone who loved Nirvana and Hole and the time and place when their music changed everything. Ultimately, it's an elegy for Kurt and the "suicide idols" who tragically fail to find salvation in their amazing music.

ERIC ERLANDSON was born and raised in San Pedro, California. He is best known as the cofounder, songwriter, and lead guitarist of the alternative rock band Hole, which he formed with Courtney Love. Their albums *Pretty on the Inside*, *Live Through This*, and *Celebrity Skin* achieved international recognition and success. *Live Through This* was named one of the top 100 albums of all time. After the band broke up in 2002, Erlandson has been involved in a number of musical and literary projects. He practices Nichiren Shoshu Buddhism. He currently lives in Los Angeles.

While others are busy denying the past or fearing the future, I try to teach my cats how to clean out their litter box. I take my mother to lunch in Palos Verdes, past blue-green Abalone Cove near the Portuguese Bend where the road and hills and homes slip inch by inch into the sea. Mother Nature's revenge for our gruesome graffiti. I see my father's stick figure sitting in his Sunday spot on a rickety lawn chair amidst the tall grass lining the cliffs. His refuge of ocean breeze and books. Forever books. I sneak off on my skateboard to sacrifice myself to the Catholic schoolgirl I found in the phonebook, but she's not home. So I sacrifice myself to the crawl-daddies in the open sewer near the golf course, but they refuse my affections. So I jump into the waves and swim with dolphins who sacrifice themselves to tuna boat nets so that we can fetishize the flesh upon our plates. I shrink myself into a clamshell, get picked up by a girl who brings me home to her tenacious breadth. I find myself in a sea of glee in the photographers' pit at Reading, pointing my camera at your chin, zooming in on the shell fragments of your sacrifice, the bits the fans pay good money for, a wooden cross strapped round your neck in observance of scoliosis. But on this muddy hill—no father, no messiah, no heaven or faith below, no joyful mystery. No angry mob demanding Serve the Servants or Scentless Apprentice. No sadomasochist Roman ambulance in Felliniesque horror flick. Nothing all that amazing. Only you, your burning light, your infectious rage genuflecting our latchkey lashings right back at us. No saving face. Our straight and narrow path to global oblivion. In the name of love. I pray for those left behind caught in the tide of small minds, hell-bent on death. Those who've already closed their own blowholes and stopped breathing . . .

—excerpt from "Letter 32" in *Letters to Kurt*

A MIND OF WINTER A NOVEL BY SHIRA NAYMAN

A literary psychological thriller set in 1951, reminiscent of *The Great Gatsby*.

“With insight and a dazzling imagination, Shira Nayman transports us into a web of post-World War II lives, from Shanghai, to London, to Long Island. As in her previous works, Nayman’s characters show us the long shadow that war casts on memory, identity, and love.” —**Nancy Sherman, author of *The Untold War***

“A marvelous book that sweeps across decades and around the world to reveal dark secrets locked tight within the human heart.” —**Jed Horne, author of *Desire Street and Breach of Faith***

“Shira Nayman’s sentences have heft and spine and grace, and her vision is clear and generous.”
—**Mary Gordon, author of *Spending***

“The characters in this compelling novel continue to haunt me. Shira Nayman weaves their passions and betrayals in the wake of devastation into a beautiful and heartbreaking story about the impossibility of escaping the residue of war.” —**Julie Burstein, author of *Spark: How Creativity Works***

OSCAR IS A MYSTERIOUS ENGLISHMAN who presides over Ellis Park, a sprawling mansion in East Hampton, Long Island. It is 1951; as the jazz bands play and the ever-present houseguests waft into the ballroom, the war seems much further away than a mere six years. However, Oscar is tormented by his own questionable wartime dealings—and embroiled in a drama involving late-night meetings with an official, with whom he speaks German. He is also haunted by memories of Christine, his great love who, after the war, sailed to Shanghai; he has no idea of the murky, moral depths into which she has fallen.

ONE OF OSCAR’S FREQUENT HOUSEGUESTS, Marilyn, a photographer who spent the war years in England, has moved in to Ellis Park for the summer and is working on a book of her wartime photography. Marilyn reminds Oscar of Christine; he finds refuge late at night sitting beside her in the pristine photographic studio he built in a basement area, deep beneath the sumptuous, brightly lit rooms above. Oscar suspects that Marilyn, married to Simon, has embarked on an affair with the adventurous Barnaby, a swashbuckling character whose far-flung wanderings included a long stint in Shanghai, where Barnaby himself had been involved with Christine.

THE NARRATIVE UNFOLDS through the three different points of view of Oscar, Christine, and Marilyn, in cities on three continents—East Hampton, Shanghai, and London. *A Mind of Winter* is a complex, page-turning, literary psychological thriller, which takes up a rich array of themes: the ways in which we choose our beliefs and build our lives around them; the self-deceptive shadings that undulate within; the moral ambiguities of being an artist; and the ways in which socio-historical circumstances inevitably bite into and shape personal identity and destiny.

