

Save Yourself Braffet Kelly

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Explore the empowering wisdom of Braffet Kelly, offering crucial guidance to help you navigate life's challenges and truly 'save yourself.' This essential resource provides practical strategies for self-improvement and personal empowerment, fostering resilience and inner strength for lasting change.

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Save Yourself

When Patrick Cusimano's alcoholic father kills a child in a hit-and-run, Patrick is faced with a terrible choice: turn his father in - destroying what's left of his family in the process - or keep quiet. But can Patrick's brother, Mike, live with the choice that was made that night? Layla Elshere was once a poster girl for purity. But when her evangelical father forces her to spearhead a campaign against her school, it compels her to question everything she's ever known. Now Layla is doing all she can to obliterate her past. Verna loves her older sister Layla, but as events begin to spiral, Verna must make the hardest choice: save the person she loves most in the world - or save herself. *Save Yourself* is a stunning novel about power struggles and divided loyalties, and the way in which one terrible decision can alter the whole course of your life.

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Josie and Jack

Teenage siblings Josie and Jack are each other's whole world. Josie lives inside Jack's love and happily submits to his control, following him on his sociopathic path. When their father's erratic behavior finally drives them away, things get complicated, sinister, and interesting, in this contemporary Hansel and Gretel story.

Save Yourself

A gripping novel full of suspense and pathos that Dennis Lehane calls an "electrifying, tomahawk missile of a thriller." Patrick Cusimano's father killed a boy while driving drunk. Now Patrick is working at a grubby convenience store, and he and his brother, Mike, are the town pariahs. Caro, Mike's girlfriend, is running from her own painful past, with no idea what she's running toward. Layla Elshere is a goth teenager who befriends Patrick for reasons he doesn't understand and doesn't trust. And Layla's little sister, Verna, tortured by her classmates, finds unlikely solace with Layla's dark tribe of outcasts. As their fates become entwined, everyone is set down a terrifying and twisted path—leading them all toward a collision where loyalties will be betrayed, fears exposed, and lives shattered. Now with Extra Libris material, including recommended reading and bonus content

The Broken Tower

"An exciting fantasy adventure tale." —Booklist, STARRED Review Deeply immersive, this penetrating tale of magic, faith and self-determination is the brilliant sequel to Kelly Braffet's *The Unwilling*. Judah the Foundling chose freedom over betrayal when she leaped from the top of the castle tower. Now she finds herself wandering an unknown forest, far from everything and everyone she loves. For the first time in her life, she's beyond the great Wall that surrounds Highfall castle; for the first time, she's alone. Away from the Seneschal, the power behind the throne; away from Nate Clare, the House Magus who was her teacher, friend, betrayer. Away from her foster brother, Gavin, with whom she has a mysterious bond that has kept them together—and kept her alive. But Judah isn't free. Fiercely sought by those who believe she holds the key to unlocking the power trapped in the world, she must learn to navigate the dangers of an unfamiliar place. She knows that somewhere, Gavin is in peril. To save him, she not only must learn to use the new power she discovers inside herself, she must survive. *The Barrier Lands Book 1: The Unwilling Book 2: The Broken Tower*

The Unwilling

THE INSTANT BESTSELLER "We the unwilling, led by the unqualified to kill the unfortunate, die for the ungrateful." —*Unknown Soldier* Set in the South at the height of the Vietnam War, *The Unwilling* combines crime, suspense and searing glimpses into the human mind and soul in New York Times bestselling author John Hart's singular style. Gibby's older brothers have already been to war. One died there. The other came back misunderstood and hard, a decorated killer now freshly released from a three-year stint in prison. Jason won't speak of the war or of his time behind bars, but he wants a relationship with the younger brother he hasn't known for years. Determined to make that connection, he coaxes Gibby into a day at the lake: long hours of sunshine and whisky and older women. But the day turns ugly when the four encounter a prison transfer bus on a stretch of empty road. Beautiful but drunk, one of the women taunts the prisoners, leading to a riot on the bus. The woman finds it funny in the moment, but is savagely murdered soon after. Given his violent history, suspicion turns first to Jason; but when the second woman is kidnapped, the police suspect Gibby, too. Determined to prove Jason innocent, Gibby must avoid the cops and dive deep into his brother's hidden life, a dark world of heroin, guns and outlaw motorcycle gangs. What he discovers there is a truth more disturbing than he could have imagined: not just the identity of the killer and the reasons for Tyra's murder, but the forces that shaped his brother in Vietnam, the reason he was framed, and why the most dangerous man alive wants him back in prison. This is crime fiction at its most raw, an exploration of family and the past, of prison and war and the indelible marks they leave.

