

wtaw press

A vintage, ornate armchair with a tufted back and seat, upholstered in a light-colored fabric. The chair is positioned in a dark, moody room with dark wood paneling and a dark, distressed wooden floor. A strong light source from the right creates a bright, rectangular pool of light on the floor and highlights the right side of the chair and its backrest. The overall atmosphere is dramatic and artistic.

2021

Spring 2021



THE GROUNDHOG FOREVER

Henry Hoke

A thoughtful, unpredictable book about life in early-2000s NYC.

—Volume 1 Brooklyn

The Groundhog Forever, Henry Hoke's debut novel, shadows two film students in early-millennial Manhattan as they become stuck in the vicious sequel to a cherished movie. What follows is a high-concept novel of queer friendship, celebrity worship, and artistic immortality. Today is the last day of the best of your life.

ISBN: 9781732982055

\$16.95 | Paper | Ebook Available

6 x 9 | 184 pages

April 27, 2021

"A radiant, shapeshifting novel about fame, friendship, the ecstasy and agony of repetition, and The Divine Bill Murray. In playful, exhilarating prose, Hoke pushes sentential limits, wryly examining the way art marks the world (and the many ways in which it fails to do so). Just when you think you've gotten the hang of the spellbinding groundhog logic, the story blooms and swerves and evades, irresistible in its capacity for endless reinvention."

—Kimberly King Parsons

"A gorgeous love letter to reality's unfolding, this beautifully written, magically real adventure paints a lucid, abstract-expressionistic kind-of-a-sensation of being limitless even while standing under the fluorescent lights of the institution."

—Speed Levitch

"*The Groundhog Forever* is that tricky kind of trick: the kind that says it's just a little fun thing, but then opens up the entire world's guts and out comes LIFE. Henry Hoke's sentences contain teeming cosmos, yet are somehow small enough to hide in your pocket. There's ancient pathos in the quotidian, groovy earworms in the depths. It's one day that is infinite, which means it's also the immeasurable everything of right now."

—Johanna Hedva

"Knowing nothing of this novel I began to read it on April 27th, the day after the night I happened to watch again, through no choice of my own, for the first time since childhood, the movie where Groundhog Day nearly never ends: All this is true and will make sense to you once you have read this multiverse, magic book, too. Such is its power."

—Katherine Faw

“My process is unholy restless”

Q: What was your inspiration behind *The Groundhog Forever*?

Henry Hoke: The book is anchored by two true stories from my time as an undergraduate at NYU film school: my experience in lower Manhattan on September 11th, 2001, and a spring day in 2004 when Bill Murray visited my class to watch and discuss “Groundhog Day.” When a friend and I left our time with Bill—following him down the street at a distance—we joked, “what if this day became our Groundhog Day?”

One of my professors said all you need to start a project is a what if.

Q: The form of the novel is very fluid, yet it allowed you to be very precise and intentional in what was left unsaid in the narrative. Can you talk more about form and how it came to be?

KM: I’m organically a hybrid writer, as my process is unholy restless and I have to keep upending my approach and surprising myself in order to generate a manuscript. I strive to let the finished product uphold that unsettled spirit. It excites me to think of my books as inhabiting multiple genres at once, overlaid or woven, variations on a theme.

This is a novel, of course, but it’s also a piece of experimental film criticism and a book-length poem about mortality.

