

# Akashic Books

London Book Fair 2022—Rights List

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## ADULT FICTION

***The Reservoir*** LITERARY FICTION BY **DAVID DUCHOVNY** (*The X-Files*, *Californication*)

***Random*** CRIME FICTION BY **PENN JILLETTE** (OF MAGIC DUO **PENN & TELLER**)

***Book of Extraordinary Tragedies*** LITERARY FICTION BY **JOE MENO**

***Now Lila Knows*** LITERARY FICTION BY **ELIZABETH NUNEZ**

***The Partition*** SHORT STORIES BY **DON LEE**

***Tell the Rest*** LITERARY FICTION BY **LUCY JANE BLEDSOE**

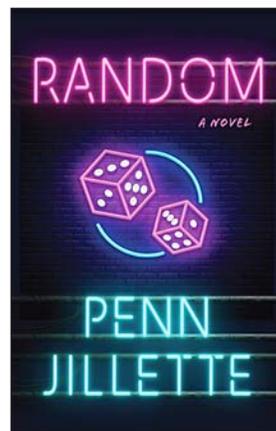
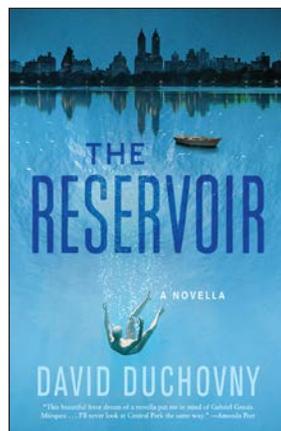
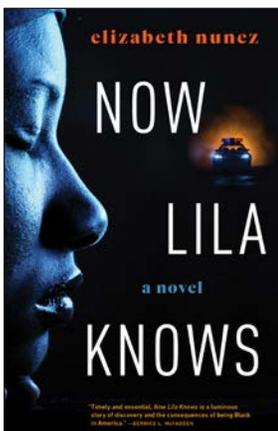
## ADULT NONFICTION

***Nein, Nein, Nein!: One Man's Tale of Depression, Psychic Torment, and a Bus Tour of the Holocaust***

A MEMOIR BY **JERRY STAHL**

***Junk Science and the American Criminal Justice System***

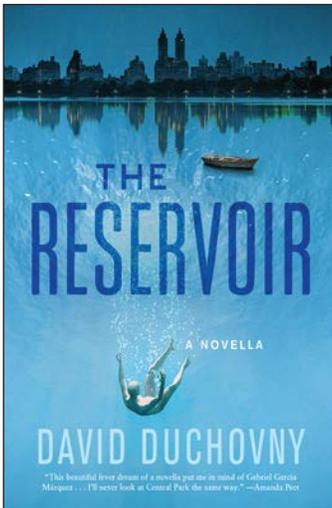
NONFICTION BY **M. CHRIS FABRICANT**



# The Reservoir

BY **David Duchovny** (*The X-Files*, *Californication*)

**A former Wall Street veteran, quarantined by the coronavirus, becomes consumed with madness—or the fulfillment of his own mythic fate**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 7 June 2022; 128 pages; literary fiction

**COMP TITLES:** *Death in Venice* by Thomas Mann; *The Plague* by Albert Camus, *The New York Trilogy* by Paul Auster

**LICENSING DEALS:** *The Reservoir:* France & Hungary; *Holy Cow:* Bulgaria, Catalan, Czech Republic, Netherlands, UK and Commonwealth, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Norway, Brazil, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey; *Bucky F\*cking Dent:* Czech Republic, Netherlands, Germany, Japan, Brazil, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine; *Miss Subways:* Russia, Ukraine; *Truly Like Lightning:* France.

“This beautiful fever dream of a novella put me in mind of Gabriel García Márquez because of its sense of romance—and humor—in the midst of calamity. I’ll never look at Central Park the same way.” —Amanda Peet, actress

**THE RESERVOIR** follows an unexceptional man in an exceptional time. We see our present-day pandemic world and New York City through the eyes of

a former Wall Street veteran, Ridley, as he looks back upon his life in his enforced quarantined solitude, wondering what it all means and who he really is. Sitting and brooding night after night, gazing out his huge picture window high above the Central Park Reservoir, Ridley spots a flashing light in an apartment across the park as if a lonely quarantined person is signaling him in Morse code. His determination to find out who this mystery woman is leads him on an epic quest that will ultimately tempt him with either delusional madness or the fulfillment of his own mythic fate.

