

30 YEARS OF
SARABANDE

2024 OPPORTUNITIES FOR WRITERS

JANUARY 1 – FEBRUARY 15

NEW! THE SARABANDE PRIZE IN THE ESSAY

SELECTED BY ALEXANDER CHEE

THE KATHRYN A. MORTON PRIZE IN POETRY

SELECTED BY HANIF ABDURRAQIB

THE MARY MCCARTHY PRIZE IN SHORT FICTION

SELECTED BY LAUREN GROFF

JULY 1 – JULY 31

OPEN READING PERIOD FOR . . .

NONFICTION

NEW! POETRY

NEW! FICTION

OPEN PERIOD FOR TRANSLATION PROPOSALS

STAY TUNED . . .

SIGN UP FOR OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MORE

NEW! OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS



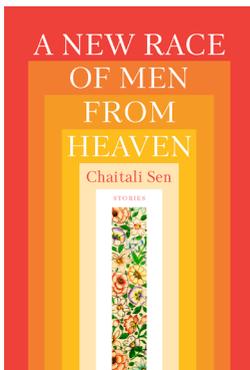
I'M ALWAYS SO SERIOUS

Karisma Price | Poems

The New York Times Book Review,
“Editors’ Choice”

Ms. Magazine,
“The Best Poetry of the Last Year”

“An assured debut from a writer to watch.”
—*Library Journal*



A NEW RACE OF MEN FROM HEAVEN

Chaitali Sen | Stories

“Quiet, emotionally gripping stories.”
—*Kirkus Reviews*, “Best Books of 2023”

Book Riot,
“15 Excellent 2023 Short Story Collections”

Electric Literature, “Recommended Reading”

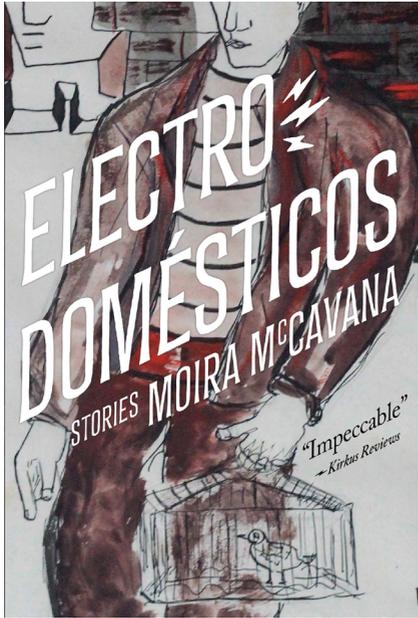


ANOTHER LAST CALL: POEMS ON ADDICTION & DELIVERANCE

Edited by Kaveh Akbar & Paige Lewis |
Poetry Anthology

Official selection of *The Rumpus*'s Poetry Book Club

“Brilliant . . . I’ve found my people.”
—Diane Seuss



ELECTRODOMÉSTICOS

Moira McCavana | Stories | February 20

“In Moira McCavana’s evocative stories, the Basque country situates itself within two regions of a capacious literary imagination: one is gritty, authentic and profoundly human; the other lies in the realm of memory, hope and Calvino-esque invention. McCavana roams these rough-hewn, contested territories with daring and compassion.”

—Ken Kalfus, National Book Award finalist for *A Disorder Peculiar to the Country*

ISBN 978-1-956046-27-4; paperback & ebook
5.25 x 7.75 in; 170 pages; \$18.95

“In her stunning debut collection, Moira McCavana invites readers into the soul of Basque country. *Electrodomésticos*

explores those regions—geographic, cultural, emotional—that shape the diverse lives of characters. McCavana writes with extraordinary insight, poignant humanity, and the quiet, lyric beauty of timeless poetry.”

—Bret Anthony Johnston, author of *Remember Me Like This*

“*Electrodomésticos* is rigorously interested in our love for places which never quite yield their secrets to us. McCavana makes language uncanny and intimate, a system of symbols which bears the keys to both estrangement and belonging.”