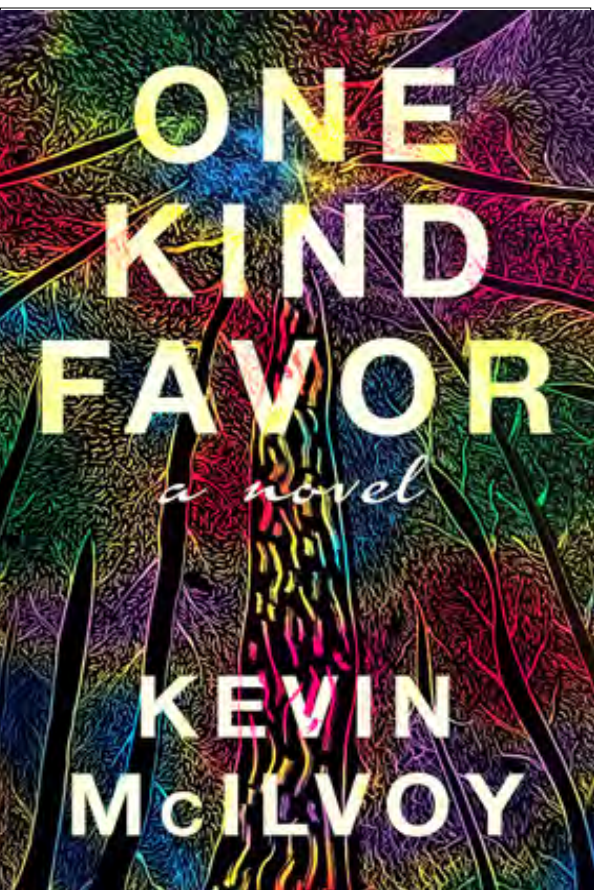
Henry Hoke wrote *The Book of Endless Sleepovers* and the story collection *Genevieves*, which won the Subito prose prize. *The Groundhog Forever* is his first novel. Recent work appears in *The Offing*, *Electric Literature*, *Hobart*, *Carve*, and the Catapult flash noir anthology *Tiny Crimes*. His memoir *Sticker* is forthcoming from Bloomsbury’s Object Lessons.

Born to Alabamians, Henry grew up in the South and earned his BFA from New York University and his MFA from California Institute of the Arts. He co-created the performance series Enter>text in Los Angeles and teaches at the University of Virginia’s Young Writers Workshop. He holds an MFA from California Institute of the Arts, where he taught from 2014-2019. His play *At Sundown* premiered at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and his short film *Taking Shape* screened on HBO. He lives in Brooklyn.

Find him online at henryhoke.com, Twitter @ennuiperkins, and Instagram @ennuiperkins.



Henry Hoke



ONE KIND FAVOR

KEVIN McILVOY

Based loosely on a tragic real-life incident in 2014, *One Kind Favor* explores the consequences of the lynching of a young black man in rural North Carolina. After the lynching is discovered and subsequently covered up in the small fictional community of Cord, the ghosts who frequent the all-in-one bar and consignment shop take on the responsibility of unearthing the truth and acting as the memory for the town that longs to forget and continues to hate. A reimagined Kathy Acker, the groundbreaking literary icon, who has engaged the young man in a love triangle, brings a transgressive post-punk esthetic to the mission. *One Kind Favor's* satirical storytelling echoes Appalachian ghost stories in which haunting presences will, at last, have their way.

ISBN: 9781732982031

\$18.95 | Paper | Ebook Available

6 x 9 | 272 pages

May 18, 2021

"In *One Kind Favor*, Kevin McIlvoy crafts a novel we haven't seen before: a rare book about race and place that offers a nuanced take on the world we live in. The concerns are universal, including what it means to witness trauma in our increasingly divided world. The music is uncompromising—you are drawn into the strikingly beautiful, taut, and relentless prose. The novel's hugeness of heart and fierceness will keep you reading. This book feels vital for our times."

—Nina McConigley

"The spirit-haunted North Carolinian town of *One Kind Favor* is down the rabbit hole, through the looking glass, somewhere over the rainbow after the cyclone-lifted house touches down in that other land. It is uncomfortably situated in our 'tikilit bloody present.' I describe Cord as 'spirit-haunted,' but is any place in America not haunted by ancestral misdeeds?"

—Rion Amilcar Scott

"The shapeshifting beast that is racism haunts small town North Carolina as the living and the dead collide with the past and the present in this novel of boundless surprise, wit, and wisdom."

