

Booklist

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By Way of Sorrow.

By Robyn Gigl

July 2020. 320p. Kensington, \$26 (9781496728258); e-book, \$22.10 (9781496728272)

Debut author Gigl's legal thriller features lawyer Erin McCabe, a transgender woman who faces family and public scrutiny when she takes on the case of Sharise Barnes, also a transgender woman, who is accused of murdering the son of a powerful New Jersey state senator. During her and her partner's investigation of the crime, McCabe discovers some evidence implicating the victim, William Townsend, Jr., in the murders of transgender women. Seeking to clear her client, McCabe endangers herself and the people helping her seek justice, including a member of the prosecution. Subplots involve the reactions of McCabe's family and McCabe's attraction to a heterosexual man. Gigl, a transgender lawyer herself, provides provocative insights into the legal system and the challenges of gender identity.

— *Debbie De Louise*