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Despite their historical importance, empires have received scant attention from social scientists. Now, Alexander J. Motyl examines the structure, dynamics, and continuing relevance of empire—and asks, "Why do empires decline? Why do some empires collapse? And why do some collapsed empires revive?" Rejecting choice-centered theories of imperial decline, Motyl maintains that the very structure of empires promotes decay and that decay in turn facilitates the progressive loss of territory. Although most major empires have in fact declined in this manner, some, such as the Soviet Union, have collapsed suddenly and comprehensively. Motyl explains how and why collapse occurs, why such an outcome is hard to foresee, and why some collapsed empires revive. While broad-ranging historically and empirically, *Imperial Ends* focuses on five modern empires: the Soviet, Romanov, Ottoman, Habsburg, and Wilhelmine. Examining the possibility of a revival of the Soviet empire, Motyl points out that the expansion of NATO and the European Union, along with increasing globalization, will isolate Russia and its neighbors, promoting their dependence upon one another and perhaps facilitating the rise of the former core. With boldly stated conclusions and concise analytical interpretations, *Imperial Ends* cohesively illustrates to policymakers and social scientists alike the importance of possible imperial revivals and the rise of future empires.

From popular LGBTQ advice columnist and writer John Paul Brammer comes a hilarious, heartwarming memoir-in-essays chronicling his journey growing up as a queer, mixed-race kid in America's heartland to becoming the "Chicano Carrie Bradshaw" of his generation. "A wise and charming book. [Brammer] is such a good writer, and so well rounded."—David Sedaris "[Brammer] is both kind and piercingly funny, often in the same sentence.... Personal and affecting.... ¡Hola Papi! is a master class of tone and tenderness, as Brammer balances self-compassion with humor." —THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW (EDITORS' CHOICE) "[¡Hola Papi! should be] required reading...[Brammer's] writing is incredibly funny, kind, and gracious to his readers, and deeply vulnerable in a way that makes it feel as if he's talking to only you." —LOS ANGELES TIMES The first time someone called John Paul (JP) Brammer "Papi" was on the popular gay hookup app Grindr. At first, it was flattering; JP took this as white-guy speak for "hey, handsome." Who doesn't want to be called handsome? But then it happened again and again...and again, leaving JP wondering: Who the hell is Papi? What started as a racialized moniker given to him on a hookup app soon became the inspiration for his now wildly popular advice column "¡Hola Papi!," launching his career as the Cheryl Strayed for young queer people everywhere—and some straight people too. JP had his doubts at first—what advice could he really offer while he himself stumbled through his early 20s? Sometimes the best advice to dole out comes from looking within, which is what JP has done in his column and book—and readers have flocked to him for honest, heartfelt wisdom, and of course, a few laughs. In *¡Hola Papi!*, JP shares his story of growing up biracial and in the closet in America's heartland, while attempting to answer some of life's toughest questions: How do I let go of the past? How do I become the person I want to be? Is there such a thing as being too gay? Should I hook up with my grade school bully now that he's out of the closet? Questions we've all asked ourselves, surely. *¡Hola Papi!* is "a warm, witty compendium of hard-won life lessons," (*Harper's Bazaar*) for anyone—gay, straight, and everything in between—who has ever taken stock of their unique place in the world. "Readers are likely to become addicted to these stories; they're that good...Brammer comes to know himself very well, and readers will be delighted to make his acquaintance, too," (*Booklist*, starred review).

Sweet, bookish Neve Slater always plays by the rules. And the number one rule is that good-natured fat girls like her don't get guys like gorgeous, handsome William, heir to Neve's heart since university. But William's been in LA for three years, and Neve's been slimming down and re-inventing herself so that when he returns, he'll fall head over heels in love with the new, improved her. So she's not that interested in other men. Until her sister Celia points out that if Neve wants William to think she's an experienced love-goddess and not the fumbling, awkward girl he left behind, then she'd better get some, well, experience. What Neve needs is someone to show her the ropes, someone like Celia's colleague Max. Wicked, shallow, sexy Max. And since he's such a man-slut, and so not Neve's type, she certainly won't fall for him. Because William is the man for her... right? Somewhere between losing weight and losing her inhibitions, Neve's lost her heart - but to who?

