

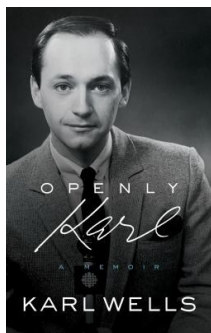
# NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR COLLECTION

## New Arrivals Summer 2025



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# NON-FICTION

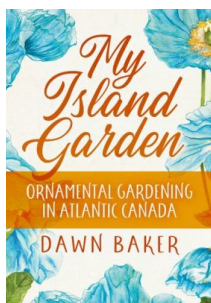


## Openly Karl

Karl Wells

Breakwater Books, 2025

Dive into the private and public life of Karl Wells, as told in his own words. From his birth in Buchans and early life in St. John's, to his rise in media and a 32-year career with *Here and Now* at the CBC, **Openly Karl** is a rare opportunity to bring the face and voice you know from your television back into focus. While he will forever be known as "the weatherman," **Openly Karl** explores the expanse of Karl Wells's career and the nuances of his personal life, including coming to terms with being gay during a less tolerant period of Newfoundland and Labrador's history and throughout the subsequent decades of social change. At times fascinating and funny, at others harrowing and heartbreaking, Karl's story will keep readers tuned in.

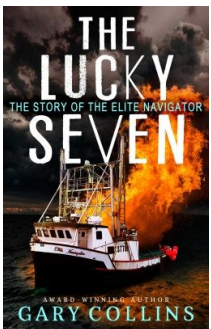


## My Island Garden: ornamental gardening in Atlantic Canada

Dawn Baker

Flanker Press, 2025

**My Island Garden** features techniques for plants that have been proven to be effective for new and experienced gardeners alike. It introduces and describes dozens of plants that will thrive in Eastern Canada. Some of these plants are reliable garden stalwarts, whereas others are relatively new, and you may be surprised to learn that they can also be grown successfully in this region. With an extensive how-to section, this book will assist you in getting the most out of your own garden, whether it's a small collection of pots or an expansive growing space. Annual maintenance, fertilization, growth requirements, seed-starting, and so much more, you'll find it all in this easy-to-understand book!



## The Lucky Seven: the story of the Elite Navigator

Gary Collins

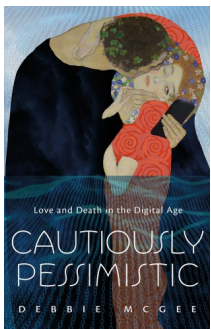
Also available as an ebook.

Flanker Press, 2025

In July 2024, the *Elite Navigator* fishing boat and its crew seemed to vanish one night after fishing for turbot for several days at sea. The craft was reported missing after transmitting its final signal at around 8:30 p.m. the night before, according to the Canadian Coast Guard. The vessel had caught fire, forcing the crew to abandon the ship and wait for rescue on the life raft.

In New-Wes-Valley, which is an amalgamation of three small fishing communities along Newfoundland's northeast coast, friends and family braced for the worst. But on July 19, Friday night, out on the ocean, searchers saw a light from a flare. It brought them to a life raft, where the seven fishermen—who people now call the Lucky Seven—were waiting.

This is the true story of a dramatic rescue at sea that took place after all hope had been lost. Award-winning author Gary Collins recounts the heroic efforts of the men and women on land, at sea, and in the air which led to a miracle, one which grabbed national headlines in the summer of 2024.



## Cautiously Pessimistic

Debbie McGee

Breakwater Books, 2025

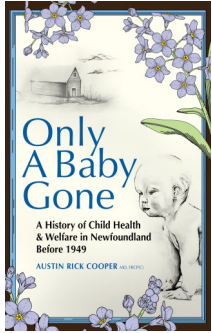
**Cautiously Pessimistic** is both deeply moving and funny as McGee tells the story of her husband's diagnosis of brain cancer and the eight months leading up to his death. Through social media posts, text exchanges, and emails, as well as journal excerpts and letters, McGee delves into the story of her and her husband's tumultuous early relationship and his eventual death. McGee's narrative plays out amongst the scintillating backdrop of the tightly-knit St. John's arts community and its vibrant affairs. St. John's is a great town to live in, but an even better town to die in—especially when dying is documented online.

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## Only a Baby Gone: child health & welfare in Newfoundland before 1949

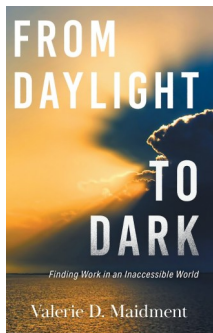
Dr. Rick Cooper

Boulder Books, 2025

Pre-confederation Newfoundland was a challenging place to grow up, especially for children in low-income families. Infectious diseases—including cholera, typhus, smallpox, tuberculosis, diphtheria, gastroenteritis, and whooping cough—circulated unchecked. Poverty, poor sanitation, ignorance, and isolation coupled with poor transportation compounded the effects of poor health. Health care was difficult to access, particularly in outport communities. In **Only a Baby Gone**, pediatrician Rick Cooper explores these and other challenges, painting a somber picture of the early days of Newfoundland society.

