

# Outcast The Past Cannot Be Forgotten Emma Grady Trilogy Book 1

An emotionally raw and resonant story of love, loss, and the enduring power of friendship, following the lives of two young women connected by a home for "fallen girls," and inspired by historical events.

"Home for Erring and Outcast Girls deftly reimagines the wounded women who came seeking a second chance and a sustaining hope."--Lisa Wingate, author of *Before We Were Yours* In turn-of-the-20th century Texas, the Berachah Home for the Redemption and Protection of Erring Girls is an unprecedented beacon of hope for young women consigned to the dangerous poverty of the streets by birth, circumstance, or personal tragedy. Built in 1903 on the dusty outskirts of Arlington, a remote dot between Dallas and Fort Worth's red-light districts, the progressive home bucks public opinion by offering faith, training, and rehabilitation to prostitutes, addicts, unwed mothers, and "ruined" girls without forcibly separating mothers from children. When Lizzie Bates and Mattie McBride meet there--one sick and abused, but desperately clinging to her young daughter, the other jilted by the beau who fathered her ailing son--they form a friendship that will see them through unbearable

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loss, heartbreak, difficult choices, and ultimately, diverging paths. A century later, Cate Sutton, a reclusive university librarian, uncovers the hidden histories of the two troubled women as she stumbles upon the cemetery on the home's former grounds and begins to comb through its archives in her library. Pulled by an indescribable connection, what Cate discovers about their stories leads her to confront her own heartbreaking past, and to reclaim the life she thought she'd let go forever. With great pathos and powerful emotional resonance, *Home for Erring and Outcast Girls* explores the dark roads that lead us to ruin, and the paths we take to return to ourselves.

A captivating historical romance of revenge, hatred, lust and true love is *1870* and Emma Grady has spent seven years of servitude as a convict in Australia. Now, having earned her ticket-of-leave, she is held by chains of honour and friendship. Emma's loyalty to her kind and gentle employer Roland Thomas, and her unwillingness to desert fellow convict and beloved friend Nelly, prevent her from leaving. Yet Emma lives for the days when she will return to England, to face those who cheated and betrayed her. And to Marlow Tanner, the man she loves, and whose tragic child she lost. As Emma battles against adversity, she is unaware that in England the child she has given up for dead is being lovingly raised by Marlow's sister Old Sal. Will

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Emma ever be reunited with Marlow? And even if she finds him, will he still love her? Despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles, her love can never be denied, or forgotten. The breathtaking second novel of The Emma Grady Sagas is perfect for fans of Fiona Davis and Beatriz Williams 'Cox's talent as a storyteller never lets you escape' Daily Mail 'Driven and passionate' The Sunday Times 'One of the country's best-loved storytellers' Prima

The first volume in a new, nine book series launches a huge story arc with heroic roles for the galaxy's most beloved characters as Han Solo, Luke Skywalker, Leia Organa Solo and their surviving children set off on a journey of discovery and hardship, of obstacles and victories, and the aftermath of the civil war that rocked the galaxy. Some memories are best left forgotten... Maccay Douglas finds a trespasser on Duncan lands. Except the trespasser isn't some lad up to mischief. It's a woman in boy's clothing. A woman with a bruise on her head and no name, and hunting skills. She claims she doesn't know who she is. That doesn't stop him from falling in love. Except this red-haired beauty has an explosive secret that is bound to bring war to the highlands.

