

Minotaur Books  
9781250887931  
Pub Date: 1/16/2024  
\$29.00/\$39.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

384 Pages  
Fiction / Thrillers  
FIC031010  
9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## Only If You're Lucky

### A Novel

Stacy Willingham

**A sharp and twisty exploration of female friendship from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Flicker in the Dark* and *All the Dangerous Things*.**

### Summary

Lucy Sharpe is larger than life. Magnetic, addictive. Bold and dangerous. Especially for Margot, who meets Lucy at the end of their freshman year at a liberal arts college in South Carolina. Margot is the shy one, the careful one, always the sidekick and never the center of attention. But when Lucy singles her out at the end of the year, a year Margot spent studying and playing it safe, and asks her to room together, something in Margot can't say no--something daring, or starved, or maybe even envious.

And so Margot finds herself living in an off-campus house with three other girls, Lucy, the ringleader; Sloane, the sarcastic one; and Nicole, the nice one, the three of them opposites but also deeply intertwined. It's a year that finds Margot finally coming out of the shell she's been in since the end of high school, when her best friend Eliza died three weeks after graduation. Margot and Lucy have become the closest of friends, but by the middle of their sophomore year, one of the fraternity boys from the house next door has been brutally murdered... and Lucy Sharpe is missing without a trace.

From the author of *A Flicker in the Dark* and *All the Dangerous Things* comes a tantalizing thriller about the nature of friendship and belonging, about loyalty, envy, and betrayal--another gripping novel from an author quickly becoming the gold standard in psychological suspense.

### Contributor Bio

STACY WILLINGHAM is the *New York Times*, USA Today and internationally bestselling author of *A Flicker in the Dark*, *All the Dangerous Things* and *Only If You're Lucky*. Her debut, *A Flicker in the Dark*, was a 2022 finalist for the Book of the Month's Book of the Year award, Goodreads Choice Best Debut award, Goodreads Choice Best Mystery & Thriller award, and ITW's Best First Novel award. Her work has been translated in more than thirty languages. Before turning to fiction, she was a copywriter and brand strategist for various marketing agencies. She earned her B.A. in magazine journalism from the University of Georgia and M.F.A. in writing from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She currently lives in Charleston, South Carolina, with her husband, Britt, and Labradoodle, Mako.

### Quotes

Stacy Willingham's Works Are:

"Stellar suspense at its very best." –Vulture

"Exceptionally smart, entertaining." –*The Washington Post*

"Gripping." –*South Florida Sun Sentinel*

"Haunting." –*PopSugar*



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## The Expectant Detectives

### A Mystery

Kat Ailes

*The Expectant Detectives* is first in a delightful new mystery series following a group of pregnant women who meet at a prenatal class and team up to solve the murder of someone in their village.

### Summary

*Can she solve the mother of all murders?*

For Alice and her partner Joe, moving to the sleepy village of Penton is a chance to embrace country life and prepare for the birth of their unplanned but welcome first child. He can take up woodwork; maybe she'll learn to make jam? But the rural idyll they'd hoped for doesn't quite pan out when a dead body is discovered at their local prenatal class, and they find themselves suspects in a murder investigation.

With a cloud of suspicion hanging over the heads of the whole group, Alice and her new-found friends, set out to solve the mystery and clear her name, with the help of her troublesome dog, Helen. However, there are more secrets and tensions in the heart of Penton than first meet the eye. Between the discovery of a shady commune up in the woods, the unearthing of a mysterious death years earlier and the near-tragic poisoning of Helen, Alice is soon in way over her head.

*The Thursday Murder Club* meets *Midsomer Murders* in this fresh, funny mystery about a group of soon-to-be moms-turned-detectives.

### Contributor Bio

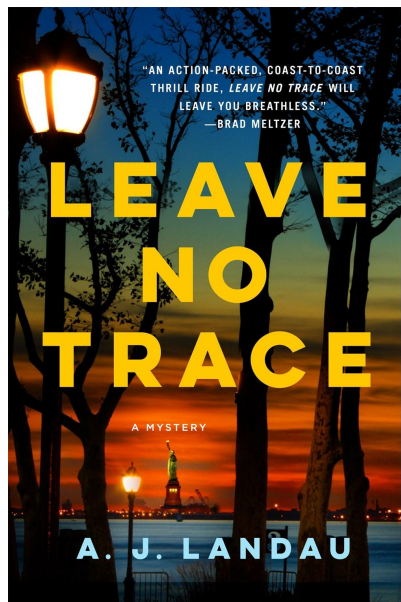
KAT AILES (she/her) works in publishing as an editor and freelanced for several years to allow her to take a couple of belated gap years, including hiking the Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada. She now lives in the Cotswolds with her lovely husband, their young son and her beautiful but foolish dog. *The Expectant Detectives* is her debut novel, the first draft of which was written largely (and frantically) in three weeks after she submitted the first few chapters to the Comedy Women in Print Prize and was unexpectedly shortlisted.

### Quotes

"A wildly impressive debut. Pacey, energetic and best of all hilariously funny—without detracting from the shadowy mystery and genuine humanity at its core. Its characters and twisty plot feel absolutely real—you'll be on the edge of your seat, totally immersed in trying to work out who did it, but rest assured you're never far from a smile. Cozy crime at its finest!"—Janice Hallett, international bestselling author of *The Appeal*

"A gloriously smart and witty telling of the darker side of antenatal groups—this is really funny with edge."—Helen Lederer, author of *Losing It*

"Murdering every mommy cliché with hilarity and heart, this book is a complete triumph. Perfectly plotted, brilliantly observed and just so much fun."—Lauren Bravo, author of *How To Break Up With Fast Fashion*



## Leave No Trace

### A National Parks Thriller

A. J. Landau, Jon Land, Jeff Ayers

The Statue of Liberty is the target of a terrorist attack, the first in a possible series of attacks, in this new series featuring Special Agent Michael Walker of the National Park Service.

### Summary

In a daring, brutal act of terrorism, an explosion rocks and topples the Statue of Liberty. Special Agent Michael Walker of the National Park Service is awakened by his boss with that news and sent to New York as the agent-in-charge. Not long after he lands, he learns two things - one that Gina Delgado of the FBI has been placed in charge of the investigation as the lead of the Joint Terrorism Task Force and two, that threats of a second terrorism attack are already being called into the media. While barred from the meetings of the Joint Task Force for his lack of security clearance, Walker finds a young boy among the survivors with a critical piece of information - a video linking the attackers to the assault.

As a radical domestic terrorist group, led by a shadowy figure known only as Jebediah, threatens further attacks against America's cultural symbols, powerful forces within the government are misleading the investigation to further their own radical agenda.

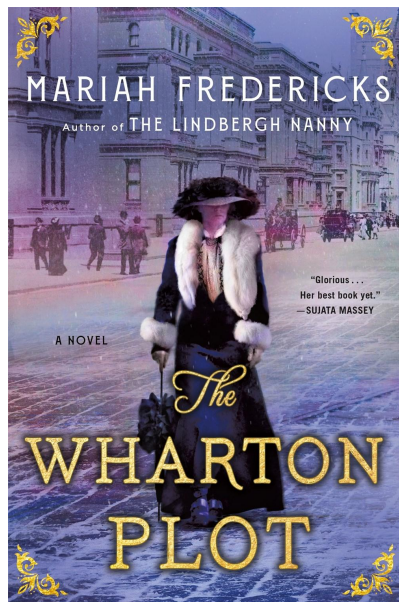
### Contributor Bio

A. J. LANDAU is the pseudonym for two authors, Jon Land, the award-winning, bestselling author and co-author of more than fifty books, and Jeff Ayers, reviewer, former-librarian, and author. Land lives in Providence, Rhode Island, and Jeff Ayers lives in Seattle, Washington

Minotaur Books  
9781250877338  
Pub Date: 2/27/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
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352 Pages  
Fiction / Thrillers  
FIC031000

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Minotaur Books  
9781250827425  
Pub Date: 1/23/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages  
Fiction / Historical  
FIC014080

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## The Wharton Plot

### A Novel

Mariah Fredericks

Mariah Fredericks' mesmerizing new novel, *The Wharton Plot*, follows renowned novelist Edith Wharton in the twilight years of the Gilded Age in New York as she tracks a killer.

