



# Summer 2025

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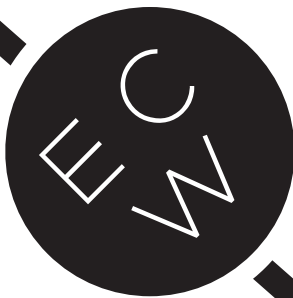
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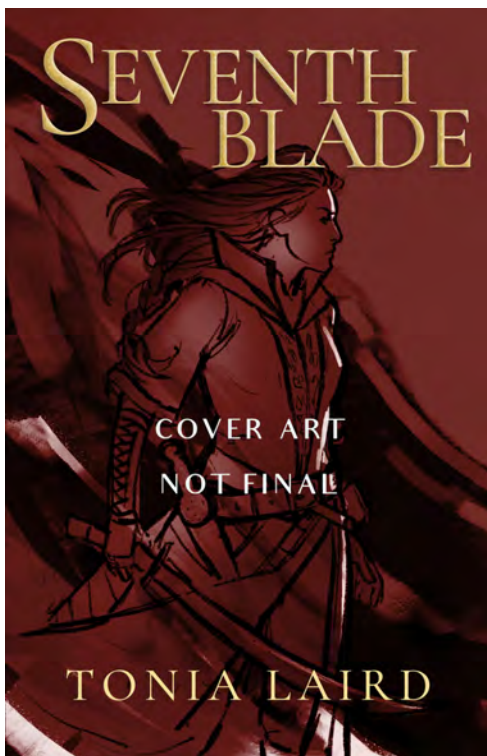
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**FICTION / FANTASY / INDIGENOUS** (FIC009150)

**FICTION / FANTASY / ACTION & ADVENTURE**  
(FIC009100)

**FICTION / FANTASY / EPIC** (FIC009020)

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Transatlantic Agency

## SEVENTHBLADE

Tonia Laird

**For readers of N.K. Jemisin and Rebecca Roanhorse, a fast-paced, anti-colonial action-adventure fantasy that explores twisted power dynamics and the effects of settler colonialism**

After the murder of T'Rayles's adopted son, the infamous warrior and daughter of the Indigenous Ibinnas returns to the colonized city of Seventhblade, ready to tear the streets asunder in search of her son's killer. T'Rayles must lean into the dangerous power of her inherited sword and ally herself with questionable forces, including the Broken Fangs, an alliance her mother founded, now fallen into greed and corruption, and the immortal Elraiche, a powerful and manipulative deity exiled from a faraway land. Navigating the power shifts in a colonized city on the edge and contending with a deadly new power emerging from within, T'Rayles must risk everything to find the answers, and the justice, she so desperately desires.

Loaded with complex characters and intricately staged action, and set in a fragmented, fascinating world of dangerous magics and cryptic gods, *Seventhblade* is a masterful new fantasy adventure from a bright, emerging Indigenous voice.

**Tonia Laird** is a Métis writer from Saskatoon, in the heart of Treaty 6 territory, and a citizen of the Saskatchewan Métis Nation. Her work can be found in multiple publications, including literary magazines, fantasy and comic book anthologies, the AAA video games *Dragon Age II* and *Dragon Age: Inquisition*, the mobile game *Everlove: Rose*, and the interactive novel *Poster Girl*. Tonia works at Thought Pennies Entertainment on an unannounced community-driven Dark Fantasy RPG as their lorekeeper and world-builder.



