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TITLES**

**2025-2027**



# BRACING FOR ARMAGEDDON: ON THE FRONT LINES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

## NATURAL DISASTERS

**Publication Date:** September 1, 2026  
6 x 9", 300pp, trade paperback

**SCIENCE / GLOBAL WARMING & CLIMATE CHANGE** (SCI092000)  
**NATURE / NATURAL DISASTERS** (NAT023000)  
**SCIENCE / EARTH SCIENCES / METEOROLOGY & CLIMATOLOGY** (SCI042000)  
**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / ADVENTURERS & EXPLORERS** (BIO023000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-778-6 (Paperback)

**Rights Available:** World rights available

**Film Rights:** Film rights available

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**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. In 2015, Robinson was named one of Canada's 100 greatest modern-day explorers by Canadian Geographic.

Mark Robinson can be followed on the X platform, formerly known as Twitter: @StormhunterTWN, where he has over 75K engaged followers.

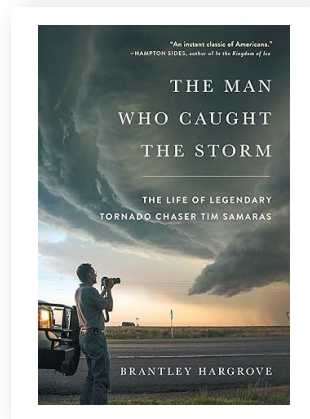
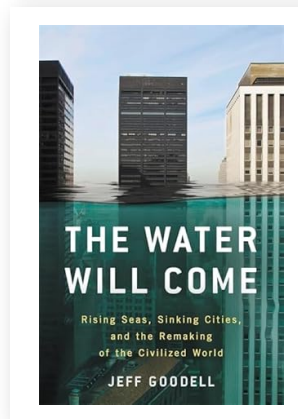
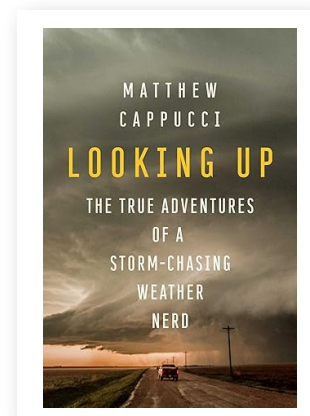
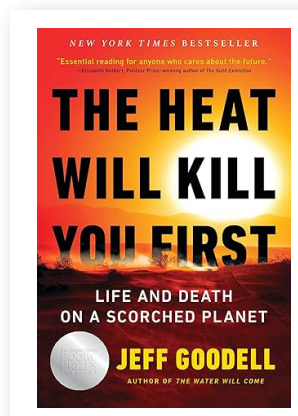
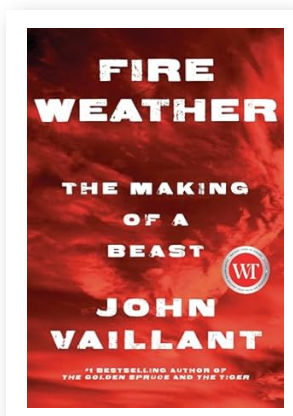
The book features the following extreme weather events:

- Tornadoes: Tornado Alley (KS, TX, OK, NB)
- Hurricanes: Florida
- Volcanoes: Democratic Republic of Congo, Vanuatu
- Glaciers: Nepal
- Ocean currents: Antarctica, Greenland
- Fires: Northern Canada, California
- Arctic changes: Baffin Island
- Great Lakes snow: Ontario

Part popular science, part personal story, *Bracing for Armageddon* details meteorologist Mark Robinson's life as an extreme weather specialist for *The Weather Network*.

Broken down by disaster type, with each chapter covering a different kind of extreme weather event, Robinson describes what it's like to be in the middle of a natural disaster, as well as how those disasters work (scientifically speaking) and how they are changing, in most cases getting worse, in the face of climate change. But there is hope here too; he also describes the innovative ways humans are adapting to climate change-related disasters.

### FOR FANS OF



There is growing interest in extreme weather events, and growing news coverage too, as the world deals with the alarming effects of climate change. Mark Robinson is a first-hand witness to all of this, from wildfires like 2024's California wildfires and the 2016 fire in Fort MacMurray, to tornados such as the 2014 El Reno tornado in Oklahoma and a now-shifting tornado alley, to Hurricane Katrina and 2023's hurricane season in Florida. Mark has seen it all, and writes vividly about the experiences.

Each chapter details a scene Mark lived through, but also the meteorological science behind what happened, and he discusses what the science says about the future. His clear-headed descriptions of meteorology create an accessible way for the layperson to understand how our climate is changing.

But it's not all doom and gloom. He talks about the brave people living in disaster zones, and the ingenious solutions they're working on which will help us get through the next decades, and centuries.

It's a fascinating first-hand tale and a way of looking forward.



**Publication Date:** July 1, 2026  
7 x 10", 250pp, trade paperback

**32.95 CDN / 24.95 U.S.**

**SELF-HELP / EATING DISORDERS & BODY IMAGE** (SEL014000)

**COOKING / METHODS / QUICK & EASY** (CKB070000)

**SELF-HELP / PERSONAL GROWTH / HAPPINESS** (SEL016000)

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / CULINARY** (BIO029000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-843-1 (Paperback)

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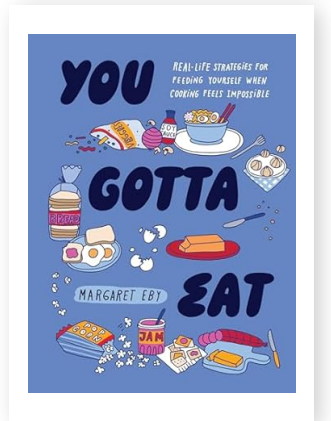
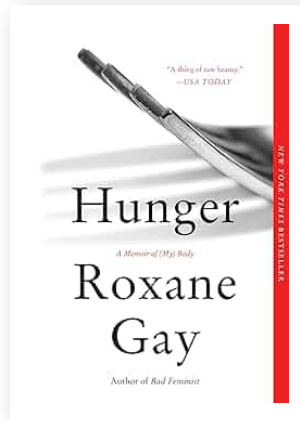
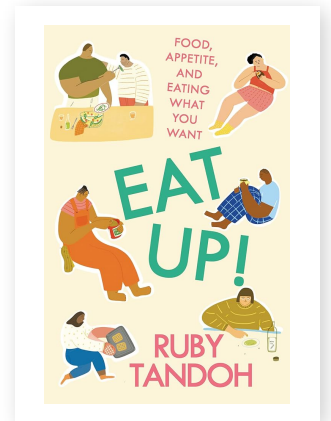
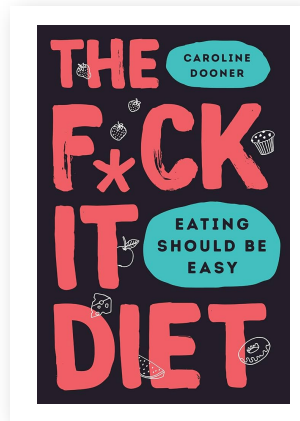
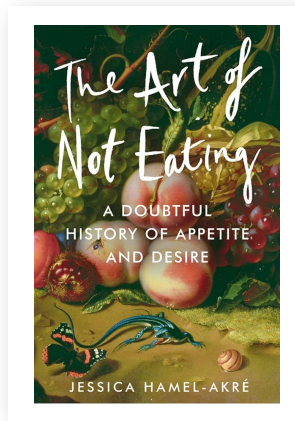


**Sonali Menezes** (she/her) is a Hamilton-based multidisciplinary artist and writer. She tries her best to eat at least three meals a day and is the youngest of triplets. While her work spans many mediums she is best known for her zines which live in personal and public zine libraries worldwide.

**depression cooking** /di-'pre-shən 'kù-kiŋ/ **noun** 1. the method of cooking and eating while depressed. Eating out, convenience foods, things on toast, and, yes, even a bag of microwave popcorn constitute depression cooking!

You don't need to experience clinical depression to depression-cook. Being tired, burnt out, becoming a new parent, being fired from a job, living on your own for the first time, can all be reasons to turn to depression cooking as a method for survival. Eating three meals a day in the face of mental illness, exhaustion or grief is the biggest affront to depression.

### FOR FANS OF



Nurturing yourself during times of depression, disability, and crisis is a powerful and transformative act, and learning to do so with ease is one of the greatest gifts you can give yourself. Enter: *Depression Cooking*. A food memoir peppered with recipes and depression focused methods for cooking and eating.

Told through personal stories, detailed lists, recipes, and rudimentary drawings and comics, *Depression Cooking* thoughtfully explores disordered eating, food shame, racism, bullying, queerness, misogyny and patriarchy, financial hardship, and loneliness and isolation under capitalism.

*Depression Cooking* is a method, a manifesto, and a triumph over the depression which is trying to snuff us out.

## The Market

The pre-cursor to this book is a small zine called *Depression Cooking: easy recipes for when you're depressed as fuck*. It started out as 8 letter sized pages folded in half and launched initially for free as a limited run of 250 copies in 2022. By the following year Sonali had distributed over 2,000 copies through the mail and at zine fairs and decided it needed to become a book.

The zine reached a wide audience of people: tweens and teens learning how to cook for the first time, new moms struggling with postpartum depression, burnt out activists, widowers in their seventies living on their own for the first time and needing to cook for one. Most are depressed or struggle with another form of mental illness. A lot of the initial audience lived in the zine world, and many have let Sonali know that they found *Depression Cooking* funny, and that humour is helpful when navigating tough topics. She's connected with many readers who have similar stories, who are continually recovering from disordered eating, who listen to podcasts such as *Food Psych with Christy Harrison*, or the *Socialist Program with Brian Becker*, and read books such as *The F\*ck It Diet* by Catherine Dooner and *The Art of Not Eating* by Jessica Hamel-Akré.

This book engages with critical narratives surrounding food, disordered eating, and mental health, broadening these discussions to include the profound effects of environmental factors. It examines how growing up in a diet culture shaped by the pervasive individualism of capitalism fosters isolation and exacerbates mental health struggles. Through non-fiction storytelling, the book seeks to challenge the tendency to place individual blame on those experiencing mental health issues. Instead, it highlights the importance of collective connection, illustrating how linking personal struggles to shared experiences can serve as a powerful antidote to depression—emphasizing the simple, yet profound, act of sharing a meal.



# A CURIOUS PRESENCE: INVESTIGATIONS AND INTERVIEWS ABOUT GHOSTS

## BODY/MIND/SPIRIT

**Publication Date:** September 1, 2026  
6 x 9", 276pp, trade paperback

**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT / SUPERNATURAL**  
(OCC023000)

**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT / UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENA** (OCC029000)

**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT / AFTERLIFE & REINCARNATION** (OCC022000)

**BODY, MIND & SPIRIT / CHANNELING & MEDIUMSHIP** (OCC003000)

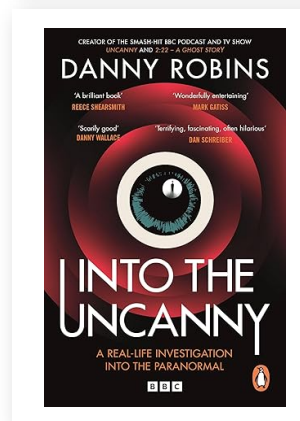
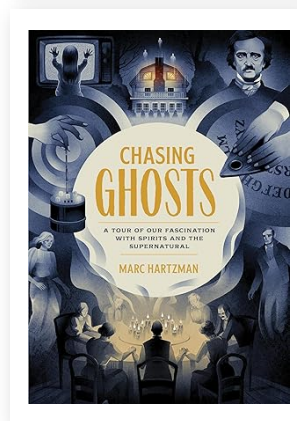
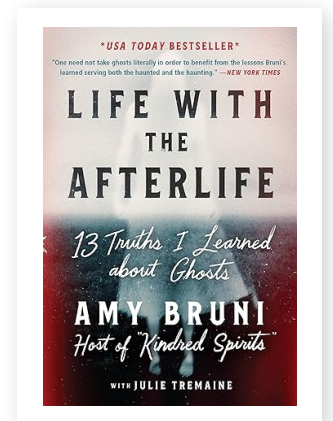
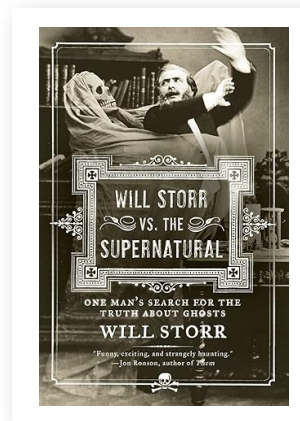
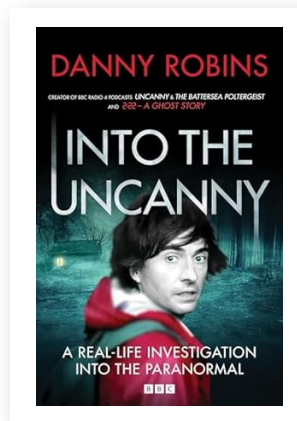
ISBN: 978-1-77041-822-6 (Paperback)



**Margo MacDonald** is a storyteller and paranormal consultant for The Haunted Walk ghost tour company. She's a co-creator and host of *Alone in the Dark Ghost Investigations*, and a frequent guest on paranormal podcasts. In addition, she's a multi-award-winning performer and playwright, inspired by queer women's history.

