ELEAR HOPENS UP ABOUT WRITING ADD HINTS AT HER NEXT NOVEL

BOOK RELEASE

CALENDAR

APR. - JUN

BOOK DAHLIA

DIY

ISSUE

PUTTING IN THE BOOKMARK...

Manuscript Magazine is proud to launch its second and culminating issue for now.

Manuscript Magazine was not a project we thought of lightly. We wanted to share our love of reading and work together as friends to launch a creative magazine that came to us as a "pretty cool idea" in the summer of 2018.

You know the story. Nowehere had we seen anything like what we wanted to do - nothing like Manuscript Magazine - and we knew this would be no small feat. We already had demanding jobs and personal lives that took up enough time throughout the week. However, when you want something, you go for it, right? So that's what we did.

After building everything from scratch and receiving amazing support from everyone whom we reached out to, we knew that we were onto something awesome!

However, just like our beloved books, life also has plot twists. With both of us having full-time jobs, lives, families, etc. we now realize that at this time we just don't have enough of ourselves to dedicate to Manuscript Magazine.

We want to sincerely thank each and every person, reader, writer, family member, friend and more who has been so supportive of us and our creative magazine project throughout this whole process.

While we are not a mainstream magazine that you see on the racks, we've now experienced just a mere sampling of the hard work and dedication it takes to produce something like this and we are humbled and appreciative for the opportunities that we have had under this masthead.

At this time we are not closing down Manuscript Magazine or any of its social platforms, as we will continue to post and engage with you.

Our first and second issues of Manuscript Magazine can be downloaded for FREE on www.manuscriptmag.ca and if you'd like to share something, be sure to email us at: manuscriptmagazine@outlook.com.

This is one book that we aren't putting back on the shelf anytime soon, but please stay tuned for our re-launch once it's announced and keep on reading!

Sincerely,

Leila & Ashley

Download, share, read and repeat! Visit manuscriptmag.ca

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SPECIAL THANKS TO

Town of Collingwood Book Outlet Canada **Ellen Hopkins** Karen Elizabeth Hann Julie McElwain

COVER IMAGE

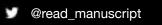
Ellen Hopkins

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READING RADAR

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and embossing kits. Shop here.



Got a wine lover and a book lover for a friend? Or maybe you just need a fun host gift! Check out these wine glass charms. Shop here.



Leila Goseil

Co-Founder Editor

BITTERSWEET GOOD-BYES

Manuscript has been an awesome creative project for me and I have been so humbled by this experience. Having had the chance to interact with many readers and authors during our short time has validated that books and reading are still popular and very much enjoyed.

The book DIY (page 11) was a great project that I loved We've had a ton of support and excitement flowing in doing and I'm sure you would too! It only took me 20 from friends, family, colleagues, and everyone we've minutes to complete and still hangs on my wall. reached out to. We could do this and we would have a Julie McElwain is an amazing author and her books are great time doing it!

transporting - literally! You won't be disappointed in picking up a copy of her In Time series.

This second and culminating issue for Manuscript work but between work, family and life in general, it's Magazine of 2019 was a bittersweet creation for both been very hectic, stressful, and very humbling. Ashley and myself. Just as books give us plot twists, so This is a very bittersweet issue for Leila and I as we take does real life. Unfortunately, Ashley and I will be putting some time away to get ourselves sorted. Please keep in a pin into this creative project for the next little while, as mind that we won't be gone forever and we will be back we navigate work, family and more. and better than ever!

I want to thank each and every one of you both writers, Thank you so, so much to everyone who helped us readers and everyone along the way, who have been bring this creative project to light and for all of your supportive of Manuscript and me. support throughout our journey.

I'm not putting the book back on the shelf, just using a bookmark for the next while.

With love.

Leila

ust in time for Spring and the good

weather, these bookish kicks will

show off your love of reading while keeping you stylish. Shop here.



Ashley Macdonald

Co-Founder Editor

TAKING SOME TIME

Wow, it's been a crazy few months.

Back in June 2018, Leila came to me with this exciting new idea of creating our own magazine. I had little to no hesitancy because Leila had already done guite a bit of research on what it would take and had a startup plan for us to follow with tons of ideas. Great!

