



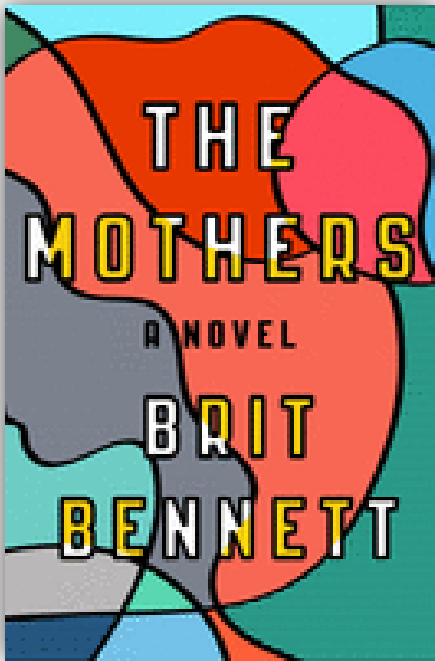
Penguin  
Random  
House

AN EXTRAORDINARY DEBUT FROM A DAZZLING NEW YOUNG VOICE

# THE MOTHERS A NOVEL

## BRIT BENNETT

PUBLISHED BY RIVERHEAD ON 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2016 AT £11.99



"Brit Bennett's masterful debut is brimming with unforgettable scenes and the sort of keenly-observed, precise language that makes you look at your own relationships anew. Told with the wisdom of a seasoned, compassionate storyteller, *The Mothers* is a novel about community, friendship, grief and growth. The two women at the center of this novel are characters you will find yourself thinking about long after you've turned the last page-- they pull you in close and never let you go. Bennett is a brilliant and much-needed new voice in literature." **ANGELA FLOURNOY, AUTHOR OF NATIONAL BOOK AWARD-FINALIST THE TURNER HOUSE**

"Brit Bennett's *The Mothers* is a brilliant exploration of friendship, desire, inheritance, the love we seek, and the love we settle for. It is the kind of book that from its first page seduces you into knowing that the heartbreak coming will be worth it." **DANIELLE EVANS, AUTHOR OF BEFORE YOU SUFFOCATE YOUR OWN FOOL SELF**

"Brit Bennett's *The Mothers* is an engaging and assured debut novel of depth, and introspective power. It succeeds as a brilliant study of a modern black woman, and as a lyrical and majestic portrait of her place in society." **CHIGOZIE OBIOMA, AUTHOR OF THE FISHERMEN**

Set within a contemporary black community in Southern California, *The Mothers* begins with a secret. Nadia Turner is a rebellious, grief-stricken, seventeen-year-old beauty who, mourning her own mother's recent suicide, takes up with the local pastor's son. Luke Sheppard is twenty-one, a former football star whose injury has reduced him to waiting tables at a diner. They are young; it's not serious. But the secret that results from this teen romance - and the subsequent cover-up - will have an impact that goes far beyond their youth. What follows is a three-part story following Nadia, Luke, and their mutual friend Aubrey, narrated in part by a chorus of "the Mothers", the old church ladies who make poignant - and sometimes hypocritical - commentary about the younger generation.

*The Mothers* is a sharp, moving, provocative story about young love, friendship, and ambition; about the roles demanded of young black women and men, and the hypocrisy sometimes inherent in a community's expectations.

#### ABOUT BRIT BENNETT

Born and raised in Southern California, Brit Bennett graduated from Stanford University and later earned her MFA in fiction at the University of Michigan, where she won a Hopwood Award in Graduate Short Fiction as well as the 2014 Hurston/Wright Award for College Writers. At the age of just 25, Brit Bennett already has a remarkable platform as one of the most important voices of her generation. Her work is featured in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Paris Review*, *NPR* and *Jezebel*.



**BRIT BENNETT IS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT SUE AMARADIVAKARA, PR COLLECTIVE  
07786 626492 / 020 7635 3877 / [sue@prcollective.co.uk](mailto:sue@prcollective.co.uk) / @SueA1001**