

Sanctuary Found Pelican Bay Book 2

How America's prisons turned a "brutal and inhumane" practice into standard procedure Originally meant to be brief and exceptional, solitary confinement in U.S. prisons has become long-term and common. Prisoners spend twenty-three hours a day in featureless cells, with no visitors or human contact for years on end, and they are held entirely at administrators' discretion. Keramet Reiter tells the history of one "supermax," California's Pelican Bay State Prison, whose extreme conditions recently sparked a statewide hunger strike by 30,000 prisoners. This book describes how Pelican Bay was created without legislative oversight, in fearful response to 1970s radicals; how easily prisoners slip into solitary; and the mental havoc and social costs of years and decades in isolation. The product of fifteen years of research in and about prisons, this book provides essential background to a subject now drawing national attention.

A BuzzFeed Most Anticipated Book of the Year • A The Millions Most Anticipated Book of the Year "A massively entertaining and slyly enlightening story nestled inside another story like a ghost within its host." —Kathleen Rooney, author of *Cher Ami* and *Major Whittlesey* and Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk In this provocative meditation on new motherhood—Shirley Jackson meets *The Awakening*—a postpartum woman's psychological unraveling becomes intertwined with the ghostly appearance of children's book writer Margaret Wise Brown. There's a madwoman upstairs, and only Megan Weiler can see her. Ravaged and sore from giving birth to her first child, Megan is mostly raising her newborn alone while her husband travels for work. Physically exhausted and mentally drained, she's also wracked with guilt over her unfinished dissertation—a thesis on mid-century children's literature. Enter a new upstairs neighbor: the ghost of quixotic children's book writer Margaret Wise Brown—author of the beloved classic *Goodnight Moon*—whose existence no one else will acknowledge. It seems Margaret has unfinished business with her former lover, the once-famous socialite and actress Michael Strange, and is determined to draw Megan into the fray. As Michael joins the haunting, Megan finds herself caught in the wake of a supernatural power struggle—and until she can find a way to quiet these spirits, she and her newborn daughter are in terrible danger. Using Megan's postpartum haunting as a powerful metaphor for a woman's fraught relationship with her body and mind, Julia Fine once again delivers an imaginative and "barely restrained, careful musing on female desire, loneliness, and hereditary inheritances" (*Washington Post*).

Lucky Two years ago I humiliated myself by declaring my love to an older man who clearly didn't share my feelings. And that's fine. One day Zach will come around. Meanwhile, I've built a life for myself in northern Montana, pursuing my college degree while working hard toward certification in high-risk alpine search and rescue on the side. And perhaps I've kept the danger part a secret from my two dads. After all, what they don't know won't hurt them... Everything's going exactly as planned until my dads send Zach to check on me just as I'm dealing with an ex who doesn't understand the meaning of the word no. It's bad enough Zach still thinks of me as a child; now he also thinks I'm incapable of looking out for myself. I need to get him off my back before he finds out I'm not heading to Wyoming for summer break like everyone thinks. I'm going to Glacier National Park to learn how to rappel from helicopters... Zach Two years ago I wanted something I couldn't have, so I threw myself back into my job as an Army Ranger and wound up scarred in more ways than one. When the army dumps my sorry self back into the real world, it's time to start over. I accept a summer job teaching high-risk search and rescue. On the way there, all I have to do is peek in on little Lucky Reed and make sure he's okay. He's not. Someone has it out for him, and I'll be damned if I'm going to let him get hurt on my watch. My plan is to keep him safe until he heads south for his summer job playing trail guide to tourists. Once he's gone, I'll be free to head to Glacier where my biggest challenge will be keeping a handful of alpine search and rescue students safe as they learn how to dangle

from helicopters high above the Rocky Mountains. It's all fine. Until it's not. Danger follows us to Glacier, and by the time I finally start seeing Lucky as more than the awkward teenager he used to be, I wonder if it's too late to convince him that this scarred soldier sees him as anything but little anymore.

A birding guide is found dead. The murder rattles locals and birders who flock to Galveston for the influx of Sandhill Cranes. With sidekick Ned "The Pelican Man" Quinn, Xena Cali and her team explore birding's darker side and the tenuous relationship between commerce and nature to solve the case.

A Book of Secrets is the story of a woman named Susan Charlewood living in Elizabethan England. Born in what is now Ghana, Susan is enslaved by the Portuguese but later rescued by British sailors, who bring her to England. Once in England, she is raised and educated in an English Catholic household. When Susan comes of age, the family marry her off to an older Catholic man, John Charlewood. Charlewood runs a printing press and uses it to supply the Papist nobility with illegal Catholic texts and foment rebellion amongst the Catholic underclass. When Charlewood dies, Susan takes over the business and uses her new position to find out more about her origins. A look at racial relationships on the eve of the beginning of the transatlantic slave trade, A Book of Secrets is a revealing and compelling glimpse into a fraught time.

