

Reading Group Guides

A WEBSITE FROM THE BOOK REPORT NETWORK

14½ ANNUAL
**BOOK
GROUP**

**SPEED
DATING**

NOVEMBER 2025

W. W. Norton & Company



W. W. NORTON & COMPANY

Independent Publishers Since 1923

Jean

Madeleine Dunnigan

W. W. Norton & Company

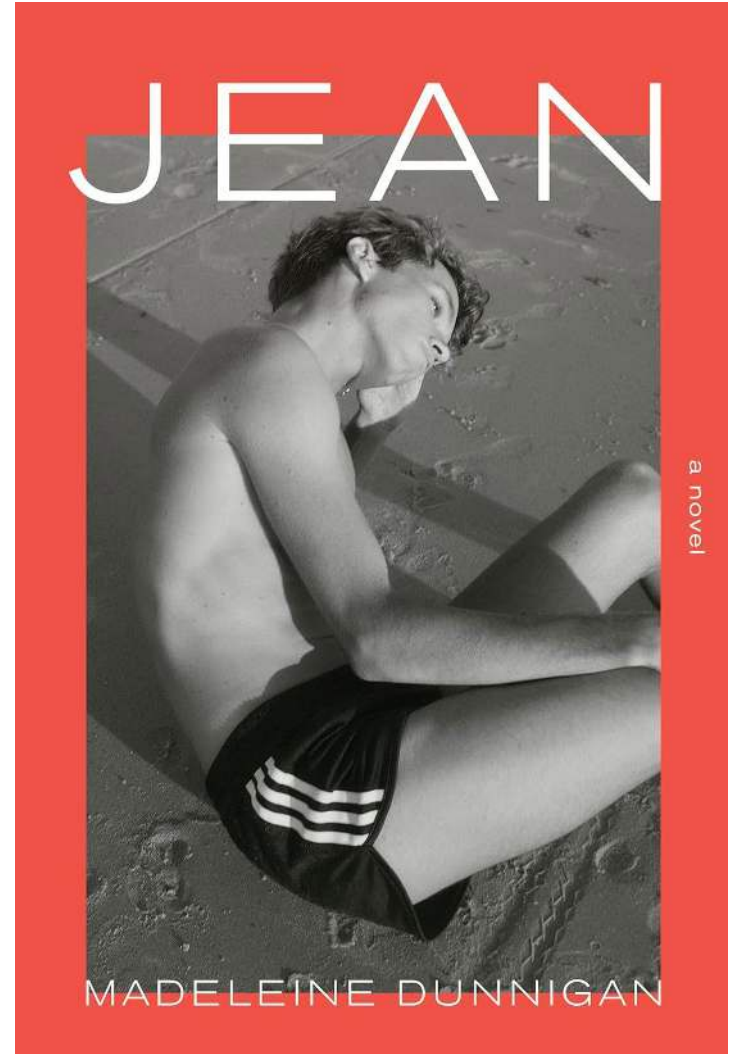
Hardcover

On sale: January 13, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781324105640

\$29.99

Set over one hot summer, a startlingly assured debut about the kinds of love that break us and make us whole.



Son of Nobody

Yann Martel

W. W. Norton & Company

Hardcover

On sale: March 31, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781324118138

\$29.99

From the author of the international bestseller *Life of Pi*, a brilliant retelling of the Trojan War from two commoners: an ancient soldier and a modern scholar.



NORTON



Evelyn in Transit

David Guterson

W. W. Norton & Company

Hardcover

On sale: January 20, 2026

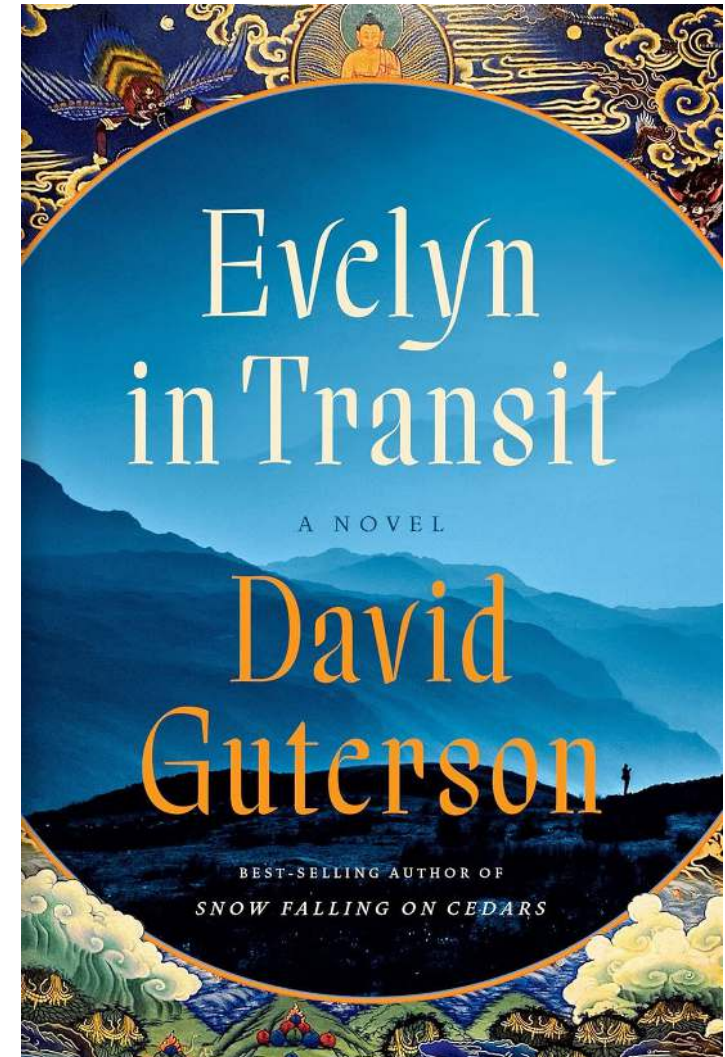
ISBN-13: 9781324111054

\$29.99

A crystalline short novel about defying expectations, hitting the road, and seeking the right way to live.



NORTON



Simon & Schuster



Family Drama

Rebecca Fallon

Simon & Schuster

Hardcover

On sale: February 3, 2026

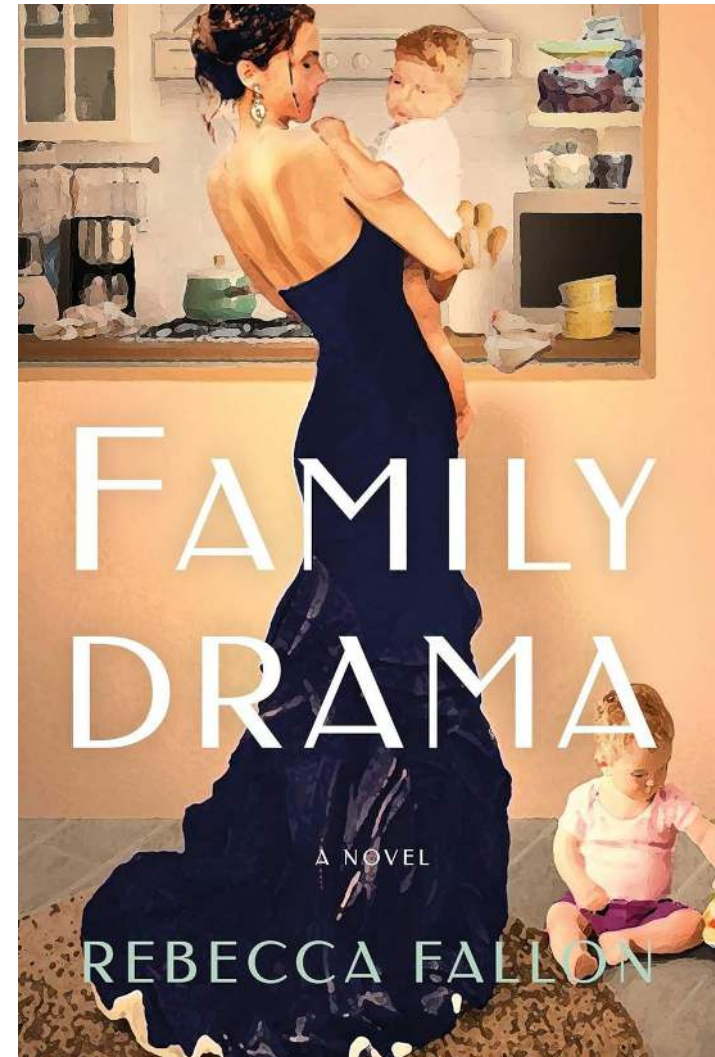
ISBN-13: 9781668089477

\$29.00

In New England, Susan Bliss is a young mother married to a professor. In LA, Susan Byrne stars in a soap opera beloved coast to coast. Decades after she's gone, her twins have no idea of their mother's fame. But the past can't stay hidden forever.

A vibrant debut and powerful meditation on family, motherhood, and the cost of holding on to your dreams

 **SIMON & SCHUSTER**



Keeper of Lost Children

Sadeqa Johnson

Simon & Schuster, 37 Ink

Hardcover

On sale: February 10, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781668069912

\$30.00

In this new novel from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The House of Eve* and *Yellow Wife*, one American woman's vision in post-WWII Germany will tie together three people in an unexpected way.

