

The Engagements J Courtney Sullivan

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The Heir Affair St. Martin's Press
A People Magazine Top 10 Best Books of the Year • The New York Times best-selling author of *Maine* returns with an exhilarating novel about Frances Gerety, the real pioneering ad woman who coined the famous slogan "A Diamond is Forever," and four unique marriages that will test how true—or not—those words might be. "Sullivan is a born storyteller. Like its mineral muse, *Engagements* shines."—*Entertainment Weekly* Evelyn has been married to her husband for forty years, but their son's messy divorce has put them at rare odds; James, a beleaguered paramedic, has spent most of his marriage haunted by his wife's family's expectations; Delphine has thrown caution to the wind and left a peaceful French life for an exciting but rocky romance in America; and Kate, partnered with Dan for a decade, has seen every kind of wedding and has vowed never, ever, to have one of her own. As the stories connect to each other and to Frances's legacy in surprising ways, *The Engagements* explores the complicated ins and outs of relationships, then, now, and forever.

The Engagements Vintage
NAMED ONE OF THE BEST NOVELS OF THE YEAR BY The Wall Street Journal • American Library Association • Kirkus Reviews A stunning allegorical novel about one man's enduring love for his daughter In *Enon*, Paul Harding follows a year in the life of Charlie Crosby as he tries to come to terms with a shattering personal tragedy. Grandson of George Crosby (the protagonist of *Tinkers*), Charlie inhabits the same dynamic landscape of New England, its

seasons mirroring his turbulent emotional odyssey. Along the way, Charlie's encounters are brought to life by his wit, his insights into history, and his yearning to understand the big questions. A stunning mosaic of human experience, *Enon* affirms Paul Harding as "a contemporary master and one of our most important writers" (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review). Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more. "Harding conveys the common but powerful bond of parental love with devastating accuracy. . . . [He] is a major voice in American fiction." —*Chicago Tribune* "Paul Harding's novel *Tinkers* won the Pulitzer Prize; its stunning successor, *Enon*, only raises the bar." —*O: The Oprah Magazine* "Extraordinary . . . a darkly intoxicating read . . . [Harding's] prose is steeped in a visionary, transcendentalist tradition that echoes Blake, Rilke, Emerson, and Thoreau." —*The New Yorker* "So wild and riveting it's practically an aria . . . Harding is a superb stylist." —*Entertainment Weekly* "[Charlie's grief], shaped by a gifted writer's caressing attention, can bring about moments of what Charlie calls 'brokenhearted joy.'" —*The Wall Street Journal* "Astonishing . . . a work of fiction that feels authentic as memoir." —*Financial Times* "Read *Enon* to live longer in the harsh, gorgeous atmosphere that Paul Harding has created." —*San Francisco Chronicle*
Everybody Rise Hachette UK
The Good House, by Ann Leary, is funny, poignant, and terrifying. A classic New England tale that lays bare the secrets of one little town, this spirited novel will stay with you long after the story has ended. Now a major motion picture starring Sigourney Weaver and Kevin Kline! Hildy Good is a townie. A lifelong resident of a small community on the rocky coast of Boston's North Shore, she knows pretty much everything about everyone. And she's good at lots of things, too. A successful real-estate broker, mother, and

grandmother, her days are full. But her nights have become lonely ever since her daughters, convinced their mother was drinking too much, sent her off to rehab. Now she's in recovery—more or less. Alone and feeling unjustly persecuted, Hildy finds a friend in Rebecca McAllister, one of the town's wealthy newcomers. Rebecca is grateful for the friendship and Hildy feels like a person of the world again, as she and Rebecca escape their worries with some harmless gossip and a bottle of wine by the fire—just one of their secrets. But Rebecca is herself the subject of town gossip. When Frank Getchell, an old friend who shares a complicated history with Hildy, tries to warn her away from Rebecca, Hildy attempts to protect her friend from a potential scandal. Soon, however, Hildy is busy trying to protect her own reputation. When a cluster of secrets becomes dangerously entwined, the reckless behavior of one person threatens to expose the other, and this darkly comic novel takes a chilling turn.

Everybody Rise - Sneak Peek Simon and Schuster

A fictional account of Catherine de' Medici, the fourteen-year-old reluctant Italian bride to the second son of the King of France, Henry, during the sixteenth-century.

Commencement Algonquin Books
This is a story about a grouchy croissant who is angry with his friends. He uses the mindful magic of breath to get his butter back. With simple language and delightful illustrations, *The Grumpy Frumpy Croissant* teaches the value of taking a moment to breathe.

