

Publicity contact:

Kathleen Carter | Kathleen Carter Communications
kathleen@kathleencartercommunications.com | 917-841-7787

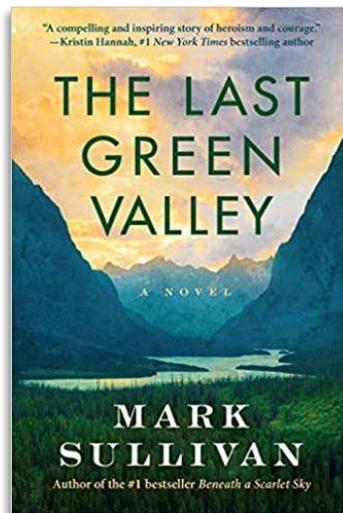
Ashley Vanicek | Lake Union Publishing
avanicek@amazon.com | 401-339-4447

The #1 bestselling author of *Beneath A Scarlet Sky* returns with a new epic historical novel based on untold true events....

THE LAST GREEN VALLEY

By **Mark Sullivan**

“A compelling and inspiring story of heroism and courage.”
—**Kristin Hannah**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author



“[B]ased on a real-life story, this novel by the author of the wildly popular 2017 novel *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* focuses on the Martels, a Ukrainian family who fled Europe during Stalin and Hitler’s terrorizing reigns and began a long, arduous migration to freedom in Montan.”

—**AARP, Gripping New WWII Novels**

“Sullivan again demonstrates his gift for finding little-known embers of history and breathing life into them until they glow and shine in ways that are both moving and memorable.”

—**Pam Jenoff, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lost Girls of Paris***

“Mark Sullivan weaves together history and memory in an epic journey of love and resilience. One of the most riveting, page-turning books I’ve read in a long time.”

—**Heather Morris, author of the #1 international and *New York Times* bestseller *The Tattooist of Auschwitz***

In 2017, Mark Sullivan delivered one of the most talked about—and adored—books in recent memory with *Beneath a Scarlet Sky*, firmly placing him on the path to becoming one of the biggest names in historical fiction. The #1 bestselling phenomenon received tens of thousands of reader reviews, nearly a quarter of a million positive ratings on Goodreads, a Goodreads Choice Award nomination, and a major television deal with Pascal Pictures with Tom Holland attached to star.

Following the breakout success of *Beneath a Scarlet Sky*, Sullivan was told he'd never find an untold World War II story as compelling as Pino Lella's, the hero and real-life inspiration for the novel. While he felt confident he would, he certainly did not expect to uncover the basis for his next novel in the same town where he'd first heard Pino's story just over a decade before. But, that is exactly what happened.

On May 4, 2021, Mark Sullivan will share what he discovered in **THE LAST GREEN VALLEY** (Lake Union Publishing; hardcover), a historical novel based on the untold true story of the Martels, a Ukrainian family who fled Europe during Stalin and Hitler's terrorizing reigns and began a long, arduous migration west to freedom in Montana. This extraordinary exodus saga is as powerful and memorable as his runaway bestselling historical novel debut.

THE LAST GREEN VALLEY opens as the Martel family, caught in a dangerous no-man's land between advancing and retreating armies, embark on "The Long Trek," a series of marches in the final days of World War II. The Martels are one of the many families of German heritage whose ancestors farmed in Ukraine for more than a century. After already living under Stalin's horrifying regime, young Emil and Adeline Martel must make an impossible decision: Do they wait for the Soviet's intrusion and risk being sent to Siberia? Or do they reluctantly follow the murderous Nazi officers who have pledged to protect "pure blood" Germans? Ultimately, they decide they must retreat from their land and go in search of freedom. Together with their two young sons, they pack what's left of their possessions into a small wagon and make the dangerous trek, clinging in their most desperate moments to their dream: a new life in a beautiful green valley surrounded by mountains and forests.

To research the book, Sullivan trailed the Martels' route through present-day Moldova, Romania, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Poland. He, along with Bill and Walter Martel, who are now both in their eighties, traveled to Ukraine where they visited the ruins of the childhood home they fled with their parents. He interviewed historians as well as other participants and eyewitnesses to "The Long Trek." He listened to recordings of people describing the ordeal and writes in the book's preface that he "felt in awe of the grit, humanity, and spirit the showed in the face of seemingly unsurmountable challenges and odds."

With **THE LAST GREEN VALLEY**, Mark Sullivan "again demonstrates his gift for finding little-known embers of history and breathing life into them until they glow and shine in ways that are both moving and memorable" (Pam Jenoff, *New York Times* bestselling author).

About the Author

Mark Sullivan is the acclaimed author of eighteen novels, including the #1 *New York Times* bestselling Private series, which he writes with James Patterson. Mark has received numerous awards for his writing, including the WHSmith Fresh Talent Award, and his works have been named a *New York Times* Notable Books and a *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of the Year. He grew up in Medfield, MA, and graduated from Hamilton College with a BA in English before working as a volunteer in the Peace Corps in Niger, West Africa. Upon his return to the United States, he earned a graduate degree from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and began a career in investigative journalism. An avid skier and adventurer, he lives with his wife in Bozeman, Montana, where he remains grateful for the miracle of every moment.

THE LAST GREEN VALLEY by Mark Sullivan
Lake Union Publishing | May 4, 2021 | Hardcover | \$27.95
ISBN 978-1503958760

Select Praise and Accolades for BENEATH A SCARLET SKY (2017)

**Soon to be a Major Television Event with Pascal Pictures, starring Tom Holland
A Goodreads Choice Award Finalist, Historical Fiction
A 2017 Goodreads Top 20 Most-Read Book
A Goodreads Best Book of the Month**

“Exciting...taut thriller...*Beneath a Scarlet Sky* tells the true story of one young Italian’s efforts to thwart the Nazis.” —*Shelf Awareness*

“Meticulous research highlights this World War II novel of a youth growing into manhood...a captivating read...” —*RT Book Reviews*

“An incredible story, beautifully written, and a fine and noble book.”
—**James Patterson, *New York Times* bestselling author**

“Sprawling, stirring, like the richest of stories, and played out on a canvas of heroism and tragedy, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* is like one of those iconic World War II black and white photos: a face of hope and tears, the story of a small life that ended up mattering in a big way.”
—**Andrew Gross, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The One Man***

“Action, adventure, love, war, and an epic hero—all set against the backdrop of one of history's darkest moments—Mark Sullivan's *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* has everything one can ask for in an exceptional World War II novel.”
—**Tess Gerritsen, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Playing with Fire***

“This is full-force Mark Sullivan—muscular, soulful prose evincing an artist’s touch and a journalist’s eye. *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* conjures an era with a magician’s ease, weaving the rich tapestry of a wartime epic. World War II Italy has never been more alive to me.”
—**Gregg Hurwitz, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Nowhere Man***

“*Beneath a Scarlet Sky* has everything—heroism, courage, terror, true love, revenge, compassion in the face of the worst human evils. Sullivan shows us war as it really is, with all its complexities, conflicting loyalties, and unresolved questions, but most of all, he brings us the extraordinary figure of Pino Lella, whose determination to live *con smania*—with passion—saved him.”
—**Joseph Finder, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Suspicion* and *The Switch***