

## Blackbirds Eric Jerome Dickey

As a hit man from the time he was very young, money, women, and danger have always ruled Gideon's life; but for the first time, it's taking its toll. Still, Gideon is about to launch his biggest act of revenge yet... one he believes will destroy his adversary, Midnight, once and for all. Taking down Midnight's team isn't so clear cut thanks to two dangerous women. Is it possible that Midnight's downfall will come from the inside, or will Gideon finally meet his match?

New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey takes readers on the ride of a lifetime in this fierce novel of seduction, intrigue, and betrayal featuring hit man Gideon. Gideon trusts no one. But when his former lover resurfaces in need of his skills, Gideon accepts. The assignment leads to Argentina and a team of international mercenaries who will maim, kill, and torture to achieve victory. One of them has a connection to Gideon that neither assassin is aware of, a secret link that reaches into Gideon's past and plunges him into a double-cross so explosive no one will make it out unscarred.

A seasonal tale features the story of three very different sisters, each with her own set of man problems, and follows themes of humor, romance, and holiday spice.

New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey presents a powerful novel about grifters and con artists, brothers and sisters, looking for love and making ends meet—on the wrong side of the law.... Dante black did his stretch of hard time in juvenile jail. Now he's out...and down. Facing a mountain of unpaid bills, a car on its last legs, and imminent eviction, he doesn't stand a chance with Pam, a sexy waitress/actress on the hunt for a man with means. Enter Scamz, a slick brother from Dante's past cruising L.A. in custom-tailored suits and a Benz CL600. He's got a job that'll put Dante back on top—especially with Pam. Seduced by easy money, she's finding Dante suddenly irresistible. But then the perfect sting goes horribly wrong, and a dangerous game is just beginning.

All is fair in love and lust in New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey's tale of two brothers, four women, and the business of desire. Unlike their younger brother, André, whose star as a comedian is rising, neither Dwayne nor Brick Duquesne is having luck with his career--and they're unluckier still in love. Former child star Dwayne has just been fired from his latest acting role and barely has enough money to get by after paying child support to his spiteful former lover, while Brick struggles to return to his uninspiring white-collar job after suffering the dual blows of a health emergency and a nasty breakup with the woman he still loves. Neither brother is looking to get entangled with a woman anytime soon, but love--and lust--has a way of twisting the best-laid plans. When Dwayne tries to reconnect with his teenage son, he finds himself fighting to separate his animosity from his attraction for his son's mother, Frenchie. And Brick's latest source of income--chauffeur and bodyguard to three smart, independent women temporarily working as escorts in order to get back on their feet--opens a world of possibility in both love and money. Penny, Christiana, and Mocha Latte know plenty of female johns who would pay top dollar for a few hours with a man like Brick . . . if he can let go of his past, embrace his unconventional new family, and allow strangers to become lovers. Eric Jerome Dickey paints a powerful portrait of the family we have, the families we create, and every sexy moment in between.

Eric Jerome Dickey, author of fourteen New York Times bestselling novels, imagines

the formative college years of one of his most popular heroines, Nia Simone Bijou. This Penguin Special includes a preview of *Decadence*, coming April 2013. From her first days at Virginia's Hampton University, impressionable, creative Nia falls smitten with Chris Eidos Alleyne, an athlete and a scholar. "Love is sweet nothings and beautiful promises," Nia writes in her journal. What her girlfriends know, and her mother doesn't, is that Chris's expression of love is deeply physical. Wielding powerful charisma, Chris soon has Nia abandoning innocence for experience. Believing that Chris will reward her sacrifices with lifelong commitment, Nia thrills to her newfound pleasures. She knows in her heart that each act of intimacy draws them ever closer. But when the Big Man on Campus learns to take what is freely given, without regard to love, Nia finds herself newly enrolled in Heartbreak 101. *The Education of Nia Simone Bijou* is a rousing tale of youthful passion, once kindled, never extinguished.

