

23 January 2020

Dear colleagues,

I am writing you today to announce the new leadership team for Alfred A. Knopf, Pantheon and Schocken. Separately, I'm announcing new leadership for the Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group as a whole.

In the last few weeks, each of us has read, or heard, or said: "Sonny cannot be replaced." He was an extraordinary editor, publisher, tastemaker, and mentor. Everything about him was unique, every conversation with him interesting. He led us where his curiosity took him, and redefined our industry along the way.

Over the past six months, in our semi-regular "meetings" (a.k.a., drinks-across-the-street), Sonny and I began to talk in earnest about the future. As you know, he made some changes and key appointments in the group late last year, but there was still the question of publishing leadership for Knopf itself.

I'm incredibly happy to report that as his last gift to us, Sonny identified **Reagan Arthur** as his first choice for this role, and they were able to meet and talk about the opportunity in the fall.

Reagan is being named **Executive Vice President, Publisher, Knopf, Pantheon and Schocken**, effective February 11. She comes to us from Little, Brown, where she has spent the last seven years as Senior Vice President and Publisher. Prior to that, she led her own eponymous imprint there. Reagan began her career in the editorial ranks at St Martin's, working alongside several of you, including Jordan Pavlin, Bill Thomas, and Andrew Miller. In that time, Reagan has worked with an exceptional list of gifted authors, among them: Megan Abbott, Sherman Alexie, Kate Atkinson, Oscar Casares, Eleanor Catton, Michael Connelly, Rachel Cusk, Ronan Farrow, Joshua Ferris, Tina Fey, Caitlin Flanagan, Malcolm Gladwell, Elin Hilderbrand, Eowyn Ivey, Elizabeth Kostova, Attica Locke, Denise Mina, James Patterson, George Pelecanos, Ian Rankin, and David Sedaris.

The range and breadth of Reagan's editorial expertise and her leadership qualities are core to what make her the ideal choice for this role. Her writers think the world of her, as do her colleagues. She has a proven track record and a reputation that means her

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recommendations are trusted by sales reps and booksellers alike. I have envied from afar her accomplishments as a publisher while treasuring her books as a reader and enjoying getting to know her over the years as a person. I was so looking forward to having Sonny introduce her to you, but I know you'll help me provide her with the very warmest welcome in his place.

Reporting to Reagan will be **Paul Bogaards, Executive VP, Deputy Publisher**, and the extraordinary Knopf, Pantheon and Schocken editorial teams.

Additionally, I'm thrilled to report that **Jordan Pavlin** is being promoted to a key role: **Senior VP, Editorial Director, Alfred A. Knopf**. Jordan is one of the most gifted editors in trade publishing. The list of award-winning books and bestselling authors she has published is extraordinary. She has an uncanny eye and a transcendent belief in the work of her authors. Among the writers with whom Jordan has worked: Rick Bragg, Jennifer Egan, Nathan Englander, Yaa Gyasi, Ethan Hawke, Ayana Mathis, Susan Minot, Jenny Offill, Tommy Orange, Julie Orringer, Julie Otsuka, Lara Prescott, Karen Russell, Dani Shapiro, and Maggie Shipstead. Jordan also steps into this role with twenty-three years of wisdom gleaned from working alongside Sonny.

Reagan, Jordan and Paul are a formidable leadership team, and as a reader and a colleague, I'm so very excited for the ways they will build on the Knopf commitment to new voices, to diverse voices, to works in translation, to books literary and commercial- -all while adhering to the highest standards in all aspects of the publishing process, to keeping authors at the center of the imprint culture, and to nurturing in-house talent.

Thank you for the care you have shown for each other and for our authors over these past weeks during such difficult circumstances. Here's to moving forward into 2020 and the coming decades with the same commitment to our community, and with the same spirit of invention, creativity, and literary adventure that have always been the Knopf hallmarks.

All my best,

Madeline