However, life is a cruel mistress and dealt us some curveballs. We want to provide our readers with our best

Our story is not yet finished; we're just saving our spot with a bookmark.

With love.

Ashley

ASHLEY'S ANGLE

Book Box Subscriptions

By Ashley Macdonald

Subscription boxes are extremely popular in the book community. I, myself, have partaken in buying a couple of boxes full of wonderful bookish goodies. To check the mail and find your book box waiting for you is exhilarating.

Not knowing what you're getting in the box is part of the thrill and excitement of the unboxing. The only issue I've had with book box subscriptions is that they always so expensive. Being in Canada, almost all of the book box subscriptions I've seen to date have been in USD or in the UK. Either way, shipping is

incredibly expensive and I feel like the Canadian market suffers for it.

When is comes to shipping, it seems that Canada frequently gets the short end of the stick and it really is unfortunate.

I love opening up my mailbox to find my OwlCrate box waiting for me. I get all giggly and excited to open it; I can't wait to see what I've been sent. However, there are times when I'm sent things that I have no idea where they're from because they're from a fandom I've never read. I want to appreciate it, and generally

I can, but I apparently I need to read even more (is that even possible?) in order to understand.

All in all, I love subscription boxes but sometimes I wonder if they're worth all the money.

In my case, I just wish they weren't so expensive.

OwlCrate | FairyLoot | The Bookish Box | Unplugged Book Box | **Spellbound Book Box**



By Ashley Macdonald

Everyone will be faced with challenges at one time or another in their life. However, readers often have challenges that others would deem insignificant but can feel like life or death situations to bookworms.

Where can I read when I don't have any space? How can I get books on a low budget? When will I get the chance to read when there's not enough hours in the day? I want more books but I already have too many books on my to-be-read (TBR) list, what can I do?

Let's tackle these questions one at a time.

Space

If you feel like you don't have anywhere you can go to read comfortably, there lots of other options. A great place to read is the bedroom and, oftentimes, bookworms can be found reading in bed before they go to sleep.

The bedroom is where you dream and your imagination can really run wild. Because books are often described as "movies for the mind," why not take advantage of this? Free your mind to visualize the words before you.

If you have the room, set up a comfy chair in a corner of your bedroom to use as your personal book nook. Don't forget a lamp for when it gets dark or take a look at these great book lights.

- Book Lights @ Indigo
- Book Lights on Amazon

Here, dear readers, you have tons of options. When the weather's warmer, garage sales are a great place to find used books for cheap prices. Who knows, you may even discover a new part of town on your drive.

Book Outlet

is a fantastic website to find discounted books. They're prices average about \$5 per book, though some are more expensive and their Scratch & Dent books are even less! There's a standard \$5 shipping for all orders under \$45 and free shipping for orders above that. Another great thing about Book Outlet is that they have an annual Book Box sale that just took place this past March 14-16, 2019 where you can fill a box of books for \$35. As long as the lid closes, you pay \$35.

Thrift stores and second-hand book stores are a great place to find discounted books. Most towns and cities have at least a couple. Take a chance and Google used book stores near you and let us know what you find!

Not Enough Time

Just as with your mental health and well-being, you need to make some time for yourself. Put down whatever it is you're doing, whether it's laundry, dishes, or helping the kids with homework; and pick up a book. You, fellow bookworm, just like everyone else, needs some time to themselves.

If you really feel like this just isn't an option for you, download an audiobook. By doing this, you can make use of your commute into work, whether you drive or VOLUME 01 | ISSUE 02

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Low Budget



take public transit. You may not be physically reading the book but you're still able to "read" it through someone else's voice. Audible is a great place to stream audiobooks or you can download the Libby app and rent from your local library.



My TBR List is Too Long

This is an issue almost all bookworms will encounter at one point or another. If you're serious about working through your TBR list, consider taking a break from buying books. As fellow bookworms, we at MANUSCRIPT know how much of a struggle this can be, especially when authors continue to release new books each year but the only way to get through your pile, is to take a break from adding to it.