As a low-level enforcer in Los Angeles, Ken Swift knows danger - especially in his tangled romances. Divorced from one woman, in love with another, and with a strong desire to get to know a third, his life is far from perfect, and it becomes all the more complicated when his troubled daughter resurfaces. Marguax is pregnant, and when she demands \$50,000 for her shotgun wedding, the tension-filled reunion spreads far beyond their family. As raw emotions surface, they ignite revenge, love, longing, desperation, and despair... and the flames just might be deadly.

Records how a racist beating in a small Mississippi town ripples through generations, changing forever the lives of everyone involved in the incident

On a cold and rainy night during the Christmas season, a woman who has suffered great personal loss and a successful businessman from Orange County meet by chance at a gas station in Los Angeles County. They have nothing in common, but as they engage in conversation they end up sequestered in an upscale hotel room. During intimacy, they continue to confide in each other and try to come to grips with their problems and their seasonal loneliness. For one night, their passion is boundless, but with every tick of the clock, their separate pasts close in.

Five Nights at Freddy's fans won't want to miss this pulse-pounding collection of three novella-length tales that will keep even the bravest FNAF player up at night... Haunted by the past . . . To avoid confronting an ugly truth, Nole falls prey to a monster that punishes past transgressions. Growing weaker by the day, nine-year-old Jake looks back on the time before he was sick, imagining life as if he were well again. And, forever desperate to prove his worth to his arrogant brother and distant father, Toby chases victory at an arcade game with horrifying consequences. But in the unpredictable world of Five Nights at Freddy's, sometimes the past can take on a life of its own. In this sixth volume, Five Nights at Freddy's creator Scott Cawthon spins three sinister novella-length stories from different corners of his series' canon, featuring cover art from fan-favorite artist LadyFiszi. Readers beware: This collection of terrifying tales is enough to unsettle even the most hardened Five Nights at Freddy's fans.

Bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey's creations "have enough sultry self-confidence to suggest, at their best, a Prince song on paper" (The New York Times). Now, he puts a twist on the love triangle in this sexy, searing, and wise novel. Nicole made a bold move by dumping her fiance at the altar. From there, she's built a successful career, relocated north to Oakland, and fallen in love all over again—this time with a woman. But Nicole's still not entirely happy. Don't get her wrong—she likes what she has. It's just that

she misses what she had. The question is, can she have it all? As she brings her ex back into her life and tests the boundaries between lovers, you'd better believe that the anger, jealousy, excitement, and passion of this triangle are going to run hot.... Nicole is playing with fire, not to mention the feelings of the two people who love her most in the world. How these three fascinating people handle this unusual and complex relationship makes for one of Dickey's most provocative and unforgettable novels.

The Blackbirds Penguin

At age forty-five, Lena McPherson tires of being a single woman in her hometown of Mulberry, Georgia, so she and a friend conjure the spirit of a one-hundred-year-old ghost to serve as her companion

New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey presents one of his most intimate and emotionally resonant novels—a story about marriage, infidelity, and sweet and savage revenge. She works nights. He works days. Their sex is routine. Their conversations are empty. Something's got to give. It does, when she discovers her husband's affair. The delicate fabric of their increasingly tenuous marriage is torn asunder—but neither is prepared for what happens next. An unforgivable betrayal is about to yield the most unexpected surprises, as a husband and wife face a challenge of trust, faith, and the staying power of love.... “Dickey has developed a knack for creating characters who elicit both rage and sympathy... The nameless narrator, a routine-bound suburban Californian, learns of her husband's philandering ways. But this dame is no hapless victim of infidelity: She takes charge... Dickey taps the intimate emotions of a woman whose hurt we feel viscerally.”—Entertainment Weekly

Contract killer Gideon becomes the hunted in this “high-octane”\* thriller from New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey. A heated encounter in a London hotel room leaves international hit man Gideon waking up to a world where no one can be trusted. Because this time, someone's taken out a hit on him—and finding out who did it has him rethinking a dangerous past. Is it the man he left alive in Tampa, the cold beauty who taught him how to kill, the scorned woman he still desires, or an unknown enemy? One thing is for sure, Gideon will need his friends—and his enemies—to get out of this game alive.

