



NIMBUS PUBLISHING

40 Years ★ 1978–2018

**RIGHTS CATALOGUE
2018**

Nimbus Publishing is the largest Canadian book publisher east of Toronto. Our office is in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

We produce approximately 50 new titles a year on a range of topics, including: children's picture books and fiction, memoir and literary non-fiction, social and cultural history, nature photography, politics, and biography. In 2005, we introduced our successful fiction imprint, **Vagrant Press**. Several novels have since been optioned for film.

In 2012, Nimbus Publishing was awarded the Retail Council of Canada Small Press Publisher of the Year Award.

In 2017, *Publishers Weekly* named Nimbus Publishing one of North America's fastest-growing independent publishers.



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Cover art: "Catching the Light" ©Katharine Burns

*“At times lyrical, biblical, and other-worldly, *The Honey Farm* is a suspenseful and well-crafted story.”*

—Booklist

“An aura of mystery, faintly tinged with menace, permeates [this] sensuous debut novel.”

—Publishers Weekly

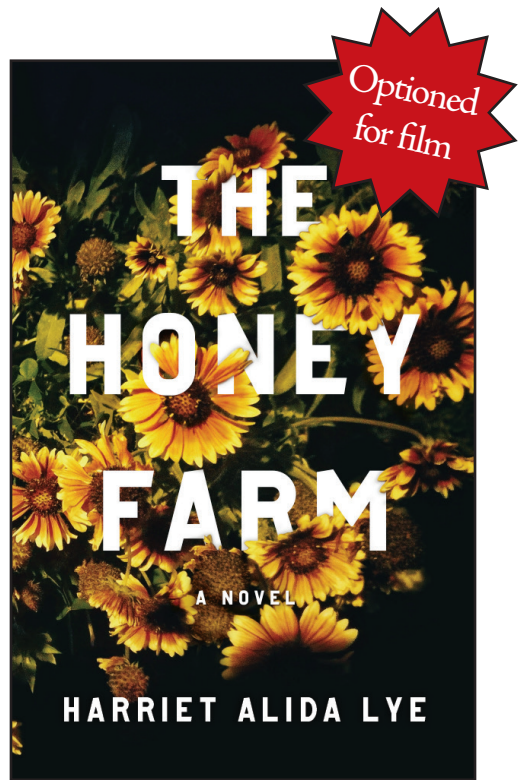
“As the book races to its close, the secrets beneath the surface begin to buzz as loudly as a bee’s nest.”

—Kirkus Reviews

Published: Spring 2018

Pages: 320

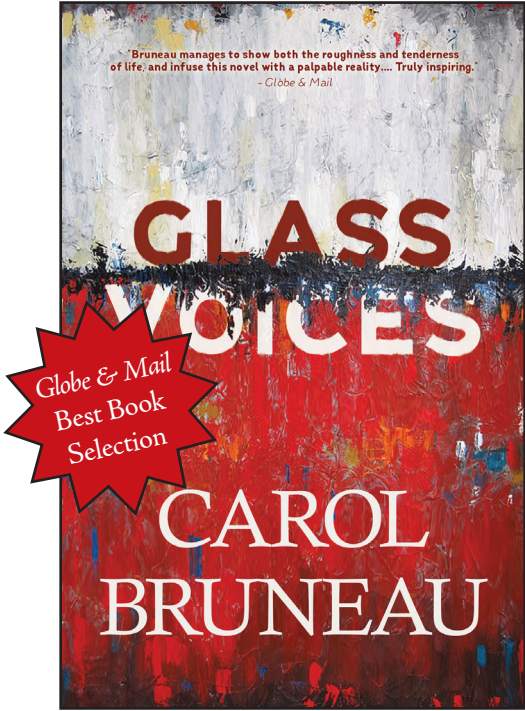
Rights available: French Canadian



Vintage Margaret Atwood meets Patricia Highsmith in this slyly seductive debut set on an eerily beautiful farm teeming with secrets.

The drought has discontented the bees. Soil dries into sand; honeycomb stiffens into wax. But Cynthia knows how to breathe life back into her farm: offer it as an artists’ colony with free room, board, and “life experience” in exchange for backbreaking labour. Silvia, a wide-eyed graduate and would-be poet, and Ibrahim, a painter distracted by constant inspiration, are drawn to Cynthia’s offer, and soon, to each other.

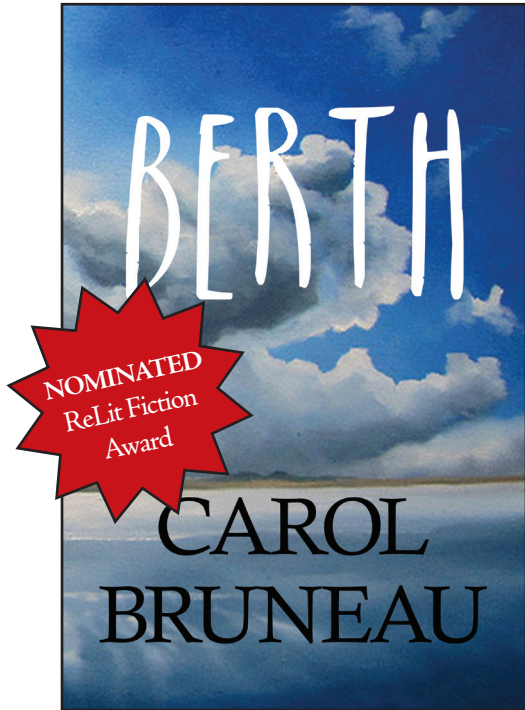
But something lies beneath the surface. The edenic farm is plagued by events that strike Silvia as ominous: taps run red, scalps itch with lice, frogs swarm the pond. One by one, the other residents leave. As summer tenses into autumn, Cynthia’s shadowed past is revealed and Silvia becomes increasingly paralyzed by doubt. Building to a shocking conclusion, *The Honey Farm* offers a thrilling portrait of creation and possession in the natural world.



