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KPL Fiction Spotlight June 2017

Bear and the Nightingale

by Katherine Arden

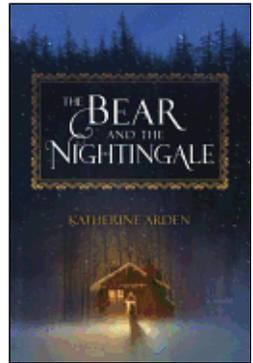
Published 2017 by Del Rey Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781101885932

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

NATIONAL BESTSELLER - A magical debut novel for readers of Naomi Novik's *Uprooted*, Erin Morgenstern's *The Night Circus*, and Neil Gaiman's myth-rich fantasies, *The Bear and the Nightingale* spins an irresistible spell as it announces the arrival of a singular talent with a gorgeous voice.



At the edge of the Russian wilderness, winter lasts most of the year and the snowdrifts grow taller than houses. But Vasilisa doesn't mind--she spends the winter nights huddled around the embers of a fire with her beloved siblings, listening to her nurse's fairy tales. Above all, she loves the chilling story of Frost, the blue-eyed winter demon, who appears in the frigid night to claim unwary souls. Wise Russians fear him, her nurse says, and honor the spirits of house and yard and forest that protect their homes from evil.

After Vasilisa's mother dies, her father goes to Moscow and brings home a new wife. Fiercely devout, city-bred, Vasilisa's new stepmother forbids her family from honoring the household spirits. The family acquiesces, but Vasilisa is frightened, sensing that more hinges upon their rituals than anyone knows.

And indeed, crops begin to fail, evil creatures of the forest creep nearer, and misfortune stalks the village. All the while, Vasilisa's stepmother grows ever harsher in her determination to groom her rebellious stepdaughter for either marriage or confinement in a convent.

As danger circles, Vasilisa must defy even the people she loves and call on dangerous gifts she has long concealed--this, in order to protect her family from a threat that seems to have stepped from her nurse's most frightening tales.

Praise for *The Bear and the Nightingale*

"Vasya [is] a clever, stalwart girl determined to forge her own path in a time when women had few choices."--*The Christian Science Monitor*

"Stunning . . . will enchant readers from the first page. . . . with an irresistible heroine who wants only to be free of the bonds placed on her gender and claim her own fate."--*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"Utterly bewitching . . . a lush narrative . . . an immersive, earthy story of folk magic, faith, and hubris, peopled with vivid, dynamic characters, particularly clever, brave Vasya, who outsmarts men and demons alike to save her family."--*Booklist* (starred review)

"Arden's supple, sumptuous first novel transports the reader to a version of medieval Russia where history and myth coexist."--*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"Radiant . . . a darkly magical fairy tale for adults, [but] not just for those who love magic."--*Library Journal*

"An extraordinary retelling of a very old tale . . . *The Bear and the Nightingale* is a wonderfully layered novel of family and the harsh wonders of deep winter magic."--**Robin Hobb**

"A beautiful deep-winter story, full of magic and monsters and the sharp edges of growing up."--**Naomi Novik**

"Haunting and lyrical, *The Bear and the Nightingale* tugs at the heart and quickens the pulse. I can't wait for her next book."--**Terry Brooks**

"*The Bear and the Nightingale* is a marvelous trip into an ancient Russia where magic is a part of everyday life."--**Todd McCaffrey**

"Enthralling and enchanting--I literally couldn't put it down."--**Tamora Pierce**

Read or Write a Comment ►

Publishers Weekly 07/04/2016

Arden's debut is an earthy, beautifully written love letter to Russian folklore, with an irresistible heroine who wants only to be free of the bonds placed on her gender and claim her own fate in 14th-century Russia. Vasilisa "Vasya" Petrovna's mother, Marina, died while giving birth to her. Her father, Pyotr Vladimirovich, loves her; he also resents her for his beloved wife's death. But Marina made Pyotr promise to take good care of Vasya, saying that she was special, and indeed she is. While her father and brothers seek marriage arrangements among royalty in Moscow, Vasya, now a teenager, refuses to be married off; instead she wanders the verdant woods of her father's rural estate, communing with spirits of home, wood, and water. When a young, arrogant priest is sent to her village, the people turn away from their old ways, and the spirits that keep them safe begin to fade. It's up to Vasya to protect them, but her father marries Anna, the daughter of Grand Prince Ivan II, who believes the wood spirits are demons and wants to kill Vasya or confine her to a convent as punishment for consorting with them. As a fierce winter storm rages, Vasya must save her family while embracing the magic that lives inside her. The stunning prose ("The blood flung itself out to Vasya's skin until she could feel every stirring in the air") forms a fully immersive, unusual, and exciting fairy tale that will enchant readers from the first page. *Agent: Paul Lucas, Janklow and Nesbit. (Jan.)*

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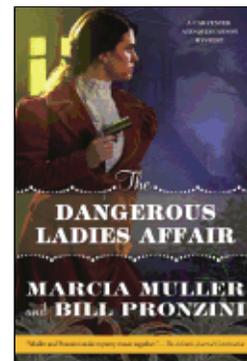
Dangerous Ladies Affair (Fifth book in the Carpenter and Quincannon Mysteries series)

by Marcia Muller
Published 2017 by Forge

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780765381057

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



For the firm of Carpenter and Quincannon, Professional Detective Services, stopping extortionists is not only grand, but

excitingly lucrative.

When a pleasant afternoon's bicycling through Golden Gate Park with a friend ends with the revelation of threatening letters, followed by a gunshot in a mansion garden, Sabina Carpenter knows this is a case that demands her immediate and undivided attention.

The questions her partner John Quincannon has to unravel are not difficult: Wrixton, a wealthy banker, has met his extortionist's first demand, but the order to pay another \$5,000 is too much to face. The banker's real problem is something he doesn't want to reveal. That was fine with the detective, and when he was informed that some private letters were involved and Wrixton absolutely needed them back, there was nothing more Quincannon needed in the way of background. As with so many of San Francisco's elite, the bedroom doors never seemed to stay shut.

That was the easy part; far more difficult was the matter of the dead courier, murdered most foully in a locked room within a locked room, creating a trail that will take John Quincannon through most of San Francisco's less savory places and end with a riverboat trip that is anything but a relaxing cruise.

