

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

*That Was Then*  
a Novel by Michael Quadland

*That Was Then* is the compelling story of secrets—those we keep from one another and those we bury within ourselves. On a rainy afternoon in 1985, Corey Moore runs into his childhood girlfriend, Gina, at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Eleventh Street. Precipitously, they marry. Three years later, Jack, an actor friend of Gina's, appears at their Connecticut farmhouse, introducing unprecedented intensity, damage and ultimately, hope. In a parallel story, the reader learns of Corey's secret bond with his teacher when he was thirteen and his early love for Gina, who left their small New England town unexpectedly and never returned. Secrets are revealed that change everyone's lives in ways they could never have imagined. Reflective and textured, *That Was Then* is a story of adolescent trauma and its effect on adult lives. It is also a story of the destructive power of withholding. Ultimately, *That Was Then* is a story of love appearing in unexpected and varied forms.

"Michael Quadland writes with the careful patience of a true novelist. *That Was Then* does not contain a single emotional or literary misstep — a rare occurrence in a first novel — and his story of a slowly evolving and interconnected search for love resonates in the reader's mind, and heart, with the slow, steady pulse of real yearning."

— Elizabeth Gilbert, best-selling author of *Eat, Pray, Love* and *The Last American Man*

"*That Was Then* is, first and foremost, a great read that draws you in with strong characters and a compelling story. It reflects life in all its complexity and messiness in a way that any reader will recognize as true. And it has a surprise twist that caused my jaw to drop. I read it in a single day as I couldn't put it down!"

— Kevin Jennings, Author of *Mama's Boy* and *Preacher's Son*

Publication Date: September 2007  
Trade paperback ISBN: 978-1-59709-083-4  
Trade Paper; 6 x 8.5; 232 pages  
Price: \$17.95

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