#### Hausfrau Jill Alexander Essbaum

"Katherine Heiny's work does something magical: elevates the mundane so that it has the stakes of a mystery novel, gives women's interior lives the gravity they so richly deserve -- and makes you laugh along the way." —Lena Dunham Single, Carefree, Mellow is that rare and wonderful thing: a debut that is superbly accomplished, endlessly entertaining, and laugh-out-loud funny. Maya is in love with both her boyfriend and her boss. Sadie 's lover calls her as he drives to meet his wife at marriage counseling. Gwen pines for her roommate, a man who will hold her hand but then tells her that her palm is sweaty. And Sasha agrees to have a drink with her married lover 's wife and the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Josie 's ex—a man she met on Facebook—has a new girlfriend he found on Twitter. In "Blue Heron Bridge" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Relish" Nina is more worried that the Presbyterian In "Cranberry Rel minister living in her garage will hear her kids swearing than about his finding out that she 's sleeping with her running partner. And in "The Rhett Butlers" a teenager loses her virginity to her history teacher and then outgrows him. In snappy, glittering prose that is both utterly hilarious and achingly poignant, Katherine Heiny chronicles the ways in which we are unfaithful to each other, both willfully and unwittingly. Maya, who appears in the title story and again in various states of love, forms the spine of this linked collection, and shows us through her moments of pleasure, loss, deceit, and kindness just how fickle the human heart can be.

Work through your fears by getting fierce! Fiercely You is a creative, playful approach to the serious problems that women face regarding confidence and risk taking. At a particularly low point in her life, bestselling author Jackie even became a drag queen herself: Lady Trinity. Drawing on her own experiences and interviews with the world's top drag gueens, Huba and coauthor Shelly Kronbergs offers five Keys to Fierce that will help readers find the courage to ignore criticism and live the life they truly want to live every day—no wigs or stilettos required.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, THE HUFFINGTON POST, AND SHELF AWARENESS • "In Hausfrau, Anna Karenina goes Fifty Shades with a side of Madame Bovary." —O: The Oprah Magazine "Sexy and insightful, this gorgeously written novel opens a window into one woman's desperate soul." —People

Anna was a good wife, mostly. For readers of The Girl on the Train and The Woman Upstairs comes a striking debut novel of marriage, fidelity, sex, and morality, featuring a fascinating heroine who struggles to live a life with meaning. Anna Benz, an American in her late thirties, lives with the emotionally unavailable Bruno or even with her own thoughts and feelings. Anna tries to rouse herself with new experiences: German language classes, Jungian analysis, and a series of sexual affairs she enters with an ease that surprises even her. But Anna can 't easily extract herself from these affairs. When she wants to end them, she finds it 's difficult. Tensions escalate, and written with the precision of a Swiss Army knife, Jill Alexander Essbaum's debut novel is an unforgettable story of marriage, fidelity, sex, morality, and most especially self. Navigating the lines between lust and love, guilt and shame, excuses and reasons, Anna Benz is an electrifying heroine whose passions and choices readers will debate with recognition and fury. Her story reveals, with honesty and great beauty, how we create ourselves and the sometimes disastrous choices we make to find ourselves. Praise for Hausfrau "Elegant . . . There is much to admire in Essbaum's intricately constructed, meticulously composed novel, including its virtuosic intercutting of past and present. "—NPR's Weekend Edition "We're in literary territory as familiar as Anna's name, but Essbaum makes it fresh with sharp prose and psychological insight. "—San Francisco Chronicle "This marvelously quiet book is psychologically complex and deeply intimate.... One of the smartest novels in recent memory." —The Dallas Morning News "Essbaum's poignant, shocking debut novel rivets," —Us Weekly "A powerful, lyrical novel... Hausfrau boasts taut pacing and melodrama, but also a fully realized heroine as love-hateable as Emma Boyary." —The Huffington Post "Imagine Tom Perrotta's American nowheresvilles swapped out for a tidy Zürich suburb, sprinkled liberally with sharp riffs on Swiss-German grammar and European hypocrisy." —New York "Science can't explain the complexity and order of life; God must have designed it to be this way.""God's existence is proven by scripture.""There's no evidence that God doesn't exist.""God has helped me so much. How could none of it be true?""Atheism has killed more people than religion, so it must be wrong!" How many times have you heard arguments for the Existence of God provides simple, easy-to-understand counterpoints to the most popular arguments made for the existence of God. Each chapter presents a concise explanation of the argument, followed by a response illustrating the problems and fallacies inherent in it. Whether you're an atheist, a believer or undecided, this book offers a solid foundation for building your own inquiry about the concept of God.