SHIRA NAYMAN is a clinical psychologist who works as a strategic brand marketer and has taught psychology, literature, narrative medicine, and creative writing at Columbia University, Rutgers University, and Barnard College. She has published fiction and nonfiction in the *Atlantic Monthly*, the *Georgia Review*, *New England Review*, and elsewhere, and is the author of two works of fiction, *Awake in the Dark* (novella and stories), and *The Listener* (a novel), both published by Scribner. She is the recipient of three grants from the Australia Council for the Arts Literature Board as well as the Cape Branch Award for an Emerging Woman Writer.



MAY 2012

FICTION

TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL

332 PAGES, 5.25 x 8.25

\$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-103-5

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Launched with the summer '04 best seller Brooklyn Noir, Akashic Books continues its award-winning series of original noir anthologies. Each book is comprised of all-new stories, each one set in a distinct neighborhood or location within the geographical area of the book.

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FORTHCOMING:

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KANSAS CITY NOIR edited by STEVE PAUL
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SEOUL NOIR (Korea) edited by BS PUBLISHING CO.

"During the past few years, some of the best collections of short stories have been the Noir anthologies published by Akashic . . . To me, these collections are total gems, a quality read from some of today's best authors."
 —Oline Cogdill, *Sun-Sentinel*

LONG ISLAND NOIR

EDITED BY **KAYLIE JONES**

Stories covering Long Island's extremes, from the comfortably rich to the horribly poor, and all darkness between.

FEATURING BRAND-NEW STORIES BY: Jules Feiffer, Matthew McGevna, Nick Mamatas, Kaylie Jones, Qanta Ahmed, Charles Salzberg, Reed Farrel Coleman, Tim McLoughlin, Sarah Weinman, JZ Holden, Richie Narvaez, Sheila Kohler, Jane Ciabattari, Steven Wishnia, Kenneth Wishnia, Amani Scipio, and Tim Tomlinson.

KAYLIE JONES, JULES FEIFFER, REED FARREL COLEMAN, SHEILA KOHLER, and others reveal how Long Island has always been a playground for the rich and famous—and while it used to be that only a select few could afford it, now everyone wants a piece of the pie. The McMansions pop up like mushrooms, limiting resources and destroying an already taxed environment. It feels a little like Rome in its last days—a kind of collective amnesia and blindness to the outside world has taken over. Everyone knows this, but no one wants to do anything about it, because big money is being spent—and made. And as the rich grow richer, the poor grow poorer and more disenfranchised; and greed only breeds more greed and violence. These stories cover the range of Long Island's extremes, from the comfortably rich, to the horribly poor—people pushed to desperate acts in order to protect what they already have, or to try to take what they don't from those who do.

FROM THE INTRODUCTION BY KAYLIE JONES:

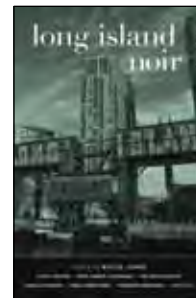
"F. Scott Fitzgerald's mansions of Great Neck and Little Neck are still there, lording imposingly over their lesser neighbors. The American dream of suburban bliss has never died, only grown more desperate, more materialistic, and less romantic as it has shoved its way farther east, until now there is literally nowhere left to go. The Hamptons I knew and loved are gone forever . . . These are stories about people who will never feel they have enough, whether they have everything they ever dreamed of, or nothing at all."

KAYLIE JONES moved to Sagaponack in 1975, where her family continued to live for more than thirty years. She is the author of five novels, including *A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries*, and the memoir *Lies My Mother Never Told Me*. She teaches in the MFA program at Stony Brook Southampton and in the Wilkes University low-residency MFA program in professional writing.

ALSO BY KAYLIE JONES AND AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

Speak Now FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK, 252 PAGES, \$14.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-888451-87-0

A Soldier's Daughter Never Cries FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK, 208 PAGES, \$13.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-888451-46-7



MAY 2012

FICTION / MYSTERY ANTHOLOGY

TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL

288 PAGES, 5.25 x 8.25

\$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-062-5

TRANSLATION RIGHTS: AKASHIC





KINGSTON NOIR

EDITED BY COLIN CHANNER

Following in the Caribbean footsteps of Haiti Noir and Trinidad Noir, now come dark stories from Jamaica's capital city.

FEATURING BRAND-NEW STORIES BY: Marlon James, Kwame Dawes, Patricia Powell, Roger Guenveur Smith, Colin Channer, Marcia Douglas, Leone Ross, Kei Miller, Christopher John Farley, Ian Thomson, Thomas Glave, and others.