 **SIMON & SCHUSTER**



All the World Can Hold

Jung Yun

Simon & Schuster, 37 Ink

Hardcover

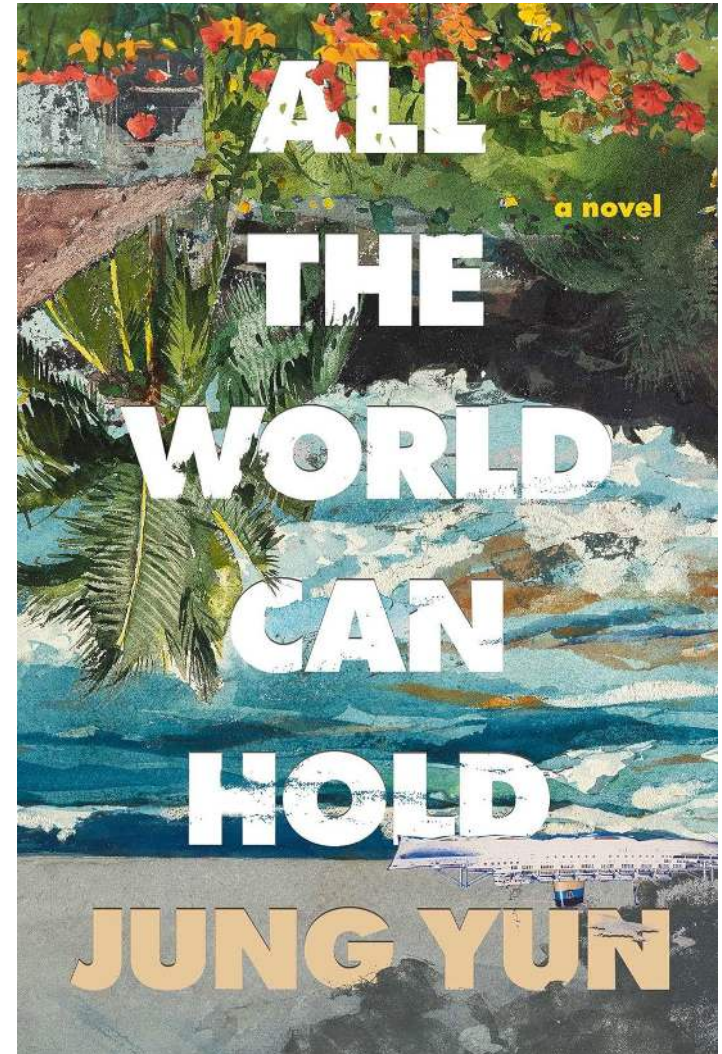
On sale: March 10, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781668200599

\$30.00

Let the Great World Spin meets “The White Lotus” when three passengers from wildly different backgrounds board a cruise ship bound for Bermuda shortly after 9/11 and learn en route that they can’t outrun their regrets about the risks not taken.

 **SIMON & SCHUSTER**



Like This, But Funnier

Hallie Cantor

Simon & Schuster

Hardcover

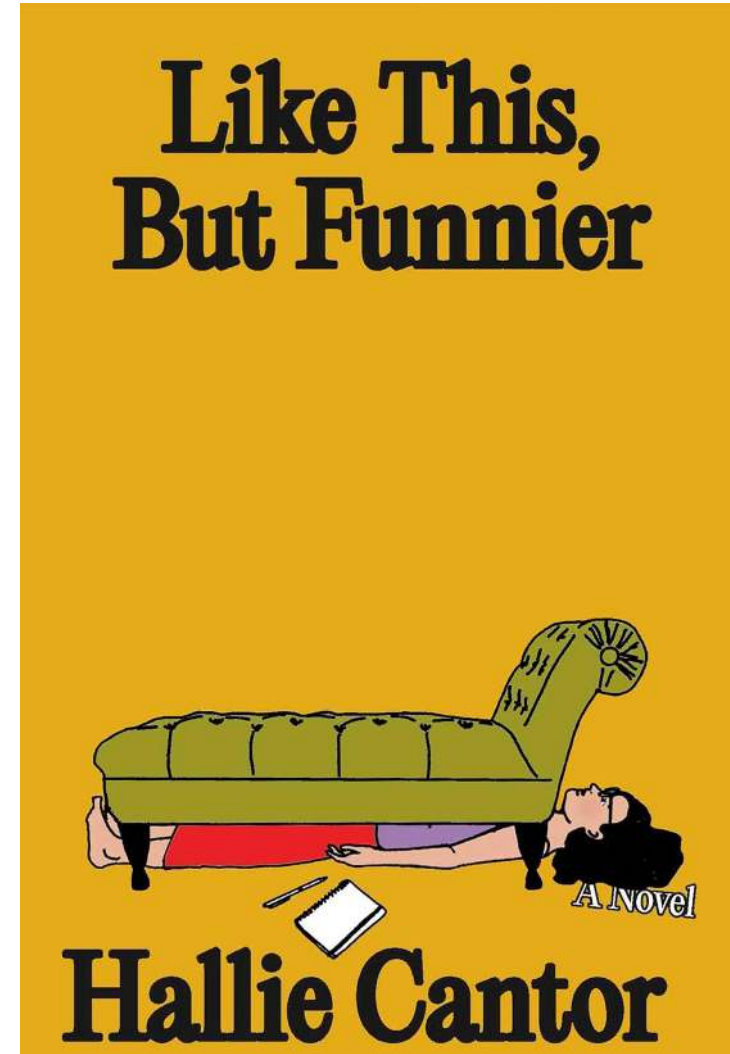
On sale: April 7, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781668088586

\$28.00

For fans of Dolly Alderton and HBO's "Hacks," a whip-smart, laugh-out-loud funny debut novel about faking it (and "making it") as a writer in Hollywood.

 **SIMON & SCHUSTER**



Livonia Chow Mein

Abigail Savitch-Lew

Simon & Schuster

Hardcover

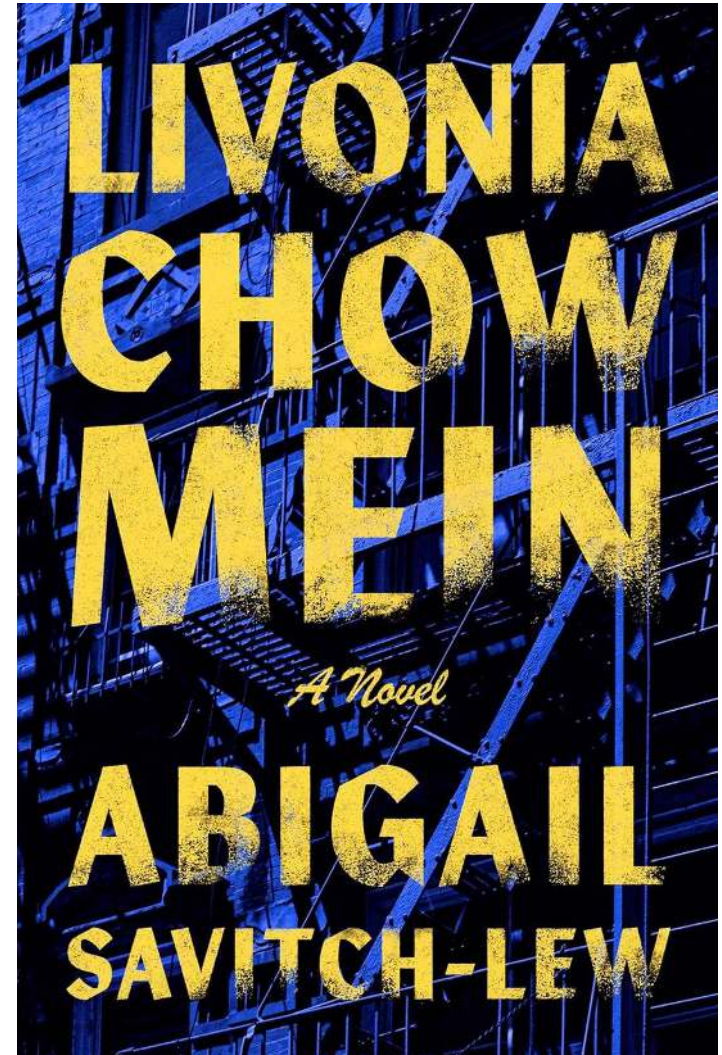
On sale: April 21, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781668075234

\$29.00

In the vein of *Happiness Falls* and *Family Lore*, a gripping story of family history and political upheaval centered on a Chinese family-owned restaurant in Brownsville, Brooklyn, and its impact on the neighborhood's Jewish and Black residents over the course of a century.

 **SIMON & SCHUSTER**



Artifacts

Natalie Lemle

Simon & Schuster

Hardcover

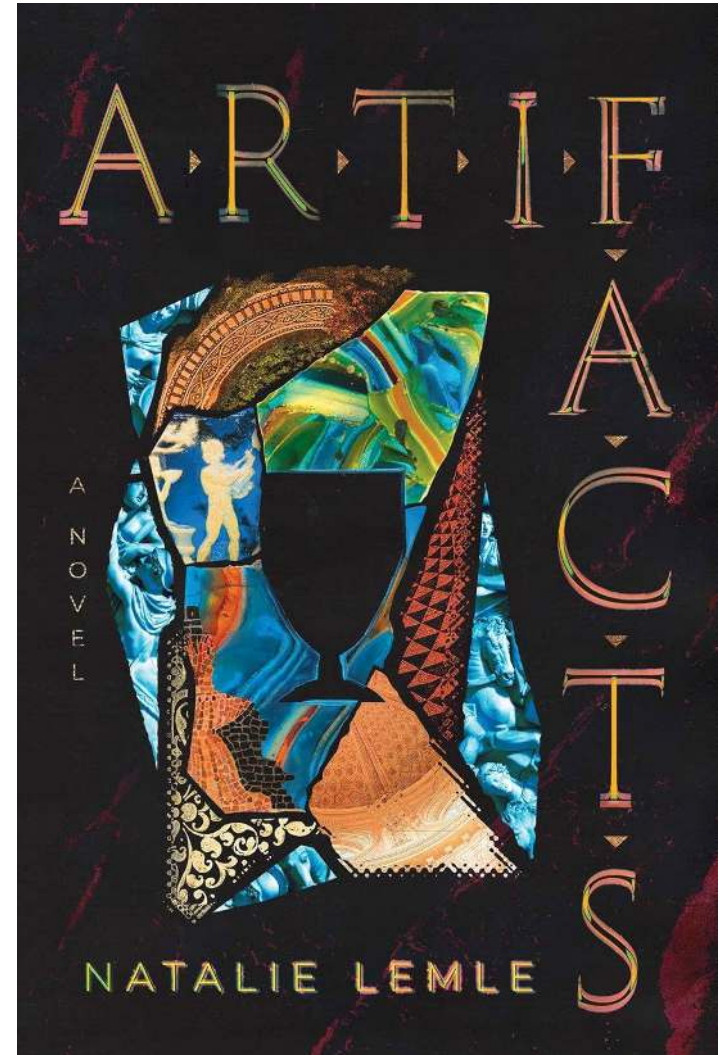
On sale: May 19, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781668068342

\$29.00

For readers of *The Cloisters* and *Counterfeit*, Natalie Lemle's debut novel offers an insider's view into the world of stolen artifacts, and the collusion between organized crime and museums, when a woman is forced to remember the summer she spent on an archaeological dig in Italy, as everyone she knew then may now be in danger.

