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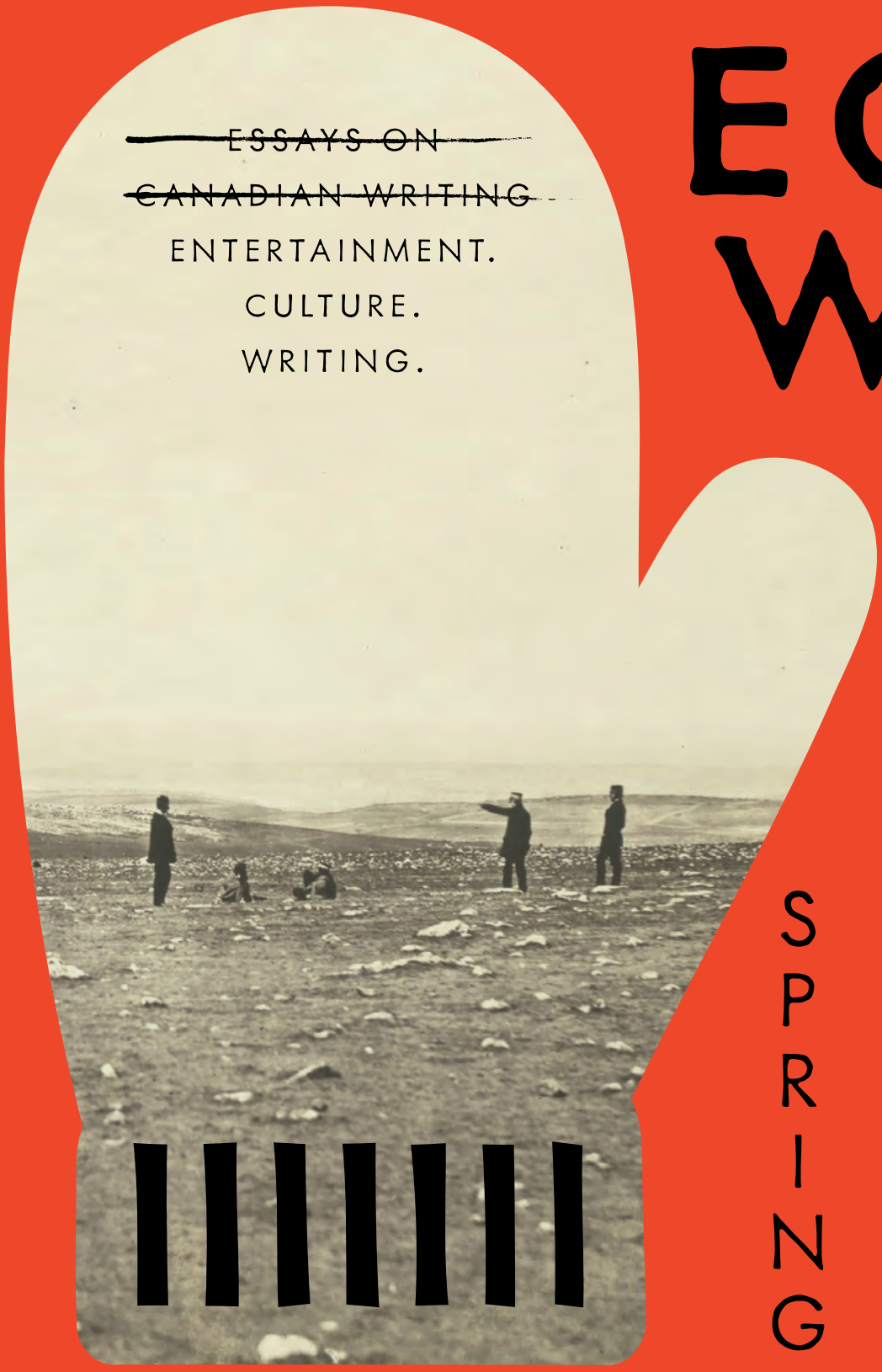

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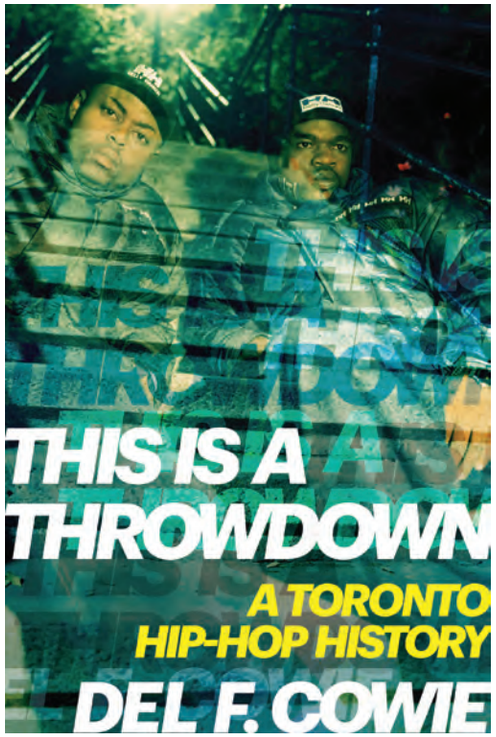

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29.99 CDN / 24.99 U.S.

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Film Rights: Controlled by ECW, film rights under option

THIS IS A THROWDOWN

A TORONTO HIP-HOP HISTORY

Del Cowie

From blockos to Billboard hits, the previously untold story of the Toronto Sound

Long before Drake picked up the mic, Toronto had a thriving, vital hip-hop culture fighting for recognition. It was shaped by multiple generations of artists, including Maestro Fresh Wes, Michie Mee, Kardinal Offishall, Saukrates, Choclair, and k-os, and fostered shrewd promoters and pioneering producers such as Ron Nelson, Noah "40" Shebib, and Boi-1da.

This Is a Throwdown authoritatively chronicles the music, history, and environment that shaped the Toronto hip-hop sound, from its 1980s sound system scene through to Drake's stratospheric success with 2011's *Take Care*.

Drawing on Del Cowie's two decades of experience as a music journalist, *This Is a Throwdown* is the first book to critically assess and chronicle the largely untold story of hip-hop culture in Toronto, including:

- the sound system clashes and block parties that were the foundation of Toronto's early hip-hop culture
- the hidden pioneers who shaped the scene
- the diasporic fusion of Caribbean and African-American influences
- how Toronto artists broke barriers in an industry that overlooked Canadian hip-hop

Over 50 years after hip-hop began, now's the time to move the 6ix from shadow to spotlight and celebrate the oft-neglected MCs, producers, and promoters who created this scene and this sound, starting from the bottom.

Del Cowie is a Toronto-based music journalist and editor who has worked as a writer, producer, and researcher for the Peabody- and International Emmy Award–winning Netflix series *Hip Hop Evolution* among other music documentaries. Cowie has also been a longtime member of the Polaris Music Prize jury, a writer on hip-hop culture for *CBC Music* and *Exclaim!*, and is the series editor for Invisible Publishing's Bibliophonic imprint focusing on contemporary Canadian music.

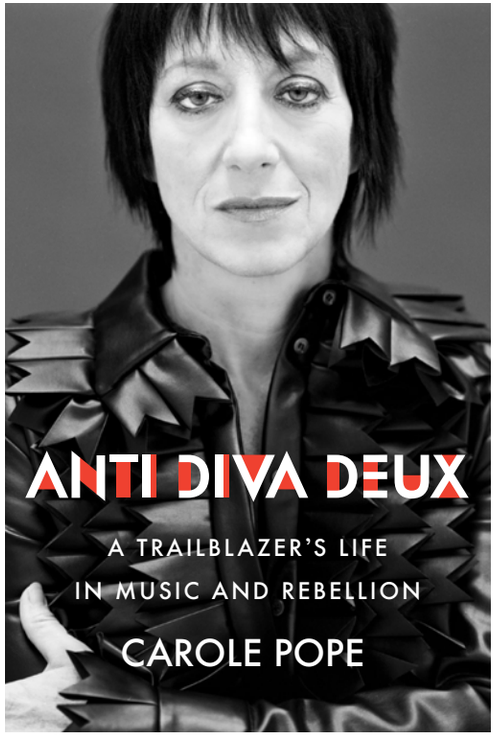
KEY SALES NOTES

- **THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE BOOK ABOUT THE TORONTO HIP-HOP SCENE:** Despite the abundant and enduring appeal of hip-hop culture in Canada and the ability to produce artists like Drake, very little has been documented of the hip-hop scene in Toronto and in Canada more widely.

