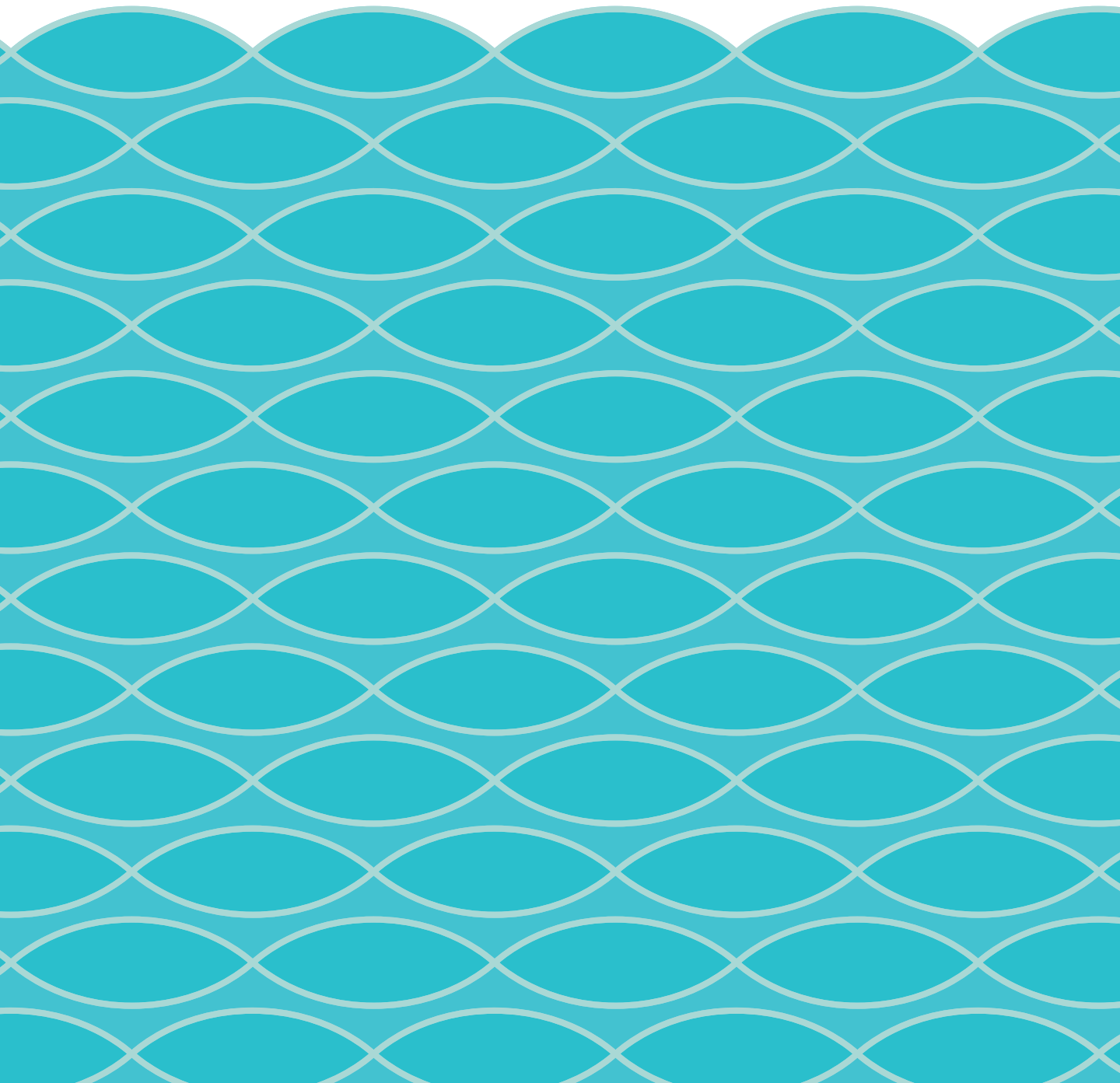


# TinHouse

WINTER 2015 CATALOG





# Contents

## NEW RELEASES

<i>The Sleep Garden</i> .....	4
<i>The Coyote's Bicycle</i> .....	6
<i>Relief Map</i> .....	8
<i>Montauk</i> .....	10
<i>Ghosts of Bergen County</i> .....	12
<i>Tin House Magazine</i> .....	14
Contact and Distribution Information .....	16