To slowly get through your list, focus on the books that have been on your list the longest and start by reading those. Take a look through your list and you will be amazed by the books you have listed as to-beread. Some of them, you may have forgotten were on the list altogether.

If you're okay with having an endless list of books to read and have accepted this, then there's nothing stopping you from adding to your list. However, you must ensure that you're aware that you will never get through them all.

In Time: An Interview with Julie McElwain on Her Epic Series

By Leila Goreil

MANUSCRIPT: How did the idea for the A Murder in Time series come to you?

McElwain: I had the idea rolling around in my brain for about 10 years before I did anything. I love time travel stories and I love mysteries. I thought it would be really fun to combine the two, but the historical research was very daunting so I put aside the idea, and wrote two other mysteries that ended up in my drawer.

During that time, I gave an old TV that I had from college to the son of a friend of mine. Just to give you an idea how old the TV was, it had no remote control – you actually had to turn the dial to change the channel! I managed to jerry-rig it so my friend's son, Dylan, could play his videogames. One night I was at their house for a party, and Dylan and his friend, Sam - both supersmart - came running for help because the TV had gone wonky. I checked it out, turned the dial and - voila! - the videogame returned These amazingly intelligent boys looked at me, shook their heads, and said. "We don't understand this old technology."

Aside from making me laugh, the experience started me thinking: What would happen if a supersmart, modern day woman was suddenly thrust back in time? The idea sort of grew from there.

MANUSCRIPT: You have written such a unique plot. Explain how the plot develops over the series and any obstacles that you came upon while writing?

McElwain: Besides the murder investigation in each book, it's really about relationships. The background of my main protagonist, Kendra

Donovan, is unique and painful. Her parents abandoned her when she was guite young, and she's always felt like an outsider. She became closed off in terms of personal relationships — which she doesn't trust - and focused on her career. She is brilliant and self-sufficient. Yet being tossed back into the Regency era has changed everything. In the twenty-first century, she doesn't really need anybody. But in the early nineteenth century, she finds herself in the unusual position of needing other people to survive. That forces her to open up, establish relationships, learn to trust. She's also recognizing how intelligent these people are. There is a natural arrogance to Kendra. She is a super-intelligent person in her own right, but she's from the twenty-first century. She has knowledge that these people do not. On the other hand, she doesn't "understand old technology." That levels the playing field.

Kendra will always have frustrations with this time period, where women really are second-class citizens. She may never fit in — but she never fit in the twenty-first century, either. However, she is softening in ways that she would never have if she were in her own time period. Also, when she first arrived in 1815,

Kendra was very afraid of doing something to change history, which could change the future. But as time goes on, she may become less sensitive to that possibility.

Kendra isn't alone in her evolution. Alec.



the Duke, Rebecca, Sam... everyone around her are changing in small ways because of their contact with her. I like the idea of people coming from two very different viewpoints, essentially two different cultures, who learn to accept each other, find common ground, and grow because of it.

As far as obstacles in writing Kendra's adventures, there are two. As an American, I have a very difficult time understanding the Peerage of England, and its use of titles. I had no clue how hard this would be until I started writing this series! I rely on the book, Titles And Forms Of Address — A Guide To Correct Use. But it's still a constant headache, and I often lament that I didn't send Kendra back to 1815 somewhere in America! On top of that, the way people addressed each other during this time was very formal. It seems archaic to me that even a commoner addressed his wife or her husband as Mrs. And Mr.

in public, and sometimes in private. Because I think that may be jarring to readers as well, I've softened some of those rules in private conversations.

The second obstacle that comes up is a woman in Kendra's position wouldn't be running about society alone. She's finding ways around that, but I spend a great amount of time thinking how to get Kendra from Point A to Point B in a way that is realistic both for that era and for Kendra's more modern mindset.

There are probably more obstacles, but those are the two that come instantly to mind!

MANUSCRIPT: Did you know that A Murder in Time would become a series?

McElwain: I have always envisioned it as a series, but a traditionally published author has so little control over whether that will be a reality. If A Murder in Time hadn't done well, it would have ended there. Thankfully, there's been enough interest by readers to keep it going!