A Life In Men The Salinger Contract

The Best American Erotic Poems

### Enchanted Islands

The novel opens with Barbara, who, after remembering incidents of torture at the hands of her father, has quite literally broken down. Found inside a disabled elevator, she is no longer able to function with her new consciousness of these memories are her therapist, the Psalms, and most of all, the words of Paul Celan. Paul Celan: 1920-1970, Poet. An eastern European holocaust survivor who wrote haunting poems about the darker spiritual trials of life and relationships that exhibit a compact style that fuses broken words and chopped syntax to produce a stark musicality. This is a novel about a woman who goes to hell and back. It's a story which affirms the resilience of the human spirit and the healing power of love and faith. "A thriller for fans of The Girl on the Train and Gone Girl... [with] a striking, original voice all Berry's own."—The New York Times Book Review The riveting, Edgar Award-winning first novel from the station, or at home cooking dinner. But when she walks into Rachel's familiar house, what she finds is entirely different; her sister has been the victim of a brutal murder. Stunned

the debut of an extraordinary new writer. Named one of the "10 Best Mystery Books and Thrillers of the Year" by The Washington Post Named one of the best books of the year by The Atlantic Every Kind of Wanting explores the complex intersection of three unique families and their bustling efforts to have a "Community Baby." Miguel could not be more different from his partner Chad, a happy-go-lucky real estate mogul from Chicago's wealthy North Shore. When Chad's sister, Gretchen offers the couple an egg, their search for a surrogate leads them to Miguel's sister Lina, a former addict and stripper, who begins a passionate affair with Nick while deciphering the mysteries of the American family today. Tackling issues such as assimilation, the legacy of secrets, the

and adrift. Nora finds she can't return to her former life. An unsolved assault in the past has shaken her faith in the past. Under the Harrow marks

morality of desire, and ultimately who "owns" love, the characters—across all ethnicities, nationalities, and sexualities—are blisteringly alive. "Published in a slightly different form as Shame, in 2015 in Great Britain by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, an imprint of the Orion Publishing Group, an Hachette UK Company"-- Title page verso.

#### Fiercely You Asunder

### Simple Responses to 20 Common Arguments for the Existence of God

## The Rending and the Nest

There is a deep tradition of eroticism in American poetry. Thoughtful, provocative, moving, and sometimes mirthful, the poems collected in The Best American Erotic Poems celebrate this exuberant sensuality. These poems range across the varied landscapes of love and sexuality, nudity, love, lust, and the secret life of fantasy. David Lehman, the distinguished editor of the celebrated Best American Poetry series, has culled a witty, titillating, and alluring collection that starts with Francis Scott Key, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Hart Crane, encompasses Frank O'Hara, Anne Sexton, John Updike, Charles Simic, Billy Collins, Kevin Young, and Sharon Olds, and concludes with the rising stars of a whole new generation of the book that is sure to prompt discussion and further reading, the living poets write about their favorite works of erotic writing. This book will delight, surprise, and inspire.

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE® IN LITERATURE 2013 A New York Times Notable Book A Washington Post Notable Work of fate. Her characters are flawed and fully human: a soldier returning from war and avoiding his fiancée, a wealthy woman deciding whether to confront a blackmailer, an adulterous mother and her neglected children, a guilt-ridden father, a young teacher jilted by her employer. Illumined by Munro's own childhood. Exalted by her clarity of vision and her unparalleled gift for storytelling, Dear Life shows how strange, perilous, and

