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The Little Bride

A Novel

Penguin From the award-winning author of *The Book of V.*, an unflinching, lushly imagined love story set against the backdrop of the epic frontier When 16-year-old Minna Losk journeys from Odessa to America as a mail-order bride, she dreams of a young, wealthy husband, a handsome townhouse, and freedom from physical labor and pogroms. But her husband Max turns out to be twice her age, rigidly Orthodox, and living in a one-room sod hut in South Dakota with his two teenage sons. The country is desolate, the work treacherous. And most troubling, Minna finds herself increasingly attracted to her older stepson. As a brutal winter closes in, the family's limits are tested, and Minna, drawing on strengths she barely knows she has, is forced to confront her despair, as well as her desire. A Boston Globe Best Seller "Evocative of Alice Munro, Amy Bloom, and Willa Cather, but fueled by Anna Solomon's singular imagination . . . a masterful debut . . . embroidered with sage, beautiful writing on every page . . . marks the start of a long, fine, and important career." —Jenna Blum, author of *Those Who Save Us* "Minna is a terrifically complex heroine: a little snobby, a little selfish and wholly sympathetic." —The New York Times "Like...Jonathan Safran Foer and Dara Horn. [A] wondrously strange story of Jewish immigration." —Miami Herald "This mythic rendition of the American immigrant narrative...finds the wondrous in the ordinary and vividly depicts the complex collisions between the Old World and the New." —More

The Little Bride

A Novel

Penguin Books From the award-winning author of *Leaving Lucy Pear*, an unflinching, lushly imagined love story set against the backdrop of the epic frontier Anna Solomon's new novel *Leaving Lucy Pear* is available now from Viking Books When 16-year-old Minna Losk journeys from Odessa to America as a mail-order bride, she dreams of a young, wealthy husband, a handsome townhouse, and freedom from physical labor and pogroms. But her husband Max turns out to be twice her age, rigidly Orthodox, and living in a one-room sod hut in South Dakota with his two teenage sons. The country is desolate, the work treacherous. And most troubling, Minna finds herself increasingly attracted to her older stepson. As a brutal winter closes in, the family's limits are tested, and Minna, drawing on strengths she barely knows she has, is forced to confront her despair, as well as her desire. A Boston Globe Best Seller "Evocative of Alice Munro, Amy Bloom, and Willa Cather, but fueled by Anna Solomon's singular imagination . . . a masterful debut . . . embroidered with sage, beautiful writing on every page . . . marks the start of a long, fine, and important career." —Jenna Blum, author of *Those Who Save Us* "Minna is a terrifically complex heroine: a little snobby, a little selfish and wholly sympathetic." —The New York Times "Like...Jonathan Safran Foer and Dara Horn. [A] wondrously strange story of Jewish immigration." —Miami Herald "This mythic rendition of the American immigrant narrative...finds the wondrous in the ordinary and vividly depicts the complex collisions between the Old World and the New." —More

The Book of V.

A Novel

Henry Holt and Company A GOOD MORNING AMERICA BOOK CLUB PICK A BELLETRIST BOOK CLUB PICK For fans of *The Hours* and *Fates and Furies*, a bold, kaleidoscopic novel intertwining the lives of three women across three centuries as their stories of sex, power, and desire finally converge in the present day. Lily is a mother and a daughter. And a second wife. And a writer, maybe? Or she was going to be, before she had children. Now, in her rented Brooklyn apartment she's grappling with her sexual and intellectual desires, while also trying to manage her roles as a mother and a wife in 2016. Vivian Barr seems to be the perfect political wife, dedicated to helping her charismatic and ambitious husband find success in Watergate-era Washington D.C. But one night he demands a humiliating favor, and her refusal to obey changes the course of her life—along with the lives of others. Esther is a fiercely independent young woman in ancient Persia, where she and her uncle's tribe live a tenuous existence outside the palace walls. When an innocent mistake results in devastating consequences for her people, she is offered up as a sacrifice to please the King, in the hopes that she will save them all. In Anna Solomon's *The Book of V.*, these three characters' riveting stories overlap and ultimately collide, illuminating how women's lives have and have not changed over thousands of years.

