

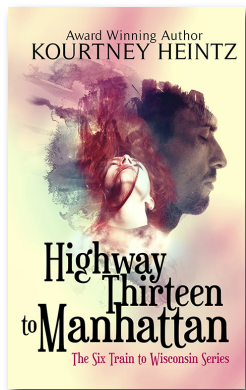
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

# Highway Thirteen to Manhattan

by Kourtney Heintz

“His secrets almost killed her. Her secrets may destroy them both.”



At the end of *The Six Train to Wisconsin*, Oliver is forced by his wife’s kidnapper to reveal his two deepest secrets: that he was complicit in the police cover-up after the death of his best friend—the kidnapper’s brother—and that he turned to his high-school sweetheart, Michaela—the kidnapper’s ex-wife—for solace when Kai was institutionalized. In *HIGHWAY THIRTEEN TO MANHATTAN* (Aurea Blue Press, ISBN 978-0-9891326-8-8, November 2016), the second installment in bestselling author Kourtney Heintz’s paranormal suspense series, Oliver and Kai must deal with the aftermath of her abduction and his lies. And they’re forced to confront the consequences of Kai’s own sins of omission.

After waking from a coma, Kai is haunted by nightmares—and by the sense that she isn’t the person she was before her ordeal. Maybe Oliver’s betrayals have robbed her of an essential part of herself. And maybe her psychic interactions with her abductor have left a permanent scar on her psyche.

As her body heals, her telepathic powers change. She develops the ability to smell and taste emotions. She starts drawing landscapes that spring from someone else’s memories. And she senses a darkness growing inside her—a darkness that may or may not be her own. This darkness enhances her powers and compels her to do the one thing she’s sworn to never do again: use her telepathy as a weapon. The only person she trusts with her fears and feelings is her brother, Caleb.

Oliver knows that something is wrong, but his wife won’t let him help her. As Kai grows more and more distant, he becomes obsessed with bringing Chief Schneider—the man who killed his best friend—to justice. This means working with Michaela and all the complications that entails.

What follows is the unique mix of paranormal suspense and emotional depth that made *The Six Train to Wisconsin* a favorite with readers. *HIGHWAY THIRTEEN TO MANHATTAN* is a genre-defying tale of love and consequences. Award-winning and bestselling author Kourtney Heintz seamlessly weaves supernatural intrigue into a real-world setting, creating relatable characters rich in psychological complexity.

**About Kourtney Heintz:**

Kourtney Heintz is the award-winning and bestselling author of *The Six Train to Wisconsin* (2013), the first book in The Six Train to Wisconsin series. She also writes bestselling young adult novels under the pseudonym K.C. Tansley. Heintz is a member of the Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, Romance Writers of America, and Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. Heintz has given writing workshops and author talks at libraries, museums, universities, high schools, conventions, wineries, non-profits organizations, and writing

conferences. She has been featured in the *Republican American* of Waterbury, Connecticut; on WTNH's *CT Style*; and on the radio show, *Everything Internet*.

Kourtney resides in Connecticut with her warrior lapdog, Emerson, and three quirky golden retrievers. Years of working on Wall Street provided the perfect backdrop for her imagination to run amok at night, envisioning a world where out-of-control telepathy and buried secrets collide.

**HIGHWAY THIRTEEN TO MANHATTAN**

**The Six Train to Wisconsin Series Book 2**

**By Kourtney Heintz**

**Aurea Blue Press**

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**Q&A WITH KOURTNEY HEINTZ**  
**BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF**  
**Highway Thirteen to Manhattan**

**What can you tell us about the titles of *The Six Train to Wisconsin* and *Highway Thirteen to Manhattan*?**

For me, love is a journey, never a destination. So my titles are meant to be thematic and hint at the difficult journey my characters will take. In the first book, *The Six Train to Wisconsin*, Oliver and Kai live in the East Village near the 6 subway line. Oliver gets to his job in Midtown by taking the train to 51st Street. Kai travels downtown to City Hall to get to her own place of work.

They both love New York, but it becomes impossible for them to stay there when Kai's telepathic abilities spiral out of control. Oliver takes Kai back to his hometown of Butternut, Wisconsin. Obviously, the 6 train doesn't leave NYC and can't take them to Wisconsin. The title is meant to convey the difficulty of the journey they take and the changes they undergo after leaving New York and settling into Butternut.

In *Highway Thirteen to Manhattan*, Kai and Oliver are dealing with the aftermath of everything that happened at the end of the first book. Highway 13 is a state highway that runs through Butternut, but does not leave the state of Wisconsin. However, in this book, circumstances cause both Oliver and Kai to return to Manhattan. It isn't an easy journey for either of them.