We accompany Ridley as he leaves the safety of his apartment window to save the Fifth Avenue femme fatale and descends into a dangerous, increasingly surreal world of global conspiracies, madness, and sickness of this viral time. As Ridley’s actions grow more and more uncharacteristic, he realizes the key to all the mysteries of now, and even all of history, seem to lie deep beneath the freezing waters of the reservoir.

*The Reservoir* is a twisted rom-com for our distanced time, when the merest touch could kill and conspiracy theories propagate like viruses—a contemporary union of *Death in Venice*, *Rear Window*, and *The Plague*.



**DAVID DUCHOVNY** is an award-winning actor, writer, director, *New York Times* best-selling author, and singer-songwriter. With an acting career spanning two decades, Duchovny is a two-time Golden Globe winner and four-time Emmy nominee. He is a prolific author whose fourth novel, *Truly Like Lightning*, was published in February 2021. His previous novels include the *New York Times* best seller *Holy Cow*, *Bucky F\*cking Dent*, and *Miss Subways*. As a musician, Duchovny has released three studio albums, *Hell or Highwater*, *Every Third Thought*, and *Gestureland*.

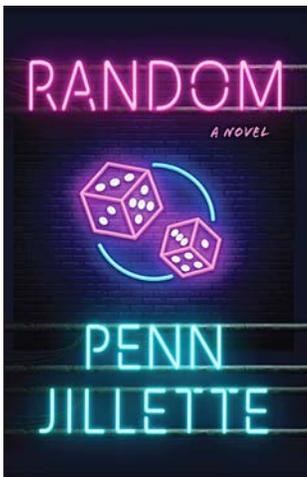
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# Random

CRIME FICTION (THAT WILL MAKE YOU LAUGH OUT LOUD!)

BY **Penn Jillette**

**From Penn Jillette of the legendary magic duo Penn & Teller:  
a rollicking crime caper that will bend your mind like a spoon.**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 11 October 2022, 288 pages; crime fiction/humor

**COMP TITLES:** *Bad Monkey* by Carl Hiaasen; *Holy Cow* by David Duchovny

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Jillette is best-known as talking half of award-winning magic duo Penn & Teller; his nonfiction book *Presto!* was a *New York Times* best seller

"Random is everything you would hope from Penn Jillette and so much more. Random numbers are seemingly crazy, unconnected, and unpredictable: this fabulous, wondrously compelling, funny, and original novel is all that too. As for laughs—it passed the the fling-up-the-head-snort-and-slap-the-thigh test a dozen times in the first few pages alone. Hugely recommended." —**Stephen Fry**, actor/writer

"Bravo, Bobby Ingersoll. Encore, Penn Jillette!" —**Debbie Harry**

**TWO WEEKS BEFORE HIS TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY**, Las Vegas native Bobby Ingersoll finds out he's inherited a crushing gambling debt from his scumbag father. The debt is owed to an even scummier bag named Fraser Ruphart who oversees his bottom-rung criminal empire from the classy-adjacent Trump International Hotel. Bobby's prospects of paying off the note, which comes due the day he turns twenty-one, are about as dim as the sign on the tower's facade. The two weeks pass in the blink of a (snake) eye, but before Bobby's luck runs out, he stumbles upon enough cash to pay Ruphart off and change his family's fortune. More importantly, he finds himself with a new, for lack of a better word, faith.

Bobby does not consign his big break to a "higher power"—what Penn Jillette hero ever could? Instead, he devises and devotes himself to Random, a philosophy where his life choices are based entirely on the roll of his "lucky" dice. What follows is a hilarious exploration into not so much what defines us as what *divines* us when we give over every decision—from what to eat to whom to marry to how or when to die—to the random fall of two numbered cubes. Combining the intellectual curiosity of Richard Dawkins with the humor and grit of an Elmore Leonard antihero, Jillette's up-on-his-luck Ingersoll is the character we need to help us navigate the chaos of the post-truth era . . . Well, unless his roll runs cold.



