

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: David Brown  
Deputy Director of Publicity  
212-698-7092

[david.brown@simonandschuster.com](mailto:david.brown@simonandschuster.com)

**“Ask me, God’s right here. In the dirt, the rain, the sky, the trees, the apples, the stars in the cottonwoods. In you and me, too. . .sure this is hard work, but it’s good work because it’s a part of what connects us to this land. This beautiful, tender land.”**

# THIS TENDER LAND

by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Ordinary Grace*

***William Kent Krueger***

In the grand American literary tradition of books like *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *A River Runs Through It* comes **William Kent Krueger’s** masterpiece, *This Tender Land* (Atria Books, September 3, 2019, \$27).

Krueger’s first stand-alone novel since his 2013 bestselling, award winning *Ordinary Grace* tells the story of four children – orphans all – who embark on a bold and dangerous journey during the summer of 1932. They are fleeing a place of loss and cruelty—and a terrible crime that one of them committed. The means of their escape is a canoe which takes them down the Gilead River in Minnesota, on their way to the mighty Mississippi, in search of a possible home in St. Louis. The narrator, Odie, is a heroic little boy, a natural storyteller, full of mischief and bravado and spirit.

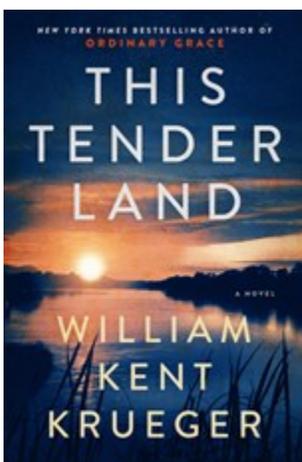
This is a big, satisfying, picaresque novel, full of unforgettable scenes and characters. Our four vagabonds are held captive by a farmer driven mad by the loss of his family; they fall under the spell of a traveling tent revival ministry led by a charismatic woman with a gift for healing; they encounter Hooverville shantytowns, people of all backgrounds and beliefs, and are tested in every way possible.

The book also explores an overlooked piece of American history – the Native American boarding schools that were a fixture around the United States until the 1960s. These were schools, rife with abuse and hardship, where Native American children were sent to live apart from their families and communities, forced to assimilate into white culture.

*This Tender Land* has many of the same qualities that readers loved about *Ordinary Grace* – honest storytelling prowess; a flawless recreation of an earlier time in America; an evocation of the natural landscape that will haunt your dreams; and a moral center that isn't cheap or easy but that feels infinitely true.

With this engrossing, big-hearted story, William Kent Krueger shines a new light on the dark days of the Great Depression, exploring themes that are relevant to the world we live in today.

**William Kent Krueger** is the acclaimed author of the *New York Times* bestselling *Ordinary Grace*, winner of the Edgar Award for best novel, as well as eighteen Cork O'Connor novels, including *Desolation Mountain* and *Sulfur Springs*. He lives in the Twin Cities with his family. Visit his website at [WilliamKentKrueger.com](http://WilliamKentKrueger.com)



This Tender Land  
by William Kent Krueger  
ISBN: 9781476749297  
eISBN: 9781476749310  
Pub Date: 9/3/2019  
Imprint: Atria Books  
Format: Hardcover  
Retail Price: \$27.00  
eBook Price: \$12.99

## ***Awards and Praise for ORDINARY GRACE***

 **Edgar® Award for Best Novel**

 **Midwest Booksellers Choice Award for Best Fiction**

 **Dilys Award (Independent Mystery Booksellers Association)**

 **Left Coast Crime Award for Best Mystery Set Within the US**

 **Barry Award for Best Novel**

 **Anthony Award for Best Novel**

 **Macavity Award for Best Novel**

***Crimespree Magazine:* Favorites of 2013**

***Englewood Review of Books:* Novel of the Year**

***St. Paul Pioneer Press:* Best Books of 2013**

***School Library Journal:* SLJ Best Books 2013 Adult Books 4 Teens**

***More2Read.com:* Best of 2013**

***Aunt Agatha's:* Best of 2013**

***BermudaOnion.net:* Best of 2013**

***Marianslibrary's Blog:* Favorite Books of 2013**

***The Truth is Not an Easy Sell blog:* Top 10 Books of 2013 (#1)**

**"A gem of a novel."**

— *Boston Globe*

**"Not often does a story feel at once fresh and familiar. But *Ordinary Grace*, a new novel from William Kent Krueger, is both, and it is affecting."**

— *Denver Post*

**"Once in a blue moon a book drops down on your desk that demands to be read. You pick it up and read the first page, and then the second, and you are hooked. Such a book is *Ordinary Grace*...This is a book that makes the reader feel better just by having been exposed to the delights of the story. It will stay with you for quite some time and you will always remember it with a smile."**

— *Huffington Post*

**"A superb literary novel."**

— *New York Journal of Books*

**"*Ordinary Grace* is engaging from the first page, a quiet novel that unfurls its sad story slowly, but eloquently, leaving its mark on your heart."**

— *The Missourian*

**"There's such a quiet beauty in his prose and such depth to his characters that I was completely captivated by this book's ordinary grace."**

— *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*

**"A beautiful coming-of-age story that features at its center a struggle for faith."**

— *World*