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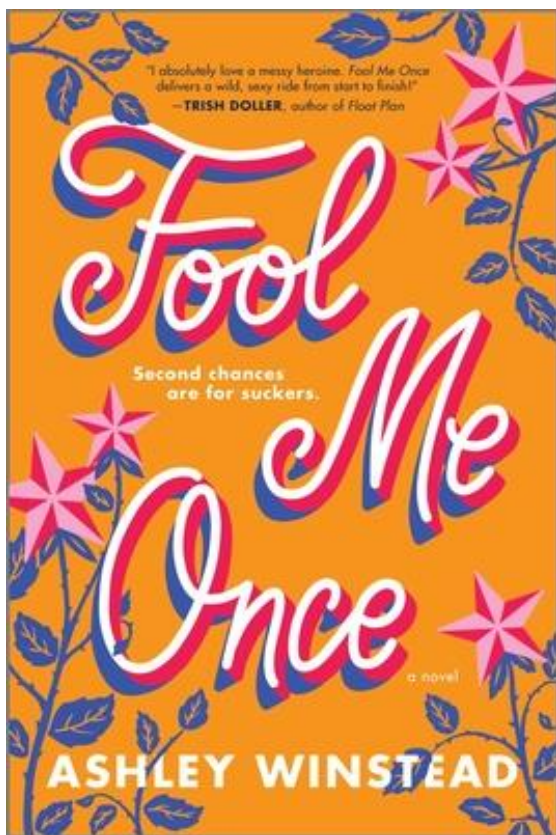
Lia Ferrone, Graydon House
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"Sparks fly and laughs abound as Winstead rides the line between enemies-to-lovers and second-chance romance tropes. Readers will want to snap this up."—***Publishers Weekly***

"A love story for every truly hot mess... A romance with bite, wit, and heart."—***Kirkus Reviews, starred review***

Fool Me Once

In this fierce and funny battle of the exes, Ashley Winstead's *Fool Me Once* explores the chaos of wanting something you used to have.



Lee Stone is a twenty-first-century woman: she kicks butt at her job as a communications director at a women-run electric car company (that's better than Tesla, thank you), and after work she is "Stoner," drinking guys under the table and never letting any of them get too comfortable in her bed...

That's because Lee's learned one big lesson: never trust love. Four major heartbreaks set her straight, from her father cheating on her mom all the way to Ben Laderman in grad school—who wasn't *actually* cheating, but she could have *sworn* he was, so she reciprocated in kind.

Then Ben shows up five years later, working as a policy expert for the most liberal governor in Texas history, just as Lee is trying to get a clean energy bill rolling. Things get complicated—and competitive—as Lee and Ben are forced to work together. Tension builds just as old sparks reignite, fanning the flames for a romantic dustup the size of Texas.

FOOL ME ONCE

HarperCollins/Graydon House — April 5, 2022

Paperback: \$16.99;

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MEET ASHLEY WINSTEAD

ASHLEY WINSTEAD is also the author of *IN MY DREAMS I HOLD A KNIFE* (2021; *Sourcebooks Landmark*). She holds a Ph.D. in contemporary American literature and a B.A. in English and art history. She lives in Houston, Texas, where she drinks red wine and dreams up novels.



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MORE PRAISE FOR FOOL ME ONCE

"A simmering slow burn bursting with banter...This is a romance for anyone who's ever felt too messy to be loved."

—ROSIE DANAN, author of *The Roommate*

"I absolutely love a messy heroine; throw in political schemes and off-the-charts chemistry, and *Fool Me Once* delivers a wild, sexy ride from start to finish!"

—TRISH DOLLER, author of *Float Plan*

"Fresh, funny, and chaotically wonderful, *Fool Me Once* had me hooked from the very first page! Winstead weaves an undeniably sexy tale of will-they/won't-they that is sure to be a phenomenal addition to every rom-com lover's library."