For fans of podcasts such as *Spooked*, *Radio Rental*, and *Uncanny*, and television shows like *Haunted* and *Files of the Unexplained* comes ***A Curious Presence***, to answer the eternal question: what is a ghost?

### FOR FANS OF



**Are ghosts really the restless spirits of the dead? What else could be causing hauntings? Why do some people experience the otherworldly, and others don't? Is it the place that's haunted, or are we the haunted ones?**

Margo MacDonald has listened to hundreds of people's paranormal experiences, and had a few of their own, having worked in the world of ghosts and hauntings for over two decades. But despite all of this, they've been left with more questions than answers.

In *A Curious Presence*, Margo visits haunted sites and talks to a diverse array of skeptics, psychics, investigators, parapsychologists, ghost hunters, and haunted house dwellers in Canada, the US, and the UK, conducting interviews that explore key theories, core experiences, and different perspectives on what causes hauntings and what it means to witness the unexplained. Punctuated with stories of real hauntings and anchored by Margo's own journey as a skeptical ghost hunter, *A Curious Presence* aims to better understand the haunted places of our world and answer the eternal question: What makes a ghost?

A self-described "benevolent skeptic," Margo MacDonald takes a thoughtful and humorous look at our interactions with the paranormal and what we believe. Perhaps in the end they will find the answers. Or just have more questions than they started out with. Nothing is guaranteed, after all, when exploring the mystery of the paranormal.



**Publication Date:** September 1, 2026  
6 x 9", 280pp, trade paperback

**26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.**

**PERFORMING ARTS / TELEVISION / GENRES / REALITY, GAME SHOWS & TALK SHOWS**  
(PER010100)

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / POPULAR CULTURE**  
(SOC022000)

**HISTORY / UNITED STATES / 21ST CENTURY**  
(HIS036070)

**PERFORMING ARTS / TELEVISION / HISTORY & CRITICISM** (PER010030)

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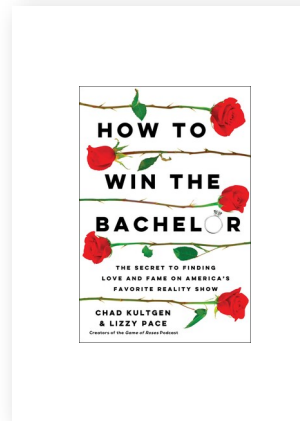
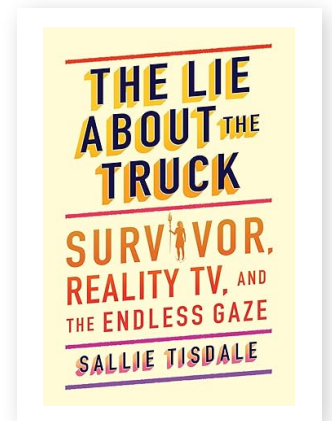
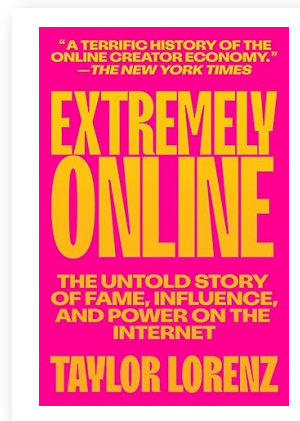
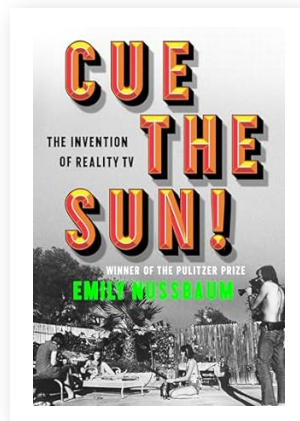
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Calum Marsh** is a reporter and critic who writes about art, sports, and popular culture. His work regularly appears in the *New York Times*, and his articles have been featured in the *New Yorker*, the *Atlantic*, *GQ*, *Esquire*, *Playboy*, and many others. He was a long-time critic with *The Village Voice* and served as the managing editor of *SHARP*, Canada's leading men's magazine. His long-form profiles and interviews have appeared in *The Times*, *Vulture*, and elsewhere. His criticism has appeared in *Pitchfork*, *The AV Club*, *GameSpot*, *IGN*, *Sight and Sound*, and *Film Comment*.

The history, the present, and the future of reality TV — what it means, how it happened, and where it's taking us. Featuring revealing interviews with Jeff Probst and Gordon Ramsay, and with insights into its history, production, and ethics. Calum Marsh tells the story of reality television from its origins in social psychology and game shows to its explosive rise to become a modern-day entertainment phenomenon.

### FOR FANS OF



When “Survivor” premiered on CBS in the early summer of the year 2000, it seemed like a cut-and-dry novelty: interesting, and immensely popular, but almost certainly doomed to be short-lived.

It's not just that “Survivor” is still, 24 years later, on the air, pulling in huge ratings numbers across its now 661 episodes and 45 seasons. It's that the entire genre of TV the show heralded has outlived and outlasted predictions that it would be a passing trend. Reality television has transitioned from widely derided flash in the pan to become a fully legitimized medium, enjoyed by millions of households across a huge variety of formats and styles. From the observational drama of *Keeping Up with the Kardashians* to competitive cooking shows like *Top Chef* and *Hell's Kitchen*, it's clear that reality isn't going anywhere — it's even made the leap to streaming, with shows like *Love is Blind* proving that reality is here to stay.

Calum Marsh has written extensively about reality TV for *The New York Times* and brings that expertise to bear on this material in new and surprising ways.

**INTERNATIONAL APPEAL:** Calum Marsh was born in Doncaster, United Kingdom, and currently lives in Berlin, Germany, and he speaks fluent German. He has connections throughout Europe, and will tap into those networks to promote the book.

**THE AUDIENCE:** Smart, savvy pop culture enthusiasts who crave insight into the mechanics of the world around them. Perfect for long-time reality TV fans and skeptics alike — not to persuade, but to illuminate the phenomenon. Ideal for New Yorker readers and Wordle devotees who secretly unwind with *Real Housewives*. Especially appealing to young women in their 20s and 30s.

**HUGE FANDOMS:** With reality TV milestones like the 25th anniversary of *Big Brother* and upcoming 25th anniversaries of *The Amazing Race*, *The Bachelor*, and *Fear Factor*, plus the 20th anniversary of *Hell's Kitchen*, it's clear this genre has stood the test of time. These anniversaries highlight reality TV's enduring appeal and its massive, loyal fanbase, making now the perfect moment to dive into its cultural significance.



# BATTLE AXES: A HARD ROCKIN' HISTORY OF POINTY GUITARS

MUSIC

**Publication Date:** April 28, 2026

6 x 9", 264pp, trade paperback

**26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.**

**MUSIC / MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS / GUITAR**  
(MUS023060)

**MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / ROCK**  
(MUS035000)

**MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / HEAVY METAL**  
(MUS019000)

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / POPULAR CULTURE**  
(SOC022000)

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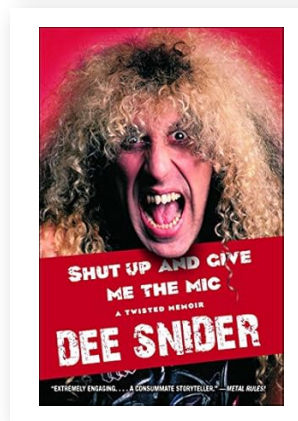
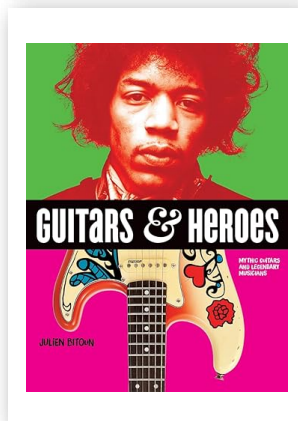
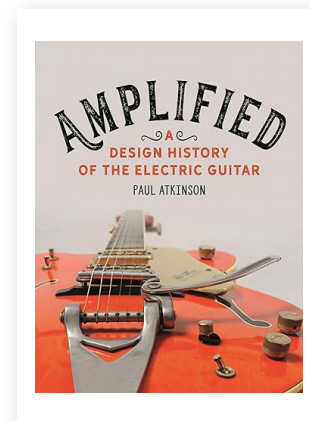
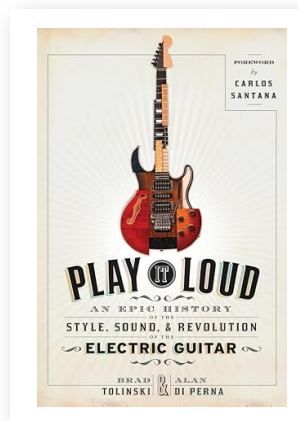
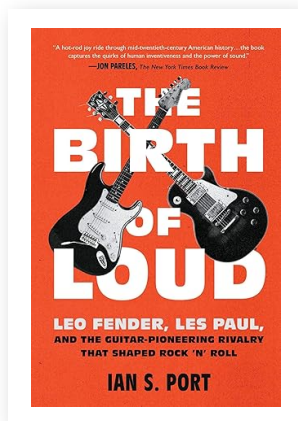
**Film Rights:** Film rights available



**Sean Kelly** has performed with Nelly Furtado, Lee Aaron, Coney Hatch, Helix, Gilby Clarke, Trapper, Rough Trade, and Crash Kelly. In 2015 he performed in Twisted Sister frontman Dee Snider's Rock & Roll Christmas Tale. Kelly is a music teacher with the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

*Battle Axes* is an exploration of the talismanic qualities of rock n roll's wildest and boldest guitar designs, and the impact of the guitarists who play them. Features exclusive commentary from famous guitar heroes as well as from passionate hobbyists and the designers of the guitars themselves.

## FOR FANS OF



*Battle Axes* was born out of author and musician Sean Kelly's love, fascination, and borderline obsessive desire to possess, collect, and most importantly, rock out, with the outrageous customized, pointy guitars that his hard rockin' heroes played and made famous in the 1980's. These angular, graphic-ordained instruments were thrust into faces and burned into brains during the visually driven era of the music videos, glossy rock magazines, and smoke bomb polluted concert spectacles.

By exploring the talismanic qualities of the wildest and boldest guitars, Kelly is able to examine the impact of the guitarists who played them and provide insight into the cultural, musical, and historical context behind the instruments. He dives into the inspirations behind the designs by talking to the designers, features commentary from famous guitar heroes and passionate hobbyists to see how some of the greatest songs of the '80s were elevated by these evocative electric six string lasers.

Featuring interviews with Jay Jay French from Twisted Sister, and interviews with past and present members of KISS, Guns N Roses, and Skid Row, this book is perfect for guitar lovers and collectors and anyone who has fallen under the spell of rock n roll's most enduring cultural symbol, the electric guitar.



# THIS IS A THROWDOWN: A TORONTO HIP-HOP HISTORY

MUSIC

**Publication Date:** February 24, 2026  
6 x 9", 500pp, trade paperback

**29.99 CDN / 22.99 U.S.**

**MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / RAP & HIP HOP**  
(MUS031000)

**MUSIC / HISTORY & CRITICISM** (MUS020000)  
**HISTORY / CANADA / PROVINCIAL,**

**TERRITORIAL & LOCAL / ONTARIO (ON)**  
(HIS006070)

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / POPULAR CULTURE**  
(SOC022000)

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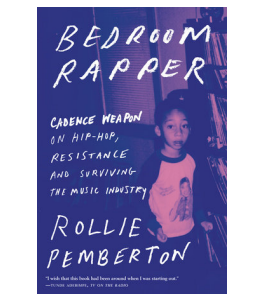
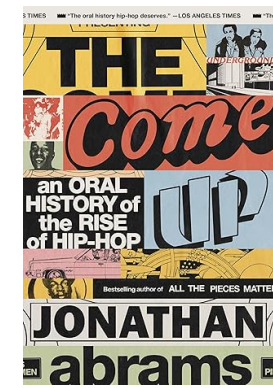
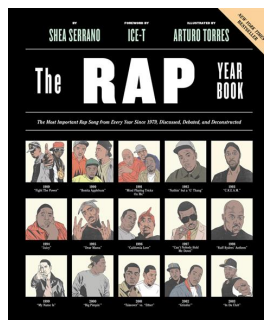
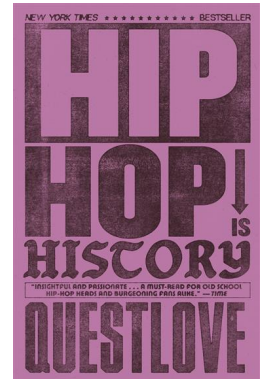
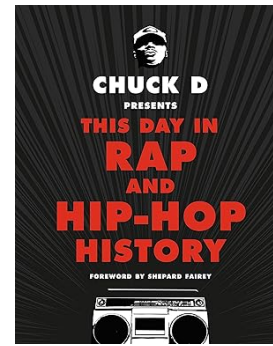
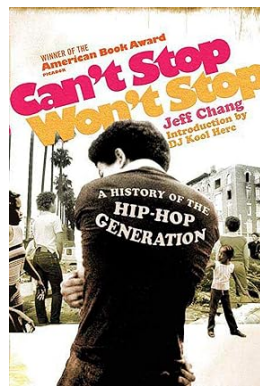
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**Film Rights:** Film rights under option

*"This is a Throwdown! / A showdown! / Hell no, I can't slow down! / It's gonna go down" — Maestro Fresh Wes*

*This is a Throwdown* authoritatively chronicles the music, history and environment that facilitated Toronto's influence on hip-hop and contemporary popular culture. 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 this country. Based on over fifteen years of experience as a music journalist and editor in Canada, Del F. Cowie's *This is a Throwdown* will be the first book to critically assess and chronicle the largely untold story of hip-hop culture in TO.

