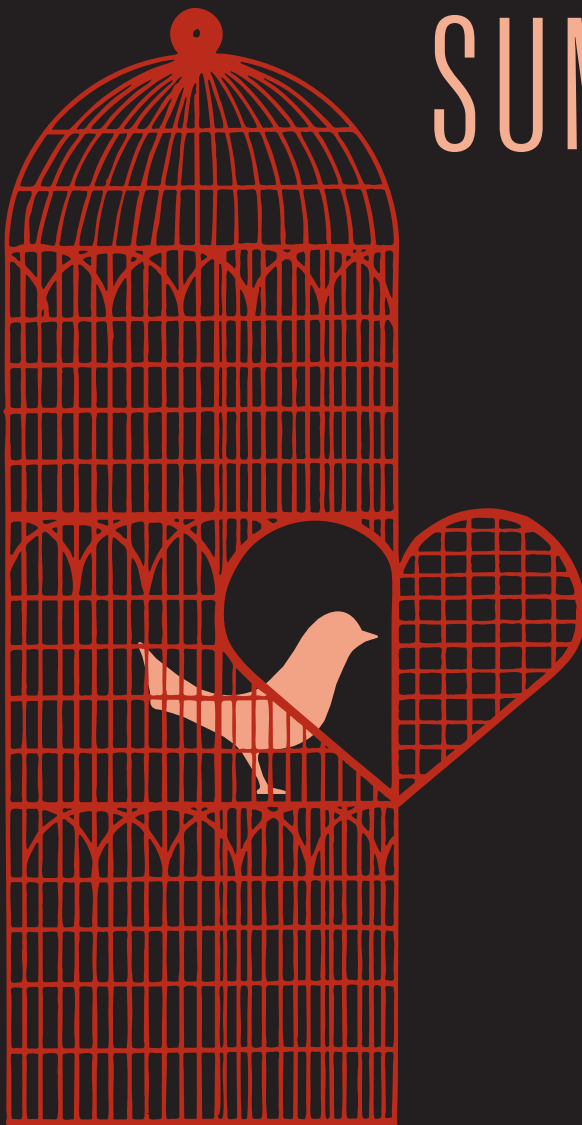


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2026



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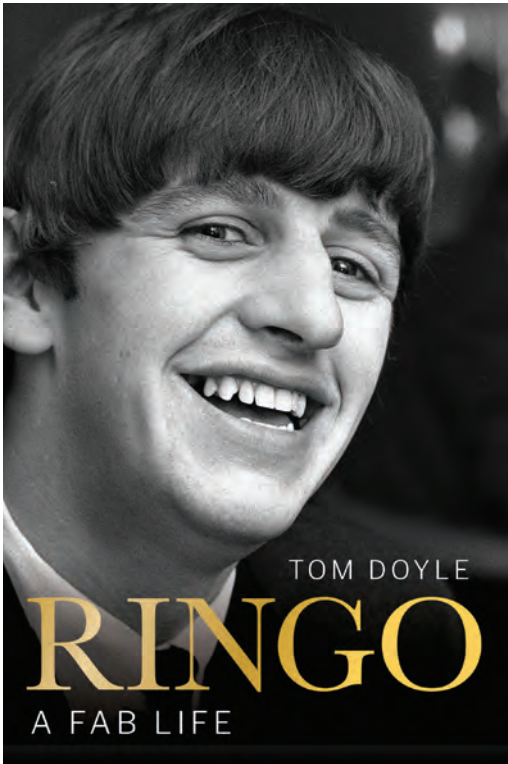
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Publication Date: May 12, 2026

6 x 9", 384pp, trade paperback

27.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.

MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / ROCK (MUS035000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / MUSIC
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MUSIC / MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS / PERCUSSION
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RINGO

A FAB LIFE

Tom Doyle

Ringo Starr’s eventful and remarkable life laid bare in a first-of-its-kind mosaic biography of one of the greatest musicians of all time

Often overshadowed by his former bandmates, Ringo Starr has his own remarkable story that is no less compelling. *Ringo: A Fab Life* highlights a life so jaw-droppingly eventful that one is left wondering how he also had time to become one of the best musicians on the planet.

Employing an episodic, mosaic format, critically acclaimed author Tom Doyle takes readers through the ride of a lifetime, from Starr’s brushes with death as a child brought up in poverty, through to dizzying heights of fame and success with the Beatles and beyond. By examining pivotal moments, anecdotes, and cautionary tales, we see Starr soar as part of the biggest band in the world — and then try to cope with life outside of it with a film career, misadventures with friends, children’s TV narration, furniture designing, and marriage to a Bond girl, before eventually finding peace and sobriety as one of the elder statesmen of rock.

So much more than another Beatles biography, *Ringo* follows Starr’s career far beyond the rose-tinted ’60s, through the various addictions and career left turns in the ’70s and ’80s, before reaching the ’90s, his legacy and reputation intact.

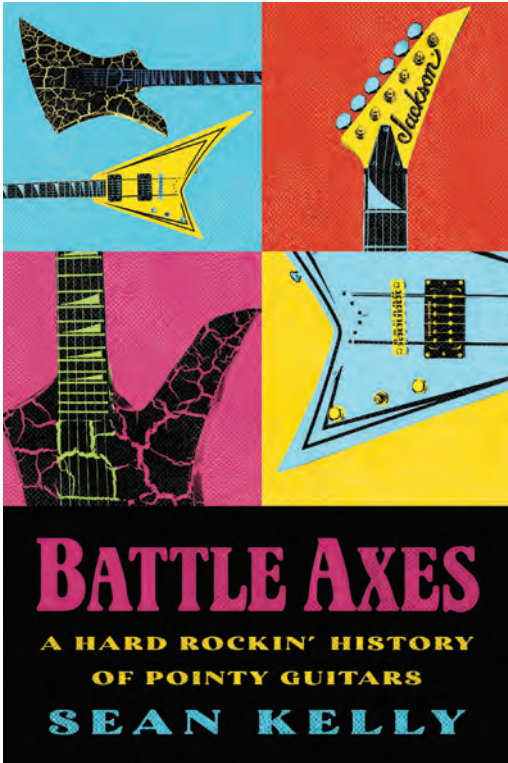
The life of Richard Starkey is long overdue for a proper inspection, and this book — with exclusive new interviews conducted by Doyle with Starr himself, among others — provides a never-before-seen level of detail that will delight hardcore fans and curious readers alike.

Tom Doyle is the critically acclaimed author of numerous music books, most recently *Running Up That Hill*, the award-winning 2022 study of Kate Bush. Tom is also a musician and songwriter and has written for *Smash Hits*, *Q*, and *Mojo*. He lives in London, England.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **UNPARALLELED ACCESS:** Thanks to Doyle’s access through *Mojo*, he interviewed Ringo in 2024, and the book includes that interview as well as interviews with Jim Keltner, Klaus Voormann, Joe Walsh, and Zak Starkey. It also includes quotes from past interviews of Doyle’s with Paul McCartney, Yoko Ono, Sean Lennon, George and Giles Martin, Elton John, Roger Daltrey, and Jimmy Iovine.
- **AN EXCEPTIONAL INTERVIEWER AND MUSIC JOURNALIST:** Tom Doyle’s work has appeared in *Mojo*, *Billboard*, *Q*, *Sound on Sound*, *The Guardian*, and *The Times*. Over the years, he has written about high-profile artists such as Paul McCartney, Neil Young, Elton John, U2, Madonna, Keith Richards, Yoko Ono, and Kate Bush.
- **A GLOBAL BOOK:** ECW is publishing in North America alongside New Modern’s UK and rest of the world edition. New Modern is an amazing partner and will engage prominent UK media to cover the book, while ECW leads the North American efforts.



Publication Date: April 28, 2026

6 x 9", 264pp, trade paperback
16 page colour photo section

26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.

MUSIC / MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS / GUITAR
(MUS023060)

MUSIC / GENRES & STYLES / ROCK (MUS035000)

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Film Rights: Film rights available

BATTLE AXES

A HARD ROCKIN' HISTORY OF POINTY GUITARS

Sean Kelly

Sean Kelly explores the cultural, musical, and historical significance of the world's most famous guitars, revealing how they shaped the '70s and '80s music scene and powered some of rock's greatest music and moments.

Battle Axes: A Hard Rockin' History of Pointy Guitars is a love letter to the wildest shapes and designs of rock 'n' roll's most beloved instrument, the electric guitar. Sean Kelly, who has played with some of Canada's most iconic recording artists, dives deep into the evolution of famous "pointy" guitar designs like the Flying V, the Firebird, and the Explorer through careful research and conversations with renowned guitarists, designers, luthiers, fans, and social media influencers. *Battle Axes* features in-depth interviews with past and present members of KISS, Def Leppard, Alice Cooper, Twisted Sister, Guns N' Roses, Skid Row, Stryper, Quiet Riot, Ratt, Megadeth, Iron Maiden, Triumph, MSG, Racer X, Autograph, BulletBoys, and many more. Along the way, Kelly explores how the Space Age guitar designs of the '50s, once deemed too wild, odd, and just too ugly for mass consumption, became talismanic weapons of mass distraction. We learn how outlier companies like Hamer, Dean, B.C. Rich, Kramer, Ibanez, Charvel/Jackson, and Lado capitalized on the '80s trend toward faster, louder, and more outrageous guitar playing by creating instruments that offered visual shock value that matched the hot-rodged modifications necessary to compete in the arena rock era.

