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West of Then: A Mother, a Daughter, and a Journey Past Paradise (Paperback)

By Tara Bray Smith

SIMON SCHUSTER, United States, 2006. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.WEST OF THEN is a stunning literary debut from a fiercely accomplished writer. At the centre of WEST OF THEN is Karen Morgan, beautiful island flower, fifth generation white Hawaiian, Mayflower descendant - now a homeless junkie living on the streets of downtown Honolulu. Despite her waywardness, Karen still inspires fierce loyalty and love in her three daughters - until she goes missing in the spring of 2002. Devastated, Tara, the eldest, sets out to find - and hopefully save - her mother. Her journey is about what you give up when you try to renounce your past, whether personal, familial, or historical, and what you gain when you confront it. By turns tough and touching, Smith's modern detective story unravels the rich history of America's fiftieth state, as well as the realities of modern Hawaii, its sizable homeless population, its drug culture, its generous, diverse humanity and astonishing beauty. In this land of so many ghosts Tara's search for her mother becomes a reckoning with herself, her family and with the meaning of home.



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