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VQBWPU - DARION KENYON

From the internationally acclaimed bestselling author of Code Name Verity comes a stunning new story of pearls, love and murder a mystery with all the suspense of an Agatha Christie and the intrigue of Downton Abbey. Sixteen-year-old Julie Beaufort-Stuart is returning to her family's ancestral home in Perthshire for one last summer. It is not an idyllic return to childhood. Her grandfather's death has forced the sale of the house and estate and this will be a summer of goodbyes. Not least to the McEwen family Highland travellers who have been part of the landscape for as long as anyone can remember loved by the family, loathed by the authorities. Tensions are already high when a respected London archivist goes missing, presumed murdered. Suspicion quickly falls on the McEwens but Julie knows not one of them would do such a thing and is determined to prove everyone wrong. And then she notices the family's treasure trove of pearls is missing. This beautiful and evocative novel is the story of the irrepressible and unforgettable Julie, set in the year before the Second World War and the events of Code Name Verity. It is also a powerful portrayal of a community under pressure and one girl's determination for justice.

Can one find love again? Julie's husband was killed in a car smash three years ago. She is bullied into taking a cruise by her sister Susan, who works in the gift shop on the ship. Robert, who lost his fiancée just before their wedding, has other things on his mind as he tries to solve the mystery of thefts from passengers. Then Steven, a figure from the past, takes a hand.

A rescued rogue . . . Scandal has rocked the city of London. Colin Eversea, a handsome, reckless unapologetic rogue is sentenced to hang for murder and, inconveniently for him, the only witness to the crime disappears. Then again, throughout history, the Everseas have always managed to cheat fate in style: Colin is snatched from the gallows by a beautiful, clever mercenary. A captivating captor. . . Cool-headed, daring Madeleine Greenway is immune to Colin's vaunted charm. Her mission is not to rescue Colin but to kidnap him, and to be paid handsomely for it. But when it becomes clear that whoever wants Colin alive wants Madeline dead, the two become uneasy allies in a deadly race for truth. Together, they'll face great danger—and a passion neither can resist.

INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER Longlisted for the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize Named A Most Anticipated Book of 2022 by *Marie Claire* *Washington Post* *Vulture* *NBC News* *Buzzfeed* *Veranda* *PopSugar* *Paste* *The Millions* *Bustle* *Crimereads* Goodreads* *Bookbub* *Boston.com* and more! "The thefts are engaging and surprising, and the narrative brims with international intrigue. Li, however, has delivered more than a straight thriller here, especially in the

parts that depict the despair Will and his pals feel at being displaced, overlooked, underestimated and discriminated against. This is as much a novel as a reckoning." —New York Times Book Review Ocean's Eleven meets The Farewell in Portrait of a Thief, a lush, lyrical heist novel inspired by the true story of Chinese art vanishing from Western museums; about diaspora, the colonization of art, and the complexity of the Chinese American identity. History is told by the conquerors. Across the Western world, museums display the spoils of war, of conquest, of colonialism: priceless pieces of art looted from other countries, kept even now. Will Chen plans to steal them back. A senior at Harvard, Will fits comfortably in his carefully curated roles: a perfect student, an art history major and sometimes artist, the eldest son who has always been his parents' American Dream. But when a mysterious Chinese benefactor reaches out with an impossible—and illegal—job offer, Will finds himself something else as well: the leader of a heist to steal back five priceless Chinese sculptures, looted from Beijing centuries ago. His crew is every heist archetype one can imagine—or at least, the closest he can get. A con artist: Irene Chen, a public policy major at Duke who can talk her way out of anything. A thief: Daniel Liang, a premed student with steady hands just as capable of lockpicking as suturing. A getaway driver: Lily Wu, an engineering major who races cars in her free time. A hacker: Alex Huang, an MIT dropout turned Silicon Valley software engineer. Each member of his crew has their own complicated relationship with China and the identity they've cultivated as Chinese Americans, but when Will asks, none of them can turn him down. Because if they succeed? They earn fifty million dollars—and a chance to make history. But if they fail, it will mean not just the loss of everything they've dreamed for themselves but yet another thwarted attempt to take back what colonialism has stolen. Equal parts beautiful, thoughtful, and thrilling, Portrait of a Thief is a cultural heist and an examination of Chinese American identity, as well as a necessary critique of the lingering effects of colonialism.