Leaving Lucy Pear

A Novel

Penguin "From the first page, I was under Anna Solomon's spell." —Sue Monk Kidd From the author of *The Book of V.*, a novel chosen as a must-read book by TIME Magazine, InStyle, Good Housekeeping, The Millions, the Minneapolis Star Tribune, and BookPage Set in 1920s New England, the story of two women who are both mothers to the same unforgettable girl—a big, heartrending novel from award-winning writer Anna Solomon One night in 1917 Beatrice Haven sneaks out of her uncle's house on Cape Ann, Massachusetts, leaves her newborn baby at the foot of a pear tree, and watches as another woman claims the infant as her own. The unwed daughter of wealthy Jewish industrialists and a gifted pianist bound for Radcliffe, Bea plans to leave her shameful secret behind and make a fresh start. Ten years later, Prohibition is in full swing, post-WWI America is in the grips of rampant xenophobia, and Bea's hopes for her future remain unfulfilled. She returns to her uncle's house, seeking a refuge from her unhappiness. But she discovers far more when the rum-running manager of the local quarry inadvertently reunites her with Emma Murphy, the headstrong Irish Catholic woman who has been raising Bea's abandoned child—now a bright, bold, cross-dressing girl named Lucy Pear, with secrets of her own. In mesmerizing prose, award-winning author Anna Solomon weaves together an unforgettable group of characters as their lives collide on the New England coast. Set against one of America's most turbulent decades, *Leaving Lucy Pear* delves into questions of class, freedom, and the meaning of family, establishing Anna Solomon as one of our most captivating storytellers. "Anna Solomon writes with a poet's reverence for language and a novelist's ability to keep us turning the page. A gorgeous and engrossing meditation on motherhood, womanhood, and the sacrifices we make for love." —J. Courtney Sullivan

The Love Wife

Vintage The arrival of a "cousin" from mainland China, arranged by Mama Wong to serve ostensibly as a nanny, throws the household of Carnegie Wong, a second-generation Chinese American, his WASP wife Blondie, and their three children into turmoil. By the author of *Mona in the Promised Land*. Reader's Guide available. Reprint. 35,000 first printing.

Labor Day: True Birth Stories by Today's Best Women Writers

Macmillan A collection of personal childbirth stories by 30 acclaimed writers, edited by the authors of *Ten Thousand Saints* and *The Little Bride*, includes entries by such contributors as Julia Glass, Lauren Groff and Dani Shapiro. 50,000 first printing.

The Gendarme

Penguin To most people, Emmett Conn is a confused old World War I veteran, fading in and out of senility. But in his mind, Emmett is haunted by events he'd long forgotten. In his dreams, he's a gendarme, a soldier marching Armenians out of Turkey. He commits unspeakable acts. Yet he feels compelled to spare one remarkable woman: Araxie, the girl with the piercing eyes—one green, one blue. As the past and present bleed together in *The Gendarme*, Emmett Conn sets out on one final journey to find Araxie and beg forgiveness, before it's too late. With uncompromising vision and boundless compassion, Mark Mustian has written a transcendent meditation on the power of memory—and the dangers of forgetting who we are and have been.

Back to Venice

Michael Grant Imagine what it would be like to go back in time to the 15th century Venice. And imagine what it would be like to meet your lifelong hero, Michelangelo. And imagine what it would be like if, on first meeting, you spill a tray of pasta and wine on that very same hero. Well, that's what happens to serious young artist Mark Breen. As the result of a drunken bet, Mark knocks out a painting of a toilet bowl. Much to his amazement, he sells it. In short order he's hailed as the new Andy Warhol and becomes an overnight sensation—and a very wealthy man. Soon, images of his toilet bowls are on more t-shirts, mugs, and calendars than Edvard Munch's *The Scream*. His friend and mentor, Hugh Connelly, afraid that Mark is in danger of losing his "artistic soul," advises him to go back to Italy and reacquaint himself with the "old masters." In Venice, Mark falls in love with Alexandra, a beautiful art restorer, but it's a one-sided affair. One night, hoping to win her over, he climbs up on a roof to find out who painted her favorite fresco. He falls off the roof and wakes up in 15th century Venice where he meets an innkeeper named Francesca, who looks exactly like Alexandra. And it gets curiously and

curiouser from there. During his stay—which is sometimes zany and sometimes frightening—he meets his hero, Michelangelo, who teaches him the true meaning of art.

