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NIMBUS NODS

2023 WHITE PINE AWARD shortlist

2022 ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S BEST BETS Top 10

2022 GEORGE BORDEN WRITING FOR CHANGE AWARD shortlist

2022-2023 HACKMATACK AWARDS

English Fiction shortlist

2023 Best Juvenile or Young Adult Crime Book shortlist

CRIME WRITERS OF CANADA

2022-2023 Hackmatack Awards

English Non-Fiction shortlist

A Journey of Love and Hope

Muinji'j Asks Why

The Family Way: "Laura's List"

Decoding Dot Grey

Making Black Munny Cartoons

The Family Way: "Laura's List"
Recipe for a Good Life

By Lesley Crewe

July 18, 2023 • paperback, flaps • $24.95 CA; $19.95 US

_Globe & Mail_-bestselling Lesley Crewe’s new novel follows a mystery author with writer’s block from 1950s Montreal to rural Cape Breton, in search of much more than her next big story.

On paper, Kitty’s life is perfect. She lives in Montreal, so vibrant in the 1950s; she married her childhood sweetheart, who happens to also be a handsome movie star; and her detective novels, written under a plausibly male nom de plume, are bestsellers. But Kitty is suffocating under the truth of her life: Montreal feels chaotic and lonely without her mother, and with her father all but estranged. Her husband is a glib Lothario. And she never, ever wants to write another detective novel. When she says as much to her publishers, they panic. She’s their golden goose. And so they convince her to go on a writing retreat to a beautiful remote island, Cape Breton, where with solitude and a luxurious change of scenery, she’ll be able to whip up her next book. At least, that was the plan.

Kitty arrives in Cape Breton to a leaky, drafty shack and a cast of characters unlike anyone she’s ever met. There’s Edith, who listens in on everyone’s party line calls and never keeps good gossip to herself; generous Bertha and her enormous family…and Bertha’s son, Wallace—Walrus, to all his nieces and nephews. A gentle giant who always has half a dozen children hanging off him. Soon Kitty’s writing retreat turns her life upside down, and she has to face which parts of her life are non-negotiable and which she must cut loose. Can she preserve what she loves in Montreal now that Cape Breton is calling? If she frees herself from the weight of her past, will she float away altogether?

From bestselling author Lesley Crewe comes a story of loneliness and belonging, and a love letter to the women who have always kept the kettles warm and the neighbours fed in rural Cape Breton.

Lesley Crewe is the _Globe and Mail_-bestselling author of thirteen novels, including _Nosy Parker_, which was named one of Indigo’s Top 100 Books of 2022, _The Spoon Stealer_, longlisted for Canada Reads 2022, _Beholden, Mary, Mary, Amazing Grace, Kin_, and _Relative Happiness_, which was adapted into an award-winning feature film. She has also published two collections of essays, the _Leacock–longlisted Are You Kidding Me?!_ and _I Kid You Not!_ Lesley lives in Homeville, Nova Scotia. Visit her at lesleycrewe.com.

Advance Praise

“Lesley Crewe has done it again! _Recipe for a Good Life_ absolutely delivers, with vivid characters, and plenty of moments both hilarious and touching. Lesley’s writing with lots of love here, and it shows.”

— _Stephanie Domet_, Amazing Atlantic Canadian Women, _Fallsy Downsies_

“Fans of the delightful Lesley Crewe know that she can skillfully make you weep or laugh at the drop of a noun. In her latest novel, _Recipe for a Good Life_, she weaves loneliness like silk into the soul of a person with a stitch of humour. This clever author knows that the heart can teach you more than you will ever teach it.”

— _Beatrice MacNeil_, bestselling author of _Where White Horses Gallop_
Jumbo
By Stephens Gerard Malone

September 12, 2023 • paperback, flaps • $21.95 CA, $17.95 US

A work of historical fiction following the prized African elephant who stole the show of the Barnum & Bailey Circus—and the hearts of people around the world—exploring exploitation, unrequited love, and the unbreakable bond between living things, from the author of The History of Rain.

There was, perhaps, no living creature more famous in the nineteenth century than Jumbo the elephant. Born in 1860 and taken from the wilds between Sudan and Eritrea at the age of two, he was sold to the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, and then to the London Zoological Gardens, before becoming the prized possession of notorious American showman P. T. Barnum. “Jumbomania” swept England, embroiled the Houses of Parliament, erupted into open warfare in the British and American press, and monopolized popular kitsch and culture. By the time Jumbo sailed into New York City in 1882, thousands scrambled for a chance to see “The Sun of the Amusement World.”

In this magnificent feat of historical fiction, Jumbo’s story is told by Little Eyes Nell Kelly, The World’s Smallest Singing, Dancing, Horse-riding Woman and Barnum’s star attraction. Initially jealous of her gargantuan new co-star, Nell keeps a close eye on Jumbo and his reclusive and dedicated trainer, Matthew Scott. But Nell soon realizes that she and Jumbo are simply two caged creatures in a circus full—and Jumbo’s confinement is slowly killing him. As The Greatest Show on Earth criss-crosses North America, Nell must brave greedy circus showmen, backstabbing trapeze artists, and the relentless pursuit of the cruel animal trainer, Elephant Bill, to keep the curtain from closing on her career—and her very life.

Taking readers from the deserts of Sudan to Buckingham Palace, to the manor houses of Connecticut and the dizzying heights of the Brooklyn Bridge, and every “one-saloon-three-church town” in between, **Jumbo** is a menagerie of riotous colour that brings Jumbo’s incredible story to life, and a masterful novel that explores exploitation, unrequited love, and the unbreakable bond between living things.

**Stephens Gerard Malone** wrote his first novel at twelve, inspired by a really nice cover on a book about Napoleon. Thankfully, it has not survived. His mom often helped retype later attempts using a rented IBM Selectric on the dining room table. When it all appeared to be in vain, Colleen McCullough (*The Thorn Birds*) told him to “keep plodding on.” So he did. The author of **Big Town** and **The History of Rain**—Jumbo is his sixth novel.

**Advance Praise**

“In Jumbo, Stephens Gerard Malone takes us backstage at the circus as well as deep into the recesses of the human heart. A story of the world’s tiniest woman and the world’s largest elephant, Malone’s deeply felt novel examines greed and cruelty, love and compassion, interspecies abuse and the tenacity of survivors. Moving, tender, and tough, Malone unwraps the Jumbo of myth and creates an unforgettable world. I loved this novel.”

— Beth Powning, bestselling author of *The Sea Captain’s Wife*
Roar
By Shelley Thompson

October 31, 2023 • paperback, flaps • $22.95 CA, $18.95 US

A novel inspired by the original screenplay for the award-winning feature film *Dawn, Her Dad & the Tractor*, about a young trans woman who returns to her family farm in the wake of her mother’s death, written by the celebrated actor and screenwriter Shelley Thompson.

The MacInnes family is grieving. The loss of Miranda has devastated her husband, John Andrew, her eldest daughter, Tammy, and her youngest child, Dawn. Not Donnie anymore but Dawn, like sunrise, who transitioned while her mother received cancer treatment—without the rest of the family knowing. Now, when Dawn leaves Halifax for rural Nova Scotia to attend her mother’s funeral, she knows she’ll be meeting her sister and father for the first time as herself.

With Dawn’s revelation, John Andrew and Tammy find themselves grieving for the son and brother they once knew, while Tammy’s fiancé, Byron, becomes an unexpected ally. Between the complicated reaction from her family, unwanted attention from local bigots, and whispers from curious neighbours, Dawn wonders if she can ever really come home.

A work of fierce allyship, of enduring love, and of gentle hope, *ROAR* follows a family through grief and estrangement as they become catalysts for change in their rural community. Told from multiple points of view, with confidence and tenderness, actor and screenwriter Shelley Thompson’s debut novel is profoundly authentic, drawing on her own experience as the mother of a trans child and a fierce activist for the trans community.

*Shelley Thompson* is an actor, screenwriter, and activist based in Wolfville, in Mi’kma’ki (NS). She trained at The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, the Canadian Film Centre, Women in the Director’s Chair, the New York Writers’ Lab, and the Whistler Producer’s Lab. As an actor she has received and been nominated for Gemini and ACTRA awards for her work in film and television, including *The Trailer Park Boys* and feature films *Splinters*, and *The Child Remains*, among others. Her short films have screened internationally and the most recent, *Duck Duck Goose*, won Best Atlantic Short at FIN Halifax, was selected by Telefilm Canada’s *Not Short on Talent* at Clermont-Ferrand, and was a finalist in CBC's Short Film Faceoff. Her first feature film, *Dawn, Her Dad & the Tractor*, premiered at INSIDE OUT International Film Festival in Toronto in May 2021, then at Halifax’s FIN International Film Festival in September 2021. It has since screened in Whistler, BC, Amsterdam’s Roze Filmdagen, the BFI Flare Film Festival in London, UK, as well as across the US and in Germany. Among many prizes and awards, the film recently won the 2022 Nova Scotia MasterWorks Award. Thompson is working on a full slate of projects for TV and cinema under the banner of her emerging production company, Rusty Tractor Productions Inc. A committed LGBTQ+2SP ally, Thompson is proud parent to singer/songwriter T. Thomason. *ROAR* is her first novel.

**Comparable titles**

*Crocuses Hatch from Snow*
Jaime Burnet
9781771087902
$22.95, paperback

*One Who Has Been Here Before*
Becca Babcock
9781771089296
$22.95, paperback
Lost & Found in Lunenburg
By Jane Doucet

October 3, 2023 • paperback • $22.95 CA, $17.95 US

A quirky, tender work of contemporary fiction about grief, love, and starting again at middle-age set in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, from the author of The Pregnant Pause and Fishnets & Fantasies.

“That’s the problem with loving someone, isn’t it?” said Margot with a ghost of a smile. “If you have a heartbeat, you’re bound to get your heart broken. Not just once, but over and over again… But the joy that happens in between the meetings and the partings makes it all worthwhile.”

Rose Ainsworth, the affable protagonist in Jane Doucet’s debut novel, The Pregnant Pause, is back in this candid, compelling look at midlife love, loss, and new beginnings. Rose and Jim, her husband of almost twenty years, have been living happily in Halifax, Nova Scotia, since moving from Toronto more than a decade earlier. With a satisfying career, two sweet rescue mutts, and her family nearby, Rose’s life is golden—until one day, her world unexpectedly implodes.

Widowed suddenly soon after her fiftieth birthday, Rose is addled by grief. Could that be why three months later, she decides to buy her friend Wendy Hebb’s sex shop in the tiny coastal community of Lunenburg? As she rushes to rent her house and store her belongings, her older sister, Daisy, worries that Rose is running away—from the home that she and Jim lived in together, and its constant reminders of what she’s lost.

When Rose lands in Lunenburg in a furnished condo with a year’s lease, a colourful cast of local characters keeps her from drowning in grief: a long-lost quirky cousin with a mysterious health condition; a busybody septuagenarian widow who pushes Rose to join a bereavement group; and a handsome restaurant owner who stirs feelings in Rose she isn’t ready to face.

As the condo’s lease creeps closer to its expiration date, Rose must make a choice—continue carving out her new life in Lunenburg, or move back to her Halifax home? Jane Doucet’s trademark heart and humour, along with the return of beloved characters from The Pregnant Pause and Fishnets & Fantasies, make Lost & Found in Lunenburg feel like a long-overdue catch-up with old friends.

Jane Doucet is a journalist whose articles have appeared in myriad national magazines, including Chatelaine and Canadian Living. In 2017, she self-published her debut novel, The Pregnant Pause, which was shortlisted for a 2018 Whistler Independent Book Award. Jane is thrilled that Vagrant Press has re-released The Pregnant Pause with a fresh new cover. In 2021, Vagrant published Jane’s second novel, Fishnets & Fantasies. Jane’s third novel, Lost & Found in Lunenburg, published in 2023, combines characters from her first two novels. Jane lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia, with her husband. To learn more about Jane and her books, visit janedoucet.com.

