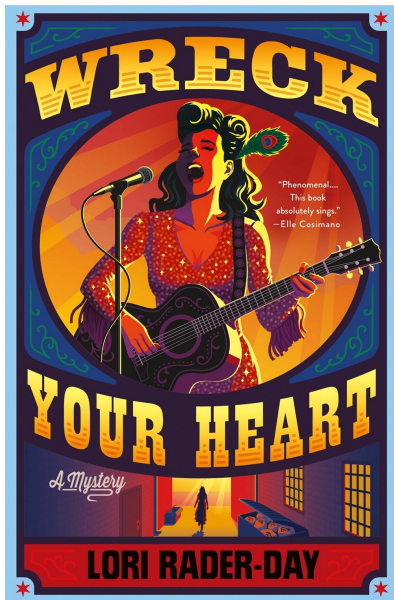




MINOTAUR
BOOKS



Minotaur Books
9781250393739
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\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
Fiction / Mystery & Detective
FIC022040

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

Wreck Your Heart

A Novel

Lori Rader-Day

From award-winning author Lori Rader-Day, *Wreck Your Heart* is an engaging crime novel, about a country and *midwestern* singer out to catch her big break before family—or murder—wrecks everything.

Summary

Dahlia “Doll” Devine had the kind of hardscrabble beginning that could launch a thousand broken-hearted country songs. Now she’s the star of her own stage at McPhee’s Tavern. As part of Chicago’s—yes Chicago’s—country music scene, Dahlia is an up-and-coming singer in spangles and boots of classic country tunes. That is, until her boyfriend up and *went*, taking the rent money with him.

Dahlia is back to square one, relying on Alex McPhee—*again*. Alex helped her out of a bad situation when she was a kid living rough with her mother. Now he’s part landlord, part band booster, all-around rescuer. Dahlia just wishes she didn’t keep giving him reasons to have to do it.

Just as Dahlia suspects she’s scraped rock bottom, the mother she hasn’t spoken to in twenty years shows up. The next morning, a distraught young woman arrives at the bar, asking after her missing mother—*Dahlia’s* mother, too, even if the missing suburban mom the girl describes sounds different from the one who let Dahlia down all those years ago.

Though no one is using the word *sister* anytime soon, Dahlia is drawn into reuniting the family that might’ve been hers. But when a body is discovered outside McPhee’s Tavern, the crime threatens not just the place Dahlia has made into a home, but everything she’s believed about her past, her dreams for the future, and the people she was, maybe, beginning to let into her heart.

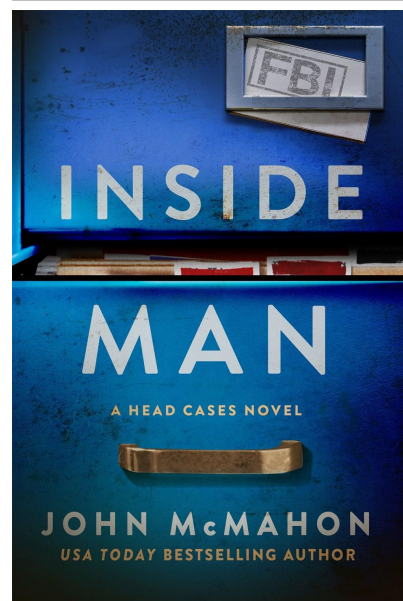
Contributor Bio

LORI RADER DAY is an Edgar Award-nominated and Agatha, Anthony, and Mary Higgins Clark award-winning author. Lori lives in Chicago, where she co-chairs the crime fiction readers’ event Midwest Mystery Conference and teaches creative writing at Northwestern University. Her next novel, *Wreck Your Heart*, featuring a Midwestern country singer, will be released from Minotaur in early 2026.

Quotes

"Wise-cracking and wonderful, Philip Marlowe meets VI Warshawski. A love letter to country music and to Chicago, but very much more than that. Nobody does strong women better than Rader-Day." –Ann Cleeves

"Lori Rader Day is one of the most creative—and boldest—voices in contemporary crime fiction. She constantly explores new narratives and new viewpoints. *Wreck Your Heart* is one of her best novels yet."—Sara Paretsky



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

Inside Man

A Head Cases Novel

John McMahon

In this sequel to McMahon's electrifying series debut, *Head Cases*, Gardner Camden and the PAR team return to investigate potentially connected cases.

Summary

FBI Agent Gardner Camden is an analytical genius with an affinity for puzzles. He and his squad of brilliant yet quirky agents make up the Patterns and Recognition (PAR) unit, the FBI's hidden edge, brought in for cases that no one else can solve.

PAR's latest case involves a militia group stockpiling weapons. When their confidential informant in the case is killed, it quickly becomes clear that the militia did not kill him.

As the squad looks into the evidence surrounding his murder, an unidentified man is caught on camera with their informant. This mystery man's picture is connected to another case at the FBI, an unsolved series of murdered women, buried in the ground in north Florida. Could they have uncovered a serial killer? And if so, what is his connection to their C.I.?

As PAR juggles an investigation into both the dead women and the militia, they enroll a new informant, only to find the case escalating in dangerous ways. How will PAR handle a case that increasingly looks like a terrorist plot? And in the serial case, with no puzzles or witnesses, and few leads, how will a group set up to decode riddles be successful?

Contributor Bio

JOHN McMAHON'S debut novel *The Good Detective* was labeled "pretty much perfect" by the *New York Times*, which listed it among their "Top Ten Crime Novels of 2019." The book was also a finalist for the 2020 Edgar Award and the ITW Thriller Award, both for Best First Novel. *Head Cases* is currently in development with Warner Bros TV for a series on HBO Max. John currently lives in Southern California with his wife, two kids, and a rescue dog.

Quotes

Praise for *Head Cases*

"A stellar new series...*Head Cases* balances fully fleshed-out, quirky characters with McMahon's fine eye for details about the inner workings of investigations coupled with methodical plotting...McMahon's precise storytelling in *Head Cases* should assure many adventures with this intelligent team."—Oline Cogdill, *South Florida Sun Sentinel*

"McMahon introduces several clever wrinkles to this classic cat-and-mouse setup...With pulse-pounding action and enough surprises to blindside even seasoned mystery fans, this is an excellent start." —*Publishers Weekly* (Starred review)



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

Storm Warning

James Byrne

Dez Limerick has his considerable skills pushed to the limit when, to rescue a friend, he has to get into a state of the art facility on lockdown, with considerable forces determined to stop him.