—KATE BROMLEY, author of *Talk Bookish to Me*

"A hilariously sharp-tongued romance with an unforgettable, unapologetic heroine. *Fool Me Once* is a breath of fresh air!"—RACHEL LYNN SOLOMON, bestselling author of *The Ex-Talk*

MORE PRAISE FOR ASHLEY WINSTEAD'S WRITING

"Perfect for fans of dark academia, the well-drawn characters will remind many of their own college days. *In My Dreams I Hold a Knife* is a twisty, literary thriller not to be missed."—
Shelf Awareness

"Chapters jump between past and present, old secrets are revealed, motives are explored, and many head-snapping plot twists abound in this psychodrama...Winstead's first novel successfully gets inside Jessica's head and conveys the excitement and terror of college days." —***Library Journal***

"*In My Dreams I Hold a Knife* is a twisty, dark puzzle, told in chapters that alternate between present day and what happened in college...Fans of books such as *The Girl on the Train* and *Gone Girl* will find this book captivating, as will anyone who enjoys being led down a winding, frightening path. Highly recommended." —***New York Journal of Books***

"With her ability to weave multiple, distinct characters into a thoroughly well-crafted mystery that is absolutely full of twists, turns, and surprises, Winstead is without a doubt an author to keep an eager eye on!" —***The Nerd Daily***

"A superb whodunit...Winstead's clever insights into her characters' complicated lives and motives will keep readers glued to the page." --***Plattsburgh Press-Republican***

"What a debut! With delicious twists that will satisfy the hungriest thriller reader, this roller coaster ride will keep you at the edge of your seat until the final pages. And those pages? They'll leave you with your mouth hanging open. What didn't I love about this book? Nothing. Put it at the top of your reading list, as I'm sure it's going to be a smash hit." --
Suspense Magazine*, Jaime Lynn Hendricks, author of *Finding Tessa

"Nostalgic and sinister, IN MY DREAMS I HOLD A KNIFE whisks the reader back to college. Glory days, unbreakable friendships, all-night parties and a belief that the best in life is ahead of you. But ten years after the murder of one of the East House Seven, the unbreakable bonds may be hiding fractured secrets of a group bound not by loyalty but by fear. Twisty and compulsively readable, IN MY DREAMS I HOLD A KNIFE will have you turning pages late into the night, not just to figure out who murdered beloved Heather Shelby, but to see whether friendships forged under fire can ever be resurrected again."
--**Julie Clark, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Last Flight***

MORE PRAISE FOR ASHLEY WINSTEAD'S WRITING

"Fans of *The Secret History*, Ruth Ware, and Andrea Bartz will devour this dark academic thriller with an addictive locked-room mystery at its core. Ten years after an unsolved campus murder, the victim's best friends reunite, knowing one might be a monster--but is anyone innocent? Over the course of a single shocking night, Ashley Winstead peels back lie after lie, exposing the poisoned roots of ambition, friendship, and belonging itself. An astonishingly sure-footed debut, *IN MY DREAMS I HOLD A KNIFE* is the definition of compulsive reading. The last page will give you nightmares."--**Amy Gentry, bestselling author of *Good as Gone*, *Last Woman Standing*, and *Bad Habits***

"Beautiful writing, juicy secrets, complex female characters, and drumbeat suspense—what more could you want from a debut thriller? I'm Ashley Winstead's new biggest fan. If you liked Marisha Pessl's *Neverworld Wake* or Laurie Elizabeth Flynn's *The Girls Are All So Nice Here*, trust me—you will love this."--**Andrea Bartz, bestselling author of *The Lost Night* and *The Herd***

"An unsolved murder, dark secrets and dysfunctional college days, all wrapped up in a twisty plot that will keep you flipping pages." --**Darby Kane, #1 Internationally bestselling author of *Pretty Little Wife***

"With its compelling puzzlebox structure and delightfully ruthless cast of characters, this twisty dark academia thriller will have you flipping pages like you're pulling an all-nighter to cram for a final. *In My Dreams I Hold a Knife* is required reading for fans of Donna Tartt's *The Secret History* and Amy Gentry's *Bad Habits*."--**Layne Fargo, author of *They Never Learn***