

Mohrbooks London 2025: SELECTED FICTION

Mohrbooks Literary Agency

RACING HEARTS

Ann Adams

Categories: Sports Romance

Client: Ballantine Books

Published by: Dell

Publication date: 2026-04-07

Current material: Manuscript

Original language: English

Contact: Maren Wiederhold / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

An irresistible, fun, enemies-to-lovers sporty rom-com from debut author Ann Adams.

Katherine Parker doesn't just dream of rowing in the Olympics. She has a carefully crafted plan. With a strict training schedule, a meticulous diet, and absolutely no room for distractions, she's as good as gold. Then her boyfriend breaks up with her at the starting line of a big race and Kath comes in dead last. She's swiftly kicked off the team and out of the Olympic Training Center - the only place she's ever felt at home.

With one shot to win back her spot, Kath returns to her hometown to train alongside a gaggle of high school rowers. The upside? Coach Adrian is hot. The downside? Instead of letting Kath follow her own training regimen, Adrian pushes her outside her comfort zone, urging her to try new things and let go of what's not working for her.

With her Olympic dreams on the line, Kath will have to choose: stick to her perfect plan, or find out if the key to winning, and happiness, is to embrace the part of rowing that makes it fun, one sweaty, sexy training session at a time.

Ann Adams is a former US rowing national team member and Olympic Training Center resident who now lives in Sacramento, California.



HERCULINE

Grace Byron

Categories:	Horror & supernatural fiction
Client:	Saga Press
Published by:	Simon & Schuster
Publication date:	2025-10-01
Current material:	1st Pass Pages
Original language:	English
Contact:	Sebastian Ritscher / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

I no longer believe in salvation. But for years I tried to escape the magnetic pull of the demonic. I repented for as long as I could then moved to New York. Unfortunately, I did not arrive in the city alone.

Herculine's narrator has demons. Sure, her life includes several hallmarks of the typical trans girl sob story-conversion therapy, a string of shitty low-paying jobs, and even shittier exes. But, she also regularly debates sleep paralysis demons that turn to mist soon after she wakes and carries vials of holy oil in her purse. Nothing, though, prepares her for the new malevolent force stalking her through the streets of New York City, more powerful than any she's ever encountered. Desperate to escape this ancient evil, she flees to rural Indiana, where her ex-girlfriend started an all-trans girl commune in the middle of the woods.

The secluded camp, named after 19th-century intersex memoirist Herculine Barbin, is a scrappy operation, but the shared sense of community among the girls is a welcome balm to the narrator's growing isolation and paranoia. Still, something isn't quite right at Herculine. Girls stop talking as soon as she enters the room, everyone seems to share a common secret, and the books lining the walls of the library harbor strange cryptograms. Soon what once looked like an escape becomes a trap all its own.

While trying to untangle the commune's many mysteries, the narrator contends with disemboweled pigs, cultlike psychosexual rituals, and the horrors of communal breakfast. And before long, she discovers that her demons have followed her. And this time, they won't be letting her go.

Grace Byron is a writer from the Midwest based in Queens. Her writing has appeared in many outlets. She is a 2024 Queer Art Fellow and her story "Validity" has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

"Byron's debut is a haunting portrait of disaffected, dysfunctional adulthood and the human devastation left behind by fundamentalist Christian upbringing." (Gretchen Felker-Martin, author of Manhunt and Cuckoo)



THE LOST RELIQUARY

Lyndsay Ely

Categories:	Fantasy
Client:	Saga Press
Published by:	Saga
Publication date:	2025-10-01
Current material:	MS: Complete Edited
Original language:	English
Contact:	Sebastian Ritscher / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

A divinely-blessed warrior, bound to the last living goddess, plots deicide to win her freedom in this propulsive epic fantasy for fans of Godkiller and Gideon the Nith.

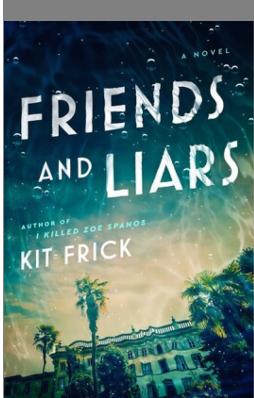
The Devoted Lands was once home to many gods: Salt, Stone, Storm, Green, Shadow. Now, after centuries of devastating wars, only Tempestra-Innara, the Eternal Flame, remains.

Conscripted as a child, Lys, potentiate of the Dawn Cloister, is outwardly a loyal servant to her goddess. If she harbors impossible dreams of deicide, that's her business. But when a routine heretical execution erupts into a near-fatal assassination attempt on Tempestra-Innara, Lys sees a glimmer of hope for her freedom.

Lys is chosen to hunt down the heretics and find an ancient reliquary that holds the power to kill a god. Annoyingly, she's not alone. Paired with Nolan, a potentiate from a rival cloister who is as pious as he is determined, Lys must feign devotion if she hopes to keep her own heretical thoughts hidden and god-killing ambitions within reach.