"This book has everything that makes it a good cozy. Light romance, devoted dog person, curious protagonist, and a mystery" When Maggie May Carver moved to Baker Valley, Colorado she wanted two things: to open a dog barkery with her best friend, and to take care of her aging grandpa. But when her grandpa is accused of murder--a crime he may well have committed--Maggie finds herself in the role of amateur detective. With her faithful Newfie, Miss Fancypants, at her side, Maggie is determined to find the real killer and clear her grandpa's name. Assuming he isn't the real killer, that is. keywords: cozy mystery, cosy mystery, newfoundland dog, colorado, bakery, barkery, humorous mystery, amateur sleuth, slow burn romance, series, small town, family

After four years abroad, artist Jonas Davenport has come home to start building his dream of owning his own art studio and gallery. But just as he's ready to put the darkness of his past behind him forever, it comes roaring back with a vengeance. The only thing keeping ex-cop Mace Calhoun from eating his own gun after an unthinkable loss is his role in an underground syndicate that seeks to get justice for the innocent by taking the lives of the guilty. Ending the life of the young artist who committed unspeakable crimes against the most vulnerable of victims should have been the easiest thing in the world. So why can't he bring himself to pull the trigger? After years of fighting in an endless, soul-sucking war, Navy SEAL Cole Bridgerton has come home to fight another battle - dealing with the discovery that the younger sister who ran away from home eight years earlier is lost to him forever. He needs answers and the only person who can give them to him is a young man struggling to put his life back together. But he never expected to feel something more for the haunted artist. Cole and Mace. One lives by the rules, the other makes his own. One seeks justice through the law while the other seeks it with his gun. Two men, one light, one dark, will find themselves and each other when they're forced to stand side by side to protect Jonas from an unseen evil that will stop at nothing to silence the young artist forever. But each man's scars run deep and even the strength of three may not be enough to save them... Note: Contains m/m/m scenes and is intended for mature audiences Triggers: References to sexual abuse of a child This is book 1 in a series but can be read as standalone...no cliffhangers.

When Nate signs up with a matchmaking app, the sparkly, colorful, always-fashionable florist is hoping to find the guy who will finally see him as more than just a one-night stand. In fact, he's hoping he'll find "the one" who wants the same things he does - white picket fence, kids, minivan, dog - and doesn't mind having them with a man others might think shines just a little

too bright sometimes. Enter Harrison Garrison. The uptight lawyer is all wrong for Nate. He's rigid, distant, controlling, emotionally closed off, and content to live his life in black and white...with maybe a little gray thrown in here and there. But when a misunderstanding leads to an encounter that is all kinds of white-hot, Nate starts to think maybe the matchmaking app got it right after all. Until he finds out the real reason Harrison signed up for the app... Will Nate be the one to finally add a touch of color to the staid Harrison's life, or did the app completely miss the mark?

A resilient young woman must outwit a sadistic psychopath in this pulse-pounding thriller from the author of *The Silence of the Lambs*, a "master still at the top of his strange and chilling form" (*Wall Street Journal*). Twenty-five million dollars in cartel gold lies hidden beneath a mansion on the Miami Beach waterfront. Ruthless men have tracked it for years. Leading the pack is Hans-Peter Schneider. Driven by unspeakable appetites, he makes a living fleshing out the violent fantasies of other, richer men. Cari Mora, caretaker of the house, has escaped from the violence in her native country. She stays in Miami on a wobbly Temporary Protected Status, subject to the iron whim of ICE. She works at many jobs to survive. Beautiful, marked by war, Cari catches the eye of Hans-Peter as he closes in on the treasure. But Cari Mora has surprising skills, and her will to survive has been tested before. Monsters lurk in the crevices between male desire and female survival. No other writer in the last century has conjured those monsters with more terrifying brilliance than Thomas Harris. *Cari Mora*, his sixth novel, is the long-awaited return of an American master.

Oz: Escaping the international modeling scene to design my own fashion collection is the first step to shucking my bobble-headed supermodel reputation and proving to the world I'm more than just a pretty face. But the minute I have to accept roadside help from the sexy man next door, I feel like the airhead people think I am. And what's worse, the man clearly doesn't think I'm worth the time of day. But despite trying to ignore my attraction to the mysterious doctor, I can't help but be drawn to him. With every moment spent together, I begin to realize he's hiding more than just some details of his past. He has one foot out the door. As soon as I start to feel like everything might be coming together for me, I realize the man I'm falling in love with isn't who I thought he was. Jake: After three years on the run for being in the wrong place at the wrong time, I've finally found a seemingly safe place to settle in Haven, Colorado. With friends, a job, and a cabin in the woods, I have everything I need to live a simple life without drawing attention to myself. Everything's fine. Fine. Until I meet my new neighbor. The gorgeous man is anything but subtle and brings color to my life that I didn't know was missing. But I learned years ago that falling in love with someone wasn't an option anymore when simply being seen with me could have dire consequences. It's time for me to run again, but I wonder if it's safe to stick around just long enough for a taste... Just when I begin to realize Oz is the missing piece to bring me back to life after years of hiding, my past catches up to me and throws everyone around me into danger. I know I should run, but what if it's time to finally stop running and make a stand, once and for all? While Body

and Soul is the third book in the Twist of Fate series, each novel can easily be read as a standalone.