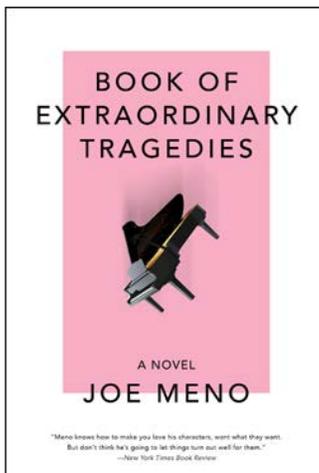
**PENN JILLETTE** is a cultural phenomenon as a solo personality and as half of the world-famous Emmy Award-winning magic duo Penn & Teller, whose live show spent years on Broadway and is now the longest-running headlining show in Las Vegas. The pair have their own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Jillette cohosted the Showtime series *Penn & Teller: Bullshit!* which was nominated for thirteen Emmy Awards and won him a Writers Guild Award. He currently cohosts the competition series *Penn & Teller: Fool Us!* which was nominated for a 2017 Critics' Choice Award. He is the author of numerous books, including the nonfiction *New York Times* best-selling books *Presto! How I Made Over 100 Pounds Disappear and Other Magical Tales* and *God No!: Signs You May Already Be an Atheist and Other Magical Tales*.

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# Book of Extraordinary Tragedies

A NOVEL BY **Joe Meno**

**From the best-selling author of *Hairstyles of the Damned* comes a moving novel about the impossibility of fate and family**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 6 September 2022; 352 pages; literary fiction

**COMP TITLES:** *The Financial Lives of Poets* by Jess Walter; *Here I Am* by Jonathan Safran Foer

**PREVIOUS LICENSING DEALS:** *Hairstyles of the Damned*: Germany, France, Mexico, (Spanish language, excluding Spain), Russia, Italy, Turkey; *Demons in the Spring*: Korea and Russia; *How the Hula Girl Sings*: France and Russia; *Office Girl*: Argentina (World Spanish); *The Boy Detective Fails*: Italy, Korea, and Russia; *Marvel and a Wonder*: France

"I don't know how Joe Meno does it—if I did know, I'd copy him. This book has such velocity that it generates wind, yet it is meditative and steeped in love, music, and human connection. It's stunning."

—**Luis Alberto Urrea**, author of *The House of Broken Angels*

**ALEKSANDAR AND ISOBEL ARE SIBLINGS** and former classical music prodigies, once destined for greatness. As the only Eastern European family growing up on their block on the far southside of Chicago, the pair were inseparable until each was forced to confront the absurdity of tragedy at an early age: Aleks lives with hearing loss, while Isobel struggles with preposterous expectations from herself and her family.

Both now in their twenties, they find themselves encountering ridiculous jobs, unfulfilling romantic relationships, and the outrageousness of ordinary life. Doomed by fate, a family history of failure, an odd mother, an absent father, and a younger brother with a peculiar fondness for catastrophes, the two siblings have all but given up.

But when an illness forces Isobel to move back into the family home with her three-year-old daughter, everything changes for Aleks. Over the course of several months, he becomes deeply involved in the endless challenges that surround his relatives. Once Isobel begins playing cello again and announces her intention to audition for an amateur symphony, Aleks comes to see a world of possibility and wonder in the lives of his extraordinarily complicated family.

Told in Aleks's exuberant voice, and full of as much comedy as tragedy, this entertaining novel asks, *Is it ever truly possible to separate our fates from those we've come to love?*



**JOE MENO** is a fiction writer and journalist who lives in Chicago. Winner of the Nelson Algren Literary Award, a Pushcart Prize, and a finalist for the Story Prize, Meno is the best-selling author of several novels and short story collections including *Marvel and a Wonder*, *The Great Perhaps*, *The Boy Detective Fails*, and *Hairstyles of the Damned*. He is a professor in the English and Creative Writing Department at Columbia College Chicago.