Summary

Desmond Aloysius Limerick—'Dez' to all who know him—is a man with a shadowy past, certain hard-to-replicate skills, and a reputation as a good man to have when the going gets tough. Dez is doing his best to enjoy his retirement, wandering the country, doing what interests him, and occasionally helping friends when they find themselves needing any of his particular skills—mundane or extraordinary. For Dez was trained as a 'gatekeeper' - someone who can open any door, keep it open, and control who does and does not go through.

It's those skills that are now in demand when the State Department comes calling looking for his help. A multinational scientific research facility on the coast of Newfoundland has gone dark, the facility on full lockdown, and no one can get in or out. No one knows what is going on, but it can't be good. And a close friend of Dez is presumed locked inside the facility along with everyone else.

Even getting to the facility is an insurmountable challenge. The weather has flights grounded, some shadowy group is doing everything they can to impede the rescue team's progress, and hidden enemies are embedded in the rescue team. But anyone who thinks this is more than one man can face has never met Dez Limerick.

Contributor Bio

JAMES BYRNE, in addition to being the author of more than a dozen novels, has worked for more than twenty years as a journalist and in politics. He's the author of the three previous Dez Limerick thrillers, most recently *Chain Reaction*. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

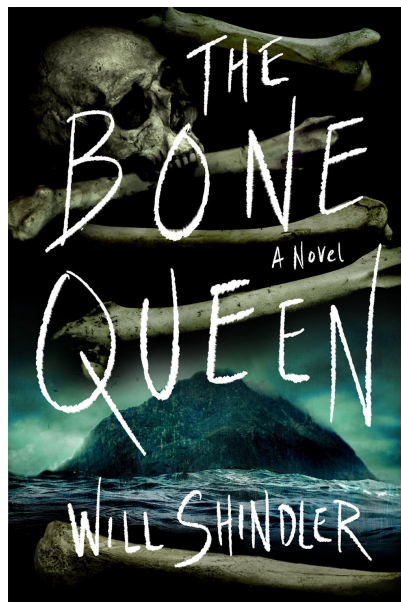
Quotes

Praise for *Chain Reaction*

"[*Chain Reaction*] starts with a bang and never lets up for a second...Dez is an unconventional hero with unorthodox methods and a darn fun attitude. The series gets better and better." —*firstCLUE*

""One of the most riveting and enjoyable thriller series out there today and you don't want to miss it. Trust me, you need Dez in your life." —*Best Thriller Books*

"A fast-paced, explosive thriller with a charming hero, Russian terrorists on U.S. soil, high-stakes money schemes, and a worthy opponent." —*Library Journal*



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Wt

The Bone Queen

A Novel

Will Shindler

A chilling horror-thriller debut where a mother's search for her missing daughter battles against the shadows of a historic, dangerous legend.

Summary

Single mother Jenna arrives on the tranquil shores of Athelsea fueled by the desperate hope to find Chloe, her teenage daughter who's disappeared from their London home. She has no idea why—all she knows is that Chloe had changed in the previous two weeks, haunted by something, or someone, and the ferry ticket here is the only clue she has.

As she explores the village and interacts with the locals, Jenna soon realizes a macabre secret is being hidden in plain sight. A dark legend of a vengeful woman called the Bone Queen is spoken of in hushed tones amongst the villagers, some of whom are frantically trying to suppress the tale that has long terrorized their lives.

As Jenna starts to learn more about the Bone Queen and her previous victims, the village's grip on reality begins to loosen and no one can say for sure who, or what, is responsible for the deaths and disappearances on Athelsea. Suffering from what she can no longer distinguish between paranoid hallucinations or real manifestations, Jenna must act quickly before Chloe is next...

The Bone Queen has left her mark, and one day she'll collect.

Contributor Bio

WILL SHINDLER has spent most of his career working as a broadcast journalist for the BBC and nearly a decade working on a number of British television dramas, including the BBC Drama Series Department and Talkback Thames Television as a writer and script editor. He wrote the five-book critically acclaimed DI Alex Finn series: *The Burning Men*, *The Killing Choice*, *The Hunting Ground*, *The Blood Line* and *The Cold Case*. *The Bone Queen* is his first novel for Minotaur Books in the US.

Quotes

"Chilling and poignant, perfectly balancing the deep fears of modern parenting and small town secrecy with the deadly menace of a vengeful local legend." —C. J. Dotson, author of *The Cut*

"*The Bone Queen* is an elegant, subtle, and deeply creepy novel of ancient evil and the power of a mother's love. Will Schindler takes a big juicy bite out of the horror genre!" —Jonathan Maberry, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Burn to Shine* and *Mystic*

COVER TO BE REVEALED



Minotaur Books
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Fiction / Thrillers
FIC031010

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

Antihero

An Orphan X Novel

Gregg Hurwitz

In the latest in this *New York Times* best-selling series, Evan Smoak takes on his most complex mission yet—one where he has to find a way to balance vengeance with mercy.

Summary

Once a black ops assassin for the government known as Orphan X, Evan Smoak broke with the program and went deep underground, using his operational rules and skills to help the truly desperate with nowhere else to turn.

When Luke Devine, one of the most powerful men in the world has a psychological crisis, Evan flies to the East Coast to meet Luke. While there, he learns of a young woman who was kidnapped off the New York City subway, clearly in danger and in need of aid. With no name and few clues, Evan and his team track down the missing woman, who was assaulted and abandoned. Evan offers his help—and sets out tracking down the young men responsible. But the woman insists that Evan abandon his usual methods—no vengeance and, in particular, no killing. Which will prove no easy feat given the mounting incoming threats from all sides. In a mission that takes Evan from coast to coast, from the poorest corners of society to the richest, Orphan X must figure out a way to protect the innocent, avenge the victimized, and balance justice, with a measure of mercy.

Contributor Bio

GREGG HURWITZ is the *New York Times* #1 international bestselling author of many thrillers, including the Orphan X series. His novels have won numerous literary awards and have been published in thirty-three languages. Gregg currently serves as the copresident of International Thriller Writers (ITW). He lives with his Rhodesian ridgebacks in Los Angeles.

Quotes

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

"One of the best thrillers around. You won't put this one down." —*The Globe and Mail* on *Hellbent*

"A crushingly brilliant piece of fiction." —*Best Thriller Books* on *Lone Wolf*



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

The Lines We Cross

A Novel

Ausma Zehanath Khan

The next compelling mystery in Ausma Zehanath Khan's award-winning Blackwater Falls series starring Detective Inaya Rahman.

