VOL: XI

SCRIBE DIGEST

WWW.SCRIBEDIGEST.COM



LITERARY GAME CHANGERS

Five Books That Re-Wrote the Rules of Literature

3RD QUARTER FEATURED BOOKS

The Promise of Heaven
Night Watcher
Waves of Changes
Enchanted Castle on the River
Is the Bible God's Word

2026 BOOK EXHIBITS

The London Book Fair New Title Showcase

The Public Library Association

COVER REVEALS

Trascendiendo
Crescent

BOOKS: SHAPING SOCIETY AND SPARK OF CHANGE

@scribedigest

IN THE FOCUS



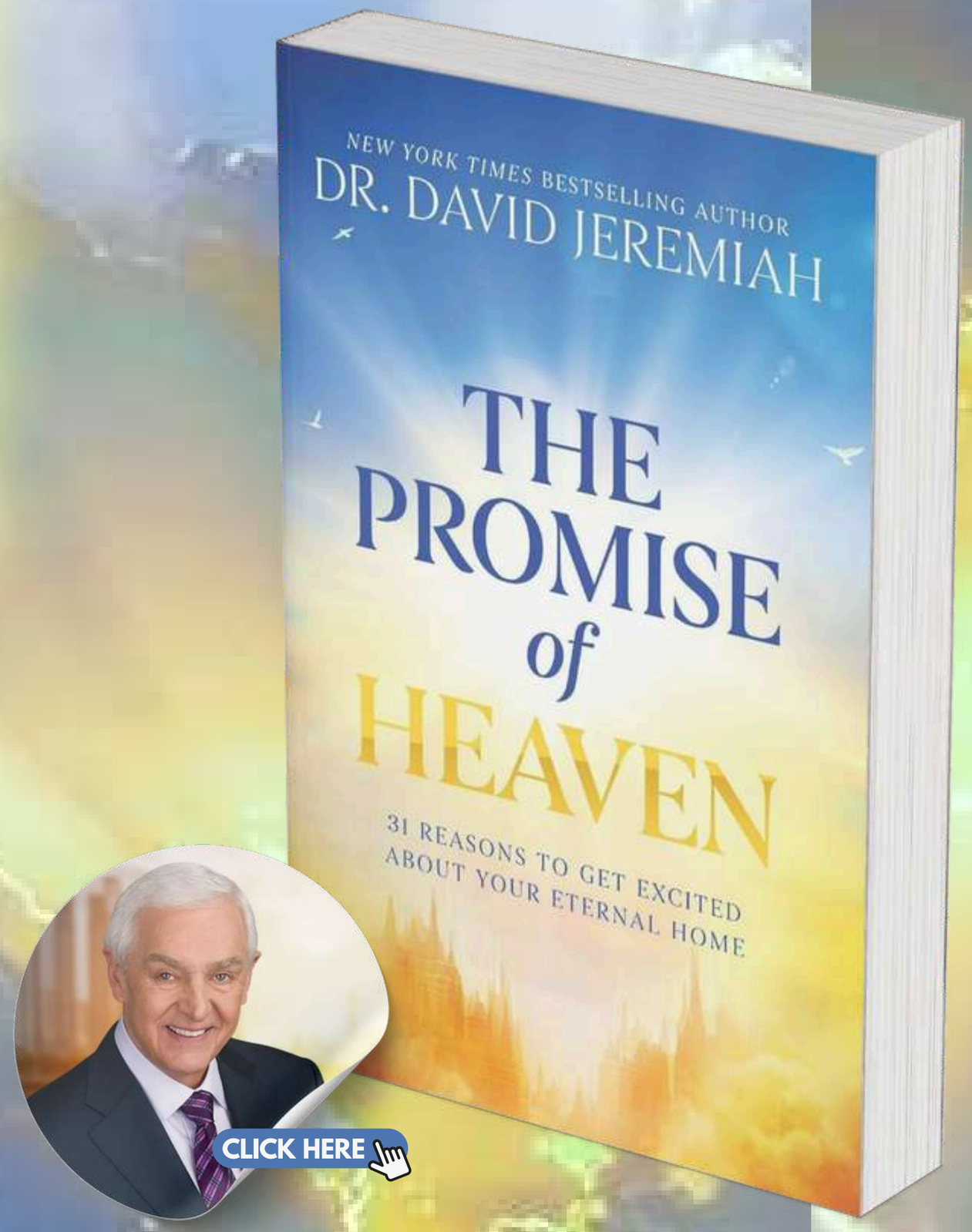
EMILY HENRY

www.emilyhenrybooks.com

Emily Henry is the #1 New York Times and #1 Sunday Times bestselling author of funny story, Happy Place, Book Lovers, People We Meet on Vacation, and Beach Read. Great, big, beautiful life is her sixth novel. She lives and writes in the American Midwest.

Will there be film or television adaptations for any of your books?

Yes! Beach Read, People We Meet on Vacation, and Book Lovers are all in development to be films. Things tend to move very slowly on this front, and even once they are moving, there are specific guidelines for when you're able to share that information. To be the first to hear any news, I recommend subscribing to my Grocery List.



In 31 short, hope-filled chapters, you'll explore what the Bible really says about heaven. With biblical truth and powerful real-life stories, this book will stir your longing for eternity and give you strength for whatever you're facing today.

Because when your heart is set on heaven, life starts to look different. Worry loses its grip. Pain doesn't feel so final. Joy starts to return, even in the middle of hard days. And you begin to live with quiet confidence, knowing that something far better is ahead.

AVAILABLE AT

editor's note

The Unstoppable Force of the Literary Catalyst

Welcome to the July-August-September issue of Scribe Digest, where we look back at the most formidable force in human history: the book.

True power isn't measured in armies or empires, but in the subtle, enduring shifts initiated by ink on paper. This issue is a profound tribute to the authors who recognized that a single narrative, essay, or poem holds the potential to ignite a revolution. We explore the fundamental truth that often, the most effective weapon against the established status quo is found between the covers of a good book.

Our first section examines the books that altered the very social landscape. We revisit the seismic impacts of Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852), which fueled the abolitionist movement; the polarizing blueprint of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels' The Communist Manifesto (1848); and Rachel Carson's Silent Spring (1962), the groundbreaking ecological text that launched the modern environmental movement. These works forced society to confront its deepest injustices.

We then celebrate the authors who gave entire nations the vocabulary, motivation, and courage to demand a different future. This includes analyzing the foundational cultural shift ushered in by Miguel de Cervantes (17th Century), the fierce intellectual demands of W.E.B. Du Bois (20th Century), and the muckraking exposé of Upton Sinclair (early 20th Century). Their pens provided the critical language needed for movements to coalesce and grow.

Finally, no discussion of lasting impact is complete without acknowledging the authors who re-wrote the rules of literature itself. We delve into how Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, Jane Austen's Pride & Prejudice, and J.R.R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings set permanent trends in genre and form, affecting every writer since.

Dive into this issue and be reminded that the stories we tell and read today carry the seeds of tomorrow's inevitable change.

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Scribe Digest

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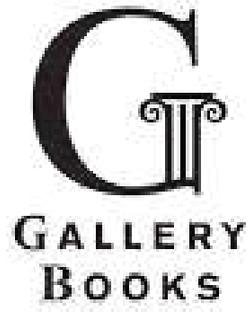

GALLERY
BOOKS


CORONET


EMANATE
BOOKS


LITTLE,
BROWN
SPARK


Little
Simon


LEGACY
LIT


Spines


HODDER
CATALYST
BOOKS
THAT
IGNITE


MULHOLLAND
BOOKS


SCRIBNER


BASKERVILLE
An imprint of JOHN MURRAY


atheneum


BOOKTOPUS


Heartdrum
An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers

Publisher Highlight

hachette LIVRE

HarperCollinsPublishers

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE

macmillan Publishers

BALANCE | CARDINAL | DA CAPO | FOREVER | GRAND CENTRAL | LEGACY LIT

Fodor's | Penguin Random House

Penguin Random House

Penguin Random House

Penguin Random House

Penguin Random House

CURRENT | Penguin Random House

BOOK *Exhibitions* '26

The London Book Fair New Title Showcase is a featured exhibit at the fair and is located in prime location that will attract thousands of fair goers. All title(s) will be shown cover face-out with important details about your book listed in both a printed catalog and an online searchable catalog that will be live for a period of two years. Attendees will include publishers, literary agents, distributors, librarians, booksellers, authors, movie producers and other publishing professionals.

- ***March 10 - 12, 2026***



THE LONDON BOOK FAIR®



The Public Library Association (PLA), founded in 1944, is the largest association in the United States dedicated to supporting public libraries. With 10,000 members in over 120,000 libraries, PLA serves 10,000 members in communities across the country, contributing to the $5 billion library market.

- ***April 1 - 3, 2026***

PLA 2026 Conference
April 1–3 • Minneapolis



JULY

The delicious singing of the mother, or of
the young wife at work, or of the girl
sewing or washing,
Each singing what belongs to him or her
and to none else,
The day what belongs to the day—at night
the party of young fellows, robust,
friendly,
Singing with open mouths their strong
melodious songs.

WALT WHITMAN, 'I Hear America Singing'

IN THE FOCUS

SIANG LU

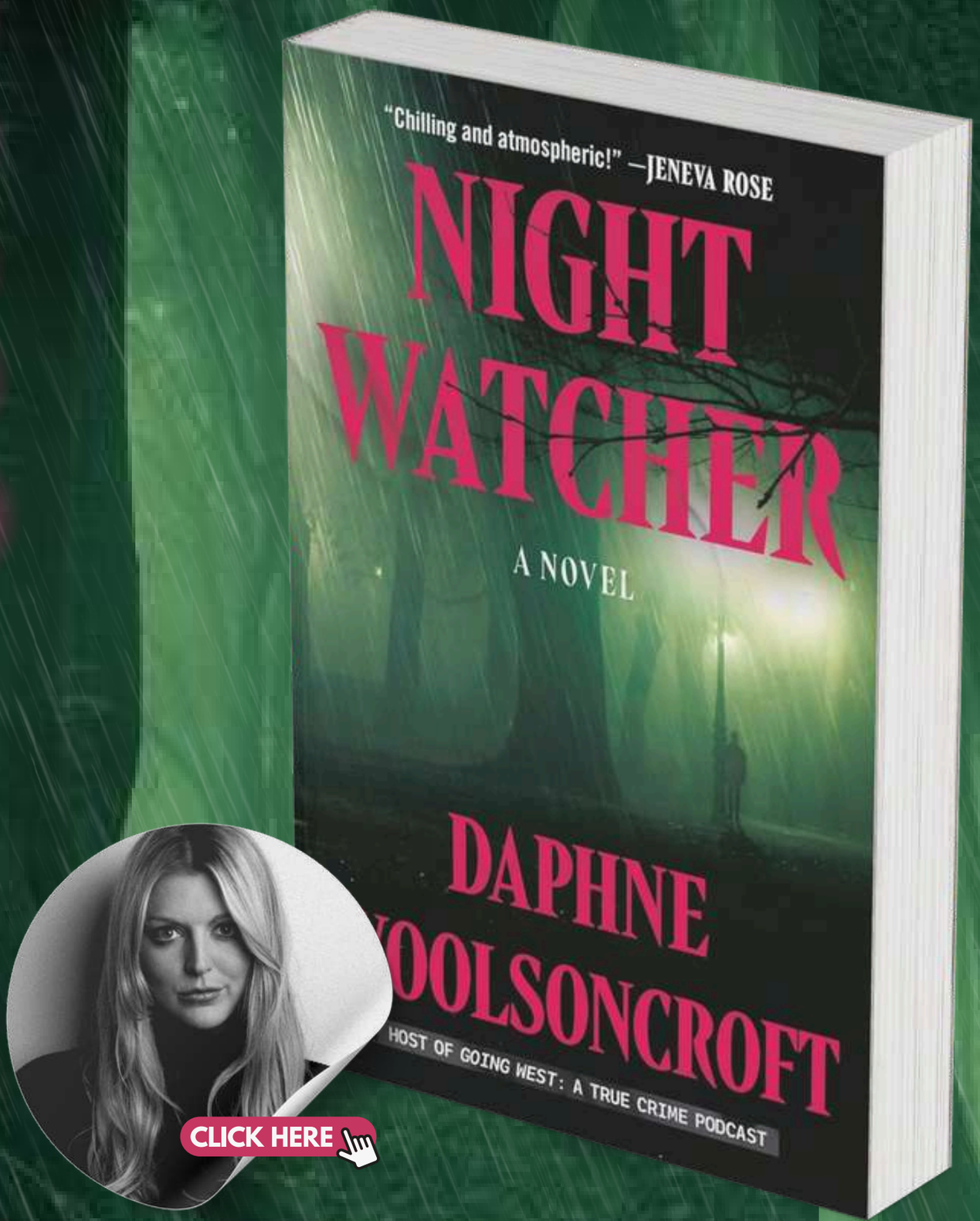


www.siang-lu.com

Siang Lu is the Miles Franklin-winning author of Ghost Cities and the ABIA-winning The Whitewash, the co-creator of The Beige Index and the creator of #sillybookstagram.

Ghost Cities was shortlisted for the ALS Gold Medal, the Russell Prize for Humour Writing, the VPLA John Clarke Humour Award, the Readings New Australian Fiction Prize and the University of Queensland Fiction Book Award and The Courier-Mail People's Choice Queensland Book of the Year at the Queensland Literary Awards.

Siang is based in Brisbane, Australia, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Nola Strate is being watched, again.

After an encounter with a notorious serial killer in the Pacific Northwest as a child, Nola has grown up and tried her best to forget her traumatizing night with the Hiding Man. She installed security cameras outside her Oregon home, never spoke of her experience, and now hosts Night Watch, a popular radio call-in show her semi-famous father used to run. When coincidences lead Nola to believe that she is being stalked, and a caller on Night Watch has a live incident with an intruder in the caller's home—the description of whom is chillingly familiar—Nola is convinced that the Hiding Man has resurfaced and is coming for her.

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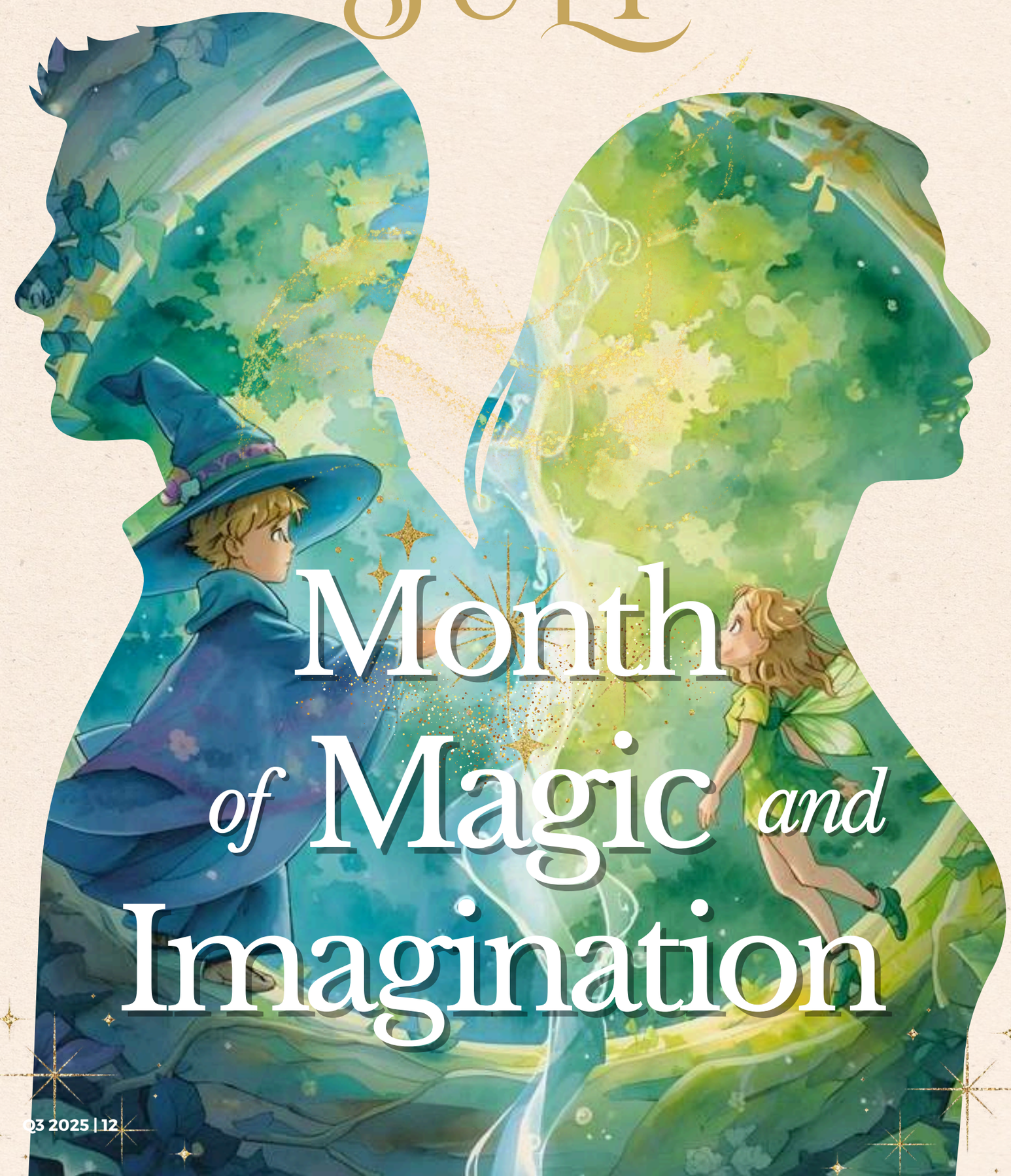
LOSE YOURSELF IN A
WONDERLAND OF WORDS THIS

JULY



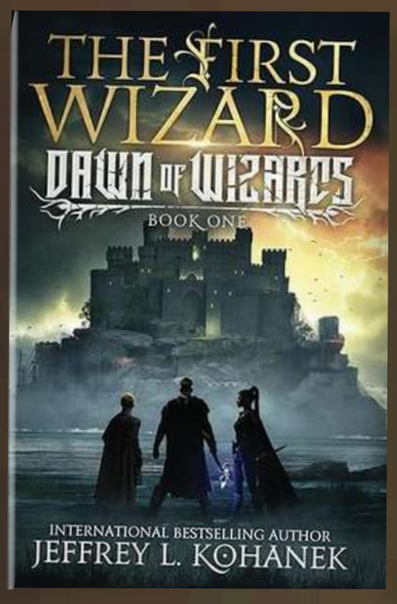
Month of Magic and Imagination

READWORTHY

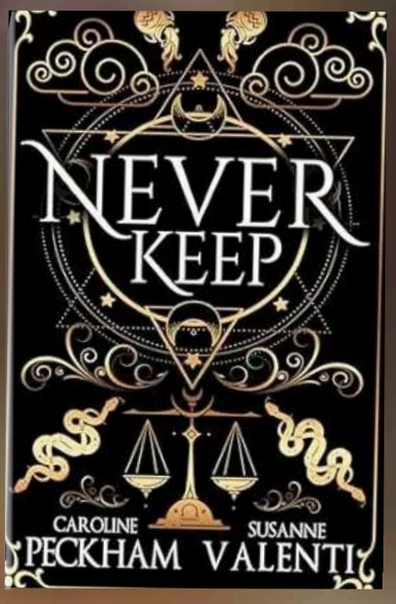


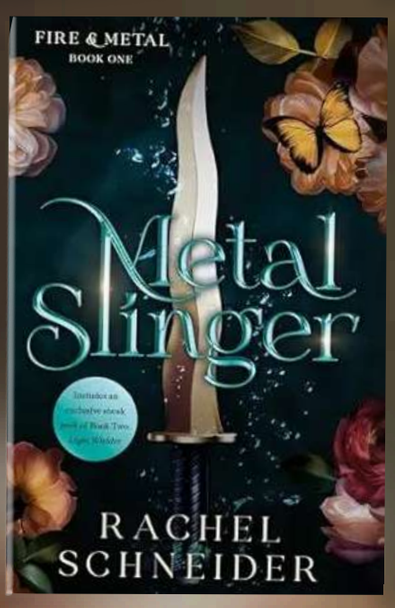
GET LOST IN A GREAT STORY!

Books inspire us, connect us, and remind us to celebrate the magic of stories. Find your next spellbinding read inside our latest issue.


THE FIRST WIZARD
DAWN OF WIZARDS
BOOK ONE
INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR
JEFFREY L. KOHANEK


THE KNOWLEDGE SEEKER
RAE KNIGHTLY


NEVER KEEP
CAROLINE PECKHAM
SUSANNE VALENTI

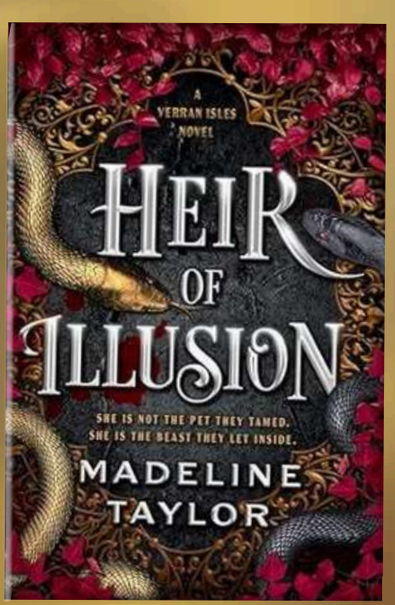

FIRE & METAL
BOOK ONE
Metal Slinger
RACHEL SCHNEIDER


I
A DARK FANTASY ROMANCE
PHANTASMA
KAYLIE SMITH


THE RESISTANCE TRILOGY
recruitment
k.a. riley

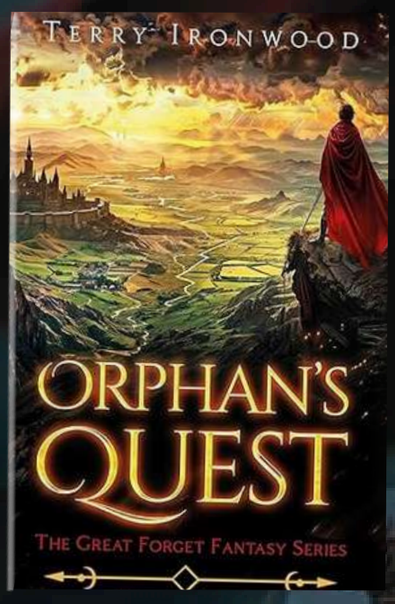

AVALON UNIVERSITY
BLOOD & BETRAYALS
BOOK ONE
JEANETTE ROSE & ALEXIS RUNE

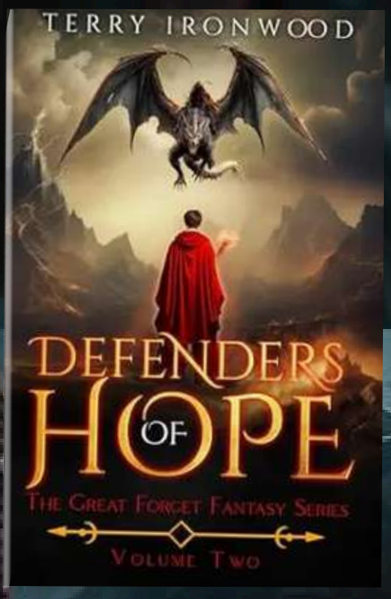

THE SILVERSMITH
LJ CLAREN

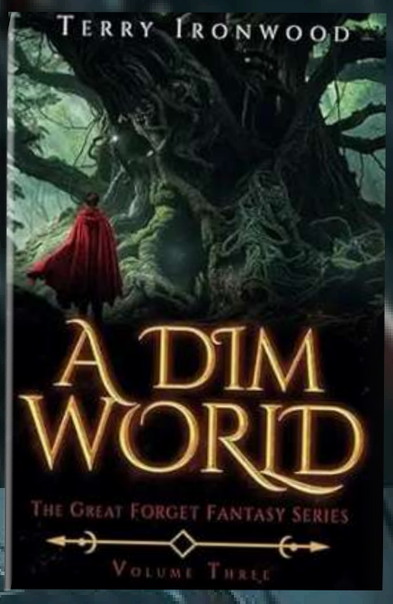

A VERRAN ISLES NOVEL
HEIR OF ILLUSION
SHE IS NOT THE PET THEY TAMED.
SHE IS THE BEAST THEY LET INSIDE.
MADELINE TAYLOR

International Amazon
Best-selling Author

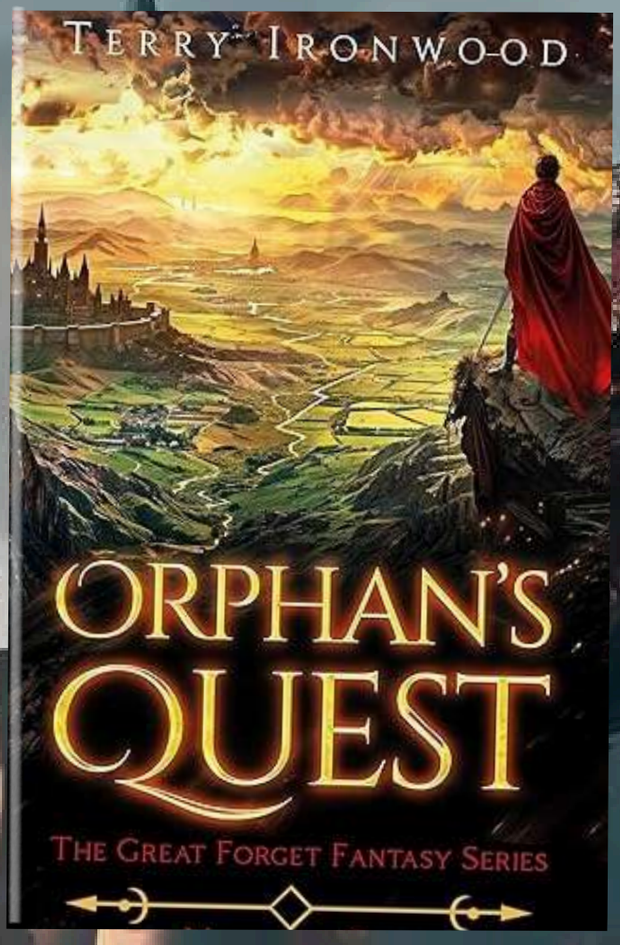
Terry Ironwood









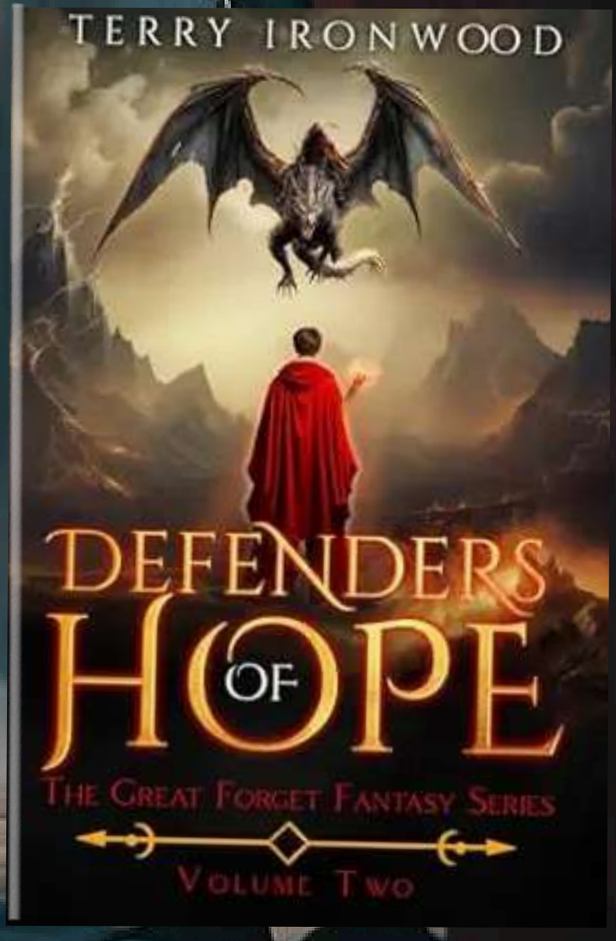


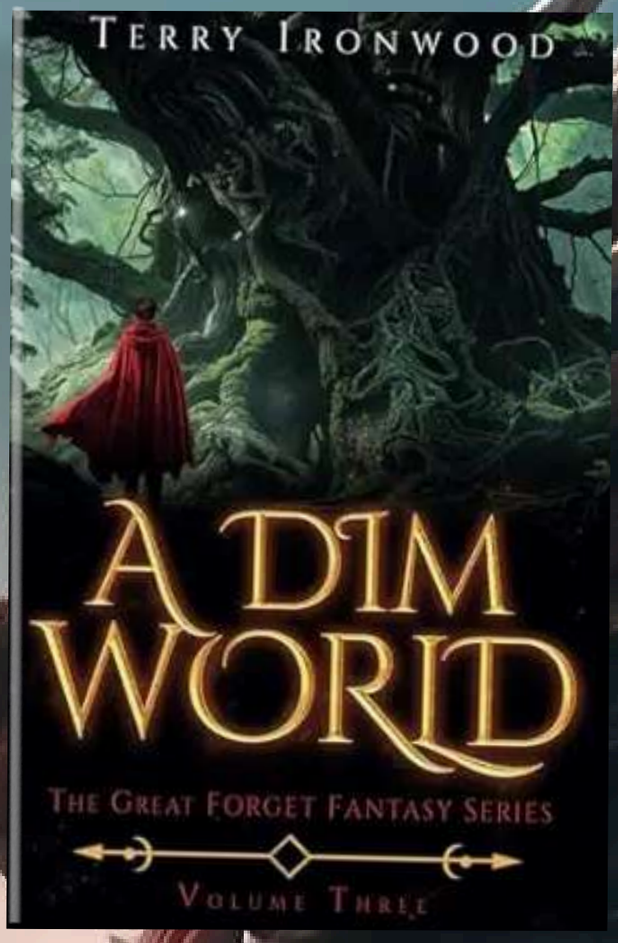
Long ago, a mysterious event known as The Great Forget ravaged the Earth. Magic was born.
Millennia later, a baby with red eyes is abandoned at the gates of a small kingdom tasked with guarding the Pass of Death. The orphan, Chip, is condemned by a spiteful king to a life of misery in the castle kitchens—scorned, unwanted, and cast aside.

In a twist of fate, Chip befriends the princess and catches the eye of the wise wizard Xander, who sees something special in the boy. The wizard sends him to train under the realm's most formidable mentor, the weapons master, where Chip learns hard-won truths, hones his skills, and prepares for the ultimate test: his coming-of-age quest to the Pass of Death.

The orphan Chip, aided by the weapons master Garth Stone and the wizard Xander, races to prepare the Kingdom of Vanalon, humanity's westernmost outpost, against impending doom. An ancient evil, confined for three thousand years, is breaking free from its prison, unleashing hordes of terrifying creatures upon the unsuspecting humans in the beautiful green valley.

Chip, accompanied by his loyal friend Chase, embarks on a perilous mission to bring the surrounding villagers behind the safety of the city walls, but they have miscalculated. The enemy is already at the gates, and they have brought a beast from legend...
The orphan must find a way to protect Princess Eleanor and the citizens of Vanalon from the darkness that seeks to destroy the light.





The epic journey continues with perilous landscapes, newfound magic, and terrifying creatures for fantasy readers ages 13 to 100+.
A storm gathers to the west as the enemy grows stronger. The orphan Chip and his companions flee eastward on the One Road.

On their journey, the wizard Xander senses strange activity in Cave Mountain, the Unnamed One's ancestral lair. The small party decides to brave Fang Forest to seek out the cause, but in so doing, they come face to face with an evil more profound than anyone could imagine.

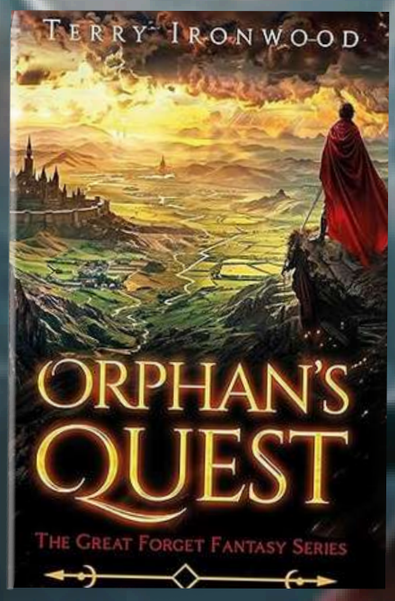
The mission turns to one of escape as they become hunted by a creature whose touch is instant death. Their magic won't work against such a being.
As he flees for his life, Chip realizes something is under Cave Mountain...

he epic series continues with shocking revelations, chilling prophecies, and ancient magic for ages 13 to 100+.

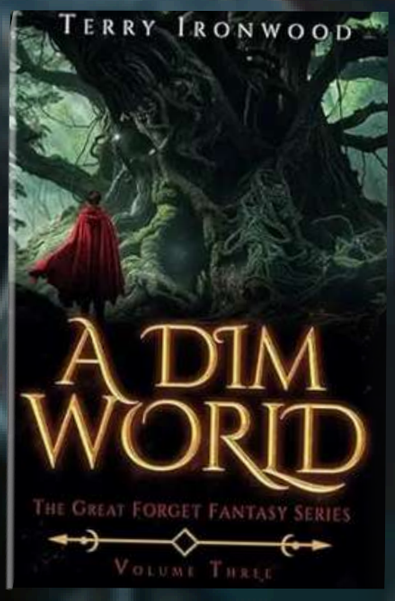
The companions traverse the Great Plains on their journey to the Wizard's Guild. Out of food and water, they have no choice but to resupply in the Witch Town of Banfar, known as a haven for the fringes of society. Rife with orphans, outcasts, charlatans, and derelicts. Worse still, underground cults have flourished, awaiting the Unnamed One's return. As they enter the infamous Lower District, they make a stark realization.

The enemy is already there. With Princess Eleanor at risk, Chip must reveal himself to stand against the darkness and, in so doing, win over the people.











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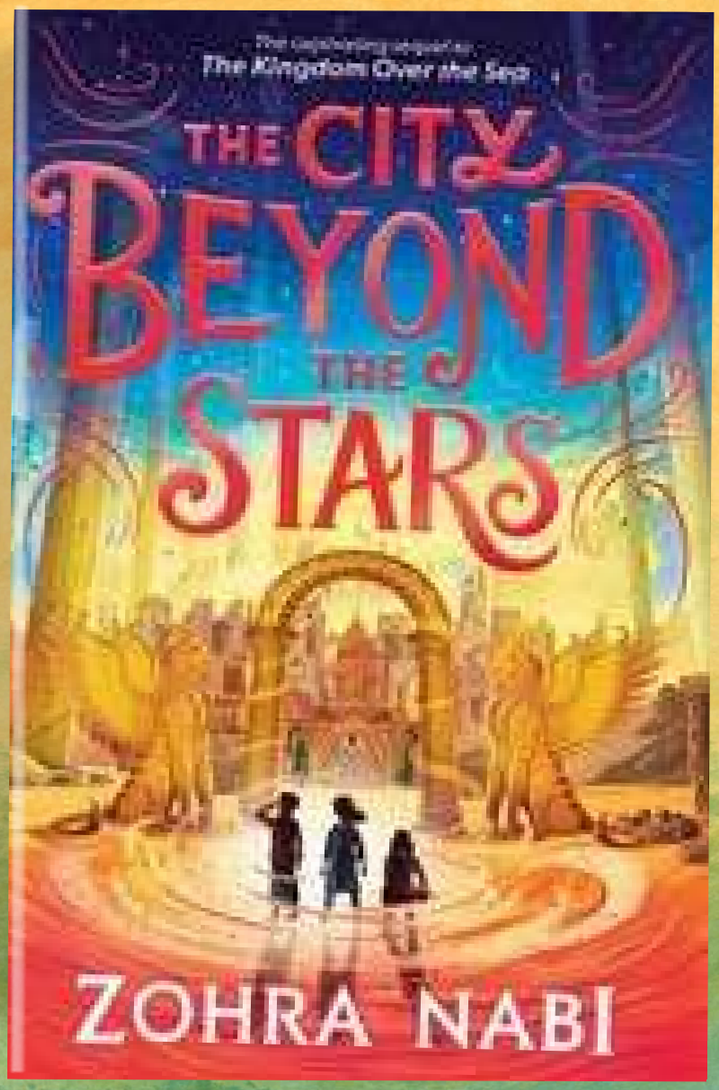
TERRY IRONWOOD

Mastering the Art of Storytelling

TERRY IRONWOOD

Terry is an international Amazon best-selling author of The Great Forget Fantasy Series. He values privacy and resides with his family in Canada. He holds multiple university degrees and is interested in the science of self-improvement. He is equally fascinated with physics and spirituality. Terry believes in an 'attitude of gratitude' and is grateful he can write full-time. His dream is to help others reach their full potential.

The City Beyond the Stars



ZOHRA NABI NOVEL

The captivating sequel to "perfect for fans of Philip Pullman and Tahereh Mafi" (Booklist) The Kingdom Over the Sea follows Yara and her friends as they change the fate of the kingdom and their magic forever.

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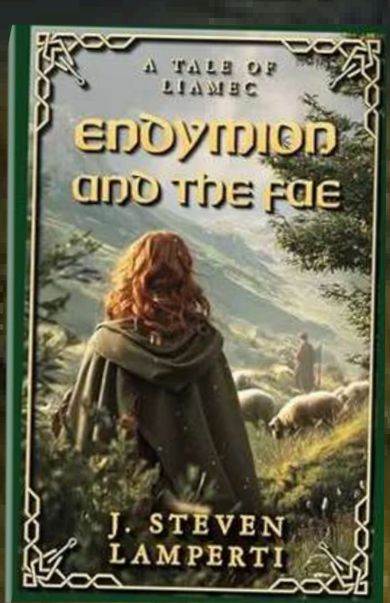
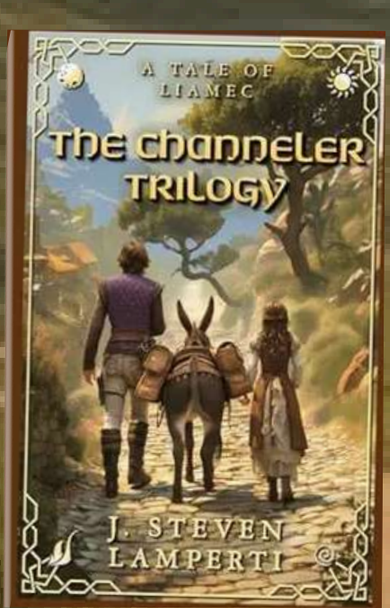
NOVELS BY

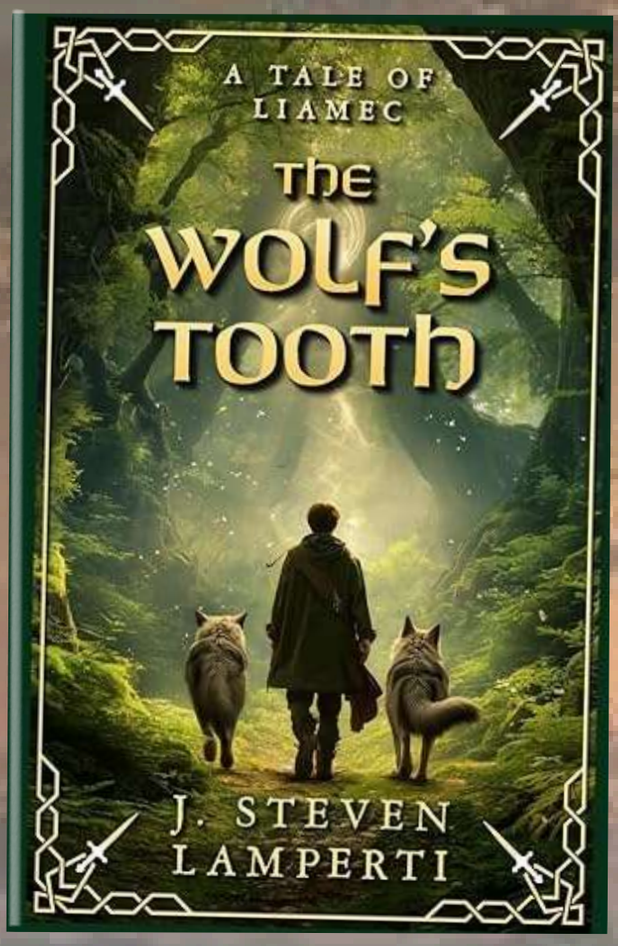
J. Steven Lamperti









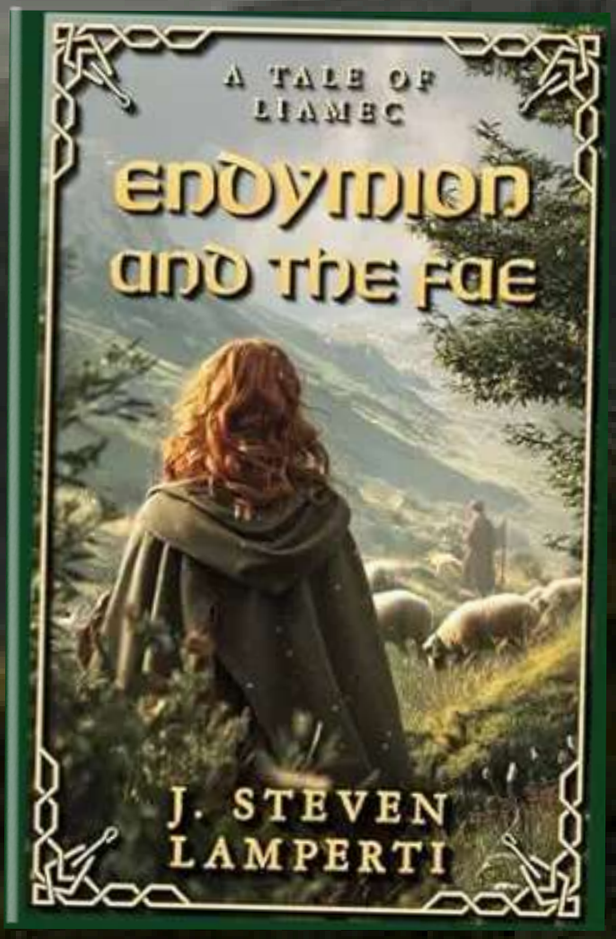


Raised by wolves. Bound for destiny. Hunted for a secret he doesn't yet understand.

Twee never chose the wild, but it raised him all the same. From his first toddling steps among wolf pups to nights curled in their den, the forest was his only home.

But the world beyond the trees is harsher—outlaws and city streets, forge smoke and forgotten poor. In Grisput, Twee learns the blacksmith's trade and crosses paths with a red-haired street girl who carries magic in her pockets and secrets she dares not reveal. Whispers of prophecy circle closer, until even the King's Guard begins to listen.

For readers who love A Wizard of Earthsea and Stardust, The Wolf's Tooth begins in whimsy and deepens into wonder—a heartfelt coming-of-age fantasy about kinship found in unexpected places, and strength discovered in the quiet heart of a boy who never asked to be special.



A shepherd boy, a girl of the fae, and a love that could heal—or divide—their worlds.

High in the mountain meadows, Endymion tends his sheep where mist clings to the slopes and old songs ride the wind. His life is simple—until he meets Lily, a girl of the Wee Folk with eyes like wildfire and a laugh like spring water.

To her people, she is Wee Folk. To his, she is Fae—a name spoken with fear, as if it carried danger of its own. What begins as a tender bond soon sets two worlds on edge.

When old wounds flare, Endymion must choose between peace and passion, tradition and hope. If he and Lily cannot bridge the divide, their love may cost more than their hearts.

A standalone tale within the Tales of Liamec, Endymion and the Fae is a gentle, slow-burn fantasy romance of first love, meadow magic, and quiet rebellion—for those who cherish cozy folklore, tender magic, and the stillness of high pastures.



The sea took her brother. Now it whispers her name.
Years after the storm that claimed his life, Annabelle Fisher still walks the shoreline—but keeps her heart turned away from the sea, and from anyone whose eyes dance with the waves.

When a handsome stranger brings an invitation to the duke's castle, one dance pulls her into a world of ocean-born secrets and ancient rivalries. The castle looms on the cliffs above Chelle by the Sea, yet the fisher-folk rarely climb the winding path to its gates. Annabelle's steps there will carry her farther than she ever imagined.

But the ball is only the beginning. Annabelle's path will lead beneath the earth, into shadowed places where only the gods dare to dwell—and where love may cost her everything.
Though part of the Tales of Liamec, Annabelle's journey can be read alone—like a single tide in a wider sea.

Told with the lilt of folklore and the sweep of myth, By the Sea is a lyrical YA fantasy of loss, courage, and ocean magic—perfect for fans of The Scorpio Races and The Girl Who Drank the Moon.

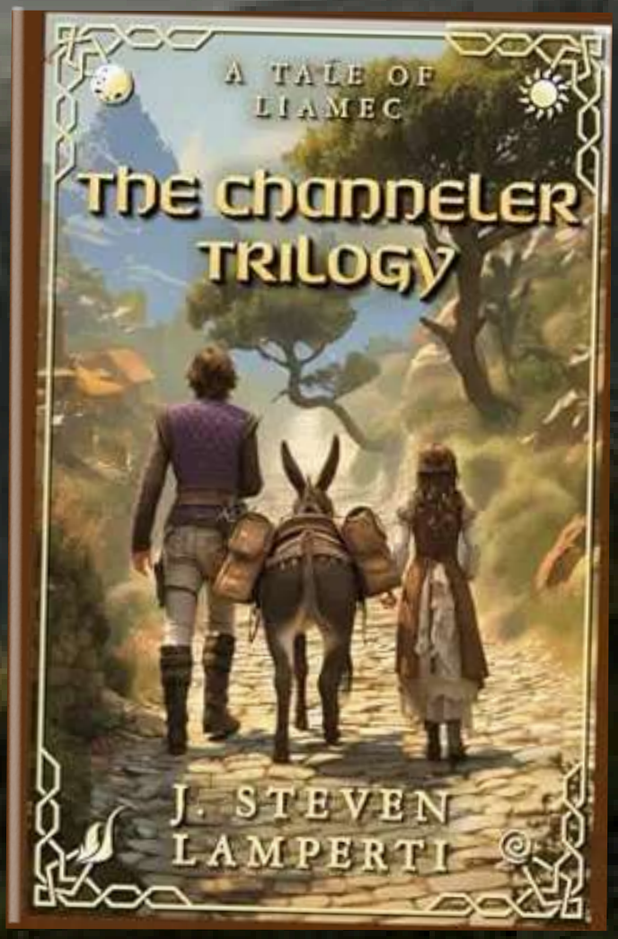
A moon misplaced. A girl who dreams too well. A world beginning to bend.

Sebastian never asked to be the hero of his village. But when nightmare creatures rise from the shadows, he finds himself gathering strange objects—gifts he doesn't understand—to stand against the dark.

What he doesn't know is that the magic behind those gifts comes from a quiet girl named Anise, whose dreams stir ancient forces: Moon, Sun, and Death. As Anise trains at the Academy and her bond with forgotten gods deepens, the boundary between dream and reality begins to tear.

Spanning seasons, generations, and shifting destinies, The Channeler Trilogy is a sweeping, heartfelt tale of magic, friendship, and the courage to claim your place in a changing world.

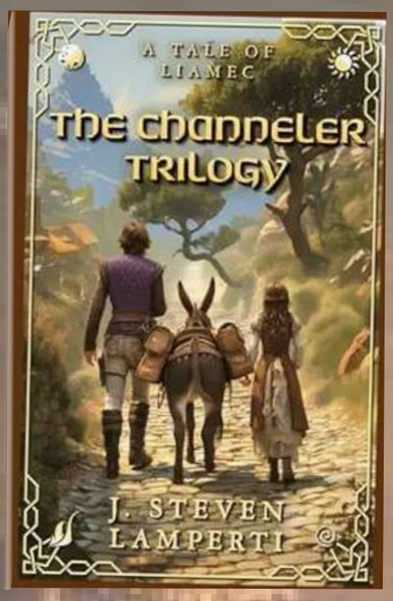
Perfect for fans of A Wizard of Earthsea and Stardust.











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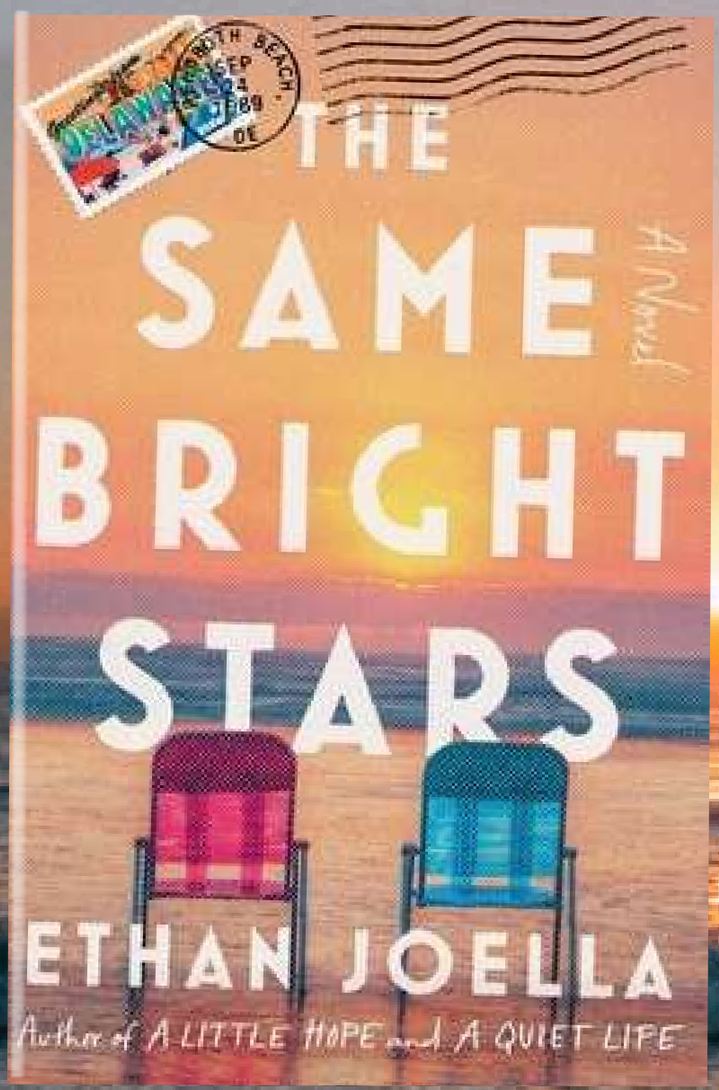
Mastering the Art of Storytelling

J STEVEN LAMPERTI

J. Steven Lamperti writes imaginative YA fantasy where dreams shape the world, myths linger, and magic runs quiet and deep. He's the author of the Tales of Liamec, a growing series praised by readers for its warmth, wit, and worldbuilding. His novel The Wolf's Tooth received honors from the Wishing Shelf Book Awards, the Dragonfly Book Awards, and Readers' Favorite.

He writes for readers who love gentle magic, slow-burn romance, and fantasy that feels both timeless and fresh. Before turning to fiction, Lamperti worked in software development. These days, he lives in California with his wife, near their three daughters. When he isn't writing, he enjoys exploring forest trails, mountain meadows, and the quiet corners of his imagination.

The Same Bright Stars



ETHAN JOELLA NOVEL

One Missing Person. Two Rival Detectives. Infinite Chemistry. This rollicking thrill ride told in alternating "he said/she said" perspectives is an irresistible blend of mystery, sexual tension, and humor.

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AUTHOR OF MANY DYSTOPIAN AND FANTASY BOOKS

K.A. Riley

NOVELS









In the Valta, no matter what month you were born, everyone is assigned the same birthday. November 1st. It's the anniversary of the day when the government declared war on the Eastern Order.
The day you turn seventeen, the Recruiters come to take you away. And no one ever hears from you again.

It's October 31st. Today, Kress is sixteen years old.
Tomorrow, she'll be taken.

The good news? So will her best friend Cardyn, and Brohn, the handsome, enigmatic boy she's avoided all her life.

The bad news?

Recruitment isn't what any of them expected.

Weeks of training await. Military and psychological tests, escape rooms, hand-to-hand combat. The Recruits are told they're the key to winning the war. But with each day that passes, things begin to make less sense.
If only Kress had been able to bring her trained raven, Render, with her.
If only none of them had ever had to come to this place.

Having escaped from the Processor, Kress and her fellow Seventeens go on the run. Guided by Render, they undertake a dangerous, enemy-filled journey west where they encounter the Insubordinates, a guerrilla army of counterinsurgents led by an unexpected but familiar field general. Now, Kress and her Conspiracy are preparing to expose the government's lies about the Eastern Order and reclaim the democracy so many of them and their families died trying to protect.





