





PUBLISHER’S  
LETTER

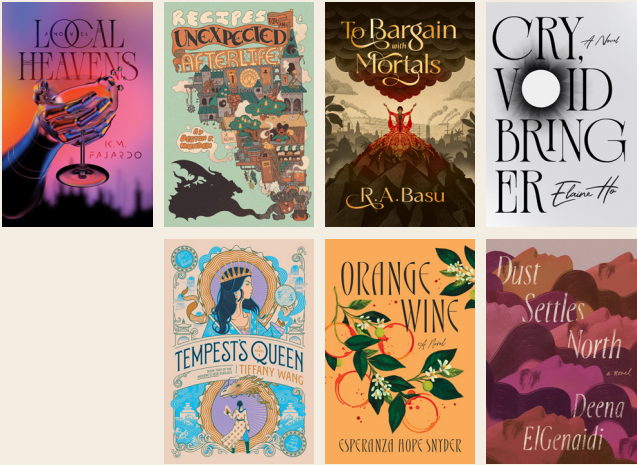
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This season, Bindery is publishing upmarket contemporary, historical fiction, and literary cyberpunk sci-fi, amongst a range of sweeping multicultural fantasies.

Peering one level deeper than genre, we've noticed that themes tend to surface from our tastemakers seasonally, picking up on the pulse of a generation of readers who are in constant conversation online. This season's list offers resounding commentary on capitalism and colonization—of individual bodies and entire races, of women and of the lower class. Various genre lenses provide just enough distance from which to make the bold statements that are of central importance to the BookTok generation.

What better way to launch such epic stories but in partnership with loudmouth tastemakers and their avid communities—who together drove massive social reach for our first season in the range of 6–12M per title.

We look forward to releasing these books in stores nationwide this fall, and hope you join us in decolonizing bookshelves everywhere.

To request complete materials or discuss rights opportunities, please contact [rights@binderybooks.com](mailto:rights@binderybooks.com).

*Matt and Meg*

Matt Kaye and Meghan Harvey  
Bindery Co-founders





LEFT  
UNREAD



### About the Tastemaker

**MICHAEL LABORN** is the founder of Left Unread Books, an imprint dedicated to dismantling systems of oppression one book at a time. A Black man in a white-centered world, LaBorn actively makes space for Black and brown writers by challenging systemic barriers in the industry and championing underrepresented authors in bookish spaces. He has a platform of 100K followers on TikTok and has been featured in *Elle* and *Bold Journey*. A writer, book reviewer, and passionate advocate for marginalized people, he loves reading anything that challenges him to see the world through a wider lens. He lives in northern Illinois.



INKY  
PHOENIX  
PRESS



### About the Tastemaker

**KATHRYN BUDIG** is an internationally celebrated yoga teacher, author, and founder of the online community Haus of Phoenix and the Inky Phoenix book club. She's known for curating magical realism, historical fiction, and dark fantasy with a focus LGBTQ+ and BIPOC themes and authors. Co-host of the Webby Award-nominated podcast *Free Cookies*, Budig is the author of *The Women's Health Big Book of Yoga* and the bestselling wellness guide *Aim True*. She lives in Charleston, South Carolina, with her wife, Kate Fagan, and their dog, Ragnar.



BOUNDLESS  
BOOKS



### About the Tastemaker

**JANANIE K. VELU** is a YouTube book reviewer with nearly 100k subscribers, who has been featured by Netflix's channel for *Shadow and Bone* and *Bridgerton* Season 2, as well as on Lilly Singh's book club @lillyslibrary channel. Born in Canada to Sri Lankan Tamil parents, Jananie strives to discover and amplify stories that represent the world around her, and named her channel "This Story Ain't Over" (styled *thisstoryaintover*) because of her strong belief that we are in a constant (and often messy) process of growth and change. Formerly at Wattpad, Jananie works in product marketing for Kobo while not on the hunt for her next favorite book.

### About the Tastemaker

**EMMA SKIES** is a content creator from Northern California, reading, reviewing, and discussing genre fiction with over 200,000 followers across various social media platforms. Emma believes storytelling in all its forms is one of the most powerful and universal ways that we process the world around us. She loves few things more than hearing that someone has found themselves in a book she shared with them.



SKIES  
READS

### About the Tastemaker

**MARINES ALVAREZ** has been creating content across a variety of platforms since 2011 and has amassed a following of 108,000 followers on TikTok and 32,000 on YouTube at *mynameismarines*. Profiled by media covering book influencers, including by *Rolling Stone* and *Vulture*, Marines is a community builder on and offline, crafting reviews that invite readers to think critically about media and representation. She is also the co-founder of BookNet Fest, a yearly bookish event that brings together readers, authors, and reviewers around a shared love of books.



MAREAS

### About the Tastemaker

**KEVIN NORMAN** is a Latinx creator from Los Angeles, California, who combines humor and his love of reading to create content focused on education, social justice, and all things bookish. He has a combined TikTok and Instagram following of over 370,000. In 2022, Kevin was chosen as an LGBTQ+ Trailblazer, a title awarded by TikTok to only twelve creators from the US for their work with the LGBTQ+ community. He has been featured on *The Kelly Clarkson Show*, *Spectrum News*, and *NBC News*, and in *Forbes*, *Teen Vogue*, *the New York Post*, *Rolling Stone*, and more.



VIOLETEAR  
BOOKS

### About the Tastemaker

**MEG HOOD** is a bookish creator and founder of *The Cozy Quill*, an online book club with over 6,000 cozy fantasy lovers. With over 200,000 combined followers on TikTok and Instagram, her cozy community loves a magical tale full of found family, inclusive characters, and whimsical worlds. She is known for being one of the first champions of the cozy fantasy genre through her early promotion of *Legends & Lattes* by Travis Baldree.



COZY  
QUILL



“Gorgeous, decadent . . . an exemplary execution of the cyberpunk genre.”  
CHLOE GONG, *NEW YORK TIMES*  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
*IMMORTAL LONGINGS*



# Local Heavens

KRIS M. FAJARDO

*A corporate hacker. An elusive billionaire. A society trying to survive the American Nightmare.*

**NEW YORK CITY, 2075.** Filipino American Nick Carraway has just moved to the heart of the fractured New Americas, where he’s struck by the city’s contradictions—shining corporate towers casting bleak shadows over the slums of a crumbling middle class.

When Nick meets alluring, new-money Jay Gatsby, he falls for Gatsby’s frank charm and confident aura. But in a city where the wealthy flaunt tech-enhanced bodies to cheat death, surfaces aren’t all they seem—and as a corporate-sanctioned cyberspace hacker, Nick knows that no secret can stay buried forever. *He’s the reason they*

*don’t.* And his latest assignment? Investigate Gatsby himself.

As Nick becomes entangled in the dark affairs of the elite—and the devastating fallout of their actions on the city’s most vulnerable—he must reckon with the limits of compassion and accountability across class and status. What takes precedence: Love or truth? Heart or soul?

A brilliant reimagining of Fitzgerald’s classic tale of glamour, desire, and desperation, *Local Heavens* examines the guardrails of morality . . . and the price of desire. ♦

### Specs

**GENRE:**  
LITERARY CYBERPUNK

**WORD COUNT:**  
118,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**PUB DATE:**  
OCTOBER 14, 2025

### Comp Titles

*The Chosen and the Beautiful*  
by Nghi Vo

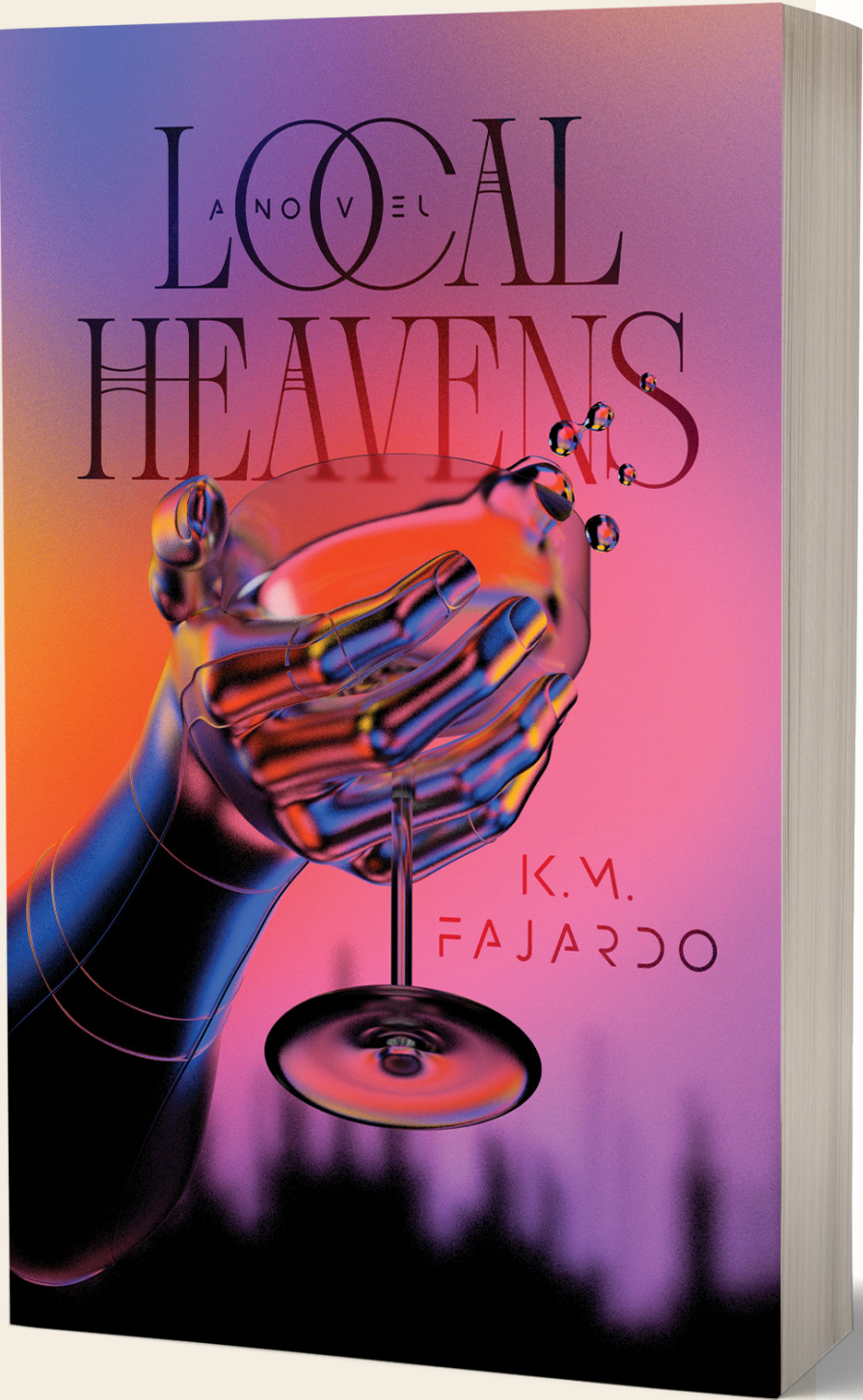
*Goliath: A Novel*  
by Tochi Onyebuchi

*The Sea of Tranquility*  
by Emily St. John Mandel

*Lady Macbeth*  
by Ava Reid

*Nick*  
by Michael Farris Smith

*The Great Gatsby* meets *Sea of Tranquility* in *Local Heavens*, a queer, cyberpunk reimagining of Fitzgerald’s classic, in which technology and capitalism threaten the bonds of humanity in New York City in the year 2075.



