

ACROSS the SAND

HUGH HOWEY



WILLIAM MORROW

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BELLATRIX

RIGEL

MEISSA

THE
NORTHERN
WASTES

Don't
forget
the
river

THE
STONE
MOUNTAINS



DANVAR?

NO
MANS
LAND

SPRINGSTON

BETELGEUSE

THE
GARDENS

LOW-PUB

COLORADO

THE HUNTER

THE
THOUSAND
DUNES

SAIPH



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Never has any of my novels depended on so many to get written. It started with you, dear reader, for enjoying *Sand* and clamoring for more. Because of your support, my amazing agent, Kristin Nelson, has been badgering me for ages to write this sequel. It's a story that I knew I would get to when the time was right. And here we are.

There is no greater gift to a writer than providing a magical space where the muse can take hold. I was incredibly lucky this last year to find myself in the most conducive of reading and writing spaces. To my mother, Gay. Thank you for letting me be a worthless kid while I plugged away. Thanks to Miguel for taking me in when I was in Portugal and the world shut down; I have no idea why I left. And thanks to Matt for the week at the end of the pandemic when the world began to feel normal again, especially for all the hugs.

A very special thank-you to David Gatewood, the best book editor in the business, without whom I wouldn't have the courage to write. Then again, you were the guy who made me start doubting myself in the first place. So I guess it all evens out. David contributed some amazing cannibal haiku for the book (pages 105, 383). Here's one that didn't make the cut:

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*Cannibalism,
you call it? We prefer the
term “recycling”*

Mega thanks go to my publisher Mariner Books. This is the first novel I wrote knowing I wouldn't self-publish it. I never realized before now what a jerk my old boss was.

I also want to thank John Joseph Adams for believing in *Sand*, and in Jaime Levine for helping edit this sequel. These books wouldn't be the same without you both.

A final thanks to my sister, Mollie Howey, for being such a huge fan, a massive supporter, and an inspiration. I wouldn't be able to write about these siblings and these powerful women without you in my life.

And that's it. No need to turn the page. I'm surprised you made it this far.