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### KEY=AMANDA - KOCH KYLER

#### HOW TO BE LOST

##### A NOVEL

*MacAdam/Cage Publishing* Caroline Winters' family broke apart after the disappearance of her five-year old sister, but now, fifteen years later, she has seen someone who looks like her sister and she sets out on a journey to find her.

#### HOW TO BE LOST

##### A NOVEL

*Ballantine Books* From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Jetsetters* . . . Years ago, five-year-old Ellie disappeared. But then her sister finds her photograph in the pages of a magazine, leading her to ask: Was Ellie ever really missing? "Invites comparison to *The Lovely Bones* . . . Ward's depiction of family, with its attendant love and guilt, will keep you turning pages."—People Joseph and Isabelle Winters seem to have it all: a grand home in Holt, New York, a trio of radiant daughters, and a sense that they are safe in their affluent corner of America. But when five-year-old Ellie disappears, the fault lines within the family are exposed: Joseph, once a successful businessman, succumbs to his demons; Isabelle retreats into memories of her debutante days in Savannah; and Ellie's bereft sisters grow apart—Madeline reluctantly stays home, while Caroline runs away. Fifteen years later, Caroline, now a New Orleans cocktail waitress, sees a photograph of a woman in a magazine. Convinced that it is Ellie all grown up, Caroline embarks on a search for her missing sister. Armed with copies of the photo, an amateur detective guide, and a cooler of Dixie beer, Caroline travels through the New Mexico desert, the mountains of Colorado, and the smoky underworld of Montana, determined to salvage her broken family.

#### THE LIFEGUARDS

##### A NOVEL

*Ballantine Books* "A book that is at once riveting and relevant as it unpeels the various meanings of motherhood, family, and loyalty. I tore through it."—Miranda Cowley Heller, author of *The Paper Palace* The bonds between three picture-perfect—but viciously protective—mothers and their close-knit sons are tested during one unforgettable summer in a gripping novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *The Jetsetters*. Austin's Zilker Park neighborhood is a wonderland of greenbelt trails, live music, and moms who drink a few too many margaritas. Whitney, Annette, and Liza have grown thick as thieves as they have raised their children together for fifteen years, believing that they can shelter them their children from an increasingly dangerous world. Their friendship is unbreakable—as safe as the neighborhood where they've raised their sweet little boys. Or so they think. One night, the three women have been enjoying happy hour when their boys, lifeguards for the summer, come back on bicycles from a late-night dip in their favorite swimming hole. The boys share a secret—news that will shatter the perfect world their mothers have so painstakingly created. Combining three mothers' points of view in a powerful narrative tale with commentary from entertaining neighborhood listservs, secret text messages, and police reports, *The Lifeguards* is both a story about the secrets we tell to protect the ones we love and a riveting novel of suspense filled with half-truths and betrayals, fierce love and complicated friendships, and the loss of innocence on one hot summer night.

#### THE SAME SKY

##### A NOVEL

*Ballantine Books* From the acclaimed author of *How to Be Lost* and *Close Your Eyes* comes a beautiful and heartrending novel about motherhood, resilience, and faith—a ripped-from-the-headlines story of two families on both sides of the American border. Alice and her husband, Jake, own a barbecue restaurant in Austin, Texas. Hardworking and popular in their community, they have a loving marriage and thriving business, but Alice still feels that something is missing, lying just beyond reach. Carla is a strong-willed young girl who's had to grow up fast, acting as caretaker to her six-year-old brother Junior. Years ago, her mother left the family behind in Honduras to make the arduous, illegal journey to Texas. But when Carla's grandmother dies and violence in the city escalates, Carla takes fate into her own hands—and with Junior, she joins the thousands of children making their way across Mexico to America, facing great peril for the chance at a better life. In this elegant novel, the lives of Alice and Carla will intersect in a profound and surprising way. Poignant and arresting, *The Same Sky* is about finding courage through struggle, hope amid heartache, and summoning the strength—no matter what dangers await—to find the place where you belong. Praise for *The Same Sky* "The Same Sky is the timeliest book you will read this year—a wrenching, honest, painstakingly researched novel that puts a human face to the story of undocumented youth desperately seeking their dreams in America. This one's going to haunt me for a long time—and it's going to define the brilliant Amanda Eyre Ward as a leading author of socially conscious fiction."—Jodi Picoult, author of *Leaving Time* "Riveting, heartrending, and beautifully written, *The Same Sky* pulled me in on the first page and held my attention all the way to its perfect conclusion. I devoured this book."—Christina Baker Kline, author of *Orphan Train* "Ward is deeply sympathetic to her characters, and this affecting novel is sure to provoke conversations about immigration and adoption."—The New York Times Book Review "A deeply affecting look at the contrast between middle-class U.S. life and the brutal reality of Central American children so desperate they'll risk everything."—People "Amanda Eyre Ward's novel of the migrant journey, *The Same Sky*, is the most important book to come out of Austin this year."—The Austin Chronicle

#### CLOSE YOUR EYES

##### A NOVEL

*Random House* For most of her life, Lauren Mahdian has been certain of two things: that her mother is dead, and that her father is a murderer. Before the horrific tragedy, Lauren led a sheltered life on the banks of Long Island Sound, a haven of luxurious homes and seemingly perfect families. But one morning, eight-year-old Lauren and her older brother awoke to discover their mother's body and their beloved father arrested for the murder. Years later, Lauren is surrounded by uncertainty. Startling revelations force her to peek under the floorboards of her carefully constructed memories, put aside the version of history that she has clung to so fiercely, and search for the truth of what really happened that fateful night long ago. BONUS: This edition includes a *Close Your Eyes* discussion guide.