Aided by the Insubordinates, Kress and her Conspiracy wage a daring counter-offensive against the Patriot Army in an effort to liberate the city of San Francisco. Outnumbered, facing impossible odds, and opposed by a powerful and ruthless enemy named General Ekker, Kress and her friends hope for help as they struggle to understand and control their emerging abilities.

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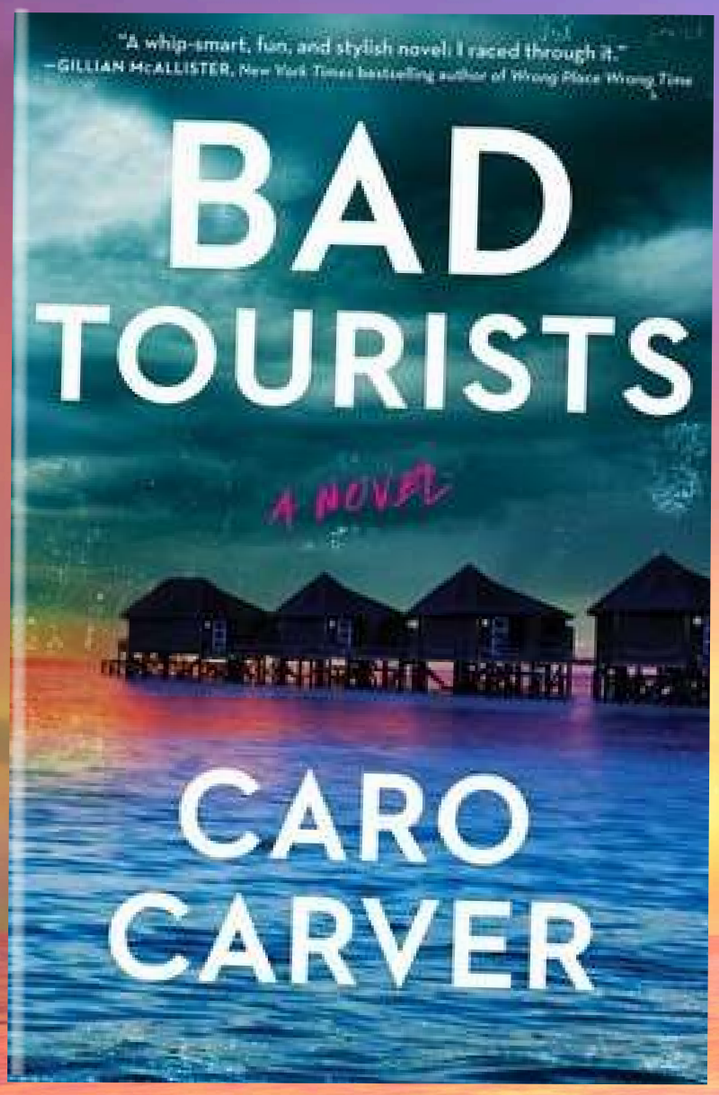
Mastering the Art of Storytelling

K. A. RILEY

K. A. Riley is the author of many Dystopian and Fantasy books including Recruitment, The Cure, The Amnesty Games, and Thrall. In her spare time, she loves walking her drooling pup, traveling, and interacting with readers on TikTok while chugging copious amounts of coffee. She may or may not also eat plentiful chocolate while on the treadmill.

Bad Tourists



CARO CARVER NOVEL



Three tight-knit friends embark on an extravagant divorce trip to the Maldives where they can unwind and celebrate a new chapter in midlife —until they realize the resort of their dreams is harboring a killer.

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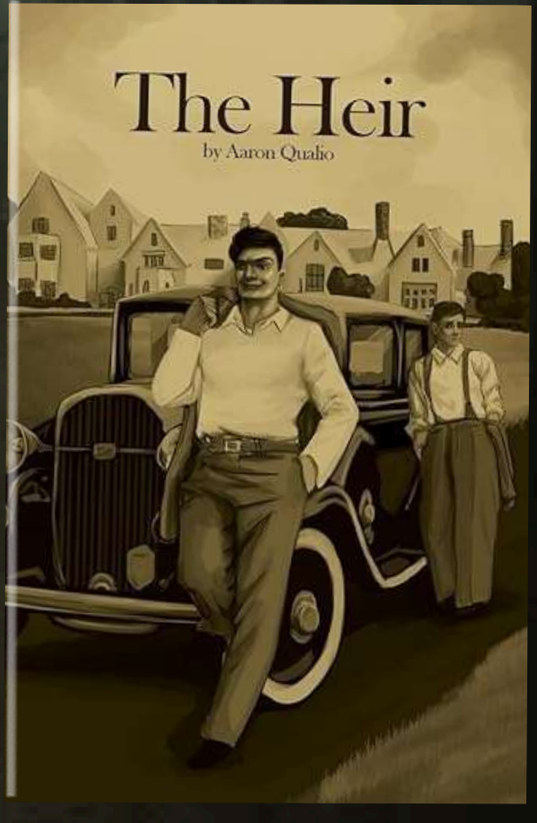
AARON QUALIO



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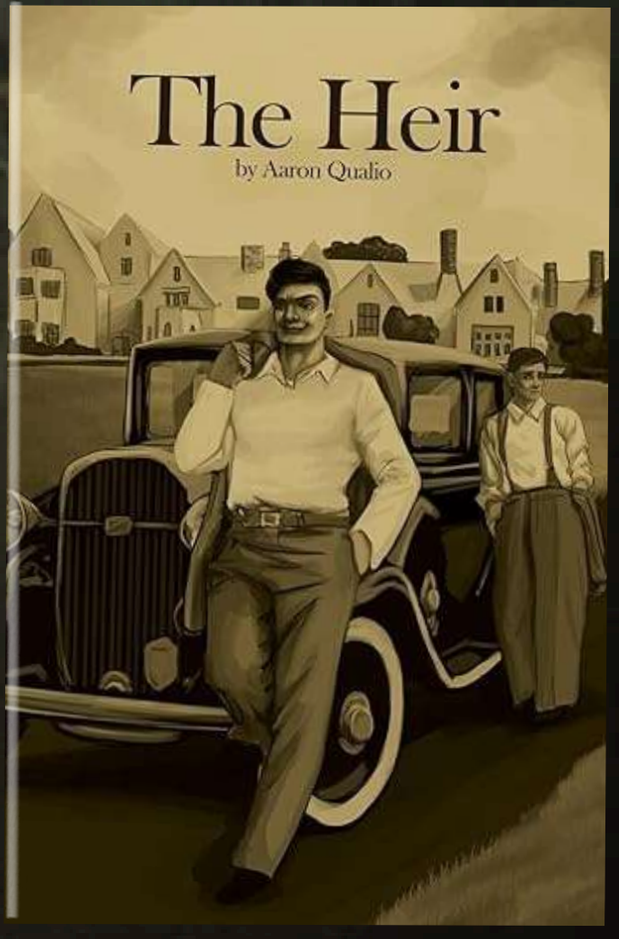
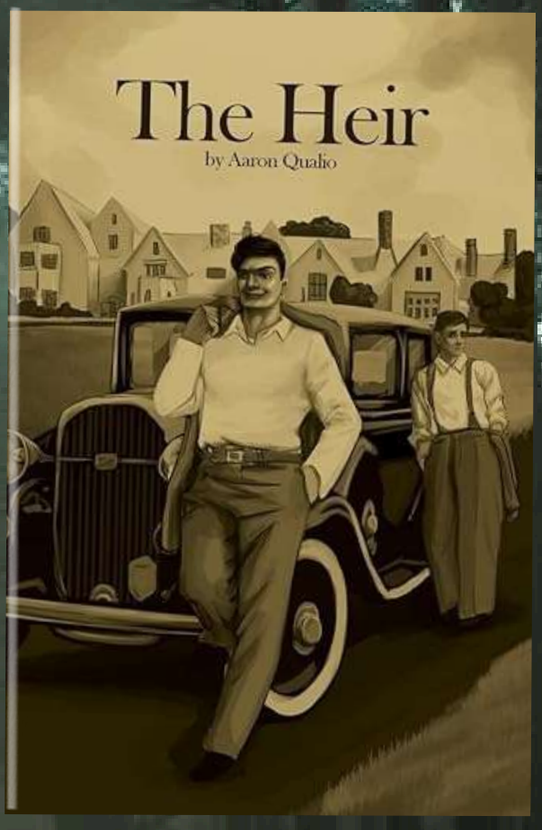
A small Wisconsin town is shaken to its core when four high school boys stumble upon an unexpected discovery. As past and present secrets are exposed, more unsolved mysteries are revealed, leading to more danger than anyone could have ever imagined.



An evil, cruel young man takes over the family business after the mysterious death of his father. As the company and his hometown are essentially one in the same, he uses his newfound power and wealth to do what he wants, when he wants, without any consequences. Now, the man's younger brother must save the company and the village he loves from his tyrannical brother.

The Heir is a look into small-town life being destroyed when a madman takes control. It is a story of unlimited power, history, wealth, cruelty, and greed.





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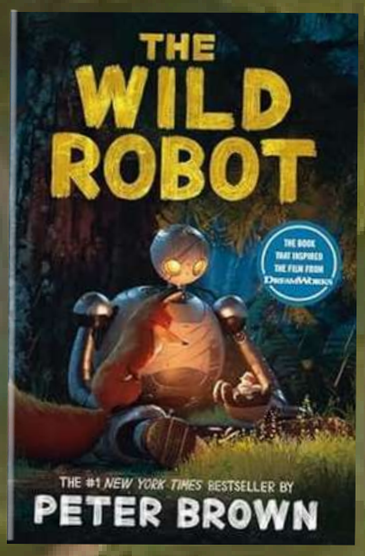
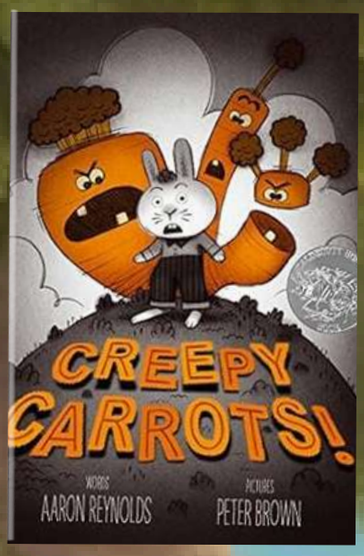
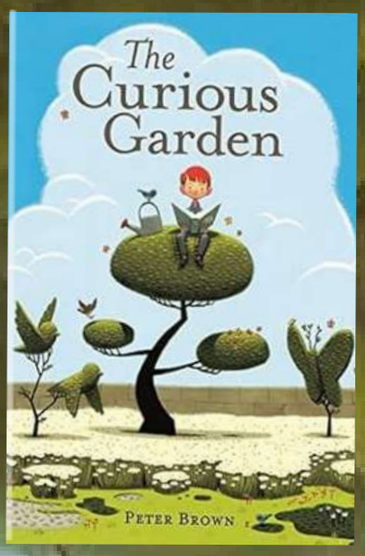
Mastering the Art of Storytelling

AARON QUALIO

Aaron Qualio possesses the storytelling prowess of an expert, captivating readers' imaginations from start to finish. The author seamlessly weaves historical elements into the narrative, providing an entertaining glimpse into the experience of growing up in a small town. Given that much of America is a tapestry of small towns, this book will resonate with generations of readers, helping them see their own stories reflected within its pages.







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Mastering the Art of Storytelling

PETER BROWN

Peter has always loved telling stories. Growing up in New Jersey, he told stories by drawing whimsical characters and scenes from his imagination. As a teenager, he fell in love with writing and began telling his tales with words. While studying illustration at Art Center College of Design, Peter's love of both words and pictures led him to take several courses on children's books, and before long he knew he'd found his calling.

After graduating from Art Center Peter moved to New York City to be closer to the publishing industry. He was working on animated TV shows when he signed a book deal to write and illustrate his first picture book, Flight of the Dodo. Peter quickly signed up his second and third books, and his career as an author and illustrator of children's books was under way.

Since then Peter has written and illustrated many books for children and earned numerous honors, including a Caldecott Honor, a Horn Book Award, two E.B. White Awards, two E.B. White Honors, a Children's Choice Award for Illustrator of the Year, two Irma Black Honors, a Golden Kite Award, a New York Times Best Illustrated Book Award and multiple New York Times bestsellers.

THE ART OF EXCEPTIONAL STORYTELLING

JANE HARPER

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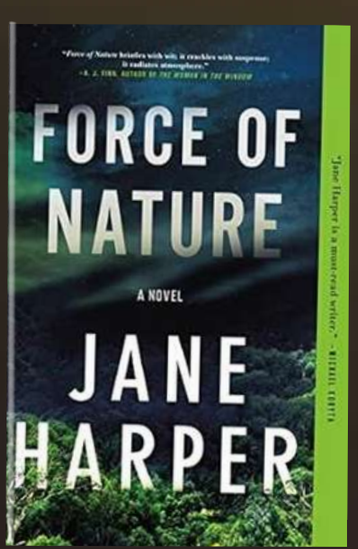
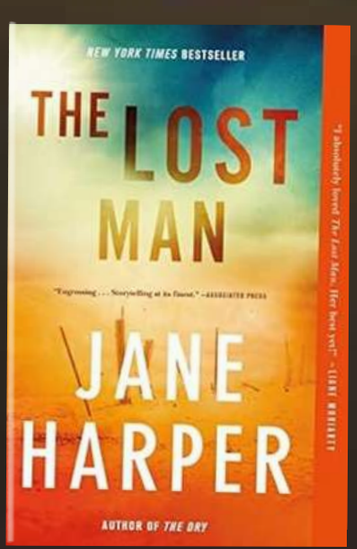
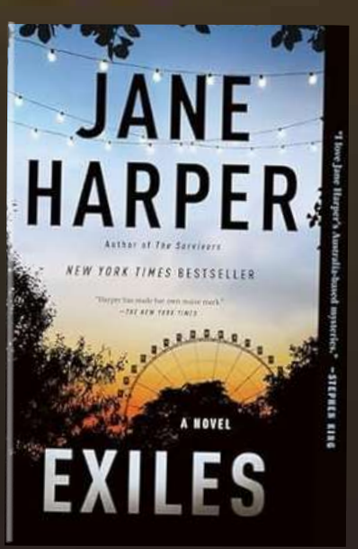
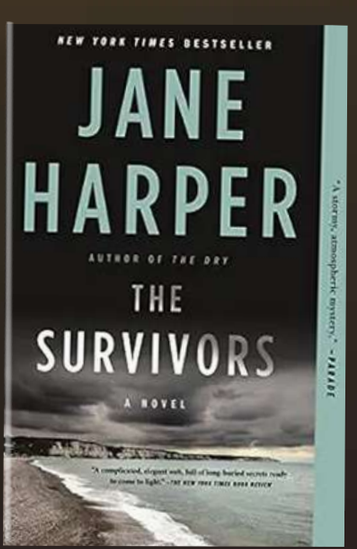
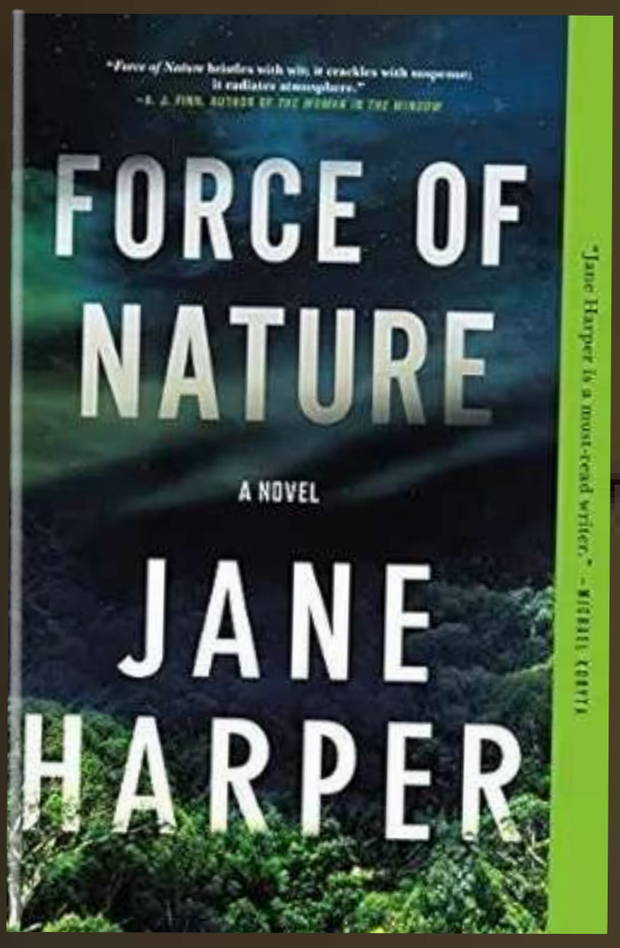










Five women go on a hike. Only four return. Jane Harper, the New York Times bestselling author of The Dry, asks: How well do you really know the people you work with?

When five colleagues are forced to go on a corporate retreat in the wilderness, they reluctantly pick up their backpacks and start walking down the muddy path.

But one of the women doesn't come out of the woods. And each of her companions tells a slightly different story about what happened.

Federal Police Agent Aaron Falk has a keen interest in the whereabouts of the missing hiker. In an investigation that takes him deep into isolated forest, Falk discovers secrets lurking in the mountains, and a tangled web of personal and professional friendship, suspicion, and betrayal among the hikers. But did that lead to murder?

Two brothers meet in the remote Australian outback when the third brother is found dead, in this stunning new standalone novel from Jane Harper

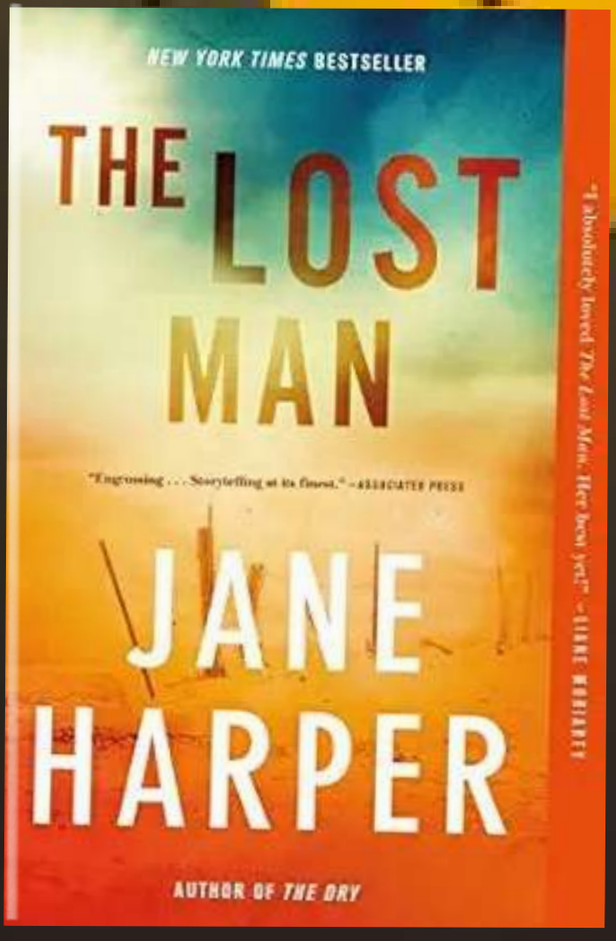
Brothers Nathan and Bub Bright meet for the first time in months at the remote fence line separating their cattle ranches in the lonely outback.

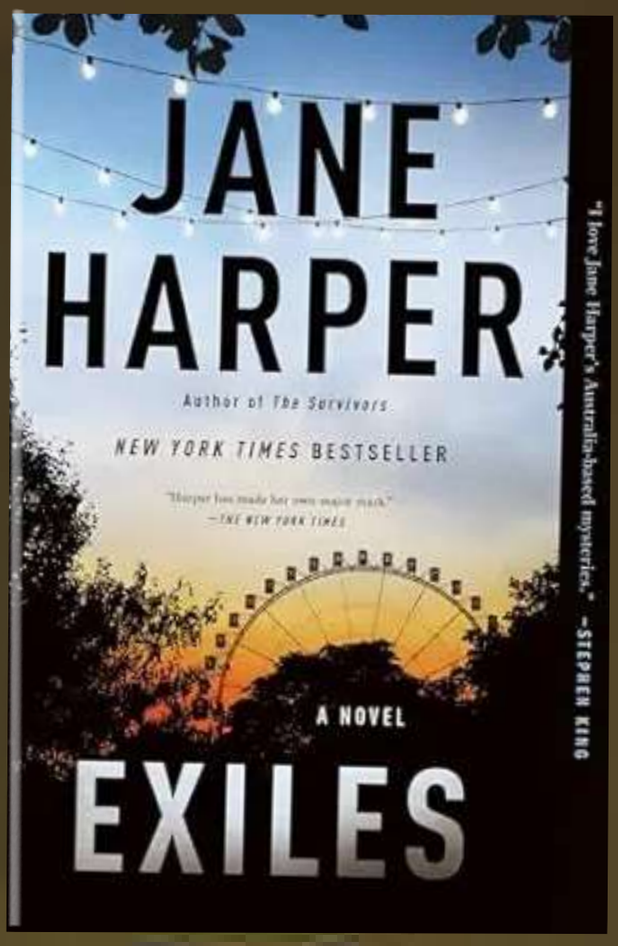
Their third brother, Cameron, lies dead at their feet.

In an isolated belt of Australia, their homes a three-hour drive apart, the brothers were one another's nearest neighbors. Cameron was the middle child, the one who ran the family homestead. But something made him head out alone under the unrelenting sun.

Nathan, Bub and Nathan's son return to Cameron's ranch and to those left behind by his passing: his wife, his daughters, and his mother, as well as their long-time employee and two recently hired seasonal workers.

While they grieve Cameron's loss, suspicion starts to take hold, and Nathan is forced to examine secrets the family would rather leave in the past. Because if someone forced Cameron to his death, the isolation of the outback leaves few suspects.





Federal Investigator Aaron Falk is on his way to a small town deep in Southern Australian wine country for the christening of an old friend's baby. But mystery follows him, even on vacation.

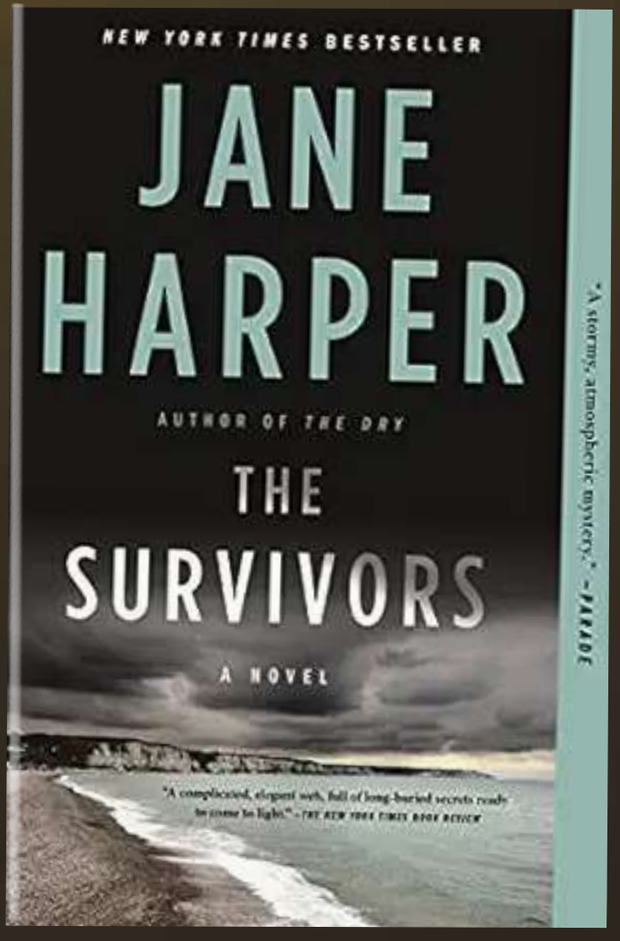
This weekend marks the one-year anniversary of Kim Gillespie's disappearance. One year ago, at a busy town festival on a warm spring night, Kim safely tucked her sleeping baby into her stroller, then vanished into the crowd. No one has seen her since. When Kim's older daughter makes a plea for anyone with information about her missing mom to come forward, Falk and his old buddy Raco can't leave the case alone.

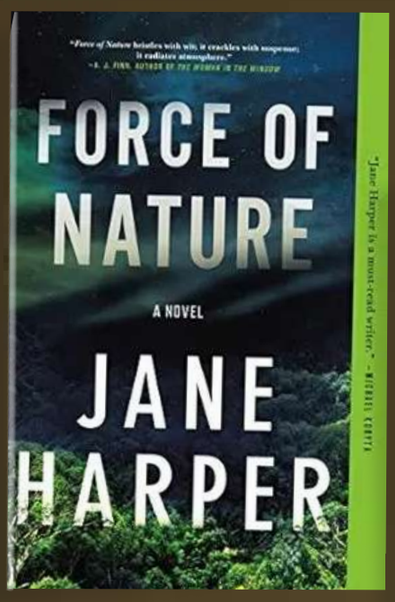
As Falk soaks up life in the lush valley, he is welcomed into the tight-knit circle of Kim's friends and loved ones. But the group may be more fractured than it seems. Between Falk's closest friend, the missing mother, and a woman he's drawn to, dark questions linger as long-ago truths begin to emerge. What would make a mother abandon her child? What happened to Kim Gillespie?

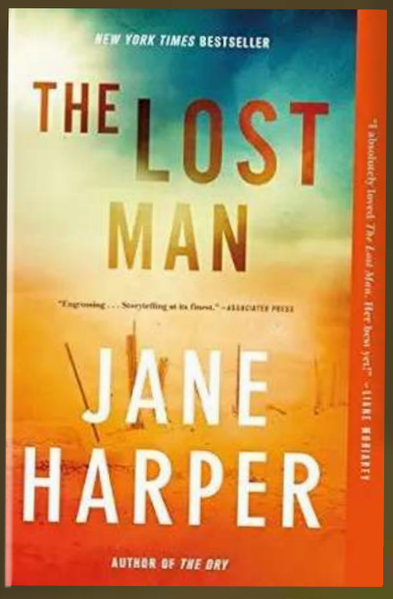
Kieran Elliott's life changed forever on the day a reckless mistake led to devastating consequences.

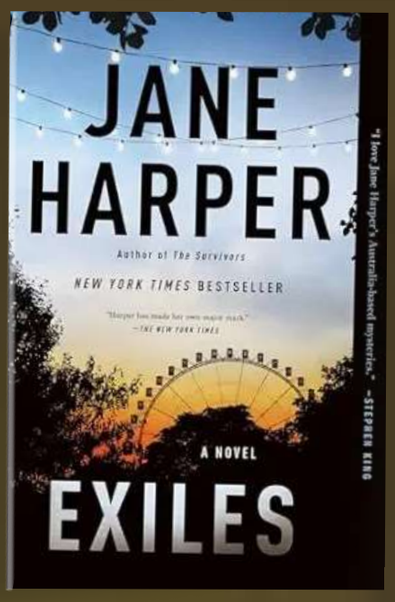
The guilt that still haunts him resurfaces during a visit with his young family to the small coastal community he once called home. Kieran's parents are struggling in a town where fortunes are forged by the sea. Between them all is his absent brother, Finn.

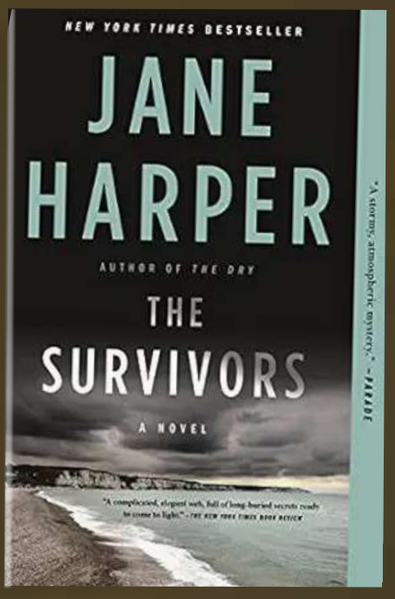
When a body is discovered on the beach, long-held secrets threaten to emerge. A sunken wreck, a missing girl, and questions that have never washed away...











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Mastering the Art of Storytelling

JANE HARPER

Jane Harper is the author of The Dry, winner of various awards including the 2015 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript, the 2017 Indie Award Book of the Year, the 2017 Australian Book Industry Awards Book of the Year Award and the CWA Gold Dagger Award for the best crime novel of 2017.

Rights have been sold in 27 territories worldwide, and film rights optioned to Reese Witherspoon and Bruna Papandrea. Jane worked as a print journalist for thirteen years both in Australia and the UK and lives in Melbourne.



THE LONG JOURNEY
AIDAN TAUTIN

ABOUT THE BOOK

The Long Journey transports you to a rich fantasy world of humans, elves, and Vikings locked in epic struggle. Follow young, relatable heroes through a land brimming with magic, fierce battles, and legendary quests. Each step of the journey brings thrilling encounters and unforgettable characters in a vivid, high-fantasy setting like no other. Dive into a tale of adventure, loyalty, and destiny that unfolds against the breathtaking landscapes and mystical realms of The Long Journey, where danger and discovery await at every turn.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Aidan Tautin from Meadville, PA, is a passionate fantasy author who draws inspiration from epic worlds and his supportive family. With a love for storytelling and imaginative adventures, Aidan creates captivating tales that transport readers to magical realms, establishing himself as a promising new voice in fantasy literature.

Website: www.aidanmtautin.com

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AIDAN TAUTIN

THE RIVER OF TEARS
MARCUS LEE

ABOUT THE BOOK

As the Chosen lie broken, defeated or dead, the Once and Future King with his legions stand victorious. The promised golden age of humankind is instead a ruin filled with despair. Kingdoms burn, destroyed by lies, misdirection and a plan a thousand years in the making. At the centre of it all stands Malina. Stripped of her love, humanity and hope, both betrayer and betrayed, she continues her desperate struggle against the encroaching darkness.

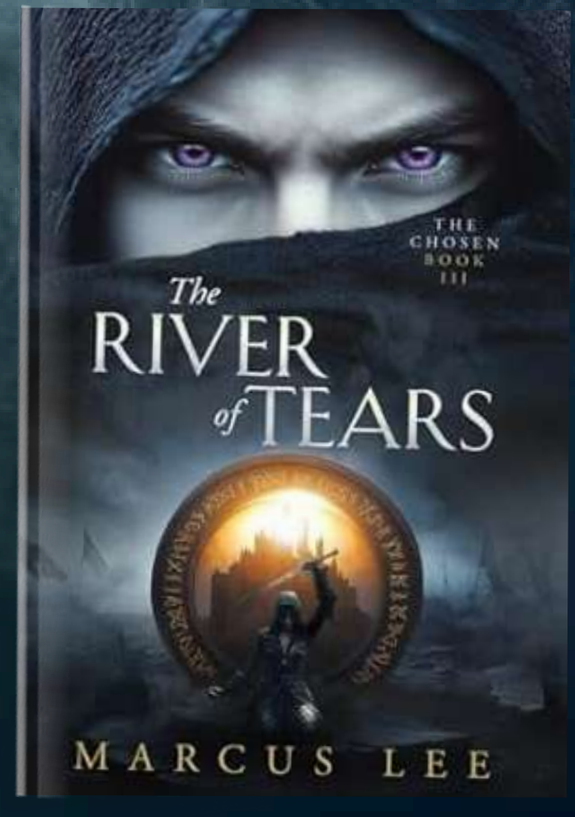
For despite losing everything, Malina is driven to face her nemesis again by thoughts of revenge, a thirst for blood, and a desire to save the world she helped condemn. With such a mission before her, just one thing is certain. Only the strong will survive.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marcus Lee is a number one bestselling author of Fantasy novels full of magic, conquest, darkness vs light, and Machiavellian plot twists that you won't see coming. Born and living in London, he has been a lover of fantasy since reading Homer the Odyssey and The Iliad as a seven year old. Now, as a father of one, he seeks to create worlds and stories that capture the imagination of a new generation of readers, to give back some of the magic he has so happily immersed himself in over the years.

Whenever Marcus' quill is at rest, he can be found wandering enchanted forests, or engaging in a variety of sports/playing computer games with his son.

Website: *www.marcusleebooks.com*





MARCUS LEE

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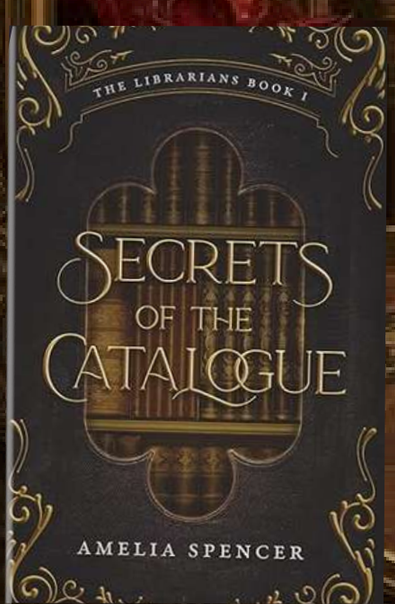
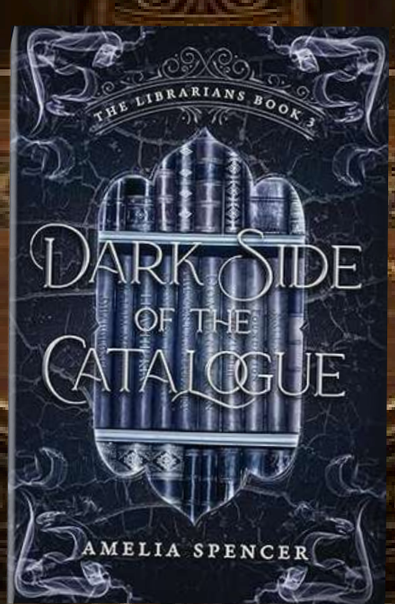
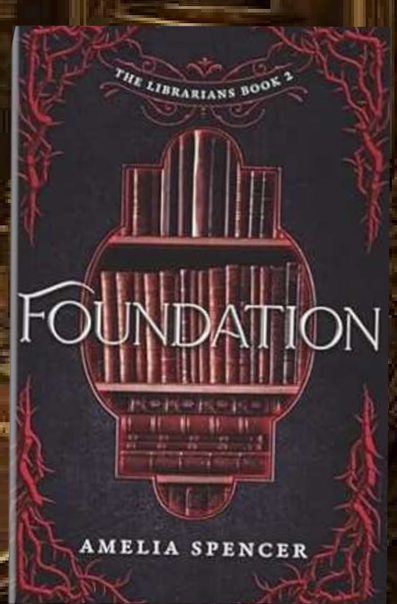
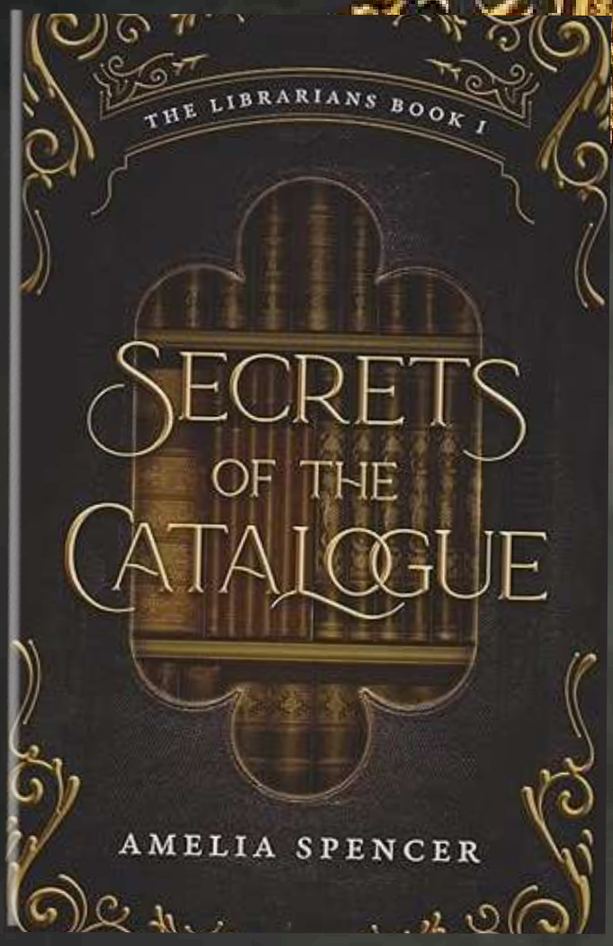
NOVELS BY Amelia Spencer









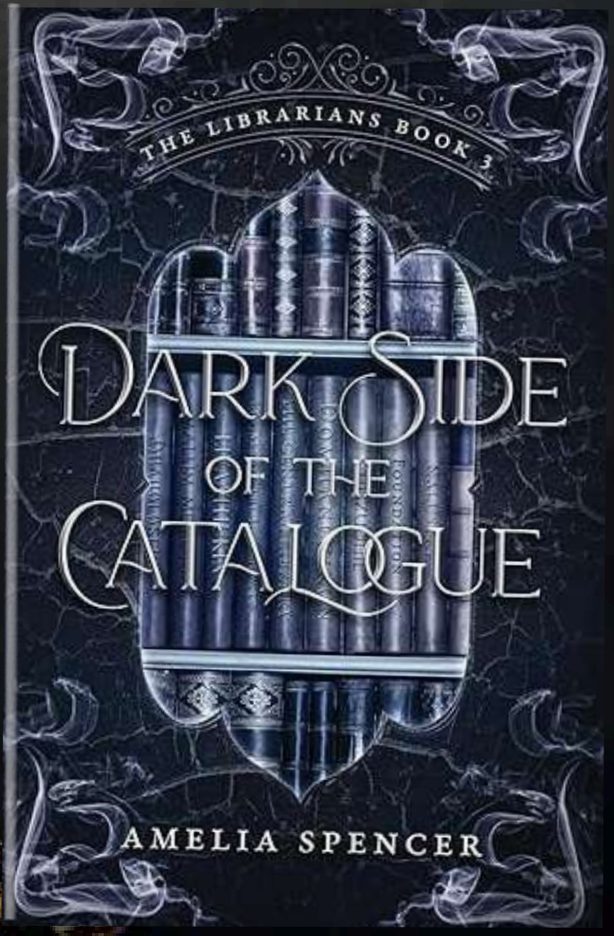
When Emerson Blackwell discovers a secret library in New York City where the books are doorways into magical worlds, it seems like she's found the perfect adventure. But as Emerson begins to explore the Catalogue, she is drawn into a world filled with secrets and more questions than answers.

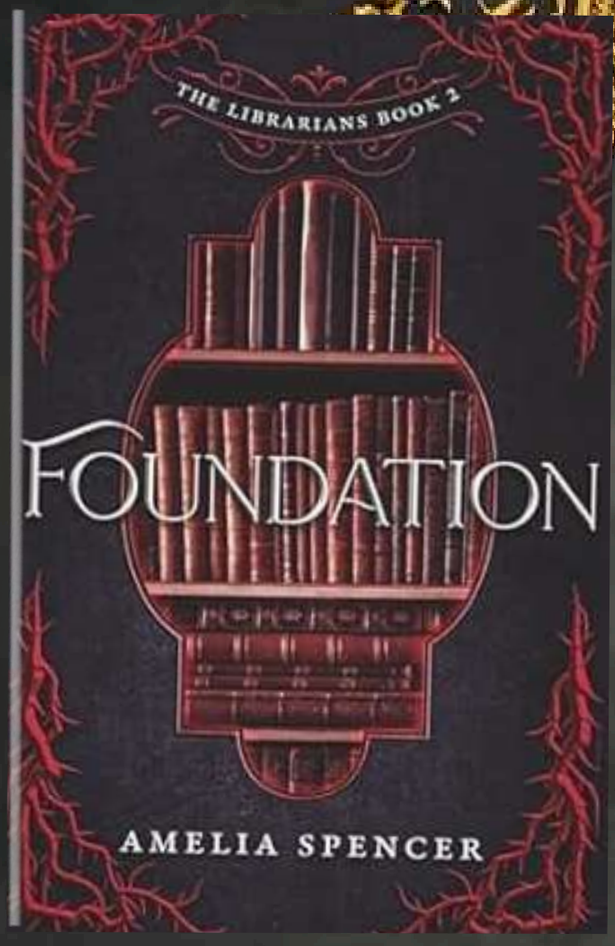
Eight years ago, Emerson Blackwell's mother died in a tragic fire and she booked a one-way ticket to New York City to escape her grief. But the trauma of her past comes rushing back when she uncovers a Library in the heart of the city where the books are doorways to magical worlds. However, The Central Library responsible for publishing books in the Catalogue is banning books and hunting down authors that The Central Library claims are dangerous. When Emerson finds out her mother is alive and publishing banned books, the question arises--are these books dangerous? Or is The Central Library hiding something?

Months have passed since Iris Blackwell was assassinated. Emerson never expected she would fill the role of Head Librarian so soon, but Foundation's members are relying on her. Even more importantly, Emerson is out for revenge after watching her mother's violent end.

Tensions between the Libraries are poised to erupt and Foundation's Council has begun rooting out Archivists within its membership. However, one Archivist remains at large. His prey? Foundation's newest Head Librarian. While Silas and Emerson have become closer than ever, her relationship with Adrien is careening toward a confrontation that will send shockwaves through Foundation and The Central Library.

As old alliances fracture and the past returns to haunt the Librarians, questions arise about the Catalogue's murky history. Have Foundation and The Central Library always existed separately—or do their Catalogues have a common ancestor? In her quest for answers, Emerson will have to decide who she can trust, even if it means aligning with those she once considered enemies.





After being swept up in the world of The Central Library, Emerson Blackwell has finally stepped into Foundation's Catalogue.

The worlds she encounters inside the banned books are darker, but no less real, than the realms in The Central Library's Catalogue. Emerson finds herself thrown headfirst into a Catalogue brimming with monsters from her worst nightmares, tests that make her question reality, and enemies disguised as friends.

Emerson made a split-second decision in her desperation for the truth, but curiosity soon turns to unease when she is forced to confront what awaits her inside Foundation. Where she expected to find answers, there are only more questions. Iris Blackwell may be alive and well, but the mother she remembers is a distant memory. Old feelings begin to resurface for Silas Rathbone as her time inside the banned books distorts the memories of Adrien Moon. And with every new world she discovers, the more she begins to wonder whether the books are transforming her into someone she no longer recognizes.

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AMELIA SPENCER

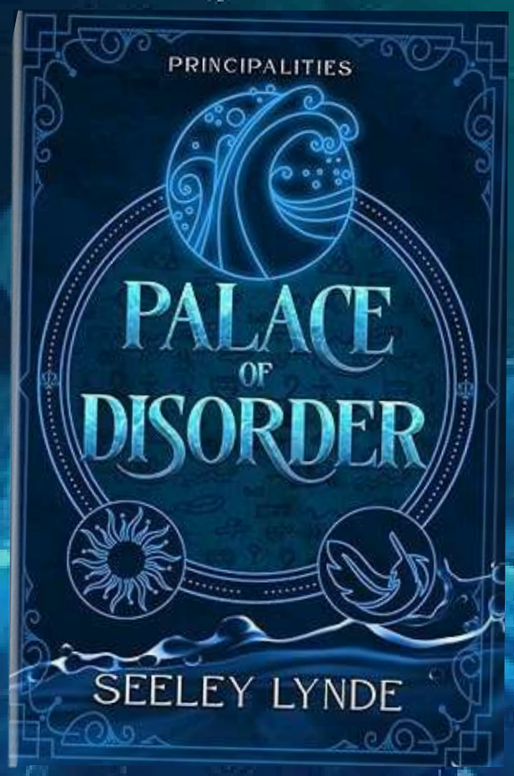
Amelia Spencer is the author of The Librarians fantasy series, which includes Secrets of the Catalogue, Foundation, and Dark Side of the Catalogue. She was born and raised in a small town in Ohio, where she developed an interest in reading from a young age. By day, she works as a public defender. By night, she escapes into her books.

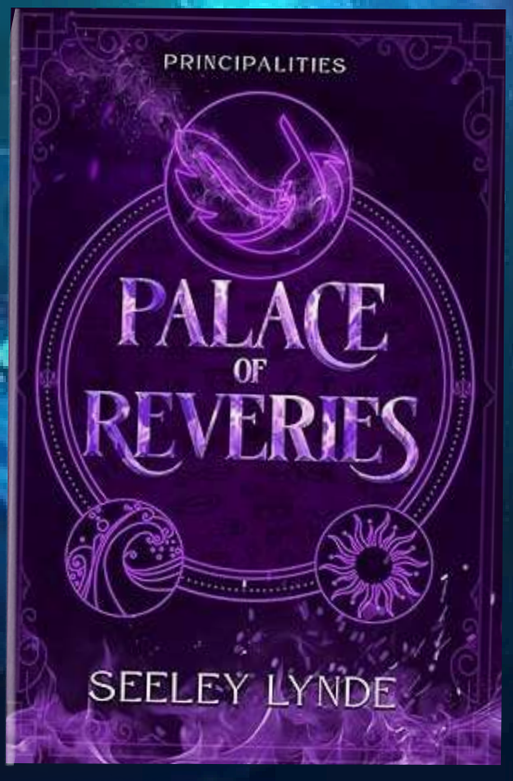
Amelia lives in Seattle, where she finds inspiration in the city's vibrant culture and the stunning natural landscapes of the Pacific Northwest. She is still trying to find that elusive book in the Catalogue that will take her on a fantasy adventure.

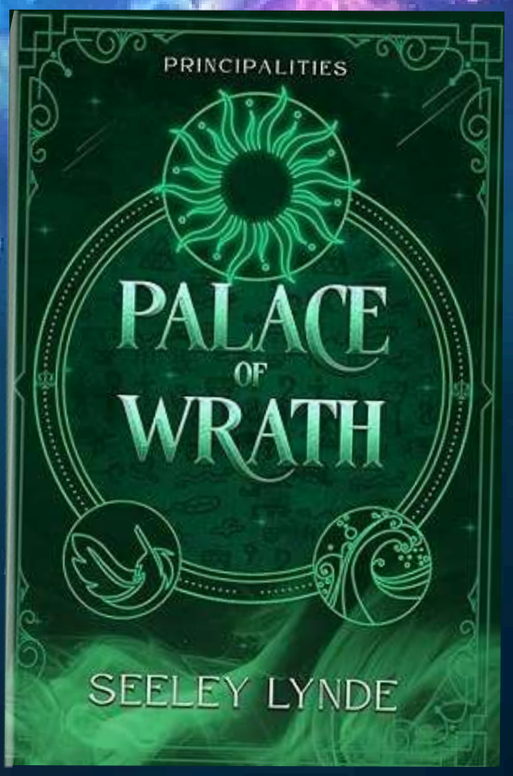
WITH BREATHTAKING BLEND OF
IMAGINATION AND EMOTION

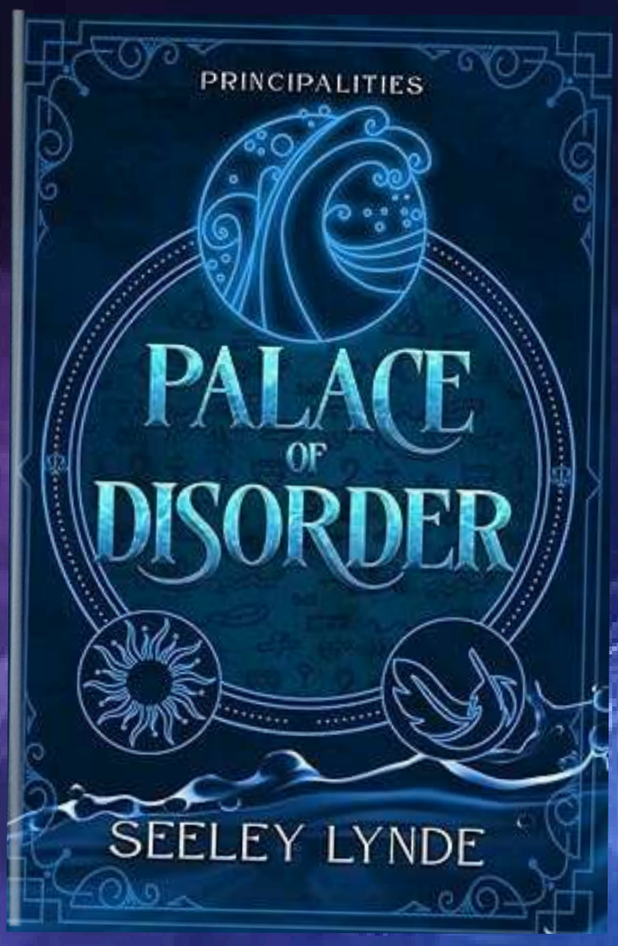
Seeley Lynde

NOVELS









Aqueduct technician Sage Woods is summoned in the middle of the night to assist with repairs to the foundations of the Palace of Justice. An attack by the rejected rebels beyond the city walls has temporarily crippled the city of Skau. The Principalities, which serve to enact the edicts of the goddess Ma'at, rush to undo the damage and interrupt future attacks.

Ejected from the city walls, Sage's efforts to save the palace from destruction may lead to her own. As the day of her Selection approaches, could the appearance of an alluring, dark stranger be the key to her survival? Or must she lay low to avoid political machinations that risk her expulsion.

As chaos mounts around her, Sage fights for her place in the Principalities.

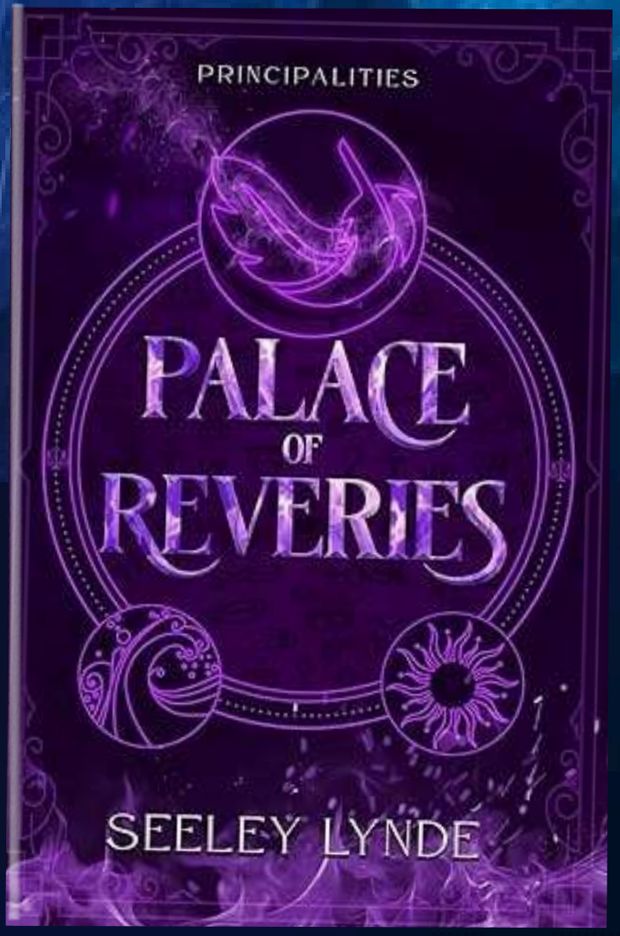
Which palace will she serve?

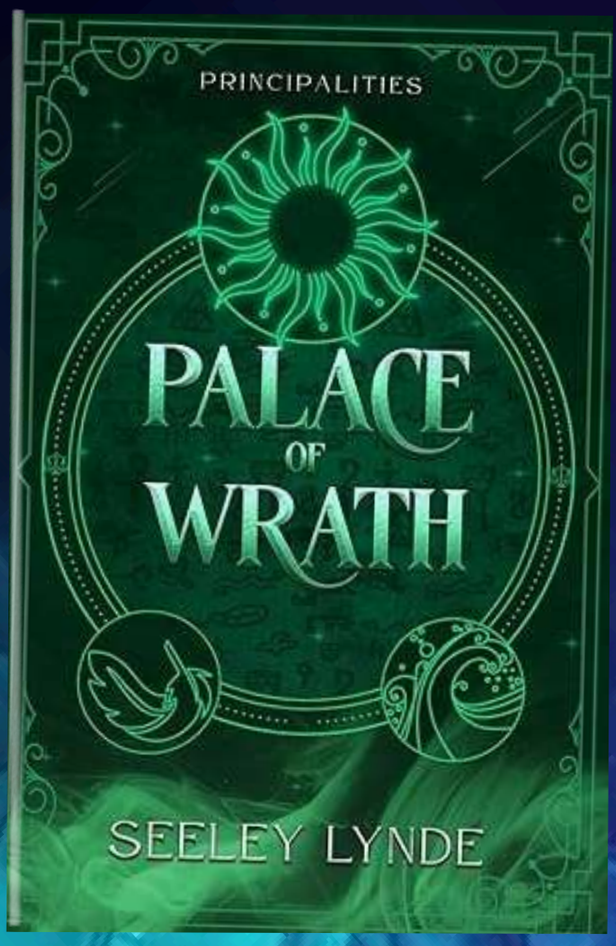
The sun is but a lone star in a very vast night.
Every tech knows it. This is how I die. In the dark. Alone. Breathless. I never thought to wonder what else was in the abyss. What might be worse than the end. That was an oversight. But hey, I wasn't wrong: this is how I'm going to die.