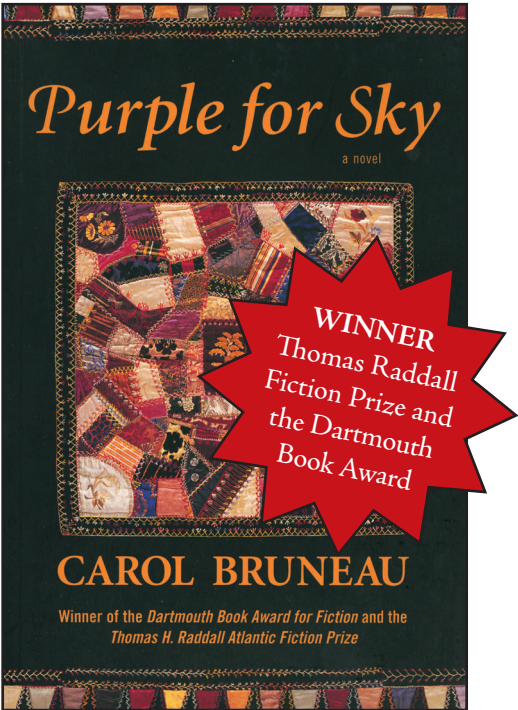
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*“Reminiscent of Kate Chopin’s
The Awakening in both style and
approach, Carol Bruneau’s
A Circle On the Surface
captures the complexities, right up
to its tragic, memorable ending, of
a woman’s role in the 1940s.”*

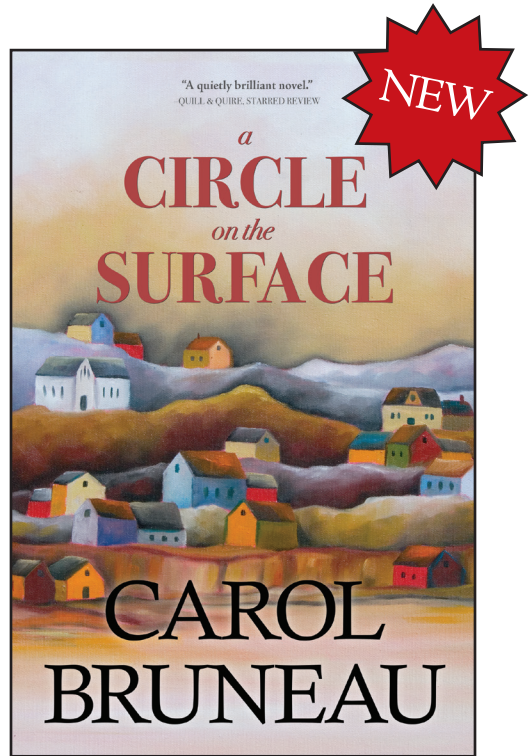
—Donna Morrissey

“A quietly brilliant novel.”
—Quill & Quire, starred review

Published: Fall 2018

Pages: 280

Rights available: World

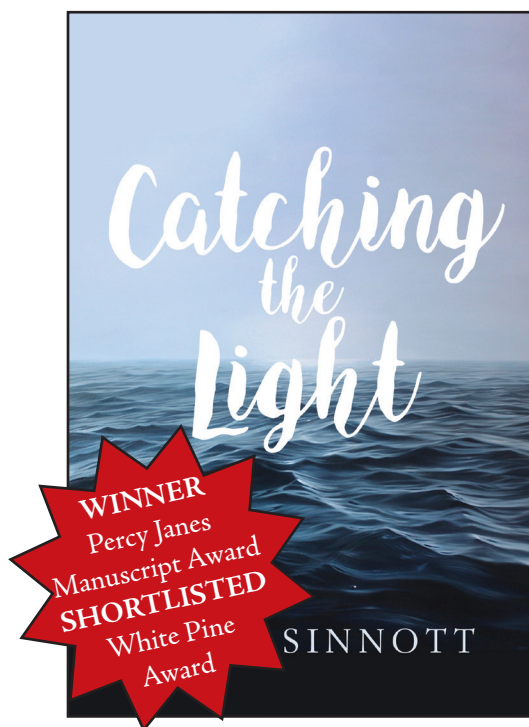


It’s 1943. Enman and Una Greene are newly married. Each is haunted by their respective pasts, and each harbours secrets. They have hopes of a happy life together—though they have little idea how to create such a life.

Enman brings Una to his childhood home, a rural coastal town, where he hopes they will stay. Una is restless and feeling increasingly trapped, and longs for the city life she once had. Una happens upon a mysterious man on the beach one day, and then a body washes up on shore. There are rumours of German sailors roaming the dunes. When the Greens receive the news they have been waiting for, Una begins to unravel in ways neither she nor Enman is prepared for. Tension and paranoia are threaded throughout this achingly honest portrayal of marriage in a time of war.



Carol Bruneau is the acclaimed author of three short story collections, including *A Bird on Every Tree*, published by Vagrant Press in 2017, and five novels. Her first novel, *Purple for Sky*, won the 2001 Raddall Fiction Award and the Dartmouth Book Award. Her 2007 novel, *Glass Voices*, was a *Globe and Mail* Best Book. Her reviews, stories, and essays have appeared Canada-wide in newspapers, journals, and anthologies.



