

## Snowflakes And Embers

On the Wings of Winter is a collection of poems in different poetry forms, capturing the mood, the emotions and the ecstasy of the mind in turbulent times, trying to fly in the winter twilight hours of life to the inner depths introspection. You will feel the pains of the broken heart in "If You Grind My Heart" and find the mind sunk in the ocean of tears in "You Sink in My Tears". In the cacophony of life, you would enjoy the music of silence in "Songs of Silence" and merge with the rhythms of stillness in "On a Tranquil Lake". "Tapestry of Happiness" and "Searching You" will take you to the memory trove where you will see the facets of love and happiness, and in "I Will Come Back" you will know why hope does not die. Whenever you can call the time yours, you would like to open this book, and the poems will take you on a flight on the wings of your winter to the spring of joy and happiness. You will enjoy the rhythms and the imageries of the sonnets and the rhymes, feel the flow and the depth of the free verses and the haikus. The limericks will make you laugh.

In this taut, chilling novel, Lester Ballard--a violent, dispossessed man falsely accused of rape--haunts the hill country of East Tennessee when he is released from jail. While telling his story, Cormac McCarthy depicts the most sordid aspects of life with dignity, humor, and characteristic lyrical brilliance.

In 1940 Leland Langtry ran off with his redheaded secretary and \$10,000 in company funds... Or so everyone believed... Forty years later, Langtry's remains are found in a boarded-up silver mine tunnel. And as the knife still jammed between his ribs had belonged to his partner in Lang-Star Mining, Tom Starbuck—also long since dead—a jury decided that Tom had killed Langtry. But Tom's widow, Delia, resists that verdict and persuades that very private investigator Conan Flagg to find the real murderer—an impossible job made tougher by the curious reticence of nearly everyone in town whenever Leland Langtry is mentioned....

A debut novel that tells the story of Rasa, a young gay man coming of age in the Middle East Set over the course of twenty-four hours, Guapa follows Rasa, a gay man living in an unnamed Arab country, as he tries to carve out a life for himself in the midst of political and social upheaval. Rasa spends his days translating for Western journalists and pining for the nights when he can sneak his lover, Taymour, into his room. One night Rasa's grandmother — the woman who raised him — catches them in bed together. The following day Rasa is consumed by the search for his best friend Maj, a fiery activist and drag queen star of the underground bar, Guapa, who has been arrested by the police. Ashamed to go home and face his grandmother, and reeling from the potential loss of the three most important people in his life, Rasa roams the city's slums and prisons, the lavish weddings of the country's elite, and the bars where outcasts and intellectuals drink to a long-lost revolution. Each new encounter leads him closer to confronting his own identity, as he revisits his childhood and probes the secrets that haunt his family. As Rasa confronts the simultaneous collapse of political hope and his closest personal relationships, he is forced to discover the roots of his alienation and try to re-emerge into a society that may never accept him.

'When apple-picking season ended, I got a Job in a packing plant and gravitated towards short stories, which I could read during my break and reflect upon for the remainder of my shift. A good one would take me out of myself and then stuff me back in, outsized, now, and uneasy with the fit . . . Once, before leaving on vacation, I copied an entire page from an Alice Munro story and left it in my typewriter, hoping a burglar might come upon it and mistake her words for my own. That an intruder would spend his valuable time reading, that he might be impressed by the description of a crooked face, was something I did not question, as I believed, and still do, that stories can save you'.

Set during and after World War II, Curtis Anderson, is frequently joined by his three friends from Roosevelt School in suspenseful adventures in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Encumbered with wearing heavy thick lensed glasses, and carrying a negative reputation with his classmates, his challenge is to prove that leadership and integrity are built by positive experiences. Beginning with a solo ninety-mile bicycle trip as a twelve year old, he is joined in the following years by his friends rafting and ski jumping. Another solo trip in a home made canoe takes him into a forest fire in Canada. In his sophomore year in high school, the four boys find themselves trapped in an iron mine tunnel. Finally, entering their senior year in high school, they meet an Amish family and are confronted with a different way of life. Rebuilding an old Peugeot Bicycle together with Luke Miller, and the big Mt. Zion Road Race brings the five boys to a fork in the road. Mr. Miller tells the boys, "We hold to the belief of humility. Competition has a way of promoting pride." Luke will not ride his bike in the race. Will the only ten speed bicycle in northern Michigan enter the race? Is sports competition the glory of self? Curtis Anderson encounters