"Julie Anne Long reinvents the historical romance for modern readers, delivering intense, passionate characters and high adventure. Her writing glows." —Amanda Quick "You will LOVE the Pennyroyal Green series." —Julia Quinn A notorious lady learns just how wicked a good man can be in the latest installment of RITA Award nominee Julie Anne Long's emotionally charged Pennyroyal Green series. A Notorious Countess Confesses is absolutely unputdownable historical romance for fans of Karen Hawkins and Sabrina Jeffries; another gem in the bestselling series set in Regency England and centered on a long-standing feud between members of two wealthy Sussex families, the Eversea and Redmond clans. The breathtaking romantic adventures of a former courtesan-turned-noblewoman, A Notorious Countess Confesses stokes the Pennyroyal fires hotter than ever before, providing readers

with all the passion, scandal, and true love they could possibly hope for.

Will falling in love give them a second chance? Or tear them apart? Liddy's new job as a concierge at a seaside inn, along with the inn's quirky inhabitants, offer her something she desperately needs: the chance to start over. Soon she meets Beau, a captivating widower longing for his own fresh start. But one day, Liddy discovers another setback brewing in her life, one that may derail a second chance at love with Beau - or anyone else, for that matter. Will Liddy have the courage to trust a man again? Can Beau commit to a woman facing a surprising challenge? And what is going on behind the scenes at Sea Glass Inn, where late night deliveries and secret meetings are spoken about in whispers? Walking on Sea Glass is a sweet romance filled with humor, heart, and the power of true love. Read all three novels in the Sea Glass Inn series: Walking on Sea Glass - Book 1 Runaway Tide - Book 2 Windswept - Book 3 (Preorder now) "Poignant ..." ~ Kathryn Cushman, author of Fading Starlight

P.E. You either loved it or hated it, looked forward to it or dreaded it, but we've all been forced to do it. Sometimes a note could get you out of it, but the following week there you'd be again, writhing on a cold and dusty gym floor in your underwear. Skinny, timid, knock-kneed Julie Myerson was 'not a games person', according to her teachers. In this touching, funny and occasionally devastating exploration of her childhood, she now asks the question: why not?

Tyler has a perfect shot on the basketball court. Since he can't miss, he quits passing to his teammates. But will Tyler learn that nobody wants to play with a ball hog?

When Princesses Rosalie and Scarlet went to bed on a breezy summer night, they didn't expect to awake to such a fright. Their father, the king's, scepter was taken by a thief. The royal family was in utter disbelief. The princesses sneak out of bed and find a small clue. Their mission is clear, they know what they must do. Along their journey, they meet friends who help them track the thief down. Will they find him and return the scepter to their father who wears the crown?

Stay? Lose all she's ever known. Go? Lose the love of a lifetime. As a struggling, 21st century farmer, Kenzie MacMartin knows if she doesn't recover that registered ram that cost her a bundle, her dog won't be the only one howling in the Highlands. And to make matters worse, when she chases that fool sheep through a cave, she discovers a troupe of trespassing re-enactors mucking up her land with some kind of clan skirmish complete with realistic weapons, monstrous warhorses, and a restless herd of Highland cows. The only upside is their strikingly handsome leader-until he kidnaps her. Mathias Stronach questions his sanity in laying claim to the strangely dressed woman and her vicious wee dog. Perhaps he should have let the MacPhersons take her prisoner. Then, she would've distracted them instead of him. Such daring and fire in this feisty lass. He'd bet his best dagger; her passions burn just as fiercely. And that fine round backside of hers nestled between his thighs as they ride. Makes a man think twice about choices he's made. Like promising to marry a woman he's never loved so he can be the next chieftain of Clan Stronach. When Kenzie realizes she's barged into the thirteenth century, her priority is getting back to that cave and hoping if she retraces her steps, she'll find her way back home. But vengeful clans, a medieval sociopath, and the mesmerizing warrior who draws her in like a bee to sweet clover thwarts that priority at every turn. Her head knows better. Her heart refuses to listen. She misses her family, is worried about her farm, and would kill for coffee and a toothbrush. But those aren't the worst things about traveling back several centuries.