Aside from her dad, who passed away when she was six, Cassidy Jameson has only ever trusted one man: her best friend, Tyler. So of course she follows him to Texas when he leaves for college. She just didn't expect to be so drawn to their new roommate, Gage, a gorgeous guy with a husky Southern drawl. The only problem? He's Tyler's cousin. Gage Carson was excited to share an apartment off campus with his cousin. He didn't mind that Tyler was bringing the mysterious friend he'd heard about since they were kids . . . until the most beautiful girl he's ever seen jumps out of his cousin's Jeep. There's something about Cassi that makes Gage want to give her everything. Too bad Tyler has warned him that she's strictly off-limits. Despite everything keeping them apart, Cassi and Gage dance dangerously close to the touch they've both been craving. But when disaster sends her running into Tyler's arms, Cassi will have to decide whether to face the demons of her past . . . or to burn her chance at a future with Gage.

Fiona Pearce is the kind of girl who can never say no to anyone. As long as she can do something to help out, she'll do it in a heartbeat. So when her father faces a problem and asks for her help to find her missing brother, Finn, in a school where he works at, she's more than willing to extend a hand and go the extra mile. The only problem is, Corner Stone High School is not just an ordinary high school. It is an exclusive school... for boys. But of course, that won't stop her from convincing her father to let her transfer to that school. And so moving in to the dormitory, Fiona then sets off in a journey to find the missing boy in a population of a four hundred and sixty-five. But will she find him? Or will she be found out? And as she gets things straight, will something unexpected happen? Tossing the coin of luck and fate, she ventures to find the answers herself.

Belly spends the summer she turns sixteen at the beach just like every other summer of her life, but this time things are very different.

Ember Walsh is a trusting soul with the quiet beauty of her late mother, who perished in a mysterious car crash when Ember was three. A little tomboyish from being raised by her father, Ember packs a punch when a stranger gets pushy with her in a bar, catching the steely blue eyes of a tall, gorgeous tattooed man--Trace Montgomery. Still damaged from her last disastrous relationship and warned off the bad boy by friends, Ember fights the smoldering heat that Trace sparks in her when he begins shadowing her like a dark angel. Burdened by a lifetime of horror and heartbreak, amateur fighter Trace doesn't want to want Ember. His deep self-loathing keeps him from having any meaningful relationships, but Ember is an itch he can't scratch. The two push and pull, slowly crumbling their walls, seemingly brought together by fate, because the turmoil that haunts their pasts is interlinked in undeniable ways. But can these two fighters finally lay down their arms? In *Beautifully Damaged*, L.A. Fiore delves into deep scars and lets love and forgiveness uncover redemption. I was broken, numb to want and desire, but then he came along... Three years after the tragic events of Anna's sixteenth birthday which saw her boyfriend killed and her kidnapped by his sadistic murderer, she's no longer the happy-go-lucky girl that everyone used to know and love; she's now cold, hard and suffers from night terrors. Carter is currently serving time for the murder of Jack--a conviction that Anna helped secure--but his retrial is coming up because some key evidence appears to have been tampered with. Needing to ensure his daughter's safety, presidential candidate, Senator Spencer, tasks in Ashton Taylor, a newly qualified SWAT agent, to guard the broken girl and keep her safe until the end of the trial. For three years Anna has refused to feel emotion or pain. Can Ashton help her rebuild her life and finally deal with the grief of losing her childhood sweetheart? Will he be the one to make her see that life is, in fact, worth living and that not all men will hurt her? This original edition combines part 1 (*Guarding the Broken*) and part 2 (*Blurring the lines*) into one novel of epic proportions!