#### FORGIVE ME

##### A NOVEL

*Ballantine Books* From the acclaimed author of *How to Be Lost* comes a gorgeous new novel about love, memory, and motherhood. Nadine Morgan travels the world as a journalist, covering important events, following dangerous leads, and running from anything that might tie her down. Since an assignment in Cape Town ended in tragedy and regret, Nadine has not returned to South Africa, or opened her heart—until she hears the story of Jason Irving. Jason, an American student, was beaten to death by angry local youths at the height of the apartheid era. Years later, his mother is told that Jason's killers have applied for amnesty. Jason's parents pack their bags and fly from Nantucket to Cape Town. Filled with rage, Jason's mother resolves to fight the murderers' pleas for forgiveness. As Nadine follows the Irvings to beautiful, ghost-filled South Africa, she is flooded with memories of a time when the pull toward adventure and intrigue left her with a broken heart. Haunted by guilt and a sense of remorse, and hoping to lose herself in her coverage of the murder trial, Nadine grows closer to Jason's mother as well as to the mother of one of Jason's killers—with profound consequences. In a country both foreign and familiar, Nadine is forced to face long-buried demons, come to terms with the missing pieces of her own family past, and learn what it means to truly love and to forgive. With her dazzling prose and resonant themes, Amanda Eyre Ward has joined the ranks of such beloved American novelists as Anne Tyler and Ann Patchett. Gripping, darkly humorous, and luminous, *Forgive Me* is an unforgettable story of dreams and longing, betrayal and redemption.

#### THE NEARNESS OF YOU

##### A NOVEL

"Brilliant heart surgeon Suzette Kendall is stunned when Hyland, her husband of fifteen years, admits his yearning for a child. Suzette has always feared passing along the genes that led her mother to a mental institution. But Hyland proposes a different idea: a baby via surrogate. Dorrie is a young woman struggling to find the money to go to college. When she sees an advertisement to be a surrogate, she believes it's a sign that her destiny is to help a family have a baby and then realize her dreams. It's a perfect plan, but then she falls in love"--

#### LOVE STORIES IN THIS TOWN

##### STORIES

*Ballantine Books* From San Francisco to Savannah, Montana to Texas, Amanda Eyre Ward's characters are united in their fervent search to find a place where they truly belong. Annie, a librarian in a small mining town, must choose between the only home she's ever known and the possibility of a new future. Casey, a suburban New Yorker with a wry sense of humor, braves the dating scene after losing her husband. And in six linked stories spanning a decade of her life, Lola Wilkerson navigates elopement, motherhood, and lingering questions about who she wants to be when she grows up. Whether

exploring the fierceness of a mother's love or the consolations of marriage, Amanda Eyre Ward's stories are imbued with humor, clear-eyed insight, and emotional richness.

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## THE SOBER LUSH

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### A HEDONIST'S GUIDE TO LIVING A DECADENT, ADVENTUROUS, SOULFUL LIFE--ALCOHOL FREE

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*Penguin* A sober hedonist's guide to living a decadent, wild, and soulful life--alcohol-free. In a culture where sipping "rosé all day" is seen as the epitome of relaxation, "grabbing a drink" the only way to network; and meeting at a bar the quintessential "first date," many of us are left wondering if drinking alcohol really is the only way to cultivate joy and connection in life. Jardine Libaire and Amanda Eyre Ward wanted to live spontaneous and luxurious lives, to escape the ordinary and enjoy the intoxicating. Their drinking, however, had started to numb them to the present moment instead of unlocking it. Ward was introduced to Libaire when she first got sober. As they became friends, the two women talked about how they yearned to create lives that were Technicolor, beautifully raw, connected, blissed out, and outside the lines . . . but how? In *The Sober Lush*, Libaire and Ward provide a road map for living a lush and sensual life without booze. This book offers ideas and instruction for such nonalcoholic joys as: • The allure of "the Vanish," in which one disappears early from the party without saying goodbye to a soul, to amble home under the stars • The art of creating zero-proof cocktails for all seasons • Having a fantastic first date while completely sober • A primer on setting up your own backyard beehive, and honey tastings For anyone curious about lowering their alcohol consumption or quitting drinking altogether, or anyone established in sobriety who wants inspiration, this shimmering and sumptuous book will show you how to keep indulging in life even if you stop indulging in alcohol.

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## SLEEP TOWARD HEAVEN

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### A NOVEL

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*MP Publishing* *Sleep Toward Heaven* is a luminous story of murder and desire, solitude and grace, set in Manhattan and small-town Texas. In Gatestown, twenty-nine-year old Karen awaits her execution on Death Row. In New York, Franny, a doctor the same age, plans her wedding and tries to resist her urge to run. In Austin, Celia, a brassy young librarian, mourns her lost husband. Over the course of one summer, the three women's disparate lives intertwine. Karen, Franny, and Celia all struggle to find their place in a world where nothing is sure, as they move toward one night that will change them all forever. With razor-sharp prose and humor that ignites the page, Amanda Eyre Ward's debut novel will keep you reading all night and give you something to talk about in the morning. *Sleep Toward Heaven* is a novel to celebrate and to savor.

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## THE SAME SKY

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### A NOVEL

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"Originally published in hardcover in 2015 by Ballantine Books."--Title page verso.

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## THE JETSETTERS

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### A NOVEL

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*Ballantine Books* NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICK • Named One of the Best Beach Reads of the Year by Parade, O: The Oprah Magazine, and Good Housekeeping "The exuberant activity aboard the *Splendido Marveloso* is no match for the fireworks set off as the lies explode. Full of wicked humor and delicious destination details."—People (Book of the Week) NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY ESQUIRE When seventy-year-old Charlotte Perkins submits a sexy essay to the Become a Jetsetter contest, she dreams of reuniting her estranged children: Lee, an almost-famous actress; Cord, a handsome Manhattan venture capitalist who can't seem to find a partner; and Regan, a harried mother who took it all wrong when Charlotte bought her a Weight Watchers gift certificate for her birthday. Charlotte yearns for the years when her children were young, when she was a single mother who meant everything to them. When she wins the contest, the family packs their baggage—both literal and figurative—and spends ten days traveling from sun-drenched Athens through glorious Rome to tapas-laden Barcelona on an over-the-top cruise ship, the *Splendido Marveloso*. As lovers new and old join the adventure, long-buried secrets are revealed and old wounds are reopened, forcing the Perkins family to confront the forces that drove them apart and the defining choices of their lives. Can four lost adults find the peace they've been seeking by reconciling their childhood aches and coming back together? In the vein of *The Nest* and *The Vacationers*, *The Jetsetters* is a delicious and intelligent novel about the courage it takes to reveal our true selves, the pleasures and perils of family, and how we navigate the seas of adulthood.

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## CLOSE YOUR EYES

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*Ballantine Books* Struggling for closure years after her mother is murdered by her father, Lauren Mahdian analyzes her own carefully constructed memories only to realize the role of her own denial, a process that illuminates the long-lasting impact of split-second choices. 30,000 first printing.

