Publisher Contact: Meredith Barnes Senior Publicity Manager <u>mbarnes@sohopress.com</u> 212-203-4991

Winner of 2015 Grammy Trustees Award pens autobiographical young adult novel.

I'm Glad I Did, already in its second printing just three weeks after publication, is a debut novel by a cultural icon. Praised by Bob Dylan, Paul Shaffer and Carole King (she blurbed the book), Cynthia Weil has won Grammys, been nominated for Oscars, and inducted into two Halls of Fame for her many mega-hits, including *You've Lost That Loving Feeling*, the most performed song of the 20th century. So important is Cynthia's contribution to the history of rock that her younger self is a character in the Tony Award-winning musical *Beautiful*, now on Broadway. This novel is not only "*Mad Men* with **microphones**," as Newbery winner and *NYT*-bestseller Katherine Applegate puts it; brimming with lush details of the pivotal (pre-Kennedy Assassination, pre-Civil Rights Act, pre-Equal Pay Act, etc.) summer of 1963, this is also a rich historical look at a halcyon moment in US history, told with the authenticity of someone who lived it.

Praise for I'm Glad I Did:

A 2014 BEA Buzz Book A *Library Journal* Editors' Pick A *Publishers Weekly* Editors' Pick

"I loved everything about *I'm Glad I Did*... Not just brava, Cynthia. Bravissima!!"

-Carole King, multi-Grammy winning singer-songwriter of *Tapestry*, and author of the *New York Times* bestseller *A Natural Woman*

"It's a treat to get Weil's take on [the] industry... So much of the author's own hard-earned experience sings out from the pages." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Rocks and rolls." —Vanity Fair

"Beneath the glamor and aspiration, *I'm Glad I Did* also provides an unflinching look at the race, gender, and class struggles that defined the time—seamlessly woven into a page-turning mystery." —**Coe Booth**, *LA Times* Book Prize winning author of *Tyrell*

"A touching romance, a dark murder mystery, a compelling historical coming-of-age novel: this is *Mad Men* with microphones. Anyone who's ever dreamed big will love watching JJ spin her musical magic. A mesmerizing debut." —**Katherine Applegate**, Newbery winner and *New York Times* bestselling author of *The One and Only Ivan*

"A pitch-perfect debut about defining yourself and following your dreams. I'm Glad I Did expertly blends music and romance with a mystery that crescendos into page-turning ending. Encore! Encore!" —Elizabeth Eulberg, author of The Lonely Hearts Club





A sampling of the legendary discography.

"Legendary songwriter and debut author Weil knows firsthand the electric excitement and activity the teen would have encountered at her job in the famous Brill Building... The heartbeat of this story is JJ Green... Her desire to succeed and create something beautiful will connect with readers who also have a creative spark."

—School Library Journal

"An impressive YA debut... Showing both the bright and the dark sides if the music business, Weil crafts an enticing tale of a sheltered teenager's induction into a world where ambitions and morals are repeatedly tested." — *Publishers Weekly*

"Weil has painted a 1960s *Mad Men*–esque portrait of the music industry.... It's an authentic picture of the 1963 turmoil, with reader hooks of murder, young love, and the '60s music scene." —*Booklist*



Cynthia Weil is the winner of a 2015 Grammy Trustees Award, a member of the Rock and Roll and Songwriters Halls of Fame, as well as the multi-Grammy-winning songwriter of classic songs like "On Broadway," "We Gotta Get Out of This Place," "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling" (the most performed song of the 20th century), and "Somewhere Out There," which was a double Grammy winner and an Oscar nominee. A New Yorker at heart, she has lived in Southern California for many years with her husband and writing partner, Barry Mann. Cynthia's and Barry's younger selves and their songs are featured in *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* on Broadway. *I'm Glad I Did* is her first novel.