



"An energetic romp with a sneakily sinister side."
—Steph Cha, Award-Winning Author of *YOUR HOUSE WILL PAY*

SKIN DEEP



A MYSTERY



SUNG J. WOO



THE NEW SERIES FROM ACCLAIMED NOVELIST SUNG J. WOO

A MISSING GIRL. DEADLY YOGA.
A DANGEROUS BILLIONAIRE.
THE PRICE OF BEAUTY.

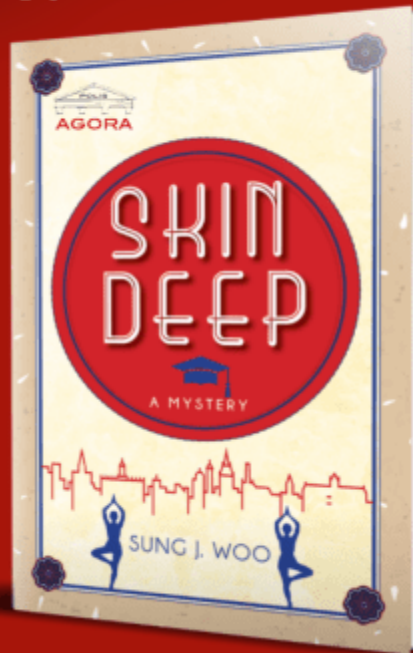
"[W]inning series launch from Woo....readers will look forward to seeing more of the beguiling Siobhan."

—Publishers Weekly

"Woo skillfully navigates the world of identity and family through this amazing detective novel."

—Ed Lin, author of Ghost Month

JULY 21, 2020



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Series: Siobhan O'Brien (Book 1)

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Reviews

"This first in a series holds promise, given Woo's punchy prose style [and] diverse milieu. A series to watch."

—[Booklist](#)

"The prize is a heroine who's by turns wide-eyed, gravely amused, susceptible, and plenty cool enough for an encore."

—[Kirkus Reviews](#)

“Woo perceptively explores the theme of image and personal identity throughout. Readers will look forward to seeing more of the beguiling Siobhan.”

— [Publishers Weekly](#)

Praise

“Siobhan O’Brien, a Korean-American adoptee who finds herself unexpectedly the sole proprietor of a PI firm, is a welcome addition to the genre. She’s smart, brave, funny, and dog-with-a-bone determined. *Skin Deep* gives her an intriguing case and surrounds her with wonderful characters. I hope to see much more of Siobhan O’Brien in the future.”

— [S.J. Rozan](#), best-selling author of *Paper Son*

“An energetic romp with a sneakily sinister side, *Skin Deep* follows charming reluctant private eye Siobhan O’Brien onto a college campus and a spiritual retreat teeming with shady secrets.”

— [Steph Cha](#), Award-Winning Author of *Your House Will Pay*

“*Skin Deep* reads like a fast-paced, light mystery—all the while it explores thought-provoking themes of cultural, societal, and familial obligations, and the complicated power dynamics therein. With Siobhan O’Brien, Woo creates an intriguing series anchor whom we can delight in watching climb a steep PI learning curve with wit, intelligence, and brave resourcefulness. Siobhan is a wonderful addition to a beautiful tradition and I’m excited to read more of her adventures.”

— [S.G. Wong](#), Award-Nominated Author of the *Lola Starke* series

“Siobhan O’Brien (black haired Asian adopted by an American Irish father and Nordic mother) perfectly fits the spunky independent investigator gap left by Kinsey Millhone. I love how she delivers lines like, ‘Surveillance makes the tummy grow fonder—for food, that is’ in this funny, entertaining mystery that hits all my favourite buttons.”

— [Ovidia Yu](#), Author of *Auntie Lee Mystery* series and *The Crown Colony* series

“Sung J. Woo skillfully navigates the world of identity and family through this amazing detective novel. Woo’s story brims with wit, and his PI, Siobhan O’Brien, rings with jaded authenticity.”

— [Ed Lin](#), author of *Ghost Month* and *99 Ways to Die*

Jacket Copy

Korean-American adoptee Siobhan O’Brien has spent much of her life explaining her name and her family to strangers, but a more pressing problem is whether to carry on the PI agency that her dead boss unexpectedly left to her. Easing into middle age, Siobhan would generally rather have a glazed donut than a romance, but when an old friend asks Siobhan to find her daughter who has disappeared from her dorm, the rookie private detective’s search begins at Llewellyn College.

A women’s institution of higher learning in upstate New York, Llewellyn, for the first time in its two-hundred-year history, has opened its doors to male students. Fringe group The Womyn of Llewellyn are furious, but their ex-fashion-model president declares they have little choice due to financial shortfalls. But if that’s true, where did she get the money to build a brand new science center, and why is it under 24/7 surveillance by the town cops?

As Siobhan delves deeper into the search for her friend’s daughter, she encounters politely dangerous men in white turtlenecks, vegan cooking that might kill her, possibly deadly yoga poses, and a woman named

Cleopatra who's got more issues than *National Geographic*. This first in a new series introduces an endearing P.I. heroine in the tradition of classic female detectives like Sue Grafton's Kinsey Millhone and Sara Paretsky's V.I. Warshawski readers won't be able to put down.

Bio



photo credit: Dawn S. White

Sung J. Woo's short stories and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *PEN/Guernica*, and *Vox*. He has written three novels, *Skin Deep* (2020), *Love Love* (2015) and *Everything Asian* (2009), which won the 2010 Asian Pacific American Librarians Association Literature Award. He lives in Washington, New Jersey.

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