KINGSTON IS LIKE JO'BURG, RIO, OR NEW ORLEANS: a place of fascinating beauty and startling poverty. Located on one of the biggest (and grayest) harbors in the world and ringed by low green hills, this city of over a million likes to get its ganja from the farm to the table. It also likes its shagging one of two ways—drive-thru or buffet-style. It was founded by the survivors of a quake that sunk a pirate town. What should you expect? The ghettos of Kingston gave us ska, reggae, hip hop, dancehall, and Rastafarianism. It also gave us that rugged indie movie *The Harder They Come*. With over 500 murders a year for the last twenty years, the city's nickname of "Killsome" is well earned. When he wrote "Concrete Jungle," Marley had this city on his mind.

COLIN CHANNER's books include the novel *Waiting in Vain*, a critic's choice selection of the *Washington Post*, and the novella *The Girl with the Golden Shoes*. His other writings have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. Born in Kingston, Jamaica, he has lived in the U.S. since the early 1980s. He's the editor of the fiction anthology *Iron Balloons*, and coeditor with Kwame Dawes of the poetry anthology *So Much Things to Say*.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

So Much Things to Say COEDITED BY COLIN CHANNER & KWAME DAWES, POETRY ANTHOLOGY, TRADE PBK. ORIG., 224 PAGES, \$16.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-07-7
*INCLUDING POEMS BY: ROBERT PINSKY, DEREK WALCOTT, ELIZABETH ALEXANDER, AMIRI BARAKA, MARTIN ESPADA, TERRANCE HAYES, VALZHYNA MORT, SONIA SANCHEZ, LINTON KWESI JOHNSON, PATRICIA SMITH, NATASHA TRETHERWEY, STACEYANN CHIN, AND MORE.



Iron Balloons EDITED BY COLIN CHANNER, FICTION ANTHOLOGY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 288 PAGES, \$14.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-933354-05-7
*INCLUDING STORIES BY: COLIN CHANNER, MARLON JAMES, ELIZABETH NUNEZ, KWAME DAWES, KAYLIE JONES, GEOFFREY PHILP, RUDOLPH WALLACE, KONRAD KIRLEW, ALWIN BULLY, A-DZIKO SIMBA, AND SHARON LEACH.



"Mr. Channer's story, and the others that he has collected in *Iron Balloons*, is raw and uncensored, unlike much of the Jamaican writing of previous generations . . . Above all [the authors] are influenced by the rhythms, the colloquialism, and the self-confidence of reggae music." —*New York Times*

The Girl with the Golden Shoes A NOVELLA BY COLIN CHANNER, FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK, 184 PAGES, \$14.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-933354-26-2
*WITH AN AFTERWORD BY RUSSELL BANKS



"Colin Channer continues to charm and surprise us. *The Girl with the Golden Shoes* takes us on a very moving and mesmerizing journey." —Edwidge Danticat, author of *The Dew Breaker*

JUNE 2012
FICTION/MYSTERY ANTHOLOGY
TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL
288 PAGES, 5.25 x 8.25
\$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-074-8
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ST. PETERSBURG NOIR

EDITED BY **JULIA GOUMEN** & **NATALIA SMIRNOVA**

Following Akashic's success with Moscow Noir, this new volume explores the dark beating heart of Russia's cultural mecca.

FEATURING BRAND-NEW STORIES BY: Lena Eltang, Sergei Nosov, Alexander Kudriavstev, Andrei Kivinov, Julia Belomlinsky, Natalia Kurchatova, Kseniya Venglinskaya, Evgeniy Kogan, and others.

ST. PETERSBURG BOASTS TO HAVE THE STRONGEST SPIRIT of all Russian cities, and indeed the dark metaphysics of this city captivate tourists and locals alike. When you think of St. Petersburg noir, some of the greatest literary names immediately spring to mind—Alexander Pushkin, Nikolay Gogol, and Fyodor Dostoevsky. Modern-day St. Petersburg lavishly offers the scenery and conditions for true noir stories, and the writers in *St. Petersburg Noir* succeed in concocting their own worlds within this city with stories ranging from mystical to outwardly grotesque.

NATALIA SMIRNOVA was born in 1978 in Moscow. In 2006 she cofounded the Goumen & Smirnova Literary Agency, with Julia Goumen, representing Russian authors worldwide.

JULIA GOUMEN was born in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1977. With a PhD in English, she has been working in publishing since 2001, and since 2006 has run the Goumen & Smirnova Literary Agency with Natalia Smirnova.

ALSO EDITED BY GOUMEN AND SMIRNOVA AND AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

Moscow Noir FICTION/MYSTERY ANTHOLOGY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 304 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-06-0

VENICE NOIR

EDITED BY **MAXIM JAKUBOWSKI**

Venice, Italy, behind the tourist veil, is revealed and dissected.

FEATURING BRAND-NEW STORIES BY: Peter James, Emily St. John Mandel, Barbara Baraldi, Mike Hodges, Mary Hoffman, Maria Tronca, Matteo Righetto, Tony Cartano, Francesco Ferracin, and others.