# TIN HOUSE

WINTER 2015 CATALOG

FICTION

# The Sleep Garden

A novel by JIM KRUSOE



## JANUARY

\$15.95 · Trade Paper · 5" x 7 3/4"

ISBN: 978-1-941040-18-8 · eBook: 978-1-941040-19-5

Rights: North American

## PROMOTION & PUBLICITY

- Extensive ARC Distribution to Chains and Indies
- Online Promotion
- Early Galley Giveaway on Goodreads
- Advertising in *Tin House* and Other Literary Journals
- Author Appearances in Los Angeles

*The Sleep Garden* explores and pushes the boundaries between fact and imagination, real and surreal, and life and the afterlife.

In an underground apartment building called “the Burrow”—essentially purgatory—“twilight souls” inhabit the space between life and death. Through their stories, and the ways in which their lives, past and present, intertwine, Jim Krusoe creates a poignant tale about what constitutes a life, what remains when we die, and what we possibly carry with us into the next world.

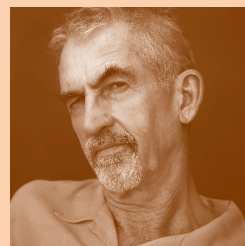
## PRAISE FOR JIM KRUSOE

“Krusoe’s sure and subtle imaginings of such characters—yearning, isolated and finally enigmatic—place him among the foremost creators of surreal Americana.”

—*New York Times Book Review*

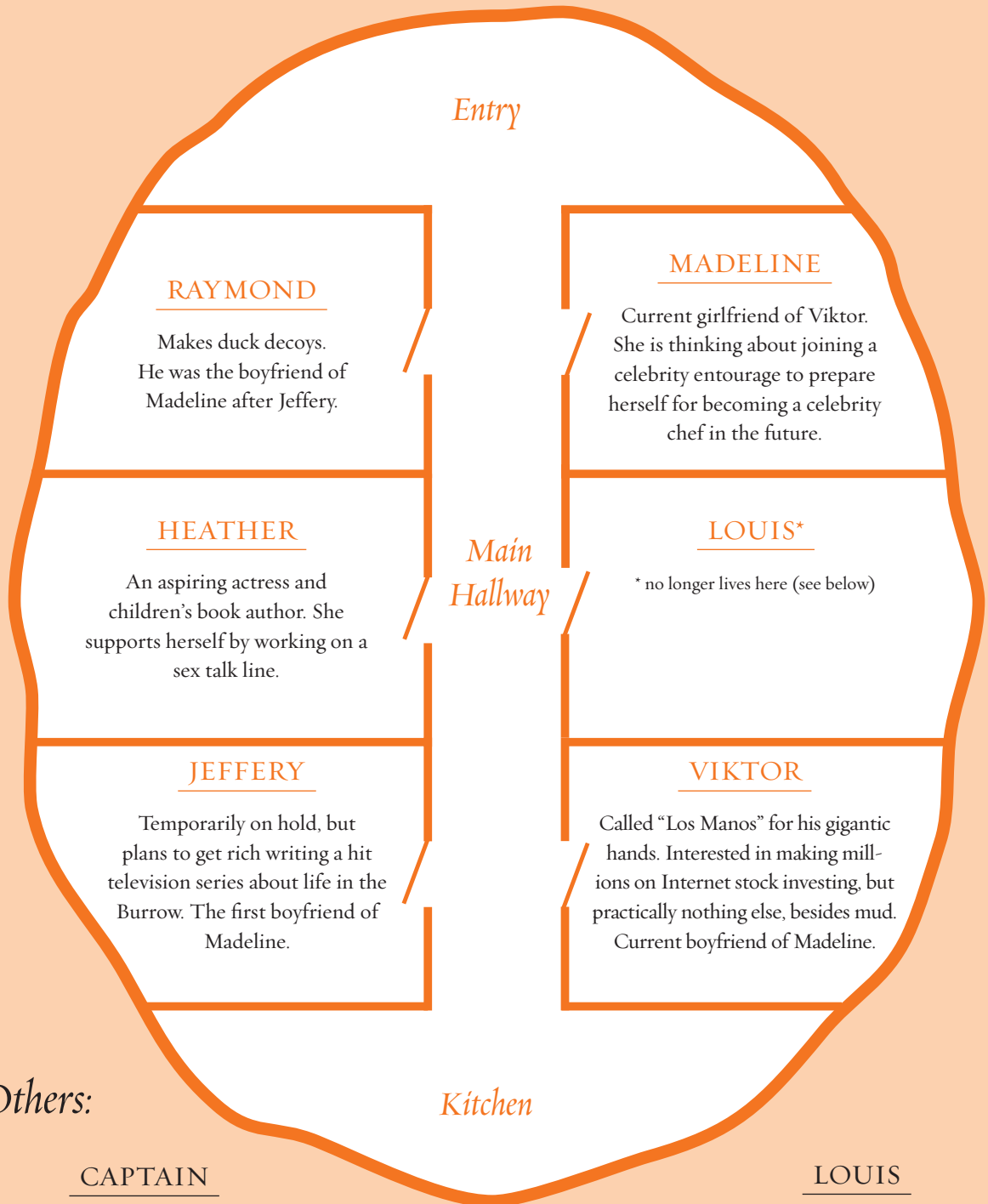
“Jim Krusoe is the mad scientist, the man behind the curtain . . . Krusoe does something magical with regular words and regular life. His adjectives glow with possibility . . . like an alien presence with a new language that sounds enough like our own to make us strain to uncover its meaning.”