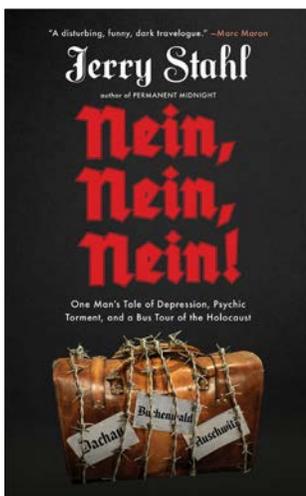
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# Nein, Nein, Nein!

## One Man's Tale of Depression, Psychic Torment, and a Bus Tour of the Holocaust

A MEMOIR BY **Jerry Stahl**

**A guided group tour to concentration camps in Poland and Germany allows Stahl to confront personal and historical demons with both despair and humor**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 5 July 2022; 264 pages; memoir

**COMP TITLES:** *Permanent Midnight* by Jerry Stahl; *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl

**LICENSING DEALS:** *Nein, Nein, Nein!*: France; *Permanent Midnight*: Italy, France; *Bad Sex on Speed*, *Perv*, *Plainclothes Naked*, *Pain Killers*, and *Happy Mutant Baby Pills* were all licensed to France; *I, Fatty*: France and Spain.

"There's dark humor, and then there is *Nein, Nein, Nein!* Jerry Stahl manages a balancing act here that would put all the trapeze artists of the world to shame."  
—Lucy Sante, author of *Low Life*

"A disturbing, funny, dark travelogue." —Marc Maron, author of *Attempting Normal*

**IN SEPTEMBER 2016, JERRY STAHL** was feeling nervous on the eve of a two-week trip across Poland and Germany. But it was not just the stops at Auschwitz, Buchenwald, and Dachau that gave him anxiety. It was the fact that he would be traveling with two dozen strangers, by bus. In a tour group. And he was not a tour-group kind of guy.

The decision to visit Holocaust-world did not come easy. Stahl's lifelong depression at an all-time high, his career and personal life at an all-time low, he had the idea to go on a trip where the despair he was feeling—out-of-control sadness, regret, and fear, not just for himself, but for our entire country—would be appropriate. And where was despair more appropriate than the land of the Six Million?

Seamlessly weaving global and personal history, through the lens of Stahl's own bent perspective, *Nein, Nein, Nein!* stands out as a triumph of strange-o reporting, a tale that takes us from gang polkas to tour-rash to the truly disturbing snack bar at Auschwitz. Strap in for a raw, surreal, and redemptively hilarious trip. Get on the bus.



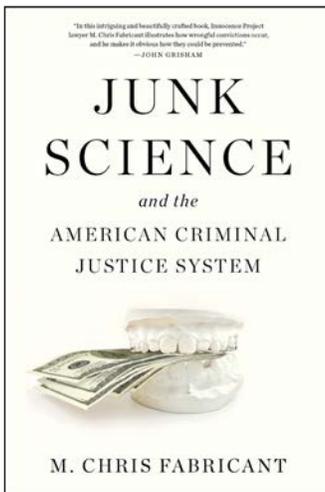
**JERRY STAHL** is the author of ten books, including the best sellers *Permanent Midnight*, a memoir, and the novel *I, Fatty*. His journalism has appeared in *Esquire*, the *New York Times*, *Vice*, the *Believer*, and a variety of other publications. He has written extensively for film and television, including *Hemingway & Gellhorn*, *CSI*, and *Escape at Dannemora*, for which he received an Emmy nomination.

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# *Junk Science* and the American Criminal Justice System

NONFICTION BY **M. Chris Fabricant**

***An insider's journey into the heart of a broken, racist system of justice and the role junk science plays in maintaining the status quo***



**BOOK DETAILS:** 5 April 2022; 368 pages; True Crime/Criminal Justice

**COMPS:** *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson; *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander; Netflix's *Making a Murderer*

**LICENSING DEALS:** China

"No one in America will ever know the number of innocent people convicted, sent to prison, and even executed because of the flood of rotten forensics and bogus scientific opinions presented to juries. In this intriguing and beautifully crafted book, Innocence Project lawyer M. Chris Fabricant illustrates how wrongful convictions occur, and he makes it obvious how they could be prevented."  
—**John Grisham**, author of *A Time for Mercy*

"Readers—especially those fond of TV detectives and their infallible crime labs—will be flabbergasted by [Fabricant's] list of forensic techniques long used by labs, including the FBI's, and proclaimed by highly paid 'expert witnesses' that, when investigated by competent researchers, turn out to be unreliable or worthless . . . A brilliant rebuttal of junk science in the courtroom." —*Kirkus Reviews*, STARRED review

**FROM THE POPULAR TV SHOWS *CSI TO FORENSIC FILES*** to the celebrated reputation of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation crime lab, "forensic scientists" have long been mythologized in American popular culture as infallible crime solvers. Judges and juries put their faith in "expert witnesses" and innocent people have been executed as a result. Innocent people are on death row today, condemned by junk science.

