



CATALYST PRESS



**CATALYST
PRESS**

ABOUT US

Change can be gradual, a slight shift that over time becomes a huge movement. Or it can be quick, a frenetic burst that suddenly makes everything new. But it all begins in the same way—with a spark, a catalyst.

Catalyst Press was founded in 2017 as a literary spark, bringing voices from around the globe to readers everywhere. We publish books that reveal the world from different perspectives and different understandings. Publishing literary fiction, graphic novels, memoir, travel, crime fiction, science, and books for young readers, our authors explore lives, stories, and places in ways that make our global community feel more connected. Change can happen in lots of ways, but we think it begins one page at a time.

For rights information, please contact Jessica Powers at jpgowers@catalystpress.org

OUR IMPRINTS

African stories. African Knowledge. Worldwide



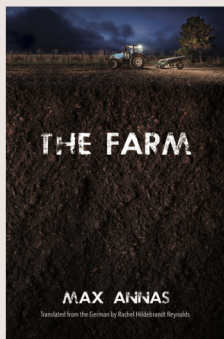
Story Press Africa, an imprint of Catalyst Press (USA) and Jive Media Africa (South Africa), is a collaborative platform for sharing African knowledge. Launched with our flagship African Graphic Novel Series, Story Press Africa publishes graphic novels and comics. These are authentic, challenging and frequently controversial visions of the continent that birthed humankind—created by Africans about Africa for a global audience.

Astonishing Scientific Stories from Across the Globe



**POWERS
SQUARED**

Powers Squared marries science and story with an eye towards bringing global voices closer to home. In the same way that historical fiction has often introduced the public to past worlds and the important events of the period, we publish books in a kaleidoscope of color to illuminate the stories inside, outside, and upside down that make up the scientific world. Matthew Powers serves as the imprint's chief editor.



TITLE: THE FARM
AUTHOR: MAX ANNAS
GENRE: FICTION/THRILLER



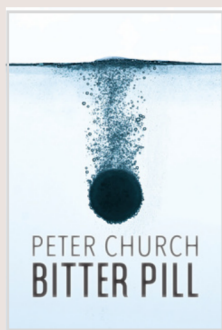
TITLE: THE WALL
AUTHOR: MAX ANNAS
GENRE: FICTION/THRILLER



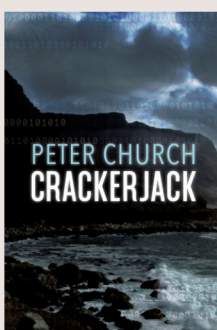
TITLE: UNMAKING GRACE
AUTHOR: IBARBARA BOSWELL
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION



TITLE: MADAME LIVINGSTONE
AUTHOR: BARUTI/CASSIAU-HAURIE
GENRE: HIST FICT/GRAPHIC. NOVEL



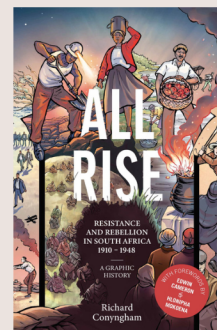
TITLE: BITTER PILL
AUTHOR: PETER CHURCH
GENRE: FICTION/THRILLER



TITLE: CRACKERJACK
AUTHOR: PETER CHURCH
GENRE: FICTION/THRILLER



TITLE: DARK VIDEO
AUTHOR: PETER CHURCH
GENRE: FICTION/THRILLER



TITLE: ALL RISE
AUTHOR: RICHARD CONYNGHAM
GENRE: GRAPHIC NON-FICTION



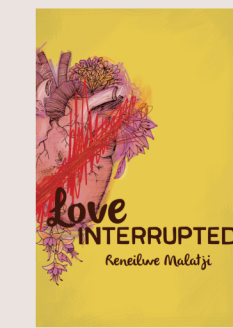
TITLE: DIVINE JUSTICE
AUTHOR: JOANNE HICHENS
GENRE: FICTION/THRILLER



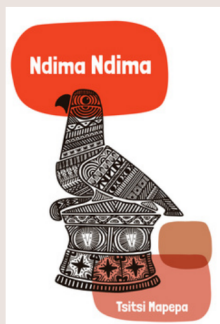
TITLE: DOWN ON BOTH SIDES
AUTHOR: CAROLINE KURTZ
GENRE: NON-FICTION/MEMOIR



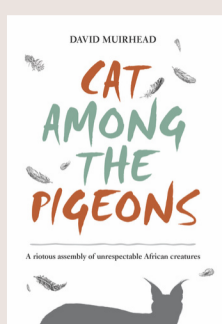
TITLE: TODAY IS TOMORROW
AUTHOR: CAROLINE KURTZ
GENRE: NON-FICTION/MEMOIR



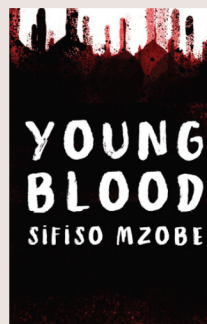
TITLE: LOVE INTERRUPTED
AUTHOR: RENEILWE MALATJI
GENRE: FICTION/SHORT STORY



TITLE: NDIMA NDIMA
AUTHOR: TSITSI MAPEPA
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION/HISTORICAL



TITLE: CAT AMONG THE PIGEONS
AUTHOR: DAVID MUIRHEAD
GENRE: NON-FICTION/SCIENCE



TITLE: YOUNG BLOOD
AUTHOR: SIFISO MZOBE
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION/CRIME



TITLE: THE HISTORY OF MAN
AUTHOR: SIPHIWE NDLOVU
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION



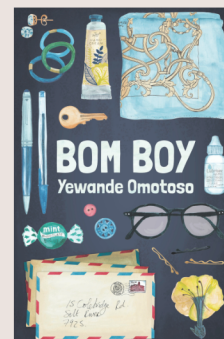
TITLE: THE THEORY OF FLIGHT
AUTHOR: SIPHIWE NDLOVU
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION



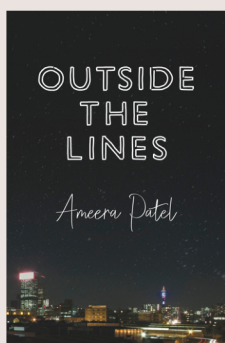
TITLE: THE QUALITY OF MERCY
AUTHOR: SIPHIWE NDLOVU
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION



TITLE: WE KISS THEM WITH RAIN
AUTHOR: FUTHI NTSHINGALA
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION



TITLE: BOM BOY
AUTHOR: YEWANDE OMOTOSO
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION



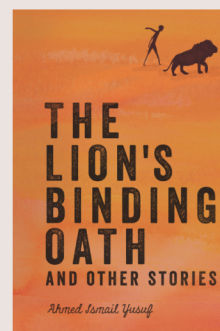
TITLE: OUTSIDE THE LINES
AUTHOR: AMEERA PATEL
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION/CRIME



TITLE: EYE BROTHER HORN
AUTHOR: BRIDGET PITT
GENRE: LITERARY FICTION/HISTORICAL



TITLE: CAPE TOWN
AUTHOR: HENRY TROTTER
GENRE: NON-FICTION/TRAVEL



TITLE: THE LION'S BINDING OATH
AUTHOR: AHMED ISMAIL YUSUF
GENRE: FICTION/SHORT STORY



TITLE: DISRUPTION
AUTHOR: VARIOUS
GENRE: FICTION/SHORT STORY

THE FARM

"Tension and intriguing characters make this a book you shouldn't start until you have enough time to finish it. It's hard to put down!" — Michael Sears, *The Big Thrill*

Eight Hours, Minute by Minute

Somewhere in South Africa, a farm comes under heavy attack. No shooters in sight. Only one thing is certain: The attackers are savagely resolute. A diverse group of people barricade themselves inside the farmhouse: women, men, and children; bosses and workers; black and white; a police officer; random visitors. Who is the target of the attack? What has motivated it? Politics? Revenge? Greed? Drugs? Weapons? But do the people outside know more than those indoors? The snipers who are trying to operate in the dark of night? Who will die, who will survive? Who is pulling the strings? Who will be the winners, who will be the losers? And how long can eight hours actually be?

Winner of the 2015 German Crime Writing Prize, Max Annas' taut, terse novel is based on the foundational premise behind John Carpenter's iconic film *Assault on Precinct 13*. The resulting work is a highly concentrated piece of literature. Constant changes in perspective, piercing precision. An explosive mixture of psychological thriller and Neo-western with a political subtext.

Translated from the German by Rachel Hildebrandt Reynolds

ABOUT MAX ANNAS

Before writing novels, Max Annas worked as a journalist. A renowned film critic, his first novel, *The Farm*, is currently under film production in South Africa.



PUBLICATION DATE: SEPT 2020



THE WALL

"75 Notable Translations of 2019," *World Literature Today*

"Sometimes a crime novel comes along that hits pay dirt. *The Wall* is one of those. It takes you up and rushes you through to the mad-cap ending and leaves you wanting more." Mike Nicol, author of *Agents of State* and *Sleeper*

The Pines, a gated community in the South African city of East London, protects homeowners from crime. But nobody's going to protect the young man trapped behind its walls.

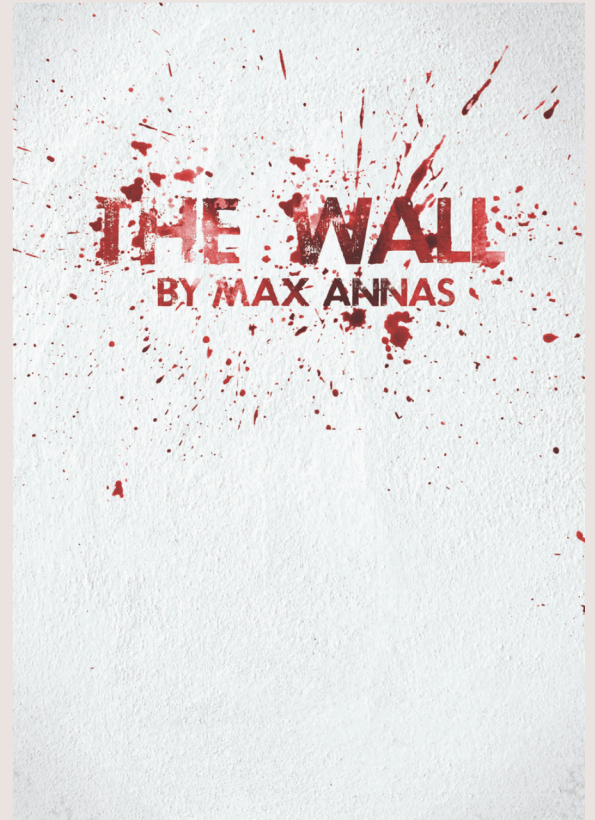
Moses wants one thing: to get home, where his girlfriend and a cold beer are waiting for him. But his car breaks down on an empty street, not a single human being in sight. Moses slips into The Pines, a gated community, in hopes to find help from a university classmate who lives there. Over there, in the "white" world, everything seems calm, orderly, safe. But once inside, he feels like more of an outsider than ever. And he makes a terrible mistake.

Mistaken identities, racial profiling, and class politics form the backdrop of this intense thriller. Winner of the 2017 German Crime Fiction Prize, *The Wall* tackles the issues of gun violence, racism, and exclusion in contemporary South Africa—problems that are equally relevant to the United States.

Translated from the German by Rachel Hildebrandt Reynolds

ABOUT MAX ANNAS

Before writing novels, Max Annas worked as a journalist. A renowned film critic, his first novel, *The Farm*, is currently under film production in South Africa.



PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2019
ISBN 978-1-946395-14-6



UNMAKING GRACE

"The novel creates drama while confronting intersecting systemic oppressions and intergenerational trauma by foregrounding its characters' needs, wants, wounds, and aspirations. The prose is taut with both clarity and complexity. A smart, compassionate portrayal of one woman's quest to end the cycle of violence." —*Kirkus Reviews*

Winner, 2017 Debut Prize, University of Johannesburg Prizes for South African writing

Family secrets run deep for Grace, a young girl growing up in Cape Town during the 1980s. Her family secrets spill over into adulthood, and threaten to ruin the respectable life she has built for herself.

When an old childhood friend emerges after disappearing a decade earlier during a clash with apartheid riot police in the Cape Flats, where South Africa's coloured community makes its home, Grace's memories of her childhood come rushing back, and she is confronted, once again, with the loss that has shaped her. She has to face up to the truth or continue to live a lie—but the choice is not straightforward. *Unmaking Grace* is an intimate portrayal of violence, both personal and political, and its legacy on one person's life. It meditates on the long shadow cast by personal trauma, showing the inter-generational imprint of violence and loss on people's lives.



Publication date: Dec 2019

ISBN: 978-1-946395-23-8

World English language rights available, excluding Africa and audio

ABOUT BARBARA BOSWELL

Born in Cape Town, South Africa, Barbara Boswell is an educator and literary activist. She is an alumna of the Women's Studies Program at the University of Maryland, College Park, where she lived for several years, and has taught at universities in both the USA and South Africa. Barbara is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Cape Town, where she teaches Black women's diasporic literature, African feminist literary theory, and gender and sexuality.



“The complexities of war are explored with a curious what-if twist in this elegantly drawn adventure. [...] a well-researched drama of human connections forged in an inhumane period.” —Publishers Weekly

Madame Livingstone is a historical fiction story of adventure and friendship against the backdrop of World War I. Based on the true story of two vastly different men— one Belgian, one African— who take on one impossible mission: the sinking of a German battleship in the Congo.

Aviator Gaston Mercier, lieutenant in the Royal Belgian Army, arrives at Lake Tanganyika, Congo in 1915 on orders to sink a critical German warship, the Graf Von Götzen. To find out the ship’s exact position, he is assigned a guide, an enigmatic, mixed-race African and the supposed son of the famous explorer, David Livingstone, who is nicknamed “Mrs. Livingstone” for the Scottish kilt he wears.

Little by little, while the war between Belgian and German colonial powers rages on and the pair hunt down the Graf Von Götzen, the young Belgian pilot learns more about the land around him from Mrs. Livingstone and discovers the irrevocable and tragic effects of colonialism on the local people.

Translated from the French by Ivanka Hahnenberger

ABOUT BARLY BARUTI

Baruti Kandolo Lilela, better known by his pen name Barly Baruti, is a renowned Congolese cartoonist. After studying pedagogy, Baruti worked at French cultural centers in Kisangani and Kinshasa, where he produced his first comic work, an environmental comic titled *Le temps d’agir*. He has been described by the BBC as “the Congolese author best known outside his country.” Baruti is the co-founder of the Atelier de Création et de l’Initiation à l’Art (Creative Workshop for an Initiation to Art) to encourage talented youth in Kinshasa. He has lived in France and Belgium, where he apprenticed with several renowned comic artists. He currently lives in Kinshasa.

ABOUT CHRISTOPHE CASSIAU-HAURIE

Born in Douala, Cameroon in 1968 and raised in France, Christophe Cassiau-Haurie is a library curator and comics specialist. He is currently Director of Public Services for the National and University Library of Strasbourg, after having held several positions in Africa including time in Mauritius and five years in the DRC. He also serves as director of the comic book collection of L’Harmattan, one of the largest French book publishers. Cassiau-Haurie is the author of several articles and collective works on the state of publishing and comics in Africa. He has authored and contributed to numerous graphic novels in French, most of which are based on African histories. He did his postgraduate studies in African Studies and Public Law.