—*Los Angeles Times*



**JIM KRUSOE** is the author of the novels *Parsifal*, *Toward You*, *Erased*, *Girl Factory*, and *Iceland*; two collections of stories; and five books of poetry. He is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Lila Wallace Reader’s Digest Fund. He teaches at Santa Monica College and lives in Los Angeles.

# CURRENT RESIDENTS OF *The BURROW*



*Others:*

A retired sea captain, semi-famous endorser of fish-related products and raconteur. Possibly a double, or triple, agent. Arrested for voyeurism, then released.

## JUNIOR

A crossbow-wielding ex-child actor, now psychopath, bent on revenge.

A former resident of the Burrow who has mysteriously moved away.

# *The* COYOTE'S BICYCLE INDEX

Length of the US/Mexico border: 1,954 miles

Length of the Tour de France: 2,262 miles

Number of miles Border Patrol agents have the ability to control: 129

Estimated amount spent between 2001 and 2010 on securing the border: \$90,000,000,000

Number of migrants apprehended in that same stretch: 9,456,088

Cost per apprehended migrant: \$9,517.68

Percentage of illegal migrants apprehended, according to the GOA: 61%

Number of Border Patrol agents employed by the DHS: 20,000

Average salary of a Border Patrol agent: \$82,749

Estimated number of illegal immigrants living in the US: 11,000,000

Percentage hailing from Mexico: 58%

Population of San Diego: 1,306,000

Population of Tijuana: 1,301,000

Minimum wage in San Diego: \$9.75 per hour

Minimum wage in Tijuana: \$4.57 per day

Amount illegal immigrants cost the education system annually: \$11,200,000,000

Amount that undocumented workers have added to the US Social Security Trust Fund: \$300,000,000,000

Price to be smuggled across the border on bicycle: \$4,500

Price to be smuggled in a Border Patrol Jeep: \$12,000

Wholesale price for a kilogram of cocaine in Mexico: \$12,000

In the US: \$24,000

Value of cocaine smuggled across the border in 2011: \$35,000,000,000

Total value of legal imports from Mexico that same year: \$277,593,600,000

Value of the global bicycle industry: \$61,000,000,000

Price Kimball Taylor paid a local farmer for one of the "Coyote's Bicycles": \$20

Number of bicycles stolen each year in the US: 1,500,000

Percentage of fair-market value for which stolen bikes sell on the black market: 5-10%

Estimated number of abandoned bicycles found along the border of Tijuana: 7,000



NONFICTION

For readers of Jon Krakauer and Susan Orleans, *The Coyote's Bicycle* brings to life a never-before-told phenomenon at our southern border, and the human drama of those that would cross.