## FOR FANS OF



**Del Cowie** is an associate producer, writer, and researcher for the Peabody and Emmy award-winning HBO Canada and Netflix documentary series *Hip-Hop Evolution*, and has written extensively about Toronto hip-hop as a writer and editor contributing to *Exclaim!*, *National Post*, *NOW*, and *Noisey*. He has been a member of the Polaris Music Prize jury since it's inception in 2006, and also serves on juries for the SOCAN Songwriting Prize and the Prism Prize. He's been invited to speak about Toronto hip-hop history at the Museum of Pop Culture in Seattle and New York University. He worked as a producer on the limited series CBC Podcast *This is Not a Drake Podcast*, which was nominated for a Prix Italia Award.

Maestro Fresh Wes's 1989 "Let Your Backbone Slide," is arguably the first widely recognizable Canadian hip-hop recording that resonated across disparate social, cultural and generational lines. Today, with hip-hop as an acknowledged force in global popular culture, notable homegrown Toronto hip-hop artists continue to follow the path that Maestro Fresh Wes pioneered.

Almost 40 years later, Toronto is a recognized centre for new and burgeoning hip-hop talent. Toronto-born rapper Drake is not just one of the most influential artists in hip-hop culture, but in global popular culture, period. Astonishingly, in July 2017, the entire 25 tracks from Drake's *Scorpion* release were featured on the Billboard Hot 100. Additionally, the album generated a billion on-demand audio streams globally in one week – an unprecedented feat that can ultimately be traced back to Drake's roots in Toronto's hip-hop scene.

Yet, 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 this country. For many people, Maestro Fresh Wes and Drake represent their main interactions with Canadian hip-hop music and culture. But what happened before and between these events? *This Is A Throwdown* fills in those gaps.



# IT'S MORE THAN ROCK 'N' ROLL: SEVEN DECADES SURVIVING THE WILD SIDES OF LIFE & MUSIC

MUSIC

**Publication Date:** October 1, 2026  
6 x 9", 340pp, trade paperback  
6 page colour photo section

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / MUSIC**  
(BIO004000)  
**MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / ROCK**  
(MUS035000)  
**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / EDITORS, JOURNALISTS, PUBLISHERS** (BIO025000)

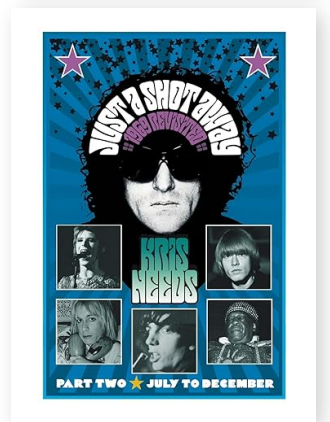
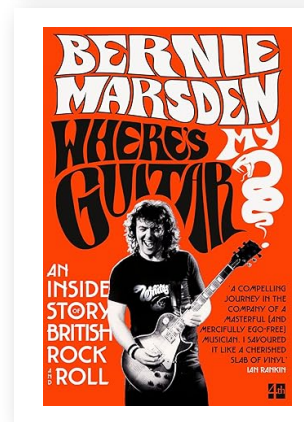
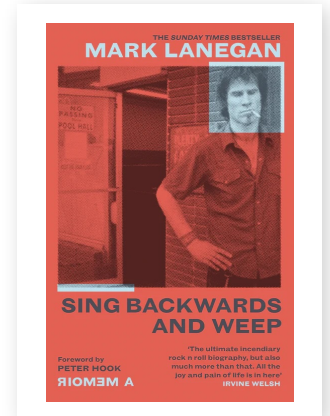
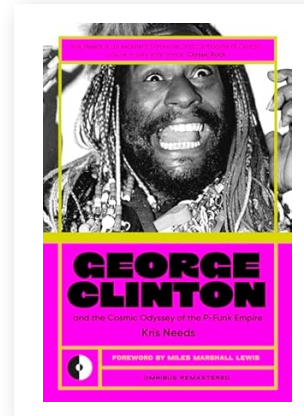
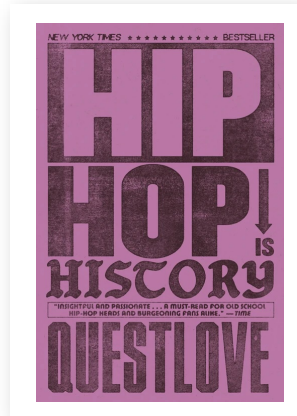
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**Rights Available:** World English rights available

**Film Rights:** Film rights controlled by Marc Mikulich Literary Agency

"Kris Needs is perhaps the single most revered U.K. music journalist of the past 40 years." – *IntoCreative*, 2020

## FOR FANS OF



Kris Needs is an icon in the rock 'n' roll world. He's penned biographies of Keith Richards, The New York Dolls, Primal Scream, The Clash, and George Clinton, edited the UK's first monthly music mag, ZigZag, was pals with the likes of David Bowie, Keith Richards, Billy Idol and Bob Marley.

Starting his 55-year music career as Mott the Hoople's teenage fan club secretary, which he ran out of his home in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, Needs's life opened wide: crying on Carnaby Street as UK pirate stations made their final broadcasts, seeing Jimi Hendrix live, witnessing friend David Bowie unveil Ziggy Stardust, being rescued from a beating by Sid Vicious at a Clash show. And when he became editor of ZigZag in '77 his world opened further as he began interviewing and rubbing shoulders with music's biggest names.

Relocating to NYC in the '80s, Needs began a new obsession with hip hop and an addiction to heroin, plummeting from riding high to rock bottom by the end of the decade. Yet, the '90s ushered in expansion, as he returned to the UK and became a recording artist himself, gripped by the popular electronic dance music of the decade.

He's made over 100 records, written 15 books, and rejects retirement outright.

While in '99 he wrote his memoirs to date (*Needs Must: A Very Rock 'N' Roll Life Story*), which Irvine Welsh (*Trainspotting*) described as "The best book about music I've ever read", Needs has decided to set pen to paper again to expand and revisit his extraordinary rock and roll life. Fans of the golden age of music will love this no-holds-barred behind the scenes memoir of a life lived in rock.

"He's stayed up for three days with Keith Richards, ran the Ziggy Stardust and Mott the Hoople fan clubs, helped Sid Vicious play bass and even did the last ever interview with Bob Marley. Allen Ginsberg was his next-door-neighbour, Mick Jones and Joe Strummer his best friends, and his first marriage ended when his wife caught him snogging Debbie Harry... Needs's pathological pursuit of the rock'n'roll flame has cost him two marriages, countless jobs, his looks, God knows how much in assembling his record collection (35,000 discs and counting) and the lives of many friends... Amazingly, he doesn't regret it." – **Dave Simpson, *The Guardian*, 1999**



# DESIGNING IN THE DARK

MEMOIR

**Publication Date:** October 1, 2026

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / FASHION**  
(BIO035000)  
**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / CULTURAL, ETHNIC & REGIONAL / AFRICAN AMERICAN & BLACK** (BIO002010)  
**SOCIAL SCIENCE / DISCRIMINATION & RACE RELATIONS** (SOC031000)  
**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / BUSINESS**  
(BIO003000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-859-2 (Paperback)



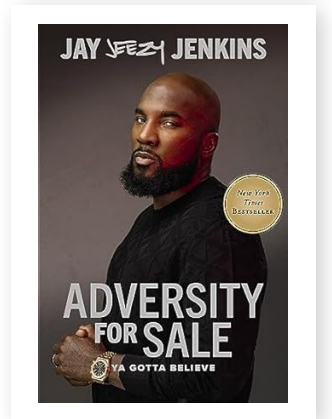
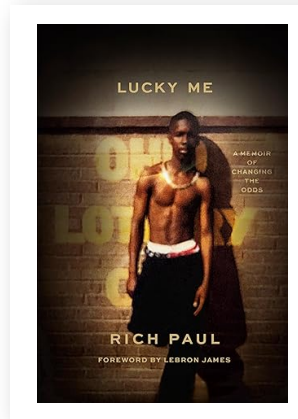
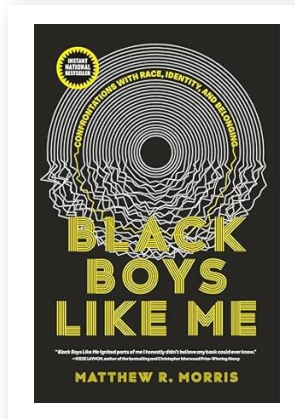
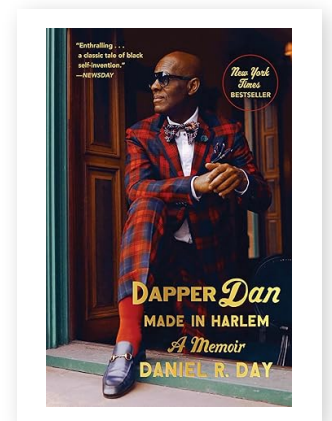
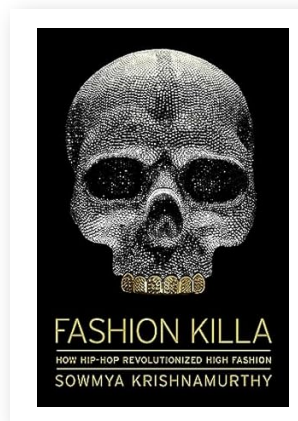
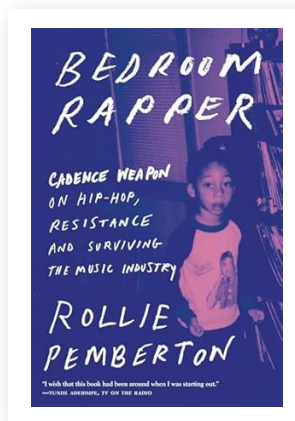
**George Sully** is an award-winning multidisciplinary designer at the vanguard of Canadian fashion. Sully's innovative style and visionary approach landed him iconic partnerships such as the privilege of being the original maker of the StarFleet Boot on Star Trek: Discovery.

In 2020, Sully founded Black Designers of Canada (BDC), Canada's first-ever all-inclusive index of Canadian Black designers. George's contributions to the Canadian fashion industry led to him being awarded a bevy of honours, including the CAFA Change-maker Award, George Brown Honorary Degree, FGI Visionary Award, BATA Shoe Museum Inductee, NOTABLE Designer of the Year and Shifter Magazines Outstanding Black Men in Canada list. Born in Ottawa, George Sully lives in Toronto with his wife and sons. Along with 27K others, you can follow him on Instagram @realgeorgesully.

"[George's] resilience and leadership redefine industry norms, offering a compelling narrative of triumph that is sure to inspire aspiring designers." — **Sophia Hwang-Judiesch President - Tommy Hilfiger North America**

Part memoir, part social commentary, *Designing in the Dark* is the captivating story of George Sully: founder of Black Designers of Canada and award-winning fashion designer. George Sully's career provides an indispensable inside look at the talent, grit, and resilience it takes to succeed as a Black man in the fashion industry.

## FOR FANS OF



"George's [story] unveils his incredible journey from public housing to pioneering the Canadian fashion scene. Amid personal struggles, he emerged a leader and change-maker. His resilience resonates, inspiring all to overcome and conquer in the face of adversity." — **Kardinal Offishall, Rapper / Record Producer / Music Executive**

Sully is best known as the founder and creative director of high-end travel accessories brand Sully & Son Co. With 18K Instagram followers and stock in Saks Fifth Avenue, Holt Renfrew, Harry Rosen, and Hudson's Bay, Sully & Son Co is an iconic and prestigious brand.

But Sully's success was hard-won, and he has the battle scars to prove it.

Largely self-taught, Sully steadfastly worked his way up from Ottawa to an international stage. He has been a musician, a photographer, a magazine editor, and an event planner. A creative entrepreneur before the term was in vogue, Sully founded Limb Apparel, and co-founded TCHAD Magazine, Sully & Wong Shoes and House of Hayla.

Young creators of colour will recognize themselves in Sully's early years as a self-financed businessman, teaching himself new skills on the fly, and taking any gigs he can get to support his first label, Limb Apparel. Anyone looking to break into highly competitive or creative industries will find a roadmap in this story: through thoughtfully presented anecdotes, Sully brings the reader into the warehouse, shares the vetting process for international factories, warns of scams and traps.