### About the Author

**K. M. FAJARDO** is a second-generation Filipino Canadian writer from the Toronto suburbs. She graduated from the University of Waterloo with a degree in Global Business and Digital Arts before working in the tech industry. After a childhood spent roaming bookstores, she now lives and writes in Toronto with her rescue cat, Clementine. *Local Heavens* is her debut novel.



“Filled with incredible heart, delectable treats, and hilarious mishaps. It’s a recipe for comfort with a dash of adventure!”  
REBECCA THORNE, *USA TODAY*  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *CAN’T SPELL TREASON WITHOUT TEA*



# Recipes for an Unexpected Afterlife

DESTON J. MUNDEN

An undead orc knight leaves battle behind for a new kind of afterlife—one with good food, good friends, and maybe even fatherhood.

**ROTTGOR** IS worn out. Literally. Barely held together by dark magic, he has protected the necropolis for centuries. When he’s forced into retirement, he’s faced with a new challenge: to forge a future guided not by obligation, but by passion.

Following his heart (and stomach), he decides to open a restaurant where the city’s undead and living residents can share food and community. He’s helped in his quest by an un-

likely assortment of neighbors, including elves, skeletons, vampires—and a young orphan girl named Astra, whose ancestry, if discovered, could put her and the entire necropolis in danger. To protect Astra and the life he’s building, Rottgor must face his past and form new alliances built on friendship, loyalty, and love. As comforting as warm pumpkin bread, this gentle fantasy traces how even a dark history can rise into a bright future. ♦

### Specs

GENRE:  
COZY FANTASY

WORD COUNT:  
83,000

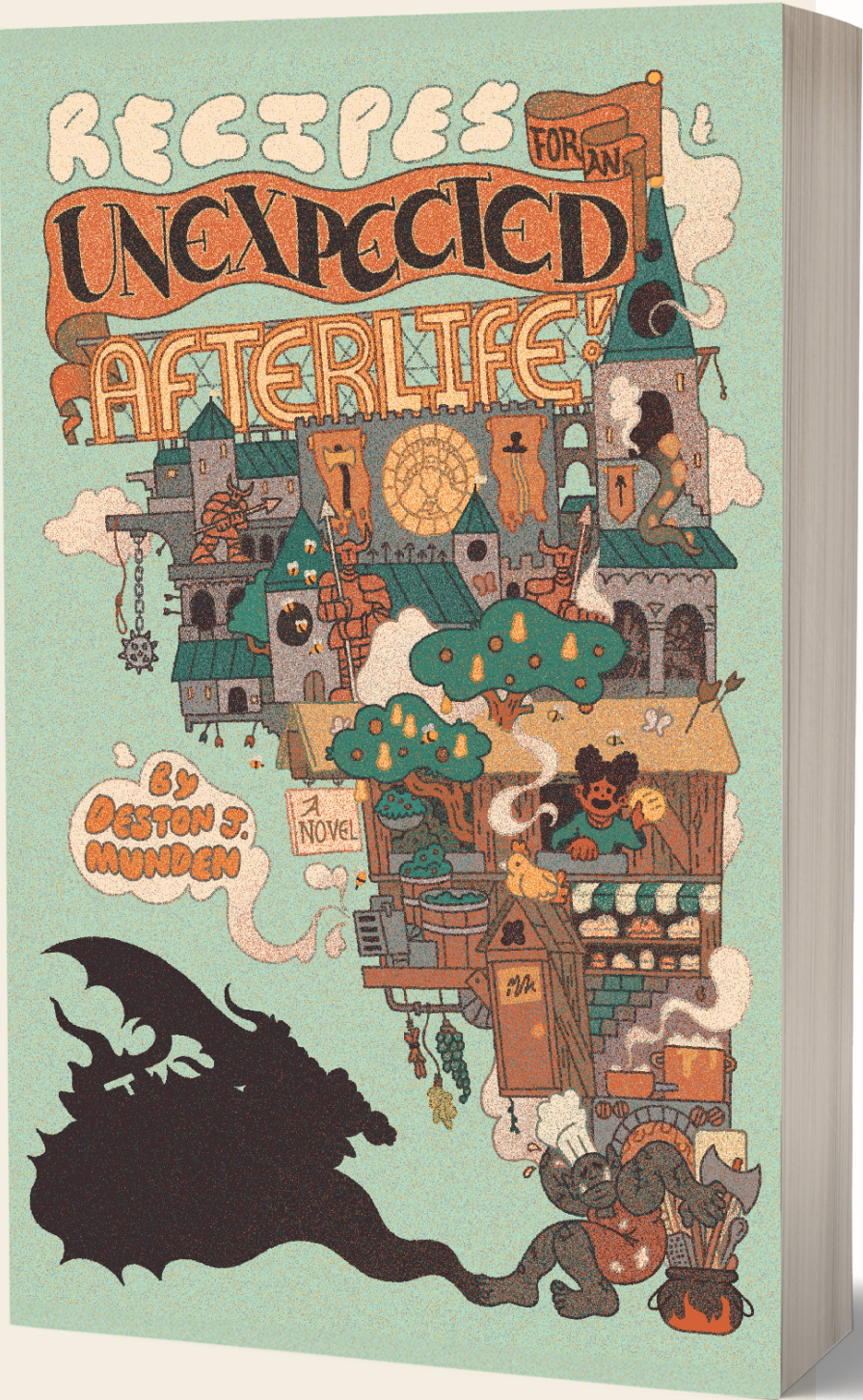
TRADE FORMATS:  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

PUB DATE:  
OCTOBER 14, 2025

### Comp Titles

- Can’t Spell Treason Without Tea*  
by Rebecca Thorne
- Nettle & Bone*  
by T. Kingfisher
- The Teller of Small Fortunes*  
by Julie Leong
- Sorcery and Small Magics*  
by Maiga Doocy
- The Honey Witch*  
by Sydney J. Shields

With nods to new classics like *Legends & Lattes* and *Can’t Spell Treason Without Tea*, this cozy foodie fantasy follows an undead orc knight as he retires from battle, opens a restaurant, and begins to build the family he never thought possible.



### About the Author

**DESTON MUNDEN** is the author of several books, including *Tavern*, also set in *Dargath*. Born and raised near the Outer Banks, he can be found writing, cooking, playing *World of Warcraft*, and cosplaying in the way-too-hot North Carolina weather.



“*To Bargain with Mortals* demands both your love and your outrage. I devoured it.”  
AVA REID, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF *A STUDY IN DROWNING*

“An incredible, ambitious debut.”  
VAISHNAVI PATEL, *NEW YORK TIMES*  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *KAIKEYI*



# To Bargain with Mortals

(Book 1 of the Reckoning Storm duology)

**R.A. BASU**

An outcast heiress. A notorious gang leader. A country on the brink of revolution.

**IN THE** colonized nation of Viryana, Poppy Sutherland lives between cultures. As the brown-skinned adopted daughter of the Viceroy, she is both rejected by white high society and alienated from the people of her native island. When she discovers her opportunistic fiancé’s plot to exile her, Poppy flees—straight into the clutches of the Jackal.

Hasan Devar, the ruthless criminal known as the Jackal, has long been targeted for his family’s divine magic, a gift the colonizers have tried to

stamp out. When his brother is arrested, he seizes Poppy as leverage. But Poppy has powerful secrets—and political ambitions—of her own. As allies, they could do more than just free Hasan’s brother and keep Poppy safe. They could topple the very power structures that hold them all back.

The first book in the Reckoning Storm duology, *To Bargain with Mortals* is a stunning reflection on politics and purpose, blood and allegiance—and what we do with the histories we inherit. ♦

## Specs

**GENRE:**  
**ADULT FANTASY**

**WORD COUNT:**  
**119,000**

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
**PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO**

