

2020

**COLORADO**



**BOOK  
AWARDS**

**WRITE.  
READ.  
CELEBRATE.**

**Presented by Colorado Humanities & Center for the Book**



The Colorado Center for the Book, the state affiliate of the Library of Congress and a program department of Colorado Humanities, exists to encourage a love of reading and books in people of all ages through diverse cultural activities. Our programs are designed to inspire a passion for books, writing, and reading at all levels of literacy: Motherread/Fatheread Colorado, Veterans Writing, the Colorado Book Awards, and the Colorado Poet Laureate.

### Library of Congress Center for the Book

This year marks the 31st anniversary of the Colorado Center for the Book, an affiliate of the Library of Congress Center for the Book. During that time, the Colorado center has touched every part of the state, helping to fulfill the Center for the Book mission of promoting books, reading, libraries, and literacy. With the continued support of Colorado Humanities, we look forward to another three decades of collaboration and advocacy for Colorado's rich literary heritage.

- Guy Lamolinara,  
Director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress



### Thank You



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE  
HUMANITIES



Volunteers who contribute time and talent as selectors and judges, thank you for your support and attendance.



## 2020 Colorado Book Awards on Facebook Live @cohumanities from the Evans School, 1115 Acoma Street, Denver, CO 80204

4 p.m.

### Welcome

Josephine Jones, Director of Programs & Center for the Book

### Awards Presentation & Brief Readings by Winners

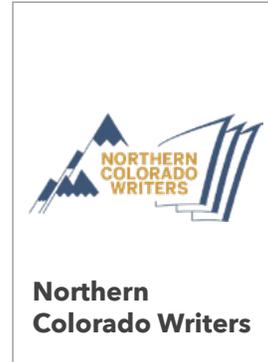
Margaret Coval, Executive Director & Thor Nelson, Board Chair

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The Colorado Book Awards selection process involves over 70 volunteer selectors and judges. This year, Colorado writers, publishers, editors, illustrators, and photographers submitted 211 books for consideration in 16 categories of the Colorado Book Awards competition. We celebrate and recognize all our finalists for their literary contributions and excellence.

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## *All the Lives We Ever Lived: A Lighthouse Writers Workshop Community Anthology Vol.1*

### **Lighthouse Writers Workshop**

The poems, stories, and art created in Lighthouse Writers Workshop’s community engagement program powerfully examines what community is and how literature helps to create and nurture it. Most of the individuals in this anthology come together on a weekly basis to find camaraderie, community, and dignity through the act of creative writing.

**Dan Manzanares** won a Mayor’s Award for Excellence in Arts and Culture in 2016 for his work at the Lighthouse Writers Workshop. Employed there from 2012 to 2020, he currently works at the University of Denver’s Prison Arts Initiative.

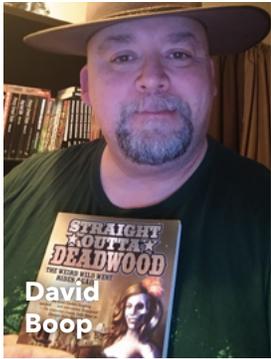
**Suzi Q. Smith** is an artist, activist, and educator who hails from Denver. She holds a degree in English Writing from the University of Colorado at Denver and has performed poetry throughout the United States for over a decade. She is currently the co-Chair of the Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs.

## *Rise: An Anthology of Change*

### **Northern Colorado Writers, LLC**

This collection of prose and poetry explores change, renewal, and rebirth. When things change, we experience anger, fear, courage, and hope. Within struggle and strife lies the opportunity to rise from the ashes and create, grow, and love. The work of 38 authors and poets in *Rise* inspire us to grow in strength, hope, and resilience together as we each face the challenges of change.

Northern Colorado Writers Bonnie McKnight, Lorrie Wolfe, Laura Mahal, Ronda Simmons, Sarah Roberts, Holly Collingwood, and Dean K. Miller edited *Rise* and Amy Rivers wrote the introduction.



## *Straight Outta Deadwood*

### **Baen Publishing Enterprises**

The West that was rides again, with the West that could have been, in this follow-up to *Straight Outta Tombstone*! Return to the Old West with a new posse of top authors who spin tales of horror, fantasy, and science fiction. Contributing authors include: Charlaine Harris, Mike Resnick, Jeffrey Mariott, Jane Lindskold, Shane Hensley, Stephen Graham Jones, and D.J. Butler.

**David Boop** is an author, screenwriter and award-winning essayist. He worked as a DJ, film critic, journalist, and actor before his releasing his debut novel, the sci-fi/noir *She Murdered Me with Science*.



## *Chronicles of the Forbidden: Essays of Shadow and Light*

### **Irie Books**

This collection of essays explores the twilight realm where the natural and the mythological intersect in the American Southwest. Nizalowski brings an American Transcendentalist framework to the Four Corners region as he relates his and his family's exploration of its powerful landscapes and ancient sacred spaces.

**John Nizalowski** is the author of five books, including a recent volume of poetry, *East of Kayenta*. He teaches mythology, creative writing, and composition at Colorado Mesa University.



## ***Deep Creek: Finding Hope in the High Country***

**W.W. Norton & Company**

Through her travels from the Gulf of Mexico to Alaska, and life on her 120-acre homestead high in the Colorado Rockies, Houston explores what ties her to the earth. The ranch becomes her sanctuary, a place where she discovers how the natural world has mothered and healed her, and helped her learn “to live simultaneously inside the wonder and the grief” and “to love the damaged world and do what I can to help it thrive.”

**Pam Houston** is the prize-winning author of *Contents May Have Shifted*, among other books. She is professor of English at the University of California-Davis and lives on a ranch at 9,000 feet in Colorado near the headwaters of the Rio Grande.

