

## The Starboard Sea Amber Dermont

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Bruships 65: Naval History Books \u0026 Questions Answered A song inspired by The Starless Sea, by Erin Morgenstern Bruships 40: Favourite Books to Use When Writing...

It is the summer of 1987. Jason Prosper is eighteen and on his way to Bellingham Academy, a school known for offering wayward privileged students a second chance - and Jason needs a second chance: ever since his best friend's suicide, his life has been badly adrift. At Bellingham, Jason joins the sailing team, and meets a compelling young woman called Aidan. His friends warn him off, saying she is 'damaged goods'. But Jason feels like damaged too, and the pair form an intense connection. But when a major hurricane gathers just off the coast, Jason's world begins to cloud over again. And when the full extent of the storm's damage is finally revealed, the truths it lays bare - and the secrets it dredges up - look set to alter the course of Jason life forever.

Devastated by the suicide of his prep-school roommate and disdaining the trappings of his affluent Manhattan life, Jason transfers to another school and bonds with a troubled classmate whose subsequent death compels Jason to uncover the truth, in a tale set against a backdrop of the 1987 stock market collapse. 50,000 first printing.

"A rich, quietly artful novel that is bound for deep water, with questions of beauty, power and spiritual navigation as its main concerns. The title refers not to the right side of a boat but to the right course through life, and the immense difficulty of finding and following it."--Janet Maslin, The New York Times A powerful first novel about life and death, friendship and love, as one young man must navigate the depths of his emotions. JASON PROSPER grew up in the elite world of Manhattan penthouses, Maine summer estates, old-boy prep schools, and exclusive sailing clubs. A smart, athletic teenager, Jason maintains a healthy, humorous disdain for the trappings of affluence, preferring to spend afternoons sailing with Cal, his best friend and boarding-school roommate. When Cal commits suicide during their junior year at Kensington Prep, Jason is devastated by the loss and transfers to Bellingham Academy. There, he meets Aidan, a fellow student with her own troubled past. They embark on a tender, awkward, deeply emotional relationship. When a major hurricane hits the New England coast, the destruction it causes brings with it another upheaval in Jason's life, forcing him to make sense of a terrible secret that has been buried by the boys he considers his friends. Set against the backdrop of the 1987 stock market collapse, The Starboard Sea is an examination of the abuses of class privilege, the mutability of sexual desire, the thrill and risk of competitive sailing, and the adult cost of teenage recklessness. It is a powerful and provocative novel about a young man finding his moral center, trying to forgive himself, and accepting the gift of love.

Presents a collection of short stories that features characters at crossroads, from a man who teaches etiquette throughout his girlfriend's indictment, to a widow who rents herself out as a "professional grandchild" to elderly women.

'Fascinating. An unexpected coming of age story, a suspenseful mystery, a thoughtful examination of the nature of good and evil' Eowyn Ivey,The Snow Child 'It was years before a Visionist came to the City of Hope. How could I have fathomed that her presence in our small, remote sanctuary - as unforeseen to her as to anyone - would change everything?' Massachusetts, 1842. Fifteen-year-old Polly Kimball sets fire to her family farm, killing her abusive father. With his fiery ghost at her heels, Polly and her young brother seek refuge in a local Shaker community - the City of Hope. Polly has much to hide from this mysterious society of believers, with the local fire inspector on her trail and the ever-present demons from her past. But when they hail her a 'Visionist', the first their community has known, she is subject to overwhelming scrutiny. Despite being fiercely protected by a young Shaker sister named Charity, a girl who has never known the outside world yet will stake her very soul on Polly's purity, Polly finds herself in danger from forces both sides of the City's walls. And in a world where faith and fear coexist, safety has a price... Rachel Urquhart conjures a cast of extraordinary characters and brings to life one of history's most fabled and mysterious religious movements. 'A fresh batch of debut fiction introduces heroines and an anti-heroine with impressive abilities and memorable flaws. None is as powerful as Polly Kimball, a 19th-century New Englander ... Part mystery, part coming-of-age tale, The Visionistprobes questions of faith and fear while deftly illuminating Shakerism' --Observer 'Rachel Urquhart writes with precision and beauty' --Sunday Times 'Utterly brilliant' --Lucy Mangan 'Fascinating ... An unexpected coming of age story, a suspenseful mystery' --Eowyn Ivey, author of the bestseller The Snow Child 'Transfixing ... Urquhart has created a world rich in detail and vibrant in its historical dimensions ... Like Marilynne Robinson's Gilead... The Visionistaspire to illuminate our understanding of faith, resilience, shame and forgiveness' --New York Times Book Review 'A daring novel of secrets, revelations and redemption ... engrossing ... compelling' --O Magazine 'A literary achievement one might expect from a writer with an extensive backlist of published works' --New York Journal of Books 'Shattering original ... so rich, so detailed, that you not only come to care for all the characters deeply, you also become so immersed in the world of the Shakers ... Part mystery and part thriller ... wise and haunting ... provocative, passionate and profoundly redemptive' --San Francisco Chronicle 'Like Nathaniel Hawthorne's haunted novels, The Visionisttests a community's faith and devotion as expertly mounted, suspenseful threats grow ... The Visionistwill have you holding your breath until the final, magnificent revelation' --ShelfAwareness 'There are characters with crosses to bear and scruffy villains straight out of Dickens. The Visionistreads in parts like a Victorian thriller ... In a painstakingly researched novel framed by a suspenseful plot, Urquhart gives the reader an intriguing glimpse behind these doors' --Wall Street Journal