The thrilling extension of the eBook novella *Origins*, *The Outcast* continues Arcturus's story into a feature length novel. When stable boy Arcturus accidentally summons a demon and becomes Hominum's first

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common summoner, he becomes the key to a secret that the powerful overlords would do anything to keep hidden. Whisked away to Vocans Academy so he can be kept watch over, Arcturus finds himself surrounded by enemies. But he has little time to settle in before his life is turned upside down once again, for Hominum Empire is in turmoil. Rebellious intent simmers among the masses, and it will not be long before it boils over. Arcturus must choose a side . . . or watch an Empire crumble. The Summoner Trilogy The Novice The Inquisition The Battlemage Also in the Summoner series The Outcast (Summoner: The Prequel) The Summoner's Handbook (coming Fall 2018) A Fine Welcome: Othello's Journey (A Summoner Short Story) The Outcast Chronicles is an epic mpreg shifter series that takes a small, rag-tag team of bounty hunters and turns them into a tight-knit pack of found family, fighting a war that started centuries ago... but will end with them. This bundle includes all six books from the series, including four brand-new, never been seen epilogues that happen years after the ending. Freedom For His Omega Lonely alpha Asher finds the perfect mate in a wounded mountain lion guarded by a scarred grizzly shifter with visions of the future, if he can allow himself to love. Acceptance For His Omega A one night stand leaves Nick with a baby and no way to contact the other father, Dallas, until a dangerous arsonist

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appears again. Healing For His Omega Widowed, pregnant, and mourning his kidnapped son, the last thing omega hawk Benjamin wants right now is a serious relationship. So he seeks comfort in the arms of Kurt, the one man he doesn't have to worry about falling in love with him, until makes them both realize what they might lose. Rebirth of His Omega Fire is the one thing Ryan fears, after it took his family from him. Too bad his true mate is the Phoenix, a creature born of fire who has loved Ryan through many centuries and lives. Waking His Omega Simon didn't realize how alone he felt until the dragon Ryeth bonded mentally with him. The two are meant to be together, if only they can free Ryeth from his prison of ice. Reaching For His Omega Grizzly alpha Caspar long ago resigned himself to a loner life, never suspecting that the future he saw with Asher Lambert's pack of outcasts would ever be more than a means to an end, that they would become his family. And then he meets a man whose future he cannot see... Warnings! If you're not interested in man on man loving, mpreg, knotting, epic fights, adult language and adult situations, these books are not for you! One of the books mentions past infertility. This bundle contains the complete series plus bonus epilogues for over 200,000 words of adventure.

"I have come back to prove my innocence, if I can." Ten years ago, Wolfgang Arrandale was discovered standing over the

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body of his wife. Forced to run, he has lived as a fugitive ever since, doing anything to survive. But now the revelation that he's a father compels him to prove his innocence! Parson's daughter Grace Duncombe is intrigued by the wild stranger who arrives one night seeking refuge. It's clear Wolf hides many secrets, but she's drawn to him like no other. And soon she must defend this honorable outcast whatever the cost! The Parable of the Prodigal Son is one of the best-known stories in the Bible. It has captured the imagination of commentators, preachers and writers. Alison M. Jack explores the reconfiguring of the character of the Prodigal Son and his family in literature in English. She considers diverse literary periods and genres in which the paradigm is particularly prevalent, such as Elizabethan literature, the work of Shakespeare, the novels of female Victorian writers, the American short story tradition, novels focused on the lives of ordained ministers, and the poetry of Elizabeth Bishop and Iain Crichton Smith. Drawing on scholarship from biblical and literary studies, this study demonstrates the remarkable potency of the parable in generating new, and at times contradictory, meanings in different contexts. Historical and literary criticism are brought into dialogue to explore this remarkably resilient and nimble character as he dances through drama, novels and poetry across the centuries. On a fateful night in 1860, Thadius Grady realises, too late, that he has made a grave mistake. In blind faith he has put himself and his daughter Emma at the mercy of his sister and her conniving husband, Caleb Crowther - for he has entrusted to them his entire fortune and the daughter he adores. With his dying breath he pleads to see his daughter one last time - but Caleb's heart is made of stone. A feared Lancashire Justice, Caleb Crowther is a womaniser and a gambler, and now the inheritance due to Emma is as much in his hands as is the beautiful Emma Grady herself. But Caleb lives in fear of

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the past, for how did Emma's mother mysteriously die? And what made Thadius and Caleb hate the river people so intensely? History seems likely to repeat itself when Emma falls helplessly in love with Marlow Tanner, a young bargee. For Marlow and Emma, it is an impossible love - a love made in Heaven, but which could carry them both to Hell . . .