### KEY SALES NOTES

- **A FRESH DEBUT:** A fast-paced, anti-colonial, Indigenous-led, secondary-world fantasy debut from a fresh new Indigenous voice that explores twisted power dynamics and the effects of settler colonialism.
- **FOR FANS OF:** Diverse fantasy television series and movies, such as *The Witcher*, *The Wheel of Time*, *House of the Dragon*, and fantasy/SFF video games like *Baldur's Gate 3*, *Mass Effect*, and *Dragon Age*.
- **FOR READERS OF:** Between Earth and Sky series (Rebecca Roanhorse), *She Who Became the Sun* (Shelley Parker-Chan), *The Unbroken* (C.L. Clark), *The Midnight Bargain* (C.L. Polk), and *The Fifth Season* (N.K. Jemisin).
- **FROM THE EDITOR:** "From the very first paragraph, *Seventhblade* hooked me with its lovingly drawn, complex characters and its fragmented, fascinating world filled with mysterious magics and cryptic demigods. Laird lays out a complex political situation while keeping an eye on the narrative, ensuring we keenly feel every part of T'Rayles's lament and anger over the death of her son: Her path of revenge is our path as well. It does all of this while tackling the disastrous effects of colonialism and the dangerous power dynamics of a land newly colonized, with a keen focus on Indigenous experience. Come for the enthralling characters, enchanting prose, and perfectly choreographed fight scenes; stay for the deep insight into settler colonialism. *Seventhblade* has something for every fantasy fan."  
— Jen Albert
- **THE AUTHOR KNOWS HOW TO CRAFT A STORY:** Tonia Laird has written for the AAA video games *Dragon Age II* and *Dragon Age: Inquisition*, as well as the mobile romance game *Everlove: Rose*.



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**24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.**

**FICTION / MYSTERY & DETECTIVE / PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS** (FIC022090)

**FICTION / NOIR** (FIC062000)

**FICTION / CRIME** (FIC050000)

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## ANGELHUNTING

A SEAMUS CARON MYSTERY

Ji Hong Sayo

**A former thief turned private detective is drawn into a deadly web of murder, drugs, and gang wars, forcing him to confront his darkest demons to survive.**

Having tried his hand at medicine, pickpocketing, and good old-fashioned thuggery, Seamus Caron has finally settled into life as a private detective, hunting down lost money and wandering husbands. It's not glamorous work, but it pays the bills and provides a steady supply of fistfights for entertainment. The job also keeps him close to his best friend, Sandra Blair, a homicide detective for the Toronto Police. But when she calls in a favor on a murder case, Seamus realizes that the victim is a notorious mob lawyer, putting an end to what little stability and safety he'd managed to scrape together.

Seamus must find the killer before the murder sparks an all-out gang war. Luckily, he's got help — a confidence man turned barman, the finest cook in Little Chinatown, and Maxwell Moscovitz, his new secretary. She has the mental sharpness and moral flexibility for the job, but she also has a few secrets of her own.

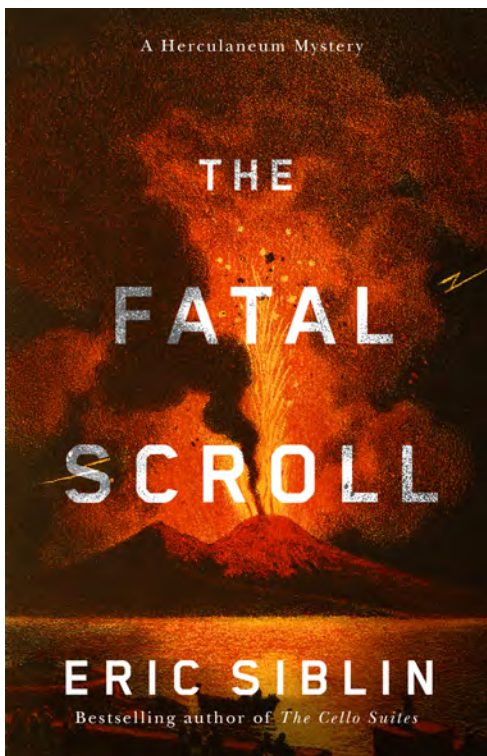
Seamus begins to suspect a connection between the murder and a new drug on the street known as Platinum, which promises obscene profits for its suppliers, euphoria for its users, and a shockingly high death rate. As he investigates suspicious overdoses, Seamus can't help hearing echoes of his past and the tragedy he's spent 20 years trying to forget. Caught between the police, the mob, and an anonymous killer, Seamus will need to face his demons, or he just might lose it all.