Newfoundland only began recording the number of children who died in 1900, revealing a shockingly high mortality rate—significantly higher than that in the rest of Canada. Cooper investigates the reasons behind those numbers, placing them in historical and political context.

Cooper's work is the first of its kind, the result of piecing together details found in community and family histories, anecdotal and primary sources, and in-depth reading of the scanty formal records. By shedding new light on the past, **Only a Baby Gone** offers important context for reflection on the health care challenges of the twenty-first century.

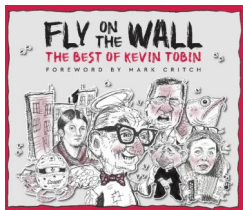


## From Daylight to Dark: finding work in an inaccessible world

Valerie D. Maidment

Friesen Press, 2024

When Valerie Maidment was a baby, doctors diagnosed her with hydrocephalus, a condition that causes excess fluid to build in the brain. After the second surgery at age 9, she was declared healthy; she lived a happy, normal life, graduating from high school and college, having children, and buying and managing her own convenience store. Until one day, when everything changed. Fluid began to build once again in Valerie's brain, causing immense pressure that—due to misdiagnosis on the part of multiple doctors—caused her optic nerves to break down. By the time the doctors realized what was happening, it was too late; Valerie was legally blind. She had to re-learn how to do everything, from folding laundry to using a computer to walking up and down the stairs of her own home. Eventually, she was forced to sell her business, leaving her wondering if she would ever work again. Through tragedy and triumph, Valerie persisted, never losing hope or courage as she navigated a world that is largely unprepared to accommodate people with disabilities. Told with remarkable heart, humour, and wisdom, **From Daylight to Dark** is above all a story of perseverance against great odds, offering important insight into the need for accessibility in the workforce for all Canadians.



## Fly on the Wall: the best of Kevin Tobin

Kevin Tobin

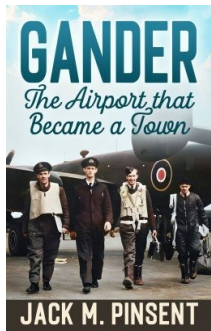
Breakwater Books, July 2025

**Fly on the Wall** doesn't just collect the best of 40 years of Kevin Tobin's editorial cartoons for *The Telegram* (*The Evening Telegram* when he began); it tracks 40 years of Newfoundland and Labrador's history: politics, social movements, sports, celebrities, boondoggles, feel-good stories, schemes, emergencies, and triumphs, all seen through the lens of a keen, satirical, and no-holds-barred fly on the wall. Inside you'll find many familiar faces and events, from Joey Smallwood and Danny Williams to Muskrat Falls and the pandemic—all skewered, marinated, and ready to BBQ. Tobin's cartoons not only capture current events as they happen along with the colourful characters involved; they also bring to image and word the true nature of Newfoundland and Labrador's famous sense of humour. Readers of *The Telegram* will be familiar with Tobin's tiny flies, sketched into the corners of his cartoons since the early days—a symbol for the cartoonist himself, a fly on the wall of Newfoundland and Labrador life: watching, listening in, waiting to cut through the buzz.

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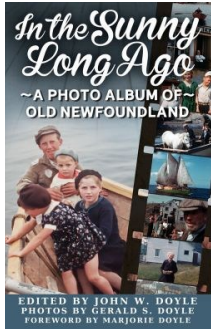


## **Gander: the airport that became a town**

**Jack M. Pinsent**

*Flanker Press, 2025*

Gander, Newfoundland, is a rare example of a town that emerged after its airport. Opened in 1939, the airport played a crucial role in World War II, reportedly becoming the world's largest multinational military base. Immediately after the war, a new town developed, with residents initially living in renovated military structures on airport grounds. As commercial transatlantic aviation flourished, the town was relocated a short distance away and officially opened in 1959. This book captures the unique lifestyle that grew within this aviation-centric, isolated Newfoundland community. Blending history and memoir, it details the buildings of the old town, complete with photos and maps, offering a vivid glimpse into the lives of its residents. It also shares untold stories from the original town of Gander, which thrived at the edge of the runways of a bustling international airport.



## **In the Sunny Long Ago: a photo album of old Newfoundland**

**Edited by John W. Doyle**

*Flanker Press, 2025*

It was early days of home movies when Newfoundland businessman Gerald S. Doyle purchased a Ciné-Kodak camera at Macy's in New York City in 1938. Though film for the camera was expensive and had to be sent to Kodak for processing, and there was no sound, early home movies had one significant advantage: Kodachrome. Twenty years before colour snapshots became common, amateurs could capture movies in Kodachrome's rich tones.