An enthralling literary mystery that connects some of the world's most famous authors—from Norman Mailer and Truman Capote to B. Traven and J. D. Salinger—to a sinister collector in Chicago Adam Langer, the narrator of this deft and wide-ranging novel by the author of the same name, tells the intertwining tales of two writers navigating a plot neither one of them could have ever imagined. There may be no other escape than to write their way out of it. Adam is a writer and stay-at-home dad in Bloomington, Indiana, drawn into an uneasy friendship with the

charismatic and bestselling thriller author Conner Joyce. Conner is having trouble writing his next book, and when a menacing stranger approaches him with an odd—and lucrative—proposal, events quickly begin to spiral out of control. A novel of literary crimes and misdemeanors, The Salinger Contract will delight anyone who loves a fast-paced story told with humor, wit, and intrigue. A post-apocalyptic debut novel in a tradition that includes The Hunger Games and Station Eleven, this vision of a possible future shows humanity pushed beyond its breaking point, the forging of vital bonds when everything is lost, and, most centrally, a heroic young woman who crosses a frozen landscape to find her destiny. Lynn McBride has learned much since society collapsed in the snow-drifted Canadian Yukon, a heroic young woman who crosses a frozen landscape to find her destiny. Lynn McBride has learned much since society collapsed in the snow-drifted Canadian Yukon, a heroic young woman who crosses a frozen landscape to find her destiny. Lynn McBride has learned much since society collapsed in the face of nuclear war and the relentless spread of disease. As the memories of her old life continue to surface, she's forced to forge ahead in the snow-drifted Canadian Yukon, a heroic young woman who crosses a frozen landscape to find her destiny. Lynn McBride has learned much since society collapsed in the forging of vital bonds when everything is lost, and the relentless spread of disease. As the memories of her old life continue to surface, she's forced to forge ahead in the snow-drifted Canadian Yukon, a heroic young woman who crosses a frozen landscape to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to forge ahead in the snow-drifted Canadian Yukon, a heroic young woman who crosses a frozen landscape to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to forge ahead in the snow-drifted Canadian Yukon, a heroic young woman who crosses a frozen landscape to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her old life continue to surface, she's forced to find her ol learning how to hunt and trap and slaughter. Forget the old days. Forget summer. Forget summer. Forget anything that doesn't help you survive in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of Jax, who brings with him dark secrets of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of the world before have found her tiny community—most prominently in the enigmatic figure of the world before her tiny community.

is both a heartbreaking, sympathetic portrait of a young woman searching for the answer to who she's meant to be and a frightening vision of a merciless new world in which desperation rules. It is enthralling, propulsive, and poignant.

#### Would-Land The Hopefuls

The Red House

An emotionally charged, tautly composed debut thriller about mother hood, madness, and the myth of the perfect life A mother moves to Geneva with her husband's job means he is almost never present, and their two young children. In their beautiful new rented apartment, surrounded by their rented furniture, and the myth of the perfect life A mother moves to Geneva with her husband and their two young children. In their beautiful new rented apartment, surrounded by their rented furniture, and the myth of the perfect life A mother moves to Geneva with her husband's job means he is almost never present, and the myth of the perfect life A mother moves to Geneva with her husband and their two young children. In their beautiful new rented apartment, surrounded by their rented furniture, and the myth of the perfect life A mother moves to Geneva with her husband and their two young children. In their beautiful new rented apartment, surrounded by their rented furniture, and the myth of the perfect life A mother moves to Geneva with her husband and their two young children. In their beautiful new rented apartment, surrounded by their rented furniture, and the myth of the perfect life A mother moves to Geneva with her husband and their two young children. well-fed, comfortable family they should be. Everything is perfect. But, of course, it's not. The isolation, the sleeplessness, the demands of two people under two are getting to Erika. She has never been so alone, and brutally honest, it grapples with the harsh conditions of motherhood and this mother's own identity, and as the novel continues, we begin to wonder just what exactly Erika might be driven to do.