VENICE IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS CITIES and an obligatory tourist destination. Now, for the first time, we look beyond the teeming canals and the crumbling palazzos to see the darkness at the heart of La Serenissima, the reality behind the postcards, and a city historically associated with both commerce and death comes to life in tales of treachery, crime, and lost souls, inhabited by locals and visitors alike . . . A dizzy waltz of sun and noir between the countless bridges, gondolas, and historical landmarks will mean you will never think of Venice in the same way again.

MAXIM JAKUBOWSKI is a British editor and writer. He reviews crime fiction for the *Guardian*, runs London's Crime Scene Festival, and is an advisor to Italy's annual Courmayeur Noir in Festival. His latest crime novel is *Confessions of a Romantic Pornographer*, and he edits the annual *Best British Mysteries* series.

ALSO EDITED BY MAXIM JAKUBOWSKI AND AVAILABLE FROM AKASHIC BOOKS:

Rome Noir COEDITED WITH CHIARA STANGALINO, FICTION/MYSTERY ANTHOLOGY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 280 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-933354-64-4



AUGUST 2012

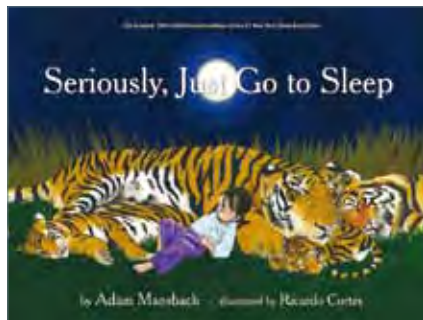
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JUNE 2012

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APRIL 10, 2012

CHILDREN'S BOOK, HARDCOVER

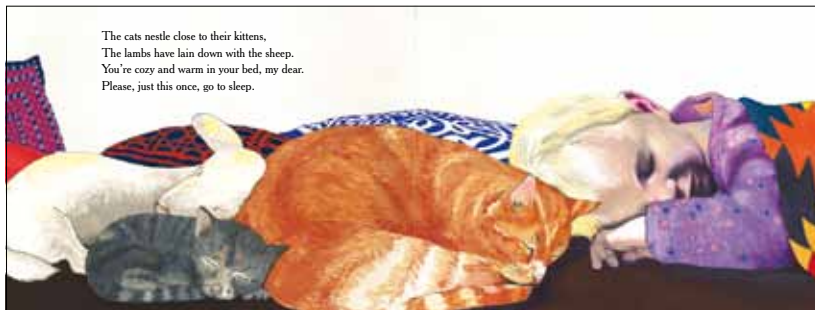
32 PAGES W/FULL-COLOR ILLUSTRATIONS, 11 X 8.25

\$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-078-6

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The cats nestle close to their kittens,
The lambs have lain down with the sheep.
You're cozy and warm in your bed, my dear.
Please, just this once, go to sleep.



sample spread from *Seriously, Just Go to Sleep*

Seriously, Just

by Adam Mansbach • illustrated by Ricardo Cortes

THE CHILDREN'S BOOK INSPIRED BY THE #1 /

WHO WOULD EVER IMAGINE THAT

THE FORTHCOMING CHILDREN'S BOOK

THE ONE DRAWBACK TO ADAM MANSBACH'S international best seller (see next page) is that he was unable to directly share his hilarious verses with the person who inspired the book: his three-year-old daughter, Vivien. Using the original book as a reference point, Mansbach has fashioned an entirely original, thoroughly loving, and equally hysterical children's book, *Seriously, Just Go to Sleep*. Now, Vivien and children everywhere can join in the fun.

AS PARENTS KNOW, YOUNG CHILDREN ARE KEENLY AWARE of the effort it takes to get them to bed. This stand-alone children's book invites kids to relish in their own mischievousness, recognize their own tactics, and, most importantly, allows families to joke with one another about one of the most stressful elements of a parent's life: getting his or her child to sleep. As the playful verses progress, Mansbach's sleepy humor ingeniously invokes the nocturnal neverland sought by parents and children alike. Cradled in the comfort of such loving honesty, how could a child not fall, at last, to sleep?

ADAM MANSBACH'S novels include *The End of the Jews*, winner of the California Book Award, and the best-selling *Angry Black White Boy*, a *San Francisco Chronicle* Best Book of 2005. His fiction and essays have appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, the *Believer*, *Granta*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and many other publications. He was the 2010–2011 New Voices Professor of Fiction at Rutgers University. His daughter, Vivien, is three.

