Vastant Fiction for Wanderers



Celebrating twenty years of publishing award-winning fiction

VAGRANT PRESS

FICTION FOR WANDERERS

A vagrant is a rover. A wanderer. With no set path, she meanders. Lawless and unpredictable. Following her intuition, yes, but also her curiosity. For the past twenty years, since Vagrant Press was established in 2005 with its inaugural titles, *Relative Happiness* by Lesley Crewe (now an award-winning feature film), and *Maclean* by Allan Donaldson, this is exactly what we've done. We have wandered—through fiction commercial and literary, contemporary and historical—publishing novels and short story collections that celebrate this complex and ever-changing region: Mi'kma'ki. Atlantic Canada.

When I came aboard as managing editor ten years ago, it was with a mandate to grow Vagrant Press in both scope and readership. To seek new depths, to wander farther. And with each passing season, our list of outstanding fiction demonstrates to readers everywhere that Atlantic Canada is not singular—not in identity, and not in story.

To date, Vagrant has published nearly 100 books, including both debut and seasoned writers. Our titles have been celebrated internationally, won or been nominated for numerous awards, including the Writers Trust Fiction Prize, the Dublin Literary Award, the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, the Amazon.ca First Novel Prize, and the Thomas Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award. They've been named best books by CBC, *Quill & Quire*, Indigo, and 49th Shelf. They have found readers across the country and beyond.

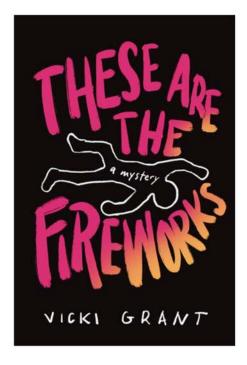
In our twentieth-anniversary year we are honoured to publish national bestselling author Lesley Crewe's fifteenth novel under the Vagrant imprint, along with the brilliant and hilarious debut novel by Danica Roache, Five Seasons of Charlie Francis; the poignant sophomore novel by Renée Belliveau, A Sense of Things Beyond; Winter Sky by Shelley Thompson, a glimmering collection exploring the winter season; the unflinching coming-of-sexuality novel, The Unnameable, by Stephens Gerard Malone; the madcap literary mystery Blood Typed by Jane Doucet; These Are the Fireworks, the debut adult mystery by celebrated author Vicki Grant; and an anniversary edition of the Canadian bestseller Twenty-Six by Leo McKay Jr.

As the incomparable Sheree Fitch says, "a book isn't a book until it's read," so thank you, the readers, most of all. What an honour, and a pleasure, it's been.

Here's to many more,

(Whitney Moran

Managing Editor, Vagrant Press



Petra felt oddly calm. The last forty years of her life had turned out to be very good preparation for this little caper. Not showing her true emotions. Being blandly pleasant. Jackie O, as she knew the girls secretly called her. She'd honed her skills on windbags, petty snobs, and garden-variety thugs. She was dealing with a killer now but, really, it was only a matter of degrees.

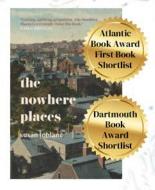
\$24.95 | 320 pg | 5.5 x 8.5 paperback 978-1-77471-510-9 upmarket mystery

Nina believes her parents had the perfect marriage, but when her father dies, her mother Petra's behavior leads her to suspect something sinister. Meanwhile, Petra is hiding a secret that could shake the very foundations of their family—and she's out for revenge.

RECENT VAGRANT ACCOLADES



\$22.95 | 232 pg 5.5 x 8.5 | PB 978-1-77471-340-2 short stories/family life

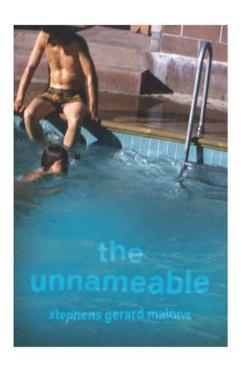


\$24.95 | 306 pg 5.5 x 8.5 | PB 978-1-77471-328-0 historical/literary

Stand in the dark, face illuminated by sparking and falling plumes of red and white, bursts of gold some kids were setting off over in the park, but seeing only Gib. Leaning back on his hands, dirty Adidas sneakers kicked into the grass.

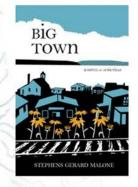
Wanting to hate him. Wanting to be him. Wanting to find words to explain how that could be.

\$24.95 | 264 pg | 5.5 x 8.5 paperback w. flaps 978-1-77471-505-5 historical/2SLGBTQIA+

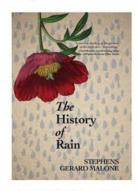


An enthralling, devastating, and uniquely Canadian coming-of-age story, *The Unnameable* is a heady exploration of masculinity and sexuality, shame and secrets, and an era when being openly queer meant risking everything.