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## THE YEAR OF FOG

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### A NOVEL

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*Delacorte Press* Life changes in an instant. On a foggy beach. In the seconds when Abby Mason—photographer, fiancée soon-to-be-stepmother—looks into her camera and commits her greatest error. Heartbreaking, uplifting, and beautifully told, here is the riveting tale of a family torn apart, of the search for the truth behind a child's disappearance, and of one woman's unwavering faith in the redemptive power of love—all made startlingly fresh through Michelle Richmond's incandescent sensitivity and extraordinary insight. Six-year-old Emma vanished into the thick San Francisco fog. Or into the heaving Pacific. Or somewhere just beyond: to a parking lot, a stranger's van, or a road with traffic flashing by. Devastated by guilt, haunted by her fears about becoming a stepmother, Abby refuses to believe that Emma is dead. And so she searches for clues about what happened that morning—and cannot stop the flood of memories reaching from her own childhood to illuminate that irreversible moment on the beach. Now, as the days drag into weeks, as the police lose interest and fliers fade on telephone poles, Emma's father finds solace in religion and scientific probability—but Abby can only wander the beaches and city streets, attempting to recover the past and the little girl she lost. With her life at a crossroads, she will leave San Francisco for a country thousands of miles away. And there, by the side of another sea, on a journey that has led her to another man and into a strange subculture of wanderers and surfers, Abby will make the most astounding discovery of all—as the truth of Emma's disappearance unravels with stunning force. A profoundly original novel of family, loss, and hope—of the choices we make and the choices made for us—*The Year of Fog* beguiles with the mysteries of time and memory even as it lays bare the deep and wondrous workings of the human heart. The result is a mesmerizing tour de force that will touch anyone who knows what it means to love a child. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Michelle Richmond's *Golden State*.

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## THE JETSETTERS

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*Viking* When Charlotte Perkins enters the 'Become a Jetsetter' contest, she dreams of reuniting her estranged children: Lee, an almost-famous actress; Cord, a handsome Manhattan venture capitalist; and Regan, a harried mother who has never got over Charlotte's gift of a Weight Watchers voucher for her birthday. But when she wins that once in a lifetime trip, all doesn't exactly go to plan... As long-buried secrets are revealed, and lovers new and old appear, can these four lost adults find their way back to each other? And more importantly, can they do it without killing each other?

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## THE NEARNESS OF YOU

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### A NOVEL

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*Ballantine Books* In this profound and lyrical novel, acclaimed author Amanda Eyre Ward explores the deeper meanings of motherhood—from the first blissful hello to the heart-wrenching prospect of saying goodbye. Brilliant heart surgeon Suzette Kendall is stunned when Hyland, her husband of fifteen years, admits his yearning for a child. From the beginning they'd decided that having children was not an option, as Suzette feared passing along the genes that landed her mother in a mental institution. But Hyland proposes a different idea: a baby via surrogate. Suzette agrees, and what follows is a whirlwind of candidate selection, hospital visits, and Suzette's doubts over whether she's made the right decision. A young woman named Dorothy Muscarello is chosen as the one who will help make this family complete. For Dorrie, surrogacy (and the money that comes with it) are her opportunity to leave behind a troubled past and create a future for herself—one full of possibility. But this situation also forces all three of them—Dorrie, Suzette, and Hyland—to face a devastating uncertainty that will reverberate in the years to come. Beautifully shifting between perspectives, *The Nearness of You* deftly explores the connections we form, the families we create, and the love we hold most dear. Advance praise for *The Nearness of You* "[For] readers who like stories about competent people facing tough choices, like those from Jodi Picoult or Julie Lawson Timmer."—Booklist "The Nearness of You includes everything I love about Amanda Eyre Ward's books: edgy eloquence, ingenious plotting, and relationships that are never, not for a single paragraph, simple or predictable. Through Suzette, Dorrie, Hyland, and Jayne, Ward reveals parenthood as an enterprise that is as wrenching as it is beautiful. You will love these characters and this book."—Marisa de los Santos, New York Times bestselling author of *The Precious One* "Deftly paced and enthralling, Amanda Eyre Ward's *The Nearness of You* takes on the complexity of what it means to be a mother, and provides insights both heartening and harrowing."—Mira Jacob, author of *The Sleepwalker's Guide to Dancing* "The Nearness of You is not just an arresting meditation on motherhood but also an exploration of how we can seize the lives we've been given and transform them into the lives we want to live. Like all of Ward's novels, this book's intrigue and charm demand that it be indulged in a single sitting."—Vendela Vida, author of *The Diver's Clothes Lie Empty*

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## SELF STORAGE

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### A NOVEL

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*Ballantine Books* Flan Parker has always had an inquisitive mind, searching for what's hidden below the surface and behind the door. Her curious nature and enthusiastic probing have translated into a thriving resale business in the university housing complex where she lives with her husband and two young children. Flan's venture helps pay the bills while her husband works on his dissertation, work that lately seems to involve more loafing on the sofa watching soap operas than reading or writing. The secret of her enterprising success: unique and everyday treasures bought from the auctions of forgotten and abandoned storage units. When Flan secures the winning bid on a box filled only with an address and a note bearing the word "yes," she sets out to discover the source of this mysterious message and its meaning. Armed with a well-worn copy of Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* that she turns to for guidance and solace, Flan becomes determined to find the "yes" in her own life. This search inward only strengthens her desire to unearth the hidden stories of those around her—in particular, her burqa-clad Afghan neighbor. Flan's interest in this intriguing and secretive woman, however, comes at a formidable price for Flan and her family. Set during the year following the September 11 attacks, *Self Storage* explores the raw insecurities of a changed society. With lush writing, great humor, and a

genuine heart, Gayle Brandeis takes a peek into the souls of a woman and a community—and reveals that it is not our differences that drive us apart but our willful concealment of the qualities that connect us.

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## FORGIVE ME

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### A NOVEL

*Random House Digital, Inc.* Injured on assignment, foreign correspondent Nadine awakens weeks after the accident in the Cape Cod B&B owned by her father and future stepmother and begins making plans to escape her sheltered Cape Cod hometown, until she becomes involved in a local couple's odyssey to South Africa for the hearing in which their son's murderer is planning to confess. Reader's Guide included. Reprint. 75,000 first printing.

