

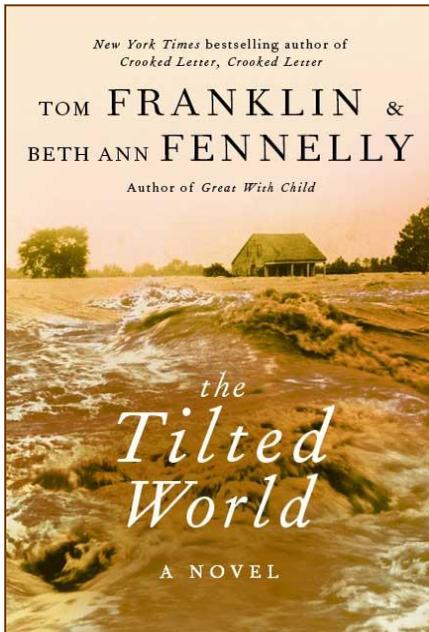
**ON-SALE:**  
October 1,  
2013

*wm*

**WILLIAM MORROW**  
An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers

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**“This is a full-bodied shot of bluesy Americana with just the right amounts of grit, heart, and woeful longing, and it goes down smooth and satisfying.” —Booklist, Starred Review**

**“A new novel from Tom Franklin is always a reason to get excited, but a novel from Franklin and Fennelly is just cause to throw a block party.” —Dennis Lehane**

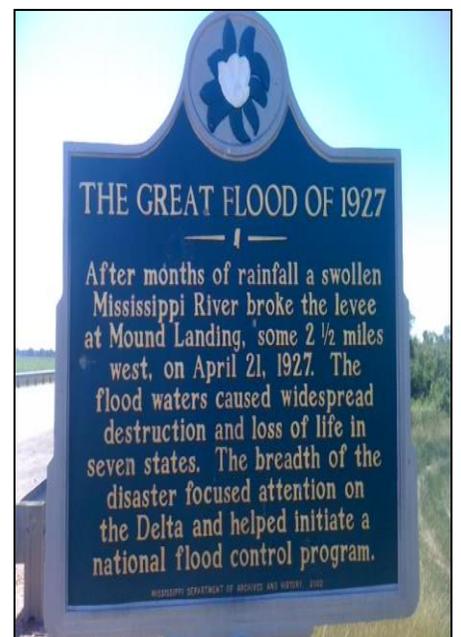
**“Rough South writer Franklin (*Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter*) and the poet and nonfiction writer Fennelly (*Great with Child*), distill in this prohibition-era tale of bootleggers and revenuers an atmospheric draught of prose that is at once poetic and gritty. Fans of Fennelly will savor her depictions of a mother’s ferocious love, and Franklin’s following will shine to the violent rendering of a nearly forgotten time and ethos.” —Publishers Weekly**

***I works on the levee, Mama, both night and day.  
I works so hard to keep the water away.  
It’s a mean old levee, cause me to weep and moan.  
Gonna leave my baby, and my happy home.***

The year is 1927, and Hobnob, Mississippi is drowning. It’s been rain on rain for days, and the people of this modest town in corn country, population 3,244, are growing reckless, jobless, hopeless. The national headlines of the day reflect a dire state: “Seven more die in flood along the Mississippi...Additional levees broke today on both the Missouri and Illinois shores...Somebody’s house passed through Memphis today en route to the Gulf of Mexico.” Commerce Secretary, Herbert Hoover, in charge of flood relief for President Coolidge, has been courting the press and has his eyes firmly set on the White House. But, when the mysterious disappearance of two federal revenue agents in Hobnob threaten the momentum of Hoover’s positive news cycle, he sends fellow agents and long-time partners Ted Ingersoll and Ham Johnson, on a mission to sniff out rumors of moonshining and foul play.

Set against the rich backdrop of Prohibition-era lawbreakers and one of the most harrowing, yet largely forgotten, natural disasters in American history, **THE TILTED WORLD (October 1, 2013; Hardcover; Fiction; ISBN: 9780062069184, Price: \$25.99; E-book ISBN: 9780062069207)** is a soulfully written tale of murder and moonshine, sandbagging and saboteurs, dynamite and deluge—and a man and a woman who find unexpected love—from *New York Times* bestselling author of *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter*, Tom Franklin, and his wife, Pushcart Prize winning poet, Beth Ann Fennelly.

Dixie Clay Holliver is still reeling from the death of her infant son, taken by Scarlett fever. Dying a little each day, she cooks specialty whiskey through the nights to keep her hands and mind busy. Her husband, Jesse Holliver, is a charming snake of a man with two-toned eyes and a dual personality to match. Jesse is the face of the couple’s bootlegging enterprise, trading bribes with high-powered rollers and spending time in warehouses around town. Married too soon and under false pretenses, Dixie Clay’s relationship with Jesse has long been a loveless one, focused on business rather than family.



When Ham and Ingersoll first ride into town, they come across a gruesome crime scene at the local general store which has been raided by looters. The store's clerk is lying bloody, dying on the floor, and the agents are greeted by the screams of a crying baby boy. Ingersoll, an orphan raised by nuns, refuses to leave the baby behind, or dump him at the nearest Greenville orphanage as Ham insists. Determined to find the baby a proper home, Ingersoll splits from Ham and sets off on a search that leads him to Dixie Clay. From the moment they meet, Ingersoll and Dixie Clay are drawn to each other, both yearning for the family life they never had, and enchanted by the baby boy before them. Dixie Clay quickly agrees to care for the child, but little does Ingersoll know that the young beauty is one half of the best shining team in town, and may be connected to the missing revenueurs. A thrilling game of cat and mouse ensues as Ingersoll and Ham fold into Hobnob under the guise of levee engineers, and start to uncover unsavory secrets simmering beneath the rain.