When Busch Gardens Tampa Bay opened in 1959, the Tampa, Florida, park became an immediate hit with locals and tourists alike. Over the decades, Busch Gardens has grown to become an internationally acclaimed and accredited zoological facility and world-renowned theme park. Serving as a sanctuary for thousands of exotic and endangered animals from around the globe and offering up unique thrilling rides and world-class entertainment, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay proudly welcomes millions of guests each year.

Revered for millennia in the Chinese spiritual tradition, Chuang Tzu stands alongside the Tao Te Ching as a founding classic of Taoism. The Inner Chapters are the only sustained section of this text widely believed to be the work of Chuang Tzu himself, dating to the fourth century B.C.E. Witty and engaging, spiced with the lyricism of poetry, Chuang Tzu's Taoist insights are timely and eternal, profoundly concerned with spiritual ecology. Indeed, the Tao of Chuang Tzu was a wholesale rejection of a human-centered approach. Zen traces its sources back to these Taoist roots — roots at least as deep as those provided by Buddhism. But this is an ancient text that yields a surprisingly modern effect. In bold and startling prose, David Hinton's translation captures the "zany texture and philosophical abandon" of the original. The Inner Chapters' fantastical passages — in which even birds and trees teach us what they know — offer up a wild menagerie of characters, freewheeling play with language, and surreal humor. And interwoven with Chuang Tzu's sharp instruction on the Tao are short-short stories that are often rough and ribald, rich with satire and paradox. On their deepest level, the Inner Chapters are a meditation on the mysteries of knowledge itself. "Chuang Tzu's propositions," the translator's introduction reminds us, "seem to be in constant transformation, for he deploys words and concepts only to free us of words and concepts." Hinton's vital new translation makes this ancient text from the golden age of Chinese philosophy come alive for contemporary readers.

2013 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award Rosa's mother is singing again, for the first time since Papa died in an accident in the mills. But instead of filling their cramped tenement apartment with Italian lullabies, Mamma is out on the streets singing union songs, and Rosa is terrified that her mother and older sister, Anna, are endangering their lives by marching against the corrupt mill owners. After all, didn't Miss Finch tell the class that the strikers are nothing but rabble-rousers—an uneducated, violent mob? Suppose Mamma and Anna are jailed or, worse, killed? What will happen to Rosa and little Ricci? When Rosa is sent to Vermont with other children to live with strangers until the strike is over, she fears she will never see her family again. Then, on the train, a boy begs her to pretend that he is her brother. Alone and far from home, she agrees to protect him . . . even though she suspects that he is hiding some terrible secret. From a beloved, award-winning author, here is a moving story based on real events surrounding

an infamous 1912 strike.

Coming home should be the easiest thing in the world, but I've never felt more lost... When his stellar military career comes to an abrupt and terrible end, thirty-two-year-old Maddox Kent returns to the town he never planned to step foot into again, hoping to mend the rift he himself caused with the brother he left behind. But coming home means facing some hard truths about himself and his actions. When he has the chance to start making amends by helping his brother with the wildlife sanctuary he runs, Maddox is thrown another curveball when a stranger appears... As long as we keep moving, everything will be okay. That's what I keep telling myself, anyway... For twenty-one-year-old Isaac, Pelican Bay is only supposed to be a stopping point on the trek from San Francisco to New York. With his little brother, Newt, in tow, Isaac is just looking to make things right by returning something of value to a person he wronged. But "getting lost" in the next big city proves to be a problem when the brutal Minnesota winter claims Isaac's car and strands him and Newt at the animal sanctuary. When the owners of the place offer him a job, a desperate Isaac agrees, despite the presence of a man Isaac instinctively knows could be his downfall..! It should be so easy to let him go, but I can't. And not just because I want to protect him... Nothing about Isaac makes sense to Maddox. Not his piercings or makeup or flashy clothes. And most certainly not the snarky mouth that doesn't match the vulnerability Maddox sees in the younger man's eyes. But one thing does make sense to the hardened former soldier. Isaac is running from something, and Maddox's gut is telling him not to let Isaac and little Newt go until he can ferret out the truth. But having Isaac around means trying to make sense of something else Maddox isn't expecting... his own body's response to the beautiful younger man. Aside from their explosive chemistry, nothing about the straitlaced soldier and the secretive misfit works. But maybe that's exactly why it does...

"I've done everything wrong, Finn. From day one. It was the only way I knew how to be with you and still be worthy of you. But I see now that I never really was."

