**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*DESPERATE PATHS*, A TIMELY THRILLER IN A DIVISIVE ERA

**Chicago, IL**

**For Release on or before March 19, 2019**

In an era of #MeToo and #BlackLivesMatter, dangerous extremists, and intolerance of opposing views, here comes a thriller that jumps into hot-button issues with both feet. It’s a page-turning mystery set in the ironically named, fictional town of Eden, Illinois. “In the current climate of ‘us and them,’” Diskin says, “I wanted to step outside my own views, envision the world through another lens, admit personal bias, and even find a little empathy in the opposition.” Not exactly the typical motivation for a thriller, but this book is primarily about its characters—complicated people who are just trying to survive.

In *Desperate Paths*, a famous actor is shot within hours of returning to his small hometown in southern Illinois. The investigation into the shooting reveals that the actor had written a screenplay about growing up there, one that could destroy families, careers, and the reputations of some of its beloved citizens. By the end of week, secrets and lies are exposed, a local hero is dead, and the least likely suspect is jailed for the crime, challenging the small-town sheriff’s perception of justice. It’s a shocking tale with multiple twists and turns, in an all-too believable premise.

Daniel Palmer, New York Times bestselling author, called it “a riveting, powerfully told story of faith, family and long-buried secrets…[that] I couldn’t read fast enough.” Amy Gentry, author of international bestseller *Good as Gone* called it “tightly plotted…with so many twists…[it’s] as wise as it is thrilling.” Laura McHugh, international bestselling author of *Weight of Blood*, called it ”shocking, suspenseful, and highly relevant. You’ll be thinking about it long after you turn the last page.” And Chicago’s own, Windy City Reviews, proclaimed that “Desperate Paths has the kind of charisma and readability that will make it a starred read for a broad range of commercial fiction fans. For those of us who love character-driven thrillers, it’s a must-read for its original, fast-moving plot, and its deep, textured character studies.” The publisher has included discussion questions at the end of the book for the benefit of book clubs.

Rick Kogan of WGN Radio fame has called Diskin “a thrilling new voice on the literary landscape.” Her biggest hit, *Broken Grace*, reached over a quarter million readers by captivating readers with shocking twists and compelling characters. *Desperate Paths* will surely do the same.

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