Anna Karenina

CCEL A married woman falls blindly in love with a handsome military officer. Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way. States Leo Tolstoy in his great modern novel of an adulterous affair set against the backdrop of Moscow and St. Petersburg high society in the later half of the nineteenth century. A sophisticated woman who is respectably married to a government bureaucrat, Anna begins a passionate, all-consuming involvement with a rich army officer. Refusing to conduct a discreet affair, she scandalizes society by abandoning both her husband and her young son for Count Vronsky—with tragic consequences. Running parallel is the story of the courtship and marriage of Konstantin Levin (the melancholy nobleman who is Tolstoy's stand-in) and Princess Kitty Shcherbatsky.

What Happened to Anna K.

A Novel

Simon and Schuster A mesmerizing debut novel that reimagines Tolstoy's classic tragedy, *Anna Karenina*, for our time. Vivacious thirty-seven-year-old Anna K. is comfortably married to Alex, an older, prominent businessman from her tight-knit Russian-Jewish immigrant community in Queens. But a longing for freedom is reignited in this bookish, overly romantic, and imperious woman when she meets her cousin Katia Zavurov's boyfriend, an outsider and aspiring young writer on whom she pins her hopes for escape. As they begin a reckless affair, Anna enters into a tailspin that alienates her from her husband, family, and entire world. In nearby Rego Park's Bukharian-Jewish community, twenty-seven-year-old pharmacist Lev Gavrilov harbors two secret passions: French movies and the lovely Katia. Lev's restless longing to test the boundaries of his sheltered life powerfully collides with Anna's. But will Lev's quest result in life's affirmation rather than its destruction? Exploring struggles of identity, fidelity, and community, *What Happened to Anna K.* is a remarkable retelling of the *Anna Karenina* story brought vividly to life by an exciting young writer.

The Frozen Rabbi

Algonquin Books Rabbi Eliezer ben Zephyr is inadvertently frozen in 1890 and, after being transported to twenty-first century Memphis, is accidentally thawed by fifteen-year-old Bernie Karp, who begins to follow the rabbi's teachings with unforeseen consequences.

Balm

A Novel

HarperCollins The *New York Times* bestselling author of *Wench* returns to the Civil War era to explore the next chapter of history—the trauma of the War and the end of slavery—in this powerful story of love and healing about three people who struggle to overcome the pain of the past and define their own future. The Civil War has ended, and Madge, Sadie, and Hemp have each come to Chicago in search of a new life. Born with magical hands, Madge has the power to discern others' suffering, but she cannot heal her own damaged heart. To mend herself and help those in need, she must return to Tennessee to face the women healers who rejected her as a child. Sadie can commune with the dead, but until she makes peace with her father, she, too, cannot fully engage her gift. Searching for his missing family, Hemp arrives in this northern city that shimmers with possibility. But redemption cannot be possible until he is reunited with those taken from him. In the bitter aftermath of a terrible, bloody war, as a divided nation tries to come together once again, Madge, Sadie, and Hemp will be caught up in a desperate, unexpected battle for survival in a community desperate to lay the pain of the past to rest. Beautiful in its historical atmosphere and emotional depth, *Balm* is a stirring novel of love, loss, hope, and reconciliation set during one of the most critical periods in American history.

The Kashmir Shawl

Abrams By the time she is reunited with her husband, she is a very different woman. Years later, Nerys's granddaughter Mair Ellis clears out her dead father's house and finds an exquisite shawl. Wrapped in its folds is a lock of a child's curly hair. With nothing else to go on, Mair decides to trace her grandparents' roots back to Kashmir, embarking on a quest that will change her own life forever. A sweeping multigenerational tale of marriage, isolation, and finding love in a magical place, *The Kashmir Shawl* is the inimitable Rosie Thomas at her very best.

This Burns My Heart

A Novel

Simon and Schuster Struggling to provide a good life for her daughter in spite of her own unhappy marriage and a culture that grants no rights to women, Soo-Ja Choi of 1960s Korea navigates the pitfalls of her conniving in-laws while longing for her true love, Doctor Yul.

This Is How I'd Love You

A Novel

Penguin As the Great War rages, an independent young woman struggles to sustain love—and life—through the power of words. It's 1917 and America is on the brink of World War I. After Hensley Dench's father is forced to resign from the *New York Times* for his anti-war writings, she finds herself expelled from the life she loves and the future she thought she would have. Instead, Hensley is transplanted to New Mexico, where her father has taken a job overseeing a gold mine. Driven by loneliness, Hensley hijacks her father's correspondence with Charles Reid, a young American medic with whom her father plays chess via post. Hensley secretly begins her own exchange with Charles, but looming tragedy threatens them both, and—when everything turns against them—will their words be enough to beat the odds?