New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey, “one of the most successful Black authors of the last quarter-century”\* explores the depths of desire in this sensual blockbuster. Born in Trinidad and living in Atlanta after a relationship gone bad, Nia Simone Bijou is an ambitious writer who has it all. Except for the one thing that'll give her the control she craves—and the power she deserves: absolute, uninhibited sexual satisfaction. Now, in the sweltering days and nights of summer, the heat is on. Nia's fantasies will become a reality—with man after man after man. She will shatter the limits of erotic love. She will open herself up to experiences she never dared before. And as her fantasies begin to spin out of control, she'll discover the unexpected price of the extreme. \*The New York Times

"A bighearted novel about family, migration, and the unbearable difficulties of love. Here's a cast of characters you won't soon forget." Ayana Mathis, author of *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* "Winslow's impressive debut novel introduces readers to both a flawed, fascinating character in fiction and a wonderful new voice in literature." *Real Simple*, Best Books of 2019 A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice Winner of the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize Named a Most Anticipated Novel by TIME

MAGAZINE \* USA TODAY \* ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY \* NYLON \* SOUTHERN LIVING \* THE LOS ANGELES TIMES \* ESSENCE \* THE MILLIONS \* REAL SIMPLE\* HUFFINGTON POST \* BUZZFEED Let the people of West Mills say what they will about Azalea "Knot" Centre; they won't keep her from what she loves best: cheap moonshine, nineteenth-century literature, and the company of men. And yet, when motherhood looms, Knot begins to learn that her freedom has come at a high price. Low on money, ostracized from her parents and cut off from her hometown, Knot turns to her neighbor, Otis Lee Loving, in search of some semblance of family and home. Otis Lee is eager to help. A lifelong fixer, Otis Lee is determined to steer his friends and family away from decisions that will cause them heartache and ridicule. After his failed attempt to help his older sister, who lives a precarious life in the North, Otis Lee discovers a possible path to redemption in the chaos Knot brings to his doorstep. But while he's busy trying to fix Knot's life, Otis Lee finds himself powerless to repair the many troubles within his own family, as the long-buried secrets of his troubled past begin to come to light. Spanning decades in a rural North Carolina town where a canal acts as the color line, In West Mills is a magnificent, big-hearted small-town story about family, friendship, storytelling, and the redemptive power of love.

Drifting from relationship to relationship in his work as a killer for hire, Gideon interacts with a range of con artists, prostitutes, and broken-hearted clients while passing time with three very different women, each of whom wishes to capture his heart. By the author of Chasing Destiny. 150,000 first printing.

Hit man Gideon traverses a steamy criminal underworld to confront the most challenging adversary of his career.

From Eric Jerome Dickey comes the New York Times bestselling book that stirred up controversy with its bold portrayal of racial identity and subtle understanding of sexual intimacy. Jordan Greene is in culture shock when he arrives in Manhattan from his Tennessee hometown. Still, he manages to keep the pace and stay in the race, with a Wall Street job, a Queens apartment, and a very sexy girlfriend named J'nette. But when Jordan meets Kimberly Chavers, what starts as a shared cab ride turns into something more. This girl is funny, fiesty, fine...and white. And for a man with Malcolm X's picture hanging on his office wall, that's a definite problem.... This brightly entertaining and emotionally complex novel demonstrates why Eric Jerome Dickey was "one of the most successful Black authors of the last quarter-century" (The New York Times). Known as a writer whose stories "balanced romance, scandal, and a considerable amount of heart" (A.V. Club), New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey fearlessly explores how bad even good people can sometimes behave in the game of love.... Stephan loves 'em and leaves 'em, just like his dad. Chanté thinks she's found her dream man—until his wife and kids come banging on her door. Jake is a player—left with bad dreams he just can't shake. Darnell is true to his wife...but the temptation's getting tougher every day. Tammy is caught between the man she loves, and the woman he's promised to. And while Karen lectures her friends about fooling around, she may not live up to her own high standards.... This is the world of Eric Jerome Dickey.

