

# The Permanent Press



2016

## From the Publishers

It amazes me how things flip-flop. Last year we published eight novels, one memoir, and seven mysteries, and five of those novels were submitted for both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize: Eleanor Lerman's *Radiomen*, two novels by Margaret Vandenburg—*The Home Front* and *Weapons of Mass Destruction*—Ivan Goldman's *The Debtor Class*, and Paul Zimmer's *The Mysteries of Soldiers Grove*. Whether any of them make it to these shortlists won't be known until later this year. But we're hopeful. Judy's great-grandfather trained thoroughbreds and in 1909 his horse, Effendi, won the Preakness. He died at age ninety-two. Judy used to spend time with him during the summers in Laurel, Maryland. More than once, when a horse of his failed to finish in the money, he'd say, "Well he should have!" We feel the same about these five novels: if they don't finish in the money, they should have.

This year we are only publishing four novels, one memoir, and ten mysteries, seven of which will be submitted for the major mystery/thriller awards. These include another Sam Acquillo title from Chris Knopf, *Back Lash*. Howard Owen's latest Willie Black story, *Grace*. Beth Terrell's fourth Jared McKean title, *A Taste of Blood and Ashes*. and David Freed's fifth in his best-selling Cordell Logan series, *Hot Start* (Chris has already won the Nero Award, Howard the Hammett Prize, Beth was a finalist for the Shamus Award, and David won a Pulitzer Prize as a journalist). Joining them for award submissions are first novels from Alex Austin with *Nakamura Reality*, Ira Gold with *Debasements of Brooklyn*, and a first thriller from acclaimed novelist Marian Thurm, *The Good Life*, a chilling tale inspired by a true story. Others include Connie Dial's prequel to her Josie Corsino mystery series, *Set the Night on Fire*, a first thriller from Michael Ryan, *Guy Novel*, and a third from William Wells, *Detective Fiction*. Should none of them place in the money, I will repeat, "They should have!"

We are also publishing an extraordinary memoir by Danner Darcleight, a young man in his thirties, considered by Doran Larson, an authority on prison writing, as "one of the top five writers I've ever come across." Darcleight is serving a twenty-five-years-to-life sentence and his book, *Concrete Carnival*, will be submitted for every major non-fiction award.

When it comes to novels, there are three exceptional ones: Kathleen Novak's *Do Not Find Me*, another potential prize-winning first novel, John McCall's first novel, *The Weight*, and Charles Davis' historical and hysterical novel *Hitler, Mussolini, and Me*. Being a Brit he doesn't qualify for awards in the States, but this is among our favorite 2016 titles.

Lastly, a coincidence concerning two more novels we'll be publishing: we start off our list in January with Anthony Schneider's first novel, *Repercussions*, and conclude with Frederic Hunter's *Life In the Time of Apartheid*—both centered in South Africa.

Marty Shepard, Judith Shepard, Chris Knopf  
cover art: Mac Shepard (August 10, 1907 – May 14, 1972)

# **Booksellers' Ordering Information, Discount Schedule and Returns Policy**

1. Our current trade discount is 20% on orders of 1 to 4 books and 40% (returnable) or 50% (non-returnable) on orders of 5 books or more.
2. Titles are shipped via UPS Ground, unless requested otherwise. Shipping cost is calculated based on weight and location.
- 3 All orders under \$50 must be prepaid.
4. No returns allowable on fewer than four books. All returns are credited against future orders. There are no refunds. Books may be returned after four months and up to one year after date of purchase, if in saleable condition.
5. Credit balances are held open for one year only from date of return
6. Permission must be requested on all returns.

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and from us directly.**

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# The Permanent Press

and **Second Chance Press**

# 2016

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**Repercussions**

*Anthony Schneider*

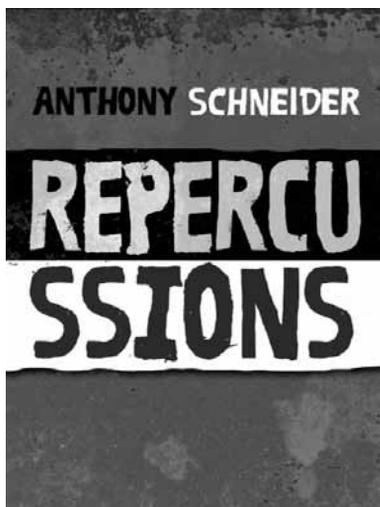
\$28 cloth 230pp

ISBN 978-157962-426-2

Henry Wegland, a former African National Congress activist now living in New York with his son, Glenn, and his daughter-in-law, encourages his grandson, Saul, to travel to South Africa and make a documentary about the people involved in the country's liberation.

Saul begins to unravel the dark secrets of his grandfather's past and the shocking events that led to his escape from South Africa when he, Saul, is kidnapped in a rural township. At the same time, Henry, now in his twilight years, must come to terms with Glenn and their strained relationship, making peace with the choice he once made for the two of them.

Spanning past and present, South Africa and New York, the interlocking narratives of *Repercussions* are a spellbinding portrayal of exile, the meaning of home, and how one man's attempt to liberate his country changed the lives of his family for generations.



**ANTHONY SCHNEIDER** has been published in *McSweeney's*, *Conjunctions*, *Mid-American Review*, and *Details*. Born in South Africa and educated in the United States, he divides his time between London and New York.

## Detective Fiction

William Wells

\$28 cloth 224pp

ISBN 987-1-57962-431-6

A serial killer is on the loose in Naples, Florida, an enclave of wealth and privilege on the Southwest Gulf Coast.

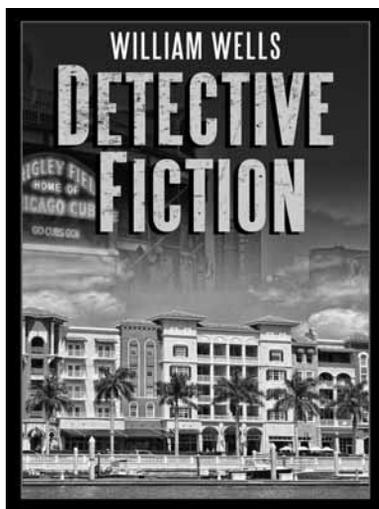
At first, the murders have been disguised as accidents, but when Police Chief Wade Hansen becomes suspicious, Mayor Charles Beaumont orders him to apprehend the killer before the truth becomes public knowledge.

Hansen reaches out to retired Chicago homicide detective Jack Starkey. Starkey, who has been shot three times—twice on the job and once in the army—is enjoying every cop's retirement dream, but at the same time, misses the thrill of the hunt, so he accepts the job.

As the bodies stack up like cordwood, Starkey searches for anything that the victims might have in common. He decides to go undercover as a member of the Naples elite in an attempt to get himself noticed by the killer, drawing the attention of Count Vasily Petrovich, who operates a hedge fund named for the Atocha, a Spanish galleon that sank in a hurricane off the Florida Keys in 1622.

When Starkey discovers that all of the victims so far had been investors in that fund—and that the count is not a count at all, but a member of the Russian Mafia—he suspects that the Atocha Fund might have a substantial penalty for early withdrawal.

Meanwhile, William Stevens, a *Chicago Tribune* police reporter, has been writing a series of best-selling



crime novels based upon his pal Starkey's career. Starkey's alter-ego is Chicago homicide detective Jack Stoney.

Things are not what they seem, plot twists abound, and the bullets begin to fly. Starkey, in desperation, reaches out to the fictional Stoney, to help him catch the killer.

