

# DIVERSIONBOOKS

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On-Sale: September 12, 2017

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## POISON GIRLS

by Cheryl L. Reed

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**“An ambitious book, noirish, Dickensian in a modern way, and rooted in the realistic tradition. It tells a complex story.”**

—Stuart Dybek, MacArthur Award Winner

**“Touching, salty, brutal, organized, lost, powerful and tragic.”**

—Janet Burroway, author of *Writing Fiction*

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In a world where the tragic consequences of opioid addiction fill the headlines daily, Cheryl Reed’s debut novel **POISON GIRLS** (Diversion Paperback Original; \$15.99; September 12, 2017) is a thriller in which privilege and politics collide when poisonous heroin starts targeting teenage girls from powerhouse families in Chicago.

**POISON GIRLS** is set during a presidential election when more than 250 people have died after taking fentanyl-laced heroin—known on the streets as Poison. The deaths go unnoticed until politically connected girls start dying of suspicious overdoses. When she starts investigating, crime reporter Natalie Delaney finds that her obsession for the case may cost her everything.

Ideal for readers who love timely, realistic thrillers and delight in discovering new fiction authors whose prose keeps them turning pages long into the night, **POISON GIRLS** is an enthralling story that will be discussed for months and years to come.

**About the author:**

**Cheryl L. Reed** is a veteran journalist. She is the author of **UNVEILED: THE HIDDEN LIVES OF NUNS**, which chronicles her four years living off and on with nuns across the country. A former editor and reporter at the Chicago Sun-Times and other newspapers, Cheryl has won many awards for her investigative reporting, including Harvard’s Goldsmith Prize. She earned her MFA in Creative Writing-Fiction from Northwestern University and recently was a U.S. Fulbright Scholar teaching investigative reporting in

Ukraine where freedom of the press is still in its infancy. She is currently an assistant professor at Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Communication. Cheryl's reportage of deadly drug use among girls is the inspiration for this novel. POISON GIRLS is her fiction debut.

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**POISON GIRLS**

by Cheryl L. Reed

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**ABOUT DIVERSION BOOKS**

Launched in 2010, Diversion Books is a leading independent publisher based in New York, combining decades of traditional experience with new, innovative publishing strategies. Committed to the discovery of new voices as well as the rejuvenation of yesterday's bestsellers, Diversion believes in establishing creative partnerships with authors. Diversion's goal is to connect great books with avid readers. Learn more at [www.diversionbooks.com](http://www.diversionbooks.com).