—Lillian Fishman, author of *Acts of Service*

Moira McCavana has spent much of her writing life responding to inherited family histories from Northern Ireland and Northern Spain. Her work has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Guernica*, *The Drift*, *Harvard Review*, *The London Magazine*, the 2019 O. Henry Prize Anthology, and elsewhere.

READER, I

Corey Van Landingham | Poems |

April 16

“A no-holds-barred romp of poetry.”

—Jericho Brown, winner of the
Pulitzer Prize for *The Tradition*

“Wickedly learned, *Reader, I* is a tome chock full of literary allusion and so terrifyingly clever it offers for serious readers of poetry intense pleasure. Imagine Shakespeare’s sonnet sequence mated with a stack of bridal magazines. Imagine Dickinson ghostwriting Martha Stewart. This is territory I’ve come to think of as Learned Woman’s Hell. It can be difficult here. . . . We’ve read the books. Yet this one is written from the other side. And its achievement is how far it takes us. The beauty of marriage is in the mundane. It might even make you, Reader, believe in love. In the Real Thing.”

—Cate Marvin, author of *Event Horizon*

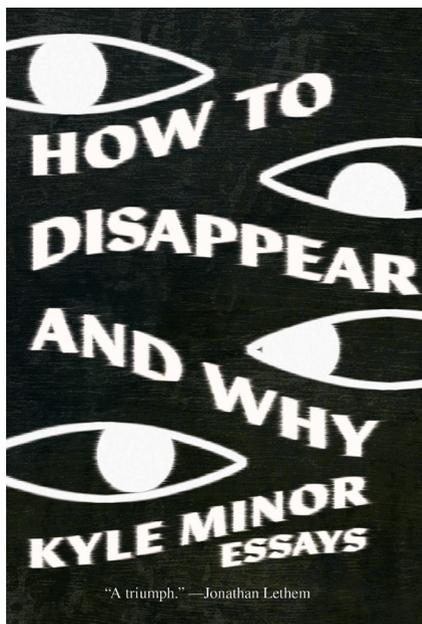
“*Reader, I* is a marvel of this common ground made of both learnedness and crazy play, wit and revelation, in poems of tremendous elasticity of design—from slender, sinuous lines to blocks of epistolary prose that display Van Landingham’s intimacy and her irony. Hers are poems of identity and cultural bearing, negotiating selfhood within (and without) the institutions of nation and marriage, citizenship and readership, winking, promising, and enlightening all the way.”

—David Baker, author of *Whale Fall*

Corey Van Landingham is the author of *Antidote* and *Love Letter to Who Owns the Heavens*. A recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a Wallace Stegner Fellowship from Stanford University, she teaches Creative Writing at the University of Illinois.



ISBN 978-1-956046-25-0; paperback & ebook
6 x 9 in; 100 pages; \$17.95



HOW TO DISAPPEAR AND WHY

Kyle Minor | Essays | May 28

“A triumph.”

—Jonathan Lethem, author
of *Brooklyn Crime Novel*

“A ferocious, tenderhearted, plucky, contemplative, loud, inspiring, marvelous collection of essays—the kind of book that makes you want to lock the door behind you, so you can gobble it up all by yourself.”

—Daniel Handler, author of *Bottle Grove*

ISBN 978-1-956046-14-4; paperback & ebook
5.25 x 7.75 in; 260 pages; \$18.95

“*How to Disappear and Why* is a *sui generis*—one can rarely use the Latin

honestly—collection of essays excavating narcissism, what it is and isn’t in today’s unapologetically self-referential culture. Most compellingly, these essays anatomize what narcissism is with respect to making art, to writing, to erecting ‘junk temples,’ and even what it might mean to set out to win something, a yacht race, say. Kyle Minor understands profoundly that ‘every expressive pursuit must hazard a landscape full of traps.’ *How to Disappear and Why* is a collection of essays as original as *Festival Days* by Jo Ann Beard. Read *How to Disappear and Why*, and then read *Festival Days*, if you haven’t already. Your sense of American belle-lettres will immediately improve.”