**PUB DATE:**  
**OCTOBER 28, 2025**

## Comp Titles

*The Jasmine Throne*  
by Tasha Suri

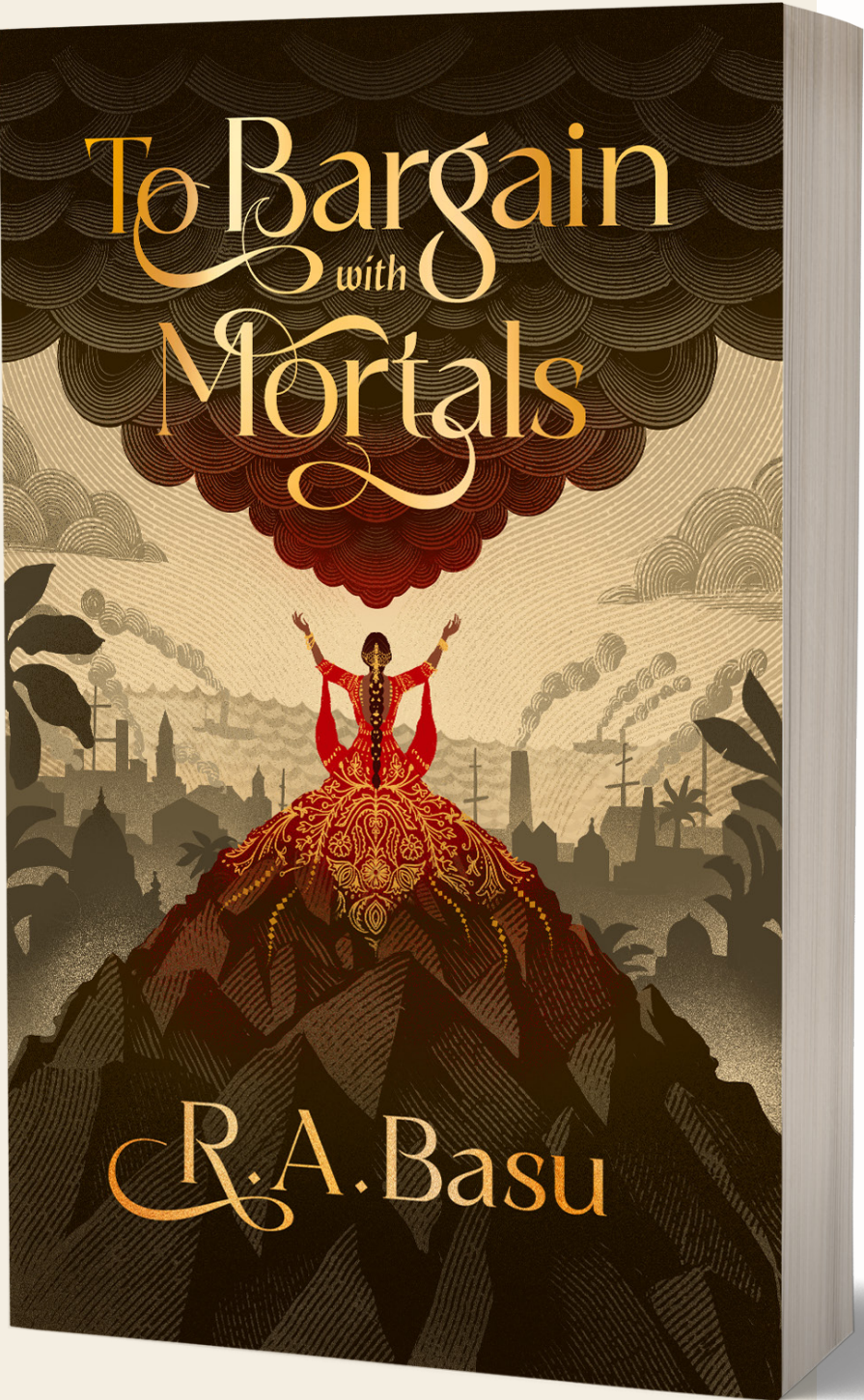
*The Final Strife*  
by Saara El-Arifi

*The Unbroken*  
by C. L. Clark

*She Who Became the Sun*  
by Shelley Parker-Chan

*Godkiller*  
by Hannah Kaner

Perfect for fans of Tasha Suri, Fonda Lee, and Saara El-Arifi, *To Bargain with Mortals* is the first in a twisting political fantasy duology set in a colonized nation poised for revolution—where an heiress and a gang leader join forces to forge a path to freedom.



## About the Author

**R. A. BASU** is an Indian Canadian author from Ontario. She graduated from the Schulich School of Business at York University in 2021 and works in app development. When she’s not reading or writing, she can be found playing cozy video games, fighting for her life in Pilates classes, and searching for the best matcha in the city. She currently lives in Toronto.



“[*Cry, Voidbringer*] ensnares the reader from the very first page and challenges them to reflect on humanity, oppression, and corruption.”  
N.E. DAVENPORT, AUTHOR OF *THE BLOOD GIFT DUOLOGY*

“Raw, unflinching storytelling coils around your chest and squeezes. *Cry, Voidbringer* is unlike anything I have ever read before.”  
R.A. BASU, AUTHOR OF *TO BARGAIN WITH MORTALS*



# Cry, Voidbringer

ELAINE HO

*In a broken system, do you save yourself or fight for the people you love?*

**WITH THE** godspower waning, the queen of Ashvi has had to find another way to bolster her fight against her imperialist oppressors. The solution: wrenching children of other cultures from their homes and conscripting them into service.

Hammer was one of those children. Now, she’s a jaded soldier waging Ashvi’s perpetual war, thinking only of her own survival. But when she accidentally rescues Viridian, a child with rare and potentially devastating

powers, her priorities shift. The girl appears to be the answer to the queen’s prayers—the perfect weapon to restore her kingdom’s ancient borders, even if the colonized cities they reconquer don’t want her version of liberation. Can Hammer protect Viridian from the system that broke her . . . before the girl’s power is unleashed on the world?

*Cry, Voidbringer* is a gripping saga of how far one will go for freedom and control—and how easily it can all be taken away. ♦

### Specs

**GENRE:**  
ADULT FANTASY

**WORD COUNT:**  
121,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**PUB DATE:**  
OCTOBER 28, 2025

### Comp Titles

*The Unbroken*  
by C. L. Clark

*The Name-Bearer*  
by Natalia Hernandez

*A Broken Blade*  
by Melissa Blair

*The Jasmine Throne*  
by Tasha Suri

*The Shadow of the Gods*  
by John Gwynne

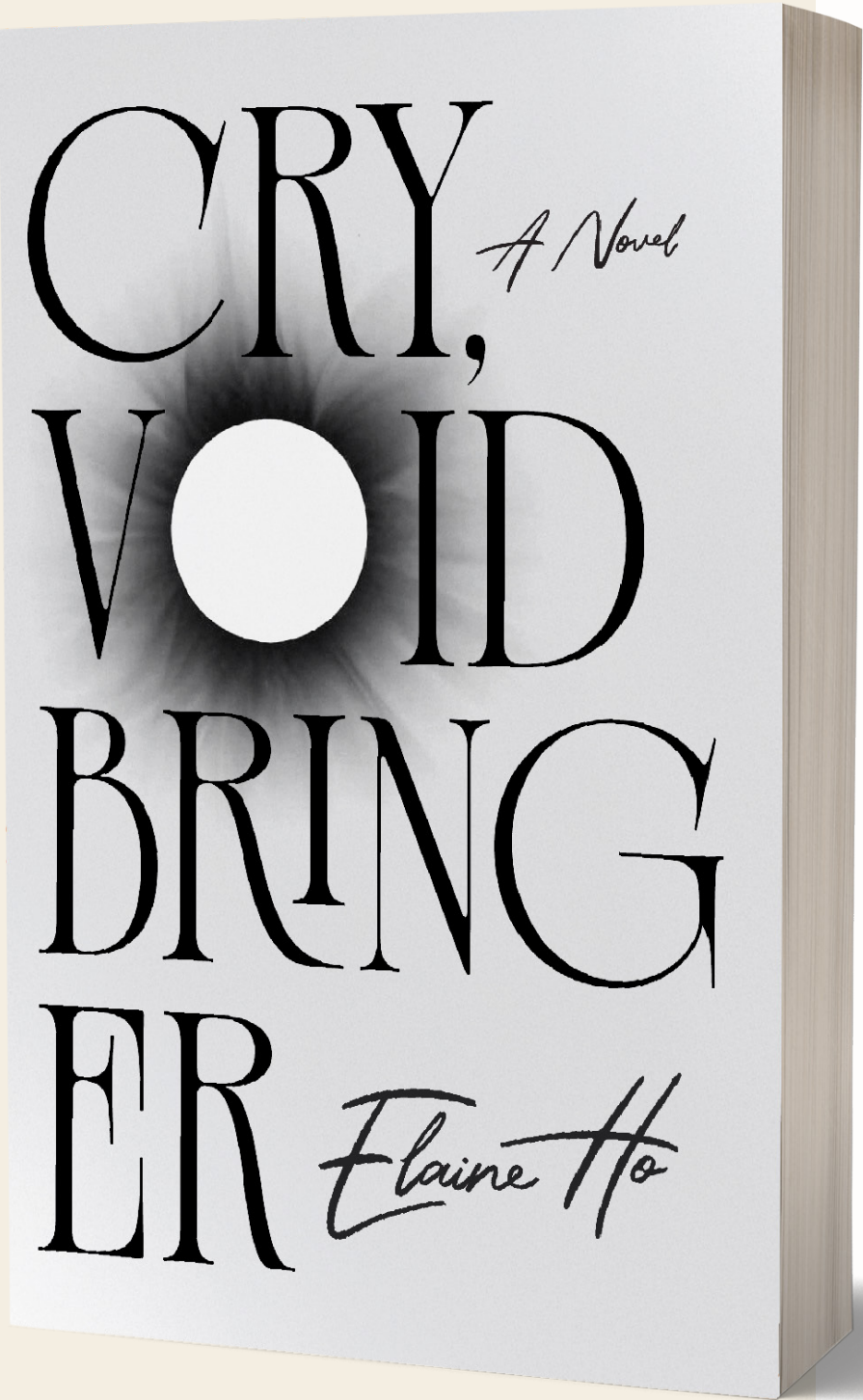
*Daughter of the Moon Goddess: A Novel*  
by Sue Lynn Tan

*The Fifth Season* meets *The Traitor Baru Cormorant* in *Cry, Voidbringer*, a postcolonial fantasy in which gods, rulers, and conscripted warriors forge identity and found family in corrupt systems.



### About the Author

**ELAINE HO** is an award-winning Asian American illustrator and author. Ho received a degree in psychology before pivoting into art full time, working as a concept artist in theme parks and virtual reality before becoming a freelance illustrator. She was the former art director for *khōréō*, a speculative fiction magazine focused on the diaspora experience. Having bounced between the US and Singapore for most of her life, she belongs to both and neither. *Cry, Voidbringer* is her first novel.





“A mesmerizing debut.”  
REBECCA YARROS, *NEW YORK TIMES*  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *FOURTH WING*  
AND *IRON FLAME*

“A fantastical romp filled with  
intrigue and suspense.”  
KIRKUS REVIEWS



# Tempest's Queen

(Book 2 of the *Inferno's Heir* duology)

TIFFANY WANG

An underdog Queen crosses the Black Sea. Is she sailing home, or to her own demise?

TEIA CARTHAN knew that becoming a legend wouldn't make her friends. The unlikely queen has sacrificed everything—home, friends, blood, even the spark of love—to hear the whisper of her new title. Highness.

But when she finds herself shipwrecked in Shaylan with an important message to deliver—she's forced to confront the limits of her royal power and past. There, she is reunited with the only people who can help

keep the Five Kingdoms from Civil War—the very rebels she betrayed to take the throne. Together they set out on a mad journey against the elements to flush out the real serpent in the royal court, coiled and waiting to strike.