- **FEATURING 100+ ARTISTS AND SCENE MAKERS:** Drake, Maestro Fresh Wes, k-os, Kardinal Offishall, Michie Mee, Saukrates, the Dream Warriors, Big Black Lincoln, and Choclair, to name a few. It also features people like Director X and influential producers like Noah "40" Shebib and Boi-1da.

- **FOR READERS OF:** *Can't Stop Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation* (Jeff Chang); *Chuck D Presents This Day in Rap and Hip-Hop History*; *The Come Up: An Oral History of the Rise of Hip-Hop* (*Jonathan Abrams*); *Hip-Hop Is History* (Questlove); *The Rap Year Book: The Most Important Rap Song from Every Year Since 1979, Discussed, Debated, and Deconstructed* (Shea Serrano); *Stick to Your Vision: How to Get Past the Hurdles and Haters to Get Where You Want to Be* (Maestro Fresh Wes); and *Bedroom Rapper: Cadence Weapon on Hip-Hop, Resistance and Surviving the Music Industry* (Rollie Pemberton).

- **A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR:** "Toronto hip-hop changed my life. Hearing it for the first time as a teenager living in England, it gave me a portal into the city that I would soon call my home. I've been a Toronto hip-hop aficionado ever since." — Del Cowie



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BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / ENTERTAINMENT & PERFORMING ARTS (BIO005000)

MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / PUNK (MUS030000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / MUSIC (BIO004000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / WOMEN (BIO022000)

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Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Film rights controlled by Oscars Abrams Zimel & Associates Inc.

ANTI DIVA DEUX

A TRAILBLAZER'S LIFE IN MUSIC AND REBELLION

Carole Pope

From punk icon Carole Pope, a ruthlessly honest, electrifying story of fame, love, loss, and reinvention

In *Anti Diva Deux*, musician and cultural provocateur Carole Pope picks up where her landmark memoir *Anti Diva* left off and plunges into 26 years of blazing trails across gender, sexuality, and art.

Just 10 days after arriving in New York City, Pope witnesses the 9/11 attacks and their devastation firsthand — an experience that reshapes her worldview and heralds a new reality.

The attacks and their aftermath are the beginning of a new chapter in her life that takes her to international fashion weeks in Barcelona, Madrid, Vienna; into the orbit of east village diehards and Warhol muses; into relationships that zigged and zagged between Los Vegas, London, and Los Angeles; and deep into an obsession with theater and the punishing, exhilarating work of creating a musical.

She racks up musical bucket list items, like duetting with Rufus Wainwright and co-writing and recording *Lesbians in the Forest* with Peaches, proving that her voice — both literal and cultural — remains as provocative and vital as ever. Touring is a slog, but the precious time onstage off-loading raw emotions in front of an audience is … everything.

Pope also writes heartbreakingly about the loss of her musical, magical soulmate, Kevan Staples, co-creator of Rough Trade, the band that ushered Canada from punk to new wave and an international sensation.

The book crescendos with an unexpected reckoning: a documentary about her life forces Pope to confront her impact, as voices like k.d. lang, Nona Hendryx, and Sebastian Bach speak to her legacy.

Anti Diva Deux is more than a memoir — it's a testament to artistic defiance, creative obsession, queer identity, and the price of living without compromise.

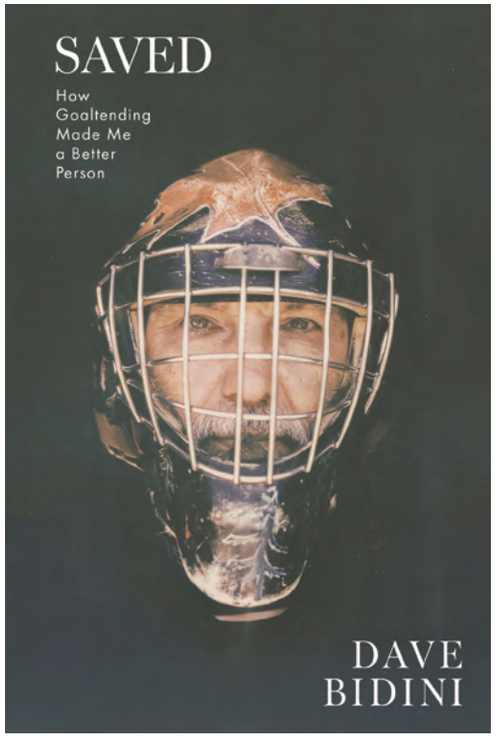
Carole Pope lives in New York. She is an agent provocateur challenging sexual politics and the status quo. Her work has been recognized with multiple music awards. A documentary on Carole's life is set to hit festivals in 2026. Her project *Rough Trade: The Musical* is in development with the New York Theatre Company.

KEY SALES NOTES

- ***ANTI DIVA* THE FIRST:** First published by Random House in 2000, Carole Pope's debut memoir became a landmark of feminist and queer cultural history, pulling back the curtain on a life lived defiantly on her own terms, onstage, in the studio, and off. From nights with Gilda Radner, Martin Short, Bill Murray, and Dan Aykroyd during *SNL*'s heyday to a love affair with Dusty Springfield; from starring opposite Divine in *Restless Underwear* to singing high opera; from touring with David Bowie to playing the Womyn's Festival, Pope charted a career that challenged gender, sexual, and artistic boundaries. *Anti Diva Deux* continues in post-9/11 New York, as Pope makes new music, moves through fashion week, develops a musical, and reflects with candor on art, sexuality, the AIDS crisis, and the politics that have shaped her life and work.

- **DOCUMENTARY AT HOT DOCS:** A documentary titled *Anti Diva: The Carole Pope Confessions* premiered at Hot Docs in April 2026. It featured interviews with k.d. lang, Peaches, Sebastian Bach, Rufus Wainwright, Nona Hendryx, George Stroumboulopoulos, and Jann Arden.

- **INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS:** Pope was born in Manchester, England, and spent her first few years there before immigrating to Montreal.



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5.5 x 8.5", 184pp, trade paperback

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BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / SPORTS (BIO016000)

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Film Rights: Controlled by Transatlantic Literary Agency

SAVED

HOW GOALTENDING MADE ME A BETTER PERSON

Dave Bidini

Bidini's mid-life leap into goaltending is part sports memoir, part self-help manual, and all meditation on what it means to strap on the pads in your 50s. You'll learn what hockey's hardest position teaches us about pain, aging, and showing up.

Saved is about becoming a hockey goaltender in your 50s and how the position helped Dave Bidini navigate life and aging, meeting head-on the three elements that are inherent to the position: pain, failure, and loneliness.

Blending sports memoir, self-help, and cultural history, *Saved* also touches on the author's encounters and friendships with Ken and Dave Dryden, Gord Downie, Sami Jo Small, and a galaxy of others, weaving their stories into a broader exploration of goaltending's unique place in sport and identity.

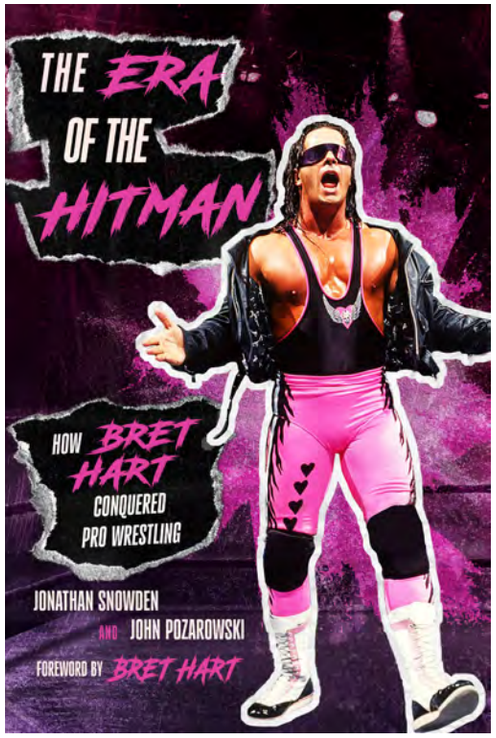
Author, musician, and filmmaker **Dave Bidini** is the only person to have been nominated for all three of Canada's main entertainment awards: Gemini, Genie, and Juno. A founding member of Rheostatics, he has written 13 books, and in 2017, he launched *West End Phoenix*, Canada's newest broadsheet newspaper. He lives in Toronto, Ontario.

KEY SALES NOTES

- **AUTHOR PLATFORM:** Dave Bidini has 26K followers on X, and 7K followers on Instagram. His newspaper, *West End Phoenix*, has an additional 30K followers.

