

The Singer's Gun

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Everyone Anton Waker grew up with is corrupt. His parents dealt in stolen goods, and he was a successful purveyor of forged documents until he abandoned it all in his early twenties, determined to live a normal life, complete with career, apartment, and a fiancée who knows nothing of his criminal beginnings. He's on the verge of finally getting married when Aria-his cousin and former partner in crime-blackmails him into helping her with one last job.

Anton considers the task a small price for future freedom. But as he sets off for an Italian honeymoon, it soon becomes clear that the ghosts of his past can't be left behind so easily, and that the task Aria requires will cost him more than he could ever imagine.

"A gripping story, full of moral ambiguities, where deception and betrayal become the norm, and where the expression 'a riddle wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma' is lifted to new heights." -St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Everyone Anton Waker grew up with is corrupt. His parents deal in stolen goods and his first career is a partnership venture with his cousin Aria selling forged passports and social security cards to illegal aliens. Anton longs for a less questionable way of living in the world and by his late twenties has reinvented himself as a successful middle manager. Then a routine security check suggests that things are not quite what they appear. And Aria begins blackmailing him to do one last job for her. But the seemingly simple job proves to have profound and unexpected repercussions.

As Anton's carefully constructed life begins to disintegrate around him, he's forced to choose between loyalty to his family and his desires for a different kind of life. When everyone is willing to use someone else to escape the past, it is up to Anton, on the island of Ischia, to face the ghosts that travel close behind him.

Emily St. John Mandel follows up her electric debut with a spellbinding novel of international crime, false identities, the depths and limits of family ties, and the often confusing bonds of love. Taut with suspense, beautifully imagined, full of unexpected corners, desperate choices, betrayals and halftruths with deadly consequences, *The Singer's Gun* explores the dangerous territory between one's moral compass and the heart's desire.

Emily St. John Mandel was born in British Columbia, Canada. Her most recent novel, *Station Eleven*, was a finalist for the 2014 National Book Award and a New York Times bestseller. Her previous novels were *Last Night in Montreal*, *The Singer's Gun*, and *The Lola Quartet*. She is a staff writer for *The Millions*, and her work has appeared in numerous anthologies, including *The Best American Mystery Stories 2013* and *Venice Noir*. She lives in New York City with her husband.

Other Books

The Singer's Guide to Languages.

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