MADAME LIVINGSTONE



Publication date: June 2021
World English language rights
available
ISBN: 9781946395474

BITTER PILL

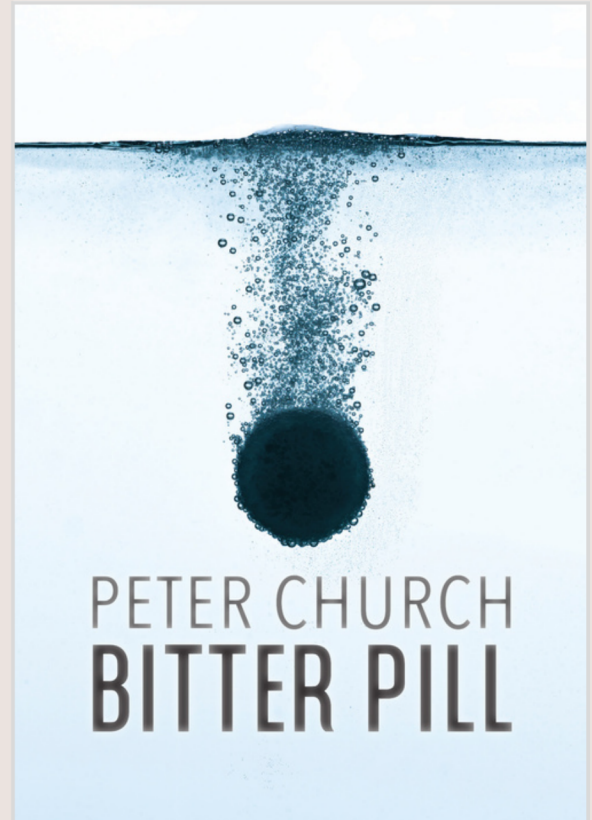
“Church expertly juggles the multiple story lines all the way to the sordid, frantic maelstrom of the denouement.” —*Publishers Weekly*

PART OF THE DARK WEB TRILOGY

Amid rumors of bartenders paid to spike drinks and then deliver drugged college women to paying, eager patrons, University of Cape Town (UCT) authorities move quickly to limit the damage—but the police don’t want to believe there is a problem.

A world away in Seattle, Carlos De Palma, the shadowy operator behind Dark Video, is plotting his survival strategy in the ever-changing Internet landscape. With his wealthy clientele clamoring for heightened thrills, Carlos begins tapping into a new service that blurs the boundaries between the real and virtual worlds. Meanwhile, UCT student Robbie is sent into a sinister underground world where no price is too high to pay to deliver every fantasy—no matter how twisted.

Bitter Pill, part of Church’s dark web trilogy, is a gripping thriller that sweeps through the intoxicating haunts of Cape Town’s nightlife to explode in an adrenaline-laced sprint through the violent landscape of stalking, sexual deviation, and murder.



Pub date: Jun 2020

ISBN: 978-1-946395-20-7

All rights available

Other books in the series:
Crackerjack | *Dark Video*

ABOUT PETER CHURCH

Peter Church is a South African fiction novelist renowned for the dark and racy nature of his writing. His debut novel, *Dark Video*, was published by Random House in South Africa and Australia in 2008, and delved into a sordid world of online video sharing. This was followed up in 2011 with *Bitter Pill*, a thriller dealing with the scourge of drink spiking on the local club scene. *Bitter Pill* was long listed for the Sunday Times Fiction Prize in the same year. Church lives in Cape Town with his wife, the artist Paula Church, and three children. He is a member of SA’s PEN association of writers and his short stories have been published in a number of local anthologies.

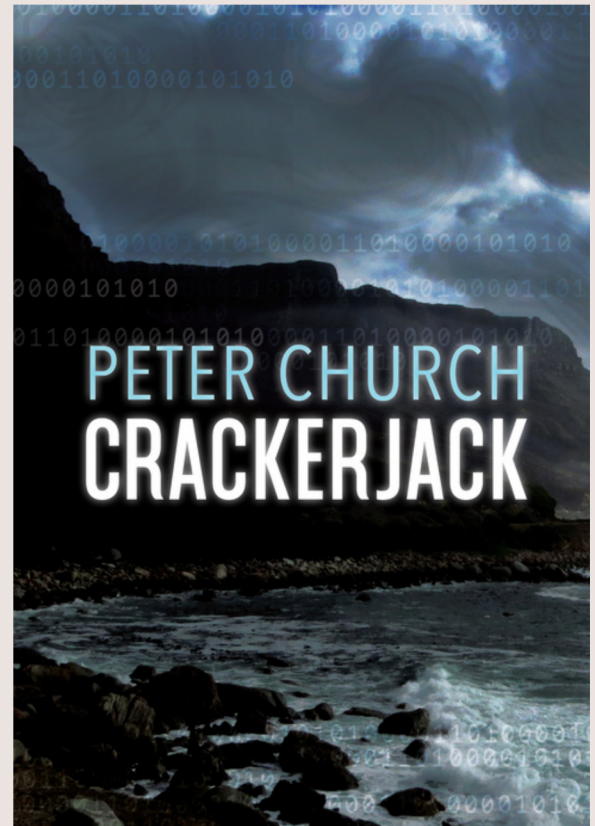


CRACKERJACK

"All the more impressive when considering that *Crackerjack* is author Peter Church's debut as crime novelist to an American readership, this impressively original and deftly crafted paperback will prove to be an immediate and enduringly popular addition to community library collections and the personal reading list." — *Midwest Book Review*

Young, bright and sexy, Carla Vitale has been handpicked to run Supertech, Africa's leading independent Engineering firm. Then one Friday afternoon in Cape Town, her dream is shattered. Her boss and mentor, Nial Townley, disappears, his luxury vehicle is found in a crevice at the bottom of Chapman's Peak, and 20 million is missing from the Supertech's overseas accounts. Three months later and the police are no closer to solving the riddle.

No job, no car, no phone, Carla turns to the one person she believes can help: software hacker turned day-trader, Daniel Le Fleur. But Le Fleur's maintaining a low profile in Bantry Bay and he's in no mood to ruin the serendipity.



Publication date Jan 2019
ISBN 978-1-946395-11-5
All rights available

Other books in the series:
Bitter Pill | *Dark Video*

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DARK VIDEO

"A topical thriller with a strong moral message that should get the conversation going among a diverse audience." Barbara Erasmus, *Sunday Times*

A minibus taxi flipping spectacularly on its head; two teenagers engaged in illicit sex in a shopping-mall rest room; a raunchy table dance in a Cape Town strip club... What have these scenes got to do with a beautiful young woman running through Newlands Forest early on a Sunday morning?

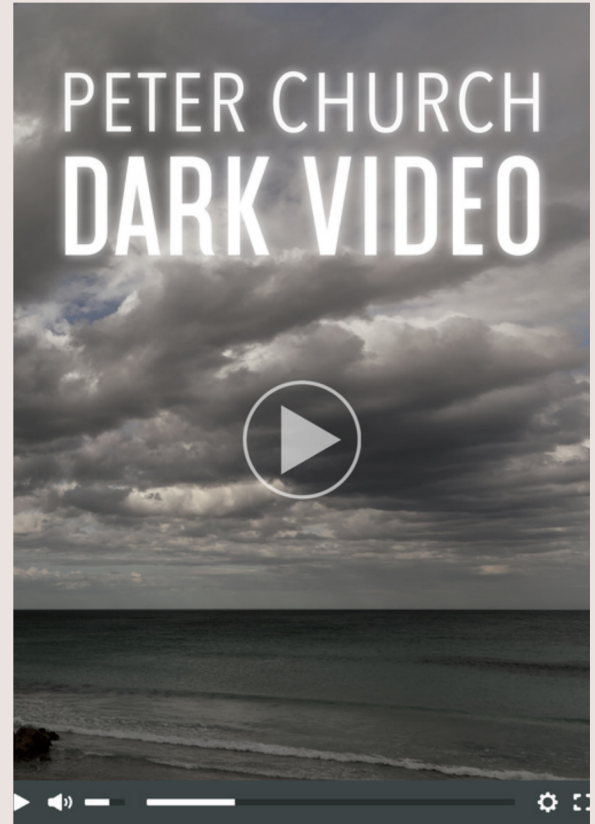
Alistair Morgan is the key. A gifted law student with a glittering career in the offing, Alistair seems to have it all: looks, charm and money—and the attention of the hottest girls on campus. But his privileged lifestyle is about to be turned upside down as he is lured deeper and deeper into the sinister online world of *Dark Video*, where reality blurs and morals unravel.

Set in the mid to late 2000s, just as YouTube and other video sharing sites were getting started, *Dark Video* explores the most disturbing and darkest corners of the digital world, where some people will pay for unimaginable videos and others make money in the most depraved way possible.

From the ominous slopes of Table Mountain and the murky depths of False Bay to a dusty Karoo farm and the limestone cliffs of Arniston, *Dark Video* is an intense international thriller that will keep you spellbound from the word go.

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Publication date: Jan 2020

ISBN 978-1-946395-21-4

All rights available, excluding
Australia

Other books in the series:
Bitter Pill | *Crackerjack*



ALL RISE

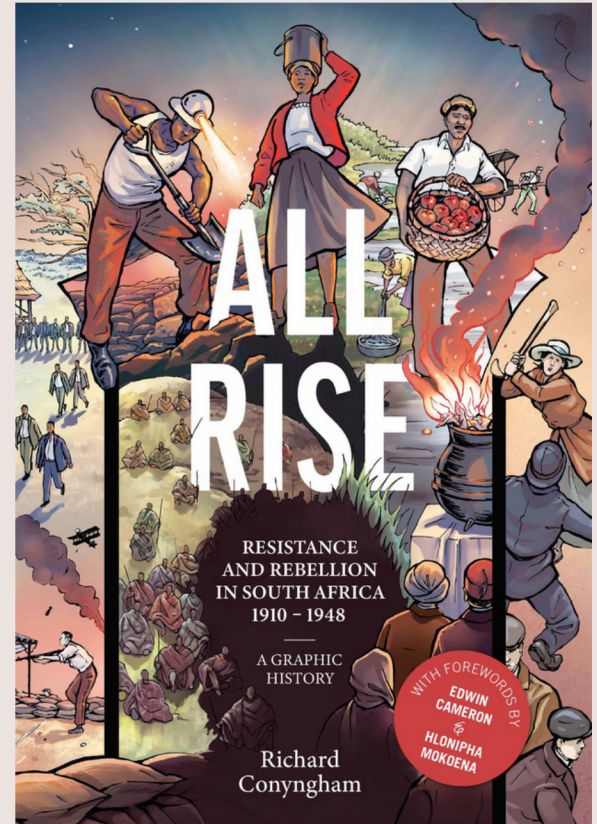
“Exhaustively researched, beautifully illustrated, completely unflinching. All Rise is exactly what a historical comic should be.” – C.Spike Trotman, Cartoonist, Founder: Iron Circus Comics

All Rise: Resistance and Rebellion in South Africa revives six true stories of resistance by marginalized South Africans against the country’s colonial government in the years leading up to Apartheid. In six parts—each of which is illustrated by a different South African artist—All Rise shares the long-forgotten struggles of ordinary, working-class women and men who defended the disempowered during a tumultuous period in South African history. From immigrants and miners to tram workers and washerwomen, the everyday people in these stories bore the brunt of oppression and in some cases risked their lives to bring about positive change for future generations.

This graphic anthology breathes new life into a history dominated by icons, and promises to inspire all readers to become everyday activists and allies. The diverse creative team behind All Rise, from an array of races, genders, and backgrounds, is a testament to the multicultural South Africa dreamed of by the heroes in these stories—true stories of grit, compassion, and hope, now being told for the first time in print.

Illustrated by:

Liz Clarke · The Trantraal Brothers · Mark Modimola
Saaid Rahbeeni · Dada Khanyisa · Tumi Mamabolo



Publication date: Apr 2022
ISBN 9781946395634

ABOUT RICHARD CONYNGHAM

Richard Conyngham is the author, creative director and researcher behind All Rise. After graduating from the universities of Cape Town and Cambridge, he worked for South African civil-society organizations Equal Education, The Bookery, and Ndifuna Ukwazi, the London publisher Slightly Foxed, and the edtech organization MakeTomorrow. In 2016, Richard collaborated with the Trantraal Brothers to create Safety, Justice and People’s Power, an illustrated companion to the O’Regan-Pikoli Commission of Inquiry into policing in Khayelitsha.



DIVINE JUSTICE

“Staccato prose moves the action along at a machine-gun pace reminiscent of classic hard-boiled mysteries. Rae and the cutthroat streets of Cape Town aren’t for the faint of heart, but fans of George V. Higgins and James Ellroy are sure to have a blast.” — *Publishers Weekly*

Ruthless underworld criminal Rocco Robano’s group of right wing fanatics, inspired by crazed evangelist Heinz Dieter, are responsible for mayhem and murder in the city of Cape Town. As they prepare to leave for their new home, Aurora, a protected community where the White Brothers, the Core, will live out their days in solidarity, they run amok in the city already cursed by xenophobia.

Employed to find a set of missing uncut diamonds, ex-addict Rae Valentine, a feisty, sexy, intrepid, newly-minted Private Investigator, falls prey to the gang of men intent to use her and destroy her for sport. Rae can’t outrun the storm of righteous fury as the vicious gang escalate their violence. As a victim of a kidnapping, she does what she can to protect herself from these depraved and barbarous men, and to save her PI partner, Vincent Saldana, from certain death.

From Cape Town to the banks of the Orange River in Namibia, the tension rises as Rae fights for her life and discovers that the missing diamonds are linked to the illicit dealings of the brutal gang without conscience

ABOUT JOANNE HICHENS

Joanne Hichens is an author and editor living in Cape Town. She has published several novels, including *Out To Score* (co-authored), *Sweet Paradise*, and for young adults, *Stained and Riding the Wave*. She had edited numerous short story collections, including *Bad Company*, an anthology of South African crime fiction endorsed by Lee Child. Her memoir, *Death and the After Parties*, was released by Karavan Press in November 2020.



Publication date: Jan 2021
ISBN 9781946395429



A ROAD CALLED ON BOTH SIDES

Winner of the Presbyterian Writers Guild's Best First Book Award

Caroline Kurtz grew up in the remote mountains of Maji, Ethiopia in the 1950s. Inside her mud adobe home with her missionary parents and three sisters, she enjoyed American family life. Outside, her world was shaped by drums and the joy cry; Jeep and mule treks into the countryside; ostriches on the air strip; and the crackle of several Ethiopian languages she barely understood but longed to learn.

Caroline felt she'd been exiled to a foreign country when she went to Illinois for college. She returned to Ethiopia to teach, only to discover how complex working in another culture and language really is. Life under a Communist dictatorship meant constant outages—water, electricity, sugar, even toilet paper. But she was willing to do anything, no matter how hard, to live in Ethiopia again. Yet the chaos only increased—guerillas marched down from the north, their t-shirts crisscrossed by Kalashnikov bandoliers. When peace returned, Caroline got the chance she'd longed for, to revisit that beloved childhood home in Maji. But maybe it would have been better just to treasure the memories.