Little Book of Light

CreateSpace An inspirational and handy book of consciousness and love. Bring it with you on your daily journey for happiness everywhere you go.

I Am Giraffe

Heart Centered Publishing A dreamtime journey takes Giraffe on a quest to discover that changing our physical appearance is not the answer to finding happiness. Through friends and a special meeting with a unicorn, wonderful learning takes place on the importance of accepting and loving yourself with joy, enthusiasm, and gratitude. The book also includes practical information and exercises to assist parents with developing the practice of everyday gratitude in our lives.

Drawn to Enchant

Original Children's Book Art in the Betsy Beinecke Shirley Collection

Yale University Press This volume presents over 200 selected original artworks from the collection of Betsy Beinecke Shirley, one of the great collectors of American children's literature. Shirley gathered an authoritative collection of books, original illustrations, manuscripts, as well as drawings and paintings from such children's classics as "Treasure Island" and "Eloise." The artwork in Shirley's collection guides the reader on a tour through the stages of childhood reading, this volume begins with ABC's and nursery books. It continues through adventure stories, magazines, and more, then concludes with a miscellany section of odds and ends. The images demonstrate how children's books evolved, from the nation's first days of independence to modern times. Artists whose works are represented include many of the favorites, among them Ludwig Bemelmans, Maurice Sendak, A.B. Frost, Wanda Gag, Peter Newell, N.C. Wyeth, Tony Sarg, Robert Lawson, and Johnny Gruelle.

These Ghosts Are Family

A Novel

Simon & Schuster *An *Entertainment Weekly*, *Millions*, and *LitHub* Most-Anticipated Book of 2020 pick* *A *Rumpus* and *Electric Literature* Most-Anticipated Debut of 2020 pick* *A *Ms. Magazine* Top Feminist Book Coming Out in 2020* *A *BookRiot* Best Book Club Pick of 2020* *A *Celadon Books* Most-Anticipated Novel of 2020* *A *Lily* Top Book to Read by Women in 2020 Selection* *A *Buzz Magazine* Top New Book of the New Decade* *A *She Reads* Most-Anticipated Historical Fiction Pick of 2020* A transporting debut novel that reveals the ways in which a Jamaican family forms and fractures over generations, in the tradition of *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi. Stanford Solomon has a shocking, thirty-year-old secret. And it's about to change the lives of everyone around him. Stanford Solomon is actually Abel Paisley, a man who faked his own death and stole the identity of his best friend. And now, nearing the end of his life, Stanford is about to meet his firstborn daughter, Irene Paisley, a home health aide

who has unwittingly shown up for her first day of work to tend to the father she thought was dead. *These Ghosts Are Family* revolves around the consequences of Abel's decision and tells the story of the Paisley family from colonial Jamaica to present day Harlem. There is Vera, whose widowhood forced her into the role of single mother. There are two daughters and a granddaughter who have never known they are related. And there are others, like the house boy who loved Vera, whose lives might have taken different courses if not for Abel Paisley's actions. *These Ghosts Are Family* explores the ways each character wrestles with their ghosts and struggles to forge independent identities outside of the family and their trauma. The result is an engrossing portrait of a family and individuals caught in the sweep of history, slavery, migration, and the more personal dramas of infidelity, lost love, and regret. This electric and luminous family saga announces the arrival of a new American talent.

Reclaiming Our Health

A Guide to African American Wellness

[Yale University Press](#) "An interactive and empowering book" to help African American men and women create a new vision of better health and navigate the health care system (BET.com). According to the federal Office of Minority Health, African Americans "are affected by serious diseases and health conditions at far greater rates than other Americans." In fact, African Americans suffer an estimated 85,000 excess deaths every year from diseases we know how to prevent: heart disease, stroke, cancer, high blood pressure, and diabetes. In this important and accessible book, Dr. Michelle Gourdine provides African Americans with the knowledge and guidance they need to take charge of their wellbeing. *Reclaiming Our Health* begins with an overview of the primary health concerns facing African Americans and explains who is at greatest risk of illness. Expanding on her career and life experiences as an African American physician, Dr. Gourdine presents key insights into the ways African American culture shapes health choices—how beliefs, traditions, and values can influence eating choices, exercise habits, and even the decision to seek medical attention. She translates extensive research into practical information and presents readers with concrete steps for achieving a healthier lifestyle, as well as strategies for navigating the health-care system. This interactive guide with illustrations is a vital resource for every African American on how to live a healthier and more empowered life, and an indispensable handbook for health-care providers, policy makers, and others working to close the health gap among people of color. Says Gourdine, "I wrote this book to empower our community to solve our own health problems and save our own lives."