—Michelle Latiolais, author of *She*

Kyle Minor is the author of *Praying Drunk* (Sarabande), winner of the 2015 Story Prize Spotlight Award. His stories and essays appear online and in print in *Esquire*, *The Atlantic*, *Iowa Review*, *Salon*, *The Nation*, *Best American Nonrequired Reading*, *Best American Mystery Stories*, and *The New York Times Book Review*. He lives in Indianapolis.

RICKY & OTHER LOVE STORIES

Whitney Collins | Stories | June 25

“Rippling with lusty eccentrics and village witches and any number of go-for-broke schemers, *Ricky & Other Love Stories* is the kind of wickedly funny book that, whenever you throw your head back in laughter, drops a fierce capsule of truth into the pink of your throat.”

—Karen Tucker, author of *Bewilderness*

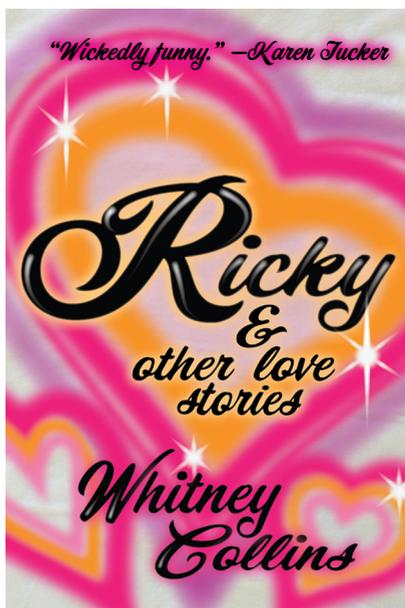
“If you prefer your love stories shaken, stirred, or dashed upon the rocks, *Ricky & Other Love Stories* is for you. With her trademark brevity, insight, and wit, Whitney Collins beautifully blurs the line between love and obsession. These stories yank aside the curtain, exposing the raw, and often rusty, inner workings of human affection.”

—Jen Fawkes, author of *Tales the Devil Told Me*

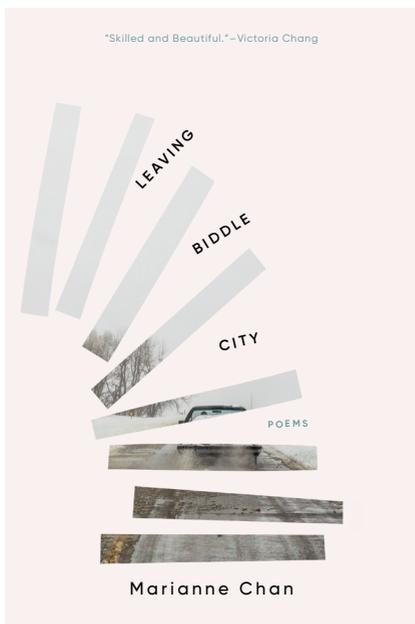
“In *Ricky & Other Love Stories*, Whitney Collins reveals and revels in the lives of the odd, the grotesque, the lonely, and unloved. Combining elements of horror, magic realism, and Southern Gothic, Collins never ceases to amuse or amaze. She has a voice so funny, so unsparing—yet so humane and tender—that it’s hard to think of any other writer doing anything quite like her.”

—Andrew Bertaina, author of *One Person Away From You*

Whitney Collins is the author of *Big Bad* (Sarabande), which won the 2022 Gold Medal IPPY Award for Short Story/Fiction and the 2021 Bronze Medal INDIES Award for Short Stories. Collins’s fiction has appeared in *AGNI*, *American Short Fiction*, *Gulf Coast*, *Tiny Nightmares* (Catapult), and elsewhere.



ISBN 978-1-956046-23-6; paperback & ebook
5.25 x 7.75 in; 260 pages; \$18.95



ISBN 978-1-956046-29-8; paperback & ebook
5.5 x 8.5 in; 72 pages; \$17.95

LEAVING BIDDLE CITY

Marianne Chan | Poems | July 30

“Skilled and beautiful.”