Summary

As campus protests against the war on Gaza sweep the country, Detective Inaya Rahman is pulled in different directions by her family, her work, and her Muslim identity. Encouraged by their professor, Wael Shehadeh, a Palestinian human rights scholar, Inaya's younger sisters set up a protest camp on the Blackwater Falls college quad with other students. As the atmosphere on campus becomes increasingly tense, Wael receives death threats . . . and ultimately meets a shocking end. Inaya is devastated by the news, knowing she failed to protect him.

In a disturbing twist of fate, Wael's body is found by Lieutenant Waqas "Qas" Seif. Seif comes home one night to find a car on his driveway with Wael's body inside. The catch? The car belongs to his younger twin brothers, and one of the twins, Alireza, has suddenly disappeared. Seif must uncover Alireza's secrets before his brother ends up arrested for Wael Shehadeh's murder. There were many who wanted to see Wael silenced, but Seif must determine who would go as far as murder.

In this searing and timely new mystery, Inaya's desire to seek justice for Wael leads her through the competing politics of the Israel/Palestine crisis, as well as zealous national debates about student activism and police violence, while Seif faces his own battle protecting his family while coming to terms with his Palestinian heritage.

Contributor Bio

AUSMA ZEHANATH KHAN holds a Ph.D. in international human rights law with a specialization in military intervention and war crimes in the Balkans. She is a contributor to the anthologies *Private Investigations*, *Sword Stone Table*, and *The Perfect Crime*, and the former Editor-in-Chief of *Muslim Girl* magazine. A British-born Canadian and former adjunct law professor, Khan now lives in DC with her husband.

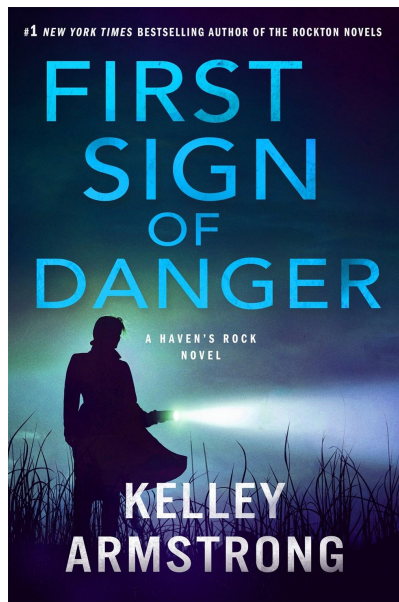
Quotes

Praise for *Blackwater Falls*:

"Impressive. . . Inaya is a fabulous character—shrewd and stalwart, yes, but also complicated and fully fleshed-out."—*New York Times Book Review*

"In a violent, divided town, Inaya is our moral center, with an unstinting gaze. Blackwater Falls is a tense and propulsive read from the start all the way through to its surprising, piercingly sad final chapter."—*Washington Post*

"This is a masterfully crafted thriller that doesn't disappoint from beginning to end."—*Booklist* (Starred)



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352 Pages
Fiction / Mystery & Detective
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9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

First Sign of Danger

A Haven's Rock Novel

Kelley Armstrong

New York Times bestselling author Kelley Armstrong continues the atmospheric Haven's Rock series as Casey Duncan investigates a threat to their off-the-grid Yukon town.

Summary

Detective Casey Duncan and her husband, Sheriff Eric Dalton, are entering a new chapter of life as parents to their six-month-old baby. Their family is hidden away in the sanctuary town of Haven's Rock where they can live safe and private lives. But when they encounter hikers too close to the borders of Haven's Rock, they realize they're in danger of being exposed.

When they find one of the hikers dead the next day, they realize that their paranoia was justified, but they're no closer to finding out who these people were and what they were doing in the vicinity of Haven's Rock. Only by tracing the hikers' movements, as well as examining the recent behavior of their closest neighbors, the workers of a secretive mining camp, will they be able to figure out where the threat is coming from and shut it down. Otherwise, the lives of everyone in Haven's Rock--and their safe, secure new existence--are at risk.

Contributor Bio

KELLEY ARMSTRONG is the author of over 50 novels in mystery, fantasy and horror. She believes experience is the best teacher, though she's been told this shouldn't apply to writing her murder scenes. To craft her books, she has studied aikido, archery and fencing. She sucks at all of them. She has also crawled through very shallow cave systems and climbed half a mountain before chickening out. She was born and still lives in Canada.

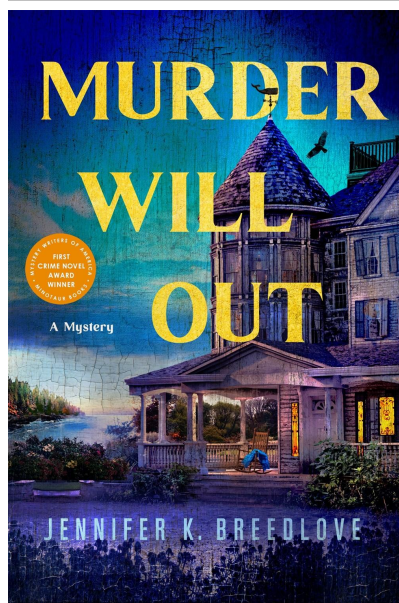
Quotes

"The wilderness surrounding Haven's Rock is itself a major character in the book, and Casey's approaching due date adds urgency to the plotline. For fans of strong women protagonists and Armstrong's Rockton series, of which 'Haven's Rock' is a spin-off."
—*Library Journal* on *Cold As Hell*

"Engrossing." —*Shelf Awareness* on *The Boy Who Cried Bear*

"Armstrong's new venture continues her Rockton tradition."—*Kirkus Reviews* on *The Boy Who Cried Bear*

"For fans of procedurals with a unique twist!"—Book Riot on *The Boy Who Cried Bear*



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

Murder Will Out

A Mystery

Jennifer K. Breedlove

Minotaur Books/Mystery Writers of America First Crime Novel Award winner Jennifer K. Breedlove brings coastal Maine to life in *Murder Will Out*, a lighter, modern gothic mystery that's as atmospheric as it is heart-warming.

Summary

Come for the memories. Stay for the murder...

Little North Island, off the coast of Maine, is so beautiful it could be a postcard. Organist Willow Stone cherishes her memories of childhood summers spent on the island with her godmother Sue... even though her visits ended abruptly, and she hasn't seen or heard from her godmother in over fifteen years. Until a letter from Sue—and word of Sue's death—brings Willow back to the picturesque island.