It's heart-wrenching and hilarious, smart and soulful, and as honest and recognizable as your own—and that of everyone who never loved you back. "Monroe keeps the suspense high, and readers will draw a bated breath with the turn of each page." --Booklist Dolores Reese spent her childhood in foster care, like Floyd Watson, a local boy who intrigues her from the moment they meet. When one bad decision sends an innocent Floyd to prison for life, Dolores promises to stick by him. But while Floyd's world stands still, Dolores meets a new man who promises her the kind of future she's always wanted--the kind she once imagined having with Floyd. But when Floyd is suddenly freed on new evidence, Dolores is torn and must make a fateful decision. And if she isn't careful, Dolores just might find out what happens when love, dishonesty, and dangerous jealousy collide. "Monroe serves up a tasty dish of murder, deception, lust, and just deserts." --Library Journal "Full of all the drama and humor that Mary Monroe is known for." --Urban Reviews

"Lies, greed, lust, betrayal, loyalty, laughter, tears and more. . ." --OOSA Bookclub These women are about to learn more than they ever wanted to know about secrets--and the men who keep them. . . As the owner of Situations, the hottest beauty salon on the south side of Chicago, Noelle Gordon has a direct line to the private lives of her clients. But when an abandoned baby girl appears on her doorstep, Noelle finds herself at the center of a personal drama. Meanwhile, Noelle's employees are discovering that their own romantic relationships harbor a secret or two. The truth isn't always pretty. But can they find the strength to live with it--and with the men they love? "A drama-filled story." --Urban Reviews "Juggles each 'suspicious' intimacy issue in serious soul sistah style." --Publishers Weekly

Available for the first time as an eBook, New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey's thrilling short story Harlem "People called me Harlem. I dubbed myself after that dangerous neighborhood that I'd never seen. I read life is rough in Harlem, and a black man isn't expected to live to see twenty-five. I was twenty-three. The clock was ticking." When Harlem gets off on a murder charge due to insanity, the asylum he's sent to feels worse than death, with one exception: the beautiful nurse Daphane. As their relationship grows, so do the stakes: she has the ability to help him escape, and he has the ability to set her free from her abusive relationship. Yet Harlem has one big secret: he was perfectly sane when he committed his crime. But in the end, Daphane's own secret may be the deadliest of all. . . . Includes an excerpt from Eric's upcoming novel, Before We Were Wicked, coming April 2019. Harlem was previously published in the 2006 anthology Voices from the Other Side.

Reprinted Edition "Grant entices, captivates, and mesmerizes." --RT Book Reviews Christina Brinsley is that girl. You know the one: a little bougie, a little opinionated, knows it all, has it all, and is a total perfectionist. But Christina's perfectly crafted world isn't really so perfect. Her third engagement fizzled three days before the wedding, her family expects her to solve their problems, and her

friends are out of control. To keep it together, she dedicates herself to her work, because it's the one thing that won't let her down. But when her latest assignment leads her to sizzling hot professor Steven Williams, the one man who sees through her efforts to outsmart and outmaneuver her way through every situation, Christina can't believe she's falling for a man who may be a key player in the scandal she's investigating. . . . "A sassy 'he said/she said' romance."

--Publishers Weekly "A funny, fast-paced romance." --RT Book Reviews This is a Reprint

Set up by her employers after a job gone wrong puts her on a hit list by a ruthless gang, a sophisticated assassin taps the assistance of an equally talented and alluring associate to outmaneuver both the gang and her employers.

