

Dear Ms. Ekstrom,

Word is out that you are looking for a novel that will "make your heart beat faster than when you are biking through Manhattan traffic." Get your pacemaker ready - I am writing to seek representation for my medical mystery, THE PSYCH WARD, which takes place over a snowy winter in Buffalo, New York.

Our heroine is like every other psychiatrist: a little crazy and looking for her mother. Zoe Goldman is a psychiatry resident who she sees her own psychiatrist for ADHD (think young, female Woody Allen), and is haunted by childhood memories of the fire that killed her mother. When she meets her newest patient, a sociopath who killed her own mother at age fourteen, Zoe's fixation on her birth mother blooms into obsession. She resolves to unravel the mystery of her mother's fiery death, but ends up unraveling her whole world instead with a harrowing discovery. Her adoptive mother has been lying about the fire all along, and her matricidal patient is far more than just a patient, and now has a brand new target - Dr. Zoe Goldman - her psychiatrist.

I am a practicing neurologist, and a former English major at Harvard. I have been published in both medical and poetry journals. My novel fits in the medical suspense genre, with the humorous edge of Gillian Flynn or Kate Atkinson. I do hope you will consider representing me.

Sincerely,  
Sandra A. Block, MD

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Mystery Author Sandra Block and Losing Control

Mystery Author Sandra Block joins Queries, Qualms, & Quirks this week to discuss querying with stamps, taking a 15 year break, reading the book on common mistakes (see link below), multiple R&Rs to get a book deal, dealing with the lack of control over the publishing process, being kind with herself, and carving out time to write.

Sandra A. Block graduated from college at Harvard, then returned to her native land of Buffalo, New York for medical training and never left. She is a practicing neurologist and proud Sabres fan, and lives at home with her husband, two children, and impetuous yellow lab. Her work has been published in the *Washington Post*. *Little Black Lies* is her debut, a finalist in the International Thriller Awards, and *The Girl Without a Name* and *The Secret Room* are the other books in the Zoe Goldman series, and *What Happened That Night* her stand-a-lone. *Girl Overboard* is her first Young Adult thriller.

Sandra: [Query](#) | [Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Amazon](#) | [Bookshop](#) | [IndieBound](#) | [Libro FM](#)

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