ABOUT CAROLINE KURTZ

From the age of five, Caroline Kurtz grew up in Ethiopia, the child of Presbyterian Church missionaries. The family lived in the church's most remote mission station in the mountainous regions of southwestern Ethiopia near the town of Maji. Beginning at the age of ten, Caroline attended boarding school in Addis Ababa and then Alexandria, Egypt. Caroline left for college in the United States at eighteen, unprepared for U.S. culture. She eventually married a childhood sweetheart, also the child of American missionaries to Ethiopia, and the couple returned with their family to live and work in Ethiopia, Kenya, and South Sudan

She and her sister, the American children's author Jane Kurtz, recently launched Ready Set Go Books for early Ethiopian readers. Ready Steady Go has now printed and distributed 70,000 books in Ethiopia. When her husband died in 2013, Caroline bought, gutted and remodeled a house in Portland, Oregon. From there she returns regularly to Ethiopia, bringing solar power and economic development options to women in Maji.



Publication date Jul 15 2019
ISBN 978-1-946395-15-3
All rights available



TODAY IS TOMORROW

"Kurtz shares her personal vulnerability and experience with readers without getting bogged down in a superior intellectual discourse about the cross-cultural differences that are so unique to Africa. It is a story that creates hope, but also not unrealistic expectations for the future. In Africa, tomorrow is always just another day and today is tomorrow."— LitNet

By 1996, millions of South Sudanese have been killed, died of starvation, or fled the decades-long civil war ravaging their country. So when the Presbyterian Church in the United States begins recruiting a development team to work with war refugees in the region, Caroline and her husband Mark are eager to help. But it's only months before ghosts from their individual pasts whistle in to disrupt their marriage and their new postings.

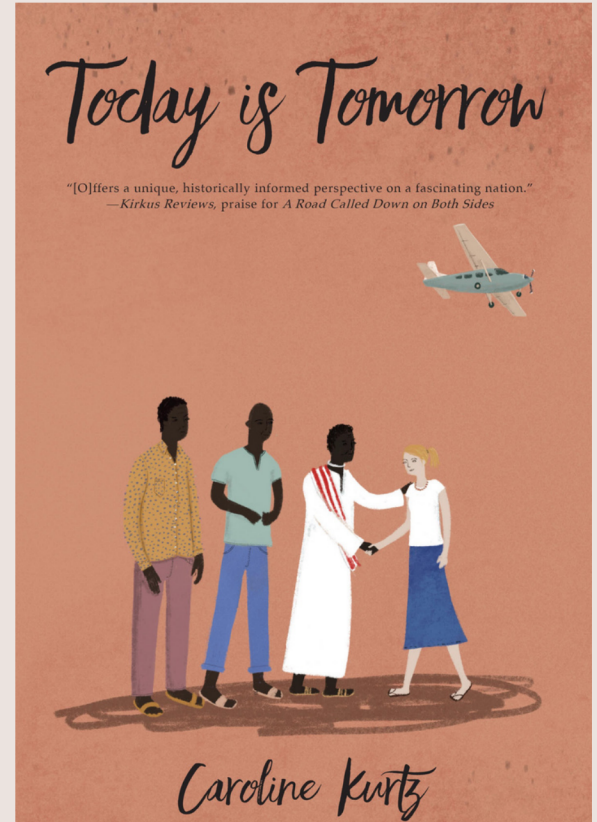
Caroline finds relief in teaching and peace work in South Sudan, but the heavy responsibility she now carries for dozens of vulnerable families—coupled with the prevailing ideas of Biblical womanhood that put pressure on her personal life—makes it increasingly clear that Caroline is under-prepared for the high-stakes crisis in which she is now embedded.

Through a number of consequential mistakes and increasingly debilitating self-doubt, Caroline clings to hope that her willingness to stand with the South Sudanese will count for something in the end.

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Publication date Apr 2022
ISBN 9781946395672
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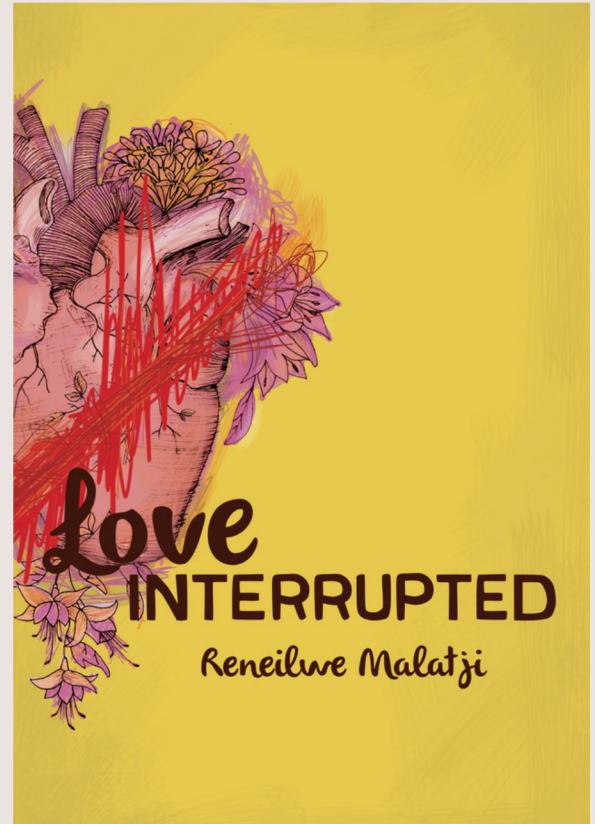


LOVE INTERRUPTED

"Many readers will see themselves in—and find themselves rooting for—the women in Malatji's solid debut."— *Kirkus Reviews*

In her debut collection of short fiction, Reneilwe Malatji invites us into the intimate lives of South African women, their whispered conversations, their love lives, their triumphs and heartbreaks. This diverse chorus of voices recounts misadventures with love, family, and community in powerful stories woven together with anger, politics, and wit.

We overhear the hushed stories of women who endure their husbands' nyatsis (mistresses), their abuse, or both. We reflect on the legacy of South Africa's past for today's relationships. We laugh at the ribald tale of a spinster woman encountering a male stripper for the first time, or the story of a woman befriending the gigolo next door. Reneilwe crafts an engaging collection full of rich, memorable characters who navigate work, love, and patriarchy thoughtfulness, strength, and humor.



Publication date Aug 2018

ISBN 978-1-946395-03-0

English language rights available,
excluding Africa

ABOUT RENEILWE MALATJI

Reneilwe Malatji was born in South Africa in 1968. She grew up in Turfloop township, in the northern part of South Africa, during the era of apartheid. Her father was an academic and her mother was a school teacher. Malatji trained as a teacher and worked as a subject specialist and advisor to provincial education departments. She recently completed a post-graduate diploma in Journalism and an MA in Creative Writing at Rhodes University. She works as a lecturer at the University of Limpopo in South Africa and has an adult son. *Love Interrupted* is her first book.



NDIMA NDIMA

From the red soil of her garden in Southgate 1, a crowded suburb of Harare, Nyeredzi watches the world. She knows not to venture beyond the grasses that fence them off from the bush, where the city's violent criminals and young women claim the night. But on this red soil, she is sovereign. It is here where she learns how to kill snakes, how to fight off a man, and how to take what she is due. It is here where Nyeredzi and her three older sisters are raised, and where they will each find a different destiny.

Decades prior, a young woman abandons a position of great power to seek justice in the second Chimurenga War, only to return to find her world in shambles. So Zuva Mutongi sets off to build a world of her own, raising four daughters—Nyeredzi, Hannah, Abigail, and Ruth—and defending them from the evils beyond their small Harare home. But when a letter from her long-estranged brother calls her back to a past life, Zuva must reconcile with her duty and heal the broken community she left behind.

Tsitsi Mapepa's vibrant debut is the history of a new Zimbabwe, with resilient women and men who raised a nation from its ashes. It is the chronicle of an L-shaped house, long awaited and much beloved, and the guests, welcome and unwelcome, who cross its threshold. It is the coming-of-age of four sisters, who will discover the secrets of womanhood on the volatile streets of Harare. But above all, it is a love song to one woman—a soldier, healer, chief, and mother—whose fierce devotion to her people is a testament to the bonds of blood that bind us all.

ABOUT TSITSI MAPEPA

Tsitsi Mapepa is a Kiwi, Zimbabwean-born writer who lets her creative side stream out in poetry, short stories, and novels. She studied at Manukau Institute of Technology, where she won an award of excellence in 2016 and the Kairangatira award in the BCA in 2018, before completing her Master's in Creative Writing degree at the University of Auckland in 2020. She resides in Auckland, New Zealand with her husband and three children. *Ndima Ndima* is her debut novel.

Ndima Ndima



Tsitsi Mapepa

Publication date Nov 2023
ISBN 9781946395962



CAT AMONG THE PIGEONS

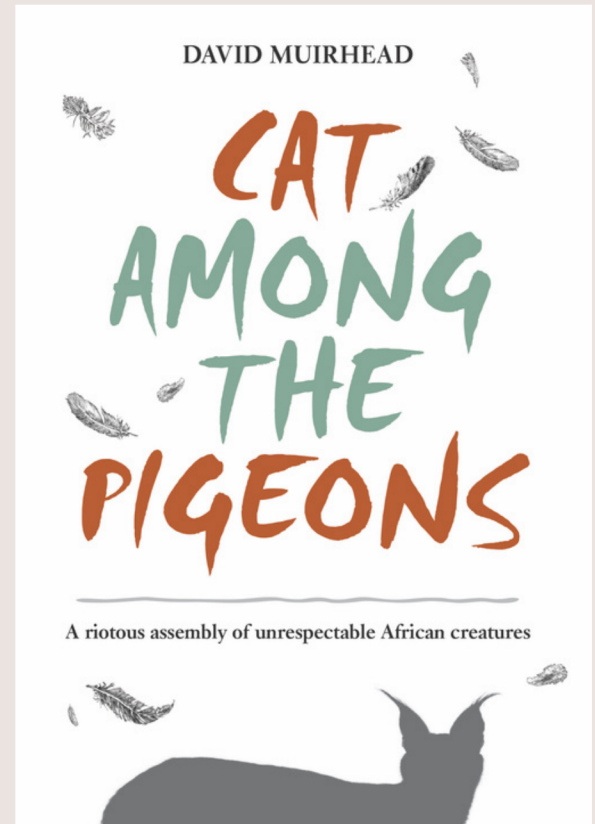
“An inherently fascinating, impressively informative, and thoroughly entertaining read from first page to last” –
Midwest Book Review

Foreword by Dr. Brian J. Olsen

In an irreverent but loving treatise on the creatures of South Africa and beyond, David Muirhead features the eccentric animal behaviors in his native home, mixing folklore and legend with a heavy dose of scientific facts. No wart is left unexamined in these hilarious stories of unrespectable animals.

In a fast changing world of raw data and flickering screens, it's comforting to know that the strange and fantastical still roam, crawl, wiggle, swim and soar through the terrestrial and aquatic natural world, ready to delight and surprise us. These stories allow us to laugh our way to a reconnection with the creatures we co-evolved with as a species over millennia, highlighting their importance to our collective past and precarious futures.

Delightful pen-and-ink drawings by Cape Town-based artist Patricia de Villiers lend an added satirical twist.



Publication date: Feb 2020
ISBN: 978-1-733547-40-6
All rights available

ABOUT DAVID MUIRHEAD

David Muirhead was born and raised in East Africa and his fascination and love for African wildlife began at an early age. He was educated at schools in Uganda, Kenya and the UK, and attended St Andrews University in Scotland, graduating with a degree in Philosophy. His career has spanned finance, trade development, economic research, publishing and journalism, and he has worked all over Africa, as well as in Europe and the Middle East.

He is currently a freelance journalist and writes for magazines, notably *Wildside*, a South African ecotourism and nature conservation magazine which he founded in 1999 in partnership with KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation (now KZN Wildlife). He now lives near Cape Town and is married with two children and two grandchildren. His daughter and her family live in Jacksonville Beach, Florida.



YOUNG BLOOD

**Shortlist, 2022 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award
Winner, Wole Soyinka Prize for Literature in Africa**

"This raw coming-of-age novel will resonate with its new audiences for its all-embracing tale of young people eager to escape poverty but with too few choices."— *Library Journal*

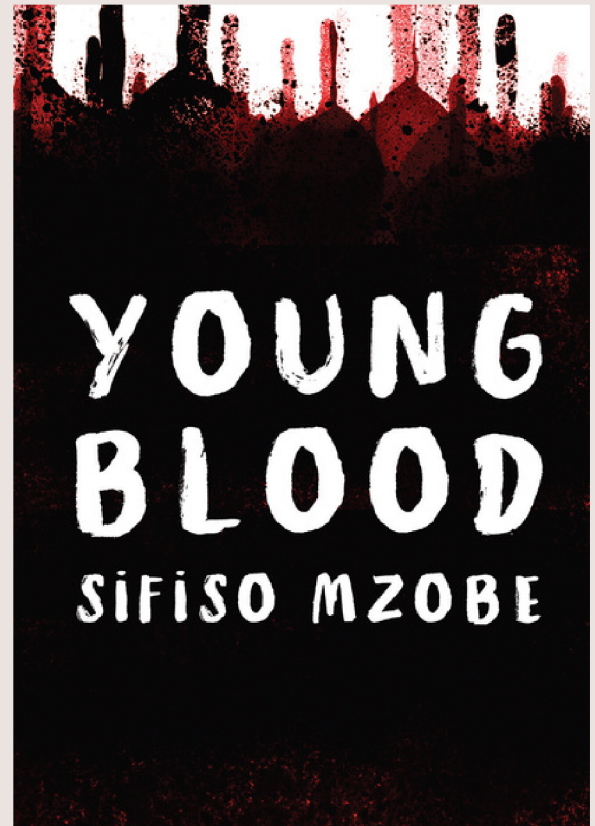
Cars, money, girls: this is what you need to get ahead in Umlazi

Sipho, a seventeen-year-old from Umlazi, a township on the outskirts of Durban, South Africa, drops out of high school and joins a carjacking syndicate to make a name for himself and escape his family's low-income life. Along with partners Musa and Vusi, Sipho learns the tricks of the dangerous trade under the guidance of gang leader Sibani, while falling deeper into the underbelly of Umlazi.

Candid and unapologetic, *Young Blood* is the story of the intricate balance of circumstance and choice, swift gain and incredible loss, as Sipho finds out how far he can push his luck before the damage is irrevocable—and the consequences deadly. Both a red-hot crime novel of car heists, sex, and rival gangs and a coming-of-age story of a teenager navigating the costs of the fast life, *Young Blood* reveals the devastating violence and raw beauty of life in South Africa's townships.