A woman sits in prayerful meditation, waiting to offer her first confession in more than thirty years. She holds a small book on her lap, one that she's made, and tells herself again the Bible stories it contains, the ones she has written anew, for herself, each brief and familiar story, a line where belief and disbelief touch, the line that has been her home, that has been her home, ragged and neglected, that hidden seam. The result is an amazing book of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so holy it becomes a work of poetry, a canticle, a song of lament and praise. In the private terrain of silence and devotion, shared with us by a writer of power and grace, Rakow offers, through Bernadette, her own lectio divina for the modern world. No reader will forget this book or be able to read the Bible itself without a new perspective on this text that remains, and yet so holy it becomes a work of poetry, a canticle, a song of lament and praise. In the private terrain of silence and devotion, shared with us by a writer of power and grace, that hidden seam. The result is an amazing book of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so holy it becomes a work of poetry, a canticle, a song of lament and praise. In the private terrain of silence and devotion, shared with us by a writer of power and grace, that hidden seam. The result is an amazing book of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so holy it becomes a work of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so holy it becomes a work of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so holy it becomes a work of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so holy it becomes a work of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so holy it becomes a work of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, so human and humorous, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet so have a work of extraordinary beauty, and yet arguably, Western civilization's greatest literary achievement.

After a close friend's death, a terminally ill woman embarks on a series of affairs in this novel by the author of Every Kind of Wanting. The friendship between Mary and Nix had endured since childhood, a seemingly unbreakable bond, until the mid-1980s, when the two young women embarked on a summer vacation in Greece. It was a trip initiated by Nix, who had just learned that Mary had been diagnosed with a disease that would cut her life short and who was determined that it be the vacation of a lifetime. But by the time their visit to Greece was over, Nix had withdrawn from their friendship, and Mary had no idea why. Three years later, Nix is dead, and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously. "A terrific adventurously. "A terrific adventurously and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously. "A terrific adventurously and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously. "A terrific adventurously and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously. "A terrific adventurously and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously. "A terrific adventurously and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously. "A terrific adventurously are the freedom to live life adventurously and the future are connected and the future are connected and to appreciate the freedom to live life adventurously. "A terrific adventurously are the freedom to live life adventurously and the future are connected and the fut book, a tender story of friendship, and a frank story of a young woman's adventures with an assortment of oddly funny, violent, and guirky men. It's intense and beauty." —Kirkus Reviews Lili St. Cyr was, in the words of legendary reporter Mike Wallace, the "highest paid stripteaser in America." Wallace was so fascinated by Lili that out of all the presidents and celebrities he interviewed over a long career, towards the end of his life, she was the one he remained fixated on. Her beauty had that kind of effect. Lili St. Cyr, the one time queen of burlesque, led an incredible life –six marriages, romances with Orson Wells, Yul Brenner, Vic Damone, a number of suicide attempts, all alongside great fame and money. Yet despite her fierce will she lost it all; becoming a recluse in her final decades, she eked out a living selling old photos of her self living with magazines taped over her windows. Goddess of working women, and the book offers a portrait of a strong artistic figure who went against the traditional roles and mores expected of women at that time St. Cyr was the first stripper to work has be did as having no importance. But she wouldn't give it up - not for millionaires and most certainly not for love. Based on years of research, Goddess of Love Incarnate contains information and memorabilia that was almost lost forever. As an award winning documentary filmmaker and expert writer, Zemeckis brings St. Cyr back to life the way no other writer can, restoring Lili to her rightful place in American history.

#### House of Hearts The Rocks

Off-piste in Literary Switzerland

The Fine Art of Fucking Up From 1800 to the Present

From the bestselling author of Great Circle-for years Joan has been trying to forget her past, to find peace and satisfaction in her role as wife and mother. Few in her drowsy California suburb know her thrilling history: as a young American ballerina in Paris, she fell into a doomed, passionate romance with Soviet dance superstar Arslan Rusakov. After playing a leading role in his celebrated defection, Joan bowed out of the spotlight for good, heartbroken by Arslan and humbled by her own modest career. But when her son turns out to be a ballet prodigy, Joan is pulled back into a world she thought she'd left behind—a world of dangerous secrets, of Arslan, and of longing for what will always be just out of reach. "The inner lives of [Shipstead's] characters feel as real and immediate as the shifting settings they inhabit: still-gritty mid-1970s Manhattan, shabbily elegant Paris, the sunbaked suburban sprawl of Southern California." -Entertainment Weekly A cycle of poems based on the Christian liturgical calendar and the books of the Bible.