 **SIMON & SCHUSTER**



Harlequin Trade Publishing



It's Not Her

Mary Kubica

Park Row

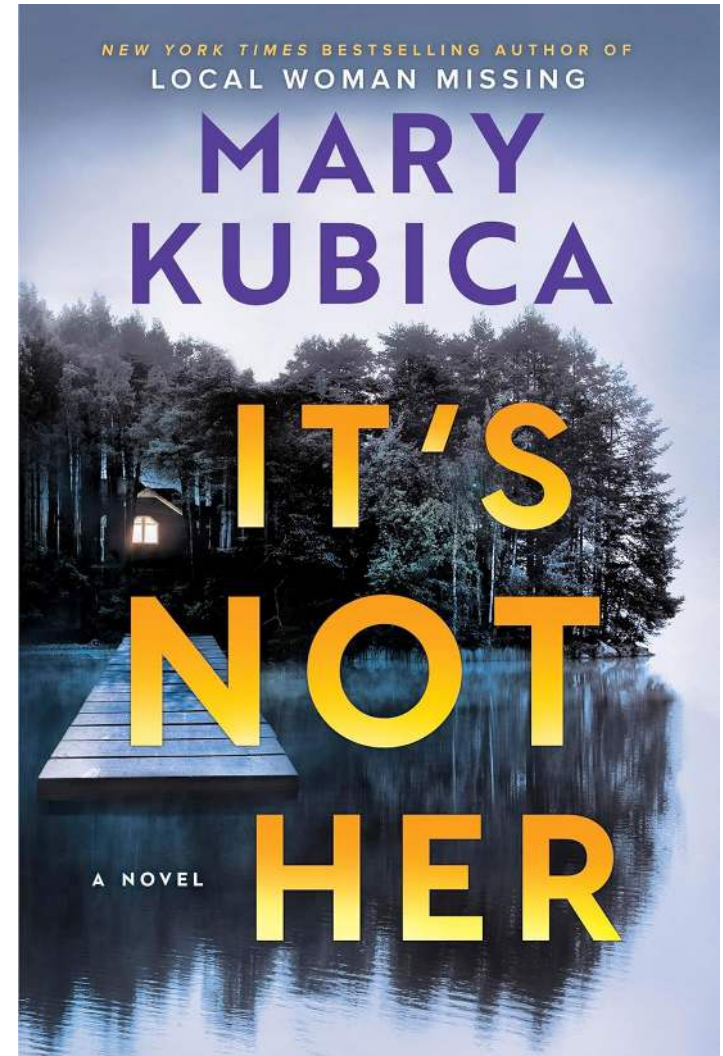
Hardcover

On sale: February 3, 2026

ISBN-13: 9780778387992

\$30.00

Two families vacationing together at a secluded lake resort are at the center of a chilling crime and mysterious disappearance in this twisty, unputdownable thriller from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Local Woman Missing*.



Hollow

Celina Myers

Hanover Square Press

Hardcover

On sale: January 13, 2026

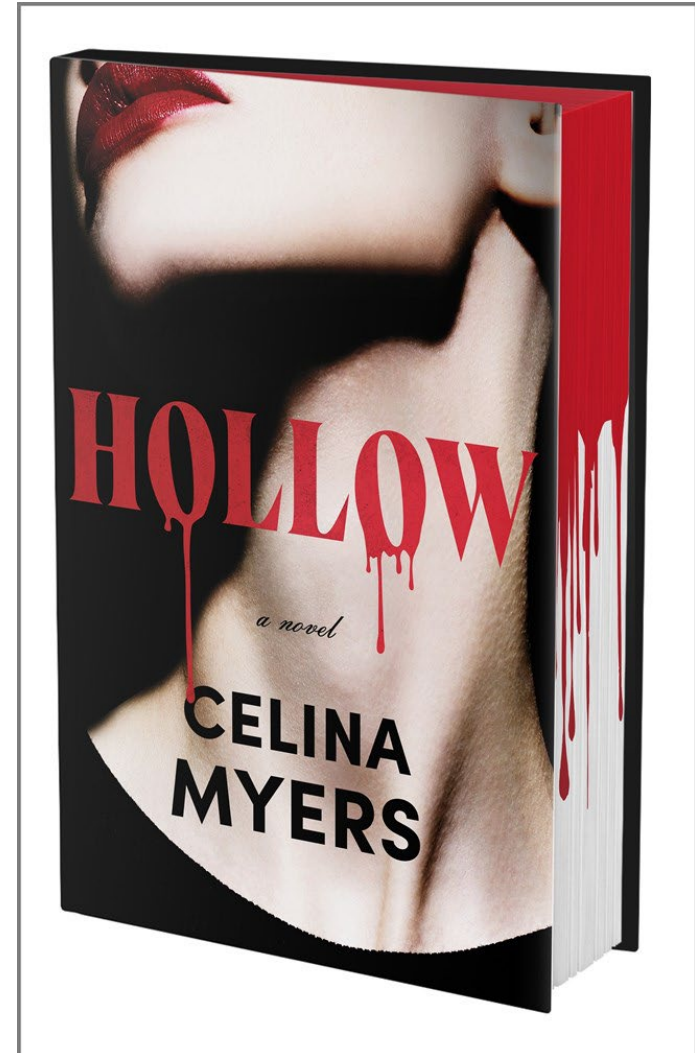
ISBN-13: 9780778387855

\$30.00

Anne Rice meets Colleen Hoover in this spooky debut novel from TikTok star Celina Myers. When a woman is brought back from the dead as a vampire, she must find where her destiny lies between warring vampire families --- and two unexpected loves.



HANOVER
SQUARE
PRESS



That's What Friends Are For

Wade Rouse

MIRA

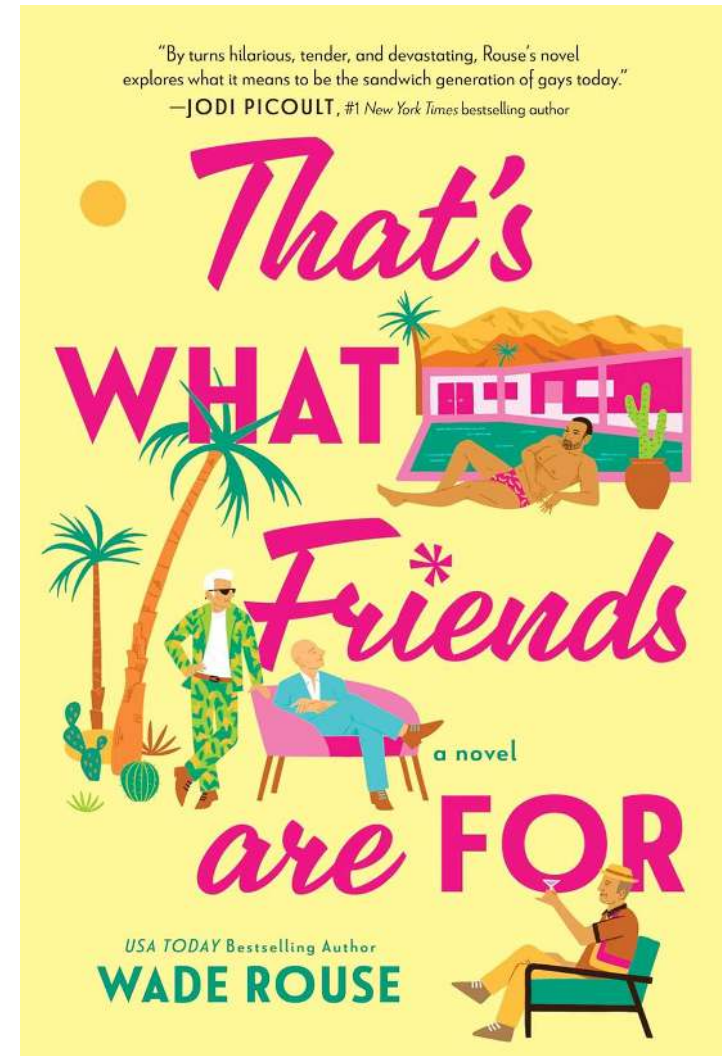
Hardcover

On sale: March 3, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781525800054

\$28.99

The lives of four aging gay friends are upended when an estranged sister lands on their doorstep with a dramatic granddaughter in tow. Inspired by TV's "The Golden Girls," Viola Shipman's novel about acceptance, friendship and love later in life is perfect for readers of Steven Rowley.