Teia knows better than anyone: power corrupts like a wave, impossible to resist its lull and surge. Will she stand firm against the undertow and protect the kingdom, or succumb to her own darkness? ♦

### Specs

GENRE:  
YA FANTASY

WORD COUNT:  
95,000

TRADE FORMATS:  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

PUB DATE:  
OCTOBER 28, 2025

### Comp Titles

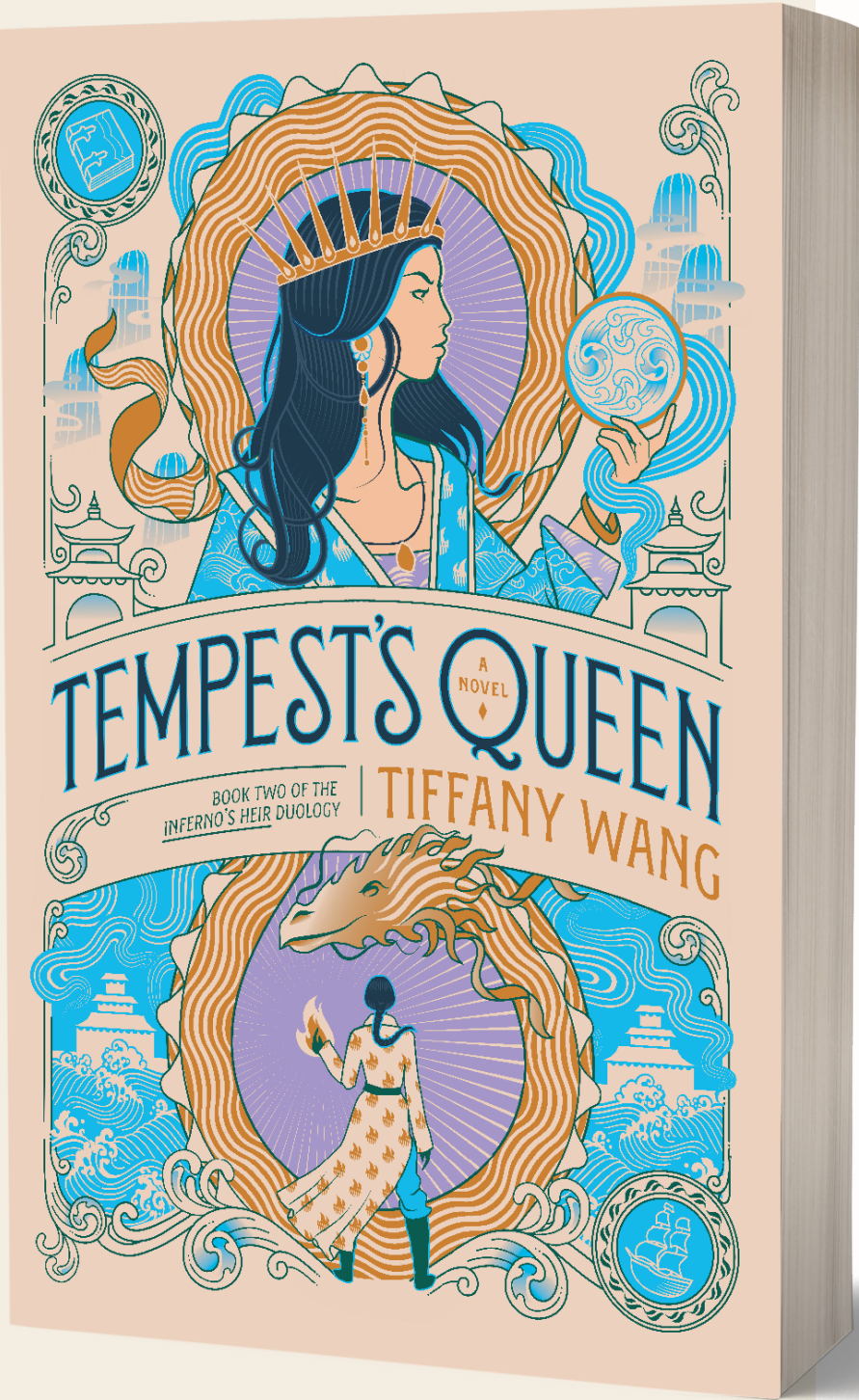
*Inferno's Heir*  
by Tiffany Wang

*Painted Devils (Little Thieves, 2)*  
by Margaret Owen

*Sunbringer*  
by Hannah Kaner

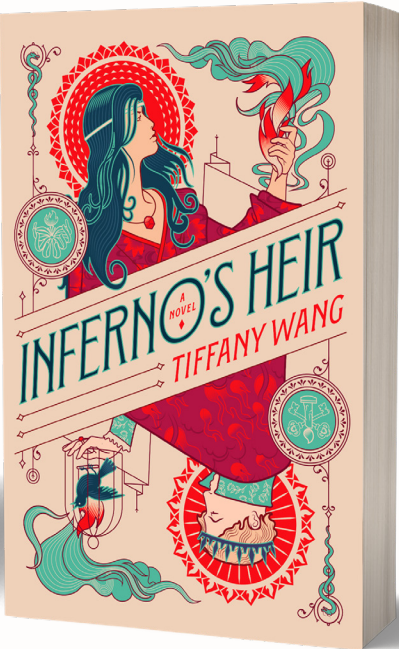
*Ruthless Vows*  
by Rebecca Ross

In this thrilling sequel to *Inferno's Heir*—the elemental fantasy called “mesmerizing” by Rebecca Yarros—Teia Carthan's reign crosses the Dark Sea while her enemies circle ever closer.



### About the Author

TIFFANY WANG hails from a town in North Texas and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, although she's currently wandering her way through New York City. In her spare time, she enjoys browsing through bookstores, hunting for a quiet place to write, and snacking on a questionable amount of Cheetos. She is also the author of *Inferno's Heir*.





“This is a delicious novel.”  
ANN HOOD, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF *THE KNITTING CIRCLE*

“Absorbing and delightful.”  
MARGOT LIVESEY, *NEW YORK TIMES*  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE ROAD*  
FROM *BELLHAVEN*

“A fable of femininity suffused with love.”  
ROBERT COHEN, BESTSELLING AUTHOR  
OF *AMATEUR BARBARIANS* AND *INSPIRED*  
*SLEEP*



# Orange Wine

ESPERANZA HOPE SNYDER

*While I was giving birth to Lucy, my husband,  
Alessandro, was lying in bed with my sister, Isabel.*

**AND THUS**, Inés de la Rota—the youngest daughter of an Italian nobleman and a Colombian poet—begins to speak in a bitter, sweet voice.

Against the backdrop of early twentieth-century Colombia, where the Catholic Church exercises total control over women, *Orange Wine* weaves an unforgettable story of sisterhood, love, passion, and betrayal. Isolated in a society that opposes her desires, Inés struggles with her identity as a

mother, artist, sister, lover, and woman. Her choices are stark: accept her duty to her family or embark on a sensuous journey of self-discovery. Each path will cost her—or those she loves—something dear.

Mirroring the alchemical process of turning oranges into wine, Inés must create a new life from a bitter pith, pressing sweetness from life’s agonies as she struggles toward artistic freedom and feminine awakening. ♦

### Specs

**GENRE:**  
HISTORICAL FICTION

**WORD COUNT:**  
68,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**PUB DATE:**  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

### Comp Titles

*Woman of Light*  
by Kali Fajardo-Anstine

*Violeta*  
by Isabel Allende

*Fruit of the Drunken Tree*  
by Ingrid Rojas Contreras

*The Beautiful Ones*  
by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

*Those Who Leave and Those  
Who Stay*  
by Elena Ferrante

A ripe, sensuous study of passion, art, and female identity in early twentieth-century Colombia, *Orange Wine* evokes the psychological precision of Elena Ferrante’s *Days of Abandonment* and Isabel Allende’s *Violeta*.



### About the Author

**ESPERANZAHOPE SNYDER** was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia, and has lived in the US, Italy, and Spain. She is the author of a poetry collection, *Esperanza and Hope* (Sheep Meadow Press, 2018), and two plays, *Lullaby for George* and *The Backroom*, the latter of which is being adapted to film. *Delicates*, her cotranslation of Wendy Guerra’s poetry collection (Seagull Books, 2023), was noted in the *New York Times* and was long listed for the 2024 National Translation Award. Esperanza has also been assistant director of *Bread Loaf in Sicily* and cocordinator of the *Lorca Prize*. She lives in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. *Orange Wine* was inspired by the story of her grandparents.



“A beautiful meditation on grief, family, and the ties that bind. I was wholly absorbed . . . . This book is for everyone. Gorgeous.”  
CHELSEA BIEKER, AUTHOR OF *MADWOMAN* AND *GODSHOT*

“Deena ElGenaidi’s stunning debut masterfully weaves the personal and the political.”  
ZAINA ARAFAT, AUTHOR OF *YOU EXIST TOO MUCH*



# Dust Settles North

DEENA ELGENAIDI

*It’s 2012, and post-revolution Egypt is sparking with political energy—but Hannah and Zain are numb.*

THE FLIGHT from New York to Cairo is long—longer still for two siblings on a journey to bury their mother. When they discover their father’s unforgivable betrayal, what’s left of their family crumbles.

Hannah gives up her spot at Columbia Law to remain in Egypt, where she navigates romantic entanglements and a new culture. Back in America, Zain’s self-destructive behavior begins to catch up with him, leaving him to wonder whether he’s any different from his father.

When the siblings reunite

in Cairo months later, Zain is nearing rock bottom, and Hannah finds herself in the middle of the Arab Spring uprising. Together they confront shared secrets and reconcile their conservative upbringing with their new beliefs as adults. Will they heal together, or has the loss of their only bridge—their mother—set them permanently adrift?