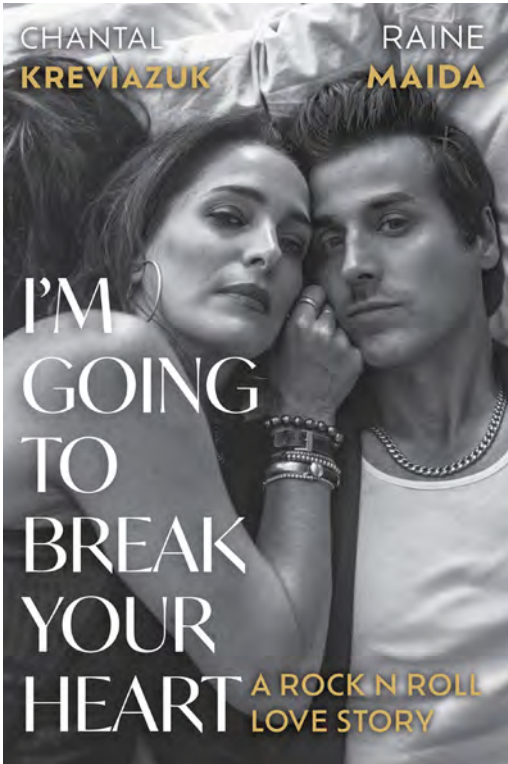
Battle Axes: A Hard Rockin' History of Pointy Guitars is for any musician or fan of classic '70s and '80s hard rock. Careful with this book ... it could poke your eye out!

Sean Kelly is a Juno-nominated Canadian musician who has performed with Nelly Furtado, Dee Snider, Coney Hatch, Helix, and Crash Kelly. In 2023, he was inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame as a member of Lee Aaron's band. By day, Sean is a music teacher with the Toronto Catholic District School Board.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **TRACES THE HISTORY OF POINTY GUITARS** all the way back to the 1950s, with the Flying V, the Explorer, and the Moderne, to see where the phenomenon began. The focus of the book is on the hard rockin' 1970s and '80s and the music and guitars of KISS, Judas Priest, Mötley Crüe, Iron Maiden, Def Leppard, and others.
- **A PASSIONATE TOPIC:** With 2.9M members in r/Guitar on Reddit and countless threads about all sorts of electric guitars, various Facebook groups (including a 19K-member "Pointy Guitars" group!), there is heated debate as to which pointy guitar is the best.
- **CONNECTION TO TWISTED SISTER:** Sean Kelly performed in Twisted Sister frontman Dee Snider's *Rock & Roll Christmas Tale*. He's also toured and recorded with Nelly Furtado, Lee Aaron, Coney Hatch, Helix, Gilby Clarke, Rough Trade, Alan Frew (Glass Tiger), Harlequin, Honeymoon Suite, and his own band, Crash Kelly.



Publication Date: May 19, 2026

6 x 9", 240pp, trade paperback
24 color photos, section

28.95 CDN / 23.95 U.S.

MUSIC / INDIVIDUAL COMPOSER & MUSICIAN
(MUS050000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / ENTERTAINMENT & PERFORMING ARTS
(BIO005000)

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / MUSIC
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Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by the author

I'M GOING TO BREAK YOUR HEART

A ROCK N ROLL LOVE STORY

Chantal Kreviazuk and Raine Maida

Award-winning Canadian musicians and longtime partners Raine Maida and Chantal Kreviazuk offer a powerful, behind-the-scenes look at fame, creativity, and staying connected through it all

Raine Maida has played sold-out stadiums as the front-man of Our Lady Peace, launched a successful solo career, and produced albums for superstars Avril Lavigne and Kelly Clarkson. Chantal Kreviazuk is a Canadian singer-songwriter, composer, and classically trained pianist whose introspective pop rock and adult contemporary music earned her multiple Juno Awards and platinum-selling albums, and she has written chart-topping songs for global stars such as Pitbull, Christina Aguilera, and Drake. And yet they would both tell you that the most difficult and rewarding part of their journey has been their marriage.

I'm Going to Break Your Heart introduces these music icons at a breaking point in their relationship: When did things start to unravel, and how did they fall into such unhealthy patterns? More importantly, how do they break the cycle? Instead of walking away, they make a bold choice: to seek help.

A raw, honest journey through the highs and lows of a couple working through therapy, *I'm Going to Break Your Heart* is a powerful reminder that the goal isn't perfection — it's the commitment to keep showing up, to keep trying, and to keep choosing each other, one imperfect day at a time.

Chantal Kreviazuk is a singer-songwriter born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. A mother of three boys with her husband of 25 years, Raine Maida, Chantal has recorded 11 albums in her illustrious career. Her passion for helping communities impacted by chronic violence and war has led her to travel to the world's most critical hotspots and become a recipient of the Order of Canada. She is passionate about breaking cycles and creating peace on micro and macro levels.

Raine Maida is a five-time Juno Award-winning artist and songwriter fronting the multi-platinum-selling alt-rock band Our Lady Peace. He is an Order of Canada recipient who's been able to blur the lines between musician, humanitarian, and tech founder. Most importantly, he is father to his three boys and husband to Chantal.



KEY SALES NOTES

- OLP, CANADIAN DARLINGS:** Our Lady Peace has sold millions of albums worldwide, won four Juno Awards, and received the most Much Music Video Awards ever awarded to a band. Nineteen of their singles reached the top 10 on Canada's singles charts. Between 1996 and 2016, Our Lady Peace was the third-bestselling Canadian band and the ninth-bestselling Canadian artist overall. They were recently awarded a star on Canada's Walk of Fame.
- ORDER OF CANADA:** Kreviazuk and Maida were appointed members of the Order of Canada in December 2014 for their charitable and humanitarian work.
- IN THE NEWS:** In February 2025, Kreviazuk sang the Canadian national anthem at the final game of the 4 Nations Face-Off hockey series in Boston, during which she changed the lyric "in all of us command" to "that only us command." The lyric change was intentional, in response to Donald Trump's comments about annexing Canada.
- AMERICAN APPEAL:** OLP has a strong fanbase in the U.S. They have sold over 3 million albums stateside and just finished a recent 40-date tour across America on the Summer Unity Tour with Collective Soul & Live. They started on indie label Relativity Records in 1995 and toured as the opening act for Van Halen and for Jimmy Page and Robert Plant. A remix of their song "Starseed" was on the *Armageddon* film soundtrack. In 1997, based on their rising star, Columbia Records signed them. Their 1997 album, *Clumsy*, reached certified platinum in the U.S. Chantal Kreviazuk signed with Columbia Records in the 1990s and received critical acclaim for her debut studio album, *Under These Rocks and Stones*. Chantal's cover of "Leaving on a Jet Plane" was also featured on the *Armageddon* soundtrack, along with multiple other Chantal songs featured in films such as *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days* and *Serendipity*.
- BASED ON A DOCUMENTARY:** The project began as a documentary, titled *I'll Never Break Your Heart*, released in 2019 with select theatrical screenings and then on Crave. The film received a Canadian Screen Award nomination for Best Biography or Arts Documentary Program or Series in 2020.



Publication Date: May 26, 2026

5.5 x 8.5", 320pp, trade paperback

24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / MUSIC
(BIO004000)
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / ARTISTS, ARCHITECTS, PHOTOGRAPHERS (BIO001000)
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PERSONAL MEMOIRS (BIO026000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-713-7 (Paperback)
ISBN: 978-1-77852-587-2 (ePub)

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ROUGH DESCRIPTION

LOVE LETTERS AND GHOST STORIES
FROM A LIFE IN MUSIC

Don Pyle

“Based on his days as a fly in the mosh pit of the nascent punk scene in Toronto and decades of drumming for some of my favorite beat groups, you would think that Don Pyle has a lot of great stories to tell and insight to share. You are not wrong. Come for the Guelph Riot, and then see if you can guess which Shadowy Man tossed a lovingly compiled Grateful Dead cassette from a moving vehicle.” — Ira Kaplan, co-founder, vocalist, guitarist, and songwriter from Yo La Tengo

Don Pyle’s tantalizing memoir, *Rough Description*, recalls first bands, the absurdity and incredible rewards of touring, and dubious-dealing stories of the groups he’s been in, most prominently as drummer and co-founder of beloved group Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet. It recounts friend and work relationships with musician Dallas Good, venerable producer/engineer Steve Albini, iconic comedy troupe Kids in the Hall, whose series and theme his group created, and others.

Alternately melancholic and hilarious, this book chronicles Pyle’s bonkers experiences while attending hair school, his evolving relationship with his mother, how the Ramones affected his young teen brain, a life-changing car accident, and other situations from a creative life lived fully, providing oodles of salacious dish. You’ll discover how a punk rock pen pal led to a career in showbiz and how to put out the same record over and over again.