ABOUT SIFISO MZOBE

Sifiso Mzobe is a writer, content editor and translator. He was born and bred in Umlazi Township, south of Durban, South Africa, where he obtained his primary schooling and where he currently resides. After attending St. Francis College, he studied Journalism at the Damelin Business Campus in Durban. His debut novel, *Young Blood*, went on to win the Sunday Times Fiction Prize, the Herman Charles Bosman Prize for Best English Fiction, the SALA First Time Published Author Award and the Wole Soyinka Prize for Literature in Africa.



Publication date: April 2021

ISBN: 9781946395481

Audio rights available



THE QUALITY OF MERCY

“Through characters whose stories are complex, layered, connected, and twisted by the aftermath of war, this timely book illuminates the possibility of light shining in humanity, despite systematic and pervasive inhumanity. In this, Ndlovu offers readers a walk with the spirit, prayers, grace and power that people of African descent have historically walked with...the audacity to dream, to make way, to Love anyway.” — Sharon Bridgforth, 2022 Windham-Campbell Prize Winner in Drama

Everyone saw Emil Coetzee drive into the bush the day the ceasefire was announced, but nobody saw him drive out of it.

So begins the investigation of Spokes Moloi, the first black chief inspector in the City of Kings, who on the eve of his retirement is handed one final crime: the possible murder of Mr. Coetzee, the notorious head of the Organization of Domestic Affairs, who disappeared on the same day the country’s independence beckoned.

In investigating Emil's disappearance, Spokes' path collides with an assortment of witnesses with the best and worst of intentions, and an insatiable public infatuated with Emil and unable to come to terms with the fact that the future they had so long anticipated had, at last, arrived.

With a nation in flux, Spokes’ investigation leads him back to the very beginning— and gives him one last chance to solve the twenty-year-old murder case that determined both the path of his life and destiny of his country.

ABOUT SIPHIWE GLORIA NDLOVU

Siphiwe Gloria Ndlovu is a writer, filmmaker and academic who holds a PhD in Modern Thought and Literature from Stanford University, as well as master’s degrees in African Studies and Film. She has published research on Saartjie Baartman and she wrote, directed and edited the award-winning short film *Graffiti*. Born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, she worked as a teacher in Johannesburg before returning to Bulawayo. Her first novel, *The Theory of Flight* won the Barry Ronge Fiction Prize in South Africa. In 2022, Siphiwe was awarded a Windham-Campbell Prize for Fiction.



Publication date: Sept 2023
ISBN 9781946395863



THE HISTORY OF MAN

"[*The History of Man*] braids the social and the personal. Her style is deceptively simple as she describes the great mysteries of how we come to be who we are. Through the figure of Emil, a white man on the wrong side of Zimbabwean liberation history, she paints a fine-grained portrait of lost forms of Rhodesian city life." — *The New York Times*

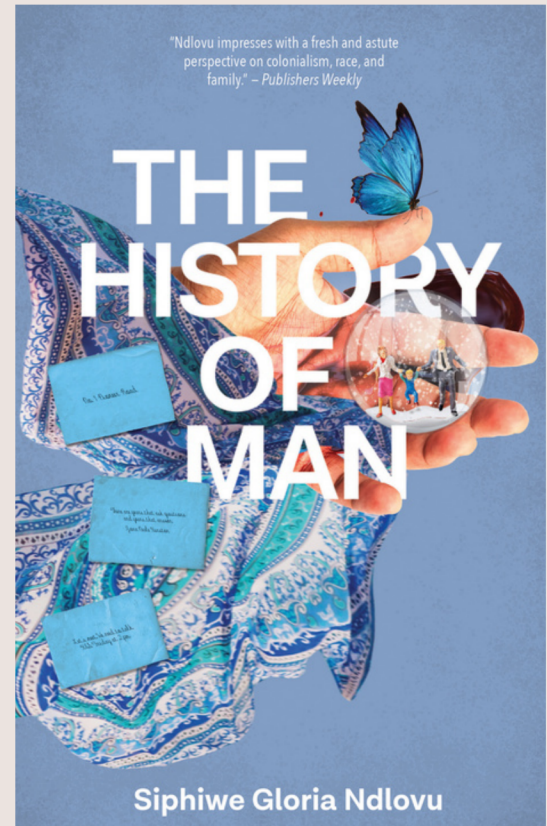
Set in a southern African country that is never named, this powerful tale of human fallibility—told with empathy, generosity, and a light touch—is an excursion into the interiority of the colonizer.

Emil Coetzee, a civil servant in his fifties, is washing blood off his hands when the ceasefire is announced. Like everyone else, he feels unmoored by the end of the conflict. War had given him his sense of purpose, his identity. But why has Emil's life turned out so different from his parents', who spent cheery Friday evenings flapping and flailing the Charleston or dancing the foxtrot? What happened to the Emil who used to wade through the singing elephant grass of the savannah, losing himself in it?

Continuing the interconnected stories she began in her award-winning novel *The Theory of Flight*, Sphiwe Gloria Ndlovu explores decades of history through the eyes of one man on his journey from boyhood to manhood, and the changes that befall him through love, loss, and war. With sympathy, complexity, and penetrating insight, *The History of Man* explores what makes a man, a father, and a nation.

ABOUT SIPHIWE GLORIA NDLOVU

Sphiwe Gloria Ndlovu is a writer, filmmaker and academic who holds a PhD in Modern Thought and Literature from Stanford University, as well as master's degrees in African Studies and Film. She has published research on Saartjie Baartman and she wrote, directed and edited the award-winning short film *Graffiti*. Born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, she worked as a teacher in Johannesburg before returning to Bulawayo. Her first novel, *The Theory of Flight* won the Barry Ronge Fiction Prize in South Africa. In 2022, Sphiwe was awarded a Windham-Campbell Prize for Fiction.



Publication date: Jan 2022
ISBN 9781946395566



THE THEORY OF FLIGHT

"This transcendent and powerful testament to the indomitable human spirit is not to be missed." — *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

Windham-Campbell Prize Recipient, 2022

On the third of September, not so long ago, something truly wondrous happened on the Beauford Farm and Estate. At the moment of her death, Imogen Zula Nyoni – Genie – was seen to fly away on a giant pair of silver wings, and, at the very same moment, her heart calcified into the most precious and beautiful something the onlookers had ever seen.

As Imogen Zula Nyoni, aka Genie, lies in a coma at Mater Dei Hospital, her family and friends struggle to come to terms with her impending death. This is the story of Genie, who has gifts that transcend time and space. With the lightest of touches, and with an overlay of magical-realist beauty, this novel sketches, through the lives of a few families and the fate of a single patch of ground, decades of national history (a country in Southern Africa that is never named) – from colonial occupation through the freedom struggle, to the devastation wrought by the sojas, the HIV virus, and The Man Himself.

At turns mysterious and magical, but always honest, *The Theory of Flight* explores the many ways we lose those we love before they die. When it was published in South Africa, the novel was awarded the Barry Ronge Fiction Prize.

ABOUT SIPHIWE GLORIA NDLOVU

Siphiwe Gloria Ndlovu is a writer, filmmaker and academic who holds a PhD in Modern Thought and Literature from Stanford University, as well as master's degrees in African Studies and Film. She has published research on Saartjie Baartman and she wrote, directed and edited the award-winning short film *Graffiti*. Born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, she worked as a teacher in Johannesburg before returning to Bulawayo. Her first novel, *The Theory of Flight* won the Barry Ronge Fiction Prize in South Africa. In 2022, Siphiwe was awarded a Windham-Campbell Prize for Fiction.



Publication date: Jan 2021

ISBN: 9781946395412

World English language rights available, excluding Africa



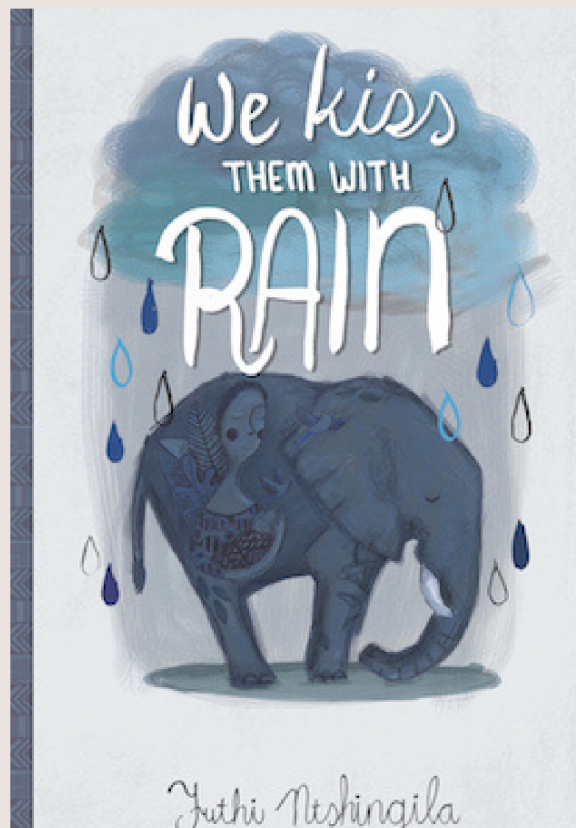
WE KISS THEM WITH RAIN

2019 Outstanding International Books List, United States Board on Books for Young People

2019 Skipping Stones Award honoree, Multi-cultural and International Books

"It is a story about joy and hope and courage, and what it means to lift up others and be lifted oneself, and how one young girl found her voice in a world seemingly determined to take it away." *Shelf Awareness* (starred review)

The terrible thing that steals 14-year-old Mvelo's song leads to startling revelations and unexpected opportunities. Life wasn't always this hard for 14-year-old Mvelo. There were good times living with her mother and her mother's boyfriend. Now her mother is dying of AIDS and what happened to Mvelo is the elephant in the room, despite its growing presence in their small shack. In this Shakespeare-style comedy, the things that seem to be are only a façade and the things that are revealed hand Mvelo a golden opportunity to change her fate. *We Kiss Them With Rain* explores both humor and tragedy in this modern-day fairy tale set in a squatter camp outside of Durban, South Africa.



Publication date: April 2021
ISBN: 9781946395481
Audio rights available

ABOUT FUTHI NTSHINGILA

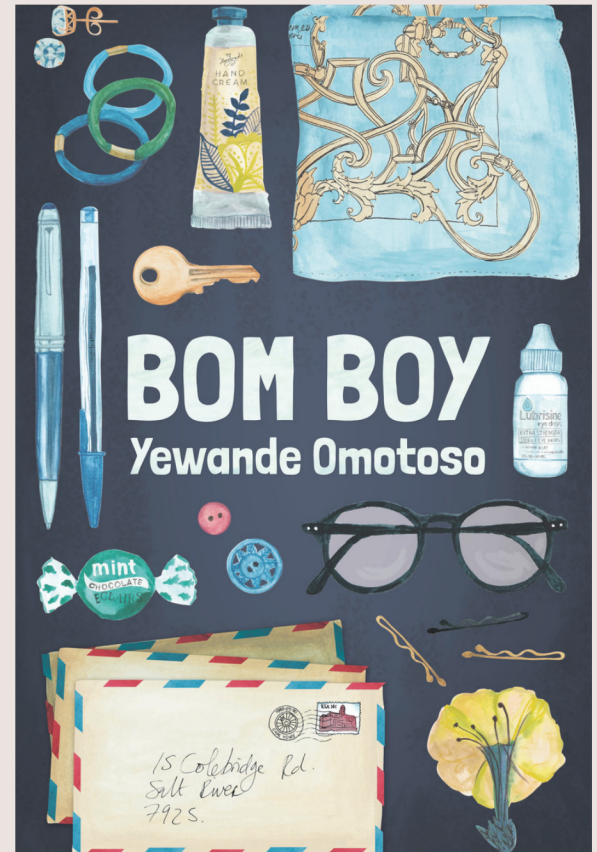
Futhi Ntshingila grew up in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Now she lives and works in Pretoria. She is a former journalist and holds Masters Degree in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution. She loves telling stories about the marginalized corners of society, which includes women and children in South Africa and particularly those who live in the squatter camps. In her two novels published in South Africa, she features strong women who empower themselves despite circumstances that seek to disempower them. *We Kiss Them With Rain* is her debut into the North American market.



BOM BOY

"Omotoso's concise prose captures the racial complexities of the book's backdrop while enabling her protagonist to find his own way with her evocative plotting." —*World Literature Today*

Abandoned by his birth mother, losing his adoptive mother to cancer, and failing to connect with his distant adoptive father, Leke—a troubled young man living in Cape Town—has developed some odd and possibly destructive habits: he stalks strangers, steals small objects, and visits doctors and healers in search of friendship. Through a series of letters written to him from prison by his Nigerian father, a man he has never met, Leke learns about the family curse—a curse which his father had unsuccessfully tried to remove. Leke's search to break the curse leads him to strange places.



Publication date Jan 2019

ISBN 978-1-946395-10-8

All rights available, excluding Africa

ABOUT YEWANDE OMOTOSO

Yewande Omotoso is an architect, with a masters in creative writing from the University of Cape Town. Her debut novel *Bomboy* (2011 Modjaji Books), won the South African Literary Award First Time Author Prize and was shortlisted for the Etisalat Prize for Literature. She was a 2015 Miles Morland Scholar. Yewande's second novel *The Woman Next Door* (Chatto and Windus) was published in May 2016. It was shortlisted for the International Dublin Literary Award, the Aidoo-Snyder Prize, the Barry Ronge Fiction Prize, and the UJ Literary Prize. It was also longlisted for the Baileys Women's Literature Prize. *The Woman Next Door* was also nominated for the 2018 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in the fiction category.



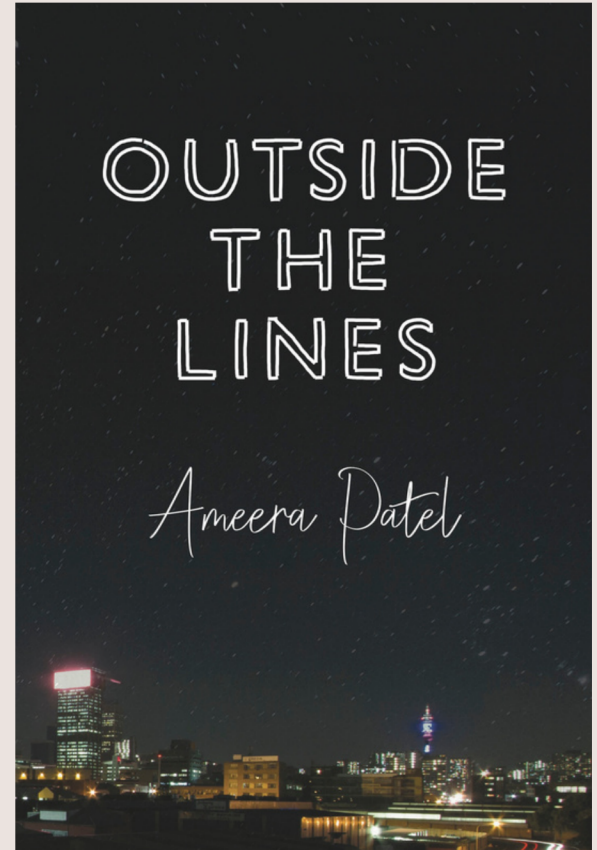
OUTSIDE THE LINES

"Patel displays an exceptional ability to plumb the depths of her characters, each of whose points of view throws light on the realities of the other narrators. Rays of hope and gentle overtures to love lift this vibrant novel." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

Outside the Lines is a journey through the underbelly of Johannesburg, South Africa and the intimacy of family drama scattered across racial, religious, and class divisions.