More from Jane
Murphy’s Logic
Insights from 45 Years in the News Business
By Steve Murphy; Foreword by Ian Hanomansing
October 17, 2023 • paperback, flaps • 20 b/w images, 8 page insert
$26.95 CA, $24.95 US

Former anchor of CTV News at Six Steve Murphy offers lessons learned and opinions garnered on the changing face of the news industry over his forty-five-year career in this candid memoir.

After a lifetime of reporting news and showcasing the opinions of others, Steve Murphy is finally ready to express his own opinions about the things he’s done and the people he’s met along the way.

*Murphy’s Logic* delves without reservation into Murphy’s informal education in broadcasting, beginning as a sixteen-year-old kid who “just wanted to be on the radio.” Mixing memoir and commentary, Murphy writes about his adventures covering significant regional, national, and international events and offers unique insight into the more than five thousand interviews he has conducted over his forty-five-year career—with five prime ministers, thirty-five premiers, and numerous historic figures and celebrities.

Both candid and brutally honest, *Murphy’s Logic* examines, for the first time, two high-profile occasions during which Murphy unintentionally—and uncomfortably—became part of the stories he was covering. He offers pointed views on how the proliferation of social media has dramatically affected the news industry, and challenges readers to think critically about the media they consume.

With more than forty images, including a colour photo insert, and featuring a foreword by Ian Hanomansing, *Murphy’s Logic* peers behind the curtain of the news business and offers readers rare insight into what Steve Murphy really thinks.

With a television and radio career spanning more than forty-five years, Steve Murphy is among Atlantic Canada’s best known broadcasters. Over the course of his career, he anchored thousands of newscasts and interviewed some of the most influential and interesting people of our time. He stepped down as anchor and executive editor of CTV News at Six in December 2021 and is now a special correspondent and commentator for the station. His previous works include *Live At Five: The Story Behind Its Success* and *Before the Camera: An Autobiography.*

Comparable Titles

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From Showing Off to Showing Up
Nancy Regan
9781774710319
$26.95, paperback

25 Years of 22 Minutes
Angela Mombourquette
9781771085403
$29.95, hardcover
The Last Epistle of Tightrope Time

By Walter Borden; Foreword by Astrid Brunner

September 26, 2023 • paperback, 16 b/w images • $16.95 CA, $14.95 US

A new and fully revised edition of the popular, long-running autobiographical play from celebrated playwright and actor Walter Borden, exploring his experiences as a Black gay man facing racism, poverty, and homophobia.

Welcome to The Last Epistle of Tightrope Time—a powerful autobiographical play and the story of Walter Borden’s life, his life’s work, and his letter to the world. Told through the voices of ten deeply etched, spellbinding characters, the Tightrope Time narrative has been shaped, formed, and re-formed through a continuous evolution over forty-eight years.

Here, in The Last Epistle of Tightrope Time, Borden reflects on the journey of his life and examines his experience as a Black gay man facing the challenges of racism, poverty, and homophobia. One of the first plays in the history of Black Canadian literature to examine themes around male homosexuality from a Black perspective, the work is a profound expression of the resiliency of the human spirit.

The play officially premiered as an NAC English Theatre Production curated by Black Theatre Workshop at Neptune Theatre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in September 2022. Featuring fifteen photos by Haui taken during the Neptune show, this new and fully revised edition (previously published as Tightrope Time: Ain’t Nuttin’ More Than Some Itty Bitty Madness Between Twilight & Down) brings readers face-to-face with Borden’s passion, anger, joy, despair—and love.

Walter Borden CM ONS, is an acclaimed and revered actor, activist, poet, teacher, and mentor. As a stage actor, he has left his signature imprint in all the major theatres in every province in the country, including five seasons at Stratford Festival. His artistry has earned him a Merritt Award, a META Award and a Dora nomination for Best Performance by an Actor, as well as a Quebec Cinema nomination for Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in Gerontophilia.

Walter Borden is a recipient of the Order of Canada, the Order of Nova Scotia, the Queen Elizabeth II Golden, Diamond and Platinum Jubilee Medals, the prestigious Portia White Prize, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Achievement Award, the Leslie Yeo Prize for Volunteerism, and two honorary doctorates. He is an inductee into the Dr. William P. Oliver Wall of Honour Society at the Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia.

Praise for The Last Epistle of Tightrope Time

“The Last Epistle of Tightrope Time is a one-man play, but its vision and scale are more akin to opera. It’s a big play and a pluralistic story that is embodied by one actor, who plays ten characters (male and female, divine and mortal, sacred and profane).

“We all travel a tightrope to get from where we were to where we want to go,” Walter says. “That’s the journey of life, and while travelling on that tightrope, all kinds of things can happen. The Last Epistle of Tightrope Time is Walter’s letter to the world.”

— Peter Hinton-Davis, Director Commentary
Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon
The Autobiography of Dr. Howard D. McCurdy
By Dr. Howard McCurdy with George Elliott Clarke

October 31, 2023 • paperback, flaps • 25 b/w images • $24.95 CA, $22.95 US

The long-overdue biography of one of Canada’s most iconic Black politicians and activists, written with the country’s former Parliamentary Poet Laureate.

“Dr. Howard McCurdy is the author of this autobiography. Period,” writes George Elliott Clarke in the introduction to Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon. “But in July 2017, seven months before his decease, he requested that I edit this work, which was already progressing toward a conclusion.”

McCurdy passed away in February 2018, and with the encouragement of McCurdy’s widow, Clarke took on the challenge of editing and completing the memoir. Fortunately, says Clarke, “The man can write, good people!... Howard delighted in the extemporaneous peroration, which, issuing in electrifying combustion out of heart and head, had audiences...presenting standing ovations so often that their chair seats never had a chance to warm.”

McCurdy indeed lived an extraordinary life. He was Canada’s first Black tenured professor; a founder of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association; a founder of the National Black Coalition of Canada; the person who named the New Democratic Party; the second Black elected to Parliament.

With twenty-five photos from McCurdy’s personal archive, Black Activist, Black Scientist, Black Icon illuminates and celebrates the life of one of Canada’s most worthy figures.

Says Clarke: “Dr. Howard McCurdy was exemplary in self-sacrifice; he was stellar in avant-garde thought and vision; he was...the most unforgettabley proud Black man that I ever had the pleasure to know.”

Howard Douglas McCurdy, C.M., O.Ont., Ph.D. (1932–2018), was a citizen of distinction: Canada’s first Black tenured professor; a founder of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association; a founder of the National Black Coalition of Canada; the person who named the New Democratic Party; the second Black elected to Parliament; etc. An international human rights activist, respected microbiologist, and phenomenal orator, McCurdy racked up headlines, whether he was at a microscope or at a microphone.

The fascinating cultural history of classical music in Nova Scotia, from 1749 to present day, in honour of Symphony Nova Scotia’s fortieth anniversary.

Music has been a significant part of life in Mi’kma’ki for many thousands of years, and classical music in particular since the founding of Halifax in 1749. Musicians of various European origins brought their instruments, musical traditions, and tastes with them, and their commitment to and joy of music-making planted the seeds for the vibrant Symphony Nova Scotia we know today. The region’s musical story is a testament to the hard work and creativity of the musicians who have shared their music so generously over the centuries, the instrument makers, composers, and music teachers who worked alongside them, and the scores of dedicated community volunteers who supported them. This book tells their stories.

*Symphony Nova Scotia at 40: A Milestone of Musical History* marks the fortieth anniversary of Symphony Nova Scotia and offers a fascinating cultural history that explores in three parts how the region’s musical past laid the ground for the orchestra’s future. The book features dozens of archival images, a foreword by world-renowned Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster, and an introduction by SNS Music Director Holly Mathieson. Written by long-time Symphony Nova Scotia supporters and board members Mary Lu MacDonald (an historian), Adrian Hoffman (a musician), and Jane Gordon (a sociologist), *Symphony Nova Scotia at 40* is a one-of-a-kind collector’s item and a treasured keepsake for all lovers of orchestral music and Nova Scotia’s rich cultural history.

**Mary Lu MacDonald** has a doctorate in pre-Confederation Canadian history. She has published three books and multiple articles in her field. She has served for a decade on the board of the Scotia Festival of Music. As a member of the board of directors for Symphony Nova Scotia, she served on the Program Advisory Committee and began work on a history of the organization and the development of symphonic music in Halifax.

**Adrian Hoffman** studied cello, trombone, composition, and opera direction at the New England Conservatory of Music, then freelanced with the Boston Pops Orchestra (Arthur Fiedler), the Boston Ballet Co., the Boston Opera Co., and the Boston Philharmonic. He moved to Canada in 1969 to join the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra as a trombonist, then also served the ASO as a composer, arranger, librarian, personnel supervisor, and occasional conductor. In 1978 he became executive producer of CBC Radio Music & Arts. He went on to produce and host *All the Best* and *Musically Yours*. He is the chair of the Program Advisory Committee for Symphony Nova Scotia.

**Jane Gordon** retired after thirty-seven years as a faculty member at Mount St. Vincent University in the Sociology-Anthropology Department, cross-appointed to Women’s Studies. She is now a professor emeritus. Jane has volunteered with community boards including the Nova Scotia Kiwanis Music Festival, the Early Music Society of Nova Scotia, and the Halifax Summer Opera Festival. In memory of her husband, Jane donated money to Symphony Nova Scotia to commission a piece of music to be performed by the orchestra: *Halifax Harbour* by Elizabeth Raum. She also developed the Maria Anna Mozart Award. Dr. Gordon joined the board of Symphony Nova Scotia in 2018 with her term ending in 2023.
Gutsy
Living My Best Life with Crohn’s Disease & Ulcerative Colitis
By Heather Fegan

October 17, 2023 • paperback • 12 b/w images • $22.95 CA, $18.95 US

A personal story of navigating Crohn’s Disease that includes insights from experts, demystifying Inflammatory Bowel Disease and offering readers a relatable, honest resource.

Heather Fegan was fifteen years old when she was tentatively diagnosed with Ulcerative Colitis. It started with a pain in her side. The dull ache turned into sharp, stabbing pains and wrenching cramps that clenched and tightened every time she ate. The diagnosis would change her life, but by the time she was nineteen she learned that she actually had another serious form of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD): Crohn’s.

There is no cure, no known cause, and little public understanding of the pain, chronic suffering, and isolation IBD patients cope with every day of their lives. Canada has among the world’s highest IBD incidence rates—and Nova Scotia’s rate is the highest in the world.

In Gutsy: Living My Best Life with Crohn’s Disease & Ulcerative Colitis, journalist, freelance writer, blogger—and past president of the Halifax chapter of Crohn’s and Colitis Canada—Heather Fegan weaves her personal experience of living with Crohn’s with expert insights from doctors, nurse practitioners, dietitians, and researchers. Honest and optimistic, with a dozen photos from her personal journey, Gutsy brings a fresh new perspective to demystifying Inflammatory Bowel Disease.

Heather Fegan is a freelance journalist and writer. She is a graduate of the University of King’s College School of Journalism. Heather has been a storyteller since age five, regaling her family with “updates” in her own “Heather Chronicles.” Gutsy, which explores her personal experience of navigating Crohn’s Disease over twenty-five years, is her debut book. She lives in Halifax, NS, with her husband and two daughters. Follow her chronicles at heatherfegan.ca and @theheatherchronicles.

Comparable Titles

A Womb in the Shape of a Heart
Joanne Gallant
9781771089760
$22.95, paperback

Transplanted
Allison Watson
9781771087179
$17.95, paperback
Four Seasons of Nova Scotia

By Len Wagg

September 19, 2023 • hardcover • 100+ colour photographs • $29.95 CA/US

National bestselling author—photographer behind Stay the Blazes Home depicts Nova Scotia through all four seasons in this stunning photography book.

Nova Scotia is a stunning province whose landscapes and seascapes take on new subtleties of light, new focal points, and even new meaning with the change of seasons. In Four Seasons of Nova Scotia, bestselling photographer—writer Len Wagg showcases the beauty of Nova Scotia’s landscapes in spring, summer, fall, and winter. With his eye for the spectacular and his exhaustive knowledge of the province’s hidden and not-so-hidden gems, Wagg offers a unique take on the places and sights we see every day and captures the unexpected power of Nova Scotia through every season.

Featuring more than 100 stunning colour photos, Four Seasons of Nova Scotia provides a refreshingly original view of Nova Scotia’s always-stunning scenery.