Doyle's new movie camera became his constant companion during his travels around Newfoundland. With a keen, observant eye, he recorded life in Newfoundland outposts over more than twenty years through the immediacy of a focused lens. The 300-plus photographs in this book are frames extracted from those colour films, laser-scanned for high resolution. These images invite readers to accompany Doyle as he sailed into tiny, isolated communities and documented a by-gone era centred on the sea. The pictures chronicle a people during the last days of Newfoundland as an independent nation and the early days of being a Canadian province, from 1938 to 1955.

Step into the sunny long ago with a patriot who loved his country. Gerald S. Doyle's photographs will intrigue those curious about Newfoundland life as they explore one man's remembrance of things past.



## **Ship Moms**

**Jen Winsor**

*Breakwater Books, September 2025*

The lives of cruise ship crew members don't stop when they are below deck. **Ship Moms** is a collection of behind-the-scenes stories about the relationships that bloom between crew members and all the wonderful mixed-nationality babies being brought into the world as a result, representing nearly forty countries and ten cruise lines. Here are the stories of these ship moms—stories of their strength, their endurance, and their tenacity in making it work against all odds. Beautiful and complicated, heartwarming and heart-wrenching, this collection spills the dirt on the ship life experience, telling real-life stories about connections that result in real-life babies.

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## You Have to Go Now

Diane M. Waterman

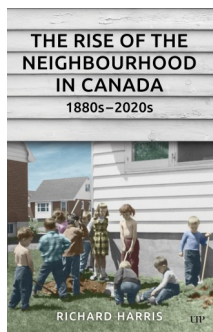
Promontory Press, 2017

This is not a book full of medical terminology, I personally don't know the language, but I do know the language of love. I lost two sisters who suffered from cancer. Not only can cancer be hard to deal with, but family conflict can also become just as unbearable during these stressful times. It can either bring families closer together or it can destroy them. Where there is already dysfunction, there will surely be more in times of great stress and loss.

What would you do if your loved one was looking you straight in the eyes, begging you to kill them? The torture and pain could be seen all the way into my sister's soul. She was trying so hard, in all her weakness, to fight her way out of palliative care and her impending death. To be honest, by the end I wanted her to go nearly as bad as she did. I also wanted her to live, but not like this. It was a constant conflict going on inside my heart and brain. "NO ONE SHOULD SUFFER LIKE THIS!" I cried out in my own mind.

I was wracked with pain from my fibromyalgia, and I was exhausted from trying to keep my anxiety disorder in check. I prayed to God every night for relief for her and strength for myself. I prayed that He would make sure I was with my sister when she passed. Above all else, I could not bear the thought of her dying alone. Losing one sister already and not being there for her was something I did not want to experience again. Almost a year of watching someone suffer was too much for any human, much less your own family member. However, I was determined to stick it out. Many days I forced myself to place one foot in front of the other to keep going.

After so much darkness and pain, there comes a gift of light. A surprise, so wonderful and sweet!



## The Rise of the Neighbourhood in Canada, 1880s-2020s

Richard Harris

University of Toronto Press, 2025

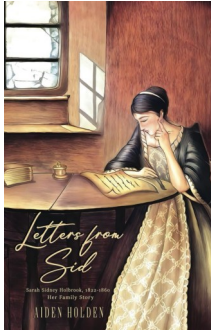
Neighbourhoods matter now more than ever before. They sustain fewer social connections, but in an era of great social inequality and high levels of immigration, they have become vital as places for homeowner investment and educational opportunity for children. **The Rise of the Neighbourhood in Canada, 1880s-2020s** traces the changing character and significance of Canadian urban neighbourhoods, city and suburban, since the 1880s.

The book highlights patterns in neighbourhood life, particularly noticeable in larger urban areas, which are especially important for the least mobile people: workers, lower income households, immigrants, women, children, and the elderly. It explores how the physical and social characteristics of neighbourhoods affect public health, crime rates, social capital, and job opportunities while shaping the lifelong prospects of children. Analysing long-term trends, the book examines the importance of communications technology in the context of rising inequality and immigration. It shows how, as homeownership rose, neighbourhoods became vital settings for investment, increasingly financialized, reducing affordability. Using examples from all types of neighbourhoods in cities small and large, from St. John's through Montreal and Winnipeg to Victoria, **The Rise of the Neighbourhood in Canada** argues that the current prominence of neighbourhoods will persist. **The Rise of the Neighbourhood in Canada** provides a comprehensive account of how Canadian neighbourhoods have evolved in character and importance over time.