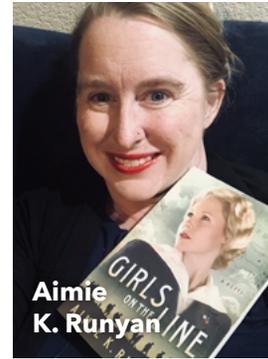


## ***Soft Hearted Stories: Seeking Saviors, Cowboy Stylists, and Other Fallacies of Authoritarianism***

**Lit Kit Collective**

In poetic prose, Forrester navigates leaving a life in one state and picking up in another, and repeating the process through various and vast personal, social, and political landscapes. Through her personal story and investigation of change, Forrester explores how we hide away the most valuable parts of ourselves that help us survive change.

**Jenny Forrester** is published in a variety of periodicals. Her work is included in Putnam’s *Listen to Your Mother* anthology. She also published a memoir, *Narrow River, Wide Sky*.



### *The Lampblack Blue of Memory: My Mother Echoes*

#### **Tolsun Books**

Set on the bayous of Houston, the trains of America, and rooted in memory, this non-fiction and poetry narrative hybrid explores the unknown process of living by experimenting with the tools of form. Through memory, science, and history, Adelman explores how one moves through loss towards joy.

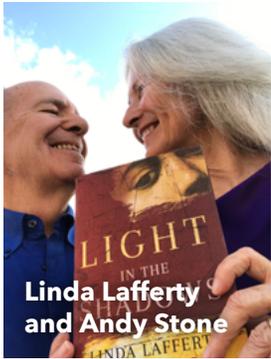
**Sarah Adleman** was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Bangladesh, studied yoga in India, taught English in China, and earned her MFA from The University of Texas at El Paso. She lives in Denver.

### *Girls on the Line*

#### **Lake Union Publishing**

As World War I rages in Europe, 24-year-old Ruby Wagner, the jewel of a prominent Philadelphia family, prepares for her carefully arranged wedding to a society scion. When her beloved older brother is killed in combat, Ruby follows her heart and answers the Army Signal Corps' call for women operators to help overseas.

**Aimie Runyan** is the author of four historical novels, including one international bestseller. Runyan writes to celebrate history's unsung heroines. Her latest novel is a Historical Novel Society Editor's Choice for February 2019. An active educator and speaker, she lives in Colorado with her two (usually) adorable children.



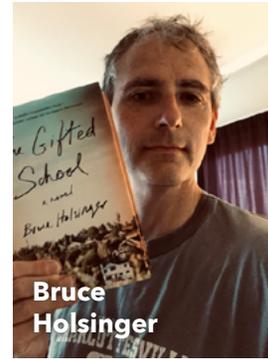
## *Light in the Shadows*

### **Lake Union Publishing**

The discovery of a lost Caravaggio painting named “Judas Kiss” exposes deadly secrets in this novel of historical intrigue and modern-day suspense that spans centuries and includes a brutal feud with a knight in the Maltese Order of St. John. A visiting art student convinces A.R. Richman, a retired professor, to join the quest to uncover the blood feud that has spilled into the twenty-first century.

**Linda Lafferty** is a two-time Colorado Book Award winner and her books have been translated into ten languages. She holds a doctorate in bilingual special education and taught in Spain for three years. Lafferty is also an avid equestrian and horse lover.

**Andy Stone** began his career as a reporter for *The Aspen Times* and then worked his way up to publisher, winning numerous awards for his columns along the way. He retired from the newspaper in 2016. Stone has two other published novels.



## *The Gifted School*

### **Riverhead Books/Penguin Random House**

This humorous, keenly observed, timely take on ambitious parents, willful kids, and the pursuit of prestige, no matter the cost is seen through the lens of four families. The story reveals the lengths some adults are willing to go to get ahead, as well as the effect on the group as simmering resentments come to a boil and long-buried, explosive secrets surface and detonate.

**Bruce Holsinger** is the author of three novels, one currently in development with NBC/Universal Television. His essays and reviews have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The Washington Post*, and *Slate*. Holsinger has received several major awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship.



***Good to Go: What the Athlete in All of Us Can Learn from the Strange Science of Recovery***

**W. W. Norton & Company**

Aschwanden begins with a carefully designed study to answer a burning question: is beer an ideal recovery drink? Her results, and what she learns exploring other athlete's recovery methods, affords important lessons about the scientific process.

A National Magazine Award finalist and a *New York Times* bestseller, she is the co-host of *Emerging Form*, a podcast about creativity. She has written for dozens of publications, including the *Washington Post*, *NPR.org*, *Smithsonian*, and *O*.



***Taste the Sweetness Later: Two Muslim Women in America***

**Amity Bridge Books**

Two Middle Eastern women live in the grip of murderous dictators. While the Kurdish Iraqi's family escapes to the United States, the other, a young Libyan, dreams of studying in America. Displaying courage, determination, and unwavering hope essential to the true spirit of America, the women serve as inspiration for anyone who faces difficult and seemingly insurmountable hardships.

**Connie Shoemaker** developed an interest in Muslim women while spending four years in Cairo, Egypt with her husband and children, teaching English and writing for several news organizations. The co-founder and director emerita of Spring International Language Center, she is a board member of Immigrant Pathways Colorado.



## *The Land of Flickering Lights*

**Atlantic Monthly Press/Grove Atlantic**

Bennet pulls back the veil on the inner workings of Congress and sheds vital new light on today's political dysfunction. Arguing that each of us has a duty to act as a founder, he hopes to inspire Americans of all political persuasions to step up as "founders" and demand that the "winners" of our political battles be *all* of the American people.

**Michael Bennet** has been a Senator from Colorado since 2009. He has built a reputation for taking on Washington dysfunction to address our greatest challenges, including education, climate change, immigration, health care, and national security. When not in Washington he lives in Denver with his wife and three daughters.