The constellations come to life in this imaginative fantasy adventure debut. Honorine's life as a maid at the Vidalia mansion is rather dull, dusting treasures from faraway places and daydreaming in front of maps of the world. But everything changes when she catches two brutish sailors ransacking Lord Vidalia's study, and then follows a mysterious girl with wings out into the night.... Suddenly, Honorine is whisked into the middle of a battle between the crew of a spectacular steamship and a band of mythical constellations. The stars in the sky have come to life to defend themselves against those who want to harness their powers. Much to her surprise, Honorine is the crux of it all, the center of an epic clash between magic and science, the old ways and the new. But can this spirited young girl bring both sides of a larger-than-life fight together before they unleash an evil power even older than the stars?

EXCERPT: FROM KIMBERLY BETHUNE TOMLINSON'S JOURNAL JUNE 19th, 2024 I'm glad you are reading this. It is a record of what we did when all the gods were dead. We live in the aftermath of the HEDV retrovirus outbreak. The effects of the virus were catastrophic. Billions died. Some people had immunity to the virus: the small percentage of the population that carried one abnormal copy of the hemoglobin gene, the gene that causes sickle cell disease. You see where I'm going, don't you? More people of color have survived, immune, than whites. The usual demographics of the US are now inverted. With the correlation of survival with darker skin color, it has become all race. It always was. Most white people were all right with this change. But you can guess who isn't. White supremacists. MAGA hat wearing, confederate flag waving, tiki torch bearing white people. You can guess why: their whole worldview has been flipped. Health, wealth, beauty—all that was attractive and desirable—is now associated with blackness. Poverty, illness, criminality, the breakdown of family and civility—these are white things now. And the supremacists—in full and utter denial that it is their obscure genetic connection to Africans that has granted them immunity—are apoplectic. They've declared war. They're out to exterminate all people of color. And thanks to their persistent lobbying efforts of the NRA to ensure semi-automatic rifles, high-capacity magazines, and bump stocks were never regulated (even while things such as cars, nasal decongestants, milk, and happy meals were), there are more guns left in America than people. Black people, their white allies, we knew it was time or organize, to save ourselves. So now it's wild west, Mad Max, Red Dawn, Hunger Games, Civil War II, whatever you want to call it. The apocalypse has come. God help us.

Finally Abby is thirteen. A real teenager who only wants to pierce her ears, have a boyfriend, and run her own life. But when her mother suffers a nervous breakdown, Abby faces a life far different from what she hoped for. Set in the Bay Area in the '70s, *An Egg on Three Sticks* is Jackie Moyer Fischer's emotional, funny, and extraordinarily heartfelt novel about Abby's struggle to hold her family together, find love from a mother who has little to give, and simply try to be thirteen. With a voice completely fresh and honest, Abby takes us on a journey that is often hilarious, sometimes heartbreaking, and overwhelmingly hopeful. But a journey no

thirteen-year-old should have to take.

Doris Lessing's contemporary gothic horror story—centered on the birth of a baby who seems less than human—probes society's unwillingness to recognize its own brutality. Harriet and David Lovatt, parents of four children, have created an idyll of domestic bliss in defiance of the social trends of late 1960s England. While around them crime and unrest surge, the Lovatts are certain that their old-fashioned contentment can protect them from the world outside—until the birth of their fifth baby. Gruesomely goblin-like in appearance, insatiably hungry, abnormally strong and violent, Ben has nothing innocent or infant-like about him. As he grows older and more terrifying, Harriet finds she cannot love him, David cannot bring himself to touch him, and their four older children are afraid of him. Understanding that he will never be accepted anywhere, Harriet and David are torn between their instincts as parents and their shocked reaction to this fierce and unlovable child whose existence shatters their belief in a benign world.