## OutcastHeadline

Independent single woman Rachel is shunned by the Mennonite community she grew up in when she becomes pregnant, and dark secrets threaten to rise when her bishop brother-in-law coerces her to leave.

The blind person who tries to make an online purchase. The young girl who cannot speak due to a cognitive disability. The man confined to his home due to permanent injury. The single mother with a long-term illness who struggles to feed her family. With one in seven people worldwide currently living with a disability, the term "outcast" covers numerous scenarios. Digital outcasts rely on technology for everyday services that many people take for granted. However, poorly designed products risk alienating this important (and growing) population. Through a "grass roots" approach to innovation, digital outcasts are gradually taking action to transform their lives and communities. This emerging trend provides exciting learning opportunities for all of us. Citing real-world case studies from healthcare to social science, this book examines the emerging legal and cultural impact of inclusive design. Gain a better understanding of how people with disabilities use technology Discover pitfalls and approaches to help you stay current in your UX practices Anticipate a future in which ambient benefit can be achieved for people of all abilities and backgrounds

Much of this book is a record of the time the author spent between 1965 and 1970 as an English teacher

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in Aneiza – a provincial town in central Saudi Arabia. In an entertaining series of anecdotes, he describes the daily life and customs of its people, his relations with colleagues and students at the local secondary school, and the events leading up to his ‘removal’ from the town he had come to regard as home, his transfer to Riyadh, and final departure from the country. In the 1960s Aneiza was still living partly in the age of Charles Doughty, the 19th-century explorer who stayed there for some weeks in the 1870s, and architecturally the town had changed little over the intervening decades. On the other hand, its mid-20th-century inhabitants were very much aware of what was happening in the wider world and felt deeply involved with events in the region. This involvement is reflected in a chapter on inter-Arab politics, the Six-Day War of June 1967, and its causes and aftermath. The author’s story does not end in 1970. In ‘Journey to Makkah’ he writes of his transition from agnosticism to Islam and gives us an account of his pilgrimage to Makkah in 1996 in the company of one of his old students from Aneiza. Finally, in ‘Aneiza Revisited’, he describes the town in its 21st-century incarnation during his return visit in 2011. Despite Aneiza’s material transformation, however, with its concrete and glass buildings and fast food outlets, he found that, despite looking very different, it had still managed to retain its intimate social character and essential



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congeniality.

A thrilling space opera adventure with the mystery and action of Indiana Jones. Hudson Powell had always been a drifter, but after his father died he vowed to turn his life around. He quit freelancing as a starship pilot and joined the Relic Guardian Force as a 38-year-old rookie. That was a big mistake. The RGF police the alien wrecks that have been found on every portal world discovered in the last century. They make sure the relic hunters pay taxes on the priceless alien tech they scavenge from the hulks. The snag is that the RGF is corrupt. And Hudson's training officer, Logan Griff, is the worst scumbag of the lot. Pushed over the edge, Hudson stumbles upon the exhilarating world of the relic hunters and meets the equally intoxicating and deadly mercenary, Tory Bellona. Cast out from the RGF, Hudson Powell chooses a new path. But the discovery of a unique alien crystal will set events in motion that cannot be undone. People stopped asking where the alien hulks had come from. People stopped asking who created the portals, and why. Hudson will discover that some alien relics are best left buried. One decision can change the course of an entire civilization. One discovery can change your life. If you love space sci-fi like Firefly and Stargate blended with the mystery and adventure of Indiana Jones, you'll love the Star Scavenger series. Begin reading this thrilling five-book saga today.