The Dangerous Ladies Affair is the next thrilling installment in this charming historical mystery series from MWA Grand Masters Marcia Muller and Bill Pronzini.

The Carpenter and Quincannon Mysteries:

#1 *The Bughouse Affair*

#2 *The Spook Lights Affair*

#3 *The Body Snatchers Affair*

#4 *The Plague of Thieves Affair*

#5 *The Dangerous Ladies Affair*

#6 *The Bags of Tricks Affair*

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 11/21/2016

In MWA grand masters Muller and Pronzini's sprightly fifth mystery set in late 19th-century San Francisco (after 2016's *The Plague of Thieves*), Sabina Carpenter, an ardent suffragette, bicycling enthusiast, and self-described New Woman ("the term used to describe the modern woman who broke with the traditional role of wife and mother by working outside the home"), investigates death threats received by her new friend Amity Wellman, a Votes for Women activist. Meanwhile, poetry-reading but handy-with-his-fists John Quincannon, Sabina's partner in Professional Detective Services, tracks down the mastermind of a blackmailing scheme and tackles a locked-room murder. The reader gets a glimpse of "less than respectable" theater performances, passenger ships on the Sacramento River, and anti-suffragette protestors, as well as being treated to the delicate unfolding of tender feelings between the two protagonists. *Agent: Dominick Abel, Dominick Abel Literary Agency. (Jan.)*

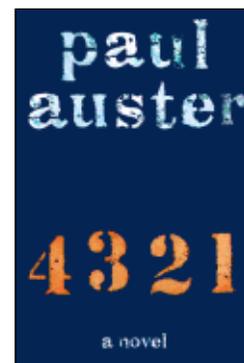
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by Paul Auster
Published 2017 by Henry Holt & Company

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781627794466

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



***The Millions's* "Most Anticipated"**

***Vulture's* "Most Exciting Book Releases for 2017"**

***The Washington Post's* Books to Read in 2017**

***Chicago Tribune's* "Books We're Excited About in 2017"**

***Town & Country's* "5 Books to Start Off 2017 the Right Way"**

Read it Forward, Favorite Reads of January 2017

"An epic bildungsroman . . . **Original and complex . . . A monumental** assemblage of competing and complementary fictions, a novel that **contains multitudes.**"

--**Tom Perrotta**, *The New York Times Book Review*

"A **stunningly ambitious** novel, and a **pleasure to read.** . . . An **incredibly moving**, true journey."--*NPR*

Paul Auster's greatest, most heartbreaking and satisfying novel--a sweeping and surprising story of birthright and possibility, of love and of life itself.

Nearly two weeks early, on March 3, 1947, in the maternity ward of Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, New Jersey, Archibald Isaac Ferguson, the one and only child of Rose and Stanley Ferguson, is born. From that single beginning, Ferguson's life will take four simultaneous and independent fictional paths. Four identical Fergusons made of the same DNA, four boys who are the same boy, go on to lead four parallel and entirely different lives. Family fortunes diverge. Athletic skills and sex lives and friendships and intellectual passions contrast. Each Ferguson falls under the spell of the magnificent Amy Schneiderman, yet each Amy and each Ferguson have a relationship like no other. Meanwhile, readers will take in each Ferguson's pleasures and ache from each Ferguson's pains, as the mortal plot of each Ferguson's life rushes on.

As inventive and dexterously constructed as anything Paul Auster has ever written, yet with a passion for realism and a great tenderness and fierce attachment to history and to life itself that readers have never seen from Auster before. *4 3 2 1* is a marvelous and unforgettably affecting tour de force.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 09/26/2016

Almost everything about Auster's new novel is big. The sentences are long and sinuous; the paragraphs are huge, often running more than a page; and the book comes in at nearly 900 pages. In its telling, however, the book is far from epic, though it is satisfyingly rich in detail. It's a bildungsroman spanning protagonist Archie Ferguson's birth in 1947 to a consequential U.S. presidential election in 1974. Some warm opening pages are dedicated to the romance of the parents of Ferguson (as the third-person narrator refers to him throughout), Rose and Stanley. In its depiction of the everyday life of its hero, the

book also gives a full history of America during this period through the eyes of Ferguson who, not coincidentally, is roughly the same age as Auster. He roots for the nascent Kennedy administration, sees Martin Luther King's peaceful resistance, and recognizes both the greatness and the iniquity in L.B.J.'s actions as president. These national events are juxtaposed against Ferguson's coming-of-age: he goes to summer camp, has a sad first love with a girl named Anne-Marie, and gets an education via his beloved aunt Mildred. One of the many pleasures of the book is Ferguson's vibrant recounting of his reading experiences, such as Emma Goldman's *Living My Life*, Voltaire's *Candide* and Theodore White's *The Making of the President, 1960*. Auster adds a significant and immersive entry to a genre that stretches back centuries and includes *Augie March* and *Tristram Shandy* (Jan.) Copyright 2016 Publishers Weekly. Used with permission.

Days Without End

by Sebastian Barry

Published 2017 by Viking

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780525427360

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

COSTA BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER

-A true leftfield wonder: *Days Without End* is a violent, superbly lyrical western offering a sweeping vision of America in the making.---Kazuo Ishiguro, Booker Prize winning author of *The Remains of the Day* and *The Buried Giant*

-A haunting archeology of youth . . . Barry introduces a narrator who speaks with an intoxicating blend of wit and wide-eyed awe, his unsettlingly lovely prose unspooling with an immigrant's peculiar lilt and a proud boy's humor.---*The New York Times Book Review*

From the two-time Man Booker Prize finalist Sebastian Barry, -a master storyteller- (*Wall Street Journal*), comes a powerful new novel of duty and family set against the American Indian and Civil Wars

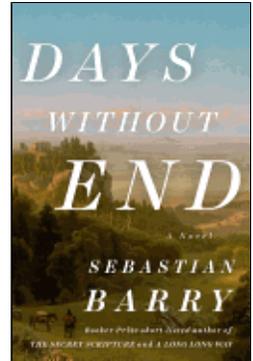
Thomas McNulty, aged barely seventeen and having fled the Great Famine in Ireland, signs up for the U.S. Army in the 1850s. With his brother in arms, John Cole, Thomas goes on to fight in the Indian Wars--against the Sioux and the Yurok--and, ultimately, the Civil War. Orphans of terrible hardships themselves, the men find these days to be vivid and alive, despite the horrors they see and are complicit in.