In 2012, the Innocence Project began searching for prisoners convicted by junk science, and three men, each convicted of capital murder, became M. Chris Fabricant's clients. *Junk Science and the American Criminal Justice System* chronicles the fights to overturn their wrongful convictions and to end the use of the "science" that destroyed their lives.

At turns gripping, enraging, and moving, *Junk Science* is a meticulously researched insider's perspective of the American criminal justice system. Previously untold stories of wrongful executions, corrupt prosecutors, and quackery masquerading as science animate Fabricant's astonishing true-crime narrative.



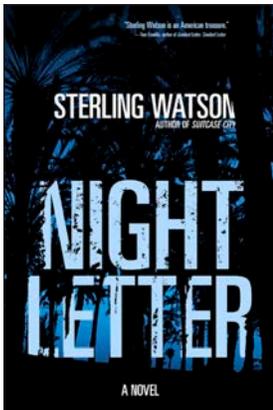
**M. CHRIS FABRICANT** is the Innocence Project's Director of Strategic Litigation and one of the nation's leading experts on forensic sciences and the criminal justice system. Fabricant is featured in the Netflix documentary *The Innocence Files* and his public commentary has been published in virtually every major media outlet. A former public defender and clinical law professor, Fabricant brings to his writing over two decades of experience ranging from litigating death penalty cases in the Deep South to misdemeanors in the South Bronx.

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# Night Letter

NOIR FICTION BY **Sterling Watson**

**Set in Florida's desolate panhandle, *Night Letter* is part coming-of-age story, all hard-boiled noir**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 3 January 2023; 304 pages; literary fiction

**COMP TITLES:** *Florida* by Lauren Groff; *Crooked Letter*, *Crooked Letter* by Tom Franklin

"The novels of Sterling Watson are to be treasured and passed on to the next generation."  
—**Dennis Lehane**, author of *Shutter Island*

"Sterling Watson's *Night Letter* is a revelation and one of the most engaging books I've read in a long time. Part voice-driven coming-of-age, part atmospheric noir, the writing itself is incisive and poetic, and the characters themselves are those rare literary creations—complicated and human and real. Imagine a thriller conceived by David Goodis and written by Carson McCullers. This book helps to redefine the boundaries of contemporary American fiction."  
—Joe Meno, author of *Book of Extraordinary Tragedies*

**EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD TRAVIS HOLLISTER IS ALWAYS THE STRANGER WHO COMES TO TOWN.** As a twelve-year-old escaping a disordered and unhappy home and parents who loved hard but couldn't make it work, Travis left the Midwest to spend a summer with his grandparents in the Deep South. There he met Delia, the love of his life, who, tragically, was beyond his reach for two reasons—she was his aunt and she was sixteen years old. That summer made Travis guilty of crimes discovered and undiscovered. For his public wrongs, he did time, six years in a Nebraska reform school. For his undiscovered wrongs, he suffers mightily and wants desperately to be shriven. Can he achieve redemption or is he bound for the hell on earth he can imagine all too well?

Driven by his need to rejoin the human community, he becomes the stranger who arrives in Panama City, Florida, searching for Delia, the aunt who was the idol of his twelve-year-old passion. Who is she now? What have the years done to her? Will she welcome the return of Travis or fear it? What will she do about the return of the stranger she once held to her teenage heart.

Jean Paul Sartre said, "Hell is other people." In the course of this story, Travis learns that other people can also be salvation. Amid a cast of characters struggling with their own needs, desires, tragedies, and, yes, crimes, Travis finds violence, hatred, vengeance, and, in greater measure, friendship, honor, loyalty, and at least a glimpse of the road to redemption.