As they pursue a dangerous network of heretics linked to the assassination, Lys uncovers a world brimming with more possibility - and peril - than she ever anticipated.

Lyndsay Ely is an author of science fiction and fantasy across YA and adult categories. Her debut, *Gunslinger Girl*, was a YA genre-bent dystopian Western. She has also published an *Overwatch* tie-in novel, *Deadlock Rebels*, is a contributor to *Overwatch 2* and is currently working on an upcoming interactive adventure novel for *Five Nights at Freddy's*.



FRIENDS AND LIARS

Kit Frick

Categories:	Thriller / suspense fiction
Client:	Atria Books
Published by:	Atria/ Emily Bestler Books
Publication date:	2025-12-02
Current material:	MS: Complete Edited, 272 pages
Original language:	English
Contact:	Annelie Geissler / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

From "edge-of-your-seat suspense" (Booklist) author Kit Frick comes an insidious thriller about four estranged friends trapped in a powerful family's deadly games at a luxe estate in the Italian countryside.

It's been five years since heiress Clare Monroe tragically died on New Year's Eve at her family's opulent Italian palazzo. Since that time, her college friends have harbored a dark secret: their lies and betrayals led to Clare's untimely death.

What happened that fateful night was a horrible accident, but Luca, Harper, Sirina, and David are guilty, nonetheless. And their desperate decision to conceal the truth destroyed their once-close bond. Now, the estranged friends are each the recipient of an invitation from the Monroes to return to the lakeside palazzo for a long-overdue memorial for Clare. Accepting the Monroes' invitation means playing with fire, but they can hardly refuse.

Luca, Harper, Sirina, and David have barely settled into their idyllic accommodations on Lake Como before someone at the memorial party begins targeting them. Haunted by little "gifts" left in their rooms, taunting notes, and the unshakable sense of being watched, it soon becomes clear that someone on the guest list knows the whole truth about the night Clare died and the secrets her friends have been keeping. Nothing is as it seems at the palazzo on the lake, and under their tormentor's vengeful gaze, their secrets and their lives are in danger.

Kit Frick is a MacDowell Fellow and International Thriller Writers Award finalist from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She studied creative writing at Sarah Lawrence College and received her MFA from Syracuse University. She is the author of the adult suspense novels *The Split* and *Friends and Liars*, the young adult thrillers *Before We Were Sorry* (originally published as *See All the Stars*), *All Eyes on Us*, *I Killed Zoe Spanos*, *Very Bad People*, and *The Reunion*, and the poetry collection *A Small Rising Up in the Lungs*. Kit loves a good mystery but has only ever killed her characters. Honest.

MRS. LILIENBLUM'S CLOUD FACTORY

Iddo Gefen

Categories:	Fiction & Related items
Client:	Harris (Deborah) Agency
Published by:	Astra House
Publication date:	2025-03-06
Current material:	MS: Status Unclear
Original language:	English
Contact:	Sebastian Ritscher / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

A tragicomic novel about the pursuits and upheavals in an Israeli high-tech family.

Three days after Sarai Lilienblum, a high school robotics teacher, mysteriously disappears, her son Ilai receives a message: your mother was found, sunbathing in the middle of the desert, wearing a burgundy robe, with a martini in her hand. No one knows where she's been, and she refuses to say.

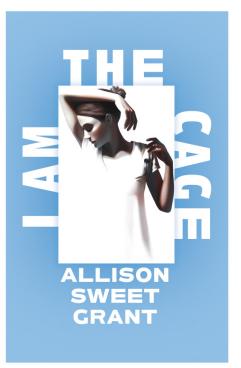
The confusion increases when a video from the three days of her absence pops up online. Sarai is in the desert testing an invention of hers, a device that turns sand into clouds at the touch of a button. The viral video leads to an offer from one of the world's most successful tech entrepreneurs -- \$20 million if the cloud machine can make it rain.

From the remote town where she lives, Sarai finds a startup company that generates international interest after her video is seen around the world. If she succeeds, she will solve the global water crisis. If she fails, she'll have drained her family's bank accounts. Ilai is dragged into the venture together with his older sister, all the while trying to find out what really happened those three days his mother disappeared.

Mrs. Lilienblum's Cloud Factory is a funny, human and contemporary novel about the tech world and those who remain outside its gates, the polarization between rural and urban communities, the climate crisis and the "Startup Nation." It's a story about a woman who dares to challenge the social conventions that have stifled her dreams, and a son who does everything to keep his family from falling apart.

IDDO GEFEN is a cognitive psychology Ph.D. student at Columbia University. His short story collection, "Jerusalem Beach" received the Israeli Minister of Culture's 2017 Award, and film rights to several stories were optioned to leading Hollywood companies, including actor Ryan Gosling.