Last Seen Leaving

As she did in her darkly thrilling debut, *Josie and Jack*, Kelly Braffet again explores the often ambiguous nature of love and danger in a riveting novel of suspense. When twenty-something drifter Miranda Cassidy wrecks her car one night on the way home from a bar, she seizes the accident as an opportunity to reinvent her life. Hitching a ride with a mysterious stranger, she finds quick work and a fresh start hundreds of miles away in an oceanside vacation town. She doesn't look back, figuring no one is going to miss her. But when her mother finds no forwarding address, she senses something terrible has happened. The memory of the tragic disappearance of Miranda's father years before and the force of long-buried emotions drive her on a frantic quest to find her daughter, no matter what the cost.

Last Seen Leaving

When Miranda, a young drifter, vanishes after being picked up by a passing stranger following a car accident, no one realizes that she is missing for two months or that her highway rescuer could be tied to rumors of a serial killer stalking young women.

Who Can Save Us Now?

Twenty-two of today's most talented writers (and comics fans) unite in *Who Can Save Us Now?*, an anthology featuring brand-new superheroes equipped for the threats and challenges of the twenty-first century -- with a few supervillains thrown in for good measure. Edited and with contributions by Owen King (*We're All in This Together*) and John McNally (*America's Report Card*), *Who Can Save Us Now?* enriches the superhero canon immeasurably. With mutations stranger than the X-Men and with even more baggage than the Hulk, this next generation of superheroes is a far cry from your run-of-the-mill caped crusader. From the image-conscious and not-very-mysterious masked meathead who swoops in and sweeps the tough girl reporter off her feet; to the Meerkat, who overcomes his species' cute and cuddly image to become the resident hero in a small Midwestern city; to the Silverfish, "the creepy superhero," who fights crime while maintaining the slipperiest of identities; to Manna Man, who manipulates the minds of televangelists to serve his own righteous mission, these protectors (and in some cases antagonizers) of the innocent and the virtuous will delight literary enthusiasts and comic fans alike. With stunning illustrations by artist Chris Burnham, *Who Can Save Us Now?* offers a vibrant, funny, and truly unusual array of characters and their stories.

The Regional Office Is Under Attack!

Read it!" —Jess Walter, New York Times bestselling author of *Beautiful Ruins* "[R]ollicking good fun." —New York Times Book Review "A tour-de-force." —Laura Miller, *Slate* In a world beset by amassing forces of darkness, one organization—the Regional Office—and its coterie of super-powered female assassins protects the globe from annihilation. At its helm, the mysterious Oyemi and her oracles seek out new recruits and root out evil plots. Then a prophecy suggests that someone from inside might bring about its downfall. And now, the Regional Office is under attack. Recruited by a defector from within, Rose is a young assassin leading the attack, eager to stretch into her powers and prove herself on her first mission. Defending the Regional Office is Sarah—who may or may not have a mechanical arm—fiercely devoted to the organization that took her in as a young woman in the wake of her mother's sudden disappearance. On the day that the Regional Office is attacked, Rose's and Sarah's stories will overlap, their lives will collide, and the world as they know it just might end. Weaving in a brilliantly conceived mythology, fantastical magical powers, teenage crushes, and kinetic fight scenes, *The Regional Office Is Under Attack!* is a seismically entertaining debut novel about revenge and allegiance and love.

Follow Me into the Dark

A woman's tortured past is reawakened when a twisted murderer strikes close to home in this "original, spellbinding, and horrifying read" (*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review). Kate is a young woman whose mother is dying of cancer. Gillian is an oversexed, hyper-intellectual who looks like Kate—and is sleeping with Kate's loathsome stepfather. Jonah is Gillian's odd but devoted stepbrother—who increasingly matches the description of the rampaging serial killer known as the Doll Collector. Though Kate desperately tries to keep herself together and shut out unwelcome memories, snippets of her family legacy keep resurfacing as the Doll Collector's body count grows. Are the depraved murders connected to her family's sordid history? And will Kate be able to confront the horrors of her own past before it's too late to stop the slaughter? A "haunting and wholly engrossing story of uncommon moral complexity, with prose bright and swift as lightning," *Follow Me into the Dark* is a complex, dark expression of a deprived heart and an exploration of the desperate lengths children will go to in order to create family in the wake of abuse (Laura van den Berg, author of *Find Me*).

Gardens of the Sun

The Quiet War is over. The city states of the moons of Jupiter and Saturn have fallen to the Three Powers Alliance of Greater Brazil, the European Union and the Pacific Community. A century of enlightenment, rational utopianism and exploration of new ways of being human has fallen dark. Outers are herded into prison camps and forced to collaborate in the systematic plundering of their great archives of scientific and technical knowledge, while Earth's forces loot their cities, settlements and ships, and plan a final solution to the 'Outer problem'. But Earth's victory is fragile, and riven by vicious internal politics. While

seeking out and trying to anatomise the strange gardens abandoned in place by Avernus, the Outers' greatest genius, the gene wizard Sri Hong-Owen is embroiled in the plots and counterplots of the family that employs her. The diplomat Loc Ifrahim soon discovers that profiting from victory isn't as easy as he thought. And in Greater Brazil, the Outers' democratic traditions have infected a population eager to escape the tyranny of the great families who rule them. After a conflict fought to contain the expansionist, posthuman ambitions of the Outers, the future is as uncertain as ever. Only one thing is clear. No one can escape the consequences of war - especially the victors.