Len Wagg is the author of ten books, including Nova Scotia at Night, Nova Scotia from the Air, and the national bestseller Stay the Blazes Home: Dispatches from Nova Scotia during the COVID-19 Pandemic. His photographs have appeared in such publications as the New York Times, Time Magazine, and Maclean’s. The recipient of numerous Atlantic Journalism Awards, in 2008 Len also won the Mayor’s Award for Excellence in Book Illustration for Wild Nova Scotia, his photographic portrait of the province’s protected areas. He lives near Halifax, Nova Scotia. For more information, visit lenwagg.com.

More from Wagg

Nova Scotia from the Air

9781771087452
$29.95, hardcover

Nova Scotia at Night

9781771085229
$29.95, hardcover
Scuba diver and author of Atlantic’s Last Stop uses records and personal experience to examine the vessels in Halifax Harbour on the day of the 1917 Explosion to uncover what happened that day—and why.

On the morning of December 6, 1917, ships and boats were in constant movement in Halifax Harbour. The First World War was in its fourth year and Halifax, the closest mainland North American naval port to Europe, was feeling its effect.

At 8:45 A.M., the SS Mont-Blanc and the SS Imo collided. Minutes later, a powerful explosion devastated the city. Not only were homes and businesses devastated and civilians killed; when the explosion occurred, there were roughly two hundred vessels in the harbour, from warships to fishing schooners, coming and going with people and goods that had to get to Europe to support the war. Some were destroyed, ending up at the bottom of the harbour. Of the nearly two thousand people who lost their lives that day, hundreds were sailors and others associated with those ships.

Using primary historical records and drawing on the author’s personal experience of more than twelve hundred dives in Halifax Harbour, The Dangerous Harbour: Revealing the Unknown Ships and Wrecks of the Halifax Explosion examines who was on the harbour that day and what became of the vessels in the vicinity of the explosion. With twenty black-and-white images, including many underwater photos, The Dangerous Harbour examines what happened to those ships and sailors and explores what actually happened on the day of the Halifax Explosion—and why.

Bob Chaulk is a Halifax writer and recreational scuba diver. This is his sixth book about Atlantic Canada and the sea, two of which focused on the more than 1,200 dives he has done in Halifax Harbour, including the area where the Halifax Explosion occurred.
Mitji—Let’s Eat!

Mi’kmaq Recipes from Sikniktuk

By Margaret Augustine & Lauren Beck, Photos by Patricia Bourque

October 24, 2023 • paperback w/ flaps • 50+ colour images • $34.95 CA/US

An intergenerational source of wisdom and knowledge, Mitji combines a cultural history of Mi’kmaq cuisine with a practical cookbook.

The welcome call of “Mitji” can be heard by Mi’kmaq children, hungry workers, family, and friends when dinner is ready. This book, too, is an invitation to celebrate and practice Mi’kmaq foodways: the recipes passed down from one generation to the next; the way traditional foods and medicines are gathered, hunted, and cooked; and the lived experience of ancestors and Elders about how to nourish the spirit and body through Mi’kmaq culture and knowledge.

Mitji—Let’s Eat! Mi’kmaq Recipes from Sikniktuk offers over 30 traditional and popular Mi’kmaq recipes, arranged seasonally—like Fish Cakes and Eel Stew in spring; Blueberry “Poor Man’s Cake” and Stuffed Salmon in summer; Swiss Steak with Moose Meat and Apple Pie in fall; and Molasses Cake and Wiusey Petaqn in winter.

Each recipe is contextualized with its origins, contributor information, food stories, and detailed preparation instructions, and throughout the book are short essays on Mi’kmaq cuisine, drawing a picture of how Mi’kmaq foodways were influenced by colonization, on the one hand, and how food became and remains a significant vehicle of resistance, on the other. Whether a novice or well-seasoned cook, Mitji is a feast for the reader: a bountiful introduction to, and celebration of, Mi’kmaq cuisine.

Margaret Augustine was born in Malta and first made a connection with Atlantic Canada when she started her Master’s degree in Island Studies at the University of Prince Edward Island, which is where she met her now-husband, Dr. Patrick Augustine, of Elsipogtog First Nation. Margaret has been a community member in Elsipogtog for many years. There, she has taught in the Aotiitj programme, which is destined for youth interested in pursuing higher education at St. Thomas University, and she has spent much time among the Elders in the community learning from their wisdom.

Dr. Lauren Beck came to the Atlantic region when she was hired as a Professor by Mount Allison University. She researches visual and material culture of the Atlantic world and teaches courses on food and on subjects relating to settler colonialism and decolonization. She is married to Rob LeBlanc (St. Thomas University), who teaches in the Aotiitj programme at Elsipogtog First Nation.

Patricia Bourque is Mi’kmaq First Nation of Lennox Island First Nation, from Epekwitk also known as Prince Edward Island, located in the traditional territory of Mi’kma’ki. Her work is driven by her love and passion for Mi’kmaq traditional cultural events, live music performances, community events, Island life and the beautiful landscapes and characters around her. She sits on the board of directors for The Guild and the East Coast Music Association. She has exhibited her photography at The Guild, the Confederation of the Arts, and Eptek Art & Culture Centre and is part of public collections on the Island and in the Confederation Centre of the Arts.
When the Owl Calls Your Name
By Alan Syliboy
November 7, 2023 • hardcover • colour illustrations • $22.95 CA, $17.95 US
“The Owl Song” by Alan Syliboy & the Thundermakers is now a gorgeously illustrated book for all ages, exploring Mi’kmaw spirituality, life and death.

They say when the Owl calls your name
that the Creator is calling you home.

And when the owl comes to you,
he sits and waits until your final breath.
Then your journey begins.

From bestselling author Alan Syliboy (Mi’kmaw Daily Drum, Wolverine and Little Thunder, The Thundermaker) comes a beautiful new book exploring spirituality, mortality and grieving. An illustrated extended version of his popular song “The Owl Song,” it features imagery inspired by his band Alan Syliboy & The Thundermakers’ performance material and an author’s note on Mi’kmaw tradition and Syliboy’s own personal experiences with death. This book for all ages is a poignant depiction of what might happen when the Owl calls your name, and you begin your journey home to the ancestors.

Artist Alan Syliboy studied privately with Shirley Bear and attended the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, where twenty-five years later, he was invited to sit on the Board of Governors. Alan looks to the indigenous Mi’kmaw petroglyph tradition for inspiration and develops his own artistic vocabulary out of those forms. This is his fifth children’s book. He lives in Truro, Nova Scotia.

More from Alan

Kaqtukowatekete’w/
The Thundermaker牢记
Translated by Lindsay R. Marshall
9781771086196
$14.95, paperback

Wolverine and Little Thunder
9781774710906
$14.95, paperback

Artist Alan Syliboy studied privately with Shirley Bear and attended the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, where twenty-five years later, he was invited to sit on the Board of Governors. Alan looks to the indigenous Mi’kmaw petroglyph tradition for inspiration and develops his own artistic vocabulary out of those forms. This is his fifth children’s book. He lives in Truro, Nova Scotia.

Interiors
When the Ocean Came to Town

Text by Sal Sawler; Art by Emma FitzGerald

October 3, 2023 • paperback • colour illustrations • $13.95 CA, $9.95 US

A love letter to the ocean, and to adapting to climate change, the newest picture book by award-winning creators Sal Sawler and Emma FitzGerald will inspire young readers to build better solutions, and communities.

Gretchen loves the ocean. She dreams of going to the beach on her own, with no one to make her leave before she’s ready. But between whispers of oil, plastic, and a rising sea, her parents warn her not to underestimate the strength of the water. A great storm is coming and everyone, big and small, must prepare to meet it when it does.

Gretchen soon sees the ocean’s power firsthand when the tides rise high enough to threaten her home. Can she help her neighbours rebuild after the storm is over, or is the damage too great?

With a strong message of community-building and climate activism, this charming debut children’s picture book from celebrated author Sal Sawler and award-winning illustrator Emma FitzGerald will inspire young readers to rebuild better, together.

Sal Sawler is the award-winning author of four books including this one. They worked with YouTube star Frankie MacDonald to write Be Prepared: The Frankie MacDonald Guide to Life, the Weather, and Everything, which won a Moonbeam Children’s Award, and was shortlisted for Yellow Cedar and Hackmatack Awards. They also wrote 100 Things You Don’t Know About Atlantic Canada — For Kids, which was also shortlisted for a Hackmatack Award. If they aren’t busy writing, they’re probably marketing or editing a graphic novel for Conundrum Press, facilitating a workshop, or daydreaming about ocean waterslides. They live and work in Kjipuktuk/Halifax.
salsawler.com

Emma FitzGerald was born in Lesotho, a small mountainous kingdom in Southern Africa, to Irish parents, did most of her growing up in Vancouver, and calls Halifax home. She wrote and illustrated Hand Drawn Halifax, Sketch by Sketch Along Nova Scotia’s South Shore, Hand Drawn Vancouver, and has illustrated the Ann Connor Brimer Award–winning EveryBody’s Different on EveryBody Street and A Pocket of Time, which was shortlisted for the 2020 Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award. When she isn’t sketching, she enjoys dancing and getting lost in new places.

More with Sal

Be Prepared! Frankie MacDonald 9781771085755 $16.95, paperback
My Favourite Colour
Text by Lindsay Ruck; Art by Bryanna Chapeskie

October 24, 2023 • paperback • colour illustrations • $13.95 CA

A fun, rhyming read-aloud celebrating diversity, and a tool for teaching young readers the names of all the colours of the rainbow.

Blue’s my favourite colour!
It really is the best.
I love my lucky socks.
Blue’s better than the rest.
Although...

What’s your favourite colour? When a teacher asks her students this question, one little girl just can’t decide! Enter her vibrant imagination as she considers every colour and all the reasons that she loves the whole rainbow. Orange glows through autumn leaves, but pink is the colour of sunsets and cotton candy! And green shines all around the garden—how will she ever choose just one favourite colour?

In her debut picture book, author Lindsay Ruck joins artist Bryanna Chapeskie to create a stunning poem that illustrates why being unique is always something to celebrate.

Lindsay Ruck is an author and editor from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. She studied journalism at Carleton University’s School of Journalism in Ottawa before returning to her home province to continue her writing career. Lindsay’s first book for younger readers, Amazing Black Atlantic Canadians (2020), was nominated for a Hackmatack Book Award. Visit lindsayruck.ca for more information on current titles and upcoming events.

Bryanna Chapeskie is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer living in Nova Scotia. Her work is inspired by daily observations, children’s books, and the natural world. She balances her time between freelance design and illustration projects, and has recently returned to her first love: painting. She looks forward to continuing her creative journey, and is grateful to her friends, family, and community for their continued support and encouragement.

Wild About Camping
Text by Jane Whittingham
9781774710432
$13.95, paperback
While You Were Sleeping

By Briana Corr Scott

September 19, 2023 • hardcover, colour illustrations • $22.95 CA, $17.95 US

A nostalgic bedtime book featuring lyrical text and gentle illustrations from the celebrated author of Wildflower.

From celebrated author and artist Briana Corr Scott (She Dreams of Sable Island, The Book of Selkie) comes a nostalgic bedtime story that celebrates the milestones of growing up.

From the earliest days, when baby is asleep in a wrap or sling, to their first night in a crib, to their very own big-kid bed, before finally moving to an adult bed of their own, While You Were Sleeping follows a diverse range of families from childhood to adulthood, highlighting the unsung activities parents engage in while their young ones are asleep. Whether it’s wallpapering their baby’s bedroom, making lunches for school, earning degrees, washing dishes, or taking their child for a soothing walk in the stroller.

Featuring vibrant oil illustrations in Corr Scott’s uniquely warm and whimsical style and showcasing a range of family makeups, from single-parent to multigenerational, and including caregivers of various ages and gender expressions, this gentle, lyrical book offers a fresh, modern perspective on how both children and their parents grow up, together.

Briana Corr Scott paints and writes from her home studio in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, where she lives with her husband and three children. Her paintings and stories capture the beauty of the natural world, particularly the overlooked details in the weeds and flowers found along the Nova Scotia coast. She is also the author of Mermaid Lullaby, Wildflower, The Twelve Days of Christmas, The Book of Selkie, and She Dreams of Sable Island.

