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2023 Booker Prize Shortlist Includes Three Titles Published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Unprecedented number of books for a single US publisher chosen by the Booker Prize Committee

New York, NY (September 21, 2023) — Earlier today in London, the Booker Prize committee announced its shortlist for fiction, including three books published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux: If I Survive You by Jonathan Escoffery (MCD/FSG, 9/6/22; Picador, 9/5/23); Western Lane by Chetna Maroo (FSG, 2/7/23; Picador, 11/21/23); and The Bee Sting by Paul Murray (FSG, 8/15/23). This is an unprecedented number of books chosen by the Booker Prize committee for a single US publisher in the same year.

Mitzi Angel, President and Publisher of Farrar, Straus and Giroux, states: “We were thrilled to receive the news of the Booker shortlist. Each of these writers is singular in talent; each takes
the reader to an extraordinary place. We applaud Jonathan, Chetna, and Paul on their
nominations and are so proud to publish their work at FSG."

*If I Survive You* by Jonathan Escoffery is a novel in stories that follows a Jamaican American
family of four over several decades in Miami both before and after Hurricane Andrew as they
navigate the trapdoors of capitalism, race, generational dysfunction, and cultural dislocation. It
has received an extraordinary amount of acclaim since its publication in September 2022,
generating nominations for the National Book Award, the National Book Critics’ Circle Award, and
the PEN/Faulkner Award. On NPR’s *Fresh Air*, Maureen Corrigan described *If I Survive You* as
“an intensively granular, yet panoramic depiction of what it’s like to try to make it—or not—in this
dkaleidoscopic madhouse of a country . . . Not since *Moby-Dick* has the all-American ethos of ‘sink or
swim’ on your own been dramatized to such devastating effect.”

*Western Lane* by Chetna Maroo is a taut, enthralling first novel about grief, sisterhood, and a young
athlete’s struggle to transcend herself. An indelible coming-of-age story, *Western Lane* is a valentine
to innocence, to the closeness of sisterhood, to the strange ways we come to know ourselves and
each other. As the author Yiyun Li wrote, “Combining the precision and the efficiency of an athlete
with the mysteries of childhood loss and memory, *Western Lane* is a novel in which we linger on
every breathing line and relish every close observation.”

*The Bee Sting* by Paul Murray, from the author of the internationally acclaimed *Skippy Dies*
(itself long-listed for the Booker Prize), is a sweeping, symphonic tragicomedy about a single
struggling household in post-crash Ireland, and the long-buried secrets unearthed by the
collapse of their family car dealership. Released in the US on August 15, it has been widely
hailed as Murray’s most ambitious achievement to date. Writing in the *Los Angeles Times*,
Jonathan Russell Clark described *The Bee Sting* as “hilarious and sardonic, heartbreaking and
beautiful,” adding, “there’s just no other way to put it: *The Bee Sting* is a masterpiece.”

**About Farrar, Straus and Giroux:** Farrar, Straus and Company was founded in 1946 by Roger W.
Straus and John C. Farrar. In 1964, Robert Giroux’s name was added to the roster and the company
became Farrar, Straus and Giroux. The firm is renowned for its international list of literary fiction,
nonfiction, poetry, and children’s books. Farrar, Straus and Giroux authors have won extraordinary
acclaim over the years, including numerous National Book Awards and Pulitzer Prizes, and twenty-five
Nobel Prizes in Literature.

**About MCD Books:** MCD is an imprint of Farrar, Straus and Giroux committed to publishing the
unexpected—surprising stories, unusual authors, innovative formats—with creativity and energy.
Publishing since 2017, its notable authors include such bestselling and award-winning writers as Kobe
Bryant, Dan Charnas, Sloane Crosley, John Darnielle, Jonathan Escoffery, Aleksandar Hemon, Bobby
Hundreds, Chris Pavone, Ivy Pochoda, Brontez Purnell, Robin Sloan, Héctor Tobar, Ellen Ullman, Jeff
VanderMeer, and Anna Wiener.

**About Macmillan:** Macmillan Publishers is the US trade division of the Holtzbrinck Publishing Group, a
large family-owned media company headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany. Its publishing companies
include prominent imprints around the world that publish a broad range of award-winning books for