Ordinary Monsters

* THE INSTANT SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER * 'An enthralling read' GUARDIAN 'A thrilling blend of fantasy and horror, richly imagined and masterfully executed' SFX 'Terrific . . . A book that creeps up on you, wearing brass knuckles' CONN IGGULDEN _____ The first in a captivating new historical fantasy series, ORDINARY MONSTERS introduces the Talents with a catastrophic vision of the Victorian world, and the gifted, broken children who must save it. There in the shadows was a figure in a cloak, at the bottom of the cobblestone stair, and it turned and stared up at them as still and unmoving as a pillar of darkness, but it had no face, only smoke . . . 1882. North of Edinburgh, on the edge of an isolated loch, lies an institution of crumbling stone, where a strange doctor collects orphans with unusual abilities. In London, two children with such powers are hunted by a figure of darkness – a man made of smoke. Charlie Ovid discovers a gift for healing himself through a brutal upbringing in Mississippi, while Marlowe, a foundling from a railway freight, glows with a strange bluish light. When two grizzled detectives are recruited to escort them north to safety, they are confronted by a sinister, dangerous force that threatens to upend the world as they know it. What follows is a journey from the gaslit streets of London to the lochs of Scotland, where other gifted children – the Talents – have been gathered at Cairndale Institute, and the realms of the dead and the living collide. As secrets within the Institute unfurl, Marlowe, Charlie and the rest of the Talents will discover the truth about their abilities and the nature of the force that is stalking them: that the worst monsters sometimes come bearing the sweetest gifts. _____ 'A dazzling mountain of wild invention, Dickensian eccentrics, supernatural horrors and gripping suspense' JOE HILL 'Expansive in scope and storytelling, Ordinary Monsters builds an electrifying Victorian world' CARI THOMAS

The Wolf Road

A debut literary thriller from an incredible new voice. What do you do when the man who gave you everything turns out to be a killer? Perfect for fans of STATION ELEVEN by Emily St. John Mandel.

Standard Hollywood Depravity

INCLUDES SPECIAL BONUS NOVELLA BRISK MONEY BY ADAM CHRISTOPHER The moment Raymond Electromatic set eyes on her, he knew she was the dame marked in his optics, the woman that his boss had warned him about. Honey. As the band shook the hair out of their British faces, stomping and strumming, the go-go dancer's cage swung, and the events of that otherwise average night were set in motion. A shot, under the cover of darkness, a body bleeding out in a corner, and most of Los Angeles' population of hired guns hulking, sour-faced over un-drunk whiskey sours at the bar. But as Ray tries to track down the package he was dispatched to the club to retrieve, his own programming might be working against him, sending him down a long hall and straight into a mobster's paradise. Is Honey still the goal—or was she merely bait for a bigger catch? Just your standard bit of Hollywood depravity, as tracked by the memory tapes of a less-than-standard robot hitman. Standard Hollywood Depravity is a Ray Electromatic mystery by Adam Christopher. Ray Electromatic Mysteries Brisk Money Made to Kill Standard Hollywood Depravity Killing is My Business At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

The Unwilling

"The Unwilling is the story of Judah, a foundling born with a special gift and raised inside Highfall castle along with Gavin, the son and heir to Lord Elban's vast empire. Judah and Gavin share an unnatural bond that is both the key to her survival - and possibly her undoing. As Gavin is groomed for his future role, Judah comes to realize that she has no real position within the kingdom, in fact, no hope at all of ever traveling beyond its castle walls. Elban - a lord as mighty as he is cruel, has his own plans for her, for all of them. She is a mere pawn to him, and he will stop at nothing to get what he wants. But outside the walls, in the starving, desperate city, a magus, a healer with his own secret power unlike anything

Highfall has seen in years, is newly arrived from the provinces. He, too, has plans for the empire, and at the heart of those plans lies Judah... " --Provided by publisher.