New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey reveals how one chance meeting can change everything in this engrossing, sexy tale of star-crossed lust. They say the love of money is the root of all evil, but for Ken Swift, it's the love of a woman. Ken is twenty-one, hurting people for cash to try to pay his way through college, when he lays eyes on Jimi Lee, the woman who will change the course of his entire life. What's meant to be a one-night stand with the Harvard-bound beauty turns into an explosion of sexual chemistry that neither can quit. And when Jimi Lee becomes pregnant, their two very different worlds collide in ways they never could have anticipated. Passion, infidelity, and raw emotion combine in Eric Jerome Dickey's poignant, erotic portrait of a relationship: the rise, the fall, and the scars?--and desire?--that never fade.

In *Naughtier Than Nice*, the McBroom sisters' lives are hardly greeting-card material. Frankie has a pair of stalkers, and her safety may be at risk. Tommie and Blue's wedding is indefinitely on hold, as Tommie is smitten with a younger man. Livvy refuses to reveal the details of her unconventional relationship with her husband, Tony, even as the intensity of their adventures escalates. Though the sisters are as close as any sisters could be, none wants the other two to know the dark secrets she is hiding. Another helping of holiday romps from Eric Jerome Dickey.

Named in USA Today's "5 books not to miss," and New York Post's "The best new books to read" From New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey—named one of USA Today's 100 Black Novelists and Fiction Authors You Should Read—comes his final work: an unflinchingly timely novel about history, hearts, and family. It's the summer of 2019, and Professor Pi Suleman is a Black man from Memphis with a lot to endure—not only as a Black man in Trump's America but in his hard-earned career as an adjunct professor. Pi is constantly forced to bite his tongue in the face of one of his tenured colleague's prejudices and microaggressions. At the same time, he's being blackmailed by a powerful professor who threatens to claim he has assaulted her, when in fact the truth is just the opposite, trapping him in a he-said-she-said with a white woman that, in this society, Pi knows he will never win. When he meets Gemma Buckingham, a sophisticated entrepreneur who has just moved to Memphis from London to

escape a deep heartbreak, things begin to look up. Though Gemma and Pi hail from separate cultures, their differences fuel a fiery and passionate connection that just may consume them both. But Pi's whirlwind romance is interrupted when his absentee father, a celebrated writer, passes away and Pi is called to Los Angeles to both collect his inheritance and learn about the man who never acknowledged him. With the complicated legacy of his famous father to make sense of, Gemma's visa expiration date looming, and the threats of his colleague becoming increasingly intense, Pi must figure out who he is and what kind of man he will become in his father's shadow. In *The Son of Mr. Suleman*, Eric Jerome Dickey takes readers on a powerful journey exploring racism, colorism, life as a mixed-race person, sexual assault, microaggressions, truth and lies, cultural differences, politics, family legacies, perceptions, the impact of enslavement and Jim Crow, code-switching, the power of death, and the weight of love. It is an extraordinary story, page-turning and intense, and a book only Dickey could write.

"Former tennis player Easton Bradbury is trying to be the best teacher she can be, trying to reach her bored students, trying to forget her past ... Now one parent-teacher meeting may be her undoing. Meeting Tyler Marek for the first time makes it easy for Easton to see why his son is having trouble in school. The man knows how to manage businesses and wealth, not a living, breathing teenage boy. Or a young teacher, for that matter, though he tries to. And yet there is something about him that draws Easton in a hint of vulnerability, a flash of attraction, a spark that might burn"--

They call themselves the Blackbirds. Kwanzaa, Indigo, Destiny and Erica, four best friends who would go to the ends of the earth for one another. Yet even their deep bond can't heal all, as the women struggle with their own personal demons, drama and steamy desire. As the women try to overcome their impulses, they find not only themselves tested, but the one thing they always considered unbreakable: their friendship.