A long-poem chapbook from the author of Harlot (No Tell Books) and a 2013 NEA Fellow in Poetry. Listen to Jill Alexander Essbaum on the University of Texas, and the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest. Influenced by Edna St. Vincent Millay, Simon Armitage, and Sylvia Plath, Essbaum's poems bring to gether sex, divinity, and wordplay, blithely working with received forms and displaying a nuanced attention to rhyme and meter. Speaking to this unusual combination of themes in an interview with Eratosphere, Essbaum observed, "Why the pairing of sexual and religious expression seems wrong to our post-modern American ears, I think, is because we're all (no matter what we believe or don't) direct inheritors of a Puritan heritage that disdains human physicality ... in lieu of pursuits of the spirit alone." In a Coldfront review of Necropolis, critic Rick Marlatt noted, "Known for their remarkable mix of eroticism and religiosity, Jill Alexander Essbaum's poems vibrate with well-proportioned rhymes, unforgettable imagery and a unique realization of form."

"When English-born lawyer Rupert Falkes dies, his wife and five adult sons are bereft--even more so when their grieving is interrupted by an unknown woman claiming that Rupert was also the father to her two sons"--Page 4 of cover The Gloaming

# The Wolves of Winter

Goddess of Love Incarnate

Stories

The Memory Room Part detective work, part treasure chest, full of history and scandal, The Gilded Chalet takes you on a grand tour of two centuries after the Romantics went there to invent Gothic horror, the lure of Switzerland hasn't left us. Writers from the Fitzgeralds to Fleming, Highsmith to Hemingway, Conan Doyle to le Carré, came to escape world. the tax man), for fresh air and nude sunbathing, for scenery resembling, as Rooney puts it, 'Mother Nature on steroids.' Patricia Highsmith spent her last years in a granite home in Ticino with a fridge containing little but peanut butter and vodka. Hermann Hesse had himself buried to the neck as a cure for alcoholism. Nabokov chased butterflies and played tennis on the hotel courts. When it comes to literature, it seems all roads lead to Switzerland. Padraig Rooney peers through the neck as a cure for alcoholism. Nabokov chased butterflies and played tennis on the hotel courts. greatest authors and characters of literature.

"A cracklingly funny and poignant debut novel about the ways we love, even when we're not at our best" --

If you could make one wish that was guaranteed to come true—what would impact the world are off limits (i.e. no bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) NEVER BREAK THE RULES. (Seriously 1.2) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) No bringing back the dead. (Come on. You've seen what happens in THE WALKING DEAD.) a small town in the Mojave desert on the road between nothing and nowhere. It's an unremarkable speck on the map, which is perfect for protecting the town's secret. Because in Madison, everyone can make one wish on their eighteenth birthday-and that wish always comes true. Most of Eldon's classmates have had their wishes picked out for months, even years. Not Eldon. He's seen how wishing has hurt the people around him. His parents' marriage is strained, his sister is a strained, his sister is a strained. begin? One thing is for sure: Eldon has only twenty-five days to figure it out—and the rest of his life to live with the consequences.

Hailed by David Sedaris as "perfectly, relentlessly funny" and by Colson Whitehead as "sardonic without being sentimental," from the author of the new collection to siccing the cops on her mysterious, and profoundly genuine, this debut collection to siccing the cops on her mysterious. because of them. Together, these essays create a startlingly funny and revealing portrait of a complex and unexpected beauty of modern urban life. I was Told There'd Be Cake introduces a strikingly original voice, chronicling the struggles and unexpected beauty of modern urban life. A Novel

# The Devastation

Dear Life Astonish Me

> From Mark Haddon, the bestselling author of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, comes a dazzlingly inventive novel about modern family life. Richard, a wealthy doctor, invites his estranged sister and her family to join his family for a week at a vacation home in the English countryside. Against the backdrop of a strange family gathering, Haddon skillfully weaves together the stories of eight very different people forced into close quarters. The Red House is a symphony of long-held grudges, fading dreams and rising hopes, tightly guarded secrets and illicit desires, painting a portrait of contemporary family life that is at once bittersweet, comic, and deeply felt. "Lyrical and haunting . . . A beautiful portrait of urban lone liness, and the pursuit of meaning amid the barbed comforts of solitude." —The Economist Marie's job as a security guard at the National Gallery in London offers her the life she always wanted, one of invisibility and quiet contemplation. But through the hushed corridors of England's largest art museum surge currents of history and violence. For in this hall filled with paintings whose power belies