"There is a special quality to this novel that comes from the author's writing style, which has a poetic feel." —About a Book

"Catching the Light is a deeply compassionate novel. The narrative relates with such empathy and understanding to people with fears, hopes, struggles."
—Paul Butler

Published: Spring 2018

Pages: 288

Rights available: World

The kids call her Lighthouse: no lights on up there. In a small town, everyone knows when you can't read. But Cathy is just distracted by the light and lines and artistry of everyday life. She is a talented painter but yearns for social acceptance. She dreams of enrolling in art school, but getting there will be a struggle in more ways than just academic.

Hutch Parsons is everything Cathy is not: charismatic, popular, smart. Overflowing with energy, he is confident in his future: he's going to work on a fishing boat like all the men in his family. But one icy evening his world is up-ended and those plans are swept away. Now he must face a different life and his own struggle. Ever independent, will he learn to lean on anyone for support?

Dancing between points of view and imbued with the language of art and nature, *Catching the Light* explores the slow-burn romance and ordinary lives of two extraordinary people. Tender and authentic, this debut is not to be missed.

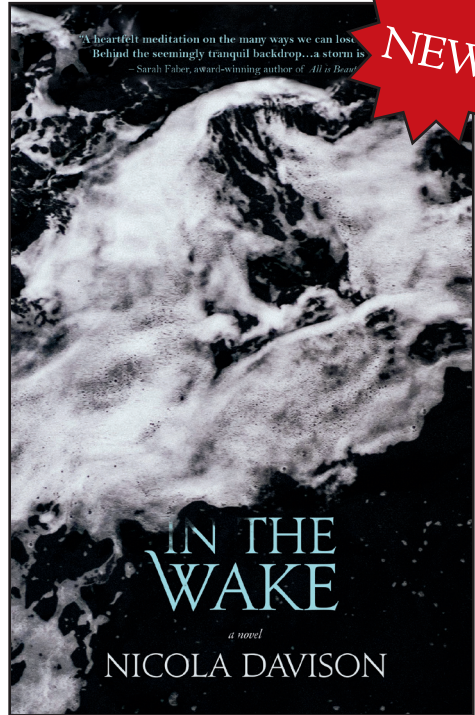
“In the Wake gathers like a storm wave, throwing the characters forward. Nicola’s writing is a lighthouse, catching moments of sorrow and joy. Here, mental health is not a hashtag, but broken glass under wounded feet.” —Jon Tattrie

“Davison sensitively explores how grief and mental illness reverberate through families and across generations.” —Sarah Faber

Published: Fall 2018

Pages: 280

Rights available: World



When Emily and her family move, it is to return to the coastal landscape that already haunts her—and the waters where her father died. She meets her neighbour Linda, a gruff but loving widow, and Linda’s grown son, Tom, who struggles to stay on an even keel due to his schizophrenia.

As they settle in, Emily and her husband learn more about the turbulent history of the house they’ve just bought. With him away for work, Emily becomes caught up in the lives of her neighbours, relying on Linda’s friendship and growing closer to Tom despite his unsettling knack for appearing when Emily least expects him. As tension in each family builds, both women must confront long-unanswered questions.

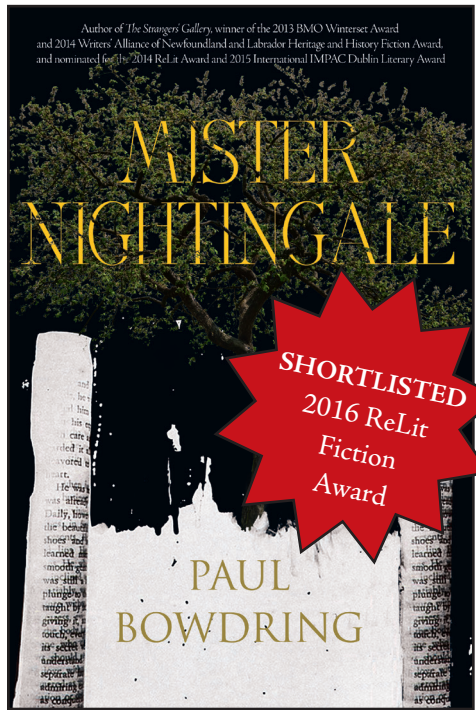
With its nuanced depictions of marriage, parenting, grief, and mental illness, and with humorous, understated dialogue, this novel is at once a suspenseful thriller and subtle literary examination of our inner lives.



Published: Spring 2013
Pages: 360
Rights available: World

Archivist Michael Lowe's life is turned upside down when a Dutch acquaintance, Anton Aalders, arrives on his doorstep in 1995. Anton is searching for a father he never met, ostensibly a Newfoundland soldier who was part of the Allied forces that liberated the Netherlands at the end of the Second World War.

Anton's visit stretches from a few days to a few months, reluctant as he is to go in search of his father, and keen to learn as much as he can about Newfoundland, its history, and its people.



Published: Spring 2016
Pages: 352
Rights available: World

After a thirty-year self-imposed exile, "mid-listing" author James Nightingale leaves behind a failed marriage and a middling, if critically successful, career to return temporarily to the coast to receive an honorary degree from his alma mater.

He meets old friends whose own artistic lives have borne little fruit, and contends with his musically gifted daughter and aging and ailing father. At once a diatribe on the vicissitudes of the writing life and a poignant exploration of one man's coming to terms with *la vie quotidienne*.