It wasn't surprising when the first abandoned bicycles were found along the dirt roads and farmland just across the border from Tijuana, but before long they were arriving in droves. The bikes went from curiosity, to nuisance, to phenomenon. But until they caught the eye of journalist Kimball Taylor, only a small cadre of human smugglers—*coyotes*—and migrants could say how or why they'd gotten there. And only through Taylor's obsession did another curious migratory pattern emerge: the bicycles' movement through the black market, Hollywood, the prison system, and the military-industrial complex.

This is the story of 7,000 bikes that made an incredible journey and one young man from Oaxaca who arrived at the border with nothing, built a small empire, and then vanished. Taylor follows the trail of the border bikes through some of society's most powerful institutions, and, with the help of an unlikely source, he reconstructs the rise of one of Tijuana's most innovative coyotes. Touching on immigration and globalization, as well as the history of the US/Mexico border, *The Coyote's Bicycle* is at once an immersive investigation of an outrageous occurrence and a true-crime, rags-to-riches story.

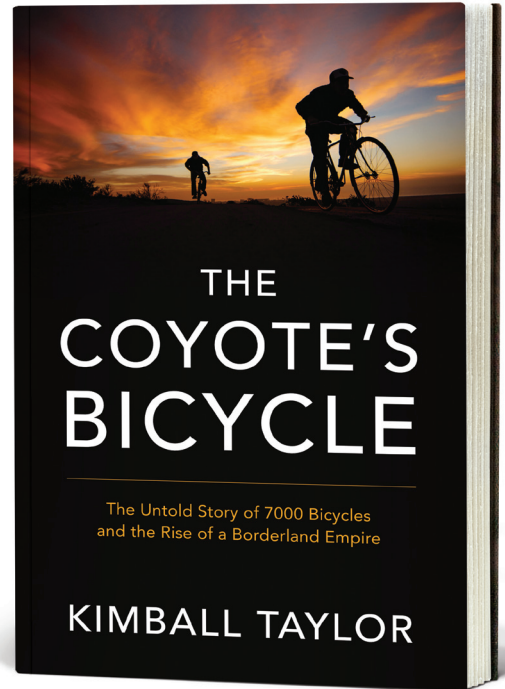


**KIMBALL TAYLOR** is a long-time contributor to *Surfer Magazine*, and the author of two books about the sport: *Return by Water: Surf Stories and Adventures* and *Drive Fast and Take Chances*. Taylor holds a BA in journalism, an MFA in creative writing, and is an alumnus of the Squaw Valley Community of Writers.

ism, an MFA in creative writing, and is an alumnus of the Squaw Valley Community of Writers.

# The Coyote's Bicycle

by KIMBALL TAYLOR



FEBRUARY

\$26.95 • Trade Cloth • 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"

ISBN: 978-1-941040-20-1 • eBook: 978-1-941040-21-8

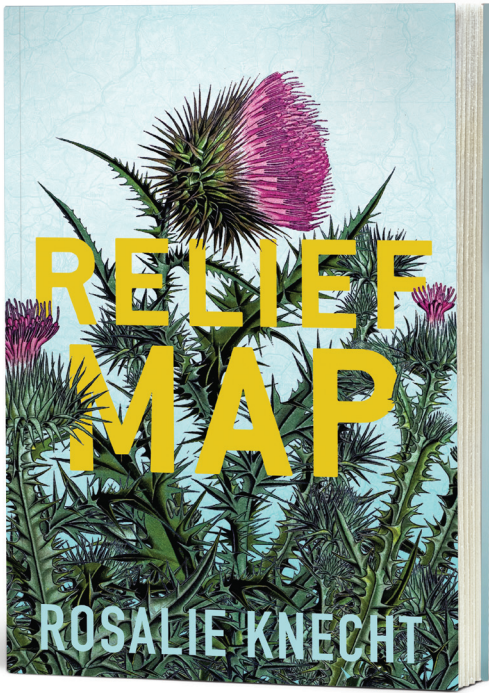
Rights: North American

## PROMOTION & PUBLICITY

- National Print Media Campaign
- Major National TV and Radio Campaign, including NPR
- National Online Publicity
- Massive Goodreads Campaign
- Author Tour in Select Cities
- First Serial in National Magazines