INSTANT NATIONAL BESTSELLER "A manifesto to happiness—the one found when you stop running from who you are." —New York Times Book Review "An extraordinary book, acrobatic on the level of the sentence, symphonic across its many movements—and this is a book that moves... My Year Abroad is a wild ride—a caper, a romance, a bildungsroman, and something of a satire of how to get filthy rich in rising Asia." —Vogue From the award-winning author of *Native Speaker* and *On Such a Full Sea*, an exuberant, provocative story about a young American life transformed by an unusual Asian adventure — and about the human capacities for pleasure, pain, and connection. Tiller is an average American college student with a good heart but minimal aspirations. Pong Lou is a larger-than-life, wildly creative Chinese American entrepreneur who sees something intriguing in Tiller beyond his bored exterior and takes him under his wing. When Pong brings him along on a boisterous trip across Asia, Tiller is catapulted from ordinary young man to talented protégé, and pulled into a series of ever more extreme and eye-opening experiences that transform his view of the world, of Pong, and of himself. In the breathtaking, "precise, elliptical prose" that Chang-rae Lee is known for (*The New York Times*), the narrative alternates between Tiller's outlandish, mind-boggling year with Pong and the strange, riveting, emotionally complex domestic life that follows it, as Tiller processes what happened to him abroad and what it means for his future. Rich with commentary on Western attitudes, Eastern stereotypes, capitalism, global trade, mental health, parenthood, mentorship, and more, *My Year Abroad* is also an exploration of the surprising effects of cultural immersion—on a young American in Asia, on a Chinese man in America, and on an unlikely couple hiding out in the suburbs. Tinged at once with humor and darkness, electric with its accumulating surprises and suspense, *My Year Abroad* is a novel that only Chang-rae Lee could have written, and one that will be read and discussed for years to come.

Nineteen-year-old Emily Sheppard is losing her sanity. Ever since her mob king boyfriend, Cameron Hillard, abandoned her for her own good, Emmy has been attempting to move on with her charmed college student life as if nothing happened. Now rejected from the underworld and left grieving over Cameron's alleged death, Emmy realizes she belongs nowhere. Worse yet, she is now keeping a dangerous secret. After just a short time with Emily, Cameron has lost control over his world. As he miserably attempts to return to what is left of his life and unravel the mess he has made of the underworld, Emily's hate turns to desperation. She needs to kill the kingpins responsible for Cameron's death before they come looking for her. As Cameron secretly observes Emily, he has no idea of the danger he has placed her in—or that it may already be too late for him to save her. *Scare Crow* is a tale of revenge, terror, and love as Emmy and Cameron embark on separate journeys to face enemies, correct past mistakes, and find their way to their destinies.

Riley Tanner has a best friend, the best friend a girl could ask for. He's supportive, loyal, honest, trustworthy, kind, and thoughtful. He's also the biggest player in school. Their relationship has always been easy and affectionate, but after Riley's month long vacation, things become a little strange. She starts to look at him in ways that go way beyond the 'friend zone'. Add in her best friend's rival, and things become a whole lot more complicated.

ENJOYING THE CHASE is a stand alone companion novel of *Nothing Left to Lose*. *** due to some heavy language and sexual content, this book is intended for persons aged 18+ *** After more than 20 million reads online, Nate and his pick-up lines are now coming to an E-reader near you! Nate Peters is living the playboy life. He has great friends, a great job, no responsibilities, no girlfriend, and he loves it. Nate, being incredibly skilled with a pick-up line, has never failed to get a girl in his life... until one day he meets Rosie York. Rosie is completely uninterested in him. Being unable to stand a dented ego, Nate makes it his mission to win her over. Not used to putting in much effort, Nate is surprisingly enjoying the chase of this off-limits little brunette. Maybe he has finally met his match... But Rosie has a few surprises of her own which will make it remarkably more difficult for him to get close to her. A Romance / Humour that will make you laugh, cry and scream in frustration.

Chloe Henderson has never been one to break the rules or push the boundaries... but during her summer break, she and her friends use fake IDs to sneak into a club. It's there that she meets handsome and alluring bartender, Will Morris. The pair hit it off immediately, growing closer with every passing day. But as with every summer, it has to end sometime. Chloe's senior year approaches and there's a shock in store when she returns to do her final year at school. Will is there too, but he's not one of her fellow students... A tale of forbidden love, broken hearts, friendship, and rivalry.

Can love heal all wounds? At seventeen, Tyler Bruce is hot — a hot mess. His girlfriend is a knockout, his reputation's untouchable, parties are nothing without him. Even his car is unreal. But inside Tyler is broken — and he'll stop at nothing to keep that a secret.