The worst thing is loving a man who, once she returns to her time, will have been dead for over eight hundred years.

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *If You Dare* and *If You Desire* comes the third in the MacCarrick Brothers series featuring a handsome and mysterious Highlander. Ethan MacCarrick was a heartbreakingly handsome rake until a powerful nobleman ordered him brutally beaten and his face scarred for a crime he didn't commit. Ethan's reprisal—bankrupting the nobleman and forcing his exile—does little to appease his wrath. Ten years later, a haughty, mysterious beauty enchants Ethan—the daughter of his enemy. At last, Ethan will have the revenge he's craved; he'll promise her marriage, seduce her, then cast her aside. When Madeleine van Rowen's family was suddenly plunged into destitution and dishonor, she steeled herself against further heartache. She never weakened, never trusted, until a towering, scarred Highlander relentlessly pursues her, breaking down her defenses. The passion between them burns hotter than Ethan's fury, and soon he finds he can't let her go. But when Madeleine uncovers the truth about him, can Ethan convince her to accept all he now offers—when he once destroyed everything she had?

A dark and intricate fantasy, *City of the Uncommon Thief* is the story of a quarantined city gripped by fear and of the war that can free it. "Guilders work. Foundlings scrub the bogs. Needles bind. Swords tear. And men leave. There is nothing uncommon in this city. I hope Errol Thebes is dead. We both know he is safer that way." In a walled city of a mile-high iron guild towers, many things are common knowledge: No book in any of the city's libraries reveals its place on a calendar or a map. No living beasts can be found within the city's walls. And no good comes to the guildler or foundling who trespasses too far from their labors. Even on the tower rooftops, where Errol Thebes and the rest of the city's teenagers pass a few short years under an open sky, no one truly believes anything uncommon is possible within the city walls. But one guildmaster has broken tradition to protect her child, and now the whole city faces an uncommon threat: a pair of black iron spikes that has the power of both sword and needle on the rib cages of men has gone missing, but the mayhem they cause rises everywhere. If the spikes are not found, no wall will be high enough to protect the city—or the world beyond it. And Errol Thebes? He's not dead and he's certainly not safe.

In the tradition of "Julie and Romeo" comes an irresistible love story about two middle-aged people who learn that it is indeed possible to rewrite chapters of their lives.

A fantastic new cozy mystery series with a vintage flair from USA Today bestselling and Agatha Award-winning author Ellen Byron. Twenty-eight-year-old widow Ricki James leaves Los Angeles to start a new life in New Orleans after her showboating actor husband perishes doing a stupid internet stunt. The Big Easy is where she was born and adopted by the NICU nurse who cared for her after Ricki's teen mother disappeared from the hospital. Ricki's dream comes true when she joins the quirky staff of Bon Vee Culinary House Museum, the spectacular former Garden District home of late bon vivant Genevieve "Vee" Charbonnet, the city's legendary restaurateur. Ricki is excited about turning her avocation - collecting vintage cookbooks - into a vocation by launching the museum's gift shop, Miss Vee's Vintage Cookbooks and Kitchenware. Then she discovers that a box of donated vintage cookbooks contains the body of a cantankerous Bon Vee employee who was fired after being exposed as a book thief. The skills Ricki has developed ferreting out hidden vintage treasures come in handy for investigations. But both her business and Bon Vee could wind up as deadstock when

Ricki's past as curator of a billionaire's first edition collection comes back to haunt her. Will Miss Vee's Vintage Cookbooks and Kitchenware be a success ... or a recipe for disaster?