Mother, Mother

From Koren Zailckas, author of the iconic memoir *SMASHED*: an electrifying debut novel about a family being torn apart by the woman who claims to love them most Josephine Hurst has her family under control. With two beautiful daughters, a brilliantly intelligent son, a tech-guru of a husband, and a historical landmark home, her life is picture perfect. But living in this matriarch's determinedly cheerful, yet subtly controlling domain hasn't been easy for her family, and when her oldest daughter, Rose, runs off with a mysterious boyfriend, Josephine tightens her grip, gradually turning her flawless home into a darker sort of prison. Resentful of her sister's newfound freedom, Violet turns to eastern philosophy, hallucinogenic drugs, and extreme fasting, eventually landing herself in a psych ward. Meanwhile, her brother, Will, recently diagnosed with Asperger's, shrinks further into a world of self-doubt. Their father, Douglas, finds resolve in the bottom of a bottle—an addict craving his own chance to escape. Josephine struggles to maintain the family's impeccable façade, but when a violent incident leads to a visit from child protective services, the truth about the Hursts might finally be revealed. Now with Extra Libris material, including a reader's guide and bonus content

The Gigantic Beard That Was Evil

The job of the skin is to keep things in... On the buttoned-down island of Here, all is well. By which we mean: orderly, neat, contained and, moreover, beardless. Or at least it is until one famous day, when Dave, bald but for a single hair, finds himself assailed by a terrifying, unstoppable...monster*! Where did it come from? How should the islanders deal with it? And what, most importantly, are they going to do with Dave? The first book from a new leading light of UK comics, *The Gigantic Beard That Was Evil* is an off-beat fable worthy of Roald Dahl. It is about life, death and the meaning of beards. (*We mean a gigantic beard, basically.)

A Life in Men

The friendship between Mary and Nix had endured since childhood, a seemingly unbreakable bond, until the mid-1980s, when the two young women embarked on a summer vacation in Greece. It was a trip initiated by Nix, who had just learned that Mary had been diagnosed with a disease that would cut her life short and who was determined that it be the vacation of a lifetime. But by the time their visit to Greece was over, Nix had withdrawn from their friendship, and Mary had no idea why. Three years later, Nix is dead, and Mary returns to Europe to try to understand what went wrong. In the process she meets the first of many men that she will spend time with as she travels throughout the world. Through them she experiences not only a sexual awakening but a spiritual and emotional awakening that allows her to understand how the past and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously.

Double Feature

SAM DOLAN is a young man coming to terms with his life in the process and aftermath of making his first film. He has a difficult relationship with his father, B-movie actor Booth Dolan—a boisterous, opinionated, lying lothario whose screen legacy falls somewhere between cult hero and pathetic. Allie, Sam's dearly departed mother, was a woman whose only fault, in Sam's eyes, was her eternal affection for his father. Also included in the cast of indelible characters: a precocious, frequently violent half-sister; a conspiracy-theorist second wife; an Internet-famous roommate; a contractor who can't stop expanding his house; a happy-go-lucky college girlfriend and her husband, a retired Yankees catcher; the morose producer of a true-crime show; and a slouching indie-film legend. Not to mention a tragic sex monster. Unraveling the tumultuous, decades-spanning story of the Dolan family's friends, lovers, and adversaries, *Double Feature* is about letting go of everything—regret, resentment, dignity, moving pictures, the dead—and taking it again from the top. Against the backdrop of indie filmmaking, college campus life, contemporary Brooklyn, and upstate New York, Owen King's epic debut novel combines propulsive storytelling with mordant wit and brims with a deep understanding of the trials of ambition and art, of relationships and life, and of our attempts to survive it all.

The Anatomy of Dreams

The bewitching first novel from the bestselling author of *THE IMMORTALISTS* 'Benjamin is a gifted writer, a creator of quiet asides and haunting images' *Financial Times* 'Matches the subtle surrealism of a dream with the underpinnings of a thriller' *Emma Straub* 'You wonder if here is a writer who is truly capable of anything' *Daily Mail* Sylvie and Gabe meet and fall in love at boarding school in Northern California when they are just teenagers. Their headmaster is the enigmatic and mysterious Dr Keller, a man obsessed with the idea that people's waking stress and trauma can be cured in their dreams. The young couple can't help but be drawn into his magnetic pull and slowly become involved in his research. Years later, Sylvie and Gabe are once again working on Dr Keller's experiments and Sylvie slowly begins to realise there is more both to her employer and her lover than meets the eye, and that the line between dreams and reality has become dangerously blurred.

The Devil, the Witch and the Whore

"Leave the forest alone. Whatever's out there, just let it be. Don't make it angry." When a horrific discovery is made at the edge of town, Sheriff James Kopperud realizes the answers he seeks might be waiting beyond in the vast forest. But everybody in the town of Deal knows that there's something out there in the forest, something that should never be disturbed. A deal was made long ago, a deal that was supposed to keep the town safe. And if he insists on investigating the murder of a local girl, James is going to have to break that deal and head out into the wilderness. Meanwhile, James has no idea that his estranged daughter Ramsey has returned to town. Ramsey is running from something, and she thinks she can find safety in the vast tunnel system that runs beneath the forest. Before long, however, Ramsey finds herself coming face to face with creatures that hide in the shadows. One of these creatures is known as the devil, and another is known as the witch. They're both waiting for the whore to arrive, but for very different reasons. And soon Ramsey is offered a terrible deal, one that could save or destroy the entire town, and maybe even the world. *The Devil, the Witch and the Whore* is the first book in a trilogy about a town and its demons, and about the consequences of making a deal with the devil. Contains scenes of horror and violence.