Then one summer Eden comes to stay. She's upfront, sharp and far more enticing than a stepsister should be. She also sees straight through Tyler's bad boy façade to the vulnerable kid within. The quiet kid who took all the punches. As Eden draws Tyler in, his defenses start to crumble around him. In his past, vulnerability only brought him danger. But now, it might just bring him everything he needs...if it doesn't break him. As irresistible and dazzling as its Californian backdrop, *Just Don't Mention It* is a companion novel to the *Did I Mention I Miss You* trilogy that explores Tyler's story — his heart-stopping tale of past hurt, finding hope and figuring out who the hell he wants to be.

According to Pamela's cousin in New Jersey, the worst thing that can happen to a girl is to start seventh grade without a boyfriend. So Alice is glad that she and Patrick are going together. But Patrick the boyfriend is a lot more complicated than Patrick the friend. What's an appropriate gift for Alice to give him for his birthday? What should she do if he wants to kiss her and she hasn't just brushed her teeth? Alice really likes Patrick, but sometimes it seems as though life would be a lot simpler if they were still just friends.

The further Naomi's husband rises, the more space accumulates in their home - space for doubts, for secrets, and for loftier dreams than she ever considered.

The first book in the *Beautifully Broken* series. Twenty-four-year-old Pax Tate is not always a nice guy. He's a tattooed, rock-hard bad boy with a bad attitude to match. But he's got his reasons. His mother died when Pax was seven, leaving a hole in his heart filled with guilt. As Pax grew up, he tried to be the perfect golden boy but his dad couldn't overcome his grief long enough to notice. Pax couldn't keep up the impossible perfect façade, so he slipped far, far from it. Now, he uses drugs and women to cope with the ugly, black void in his heart. Until he meets sweet, beautiful Mila Hill. Mila is a carefree smile to his hardened frown, the beauty to his beast. When memories of his mother's death resurface, Mila is there to help him mend his broken heart . . . but only if he can stop being a jerk long enough to allow it. Pax says he's working on it. But is that enough to make her stay?

Ages 14 up.

Some journeys take more than one lifetime. Ever since Delilah turned him into a vampire, Samson has been plotting revenge against his former lover. When he finally catches up with her in modern-day New York, it seems he has all the time in the world to see that the last chapter of their sordid saga is finally written. Much like old enemies, however, old passions die hard, and Samson is forced to make a surprisingly hard choice - does he want her dead more than he wants her back? Intelligent, disquieting, and deeply erotic, *THE FIRST VAMPIRE* cleverly weaves the past into the present in a captivating tapestry of suspense, intrigue, romance and betrayal.

Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's beloved musical masterpiece becomes a major motion picture, starring Meryl Streep and Johnny Depp.

A dazzling debut from one of Australia's most gifted young writers "Maguire keeps the prose crackling and the dialogue lively ... from the first page to the last." Publishers Weekly Sarah Clark's life is irrevocably changed at the age of 14 when her English teacher, Mr Carr, seduces her after class. Their affair is illegal, erotic, passionate and dangerous - a vicious meeting of minds and bodies. But when Mr Carr's wife discovers the affair, he has to choose between them and moves to another city with his family. Sarah is devastated and from that day on her life is defined by a series of meaningless, self-abasing sexual encounters, hoping with each man that she will experience the same delicious feelings she had with Mr Carr. Seven years later Daniel Carr walks back into Sarah's life and she is drawn once again into the destructive relationship. Is Sarah strong enough to "tame the beast"? *PRAISE FOR EMILY MAGUIRE* "At the heart of ... Emily Maguire's work lies an urgent need to pull away at the interconnecting threads of morality, society and human relationships." Sydney Morning Herald "what you get, along with a sharp mind and a keenness to investigate cultural confusions, is an engaging ability to put the vitality of the story first." Weekend Australian

