**Daniel Mendelsohn** was born in New York in 1960 and educated at the University of Virginia and at Princeton. His books, apart from *The Lost*, include the memoirs *The Elusive Embrace* and *An Odyssey: A Father, a Son, and an Epic*; a translation of the Greek poet Constantine Cavafy; and three collections of essays and reviews. A frequent contributor to *The New Yorker*and *The New York Review of Books*, where he is Editor-at-Large, he teaches literature at Bard College and lives in the Hudson Valley of New York.