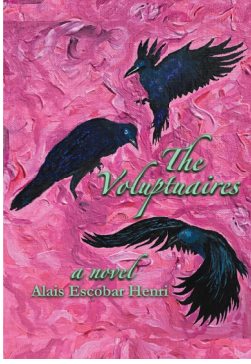


# AGAPE EDITIONS. SPRING 2023.



## ABOUT THE BOOK

One scorching Colorado summer day, Jonathan and Felix Forrester — twentysomething brothers from an affluent Denver family — invite a young woman up to their luxury apartment as a sort of prank. But the three connect quickly — and precariously — through their shared desire to explore the limits of their lust, power, and pleasure. As the external world burns with war, disease, and natural disasters, their refuge in the cool, posh apartment unspools into something more insidious. As Alais Escobar Henri ruthlessly interrogates the intersections of vulnerability and privilege, of danger and desire, the voluptuaires' dreamlike chrysalis soon becomes a hatching ground for buried traumas to re-materialize.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alais Escobar Henri is a Latina author and lifelong resident of Denver, Colorado, who spends all of her money on world travel, collecting crystals, single malt whisky, Kate Spade purses, and John Fluevog shoes. You probably think you know her well, but rest assured she writes about all of the people you don't.



## PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

"*The Voluptuaires* is a grimoire of the grim and desolate, and a champion for the forgotten. Readers, be warned: who we are, when separated from that desperate grip of love, is often the shadow selves we have refused to confront. Are you ready?"

—Hillary Leftwich, author of *Ghosts Are Just Strangers Who Know How to Knock* and *Aura*

"Readers will have to muster their courage to follow Alice, Jonathan, and Felix on their journey. It is forbidden— shameful— dangerous— and thrilling. Who is the hunter? Can you survive the past? Alais Escobar Henri writes beautifully, and cinematically. Read *The Voluptuaires*, if you dare."

—Elísabet Ronaldsdóttir

". . . the humanity of these characters is made so evident that one is not permitted the respite of simply hating them, even when they are behaving like monsters. [H]ere is . . . deeply flawed humanity, laid out in exquisite detail, with the kind of unflinching compassion that is not for everyone. Reader beware."

— M. Pelin



**HAUNTED DOLL HOUSE** is an imprint of Agape Editions. As our name suggests, we aren't afraid of the dark: we live there. We want your horror stories, your mystery novels, your dark sf/f, your genre-resistant writing about the ecstasies, traumas, & terrors that took you to the very edges of yourself.



**AGAPE EDITIONS** is a literary micropress that was originally created in southern California, now ensconced in a haunted town amidst the bright hills of upstate New York. We publish work that enacts or engages with various aspects of the mystical or the Numinous. We are interested in ecstatic experience, moments of vision, and the potential of spirituality & religion to serve as conduits for cultural identity & survival. Our purpose is interfaith and intercultural as well as literary.