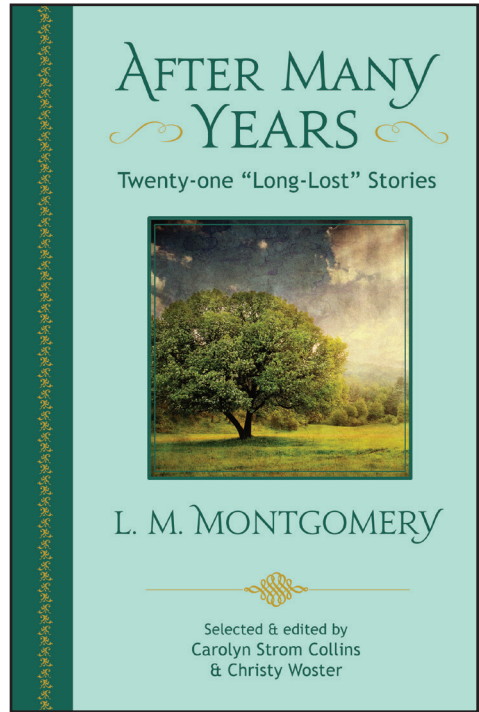
“Fans of Lucy Maud Montgomery will be happy to learn they will have some new stories written by the famous Island author to read.”
—CBC National News

“Anne of Green Gables fans: rejoice! Think the new stories sound a little too good to be true? No worries—the project was in some of the best hands.”
—Liz Steelman, RealSimple

Published: Spring 2017

Pages: 368

Rights available: World



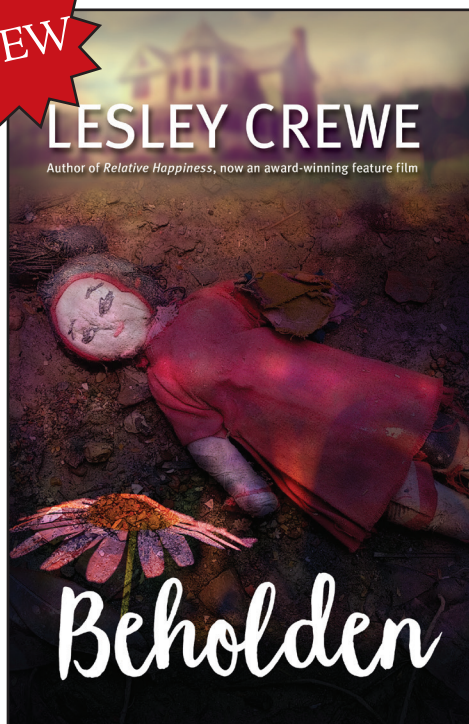
Although best known for creating the spirited and beloved Anne Shirley of Green Gables, L. M. Montgomery had a thriving writing career that included several novels and more than five hundred poems and stories.

This collection brings together rare stories originally published between 1900 and 1939 that haven't been in print since their initial periodicals. Collins and Woster have carefully curated a mixture of newly discovered long-lost stories that showcase all the charm you expect from L. M. Montgomery.

With scholarly notes providing historical context for each piece, this book offers readers a rare glimpse into how Montgomery's writing developed over the years.



Lucy Maud Montgomery (1874–1942) was a Canadian author best known for her popular *Anne of Green Gables* series, the first book of which was published in 1908. Her work has inspired movies, plays, television shows, musicals, and continues to draw countless visitors to Prince Edward Island each year.



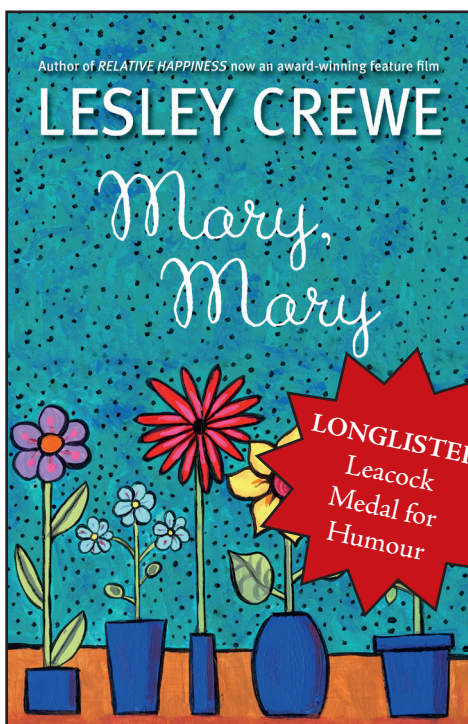
Published: Fall 2018

Pages: 352

Rights available: World, excl. film

Nell, the “spinster on the hill,” is scarred by her own childhood; she swears she could never love a child, and that she will never marry, denying herself a life with the man she loves.

She’s proven wrong when a baby is born just down the road. Her love of little Jane propels us forward through generations of women trying to untangle their own traumas and secrets. Eventually, we meet Bridie—joyful, kind, capable Bridie—and see her struggling through the echoing pain of those who came before her.