--Callan Vengeance. It's the one thing on ex-cop Rhys Tellar's mind and he's spent every day of his two year prison sentence planning how he'll bring down the former lover and partner who sold him out and cost four people their lives. A six month parole stint working at the CB Bar Ranch in Southwestern Montana should be the easiest thing he's ever done. But the last thing he expects is to feel something for both the charismatic ranch hand who befriends him and the enigmatic foreman who's pretending to be something he's not. A future. That's what Finn Stewart wants, but to have it he must leave behind the man he wants above all others, his very straight boss and best friend, Callan Bale. As the only openly gay man in a small, homophobic community, Finn has to fight every day to be who he is and walking away is starting to seem like the easier path. Until Rhys Tellar shows up and changes everything. A Lie. Callan Bale's entire life has been about hiding the man he really is and it's about to cost him the one person who's managed to worm his way past the walls he's spent years putting up. But

choosing Finn would mean giving up everything he's worked for and breaking the promises he's made. At least losing the younger man to Rhys means Finn can have the life he deserves. Three men. Three choices. One chance at finding home.

LEX Even if I wasn't losing my sight, I never would have seen him coming...I've known my fate for years, but I wasn't willing to accept it. But as the light in my eyes dims a little more each day, I have no choice but to adapt. Or not. The secluded cabin in the north woods of Maine is supposed to be an escape... a place where I can figure out how to move forward with my life... to find out if I even can. But then he shows up and suddenly I'm facing a new fight... GIDEON He wants to be left alone? Fine by me. But I'm not going to watch him just give up... Wanting to be left alone, that's something the guy and I have in common. But that's about it. As far as I'm concerned, he's just another rich city boy playing at living off the grid for a while. He's got no idea what it really means to be alone. My job is to take care of the cabin he's staying in and that's it. It doesn't matter that I can't stop thinking about why he looks so damn broken or wondering why he stirs something inside of me I thought long dead. But try as I might, I can't stay away from him, just like I can't watch him give up on himself. He may be losing his sight, but I won't let him lose himself. I won't let him become like me... *** Although this book is part of a series, it can be read as a stand-alone ***

"Italy, 1943. The Nazi occupation has cemented its grip on the devastated city of Naples. Giuseppe DiPietra, a curator in the National Archives, has a subversive plan to aid the Allies. If he's discovered, forced labor or swift execution. Lucia Pastone, secretary for the Italian Fascist government, is risking her own life in secret defiance of orders. And Lucia's father, Aldo, is a black marketeer who draws Giuseppe and Lucia into the underworld--for their protection and to help plant the seeds of resistance. Their fates are soon intertwined with those of Aldo's devoted lover and a boy of the streets who'll do anything to live another day. And all of Naples is about to join forces to overcome impossible odds and repel the Nazi occupiers"--

A downhearted lawyer and a hard-headed contractor might solve a mystery if they can stop fighting in this romance from a USA Today–bestselling author. In seaside Blueberry Cove, Maine, friends are just another word for family, and big-city politics take a backseat to local pride. But the real treasure on these shores is always love... When D.C. lawyer Hannah McCrae heads home to Blueberry Cove for her brother's wedding, she's dragging a lot of baggage along with her—and she doesn't mean suitcases. Betrayed personally, and humiliated professionally, the last thing she wants is a new man. That's fine with square-jawed, rugged contractor Calder Blue. He and Hannah may be wildly attracted to one another, but all he wants is to build the town's hotly contested new yacht club and mend a centuries-old family feud. Yet thanks to resentments old and new, day after day the pair wind up tangled in each other's business—and maybe soon in each other's arms. Includes a delicious wedding cake recipe! "Charming

characters, emotion galore, a small town—you're going to love Donna Kauffman!"—Lori Foster "A fun summer book with a touch of mystery set in [a] sleepy little seaside town."—Harlequin Junkie

A TEN BEACH ROAD NOVELLA The USA Today bestselling Wendy Wax entranced audiences with Ten Beach Road and Ocean Beach. Now, the ladies of Bella Flora are back in an all-new holiday novella. When Madeline Singer, Avery Lawford, and Nicole Grant first gained ownership of Ten Beach Road, they didn't realize that remodeling the house would not only bind their fates together but give them a second chance at rebuilding their lives. Now they're gathering at the newly sold Bella Flora for one last Christmas. Kyra, Madeline's daughter, is hoping to get a brief respite from the paparazzi that constantly hounds her and the son she had with famous actor Daniel Deranian. But when a string of bad news threatens to disrupt her happy holidays, Bella Flora's sanctuary may be threatened for all of the women who call it home...

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.

There's no place like seaside Blueberry Cove, Maine, at Christmas—and there's nothing like a wedding, the warmth of the holidays, and an old crush, to create the perfect new start... Interior designer Fiona McCrae has left fast-paced Manhattan to move back home to peaceful Blueberry Cove. But she's barely arrived before she's hooked into planning her big sister Hannah's Christmas wedding—in less than seven weeks. The last thing she needs is for her first love, Ben Campbell, to return to neighboring Snowflake Bay... As kids, Fiona was the bratty little sister Ben mercilessly teased—while pining after Hannah. But Fi never once thought of Ben like a brother. And that hasn't changed. Except Fi is all grown up. Will Ben notice her now? More importantly, with her life in a jumble, should he? Or might the romance of the occasion, the spirit of the season, and the gifts of time ignite a long-held flame for many Christmases to come... Something old might just become something new... Includes a DIY wedding project!