A tender reflection on the effects of grief and loss, this deeply felt novel explores how siblings come together to mend a fractured family and, in the process, find themselves. ♦

### Specs

**GENRE:**  
UPMARKET  
CONTEMPORARY

**WORD COUNT:**  
101,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**PUB DATE:**  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

### Comp Titles

*Olga Dies Dreaming*  
by Xochitl Gonzalez

*You Exist Too Much*  
by Zaina Arafat

*Our Missing Hearts*  
by Celeste Ng

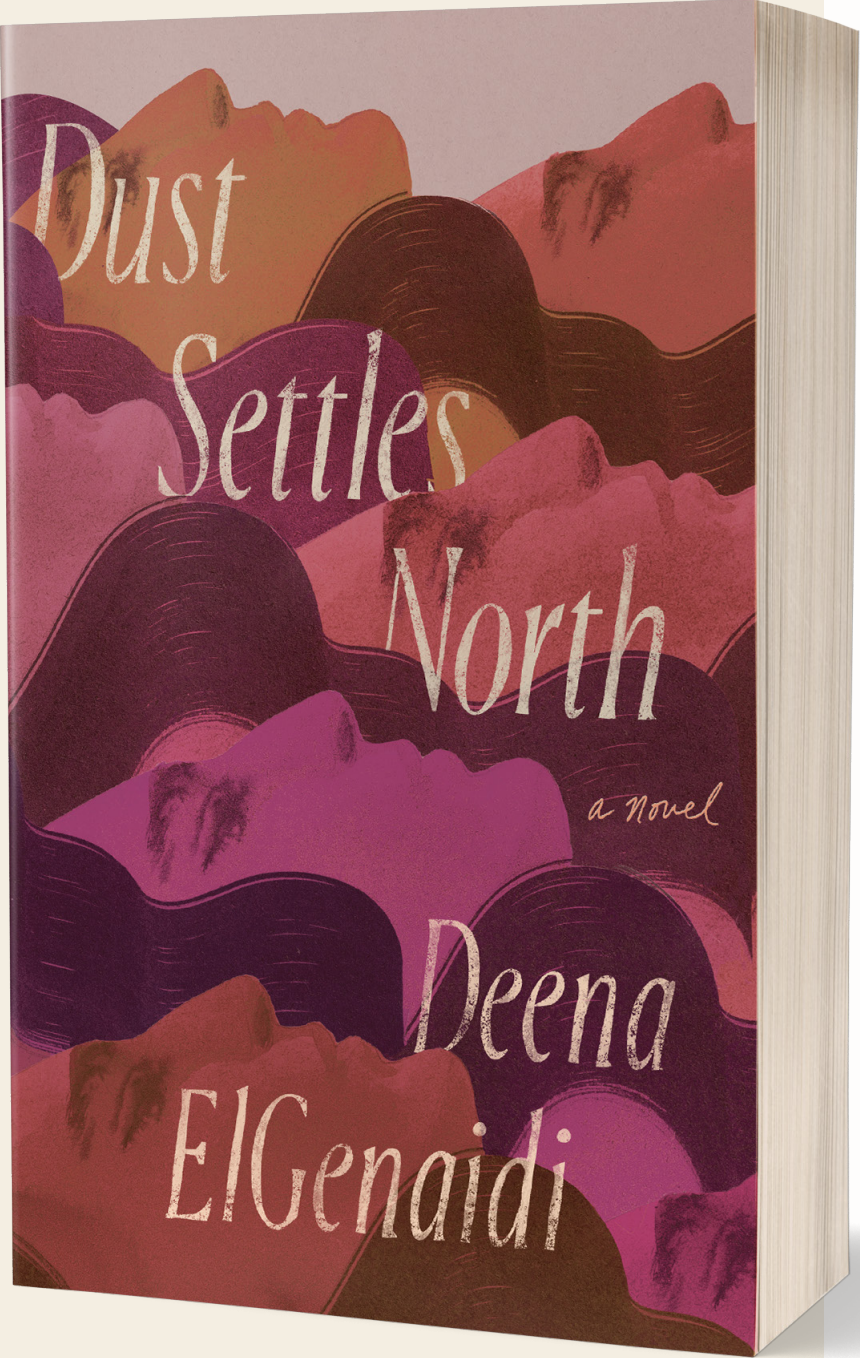
*Evil Eye*  
by Etaf Rum

For fans of *You Exist Too Much* and *Our Missing Hearts*, *Dust Settles North* is a poignant story of two siblings navigating their second-generation Egyptian American identities, family traumas, and grief in the wake of their mother’s sudden death—and father’s shocking betrayal.



### About the Author

**DEENA ELGENAIDI** is a writer and editor based in Brooklyn, New York. She holds her MFA in creative writing from Rutgers University–Camden and her MA in English from Villanova University. Her writing has been featured in *Vulture*, *Nylon*, *Salon*, *Lit Hub*, and more. *Dust Settles North* is her first book.







BACKLIST

SPRING 2025

FALL 2024



# Of Monsters and Mainframes

BARBARA TRUELOVE

Spaceships aren't programmed to seek revenge—but for Dracula, Demeter can make an exception.

DEMETER JUST WANTS to do her job: shuttling humans between Earth and Alpha Centauri. Unfortunately, her passengers keep dying—and not from equipment failures, as her AI medical system, Steward, would like to believe. These are paranormal murders, and they began when one nasty, ancient vampire decided to board Demeter and kill all her humans.

To keep from getting decommissioned, Demeter must join forces with her own team of monsters: A werewolf. An engineer built from the dead. A pharaoh with otherworldly powers. A vampire with a grudge. A fleet of cheerful spider drones. Together, this motley crew will face down the ultimate evil—Dracula.

The queer love child of pulp horror and classic sci-fi, *Of Monsters and Mainframes* is a dazzling, heartfelt odyssey that probes what it means to be society's monster—and explores the many types of friendship that make us human. ♦



### About the Author

BARBARA TRUELOVE is an Australian author and game designer. She is the author of *Crying Wolf* as well as the interactive novel *Blood Moon*. She started writing when she was nine years old and believes it's probably too late to break the habit now.



### Specs

GENRE:  
PARANORMAL  
SCIENCE FICTION

WORD COUNT:  
73,000

TRADE FORMATS:  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

SPECIAL EDITION:  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

PUB DATE:  
JUNE 3, 2025

INDIE NEXT PICK  
JUNE 2025

AMAZON EDITOR'S PICK,  
BEST SCI-FI AND FANTASY

#1 HOT NEW RELEASE  
ON AMAZON

GOODREADS 80  
MOST ANTICIPATED NEW  
SUMMER BOOKS

LITHUB'S JUNE'S  
BEST SCI-FI AND FANTASY

BOOKRIOT'S 10 TERRIFIC  
NEW SFF BOOKS FOR JUNE

♥ ♥ ♥

"A delightfully creepy treat."  
LIBRARY JOURNAL, STARRED REVIEW ★

"Pure entertainment."  
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, STARRED REVIEW ★

"A book that will make you incredibly invested in the relationships between AI. This is a clever and imaginative retelling of aspects of Dracula that both makes you giggle and gasp."  
KIMBERLY LEMMING, USA TODAY BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF I GOT ABDUCTED BY ALIENS AND  
NOW I'M TRAPPED IN A ROM-COM

"A gloriously clever mashup of genres that captures the loneliness of space, and the joy of finding companions to explore it with. I laughed one page, cried the next, and cheered for Demeter and her motley crew throughout. *Of Monsters and Mainframes* is a delight from start to finish."

MAIGA DOOCY, SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF SORCERY AND SMALL MAGICS

"*Of Monsters and Mainframes* is fast and fun, with crackling prose, airlock-cold chills, and a lot to love in its too-human inhuman protagonists. It's a treat to read a book that feels so modern and so classic at the same time, sitting right on the bridge between Murderbot and a monster movie."

KAREN OSBORNE, AUTHOR OF ARCHITECTS  
OF MEMORY

"This book is a warm hug in bloodied arms. Mixing hull breaches with skeletons eating chips, it's a fantastic and strange journey into inter-species friendships and slow-burn platonic robotic love. The entire cast could step off the page and slap me in the face and I would thank them for it."

ELI SNOW, AUTHOR THE DIVINE GARDENER'S  
HANDBOOK

"I devoured this like a mythical creature feasting on an interstellar crew. Delightful, unhinged, and obscenely compelling. Told through a quippy lens, this story is incredibly warm for a monster mash set in space. It feels like a new wave of fable and I can't recommend it enough."

CRAIG MONTGOMERY, AUTHOR OF A CIRCLE  
OF STARS



# Crueler Mercies

MAREN CHASE

“Vita’s rage overflowed until she was prepared to drown in it, and she knew that she would never again dam this anger to please another.”



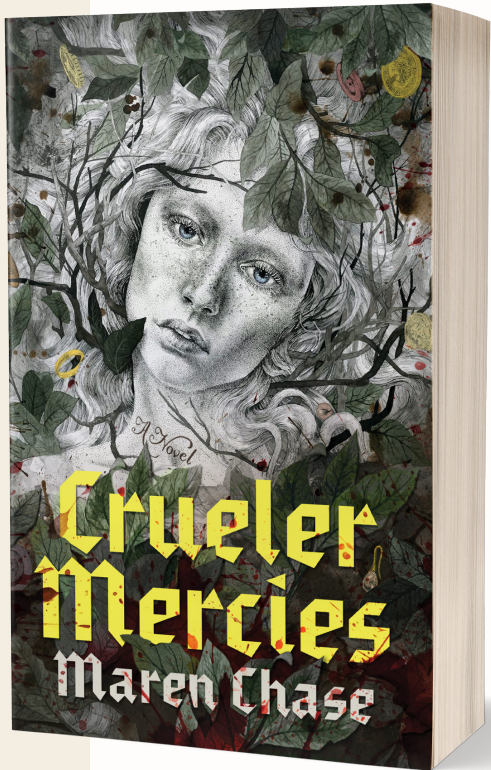
**AFTER NINE YEARS** as the people’s beloved princess in the sun-soaked Kingdom of Carca, Vita witnesses the execution of her mother by her father’s hand. Forced into exile, Vita fades into obscurity with her only friends—the crows that visit her window.

Ten years later, Vita is given a choice: marry an enemy general, granting him legitimacy to take the throne, or die as the forgotten princess. With time running out, Vita meets Soline, an intriguing lady-in-waiting who introduces her to the powerful-but-unstable magic of alchemy.

If Vita and Soline can learn to control it—and the undeniable spark between them—they could burn the world of men to the ground. ♦

### About the Author

**MAREN CHASE** is a writer and frequent museum-wanderer from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She studied history in the UK, where she led tours through monastic cloisters and across plague pits on the weekends. Since returning home, she has worked in the contemporary art world. Her favorite stories are about vengeful women, forbidden romance, and the inherent angst of immortality.