From New York Times bestselling author Heidi McLaughlin comes a heartfelt story about overcoming great loss and forgiving past sins to find happiness again. Brooklyn Hewett hasn't set foot in Cape Harbor for fifteen years--not since an accident claimed the love of her life, Austin Woods. Desperate to move forward, Brooklyn has focused on raising her daughter for the past fourteen years. But when the opportunity comes along to renovate the old Driftwood Inn, Brooklyn knows it's time to go home. But it won't be easy. For one, Austin's best friend, Bowie Holmes, still lives in Cape Harbor. Brooklyn hasn't quite been able to forget him: not since the night they spent together--the same night they both lost Austin. Separated by tragedy and guilt, they're brought together by the Driftwood project. And as they rebuild the inn, they discover they're also rebuilding something else. Brooklyn's always been desperate to move on, not knowing that she first needs to reconcile past transgressions. She can't forget, but she can forgive--Austin, Bowie, and herself--on her way toward long-awaited happiness.

An edgy, sexy USA TODAY bestseller about falling for the one person you can't have. Maise O'Malley just turned eighteen, but she's felt like a grown-up her entire life. The summer before senior year, she has plans: get into a great film school, convince her mom to go into rehab, and absolutely do not, under any circumstances, screw up her own future. But life has a way of throwing her plans into free-fall. When Maise meets Evan at a carnival one night, their chemistry is immediate, intense, and short-lived. Which is exactly how she likes it: no strings. But afterward, she can't get Evan out of her head. He's taught her that a hookup can be something more. It can be an unexpected connection with someone who truly understands her. Someone who sees beyond her bravado to the scared but strong girl inside. That someone turns out to be her new film class teacher, Mr. Evan Wilke. Maise and Evan resolve to keep their hands off each other, but the attraction is too much to bear. Together, they're real and genuine; apart, they're just actors playing their parts for everyone else. And their masks are slipping. People start to notice. Rumors fly. When the truth comes to light in a shocking way, they may learn they were just playing parts for each other, too. Smart, sexy, and provocative, *Unteachable* is about what happens when a love story goes off-script.

From London to Corsica to Paris -- as a young woman pursues the truth about her late mother, two captivating love stories unfurl in this captivating novel from the author of *The Guest List*. Kate Darling's enigmatic mother -- a once-famous ballerina -- has passed away, leaving Kate bereft. When her grandmother falls ill and bequeaths to Kate a small portrait of a woman who bears a striking resemblance to Kate's mother, Kate uncovers a mystery that may upend everything she thought she knew. Kate's journey to find the true identity of the woman in the portrait takes her to some of the world's most iconic and indulgent locales, revealing a love story that began in the wild 1920s and was disrupted by war and could now spark new love for Kate. Alternating between Kate's present-day hunt and voices from the past, *The Book of Lost and Found* casts light on family secrets and love -- both lost and found.

NOW A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER! An unflinching, darkly funny, and deeply moving story of a boy, his seriously ill mother, and an

unexpected monstrous visitor. At seven minutes past midnight, thirteen-year-old Conor wakes to find a monster outside his bedroom window. But it isn't the monster Conor's been expecting-- he's been expecting the one from his nightmare, the nightmare he's had nearly every night since his mother started her treatments. The monster in his backyard is different. It's ancient. And wild. And it wants something from Conor. Something terrible and dangerous. It wants the truth. From the final idea of award-winning author Siobhan Dowd-- whose premature death from cancer prevented her from writing it herself-- Patrick Ness has spun a haunting and darkly funny novel of mischief, loss, and monsters both real and imagined.

They say that your school years are supposed to be the best years of your life, and that you should make the most of them because you'll miss them when you're all grown up. Up until Maisie Preston's senior year, she would have totally agreed with that statement. Life was great; she had everything going for her, excellent grades, great parents, an annoying yet caring twin brother, and an impossibly sweet boyfriend. Everything was perfect — that is until the arrival of Zach Anderson. A misfit delinquent that seemed to bring with him a lot of bad karma. Is it just a coincidence that his arrival marks a significant change in Maisie's life? Up until senior year, life was perfect, but things seem to be going downhill fast. This is a companion novel for 'Always You' — though this novel stands alone so there is no need to read Always You first.