I had one reason for never going back to the small town I once called home, but I never guessed it would be the same one that made me want to stay...Brooksl grew up in the small town of Eden, Wyoming, but never really felt like I fit in.Until I

met the one boy who changed all that. When we were kids, Xavier Price understood horses, but somehow, he got me too. He'd made me feel like I wasn't just the overdressed, too sensitive fifteen-year-old geek who loved math and didn't always say the right thing. But all that changed the night he threw my trust back in my face and betrayed my family in the worst kind of way. And while I'm back in Eden to make sure my uncle's horse ranch is operating in the black, the one thing I know I won't have to deal with is the man who'd been on the verge of stealing my heart ten years ago. Because Xavier Price is still in prison for what he did and even if he weren't, he wouldn't be foolish enough to show his face in Eden ever again. Right? Xavier Wrong. That's what returning to Eden after ten years behind bars feels like. But it wasn't like I had a whole lot of choices. And it wasn't like I was going to be handed any decent job offers, let alone my dream one of working with horses. But that's exactly what happened and now that I'm foreman of Black Hills Ranch, I'm not letting this job go for anything. Not even the spoiled little rich kid I'd thought was different when he'd glommed onto me ten years ago. I have no doubt Brooks Cunningham didn't wait long to move on to bigger and better things the second my jail cell was locked behind me, and that's just fine by me. I'd been wrong about the sweet, emotional boy who'd had a habit of wearing his heart on his sleeve anyway. Except fate has decided to have another go at me by tossing Brooks right back into my sometimes too small world. Gone is the scrawny, stars-in-his-eyes nerd who used to do math problems just for fun. In his place is a gorgeous specimen of a man who thinks he can go toe to toe with me and once again destroy everything I've worked for. Not happening.

Explores the homogenization of American culture and the impact of the fast food industry on modern-day health, economy, politics, popular culture, entertainment, and food production.

"The career of Donald "D.J." Vodicka encompassed the rapid expansion of the prison system. For sixteen years, he was a prison guard in California's highest security prisons, serving meals to gang leaders, serial killers in lockdown cells, and patrolling exercise yards filled with violent felons while unarmed and outnumbered 1000-2. He was a decorated veteran officer. He became the sole "whistle-blower" to uncover a group of rogue prison guards who called themselves "The Green Wall". " -- Back cover.

Zander The quick stopover in the small ranching town of Eden, Wyoming was supposed to be the chance to close the door on a piece of my past.

Unfortunately, my temperamental car has other ideas. The thing is, with my tattoos and piercings, a guy like me doesn't exactly fit in a town like Eden. Then I meet her. Sweet, innocent, single mom Jolene who does fit in Eden. At least on the outside. But after five minutes with the spirited beauty, I know she's like me... an outsider always looking in. Still, I need to remember to keep my hands to myself because Eden's just a dot on the map, a place I need to put in my rearview mirror sooner rather than later. Problem is, Jolene isn't the kind of

woman you can just walk away from...Jolenelt was the date from hell that turned into something I never saw coming. One minute I'm fending off the unwanted advances of a guy who looks picture-perfect on paper, the next I'm pointing the barrel of my gun at the mysterious stranger who's decided I look like I need a helping hand.Zander is all kinds of wrong for me and the conservative, insular town I've called home my entire life. But something about the kindhearted tough guy makes me wonder if a little bit of wrong is exactly what I need right now... This book - Biodiversity Enrichment in a Diverse World - considered biodiversity (plants, animals, fungi, and microbes) from three different angles: genetics, species, and ecosystems. The relationships between them are complex and it looks at these aspects from different angles and also various interventions at different levels. The scientific approach of the book demonstrates that the three levels are closely inter-connected and action is therefore needed to conserve and protect the systems if the benefits provided to human life will continue to be available. However, conservation of the biological diversity is essentially an umbrella term for traditional species, relationship to human health, ecosystem conservation and the need to manage the human use of the species and ecosystems in a sustainable way.

He promised to never leave me. But when I needed him the most, that was exactly what he did... Wilderness guide Xander Reed has spent fifteen years trying to forget the night he turned to his best friend in his darkest hour, only to find the young man who'd sworn to always have his back was turning his on Xander instead. Two thousand miles and fifteen years of building a new life in the quiet backcountry of the Rocky Mountains should have been enough to put the memory of Bennett Crawford out of his mind forever, but old wounds run deep and when Bennett suddenly reappears in his life as part of a wilderness expedition Xander is guiding, the scars he thought long healed break wide open. I'd only ever wanted to protect Xander from getting hurt again. I never considered the one he needed protection from was me... Bennett Crawford was faced with an impossible choice the night his best friend needed him. He chose wrong. As the only son of one of the wealthiest families in New England, he should have had the world at his feet, but losing his best friend at the tender age of fourteen changed everything. And even though Bennett's managed to hide behind a mask of contentment as he takes his place at his father's side in the family business, inside he's searching for the piece of himself that's been missing ever since Xander Reed walked out of his life. Bennett's only saving grace is his work with a group of inner city kids, and when he's given the chance to show the troubled teens that there's a bigger world out there waiting for them if they just have the courage to reach for it, he takes it. But when he steps off that bus for what was supposed to be a week of fun and adventure, he's instantly returned to the past when he discovers their expedition guide is none other than the boy he let go so long ago. Only, the soft-hearted, insecure little boy Bennett once knew is gone, and in his place is a brooding, bitter man who isn't interested in second chances.