Interiors
The Old Oak Tree

Text by Hilary Briar; Music by Reid Briar; Art by Angela Doak

September 5, 2023 • colour collage illustrations
$22.95 CA, $17.95 US (limited-edition hardcover) • $13.95 CA, $9.95 US (paperback)

A musical tale in verse following a robin through a year of seasons in her oak tree home, and a tender-hearted exploration of the cycle of life, featuring delicate paper-collage illustrations.

Once there was a robin
As happy as could be
Because she lived up in the branches
Of an old oak tree

An old oak tree
A strong oak tree
The happiest oak
That you ever did see

This musical tale follows a robin as she makes her home in an old oak tree, a tree that shelters her and many other creatures—from squirrels to foxes to bears!—from many storms, and for many seasons. Until one night, when a terrible storm comes. When the tree falls, robin and all of the other animals who have relied on the tree must say goodbye. As the season turns from winter back to spring, the tree, now a nurse log, becomes home to a new kind of life.

A tender-hearted story gently exploring the cycle of life and death and rebirth, The Old Oak Tree can be read as either a song or a verse story, and features tactile recycled-paper artwork from celebrated artist Angela Doak (My First Book of Canadian Birds) and sheet music for budding musicians who want to play along.

Hilary and Reid Briar have made a cozy home in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley with their son and a raggle-taggle crew of animal friends. Reid is an elementary school music teacher and Hilary works for the regional public library.

Angela Doak is a collage artist and photographer. All of her work is done first as a collage, made up of fabric, candy and gum wrappers, misprints, junk mail, and just about anything else that fits the image she's making. She is also the illustrator of After it Rains, Atlantic Animal ABC, and My First Book of Canadian Birds. Angela lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia, with her husband and two children.
Out of the Dark
By Julie Lawson
September 26, 2023 • paperback • $14.95 CA, $10.95 US

A follow-up of the bestselling, Geoffrey Bilson Award– and Victoria Book Prize–nominated A Blinding Light, focusing on the aftermath of the Halifax Explosion and the onset of the Great Influenza Pandemic.

When Jane Mooney’s older brother Connor lies about his age and enlists in the Great War at age fifteen, she can’t imagine ever being more devastated. But on December 6, 1917, when two ships collide in Halifax Harbour, the resulting explosion proves her wrong.

An injured Jane awakes to discover that the North End of Halifax, including her home, has been destroyed; her father and three of her brothers have been killed; her mother, recovering from a head injury, has been left confused and forgetful; and her two surviving brothers are looking to her for guidance. Like so many Explosion survivors, Jane and her family are forced to start over. This means accommodation in a newly-constructed apartment block, clothing and furniture from donation centres, and a new school. Unfortunately for Jane, the school she must now attend is in the prosperous South End. How will she fit in with her uppity classmates?

The only bright light is that Jane now lives closer to her best friend, Livy Schneider. Livy’s older brother, Will, a student at the same school, gives Jane a job at the school newspaper. The start of the 1918 school year appears more hopeful until Jane hears rumblings of a new enemy at their door—and this one is contagious. The Great Influenza Pandemic has reached Halifax’s vulnerable shores. In a time of financial and emotional strain, and with this terrifying new threat, how will Jane keep her family safe? And why hasn’t Connor written to her? Will he ever return from the trenches?

Following in the immediate wake of A Blinding Light, with a universal message of hope and determination, Out of the Dark uses dual point of view to tell a remarkable story of rebuilding and resilience in a time of global upheaval.

Julie Lawson is the author of over 30 books for children and young adults. Her critically acclaimed works have received numerous award nominations, including the Children’s Book Centre Award for A Blinding Light, the Canadian Library Association Award for White Jade Tiger, and Forest of Reading Awards for Goldstone, Ghosts of the Titanic, A Ribbon of Shining Steel, and many more. Her YA novels include White Jade Tiger (winner of the Sheila A. Egoff BC Children’s Fiction Prize), No Safe Harbour (winner of the Hackmattack Children’s Choice Award) and A Blinding Light (runner-up for the City Of Victoria Bolen Books Prize). Julie writes from her home in Victoria, BC.

Praise for A Blinding Light
“... A wonderful and beautifully written novel. The appealing main characters, emotional realism, and searing descriptions make this dramatic event immediate and unforgettable.”
— Kit Pearson, winner of the Governor-General’s Award for Children’s Literature

“A fascinating look at one of the world’s worst maritime disasters as seen through the eyes of two thoughtful, sympathetic siblings.”
— Andreas Oertel, author of Prisoner of Warren

“... Solidly grounded with believable and appealing main characters, the story weaves the many threads together artfully, presenting a finely tuned, engaging historic tale.”
— Booklist
Keepers of the Pact
By Karen Kelloway
August 8, 2023 • paperback • $14.95 CA, $12.95 US
A thrilling middle-grade adventure set in Newfoundland, featuring mermaids, intrepid explorers, and ancient secrets.

Every town has a secret. And Brigus in Newfoundland and Labrador is no different. For hundreds of years the Pact of Protection has held, and the seaside fishing town has guarded an ancient and dangerous knowledge. But when business tycoon Mr. Grey begins blasting rock for a tunnel, it’s more than rock that is blown apart: the pact itself is weakened and bits of the secret begin to slip out.

In their search for hidden pirate treasure, twelve-year-old Alistair and his friends Ben and Sadie stumble into the middle of this mystery. The more they learn about the pact, the more the shrieking song, the unexplained leaks in fishing vessels, and the mystery ship in the harbour begin to make sense.

Partnering with the pact keepers, Alistair, Ben, and Sadie must re-instate the agreement for the benefit of all. If they don’t, a lot more than a few ships will be harmed. Everything the good people of Brigus understand about the sea could be in danger.

A magical middle grade novel full of intrigue and adventure, Keepers of the Pact will inspire bravery in intrepid explorers and mystery seekers everywhere.

After reading Harry Potter, Percy Jackson, and The Land of Stories, the author’s son said, “I've run out of things to read. Why can’t I find more books about kids my age who love adventure?” So, Karen Kelloway wrote Keepers of the Pact. The good news? Not only does the author’s son, Tristan, approve, but so does her daughter, Gabrielle. In her other life, Karen is the Founder/CEO of the Career Story Project. She works with organizations, executives, and entrepreneurs to create a rewarding career path and believes in the power of storytelling to learn life lessons. Karen lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia, with her husband, two teenagers, and their fluffy black-and-white Havanese, Chewie. Find her at karenkelloway.com.

Comparable Titles
Lore Isle
Jiin Kim
9781774711927
$14.95, paperback

Wild Ghost Chase
Deborah Toogood
9781774710746
$12.95, paperback
Lexicon 21
Puzzles to Challenge & Entertain
By Theresa Williams
September 12, 2023 • paperback • $10.95 CA/US

21st volume of popular puzzles for all ages!
Theresa Williams’s lexicon puzzles have been hugely popular since they were first published by the Halifax Chronicle-Herald in 1988. Half-crossword, half-word search, the lexicon engages and entertains fans of all ages. Puzzle buffs will delight in this opportunity to try 52 all-new puzzles.

Born in Halifax, Theresa Williams now lives with her husband, David, in Truro, Nova Scotia. She is the Human Resources Manager with the Halifax Herald Limited and a graduate of Saint Mary’s University. When not working or making lexicon puzzles, she enjoys running, gardening, and spending time with her family and friends.

More puzzle fun from Theresa

The Hector Ship Tartan Journal
By Gresham Publishing and Nimbus Publishing
July 1, 2023 • clothbound • $34.95 CA

A beautiful tartan journal to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Hector Ship's arrival from Scotland to Nova Scotia.

Voyaging all the way from Loch Broom, Scotland, the Hector dropped anchor on September 15, 1773, in Pictou, Nova Scotia. There are more than 140,000 descendants of the Hector’s passengers in Canada and the USA. The arduous Atlantic crossing lasted eleven weeks, and the story of the voyage is included in the journal's very own mini 32-page book about the Hector.

Celebrate the 250th anniversary of this amazing story with this gorgeous journal.

More Nova Scotia tartan notebooks

NS Tartan NB- Large
9781771089012
$29.95, clothbound

NS Tartan NB- Pocket
9781771089029
$19.95, clothbound

NS Tartan NB- Mini
9781771089036
$16.95, clothbound
Black Girl, Black Girl

Text by Angela Bowden; Art by Letitia Fraser

September 12, 2023 • hardcover, colour illustrations • $24.95 CA, $18.95 US

A vibrantly illustrated picture book celebrating Black girl power from celebrated spoken-word poet Angela Bowden and rising-star artist Letitia Fraser.

Girly or braided with cowrie shells
Cornrows of history her magic tells
Of dreadlocks Bantu knots and stunning afros
Bonnets and wraps with a beautiful bow
Black Girl, Black Girl

A powerful message of self-love for melanated girls of all shades, hair textures, sizes, expressions, ages, and passions, this musical work of spoken-word poetry explores all the lives a Black girl can dream of—from athletics to STEAM-related careers, journalism and law, art and medicine, and more. Through vibrant, colourful artwork, young readers will recognize illustrations of famous Black women from across North America, like Simone Biles, Drs. Angela Davis, Mayann Francis, and Carrie Best, alongside local heroines from Nova Scotia’s historic Black communities.

Encouraging imagination, confidence, and being your whole authentic self, this bold and beautiful read-aloud will inspire Black girls everywhere to reclaim their space in the world, and lift each other up in the process.

Angela Bowden is an African Nova Scotian poet, author, TEDx speaker, writer, and activist. A descendent of the stolen Africans sold through the transatlantic slave trade, her roots were preserved through the Black Loyalists’ arrival in Birchtown and subsequent migrations to Guysborough County and New Glasgow, where she was born and raised. Her ongoing work and published book of poetry, UnSpoken Truth: unmuted and unfiltered, highlights, documents, and challenges systemic and overt racism entrenched in Nova Scotia. A strong advocate of self-care, she encourages self-love, self-empowerment, deep healing, and change. Angela writes in many genres; Black Girl, Black Girl is her first children’s book.

Letitia Fraser is an interdisciplinary artist with a focus in painting and textile. Born and raised in Halifax Nova Scotia, Letitia is also a proud descendant of North Preston. She is a graduate of NSCAD University, and draws inspiration for her paintings from her family and community’s history of quilting. Her artwork has been featured in exhibits at the Black Cultural Centre of Nova Scotia, the Freedom Festival Art Exhibit, in magazines and books, and has received the Nova Scotia Arts Endowment Fund Scholarship and the 2018 RBC Emerging Artist Award from Nova Scotia Talent Trust. She was longlisted for the 2022 Sobey Art Award. Fraser continues her practice in Halifax, NS.

Comparable Titles

Amazing Black Atlantic Canadians

Text by Lindsay Ruck
Art by James Bentley
9781771089173
$19.95, paperback

TD Summer Reading Club selection
Shortlisted for the Hackmatack Awards

Interiors
A Matter of Equality
The Life’s Work of Senator Don Oliver (paperback edition)
By Don Oliver; Foreword by Brian Mulroney & George Elliott Clarke
February 22, 2023 • paperback • new colour photographs • $24.95 CA/US
A paperback edition of the celebrated autobiography of former Canadian Senator, lawyer, and outspoken spokesperson for diversity and minority advancement, detailing his life as a Black man working within the system to bring change to Nova Scotia and beyond.

Growing up in the only Black family in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Donald Oliver felt duty-bound to honour his great-grandparents, who had fled slavery in the US. His childhood, surrounded by music, family, and respected, hard-working role models, was idyllic. His family’s fundamental family creed was “work hard, be humble, love the Lord, and do all you can to help other people.”

Donald Oliver would go on to embody those values in a big way. In his long-anticipated memoir, Oliver, now retired, looks back at a life lived in service to others. In his own careful and thoughtful words, he examines his days as a lawyer, an outspoken social activist, and a teacher, and of course he reflects on his twenty-three years of service as a member of the Senate of Canada. A diplomat to his core, Donald Oliver has dedicated his life to rooting out the systemic racism that has stalled the growth of Canada’s Black citizens — his work a testament to the truth that Black Lives Matter. Now, through dozens of black and white and colour images, and thorough intimate, personal reflections, A Matter of Equality examines the legacy of the first man, and the second Canadian, to bring the Black experience directly to the upper house.