Sinister sorcery. Gallows humor. A queer romance so glorious it could be right out of fae legend itself. Master of One is a fantasy unlike any other. Rags the thief has never met a pocket he couldn't pick, but when he's captured by a sorcerer with world-ending plans, he realizes even he is in over his head. Forced to use his finely honed skills to nab pieces of an ancient fae relic, Rags is stunned to discover that those "relics" just happen to be people: A distractingly handsome Fae prince, A too-honorable Queensguard deserter, A scrappy daughter of a disgraced noble family, A deceptively sweet-natured prince, A bona fide member of the Resistance, And him. Rags. They may all be captives in the sorcerer's terrible scheme, but that won't stop them from fighting back. And, sure, six unexpected allies against one wicked enemy doesn't make for generous odds, but lucky for him, Rag's not generous—he's smart. And he has a plan that just might get them out of this alive. With the heist and intrigue of Six of Crows and the dark fairy tale feel of The Cruel Prince, this young adult fantasy debut will have readers rooting for a pair of reluctant heroes as they take on a world-ending fae prophecy, a malicious royal plot, and, most dangerously of all, their feelings for each other.

From the internationally acclaimed bestselling author of Code Name Verity comes a stunning new story of pearls, love and murder - a mystery with all the suspense of an Agatha Christie and the intrigue of Downton Abbey. Sixteen-year-old Julie Beaufort-Stuart is returning to her family's ancestral home in Perthshire for one last summer. It is not an idyllic return to childhood. Her grandfather's death has forced the sale of the house and estate and this will be a summer of goodbyes. Not least to the McEwen family - Highland travellers who have been part of the landscape for as long as anyone can remember - loved by the family, loathed by the authorities. Tensions are already high when a respected London archivist goes missing, presumed murdered. Suspicion quickly falls on the McEwens but Julie knows not one of them would do such a thing and is determined to prove everyone wrong. And then she notices the family's treasure trove of pearls is missing. This beautiful and evocative novel is the story of the irrepressible and unforgettable Julie, set in the year before the Second World War and the events of Code Name Verity. It is also a powerful portrayal of a community under pressure and one girl's determination for justice.

In Emily Colin's exquisite debut novel, perfect for the fans of Kristin Hannah, one man's vow to his wife sparks a remarkable journey that tests the pull of memory and reaffirms the bonds of love. Before Madeleine Kimble's mountaineer husband, Aidan, climbs Mount McKinley's south face, he makes her a solemn vow: I will come back to you. But late one night, Maddie gets the devastating news that Aidan has died in an avalanche, leaving her to care for their son—a small boy with a very big secret. The call comes from J.C., Aidan's best friend and fellow climber, whose grief is seasoned with survivor's guilt . . . and something more. J.C. has loved Maddie for years, but he never wanted his chance with her to come at so terrible a cost. Across the country, Nicholas Sullivan wakes from a motorcycle crash with his memory wiped clean. Yet his dreams are haunted by visions of a mysterious woman and a young boy, neither of whom he has ever met. Convinced that these strangers hold the answers he seeks, Nicholas leaves everything behind to find them. What he discovers will require a leap of faith that will change all of their lives forever. "Dazzlingly original and as haunting as a dream, Emily Colin's mesmerizing debut explores the way memory, love, and great loss bind our

lives together in ways we might never expect. From its audacious opening to its knockout last pages, I was enthralled."—Caroline Leavitt, New York Times bestselling author of Pictures of You "In The Memory Thief, love itself is a character, able to transcend all natural boundaries to find its way home, or learn to let go. Emily Colin writes about loss with heartbreaking conviction, and yet there is a knowing sweetness at the core of this richly emotional tale. Here is a lovely, self-assured debut from a writer to watch."—Joshilyn Jackson, New York Times bestselling author of A Grown-Up Kind of Pretty

The acclaimed author of "The Runaway Duke" returns with this second Regency-era romance in which an impoverished pickpocket is transformed into a lady of high society by a brilliant barrister. Original.