Foreign sales: US: Astra House ; China: Thinkingdom Media ; Netherlands: Signatuur ; Polish: Znak



I AM THE CAGE

Allison Sweet Grant

Categories: Fiction, YA/ Crossover

Client: InkWell

Published by: Dutton Children's Books

Publication date: 2025-02-18

Current material: Final Pages, 304 pages

Original language: English

Contact: Annelie Geissler / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

A coming-of-age story about a young woman running away from herself yet grasping to find a way back that's deeply moving, authentically raw, and humming with the possibility of a new love.

Fish Creek, Wisconsin. Beautiful. Quiet. Isolated. Anonymous. It's all that nineteen-year-old Elisabeth needs, and everything she wants. Cloistered in her tiny cabin, she's determined to be alone, hiding from her memories and making sure that no one can ever hurt her again.

But when a massive snowstorm strikes, plunging the town into darkness, Elisabeth finally allows herself to accept help from her neighbor, Noah, the town's young sheriff. Forced to show him more vulnerability than she ever intended, she realizes she can no longer outrun the scars of her childhood, and facing the darkness might be exactly what she needs to let the light in.

In a searing, own-voices story accented by poignant childhood flashbacks and stunning poetry, Allison Sweet Grant's young adult debut is a powerful portrait of a young woman's journey to confront the medical trauma inflicted on her to "fix" her and heal her heart in the process.

Allison Sweet Grant has been published in the New York Times and the Atlantic. She holds dual master's degrees from the University of Michigan. She lives in Philadelphia with her husband, #1 New York Times bestselling author Adam Grant and their children.

News & Comments

Heartfelt, human and true - a novel that feels real from the first word to the last. I loved it.

quote Markus Zusak

A brilliant book about what we survive - and how. Visceral, wrenching, and beautiful, Grant's triumphant novel will stick with you.

quote John Green

An honest and almost unrelentingly bleak look at an underdiscussed source of trauma.

quote Kirkus

A tender, heartfelt story about the wounds childhood trauma can leave on its survivors. The sense of powerlessness and redemption will stay with you.

quote Jojo Moyes, #1 bestselling author

Allison Sweet Grant is a natural storyteller with the keen eye and ear of a poet. Deftly toggling between past and present, childhood trauma and its painful aftershocks, *I Am the Cage* is a story of love, resilience, and healing. What a beautiful, moving, and insightful debut.

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

Nineteen-year-old Elisabeth Amos, who is still navigating complications following a major surgery for fibular short congenital femur and fibular hemimelia at age 11, decides to forgo college.

review Publishers Weekly

As she tumbles into adulthood in a remote Wisconsin town, 19-year-old Elisabeth can't quite move past a childhood medical trauma.

review Booklist - starred review

MOTHERS AND OTHER STRANGERS

Corey Anne Haydu

Categories:	Fiction & Related items
Client:	Little, Brown and Company
Published by:	Little Brown
Current material:	MS: Complete Unedited
Original language:	English
Contact:	Sebastian Ritscher / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

Two expectant mothers, best friends since childhood, reunite after a their mothers (also best friends) had mysteriously kept them apart for years.

When Sydney and Mae meet on the playground as toddlers, it seems like kismet. Even their very different mothers -- the type-A Beth Anne and the free-spirited Joni -- agree the girls are made for each other, and it's not long until both families are staples in one another's lives.

Decades later, the loneliness of her sudden falling out with Mae still lingers for the newly pregnant Sydney. Adrift after the inexplicable absence of her closest friend, Sydney has been drawn into a Multi-Level Marketing scheme, exacerbated by her inflexible mother, Beth Ann, whose constant scrutiny seems reserved for her daughter.

Across the city, Mae is stunned to find herself single, pregnant, and still haunted by the loss of her mercurial late mother, Joni, whose mysterious death holds as many unanswered questions as Mae herself.

When they find themselves back in one another's lives with baby girls on the horizon, it once again seems like destiny, as Mae and Sydney begin to pull one another away from the coercive influence of others -- mommy groups and marketing schemes and ex-boyfriends.

But they'll soon discover it is not destiny, but decision, that once again draws Sydney and Mae together, this time towards a devastating secret at the center of their orbits; a truth that will either bind them or shatter them, for good.

A searing novel about mothers and daughters, destiny and desire, and breaking cycles, MOTHERS AND OTHER STRANGERS is a perfect book club novel that holds a mirror up to readers, with results that are at once enlightening and entertaining.

Corey Ann Haydu is the author of several titles for children and young adults, and a professor of Vermont College of Fine Arts' creative writing for children program. Her books have been Edgar Award nominees, Amazon Books of the Month, Junior Library Guild Selections, Kirkus, PW, and SLJ Best Books of the Year, and more. MOTHERS AND OTHER STRANGERS is her

adult debut. Corey lives in Brooklyn with her husband and two daughters and is currently at work on her next adult novel.

News & Comments

"Corey Ann Haydu is one of the wisest, most soulful, and heartfelt writers we have today."

quote Taylor Jenkins Reid

LIKE RABBITS



Nayani Jensen

Categories:	Historical fiction
Client:	Bukowski
Published by:	Scribner/ Simon & Schuster Canada
Publication date:	2027-TBC
Current material:	Proposal/ Sample Chapters, 78 pages
Original language:	English
Contact:	Annelie Geissler / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

This collection of interconnected stories imagines the inner lives of people poised at the intersection of history and science.