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## Letters from Sid: Sarah Sidney Holbrook, 1822-1860: her family story

Aiden Holden

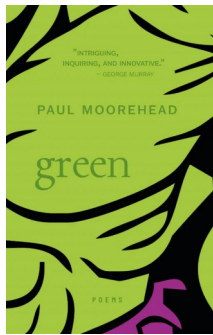
Tabularasa Books, 2024

This is the true story of Sarah Sidney “Sid” Holbrook (1822–1860) of St. John's, Newfoundland, the daughter of George Papps Holbrook and Ruth Sidney Pearl. In 1831, when Sid was nine years old, an authoritative rap at the door announcing the arrival of strange men and a bailiff waving official-looking papers signalled the end of her idyllic childhood surrounded by upper-class privilege in their big rambling home.

George Holbrook and George William Blamey were officers in the Royal Navy who married two Pearl sisters. They and James Pearl, a sibling of their wives, became lifelong friends who survived many sea battles of the European Wars of 1793–1815. When peace came the three pals opened the next chapter of their lives rooted to the land instead of the sea.

But good fortune soon abandoned them in the Newfoundland colony, and Sid and her young brother came to spend much of their youth an ocean away from their mother. Her thoughts and feelings have been captured in her private letters and preserved for two hundred years in a sea trunk. Those and more by other family members are dated between 1805 and 1850.

# POETRY and PLAYS

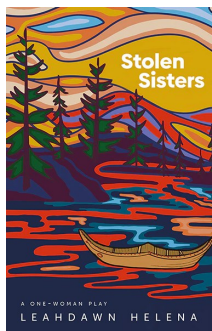


## Green: poems

Paul Moorehead

Breakwater Books, 2024

How does wonder induce change in us, as people and as readers? Paul Moorehead's poetic voice arrives fully-formed—intriguing, inquiring, and innovating—to address this question. **Green**: the colour of growth, the colour of change, the colour of go. **Green** charges into these themes with precise humour and an intense concentration on poetic craft. Ranging over a variety of subjects from nature and science to parenting and pop culture, these poems challenge the reader to consider the meaning of change in a poetic world that is deeply personal and wildly expansive. **Green** makes unique poetic use of scientific ideas, considering the consequences both lived and artistic, of existing in a world of wonders.



## Stolen Sisters: a one-woman show

Leahdawn Helena

Breakwater Books, 2025

**Stolen Sisters** is an award-winning, first-of-its-kind play that gives voice to the lives and legacies of three Beothuk women and girls whose names have survived in historical record.

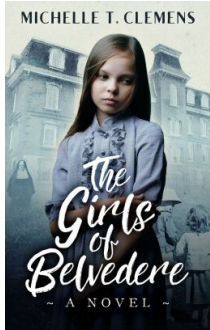
These are stories that have been mis-told, misrepresented, and mythologized by colonial interference. By shifting the lens of history to reflect Indigenous perspective and experience, the women brought to life in **Stolen Sisters** set the record straight, telling their own stories with both humour and unflinching honesty. Based on the oral and written Indigenous histories of colonization locally and worldwide, the voices of **Stolen Sisters** shine a light on the global experience of Indigenous women and girls and, in particular, Newfoundland's part in that legacy.

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# FICTION



## **The Girls of Belvedere**

**Michelle T. Clemens**

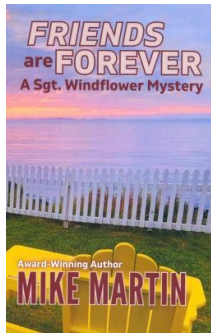
**Also available as an ebook.**

*Flanker Press, 2025*

The sudden death of Kitty Murphy's mother sends Kitty and her younger sisters, Hannah and Ruth, to an orphanage in St. John's. Their brother is allowed to stay home because "boys earn and girls cost." The next seven years are a test of endurance as they cope with brutality from a cruel, self-righteous nun and the bullies who curry the Sister's favour. Kitty tries her best to protect her younger sisters in this unpredictable environment.

The 1940s in Newfoundland offered very little to a woman. Life in a fishing outport meant unrelenting poverty and an exhausting cycle of pregnancy, childbirth, and child-rearing. Too many mothers died, and their children were turned over to the Sisters to raise in St. John's. Mothers without husbands entered sudden and desperate relationships with men or fell into prostitution. Some women became nuns to escape motherhood with all its perils. They wanted a chance for peace and predictability. However, those young women discovered life in a cloister meant a different foot was on the back of your neck.

All these lives intersected at the doors of Belvedere Orphanage.



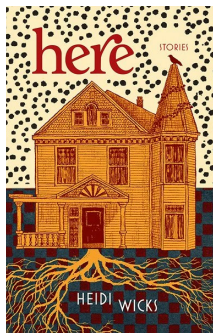
## **Friends are Forever: a Sgt. Windflower Mystery**

**Mike Martin**

*Ottawa Press and Publishing, 2025*

As Winston Windflower and his RCMP colleagues gather in Marystown, Newfoundland, to celebrate promotions and milestones, trouble is brewing far beyond the banquet hall. A sophisticated heist operation—led by international mobsters and local biker gangs—is sweeping through the province, hitting banks and businesses in a coordinated crime spree that leaves more than just empty vaults behind. In Book 16 of the Sgt. Windflower Mystery series, bestselling author Mike Martin returns readers to the beloved, fog-kissed coast of Newfoundland and Labrador, where the bonds of family, friendship, and community are as strong as ever. But even in the coziest corners of Grand Bank, danger can creep in like the tide. Whether you're a longtime fan or meeting Sgt. Windflower for the first time, you'll be swept up in a mystery rich with charm, warmth, por' cakes, movie nights, and the unmistakable magic of a lighthouse that's long overdue for a facelift.