### Summary

New York City, 1911. Edith Wharton, almost equally famed for her novels and her sharp tongue, is bone-tired of Manhattan. Finding herself at a crossroads with both her marriage and her writing, she makes the decision to leave America, her publisher, and her loveless marriage.

And then, dashing novelist David Graham Phillips—a writer with often notorious ideas about society and women's place in it—is shot to death outside the Princeton Club. Edith herself met the man only once, when the two formed a mutual distaste over tea in the Palm Court of the Belmont hotel. When Phillips is killed, Edith's life takes another turn. His sister is convinced Graham was killed by someone determined to stop the publication of his next book, which promised to uncover secrets that powerful people would rather stay hidden. Though unconvinced, Edith is curious. What kind of book could push someone to kill?

Inspired by a true story, *The Wharton Plot* follows Edith Wharton through the fading years of the Gilded Age in a city she once loved so well, telling a taut tale of fame, love, and murder, as she becomes obsessed with solving a crime.

### Contributor Bio

MARIAH FREDERICKS (she/her) was born, raised, and still lives in New York City. She graduated from Vassar College with a degree in history. She is the author of the Jane Prescott mystery series, which has twice been nominated for the Mary Higgins Clark Award, as well as several YA novels. *The Lindbergh Nanny* was her first "admirable and involving" (*Wall Street Journal*) standalone novel.

### Quotes

Praise for *The Lindbergh Nanny*:

"The reader feels Betty's agony, and the suspicion levied upon her for what she did or didn't do. Fredericks fills in substantial details from real life, but never forgets to put the human cost, and its lasting damage, at the forefront of her narrative."—*The New York Times*

"An admirable and involving historical novel. Its early sections bring the reader intimately into Betty's eventful upstairs-downstairs world, making the latter parts—including the nanny's participation in the accused kidnapper's trial—all the more dramatic."—*Wall Street Journal*

"A bold and creative retelling of the Lindbergh baby kidnapping, a masterful blending of fact and fiction that is as compelling as it is entertaining. The writing is superb and the characters—real and fictional—come alive on every page." —Nelson DeMille, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Gripping and elegant, *The Lindbergh Nanny* brings readers into the interior of the twentieth century's most infamous crime."—Nina de Gramont, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Christie Affair*

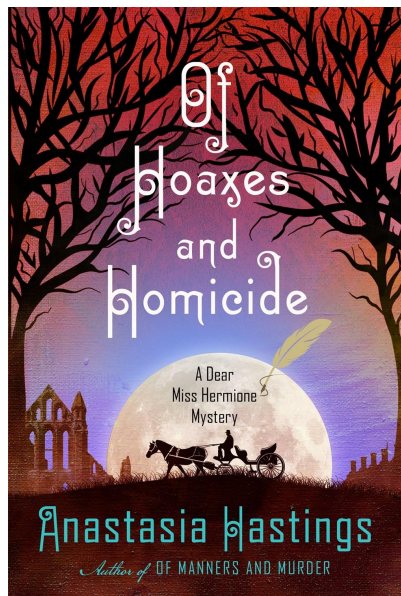
"*The Lindbergh Nanny* is without doubt one of the most spellbinding and compulsively readable novels I've read in a long time, a dazzling take on a most infamous and horrific kidnapping." —Douglas Preston, #1 *New York Times* bestselling co-author with

Lincoln Child of the Agent Pendergast series

"A fresh, penetrating, and profound take on "the crime of the century.""—Susan Elia MacNeal, author of the *New York Times* bestselling Maggie Hope series and *Mother Daughter Traitor Spy*

"Suspenseful and compelling, *The Lindbergh Nanny* is one of the best historical novels I have read in recent years. Fans of Sarah Blake, Jennifer Egan, and Kate Morton will find much to love here. Not to be missed." —Karen Odden, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Down a Dark River*





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9781250848581  
Pub Date: 1/30/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages  
Fiction / Mystery & Detective  
FIC022060

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## Of Hoaxes and Homicide

### A Dear Miss Hermione Mystery

Anastasia Hastings

In the second Dear Miss Hermione mystery, fielding questions from irate housekeepers and heartbroken mothers is just par for the course for the best-loved Agony Aunt in Britain.

### Summary

*"Dear Miss Hermione—what is a mother to do?"*

Sensible Violet Manville and her very ladylike half-sister Sephora are absolutely bored, thank you very much. Though neither of them would ever admit it aloud, they're missing the thrill of playing detective.

So when Violet receives a letter from "A Heartbroken Mother" sent to her alter-ego, the Agony Aunt known to the world only as Miss Hermione, her pulse can't help but quicken. The daughter in question has gotten caught up in a cult: the Hermetic Order of the Children of Aed. Rumors of human sacrifices, mystical doings, and a ghost in the ruined Alburn Abbey where the Children pray have gripped the public consciousness, helped along by a series of novels about the group, written by the mysterious Count Orlando, and clearly this girl has fallen prey.

Miss Hermione's investigation soon collides with very real life when Violet discovers a surprising connection to the cult. With the dashing-but-frustrating Eli Marsh turning up and a member of the Children poisoned, Violet and Sephora—along with their ever-trusty housekeeper Bunty—may have more intrigue than they can manage.

### Contributor Bio

ANASTASIA HASTINGS (she/her) has published over sixty novels under a number of names across her thirty-year-career. She lives outside of Cleveland with her husband, David, and her Airedale, Eliot Ness, who is a ribbon-winning show dog when he's outside and a couch potato when he's home. *Of Manners and Murder* was the first in the Dear Miss Hermione mystery series.

### Quotes

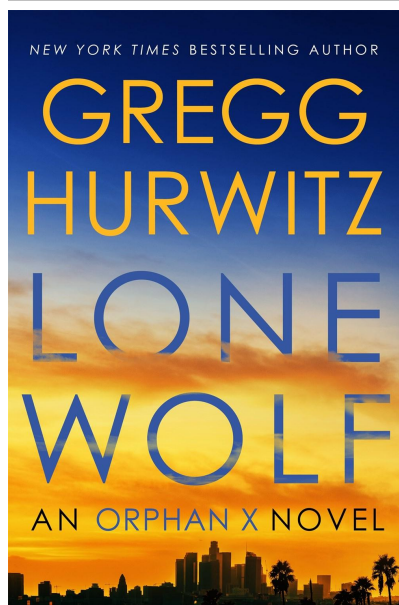
"Delightful . . . The book's thrilling denouement evokes the shocking revelations of Wilkie Collins, the social acuity of Jane Austen and the comic melodrama of Oscar Wilde."—*The Wall Street Journal*

"Hastings imbues her endearing lead with sufficient depth to make the plot plausible."—*Publishers Weekly*

"A series of surprising revelations leads to a shocking conclusion."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Satisfying... includes tricky plot twists and a beautifully described Victorian setting."—*Booklist*

"An entertaining historical mystery."—*Library Journal*



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9781250871732  
Pub Date: 2/13/2024  
\$29.00/\$39.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

400 Pages  
Fiction / Thrillers  
FIC031010

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## Lone Wolf

### An Orphan X Novel

Gregg Hurwitz

When the smallest possible mission pits Orphan X against his most dangerous foe, everything Evan Smoak thinks he knows is in question in this latest in the *New York Times* bestselling series

### Summary

Once a black book government assassin known as Orphan X, Evan Smoak left the program, went deep underground, and reinvented himself as someone who will go anywhere, and risk everything to help the truly desperate who have nowhere else to turn. Since then, Evan has fought international crime syndicates and drug cartels, faced down the most powerful men in the world and even brought down a President. Struggling with an unexpected personal crisis, Evan goes back to the very basics of his mission - and this time, the truly desperate is a little girl who wants him to find her missing dog.

