

KORZA BOOKS

International Rights Guide

Frankfurt Book Fair 2026

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The Last Grand Tour

Michael N. McGregor

English Publication: January 28, 2025

Length: 362 pages

Genre: Literary Fiction

Rights Available: World Translation and Media Rights Available

A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2025

Fans of Jenny Erpenbeck's "Kairos" and Beth O'Leary's "The Road Trip" will be drawn to this literary exploration of travel, love, and mid-life identity set in post-unification Europe.

American tour guide Joe Newhouse wants nothing more than to reach Venice. Since moving to Munich after the fall of the Berlin Wall, he's watched his business fail, his wife leave him, and his love for Europe diminish. Now he faces one last ten-day tour with a surly group that doesn't want to be there. As he leads them through the mythic lands of Europe's Romantic past, he grows increasingly disturbed by their stories of earlier lives, puzzled by their desire to be with a man who doesn't arrive, and entangled in an illicit affair that promises to either save him or plunge his tour—and his life—into madness.

Soaked in the Romantic atmosphere and dark deeds of old Europe—as well as the freedoms and hopes of a new era—*The Last Grand Tour* takes us on a perilous journey through Hitler's Berchtesgaden, Mozart's Salzburg, and Mad King Ludwig's Bavarian fantasyland before reaching its stunning climax in the murky waters of Venice, exploring the often-shifting lines between fidelity and freedom, illusion and reality, regret and desire.

Praise for The Last Grand Tour

"A captivating exploration of the promise and burden of passionate love... An entertaining, deeply felt story of giddy hopes straining against harsh realities."—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

"An elegant and evocative novel about lives at crossroads... surrounded by characters I will carry with me the rest of my reading life. A writer at the height of his powers: creative and intellectual."—Mitchell S. Jackson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Survival Math* and *The Residue Years*

About the Author

Michael N. McGregor is the author of *Pure Act: The Uncommon Life of Robert Lax* and *An Island to Myself: The Place of Solitude in an Active Life*. *Pure Act* was a finalist for a Washington State Book Award and chosen by the Association of University Presses as a top-ten book in American Literature for libraries. McGregor's shorter writings have appeared in numerous publications, including Tin House, Orion, Poetry, StoryQuarterly, and Poets & Writers.



How to Forget Almost Everything

Joshua James Amberson

English Publication: November 11, 2022

Length: 233 pages

Genre: Literary and Young Adult Fiction

Rights Available: World Translation and Media Rights Available

Eric Hoffer Award Finalist

Heartfelt characters, a unique setting, and a compelling voice make this Hoffer Award finalist unforgettable.

When 15-year-old Elly Fox figures out his mom is losing her memory, everything in his life changes. Failing to snap her out of denial, he goes on a quest, hoping to find the cause of her memory loss before it's too late. Along the way he falls under the influence of a charismatic memory guru and risks losing his best friend, all while navigating his gender identity, his suddenly shifting moral compass, and his sophomore year of high school.

Set in Portland, Oregon during the late-2000s financial crisis, *How to Forget Almost Everything* is an introspective coming-of-age story and an off-kilter adventure populated by bus transfer slips, small-town diners, a secret concrete block, and a former child chess prodigy.

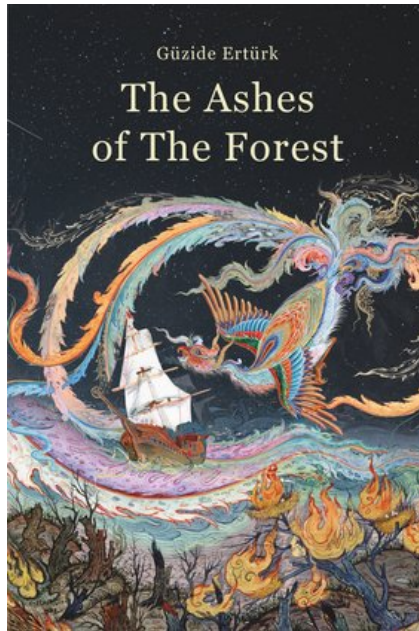
Praise for How to Forget Almost Everything

"Charming, poignant, and funny, 'How to Forget Almost Everything' is a wonderfully written coming-of-age tale that vibrates with truth."—Annie Hartnett, author of *Rabbit Cake* and *Unlikely Animals*

"A character who's familiar and intimate, someone to root for, to cheer on, to be angry at, to welcome home. His book presents a world in which it might be easier to forget but ultimately you—and Elly—come to understand that our memories, fleeting and fragile and imprecise, are what make us whole."—Tomas Moniz, author of *Big Familia* and *All Friends Are Necessary*

About the Author

Joshua James Amberson writes essays, zines, short stories, and cultural criticism. His work has appeared in the Los Angeles Review of Books, the Portland Mercury, the Seattle Times, Vol. 1 Brooklyn, HAD, and Tin House, among others. He is the author of the chapbooks *Everyday Mythologies*, *Slow Motion Heroics*, and *Writing Exercises (And Various Approaches to Life on Earth)*, the zine series *Basic Paper Airplane*, and the essay collection *Staring Contest: Essays About Eyes*. He lives in Portland, Oregon.