The Book of V. HarperCollins
This breakout New York Times bestseller from the celebrated author of

Commencement and The Engagements, introduces four unforgettable women and the abiding, often irrational love that keeps them coming back, every summer, to Maine and to each other. For the Kellehers, Maine is a place where children run in packs, showers are taken outdoors, and old Irish songs are sung around a piano. As three generations of Kelleher women arrive at the family's beach house, each brings her own hopes and fears. Maggie is thirty-two and pregnant, waiting for the perfect moment to tell her imperfect boyfriend the news; Ann Marie, a Kelleher by marriage, is channeling her domestic frustration into a dollhouse obsession and an ill-advised crush; Kathleen, the black sheep, never wanted to set foot in the cottage again; and Alice, the matriarch at the center of it all, would trade every floorboard for a chance to undo the events of one night, long ago.

Friends and Strangers

Ballantine Books

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A TODAY SHOW #ReadWithJenna BOOK CLUB PICK • An insightful and compulsively readable novel about a complicated friendship between two women who are at two very different stages in life, from the best-selling author of *Maine and Saints for All Occasions*. "Once again, Sullivan has shown herself to be one of the wisest and least pretentious chroniclers of modern life."—The Washington Post Elisabeth, an accomplished journalist and new mother, is struggling to adjust to life in a small town after nearly twenty years in New York City. Alone in the house with her infant son all day (and awake with him much of the night), she feels uneasy, adrift. She neglects her work, losing untold hours to

her Brooklyn moms' Facebook group, her "influencer" sister's Instagram feed, and text messages with the best friend she never sees anymore. Enter Sam, a senior at the local women's college, whom Elisabeth hires to babysit. Sam is struggling to decide between the path she's always planned on and a romantic entanglement that threatens her ambition. She's worried about student loan debt and what the future holds. In short order, they grow close. But when Sam finds an unlikely kindred spirit in Elisabeth's father-in-law, the true differences between the women's lives become starkly revealed and a betrayal has devastating consequences. A masterful exploration of motherhood, power dynamics, and privilege in its many forms, *Friends and Strangers* reveals how a single year can shape the course of a life.

Maine Penguin

NATIONAL BESTSELLER, New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice, and a Best Book of the Year from NPR, Boston Globe, BuzzFeed, and others. The mesmerizing story of one woman's rise from circus rider to courtesan to world-renowned diva—"a brilliant performance" (Washington Post). The Queen of the Night tells the captivating story of Lilliet Berne, an orphan who left the American frontier for Europe and was swept into the glamour and terror of Second Empire France. She became a sensation of the Paris Opera, with every accolade but an original role—her chance at immortality. When one is offered to her, she finds the libretto is based on her deepest secret, something only four people have ever known. But who betrayed her? With epic sweep, gorgeous language, and haunting details, Alexander Chee shares Lilliet's cunning

transformation from circus rider to courtesan to legendary soprano, retracing the path that led to the role that could secure her reputation—or destroy her with the secrets it reveals. "It just sounds terrific. It sounds like opera."—The New Yorker "Sprawling, soaring, bawdy, and plotted like a fine embroidery."—NPR

The Engagements Penguin

"A vintage version of 'Gossip Girl' meets bigger hair."—The Skimm "DiSclafani's story sparkles like the jumbo diamonds her characters wear to one-up each other. Historical fiction lovers will linger over every lush detail." —People From the bestselling author of *The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls* comes a story of lifelong female friendship — in all its intimate agony and joy — set within a world of wealth, beauty, and expectation. Joan Fortier is the epitome of Texas glamour and the center of the 1950s Houston social scene. Tall, blonde, beautiful, and strong, she dominates the room and the gossip columns. Every man wants her; every woman wants to be her. Devoted to Joan since childhood, Cece Buchanan is either her chaperone or her partner in crime, depending on whom you ask. But when Joan's radical behavior escalates the summer they are twenty-five, Cece considers it her responsibility to bring her back to the fold, ultimately forcing one provocative choice to appear the only one there is. A thrilling glimpse into the sphere of the rich and beautiful at a memorable moment in history, *The After Party* unfurls a story of friendship as obsessive, euphoric, consuming, and complicated as any romance. [A Paris All Your Own](#) St. Martin's Press
A 40th anniversary reissue of the