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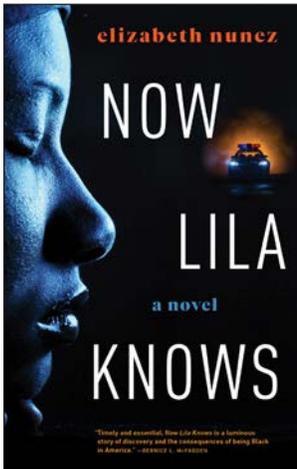
**STERLING WATSON** is the author of nine novels, including *Deadly Sweet*, *Sweet Dream Baby*, *Fighting in the Shade*, *Suitcase City*, and *The Committee*. Watson's short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, the *Georgia Review*, the *Los Angeles Times Book Review*, the *Michigan Quarterly Review*, and the *Southern Review*. He was director of the creative writing program at Eckerd College for twenty years and now teaches at Lasell University in Newton, Massachusetts. Of his sixth novel, *Suitcase City*, Tom Franklin said, "If this taut literary crime novel doesn't center Sterling Watson on the map, we should change maps." Watson lives in Gulfport, Florida.

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# Now Lila Knows

LITERARY FICTION BY **Elizabeth Nunez**

**Caribbean professor Lila Bonnard arrives in Vermont for a short-term teaching position and is forced to confront the terrible legacy of American (in)justice**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 7 June 2022; 256 pages; literary fiction

**COMP TITLES:** *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones, *Such a Fun Age* by Kiley Reid, and *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

**HIGHLIGHTS:** *Anna In-Between* was licensed into Spain; *Not for Everyday Use* was licensed Guadeloupe (French); Nunez has received numerous awards over the years for her writing including: an American Book Award, a PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award, a Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in nonfiction, and a NALIS Lifetime Literary Award from the Trinidad and Tobago National Library.

"Nunez is one of the finest and most necessary voices in contemporary American and Caribbean fiction."

—Colum McCann, author of *Let the Great World Spin*

"Nunez has always had the power to get to the essence of what makes human beings take right and wrong turns."

—Edward P. Jones, author of *The Known World*

**LILA BONNARD HAS LEFT HER ISLAND HOME** in the Caribbean to join the faculty as a visiting professor at Mayfield College in a small Vermont town. On her way from the airport to Mayfield, Lila witnesses the fatal shooting of a Black man by the police. It turns out that the victim was a professor at Mayfield College, and he was giving CPR to a white woman who was on the verge of an opioid overdose. The two Black faculty and a Black administrator in the otherwise all-white college expect Lila to be a witness in the case against the police, but Lila fears that in the current hostile political climate against immigrants of color she may jeopardize her position at the college by speaking out, and her fiancé advises her to remain neutral.

*Now Lila Knows* is a gripping story that explores our obligation to act when confronted with the unfair treatment of fellow human beings. A page-turner with universal resonance, this novel will leave readers rethinking the meaning of love and empathy.



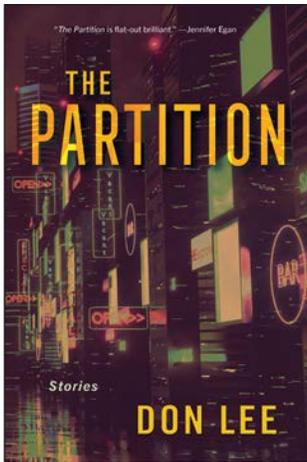
**ELIZABETH NUNEZ** is the award-winning author of a memoir and ten novels, four of them selected as *New York Times* Editors' Choices. *Anna In-Between* won the PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award and was long-listed for an IMPAC Dublin International Literary Award. Nunez also received the 2015 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in nonfiction for *Not for Everyday Use*; an American Book Award; and a NALIS Lifetime Literary Award from the Trinidad and Tobago National Library. She is a cofounder of the National Black Writers Conference and executive producer of the CUNY-TV series *Black Writers in America*. Nunez is a Distinguished Professor at Hunter College, where she teaches fiction writing. She divides her time between Amityville and Brooklyn, New York.