The Ashes of the Forest

Güzide Ertürk

English Publication: August 25, 2026

Length: 176 pages

Genre: Literary Fiction, Folklore, Climate Fiction

Rights Available: World Translation Rights Available (Excepting Turkey and United Kingdom); Media Rights Available

A Kirkus Starred Review and BookLife Editor's Pick

A lyric and haunting exploration of climate change through the lens of Turkish folklore.

Azra never imagined what the Aegean Sea would bring to the Mossy Village. Born in this peculiar place, where time has stood still and magical black seaweed grows in the shallows and entangles the unwary, Azra watches as the waves deliver mysterious treasures from faraway lands.

Echoing Orhan Pamuk's "When the Bosphorus Dries Up" from *The Black Book*, Güzide Ertürk explores what happens when the sea withdraws from the shores of Mossy Village. Reimagining myth through the lens of magical realism, in the haunting vein of Cristina Rivera Garza's *The Taiga Syndrome* and Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Ertürk creates a surreal atmosphere that invites readers into the shifting labyrinths of the Mossy Village.

Praise for *The Ashes of the Forest*

"Ertürk's debut is that rare book: a genre-defying, highly original work of fantasy that radiates real enchantment. It blends the weirdness of medieval and early-modern fairy tales with the magical realist fables of Italo Calvino and Salman Rushdie...A marvelously inventive work of fantasy steeped in folklore and magic."—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

"Lyrical and enchanting, with confident, thought-provoking prose, Ertürk conveys an urgent mission to heal a land drastically transformed...Readers will relish the beautifully described settings, perceptive characters, and important message."—BookLife Reviews, Editor's Pick

About the Author

Güzide Ertürk is a Turkish-American writer currently pursuing an MFA in Creative Writing at Portland State University. Her work has appeared in *Kithe Journal*, *The Pointed Circle*, and *The Letter & Line*. Her debut novel, *Kül Ormanı*, was published by Ketebe in 2024 and received the Novel of the Year award from the Writers' Union of Turkey. She is based in Portland, Oregon.



The Novel Killings

Kate Shelton

English Publication: June 25, 2024

Length: 443 pages

Genre: Thriller / Mystery

Rights Available: World Translation and Media Rights Available

The Best-Selling Bookstagram Sensation

A propulsive meta-thriller about a true-crime author whose fiction starts coming horrifyingly true.

True crime podcaster and self-published author Ana Adams struggles to reach the success her co-host sister Bex believes they're both capable of, finding herself stuck in a comfortable (if dreary) loop of isolation, social media, medication, and instability. But when an email arrives detailing a grisly murder that follows the plotline of Ana's first book, she's thrust into the spotlight. Sudden fame, overnight bestsellers, and a national profile are every author's dream, but that soon turns to nightmare as the killer strikes again. And again. While Bex and Ana race to catch the murderer, they must navigate their newfound celebrity, unwanted attention from obsessed fans, and the suspicions of the FBI.

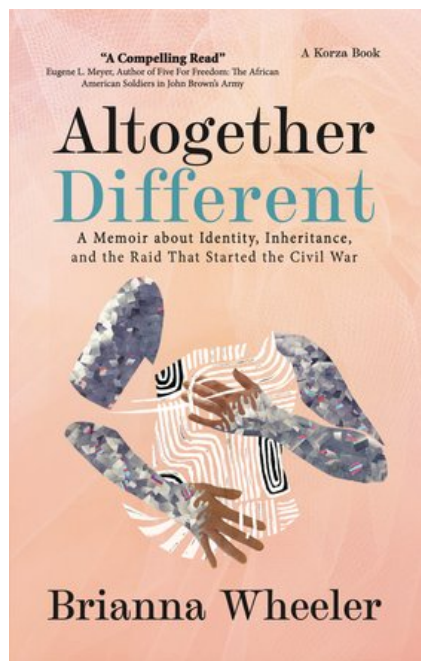
With the bodies and the scrutiny piling up, Ana knows she must publish another story in order to catch the killer and clear her name, discovering unexpected connections, buried secrets, and the fact that even true criminals read true crime.

Praise for The Novel Killings

"Kate's writing is exceptional in building tension and maintaining a proper pace that keeps you on edge as you unravel the mystery surrounding the murderer. She also does an excellent job of portraying sibling rivalry, family bonds, and how blood is always thicker than water."—S.C. Shannon, author of *The Girl No One Loved*

About the Author

Kate Shelton lives in Fort Collins, Colorado, with her husband and two children. Find her at www.katesheltonauthor.com and @katesheltonauthor on social media.