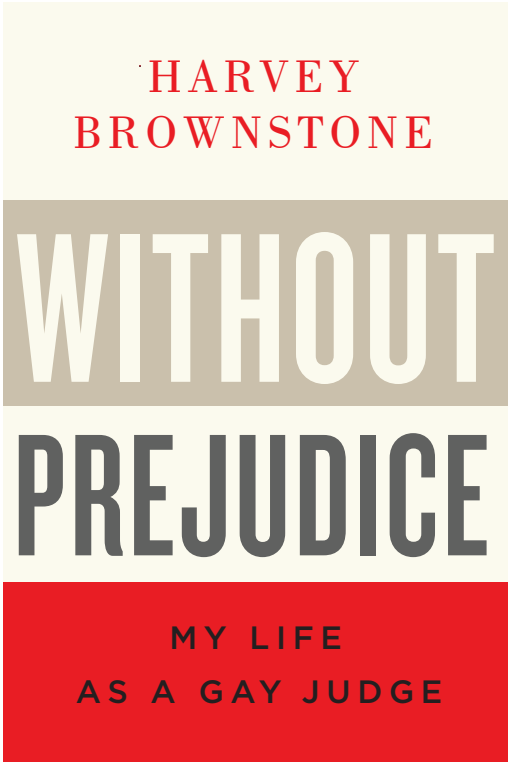
Photography, performing and writing music in bands, recording and producing numerous other artists, writing about music, and scoring for film and TV are all part of Pyle’s distinct observer’s eye — one that sees all creative media as aspects of the same stream.

Don Pyle is a Toronto artist, working primarily in music, sound, photography, and writing. Author of two books, including *Trouble in the Camera Club*, he’s released 15 albums, has shot photos for the covers of numerous books and records, and has scored music for feature films and TV series.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **SHADOWY MEN ON A SHADOWY PLANET:** Don Pyle’s band was together for 20 years and became widely known when the song “Having an Average Weekend” became the theme for the Canadian sketch comedy television series *The Kids in the Hall*. Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet won a Juno Award for Instrumental Artist of the Year (1992).
- **INSPIRED BY AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT:** This book arose from expansive audience engagement when Don would do talks about his portraits in the book *Shot in a Mirror*. That book had minimal text accompanying the photographs, and people wanted to know more about the stories behind the images. His uniquely successful career provided more than enough reflections to warrant a book of stories, and his distinct observer’s eye brings fresh insight.
- **FEATURING STORIES FROM MUSICAL AND CULTURAL PHENOMENONS:** Beat Happening, Crash Kills Five, Dallas Good, Fred Schneider, Girl Trouble, Helix, The Jesus and Mary Chain, John Peel, Louie Beeson, Phono-Comb, Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet, Steve Albini, Steve Koch, The Cramps, The Demics, The Fleshtones, The Kids in the Hall, The Ramones, The Sadies, Tina Turner, Wendy Coburn, Yo La Tengo.



Publication Date: May 26, 2026
6 x 9", 240pp, trade paperback
26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / LAWYERS & JUDGES (BIO020000)
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / LGBT (BIO031000)
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / JEWISH (BIO037000)
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Territory Rights: WORLD
Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by the author

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

MY LIFE AS A GAY JUDGE

Harvey Brownstone

This searing and unforgettable memoir chronicles the turbulent trajectory of Canada’s first openly gay judge. Harvey Brownstone recounts the astonishing obstacles he confronted and surmounted with fearless resolve, including parental rejection, poverty, depression, homophobia, institutional inertia, and professional sabotage.

Harvey Brownstone’s story is a tumultuous, sometimes hilarious, and uplifting journey from bullied child to out-cast after coming out to his parents, to trailblazing lawyer, to distinguished judge.

Brownstone colorfully details his momentous and inventive judicial career marked by his numerous innovations of the justice system, particularly revolutionizing Ontario’s child support enforcement program.

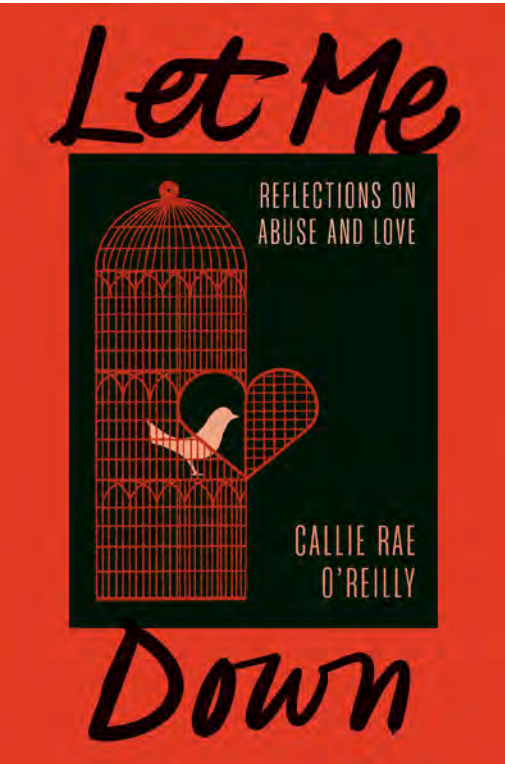
In retirement, he is no longer shackled by the restraints traditionally imposed on the judiciary, and thus Brownstone provides a frank, unfiltered, and refreshing glimpse into the inner workings of the justice system, boldly delineating the strengths and weaknesses of criminal and family courts, both of which he claims are sorely in need of comprehensive reform. His remarkable story, reinventing himself from high-profile judge to highly acclaimed talk show host, is a testament to the resilience and triumph of the human spirit.

Harvey Brownstone was Canada’s first openly gay judge and the first sitting judge in the world to write a bestselling book and host a national television show. Since retiring from the bench in 2021, he now hosts celebrities, authors, and prominent individuals on his program, *Harvey Brownstone Interviews*. He lives in the Niagara Region of Ontario.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **BESTSELLER STATUS:** Harvey Brownstone’s 2009 book, *Tug of War*, has sold more than 20,000 copies.
- **A BIG PLATFORM:** Once retired, Brownstone launched a YouTube channel where he conducts in-depth interviews with celebrities, authors, and prominent individuals. @harveybrownstoneinterviews8980 has 65K subscribers. The show has also been recognized by *Variety*, *Daily Geek Report*, and *Los Angeles Weekly Times*.



Publication Date: June 23, 2026
5.5 x 8.5", 250pp, trade paperback
24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PERSONAL MEMOIRS (BIO026000)
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / WOMEN (BIO022000)
FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / ABUSE / DOMESTIC PARTNER ABUSE (FAM001030)
FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / DATING (FAM051000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-848-6 (Paperback)
ISBN: 978-1-77852-563-6 (ePub)

Territory Rights: WORLD
Rights Available: World, all languages
Film Rights: Controlled by The Rights Factory

LET ME DOWN

REFLECTIONS ON ABUSE AND LOVE

Callie Rae O'Reilly

Let Me Down offers a vivid and vulnerable account of an abusive relationship

At 18, Callie's encounter with Reed, a brooding and arty student four years her senior, begins a youthful infatuation, a casual "thing." But as their relationship deepens, what once seemed like innocent passion soon morphs into a cycle of manipulation, control, and violence.

Callie shares the complexity of falling in love with someone who also hurt her — emotionally, physically, and sexually. Through her clear-eyed storytelling, she grapples with the blurred lines of consent, shame, and trauma and explores how these toxic dynamics seeped into every corner of her life. Her process of extracting herself from Reed's universe reveals the psychological toll of abuse that doesn't always leave visible scars but is no less damaging.

Let Me Down provides a candid reflection on the realities of modern relationships, highlighting issues like gaslighting, revenge porn, and the impact of social media on survivors. With delicate intimacy and literary sensibility, O'Reilly's memoir charts the complex and nonlinear path of self-acceptance, healing, and reclaiming one's life from the lingering effects of trauma.

Callie Rae O'Reilly is co-founder of the Apostrophe Podcast Company, which has amassed over 75M listens and houses some of Canada's top podcasts. Born and raised in Toronto, she and her husband recently moved to a farmhouse in the countryside in Ontario, where she writes on the deck next to their two dogs.



KEY SALES NOTES

- RIPPED FROM THE HEADLINES:** At a time when your abuser is only a click away and stories about Bill Cosby, Harvey Weinstein, Heard vs. Depp, and rising domestic abuse numbers feature prominently in news headlines, *Let Me Down* provides a contemporary examination of what it means to be a young woman navigating sexual relationships in the 21st century through topics like revenge porn and gaslighting.
- A NECESSARY BOOK ON DOMESTIC ABUSE:** *Know My Name* by Chanel Miller meets *My Body* by Emily Ratajkowski, *Let Me Down* is an intensely vivid and vulnerable account of an abusive relationship that the author experienced as a young woman and how courageously accepting your past can help you overcome deep trauma.
- FOR FANS OF:** *Baby Reindeer* (Netflix), *I May Destroy You* (HBO), and *How to Have Sex* (film).



Publication Date: August 11, 2026
5.5 x 8.5", 360pp, trade paperback
24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / PERSONAL MEMOIRS (BIO026000)

ISBN: 978-1-77041-864-6 (Paperback)
ISBN: 978-1-77852-569-8 (ePub)

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

MAYBE IT’S ME

A MEMOIR

Adrian Michael Kelly

A raw and riveting memoir of collapse, recovery, and reinvention

For most of his adult life, Adrian Michael Kelly specialized in failure — serial, sometimes comic, but also epic failure. Born to a gambling-addicted, compulsively spending mother who left when he was five, and raised by his dad, a haunted and often violent hard-drinking Scot, Kelly learned failure early and learned it remarkably well: how to be small, how to be safe, how to be self-defeating. By the age of 30, he was larking around abroad, trying (and failing) to write like his literary heroes while mired in bad relationships and dead-end work.