**WILLIAM WELLS** was born in Detroit, has lived in Chicago with his wife, Mary, and they now reside on the Florida Gulf Coast. He graduated from Hamilton College, served aboard a Navy destroyer, and has worked as a radio disk jockey, newspaper reporter, author of an internationally syndicated comic strip, speechwriter for the governor of Michigan, and marketing agency executive before founding a custom publishing company. He has published two other novels, *Ride Away Home* and *Face of the Devil*.

**Nakamura Reality**

Alex Austin

\$29 cloth 272pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-409-5

To understand Japanese culture requires reading between the lines. This is Hugh Mcpherson's challenge in *Nakamura Reality*, a beguiling blend of mystery, odyssey, inconsolable loss and obsession.

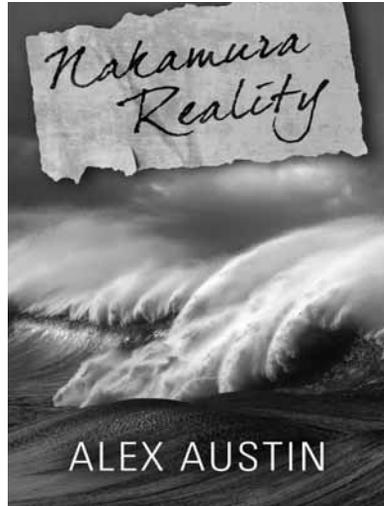
To rendezvous with a former girlfriend, Hugh Mcpherson leaves his surfing-obsessed sons on an isolated California beach. When Hugh returns, the eleven-year-old twins have vanished. A ferocious rip tide has swept Takumi and Hitoshi out to sea, their bodies unrecovered.

Devastated by the loss, Hugh and his Japanese wife, Setsuko, divorce. Severing all ties to America, Setsuko returns to Japan to live with her father, Kazuki Ono, a prominent author of mind-bending novels.

After grieving for ten years and longing for Setsuko, Hugh swims out to sea to drown himself. As he sinks, his sons appear to him, holding the last letter that he had sent to their mother, begging her forgiveness.

Abandoning his suicide, Hugh swims back to shore. The incident awakens memories that throw doubt on the accepted version of his sons' deaths. Hugh's doubts are intensified when he learns that Kazuki Ono has come to California to finish a novel called *Fingal's Cave*, the tale of a brash American who marries a Japanese woman against the wishes of her father, a powerful businessman with ties to the Yakuza.

Provoked by his memories and obliquely revealing passages found in Kazuki's books, Hugh begins a



quixotic journey across the California landscape, encountering numerous characters of ill will and cross-purpose, but who inexorably lead him toward a film-industry firm called Nakamura Reality, and a labyrinth that challenges him to separate reality from fiction to find his way out—and perhaps back to his sons.

**ALEX AUSTIN** is an LA writer and journalist whose fiction has appeared in numerous magazines. His plays have been produced in Los Angeles, Portland and New York, including *Mimosa*, the featured play in Wordsmiths Playwrights Festival and, *The Amazing Brenda Strider*, a Backstage West Critic's Pick. Austin lives with his wife Eileen in the West Valley and has three children, one of whom resided in Tokyo for several years and married a Japanese woman, the springboard for Austin's current novel.

### **Do Not Find Me**

*Kathleen Novak*

\$28 cloth 242pp

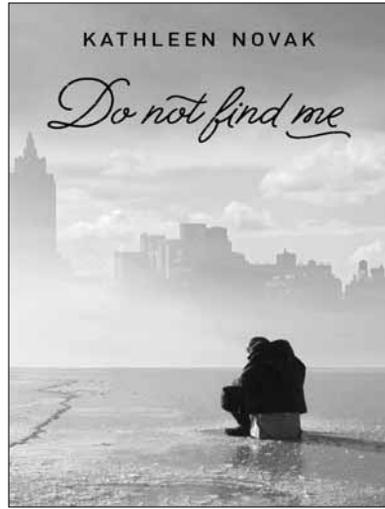
ISBN 978-1-57962-427-9

As a young man, Gigi Paulo arrives in New York and is immediately drawn to a girl he sees in a bar near Penn Station. Before he can approach her, she is gone. He returns to the bar for weeks, hoping to see her again. He dreams of her at night and searches the crowds for her face. Quiet and careful, he is not the type to become obsessed by a stranger. But obsessed he is.

Two years later he meets her at a party. Her name is Corrine. She seems to like his cooking and the blues albums he collects, but she never stays with him for long. As he discovers the secrets and violence of her life, Gigi finds himself unable to rescue her, and barely able to save himself. He flees New York, but his obsession with Corrine follows him, even when he returns to his home in Northern Minnesota, where he marries, has a daughter, and fishes the deep, quiet lakes he knows so well.

After he dies, his daughter uncovers her father's desire for this unknown woman, leaving her to question the inherent perils of his life as well as her own.

Dark and poetic, *Do Not Find Me* moves between the voices of Gigi Paulo and his daughter with a compelling grace, its haunting undercurrents remaining long after the story has ended.



**KATHLEEN NOVAK** is a poet and writer who grew up on the iron-mining range of Northern Minnesota, the granddaughter of Italian and Croatian immigrants. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, she has worked as an English teacher, consultant, and freelance writer. Her work has been recognized for its originality and poetic language. Ms. Novak lives in Minneapolis with her husband, daughter, and sagacious cat.

## Set the Night on Fire

Connie Dial

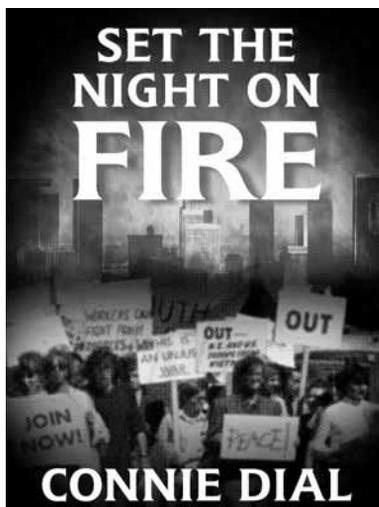
\$28 cloth 272pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-402-6

In 1971, Josie Corsino is unmarried Josie Pastore, a fresh face chosen from her LAPD policewoman class to be an undercover operative. She is the first female allowed to work in this dangerous assignment, but as a college graduate from a working class family, she quickly finds acceptance among the department's targeted groups.

When the story begins, she's immersed in the politics and schemes of one of the most active radical organizations in LA, but after three years in this assignment she's weary of the lifestyle and tired of lying about who she is and what she really believes. Josie wants to "come up," get retrained at the LA Police Academy and do police work with the same opportunities as her male counterparts. Before that can happen, she's arrested during a brutal demonstration in downtown LA and upon being released from jail is told by her department contact that one of her fellow undercover officers has disappeared. Members of his group have filed a missing person report with the police department in which they publicly blame the LAPD for his sudden disappearance. It would be an embarrassment for the department to reveal that the officer was spying on this particular group, so Josie is given her final undercover assignment—find the missing officer and bring him back.

For protection she forms an unlikely alliance with another UC as her search leads to an underground network of violent radicals with ties



to celebrities and political figures who are unwitting participants in a plan to destroy innocent people and property. By the end, both her personal and professional life are about to undergo some drastic changes.

**CONNIE DIAL** had firsthand experience as an undercover officer in the LAPD. As a young cop in the 1970's, she was a member of the Public Disorder Intelligence Division and during that time met her husband, Detective Jon Dial, who had been undercover for six years. She moved on to work a variety of policing jobs and retired after nearly twenty-seven years as a captain and the commanding officer of the LAPD's Hollywood Community Police station.

*Set the Night on Fire* is her sixth book and the fourth installment of the Josie Corsino mysteries. *Unnatural Murder* followed *Dead Wrong* and *Fallen Angels*. Her Detective Mike Turner mysteries include *Internal Affairs* and *The Broken Blue Line*.