- **BIDINI, IN FILM AND ON STAGE:** Bidini adapted his book *Tropic of Hockey* for the screen as *The Hockey Nomad* and won the Gemini Award for the adaptation. He co-directed the CBC series *Summit 72* and has written two plays, *Five Hole: Tales of Hockey Erotica* (toured nationally by One Yellow Rabbit) and *Night of the Dogs.* His book *Baseballissimo* is currently in development for the screen with Jay Baruchel.

- **TORONTO DARLING & NATIONAL TREASURE:** Bidini is the author of 13 books, including the Toronto Book Award–nominated *Writing Gordon Lightfoot*, and is the founder and publisher of the Toronto community newspaper *West End Phoenix*. A musician with over 30 years in the business, a founding member of Rheostatics, member of Bidiniband, and winner of Calgary Wordfest's Anne Green Award for artistic audacity, Bidini continues to shape Canada's cultural landscape through music, literature, film, and journalism.



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24 colour photos in section

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(SPO053000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / SPORTS
(BIO016000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / ENTERTAINMENT & PERFORMING ARTS
(BIO005000)

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Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by ECW

THE ERA OF THE HITMAN

HOW BRET HART CONQUERED PRO WRESTLING

Jonathan Snowden and John Pozarowski

The story of Bret Hart's rise through one of the most important and turbulent periods in wrestling history, drawing on dozens of exclusive interviews with Bret himself, as well as the rivals, friends, and fellow performers who shared the ring with him

In an era of spectacle, one man made wrestling feel real.

In *Era of the Hitman*, Jonathan Snowden and John Pozarowski deliver the definitive account of Bret Hart, one of the most influential performers in professional wrestling history.

From his breakout as a singles star in the early 1990s to the rivalries that helped reshape mainstream wrestling, *Era of the Hitman* explores:

- Hart's most iconic matches and career-defining moments
- how the business evolved during the '90s boom
- the psychology of in-ring storytelling and performance
- how decisions backstage shaped what fans saw in the ring

Through Bret Hart's own reflections, readers gain rare access to the mechanics of professional wrestling at the highest level: how matches are built, how stories are told, and how performers balance art, competition, and business.

This is a behind-the-scenes portrait of an artist at work — and a front-row seat to a revolution in sports entertainment.

Jonathan Snowden is an author and historian of combat sports, including *Shooters*, *Shamrock*, and *Total MMA*. A journalist and publisher of the *Hybrid Shoot* newsletter, he works for the Department of Defense and resides in Ozark, Alabama.

John "Poz" Pozarowski is a podcaster, writer, and wrestling historian from Tinton Falls, New Jersey, best known for his work with *The Two Man Power Trip of Wrestling* podcast, where he offers in-depth, research-driven insight into the history, business, and culture of professional wrestling.

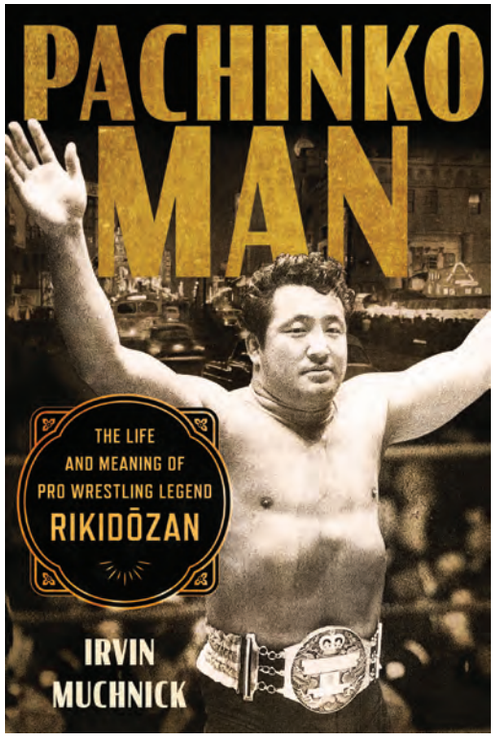
KEY SALES NOTES

- **MASSIVE PLATFORMS:** Bret Hart is an international superstar — with 1.7M followers on Facebook and 953K followers on Instagram — and is called the greatest technical wrestler of all time. John Pozarowski hosts the *Two Man Power Trip Wrestling* podcast, named by *Rolling Stone* as one of "18 Pro Wrestling Podcasts to Follow." Jonathan Snowden has 29K followers on X.

- **A SALES MACHINE:** Jonathan Snowden has written multiple books, including 2012's *Shooters: The Toughest Men in Professional Wrestling*, 2010's *The MMA Encyclopedia*, and 2008's *Total MMA: Inside Ultimate Fighting*. *Total MMA* sold over 15,000 copies, including 2,500 copies to B&N and 1,500 copies to Amazon.

- **BRET HART'S PREVIOUS BOOK:** *Hitman: My Real Life in the Cartoon World of Wrestling* was a massive success, selling over 55,000 copies in North America. This book is a companion to Hart's 2008 memoir and a more granular look at his professional life. While Bret's memoir focused on his personal journey, *Era of the Hitman* will complete the picture by focusing on his in-ring career work, the larger picture of professional wrestling, and the way his technical moves changed the industry.

- **LARGE, PASSIONATE FANBASE:** Wrestling fans consistently show their enthusiasm for the sport through impressive book sales that show no decline. ECW's wrestling books consistently reach the top of Amazon's wrestling category.



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4-page b&w photo section and 3 maps

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Film Rights: Controlled by ECW

PACHINKO MAN

THE LIFE AND MEANING OF PRO WRESTLING LEGEND RIKIDŌZAN

Irvin Muchnick

Dropping into the world of* KPop Demon Hunters *and the "Korean wave" is the first English biography published in the West of professional wrestling superstar Rikidōzan

He was Japan's biggest celebrity — second only to the emperor. But his public image was a lie.

Pachinko Man reveals the man behind the myth and the forces that shaped him.

As he pummeled American bad guys in the ring in the 1950s, Rikidōzan was a cultural phenomenon and a symbol of the defeated Japan's restoration of postwar pride. But his birth name wasn't actually Mitsuhiro Momota. In a fiercely guarded secret, he was born Kim Sim-rak, part of the persecuted minority from the former imperial occupied territory of Korea. Moreover, he was from *North* Korea, the communist bastion locked in Cold War conflict with U.S.-aligned South Korea.

Pachinko Man is a riveting story of this sport's manipulations of fact and fiction, along with its deceptively important relationship to larger political and cultural forces. Legendary wrestling historian Irvin Muchnick documents the birth of puroresu (Japanese pro wrestling) and its passionate swap of official storylines with the American brand.

Rikidōzan's instinctive genius in his genre, along with his huge appetites and human foibles, made for a titanic impact before his 1963 murder by a fellow traveler in the Yakuza, Japan's organized crime syndicate. For the first time, North American readers can fully grasp the legacy of a man who didn't just transform a sport — but helped shape a nation's identity.

Irvin Muchnick, the late sportswriting great Frank Deford said, "writes with passion and savage humor" and "produces magnificent investigative journalism." Muchnick's previous books on pro wrestling include *Wrestling Babylon* and *Chris & Nancy* (now in its third edition). Reporting for Muchnick's most recent book, *Underwater*, spurred government and sports governance investigations into sexual abuse in swimming in four countries. A native of St. Louis, he lives in Berkeley, California.

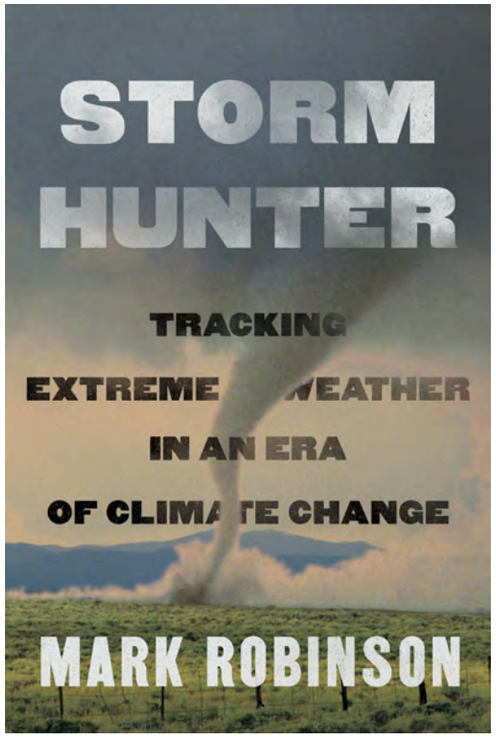
KEY SALES NOTES

- **PART CULTURAL HISTORY, PART SPORTS BIOGRAPHY:** Wrestling fans will be drawn to this rich history of professional wrestling in Japan, while general readers will be captivated by the surprisingly deep influence of wrestling on popular culture and how the extraordinary story of Rikidōzan helps illuminate the roots of the Korean Wave, from K-pop and K-dramas to global phenomena like *Parasite* and *Squid Game*.