Homeschooled

Stefan Merrill Block

Hanover Square Press

Hardcover

On sale: January 6, 2026

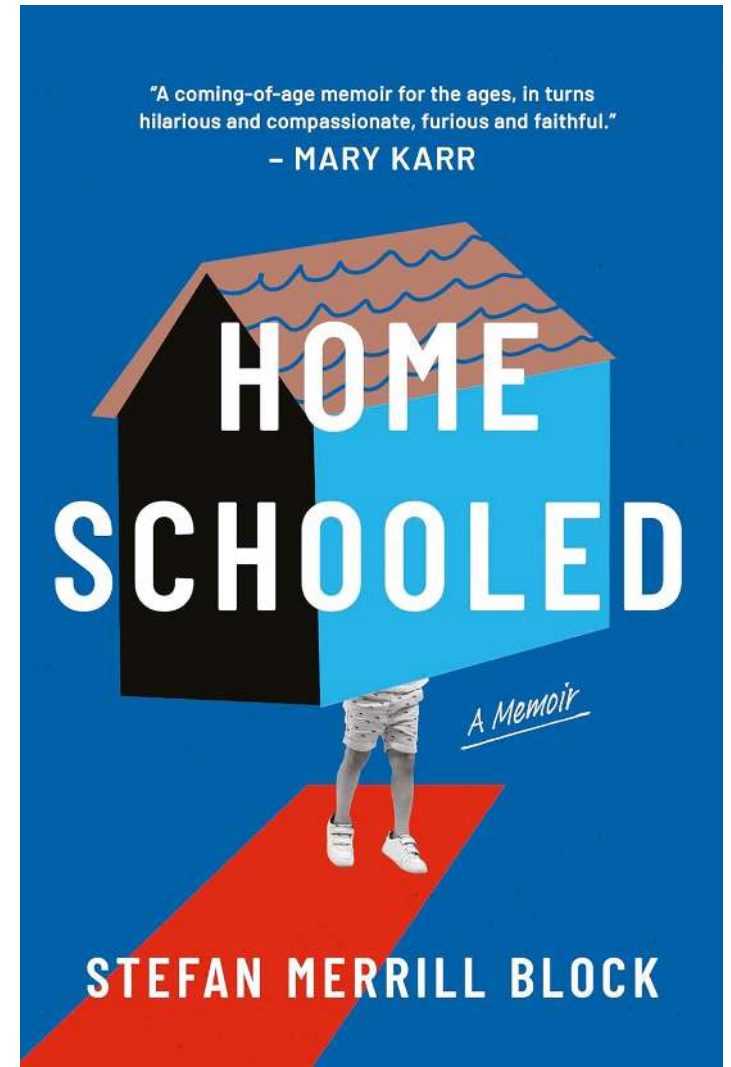
ISBN-13: 9781335000989

\$30.00

A heartbreaking, empowering and often hilarious debut memoir about a mother's all-consuming love, a son's perilous quest to discover the world beyond the front door, and the unregulated homeschool system that impacts millions like him.



HANOVER
SQUARE
PRESS



Japanese Gothic

Kylie Lee Baker

Hanover Square Press

Hardcover

On sale: April 21, 2026

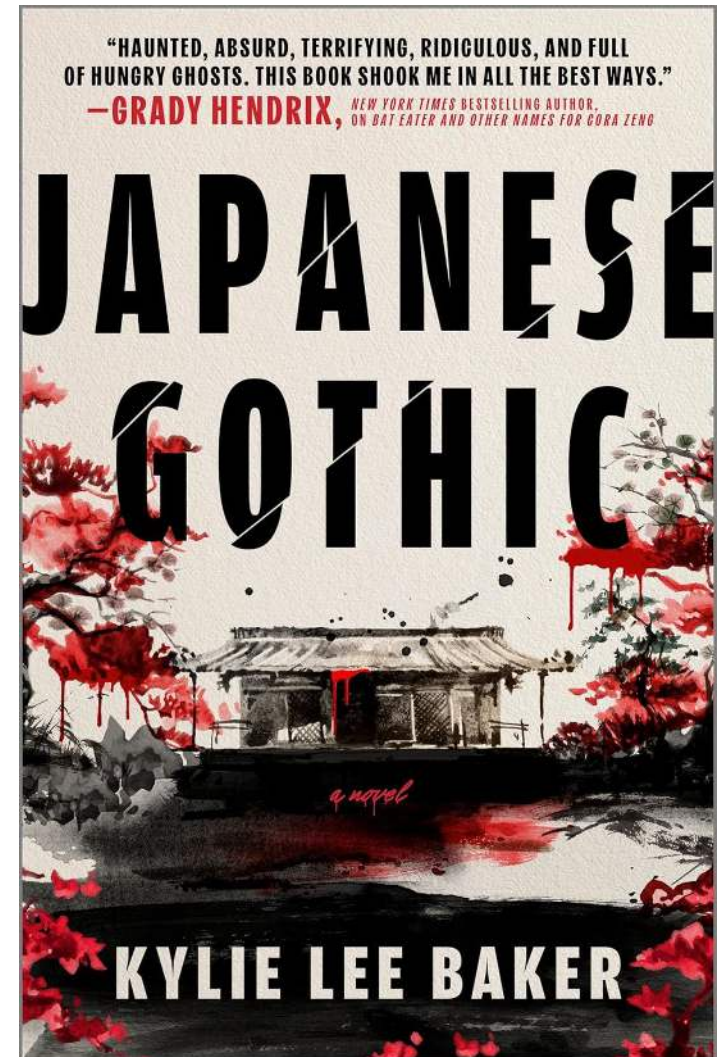
ISBN-13: 9781335001559

\$30.00

A fresh take on a haunted house story in which two people living centuries apart discover a door between their worlds, for fans of Shirley Jackson and *The Eyes Are the Best Part*.



HANOVER
SQUARE
PRESS



Psycho Fae

Jasmine Mas

MIRA

Paperback Original

On sale: January 13, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781335919946

\$19.99

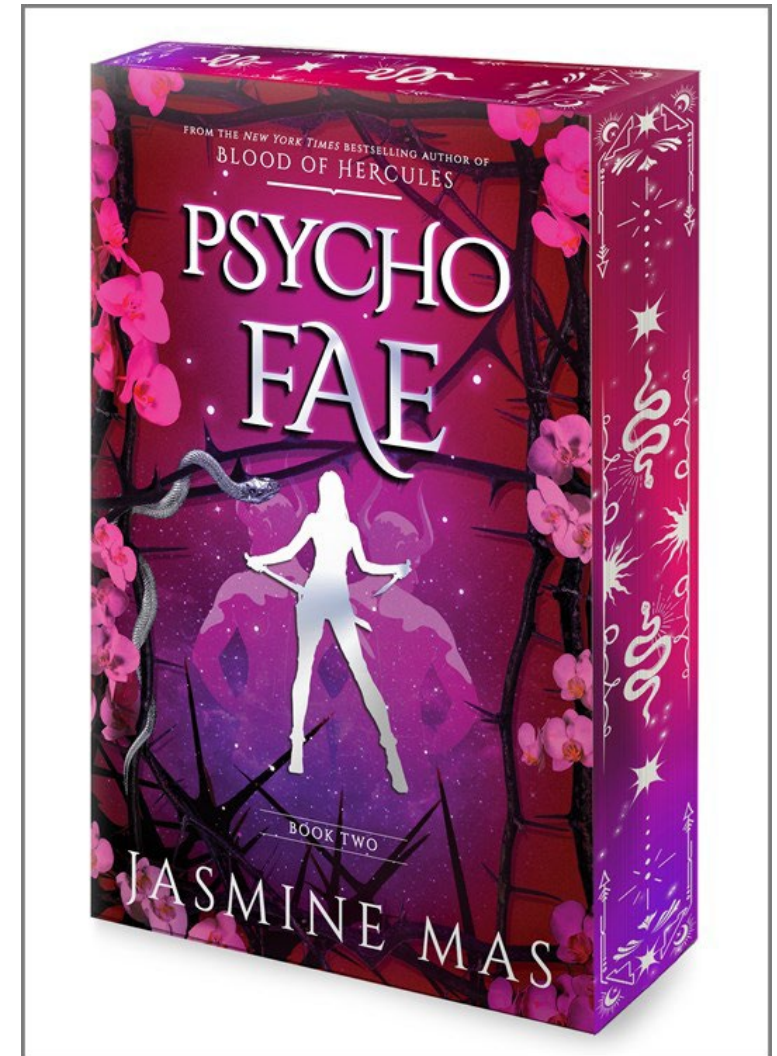
It's an all-out fight for survival in the deadly gladiator Fae Games.

The second book in the dark and twisted *Cruel Shiftiverse* trilogy by Jasmine Mas, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Blood of Hercules*.

Book 1: *Psycho Shifters* (Available now)

Book 2: *Psycho Fae* (January 2026)

Book 3: *Psycho Beasts* (March 2026)



Grand Central Publishing



GRAND
CENTRAL

The Heir Apparent

Rebecca Armitage

Cardinal

Hardcover

On sale: December 2, 2025

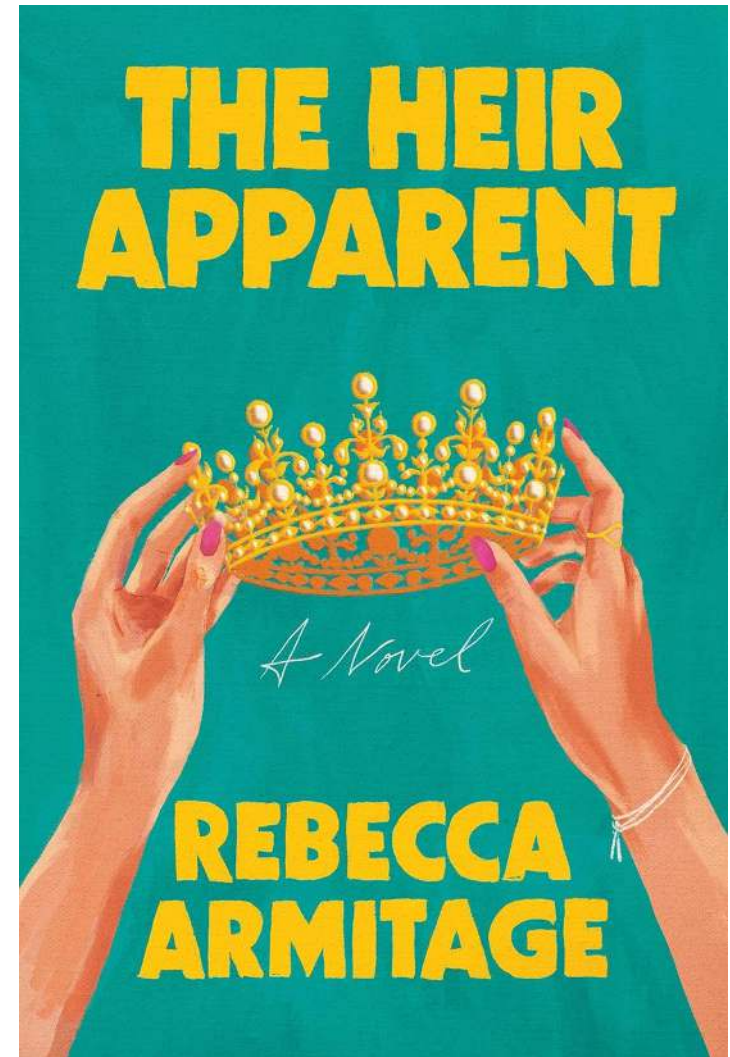
ISBN-13: 9781538776308

\$29.00

An irresistible modern fairy tale about a British princess who must decide between her duty to her family --- or to her own heart.