# Relief Map

A novel by ROSALIE KNECHT



## MARCH

\$15.95 • Trade Paper • 5" x 7 3/4"

ISBN: 978-1-941040-22-5 • eBook: 978-1-941040-23-2

Rights: North American

## PROMOTION & PUBLICITY

- National Print Media Campaign
- Extensive ARC Distribution to Chains and Indies
- Online Promotion, Goodreads, and Facebook
- Early Galley Giveaway on Goodreads
- Major National Radio Campaign
- Reading Group Outreach, including Online Reading Guide
- Select Author Appearances

A small town swept up in a manhunt for a fugitive from foreign soil and a teenage girl struggling to make the right choices with little information and less time.

In the heat of a stifling summer in her sixteenth year, Livy Marko spends her days in the rust-belt town of Lomath, Pennsylvania, babysitting, hanging out with her best friend, Nelson, and waiting for a bigger life to begin. These simple routines are disrupted when the electricity is cut off and the bridges are closed by a horde of police and FBI agents. A fugitive from the Republic of Georgia, on the run from an extradition order, has taken refuge in nearby hills and no one is able to leave or enter Lomath until he is found.

As the police fail to find the wanted man and hours stretch into days, the town of Lomath begins to buckle under the strain. Like Russian dolls, each hostage seems to be harboring a captive of their own. Even Livy's parents may have something to conceal, and Livy must learn that the source of danger is not always what it appears.

Rosalie Knecht's wise and suspenseful debut evokes the classics while conjuring the contemporary paranoia of the post-terrorist age. *Relief Map* doesn't loosen its grip until the consequences of this catastrophic summer, and the ways in which a quiet girl's fate can be rerouted and forever changed, are made fully apparent.



**ROSALIE KNECHT** is a social worker and translator in New York City. She was born and raised in Pennsylvania and is the translator of César Aira's *The Seamstress and the Wind*. *Relief Map* is her first novel.

## Q&A WITH ROSALIE KNECHT

Birthplace:

Quarryville, Pennsylvania

Favorite color (that you like to wear):

Green

Favorite food (that you make for yourself):

Nachos

Favorite movie (to watch with friends and family):

I've made a lot of people watch *Strictly Ballroom*. They're not grateful enough.

You are the first in your family to:

Meet Michael Chabon; beat Michael Chabon in a spelling bee.

Best vacation:

I just spent a weekend in Atlantic City. In Atlantic City you can buy a pizza stuffed with spaghetti and a beer that costs \$2.50.

In high school, you wanted to be:

A writer

Your strange writing habits:

I've spent a lot of time in houses and apartments with minimal air conditioning, so I have spent a lot of time writing in a bathing suit.

A secret talent you have:

I can drive stick.

The best thing about growing up in a small town:

Walking in grass barefoot.

The worst thing:

It feels like there's a short list of things you can be.

## FROM *Tin House* #2 (FALL 1999)

ON MAX FRISCH'S

### Montauk

JONATHAN DEE

In the early 1970s, the polymorphously great Swiss writer Max Frisch, renowned in this country, though not renowned enough, for novels such as *I'm Not Stiller*, *Man in the Holocene* and *Homo Faber*—flew to New York to embark upon one of those humiliating treks through the border region of celebrity known as the book tour. This one, though, took an unexpected turn: in the offices of his American publisher, Frisch, who was then in his early sixties, met and quickly began an affair with a woman more than thirty years his junior who worked in the publicity department. The centerpiece of this fling was a secret weekend trip to an inn on the eastern shore of Long Island; not long afterward, when his tour came to an end, Frisch flew home to Switzerland and the young publicist returned to her tiny Manhattan apartment and low-paying job. They spoke by phone only once after that.