The islanders rarely mention Sue without also bringing up Cameron House, and the controversy around Sue's unexpected inheritance of the sprawling mansion. When Willow overhears someone threatening the next heir to the property, she starts to question whether Sue's death was really an accident, and can't help but wonder whether someone on this sleepy island is willing to stop at nothing—even murder—to claim Cameron House for their own.

Through Willow's eyes, as well as those of others on the island, a mystery unfolds that keeps drawing Willow back to Cameron House and the very real ghosts that walk its corridors.

Contributor Bio

JENNIFER K. BREEDLOVE is a Chicago area composer, conductor, author, editor, and educator. A frequent visitor to Downeast Maine since childhood, she has an enduring affection for the wild beauty of the coastal islands and the warmth of the people who make their homes there. Her debut novel, *Murder Will Out*, won the Minotaur Books/Mystery Writers of America First Crime Novel Award, and was also a finalist for the Killer Nashville Claymore award.



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Wt

Dollface

A Novel

Lindy Ryan

Barbie meets *Scream* with a 90s nostalgia twist in this horror romp from *Bless Your Heart* author Lindy Ryan.

Summary

Horror author Jill has just moved to suburban New Jersey, hoping to fit in with the new PTA moms and *maybe* not weird everyone out with her Final Girl coffee mug. You know. Make some real friends.

But then a plastic face-masked serial killer begins slashing their way through town, one overly made-up mom at a time. The police are incredulous. The moms are indignant. And Jill is slowly wrapped into a killer's murderous spree, until she might just be the last woman standing.

A delightfully murderous novel that is equal parts scathing and salacious, *Dollface* will win you over with its gossip and gore, one body at a time.

Contributor Bio

Lindy Ryan is an award-winning author, anthologist, and short-film director whose books and anthologies have received starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist* and *Library Journal*. Several of her projects have been adapted for screen. She is the current author-in-residence at *Rue Morgue*. Born and raised in Southeast Texas, she currently resides on the East Coast. She is a professor at Rutgers University.

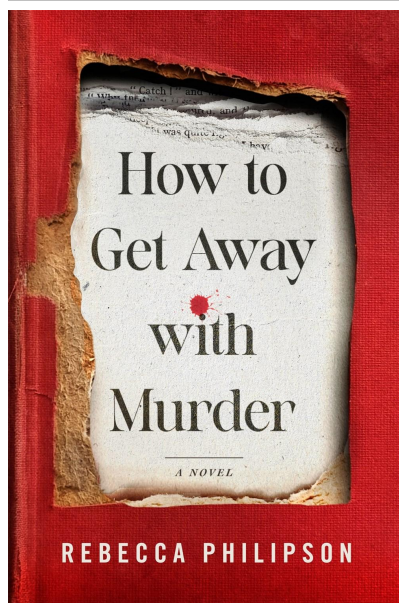
Quotes

Praise for the *Bless Your Heart* series:

"Ryan melds mystery, horror, and family drama in her sharp solo debut... This has bite." - *Publishers Weekly*

"Incorporating just the right amount of Southern sass, this gruesomely descriptive yet heartrendingly poignant tale will leave horror fans hungry for the next installment." - *Booklist* (starred review)

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



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Wt

How to Get Away with Murder

Rebecca Philipson

"If you picked up this book because you truly want to get away with murder, you will not be disappointed. Simply turn the page and we'll get started."

Summary

This fresh debut thriller finds a Scotland Yard detective trying to find the author of a self-help book that promises quite literally to teach readers how to get away with murder, which seems to have inspired London's newest murderer.

Detective Inspector Samantha Hansen has been on leave for six months, recovering from a breakdown she suffered at work, but when a fourteen-year-old girl is murdered in a local park, Sam jumps at the chance to return to the job and prove that she's still got what it takes to be the Yard's most successful homicide detective. One of the cases only leads is a copy of a self-help book found in the victim's backpack called *How To Get Away With Murder* by a man named Denver Brady.

Brady claims to be the most successful serial killer of our time, which is why no one's ever heard of him. Chapter by chapter, he details his methodology and his past victims, and as Sam's investigation progresses and the details of the book go viral, Sam begins to suspect that there's more to the author than what he's revealed. But in order to find a killer and get justice for young Charlotte, Sam must learn to trust her instincts once again, before Denver Brady--or someone else--really does get away with murder.

Contributor Bio

REBECCA PHILIPSON grew up in County Durham, where she still lives. She finished her BA in English Literature at Northumbria University, graduating with First Class Honours, and completed a PGCE in English at Durham University whilst on maternity leave. Rebecca also lectured part-time in Literature and Language in Newcastle. She graduated from the University of East Anglia Masters Program in 2024 and won a scholarship to Liverpool University for a PhD in Creative Writing.

COVER TO BE REVEALED



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8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Finlay Donovan Crosses the Line

A Novel

Elle Cosimano

From *New York Times* bestseller Elle Cosimano comes *Finlay Donovan Crosses the Line*—the highly anticipated next installment in the beloved Finlay Donovan series.

Summary

Life hasn't been easy for Finlay Donovan lately, but it just got a whole lot harder. Her nanny and partner-in-crime, Vero, has been extradited from Virginia to Maryland, where she's facing criminal charges for a theft she swears she didn't commit. A prisoner to an ankle bracelet as she awaits her trial, Vero is forced to live with her overbearing mother and nosy aunt. Threatening messages keep arriving on her mother's door, demanding Vero "turn over the money . . . or else." And if she doesn't figure out who really stole her former sorority's treasury funds, her next home might be a prison cell.

But proving her innocence might be an impossible feat. Vero was the treasurer of her sorority when the money went missing—one of the only people who had access to the cash. And her alibi is a date who ghosted her. With her court date quickly approaching, and her mysterious stalker on her tail, Vero needs to clear her name fast.

Finlay decides a trip to Maryland is in order. After all, Vero stood by her through her darkest moments, and Finlay will be damned if she lets her best friend and children's nanny be convicted for something she didn't do. She sets off on a mission to suss out the real thief and bring Vero home.

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.