### Specs

**GENRE:**  
FANTASY WITH  
HORROR ELEMENTS

**WORD COUNT:**  
99,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**SPECIAL EDITION:**  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

**PUB DATE:**  
JUNE 3, 2025

GOODREADS PRIDE  
READING LIST

MOST ANTICIPATED  
LGBTQ+ ADULT FICTION  
JUNE 2025 ON LGBTQ READS



“A lush tribute to female rage, both visceral and epic, with a tender, poignant sapphic romance at its core. This book smolders—in every sense of the word.”

AVA REID, #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF A STUDY IN DROWNING

“A fearsome reimagining of the girl locked in the tower, Chase’s tale vibrates like a thousand crows taking flight. At turns violent and tender, tragic and uplifting, it will break your heart and then bring you roaring to your feet with vengeful satisfaction. Naomi Novik fans who want it queerer and angrier will love this new foray into sapphic fantasy.”

BETHANY JACOBS, AUTHOR OF THESE  
BURNING STARS

“Crueler Mercies immerses readers in the depths of female strength, love and rage. I loved going on Vita’s journey, and I know countless other readers will feel the same.”  
RYAN GRAUDIN, AUTHOR OF THE ENCHANTED  
LIES OF CÉLESTE ARTOIS

“A fiery tale of vengeance, magic, and love that will keep readers spellbound. Vita’s journey from forgotten princess to a force of reckoning is absolutely thrilling. There’s nothing I love more than a cunning and vengeful sapphic main character stepping into her power, and Maren Chase delivers. This novel weaves a mesmerizing tale of alchemy, slow-burn sapphic romance, and a heroine’s fight for justice. I can’t wait to see all of the Vita and Soline fan art that is sure to come from this story.”

A. K. MULFORD, BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
THE FIVE CROWNS OF OKRITH SERIES

“A slow-burning alchemy of forbidden sapphic romance and heart-rending vengeance that pits charm, cleverness, and compassion against man’s brutality. Haunting and sharp-edged.”

SUSAN J. MORRIS, AUTHOR OF STRANGE  
BEASTS



# Black Salt Queen

SAMANTHA BANSIL

*The desperate queen can move the earth.  
Her fickle daughter controls the skies.  
Their reckless rival commands an inferno.  
Only one will gain the throne.*



**HARA DUJA GATDULA**, queen of the island nation of Mayanara, holds the divine power to move the earth. But her strength is failing and the line of succession gives her little comfort. Her heir, Laya, is a danger—a petty and passionate princess who wields the enormous power of the skies with fickle indifference. Circling the throne is Imeria Kulaw—the matriarch of a traitorous rival family who wields recklessly enhanced powers of her own—with designs to secure a high-ranking position for her son and claim the crown for her family. Each woman has a secret weakness—a lover, a heartbreak, a lie. But is each willing to pay the steepest price to bring down her rivals once and for all?

Bursting with passion, romance, betrayal, and divine magic, *Black Salt Queen* journeys to a gorgeous precolonial island nation where women—and secrets—reign. ♦



## About the Author

**SAMANTHA BANSIL** is a fantasy writer and marathon napper. She's a sucker for tearjerkers, extravagant settings, and unlikeable protagonists. When she's not writing, she can be found wandering bookstores and ricocheting between continents. She works in Paris, France as a content marketer.

## Specs

**GENRE:**  
FANTASY / ROMANTASY  
(BOOK 1 OF 2)

**WORD COUNT:**  
100,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**EXCLUSIVE EDITION:**  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

**PUB DATE:**  
JUNE 3, 2025



👉 ONE OF PEOPLE  
MAGAZINE'S "MOST  
ANTICIPATED BOOKS OF  
2025 BY BOOK INFLUENCERS"

👉 ONE OF AUTOSTRADDLE'S  
MOST ANTICIPATED  
QUEER BOOKS

👉 ONE OF BOOKRIOT'S  
10 TERRIFIC NEW SFF  
BOOKS FOR JUNE

♥ ♥ ♥

"Bansil's debut, the first in a proposed series, is a captivating read filled with love, power and betrayal, set against a lush island background. Readers will eagerly await the second installment."

## BOOKLIST

"Passion, betrayal, and lush romance in a rich world, *Black Salt Queen* blends sapphic love, powerful women, and explosive secrets."

C.S. PACAT, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF *DARK RISE*

"Centered within a whirling battle between love and power, *Black Salt Queen* is an epic tale of female ambition, court intrigue, and betrayal that is sure to keep you on the edge of your seat. Bansil is a writer to watch."

O. O. SANGOYOMI, AUTHOR OF *MASQUERADE*

"*Black Salt Queen* is a superbly gripping tale of love, mortality, and the intergenerational effects of trauma. With lush and evocative prose Samantha Bansil brings to life a Filipino fantasy world of mythic proportions that is bursting with historical and cultural details. If you want intrigue, passionate romance, and a delicious dose of yearning, *Black Salt Queen* is a must read."

GABRIELLA BUBA, AUTHOR OF *SAINTS OF STORM AND SORROW* AND *DAUGHTERS OF FLOOD AND FURY*

"Complex matriarchs in a vivid setting. A marvelous addition to the growing multitude of voices in Filipino fantasy fiction."

K.S. VILLOSO, AUTHOR OF *THE WOLF OF OREN-YARO*

"Richly immersive with political intrigue as sharp as a blade, *Black Salt Queen* is a triumph of a debut. This precolonial Philippines-inspired fantasy is a vivid portrayal of love and power, and what happens when one is forced to choose between them. Skillfully epic yet splendidly intimate."

MADDIE MARTINEZ, AUTHOR OF *THE MAIDEN AND HER MONSTER* (TOR, 2025)

"Passion, heartache, and betrayal layered over a lush, history-rich world. *Black Salt Queen* is all consuming yet balances on the edge of a blade. I'm dying for more!"

BRITTNEY ARENA, AUTHOR OF  
*A DANCE OF LIES*



# The Unmapping

DENISE S. ROBBINS

4 a.m., New York City. A silent disaster.

**THERE IS NO** flash of light, no crumbling, no quaking. All of New York wakes up on an unfamiliar block when its buildings rearrange their positions overnight. The power grid has snapped, thousands of residents are missing, and the Empire State Building is on Coney Island—for now. The next night, it happens again.

Esme Green and Arjun Varma work for the City of New York’s Emergency Management team and are tasked with managing disaster response for “The Unmapping.” As Esme tries to wade through the bureaucratic nightmare of an endlessly shuffling city, she’s distracted by the ongoing search for her missing fiancé. Arjun focuses on the ground-level rescue of disoriented New Yorkers, hoping to become the hero the city needs.

With scientists scrambling to find a solution—or at least a means to cope—and mysterious “red cloak” cults cropping up in the disaster’s wake, New York begins to reckon with a new reality no one recognizes. For Esme and Arjun, the fight to hold the city together will mean tackling questions about themselves that they were too afraid to ask—and facing answers they never ex-

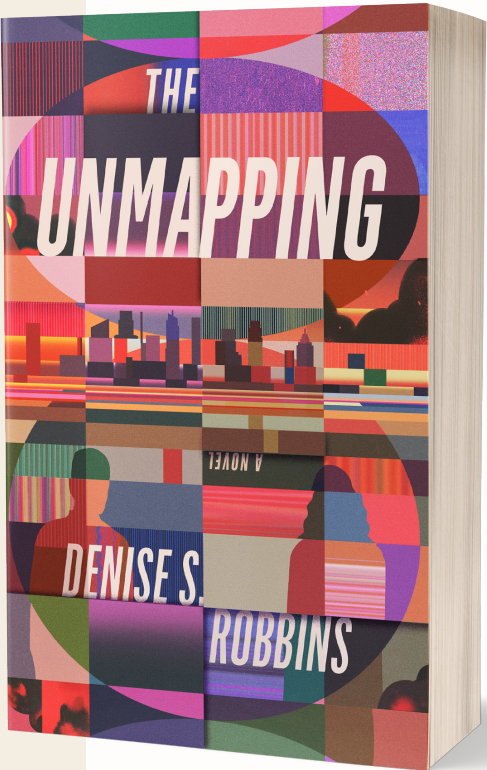
pected. With themes of climate change, political unrest, and social justice, *The Unmapping* is a timely and captivating debut. ♦



### About the Author

**DENISE S. ROBBINS** is from Madison, Wisconsin, the city where she grew up and to which she returned to after sixteen years living and working in climate activism on the East Coast. She lives with her husband in a yellow house circled by oaks and pines and two owls. She is a Pushcart-nominated author whose stories have been published in literary journals including *Barcelona Review*, *Gulf Coast Journal*, and more.

Read her work and get in touch at [www.denisesrobbins.com](http://www.denisesrobbins.com).



### Specs

**GENRE:**  
LITERARY  
SCIENCE FICTION

**WORD COUNT:**  
88,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**EXCLUSIVE EDITION:**  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

**PUB DATE:**  
JUNE 3, 2025

👉 ONE OF PEOPLE  
MAGAZINE’S BEST  
BOOKS SUMMER 2025

👉 LISTED IN GOODREADS’  
GUIDE TO “OUT-OF-THIS-  
WORLD 2025 FANTASY AND  
SCIENCE FICTION”

👉 ONE OF THE NERD  
DAILY’S “FANTASY &  
SCI-FI RELEASES TO  
DEVOUR IN 2025”



“A wildly entertaining excavation of climate change, politics and human nature amid disaster.”

PEOPLE MAGAZINE

“For readers ready to blur the lines between science and magic, such as in Matt Haig’s fiction.”

LIBRARY JOURNAL

“Bold, inventive, and genre-defying, *The Unmapping* is a thrilling exploration of human nature, survival, and the unknown forces that shape our world. I was in Robbins’ thrall from page one.”

NADA ALIC, AUTHOR OF *BAD THOUGHTS*

“What a powerful way to get at the essential fact of our time—that the world we’ve always known is now shifting around us, and we must come together to confront that reality.”

BILL MCKIBBEN, AUTHOR OF *THE END OF NATURE*

“A tour de force, *The Unmapping* is an allegory for this moment of disorientation, when climate change, predatory capitalism, and hubristic technology have left us unsure of our place and path. Yet Robbins weaves a thread of warm humanity through the book, hinting at how we may find our way again.”

MARCIA BJORNERUD, AUTHOR OF *TURNING TO STONE AND TIMEFULNESS*

“What a fun, mind-bending read! In the vein of Peng Shepherd, *The Unmapping* gives the reader an utterly original concept, a multilayered speculative puzzle, and a plot that unfolds at breakneck speed. In a world where we’re all feeling a bit lost, I’m glad I found *The Unmapping*.”