From New York Times bestselling author Eric Jerome Dickey, "one of the most successful Black authors of the last quarter-century"\* comes a novel about the how one chance meeting can change everything in this thrilling, sexy tale of star-crossed lust. They say the love of money is the root of all evil, but for Ken Swift, it's the love of a woman. Ken is twenty-one, hurting people for cash to try to pay his way through college, when he lays eyes on Jimi Lee, the woman who will change the course of his entire life. What's meant to be a one-night stand with the Harvard-bound beauty turns into an explosion of sexual chemistry that neither can quit. And when Jimi Lee becomes pregnant, their two very different worlds collide in ways they never could have anticipated. Passion, infidelity, and raw emotion combine in Eric Jerome Dickey's poignant, erotic portrait of a relationship: the rise, the fall, and the scars?—and desire?—that never fade. \*The New York Times

'A high-spirited celebration of black sisterhood. Brims with humor,

outrageousness, and affection' - Publishers Weekly

When his promising future is upended by the recession, former Detroit auto industry employee Dmytryk and his wife, Cora, make a morally ambiguous and ultimately violent deal with a crime boss that forces Dmytryk to reassess his beliefs.

"Tiffanie has lived a sheltered life in a very strict household with her pastor-grandfather and grandmother in Washington, DC. But when she meets Damon King, she falls for the successful entertainment businessman despite his history as a drug dealer. Everyone sees nothing but the brightest future for the couple--but there's one person who wants to destroy them"--

In this sensational New York Times bestseller, Eric Jerome Dickey explores how real people come together and fall apart in a story about a love that starts with a lie.... Dana Ann Smith has ditched New York—and a relationship gone bad—for Los Angeles, looking for a new man, a new career, and some stability. She thinks she's found it in Vincent Calvalry Browne Jr., a handsome, hardworking aerospace tech. They've offered just enough of themselves to make it the perfect romance. And they've withheld just enough to ruin it. When their secrets come to light, Dana and Vince come face-to-face with the fact that the passionate game between lovers and liars has just begun....

When allegations about his actress wife's infidelity are posted online, James, a screenwriter with a violent past, attacks his wife's lover, sparking a media frenzy that compels him to go into hiding and resort to extreme measures to protect his wife. Successful writer Nia struggles with her turbulent emotions and contemplates her prospects for marriage and parenthood while immersing herself in a hedonistic role-playing resort that challenges her grasp on reality.

Four good friends--Leonard, Debra, Tyrel, and Shelby--are about to experience a major upheaval in their relationship with one another. Reprint.

With prose "hot enough to scorch fingers,"\* Eric Jerome Dickey has electrified readers with his New York Times bestsellers. In *Chasing Destiny*, he edges into dangerously sexy territory.... Billie is as notorious for her beauty as she is for the hot yellow Ducati motorcycle she rides down L.A.'s meanest streets. Tough and talented, she does things her way. Until an unplanned pregnancy spins her life out of control. Her problem: Her lover Keith's divorce decree has been revoked, forcing him to choose between Billie and his dangerously manipulative wife, Carmen, along with their troubled and deceptive daughter, Destiny, a fifteen-year-old dancing on the edge of womanhood. Horrific things happen when Keith's daughter disappears in the company of low friends in dark places. And in chasing Destiny, Billie, Keith, and Carmen find their lives inextricably linked by a dangerous and seductive pursuit—at any speed—at any cost.

Learn exactly why Eric Jerome Dickey was renowned for his novels starring "bold, smart women oozing sexuality and vulnerability" (The Atlantic) in this New York Times bestseller. Genevieve is brilliant and beautiful. Her husband has a thriving career. Together, they have a beautiful home in Los Angeles. Together, they're crazy in love. Then one day a family tragedy brings Genevieve back to her Alabama hometown, back to a past she hoped her husband would never discover, and back to secrets shared by her sister Kenya—mysterious, teasing, and dangerously irresistible. Soon, Genevieve's

husband will discover the truth about his wife and her family. Something he was never meant to know—and a desire he was never meant to explore.

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