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This is the story of two women, separated by time and place, but inextricably linked. Allie Ryder is mother to 6 year old Ben and wife to Patrick, leading a comfortably affluent life in modern day London. She has had a troubled childhood, but she believes that, at last, she has found safety and security in marriage and motherhood. Her life seems idyllic, but her wish for financial independence and the return of her mother, Abigail, precipitate a series of events that slowly begin to unravel the life she has so carefully built. Ailsa Mackinnon, is living a harsh existence in 1890's St Kilda, an isolated and bleak Scottish archipelago where the threat of starvation is constant and the inhabitants must eke out a living from the sheep and the seabirds and what they can grow from the barren soil. Ailsa can have no control over the events that will mould her life, and, grown up, she must make the toughest decision she has ever had to make. As Allie starts to experience echoes from a past that she cannot know, she is led to discover, finally, the extraordinary life of Ailsa Mackinnon, which in turn inspires her to come to terms with her own experiences of abandonment and betrayal.

As the Byzantine and German emperors plot war against each other, Venice's future rests in the hands of three unwilling individuals: The newly knighted Sir Tycho. He defeated the Mamluk navy but he cannot make the woman he loves love him

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back. Tortured by secrets, afraid of the daylight, he sees no reason to save a city he hates. The grieving Lady Giulietta. Virgin. Mother. Widow. All she wants is to retire from the poisonous world of the Venetian court to mourn her husband in peace. But her duty is to Venice: both emperors want her hand in marriage and an alliance with Europe's richest city. She must choose, knowing that whichever suitor she rejects will become Venice's bitterest enemy. Lastly, a naked, mud-strewn girl who crawls from a paupers' grave on an island in the Venetian lagoon and begins by killing the men who buried her. Between them, they will set the course of history.

Rob was an ordinary college sophomore when a pitch-back portal opened up on campus and tried to kidnap his best friend. An act of heroism resulted in him being taken instead, and he was rewarded for his efforts by being transported to another world with nothing but a sword and the clothes on his back. On the first day, he almost died. On the second day, he almost died. On the third, he began to notice a worrying trend. And almost died Whether he encounters wolves, cliffs, dungeons, monsters, or diseases, every day is a struggle to survive. The one advantage he has is his newfound ability to gain Levels and Stats, making himself stronger in order to survive the hostile lands that he was unceremoniously dumped into. He'll have to gain knowledge of the innerworkings of the world and its

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magic - progressing both his strength and his knowledge - in order to stay alive long enough to get revenge on whoever kidnapped him away from everything he knew and loved. Overcoming the wilds is just the first step in his journey; the locals aren't fond of humans, and discovering the dark past behind this new world's history of war and strife changes everything. As far as isekai adventures go, Rob drew the short straw in many ways, but it'll take more than danger at every corner to keep him down. He'll carve out a place in this world with his bare hands if necessary. He'll survive, and then he'll thrive. Whether anyone wants him to or not. -- An Outcast On Another World puts a great focus on story and characterization, making it perfect for fans of traditional fantasy stories, while still including plenty of skills, stats, classes, and progression for LitRPG-lovers to enjoy. The LitRPG elements are incorporated into the main story to construct a cohesive world that's easy to immerse yourself in. Rob's progression is weak to strong, and victories aren't handed to him on a silver platter. No matter how powerful he gets, mid-combat ingenuity is essential to achieving victory. An Outcast In Another World has dark elements to its narrative, but I've included appropriate humor as a balance, and many readers have told me that some parts made them burst out laughing while other parts tugged at their heartstrings. I truly believe that I've constructed a

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memorable fantasy RPG story that all types can love, and that you'll enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed writing it.