A new father in the Golden Age of Dutch Science searches for the source of life; two aviators at the cusp of their careers grapple with adulthood and a disastrous crash; a young woman prepares to write the Olympics of mathematics exams in nineteenth-century Cambridge; a manuscript changes hands from 9th-century Baghdad across continents, altering meanings as it goes.

Based on historical figures and archival research, in each story the deeply personal and the scientific layer produce unexpected new meanings. The title story Like Rabbits will appeal to fans of scientific biography (Oppenheimer, The Theory of Everything), or to readers of Benjamin Labatut and Andrea Barrett.

Nayani Jensen is a writer and historian of science from Halifax, Nova Scotia (Kjipuktuk). After studying Mechanical Engineering and working on climate research projects, she received a Rhodes Scholarship and went on to study English Literature and History of Science at the University of Oxford. In both her academic and creative work, she is interested in merging arts and sciences in interdisciplinary approaches to history, science and fiction. Her fiction and poetry have appeared in publications including *Nature*, *Augur Magazine* and *The New Quarterly*. She received the 2024 RBC Brownwen Wallace award for Emerging Writers from the Writers' Trust of Canada. She is currently completing a PhD in the History of Science at the University of Toronto and working on a collection of historical-science short fiction.

News & Comments

Like Rabbits' is historical fiction at its most intimate and convincing. This story beautifully harks back to the Golden Age of Dutch science, a time when men played gods. As one such man attempts to conceive with his wife, he seeks credit for his ground-breaking discoveries at great personal cost only to face tragedy and his own mortality. With elegance, authority, and vitality, Nayani Jensen gives us a timeless story of ambition and a tender portrait of a marriage.

quote Jury citation of the 2024 Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers

Winner of the 2024 Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers from the Writers' Trust of Canada

quote Bukowski Agency

BOOKS & BEWITCHMENT

Isla Jewell

Categories:	Paranormal RomCom
Client:	Ballantine Books
Published by:	Del Rey
Publication date:	2025-10-28
Current material:	Manuscript
Original language:	English
Contact:	Maren Wiederhold / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

Gilmore Girls meets Practical Magic in this cozy, feel-good romcom with laugh-out-loud humor.

Rhea Wolfe lives a simple life in small-town Alabama. She works for an insurance agency and has an on-again-off-again relationship with the local tow-truck driver. Things are stable, which is more than she can say about the childhood stories she grew up hearing from her mom.

But when Rhea's estranged grandmother dies, leaving everything to her, she finds herself in Arcadia Falls, the quaint mountain town her mother made her swear never to set foot in. While the defunct bookstore she's also inherited needs a serious upgrade, Rhea's lucky that good-looking resident handyman Hunter Blakely is more than happy to help. It's just too bad he's the grandson of her grandmother's sworn rival - in witchcraft.

When strange occurrences around town begin to make her think someone's trying to drive her out, each clue she uncovers points to Arcadia Falls' magic hanging in the balance. To keep her new home safe, Rhea must step into her enchanted birthright and harness her newfound powers before it's too late.

BOOKS & BEWITCHMENT is the first book in the Arcadia Falls series. The second book, COFFEE & CONJOURING, is expected to publish in 2026.

Isla Jewell is the author of the Arcadia Falls series. She published various bestsellers under the name Delilah S. Dawson. With Kevin Hearne, she co-writes the TALES OF PELL.

A GIFT BEFORE DYING

Malcolm Kempt

Categories:	Crime & mystery fiction
Client:	Crown
Published by:	Crown
Publication date:	2026-01-20
Current material:	Unedited Manuscript
Original language:	English
Contact:	Maren Wiederhold / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

Set against the unforgiving landscape of the Arctic Circle, a disgraced police investigator discovers that his path to redemption is paved with ice - and blood.

After a botched high-profile murder investigation as a cop in Alberta, Corporal Eldrick Cole is exiled to the remote, rugged landscape of Nunavut, Canada, a vast and stark territory in the Arctic Circle known for its untamed beauty, frigid temperatures, and perpetual darkness. Amid these harsh elements, the indomitable spirit of the Inuit people prevails.

Cole's bleak existence takes a darker turn when he discovers the hanging body of Pitseolala, a wry, troubled sixteen-year-old Inuit girl who had spent countless nights passed out in the detachment cells under his watch. Her battle with addiction dredges up demons he thought he'd buried - along with the scars of a fractured marriage and the aching divide between him and his estranged daughter, whom he abandoned long before he was ousted from Northern Alberta.

As Cole's life unravels, so does the fragile thread of his lone, faltering inquiry - until he turns to Pitseolala's younger brother, Maliktu, a fellow outsider. Cole uncovers what else binds them: the eerie, relentless visitation of Pitseolala's ghost, haunting them both with a singular mission - to lead them to her killer and, therefore, expose the looming threat to other young women in their sacred hamlet.