MANUSCRIPT: You just published Caught in Time. Tell us about the evolution of the characters.

McElwain: In Caught in Time, Kendra has been in the nineteenth century for several months now. While she continues to be frustrated by the limits put on women in this era, she's adapting. Her relationship with Alec has deepened, and she is

One theme that continues to be explored is how Kendra's desire for independence clashes with Alec and the Duke's sincere desire to protect her. Kendra has the skills to protect herself more than most women, but Alec and the Duke worry about her. It's a tricky line. When does trying to protect someone cross the line into trying to control someone? A mom who insists their five-year-old hold their hand while crossing the street is controlling their child, but their motivation comes from love and a desire to protect their child. Of course, Kendra would argue – and does argue - women should not be treated like children. I think both sides have come to understand the other's point of view, but adjusting one's behavior is another story, and we will see that battle continue in Caught in Time.

MANUSCRIPT: Do you have a favourite character in this story that you especially enjoy writing about?

McElwain: I have to say that I really enjoyed writing Dr. Poole in Caught in Time. He is such a curmudgeon. He annoyed the heck out of Kendra because he refused to budge on how he thought women should behave, and tended to be so grumpy. I probably would be just as annoyed if I met someone like that

CAUGH WIST MURDER Sina TIME TIME MF IULIE MCELW. JULIE MCELWAIN **IULIE MCELWAIN**

PAGE 8

willing to admit - reluctantly - that she's in love with him. That doesn't mean she's ready to marry him, and that causes friction with Alec.



in real life, but in fiction, writing him, he made me smile.

MANUSCRIPT: The historic details of your story are so rich. What was/ is the research process like for you while writing?

McElwain: It's nonstop. I read ton of books, blogs, and articles on that era. I have the book, 1811 Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue, but now I usually turn to Louise Allen's Regency Slang Revealed, which organizes the 1811 dictionary in a much more practical and easy way to read. Both dictionaries help me with words that were used in that era. One of the most surprising things that I found is how many slang words we use today that were used back then.

The hardest part of research is spending hours reading from various sources, finally making a decision to include that bit of information in your own writing, and then coming across a new source that disputes your previous sources! Who do you believe? The sources you've spent the last three days reading, or do you go with the new source? I want to be as historically accurate as possible, but sometimes it's a judgement call.

I also try to think of everything, which, of course, is impossible. As I'm writing, I am always going online to research when things were invented and the etymology of words. I'm constantly surprised and endlessly fascinated by what I find out. And as careful as I try to be, there will always be things that I miss.

MANUSCRIPT: Betrayal in Time is the fourth book in this series, coming out in 2019. Can you tell us something about this novel?

McElwain: Bow Street Runner Sam Kelly is called upon to investigate the grisly murder of Sir Giles Holbrooke. The victim was found naked in a church, garroted, with his tongue cut out. Even more perplexing, symbols that resemble crosses mysteriously appear on the dead man's flesh during autopsy. Sam immediately turns to Kendra Donovan to help him solve the crime. This will bring Kendra back to London, and reunite her with

a few characters in past books. I think readers will also see Kendra continue to evolve, where she becomes more involved in life. She's been an observer, standoffish, afraid to participate outside crime-solving for fear it might affect the future, but she's slowing becoming a citizen of this new world that she's found herself in.

MANUSCRIPT: You've written such a successful story. What helps you to keep writing more? Why not just one book for Kendra's adventure?

McElwain: I couldn't imagine anyone from today being tossed back into a previous century, and readily accepting it. So, for me, that requires a longer process. Like any book series, I wanted to explore Kendra's life as it unfolds, and see how her relationships develop and how she may be changed by them, and how she may change those around her. Those changes can be little or they can be profound, and it seemed best done in a series.

MANUSCRIPT: What's one thing you want readers to take away from your A Murder in Time series?

McElwain: What makes a home? Kendra doesn't really belong in the early nineteenth century. She's a modern woman. But in the twenty-first century, her family is nonexistent, and she is too caught up in her career to have any true friends. As uncomfortable as the Regency era is for her, she has fallen in love, and is developing relationships that she never had before. So what makes a home our environment or the people in that environment?