Soon, a deadly new peril arises endangering them all. A saboteur, hired by rich New Orleans bankers eager to protect their city, is planning to dynamite the levee and flood Hobnob, where the river tilts precariously. Now, with time running out, Ingersoll, Ham and Dixie Clay must make desperate choices that will cause loyalties to be tested; choices that will radically transform their lives—if they survive.

A beautifully crafted work of historical fiction, **THE TILTED WORLD** is a haunting story of love and second chances, faith and family, and a deft drama that explores all the ways our history can define us.

**Featured Alternate Selection of The Literary Guild, Book-of-the-Month Club, Doubleday Book Club, Mystery Guild Paperback Book Club and Columbia House DVD Club.**

#### ABOUT THE AUTHORS



**TOM FRANKLIN** is the award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Crooked Letter*, *Crooked Letter*, which was nominated for nine awards and won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and the prestigious Crime Writers' Association's Gold Dagger Award. His previous works include the Edgar-winning story, *Poachers*, from the collection under the same title, as well as *Hell at the Breech*, and *Smonk*. Winner of a 2001 Guggenheim Fellowship, he teaches in the University of Mississippi's MFA program.

**BETH ANN FENNELLY** has won grants from the NEA, United States Artists, and a Fulbright to Brazil. Her honors include the *Kenyon Review* Prize and three inclusions in *The Best American Poetry*. Fennelly has published three volumes of poetry, along with her nonfiction book, *Great with Child*. She directs the University of Mississippi's MFA program, where she was named the 2011 Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Tom and Beth Ann are married, and live in Oxford, Mississippi with their three children.

#### **The Tilted World**

**By Tom Franklin & Beth Ann Fennelly**

**William Morrow, an Imprint of HarperCollins Publishers**

**On-sale: October 2013, Hardcover; Fiction**

**ISBN: 9780062069184, Price: \$25.99; E-book ISBN: 9780062069207**

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# TOUR SCHEDULE & APPEARANCES

## The Tilted World

by *New York Times* bestselling author **Tom Franklin** &  
acclaimed poet **Beth Ann Fennelly**

**Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**

OXFORD, MS  
The Powerhouse Community Arts Center  
"Tilted and Pickled" Book Release Party  
with John Currence  
413 S. 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oxford, MS  
6pm

**Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

JACKSON, MS  
Lemuria Books  
4465 I-55 N  
Jackson, MS  
5pm

**Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

GREENWOOD, MS  
Turnrow Book Company  
304 Howard Street  
Greenwood, MS  
5:30pm

**Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

MEMPHIS, TN  
Burke's Book Store  
936 S. Cooper Street  
Memphis, TN  
5:30pm

**Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**

NEW YORK, NY  
The Strand Bookstore  
828 Broadway  
New York, NY  
7pm

\*Joint signing with Bill Cheng,  
author of SOUTHERN CROSS THE DOG

**Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**

DECATUR, GA  
DeKalb County Public Library  
Georgia Center for the Book  
215 Sycamore Street  
Decatur, GA  
7pm

**Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**

RALEIGH, NC  
Quail Ridge Books & Music  
3522 Wade Avenue  
Raleigh, NC  
7:30pm

**Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**

NASHVILLE, TN  
Southern Festival of the Books  
Tennessee Humanities Council  
301 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Nashville, TN

**Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

BIRMINGHAM, AL  
Alabama Booksmith  
2926 19<sup>th</sup> Place S  
Birmingham, AL  
4pm

**Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

LITTLE ROCK, AR  
South on Main  
(Reading, Performance & Signing)  
1304 Main Street  
Little Rock, AR  
7pm

**Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

CLARKSDALE, MS  
Seven Chimneys Farm  
145 Delta Avenue  
Clarksdale, MS  
7pm

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

GREENVILLE, MS  
The Weatherbee House  
Signing during the "Hot Tamale Festival"  
509 Washington Avenue  
Greenville, MS

**Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

CHICAGO, IL  
The Book Cellar  
4736-38 N Lincoln Avenue  
Chicago, IL  
7pm

**Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

HIGHLAND PARK, IL  
Highland Park Public Library  
494 Laurel Avenue  
Highland Park, IL  
7pm

**Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

MILWAUKEE, WI  
Boswell Book Company  
2559 N Downer Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI  
7pm

**Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**

BRUCE, MS  
Jesse Yance Memorial Library  
314 N. Newburger Avenue  
Bruce, MS  
12pm

**Friday November 1<sup>st</sup> – Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

BATON ROUGE, LA  
Louisiana Book Festival  
701 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Baton Rouge, LA

**Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**

NEW YORK, NY  
The Century Club  
7 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street  
New York, NY  
\*Concert & Reading\*

**Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

MONTGOMERY, AL  
Capitol Books & News  
1140 E. Fairview Avenue  
Montgomery, AL  
5pm

**Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

GROVE HILL, AL  
The Gift Gallery  
135 North Jackson Street  
Grove Hill, AL  
12pm

**Sunday, November 24**

MOBILE, AL  
Ben May Main Library  
Bernheim Hall  
701 Government Street  
Mobile, AL  
2pm

**Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**

FAIRHOPE, AL  
Page & Palette  
32 S. Section Street  
Fairhope, AL  
6pm

**Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

NEW ORLEANS, LA  
Words & Music Festival  
624 Pirate's Alley  
New Orleans, LA

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

NEW ORLEANS, LA  
Garden District Books  
2727 Prytania Street  
New Orleans, LA  
3pm

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