- **ADVANCE PRAISE:**
  - "This biography of Rikidōzan is an important and long overdue contribution to the study of Japanese pop culture and Korean diaspora, and Irvin Muchnick is just the author to bring this amazing story to life." — Adam Johnson, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *The Orphan Master's Son*
  - "An impressive, knowing biography of an iconic, legendary ring figure in Japan and Korea, and a primer on the world of professional wrestling at the same time — densely researched, rich in detail, brimming with fascinating facts, memorable tidbits, and insights." — Robert Whiting, author of *Tokyo Underworld* and *Tokyo Junkie*

- **THE FATHER OF JAPANESE PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING:** Mitsuhiro Momota (born Kim Sin-rak), better known in the ring as Rikidōzan, was a Korean-Japanese wrestler and sumo wrestler and nicknamed "The Father of Puroresu." He is considered one of the most influential people in professional wrestling and was posthumously inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame in 2017, the first Korean inductee and third professional Japanese wrestler to be inducted.

- **GLOBAL SCOPE:** Rikidōzan's story moves through Pyongyang and South Hamgyŏng Province to Japan (especially Tokyo and Osaka's Koreatown) and onward to Honolulu, Hawaii, where a generation of Asian wrestlers were trained as villains for American wrestling audiences.



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SCIENCE / GLOBAL WARMING & CLIMATE CHANGE (SCI092000)

NATURE / NATURAL DISASTERS (NAT023000)

SOCIAL SCIENCE / DISASTERS & DISASTER RELIEF (SOC040000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / ADVENTURERS & EXPLORERS (BIO023000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-778-6 (Paperback)
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Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by ECW

STORM HUNTER

TRACKING EXTREME WEATHER IN AN ERA OF CLIMATE CRISIS

Mark Robinson

Part popular science, part travel memoir,* Storm Hunter: Tracking Extreme Weather in an Era of Climate Crisis *details the life and adventures of The Weather Network's Mark Robinson as a meteorologist and extreme weather specialist

Meteorologist Mark Robinson has spent over a decade at The Weather Network reporting from the front lines of the world's most extreme weather events. From fires to hurricanes to tornadoes, Mark has seen it all and sees how it's all been changing.

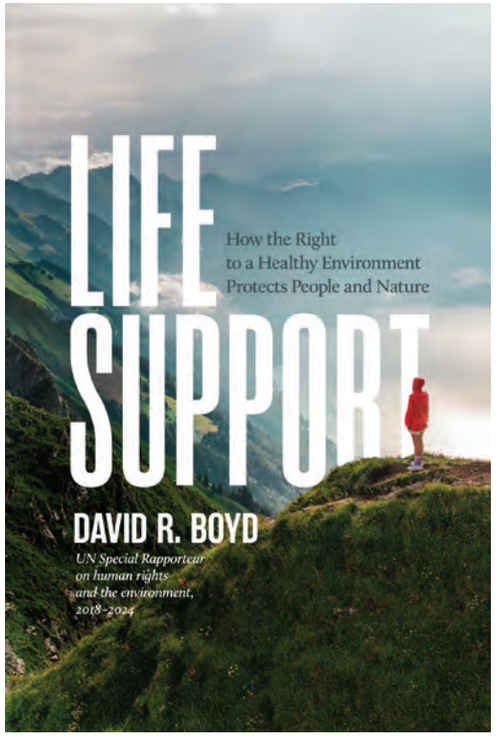
Equal parts travel memoir and popular science book, *Storm Hunter* delves expertly into famous meteorological events like the fires at Fort McMurray, the El Reno Tornado, and Hurricane Katrina — all witnessed firsthand by Mark.

But at the heart of these events is the most frightening phenomenon of them all — climate change. With accessible meteorology and mind-blowing personal accounts from the heart of the action, *Storm Hunter* is a shocking demonstration of how our world is becoming more unpredictable and more dangerous, one that also shows us how to keep calm and weather the storm.

Mark Robinson is a multi-platform meteorologist at The Weather Network. He co-hosts the television series *Storm Hunters* and *Unearthed*, has appeared on the television series *Angry Planet*, and has made numerous other media appearances. Mark Robinson can be followed on X: @StormhunterTWN. He lives in Guleph, Ontario.

KEY SALES NOTES

- **TV SHOW *STORM HUNTERS* IN MULTIPLE COUNTRIES:** Mark Robinson co-hosts *Storm Hunters*, which appears on The Weather Network in Canada, Sky in the UK, and the National Geographic Channel in New Zealand/Australia. The show is available for streaming via Prime in Canada.
- **BIG PLATFORM:** Mark Robinson has a large following on X, with over 77K engaged followers. The Weather Network, who is supportive of his work and this book, has a massive following: 192K subscribers on YouTube, 304K followers on Instagram, 194K followers on TikTok, and 1.6M followers on X.
- **LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION:** Features extreme weather events from across the globe, including tornadoes in Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and Nebraska; hurricanes in Florida; volcanoes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Vanuatu; melting glaciers in Nepal; shifting ocean currents in Antarctica and Greenland; fires in Northern Canada and California; and Arctic warming in Baffin Island.
- **NEWSWORTHY AND FASCINATING TOPIC:** Extreme weather is a perennial source of fascination for readers, as seen in the sales of John Vaillant's *Fire Weather*, Jeff Goodell's *The Heat Will Kill You First*, and Bill Gates's *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster*. Between California's wildfires, devastating rainfall in Southeast Asia, and our planet's rising temperatures, extreme weather is a constant topic of relevance, and Robinson is often featured on CBC, CTV, Citytv, CNN, BBC, Discovery Channel, and many written outlets to give commentary on the extreme weather we face in today's world.
- **A BOOK FOR THE EVERYMAN:** Mark Robinson is a firsthand witness to wildfires like 2024's California wildfires and 2016's in Fort McMurray, tornadoes such as the 2014 El Reno tornado in Oklahoma, and a now-shifting tornado alley, and Hurricane Katrina and 2023's hurricane season in Florida. He uses his account to share clear-headed descriptions of meteorology accessible to the layperson.



Publication Date: April 6, 2027

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28.95 CDN / 23.95 U.S.

NATURE / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION & PROTECTION (NAT011000)

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SCIENCE / GLOBAL WARMING & CLIMATE CHANGE (SCI092000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-898-1 (Paperback)

Rights Available: World, all languages
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LIFE SUPPORT

HOW THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT PROTECTS PEOPLE AND NATURE

David R. Boyd

A clear, hopeful strategy for a safer, cleaner, fairer planet from a leading legal expert

Too often the well-being of humans and the planet are pitted against each other, but in this groundbreaking and inspiring book, lawyer David Boyd shows that environmental rights are an essential part of human rights. We can protect people *and* nature at the same time. Courts all over the world are starting to agree, setting legal precedents that can force governments to take better care of people and nature now and for generations to come.

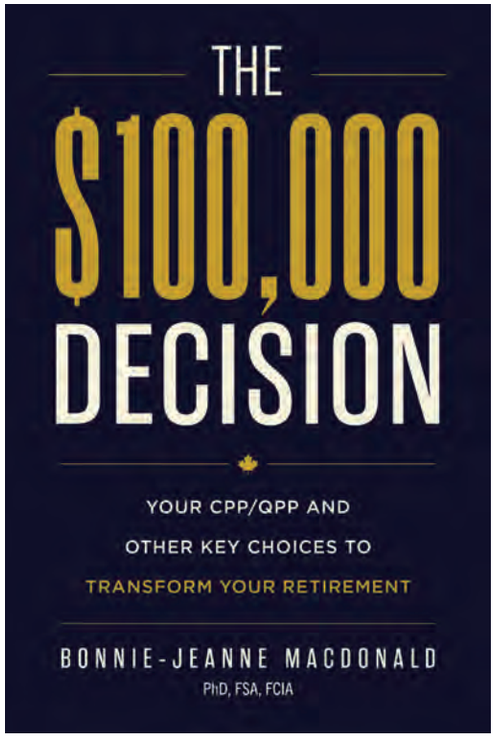
Life Support draws on Boyd's experiences as the United Nations special rapporteur on human rights and the environment, describing how lawyers, politicians, and communities all over the world have harnessed the right to secure cleaner air, safer water, healthier food, and less toxic environments while also addressing the climate and biodiversity crises.

