

Author Biography

Bailey Merlin

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About the Author

Bailey Merlin is a writer, librettist, and bi+ advocate. She holds an MFA in fiction from Butler University and an MS in Media, Medicine, and Health from Harvard Medical School. Based in Boston, Bailey lives in an intentional community with a dynamic cast of humans, a toddler, a dog, a cat, and a friendly ghost. *A Lot of People Live in This House* is her first novel.

Book Synopsis

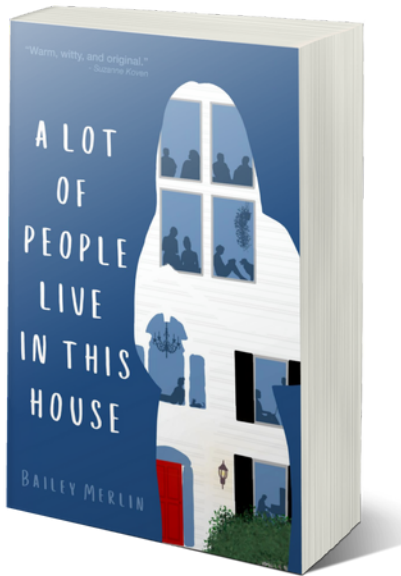
A Lot of People Live in This House follows Rachel as she arrives at the house on the hill alone as Job attends a meditation retreat in India for two weeks to unpack his own grief. She's greeted by housemates who smile, bring her cups of tea, and seem happy she's there. She hates it. Not long after, Job is trapped in India by a virus that's grounded just about every plane in the world.

As she falls apart, her new housemates rally to find a way to get Job home. Everything Rachel thought she knew about living with others flies out the window and leaves only one remaining truth: Life can be a lot at once, but you don't have to do it alone.

Advance Information Sheet

From Book Brilliance Publishing

A Lot of People Live in This House by Bailey Merlin



A Lot of People Live in This House follows Rachel as she arrives at the house on the hill alone as Job attends a meditation retreat in India for two weeks to unpack his own grief. She's greeted by housemates who smile, bring her cups of tea, and seem happy she's there. She hates it. Not long after, Job is trapped in India by a virus that's grounded just about every plane in the world.

As she falls apart, her new housemates rally to find a way to get Job home. Everything Rachel thought she knew about living with others flies out the window and leaves only one remaining truth: Life can be a lot at once, but you don't have to do it alone.

ISBN:

978-1-913770-64-8

Price: £15.99 / \$18.99

Publication Date:

26th May 2023

Format: Paperback

Size: 216 x 140 x 20 mm
370 pages

Category:

Fiction; saga; communal living; friendship; grief; belonging

Available from Gardners worldwide, on Amazon and all good bookshops globally as a paperback and eBook, and direct from the publisher

About the Author:

Bailey Merlin is a talented writer with a rich background in fiction and media, medicine, and health. She holds an MFA in fiction from Butler University and an MS from Harvard Medical School, and her writing has been published in numerous literary magazines.

Key Sales Points:

- A Lot of People Live in This House is Bailey's debut novel.
- Bailey has featured in numerous literary magazines, including The Lascaux Review, ellipses..., Honeyfire Literary Magazine, Bandit Fiction, Anti-Heroine Chic, Chantwood Magazine, Drunk Monkeys, Dime Show Review, Streetlight Magazine, Into the Void, Crack the Spine, among others.
- Readers who enjoy contemporary fiction that explores current events and social issues may be interested in this book, as well as women aged 30-50 years of age who can relate to the protagonist's experiences of grief, loss, and the challenges of starting over in a new city.
- A character-driven novel, allowing readers to delve deeply into the characters' lives.
- The book includes a subplot about housemate Daniela's pregnancy and childbirth, which may appeal to interested readers

"Warm, witty, and original."

Suzanne Koven Author, *Letter to a Young Female Physician*



PRESS RELEASE – for immediate release

Bailey Merlin

Intentional Community Spotlighted in Debut Novel



A debut novel, written by an American author, sets the scene for the emerging trend of intentional communities. With the recent news that loneliness is now an epidemic in the USA, communities and relationships are more important than ever.

An intentional community is designed and planned around a social ideal of collective values and interests, often involving shared resources and responsibilities.

A Lot of People Live in This House follows Rachel as she arrives at the house on the hill alone as her husband Job attends a meditation retreat in India for two weeks to unpack his own grief. She's greeted by housemates who smile, bring her cups of tea, and seem happy she's there. She hates it and thinks it's a cult. Not long after, Job is trapped in India by a virus that's grounded just about every plane in the world.

It's a tribute to the UK publishing world that Bailey chose an independent publishing house in the UK to ensure her book is shared worldwide, just like the global pandemic impacted the world, central to the stories within the book.

A talented writer, Bailey has a rich background in fiction. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in fiction from Butler University and an MS in media, medicine and health from Harvard Medical School, and her writing has been published in numerous literary magazines.

Based in Boston, Massachusetts, Bailey works at Harvard and lives in an intentional community with a dynamic cast of humans, a toddler, a dog, a cat, and a friendly ghost. This inspired Bailey and provided her with the insight to pen the book, and create stories and characters.

"In a world of lonely people, writing a novel about communal living was the first time I ever felt like I had something to say," says Bailey.

Bailey is passionate about social community and the issues that affect us all, which are shared within the book: friendship, grief and belonging. Intentional community is a fresh and innovative way of viewing communal living in the 21st century.

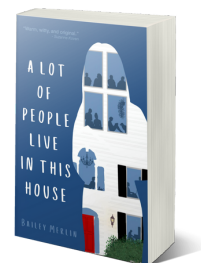
A Lot of People Live in This House focuses on its characters, giving readers a fly-on-the-wall opportunity to explore their personalities and experiences in depth, allowing the reader to resonate with current events and social issues.

Bailey has been featured in numerous literary magazines, including *The Lascaux Review*, *ellipses...*, *Honeyfire Literary Magazine*, *Bandit Fiction*, *Anti-Heroic Chic*, *Chantwood Magazine*, *Drunk Monkeys*, *Dime Show Review*, *Streetlight Magazine*, *Into the Void*, *Crack the Spine*, among others.

In addition to her writing, Bailey has co-performed a spoken word short story album, *Bug Eyes*, with award-winning jazz guitarist Richie Smith. She is also the librettist of the opera *!Dime! An Opera in Four Acts*.

Notes:

- *A Lot of People Live in This House* by Bailey Merlin, published by Book Brilliance Publishing, 26th May 2023, ISBN 978-1-913770-64-8, £15.99 / \$18.99.
- Bailey is available for interview: bailey.a.merlin@gmail.com
- *A Lot of People Live in This House* is available on Amazon and in all good bookshops and online globally as a paperback and eBook, and direct from the publisher and author: <https://www.baileymerlin.com>
- High-res images of the cover and the author are available from the publisher: admin@bookbrilliancepublishing.com



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