The Honourable Donald H. Oliver, CM, ONS, QC, retired as a member of the Senate of Canada in 2013 after twenty-three years of service. He now resides at his beloved farm in Pleasant River, Queens County, Nova Scotia. Oliver rose to serve with distinction as Deputy Speaker in the Senate of Canada, as Chairman of six standing committees of Parliament; as Chairman or Deputy Chairman of seven inter-parliamentary associations; and as a ubiquitous spokesperson for diversity, pluralism, fairness and equality, for which he was awarded five Honorary Doctorate degrees from Canadian Universities.

Grandma Says
Weather Lore from Meteorologist Cindy Day
By Cindy Day
October 1, 2023 • paperback • 40+ b/w images • $22.95 CA/US
The bestselling book by celebrated meteorologist Cindy Day is back in stock!

On Cindy Day’s grandmother’s farm, the weather wasn’t predicted with a computer or official forecast, but by accumulated wisdom and careful observation. Cindy’s grandma was a constant prognosticator, making predictions about the weather that more often than not, proved correct!

Grandma Says is a collection of 80 weather-related sayings that Cindy recalls from her grandmother. Experienced meteorologist Cindy Day explains the science behind this traditional weather lore, and over 40 accent illustrations complement the text.

Cindy Day grew up on a dairy farm in Bainsville, Ontario, surrounded by nature and influenced by wise parents and a grandmother with a keen sense for forecasting the weather. She has been a meteorologist for over thirty years, working for CTV News Atlantic, Saltwire, and working on her own multi-platform approach to meteorology-delivery with Weather by Day.
Foin d’odeur [Sweetgrass]
French edition
Text by Theresa Meuse; Art by Jessica Jerome
May 12, 2023 • paperback • colour illustrations • $13.95 CA

The French edition of the celebrated third book of the Indigenous Knowledge Series following a young boy and his Auntie as they gather and braid sweetgrass, one of the four sacred medicines.

It’s early July, and for Matthew and his Auntie that means one thing: time to go sweetgrass picking. This year, Matthew’s younger cousin Warren is coming along, and it will be his first time visiting the shoreline where the sweetgrass grows.

With Auntie’s traditional Mi’kmaq knowledge and Matthew’s gentle guidance, Warren learns about the many uses for sweetgrass—as traditional medicine, a sacred offering, a smudging ingredient—and the importance of not picking more than he needs. Once the trio is back at Auntie’s house, she shows the boys how to clean and braid the grass.

This heartfelt story about the gifts we receive from Mother Earth and how to gather them respectfully offers thoughtful insight into a treasured Mi’kmaq tradition.

Born and raised in the Bear River First Nation, Theresa Meuse is a First Nation educator and advisor. The author of The Sharing Circle, The Gathering and L’N’uk, she has also contributed to the Mi’kmaq Anthology and L’sitkuk. Theresa lives in Elmsdale.

Jessica Jerome is a two-spirit graphic designer, born in the Listuguj Mi’kmaq First Nation, and raised as a member of the Gesgapegiag Band along the banks of the Gaspé Coast. Originally introduced to art as a way of dealing with grief, Jessica quickly became a skilled artist, earning certificates in visual arts, communications, and graphic design. Her artwork is displayed in galleries and privately owned. She lives in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia.

Gadzooks the Christmas Goose
(paperback edition)
Text by Jennifer McGrath; Art by Ivan Murphy
October 1, 2023 • paperback • colour illustrations • $13.95 CA

Award-winning author Jennifer McGrath’s story and Ivan Murphy’s humorous and energetic illustrations combine to make this a charming Christmas tale, now in paperback!

Corina lives with her grandparents in Shepody Bay. One day close to Christmas, a big storm blows in an injured Canada goose. Corina immediately warms to the bird and wants to nurse it back to health, but her grumpy grandfather wants to cook the goose for Christmas dinner. The bird gets up to all kinds of mischief—spooking the cows while Granddad is milking them, sabotaging Christmas decorations, and eating all of Grandma’s pies. Can Corina keep the cheeky bird safe from her curmudgeonly grandfather?

Jennifer McGrath is a professional writer and award-winning children’s author from Moncton, New Brunswick. Her two Middle Grade adventure books, Chocolate River Rescue and White Cave Escape, are popular with teachers and students alike. Jennifer is known for her enthusiastic storytelling style, her fascination with fairytales, and her fondness for sparkly things. She loves animals (especially dogs and ponies), the outdoors, and curling up in front of the fire with a good book.

Ivan Murphy’s work has appeared in adult and children’s fiction and non-fiction books as well as in publications for Symphony Nova Scotia, Canada Post, and the Atlantic Film Festival. He lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
Sweet Brackish Salt

By Marike Finlay

September 15, 2023 • paperback • $21.95 CA, $18.95 US

Sweet Brackish Salt is a quest novel told from the perspective of a gender non-conforming sea-farer who works through various myths, encounters and kinds of water — sweet, brackish and salt — to arrive at a more robust and nuanced self-understanding.

Setting out in the off-season for the Great Lakes (Sweet), the narrator initially tries on various forms of idealized self-sufficiency and heroism typical of masculinist sea stories. Such projects soon founder, however, in the Chesapeake (Brackish), as she begins to learn what it means to navigate history and to care and take care in the face of life and death. These lessons are not enough, though; it will take the help of an entire rural coastal community in Nova Scotia (Salt) to bring an old wooden schooner to life again, and along with it, another model for making, being and sailing. In this tale a skipper is not a hero but a diva who turns traumatic events into yarns; she can also only really sail away once she admits to how much she needs the company and support of others on land.

Marike Finlay has skippered sailing voyages from the Great Lakes to the Caribbean along the Canadian and American eastern seaboard. After teaching literature and communications at McGill University for two decades, working as a psychoanalyst and developing an organic farm in Quebec, she moved to Nova Scotia’s Eastern Shore where, when not voyaging, she works as a writer and an environmental and rural coastal activist. The author of numerous academic books and articles, Finlay is most proud of her collection of short stories, The Killing Ear, and an illustrated history of the Lunenburg Foundry, Casting a Legend, which was co-authored with Karin Cope. Cope and Finlay have also long maintained a blog on sailing in British Columbia with a political and environmental focus, entitled West by East (quoddysrun.ca).

State of the Ark

Canadian Futurefiction

Edited by Lesley Choyce

September 15, 2023 • paperback • $21.95 CA, $18.95 US

In this long-awaited follow up anthology to the 1992 landmark Canadian science fiction collection Ark of Ice, State of the Ark features a diverse array of Canadian authors including Spider Robinson, Elisabeth Vonarburg, Robert Sawyer, Terri Favro, and Jeremy Hull explore worlds of the future, where humans look and act differently – or perhaps they just look different and act the same as humans always have. They interact with alien beings, and they must learn to live with the other creatures that inhabit Earth. Sometimes funny, often poignant, frequently ingenious, and always thought-provoking, these works spark questions and challenge our ideas about how the future might look – and how creatures of every kind and species will live in it.

In the opening story, "Star Light, Star Bright," by Robert Sawyer, a translator of ancient documents discovers children can see things in the sky that are not visible to him. What does this mean for their society, rebuilding after a long-ago war reduced humans to a primitive state? In "Hammerhead," John Park’s protagonist, must replay a horrific scenario in his head over and over to get at the uncomfortable truth. Julie Czerneda offers one possibility of what may happen when a grieving couple’s application to adopt a pet takes a surprising turn in "Foster Earth." Spider Robinson’s parentless character has to choose between being threatened or thrilled when the colony he joins “jumps off the edge of the Solar System” in “Who is Joel Johnston?” And in the final story of the collection, a Nova Scotian rebel of the future hopes that humankind’s survival depends on a past event that almost no one noticed.

Evocative and engaging, these stories, told with vibrant engagement with “otherness” of one kind or another, offer readers the opportunity to be both entertained and enlightened.

Lesley Choyce is the author of more than one hundred books for adults, teens, and children. He writes both fiction and nonfiction, and his books have been published in several languages. He began Pottersfield Press in 1978, is a founding member of the spoken-word rock band the SurfPoets, and also teaches in the English Department and the Transition Year Program at Dalhousie University. He is an experienced editor and a year-round surfer in the Atlantic Ocean near his home in Lawrencetown Beach, Nova Scotia.
Notes on a Writer's Life
A Memoir
By David Adams Richards

September 15, 2023 • paperback • $19.95 CA, $17.95 US

Notes on a Writer's Life is the author's account of his more than fifty years as a writer. It chronicles his early childhood, his high school years of turmoil and rebellion, and his uneasy relationship with both publishers and academics. Throughout, Richards records his continuous investigation into human conflict, into the chasm between the seeking of power and the knowledge of love. The book also deliberates on his examination into the nature of violence, both overt and coercive, that he has considered in thirty-five books. Richards describes his travels to various parts of the world, his love of the sea, his love of Spain, and his fight against alcoholism. Crucially and poignantly, he recounts how for years his wife Peggy has been his greatest ally and supporter.

Notes on a Writer's Life also includes his relationships with other writers—his respect for Alden Nowlan, Alistair MacLeod, P.K. Page, Joel Hines, and Patrick Lane, and his friendship with Ray Fraser among others. Here, too, are his views on writers like Orwell, Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky.

Readers will learn of his determination to write against the odds, from the early books like The Coming of Winter, Blood Ties and Lives of Short Duration, to his later works, such as Mercy Among the Children, Crimes Against My Brother, and Darkness. Richards believes that suffering is inherent and so is joy. He reflects on the absolute necessity of reaching toward a spiritual life (if not a religious one) as well as his knowledge of war and revolutions, and how both swallow humanity’s greater need for justice and liberty.

Author of thirty-five books, David Adams Richards has won the Governor General’s Award in both fiction and non-fiction as well as the Giller Prize. He is a member of the Order of New Brunswick, the Order of Canada, and was appointed to the Senate of Canada in 2017. He divides his time between Ottawa and Fredericton.

Two Purdys
A Double Portrait

By Brian Purdy

September 15, 2023 • paperback • $19.95 CA, $17.95 US

Brian Purdy has—almost from his beginnings—been a reader and a writer, but he’s rarely published. In this book, he offers a unique collection, stating: “These are a son’s poems for and about his father. At the same time, they are a poet’s word picture of another poet—a man of highly individual character, deeply respected and sorely missed.”

The son manages to capture the larger-than-life quality of his father Al Purdy in this arrangement of poems about the man who lived in the famous A-Frame in Ameliasburgh, Ontario, a place many say was built with the assistance of half of Canada’s poets.

Brian began writing before he established contact with his biological father. He spent almost seven decades studying poetry and poets without any idea of the significance of his parentage. At sixteen, he discovered his father was not dead—as he’d been told—in a newspaper article about the man and his poetry. He confronted his mother and, after much family discussion, his first contact with Al Purdy was initiated.

In Two Purdys Brian captures both the man who came through the tavern door at his first meeting and the man who left this world decades later. This “double portrait plumbs sorrow even as it reaches toward jubilation with love and honour sidling up to pain and suffering. In his poems, he captures the mannerisms and speech patterns of his iconic father mixed with his own.

Brian Purdy’s work has appeared in more than fifty periodicals, including Prism International; Cat Fancy; Canadian Forum; Prism International; Dalhousie Review; Quarry; Waves; Laomedon Review; Tomack Review; Arc Magazine, Big Pond Rumours, and Antigonish Review. He also has poetry included in Under the Mulberry Tree (edited by James Deahl), a tribute volume to Canadian poet Raymond Souster.