—Victoria Chang, author of *The Trees*
Witness Everything

“In playful and lyrical leaps, the poems turn like pages in a photo album. Marianne Chan’s speaker meditates on the meaning of what it means to be ‘Mid-Western’ in conjunction with what it means to be ‘Filipina,’ and through examinations within the prose poem’s metaphorical boxiness and in dialogue with the speaker’s community, the poems soar into ecstatic remembrances. What persists in this remarkable collection are important questions

about the choices we make for love, and Chan’s beautiful writing will persist as thoroughly as the poured concrete of foundations inscribed with names of family.”

—Oliver de la Paz, author of *The Diaspora Sonnets*

“Chan offers a surprising and brilliant kind of anti-poetry, observing how ‘All things beautiful. Become insufferable,’ yet herein lies its power as an ode to the unglamorous inhabitants of an unglamorous city, that is, as an act of disruption to the mythical origin story, one full of failures—and also love. With pointed honesty and refreshing humor, these poems are for the ones who came here, ‘found they’d been scammed,’ and ‘decided to build their houses anyway.’”

—Jennifer S. Cheng, author of *House A*

Marianne Chan is the author of *All Heathens* (Sarabande), which won the 2021 GLCA New Writers Award in Poetry, the 2021 Ohioana Book Award in Poetry, and the 2022 Association for Asian American Studies Book Award in Poetry. Chan is an assistant professor of English at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

GOD-DISEASE

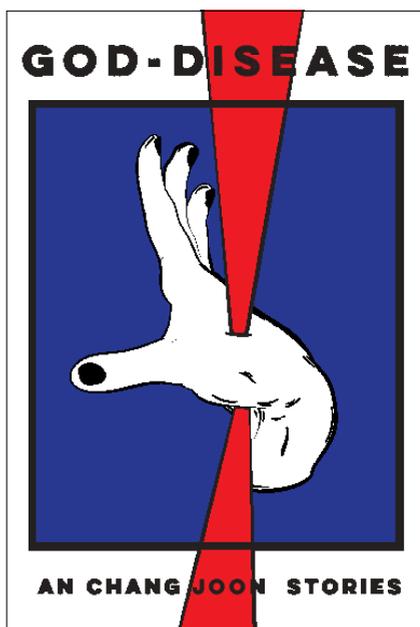
an chang joon | Poems | September 7
Winner of the 2023 Mary McCarthy
Prize selected by Manuel Muñoz

Imagine a space where cities and municipalities are delineated only by letters. A place in flux, a freewheeling confluence that does not commit to being American Korea, or even Korean American. This is where the short story collection, *God-disease*, takes place. Strange things happen here. Identities warp and shift; sometimes they vanish altogether.

The story that the collection is named after, “God-disease,” revolves around a Korean woman who immigrates to the US with her pastor husband. Years later, the woman finds herself haunted by voices and visions. She learns that what ails her is not, in fact, insanity, but *shin-byeong*—it is god-disease, a condition that marks her as a shaman. There is a being inside in her body. She must make a choice: is she devout, or is she divine?

Equal parts Southern Gothic and slipstream, the collection is a meditation on language, identity, and names, and how deceptively fragile they can be.

an chang joon was born in Seoul, Korea, but raised somewhere between Uzbekistan, Korea, and the eastern coast of the United States. His prose can be found in *Gulf Coast*, *Columbia Journal*, *Barnstorm*, and *Blue Earth Review*. He is the Korean translator for Nellie Hermann’s novel, *The Season of Migration*.



ISBN 978-1-956046-33-5; paperback & ebook
5.25 x 7.75 in; 240 pages; \$18.95



BOOK OF POTIONS

Lauren K. Watel | Poems | October 22
Winner of the 2023 Kathryn A. Morton
Prize selected by Ilya Kaminsky

ISBN 978-1-956046-35-9; paperback & ebook
5.5 x 8.5 in; 104 pages; \$17.95

Written with tremendous urgency and ferocious candor, *Book of Potions* captures a woman caught in the middle of life: no longer young, not yet old, trapped between generations,

locked in stereotyped roles and stultifying social norms, confined by other people's expectations and their projections of what a woman should be. Out of a desperation to free herself from this predicament, she hits upon a literary form that expresses and interrogates all the places between. By turns enraged, funny, frustrated, astute and joyful, these intense short hybrid pieces (potion = poem + fiction) combine the lyric compression of poetry with the narrative expansiveness of prose. Readers will meander, spellbound, through a wildly imaginative dream world of fairy-tale landscapes, allegorical insights, social satire, thought experiments and vivid surreal imagery, scenes of otherworldly strangeness and haunting beauty. These potions are elixirs in language, some healing, some poisonous, all magical.