Published: Fall 2016

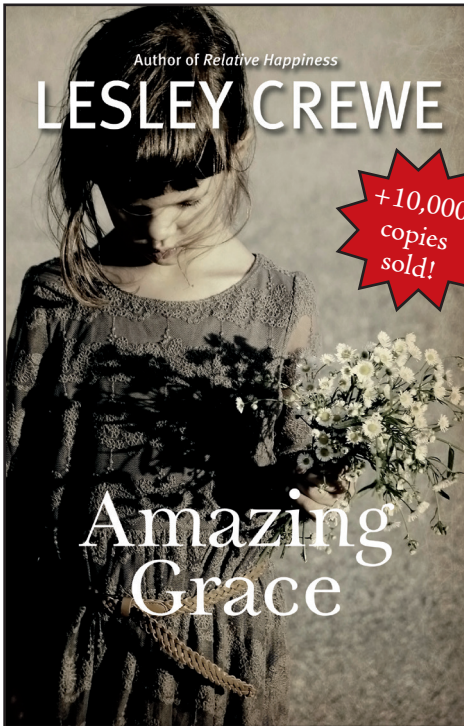
Pages: 264

Rights available: World, excl. film

In a family of black sheep, Mary is as pure as snow. She is patient and kind with her alcoholic grandmother, loyal and attentive to her spoiled cousin, and pleasant all day at her job.

When a young couple moves into the apartment upstairs, it sparks a series of changes that lead to major family revelations. Mary learns that sometimes, doing the wrong thing is exactly the right thing to do.

Maybe Mary is more like her family than she would care to admit....



Published: Fall 2015

Pages: 288

Rights available: World, excl. film

Grace leads a quiet life with a lovely man who's not her husband, in a cozy trailer overlooking a beautiful lake. Her blissful life is interrupted when her estranged son calls from New York, worried about his teenage daughter.

Before she knows it, Grace finds herself the temporary guardian of her self-absorbed granddaughter. Trapped between a past she's been struggling to resolve and a present that keeps her on her toes, Grace decides to finally tell her story. Either the truth will absolve her and set her free, or ruin everything.



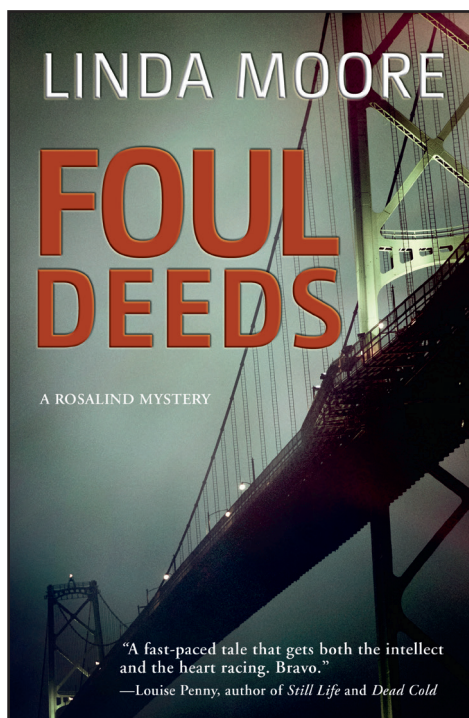
Published: Movie tie-in: 2014

Pages: 384

Rights available: World, excl. film

Lexie loves her little bed & breakfast, the endless sea that surrounds her, and her big family. But at thirty, she's starting to feel like something is missing in her tranquil life.

Enter Adrian, a charming backpacker who took a wrong turn at the US border and ends up at her B&B; and Joss, a hunky handyman who is replacing her windows. With her sister's wedding approaching and Lexie getting called on to warm cold feet, suddenly her peaceful life is much more complicated than she could have ever imagined.



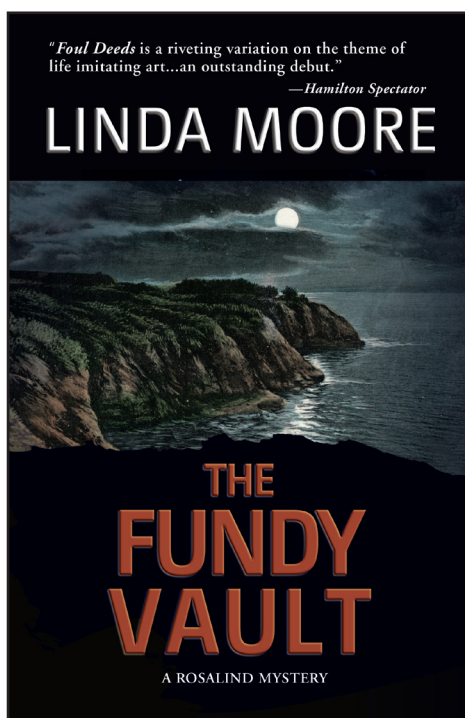
Published: Fall 2012

Pages: 280

Rights available: World, excl. audio

A professional criminologist and part-time theatre director, Rosalind works with cranky P. I. McBride—a long-time partnership that has led her from one sordid foray to another.

Her passionate escape is theatre and her latest venture is with a company of out-of-work actors putting on an independent production of *Hamlet*. Shakespeare's language is a fabulous distraction until the uncanny parallels between life and art begin to unnerve her. Peter King, a respected environmental lawyer working to keep water in the public domain, dies suddenly. Is it murder? His son Daniel thinks so.



Published: Fall 2016

Pages: 194

Rights available: World, excl. audio

Roz is on her first paid vacation: a rented cottage on the ocean, accompanied by her cat and a stack of Samuel Beckett plays. She has no sooner settled in than she spots what looks like a woman's body tangled in the roots of a floating tree. Before the police can send a boat out, the body is retrieved by a helicopter, and Roz watches it disappear over North Mountain. It's time to call in her old sleuthing partner, McBride.

But when McBride disappears, Roz calls in her longtime theatre friend Sophie to help her roam the backroads in search of clues, zeroing in on the quarry no one seems to want them to visit.

“Disposable Souls is well-told and skilfully plotted...it’s the first Canadian crime novel I’ve read in a long time that has really made me sit up and take notice.”