**Ji Hong Sayo** is a Canadian Lao-Chinese author working out of Toronto. He enjoys writing just slightly evil characters and weaving a thread of romance through action-focused genres. By day, Ji studies biomedical engineering at the University of Toronto, where he also works as a researcher and fruit fly wrangler.



### KEY SALES NOTES

- **BONES MEETS CSI MEETS SHERLOCK:** A former thief turned private detective is drawn into a deadly web of murder, drugs, and gang wars, forcing him to confront his darkest demons to survive. With a background in biomedical engineering, Ji Hong Sayo immerses readers in both mystery and science, thrilling fans of forensic science and biology who seek realistic portrayals in the crime and detective genre. An electrifying fusion of the science of Kathy Reichs's *Bones*, the intensity of *CSI*, and the intellectual detective work of Sherlock Holmes.
- **FOR FANS OF:** *Sherlock*, *Luther*, *Department Q*, James Patterson, and Lee Child.
- **LOCALS WILL LOVE IT:** Featuring descriptive portrayals of real Toronto locations, residents will love seeing their city shine in a noir crime thriller that brings to life the underbelly of an iconic city.



**Publication Date:** May 6, 2025

5.5 x 8.5", 240pp, trade paperback

**24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.**

**FICTION / MYSTERY & DETECTIVE / INTERNATIONAL CRIME & MYSTERY** (FIC022080)

**FICTION / THRILLERS / TECHNOLOGICAL** (FIC036000)

**FICTION / THRILLERS / CRIME** (FIC031010)

**FICTION / THRILLERS / HISTORICAL** (FIC031020)

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## THE FATAL SCROLL

A HERCULANEUM MYSTERY

Eric Sibilin

**A literary murder mystery about the shady side of the antiquities trade, ancient philosophy, and tech's utopian promises.**

Marcus Sinclair is a history teacher whose life is stuck in neutral when he inherits a papyrus scroll from his antiquarian uncle. The mysterious scroll might contain a lost masterpiece from ancient Rome or perhaps an ancient recipe for personal tranquility, but it's unreadable unless Marcus can figure out a way to unroll the scroll without destroying it. His quest takes him to Naples, where he befriends a Google software engineer days before the man is found dead. Marcus is interviewed by an investigative journalist, Kristi Grainger, and they find themselves on parallel paths leading to a Neapolitan trafficker in antiquities, a tech mogul obsessed with the distant past, and a clutch of academics searching for the lost library of Herculaneum. In a seaside city that is by turns lush and lethal, Marcus must confront the unraveling of more than a scroll.

This novel is inspired by a real place — the Villa dei Papiri, the only library from antiquity to have survived — and coincides with the Vesuvius Challenge, a real-life international competition to decipher Herculaneum scrolls.

**Eric Sibilin** is the bestselling author of *The Cello Suites*, which was translated into 13 languages, named a Book of the Year in 2010 by *The Economist*, and nominated for five literary awards. He is also the author of *Studio Grace*, published alongside an album of original music. He lives in Montreal.



### KEY SALES NOTES

- **THE THRILLING, SHADY SIDE OF THE ANTIQUITIES TRADE:** Move over *Antiques Roadshow*, the antiquities trade has edge-of-your-seat drama, scintillating secrets, and breathtaking discoveries that will thrill readers long after they turn the last page. *The Fatal Scroll* is a literary murder mystery about the shady side of the antiquities trade, ancient philosophy, and tech's utopian promises.
- **FOR FANS OF:** *National Treasure*, *Indiana Jones*, *Tomb Raider*, Dan Brown, James Rollins, William Dietrich, Clive Cussler, Robert Harris, Chris Pavone, and Steve Berry.
- **BASED ON THE REAL-LIFE VESUVIUS CHALLENGE:** With over one million dollars awarded to date, the Vesuvius Challenge aims to resurrect ancient history from the Herculaneum scrolls. Released in time with the 2025 Vesuvius Challenge, *The Fatal Scroll* captures the adrenaline of this real-life race to decode history.