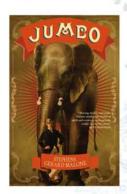
MORE FROM STEPHENS GERARD MALONE



\$18.95 | 234 pg | PB 978-1-55109-854-8 literary/historical

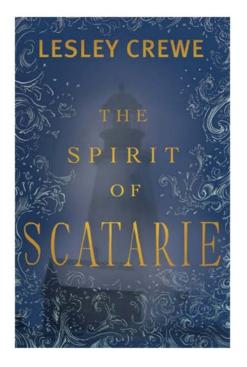


\$21.95 | 232 pg | PB 978-1-77108-979-1 literary/historical



\$21.95 | 232 pg | PB 978-1-77471-203-0 literary/historical

FALL 2025

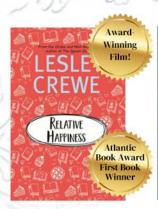


You might be startled that this tale will be told to you by a ghost. I prefer the word spirit but it's all the same. The truth is, I have as much right to tell this story as anyone. Scatarie Island belongs to the living and the dead.

\$26.95 | 384 pg | 6 x 9.25 paperback w. flaps + illustrated map 978-1-77471-456-0 historical/family life

Part ghost story, part romance, part history, and a stirring tribute to young soldiers and their brave war brides, *The Spirit of Scatarie* is an epic tale with whispering island winds at its heart.

AWARD-WINNING FROM LESLEY



\$24.95 | 378 pg | PB 978-1-77471-123-1 women



\$24.95 | 280 pg | PB 978-1-77471-279-5 women/family life

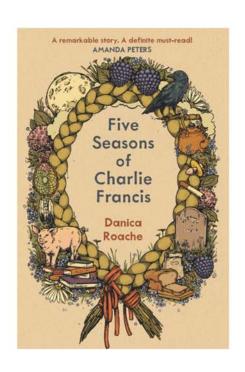


\$26.95 | 360 pg | PB 978-1-77108-881-7 historical/women

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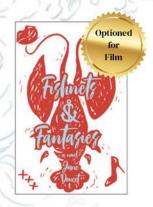
When the tides in the
Cobequid Bay went out and left
stretches of mudflats, I could walk
halfway to the other shore.
Sometimes the mud engulfed my
feet, right up to my ankles, and
made it hard to move. The longer
you stayed stuck, the harder it was
to keep going.

\$24.95 | 320 pg | 5.5 x 8.5 paperback w. flaps 978-1-77471-464-5 contemporary/Indigenous



With grit, humour, a lovable cast, and the nostalgia of the early aughts, this bold and refreshing novel from a powerful new voice in Indigenous fiction explores grief, the complex bonds of family, and cultural identity.

HEART & HUMOUR



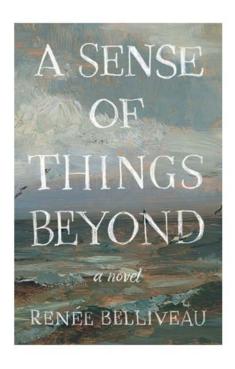
\$24.95 | 280 pg | PB 978-1-77108-963-0 romance/humour



\$19.95 | 220 pg | PB 978-1-77471-160-6 family life/humour



\$22.95 | 256 pg | PB 978-1-77471-225-2 women/family life



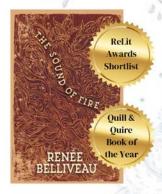
Only the names of those unable to speak are honoured. Only the names of those long silenced, those who could never rise to refute the distorted narrative, are preserved in stone.

\$24.95 | 264 pg | 5.5 x 8.5 paperback 978-1-77471-452-2 historical/literary

Past and present intertwine in A Sense of Things Beyond, revealing how each shapes the other. It is a gorgeously written examination of what comes after war, and how we hold remembrance.

MORE FROM RENÉE BELLIVEAU

I have a history here. I am part of this landscape. I have forged it, shaped it, and renewed it time and again. At times, I have been a mishap. Once or twice, I was brought forth at the hands of mischief. This time, I was sparked to life. I awoke from the elements, timid and trembling.

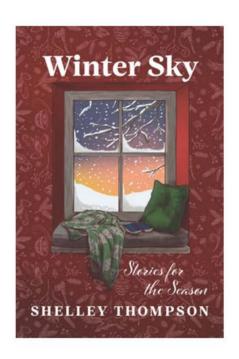


\$22.95 | 272 pg | PB 978-1-77471-018-0 historical/women

FALL 2025

Oh, Christmas. We remember what we had. Who we've lost. How we ache. We remember disasters and triumphs and the deepest, sweetest friends, telling the hardest truths.

\$22.95 | 138 pg | 5.5 x 7.5 paperback w. pen & ink illustrations 978-1-77471-470-6 short stories



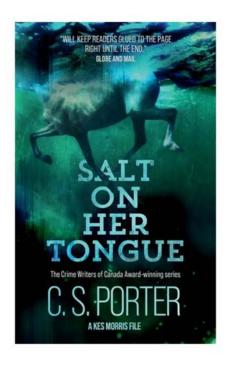
A collection of stories, both cherished and fresh as new-fallen snow.