On a gray October morning in 1999, thunderously hungover and sick to death of himself, he boarded a train in Zurich bound for Bergamo and entered the initial, terrifying stages of a months-long collapse, less a psychological than a spiritual emergency — full-bore and loud.

Maybe It’s Me recounts what led up to that emergency as well as its aftermath, when Kelly came back to Canada to try to rebuild his life. For a while he did just that, but at the very summit of his hard-won achievements, life and his own folly brought him low again. Chronically unemployed, crippled by hideous back pain, and driven to despair by the mother of all writer’s block, he was divorced and nearly homeless at age 47. But along with how to fail, Kelly knew how not to quit, and he set about the process — long and difficult — of creating a consequential, good-enough life.

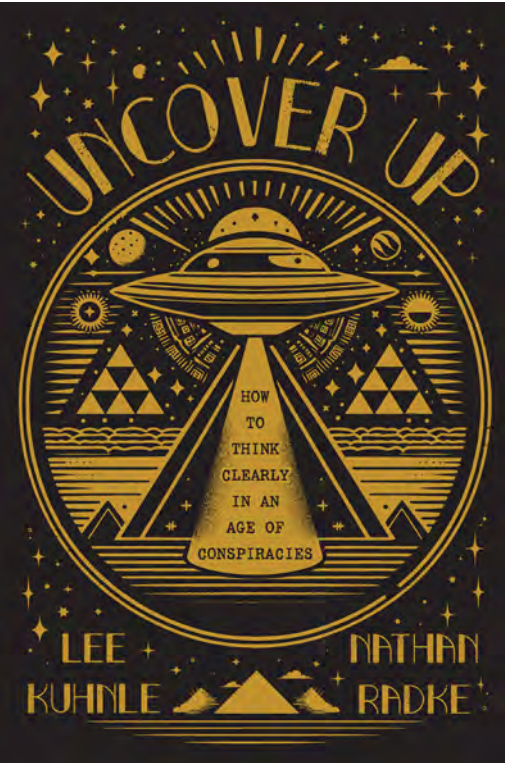
Free of self-pity and beautifully told, *Maybe It’s Me* is for everyone who gets in their own way — and can still have a laugh about it.

Adrian Michael Kelly is the author of *Down Sterling Road*, a novel, and *The Ambassador of What*, a collection of short stories. His work has appeared in *The Journey Prize Anthology* and three times in *Best Canadian Stories*. He currently lives in Kingston, ON.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR:** Adrian Michael Kelly was shortlisted for the Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction (2006) and the Journey Prize (2008). He has appeared three times in *Best Canadian Stories*.
- **PRAISE FOR ADRIAN MICHAEL KELLY:**
 - “The way Kelly wields (and welds together) words is astounding.” — *Canadian Notes & Queries* on *The Ambassador of What*
 - “Kelly is an adroit writer capable of rendering the trials of his brooding male protagonists fresh and meaningful.” — *Quill & Quire* on *The Ambassador of What*



Publication Date: July 28, 2026
6 x 9", 332pp, trade paperback
28.95 CDN / 23.95 U.S.

SOCIAL SCIENCE / CONSPIRACY THEORIES
(SOC058000)

SOCIAL SCIENCE / MEDIA STUDIES (SOC052000)

PSYCHOLOGY / SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
(PSY031000)

POLITICAL SCIENCE / PROPAGANDA (POL049000)

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UNCOVER UP

HOW TO THINK CLEARLY IN AN AGE OF CONSPIRACIES

Lee Kuhnle and Nathan Radke

An urgent exploration of how conspiracy theories take hold and spread and how to see the truth through the noise

Conspiratorial thinking, mis- and disinformation, and anti-intellectualism are at dangerous levels. With traditional media on the way out, social media algorithms siloing users into personal echo chambers, and generative AI muddying the waters, it's getting harder and harder to tell news from nonsense. Our ability to think critically about the world around us is being undermined by these forces and many others, which are being used to sow confusion, disrupt democracy, damage the environment, and degrade social well-being.

With clear-eyed reasoning and examples that are equal parts fascinating and shocking, *Uncover Up: How to Think Clearly in an Age of Conspiracies* offers sociological, historical, philosophical, and literary perspectives on conspiracy theories, allowing us to cut through the fog of misinformation. This guide to critical thinking helps us recognize when, how, and why a piece of dubious media is able to shape our worldview or secure our support, ultimately showing us how to critically approach the deluge of questionable claims we encounter every day.

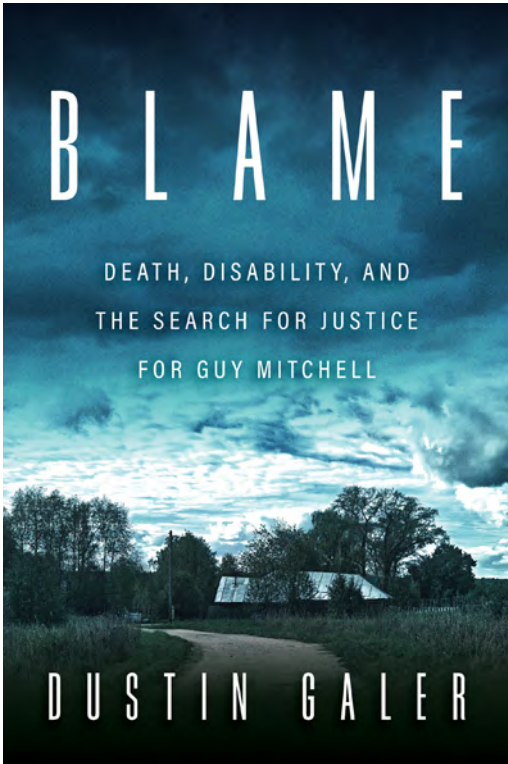
Nathan Radke has degrees in philosophy and sociology from Trent and Lakehead and is the co-author of *Ethical Perspectives* and several chapters of *Conspiracy Theories in American History*. He is co-host of *The Uncover Up* podcast and teaches historical and contemporary conspiracy theories at the post-secondary level and as a regular guest analyst on television and radio. He lives in Toronto, ON.



Lee Kuhnle holds a Ph.D. from York University and teaches on the role of ideology in political society with a focus on conspiracy theories and the political impact of conspiratorial beliefs. He teaches at Humber Polytechnic and is co-host of *The Uncover Up* podcast and a frequent presenter on television and radio. He lives in Toronto, ON.

KEY SALES NOTES

- NOTE FROM THE EDITOR, JEN ALBERT:** “*Uncover Up* is not just an exposé on popular conspiracy theories, it’s about HOW to think. It shows us how to process the information we’re getting in an objective, systematic, and context-dependent way to determine how reliable it really is. The book aims to reach out with compassion to people where they are, helping them to maintain a critical eye when they encounter a new piece of information and to recognize when and why a piece of questionable media is trying to shape their worldview or secure their support. It does this not just by pointing out flaws in individual conspiracies, but by shining a light on how they work in the first place and showing that anyone can fall into the misinformation trap. It’s an important book, coming at the perfect time.”
- FEATURES A VARIETY OF CONSPIRACY THEORIES:** From the moon landing, alien abductions, the Illuminati, to anti-vaxx movements and QAnon, Kuhnle and Radke use real-life conspiracy theories to teach readers to recognize when they are being bamboozled.
- EXPERTS ON THE TOPIC:** Nathan Radke and Lee Kuhnle are professors on this topic and host *The Uncover-Up Conspiracy Cast*, which has 300K downloads.



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SOCIAL SCIENCE / PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
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BLAME

DEATH, DISABILITY, AND THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE FOR GUY MITCHELL

Dustin Galer

Dramatic nonfiction that reads like a legal thriller, the story of the life and death of a man with developmental disabilities in a care home unfolds in flashbacks to reveal a complex web of culpability.

On April 29, 2012, a private world of deceit and neglect came crashing down when Guy Mitchell, a 38-year-old man with developmental disabilities, died confused and alone, thrashing in a dark underground tank on the rural property where he lived.

When police arrived, they found a far larger crime scene: a house of horror where Guy had been living with two other vulnerable individuals under the care of a young woman with serious psychological issues. The home had no running water and no heat. Human waste filled the toilets and covered bathtubs, walls, and floors. There was no food in the kitchen, and mounds of dirty laundry and garbage cluttered most rooms. Yet the agency overseeing the home gave it a pass just two days before Guy’s death.

Blame: Death, Disability, and the Search for Justice for Guy Mitchell attempts to find meaning and justice in the tragic death of a vulnerable individual whose circle of care failed him. Moving between the coroner’s inquest and flashing back to real-time events, author Dustin Galer explores what happened to Guy Mitchell in meticulous detail. As each layer of Guy’s support system is peeled back and examined, new facts emerge that reveal yet another missed opportunity to intervene in a rapidly deteriorating situation. Dramatic nonfiction that reads like a legal thriller, *Blame* resists easy answers, exposing a tangled web of negligence, indifference, and systemic failure and probing the deeper structural forces behind Guy’s death. What emerges is a powerful indictment of a broken system and a strong argument that the duty to care for society’s most vulnerable ultimately lies with us all.