**The Good Life**

*Marian Thurm*

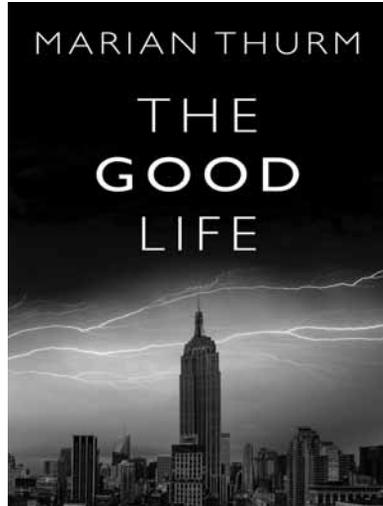
\$29 cloth 278pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-428-6

In this powerful new book from an esteemed novelist and acclaimed short story writer, Marian Thurm expertly draws a chilling portrait of a marriage and the downward spiral of a loving husband and father who has bought a handgun as the novel opens.

Stacy and Roger seem to have it all: a wonderful marriage, a luxury Upper East Side apartment with all the accoutrements of the wealthy, and two endearing young children enrolled in private schools. But what appears to be “the good life” to their family and friends is not what it seems in this fast-paced, suspenseful novel that shows the sinister effects of a destructive marriage and the pursuit of the privileged life.

Thurm, who according to the *New York Times Book Review*, “writes brilliantly of the battle of the sexes,” has done so again in *The Good Life*.



**MARIAN THURM** is the author of three short-story collections and six novels; her novel *The Clairvoyant* was a *New York Times* Notable Book. Her short stories have appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *Atlantic*, *Michigan Quarterly*, *Boston Review*, *Ontario Review*, and many other magazines, and have been included in Best American Short Stories and numerous other anthologies. Her books have been translated into German, Dutch, Swedish, and Japanese. She has taught creative writing at Yale, Barnard College, the Writing Institute at Sarah Lawrence College, and in the MFA programs at Columbia University and Brooklyn College.

**Back Lash***Chris Knopf*

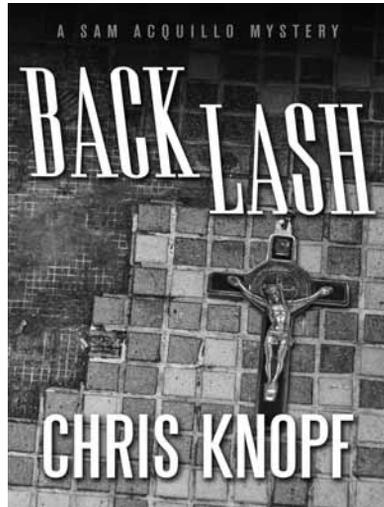
\$29 cloth 264pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-429-3

As Sam Acquillo tells us in the early pages of *Back Lash*, “Not everyone gets to live their adult lives orbiting a central mystery.” But that’s how it’s been for Sam, for whom a single, horrific event has helped define his entire existence. Now that event has reached out from the deep past, an unwanted visitor, with secrets within secrets he’s forced to unpack like a Russian doll, each more ominous than the one before. What is revealed would be disturbing enough if it wasn’t so personal. Not a welcomed development for a man who also once said, “Avoidance, rationalization, and denial are highly underrated coping strategies.”

The action moves from Southampton to the Bronx, where Sam once prowled in the part-time care of his father, owner of a truck repair business and a temper that stood out even on the mean streets of the city. It’s here that Sam learns that evil history doesn’t only repeat itself, it can improve upon the original product. That no matter how things change, the world of cops and criminals, priests, power brokers, wise guys, and even wiser old bartenders, stays the same.

Or gets much, much worse.



*Back Lash* is **CHRIS KNOPF**'s thirteenth mystery/thriller and seventh in the Sam Acquillo Mystery Series. *The Last Refuge* (2005) was a finalist for The Connecticut Book Award. In 2007, *Two Time* was one of thirteen mysteries listed in Marilyn Stasio's "Recommended Summer Reading" column in the *New York Times Book Review*. *Head Wounds* was cited as one of the best mysteries of the year in 2008 by both *Mysterious Reviews* and *Deadly Pleasures*, and won the 2009 Benjamin Franklin Award for Best Mystery. His thriller series featuring off-the-grid sleuth Arthur Cathcart began with *Dead Anyway*, which received starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist*, *Kirkus* and *Library Journal*. It was named one of The Best Crime Novels of 2012 by the *Boston Globe* and won the 2013 Nero Award. The sequels, *Cries of the Lost* and *A Billion Ways To Die*, were released in 2013 and 2014.

**Hitler, Mussolini, and Me***Charles Davis*

\$28 cloth 232pp

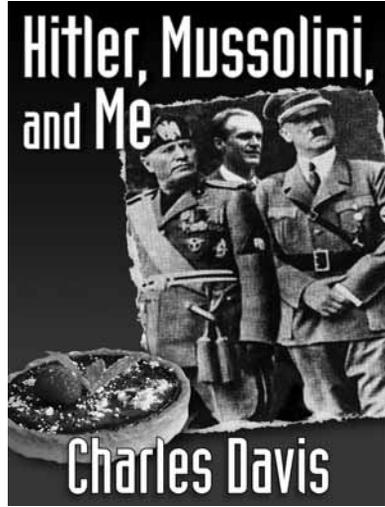
ISBN 978-1-57962-432-3

Hitler visits Italy in 1938. An expatriate Irish art historian is obliged to guide Mussolini and his guest round the galleries. Half fascinated, half repelled, he watches the tyrants, wrestling with the uneasy conviction that he ought to use the opportunity to “do something” about them yet lacking the zeal that might transform misgivings into action.

Thirty years later, his daughter comes across a compromising clipping showing her father with the dictators. Exposed as a collaborator, the narrator explains what happened, what he did and did not do, and why, revealing in the process the part the girl’s mother played in promoting the digestive disorders that were to influence the course of the war.

To help his daughter understand, he conjures a time before the crime that would define the century, a time before these men became monsters inflated to fit that crime, showing her the tawdry little people behind the myths, the real Hitler and Mussolini, *The Flatulent Windbag* and *The Constipated Prick*.

Based on historical events and using the tyrants’ own words, *Hitler, Mussolini, and Me* brings the dictators down to earth, describing the murkier, more scurrilous aspects of their careers, and using jokes and scatology to weave a crazed pathway toward a cracked kind of morality. It is the story of an ordinary man living in extraordinary times, times when being ordinary was an act of rebellion in itself.



**CHARLES DAVIS** was born and brought up in England, but has lived his adult life elsewhere, working in the United States, Sudan, Turkey, Ivory Coast, Spain, and now France. He is the author of three other novels published by The Permanent Press, *Walk On, Bright Boy* (2007), *Walking The Dog* (2008), and *Standing at the Crossroads* (2011).

For full biographical details and information on other publications, visit:

[charlesdavis2.wix.com/charlesdavis](http://charlesdavis2.wix.com/charlesdavis).

## Debasements of Brooklyn

*Ira Gold*

\$29 cloth 256pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-443-9

His father had warned Howie, “You can’t ride two horses with one ass.” But here he was, living a double life—one racketeering with his crew and the other sitting in cafés reading Penguin classics.

To fit in, Howie hides his intellectual interests from his gangster friends, but they still suspect something is not right about him. The real problem is that someone has been bad-mouthing Howie to Vinnie Five-Five, his captain.

Howie thinks he could solve all his problems by finding a way to leave Vinnie’s crew without anyone thinking he would turn rat. And while he goes about advancing this plan in his deliberate, half-baked way, a war breaks out between the Italians in Sheepshead Bay and the Russians in Brighton Beach.