Drug addict Cathleen is kidnapped and her distracted, middle-class family fails to notice her absence; Zilindile, who services Cathleen's drug habit, and his Muslim Indian girlfriend Farhana, struggle to make sense of their relationship despite their very different backgrounds; and domestic worker Flora and the silent Runyararo, who was painting Cathleen's house until accused by Cathleen's father of stealing, become entangled with romance and criminals, leading to the ultimate tragedy.

A taut novel that walks the line between family drama, crime novel, thriller, and black comedy.



Publication date: June 2020
English language rights available,
excluding southern Africa

ABOUT AMEERA PATEL

Ameera Patel is in the storytelling business. She is an actor, writer, theatre-maker and poet residing in Johannesburg. She read for a BA in Theatre and Performance at the University of Cape Town in 2005 and in 2013 she received a distinction for her Masters in Creative Writing at Wits University in Johannesburg. Ameera has worked as a performer in both theatre and television, and has written for television and the theatre, notably the play *Whistle Stop*, which won both a Silver Standard Bank Ovation Award and the PANSAs Best New Writer award in 2014 in her home country South Africa. *Outside the Lines*, Patel's first novel, was originally published by Modjaji Books and was long listed for a Barry Ronge Fiction Award (2017).



EYE BROTHER HORN

"*Eye Brother Horn* is a brilliant novel—subtle, imaginative, and richly rendered. Pitt has crafted a tale that is at once intimate and expansive, tender and unflinching. Her characters reach beyond the page and their message, one of both censure and hope—remains with you long after the end." —Amanda Skenandore, author of *The Nurse's Secret* and *The Second Life of Mirielle West*

Moses, a Zulu baby discovered on a riverbank, and Daniel, the son of white missionaries, are raised as brothers on the Umzinyathi mission in 19th century Zululand, South Africa. As an infant, Daniel narrowly escapes an attack by a rhino and develops an intense corporeal connection to animals which challenges the religious dogma on which he is raised. Despite efforts by his adoptive mother to raise the boys as equals, Moses feels like an outsider to both white and Zulu society, and seeks certainty in astronomy and science. Only through each other do the brothers find a sense of belonging.

At Umzinyathi, Moses and Daniel are cushioned from the harsh realities of the expanding colony in neighboring Natal—where ancient spiritualism is being demonized, vast natural beauty faces rampant destruction, and the wealth of the colonizer depends on the engineered impoverishment of the indigenous. But when they leave the mission to work on a relative's sugar estate and accompany him on a hunting safari, the boys are thrown into a world that sees their bond as a threat to the colonial order, and must confront an impossible choice: adapting to what society expects of them or staying true to each other.

ABOUT BRIDGET PITT

Bridget Pitt is a South African author and environmental activist who has published poetry, short fiction, non-fiction and three novels (*Unbroken Wing*, Kwela, 1998; *The Unseen Leopard*, Human & Rousseau, 2010; *Notes from the Lost Property Department*, Penguin, 2015). Two were long-listed for the Sunday Times Literary Awards. Her second novel was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Book Prize (2011) and the Wole Soyinka African Literature Award (2012). She has recently co-authored a memoir of the spiritual wilderness guide, Sicelo Mbatha (*Black Lion: Alive in the Wilderness*, Jonathan Ball, 2021). Her short fiction has received a Commonwealth nomination and has been published in anthologies in South Africa, Canada, and the United Kingdom.



Publication date JANUARY 2023
ISBN 9781946395764



CAPE TOWN: A PLACE BETWEEN

"Trotter's humor and affection for the places and people of his adopted home help the reader form a personal connection to Cape Town's history and culture. It's unlike any travel book I've read." – Kimberly Lisagor, co-author of *Disappearing Destinations*

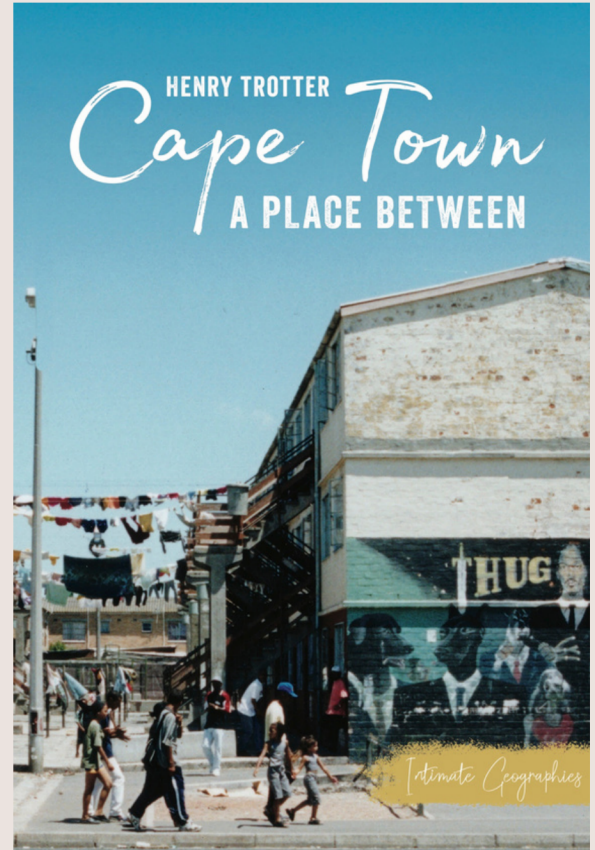
Part of our Intimate Geographies Series, short books of around 100 pages each, that allow readers to quickly identify the unique pulse of a city, the throbbing historical, social, cultural and political beat that underlies the interactions of the people who live within it.

Cape Town is a place between. Between two oceans, between first and third worlds, between east and west. So too the majority of its citizens, a people between black and white, native and settler, African and European. The Cape coloureds. This tween-ness complicates and perplexes. It threatens key conceptions we have about the histories, identities, and cultures of those who live on the continent. It makes us wonder how we can understand a city that is most assuredly in Africa, though not—seemingly—of it?

By exploring these liminal spaces of "tween-ness"—between the Cape's breath-taking beauty and its shattering violence, between its creative cosmopolitanism and its crude racial divisions, between its glitzy wealth and its grinding poverty—we can begin to understand the soul of this town. Haunted by its past, unsure of its future. Always emerging, never arriving. A sun-drenched peninsula best viewed through a prism noir.

ABOUT HENRY TROTTER

Henry Trotter is the author of *Sugar Girls & Seamen: A Journey into the World of Dockside Prostitution in South Africa*. Hailing from California, he has lived in Africa for 20 years and written extensively on African history, culture and education. He is based in Cape Town with his wife and daughter.



Publication date: Jan 2020
ISBN: 978-1-946395-25-2
All rights available

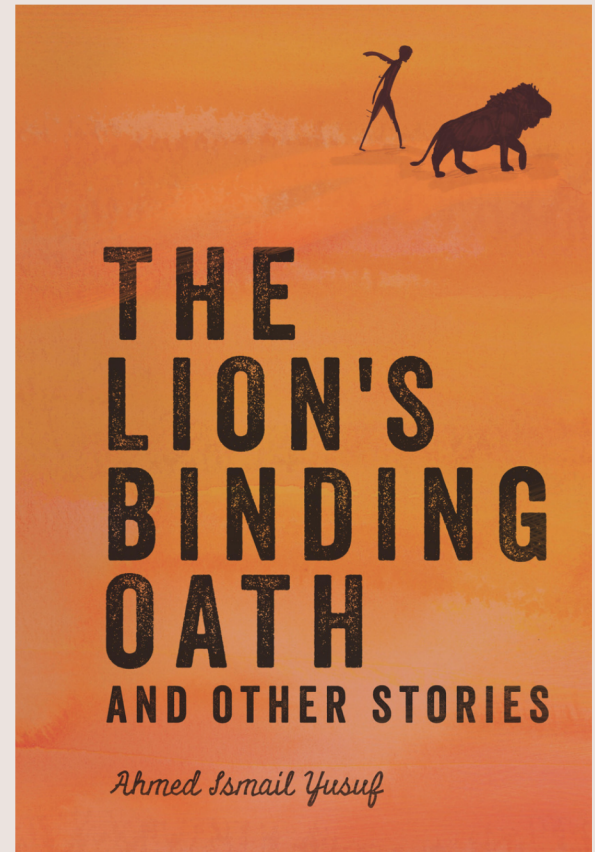


THE LION'S BINDING OATH

"Yusuf draws us in with descriptions that bring beauty to minute details....In a tone recalling Maya Angelou's *Gather Together in My Name*, this work will appeal to readers of literary and African fiction." — *Library Journal*

Religious and ethnic conflict may be the Horn of Africa's most enduring recent legacy. But beneath its recent history of war and displacement lies human stories—families, clans, lovers, neighbors, and friends, all bound together through common cultural, religious, and historical ties.

The Lion's Binding Oath, Ahmed Ismail Yusuf's collection of short stories, introduces readers to the people of Somalia and their struggles: their faith, identity, friendship, and family bonds, as whispers of war grow louder around them. Through stories that span the years before and during Somalia's civil war, Yusuf weaves together Somalia's political, social, and religious conflicts with portrayals of the country's love of poetry, music, and soccer. Yusuf's collection is a powerful examination of love and resilience in a country torn apart by war, and written with deep compassion for the lives of its characters.



Publication date Jun 2018
ISBN 978-1- 946395-07- 8
All rights available

ABOUT AHMED ISMAIL YUSUF

After fleeing Somalia, Ahmed Ismail Yusuf lived in several states but has lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota since 1997. He did not speak English when he arrived, he was a high-school dropout, and he was not sure what his actual age was. Today he has two college degrees and is the author of *Somalis in Minnesota*, published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press, and *Gorgorkii Yimi*, a collection of stories in Somali, published by Ponte Invisible. In February 2018, The History Theatre of St. Paul, Minnesota will produce his play, "A Crack in the Sky," a memoir about how Yusuf found inspiration in Maya Angelou and Malcolm X during his early days as an immigrant to the U.S.



DISRUPTION

Featuring 2022 Caine Prize winner "Five Years Next Sunday" by Idza Luhumyo and 2022 Nommo Award shortlisted story "Shelter" by Mbozi Haimbe

"An electric collection of stories that seethes with horror and beauty." – Lauren Beukes, author of *The Shining Girls* and *Afterland*

This genre-spanning anthology explores the many ways that we grow, adapt, and survive in the face of our ever-changing global realities. In these evocative, often prescient, stories, new and emerging writers from across Africa investigate many of the pressing issues of our time: climate change, pandemics, social upheaval, surveillance, and more.

From a post-apocalyptic African village in Innocent Ilo's "Before We Die Unwritten," to space colonization in Alithnayn Abdulkareem's "Static," to a mother's attempt to save her infant from a dust storm in Mbozi Haimbe's "Shelter," *Disruption* illuminates change around and within, and our infallible capacity for hope amidst disaster. Facing our shared anxieties head on, these authors scrutinize assumptions and invent worlds that combine the fantastical with the probable, the colonial with the dystopian, and the intrepid with the powerless, in stories recognizing our collective future and our disparate present.

Disruption is the newest anthology from Short Story Day Africa, a non-profit organization established to develop and share the diversity of Africa's voices through publishing and writing workshops.

Edited by Jason Mykl Snyman, Karina M. Szczurek, and Rachel Zadok

CONTRIBUTORS

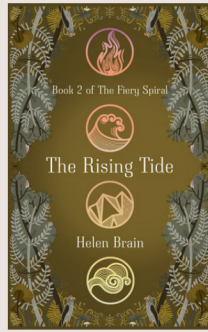
MacSmart Ojiludu (Nigeria), Kanyinsola Olorunnisola (Nigeria), Najwa Bin Shatwan (Libya), Nadia Ahidjo-Iya (Cameroon), Innocent Ilo (Nigeria), Melusi Nkomo (Zimbabwe), Victor Forna (Sierra Leone), Nicholas Dawn (South Africa), Genna Gardini (South Africa), Philisiwe Twijnstra (South Africa), Doreen Anyango (Uganda), Masiyaleti Mbewe (Zambia), Julia Louw (South Africa), Liam Brickhill (Zimbabwe), Jacob M'hango (Zambia), Gomolemo Mogotsi (Botswana), Mbozi Haimbe (Zambia), Idza Luhumyo (Kenya), Alithnayn Abdulkareem (Nigeria), Yefon Isabelle (Cameroon), and Edwin Okolo (Nigeria).



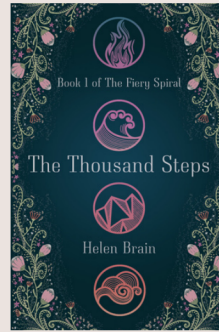
Publication date Sept 2021
ISBN 9781946395573



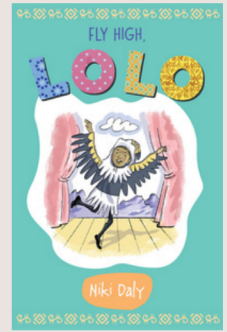
TITLE: HALLEY'S COMET
AUTHOR: HANNES BARNARD
GENRE: YOUNG ADULT/COMING-OF-AGE



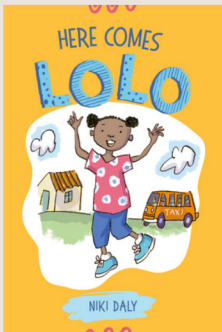
TITLE: THE RISING TIDE
AUTHOR: HELEN BRAIN
GENRE: YOUNG ADULT/FANTASY



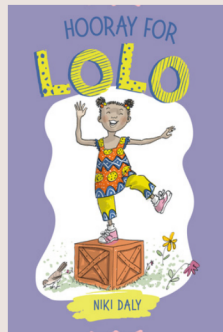
TITLE: THE THOUSAND STEPS
AUTHOR: HELEN BRAIN
GENRE: YOUNG ADULT/FANTASY



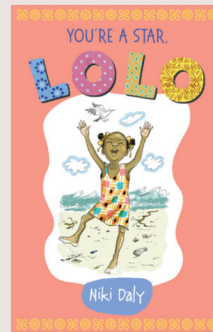
TITLE: FLY HIGH, LOLO
AUTHOR: NIKI DALY
GENRE: BEGINNING READER



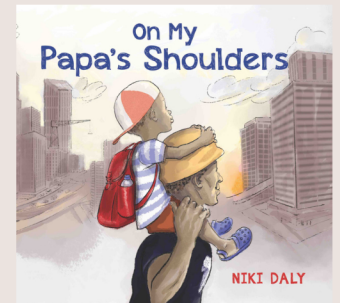
TITLE: HERE COMES LOLO
AUTHOR: NIKI DALY
GENRE: BEGINNING READER



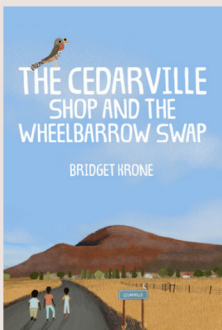
TITLE: HOORAY FOR LOLO
AUTHOR: NIKI DALY
GENRE: BEGINNING READER



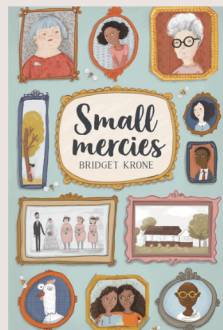
TITLE: YOU'RE A STAR, LOLO
AUTHOR: NIKI DALY
GENRE: BEGINNING READER



TITLE: ON MY PAPA'S SHOULDERS
AUTHOR: NIKI DALY
GENRE: BEGINNING READER



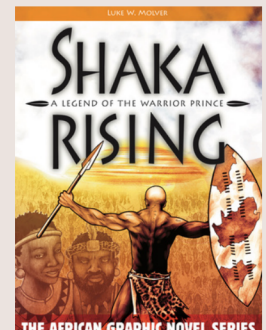
TITLE: THE CEDARVILLE SHOP AND THE WHEELBARROW SWAP
AUTHOR: BRIDGET KRONE
GENRE: MIDDLE-GRADE