Despite his undeniable talent and relentless tenacity, George faced years of persistent, yet unnamed, resistance in the insular and elitist world of fashion. Systemic racism infiltrated every milestone in his career, stalling his progress and erasing his contributions to the cultural conversations. *Designing in the Dark* chronicles the thrill of creativity, the heartbreak of discrimination, and one man's determination to hold the door open for the next generation of creatives.



# MOTHERNESS: A MEMOIR OF GENERATIONAL AUTISM, PARENTHOOD, AND RADICAL ACCEPTANCE

MEMOIR

**Publication Date:** September 23, 2025  
5.5 x 8.5", 300pp, trade paperback

**24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.**

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES** (BIO033000)  
**PSYCHOLOGY / PSYCHOPATHOLOGY / AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS** (PSY022020)  
**FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS** (FAM048000)  
**FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / PARENTING / MOTHERHOOD** (FAM032000)

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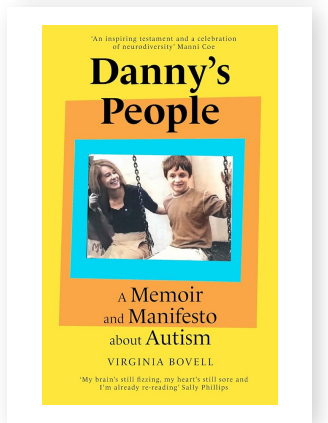
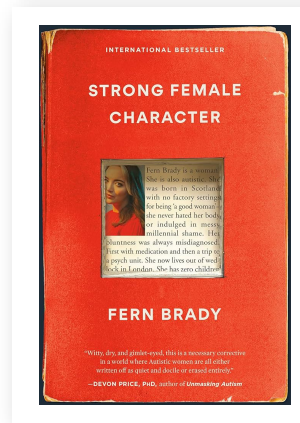
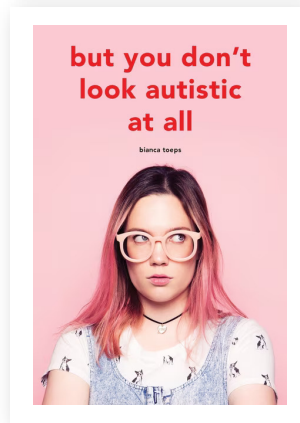
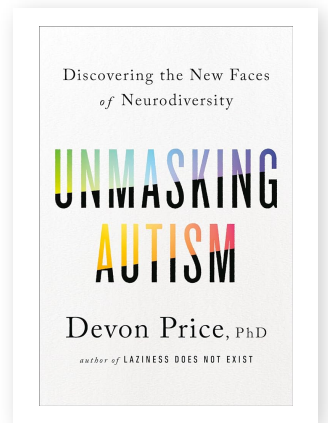
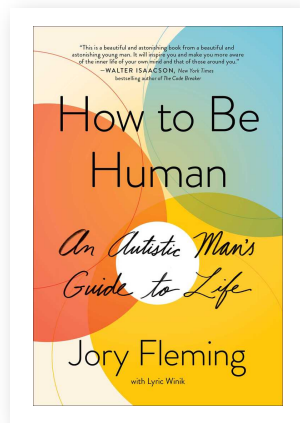
## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Julie M. Green** is a Kingston-based writer whose work has been featured in the *Washington Post*, *HuffPost*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Today's Parent*, and *Chatelaine*. She has appeared on CTV, BBC Radio, Sirius XM, and CBC Radio. She writes *The Autistic Mom* on Substack. For more information, visit [JulieMGreen.ca](http://JulieMGreen.ca).

Spanning 13 years — beginning with pregnancy and ending with diagnosis — *Motherness* offers a deeply personal account of an autistic mother raising an autistic child. It covers sensory processing, meltdowns, masking, empathy, bullying, special interests, and more. Tender and incisive, it's essential for adults and parents navigating their own autism diagnoses.

A funny, unflinchingly honest, and deeply compassionate memoir about one woman's experience of raising an autistic child while discovering she is also "on the spectrum"

## FOR FANS OF



Almost 10 years after learning that her son is autistic, Julie Green was also diagnosed, shedding light on a lifetime of feeling othered and misunderstood. *Motherness* traces Julie's journey from childhood to early motherhood, when she must advocate for her son while navigating her own struggles.

With more girls and women being diagnosed in the last decade — many of them later in life — the face of autism is changing. *Motherness* provides a rich, intensely personal account of what it is like to be autistic, through the lens of both a mother and child. Topics include sensory processing, meltdowns and shutdowns, masking, empathy, alexithymia, bullying, elopement, special interests, disordered eating, gender diversity, twice exceptionality, and more.

*Motherness* is a story about accepting your child while learning to accept yourself. This extraordinary, groundbreaking memoir speaks to the great challenges and great joys of autism, providing valuable insights to parents

of autistic children, adults newly diagnosed or questioning their place on the spectrum, and anyone seeking a greater understanding of neurodiversity.

**RELEVANT AND TIMELY:** Motherness will be published in time for October, Autism Acceptance Month in Canada. Motherness forms part of a broader narrative that is only beginning to be explored, and on social media platforms like Instagram and TikTok, posts about lesser-known traits of Autism and people unmasking are incredibly popular.

**PREVALENCE OF AUTISM:** The CDC reports that there are over 5.5M people diagnosed with autism in the U.S. Currently, about one in every 36 children is diagnosed, though there's strong evidence the condition remains underdiagnosed among women, trans people, and people of color.

**UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE:** Green offers a fresh voice in an area often dominated by two narratives: memoirs by autistic savant males and accounts by neurotypical parents of autistic children. This memoir is a deeply personal, honest look at autism through the experiences of a mother and her only child — by turns funny, messy, wonderful, and heartbreaking. Readers will feel seen in stories that don't sugar-coat the challenges and joys of autism.

**CONNECTION BUILDING:** Parents, especially mothers, want to know that they are not alone. Readers may include autistic women, parents of autistic children, parents who suspect they may be autistic, girls and women who have never fit in and are now questioning their neurotype, professionals and clinicians working with autistic individuals and their families, as well as friends, relatives, and allies seeking insights into autistic life. Covering universal parenting topics such as emotions, bonding, difference and exclusion, and the parenting challenges that feel like disasters, Motherness offers a point of connection for many people.



# LET ME DOWN: A MEMOIR ON THE DUALITY OF ABUSE AND LOVE

MEMOIR

**Publication Date:** July 1, 2026  
5.5 x 8.5", 250pp, trade paperback

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PERSONAL MEMOIRS** (BIO026000)

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / WOMEN** (BIO022000)

**FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / ABUSE / DOMESTIC PARTNER ABUSE** (FAM001030)

**FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / DATING** (FAM051000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-848-6 (Paperback)

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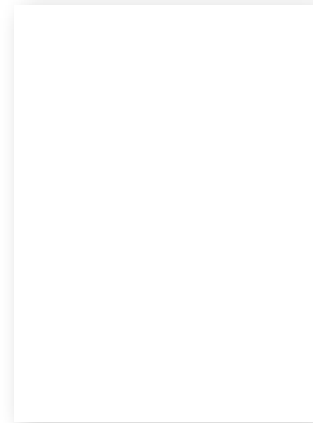
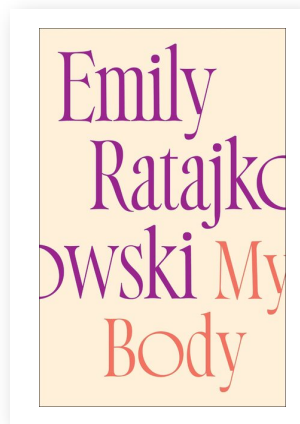
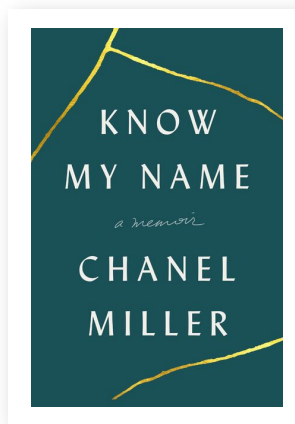


**Callie Rae O'Reilly** is an audio director, graphic designer, and co-founder of the podcast network the Apostrophe Podcast Company. Apostrophe's shows include three of Canada's most popular podcasts, *Under the Influence*, *We Regret To Inform You: The Rejection Podcast* and *Backstage at the Vinyl Café*. Before Apostrophe, Callie was the youngest commercial audio director in Canada, where she directed commercials for some of the world's most recognizable brands (such as New Balance, Walmart, Volkswagen, Mazda and many more). Callie lives in Toronto, ON.

"Callie O'Reilly has taken the very difficult topic of domestic abuse and framed it in an entirely new point of view; that of a young woman, a feminist with all the tools to avoid the terrible situation she finds herself in. With prose both elegant and spare, we follow our narrator as she navigates the slow boil of abuse setting in and taking hold. This book feels both necessary and fresh." — **Amy Stuart**, bestselling author of *Still Mine* and *A Death at the Party*

**For fans of *Baby Reindeer* and *I May Destroy You***

## FOR FANS OF



***Know My Name* by Chanel Miller meets *My Body* by Emily Ratajkowski in *Let Me Down* an intensely vivid and vulnerable account of an abusive relationship that the author experienced as a young woman and how courageously accepting your past can help you overcome deep trauma.**

Just a few days after moving away from home for university, anxious 18-year-old Callie meets the brooding and arty Reed. Four years her senior, hipster handsome and achingly cool, Reed is a teenage fantasy come to life. As they slip into a casual "thing," Callie plays it cool at first, pretending not to care when Reed disappears for days at a time or sleeps with other girls – or when he pushes her a little too hard into his bed after an argument. But when their romance deepens – and Callie falls madly in love – Reed's true character emerges.

One night, he lunges and pins her to her bed, his hand pressed tightly on her mouth. This act ushers in a new phase of their relationship, one marked by violence and mind games which start to seep into their sex

life, leaving Callie deeply confused about the grey borders of consent – and how she can both fear and love the same person. The escalating abuse ends in a frantic tussle. But even when Callie breaks away successfully – throwing herself into dating and work –she finds she can't break free.

As she tries to block out the deep shame she feels about their sexual past and the complex role she and her abuser have played in each other's lives, her relationships start to crumble around her. Before her life spins out of control for good, she must untangle the web that entrapped her and a way to reclaim the life that got sidetracked.

Written with delicate intimacy and a literary sensibility, *Let Me Down* portrays a rarely seen abusive relationship, one that is not characterised by black eyes and broken bones but one heavily influenced by youthful infatuation. It provides a contemporary take on abuse and how shame manifests in its wake, exploring what it means to be a young woman navigating sexual relationships in the twenty-first century through topics like revenge porn and gaslighting. This memoir also charts the complex and nonlinear path to self-acceptance, at a time when your abuser is only a click away on social media, and stories like Bill Cosby and Heard vs. Depp dominate the headlines.



**Publication Date:** June 1, 2027

5.5 x 8.5", 300pp, trade paperback

CDN

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / ABORTION & BIRTH CONTROL** (SOC046000)

**HEALTH & FITNESS / WOMEN'S HEALTH** (HEA024000)

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / WOMEN'S STUDIES** (SOC028000)

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / WOMEN** (BIO022000)

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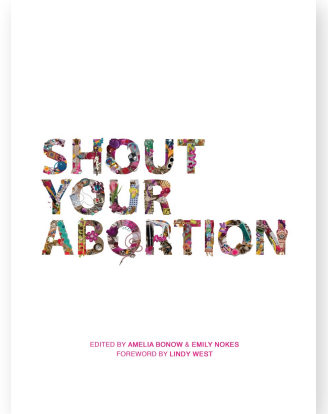
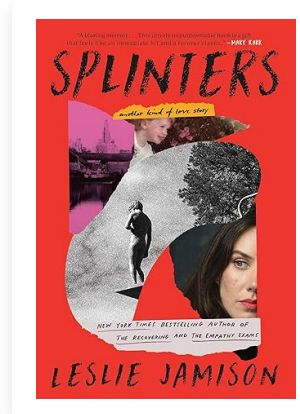
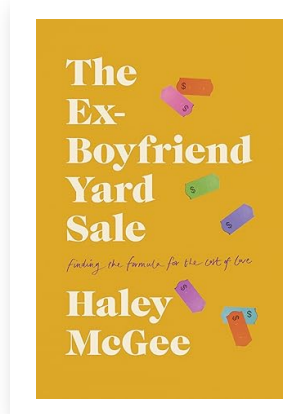
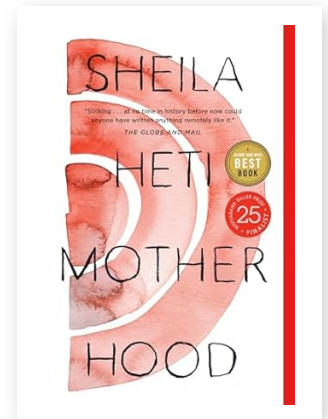
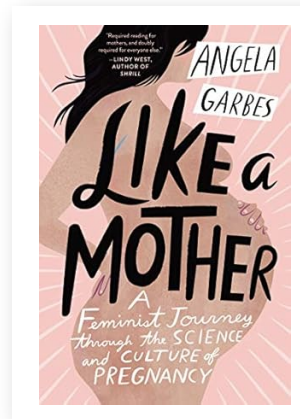
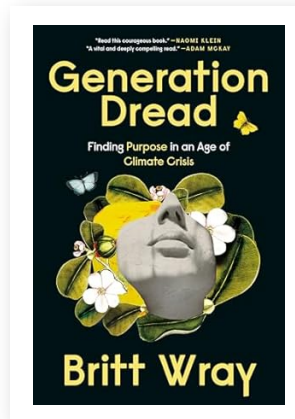
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**Rachel Cairns** is an actor, podcaster, and professor whose writing about abortion has appeared in *The Toronto Star*, *rabble.ca*, *She Does the City*, and *Reel Honey Magazine*. She wrote and starred in the hit solo play, *Hypothetical Baby*, which premiered at Tarragon Theatre December 2024 and received rave reviews: *The Globe and Mail* called her “one of the country’s most original actors”, and *She Does the City* celebrated the play’s “sharp and witty writing and nuanced exploration of wider social issues”. Rachel turned the play into a podcast, *Aborsh*, which has 12K downloads and was honoured by Planned Parenthood Toronto with a Choice Award for contributing to reproductive justice and youth futures. She is a professor at George Brown School of Media and Performing Arts, and directs audiobooks for Penguin Random House Canada. Rachel lives in Toronto, ON.