A blend of historical and contemporary, written in breathtaking prose, the stories in *Winter Sky* reflect the season's contrasts: the light and the dark, the complexity and the comfort.

MORE FROM SHELLEY THOMPSON



\$22.95 | 272 pg | PB 978-1-77471-236-8 family life/LGBTQIA+ 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 celebrated actor and screenwriter Shelley Thompson.



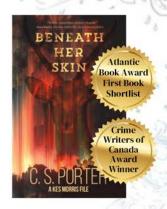
In an instant the current changed, the sea flattened, the boat settled, and they were riding the tide. The village was behind them again. The moon ahead of them. And a corpse at Kes's feet.

\$22.95 | 264 pg | 5 x 8 paperback 978-1-77471-362-4 crime/mystery

The anticipated sequel to Canadian Crime Writers Award–winning Beneath Her Skin follows Detective Kes Morris to the Bay of Fundy on a missing persons case that turns deadly.

MORE FROM THE AWARD-WINNING SERIES

She knew her process. Knew the itch in her nerves. The cold hardness creeping in. She was pulling on the killer's skin too fast. Something wild flickered across her heart. When she fully donned it, there wouldn't be room for anyone else but the killer and her.



\$19.95 | 272 pg | PB 978-1-77108-981-4 crime/mystery

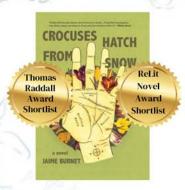
Though it's up on the list, the farmers' market is not the gayest place Chris and I could have met. First is Pride, second is the gay bar, and third would probably be a gender studies class. Actually, first might be meeting her as the girlfriend of a close friend. I've done that one. In fact, I've done them all. Our farmers' market meet-cute is the most wholesome start to a courtship I've ever had. It's almost embarrassing.

\$23.95 | 280 pg | 5.5 x 8.5 paperback w. flaps 978-1-77471-364-8 2SLGBTQIA+/literary



Exploring the clandestinity of queer abuse, the fierceness of friendship, and the magic of found family, *milktooth* is a bold, inventive, lyrical and darkly funny story about finding the strength to cut away what's harmed you and create something entirely new.

MORE FROM JAIME BURNET



\$22.95 | 256 pg | PB 978-1-77108-790-2 family life/LGBTQIA+ As relationships and neighbourhoods fall apart and are pieced back together, their residents reach back to understand their connections to Halifax's history and forward to recognize their responsibilities in its present.



Lunenburg Keith Baker \$24.95 | 432 pg | PB 978-1-77108-309-6 mystery/thriller



One Who Has Been Here Before Becca Babcock \$22.95 | 280 pg | PB 978-1-77108-929-6 coming of age/family life



Some There are Fearless Becca Babcock \$23.95 | 272 pg | PB 978-1-77471-154-5 dystopian/family life



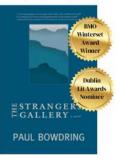
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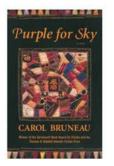
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Gallery
Paul Bowdring
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978-1-77108-026-2
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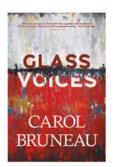
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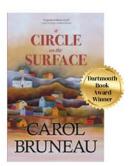
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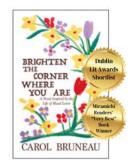
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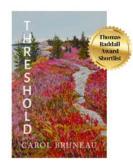
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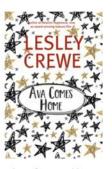
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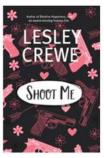
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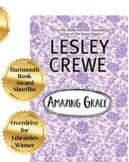
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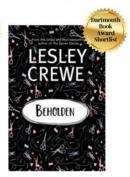
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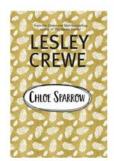
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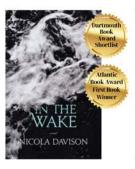
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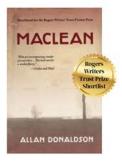
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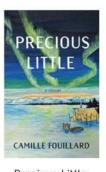
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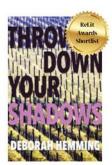
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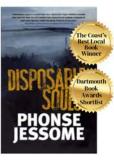
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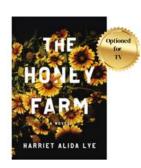
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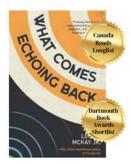
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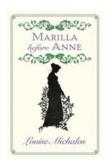
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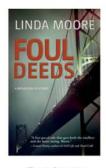
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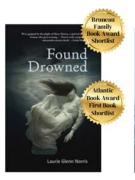
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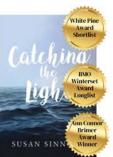
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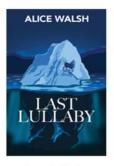
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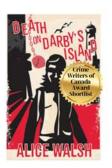
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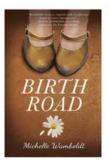
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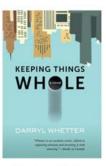
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