TITLE: SMALL MERCIES
AUTHOR: BRIDGET KRONE
GENRE: MIDDLE GRADE



TITLE: KING SHAKA
AUTHOR: LUKE MOLVER
GENRE: YOUNG ADULT/GRAPHIC NOVEL



TITLE: SHAKA RISING
AUTHOR: LUKE MOLVER
GENRE: YOUNG ADULT/GRAPHIC NOVEL



TITLE: PEARL OF THE SEA
AUTHOR: VARIOUS
GENRE: MIDDLE-GRADE/ GRAPHIC NOVEL



TITLE: KARIBA
AUTHOR: VARIOUS
GENRE: MIDDLE-GRADE/ GRAPHIC NOVEL



TITLE: IT'S JUST SKIN, SILLY!
AUTHOR: VARIOUS
GENRE: CHILDREN'S

HALLEY'S COMET

"From the opening pages, Barnard sets an intriguing tone and fast pace. What follows is a thrilling, tension-filled story of friendship, love, radicalism, and justice that will resonate with many readers ... [a] heart-wrenching coming-of-age story."— Kirkus Reviews

Halley's Comet is the coming-of-age story of Pete de Lange, a white 16-year-old schoolboy, set in small-town South Africa in 1986. Pete lives a relatively sheltered life, primarily concerned with girls and rugby— until one January night changes everything. Thrust together with two complete strangers—Petrus, a black farmworker's son and Sarita, an Indian shopkeeper's daughter—the trio find themselves running for their lives from the vicious Rudie, whose actions will ripple far beyond that fateful night.

This era-defying friendship—sparked by a shared secret — challenges everything Pete thought he knew and believed. And when anti-Apartheid revolutionaries set their sights on the town, it will change the course of the three young people's lives forever. Halley's Comet is a story of friendship, love, change, taking chances, hope, a comet, and some pretty cool 80s music.

Translated from the Afrikaans by the author



Publication date Jan 2022
ISBN 9781946395559

ABOUT HANNES BARNARD

Hannes Barnard is a South African-born author of both English and Afrikaans novels. He debuted in 2019 with the YA novel, *Halley se komeet*, which he translated into English as *Halley's Comet*. In 2020, *Wolk*, his apocalyptic YA adventure, was released, and coming up in 2022 is his crime novel, *die wet van Gauteng*. When not writing, traveling, or planning his next adventure, Hannes works in marketing. He has called England and Seychelles home but now lives in Johannesburg with his wife.



THE RISING TIDE

“Plagued by secrets and a new source of insecurity in the form of a perceived rival in love, it’s uncertain whether Ebba will figure out to whom she can turn to help save herself and those she cares about.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

Set in Cape Town, South Africa in 2055. Young and naive, Ebba is given enormous wealth and social power. Combining elements of the past and projecting into an unknown future, Helen Brain's ecofeminist trilogy is a powerful commentary on how class, race, and social identity are foundational to the ways in which society is organized and power wielded.

In *The Thousand Steps*, we met Ebba, a teen with fiery red hair and a mysterious birthmark that holds the secret of her heritage. After spending sixteen years underground when nuclear war caused massive sea level rise and flooded her home city of Cape Town, Ebba must use her power to stop a second apocalypse. She must listen to her instincts, even if it means destroying the things she holds most dear. Who can she trust to help stop the second “Calamity,” now just days away? Who will betray her?

In the second installment of Helen Brain’s Fiery Spiral trilogy, Ebba will learn the impossible decisions – and great sacrifice – that sometimes come with destiny.

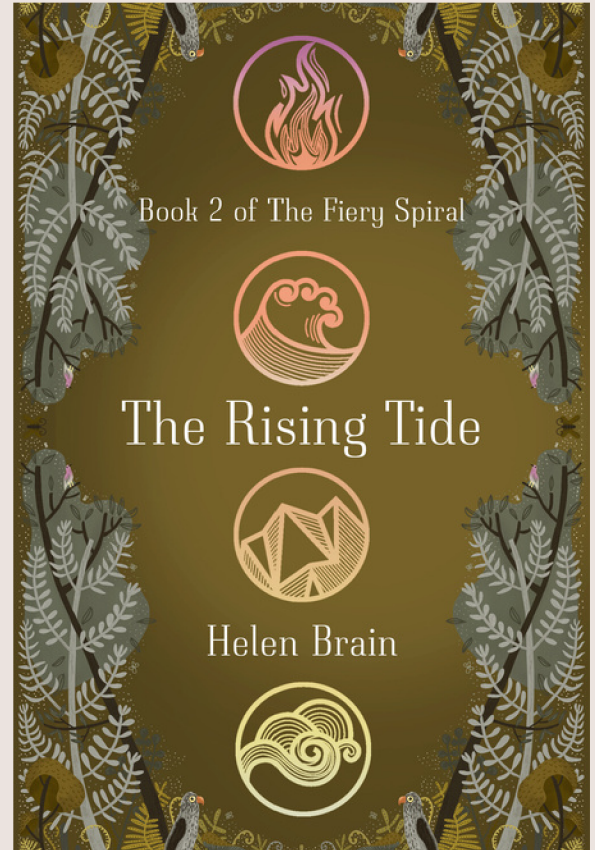
OTHER BOOKS IN THE SERIES

The Thousand Steps, January 2020

The Fiery Spiral, projected pub date 2022

ABOUT HELEN BRAIN

Helen Brain was born in Australia in 1960 and raised in South Africa. Before settling to a life writing and teaching writing through an international online college, she was a musician, a textile crafter, and taught English, music, and Ancient Greek. Brain lives in Muizenberg, South Africa with her husband, three dogs and the family of wild otters that frequent her lake-front garden.



Publication June 2021

ISBN: 9781946395498

All rights excluding Southern Africa available



THE THOUSAND STEPS

At age sixteen, Ebba Den Eeden is unexpectedly released from the underground bunker where she and 2,000 of South Africa's last surviving teenagers have spent their lives. But when she comes to the surface, she discovers that the bunker's leaders have been lying for years, and that Cape Town—supposedly inhabitable for sixteen years since a nuclear holocaust caused massive sea level rise and flooded the city—is alive and well.

Soon, she finds out she's the heir to a massive fortune and now wields enormous power—power she must use to save the remaining human race. In a new world she doesn't understand and surrounded by strangers each intent on gaining something from her, Ebba is forced to navigate her newfound power and the schemes of the evil High Priest and his handsome son Hal, while trying to unite four supernatural amulets and prevent a second global apocalypse. And when her three best friends are condemned to execution in the bunker, Ebba must uncover the secrets of her family lineage and return to the one place she spent her whole life hoping to escape.

A dystopian, climate fiction trilogy with a mixed-race heroine and a hint of the mythological, *The Thousand Steps* is the exhilarating first chapter of Helen Brain's Fiery Spiral trilogy - and a testament to the power of a single human life to prevent the widespread destruction of the planet we call home.

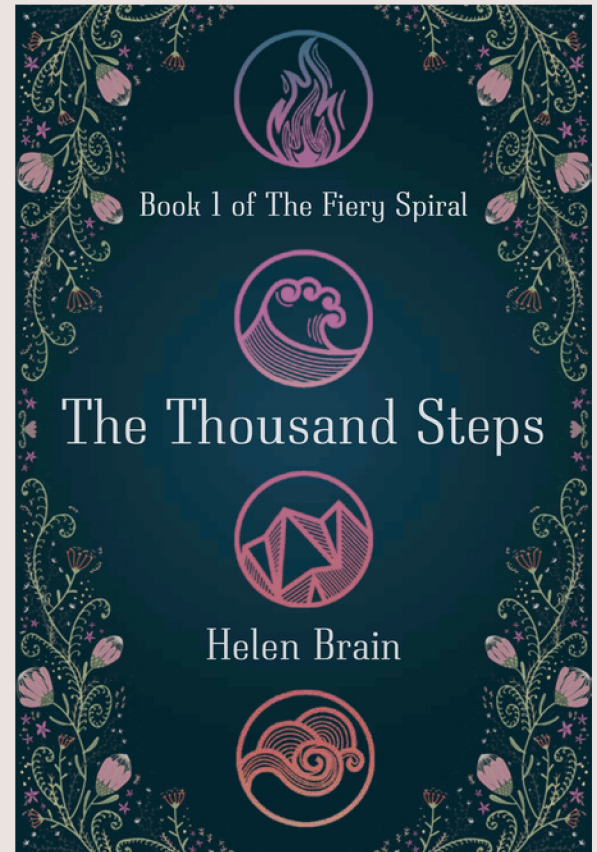
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Publication date Feb 2020

ISBN: 978-1-946395-24-5

All rights excluding Southern Africa available



FLY HIGH, LOLO

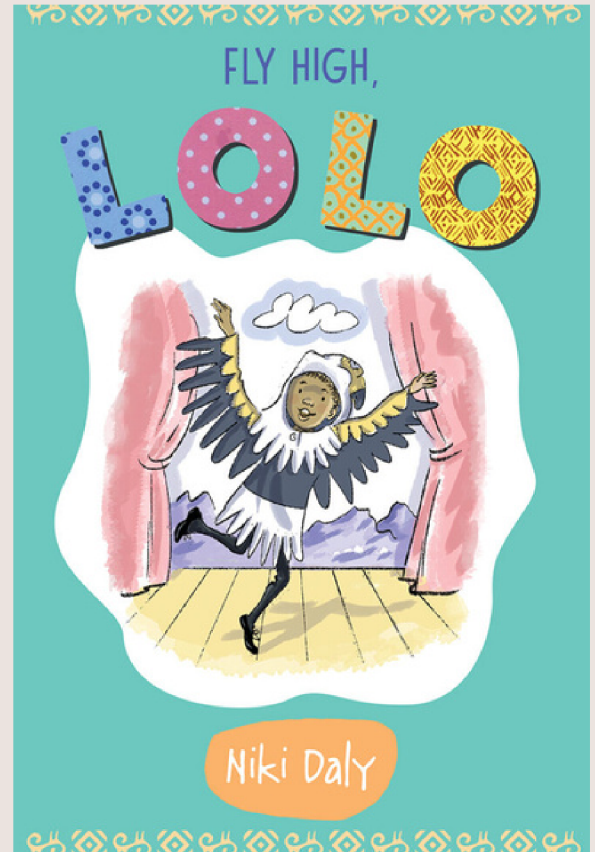
A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Part of Niki Daly's *Lolo* Series

More fun is on the way for Lolo in *Fly High, Lolo*, the fourth book in Niki Daly's Lolo series for beginning readers. Lolo is kind-hearted, creative, full of joy, and—whether it's making homemade Christmas decorations from recycled plastics, or stepping in when the school play goes awry—she always knows just what to do to save the day!

In this collection of easy-to-read stories, we meet Lolo, a girl who lives in South Africa with her mother and grandmother, Gogo. Charminglly illustrated by the author, *Fly High, Lolo* follows Lolo as she explores her world, and the new adventures each day brings.

In this new set of stories, Lolo gets an unexpected role in the school play, meets Miss Teen the Beauty Queen, goes on a beach clean-up with Mama's new friend, and makes beautiful recycled Christmas decorations.



Publication date May 2022
ISBN: 9781946395658



ABOUT NIKI DALY

Niki Daly's groundbreaking *Not So Fast Songololo*, winner of a US Parent's Choice Award, paved the way for post-apartheid South African children's books. Among his many books, Niki Daly's *Jamela's Dress* was chosen by the ALA as a Notable Children's Book and by Booklist as one of the Top 10 African American Picture Books of 2000. It also won both the Children's Literature Choice Award and the Parents' Choice Silver Award. Niki lives with his wife, the author and illustrator Jude Daly, in South Africa.



A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Part of Niki Daly's *Lolo* Series

For Lolo, every day is a new adventure. Whether it's earning gold stars at school or returning a lost ring, she's ready for anything. Follow along with Lolo as she learns lessons about sharing, being brave, and being a good friend.

In these easy-to-read stories, we meet the curious, fun-loving, adventurous Lolo, a girl living in South Africa with her mother and grandmother, Gogo. Woven with heart and humor, and illustrated with charming black-and-white drawings, these stories are perfect for the beginning reader.

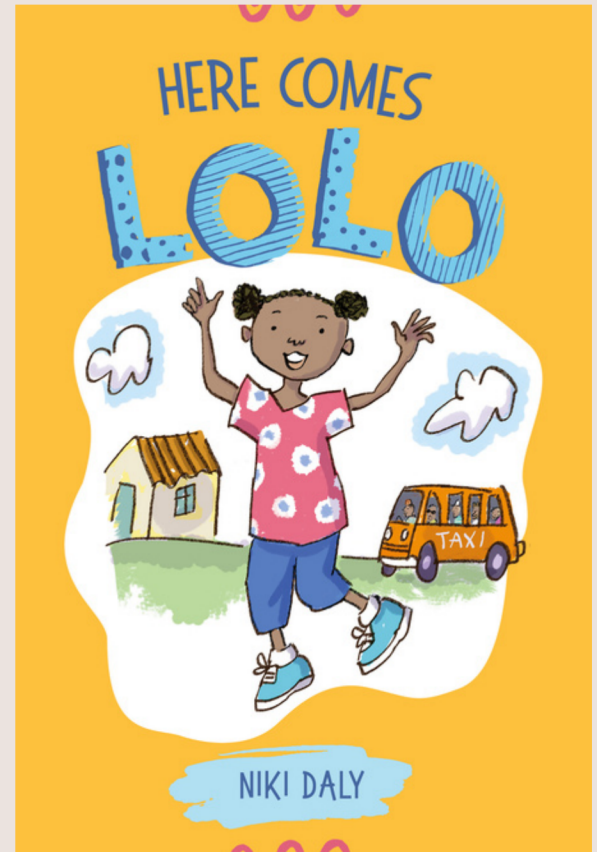
In *Here Comes Lolo*, Lolo gets a gold star at school, longs for a cute floppy hat, finds a missing ring, and helps to rescue a dog, all with her trademark humor and quirky style.