Award-winning author and artist Mike Curato draws on his own experiences in Flamer, his debut graphic novel, telling a difficult story with humor, compassion, and love. "This book will save lives." —Jarrett J. Krosoczka, author of National Book Award Finalist Hey, Kiddo I know I'm not gay. Gay boys like other boys. I hate boys. They're mean, and scary, and they're always destroying something or saying something dumb or both. I hate that word. Gay. It makes me feel . . . unsafe. It's the summer between middle school and high school, and Aiden Navarro is away at camp. Everyone's going through changes—but for Aiden, the stakes feel higher. As he navigates friendships, deals with bullies, and spends time with Elias (a boy he can't stop thinking about), he finds himself on a path of self-discovery and acceptance.

Chloe Henderson has never been one to break the rules or push the boundaries... but during her summer break, she and her friends use fake IDs to sneak into a club. It's there that she meets handsome and alluring bartender, Will Morris. The pair hit it off immediately, growing closer with every passing day. But as with every summer, it has to end sometime. Chloe's senior year approaches and there's a shock in store when she returns to do her final year at school. Will is there too, but he's not one of her fellow students...A tale of forbidden love, broken hearts, friendship, and rivalry.

A fly-on-the-wall account of the smart and strange subcultures that make, trade, curate, collect, and hype contemporary art. The art market has been booming. Museum attendance is surging. More people than ever call themselves artists. Contemporary art has become a mass entertainment, a luxury good, a job description, and, for some, a kind of alternative religion. In a series of beautifully paced narratives, Sarah Thornton investigates the drama of a Christie's auction, the workings in Takashi Murakami's studios, the elite at the Basel Art Fair, the eccentricities of Artforum magazine, the competition behind an important art prize, life in a notorious art-school seminar, and the wonderland of the Venice Biennale. She reveals the new dynamics of creativity, taste, status, money, and the search for meaning in life. A judicious and juicy account of the institutions that have the power to shape art history, based on hundreds of interviews with high-profile players, Thornton's entertaining ethnography will change the way you look at contemporary culture.

A young girl at a Connecticut private school falls in love with her English teacher in this turbulent and tender first novel by the winner of the Yale University Willet Prize. Flanders Point is a spit of land on the Connecticut shore of Long Island Sound, the site of a small, financially troubled girls' prep school called Haddam. To this school comes Charlotte Delafield, a gawky teen hoping to surmount the aftermath of her parents' difficult divorce, and Brian Parton, a restless young writer and English teacher. Through the everyday events of Charlotte's senior year--conflicts and misunderstanding in the classroom, as well as flashes of inspiration and learning, an annual outdoor Shakespeare production, and walks in the still, wild marshland of Flanders Point--the two find themselves drawn to each other. Under increasing emotional pressure, the barrier between student and teacher cracks but does not break--until graduation day. In Flanders Point, Jacquie Gordon shows the promise of early Pat Conroy. And the novel conjures up those other coming-of-age classics we all treasure, like A Separate Peace and Catcher in the Rye.

Dirty A poem by Blaire Leon If sex is dirty, why would I do it with someone I love? If sex is dirty, then didn't we all come from the dirt? What if I like the dirt? What if I want to get dirty? What if I want to roll in the mud until I'm so fucking filthy that I'll never be clean again? When twenty-five-year-old graduate assistant Caiden Brenner asked Blaire Leon how old she was, she said she was a senior. He chose to believe she meant in college. They connect over Lord Byron's Don Juan and, as their conversations become increasingly thicker with sexual innuendo, Caiden finds himself obsessing over a totally off-limits undergrad who's bold, beautiful, brilliant, and one of the most passionate poets he's ever met. But it turns out Blaire hasn't been totally honest. She's the seventeen-year-old valedictorian of her high school class, taking courses at Sierra State while awaiting her acceptance to Stanford. Will Caiden get too deeply into Blaire to back away before he finds out the truth? Or will their connection be enough to seduce him into risking his entire future on Jail Bait? "A thousand and one feels....Getting Dirty is a thrilling, tantalizing forbidden romance you do not want to miss! I not only devoured this book, it devoured me right back!"--Katy Evans, New York Times Bestselling author of REAL

After promising on her father's deathbed to protect her sister, Troo, young Sally O'Malley finds she and her sister are on their own--with their mother hospitalized, their stepfather descending into alcoholism, and their big sister preoccupied with her boyfriend--at the same time that a child molester and murderer is on the loose. Original.

