

The Old Neighborhood

A Novel

Bill Hillmann

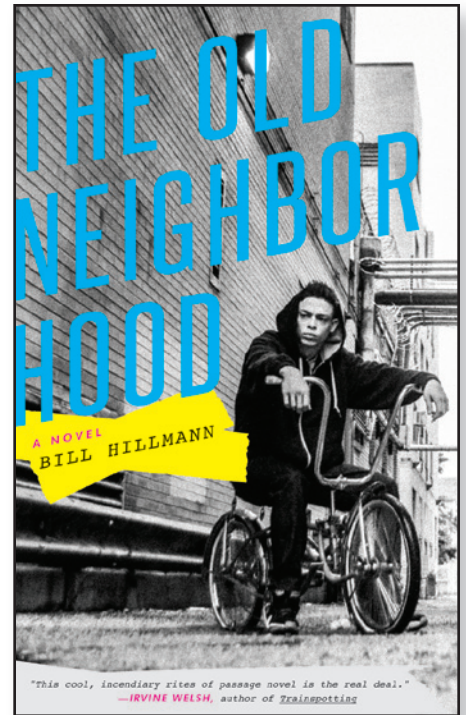
"A raucous but soulful account of growing up on the mean streets of Chicago, and the choices kids are forced to make on a daily basis. This cool, incendiary rites of passage novel is the real deal."—Irvine Welsh, author of *Trainspotting*

"Bill Hillman's *The Old Neighborhood* is like a right hook to the chin with brass knuckles, crackling with both bravery and urgency. Brilliantly evoking Nelson Algren's *Neon Wilderness* and Richard Price's *The Wanderers*, the novel is unflinchingly honest in its depictions of class and race, a deft portrait of our sometimes-less-than-fair city."—Joe Meno, best-selling author of *Hairstyles of the Damned*

A bright and sensitive teen, Joe Walsh is the youngest in a big, mixed-race Chicago family. After Joe witnesses his heroin-addicted oldest brother commit a brutal gangland murder, his friends and loved ones systematically drag him deeper into a black pit of violence that reaches a bloody impasse when his eldest sister begins dating a rival gang member.

Bill Hillmann is an award-winning writer and storyteller from Chicago, Illinois. His writing has appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*, *Newcity*, *Salon.com*, and has been broadcast on NPR. He's told stories around the world with his internationally acclaimed storytelling series the "Windy City Story Slam." Hillmann is a union construction laborer and an elite bull runner in Spain, who in the not-so-distant past was a feared street brawler, gang affiliate, drug dealer, convict, and Chicago Golden Glove Champion.

Precocious Chicago teenager Joe Walsh witnesses his heroin-addicted brother commit murder, precipitating a violent spiral that tears his family apart.



FICTION

April

5½ x 8½ | 400 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.95 | CAN \$17.50

978-1-940430-00-3 USC

eBook available

Marketing Plans

Advance reader copies

- Excerpts in: The Chicago Tribune, The Nervous Breakdown, Newcity, The Rumpus
- National TV and radio campaign
- Social media campaign
- Midwest regional, bi-coastal, and European tour
- Promotion through giveaways, signed copies, and exclusive web chats
- Promotion through: www.curbsidesplendor.com, www.goodreads.com

Author Hometown: Chicago, IL

Curbside
Splendor
Chicago Independent Publishing



FICTION
April
4½ x 7 | 240 pp
Trade Paper US \$14.95 | CAN \$16.50
978-1-940430-01-0 USC
eBook available

Marketing Plans

- Advance reader copies
- National TV and radio campaign
- Social media campaign
- Midwest regional and bi-coastal tour
- Promotion through giveaways, signed copies, and exclusive web chats
- Promotion through: www.curbsidesplendor.com, www.goodreads.com

Author Hometown: Chicago, IL

Let Go and Go On and On

A Novel

Tim Kinsella

Praise for Tim Kinsella's *The Karaoke Singer's Guide to Self-Defense*:

"For all this novel's depth of story, and that story's grip and wealthy undercurrents, Tim Kinsella's rushing, trippily meticulous prose is so exciting to follow that the story seems as much the novel's soundtrack and topography as it is the point. A thorough and wildly distinctive read." —Dennis Cooper, author of *The Marbled Swarm*

"On a number of occasions, it's shit-your-pants brilliant. Kinsella, who has been a principal member of a number of Chicago bands, is already something of royalty in the Chicago indie music scene. Consider *Self-Defense* the first entry in a case for similar esteem in indie lit." —*Newcity Lit*

Cult actress Laurie Bird's story is told in a second-person narrative, creating a fictional blurring of what little is known of her biography with her acting roles as cross-country drag-racing moll in *Two Lane Blacktop*, champion cockfighter's wife in *Cockfighter*, and mansion-dwelling Hollywood starlet in *Annie Hall*, and unravels in a bathtub where she commits suicide at the age of twenty six.

Tim Kinsella's first novel *The Karaoke Singer's Guide to Self-Defense* was named among the "Best Chicago Books of 2011" by CBS Chicago, and listed on Flavorpill's "Most Exciting New Books." Kinsella has an MFA in writing from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Since forming in 1996, Kinsella's band Joan of Arc and its related projects have released more than thirty records.