**The paperback editions of both books in the *Six Train to Wisconsin* series include your own photographs. Why did you decide to add them?**

Paperbacks are so much more expensive than e-books, so I wanted to provide bonus content for my paperback purchasers. I wanted to add a personal touch as a thanks to readers who invest in the paperback. I've always preferred books with photos or illustrations. It's more common in children's books, but my inner child demanded that adults be given books like that too.

The places in the book hold so much significance to my characters and to me. I've been everywhere that Oliver and Kai have been. Those are some of my favorite places, so I wanted to immerse the reader in these places not just with my words, but also with my photography.

The photos aren't the only bonus content I've added to the paperbacks. I included the original short story version of *The Six Train to Wisconsin* in the first book. In the second book, I share a couple deleted scenes and an author interview. Both paperbacks also have book club discussion guides.

## Q&A WITH KOURTNEY HEINTZ, CONTINUED

### Is Butternut a real place?

It's a very small town in Ashland County located in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. When I was picking the location for my story, I wanted a small town in the Midwest. Somewhere completely different from San Diego or New York. I searched my atlas and I found Butternut. It fit all the requirements of my story and I adored the name. When I went to visit, I fell in love with the town and its people.

Butternut is the kind of place where people care about their neighbors. I've been to visit three times while I worked on these books and am lucky enough to count many of its residents among my friends. Several of them helped spread the word about my books and gave me feedback on the cover designs and title choices as part of my amazing street team, The Cheeseheads.

### You write incredibly flawed and at times somewhat unlikable characters. Did you intend for them to be that way?

I did, actually. When you dig deep into someone's motives and emotions, very few of us are truly selfless or completely selfish. It's easier to live in a black and white world of good and bad, but I've seen awful people do wonderful things and wonderful people do awful things. I think we all live along a broad spectrum of behavior, and some days we can be kind and other days we aren't. Sometimes we react based on a darker emotion. And sometimes we rise above and do something truly heroic. I think that's the beauty of human beings. I wanted to capture that and convey it on the page.

### What authors and books inspired you while you were writing *Highway Thirteen to Manhattan*?

The Harper Connelly series by Charlaine Harris taught me that it's okay to write flawed characters. Her Sookie Stackhouse series inspired me to write my own version of a telepath. I love the language of Alice Sebold's and Alice Hoffmann's books. I wanted to give this story a little literary bent. I like an element of mystery and suspense in my stories. The darkness and the suspense in the Mara Dyer trilogy by Michelle Hodkin definitely influenced how I handled this installment of the series.

### Your books defy genre. How did the story come to be that way?

I'm a big fan of mystery and suspense. I've never written a story that didn't contain elements of both. I've always been fascinated by the paranormal. I can't seem to write fiction without something paranormal at its core. But it's not about genre for me. I always set out to tell a good story. I love to get inside my characters' minds and explore their true motives and deepest emotions. That tends to contribute a more literary flavor to my writing in this series.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

# Highway Thirteen to Manhattan

### KAI GUHN

A 28-year-old telepath who can hear the thoughts and sense the feelings of anyone within a half-mile radius. She can mindlink with those she is close to and share thoughts when they are nearby, too. Psychic powers run in her dad's side of the family. While she is recovering from a near-death experience, her telepathic powers start to change. She senses a darkness growing inside her, a force that amplifies her powers and compels her to use them as a weapon. She doesn't tell her husband what's happening to her. Instead, she confides in her brother, Caleb. And in Alex—a friend who may be more than just a friend.

### OLIVER RICHTER

Kai Guhn's husband and college boyfriend, he has remained by her side during her mental breakdown and self-destructive behavior. He hoped that taking her from Manhattan to his hometown of Butternut, Wisconsin, would help her. Instead, his secrets put her life in jeopardy. His lingering closeness with his high-school girlfriend, Michaela, has put an additional strain on his marriage. His need for justice further complicates his marriage as he teams up with Michaela to try to find evidence of Chief Schneider's role in the death of Oliver's best friend.

### CALEB GUHN

Kai's older brother is a millionaire Wall Street guy. He sticks by her side during her recovery and helps her face her inner darkness. He has the ability to walk into people's dreams and communicate with them across great distances. He is the person Kai trusts most in the world.

### MICHAELA FUCHS

Oliver's high-school sweetheart and close friend. Michaela is always there for Oliver, especially when things go wrong. She knows his secrets and wants to help him in his quest for justice against the chief of police.

### ALEX FUCHS

Michaela's older brother and Oliver's former best friend. He is one of the people Kai turns to for comfort instead of Oliver. Alex does his best to be there for Kai as he fights his growing attraction to her.

### CHIEF SCHNEIDER

Second in command to Oliver's father, he was like an uncle to Oliver until he killed his best friend. Schneider continues to blackmail Oliver into keeping his deadly secret.