Irish Furniture

Woodwork and Carving in Ireland from the Earliest Times to the Act of Union

[Yale University Press](#) This lavishly illustrated and comprehensive volume is the first devoted entirely to the subject of Irish furniture and woodwork. It provides a detailed survey—encompassing everything from medieval choir stalls to magnificent drawing-room suites for the great houses—from earliest times to the end of the eighteenth century. The first part of the book presents a chronological history, illustrated with superb examples of Irish furniture and interior carving. In a lively text, the Knight of Glin and James Peill consider a broad range of topics, including a discussion of the influence of Irish craftsmen in the colonies of America. The second part of the book is a fascinating pictorial catalogue of different types of surviving furniture, including chairs, stools, baroque sideboards, elegant tea and games tables, bookcases, and mirrors. The book also features an index of Irish furniture-makers and craftsmen of the eighteenth century, compiled from Dublin newspaper advertisements and other contemporary sources.

Leaving Lucy Pear

A Novel

[Penguin](#) "From the first page, I was under Anna Solomon's spell." —Sue Monk Kidd From the author of *The Book of V.*, a novel chosen as a must-read book by *TIME Magazine*, *InStyle*, *Good Housekeeping*, *The Millions*, the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, and *BookPage* Set in 1920s New England, the story of two women who are both mothers to the same unforgettable girl—a big, heartrending novel from award-winning writer Anna Solomon One night in 1917 Beatrice Haven sneaks out of her uncle's house on Cape Ann, Massachusetts, leaves her newborn baby at the foot of a pear tree, and watches as another woman claims the infant as her own. The unwed daughter of wealthy Jewish industrialists and a gifted pianist bound for Radcliffe, Bea plans to leave her shameful secret behind and make a fresh start. Ten years later, Prohibition is in full swing, post-WWI America is in the grips of rampant xenophobia, and Bea's hopes for her future remain unfulfilled. She returns to her uncle's house, seeking a refuge from her unhappiness. But she discovers far more when the rum-running manager of the local quarry inadvertently reunites her with Emma Murphy, the headstrong Irish Catholic woman who has been raising Bea's abandoned child—now a bright, bold, cross-dressing girl named Lucy Pear, with secrets of her own. In mesmerizing prose, award-winning author Anna Solomon weaves together an unforgettable group of characters as their lives collide on the New England coast. Set against one of America's most turbulent decades, *Leaving Lucy Pear* delves into questions of class, freedom, and the meaning of family, establishing Anna Solomon as one of our most captivating storytellers. "Anna Solomon writes with a poet's reverence for language and a novelist's ability to keep us turning the page. A gorgeous and engrossing meditation on motherhood, womanhood, and the sacrifices we make for love." —J. Courtney Sullivan

Creating Character

Bringing Your Story to Life

All fiction is character-driven, according to William Bernhardt. How can you use characters to create dynamic fiction that will captivate readers? This book explains the relationship between character and plot, and how the perfect melding of the two produces a mesmerizing story.

American Jewish Fiction

A JPS Guide

[Jewish Publication Society](#) This new volume in the *JPS Guides* series is a fiction reader's dream: a guide to 125 remarkable works of fiction. The selection includes a wide range of classic American Jewish novels and story collections, from 1867 to the present, selected by the author in consultation with a panel of literary scholars and book industry professionals. Roth, Mailer, Kellerman, Chabon, Ozick, Heller, and dozens of other celebrated writers are here, with their most notable works. Each entry includes a book summary, with historical context and background on the author. Suggestions for further reading point to other books that match readers' interests and favorite writers. And the introduction is a fascinating exploration of the history of and important themes in American Jewish Fiction, illustrating how Jewish writing in the U.S. has been in constant dialogue with popular entertainment and intellectual life. Included in this guide are lists of book award winners; recommended anthologies; title, author, and subject indexes; and more.

Sophie's World

A Novel About the History of Philosophy

[Farrar, Straus and Giroux](#) One day Sophie comes home from school to find two questions in her mail: "Who are you?" and "Where does the world come from?" Before she knows it she is enrolled in a correspondence course with a mysterious philosopher. Thus begins Jostein Gaarder's unique novel, which is not only a mystery, but also a complete and entertaining history of philosophy.