> their own fragility, there also lingers the legacy of Marie's great-grandfather Ted, himself a museum guard. Decades earlier, he slipped and fell moments before reaching the suffragette Mary Richardson as she took a blade to one of the gallery's masterpieces on the eve of the First World War. After nine years on the job, Marie begins to feel the tug of restlessness. A decisive change comes in the form of a winter trip to Paris—where, with the arrival of an uninvited guest and an unexpected encounter, her carefully contained world will be torn open . . . The follow-up to Chloe Aridis's "charming and unconventional debut, Book of Clouds" (The Independent), Asunder is a "captivating, cerebral novel" (Booklist) of beguiling depths and beautiful strangeness, exploring the delicate balance between creation and destruction, control and surrender. "[An] oddly compelling tale . . . Dark and peculiar, simultaneously sinister and playful, Aridjis' modern gothic vision will charm those prepared to linger in her cabinet of curiosities." —Kirkus Reviews, starred review "Dramatic and affecting, completely coherent and oddly irresistible. It is a brilliant book." —Publishers Weekly, starred review "Born to immigrant parents in Minnesota just before the turn of the century, Frances Frankowski grew up coveting the life of her best friend, Rosalie is a housewife and mother, while Frances works for the Office of Naval Intelligence and has just been given a top-secret assignment: marry handsome spy Ainslie Conway and move to the Galâapagos

> Islands to investigate the Germans living there in the build-up to World War II. Amid active volcanoes, forbidding wildlife and flora, and unfriendly neighbors, Ainslie and Frances carve out a life for themselves. But the secrets they harbor--from their friends, from their enemies, and even from each other--may be their undoing."--Provided by publisher. A banished professor protests the terms of his restraining order by covertly frying bacon in hidden corners. A boss so engrossed in romance novels is oblivious to everything else. A husband decides to adopt a clueless foreign exchange student for the summer to prove he would be a good father. Welcome to the life of Nina Lanning, the lone administrator at the prestigious School of Visual Arts, or SVA. Her colleagues are pioneers of contemporary art movements, inspirational speakers, and the sources of constant headaches as they rail against the authority that Nina represents. When news of a once in a century flood suddenly threatens to destroy the SVA, and the priceless Jackson Pollock trapped inside it, Nina and her ragtag band of SVA faculty, undertake to save the early work of the splatter master. Compelled by disasters both natural and personal, The Fine Art of Fucking Up is about discovering

#### what truly is worth saving and mastering the art of letting go. Why There Is No God

**Hollow Heart Under the Harrow** 

The Gilded Chalet

As You Wish Set in the early 1900s, the novel follows young Lucia Rutkowski who, thanks to the wealthiest neighborhoods in the bustling city of Paris. Too talented for her lowly position, Lucia is thrown out on the street. Her only recourse is to take a job working for two disorganized, rather poor married scientists so distracted by their work that their house and young child are often neglected. Lucia soon bonds with her eccentric employers, watching as their work with radioactive materials grows increasing noticed by the world, then rising to fame as the great Marie and Pierre Curie. Soon, all of Paris is alit with the news of an impending visit from Eusapia Palladino, the world's most famous medium. It is through her now famous employers that Lucia attends Eusapia's gatherings and eventually falls under the medium's spell, leaving the Curie laboratory or the glowing visions that surround the medium during her séance?

The 2020 collection by poetry and novelist Jill Alexander Essbaum, Would-Land is a collection of love, loss, coupling, uncoupling, coupleting, incompleting, faith, forgiveness.