"A charming, action-packed heist." —Publishers Weekly Don't miss this new high-stakes romantic caper series, where they're planning the art heist of the century—to right the wrongs of the past. When catching a thief requires becoming one. Jared Towers has skills. One of them is being able to talk his way out of—or into—anything. Audrey Abbott has skills, too. Need something hacked and only the best will do? She's your girl. He's charming. She's reclusive. They have absolutely nothing in common—except for a driving desire to take care of those who need it the most. For Jared, that means assembling a team of thieves to steal back what rightfully belongs to the victims of a crime perpetrated by his own father. For Audrey, it means doing whatever she can to make sure her grandma never has to worry again. And now they have something else in common: the art heist of the century. It was supposed to be all business. Get in and get out, then move on to the next target. But when Jared finds himself falling for Audrey, artwork isn't the only thing at risk of being stolen... Counterfeit Capers Book 1: It Takes a Thief Book 2: Between Two Thieves Book 3: To Catch a Thief

She can never forget her past - or forgive... Severine Kassel is asked by the Louvre to aid the British Museum with curating its antique jewellery. Her London colleagues find her distant and mysterious. No one could imagine that she is a desperately damaged woman, hiding her trauma behind her chic, French image. It is only when some dramatic Byzantine pearls are loaned to the Museum that Severine's poise is dashed and the tightly controlled life she's built around herself is shattered. Her shocking revelation of their provenance sets off a frenzied hunt for Nazi Ruda Mayek. Mossad's interest is triggered and one of its most skilled agents comes out of retirement to join the hunt, while the one person who can help her - the solicitor handling the Pearls - is bound by client confidentiality. As Severine follows Mayek's trail, there is still one lifelong secret for her to reveal - and one for her to discover.

A gentleman scribes penny dreadful novels by night and falls in love with a woman who is a music teacher by day--and a thief at night. LONDON 1865 From the moment Hollis Darby meets Ana Newport, he's smitten. Even though he's from a wealthy, established family and she isn't, he wishes he could have a life with her by his side. But Hollis has a secret: the deep coffers that have kept his family afloat for generations are bare, so he supports himself by writing penny dreadfuls under a pseudonym. If not for the income from his novels, he would be broke. Ana Newport also has a secret. Though she once had a place in society thanks to her father's successful business, bankruptcy and scandal reduced his fortune to nothing more than a crumbling town house. So Ana teaches music during the day, and at night she assumes the identity of the "Phantom Fox." She breaks into the

homes of the wealthy to reclaim trinkets and treasures she feels were unjustly stolen from her family when they were struggling. When Hollis's brother needs to hire a music tutor for his daughter, Hollis recommends Ana, giving him a chance to spend time with her. Ana needs the income and is eager for the opportunity to get to know the enigmatic gentleman. What neither of them expects is how difficult it will be to keep their respective secrets from each other. When a spree of robberies rocks the city, Ana and Hollis join forces to solve the crimes, discovering that working together deepens the affection between them. After all, who better to save the day than a gentleman and a thief? Ruined! No one could ever accuse Rebecca Tremaine of being a proper young lady. She's wretched at embroidery, pitiful at the pianoforte, and entirely too informed about the human body, courtesy of her father's scientific journals. And now she's been compromised by a dandy she despises! When her parents arrange a hasty marriage, there is only one man she can turn to for help. Rescued! No one knows that Irish groom Connor Riordan is the fifth Duke of Dunbrooke, "killed" in action at Waterloo, and he wants it to stay that way. But a true gentleman never turns away a damsel in distress. Soon Connor and Rebecca dash away—only to be pursued by bumbling highwaymen, a scheming duchess, and Rebecca's fiancé. Ravished! Being with the beautiful and desirable Rebecca jeopardizes Connor's secret every day—and tests his willpower every night. For if ever there was a reason to bring the Duke of Dunbrooke back from the dead, it would be to make Miss Tremaine his Duchess! "A fresh voice that stands out....Delicious and delightful!" —Karen Hawkins Romance superstar Amanda Quick calls Julie Anne Long, "a fantastic writer," and says, "her writing glows." Suzanne Enoch calls Long's work, "warm, witty, and fabulous!" This rapidly rising star of historical romance dazzles once again with *What I Did For a Duke*—the next fabulous installment in her sensual and emotionally charged Pennyroyal Green series. This Regency delight focuses on a dark duke with a sinful reputation and his determined efforts to seduce and ruin the innocent sister of his enemy—only to fall victim himself to the gentle lady's good nature and passionate soul. *What I Did For a Duke* follows Long's delightful *I Kissed an Earl*, continuing the colorful feud between the Eversea and Redmond families, and it's one of the most scandalously entertaining love stories in many a season. To hold onto her inheritance, Caroline must marry. But getting a husband isn't easy, because her estate is haunted by Lord Hamilton. Desperate, she marries a rake from one of the worst criminal districts in London. As she falls in love with him, she wonders if he is possessed by the ghost. This light-hearted Regency romance is a departure for Beard.