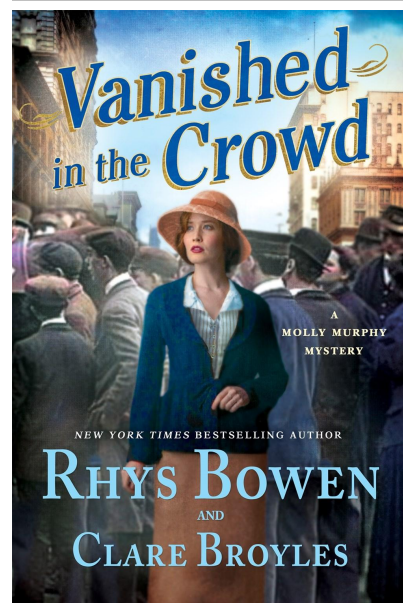
Quotes

"Finlay Donovan is irresistible!"—Janet Evanovich

"Refreshing, funny and bright, these are wonderfully escapist novels."—Charlaine Harris

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

"I love Finlay Donovan so much I would 100% hide a dead body for her."—Jesse Q. Sutanto



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Wt

Vanished in the Crowd

A Molly Murphy Mystery

Rhys Bowen, Clare Broyles

In the latest in the *New York Times* bestselling series from Rhys Bowen and Clare Broyles, retired detective Molly Murphy Sullivan investigates the disappearance of a female scientist.

Summary

New York is busier than ever as two million visitors come to the city to witness the Hudson-Fulton celebration in 1909, marking the 300th anniversary of Henry Hudson's discovery of the Hudson River. Parades, exhibitions, carnivals, and a marvelous display of the wonders of the latest invention--electricity--across the city make for two straight weeks of celebrations, which Molly and her family, along with their friends Sid and Gus, are excited to enjoy. But Molly is secretly dealing with financial troubles. She is too proud to ask her friends for a loan, but when they want to hire her as a detective she jumps at the chance.

Sid and Gus are hosting fellow Vassar graduates to take part in one of the parades but one of the women, a brilliant scientist, never shows up. It seems nobody knows where she is, including her husband. Is she trying to run away from her life or is it something more sinister? Why have the Vassar women really come to New York City? When Daniel asks Molly to spy on her friends and find out just what they are planning she finds her loyalties horribly divided. Then the parade turns deadly and only Molly has the tools to find out the truth.

Contributor Bio

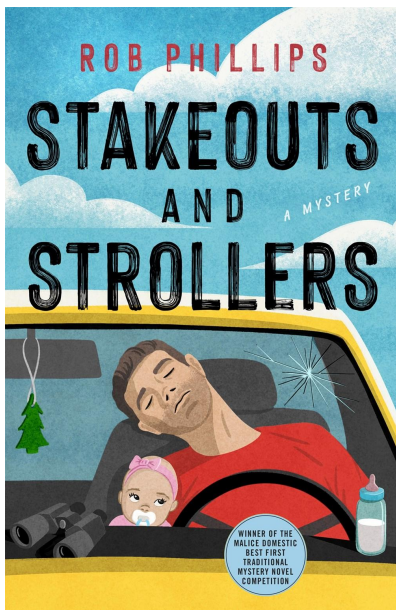
RHYS BOWEN is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Anthony Award and Agatha Award-winning Molly Murphy mysteries, the Edgar Award-nominated Evan Evans series, the Royal Spyness series, and several stand-alone novels. Born in England, she lives in San Rafael, CA.

CLARE BROYLES, Rhys Bowen's daughter, has worked as a composer and arranger for both Arizona Theater Company and Childsplay and was nominated for an Arizona 'Zoni' theater award. Clare is married and they have three children.

Quotes

"Adventure, real-life characters, and plenty of moviemaking lore combine in this tiptop cozy."—*Kirkus Reviews* on *Silent as the Grave*

"If you are one of the few on the planet yet to discover Molly Murphy, created by Rhys Bowen, now is the time to take the plunge. Molly is sassy, saucy, brave and smart."—*The Huffington Post* on the Molly Murphy Series



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Wt

Stakeouts and Strollers

A Novel

Rob Phillips

Amateur private investigator and new dad Charlie Shaw gets more than he bargained for when he agrees to track down a young girl's missing father in Rob Phillips' award-winning debut.

Summary

Charlie Shaw is low on sleep. And cash. Otherwise, life is going pretty well for the ex-crime reporter: he's happily married to his college sweetheart, he's a first-time dad to the most adorable baby girl in existence, and he's making ends meet as a rookie PI. But when Charlie meets Friday Finley, a frightened sixteen-year-old runaway on a stakeout-gone-wrong, his world gets a little more complicated.

Friday is looking for her estranged father Shawn, an unreliable alcoholic who left when she was young—and who also happens to be her only shot at avoiding the foster care system since her mother's death a few weeks earlier. At first, Charlie believes the man is simply hiding out somewhere, avoiding his responsibilities as usual, but the more he investigates, the more unsettling—and dangerous—Shawn's disappearance becomes. When his own family is threatened, Charlie realizes he's in over his head, but can he back out now that he's begun to care for Friday as his own?

A perfect page-turning blend of humor and high stakes, *Stakeouts and Strollers* is a heartwarming story of fatherhood, family, and what it really means to be a "Girl Dad."

Contributor Bio

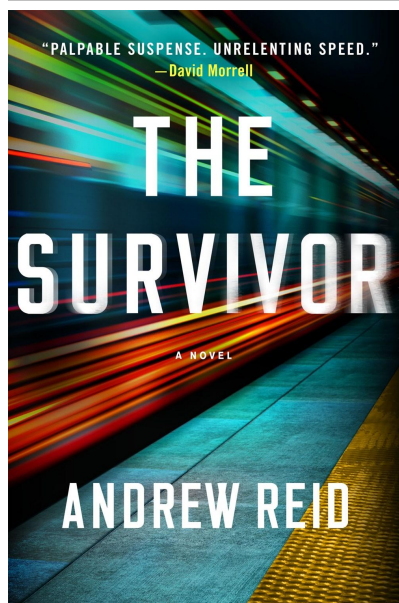
ROB PHILLIPS grew up in the Dallas area, where he became an Emmy-winning sportswriter covering the Dallas Cowboys for print, radio and television. Rob and his wife are proud parents to a spunky senior King Charles spaniel and a lively young daughter, who's still waiting for her first stakeout. His debut novel, *Stakeouts and Strollers*, won the Minotaur Books/Malice Domestic Best First Traditional Mystery Novel Award.