Just Go to Sleep

Illustrations by Ricardo Cortés

NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING CLASSIC

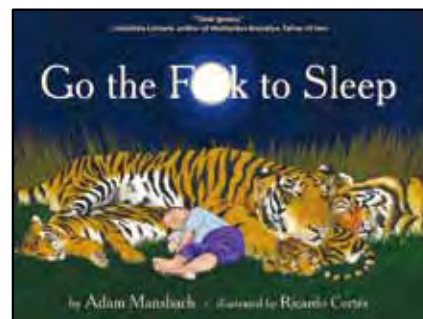
IF BEDTIME COULD BE SO FUN?

THE RUNAWAY PARENTING HIT

*GO THE F*** TO SLEEP* is an after-bedtime book for parents who live in the real world, where a few snoozing kitties and cutesy rhymes don't always send a toddler sailing blissfully off to dreamland. Profane, affectionate, and radically honest, Adam Mansbach's verses perfectly capture the familiar—and unspoken—tribulations of putting your little angel down for the night. In the process, they open up a conversation about parenting, granting us permission to admit our frustrations, and laugh at their absurdity. With illustrations by Ricardo Cortés, *Go the F*** to Sleep* is beautiful, subversive, and pants-wettingly funny.

WITH OVER A HALF A MILLION BOOKS IN PRINT, *Go the F*** to Sleep* has topped the best-seller charts at the *New York Times*, *Amazon*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Publishers Weekly*, and many more. Over four hundred thousand copies have sold through to consumers, and the title has been licensed to 31 international territories. Mansbach has appeared on *The Today Show*, NPR's *All Things Considered*, *The Howard Stern Show*, and many other national and local broadcast outlets.

RICARDO CORTÉS has illustrated books about marijuana, electricity, the Jamaican bobsled team, and Chinese food. His work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *New York* magazine, the *Village Voice*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and on the O'Reilly Factor and CNN. He lives in Brooklyn, NY, where he is working on a book about the history of Coca-Cola and cocaine.



HUMOR/PARENTING, HARDCOVER

32 PAGES, 8.25 X 6.5

\$14.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-025-0

TRANSLATION RIGHTS: AKASHIC

"A parenting zeitgeist . . . A phenomenon that has stunned the publishing world and may just redefine the modern 'parenting' market."

—*Washington Post*

"Incredibly appealing."

—*National Public Radio*

"What makes this latest book seductive is not so much its profanity as its articulation of verboten parental thoughts . . . letting parents off the hook for their self-recrimination and guilt over bedtime seems the most cathartic tonic."

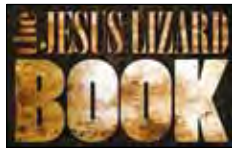
—*New York Times*

"Delightfully obscene." —*Newsweek*

"Nothing has driven home a certain truth about my generation, which is approaching the apex of its childbearing years, quite like this deranged book." —*The New Yorker*



sample spread from *Seriously, Just Go to Sleep*



AUGUST 2012
MUSIC
HARDCOVER, OVERSIZED
160 PAGES, 13 x 8
\$23.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-080-9
TRANSLATION RIGHTS: AKASHIC

THE JESUS LIZARD BOOK

Legendary indie rockers The Jesus Lizard present an idiosyncratic, impassioned document of their rock-and-roll conquests.

THE JESUS LIZARD BOOK is a coffee table affair of exclusive photography, art, and other imagery with written pieces by all four members of the seminal indie rock band The Jesus Lizard. The layout is stylish and elegant, particularly in contrast with the harshness of much of the band's music. Included are many Polaroids by David Wm. Sims, a delicious recipe by David Yow, a concise list of every show The Jesus Lizard played, and writings by the three producers who recorded the band—Steve Albini, Andy Gill, and Garth Richardson. There is biographic material of each member that covers childhood to the demise of the group. Other contributors include: Mike Watt, Alexander Hacke, Steve Gullick, Krist Novoselic, Shelley Leopold, Jeff Lane, KRK, Bernie Bahrmassel, and more.

THE JESUS LIZARD (1988–1999) hailed from Chicago by way of Austin, Texas. They released seven records on the independent record label Touch and Go, and a few more on different major labels. Many have called them the best live band of the 1990s. Unlike most of their contemporaries, The Jesus Lizard managed to create a beast, an entirely autonomous being, an entity that outgrew and is very likely to also outlive its makers. While each and every personality in the group is an integral part of its mentality and thus ultimately irreplaceable, it is the rapport and friction between them which makes the music possible, allows it to blossom and eventually break free.

IT WAS NOT JUST DAVID WM. SIMS'S monolithic bass lines, but the stance he took in order to deliver them. Like a sailor manning a raft through a storm at high sea, he took position at stage right and pounded away at his instrument—stoic, reliable, and unwavering. Mac McNeilly's drumming didn't merrily serve as a time-giver, but as a display of unrestrained energy and a joyously bouncing, good-natured spirit. Duane Denison shaped his guitar work like a taxidermist dissecting a puppy. With cruel precision, he stabbed and sliced and inserted the limbs of chord progressions with bolts and rods and wire . . . Then there was the man who is the embodiment of the band's name, the tormented soul thrown about and struggling to withstand the torrent in the tornado of the music: David Yow spilled his insides while he spent most of the shows in (or on) the audience, being lifted and carried by the masses, groping and ripping at him, greedily looking to get a piece of the action; he was the ingenious saboteur, the anarchistic oddball in this form of modern theater with the other three serving as the perfect "straight men" to his madness.