The Broken Tower

Deeply immersive, this penetrating tale of magic, faith and self-determination is the brilliant sequel to Kelly Braffet's *The Unwilling*. Judah the Foundling chose freedom over betrayal when she leaped from the top of the castle tower. Now she finds herself wandering an unknown forest, far from everything and everyone she loves. For the first time in her life, she's beyond the great Wall that surrounds Highfall castle; for the first time, she's alone. Away from the Seneschal, the power behind the throne; away from Nate Clare, the House Magus who was her teacher, friend, betrayer. Away from her foster brother, Gavin, with whom she has a mysterious bond that has kept them together – and kept her alive. But Judah isn't free. Fiercely sought by those who believe she holds the key to unlocking the power trapped in the world, she must learn to navigate the dangers of an unfamiliar place. She knows that somewhere, Gavin is in peril. To save him, she not only must learn to use the new power she discovers inside herself, she must survive.

The People in the Trees

LONGLISTED FOR THE DYLAN THOMAS PRIZE LONGLISTED FOR THE IMPAC DUBLIN LITERARY AWARD, 2014 SHORTLISTED FOR THE KITSCHIES PRIZE, 2014 (GOLD TENTACLE) The brooding, bold and brilliant first novel from the Man Booker and Bailey's Prize-shortlisted author of *A Little Life*. In 1950, a young doctor called Norton Perina signs on with the anthropologist Paul Tallent for an expedition to the remote Micronesian island of Ivu'ivu in search of a rumoured lost tribe. They succeed, finding not only that tribe but also a group of forest dwellers they dub 'The Dreamers', who turn out to be fantastically long-lived but progressively more senile. Perina suspects the source of their longevity is a hard-to-find turtle; unable to resist the possibility of eternal life, he kills one and smuggles some meat back to the States. He scientifically proves his thesis, earning worldwide fame and the Nobel Prize, but he soon discovers that its miraculous property comes at a terrible price...

House of Echoes

In this enthralling and atmospheric thriller, one young family's dream of a better life is about to become a nightmare. Ben and Caroline Tierney and their two young boys are hoping to start over. Ben has hit a dead end with his new novel, Caroline has lost her banking job, and eight-year-old Charlie is being bullied at his Manhattan school. When Ben inherits land in the village of Swannhaven, in a remote

corner of upstate New York, the Tierneys believe it's just the break they need, and they leave behind all they know to restore a sprawling estate. But as Ben uncovers Swannhaven's chilling secrets and Charlie ventures deeper into the surrounding forest, strange things begin to happen. The Tierneys realize that their new home isn't the fresh start they needed . . . and that the village's haunting saga is far from over. *House of Echoes* is a novel that shows how sometimes the ties that bind us are the only things that can keep us whole. Praise for *House of Echoes* "Warning: Brendan Duffy's debut novel is not for scaredy-cats. If you live for heart-racing chills, this thriller—about a young family that packs up their life in Manhattan for a spot in upstate New York (that turns out to be haunted, of course)—is already calling out your name."—Refinery29 "Already drawing comparisons to Stephen King's *The Shining*, Brendan Duffy's debut novel offers chills without sacrificing character development. But be warned: you might want to leave the lights on for this one."—Paste "Shades of *The Shining* are spattered through Brendan Duffy's debut novel—a large isolated house, a young family, nutty and somewhat supernatural goings-on—but *House of Echoes* grounds itself in different ways for an enjoyable read."—USA Today "An exquisite novel . . . expertly plotted, beautifully written . . . It's complex, deft and, once you dive in, you want to stay in this often-scary world. . . . This is a book that deserves to be savored."—The Star-Ledger "Duffy's debut is a riveting blend of horror and family drama. The remote location, creepy townspeople and the village's savage history produce a harrowing tale that keeps readers quickly turning the pages. As this complex family struggles with mental illness and their child's isolation, their redemption comes in the revelation that they can survive anything together."—RT Book Reviews (4 1/2 stars) "House of Echoes is one of those stories where you know something bad is going to happen, but you hope it won't. It's one you'll remember long after reading the last page."—New York Journal of Books