Moving from the plains of Wyoming to Tennessee, Sebastian Barry's latest work is a masterpiece of atmosphere and language. An intensely poignant story of two men and the makeshift family they create with a young Sioux girl, Winona, *Days Without End* is a fresh and haunting portrait of the most fateful years in American history and is a novel never to be forgotten.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 10/31/2016

Barry's (*The Secret Scripture*) latest novel features Irish orphan boy Thomas McNulty, who departs Sligo during the potato famine to make his way to America. On the Missouri frontier, Thomas and best buddy John Cole work in a saloon dressing up as female dancing partners for local miners. When the boys mature enough to look more like men, they enlist in the Army, ending up as soldiers in the brutal Indian Wars while secret lovers at night. After their tour of duty ends, they head to Grand Rapids, where they perform onstage in drag, accompanied by Winona, a nine-year-old Sioux they care for like a daughter. With the Civil War looming, Thomas and John Cole join the Union Army, only to encounter more suffering and senseless violence fighting in the Valley of Virginia, then as prisoners of war at Andersonville. Eventually they are freed, but the past catches up: Winona's uncle, Catch-His-Horse-First, wants her back. Barry's description of Thomas's courageous effort to protect Winona achieves the drama and pathos of the author's best fiction. Other parts of the novel prove erratic. Despite moments of humor and colorful metaphors, Thomas's inconsistent, occasionally unconvincing narrative voice wavers between lyricism and earthiness. Thomas's trail of woe, though historically accurate, makes for onerous reading. The explicit battle scenes may also be difficult to take, but they have energy and intensity, in contrast with Thomas and John's love story,



which traces without much drama how Thomas comes to realize he prefers dresses to a uniform. (*Jan.*)

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What You Don't Know

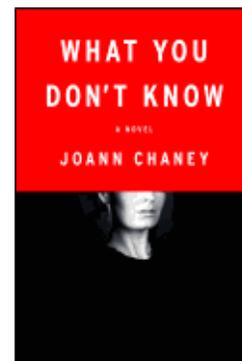
by Joann Chaney

Published 2017 by Flatiron Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781250075536

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



"Superb characters, sparkling dialogue, and a gripping, terrifying plot, plus flashes of humor to boot; JoAnn Chaney's *What You Don't Know* has it all." --Chris Pavone, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Travelers*

He didn't take their lives -- but he ruined them.

The final victims of an infamous serial killer may be the ones he didn't kill.

Hoskins cracked the case of one of the most infamous serial killers -- and then it cracked him. He's in cold cases, as is his career.

Sammie was the lead reporter who broke the story, but now she's selling makeup at the mall. She wants back on page 1.

Gloria claims she was the unsuspecting wife. She didn't know a thing.

And as new murders shake Denver, this is a final chance to get their lives back.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 12/12/2016

Set in Denver, Chaney's unsettling, well-crafted first novel opens in December 2008, when homicide detectives Ralph Loren and Paul Hoskins arrest creepy Jacky Seever, a successful restaurateur, after a search of the crawl space in the home that he shares with his wife, Gloria, turns up bodies of murder victims going back decades. The subsequent investigation is covered by newspaper reporter Samantha "Sammie" Peterson, whose extramarital affair with Hoskins grants her special access. "It'll never be over," the incarcerated Seever predicts, and so it proves seven winters later when Carrie Simms, who escaped Seever in 2008, is murdered, along with others connected to the original case. The methodology mirrors Seever's, including his trademark removal of one or more of the victims' fingers, a fact that was never released to the public. All the point-of-view characters--Hoskins, Sammie, Grace--are tragically flawed in believable ways, though the flat, untidy ending may leave some readers feeling frustrated. *Agent: Stephanie Cabot, Gernet Company. (Feb.)*

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Right Behind You

by Lisa Gardner

Published 2017 by Dutton Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780525954583

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Lisa Gardner's next thriller following her runaway *New York Times* bestseller *Find Her* takes her wildly popular brand of suspense to new heights.

Is he a hero?

Eight years ago, Sharlah May Nash's older brother beat their drunken father to death with a baseball bat in order to save both of their lives. Now thirteen years old, Sharlah has finally moved on. About to be adopted by retired FBI profiler Pierce Quincy and his partner, Rainie Conner, Sharlah loves one thing best about her new family: They are all experts on monsters.

Is he a killer?

Then the call comes in. A double murder at a local gas station, followed by reports of an armed suspect shooting his way through the wilds of Oregon. As Quincy and Rainie race to assist, they are forced to confront mounting evidence: The shooter may very well be Sharlah's older brother, Telly Ray Nash, and it appears his killing spree has only just begun.

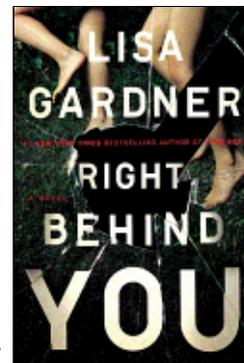
All she knows for sure: He's back.

As the clock winds down on a massive hunt for Telly, Quincy and Rainie must answer two critical questions: Why after eight years has this young man started killing again? And what does this mean for Sharlah? Once upon a time, Sharlah's big brother saved her life. Now, she has two questions of her own: Is her brother a hero or a killer? And how much will it cost her new family before they learn the final, shattering truth? Because as Sharlah knows all too well, the biggest danger is the one standing right behind you.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 11/28/2016

Bestseller Gardner's edge-of-your-seat thriller brings back law-enforcement couple Pierce Quincy and Rainie Conner, last seen in 2008 as *Say Goodbye*. Quincy, a retired FBI agent, and Conner, an investigative consultant for the Bakersville County (Ore.) sheriff's department, have been fostering 13-year-old Sharlah for three years and want to adopt her. When Sharlah was five, her father fatally stabbed her mother in a drunken rage. In self-defense, her nine-year-old brother, Telly, beat their father to death with a baseball bat. In the tragedy's aftermath, the siblings were separately fostered. Now a security camera catches 17-year-old Telly shooting a clerk and a customer to death in a gas station. Telly's foster parents are later found slain in their home. While Quincy and Conner work on protecting Sharlah and locating Telly, Sharlah makes plans of her own. Revealing chapters from the children's point of view show them trying to match wits with adults. Devilishly clever twists propel Gardner's tale of family bonds fractured, mended, and sometimes destroyed. Five-city author tour. Agent: Meg Ruley, Jane Rotrosen Agency. (Jan.) Copyright 2016 Publishers Weekly. Used with permission.