Louis and Elle Georgiou are expecting their twins. Now a married couple, watch as the story continues. The twins can be a handful especially for a newlywed couple who have yet to tell their families. Can love conquer all? Can the terrible twos challenge Louis' and Elle's strong bond? Will the newlyweds become outnumbered when the babies arrive? Read the second book of the series for the continuation of the story.

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST YA BOOKS OF ALL TIME** The extraordinary, beloved novel about the ability of books to feed the soul even in the darkest of times. When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak, author of *I Am the Messenger*, has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time. "The kind of book that can be life-changing." —The New York Times "Deserves a place on the same shelf with *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank." —USA Today **DON'T MISS BRIDGE OF CLAY, MARKUS ZUSAK'S FIRST NOVEL SINCE THE BOOK THIEF.**

I lost the one person who gave my life meaning and purpose. My love. My soul. My only reason for breathing. Unwilling to bury her memory, my heart turned reckless and my soul darkened. Then she walked into my life. It was only supposed to be a moment. Just one. A moment where I could get lost in someone else and forget my pain. In that one moment, she saved me from the memories that found me in the dark. She tore my world apart. Wrecked me. And with one kiss, she changed everything. Her love became my dark paradise. *Dark Paradise* is the story of the *Revelation Series'* Gage Gallagher. It is meant to be read after the bestselling *Revelation series* and before the *Royal Protector Academy novels*. Intended for mature readers.

"You have sixty minutes to find it, steal it and bring it to us, or... she dies." With news of an alien armada heading toward Earth, the world descends into panic. Alex Caine and his wife Sarah flee Rome on the first flight home to be with their family. At thirty thousand feet aboard a plane traveling home, Alex discovers his wife Sarah is missing. No one believes she boarded the plane with him. He searches the entire plane, but Sarah is nowhere to be found. Then he gets the cellphone call that will change his life forever: You have sixty minutes to find it, steal it and bring it to us, or... she dies. *Genesis Invasion Trilogy* contains the complete series: *Genesis Gene*, *Genesis Child* and *Genesis Revelations*.

'Kaleidoscope' contains various haiku and original drawings by the author.

He saw the soft cedars of San Piedro Island, its high, rolling hills, the low mist that lay in long

streamers against its beaches, the whitecaps riffling its shoreline. The moon had risen already behind the island – a quarter moon, pale and indefinite, as ethereal and translucent as the wisps of cloud that travelled the skies. A fisherman is found dead in the net of his boat off the coast of a North American island. When a local Japanese-American man is charged with his murder, it becomes clear that what is at stake is more than one man's guilt. For on San Pedro, memories grow as thickly as cedar trees – memories of a charmed romance between a white boy and a Japanese girl. Above all, the island is haunted by what happened to its Japanese residents during the Second World War, when an entire community was sent into exile while its neighbours watched.

Ember Trouvé is grieving over her parents' death. One day, after venturing into the fabled Trinity Forest looking for escape, she goes missing. Will Ember confront the truth behind her parents' death, or lose herself to the forest forever?

After finding ancient, magical artifacts hidden in a chamber beneath the castle, King Jorg plots to use them against the twenty thousand members of the enemy's approaching army.

Book 5 in the Spikes & Spurs Series 'Tis the season for... •A matchmaking grandma on a long-distance mission •Mistletoe temptation in every doorway •A sexy cowboy with a killer smile

When Gran Presely agrees to sell Creed Riley the Rockin' C Ranch for a song at Christmastime, he can hardly believe his good fortune. There's just one little catch—her tantalizing granddaughter Sage is part of the deal. Spikes & Spurs Series Love Drunk Cowboy (Book 1) Red's Hot Cowboy (Book 2) Darn Good Cowboy Christmas (Book 3) One Hot Cowboy Wedding (Book 4) Mistletoe Cowboy (Book 5) Just a Cowboy and His Baby (Book 6) Cowboy Seeks Bride (Book 7) Praise for Darn Good Cowboy Christmas: "A story with a cowboy always hits the target, but add a little Christmas flair and a saucy heroine and you have a winner."—Long and Short Reviews "This fast-paced holiday romp brims with music, laughter...and plenty of Texas flavor."—Library Journal "Full of sizzling chemistry and razor-sharp dialogue."—Night Owl Reviews, Reviewer Top Pick, 4 1/2 Stars