Not his usual mission, and not one Evan embraces with enthusiasm, but this unlikely, tiny job quickly explodes into his biggest mission yet. One that finds him battered between twisted AI technocrat billionaires, a mysterious female assassin who seems a mirror of himself, and personal stakes so gut-wrenching he can scarcely make sense of them.

Evan's mission pushes him to his limit - he must find and take down the assassin known only as the Wolf, before she succeeds in completing her mission and killing the people who can identify her - a teenaged daughter of her last target, and Evan himself. Matched skill for skill, instinct for instinct, Evan must outwit an opponent who will literally stop at nothing if he is to survive.

### Contributor Bio

GREGG HURWITZ is the *New York Times* #1 internationally bestselling author of 24 thrillers including the ORPHAN X series. His novels have won numerous literary awards and have been published in 33 languages. Gregg currently serves as the Co-President of International Thriller Writers (ITW). Additionally, he's written screenplays and television scripts for many of the major studios and television networks. He lives in Los Angeles.

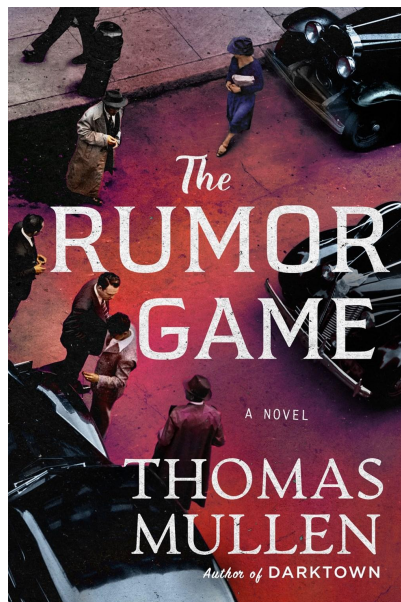
### Quotes

"Awesome and propulsive...big Bourne and Reacher energy." —*New York Times* on *Dark Horse*

"Simply the best all-out action writer in the business, to which he adds a shrewd sense of character... Not to be missed." —*Providence Journal* on *Prodigal Son*

"Excellent...this series just gets better!" —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review) on *Dark Horse*





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Fiction / Thrillers  
FIC031010

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## The Rumor Game

### A Novel

Thomas Mullen

A determined reporter and a reluctant FBI agent face off against fascist elements in this gripping historical thriller set in World War II-era Boston.

### Summary

Reporter Anne Lemire writes the Rumor Clinic, a newspaper column that disproves the many harmful rumors floating around town, some of them spread by Axis spies and others just gossip mixed with fear and ignorance. Tired of chasing silly rumors about Rosie Riveters' safety on the job, she wants to write about something bigger.

Special Agent Devon Mulvey, one of the few Catholics at the FBI, spends his weekdays preventing industrial sabotage and his Sundays spying on clerics with suspect loyalties—and he spends his evenings wooing the many lonely women whose husbands are off at war.

When Anne's story about Nazi propaganda intersects with Devon's investigation into the death of a factory worker, the two are led down a dangerous trail of espionage, organized crime, and domestic fascism—one that implicates their own tangled pasts and threatens to engulf the city in violence.

With vibrant historical atmosphere and a riveting mystery that illuminates still-timely issues about disinformation and power, Thomas Mullen delivers another powerful thriller.

### Contributor Bio

THOMAS MULLEN is the internationally bestselling author of eight novels, including *Darktown*, an NPR Best Book, which was shortlisted for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize, the Southern Book Prize, the Indies Choice Book Award, and was nominated for or won prizes in France, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. The follow-up, *Lightning Men*, was named one of the Top Ten Crime Novels of 2017 by *The New York Times* and was shortlisted for a CWA Dagger Award. His debut, *The Last Town on Earth*, was named Best Debut Novel of 2006 by *USA Today* and was awarded the James Fenimore Cooper Prize for excellence in historical fiction.

### Quotes

Praise for Thomas Mullen

"Time and again, Mullen's suspenseful storytelling pulls us forward." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Mullen unfolds his multifaceted plot with a sure hand and lively characterizations." —*The Wall Street Journal*

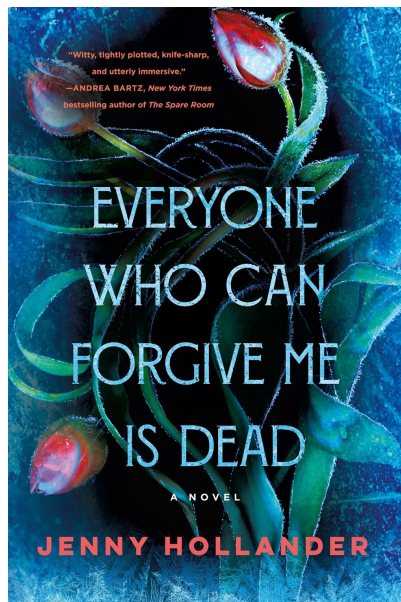
"A brilliant blend of crime, mystery, and American history . . . Terrific entertainment." —Stephen King

"Mullen is a wonderful architect of intersecting plotlines and unexpected answers." —*The Washington Post*

"Mullen expands the boundaries of crime fiction." —*Chicago Tribune*

"Full of sharp writing and thought-provoking ideas." ?Charles Yu

"Terrific . . . brimming with imagination." ?Jason Rekulak



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9781250890849  
Pub Date: 2/6/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages  
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FIC030000

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## Everyone Who Can Forgive Me Is Dead

### A Novel

Jenny Hollander

**A debut thriller about a woman who is trying to escape the past and the horrific event she witnessed at the prestigious journalism school she attended.**

### Summary

Nine years ago, with the world's eyes on her, Charlie Colbert fled. The press and the police called her a "witness" to the nightmarish events at her elite graduate school—though Charlie knows she was much more than that—but, eventually, they left her alone. Now, Charlie has meticulously rebuilt her life: She's the editor-in-chief of a major magazine, the fiancée of the heir of a publishing dynasty, and hell-bent on never, ever letting her guard down again. But when a buzzy movie about the events of that night threatens to shatter everything she's worked for, Charlie realizes how much she's changed in nine years. Now, she's not going to let anything get in her way.

But Charlie shouldn't have let her guard down. Suddenly, "Scarlet Christmas"—named for the bloody scene paramedics stumbled across on Christmas Eve at the prestigious Carroll University—is being adapted for film, with Charlie's classmates promising the public that this time, they'll get to find out what really happened. With everything at stake, Charlie must decide how far she'll go to stop the past that haunts her from colliding with her shiny present.