MANUSCRIPT: What can readers expect for Betrayal in Time? Please give us a hint!

McElwain: As I mentioned, Kendra has another grisly murder to solve, but in the months since Caught in PAGE 10

Time, she's learned to dance, so she can no longer stay on the sidelines during balls. And interacting more with the Beau Monde has some surprising results.

MANUSCRIPT: By trade, you're also a journalist. Does that help or hinder you in your creative fiction writing?

McElwain: Overall, I think it helps. As a journalist, you are trained to organize your thoughts and words in a concise way to tell readers a story. It's not necessarily easy, but you know how to do it. Also, I'd say the editing process is familiar to me. I don't know for sure, but I would imagine writers who haven't been forced to whittle their words down to fit an allotted space in a newspaper or magazine might have more trouble "killing their darlings," as they say. And finally, I'm guite familiar with writing on deadline, which requires a certain amount of discipline. Writing itself requires discipline. I know a lot of people who talk about writing, but never find the discipline to actually write.

me.







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When I was looking at Pinterest for easy paper or book-inspired DIY (do-it-yourself) projects, I wanted something simple, inexpensive and could be easily incorporated into my home interior aesthetic.

After a deep spiral of searching, I came across A Wonderful Thought's pin for this beautiful and totally customizable paper dahlia.

I read through and followed the easy, step-by-step directions and produced this beautiful dahlia that now hangs on a wall in my apartment hallway. I made mine using an old copy of a Charles Dickens novel that I had purchased

You're Going to Need...

- Paper or a book with pages measuring 4" x 4" square
- Hot glue gun or tape
- Piece of cardboard
- Scissors or paper cutter
- 6" piece of ribbon or string

Steps...

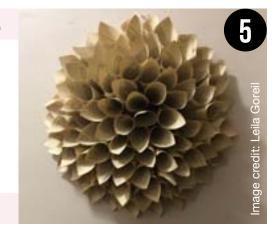
- Cut your piece of cardboard into a circle this is going to help gauge the size of your dahlia
- Adhere your string or ribbon to the back of the cardboard
- Cut your paper / book pages into 4"x 4" squares and you will also need some cut into 3" x 3" squares
- Form your squares into cones using hot glue or tape to hold them in place
- Begin to glue or tape down your cones around the outside of the cardboard. This first layer determines how wide your dahlia will be. Tip: Measure the space you intend to hang your dahlia from to avoid errors
- Work your way around the circle, filling in with cones
- As you work towards the centre, begin using the 3"x 3" squares to create depth for the dahlia
- Hang or mount your dahlia (whichever you decide)

at a yard sale, but never read and turned it into this artful masterpiece. (see left)

The thing that I love most about this particular DIY is that you can use craft paper, wrapping paper, tissue paper, books and more and can create these in a variety of sizes and even mount them on different surfaces to create seasonal and custom designs.

If you decide to take on this DIY, tag us in your photo with #manuscriptmagDIY on social media. We'd love to see your work!

Here are the easy steps to make your own paper (book page) dahlia.



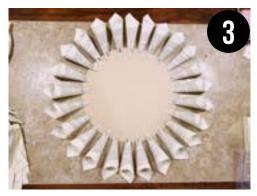
By Leila Goreil

Book Dahlia DIY Courtesy of: A Wonderful Thought Blog

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HOW ONE READER ACCEPTED HER AUTHENTICITY

As I write this opener, I am currently sitting in my car, waiting for the reception of my friend's wedding celebration to start. I'm alone, looking slightly odd sitting in a pretty dress, reading a book with the title of Nobody Cares, but whatever. It's taken me a few weeks to read this book, but it was because I identify with everything the author wrote, and I didn't want to miss a thing. This book was eye opening to me. I have never identified with anyone so much in my life (Sorry to my family and friends, but this woman is my spirit animal, I'm confident in this fact).