Dustin Galer is an award-winning writer, biographer, and historian known for his writing on disability history and labor. He has his doctorate in history from the University of Toronto and is the author of *Beryl: The Making of a Disability Activist* and *Working Towards Equity: Disability Rights Activism and Employment in Late Twentieth-Century Canada*. He lives in Hamilton, ON.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE:** In April 2024, the BBC reported on gross neglect in a care home when Marcus Hanlin, a resident with Down syndrome, died in care. In 2019, the Australian government established the Disability Royal Commission to investigate violence and abuse of people with disabilities in institutional care, which has shifted public attention significantly (though implementation of the recommendations remains fraught). While *Blame* focuses on the tragic Canadian case of Guy Mitchell, it shines a light on failures worldwide.
- **INTEREST IN DISABILITY RIGHTS ON THE RISE:** For followers of disability Twitter, readers of *Disability Visibility* (Alice Wong), and *Care Work* (Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha) and viewers of documentaries such as *Crip Camp* and *Tell Them You Love Me*.
- **AN AUTHORITY ON THE SUBJECT MATTER:** Dustin Galer is deeply entrenched in the disability activism space and has written *Beryl: The Making of a Disability Activist* and *Working Towards Equity: Disability Rights Activism and Employment in Late Twentieth-Century Canada*. For *Blame*, Galer made sure to consult Guy Mitchell’s family to humanize Guy and present an empathetic and true story of his circle of care and the many systems and institutions that failed to protect him.
- **ADDRESSES A LARGE COMMUNITY THAT IS WIDELY UNDERREPRESENTED:** According to the 2022 Canadian Survey on Disability, approximately 1.5% of Canadians (456K) have a developmental disability. Many of these individuals need institutional or government-funded support. As the population globally begins to age, the number of individuals in state-funded and/or -provided care settings will only increase, bringing the issues Galer raises in his book even more to the forefront of many families’ lives.



Publication Date: August 4, 2026
5.5 x 8.5", 240pp, trade paperback
26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.

SOCIAL SCIENCE / ETHNIC STUDIES / CANADIAN STUDIES (SOC008040)
SOCIAL SCIENCE / DIVERSITY & MULTICULTURALISM (SOC074000)
SOCIAL SCIENCE / SOCIOLOGY / URBAN (SOC026030)
TRAVEL / CANADA / WESTERN PROVINCES (AB, BC) (TRV006050)

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VERY VANCOUVER

UNCOVERING THE SOUL OF A WEST COAST CITY

Christopher Cheung

A fascinating odyssey through Vancouver’s diverse neighborhoods, revealing the hidden stories that have shaped Canada’s most misunderstood city

Vancouver journalist Christopher Cheung has spent most of his career chasing the stories that no one else was covering, taking readers beneath the surface of the “city of glass” to expose the beating, multicultural heart of a place that has too easily been characterized by multimillion-dollar condos and yoga pants. In 15 deeply human and well-researched stories, *Very Vancouver* tours the city to reveal how families, businesses, and individuals are just trying to make a home in this beautiful, and challenging, place of plurality.

There are the families who were the first to mass-produce Canadian tofu and put beef balls in the earliest bowls of Eastside phở. There is the diligent population of binners who scavenge alleyways for refundable cans and bottles. There is the roller-coaster story of how migration has shaped the kaleidoscopic menu — with bear claws, bánh mì, and tamales — of the legendary late-night Duffin’s Donuts. And, of course, there is the mysterious Baklava Man, who sold his treats on downtown streets after a career as an outspoken politician in Syria led to his exile.

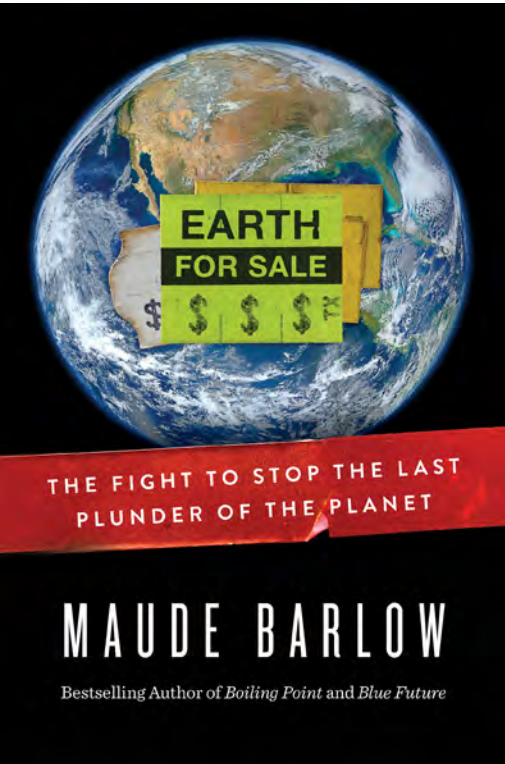
Very Vancouver is a tribute to the city’s diasporas and examines the inequalities and fractured histories that mark every backyard vegetable garden and ubiquitous Vancouver Special, the boxy and derided design that housed newcomers. Vancouver is renowned for its natural beauty, but it’s also a place built on a foundation of migration, colonization, the working poor, and families who woke up every morning hoping for better.

Christopher Cheung is the author of *Under the White Gaze: Solving the Problem of Race and Representation in Canadian Journalism*. He has worked as a reporter at *The Tyee*, *Metro*, and the *Vancouver Courier* and has received two Webster Awards, BC’s top journalism prize. He was born and raised in Vancouver, where he still lives.



KEY SALES NOTES

- FOR FANS OF:** 99% *Invisible* (podcast), *Denison Avenue* by Daniel Innes and Christina Wong (novel), *City of Glass* by Douglas Coupland (non-fiction), *Chop Suey Nation* by Ann Hui (non-fiction), *Crackdown* (podcast), and listeners of CBC’s *Early Edition*, *On the Coast*, and *Our Vancouver*.
- A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR, JEN SOOKFONG LEE:** “I first came across Chris’s writing when I read his article on Crystal Mall, perhaps the weirdest mall in Metro Vancouver. At that time, I really wondered who Chris was and kept looking for his articles, and they did not disappoint. Everything from urban immigrant gardens to food security in Vancouver’s poorest neighborhoods to an excellent piece on whiteness in Canadian media. Vancouver is desperate for a book that speaks to the real lived experiences of BIPOC communities, the working class, and the unhoused. *Very Vancouver* reads as especially true to my formative years and to the lives of so many of my friends, people who buy books if they seem relevant to them.”
- CELEBRATING VANCOUVER:** A way for readers familiar with Vancouver to celebrate what makes the city special, as well as those unfamiliar with Vancouver to get to know the “real” people, places, and quirky phenomena that make the multicultural metropolis what it is. Stories include Cheung suiting up to visit a big, steamy tofu factory, befriending a Syrian politician-turned-street vendor who fled the Assad regime, and hunting down the survivors of a Downtown Eastside hotel fire who rescued their cats from the flames.
- THE RIGHT AUTHOR FOR THE JOB:** Christopher Cheung was shortlisted for the BC and Yukon Book Awards (2025), won the Digital Publishing Award for Best Arts and Culture Storytelling (2024), and won the Jack Webster Award for Diversity and Inclusion (2021). Cheung has over 1K followers on Instagram, speaks Cantonese (the most commonly used language in the city after English), and was born and raised in Vancouver.



Publication Date: May 5, 2026

5.5 x 8.5", 260pp, trade paperback

26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.

NATURE / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION & PROTECTION (NAT011000)

SOCIAL SCIENCE / ACTIVISM & SOCIAL JUSTICE (SOC072000)

POLITICAL SCIENCE / PUBLIC POLICY / ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY (POL044000)

SCIENCE / GLOBAL WARMING & CLIMATE CHANGE (SCI092000)

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EARTH FOR SALE

THE FIGHT TO STOP THE LAST PLUNDER OF THE COMMONS

Maude Barlow

An urgent warning about the financialization of nature and the quiet rise of corporate control over the planet’s resources

Most agree on the urgent need for climate action, yet we are often divided on how to stop the destruction of the natural world. *Earth for Sale* exposes the danger of governments giving over this responsibility to powerful private interests, namely the same energy, chemical, agri-business, and bottled water corporations that brought us to this ecological brink.

Their answer? Put a price on nature and bring it into the market. Under the inviting language of “nature-based solutions” and “ecosystem services,” this financialization and commodification of nature takes many forms: carbon trading; debt-for-nature swaps; water pollution trading; biodiversity credits; green, blue, and wildlife conservation bonds; plastics offsets; water futures; and more.

Renowned activist Maude Barlow, who sounded the alarm decades ago on the corporate assault on water, argues the financialization of nature is dangerous and surprisingly few understand the implications, including many in environmental movements. With detailed examples and meticulous research, *Earth for Sale* unmasks this insidious new form of corporate plunder. We must not allow the movement to protect nature and biodiversity to be handed over to private interests whose driving motive is, and always has been, profit.