With wry humour and real freshness, SNAPPER charts the disastrous love affair between career birdwatcher Nathan Lochmueller and the place that made him. Set in a brilliantly observed rural Indiana, 'the bastard son of the Midwest', SNAPPER is a book about birdwatching, a woman who won't stay true, and a pick-up truck that won't start. Here turtles eat alligators for breakfast, Klansmen skulk in the undergrowth, and truckers drop into the diner of a town named Santa Claus to ensure that no child's Christmas letter goes unanswered, while Nathan grapples with the eternal question: should I stay, or should I go? Kimberling's vision of small-town life is as characterful as Garrison Keillor's Lake Wobegon, but bristling with the tensions of race, class, poverty and prejudice, it makes for a bracing read.

Gretchen Lin leaves behind a floundering marriage to return to her Singapore home, where she confronts the challenges of her mother's alcoholism and her father's artisanal soy sauce business before being pulled into a family controversy.

One of the most critically acclaimed books of the year, Whiting Award-winner Teddy Wayne 's second novel is " more than a scabrous sendup of American celebrity culture; it ' s also a poignant portrait of one young artist ' s coming of age " (Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times)—and an enduring yet timely portrait of the American dream gone awry. In his rave on the cover of The New York Times Book Review, Jess Walter praised Wayne ' s writing for its " feats of unlikely virtuosity " and the boy at its center as " a being of true longing and depth, and...a devastating weapon of cultural criticism...You ' d have to be made of triple platinum not to ache for Jonny Valentine. " With " assured prose and captivating storytelling " (Oprah.com ' s Book of the Week), The Love Song of Jonny Valentine also showcases " one of the most complicated portrayals of the mother-son relationship since Room " (BookPage). Touring the country in a desperate attempt to save a career he ' s not sure he even wants, Jonny is both driven by his mother ' s ambition and haunted by his father ' s absence, constantly searching for a familiar face among the crowds. Utterly convincing, whip-smart, yet endearingly vulnerable, with an " unforgettable " voice (Publishers Weekly, starred review), the eleven-year-old pop megastar sounds " like Holden Caulfield Jr. adrift in Access Hollywood hell " (Rolling Stone). Called " a showstopper " (The Boston Globe), " hugely entertaining " (The Washington Post), " heartbreakingly convincing " (People), " buoyant, smart, searing " (Entertainment Weekly), and " touching and unexpectedly suspenseful " (The Wall Street Journal), this extraordinary novel has been widely embraced as a literary masterpiece and the rare " satire with a heart " (Library Journal, starred review).

A luminous collection of short stories focusing on privilege and entitlement, from the bestselling author of The Starboard Sea Damage Control displays Amber Dermont's remarkable gift for portraying characters at crossroads. In "Lyndon," a daughter visits presidential landmarks following the death of her father. In "Damage Control," a young man works at an etiquette school while his girlfriend is indicted for embezzlement. A widow rents herself to elderly women and vacations with them as a "professional grandchild" in "Stella at the Winter Palace." And in "The Language of Martyrs" a couple houses a mail order bride on behalf of the husband's Russian mother. Dermont's stories have previously been published in many literary magazines and have also been featured in anthologies edited by Jane Smiley and Dave Eggers. Damage Control includes three previously unpublished pieces.

Raymie Clarke has come to realize that everything, absolutely everything, depends on her. And she has a plan. If Raymie can win the Little Miss Central Florida Tire competition, then her father, who left town two days ago with a dental hygienist, will

be able to pay for her

college tuition.

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