People leave. I know that now and nothing Bennett has to say to me will change anything... All Bennett wants is another chance to show Xander that friendship was only the beginning. But when a stubborn Xander refuses to even hear him out, Bennett realizes he's going to need to fight dirty. Because now that he's found Xander again, he's not letting him go a second time...

“An all-encompassing and enthralling historical novel, Vera parallels with the current era.” —O, The Oprah Magazine New York Times bestselling author Carol Edgarian delivers a grand adventure set in 1906 San Francisco featuring an unforgettable heroine coming of age in the aftermath of catastrophe, and her quest for love and reinvention. Meet Vera Johnson, fifteen-year-old illegitimate daughter of Rose, notorious proprietor of San Francisco’s most legendary bordello. Vera has grown up straddling two worlds—the madam’s alluring sphere, replete with tickets to the opera, surly henchmen, and scant morality, and the quiet domestic life of the family paid to raise her. On the morning of the great quake, Vera’s worlds collide. As the city burns and looters vie with the injured, orphaned, and starving, Vera and her guileless sister, Pie, are cast adrift. Disregarding societal norms and prejudices, Vera begins to imagine a new kind of life. She collaborates with Tan, her former rival, and forges an unlikely family of survivors, navigating through the disaster together. In Vera, Carol Edgarian creates a cinematic, deeply entertaining world, in which honor and fates are tested; notions of sex, class, and justice are turned upside down; and love is hard-won. A ravishing, heartbreaking, and profound affirmation of youth and tenacity, Vera’s story brings to life legendary characters—tenor Enrico Caruso, indicted mayor Eugene Schmitz and boss Abe Ruef, tabloid celebrity Alma Spreckels. This richly imagined, timely tale of improbable outcomes and alliances takes hold from the first page, with remarkable scenes of devastation, renewal, and joy. Vera celebrates the audacious fortitude of its young heroine, who discovers an unexpected strength in unprecedented times.

I've spent years hoping someone would finally hear me. It's easier not to try anymore... Ten years after leaving his small Minnesota hometown in his rearview mirror for what Nolan Grainger was sure would be the last time, life has decided to throw the talented musician a curveball and send him back to the town he lived in but was never really home. At twenty-eight, Nolan has traveled the world as a successful concert violinist with some of the best symphonies in the country. But success breeds envy, and when Nolan's benefactor and lover decides Nolan has flown high enough, he cruelly clips Nolan's wings. The betrayal and ensuing scandal leaves the violinist's career in shambles and with barely enough money to start fresh somewhere beyond his vindictive ex's powerful reach. But just as he's ready to get his life back on track, Nolan gets the call he's been dreading. After a stroke leaves his father a partial invalid, duty-bound Nolan returns to Pelican Bay and a life he's spent years trying to forget. When he's forced to use the last of his own money to keep from losing the family home, desperation has him turning to the one man he'd hoped never to see again... Even if I could

Speak, there wouldn't be anyone there to listen... Pelican Bay's golden boy, Dallas Kent, had the quintessential perfect life. Smart, gorgeous, and popular, the baseball phenom was well on his way to a life filled with fame and fortune. But more importantly, he had a one-way ticket out of Pelican Bay and far away from the family who used love as currency and whose high expectations were the law of the land. But a stormy night, sharp highway curve and one bad decision changed everything, leaving Dallas with nothing. Because the accident that took his parents, his future and his crown as the boy who could do no wrong, also stole his voice. Despised for the horrific wreck that ended the lives of two of Pelican Bay's most respected residents, Dallas has retreated to a secluded stretch of land where he's found refuge in a menagerie of unwanted animals that don't care that he once had the world at his feet or that he'll never speak again. But when the quiet, bookish boy he wasn't allowed to notice in school suddenly reappears ten years later at Dallas's wildlife rehab center in desperate need of a job, Dallas is thrust back into a world he's worked hard to escape. Dallas's silence was supposed to send Nolan scurrying, but what if Nolan ends up being the one person who finally hears him? Will two men who've been fleeing from the past finally come home to Pelican Bay for good or will the silence drive them apart forever?