Now, beside his friends, he has enemies who wish him dead. So he must run from the basement apartment he rents from his sister—the one person who truly loves him—into the arms of demure and bookish Ariel, who likes her men rough and her sex rougher.

Howie believes it necessary to continue keeping his erudition under wraps lest Ariel lose erotic interest. Will Howie survive the war? Will he survive Ariel’s wrath when she finds out she’s harboring not a thug but an esthete with PhD-level cultural knowledge?

Why the hell not? But boy is she pissed.



**IRA GOLD** writes all the time and publishes occasionally.

## CLAMOUR OF CROWS

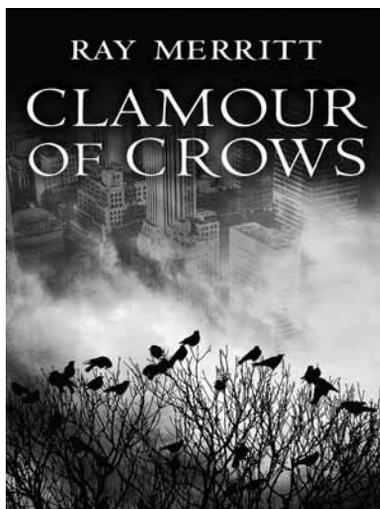
Ray Merritt

\$29.95 cloth 304pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-442-2

*Clamour of Crows* is a brilliantly crafted modern morality play that charts the life and curious death of the legendary entrepreneur Ben Baum, replete with mayhem, mystery and, perhaps, murder. The novel's reluctant protagonist, Jonathan Tucker, finds himself drawn into a maze of deception, death, and betrayal. Having lost the only things that matter, he is induced by his mentor to reengage with his former Wall Street law firm.

Tuck, as he is called, has to develop skills he never possessed, just to stay even with an unknown adversary in the world of Big Law, bigger business, and international chicanery. Ingeniously told, this saga blends elements of classic literature with nonstop action across two continents, taking you to the edge of your emotions and reeling you back, without ever losing its sense of humor and style. Peppering his story with allusions to the world's most adored children's classics, the author explores the height of greatness and the depth of evil. In *Clamour of Crows*, Ray Merritt has created a witch's cauldron of intrigue, betrayal, and unnecessary deaths, as he explores the dark side of human nature and the fundamental essence of family and forgiveness.



**RAY MERRITT** has enjoyed a successful writing career for over thirty years. His *A Thousand Hounds* (Taschen) was selected Best Book of the Year, 2000, by *New York Magazine*. *The New York Times* called it a “goody pack.” Entertainment Today awarded it “most creative book of the season” and *Animal Fair* dubbed it “a masterpiece.” *Full of Grace* (Damiani) was named *PDN Magazine's* Best Book of the Year in 2007. *Oprah Magazine* called it “dazzlingly elegant, elegiac and exhilarating.” *Kirkus* dubbed it “gripping” and *Publishers Weekly* “captivating.”

Ray, his wife, Carol, and their shelter dogs, Piper and Jake, live in Sag Harbor and New York City.

## Guy Novel

Michael Ryan

\$29 cloth 240pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-440-8

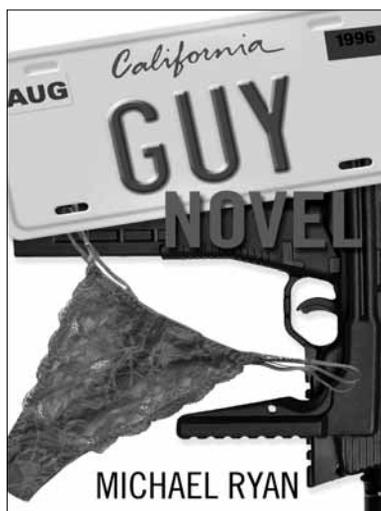
*Guy Novel* marries a thriller to a shameless love story and fun ride, what Graham Greene might have called “an entertainment.”

It takes place over one month in 1996, from early August to early September, as the Taliban were about to take over Afghanistan, Bill Clinton was running for re-election and most people still used answering machines and HotMail became the latest new thing.

The story is told retrospectively but vividly by Robert Wilder, a less-than-successful LA comic who creates big problems for himself by picking up a gorgeous bank clerk on the afternoon of his wedding. These problems have the happy resolution of the conventional plot of comedy: boy meets girl, boy loses girl (twice), boy gets girl (and vice-versa), but there are lots of turns along the way and lots of jokes and lots of play with the gendered conventions of Romance.

The political and historical moment enters with a vengeance half-way through the story, and spirits our heroes to places as different as a five-star Paris hotel, Clinton’s White House, and a yurt in Turkmenistan, while Robert learns something about loving another person for exactly who she is.

Not an easy lesson to learn—for him or for any of us—but the medicine goes down effortlessly with the clarity and grace and laugh-out-loud humor of Michael Ryan’s wide-circulated, wildly-celebrated writing.



**MICHAEL RYAN** taught writing at Iowa, Princeton University, the University of Virginia, and Warren Wilson College before becoming Director of the MFA Program in Poetry at UC Irvine. He has published an autobiography, a memoir, five books of poems, and a book of essays. Four of the books were *New York Times* Notable Books of the year. The autobiography was reviewed on the front page of the *New York Times Book Review* and the memoir was excerpted in the *New Yorker*.

His poetry has won many awards, including the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Whiting Writers Award, the Lenore Marshall Prize, and the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. In addition, he has won awards from the *American Poetry Review*, *Ploughshares*, the *Virginia Quarterly Review* and the *Poetry Society of America*.

*Guy Novel* is his first novel.

**Hot Start**

David Freed

\$29 cloth 272pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-433-0

A notorious, international big game hunter and his beautiful, former flight attendant wife are gunned down at long range late one sweltering summer night while swimming naked on their seaside estate in opulent Rancho Bonita, California. Police investigators are convinced that the killer is a strident, outspoken animal rights activist with both military experience and a criminal record. The evidence against him would appear overwhelming—until rumors begin to surface that others may have had their own reasons for committing murder.

The last thing flight instructor, aspiring Buddhist, and ex-government assassin Cordell Logan wants to do is become involved in the investigation. He and the accused, however, have mutual friends. Reluctant at first, Logan finds himself caught up in an increasingly confounding enigma, one that swirls around a popular congressman with close ties to the White House, a European call girl ring, and a ruthless Czech crime boss who'll stop at nothing to protect his interests. Pursuing the truth will take Logan to places few others would dare go, exposing him to dangers that even he may not survive.

Along with its four predecessors in the Cordell Logan mystery/thriller series—*Flat Spin*, *Fangs Out*, *Voodoo Ridge*, and *The Three-Nine Line*—*Hot Start* is a can't-put-it-down page-turner that will leave audiences breathless. Critics from *Booklist* to *Publisher's Weekly* to



the *Associated Press* have hailed the series for its veracity and fine writing, vivid characters, generous dollops of humor, and the kind of pacing that keeps readers up at night.

*Hot Start* may well be the best yet.

**DAVID FREED** is an instrument-rated pilot, screenwriter and a Pulitzer Prize-winning former journalist for the *Los Angeles Times*. His work appears regularly in the *Smithsonian's Air and Space Magazine* and the *Atlantic*, where he was honored in 2011 as a finalist in Feature Writing by the American Society of Magazine Editors. David also has worked extensively within the U.S. intelligence community. He lives in Santa Barbara, California.