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## THE JAGUAR'S CHILDREN

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### A NOVEL

*HMH* This “extraordinary” novel of one man’s border crossing reveals “a human history of sorrow and suffering, all of it beginning with the thirst to be free” (NPR). Héctor is trapped. The water truck, sealed to hide its human cargo, has broken down. The coyotes have taken all the passengers’ money for a mechanic and have not returned. Héctor finds a name in his friend César’s phone: AnniMac. A name with an American number. He must reach her, both for rescue and to pass along the message César has come so far to deliver. But are his messages going through? Over four days, as water and food run low, Héctor tells how he came to this desperate place. His story takes us from Oaxaca—its rich culture, its rapid change—to the dangers of the border, exposing the tangled ties between Mexico and El Norte. And it reminds us of the power of storytelling and the power of hope, as Héctor fights to ensure his message makes it out of the truck and into the world. Both an outstanding suspense novel and an arresting window into the relationship between two great cultures, *The Jaguar’s Children* shows how deeply interconnected all of us are. “This is what novels can do—illuminate shadowed lives, enable us to contemplate our own depths of kindness, challenge our beliefs about fate. Vaillant’s use of fact to inspire fiction brings to mind a long list of powerful novels from the past decade or so: *What is the What* by Dave Eggers; *The Map of Love* by Ahdaf Soueif; *The Storyteller* by Jodi Picoult.” —Amanda Eyre Ward, *The New York Times Book Review* “[A] heartbreaker . . . Wrenching . . . with a voice fresh and plangent enough to disarm resistance.” —*The Boston Globe* “Fearless.” —*The Globe and Mail*

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## MY NAME IS VENUS BLACK

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### A NOVEL

*Random House* In this riveting, heartfelt debut, a young woman assumes a new name to escape her dark past and find the redemption she desperately seeks. “It’s impossible not to root for this strong, willful girl as she finds her place in the world and for her brother as he tries to make sense of it.” —*Kirkus Reviews* “Charming, touching, and a host of other adjectives not often associated with a murderous thirteen-year-old.” —*Booklist* *Venus Black* is a straitlaced A student fascinated by the study of astronomy—until the night she commits a shocking crime that tears her family apart and ignites a media firestorm. Venus refuses to talk about what happened or why, except to blame her mother. Adding to the mystery, Venus’s developmentally challenged younger brother, Leo, goes missing. More than five years later, Venus is released from prison with a suitcase of used clothes, a fake identity, and a determination to escape her painful past. Estranged from her mother, and with her beloved brother still missing, she sets out to make a fresh start in Seattle, skittish and alone. But as new people enter her orbit—including a romantic interest and a young girl who seems like a mirror image of her former lost self—old wounds resurface, and Venus realizes that she can’t find a future while she’s running from her past. In this gripping story, debut novelist Heather Lloyd brilliantly captures ordinary lives thrust into extraordinary circumstances. Told through a constellation of captivating voices, *My Name Is Venus Black* explores the fluidity of right and wrong, the pain of betrayal, and the meaning of love and family. Praise for *My Name Is Venus Black* “Fans of realistic coming-of-age fiction will enjoy Lloyd’s fast-paced first novel for the freshly drawn original characters, compelling story line, and beautiful tribute to the healing power of love. It’s bound to have crossover appeal to older YA readers.” —*Library Journal* “A dark but ultimately uplifting story about family, love, and forgiveness, and how to find your place in the world, *My Name Is Venus Black* is a powerful debut novel from a fresh voice in fiction.” —*New York Times* bestselling author Sarah Jio

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## FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

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### A NOVEL

*Ballantine Books* A “hilarious, tender, raw, and heart-stoppingly moving” (Amanda Eyre Ward) debut about a down-on-his-luck gay man working out how he fits into the world, making up for lost time, and opening himself up to life’s possibilities “Fry brings a refreshing voice to the queer coming-of-age novel with characters whose stories don’t revolve around trauma. Instead, everyday experiences are portrayed with drama and delight.” —*The Washington Post* (New & Noteworthy) Danny Scudd is absolutely fine. He always dreamed of escaping the small-town life of his parents’ fish-and-chip shop, moving to London, and becoming a journalist. And, after five years in the city, his career isn’t exactly awful, and his relationship with pretentious Tobbs isn’t exactly unfulfilling. Certainly his limited-edition Dolly Parton vinyls and many (maybe too many) house plants are hitting the spot. But his world is flipped upside down when a visit to the local clinic reveals that Tobbs might not have been exactly faithful. In fact, Tobbs claims they were never operating under the “heteronormative paradigm” of monogamy to begin with. Oh, and Danny’s flatmates are unceremoniously evicting him because they want to start a family. It’s all going quite well. Newly single and with nowhere to live, Danny is forced to move in with his best friend, Jacob, a flamboyant nonbinary artist whom he’s known since childhood, and their eccentric group of friends living in an East London “commune.” What follows is a colorful voyage of discovery through modern queer life, dating, work, and lots of therapy—all places Danny has always been too afraid to fully explore. Upon realizing just how little he knows about himself and his sexuality, he careens from one questionable decision (and man) to another, relying on his inscrutable new therapist and housemates to help him face the demons he’s spent his entire life trying to repress. Is he really fine, after all?

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## HOLLOW

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### A NOVEL

*Catapult* An NPR Best Book of the Year, *Hollow* is the story of a professor whose life is unended after an unspeakable tragedy. When Oliver Bonds, a revered religious studies professor at the University of Texas, loses his toddler son and undergoes intense legal scrutiny over his involvement, grief engulfs him completely. His life as he knows it is over; Oliver loses his wife, home, and faith. Three years after his son's death, Oliver lives in a shack without electricity and frequents the soup kitchen where he used to volunteer. It's only when befriended by Lyle, a con artist with a passion for theories of Hollow Earth, that Oliver begins to reengage with the world. Oliver too becomes convinced that the inside of the planet might contain a different realm. Desperate to find a place where he can escape his past, Oliver chases after the most unlikely of miracles. With unforgettable characters, wild imagery, and dark humor, *Hollow* explores the depths of doubt and hope, stretching past grief and into the space where we truly begin to heal. “With the kind of grace not usually seen in accessible modern fiction, Egerton also invokes many other things with this central metaphor . . . Ollie's voice is one of the most believable I've encountered this year, sustained by honesty, realism, and compassion. In his exile, Ollie has taken stock. His reckoning with the past creates the story's exquisite tension and makes the final scene bloom with tenderness . . . The core of *Hollow* is anything but.” --NPR

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## ANOTHER PLACE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN