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# The Partition

SHORT STORIES BY **DON LEE**

**A thrilling new story collection from acclaimed writer Don Lee exploring Asian identity, spanning decades and continents.**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 26 April 2022, 296 pages; short stories

**COMP TITLES:** *Liars in Love* by Richard Yates; *Interior Chinatown* by Charles Yu

**PREVIOUS LICENSING:** *Yellow* (short stories): Korea; *Country of Origin*: Italy, Turkey, Japan, Israel, and Germany

“Gorgeous, psychological portraits of men and women caught in the throes of middle age. This smart collection about love and belonging will leave readers wanting more.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“*The Partition* is flat-out brilliant: a witty, kaleidoscopic tear through questions of race and identity in America today by a writer who has wrought luminous fiction from these issues for years. Don Lee’s collection offers vivid, entertaining proof that ethnicity is never straightforward or easy—no matter who we are, or where we stand.”  
—**Jennifer Egan**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *A Visit from the Goon Squad*

“Whatever you’re hiding from may find you in a Don Lee story. But this isn’t a warning. *The Partition* is, again and again, about Asian Americans in ways we don’t always admit we need, a collection about how we alternately cheat and show up for each other and ourselves. And the whole time, there’s a canny, shrewd love, guiding us the way through.” —Alexander Chee, author of *How to Write an Autobiographical Novel*

**TWENTY-ONE YEARS AFTER THE PUBLICATION** of his landmark debut collection *Yellow*, Don Lee returns to the short story form for his sixth book, *The Partition*.

*The Partition* is an updated exploration of Asian identity, this time with characters who are presumptive model minorities in the arts, academia, and media. Spanning decades, these nine novelistic stories traverse an array of cities, from Tokyo to Boston, Honolulu to El Paso, touching upon transient encounters in local bars, restaurants, and hotels.

Culminating in a three-story cycle about a Hollywood actor, *The Partition* incisively examines heartbreak, identity, family, and relationships, the characters searching for answers to universal questions: Where do I belong? How can I find love? What defines an authentic self?



**DON LEE** is the author of the story collection *Yellow* and the novels *Country of Origin*, *Wrack and Ruin*, *The Collective*, and *Lonesome Lies Before Us*. He has received an American Book Award, the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature, and the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction. He lives in Baltimore with his wife, the writer Jane Delury, and teaches in the MFA program in creative writing at Temple University in Philadelphia.

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# Tell the Rest

LITERARY FICTION BY **Lucy Jane Bledsoe**

**Two estranged childhood friends find themselves on parallel paths to return to the site of the Christian conversion therapy camp that tore them apart**



**BOOK DETAILS:** 7 March 2023; 320 pages; literary fiction/LGBTQ+ interest

**COMPS:** *This Is How It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel; *Boy Erased* by Garrard Conley

“A multilayered gem of a novel, polished, intelligent, and moving. *Tell the Rest* deftly explores courage, drive, happiness, sexuality, love, and more in a riveting story that whisks readers along to a surprising and satisfying conclusion. I could not put it down.”

—Meg Waite Clayton, *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Last Train to London*

**DELIA BARNES AND ERNEST WRANGHAM** met as teens at Celebration Camp, a church-supported conversion therapy program—a dubious, unscientific Christian practice meant to “change” a person’s sexuality. After witnessing a close friend suffer a devastating tragedy in the hands of the camp “counselors,” they escaped in the night, only to take separate roads to their distant homes.

They have no idea how each have fared through the years. Delia is a college basketball coach who prides herself on being an empowering and self-possessed role model for her players. But when she gets fired from her elite East Coast university and loses her wife to another woman in rapid succession, she returns to her hometown of Rockside, Oregon to coach the girls’ basketball team at her high school alma mater.

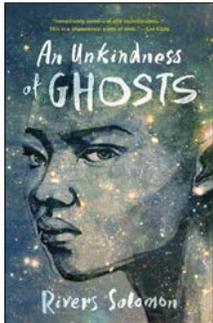
Ernest, meanwhile, is a renowned poet in New York City who’s left behind his loving husband for a temporary teaching job in Portland, Oregon. His work has always been boundary-pushing, fearless. But the poem he’s most wanted to write—about his dangerous escape from Celebration Camp—remains stubbornly out of reach.