Cult actress Laurie Bird's life and films blur into a fictionalized second-person narrative that unravels when she commits suicide in a bathtub.

Once I Was Cool

Personal Essays

Megan Stielstra

Praise for Megan Stielstra's *Everyone Remain Calm*:

"Stielstra—collector, curator, and facilitator of so many stories—also writes beautifully and kinetically. Her work possesses a rare aural quality, no doubt the result of so much time on stage, or even in front of a classroom."
—*Time Out Chicago*

"The recent work of writer Megan Stielstra is an emblematic example of the hybridity that characterizes new short work infused with online elements. . . . In the collection's captivating short story 'I Am the Keymaster,' Stielstra's protagonist uses a distinctly digital mechanism—Craigslist—to approach a thoroughly corporeal problem—a need to secure affordable birth-control pills."
—*Toronto Review of Books*

With storytelling chops honed over a decade of performances at Chicago's 2nd Story storytelling series, these insightful, compassionate, gutsy, and heartbreaking personal essays explore the messy, maddening beauty of adulthood with wit, intelligence, and biting humor, tackling topics ranging from beating postpartum depression through stalking to a surprising run-in with an old lover at the symphony while on ecstasy.

Megan Stielstra is the author of *Everyone Remain Calm* and the literary director of the 2nd Story storytelling series. She's told stories for all sorts of theaters, festivals, and bars, including The Goodman, The Steppenwolf, and The Museum of Contemporary Art. Her writing has appeared in *Best American Essays*, the *Rumpus*, the *Nervous Breakdown*, and elsewhere. She teaches creative writing at Columbia College Chicago.

Insightful, compassionate, gutsy, and heartbreaking personal essays exploring the messy, maddening beauty of adulthood with wit, intelligence, and biting humor.



HUMOR / ESSAYS

May

5½ x 8½ | 200 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.95 | CAN \$17.50

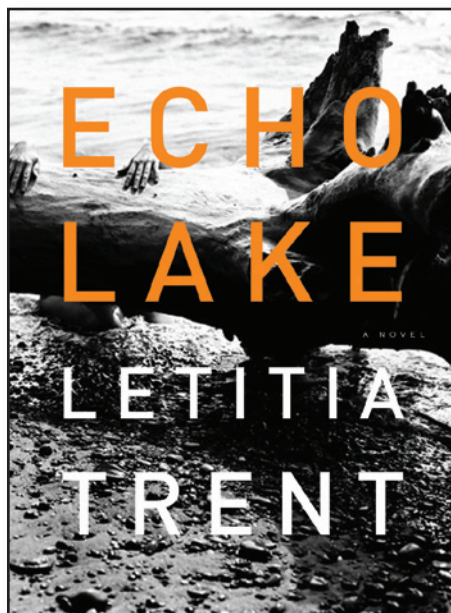
978-1-940430-02-7 USC

eBook available

Marketing Plans

- Advance reader copies
- Excerpts in: *Best American Essays*, *The Chicagoan*, *Jezebel*
- National TV and radio campaign
- Social media campaign
- Midwest regional and bi-coastal tour
- Promotion through giveaways, signed copies, exclusive web chats
- Promotion through: www.curbsidesplendor.com, www.meganstielstra.com

Author Hometown: Chicago, IL



FICTION / HORROR

August

Dark House Press

5½ x 8½ | 280 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.95 | CAN \$17.50

978-1-940430-03-4 USC

eBook available

Marketing Plans

- Advance reader copies
- National TV and radio campaign
- Social media campaign
- Midwest regional and bi-coastal tour
- Promotion through giveaways, signed copies, exclusive web chats
- Promotion through: www.curbsidesplendor.com, letitiatrentpoetry.blogspot.com

Author Hometown: Boulder, CO

Echo Lake

A Novel

Letitia Trent

Praise for Letitia Trent's *One Perfect Bird*:

"The poems in *One Perfect Bird* ride like a dirty living letter in a good, clean envelope. They are the silty Tang in our cups, the color of the hunters' vests like ribbons through the birches as they searched our forest for any rusty bursts of blood."—Kyle Minor, author of *Praying Drunk*

"Reading these poems I was reminded of the voice and vision of Marilynne Robinson's *Housekeeping*. Similarly, the emotional and psychological rawness of human thought, as crafted by Letitia Trent in surprising, elusive, and innovative lines, startles us into a recognition so profound, we're not entirely sure what we're reading or if we're reading."—Kathy Fagan, author of *Lip*

Thirty-something Emily Collins inherits her recently murdered aunt's house, deciding to move to Heartshorne, Oklahoma, to claim it and confront her family's dark past after her dead mother begins speaking to her in dreams, propelling this gothic, neo-noir thriller toward terrifying revelations of murderous small-town justice when a horrible community secret is revealed through the supernatural pull of Echo Lake.

Letitia Trent grew up in Vermont and Oklahoma and spent her teenage years traveling with her flea-marketing parents. She received her MFA in poetry from Ohio State University. Her work has appeared in journals such as the *Denver Quarterly*, *Fence*, and the *Black Warrior Review*. Her poetry collections include *One Perfect Bird* (2012) and *You aren't in this movie* (2012).

