

Contact:
Ava Sofia Bratt
Ballantine Books
[Phone]
[Email]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BALLANTINE BOOKS PUBLISHES JODI PICOULT'S 30TH NOVEL, *HOLLOW BONES*

NEW YORK, NY (September 15, 2026) — Ballantine Books, an imprint of Random House, published *HOLLOW BONES* today, the highly anticipated new novel from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Jodi Picoult. The novel explores the stories we tell ourselves to feel safe, the limits of our ability to prepare for catastrophe, and the complicated bonds between mothers and daughters. *HOLLOW BONES* is available in hardcover for \$34.00, as well as in ebook and audiobook formats.

On September 11, 2001, Molly Fitzgerald was only two months old when her mother went to an appointment at the World Trade Center and never came home. Raised by a loving father and stepmother, Molly nevertheless grows up acutely aware of how quickly an ordinary day can become a disaster. As an adult, she turns that fear into a career, running the Rhode Island Department for Emergency Preparedness and planning for the storms, epidemics, airplane crashes, and other emergencies most people would rather not imagine.

Molly believes she has finally found security with her husband, Jesse, a police polygraph expert who carries his own complicated history. When the unexpected upends their new marriage, both are forced to reconsider the stories they have built their lives around. Moving between past and present, *HOLLOW BONES* explores the illusion of control and the ways love, family, and truth are tested when life refuses to follow the plans we make.

Longtime Picoult readers will also recognize Jesse Fitzgerald, who first appeared more than two decades ago in her bestselling novel *MY SISTER'S KEEPER*. His return connects *HOLLOW BONES* to one of Picoult's most recognized works while introducing a new generation of characters and questions about family, grief, truth, and second chances. The novel has already earned starred reviews from *Kirkus Reviews* and *Booklist*, with *Kirkus* calling it an "intricate, twisty family drama spanning decades."

Picoult is currently appearing across the United States as part of the *HOLLOW BONES* book tour, which began September 13th and continues through October 17th, followed by appearances in the United Kingdom and Ireland in November.

MORE ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Jodi Picoult is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of thirty novels, including *MY SISTER'S KEEPER*, *NINETEEN MINUTES*, *SMALL GREAT THINGS*, *WISH YOU WERE HERE*, *MAD HONEY*, and *BY ANY OTHER NAME*. Over a career spanning more than three decades, her books have sold more than 40 million copies worldwide, been translated into 35 languages, and been adapted for film and television.

A graduate of Princeton University, Picoult has received numerous honors for her contributions to literature and letters, including the 2019 Sarah Josepha Hale Award, which recognizes a distinguished body of literary work. She is known for novels that tackle complex moral and social questions through deeply personal stories of family, relationships, and the choices that shape them.

ABOUT BALLANTINE BOOKS:

Founded in 1952 by Ian and Betty Ballantine, Ballantine Books is an imprint of Random House, publishing a wide range of fiction and nonfiction that combines quality storytelling with broad reader appeal. Its list includes bestselling and acclaimed authors such as Jodi Picoult, Taylor Jenkins Reid, Isabel Allende, Andy Weir, Emily Giffin, and Terry McMillan, alongside emerging voices across fiction and nonfiction. Ballantine Books is part of the Ballantine Books Group, which also includes Bantam, Dell, and Delacorte.