Brian Purdy

He is the author of Interloper and To Feed the Sun as well as three chapbooks: Black Ink: Portraits, A Poet’s Garden of Pointers, and Strips.
Eyewitness
Atlantic Canadians Experience History In Their Own Words
By Rick Howe
September 15, 2023 • paperback • $21.95 CA, $18.95 US
A sunny but crisp winter’s morning takes a tragic turn after two ships collide in Halifax Harbour. The calm of a south end Halifax summer’s evening is shattered by a murderous teenage boy. A young university student fumbles with his camera during a once-in-a-lifetime personal encounter with Queen Elizabeth. A reporter journeys down a rural Newfoundland highway to rendezvous with a young man he has never heard of but soon to be recognized as a Canadian icon.

Eyewitness: Atlantic Canadians Experience History In Their Own Words details how some Atlantic Canadians reacted and what they remembered when faced with a memorable experience, such as the disastrous Halifax Explosion in December 1917. Howe also takes you to Moscow where you’ll meet a local reporter assigned to cover hockey’s historic 1972 Summit Series, and you will read about a chance encounter with Hollywood actor Ronald Reagan.

In Eyewitness, Rick Howe explores historic events that have affected our region, from the aftermath of the Halifax Explosion to royal visits to storms that have caused hundreds of millions of dollars in damage. Here, too, are stories of murder. Was a one-time Halifax police chief also a murderer? What prompted a young teen to kill and how did he manage to evade police for days? Howe also provides new information on unsolved murders and stories about some of Canada’s most notorious serial killers.

Sons of a Fisherman
By Wayne Curtis
September 15, 2023 • paperback • $21.95 CA, $18.95 US
Sons of a Fisherman is a collection of thirteen short stories by acclaimed New Brunswick author Wayne Curtis. In his customary evocative prose, Curtis describes days in the lives of the people who work and play on the rivers, drawing sustenance and nourishment of all kinds from the bounty the waterways provide. “River Children” recounts the antics of youth who spend the day enjoying swimming and fishing before attending an evening church service with their father, a great fisherman in his younger years. In “The Late Run,” time on the river means money to support the family, as the boys serve as guides for the sports who come to fish the area. “Moving Shadows” recounts a young man’s first love, which blossomed on the frozen river and lasted his whole life.

Writing of what he knows so well, Curtis offers to readers the world of his own childhood and youth, when the days were filled with hard work outdoors but also with the abundance of the river for employment, for play, and for meditation. His protagonists may long for literature and a more cultured life at times, but their affinity for the river is bone deep. As true to life as his human characters, the rivers of his stories are characters as well, full of moods and beauty, sustenance and danger. In Sons of a Fisherman, Curtis travels well-trodden paths with grace and the sure-footedness of a man who knows the life and loves it still.

Wayne Curtis is an award-winning author who has written twenty-one books and a screenplay for the CBC. His stories have appeared in The Globe and Mail, the National Post, Reader’s Digest, The Antigonish Review, The Dalhousie Review, The Fiddlehead and the American magazines Fly-Fisherman and Sporting Classics. Wayne Curtis received an Honorary Doctorate Degree (Letters) from St. Thomas University and he was awarded the Order of New Brunswick.

Wayne has lived in southern Ontario, Yukon Territories and Cuba. He divides his time between Fredericton and his cabin on the Miramichi River. Sons of a Fisherman is his twenty-first book.
Our Mom is Sick—Really, Really Sick
But She Rocks!
(An ALS Story)
By Angela Parker-Brown
September 15, 2023 • paperback • $16.95 CA/US

Told through the perspective of Angela Parker-Brown’s twin twelve-year-old daughters, this slim volume offers children and young adults the tools to navigate a parent’s serious medical diagnosis. For Angela Parker-Brown, that diagnosis was ALS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, a debilitating disease for which there is no cure. From the early signs of the illness to the later stages, Paris and Parker openly talk about their journey with their mother. They discuss their fear and confusion, as well as their sense of unfairness that this should happen to their wonderful mom, who took such good care of them and continued to do so as her condition deteriorated.

Guided by a helpful book, Real Kids Talk About ALS, Feeling Normal Sad and Different, and by their mother, Parker and Paris learned about the disease and how to cope with their emotions. Although they are twins, each daughter responded to their new situation differently. Parker delved into research, finding out additional details about ALS, which scared her so much she didn’t tell her sister. Angela impressed on her girls how important it is to have the right information, and Parker says how glad she was that their mother didn’t try to hide the truth from them. “I liked that our mom trusted us enough to tell us the truth,” she said.

As the disease progressed, the twins learned that they were still able to do normal things and make new memories with their mother. Through all the changes in her condition, the girls learned how important it is to acknowledge their feelings, to ask for help, and to always know their mom is still their mom—and that she rocks!

Before During After
By Christopher Heide
September 15, 2023 • paperback • $19.95 CA, $17.95 US

May of 2022 saw the death of Deborah Hickman, the author’s wife of 42 years; her death was complicated by early dementia. This book does not shy away from expressing the tough realities of that loss and examines the three phases of this time period.

Something significant occurs and change happens and, at some point of clarity, it becomes possible to see a before, a during and an after. With this collection of poems, the author speaks with intimate honesty about the events, people and feelings experienced in each of these three seasons: the space of time before it happened, the stretch during which it was happening, and that period after when the impact is felt most profoundly.

Although the poems gathered here mostly focus on the loss of his wife, Heide also explores other relationships with their own stories that fall into the same pattern of three.

Along with grief, the author calls up his own irrepressible sense of curiosity and even humour to create a journey that is at once a moving tribute and an expansive canvass of human emotions. It’s a journey that will have familiar echoes for all readers.

Christopher Heide’s most recent book of poetry, It’s Not So Simple Now, was published by Pottersfield Press in the fall of 2021. His first collection, Poems of a Very Simple Man, was published by Fiddlehead Press. Heide has had many poems published in periodicals and anthologies and has been part of numerous poetry readings in the Maritimes and elsewhere.
Flitt's Call

Text by Kara Griffin; Art by K. Shawn Larson

August 15, 2023 • paperback • $12.95 CA

Flitt is a little bank swallow who returns to his beloved Prince Edward Island every spring to nest in the same seaside cliffs. But this year, things are different. The land has changed, he can’t find as many insects to eat, and there are fewer swallows to play with. When his chicks are born, Flitt realizes he needs to teach his little swallows, all the swallows, a special call. *Flitt’s Call* is a bank swallow’s prayer and plea for the earth. It will open people’s hearts, move others to protect the land, and remind everyone of our shared connection to this fragile, beautiful home called Earth.

Born and raised in beautiful Prince Edward Island, **Kara Griffin** grew up in a small rural community on the North Shore. Her writing is inspired by her love for nature and animals. Her hopeful stories celebrate the beauty and wonder of nature and invite us to see and understand the world through our hearts. This is Kara's second picture book, after *The Sea That Sings to Me* (illustrated by Marla Lesage, 2023). For more about Kara, please visit www.karagriffinstories.com.

Prince Edward Island based watercolour artist **K. Shawn Larson** has been honing her art skills since she received her first ABC book. Both thrilled and intrigued by the paintings, Shawn saw alligators that could act, bears that could bowl, and cats that could catch. Shawn has worked on many projects to promote art in education over the years. Her art appeared in the 2008 book, *Dust Bunny Boogie*, and in 2021 she became a juried member of the PEI Crafts Council.

Flitt's Call Activity Guide

By The Island Nature Trust

August 15, 2023 • paperback • $9.95 CA

This activity guide will accompany *Flitt’s Call*. The intention is to encourage young people to foster their keen observation, to encourage them to learn about the natural world they are a part of, and to act with integrity towards the protection of all species and the habitats they call home. Join us and learn about the fascinating life history of the bank swallow in Prince Edward Island.

*Flitt’s Call* and the accompanying activity guide are part of a project in partnership with **Island Nature Trust** and supported by the **PEI Alliance for Mental Well-Being**. The story features one of the Island's species-at-risk, the bank swallow. By engaging young Islanders in nature and story-telling, this project promotes connection, creativity, mental well-being and resilience in the face of significant climate change and biodiversity loss.
**Are We Friends Now?**
An Anthology By and About 2SLGBTQ+ Youth
Edited by Tom Ryan
August 15, 2023 • paperback • $17.95 CA

*Are We Friends Now* is a dynamic and exhilarating collection of writing from 2SLGBTQ+ youth and allies from around PEI. The product of a collaboration between PEERS Alliance and the PEI Writers’ Guild, the multi-genre selections in *Are We Friends Now* are the result of several months of workshopping and brainstorming at the Queer Youth Writing Club, and also include pieces from adult volunteers. *Are We Friends Now* will appeal to readers of all ages, and makes a great addition to classroom and library collections.

**Monday’s Child**
Poems About Teaching
By Renee Blanchette
October 15, 2023 • paperback • $17.95 CA

*Monday’s Child* is a collection of poetry that will appeal to educators, parents and poetry lovers alike. The book presents a roster of vivid student portraits. With inventive humour and imagery her poems balance expectation and hope, childhood imagination and the challenging realities of the classroom. *Monday’s Child* presents a metaphorical day in the life and routines of a teacher, inspired by learning but founded ultimately in love.

**Pockets Full of Sea Glass**
By Alma Fullerton
August 15, 2023 • paperback • $14.95

This sweet picture book follows the day in the life child whose anxiety seems to fill their days. Letting go is so hard to do and worry weighs down every step. Even walking on the beach is difficult until finding a glimmer of hope among the rocks helps to make the day brighter. With a piece of sea glass found, the worries seem to melt away. *A Pocket Full of Sea Glass* is a wonderful introduction of the mindfulness children can achieve by spending time in nature, one piece of sea glass at a time.

**Are We Friends Now?**
By Alma Fullerton
August 15, 2023 • paperback • $14.95

Ages 4–8

**Monday’s Child**
By Renee Blanchette
October 15, 2023 • paperback • $17.95 CA

**Subject**

- children's picture book, sea glass, nature
- memoir, 2SLGBTQ+
- poetry, parents, educators

**Subject**

- children's picture book, sea glass, nature
Follow That Goose to Prince Edward Island
By Colleen Landry, Beth Weatherbee, & Odette Barr
September 15, 2023 • paperback • $12.95 CA

Follow That Goose is an early chapter book designed to appeal to grade 2 and up. Camelia Airheart is a loveable Canada Goose with a faulty GPS or Goose Positioning System. She also has trouble paying attention and quickly gets separated from her flock. After flying around Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Camelia now starts on a journey around Prince Edward Island on a journey that will take her to all the sites of Anne’s Land. Readers of Camelia’s adventures will be excited to follow along her comical adventures through the enchanting text and funny illustrations and will end up knowing more about Canada’s smallest province.

Colleen Landry (author) is a teacher in New Brunswick’s Anglophone School District-East. Colleen has authored several articles, which have appeared in Canadian Living, The Globe and Mail and The Irish Times. Her humour blog, One Hot-Flashin’ Mama focuses on menopause and family life in the Maritimes. Her humour book, Miss Nackawic Meets Midlife, was released in June 2018.

Beth Weatherbee (author) is a teacher in New Brunswick’s Anglophone School District-East. Beth has a broad background in both music and drama; she has performed and volunteered for many years with Showcase Productions (Amherst, NS). Her first book, Bedda-bye Maritime Rhyme, was published in 2015 by Born to Read NB. Beth also wrote the music for the Branta Bog Ballad and the Crack Corn Rap! Beth’s latest picture book, Maritime Melange, was released in May 2018.

Odette Barr (author/illustrator) is a teacher in New Brunswick’s Anglophone School District-East. Odette has illustrated a number of nature-themed guidebooks for Fundy National Park. Her passion and inspiration for her writing and art comes from her love of nature and the environment. She worked for many years as an interpretive naturalist for Environment Canada before turning to teaching in the traditional indoor classroom. Odette spent 10 years teaching Inuit students in Nunavut.

Flynn's War
By Finley Martin
October 15, 2023 • paperback • $22.95 CA

After returning from active service in the Second World War, Jimmy Flynn is living alone with his nightmares—until a suspicious death and unexpected inheritance draw him back to his childhood neighbourhood in the mining town of Scranton, Pennsylvania. Flynn and his oldest friends and newest acquaintances have to battle long-buried secrets and emerging turf wars if they are going to come out alive. But will mental scars of a foreign war prevent Flynn from surviving the one in his hometown?