My love affair started with a trip to the public library. I had some movies to return, new ones to pick up (hello Harry Potter marathon), and was waiting in line to check out. The public library in Collingwood has started a program called, "blind date with a book". They wrap a book in plain brown paper, cutting out only the area where the bar code is. I tend to be a little picky about the books I read because I have to be in the right mood for different types. So this was a bit of a risk for me. But low and behold, God used the program to help me out. (Now this is where I lay down a little disclaimer: I am a Christian. I was raised in a Christian home, I go to church pretty much every Sunday, I teach Sunday school, and I have a personal relationship with Jesus. This will become useful info in a little bit.) Enter in the book of *Nobody Cares* by Anne T. Donohue.

She is an author from Cambridge, Ontario. It's a city not too terribly far away from where I live. Figuring this out made a huge difference

in how I read her book. It made it easier to identify with everything she wrote. To make myself sound super creepy, I just feel like it's easier to relate to someone that I stand a decent chance at meeting someday. (As much as I love Chris Evans (my future hubs) and Gal Gadot (my future BFF), the chances of my meeting them are miniscule). But the girl is local. Ish. And we have lots of stuff in common. She finally taught me that despite what other people say, it is okay for me to swear; to say the words that most good Christian people won't say out loud. Sorry Anne, if that wasn't your intention with this book, but that's some of what I got out of it.

And that is important to me. I have ADHD, Anxiety, and Depression tendencies. I just recently went on medication to help out with the later two deals. Side note: Anxiety and Depression tendencies are life cards I've been dealt, not problems or issues. My true issues in life are being addicted to shoes and coffee and often not having the money to pay for either. Back to recently deciding to go on medications; It's been about three months (as of the beginning of March) of being on the meds, and I'm still figuring out how I feel about it. While the medication is helping me get back to who I am, there are still days where my anxiety gets the better of me. But one thing I definitely struggle with is the fact that when I'm having a bad day, swearing helps me cope. Now I know that this may sound odd to most people, but in a Christian home swear words were forbidden while I was growing up. Like, none at all, until I



The Aftermath

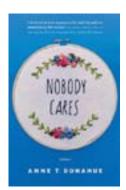
Rhidian Brook

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By Jordanna Lageer

was an adult, and even then it was rather begrudgingly tolerated. But these words that would get me in trouble as a teen are now a coping mechanism for me as an adult. If I'm feeling stressed out, anxious, and/ or crowded, swearing is the easiest and fastest help for me. And that's okay. Because as long as I am being respectful of those around me, I can do what I need to do to make myself feel better in that moment. So even if I'm saying things under my breath or just in my own head, it is a help to me. I'll answer for my choices when I'm dead.

So thank you Anne, for giving me permission to say whatever I damn well want. The rest of the world just needs to fucking deal with it. (Sorry mom and aunties.) I am who I am, and I will not apologize to the world at large for what I need to do to keep myself sane and as happy as I can be. I need to take care of myself before I am able to help others around me. I guess my question for all of you readers is this; whatever your doing, are you being authentic to yourself and your belief system? Because I finally know that I am.



Order your copy of *Nobody Cares* here.

FEATURE INTERVIEW



INTERVIEW: ELLEN HOPKINS

Opening up about writing and her next novel



By Ashley Macdonald

Not one to shy away from controversy, Ellen Hopkins has tackled addiction, teen pregnancy and suicide in numerous best-selling novels.

Having started writing since she could put pen to paper, Hopkins' first published piece was a brilliant haiku at the young age of nine. In high school, just about every creative writing contest she entered was hers for the taking.

Several of her books are based on personal experiences, including her first novel, Crank, which was inspired by her daughter's addiction to methamphetamine. A few years after Crank was published, Hopkins continued the story in her subsequent novels, Glass, and finally, Fallout.

With 20 nonfiction titles, four novels

for adults and 14 New York Times Bestselling novels in-verse, Ellen Hopkins dives into her writing process with us. Everything from researching her books to the best and worst things about being an author, Hopkins divulges all.

MANUSCRIPT: In what order do you suggest readers read your books

Hopkins: It really depends on if people prefer reading books that go together back to back or what. The earlier books rely much more on form than the later ones, which have more dense text. But here's a link that shows what goes with what, and the order they were written in. https://www.bookseriesinorder. com/ellen-hopkins/

MANUSCRIPT: What was the inspiration for Crank?