In this paranormal world, her death is just the beginning All I wanted for my seventeenth birthday was a fun night out. But when a knife-wielding psychopath attacks my best friend, of course I try to stop him-and wind up getting myself killed. Or maybe not... Next thing I know, I'm waking up to a glaring stranger with piercing red eyes. Jasper is an honest-to-goodness vampire straight out of the movies. He's inhumanly beautiful, exceptionally strong...and he totally hates my guts. Seems my near-death experience got me ensnared in a witch's curse with twelve other paranormals known as the Outcasts. Supposedly, an ancient prophecy says the thirteenth Outcast will be the one to break the curse. That means me. Lucky number thirteen. As I train to control a dangerous magic I didn't know I possessed, the more I learn about the Outcasts, Jasper's attitude, and my connection to the prophecy. And they're all far more complicated than I thought. To make matters worse, another dangerous paranormal knows about the prophecy-and my connection to it. The closer I get to fulfilling my destiny, the more desperate they are to make sure that when I die again, it's permanent. Elemental Outcast is the first book in a young adult urban fantasy action adventure series, filled with vampires, shifters,

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witches, and more. If you like your books with a healthy dose of pulse-pounding fights, snark, sinister magic, and a slow-burn romance between people who can't stand falling for each other, then the Paranormal Outcasts series is for you!

"I served not in defense of the bourgeois order, but only for a crumb of bread since I was burdened with five small children." "From 1923 to 1925 I worked as a musician but later my earnings weren't steady and I quickly stopped. Without an income to live on, I was drawn to the nonlaboring path." "As a man almost completely illiterate and therefore not prepared for any kind of work, I was forced to return to my craft as a barber." "I am as ignorant as a pipe." Golfo Alexopoulos focuses on the lishentsy ("outcasts") of the interwar USSR to reveal the defining features of alien and citizen identities under Stalin's rule. Although portrayed as "bourgeois elements," lishentsy actually included a wide variety of people, including prostitutes, gamblers, tax evaders, embezzlers, and ethnic minorities, in particular, Jews. The poor, the weak, and the elderly were frequent targets of disenfranchisement, singled out by officials looking to conserve scarce resources or satisfy their superiors with long lists of discovered enemies. Alexopoulos draws heavily on an untapped resource: an archive in western Siberia that contains over 100,000 individual petitions for reinstatement. Her analysis of these and many other documents concerning "class aliens" shows how Bolshevik leaders defined the body politic and how individuals experienced the Soviet state. Personal narratives with which individuals successfully

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appealed to officials for reinstatement allow an unusual view into the lives of "outcasts." From Kremlin leaders to marked aliens, many participated in identifying insiders and outsiders and challenging the terms of membership in Stalin's new society.

Employing recent theories of memory from multiple areas of study, *Possessing the Past* illuminates the tangled relationships among trauma, fantasy, and the public sphere, and their impact on the "South" in imagination and in reality. Focusing on the roles that narrative and fantasy play in creating a sense of regional distinctiveness, Lisa Hinrichsen brings a wealth of critical scholarship to her consideration of memory and southern literature. Hinrichsen's nuanced readings of a diverse group of southern authors, including William Faulkner, Roberto Fernández, Erna Brodber, Monique Truong, and Katharine Du Pre Lumpkin, offer new ways of conceptualizing memory, place, and history. She unravels southern literature's critical confrontation with the region's history through complex systems of remembrance and erasure, and she traces how fantasy mediates trauma and adjudicates identity. Expansive in its psychoanalytical approach, her work explores issues of law, testimony, and social justice; the role of nostalgic fantasies of gentility at midcentury; the relationship between white empathy and social fantasy; the resemblance of regional patterns of disavowal to national ideologies of forgetting in Vietnam-era fiction; and the impact of contemporary multicultural literature on memory and community. *Possessing the Past* broadens the theoretical framework used to conceptualize memory

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and trauma, while grounding traumatic testimony in the specifics of time and place amply offered by southern literature. It provides new readings of an array of southern writers and deepens our understanding of the continuing importance of history, memory, and fantasy in the literature of the U.S. South.

