“With lyrical prose and a propulsive plot, Xhoga delves deep into the shadows of the human psyche. . . . solidifying her place as a talent to watch in the world of contemporary fiction.”

—Maisy Card

IN PRESENT-DAY NEW YORK CITY, AN Albanian interpreter reluctantly agrees to work with Alfred, a Kosovar torture survivor, during his therapy sessions. Despite her husband’s cautions, she soon becomes entangled in her clients’ struggles: Alfred’s nightmares stir up her own buried memories, and an impulsive attempt to help a Kurdish poet leads to a risky encounter and a reckless plan. As ill-fated decisions stack up, jeopardizing the nameless narrator’s marriage and mental health, she takes a spontaneous trip to reunite with her mother in Albania, where her life in the United States is put into stark relief. When she returns to face the consequences of her actions, she must question what is real and what is not. Ruminative and propulsive, Ledia Xhoga’s debut novel, _Misinterpretation_, interrogates the darker legacies of family and country, and the boundary between compassion and self-preservation.

**LEDIA XHOGA** is an Albanian American fiction writer and playwright. Before getting an MFA in fiction from Texas State University, she worked in publishing in New York City. She has been published in Intrepid Times, *Hobart*, and other journals. Originally from Tirana, Albania, she lives with her family in Brooklyn and the Catskills.
Acclaimed poet Raymond Antrobus returns with *Signs, Music*, a stunning book of poetry that captures imminent fatherhood and the arrival of a child.

“Unlike any poetry about becoming a father I’ve read... a book of slow seeing which reaches a level of genuine intimacy.”

—Will Harris

*Signs, Music* is a moving record of the changes and challenges encompassing new parenthood and the inevitable cycles of life, death, birth, renewal and legacy—a testament to the joy, uncertainty, and incredible love that come with bringing new life into the world.

RAYMOND ANTROBUS

was born in London, Hackney, to an English mother and Jamaican father. He is the author of two other poetry collections, *The Perseverance* and *All The Names Given*. He is a recipient of the Ted Hughes Award, the Lucille Clifton Legacy Award, a *Sunday Times* Young Writer of the Year Award, and was shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize, Griffin Prize, and the Forward Prize.

He has also published two children’s picture books, *Can Bears Ski?* and *Terrible Horses*, and divides his time between England and New Orleans.
Six Walks
In the Footsteps of Henry David Thoreau

BEN SHATTUCK

A New Yorker Best Book of the Year, New York Times Best Book of Summer, and New England Regional Bestseller

“A gorgeous reminder that walking is the most radical form of locomotion nowadays.”
—Nick Offerman

ON AN AUTUMN MORNING IN 1849, HENRY David Thoreau stepped out his front door to walk the beaches of Cape Cod. Over a century and a half later, Ben Shattuck does the same. With little more than a loaf of bread, brick of cheese, and a notebook, Shattuck sets out to retrace Thoreau’s path through the Cape’s outer beaches, from the elbow to Provincetown’s fingertip.

This is the first of six journeys taken by Shattuck, each one inspired by a walk once taken by Henry David Thoreau. After the Cape, Shattuck goes up Mount Katahdin and Mount Wachusett, down the coastline of his hometown, and then through the Allagash. Along the way, Shattuck encounters unexpected characters, landscapes, and stories, seeing for himself the restorative effects that walking can have on a dampened spirit. Over years of following Thoreau, Shattuck finds himself uncovering new insights about family, love, friendship, and fatherhood, and understanding more deeply the lessons walking can offer through life’s changing seasons.

Intimate, entertaining, and beautifully crafted with original illustrations throughout, Six Walks is a resounding tribute to the ways walking in nature can inspire us all.

NATIONAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN

- National media campaign, including “New in Paperback” roundups
- Ongoing author appearances
- Cross promotion with Ben Shattuck’s short story collection, The History of Sound, out Summer 2024
- Outreach to nature outlets and New England booksellers and special market accounts
- Reading Group Guide available

BEN SHATTUCK’s first book, Six Walks: In the Footsteps of Henry David Thoreau (Tin House, 2022), was a New Yorker magazine Best Book of 2022, a Wall Street Journal Best Book of Spring, a New York Times Best Book of Summer, and a New England Indie Bestseller. His forthcoming book of short stories, The History of Sound, will be published by Viking in July of 2024. He lives with his wife and daughter on the coast of Massachusetts, where he owns and runs the oldest general store in America, built in 1793. He is also the founder and director of the Cuttyhunk Island Writers’ Residency.
“A masterwork. . . . You will exit this book more curious, more thoughtful about the world, more capable of a wide breadth of feeling.”
—Hanif Abdurraqib

THE FLITTING: A MEMOIR OF FATHERS, SONS, and Butterflies is a masterful and touching memoir blending natural history, pop culture, and literary biography—delivering a richly layered and nuanced portrait of a son’s attempt, after years of stubborn resistance, to take on his dying father’s love of the natural world. With his father unable to leave the house and follow the butterfly cycle for the first time since he was a child, Masters endeavors to become his connection to the outdoors and his treasured butterflies, reporting back with stories of beloved species—Purple Emperors, Lulworth Skippers, Wood Whites and Silver-studded Blues—and with stories of the woods and meadows that are their habitats and once were his. Structured around a series of exchanges and remembrances, butterflies become a way of talking about masculinity, memory, generational differences, and ultimately loss and continuation. Masters takes readers on an unlikely journey where Luther Vandross and The Sopranos rub shoulders with the likes of Angela Carter and Virginia Woolf on butterflies and gender; the metamorphoses of Prince; Zadie Smith on Joni Mitchell and how sensibilities evolve; and the lives and works of Vladimir Nabokov and other literary lepidopterists.