### Contributor Bio

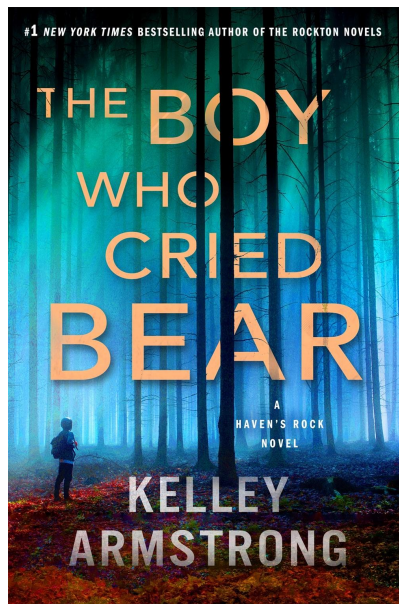
JENNY HOLLANDER is the director of content strategy at *Marie Claire*, where she oversees the brand's daily coverage, as well as the #ReadithMC book club. Before moving to *Marie Claire*, she worked at *Bustle*. A graduate of the Columbia University School of Journalism, Jenny spent ten years in New York before moving back to her hometown of London. *Everyone Who Can Forgive Me Is Dead* is her first novel.

### Quotes

"Guaranteed to keep you up past your bedtime. Voicey, unpredictable, and wholly addictive."— **Laurie Elizabeth Flynn, author of *The Girls Are All So Nice Here***

"Fans of Jessica Knoll's *Luckiest Girl Alive* will love this tautly-constructed thriller in which a woman's fate rests on answering the one question that has always eluded her: what is she capable of in her darkest moments?"— **Ashley Winstead, author of *The Last Housewife***

"*Everyone Who Can Forgive Me Is Dead* is a propulsive read, rife with tension from page one."— **Katherine St. John, author of *The Siren***



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 9781250865441  
 Pub Date: 2/20/2024  
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352 Pages  
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## The Boy Who Cried Bear

### A Haven's Rock Novel

Kelley Armstrong

In *The Boy Who Cried Bear*, *New York Times* bestselling author Kelley Armstrong keeps readers on the edge of their seats while detective Casey Duncan tries to locate the threat before it's too late. . .

### Summary

Haven's Rock is a well-hidden town surrounded by forest. And it's supposed to be, being that it's a refuge for those who need to disappear. Detective Casey Duncan and her husband, Sheriff Eric Dalton already feel at home in their new town, which reminds them of where they first met in Rockton. And while they know how to navigate the woods and its various dangers, other residents don't. Which is why people aren't allowed to wander off alone.

When Max, the town's youngest resident—taught to track animals by Eric—fears a bear is stalking a hiking party, alarms are raised. Even stranger, the ten-year-old swears the bear had human eyes. Casey and Eric know the dangers a bear can present, so they're taking it seriously. But odd occurrences are happening all around them, and when a dead body turns up, they're not sure what they're up against.

### Contributor Bio

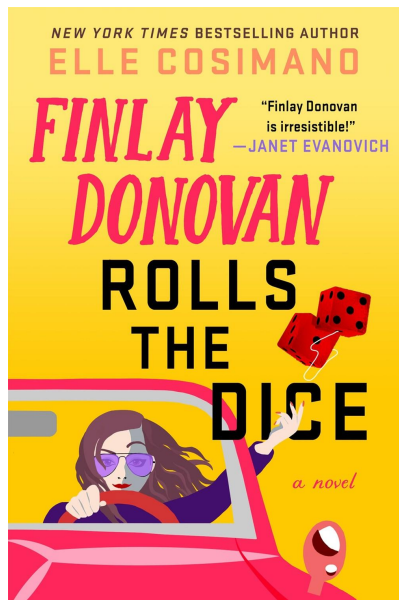
KELLEY ARMSTRONG graduated with a degree in psychology and then studied computer programming. Now, she is a full-time writer and parent, and she lives with her husband and three children in rural Ontario, Canada.

### Quotes

Praise for *Murder at Haven's Rock*

"Excellent. . . Armstrong gives her lead a complex mystery to solve, while vividly evoking the eerie isolation of the setting. Paul Doiron fans will be pleased." *—Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"I predict another stellar series from Kelley Armstrong, one that will keep me guessing." *—Mystery and Suspense*



## Finlay Donovan Rolls the Dice

### A Novel

Elle Cosimano

From *New York Times* bestseller and Edgar-Award nominee Elle Cosimano, comes *Finlay Donovan Rolls the Dice*—the fiercely anticipated next installment in the beloved Finlay Donovan series.

### Summary

Finlay Donovan and her nanny/partner-in-crime Vero are in sore need of a girls' weekend away. They plan a trip to Atlantic City, but odds are—seeing as it's actually a cover story to negotiate a deal with a dangerous loan shark, save Vero's childhood crush Javi, and hunt down a stolen car—it won't be all fun and games. When Finlay's ex-husband Steven and her mother insist on tagging along too, Finlay and Vero suddenly have a few too many meddling passengers along for the ride.

Within hours of arriving in their seedy casino hotel, it becomes clear their rescue mission is going to be a bust. Javi's kidnapper, Marco, refuses to negotiate, demanding payment in full in exchange for Javi's life. But that's not all—he insists on knowing the whereabouts of his missing nephew, Ike, who mysteriously disappeared. Unable to confess what really happened to Ike, Finlay and Vero are forced to come up with a new plan: sleuth out the location of Javi and the Aston Martin, then steal them both back.

If Finlay can juggle a jealous ex-husband, two precocious kids, her mother's marital issues, a decomposing loan shark, and find Vero's missing boyfriend, she might get out of Atlantic City in one piece. But will she fold under the pressure and come clean about the things she's done, or be forced to double down?

### Contributor Bio

ELLE COSIMANO is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author, an International Thriller Writers Award winner, and an Edgar Award nominee. Elle's debut novel for adults, *Finlay Donovan Is Killing It*, kicked off a witty, fast-paced contemporary mystery series. Cosimano lives with her husband and two sons in Virginia.

### Quotes

"Fresh, heartfelt and witty, *Finlay Donovan Jumps the Gun* is a twisty page-turner, and its relatable heroine Finlay Donovan is irresistible!"—Janet Evanovich

"Cosimano skillfully combines suspense and laughs in the manner of Janet Evanovich."—*New York Times Book Review*

"This series is simply spectacular and always delightful! The perfect blend of mystery and romcom, and I'm ready to follow Finlay wherever she goes!"—Ali Hazelwood

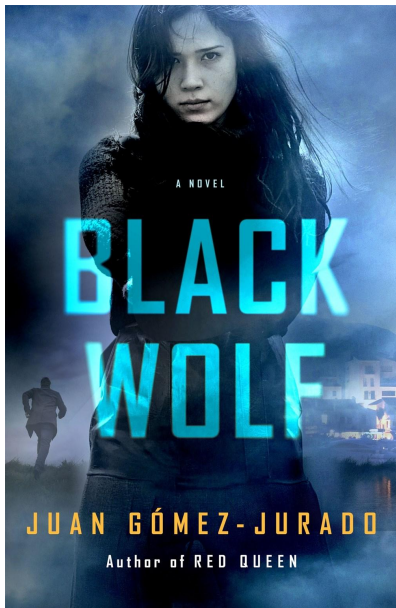
"This series is magical! I'm in awe of Elle Cosimano. Every book lover in the world should be reading Finlay Donovan."—Christina Lauren

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## Black Wolf

Juan Gómez-Jurado

Forensic genius Antonia Scott, and her partner/handler Jon Gutierrez, return in this sequel to the international bestselling sensation, *Red Queen*.