MARK CECIL, AUTHOR OF *BUNYAN AND HENRY; OR, THE BEAUTIFUL DESTINY*



# Strange Beasts

SUSAN J. MORRIS

*In this fresh yet familiar gothic tale—part historical fantasy, part puzzlebox mystery—the worlds of Dracula and Sherlock Holmes collide in a thrilling exploration of feminine power.*

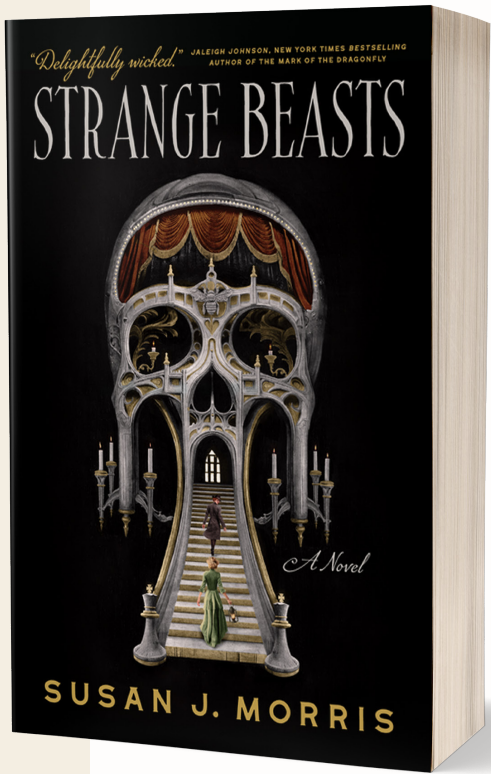
AT THE DAWN of the twentieth century in Paris, Samantha Harker, daughter of Dracula’s killer, works as a researcher for the Royal Society for the Study for Abnormal Phenomena. But no one realizes how abnormal she is. Sam is a channel into the minds of monsters: a power that could help her solve the gruesome deaths plaguing turn-of-the-century Paris—or have her thrown into the asylum.

Sam finds herself assigned to a case with Dr. Helena Moriarty, daughter of the criminal mastermind and famed nemesis of Sherlock Holmes—a notorious detective that no one wants to work with on account of her previous partners’ mysterious murders. As the investigation sweeps them into a race to find and stop “the beast” from its killing rampage, ranging from the elite clubs of Paris to the dark underbelly of the catacombs, Hel and Sam are pitted against men, monsters, and even each other. But beneath their tenuous trust, an unmistakable attraction brews. Is trusting Hel the key to solving the murder, or is Sam yet another pawn in Hel’s game? ♦



## About the Author

**SUSAN J. MORRIS** is a fantasy author and editor, best known for a writing advice column featured on Amazon’s Omnivoracious blog and her work editing *Forgotten Realms* novels. Susan delights in run-ning workshops for Clarion West and in moderating panels for writing symposiums. She lives in Sammamish, Washington with her partner, two cats, and entirely too many plants. When not writing, reading, or wading through said plants, Susan indulges in playing video games such as *Hades*, *Oxenfree*, and *Baldur’s Gate 3*, training in Pilates (which is better for her shoulders than jujutsu was), and experimenting with new plant-based food recipes.



## Specs

**GENRE:**  
HISTORICAL FANTASY  
(BOOK 1 OF 2)

**WORD COUNT:**  
98,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**EXCLUSIVE EDITION:**  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

**PUB DATE:**  
OCTOBER 15, 2024

👉 ONE OF AUTOSTRADDLE’S  
72 MOST ANTICIPATED  
QUEER BOOKS FOR FALL



“While the novel’s world is based on well-known Dracula lore, Morris delivers a fresh, unique tale that will delight mystery, fantasy, and horror readers alike. Give it to fans of C.L. Polk, Alix E. Harrow, and T. Kingfisher.”  
LIBRARY JOURNAL

“*Strange Beasts* is filled with the sensual, lush prose that is the mark of a dynamic writer—but with mystery, murder, and monsters on top. Such an absolute joy to read. Highly recommended.”  
TJ KLUNE, NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF *THE HOUSE IN THE CERULEAN SEA*

“A riveting gas-lamp fantasy that’s equal parts bloody mystery and flat-out supernatural romp. Morris deftly weaves existing lore—from both the classic literature her characters are born of and a taxonomy handbook’s worth of supernatural creatures—into a vivid feminist tale where the pages fly. A delightful debut bursting with affection for its magical world.”  
MELISSA ALBERT, NEW YORK TIMES  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE HAZEL WOOD*

“*Strange Beasts* offers us fantastic and fresh new stories about old monsters and legends. Morris displays exceptional skill with her prose and storytelling as she leads readers through the dark and atmospheric underbelly of gothic Victorian Paris. Sam and Hel are a great team up and will make you want to know what happens next well after you reach the last page. It’s going to be a terrible crime to have to wait for the sequel!”  
WESLEY CHU, #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF THE WAR ARTS SAGA SERIES

“What a luscious and fantastical treat! With virtuoso world-building, Morris effortlessly transported me to an enchanting realm teeming with monsters, mysticism, and the paranormal. Prepare to be utterly absorbed. *Strange Beasts* is a magical debut!”  
EMILY HABECK, USA TODAY BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF *SHARK HEART: A LOVE STORY*

“A whip-smart, lusciously atmospheric adventure through the dazzling theaters and chilling catacombs of turn-of-the-century Paris.”  
FRANCES WHITE, SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLING  
AUTHOR OF *VOYAGE OF THE DAMNED*

“A propulsive collision of historical fiction and fantasy, all tied together with an opulent gothic bow. A terrifying delight.”  
SIGNE PIKE, AUTHOR OF  
*THE LOST QUEEN SERIES*



# House of Frank

KAY SYNCLAIRE

A whimsical and queer cozy fantasy intertwining themes of loss and love, *House of Frank* is Howl’s Moving Castle meets *The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches* in a magical arboretum sanctuary setting.

**DEFUNCT WITCH SAIKA** of ready to enact her sister’s dying request: to bury her ashes at the famed Ash Gardens. When she arrives at the always-stormy sanctuary, she is welcomed by its owner, an enormous, knit-cardiganed mythical beast named Frank, who offers her a role as one of the estate’s caretakers. Overcome with grief, Saika accepts, desperate to put off her final farewell to her sister. But the work requires a witch with true powers, and Saika’s been disconnected from her magic since her sister’s death two years prior. Saika gets by at the sanctuary using a fragment of a fallen star to cast a few enchantments— while hiding the embarrassing truth about herself.

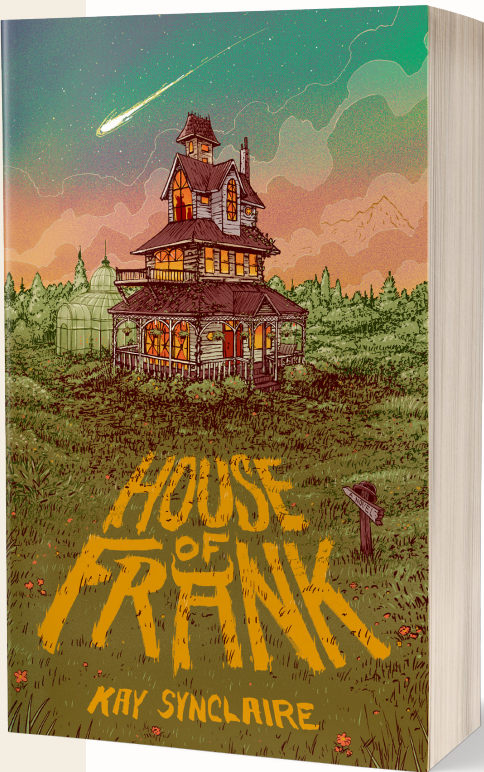
As Saika works harder in avoidance of her pain, she learns more about Frank, the decaying house at Ash Gardens, and the lives of the motley staff, including bickering twin cherubs, a mute ghost, a cantankerous elf, and an irritating half-witch, among others. Over time, she rediscovers what it means to love and be wholly loved, while

allowing her joy and grief to coexist. Warm and inventive, *House of Frank* is a stirring portrait of the ache of loss and the healing embrace of love. ♦



## About the Author

**KAY SYNCLAIRE** is the youngest of five children and the proud aunt of twelve. Kay attended Philadelphia University before working in caretaking roles as a nurse assistant and preschool teacher. Kay currently lives in Philadelphia, with her sister, who is the coauthor of her 2022 collection of short stories, *The Strange Accounts of Germantown and Other Peculiar Phenomena*. *House of Frank* is her debut novel.



## Specs

**GENRE:**  
COZY FANTASY

**WORD COUNT:**  
100,000

**TRADE FORMATS:**  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

**EXCLUSIVE EDITION:**  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

**PUB DATE:**  
OCTOBER 15, 2024

👉 ONE OF BOOKRIOT'S  
10 BIGGEST & BUZZIEST  
NEW QUEER BOOKS  
OUT IN FALL 2024

👉 ONE OF AUTOSTRADDLE'S  
MOST ANTICIPATED QUEER  
BOOKS FOR FALL

♥ ♥ ♥

“*House of Frank* weaves compelling characters, evocative prose, and a touch of magic with a narrative that balances wonder at the joy of choosing to live a full life, even with the heartbreaking knowledge of what it means to have faced death. Synclaire has filled these pages with love amidst grief, showing that the pain of losing someone is not singular and is grappled with in many different ways . . . A stunning tale of learning to let go, Synclaire's *House of Frank* creates a space for sitting with grief that reminds readers that death is not the end, and no one is truly alone, and one way or another, those we lose remain with us in different ways.”

SHELF AWARENESS

“Wow. Just wow. A heartbreaking, magnificent debut that offers space to sit with grief—and reads like a warm hug.”

REBECCA THORNE, BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
*CAN'T SPELL TREASON WITHOUT TEA*

“In *House of Frank*, Kay Synclaire balances the expansive experience of grief with the transformative impact of found family in a way that stirred me to my core. I will be thinking about this book for years to come. This heartwarming story is a gift to anyone searching for healing and home.”

MEG HOOD (@MEGSTEAROOM),  
BOOK INFLUENCER

“*House of Frank* bravely calls upon the fine line between love and grief, illustrating the complex emotions death dispenses. Kay Synclaire’s writing is full of hope and sorrow, creatively exhibiting the connection formed through communal grief. Brought me to tears.”