Zack's cupcake went missing, and someone ate the evidence. Is Tyler innocent—or guilty? Only the Student Court can decide!

Long's trilogy about the three orphaned daughters of a murdered government official continues in this second steamy Regency-era novel. Original.

Eleven-year-old Sam's first visit to the remote west coast of Vancouver Island is nothing like she'd expected. Her older cousins tease "the city kid" mercilessly, when they're not ignoring her altogether. She often finds herself left to her own devices. Still, the woods and beaches around Brackenwood Point offer plenty of room to explore. Then, one day, Sam comes face-to-face with a wild cougar and her two cubs, and her summer vacation suddenly gets much more exciting.

An enigmatic secret agent helps a young lady in London find the truth of her birth in this poignant tale of love and danger. Original.

How do you stop being a thief? Zizy assumed quitting her job, stealing from her boss, and flitting magically across the continent was one way to give it a go. Getting in and out of sticky situations is her specialty. A little spellwork here, a little deception there and she's home free. But even a quick-fingered, fast-talking, charming gnome can find danger . . . even if she does have the skills to keep herself from getting killed. Pressed into a mission she can't say no to, Zizy feels desperate, out of place, and as lonely as before. But when she meets a charming book hoarder with bold curiosity, Zizy can't help but want to bring her along on this one last job. She'll just hide her past, her present, and the complicated info about herself. What could go wrong? Either she finishes the job and protects those she loves, or it all falls apart. Is this journey the final key to unlock a new path or just another sticky situation she has to run from? She'll use every tool she's got to get what she wants.

August Strindberg's masterpiece portrayal of the conflict between sexual passion and social position. Contains the full text, commentary, notes for students, a chronology of the author's life, and context of the play.

Shortlisted for the Peters Book of the Year. A shocking story of rebellion and revelation set in a contemporary Nazi England. Jessika Keller is a good girl: she obeys her father, does her best to impress Herr Fisher at the Bund Deutscher Mädel meetings and is set to be a world champion ice skater. Her neighbour Clementine is not so submissive. Outspoken and radical, Clem is delectably dangerous and rebellious. And the regime has noticed. Jess cannot keep both her perfect life and her dearest friend. But which can she live without? *THE BIG LIE* is a thought-provoking and beautifully told story that explores ideas of loyalty, sexuality and protest.