### Summary

Antonia Scott has an unusually gifted mind, able to see what others miss, able to solve the crimes that baffle all others. The only thing she fears is herself.

Antonia is the lynchpin of the Red Queen project, created to work behind the scenes to solve the most devious and dangerous crimes. But she is unwilling to move past the last case, convinced it's related to a personal tragedy, until a series of deadly events pulls her back in. In southern Spain, in the Costa del Sol, a key mafia figure is found brutally murdered in his villa, his pregnant wife, Lola Moreno, barely escapes an attempt to kill her in a shopping mall and is on the run. A shipping container from St. Petersburg arrives in port in Spain containing the corpses of nine women, all who suffocated. Now Antonia, with the help of her helper and protector, Jon Gutierrez, must track down this missing Lola. But they aren't the only ones on Lola's trail – a dangerous contract killer, known as the Black Wolf, is also on her trail. And Antonia Scott, still plagued by her personal demons, must outwit, out-manuever, and, ultimately, face this terrible, mysterious rival.

### Contributor Bio

JUAN GÓMEZ-JURADO is an internationally bestselling author of thrillers whose award-winning Antonia Scott trilogy has sold nearly three million copies in Spanish, is published in twenty-one countries, and is the subject of an Amazon streaming series scheduled to debut world-wide in the Fall of 2023. He lives in Madrid, Spain.

### Quotes

Praise for *Red Queen*

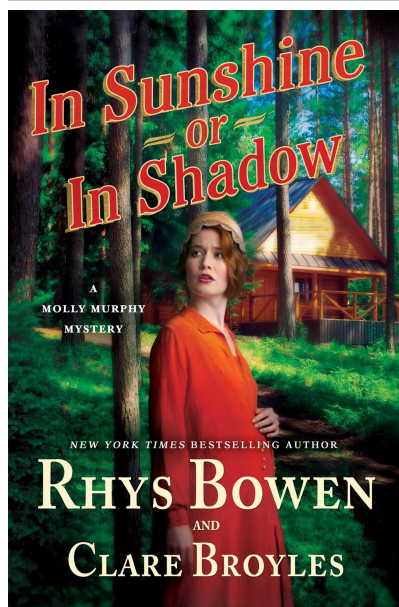
"Suspenseful and terrifying...a bit of Clarice Starling and a lot of Lisbeth Salander make Antonia a thoroughly compelling character." —*Booklist* (starred review) on *Red Queen*

"A smart, addictive thriller...you won't be able to put this one down until you reach the last satisfying page." — Alafair Burke

"nail-biting...tantalizing...startling...Lizbeth Salander devotees will find much to like." —*Publishers Weekly* on *Red Queen*

"A labyrinth of mystery, crisply plotted and paced, way ahead of the pack." —Steve Berry





Minotaur Books  
 9781250890788  
 Pub Date: 3/12/2024  
 \$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
 Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages  
 Fiction / Mystery & Detective  
 FIC022060  
 9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## In Sunshine or in Shadow

### A Molly Murphy Mystery

Rhys Bowen, Clare Broyles

Retired Detective Molly Murphy Sullivan is back with *In Sunshine or in Shadow*, the latest book in this beloved series by *New York Times* bestselling author Rhys Bowen and Clare Broyles.

### Summary

New York, 1908: The days are getting longer—and warmer—in Manhattan. Molly Murphy Sullivan doesn't want to leave her home in the city, but typhoid is back, and she's expecting. So she heads north with the children to summer with her mother-in-law in Westchester County. Molly tells herself it won't be so bad, after all the countryside is pretty, and she's determined to make the best of it. Even if she's leaving her husband, Daniel, behind. And at least she's not the only one heading north. Her great friends, Sid and Gus, are headed to the Catskills to visit Sid's family.

Though her mother-in-law is a surprisingly excellent host, Molly quickly grows bored. And when Sid and Gus invite her to visit, Molly jumps at the chance to stay with them at an artist's community. What a pleasant time they'll have, so far from the city, although Sid isn't so enthusiastic about having to visit her family in the nearby Jewish bungalow community. But deep in the Catskills, tensions are running high, and it's not long before a body delays Molly's return to Westchester.

### Contributor Bio

RHYS BOWEN is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Anthony Award—and Agatha Award—winning Molly Murphy mysteries, the Edgar Award—nominated Evan Evans series, the Royal Spyness series, and several stand-alone novels including *In Farleigh Field*. Born in England, she lives in San Rafael, California.

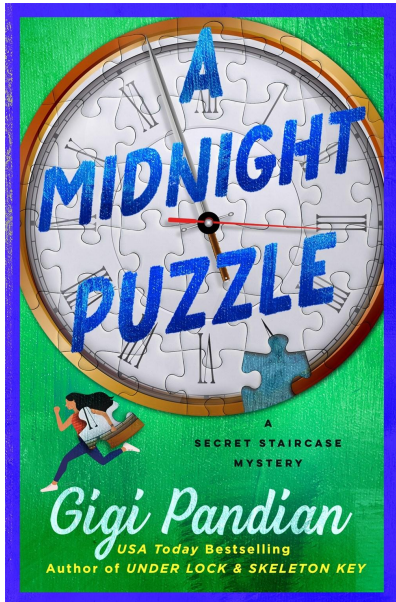
CLARE BROYLES, who is Rhys Bowen's daughter, is a teacher and a musician. She has worked as a composer and arranger in the theater for both Arizona Theatre Company and Childsplay and was nominated for an Arizona "Zoni" theater award. Clare is married to a teacher and they have three children.

### Quotes

"Bowen and Broyles, who never disappoint, take a deep dive into the world of early-1900s New York." —*Kirkus Reviews on All That is Hidden*

"[Bowen and Broyles deliver] a satisfying domestic mystery, rich in the details of running a middle-class urban household in the early twentieth century." —*Booklist on Wild Irish Rose*

"The clever and adventurous heroine dissects a complicated mystery while standing up for women's rights." —*Kirkus Reviews on Wild Irish Rose*



Minotaur Books  
9781250880208  
Pub Date: 3/19/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages  
Includes colored endpapers  
Fiction / Mystery & Detective  
FIC022100

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## A Midnight Puzzle

### A Secret Staircase Mystery

Gigi Pandian

In heroine Tempest Raj, modern-day queen of the locked room mystery Gigi Pandian has created a brilliant homage to the greats of classic detective fiction.

### Summary

Secret Staircase Construction is under attack, and Tempest Raj feels helpless. After former client Julian Rhodes tried to kill his wife, he blamed her "accident" on the home renovation company's craftsmanship. Now the family business—known for bringing magic into homes through hidden doors, floating staircases, and architectural puzzle walls—is at a breaking point. No amount of Scottish and Indian meals from her grandfather can distract Tempest from the truth: they're being framed.

When Tempest receives an urgent midnight phone call from Julian, she decides to meet him at the historic Whispering Creek Theater—only to find his dead body, a sword through his chest. After a blade appears from thin air to claim another victim, Tempest is certain they're dealing with a booby trap... something Secret Staircase Construction could easily build. Tempest refuses to wait for the investigation to turn to her or her loved ones. She knows the pieces of the puzzle are right in front of her, she just has to put them together correctly before more disaster strikes.