In this beautiful debut memoir, Ben Masters offers an intensely authentic, unforgettable portrait of a father and son sharing passions, lessons, and regrets before they run out of time.

Following the tradition of Nikki Finney, Krista Franklin, and Morgan Parker, *Good Dress* documents the extravagant beauty of Black relationships, language, and community.

**IN HER DEBUT POETRY COLLECTION,** Brittany Rogers explores the audacity of Black Detroit, Black womanhood, class, luxury and materialism, and matrilineage. A nontraditional coming-of-age, *Good Dress* witnesses a speaker coming into her own autonomy and selfhood as a young adult, reflecting on formative experiences.

With care and incandescent energy, the poems engage with memory, time, interiority, and community. The collection also nudges tenderly toward curiosity: What does it mean to belong to a person, to a city? Can intimacy and romance be found outside the heteronormative confines of partnership? And in what ways can the pursuit of pleasure be an anchor that returns us to ourselves?

**BRITTANY ROGERS**
is a poet, educator, and lifelong Detroiter. She has work published or forthcoming in *Prairie Schooner, Indiana Review, Four Way Review, Underbelly, Mississippi Review, Lambda Literary,* and *Oprah Daily.* Brittany is a fellow of VONA, The Watering Hole, Poetry Incubator, and Pink Door Writing Retreat. She is editor-in-chief of Muzzle magazine and co-host of VS Podcast.
Set between New York and Shanghai, Masquerade is a queer coming-of-age mystery about a lovelorn bartender and his complex friendship with a volatile artist.

Newly single Meadow Liu is house-sitting for his friend, artist Selma Shimizu, when he stumbles upon The Masquerade, a translated novel about a masked ball in 1930s Shanghai. The author’s name is the same as Meadow’s own in Chinese, Liu Tian—a coincidence that proves to be the first of many strange happenings. Over the course of a single summer, Meadow must contend with a possibly haunted apartment, a mirror that plays tricks, a stranger speaking in riddles at the bar where he works, as well as a startling revelation about a former lover. And when Selma vanishes from her artist residency, Meadow is forced to question everything he knows as the boundaries between real and imagined begin to blur.

Exploring social, cultural, and sexual identities in New York, Shanghai, and beyond, Mike Fu’s Masquerade is a skillfully layered, brilliantly interwoven debut novel of friendship, queer longing, and worlds on the brink, asking how we can find ourselves among ghosts of all kinds, and who we can trust when nothing—and no one—is as it seems.

Mike Fu is a writer, translator, and editor based in Japan. He has studied in Los Angeles, New York, Paris, Suzhou, and Tokyo. His Chinese-English translation of Stories of the Sahara by the late Taiwanese cultural icon Sanmao was named a Favorite Book of the Year by The Paris Review and shortlisted for the National Translation Award in Prose. He is a cofounder and former translation editor of The Shanghai Literary Review, and currently a PhD candidate at Waseda University.
A wise and moving story about a family navigating grief, hope, and healing through a bond with a new pet rabbit.

“How rare, this delicacy—this calm, sweet, desolated wisdom.”
—Helen Garner

The Burrow
MELANIE CHENG

ON SALE NOVEMBER 12, 2024
US $16.95 (CAN $22.95) • Trade Paperback Original
ISBN 978-1-959030-86-7 • 5” x 7 ¾” • 160 pages

NATIONAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN
• Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread bookseller galley mailings
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• National media campaign, including TV, radio, podcast, and online interviews
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• Dedicated bookstagrammer and influencer galley mailing
• Early giveaways and promotion on Goodreads and NetGalley
• Reading group promotions and advertising on top book club sites
• Library marketing
• Reading Group Guide available

The Burrow follows members of the Lee family as they navigate grief and hope in their quiet Australian suburb: Jin, an emergency physician and father; Amy, a published author and mother; Lucie, their bookish and introverted ten-year-old; and Pauline, Amy’s mother who’s trying to make amends. Racked with grief for Ruby—Lucie’s baby sister who died in a shocking accident—the family adopts a rabbit in the hopes of bringing much-needed cheer to their home. At first, each family member benefits from the distraction of a new and needy creature, but when a violent home invasion breaks their fragile sense of peace, the family is forced to confront the terrible circumstances surrounding Ruby’s death.

Atmospheric and tautly lyrical, Melanie Cheng’s slim novel brings together four distinct perspectives—and one wide-eyed rabbit—to reveal the enormity of loss, long-buried family secrets, and how to survive in a newfound world after the ultimate tragedy.

MELANIE CHENG is an award-winning author and doctor based in Melbourne, Australia. Her writing has been published in The Guardian, The Age, The Saturday Paper, and The Big Issue, among many others.
“An utterly exquisite debut.”
—Emily Fridlund

In eleven stories, The World With Its Mouth Open follows the inner lives of people in Kashmir as they walk the uncertain terrain of their days, fractured from years of war. From a shopkeeper’s encounter with a mannequin, to an expectant mother walking on a precarious road, to a young boy wavering between dreams and reality, to two dogs wandering the city, these stories weave in larger, devastating themes of loss, grief, violence, longing, and injustice with the threads of smaller, everyday realities that confront the characters’ lives in profound ways. Although the stories circle the darker aspects of life, they are—at the same time—an attempt to run into life, into humor, into beauty, into another person who can offer refuge, if momentarily.

Zahid Rafiq’s The World With Its Mouth Open is an original and powerful debut collection announcing the arrival of a new voice that bears witness to the human condition with nuance, heart, humor, and incredible insight.

ZAHID RAFIQ is a writer living in Srinagar, Kashmir. He was a journalist for several years before turning to writing fiction. The World With Its Mouth Open is his first book.