CARDINAL



The Golden Boy

Patricia Finn

Cardinal

Hardcover

On sale: March 10, 2026

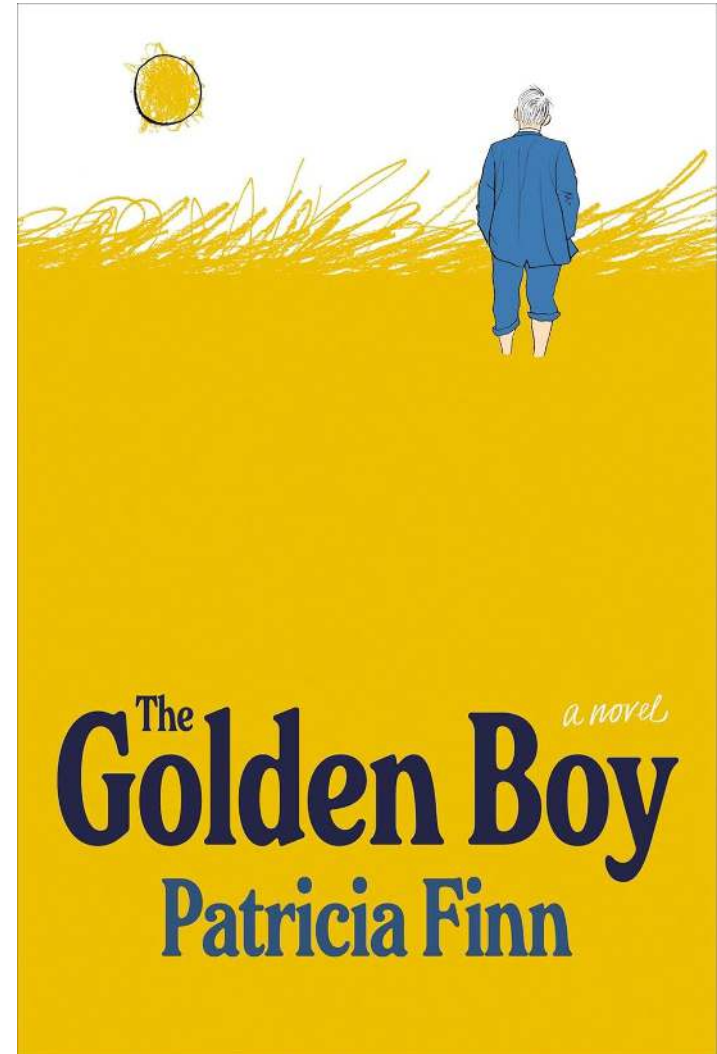
ISBN-13: 9781538776186

\$29.00

An unexpected letter sends a man and his wife into their pasts --- and offers them both a shot at redemption.



CARDINAL



Ruins

Lily Brooks-Dalton

Grand Central Publishing

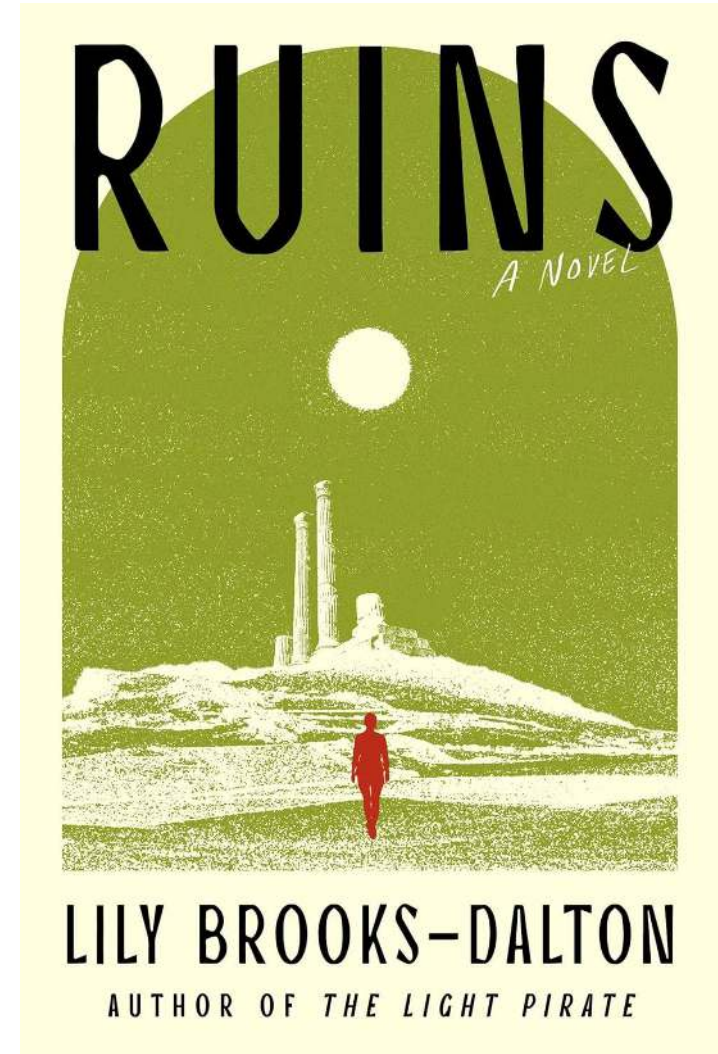
Hardcover

On sale: March 31, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781538770528

\$29.00

A sweeping, deeply resonant novel about an archaeologist in search of an ancient artifact that could not only change her life, but upend the story of civilization itself.



Random House Publishing Group



RANDOM
HOUSE

Lady X

Molly Fader

Ballantine Books

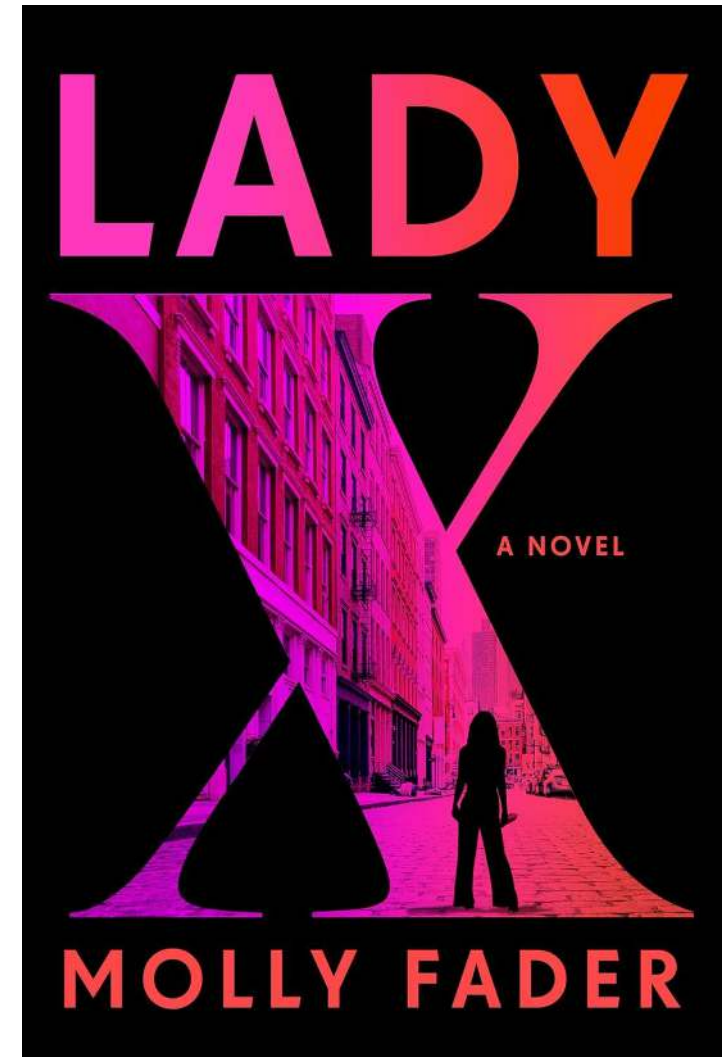
Hardcover

On sale: May 5, 2026

ISBN-13: 9780593983669

\$30.00

The search for a notorious vigilante exposes the secrets among three generations of women in this propulsive novel of female resistance and rage, sweeping from contemporary L.A. to gritty 1970s New York.



Laws of Love and Logic

Debra Curtis

Ballantine Books

Hardcover

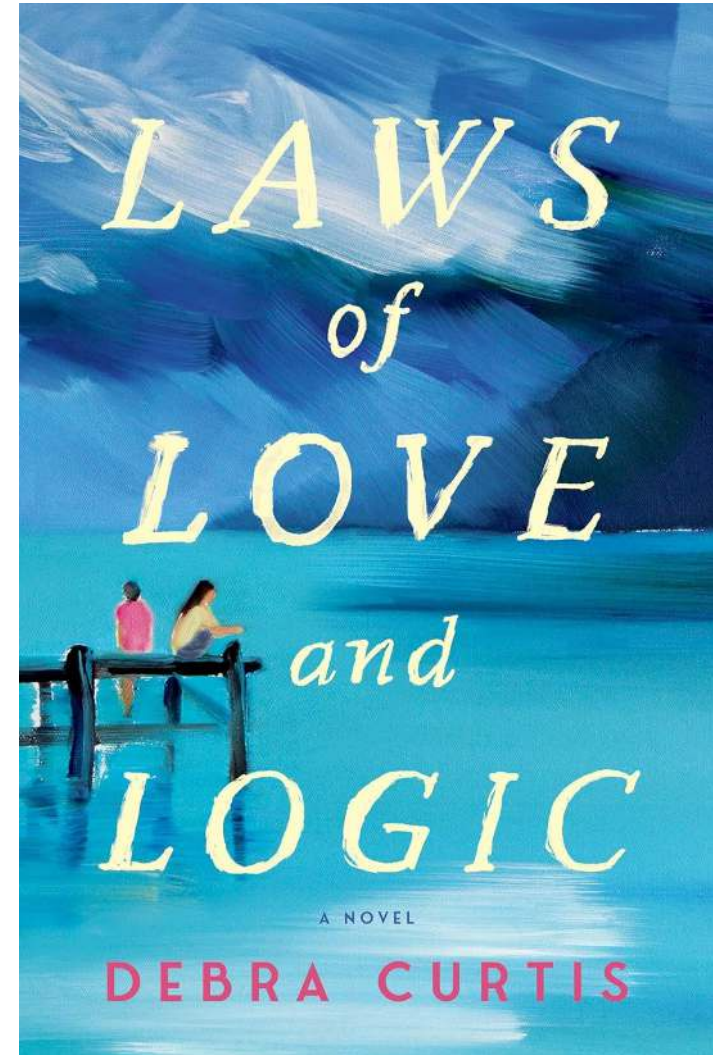
On sale: February 17, 2026

ISBN-13: 9798217092277

\$30.00

A stunning debut novel from Jenna Bush Hager's new venture, Thousand Voices.