—T. Geronimo Johnson

"Kevin McIlvoy is a writer of incisive moral vision, and *One Kind Favor* looks at the brutality of racial injustice in a North Carolina town with a powerful sense of place and clarity and insight."

—Karen E. Bender

"Kevin McIlvoy bravely sets forth a suspenseful story that tackles racial violence, police indifference, and the cost of justice. This is an important novel I look forward to impacting readers far and wide."

—Devi Laskar

“The writing of this novel has utterly claimed me. I know it is the most important work of my life.”

Q: What were the circumstances that led to the writing of this book? How did the idea for this book originate?

Kevin McIlvoy: I began this novel when I read an article in *The Guardian* about the lynching of the young Black man Lennon Lacy here in North Carolina. The same day that I read the article, I briefly wrote about it in my journal, the place where I make a practice of being absorptive, that is, of allowing daily encounters of every kind to sink in, and of permitting them to sink in deeply.

As a novelist I do not seek out the stories that I can master but the stories that will master me. And this story would neither allow me to look away from its darkness nor to excuse my agency in that darkness.

Q: Music plays a significant role in *One Kind Favor*. Can you talk about that?

KM: Important questions for me in all my fiction are, “How does this story sound?” and “Why does it sound that way?” My novel’s title is direct tribute to Blind Lemon Jefferson’s blues song that asks for “one kind favor”: “please see that my grave is kept clean.” The eerie music arising naturally in the narrative voice flows from sources as variable as the traditional fiddle tune “Soldier’s Joy” and Billie Holiday’s “Strange Fruit.” I hope that the resulting mashup of sounds offers unsettling and dreamlike music that serves the dark, weirdly festive carnivalesque sense of the whole story.

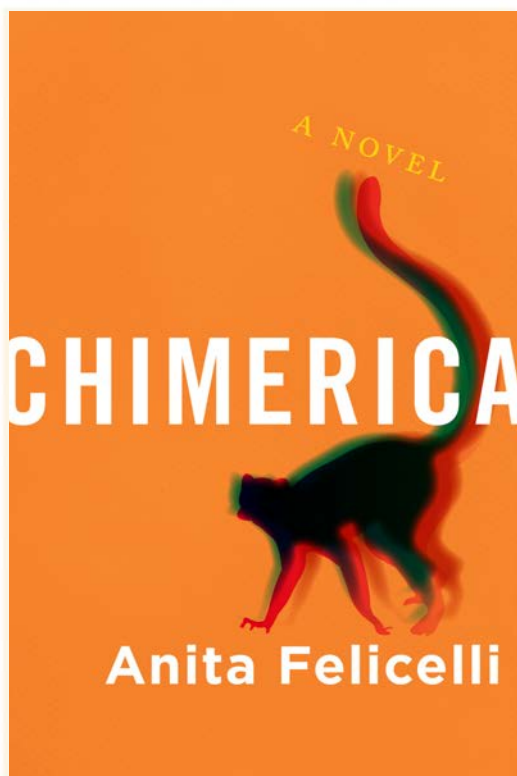
Kevin McIlvoy is the author of seven other books — five novels, a book of short stories, and a book of prose poetry: *At the Gate of All Wonder* (Tupelo), *57 Octaves Below Middle C* (Four Way Books), *The Complete History of New Mexico and Other Stories* (Graywolf), *Hyssop* (TriQuarterly Press), *Little Peg* (Atheneum/Macmillan), *The Fifth Station* (Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill), and *A Waltz* (Lynx House Press). He is a retired Regents Professor of Creative Writing at New Mexico State University and teaches in the the Warren Wilson College MFA Program in Creative Writing. His short fiction has appeared in *Harper’s*, *Southern Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Missouri Review*, and other literary magazines. He has been a manuscript consultant for University of Nevada Press, University of Arizona Press, University of New Mexico Press, Indiana State University Press, University of Missouri Press, Orison Books, and other publishers. He served on the Board of Directors of the Council of Literary Magazines and Presses and the Association of Writers and Writing Programs. He lives in Asheville, North Carolina.

