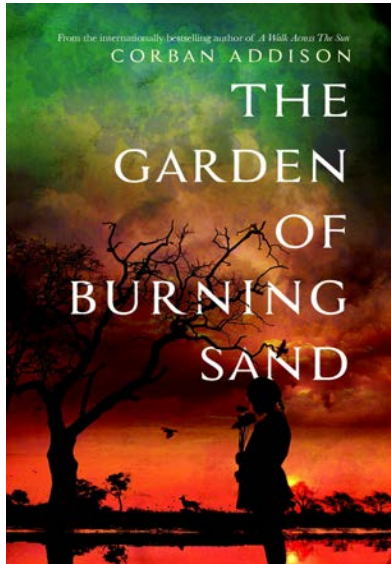


# Quercus Publishing, Inc.

Media Contact: Jessica Bromberg  
(347) 563-3901 • [Jessica.Bromberg@Quercus.com](mailto:Jessica.Bromberg@Quercus.com)  
31 West 57<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, New York, NY 10019-3400



## THE GARDEN OF BURNING SAND



By Corban Addison

CORBAN ADDISON made his debut with the international bestseller *A Walk Across the Sun*, a “pulse-revving [story] with a serious message” (*O Magazine*) about the dire realities of human trafficking in India and around the world. John Grisham called the book “A novel that is beautiful in its story and important in its message . . . it deserves a wide audience.”

Now, with **The GARDEN OF BURNING SAND** (978-1-62365129-9 • 5/6/2014 • HC & EL), Addison delivers another poignant novel of thrilling scope, combining his law training and personal passions to raise awareness for causes of social justice with thrilling stories that entertain while they inform. He found his inspiration for *The Garden of Burning Sand* in Africa, a place he has traveled in extensively and come to admire deeply:

"The idea came to my wife and I after we'd listened to a talk about an NGO working with special-needs children in Zambia. We were horrified to learn that 80% of such children die before the age of five. They are often considered cursed, are hidden away in back rooms, and sometimes not fed. They, like other girls, are usually raped by someone they know — a family member, a neighbor, an uncle."

After his wife met a young Zambian girl with Down Syndrome who had been the victim of an attack, Addison traveled to Zambia to begin researching rape, legal precedents for its

prosecution, and the often challenging lives of special needs children in Zambia. What resulted is *The Garden of Burning Sand*, Addison's powerful new novel about a young rape victim, the near insurmountable forces that protect her abuser, and the American lawyer determined to seek justice.

Zoe Fleming, an accomplished young human rights lawyer, has made a new life for herself in Zambia, far from her estranged father—a business magnet with presidential aspirations—and the devastating betrayals of her past. When a girl with Down Syndrome, is sexually assaulted outside her home in Lusaka, Zoe demands justice. Determined to see the case through, Zoe convinces Zambian police officer Joseph Zabuta to let her shadow him on the case. Together they discover a violent connection between the girl, Kuyeya, and a powerful Zambian family.

In an investigation thwarted by corruption, Zoe and Joseph encounter dizzying obstacles, and Kuyeya's attacker employs any means necessary to prevent the truth from coming out. As Joseph and Zoe are drawn deeper into the complex web of characters behind this sinister crime, Zoe's relationship with Joseph changes and intensifies. Risking both her life and her heart, she is forced to confront the past she thought she left behind.

Pulsing with imagery from the red light district of Lusaka, to the gilded chambers of Washington's elite, to the roaring Victoria Falls, *The Garden of Burning Sand* is a fast-paced thriller with a deeply felt concern for social justice. *The Garden of Burning Sand* is well-positioned to achieve Addison's goal of spreading awareness of urgent global issues with universal, character-driven storytelling.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** CORBAN ADDISON began his career as a lawyer specializing in corporate law and litigation. He and his wife are supporters of numerous causes concerning social justice around the world, including the abolition of modern slavery. In the summer of 2008, while researching his first novel, he travelled to India, Europe and into the corridors of power in Washington, D.C. He spent time with experts and activists in the field and went undercover into the brothels of Mumbai to meet trafficking victims first-hand. When the book was published, Addison left law to become a full-time novelist, with the goal of creating awareness and increasing support for this cause and others through his writing. Addison engages with his fans on his website, Facebook, and Twitter, where he shares news about his causes, posts photos from his travels, and invites readers to learn more about how to get involved. He lives with his wife and two children in Virginia.

<http://www.corbanaddison.com> | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

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