—Rohan Maitzen

“Only a writer who has been inside the yellow tape knows the scene well enough to tell a story like this. Gritty and authentic writing.” —Matt Johnson

Published: Fall 2016

Pages: 344

Rights available: World



The body of Pastor Sandy Gardner, a popular TV preacher with a global following, turns up at a container pier. The mysterious case lands with Cam Neville, a city cop with a dead wife and severe PTSD from his haunting past.

In search of the truth, Cam and his partner, Blair Christmas, enter a perilous world of strippers, child pornography, and corruption that threatens to destroy them both. Meanwhile, Cam is torn between loyalties to his two brothers: one active in the Satan’s Stallion bike gang founded by their father, and the other a priest who wants to save everyone...including Cam.

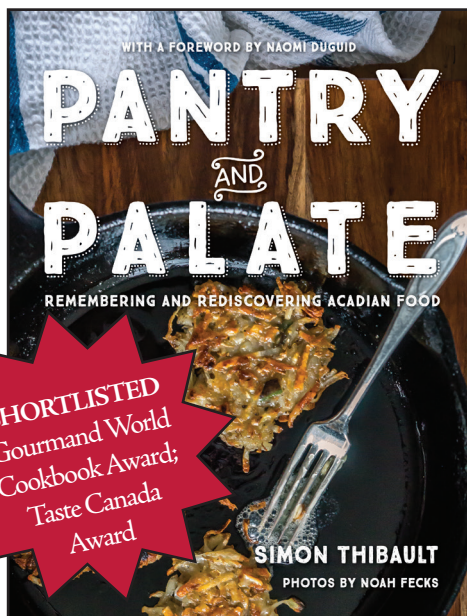
In *Disposable Souls*, Phonse Jessome has created a complex and compelling protagonist and placed him in a gritty underbelly of bikers, cops, and killers, masterfully blurring the lines between good and evil, sinners and saints.

Phonse Jessome is an award-winning journalist and bestselling author. He has covered some of the biggest stories in Canada and abroad. His book *Murder at McDonald’s* was lauded as one of Canada’s best true-crime titles.



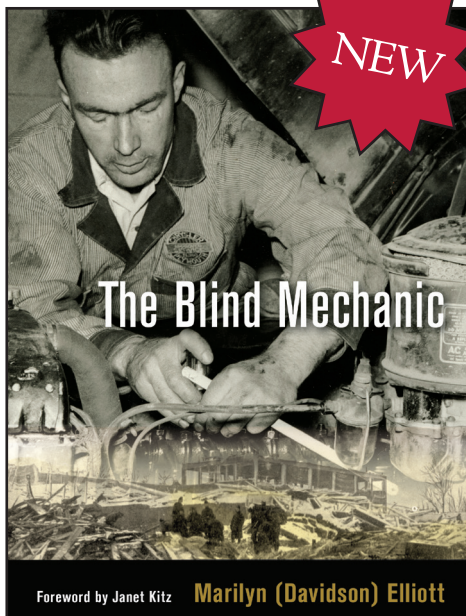
Canada as
Guest of Honour
 at the
 2020 Frankfurt Book Fair

Non-fiction that is uniquely Canadian



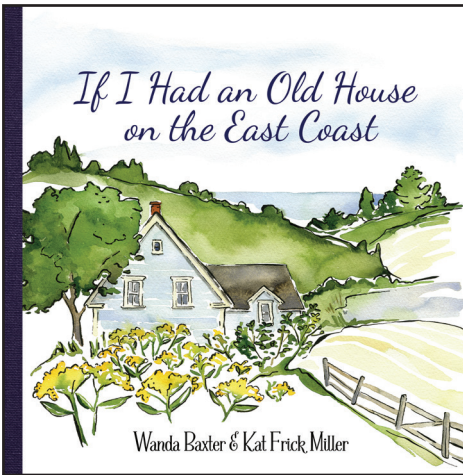
Published: Spring 2017
Pages: 272
Rights available: World

Journalist Simon Thibault explores his roots by scouring old family recipes, ladies' auxiliary cookbooks, and folk wisdom for the best-loved recipes of Acadians past and present. Recipes run the gamut, from pickling beets to old-fashioned ways to render lard and cook with head cheese. Including essays celebrating the people and stories behind the recipes, *Pantry and Palate* is *magnifique* from page to plate.

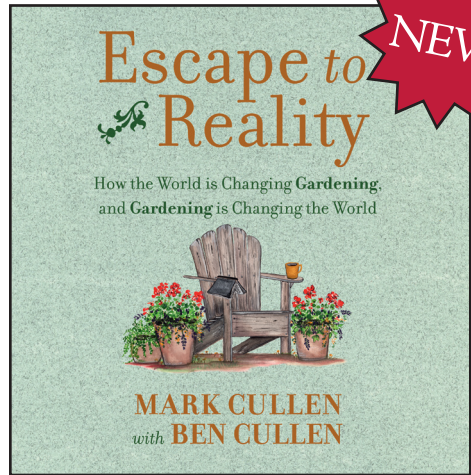


Published: Fall 2018
Pages: 196
Rights available: World

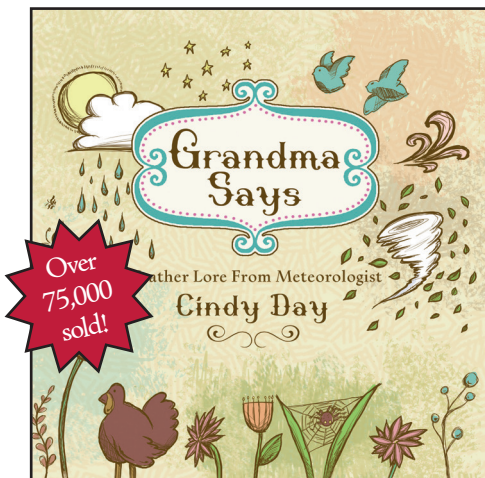
Eric Davidson lost both eyes in the Halifax Explosion when he was just two years old. Against all odds, he taught himself to become an auto mechanic. Assisted by his brothers who read to him from manuals, he worked hard, passed examinations, and carved out a successful decades-long career. Once the subject of a National Film Board documentary, Eric Davidson was a much-admired Canadian figure.