Find him online at kevinmcilvoy.com, facebook.com/kevin.mcilvoy, Twitter @KevinMcIlvoy, and Instagram @kevin.mcilvoyager.



Kevin McIlvoy

earlier titles



9781732982017

Paper | \$18.95 | 296 pages | 6" x 9"

Ebook Available

SEPTEMBER 2019

CHIMERICA

A Novel

ANITA FELICELLI

Down-and-out Tamil American trial lawyer Maya Ramesh fights to save a painted lemur come to life, and in settings that range from Oakland, California, to a Malagasy rain forest, becomes a champion for them both. In magical realist tradition Anita Felicelli's satiric novel looks at the inherent absurdities that drive systems of culture, power, and law. Fans of Marquez, Kelly Link, and Helen Oyeyemi will find *CHIMERICA* a spirited investigation of the ways in which art is codified and commodified—a contemporary philosophical, non-ideological, novel about art, originality, and American culture.

"... a coolly surrealist legal thriller—in turns sly, absurd, emotionally vivid, and satirically incisive—that shifts the reader into a world just adjacent to our own." —Jonathan Lethem

"... a keen dive into the worlds of law, visual art, and marriage. Did I mention there's a talking lemur? THERE'S A TALKING LEMUR."

—Kelly Luce

"At last, someone is telling our stories in a unique and interesting way."

—Shikha Malaviya, *India Currents*

"Anita Felicelli has a singular eye for the moments that transfigure lives ..."

—Laura Van Den Berg



ANITA FELICELLI is the author of the story collection *Love Songs for a Lost Continent* (Stillhouse Press), which won the 2016 Mary Roberts Rinehart Award. Her fiction has appeared in *The Massachusetts Review*, *The Normal School*, *Midnight Breakfast*, and others. Her essays and reviews have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Slate*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Catapult*, and many more. She attended UC Berkeley School of Law, and has worked as a litigator in diverse fields. Felicelli is on the Board of the National Book Critics Circle, and is editor of *Alta Journal's* California Book Club.

anitafelicelli.com



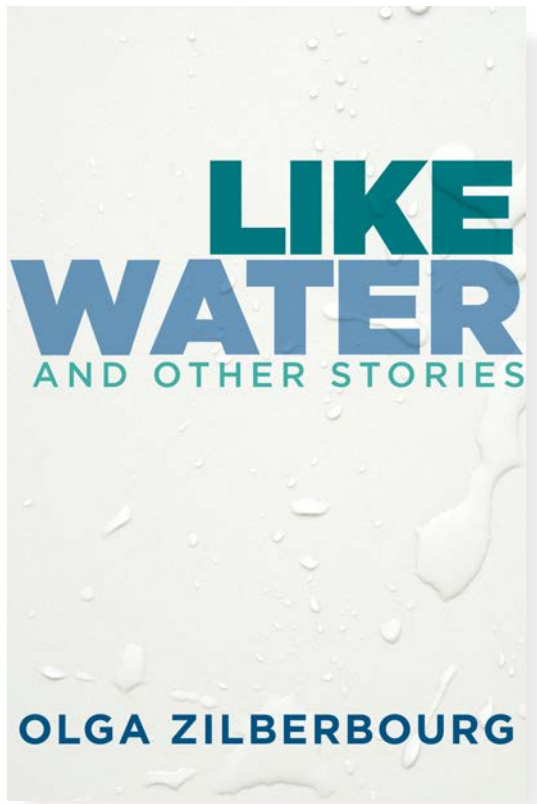
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9780998801490

Paper | \$16.95 | 184 pages | 6" x 9"

Ebook Available
September 2019

"... a book of succinct abundance, dazzling in its particulars, expansive in its scope."

—Anthony Marra

"... explored through exquisitely wrought characters in Russia and the United States ... a writer to read right now."