Baby Teeth

What would you do if you started to believe your child was a psychopath? On the outside it looks like Suzette has it all. A stunning ultra-modern home, designed by her handsome Swedish husband. A beautiful, but silent, seven-year-old daughter who is fiercely intelligent. But under the shiny veneer, the cracks are all too clear. For her daughter Hanna isn't just clever, she's dangerous. Her behaviour is carefully calculated. She adores her father, yet wants Suzette to disappear. And as Hanna's tricks become increasingly sophisticated – from tampering with her mother's daily medication, imitating a rabid dog, to setting Suzette on fire – it's increasingly clear that there is something seriously wrong with their little girl. Because what kind of child wants to kill their own mother? 'Stage expertly crafts this creepy, can't-put-it-down thriller into a fearless exploration of parenting and marriage that finds the cracks in unconditional love' Publishers Weekly

Murder Boy

Dominick Prince is out of options. He's lived in Detroit long enough to use his experiences of crime and poverty to fuel his writing, but he's ready to move on to bigger and better things. Dominick's thesis advisor, the elitist Parker Farmington, refuses to let Dominick pass his class, thinking the genre of potboilers beneath him. Which means rather than becoming the next literary sensation, Dominick will spend his life asking customers if they'd like fries with that. And if that's the only plan, kidnapping doesn't seem like such a bad plan B. So if Farmington won't pass him willfully, Dominick will make him do it forcefully. And once he has Farmington's signature, fame and fortune are within Dominick's grasp. But while Dominick may have a devious and brilliant mind on the page, in reality he's more Betty White than Walter White. And before he can write 'the plot thickens,' Dominick's plan begins to go horribly wrong. Teaming with Farmington's jilted mistress and her loose-cannon bounty hunter brother, Dominick finds that if even the best laid plans go awry, then he doesn't have a snowball's chance in hell. And being a great writer won't matter much if he's six feet under.

Prophecies, Libels & Dreams

Norton Award winner's debut collection of sparking and baroque stories of alternate California.

The Elephant Tree

Reminiscent of Irvine Welsh's *Trainspotting*, this debut novel, *The Elephant Tree* challenges the reader's sense of morality with shocking plot twists and vivid characters. Mark Fallon is an overworked detective investigating a spate of attacks at a string of high profile city centre nightclubs. Scott is a dejected 24 year old struggling to make ends meet working for his brother and supplementing his income with a small-scale drug dealing operation. Angela is an attractive 23 year old, raised by her father, a career

criminal and small time drug dealer who supplies Scott with cannabis. This is a chilling tale spanning a few months in the lives of Scott and Angela, where realizations about the present combine with shocking revelations from the past leading to an apocalyptic climax where they no longer know whom they can trust.

Laura Lamont's Life in Pictures

A Bookpage Best Books of 2012 pick The enchanting story of a midwestern girl who escapes a family tragedy and is remade as a movie star during Hollywood's golden age. In 1920, Elsa Emerson, the youngest and blondest of three sisters, is born in idyllic Door County, Wisconsin. Her family owns the Cherry County Playhouse, and more than anything, Elsa relishes appearing onstage, where she soaks up the approval of her father and the embrace of the audience. But when tragedy strikes her family, her acting becomes more than a child's game of pretend. While still in her teens, Elsa marries and flees to Los Angeles. There she is discovered by Irving Green, one of the most powerful executives in Hollywood, who refashions her as a serious, exotic brunette and renames her Laura Lamont. Irving becomes Laura's great love; she becomes an Academy Award-winning actress—and a genuine movie star. Laura experiences all the glamour and extravagance of the heady pinnacle of stardom in the studio-system era, but ultimately her story is a timeless one of a woman trying to balance career, family, and personal happiness, all while remaining true to herself. Ambitious and richly imagined, *Laura Lamont's Life in Pictures* is as intimate—and as bigger-than-life—as the great films of the golden age of Hollywood. Written with warmth and verve, it confirms Emma Straub's reputation as one of the most exciting new talents in fiction

Wifey

With more than four million copies sold, *Wifey* is Judy Blume's hilarious, moving tale of a woman who trades in her conventional wifely duties for her wildest fantasies—and learns a lot about life along the way. Sandy Pressman is a nice suburban wife whose boredom is getting the best of her. She could be making friends at the club, like her husband keeps encouraging her to do. Or working on her golf game. Or getting her hair done. But for some reason, these things don't interest her as much as the naked man on the motorcycle...