To write a nonfiction book about such a liaison sounds, at first blush, like an exercise in self-aggrandizement. *Montauk* is anything but. For as it dawns on Frisch, over the course of that eponymous weekend trip, how perfectly the truncated, ersatz intimacy of this no-stakes love affair suits his stunted emotional capacities, his middle-aged satisfaction gives way to a kind of retrospective horror—and *Montauk* becomes a prism through which the author reviews, freshly and pitilessly, a

lifetime of mostly catastrophic relationships with women: three failed marriages (one to the Swedish poet Ingeborg Bachmann) and an adult daughter to whom he rarely speaks. All this personal history lies beneath Frisch's May-December idyll like an iceberg whose true dimensions and dangers his young lover will never have to see; and even as their weekend ends contentedly in a Sunday evening traffic jam on the Long Island Expressway, Frisch (writing sometimes in the first person, sometimes in third) cannot make himself forget that this ignorance, this amicable shallowness, is the key to their genuine affection for one another:

“Presumably she too had been somewhat nervous that this weekend might go wrong. Now it is no longer necessary to gloss over the nervousness . . . They know too little and at the same time too much about each other just to chat superficially. He does not even know yet in what area Lynn is vulnerable and what would lead to their first quarrel. Lynn does not seem in fact to be thinking about it at all. Once in a while does no harm. You need a marriage, a long one, to become a monster.”

Frisch died in 1991, at the age of seventy-nine. It beggars belief that this technically and morally inspirational template of the autobiographical art could have fallen out of print just two years after its American publication in 1976. Or perhaps it shouldn't: maybe it's inevitable that this decade's memoir boom, which is really about the primacy of personal sentiment, should come to us uncomplicated even by its own recent history.

*Montauk* has developed a cult following in English and now, back in print for the first time since its original release, is poised to reach the audience it deserves.

Max Frisch's candid story of a brief love affair illuminates a lifetime of relationships. Casting himself as both subject and observer, Frisch reflects on his marriages, children, friendships, and careers; a holiday weekend in Long Island is a trigger to recount and question events and aspects of his own life, along with creeping fears of mortality. He paints a bittersweet portrait that is sometimes painful and sometimes humorous, but always affecting. Emotionally raw and formally innovative, Frisch's novel collapses the distinction between art and life, but leaves the reader with a richer understanding of both.

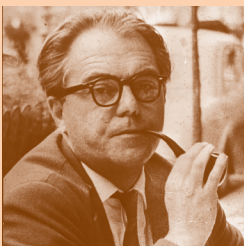
## PRAISE

"Unusual in form and technique, this bittersweet record of a brief love affair is also a compelling autobiographical sketch . . . a painfully honest, affecting [book]."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Extremely interesting . . . has an integrity that is original and admirable."

—*The New Yorker*



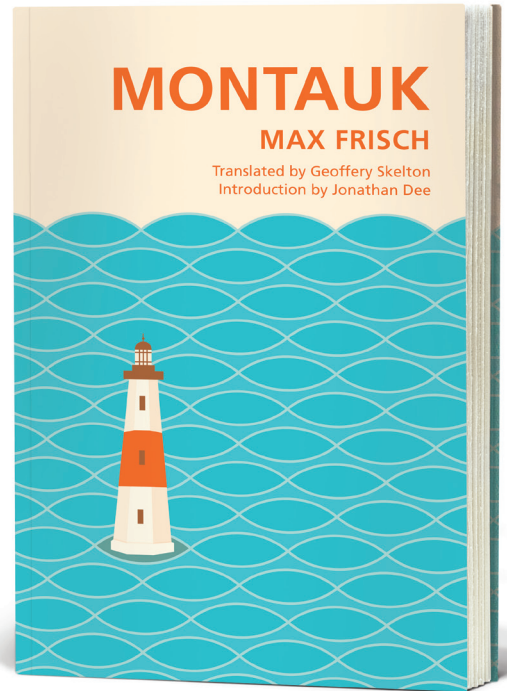
**MAX FRISCH** (1911–91) was born in Zurich, Switzerland, before the First World War and was a soldier in the second. The author of *I'm Not Stiller*, *Homo Faber*, and *The Man in the Holocene*, and the winner of the Jerusalem Prize,

the Heinrich Heine Prize, and the Neustadt International Prize for Literature, among other honors, Frisch was one of Europe's most important postwar writers.