Multiple award-winning author Gigi Pandian and her sleuth Tempest Raj return in *A Midnight Puzzle*, where an old theater reveals a deadly booby trap, secrets, and one puzzle of a mystery.

### Contributor Bio

GIGI PANDIAN is the *USA Today* bestselling and multiple-award-winning author of the Secret Staircase mysteries, inspired by elements from her own family background. She is also the author of the Accidental Alchemist mysteries, the Jaya Jones Treasure Hunt mysteries, and more than a dozen locked-room mystery short stories. Pandian has won Agatha, Anthony, Lefty, and Derringer awards, and was a finalist for an Edgar Award. A breast cancer survivor and accidental almost-vegan who adores cooking, she lives with her husband in Northern California. Learn more at [www.gigipandian.com](http://www.gigipandian.com)

### Quotes

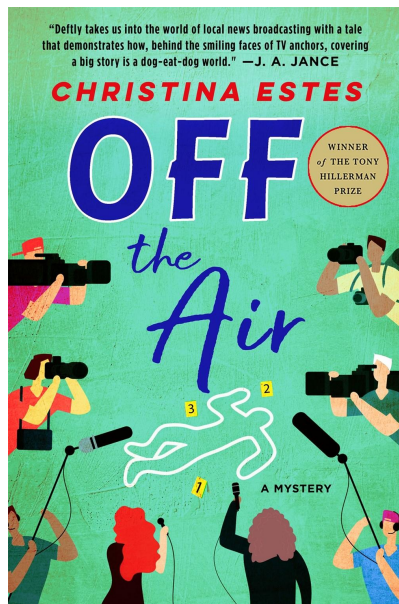
Praise for The Secret Staircase Mysteries

"Wildly entertaining." –*The New York Times Book Review*

"Super-fun." –*The Boston Globe*

"Delightful." –*Reader's Digest*

"[A] brilliant homage to classic golden age authors." –*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)



Minotaur Books  
9781250863850  
Pub Date: 3/26/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages  
Fiction / Mystery & Detective  
FIC022030

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## Off the Air

### A Novel

Christina Estes

Equal parts thought-provoking and entertaining, Emmy Award winning reporter Christina Estes introduces Jolene Garcia in her Tony Hillerman Prize winning debut, *Off the Air*.

### Summary

Jolene Garcia is a local TV reporter in Phoenix, Arizona, splitting her time between covering general assignments—anything from a monsoon storm to a newborn giraffe at the zoo—and special projects. Stories that take more time to research and produce. Stories that Jolene wants to tell.

When word gets out about a death at a radio station, Jolene and other journalists swarm the scene, intent on reporting the facts first. The body is soon identified as Larry Lemmon, a controversial talk show host, who died under suspicious circumstances. Jolene conducted his final interview, giving her and her station an advantage. But not for long.

As the story heats up, so does the competition. Jolene is determined to solve this murder. It's an investigation that could make or break her career—if it doesn't break her first.

### Contributor Bio

CHRISTINA ESTES is an award-winning reporter who has spent more than 20 years covering crime, public policy, and business in Phoenix, Arizona. Her reporting has been heard on National Public Radio (NPR) and appeared in the Arizona Republic, Arizona Business Gazette, and Phoenix Business Journal. Christina's career inspired *Off the Air*, which won the Tony Hillerman Prize for Best First Mystery Set in the Southwest.

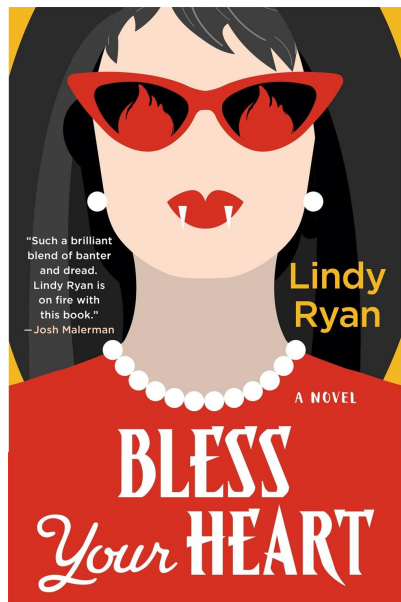
### Quotes

"In *Off the Air*, prize-winning Estes debut novel deftly takes us into the world of local news broadcasting with a tale that demonstrates how, behind the smiling faces of TV anchors, covering a big story is a dog-eat-dog world." –J. A. Jance

"A TV reporter herself, Estes rips open a vein to bring her hard-charging heroine to life, giving this fast-moving crime novel the satisfying snap of realism." –Lee Goldberg, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Jolene Garcia is persistence personified—this is a woman who will get that next big scoop, come hell or high water. If you love investigative reporter stories and are looking for one that's clearly written by a pro, *Off the Air* is your new favorite read!" –Mia P. Manansala

"In her exhilarating debut *Off the Air*, Christina Estes uses her years of experience as a broadcast journalist to make us feel like we're side by side with Phoenix reporter Jolene Garcia as she doggedly investigates the death of a controversial talk show host. Chock full of insider info about tv news, the story is as timely as it is fun. I couldn't stop reading!" –Kellye Garrett



## Bless Your Heart

Lindy Ryan

*The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires* meets *Buffy* by way of Charlaine Harris in this dark and delightful mystery-horror novel about four generations of women tasked with battling the original vampire to protect their small Southern town.

### Summary

It's 1999 in Southeast Texas and the Evans women, owners of the only funeral parlor in town, are keeping steady with...normal business. The dead die, you bury them. End of story. That's how Ducey Evans has done it for the last eighty years, and her progeny—Lenore the experimenter and Grace, Lenore's soft-hearted daughter, have run Evans Funeral Parlor for the last fifteen years without drama. Ever since That Godawful Mess that left two bodies in the ground and Grace raising her infant daughter Luna, alone.

But when town gossip Mina Jean Murphy's body is brought in for a regular burial and she rises from the dead instead, it's clear that the Strigoi—the original vampire—are back. And the Evans women are the ones who need to fight back to protect their town.

As more folks in town turn up dead and Deputy Roger Taylor begins asking way too many questions, Ducey, Lenore, Grace, and now Luna, must take up their blades and figure out who is behind the Strigoi's return. As the saying goes, what rises up, must go back down. But as unspoken secrets and revelations spill from the past into the present, the Evans family must face that sometimes, the dead aren't the only things you want to keep buried.

A crackling mystery-horror novel with big-hearted characters and blood-soaked Southern charm, *Bless Your Heart* is a gasp-worthy delight from start to finish.

### Contributor Bio

LINDY RYAN is a Bram Stoker Awards®-nominated and award-winning editor, author, director, and professor. Ryan served from 2020 to 2022 on the Board of Directors for the Independent Book Publishers Association and was named one of Publishers Weekly's 2020 Star Watch Honorees. Currently, she is the co-chair of the Horror Writers Association Publishers Council. Ryan is a regular contributor at Rue Morgue, the world's leading horror culture and entertainment brand, Booktrib, and LitReactor. Her articles and features have appeared on NPR, BBC Culture, Irish Times, Daily Mail, and more. She is an active member of the Horror Writers Association (HWA), the International Thriller Writers (ITW), and the Brothers Grimm Society of North America. In 2022, she was named one of horror's most masterful anthology curators and has been declared a "champion for women's voices in horror" by Shelf Awareness (2023).