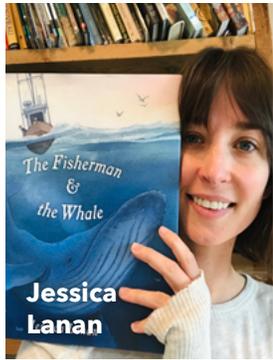
## *Pup 681: A Sea Otter Rescue Story*

**Henry Holt and Company**

Washed ashore alone, a tiny sea otter pup needs help! Soon, a rescuer is there, to take her in and keep her warm and fed. The pup faces challenges in her new life without her sea otter family. But with the love and care of her rescuer, she flourishes in her new home. Inspired by a true story, this is a heartwarming and hopeful tale about family and love.

**Jean Reidy** is a two-time winner of the Colorado Book Award, a Parent's Choice Gold Award Winner, a Charlotte Zolotow Honor winner, and recognized on "Best of" lists by School Library Journal, the New York Times, NPR, and Amazon.

**Ashley Crowley**, illustrator, is a former police officer who found his passion in children's books. The author-illustrator of the Officer Panda books and the illustrator of *The Boy and the Blue Moon*, by Sara O'Leary, Ashley lives with his son, Frankie, in Suffolk, United Kingdom.



## *The Fisherman and the Whale*

**Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers**

Dreamy and dramatic watercolor paintings bring to life a wordless story about wonder in the natural world. A fisherman takes his son for a trip out on the water. When they encounter a whale entangled at sea, they realize a connection that transcends the animal kingdom.

**Jessica Lanan** grew up surrounded by the majesty of the Rocky Mountains and finds inspiration all around her in the natural world. The illustrator of several books for children including *Out of School and Into Nature: The Anna Comstock Story* and *The Story I'll Tell*. *The Fisherman and the Whale* is the first book that she has both written and illustrated.



## *Truman*

**Atheneum Books for Young Readers, Simon & Schuster**

After his best friend Sarah leaves for her first day of school, a tortoise named Truman goes on an adventure across the living room and learns to be brave in this thoughtful and heartwarming twist on a first experience story.

**Jean Reidy** is a two-time winner of the Colorado Book Award, a Parent's Choice Gold Award Winner, a Charlotte Zolotow Honor winner, and recognized on "Best of" lists by School Library Journal, the New York Times, NPR, and Amazon.

**Lucy Ruth Cummins** is an illustrator, author, and art director of children's books. Her debut picture book, *A Hungry Lion, or A Dwindling Assortment of Animals*, was a finalist for the Governor General's Award, an Irma Black Honor Book, and an ALA Notable Book. She is also the illustrator of *This Is Not a Valentine*, written by Carter Higgins. She lives with her husband and son in Brooklyn, New York.





### *The Cryptid Keeper*

**Farrar Straus & Giroux**

Life has gotten complicated for thirteen-year-old Clivo Wren. After taking up his deceased father's mission to find the extraordinary creature whose blood grants everlasting life, Clivo is spending his summer not at camp or hanging out with his friends, but jetting all over the world tracking cryptids, while keeping his aunt Pearl in the dark about his dangerous adventures.

**Lija Fisher** has performed on stages across New York, California, Florida, Colorado and Alaska. In 2017 she was a Writer in Residence with Aspen Words. Prior to becoming an author, she trained for a while (a very short while) to be a Hollywood stunt person.



### *Tree of Dreams*

**Scholastic Press**

Coco loves chocolate. When she's not helping run her Mom's chocolate shop, El Corazón, she's tinkering with recipes, devising unique and delicious treats to entice chocolate lovers. But her best friend and fellow chocolate maker Leo has stopped talking to her, El Corazón is struggling, and Coco's mom is thinking about closing its doors. Soon Coco starts dreaming about a wise and wondrous ceiba tree that promises her answers. And when she and Leo get the opportunity to visit the Amazon Rain Forest, Coco has faith she'll find this magical ceiba from her dreams and save El Corazón.

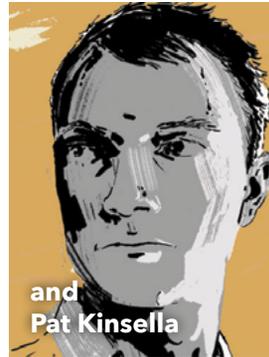
**Laura Resau** is an award-winning author of nine highly acclaimed young adult and children's novels set in Latin America and Europe. Her books inspired by her time abroad as a cultural anthropologist, ESL teacher, and student and have been praised for their sensitive treatment of immigration and indigenous people's issues.



David Heska  
Wanbli Weiden



illustrated by  
Jim Yellowhawk



and  
Pat Kinsella



Donna  
Cooner

## *Spotted Tail*

### Reycraft Books

This biography of Spotted Tail traces the life of the famous Lakota leader who expertly guided his people through a pivotal and tumultuous time in their nation's history as they fought and then negotiated with the U.S. government. Spotted Tail is remembered for his unique leadership style and deep love for his people. Today a university is named in his honor.

**David Heska Wanbli Weiden** is an enrolled member of the Sicangu Lakota nation. His upcoming novel, *Winter Counts*, has been chosen as one of 2020's most anticipated books by Library Journal. He's published in magazines, is the fiction editor for *Anomaly*, a journal of international literature and arts, and teaches writing at the Lighthouse Writers Workshop in Denver.

**Jim Yellowhawk** is an enrolled member of the Itazipco Band of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and Onodoga/Iroquois on his Mother's side. A graduate of Marion College, Indiana with a BS in Art, his current passion is for ledger art, a traditional way of recording history for the native peoples in America.

**Pat Kinsella** is a Brooklyn-based illustrator with a BFA in printmaking from the Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia, and an MFA in illustration from the School of Visual Arts in NYC.

## *Fake*

### Point, Scholastic, Inc.

Maisie Fernandez is fed up with the bullies who taunt her about her size and her looks and with being the butt of everyone's jokes. So, one night, she goes online, creates a fake profile, and is soon messaging the most popular kids in school. She doesn't want to be friends. Her intent is to put them down, but then the actual girl whose photos Maisie has been using shows up in real life.