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HERE COMES LOLO



Publication date May 2020
ISBN: 978-1946395-33-7



A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

Part of Niki Daly's *Lolo* Series

Hooray! Hurrah! Hurray! for Lolo, the energetic, curious, and fun-loving girl at the center of Niki Daly's series of books for beginning readers. She's thoughtful, funny, and always ready for anything. Whether it's helping to babysit baby Bongi or learning all about the library, she's sure to do it with kindness and humor.

In this collection of easy-to-read stories, we meet Lolo, a girl who lives in South Africa with her mother and grandmother, Gogo. Charmingly illustrated by the author, *Hooray for Lolo* follows Lolo as she explores her world, and the new adventures each day brings.

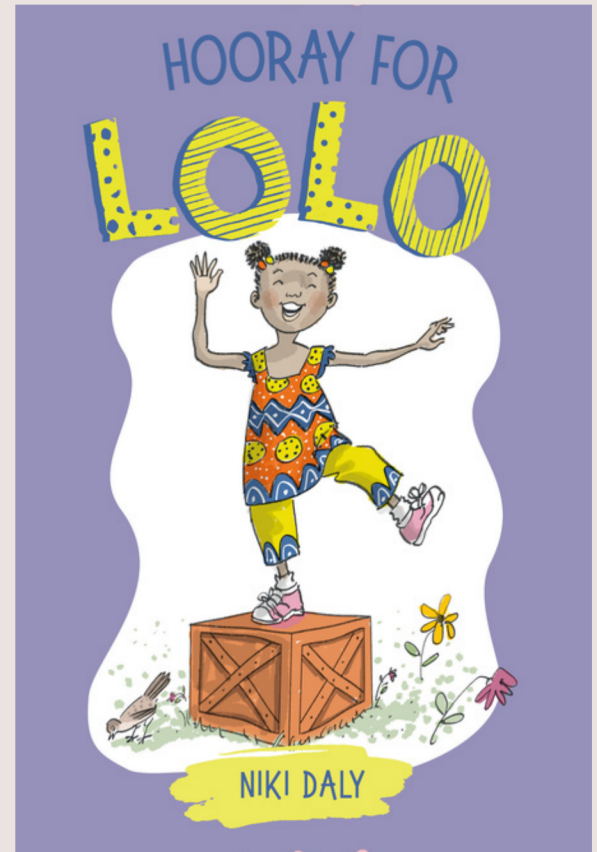
In *Hooray for Lolo*, Lolo she gets angry with her best friend, finds a favorite library book, goes to the hospital, and helps to look after Baby Bongi.



ABOUT NIKI DALY

Niki Daly's groundbreaking *Not So Fast Songololo*, winner of a US Parent's Choice Award, paved the way for post-apartheid South African children's books. Among his many books, Niki Daly's *Jamela's Dress* was chosen by the ALA as a Notable Children's Book and by Booklist as one of the Top 10 African American Picture Books of 2000. It also won both the Children's Literature Choice Award and the Parents' Choice Silver Award. Niki lives with his wife, the author and illustrator Jude Daly, in South Africa.

HOORAY FOR LOLO



Publication date May 2020
ISBN: 978-1946395-34-4



YOU'RE A STAR, LOLO

"[D]rawn tenderly and told in a way that honors the characters and their culture. Another winning addition—Lolo is indeed a star!"— *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

Part of Niki Daly's *Lolo* Series

Lolo's back for a whole new set of adventures in *You're a Star, Lolo*, the third book in Niki Daly's Lolo series for beginning readers. Whether it's turning her garden into a snail farm when snails eat up her precious tomato plant, or using her hair ribbons to save the day when a friend's car breaks down - there's a unique solution to every problem, and Lolo is going to find it!

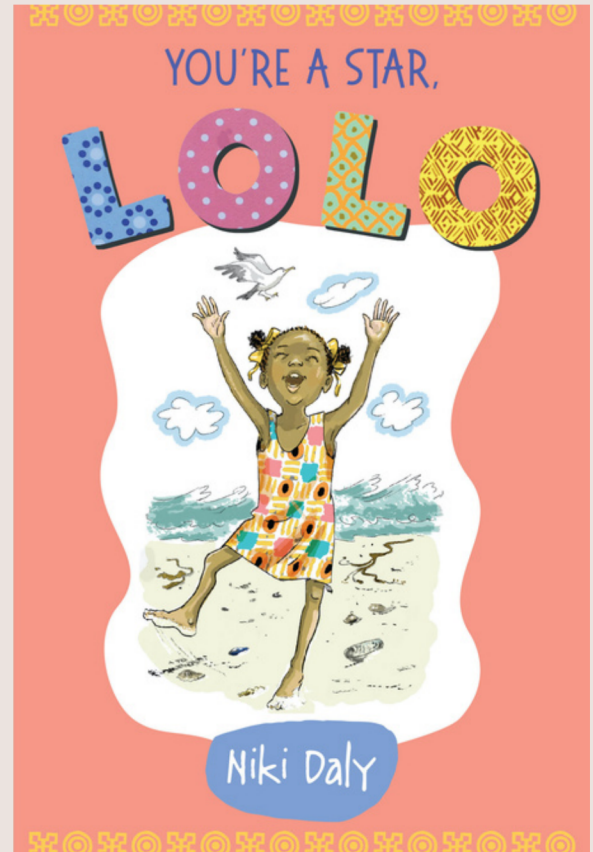
These stories invite young readers into the life and adventures of fun-loving, clever, and curious Lolo, a young girl living in South Africa. Along with her mother and grandmother Gogo, she can always find a way to make the best out of any situation— even when things don't go as planned.

In *You're a Star, Lolo*, join Lolo as she makes her mom an extra-special soup, goes on vacation with her Gogo, and even tracks down the scary Ghorra-Ghorra-Hooooaaah-Bwooooooo-Monster sound she keeps hearing at night!



ABOUT NIKI DALY

Niki Daly's groundbreaking *Not So Fast Songololo*, winner of a US Parent's Choice Award, paved the way for post-apartheid South African children's books. Among his many books, Niki Daly's *Jamela's Dress* was chosen by the ALA as a Notable Children's Book and by Booklist as one of the Top 10 African American Picture Books of 2000. It also won both the Children's Literature Choice Award and the Parents' Choice Silver Award. Niki lives with his wife, the author and illustrator Jude Daly, in South Africa.



Publication date May 2021
ISBN: 9781946395467



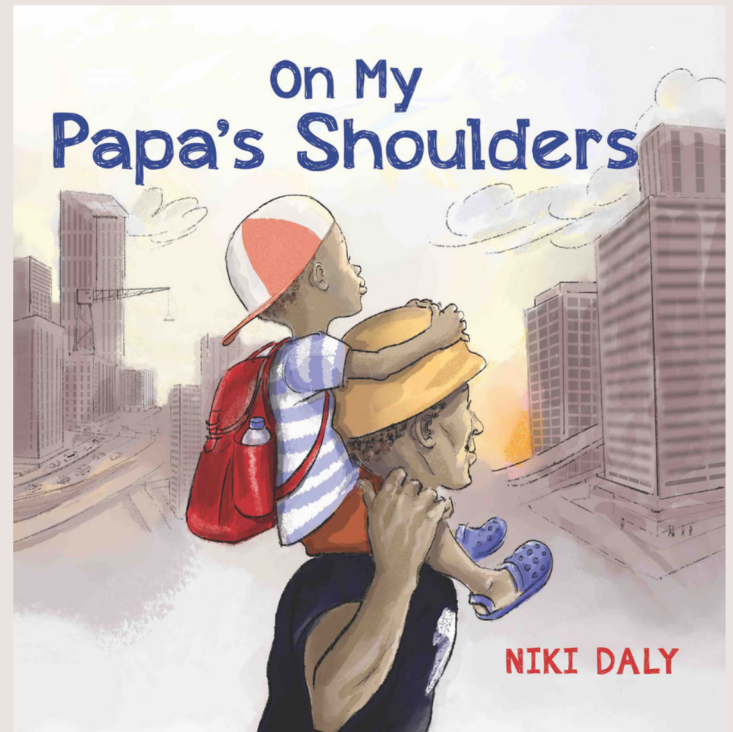
ON MY PAPA'S SHOULDERS

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"A wonderful tribute to the father-son bond."—Kirkus
A 2023 Charlotte Zolotow Award Honor Book

Whether it's jumping in puddles with Tata in the rain, greeting the neighborhood cat on the quiet back streets with Gogo, or holding hands with Mama while rushing to make the bell, walking to school with family is the best. But nothing is better than walking to school with Papa. From high above, resting on Papa's shoulders, all of the town is in perfect view, and Papa always says "I love you" when he says goodbye.

A sweet ode to fatherhood and the special relationships children share with each member of their family, *On My Papa's Shoulders* reminds us that it's not about where we're going, but rather the people who walk with us along the way.



Publication date May 2022
ISBN: 9781946395689

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Niki Daly's groundbreaking *Not So Fast Songololo*, winner of a US Parent's Choice Award, paved the way for post-apartheid South African children's books. Among his many books, Niki Daly's *Jamela's Dress* was chosen by the ALA as a Notable Children's Book and by Booklist as one of the Top 10 African American Picture Books of 2000. It also won both the Children's Literature Choice Award and the Parents' Choice Silver Award. Niki lives with his wife, the author and illustrator Jude Daly, in South Africa.



THE CEDARVILLE SHOP & THE WHEELBARROW SWAP

A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection

"This novel is an engaging read with a satisfying ending ... the theme of grace ties everything together: when all seems an impossible knot, if one keeps looking and persevering, the secret to untangling might click into view—a timely message for our world." —Africa Access Review

I've decided that some people put out fires and leave the world cold and hopeless and others nurse the kindling, blow like mad and fan the flames with whatever they have at hand so that everyone feels its warmth.

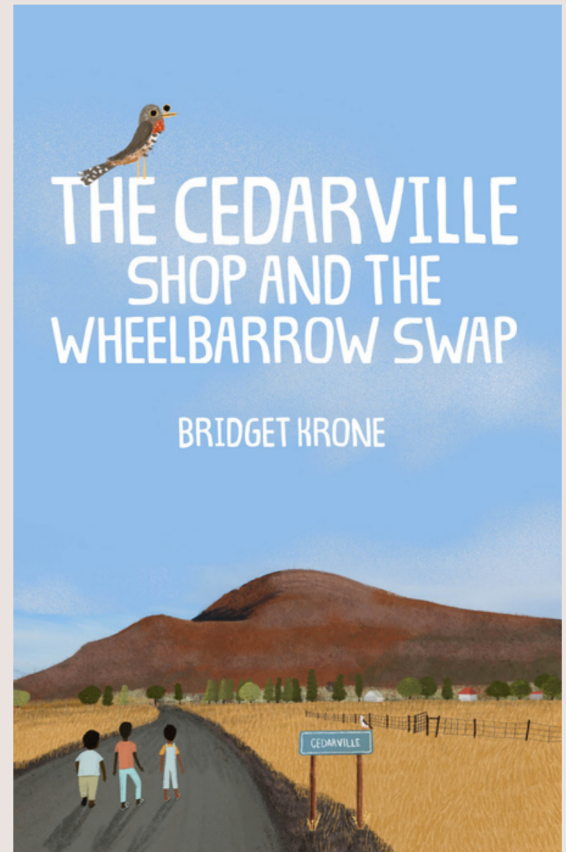
A lot of things can feel just out of reach in 12-year-old Boipelo Seku's small, impoverished village of Cedarville, South Africa. The idea of one day living in a house that's big enough for his family is just a faraway dream. But when Boi stumbles on a story about a Canadian man who traded his way from a paperclip to a house, Boi hatches his own trading plan starting with a tiny clay cow he molded from river mud. Trade by trade, Boi and his best friend Potso discover that even though Cedarville lacks so many of the things that made the paperclip trade possible, it is fuller than either of them ever imagined.

In a chain of events that turns Boi's tiny spark into a warming fire, Boi learns the power of friendship and community, and finds that something's value isn't in what you can trade for it, but in the good it brings to the people you love.

Illustrations by Karen Vermeulen

ABOUT BRIDGET KRONE

Bridget Krone lives in Hilton, South Africa with her husband Anton and their two grown sons, who come home for occasional holidays. Their house is on the edge of a farm and a nature reserve and she can see cows on the hill as well as the Drakensberg mountains from her stoep. She was an English teacher for a few years and then started writing English text books for South African schools. She still writes readers, study guides, teacher guides and text books, and has also compiled poetry and short story anthologies.



Publication date June 2022
ISBN: 9781946395665



SMALL MERCIES

Named a Best Middle-Grade Book of 2020 by *Kirkus Reviews*

2021 Outstanding International Books List, United States Board on Books for Young People

Mercy lives in modern-day Pietermaritzburg, South Africa with her eccentric and elderly foster aunts. A nasty housing developer is eyeing their house. And that same house suddenly starts falling apart—just as Aunt Flora starts falling apart. She’s forgetting words, names, and even how to behave in public. Mercy tries to keep her head down at school so nobody notices her. But when a classmate frames her for stealing the school’s raffle money, Mercy’s teachers decide to take a closer look at her home life.

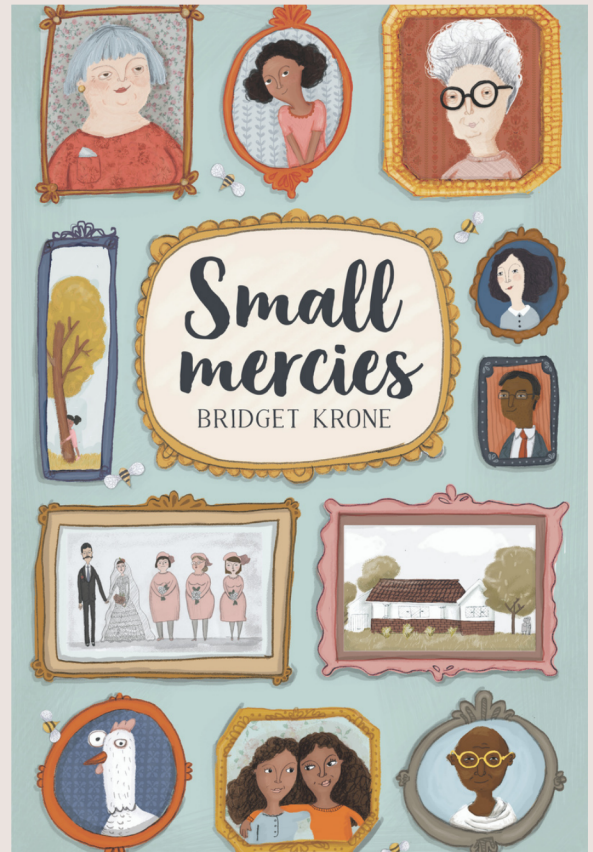
Along comes Mr. Singh, who rents the back cottage of the house on Hodson Road. When he takes Mercy to visit a statue in the middle of the city, she learns that the shy, nervous “Mohandas” he tells stories about is actually Gandhi, who spent a cold and lonely night in the waiting room of the Pietermaritzburg train station over a hundred years ago. It marked the beginning of his life’s quest for truth...and the visit to his statue marks Mercy’s realization that she needs—just like Gandhi—to stand up for herself.