**A Sgt. Windflower Mystery.**



## **Here**

**Heidi Wicks**

*Breakwater Books, 2025*

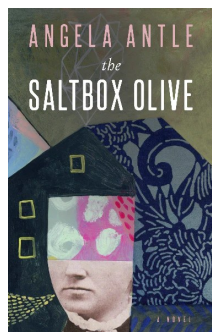
One house, one hundred years: Here is a collection of interconnected short stories that bend time with a complex and varied cast of characters passing through a single mansion in Newfoundland, confronting the ghosts of family, perseverance, redemption, and survival.

Aristocrats, hippies, housemaids, an all-girl rock band, a politician, a theologian, a biologist, a ballerina, a crow—**Here** trails the inhabitants of a colonial mansion on Circular Road in St. John's over a span of 100 years. Over the decades, the house has a way of bending time for its varied occupiers, making readers question how our histories shape us and whether we can ever truly escape—or make peace with—the ghosts of the past.

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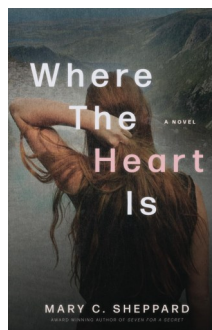


## **The Saltbox Olive**

**Angela Antle**

*Breakwater Books, 2025*

Caroline Fisher sets out to solve the mystery of why her grandfather burned his brother Arch's wartime letters. **The Saltbox Olive** follows the wartime route of Arch, Tombstone, Slade, and Garl, members of the 166th British Army (Newfoundland) Artillery Regiment. After surviving the battles of the Sangro and Cassino, they are all but forgotten by British HQ in the mountains between Florence and Bologna, where war loses all semblance of logic, where their loyalties are tested, and where they encounter acts of brutality, revenge, and loneliness. Weaving their stories with those of Caroline and Min Fisher, war photographer Barbara Kerr, and partisan Lucia Capponi and her son Cosimo, **The Saltbox Olive** explores the role of individual responsibility in wartime, how photography influences our understanding of truth, and how sins committed in times of duress as well as declarations of love can ripple outward for generations. **The Saltbox Olive** is about the connections of the past to the present and the conflict between the simple truths we desperately crave, and life's complex realities.



## **Where the Heart Is**

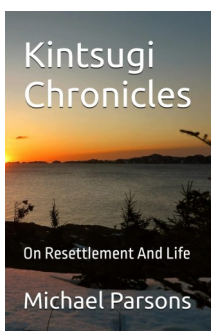
**Mary C. Sheppard**

*Self-published, 2024*

It is 1916, the world is at war and the only trans-Atlantic communications link between Great Britain and North America is a lone cable station that sits in Heart's Content, an isolated Newfoundland coastal village.

An American undercover agent, Linton Colt-Lodge, arrives in Heart's Content to find out how sensitive information targeting British and American supply convoys is leaking to the enemy from the cable station. Linton finds an unlikely ally in Frankie George, a cantankerous and mysterious local woman. As Frankie and Linton join forces, their lives change forever.

This is a remarkable story featuring an unforgettable cast of islanders and is a page-turning war-time adventure full of tension, secrets, heartbreak and joy.



## **Kintsugi Chronicles: on resettlement and life**

**Michael Parsons**

*Independently Published, 2025*

This is a two part book. The first half is a fictional novella on finding hope and love after the resettlement of Little Bay Islands. Thomas, an elderly fisherman preparing to leave his lifelong home on Little Bay Islands due to resettlement, beautifully captures his deep connection to the island, his memories and the profound sense of loss he feels. As Thomas navigates this life-altering change, he meets Ruth, a woman with her own history of love and loss. Their unexpected friendship blossoms into a deep and meaningful relationship, offering both a chance at healing and new beginnings.

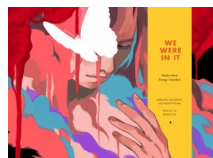
The second part of the book is a collection of short stories and musings by the author about living alone and off grid with his wife Georgina on Little Bay Islands.