Quotes

"With quirky characters and a fresh perspective, this book takes you on a great ride in a mango-colored Bronco." —**Catherine Mack, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Every Time I Go on Vacation, Someone Dies***

"A fast-paced page-turner with equal amounts of dry wit and heart... Phillips's debut does not disappoint, and I'm already looking forward to more!" —**Celeste Connally, *USA Today* bestselling author of *All's Fair in Love and Treachery***

"A talented new voice in mystery fiction." —**Gigi Pandian, *USA Today* bestselling author of *A Midnight Puzzle***



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 Wt

The Survivor

Andrew Reid

A hijacked New York subway train, an anonymous killer, and a young man trapped by his hidden past converge in a breathless, breathtaking thriller

Summary

*Do **not** turn off your phone*

*Do **not** get off the train*

*I know who you **really** are*

Fired and walked out by security on his first day at his new job in New York City, Ben Cross thought his day couldn't get worse. But he couldn't be more wrong. Getting on the 1 train headed uptown, Ben starts receiving text messages from an anonymous killer, showing that they've already killed someone, then pointedly killing another as they got off the train to prove they aren't bluffing and to ensure Ben follows orders. But Ben wasn't picked at random—he has a history that no one is supposed to know.

At the same time, A NYPD detective, Kelly Hendricks, is on punishment duty with the transit police. The first one on the scene after the first murder, she gets on the train to find out what is really going on.

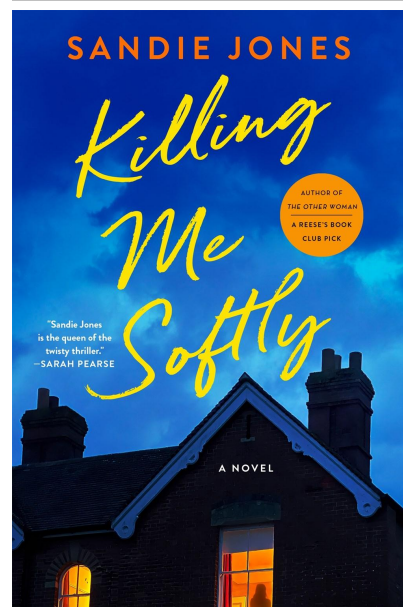
Switching rapidly between Cross and Hendricks, as the hijacked 1 train heads from South Ferry to 181st, the secret to the killer lies in Ben's own history—why he's been targeted and punished.

Contributor Bio

Born in Scotland, ANDREW REID worked as a research scientist for almost a decade on projects including DNA synthesis, forensics, and drug development. He now teaches Science and lives in Stockholm with his wife, three children, and two cats.

Quotes

"It's been ages since I read anything this exciting. Palpable suspense. Unrelenting speed. A thrill ride." -David Morrell, *New York Times* bestselling author of *First Blood*



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Killing Me Softly

A Novel

Sandie Jones

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Reese's Book Club Pick *The Other Woman* and *The Guilt Trip* comes a twisty and suspenseful new novel about love turned deadly.

Summary

Charlie and Freya used to be the picture-perfect couple everyone in their idyllic village in the Cotswolds envied—and if you couldn't *be* them, you wanted to be *with* them. Happy, healthy, forging successful careers, and with a beautiful son in tow, they had it all . . . until one night a tragedy tears their lives apart.

Unable to live with themselves, let alone each other, they're looking for someone to blame and who they land on is each other.

Told from both Freya and Charlie's perspectives, a cat and mouse game ensues, as each of them become determined to win-out against the other, both battling to emerge victorious and guilty-conscience-free. But can Freya stay one step ahead of the man who knows her best? Or will Charlie's stoic conviction to get what he wants, be the death of her?

Sandie Jones's latest addictive novel is a wickedly twisty tale of obsession and the deadly consequences of loving someone too much.

Contributor Bio

SANDIE JONES (she/her) has worked as a freelance journalist for more than twenty years and has written for publications including the *Sunday Times*, *Woman's Weekly*, and *Hello* magazine. She lives in London with her husband and three children. *The Other Woman* was her debut novel and a Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick.

Quotes

Praise for Sandie Jones:

"One of the most twisted and entertaining plots."—Reese Witherspoon on *The Other Woman*

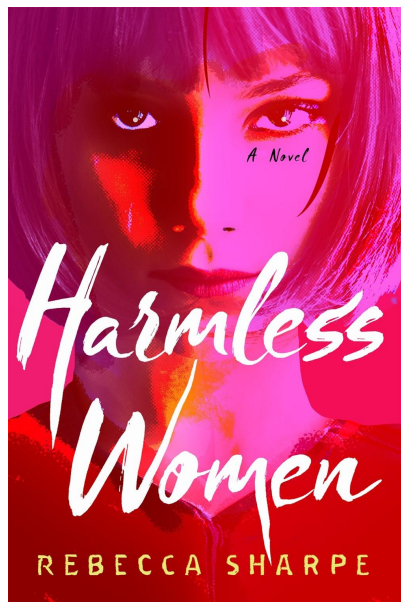
"A perfect beach read."—Kristin Hannah on *The Other Woman*

"Riveting . . . The twisty plot builds to a shocking conclusion. This puzzler reinforces Jones's status as a rising suspense star."—*Publishers Weekly* on *The First Mistake*

"An addictive, page-turning thriller."—*National Examiner* on *The First Mistake*

"Sandie Jones never disappoints!" —Liv Constantine on *The Blame Game*

"Sandie Jones is the queen of the twisty thriller."—Sarah Pearse on *The Blame Game*



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Harmless Women

A Novel

Rebecca Sharpe

In this pacy thriller, a female con artist chooses the wrong woman as her target, and both women end up on the run for their lives.

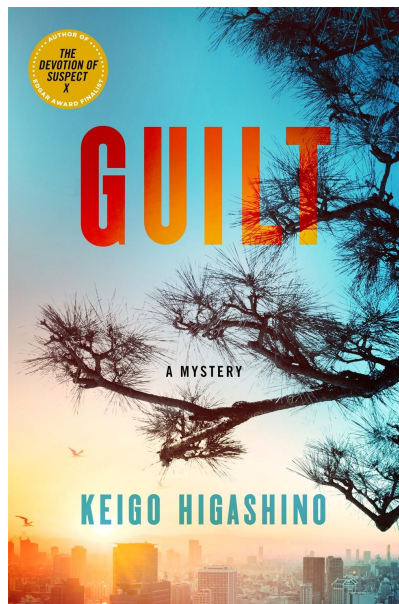
Summary

Avalon Dale is a masterful grifter. She researches her victims thoroughly, kidnaps and sedates them, cleans out their bank accounts, and uses injections and hair clippers to change their appearance so that when they wake up, they can't easily prove who they are. It gives her a head start and a new identity to get away. She's targeted Primrose Meath for her last big score, and then she'll fade away to a life of ease and luxury--something she's dreamed of since a very tough childhood.