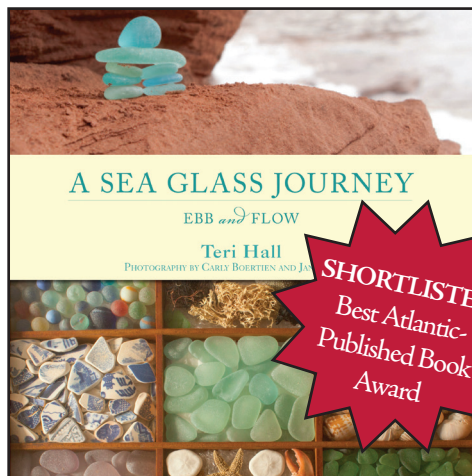
Exploring everything from an old house's foundation to its layers of antique wallpaper to its decades-old gardens bursting with wildflowers, this lyrical book is a love letter to a vanishing way of life. (World)



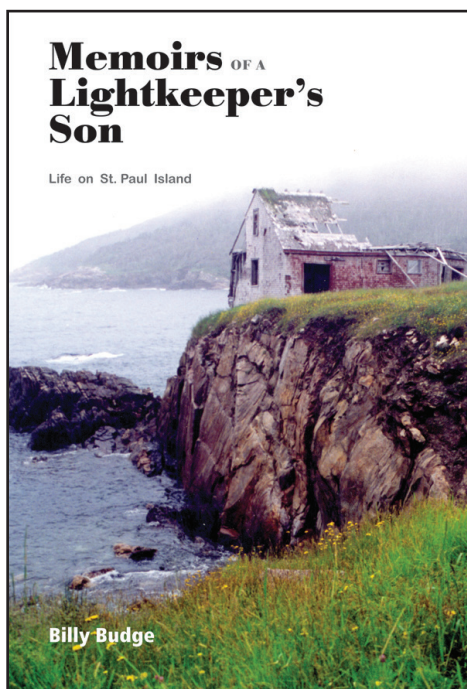
Escape to Reality goes beyond the hows that are the focus of most gardening books and explores the whys. In short, narrative essays, topics range from nature as therapy to who we are as gardeners. (World)



The science behind 80 weather-related sayings meteorologist Cindy Day recalls from her grandmother's farm. Sayings that, more often than not, proved more accurate than official modules and forecasts. (World)



Formed from broken bottles smoothed and shaped by ocean waves, sea glass is coveted by beachcombers the world over. This stunning book includes DIY projects, origins of colours, and tips for finding the best pieces. (World)



“A vivid, fascinating dive into a lifestyle that is often romanticized and viewed through rose-coloured lenses. This account shares the highs and lows of such a lifestyle. Brilliant.”

—Jane MacMillan,
Charlottetown Guardian

Published: Spring 2010

Pages: 186

Rights available: World

William (Billy) Budge was born in 1948 in a small fishing village. In 1955 his father accepted the position of lighthouse keeper on St. Paul Island, a rugged and forlorn mountain in the middle of the sea. This island is subject to violent gales, snowstorms, and is often shrouded in fog. Early seafarers referred to it as the “Graveyard of the Gulf” due to the vast numbers of shipwrecks and countless lives that were lost along its shores.

The family moved to St. Paul Island in September 1955. For the next five years they lived in almost total isolation. They quickly learned to cope in a world without neighbours, electricity, schools, or sports. They lived off the land—hunting ducks along the coast, picking berries, and fishing cod from the sea.

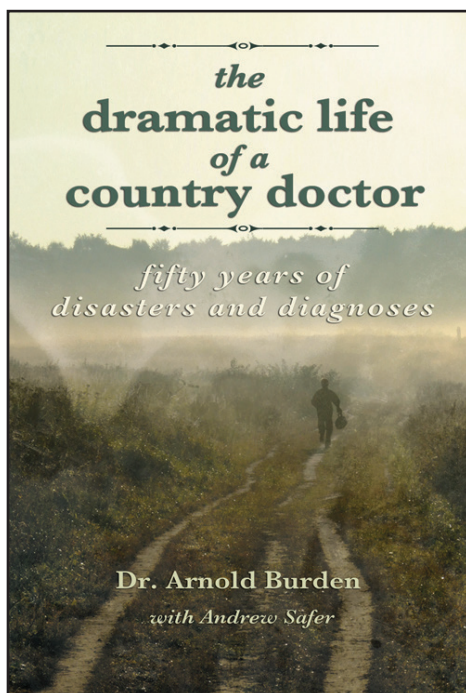
Sense the lush green of the island in summer in the midst of a crystal-blue sea, and feel the harshness of winter while buried under snow and surrounded by drifting sheets of ice. The incredible story of one family’s survival on a lonely rock.

The exquisitely written memoirs of a medical career that spanned disaster after disaster, including the international sensation of the Springhill Mine explosion. A candid and intriguing reflection on a career that was anything but ordinary.