### FOR FANS OF



Today, we’re talking about abortion more than ever, but it’s usually framed by the pro-choice vs. pro-life culture wars that tend to dominate the conversation as we witness the backsliding of reproductive rights in the United States. And while we need to be acutely aware of the rise of anti-human rights agendas and rhetoric, far less air time is given to the potent cocktail of choices that determine people’s reproductive decisions, and often implicate every aspect of our identities and position in society.

On Christmas Eve of 2019, Rachel Cairns had an abortion in her mom’s bathroom. Then she wrote a book about it.

*Hypothetical Baby* explores the choice to have an abortion in conversation with other choices: access, finances, career, location, relationships, goals, dreams, gender, race, class and ability. Carins traverses these elements by intertwining personal storytelling with broader analysis and research from historians, sociologists, journalists, cultural critics, activists, and parents, and by tracing the history of abortion law and access in Canada. While abortion serves as the entry point, the narrative ultimately emphasizes that we cannot view abortion as an isolated issue. “Choice” alone does not chart the course of a life. Systemic issues like a lack of affordable housing, the rise in precarious work, and societal attitudes toward parenthood directly impact people’s reproductive decisions.

The reality is many decisions lack clear right and wrong answers. *Hypothetical Baby* refers to the thought process involved in the many practical and existential considerations the accompany considering parenthood. Fertility is often treated as a private burden, especially for women, who are expected to deal with it silently and without complaint. However, it's a nuanced and deeply emotional facet of life that impacts nearly everyone whether you want children, don't want children, or haven't decided yet, and those are the people who this book is for.



# BLAME: DEATH, DISABILITY, AND THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE FOR GUY MITCHELL

SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Publication Date:** May 1, 2026

6 x 9", 272pp, trade paperback

**26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.**

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**  
(SOC029000)

**POLITICAL SCIENCE / PUBLIC POLICY / SOCIAL POLICY**  
(POL029000)

**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**  
(BIO033000)

**TRUE CRIME / GENERAL** (TRU000000)

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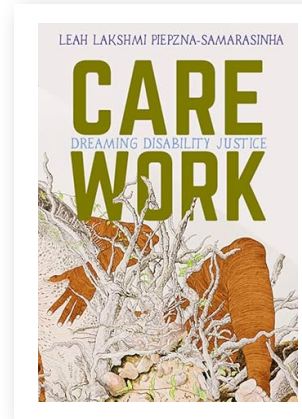
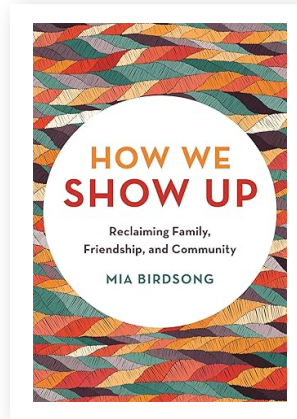
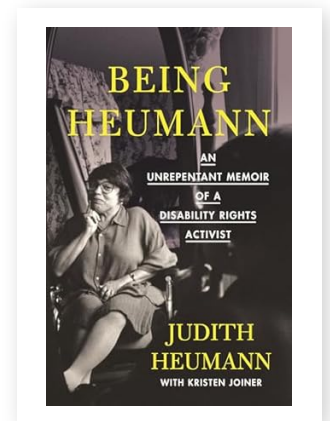
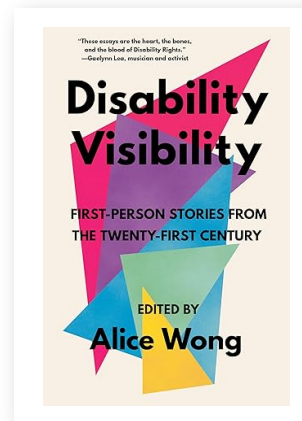
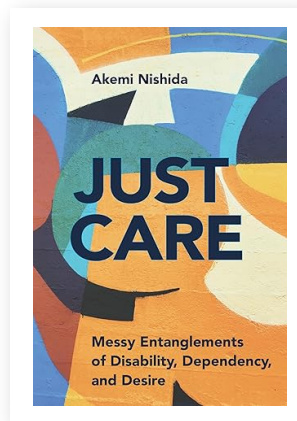


**Dustin Galer** is an award-winning writer, biographer, and a professional historian with a PhD in history from the University of Toronto. Galer draws on his wealth of experience from a diverse range of sectors including policing, social services, research, policy development, and private practice where he helps clients develop and execute personal and corporate history projects. He is known for his exceptional contributions to the world of disability history and labour.

## Engaging investigative journalism and important social science commentary

Told through the lens of a dramatic inquest, the story of the life and death of a man with developmental disabilities, unfolding in flashbacks to reveal a web of culpability that grows increasingly complex, as the author seeks to answer the question of who is to blame and ultimately implicates us all.

### FOR FANS OF



People with developmental disabilities face high risks of abuse, neglect, and early death everywhere—not just in one country. This is a global problem rooted in broken systems that fail the most vulnerable.

Disabled people experience way more mistreatment than the general population—whether through abuse, lack of medical care, or unsafe living conditions. Many die from preventable causes, especially in institutions that are supposed to provide care but often do the opposite. In April 2024, the BBC reported on gross neglect in a care home when Marcus Hanlin, a resident with Down syndrome, died in care.

While *Blame* focuses on the tragic Canadian case of Guy Mitchell, it shines a light on failures worldwide. Guy, a man with developmental disabilities, died in a Hamilton, Ontario, care home where he lived under terrible conditions. Dustin Galer tells Guy's story with great care and empathy; he is not interested in shocking the audience with details of a crime, but instead focuses on the bigger picture: describing the circle of care surrounding Guy and the many systems and institutions that failed to protect him.

*Blame* is fast-paced, engaging, and rooted in disability justice with a clear-eyed focus on the systemic issues that need to be addressed for all disabled people to live safe, comfortable, and fulfilling lives. It makes one thing clear: protecting disabled people isn't just the job of governments or professionals—it's on all of us.



# SHE RAN: THE MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Publication Date:** March 3, 2026  
5.5 x 8.5", 252pp, trade paperback

**FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / ABUSE / DOMESTIC PARTNER ABUSE** (FAM001030)  
**SOCIAL SCIENCE / WOMEN'S STUDIES** (SOC028000)  
**BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / EDITORS, JOURNALISTS, PUBLISHERS** (BIO025000)

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

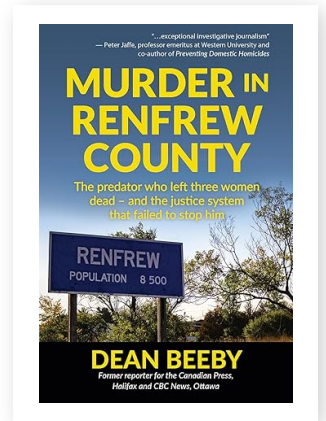
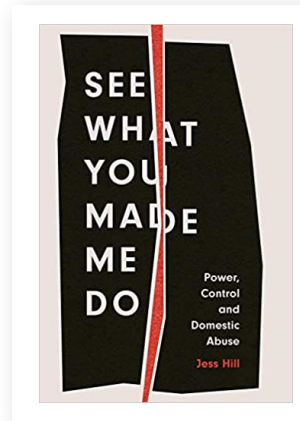
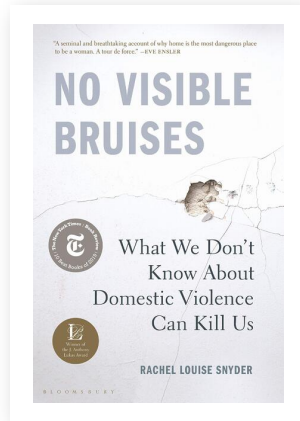


**Ann Rauhala** is an experienced journalist who was among the first to cover women's issues at *The Globe and Mail*. She was an on-air correspondent and documentarian for CBC. For the past two decades, Ann has been a journalism professor at Toronto Metropolitan University, where her scholarly research focused on the representation of women in the media and the under recognition of women's expertise in mainstream press coverage. Ann is the author of *The Lucky Ones* and resides in Toronto, Ontario.

Rauhala explores the relationship between Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and media coverage through expert and victim interviews, as well as her personal experience, including the murder of her childhood best friend, Donna, by Donna's ex-boyfriend.

As one of the first reporters on the women's issues beat at *The Globe and Mail*, Ann reflects on newsroom misogyny, the challenges of covering these topics, and her evolving approach to feminist reporting. Her insider perspective combines personal loss, professional insight, and a critique of systemic barriers, making for a compelling and necessary narrative.

## FOR FANS OF



Gender-related homicides of women and girls rose by 14% between 2020 and 2021, reaching its highest level since 2017. *She Ran* challenges the common perception that IPV is an individual issue, and highlights its reality as a widespread societal crisis. Many factors contribute to this misconception: societal acceptance of gender inequality, patriarchal norms, stigma for victims and victim-blaming, inadequate education about healthy relationships, and systemic failures in legal, social, and economic systems. These are often perpetuated by mainstream media, which frames IPV as isolated incidents rather than recognizing it as a pervasive epidemic. This book offers a vital perspective that calls for deeper awareness, accountability, and action to tackle IPV as a societal problem, not just a private matter.



# THE ASTONISHING LIVES OF OLDER WOMEN: IN A WORLD MEANT FOR MONEY AND MEN

SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Publication Date:** April 7, 2026  
5.5 x 8.5", 250pp, trade paperback

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / FEMINISM & FEMINIST THEORY (SOC010000)**

**SOCIAL SCIENCE / GERONTOLOGY (SOC013000)**

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

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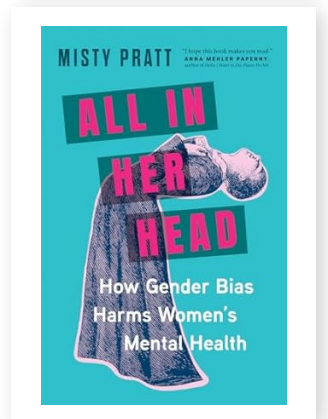
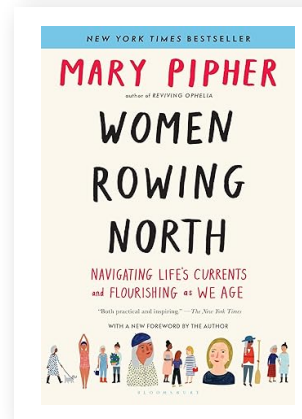
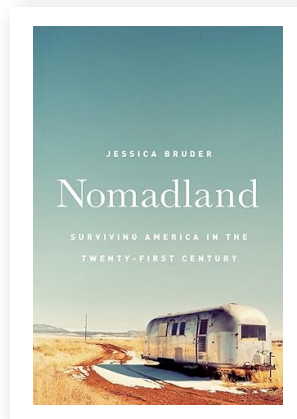
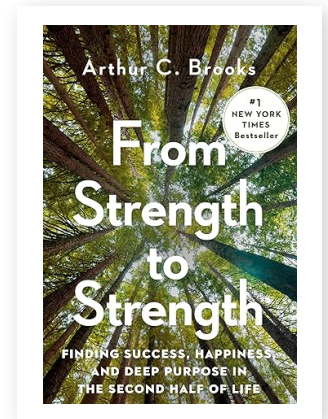
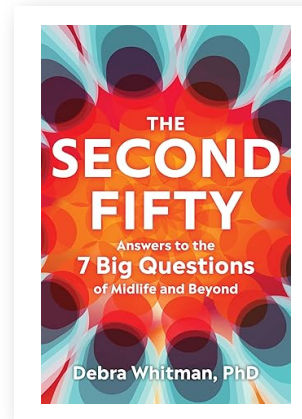


**Moira Welsh** is an investigative journalist with the *Toronto Star*. Currently, she is leading The Third Act project, pushing for changes in the way older adults live. The winner of two Canadian Association of Journalists Awards and three National Newspaper Awards, she is also the author of *Happily Ever Older: Revolutionary Approaches to Long-Term Care*.

The average woman ends up with less retirement income than the average man, and as life expectancy rises, the fact is clear: many of us will outlive our money.