Skadus is missing and the old gods are rising. The Firmament search for a new Pharaoh, the House of Hope continue to petition for restitution, and the priests whisper of a new sun god. But what makes a God? Can one be killed? Can one be remade?

With conflicting demands coming from all sides, Sage must decide what kind of partner she desires to embrace, what kind of leader she hopes to be, and what kind of future she envisions for Ma'at Seth.

Is service to a palace worth your life? What would you sacrifice for choice?





The problem with dating the sun is you will inevitably get burned. Everything is bright and warm and beautiful, until you're blind and groping in the dark. And then you remember: this is how I'm going to die. Broken. Desperate. Choking on the last breath of stale air.

As Sage and the city of Skau emerge from the deluge, law and order prove difficult to re-establish. The House of Hope is demanding compensation, the Principalities are wary of future attacks and where is Pharaoh?

With a new Prince in need of training and a Vizier fast losing control of his powers, the Firmament is forced to return to the Vault to regroup. While Sage struggles to master her new gifts, Ciaran searches for a way to renew access to Pharaoh. Unsavoury alliances with the remnants of the House of Hope may offer a solution, but at what cost?

How does one serve, in the shadow of the gods?

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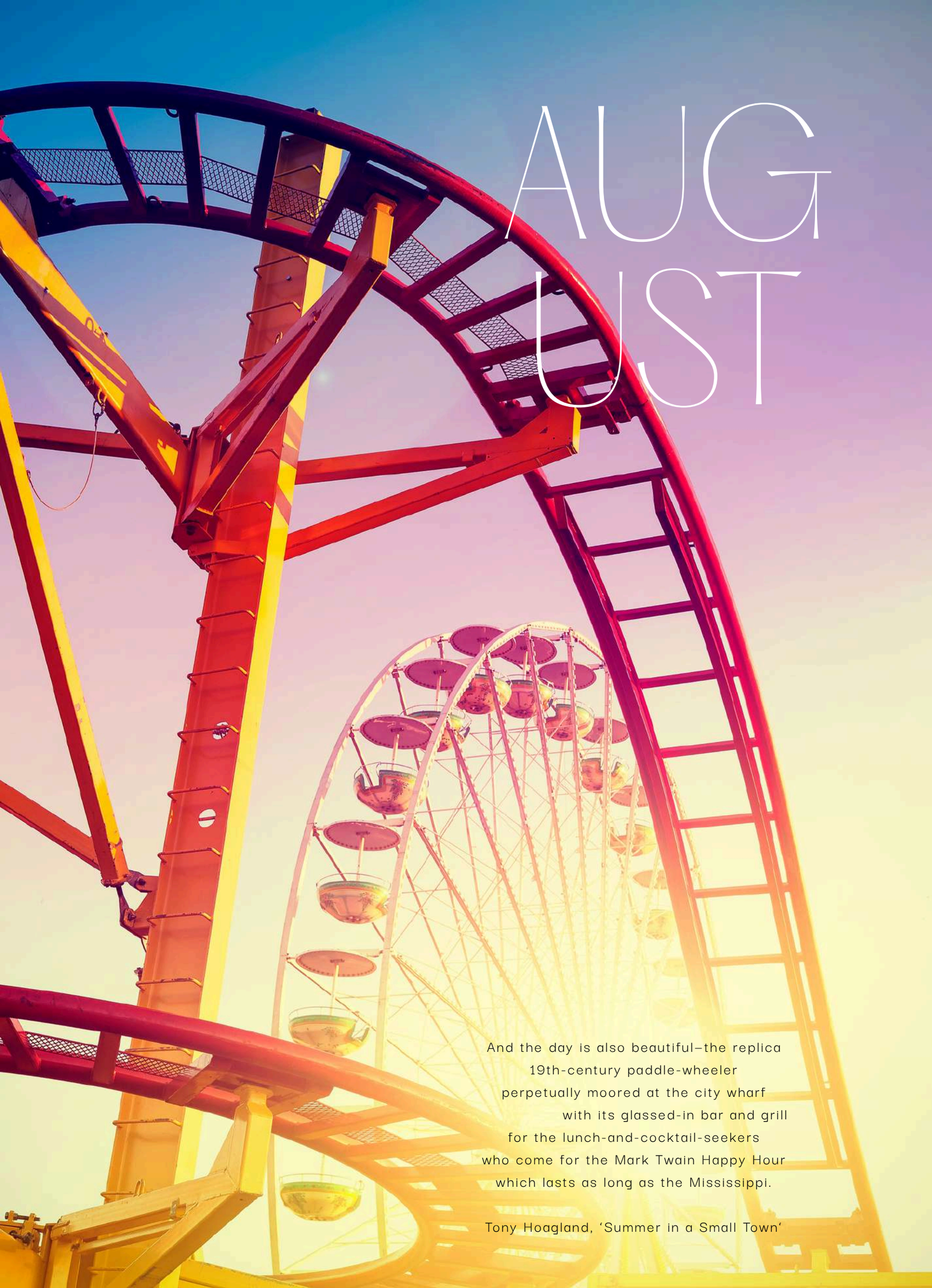
SEELEY LYNDE

Seeley lives in Darwin, Australia. She enjoys inventing new worlds and then seeing what happens when you break things in them so she can share those stories with you. She loves hiking and cuddling her siberian cat Mister Smokey Bob and taking her siberian husky Hannibal for calm, relaxing strolls. She is easily bribed with an almond matcha latte and a cheese platter. A good game of chess and a guitar on hand has been known to also appeal.



AUGUST

And the day is also beautiful–the replica
19th-century paddle-wheeler
perpetually moored at the city wharf
with its glassed-in bar and grill
for the lunch-and-cocktail-seekers
who come for the Mark Twain Happy Hour
which lasts as long as the Mississippi.

Tony Hoagland, 'Summer in a Small Town'

IN THE FOCUS

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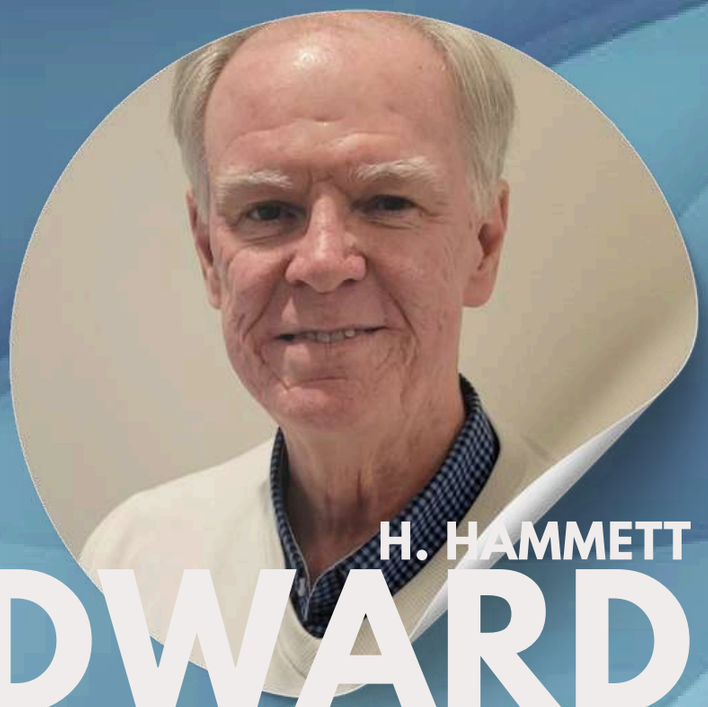


H. HAMMETT

EDWARD



R. PIERCE

JAMES

Edward H. Hammett

My desire is to see organizations and leaders move from frustration to fulfillment, from aimlessness to focus and fun! As a Master Certified Coach with the ICF, seasoned professional coach and consultant, I've worked for over 30 years with profit and non-profit organizations to accomplish their goals and yield results that move them forward in faith and function.

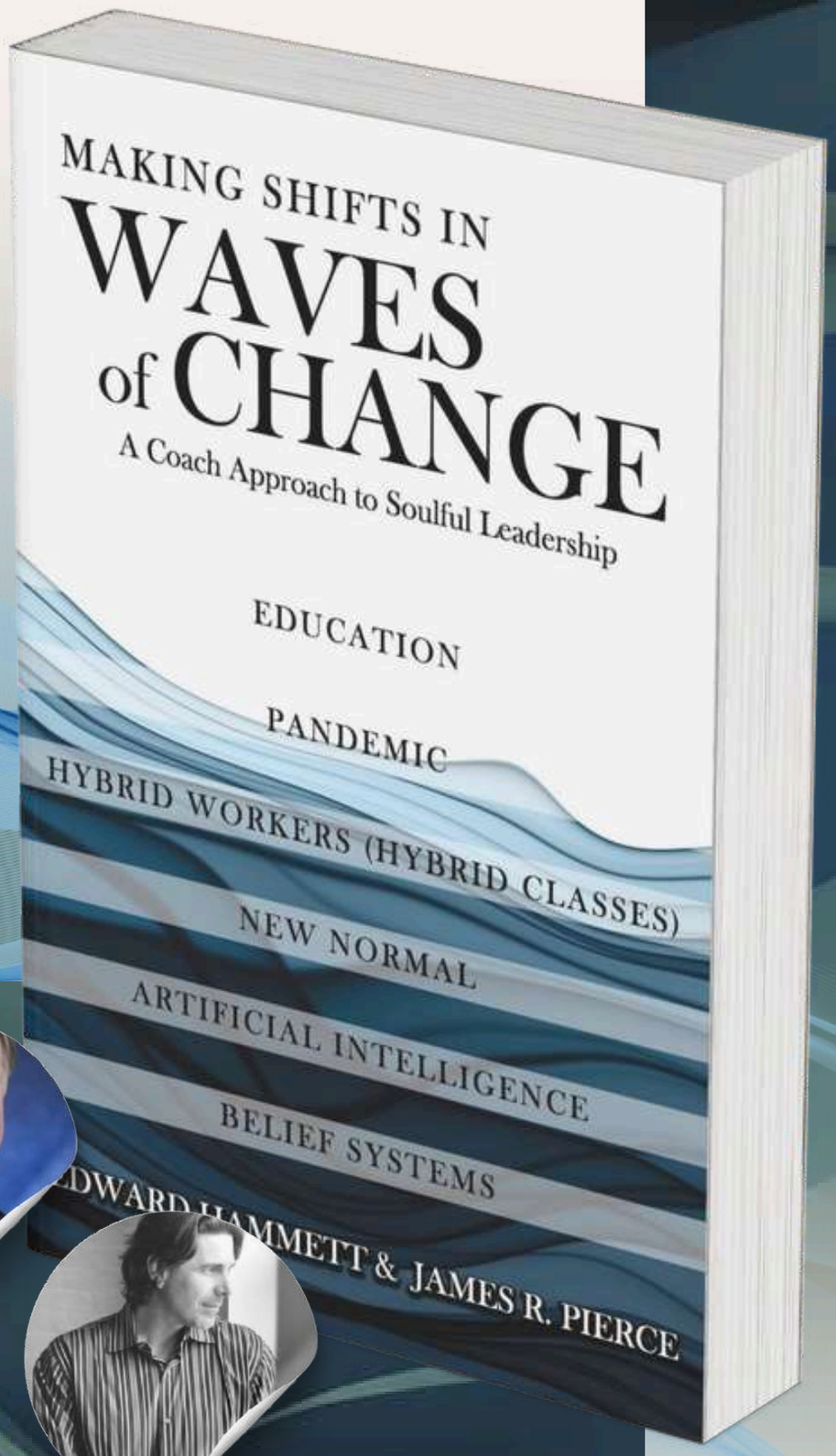
I've worked with government, churches, nonprofits, attorneys and those with entrepreneurial interests and mindset. I love partnering with my clients. My writings and research for over 30 years has been to see the impact of a shifting culture on the way organizations function and how to maximize their learnings to make them more effective in a new and changing culture.

James R. Pierce

James R. Pierce is a long time mentee of Hammett's. He works in the computer and software industry and serves as coach of his team members at Automation Anywhere.

He and Hammett have collaborated on many writing projects and speaking opportunities for over 20 years.

His passion for watching colleagues grow in self-awareness and spirit for the job at hand is his driving force.





"Making Shifts in Waves of Change" offers practical guidance and insightful perspectives for leaders seeking to navigate the complexities of change in a rapidly evolving world. By integrating the principles of soulful-leadership and the coach approach, the authors provide a framework for personal and organizational transformation, empowering individuals to embrace change with purpose, integrity, and resilience.

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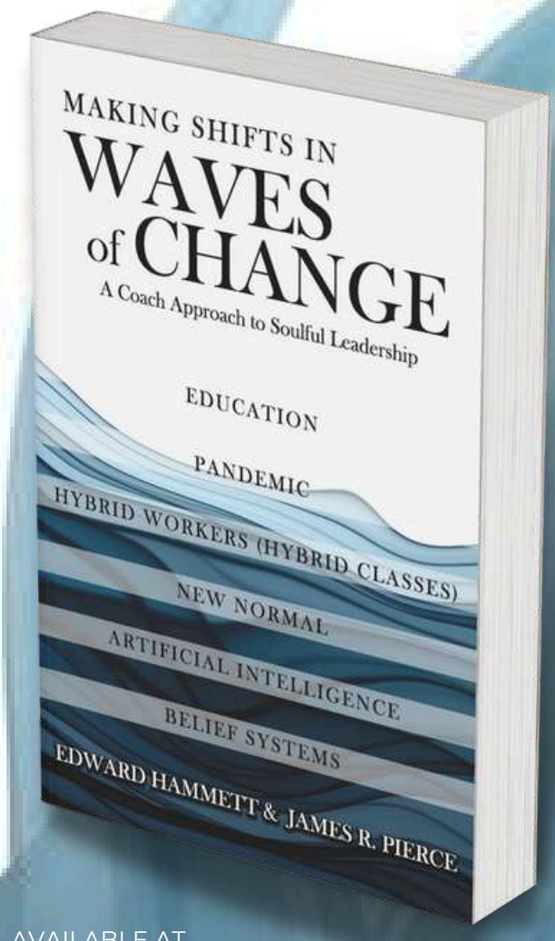
MAKING SHIFTS IN WAVES of CHANGE

A Coach Approach to Soulful Leadership

By Edward Hammett & James R. Pierce

"Making Shifts in Waves of Change" offers practical guidance and insightful perspectives for leaders seeking to navigate the complexities of change in a rapidly evolving world. By integrating the principles of soulful-leadership and the coach approach, the authors provide a framework for personal and organizational transformation, empowering individuals to embrace change with purpose, integrity, and resilience.

This book advocates for a leadership style grounded in empathy, self-awareness, and a focus on the holistic well-being of individuals and organizations. Soulful-leaders foster transformation in themselves and others by embracing change and navigating its complexities with integrity and purpose.



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Endorsement by Marshall Goldsmith

"Making Shifts In Waves of Change" is a groundbreaking work that redefines leadership in our modern world. Hammett and Pierce provide a valuable toolkit for leaders seeking transformation and offer a fresh perspective on how to navigate change with a coach approach. Their insights and wisdom will undoubtedly revolutionize leadership thinking and inspire lasting change in organizations."

Dr. Marshall Goldsmith is the Thinkers50 #1 Executive Coach and New York Times bestselling author of The Earned Life, Triggers, and What Got You Here Won't Get You There.



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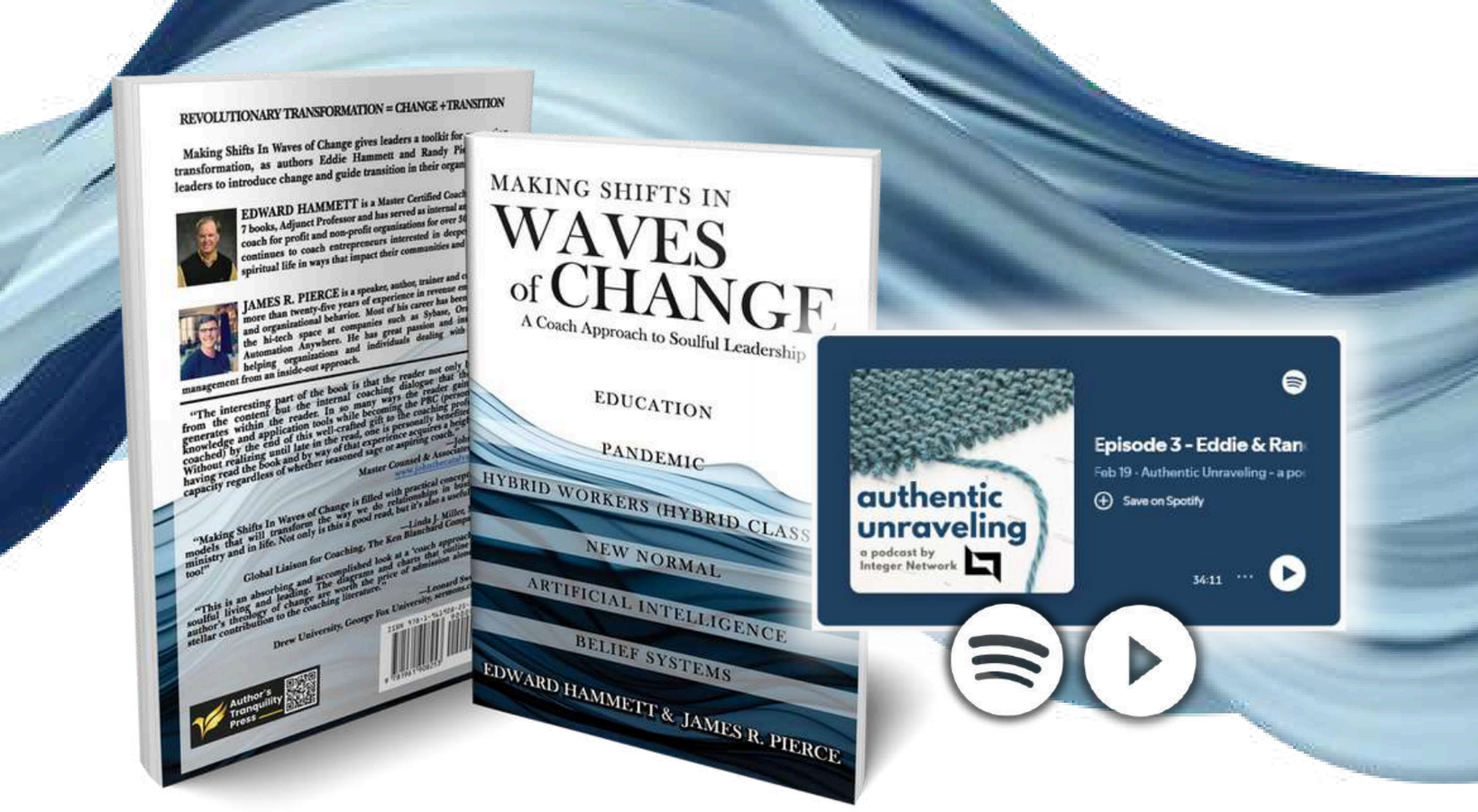
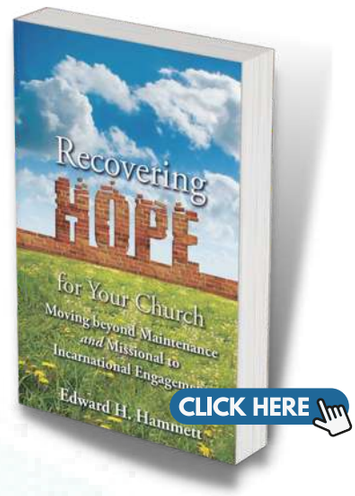
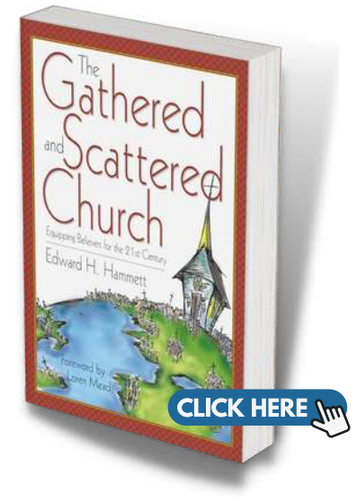


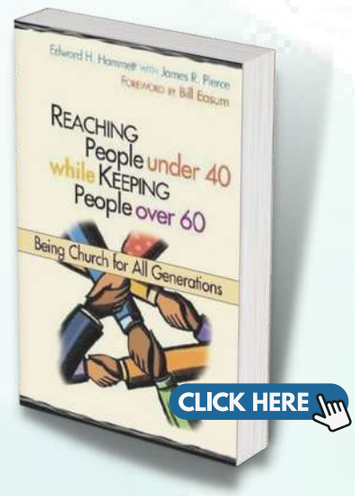
BOOK COLLECTION

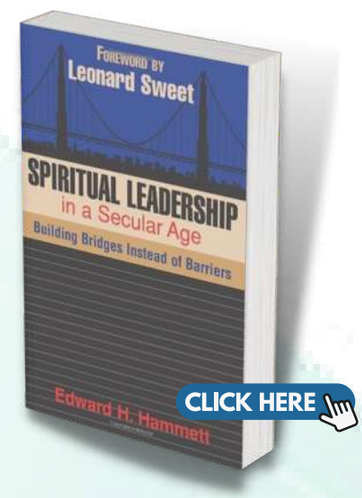














About the Author

Lesley was born in a small town called Erickson. She has five older brothers and two older sisters with two boys of her own. Her boys are now grown, but when bringing them up it was important that there were books in her house, and the books that her and her boys liked the most were fantasy books. Together they would spend many a night reading to themselves and sometimes to each other.

With Lesley having such a big family, she had many nieces and nephews, which she liked to spoil and spend a great deal of time with. She like very much to play fantasy games with them all the time. There were always fairies in the gardens, and we also spent time painting and making dragon eggs daily.

It was all this time spent with all these children that made Lesley decide she wanted to become a writer of children stories. Not just any children stories but fantasy children's stories. They had to have fairies, dragons, witches, and trolls for they make the best stories she always thought.

Lesley has not only written Object of Balance, but has also made it into a set. So yes, there is a second book called Objects of Destruction – Saving Father Element. She has also written the book The Dream Champion, which is also a fantasy but a much smaller story then The Object books. It too will be a set but a set of three. She also has a story on Free Editorial that is called The Elvin Prince.
These books are for young adults and are already self published. Only Lesley is looking to be traditionally published if she can.

Lesley has received three different book reviews, The Hollywood Book Review, The Pacific Book Review and a five-star review on Readers Favorite. You can find out more on her Facebook page, Lesley Fisher Books.

MORPHEUS
GOD OF DREAMS



Synopsis

Believe it or not, The Dream Champion first came to me in a dream. Waking up, I immediately began to write. But it wasn't until my nephew called it "the best story ever" that I truly committed to bringing it to life.

My story follows a young boy named Max G who, after a serious car accident and a bad head injury, finds his nightmares manifesting in the real world. This family-friendly fantasy is filled with mythical gods and legendary creatures, and has been compared to the film Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief.

The adventure begins in the small rural town of Minnedosa, later moving to Kildore. Max G, our main protagonist, faces three antagonists: Morpheus, the god of dreams, Phoebetor, the god of nightmares, and a menacing smoke dragon.

The book opens with Max having a nightmare where he is surrounded by fire, a smoke dragon lurking in the shadows. Unlike other kids, Max instinctively knows what to do: imagine what he needs, and it will appear.

He conjures a magic sword and fire-resistant armor and bravely defeats the dragon by stabbing it in the heart. He wakes up feeling victorious, ready for the adventure that lies ahead.

Two gods want to recruit Max G to become a Dream Champion, as their creatures have begun appearing in the real world. They need a champion to defeat these creatures and give Max an ultimatum he can't refuse: if he helps, his family will go to the "happy lands" forever when they die. In his first challenge, he finds himself face-to-face with a smoke dragon in his own parents' bedroom! But fear overtakes him, and he flees, not realizing he'll have to face the dragon every night until he defeats it.

Desperate, Max G encounters another Dream Champion who teaches him the skills he needs to fight the creatures of his nightmares. With this new knowledge and newfound courage, Max learns to fight his dragon and feels much more like a true champion.

This book is a family-oriented tale of love, friendship, action, and magic, without any blood or gore.



PHOEBETOR
GOD OF NIGHTMARES

Author Interview

Given that "The Dream Champion" came to you in a dream, can you describe the moment you woke up and realized this was more then just a dream, but a story you had to write?

When I woke from the dream I wrote it down right away. I then told my 6-year-old nephew about it the next day. His eyes were so big the whole time I was telling him the dream, and when I was done telling him, he said, "Aunty you got to write that story!" So, it was clear to me that I had to write it.

Your nephew's reaction was a key turning point for you. How did his belief in your story give you confidence to commit to the writing process, and what role do you think that kind of encouragement plays for aspiring authors?

My nephew's reaction was definitely a turning point for me to write the book "The Dream Champion". The look in his eyes was enough to give me the confidence to move forward. He was so awestruck by the whole idea. I believe that this role plays a big part of encouraging aspiring authors, for that is something they look for when they are looking for ideas to write about. The reaction my nephew gave was one of wonder, and amazement. I think that most authors look for something that will inspire them to write, whether it be a boy's reaction, an emotion of some sort or a sighting of some kind. Even a smell can trigger a sort of encouragement. Either way there is something they feel very strongly about that causes them to write their story. Therefore, I felt very strongly about my nephew's reaction and wanted to bring that reaction to other children of the world. As I am sure that is how most writers feel when they write their stories.

"The Dream Champion" features a unique combination of Mythological gods and legendary creatures. How did you decide which specific figures, like Morpheus, Phobetor, and the Smoke Dragon, would be the perfect antagonist for Max G's journey?

It was my decision to use the God of Nightmares (Phobetor, also known as Icelus) and the God of Dreams (Morpheus) as the story was all about Max G's nightmares. I needed a monster, so used a smoke dragon, for who doesn't love a good dragon, and I needed a reason for that monster to exist. Therefore, it was only reasonable that the Dream Gods bring them to life, and then I needed a reason for the Dream Gods to want to recruit Max G to fight the monsters. It only made sense to combine all three antagonists together against Max G in order for him to become the Champion of the story.

You mention that "The Dream Champion" is much smaller than your "Object" books. How did your approach to writing differ for this shorter, more focused narrative compared to building the more expansive worlds of your other series?

My approach to this book differs from the "Object" books as I did not have to spend as much time on this book. "The Dream Champion" I believe it only took me about a month to write, if that; while the "Object" books took me two years each, with a great deal of note taking and back and forth seeing who was who and what was what. There are definitely not as many characters and world building as "Object of Balance and Objects of Destruction" Therefore, I guess you could say things came a little bit easier.

With your background of reading fantasy with your sons, and playing fantasy games with your nieces and nephews, how do you think your own family's love for the genre influenced the themes of love, friendship and family in your book?

Oh, my goodness, I believe that my own family's love for the genre had a great impact and influence in the writing of this book and all my books. I sincerely believe if my family hated the genre, I probably wouldn't even think to write a fantasy story of any kind. It was their love of the genre and everything fantasy that made me want to write these books. So, I would say it is thanks to them that I have even tried to write these stories, and put all my love and effort into them.



MAX G
DREAM CHAMPION

The story starts with Max G having a nightmare in a ring of fire. Can you talk about the creative decision to open the book with this powerful and immediate scene and how you hope it draws readers into Max's world?

The story starts with Max G having a nightmare in a ring of fire because I really wanted to start the story off with something really exciting, something that would draw the audience in, wanting them to want more, and what's more exciting than a boy surrounded in fire having to fight a smoke dragon. It was my hope that readers would want to read more after such an exciting beginning.

The story begins in Minnedosa a real town, before moving to the fictional Kildore. Why did you choose to ground the fantasy elements in a real rural setting, and how did that decision shape the atmosphere of the book?

I guess I wanted to use my home town in the book, just so that the people of Minnedosa feel special, plus I know the lay out of Minnedosa pretty well and it is just what I needed for Max G to get away from the smoke dragon. Then the rest I felt needed to be fictional. So, I could make up a place for Max G to fight and meet the other champion. I needed to be able to make up a place where he could actually take on a dragon, there had to water and space for two champions to take on their monsters at the same time. I believe this decision shaped the atmosphere of the book by giving it a different perspective, a bit of a different world and a bit of real-world mixture which came together very well. Also, it adds a little mystery, some people are probably wondering if Kildore is an actual real place. But I will set the record straight, it is not.

The mentorship that Max G receives from another Dream Champion is crucial to his growth. What inspired you to include a mentor character, and what message do you hope this relationship sends to young readers about seeking help and guidance?

I was inspired to include a mentor character because I felt that Max G could not be the only one. There had to be more champions just like him out there, as the god of nightmares is constantly making monsters, so he must always be recruiting, therefore; it only makes sense that there would be more champions. The message I hope that this relation sends is that kids should never fear to ask for help or guidance. Always ask when needed.

The "Dream Champion" is noted as being a family-oriented story without blood and gore. In a genre often filled with dark themes, why was it important for you to craft a fantasy adventure that is both thrilling and accessible to a young audience?

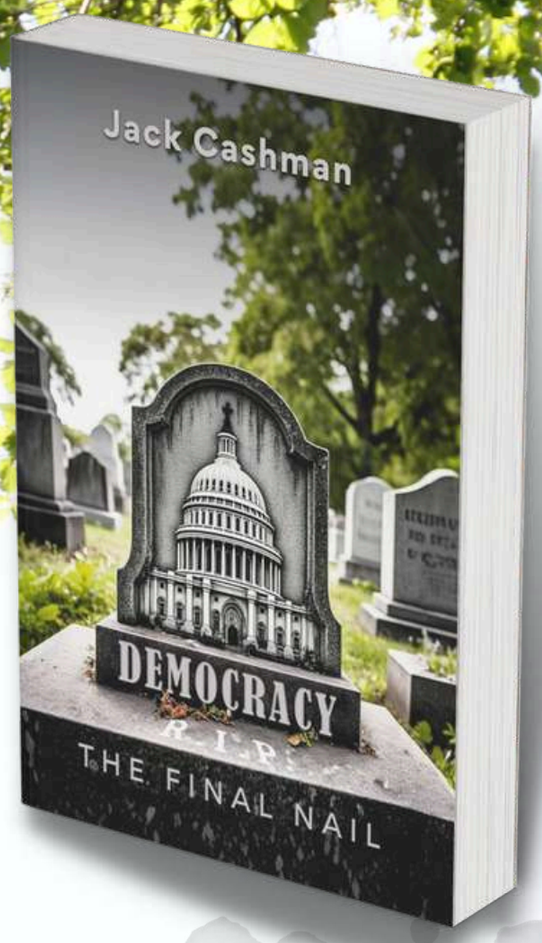
It was important to me to write a fantasy for a young audience because that is what I am comfortable with. I have been around children all my life, and I know they are always looking for some kind of make-believe adventure story. I think that children are very special and if I can help shape their minds and give them something to explore and imagine, not really give them nightmares, but to give them something to help create in their own world. Then I have done my job as a writer. I also think that if a child likes what he is reading then they are apt to read more, so I just want to help little readers everywhere.

As a self-published author who is now seeking traditional publishing, what have you learned from the self-publishing journey, and what are your hopes and goals for finding a traditional home for your stories?

I am happy as my books are out there and they are being sold all over the world. My biggest hope is that someday a traditional publisher will come across my books and love at least one of them, then I will be on my way to stardom. As I would love more then anything to see one of books, "The Dream Champion" but especially the "Object" books as a movie someday as well.

DEMOCRACY
THE FINAL NAIL

By Jack Cashman



How could our cherished Democracy, which thousands have died to protect, morph into a functioning Oligarchy? The constitutional principles of checks and balances, and of separation of powers have become all but irrelevant. We now accept as normal the scandalous amounts of money corrupting all three branches of our government. This book examines the 40-year decline of the principles of our democracy as established by our founding fathers. We have traded those principles off in favor of a system totally controlled by money. It further examines the current danger of the Oligarchy we have created taking the next logical step to Autocracy. Finally, the book offers some steps that could be taken to return us to a government of the people.

However, until the American people demand more honesty, more integrity, and more dedication to service from their elected leaders, we will continue our decline.

AVAILABLE AT





JACK CASHMAN

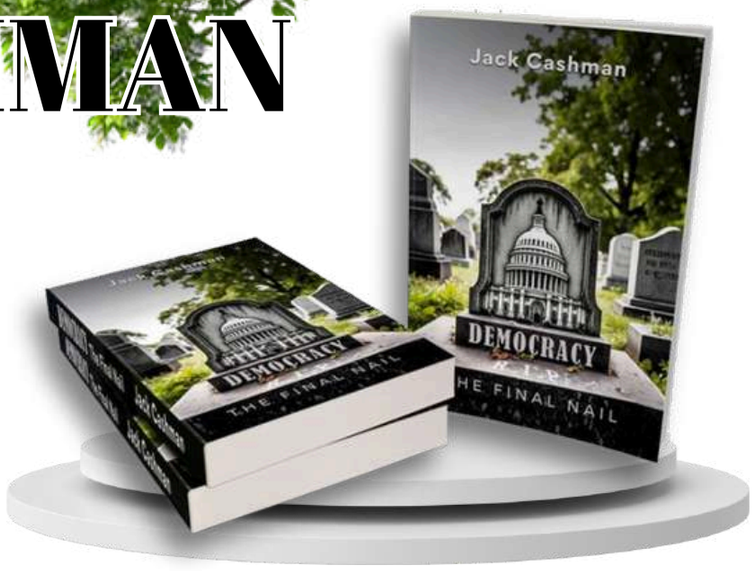
Jack Cashman's career has put him in a number of roles, although the title of "Amazon Best Selling Author" is a relatively new one. Coming from a background of small business ownership, real estate, and insurance, Cashman was first elected to serve in the Maine House of Representatives in 1982.

After five terms in office and some time away from state government, he returned to public service in 2003 in a variety of roles with the administration of Maine Governor John Baldacci. Cashman's first book, An Irish Immigrant Story, was published in 2018 as a historical novel based on the story of his own family's journey from Ireland to the United States during the time of the Potato Famine.

Cashman's unique background of business owner, elected office-holder, and government official combine with his creative mind to bring together a collection of stories unlike any author working today. Jack has spent nearly all of his life in Maine, and currently lives in Hampden with his wife of nearly 50 years, Betty. They are the proud parents of two sons and grandparents of five granddaughters.

JACK CASHMAN

THE INTERVIEW



Your book argues that American democracy has morphed into a "functioning oligarchy." Given your experience as a small business owner, a state representative, and a government official, which of these roles provided you with the most compelling evidence for this shift?

Having run campaigns for myself and for others I have seen firsthand the ever-increasing influence of money in our system.

You state that the constitutional principles of checks and balances and separation of powers have become "irrelevant." What specific moment or political event in your career solidified this conclusion for you?

The constitution grants the 'power of the purse' as well as the authority to establish Tariffs to the Congress. In January at the beginning of the second Trump administration the Congress abdicated their authority in both areas turning it over to the administration. Subsequently, the Administration has completely ignored a number of Court rulings so that the Congress as well as the Courts have been rendered irrelevant.

Your career has given you a unique perspective from different angles. Can you describe the distinct view of the "scandalous amounts of money corrupting all three branches of our government" and the "40-year decline" you document in your book?

As an Office holder and as a businessman I have seen the decline of the American Middle Class and the corruption of our political system firsthand.

Your first book, "An Irish Immigrant Story," was a historical novel. How did your writing process and mindset change when you transitioned from writing a historical narrative to a sharp political analysis like "DEMOCRACY: The Final Nail"?

I wrote my first non-fiction book for the simple reason that I'm tremendously disturbed by what is happening to my country.

Your book examines a 40-year decline. Can you identify the singular event or trend you believe was the most critical turning point in this shift from a government "of the people" to one "controlled by money"?

Two events have triggered the change, the advent of 'trickle down economics' has created a wealth and income gap as a small class of people at the top have become tremendously wealthy. The Supreme Court ruling in 'Citizens United' has created an avenue for that group to use their wealth to control our government.

You conclude with a call for the American people to demand more honesty and integrity from their leaders. From your perspective, what is the single most effective way for an average citizen to initiate this change?

Americans need to open their eyes to what is happening to our country and use their right to vote to elect people with integrity.

The book warns of the danger of an oligarchy moving toward autocracy. What are the key warning signs or societal shifts that you believe signal this transition is already underway?

The loss of an effective system of checks and balances and the concentration of authority into an executive branch that has no interest in following the constitution.

As a politician who has served in the Maine House of Representatives, how do you see the role of local and state governments in either resisting or contributing to the national decline you describe?

A number of State Governments over the past 8 years have worked to make voting more difficult thereby limiting the right to vote. Most recently we have witnessed the scandalous gerrymandering in Texas.

Your book offers "some steps" to return to a government "of the people." If you could distill your solution into one core principle, what would it be, and why do you believe it is the most vital step?

Limit campaign time and take money out of the system. Many of our elected and appointed leaders are overly influenced by the money given by wealthy donors.

THE JACK CASHMAN BOOK COLLECTION



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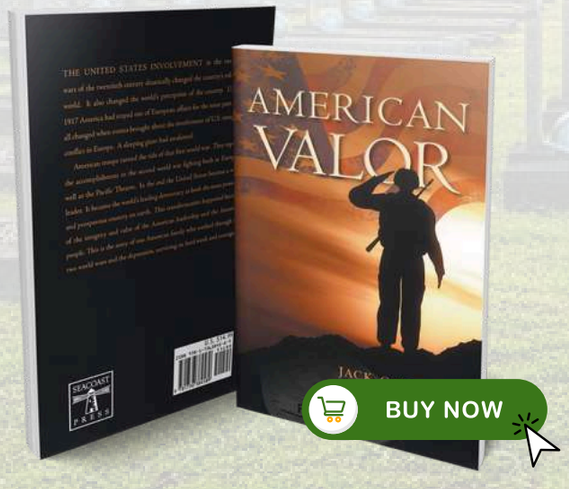

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USA TODAY BEST SELLING AUTHOR

MISTY M. BELLER



USA TODAY BEST SELLING AUTHOR

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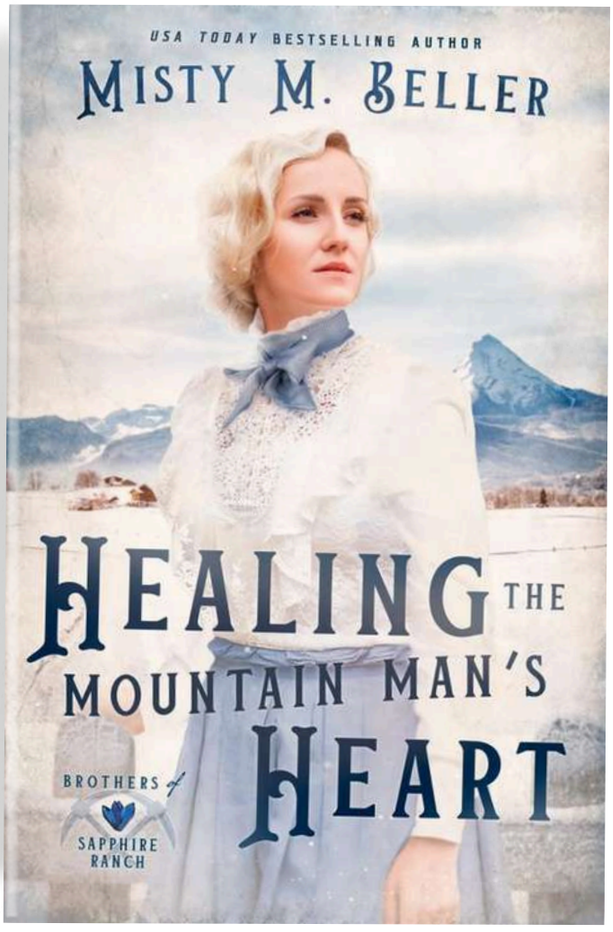


Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 1

In the wild Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch is built on loyalty…and guarded by a hidden sapphire mine.

Jericho Coulter, eldest of six brothers, vows to protect his family and their secret. Outsiders are forbidden, yet two women arrive—one claiming to be his mail-order bride.

Dinah Wyatt, a determined doctor, won't let her twin face the frontier alone. When a younger Coulter brother is gravely injured, she must prove her skill and earn their trust.

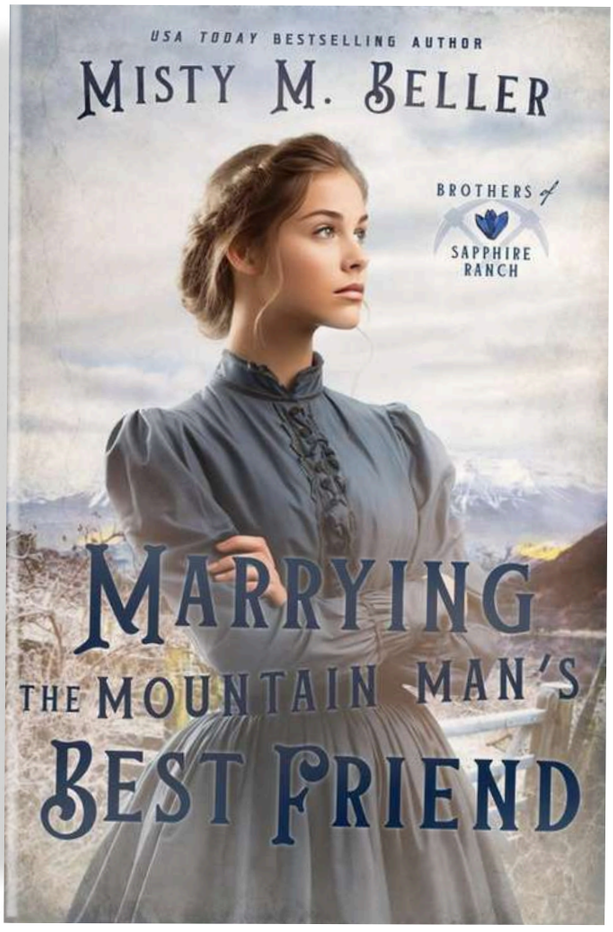
As Dinah and Jericho clash and sparks fly, both discover that love may be the most precious treasure of all.

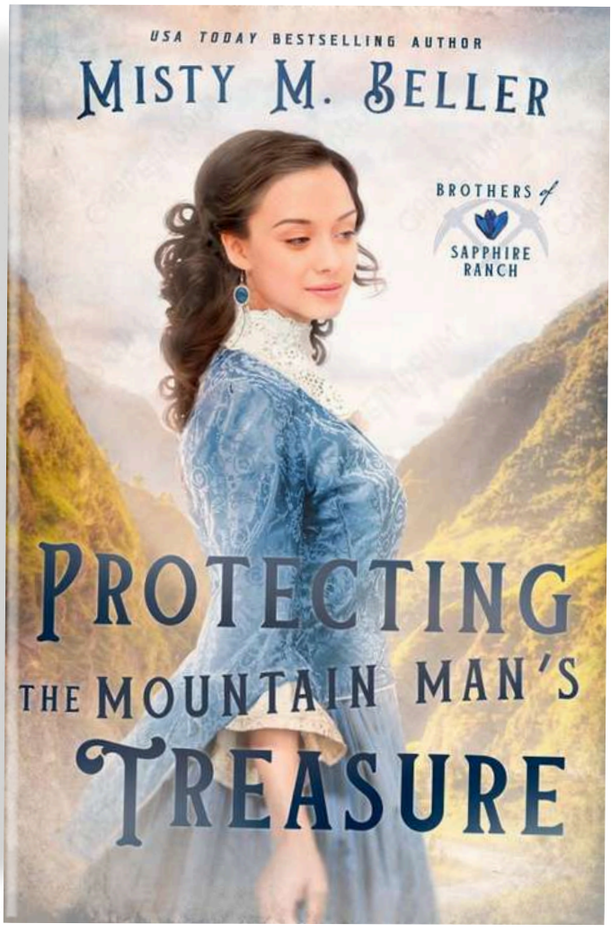
Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 2

In the Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch guards family, loyalty…and a hidden fortune.

Two Stones, caught between his Salish heritage and the mining towns, lives as an outsider, trading goods but never finding home. Summoned to Virginia City before Christmas, he is shocked when a dying friend asks him to marry his daughter.

Heidi longs for independence, yet her father's wish ties her to a man she barely knows. When danger strikes, she realizes she isn't safe alone. Forced together on a perilous journey, Two Stones and Heidi may discover that love itself is the greatest treasure.





Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 3

In the Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch is built on family, loyalty, and a hidden fortune—but one brother wakes to a bride he doesn't remember.

Jude Coulter, more at ease in his family's sapphire mine than New York City, is injured on his return journey west. When he regains consciousness, Angela Larkin insists they are newlyweds. In truth, she's a Treasury agent, using his memory loss to uncover the sapphires' source.

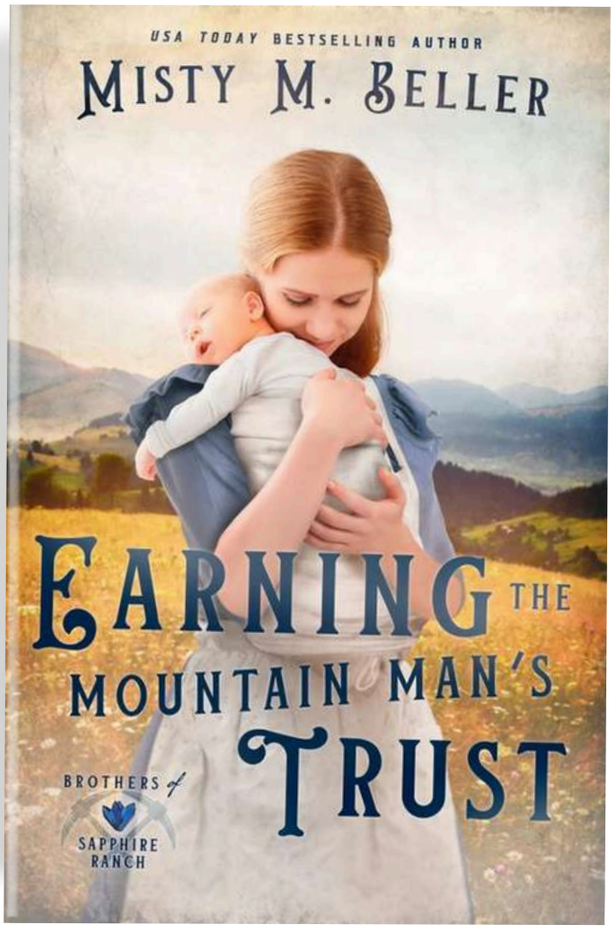
As enemies close in, their dangerous ruse for survival ignites an unexpected passion. But will love endure once Jude learns the truth?

Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 4

In the Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch is a place of family, second chances...and a hidden fortune.

Naomi Wyatt has accepted that the man she once loved is gone, leaving her to raise their baby alone. With Jonah Coulter offering a stable home and a father's love for her child, she begins to hope for a new future.

But Eric LaGrange never stopped loving Naomi—and when he discovers she's in Montana, he comes determined to reclaim both her and their daughter. Torn between past and present, Naomi must choose who truly holds her heart as danger closes in.





Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 5

In the Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch is a place of family, second chances…and a hidden fortune.

Jonah Coulter, the second of six brothers, longs for more than being someone's second choice. When his family shelters a lost child, he sets out to find her aunt, hoping the reunion will bring purpose.

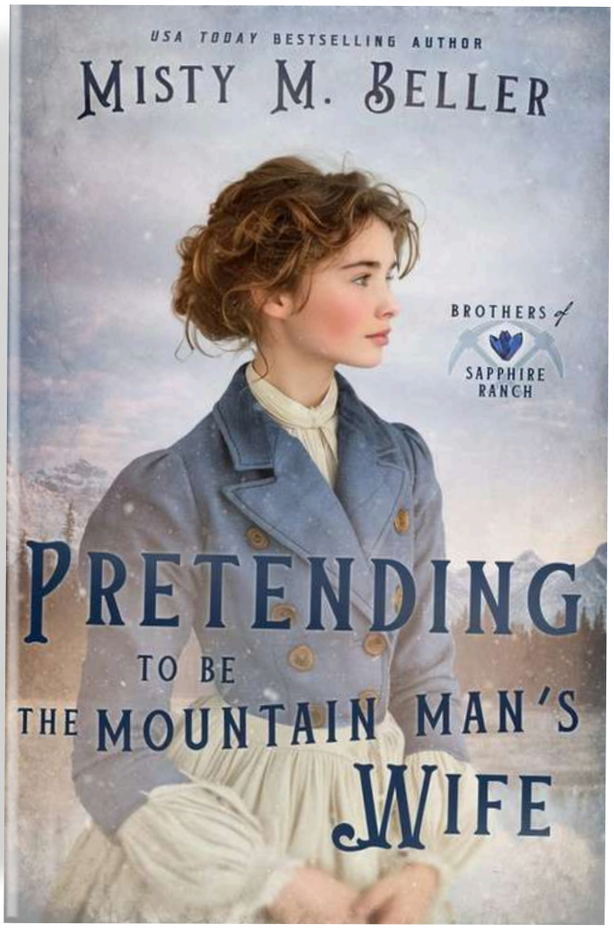
Patience Whitman, a widow hiding from a deadly past, has rebuilt her life through grit and skill. But when Jonah reveals her niece is in Montana, she must face her fears. As danger closes in, Jonah and Patience must risk everything for family, trust—and a chance at love.

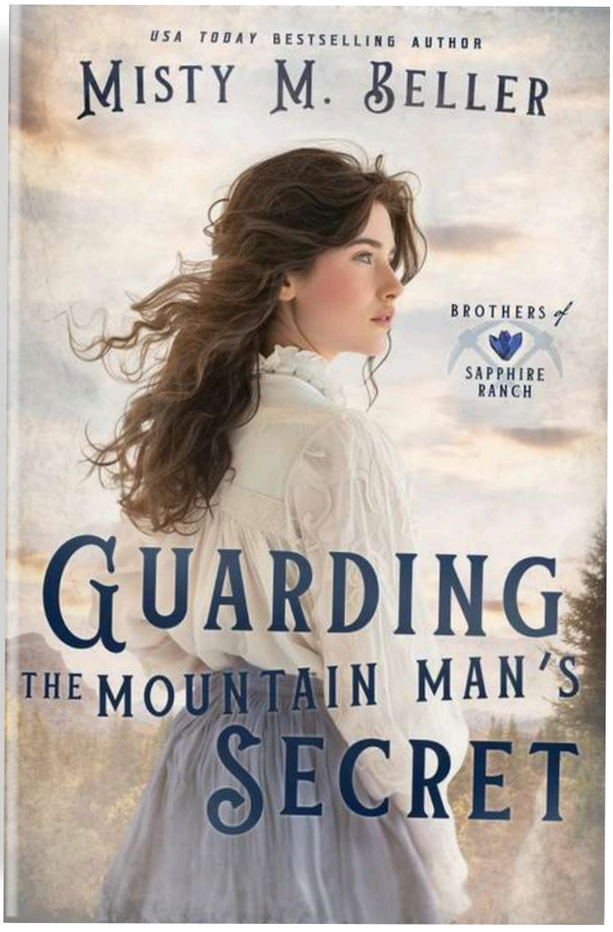
Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 6

In the Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch is bound by family, second chances…and a hidden fortune.

Gil Coulter sets out alone to find his missing brother and unmask the thief stealing their sapphires. Instead, he discovers Jess McPharland, trapped in her father's illicit mining camp and desperate to escape before a terrible fate is forced upon her.

Jess bargains with Gil: she'll reveal his brother's location if he helps her flee, posing as her husband. Amid peril and deception, their fragile alliance sparks into love—but can it survive her father's deadly greed?





Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 7

In the Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch is built on family, second chances…and a hidden fortune.

Miles Coulter, the youngest brother, has long guarded his family's sapphire mine. When a survey team arrives, suspicion rises—until Clara Pendleton captures his heart. After her uncle's accident forces them to seek refuge with the Coulters, Clara finds safety—and unexpected love—in Miles's quiet strength.