Malcolm Kempt worked as a criminal lawyer in the remote Arctic for seventeen years before leaving to write full-time. He won the Percy Janes Award for Best Unpublished Manuscript. He lives on the island of Newfoundland. *A GIFT BEFORE DYING* is his debut novel.

News & Comments

A Gift Before Dying announces Malcolm Kempt as the new guy in town. A gripping thriller - both serious and propulsive, Kempt's debut is delivered with insight and authority, pacing and style - and is sure to win him fans on both sides of the border.

quote Ivy Pochoda

Hypnotically good - instantly immersive, intense, and ultimately inspiring.

quote Lee Child

It's a testament to Malcolm Kempt's talent that I didn't want his ghostly crime novel to end. A Gift Before Dying is sure to be considered one of the finest debuts of the year.

quote Donald Ray Pollock

Rich in atmosphere and relentlessly suspenseful, A Gift Before Dying is a don't-miss-it debut. Kempt conjures his frigid, dark world with graceful prose and haunting imagery that recalls the best of Jo Nesbo and Henning Mankell. If you enjoyed True Detective: Night Country, you'll be overjoyed by this story. I can't wait to see what Kempt does next.

quote Michael Koryta



THE GREAT MANN

Kyra Davis Lurie

Categories:	Literary fiction
Client:	Crown
Published by:	Crown
Publication date:	2025-06-10
Current material:	Unedited manuscript
Original language:	English
Contact:	Maren Wiederhold / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

In this diverse retelling of THE GREAT GATSBY, set among the Black elite of postwar L.A., a young veteran is drawn into a world of tantalizing possibilities - and explosive tensions.

In 1945, Charlie Trammell steps into the vibrant tapestry of Los Angeles, lured by his cousin Marguerite's invitation to the esteemed West Adams Heights, L.A.'s newly rechristened "Sugar Hill." Among the opulence of Black success intertwined with old-money white privilege, Charlie finds himself captivated by the allure of his new surroundings.

He discovers a world brimming with opportunity, from promising career prospects at a Black-owned insurance firm to the promise of romance. But none of the young, Black elites dazzle quite like James "Reaper" Mann. Reaper's extravagant parties, attended by luminaries like Lena Horne and Hattie McDaniel, draw him deeper into a milieu of wealth and excess.

Meanwhile, tension in the neighborhood simmers, as white neighbors, frustrated by their own dwindling fortunes, ignite a landmark court case that exposes racial covenants, threatening the community's well-being. As Charlie navigates a landscape rife with ambition, betrayal, and societal turmoil, he soon finds himself beside Reaper, facing a pivotal decision that could end in tragedy.

Kyra Davis Lurie is a New York Times bestselling author and screenwriter. Her novels have been published in numerous languages, including French, Spanish, Portuguese/Brazil. Kyra was born and raised in California and currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband.

News & Comments

Kyra Davis Lurie sprinkles Hollywood fairy dust over a classic tale of careless people and boats beating against the tide. Shining a spotlight on an aspect of African American history few know, much less believe, ever existed.
quote Alina Adams, New York Times bestselling author of *The Nesting Dolls* and *Go On Pretending*

Davis Lurie's *The Great Mann* takes *The Great Gatsby* and re-envisioned it with a shiny new twist. Two thumbs up aren't enough. Brava!
quote Tracy Clark, award-winning author of the *Cass Raines* and *Detective Harriet Foster* series

A fresh, exhilarating take on *The Great Gatsby*, *The Great Mann* is a pitch-perfect reinvention of a story you thought you already knew. Davie Lurie expertly dissects class, wealth, race, fame, and more, and in doing so, creates a classic of her own.

quote Allison Winn Scotch, New York Times bestselling author of *The Rewind*

In a fascinating reimagining of Fitzgerald's most influential work, Davis Lurie reintroduces a little-known era of Hollywood's past via colorful and captivating characters, real and imagined. *The Great Mann* is an entertaining and poignant story of love, rivalry, friendship, ambition, and a nuanced exploration of the pursuit of the American dream decades before the civil rights era took hold.

quote Jake Tapper, New York Times bestselling author of *The Hellfire Club* and *The Devil May Dance*, award-winning journalist

In this rich, bittersweet novel, Kyra Davis Lurie lights up the Golden Age of Hollywood in full, glorious color. *The Great Mann* will steal your heart.

quote Barbara Bourland, author of *Fake Like Me*

Davis Lurie has pulled off a masterpiece in this profound and deeply human retelling of a time and place in 1940s Los Angeles where the Black elite explored life, love, art, and identity. *The Great Mann* is an instant classic, a book that opens our eyes to a glittering and significant part of American history.

quote Julia Heaberlin, internationally bestselling author of *Night Will Find You*

I could not put this book down. Kyra Davis Lurie takes readers on a journey that blends historical facts and fiction so well that you'll have difficulty deciding what's real. This is an unforgettable read that will challenge, move, and enlighten you.