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### A NOVEL

*Catapult* This “undeniably moving and emotionally true” debut novel offers the emotional complexity and narrative scope of *A Visit from the Goon Squad* and resonates with the strong mystical nature of *Swamplandia* (Publishers Weekly, starred review) Most of us have experienced what it’s like to know what someone is going to say right before they say it. Or perhaps you have been shocked by the irrefutable phenomena of coincidence, when your life intersects with another’s in the most unlikely way. In gripping prose marked by stark simplicity, *Another Place You’ve Never Been* by debut novelist Rebecca Kauffman explores the intersection of human experience amidst the minutiae of everyday life. In her mid-thirties and still living in her hometown Buffalo, NY, Tracy spends most days at the restaurant where she works as a hostess, despite her aspirations of a career that would make use of her creative talents. Tracy’s life is explored not only through her own personal point of view, but also through the viewpoints of other characters, wherein Tracy may only make a peripheral appearance or even emerge at different periods in her life. At its core, *Another Place You’ve Never Been* is a broad investigation of such bold ideas as the possibility that any person, at any time, in any place, could find themselves shivering in the presence of great and ancient forces; and the notion that love is perhaps “far less voluntary” than we might believe it to be.

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## THE UNRAVELING OF CASSIDY HOLMES

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### A NOVEL

*HarperCollins* “The Unraveling of Cassidy Holmes is a page-turning peek inside the glamour and brutality of life as a pop star. Sloan takes us on a wild ride through the world of music video shoots, expensive hotels, and arena tours—showing us the darkness that threatens just below the surface.” —Taylor Jenkins Reid, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Daisy Jones and The Six* “I didn't know I was waiting for a smart, literary writer to craft a novel about the rise and fall of a teen star akin to Britney Spears until I discovered *The Unraveling of Cassidy Holmes*. A witty, bright, hilarious—and at times devastating—read. I loved it.” —Amanda Eyre Ward, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Jetsetters* *Cassidy Holmes* isn't just a celebrity. She is “Sassy Gloss,” the fourth member of the hottest pop group America has ever seen. Hotter than Britney dancing with a snake, hotter than Christina getting dirty, Gloss was the pop act that everyone idolized. Fans couldn't get enough of them, their music, and the drama that followed them like moths to a flame—until the group’s sudden implosion in 2002. And at the center of it all was Sassy Cassy, the Texan with a signature smirk that had everyone falling for her. But now she’s dead. Suicide. The world is reeling from this unexpected news, but no one is more shocked than the three remaining Glossies. Fifteen years ago, Rose, Merry, and Yumi had been the closest to Cassidy, and this loss is hitting them hard. Before the group split, they each had a special bond with Cassidy—truths they told, secrets they shared. But after years apart, each of them is wondering: what could they have done? Told in multiple perspectives—including Cassidy herself—and different timelines, this is a behind-the-scenes look into the rise and fall of a pop icon, and a penetrating examination of the dark side of celebrity and the industry that profits from it.

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## THE WEDNESDAY SISTERS

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*Random House Digital, Inc.* Friendship, loyalty, and love lie at the heart of Meg Waite Clayton’s beautifully written, poignant, and sweeping novel of five women who, over the course of four decades, come

to redefine what it means to be family. For thirty-five years, Frankie, Linda, Kath, Brett, and Ally have met every Wednesday at the park near their homes in Palo Alto, California. Defined when they first meet by what their husbands do, the young homemakers and mothers are far removed from the Summer of Love that has enveloped most of the Bay Area in 1967. These “Wednesday Sisters” seem to have little in common: Frankie is a timid transplant from Chicago, brutally blunt Linda is a remarkable athlete, Kath is a Kentucky debutante, quiet Ally has a secret, and quirky, ultra-intelligent Brett wears little white gloves with her miniskirts. But they are bonded by a shared love of both literature—Fitzgerald, Eliot, Austen, du Maurier, Plath, and Dickens—and the Miss America Pageant, which they watch together every year. As the years roll on and their children grow, the quintet forms a writers circle to express their hopes and dreams through poems, stories, and, eventually, books. Along the way, they experience history in the making: Vietnam, the race for the moon, and a women’s movement that challenges everything they have ever thought about themselves, while at the same time supporting one another through changes in their personal lives brought on by infidelity, longing, illness, failure, and success. Humorous and moving, *The Wednesday Sisters* is a literary feast for book lovers that earns a place among those popular works that honor the joyful, mysterious, unbreakable bonds between friends. From the Hardcover edition.

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## THE SLEEPWALKER'S GUIDE TO DANCING

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### A NOVEL

*Random House* A winning, irreverent debut novel about a family wrestling with its future and its past—for readers of J. Courtney Sullivan, Meg Wolitzer, Mona Simpson, and Jhumpa Lahiri **NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE BOSTON GLOBE, KIRKUS REVIEWS, BUSTLE, AND EMILY GOULD, THE MILLIONS** With depth, heart, and agility, debut novelist Mira Jacob takes us on a deftly plotted journey that ranges from 1970s India to suburban 1980s New Mexico to Seattle during the dot.com boom. *The Sleepwalker’s Guide to Dancing* is an epic, irreverent testimony to the bonds of love, the pull of hope, and the power of making peace with life’s uncertainties. Celebrated brain surgeon Thomas Eapen has been sitting on his porch, talking to dead relatives. At least that is the story his wife, Kamala, prone to exaggeration, tells their daughter, Amina, a photographer living in Seattle. Reluctantly Amina returns home and finds a situation that is far more complicated than her mother let on, with roots in a trip the family, including Amina’s rebellious brother Akhil, took to India twenty years earlier. Confronted by Thomas’s unwillingness to explain himself, strange looks from the hospital staff, and a series of puzzling items buried in her mother’s garden, Amina soon realizes that the only way she can help her father is by coming to terms with her family’s painful past. In doing so, she must reckon with the ghosts that haunt all of the Eapens. Praise for *The Sleepwalker’s Guide to Dancing* “With wit and a rich understanding of human foibles, Jacob unspools a story that will touch your heart.”—People “Optimistic, unpretentious and refreshingly witty.”—Associated Press “By turns hilarious and tender and always attuned to shifts of emotion . . . [Jacob’s] characters shimmer with life.”—Entertainment Weekly “A rich, engrossing debut told with lightness and care.”—The Kansas City Star “[A] sprawling, poignant, often humorous novel . . . Told with humor and sympathy for its characters, the book serves as a bittersweet lesson in the binding power of family, even when we seek to break out from it.”—O: The Oprah Magazine “Moving forward and back in time, Jacob balances comedy and romance with indelible sorrow. . . . When her plot springs surprises, she lets them happen just as they do in life: blindsidingly right in the middle of things.”—The Boston Globe