The golden boy of football just went bad. Quarterback Grayson Knight has a squeaky-clean reputation in the football world. So when he's arrested for drug possession, lawyer Melissa St. James knows that something doesn't add up. It's clear he's hiding something, though he denies it. But there's one thing he can't deny--he wants Melissa. BookShots Flames Original romances presented by JAMES PATTERSON Novels you can devour in a few hours Impossible to stop reading

Her first year away is turning out to be nearly perfect, but one weekend of giving in to heated passion will change everything Eighteen-year-old Harper has grown up under the thumb of her career marine father. Ready to live life her own way and to experience things she's only ever heard of from the jarheads in her father's unit, she's on her way to college at San Diego State University. Thanks to her new roommate, Harper is introduced to a world of parties, gorgeous guys, family, and emotions. She finds herself being torn in two as she quickly falls in love with both her new boyfriend, Brandon, and her roommate's brother, Chase. Despite their dangerous looks and histories, both men adore Harper and would do anything for her, including taking a step back if it would mean she'd be happy.

A spellbinding novel that will resonate with readers of Mark Haddon, Louise Erdrich, and John Irving, Perfect tells the story of a young boy who is thrown into the murky, difficult realities of the adult world with far-reaching consequences. Byron Hemmings wakes to a morning that looks like any other: his school uniform draped over his wooden desk chair, his sister arguing over the breakfast cereal, the click of his mother's heels as she crosses the kitchen. But when the three of

them leave home, driving into a dense summer fog, the morning takes an unmistakable turn. In one terrible moment, something happens, something completely unexpected and at odds with life as Byron understands it. While his mother seems not to have noticed, eleven-year-old Byron understands that from now on nothing can be the same. What happened and who is to blame? Over the days and weeks that follow, Byron's perfect world is shattered. Unable to trust his parents, he confides in his best friend, James, and together they concoct a plan. . . . As she did in her debut, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, Rachel Joyce has imagined bewitching characters who find their ordinary lives unexpectedly thrown into chaos, who learn that there are times when children must become parents to their parents, and who discover that in confronting the hard truths about their pasts, they will forge unexpected relationships that have profound and surprising impacts. Brimming with love, forgiveness, and redemption, *Perfect* will cement Rachel Joyce's reputation as one of fiction's brightest talents. Praise for *Perfect* "Touching, eccentric . . . Joyce does an inviting job of setting up these mysterious circumstances, and of drawing Byron's magical closeness with Diana."—Janet Maslin, *The New York Times* "Haunting . . . compelling."—*Minneapolis Star Tribune* "[Joyce] triumphantly returns with *Perfect*. . . . As Joyce probes the souls of Diana, Byron and Jim, she reveals—slowly and deliberately, as if peeling back a delicate onion skin—the connection between the two stories, creating a poignant, searching tale."—*O: The Oprah Magazine* "Perfect touches on class, mental illness, and the ways a psyche is formed or broken. It has the tenor of a horror film, and yet at the end, in some kind of contortionist trick, the narrative unfolds into an unexpected burst of redemption. [Verdict:] Buy It."—*New York* "Joyce's dark, quiet follow-up to her successful debut, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, could easily become a book club favorite. . . . *Perfect* is the kind of book that blossoms under thoughtful examination, its slow tendencies redeemed by moments of loveliness and insight. However sad, Joyce's messages—about the limitations of time and control, the failures of adults and the fears of children, and our responsibility for our own imprisonment and freedom—have a gentle ring of truth to them."—*The Washington Post* "There is a poignancy to Joyce's narrative that makes for her most memorable writing."—*NPR's All Things Considered*

Tick, tick, tock. Time. That's all I have now. A small room, a photograph, and time. They want me to trust them and confess my sins. They told me they wouldn't judge me—they lied. I thought we could convince the world that this wasn't a crime. We were wrong. Time doesn't stand still. The clock keeps ticking, the world is unconvinced, and now... Now he is gone.