national bestselling author's hilarious first novel that memorably mixed food, heartbreak, and revenge into a comic masterpiece—now with a new foreword by Stanley Tucci. • "Touching and funny.... Proof that writing well is the best revenge." —Chicago Tribune Is it possible to write a sidesplitting novel about the breakup of the perfect marriage? If the writer is Nora Ephron, the answer is a resounding yes. In this inspired confection of adultery, revenge, group therapy, and pot roast, the creator of *Sleepless in Seattle* and *When Harry Met Sally...* reminds us that comedy depends on anguish as surely as a proper gravy depends on flour and butter. Seven months into her pregnancy, Rachel Samstat discovers that her husband, Mark, is in love with another woman. The fact that the other woman has "a neck as long as an arm and a nose as long as a thumb and you should see her legs" is no consolation. Food sometimes is, though, since Rachel writes cookbooks for a living. And in between trying to win Mark back and loudly wishing him dead, Ephron's irrepressible heroine offers some of her favorite recipes. *Heartburn* is a sinfully delicious novel, as soul-satisfying as mashed potatoes and as airy as a perfect soufflé. [Hystopia Sourcebooks, Inc.](#) As the 1938 hurricane approaches Rhode Island, another storm brews in this New York Times bestselling beach read from the author of *Her Last Flight* and *The Golden Hour*. Lily Dane has returned to Seaview, Rhode Island, where her family has summered for generations. It's an escape not only from New York's social scene but from a heartbreak that still haunts her. Here, among the seaside community that has embraced her since childhood, she finds comfort in the familiar rituals of summer. But this summer is different. Budgie and Nick Greenwald—Lily's former best friend and former fiancé—have arrived, too, and Seaview's elite are abuzz. Under Budgie's glamorous influence, Lily is seduced into a complicated web of renewed friendship and dangerous longing. As a cataclysmic hurricane churns north through the Atlantic, and uneasy secrets slowly reveal themselves, Lily and Nick must confront an emotional storm that will change their worlds forever... READERS GUIDE INCLUDED

[Cruel Beautiful World](#) National

Geographic Books An early sneak peek at the first two chapters of Stephanie Clifford's extraordinary debut novel, *Everybody Rise*, coming August 18th. "A masterful tale of social climbing and entrenched class distinctions, as seen through the eyes of an outsider who desperately wants in. Tense, hilarious, and bursting with gorgeous language. Stephanie Clifford is a 21st-century Edith Wharton." —J. Courtney Sullivan, New York Times bestselling author of *The Engagements* It's 2006 in the Manhattan of the young and glamorous. Money and class are colliding in a city that is about to go over a financial precipice and take much of the country with it. At 26, bright, funny and socially anxious Evelyn Beegan is determined to carve her own path in life and free herself from the influence of her social-climbing mother, who propelled her through prep school and onto the Upper East Side. Evelyn has long felt like an outsider to her privileged peers, but when she gets a job at a social network aimed at the elite, she's forced to embrace them. Recruiting new members for the site, Evelyn steps into a promised land of Adirondack camps, Newport cottages and Southampton clubs thick with socialites and Wall Streeters. Despite herself, Evelyn finds the lure of belonging intoxicating, and starts trying to pass as old money herself. When her father, a crusading class-action lawyer, is indicted for bribery, Evelyn must contend with her own family's downfall as she keeps up appearances in her new life, grasping with increasing desperation as the ground underneath her begins to give way. *Bracing*, hilarious and often poignant, Stephanie Clifford's debut offers a thoroughly modern take on classic American themes — money, ambition, family, friendship — and on the universal longing to fit in. [Three Poems](#) [ReadHowYouWant.com](#) In the tradition of Kristin Hannah and Karen Joy Fowler, Meg Waite Clayton, bestselling author of *The Wednesday Sisters*, returns with an enthralling new novel of mothers, daughters, and the secrets and dreams passed down through generations. It is early evening when Hope Tantry arrives at the small cottage in England's pastoral Lake District where her mother,