While the news of the day is often bleak, Boyd highlights people who are making incredible strides toward a brighter, cleaner, fairer future for all who share this planet.

David R. Boyd is a lawyer, professor, and former UN special rapporteur on human rights and the environment (2018–2024). He is also a father, nature lover, Barnacleman triathlon record holder, Canadian age-group ultramarathon champion, four-time Ironman, author of 10 books, and recipient of an honorary doctor of laws degree from Nelson Mandela University. David Boyd lives in Pender Island, British Columbia.

KEY SALES NOTES

- **INTERNATIONAL APPEAL:** The book features uplifting and inspiring stories from across the globe, including Canada, Spain, Chile, France, Fiji, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Botswana, Colombia, Argentina, Kenya, Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, Guadeloupe, Seychelles, the United States, India, Indonesia, Brazil, South Africa, the Netherlands, and Germany.
- **LARGE NETWORK:** Boyd has worked with many organizations who will help to promote and spread the word about the book, including the Global Network for Human Rights and the Environment (GNHRE), Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW), World's Youth for Climate Justice, Ecojustice, David Suzuki Foundation, and the Youth Negotiators Academy.
- **THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY PLANET:** July 28, 2027, will mark the fifth anniversary of the historical United Nations recognition of the right to a healthy environment — a resolution Boyd helped get passed. In 2025, the world's highest courts, the International Court of Justice and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, formally recognized the right to a healthy environment as underpinning human rights. These landmark opinions should be a catalyst for climate action.
- **BOYD'S BACKLIST ARE BIG SELLERS:** *The Rights of Nature* (2017) has sold 8,000 copies and been translated into Spanish (Fundación Heinrich Böll), German (Benevento Publishing), Korean (Gyoyuseoga), and Vietnamese (Phương nam Book Company). *The Optimistic Environmentalist* (2015) has sold 9,500 copies and been translated into French (Éditions MultiMondes).
- **STARRED REVIEW FOR *THE RIGHTS OF NATURE*:** "Expertly written case studies in which legalese is accessibly distilled … are empowering reminders that the seemingly inevitable slide toward planetary destruction can be halted. Boyd persuasively shows that treating the law as an evolving instrument, combined with public-awareness campaigns and political pressure, can help curb humanity's worst excesses." — *Publishers Weekly*, starred review



Publication Date: February 9, 2027

6 x 9", 240pp, trade paperback

28.95 CDN / 28.95 U.S.

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / PERSONAL FINANCE / RETIREMENT PLANNING (BUS050040)

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / PERSONAL FINANCE / TAXATION (BUS050050)

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / PERSONAL FINANCE / INVESTING (BUS050020)

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / PERSONAL FINANCE / MONEY MANAGEMENT (BUS050030)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-918-6 (Paperback)

Rights Available: World, English language
Film Rights: Controlled by the author

THE $100,000 DECISION

YOUR CPP/QPP AND OTHER KEY CHOICES TO TRANSFORM YOUR RETIREMENT

Bonnie-Jeanne MacDonald

What if you could have an extra $100,000, or more, in retirement income — without saving one more penny?

Guessing how long you will live and how long your life savings will last may be a gamble, but building a strong foundation of sustainable retirement income doesn't have to be, and it's easier than you may think.

Most working Canadians know they will receive lifetime payments from the Canada Pension Plan or the Quebec Pension Plan, but few realize that you can choose when to start them, or that this choice significantly affects how much you receive for the rest of your life.

Every month you wait matters. For the average Canadian, taking CPP/QPP at 60 rather than 70 means sacrificing about $100,000 in lifetime guaranteed income. In some cases, that could mean more than double the monthly pension amount.

When to start CPP/QPP is the one retirement decision that nearly every Canadian will face, but for most it arrives with no one to help you understand your options, weigh the trade-offs, or protect the person you'll be 20 years from now.

The $100,000 Decision is here to help you:

- recognize that not all sources of retirement income are created equal and know the critical difference between savings and pensions, which are at the heart of building a secure retirement
- learn how to access additional income that carries no investment risk, is guaranteed for life, and is protected against inflation
- understand that retirement and starting CPP/QPP are two separate decisions, which increase your options substantially
- apply the book's principles to other major financial decisions to maximize your guaranteed monthly income in retirement

Delaying CPP/QPP is not just a good deal, it may be the best deal available anywhere in the Canadian retirement system. By delaying and locking in higher monthly payments for life, you're not just planning for a wealthier retirement — you're planning for a freer and more joyful one.

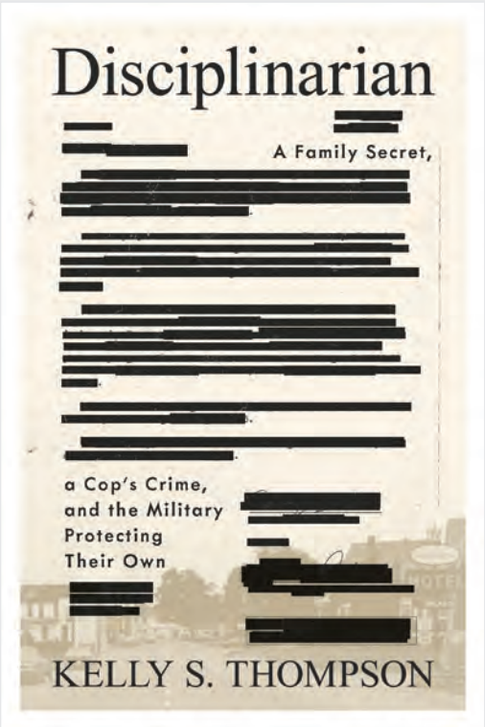
Bonnie-Jeanne MacDonald, PhD, FSA, FCIA, is an actuary, but a slightly unusual one: she chose an academic path over industry and, for more than 20 years, has studied how to help Canadians retire with dignity and financial security. She co-founded and co-directs the Centre for Retirement Innovation, Scholarship, and Exchange (RISE) at Simon Fraser University. Her research has shaped laws, industry practice, and government programs. She lives in Halifax, NS.

KEY SALES NOTES

- **PROVEN PUBLIC REACH:** Dr. MacDonald is a regular contributor to *The Globe and Mail*, and her research has been featured extensively across Canada's major news outlets, including CBC, CTV, BNN Bloomberg, the *Toronto Star*, *Financial Post*, *National Post*, and Global News, as well as French-language media. Her research-based Cost of Ageing Calculator reached 40,000 Canadians within weeks of its February 2026 launch.

- **THE CPP & QPP PLAYBOOK CANADA DIDN'T KNOW IT NEEDED:** As the largest wave of baby boomers reaches CPP/QPP eligibility (2.4 MILLION!), millions of Canadians are being forced to answer one urgent, high-stakes question: When should I start claiming? Sixty percent of Service Canada pension inquiries are about this single decision, yet there are no Canadian books on the topic. Drawing on a decade of research that's reshaped government policy and industry practice, Dr. Bonnie-Jeane MacDonald shows how smarter CPP/QPP decisions can deliver greater lifetime security and financial freedom and answers the question at the heart of the most significant financial decision most Canadians will ever make.

- **GLOBAL REACH:** A sought-after international authority on retirement security, Dr. MacDonald has delivered more than 100 invited presentations across Canada, Quebec, Europe, and the UK in the past five years, including keynote roles at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris, the Canada–UK Knowledge Exchange at Cambridge University, and high-level policy forums with global pension leaders. She has presented to the Federal-Provincial-Territorial CPP Committee of Officials — the body that sets the agenda for CPP's triennial review — and has appeared as an expert witness before Canadian Parliament and Quebec's National Assembly on retirement security and pension reform.



Publication Date: April 6, 2027

6 x 9", 250pp, trade paperback

26.95 CDN / 22.95 U.S.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / MILITARY (BIO008000)

HISTORY / CANADA / POST-CONFEDERATION (1867-) (HIS006020)

TRUE CRIME / WRONGFUL CONVICTION & MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE (TRU015000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PERSONAL MEMOIRS (BIO026000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-869-1 (Paperback)

Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by Westwood Creative Artists, Ltd.