—Karen E. Bender

LIKE WATER & other stories

OLGA ZILBERBOURG


With settings that range from the Cuban Missile Crisis and Soviet-era Perestroika to present-day San Francisco, these are stories of family and childrearing, at once unsettling and tender, in which characters grapple with complicated legacies—of state, parentage, displacement, and identity. Olga Zilberbourg investigates how motherhood reshapes a sense of self—in ways that are often bewildering—against an uncharted landscape of American culture.


In "Dandelion," a child turns into a novel and is shipped off to an agent in New York. In "Doctor Sveta," a young Soviet woman finds herself, at the beginning of the Caribbean Missile Crisis, on a ship bound for Cuba. In "Companionship," a young boy decides to return to his mother's uterus. *LIKE WATER AND OTHER STORIES*, Zilberbourg's first collection to be published in English, is a unique portrayal of motherhood and its transformative effects on the self, a story of immigration and adaptation, and an inside account of life in the Soviet Union and the drama of its dissolution.




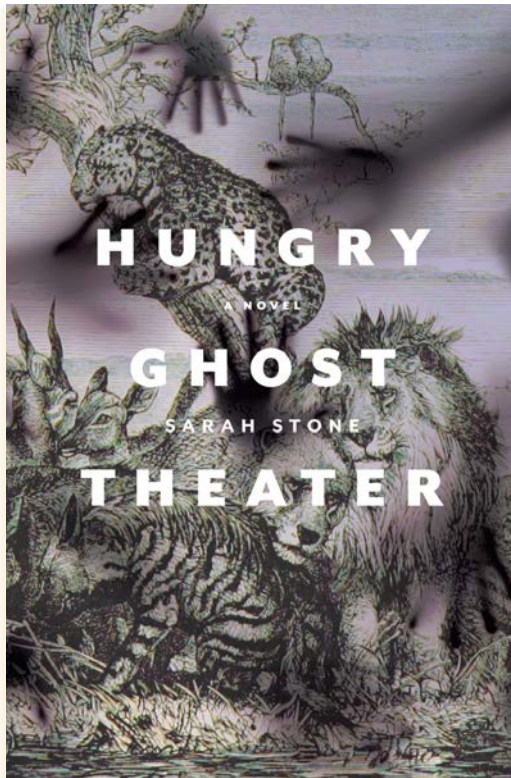
OLGA ZILBERBOURG is the author of three Russian-language collections of stories, the latest of which was published in Moscow in 2016. Her English-language fiction has appeared in *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *World Literature Today*, *Feminist Studies*, and many other publications. Her criticism has appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Common*, and *Electric Literature*, among others. She serves as co-facilitator of the San Francisco Writers Workshop.

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9780998801452

Paper | \$18.95 | 316 pages | 6"x 9"

Ebook Available

Pub Date: October 2018

"Prepare to be seduced straightaway by the sensuous beauty and penetrating wisdom of Sarah Stone's second novel, *Hungry Ghost Theater*..."

—SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

"Stone's ingenious deconstruction of family life is a shrewd, evocative, and arresting portrait of dissolution and despair."

—BOOKLIST

HUNGRY GHOST THEATER

A Novel

SARAH STONE

An inventive, funny, sometimes heart-breaking exploration of the connections between art and hunger, duty and desire, and loss and survival. Brother and sister Robert and Julia Zamarin are trying to awaken the world to its peril with their tiny political theater company, while their sister Eva, a neuroscientist, searches for the biological roots of empathy. As Julia attempts to break free of Robert's influence, Robert, as lost without her as she is without him, takes on dark material and drives away members of their company. Meanwhile, the whole family contends with the ongoing troubles of Eva's youngest daughter, Arielle, as she struggles with addiction. Finally, after a family catastrophe, Julia and Robert reunite to create a new piece in a possibly haunted theater institute. When Arielle shows up after her latest relapse, they all have to find a new way of living in—and with—a world out of balance.

The adventures of the eccentric, memorable Zamarin family take the reader from San Francisco to Seoul, from theater spaces to psychiatric hospitals, from Zanzibar to the Santa Cruz Mountains, and into and through a series of Sumerian and Tibetan hells. This imaginative, provocative novel is a contemporary Inferno for fans of Margaret Atwood, Ruth Ozeki, and Lydia Millet.