# Montauk

A novel by MAX FRISCH

translated by GEOFFREY SKELTON  
new introduction by JONATHAN DEE



## APRIL

\$14.95 · Trade Paper · 5" x 7 3/4"

ISBN: 978-1-941040-24-9 · eBook: 978-1-941040-25-6

Rights: North American

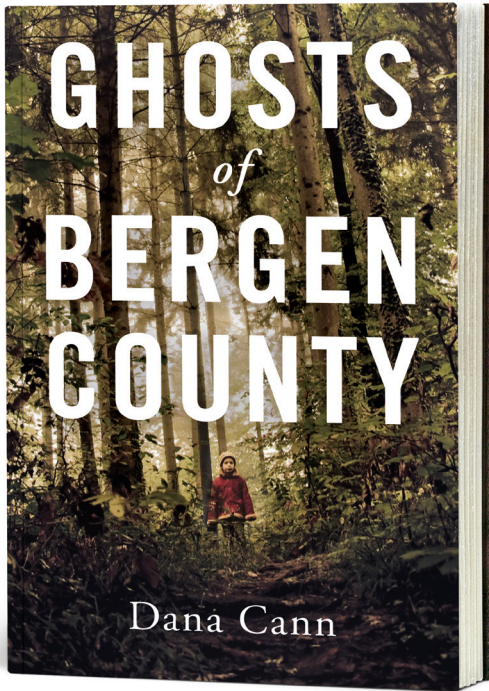
## PROMOTION & PUBLICITY

- Online Promotion, Goodreads, and Facebook
- Early Giveaway on Goodreads
- Advertising in *Tin House* and Other Literary Journals

FICTION

# Ghosts of Bergen County

A novel by DANA CANN



**JANUARY**

\$15.95 • Trade Paper • 5" x 7 3/4"

ISBN: 978-1-941040-27-0 • eBook: 978-1-941040-28-7

Rights: World

## PROMOTION & PUBLICITY

- Major Review Attention
- National Print Media Campaign
- Extensive ARC Distribution to Chains and Indies
- Select Author Appearances

Set in New York City and New Jersey on the cusp of the financial crisis, *Ghosts of Bergen County* is a literary mystery with supernatural elements.

Gil Ferko is a private-equity lieutenant who commutes to Manhattan from the New Jersey suburbs. His wife, Mary Beth, has become a shut-in since a hit-and-run accident killed their infant daughter. When Ferko reconnects with Jen Yoder, a former high school classmate, Jen introduces him to heroin. As his dependency on the drug grows, his downward spiral puts his life in danger and his career in jeopardy. Mary Beth has also found an escape—first in prescription drugs that numb her senses, then in the companionship of a mysterious girl who heightens them. A ghost? Mary Beth believes so. And Jen is also haunted. Years ago she witnessed a man she had just met fall from a rooftop. She walked away from the accident and has been tormented since by the question of why she did so. As her quest to rectify that mistake starts to collide with the mystery of the driver who killed Ferko and Mary Beth's daughter, all of the characters are forced to face the fine line between fate and happenstance. Dana Cann's debut novel is a tautly paced and intricately plotted story in which collective burdens manifest into hauntings.



DANA CANN's short stories have been published in *The Sun*, the *Massachusetts Review*, the *Gettysburg Review*, *Fifth Wednesday Journal*, the *Florida Review*, and *Blackbird*, among other journals. Cann earned his

MA in writing from Johns Hopkins University, and he teaches fiction workshops at the Writer's Center in Bethesda, Maryland. *Ghosts of Bergen County* is his debut novel.

## AN EXCERPT FROM GHOSTS OF BERGEN COUNTY

“I was there,” Amanda said, “and then I wasn’t.” She left a pause. “In the woods.” She looked directly at Mary Beth, who nodded.

“I get it,” she said.

“It didn’t hurt.”

“Maybe a tree fell on you.” She looked up, where the branches reached the sky. “Or a big limb.”

The air was fixed, the green leaves still like a photo. All these hours they’d sat together in the woods without incident.

“Was there a storm?” Mary Beth asked.

“No.”

Trucks flipped on highways. Lightning struck beaches.

“Were you alone?”

“I don’t think so.” Amanda squinched her eyes. “No, I think I was.”

She was unreliable, of course, a child. It happened long ago. Who’s to say if she was real, actually here?

“It doesn’t matter,” she said.

“What doesn’t matter?”

“That I’m dead.”