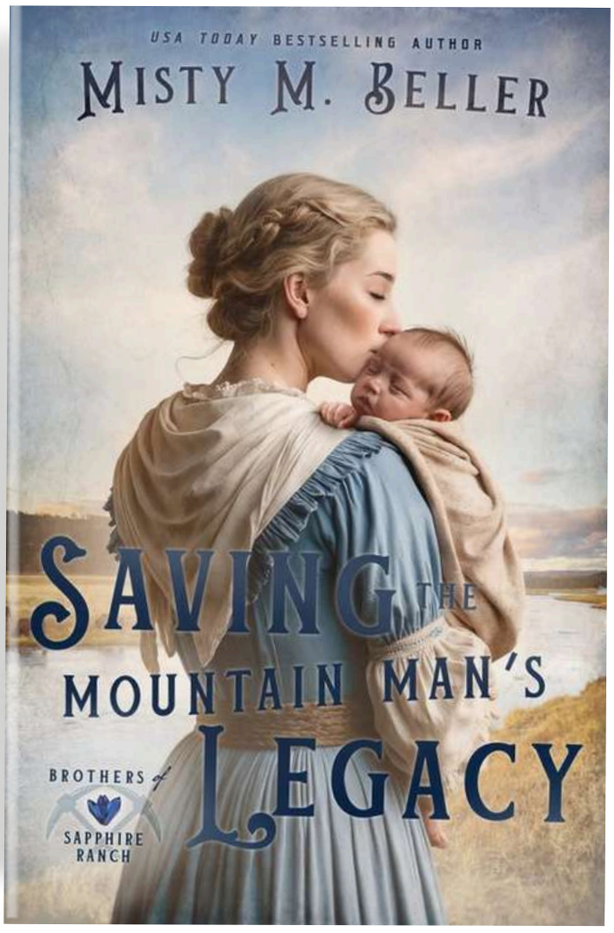
But mysterious attacks threaten them all, and Clara uncovers the family's secret. With Christmas near, she must choose: protect the man she loves or risk everything to keep his family safe.

Brothers of Sapphire Ranch – Book 8

In the wild mountains of the Montana Territory, the Coulter ranch is a place of family, second chances…and a hidden fortune.

In the gripping finale of the Brothers of Sapphire Ranch series, Sampson Coulter is deeply embedded in the mining empire of the ruthless Mick McPharland. After months of undercover work, he's on the brink of dismantling the entire operation from within.

But his plan is jeopardized when he encounters Jewel and her newborn baby, the family of McPharland's right-hand man. As Sampson prepares to bring down the empire, he must choose between justice and the lives of innocent souls caught in the crossfire. Will he risk everything to protect them, or will his mission of redemption consume them all?



MISTY M. BELLER



Romantic mountain stories, set on the 1800s frontier and woven with the truth of God's love.

I love books. I always have, and my love affair only grows stronger.

There's something about immersing myself in a story – becoming an intimate part of new lives, feeling their struggles. The desperation, the elation, the emotions, the love.

I don't know about you, but my life can get crazy…busy…chaotic. Historical fiction gives me a haven, allowing me to immerse in a simpler time and place. And add in remote mountain settings – log cabins and horses and snow…what could be better?

As a Godly woman, Christian romantic fiction is even more of a draw because it provides a place where I don't always have to be concerned about inappropriate language or too-graphic love scenes. It's a "safe zone" where my imagination and emotions can run wild and free, living out exciting times and experiencing God-orchestrated happily-ever-afters – without having to clean-up at the end of the day.

I hope you'll spend some time with me, releasing yourself into the abandon of a great book.

BOOKS AVAILABLE AT

WWW.MISTYMBELLER.COM

ON THE WINGS OF ANGELS – SERIES 1

Sinful Oath



The hangman's rope in Tyburn is long. The dance, the Tyburn jig, at the end of it...short.
In 1618 London, amidst cobblestone streets crawling with danger, Elizabeth Bowmar—'the tall midwife with ice-blue eyes that helps those in need'—walked into Newgate Prison thinking the ultimate challenge God put before her was surviving it; but there was more. There was what lay at the heart of her greatest fears.

After swearing an oath to God to protect an innocent child from unjust pain, Elizabeth is propelled into a world where secrets are currency and every truth uncovered bears a price. As riots loom and whispers of rebellion echo throughout London, Elizabeth's determination to uncover a web of deceit thrusts her into the shadowy circles of power and peril.

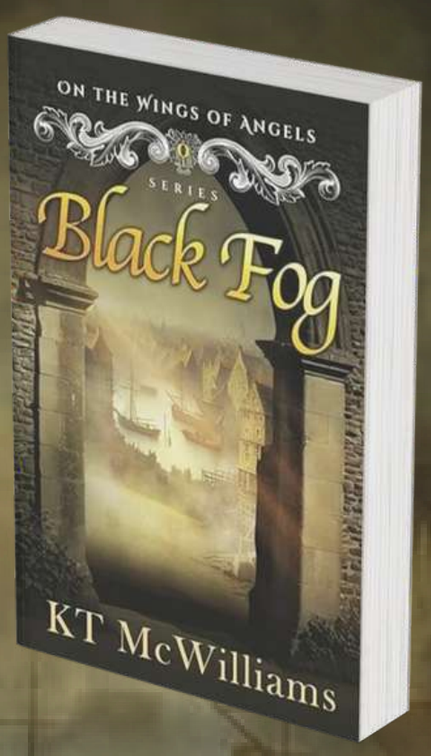
Paired with a dashing bachelor whose notorious reputation hides deeper secrets, together they unearth secrets that powerful individuals will kill to protect. Haunted by the demons of her past, courage becomes as crucial as faith, as Elizabeth fights against the rising tide of corruption that threatens to engulf her.

Will she gain justice by finding the evidence to expose the sinister truth and reclaim her future? Will her vow bring redemption, or will it condemn her and the child she swore to protect?

BUY THE BOOK

ON THE WINGS OF ANGELS – SERIES 2

Black Fog



In a world where kindness battles cruelty, one woman's quest for truth becomes a fight for survival and divine justice

Amid the fog-drenched cobblestone streets of 1618 London, Elizabeth Bowmar is caught in a dangerous web of suspicion.

When a man is found murdered shortly after a public altercation with Elizabeth, she becomes the prime suspect. Evidence linking her to the crime threatens not only her freedom, but endangers her dream of becoming a licensed midwife.

Elizabeth finds herself in a perilous race against time. As suspicions mount and the threat of arrest looms over her, she must unravel the truth behind the murder. Her quest is further complicated by Peter-the-son Chamberlen, whose relentless pursuit and hidden motives weave a tangled path through her search for justice. As she dodges his advances and uncovers layers of deceit, Elizabeth's faith and resilience are tested.

With Peter's father holding evidence that could destroy Elizabeth's future, every moment counts in her bid to prove her innocence. While the city's dark alleys hold tight to their secrets, Elizabeth's determination pierces the black fog, driving her toward the truth

BUY THE BOOK

KT McWilliams



Katy McWilliams swapped her corporate heels for slip-ons in her cozy Maine retreat, embracing a new chapter full of mystery and meaning. With over twenty books to her name, she's now bringing to life the characters and stories that keep her up at night. Supported by her “fur babies” and a community of family and friends cheering her on, Katy writes for people who love getting lost in a good story.



WWW.KTMCWILLIAMS.COM

A HOUSE WITCHES MYSTERY SERIES BOOK 1

Witches and Fairies and Tacos... Oh My



Charli Quinn and her sister Brielle own House Witches Cleaning and promise to clean like magic. They may not be your everyday, run-of-the-mill witches, but they are... something.

When Charli finds the husband of one of their clients dead, the wind warns her to beware the man with eyes of green. As the sisters search for the ominous man, they find themselves in danger and rely on their real magic to outsmart the killer.

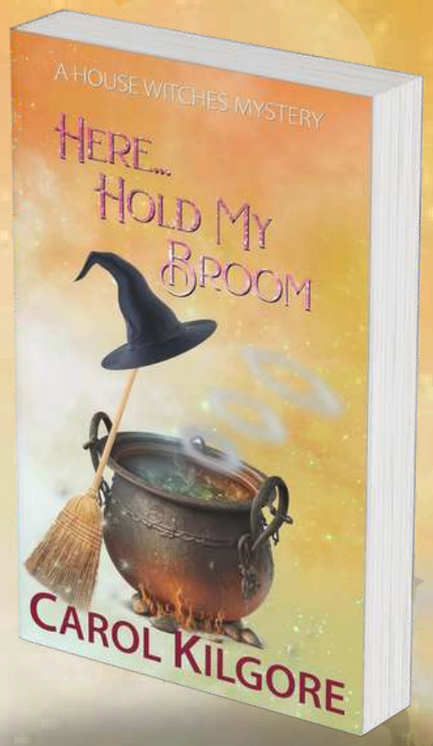
Along the way, Charli and Brielle have help from a group of fairies, and even a talking cow. And Charli falls head over broomstick for a tall, sexy deputy with dreamy blue eyes who saves her from being hijacked by a water sprite.

Of course, it wouldn't be Texas without tacos.

BUY THE BOOK

A HOUSE WITCHES MYSTERY SERIES BOOK 2

Here... Hold My Broom



What if Cinderella were a man and the prince a witch? A wicked good witch.

Strange happenings in the magic realm are turning Brielle Quinn's life upside down. She's been told to let things happen on their own and not to interfere. So difficult—and unfair!

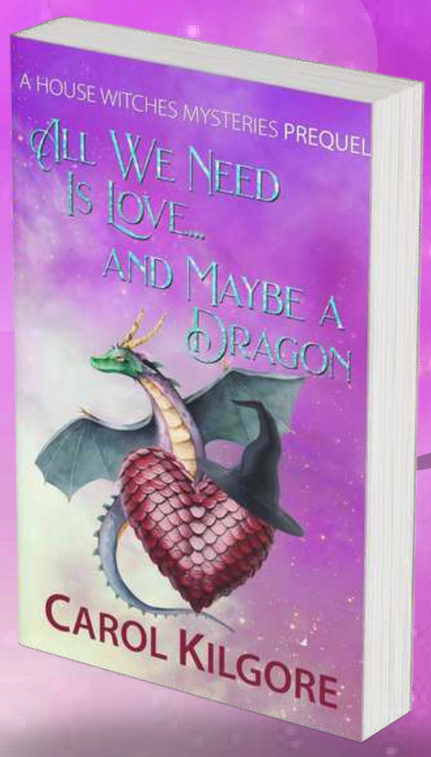
On the night of her neighbor's birthday party, Brielle's drunk a little too much tequila. While on her way back to her home next door, a man calls to her and plants the kiss of a lifetime on her lips. Only thing is, Brielle doesn't have the first clue about who he is. Or what he looks like. Yet she can't get him out of her mind. Or the taste of his kiss off her lips. How is she ever going to find him?

Add in a cryptic vision, a cigar-smoking messenger, and three newcomers to Satcher Glen, each with a mystery to unravel. Could one of these be the man who had kissed her? And how can she find the answer without interfering with the magic realm?

BUY THE BOOK

A HOUSE WITCHES MYSTERY PREQUEL

All We Need is Love... and Maybe a Dragon



A dragon? Really?

Yes!

But not just any dragon. This dragon is filled with attitude and has an urgent problem. And he has a friend with a dilemma, who also needs Charli and Brielle's help.

Can they solve both matters in the short time they've been given?

BUY THE BOOK

Carol Kilgore

“I love this type of story about magic and family and love. But this series is even more fun for me to read because I live in Magnolia, Texas and even though the town and county are fictional, a lot of other places mentioned are real and I feel like I know exactly where the characters are while living their fictional story.” **-Melodie Anderson**

“The characters are delightful had me smiling as I read. I liked the way the story evolved. The witchy powers each sister had were unusual which I liked.” **-Mary Purrington**

"Love these characters and the peaceful way they live. This one had fun twists and a happy ending! Makes you want to walk in the restaurant and become part of their family." **-Kindle Customer**



Carol Kilgore is the award-winning author of the House Witches Mysteries. The first book in this series is Witches and Fairies and Tacos... Oh My. Like her other books, the House Witches series is set in Texas.

Carol is also the author of the Amazing Gracie Mysteries, consisting of the three books that make up the Amazing Gracie Trilogy and the standalone Gracie and the Trouble with Pinatas. In addition, she is the author of In Name Only, Solomon’s Compass, and Secrets of Honor, three standalone romantic suspense novels.

She and her husband live northwest of Houston with the sweetest rescue beagle ever, who wishes they dropped more food on the floor.

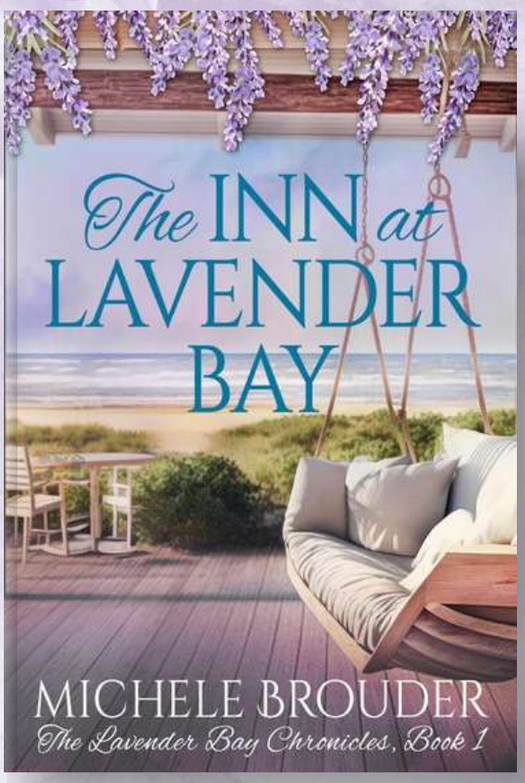
WWW.CAROLKILGORE.NET



MICHELE BROUDER

Michele Brouder writes women's fiction, contemporary sweet romance and young adult paranormal. She is the author of the Hideaway Bay series, the Escape to Ireland series, the Happy Holidays series and the Soul Saver series.

Originally from western New York, Michele has lived in the southwest of Ireland since 2006. She lives with her husband, two boys, and a black lab named Rover and three barn cats, Jennie, Billy, and Silly. The beach is her go to place: any beach, any weather, any time.



Nadine Eberhardt's seemingly perfect world crumbles when a stranger arrives on her doorstep, exposing her husband's long-buried secret—a love child she never knew existed. The revelation tears apart the life she built and forces her to confront the painful truth about love, trust, and forgiveness. Seeking solace, Nadine returns to Lavender Bay, hoping that the familiar rhythm of her hometown and the warmth of family can help her rebuild what's left of her heart.

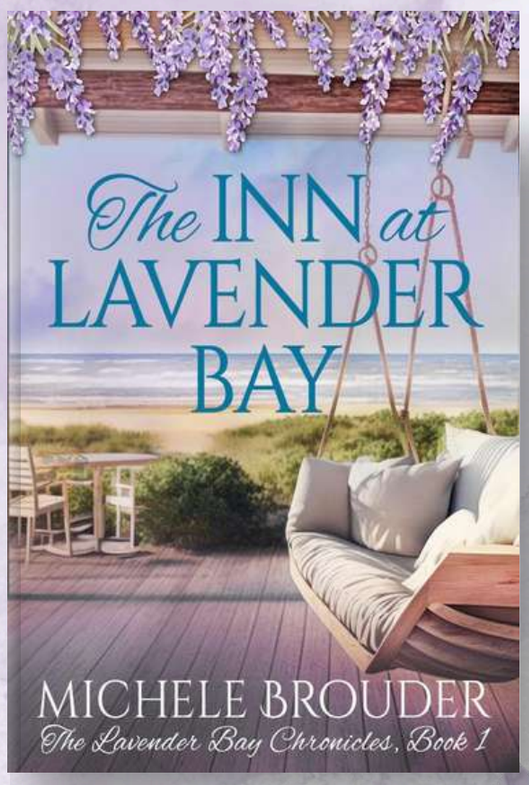
In 1932, sisters Lenore and Laura Wainwright face their own reckoning when tragedy strikes, testing the limits of loyalty and love. As Lenore struggles to rise from the ruins of loss, she must decide whether to let Laura back into her life—or let the past divide them forever.

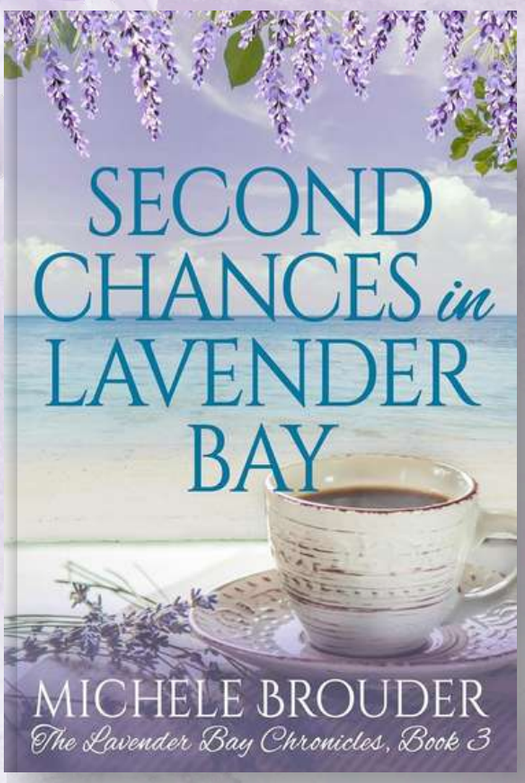
Across generations, two women's stories intertwine in the small seaside town of Lavender Bay, where heartbreak lingers—but healing always finds a way home.

Maureen Peterson, the eldest of the Cook sisters, has always been the dependable one—the glue that holds her family together. To outsiders, her life seems enviable: a happy marriage, three beautiful children, and a thriving career. Yet behind the polished façade, cracks begin to form. Her constant striving for perfection strains her family and forces Maureen to question what truly matters most—appearance or authenticity.

Laura Hadley has spent years haunted by a mistake that shattered her sister's trust and left her isolated in their small town. Marked by shame and struggling to rebuild her life, she faces fresh trials when war reaches Lavender Bay. Amid loss and uncertainty, a kind man's love offers her hope and a chance at redemption.

Separated by decades but bound by courage, Maureen and Laura's stories intertwine through the timeless struggle to heal, forgive, and rediscover strength in the heart of Lavender Bay.





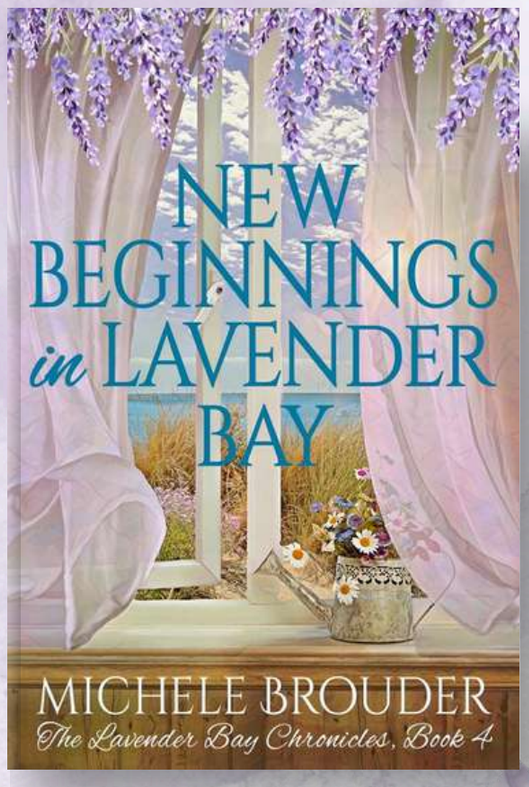
Angie Cook pours her heart and soul into Coffee Girl, the café she built from the ground up. Ambitious and determined, she runs every detail with precision, leaving little room for rest—or romance. Her only distraction is Java Joe, the rival shop across the street, and its annoyingly charming owner. But when a sudden health diagnosis halts her relentless pace, Angie is forced to confront what she's been avoiding: her own well-being. As she slows down and begins to see life beyond business, she learns that success means little without balance, love, and self-care.

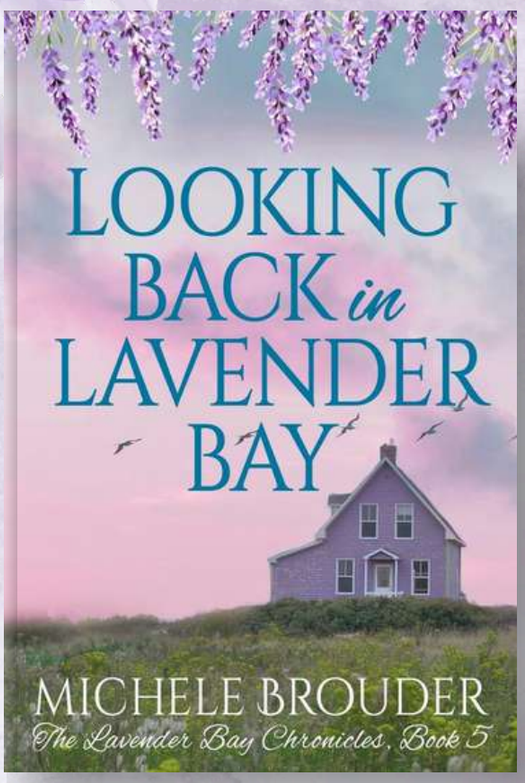
After a devastating accident at the Cheever Aviation plant, Diana Quinn's once-bright future vanishes overnight. Scarred and withdrawn, she finds purpose in her sewing, crafting beauty from fabric while hiding from the world. Yet within her quiet solitude flickers a fragile hope—one that may lead her to rediscover courage, connection, and the will to live fully once more.

DeeDee Cook, the vivacious youngest of the Cook sisters, once left Lavender Bay chasing fame and freedom. Determined to escape her sisters' shadows, she carved out a career in acting—until everything came crashing down. When scandal and failure send her home in defeat, it's her family who welcomes her back with open arms. Now, faced with starting over, DeeDee must confront her past ambitions and rediscover what truly defines success, love, and belonging.

As she approaches her hundredth birthday, heiress Grace Gibson looks back on a remarkable life shaped by courage and sacrifice. Born into privilege yet longing for purpose, she volunteered with the Red Cross during World War II, leaving behind luxury for a world torn by conflict. Amid chaos and loss, Grace discovered strength, compassion, and love in the unlikeliest places.

Across generations, both women face the same timeless question—what does it truly mean to live a life of purpose and heart?



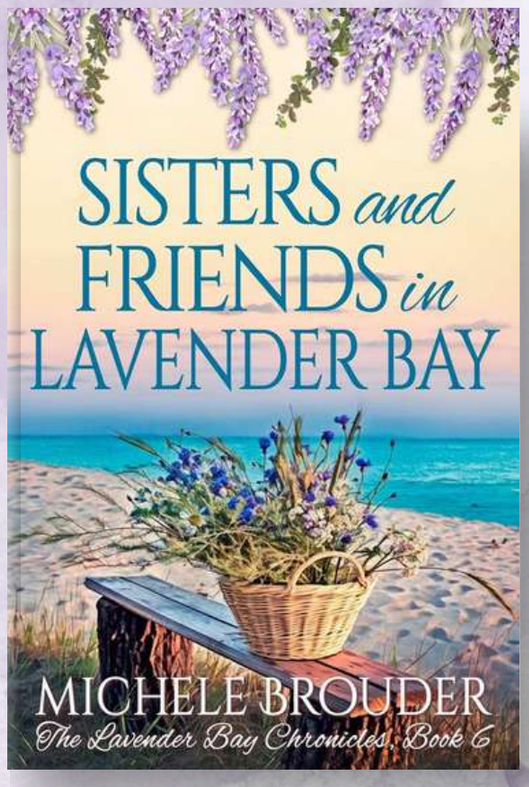


Esther and Suzanne have always been more than sisters—they've been best friends. But cracks begin to appear in their relationship, threatening their once-unshakable bond. Each is convinced the other is making all the wrong choices, especially when it comes to love. As tensions rise, their relationship teeters on the edge of collapse.

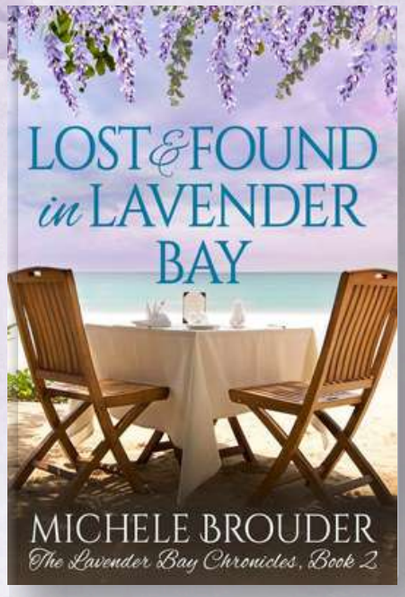
Meanwhile, the infamous feud between elderly sisters Edna Knickerbocker and Edith Bermingham has been the talk of the town for decades. No one remembers how it started, but Edna and Edith have never forgotten. Now, with one of them gravely ill, long-buried secrets resurface, and the question remains: after nearly seventy years of resentment, can they forgive and forget?

Debbie Melvin grew up believing the Cooks were the family she should have had. Her own? Difficult at best. But when her sharp-tongued mother's accident forces them together, the past comes to light, revealing painful truths that leaves Debbie with more questions than answers.

Louise Cook and Gail Campbell are as close as sisters can be—twin flames, some say. To outsiders, it's always seemed that way. But there was a time when it wasn't. In the turbulent 1970s, their bond was frayed by flying hairbrushes and slammed doors. Then, on a sweltering night in the summer of 1975, everything changed. A single event drew them together—but not without cost. Unfortunately, not everyone escaped unscathed, and the events of that night reverberated down through to the next generation.







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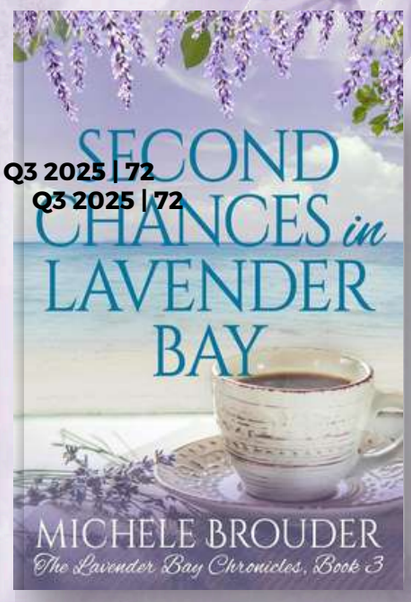

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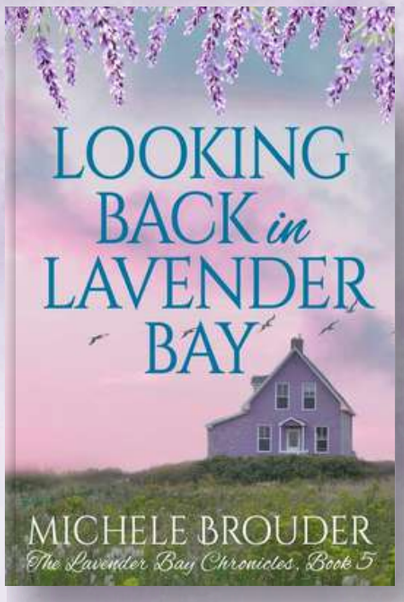



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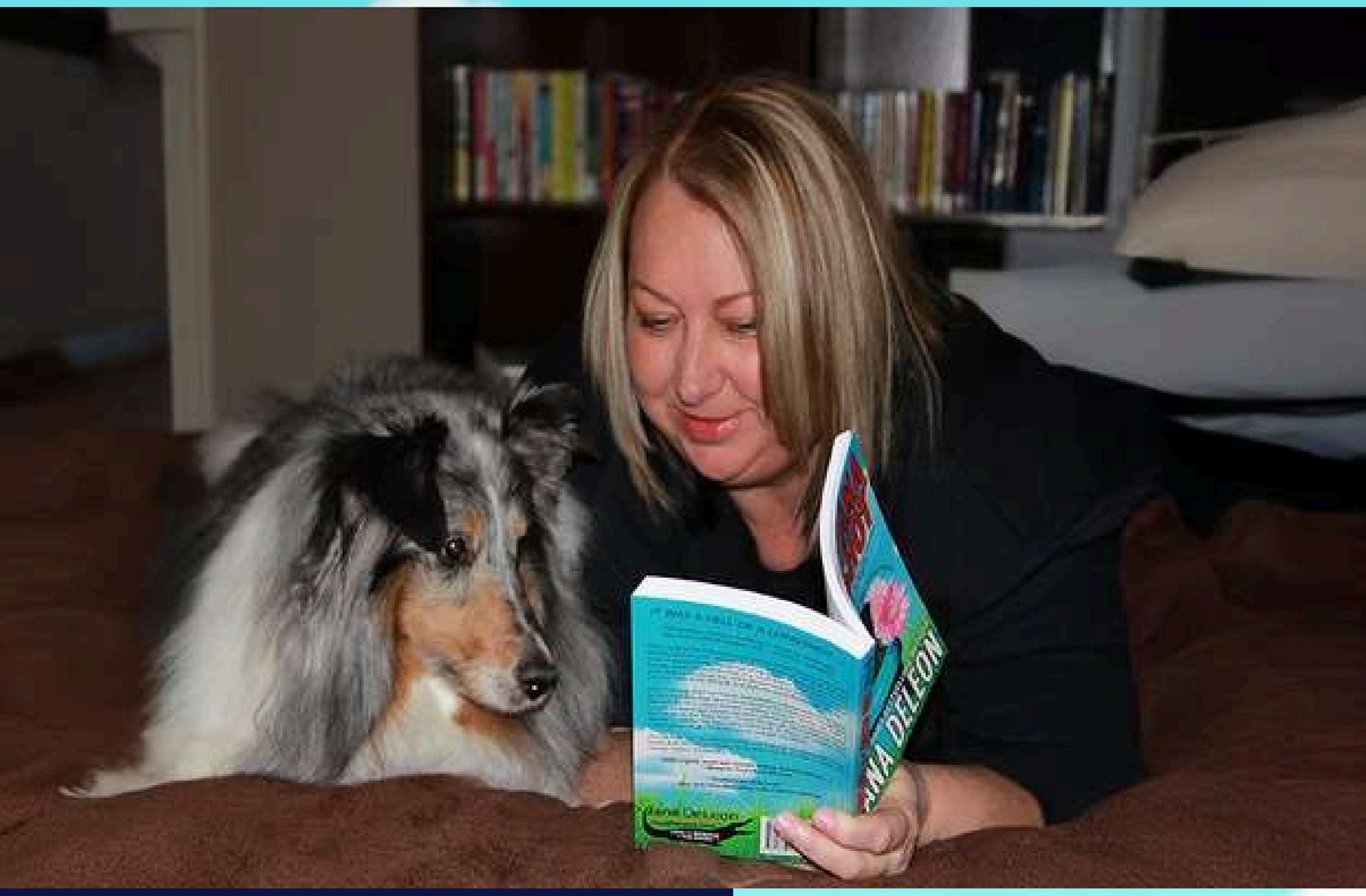

NYT & USA TODAY BESTSELLING AUTHOR

JANA DELEON

Jana has never stumbled across a mystery or a ghost like her heroines, but she's still hopeful.

WWW.JANADELEON.COM

New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and USA Today bestselling author Jana DeLeon was raised in southwest Louisiana among the bayous and gators. Her hometown is Carlyss, but you probably won't find it on a map. Her family owned a camp located on a bayou just off the Gulf of Mexico that you could only get to by boat. The most important feature was the rope hammock hanging in the shade on a huge deck that stretched out over the water where Jana spent many hours reading books.

Jana and her brother spent thousands of hours combing the bayous in a flat-bottomed aluminum boat, studying the natural habitat of many birds, nutria and alligators. She would like you to know that no animals were injured during these "studies," but they kept makers of peroxide in business.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

How do you define Indie? Are you indie?

An indie author is a writer who independently publishes their work. That does not mean that indies don't hire out tasks such as formatting, editing and cover design, but an indie author always maintains rights to their books and maintains control of pricing and distribution.

Talk about the work behind becoming a New York Times bestseller? Is there a particular formula for getting there?

I know some authors would love for me to say "yes, there's a formula" but I'd be lying. Hitting a bestseller list is a combination of writing a book that resonates with readers and timing of release. Writing a series usually helps build readership more quickly than individual title. Using a pre-order button can garner you a bulk drop of sales that help hit bestseller list. Having direct contact with your readers through newsletters, Facebook, Twitter and other social media can help you gain enough velocity on release week to hit a bestseller list.

Tell us about your craft. Can you describe your editing process? Are you a heavy reviser?

I write a rough draft first and it has comments in the middle of the book and highlighted items like "check this" all over the copy. I make a pass to address all the things I've marked for research/verification then I make another pass to tweak things I might have slighted, such as description. I send the book to my editor after that and she flags any redundancy, inconsistency, and points out areas where things might not be clear.

When did you decide to become a writer?

I have written stories since elementary school, but I decided to attempt a career at my grandma's funeral. I had just finished reading a couple of Janet Evanovich books and had returned to Louisiana, for the first time in many year, to attend my grandma's funeral. As I was standing in the cemetery, watching the completely odd and absurd behavior of family and friends, I thought "If Janet can do it in New Jersey, then I can do it in Louisiana."

Who is your mentor? Who do you look up too?

My writing mentor is Jane Graves. She took me on at a local RWA group meeting and helped me fine-tune my writing so that I sold to a New York publisher. The writer I respect the most is Agatha Christie. She wrote very intricate mysteries that fooled readers by appearing deceptively simple. If I had one-tenth of her ability, I'd be thrilled.

Who are your supporters/cheerleaders?

My husband, who is also my marketing/promotions manager and runs my street team and never once considered that I couldn't succeed at writing fiction. My parents are my original street team members. I often receive email from readers who have been accosted in Walmart by one of them. They also give out autographed books and bookmarks while on vacation. And, of course, my author friends. No one really "gets" what we go through like another author. Having trusted author friends is an invaluable tool for emotional health.

What are some of your favorite books right now? Who are your favorite indie authors and why?

I've been on a horror reading kick lately and have enjoyed works by Blake Crouch and Scott Nicholson. I love Theresa Ragan's Lizzy Gardner Series. Her heroine is damaged in a way that is critical to the plots of the books. And Theresa does not hesitate to ratchet up the conflict at every opportunity. I also love the Rose Gardner Series by Denise Grover Swank [EDS NOTE: On this week's List Where Indies Count bestseller list!]. We share so many crossover readers that we're co-authoring a Christmas novella combining two of the main characters from each of our series in one story.

What was it like growing up in the bayou? When did your fascination with gators start?

I don't know that I'd call it a fascination as much as it was a reality. Gators were simply there as long as I can remember. My parents had a camp (Louisiana's name for "cabin") on a bayou off the Gulf of Mexico. You could only get there by boat. Gators were part of the experience whether they were sunbathing on the bank, swimming down the bayou, or caught on the pier when the tide went out.

The best part of bayou living is the seafood. My parents had a barge and we had three commercial deep freezers full of fresh shrimp, fish and crabs. It was completely normal for us to eat seafood several times a week. And my mom makes the absolute best fried shrimp ever.

What themes do you address in your books? What draws you to writing about those themes?

I address themes such as look deeper than the surface, you never really know someone, and family can be chosen. I am fascinated by criminals who manage to fool everyone around them for decades and wonder if those around never looked close enough or had their heads in the sand, or if the bad guy was simply that good at hiding all his secrets.

The family theme is a favorite of mine because so many people have family that they wouldn't choose. But you don't have to be blood relatives to be family.

Are your female heroines anti-heroines? Why or why not?

Several of my heroines are anti-heroines. They have careers unrelated to law enforcement and are forced into investigating as a form of self-protection. My heroine in the Miss Fortune series is a CIA assassin, but is deep undercover and her life is on the line if her cover is blown. So even though she has the ability to apprehend bad guys, she's better off if she remains uninvolved.



Talk about a low point in your writing career. How did you overcome it?

When Dorchester started to tank, I recognized (as a former accountant) the signs early on. I had a third book to write in a contract for a series that I had been really excited about when I sold it but that the publisher had essentially let die because of their financial problems. I knew the entire time I was writing that third book that I would never see another dime for it, but I had to wrap up an overarching mystery for readers because I did not want to leave them hanging. At that point, I had no other publisher and indie publishing was not yet a thing.

What do you love about writing? What do you struggle with?

JD: The thing I love most about writing is the thing I also struggle with the most. I wanted to write books because I love reading. Books were my escape from boredom or sadness or any other emotion that you might not want to face that moment. When I decided to write books, I hoped to give that same escape to other people that so many authors had given me.

Readers often write to me about how my books have helped them escape, and I love that, but the stories are so sad. So many people reading to dying relatives and reading my books while going through chemotherapy. I'm so happy that I'm helping them get through tough times, but at the same time, I wish the tough times would vanish.

What made you leave your full time job and chose writing? Were you scared?

Once my indie earning were over four times what I was making at my day job, I started thinking hard about quitting. The problem was, I had a really great day job. Great pay and benefits, no overtime, work from home days, flexible hours, no stress and I actually enjoyed the work. I probably wouldn't have quit except for a corporate shuffling that moved me to work for the one person in the company I thought was the most useless.
At that point, I wasn't scared because, being an accountant, I'd prepared. I had paid off all debt and had two years of salary in the bank. It was the perfect time to do it and I'm glad that I did. My career could never have taken off like it did if I hadn't had that additional time to devote to my indie work.

What's been the hardest novel you've ever written? Why was it so hard?

The hardest novel I've ever written was the third novel under the Dorchester contract. Knowing I'd never be paid aside, I had plans for the series to be long running. It killed me to take an awesome concept and wrap it up in only three books because of a company's financial mismanagement.



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BOOK REVIEW

Our narrator, "Fortune" Redding, is a veteran CIA assassin with a spotless record and a complicated past. The daughter of a legendary agent, she's grown up in the shadow of the intelligence world, her moral compass shaped by both loss and discipline. She's efficient, fearless, and unapologetic about her work—yet not without empathy. Beneath her stoic exterior lies a woman capable of deep compassion, especially for the innocent and endangered.

That very compassion lands her in trouble. On what should've been a routine undercover operation, a leak within the CIA exposes her identity. When she acts on impulse to save a trafficked child, the mission erupts into chaos. Fortune survives, but the fallout is deadly: a vengeful crime lord places a multimillion-dollar bounty on her head. To keep her safe, her boss hides her in the last place anyone would think to look—a sleepy bayou town in southern Louisiana called Sinful—under the identity of Sandy-Sue Morrow, a mild-mannered librarian and former beauty queen.

Life in Sinful proves anything but dull. Within hours of her arrival, a local dog drags home a human bone, reigniting a five-year-old mystery surrounding a wealthy, despised townsperson's disappearance. Suddenly, Fortune's "quiet" cover involves small-town intrigue, eccentric neighbors, and an unexpected murder investigation.

The mystery itself isn't particularly complex or realistic, but it's great fun. The pacing is tight, the humor quick, and Fortune's sardonic voice gives the story a unique edge. Though often labeled a "cozy mystery," this one edges closer to action-thriller territory, with scenes of genuine danger and a heroine who can fight her way out of just about anything.

That said, some of the humor overplays Southern stereotypes, turning the bayou locals into broad caricatures. Fortune herself occasionally buys into those clichés, rolling her eyes at rural life with an urban smugness that can grate. Still, author Jana DeLeon's affection for Louisiana's culture and quirks shines through, giving the novel warmth and charm beyond the laughs.

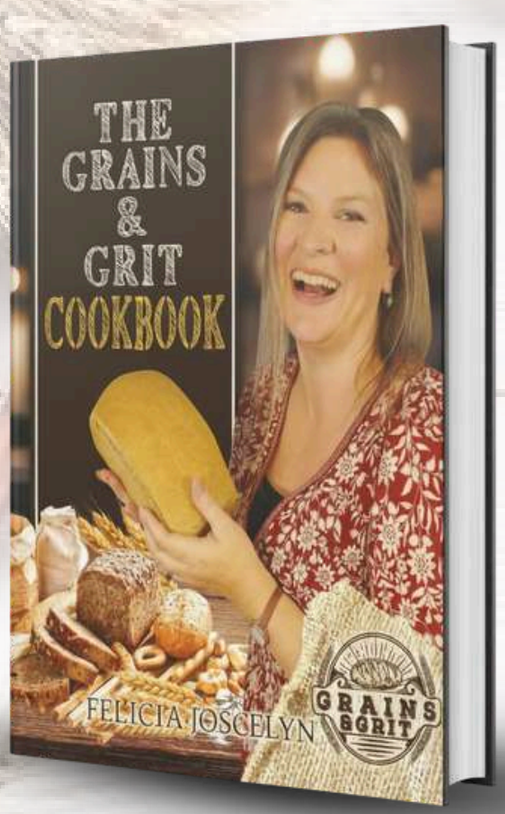
Despite minor flaws, this is a brisk, thoroughly entertaining read that blends suspense, humor, and character growth. Fortune Redding is a tough, likable lead with wit and heart, and her introduction promises a lively series ahead. With no romance, little profanity, and a focus on friendship and self-discovery, Louisiana Longshot is a satisfying blend of mystery, action, and Southern flavor.

FELICIA JOSCELYN

Felicia has been milling her grains since 2011 and hasn't stopped. She is passionate about teaching others about REAL bread and REAL whole grains all from a Biblical perspective. Thanks to flour disappearing from shelves in 2020 and an increase of people wanting to know about freshly milled grains, she started her YouTube channel, **Grains & Grit**, in 2021 to give people the information she wished she had when she started her home-milling journey. Now, she teaches hundreds of thousands of people how to unlock the health and simplicity of biblical whole grains. Felicia is a native Floridian and lives in the countryside of North-Central Florida with her husband, Joshua, and a van-load of children who never stop eating.



THE GRAINS & GRIT COOKBOOK



#1 IN AMAZON'S NEW RELEASES FOR COOKBOOKS

Containing literally dozens of tried-and-true recipes using only 100% freshly milled whole grains, this incredible cookbook goes so much farther. Truly, this is a crash course on why whole grains are so good for us, how to master home milling, what the Bible has to say about whole grains, tried-and-true techniques for working with freshly-milled flour in any recipe, and so much more! Thousands of people have learned from Felicia's groundbreaking videos. And now, you can have her entire system in your hands. *The Grains & Grit Cookbook* is your complete guide to becoming a home milling and grains expert!

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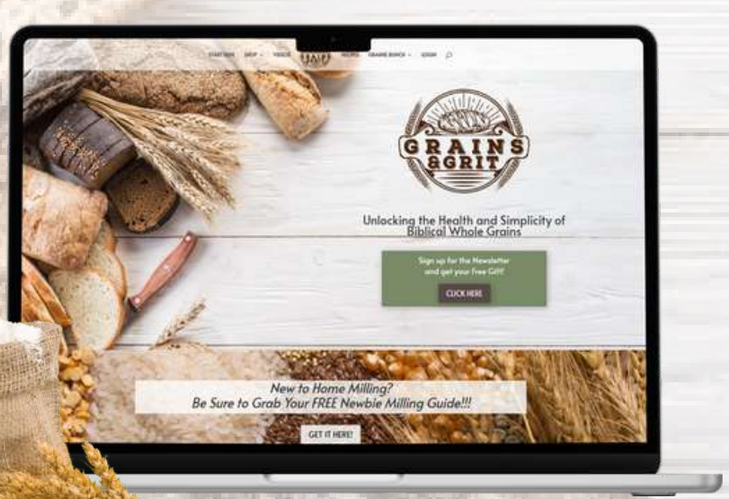
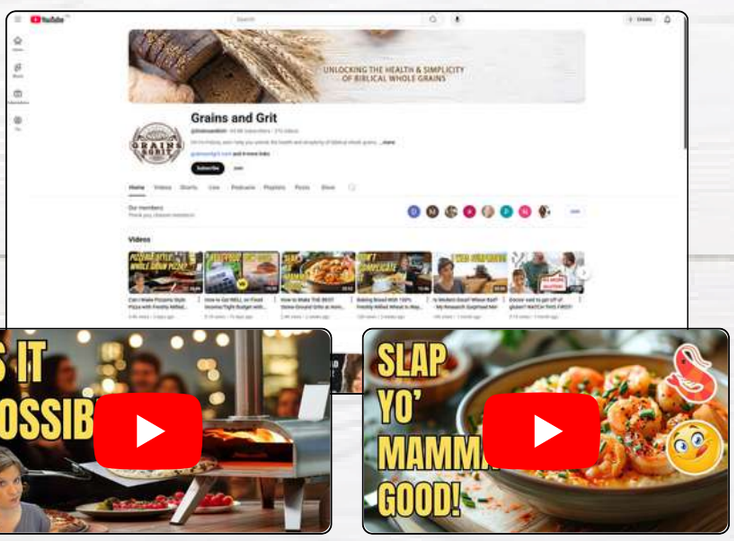
"Such a comforting, grounded, and beautifully curated collection. Your recipes feel both timeless and inventive, with a clear love for whole ingredients and soulful cooking. It's the kind of cookbook that makes people want to slow down, gather around the table, and savor."
-Naomi B.





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VILMA DI NARDO





⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

Lily of the Valley, a gripping debut novel penned by Perth author Vilma Di Nardo is a great read. Set in 1941 WWII Nazi Germany, this is a powerful tale of resilience in the face of adversity, and also a tale of vengeance and sweet justice. Although the main protagonist is young Anna, each chapter is cleverly told from the point of view of different characters, all of whom are integral to the plot. Lily of the Valley is a rich tapestry of true historical facts woven with deeply moving, heart wrenching and beautifully written fiction. Di Nardo's outstanding historical research is evident throughout. I highly recommend this book.

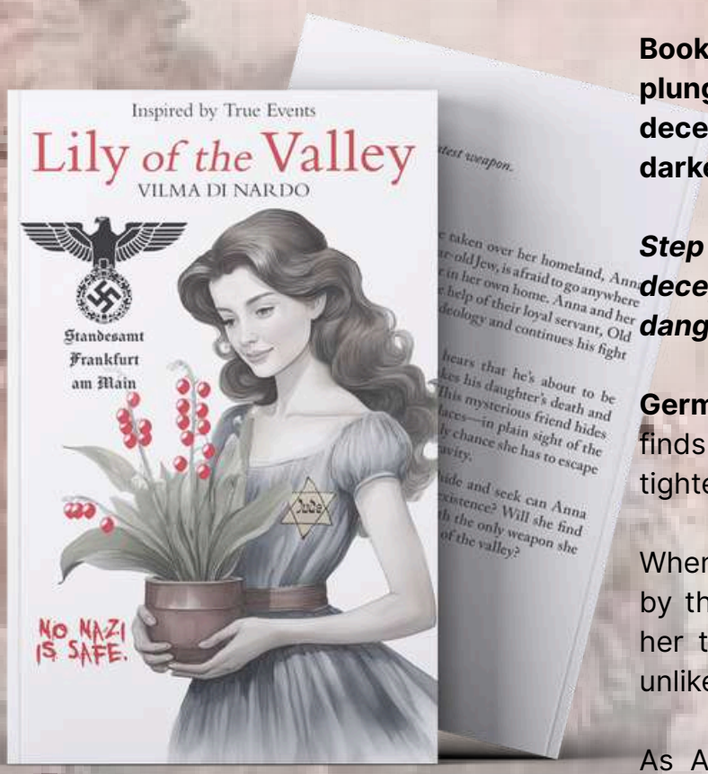
Amazon Customer

⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

The second book in the Lily of the Valley series. I can not recommend this book strongly enough. It is brilliant. I have been in a whirlwind of emotion form the first page to the last. The characters are brilliant and drag you in do that you feel you are with them. It is a must-read for everyone.

Kindle Customer

Lily of the Valley



Book One of the #1 Amazon Bestseller series plunges you into a gripping tale of sex, murder and deceit set against the backdrop of one of history's darkest chapters.

Step into a world where loyalty is a weapon, deception is survival, and the truth is more dangerous than lies...

Germany, 1941. Seventeen-year-old Anna Goldberg finds herself confined to her home as the Nazi regime tightens its grip on her homeland.

When her father, Josef, learns of his impending arrest by the Gestapo, he fakes Anna's death and entrusts her to a mysterious friend who conceals her in the unlikeliest of places- right under the Nazis' noses.

As Anna navigates this perilous game of hide and seek, she must summon unparalleled courage to confront her enemies, armed only with the delicate yet deadly Lily of the Valley, whose sweet scent masks the poison within.

BUY THE BOOK

BOOK TRAILER



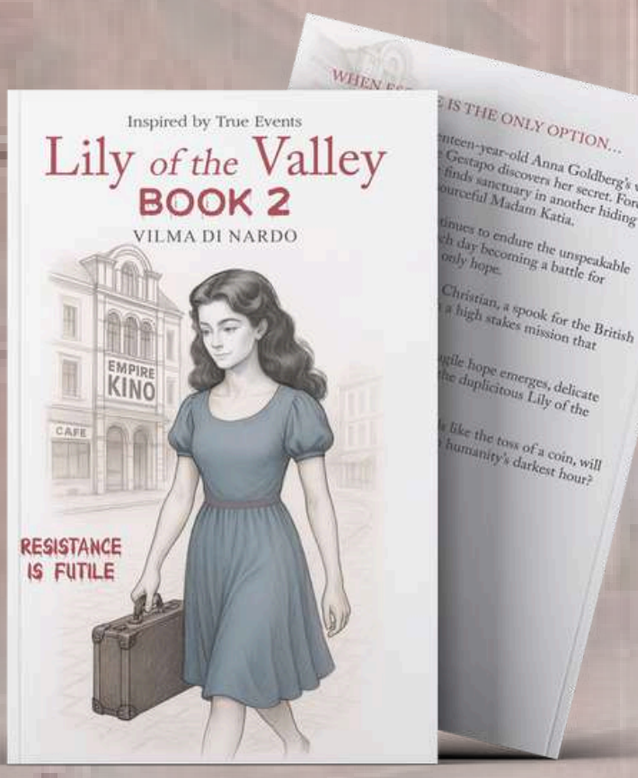
★★★★★

Gripping saga of Jewish persecution during WWII

Plot after plot in this gripping saga of one Jewish woman's fight to evade the Nazi's. Many unexpected episodes. Hard to put down.

Henry B. Friedman

Lily of the Valley
(BOOK 2)



Book 2 in the sensational #1 Amazon Bestseller series grips you with more intrigue, deception, and a very different kind of murder.

When escape is the only option, courage is no longer a choice and you discover who you really are...

Germany, 1942. Seventeen-year-old Anna Goldberg's world is shattered when the Gestapo discovers her secret. Forced to flee for her life, she finds sanctuary in another hiding place thanks to the resourceful Madam Katia.

Anna's father, Josef, continues to endure the unspeakable horrors of Auschwitz, each day becoming a battle for survival and escape is his only hope.

Across enemy lines, Uncle Christian, a spook for the British Government, is tasked with a high stakes mission that could shift the tides of war.

As their fates intertwine, a fragile hope emerges, delicate and uncertain, symbolized by the duplicitous Lily of the Valley.

In a time when every choice feels like the toss of a coin, will it be enough to bring salvation in humanity's darkest hour?

BUY THE BOOK

BOOK TRAILER



⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

The well anticipated sequel to Lily of the Valley 1

The second installment of Lily of the Valley continues the original characters' storylines with the addition of an assortment of interesting new characters - a well written sequel set in a fascinating time period!

Sara



VILMA DI NARDO

#1 AMAZON BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF HISTORICAL FICTION

Vilma Di Nardo hails from the vast State of Western Australia, a proud descendant of European origins. She has lived in England and Japan where she worked as an English language teacher.

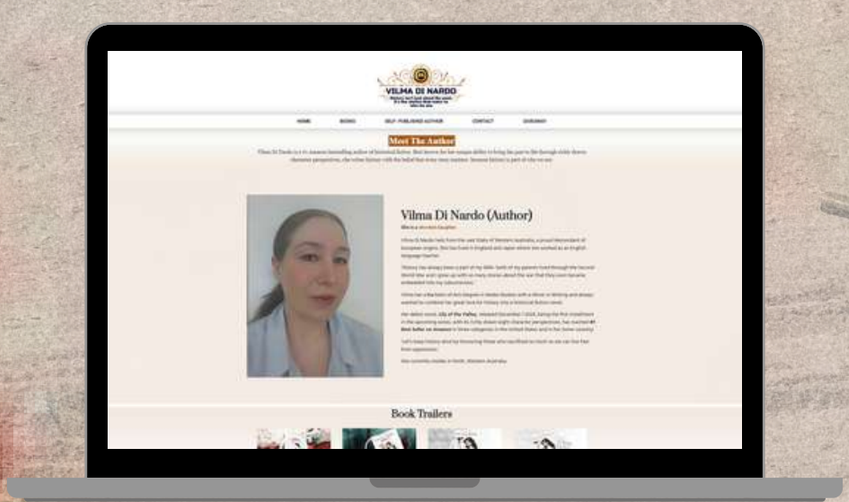
'History has always been a part of my DNA- both of my parents lived through the Second World War and I grew up with so many stories about the war that they soon became embedded into my subconscious.'