"Irresistibly sunny... Set in the brightly lit Mediterranean amid old olive trees and sexual intrigue, music and wine and beautiful women... Propulsive." -The New York Times Book Review "The perfect book for pretending it's already beach season." -O, The Oprah Magazine A romantic page-turner propelled by the sixty-year secret that has shaped two families, four lovers, and one seaside resort community. Set against dramatic Mediterranean Sea views and lush olive groves, The Rocks opens with a confrontation and a secret: What was the mysterious, catastrophic event that drove two honeymooners apart so suddenly and absolutely in 1948 that they never spoke again despite living on the same island for sixty more years? And how did their history shape the Romeo and Juliet-like romance of their (unrelated) children decades later? Centered around a popular seaside resort club and its community, The Rocks is a double love story that begins with a mystery, then moves backward in time, era by era, to unravel what really happened decades earlier. Peter Nichols writes with a pervading, soulful wisdom and self-knowing humor, and captures perfectly this world of glamorous, complicated, misbehaving types with all their sophisticated flaws and genuine longing. The result is a bittersweet, intelligent, and romantic novel about how one misunderstanding can echo irreparably through decades. A chilling yet redemptive post-apocalyptic debut that examines community, motherhood, faith, and the importance of a life: She cobbles together a haphazard community named Zion, scavenges the Piles for supplies they might need, and avoids loving anyone she can't afford to lose. She has everything under control. Almost. Four years after the Rending, Mira's best friend, Lana, announces her pregnancy, the first since everything under control. Almost. Four years after the Rending, Mira has thrown over her new life begins to fray. As the Zionites wrestle with the presence of these Babies, a confident outsider named Michael appears, proselytizing about the world beyond Zion. He lures Lana away and when she doesn't return, Mira must decide how much she's willing to let go in order to save her friend, her home, and her own fraught pregnancy. Like California by Edan Lepucki and Station Eleven by Emily

St. John Mandel, The Rending and the Nest uses a fantastical, post-apocalyptic landscape to ask decidedly human questions: How well do we know the people we love? What sustains us in the midst of suffering? How do we forgive the brokenness we find within others--and within ourselves? Be Fabulous and Confident by Thinking Like a Drag Queen

Every Kind of Wanting Hausfrau

Cherry

This is Why I Came From Mary Karr comes this gorgeously written, often hilarious story of her tumultuous teens and sexual coming-of-age. Picking up where the bestselling The Liars' Club left off, Karr dashes against authority and terrors of adolescence, she clashes against authority and terrors of adolescence, she clashes against authority asset.

in all its forms and hooks up with an unforgettable band of heads and bona-fide geniuses. Parts of Cherry will leave you gasping with laughter. Karr assembles a self from the smokiest beginnings, delivering a long-awaited sequel that is both "bawdy and wise" (San Francisco Chronicle).

Get Free Hausfrau Jill Alexander Essbaum

Few poets' roots go deeper than the Romantics; Jill Alexander Essbaum's reach all the way to the Elizabethans. In her Harlot one hears Herbert and Wyatt and Donne, their penchant for the conceit, their riddles and fables, their fondling and squeezing of language. But this "postulant in the Church of the Kiss" is a twenty-first century woman, a "strange woman" less bowed to confession than hell-bent on fairly bragging of threesomes and more complications than hell-bent on fairly bragging of threesomes and more complications than hell-bent on fairly bragging of threesomes and more complications than were wet-dream of in Mr. W. H.'s philosophy. - H. L. Hix

A blazingly honest portrait of ambition and marriage, and a brilliantly funny send-up of young D.C., from the bestselling author of Girls in White Dresses. "Hilarious.... A pleasure to read."—The Washington Post A New York newlywed, Beth was supportive when her husband, Matt, decided to follow his political dreams all the way to Washington. Yet soon after they move to D.C., Beth realizes that she hates everything about it: the traffic circles, the ubiquitous Ann Taylor suits, the humidity that descends each summer, and, most of all, the lonely dinner parties where anyone who doesn't work in politics is politely ignored. Things start to change when the couple meets a charismatic White House staffer named Jimmy and his wife, Ashleigh. The four become inseparable, coordinating brunches, birthdays, and long weekends away. But as Jimmy's star rises higher and higher, the couples' friendship—and Beth's relationship with Matt—is threatened by jealousy, competition, and rumors.