Maude Barlow is the bestselling author of 21 books. She co-founded the Council of Canadians, chairing its board for over three decades, sits on the board of Food & Water Watch, and the board of advisors of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature. She served as senior water advisor to the UN General Assembly and was a leader in the campaign to have water recognized as a human right. She is the recipient of 17 honorary doctorates and many awards, including the 2005 Right Livelihood Award. She lives in Ottawa, ON.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **RECIPIENT OF THE 2005 SWEDISH RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARD**, an international award to honor and support those offering practical and exemplary answers to the most urgent challenges facing us today. Maude Barlow was recognized “for her exemplary and longstanding worldwide work for trade justice and the recognition of the fundamental human right to water.”
- **INTERNATIONAL APPEAL:** Barlow has been published by Verlag Antje Kunstmann in Germany and éditions écosociété in Quebec and France. *Earth for Sale* features information on water markets in the U.S., Canada, Australia, and Chile, and covers all the big players in the climate crisis: the UN, World Bank, EU, and large international conservation NGOs.
- **FASCINATING AND TROUBLING STORIES:** From the World Bank pricing elephants and whales, to Indigenous communities displaced by carbon projects, farmers losing land to water markets, and corporations resisting a plastics treaty, this book exposes modern corporate abuses. Yet it also highlights inspiring community resistance and the growing Rights of Nature movement, offering hope and direction.
- **GLOBAL ALLIANCE ON THE RIGHTS OF NATURE (GARN):** This book was inspired by a report Barlow wrote for GARN, a network of organizations and individuals committed to the universal adoption and implementation of legal systems that recognize, respect, and enforce the rights of nature. GARN has 20K followers across social channels, and Barlow sits on the advisory board.
- **AN ACTIVE ACTIVIST:** Barlow is a founding member and former board chair of the Council of Canadians, co-founder of the Blue Planet Project (international), chairs the board of Washington-based Food & Water Watch, and is a founding member of the San Francisco-based International Forum on Globalization. She was a councilor with the Hamburg-based World Future Council and served as the senior advisor on water to the 63rd president of the UN General Assembly (2008–2009). Her book on Canadian water policy, *Boiling Point*, made the *Globe and Mail* bestseller list, and her acclaimed Blue trilogy has surpassed 100K sales internationally and has been translated into 26 languages.



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6 x 9", 280pp, trade paperback
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SPORTS & RECREATION / BUSINESS ASPECTS
(SPO068000)

SPORTS & RECREATION / HISTORY (SPO019000)

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TOTAL NONSTOP AGONY

THE RISE AND FALL OF TNA

Vince Russo

The most controversial man in professional wrestling tells all in the story of the upstart TNA with stories that will make your jaw drop.

Vince Russo, known as the most successful writer in the history of professional wrestling, brought the World Wrestling Federation to its greatest success during the Attitude Era, creating a brand of wrestling that brought the industry to record heights. Three decades later, Russo is still talked about as one of the most influential men in the industry.

Following the success of his first two books, *Forgiven* (covering his years with Vince McMahon’s WWE) and *Rope Opera: How WCW Killed Vince Russo* (his time with Ted Turner’s rival), *TOTAL NONSTOP AGONY: The Rise and Fall of TNA* picks up Russo’s story as he begins work with the upstart TNA, where the daily drama proved greater than ever. The storylines here feature an indecisive millionaire southern belle, Dixie Carter, who cared more about her image than her wrestling company; the demise of his friendship with his best friend, Wrestling Superstar Jeff Jarrett; the network executives at Spike TV, who understood very little about the business they were in; and the return of his mortal enemies from WCW, Eric Bischoff and Hulk Hogan.

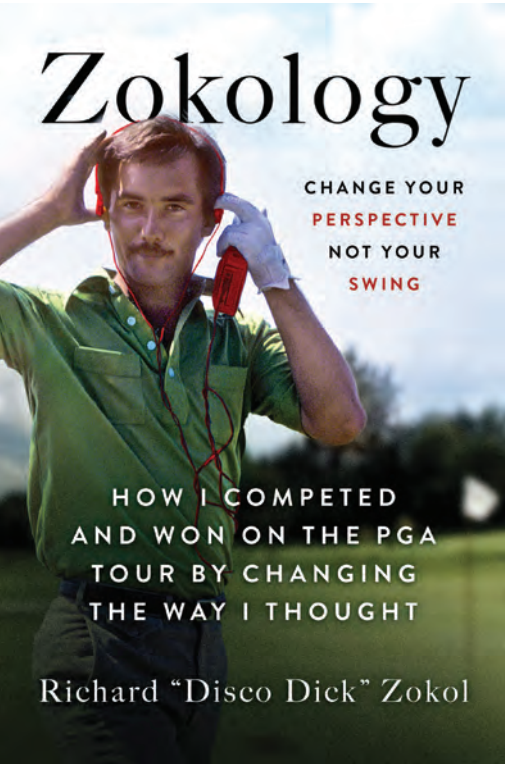
Russo’s TNA stories are epic, and many have never been told before. The politics, runaway egos, backstabbing, and underhandedness make the Real Housewives of Beverly Hills look like Little Women. Finally, the time has come to discuss TNA: this is the tell-all that no one has ever dared, and no one can tell the story better than Vince Russo.

Born on Long Island, NY, currently residing in Thornton, Colorado, **Vince Russo** is a writer/producer/on-air talent/podcaster known for his work in the sports-entertainment industry. Through his 34-year career, Russo, the “Most Controversial Man” in the history of sports-entertainment, was the man behind the WWE’s Attitude Era, the most successful time in professional wrestling history.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **STILL CONTROVERSIAL, NEVER BORING:** *Newsday* wrote in 2016 that “despite scripting some of the most successful WWF television programs in history, and later doing the same for WCW and TNA, Russo remains one of wrestling’s most reviled personalities for his sometimes unconventional take on the wrestling business.”
- **A FRIEND TO CELEBS:** Dwyane “The Rock” Johnson spoke fondly of working with Russo, praising his “crazy out of the box ideas” in a tweet in March 2019.
- **A LARGE PLATFORM:** Vince Russo has 73K followers on X, hosts the podcasts *The Brand* and *Before My Head Explodes*, and has been a guest on the podcast *The Steve Austin Show* and appeared on Vice TV’s *Dark Side of the Ring: Unheard*. A quick search on the 1.1M member Reddit community /squaredcircle shows Vince Russo is the subject of hundreds of threads.
- **NEWSWORTHY AUTHOR:** While it’s been years since Vince Russo was actively involved in creative work with the WWE, he still routinely makes headlines such as “10 Terrible Vince Russo Ideas That WCW Fans Hated” (*Screen Rant*, October 2024), “‘They Covered Allegations in a Factual Way’ — Former WWE Writer Vince Russo Shared His Thoughts on Netflix’s Mr. McMahon” (msn.com, April 2025), “10 Wrestlers Who Actually Enjoyed Working for Vince Russo” (*TheSportster*, December 2024), “Are WWE Fans Being Ripped Off By Sky-High Ticket Prices? Vince Russo Blames TKO Greed” (*Sports Illustrated*, March 2025).



Publication Date: May 19, 2026
6 x 9", 320pp, trade paperback
24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.

SPORTS & RECREATION / GOLF (SPO016000)
SPORTS & RECREATION / SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY (SPO041000)
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / SPORTS (BIO016000)

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ZOKOLOGY

CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE NOT YOUR SWING—HOW I COMPETED AND WON ON THE PGA TOUR BY CHANGING THE WAY I THOUGHT

Richard Zokol

This honest, funny, and unforgettable memoir follows Zokol’s 22-year golf journey through talent, self-sabotage, classic rock, and the game that nearly broke him.

Like it or not, playing golf will pull you inside out and expose your soul — and there’s no place to hide.

Zokology isn’t just a book about golf. It’s about learning to think when the way you’ve always thought is no longer working. And for Dick Zokol, that meant learning how to navigate the noise in his head and figuring out how to survive on the PGA Tour

Zokol’s Cinderella story began when he “walked on” the Brigham Young University golf team. Four years later, he captained BYU to victory in the NCAA championship. Later that summer, he won the Canadian Amateur *and* got through the notorious PGA Tour Q-School. But the fairy tale ended, and Zokol struggled as a rookie on the PGA Tour. Dealing with intense anxiety, expectations, and feeling he didn’t belong, he battled the loneliness of life on the road. He was soon desperately searching for something that would help him find solid ground.

From here, Zokol opens up about the real stuff — the mental and emotional toil that defined his 22 years on the PGA Tour. His two wins on the PGA Tour, both in 1992, were evidence his path had taken hold.