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## SHOULDER SEASON

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### A NOVEL

*St. Martin’s Press* Named a Best Book of Summer by Good Morning America • CNN • Parade • EW • Travel & Leisure • PopSugar • New York Post • BuzzFeed • Brit & Co • SheReads • Women.com A dazzling portrait of a young woman coming into her own, the youthful allure of sex, drugs, and rock and roll, and what we lose—and gain—when we leave home. **ONCE IN A LIFETIME, YOU CAN HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE** The small town of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin is an unlikely location for a Playboy Resort, and nineteen-year old Sherri Taylor is an unlikely bunny. Growing up in neighboring East Troy, Sherri plays the organ at the local church and has never felt comfortable in her own skin. But when her parents die in quick succession, she leaves the only home she’s ever known for the chance to be part of a glamorous slice of history. In the winter of 1981, in a costume two sizes too small, her toes pinched by stilettos, Sherri joins the daughters of dairy farmers and factory workers for the defining experience of her life. Living in the “bunny hutch”—Playboy’s version of a college dorm—Sherri gets her education in the joys of sisterhood, the thrill of financial independence, the magic of first love, and the heady effects of sex, drugs, and rock and roll. But as spring gives way to summer, Sherri finds herself caught in a romantic triangle—and the tragedy that ensues will haunt her for the next forty years. From the Midwestern prairie to the California desert, from Wisconsin lakes to the Pacific Ocean, this is a story of what happens when small town life is sprinkled with stardust, and what we lose—and gain—when we leave home. With a heroine to root for and a narrative to get lost in, Christina Clancy’s *Shoulder Season* is a sexy, evocative tale, drenched in longing and desire, that captures a fleeting moment in American history with nostalgia and heart.

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## BIG WOODS

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*Llewellyn Worldwide* “Stephen King’s *Stand by Me* collides with Gillian Flynn’s *Sharp Objects* in this exceptional thriller. Gutsy, gripping—and pitch-perfect in its resurrection of an era long gone.”—A. J. Finn, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Woman in the Window* When her sister disappears, the only clue Leah has is a cryptic message: *Underground. By the Woods.* It’s 1989 in the sleepy town of Longview, Texas, when ten-year-old Lucy disappears. Her parents, the police, and the community all brace for the worst, assuming her body will soon be found in Big Woods. Just like the other unsolved kidnappings. But then Lucy’s fourteen-year-old sister, Leah, starts having dreams about Lucy—dreams that reveal startling clues as to what happened. Leah begins her own investigation, and soon she meets a reclusive widow who may hold the key to finding Lucy...if only she can find the courage to come forward. Delving into the paranoia surrounding satanic cults in the 1980s, *Big Woods* is an emotionally wrought, propulsive thriller about the enormity of grief, the magical bond between sisters, and a small town’s dark secrets. Praise: “*Big Woods* is perfectly timed to take advantage of the 1980s horror revival. Its historic details are excellent, down to the songs on Leah’s car stereo. Cobb paints in Day-Glo and brings terrors of the night to life.”—Foreword Magazine “Readers will be grabbed by *Big Woods* and sucked into the mysterious story. Hold on tight—it’s worth it.”—Criminal Element “Cobb’s intense, heart-wrenching debut introduces a courageous, determined teen who must find her lost sister amid a disturbing atmosphere of paranoia and fear, crafting a compelling, suspenseful story reminiscent of William Kent Krueger’s *Ordinary Grace*.”—Library Journal (starred review) “*Big Woods* is a nuanced family story and also a heart-stopping thriller with surprising twists. Cobb taps into the fabulous ’80s sensibility of *Stranger Things* and also into our deepest fears about safety, evil, trust, and the power of faith in what we don’t understand. I couldn’t put it down.”—Amanda Eyre Ward, author of *The Nearness of You and The Same Sky* “Compulsively readable.”—Rosamund Lupton, New York Times bestselling author of *Sister* “*Big Woods* is brilliant! Cobb has crafted a haunting thriller that dives deep into grief, family connections, and the dreadful power of fear. The novel succeeds as a rich exploration of emotion and a not-so-distant time while also shining as a riveting page-turner.”—Owen Egerton, author of *Hollow* and writer/director of horror-comedy *Bloodfest* “*Big Woods* is such a blast—a page-turning thriller with ’80s hair, like a Texan *Stranger Things*.”—Amy Gentry, author of *Good as Gone* “Literally the best thriller I’ve read in years. Intensely gripping, so evocative of the late ’80s, and a brilliant, original storyline. It’s blinding.”—Clare Empson, author of *Him*

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## THE JETSETTERS

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### A NOVEL

*Ballantine Books* Includes book club guide and excerpt from *The Lifeguards*.

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## LET’S NOT DO THAT AGAIN

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### A NOVEL

*Henry Holt and Company* “Hilarious, suspenseful, and whip smart.” —Cynthia D’Aprix Sweeney Meet the Harrisons! A mother running for Senate, a son running from his problems, and a daughter running straight into trouble... From Grant Ginder, the author of *The People We Hate at the Wedding*, comes a poignant, funny, and slyly beguiling novel which proves that, like democracy, family is a messy and fragile thing —perfect for fans of Veep’s biting humor, the family drama of *Succession*, and the joys of Kevin Wilson’s *Nothing to See Here*. Nancy Harrison is running for Senate, and she’s going to win, goddamnit. Not that that’s her slogan, although it could be. She’s said all the right things. Passed all the right legislation. Chapped her lips kissing babies. There’s just one problem: her grown children, Greta and Nick Harrison are adrift. Nick is floundering in his attempts to write a musical about the life of Joan Didion (called *Hello to All That!*). And then there’s his little sister Greta. Smart, pretty, and completely unmotivated, allowing her life to pass her by like the shoppers at the Apple store where she works. One morning the world wakes up not to Nancy making headlines, but her daughter, Greta. She’s in Paris. With extremist protestors. Throwing a bottle of champagne through a beloved bistro’s front window. In order to save her campaign, not to mention her daughter, Nancy and Nick must find Greta before it’s too late. Smart, funny, and surprisingly tender, *Let’s Not Do That Again* shows that family, like politics, can hurt like a mother.