## Concrete Carnival

Danner Darcleight

\$29.95 cloth 320pp

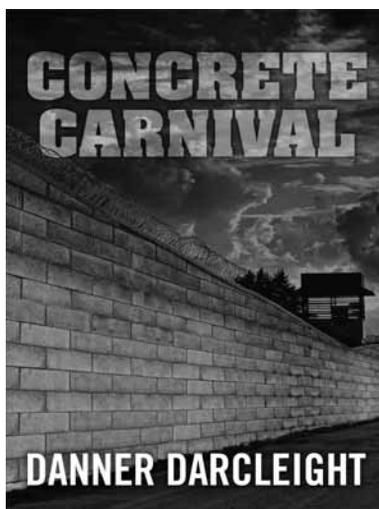
ISBN 978-1-57962-437-8

You land in prison as a twenty-something, faced with the likelihood of spending the rest of your life behind the wall. What do you do? Danner Darcleight started writing. He writes about what he sees, what he has done, and the toll that such witnessing and his own past actions have exacted. *Concrete Carnival* brings us inside a maximum-security prison, introducing a colorful cast of rogues while revealing the day-to-day struggles experienced by millions of Americans now living inside the world's largest prison complex.

Haunted by his past, he slips the surly bonds of heroin. He gets stripped, deloused, and assigned an inmate number. He learns to navigate among sociopaths, gang-bangers, drug dealers, hustlers, thieves, mercurial prison guards, and his own grinding remorse. He works through recurring thoughts of suicide, benefits from serendipitous encounters, and ultimately meets a loving woman who brings warmth to a harsh existence.

Darcleight pushes past the clichés and caricatures employed by pop culture, offering direct engagement with what it's really like to do time. What begins as frontline reportage becomes an unforgettable case study in resilience and determination against the worst imaginable odds.

An exhilarating, picaresque ride through the sights, sounds, and emotions of prison life, *Concrete Carnival* is a moving portrait of one man's



long journey from hopelessness and addiction to love and redemption.

**DANNER DARCLEIGHT's** essays have appeared in the *Kenyon Review*, *Stone Canoe*, and the *Minnesota Review*, where he was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Two of his essays appear in *Fourth City: Essays from the Prison in America* (Michigan State University Press 2014). He writes from a maximum-security prison, where he is serving twenty-five years to life, and is grateful for the continued support of his loved ones.

**A Taste of Blood  
and Ashes**

Jaden Terrell

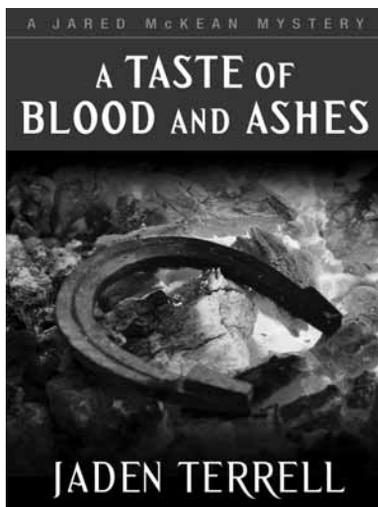
\$29 cloth 256pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-435-4

When Nashville PI and horse whisperer Jared McKean is hired to investigate a suspicious barn fire, he finds evidence of soring, the practice of using painful shoeing or caustic chemicals to affect the gait of a Tennessee Walking Horse. But the owners, Zane and Carlin Underwood, are known anti-soring activists. Carlin's distress seems genuine, and Zane is confined to a wheelchair, paralyzed from the chest down during an attack by a frenzied stallion. Jared believes someone else is behind the arson.

Knowing the arsonist is almost certainly someone in the community of those who breed and show Walking Horses, Jared and his new assistant, his half-sister Khanh, attend a local horse show in hopes of flushing out the culprit. There are suspects aplenty, including a groom on the run from a powerful cartel, a modern-day robber baron, and a beautiful gold digger whose dreams are filled with fire.

Secrets pile on top of secrets, and as Zane's memories of the events leading to his accident begin to return, the situation becomes deadly. Jared and Khanh find themselves in the crosshairs of a killer who will do anything to keep the past in the past.



**JADEN TERRELL** is a Shamus Award finalist and the internationally published author of three Jared McKean mysteries. Terrell is a contributor to *Now Write! Mysteries*, a collection of writing exercises published by Tarcher/Penguin for writers of crime fiction and is a recipient of the 2009 Magnolia Award for service to the Southeastern Chapter of Mystery Writers of America. Terrell is active in the writing community, serving as special programs coordinator for the Killer Nashville Thriller, Mystery, and Crime Literature Conference and as a board member for MWA and the Middle Tennessee Chapter of Sisters in Crime. A graduate of the Citizen Police Academy and the FBI/TBI Citizen Academy, the former special education teacher has a red belt in Tae Kwan Do and is certified in Equine Sports Massage Therapy.

<http://www.jadenterrell.com>.

**Grace**

Howard Owen

\$28 cloth 220pp

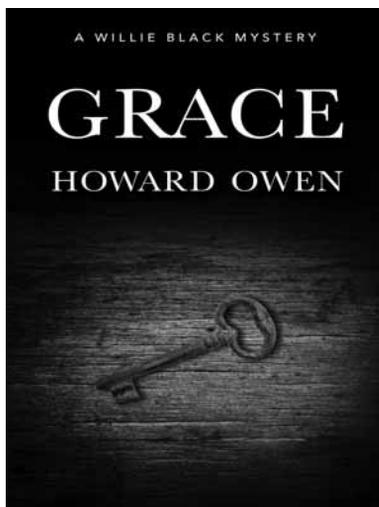
ISBN 978-1-57962-434-7

Life is cheap on the poor side of town. For more than two decades, young black kids have been disappearing from Richmond's East End. No bodies have ever been found, and the missing boys haven't received much attention from police or the media. When the uncle of the latest missing kid takes matters into his own hands and holds the daily newspaper's publisher hostage in the paper's lobby, Willie Black gets involved, and things start to change.

The world's oldest night cops reporter knows something about the inequities of race and income. When Sam McNish, a crusader for social justice who grew up in the same hardscrabble Oregon Hill neighborhood as Willie, is arrested shortly after a child's body is discovered, the police start making the case that McNish has been the demonic force behind all the boys' disappearances.

Willie, after working the traps he's developed from his too-many years as a night police reporter, isn't so sure.

As Willie teases out the real story, he manages to antagonize his publisher and the city's power structure as well as police chief L.D. Jones, but experience has taught him that the more people he pisses off, the closer he probably is to the truth. Along the way, he forms a strange alliance with Big Boy Sunday, a dangerous man who exhibits a strong interest in seeing that Willie finds the truth—although Willie will learn that Big Boy wants parts of that truth to remain hidden.



**HOWARD OWEN**, a veteran newspaper editor, and lives in Richmond, Va., with his wife, Karen Van Neste Owen. *Grace* is his fourteenth novel and the fifth Willie Black mystery. The first, *Oregon Hill*, won the Dashiell Hammett Prize for best crime literature in the United States and Canada. It was followed by *The Philadelphia Quarry*, *Parker Field*, and *The Bottom*. All of which have received glowing reviews in the *New York Times*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Kirkus Reviews*, and elsewhere. Owen's earlier works include *Littlejohn*, *Fat Lightning*, *Rock of Ages* and *The Reckoning*.

## Love in the Time of Apartheid

Frederic Hunter

\$29 cloth 272pp

ISBN 978-1-57962-444-6

Gat, a 30-year-old member of the Katanga Gendarmerie, the Belgian colonial police force, is sent from the newly independent Congo to South Africa with a wallet full of blood money and instructions to “Disappear.” He arrives there, bearing a secret and searching for redemption.

In Cape Town he meets Petra, the 18-year-old daughter of Piet Rousseau, who heads the Bureau of State Security for the apartheid government. When Gat and Piet meet at her parents’ home, their interaction is chilly, for Gat makes it clear that he does not believe in apartheid. And it soon becomes clear that Piet can employ draconian measures against anyone trying to oppose the regime’s separation of the races.