Ally, spent the last years of her life. Ally—one of a close-knit group of women who called themselves the Wednesday Sisters—had used the cottage as a writer's retreat while she worked on her unpublished biography of Beatrix Potter, yet Hope knows little about her mother's time there. Traveling with Hope are friends Anna Page and Julie, first introduced as little girls in *The Wednesday Sisters*, now grown women grappling with issues of a different era. They've come to help Hope sort through her mother's personal effects, yet what they find is a tangled family history—one steeped in Lake District lore. Hope finds a stack of Ally's old notebooks tucked away in a hidden drawer, all written in a mysterious code. As she, Julie, and Anna Page try to decipher Ally's writings—the reason for their encryption, their possible connection to the Potter manuscript—they are forced to confront their own personal struggles: Hope's doubts about her marriage, Julie's grief over losing her twin sister, Anna Page's fear of commitment in relationships. And as the real reason for Ally's stay in England comes to light, Hope, Julie, and Anna Page reach a new understanding about the enduring bonds of family, the unwavering strength of love, and the inescapable pull of the past. Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more. "The present and the past intertwine beautifully and inevitably in Meg Waite Clayton's winning follow-up to *The Wednesday Sisters*. From the beguiling Lake District setting, to a completely charming (and spot-on) portrayal of Beatrix Potter, to the way the Wednesday daughters strive to unpuzzle both their own choices and their mothers' legacies, every layer of the novel delivers. *The Wednesday Daughters* is utterly rich and satisfying." —Paula McLain, New York Times bestselling author of *The Paris Wife* "A captivating novel about mothers and daughters, lifelong

friendships, love affairs, betrayals, and redemption. Clayton transports us to the English Lake District, an area rich in literary history and romance, where her characters' secrets unfold in ways both satisfying and surprising."—J. Courtney Sullivan, New York Times bestselling author of *Commencement*, *Maine*, and *The Engagements* "Beautiful storytelling . . . [Meg Waite Clayton] delves deep into the human heart . . . and [will] keep you hanging on until the very last page is turned."—RT Book Reviews "The Wednesday Daughters is a bewitching escape of a novel. The characters became my beloved companions. I wanted it never to end."—Elin Hilderbrand, author of *Beautiful Day* "Heartwarming . . . filled with memorable characters."—Bookreporter Selected as Recommended Summer Reading by Chicago Tribune • Fort Worth Star-Telegram • San Jose Mercury News

What Is Visible Random House
A GOOD MORNING AMERICA BOOK CLUB PICK A BELLETRIST BOOK CLUB PICK For fans of *The Hours* and *Fates and Furies*, a bold, kaleidoscopic novel intertwining the lives of three women across three centuries as their stories of sex, power, and desire finally converge in the present day. Lily is a mother and a daughter. And a second wife. And a writer, maybe? Or she was going to be, before she had children. Now, in her rented Brooklyn apartment she's grappling with her sexual and intellectual desires, while also trying to manage her roles as a mother and a wife in 2016. Vivian Barr seems to be the perfect political wife, dedicated to helping her charismatic and ambitious husband find success in Watergate-era Washington D.C. But one night he demands a humiliating favor, and her refusal to obey changes the course of her life—along with the lives of others. Esther is a fiercely independent young woman in ancient Persia, where she and her uncle's tribe live a tenuous existence outside the palace walls. When an innocent

mistake results in devastating consequences for her people, she is offered up as a sacrifice to please the King, in the hopes that she will save them all. In Anna Solomon's *The Book of V.*, these three characters' riveting stories overlap and ultimately collide, illuminating how women's lives have and have not changed over thousands of years.

The Engagements Simon and Schuster
A NATIONAL BESTSELLER A New York Times Critics' Top Book of 2017 Washington Post 10 Best Books of 2017 A Harper's Bazaar Best Book of 2017 "This year's best book about family." —Ron Charles, The Washington Post A sweeping, unforgettable novel from The New York Times best-selling author of *Maine*, about the hope, sacrifice, and love between two sisters and the secret that drives them apart. Nora and Theresa Flynn are twenty-one and seventeen when they leave their small village in Ireland and journey to America. Nora is the responsible sister; she's shy and serious and engaged to a man she isn't sure that she loves. Theresa is gregarious; she is thrilled by their new life in Boston and besotted with the fashionable dresses and dance halls on Dudley Street. But when Theresa ends up pregnant, Nora is forced to come up with a plan—a decision with repercussions they are both far too young to understand. Fifty years later, Nora is the matriarch of a big Catholic family with four grown children: John, a successful, if opportunistic, political consultant; Bridget, quietly preparing to have a baby with her girlfriend; Brian, at loose ends after a failed baseball career; and Patrick, Nora's favorite, the beautiful boy who gives her no end of heartache. Estranged from her sister, Theresa is a cloistered nun, living in an

abbey in rural Vermont. Until, after decades of silence, a sudden death forces Nora and Theresa to confront the choices they made so long ago. A graceful, supremely moving novel from one of our most beloved writers, *Saints for All Occasions* explores the fascinating, funny, and sometimes achingly sad ways a secret at the heart of one family both breaks them and binds them together.