My Mother's Children: An Irish Family Secret and the Scars it Left Behind.

[Poolbeg Press](#) Irish Mancunian Carmel Doherty's life is unravelling. She has just lost her mother Tess and brother Mikey, her marriage to Joe is coming apart at the seams and her thirty-year friendship with Karen is on the rocks. While clearing out her childhood home, Carmel discovers that her mother gave birth to a baby in an Irish Mother and Baby home when she was sixteen, a place notorious for its mass burial of babies and illegal adoptions. Carmel goes on a quest for the truth about her troubled mother's past. Her roller-coaster journey takes her from her comfortable Manchester home to the west of Ireland and to London's theatre land. It's a journey that leads her to ask: Can we ever escape our own family history or is our destiny in our DNA? A percentage of the author's royalties will be donated to ICAP, a mental health Charity offering therapy for the Irish in Britain.

That Affair Next Door

[Open Road Media](#) This classic whodunit by the nineteenth-century author of *The Leavenworth Case* introduces the original spinster sleuth: Amelia Butterworth. Living alone in the moneyed Manhattan neighborhood of Gramercy Park, Amelia Butterworth is happy to keep to herself. But awakened one night by the sound of a horse-drawn cab outside her mansion, she spies a curious couple entering a home she knows to be empty. When only the man emerges, Amelia calls the police—and is suddenly the sole witness to a murder. But Amelia intends to do more than simply be interrogated, much to the chagrin of Det. Ebenezer Gryce. She has questions of her own, and soon the police detective and amateur sleuth are in a race to see who can solve the crime first. "First published in 1897, this cleverly plotted mystery . . . featuring the first woman sleuth in a series, is a must for genre buffs." —Publishers Weekly, starred review

Regarding Anna

Things that happen to you in the past can mold you into someone you

Rav Kook

Mystic in a Time of Revolution

[Yale University Press](#) *DIV The life and thought of a forceful figure in Israel's religious and political life /div*

Sarah

The Life of Sarah Bernhardt

[Yale University Press](#) *Everything about Sarah Bernhardt is fascinating, from her obscure birth to her glorious career--redefining the very nature of her art--to her amazing (and highly public) romantic life, to her indomitable spirit. Well into her seventies, after the amputation of her leg, she was performing under bombardment for soldiers during World War I and toured America for the ninth time. Though the Bernhardt literature is vast, this is the first English-language biography to appear in decades, tracking the trajectory through which an illegitimate--and scandalous--daughter of a Jewish courtesan transformed herself into the most famous actress who ever lived, and into a national icon, a symbol of France.--From publisher description.*

Rav Hisda's Daughter, Book I: Apprentice

A Novel of Love, the Talmud, and Sorcery

[Penguin](#) *"A lushly detailed look into a fascinatingly unknown time and culture—a tale of Talmud, sorcery, and a most engaging heroine!"—Diana Gabaldon, author of the bestselling Outlander series* *Hisdadukh, blessed to be beautiful and learned, is the youngest child of Talmudic sage Rav Hisda. The world around her is full of conflict. Rome, fast becoming Christian, battles Zoroastrian Persia for dominance while Rav Hisda and his colleagues struggle to establish new Jewish traditions after the destruction of Jerusalem's Holy Temple. Against this backdrop Hisdadukh embarks on the tortuous path to become an enchantress in the very land where the word 'magic' originated. But the conflict affecting Hisdadukh most intimately arises when her father brings his two best students before her, a mere child, and asks her which one she will marry. Astonishingly, the girl replies, "Both of them." Soon she marries the older student, although it becomes clear that the younger one has not lost interest in her. When her new-found happiness is derailed by a series of tragedies, a grieving Hisdadukh must decide if she does, indeed, wish to become a sorceress. Based on actual Talmud texts and populated with its rabbis and their families, Rav Hisda's Daughter: Book I - Apprentice brings the world of the Talmud to life—from a woman's perspective.*