Gat and Petra are strongly attracted to one another. About to start university, Petra wants desperately to escape the overprotective care of her father. What better way to do this than to begin a passionate love affair with a mysterious man she hardly knows?

When Petra and Gat set off on a road trip, the battle between Piet and Gat is fully engaged, and the outcome for all three of these people remains in limbo until the novel ends.

This historical novel, based on actual events, provides a hair-raising look at the worst-of-times under the Afrikaner regime.



**FREDERIC HUNTER**'s first encounter with Africa came as a Foreign Service Officer of the United States Information Service assigned to the Congo. He served there in three posts: Coquilhatville, Bukavu, and Leopoldville. After taking a master's degree from UCLA in African Studies, he served as the Africa Correspondent of the *Christian Science Monitor*.

A playwright and screenwriter as well as a novelist, his award-winning stage work *The Hemingway Play* received a workshop production at the Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference and was produced by PBS' Hollywood Television Theater series. Movies Hunter has written have been produced by PBS, ABC and CBS. He has also taught screenwriting at the Santa Barbara Writers Conference, at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and at Principia College where he also gave a course in Modern African Literature.

## BACKLIST

The following titles from both **The Permanent Press** and its **Second Chance Press** imprint are arranged alphabetically by author. (See pages 65–69 for alphabetical listing by title.)

### **A Thinking Man's Bully**

*Michael Adelberg*

\$26 cloth 190pp ISBN 978-1-57962-228-2

"The author, a 'reformed high school troublemaker,' offers a fresh perspective on bullying by seamlessly intertwining the actions, the results, and the lasting consequences of brutality into a novel brimming with personality and narrative brio."

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **Saving the Hooker**

*Michael Adelberg*

\$28 cloth 192pp ISBN 978-1-57962-368-5

"A funny tale of a lazy and unprincipled postdoc whose brain resides firmly in his crotch. There is plenty to like in Adelberg's comic romp, which also has a serious undercurrent: Who says a hooker needs saving, anyway? And what business is it of a man? This one's well-crafted and enjoyable if you're up for a rather raunchy read."

—*Kirkus*

### **Castle Garden**

*Bill Albert*

\$28 cloth 346pp ISBN 1-877946-67-2

"In 1898, an 11-year-old runs from home, hides out with 'Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show,' meets Wobblie leader Big Bill Haywood, and famous and infamous others who cross the boy's path. A rip-roaring saga."

—*Publishers Weekly*

### **Desert Blues**

*Bill Albert*

\$24 cloth 188pp ISBN 1-877946-49-4

\$16 paper ISBN 1-877946-65-6

"A funny first novel pairs an awkward orphaned adolescent immersed in 1950's

rock 'n' roll and an unconventional 'kept' woman." —*Publishers Weekly*

### **Locus Amoenus**

*Victoria N. Alexander*

\$28 cloth 192pp ISBN 978-1-57962-391-3

"Locus Amoenus, is set in Amenia and relates the story of a modern-day Hamlet whose father died in 9/11. It is a scathing commentary on government-subsidized food programs in schools, low-level abuses of authority in local government and the destructive effects of war and pharmaceuticals." —*The Millbrook Independent*

### **Naked Singularity**

*Victoria N. Alexander*

\$24 cloth 190pp ISBN 1-57962-078-7

A provocative tale about a daughter's choice to assist her father's death from cancer is "touching and stunningly well written." —*CityLink Magazine*

### **Smoking Hopes**

*Victoria N. Alexander*

\$24 cloth 208pp ISBN 1-877946-69-9

"The narrator of this stunning first novel works as a hostess in a club for Japanese businessmen. A well-crafted bittersweet story." —*San Antonio Express-News*

**Washington Prize for Fiction**

### **Give My Heart Ease**

*Grace Andreacchi*

\$24 cloth 224pp ISBN 0-932966-90-X

"A graphic, moving first novel about a beautiful young woman caught in a sado-masochistic love affair." —*Kirkus*

**New American Writing Award**

### **How to Beat the System**

*Denison Andrews*

\$28 cloth 284pp ISBN 0-932966-74-8

"This trenchant cultural satire examines the life of a '60s dropout who stayed dropped-out." —*Kirkus*

## Callgirl

*Jeannette Angell*

\$26 cloth 248pp ISBN 1-57962-110-4  
“An engrossing, no-holds-barred story of a college lecturer by day and a callgirl by night.” —*Kirkus*

a Book Sense selection

## Madam

*Jeannette Angell*

\$18 paper 226pp ISBN 978-1-57962-116-2  
“A sympathetic biography of the madam of the escort service Angell worked for.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## Someplace Like This

*Renée Ashley*

\$26 cloth 192pp ISBN 1-57962-090-6  
“A woman must put herself back together after being estranged from her second husband. A fine work about the ebb and flow of relationships.” —*Library Journal*

a Book Sense selection

## Entering Ephesus

*Daphne Athas*

\$26 paper 440pp ISBN 0-933256-79-5  
“A large novel within a well-known Southern landscape: the fire which is in its belly is considerable, is largely female and Promethean, amoral, devouring, a seeking of height in the perverse depths.”

—*Times Literary Supplement*  
New American Writing Award

## Revelation of Fire

*Alla Avilova*

\$28 cloth 288pp ISBN 978-1-57962-168-1  
“A Dutch scholar and a female archivist discover that a two hundred year old manuscript is missing from Moscow’s Historical Archive. The story includes Russian history, art, politics and religion.”

—*Around the World in Books*

## Alone in the Valley

*Kenneth Waymon Baker*

\$28 cloth 296pp ISBN 1-877946-17-6  
“What distinguishes this novel about an infantryman in Vietnam is the touching naiveté of its young hero, caught up in something monstrous, trying merely to survive.” —*Kirkus*

## Houri

*Mehrdad Balali*

\$29 cloth 304pp ISBN 978-1-57962-177-3  
“Journalist Balali’s bitter first novel about Iran, from which he is now banned, contrasts his native country before and after the Islamic revolution. Comparisons to *The Kite Runner* are unavoidable.”

—*Kirkus*

## Mr. Right

*Carolyn Banks*

\$25 cloth 256pp ISBN 0-933256-91-4  
“A too smart for her job teacher at a community college is constantly looking for love in all the wrong places. That her Mr. Right turns out to be a reclusive novelist and self-confessed murderer works well as a plot.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## Love in Atlantis

*Bonnie L. Barrett*

\$24 cloth 182pp ISBN 0-933256-77-9  
“This appealing novel charts the rites of passage of a 14-year-old, in a little beach town, recalling life in the ’30s with affection.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## After Byron

*Norman Beim*

\$28 cloth 192pp ISBN 978-1-57962-387-6  
“This quaint epistolary novel is steeped in the lore of Lord Byron and his scandalous exploits. Beim gives his tale a believable period texture by referring throughout to Gothic literature and incidents in Byron’s life. We follow a likable rogue with old-fashioned swagger, and his adventures will appeal to readers of historical fiction.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## **The Man On The Third Floor**

*Anne Bernays*

\$26 cloth 184pp ISBN 978-1-57962-285-5

“A middle-aged and apparently happy married man finds himself falling in love with another man. Witty, full of surprises, sharp as a pin, above all a suspenseful and unexpected exploration of the intricacies and complications of the human heart.”

—*Michael Korda, Author of Her*

## **Upstate**

*Sallie Bingham*

\$16 paper 128pp ISBN 1-877946-50-8

“A woman’s obsession drives an affair out of control, violating social contracts and devastating the people in its path. Impressive.”