**Donna Cooner** is the author of over twenty picture books and has also written children's television shows for PBS. Born and raised in Texas, she is a three-time graduate of Texas A&M University. A former teacher and school administrator, she is currently a professor of education at Colorado State University. Her books have been translated into Norwegian, Swedish, Russian, Finnish, and French.



## *Merged*

### **Month9Books**

In an effort to accelerate human progress, scientists have created an evolved life form known as Merged Consciousness. When they invite seven of our country's most gifted teens to become Nobels, hosts for the implantation of brilliant Mentor minds, sixteen-year-old Lake finds herself unable to merge with her Mentor. But as the line between what's possible and what's right blurs, the teens discover everything has a cost and few can be trusted.

**Jim and Stephanie Kroepfl** are a husband-and-wife team who write YA novels and stories of mystery and adventure from their Colorado Rocky Mountain cabin. Their stories and articles have been published in literary journals in the US and England. Jim and Stephanie are world travelers who seek out crop circles, obscure historical sites, and mysterious ruins. *Merged* is their debut novel.

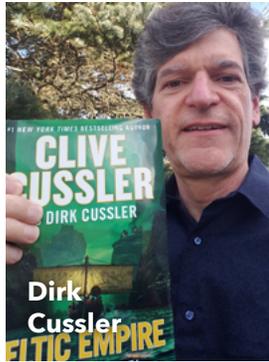
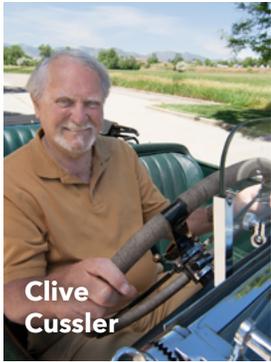


## *There's Something About Sweetie*

### **Simon Pulse, Simon & Schuster Children's Division**

This companion novel to the *New York Times* bestseller *When Dimple Met Rishi* follows Rishi's brother, Ashish, and a confident, self-proclaimed fat athlete named Sweetie as they both discover what love means to them.

**Sandhya Menon** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of several novels with lots of kissing, girl power, and swoony boys. Menon's books have been featured in several cool places, including on *The Today Show*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Teen Vogue*, *NPR*, *Seventeen*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *Buzzfeed*. Her first novel, *When Dimple Met Rishi*, won the 2018 Colorado Book Award in Young Adult Literature.



## *Celtic Empire*

### **G.P. Putnam's Sons**

The murders of a team of United Nations scientists in El Salvador, a deadly collision in the waterways off the city of Detroit, and an attack by tomb raiders on an archaeological site along the banks of the Nile may be linked. The answer may lie in the tale of an Egyptian princess forced to flee the armies of her father three thousand years ago.

**Dirk Cussler and his father, Clive Cussler**, are the authors of seven previous Dirk Pitt adventures. For the past several years, Dirk has been an active participant, partner, and served as board of trustees president of his father's National Underwater and Marine Agency.

## *Lost Lake*

### **Minotaur Books**

On a bright Saturday in early spring, Detective Gemma Monroe responds to a missing person call at Lost Lake. When she arrives at the shore, she meets three friends who have been camping there: the fourth of their group, Sari Chesney, has disappeared in the night without a trace. As Gemma begins to understand the complex dynamics of the supposedly close-knit friendship group, she realizes that more than one person is lying to her—and that the beautiful, still waters of Lost Lake may hide more terrible secrets.

**Emily Littlejohn** was born and raised in southern California and is a former librarian. In addition to writing, she is raising a family and working in city government in the Denver metro area. Her acclaimed debut novel, *Inherit the Bones*, was followed by her second, *A Season to Lie*.



## *Tracking Game*

### **Crooked Lane Books**

Two brutal murders, a menacing band of poachers, and a fearsome creature on the loose in the mountains plunge Mattie Cobb and her K-9 partner Robo into a sinister vortex. The body of outfitter Nate Fletcher is discovered beside a burning van, but an explosion didn't kill Nate.

**Margaret Mizushima** is the author of the award-winning and internationally published Timber Creek K-9 Mysteries. Margaret is a member of several writers' organizations, serves as president for the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Mystery Writers of America, and was elected the 2019-2020 Writer of the Year by Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers. She lives in Colorado on a small ranch with her veterinarian husband where they raised two daughters and a multitude of animals.



## *Bird Parade*

### **Centipede Press**

This graphic novel is a dark coming of age narrative about two young boys and a gun. Set in rural Colorado, the story exposes a somber world wherein notions of strength and maturity are deeply intertwined with the mystique of firearms and family legend. The richly illustrated volume is awash in muted textures of brown and gray, a visually appropriate setting for this dark, thought provoking, and timely tale.

A Denver based creative professional, Patrick pursues interests related to storytelling, visual art, and media production. He has published several books, including two children's books written and illustrated for HarperCollins Publishers. A Colorado native, he earned his MFA in Visual Art from Lesley College of Art and Design (Boston, MA).



## *Flatland*

### **Bronze Man Books**

As the fabric of this small-town society changes quickly, there are some things to which you cannot return. This elegiac book captures the beauty, the strangeness, and the emotion of the Flatlands in all its weathers and barns along its pitted roads.

**Teague von Bohlen** is an associate professor of fiction at the University of Colorado Denver, serves as Fiction Editor for *Copper Nickel*, and advises the student newspaper *The Sentry*. Nominated for a Pushcart in 2020, his first novel, *The Pull of the Earth*, won the Colorado Book Award in 2007. The stories in *Flatland* are drawn from his life and family in central Illinois, where his corn-fed heart still beats.