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# FICTION



## **We Were In It: stories about energy transition**

edited by **Lisa Moore** and **Sheena Wilson**

*Memorial University Press, 2025*

Bringing together academics, scientists, creative writers, visual artists, lawyers, and policy makers, **We Were In It** is a collaborative effort to attack the problem of climate crisis from very different backgrounds and perspectives, through fiction. The fusion of scholarship, literary writing, research, and creativity allows the strengths of many forms of writing to address the unfolding crisis of our modern petrocultures. Relying on the brevity of flash fiction to reflect the ticking clock of the climate crisis, the stories contained in this collection are slick as oil but against oil. They are a speculation about the future, taking notes from the present and the past as a portal to a better world.



## **Someone Else's Secret: a Sunny and Roscoe thriller**

**Natalie Carter-Giles**

*Flanker Press, 2025*

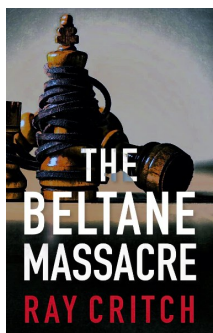
How do you start over when the past won't stay buried?

Rebecca Wilder's life is about to implode. Again. The first time, she was a naive young woman with terrible taste in men. Her mistake was leaving town with a man who turned out to be an abusive son of a bitch. Her undoing was allowing curiosity to get the best of her. Bad things happened. Very bad things. Years later, when the whole sordid mess is behind her and she's finally comfortable with the choices she's made, the police come knocking. Someone is dead, and Rebecca's life is about to implode for the second time.

Corporal Sunny Bronson and her partner, Sergeant Roscoe Pratt, are working on the fringes of a federal investigation into an international human trafficking ring with ties to the city of St. John's. They've been tasked with finding a key player who goes by the name Fidget. When a house bust doesn't go as planned, Sunny finds herself entwined in a different investigation, and her boss has ordered her to stay clear of it. But for reasons she isn't willing to share, Sunny can't walk away, and she's willing to risk both her partnership with Roscoe and her career to find the answers. When she seeks help from an unlikely source, Sunny unknowingly begins the unravelling of a secret, one Rebecca Wilder desperately wants to stay buried.

One thing is for certain—everyone involved has something to hide. The question is how far they are willing to go to protect someone else's secret.

Part of the **Sunny and Roscoe Series**.



## **The Beltane Massacre**

**Ray Critch**

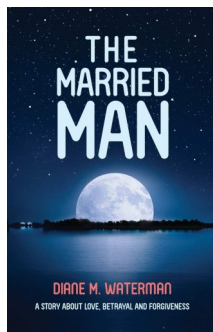
*Breakwater Books, 2025*

Former Canadian Forces intelligence officer Rowan McRae lives in the UK with a beautiful wife and healthy baby. He is about to finish his PhD and assume a teaching post in London, when the unthinkable happens. A bomb is planted in the bonfire at the Edinburgh Beltane Festival, killing many and turning Rowan's world upside down. One year later, Rowan is enlisted by MI5 to help jumpstart the foundering investigation into the bombing. In so doing, he uncovers a conspiracy touching on the highest levels of society—a conspiracy protecting the bomber.

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# FICTION

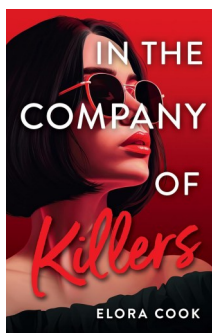


## **The Married Man**

**Diane M. Waterman**

*Promontory Press, 2020*

Melody Newman is one classy and feisty lady who was the last person who ever expected to find love on the internet. She had high standards for herself and was careful with who she talked to. She falls fast and hard for Mr. Wonderful. What she didn't realize was that she had met him ten years before. Time would tell if he was all he seemed cracked up to be. What was undeniable was their instant connection. In a very short time she can't imagine her life without him in it. Fear of having her heart broken again is scary but she is a risk taker. This one she hoped she wouldn't regret. Many times Melody wanted to throw in the towel and there were times she did, only for her one true love to keep coming back. Was it worth all the heartbreak she endured? Sometimes with a little faith and forgiveness things can take a turn when you least expect it. Their many trials, tribulations and love for one another will be their true test of time. It is the journey that is most important but how will it all end?



## **In the Company of Killers**

**Elora Cook**

**Also available as an ebook. Also available as an electronic audiobook.**

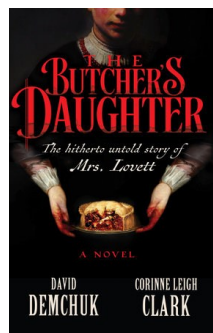
*Little Brown Books for Young Readers, 2025*

Inside the tony suburb of Scarsdale is New York's worst-kept secret: The mob runs everything, and the Nicastro family is at the center. Seventeen-year-old Tasha Nicastro lives a life of glitz and glamour, but she has no idea her family harbors a dark truth.