Commencement Scholastic Incorporated

To all my old friends: So here you all are. Nice to see you can show up for a person once he's dead. When Ruby St. James returns to her hometown, it is to the grave of her old friend Danny, a member of a group that was, ten years ago, Ruby's whole world. The crew made a pact back then: stay together, stay loyal, and stay honest. But that was before all of the lies. Because even friends keep secrets. They just don't stay secret for long. Now Danny has left behind a letter for each of them, issuing one final ultimatum: share your darkest betrayal to the group, or risk it coming out in a trap he has created. When past mistakes resurface, the lines of friendship blur, and four old friends are left trying to understand what it means to lie to the ones you love best.

Ashley's War Vintage

An "engaging and disarmingly honest" (People) examination of the search for love and the meaning of marriage in a time of anxiety, independence, and indecision. Weddings. They're fun, festive, and joyful, and at a time when people marry later in life—and sometimes not at all—they offer endless opportunities to reexamine love and what we want for ourselves, regardless of whether or not our aim is a walk down the aisle. In *Save*

the Date, Jen Doll charts the course of her own perennial wedding guesthood, from the ceremony of distant family members when she was eight to the recent nuptials of a new boyfriend's friends. There's the first trip home for a childhood pal's big day, in which she learns that her first love has eloped to Hawaii. There's the destination wedding attended with little baggage beyond a suitcase of strappy sandals and summery party dresses. Regrettably, there is a series of celebrations that mean the end to a valued friendship. There's also the wedding that offers all the promise of new love. Wedding experiences come in as varied an assortment as the gowns at any bridal shop, and Doll turns a keen eye to each, delivering a heartfelt exploration of contemporary relationships. Funny, honest, and affecting, *Save the Date* is a fresh and spirited look at the many ways in which we connect to one another.

A Hundred Summers Vintage
A collection of all-new Paris-themed essays written by some of the biggest names in women's fiction, including Paula McLain, Therese Anne Fowler, Maggie Shipstead, and Lauren Willig—edited by Eleanor Brown, the New York Times bestselling author of *The Weird Sisters* and *The Light of Paris*. "My time in Paris," says New York Times bestselling author Paula McLain (*The Paris Wife*), "was like no one else's ever." For each of the eighteen bestselling authors in this warm, inspiring, and charming collection of personal essays on the City of Light, nothing could be more true. While all of the women writers featured here have written books connected to Paris, their personal stories of the city are wildly different. Meg Waite Clayton (*The Race for Paris*) and M. J. Rose (*The Book of Lost Fragrances*) share the romantic secrets that have made Paris the destination for

lovers for hundreds of years. Susan Vreeland (*The Girl in Hyacinth Blue*) and J. Courtney Sullivan (*The Engagements*) peek behind the stereotype of snobbish Parisians to show us the genuine kindness of real people. From book club favorites Paula McLain, Therese Anne Fowler (*Z: A Novel of Zelda Fitzgerald*), and anthology editor Eleanor Brown (*The Light of Paris*) to mystery writer Cara Black (*Murder in the Marais*), historical author Lauren Willig (*The Secret History of the Pink Carnation*), and memoirist Julie Powell (*Julie and Julia*), these Parisian memoirs range from laugh-out-loud funny to wistfully romantic to thoughtfully somber and reflective. Perfect for armchair travelers and veterans of Parisian pilgrimages alike, readers will delight in these brand-new tales from their most beloved authors.

Madame Serpent Vintage
Hidden desires, long-held secrets, and the sacrifices people make for family and to realize their dreams are at the heart of this powerful first novel about people in a small town. By the popular Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist. In the 1950s, Ellie and Brick are teenagers in love. As a basketball star, Brick has the chance to escape his abusive father and become the first person in his blue-collar family to attend college. But after Ellie learns that she is pregnant, they get married, she gives up her dream of nursing school, and Brick gets a union card instead. This riveting novel tells the story of Brick, Ellie, and their daughter Samantha, as the frustrations of unmet desires for sex, love, identity, and meaningful work explode their lives. The evolution of women's lives over decades of the second half of the 20th century is explored, in a story that richly portrays how much people know about each other

and pretend not to--the secrets at the heart of a family.

Better to Wish Grand Central Publishing
The efforts of four late-18th-century nouveau riche fathers to win titled husbands for their piano-playing daughters is complicated by a lascivious piano teacher, a piano maker's jealous daughter and one girl's own plans about marriage. A first adult novel by the award-winning author of the DeGranville Trilogy. 50,000 first printing.