DEIRDRE MORGAN (@DEIDREREMORGAN),  
BOOKTOK INFLUENCER



# Inferno's Heir

TIFFANY WANG

*Fearing for her life, an outcast princess joins the rebellion against her own kingdom and family . . . but when playing with fire, someone always gets burned.*

TEIA CARTHAN abandoned her morals long ago, and now there's nothing she won't do to stay alive. So far she has survived her parents' deaths, the ire of the Council, and innumerable attempts on her life orchestrated by Jura, her half-brother and soon-to-be King of Erisa. Teia's rare control over two elements marks her as both an outsider and a formidable opponent—but once Jura is crowned king, there will be no surviving him. Not for Teia, not for anyone.

When Jura moves to crush the rebellion seeking to overthrow the monarchy, Teia sees one last opportunity to ensure her own safety. She'll infiltrate the rebels, locate their base . . . and betray them to Jura, trading their lives for her own. Yet when Teia meets the rebels, she gets far more than she bargained for. And when she gains not only their trust but their friendship, she begins to have doubts. Perhaps the rebels are right. Perhaps the Golden Palace should be torn down and the monarchy destroyed.

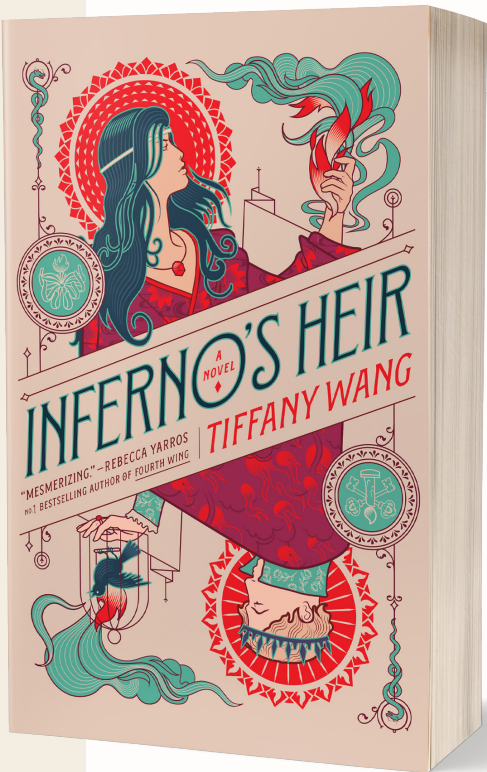
But then again—what if there was another possibility? What if Teia was on the throne instead? ♦



## About the Author

TIFFANY WANG *hails from a town in North Texas and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, although she's currently wandering her way through New York City. In her spare time, she enjoys browsing through bookstores, hunting for a quiet place to write, and snacking on a questionable amount of Cheetos.*

For more information visit: <https://tiffanyjwang.com/>.



## Specs

GENRE:  
YA FANTASY  
(BOOK 1 OF 2)

WORD COUNT:  
100,000

TRADE FORMATS:  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

EXCLUSIVE EDITION:  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

PUB DATE:  
OCTOBER 15, 2024

ONE OF PASTE  
MAGAZINE'S MOST  
ANTICIPATED BOOKS  
FOR FALL 2024



"Wang's tightly written narrative deftly unravels surprising twists. . . A fantastical romp filled with intrigue and suspense."  
KIRKUS REVIEWS

"A fire-wielding princess infiltrates a rebel army to barter her own freedom in Wang's pulpy fantasy debut . . . Suspenseful plotting and adrenaline-inducing action delivered at a steady clip . . . an exciting adventure."  
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

"A mesmerizing debut fantasy."  
REBECCA YARROS, #1 NEW YORK TIMES  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *FOURTH WING*  
AND *IRON FLAME*

"*Inferno's Heir* is an absolute delight. Teia is the kind of character you'll follow anywhere—devious, driven, and full of emotion. The world is so rich and intriguing that I sank into it and never wanted to leave."  
MARIE RUTKOSKI, NEW YORK TIMES  
BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE HOLLOW HEART*,  
*THE WINNER'S CURSE TRILOGY*, AND  
*THE KRONOS CHRONICLES*

"Full of court intrigue, assassinations, prison breaks, and heists, this is a dangerous and riveting story that's part *Six of Crows*, part *Game of Thrones*, and part *The Poppy War*. I adored Teia, its relentlessly fierce, morally gray heroine, and rooted for her, even in the most impossible situations. Absolutely recommended if you're looking for a book that you will have to devour in one sitting."  
JAMIE PACTON, BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
*THE ABSINTHE UNDERGROUND* AND *THE VERMILION EMPORIUM*

"*Inferno's Heir* is just like its protagonist: destructive, deceptive, and heart wrenching. Wang creates a world where heroes and villains are two sides of the same coin and fates unfold with the flip of a playing card. Prepare to fall in love and fall apart in this dark fantasy done right."  
VANESSA LE, AUTHOR OF  
*THE LAST BLOODCARVER*

"A stunning concoction of political intrigue, found family and nail-biting tension. *Inferno's Heir* is destined to be a book people obsess over."  
JAYSEN HEADLEY, GLOBAL TOP 5  
BOOKTOK INFLUENCER @EZEKAT



# And the Sky Bled

S. HATI

A blistering, thought-provoking climate fantasy that combines the sociopolitical dynamics of Jade City and the gritty worldbuilding of The Fifth Season.

IN THE OCCUPIED city of Tejomaya, calor—a magical fossil fuel—is found only in the blood rains that fall from the sky. While a six-month drought has brought Tejomaya to a desperate standstill, rumors of a secret stash of magic propel three unlikely treasure seekers to risk everything.

Tenacious and street-smart Zain Jatav has been forced to steal calor for her slumlord bosses for years. Finding the magic reserve might be her only key to freedom. But she'll have to contend with Iravan Khotar, a slumlord himself and an ambitious revolutionary hoping to use the same magic to save his people from the mysterious illness devastating the slums—and to bolster a fight against their oppressors. Meanwhile, heiress Anastasia Drakos leads the ruling council of Tejomaya from the safety of a nearby island. With the hidden magic, she could finally take full control of the city and crush the slums beneath her unyielding fist.

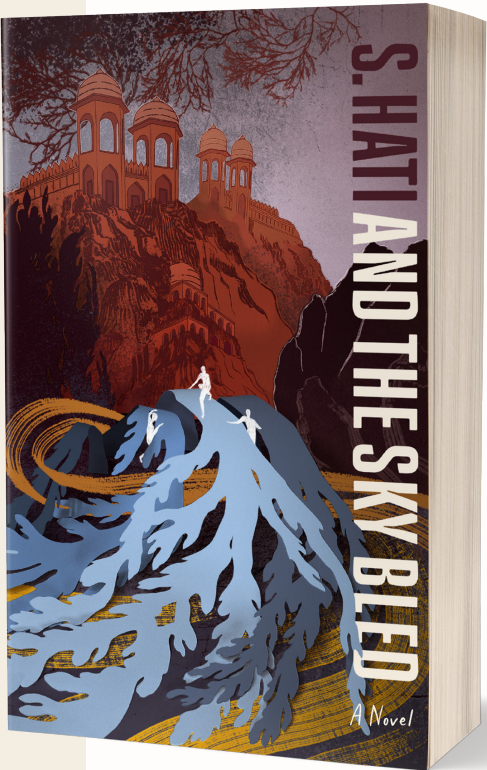
As Zain, Iravan, and Anastasia draw closer to finding the treasure they seek, their paths tangle, and not for the first time—they've met before, a

decade ago, in a fire that destroyed each of their lives in different ways. Their reunion might bring the already weakened city to its knees. Exploring the devastating mechanisms of power, this searing climate fantasy breathes life into a crumbling world poised on the brink of total destruction. ♦



## About the Author

S. HATI is a speculative fiction writer, currently residing in the Bay Area. She holds a bachelor's degree in microbiology from UCLA and a master's degree in biotechnology from Johns Hopkins University, and pretends to use them both while working in health tech. She writes about brown girls in strange worlds that straddle the line between magic and science.



## Specs

GENRE:  
CLIMATE FANTASY

WORD COUNT:  
103,000

TRADE FORMATS:  
PAPERBACK ORIGINAL,  
EBOOK, AUDIO

EXCLUSIVE EDITION:  
HC AVAILABLE  
ONLY ON BINDERY

PUB DATE:  
OCTOBER 15, 2024

ONE OF PASTE  
MAGAZINE'S MOST  
ANTICIPATED BOOKS  
FOR FALL 2024



"Hati perfectly balances plot and character elements in her sci-fi fantasy, exploring the potential for rage and trauma to break the world. . . . This compelling stand-alone fantasy explores both personal and societal costs of reliance on a dwindling resource." *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, STARRED REVIEW \*

"A thought-provoking climate fantasy that explores the personal and societal costs of reliance on a dwindling resource, *And the Sky Bled* is already drawing comparisons to the work of N.K. Jemisin and Fonda Lee." *PASTE MAGAZINE*

"The desperation of the characters leaps off the page. A new addition to the genre, this book explores themes around survival and revolution in refreshingly new and interesting ways." MARVELLOUS MICHAEL ANSON, AUTHOR OF *FIRSTBORN OF THE SUN*

"*And the Sky Bled* is a book that grabs you by the shoulders, stares into your eyes, and does not let go until the end. It's set in a fascinating, deeply-built world that explores extractive colonialism and the resultant environmental devastation, but does so through the very human experiences of its characters. It's an intricate tangle of histories and relationship—loss, guilt, regret, hope, survival, and the shifting balance of power. It's a book that asks "What now?" and then answers, "Now we find a way to move on."

MONIQUILL BLACKGOOSE, AUTHOR OF NATIONAL BESTSELLER *TO SHAPE A DRAGON'S BREATH*, A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY *WASHINGTON POST* AND *NPR*

"A remarkable debut! *And the Sky Bled* does what an excellent fantasy novel should: it forces the reader to confront the powers, politics, and pitfalls of their own world by plunging them into a magical one." HANNAH GORDON, BOOKTOK INFLUENCER @HNGISREADING

"This dark tale of power, loyalty, and a world on the brink of destruction pulls you in, holds on tight, and refuses to let go." JAYSEN HEADLEY, GLOBAL TOP 5 BOOKTOK INFLUENCER @EZEKAT





*Media and press inquires  
please contact  
[press@binderybooks.com](mailto:press@binderybooks.com)*

*To discuss rights opportunities,  
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