Tasha might look like your classic high school mean girl, but behind the designer clothes is a sharpshooter who knows how to bring anyone to their knees. The only person who has ever gotten under her skin is her former best friend, Leo Danesi, the youngest son of the Nicastro family's rivals. After Leo returns to New York older and more handsome, Tasha thinks he'll be the worst of her problems—until the life she thought she knew takes a violent, shocking turn. When her father and beloved older sister are murdered before her eyes, Tasha learns the dark truth: Her family runs the most powerful Mafia branch in New York, and now she's set to inherit it all.

Tasha vows vengeance on the mysterious new mob behind the hit, but she can't do it alone. She needs someone who already knows the underground world to help track them down. And that person is none other than Leo, the heir to his own family's dangerous empire.

But Tasha is a Nicastro. She's been raised in the company of killers, and there's absolutely nothing she won't do to avenge her family. That is, if the enemy doesn't put her in gold chains first.



## **The Butcher's Daughter: the hitherto untold story of Mrs. Lovett**

**David Demchuk and Corinne Leigh Clark**

*Soho Press Incorporated, 2025*

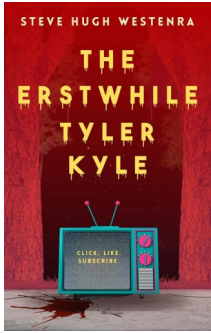
London, 1887: At the abandoned apartment of a missing young woman, a dossier of evidence is collected, ordered chronologically, and sent to the Chief Inspector of the London Metropolitan Police. It contains a frightening correspondence between an inquisitive journalist, Miss Emily Gibson, and the woman Gibson thinks may be the infamous Mrs. Lovett—Sweeney Todd's accomplice, "a wicked woman" who baked men into pies and sold them in her pie shop on Fleet Street. The talk of London Town—even decades after her horrendous misdeeds.

As the woman relays the harrowing account of her life in the unruly and perilous streets of Victorian London, her missives unlock an intricate mystery that brings Miss Gibson closer to the truth, even as that truth may cost her everything. A hair-raising and breathtaking novel for fans of Sarah Waters and Gregory Maguire, **The Butcher's Daughter** is an irresistible literary thriller that draws richly from historical sources and shines new light on the woman behind the counter of the most disreputable pie shop ever known.

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# FICTION



## **The Erstwhile Tyler Kyle**

**Steve Hugh Westenra**

*Spoon God Press, 2024*

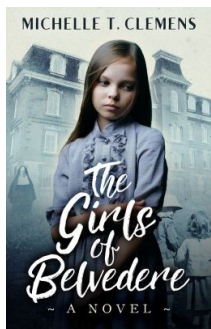
A washed-up thirty-year-old actor and reluctant cryptid investigator, Tyler is used to playing the Scully to his best friend Josh's Mulder on their stupidly popular YouTube channel. But when Tyler receives previously unseen footage of the B movie bombshell mother who abandoned him eighteen years ago—footage linked to an isolated island in the Canadian wilderness—the mystery is one conspiracy he's determined to investigate. The fact that following the scent gives Tyler an excuse to run away from the “straight” Josh, whom he drunkenly made out with, is just the cherry on the shit sundae. But Echo Island isn't what it seems. Its eerily scenic veneer hides a twisted secret buried in its roots as a gay conversion camp, and as Tyler retraces his mother's footsteps, he discovers a supernatural connection between the residents and the island—one they seem to think Tyler and his mother share.

Even worse, the footage of Tyler's mom came from someone on the island—a stalker whose obsessive fascination with both Tyler and Josh is about to make Tyler wish he hadn't gone this one alone. Puppeteered by his stalker, searching for his mother, and debating whether it's possible to queerbait yourself, Tyler comes to realize that it doesn't matter so much whether you believe in monsters, if they believe in you.

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## **The Girls of Belvedere**

**Michelle T. Clemens**

**Also available as an ebook.**

*Flanker Press, 2025*

The sudden death of Kitty Murphy's mother sends Kitty and her younger sisters, Hannah and Ruth, to an orphanage in St. John's. Their brother is allowed to stay home because “boys earn and girls cost.” The next seven years are a test of endurance as they cope with brutality from a cruel, self-righteous nun and the bullies who curry the Sister's favour. Kitty tries her best to protect her younger sisters in this unpredictable environment.

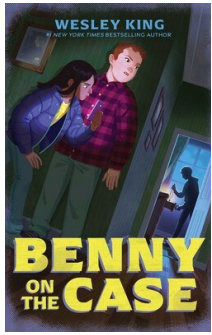
The 1940s in Newfoundland offered very little to a woman. Life in a fishing outport meant unrelenting poverty and an exhausting cycle of pregnancy, childbirth, and child-rearing. Too many mothers died, and their children were turned over to the Sisters to raise in St. John's. Mothers without husbands entered sudden and desperate relationships with men or fell into prostitution. Some women became nuns to escape motherhood with all its perils. They wanted a chance for peace and predictability. However, those young women discovered life in a cloister meant a different foot was on the back of your neck.

All these lives intersected at the doors of Belvedere Orphanage.