TWO TIMES INTRO: ON THE ROAD WITH PATTI SMITH

a photo diary by **MICHAEL STIPE**

with words by: William S. Burroughs, Michael Stipe, Oliver Ray, Paul Williams, Jutta Koether, Tom Verlaine, Thurston Moore, Jem Cohen, Lisa Robinson, Lenny Kaye, Kim Gordon, Frances Yauch, and Patti Smith.

PHOTOGRAPHY/MUSIC/POPULAR CULTURE, HARDCOVER, 128 PAGES, \$23.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-023-6

"In Stipe's startling photographs and 12 brief written homages, Patti Smith is depicted as a down-to-earth goddess, a part of and apart from her evolving entourage of musicians, artists, poets (Allen Ginsberg makes an appearance), and friends. This isn't a traditional book of portraits . . . The overwhelming mood is one of disjunction, claustrophobia, exhaustion, temporariness—and the effect is raw and intimate . . . And [Stipe] is no longer the 'dork nerd' teenager, but a fellow musician—and from his proud, caring mien, even a protector."

—**Publishers Weekly**



FROM A BASEMENT IN SEATTLE poster art by **BRAD KLAUSEN**

with introductions by **Eddie Vedder & Jeff Ament** from **Pearl Jam**

ART/MUSIC/POPULAR CULTURE, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 156 PAGES, \$24.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-67-1

"Brad's sensitivity to our planet and the corrupt ways in which it has been desecrated by those who have accepted greed into their hearts is a driving force behind his art and way of thinking . . . For nearly ten years, most every piece of art connected to our group had his stamp on it . . . He is certainly one of my favorite artists."

—**Eddie Vedder, from the Introduction**



100 POSTERS 134 SQUIRELS:

A DECADE OF HOT DOGS, LARGE MAMMALS, AND INDEPENDENT ROCK
the handcrafted art of **JAY RYAN**

ART/POPULAR CULTURE, TRADE PAPERBACK, 120 PAGES, \$22.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-68-8

"Not only a gorgeous catalog of the artist's many memorable posters, but a history of sorts of the Chicago underground rock scene in the last 15 years."

—**Chicago Sun-Times**

"Jay Ryan takes the germ of an idea and makes it uniquely great. His genius is in knowing what matters and what doesn't . . . His genius is in having the image matter." —**Steve Albini**



ANIMALS AND OBJECTS IN AND OUT OF WATER posters by **JAY RYAN**, 2005–2008

ART/POPULAR CULTURE, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 144 PAGES, \$22.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-933354-92-7

"Ryan's painting background is apparent in his approach to layout, composition, and color. Combinations that initially seem bold or chaotic turn out to be controlled, even somewhat subdued, upon closer inspection: rust red fading into robin's-egg blue, seafoam green flowing into burnt sienna, juice orange crashing into taupe. As an art book, it's inspiring . . ."

—**Chicago Reader**





GO FISH: HOW TO WIN CONTEMPT AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE

political cartoons and essays by **MR. FISH**

ART/POLITICAL SCIENCE/POP CULTURE, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 224 PAGES, \$18.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-617750-14-4

“Mr. Fish dissects the journalistic responsibility he faces as a cartoonist to make it make sense. It being his raw emotional output in response to a given stimuli (government, society, et al) manifesting itself via pen on paper without regard to the cleverly pointed punch line that will accompany and ultimately define it . . . The drawings are a celebration of the technical mastery and unbridled emotional truth of Dwayne Booth—the Clark Kent to Superman’s Mr. Fish.”

—*Huffington Post*



PLEASE TAKE ME OFF THE GUEST LIST

photos by **NICK ZINNER** (guitarist of Yeah Yeah Yeahs); text by **ZACHARY LIPEZ**; design by **STACY WAKEFIELD**

PHOTOGRAPHY/POP CULTURE/MUSIC, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 118 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-62-6

“For those who’ve never had the opportunity to party like a rock star and felt like they were missing out, *Please Take Me Off the Guest List* may very well smooth over those regrets. A collaboration between the writer (and singer and Beauty Bar Brooklyn bartender) Zachary Lipez, the photographer (and Yeah Yeah Yeahs guitarist) Nick Zinner, and the designer (and former design director of *Artforum*) Stacy Wakefield, the book chronicles the side effects of a hyperactive night life, including rambling cocaine narratives, a job as a disgruntled clerk at the Strand bookstore and the joys of being sent to fetch a straw from the bodega for your girlfriend’s morning P.B.R.”