Disaffected intellectual Iversen runs a small newspaper in Weimar, Germany, during the 1920s. He becomes involved in the Farmers' Movement and heckles the oppressive, debt-ridden German institutions in the name of traditional peasants' rights. He is left only with his sense of attachment to the rural life to which he's never quite belonged, and his loyalty to Claus Heim as he navigates a dark world that is careening toward disaster. A breathtaking historical romance of loss, love, and heartbreak in eighteenth century Britain When Emma Grady finds herself orphaned one fateful night in 1860, she is left at the mercy of her devious aunt and cruel uncle Caleb Crowther. A feared Lancashire Justice, Caleb Crowther is a womaniser and a gambler, and now the inheritance due Emma is as much in his hands as is the beautiful girl herself. But Caleb lives in fear of the past, for how did Emma's mother mysteriously die? And what is the reason behind the family's hatred for the river people? History seems likely to repeat itself when Emma falls desperately in love with Marlow Tanner, a young barge captain. For Marlow and Emma, it is an impossible love – a love made in Heaven but one which could carry them both to Hell. The first heart-wrenching book in The Emma Grady Sagas, perfect for fans of Lisa Wingate and Fiona Davis 'Cox's talent as a storyteller



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never lets you escape' Daily Mail 'Driven and passionate' The Sunday Times 'One of the country's best-loved storytellers' Prima

A beautiful historical novel of survival, love, and redemption. It is 1885 and Emma Grady has returned to her home town of Blackburn and been reunited with her lover Marlow. Now married, with a beautiful home, loving husband and wonderful son, she is still haunted by the past, unable to forget the cruelty of her uncle Caleb Crowther, who ignored her pleas to save her and her tragic first-born. A feared local justice, Crowther curses his niece's return, and sets out to destroy her anew, whilst also hounding Molly, her lost daughter. Born to a life of poverty, and deserted by her husband, Molly tries desperately to keep her three children fed and clothed. Contending with hunger, exhaustion and the unwelcome attentions of the men who are drawn to Molly's dark beauty, their life is at times almost unbearable. But Molly has inherited Emma's indomitable spirit. The emotional conclusion to The Emma Grady Sagas is perfect for fans of Beatriz Williams and Lisa Wingate 'Cox's talent as a storyteller never lets you escape' Daily Mail 'Driven and passionate' The Sunday Times 'One of the country's best-loved storytellers' Prima

For millennia, Cassiel was a powerful Djinn—until she was exiled to live among mortals. Now the threat of an apocalypse looms, and Cassiel is in danger of losing everything she has come to hold dear... As the world begins to fall apart around her, Cassiel finds herself fighting those she once called her own: the Djinn. With Weather Warden Luis Rocha and the rescued child Ibby

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by her side, Cassiel struggles to find a way to protect those who are in her charge and come to terms with the leadership role she never asked for. Cassiel is opposed by Pearl—a powerful Djinn bent on raising an army of kidnapped Warden children to bring about nothing less than the end of the world. It will take everything Cassiel has to stop the Djinn from starting a war that will wipe all of humanity from the face of the earth. She knows that this might not be a battle she can survive, but protecting those she loves is worth any cost...

Western conceptions of objectivity and individuality have resulted in a readier appreciation of the worth of the animals and nature than has been recognized. This provocative book takes issue with the popular view that the Western cultural tradition, in contrast to Eastern and Aboriginal traditions, has encouraged attitudes of domination and exploitation towards nature, particularly animals. Preece argues that the Western tradition has much to commend it, and that descriptions of Aboriginal and Oriental orientations have often been misleadingly rosy, simplified and codified according to current fashionable concepts. *Animals and Nature* is the result of six years' intensive study into comparative religion, literature, philosophy, anthropology, mythology and animal welfare science.

Cutler Ryder was everything I wasn't. He was the hockey star. I was an outcast. He was best friends with my stepbrother, that same stepbrother who hated me. His two parents loved him. My mom was a junkie. My dad barely knew me. Years passed. I got my life together. Cut went onto NHL stardom. Then there was a text. I

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was drinking. There was a party. Cut was there... I loved Cutler Ryder since the first moment I saw him. The only problem? He never knew I existed.