—*Library Journal*

## **Rain Dogs**

*Baron R. Birtcher*

\$29 cloth 288pp ISBN 978-1-57962-318-0

“White-knuckle tension and crisp, clean prose distinguish this outstanding stand-alone from Birtcher. The narrator is running a small-scale marijuana operation in California, until bandits raid his farm. He flees to Mexico, where he collides with the local drug lord. Many books call themselves thrillers, but this is the real deal.”

—*Publishers Weekly, starred review*

## **Hard Latitudes**

*Baron R. Birtcher*

\$29.95 cloth 336pp ISBN 978-1-57962-390-6

“Birtcher returns to his Mike Travis series in this fast-paced mystery. It’s 2004, and a panicked call from his brother reunites him with the families of fortune he turned his back on when he became a cop. Fans will hope that Birtcher’s engaging series has a long life.”

—*Booklist*

## **Fluke**

*Martin Blinder*

\$24 cloth 216pp ISBN 1-57962-017-5

“Skillfully recreates the romance of Presi-

dent Warren G. Harding with a woman half his age, while depicting an era that was notorious for financial chicanery.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## **Transvaal Episode**

*Harry Bloom*

\$22 paper 320pp ISBN 0-933256-25-6

“Bloom’s novel about the grisly aspects of life in apartheid South Africa is a classic of modern literature and deserves a wide audience.”

—*Booklist*

## **The Night Battles**

*M.F. Bloxam*

\$28 cloth 240pp ISBN 978-1-57962-171-6

“Bloxam delivers fine Sicilian literary horror in the vein of Tom Piccirilli and Sara Gran. Her ornate prose is the perfect complement to her complex heroine and the creepy goings-on in this eerie novel.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

*finalist ForeWord Magazine’s*

**Book of the Year Award, 2008**

## **A Richer Dust**

*Amy Boaz*

\$26 cloth 184pp ISBN 978-1-57962-159-9

“Based on D.H. Lawrence’s 1924 pilgrimage to Taos, N.M. where he hoped to create an artist’s Utopia, Boaz’s diamond-cut debut follows Doll, a shy, near-deaf painter who accompanied him, where she finds love with a younger man.”

—*Entertainment Weekly*

*finalist ForeWord Magazine’s*

**Book of the Year Award, 2008**

## **Beat**

*Amy Boaz*

\$26 cloth 198pp ISBN 978-1-57962-186-5

“A woman caught between stifling domesticity and passion flees to Paris, where she and her daughter have come to escape the drama back home. A compelling picture of love and its attendant travails.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

## Redeeming Eve

*Nicole Bokar*

\$24 cloth 224pp ISBN 1-57962-064-7

"When a literature scholar tries to model her hectic life on the elegant world of Jane Austen, chaos ensues. A juicy book."

—*McCall's*

## The Great Equalizer

*Rick Borsten*

\$24 paper 334pp ISBN 1-579622-10-7

Can a young man find love and fulfillment in a home for retarded adults? "A tender, loving story and a ringing reaffirmation of life."

—*Chicago Sun-Times*

**New American Writing Award  
Oregon Book Award**

## Living Doll

*Jane Bradley*

\$24 cloth 202pp ISBN 1-877946-54-0

"A literary gem capturing the reality of sexual abuse in a boldly different way. Powerful insights."

—*Alida Brill*

## East Justice

*Melanie Braverman*

\$24 cloth 133pp ISBN 1-877946-72-9

"An exquisite evocation of loneliness and desire."

—*Publishers Weekly*

## A Selfish Woman

*Christopher Brookhouse*

\$24 cloth 144pp ISBN 1-57962-036-1

"Brookhouse writes about a breast cancer survivor and her year long relationship with a younger man, beautifully capturing her acute sensibility to the passing seasons."

—*Publishers Weekly*

## Dear Otto

*Christopher Brookhouse*

\$24 cloth 160pp ISBN 1-877946-63-X

"With quirky elegance Brookhouse highlights the interplay between reality, fiction, and creativity while telling the story of three writers at a summer workshop."

—*Library Journal*

## Silence

*Christopher Brookhouse*

\$16 paper 152pp ISBN 978-1-57962-179-7

"A haunting novel of interlaced secrets, suggesting how much goes unspoken: affairs, adoption, abortion. A memorable story by a writer who understands women better than most women understand themselves."

—*Doris Betts*

## A Studied Madness

*Heywood Hale Broun*

\$28 cloth 298pp ISBN 0-933256-00-0

"The most ruefully articulate, inside look at the American theater in years."

—*John Barkham*

## An Unclean Act

*Dean Burgess*

\$26 cloth 254pp ISBN 1-57962-046-9

"A well-researched tale of love and faith in 17th-century Massachusetts, this novel will help shake the dust from Puritan history books."

—*Publishers Weekly*

**a Book Sense selection**

## Writer-in-Residence

*Herbert Burkholz*

\$28 cloth 310pp ISBN 1-877946-11-7

"A writer-in-residence tells his graduate students about a fictional American painter living in Ibiza. Kaleidoscopic and rewarding."

—*Booklist*

## Attic Light

*Carol Burnham*

\$24 cloth 192pp ISBN 1-877946-88-5

"Infused with light and powered by darkness: the light of Greece, of California, and the darkness of history, myth, and deep passion. This novel is a feast for the senses."

—*Alison Anderson*

## Townie

*John Butman*

\$24 cloth 192pp ISBN 1-57962-080-9

"This inventive novel that approaches

almost any situation as a comedy of manners is built around the art of the deal, as a rich resident of a New England village takes in a homeless narrator and makes him his butler.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## The Dissemblers

*Liza Campbell*

\$28 cloth 200pp ISBN 978-1-57962-205-3

“A female art-school graduate chasing the muse of Georgia O’Keeffe in Santa Fe is drawn into a forgery ring. An affecting novel that draws emotional resonance from the parallels she sees between her life and O’Keeffe’s.” —*Kirkus*

*finalist 2011 ForeWord Magazine*

**Book of the Year Award**

## Millersberg

*Harry Cauley*

\$26 cloth 206pp ISBN 1-57962-133-3

“A chilling, beautifully characterized account of a family torn apart after a dual murder strikes their small New Jersey town on the eve of World War II. Heartfelt and soundly crafted.” —*Kirkus*

**a Book Sense selection**

## Dobryd

*Ann Charney*

\$16 paper 172pp ISBN 978-1-57962-289-3

“An illuminating, unsentimental, autobiographical novel of a young Jewish girl when she, her mother and aunt are liberated by Soviet soldiers after years of hiding from the Nazis.” —*Library Journal*

## Rousseau’s Garden

*Ann Charney*

\$24 cloth 207pp ISBN 1-57962-033-7

“A lovely little gem with insights for one’s own life.” —*Library Journal*

## Lydia Cassatt Reading the Morning Paper

*Harriet Scott Chessman*

\$24 cloth 176pp ISBN 1-58322-272-3

“An entrancing novel. Like Mary Cassatt’s art, its odd angles and delicate, inevitable details make themselves felt long after finishing this fine period piece.” —*Newsday*

**a Book Sense selection**

## Ohio Angels

*Harriet Scott Chessman*

*licensed to Seven Stories Press*

\$16.00 paper ISBN 1-57962-071-X

“When Virginia Greaves takes an overdose of sleeping pills, her daughter returns and recognizes that opening up the chambers of the past is the only way to move on.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## Kuperman’s Fire

*John J. Clayton*

\$28 cloth 304pp ISBN 978-1-57962-152-0

“On the cusp of a hoped-for merger with Chemicorp, Michael Kuperman learns that they are making chemicals for nefarious clients. A morality tale combining thriller elements and Michael’s resonant, Jewish legacy.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## The Man I Never Wanted To Be

*John J. Clayton*

\$24 cloth 230pp ISBN 1-57962-014-0

\$16 paper ISBN 1-57962-057-4

“A harrowing novel about a fascinatingly flawed, arrogantly ‘nice’ character who is pulled into events that cause him to question his basic beliefs about himself, including the belief that he is not the murdering kind.” —*Publishers Weekly*

## KAL Flight 007: The Hidden Story

*Oliver Clubb*

\$24 cloth 182pp ISBN 1-57962-136-8

“I have reached the conclusion that the charges in this concise, splendid study are true. A bombshell.” —*Newsday*

## Seasons

*Judith Beth Cohen*

\$24 cloth 224pp ISBN 0-932966-23-1

"In the '60s, the counter-culture ran head on into radical New England individualism. Cohen has caught its significance better than anyone I know."