quote Angela Henry, author of *The Perfect Affair*

The Great Mann is the perfect companion to *The Great Gatsby*, wrapping real-life American history in a story that's as much hopeful as it is heartbreakingit's a must-read.

quote Kellye Garrett, author of *Missing White Woman*

The Great Mann is wildly original and energetic, crammed with characters who stand out fully formed and memorable on their own. And at the same entralling time, it exposes us to an overlooked piece of American history. It's the rare novel that entertains while also enlightening as well as challenging our perceptions of our own past.

quote Howard Blum, New York Times bestselling author of *When the Night Comes Falling*, *Dark Invasion*, and *The Last Goodnight*

The Great Mann is a power-filled reimaging of Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. This is a poignant novel of love, mystery, and a microcosm of the changes starting to take hold in mid-century America.

quote Deborah Johnson, author of *The Secret of Magic*



SLIPSTREAM

Madge Maril

Categories:	Contemporary Romance
Client:	Dystel
Published by:	Simon & Schuster
Publication date:	2025-05-20
Current material:	MS: Complete Edited, 352 pages
Original language:	English
Contact:	Annelie Geissler / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

In the high-speed world of Formula 1, documentarian Lilah teams up with racing driver Arthur Bianco for a whirlwind of revenge - and perhaps something more.

Lilah Graywood never imagined she'd be spending her summer amidst the roaring engines and adrenaline-fueled world of Formula 1 racing. As a serious documentarian, her passion lies in capturing the raw, unfiltered truth. But when her best friend, business co-owner, and secret boyfriend Max decides to pivot their documentary company to film the Ignition Energy Drink Racing team, Lilah is thrust into a world she despises. Her disdain turns to fury when Max blindsides her, not only ending their relationship but also threatening the company she painstakingly built.

Enter Arthur Bianco, the charismatic and enigmatic F1 reserve driver whose career is as tumultuous as the races he dreams of winning. Initially, Lilah is supposed to document Arthur's relegation to backup driver, but together they concoct a plan to take control of Max's documentary, each with their own motives – Lilah's revenge and Arthur's redemption. Their secret alliance promises to change the narrative, both on and off the track.

As they navigate the glamorous circuits and behind-the-scenes secrets of Formula 1, an unexpected speedbump forces Lilah and Arthur's partnership to evolve into a fake relationship that feels all too real. The chemistry between them is off-limits and undeniable, and as Arthur's cinematic comeback plays out over the hot globe-trotting summer, Lilah finds herself drawn to his true charm and hidden vulnerability. But as the cameras roll and the world watches, Lilah must confront her own feelings and the reality that no script can dictate the course of true love.

With its blend of humor, heart, and high-speed drama, this contemporary romance is a must-read for anyone who believes in the power of second chances and the thrill of the chase.

Madge Maril is a writer, editor, and Byronic hero enthusiast whose work has been published by Harper's Bazaar, Cosmopolitan, and more. Previously a beauty and fashion journalist, Madge fell back in love with fiction through fandom and

has been writing stories about big feelings ever since. She lives in Ohio with her husband and cat.

THIS SIDE OF GONE



Saundra Mitchell

Categories:	Crime & mystery fiction
Client:	Dystel
Published by:	William Morrow
Publication date:	2026-01
Current material:	MS: Complete Unedited, 346 pages
Original language:	English
Contact:	Annelie Geissler / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

A police procedural for people who don't trust the police, this captivating adult debut novel follows ex-cop Vinnie as she becomes increasingly involved in a case that she has no right to be investigating.

Vanetta (Vinnie) Taylor isn't a cop anymore. After 25 years in service, she retired from her job in spectacular fashion – working undercover for Internal Affairs to bust a sex trafficking ring in her own Homicide Unit. Nearly beaten to death by her former colleagues to prevent her testimony from crossing the thin blue line, Vinnie is now living a small-town life, far from the police who tried to kill her. Vinnie is determined to put her past behind her, but the story of a teenager missing in her new hometown catches her attention.

Avery Adair's family is notorious in Wills Harbor, Maryland. If there's a burglary, a scam, or a drug deal in this town, it's safe to assume an Adair was involved. Which is why no one was particularly concerned when Avery went missing. But Vinnie feels a kinship to this teen she's never met. Vinnie also grew up poor, surrounded by hard circumstances and harder people.

Celebrated children's novelist Saundra Mitchell has created in Vinnie a vivid, multidimensional character that readers will want to root for. While fearing for her own safety, Vinnie is attempting to stay as far away from any police officer as humanly possible. Will she succeed? This novel is perfect for fans of Tana French and Rachel Howzell Hall.

Saundra Mitchell (she/they) has been a phone psychic, a car salesperson, a denture-deliverer and a layout waxer. She's dodged trains, endured basic training, and hitchhiked from Montana to California. She now lives in Maryland with her wife, daughter and two terrible, perfect cats. **THIS SIDE OF GONE** is her first novel for adults.