Dime

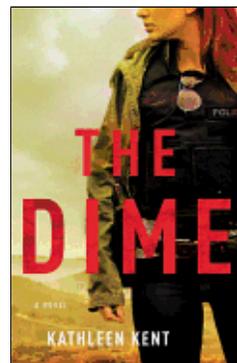
by Kathleen Kent

Published 2017 by Mulholland Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780316311038

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



Brooklyn's toughest female detective takes on Dallas--and neither is ready for the fight.

Dallas, Texas is not for the faint of heart. Good thing for Betty Rhyzyk she's from a family of take-no-prisoners Brooklyn police detectives. But her Big Apple wisdom will only get her so far when she relocates to The Big D, where Mexican drug cartels and cult leaders, deadbeat skulls and society wives all battle for sunbaked turf.

Betty is as tough as the best of them, but she's deeply shaken when her first investigation goes sideways. Battling a group of unruly subordinates, a persistent stalker, a formidable criminal organization, and an unsupportive girlfriend, the unbreakable Detective Betty Rhyzyk may be reaching her limit.

Combining the colorful pyrotechnics of *Breaking Bad* with the best of the gritty crime genre, *The Dime* is Kathleen Kent's brilliant mystery debut and the launch of a sensational new series.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 12/12/2016

Det. Betty Rhyzyk, a tough-as-nails Brooklyn cop transplanted to Dallas and the narrator of historical novelist Kent's outstanding first crime novel, works undercover in narcotics. At almost six feet tall with flaming red hair and a steady girlfriend, she's not the norm in Texas. When her latest case, involving notorious cocaine dealer Tomas "El Gitano" Ruiz, goes sour and leaves a stack of bodies, she's understandably shaken--and pissed off when the matter is turned over to homicide; Betty isn't one to let things go. So she and her team, including partner Seth Dutton, continue to work the case on the sly, and it seems the case is working Betty, too, when a nasty present from a crime scene turns up in her apartment, courtesy of a stalker who waltzed in unbeknownst to Betty's doctor girlfriend, Jackie, and left unnoticed. As the tension grows, Betty isn't sure that the cartels are responsible, and her sources agree--this looks like something much closer to home and even more dangerous. Kent (*The Outcasts*) never sacrifices robust characters, or biting humor, during scenes of brutal violence, which, though disturbing, are essential to the rich plot. *Agent: Julie Barer, Book Group. (Feb.)*

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Garden of Lamentations

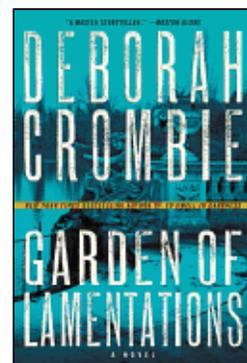
by Deborah Crombie

Published 2017 by William Morrow & Company

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780062271631

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



Scotland Yard detectives Duncan Kincaid and Gemma James are drawn into separate investigations that hold disturbing--and

deadly--complications for their own lives in this powerful mystery in the bestselling series.

On a beautiful morning in mid-May, the body of a young woman is found in one of Notting Hill's private gardens. To passersby, the pretty girl in the white dress looks as if she's sleeping. But Reagan Keating has been murdered, and the lead detective, DI Kerry Boatman, turns to Gemma James for help. She and Gemma worked together on a previous investigation, and Gemma has a personal connection to the case: Reagan was the nanny of a child who attends the same dance studio as Toby, Gemma and Kincaid's son.

Gemma soon discovers that Reagan's death is the second tragedy in this exclusive London park; a few months before, a young boy died in a tragic accident. But when still another of the garden residents meets a violent end, it becomes clear that there are more sinister forces at play. Boatman and Gemma must stop the killer before another innocent life is taken.

While his wife is consumed with her new case, Kincaid finds himself plagued by disturbing questions about several previous--and seemingly unrelated--cases involving members of the force. If his suspicions are correct and the crimes are linked, are his family and friends in mortal danger as well? Kincaid's hunch turns to certainty when a Metropolitan Police officer close to him is brutally attacked. There's a traitor in the ranks, and now Kincaid wonders if he can trust anyone.

As Gemma begins to see a solution to her case, she realizes she holds a child's fate in her hands. Can she do the right thing? And can Kincaid rely on his friends, both inside and outside the Scotland Yard force, to stand beside him as he faces the deadliest challenge of his career?

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 12/12/2016

Det. Supt. Duncan Kincaid is still smarting from an unexplained reassignment and demotion, in bestseller Crombie's absorbing 17th novel featuring Kincaid and his wife, Det. Insp. Gemma James (after 2014's *To Dwell in Darkness*). He's also troubled by loose ends after a grenade attack and devastating fire at London's St. Pancras station and the cryptic utterances of his former boss, Chief Supt. Denis Childs. When Childs is attacked and sinks into a coma, Kincaid glimpses larger forces at work, sets out to unravel the mystery of Childs's past and the trail of police colleagues who ostensibly died by suicide, and fears for the safety of his family and his investigative teams of past and present. Meanwhile, Gemma looks into the case of a nanny murdered in a Notting Hill garden, which affects the lives of one of Gemma's friends and a ballet classmate of Gemma's son. Through several points of view, this multifaceted novel provides a sobering cautionary tale about the exploitation of idealism and the abuse of power. *Seven-city author tour. Agent: Nancy Yost, Nancy Yost Literary Agency. (Feb.)*