Love is multiplied, never divided Liam I was kicked out at sixteen for being transgender, but it turned out to be one of the best things to ever happen to me. At twenty-one, I have a fantastic new family made up of my brother and a handful of wonderful friends, I own my own photography business, and I

I wanted him from the moment I laid eyes on him and from that point on, the question wasn't if I'd have him but when...Thirty-five-year-old Matias de la Vega is good at one thing and one thing only. Though he doesn't officially carry the title of killer when it comes to his role in an underground vigilante group, he's got no problem getting his hands dirty if it means getting justice for those who can't get it on their own. Such is the case when single dad Sam Wittier is confronted by a stalker bent on murder. While neutralizing the threat is all in a day's work for Matias, what comes after is anything but. Although Matias isn't particularly surprised by his attraction to the older Sam, his inability to walk away from the still-grieving widower is a complication. An unexpected and dangerous complication...Nothing about the mysterious Matias makes sense to me. The emotionally distant soldier says what he means and takes what he wants. And for whatever reason, what he wants is me. That should have me running for the hills. It should, but it doesn't...For fifty-something Sam Wittier, life is as good as it's been since he lost the man of his dreams more than two decades earlier. After handing the reins of his successful business over to his older son, Sam is happy to settle into the quiet, simple life of being a full-time single dad to his newly adopted little boy. Unfortunately, life didn't get the message. After nearly losing everything to a deranged stalker, Sam finds himself face to face with a man who is anything but quiet and simple. There's no reason he should want the

unpredictable, take-no-prisoners Matias in his life or his bed, but just like life, his body isn't getting the message. One night with Sam is all I need to get him out of my head for good. One night will be enough to end my obsession with him. It has to be... While Sam and Matias share a white-hot chemistry that neither has ever known before, that's about all they have in common. But as one passionate encounter leads to another and the line between obsession and need begins to blur, will Matias and Sam find that maybe they aren't so different after all? And what will that mean for the ghosts of the past that have haunted each man for so long? The ghosts that are willing to be buried as well as the ones that aren't... ***Although not required, it is highly recommend that you read "Protecting Elliot: A Protectors Novella" prior to reading Obsessed. The books feature separate couples but overlap when it comes to timeline/plot.

A bestselling dystopian novel that tackles surveillance, privacy and the frightening intrusions of technology in our lives—a “compulsively readable parable for the 21st century” (Vanity Fair). When Mae Holland is hired to work for the Circle, the world’s most powerful internet company, she feels she’s been given the opportunity of a lifetime. The Circle, run out of a sprawling California campus, links users’ personal emails, social media, banking, and purchasing with their universal operating system, resulting in one online identity and a new age of civility and transparency. As Mae tours the open-plan office spaces, the towering glass dining facilities, the cozy dorms for those who spend nights at work, she is thrilled with the company’s modernity and activity. There are parties that last through the night, there are famous musicians playing on the lawn, there are athletic activities and clubs and brunches, and even an aquarium of rare fish retrieved from the Marianas Trench by the CEO. Mae can’t believe her luck, her great fortune to work for the most influential company in the world—even as life beyond the campus grows distant, even as a strange encounter with a colleague leaves her shaken, even as her role at the Circle becomes increasingly public. What begins as the captivating story of one woman’s ambition and idealism soon becomes a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.

Locked in Silence Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

Documents the activities of Ralph Heath's Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary, a wildlife conservation mission on the Gulf Coast of Florida that provides refuge and rehabilitation for over 5,000 birds a year.

Jackson Everyone says what a lucky guy I am. I've got a great kid, an amicable relationship with my ex, and a job working cattle on one of the largest ranches in Eden, Wyoming. Only problem is that "everyone" has no clue that I'm living a half-life. Because the other half is a closeted gay man who's got it bad for the young ranch hand he works with day in and day out. But the very straight Travis isn't an option. And even if he were, my sexy co-worker isn't exactly committed to commitment. So it's time for a change and since gay guys aren't exactly falling off trees in Eden, I'm going to need a little help... Travis It was supposed to be a

Friday night like any other. Me and my best friend heading into town to find some female company for a few hours. And even though Jackson usually goes home alone, he's still a great wingman. Unfortunately, between my impatience to get the night started and my bad habit of snooping, I've learned two things about Jackson in the space of five minutes that have left me all kinds of confused. Jackson's gay. And he's placed a classified ad to try and hook up with some guy he can't get his mind off after a brief run-in at a hardware store in the city. Now I can't get my mind off Jackson. Don't get me wrong, I like the ladies, but why can't I stop thinking about my good-looking best friend and the faceless stranger he's ready to start something new with? Jackson doesn't need some random guy right now. Not when he has me... Oh hell.

I've been drowning for a long time. I never thought I'd find someone who knows what that's like... Self-proclaimed playboy, Aiden Vale, has it all - good looks, successful career, plenty of cash in the bank and an endless supply of men who know the score... that one night is just that. So the last thing he wants, or needs, is to forge a connection that might mean revealing more of himself than he's ready to. But when fate intervenes, putting Aiden in the path of someone who threatens to knock down his carefully constructed walls, he's quick to realize the young man he's become infatuated with is hiding a painful secret. I finally have a shot at freedom. I'll never let anyone take that from me ever again... Ash Valentine is just looking for a way out, and the last thing he wants or needs is another man controlling every aspect of his life. Desperate for the cash that will help him flee his abusive boyfriend, Ash accepts what is supposed to be a temporary job at a local coffee shop. But nothing prepares him for the gorgeous and enigmatic Aiden Vale, and the small acts of kindness the charming coffee shop regular bestows on him or the new friends he begins to make along the way. Terrified of once again becoming too reliant on someone else to take care of him, Ash refuses Aiden's repeated offers of help in any form. But when it becomes clear that there's something more behind Aiden's need to save him, Ash begins to wonder if he's found someone who needs saving just as badly. I know he wants to save me, but what if he's the one who needs saving... As their tentative friendship turns into something more, long buried secrets begin to surface. When Aiden's need to protect Ash clashes with the younger man's desire for independence, memories of the one he couldn't save begin to tear at the fragile cords of Aiden's soul, and he's forced to face a truth he's been hiding from for a long time. Threatened with losing what they've only just found, will Aiden and Ash find a way to accept their pasts or will they let the pain drag them below the surface for good?