*The Astonishing Lives of Older Women* offers both cautionary tales from courageous women and practical financial insights, empowering women to navigate the challenges of career decisions, family responsibilities, and long-term financial planning with greater awareness and confidence.

## FOR FANS OF



This book dives into the challenges faced by a largely under-researched, yet rapidly growing sector of the population, deftly illuminating a brutally honest warning about the modern, gendered version of poverty in a period of unprecedented longevity. It exposes the struggle facing a great many older women, created in part by unforeseen circumstances and the entirely predictable gender pension gap, and explores the difference in retirement income between women and men that exists because of a system created in the Mad Men era.

Women continue to be systematically and financially disadvantaged in society today; be it lack of financial resources, divorce or death of a spouse, loneliness, invisibility and ageism are just some of struggles women disproportionately encounter as they age, and although rarely discussed, Moira Welsh makes an undeniable case for the need to elevate gendered issues of ageing and women's voices.

Supplemented by interviews with older women across Canada, *The Astonishing Lives of Older Women* tells the stories of women who earned degrees, raised children, and took part in the workforce in fascinating but not particularly lucrative careers, and now survive on the financial edge.

These interviews speak to struggle and resilience, isolation, female friendships, and the joys of late-life love and sex.

The book includes an easy-to-read guide for pensions and public retirement income, and calls for policy change to help younger women.

This is a book for all women of all ages and incomes, since women outlive men, and will likely, at some point, live alone. This gift of longevity can be a curse, or, with the guidance of this book and a sustainable life, can rebrand aging and use longevity as an opportunity to start anew



# GIRL GANGS, ZINES, AND POWERSLIDES: A HISTORY OF BADASS WOMEN SKATEBOARDERS

SPORTS

**Publication Date:** September 16, 2025  
5.5 x 8.5", 316pp, trade paperback

**26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.**

**SPORTS & RECREATION / SKATEBOARDING**

(SPO038000)

**SPORTS & RECREATION / WOMEN IN SPORTS**

(SPO085000)

**HISTORY / WOMEN** (HIS058000)

**SPORTS & RECREATION / HISTORY**

(SPO019000)

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

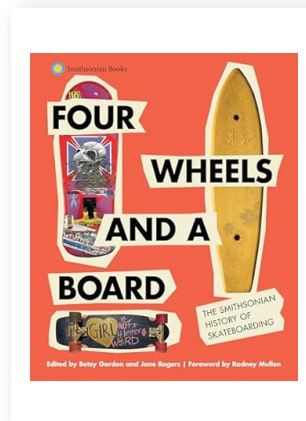
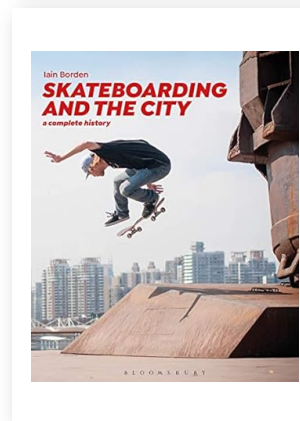
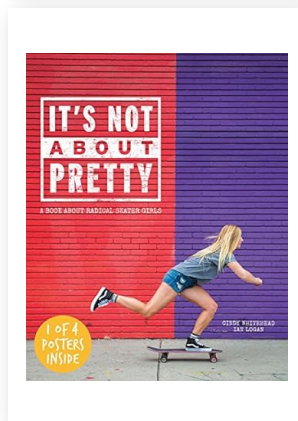
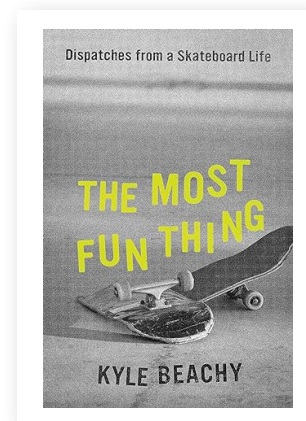
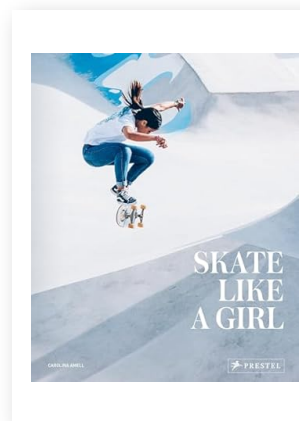
**Natalie Porter** lives in Powell River, British Columbia working as the Assistant Chief Librarian after four years as the Branch Head of the Carnegie Public Library in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Natalie was recruited by the Smithsonian Museum to join their skateboarding advisory board in anticipation of a traveling exhibit in 2024 and presented at "The Stoke Sessions: An International Conference on the Culture, History and Politics of Surfing and Skateboarding" (April 2023) at the San Diego State University.

Natalie began skateboarding in 1995 and wrote the first academic thesis about female skaters in 2003 for her Masters degree. She has had essays published within the books *Out of Control: The Concrete Art of Skateboarding* (2022) commissioned by the Audain Art

Porter shines a spotlight on the unsung women, BIPOC pioneers, and queer trailblazers who helped propel skateboarding to the Olympics, highlighting the need to validate the stories of older women often ignored by the industry. While not always the most famous or talented, these individuals were essential in driving change and inspired Porter to combat archival silence. With rare images and powerful stories, this book honors the blood, sweat, and tears of these groundbreaking individuals, paving the way for today's youth.

This book seeks to carve out space for the women who loved to kick flip, even if the boys never invited them.

## FOR FANS OF



**A vibrant, meticulously researched celebration of the women and non-binary skateboarders who defied a hostile industry and redefined skateboarding around the world**

The experiences of heroic older women have traditionally been dismissed or buried in the history books, and the skateboarding industry has mirrored this trend. The conversation has focused on the iconic male professionals, their contest results, trick inventions, and sponsors, while female skateboarders rarely get mentioned beyond a token paragraph, and stories of their contributions and barrier-breaking have almost never been told. Until now.

With enthusiasm and empathy, *Girl Gangs, Zines, and Powerslides* celebrates the relentless participation of women in skateboarding from the 1960s onward who defied a hostile industry to carve out

Museum in Whistler, Canada, and a Pearson Longman college reader called *Youth Subcultures: exploring underground America* (2007). Natalie has been a contributor within female-focused skateboarding zines including *Armpit*, *Idlewood*, and *Double Down*, as well as the magazines *Bigfoot* and *Exposé*.

She is the founder of @womxnsk8history Instagram page and the online archive *Womxn Skateboard History*, which were featured in the Winter 2023 issue of *Bust* magazine.

their own space through underground networks. Skater librarian Natalie Porter presents interviews and meticulous research, including the DIY zines created by female and non-binary skaters to expose this unacknowledged story while offering a personal narrative about the importance of community-building and validation, with or without your own video game.

*Girl Gangs, Zines, and Powerslides* disrupts the image of skateboarding as an exclusive male domain, offering historical context for the seemingly rapid progress of female skaters today seen competing on the Olympic stage. Discover how the collective action of a grassroots movement in the 1980s established meaningful change, building a foundation that has led to greater inclusion and diversity, which has inspired women, girls, and non-binary youth worldwide to roll on a skateboard for the first time and, sometimes, return to this passion as an adult.

### **SKATEBOARDING WILL BE A MANDATORY SPORT IN THE 2028 L.A. OLYMPICS.**

**UNTOLD FEMINIST HISTORY:** Spanning 1959 to today, this book focuses on California (the birthplace of skateboarding), as well as Vancouver (Canada's skateboarding hub), and Montreal, where Porter was a part of the Skirtboarders girl gang. She covers the 1980s and 1990s, when skateboarding was marketed as a space for young men, and how diverse skaters challenged this narrative. Porter openly addresses challenging subjects, such as violence against women and the impact of the #MeToo movement, both of which have significantly shaped the world of women's skateboarding.

**CONFRONTING TONY HAWK:** Natalie Porter tracked down and met pro skater Tony Hawk at a skateboarding conference in San Diego and grilled him with a question about women's skate history. She details how Tony Hawk responded in the book.

**BRINGING IN A NEW KIND OF READER:** This book transcends skateboarding, captivating historians, academics, pop culture buffs, and readers of feminist biographies like *Rebel Girl: My Life as a Feminist Punk* (Kathleen Hanna, 2024). Blending academic history with the DIY spirit of zines and skate mags, it speaks to readers of *Thrasher Magazine*, viewers of the documentary *Underexposed* (2012), attendees of events like California's *Exposure Skateboard Contest*, *Skate Like a Girl* advocates, and zinefest regulars alike.



# SAFE SLUTS: WHAT THE FRONT LINES OF PUBLIC HEALTH CAN TEACH US ABOUT RISK, FREEDOM, AND THE FUTURE OF SAFE SEX

HEALTH

**Publication Date:** June 1, 2026

**28.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.**

**HEALTH & FITNESS / SEXUALITY (HEA042000)**  
**SOCIAL SCIENCE / HUMAN SEXUALITY (SOC065000)**  
**SOCIAL SCIENCE / LGBT STUDIES / GENERAL BOOKS (SOC064000)**

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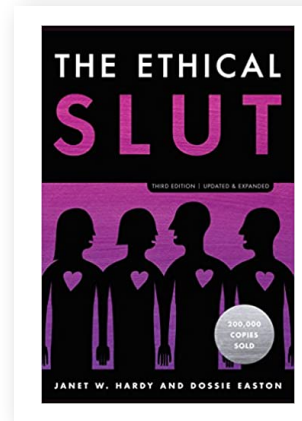
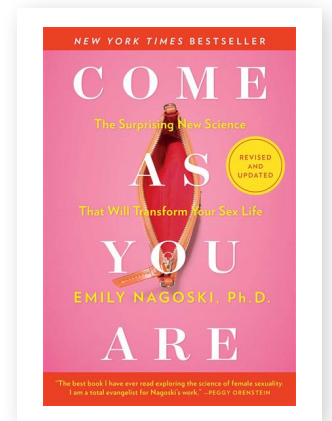
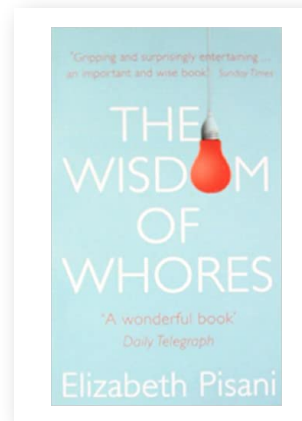
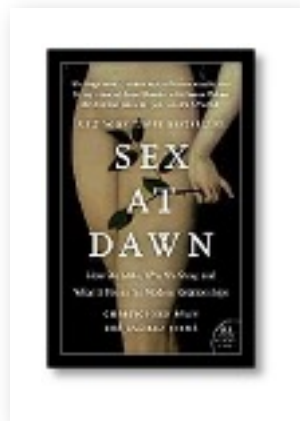
## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Niko Bell** is a freelance writer, editor and Chinese translator from Vancouver. He writes about sexual health, science, food and language. For six years, Bell wrote for the LGBTQ+ magazine *Xtra*, in which he covered queer sexual health; wrote on sexual health policy, science and technology; spoke to numerous experts in epidemiology, medicine, psychology, law and social work; attended conferences and seminars with the leading researchers in HIV/AIDS; and was nominated for an award by British Columbia's association for people living with HIV for my work reporting on HIV policy. He received the Governor General's Media for the highest academic achievement in his journalism class, and is currently a digital editor at a Vancouver lifestyle magazine, *Montecristo*.

An investigation into how we can have safer sex, with insights from gay activists, iconoclastic doctors and enterprising porn stars who are revolutionizing sexual health. Not a guidebook or how-to, but a collection of key stories and ideas and the lessons we can learn from them, focusing particularly on the idea that sexual health is a communal and not an individual endeavor.

## FOR FANS OF



In the past two decades, sex positivity has gone mainstream. No longer a niche domain of sex clubs, bohemians and back-alley cruising, the pursuit of everyday sexual liberation has spread into popular culture, from books such as *The Ethical Slut* to the pages of *Teen Vogue* and the *New York Times*. With it, sex positivity has brought along a new ethic of sexual safety, encouraging in-depth conversations about sexual health, unprecedented openness and transparency, and a focus on active consent.

Yet even within the most accepting, sex-positive and progressive communities, many people are still lost about what sexual risk means, how to manage it, and how to talk about it. Should you bring STI test results to a first date? What is an appropriate reaction to a condom breaking? If you are diagnosed with an STI, who do you have to tell?

Mainstream conversations about sexual safety still drag along old, malign habits, from a self-destructive focus on guilt and shame, to the scapegoating of vulnerable minorities, to the stigmatization of illness. Some ways of talking and thinking about sexual health seem intuitively compassionate and responsible, but are actually making us sicker, unhappier and less safe.

Popular writing on non-monogamy, sex positivity and dating only touches briefly on sexual safety, leaving readers with vague instructions to have “honest conversations” without any clue what those conversations should be about. There is a hole in the sex-positive bookshelf where an accessible, factual, useful book about sexual health should go.

Fortunately, there are people who have spent decades finding a better way to think about safe sex. The populations most vulnerable to sexual health risk—gay men, sex workers, and porn performers—as well as the doctors, scientists and activists who stand up for them have accumulated an impressive body of public health knowledge about how we can keep ourselves safe, stay healthy, and build a more trusting, compassionate and sexually liberated world.