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Hopkins: The truth is, I started Crank as a kind of personal journey, to try and understand what had just happened to six years of my life... and what had happened to my beautiful daughter, no longer so beautiful. I didn't start it looking for publication, let alone expecting the book to become the phenomenon it has. But the story inside is universal. Addiction, of one kind or another, touches almost everyone. As I wrote, I understood the importance of the story. Now that she's clean, my daughter understands its importance, too.

MANUSCRIPT: Crank, Glass, and Fallout are all based on your life but what inspired your other books?

Hopkins: I always say inspiration is everywhere, you just have to reach out and grab it. Often, it's something

I read or hear in the news. Some story, or even a statistic, that nails my attention and makes me think it would be the basis for a great book. Other times it might be something a reader shares. My readers regularly tell me their stories, and while I don't want to write their personal journeys, they just might inspire a

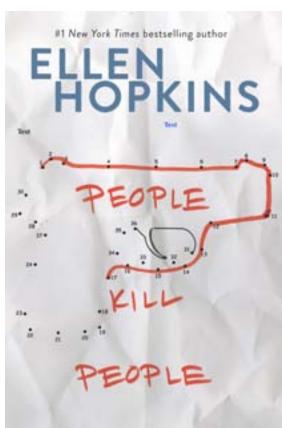
MANUSCRIPT: How do you research your books?

character or plot thread.

Hopkins: I do as much primary research as I can. This involves in-person, telephone or online interviews with people who have faced the issues I'm writing about. So, with Tricks, I spent time talking to teen prostitutes on the street. and by email. Then I do a lot of secondary research-with experts, on websites, through magazine or newspaper articles and books, etc.

MANUSCRIPT: How much time do you spend writing every day?

Hopkins: When I'm home and not under deadline, at least six hours. Under deadline, that could be much



me unhappy.



MANUSCRIPT: What is your writing process?

Hopkins: It may interest you to know that I don't write drafts. Because each poem flows so specifically into the next, each must be pretty much "right" before I move on. That means I may spend those six hours creating just three pages, especially in the early part of the book, when I'm just getting to know my characters and learning their stories. I do, however, spend many hours in prewrite, creating those characters. I get to know them almost all in my head. Some writers do elaborate charts, family trees, etc. Others outline plot. I do neither. So, when I complete a book, I do one read-through for glaring errors, then send it off to my fabulous editor, who I trust to tell me if something isn't working.

MANUSCRIPT: What's the best part of being a writer?

Hopkins: Everything! I get paid to do what I love. Is there anything better than that? I set my own hours, don't answer to a boss, and don't have anyone griping VOLUME 01 | ISSUE 02

more. When I travel, I try to write at least an hour or two every day. This includes vacations, holidays, and weekends. Writing is my career, but it's also my heart. Not writing makes at me. Okay, a few people gripe sometimes, but that's their problem.

MANUSCRIPT: What's the worst part of being a writer?

Hopkins: Budgeting. The money

I earn comes in once every six months, so I have to make sure I don't spend too much today to make paying my bills next month impossible. And I'm soooooo not a math person!

MANUSCRIPT: What's the best advice you've been given as a writer?

Hopkins: To write the stories that scare you the most to write, and never self-censor.

MANUSCRIPT: When did you know you wanted to be a writer?

Hopkins: Pretty much from the first time I realized the power of "story." So I guess I was in high school when I decided that, though I did take a wide life detour that finally brought me back to my dream of writing as a career in my thirties. Keep striving for those dreams! They don't always come easily or right away.

MANUSCRIPT: Will you ever make your books into movies?

Hopkins: Movies aren't really up to me. A film company has to take an

interest. That said, there is some interest, so it's always possible!

MANUSCRIPT: What would you say to readers who are in similar positions as your characters?

Hopkins: My best advice is that help is available, and it's always better to ask for help sooner rather than later. Sometimes just talking about a problem can open up a whole new realm of possibilities. Somewhere, there is a person who will care, so never feel all alone.

MANUSCRIPT: Is there another book in the works? If so, can you give readers a hint?