"Acadian Passage, a tale of flight and rendezvous, love and loss, is rich with detail. The story of Acadia and the beauty of the place are vividly drawn as the tale unfolds. Readers will savor this seldom revisited corner of history, now brought to light." —Elizabeth Pomeroy, historian and author of John Muir, A Naturalist in Southern California "An enjoyable blend of history, romance and anthropology. Register brings the idyllic- then brutal- story of the Acadians to life." —Steven A. LeBlanc, author of Constant Battles: The Myth of the Peaceful, Noble Savage Jeanne Gleason Register is descended from French Acadians through her mother Marie Daigle. She began writing ACADIAN PASSAGE after she retired from teaching history and eleven years as Head of Mayfield Senior School. She graduated from Wellesley College and lives in Altadena, California.

A haunting novel of love, identity, and loss—from the internationally acclaimed author of Three Day Road Beautifully written and startlingly original, Through Black Spruce takes the considerable talents of Canadian novelist Joseph Boyden to new and exciting heights. This is the story of two immensely compelling characters: Will Bird, a legendary Cree bush pilot who lies comatose in a remote Ontario hospital; and Annie Bird, Will's niece, a beautiful loner and trapper who has come to sit beside her uncle's bed. Broken in different ways, the two take silent communion in their unspoken kinship, revealing a story rife with heartbreak, fierce love, ancient feuds, mysterious disappearances, murders, and the bonds that hold a family, and a people, together. From the rugged Canadian wilderness to the drug-fueled glamour of the Manhattan club scene, this is thrilling, atmospheric storytelling at its finest.

Published to commemorate Mercer's centennial year, an all-encompassing treasury of the Academy Award-winning Big Band lyricist's songs includes nearly 1,500 entries and offers insight into his collaborative achievements and enduring influence.

Blinded by reaching journey@s end. Marooned without hope. Seduced by fraternity. Destroyed

by Erebus. @ @Deep-space explorer Linien Primae and the crew of the Spirit of Eden finally reach the habitable planet EREBUS. The planet's volatile weather system and low-quality vegetation have the crew wondering whether landing had been such a good idea. A wave of terraformers had already arrived 120 years previously but they fail to welcome the newcomers. @ @But worse than that... they are being watched. @By conscription or by choice, the crew is marooned without hope of salvation. @ @- Irish author Rod Dunne unleashes the second of his science-fiction series featuring the autonomous anti-hero Linien Primae. EREBUS is an allegorical journey of fraternity, fidelity, and struggle under the harshest of circumstances - a life marooned.

Deluxe edition with special embellishments on first printing only. From New York Times bestselling author of *The Wicked Deep* comes a haunting romance perfect for fans of *Practical Magic*, where dark fairy tales and enchanted folklore collide after a boy, believed to be missing, emerges from the magical woods—and falls in love with the witch determined to unravel his secrets. Be careful of the dark, dark wood... Especially the woods surrounding the town of Fir Haven. Some say these woods are magical. Haunted, even. Rumored to be a witch, only Nora Walker knows the truth. She and the Walker women before her have always shared a special connection with the woods. And it's this special connection that leads Nora to Oliver Huntsman—the same boy who disappeared from the Camp for Wayward Boys weeks ago—and in the middle of the worst snowstorm in years. He should be dead, but here he is alive, and left in the woods with no memory of the time he'd been missing. But Nora can feel an uneasy shift in the woods at Oliver's presence. And it's not too long after that Nora realizes she has no choice but to unearth the truth behind how the boy she has come to care so deeply about survived his time in the forest, and what led him there in the first place. What Nora doesn't know, though, is that Oliver has secrets of his own—secrets he'll do anything to keep buried, because as it turns out, he wasn't the only one to have gone missing on that fateful night all those weeks ago. For as long as there have been fairy tales, we have been warned to fear what lies within the dark, dark woods and in *Winterwood*, New York Times bestselling author Shea Ernshaw, shows us why.