A former teacher and PR consultant, Finley Martin is a prolific writer. His poetry and short stories have appeared in Inscope, The Oyster in the Ooze, Voices Down East, and were broadcast over a CBC Radio production, We Are the Wind and More (Maritime Poets 1973). He has given poetry readings in Ontario, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and over CBC Charlottetown. He has ghost-written pieces that appeared in numerous newspapers and magazines and has produced documentaries for CBC TV. He has authored several books including The Dead Letter, Killings at Little Rose, and The Reluctant Detective.
The Golden Apples
Text by Dan Yahinsky; Art by Ekaterina Khlebnikova
September 3, 2023 • paperback • colour illustrations • $15.99 CA

Jack may be good at following recipes, but he’s not very good at following directions. When his two older brothers fail to find the golden bird that made off with their father’s prized golden apples, Jack steps up for the job. But there are many challenges to be faced along the way; without the help of a fast and friendly fox, Jack just might not make it.

With a smart princess who loves grunge rock, angry kings, magic animals, conniving siblings, and tempting casinos, this delightful re-mix of an old Cape Breton Jack tale seamlessly blends modern and ancient. Acclaimed Canadian storyteller Dan Yahinsky brings wit and whimsy to this wonder tale. Ekaterina Khlebnikova’s brilliant illustrations blend old and new creating a gorgeous visual world, a perfect complement to Yahinsky’s re-telling. Together they serve up a book that will delight readers and listeners of all ages.

Dan Yahinsky has been telling stories for more than forty years. The founder of the Toronto Storytelling Festival and the co-founder of Storytelling Toronto, he has shared his stories across the world—at festivals, in schools and hospitals, in theatres and community spaces. His work in schools includes creating the Telling Bee, a story-based curriculum project that has taken place in more than forty Ontario schools. He is the editor of four acclaimed folk tale collections, and the author of several books including Tales for an Unknown City, which received the Toronto Book Award, and Suddenly They Heard Footsteps: Storytelling for the Twenty-first Century. He lives in Toronto.

Raised in a family of book lovers, Ekaterina Khlebnikova dreamt of being an illustrator or artist from a very young age. A graduate of the Moscow State University Ivan Fedorov, Faculty of Graphic Arts, she is a member of the Moscow Union of Artists (Department of Prints). She has participated in numerous exhibitions, both in Russia and elsewhere, and is a winner at Moscow’s International Festival of Book Illustration and Visual Literature (MORS). She has created artwork for books published in Russia, China, Serbia, and now Canada.

Wilhelm, the Hedgehog
Text by Tanya Stys; Art by Anna Sarvina
May 9, 2023 • paperback • colour illustrations • $13.99 CA

Wilhelm is a hedgehog who lives in a park in the city. Unlike most hedgehogs who sleep in the day and eat and explore in the evening, Wilhelm is curious and wants to know a bit more about the daytime world—especially about Light and the sun. His friends try to dissuade him, but eventually realize that Wilhelm won’t be convinced to behave like a “normal” hedgehog. So instead they work together to help him achieve his dream.

A charming tale about being yourself, following your dreams, and about the friends who help you, Wilhelm the Hedgehog was originally published in Ukraine in 2017. It celebrates creativity, inspiration, and community.

Tanya Stys is a child psychologist and an author of about two dozen fiction and educational books for children and adolescents. Born into a “teacher’s dynasty” with almost 400 years of combined pedagogical experience, she is the Head of the Children’s Reading Laboratory of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, founder of its “BaraBooka: The space of the Ukrainian children’s book”, and editor-in-chief of the children’s publishing house Small Academy. As well, she is the author of creative writing programs for children and adolescents, and a public activist for the promotion of children’s and adolescent reading and the reform of school literacy education.

An illustrator from Kyiv, co-founder of the Pictoric Illustrators Club, Anna Sarvina has been interested in books and their design since childhood. What began as a childhood passion has become her profession. A graduate of Ukraine’s National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture, she collaborates with many Ukrainian publishers and children’s magazines. She has taken part in many exhibitions in Ukraine and abroad; in early 2022 the Museum of Modern Art featured her graphic artwork on daily life in Ukraine just before Russia’s invasion. Her work has been awarded the COW (Centre of the World) International Prize and the Joseph Binder Award.
Moses Coady
Canada's Rural Revolutionary (2nd edition)
By Jim Lotz

June 17, 2023 • paperback • 8 page photo insert • $21.95 CA, $19.95 US

During the Great Depression, Moses Coady, a priest and an educator, set out to rescue people from poverty, dependency and despair.

Based at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Coady and his followers laid the foundations for the co-operative and credit union movements that now play a significant role in the social and economic life of people around the world.

Moses Coady: Canada’s Rural Revolutionary tells the story of this genuine Canadian hero and his remarkable legacy known as The Antigonish Movement—an innovative experiment in community development that applied Catholic social teaching to rural economics in order to enable a more just and humane society.

Jim Lotz is an acclaimed interpreter of the life and work of Moses Coady. His over 25 books include Canada’s Forgotten Arctic Hero: George Rice and the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, 1881–1884, Cape Breton Island (with his wife Pat), Father Jimmy: Life and Times of Jimmy Tompkins (with Michael R. Welton), and Jim’s autobiography called Sharing the Journey. In 2006, Pat developed dementia. Jim nursed her with unfailing love and patience until her death in 2012, then wrote Pilgrim Souls to help others treading the same path.

Cape Breton Captain
Reminiscences from 50 Years Afloat and Ashore (2nd edition)
By Captain David A. McLeod

June 17, 2023 • paperback • photos insert + chart • $18.95 CA/US

A classic returns! Capt. David A. McLeod tells his own rough-and-tumble life story in this robust autobiography of saltwater life and guts and passionate romance, told by a man who ended his days as a storekeeper in Cleveland, Richmond County, Cape Breton Island—an angry scar across his face, the result of a mutiny on his last ship. Cape Breton Captain is a vigorous and touching book. It is Capt. McLeod alive and feeling his oats, delivering an incomparable example of storytelling. The forward thrust of the writing is terrific. We have nothing comparable in Cape Breton literature. McLeod brings to life scenes of brutality and love. From the circus riot in Port Hawkesbury to shipwreck and fistfights, love won and love lost, sea shanties and battling sails in storms—McLeod was a tough, tough man.

With shanties, photographs and a useful chart of the sails of a nineteenth-century barque.

A true Nova Scotian, Captain David A. McLeod was born in the village of Cleveland, Cape Breton Island in 1857. He went to sea in 1873, and was buried in Cleveland in 1940.

Praise for Cape Breton Captain

"It's rollicking, brutal, and at heart, an amazing love story well worth reading."
– Paul MacDougall, Saltwire
In the Public Square
A Citizen’s Reader
By Tom Urbaniak
June 17, 2023 • paperback • $24.95 CA, $19.95 US

In the Public Square is a collection of over 90 short, punchy articles devoted to facing realities and making positive change. Of this book, Professor Tom Urbaniak has written:

Our communities are tired—even cranky. Around us, we have watched a world seemingly wracked by instability and conflict. Democracies are ailing. People are hurting. How can we help? How can we make things better, not worse? How can we find some balance, some healthy dialogue, and understand our problems in a broader context? How can we unleash or inspire generosity and hospitality—and good governance? How can we be citizens with a conscience?

Tom Urbaniak is a writer who not only studies, but acts. He addresses these questions by focusing on the issues, large and small, which are often inter-connected, and on practical possibilities close to home. He does this through essays which manage to be both critical and hopeful. His message is this: We can start somewhere—now!

Tom Urbaniak PhD, is a respected author on public policy and grassroots action. Professor of political science, director of the Tompkins Institute and university parliamentarian at Cape Breton University in Sydney, Nova Scotia, he has chaired several local and national non-profit organizations, including the National Trust for Canada and Faith & the Common Good (national inter-faith network). A leader in the Polish community in Atlantic Canada, Tom works effectively with diverse communities. He has served as an official Canadian election observer in Ukraine and is a recipient of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Medal for his volunteer service to his community, his province and to Canada.

Cape Breton’s Christmas
The 10th Treasury of Christmas Stories and Memories
Collected and Edited by Ronald Caplan
June 17, 2023 • paperback • $19.95 CA/US

With nearly 50 stories, this 10th collection of all-new Christmas stories and memories brings to life both recent holidays and stories from long, long ago. Now a genuine annual Christmas tradition, Cape Breton’s Christmas has become a lasting part of our lives. Families now gather around the tree to read from Cape Breton’s Christmas on Christmas morning, and many share stories over the telephone with friends and family across Canada.

There are authors here who will be well-known to the readers, and many others will be exciting discoveries. And the added joy is knowing that all the royalties from sales of this unique book are donated to Feed Nova Scotia. More than $10,000 has already been donated to the organization from the sales of the books in the series.

Editor Ronald Caplan served as editor of Cape Breton’s Magazine from 1972 to 1999. He established Cape Breton’s Magazine in 1972 and published 74 issues. He is now the publisher and editor of Breton Books, devoted primarily to Cape Breton Island’s writers and subjects.
Dust of the Sun
The Artwork of Edith Pahlke
Contributors + Art by Edith Pahlke
October 1, 2023 • hardcover
$50 CA, $45 US
Dust of the Sun, taking its name from a translated line of poetry found among the many works herein, documents the extraordinary linocuts of artist Edith Pahlke. With language and letterforms as her muse, Pahlke designed and meticulously cut this work in the 1960s and ’70s, printing much of it in her makeshift kitchen studio. Feeling simultaneously of its time and place and of the present day,

Edith Pahlke was born in Berlin, Germany in 1936 and has spent her life as a traveller and artist, with a love for letters, language, art, and reading. After her studies in fine art printmaking and graphic design at Hamburg’s Hochschule für bildende Künste, she lived in Iceland and eventually moved to Ottawa, Canada where she lived and worked for more than 40 years. She now resides in Nova Scotia to be close to her daughter and grandson.

Oubliette
By Hannah Godfrey
September 1, 2023 • paperback
$22 CA, $19.95 US
Oubliette holds the charming quips and reminiscences of a mother and the anticipatory grief of her daughter. Hannah Godfrey collected scraps of conversations and recollections she shared with her mum, Erica, during the last years of her life. In the same notebook, she kept quotes from films and books that articulated the terrible sadness of losing a loved one to a horrible illness. Sweet, funny, and devastating, Oubliette is a poignant, partial portrait of two people who loved one another wonderfully and irreplaceably.

piyyut
Text by Solomon Nagler; Art by Angela Henderson
October 1, 2023 • paperback • $25.00 CA, $22.95 US
piyyut is a long-form poem that assembles stories and fables from the Jewish Diaspora, attempting to unsettle refugee migration stories while exhuming poetic, prophetic voices in post-holocaust Europe. Each verse is accompanied by hybrid vector-based and hand-rendered images by visual artist Angela Henderson, exploring intersections between experimental drawing and lyrical poetic form.

Solomon Nagler has published extensively within academic contexts over the past ten years, and is best known for his experimental film work which incorporates various forms of text on screen, and sculptural poetry. This award-winning work has thus far only been accessible as celluloid film prints that have been exhibited in galleries and cinemas across the globe. piyyut will provide the first collection of poetry conceived as being only presented in book form.

Angela Henderson’s drawing practice engages concepts of counter-archiving and architectural speculation. As a visual artist, she uses mapping, gestural markings, and embodied practices to interpret landscape in the context of difficult histories. Her unique approach to this series of poems conceives of the written text as data that is deciphered, structurally informing her original drawings.

Interiors
The Ultimate Hockey Joke Book
Laugh Your Face Off
By Ian Robinson
September 1, 2023 • paperback
$14.95 CA
If you like a good joke (and we all know you do), then you’ll get a kick out of this hilarious collection that pokes fun at all things hockey. With zingers that will tickle your funny bone, these good-natured jabs are funny enough that they will leave you rolling on the dressing room floor.

Whether you’re aged one or 99, or if you love all things hockey, then you must have this Ultimate Hockey Joke Book.

Ian Robinson is a television and radio broadcaster and commentator. He has proudly been part of the broadcast of more than 1000 Major Junior hockey games, so he has been around his share of hockey dressing rooms. This book will enshrine his place in hockey joke book history.