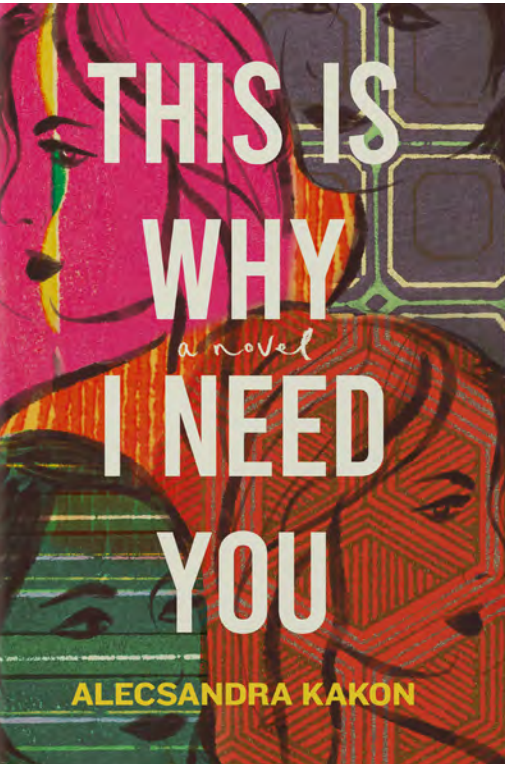
In his career, Zokol played over 450 Tour events and learned success wasn’t about the *golf swing* — success *and* failure are about your mind. Employing a thought protocol can get you through those difficult situations. *Zokology* is raw, real, and sometimes uncomfortable. It’s a guide for when you get off track — on the course or just in your own mind.

Richard Zokol is a Canadian golf legend. He captained BYU to win the 1981 NCAA Championship, played in over 450 Tour events, winning twice, and represented Canada internationally. Nicknamed “Disco Dick” for using a Walkman on course, he’s a four-time Hall of Fame inductee. He currently resides in Kelowna, BC.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **AN ELITE START:** Zokol was born in Vancouver, BC, and attended Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He was the captain of the 1981 NCAA championship golf team and an All-American selection in 1981. He was teammates with future PGA Tour players Rick Fehr, Keith Clearwater, and Bobby Clampett.
- **NEVER-BEFORE-HEARD STORIES:** Zokol tells funny stories from his own career and about other pro golfers he crossed paths with and gives the reader insight into his struggles and success, as well as some practical guidance for how to help your own golf game.
- **A 22-YEAR CAREER:** Richard Zokol competed in 412 PGA Tour events and had 20 top 10 finishes in his career, including two wins. He is a member of the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and competed in the Canadian Open 26 times as a professional and three times as an amateur.



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5.5 x 8.5", 352pp, trade paperback
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FICTION / LGBT / LESBIAN (FIC018000)

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THIS IS WHY I NEED YOU

A NOVEL

Alecsandra Kakon

Character-driven and full of heart, This Is Why I Need You is a sharply observed debut that captures the realities of lifelong friendships and explores romance, motherhood, sexuality, and loss.

With the promise of nothing but fun in the sun, Zinnia, Fay, Kiara, and Valentina are all geared up to reconnect on their 10th annual girls’ trip that brings them together from all different cities. What they don’t know, however, is that some baggage comes on vacation whether you pack it or not. Their outside lives slowly seep into their seaside getaway, and when the weekend proves to be a series of secrets, snide remarks, and non-stop bickering, tensions escalate. Suddenly they are all forced to wonder: Have they outgrown their childhood friendships?

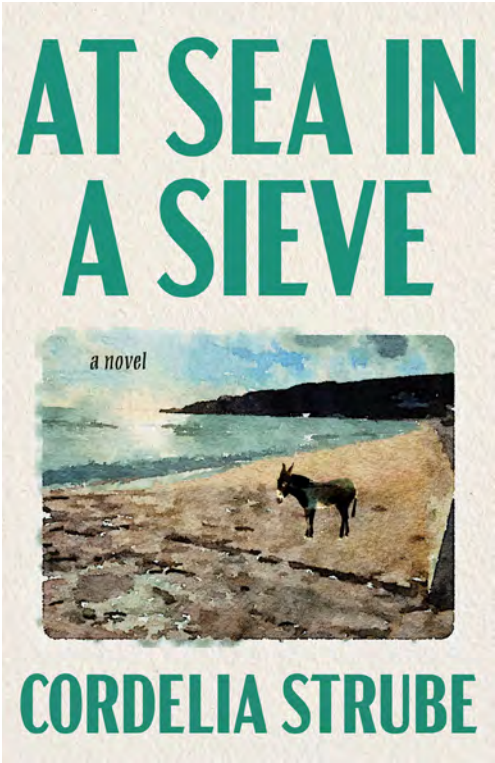
Shedding light on the power and complications of lifelong friendships, *This Is Why I Need You* questions the choices we make in life that can bring us closer together with — or pull us further apart from — the people we need most: our friends.

Alecsandra Kakon is an English Literature professor at Concordia University and Dawson College. She holds an MA in Hispanic Literature and a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature. Alongside her academic pursuits, she published *My Profile Projects*, an online series of personal essays that tell the collective memoir of 52 womxn. Alecs lives in Montreal with her three incredible children, Azalea, Ivy, and Brighton.



KEY SALES NOTES

- FOR FANS OF:** A heartfelt read that celebrates the power of enduring friendships during life’s messiest, most pivotal moments. Perfect for longtime fans of *Sex and the City* or those who rooted for the love and struggles in *Valeria*, *Friends from College*, and *Girls*, or want a grown-up *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* to celebrate womanhood in all its complexity.
- A DIVERSE MONTREAL:** Set against the vibrant, multicultural backdrop of Montreal, *This Is Why I Need You* weaves an addictive multi-POV narrative featuring characters from richly varied backgrounds, careers, and experiences: Val, a Hispanic full-time writer; Kiara, a half-Jamaican, half-Jewish educator and body positivity advocate; Zinnia, a Lebanese runner, former dancer, and photographer; and Fay, a French Canadian gallery owner. The multiculturalism at the heart of these characters is essential to capturing the soul of Montreal.
- GREAT FOR BOOK CLUBS:** Readers are sure to see some of themselves in one or all of the characters and will be eager to share their thoughts with their friends.
- SEXUAL IDENTITY:** One of the storylines of the book is a queer love story with one character in her 30s who has a later-in-life sexual awakening, having previously only been with men.



Publication Date: June 16, 2026
6 x 9", 600pp, trade paperback
28.95 CDN / 23.95 U.S.

FICTION / LITERARY (FIC019000)
FICTION / LEGAL (FIC034000)
FICTION / FAMILY LIFE / GENERAL (FIC045000)
FICTION / HUMOROUS / BLACK HUMOR
(FIC060000)

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AT SEA IN A SIEVE

A NOVEL

Cordelia Strube

A sharp and moving portrait of Ray — judge, single parent, and tightly leashed woman whose survival strategies seem suddenly to be coming apart

Ray, a single mother and superior court judge, pounds a punching bag in her basement to manage her anger. She has concluded that life must be lived tightly leashed or chaos will move in. Her prime directive is to protect her daughter, Armada, from life’s unruly forces. Ray deftly handles other people’s problems, managing her courtroom and the politics of the judges’ chambers, and defusing her neighbors’ battles, all the while staying above the fray. But when her feckless, sweet brother re-enters Ray’s life, bringing unpredictability and wayward emotion with him, and her sexy, but enervating Guatemalan ex crashes into her world, she realizes that her carefully piloted ship is not watertight after all — it’s no better than a sieve. Cascading events reveal to Ray that suffering cannot be held at bay and that life must be lived in all its messy glory.

Peopled with a cast of characters for the ages, from the eccentrics that surround Ray’s courtroom and her street to a flock of recalcitrant hens, and laden with her trademark sly wit, this is Strube’s best novel yet — sharp, intensely humane, moving, and funny.

Cordelia Strube is the author of 11 critically acclaimed novels. Winner of the CBC literary competition, she has been nominated for the Governor General’s Award and the Trillium Book Award and longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. Her novel *On the Shores of Darkness There Is Light* won the City of Toronto Book Award. Strube divides her time between her Toronto home and her country house in Yarker, ON.



KEY SALES NOTES

- FOR READERS OF:** Miriam Toews and Heather O’Neill.
- CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AUTHOR:** Strube’s previous work is critically acclaimed by the *New York Times Book Review*, *Newsday*, and all of Canada’s national newspapers, and Strube has been a finalist for every major Canadian literary award, including the Giller Prize, Governor General’s Award, and Amazon.ca First Novel Award.
- HUMOROUS AND TRAGIC:** Cordelia Strube is a master of black comedy storytelling, blending humor and heartbreak in a way that rivals Jonathan Tropper at his finest. Her portrayal of characters is deeply empathetic yet unflinching as she navigates flawed personalities in difficult circumstances.



Publication Date: August 18, 2026
5.5 x 8.5", 240pp, trade paperback
24.95 CDN / 19.95 U.S.

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FICTION / THRILLERS / CRIME (FIC031010)
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THE QUEEN OF FLORIDA

A CRIME NOVEL

Jeff Bercuson

A wickedly entertaining romp featuring retired widow June who delves into the deep underbelly of paradise — Boca — to get everything she knows she deserves

June has spent a lifetime tending to the infinite needs of her four children, especially the youngest, Jimmy, who was the black sheep from the very beginning and who has dragged her down to hellish places she never expected or wanted to go: court, rehab, *prison*. After Jimmy’s latest relapse, June makes a break for it. She heads south to a place where so many like her have found their happiness: Boca. For the first time in her life, she does what she wants — until Jimmy knocks on her door unannounced with that strange hollow look in his eyes.