**Publication Date:** June 17, 2025

5.5 x 8.5", 280pp, trade paperback

**24.95 CDN / 18.95 U.S.**

**FICTION / WOMEN** (FIC044000)

**FICTION / FRIENDSHIP** (FIC071000)

**FICTION / HUMOROUS / GENERAL** (FIC016000)

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## OFF MENU

A NOVEL

Amy Rosen

**Heartburn meets *Bridget Jones's Diary*, a wickedly funny, fast-paced, clever, and fresh novel that caters to our insatiable appetite for food and romance. Hilarity and heartbreak are dished out in equal measure.**

Twenty-something Ruthie Cohen, a data entry minion for a second-tier movie app, spends her days thinking about the kickass meals she's going to make for her besties, Trish and Lilly, while pining for Dean (sigh, Dean), her vacation fling from six months earlier. Could they have made it work in real life?

On top of that, Bubbe Bobby Grace, Ruthie's beloved and inspiring grandmother, passed away and left Ruthie an inheritance of \$62,873.42, along with instructions on how to use it: "Follow your passion, Dollface." During a prosecco-fueled night with her gal pals, Ruthie decides to turn her passion into a career and learn the art of French cooking, enrolling in culinary school, paying tuition, and buying her chef's whites with a few quick clicks online. It's not long before Ruthie marches into the kitchen and feels the heat from her cooking partner, Jeff, the super hunky (totally taken!) musician that weasels his way into her brain — right next to Dean.

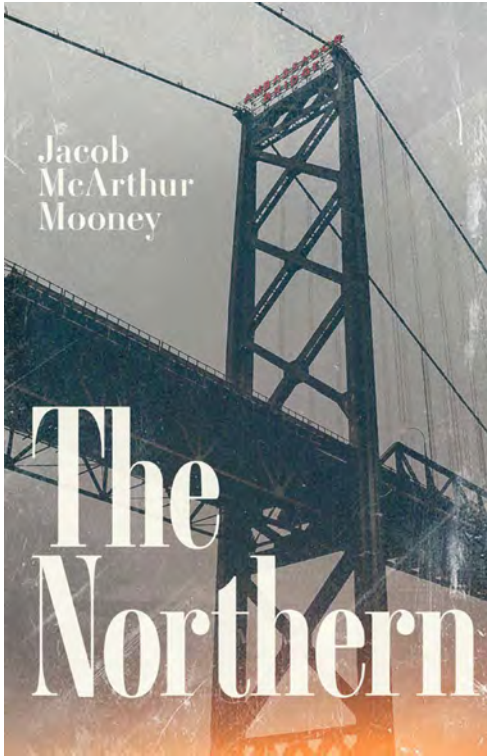
How can anyone be expected to focus on school, cooking, career planning, baking, friends, and deciding between two hot guys, especially when one of them *also* thinks that John Cusack is woefully underrated? And what if neither feels quite like Ruthie's perfect pairing?

**Amy Rosen** is an award-winning food and travel writer and cookbook author who writes for publications such as *Food & Wine*, *Bon Appétit*, and *The Globe and Mail*. A former editor-in-chief at *Modern Farmer* and food editor at *Chatelaine*, she's the author of seven cookbooks. Amy's also the proud founder of Rosen's Cinnamon Buns. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.