Both remain on a mission to overcome the consequences and inhumane costs of conversion therapy. As events find them hurtling toward each other once again, they both grapple with the necessity of remaining steadfast in one’s truth—no matter how slippery that can be. *Tell the Rest* is a powerful novel about coming to terms—with family, history, violence, loss, sexuality, and ultimately, with love.

**LUCY JANE BLEDSOE** is the author of several works of fiction, including *A Thin Bright Line*, which was a Lambda Literary Award and Ferro-Grumley Award finalist. She is the winner of an American Library Association Stonewall Award, a Yaddo Fellowship, a California Arts Council Fellowship in Literature, two National Science Foundation Artists & Writers Fellowships, and a finalist for the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association Fiction Award. A native of Portland, Oregon, she now lives in Berkeley, California.

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# Backlist Highlights



## **An Unkindness of Ghosts**

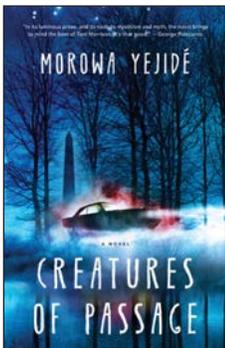
SCIENCE FICTION BY **Rivers Solomon**

**PREVIOUS LICENSING:** France, Finland, Hungary, and Korea

Selected as a "Best Book" of 2017 by NPR, the Guardian, Publishers Weekly, Library Journal, Barnes & Noble, Chicago Public Library

"In Rivers Solomon's *An Unkindness of Ghosts*, a generation starship has left the ruined Earth behind: the senior crew are all white supremacists, while dark-skinned people are kept below decks as slave labor. In this unflinching debut Solomon invites comparisons with Octavia Butler." —*Guardian*, Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Book of the Year, 2017

"Harrowing and beautiful, this is SF at its best: showing the possible future but warning of the danger of bringing old prejudices and cruelties to that new world. While a story about enslaved people in space could be a one-note polemic, the fully rounded characters bring nuance and genuine pathos to this amazing debut." —*Library Journal*, starred review



## **Creatures of Passage**

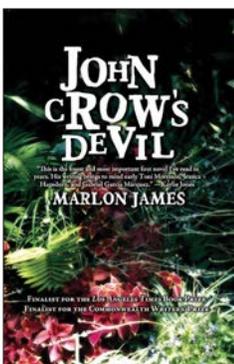
LITERARY FICTION BY **Morowa Yejidé**

**PREVIOUS LICENSING:** UK

**Long-listed for the Women's Prize for Fiction;** Short-listed for the 2021 Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence; an NPR Best Book of 2021 and one of the *Washington Post's* 50 Notable Fiction Books of 2021

"Yejidé's writing captures both real news and spiritual truths with the deftness and capacious imagination of her writing foremothers: Zora Neale Hurston, Toni Morrison and N.K. Jemisin . . . *Creatures of Passage* is that rare novel that dispenses ancestral wisdom and literary virtuosity in equal measure." —*Washington Post*

"The novel is worthy of every Toni Morrison comparison it receives, effortlessly blending the brutalities of DC's history with the mythical and supernatural. *Creatures of Passage* is a lyrical journey that will stick with you." —NPR, a "Books We Love" selection for 2021



## **John Crow's Devil**

THE DEBUT NOVEL BY **Marlon James** (winner of the Man Booker Prize for *A Brief History of Seven Killings*)

**PREVIOUS LICENSING:** UK, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, and Egypt

Finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize

"A powerful first novel . . . Writing with assurance and control, James uses his small-town drama to suggest the larger anguish of a postcolonial society struggling for its own identity." —*New York Times*, Editors' choice

"Elements coalesce in a Jamaican stew spicier than jerk chicken. First novelist James moves effortlessly between lyrical patois and trenchant observations . . . It's 150-proof literary rum guaranteed to intoxicate and enchant. Highly recommended." —*Library Journal*, starred review

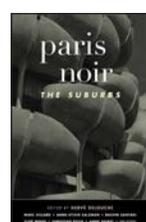
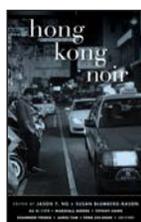
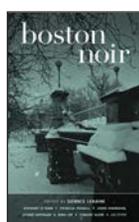
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