



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 parallax view of religion as sex and sex as religion, their delight in sin, their smirking penitence, 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 were wet-dreamt 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 with her married boss, and she retreats to Los Angeles to blow her severance package on whatever it takes to numb the pain. Her abandoned crew of college friends (childhood friend Charlotte and her wayward husband, Jared; and Elsa's ex-husband, Robby) receive her with open arms, and, thinking she's on vacation, a plan to celebrate their reunion on a booze-soaked sailing trip to Catalina Island. But Elsa doesn't want to celebrate. She is lost, lonely, and full of rage, and only wants to sink as low as the drugs and alcohol will take her.

On Catalina, her determined unraveling and recklessness expose painful memories and dark desires, putting everyone in the group at risk. With the creeping menace of Patricia Highsmith and the bender-chic of Bret Easton Ellis, *Liska Jacobs* brings you inside the mind of an angry, reckless young woman hell-bent on destruction--every page taut with the knowledge that Elsa's path does not lead to a happy place. *Catalina* is a compulsive, deliciously dark exploration of beauty, love, and friendship, and the sometimes toxic desires that drive us.

The Life of Stripteuse Lilli St. Cyr.

A Love Story

Little Bandaged Days

If You Are There

Monsters

HausfrauA NovelRandom House

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 provokes, enlighten as it causes concern. If ever there were a novel that follows Kafka's prescription for a book to be an axe for the frozen sea within us, it is *Hollow Heart*. In this, Di Grado's 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 Rivera and her three-legged tortoise, Yard, in a shack they built near the Salton Sea. One morning, Izzy wakes up to find Cyrus has 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 husband, Bruno - a banker - 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 soon finds that 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 every page" *Harper's Bazaar*. *Best Books of 2015 "Hausfrau may be the Fifty Shades of literary fiction . . . This debut brilliantly chronicles a woman's life falling apart . . ." The Times*

I Was Told There'd Be Cake

The Heirs

Single, Carefree, Mellow