On paper, Prim is the perfect target: wealthy, workaholic, and distracted by her cheating husband. But when Avalon finds Prim's husband dead, she can't get away so easily--not when the person whose identity she was about to steal is wanted for murder. The two women, opposites, enemies, are suddenly on the run together, and must learn to get along, to depend on each other, in order to get away. And then, what starts as a cat-and-mouse run to the coast of England becomes a fight for their survival.

Contributor Bio

REBECCA SHARPE wanted to write novels from the moment she read her first Stephen King book, aged eight, and soon graduated onto the works of Susan Hill, Shirley Jackson and Wilkie Collins, with a healthy sprinkling of *The Babysitters' Club* along the way. After reading her way through the entire classics section of the school library, she went on to study English Literature at university, which cemented her ambition to become an author.



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 Wt

Guilt

Keigo Higashino, Giles Murray

A tour de force crime novel from one of the international masters of the form, where a simple murder case questions the simple notions of good and evil, guilt and redemption.

Summary

Homicide Detective Godai of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department is assigned to investigate the death of a lawyer, Kensuke Shiraishi, whose body was found on a Central Tokyo riverbank. His investigations leads him to one Tatsuhiro Kuraki, who claims to have had limited contact with Shiraishi - but, surprising the investigators, Kuraki not only confesses to the lawyer's murder, but another one from thirty years ago - for which another man was arrested and died in custody before trial. This brings unexpected resolution to two cases but there is one problem: to Detective Godai the confession rings false.

And Godai is not the only one who cannot accept Kuraki's explanation of both murders and his professed motives. The confessed murderer's son and the victim's daughter both feel strongly that both the act and the motive claimed are untrue.

As Godai investigates further, he discovers that the relation between the murder of thirty years ago and the recent one is complex, raising multi-faceted questions of guilt and innocence. *Swan and Bat* is a rich novel about crime and its aftereffects on those left behind by both the victim and perpetrator, a twisting, compelling work that will surprise and astonish.

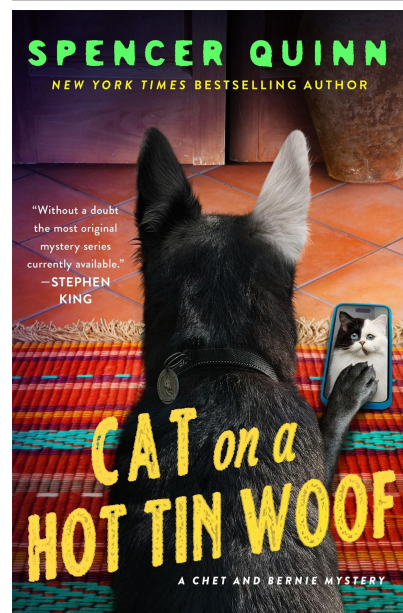
Contributor Bio

KEIGO HIGASHINO is one of Japan's best-selling novelists, his works translated into more than twenty languages. He's best known for this Detective Galileo mystery series (*The Devotion of Suspect X*) and his Kyoichiro Kaga series (*Malice*, *The Final Curtain*). In English, his work has been a finalist for both the Edgar Award and the CWA Dagger, along with many awards in his home country. He lives in Tokyo, Japan.

Quotes

"If David Foster Wallace had written a thriller, it would probably read something like a novel by Keigo Higashino. Compulsion, games, systems within systems, cultural bewitchment, politics: these two writers would have had a lot to discuss." —*South China Morning Post* on *Under the Midnight Sun*

"Think of the artfully precise, psychologically charged films of Alfred Hitchcock and you're close to what Higashino achieves." —*Richmond Times-Dispatch* on *Salvation of a Saint*



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Wt

Cat on a Hot Tin Woof

Spencer Quinn

Join Chet the dog, "the most lovable narrator in all of fiction" (*Boston Globe*), and his human partner Bernie as they scramble to solve a case exposing the dark side of internet fame.

Summary

Chet the dog is less than enthusiastic about the Little Detective Agency's next case. Chet and his human partner, PI Bernie Little, have been hired to find a missing person—only the missing person is a cat. Miss Kitty, an internet sensation, has disappeared, and Chet and Bernie have been hired to find her before her many followers realize something is wrong.

Miss Kitty belongs to Bitty, a sweet teenage girl who lives with her mom. Bitty and her mother are struggling financially, but the arrival of Miss Kitty and the chance discovery of her social media appeal has changed everything. Bitty now has sponsors, a high-powered agent, and all the tools needed to thrive online, and real money is flowing in. At least, it was. With Miss Kitty gone, the family's income is on the line.

The case presents a slew of challenges for Chet and Bernie. For one thing, a potential witness is a pig named Senor Piggy who may be in possession of an important piece of evidence. For another, it seems like a possible perp has been killed twice—and there's evidence implicating Bernie in the crime.

Contributor Bio

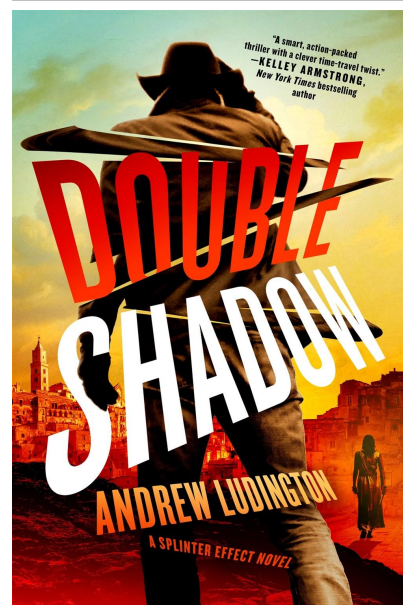
Spencer Quinn is the pen name of Peter Abrahams, the Edgar-award winning author of many novels, including the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling Chet and Bernie mystery series, *Mrs. Plansky's Revenge*, *The Right Side*, and *Oblivion*, as well as the *New York Times* bestselling Bowser and Birdie series for younger readers. He lives on Cape Cod with his wife Diana—and Dottie, a loyal and energetic member of the four-pawed nation within.