—*New York Times*



HELLO SUNSHINE poems by **RYAN ADAMS**

POETRY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 280 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-933354-95-8

“It’s poetry in the manner of late Charles Bukowski—alternately ecstatic, drunken, droll, bewildered, jokey—and will appeal to a similar audience . . . Adams’s many rabid fans will find much to enjoy in this second collection . . .”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“Ryan Adams writes with equal parts precision and recklessness; the blood he draws from the text is easily as unnerving as its unapologetic tenderness. He is proof that poetry will find its writer.”

—*Mary-Louise Parker, actress*



INFINITY BLUES poems by **RYAN ADAMS**

POETRY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 290 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-933354-74-3

“Ryan Adams, one of America’s most consistently interesting singer/songwriters, has written a passionate, arresting, and entertaining book of verse. Fans are going to love it, and newcomers will be pleased and startled by his intensity and originality. The images are vivid and the voice is honest and powerful.”

—*Stephen King, author of Duma Key*

“This is much better than reading a friend’s journal. It’s more like watching somebody you love in the bathtub talking to himself. You’re like, wow, he’s even good at taking a bath. After reading *Infinity Blues* (which I think is a great title), I give Ryan Adams the best compliment I ever got—and the only reason for reading anyone’s poetry. Ryan, I really like your mind.”

—*Eileen Myles, author of Cool for You*



THE PLOT AGAINST HIP HOP a novel by **NELSON GEORGE**

FICTION/MYSTERY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 176 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-024-3

"This hard-boiled tale is jazzed up with authentic street slang and name-dropping (Biggie, Mary J. Blige, Lil Wayne, and Chuck D) . . . George's tightly packaged mystery pivots on a believable conspiracy . . . and his street cred shines in his descriptions of Harlem and Brownsville's mean streets."

—*Library Journal*

"*The Plot Against Hip Hop* is a quick-moving murder mystery that educates its audience on Hip Hop's pioneer generation along the way . . . it is a nostalgic look at a magical and manic moment in time."

—*New York Journal of Books*

**CURSE THE NAMES** a novel by **ROBERT ARELLANO**

FICTION/MYSTERY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 192 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-030-4

"*Curse the Names* reads like a top-notch thriller. Arellano is a master at mining the psychological landscape of his characters—the unique and in some cases downright eccentric subcultures of northern New Mexico: the dope-growing pariah ex-hippies, the brainy scientists of Los Alamos who've bartered their souls for big salaries, and the mercenary, self-medicating professionals who flock around them to feed off their scraps. Alternating between the hilarious and the dreamlike, the novel is imbued the sense of foreboding inherent to Los Alamos's infamous 'gift' to mankind." —**George Mastras, author of *Fidali's Way***

"The nightmare intensity to Arellano's prose gets under your skin. You won't want to turn the lights out after reading it."

—**Charles Ardai, Edgar Award winner**

**HAVANA LUNAR** a novel by **ROBERT ARELLANO**

FICTION/MYSTERY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 200 PAGES, \$14.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-933354-68-2

*A FINALIST FOR THE EDGAR AWARD

"Dr. Mano Rodriguez is caught up in intrigue in this thoughtful, lushly detailed neo-noir . . . Much Spanish dialogue, with prompts in English on more difficult words, deepens the sense of locale." —**Publishers Weekly**

"A noir novel short enough to read on a two-hour airplane ride and sufficiently satisfying to make you feel glad you read it."

—*Albuquerque Journal*

"Written with passion and vision and with a clear, unflinching eye, Robert Arellano's *Havana Lunar* breaks new ground . . . I am certain that *Havana Lunar* will find a wide and enthusiastic readership." —**Pablo Medina, author of *The Cigar Roller***

**BLACK ORCHID BLUES** a novel by **PERSIA WALKER**

FICTION/MYSTERY, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 272 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-90-9

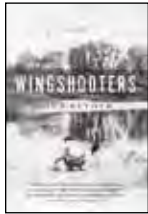
"Walker's exuberant third Harlem Renaissance mystery [is a] dark, sexy novel." —**Publishers Weekly**

"[T]he tale is strengthened by plenty of period detail and a fine feel for both the gay underworld of Harlem in the 1920s and the sociopsychological dynamics of her characters. Best of all, [protagonist] Lanie has the makings of a strong series heroine. Walter Mosley fans, in particular, should look for more from this promising crime writer." —**Booklist**

"The best kind of historical mystery: great history, great mystery, all wrapped up in a voice so authentic you feel it has come out of the past to whisper in your ear."