SARAH STONE is the author of the novel *The True Sources of the Nile* (Doubleday), and co-editor of the textbook *Deepening Fiction: A Practical Guide for Intermediate and Advanced Writers*. Her stories, essays, and reviews have appeared in *Ploughshares*; *StoryQuarterly*; *The Believer*; *The Millions*; *The Writer's Chronicle*; and *A Kite in the Wind: Fiction Writers on Their Craft*, among other places.

sarahstoneauthor.com



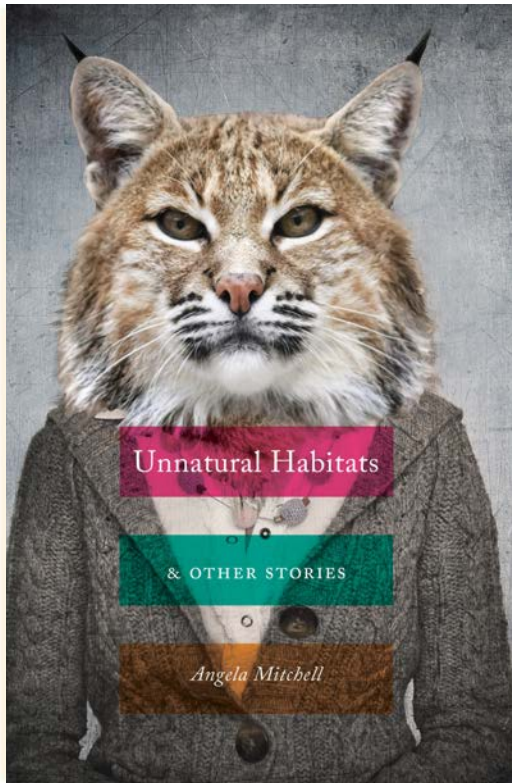
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9780998801469

Paper | \$16.95 | 190 pages | 6" x 9"

Ebook Available

Pub Date: October 2018

"Engaging stories that highlight extraordinary moments in the lives of ordinary people."

—KIRKUS REVIEWS

"Mitchell is a gifted storyteller who offers glimpses of her characters at their most vulnerable and most vicious... a bold and well-crafted debut."

—COLORADO REVIEW



ANGELA MITCHELL's stories have appeared in *Colorado Review*, *New South*, *Carve*, *Midwestern Gothic*, and many other journals. Her story, "Animal Lovers," was awarded *Colorado Review's* Nelligan Prize for Short Fiction. She serves as an associate editor for *december magazine*. An eighth generation native of southern Missouri, she maintains a small farm on her family's land and resides in St. Louis with her husband and sons.

angela-mitchell.com



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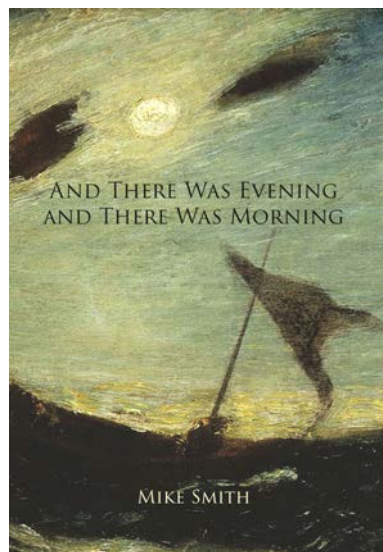
UNNATURAL HABITATS and other stories

ANGELA MITCHELL

From a newly divorced woman employed by a front for illegal drugs, to a man who seeks revenge when the farm he loves is invaded by meth producers, to a shady Arkansas businessman wrestling with his own wildness (and that of his teen son) as he attempts to return a domesticated bobcat to its native habitat, the characters in *UNNATURAL HABITATS AND OTHER STORIES* explore the conflict between what is instinct and what is learned, as well as what it means to belong to a place and to a people.