Forerunners
Harbingers of Death in Nova Scotia
By Vernon Oickle
September 1, 2023 • paperback • $19.95 CA
Did you see someone who really wasn’t there? Did you hear three unexplained knocks on your door or window, or when you were alone, did someone whisper your name in your ear. Did a family picture fall off the wall and shatter for no good reason?

If you answered yes to any one of these questions, then you may have experienced what is commonly referred to as a forerunner. Forerunners are serious business. And forerunners, in all their forms, are a harbinger of death. Those who have experienced them confess that the presence of such a force has touched their soul, leaving them, in many cases, shaken to their core. These are their stories.

Vernon Oickle is the author of 33 books, including Red Sky at Night, Strange Nova Scotia, Bluenosers’ Book of Slang and Ghost Stories of Nova Scotia. Vernon Oickle is the Dean of Nova Scotia writers writing about Maritime folklore, superstitions and traditions. Oickle is also the bestselling author of the six volumes in The Crow murder mystery series.

The Bridge Effect
Critical Reflections in the Age of Technological Solutionism
Edited by Laurie Brinklow & Andrew Jennings
October 31, 2023 • Paperback • $39.95 CA, $34.95 US
The Bridge Effect features bridged islands—both physical and metaphorical—from around the globe. Bridging an island is often a polarizing subject. A permanent link allows for the transport of people and goods on- and off-island and can even allow an island to remain a viable place to live. At the same time, it changes the character of an island as bounded and set apart from the mainland. Not all bridges are physical. In recent years, access to broadband is allowing islanders to be part of the global world but still make a living on their islands. From the economic effects resulting from these links to how islanders feel about themselves once they’ve been joined to a mainland or another island, the book explores if and how “islandness”—and, ultimately, island identity—has changed on these small islands.

Dr. Laurie Brinklow is a writer, editor, Assistant Professor and the Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Island Studies (MAIS) program at the University of Prince Edward Island. Her research focuses on islandness and island identity, including the power of place and story. She is the author of My island’s the house I sleep in at night and Here for the Music.

Andrew Jennings is based in Lerwick, Shetland’s capital. Living in Scotland’s most northerly islands, with their Nordic cultural inheritance, inspires his research and his teaching. He is the programme leader on the MLitt Viking Studies, Island Studies, Orkney and Shetland Studies and Highlands and Islands Literature.
### Inclusive Education

**A Global Perspective**

By Carla DiGiorgio

September 30, 2023 • paperback • $29.95 CA, $24.95 US

*Inclusive Education: A Global Perspective* provides an overview of the legislation, policies, and challenges to inclusive practices and offers recommendations for the improvement of inclusive education across many global jurisdictions. This scholarly survey of international approaches focuses not only on disability as a separate entity but recognizes that it is closely intertwined with cultural, sociological, and economic realities of daily human life. “Best” practices can not be transplanted but need to arise from an understanding of local contexts and resources to be successful.

The book divides itself into various chapters by continents and clusters of countries to help organize and contextualize the information and provide a snapshot of how inclusion operates in these settings. By looking at the global picture of inclusion, the reader will gain a fuller understanding of the capability of communities to improve their policies and practices in meaningful ways.

**Dr. Carla DiGiorgio** teaches sociology and research methods at UPEI. She has been a professor and researcher for over twenty years and specializes in social systems. Her interests lie at the intersection of ability, society, and culture in educational environments. She is the author of four books, including *Inclusive Education: The interaction of identity, power and practice* and *Field and Habitus in the 21st Century*.

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### Time Flies

**An Environmental History of Prince Edward Island from the Air**

By Joshua MacFadyen

October 31, 2023 • paperback • $49.95 CA, $44.95 US

*Time Flies* offers an unprecedented view of one island province’s journey into modernity through a unique blend of aerial photography and historical synthesis. The book presents images of iconic landscapes on Prince Edward Island, and traces how those communities and natural ecosystems have changed over 85 years (1935–2020). Each site history illustrates and reflects on the nature of modern land use and land cover change in one of four chapters organized around primary resource economies, rural communities, urban development, and islands and coastal change. *Time Flies* offers a visually rich discussion of one island as the world and offers lessons that we can learn from the social and ecological transformation of PEI.

**Dr. Joshua MacFadyen** is the Canada Research Chair in Geospatial Humanities and an associate professor in the Applied Communication, Leadership, and Culture program at University of Prince Edward Island. His previous books include *Flax Americana: A History of the Fibre and Oil That Covered a Continent* and *Time and a Place: An Environmental History of Prince Edward Island*.

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**Interiors**

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**Subject** inclusive education, disability, teaching
La créature de la Petitcodiac

Text by Denis M. Boucher; Art by Paul Roux
August 30, 2023 • paperback • $19.95 CA

A giant footprint on the shoreline, a blurred shape under the muddy waters of the Petitcodiac River and a few people claiming to have seen a huge creature briefly emerge: the rumours are flying. According to freelance journalist Atom Lutch, there is a mud creature in the Petitcodiac River. However, the reporter from L’Atome libre seems to be more interested in the number of clicks he gets on his website than in the truth. The famous detectives of the Three Musketeers agency are on a mission to unravel the mystery behind this story. At the same time, a conference on genetic manipulation is taking place on the campus of the Université de Moncton. Could there be an eel, or a monster, under the mud?

Denis M. Boucher decided in 2002 to launch himself into children’s literature. With the Trois Mousquetaires (Three Musketeers) series, he has won the loyalty of young readers and has received numerous literary awards, including the Hackmatack Award in 2007 (Le monstre du lac Baker) and the Tamarac Award in 2017 (Le colosse des neiges de Campbellton). His most recent novel, Le Chien d’or de Québec, is currently in the running for the 2022-2023 Hackmatack Award.

Based in the Outaouais region, Paul Roux is an illustrator and author of over 50 books. His creations have been the subject of solo and group exhibitions in Québec, Ontario, and Belgium. He has received several awards and distinctions, notably at the Festival de la bande dessinée francophone de Québec (The Québec City Francophone Comics Festival).

Hockey et toasts au ketchup!

Text by Mélanie Doré; Art by Romain Lasser
February 15, 2023 • paperback • $13.95 CA

After losing a hockey game, a teammate cheers Malcolm up by telling him that the Albatros player his family is billeting attributes his success to ketchup toast. Malcolm persuades his mother to become a host family for a student in the hockey-study program. Malcolm would grow up with players like Nicolas Raymond, Pierre-Luc Dubois, and Marc-Éric Bourque. Together, they experience the ups and downs of the hockey world, from basement games to a big draft ceremony.

This true and humorous story takes the reader through the journey of a hockey player and a passionate mother in a beautiful family spirit.

Mélanie Doré lives in Rivière-du-Loup, where she markets an organization that oversees the conservation and development of the islands of the Saint Lawrence. In 2011, she decided to become a host family for the Collège Notre-Dame Albatros midget AAA team by taking in its first resident. In all, some fifteen young people from Gaspésie, the Lower Saint Lawrence and Quebec City region found refuge in her home during the school year. The best known of them, Pierre-Luc Dubois, has been playing in the NHL since 2017. Hockey et toasts au ketchup! is her first novel.

Romain Lasser four is an art director and illustrator in the field of communications culture. His illustrations stand out for their richness and vitality. Constantly in search of visual aesthetics, Romain likes to take a singular look at the spaces that surround us and transpose them into magnificent colours.
When Zéphie enters her house, her nose is buried in a book that asks very curious questions, she is surprised to discover a very small bear holding a hammer between its paws. Nounours is determined to make a heart for himself because, according to rumour, bears are cruel and nasty. Zéphie decides to help him and leads him around the village of Bouctouche in search of a heart. Perhaps an apple core (“cœur de pomme”, apple heart) would do the trick? Or an ace of hearts?

Nounours au coeur de l’Île-aux-Puces

When Zéphie enters her house, her nose is buried in a book that asks very curious questions, she is surprised to discover a very small bear holding a hammer between its paws. Nounours is determined to make a heart for himself because, according to rumour, bears are cruel and nasty. Zéphie decides to help him and leads him around the village of Bouctouche in search of a heart. Perhaps an apple core (“cœur de pomme”, apple heart) would do the trick? Or an ace of hearts?

Nounours au coeur de l’Île-aux-Puces

Text by Caroline Bélisle; Art by Johanna Lezziero

July 5, 2023 • paperback • $11.95 CA

When Zéphie enters her house, her nose is buried in a book that asks very curious questions, she is surprised to discover a very small bear holding a hammer between its paws. Nounours is determined to make a heart for himself because, according to rumour, bears are cruel and nasty. Zéphie decides to help him and leads him around the village of Bouctouche in search of a heart. Perhaps an apple core (“cœur de pomme”, apple heart) would do the trick? Or an ace of hearts?

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Sophie is going to spend the weekend with her dad. She is determined to take care of all the chores so that he can get a good rest. From his hammock, Dad worries about Sophie as she does the work and problems multiply— the garbage bags are too heavy, the bird feeder is too high, Sophie can’t turn off the hose...

Fortunately, a picnic awaits them.

Nicole Poirier is originally from Chéticamp, Nova Scotia. Her writing is based on her experiences as a kindergarten teacher and her work in educational support services. She also created the character of Nico, who tells stories and hosts gatherings with children. Congé pour papa is her fourth book published by Bouton d’or Acadie.

Isabelle Léger is passionate about illustration. A graphic designer and illustrator, she has been creating illustrations for children’s books for several years, including Congé pour maman in 2018, Samuel et la tuque de Noël in 2019, Un monstre dans ma cuisine which was selected finalist for the Prix Champlain in 2020, and Congé pour Sophie in 2021.
**Momma Gave**

*Text by Josephine C. Watson; Art by Alisa Arsenault*

March 15, 2023 • hardcover • $14.95 CA

A true love song of an adoption, following the journey of a child taken in with loving arms. *Momma Gave* is a tribute to all mothers who must part with their children, and to those who welcome these newborns as their own.

A must-read true story of baby Josephine—now a woman, celebrating the gift of the two mothers she gained, as well as the welcoming of her three brothers. This book is a hymn to interracial adoption, compassion, and unconditional love.

**Josephine C. Watson** is a poet, singer, and actress from Fredericton, New Brunswick. Watson is a woman of many talents, she performs jazz, blues, rock, and reggae music as well as spoken-word poetry and theatre. She was the first woman to be named Moncton’s “Poète Flyée”(eccentric poet), after translating the picture book Africville by Shauntay Grant.

**Alisa Arsenault** is a visual artist with degrees in printmaking and photography from the University of Moncton. Her works have been exhibited in Acadie and Quebec. She also represented her province at the Franophone Games in Abidjan, on the southern coast of West Africa as a media artist. *Momma Gave* is her second illustrated book, in which her great sensitivity is expressed with even more delicacy.

**Also available in French**

*Maman m’a donnée...*

Translated by Émilie Turmel
9782897503123
$14.95, hardcover

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**Léo les chaussettes**

*Text by Christine Arbour; Art by Johanna Lezziero*

November 15, 2022 • Hardcover • $15.95 CA

Today is Léo’s birthday, and his younger brother is planning a surprise for him. Who is Léo? Léo is Léo! One by one, the people who see him every day join in the party parade. We discover what makes Léo unique and so endearing. It’s not just a birthday party we’re celebrating, but also a very special person.

**Christine Arbour** lives in Quebec City in a lively neighbourhood full of giant trees. She can see the St. Lawrence River in the distance, which reminds her of her Gaspé origins. After *Grandes roues et petits pois* (2018) and *La boîte aux belles choses* (2020- a finalist for the Literary Prizes for French Teachers), she presents her third illustrated book.

Originally from France, **Johanna Lezziero** now lives near the Bay of Fundy. Passionate about drawing and the animal world, she spent 10 years in the world of children’s fashion as a textile designer. This is the second time she has illustrated a story by Christine Arbour, after *La boîte aux belles choses* in 2020.

**Interiors**

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**Momma Gave**

9782897503321 ePub: 9782897503345
8 x 8 | 32 pages
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Ages 4–8

**Subject** juvenile non-fiction, adoption, diversity, family, children’s picture book

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**Subject** juvenile French, picture book, family, friendship, diversity
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