**Britten Leigh Traugher's** photography illustrates *Flatland*. A graduate of Bennington College (BA Visual Arts) and Illinois State University (MFA Photography), she has taught at Millikin University, Illinois State University, and the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Her work is in a few great collections, many homes, and fine publications. She currently lives in rural Vermont.



## *Hollywood: Her Story, An Illustrated History of Women and the Movies*

### **Lyons Press**

This book pays tribute to the spirit, ambition, grit and talent of women filmmakers and artists. Featuring more than 1200 actresses, directors, stuntwomen, screenwriters, composers, animators, editors, producers, and cinematographers, stunning photographs capture and document the women who worked their magic in the movie business.

**Jill Tietjen** is a speaker, electrical engineer, and co-author of *Her Story: A Timeline of the Women Who Changed America*, which received the Daughters of the American Revolution History Award Medal. She has conducted research into historical women around the world for the past 30 years.

**Barbara Bridges** has spent much of her life as a businesswoman. In 2006, she founded Women+Film, a program in partnership with Denver Film, bringing audiences together with movies that ignite discussions around global issues facing women today.

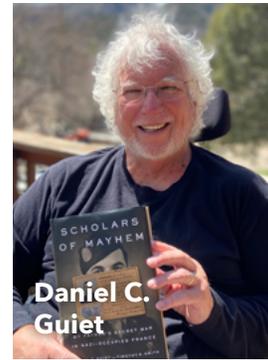


***Nighthawk Rising: A Biography of Accused Cattle Rustler Queen Ann Bassett of Brown's Park***

**High Plains Press**

Kouris meticulously and extensively records the fascinating life Ann Bassett, "Queen of the Cattle Rustlers." Known to have broken bread with Butch Cassidy and stood tall against cattle barons, the book also encompasses the broader history of the Brown's Park region of Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah.

**Diana Kouris** is an award-winning author of nonfiction articles and books. She grew up a Brown's Park cowgirl. Personal and family connections and decades of research and writing have rendered Kouris an authority on the spellbinding history of the area.



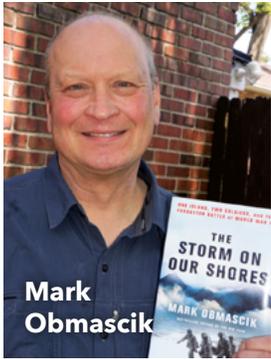
***Scholars of Mayhem: My Father's Secret War in Nazi-Occupied France***

**Penguin Press**

This book details the astonishing untold story of Jean Claude Quiet, an 18-year-old recruited as the lone American on a four-person team of Allied secret agents dropped into Nazi-occupied France. The teams' epic feats of irregular warfare proved vital in keeping German tanks away from Normandy after D-Day.

**Daniel Quiet** is the son of Jean Claude Quiet, who began his clandestine career as an embedded agent in occupied France during WWII. Daniel, a graduate of Manual High School, attended the University of Colorado and was the Associate Director of Rocky Mountain Planned Parenthood. He now splits his time between Durango, Colorado and Nevy-sur-Seille, Jura, France.

**Timothy K. Smith** is a recipient of the Gerald Loeb career achievement award for editors, was senior features editor at Fortune magazine, and a reporter and editor for The Wall Street Journal. Educated at Brown University and the Sorbonne, he lives in Connecticut with his wife and three children.



### *The Storm on Our Shores: One Island, Two Soldiers, and the Forgotten Battle of World War II*

#### **Atria Books**

The May 1943 Battle of Attu, called “The Forgotten Battle” by World War II veterans, was raging on the Aleutian island. In a year-long campaign, American and Japanese forces suffer thousands of casualties, including a Japanese medic whose war diary would lead a Silver Star-winning American soldier to find solace for his own tortured soul.

**Mark Obmascik** is the bestselling author of *The Big Year* and *Halfway to Heaven*. He won the 2009 National Outdoor Book Award for outdoor literature, the 2003 National Press Club Award for environmental journalism, and was the lead writer for the Denver Post team that won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize.



### *Remembering a Witch*

After dreaming of him for years, Fenella found Graham, the man she’s destined to love. They’re both reincarnations of a centuries-old match. The problem is, Fenella’s gift of Sight only lets her see glimpses of the long-dead couple and never past a certain point.

**Lauren Connolly** crafts love stories set in the contemporary world. Some are grounded in reality, while others play with the mystical and magical. She lives in southern Colorado, outnumbered by her animals.



### *Stolen Heart, Book 2: North Fork Series*

#### **Cameo Mountain Press**

A whispered promise to her dying mother burdens Abby Stewart with the debts of her con-artist father. After years of struggle, she'll do anything to rid herself of her father's legacy of deceit, even lay aside her own integrity to playact at being Kevin Karlson's fiancée. Kevin, her boss, needs a beautiful and intelligent woman to stand by him as he receives an award in his hometown of North Fork, Colorado, and he's willing to pay handsomely.

**K. L. McKee** worked in her local library Reference Center for twenty-nine years and earned a BA in English from Regis University. A member of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and several local writing groups, she now resides with her husband in western Colorado and writes faith-based stories full time.



### *Zapata, Book 1: The Border Series*

#### **Soul Mate Publishing**

When engineer Avery McAndrews is offered the career-making Zapata project, she readily accepts, despite the fact the Texas border town has a dubious reputation. Avery's work is disrupted when a battle for control of the oil production facility puts her in the crossfire between warring drug cartels.

**Harper McDavid** watched her mother ride the writing roller coaster, and swore she would never do it herself. But some things are just hardwired. Her gritty romantic suspense incorporates her background in science and engineering and her work experience along the border.

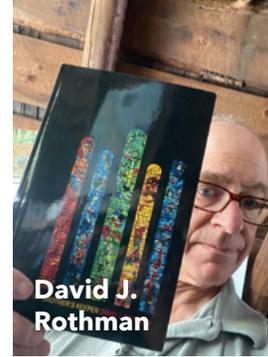


### *How To Dress a Fish*

**Wesleyan University Press**

Chabitnoy's experimental collection weaves together boarding school records and language from early ethnologies and engages with Alutiig language, traditional storytelling motifs, and subsistence practices.