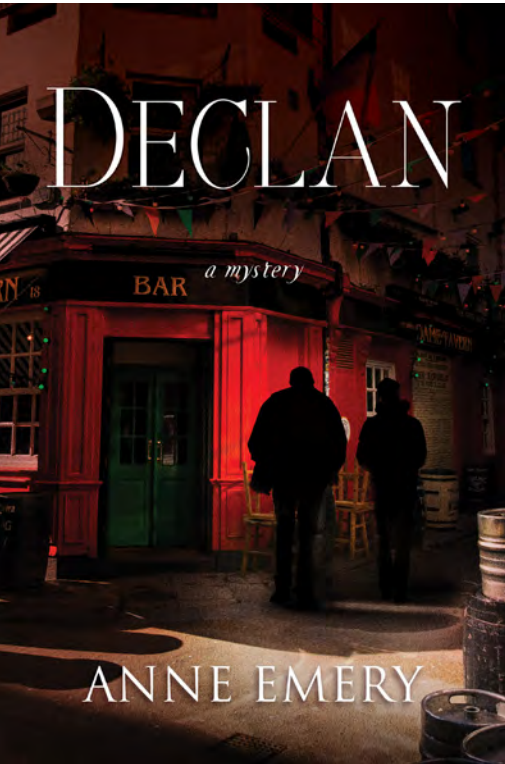
But the prodigal son is not made for paradise, and he disappears not long after he arrives. June’s search for him draws her into the shadiest corners of this sunlit Shangri-La, where there are dirty cops, ambitious gangsters, and vicious henchmen waiting for her. Opportunities wait in the darkness, too. And after a lifetime of sacrifice and self-denial, why *shouldn’t* June partake of them? After all, Florida is expensive — she needs a new roof, a new car, a new face — and June is on a fixed income. Plus, you can’t become the queen without breaking a few rules.

Jeff Bercuson was born and raised in Toronto, where he lives with his wife and two children and teaches in the School of English and Liberal Studies at Seneca Polytechnic. For the longest time, he wanted to be a philosopher, and he wrote two books trying to prove that he was one. Then he realized that we get much closer to the truth by making up stories. *The Queen of Florida* is his first novel.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **A BOLD TWIST ON A CLASSIC GENRE:** When the detective dies on page 50 (spoiler!), the mystery truly begins. This genre-defying hook flips expectations and sets up a wickedly entertaining chain of events.
- **AN UNEXPECTED ANTI-HERO:** A retired widow from Boca Raton takes center stage in a genre typically reserved for down-on-their-luck PIs. She brings a sharp wit and a deadly edge to Florida’s seedy underbelly.
- **FOR FANS OF ELMORE LEONARD AND CARL HIAASEN:** Gritty, funny, and packed with violence, this novel blends sun-drenched noir with a love letter to the greats of the genre.



Publication Date: June 9, 2026
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26.95 CDN / 21.95 U.S.

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DECLAN

A MYSTERY

Anne Emery

Two-time Crime Writers of Canada Award-winning author Anne Emery is back with another mystery

“[Anne Emery] really is a fine writer; not just a good storyteller but a stylist as well: every word of her prose feels carefully chosen for the way it interacts with the words around it.” — Booklist

Father Brennan Burke’s father, Declan, gathered up his family and fled Ireland under the cover of night four decades ago after disobeying an order from his commanding officer in the IRA. Declan has not set foot in Ireland since. Until now. Why now? And why not? What could go wrong after all this time? All he tells his family is that “it’s time” to see his beloved homeland again. But sons Brennan and Terry, knowing their father’s checkered past, suspect there is more to this sudden impulse than merely “it’s time,” so they insist on going with him.

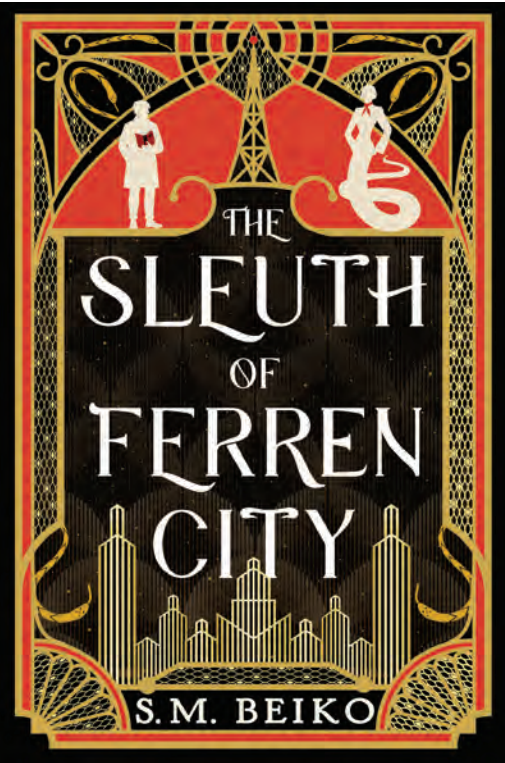
And sure enough, when they get to Ireland, there are men in the shadows. Knowing. Waiting to settle old scores. After an evening in the pubs of Dublin, Declan and Brennan call it a night, but Terry isn’t ready to leave his barstool quite yet. The next morning when Brennan wakes up, he sees that Terry never came home. Had the men in the shadows missed their chance to grab Declan and taken Terry instead? Brennan and Declan are frantic to find him, and they call upon the services of Declan’s brother Finn and Brennan’s old friend Detective Shay Rynne. As Brennan searches for the motives behind this action against his family, he is joined by lawyer Monty Collins, and they learn things about Brennan’s father that he had never wanted revealed. The revelations are not limited to the Burke family’s long campaign against the British occupiers of their country. Some matters are much more personal.

Anne Emery is a lawyer and author of the Collins-Burke mystery series. She has won the Crime Writers of Canada awards for Best Novel and Best First Novel, the Dartmouth Book Award for Fiction, and an Independent Publishers silver medal. She lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia.



KEY SALES NOTES

- **AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR:** Emery is a highly decorated author: winner of the Crime Writers of Canada Award for Best Crime Novel (2019), the Dartmouth Book Award for Fiction (2011), and the Crime Writers of Canada Award for Best First Novel (2007). She was nominated for the Crime Writers of Canada Award for Best Traditional Mystery in 2023 for *Fenian Street*.
- **BESTSELLING SERIES:** The Collins-Burke series has been a fan favorite since 2007, and this is the 14th book in the series, though it can be read as a standalone.



Publication Date: June 30, 2026

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none

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YOUNG ADULT FICTION / MONSTERS (YAF041000)

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THE SLEUTH OF FERREN CITY

THE BRINDLEWATCH QUINTET,
BOOK THREE

S.M. Beiko

*In the third installment of the Brindlewatch Quintet,
a novel adventure awaits in the bright lights of the
big city*

Monsters are real. Well, monstros are, anyway — an emerging group of citizens trying to find their place in Brindlewatch, ever since the Camillites made a splash in the small town of Quixx, and the Jettites climbed out of their subterranean city beneath Lake Mallion. The Far Cities are bristling with newcomers looking for a fresh start in this brand-new world, but is it as safe for them as they think?

Sable, a Camillite who still lives on Mount Quixx, isn't so sure. She sees the world through the distorted lens of the novels she steals from Professor Bedouin's observatory and is slow to trust the strangers in the world beyond the page. She is a side-character in her own story, and she wants to keep it that way.

But a desperate letter begging for help rewrites Sable as the protagonist sleuth of her favorite novels, and hot on the trail trying to find her vanished friend, Sable uncovers more than she bargained for in the bright lights of the big city: a famous author with the ability to make every monstro's dream come true, a dastardly underworld targeting vulnerable monstros, and a sweet bookseller who may be at the heart of the mystery.

And on the airwaves, a broadcast like no other promises a bold new world for everyone. Will Sable find her voice and save those terrified of speaking up, before it's too late?

S.M. Beiko is a Winnipeg-based fantasy author and award-winning graphic novelist. Her work includes *The Lake and the Library*, the Realms of Ancient trilogy, and the in-progress Brindlewatch Quintet. Beiko has won the Aurora Award and was nominated for the Joe Shuster Award in 2020 for her original graphic novel *KRAMPUS IS MY BOYFRIEND!*



KEY SALES NOTES

- **DELIGHTFUL AND UPBEAT:** For a younger YA audience, with charming and relatable characters, lively dialogue, and a focus on friendship and found family. The books charm you with their warmth and heart, making the world just a little bit brighter.
- **DIVERSE VOICES:** Beiko is bisexual, and in this series of standalone novels, nearly every character falls under the LGBTQ+ umbrella. Plenty of queer romance ensues!
- **PRAISE FOR THE SERIES:**
 - “Fans of Diana Wynne Jones and TJ Klune will find much to love in this wholly original novel that blends science and magic, modernity and tradition, and features a sweet monster romance, found families, kooky characters, and a pair of sisters whose fraught relationship is central to their coming-of-age stories.” — *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review of *The Stars of Mount Quixx*
 - “A hot ticket, chockablock with memorable performances.” — *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review of *The Door on Lake Mallion*
- **BUZZY AUTHOR:** The first two books in the series were both nominated for the Aurora Award in the Best Young Adult Novel category, and *The Stars of Mount Quixx* was shortlisted for the 2024 CCBC Book Awards Arlene Barlin Award for Science Fiction and Fantasy. Beiko is a master of self-promotion and a much-beloved figure in the science fiction and fantasy community in Canada.

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

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