A woman finds herself torn between her first love and her devoted husband in this extraordinary debut novel that asks the question: *Can one heart hold two great loves?*



Where the Girls Were

Kate Schatz

The Dial Press

Hardcover

On sale: March 3, 2026

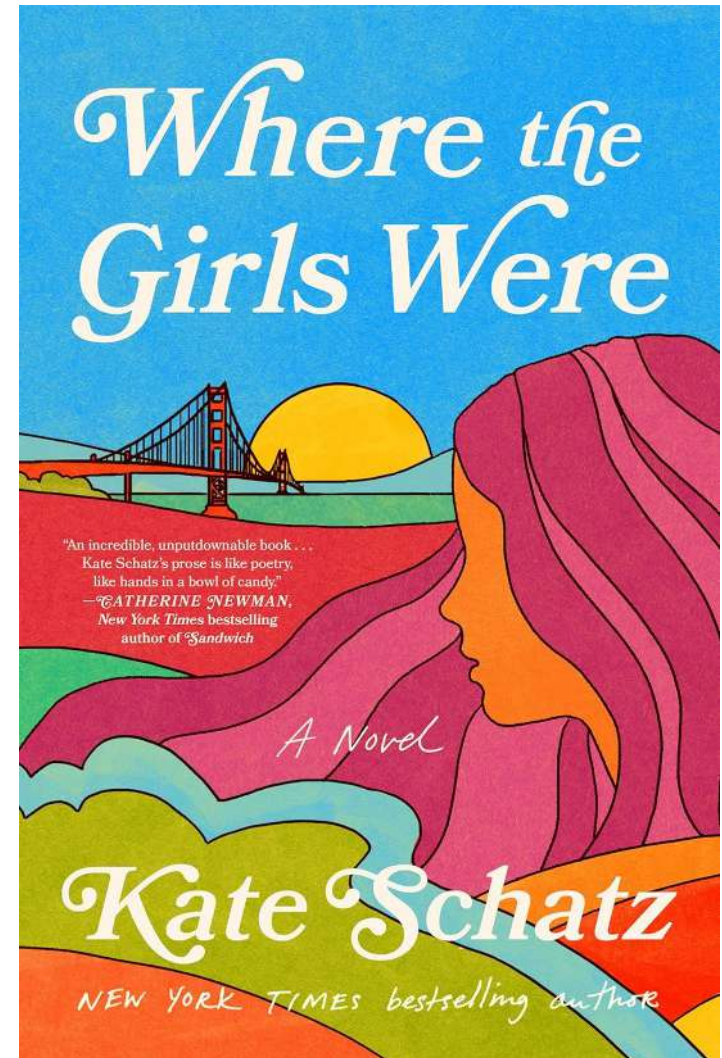
ISBN-13: 9780593736975

\$29.00

In this electrifying historical novel about coming of age in tumultuous 1960s San Francisco, a pregnant teenager reckons with womanhood and agency after being sent to a home for unwed mothers.



**THE DIAL
PRESS**



Upward Bound

Woody Brown

Hogarth

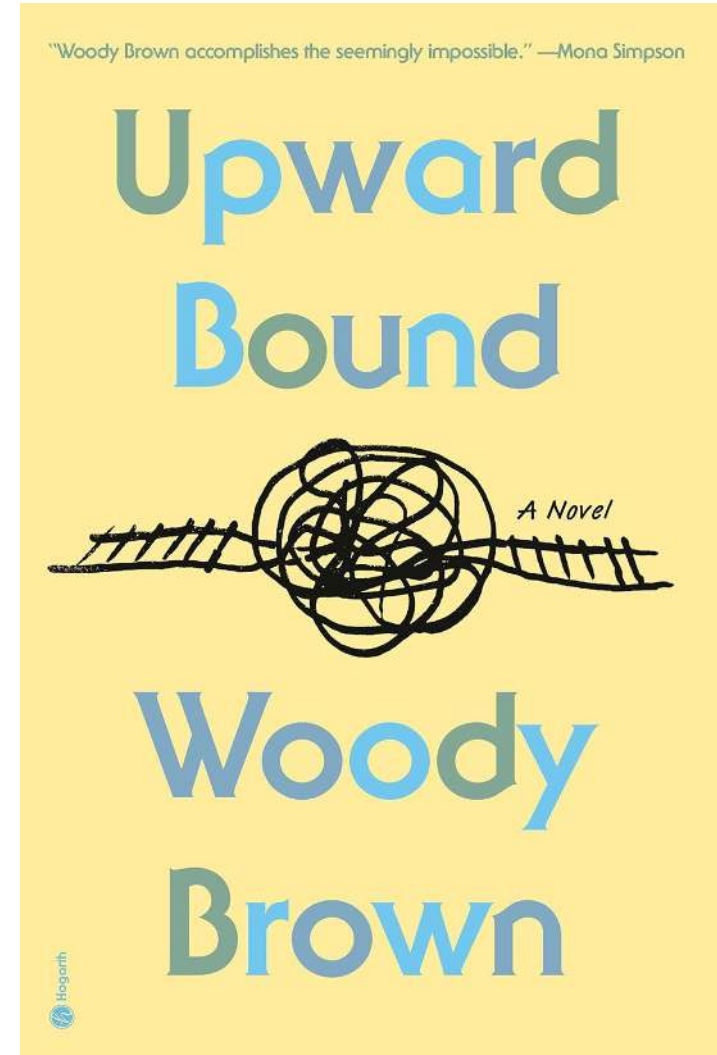
Hardcover

On sale: March 31, 2026

ISBN-13: 9780593979976

\$28.00

A wondrous, deeply affecting portrait of the interlocking lives at an adult day care center in Southern California, depicting an often-overlooked community with extraordinary wit and grace --- by a major new literary voice hailed as a “groundbreaking debut novelist” (*Publishers Weekly*).



This Is Not About Us

Allegra Goodman

The Dial Press

Hardcover

On sale: February 10, 2026

ISBN-13: 9780593447840

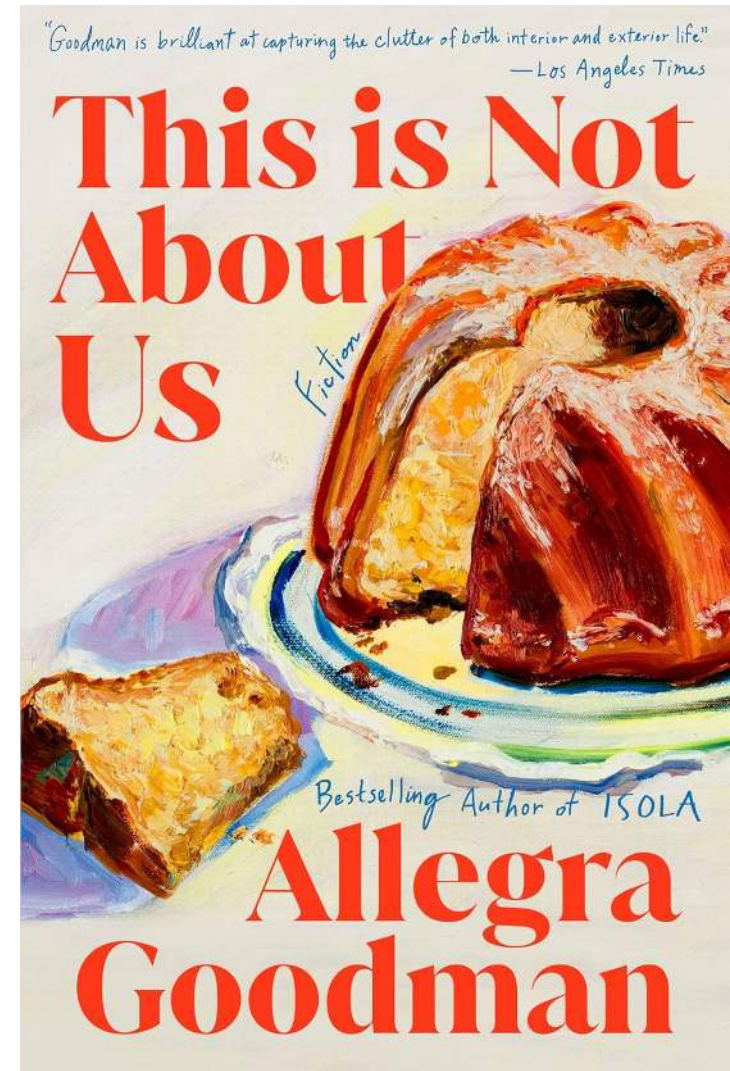
\$29.00

A kaleidoscopic portrait of a modern American family --- steadfast, complicated, begrudging and loving --- from the bestselling author of *Isola*.

Was this just a brief skirmish, or the beginning of a 30-year feud? In the Rubinstein family, it could go either way.