**Abigail Chabitnoy** is a poet of Unangan and Sugpiag descent and a member of the Tangirnaq Native Village in Kodiack, Alaska. Chabitnoy writes for magazines and is a research associate for Bubar & Hall, a consulting firm for the indigenous population in Colorado. She works daily to improve tribal self-determination and engagement in the community.



### *My Brother's Keeper*

**Lithic Press**

An enlightening, disturbing, and profound journey as the poet mourns his wayward brother and celebrates renewal by writing of his youngest son, a young man about to stand for his bar mitzvah, the Jewish rite of passage from boyhood to manhood. Rothman's gift for language lifts his artful interweaving of images from the merely personal to universal.

**David J. Rothman** is the Jackson Hole Center for the Arts Executive Director, and has written several volumes of poetry and published poems in scores of other journals and books. He is the co-founder of the Crested Butte Music Festival and the Gunnison Valley Poetry Festival and Reading Series, and the founding publisher and editor of Conundrum Press (now an imprint of Bower House Books of Denver).



### *Variations on Dawn and Dusk*

#### **Omnidawn Publishing**

Acting as poetic records of light, these poems follow the sun as it warms, cools, colors, and shifts the space of Robert Irwin's untitled work in the desert of Marfa, TX. Built on the footprint of the town's old hospital, Irwin's permanent installation is a remarkable structure with walls, windows, and screens that both capture and are overtaken by the sun's changing light.

**Dan Beachy-Quick**, a poet and essayist, is the assistant chair of the English Department of Colorado State University. He has published six books of poetry and is a Guggenheim Fellow.



### *An Illusion of Thieves*

#### **Tor Books**

In Cantagna, being a sorcerer is a death sentence. Romy escapes her hardscrabble upbringing when she becomes courtesan to the Shadow Lord, a revolutionary noble who brings laws and comforts once reserved for the wealthy to all. When her brother, Neri, is caught thieving with the aid of forbidden magic, Romy's aristocratic influence is the only thing that can spare his life.

**Cate Glass** is the pseudonym of Carol Berg, an author who has written fifteen epic fantasy novels, won numerous Colorado Book Awards, and earned national and international acclaim. A former software engineer with degrees in mathematics and computer science, she was raised in Texas and now resides in the foothills of the Colorado Rockies.



## ***Denver Moon, Book II: The Saint of Mars***

### **Hex Publishers**

Six months have passed since Denver Moon, P.I., smashed The Minds of Mars into the red planet, destroying the ship's horrific cargo and delaying the alien danger of human mind control. Now, in the dark underbelly of Mars City, Denver and her faithful AI-installed pistol, Smith, are hot on the trail of a suspect they believe is responsible for the disappearance of numerous citizens in Red Tunnel.

**Warren Hammond** is the author of several science fiction novels, quite a few short stories, and a graphic novel, *KOP Killer*, that won the Colorado Book Award for best mystery. His latest series is co-written with Joshua Viola

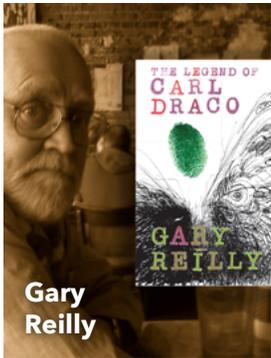
**Joshua Viola** is a four-time Colorado Book Award finalist and his comic book collection, *Denver Moon: Metamorphosis*, was included on the 2018 Bram Stoker Award Preliminary Ballot for Superior Achievement in a Graphic Novel. An editor and writer, his fiction has appeared in numerous anthologies. He is owner and chief editor of Hex Publishers.

## ***The Blood of Seven***

### **Dark Doorways Press, LLC**

Static filled her ears. Through the crackle, a voice compounded of many voices said, "Protect her." When Detective Ann Logan sees a shimmering vision of a young girl, she tries to dismiss it as a trick of mountain light. But she can't dismiss the arcane symbol that rose like a brand on her chest and burns with life when the vision becomes reality. Then townspeople begin to disappear, and Ann's investigation plunges her into an eternal war between two secret societies, one serving the malevolent designs of a mysterious deity, the other trying to keep them at bay.

**Claire L. Fishback** An award-winning author, she writes horror novels and is also the author of *Lump: A Collection of Short Stories*. In her spare time she enjoys adding to her bone collection and poking dead things with sticks.



## *The Legend of Carl Draco*

### **Running Meter Press**

A quietly fearless young man whose existence is consumed in ruthlessly dispatching nameless enemies who dog his every move doesn't know, or care to know, who these men are. One thing is clear: they share the supernatural abilities Carl has possessed since he was orphaned as a small boy. After crossing paths with a reclusive professor who took an interest in him twenty years earlier, Draco decides to question his pursuers on a "vexing night" that changes everything.

**Gary Reilly** only published one piece of writing in his lifetime, a short story published by the Iowa Writers Review and later picked up by the Pushcart Prize Anthology (1979). Since his death in 2011, Running Meter Press has published 13 of his novels, five of them Colorado Book Award finalists.

## *April Warnings*

### **Veliz Books**

April Warnings is a collection of short stories bound by the strange Midwestern ritual of going into an underground tornado shelter and a growing mythology about a particular plot of land on the railroad tracks of the Callahan Ranch in Baxter County. Farms, highways, and churches become the epicenter for truths, fictions, and myths rooted in larger ideas from the so-called "American Heartland," a place belonging to indigenous populations, immigration routes, and beliefs about worlds that exist beyond the prairie.