Vilma has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Media Studies with a Minor in Writing and always wanted to combine her great love for history into a historical fiction novel.

Her debut novel, Lily of the Valley, released December 1 2024, being the first installment in the upcoming series, with its richly drawn eight character perspectives, has reached #1 Best Seller on Amazon in three categories in the United States and in her home country!

'Let's keep history alive by honouring those who sacrificed so much so we can live free from oppression.'

She currently resides in Perth, Western Australia.



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AUTHOR INTERVIEW

Part 1

1. What first inspired you to write *Lily of the Valley*?

Years ago, a former colleague shared the incredible true story of how his mother was born in a Flak Tower in Germany during the Second World War. His family history changed my life as the conception of my heroine, Anna Goldberg, came into being as she began to haunt my dreams. I knew then and there, I needed to tell this story and I wanted my main character to give birth in an air raid shelter to pay homage to the hundreds of brave women who brought new life under the most difficult and terrifying circumstances and finally, I was able to, in Book 2.

Since childhood, I've also been a huge fan of The Diary of Anne Frank and so I wanted to 'flip' the idea- a young Jewish girl hiding in plain sight from the Nazis and fighting back for her survival with the ultimate revenge.

2. The book is set in Germany during 1941. What drew you to this particular period of history?

History is in my DNA as both my parents lived through the Second World War and growing up with so many stories, I became fascinated with one of the darkest periods of our history. I devour anything I can lay my hands on set in this time period, as I'm truly addicted & I have my parents to thank for that!

3. Anna Goldberg is a compelling main character. How did you shape her voice and personality?

Anna is a normal seventeen-year-old girl growing up in very unusual circumstances and so I used this as a baseline to shape her voice and personality. As her homeland is being taken over by the Nazis, she has to learn to adapt to the constantly changing environment she finds herself in, and like most young people, she has resilience and strength newly discovered.

4. How much historical research did you do while writing this novel, and what was the most surprising thing you discovered?

So much historical research goes into writing this series and I confess, I love to blur the lines between fact and fiction. What I mean by that, is *Lily of the Valley* FEELS so authentic as I intertwine real events, real historical people with fictional characters and storylines. The seamlessness of the fact/fiction elements add depth and truth to the series.

The most surprising thing I discovered whilst researching this book was the number of Jews hiding in plain sight within The Third Reich, which incredibly, were in the thousands.

5. The title *Lily of the Valley* feels symbolic. Why did you choose it, and what does it represent in the story?

The *Lily of the Valley* is a unique plant and symbolizes so much for me. Firstly, its duality of nature; it's a striking plant but its leafy understory denotes a lethal agenda, and I find this so fascinating! People I often find are similar to this as they too, have a hidden agenda or are not what they seem.

Secondly, it symbolizes the fragility of life as the flowers and berries are seasonal and afterwards, the plant lays dormant for several months. Life is similar to the *Lily of the Valley* as nothing is ever constant. Change is inevitable.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

Part 2

6. What challenges did you face in balancing historical accuracy with keeping the story suspenseful and engaging?

I found it challenging not to sound too much like a history teacher! I didn't want to 'cram' too many historical facts in the series even though I'm obsessed with history and firmly believe it shapes us as a society, a community and personally. I think I succeeded in balancing this with a very engaging fictional storyline with a cliffhanger ending to keep readers engaged.

7. The book touches on themes of survival, identity, trust, and betrayal. Which of these themes resonates with you the most personally?

The series touches on all of these themes but for me personally, identity resonates with me the most. Like every human being on the planet, I've had many ups and downs. To quote a section of Book 2: 'Life is a gift...not a birthright. We can't expect to always have things go our own way. Troubles and challenges are part of our existence.' Finding yourself, finding your identity & purpose in life, is one of the most challenging things we all face, but when you find that one thing that brings light into your existence- hold onto it for dear life.

8. Who are some of your literary influences or favorite authors in historical fiction?

I have so many literary influences but I've narrowed it down to three, Louis de Bernieres, being the first. I still believe Captain Corelli's Mandolin is one of the most beautifully written historical fiction novels of all time & it still makes me cry rivers of tears.The language is so eloquent and the story so potent. It truly is a masterpiece in my opinion.

My second biggest influence is Erik Larson and his non-fiction book The Splendid and the Vile. This incredible novel helped me fall in love with Winston Churchill and inspired me to write my version of Mr. Churchill in Book 2. Lastly, another favourite of mine is The Happiest Man on Earth, written by Holocaust survivor, Eddie Jaku. Look no further to see what true courage looks like. Incredibly inspirational.

9. Do you see yourself continuing to write stories set in this historical era, or are you exploring other genres for your next project?

For the moment, I'm continuing to write in this historical era as Book 3 of *Lily of the Valley* is coming out soon followed by a sequel. But for future projects, I envisage writing not only in other eras, but exploring other genres as well. I will keep you posted!

10. What advice would you give to aspiring authors who want to write historical fiction?

The only advice I can give to aspiring authors and in fact to anyone with ambition- whatever your dream is, big or small, I encourage you to reach for the stars. Just do it as life is short.



SEP TEM BER

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

Robert Frost, 'Nothing Gold Can Stay'

IN THE FOCUS



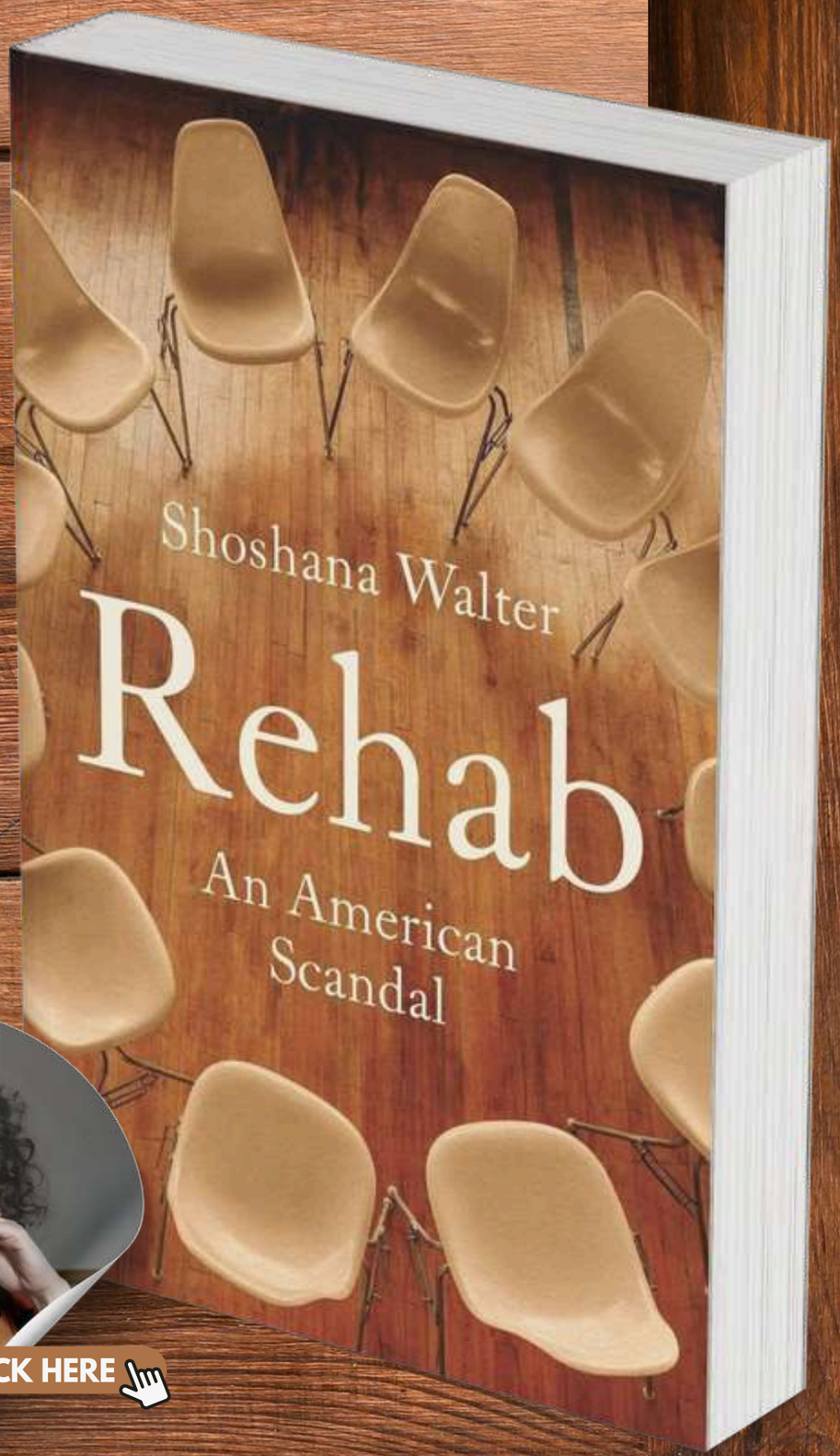
RACHEL HARRISON

www.rachel-harrison.com

Rachel Harrison is the national bestselling author of BLACK SHEEP, SUCH SHARP TEETH, CACKLE and THE RETURN, which was nominated for a Bram Stoker Award for Superior Achievement in a First Novel. Her short fiction has appeared in Guernica, Electric Literature's Recommended Reading, as an Audible Original, and in her debut story collection BAD DOLLS. She lives in western New York with her husband and their cat/overlord.

Rachel Harrison is an American author known for her distinctive blend of horror, dark comedy, and contemporary feminist themes, often exploring the anxieties and absurdities of modern womanhood through a supernatural or monstrous lens. She has quickly established herself as a fresh and unique voice in genre fiction, garnering critical acclaim for her ability to infuse genuine scares with sharp wit and relatable social commentary.

In essence, Rachel Harrison is an author who invites you to question what lies beneath the veneer of normalcy, especially concerning women's roles and expectations, through narratives that are as entertaining as they are unsettling.





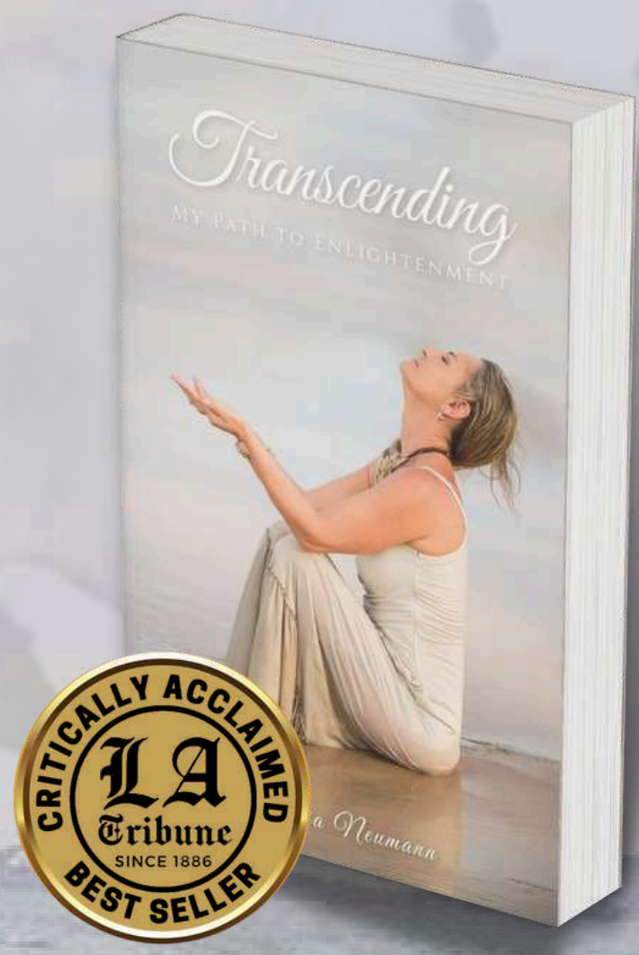
Big Pharma and the Drug Enforcement Administration have been implicated in the opioid crisis in the United States. Despite record overdose deaths, only a few individuals receive effective treatment. The rehab-industrial complex often prevents recovery, with the government's punitive response preventing recovery. Four individuals, including April, Chris, Wendy, and Larry, share their experiences of the failures of the rehab-industrial complex. April witnessed the government's punitive response to the crack epidemic, while Chris was forced to perform unpaid labor at for-profit companies. Wendy investigated for-profit treatment programs, but law enforcement ignored her warnings.

AVAILABLE AT

Transcending

MY PATH TO ENLIGHTENMENT

By Marcia Neumann



Transcending My Path to Enlightenment is a deeply moving memoir that blends spirituality, science, and self-discovery into a powerful narrative of transformation.

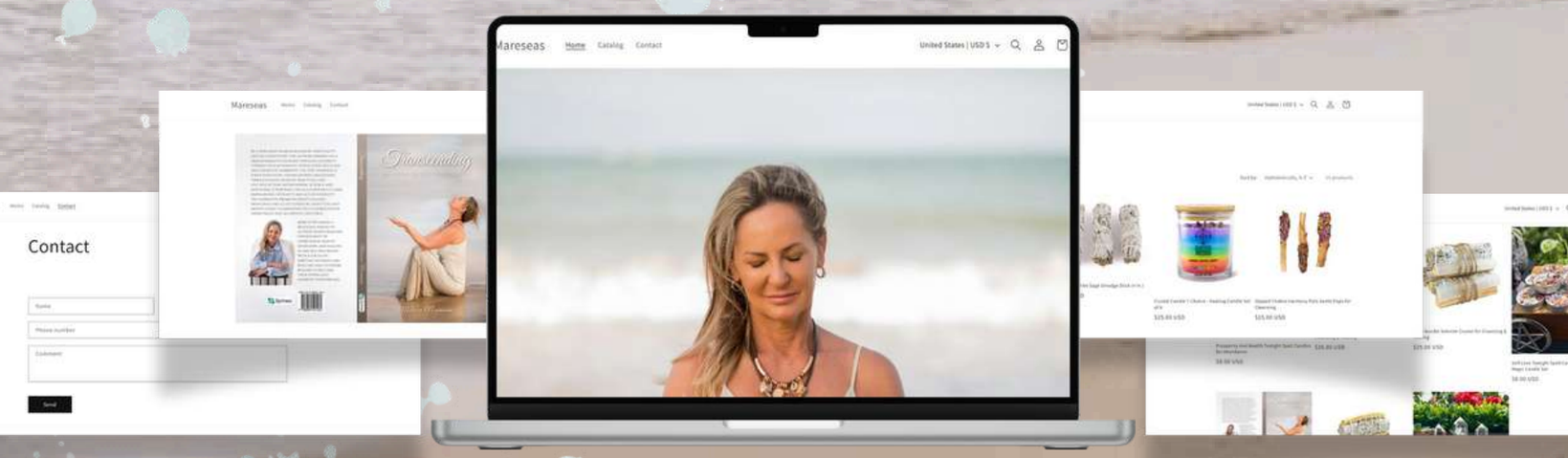
Through moments of adversity and triumph, Marcia Neumann invites readers to follow her personal journey as she seeks inner truth, healing, and higher consciousness. Her story is not just one of overcoming challenges, but of embracing them as essential steps on the path toward enlightenment and authentic living.

Rooted in the principles of self-love, energetic harmony, and mindful awareness, Transcending My Path to Enlightenment explores how faith, holistic practices, and introspection can dissolve limitations and awaken the soul's true potential. The memoir weaves together elements of science and mysticism, portraying life as a purposeful journey guided by integrity, accountability, and gratitude.

By sharing her experiences with Reiki, meditation, and conscious living, Neumann offers readers practical insights and spiritual wisdom to cultivate inner peace.

AVAILABLE AT

Ultimately, Transcending My Path to Enlightenment is more than a story — it is a guide for anyone seeking to align with their authentic self, embrace healing, and live with deeper awareness. This heartfelt account will inspire readers to view their own lives as sacred opportunities for growth, connection, and transformation.



www.mareseas.com
www.marcianeumann.com





Marcia Neumann

Life coaching and spiritual healing offer a transformative journey towards personal growth and holistic well-being. Through targeted guidance and support, life coaching helps individuals clarify goals, overcome obstacles, and unlock their full potential. Simultaneously, spiritual healing delves into the profound realm of inner peace and connection, fostering a sense of purpose and harmony.

Together, these practices empower individuals to navigate life's challenges with resilience and authenticity. Life coaching provides practical tools for goal-setting and self-discovery, while spiritual healing addresses the soul's needs, promoting emotional balance and spiritual awakening.

The synergy of these approaches fosters a deep, meaningful transformation, promoting self-awareness, fulfillment, and a harmonious integration of mind, body, and spirit. Embark on a journey of self-discovery and spiritual growth, guided by experienced coaches who are dedicated to facilitating profound positive change in your life.

"Un plan inspirador y accesible para superar las limitaciones y emprender el camino hacia el yo más auténtico."



El sincero relato de Neumann, que entrelaza la fe, prácticas holísticas como el reiki y principios de responsabilidad, sirve como un modelo inspirador y accesible para los lectores que buscan un crecimiento auténtico y la paz interior.

SCRIBE DIGEST REVIEWS

SPANISH EDITION on OCT. 15, 2025

Marcia Neumann

THE INTERVIEW - Part I

Given your background in both spiritual healing and life coaching, how did this duality influence your decision to write a memoir, and how did you balance the deeply personal narrative with the desire to provide actionable guidance for the reader?

My inspiration surged exactly from this duality. I had so many circumstances throughout my life, where I had no alternative but accepting and understanding that our lives consist of a combination of the visible and the invisible realms, so I felt that sharing my personal life experiences can promote comfort and understanding that we all share for so many apparently unexplained occurrences that come as surprises through life, and I wish to contribute as I possibly can for them not to feel alone, and open a door to comprehend our existence in a different point of view.

The reference mentions that you portray "life as a purposeful game." What does this powerful metaphor mean to you, and how does adopting this mindset of integrity and accountability fundamentally change how one navigates adversity?

Our physical life here on earth is one of the many stages we go through as evolving souls. I believe that we are all born here under different life circumstances. And why would that be? The game of mastering our challenging rights to prosper, conquer, and live in plenitude and authenticity. However, humanity has become so obsessed with material and twisted values, envy, and competition, without realizing that all we'll take with us when we leave are our knowledge, memories, and lessons learned.

No matter how much time goes by, our good deeds will pay back, and so will our evil deeds, regardless of whether we are caught in the physical or Spiritual world. It is incredible, for example, you spend a long period of your life suffering from betrayals and injustices, yet always choosing to remain honest and rightful. One day, you wake up and start receiving so many blessings that you can't even explain where they come from.

It is the Universe (or Spiritual Realm) rewarding you for your good deeds. And just in the same way, people who carry on their lives betraying, manipulating, stealing, and sabotaging, with the impression of getting away with it all, are just an illusion.

Everyone gets caught. Either by physical justice, by being judged and punished for their erratic behaviors, or they will get caught by the time when everything suddenly starts going wrong and they start losing health and/or wealth, primarily due to the levels of panic and anxiety they accumulate through their journeys. So don't take it all too seriously, but play it with "Purpose and Integrity".

As a practitioner, you advocate for Reiki's healing principles. When you began writing the book, did you find that the process of sharing your story was itself a form of energetic healing or self-Reiki?

Yes. Actually, when I started writing, it wasn't with the intent to write a book. I was going through a significant process of self-healing. As I was aware of so many traumas I have carried and accumulated since my childhood,

I decided to start rewriting my life's story as a personal diary. Through this process, I began recalling and remembering many forgotten events. As the story unfolded and I wrote more, the details came to life.

I suddenly revived a lot of those events, and I was then able to heal, forgive, release, and let go of the adverse effects they had had on me for so long. Some were conscious, and so many were unconscious. And that's when I got brave enough and decided to share my story and turn it into a book. I realized how so many of us have hidden pain and traumas that limit our freedom of spirit and keep us from living fully, causing us to be ashamed, intimidated, and so self-limited from our full potential.

At the same time, we all go through unique life experiences that we haven't called or accounted for. It was through Reiki that I learned to transform negative energy into positive. And I do advocate for everyone to initiate and practice self-Reiki as daily practice to understand how fascinating it is to shift energy and tap into an endless self-healing process consistently.

Your memoir focuses on transcending limitations. What was the single most significant limitation you faced when writing Transcending, and how did the principles of self-love and reflection you teach help you overcome the vulnerability of sharing your story?

Most definitely, the most significant limitation I faced and overcame was deciding whether to expose or not some very raw and vulnerable situations I have experienced throughout my life. And we all know that many people also experience shameful situations. And as we live in a hypocritical society, many hide their own flaws and mistakes, but spend their entire time and energy spying, judging, and criticizing others.

People fear so much being exposed, and it causes them to live a lifetime under fear and pressure, and always wear masks due to insecurity or lack of self-acceptance and need for validation.

I genuinely value honesty and integrity. So I decided to honor the story of MY LIFE, and it gave me so much freedom to embrace who I truly am.

Marcia Neumann

THE INTERVIEW - Part II

The situations life has put me through. And I judge no one for what they have been through! Once we understand that we are all students at this school called life, and we are all here to learn and evolve, we must forgive ourselves for whatever has happened to us and embrace the fact that we all come here to learn love, especially self-love, so you can restart and rewrite your own story based on who you are truly meant to be.

Many spiritual memoirs focus purely on the inner journey. Why was it crucial for you to include practical takeaways, such as gratitude and mindfulness, to ensure the book serves as a "guide for anyone seeking to align with their authentic self"?

I suppose the best answer here is the proof that I am a natural problem solver, and as I mentioned earlier, I didn't start writing with the intention of turning it into a book and spreading my story. It was with the intent to "inspire, help, and motivate, that precisely what sparked in me the enthusiasm to turn it into a book.

The journey to "inner peace and authentic existence" is a central theme. How did the writing process itself reshape your understanding of what 'enlightenment' means, and is it a destination or a continuous state of being?

I believe 'inner peace" results from "authentic existence". I only found inner peace once I realized it was and it is ok to be my true self. It's okay to be different and out of the ordinary. I used to think something was wrong with me because I liked and appreciated different things. I never really followed fashion or tradition, and especially, I never simply followed instructions without understanding the reasoning behind them. My biggest fear has always been to be unfair to anyone.

I have always deeply appreciated kindness, generosity, charity, and things that come from the heart and nature. I have always been criticized, misjudged, and mishandled for being naive, and at the same time, envied because the same ones who criticized my light way of living always wished to obtain my results. Enlightenment, to me, means finding the spark within that brings you to a state of plenitude, where I am whole and don't need any outside validation to feel sufficient. When you wake up every morning in a state of gratitude, knowing that challenges will arise, and as long as you are balanced in mind, body, and spirit, you will overcome them, living one moment at a time and being present in each moment. Enlightenment is definitely a continuous state of being.

Once you tap into self-awareness and self-worth, you'll never want to stop learning and improving your well-being.

You emphasize that your story is about embracing challenges as "essential steps." For a reader currently facing their own moment of profound adversity, what is the single most important mindset shift you hope they gain from your narrative?

My recommendation is, instead of panicking and manifesting anger and frustration when adversity arrives, try to pause and understand what lesson the situation is trying to teach you. There is always a lesson. You may be repeating the same old mistake, or you are learning a fundamental lesson and experiencing something meaningful that will shape the next chapter to come. Life has no coincidences; it is composed of endless synchronicities. And it hasn't failed for me since I learned to pause and surrender to God and my inner self, allowing the best action to take shape, so that the correct answer and plan of action emerge within my own intuition.

What surprised you most about your own story when you sat down to write it, and did you discover any new insights about your past experiences while committing them to the page?

Oh dear. I can't even tell you how many times I had to stop and insert new information into earlier chapters because the more I wrote, the more I recalled. That is precisely the most incredible magic I discovered during my journey.

It is impressive to realize how much of our own stories we forget. And how many traumatic episodes we let by without proper closure and healings we accumulate through life. Regardless of the outcome my book may cause, the personal reward I feel is priceless, precisely for this incredible opportunity to relive, understand, comprehend, heal, and find closure for so many chapters that have hurt me deeply in the past.

That is why I feel so light and grounded, ready to receive what is next to come with an entirely different mentality and acceptance.

The synopsis highlights the importance of energetic harmony. Could you describe the energetic state you needed to achieve or maintain in order to write such an intimate and powerful book, and what advice do you have for aspiring authors trying to access that creative flow?

This may be my favorite question. This is a strong reason for me to advocate that every individual should be initiated as a Reiki Healer. Besides the incredible opportunity to connect directly with our higher source, it allows us to understand the power of energy. That everything is about energy, and you learn how to cleanse, balance, and maintain your vibrational energetic field from negative people, environments, and situations, to a consistent state of peace and harmony, automatically enabling you to access your best, creative, powerful manifestation.

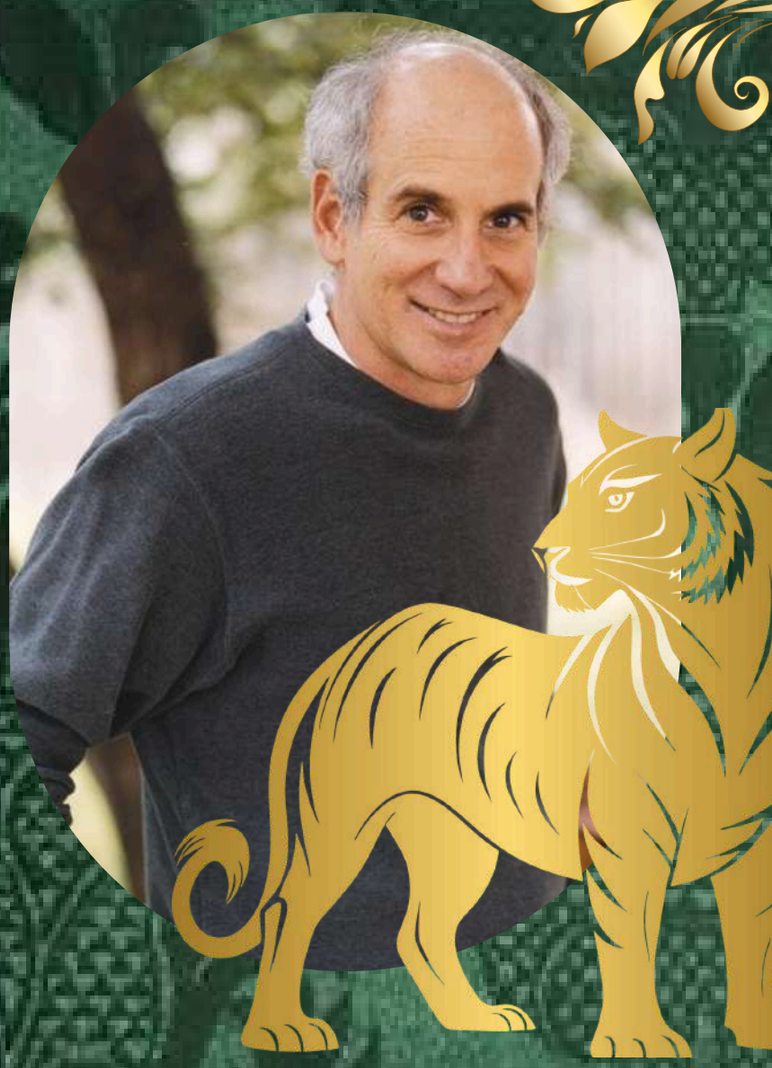
THE MAGICIAN OF TIGER CASTLE

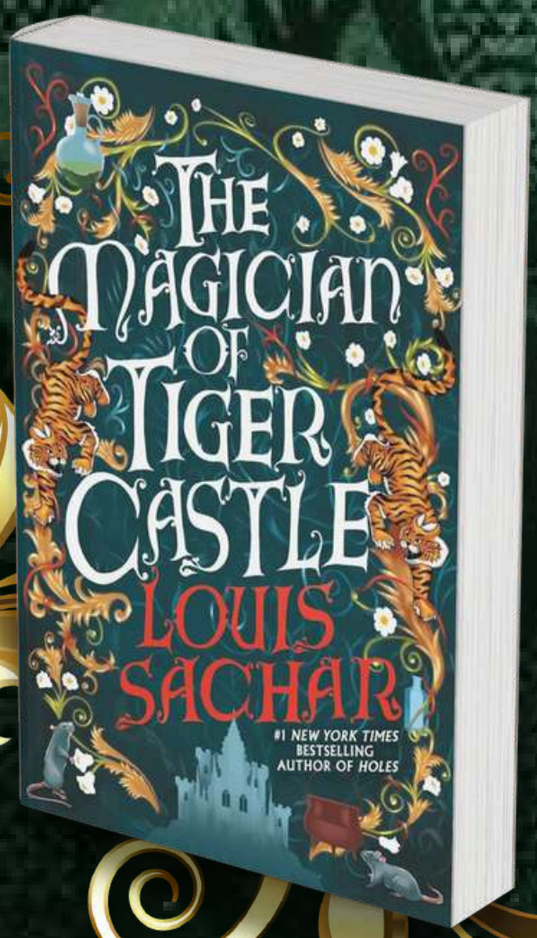
by Louis Sachar

In the kingdom of Esquaveta, Princess Tullia faces danger as her kingdom struggles to establish alliances. Her father has arranged a marriage between her and an odious prince. However, Tullia falls in love with a lowly apprentice scribe, leading the king to turn to Anatole, a much-maligned magician.

Anatole, once considered a prodigy, has become the object of contempt and ridicule after a series of failures. The only one who still believes in him is the princess. When the king orders Anatole to brew a potion to ensure Tullia agrees to the wedding, Anatole must decide whether to betray the princess or risk ruin.

www.louissachar.com

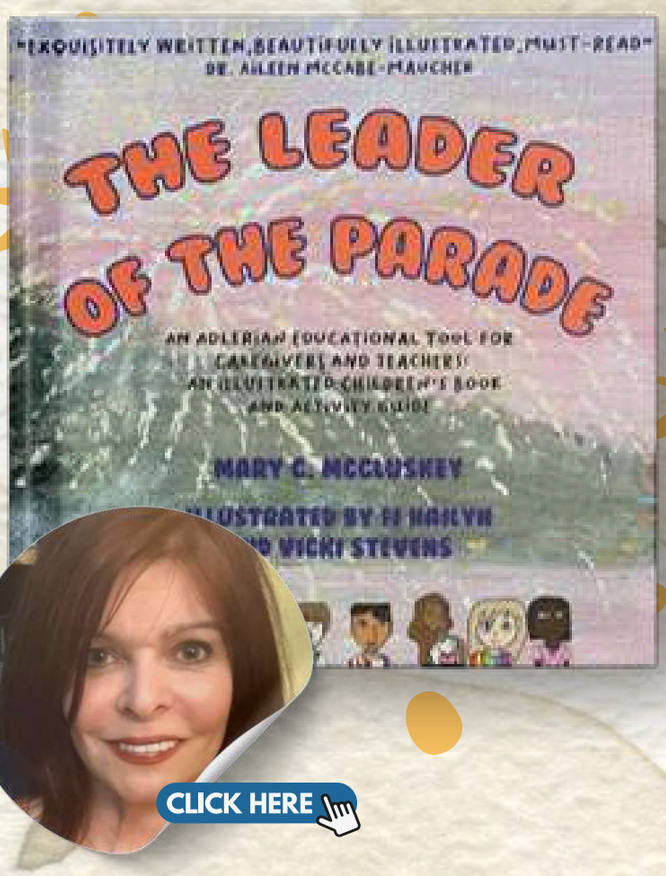




Louis Sachar was born in New York. He was inspired to write children's books after working as a teacher's aide to gain extra credit. After graduation he worked in a sweater warehouse in Connecticut and wrote at night. He was soon fired from that job and moved onto law school where in his first week of study Sideways Stories From Wayside School was published. In 2000 Louis Sacher wrote Holes which became both an instant classic and a film starring Sigourney Weaver. Holes was his first book to be published in the UK and continues to prove popular among younger readers. Once Louis Sachar begins writing a new book he refuses to talk to anyone until it is finished and entry to his office is barred apart from his two dogs. The Cardturner is his new book which publishes in 2010.

AVAILABLE AT

THE LEADER OF THE PARADE



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AVAILABLE AT

Meet Dr. Alfred Adler, a psychologist who started an important educational movement one hundred-years-ago. In this historical piece of fiction, Dr. Adler takes eight children who are competing to be the leader of their school parade on an imaginative field trip through the Cosmos. They follow two rabbits named Peace and Justice through beautiful European towns, past rivers and lakes, a castle, flower-filled fields, an animal sanctuary and even outer space.

While on this trip they meet Si, a superhero pony and a red cardinal named Robin. Along with Dr. Adler, these animals help the children grapple with many themes and feelings including jealousy, fear, and guilt; coping with loss and death; as well as joy and hope. Using poetry, stories and songs, the children brainstorm about how to make the world a better place.



About the Author

Mary C. McCluskey received her BA in creative writing and psychology from Loyola College, her master's degree in social work from Columbia University and her doctorate in social work from The University of Pennsylvania. Mary did her post-graduate training at The American Institute for Psychoanalysis (AIP).

She specializes in treating trauma and has also been trained in Attachment-Focused EMDR (a specialized trauma treatment modality) by the Parnell Institute. Mary teaches at New York University's Silver School of Social Work and also teaches and supervises at AIP. She is the owner of The Empowerment Opportunity LCSW, PLLC, a group therapy practice in New York City. She is also the owner of Encouragement Ink, LLC.

MEDIA FEATURES

Book Reviews

"The Leader of the Parade is an exquisitely written and beautifully illustrated must-read by a renowned psychotherapist. If you are looking for a powerful catalyst for emotional healing as well as a transformative way to foster both internal dialogue and community engagement, look no further. This innovative book for all ages combines Adlerian theory with Dr. McCluskey's clinical wisdom, and helps the reader understand how to lead their own parade in life."

Dr. Aileen McCabe-Maucher, Mom, Author,

The Inner Peace Diet and Complete Self-Care: Transformation Through Yoga and Beyond

"What the world needs right now is connective inclusion. Dr. McCluskey understands this, and the importance of empowering resilient leaders big and small. The parade is happening; find your place, engage a child and forge new pathways of respect and tolerance with The Leader of the Parade book and activities."

Bianca Ksoll, Mom, International Human Rights Lawyer Author and Publisher, Moonjami Press

Featured Professional

Psychology Today

The Empowerment Opportunity
Clinical Social Work/Therapist, LCSW, DSW

Author Interviews







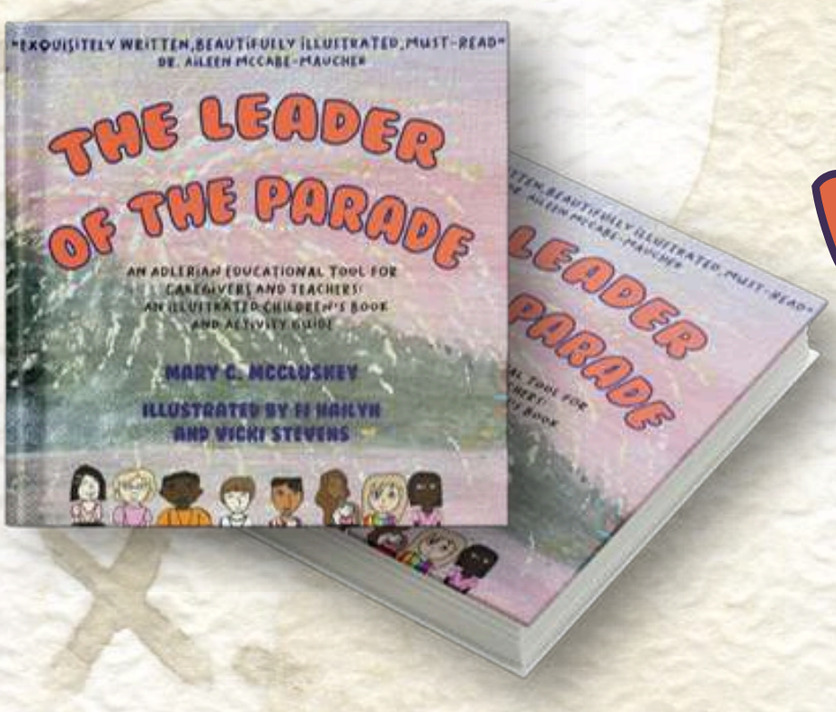




Author Website



www.theempowermentopportunity.com



THE LEADER OF THE PARADE

AVAILABLE AT

Meet Dr. Alfred Adler, a psychologist who started an important educational movement one hundred-years-ago. In this historical piece of fiction, Dr. Adler takes eight children who are competing to be the leader of their school parade on an imaginative field trip through the Cosmos. They follow two rabbits named Peace and Justice through beautiful European towns, past rivers and lakes, a castle, flower-filled fields, an animal sanctuary and even outer space.

While on this trip they meet Si, a superhero pony and a red cardinal named Robin. Along with Dr. Adler, these animals help the children grapple with many themes and feelings including jealousy, fear, and guilt; coping with loss and death; as well as joy and hope. Using poetry, stories and songs, the children brainstorm about how to make the world a better place.

BUBBLES, BALLOONS & BIRDS

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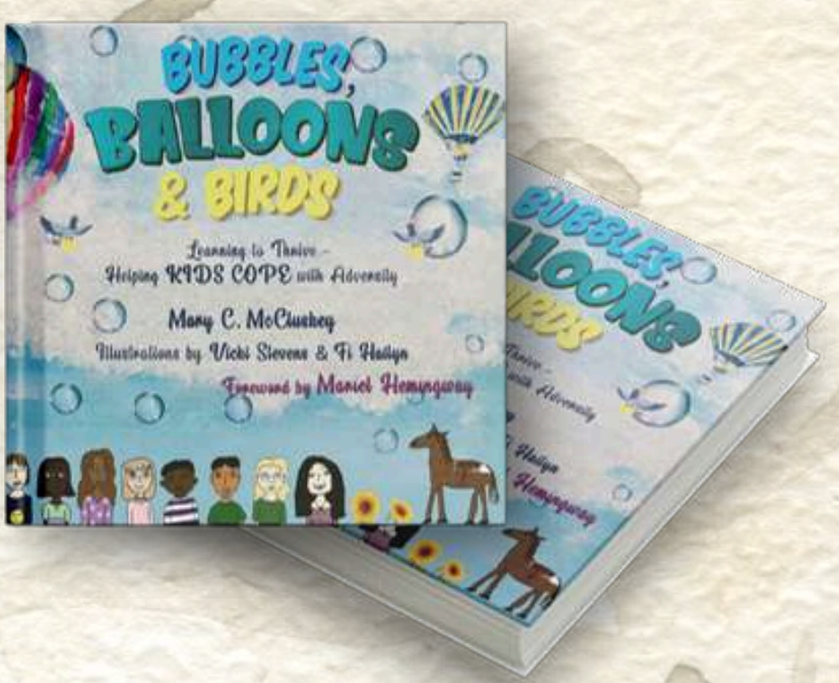
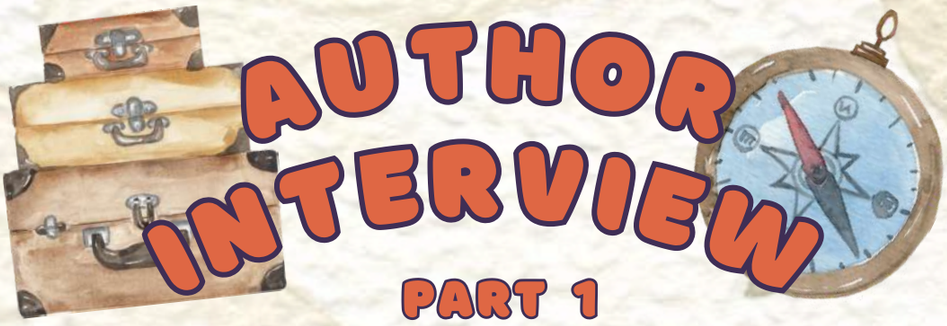


Dr. Pierre Janet (Dr. J) visits today in a time-traveling hot air balloon. In 1871 he was an eleven-year-old child living in Paris, France, during a time of war. Despite this adversity, he cultivated some creative coping skills and grew up to become one of the most influential psychologists of all time.

His evidence-based interventions are still used today. In the book, Dr. J and Dr. A take eight children on a field trip through nature, where they learn the importance of connection, creativity, and resilience. Along the way, they forge new friendships and are inspired to create fun new ways to handle big feelings. The book teaches readers how to use their inner resources and words to develop tools and stories that can help lessen the effects of childhood stressors and help them heal and thrive.



AUTHOR INTERVIEW

PART 1

The Leader of the Parade introduces Alfred Adler as a time-traveling guide. What inspired you to use this unique historical-fiction framework to make complex psychological theory so accessible to a young audience?

I had written an article that was published in The Clinical Social Work Journal called Revitalizing Alfred Adler. Adler initiated a crucial educational movement and sought to reach as many families as possible, so I aimed to expand my reach to include individuals who would not have access to my journal article. I also wanted his wisdom to be affordable and accessible to more people. Adler's theory really underscores prevention, and I am very passionate about this topic.

Your background as a psychotherapist specializing in trauma is a powerful foundation for your writing. How has your clinical experience directly influenced the themes and characters in both The Leader of the Parade and Bubbles, Balloons & Birds?

Both of these books teach self-compassion and promote creativity. In my clinical experience, self-compassion and creativity have proven to have significant healing powers. I want people who are not in therapy to have the opportunity to learn these skills.

The book descriptions mention that these are part of a series for "Latency Age Kids (ages 6-12)." Why do you feel this particular age group is so critical for learning about emotional health and resilience?

Children who can grasp the importance of the Cosmos and social interest learn to be less ego-centric. This skill can help emotional resiliency, and the sooner it is understood, the better. Prevention is at the core of all mental health issues.

Bubbles, Balloons & Birds brings in another historical figure, Dr. Pierre Janet. How do you select which psychologists to feature, and what role do you see these historical figures playing in helping today's children navigate their feelings?

I choose the figures based on the topic and their area of expertise. Pierre Janet (Dr. J) is the founder of trauma theory, and his concepts are still used to treat trauma today. I adapted his concepts and integrated them into the story so they would resonate with children and their caregivers.

Both of your books are designed to be read by both children and caregivers. Can you describe a moment from your own life—either as a professional or as a person—that highlighted the importance of this shared reading experience?

Book club discussions have immense value and can inspire critical thinking skills and rich discussions. I have personally participated in book clubs, and my thinking has been enriched.Children who can learn from a mentor have a greater chance of succeeding, as is posited by Lev Vygotsky's concept of Zone of Proximal Development. The sociocultural theory of human learning emphasizes the role of social interaction in cognitive development.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

PART 2

In a world saturated with screen time, your books encourage a return to imaginative play and dialogue. What creative process do you use to craft the poetry, stories, and songs within the books to capture a child's imagination?

I use my own imagination to weave clinical ideas into poetry, art, and songs to make the ideas more fun and accessible. My mother, daughter, and I created all the illustrations, which helped bring the story to life.

The concept of "leading your own parade" is so powerful. Can you share a story from your practice or from a reader that exemplifies a child truly embracing this idea and becoming their own leader?

One second-grade reader articulated that he wanted to be like one of the main characters, a horse named Social Interest (Si for short), and to help not only his family but also the larger community. He grasped this Adlerian concept (Social Interest) of looking beyond his own self-interest/family interest. This is often difficult for latency-age kids to do, which is another reason these crucial concepts should be taught earlier. It helps prepare them for the turbulent times of adolescence. If they can look beyond themselves, they can lead the parade.

You've had a successful career as both a clinician and a teacher. What prompted you to add "author" to your list of accomplishments, and what unique challenges or rewards has the writing journey brought you?

I wanted to share my knowledge with a broader audience and help more people.

Getting the word out about my books has been the most challenging part.

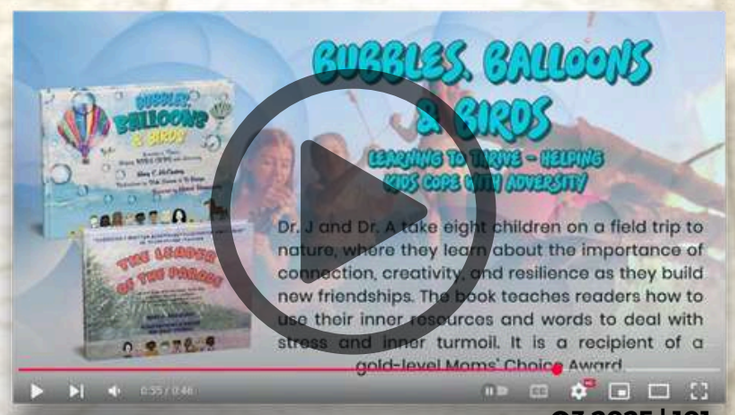
From addressing jealousy and guilt to coping with loss and death, your stories don't shy away from big, difficult feelings. How do you approach these topics in a way that is both honest and comforting for a young reader?

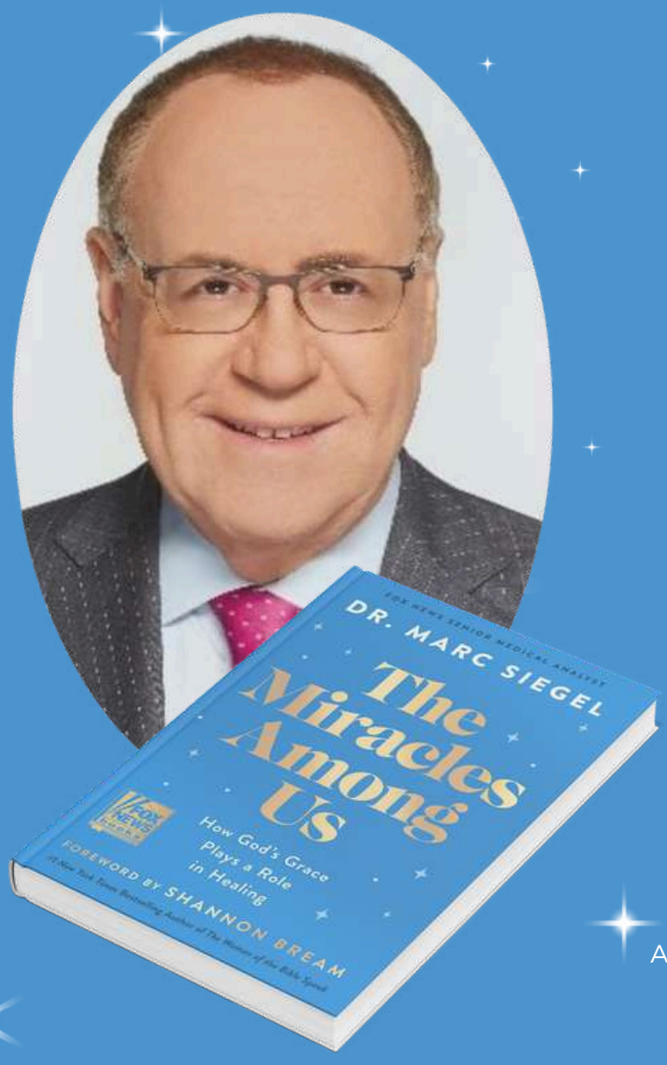
I normalize these feelings by having discussions among the different characters. By seeing that other people (characters) have these feelings, children feel less alone or ashamed about them. It's also an opportunity to discuss this openly with a caregiver. Oftentimes, people's judgments about their feelings are what is problematic. If we can normalize feelings, we can alleviate a significant amount of suffering.

What is the single most important message you hope both children and their caregivers take away after closing the cover of your books?

We all possess internal healing powers. Discussing our feelings and seeking help requires courage and is a sign of strength. We all need each other. Resilience can be learned.

Book Trailer





The Miracles Among Us

by Dr. Marc Siegel

Drawing from his extensive experience as a physician, Dr. Marc Siegel explores the profound and often mysterious intersection between faith and medicine. He shares riveting stories of patients who have experienced remarkable recoveries, challenging the boundaries of medical science. These narratives highlight not only the resilience of the human body, but also the inexplicable moments when intuition and foresight play a crucial role in healing.

Miracles Among Us reminds us that God's love has the capacity to surprise us even in our darkest moments. Whether you are a healthcare professional, a patient, or simply someone intrigued by the mysteries of medicine, this book provides an enlightening exploration of how miracles manifest in everyday life.

AVAILABLE AT

LIDIA'S THE ART OF PASTA

by Lidia Matticchio Bastianich

No one knows pasta like Lidia Bastianich. Through her bestselling cookbooks and award-winning television programs, she has introduced generations of home cooks to the wonders of Italy's greatest export. Now, for the first time, she has compiled her decades of expertise into one authoritative volume: the definitive book on pasta.

Through more than a hundred simple, perfect recipes, Lidia showcases pastas of all kinds—both fresh and dried, stuffed, baked, and sauced; in soups and pasta salads; plus, of course, directions for making fresh pasta doughs and sauces at home. The one-stop guide to all things pasta, the book is filled with simple, authentic, flavor-forward Italian dishes that the whole family will love. Tutti a tavola a mangiare!

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www.lidiasitaly.com





Sylvia Abolis Mennear

I am a wife and mother of 3 grown boys and 2 dogs. Each of them beautiful in their own and special ways. I wrote a novel a few years ago called Enchanted Castle on the River "Matt's Journey". Once that one was published I decided to do a sequel to Matt's Journey. I had been writing for several months and then got writers block. When I was ready to have at it again my son died of Fentanyl poisoning.

We were all so distraught. It took all the energy I had to keep myself sane and alive. Several months later I went to a spiritual medium who told me my son wanted me to write. I didn't think much of it at the time until another month had passed. I decided to write this book in honor of my son Aaron.

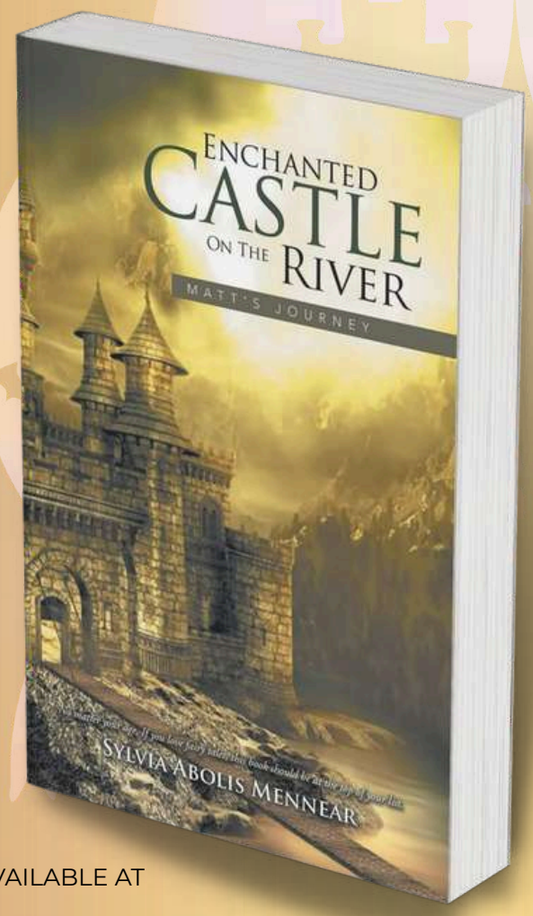
He was so important to all of us. I told everyone that this was the last gift I could give to my son Aaron.

So just over 1 year later and I have finished my book for my beautiful son. Some of the proceeds from each book will be given to momsstoptheharm.com

I believe age doesn't matter when it comes to fantasy whether you are a writer or a reader. Let the creative mind work its magic. We all have a story inside of us, the trick is to have the skill at putting it all together.

I loved writing my book Enchanted Castle on the River 'Matt's Journey'. I didn't know where it would take me, but I now know that Matt's Journey and my journey are far from being over.
I started out being a wife, mom, working for a University and then writing, and as long as my mind can create a good story I will continue writing.

ENCHANTED CASTLE ON THE RIVER



Enchanted Castle on the River....Where your wishes and dreams come true - but be careful of what you wish for....Matthew is a young teenager about to go on a camping trip with his family to a wilderness camp. He is a very imaginative young man that gets himself into trouble after venturing out on his own through the woods where he is confronted by the Wizard Zerkin.

This alone is an unnatural and freakish experience. Zerkin has a job to do and that is to lead Matthew to the castle where he is told to make a wish. Matthew does not know that his wish had been planned for him.