—*Hayden Carruth*

## Life Goes Sleeping

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$20 paper 230pp ISBN 978-157962-192-6

"This hard-boiled detective novel, with salty, quick-witted dialogue recalls pulp fiction of the 40's." —*Publishers Weekly*

## Little Easter

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$18 paper 221pp ISBN 1-57962-139-2

"A somber and gripping crime story."

—*Publishers Weekly*

## They Don't Play Stickball in Milwaukee

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$16 paper 208pp ISBN 1-57962-016-7

"A mystery with good lines and a sound sense of pacing." —*Boston Globe*

## Walking the Perfect Square

*Reed Farrel Coleman*

\$20 paper 264pp ISBN 978-1-57962-290-9

"Coleman blows the dust off mystery conventions with a mystery that would get under anyone's skin."

—*New York Times*

a Book Sense selection

## Gulf Stream North

*Earl Conrad*

\$26 cloth 248pp ISBN 0-933256-13-2

\$18 paper ISBN 0-933256-17-5

"A graphic recounting of five days at sea. The crew is black, the captain white, but all are bound together in the mystique and commerce of fishing. A first class reissue."

—*San Diego Union*

## Fellow Travelers

*James Cook*

\$18 paper 240pp ISBN 1-57962-052-3

"This compelling novel based on Armand Hammer, oil magnate, bootlegger, self-proclaimed friend of Lenin, and world class womanizer provides an intriguing glimpse into the Soviet Russia of Lenin and Stalin." —*Forbes Magazine*

## The Gesture

*John Cobb Cooper*

\$28 cloth 253pp ISBN 0-933256-69-8

"A provocative novel about a bomber squadron based in England during World War II. Below the surface it touches nerves of military competence and racial bigotry." —*Publishers Weekly*

## The Sorcerer

*Anne Eliot Crompton*

\$24 cloth 176pp ISBN 0-933256-36-1

"This classic of children's historical fiction recreates the life of prehistoric hunters who roamed the world 50,000 years ago. A rare book, entertaining for older readers as well." —*Booklist*

## Exiles

*M. Cruz*

\$28 cloth 294pp ISBN 0-932966-71-3

"In Jordan, a diplomat's wife is attracted to a Muslim bureaucrat. Their affair is an authentic exploration of the harsh contradictions of marriage, friendship, and personal identity." —*Library Journal*

## The Geometry of Love

*Joan Fay Cuccio*

\$24 cloth 172pp ISBN 1-877946-82-6

"Darcy is fleeing her estranged husband, whom she left lying in the wreckage of her kitchen. Her halting courage and uncommon longing will disturb the reader for a long time." —*Publishers Weekly*

finalist Oklahoma Book Award

## **Branches**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$24 cloth 198pp ISBN 1-5796-061-2

“A chillingly effective novel-in-verse told by a murderous Texas sheriff who is bound to remind readers of the narrator of Thompson’s 1952 classic, *The Killer Inside Me*.”  
—*Ellery Queen*

## **The Cosmology of Bing**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$24 cloth 208pp ISBN 1-57962-030-2

“Sexual confusion and academic infighting abound in this comic novel about an aging astronomy professor. It has enough edge to keep it poking away at your memory.”  
—*New York Times*

## **Undersurface**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$24 cloth 166pp ISBN 1-57962-077-9

“Cullin uses a true story to record the unraveling of a high school English teacher as he moves inexorably from heterosexual life to a gay nightlife, and ultimately to murder.”  
—*Kirkus*

## **Whompyjawed**

*Mitch Cullin*

\$16 paper 188pp ISBN 978-1-57962-199-5

“Cullin has created the loneliness and emptiness of a small West Texas town, with a vivid sense of place and time that stays with you.”  
—*Horton Foote*

**Notable Book, American Library Assoc.**

## **Standing At The Crossroads**

*Charles Davis*

\$26 cloth 160pp ISBN 978-1-57962-213-8

“A remarkable journey through the real and imagined landscapes of civil war-torn Africa, by turns hopeful, harrowing, amusing, educational, and horrific, painted with the broad-brush strokes of a moral fable and the intricate attention to detail of the best short fiction.” —*NY Journal of Books*

## **Walk On, Bright Boy**

*Charles Davis*

\$26 cloth 144pp ISBN 978-1-57962-153-7

“A haunting, Gothic novel of a Spaniard, whose horrifying encounters with humanity during the ruthless Inquisition would seem reason to lose faith. But it is also an assertion of spirituality and speaks to contemporary collusions of political expediency and religious faith.”

—*ForeWord Magazine*

**a Book Sense selection**

## **Walking the Dog**

*Charles Davis*

\$16 paper 160pp ISBN 978-1-57962-167-4

“An episodic, antic romp with outrageous humor, much of it metaphorically sexual and highly literate prose: the Marx Brothers meet the *Oxford English Dictionary*.”

—*The Independent*

## **The Conduct of Saints**

*Christopher Davis*

\$28 cloth 264pp ISBN 978-1-57962-315-9

“The Nazis have been driven out of Italy in 1945. Few remain, hoping to avoid detection. The children of Rome struggle to survive, Davis’ range is breathtaking. His technique is subtle, but never obscure. *The Conduct of Saints* captures the time and the place of post-WWII Europe; it is a profoundly atmospheric novel with an unforgettable cast of characters. Once again, Davis’ work commands our attention.”

—*Huffington Post*

## **And the Angels Sing**

*J. Madison Davis*

\$28 cloth 303pp ISBN 1-877946-70-2

“Set in a prisoner-of-war camp housing German POWs during World War II. A harrowing picture of Nazism on U.S. soil.”  
—*Washington Post*

**finalist Oklahoma Book Award**

## Bottom Line

*Marc Davis*

\$28 cloth 248pp ISBN 978-1-57962-316-6

“The story’s practical depiction of life in the corporate world has flows into a fast-action drama of humanity. The mystery is intriguing. The road to its solution is clever. The surprises stick in the memory. And a falling character in a falling world finds his anchor after all.”  
—*Café Libre*

## Duck Alley

*Jim DeFilippi*

\$24 cloth 238pp ISBN 1-57962-024-8

“A moving, funny, ultimately tragic story of two buddies growing up in the 1950s. Ingenious.”  
—*Philadelphia Inquirer*

## The Regulators

*William Degenhard*

\$28 cloth 598pp ISBN 0-933256-22-1

“This novel about Dan Shays manages to endow the uprising known as Shays Rebellion with all the sweep of a minor epic.”  
—*New York Times*

## The Field

*Dola de Jong*

\$24 cloth 215pp ISBN 0-933256-02-7

\$16 paper ISBN 0-933256-05-1

“An overwhelming tragedy of refugees escaping Europe during World War II, this novel tells us more about history than do books of history themselves.”

—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat*

## Warp & Weft

*Edward J. Delaney*

\$26 cloth 240pp ISBN 1-57962-098-1

“Three men slog through days and wile away the nights in a working-class town in this lyrical, somber, graceful book.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

winner PEN Winship Award

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