This was life: you’re here. And this was death: you’re not. And then you’re here again, haunting some stranger. And none of it matters. It ran counter to everything our culture tells us. Life is precious. Life is all. Mary Beth waited. The bird was gone.

“How do you know?” Mary Beth asked.

“Know what?” Amanda wrinkled her nose.

“That you’re dead. You’re sitting here with me,” she said, “and I’m alive.”

She expected Amanda to demonstrate—disappearing and reappearing, changing shapes or stirring air. Some ghostly trick. Instead, she sat on her end of the fallen tree, looking bored.



# Tin House

M A G A Z I N E

An award-winning quarterly, *Tin House* started in 1999, the singular love child of an eclectic literary journal and a beautiful glossy magazine.

## THREE THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT *Tin House*:

1. Since the magazine was founded in 1999, *Tin House* has had more stories recognized in *The Best American* series than any magazine other than the *New Yorker*.
2. *Tin House* was the first publisher of Justin Torres, Matthew Dickman, and Victor LaValle.
3. *Tin House* has been nationally recognized by VIDA for improving the male/female ratio published in the magazine.



## UPCOMING ISSUES

# WINTER READING

WINTER 2015

Featuring Andrea Barrett, Sharon Olds,  
and Cornelius Eady

The best company on a cold night is hot  
new fiction, poems, essays, and interviews.  
Warm up with *Tin House* this winter.

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\$12.95 • Ships November 2015

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SPRING 2016

Featuring Marilynne Robinson, Maureen  
McLane, Marcus Slease, and Nate Klug

Showcasing fiction, poems, essays, and  
interviews dealing not only with religious  
faith but also faith in knowledge, math, sci-  
ence, people, animals, places, institutions,  
food, color—anything that could possibly  
be a receptacle for one's faith, questioned or  
unquestioned, held or lost.

ISBN: 978-1-942855-01-9 • eBook: 978-1-942855-02-6  
\$12.95 • Ships February 2016

"*Tin House* is an invaluable repository of fine  
American writing and American fiction,  
presented in a crisp and entertaining visual  
format."

—STEPHEN KING

"When you crave fiction that's crafted with  
daring and passion and precision, when you  
get that pit-of-the-stomach hunger for a  
knockout story, *Tin House* is the only place to  
turn."

—ADAM JOHNSON

"As everything goes increasingly haywire  
in our politics and in our world, we stand  
in ever-increasing need of the emotional  
and ethical education that great literary  
magazines can provide. With each issue you  
finish, you're more awake, erudite, socially  
aware, and alert to exciting new writers.  
What more do you want between two  
covers, anyway?"

—JIM SHEPARD

"*Tin House* magazine is a port in the storm for  
people who love language. It is unfailingly  
excellent, and committed to publishing new  
voices in addition to delivering freaky-fresh  
work from established writers."

—KAREN RUSSELL

"*Tin House* is a human habitat, an abode for  
the bodacious, an apartment for the artful,  
a bullpen for writers, a castle, a cave."

—DORIANNE LAUX

Tin House Books  
2617 NW Thurman Street  
Portland, OR 97210  
503-473-8663  
Fax: 503-473-8957  
tinhousebooks@tinhouse.com  
www.tinhousebooks.com

Publisher: Win McCormack  
Editorial Advisor: Rob Spillman  
Sales & Marketing: Nanci McCloskey

*Tin House Magazine*  
2601 NW Thurman Street  
Portland, OR 97210  
503-219-0662  
Fax: 503-222-1154  
info@tinhouse.com  
www.tinhouse.com

PMB 280  
320 7th Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11215  
718-788-1116  
Fax: 503-222-1154  
info@tinhouse.com  
www.tinhouse.com

Publisher: Win McCormack  
Editor: Rob Spillman  
Circulation Director: Laura Howard

Distributed in the United States by  
W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.  
500 Fifth Ave  
New York, NY 10110  
Tel: 212.354.5500  
Order Dept. Tel: 800.233.4830  
Order Dept. Fax: 800.458.6515  
Customer Service: 800.233.4830  
Special Sales: 800.286.4044  
www.wwnorton.com

Tin House Books Winter 2015 Catalog  
Printed by Brown Printing  
Portland, Oregon  
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