*Safe Sluts* is about translating the hard-won knowledge accumulated in labs, hospitals, bathhouses and protests into language that the contemporary sex-positive movement can understand. It weaves together science, history, expertise and personal stories to give an accessible narrative account of what we really know about sexual health, how we learned it, and what we can do about it.

### **Message from the Author**

I hope this will be a useful book, but it also has the key element of a good story: a lot of things that are not as they seem. We’ll learn about why some of the people who have the most sex with the most partners are also among the safest, why staying far away from people who carry an infection can be the worst way to avoid it, and why the most important thing you can do to keep yourself safe from STIs has nothing to do with your behaviour in bed. If these stories don’t change how you think about safe sex, they might change how you think about the ways we treat each other as people.



# THE SINGLES TAX: NO-NONSENSE FINANCIAL ADVICE FOR SOLO EARNERS

PERSONAL FINANCE

**Publication Date:** January 6, 2026

5.5 x 8.5", 160pp, trade paperback

**24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.**

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

**BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / BUDGETING (BUS006000)**

**BUSINESS & ECONOMICS / PERSONAL FINANCE / INVESTING (BUS050020)**

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

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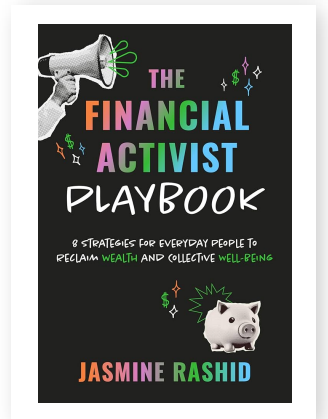
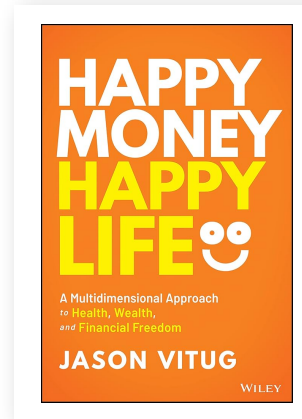
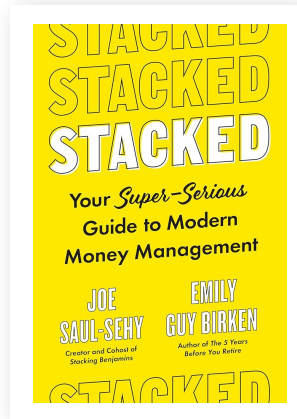
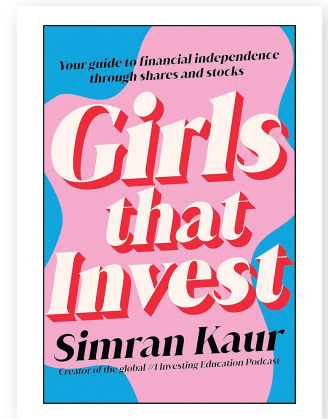
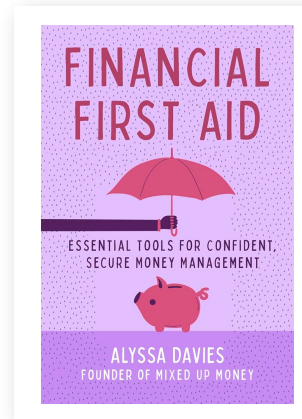
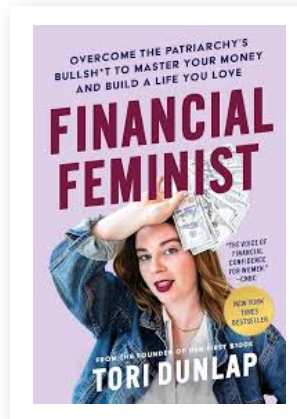
**Film Rights:** Film rights available

Renee Sylvestre-Williams is a Toronto-based writer and journalist who has worked in the finance, business, and investing space for 15+ years, and has been published by some of North America's top publications, including *The Globe and Mail*, *The Toronto Star*, *Forbes*, *Canadian Business* magazine, *MoneySense*, *WealthSimple*, *Canadian Living*, and *Canadian Family Offices*. Her articles in *MoneySense*, about the real cost of being single, inspired a 400+ comment thread of Reddit.

She is the creator of the newsletter *The Budgette*, a no-nonsense conversation about money for solo earners, which has 2100 subscribers and an open rate of 51%, which has received accolades from *MoneySense*, *The Good Trade*, and *RateHub*.

Sylvestre-Williams is friendly and relatable as she shares stories, trials, and triumphs from single Canadians across the country, as well as her own personal experience of being a single adult living her life in this partner focused financial world.

## FOR FANS OF



The number of people living alone has reached a record high, and yet there are few personal finance books that focus on solo earners and their finances.

Money can be a tricky subject, especially when you're single and solely responsible for every dollar spent. Managing your finances efficiently can feel overwhelming—but it doesn't have to be. Drawing on 15 years of experience writing for *The Toronto Star*, *Forbes*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *MoneySense*, Renee Sylvestre-Williams dives deep into the unique financial challenges faced by singles. Through insights from financial advisors, policymakers, and researchers, she uncovers the systemic disadvantages and equips readers with the tools to take control of their money. This book is the ultimate intersectional guide for single individuals ready to secure their financial future and thrive independently.

*The Singles Tax* asks thought provoking questions, such as:

- Why are taxes more couple-friendly? Are there any advantages to being single and doing your taxes?
- Why can't people who live together form an economic household, *Golden Girls* style when it comes to finances and taxes?
- How do you properly vet a financial adviser? An insurance agent? A lawyer?

Renée's expertise has made her a sought-after voice in media across Canada. She has been featured on CBC's *The Cost of Living* and *Inappropriate Questions*, as well as on TVO. Her insights have been heard on NewsTalk 1010's *The Rush*, and she has appeared on Vision TV's *The Zoomer* panel to discuss whether Canadians might outlive their retirement savings. Renée has also shared her advice on budgeting for singles on CTV's *The Social*. She has moderated panels for the Hospital of Sick Kids Foundation, Humber Collect, Elevate conference, and Inside EFT's Wealthstack Canada.

- Why has housing become so unaffordable, and what can a single person do to afford housing? What are the alternatives to purchasing a home, or having a roommate?
- Can you afford to retire on a single income? And how do you plan for it?
- What are the options for savings, and how does one maximize savings?
- What options are out there for a single person who wants to save money?
- How can I *not* to pay the single tax when booking travel?
- When will it be time to pay attention to the value of single people?

### **A Note From the Author**

“I’m single. In fact, I’ve been single for most of my adult life, so I understand the fears that lurk with every glance at your bank account, every 2 a.m. staring-at-the-ceiling thought about retirement and every deep sigh when your hydro, food or insurance bill comes in. I’m not married with kids imagining what it’s like being single. I’m right there with you, tapping numbers into a calculator, talking to my financial advisor and pondering the state of my retirement funds. I’m not alone in wishing there was some kind of guidebook on how to be single *without* the goal of being partnered.” — Renee Sylvestre-Williams

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Chapter 6: Insurance  
Chapter 7: Wills and Estate Planning  
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# DOG DAYS OF PLANET EARTH

FICTION

**Publication Date:** October 1, 2026  
5.5 x 8.5", 284pp, trade paperback

**24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.**

**FICTION / LITERARY** (FIC019000)  
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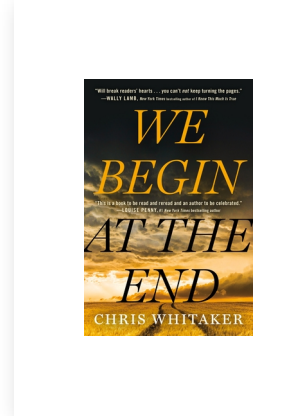
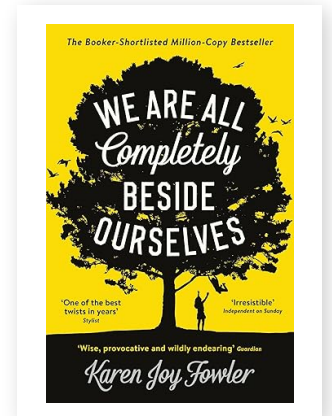
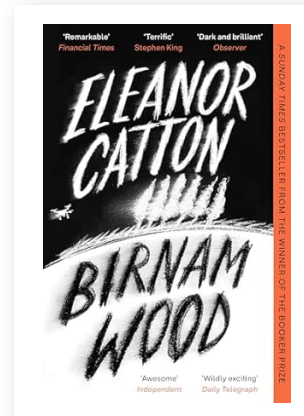
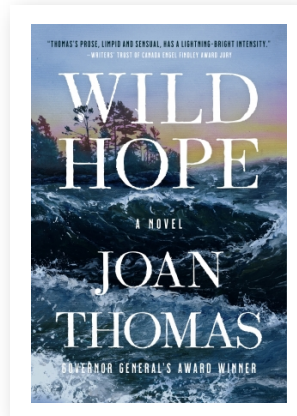


**Theresa Shea** is the author of two previous novels. Her debut novel, *The Unfinished Child* (Brindle & Glass, 2013), was a finalist for the Alberta Book Award and the Alberta Readers' Choice Award and was a popular selection for book clubs and sold over 12,000 copies. Her sophomore novel, *The Shade Tree* (Guernica, 2021), won the 2022 Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction. Shea was born in the US and moved to Canada in 1977. A graduate of McGill, Queen's, and the University of Alberta, she lives and writes in Edmonton, Alberta.

***Dog Days of Planet Earth***, a historical literary novel set in post WWII America, follows former veterinarian Trevor Westmore as he is released after 25 years of incarceration and finds that his love for animals soon plunges him into high-stakes activism that will risk his newfound freedom. Perfect for book clubs, this powerful story blends a love story with morally complex issues such as animal rights, the prison industrial complex, large-scale military activities, environmental justice and personal redemption.

Fans of Claire Keegan's *Small Things Like These* and Karen Joy Fowler's *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* will be drawn to this deeply compassionate and fiercely moral novel.

## FOR FANS OF



Trevor Westmore is an atomic veteran and former veterinarian who has just been released from prison after serving 25 years inadvertently killing his best friend's girlfriend. Now fifty-two years old, he is given a German shepherd puppy by a guard who believes having a dog will help to keep Trevor from reoffending, and he sets out on the road, intent on not squandering his freedom. Reaching California, he opens a kennel and vows to stay on the right side of the law.

But Trevor meets and falls head over heels for Laura Fenway, a veterinarian and fierce animal rights advocate, and is introduced to the inhumane world of animal laboratory testing and puppy mills, a world with direct links to his own dark military history participating in atomic testing in Nevada. Linking the vulnerability and dependency of dogs in crates to men in prison cells and trenches, and the high incarceration rates of animals to humans, Trevor begins to understand that fighting for animal rights is as critical as fighting for human rights.

As his romantic interest in Laura grows, he knows he must come clean about his past. Will Laura stick around once she learns the truth about his incarceration? Will Trevor overcome his passivity and willingly sacrifice his own freedom again for the sake of his morals? *Dog Days of Planet Earth* unites the personal and the political and juxtaposes the dark impulses of humanity that profit from treating living things as commodities with the hopeful, altruistic, and deeply compassionate human impulses that govern our survival.

With the 75th anniversary of atomic testing in Nevada approaching, this timely book offers unique marketing opportunities for readers passionate about social justice, animal welfare, and environmental advocacy.

**NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:** “*Dog Days of Planet Earth* is, in large part, about the drama of being decent, and will especially appeal to people with a soft spot for animals. The way that Theresa writes dogs is with such tenderness that it can move anyone who has loved an animal. The protagonist, Trevor, is really a character you can root for. Ultimately, it's a novel that asks what we're willing to risk for what we believe in, even if it means, possibly, sacrificing what we love.” – Jen Knoch, editor

**PRAISE FOR *THE UNFINISHED CHILD*:** “The various strands of the plot come together in a gripping climax, raising compelling questions about moral responsibility in a 21st-century world.” — *Publishers Weekly*



# THE WITCH OF WILLOW SOUND: A

FICTION

**Publication Date:** September 30, 2025

5.5 x 8.5", 288pp, trade paperback

**24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.**

**FICTION / GOTHIC** (FIC027040)

**FICTION / WOMEN** (FIC044000)

**FICTION / MYSTERY & DETECTIVE / GENERAL**  
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**FICTION / SMALL TOWN & RURAL** (FIC066000)

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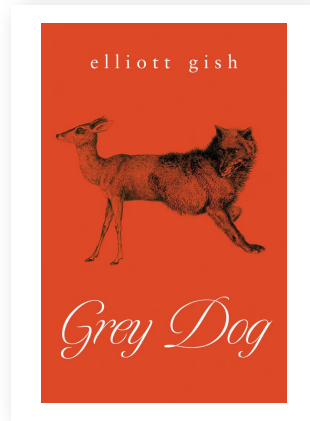
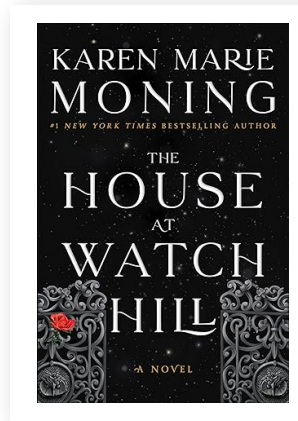
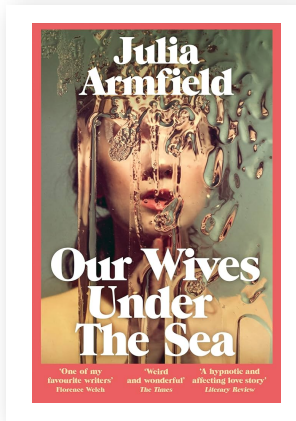
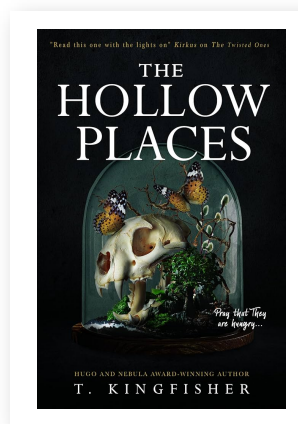
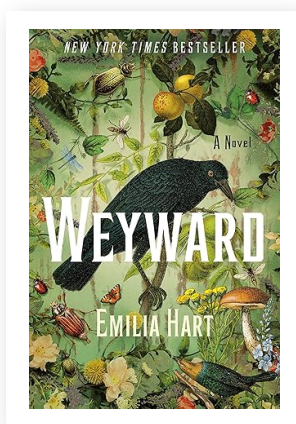
## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Vanessa F. Penney** was born in northern Newfoundland and raised in rural Nova Scotia. The coal-black ocean depths and bone-buried shorelines of the East Coast inspire her writing. Vanessa lives in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. This is her first novel.

For readers of *Our Wives Under the Sea* and *The Once and Future Witches* comes a feminist gothic tale with a tough-as-nails female protagonist who must find her elderly aunt, long suspected of being a witch.

A spooky, atmospheric, and fast-paced feminist tale about women called witches and the parts of our history we'd rather forget.

## FOR FANS OF



Madeline is missing. Ordered to find her, Madeline's estranged niece Fade must return to the lonely forest of Willow Sound, Nova Scotia. There, Fade discovers her aunt's once-cozy cottage empty and rotting. The ominous smell of something burnt hangs in the air.

In her search for answers, Fade clashes with the people of Grand Tea, a nearby village struggling under the shadow of a massive, looming rock that could tip and crush them all at any time. For generations, they've invented bizarre lore about Madeline, calling her a witch and blaming her for their misfortunes. They've had more misfortunes than ever lately. And a hurricane is coming.

Inspired by real East Coast traditions and witch lore, *The Witch of Willow Sound* is a modern gothic tale that explores family lost and found and throws firelight on dark truths about what societies do with the people, and the past, they don't want.



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(FIC028100)

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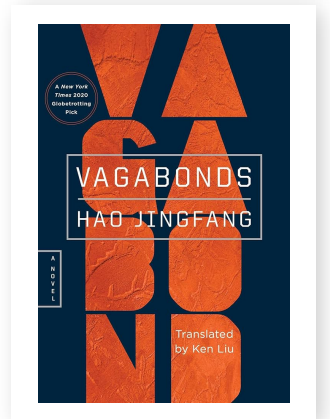
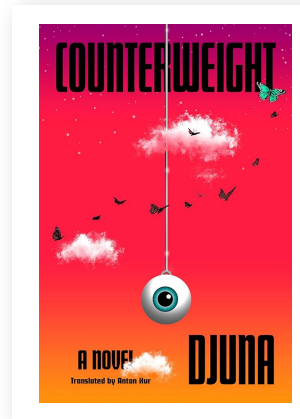
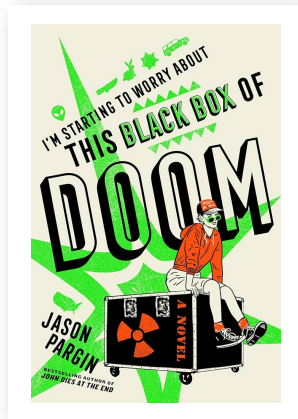
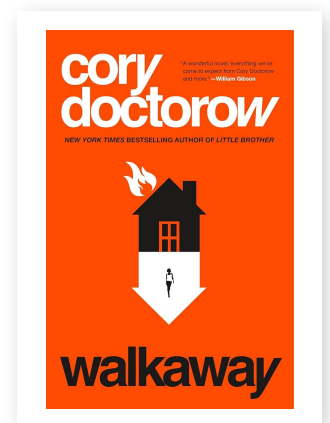
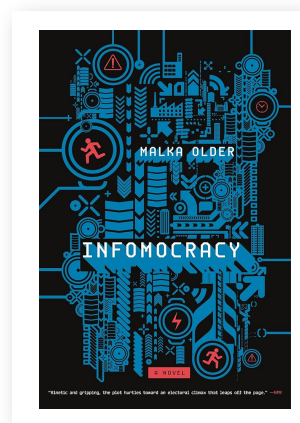
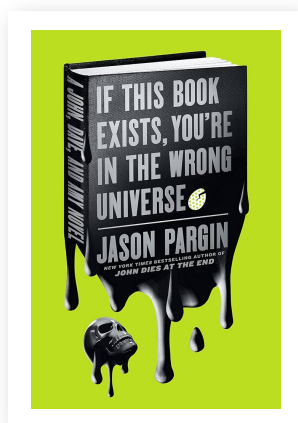


**Rachel Tremblay** is a bilingual (English/French) artist, musician, and writer from Montreal. She is a very active instagrammer with 7.2K followers, mostly other Bookstagrammers and also has an art account with several thousand followers. Jason Pargin, who has 500K followers on TikTok, has already blurred and pledged support for the book.

Readers of *The Hunger Games*, now all grown up, will love *Lavender Spike* for its kick-ass heroine and challenge of social constructs. Fans of *The Fifth Element* and the *Mad Max* franchise will also connect with Tremblay's wholly original cyberpunk world.

*"Lavender Spike* is that rarest thing in fiction: a truly unique dystopia, one that shuns simple allegory and plays by its own strange and fascinating set of rules. In a just world, everyone would be obsessed with this book and fans would already be having bitter arguments about who should be cast in the film." — **Jason Pargin**, *NYT* bestselling author of *John Dies at the End*, and former executive editor of *Cracked.com*.

### FOR FANS OF



Painting is everything to Isobel "Izzy" Ker. One of the last artists of the now deposed regime, Izzy lives a life of poverty in the Dumps outside of Mahl City, covertly selling her illegal paintings to the Old Order's few remaining underground devotees. When her studio is raided by the Hounds, the city's brutal police, Izzy flees to the Half-Light Rebels—a gang of anti-art radicals who rope her into a dangerous mission to infiltrate Mahl City.

Captured when the plan fails, Izzy is brought before the leader of the oppressive New Art Government. But instead of execution, Skylah gives her a twisted chance at survival: to become the regime's first converted artist, creating "Trigger art," digital monstrosities with highly addictive properties that the population worships.

As Izzy's fame and fortune skyrocket, she's seduced by the comfort, power, and even her Hound bodyguard, Rilke—a sworn enemy from her past. She almost starts to forget what it was like out in the Dumps. Almost. The fire of rebellion still burns, and Izzy secretly works with the Rebels to dismantle the system from within. Izzy must decide where her loyalty lies: with the glittering world she's grown to crave, or the gritty revolution that could set people free.

**A FEMINIST TAKE ON THE GOTHIC GENRE:** With a tough-as-nails female protagonist and an aunt deemed a witch by the local townsfolk, Penney turns the gothic genre on its head. Instead of victimizing female characters, Penney tells a story of strong, powerful women who aren't afraid of what anyone thinks of them.

**SUPERNATURAL SUSPENSE — OR IS IT?:** The story plays with the characters' - and the readers' - minds, challenging them to decipher what's real and what isn't. Penney keeps readers on the edge as to whether the sinister happenings are supernatural or grounded in reality.

**SET IN RURAL NOVA SCOTIA:** An eerie twist on small-town horror, this story is a haunting love letter to Canada's East Coast. Born in Saint Anthony, Newfoundland, and now based in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Penney's lifelong ties to the region bring an authentic touch.

**SCREENWRITER TO DEBUT AUTHOR:** Vanessa Penney's full-length feature action screenplay *Raising the Dead* was a semi-finalist in the 2021 Toronto Metropolitan International Screenplay Competition, judged well for "superb plot revelations" that are "heartbreaking" and "a twisted mystery that brings a great plot and delivers well on it."

**PERFECT FOR READERS OF:** Mona Awad, T. Kingfisher, Silvia Moreno-Garcia, and Charlotte Brontë.

**NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:** "It's fast-paced, feminist, and creepy, a fun read that still has something to say about the people we fear and how humans look for blame. I loved that you can't tell if it's actually SFF for a good chunk of the book, which encourages us to question our assumptions about these events and about the world more broadly. It has a tough female protagonist, it's really atmospheric, and the rural Nova Scotia forest-cottage setting is both delightful and provides some fresh folklore." — Jennifer Knoch, senior editor



# VEAL: A NOVEL

FICTION

**Publication Date:** October 14, 2025  
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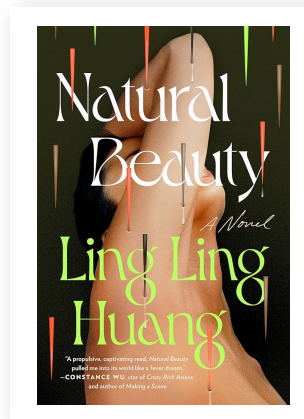
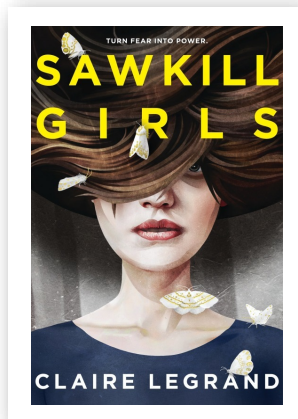
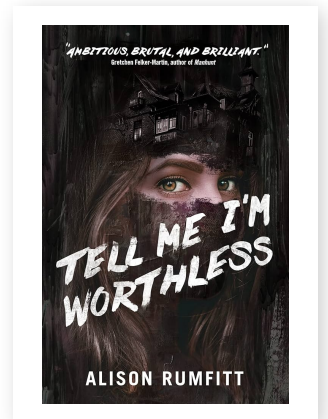
## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Mackenzie Nolan** was born and raised in Newfoundland, Canada. Working professionally as a social worker for several years, she found herself better suited to writing interpersonal dynamics, rather than solving them. *VEAL* is her debut novel.

Offering the atmosphere of *Twin Peaks* and the queer camaraderie of comic strip *Dykes to Watch Out For*, *Veal* is a thrilling exploration of friendship, fear, and the thin line between justice and vengeance.

## FOR FANS OF



Delores “Lawrence” Franklin is a failed capitalist and a runaway headcase. Following a corporate meltdown, she decides to start fresh in Mistaken Point, a small town known for two things — Mistaken Point University, where she and her best friend, Anastasia Lanes, are now enrolled, and the grisly murders of countless young women.

At her new part-time arcade job, Lawrence meets Francesca “Franky” Delores — gritty, off-putting, and chronically serious, as opposite to Lawrence as her name would suggest. Soon, Lawrence discovers Franky is convinced there is a monster on the loose, a patchwork creature born of hatred and responsible for the supposedly solved string of violence haunting the town.

Against the advice of Franky’s closest friend, Pippa, Lawrence and Stasia join Franky in a sticky, summertime search for a yellow-eyed monster between classes, shifts at the arcade, and eating popsicles by the pool. Motivated mostly by her unquenchable attraction to Franky, Lawrence allows herself to be pulled in strange directions, trying to appease Franky’s mania. Through the trials of hunting a monster only some of them believe in, Pippa, Lawrence, Stasia, and Franky discover truths about womanhood, relationships, and the reliability of urban legends.

**A STORY THAT CENTERS LESBIAN ROMANCE AND FRIENDSHIPS:**

Mackenzie is committed to creating realistic and honest portrayals of the LGBTQ+ community. Veal focuses on the lives and friendships of four young queer women—Lawrence, Stasia, Franky, and Pippa. Readers encounter them as friends, daughters, lovers, crushes, heroes, and entrepreneurs, with their experiences taking center stage. Notably, only one male character appears throughout the entire book, underscoring the focus on these women's stories.

**ATMOSPHERIC AND MOODY:** As a Maritime author, Mackenzie Nolan knows exactly what readers want out of a book about four lesbians hunting down a monster in a foggy, grey seaside town. Veal offers readers the atmosphere of Twin Peaks, and the queer camaraderie of comic strip Dykes to Watch Out For.

**FOR READERS OF:** Tell Me I'm Worthless (Alison Rumfitt), Motherthing (Ainslie Hogarth), Nighthitch (Rachel Yoder) and Natural Beauty (Ling Ling Huang).

**DEBUT MARITIME AUTHOR:** Mackenzie 'Max' Nolan was born, raised, and currently lives in Port de Grave, Newfoundland, and believes stories about the interconnectedness of horror and love are integral to the small-town experience.