Altogether Different

A Memoir about Identity, Inheritance, and the Raid That Started the Civil War

Brianna Wheeler

English Publication: October 17, 2023

Length: 214 pages

Genre: Memoir / Creative Nonfiction / Black American History

Rights Available: World Translation and Media Rights Available

A personal journey through the darkest chapters of both the author's life and that of her ancestor Dangerfield Newby, who fought alongside John Brown at Harpers Ferry in an attempt to free his enslaved wife.

If you could choose between being Black and being white, what would you do?

As a child, Brianna Wheeler, the mixed-race descendant of Dangerfield Newby—first of John Brown's raiders to die at Harpers Ferry in their bid to end slavery—unconsciously chose whiteness, unaware that she had the choice at all. As an adult, following the deaths of her mother and grandmother, Brianna struggled with her own identity, convinced that her lasting legacy would be the rejection of her own Blackness. Then, in 2020, a racial reckoning rekindled her connection to both her heritage and her grandmother's lifelong work of preserving the stories of Dangerfield and the rest of her ancestors, leading Brianna to confront both long-held family dynamics and her own place in history—from a new perspective.

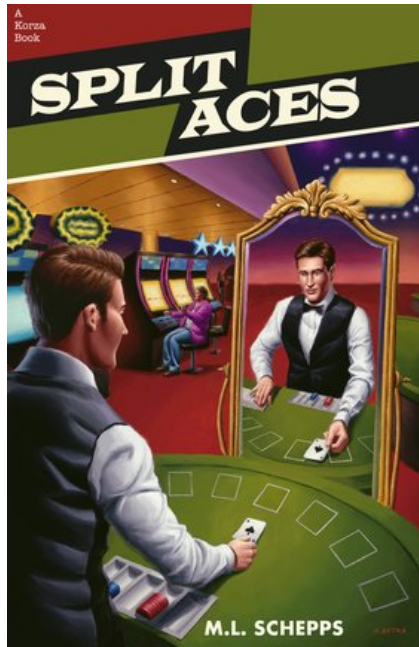
A unique blend of memoir, creative nonfiction, and illustration, *Altogether Different* untangles the complex connection between the stories we tell ourselves and the histories preserved for us.

Praise for Altogether Different

"Altogether Different is a compelling read. Moreover, author Brianna Wheeler deftly connects the dots to redefine her racial identity by drawing on her family's long-forgotten past rooted in the actions of her heroic mixed-race ancestor Dangerfield Newby. He died in October 1859 at Harpers Ferry in the fight to abolish slavery, but his spirit lives on in Wheeler's memoir."—Eugene L. Meyer, author of *Five for Freedom: The African American Soldiers in John Brown's Army*

About the Author

Brianna Wheeler is a Portland, Oregon-based journalist, storyteller and culture writer. She writes the Weekly Potlander column for Willamette Week and hosts The Dive podcast. *Altogether Different* is her debut memoir.



Split Aces

M.L. Schepps

English Publication: January 22, 2022

Length: 96 pages

Genre: Literary Fiction / Science Fiction Noir

Rights Available: World Translation Rights Available

A twisty modern sci-fi noir that doubles as psychological allegory — perfect for fans of Blake Crouch’s “Dark Matter” or Stephen King’s “The Dark Half”

Jim Dougherty lives the kind of unsatisfied life familiar to many a middle-aged millennial. He’s stuck in a dead-end job at a tired old casino, haunted by regrets of unfulfilled childhood potential and going nowhere fast. Every day it seems the life he was meant to live becomes a little further out of reach. But when an oddly familiar stranger appears at his pre-dawn blackjack table with a new perspective on a mystery he thought he’d buried back in boarding school, Jim learns that self-improvement can be dangerous. For Jim Dougherty, the road not taken turns out to be a deadly one. This unique blend of noir, sci-fi, and psychological allegory is sure to keep readers guessing until the final desert sunrise.

Praise for Split Aces

“Split Aces is all kinds of noir-ish fun orbiting around a rich existential core. Through vivid detail, sharp dialogue, and precise prose, M.L. Schepps’ portrait of Jim Dougherty and the faded desert trappings of his world is a thrillingly acute and expansive one. I felt hints of Fargo, The Twilight Zone, and Marisha Pessl’s Night Film.”—Tim Day, author of Discount Ceremony

“Part noir drama, part sci-fi thriller, and part meditative essay on the creative process, Split Aces is a reading experience unlike any other. The book is smart, playful, and wholly unexpected.”—Joshua James Amberson, author of Everyday Mythologies and Staring Contest: Essays about Eyes

“In Split Aces, M.L. Schepps has crafted a delicious noir indulgence with all the requisite tropes: down-and-out protagonist, seedy digs, drinks and drugs, and a mysterious stranger. But clever twists and a mix of introspection, language play, and science fiction take it to another level. This book marks the beginning of a promising career.”—Michael N. McGregor, author of Pure Act: The Uncommon Life of Robert Lax

About the Author

M.L. Schepps is a writer and historian based in Portland, Oregon. He’s a writer for the Oregon Encyclopedia, a former nonfiction editor for The Portland Review and was on the editorial board for Kith Journal. *Split Aces* is his fiction debut.