Sometimes it takes losing everything to find the person you need . . . Most people travel to Croatia for its endless sunshine, pebbly beaches and crystal clear sea. Kate goes there to disappear. She needs to escape from a life that has fallen apart in spectacular and public fashion, and no one on the beautiful island of Hvar knows who she is or what she's running away from. Until she meets another lonely soul. Alex is different to any man Kate has ever known, yet the connection between them is undeniable. She soon begins to open up in ways she never has before - not even to herself. But Kate is not the only person in Hvar hiding secrets. And, as she is about to discover, it is always only a matter of time before the truth catches up with you . . . --- Praise for *Isabelle Broom*: 'Gloriously escapist, unashamedly romantic, witty and hugely enjoyable' *Sunday Mirror* 'I totally lost myself in this heart-warming, charming tale of love, family and gorgeous Greece. I adored it' *Milly Johnson* 'A writing powerhouse' *Carrie Hope Fletcher* 'Brilliantly evocative - it's left me longing for a Greek holiday!' *Paige Toon* 'A gorgeous story of heartbreak, forgiveness and self-discovery. I can't wait to read her future books!' *Giovanna Fletcher* 'This book takes you on holiday' *Adele Parks* 'Well-written and perfect for a lazy afternoon on the sofa' *Daily Mail* 'Combines a wonderful setting with the poignancy of self-discovery and a touching romance' *Katie Fforde* 'Brilliant, warm and beautifully judged - I raced through it' *Cathy Kelly* 'An evocative and enchanting story' *Cathy Bramley*

??????????...Very suspenseful up to the last page. One of my new favorites. Former FBI-profiler, Eva Rae Thomas is caught off guard by a murderous plan that sends her on a pulse-pounding race against time in this romantic thriller by Willow Rose. It is a typical Tuesday morning. Scott Benton gets up, kisses his girlfriend Sarah goodbye, and goes to work. But when he returns home from work later in the afternoon, his girlfriend of two years is gone. And just like that, Scott's life is turned upside down. The police are after him, thinking he hurt her. His friends and family have turned their backs on him, thinking the same. Meanwhile, there is one thing Scott can't stop thinking about. Two months ago, Sarah told him that he should go looking for her if she ever turned up missing. Eva Rae Thomas has enough on her plate as it is: a newborn baby, an upcoming marriage, and a house not big enough to fit them all. On top of it, she takes in a young girl who is in serious trouble, only adding to the strain on her family life. When Scott Benton shows up and tells her she's his only hope in finding his girlfriend, Eva Rae is inclined to say no, but she can't get herself to do it. Scott and Eva Rae used to date for a brief period in high school, and Eva Rae isn't the type of person who just can stop caring about someone. Especially when they have nowhere else to turn. As the investigation deepens, Eva Rae Thomas finds out what it is from her past that Sarah was so afraid of, and she'll need all of her profiling skills in the race against time to find the girl before it is too late.

By the award-winning author of *East of the Sun*, "a powerful and memorable novel" (*Publishers Weekly*) about the forbidden love between a young Indian doctor and an English midwife. Oxfordshire, 1947. Kit Smallwood, hiding a painful secret and exhausted from nursing soldiers during the Second World War, escapes to Wickam Farm where her friend is setting up a charity sending midwives to the Moonstone Home in South India. Then Kit meets Anto, an Indian doctor finishing his medical training at Oxford. But Kit's light-skinned mother is in fact Anglo-Indian with secrets of her own, and Anto is everything she does not want for her daughter. Despite the threat of estrangement, Kit is excited for the future, hungry for adventure, and deeply in love. She and Anto secretly marry and set off for South India—where Kit plans to run the maternity hospital she's helped from afar. But Kit's life in India does not turn out as she imagined. Anto's large, traditional family wanted him to marry an Indian bride and find it hard to accept Kit. As their relationship begins to fray,

Kit's job becomes fraught with tension as they both face a newly independent India, where riots have left millions dead and there is deep-rooted suspicion of the English. In a rapidly changing world, Kit's naiveté is to land her in a frightening and dangerous situation... Based on true accounts of European midwives in India, Monsoon Summer is a powerful story of secrets, the nature of home, the comforts and frustrations of family, and how far we'll go to be with those we love.

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