Lauren K. Watel's poetry, fiction, essays, and translations can be found in *The Paris Review*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The Nation*, *Ploughshares*, *Narrative*, and elsewhere. She's received awards for her work from *Poets and Writers*, *Writer's Digest*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Moment Magazine-Karma Foundation* and *Mississippi Review*.

A TERRIFYING BRUSH WITH OPTIMISM

Brian Leung | New & Selected Stories |
November 12

“Each story asks a pointedly difficult question: What happens when we let our most coveted relationships deteriorate under the stress of plain ol’ everyday living? Leung reveals a plethora of fascinating answers with beautiful, concise prose and unwavering empathy.”

—*Entertainment Weekly*
on *World Famous Love Acts*



Brian Leung published his debut collection, *World Famous Love Acts*, in 2004,

and now, five books later, he shares an exciting mix of new and collected stories in a variety of forms. There’s a touch of *Hamlet*, a hint of I Ching, and many speculative curiosities: Can monkeys pray? Are we better off living in the real world or a speculative one? Leaping, comic, and always inventive, Leung’s stories override stereotypes of age, race, gender, and sexuality. The resulting stories linger as small cosmoses “almost radical in their humane inclusiveness” (*Kirkus Reviews*).

ISBN 978-1-956046-31-1; paperback & ebook
5.25 x 7.75 in; 240 pages; \$18.95

Brian Leung is the author of *All I Should Not Tell*, *Ivy vs. Dogg: With a Cast of Thousands!*, *World Famous Love Acts*, *Lost Men*, and *Take Me Home*. He is a recipient of the Lambda Literary Outstanding Mid-Career Prize. Other honors include the Asian-American Literary Award, Willa Award, and the Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction.

PRE-ORDER 2024 BUNDLES

2024 POETRY BUNDLE

Reader, I by Corey Van Landingham
Leaving Biddle City by Marianne Chan
Book of Potions by Lauren K. Watel

2024 PROSE BUNDLE

Electrodomésticos by Moira McCavana
How to Disappear and Why by Kyle Minor
Ricky & Other Love Stories by Whitney Collins
God-Disease by an chang joon
A Terrifying Brush with Optimism by Brian Leung

2025 PREVIEW

NEW POETRY

Alina Stefanescu | Poems | Spring

CLASSIC CRIMES

Sarah J. Sloat | Poems | Spring

THE LONGEST WAY TO EAT A MELON

Jacquelyn Zong-Li Ross | Stories | Summer

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As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit literary arts organization, Sarabande Books is supported in part by the people who believe in our mission, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Kentucky Arts Council. With the help of our donors and grantors, we are able to invest in emerging literary voices and serve as an educational resource locally and nationally. [Click here](#) to make your tax-deductible gift in support of this work.

ABOUT US

SARABANDE BOOKS is a nonprofit independent literary press founded in Louisville, Kentucky. Established in 1994 to champion poetry, fiction, and essay, we are committed to creating lasting editions that honor exceptional writing.

With nearly three hundred titles in print, we have earned a dedicated readership and a national reputation as a publisher of diverse forms and innovative voices. Sarabande authors have been recipients of the Pulitzer Prize, the Nobel Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the National Jewish Book Award, Lambda Literary awards, the Story Prize Spotlight Award, and many PEN/American honors.

Through our free arts programming, we are proud to invest in the literary community and serve as an educational resource locally and nationally.

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**30 YEARS OF SARABANDE BOOKS
2024 CATALOG**

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