EVERYTHING THAT IS BEAUTIFUL

Louise Nealon

Categories: Fiction & Related items

Client: Gunn O'Connor

Published by: Bonnier/Manila Press

Original language: English

Contact: Sebastian Ritscher / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

During a drunken celebration after a county final win, Lucy's father Liam kisses her best friend Niamh. What happens afterwards is something Niamh wants to forget.

Niamh Ryan and Lucy Foley have known each other their whole lives. Niamh spent most of her childhood on the Foleys' farm with Lucy and her four siblings.

Lucy's father Liam Foley is an Irish hurling legend. He trains his daughters' local team which Niamh captains to victory in her mid-twenties.

When Lucy discovers messages from her father on Niamh's phone, she confronts him about the situation and informs him that what happened between him and Niamh was not consensual. The next morning, Lucy finds her father dead in a field on the family farm. He has taken his own life.

Only three women know the circumstances surrounding his death. Three years later, a family wedding brings them back together.

The novel follows the journey of these women – Helen, Niamh, and Lucy – in the lead up to the wedding day.

This novel explores the idea of beauty as an unspoken contract we all have within ourselves, a spell that can be broken over and over again by sorrow and disappointment, hurt and rage, only to come back around to lift us into new ways of believing in the world again.

Louise Nealon has been awarded several times for her short stories. Her novel "Snowflake" (2021) was published internationally. She lives in County Kildare, Ireland.

BAD WORDS

Rioghnach Robinson

Categories:	Fiction & Related items
Client:	Greenburger
Published by:	on submission
Current material:	MS: Complete Unedited
Original language:	English
Contact:	Marie Arendt / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

Swoony, clever, and endlessly charming, this rom-com is an indulgent yet artfully observed enemies-to-lovers for fans of Emily Henry, Curtis Sittenfeld's Romantic Comedy, and Yulin Kuang's How to End a Love Story.

Parker Navarro's debut novel was the buzzy event of the season, when it sold for a million dollars to one of the most esteemed literary editors in the industry. It should've been the book of the year, but instead, it was panned so harshly by City Magazine critic Selina Chan that it became the literary flop of the decade and made Parker a publishing pariah.

Four years later, his second novel is about to come out, and this time things will be different.

But, once again, Selina writes a review, and once again, it's devastating.

The night it goes online, Parker and Selina collide at an industry party and erupt into a blowout fight in a backroom that, unbeknownst to them, is secretly filmed. When the video hits the internet, it goes viral and, to their surprise, drives both Parker's preorders and City Magazines once dangerously dwindling subscription numbers.

As Parker and Selina are pitted against each other again and again through pointed interviews and in-person clashes at conventions, their jabs about writing, criticism, and who gets to lead an artist's life start to give way to the realization that they might be more like-minded than they thought. While the feud carries on online and in public, a different conversation is taking place in private, especially after they're thrust together for one snowy New York evening and begin an epistolary communication that starts to feel a lot like flirting.

Rioghnach Robinson has published five YA novels under the pen name Riley Redgate, which have received a number of honors from ALA, YALSA, Booklist, and Kirkus. She has also written for the Onion, and is the writer of the WEBTOON series Angel of Death. **BAD WORDS** is her first novel for adults.

News & Comments

I was two percent into *Bad Words* when I realized I was reading something special, the rare kind of book that not only treads new, fresh territory but does so in a way that feels startlingly inevitable. The kind of book I can't believe doesn't already exist, because all about it is just so right, so the thing I've been waiting for. It's also a book that could only ever have been written by Rioghnach Robinson, whose clear, clever voice and incisive social commentary elevate the book's punchy premise and irresistible will-they-won't-they romance to a once-in-a-lifetime read about truth, art, vulnerability and all the sticky places they intersect. *Bad Words* left me buzzing.

quote Emily Henry, #1 New York Times and Sunday Times-bestselling author of *Funny Story*



HOPELESSLY TEAVOTED

Audrey Goldberg Ruoff

Categories:	Paranormal Romance
Client:	Atria Books
Published by:	Atria Books
Publication date:	2025-09-16
Current material:	MS: Final Edited, 352 pages
Original language:	English
Contact:	Annelie Geissler / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

After the deaths of his parents, a witch returns to his spooky family manor and joins forces with his former crush when his parents' spirits warn them of a sinister threat in this witty and lyrically unique rom-com in the vein of The Crescent Moon Tearoom and The Ex Hex.

Azrael Ashmedai Hart must be cursed. He's a witch twice named for the devil. He's making his way back to his family manor in Hallowcross after a failed screenwriting career. He's adopted a cat he's allergic to, and if all of that is not enough, he's also forced to come face-to-face with his childhood best friend and former crush.

Victoria Starnberger, the bubbly girl-next-door Az lost touch with after an awkward incident in college, has just been disowned by her parents for quitting business school and buying Azrael's late parents' Hopelessly Teavoted tea shop against their wishes. Being cut off financially is one thing. But, now Vickie also owes a lesser devil for the souls her parents promised him in exchange for her gift to summon the dead by touching something they treasured in life, destroying the object in the process.