He was the chosen one for this adventure and along the way his experience is anything but amusing for him. He finds himself transported into medieval times, his life takes on a new role as King Vincent's son.

Life as a prince turns out to be less of a fairytale and more of a nightmare. Matthew was brought to this old country to break a spell cast on to Zerkin by a witch (Zerkin's mother, Bianca). The spell must be broken before King Vincent dies of polio or the villagers lives as they know it will end.

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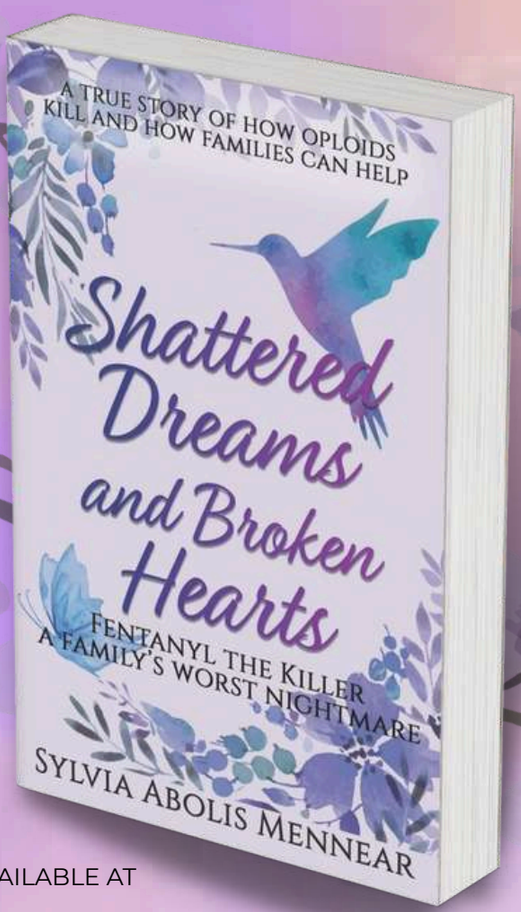


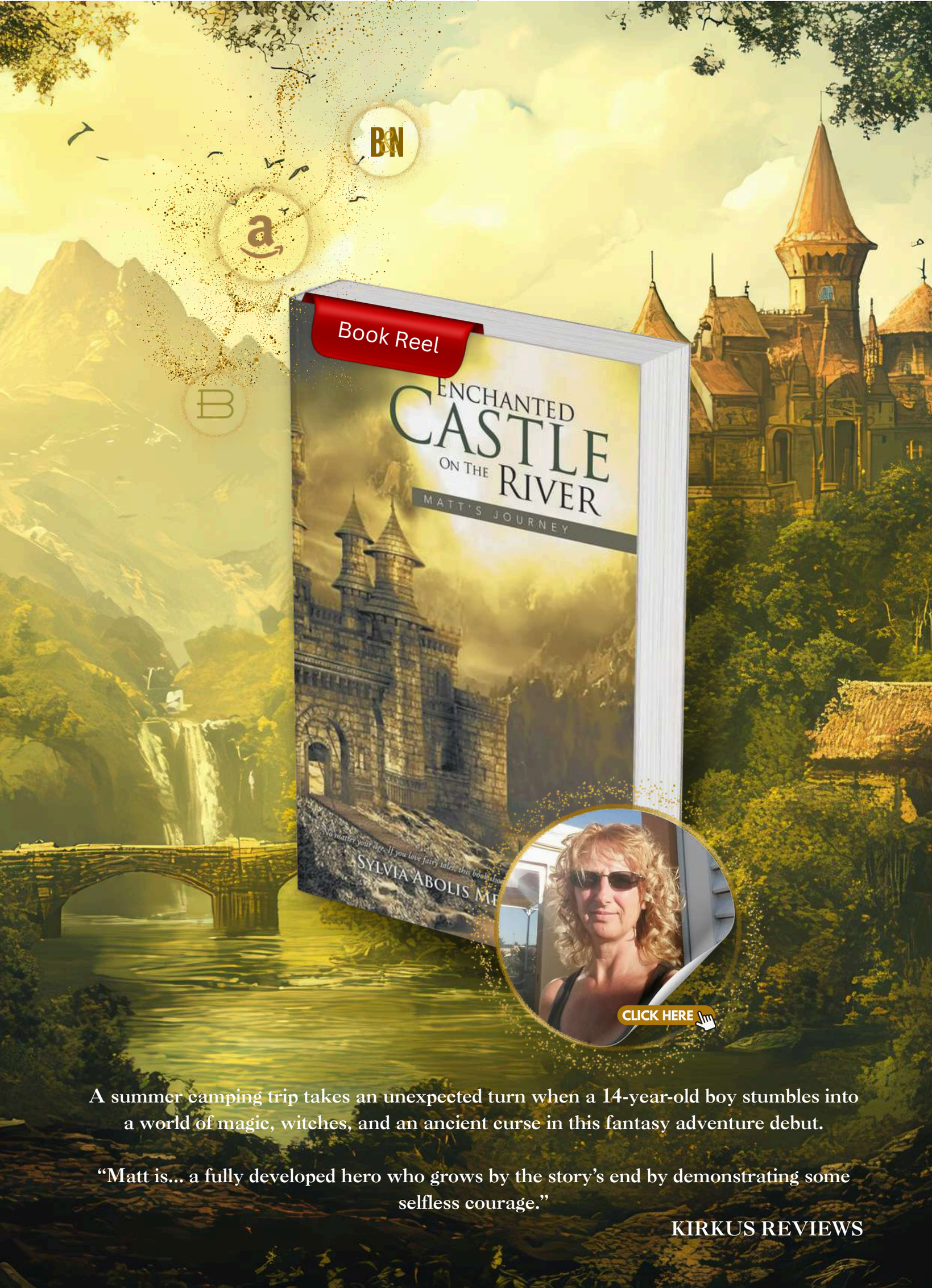
AVAILABLE AT

Shattered Dreams and Broken Hearts

This book will help parents and families understand how bad these opioids really are, and what signs to look for. The stigma and preconception of drug abuse is wrong - our kids are very smart and talented, with their whole lives ahead or them. Our son Aaron James was a beautiful, bright 30 year old with so many dreams, so many desires.

He had a wonderful girlfriend, an adorable pooch, and a family that loved him and had such high hopes for him. His friends adored him. He would have had a fantastic life - if not for his accident in January 2014, after which he became addicted to prescription painkillers.That day was the beginning of the end for not only Aaron, but everyone who loved him. He died unexpectedly to the KILLER FENTANYL. The drugs took over his life; they rewired his brain, they controlled him.

They starved his body of nutrition. They changed his personality. They took Aaron's LIFE!If you still think this can't happen to your family - WAKE UP! We thought the same. When we finally realized what was happening it was too late.some of the proceeds of each book sold will be donated to MSTH momsstoptheharm.com to help them continue their fight against the war on drugs.



A summer camping trip takes an unexpected turn when a 14-year-old boy stumbles into a world of magic, witches, and an ancient curse in this fantasy adventure debut.

"Matt is... a fully developed hero who grows by the story's end by demonstrating some selfless courage."

KIRKUS REVIEWS

Sylvia Abolis Mennear

THE INTERVIEW - Part I

Enchanted Castle on the River is a fantasy novel for young readers, while Shattered Dreams and Broken Hearts is a deeply personal memoir about the opioid crisis. What was it like for you to navigate these two vastly different literary worlds, and how did your creative process shift for each?

Navigating these two worlds taught me flexibility as a writer. One process gave me lightness and healing through imagination, while the other gave me purpose and healing through truth-telling. Both are connected by the same thread: my desire to use storytelling—whether through fantasy or memoir—to touch people's hearts, spark empathy, and inspire courage. I had written Enchanted Castle back in 2015 when my mind was in a different place, where it was fun to write and use my imagination. I also started another book where Matthew continues his journey. I had writer's block and decided to take some time away from writing the 2nd book. Then in 2017 our son passed away, I was so grief stricken that I couldn't think of anything else but him. I was told by others that I should go see a counselor to help with my grief, but I refused. Then both my sister and husband said why don't you write a book about Aaron's life.

Your journey as an author was interrupted by a profound personal tragedy. You mention that a spiritual medium encouraged you to write again. Could you elaborate on how you found the courage to transform your immense grief into a book dedicated to your son, Aaron?

Transforming grief into a book dedicated to my son wasn't easy. Every page brought tears, but it also brought healing. Writing allowed me to honor his memory and ensure that his story would continue to live on, not only for me but for other families who might recognize themselves in our journey.

The courage came from love. Love for my son gave me the strength to push through the pain, and love for other families gave me the determination to share openly, so they might feel less alone. In the end, the book became both a tribute and a lifeline—keeping Aaron's spirit alive while helping me find purpose again. Other than my family encouraging me to write a book for Aaron, I had seen a medium and I was surprised when she mentioned that I do the same. So 4 months after Aaron's death I found the courage to start research on the "Opioid Crisis" . I really thought it would be difficult, but it actually helped me a tremendous amount, it was like self counseling. I was able to put Aarons life on paper, and show others that Overdose victims are not just street people. They are our children who either got hooked on opiods after an accident like my son, or a misfortune in some way or another. I had also found a memory stick of Aarons where he had started a diary which I put into the book. I was so shocked when I read it, things I did not know (feelings he had).

Enchanted Castle on the River and your memoir both share a central theme of a character being thrust into an unexpected and harrowing journey. Do you see a connection between Matthew's fantastical nightmare and the real-life nightmare your family faced?

"Yes—I think both Matthew's fantastical nightmare and my family's real-life nightmare share the same truth: being thrown into something you never expected and finding the strength to carry on. Both stories are ultimately about courage, resilience, and holding on to hope in the darkest times." That parallel reminds me that whether through fantasy or reality, stories can show us how to survive the unimaginable, and how to keep moving forward when the path is hardest.

You believe that "age doesn't matter when it comes to fantasy." How has your adult perspective, as a mother and a professional, shaped the magical world and the moral complexities that Matthew encounters in his journey?

I believe fantasy speaks across all ages. As a mother, I've woven into Matt's story the challenges and choices that shape a young person's character, and as a professional, I've brought in the moral complexities of a world that isn't just good or evil. That mix of wonder and realism helps make the magical journey meaningful for both young readers and adults. Ultimately, my adult perspective ensures that while the book is full of magic and adventure, it also carries lessons about courage, compassion, and resilience - things both young readers and adults can take to heart.

Shattered Dreams and Broken Hearts is dedicated to helping families recognize the signs of addiction. What do you hope families will take away from reading Aaron's story, and what role do you believe storytelling plays in fighting the stigma of drug abuse?

Shattered Dreams and Broken Hearts is dedicated to helping families see the signs of addiction before it's too late. My hope is that when families read Aaron's story, they recognize the subtle red flags that are so easy to dismiss at first - changes in behavior, secrecy, or sudden shifts in mood - and understand how important it is to act with love and awareness. More than that I want families to feel less alone. Addiction often isolates not only those suffering, but also the parents, siblings and friends who are struggling to help. By telling Aaron's story openly and honestly, I wanted to create a bridge - something families can lean on to realize that what they're experiencing is shared, and that there are communities and support available.

Storytelling is powerful because it breaks through stigma. Facts and statistics are important, but stories reach the heart. It's about real people we love and it helps shift the conversation from judgement to compassion.

Sylvia Abolis Mennear

THE INTERVIEW - Part II

You began writing Shattered Dreams as a "last gift" to your son. How did the act of writing become part of your own healing process, and what did you learn about yourself as you put his story on the page?

When I began writing Shattered Dreams and Broken Hearts, it was truly meant as a final gift to my son. I wanted his story to live on and to help other families recognize the signs of addiction before it was too late. What I didn't expect was how much the act of writing would help me in my own healing.

Putting Aaron's story on the page forced me to sit with my grief, but it also gave me a place to channel it. Instead of feeling powerless, I was able to transform pain int0 purpose. Writing helped me process emotions that were overwhelming at first - it turned the chaos of loss into something I could hold, shape, and share.

Through this press, I learned that I am stronger than I believed. I discovered resilience I didn't know I had, and I realized that even in the darkest of times, words can be a light - for me and for others who are walking through the same heartbreak. Writing tave me both release and hope, and it continues to be a way I honor Aaron's life.

As a mother of three boys, you've witnessed their growth firsthand. How have your experiences as a mom influenced the way you portray family dynamics and the love between parents and children in your books?

Being a mother of three boys has deeply influenced the way I write about family dynamics and the love between parents and children. I've seen firsthand how each child grows differently - their strengths, struggles, and the unique way they view the world. That perspective makes me more sensitive to how I portray relationships in my books.

In Shattered Dreams that maternal instinct comes through in the fierce love and heartbreak of a parent trying to protect a child from something larger than themselves. It reflects my understanding that love can be both powerful and vulnerable.

In Enchanted Castle: Matt's Journey, my role as a mom influenced the way I shaped Matt's bond with his family and the choices he faces. Even though it's fantasy, the story carries a core truth: that the love between parents and children can guide us, anchor us and give us courage when the world feels overwhelming.

Ultimately, my experience as a mother allows me to write not only from imagination, but from lived love - love that is fierce, imperfect, and enduring.

You've decided to donate some of the proceeds from your memoir to Moms Stop the Harm. What does this organization's work mean to you, and why was it so important to you that your book have a tangible impact beyond the page?

Moms Stop The Harm gives families like mine a voice, turning grief into action and awareness. When I was writing Shattered Dreams and Broken Hearts, I knew that I didn't just want Aaron's story to stay on a page - I wanted it to reach outward and make a difference. Donating part of the proceeds to Moms Stop The Harm was a way of turning personal pain into tangible action. It meant that every book sold could contribute to breaking stigma, raising awareness, and supporting real change.

For me, it wasn't enough to simply share my son's story. I wanted to ensure that his memory could also empower others, help families feel less alone, and drive conversations that may save lives. Moms Stop the Harm embodies that mission, and supporting them allows the book to live beyond the page as a part of something larger.

You mentioned that you've already started a sequel to Enchanted Castle on the River. What does it feel like to return to a world of fantasy and adventure after completing such an emotionally demanding project, and what can readers expect next for Matthew?

After writing such a personal and emotional memoir, returning to Matt's Journey feels like a breath of light after walking through a storm. Writing the memoir was emotionally heavy - it means revisiting grief and loss every day, and pouring those raw emotions onto the page. Fantasy lets me carry forward the lessons I've lived through, but in a hopeful, imaginative way. In the sequel, readers can expect Matthew to grow braver as he faces bigger challenges, new allies, and even deeper mysteries in the magical world.

You've embraced the power of "letting the creative mind work its magic." As a writer, what is the single most important piece of advice you would give to someone who believes they have a story to tell but doesn't know where to begin?

“My best advice is to just begin. Don’t wait for perfection—write from your heart, let the words flow, and trust that the story will reveal itself once you start. You can always refine later, but you can’t edit a blank page.”

THE BIBLIO DIET

by Jordan Rubin, Dr. Josh Axe

In this breakthrough book, New York Times bestselling authors and nutrition experts Jordan Rubin and Dr. Josh Axe offer a simple and holistic plan for building strength, health, and longevity. Based on the ancient wisdom of the Bible and confirmed by modern science, The Biblio Diet's intuitive and easy-to-follow plan invites you to experience a breakthrough in the health of your entire family by learning to eat and live God's way.

Experience health and freedom like you never have before when you learn to live the Bibliotarian way.

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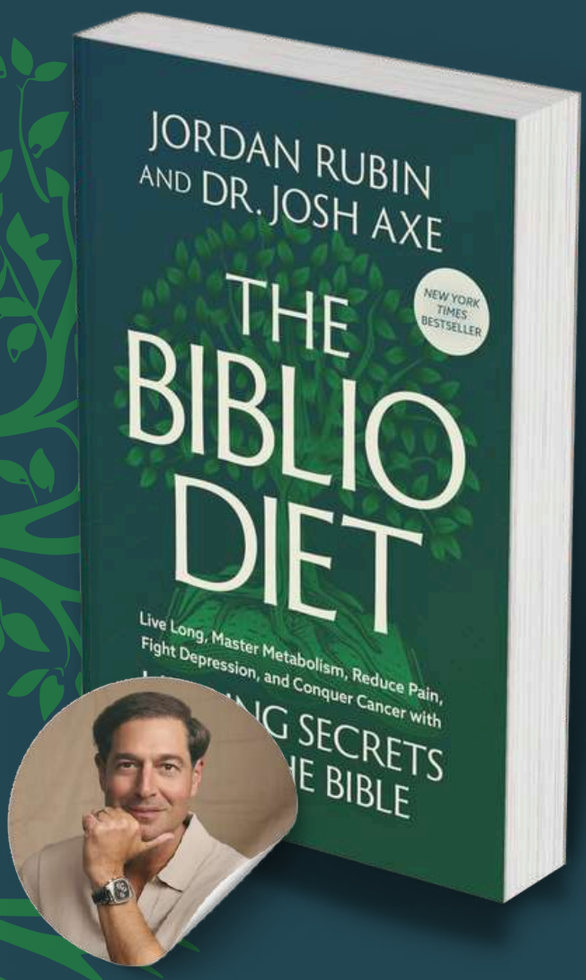


My Beloved

by Jan Karon



In My Beloved, Father Tim's wife Cynthia writes a love letter to his neighbor, Helene, about his wishes for Christmas. The letter goes missing, revealing the power of a letter to change lives. The story follows Harley, who receives an important letter,

Esther Cunningham, who learns a lesson from a broken heart, and Sadie, a character readers eagerly await. The story is poignant, hilarious, and life-affirming, showcasing the characters' humanity and the importance of a letter in a life in Mitford.

AVAILABLE AT

Leanï Giliomee

Promising Fantasy Writer

Author of the “The Twisted Crown Trilogy”

www.joffebooks.com/leane-giliomee

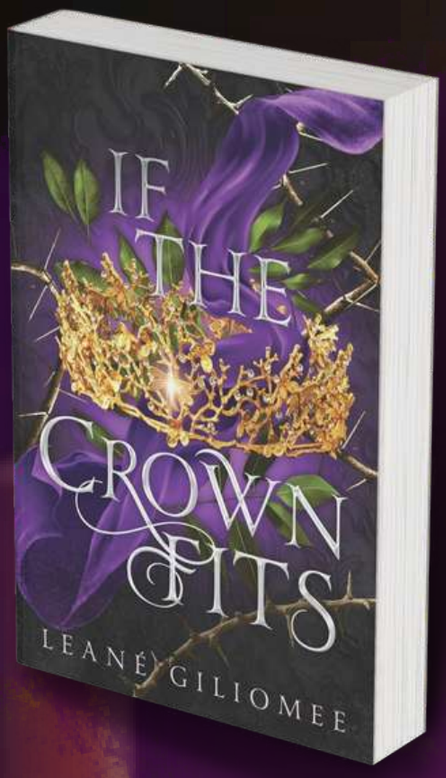
Leané Giliomee is a South African author who has made a significant mark in the YA Fantasy genre, particularly with her debut series, "The Twisted Crown Trilogy."

Her work is characterized by intricate world-building, compelling character development, and a focus on political intrigue and magical elements within a richly imagined setting.

In summary, Leané Giliomee is an exciting voice in YA fantasy, and her "Twisted Crown Trilogy" offers readers an escape into a world of magic, politics, and compelling personal journeys.







In the kingdom of Everness, magic lives on through whispered stories. Lara, a bandit raised in a clan of thieves, steals from the tyrannical royal family and gets caught. Forced to choose between forfeiting her life or offering her services to the spoiled prince regent, Lara is blackmailed into retrieving a stolen heirloom from the crown prince of an enemy kingdom. Her path to freedom is filled with treachery and complexity, as she faces the challenge of becoming an enemy of the crown or her own heart.

AVAILABLE AT



Elara, a princess in Norrandale, faces rebellion, betrayal, and dangerous alliances. With enemies approaching and war looming, she must make a risky deal with King Cai of Norrandale to survive.

Despite her doubts, she must risk her heart to save the kingdom and her loved ones from assassination attempts and deceitful alliances.

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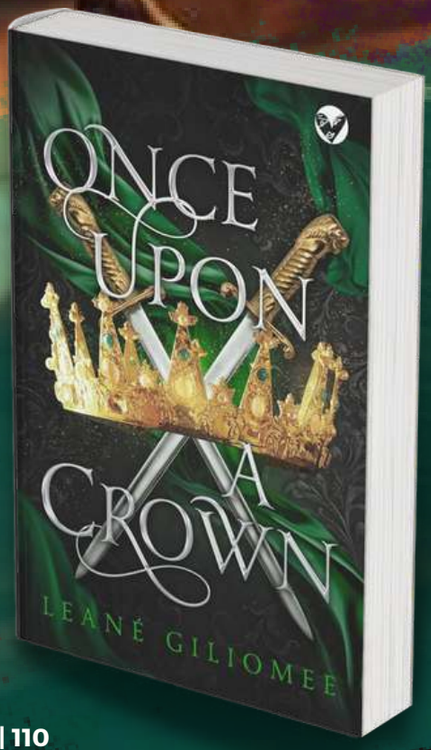

Elara rules a fractured realm in Norrandale, battling relentless enemies for a legendary power. Her grip on power is fragile, and she must balance duty with the haunted king who once vowed to fight with her. Cai, once the king of Norrandale, is an exile and their only hope of survival is a lost diary. The line between truth and legend blurs, and the fate of two kingdoms and one forbidden love hangs in the balance.

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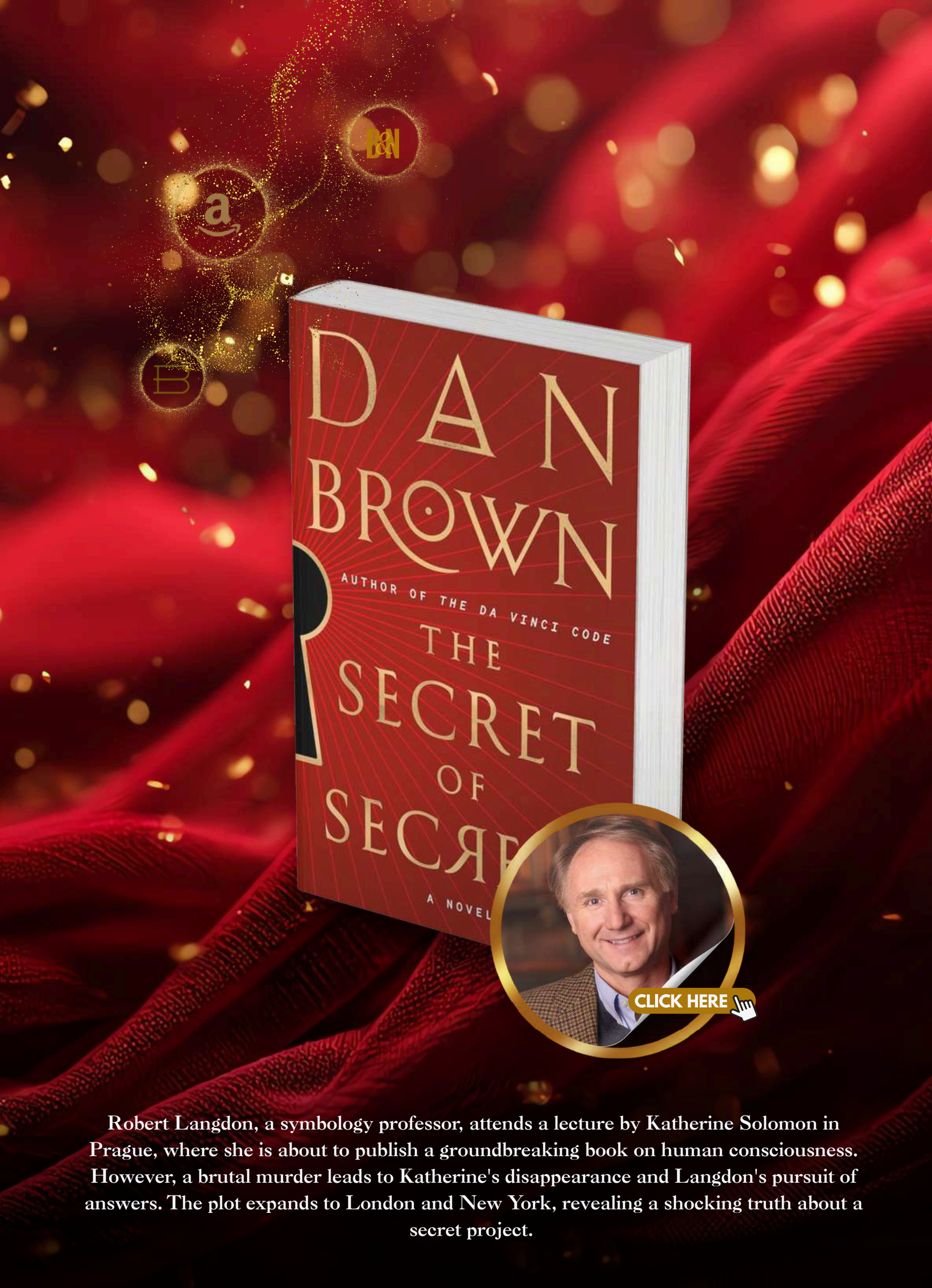

Robert Langdon, a symbology professor, attends a lecture by Katherine Solomon in Prague, where she is about to publish a groundbreaking book on human consciousness. However, a brutal murder leads to Katherine's disappearance and Langdon's pursuit of answers. The plot expands to London and New York, revealing a shocking truth about a secret project.

Leigh Bardugo

#1 New York Times bestselling author

Author of the “The Shadow and Bone” Trilogy

www.leighbardugo.com

Leigh Bardugo is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of The Familiar, Ninth House and the creator of the Grishaverse (now a Netflix original series) which spans the Shadow and Bone trilogy, the Six of Crows duology, the King of Scars duology—and much more.

Her short fiction has appeared in multiple anthologies including The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy.

She lives in Los Angeles and is an associate fellow of Pauli Murray College at Yale University.







Alina Starkov, an orphaned soldier, embarks on a journey across the Shadow Fold, a dark, monster-infested territory. Unknowingly, she unleashes dormant magic, leading her to train with the Grisha, the magical military elite, and fall under the spell of the Darkling.

The Darkling believes Alina can summon a force capable of destroying the Shadow Fold and reuniting the war-ravaged country.

As the threat mounts, Alina uncovers secrets that could threaten her loved ones and the nation's future.

AVAILABLE AT



Alina Starkov, the Sun Summoner, is hunted across the True Sea by the Darkling, determined to claim her magic and take the Ravkan throne.

With no other option, she enlists the help of an infamous privateer to lead the Grisha army. As the truth of her destiny unfolds, she must choose between her power and the love she thought would always be her shelter, facing the oncoming storm and sacrificing for her country.

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The nation's fate is tied to a broken Sun Summoner, a disgraced tracker, and a once-great magical army.

The Darkling rules from his shadow throne, while Alina Starkov, a weakened Saint, recovers from battles under zealots' protection.

Alina's hopes lie in the magic of an ancient creature and the chance of an outlaw prince's survival. Alina must seize a legend's power to win the fight against a rising tide of darkness, but claiming the firebird may be her ruin.

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PAGE TO PROTEST

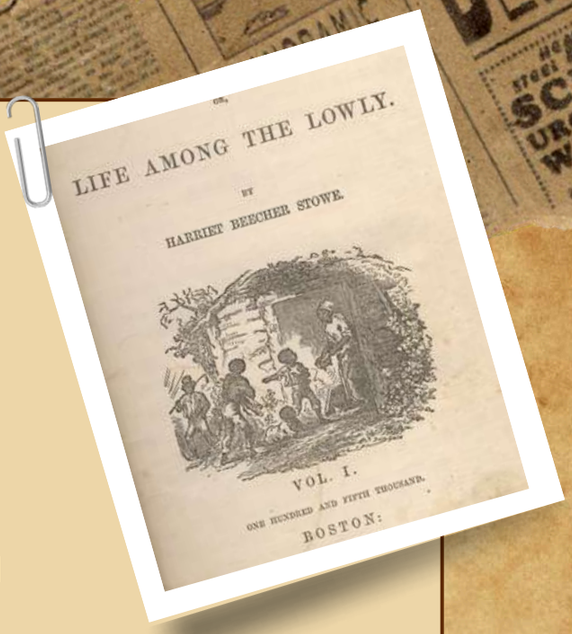
For centuries, history has often been defined by military might and political upheavals, yet the quiet power of the written word has proven to be just as revolutionary. As "The Literary Catalysts That Broke the Status Quo," certain powerful books have done far more than entertain—they have fundamentally altered the course of human society. These texts are not merely great works of literature; they are ignition points that sparked movements, redefined moral codes, and gave voice to the marginalized.

We are diving into five essential books that encouraged profound changes in the social landscape, proving that true power can often be found between the covers of a book.

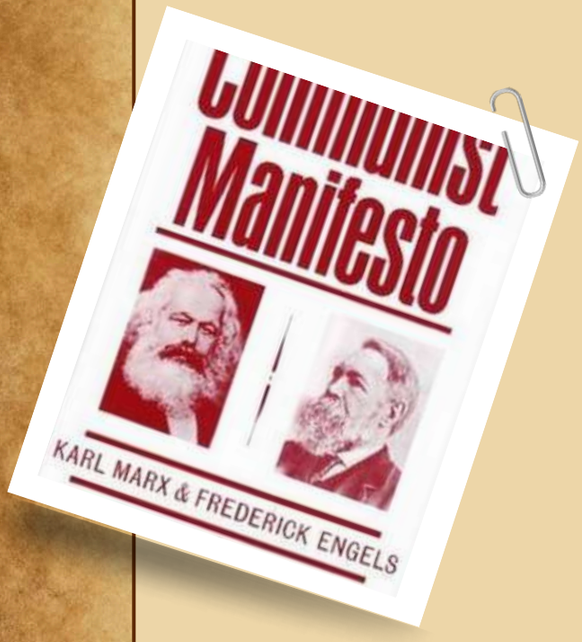


Uncle Tom's Cabin

by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1852)



This anti-slavery novel vividly depicted the harsh realities of slavery, stirring immense abolitionist sentiment in the Northern United States and contributing significantly to the tensions leading to the Civil War. It humanized enslaved people in a way many had not considered, making it a powerful tool for social change.



The Communist Manifesto

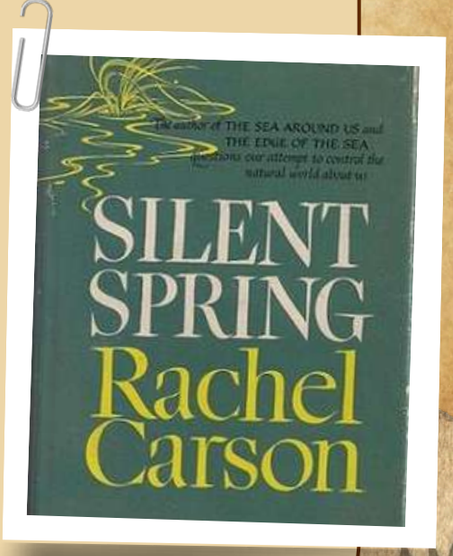
by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels (1848)

This political pamphlet laid out the theory of communism, arguing for a classless society and calling for a workers' revolution. It became a foundational text for socialist and communist movements worldwide, influencing political systems, labor movements, and countless revolutions throughout the 20th century.

Silent Spring

by Rachel Carson (1962)

This meticulously researched book exposed the devastating effects of pesticides (particularly DDT) on the environment and human health. It ignited the modern environmental movement, leading to widespread public outcry, new environmental protection laws, and the eventual ban of DDT in many countries.



The Second Sex

by Simone de Beauvoir (1949)

A groundbreaking work of feminist philosophy, this book comprehensively analyzed women's oppression throughout history and society. It became a foundational text for second-wave feminism, profoundly influencing gender studies, women's rights movements, and societal perceptions of women's roles.

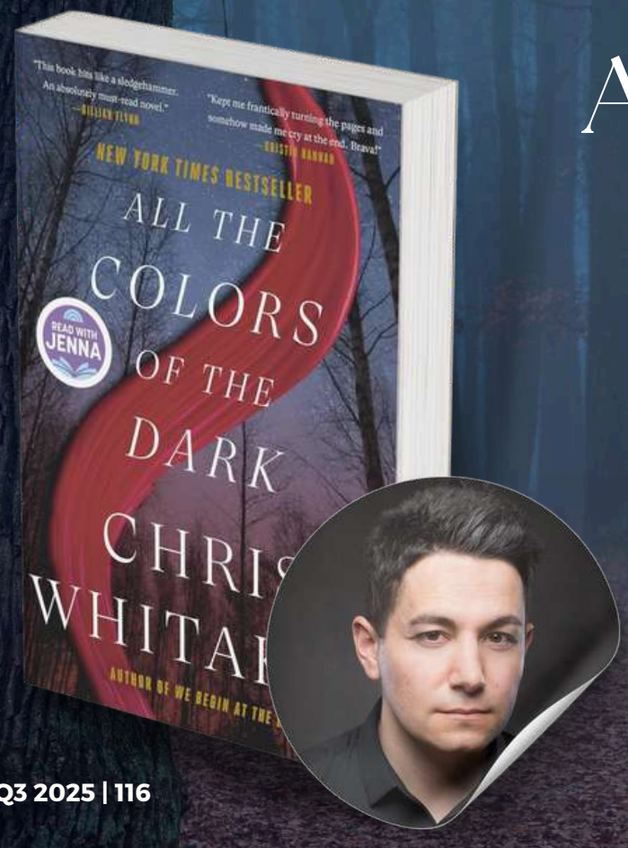


Common Sense

by Thomas Paine (1776)

This pamphlet, written in clear, accessible language, passionately argued for American independence from British rule. It galvanized public opinion, convincing many colonists that a complete break from Britain was not only necessary but achievable, playing a crucial role in the success of the American Revolution.





ALL THE COLORS OF THE DARK

by Chris Whitaker

1975 is a time of change in America. The Vietnam War is ending. Muhammad Ali is fighting Joe Frazier. And in the smalltown of Monta Clare, Missouri, girls are disappearing.

When the daughter of a wealthy family is targeted, the most unlikely hero emerges—Patch, a local boy, who saves the girl, and, in doing so, leaves heartache in his wake.

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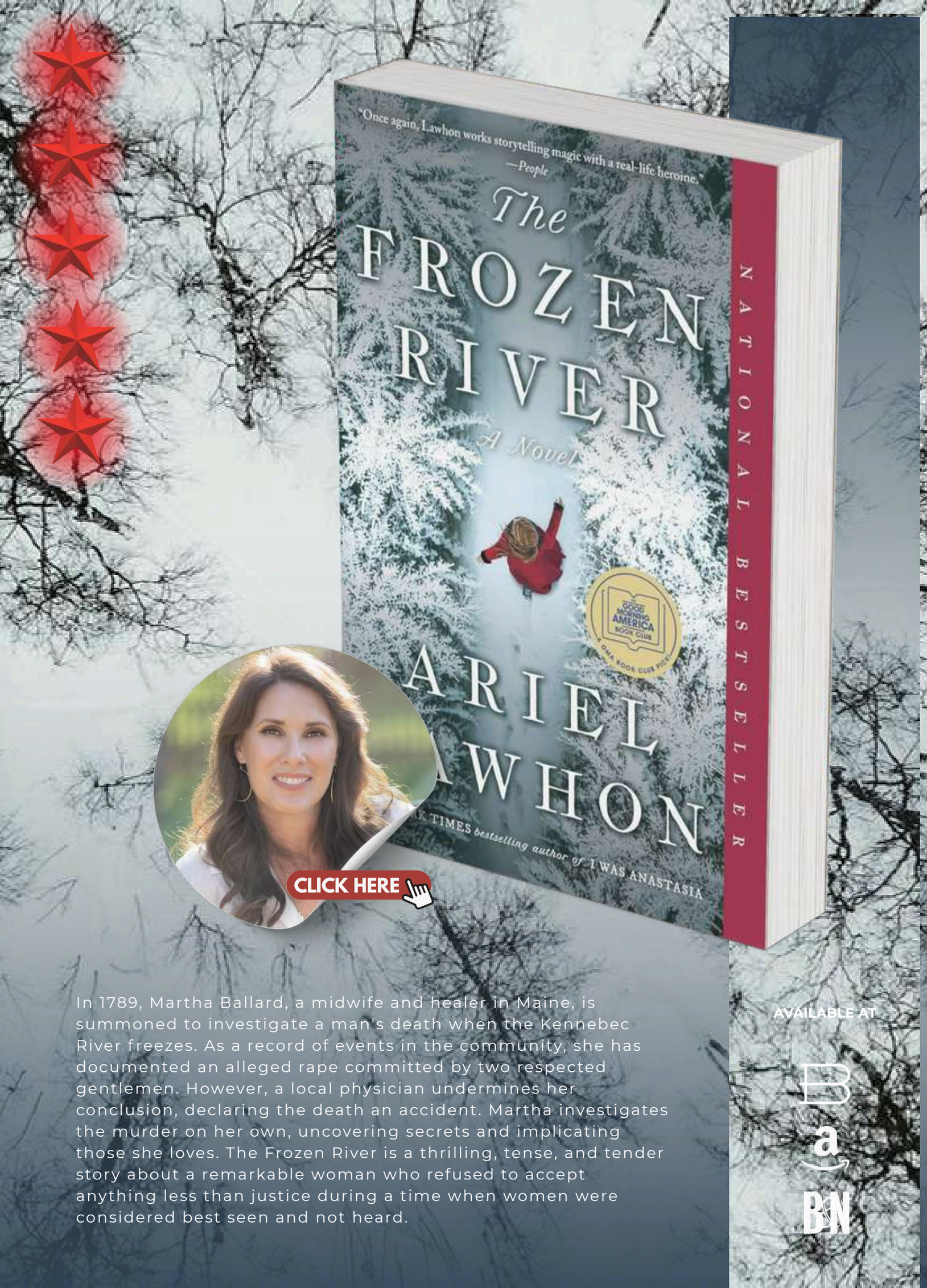

In 1789, Martha Ballard, a midwife and healer in Maine, is summoned to investigate a man's death when the Kennebec River freezes. As a record of events in the community, she has documented an alleged rape committed by two respected gentlemen. However, a local physician undermines her conclusion, declaring the death an accident. Martha investigates the murder on her own, uncovering secrets and implicating those she loves. The Frozen River is a thrilling, tense, and tender story about a remarkable woman who refused to accept anything less than justice during a time when women were considered best seen and not heard.

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B a B&N



Architects of Conscience

Six Pens That Rewrote the Moral Foundation of a Generation



The power of the pen has often outweighed the might of the sword, and the collected works of certain literary masters prove this truth across continents and centuries. The most profound, generation-defining shifts frequently begin not with a bang, but with the quiet, unyielding pressure of the written word.

These six essential authors did more than tell stories—they gave entire nations the vocabulary, motivation, and courage to demand a different future, proving that a powerful book is the most effective weapon against the established status quo.



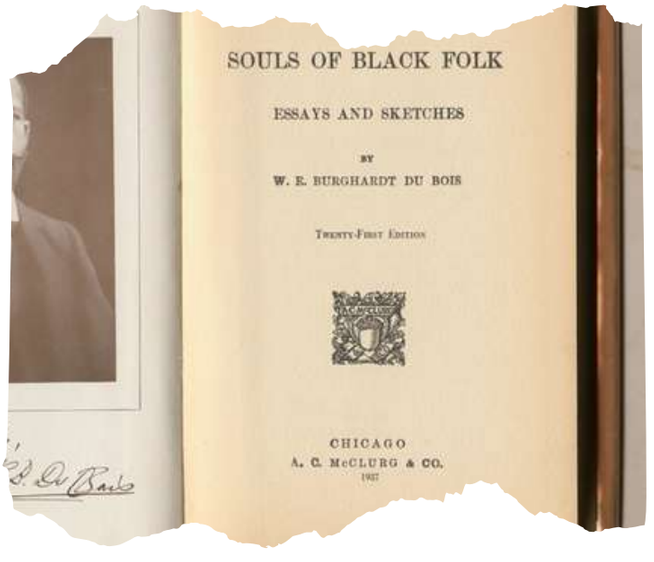


Miguel de Cervantes (Spain/Europe, 17th Century)

His novel, *Don Quixote*, is often considered the first modern novel and profoundly influenced literature, language, and cultural identity.

It challenged traditional notions of heroism and chivalry, introducing realism and psychological depth, and setting a new standard for narrative art that resonated across Europe and beyond, shaping subsequent literary movements and national narratives.

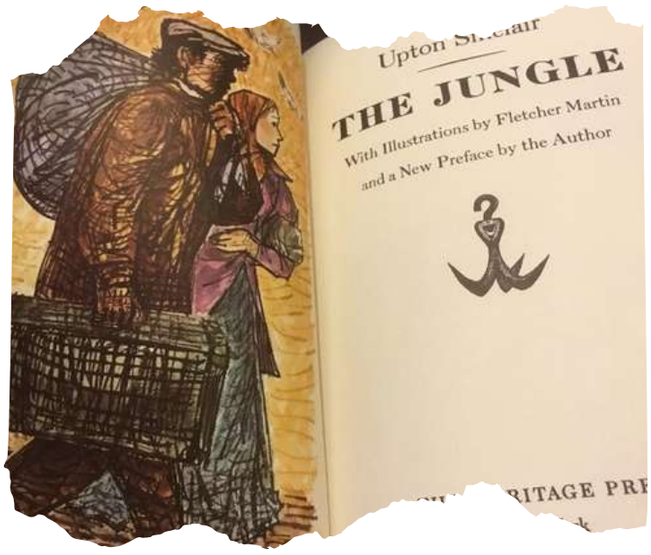




W.E.B. Du Bois (United States, 20th Century)

A towering figure in American intellectual history and civil rights, Du Bois's foundational work, *The Souls of Black Folk*, among others, powerfully articulated the concept of "double consciousness" and exposed the systemic racism and oppression faced by African Americans.

His writings were instrumental in the early civil rights movement, challenging prevailing racial norms and advocating for political, social, and economic equality, directly influencing generations of activists and scholars.

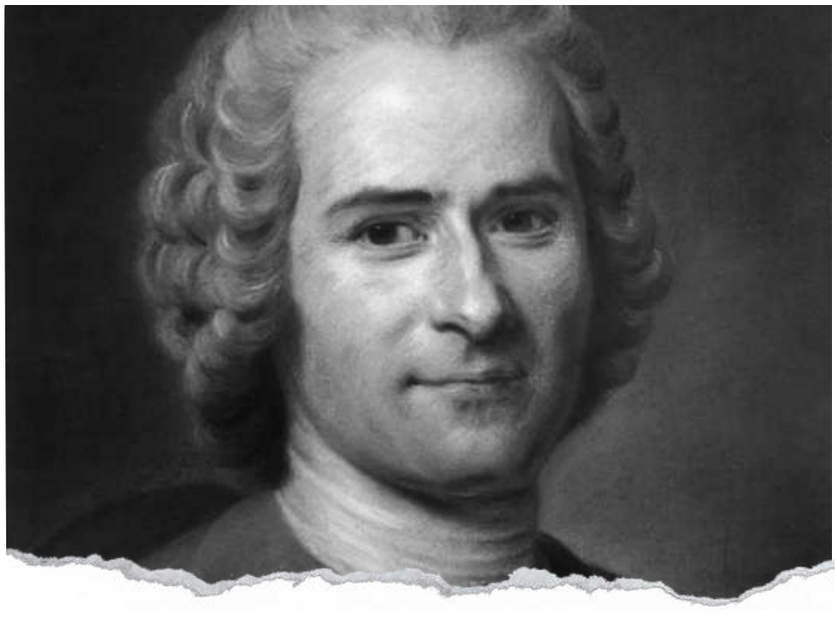


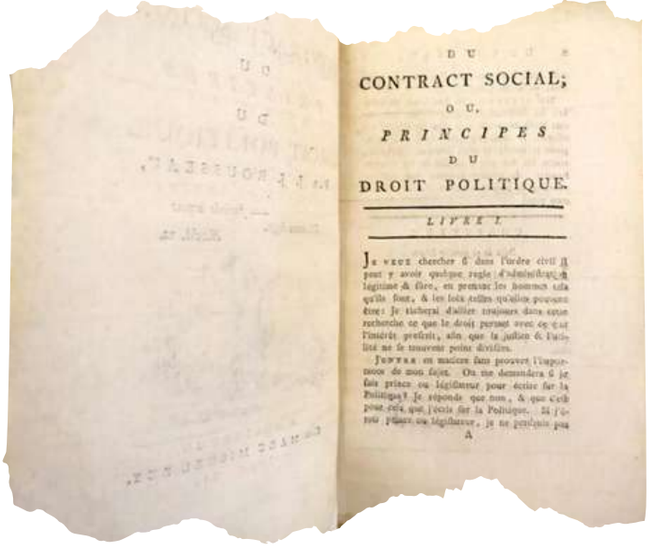


Upton Sinclair (United States, early 20th Century)

His muckraking novel, *The Jungle*, exposed the appalling conditions in the meatpacking industry. While intended to promote socialism, its immediate and massive impact was on public health and food safety.

It directly led to the passage of the Meat Inspection Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906, fundamentally changing government regulation and consumer protection in the U.S.



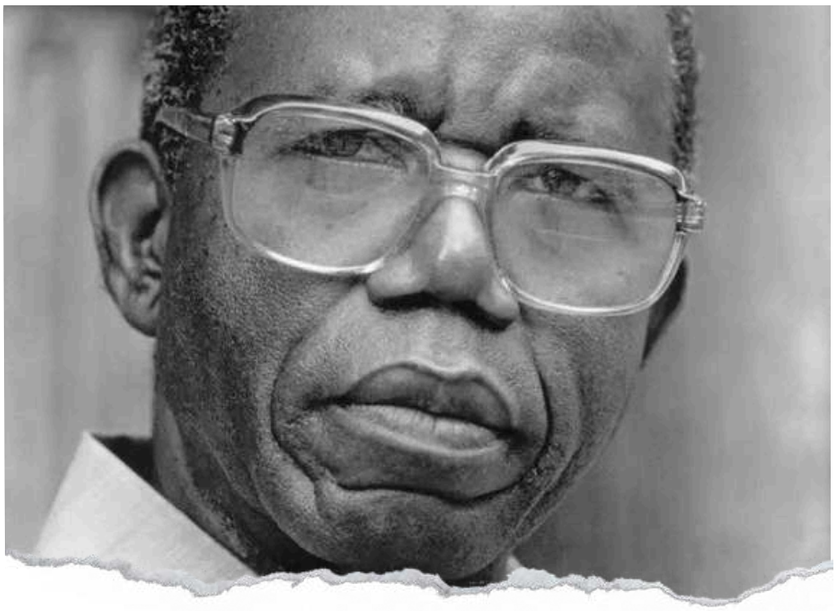


Jean-Jacques Rousseau (France/Europe, 18th Century)

A central figure of the Enlightenment, Rousseau's philosophical works, particularly *The Social Contract* and *Emile*, or *On Education*, profoundly influenced political thought, educational theory, and the French Revolution.

His ideas on popular sovereignty, the general will, and natural human goodness challenged monarchical rule and traditional pedagogical methods, laying groundwork for modern democracy and progressive education.

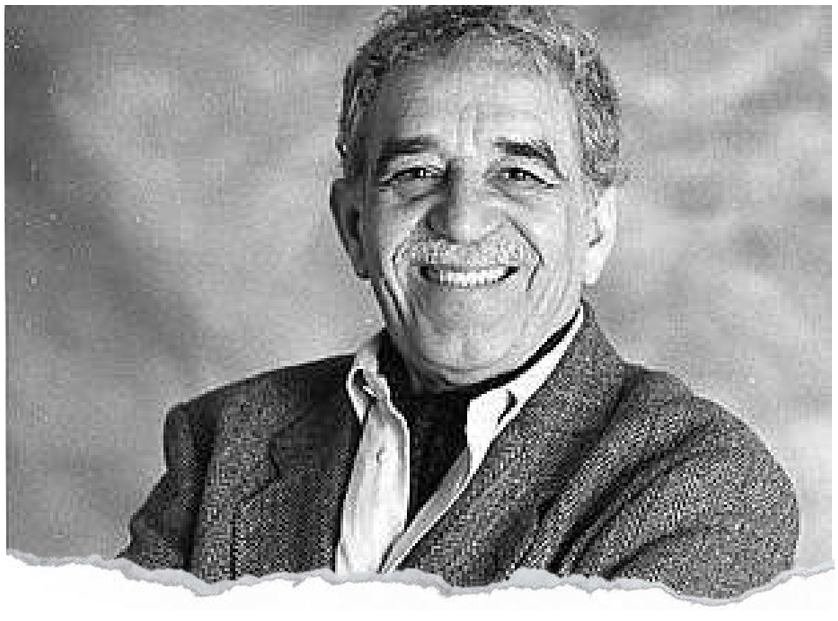


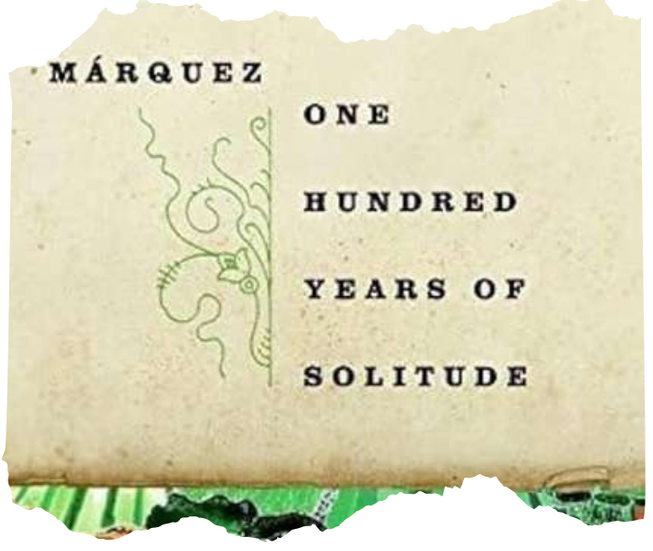


Chinua Achebe (Nigeria/Africa, 20th Century)

Through his groundbreaking novel *Things Fall Apart* and other works, Achebe challenged colonial narratives and Eurocentric views of African history and culture. He portrayed African societies with dignity and complexity, reclaiming African voices and perspectives.

His literature became a cornerstone of post-colonial discourse, influencing national identity in Nigeria and inspiring a generation of African writers and thinkers to tell their own stories, shifting global cultural understanding of the continent.





Gabriel García Márquez (Colombia/Latin America, 20th Century)

Through magical realism, particularly in his seminal work *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, García Márquez defined a shared literary identity for Latin America. He used his writing to critique the cycles of political violence, imperialism, and historical amnesia across the continent.

His work provided a complex, deeply-rooted cultural voice that fostered continental self-awareness and became a rallying point for intellectual and anti-colonial movements.



FORM & LEGACY

These five literary masterpieces—from Pride and Prejudice to Romeo and Juliet—are radical disruptions. They pioneered new trends in genre, publishing, and narrative form, fundamentally changing how all stories are written.



Time Capsule

LITERARY GAME CHANGERS

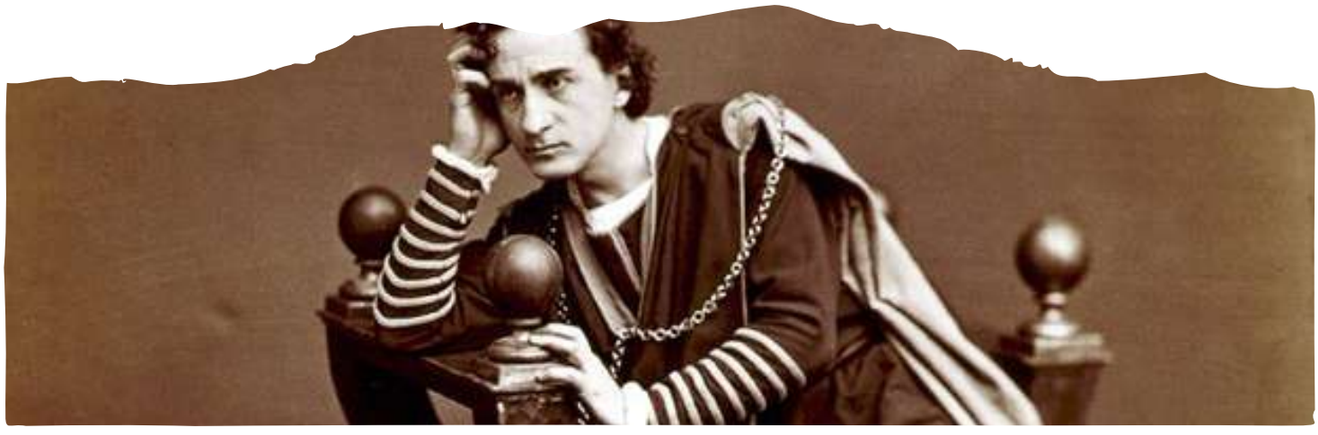
Five Books That Re-Wrote the Rules of Literature

The history of literature is defined by works that radically change how we tell stories.