Ex-cop Maverick Mav James needs only three things. His Harley, an open road and his work in an underground organization that delivers justice when the law can't. Family? They left him long before he left them. Friends? A liability. A place to call home? Doesn't exist. Mav's motto is simple: Get done and get out. Work, sex, doesn't matter. No emotional connections. Simple. Until he meets him. At

fifteen years old, Eli Galvez had nothing. No family, no friends and only his body as a means to make enough money to survive. But a chance meeting changed all that and eight years later, he's well on his way to having the life he could once only dream of. He's been accepted into medical school and he's finally returned home to Seattle to be closer to the men and women who don't share his blood, but are the only family he's ever really known. Only things aren't what they seem and the secrets Eli has been hiding are about to come to the surface with dangerous consequences. Guys like Eli just aren't Mav's type, period. Yet he can't deny his intense attraction to the younger man who only looks at him with fear in his eyes. Until the day there's something else in those eyes too.

Something that draws Mav in and refuses to let go. Something that makes him want to forget his rules. But Mav's learned the hard way what happens when you get too close to something. And while he vows to protect Eli after a violent attack leaves the younger man shaken, protection is all he'll offer. Because anything else would just cost too much.

From the No.1 Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Ashes of London* comes the next book in the phenomenally successful series following James Marwood and Cat Lovett.

I left him behind because I had no choice... That's what I keep telling myself, but it doesn't make it any easier to sleep at night... or to drown out the words he kept repeating over and over the day we'd met: I just want to go home. That was eight long years ago and I'd only known him as Billy, a terrified fourteen-year-old I'd had to leave behind to save someone else. But his name wasn't Billy and he's no longer a frightened kid lost in a world where he was nothing more than a possession. His name is Remy, and while I didn't recognize him upon meeting him again, he sure as hell remembers me. It would be easier just to turn my back on him a second time, especially since that's exactly what he wants, but there's no way I can let the tormented young man go. At least not without trying to make things right first. The problem is, even if I can make up for leaving Remy behind so long ago, I'm not sure I'll be able to walk away from him twice. I don't know what that means, but I do know that it scares the hell out of me. Because needing in my world comes at a heavy price... one that not even I can afford to pay. He gave me hope when I'd had none left, but he forgot about me just like all the others... I fight. That's what I do. It's who I am. But when Luca Covello walked into the dark, dirty room my captors were keeping me in so long ago, I'd already decided to do the one thing I hadn't in the three years since I'd been taken from my home and family. Give up. Then he'd been there, like a bright light in a sea of darkness, and I'd had something new to fight for, to stay alive for... the day Luca came back to get me like he'd promised. Except he never came. And now, eight years later, he's decided he wants to play the hero and save me. Well, I don't need saving. Not anymore... not ever. Along with two years of sobriety under my belt, I've got a good job, a decent apartment, and I've managed to put my past where it belongs... in the past. No one, not even the gorgeous, mysterious

businessman, is going to mess things up for me. If he's come seeking forgiveness, I'm fresh out. And if he's come seeking something else... well, let's just say that when I'm done with him, there's no way he'll forget me this time around. Trigger Warning: For those who would like to see the trigger warnings associated with this book, please use the "look inside" feature and go to Trigger Warning page for more information.

Perfect for fans of the NYT bestseller *Sold* on a Monday, this Southern historical novel based on the true story of a boy's mysterious disappearance examines despair, loyalty, and the nature of truth. In 1913, on a summer's day at Half Moon Lake, Louisiana, four-year-old Sonny Davenport walks into the woods and never returns. The boy's mysterious disappearance from the family's lake house makes front-page news in their home town of Opelousas. John Henry and Mary Davenport are wealthy and influential, and will do anything to find their son. For two years, the Davenports search across the South, offer increasingly large rewards and struggle not to give in to despair. Then, at the moment when all hope seems lost, the boy is found in the company of a tramp. But is he truly Sonny Davenport? The circumstances of his discovery raise more questions than answers. And when Grace Mill, an unwed farm worker, travels from Alabama to lay claim to the child, newspapers, townsfolk, even the Davenports' own friends, take sides. As the tramp's kidnapping trial begins, and two desperate mothers fight for ownership of the boy, the people of Opelousas discover that truth is more complicated than they'd ever dreamed.

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