# Praise

"This fine first novel explores the ways history abides in the streets and monuments of an old city, and in the human souls who love it and grieve for it and struggle to forgive it. This book is a small parable, pondering the nature of civilization itself." -Marilynne Robinson, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Gilead* 

"Elegantly wrought . . . [Chaudhry's] ardor for Paris is evident in her historical filigrees [and] casts a mournful backward glance at epochal moments in the history of Paris."

#### -New York Times Book Review

"This is a powerful and moving first novel. Reading it, I thought of Patrick Modiano and W. G. Sebald, master novelists similarly haunted by the horrors of WW II and the occupation of France. It's audaciously, imaginatively constructed, with a heartbreaking, profoundly adult love story at its center."

#### -Russell Banks, author of Cloudsplitter and Continental Drift

*"Haunting Paris* explores dark questions–loss, grief, unforgiveable crimes–but the novel itself is full of light and life and beauty. All the characters, even Coco the dog, seem touched with grace as Mamta Chaudhry tells her absorbing story. A wonderful debut."

## -Margot Livesey, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mercury* and *The Flight* of Gemma Hardy

*"Haunting Paris* is not only a love letter to the Paris of birdcage elevators and wrought iron peacocks but also a submersion into one of that city's darkest periods, a visceral account of the quotidian labor of living with absence, and a reminder of the myriad ways in which we encounter voices from beyond the grave. Mamta Chaudhry's novel is wonderfully moving."

## -Jim Shepard, author of The Book of Aron and The World to Come

"Through pianist Sylvie and the flâneur ghost of Julien, *Haunting Paris* connects the living with our past. This extraordinary debut truly is haunting." **–Meg Waite Clayton**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Race for Paris* 

"Like all fine fiction it is in its unfolding that *Haunting Paris* captivates.... The city seems almost a character in itself, and Chaudhry's evocation of Paris is superb. Her ability to render telling details and convey the sights, sounds, and the very texture of life puts the reader at its center.... an absorbing must-read."

#### -The Clarion-Ledger

"... poetic ... Mamta Chaudhry grounds her romantic tale and evocative language with details that are sharply realistic, usually about everyday Parisian life.... Best of all are the scenes when Julien seems to time travel, visiting a group of washerwomen in 1889, and witnessing the murder of King Henri IV in 1610." *–New York Journal of Books* 

*"Haunting Paris* is a graceful debut from Chaudhry . . . revealing a finely textured world where grief and love commingle. Julien's spirit travels across time but keeps careful vigil over Sylvie, their separate paths nonetheless a powerful testament to the enduring strength of the bonds we form in life." *–Booklist* 

"[A] story of unresolved anguish and late love. Chaudhry's elegant debut . . . might well touch a popular nerve."

—Kirkus

"Chaudhry's debut is a heart-wrenching love letter to Paris" -Publishers Weekly

"Mamta Chaudhry writes a love letter to Paris that is luminous and languid . . . a quiet story that is nonetheless intense on emotion." -Historical Novel Society

"Chaudhry embeds a mystery within this moving and gracefully written novel."

## —Jake Cline, Artburst

"Narrators Lisa Flanagan and Daniel Oreskes transport listeners to twentiethcentury Paris in a haunting audiobook that infuses war and romance with magical realism."

—AudioFile Magazine

"The Best Books of the Week" —*New York Post* 

"The start to the story is more than enough to keep me riveted all the way to the end."

## *—KWBU*, NPR affiliate in Waco, TX