Carry Me

A Novel

[Anchor](#) *A devastating novel of war, love, and escape from the award-winning author of The Law of Dreams and The O'Briens During childhood summers on the sunstruck Isle of Wight in the years before the First World War, Billy is entranced by Karin, the elusive daughter of a German-Jewish industrialist. Reunited on a Frankfurt estate in that war's hungry aftermath, Karin and Billy become fascinated with tribal rituals found in the Wild West stories of Karl May, whose Winnetou tales are among the most popular books published in Germany. Coming of age in Frankfurt and Berlin, Karin and Billy share a passion for speed, jazz, and nightclubs. They also share a fantasy of escape—from darkening Germany, from history—to El Llano Estacado, the high plains of Texas and New Mexico, vividly reimagined in May's fiction. Intriguing characters braid this intricate and harrowing story together, from golden Edwardian summers to London under Zeppelin attack, Ireland on the brink of its War of Independence, and Germany collapsing into the Hitler era. As a society loses its civic and moral bearings, a childhood friendship deepens into a love affair with extraordinarily high stakes. Brilliantly conceived and elegantly written, Carry Me is an epic for grown-ups, an unusual love story, and a lucid meditation on Europe's violent twentieth century.*

Sweetwater

A Novel

[Random House](#) *In this brilliant, luminous novel, one of our finest realist writers gives us a story of surpassing depth and emotional power. Acclaimed for her lucid and compassionate exploration of the American family, Roxana Robinson sets her new work on familiar terrain—New York City and the Adirondacks—but with Sweetwater she transcends the particulars of the domestic sphere with a broader, more encompassing vision. In this poignant account of a young widow and her second marriage, Robinson expands her scope to include the larger natural world as well as the smaller, more intimate one of the home. Isabel Green's marriage to Paul Simmons, after the death of her first husband, marks her reconnection to life—a venture she's determined will succeed. But this proves to be harder than she'd anticipated, and the challenges of starting afresh seem more complicated in adulthood. Staying at the Simmons lodge for their annual summer visit, Isabel finds herself entering into a set of familial complexities. She struggles to understand her new husband, his elderly, difficult parents and his brother, whose relationship with Paul seems oddly fraught. Furthermore, her second marriage begins to cast into sharp relief the troubling echoes of her first. Isabel's professional life plays a part as well: a passionate environmental advocate, she is aware of the tensions within the mountain landscape itself during a summer of spectacular beauty and ominous drought. In her cool, elegant prose, Robinson gracefully delivers a plot that is complex, surprising and ultimately wrenching in its impact. As the strands of family are woven tightly and inevitably together, and as the past painfully informs the present, the vivid backdrop of the physical world provides its own eloquent dynamic. Sweetwater is a stunning achievement by a writer at the peak of her craft.*

Keep Saying Their Names

A novel

[Knopf](#) *An extraordinary work of fiction, inspired by historical events--an exquisitely crafted double portrait of a Nazi war criminal and a family savaged by World War II, conjoined by an actual house of horrors they both called home On a street in modern-day Norway, a writer kneels with his son and tells him that according to Jewish tradition, a person dies twice: first when their heart stops beating, and then again the last time their name is read or thought or said. Before them is a stone engraved with the name Hirsch Komissar, the boy's great-great-grandfather who was murdered by Nazis. The man who sent Komissar to his death was one of Norway's vilest traitors, Henry Oliver Rinnan, a Nazi double agent who set up headquarters in an unspectacular suburban house and transformed the cellar into a torture chamber for resisters, a place to be avoided and feared. That is until Komissar's own son, Gerson, and his young wife, Ellen, take up residence in the house after the war. While their daughters spend a happy childhood playing in the same rooms where some of the most heinous acts of the occupation occurred, the weight of history threatens to pull the couple apart. In Keep Saying Their Names, Simon Stranger uses this unusual twist of fate to probe five generations of intimate and global history, seamlessly melding fact and fiction, creating a brilliant lexicon of light and dark. The resulting novel reveals how evil is born in some and courage in others--and seeks to keep alive the names of those lost.*

It's Decorative Gourd Season, Motherfuckers

[Chronicle Books](#) *A passionate and profane love letter to fall, the best fucking season of the year. Do you get excited at the first brisk breeze of the year? Are you overcome with delight when you see piles of red leaves? Do you lose your fucking mind at a pumpkin patch? At last, the epically funny internet sensation It's Decorative Gourd Season, Motherfuckers is now a visual tour-de-force, teeming with a cornucopia of perfectly paired photos and seasonal enchantments to make it really fucking sing. Whiffy candles, wicker baskets, motherfucking gourd after gourd, and people going insane they love fall so much? Check! Also included: the equally lifechanging meditation It's Rotting Decorative Gourd Season, Motherfuckers, because all good things must end. Give it to everyone you love, or put it on your fucking coffee table next to a pile of shellacked vegetables to really tie the room together. Perfect for: For anyone who fucking loves fall, and fans of McSweeney's, Go the Fuck to Sleep, Deep Thoughts, the Onion, and the New Yorker.*