Mercy needs a miracle. But to summon that miracle, she has to find her voice and tell the truth—and that truth is neither pure nor simple.

Illustrations by Karen Vermeulen

ABOUT BRIDGET KRONE

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Publication date Mar 2020

ISBN 978-1-946395-16-0

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UK/Commonwealth



KING SHAKA: ZULU LEGEND

Finalist, 2020 Excellence in Graphic Literature Award, Young Adult category

"*King Shaka* is educational and enjoyable, illuminating overlooked historical events. It's the perfect addition for school libraries looking to offer new perspectives on the past." —*Foreword Reviews*

Part of our African Graphic Novel Series

After the events of *Shaka Rising*, Shaka has fought his brother to the death for rulership of the Zulu. Now king of the southern chiefdoms, Shaka seeks to uplift his people, consolidate alliances, and expand the reach of his power, but challenges both external and internal threaten his rule.

A rogue military unit exacts revenge on its enemies. Land-hungry Europeans arrive and ingratiate themselves with Shaka, even while plotting their own path to power... and closer to home, Shaka's own brothers conspire in secret.



Publication date Oct 2019
ISBN: 978-1-946498-90-8

ABOUT LUKE MOLVER

Luke Molver studied Fine Art and Graphic Design at the Durban University of Technology and works as a freelance illustrator and comic book creator in Durban, South Africa.



SHAKA RISING

2019 Children's Africana Book Award Honor Book for Older Readers.

Part of our African Graphic Novel Series

Late 18th century. It is a time of bloody conflict and great turmoil. The slave trade expands from the east African coast. Europeans spread inland from the south. And one young boy is destined to change the future of southern Africa.

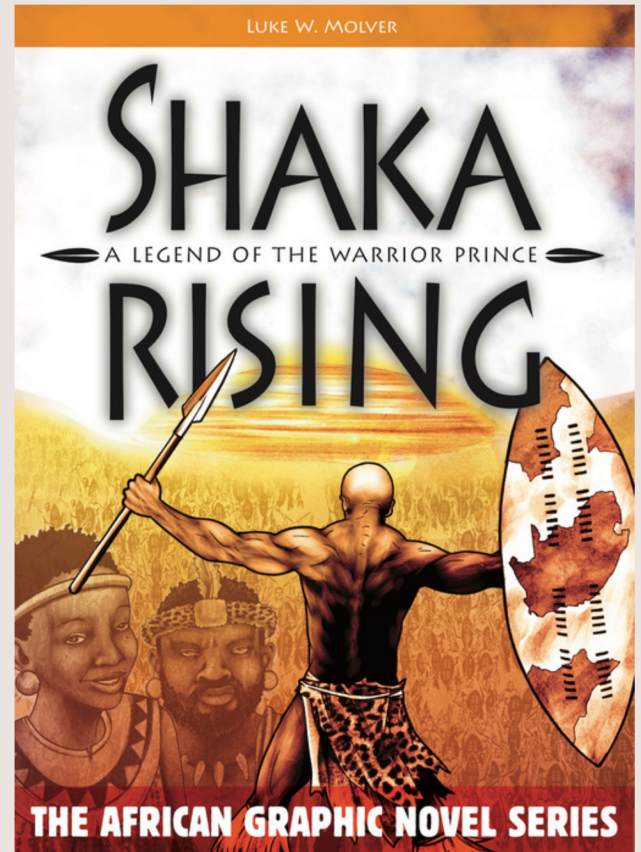
Shaka, son of the chief, is cast out from the clan when his mother's powerful rival seeks his half-brother's ascension to power. Though he takes refuge with his mother's people, Shaka finds his destiny elsewhere, pledging allegiance to an outsider chief. But when his father dies, Shaka returns to wrest power from his half-brother.

While Shaka has often been portrayed as a cruel and bloodthirsty tyrant, this re-telling of the legend explores the rise to power of a shrewd young prince who must now consolidate a new kingdom through warfare, mediation and political alliances to defend his people against the expanding slave trade.

The African Graphic Novel Series presents edgy versions of lesser-known African stories and histories in full-color graphic novels. Each book includes information for further exploration by the curious minded.

ABOUT LUKE MOLVER

Luke Molver studied Fine Art and Graphic Design at the Durban University of Technology and works as a freelance illustrator and comic book creator in Durban, South Africa.



Publication date Jan 2018

ISBN 978-1-946498-99-1 | hardcover

ISBN 978-1-946498-98-4 | paperback



PEARL OF THE SEA

“Silverston, Samuel, and Delle Donne are undoubtedly master storytellers, while Samuel’s intricate artistry brings magic to every page.” —*Booklist* (starred review)

Since her mother left, Pearl has spent more and more time in the ocean, fishing to help her father pay the bills. But when she gets mixed up with a group of illegal abalone poachers and starts diving near a restricted wreck, Pearl meets an ancient sea monster named Otto—who isn’t quite as monstrous as she thought. And when Otto’s enemies come back to finish what they started, Pearl is the only one who can save him, but only if she has the courage to let go of her past and open up to others—including the girl from class she’s got a crush on.

With her one-eyed pup sidekick and a whole lot of nerve, Pearl may just be able to save Otto and finally tell the truth to her father... and, more importantly, to herself. With vibrant full-color illustrations, *Pearl of the Sea* is a South African adventure story exploring how we are both bound to and freed by nature, seen through the eyes of a tough teen-aged heroine determined to live life by her own rules.



Publication date Jan 2023
ISBN 9781946395740

ABOUT THE CREATORS

Anthony Silverston is partner and Head of Development at Triggerfish Animation Studios where he oversees a slate of projects including *Kizazi Moto: Generation Fire* with Disney+, *Mama K's Team 4* with Netflix, and *Kiya* with Disney, eOne and Frogbox, and a number of feature films and TV series. He directed and co-wrote the feature film *Khumba* and written on *Seal Team* and *Zambezia*, and was producer of the short films *Troll Girl* and *Belly Flop* which screened at over 135 festivals and won 14 awards.

Raffaella Delle Donne has been working in the animation industry for over 15 years and has developed and created content with a specific focus on Africa for Disney, eOne, Snipple Animation, Wekids, Baobab Studios and Triggerfish Animation Studios. She was the TV Development Executive for the Triggerfish Studios/Disney Story Lab and has written on a number of animated series including *Love Monster*, *PKing Duckling*, and *Monster Beach*, as well as the award-winning *Adventures in Zambezia* and *Khumba*.

Willem Samuel is a visual artist working in animation and comic books. His comic work has featured in zines internationally, including the cult series *Bitterkomix* and the award-winning online anthology *Aces Weekly*. Willem Art Directed the pan-African comic *Supa Strikas*, which was adapted into an animated series, and served as Head of Story on the animated feature *Seal Team*.

KARIBA

The art is utterly breathtaking throughout, saturated with sumptuous color, enhanced with stupendous details, vivid with energy and action. [A] wow-inducing phenomenal gift to be treasured." –*Booklist*, starred review

Siku has always called the Zambezi River her home. She understands the water – and strangely enough, it seems to understand her, too, bending to her will and coming to her aid in times of need. But things are changing on the river – a great dam is being built, displacing thousands of Shonga people – and things are changing in Siku, too, as her ability to manipulate water grows out of control, and visions of a great serpent pull her further from reality and her loving father, Tongai.

When Tongai ventures to the Kariba Dam to find a cure for Siku and never returns, she sets off to find him with the help of Amedeo, the young son of Kariba's chief engineer. Together, they traverse elephant graveyards, rugged jungles, and ancient ruins, outrunning pirates, bootleggers, and shape-shifting prophets ready to use Siku to their own advantage. But she soon discovers that her father has been shielding a terrible secret: Siku is actually the daughter of Nyaminyami, the Great River Spirit, and the only way to bring about the necessary rumuko – a ritual which has brought balance to the Zambezi for centuries – is for Siku to give up the only life she's ever known.

With the future of the Shonga resting on her shoulders, Siku must journey to the source of the river to understand the ancient power hidden within her.



Publication date June 2023
SBN 9781946395825

ABOUT THE CREATORS

Daniel Clarke is a Cape Town based artist. At Triggerfish Animation Studios, he acted as Production Designer and Art director on projects such as the feature film *Khumba*, BBC's *Stick Man* and *Snail and the Whale*. As an illustrator and designer he has worked with Netflix, Animal Logic, The Line, *National Geographic Kids*, Nike, Adidas, Penguin Random House, amongst others. Daniel worked as an illustrator and art director for *Chronicle* (2012); *The Giver* (2014); and *Chappie* (2015).

James Clarke studied history and literature at University of Cape Town, completing his Masters in Creative Writing as a Harry Crossley Fellow. In 2016, he was the South Africa finalist in fiction for the PEN International New Young Voices Award.

Daniel Snaddon is an artist, illustrator, and film director. Daniel served as animation supervisor on the Academy Award nominated "Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes", co-director on the BAFTA nominated "Stick Man", and as director on both the Annie award winning "The Snail and the Whale" and the International Emmy winning "Zog". Currently Daniel is directing his fourth Magic Light Pictures Christmas special, "The Smeds and the Smoos", based on the book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler (authors of *The Gruffalo*). Daniel was the founding director of CTIAF, South Africa's premiere animation festival, for 4 years.

IT'S JUST SKIN, SILLY!

"[A]n irresistibly brilliant, pitch-perfect page-turner that should be a must-read in every Pre-K and Elementary School in our country." – Henry Louis Gates Jr., from the foreword

An illustrated children's book on the evolution of skin color, based on a collective 40+ years of peer-reviewed research from expert anthropologist Dr. Nina Jablonski and historian Dr. Holly McGee

Meet Epi Dermis, your kid's quirky, clever guide to the origin of skin color! Using simple science and interactive activities, Epi takes readers on an adventure through human history to find out why skin is the hardest working organ in the body business. Whether it's how migration and climate changed our skin's need for melanin, to why sweat is your body's secret superpower, Epi's got all the facts—and uses them to challenge false narratives about race and give kids the information they need to do the same.



Publication date July 2023
SBN 9781733547413

ABOUT THE CREATORS

Dr. Nina Jablonski is an anthropologist and paleobiologist whose research on the evolution of skin color has been published in many scholarly journals including *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, *Nature*, and *American Psychologist*. She is the author of several books, including *Living Color: The Biological and Social Meaning of Skin Color* and *Skin: A Natural History*. She has also been a featured TED Talk speaker, and has appeared as a guest on shows such as *The Colbert Report* and *Bill Nye's Science Rules!* podcast. Dr. Jablonski has extensive experience in the development of science-related youth curriculum from grades K-12.

Dr. Holly McGee is a historian at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. McGee's research, teaching, and publishing in the fields of African American History, comparative black politics, and South African history provide critical insight into historical narratives regarding the social creation of "race" and subsequent proliferation of racism in modern society. She is the author of *Racial Antipartheid Internationalism* and *Exile: The Life of Elizabeth Mafeking*, and founder of the nonprofit National Black Teachers Association.

Karen Vermeulen is an artist, illustrator and teacher living in Cape Town, South Africa. Her work is happy, uplifting and quirky. When she is not busy with some creative project, she is probably playing with her cat, Sir Henry.

STORY PRESS AFRICA

Story Press Africa: African knowledge. African Stories. Worldwide.

Story Press Africa is a publishing partnership between Jive Media Africa in South Africa and Catalyst Press in the United States to put African stories on a global platform. Humankind emerged in Africa, and with humans came stories as a means for sharing knowledge between people, through the generations. The rich and vibrant storytelling tradition of Africa is reflected in the visually exciting and compelling narratives of Story Press Africa's books, linking us all to our earliest roots and to one another. Through the medium of stories (including graphic novels and young adult and children's literature) we aim to place African knowledge in its rightful place among the knowledge of the world. We publish stories by Africans about Africa for a global audience: authentic, challenging, and frequently controversial visions of the continent that birthed humankind.



Jive Media Africa has worked closely with African researchers to produce books profiling African knowledge for over a decade. Jive is working with the vibrant, creative and powerful spirit of Africa, and the knowledge which is emerging from this continent, on a daily basis. The partnership between Jive and Catalyst explores new ways of taking African stories and African knowledge to the world.

Shaka Rising: A Legend of the Warrior Prince, the first release under the Story Press Africa imprint, is a part of our African Graphic Novel Series. The series presents edgy versions of lesser-known African stories and histories in full-color graphic novels. Each book includes information for further exploration by the curious minded.

Jive Media Africa is a company formed in partnership among Professor Albert Modi (Deputy Vice-Chancellor and senior researcher at the University of KwaZulu-Natal), Robert Inglis (an award winning media and communications specialist) and Hilary Kromberg (a production, marketing, and publishing professional, and author of many of Jive Media Africa's books and comics).

www.jivemedia.co.za

POWERS SQUARED

Astonishing Scientific Stories from Across the Globe

Powers Squared is devoted to marrying science and story, in all of its varied flavors to re-humanize science and the scientist. In the same way that historical fiction has often introduced the public to a time or place in history and the important events of the period, we want to publish stories, both fiction and nonfiction, in a kaleidoscope of color to illuminate the humans inside, outside, and upside down who make up the totality of the scientific endeavor.

Matthew Powers, the imprint's chief editor and tastemaker, received his PhD from the University of Utah in Oncological Studies through molecular cell biology. He has, unintentionally, fallen asleep through many boring scientific presentations but also been riveted by exciting scientific work and by the people behind this work. He himself has bored a wide range of people into a comatose state over his own studies and learned that a turn of phrase, or just a plain-old weird slide, can make people sit up and take notice. In the end, a good scientific story is the difference between understanding and caring about a work or ignoring and sleeping through the whole presentation. The power of science to explain and illuminate the natural world is extraordinary but the story, the actual, physical progression of words we chose in telling that story is what makes us care about any scientific endeavor.

As an imprint of Catalyst Press, Powers Squared will retain a strong publishing focus related to Catalyst's African-centric mission but will reach beyond to publish global literature more broadly.



POWERS
SQUARED

FROM THE FOUNDER

When I was growing up on the U.S.- Mexico border—a bi-national, bi-cultural, bi-lingual, often marginalized spot in America—everyday life for me meant reaching outside of my own home culture. That felt difficult at times. As a young adult, however, I bumbled my way into understanding the beautiful gift I had been given: that, instead of the invisible privilege many white children of America are born into, I had grown up immersed in and nurtured by another culture. I witnessed the cycle of death and rebirth that accompanies the immigrant experience, the grace that is embodied in failure and the willingness not to let that crush you but to get up and try again, as well as—not to romanticize anything—the emotional and physical violence that accompanies the harsh reality of poverty.



**CATALYST
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Going to Africa to work with street kids in Kenya as a 19 year-old college student and, later, to learn Zulu and do research for my graduate degree in African history immersed me in the beauty of another part of the world and other cultures altogether. As a long-time writer (I write under the name J.L. Powers) and long time professional in the publishing industry, I realized ultimately that I wanted to bring the beauty of African art, culture, history, and landscape into the world through books. It is my privilege and my passion to do this work.

Thank you!

Jessica Powers, Catalyst Founder & Publisher





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