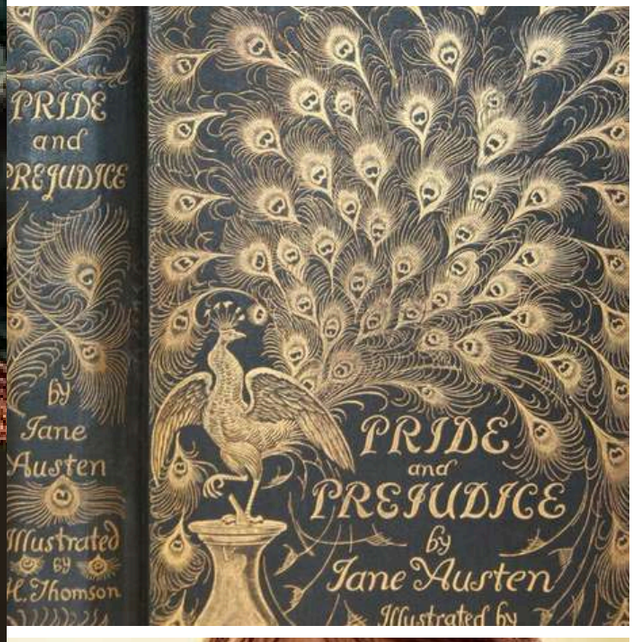
Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, emerging from 19th-century scientific optimism, established Science Fiction, creating the positive, enduring trend of using narrative for ethical debate on technology.

Jane Austen's Pride & Prejudice perfected the novel of manners, a trend that positively cemented the use of witty social commentary and female psychological interiority. In the rapidly industrializing city, Edgar Allan Poe's The Murders in the Rue Morgue birthed Detective Fiction, offering the positive comfort of logic and order via the trend of the cerebral investigator.

Later, recovering from global conflict, J.R.R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings set the definitive template for High Fantasy world-building, a positive trend still dominating media. Finally, William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet established the trend of tragic romance, creating an ultimate cultural template that defined passionate love and loss in Western drama.











Jane Austen

Book: *Pride and Prejudice* (1813)

- **Real Scenario/Context:** Novels of the late 18th and early 19th centuries were often grand romances, gothic tales, or moralistic tracts, sometimes featuring over-the-top melodrama and simplified characters. Women's roles were largely confined to marriage and domesticity, and social mobility was extremely limited, especially in the English gentry.

- **Literary Trend/Game-Changer:** Austen refined and popularized the novel of manners and the psychological romance. She introduced:

    - **Subtle Social Commentary:** Critiquing societal expectations, class structures, and gender roles through wit and irony, rather than overt sermons.

    - **Focus on Character Interiority:** Detailed exploration of characters' thoughts, feelings, and internal conflicts, particularly women.

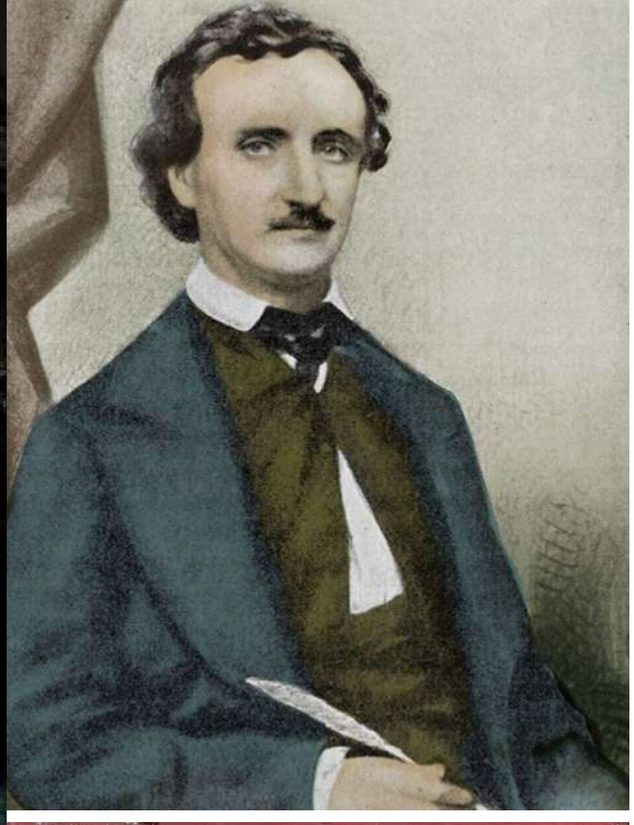
    - **Dialogue-Driven Narrative:** Masterful use of dialogue to reveal character and advance plot.

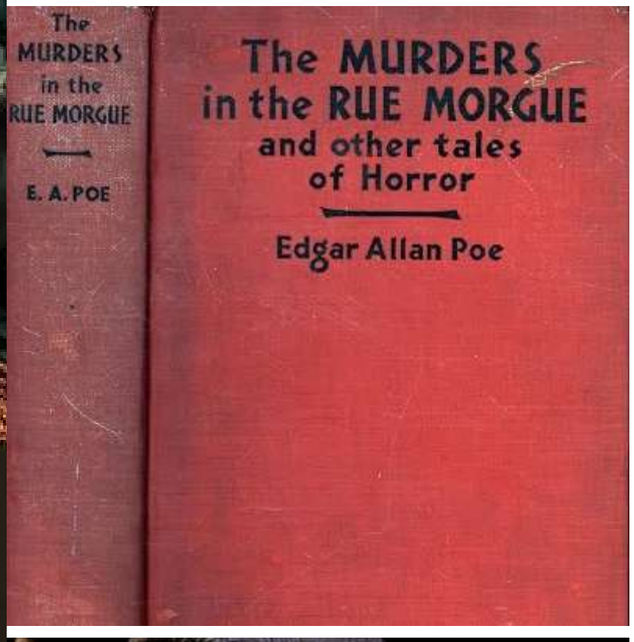
    - **Realistic Portrayal of Relationships:** Explored the complexities and nuances of romantic relationships within strict social constraints.

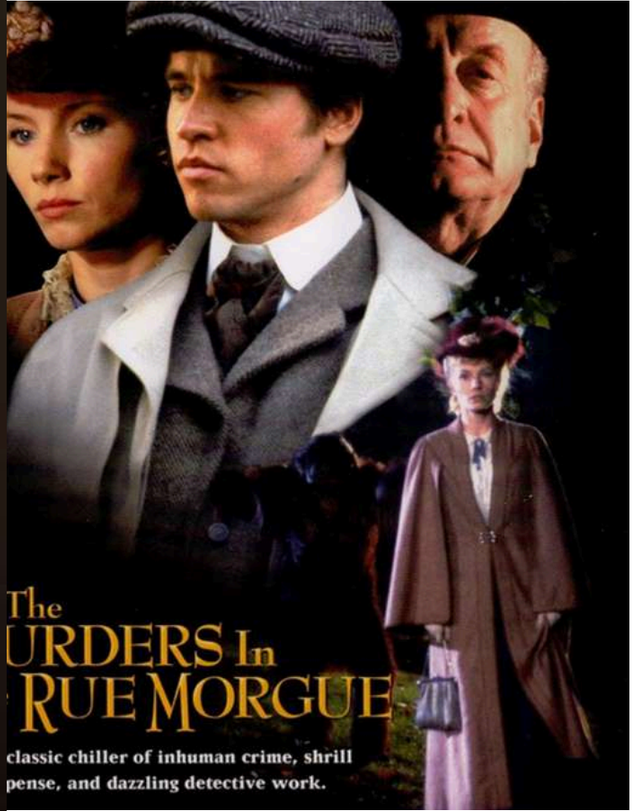
- **Lasting Impact:** The trend of "romantic fiction" and "social commentary" through character-driven narratives, which continues today.

    - **Positive Impact:** Austen's work empowered women writers and readers by centering female experience and intelligence. It provided a framework for exploring social issues through engaging, personal stories. It fostered a deeper appreciation for witty dialogue and sharp observation in literature. It essentially created the blueprint for much of modern romantic comedy and drama.

    - **Negative Impact:** Critics sometimes argue that the immense popularity of her style, particularly the focus on romance and marriage, has led to a proliferation of formulaic romantic fiction that sometimes oversimplifies complex social issues or reinforces traditional gender roles, though this is more a critique of derivatives than of Austen herself.







Edgar Allan Poe

Book: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue" (short story, 1841) / Collected Works

- **Real Scenario/Context:** While stories involving mystery and crime existed, the genre of detective fiction as we know it was largely unformed. Most narratives relied on accidental discoveries or supernatural elements.

- **Literary Trend/Game-Changer:** Poe essentially invented modern detective fiction. With C. Auguste Dupin, he created the archetype of the brilliant, eccentric detective. Key elements he established include:

  - **Ratiocination:** The use of logical deduction and analytical reasoning to solve a crime.

  - **The "Armchair Detective":** A detective who can solve cases primarily through intellect rather than physical action.

  - **The Loyal Sidekick/Narrator:** An assistant who marvels at the detective's genius.

  - **Closed Circle of Suspects:** A defined group from which the perpetrator must be found.

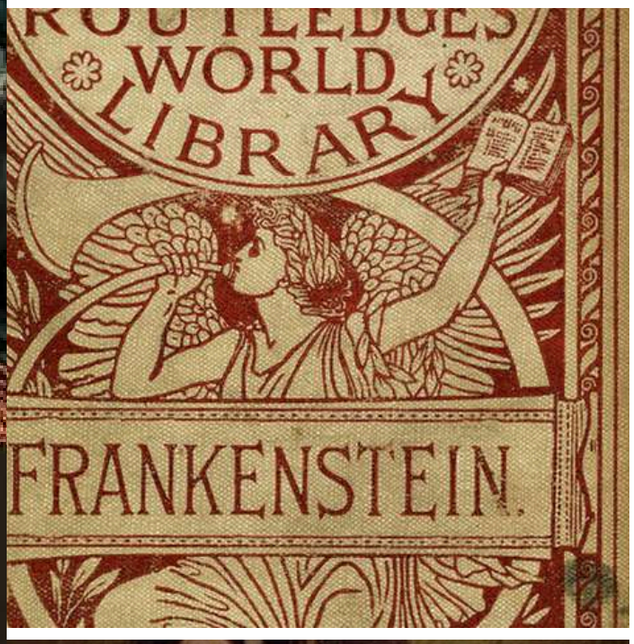
  - **Red Herrings and Clues:** Deliberate misdirection and scattered pieces of evidence.

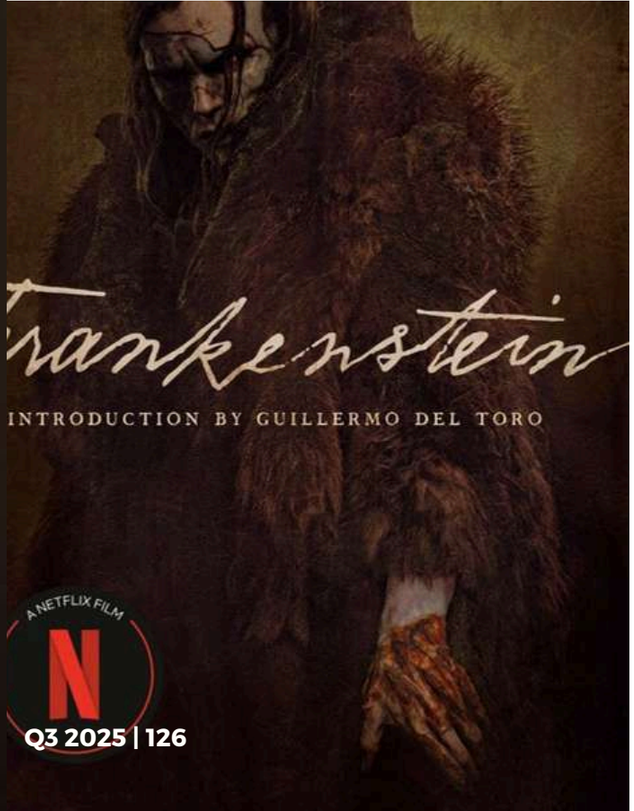
- **Lasting Impact:** The trend of detective and mystery fiction, a ubiquitous genre in books, film, and television today.

  - **Positive Impact:** It created a hugely popular and enduring genre that provides entertainment, intellectual puzzles, and a sense of order in a chaotic world. It champions rationality and the power of the human mind to solve complex problems. It also influenced the development of forensic science in real life.

  - **Negative Impact:** The immense popularity can lead to formulaic narratives, where the focus on plot mechanics can sometimes overshadow character development or deeper themes. Some might argue it contributes to a societal fascination with crime that can be sensationalist.







Mary Shelley

Book: Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus (1818)

- **Real Scenario/Context:** The late 18th and early 19th centuries saw rapid scientific advancements (especially in electricity and anatomy), alongside a philosophical fascination with the limits of human knowledge and the power of nature. Gothic literature was popular, but often relied on supernatural terrors.

- **Literary Trend/Game-Changer:** Frankenstein is widely recognized as the first science fiction novel and a foundational text for horror. It pioneered:

    - **Scientific Explanation for the Unnatural:** Instead of magic, the monster is created through scientific (albeit fictional) means.

    - **Ethical Inquiry into Science:** Directly questioning the moral responsibility of scientists and the consequences of unchecked ambition.

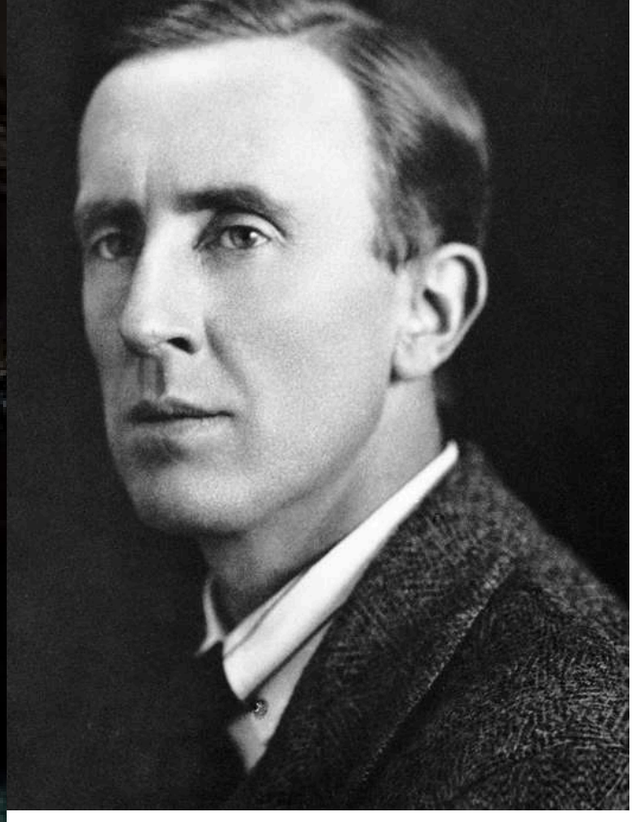
    - **The "Mad Scientist" Trope:** Dr. Frankenstein as the archetype.

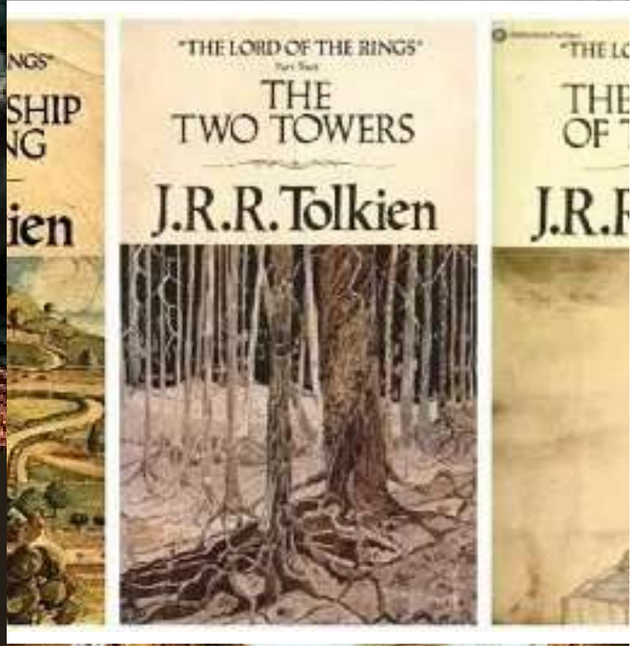
    - **The Monstrous Other:** Exploring themes of creation, rejection, and what it means to be human.

- **Lasting Impact:** The trend of science fiction and horror genres, which profoundly shape popular culture and our engagement with scientific and ethical dilemmas.

    - **Positive Impact:** It initiated genres that allow us to explore technological futures, ethical boundaries, and the deepest fears of humanity in a safe, imaginative space. It encourages critical thinking about scientific progress and its societal implications. It provides cautionary tales that remain relevant.

    - **Negative Impact:** The tropes established (like the "mad scientist" or the "monster") can sometimes contribute to uncritical fear of scientific advancement or dehumanize those who are different. The sheer volume of derivative works can also dilute the philosophical depth of the original.







J.R.R. Tolkien

Book: The Lord of the Rings (published as three volumes: 1954-1955)

- **Real Scenario/Context:** Fantasy literature existed in various forms (folklore, mythology, fairy tales), but it lacked the scope, internal consistency, and immersive world-building that Tolkien would introduce. The aftermath of two World Wars left many seeking escapism but also narratives of good vs. evil, heroism, and the struggle for hope.

- **Literary Trend/Game-Changer:** Tolkien effectively created the modern high fantasy genre. He established:

    - **Detailed World-Building:** Invented languages, elaborate histories, maps, and distinct cultures for an entire secondary world.

    - **The Epic Quest:** A grand journey undertaken by a small group against overwhelming evil.

    - **Archetypal Races:** Elves, Dwarves, Orcs, Hobbits, setting templates for countless fantasy works.

    - **Themes of Good vs. Evil:** A clear, moral struggle, often with underlying allegories.

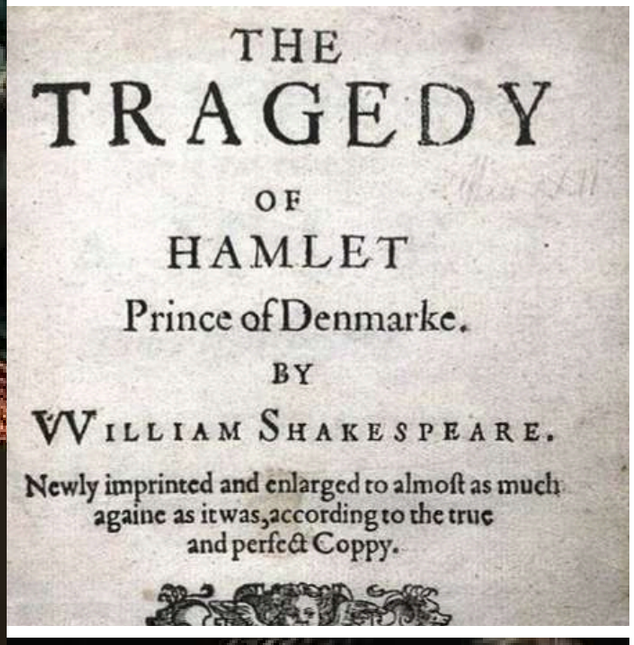
    - **The "Chosen One" or Reluctant Hero:** A seemingly ordinary individual tasked with an extraordinary burden.

- **Lasting Impact:** The trend of high fantasy as a mainstream, massively popular genre, influencing literature, film, games, and cultural mythology.

    - **Positive Impact:** Provided rich, imaginative escapism for millions, fostering creativity and a love for storytelling. It often carries strong moral messages about courage, friendship, environmentalism, and the corrupting nature of power. It has inspired diverse new worlds and narratives globally.

    - **Negative Impact:** Tolkien's immense influence has sometimes led to a stagnation in fantasy, with many authors simply copying his tropes rather than innovating, resulting in derivative works. Some critics also point to a lack of diversity in his earlier works, though this is a critique often applied retrospectively through a modern lens.







William Shakespeare

Works: His entire canon, but particularly plays like Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, and Macbeth (late 16th - early 17th Century)

- **Real Scenario & Trend:**
- While he didn't invent theater, Shakespeare revolutionized it and set a lasting trend for character-driven drama and linguistic richness that changed literature forever.
- He moved beyond static moral allegories to create deeply complex, psychologically nuanced characters whose motivations and internal conflicts drive the plot. His plays explored universal human themes—love, ambition, betrayal, grief, madness—with unparalleled poetic language, inventing thousands of words and phrases that are now common English usage.
- The tragic hero with a fatal flaw, the star-crossed lovers, and the power-hungry villain all became archetypes.
- **Impact (Positive & Negative):**
  - **Positive Impact:** Fundamentally shaped the English language and literary tradition. His exploration of the human condition remains profoundly relevant, offering insights into psychology, morality, and social dynamics. His works are cornerstones of education globally.
  - **Negative Impact:** The sheer dominance of Shakespeare can sometimes stifle new interpretations or overshadow contemporary voices in education. The archaic language can also be a barrier for some, making classical literature feel inaccessible.

IN THE FOCUS



ELIZABETH GILBERT

www.elizabethgilbert.com

Born in Waterbury, Connecticut, Elizabeth grew up on a small family Christmas tree farm, then attended New York University, where she studied political science by day and worked on her short stories by night. After college, she spent several years traveling around the country, working in bars, diners and ranches, collecting experiences to transform into fiction.

These explorations eventually formed the basis of her first book – a short story collection called PILGRIMS, which was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway award, and which moved Annie Proulx to call her "a young writer of incandescent talent".

Her latest novel is CITY OF GIRLS — a rollicking, sexy tale of the New York City theater world during the 1940s.



Show your child just how strong your love is every minute of the day! Features a "To" and "From" personalization page, making this sweet board book an ideal gift for baby showers, birthdays, and new parents.

The sun rises, and a bear and cub begin their day together. They splash in the water, climb mountains, watch the colorful lights in the shimmering sky, and play with friends. They show their love for each other by touching noses, chasing each other, and, of course, hugging and snuggling before bed.

AVAILABLE AT

Maelana Nightingale

Raw Passion meets Real Emotion

Author of the “Unbinding Trilogy”

www.maelananightingale.com

I’m ***Maelana Nightingale***—author, mother of five, corporate nurse and leader by day, and unapologetic dream-chaser by night.

My romance author origin story? In elementary school, I interviewed Harlequin legend Maggie Osborne (aka Margaret St. George) as part of a talented and gifted mentorship program—wide-eyed, curious, and already set on becoming a writer.

My paternal grandmother, never one to miss a rebellious moment in my life, followed it up with a Harlequin subscription that lasted for years. I devoured every single book. By thirteen, I was writing my first romance novel—a cowboy love story full of dusty longing and stolen kisses. (I might just finish it someday.)







Alexis, homeless and jobless in a new city, encounters a group of male roommates who embrace unconventional relationships amid upheaval. Despite the tensions, Alexis finds herself making difficult choices to avoid conflict. The men in her life indulge her adventurous side, even creating a dedicated pleasure room to fulfill her fantasies. The story ends with a soft cliffhanger, hinting at more stories to come.

AVAILABLE AT



Alexis and her roommates face trauma, familial drama, and an extended visit from her best friend. Their bond deepens as they embrace unconventional aspects of their dynamic. However, when a roommate's girlfriend becomes intrigued by their adventurous BDSM side, she threatens to unravel everything, including their romantic ties, friendships, and business. The story leaves readers with some resolution but a tantalizingly unresolved overall story.

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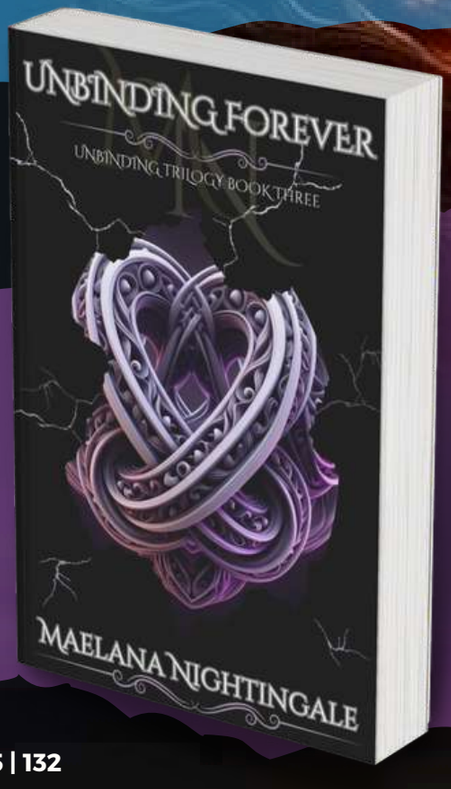

Alexis, a character in the novel Unbinding Fate, is a protagonist who navigates unconventional relationships and business after the events of the novel. The novel explores themes of children and marriage, as well as the challenges faced by the characters in embracing their unconventional dynamics. The novel concludes with an epilogue, providing readers with a glimpse into the future for all six main characters.

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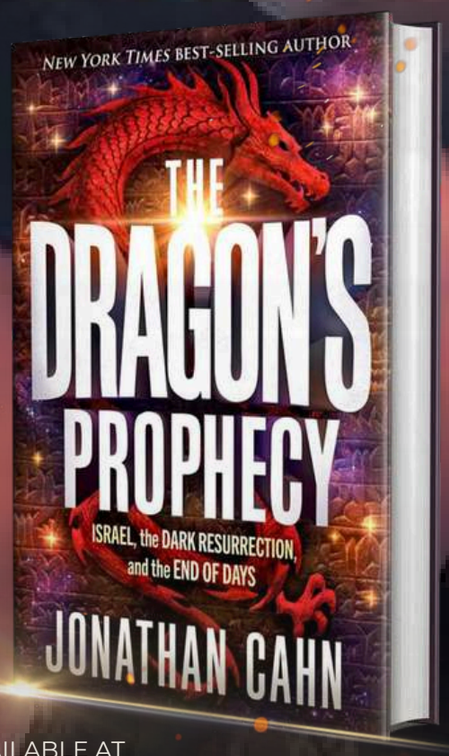
THE DRAGON'S PROPHECY

by Jonathan Cahn



THE DRAGON'S PROPHECY: Israel, the Dark Resurrection, and the End of Days.
For the first time ever, Jonathan Cahn will open up End-Time Prophecy to reveal the mysteries behind the End of the Age and what is now happening before our eyes - even the hidden keys to victory in the light of what's coming – and how to overcome your Dragon!

It will change the way you see the world.
It will open your eyes and blow your mind!



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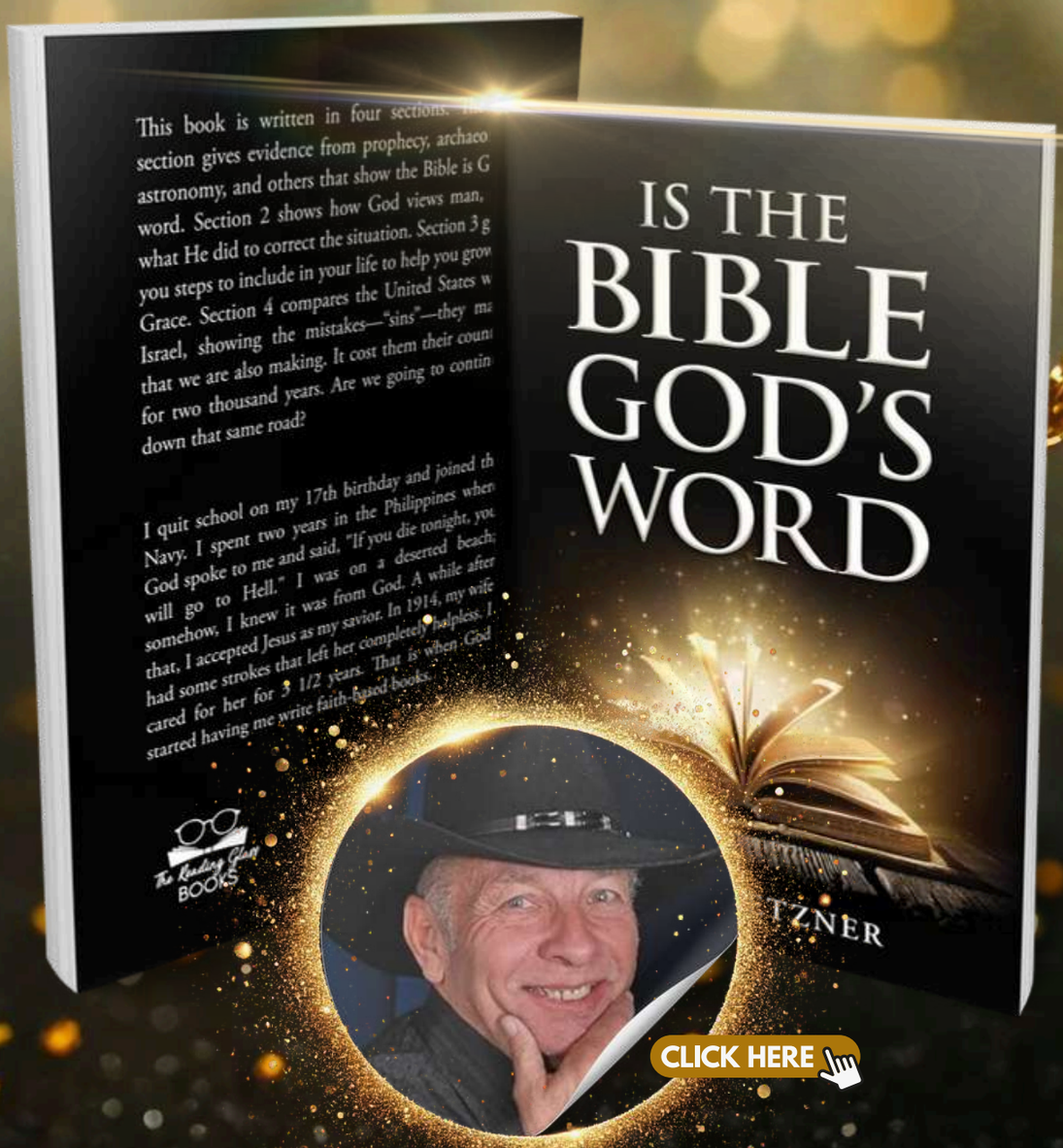
About the Author

Jonathan Cahn is a Messianic Jewish minister, author, and speaker. He is the leader of the Jerusalem Center / Beth Israel, a religious congregation in Wayne, New Jersey. Cahn's writing and speaking career centers on his core belief that historical and current events in the United States and the world are tied to biblical prophecy and judgment.

Core Message and Ministry

Cahn's message is primarily one of national warning and repentance. He argues that the history of the United States mirrors that of ancient Israel, and that specific events—from major economic crashes to natural disasters—are linked to a pattern of nine signs of divine judgment described in the book of Isaiah.

www.thedragonsprophecyfilm.com



STEVE METZNER

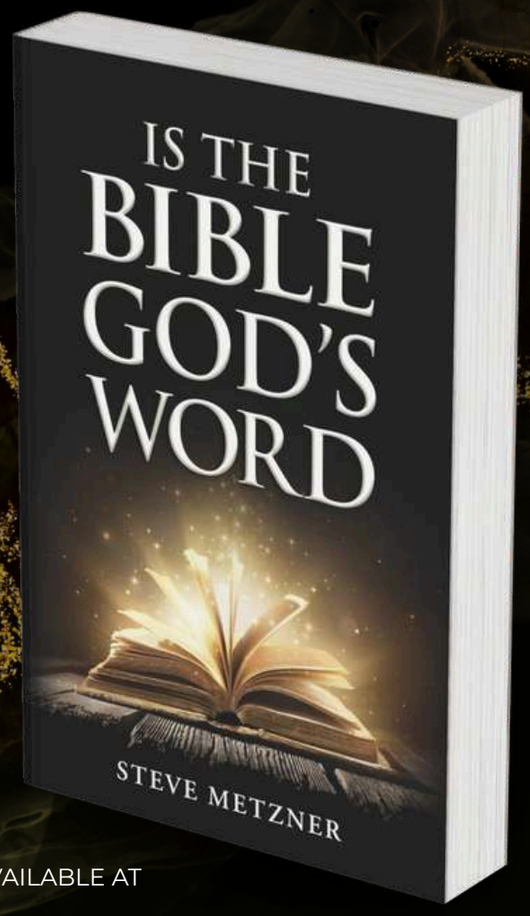
Steve Metzner was born in 1940 in Rocky Ford, Colorado. Raised in the Arkansas Valley. Attended School in Swink, Rocky Ford, and Fowler Colorado. At the age of 17, I joined the Navy. Served in San Diego, CA, and the Philippines. While in the Philippines I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior. Discharged from the Navy in 1960 and then served one semester in Bible school. Spent the next fifty years in the construction industry. Retired to Fowler, CO Oct. 2008. Met and married Second wife. In 2016 She had three strokes that left her unable to walk, speak, or comprehend. I became her 24/7 caretaker. During that time the Lord laid it on my heart to write "The Guide To Eternal Life".

While sitting at my computer I was thinking about the famous quote by George Santayana which states " Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it". It was at this time that I got the inspiration to write a book that would compare America's way of life to Israel's history. Israel was God's chosen nation to bring us His word, (the Bible), and the Lord Jesus Christ. Israel, instead of following Gods commandments repeatedly looked for their solutions to solve the situations they found themselves in. The mistakes (sins) Israel committed eventually cost them their country for over 2000 years.

By looking at their sin's and comparing them with our own, hopefully we can repent and not repeat them any longer and lose our country also. The Bible tells us that in the last days He will bring Israel back. The United States of America does not have that promise. Once we are gone the chances that we will ever come back are very slim. This book Tells us what we must do If we want to try and save our country.

www.stevemetzner4.com

IS THE BIBLE GOD'S WORD



This book is written in four sections. The first section gives evidence from prophecy, archaeology, astronomy, and others that show the Bible is God's word. Section 2 shows how God views man and what He did to correct the situation.

Section 3 gives you steps to include in your life to help you grow in Grace. Section 4 compares the United States with Israel, showing the mistakes-"sins"-they made that we are also making.

It cost them their country for two thousand years. Are we going to continue down that same road?

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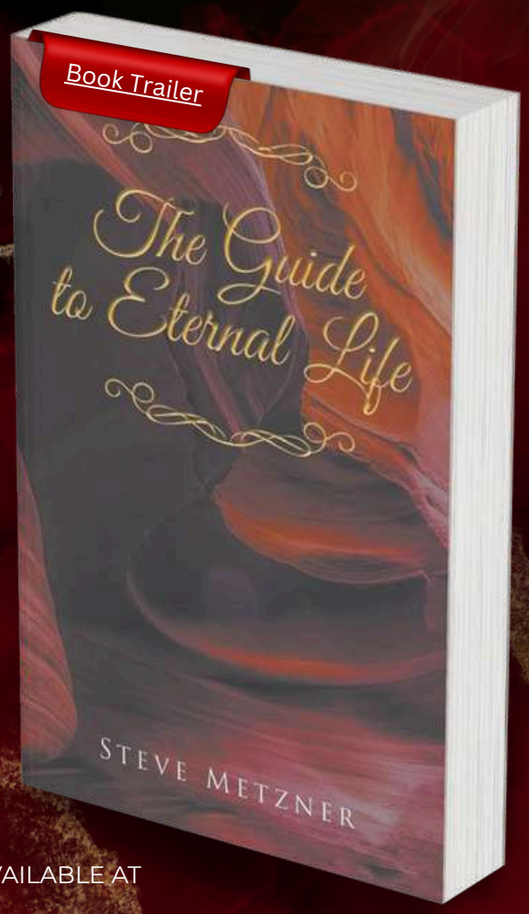


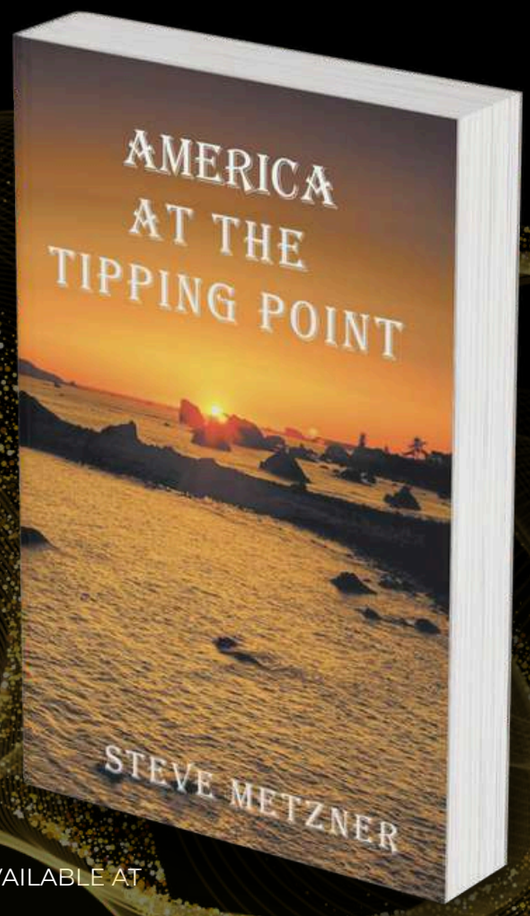
AVAILABLE AT

The Guide to Eternal Life

The Guide to Eternal Life was written to show that the Bible is the inspired word of God. You will see some of the evidences from astronomy, archeology, prophecies, as well as some other examples that point to that truth. Many people say the Bible is just a made-up story and does not have any meaning for us. There are thousands of archeological finds that give evidence to the authenticity of the Bible. The unbelievers' reasoning is to say the examples are coincidences. How many coincidences can you have before you begin to believe that maybe the Bible is God's inspired word.

The rest of the book points out what the Bible says about man's nature, and how that nature affects his eternal destiny. It points out what God has done for humanity and how we can acquire God's gift for ourselves. Most people I talk to seem to think that believing in God, going to church, and just being a good person will, maybe, get them eternal life with God. The Bible tells us that "these things have I written unto you so you may know you have eternal life." This book tells you what those written things are.

AMERICA AT THE TIPPING POINT



George Santayana stated: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

The best example of a country, from beginning to end, is Israel's history as told in the Bible. Because they did not follow God's commandments, they eventually lost their country for over two thousand years.

This book examines Israel's history and compares it to what we are doing in America today. There are several sins we are practicing today in America that are the same as Israel's. I list some of the sins we are practicing today and the Bible's condemnation of those sins. Not only do we need to change as individuals but also as a government or we will find ourselves beyond the tipping point.

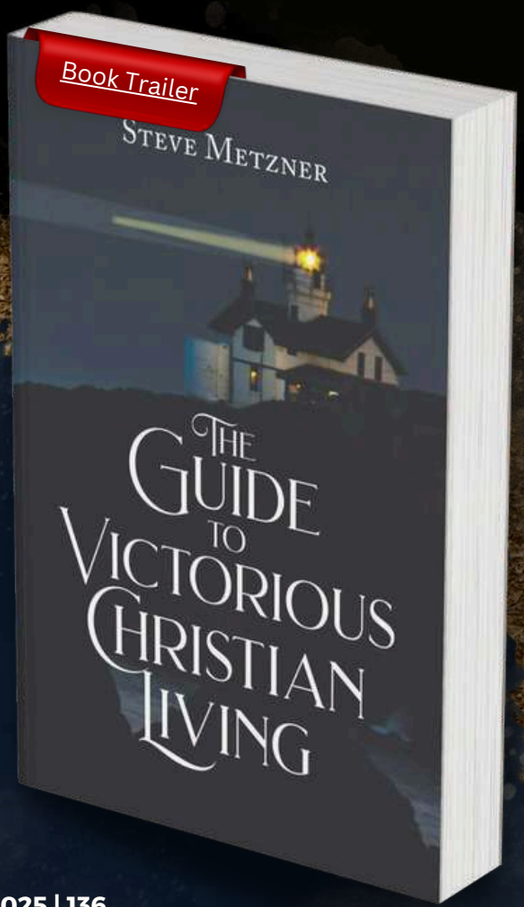
Israel has God's promise to bring them back in the latter days. We do not have that promise, so once we are gone, there is no returning.

See some of the steps in this book we can take to insure our survival and God's blessing on us.

AVAILABLE AT

Indigo

THE GUIDE TO VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING



The Guide to Victorious Christian Living was written with two types of people in mind.

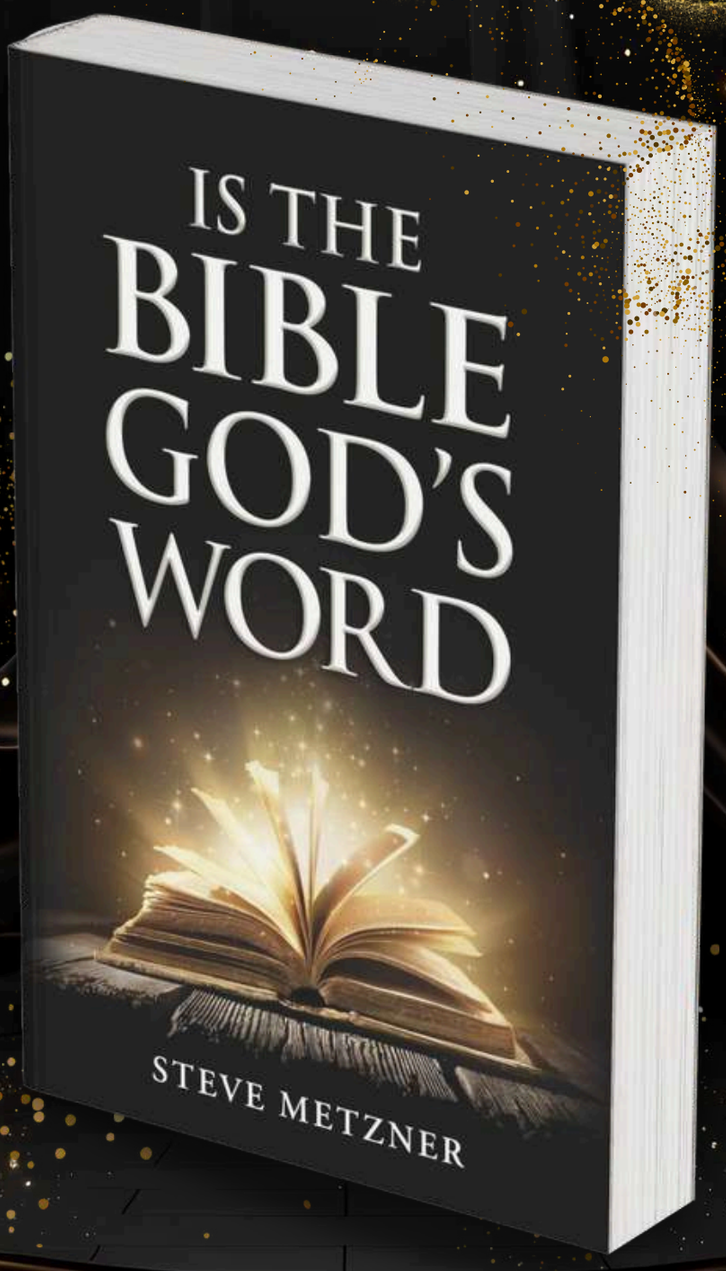
1. The new Christian who has just accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior. You may be asking yourself, what do I do now?

2. The Christian that has not grown in grace since salvation.

The first chapter gives six steps that must be incorporated into the Christian life to grow in grace and to obey God's commands. Without these steps being part of your life, you will find yourself stagnating and not being able to live the fruitful life God has planned for each of us.

The remaining chapters are additional steps you need to learn. No one will ever be perfect in this life, but if you incorporate these steps into your life, you will find a wonderful experience walking with God and allowing Him to use you to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

For a nation facing its own reckoning, Metzner's exploration of prophetic and historical parallels poses a stark question: is the Bible not just a sacred text, but a diagnostic tool for a country on the brink?



"This work boldly asserts a divine script for humanity, challenging readers to consider whether the failures of the past are a roadmap to our own impending doom."

IS THE BIBLE GOD'S WORD

This book is written in 4 sections

SECTION 1

The intent of this section is to show that verses, in the Bible, referring to people, places, and events, that happened hundreds of years prior to their being verified by science as true. You will be given the scripture reference referring to the above-mentioned subjects along with the approximate date in time they were written, and the time and proof that they are, in fact, true. The scriptures used, in this section, cover prophesy, archeology, and astronomy, along with a couple other subjects. These examples should be sufficient evidence that the Bible is the word of God.
I should say that here are no scriptures referring to people, places, or events that have ever been proven to be false.

SECTION II

THE GUIDE TO ETERNAL LIFE

How does God see us after the fall of man in the Garden of Edan and how does it affect all of creation. You will learn that all human life is born with a sinful nature. The penalty for this is death and an eternity in hell. This death is not our earthly death that we all face, this is a separation from God, but a spiritual death, separation from God. There is nothing we can do about this condition. You will find what God has done so we can escape this judgment, and what our responsibility is to get access to His gift of eternal life.

SECTION III

THE GUIDE TO VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING

How does God see us after the fall of man in the Garden of Edan and how does it affect all of creation. You will learn that all human life is born with a sinful nature. The penalty for this is death and an eternity in hell. This death is not our earthly death that we all face, this is a separation from God, but a spiritual death, separation from God. There is nothing we can do about this condition. You will find what God has done so we can escape this judgment, and what our responsibility is to get access to His gift of eternal life.

SECTION IV

AMERICA AT THE TIPPING POINT

Having lived in this country for 85 some years I have had the opportunity to see the changes we have gone through, and they are not good. To show the direction we are heading I am comparing the US to Israel. By comparing the sins Israel committed to our own you can see that we are traveling the same road. Israel lost their country for some 2000 years. Luckily God had promised them that He would bring them back. The action that occurred in 1947 gave them their country back. Proof of Biblical promises. The US does not have this promise. If God lifts His hand from us, we are done for good. This book will give you some of the things we can do to help keep from losing our country.

MERCY

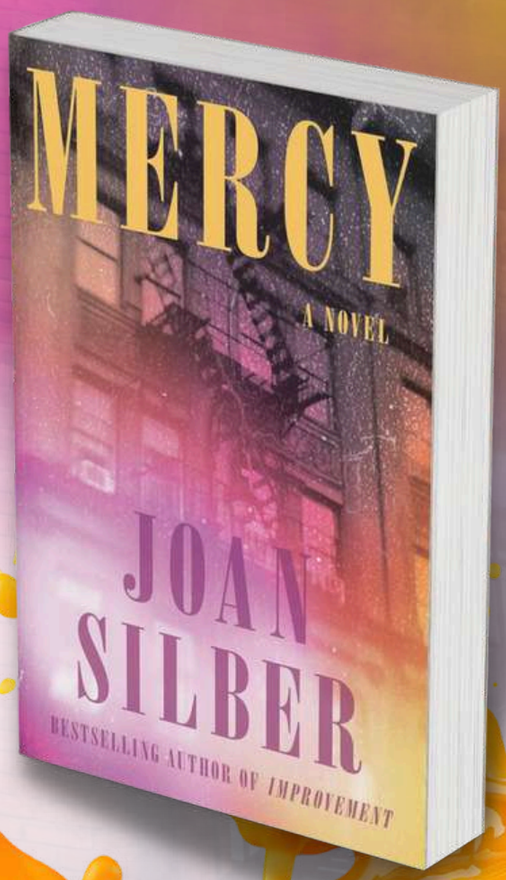
by Joan Silber



In the 1970s East Village, Ivan and Eddie, a local bartender, are indulging in drugs after a short tour of Europe. One night, Eddie experiences a tragic accident, leading Ivan to abandon him in a crowded ER. This act of abandonment haunts Ivan, who keeps it a secret from his friends and family.

The decision ripples across the community, affecting a host of people unknowingly connected to that night. Mercy, Silber's most ambitious novel yet, explores the mysterious and often unknown ways we are all connected in the East Village.

www.joansilber.net



Joan Silber was raised in New Jersey and received her B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College, where she studied writing with Grace Paley. She moved to New York after college and has made it her home ever since. She holds an M.A. from New York University.

She's written ten books of fiction--most recently, Mercy, out in fall 2025. Secrets of Happiness was a Washington Post Best Book of the year and a Kirkus Reviews Best Fiction of the Year. Improvement won The National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction and the PEN/Faulkner Award. She also received the PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in the Short Story. Her other works of fiction include Fools, longlisted for the National Book Award and finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award, The Size of the World, finalist for the Los Angeles Times Prize in Fiction, and Ideas of Heaven, finalist for the National Book Award and the Story Prize. She's also written Lucky Us, In My Other Life, and In the City (to be reissued by Hagfish in 2026), and her first book, Household Words, won the PEN/Hemingway Award.

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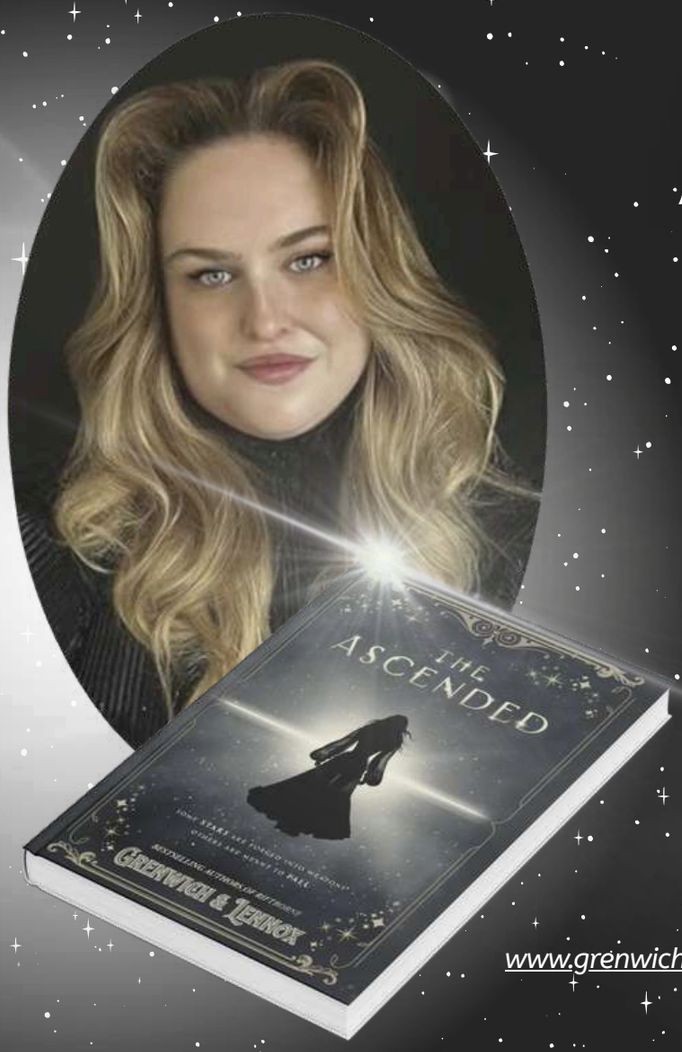
THE ASCENDED

by Parker Lennox, Bree Grenwich



Thais Morvaren, a fisherman's daughter, is forced into the deadly Trials of Ascension by a priest's ritual, which exposes her divine heritage. She transforms her fear into purpose to kill Olinthar, King of the Gods, the father whose divine touch proved fatal to her mother. To become a god, she must become one, even if it costs her everything. She is entrusted with a mentor, Xül, a necromancer prince with blood-soaked hands and dark secrets. Their sparks fly, and Thais is drawn to Xül, who is arrogant and stubborn. Each trial brings her closer to godhood, but beneath the spectacle of competition, something ancient and malevolent stalks the divine realm, threatening to unravel the heavens themselves.

Thais Morvaren will finish the trials seeking vengeance, but the cost of godhood is rising, as some stars are not meant to be weapons, and some stars are meant to fall.