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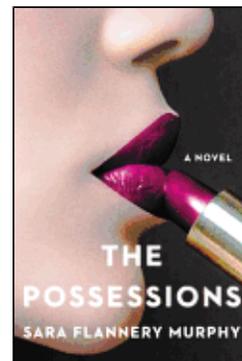
Possessions

by Sara Flannery Murphy
Published 2017 by Harper

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780062458322

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



"I was totally immersed in the strange, beautiful world of Sara Flannery Murphy's *The Possessions*. A gripping,

chilling read that's part love story, part mystery, and completely original, it's sensuous, scary, and utterly thrilling. I've never read anything quite like it." --Anton DiSclafani, author of *The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls*

"An enthralling meditation on grief and memory cloaked in suspenseful psychodrama, *The Possessions* dissolves the boundaries of past and present and artfully, heartbreakingly maps the consequences of transgressive desire. Sara Flannery Murphy has written the best kind of ghost story." --Robin Wasserman, author of *Girls on Fire*

In this electrifying literary debut, a young woman who channels the dead for a living crosses a dangerous line when she falls in love with one of her clients, whose wife died under mysterious circumstances.

In an unnamed city, Eurydice works for the Elysian Society, a private service that allows grieving clients to reconnect with lost loved ones. She and her fellow workers, known as "bodies," wear the discarded belongings of the dead and swallow pills called lotuses to summon their spirits--numbing their own minds and losing themselves in the process. Edie has been a body at the Elysian Society for five years, an unusual record. Her success is the result of careful detachment: she seeks refuge in the lotuses' anesthetic effects and distances herself from making personal connections with her clients.

But when Edie channels Sylvia, the dead wife of recent widower Patrick Braddock, she becomes obsessed with the glamorous couple. Despite the murky circumstances surrounding Sylvia's drowning, Edie breaks her own rules and pursues Patrick, moving deeper into his life and summoning Sylvia outside the Elysian Society's walls.

After years of hiding beneath the lotuses' dulling effect, Edie discovers that the lines between her own desires and those of Sylvia have begun to blur, and takes increasing risks to keep Patrick within her grasp. Suddenly, she finds her quiet life unraveling as she grapples not only with Sylvia's growing influence and the questions surrounding her death, but with her own long-buried secrets.

A tale of desire and obsession, deceit and dark secrets that defies easy categorization, *The Possessions* is a seductive, absorbing page-turner that builds to a shattering, unforgettable conclusion.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 11/07/2016

Behind the reassuringly bland facade of the Elysian Society, dramatic, distressing, and sometimes dangerous scenes play out daily as the bereaved seek to communicate with their departed loved ones, in Murphy's suspenseful supernatural-tinged debut, set on the gritty side of an unnamed U.S. city. The bridges between the living and the dead are people referred to as bodies, such as the young woman known as Eurydice (aka Edie), who after ingesting pills called lotuses can summon these spirits. The work perfectly suits emotionally guarded Edie, who apparently wants nothing more than to lose herself after a traumatic past, which only gradually emerges. But her carefully maintained shell starts to crack when she begins sessions with Patrick Braddock, an attractive lawyer, whose stunning wife, Sylvia, drowned 18 months earlier under suspicious circumstances. As Edie finds herself sexually drawn to Patrick and experiencing disturbing flashbacks, which seem to come from Sylvia, her efforts to investigate what happened that night at a lake outside the city--and its potential connection to a recently discovered Jane Doe--land her in very real jeopardy. Those ready to buy into the author's premise will be rewarded by a beautifully rendered, haunting page-turner. *Agent: Alice Whitwham, Alice Whitwham Agency. (Feb.)*

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Snowblind: A Thriller

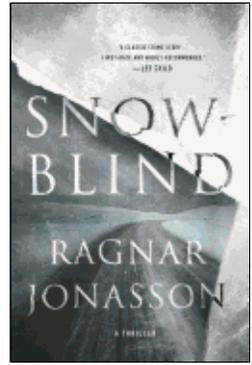
by Ragnar Jonasson

Published 2017 by Minotaur Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781250096074

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



Where: A quiet fishing village in northern Iceland, where no one locks their doors. It is accessible only via a small mountain tunnel.

Who: Ari Thor is a rookie policeman on his first posting, far from his girlfriend in Reykjavik. He has a past that he's unable to leave behind.

What: A young woman is found lying half-naked in the snow, bleeding and unconscious, and a highly esteemed elderly writer falls to his death. Ari is dragged straight into the heart of a community where he can trust no one, and secrets and lies are a way of life.

Past plays tag with the present and the claustrophobic tension mounts, while Ari is thrust ever deeper into his own darkness--blinded by snow and with a killer on the loose.

Taut and terrifying, *Snowblind* is a startling debut from an extraordinary new talent.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 10/17/2016

The 2008 financial crash provides the backdrop for Jonasson's sterling debut, a tale of past and present revenge, which combines the power of extreme climate and geography with penetrating psychological analysis. Ari Thor Arason, a 24-year-old rookie policeman and former theology student, leaves his medical-student lover, Kristin, in Reykjavik for his first assignment in Siglufjordur, an isolated village on the north coast of Iceland. As the long, dark winter settles in, Ari Thor becomes embroiled in old hurts that roil beneath the surface of Siglufjordur, where secrets spread swiftly. The fatal fall of a drunken actor down a flight of stairs in the local theater appears to be an accident--or is it? As in the medieval Icelandic sagas, small physical details produce striking characterizations ("He peered at her and his lip twisted oddly, as if he was trying to smile, but at the same time hold it back"). Jonasson skillfully alternates points of view and shifts of time that set in relief Ari Thor's efforts to find a purpose to his lonely life. The action builds to a shattering climax. *Agent: David Headley, DHH Literary Agency (U.K.). (Jan.)*

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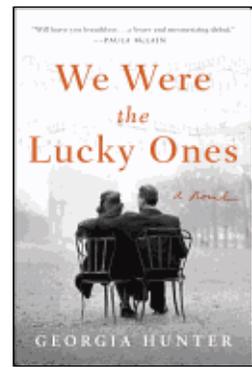
We Were the Lucky Ones

by Georgia Hunter

Published 2017 by Viking

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780399563089

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)



Jacket Notes:

Inspired by the incredible true story of one Jewish family separated at the start of World War II, determined to survive--and to reunite--*We Were the Lucky Ones* is a sweeping novel spanning six years and five continents and a tribute to the triumph of hope and love against all odds

"Love in the face of global adversity? It couldn't be more timely." --*Glamour*

It is the spring of 1939 and three generations of the Kurc family are doing their best to live normal lives, even as the shadow of war grows closer. The talk around the family Seder table is of new babies and budding romance, not of the increasing hardships threatening Jews in their hometown of Radom, Poland. But soon the horrors overtaking Europe will become inescapable and the Kurcs will be flung to the far corners of the world, each desperately trying to navigate his or her own path to safety.