**Mark Pleiss** is a Denver writer who publishes fiction, book reviews, scholarly criticism, and essays. A former freelance journalist, he holds a PhD in Spanish Literature and has taught at St. Olaf College, the University of Colorado Boulder, and Metro State University Denver.



## ***Not a Thing to Comfort You***

**University of Iowa Press**

From a lightning death on an isolated peak to the intrigues of a small town orchestra, the glimmering stories in this debut collection explore how damaged, fierce, and unpredictable nature worms its way into our lives. Over and over, the natural world reveals itself to be unknowable, especially to the people who study it most. These tales of scientists, nurses, and firefighters catalog loneliness within families, betrayals between friends, and the recurring song of regret and grief.

**Emily Wortman-Wunder**, an award-winning essayist and fiction writer, has been published in *Kenyon Review*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Nimrod*, and *High Country News*, and is the winner of the 2019 Iowa Short Fiction Award.



## ***This. This. This. Is. Love. Love. Love.***

**Split Lip Press**

Thirteen full-length and flash stories explore love in its gritty and beguiling forms—sexual, platonic, filial, and beyond. As characters in various stages of life navigate love, they court obsession, madness, and transcendence.

**Jennifer Wortman**, a National Endowment of the Arts fellow, has published work in *TriQuarterly*, *Glimmer Train*, *Electric Literature*, *Copper Nickel*, among others. A Colorado Review associate fiction editor, she teaches at Lighthouse Writers Workshop.



### *Black Pearl, A Cold Case Suspense*

**Bell Bridge Books, Belle Books**

A cold case heats up when a 911 call puts police at a Denver murder scene pointing investigators to the abduction of a Colorado teenager fourteen years before. The connection? A calling card—a single black pearl—is found on the newest victim. Is the murder a copycat? Or has a twisted serial killer, thought dead or in prison, returned to kill again?

**Donnell Ann Bell** began her writing career at the *Colorado Springs Business Journal* and *Pikes Peak Parent* newsmagazine before turning to fiction. An award-winning author, including a two-time Golden Heart finalist, her books have been Amazon digital bestsellers.



### *The Extinction Agenda*

**St. Martin's Press**

While searching for the man who killed his wife, FBI Special Agent James Mason uncovers a shadow organization on the brink of enacting its genocidal agenda and a sinister mass murderer who's been photographed at the epicenter of every historical pandemic since the outbreak of the Spanish Flu in 1918—without appearing to age. Mason's quest for answers takes him from the criminal underbelly of Denver to its untouchable elite, from a dark union at the turn of the last century to a network of Nazi collaborators and a plot for global financial domination.

Michael Laurence was born in Colorado Springs to an engineer and a teacher who kindled his passions for science and history. He studied biology and creative writing at the University of Colorado. Before becoming a full-time author, he worked as an x-ray/CT/MRI technologist and clinical instructor. He lives in suburban Denver with his wife and four children.



## *The Dead Girl in 2A*

### Sourcebooks

Jack Buchanan knows the woman sitting next to him on his business flight to Denver. They have nearly nothing in common apart from a deep and shared certainty that they've met before. As their airplane conversation deepens, both struggle to figure out what circumstances could have possibly brought them together. Then, in a revelation that sends Jake reeling, Clara admits she's traveling to the Colorado mountains to kill herself.

**Carter Wilson**, is bestselling author of six critically acclaimed, standalone psychological thrillers, as well as numerous short stories. Three books have won Colorado Book Awards, and his novels have received multiple starred reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist*, and *Library Journal*.



## *Burn Fortune*

### CLASH Books

In this novel-in-fragments, 16-year-old June is a corn-detasseling flag twirler who lives in a small conservative town in the early '90s Midwest. Her family is dysfunctional, but her boyfriend has a family who is emotionally and physically abusive. Looking for alternatives to the lives of the women who surround her, June becomes obsessed with the actress Jean Seberg (best known for her starring role in Jean-Luc Godard's *Breathless*) and Joan of Arc.

**Brandi Homan** is the author of two books of poetry, *Hard Reds* (2008) and *Bobcat Country* (2010), from Shearsman Books, and she holds a PhD from the University of Denver in English, Creative Writing (Fiction).

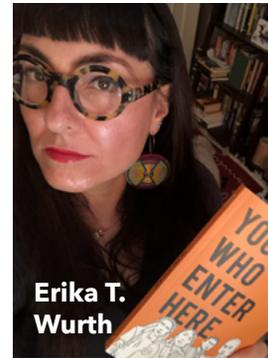


## *If the Ice Had Held*

### **Santa Fe Writers Project**

The scandal of Melanie Henderson's birth and the identity of her true parents is kept from her small, conservative Colorado town. Not even she knows that her birth mother was just 14 and unmarried to her father, a local boy who drowned when he tried to take a shortcut across an icy river. This fiercely guarded secret bonds the two most important women in her life, who hatched a plan to trade places and give Melanie a life unmarred by shame. Yet, as a forest fire rages through the Rocky Mountains and a car accident shakes the family, Melanie finds herself at the center of an unraveling tangle of tragedy and heartbreak.

**Wendy J. Fox** is the author of the collection *The Seven Stages of Anger and Other Stories* and the novel *The Pull of It*. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Rumpus*, *Buzzfeed*, and *Self*, as well as in literary magazines including *Washington Square*, *Euphony*, and *Painted Bride Quarterly*.

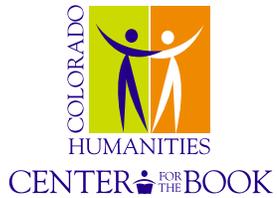


## *You Who Enter Here*

### **Ecelsior Editions, State University of New York Press, Albany**

Matthew's father gone, his mother drinks and hooks up with men who abuse Matthew and his sister. Matthew finally decides to hit the streets of Farmington to get away and drink himself to death, as he feels he's destined to do. But a man, Chris, takes him home, cleans him up, gets him sober, and initiates Matthew into one of Albuquerque's heroin-selling Native American gangs, the 505s. Matthew's story is one of terrible darkness and unexpected beauty and tenderness.