DISCIPLINARIAN

A COP, A KILLING, AND THE MILITARY PROTECTING THEIR OWN

Kelly S. Thompson

An evocative and deeply personal investigation into secrecy, accountability, and inherited trauma in the Canadian Armed Forces

On a warm spring night in 1971, spent drinking away his Korean War memories, Sergeant Martin Thompson took a life on home soil: He decapitated Phillip Birch with his shiny blue Chevy. With his military police privilege, Martin's crime became a secret buried by both his Armed Forces family and his biological one.

When Kelly S. Thompson — a now-retired fourth-generation veteran — discovers her grandfather's secret, she faces a choice: be complicit in silence or pursue the truth despite great personal cost. Overwhelmed with fear of betraying all that she loves, Kelly examines this dark secret to draw her loved ones closer while encouraging accountability in an organization that values loyalty above all else.

Disciplinarian masterfully weaves Martin's crime with Kelly's uncovering of it, exploring the legacies we inherit and how we might change our own to better the future. Combining absorbing time-hopping storytelling with present-day analysis, *Disciplinarian* unravels the stories of one tortured family, one deadly night, and the ways the military institution harms, the ways it unites, and how it might heal moving forward.

Kelly S. Thompson is a former officer in the Canadian Armed Forces with a Ph.D. in creative writing. She now teaches the King's University MFA in nonfiction. Both of her memoirs, *Girls Need Not Apply* and *Still, I Cannot Save You* (shortlisted for the Evelyn Richardson Nonfiction Award), were instant national bestsellers. Kelly Thompson lives in Comox, British Columbia.

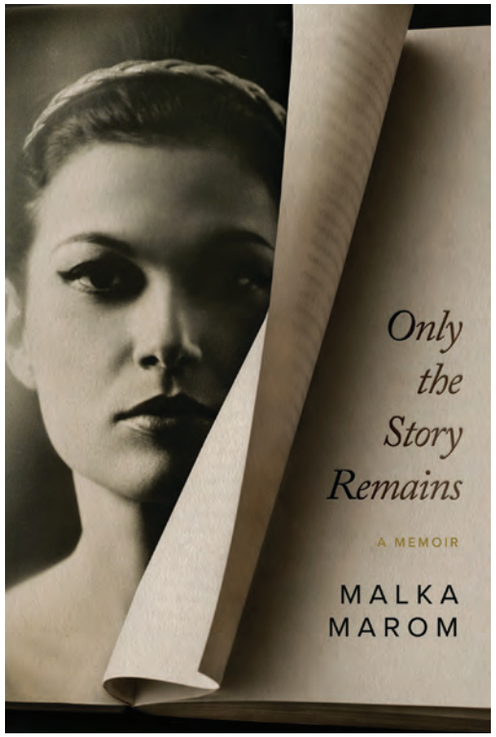
KEY SALES NOTES

- **GROUNDED IN PERSONAL EXPERIENCE:** Drawing on her own family history and military service, Kelly S. Thompson confronts a long-silenced crime and the military culture that concealed it. By reckoning with her grandfather's role in a fatal drunk driving death and the institutional loyalty that erased accountability, *Disciplinarian* reveals how military systems protect themselves at the expense of justice, with consequences that echo across generations.

- **A BESTSELLING AUTHOR:** Thompson's previous books, *Girls Need Not Apply* (2019) and *Still, I Cannot Save You* (2023), were both instant national bestsellers. *Still, I Cannot Save You* was shortlisted for the Evelyn Richardson Nonfiction Award.

- **LOCATIONS ACROSS CANADA:** The book moves from Barrie, Trenton, Borden, Toronto, and Ottawa in Ontario to Greenwood, Nova Scotia.

- **DISCIPLINARIAN, A DOUBLE MEANING:** "Disciplinarian" refers to a now-defunct branch of the military police responsible for guarding detention barracks and military prisons. Martin held that role but was also the family disciplinarian. The book interrogates the blurred line between good and bad when the man tasked with upholding the law is the one who violated it so grievously.



Publication Date: April 13, 2027

6 x 9", 440pp, trade paperback
20 b&w photographs throughout

29.95 CDN / 24.95 U.S.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PERSONAL MEMOIRS (BIO026000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / MUSIC (BIO004000)

MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / FOLK & TRADITIONAL (MUS017000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / JEWISH (BIO037000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-790-8 (Paperback)
ISBN: 978-1-77852-553-7 (ePub)
ISBN: 978-1-77852-553-7 (Kindle)

Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by ECW

ONLY THE STORY REMAINS

A MEMOIR

Malka Marom

A memoir that moves through poverty and war, immigrating to a foreign land, bringing world music to Canada and beyond, and befriending artists like Joni Mitchell, Leonard Cohen, and Bob Dylan

Malka Marom will tell you that art saved her life. As a child, she craved stories and songs more than sustenance, and it's no surprise, perhaps, that they ended up being the central thread of her unusual, often amazing life.

In the '60s, with her singing partner, Joso Spralja, another immigrant to Canada, Malka formed a singing duo that made world music a domestic hit, and though they rarely sang in English, they eventually had one of the bestselling records of the era and a CBC TV show after *Hockey Night in Canada*.

Later, Marom channeled her love of music and poetry into journalism, producing award-winning documentaries and interviews with Canadian luminaries such as Joni Mitchell, Irving Layton, and Leonard Cohen. These artists eventually became lifelong friends, and the former folk singer found herself spending many surprising days with some of the most original creators of the era, including Bob Dylan.

Spanning a childhood in wartime Israel through the folk scene of the '60s and '70s in Canada, *Only the Story Remains* shares snapshots of a time long past and reveals the hidden side of show business and familiar icons. These are tales of perseverance, reinvention, and the power of art, of a story-hungry child who went on to live some remarkable tales of her own.

Malka Marom began her career as a folksinger in the popular duo Malka & Joso, who were the first to bring world music to Canada. As a soloist, Marom has performed on stage, TV, and radio around the world. She is also known and respected as a radio broadcaster and documentary maker and is the author of *Joni Mitchell: In Her Own Words* and the bestselling novel *Sulha*. Marom lives outside of Tel Aviv, Israel, and Toronto, Ontario.

KEY SALES NOTES

- **A FORREST GUMP LIFE:** Saved by her mother's last-minute decision that spared her from the Holocaust, Malka's life has been defined by survival, reinvention, and a passion for art. Her life is a kaleidoscope of 20th-century history: from standing on Tel Aviv rooftops watching bombs fall to performing in remote towns across Canada, to hosting a weekly CBC show and creating award-winning documentaries, to being a part of the Canadian Talent Library's number one recording of all time, to forging friendships with some of the biggest names of 20th century music, to turning down the first Vegas supper-club residency.

- **CANADIAN CULTURE OF THE '60s and '70s:** Malka & Joso played the Mariposa Folk Festival in Orillia, Ontario, in 1963, on a bill with Ian & Sylvia, the Travellers, and a duo called the Two Tones that included a young Gordon Lightfoot. Malka forged friendships with Leonard Cohen and Bob Dylan. She also established a long-term friendship with Joni Mitchell that continues to this day. We get an inside look at these Canadian icons through the eyes of a friend, journalist, and fellow artist.

- **A JOHNNY CARSON FAVORITE:** Before they split in 1967, Malka & Joso were favorites of *The Tonight Show*'s Johnny Carson, who had them on his program four times.

- **A REMARKABLE CAREER:** After her music career ended, Malka remade herself as a journalist. Her multi-part documentary, *A Bite of the Big Apple*, won an ACTRA Award in 1977. She produced documentaries such as *The Bedouins* (a project that led to her learning their language and living amongst them for many months), *My Jerusalem*, and *The Holocaust*, and she hosted a weekly CBC Radio program called *Songs of Our People*. She also created a series of radio documentaries profiling musicians such as Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen.

- **A LIBERAL ZIONIST:** A Zionist raised on the dream of a Jewish homeland, she now protests regularly against the current Israeli government. The book has some commentary on Israel during its founding days (her childhood) and how that has impacted her life, but there is no modern commentary on the Israel-Palestine war.

Publication Date: April 20, 2027

5.5 x 8.5", 180pp, trade paperback

24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.

FICTION / SHORT STORIES (SINGLE AUTHOR) (FIC029000)

FICTION / JEWISH (FIC046000)

FICTION / LITERARY (FIC019000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-884-4 (Paperback)

Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by ECW

RIGOUR

STORIES

Adam Sol

Warm, funny, and intimate,* Rigour *is the literary version of* Man on the Inside*, reminding us that old age is just as full of drama, romance, and magic as every other season of life

What if growing old didn't mean growing quiet?

If you think the lives of the elderly are any less complex and full of drama, intrigue, humor, and romance than when they were teenagers, you need to visit an assisted living facility. And you need to read *Rigour*.