As one sibling is forced into exile, another attempts to flee the continent, while others struggle to escape certain death, either by working grueling hours on empty stomachs in the factories of the ghetto or by hiding as gentiles in plain sight. Driven by an unwavering will to survive and by the fear that they may never see one another again, the Kurcs must rely on hope, ingenuity, and inner strength to persevere.

An extraordinary, propulsive novel, *We Were the Lucky Ones* demonstrates how in the face of the twentieth century's darkest moment, the human spirit can endure and even thrive.

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 12/05/2016

Debut author Hunter excavates the remarkable history of her own family in this chronicle, which follows the journeys of a Polish Jewish family during the Holocaust. The 1939 German invasion of Poland sunders the Kurc family. Aging parents Sol and Nechuma stay in their home of Radom, along with their adult daughters Halina and Mila. Their sons Genek and Jakob join the Polish army; a third son, Addy, is stuck in France, soon to be conscripted. During the course of the war, the Kurcs are flung to distant points on the globe, from Brazil to Siberia. They work for the underground, fight battles in Italy, and are imprisoned in gulags. They stage daring escapes from ghettos, hide in plain sight in Polish cities, and, always, yearn for the days when their family was whole. V-day finds some of the Kurcs together, but the celebration is empty; they are still sundered, mourning, and directionless. The Kurc family's final triumph is not tied to the defeat of the Nazis, but to the family's survival and reunion against impossible odds. However, this is not a saga with a jubilant Hollywood ending. The Kurc family's survival is often due to nothing more than desperate luck. Hunter sidesteps hollow sentimentality and nihilism, revealing instead the beautiful complexity and ambiguity of life in this extraordinarily moving tale. (*Feb.*)

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Only the Strong

by Jabari Asim
Published 2015 by Agate Bolden

Paperback, English. ISBN: 9781932841947

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

"Captivating." Jane Ciabattari, NPR Book Concierge: Best Books of 2015

"Incomparable charisma and verve." "The Root," Best Fiction of 2015

"Lean, mean, and moving." "Kirkus Reviews," Kirkus Prize nominee

Jabari Asim's debut novel returns readers to Gateway City, the fictional Midwestern city first explored in his acclaimed short story collection, "Taste of Honey." Against a 1970s backdrop of rapid social and political change, "Only the Strong" portrays the challenges and rewards of love in a quintessential American community where heartbreak and violence are seldom far away.

Moved by the death of Martin Luther King Jr., Lorenzo "Guts" Tolliver decides to abandon his career as a professional leg-breaker and pursue a life of quiet moments and generous helpings of banana pudding in the company of his new, sensuous lover. His erstwhile boss, local kingpin Ananias Goode, is also thinking about slowing down but his tempestuous affair with Dr. Artinces Noel, a prominent pediatrician, complicates his retirement plans. Meanwhile, Charlotte Divine, the doctor's headstrong protegee, struggles with trials of her own.

With prose that's sharp, humorous, and poetic, Asim skillfully renders a compelling portrait of urban life in the wake of the last major civil-rights bill. Massive change is afoot in America, and these characters have front-row seats.

"

[Read or Write a Comment](#) ▶

Publishers Weekly 04/27/2015

This thoroughly entertaining and stylish crime novel from Asim (A Taste of Honey) is set in Gateway City, a fictionalized version of Asim's native St. Louis, during the 1970s. Thirty-five-year-old Lorenzo "Guts" Tolliver is the semi-retired "enforcer" for the gangster chieftain Ananias Goode. Guts, who now operates a fleet of taxicabs, has been in a three-year romance with Pearl Jordan, a gorgeous woman with ambitious dreams of owning her own dance studio. Though Pearl wants to get married, Guts is reluctant to tie the knot due to his violent and dangerous lifestyle. As a special favor, Goode assigns Guts to watch over the flashy baseball player Rip Crenshaw since Goode doesn't trust his replacement enforcer, Sharps, to take care of it. The author creates a flawed, complex, and likeable protagonist in Guts. A supernatural element adds another dramatic layer to this fast-paced narrative. As Goode and Guts take their final steps to go straight, the inevitable showdown with their past troubles and enemies plays out. Asim's impressive novel deserves favorable comparison to the works of Chester Himes and Walter Mosley. (May) Copyright 2015 Publishers Weekly Used with permission.

Apologies Forthcoming

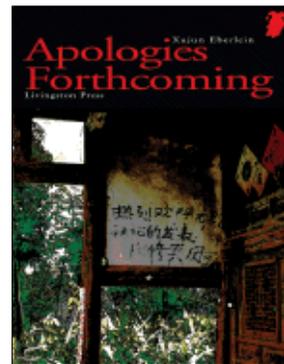
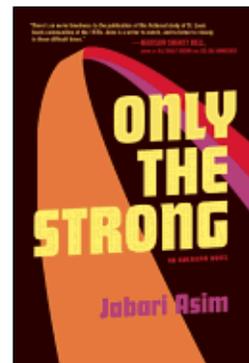
by Xujun Eberlein
Published 2008 by Livingston Press (AL)

Paperback, English. ISBN: 9781604890075

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Fiction. Asian Studies. This sometimes disturbing, always illuminating collection of stories centers around China's Cultural Revolution and its aftermath, which, as we learn, continues even today, with both sides still hold out, and with "apologies forthcoming." Xujun Eberlein lived in China during that tumultuous period and now makes her home in America. "Xujun Eberlein is a fresh voice in American fiction, a Chinese writer with a remarkably shrewd, interesting tongue....There is a richness in her vision that sets it apart" -- Jay Parini. "The stories have a subtly addictive momentum" -- Sven Birkerts.