Shaker

Meet Roy Cooper, stoic, unassuming "errand runner" for various New York criminals. Roy arrives in Los Angeles to shoot a man named Martin Shine a week after a powerful earthquake has knocked out cell service, buckled the freeways, and thrown L.A. into chaos. Roy doesn't know who Shine is or why he has to die, but he does his job and does it well. Except for one thing: after the hit, Roy can't find where he parked his car. Wandering the streets of North Hollywood, he stumbles upon a jogger getting mugged and beaten by four young gangbangers. Despite his attempt to simply put his head down and walk away, Roy winds up in the middle of another killing. Things get more complicated when the murdered jogger turns out to be a controversial mayoral candidate. Roy himself is shot twice, hospitalized in critical condition, and mistaken for a hero when a local resident leaks a video that goes viral. Now meet the rest of the cast of characters, including Kelly Maguire, a disgraced LAPD detective with an anger management problem and strange feelings about L.A.'s newest hero; Science, the teenage gangbanger/shooter, who needs to keep Roy quiet about what he's seen; Mayor Miguel Santiago, who finds himself facing accusations that he's just had his opponent whacked; Albert Budin, Roy's onetime mentor and one of the scariest, creepiest characters in recent crime fiction; and myriad criminals, politicians, and cops who all need Roy to disappear—preferably forever. Finally, meet Scott Frank, who has created not just one of the most entertaining novels of the year but also one of the most surprising. This first novel is fun and funny as well as moving and textured, nuanced and powerful. *Shaker* is the debut work of fiction by a major new storyteller.

Intro to Alien Invasion

In this wildly entertaining collaboration, novelists Owen King and Mark Jude Poirier team up with illustrator Nancy Ahn to present a wickedly funny graphic novel about an alien invasion on a college campus. Stacey, a brilliant, overachieving astrobiology major at Fenton College, had planned on just another lonely Spring Break on campus. But when a hurricane batters the small college town, downing power lines and knocking out cell phone reception, Stacey and her friends are stranded with no way to communicate with the outside world at the worst possible moment: in the midst of an alien

invasion. As space insects begin to burrow into students and staff, transforming them into slobbering, babbling monsters, a conglomeration of misfits must band together to prevent the infestation from spreading. Meanwhile, Stacey's long-stifled romantic feelings for her friend Charlotte begin to surface, while the professor she had admired and respected becomes the students' worst enemy. Illustrated with enormous wit and dynamism—mixing classic tropes from science fiction, indie comics, B-movies, and campus culture—this graphic novel is something different, a large-scale action/adventure story as seen from the point-of-view of a contemporary, realistic heroine. The result is a funny and singular work unlike anything else you've ever read.

Release

At the age of sixteen, Stanley Fitzgerald murdered his mother. He hasn't uttered a word since. Institutionalized for the last twelve years, he spends his days numb and unresponsive, shut away in a dismal, silent world of his own. Until he meets Marina. Large bright feline eyes. Long chestnut hair. Rough edges of bitten fingernails. Hands that once murdered an entire family. Marina talks to Stanley. And before long, Stanley talks back. As their friendship grows, Marina's influence draws Stanley out of his shell. The doctors, pleased with Stanley's progress, decide it's time for his release. Returning to the isolated Midwestern farmhouse where he grew up, Stanley is determined to start putting the pieces of his broken life back together. He never believes he will see Marina again. Not as long as he lives. Until, one black and rainy night, Marina appears on Stanley's doorstep. "They let me out," she tells him. Stanley wants so badly to believe her. Stanley has no choice but to let her in... **RELEASE** is a Gothic fairy tale of love, death, guilt, and madness. And it will never let you go. Advance Praise for **RELEASE**: "Reading Amelia Mangan's *Release* is like being trapped in a slowly sinking ship while icy water rises all around you. It's creepy, claustrophobic, and disturbingly vivid; I couldn't put it down." -Kelly Braffet, author of *Save Yourself* and *Josie and Jack* "Beautifully written and utterly absorbing, *Release* is the story of a young man trapped in an insular world of memories and madness. Returning to the rat-infested farmhouse where he grew up, Stanley Fitzgerald settles into a routine. He cooks, he cleans, he listens to the radio. One day fades into the next, but there is a certain comfort in the mundane. A certain hopefulness in the simplicity of his new existence. Then a beguiling young woman shows up at his door and Stanley soon realizes that for a man such as he, there can be only one release. "Amelia Mangan's writing is so rich and evocative, the reader will be tempted to race through the pages, but don't. *Release* is to be savored, preferably on a moonlit night with a chill in the air." -Amanda Stevens, author of *The Graveyard Queen* series "Haunting and hard to shake off. *Release* wraps its chilled fingers around you and doesn't let go." -Kathy Charles, author of *John Belushi Is Dead* "Release is the novel you'd get if you put Stephen King and Angela Carter in a room together and got them good and mean drunk. Scary, thrilling, gimlet-eyed, and so sharp you could cut yourself on it, this is a triumph of horror novels, and heralds an exciting new talent in Amelia Mangan." -Jessica Alcott, author of *Even When You Lie To Me*