**Erika T. Wurth** is a professor of Creative Writing at Western Illinois University, Wurth is the author of one previous novel, two collections of poetry, and a collection of short stories. She is Apache/Chickasaw/Cherokee and was raised outside of Denver.



Colorado Humanities is the only Colorado organization exclusively dedicated to supporting humanities education for adults and children statewide. Celebrating its 46th year and its 16th year as host for the Colorado Center for the Book, Colorado Humanities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Library of Congress Center for the Book, the Smithsonian Institution, and the national award-winning educational nonprofit Motherhead, Inc. With offices in the Denver Technological Center in Greenwood Village, Colorado Humanities works with partners throughout the state to design and implement programs that best meet each community's needs. Colorado Humanities' goals are to improve education, strengthen cultural institutions, and enrich community life by inspiring the people of Colorado to explore ideas and appreciate our diverse heritage. To learn more, visit [coloradohumanities.org](http://coloradohumanities.org) or call 303.894.7951.

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Since we are at home this year, instead of partaking in hors d'oeuvres and drinks at the Evans School together, we are offering a signature drink idea and some snack recipes to make things more festive. Try your hand at creating, then bring them to the awards celebration and be ready to raise your glass in toast.

## Nauti Pup

**From my sister-in-law, the bartender**

- 2 oz Gin -- Jigger
- 1/2 Pony Grapefruit Juice
- Ting (Jamaican Grapefruit Soda) or Squirt or San Pelligrino work fine.
- 2 dash saline solution (1 Tbs salt to 1 cup H2O)
- 4 dashes Grapefruit or orange bitters
- Salt rim of choice

In a rocks or collins glass add ice, gin, saline and grapefruit juice

Shake with a Boston shaker or in a capped mason jar

Rim glass with salt

Return drink to glass with ice

Top with Grapefruit soda

Can also be made with Vodka.

## Maple, Sriracha & Tamari spiced nuts...

**Then my baby brother, the chef, sent these snack ideas. Clearly he keeps cooler things than I do in my cupboards. I'll be doing a store order!**

Mix together and set aside...

- 1 Tbsp. Maple syrup
- 2 Tbsp. Sriracha hot sauce
- 2 Tbsp. Tamari or Soy sauce

In a large heavy skillet over medium to low heat, heat...

- 1 Tbsp. Olive oil
- Once oil is shimmering add...
- 1 ½ Cups Raw nuts... Almonds, Hazelnuts, Walnuts or Pecans. (whole, halved or large pieces)

Almonds and hazelnuts will take a little longer to roast or heat through versus walnuts or pecans. If you split either an almond or a hazelnut in half, you can check to see if its heated through. The center of the nut will darken as they cook, looking for that classic golden brown color. Pecans and walnuts only take a couple of minutes to heat through and they can burn easily so... reduce the heat a little and with whatever nut you decide to use keep them moving in the pan as they cook by shaking or flipping a few times a minute.

Once the nuts are cooked through... And this is determined by aroma, color and sometimes luck. Remove skillet from the heat and immediately and carefully flash the pan/skillet with the maple, sriracha and tamari mixture, add enough to coat the nuts. This is going to spatter and come to a hard and fast boil since your pan will be hot, you want this as it caramelizes the mixture and coats the nuts. Keep the skillet moving constantly during this process until the nuts are coated well and the liquid has become tacky and adhered to the nuts and likely your skillet. Remove nuts from skillet and let cool on a parchment lined tray.

If you need more salt in your life... coarse Kosher salt to taste.



## Stuffed Dates

### 12 medjool dates...pitted

- 3 Tbsp. *Marscapone* or *cream cheese*
- 2 Tbsp. *Blue Cheese... Roquefort to Cambozola depending on preference*
- ¼ cup *chopped nuts... Pistachios, Hazelnuts and Walnuts pair the best*
- Pinch of orange zest... optional
- 6 slices of *Prosciutto... optional*

In a small bowl blend cheeses together, incorporate the chopped nuts and orange zest (if desired) mix thoroughly. Fill dates with cheese mixture, either with a pastry bag or teaspoon depending on pitting method and tools on hand.

If using prosciutto cut the slices in half length wise and wrap the stuffed date by rolling. The prosciutto wrapped dates can be cooked or warmed in an oven, on a grill, or on the stove... they can also be served with out heating.

If you're not using prosciutto you could half the dates and stuff them on the half shell, topping them with more chopped nuts or even bacon bits. Ricotta and goat cheeses could be used as alternatives if you don't like blue cheese. Use you palette and imagination.

## Simit, Turkish Bagels

### For the real chef wannabes:

- 1 ½ cups all purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 ½ teaspoon yeast
- 2 Tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- ½ cup warm water
- 2 Tablespoons Pomegranate molasses
- 3 Tablespoons warm water
- ¾ cup sesame seeds

Proof yeast with warm water and sugar for a few minutes. Mix the flour, salt and olive oil together thoroughly in a good size bowl. Add the yeast mixture and incorporate into the flour mixture, starting first with a wooden spoon and then kneading the dough in the bowl, add a bit of extra flour as needed. Knead the dough for at least 5 minutes until it is smooth and firm. Cover and let rise in a warm place, until doubled in size. Divide dough into 4 to 6 equal sized balls. On a floured board, form the ball into a long rope, half the rope in a bight and twist together both sides, form into a ring and pinch the ends firmly together to seal. I bring the ends into the bight and pinch there to seal. Mix the grape molasses and the water together in a bowl, in a shallow wide dish place the sesame seeds. Dip both sides of the simit in the molasses mixture then coat both sides in sesame seeds. Bake at 400° F oven for about 15 minutes in the middle of the oven.

Makes 4-6



**think. learn.  
join the conversation.**