A magnetic, provocative debut novel chronicling a young woman's downward spiral following the end of an affair Elsa Fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan. She has just been fired from MoMA on the heels of an affair Elsa Fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan. She has just been fired from MoMA on the heels of an affair Elsa Fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan. She has just been fired from MoMA on the heels of an affair Elsa Fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan. She has just been fired from MoMA on the heels of an affair Elsa Fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan. She has just been fired from MoMA on the heels of an affair Elsa Fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan. She has just been fired from MoMA on the heels of an affair Elsa Fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan is her described for modes and fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan is her described for modes and fisher is headed for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan is her described for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan is her described for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan is her described for rock bottom. At least, that's her plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom. At least plan is her described for rock bottom.

The fish is her described for rock bottom. At

The Life of Stripteuse Lili St. Cyr.

A Love Story Little Bandaged Days If You Are There

Monsters

In this courageous, inventive, irreverent, and shrewd novel, Viola Di Grado tells the story of a suicide and what follows. She gives voice to an astonishing vision of life after life, portraying the awful longing and sense of loss that plague the dead, together with the solitude provoked by the impossibility of communicating. The afterlife itself is seen as a dark, seething place where one is preyed upon by the cruel and unrelenting elements. Hollow Heart will frighten as it causes concern. If ever there were a novel that follows Kafka prescription for a book to be an axe for the frozen sea within us, it is Hollow Heart. In this, Di Grado second novel after 70% Acrylic 30% Wool, the twenty-seven-year-old prodigy gives proof of her reputation as a singular and explosive talent.

Izzy Ames is a fierce young woman, living with her beloved boyfriend Cyrus Rav vanished. After weeks of looking for him with no results, Izzy discovers a clue that Cyrus may have left her for another woman. She abandons her search, and, heartbroken, ends up at the House of Hearts retreat center that promises "Healing from Grief and Childhood Trauma". At the center, Izzy is paired with a Cyrus look-alike, the musician, Ever Fontana, and for a moment she forgets the pain of her past. But when new clues about Cyrus's disappearance surface, Izzy must go down into the dark to find the truth. Izzy's quest will take her into a world of sexuality, madness and violence, a world where she will discover secrets not only about Cyrus but also, ultimately, about herself.

The exceptional debut novel from prize-winning American poet, Jill Alexander Essbaum. "Haunting . . . Beautifully written, the ennui of its Anna Karenina-esque heroine's deceptively perfect life as a Swiss housewife seeps from every page" Best Books of 2015, Harper's Bazaar Anna Benz, an American in her late-thirties, lives with her Swiss housewife seeps from every page" Best Books of 2015, Harper's Bazaar Anna Benz, an American in her late-thirties, lives with her Swiss housewife seeps from every page with her suits and their three young children, in a postcard-perfect suburb of Zürich. Though she leads a comfortable life, she is falling apart inside. Adrift and increasingly unable to connect with Bruno, or even her own feelings, Anna tries to rouse herself with new experiences: German language classes, Jungian analysis, and a series of sexual affairs she enters with an ease that surprises her. But she can't easily extract herself from these relationships. Having crossed a moral threshold, Anna will discover where a woman goes when there is no going back. PRAISE FOR HAUSFRAU "The book that will have everyone talking" Cosmopolitan "It is that impossible thing: a page-turner about depression." Observer "Haunting . . . Beautifully written, the ennui of its Anna Karenina-esque heroine's deceptively perfect life as a Swiss housewife seeps from these relationships. Having crossed a moral threshold, Anna will discover where a woman goes when there is no going back. PRAISE FOR HAUSFRAU "The book that will have everyone talking" Cosmopolitan "It is that impossible thing: a page-turner about depression." Observer "Haunting . . . Beautifully written, the ennui of its Anna Karenina-esque heroine's deceptively perfect life as a Swiss housewife seeps from every here. But a page-turner about the ennui of its Anna Karenina-esque heroine's deceptively perfect life as a Swiss housewife seeps from every here. But a page-turner about the ennui of its Anna Karenina-esque heroine's Bazaar have a page-turner ennui of its Anna Kareni

The Heirs Single, Carefree, Mellow