Memory and mortality? Sure. The indignities of loneliness and of the body? Absolutely. A bit of magic? Why not?

These intimate and funny short stories illuminate how we accommodate, misunderstand, and express devotion to one another, whether we are young, old, or somewhere in between.

Adam Sol's latest collection of poetry, *Broken Dawn Blessings* (2021), won the Vine Award and the Canadian Jewish Literary Award. He has published four other books of poems and one collection of essays, *How a Poem Moves: A Field Guide for Readers of Poetry*. He is the Blake Goldring Professor at Victoria College, University of Toronto, where he is the launch director for the Centre for Creativity. He lives in Toronto, Ontario, with his wife, Rabbi Yael Splansky.

KEY SALES NOTES

- **WHEN POETRY MAKES IT BIG:** *How a Poem Moves* has sold over 6,500 copies across formats.
- **CELEBRATED AUTHOR:** Sol's first collection, *Crowd of Sounds*, won Ontario's Trillium Book Award for Poetry (2004). *How a Poem Moves* received a starred review from *Library Journal*, and *Broken Dawn Blessings* won the Vine Award for Canadian Jewish Literature (2023) and the Canadian Jewish Literary Award for Poetry (2022).
- **THE JUMP FROM POETRY TO SHORT STORY:** Sol's poetry has been admired for decades, and this is his debut work of fiction. These language-rich, carefully crafted stories make you feel like the characters are your friends and family.

Publication Date: April 6, 2027

5.5 x 8.5", 264pp, trade paperback

24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.

FICTION / THRILLERS / POLITICAL (FIC031060)
FICTION / THRILLERS / SUSPENSE (FIC030000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-888-2 (Paperback)

Rights Available: World, English language
Film Rights: Controlled by Transatlantic Literary Agency

THE FOLLOWING

A NOVEL

Leah Bailly

For readers of Liz Moore and Shari Lapena, a luminous literary thriller about the price we pay for fame and the extraordinary lengths we'll go to escape it

On an ordinary winter afternoon, impossibly glamorous political wife Laura Barnett gathers her passport and cash, lights her kitchen on fire, and vanishes.

Laura's escape ignites a media frenzy — soon she is hotly pursued by a group of devoted superfans tracking her movements using a social media network dedicated to her disappearance. They call themselves the Following.

Meanwhile, relying on charm, bribes, and friends who might also be enemies, Laura drifts from Spain, through Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, and lastly Sierra Leone as she attempts to slip from the public's gaze. Traveling south by yacht, bus, and dusty poda poda while finding companionship and beauty in the deserts, beaches, and border towns of North and West Africa, Laura transforms while her past falls further and further behind — but her Following refuses to relinquish their pursuit.

With gripping and clear-eyed prose, *The Following* details Laura's fraught marriage in the public eye, her cross-continental escape, and the compulsion to follow a woman who is both revered and infamous and refuses to be found. Part thriller and part cultural commentary, *The Following* is a harrowing, urgent novel examining the price of surveillance and public scrutiny, the cultural and societal differences between the Global North and South, and the way 21st-century fame — both invited and uninvited — poisons our most intimate relationships.

Leah Bailly has a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California and an MFA from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her writing has won recognition from MacDowell, Yaddo, Vermont Studio Centre, and elsewhere. She lives on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish First Nations of Vancouver, Canada.

KEY SALES NOTES

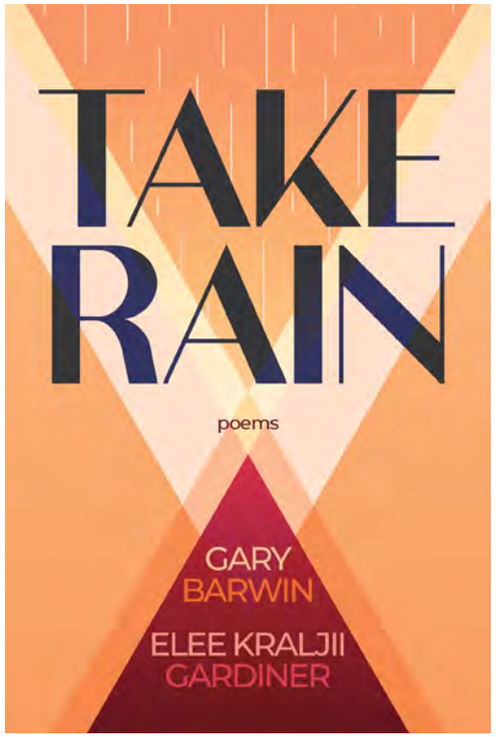
- **A THRILLER FOR MODERN WOMEN:** A thriller for women that asks contemporary questions about what it means to be a wife, a celebrity, and a wealthy white woman in a world that prioritizes Instagram face over deep political engagement. So few thrillers speak to what preoccupies women!

- **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR, JEN SOOKFONG LEE:** "It's really rare to find a true thriller that contains all the plot twists the reader expects and also has really spectacular writing. *The Following* hits all the right notes: exciting, deeply engrossing, and fascinatingly sociopolitical. Not only is this an intimate story of one woman's public marriage and breakdown, it also asks urgent and timely questions about the destructive side of social media fame, white female privilege, mental illness, and global reproductive rights. Truly a special novel."

- **ARMCHAIR TRAVEL:** The book will take readers through Calgary, Ottawa, Spain, Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, and Sierra Leone. All for the bargain price of $24.95!

- **FOR READERS OF:** *The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore, *The Searcher* by Tana French, *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn, *What Have You Done?* by Shari Lapena, and *American Wife* by Curtis Sittenfeld.

- **FOR FANS OF**: *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* (film), *High Potential* (TV series), *Promising Young Woman* (film), *MaXXXine* (film), *The Substance* (film), and *A Quiet Place* (film).



Publication Date: April 6, 2027

5.5 x 8.5", 96pp, trade paperback

24.95 CDN / 24.95 U.S.

POETRY / CANADIAN (POE011000)

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Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by ECW Press

TAKE RAIN

POEMS

Gary Barwin and Elee Kraljii Gardiner

A collaborative ecopoetry collection that is lyric and experimental, lively and absurd

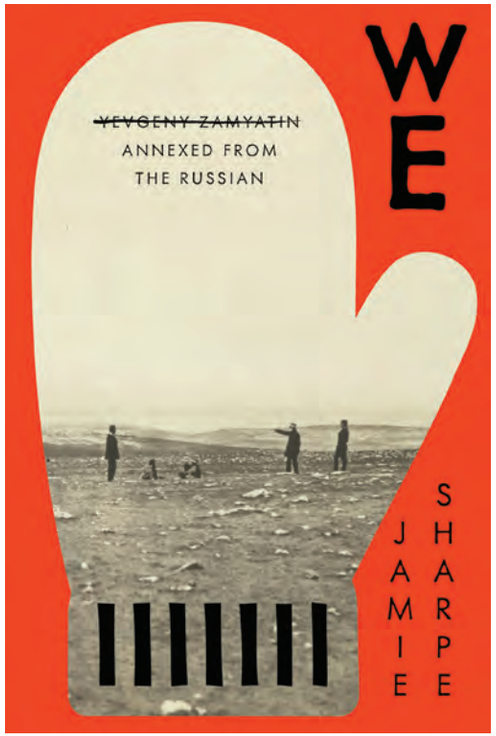
The poems in *Take Rain* are collaborative and color-saturated. Concerned with climate change and how we mediate life via images, they reflect a belief in relationality and process as a creative tactic for navigating both poetry and the current moment. From swans, snails, and clocks to polar bears, grief, and airports, the poems reenact a perplexing and uncanny world.

Written in a poetic voice belonging to neither poet but corresponding to aspects of both authors, the poems consider the environment (both psychological and natural) and how, through engaged, creative connection, we can be collaborators. Both humans and nature are, after all, a kind of "wetware."

The poets used three provocations, such as quotations, visual prompts, and phrases gathered from their peripatetic, multidisciplinary lives, to seed a prompt for a poem. Sometimes these triangles of association yielded multiple poems. The authors then traded these "triangle poems," and during the joint editing process, a recognizable tone and timbre emerged.

Take Rain addresses difficult topics with liveliness, surprise, and absurdist humor, and proves collaboration can help. Short enough to allow readers to dip in and out, but intense enough to transport them from daily life, these poems practice what they propose: They were created from a place of convivial sharing and trust. What grew from this "artnership" is a unique third voice that surprised both authors.