Twist of Fate

Alyson Fisher can't stop living in the past. She is certain a vital part of her died when her husband, Joe, was killed in a tragic car accident two years ago. She can't find the will to move on and is becoming increasingly reclusive. Her family and friends have been suffocating her with their good intentions and matchmaking ploys. A few months ago she made the bold decision to move across the country, far away from them and all reminders of her past with Joe. She is desperate for a fresh start but when she finds herself injured and alone in the middle of a deadly storm, she realizes that it might be too late. John Smith can't remember his past; even his present is muddled at times. He has a sense that he is running from something so he keeps moving from town to town, rarely settling down for longer than a few months. People make him nervous so he avoids human contact as much as possible. He has no identity, no home, no past, and often it seems, no future. He definitely has no hope. A chance encounter between Alyson and John changes the course of both their lives. As they forge a tentative friendship, they can't help but wonder if his past will reveal some horrible secret to threaten the tenuous progress

they've made.

The Size of the World: A Novel

W. W. Norton & Company A tale by the National Book Award finalist author of *Ideas of Heaven* features an intricate web of crossed paths and enlightening journeys in which a sequence of characters imparts key lessons in perspective. Original.

The Little Bride

A Novel

Penguin From the award-winning author of *The Book of V.*, an unflinching, lushly imagined love story set against the backdrop of the epic frontier. When 16-year-old Minna Losk journeys from Odessa to America as a mail-order bride, she dreams of a young, wealthy husband, a handsome townhouse, and freedom from physical labor and pogroms. But her husband Max turns out to be twice her age, rigidly Orthodox, and living in a one-room sod hut in South Dakota with his two teenage sons. The country is desolate, the work treacherous. And most troubling, Minna finds herself increasingly attracted to her older stepson. As a brutal winter closes in, the family's limits are tested, and Minna, drawing on strengths she barely knows she has, is forced to confront her despair, as well as her desire. A *Boston Globe* Best Seller "Evocative of Alice Munro, Amy Bloom, and Willa Cather, but fueled by Anna Solomon's singular imagination . . . a masterful debut . . . embroidered with sage, beautiful writing on every page . . . marks the start of a long, fine, and important career." —Jenna Blum, author of *Those Who Save Us* "Minna is a terrifically complex heroine: a little snobby, a little selfish and wholly sympathetic." —*The New York Times* "Like...Jonathan Safran Foer and Dara Horn. [A] wondrously strange story of Jewish immigration." —*Miami Herald* "This mythic rendition of the American immigrant narrative...finds the wondrous in the ordinary and vividly depicts the complex collisions between the Old World and the New." —More

A Bed of Spices

Barbara Samuel A *Bed of Spices* A heart wrenching and uplifting tale of forbidden love in the middle ages by a beloved and award-winning author. Solomon and Rica meet by chance at the herbalist's cottage and fall in love despite the divisions of religion, class, and expectations -- but how can they possibly find a happy ending with so many things stacked against them? A haunting and triumphant romance you will not easily forget.

My Last Lament

Penguin A poignant and evocative novel of one Greek woman's story of her own--and her nation's--epic struggle in the aftermath of World War II. Aliko is one of the last of her kind, a lamenter who mourns and celebrates the passing of life. She is part of an evolving Greece, one moving steadily away from its rural traditions. To capture the fading folk art of lamenting, an American researcher asks Aliko to record her laments, but in response, Aliko sings her own story... It begins in a village in northeast Greece, where Aliko witnesses the occupying Nazi soldiers execute her father for stealing squash. Taken in by her friend Takis's mother, Aliko is joined by a Jewish refugee and her son, Stelios. When the village is torched and its people massacred, Aliko, Takis and Stelios are able to escape just as the war is ending. Fleeing across the chaotic landscape of a postwar Greece, the three become a makeshift family. They're bound by friendship and grief, but torn apart by betrayal, madness and heartbreak. Through Aliko's powerful voice, an unforgettable one that blends light and dark with wry humor, *My Last Lament* delivers a fitting eulogy to a way of life and provides a vivid portrait of a timeless Greek woman, whose story of love and loss is an eternal one.