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**PRAISE! Critical Acclaim! BUZZ!**

**A WORK OF ART**

**Melody Maysonet**

**Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review:**

**★**“Maysonet's…**.prose is unflinching** as it illuminates one girl's traumatic experience with **deeply felt compassion**and brutal honesty…gilded with resilience and hope. **An important book about endings, beginnings and the choice to move on**.”

**Booklist:**

“Beautifully drawn, convincingly flawed characters create a world in which Tera’s own childhood slowly moves from remembered happiness to dark understanding. This debut novel skillfully explores the consequences of self-deception, relationships, and the lengths we go to please the people we love.”

**KellyVision:**

“This is an incredibly good book but also an incredibly hard one. I liked Tera immediately, and because of that I felt protective….She’s a heroine you can’t help but like and root for. Highly recommended.”

**Crissa-Jean Chappell, Author of *More Than Good Enough*, *Narc*, and *Total Constant Order* (CrissaJeanChappell.com):**

“A smart, deftly written novel about identity and self-determination. Maysonet’s page-turning debut is a brave exploration of Tera, an artist who discovers that 'truth' often belongs to the hand gripping the paintbrush.”

**Lyn Miller-Lachmann, Author of *Gringolandia, Rogue*, and *Surviving Santiago* (2015)**

**(LynMillerLachmann.com):**

“Maysonet's novel hooks you from the beginning and doesn't let you go. With unflinching honesty, it explores the limits of loyalty and how far someone will go to find--or avoid--the truth.”

**Yvonne Ventresca, Author of *Pandemic* (YvonneVentresca.com):**

“In this fast-paced debut, Melody Maysonet explores themes of family, identity, and the lies we tell ourselves when the truth becomes too painful to bear. Tera’s world crashes the day her beloved but manipulative father is arrested. In the aftermath, she falls prey to yet another master manipulator. Throughout Tera’s mistakes and struggles, her commitment to painting remains constant. *A Work of Art* is a compelling tribute to the healing power of creative expression.”

**Laurie Gray, Author of *Maybe I Will* (SocraticParenting.com):**

“With apt allusions to William Blake’s painting and poetry, ***A Work of Art*** portrays the complex loss of innocence of an exploited child whose only hope for redemption may come through the very art of painting her father used to control her.”

**www.MelodyMaysonet.com**

**A WORK OF ART**

**by Melody Maysonet**

**Edited by Jacquelyn Mitchard ~ Merit Press**

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