THE DIAL
PRESS



Strangers

Belle Burden

The Dial Press

Hardcover

On sale: January 13, 2026

ISBN-13: 9780593733318

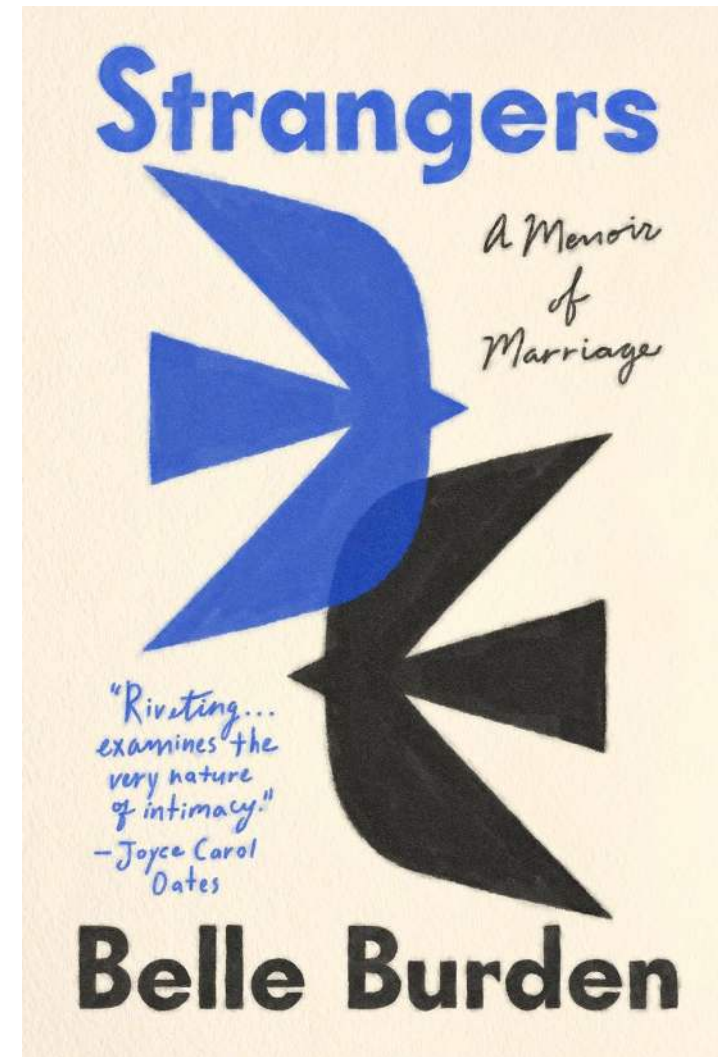
\$30.00

A gorgeous memoir about the sudden end to a seemingly happy marriage --- an aching, love-filled and transcendent account of surviving betrayal and discovering joy.

"Riveting...examines the very nature of intimacy." — Joyce Carol Oates



THE DIAL
PRESS



Sourcebooks



The Wolf King

Lauren Palphreyman

Bloom Books

Hardcover (Deluxe Edition)

On sale: November 25, 2025

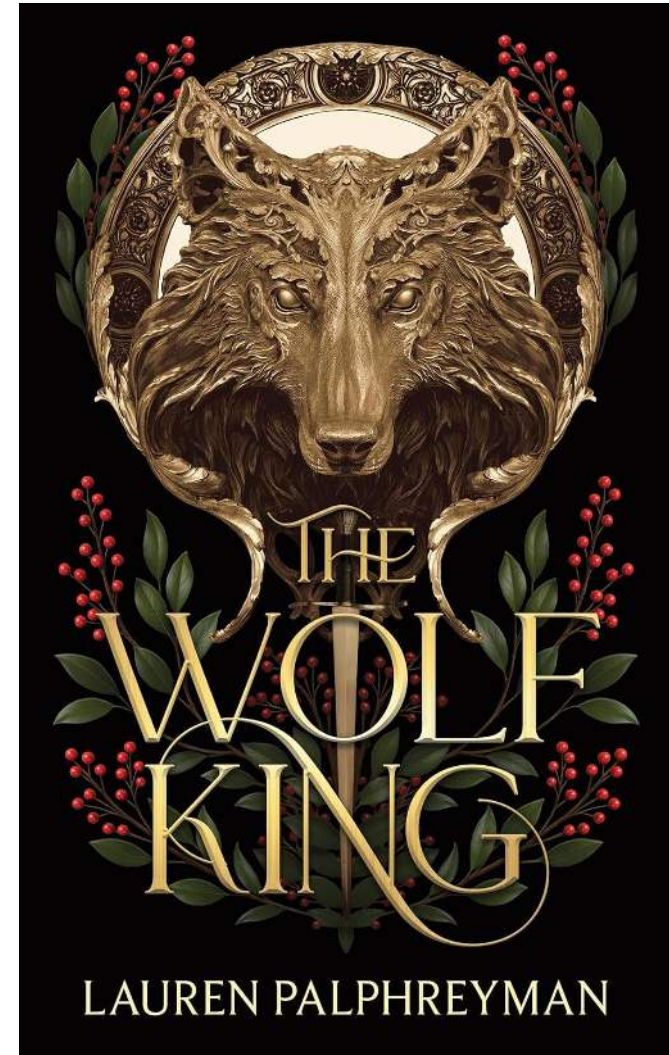
ISBN-13: 9781464275586

\$29.99

From BookTok sensation Lauren Palphreyman comes a thrilling romantasy of forbidden love, court intrigue, and enemies turned lovers.

When Princess Aurora spares a werewolf's life, she's kidnapped by a powerful alpha who rules the north. As war rages between humans and wolves, forbidden desire ignites between captor and captive.

Think "Outlander" but with Werewolves.



The List of Suspicious Things

Jennie Godfrey

Sourcebooks Landmark

Paperback Original

On sale: December 30, 2025

ISBN-13: 9781464249051

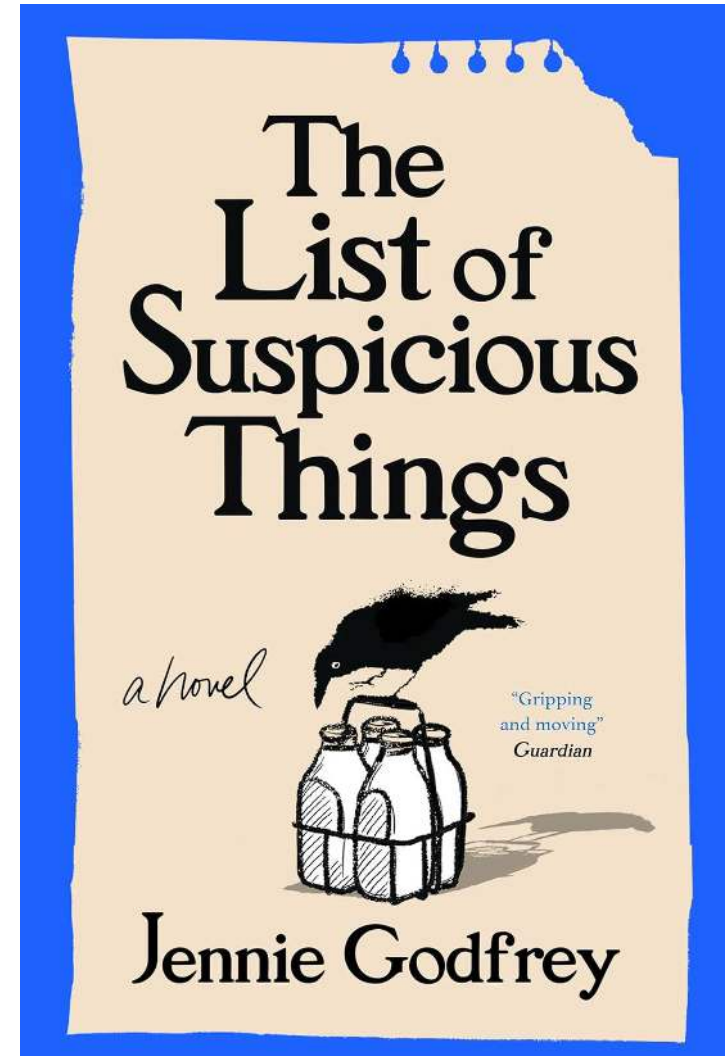
\$17.99

A brilliant and tender coming-of-age debut novel by a part-time bookseller, set in 1979 Yorkshire, England, told through the eyes of 12-year-old Miv, who, along with her best friend Sharon, makes a list of all the suspicious things in her hometown in hopes of being the one to catch a serial killer who is targeting young women.

"Imaginative, impressive, and illuminating." — *Kirkus Reviews*, STARRED review



sourcebooks
landmark



Where the Wildflowers Grow

Terah Shelton Harris

Sourcebooks Landmark

Paperback Original

On sale: February 17, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781464229237

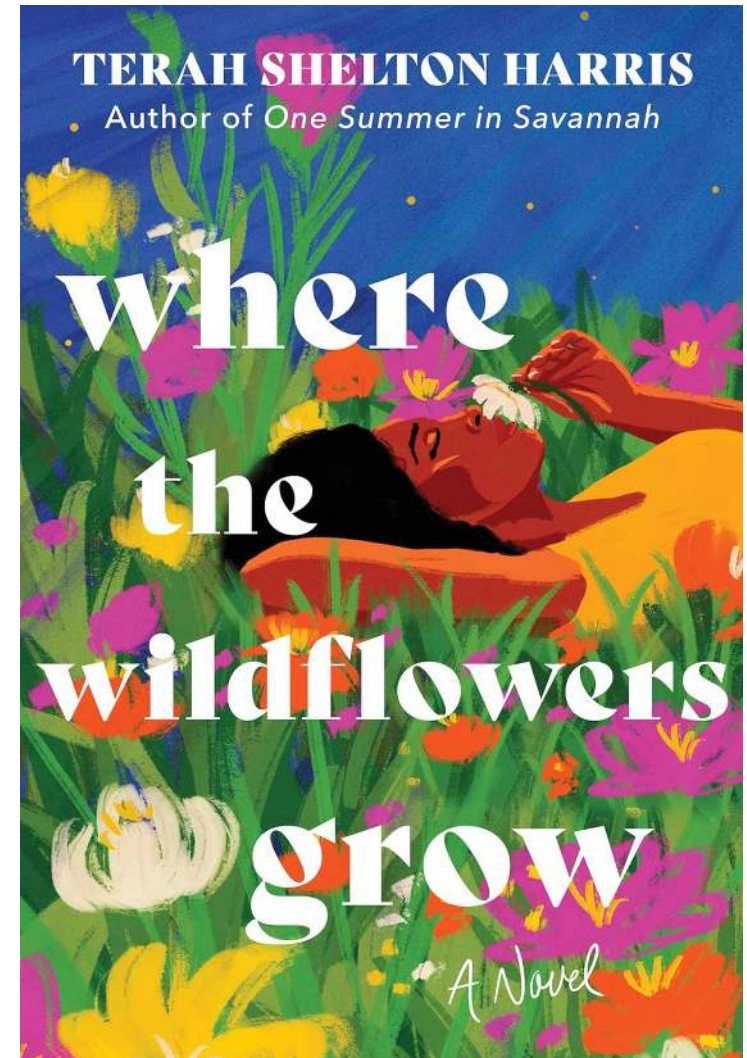
\$18.99

When the transport bus taking Leigh to prison careens off the road, killing everyone onboard except her, she does what's in her nature: she survives. While searching for a place to hide, Leigh stumbles upon an unexpected sanctuary: a flower farm in rural Alabama.