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## THE HOLE WE'RE IN

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### A NOVEL

*Open Road + Grove/Atlantic* A “sharply funny and sobering . . . portrait of a family in financial free fall” from the New York Times–bestselling author of *Young Jane Young* (*People*). With *The Hole We’re In*—a bold, timeless, yet all too timely novel about a troubled American family navigating an even more troubled America—award-winning author and screenwriter, Gabrielle Zevin, delivers a work that places her in the ranks of our shrewdest social observers and top literary talents. Meet the Pomeroyos: a church-going family living in a too-red house in a Texas college town. Roger, the patriarch, has impulsively gone back to school, only to find his future ambitions at odds with the temptations of the present. His wife, Georgia, tries to keep things afloat at home, but she’s been feeding the bill drawer with unopened envelopes for months and never manages to confront its swelling contents. In an attempt to climb out of the holes they’ve dug, Roger and Georgia make a series of choices that have catastrophic consequences for their three children—especially for Patsy, the youngest, who will spend most of her life fighting to overcome them. *The Hole We’re In* shines a spotlight on some of the most relevant issues of today: over-reliance on credit, gender and class politics, and the war in Iraq. But it is Zevin’s deft exploration of the fragile economy of family life that makes this a book for the ages. “Blazing . . . Sharp . . . The Corrections for our recessionary times . . . [Zevin] establishes herself as an astute chronicler of the way we spend now.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review)

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## THE SLOW MOON

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### A NOVEL

*Random House Trade Paperbacks* On an early spring night in 1991, Sophie and Crow, flushed with anticipation, slip away from a rowdy high school party and sneak off into the woods. Tonight, for the first time, they will make love. An hour later, Sophie lies unconscious, covered with blood, and Crow is crashing through the underbrush, hurling himself into the river to escape the police. . . . What was meant to be an idyllic, intimate evening has turned into a nightmare. Despite Crow’s frantic claims of innocence, evidence at the scene suggests his guilt. And Sophie, by now awake in the hospital, refuses to speak, leaving the residents of the couple’s seemingly placid Tennessee town to draw their own wildly varying conclusions. If Crow isn’t to blame, then who assaulted Sophie, and what compelled Crow to

flee? With each answer comes a new set of questions. Elizabeth Cox's vibrant and lyrical narrative revisits the events leading up to the fateful night, then shows how the tragedy reverberates throughout the community, among parents, friends, teachers, and neighbors—all connected to the young lovers, all with a stake in what happens next. As growing suspicions divide the town, a closer look reveals that everyone has something to hide. A compelling and passionate page-turner, *The Slow Moon* waxes full with suspense, a haunting story of innocence lost, lives betrayed, and the courage required to face the truth.

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## CONVINCE ME

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### A NOVEL

*Ballantine Books* A charismatic man's death exposes the secrets he kept, revealing him to family and friends as an unrepentant pathological liar in this explosive thriller from film producer and author Nina Sadowsky. "Convince Me will keep readers guessing until the very end."—New York Times bestselling author Karin Slaughter Justin Childs is handsome, likeable, smart. A devoted son to his mother, Carol; a loving husband to his wife, Annie; and a sure-footed, savvy business partner to his best friend from college, Will. To so many, the perfect man. He's also a liar. And now he's dead. When Justin's body is retrieved from the wreckage of a car accident, his death leaves his loved ones with more questions than answers. In life, his charm and easygoing nature inspired trust, making him friends wherever he went. Now that he's gone, the cracks begin to show: disturbing discrepancies in his company's financials, unaccounted-for absences, a medical record that appears to be entirely fabricated. As the secrets and betrayals pile up, Annie, Carol, and Will realize their beloved Justin was not the man they thought he was. And why was he found dead with Valium in his system when he notoriously detested drugs? Was the crash that killed him really an accident—or did Justin finally get caught in something he couldn't lie his way out of? *Convince Me* is a chilling look at what makes a sociopath in an age of untruth—and a high-octane, surprising read to its very last page.

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### LARGER THAN LIFE (NOVELLA)

*Ballantine Books* From Jodi Picoult, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Storyteller* and *My Sister's Keeper*, comes a gripping and beautifully written novella, now available exclusively as an eBook. Set in the wilds of Africa, *Larger Than Life* introduces Alice, the unforgettable character at the center of Picoult's anticipated new novel, *Leaving Time*. A researcher studying memory in elephants, Alice is fascinated by the bonds between mother and calf—the mother's powerful protective instincts and her newborn's unwavering loyalty. Living on a game reserve in Botswana, Alice is able to view the animals in their natural habitat—while following an important rule: She must only observe and never interfere. Then she finds an orphaned young elephant in the bush and cannot bear to leave the helpless baby behind. Thinking back on her own childhood, and on her shifting relationship with her mother, Alice risks her career to care for the calf. Yet what she comes to understand is the depth of a parent's love. Praise for Jodi Picoult "Picoult is a skilled wordsmith, and she beautifully creates situations that not only provoke the mind but touch the flawed souls in all of us."—*The Boston Globe* "Picoult is a rare writer who delivers book after book, a winning combination of the literary and the commercial."—*Entertainment Weekly* "Jodi Picoult's novels do not gather dust on the bedside table. They are gobbled up quickly and the readers want more."—*Los Angeles Times*

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### FIELD NOTES ON LOVE

*Delacorte Press* "Utterly romantic." --Jenny Han, NYT bestselling author of *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* The bestselling author of *Windfall* and *The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight* returns with a meet-cute romance about Hugo and Mae, two teens who are thrown together on a cross-country train trip that will teach them about love, each other, and the futures they can build for themselves. It's the perfect idea for a romantic week together: traveling across America by train. But then Hugo's girlfriend dumps him. Her parting gift: the tickets for their long-planned last-hurrah-before-uni trip. Only, it's been booked under her name. Nontransferable, no exceptions. Mae is still reeling from being rejected from USC's film school. When she stumbles across Hugo's ad for a replacement Margaret Campbell (her full name!), she's certain it's exactly the adventure she needs to shake off her disappointment and jump-start her next film. A cross-country train trip with a complete stranger might not seem like the best idea. But to Mae and Hugo, both eager to escape their regular lives, it makes perfect sense. What starts as a convenient arrangement soon turns into something more. But when life outside the train catches up to them, can they find a way to keep their feelings for each other from getting derailed? "One of the loveliest, most touching romances of 2019 thus far that gets at the nature of something deeply buried in all of our hearts." --*Entertainment Weekly* "This warm, romantic, never overly sentimental story is told with humor and heart....A deeply satisfying read about a life-changing journey full of poignant moments." --*Kirkus*, starred review