### KEY SALES NOTES

- **WOMEN'S FICTION THAT PACKS A PUNCH:** For readers of *Main Character Energy* (Jamie Varon), *Really Good, Actually* (Monica Heisey), and *Ghosts* (Dolly Alderton) comes a rom-com that features all the best bits of the genre — flirtation, fun, comedy, and love — but adds a hefty spoonful of self-love, female empowerment, and the importance of friendship.
- **FOR FANS OF:** *Julie & Julia* (book and movie), *No Reservations* (movie), *How to Be Single* (book and movie), *Bon Appétit* (magazine), *Emily in Paris* (television show).
- **AN ENGAGED FAN BASE:** Amy Rosen's Instagram has 7K followers. She is the founder of @rosebuns with 5K followers and won the 2023 Gourmand Cookbook Award for *Canada's Best New Cookbook*.
- **PRAISE FOR AMY ROSEN'S WORK:**
  - "Rosen serves up a glorious cornucopia of recipes from top restaurants and chefs in Canada's largest and most diverse city. Celebrating the restaurants, the chefs, and the food in equal measure, Rosen illuminates the ways that those elements come together to create a culinary story. In punchy, vivid prose, she describes people who breathe life into the restaurants and dishes, and the influence of their cultural histories, culinary passions, and eatery dreams." — *Publishers Weekly*, **starred review on Toronto Eats**
  - "Evoking memories of tables past, Amy Rosen has written a joyful cookbook with a modern approach. With her charming, witty style she draws you in — Jewish or not. You will love the stories, the ambience and the perfectly tested recipes. Egg Cream, anyone?" — **Lucy Waverman, food writer and author of *The Flavour Principle on Kosher Style***



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**FICTION / COMING OF AGE** (FIC043000)

**FICTION / SPORTS** (FIC038000)

**FICTION / LITERARY** (FIC019000)

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## THE NORTHERN

A NOVEL

Jacob McArthur Mooney

**“*The Northern* is both a tender-hearted, contemplative coming-of-age novel and adventure-filled road trip story that brings a unique time in sports history to life.” — Zoe Whittall, author of *The Fake* and *The Best Kind of People***

It is the summer of 1952 and three men — well, one man and two boys — are on a spiritual and commercial mission. Dispatched from Minnesota to Western Ontario, they have been hired by an upstart Mormon baseball card company to find licensees for their products among the young men filing out Korean War-era rosters in the Northern League, at the bottom-most rung of professional baseball. What the Northern has for them, and the secrets and deceptions they have for each other, will drive their two weeks in Canada into ever-growing chaos.

In a vision of early 1950s Ontario that emphasizes accuracy but remains robustly anti-nostalgic and contemporary, the three businessmen have themselves an adventure of personal discovery, interpersonal hardship, and more than a little danger. With a world shaped by the trauma of World War II and the generations of deflated adults and orphaned children left behind by it, the story sets out on a clear-eyed and psychologically precise character study taking on grief, fantasy, adolescence, and family. As the narrator for this story of salesmen and ambitious athletes, 12-year-old Chris is a budding acerbic, able to be carried away by the — often empty — hopes of others and put his feet in the ground to stop them.

A novel concerned with sports, labor, growing up, and God, *The Northern* is a funny and heartbreaking book about the series of disappointments that characterize the progress of growing up.

**Jacob McArthur Mooney’s** work has been shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Trillium Award in Poetry. An MFA graduate from the University of Guelph, he lives in Toronto with his partner, the novelist Alexis von Konigslow, and their son. *The Northern* is his fifth book and first novel.



### KEY SALES NOTES

- **FOR READERS OF:** *The Art of Fielding* (Chad Harbach), *Class A* (Lucas Mann), *King Leary* (Paul Quarrington), *Shoeless Joe* (W.P. Kinsella), *Summerland* (Michael Chabon)
- **AMERICA’S PASTIME:** This book is perfect for baseball fans, sports fiction readers, and historical fiction readers. *The Northern* has the feel of great literary baseball novels — a book that’s ostensibly about the game but is really about what a game has to tell us about life.
- **LOCALS WILL LOVE IT:** Covering Windsor, London, Hamilton, Leamington, Fort Erie, and Niagara Falls in Canada, and Buffalo and Pittsburgh in the U.S., this book will appeal to locals and to those who have opinions about what makes each city unique.
- **PRaise FOR THE NORTHERN:** “W.P. Kinsella has company: Jacob Mooney has written another classic Canadian novel about baseball.” — **Ben Lindbergh, co-host of *Effectively Wild* and author of *The MVP Machine* and *The Only Rule Is It Has to Work***

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