Quotes

"I have been a Chet and Bernie fan from the start. Chet is a wonderful narrator—top dog, you could say—but he never descends to cuteness, and Bernie is as tough a PI as Spade or Marlowe...I'm already jonesing for the next one." —Stephen King

"A tidy mystery, a good dollop of action, and a rumination on life after high school...Chet, with his innate doggie wisdom, is sure to inspire loyal fans and seduce new readers." —*Publishers Weekly* on *Bark to the Future*

"Would that we all were as infallible in our dogs' eyes as Bernie is in Chet's." —Susan Wilson, *NYT* bestselling author of *The Dog I Loved*



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Double Shadow

A Splinter Effect Novel

Andrew Ludington

In this thrilling installment of the Splinter Effect series, time-traveler Rabbit Ward returns to the past to save his former adversary and track down a murderous thief in first century Jerusalem

Summary

ROME, 2019. Time-traveling, Smithsonian archaeologist Rabbit Ward is back in the present, but not for long. Helen, his former adversary and growing ally, is in trouble with the law after being framed for a murder she didn't commit. Stuck in hiding and running out of other options, she turns to Rabbit for help. "Help" in this case involves a trip to first century Jerusalem to track down a mysterious man named Einar Eshek.

But Rabbit won't have to do this mission alone; as soon as he arrives in 68 CE, he meets a younger version of Helen, one who has never met him before. Together, they work to track down Eshek, who turns out to be not only a time-traveling thief, but a murderous psychopath.

As they pursue Eshek through time, Rabbit and Helen feel something even bigger pulling them together. Torn between the two versions of the woman he knows, and with the clock ticking down on Helen's fate in 2019, Rabbit might have no choice but to betray her past self to secure Helen's safety in the future. Tensions rise as Jerusalem prepares to go to war with Rome, and Rabbit races to capture Eshek, clear Helen's name, and make it back to 2019 in one piece—a feat that's proving to be easier said than done—before everything falls apart.

Contributor Bio

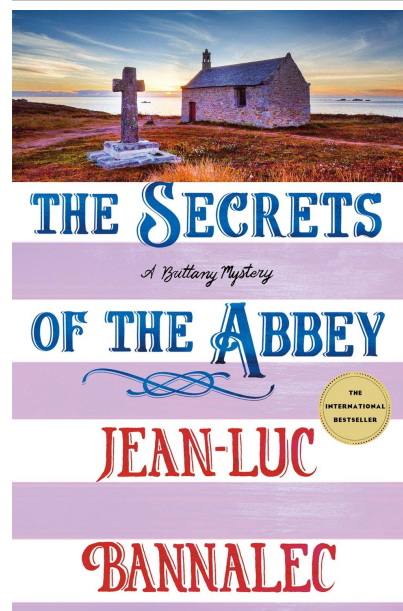
ANDREW LUDINGTON writes transportive adventure stories intended to make you forget your commute. He graduated from Kenyon College with a BA in English Literature and lives in Evanston, IL where he moonlights as a technologist for Northwestern University. He is the author of *Splinter Effect* and *Double Shadow*.

Quotes

"Ludington debuts with a rip-roaring thriller... Rabbit's quick wit and fast fists make him a winning protagonist... [and] Ludington demonstrates a knack for fleet action sequences. Readers will be eager for the sequel." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Readers who love adventure, time travel, sf, and history will find a new favorite series here." —*Booklist*

"A smart, inventive, wildly original adventure." —J.T. Ellison, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Very Bad Thing*



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The Secrets of the Abbey

A Brittany Mystery

Jean-Luc Bannalec

In international bestselling author Jean-Luc Bannalec's *The Secrets of the Abbey*, between large inlets, the wild Atlantic, and enchanting apple orchards, a tricky and highly personal case unfolds for Commissaire Georges Dupin and his team.

Summary

Summer in Brittany has carried merrily into October, bringing warm, sunny days and balmy nights. For Commissaire Georges Dupin and his team, it also brings a heavy blow. Second inspector Kadeg's aunt has passed away after being struck by a series of omens of death. And when Kadeg travels to the former abbey where his aunt lived, he's attacked and critically injured.

Dupin and the rest of his team quickly head to the aunt's estate on the Côte des Légendes to look into what happened. But the more they look, the more questions are uncovered, and the more secrets Kadeg's family seems to have.

Contributor Bio

Internationally bestselling author JEAN-LUC BANNALEC lives in Germany and the southerly region of the French département 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. *The New York Times* has praised of his Brittany mysteries, "Delicious... if this isn't heaven, it's close enough." Bannalec is 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*, *The Body By the Sea* (named one of *Washington Post*'s "Ten Best Mystery Novels of the Year"), *Death of a Master Chef*, and *An Island of Suspects*.

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



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Wt

Dark Is When the Devil Comes

Daisy Pearce

A chilling small-town thriller with a supernatural twist from *Something in the Walls* author Daisy Pearce.

Summary

The woods are known as the place to avoid. What goes in, doesn't come out.

Hazel has been gone from her small hometown of Kawdarn in the English countryside for years. Now returned in the wake of her embarrassing divorce and crumbling personal life, her simple plans are to lay low at her parents' vacated house, reconnect with her prickly sister, Cathy, for the first time in years, and slowly get back on her feet.

Cathy is surprised when Hazel doesn't show. Their relationship strained from a fallout a decade ago, she didn't expect them to get back into a sisterly rhythm...though she hadn't counted on Hazel bailing, either.

But something isn't adding up. Other people in town whisper of a threat that can't be shaken. The woods are known for being restless. And Cathy knows the old saying.

If you go looking for trouble, you just might find it.

Unrelentingly scary and thrilling, *Dark Is When the Devil Comes* is an ambitious and chilling novel from acclaimed horror author Daisy Pearce.

Contributor Bio

Daisy Pearce was born in Cornwall but currently lives in Sussex, UK. In 2015 she won the Chindi Authors Short Story Competition. Her short stories have previously been published in One Eyed Grey and performed at the Small Story Cabaret. She has also written about mental health issues for XOJane. She is the author of *The Silence*, *The Missing*, and *Something in the Walls*. Specialist subjects include: ghosts, poltergeists and the perfect red lipstick.

Quotes

Praise for *Something in the Walls*:

"The novel is full of superb, and sustained, tension and heavy doses of folklore and eerie history, making this a fun read that is also smart and engaging. This might be Pearce's best book yet." - *New York Times Book Review*

"A rewarding folk thriller... What begins as a supernatural thriller gradually develops into a thoughtful meditation on grief and groupthink, with enough pathos and drama to keep the pages turning. It's a winner." - *Publishers Weekly*

"A deliciously creepy and twisty chiller that fans of *The Conjuring* and Stephen King will love." - Bestselling author Mark Edwards