### Quotes

"Such a brilliant blend of banter and dread...Lindy Ryan is on fire with this book." -Josh Malerman, *NYT* bestselling author of *Bird Box*

"A flesh-ripping, heartfelt good time." - Kristi DeMeester, author of *Such a Pretty Smile*

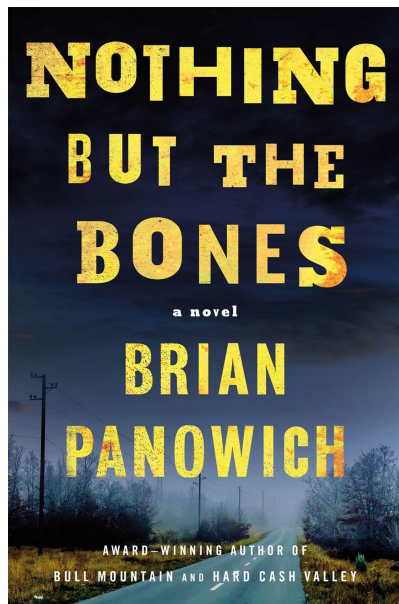
"*Bless Your Heart* is everything you could want in a horror novel and more. Highly recommended." -Gwendolyn Kiste, Three-time Bram Stoker Awards®-winning author of *The Rust Maidens*

Minotaur Books  
9781250888884  
Pub Date: 4/9/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages  
Fiction / Horror  
FIC015000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
Wt





Minotaur Books  
 9781250835246  
 Pub Date: 4/16/2024  
 \$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
 Hardcover with dust jacket

336 Pages  
 Fiction / Thrillers  
 FIC031010

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## Nothing But the Bones

### A Novel

Brian Panowich

With lyrical prose and hard-hitting depictions of the hardscrabble life in the rural south, Brian Panowich, author of *Bull Mountain*, *Like Lions*, and *Hard Cash Valley*, delivers a gripping new chapter in his tales of McFalls County in *Nothing But the Bones*.

### Summary

In McFalls County, local crime boss Gareth Burroughs runs everything on the mountain. And Nelson "Nails" McKenna has been his enforcer since he was a teenager, though his heart's not really in the dirty work. Then one night in a local roadhouse, Nails goes too far, defending a woman, and even Burroughs's reach can't get him out of this one. With a dead body and countless witnesses, Nails and the woman become fugitives on the run, and unlikely partners.

But on the road to Jacksonville, where a possible escape awaits, there's more than one interested party on the pair's trail, and the glimpse they had of getting away scot free suddenly seems elusive. In the end, Nails must make one final stand for his freedom—or pay with both of their lives.

### Contributor Bio

BRIAN PANOWICH is a *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize finalist, an ITW Thriller Award winner, a Southern Book Prize winner, and a finalist for both the Anthony and the Barry Awards. He lives in Georgia with his family.

### Quotes

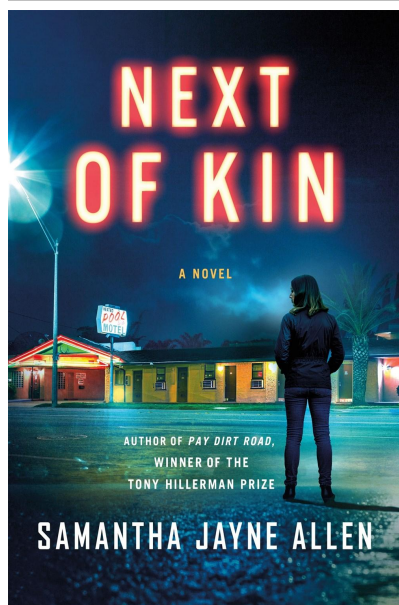
Praise for *Hard Cash Valley*

"Jaw-dropping." —*Wall Street Journal*

"The plotting is skilled, as is the sleuthing, and the landscape is stunning. But it's the hard-jawed characters, with their tough talk and scarred souls, who really get under your skin." —*The New York Times Book Review*, One of the 10 Best Crime Novels of the Year

"This is country noir with a bite as sharp as a rattler's." — *AARP*





Minotaur Books  
 9781250863836  
 Pub Date: 4/23/2024  
 \$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
 Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages  
 Fiction / Mystery & Detective  
 FIC022090

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## Next of Kin

### A Novel

Samantha Jayne Allen

From the Tony Hillerman Prize-winning author of *Pay Dirt Road* comes Samantha Jayne Allen's mesmerizing new novel set in a hardscrabble Texas town.

### Summary

At a gathering for her cousin's wedding party, newly-licensed PI Annie McIntyre gets asked an age-old question, the answer to which will prove more consequential than she bargained for: *Nature or nurture?* Clint Marshall, an up-and-coming musician and an adoptee at a personal crossroads, wants to hire Annie to find his biological parents. Annie accepts his case, not knowing then that she, too, must decide if she really believes what she tells him that night—in essence, that people are in charge of their destinies. That people can change.

When Annie discovers her client's father is a bank robber who her granddad, Leroy, arrested back when he was sheriff, reverberations sound between the past and the present, igniting old flames and rivalries. When the brother of her client dies suddenly, his death ruled a suicide, Annie questions whether or not it was in fact homicide—and who in this family of outlaws would rather some secrets stay buried.

As Annie sets out to find who killed the brother—and stays out of sight lest she be next—she finds herself searching abandoned, overgrown fields, scouring pool halls and roadside motels, wondering if she will ever escape the sense that her world in Garnett, TX expands and contracts in off-kilter ways, growing smaller and yet still more confounding. Fearing that in a place where everyone knows everyone, your enemy is always closer than you think.

### Contributor Bio

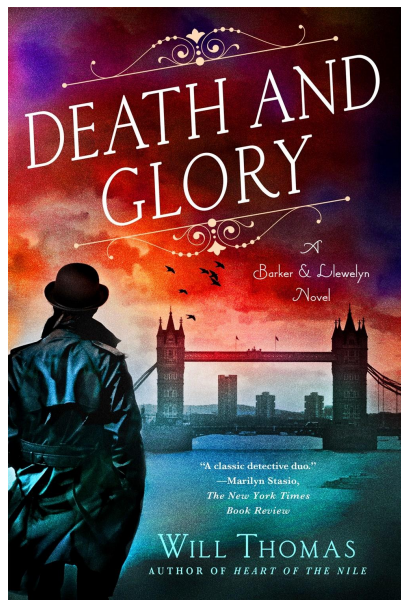
SAMANTHA JAYNE ALLEN has an MFA in fiction from Texas State University. Her writing has been published in *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, *The Common*, and *Electric Literature*. Raised in small towns in Texas and California, she now lives with her husband in Atlanta. *NEXT OF KIN* is her second novel.

### Quotes

"Taut, [with] pitch-perfect imagery...Mystery fans will hope to soon return."  
 —*Publishers Weekly* on *Hard Rain*

"Wondrous....Allen proves herself as adept as the likes of David Baldacci, Lisa Gardner, and Lisa Scottoline."  
 —*The Providence Journal* on *Pay Dirt Road*

"There's a wistful air wafting through Samantha Jayne Allen's debut... Allen writes with keen acumen, her sentences marked with quiet yet powerful grace notes." —*The New York Times* on *Pay Dirt Road*



Minotaur Books  
9781250864925  
Pub Date: 4/23/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages  
Fiction / Mystery & Detective  
FIC022030  
9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## Death and Glory

A Barker & Llewelyn Novel

Will Thomas

In 1894, Cyrus Barker, London's premier enquiry agent, is entangled in a conspiracy to revive the American Civil War by prominent figures, long believed deceased.

