

BLUE HOUR

TIFFANY CLARKE HARRISON

MARKETING & SALES POINTS

****ONE OF BARACK OBAMA'S SUMMER READING SELECTIONS****

Fearless, timely, blazing with voice, *Blue Hour* is a fragmentary debut with unignorable storytelling power

A lyrical postcolonial novel that examines motherhood in the midst of uncertainty, buried trauma and an unraveling America, delving into complex topical issues from grief and miscarriage to interracial relationships and police brutality

The perfect next read for fans of Raven Leilani's *Luster* (18K sold), Jenny Offill's *Dept. of Speculation* (11K sold) and Bernardine Evaristo's *Girl, Woman, Other* (425K sold)

THE BOOK

What is motherhood in the midst of uncertainty, buried trauma and an unravelling America? What it's always been - a love song.

Our narrator is a gifted photographer, an uncertain wife, an infertile mother, a biracial woman in an America that's coming undone. As she grapples with a lifetime of ambivalence about motherhood, yet another act of police brutality makes headlines, and this time the victim is Noah, a boy in her photography class.

Unmoored by the grief of a recent, devastating miscarriage and Noah's fight for his life, she worries she can no longer chase the hope of having a child, no longer wants to bring a Black body into the world. Yet her husband Asher is just as desperate to keep trying.

Throwing herself into a new documentary on motherhood and making secret visits to Noah in the hospital, this is when she learns she is, impossibly, pregnant. As life shifts once more, she must decide what she dares hope for the shape of her future to be.

PRaise for BLUE HOUR

'An urgent, heart-breaking and profound meditation on motherhood, art-making, uncertainty, the ongoing violence of American racism and police brutality, and the courage it takes to choose the future' - **BUZZFEED**

'Gasp-worthy... How did Harrison achieve this spectacular feat of emotional withholding while also making readers feel so much?' - **VULTURE (A Book of the Year)**

'Full of musings, debate, anger, distress and yet, ultimately, hope, *Blue Hour* is incredibly powerful' - **GOOD MORNING AMERICA**

MORNING AMERICA

'With every word, *Blue Hour* cautions against holding back: from being seen, heard and understood; from persevering in spite of forces that would see you destroyed; and from expressing love on every possible occasion, before your chances run out' - **CHICAGO REVIEW OF BOOKS**

'In lyrical language, Harrison skilfully explores the complex tensions that gnaw at the expectant mother... and offers an intimate view of the couple's pain. This signals the arrival of a brave new writer' - **PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY**

'Harrison's writing is unflinching throughout, but the depictions of miscarriage and infertility - and their effect on a marriage - are particularly haunting... In the vein of Jenny Offill and Raven Leilani, Harrison's debut offers an intimate slice-of-life portrait with no easy questions or answers. A poetic novel that dances on the edge of hope and despair' - **KIRKUS REVIEWS**

WEEKLY

'Harrison's writing is unflinching throughout, but the depictions of miscarriage and infertility - and their effect on a marriage - are particularly haunting... In the vein of Jenny Offill and Raven Leilani, Harrison's debut offers an intimate slice-of-life portrait with no easy questions or answers. A poetic novel that dances on the edge of hope and despair' - **KIRKUS REVIEWS**

TIFFANY CLARKE HARRISON

TIFFANY CLARKE HARRISON writes about your feelings. The ones that feel good, the ones that don't, and definitely the ones you don't want anyone to know. Writing novels has always been the goal, and *Blue Hour* is her debut. She graduated from Salisbury University with a BA in English, Creative Writing Concentration, and holds an MFA in Creative Writing (Fiction) from Queens University of Charlotte. Tiffany lives with her husband and two children in North Carolina.



Pub. Date:	29 August 2024
Price:	£9.99
ISBN:	978-0-85730-877-1
Binding:	Paperback
Format:	B (198 x 129mm)
Extent:	160
Weight:	
Publishing Rights:	Exclusive: UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada. Open Market: RoW. inc. North America
Sales Rights:	Exclusive: UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada. Open Market: RoW. excl. North America
Market:	American Literature, Literary Fiction, Political Fiction, Postcolonial Fiction
BISAC Code:	FIC000000: Fiction : General FIC019000: Fiction : Literary FIC049000: Fiction : African American : General
THEMA Code:	FBA: Modern & contemporary fiction FXS: Narrative theme: Social issues
Country of Manufacture:	UK
Rpt. Code:	IP
Overseas Publisher:	USA & Canada: Soft Skull Press PB, \$15.95, 4 Apr 2023

Marketing & PR
publicity@oldcastlebooks.com

VERVE Books
Harpenden
Herts AL5 1EQ
Tel: +44 (0)1582 766348

UK Distribution: Turnaround
Second Floor, Crown House
47 Chase Side
Southgate
London N14 5BP
Tel: +44 (0)208 829 3000
www.turnaround-uk.com

vervebooks.co.uk/blue-hour

ISBN 978-0-85730-877-1



9 780857 308771