Read or Write a Comment ►

Honey from the Lion

by Matthew N Null

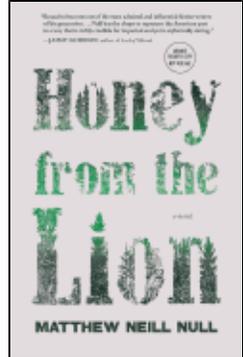
Published 2015 by Lookout Books

Paperback, English. ISBN: 9781940596082

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

"A turn-of-the-century logging company decimates ten thousand acres of virgin forest in the West Virginia Alleghenies and transforms a brotherhood of timber wolves into revolutionaries"--Cover flap.



Read or Write a Comment ►

Newcomer

(Second book in the Amish Beginnings Novel series)

by Suzanne Woods Fisher

Published 2017 by Fleming H. Revell Company

Paperback, English. ISBN: 9780800727499

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

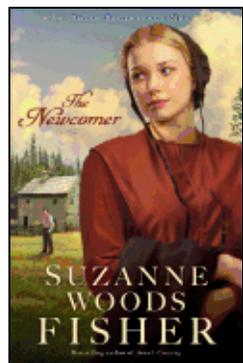
Jacket Notes:

In 1737, Anna Konig and her fellow church members stagger off a small wooden ship after ten weeks at sea, eager to start a new life in the vibrant but raw Pennsylvania frontier. On the docks of Port Philadelphia waits bishop Jacob Bauer, founder of the settlement and father to ship carpenter Bairn. It's a time of new beginnings for the reunited Bauer family, and for Anna and Bairn's shipboard romance to blossom.

But this perfect moment cannot last. As Bairn grasps the reality of what it means to be Amish in the New World--isolated, rigid with expectations, under the thumb of his domineering father--his enthusiasm evaporates. When a sea captain offers the chance to cross the ocean one more time, Bairn grabs it. Just one more crossing, he promises Anna. But will she wait for him?

When Henrik Newman joins the church just as it makes its way to the frontier, Anna is torn. He seems to be everything Bairn is not--bold, devoted, and delighted to vie for her heart. And the most dramatic difference? He is here; Bairn is not.

Far from the frontier, an unexpected turn of events weaves together the lives of Bairn, Anna, and Henrik. When a secret is revealed, which true love will emerge?



Read or Write a Comment ►

Echoes in Death

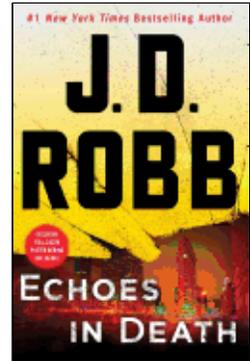
by J D Robb

Published 2017 by St. Martin's Press

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781250123114

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



***Echoes in Death*, the chilling new suspense novel from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author J.D. Robb is the perfect entry point into the compelling *In Death* police procedural series featuring Lieutenant Eve Dallas.**

As NY Lt. Eve Dallas and her billionaire husband Roarke are driving home, a young woman--dazed, naked, and bloody--suddenly stumbles out in front of their car. Roarke slams on the brakes and Eve springs into action.

Daphne Strazza is rushed to the ER, but it's too late for her husband Dr. Anthony Strazza. A brilliant orthopedic surgeon, he now lies dead amid the wreckage of his obsessively organized town house, his three safes opened and emptied. Daphne would be a valuable witness, but in her terror and shock the only description of the perp she can offer is repeatedly calling him "the devil..".

While it emerges that Dr. Strazza was cold, controlling, and widely disliked, this is one case where the evidence doesn't point to the spouse. So Eve and her team must get started on the legwork, interviewing everyone from dinner-party guests to professional colleagues to caterers, in a desperate race to answer some crucial questions:

What does the devil look like? And where will he show up next?

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 11/28/2016

Bestseller Robb (aka Nora Roberts) is not only prolific but consistently inventive, entertaining, and clever in her crime series set in a near-future New York City, as shown by the stunning 44th entry (after 2016as *Apprentice in Death*. One cold winter night, Lt. Eve Dallas and her husband, Roarke, encounter a naked, dazed, and bruised young woman wandering a Manhattan street. They take her to a hospital, where they learn that the victim has been raped; a fingerprint analysis identifies her as Daphne Strazza, the wife of prominent surgeon Anthony Strazza. When Eve and Roarke enter the Strazzasa elegant townhome, they find Anthony slain in the bedroom. Eve soon learns of two similar cases, and she and her police teama aided by Roarke, the owner and CEO of Roarke Industries, and psychiatrist Charlotte Miraa begin a laborious process of finding commonalities that identify a pool of suspects and more potential victims while creating a profile of the perpetrator. When the attacker strikes again, Eve redoubles her efforts. Just when Eve appears to have everything sewn up, Robb delivers a final, devastating twist. *750,000 first printing. Agent: Amy Berkower, Writers House. (Feb.) Copyright 2016 Publishers Weekly Used with permission.*

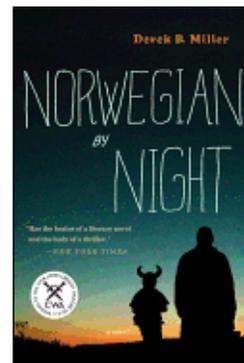
Norwegian by Night

by Derek B Miller

Published 2014 by Mariner Books

Paperback, English. ISBN: 9780544292666

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)



Jacket Notes:

Crime Writers Association John Creasey Dagger Award winner An ECONOMIST TOP FICTION TITLE OF THE YEAR

A FINANCIAL TIMES BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR

A GUARDIAN BEST CRIME AND THRILLER OF THE YEAR

A KIRKUS REVIEWS BEST CRIME NOVEL OF THE YEAR

-A soulful, humane, and sparkingly funny novel. Spend some time with Sheldon and company in the Scandinavian wilderness and you just might make peace with your god, your ghosts, and yourself.- -- Gary Shteyngart, author of *Super Sad True Love Story*

Sheldon Horowitz--widowed, impatient, impertinent--has grudgingly agreed to leave New York and move in with his granddaughter, Rhea, and her new husband, Lars, in Norway--a country of blue and ice with one thousand Jews, not one of them a former Marine sniper in the Korean War turned watch repairman. Not until now, anyway.