Gary Barwin and **Elee Kraljii Gardiner** are frequent collaborators, active as poets, sound, and multimedia artists. Elee lives in Vancouver, where she is the current poet laureate. The winner of many awards for his novels and poetry, Gary lives in Hamilton, Ontario.



Publication Date: April 13, 2027

5.5 x 8.5", 112pp, trade paperback

24.95 CDN / 24.95 U.S.

POETRY / CANADIAN (POE011000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-921-6 (Paperback)

Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by ECW

WE

YEVGENY ZAMYATIN ANNEXED FROM THE RUSSIAN

Jamie Sharpe

A contemporary novel-in-verse,* WE: Yevgeny Zamyatin Annexed from the Russian *takes, reinterprets, and responds to the legacy of a classic Soviet text through a distinctly modern lens

In a glass-walled 51st State, citizens are known not by names but by numbers. Their lives are governed by strict schedules and constant surveillance under the czars and a singular head of state: One Wayne G. A loyal poet-engineer, 555, oversees the construction of a Nexus meant to extend this "ideal" system universally. Although initially a devout believer, 555's encounter with the enigmatic 360 fractures his orderly world, giving way to desire, uncertainty, and a growing awareness of perfection's cost.

The world of *WE* borders on absurd, yet remains legible precisely because it reflects the structures, contradictions, and excesses of our own. In dialogue with Yevgeny Zamyatin, and echoing the concerns of French theorist Maurice Blanchot, Sharpe's *WE* treats language not as stable expression but as a site of volatility where meaning softens, authorship fractures, and the act of writing resists resolution.

Jamie Sharpe is the author of five previous collections of poetry. He lives in Comox, British Columbia.

KEY SALES NOTES

- **A HIGHLY PRAISED POET:**
  - "A self-reflective exploration of anxiety and ways to hide it … *Dazzle Ships* is a thoughtful collection with lots of 'funny bits,' lots of insightful bits, and is simply a delight to read." — *Broken Pencil* on *Dazzle Ships*
  - "Brilliant lunatic assemblage." — *Today's Book of Poetry* on *Cut-up Apologetic*
  - "*Everything You Hold Dear* is jam-packed with juicy, bright insights, observations as terrible and incisive as the best stand-up comedy … Sharpe has been slowly building a largely overlooked body of work over the last few years, and this might be his most well-crafted, minimal and sharp volume yet, filled with darkly humorous lines and a goat's head's worth of bitter blood." — *Winnipeg Free Press* on *Everything You Hold Dear*
- **AWARDS:** Jamie Sharpe's *Dazzle Ships* was longlisted for the ReLit Award for Poetry (2018).

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JEN SOOKFONG LEE
Fiction, nonfiction

"I'm looking for fiction or nonfiction that explores the complicated identities, intersections, and interests of our contemporary world."

JEN ALBERT
Fiction: SFF, speculative, YA, post-apocalyptic, horror, and more

"I'm drawn to fiction that overturns genre boundaries and strongly support books from diverse voices."

JACK DAVID
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"Make the hair stand up on the back of my neck. Compel me to turn the pages."

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Nonfiction: business, leadership, corporate history, and more

"Everyone has a story to tell and the best part of my work is helping people share theirs with a wide audience."

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Fiction, wrestling, poetry, sports, music, and more

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Fiction, memoir, narrative nonfiction, social issues, and more

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The ECW office is situated on land that was the traditional territory of many nations, including the Wendat, the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Chippewa, Métis, and the Mississaugas of the Credit, the latter of whom completed negotiation of a Treaty No. 13 known as the "Toronto Purchase" begun in 1787, negotiated in 1805, and re-negotiated in 2010. It was a sandy oak savannah on a hill rising westward from Heward Creek, one of Toronto's lost ravines. In the 1880s, the land was developed as part of a growing community around St. Matthew's Anglican and other churches. In the 1950s, our neighborhood, now known as East Chinatown, was transformed by people moving into the area, dispossessed by the building of Nathan Phillips Square and subsequent rise in real estate value in Old Chinatown, and immigrants fleeing the Vietnam War. We are grateful to those who cared for the land before us, and we are proud to be working now amidst this mix of cultures.

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Canada

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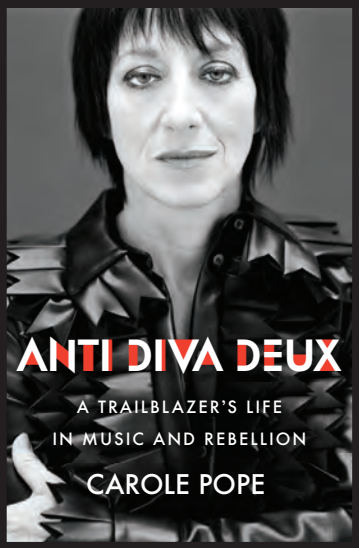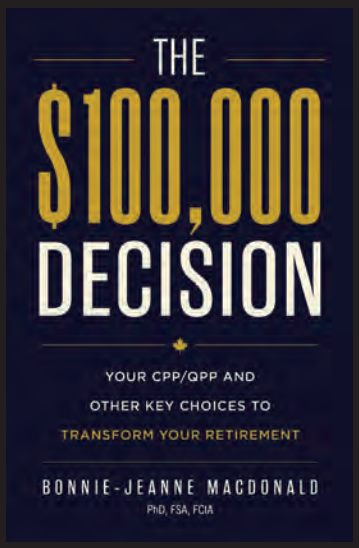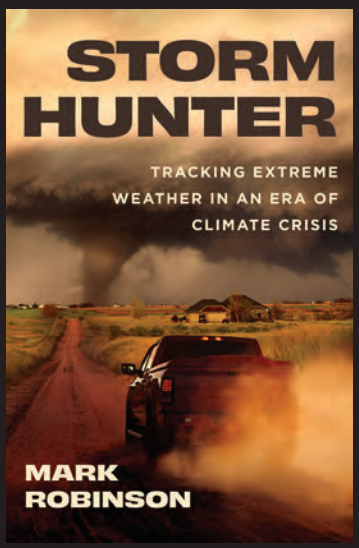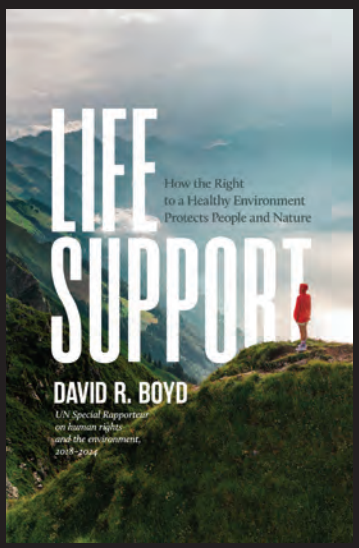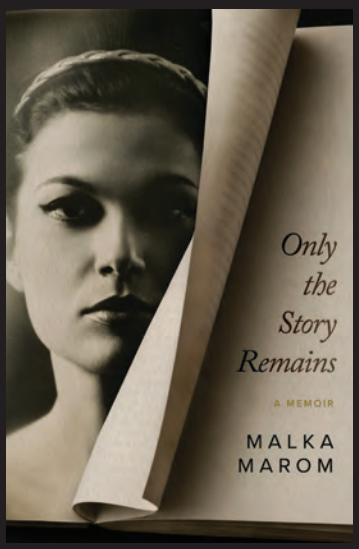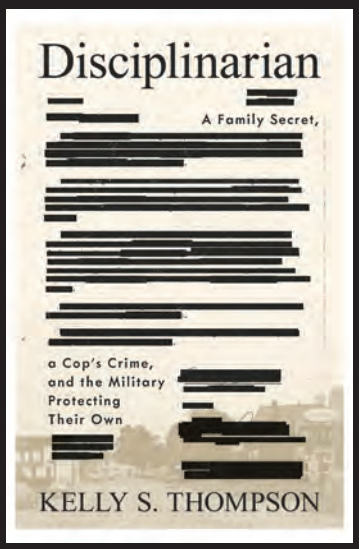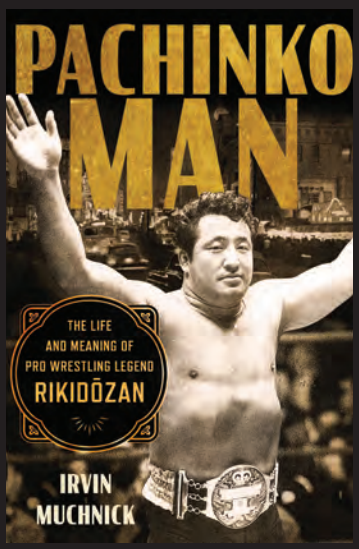
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