From acclaimed author Terah Shelton Harris comes a poignant story of survival and redemption, asking readers to question what it means to stop surviving and start living.



sourcebooks
landmark



An Arcane Inheritance

Kamilah Cole

Poisoned Pen Press

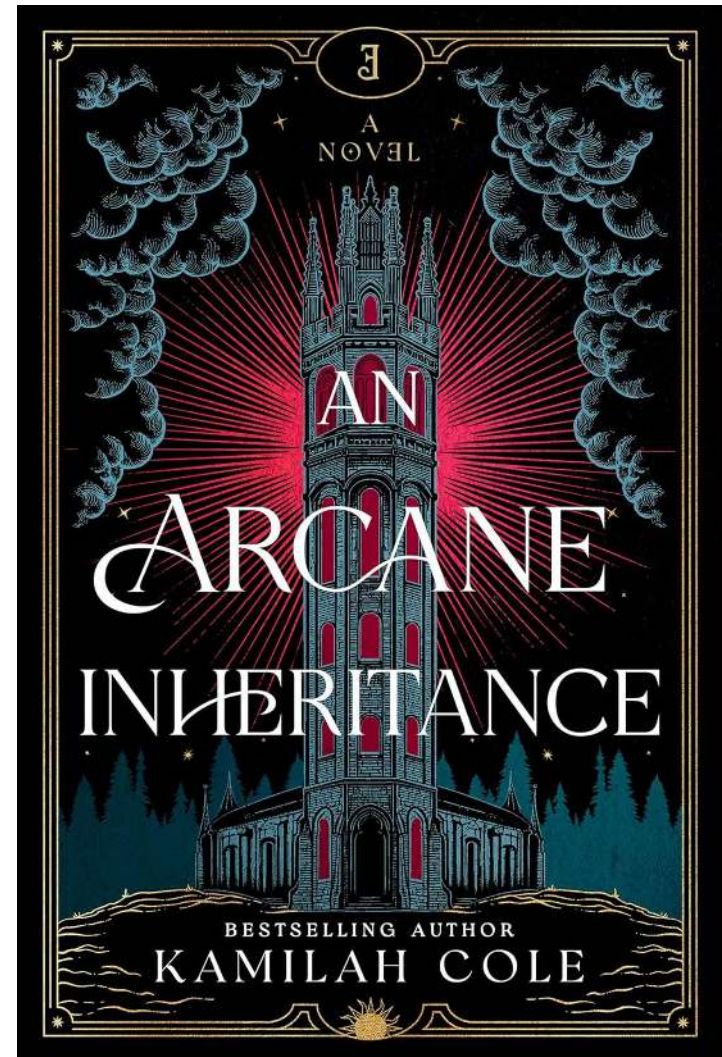
Paperback Original

On sale: December 30, 2025

ISBN-13: 9781464247729

\$17.99

Perfect for fans of *Babel* and *A Deadly Education*, as well as current-day romantasy, blending moody dark academia, fantastical magical secrets and schools, swoony romance, and hair-raising chills, and dealing deeply with topics like memory, generational wealth, BIPOC women in traditionally white male spaces, and the colonialization of magic.



All the Little Houses

May Cobb

Sourcebooks Landmark

Hardcover

On sale: January 20, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781464245794

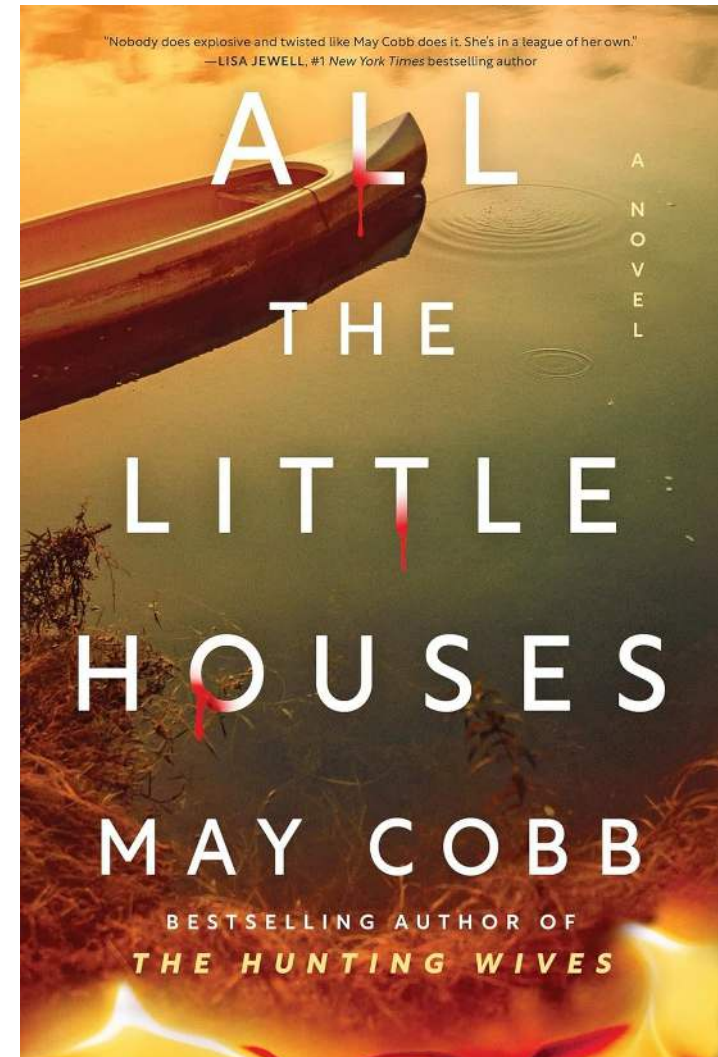
\$27.99

From the author of *The Hunting Wives*, now a Netflix phenomenon, comes a deliciously wicked new thriller about mean girls, mean moms, and the delicious secrets inside all the little houses, set in East Texas in the mid-'80s.

"May Cobb's most explosive book yet. And trust me, that's saying a lot." — Jeneva Rose



sourcebooks
landmark



The Mountains We Call Home

Kim Michele Richardson

Sourcebooks Landmark

Paperback Original

On sale: April 21, 2026

ISBN-13: 9781464239335

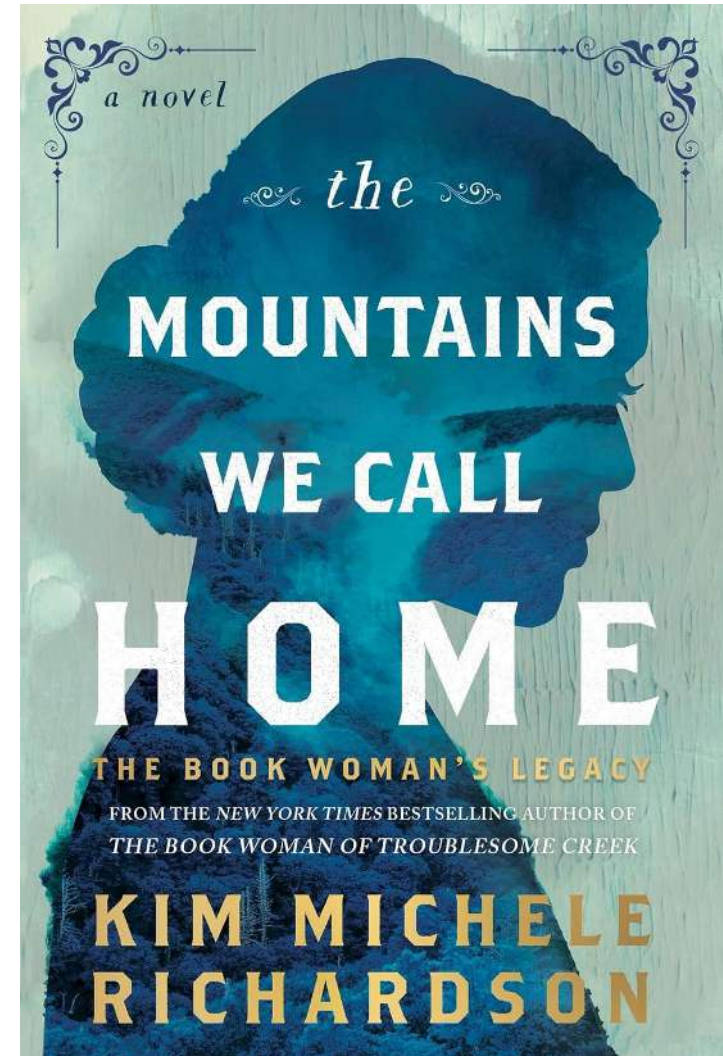
\$18.99

In this stand-alone and companion novel to the beloved *New York Times* bestselling *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* series, our heroine for the ages, Cussy Lovett, returns home.

Meticulously researched, richly detailed with a new cast of absorbing and complex characters, this beautifully rendered, authentic Kentucky tale is gritty and heartbreaking and infused with hope, spirit and courage known only to those with no way out.



sourcebooks
landmark



Reading Group Guides

A WEBSITE FROM THE BOOK REPORT NETWORK

Thank you for viewing this presentation.

**We look forward to seeing you at our
15th Annual Book Group Speed Dating event
in May 2026!**

**BOOK
GROUP**

**SPEED
DATING**