Home alone one morning, Sheldon witnesses a dispute between the woman who lives upstairs and an aggressive stranger. When events turn dire, Sheldon seizes and shields the neighbor's young son from the violence, and they flee the scene. As Sheldon and the boy look for a safe haven in an alien world, past and present weave together, forcing them ever forward to a wrenching moment of truth.

-This is one of the best books of the season, of any genre.- -- *Buffalo News*

-Miller joins the ranks of Stieg Larsson, Henning Mankell, and Jo Nesbo, the holy trinity of Scandinavian crime novelists.- -- *Booklist* (starred review)

AN INDIE NEXT SELECTION

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

We Love You, Charlie Freeman

by Kaitlyn Greenidge

Published 2017 by Algonquin Books

Paperback, English. ISBN: 9781616206444

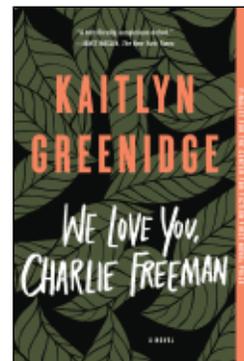
[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

"A terrifically auspicious debut." --Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*

"Smart, timely and powerful . . . A rich examination of America's treatment of race, and the ways we attempt to discuss and confront it today." -
-*The Huffington Post*

The Freeman family--Charles, Laurel, and their daughters, teenage Charlotte and nine-year-old Callie--have been invited to the Toneybee Institute to



participate in a research experiment. They will live in an apartment on campus with Charlie, a young chimp abandoned by his mother. The Freemans were selected because they know sign language; they are supposed to teach it to Charlie and welcome him as a member of their family. But when Charlotte discovers the truth about the institute's history of questionable studies, the secrets of the past invade the present in devious ways.

The power of this shattering novel resides in Greenidge's undeniable storytelling talents. What appears to be a story of mothers and daughters, of sisterhood put to the test, of adolescent love and grown-up misconduct, and of history's long reach, becomes a provocative and compelling exploration of America's failure to find a language to talk about race.

"A magnificently textured, vital, visceral feat of storytelling . . . [by] a sharp, poignant, extraordinary new voice of American literature." --**Tea Obreht**, author of *The Tiger's Wife*

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Seven Minutes in Heaven

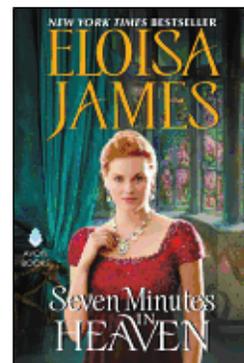
by Eloisa James

Published 2017 by Avon Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9780062660121

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



Witty and elusive Eugenia Snowe has all society begging for one of her premiere governesses-except the powerful Edward Reeve, who bursts into her office with his arrogant demands.

No question that Eugenia enjoys crossing wits with the brilliant inventor, but Ward wants far more than a governess. He wants Eugenia, and he'll stop at nothing to have her-including kidnapping.

Will Eugenia lose her heart in the most reckless gamble of her life, or will she discover the sweetest pleasure she's ever known?

All it will take is seven minutes...

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Behind Her Eyes: A Suspenseful Psychological Thriller

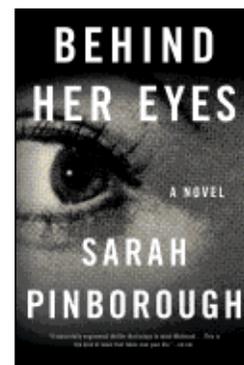
by Sarah Pinborough

Published 2017 by Flatiron Books

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 9781250111173

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



AN INSTANT *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER

"You should read *Behind Her Eyes*...It's bloody brilliant." --Stephen King

"An eerie thriller...Pinborough keeps us guessing about just who's manipulating whom - until the ending reveals that we've been wholly complicit in this terrifying mind game." --*The New York Times Book Review*

Why is everyone talking about the ending of Sarah Pinborough's *Behind Her Eyes*?

Louise is a single mom, a secretary, stuck in a modern-day rut. On a rare night out, she meets a man in a bar and sparks fly. Though he leaves after they kiss, she's thrilled she finally connected with someone.

When Louise arrives at work on Monday, she meets her new boss, David. The man from the bar. The very married man from the bar...who says the kiss was a terrible mistake, but who still can't keep his eyes off Louise.

And then Louise bumps into Adele, who's new to town and in need of a friend. But she also just happens to be married to David. And if you think you know where this story is going, think again, because *Behind Her Eyes* is like no other book you've read before.

David and Adele look like the picture-perfect husband and wife. But then why is David so controlling? And why is Adele so scared of him?

As Louise is drawn into David and Adele's orbit, she uncovers more puzzling questions than answers. The only thing that is crystal clear is that something in this marriage is very, very wrong. But Louise can't guess how wrong--and how far a person might go to protect their marriage's secrets.

In *Behind Her Eyes*, Sarah Pinborough has written a novel that takes the modern day love triangle and not only turns it on its head, but completely reinvents it in a way that will leave readers reeling.

"Deserves its own warning label...Avoid any contact with the growing buzz concerning the novel's ingenious, to-die-for twist." --*BookPage*

[Read or Write a Comment ►](#)

Publishers Weekly 11/28/2016

British author Pinborough (*Murder*) effectively shifts perspectives between two complex characters in this twisty psychological thriller set in North London. Louise Barnsley is chagrined to learn that the hunky man who kissed her in a bar turns out to be her new, married boss, therapist David Martin. Louise and David agree that the flirtation would be just a onetime thing, but their interactions become more complicated when David's gorgeous wife, Adele, bumps into Louise and

cultivates her friendship. Sections set in different time frames provide an ominous backdrop for the triangle, with references to dirt under fingernails and things having been done "that could not be undone." Despite her deepening bond with Adele, Louise is unable to successfully repress her attraction to David, even as he shows sides of his personality that disturb her. Pinborough will keep even veteran genre readers guessing about which members of the trio, if any, are providing trustworthy accounts of their pasts and presents. Agent: Veronique Baxter, David Higham Associates (U.K.). (Jan.)

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