Published: 2011

Pages: 188

Rights available: World

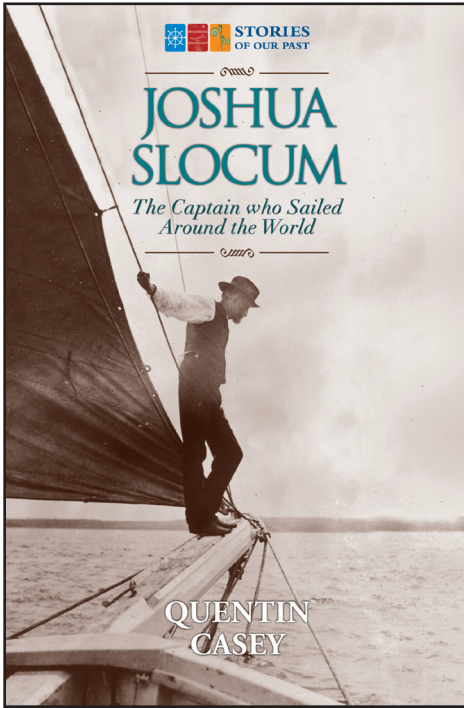


Dr. Arnold Burden's career began unintentionally when he performed his first surgery in the woods following a hunting accident at age fourteen.

As a twenty-year-old hospital clerk, he handled battle casualties after D-Day in France and Germany. His early years as a community doctor began in rural Prince Edward Island, where he served in the combined role of doctor and, inevitably, coroner.

Back home in Nova Scotia, Dr. Burden was the first medic to enter the mines after a deadly explosion in 1956 and a mine bump in 1958, the most severe bump ever recorded in North America. In both cases he risked his life to bring the gassed and trapped miners to the surface.

In his memoir, Dr. Burden gives his account of an active life and of a man dedicated to his patients; a man full of common-sense and interesting stories, who writes candidly of unusual cases and brave efforts under difficult conditions.



*The first man to sail single-handedly around the globe became an international sensation with the publication of his famous memoir, *Sailing Alone Around the World*, in 1900. But then he mysteriously disappeared in 1909.*

Published: Spring 2014

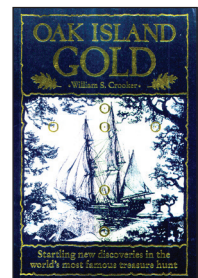
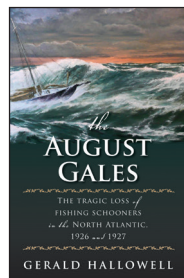
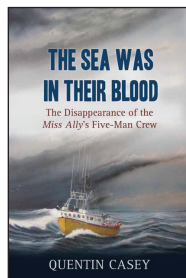
Pages: 128

Rights available: World

The first person to circumnavigate the globe alone, Captain Joshua Slocum has remained a nautical icon since the publication of his memoir, *Sailing Alone Around the World*, in 1900.

In *Joshua Slocum*, journalist Quentin Casey takes readers from the treasured sea captain's humble upbringing on tiny Brier Island, through his lifelong quest for adventure on the sea. Follow Slocum's career from ordinary seaman to master of celestial navigation, and experience a rare look into his personal life, trouble on and off the sea, culminating in his mysterious disappearance. Includes over 60 full-colour images, including photographs, maps, and illustrations.

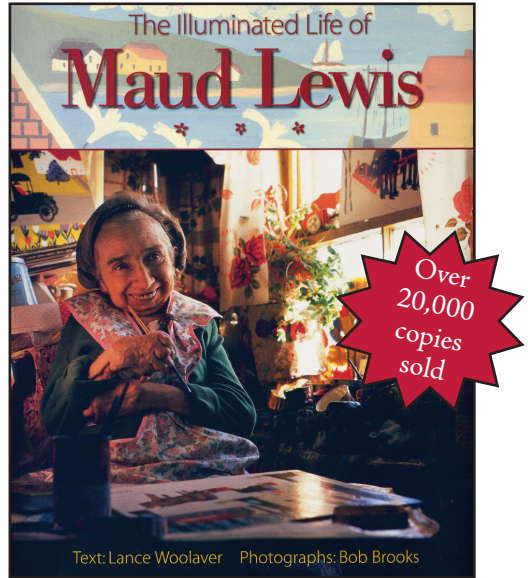
Related interest:



Maud Lewis is Canada's most beloved folk artist, and the subject of the hugely popular biopic

Maudie (2016),
starring Ethan Hawke
and Sally Hawkins.

A recently rediscovered original Maud Lewis painting was auctioned off for over \$125,000 in 2017.



Published: Spring 1996

Pages: 102

Rights available: World English

Maud Lewis, née Dowley, (1903–1970), lived in abject poverty with her husband, a fishmonger named Everett Lewis, in rural Nova Scotia. She suffered from juvenile rheumatoid arthritis and several other debilitating birth defects, which severely affected her mobility, especially in her hands. But her whimsical and childlike art was always vibrant and colourful, portraying the world as she saw it: hopeful.

Lewis was recognized and revered in her own lifetime. She offered her endearing images to the passing world through her roadside sign, “Paintings for Sale,” and was rewarded by the enthusiastic response she received from both the community and tourists as well as from art collectors. Her paintings regularly fetch over \$50,000, with a recent auction topping out at \$126,200 for a single piece salvaged from a thrift store.

The Illuminated Life of Maud Lewis is an invitation to share once again with the world the perceptions of this celebrated Nova Scotia folk artist in prose, photographs, and colourful reproductions of her life's works.