An Oklahoma gothic, neo-noir thriller, where a small town's terrifying secret is revealed in the dark undertow of Echo Lake.

The New Black

A Neo-Noir Anthology
Edited by Richard Thomas

The New Black is a collection of twenty neo-noir stories exemplifying the best authors currently writing in this dark sub-genre. A mixture of horror, crime, fantasy, science fiction, magical realism, and the grotesque—all with a literary bent—these stories are the future of genre-bending fiction.

FICTION | May | Dark House Press | 5½ x 8½ | 200 pp
 Trade Paper US \$15.95 | CAN \$17.50 | 978-1-940430-04-1 USC
 eBook available



If I Would Leave Myself Behind

Stories
Lauren Becker

Flash fictions from one of today's emerging literary stars grasping to determine whether life can "come with fewer qualifications and be less equivocal," in a world where friendships are negotiated; love is one-sided, imagined, absent, or discovered; and where "going crazy is more subtle than you'd think."

FICTION / SHORT STORIES | June | 4 x 6 | 120 pp
 Trade Paper US \$14.95 | CAN \$16.50 | 978-1-940430-07-2 USC
 eBook available



The Amazing Mister Orange

Poems
Marvin Tate

Outsider poetry inspired by Ainsworth Rosewell, self-professed genius and con man who committed suicide in 1996 by jumping from the seventh floor of the Water Tower Mall. Subjects include relationships, death, sex, drugs, dogs, immortality, and Chicago, all exploding with nontraditional humor and vibrant characters, both real and imagined.

POETRY | June | 4 x 6 | 60 pp
 Trade Paper US \$12.00 | CAN \$12.99 | 978-1-940430-05-8 USC
 eBook available



Animals in Peril

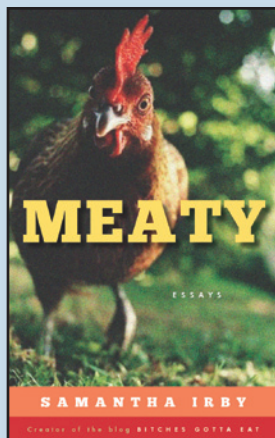
Stories
Ryan Kenaley

Midwestern narratives about our relationships with animals, brimming with love and violence, reflecting ourselves back to us through thrombotic shih tzus, decapitated skunks, and rudderless humans. Explorations of the hilarious, the offbeat, the haunting, and the gut-wrenching ways we project ourselves and our needs onto the animal kingdom.

FICTION / SHORT STORIES | July | 4 x 6 | 120 pp
 Trade Paper US \$12.00 | CAN \$12.99 | 978-1-940430-06-5 USC
 eBook available



Selected Backlist from Curbside Splendor Publishing



Meaty

Essays by Samantha Irby, Creator
of the Blog BitchesGottaEat
Samantha Irby

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY /
LITERARY COLLECTIONS
5½ x 8½ | 250 pp

Trade Paper US \$15.95 | CAN \$17.50
978-0-9884804-2-1 USC

eBook available



Zero Fade

Chris L. Terry

JUVENILE FICTION

4 x 6 | 294 pp

B&W illustrations

Trade Paper US \$12.00 | CAN \$12.99

978-0-9884804-3-8 USC

Ages 12 and up

eBook available



Don't Start Me Talkin'

Tom Williams

FICTION

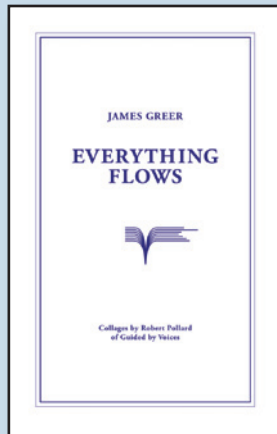
7 x 7 | 250 pp

B&W illustrations

Trade Paper US \$15.95 | CAN \$17.50

978-0-9884804-4-5 USC

eBook available



Everything Flows

James Greer

Art by Robert Pollard

FICTION

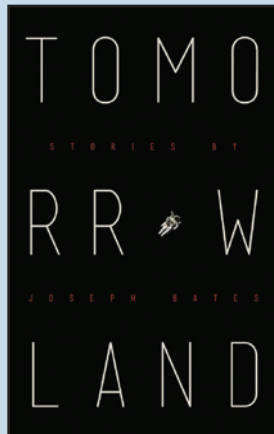
5 x 8 | 125 pp

Color illustrations throughout

Trade Paper US \$15.95 | CAN \$17.50

978-0-9834228-8-4 USC

eBook available



Tomorrowland

Joseph Bates

FICTION

5 x 8 | 160 pp

Trade Paper US \$14.95 | CAN \$16.50

978-0-9888258-1-9 USC

eBook available



Kiss As Many Women As You Can

Franki Elliot

Art by Shawn Stucky

ART / FICTION

7 x 5 | 55 pp

Color illustrations

Trade Paper US \$19.95 | CAN \$21.99

978-0-9884804-5-2 USC

eBook available