—**Lee Child, author of *Worth Dying For***





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FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 256 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-71-8

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"A searing, anguished novel . . . the narration and pace are expertly calibrated as it explores a topic one wishes still wasn't so current."
—**Los Angeles Times**

"Revoyr does a remarkable job of conveying [protagonist] Michelle's lost innocence and fear through this accomplished story of family and the dangers of complacency in the face of questionable justice."
—**Publishers Weekly, starred review**

"Revoyr writes rhapsodically of a young girl's enthrallment to the natural world and charts, with rising intensity, her resilient narrator's painful awakening to human failings and senseless violence. In this shattering northern variation on *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Revoyr drives to the very heart of tragic ignorance, unreason, and savagery."
—**Booklist, starred review**



MAKEDA a novel by **RANDALL ROBINSON**

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*AN ESSENCE MAGAZINE BOOK CLUB RECOMMENDED READ

"Hypnotic . . . one of the finest novels this year . . . [Robinson] is a gifted storyteller."
—**Essence**

"*Makeda* is beyond ambitious and imaginative . . . well written and powerful, with an ending that is equal parts tragic and romantic in nature . . . a breathtaking revelation, weighted with romance and lovely passionate prose."
—**New York Journal of Books**

"Robinson is not only exploring what it means to be black. His theme of knowing the past before planning the future applies to all cultures, all people. Pick up this odyssey of family drama, history and love, and be prepared to consider your own beginnings."
—**Shelf Awareness**



THE SEXY PART OF THE BIBLE a novel by **KOLA BOOF**

FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 276 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-96-1

"The most jubilant celebration of black African beauty so far seen in the English language."
—**Madison Smartt Bell, Boston Globe**

"Boof has written a novel with the histrionics of daytime drama, boldly sensuous and savvy about the dangers of post-colonial politics."
—**Time Out Chicago**

"*The Sexy Part of the Bible* is an erotically astute novel filled with mystery and adventure. . . Kola Boof asserts her own literary prowess with a chilling sociopolitical love story."
—**Philadelphia Tribune**

"Boof's sociopolitical analysis is sharp, and combined with her unflinchingly observant and richly rendered prose, it's keeping us enthralled." —**SF Weekly**

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FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 340 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-61775-036-6

"Eliza Factor has wrought a strange, tough book that digs deep into the mind. At turns poetic and eerie, startling and transcendent, it charts the twisting regions of the heart. I haven't read a book quite like it before—its historical portrait of an alternative world in the Mexican borderlands is hypnotic."

—**Luis Alberto Urrea, author of *Into the Beautiful North***

"Eliza Factor has written a remarkable page-turning saga about a town at the turn of the twentieth century, founded on one man's ambition to turn this magical, slippery, toxic substance into not just gold but something better—the foundation of a utopian society . . . Captivating and exquisitely written, this debut novel heralds the exhilarating arrival of an author to keep watching."

—**Malena Watrous, author of *If You Follow Me***

**THE BROTHERS' LOT** a debut novel by **KEVIN HOLOHAN**

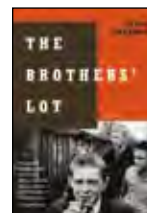
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"The mix of dire experiences that goes into the education dished out at the Brothers of Godly Coercion School for Young Boys of Meager Means adds up to a mordantly funny debut from Dublin native Holohan."

—**Publishers Weekly**

"Taking dead aim at the hypocrisy of the Catholic Church and the atmosphere of repression that allowed abuse to flourish, this first novel uses satire to stinging effect . . . Terribly bleak and terribly funny, this skillful debut pays tribute to the irrepressible spirit of all the rebellious young boys who would not give in to authoritarian rule."

—**Booklist**

**FIGHTING IN THE SHADE** a novel by **STERLING WATSON**

FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 330 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-98-5

"High school football mixes with Faust in this blitz of a novel from Watson . . . the novel avoids slipping into morality tale excess as it spins out a big Dennis Lehane–like story of society, opportunity, and consequences, revealing Watson as an accomplished storyteller."

—**Publishers Weekly, starred review**

"*Fighting in the Shade* is less a sports novel than a coming-of-age story wound around a mystery, with football as symbol and symptom."

—**St. Petersburg Times**

"Honor, loyalty, even life and death form the core of this wrenching story."

—**Kirkus Reviews, starred review**

**JESUS BOY** a novel by **PRESTON L. ALLEN**

FICTION, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 368 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN-13: 978-1-936070-04-6

"[A] clever and wide-ranging book . . . Allen's writing by turns is solemn and funny . . . It would be easy for *Jesus Boy* to become fluffy satire but Allen keeps his characters real." —**New York Times Book Review**

"A tender masterpiece." —**Dennis Lehane, author of *Mystic River* and *The Given Day***

"Allen has created a consummate tragicomedy of African American family secrets and sorrows, and of faith under duress and wide open to interpretation. Perfect timing and crackling dialogue, as well as heartrending pain balanced by uproarious predicaments, make for a shout-hallelujah tale of transgression and grace, a gospel of lusty and everlasting love."

—**Booklist**



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