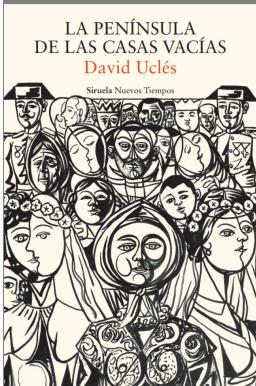
When spirits all over town, including Az's parents, keeping warning her about a sinister threat, Vickie and Az are forced to combine their powers to save the Hallowcross. But to do so, they must prevent her magic from immolating him after Vickie's devil places a curse on them to keep them from touching until she repays her debt. As they race against the clock to find clever ways around their curse, they find it increasingly harder to deny that they've been hopelessly devoted to each other all along.

Audrey Goldberg Ruoff is a former high school English and journalism teacher who taught with the enthusiasm of Valerie Frizzle, but for secondary education. She lives in a suburb of Washington, DC, with her spouse, her kids, a scrappy but loyal little dog, and a witchy black cat. *Hopelessly Teavoted* is her debut novel.

News & Comments

A delightfully funny romance filled with heartwarming humor and heartfelt charm, *Hopelessly Teavoted* delivers a perfect love story with a side of tender, heart-wrenching thoughtfulness about grief, healing, and how to make the most of second chances.

quote Laura R. Samotin, author of *The Sins On Their Bones*



LA PENÍNSULA DE LAS CASAS VACÍAS

David Uclés

Categories:	Biography, Literature & Literary studies
Client:	John Butman
Published by:	Ediciones Siruela
Publication date:	2024-04-01
Current material:	Final Pages
Original language:	English
Contact:	Maren Wiederhold / Mohrbooks Literary Agency

This novel about a family and an Andalusian village during Civil War stands out for its surreal, magical, and respectful narrative style.

From the small village of Jándula, a family of peasants – whose numbers dwindled from around forty members in 1936 to total disappearance just three years later – will scatter across Iberia, experiencing enduring firsthand the most significant and somber events of the most delicate and bloodstained chapter in Spanish history: the Civil War.

The book is an ode to the rural world, in the sense that nature, the countryside, history and the imaginary go hand in hand. The use of "magical neorealism" allows the author to play with time and space, highlighting the most powerful images of all those years and telling stories in a single family, through its different generations.

David Uclés (Úbeda, 1990) a translation and Interpreting graduate, is an author, musician, illustrator, and translator. He has worked as a Spanish, German, French and English teacher in various countries. His novel was a huge success in Spain in 2024, and nominated as "Best novel of the year" by the press.

News & Comments

A very good novel, brave and funny, witty and well written (...) David Uclés achieves the narrative feat of telling with humour some episodes of extreme violence and not crashing
quote Juan Marqués, La Lectura, El Mundo

Of the five novels I have selected, perhaps the most daring and the most brilliant is the monumental work La península de las casas vacías, by David Uclés, a story about the Civil War in a surrealist way with the use of a

Cervantine narrator who interpellates the reader and the characters, a marvel that will shake everyone who reads it.

quote Aldo García Arias, Babelia/El País

This is a heartbreak book -like our own History- which is, at the same time, a family chronicle and a fresco of a war

of which we are all heirs and which still today, unfortunately, separates us

quote Antonio Rojas, AISGE

The Peninsula of Empty Houses is a very good novel, brave and funny, witty and well written, orderly and Cervantine

in terms of its own textual awareness, thanks to the active protagonism of a narrator who is not tacit but very

present, all-powerful but not as omniscient as he would like, which leads to some good surprises.

quote La Lectura/El Mundo

Selected as one of the best novels of 2024.

quote El Diario

Italian: Neri Pozza

quote MB Agencia

If there is anyone who can record the pain and transform it into threads with which to weave a devastating tapestry,

it is the Nobel laureate Svetlana Alekseyevich, whose *The Boys in Zinc* (2016) I would like to emphasise. [...] The book exemplifies a postmodern fracture that prioritises life over the necrophilia of the state, which no ideology justifies.

Perhaps representative of this tendency, the split between the conflagration and the ideological corpus that should sustain it, is David Uclés' *La península de las casas vacías* (2024), a praiseworthy novel in its ambitions, telling the story of the civil war from a magical realist perspective, which produces a twist in the Spanish cultural industry in regards to that slaughter. In it, the young author distances himself from the characters and cannot avoid meddling as a narrator. This original approach unravels a generational problem: we cannot swallow any militaristic references, it overcomes us, even in the choice of a literary position.

quote Azahara Palomeque, El País

With an unforeseen prose, as original as it is uncomplicated, David Uclés is a real breath of fresh air in Spanish

literatureWith an unforeseen prose, as original as it is uncomplicated, David Uclés is a real breath of fresh air in

Spanish literature

quote Pablo Martín Sánchez, author of *The Anarchist Who Shared My Name*