These are the stories of people who live at night: under neon and starlight, and never the light of the sun. These are the stories of poets and police, tourists and traders; the hidden and the forbidden; the lonely and the lovers. This is their time. The Outcast Hours gathers over two dozen brand-new stories from award-winning writers across genres and continents, including bold new fiction from Marina Warner, Frances Hardinge, China Miéville, Sami Shah, Omar Robert Hamilton, Kuzhali Manickavel, Will Hill, Indrapramit Das, Silvia Moreno Garcia, Jeffrey Alan Love, Maha Khan Phillips, and many, many more. Shares the inspirational story of a youth soccer team comprised of refugees from around the world who, under the guidance of a formidable female coach, helped to transform their Georgia community.

The village was asleep, with all the people behind the walls and through the windows and up the stairs of the little houses blind and deaf in their beds while anything might happen. Lewis headed down the middle of the road and he kept falling and had to remember to get back on his feet. He reached the churchyard and stood in the dark with the church even darker above him. —from *The Outcast* by Sadie Jones It's 1957. Nineteen-year-old Lewis Aldridge is returning by train to his home in Waterford where he has just served a two-year prison term for a crime that shocked the sleepy Surrey community. Wearing a new suit, he carries money his father Gilbert sent — to keep him away, he suspects —

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and a straight razor. No one greets him at the station. Twelve years earlier, seven-year-old Lewis and his spirited mother Elizabeth are on the same train, bringing Gilbert home from war. Waterford is experiencing many such reunions, alcohol lubricating awkward homecomings and community gatherings. The most oppressive of these are the mandatory holiday parties hosted by the town's leading industrialist Dicky Carmichael, Gilbert's employer. With the Carmichael estate backing onto the Aldridge property, the attractive and popular Tamsin Carmichael and her precocious kid sister Kit are Lewis's playmates, along with a gaggle of neighbourhood boys who (like Lewis) are fascinated by Tamsin. The children play thrilling and cruel games, mirroring the adults' inebriated dysfunction. Though pleased to be reunited with Elizabeth, Gilbert is appalled by the coddling his son has received in his absence. No longer permitted to skip church for picnics by the river, Elizabeth and Lewis are steered back under the ever-judgmental gaze of Waterford society. Lewis continues to flourish, a naturally capable golden child. But iconoclastic Elizabeth, disappointed by Gilbert's insistence on conformity, seeks refuge in the bottle. Then a sunny riverside picnic ends with Elizabeth dead and ten-year-old Lewis the only witness. A shattered Gilbert is incapable of providing comfort to his young son and the community of Waterford turns away from the traumatized child, now rendered a pariah by tragedy. Lewis is sent to boarding school, summoned home only for holidays. Gilbert remarries five months later to Alice, a compliant beauty who is not up to the task of parenting a damaged

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child. Years pass and Lewis, now a troubled teenager, is lost in dangerous and self-harming behaviours. When an incident with a local bully causes Lewis to be even further estranged from the community, Gilbert and Alice stand idly by as Lewis is tormented by the tyrannical Dicky. Enraged, Lewis commits a shocking crime against the whole of Waterford and is sent to prison. Two years later, upon his shamed return, the town continues to treat Lewis as an outcast. Only Tamsin's little sister Kit, now a young woman, sees in him the golden boy he once was. She had become infatuated with Lewis years earlier when he had casually protected her from bullies and broken bicycle chains. But she now faces a much darker and more dangerous sort of bullying at the hands of her father. It is up to Lewis once again to rescue her, redeeming himself through tremendous courage and terrible sacrifice. And perhaps Kit holds the power to rescue him, too. Winner of the Costa First Novel Award and a finalist for the prestigious Orange Prize, Sadie Jones's *The Outcast* introduces us to a clear and brave new voice in British fiction. The novel is a clarion call to us all, daring us to stand up to the bullies of our world, in whatever form they may take and — above all else — to love our children.

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