From the little that he can remember, Dante Jackson hasn't had the best childhood, but the last thing he wants to do is grow up. On his eighteenth birthday, he realizes that his abusive stepmother is actually a wicked witch and he's suddenly thrust into an eerie world made of his own forgotten memories. With his favorite childhood toys seemingly coming to life in order to help him defeat his enemy, the young hero sets out to journey through the innocence of his youth. With a little help from h

From Michael Cunningham, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Hours*, comes this widely praised novel of two boyhood friends: Jonathan, lonely, introspective, and unsure of himself; and Bobby, hip, dark, and inarticulate. In New York after college, Bobby moves in with Jonathan and his roommate, Clare, a veteran of the city's erotic wars. Bobby and Clare fall in love, scuttling the plans of Jonathan, who is gay, to father Clare's child. Then, when Clare and Bobby have a baby, the three move to a small house upstate to raise "their" child together and, with an odd friend, Alice, create a new kind of family. *A Home at the End of the World* masterfully depicts the charged, fragile relationships of urban life today.

The true story of one of the most devastating wildfires in Australian history and the search for the man who started it. On the scorching February day in 2009, a man lit two fires in the Australian state of Victoria, then sat on the roof of his house to watch the inferno. What came to be known as the Black Saturday bushfires killed 173 people and injured hundreds more, making them among the deadliest and most destructive wildfires in Australian history. As communities reeling from unspeakable loss demanded answers, detectives scrambled to piece together what really happened. They soon began to suspect the fires had been deliberately set by an arsonist. *The Arsonist* takes readers on the hunt for this man, and inside the puzzle of

his mind. But this book is also the story of fire in the Anthropocene. The command of fire has defined and sustained us as a species, and now, as climate change normalizes devastating wildfires worldwide, we must contend with the forces of inequality, and desperate yearning for power, that can lead to such destruction. Written with Chloe Hooper's trademark lyric detail and nuance, *The Arsonist* is a reminder that in the age of fire, all of us are gatekeepers.

The monumental Russian classic reflects the life and times of Russian society during the Napoleonic War.

*Home for Christmas* by Jillian Hart Christina Eberlee is desperate for the safe haven promised to her by the Montana man whose bridal ad she answered. Yet she can't forget the handsome marshal who helps her on the journey. Maybe venturing from her planned path could lead Christina to the home she was truly meant to find. *Snowflakes for Dry Creek* by Janet Tronstad "Maybe you could marry her." Gabe Stone's niece and nephew long for a mother just like the mail-order bride Gabe's brother sent for and then abandoned. Yet in making the children's Christmas dreams come true, Gabe and Annabelle may discover the most precious gift of the holidays is love.

A simple book of verse and prose, of nature and imagination; I have come to terms with the future. From this day forward I will walk easy on the earth, plant trees, and kill no living things. Live in harmony with all creatures. I will restore the earth where I am. Use no more of its resources than I need, and listen, listen to what it is telling me...M.J. Slim Hooey

With so many control freaks in Hollywood with more status and ambition than Python Studios executive Blair Tierney, can she really guide her own destiny? While others in Los Angeles want to be a star, Blair reflects the light of others. When will it be her time to shine? After meeting a British rock star auditioning for a movie at the studio where she works, the relationship gets off to a rocky start when an earthquake hits Los Angeles. Then her best friend Carolyn becomes engaged and her ex-boyfriend Brogan pitches a project, which becomes a smash hit, making him obscenely rich. On the Hollywood "food chain" of success, each of her coworkers seems to surpass her, and Blair's quest for happiness begins to teeter when a Python starlet is murdered. DANIEL COX takes us on a wild romp from the studio back lot to the Pacific Coast Highway where stars and star makers battle for adoration, power, survival and success.

Drayaden Sinclair lives by three rules: he kills when he needs to, never before; he always pays his debts, and he never draws his sword. But when a town mysteriously vanishes into the hot wind of the Desert Land, Drayaden's world is turned upside down. The search as to whom or what caused the destruction forces Drayaden to confront the very thing he fears most: himself. No one is safe and no one is ready.

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