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# CHILDREN



## Benny on the Case

Wesley King

*Simon & Schuster, 2025*

Benny isn't your average boy from Newfoundland. He lives in a retirement home that his mother runs, he has an eighty-six-year-old best friend named Mr. Tom, he knows more about fixing boats than video games, and he has Mosaic Down syndrome. When Benny transitions to a mainstream classroom for the first time, the other students tease him for his differences...except for Salma. She's new, too, and not your typical Newfoundland girl: she's tech savvy, speaks Arabic, plays basketball, and isn't afraid to eat lunch with Benny.

So when Salma's grandmother and several other residents in the retirement home are robbed, Benny asks Salma to help him catch the thief. Time is not on their side as an inspector threatens to close the home. And to make matters worse, Benny and Salma must crack the case while working on a class assignment with their bullies. Can Benny save his home and take a stand against the bullies once and for all? He's about to find out, b'ys.

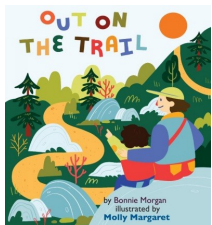


## The Mystery of the Haunted Dance Hall

Charis Cotter

*Tundra Books, 2025*

Bee is reluctantly attending Camp Blue Heron over the summer while her mother teaches a summer course. Bee doesn't make friends easily, but she feels an immediate connection to a fellow unusual camper called Zippy who lets her in on a mystery: every night the teenaged girls in the Hawks cabin are given fresh batteries, but in the morning the batteries are all dead! The girls are supervised and there's no evidence that they snuck out the door, but why are they all so tired? Where is that eerie music coming from? And who is that boy, whom only Bee seems to acknowledge? Mysteries abound at this spooky summer camp.



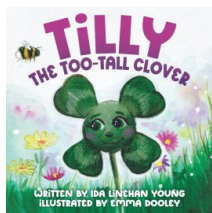
## Out on the Trail

Bonnie Morgan

*Running the Goat, 2025*

"Out on the trail, and what do I see?" This gently rhyming picture book takes young ones on a walk through nature—discovering the ocean, a brook, clouds and more—and encouraging engagement with the world around them. Full-spread wordless pictures offer an opportunity for children to look further and discover more. Molly Margaret's charming illustrations are inspired by the beautiful landscape along the East Coast trail near her home. The author includes a brief afterword with tips for adult readers about how to interact with children to help increase their literacy and curiosity.

Illustrated by **Molly Margaret**.



## Tilly the Too-Tall Clover

Ida Linehan Young

*Flanker Press, 2025*

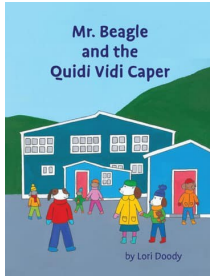
Tilly is a clover who is constantly bullied for being different. Though she tries to fit in, she still stands out and is hurt by the taunting. She has no friends to talk to or who can help her. Tilly is afraid and hides from the things she is meant to do. She is regretful and wants to be stronger and braver like the others. Just as Tilly thinks she has failed and her life is over, she steps outside her familiar boundaries and finds a world she had never imagined before. Here she stands out once again, this time with kindness and friendship. Those traits come to define her and make all the difference for a new, happy life.

Illustrated by **Emma Dooley**.

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# CHILDREN



## Mr. Beagle and the Quidi Vidi Caper

Lori Doody

*Running the Goat, 2025*

Teddy bears are going missing throughout Quidi Vidi village, and everyone is unhappy. Where could they be? Mr. Beagle has a nose for mystery, and once again he is on the case. Will he uncover the bears' whereabouts and get them back to their owners? Lori Doody's quirky canine detective is back in the fourth instalment of her charming picture-book mystery series that celebrates community and kindness, and solving puzzles.



## Scotiabank Arena's Most Important People: when the Maple Leafs play hockey there

Phil Riggs

*Independently Published, 2024*

What do you think would happen if the Leafs did not have a clean, clear, and safe sheet of ice to play on every night they play a game at the Scotiabank Arena? It could be very disastrous for them. If it's not cleaned properly, things like chips off a wooden stick, or transparent tape could go unnoticed by our Leafs players until it's too late. Skating on such small pieces of debris can be dangerous to them when they are getting ready to score. Who is the group of people that ensures the ice is cleaned correctly during each commercial break? It's the crew who consider themselves the most important people in the Scotiabank Arena when our beloved Maple Leafs play hockey there. They, of course, are the ice crew - cleaners who do such a great job of making sure the ice is clean, clear, and safe to skate on. Come along and join us, on a whimsical, unbelievable, and fictional account (that might come true!!) as we are swept up in the story of near disasters to total scoring successes of our favorite hockey team. For the long-suffering Leafs' fans, could there be a silver lining at the end of the story in this book?

Illustrated by **Corey Majeau**.



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