The beloved #1 New York Times bestseller, a "fiendishly plotted" (New York Times) "heart-in-your-mouth adventure" (Washington Post) that "will take wing and soar into your heart" (Laurie Halse Anderson). October 11th, 1943--A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun. When "Verity" is arrested by the Gestapo, she's sure she doesn't stand a chance. As a secret agent captured in enemy territory, she's living a spy's worst nightmare. Her Nazi interrogators give her a simple choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution. As she intricately weaves her confession, Verity uncovers her past, how she became friends with the pilot Maddie, and why she left Maddie in the wrecked fuselage of their plane. On each new scrap of paper, Verity battles for her life, confronting her views on courage, failure and her desperate hope to make it home. But will trading her secrets be enough to save her from the enemy? A universally acclaimed Michael L. Printz Award Honor book, *Code Name Verity* is a visceral read of danger, resolve, and survival that shows just how far true friends will go to save each other.

When a fox carries off a hen from outside a cottage, the other animals--a bear, a rabbit, and a rooster--give chase.

Julie and the Phantoms' adventures continue in this original novel based on the hit Netflix show from Descendants director Kenny Ortega! Julie Molina and her band, Julie and the Phantoms, play their dream gig at the Orpheum. It was supposed to be Luke, Reggie, and Alex's unfinished business as ghosts, so they could cross over. But they didn't. And now, suddenly, Julie can feel them. Whatever happens next, Julie and the guys know they've just had one of the best days of their (after)lives. And it gets Luke and Julie thinking about their last perfect days. . . For Luke, it was the day he died the

day Sunset Curve was supposed to play the Orpheum. For Julie, it was the day before she found out her mom was sick—the last normal day before her life changed forever. This exclusive Julie and the Phantoms story is told in flashbacks and alternating points of view!

While pulling weeds and planting seeds with her dad on Hazel Ridge Farm's prairie, Heather discovers a wood duckling alone in the grass. Worried for the duckling's safety, Heather asks her dad if she can care for him. "You have to keep him safe and warm and fed. You have to teach him how to be a duck—to swim, to hunt for bugs, and how to fly." Aptly named Mr. Peet for his chirping sound, the duckling accompanies Heather as she feeds the chickens, rabbits, and horses. They spend the summer swimming together in the pond, and Mr. Peet eventually masters how to fly. Heather becomes concerned when she hasn't seen Mr. Peet in 10 days. Her dad reassures her that the wood duck may have found his own place in nature. Heather is proud of her work and she knows Mr. Peet will be ok, because she loved him just enough.

The Comet and the Thief is a fresh, fantasy time-slip between two periods in British history: Georgian and Medieval. Kit, a born actor, hates being a thief in eighteenth century London. When wicked Lord Colwich hires him to steal a missing page from a mysterious medieval book in his library, it results in Kit having to flee the city...

Nell MacInnes can spot a forgery from a mile away. After all, she learned from the best—her father is one of the art world's most notorious thieves. His brutal beating by the very authorities who claim to

keep the world safe from harm taught her one more valuable lesson—trust no one. The last thing rugged navy SEAL Dakota Smith needs on his mission is a tempting woman he doesn't trust. But a sketch by Leonardo da Vinci has gone missing, and the art conservator's skill in detecting forgery would be invaluable, if only her ties to the criminal world are as dead as she says they are. Soon an edgy partnership and white-hot attraction are forged between Nell and Dakota as they race to Draycott Abbey to track down a ruthless criminal with terrorist ties before time runs out—and the da Vinci is lost forever.

From the internationally bestselling author of *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats*, a moving tale of forbidden love and extraordinary courage in the face of disaster. Eighteen-year-old Niri and his family live a modest but secure life working in the villa of the wealthy Benzes. But when the pandemic comes, they are all let go, and left staring into the abyss of abject poverty. As their situation grows increasingly desperate, the once rule-abiding monastery student decides he won't wait at the mercy of a corrupt, indifferent government, and rebels against his father's resigned acceptance. Sneaking through the locked-down city at night, past the military patrols, Niri returns to the villa to take what his family needs to survive. Waiting for him there is his childhood friend—and the Benzes' daughter—Mary, who has a bigger plan that will change their lives forever. A universal story of love across social classes, *The Rebel and the Thief* poignantly shows how adversity can teach us what matters most: courage to resist, will to change, and unconditional trust in each other.