The seven connected stories are set in the rural landscape of the Ozarks and largely focus on a growing crime culture in a place that previously had felt untouched by the world outside, forcing the characters who live there to reevaluate their sense of right and wrong. A land of dying farms with an aging population—and little opportunity available for the young who remain—poverty is at the heart of many of the conflicts. But even those characters who enjoy a certain wealth and privilege find themselves at odds—and out of step—with parents, children, lovers, friends, and neighbors.

Like the Arkansas businessman who longs to reconnect with his most natural, primal self, the characters in these stories suspect that a better life is behind them and are skeptical of what the future holds.



AND THERE WAS EVENING AND THERE WAS MORNING

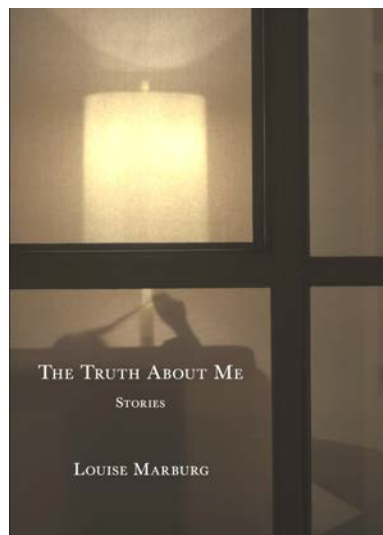
A memoir in essays by Mike Smith

Winner 2018 Independent Publisher Book Awards Gold Medal for Creative Nonfiction.

"This is a poignant work of fine literature, a glimpse into someone else's battered but resilient soul. Smith tells his story through beautifully written, understated, connected 'Essays on Illness, Loss, and Love.'"

—*Greensboro Review*

Literary Nonfiction • Paper • 9780998801414 • \$15.95 • 145 pages
Ebook Available • Pub Date: September 2017



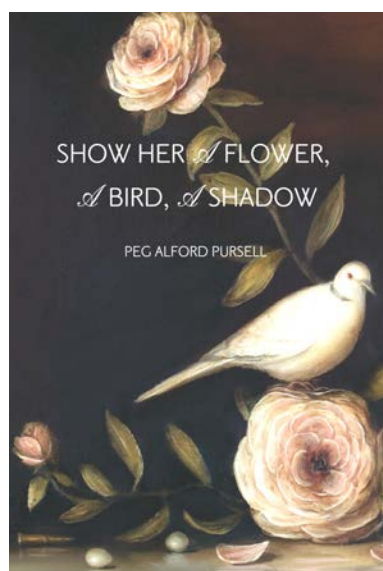
THE TRUTH ABOUT ME

Stories by Louise Marburg

Foreword Reviews 2017 Indies Finalist for Short Stories. Shortlisted for the 2018 Saroyan International Prize for Fiction. Winner of the 2018 Independent Publisher Book Awards Gold Medal for Short Story Fiction.

"Delivered in strong, clean, biting prose, each story feels so uncannily right that the tonal hypnosis starts at once. . . Wonderfully constructed—balancing despair, rage, wit and tenderness—each enters us like an elegy and bulletin; dissonant, strangely consoling. *THE TRUTH ABOUT ME* brings a welcome new talent to light." —*San Francisco Chronicle*

Fiction • Paper • 9780998801407 • \$15.95 • 160 pages
Ebook Available • Pub Date: September 2017



SHOW HER A FLOWER, A BIRD, A SHADOW

Stories by Peg Alford Pursell

Second edition (First edition: ELJ Publications)

Foreword Reviews 2017 Indies Book of the Year for Literary Fiction. Finalist in Fiction for the First Horizon Award.

With praise from Joan Silber, Peter Orner, Antonya Nelson, Glen David Gold, Margot Livesey, Tom Barbash.

Fiction | Hybrid • Paper • 9780998801445 • \$16.99 • 86 pages
Pub Date: September 2017

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