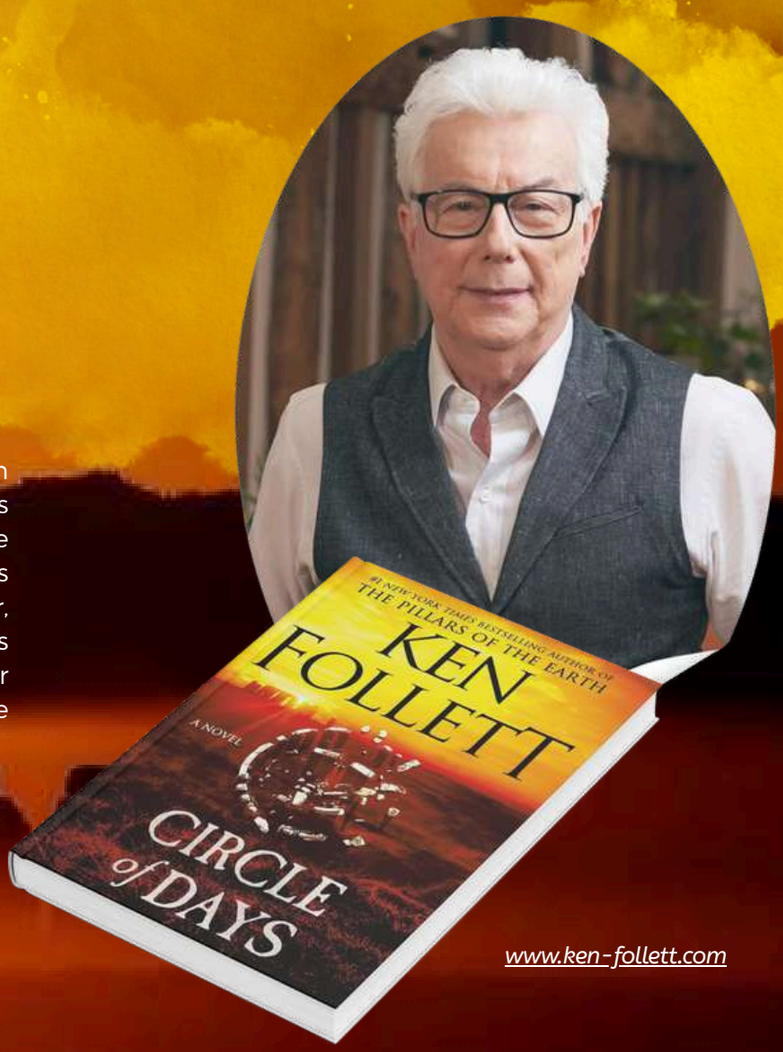
AVAILABLE AT

www.grenwichlennox.com

CIRCLE of DAYS

by Ken Follett

Seft, a skilled flint miner, attends the Midsummer Fair on the Great Plain to trade his stone and meet Neen, his beloved girl. Neen's prosperous family offers Seft an escape from his herder community. Neen's sister, Joia, a priestess with a vision, dreams of a miraculous stone circle. However, trouble arises among the Plain's hills and woodlands. Joia's vision of a great stone circle inspires Seft and becomes their life's work. However, drought, mistrust, and open warfare lead to open warfare, ultimately defining their civilization.



AVAILABLE AT

www.ken-follett.com



V.E. Schwab



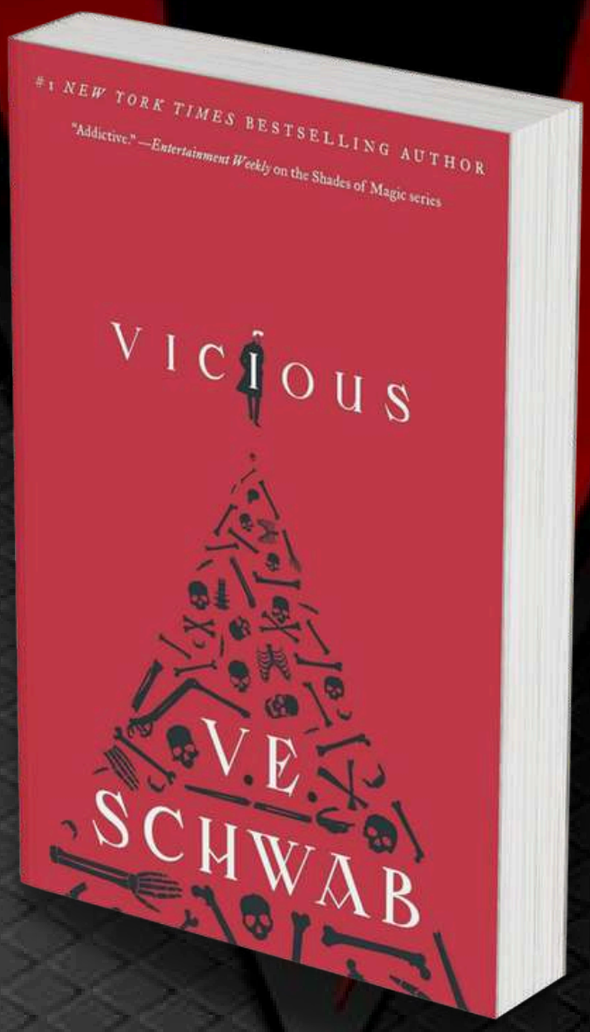
V. E .Schwab was born in California, raised in Tennessee, and currently splits her time between Denver, Colorado and Edinburgh, Scotland. She got her undergraduate degree in book design at Washington University in St. Louis, and her masters in depictions of monstrosity in medieval art at the University of Edinburgh. In addition to writing books and hosting a podcast called No Write Way, she spends her time on tour, or plagued by the knowledge of how short life is, in terms of the number of books she'll be able to read, and obsessively saving tiktok videos for recipes she'll probably never make. She also likes to run, and cycle, and swim—though not all at once.

V.E. is the author of more than 25 books, spanning MG, YA, and Adult, though she's never been keen on labeling stories for a certain audience. Plenty of young readers like Vicious, and plenty of older ones like Cassidy Blake, and she believes the best story is the one that finds you when you need it.

Her greatest goal as an author is to make you doubt your reality. Not by convincing you that magic is real, but by planting a seed of doubt that it's not.

www.veschwab.com

VICIOUS



Victor and Eli, college roommates, discovered an intriguing possibility in their senior year: extraordinary abilities under the right conditions. Their thesis transitioned from academic to experimental, leading to a tragic event.

Ten years later, Victor breaks out of prison, aided by a reserved girl with a stunning ability. Meanwhile, Eli aims to eradicate all super-powered individuals, except for his sidekick, an enigmatic woman with an unbreakable will.

The archnemeses, driven by betrayal and loss, set a course for revenge, but who will be left alive at the end?

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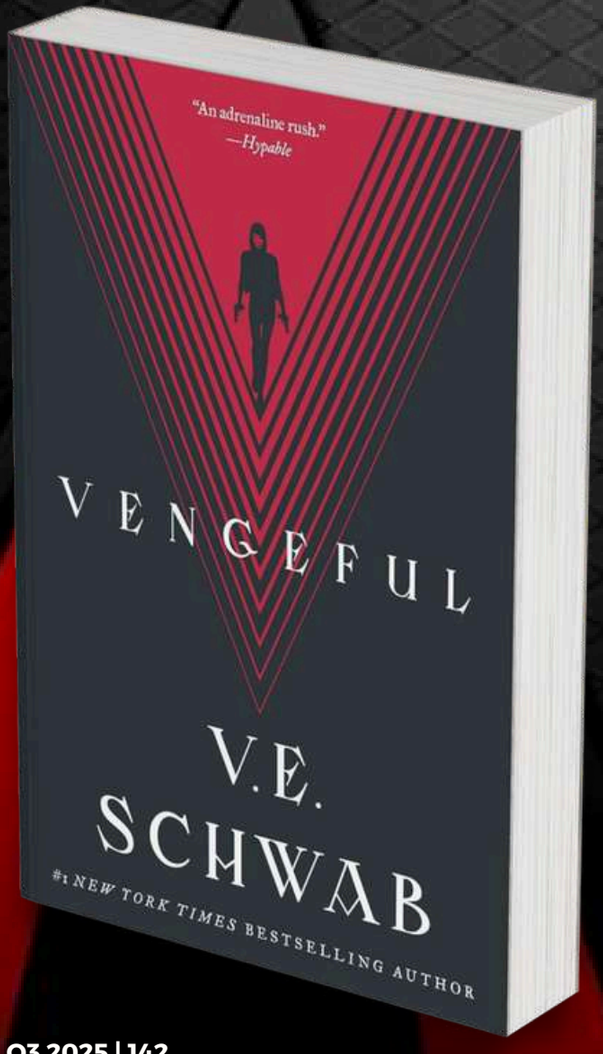

VENGEFUL

Magneto and Professor X. Superman and Lex Luthor. Victor Vale and Eli Ever. Sydney and Serena Clarke. Great partnerships, now soured on the vine.

But Marcella Riggins needs no one. Flush from her brush with death, she's finally gained the control she's always sought—and will use her new-found power to bring the city of Merit to its knees. She'll do whatever it takes, collecting her own sidekicks, and leveraging the two most infamous EOs, Victor Vale and Eli Ever, against each other.

With Marcella's rise, new enmities create opportunity--and the stage of Merit City will once again be set for a final, terrible reckoning.

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James Islington

Most Anticipated Fantasy Author

Author of the “The Licanius Trilogy”

www.jamesislington.com

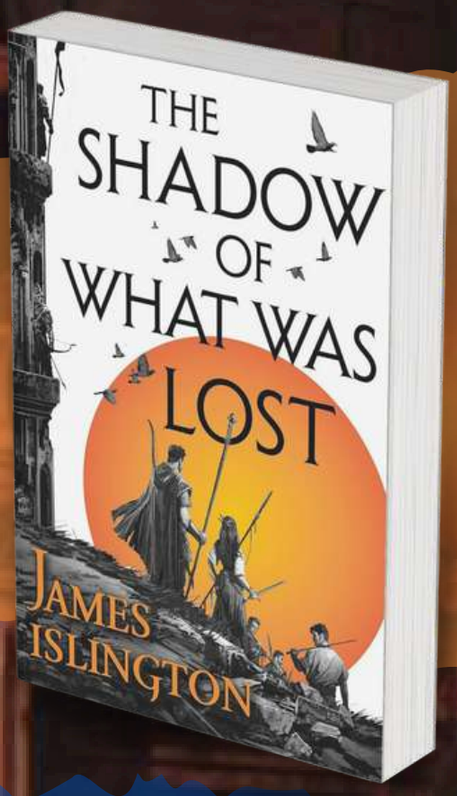
James Islington was born and raised in southern Victoria, Australia.

His influences growing up were the stories of Raymond E. Feist and Robert Jordan, but it wasn't until later, when he read Brandon Sanderson's Mistborn series - followed soon after by Patrick Rothfuss' Name of the Wind - that he was finally inspired to sit down and write something of his own.

He now lives with his wife and two children on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria.







Davian discovers he wields the forbidden power of the godlike Augurs, a powerful force that has been a source of conflict for twenty years.

His friends Wirr and Asha, who were once part of the rebellion, are now spared due to their acceptance of the Four Tenets, limiting their powers. This revelation leads to a chain of events that will change everything.

Meanwhile, a young man, intertwined with Davian, wakes up in the forest covered in blood and without memory.

AVAILABLE AT



Asha, the Augur Davian, and Caeden, two of the Augurs, are forced to confront the dark forces threatening Andarra. After a devastating attack, an amnesty is declared, allowing them to emerge from hiding and oppose the dark forces. Meanwhile, the new Northwarden, their ally in the Capital, faces assassins and politicians, uncovering a dangerous secret. Meanwhile, Asha investigates the disappearance of the Shadows, while Caeden races against time to fulfill a treacherous bargain. As memories return, the two sides in the ancient war may not be as clear-cut as initially thought.

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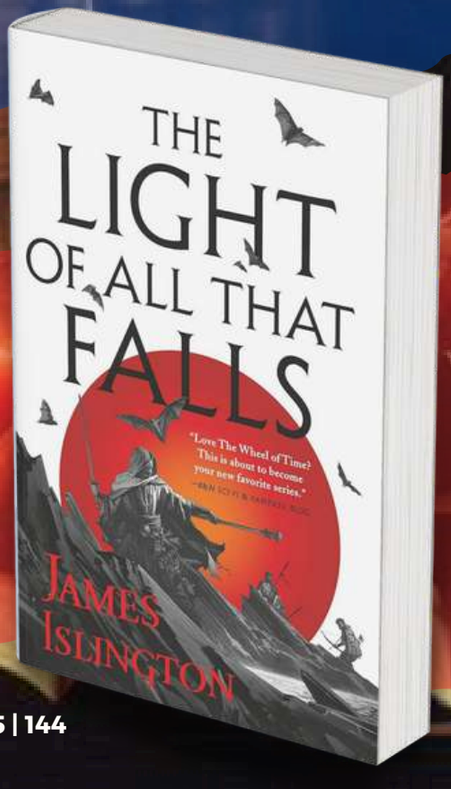

In Ilin Illan, Wirr fights to maintain a precarious alliance between Andarra's factions of power, as Banes stalk Andarra's lands and the Venerate gather their armies for a final blow.

Davian, imprisoned and alone in a strange land, faces the remaining Venerate and struggles to come to terms with his own path and his friend Caeden.

The story highlights the dangers of a plan laid centuries ago, with Banes stalking Andarra and the Venerate preparing for a crushing blow.

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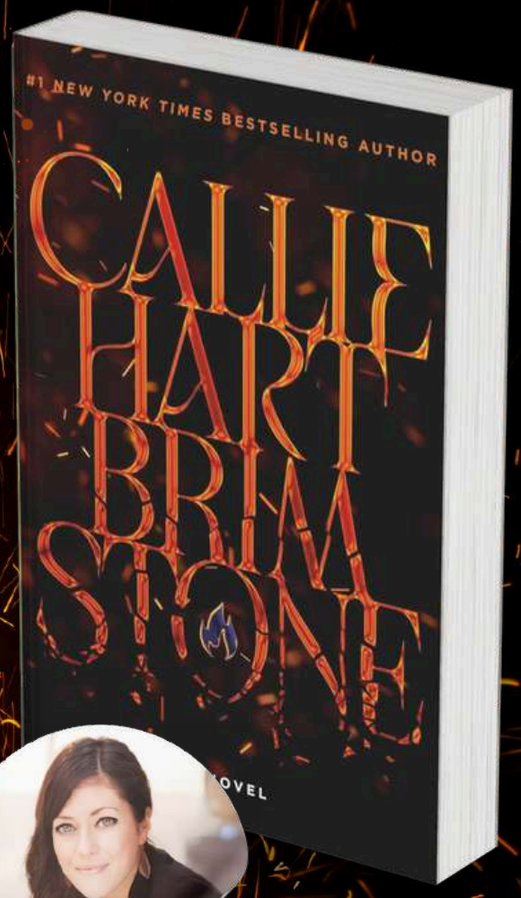
BRIMSTONE

by Callie Hart



Saeris Fane, the queen of the Blood Court, is a powerful figure who must navigate the challenges of her reign and return to her homeland. She must send someone else to protect her ward and brother, Yvelia, from the Quicksilver. Kingfisher of the Ajun Gate, a smuggler, must navigate hidden dangers and unexplored secrets to return to Zilvaren. The realm and their friends are in danger, and Saeris and Fisher must navigate through fire and brimstone to save them.

The journey to Zilvaren with Carrion Swift may be the death of Saeris, as he must wrangle the smuggler and achieve his goals to see his mate again. The battle for power and the love of all seven Gods is a thrilling tale of power, friendship, and the complexities of the Ajun Gate.

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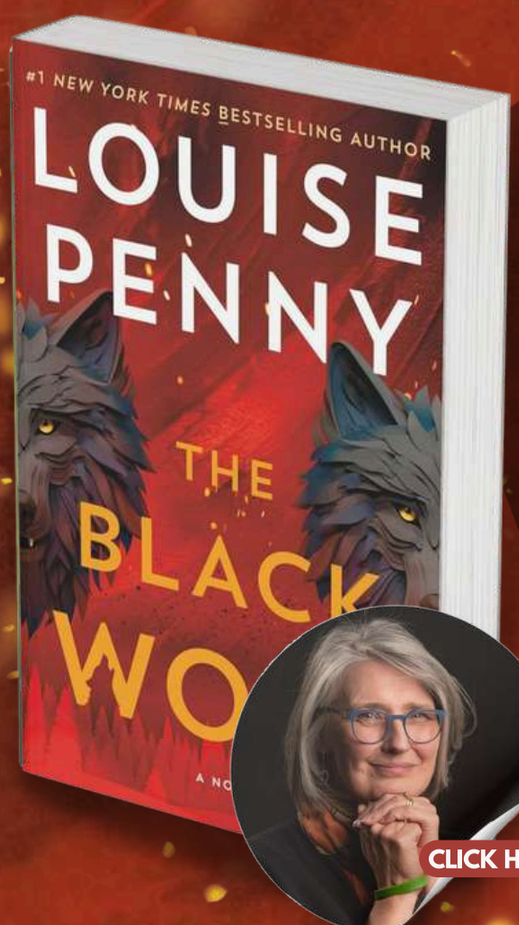
THE BLACK WOLF

by Louise Penny



Armand Gamache, Chief Inspector of the Sûreté du Québec, uncovered a domestic terrorist attack in Montréal and arrested the Black Wolf, a man they called the Grey Wolf. However, Gamache realizes that their plan was just the beginning, and he is appalled that their conspiracy has grown. He is confined to the village of Three Pines, leading a covert investigation. In a quiet church basement, he and his senior agents Beauvoir and Lacoste examine what little evidence they have, including notebooks, mysterious numbers on a tattered map of Québec, and a phrase repeated by the Grey Wolf.

They realize that the Black Wolf must have powerful allies in law enforcement, industry, organized crime, and the government. Gamache finds himself playing a lethal game of cat and mouse with an invisible foe who is gathering forces and preparing to strike.

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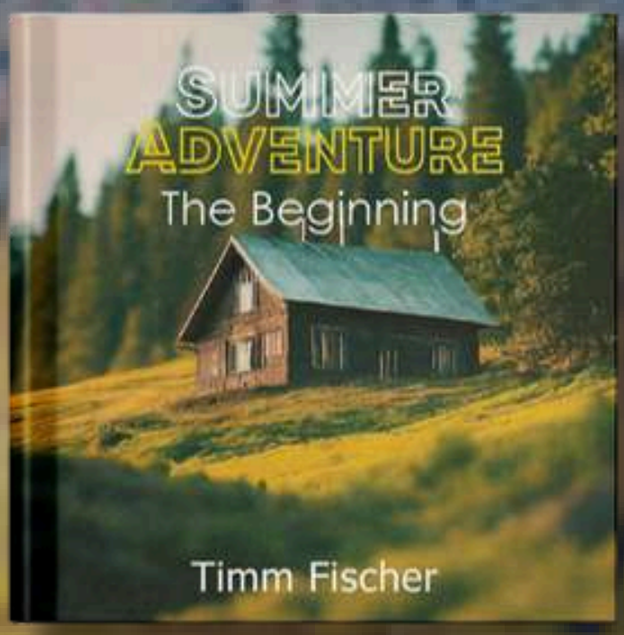
SUMMER ADVENTURE

The Beginning

by Timm Fischer



Summer Adventure: The Beginning is a heartfelt and engaging middle-grade novel that blends family bonding, outdoor exploration, and light suspense. The story follows siblings Sara and Patrick as their reluctant family trip to Mark Twain National Forest becomes a transformational journey of discovery, trust, and courage.

The vivid natural settings, compelling sibling dynamics, and underlying mystery about a seemingly haunted house give the story strong visual and emotional appeal. The narrative moves seamlessly between adventure, introspection, and subtle suspense; making it accessible, age-appropriate, and ideal for serial development.

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About the Author

Author Timm Fischer invites young readers and families on a captivating summer journey with the release of "Summer Adventure: The Beginning" — a charming and suspenseful middle-grade novel that blends outdoor exploration, sibling rivalry, mystery, and the beauty of nature into one unforgettable experience.

Timm Fischer is a nature lover, artist, and storyteller who draws inspiration from the forests and lakes near their home. Passionate about encouraging kids to explore the outdoors and appreciate the world around them, the author writes stories that are imaginative, heartfelt, and filled with real-world learning. This is the first in a planned series of nature-based adventures featuring Sara and Patrick.

www.timmfischerbooks.com



Upcoming Titles

Summer Adventure: The Beginning part 2
Part of the Summer Adventure series

Summer Adventure: The Next Trek
Part of the Summer Adventure series

A Good or Bad Day of Fishing?
Stand-alone title

More Adventures Await!
Stay tuned for new stories.



Tree Top

by Dr. Brenda Davis-Worrles

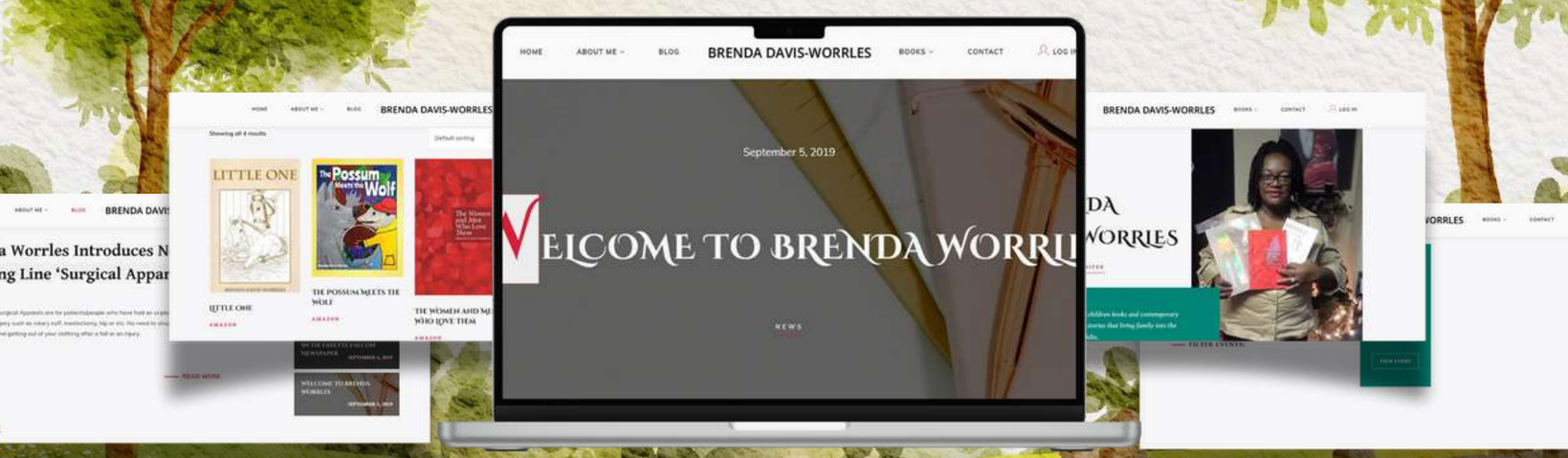
AVAILABLE AT

This book is about a little girl who did not listen to her mom when she told her to stay in the yard. Treetop wandered into the woods, and she got lost. She climbed up in a tree and she saw a light. The moral of the story is that children should obey their parents.

"Brenda Worrles, a published author...congratulations on your successful book signing yesterday, You'll love reading Brenda's children's books."

ANNER J. NICHOLS
Dreamland Productions

Author Website



www.brendajoyceworrles.com

Dr. Brenda Davis-Worrles



BOOK AUTHOR, SONGWRITER, AND CLOTHING DESIGNER

My name is Brenda Worrles. I was born in Somerville, Tn. I currently live in Mason, Tn. I am married. I am the mother of three daughters and one granddaughter.

I start writing short stories twenty years ago when my youngest daughter was two years old. She got tire of me reading other stories, so she told me, "Mommy read me some out ya mouth. That is how it all began.

MILESTONES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Introduces New Clothing Line 'Surgical Apparels'

  Designer's Surgical Apparels are for patients/people who have had an unplanned injury or surgery such as rotary cuff, mastectomy, hip or etc. No need to struggle putting on and getting out of your clothing after a fall or an injury.

- Awarded with the 2019 Lady of Distinction Award, has been touring and promoting her four published books.

- Featured In The Fayette Falcon Newspaper

2019 LADY OF DISTNCTION AWARDEE



Dr. Brenda Davis-Worrles

BOOK COLLECTION



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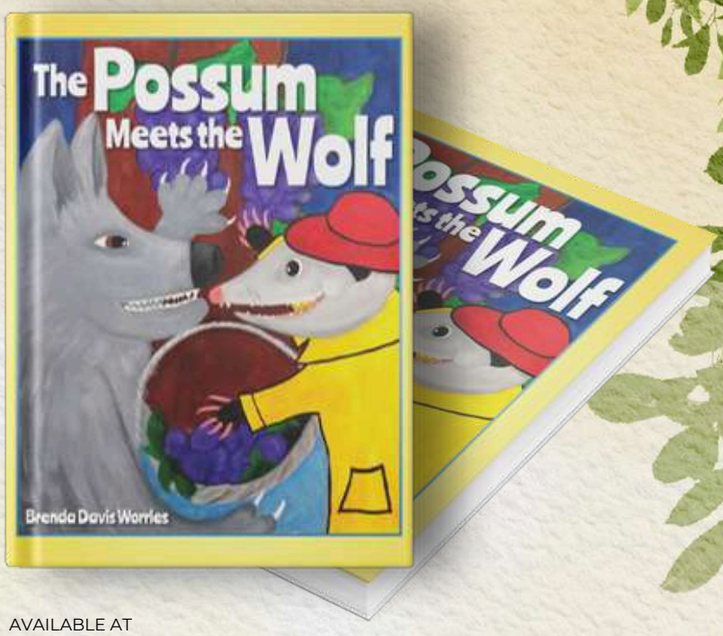

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Dr. Brenda Davis-Worrles

THE INTERVIEW

Your journey into writing began with your youngest daughter asking you to "read me some out ya mouth." How did that simple request from a two-year-old spark the moral and spiritual themes that run through your children's books like Treetop and Little One?

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Praesent tincidunt neque urna, sed iaculis erat interdum sed. Nullam a velit erat. Sed eget arcu metus. Aliquam a placerat lorem. Curabitur ornare ligula non dolor commodo.

"The Possum Meets the Wolf" introduces a surprising turn where a hungry wolf, faced with a confident possum, turns to prayer. How do you decide which life lessons—like courage and faith—to weave into your animal fables for children?

Aenean auctor justo et ligula elementum, sit amet eleifend lacus lobortis. Duis accumsan libero ligula, in lobortis nibh condimentum ut. Phasellus vel nisi vel urna pellentesque congue. Sed vehicula iaculis massa.

As an author of both children's books and contemporary romance novels for adults, you write for two very different audiences. What are the unique challenges and joys of switching between these genres?

Etiam tristique neque vitae lorem posuere aliquet. Aenean ante nisl, malesuada eu facilisis sed, porta quis enim. In mattis elementum gravida. Integer sit amet gravida turpis, ac placerat mi.

The characters in your children's books, from Treetop to Little One, all face adversity and find strength through prayer. How do you hope these stories empower young readers to turn to faith when they feel lost or afraid?

Duis convallis tincidunt dui, eget rhoncus erat ultricies sit amet. Nunc eu porta ante. Quisque condimentum pretium augue nec ultrices. Nullam lectus lacus, mollis nec sapien at, tincidunt fermentum lorem. Aenean in lacus sit amet justo aliquam dictum. Vivamus nunc arcu, feugiat eget mi at, congue tincidunt nulla.

"The Women and Men Who Love Them" is described as a compilation of short fictional stories. How does your experience working in Outpatient Mental Health influence the relationships and emotional dynamics you explore in your romance novels?

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Do you find that the lessons you teach in your children's books, such as finding a light in the darkness, resonate in a different way with the adult themes you explore in your contemporary romance?

Aenean auctor justo et ligula elementum, sit amet eleifend lacus lobortis. Duis accumsan libero ligula, in lobortis nibh condimentum ut. Phasellus vel nisi vel urna pellentesque congue. Sed vehicula iaculis massa.

You started writing short stories 20 years ago. Can you share an example of a lesson or an observation from that early writing that has stayed with you and continues to influence your work today?

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Praesent tincidunt neque urna, sed iaculis erat interdum sed. Nullam a velit erat. Sed eget arcu metus. Aliquam a placerat lorem. Curabitur ornare ligula non dolor commodo.

Many of your characters, both human and animal, are navigating difficult situations and family dynamics. How do you create such relatable and emotionally authentic scenarios for your readers?

Duis convallis tincidunt dui, eget rhoncus erat ultricies sit amet. Nunc eu porta ante. Quisque condimentum pretium augue nec ultrices. Nullam lectus lacus, mollis nec sapien at, tincidunt fermentum lorem.

Your books often touch on the theme of returning home, both literally and figuratively. As someone who was born and continues to live in Tennessee, how has your sense of place and community influenced your storytelling?

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What is the single most important message you hope to leave with a reader, regardless of whether they have just finished a story about a lost girl in the woods or a tale of a couple in love?

Etiam tristique neque vitae lorem posuere aliquet. Aenean ante nisl, malesuada eu facilisis sed, porta quis enim. In mattis elementum gravida. Integer sit amet gravida turpis, ac placerat mi.





BERLIN DIVITTORE

www.bdivittore.com

Berlin DiVittore is a Published/ Freelance Writer who helps readers to escape the mundane burdens of everyday life. Before starting her freelance work, DiVittore worked a number of different jobs, mostly in retail, trying to find her career path.

She is a country girl who grew up in Minatare, a small town in Nebraska, with her large family (Parents, four brothers and older sister). She participated in poetry and art competitions where she won various awards. She also published several poems and sketches in her local community college magazine.

After getting married and moving to Aviano, Italy with her military husband, DiVittore realized that her real dream is to compose literary works of art. DiVittore is a writer who helps readers to escape the mundane burdens of everyday life.

Her hope is to have a successful career publishing novels, but first she hopes to just share her stories.

Aside from writing, in her spare time DiVittore enjoys painting, drawing, crafting, and spending time with her family.

Now she lives in the land of the midnight sun, Alaska, with her husband, 2 sons and cat. As a SAHM juggling her responsibilities of motherhood, cooking and cleaning, alongside her handsome husband.

In a supernatural world where destiny and a brutal deadline collide, DiVittore's debut poses a provocative question: can a free-spirited soul accept a love she's told is her fate before it's too late? This chilling saga of immortal cravings and mortal dread is a spellbinding start, promising a journey of love and identity that will leave readers utterly ensnared.

Crave Saga

BOOK ONE

Jezebel Jones, a broken-hearted but passionate, free spirt has a chance meeting with Sebastian Baldovino and high strung, stubborn charmer. Who introduces her into a world far behind her imagination, a world that has existed all around from the moment she was born. Her destiny is to fall in love with Sebastian, whose soul is weaved from the same strand of stars and is craving once more to be joined with her. Sebastian has another chance to set things right, but he must first convince her of her destiny and who she is and get her to fall in love with him at the same time, all at the risk of the truth scaring her away forever.

He must do it before her 26th birthday when the Fates come to survey the dead and pass judgement on recycled souls. Jezebel needs to accept who she is in order to be with him, who she has fallen deeply in love with but won't admit it to anyone, not even herself. Come with her on this adventure of love, power, and identity as she discovers who she is really meant to be.



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Indulge

BOOK TWO: CRAVE SAGA

In Book Two of Crave Saga, Jezebel Jones has given in to her feelings for Sebastian Baldovino completely, and he couldn't be more pleased. She has also learned more about Sebastian and their shared destiny to be together. A tradition that goes back far beyond even him. Becoming more and more familiar in his world and discovering abilities one could only dream of, some with a cost. However, it may be more than she has bargained for.

With her 26th birthday quickly approaching she has a choice to make. Will her love for Sebastian be enough or will she decide on a different path dooming them both to purgatory, ending the line of the Steorra Erestés. More than this she is faced with a real-life foe, someone from Sebastian's past, and he is determined to steal her away from Sebastian.

Starving: Book Three coming soon

Berlin DiVittore

THE INTERVIEW

Crave Saga is described as an escape from the "mundane burdens of everyday life." What personal experiences or creative desires led you to create a world where a broken-hearted free spirit's destiny is tied to the stars, and how does this world help you, as an author, escape?

Honestly the idea didn't unfold all at once, like a beautiful blossom it was one petal at a time until it was revealed to me and just clicked. Originally, I began writing Crave Saga as a coping tool for myself, and there are many parallels between the foundation of the story and my own life, but the story itself ended becoming a much bigger idea and took on a life of its own. I also found I quite enjoyed the world building aspects of writing a story like this one, as apposed to trying to camouflage my own life with fantasy themes. Now it is somewhere in my head, and soon on paper, that myself and others get to enjoy coming to life and visit from time to time.

Your protagonist, Jezebel Jones, is a passionate, free spirit who has to accept her destiny. How much of your own journey, from being a "country girl" in Nebraska to a writer living in Alaska, is reflected in Jezebel's path of self-discovery?

A lot of my journey is reflected in Jezebel's; she quite similarly went from a small town in Texas to San Francisco because that was something I could relate to and knew I could write well. In a lot of ways, I created her to be a vicarious conduit for myself and many little girls in small towns who often find themselves discovering a love for books and dreaming of seeing the world. This is the kind of story I would have lost my mind over in high school.

You mentioned that you're a stay-at-home mom juggling family responsibilities alongside your writing. How do you find the time and creative energy to "compose literary works of art" while managing the daily demands of motherhood, cooking, and cleaning?

First of all, I am blessed to have a partner who is not only incredible supportive of my ambitions but an exceptional father to our young children. I spend the so much time with my children that taking time for myself is kind of a no brainer; they get quality time with their father, and I get the freedom to do what I love, create. Secondly, I believe it's important for our children to see that a family is made stronger when everyone contributes to day-to-day life. So once again my wonderful husband often steps in and cleans, cooks and helps where needed.

Jezebel's journey is about finding power, love, and identity. As the author, what was the most challenging aspect of writing her emotional and spiritual growth, especially as she moves from her first heartbreak into a new, complex relationship?

Her character can be the most difficult considering she is the FMC and drives the entire plot. All this while creating relationships with people who bring meaning to her life, romantic and otherwise. I really don't find it all that challenging, I myself have a great empathy and intuition and tend to find it kind of a joyous experience putting such powerful emotions and dramatic emphasis into my characters' lives. For me the story is about balance and accepting who you truly are and how empowering of an experience that can be, especially a young woman.

You have a background in poetry and art. How do your skills in those creative fields, such as painting and drawing, influence the way you write about the magical world and the vivid characters in your books?

I am very much a visual person and often find myself drawing the worlds and characters I think up or simply searching for imagery that inspires me. This coupled with my imagination, carefully nurtured and encouraged from a young age, I can create just about anything. I do feel my keen eye for detail and love of creation does give me somewhat of an advantage in the writing process. In taking the time to draw each detail I feel like I know my characters and can help inspire ideas for the storyline. Both as individuals and as they interact with each other.

Indulge, the second book, introduces a new foe from Sebastian's past. Can you talk about the process of developing an antagonist who is not just an external threat but also a figure from your protagonist's new partner's past?

I absolutely loved creating a villain character, great villains/ anti-heroes are kind of a guilty pleasure my husband and I share. I find it a cathartic and thrilling journey developing a character, but a villain is special. You really have to get inside their psyche and figure out what makes them tick. Not only does he threaten the plot and plans of the main characters, but it only makes sense that he has some kind of personal motivation. Which can help move the story along. But honestly, readers have barley had a taste of what is in the story arch for this character.

You decided to become a writer after moving to Italy. What about that experience ignited your "real dream," and how did living abroad influence the stories you tell?

I've known I wanted to be an Author ever since I was a little girl, I have written many stories, some that have never been share with another soul. But I realized after moving abroad with my military husband that it was the perfect opportunity to seize my dream, considering I was home alone for most of the day. It was an amazing opportunity to live in Italy, somewhere I always wanted to go, I grew so much from the experience.

You mentioned that you hope to have a successful career but first, you just "hope to share your stories." What do you want your readers to feel or take away from the Crave Saga after they close the final page?

I say it this way as my attempt to not invest to much emotionally, I realize publishing is a rough industry, especially now that so many are become independently published. And I often find myself discouraged or disappointed and I didn't want this to get in the way of enjoying the journey. I write because I love it, period. Having other people enjoy what I create is just the cherry on top. Hopefully what they feel is a "craving for more", I want my books to not only be entertaining but an investment. It should take you on a journey; emotionally, mentally and even spiritually. I want my readers to feel like they know my characters personally, like they themselves are being transported to these places and experiencing everything first hand.

"The sexy & sensitive vamp is back,
with his own tale of woe."





Crescent

The Sapphire Prince Trilogy

COMING SUMMER 2026

www.bdivittore.com

Grandmother's GIFT



At the heart of *Grandmother's Gift* is a love that defies gravity.

Max and Andrew's grandmother is no ordinary woman. With eyes full of stars and a soul that knows the sky, she carries a secret passed down through generations—the gift of flight. But even more extraordinary than her ability to rise above the earth is the way she loves her grandsons: fiercely, gently, and with a sense of wonder that wraps around them like wings.

In quiet moments under moonlight and whispered stories at dusk, she begins to share her gift—not only the magic of floating, but the deeper inheritance of believing in yourself, embracing who you are, and trusting the unseen. Her love is a constant current, lifting the boys when they feel unsure, showing them how to move through the world with curiosity, grace, and courage.

As Max and Andrew learn to lift their feet from the ground, they begin to understand that flying isn't just about defying gravity—it's about rising into who you're meant to be. Their grandmother's gift is more than a magical legacy; it's a lesson in love, freedom, and the invisible strength that binds families across generations.

Poetic, tender, and filled with quiet wonder, *Grandmother's Gift* is a story for dreamers of all ages. It's about the heights we can reach when we're truly seen, and the lasting imprint of a grandmother's love that lifts us long after she's gone.

Carol Leferovich



Author Carol Leferovich is a retired educator who taught in both Pennsylvania and Montana, where she shared her love of learning with generations of students. A lifelong creative, Carol is also a talented painter and an active singer in her church choir, blending her appreciation for art and community in everything she does. She serves as a museum docent, where she continues to inspire curiosity and connection through storytelling and history. Now living in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Carol enjoys a quieter pace alongside her husband and their two beloved rescue cats. Her writing is deeply influenced by her years in the classroom, her love for the arts, and her belief in the small, powerful moments that shape our lives. *Grandmother's Gift* is her debut book—a heartfelt tribute to the enduring bonds of family, the quiet magic of love, and the wonder of passing down stories that lift us all.



AVAILABLE AT

WWW.CLEFEROVICH.COM

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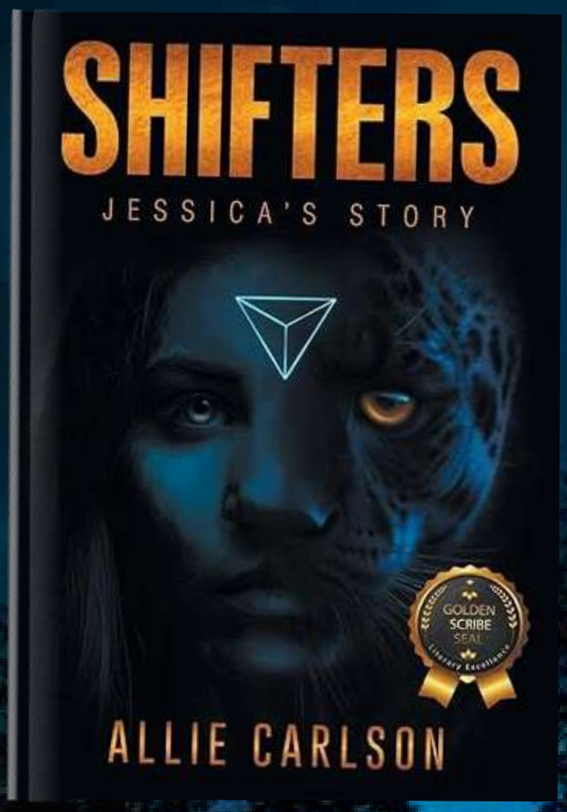

SHIFTERS: JESSICA'S STORY

ALLIE CARLSON

ABOUT THE BOOK

Shifters: Jessica's Story—In Eternis, fear is law, and Shifters are its prisoners. Tested at eighteen, those with the Shifter gene are branded dangerous, stripped of rights, and locked away. Jessica only wanted to escape—but when her secret is exposed, she's drawn into a rebellion that challenges everything she believed. To survive, she must decide whether to keep running or embrace her power and fight to change the world.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Author Allie Carlson grew up in Norfolk County, Ontario, where small-town life and wide-open spaces continue to inspire her storytelling. She is a classically trained singer with a background in Applied Music and has long embraced creativity in many forms. Shifters: Jessica's Story is her debut novel. When not writing, Allie enjoys reading, gaming, and exploring the outdoors with her husband, young son, two cats, and three quirky chickens.

Website: https://insidetheshift.net/

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ALLIE CARLSON

THE ATLANTIAN CHRONICLES

FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL

NICK BAETA

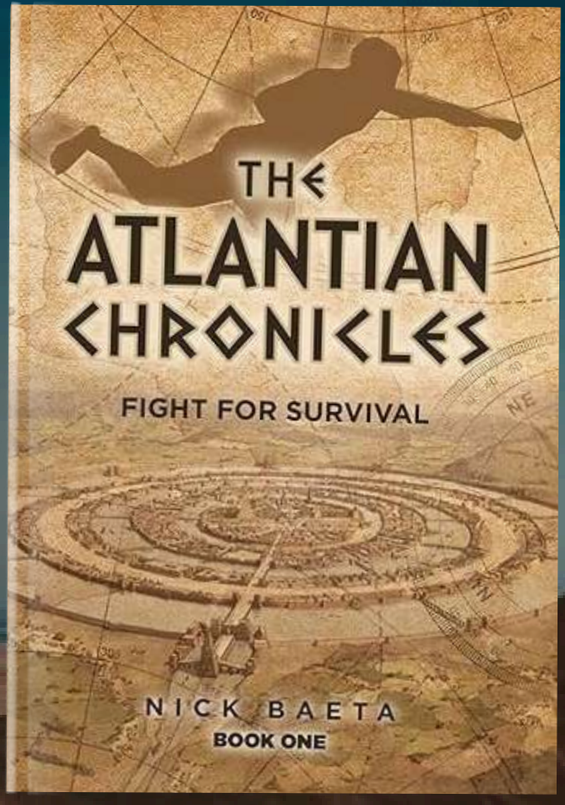
ABOUT THE BOOK

The Atlantian Chronicles: Fight for Survival follows Bryce Hillcrest, a teenager from Broadway Hills, Texas, whose life is shattered after a violent encounter with a bully. Now on the run from a group called Unity, Bryce must confront secrets from his past while adapting to a dangerous reality. With skills from his ex-Special Forces father and a mysterious power, he battles to protect those he loves. In this young-adult fantasy thriller, Bryce fights for survival with grit, wit, and determination.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nick Baeta, a Canadian author from Ontario, has been crafting stories since his youth. Passionate about world-building, he draws on a wide range of genres, personal experiences, and martial arts training. Inspired by literary greats like Jack Carr, Rick Riordan, Ace Atkins, Lee Child, and J.K. Rowling, Nick created *The Atlantian Chronicles: Fight for Survival* to captivate readers of all ages and inspire aspiring writers to follow their creative passions.

Website: *http://nickbaetabooks.com*





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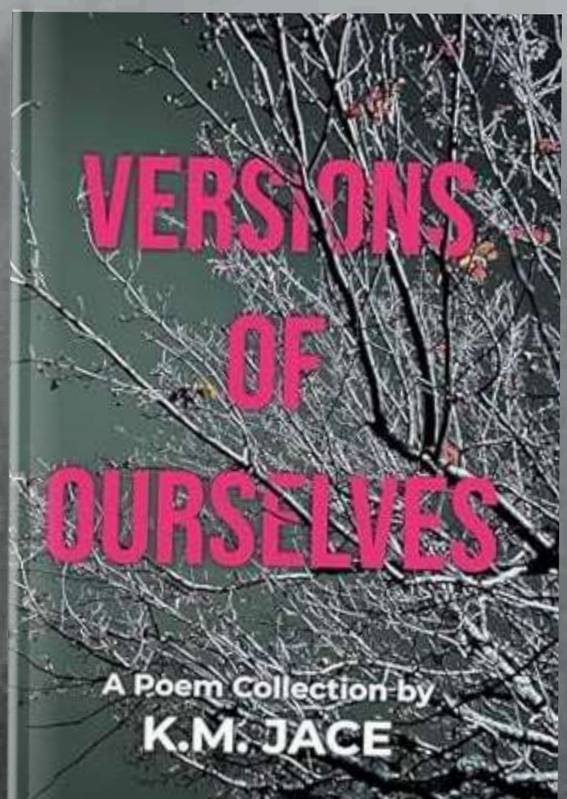


VERSIONS OF OURSELVES

K.M. JACE

ABOUT THE BOOK

Versions of Ourselves: A Poem Collection is a poetic journey through identity, memory, and healing. Each poem captures fragments of the self-shaped by time, trauma, and transformation. With honesty and grace, the collection invites readers to rediscover forgotten parts of themselves and find light even in dark chapters. It's a heartfelt reflection on growth, self-recognition, forgiveness, and the beauty of meeting yourself anew—layer by layer, word by word.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Author *K.M. Jace*, a Midwest native, has turned to writing for comfort, clarity, and creative expression since she was young. Deeply moved by the connection between emotion and language, she found her voice in poetry and her peace in nature. Merging these passions, she began pairing her reflective writing with nature photography. Versions of Ourselves marks her debut poetry collection, inviting readers into a journey of healing, identity, and self-discovery.

Website: https://kmjace.com

AVAILABLE AT:

MILTON & HUGO · BARNES & NOBLE



K.M. JACE

THE BEAUTY OF GROWTH

TIA GEORGES

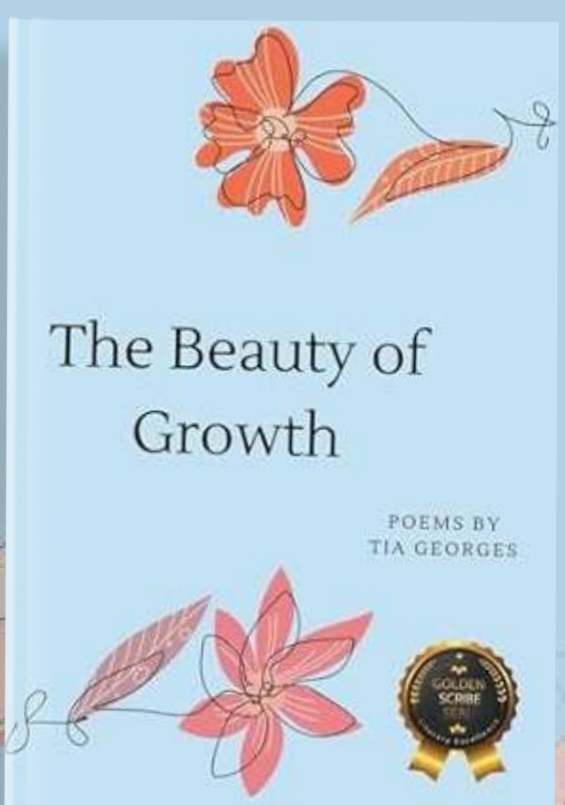
ABOUT THE BOOK

Written over three years, *The Beauty of Growth* offers an intimate look into the poet's evolving journey through love, loss, regret, and growth. The poems, presented in the order they were written, reflect the rawness and vulnerability of personal challenges and triumphs. This collection encourages resilience and self-discovery, providing comfort and inspiration to readers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tia Georges, a poet from Santa Monica, draws inspiration from her Syrian heritage and LGBTQ+ experiences. With a degree in creative writing, her debut collection captures years of reflection, inviting readers on a transformative journey of growth and human connection.

Website: *https://tiageorgesofficial.com/*





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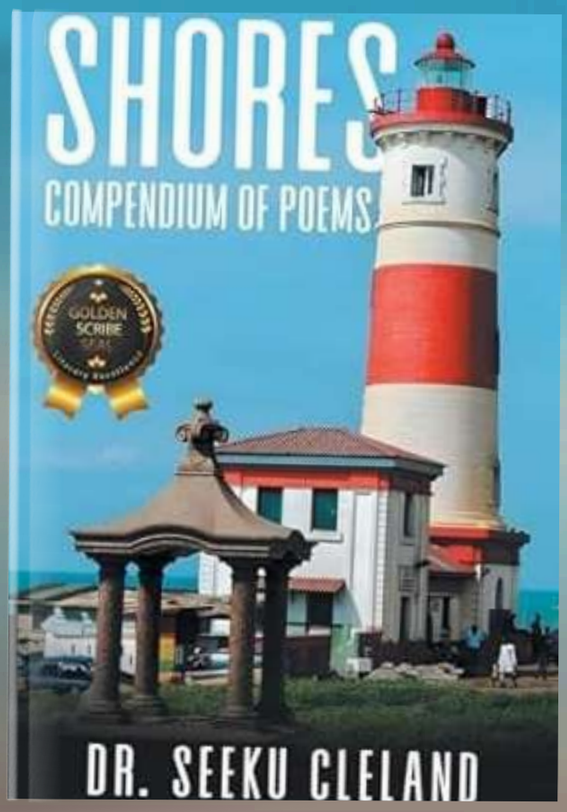

SHORES: COMPENDIUM OF POEMS

DR. SEEKU CLELAND

ABOUT THE BOOK

Shores: Compendium of Poems is a collection that explores life, love, and mortality through a socially conscious lens. Blending lyrical beauty with themes like cancel culture and climate change, this powerful collection offers reflection, empathy, and inspiration—calling readers to engage deeply with the world and one another through poetry.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Seeku Cleland, who is originally from Ghana, now lives in Maryland and teaches science and modern world history. His poetry blends Ghanaian cultural themes with global social issues. Inspired by his late father and strong mother, his work promotes respect, equality, and compassion across all races, cultures, and identities.

Website: https://drseekucleland.com/

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DR. SEEKU CLELAND

NOBODY TOLD ME

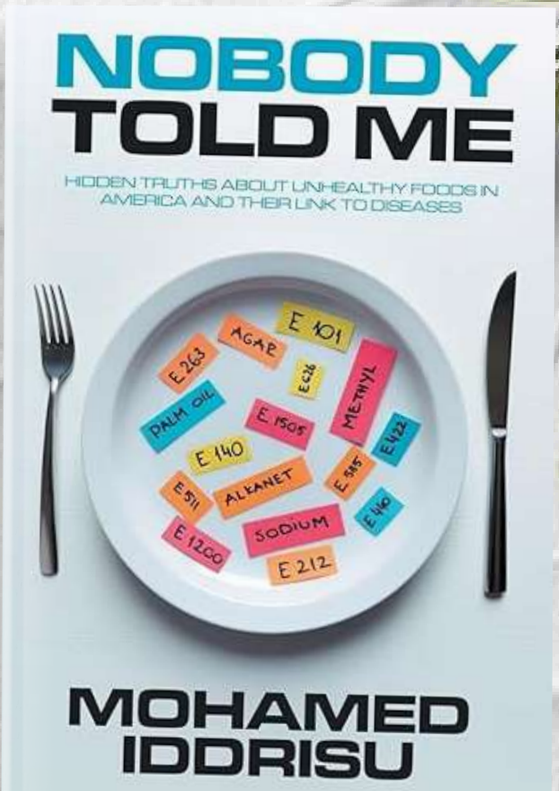
MOHAMED IDDRISU

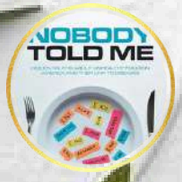
ABOUT THE BOOK

Nobody Told Me reveals the hidden truths behind the modern food industry. Through powerful storytelling and solid research, it uncovers the dangers of processed foods, deceptive marketing, and food inequality. More than just exposing problems, it offers practical tools for making healthier, informed choices. This book is a wake-up call for anyone ready to challenge what they've been told and take control of their health—one bite at a time.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mohamed Iddrisu, a District-75 science teacher and anti-trafficking consultant in NYC, is originally from Ghana and a proud member of the Dagomba tribe. Despite early financial hardships, he earned multiple degrees in communication, business, and education. Now pursuing advanced studies, Mohamed's passionate about health advocacy and community empowerment. He urges stakeholders to help combat unhealthy eating and build a healthier, more informed society. He lives in Staten Island, New York.





Mohamed Iddrisu

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• Our Submission Guidelines provide policy detail and guidance on the types of ad content we allow, and the types of ad content we decline. Prior to being published, every ad that advertisers submit is thoroughly evaluated against our policies to ensure they meet our standards.

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Quarter	Monthly Section	Book By	Publication
1st Q	Jan	Jan-20	Apr-15
	Feb	Feb-20	Apr-15
	Mar	Mar-20	Apr-15
2nd Q	Apr	Apr-20	Jul-15
	May	May-20	Jul-15
	June	Jun-20	Jul-15
3rd Q	July	Jul-20	Oct-15
	Aug	Aug-20	Oct-15
	Sep	Sep-20	Oct-15
4th Q	Oct	Oct-20	Jan-15
	Nov	Nov-20	Jan-15
	Dec	Dec-20	Jan-15

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FEATURETTES
Unstoppable Literary
Catalysts

JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2025

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