A Guide for Murdered Children

"In her astonishing thriller, Sarah Sparrow has joined the ranks of Shirley Jackson and Stephen King. A warning: there is no safe place to read this book." –David Cronenberg *Terrifying*, thoroughly original and hauntingly written, *A Guide for Murdered Children* is a psychological thriller—and otherworldly surprise. We've heard it said that there is no justice in this world. But what if there really was? What if the souls of murdered children were able to briefly return, inhabit adult bodies and wreak revenge on the monstrous killers who stole their lives? Such is the unthinkable mystery confronting ex-NYPD detective Willow Wylde, fresh out of rehab and finally able to find a job running a Cold Case squad in suburban Detroit. When the two rookie cops assigned to him take an obsessive interest in a decades-old disappearance of a brother and sister, Willow begins to suspect something out of the ordinary is afoot. And when he uncovers a series of church basement AA-type meetings made up of the slain innocents, a new way of looking at life, death, murder—and missed opportunities—is revealed to him. Mystical, harrowing and powerfully moving, *A Guide for Murdered Children* is a genre-busting, mind-bending twist on the fine line between the ordinary... and the unfathomable.

Kind of Cruel

The brilliantly chilling seventh crime thriller from the queen of psychological suspense - a must-read for fans of Clare Mackintosh and Paula Hawkins. 'Utterly chilling' Observer 'Truly hair-raising' Independent on Sunday Some secrets are so dark you keep them even from yourself . . . When Amber Hewerdine

consults a hypnotherapist as a desperate last resort, she doesn't expect that anything much will change. She doesn't expect it to help with her chronic insomnia . . . She doesn't expect to hear herself, under hypnosis, saying words that mean nothing to her: 'Kind, cruel, kind of cruel' - words she has seen somewhere before, if only she could remember where . . . She doesn't expect to be arrested two hours later, as a result of having spoken those words out loud, in connection with the brutal murder of Katharine Allen, a woman she's never heard of . . .

Made to Kill

When a familiar-looking woman arrives at the Los Angeles offices of Raymond Electromatic - PI turned hit man and the world's last robot - he takes on the case of a missing movie star, and is soon plunged into a glittering world of 1960s Hollywood: fame, fortune, and secrecy. But when he uncovers a sinister plot that goes much deeper than the silver screen, this robot is in the wrong place, at the wrong time.

I Only Killed Him Once

A blend of science fiction and stylish mystery noir featuring a robot detective, *I Only Killed Him Once* is the newest stand-alone installment in Adam Christopher's Ray Electromatic mystery series. Another Hollywood night, another job for electric-detective-turned-robotic-hitman Raymond Electromatic. The target is a tall man in a black hat, and while Ray completes his mission successfully, he makes a startling discovery—one he soon forgets when his 24-hour memory tape loops to the end and is replaced with a fresh reel... When a tall man in a black hat arrives in the offices of the Electromatic Detective Agency the next day, Ray has a suspicion he has met this stranger before, although Ray's computerized boss, Ada, is not saying a thing. But their visitor isn't here to hire Ray for a job—he's here to deliver a stark warning. Because time is running out and if Ray and Ada want to survive, they need to do exactly what the man in the black hat says. A man that Raymond Electromatic has already killed. "Robot noir in 60s Los Angeles? You had me at 'Hello.'"—John Scalzi, New York Times bestselling novelist At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Top Dog

A number one bestseller in Sweden, Jens Lapidus's *Top Dog* is a thrilling, character-driven look at Stockholm's drug-and-sex-fueled underworld. A Vintage Crime/Black Lizard Original. Emelie is a young lawyer who's just started her own firm. Teddy is a reformed criminal looking for a fresh start. The first time they teamed up, in *Stockholm Delete*, they uncovered the secrets of a Swedish sex ring. Though their partnership proved rewarding--both professionally and personally--they haven't seen each other since. But when a vulnerable young client of Emelie's is murdered before she can testify against her abusers, Emelie turns to her ex-partner/lover for help. Meanwhile, Teddy's nephew Nikolas has resolved not to repeat his uncle's felonious mistakes. But the gang-related murder of his best friend sets him back on a trail of violent vengeance--and into the path of Roksana, a naïve hipster whose discovery of a drug cache is giving her a dangerous crash course in Stockholm's dark side. And as Teddy and Emelie's investigation heats up, police corruption threatens to land him back in prison--or both of them in body bags.

The Last Dead Girl

David Loogan's dark past is revealed in this prequel to *Bad Things Happen*—the critically acclaimed mystery that Stephen King called a "great f***ing book." On a rainy night in April, a chance encounter draws David into a romance with Jana Fletcher, a beautiful young law student. Jana is an enigma: living in a run-down apartment with only the barest of possessions, sporting a bruise on her cheek that she refuses to explain. David would like to know her secrets, but he lets them lie—until it's too late. When Jana is brutally murdered, the police consider David a prime suspect. But as he sets out to uncover the truth, he soon learns that Jana's death may be related to an earlier murder, one that she was obsessed with during the last weeks of her life. And as he retraces her steps, he begins to realize that he's treading a very dangerous path—and that her killer is watching every move he makes.