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### PRETENDING

### A NOVEL

*MIRA* "It made me cry and laugh and rage...A really important, timely book. Sheer brilliance." —Lucy Foley, New York Times bestselling author of *The Guest List* "Thoughtful, smart and painfully true." —*Cosmopolitan UK* He said he was looking for a "partner in crime," which everyone knows is shorthand for "a woman who isn't real." April is kind, pretty and relatively normal—yet she can't seem to get past date five. Every time she thinks she's found someone to trust, they reveal themselves to be awful, leaving her heartbroken. And angry. Until she realizes that men aren't looking for real women—they're looking for Gretel. Gretel is perfect—beautiful but low-maintenance, sweet but never clingy, sexy but not too easy. She's your regular, everyday Manic-Pixie-Dream-Girl-Next-Door with no problems. When April starts pretending to be Gretel, dating becomes much more fun—especially once she reels in the unsuspecting Joshua. Finally, April is the one in control. It's refreshing. Exhilarating, even. But as she and Joshua grow closer, and the pressure of keeping her painful past a secret begins to build, how long will she be able to keep on pretending? "The most freeing, reassuring book on dating after #MeToo I've read. Perceptive. Hilarious. Brilliant." —Laura Jane Williams, author of *Our Stop*

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### THE CHICKEN SISTERS

*Penguin* INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICK "A charming, hilarious, feel-good story about the kind of bonds & rivalries only sisters can share. Also, a great present for your sister for the holidays!!"—Reese Witherspoon Three generations. Two chicken shacks. One recipe for disaster. In tiny Merinac, Kansas, Chicken Mimi's and Chicken Frannie's have spent a century vying to serve up the best fried chicken in the state--and the legendary feud between their respective owners, the Moores and the Pogociellos, has lasted just as long. No one feels the impact more than thirty-five-year-old widow Amanda Moore, who grew up working for her mom at Mimi's before scandalously marrying Frank Pogociello and changing sides to work at Frannie's. Tired of being caught in the middle, Amanda sends an SOS to *Food Wars*, the reality TV restaurant competition that promises \$100,000 to the winner. But in doing so, she launches both families out of the frying pan and directly into the fire... The last thing Brooklyn-based organizational guru Mae Moore, Amanda's sister, wants is to go home to Kansas. But when her career implodes, helping the fading Mimi's look good on *Food Wars* becomes Mae's best chance to reclaim the limelight--even if doing so pits her against Amanda and Frannie's. Yet when family secrets become public knowledge, the sisters must choose: Will they fight with each other, or for their heritage?

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### ALL TOGETHER NOW

### A NOVEL

*Little, Brown* The small town of Bridgeford is in crisis. Downtown is deserted, businesses are closing, and the idea of civic pride seems old-fashioned to residents rushing through the streets to get somewhere else. Bridgeford seems to have lost its heart. But there is one thing that just might unite the community--music. The local choir, a group generally either ignored or mocked by most of Bridgeford's inhabitants, is preparing for an important contest, and to win it they need new members, and a whole new sound. Enlisting (some may say drafting) singers, who include a mother suffering from empty-nest syndrome, a middle-aged man who has just lost his job and his family, and a nineteen-year-old waitress who dreams of reality-TV stardom, the choir regulars must find--and make--harmony with neighbors they've been happy not to know for years. Can they all learn to work together, save the choir, and maybe even save their town in the process? *All Together Now* is a poignant and charming novel about community, family, falling in love--and the big rewards of making a small change.

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### THE FLOATING FELDMANS

*Penguin* A family vacation dredges up a boatload of trouble in the next witty, insightful novel from the acclaimed author of *The Intermission*. "An irresistible drama filled with humor and heart-tugging emotion about family and what it means to belong. I absolutely adore Friedland's warm, witty writing!"—Emily Giffin, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *All We Ever Wanted* Sink or swim. Or at least that's what Annette Feldman tells herself when she books a cruise for her entire family. It's been over a decade since the Feldman clan has spent more than twenty-four hours under the same roof, but Annette is determined to celebrate her seventieth birthday the right way. Just this once, they are going to behave like an actual family. Too bad her kids didn't get the memo. Between the troublesome family secrets, old sibling rivalries, and her two teenage grandkids, Annette's birthday vacation is looking more and more like the perfect storm. Adrift together on the open seas, the Feldmans will each face the truths they've been ignoring—and learn that the people they once thought most likely to sink them are actually the ones who help them stay afloat.

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### THE MIDCOAST

### A NOVEL

*Hogarth* NATIONAL BESTSELLER • "Propulsive . . . An absorbing look at small-town Maine and the thwarted dreams of a family trying to transcend it."—Lee Cole, *The New York Times* (Editors' Choice) "I tore through the saga of the Thatch family in two nights. The Midcoast is a reader's dream—tense, ominous, and deeply wise."—David Benioff, co-creator of *Game of Thrones* It's spring in the tiny town of Damariscotta, a tourist haven on the coast of Maine known for its oysters and antiques. Andrew, a high school English teacher recently returned to the area, has brought his family to Ed and Steph Thatch's sprawling riverside estate to attend a reception for the Amherst women's lacrosse team. Back when they were all teenagers, Andrew never could have predicted that Ed, descended from a long line of lobstermen, or Steph, a decent student until she dropped out to start a family, would ever send a daughter to a place like Amherst. But so the tides have turned, and Andrew's trying hard to admire, more than envy, the view from Ed's rolling backyard meadow. As Andrew wanders through the Thatches' house, he stumbles upon a file he's not supposed to see: photos of a torched body in a burned-out sedan. And when a line of state police cruisers crashes the Thatches' reception an hour later, Andrew and his neighbors finally begin to see the truth behind Ed and Steph's remarkable rise. Soon the newspapers are running headlines about the Thatches, and Andrew's poring over his memories, trying to piece together the story of a family he thought he knew. A propulsive drama that cares as deeply about its characters as it does about the crimes they commit, *The Midcoast* explores the machinations of privilege, the dark recesses of the American dream, and the lies we tell as we try, at all costs, to protect the ones we love.