### Summary

Private Enquiry agent Cyrus Barker, along with his partner Thomas Llewelyn, has a long, accomplished history - he's taken on cases for Scotland Yard, the Foreign Office, and even the crown itself, fulfilling them all with great skill and discretion. None of those cases, however, are as delicate and complicated as the one laid before him by a delegation of men who, thirty years before, fought for the Confederacy during the American Civil War. These men want to revive the Confederacy with a warship promised to the Rebels from the British Government in 1865. To get it now, they're threatening to reveal the long-secret treaty with the Confederacy. Barker is hired to use his connections to discreetly bring their threats to the Prime Minister.

With a web of prominent, if secret, supporters throughout England ready to through their support to their efforts to wage war anew on the United States, the delegates are just waiting for the warship to begin their plans. But some of the men are not who they claim to be, and the American government has their own team watching, and waiting, for the right moment to take action.

As this fuse on this powder keg of a situation grows ever shorter, it's up to Barker & Llewelyn to uncover the real identities and plans of these dangerous men.

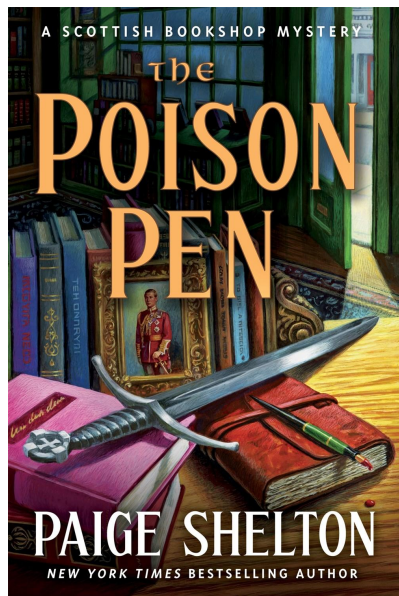
### Contributor Bio

WILL THOMAS is the author of the critically acclaimed Cyrus Barker and Thomas Llewelyn series, including *Some Danger Involved*, *Fatal Enquiry*, and, most recently, *Heart of the Nile*. He lives in Oklahoma.

### Quotes

"The true star power comes from its compatibly mismatched leads. Joy to those who discover Mr. Thomas's latest novel this holiday season." —*The Wall Street Journal* on *Lethal Pursuit*

"The proceedings are awash with the kind of gaslit London ambience that is guaranteed to please the devotees of British historical mysteries." —*Booklist* (starred) on *Heart of the Nile*



Minotaur Books  
9781250890603  
Pub Date: 4/9/2024  
\$27.00/\$36.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages  
Fiction / Mystery & Detective  
FIC022070

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb  
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## The Poison Pen

### A Scottish Bookshop Mystery

Paige Shelton

**The ninth installment in the cozy mystery series featuring amateur sleuth Delaney Nichols, set in a specialty bookshop in Edinburgh called The Cracked Spine.**

### Summary

When Delaney's boss's friend claims to have found something on her property, an estate in the village of Roslin, Edwin sends Delaney out to investigate. Could Jolie possibly have in her possession a priceless relic, a Crusader Sword? But when Delaney arrives at Jolie's estate, she is greeted by a legal team with a vested interest in the property. Delaney and Jolie manage to remove the intruders, but as they're examining the antique sword, they hear a scream, and meet a much less welcome discovery: a body.

As Delaney digs deeper, she discovers Jolie's own fascinating history. Jolie's mother had long claimed that her daughter was the rightful heir to the throne, not Elizabeth II, because of an affair she claimed to have with King Edward VIII. The only evidence, however, is in the form of a journal that one of Edward's secretaries kept. The puzzles become more confusing when a connection is uncovered between this far-fetched story and the murdered man. And shortly thereafter, the journal goes missing. Delaney will have to read between the lines to put together the pieces...or become history herself.

### Contributor Bio

PAIGE SHELTON is the author of the Scottish Bookshop Mystery series and the Alaska Wild Series, which begins with *Thin Ice*. Her other series include the Farmers' Market, Cooking School, and Dangerous Type mystery series. She lives in Arizona. Find out more at [paigeshelton.com](http://paigeshelton.com).

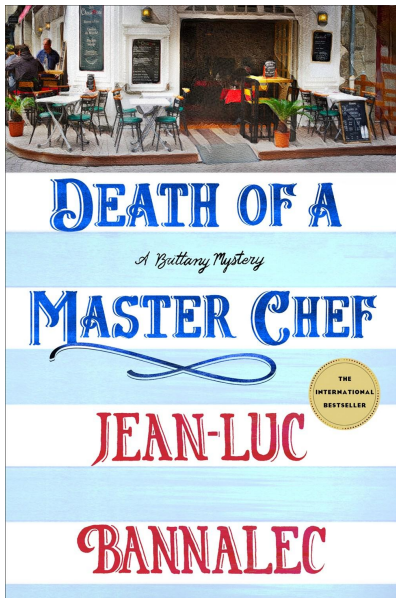
### Quotes

"Suspenseful....Shelton easily keeps us turning pages." —*New York Journal of Books* on *The Burning Pages*

"Danger, intrigue, and adventure combine in this quirky-fun whodunit!" —*Woman's World* (best new books) on *The Burning Pages*

"Historical Burns references add spice to a complex series of intertwined mysteries." —*Kirkus Reviews* on *The Burning Pages*

"Engrossing....Cozy fans will be enchanted." —*Publishers Weekly* on *The Burning Pages*



Minotaur Books  
9781250893055  
Pub Date: 4/30/2024  
\$28.00/\$37.00 Can.  
Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages  
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## Death of a Master Chef

### A Brittany Mystery

Jean-Luc Bannalec

Jean-Luc Bannalec's internationally bestselling series starring Commissaire Georges Dupin returns with *Death of a Master Chef*.

### Summary

These first beautiful summer days in June would be perfect for a fun trip to Saint-Malo. But, to his chagrin, Commissaire Georges Dupin has to go there instead to attend a police seminar dedicated to closer collaboration between the Breton départements.

During a break, Dupin goes wandering through the market halls in the old city, and a murder takes place right before his eyes. The perpetrator flees. She is the victim's sister; the women used to be competing chefs from the region. It soon becomes clear that this is just the beginning of an insidious series of homicides. In a race against time, Dupin begins to investigate, together with the commissioners from the other départements. In the process, they stumble on hair-raising family secrets, tragic upheavals, and incredible stories in the oyster city Cancale, stately seaside resort of Dinard, and Saint-Malo's unique restaurant scene.

### Contributor Bio

JEAN-LUC BANNALEC lives in Germany and the southerly region of the French department of Finistère. In 2016 he was given the award Mécène de Bretagne. Since 2018 he has been an honorary member of the Académie Littéraire de Bretagne. He is also the author of *Death in Brittany*, *Murder on Brittany Shores*, *The Fleur de Sel Murders*, *The Missing Corpse*, *The Killing Tide*, *The Granite Coast Murders*, *The King Arthur Case*, and *The Body by the Sea*.

### Quotes

Praise for the Commissaire Georges Dupin Series

"Delicious Brittany mysteries... If this isn't heaven, it's close enough." —*The New York Times*

"[Bannalec] lets his love and knowledge of Brittany shine through in his books." —*The Washington Post*

"Perfect for fans of Louise Penny or Mark Pryor." —Shelf Awareness