Hopkins: There's ALWAYS a book in the works. Next up, to publish in October 2019, is Sanctuary *Highway*. It's a politically charged YA that takes readers into a very near future that could well become our future if we don't step up and demand our country's leaders return to true representation of We the People.

LIGHTNING ROUND

Favourite color? RED!

Biggest vice? Red wine

Pets?

Two German shepherds, one cat, inside and outside fish

Favourite music?

Rock, grunge, some country, big band

Favourite band?

Pink Flovd

Music when you write? None

Favourite TV show?

American Idol

Favourite food?

Fries (but I avoid them, or else . . .!!)

Three words that best describe you?

Passionate, articulate, devoted.

Coffee or tea?

Coffee. Black. Three cups every morning.











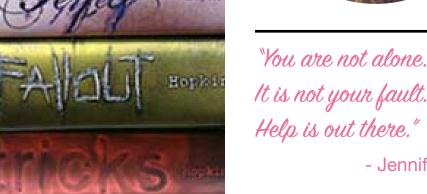


I had All the Bright Places by Jennifer Niven recommended to me by a friends and I was told that it's a combination of two books, one of which I also just recently read. The first, is The Fault in Our Stars by John Green and the other is Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell. I wasn't quite sure what my friend meant but after having read All the Bright Places, I now understand.

doesn't it?

- Jennifer Niven

As the book develops, you see secrets start to emerge, which brought me back to Eleanor & Park. It's clear that these two people want to be together but secrets and other obstacles stand in their way. I think Niven did a wonderful job in writing All the Bright Places and it's no wonder that it's been made into a movie. There's so much character development and moments that leave you wondering what will happen next. It's clear, even in her "Author's Note", that this book has been wanting to get out. There is pain and there is joy. There is loss VOLUME 01 | ISSUE 02





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Book Review All the Bright Places by Jennifer Niven

Jennifer Niven tackles the subject of death in a very gritty, yet eloquent way. All the Bright Places starts with Violet Markey on the edge of the bell tower at her high school after surviving an accident that kills her sister. Eleanor. We also see Theodore Finch, who just recently came out of his "Sleep", on that same tower and thinking about jumping. After talking them both out of it. Theodore builds a friendship with Violet, albeit reluctantly on her part, by convincing her to work on a class project together. The story takes off from there. The theme of death and the reluctance sounds a bit like The Fault in Our Stars,

By Ashley Macdonald

and there is gain. Adventures and isolation.

I think this is a book that should be read by everyone, in order to help people try to better understand mental illness. If you or anyone you know is struggling with thoughts of suicide or is a Suicide Survivor, please follow any of the links below.

Get your copy of All the Bright Places today.

PREVENTION

Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention

IMAlive

The LifeLine Canada Foundation

SUPPORT

To Write Love On Her Arms

Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention – Coping with Suicide Loss

Book Outlet Annual Book Box Sale 2018 vs. 2019

By Ashley Macdonald

If you're a book lover in North America, you've probably heard of Book Outlet. If not, Book Outlet is a bookstore where you can buy books for discounted prices. They have brick and mortar stores in Thorold, Ontario as well as in Buffalo, New York. If that doesn't work for you, they also have an online platform: www.bookoutlet.ca or www. bookoutlet.com, depending in which country you reside.

Right off the bat, all their books are at least at a 25% lower price than if you walked into Indigo or Barnes and Noble. Plus, they have a few different options for online buyers, such as myself. All orders over \$45 gets free shipping, otherwise, it's a flat rate of \$5.

Another great perk is when you sign up for an account, you can immediately start earning points! Every order you make, whether in person or online, you earn points, which you can redeem for additional money off your bill. Not only that but Book Outlet also has a monthly guiz you can take which will award you 10 free points!

Needless to say, most (if not all) of my book hauls come from Book Outlet.

On top of all the great titles and rewards you can get with Book Outlet just by shopping with them and being a member, they also host a great event once a year.

Every year, Book Outlet holds their Annual Book Box Sale for three days only during March Break. I've had the absolute pleasure of attending for the last two years. When you get there, you get a 18" x 10" box to fill with as many books as you can.

What's the best part? The whole box and everything in it only costs \$35, taxes included! All additional books can be purchased at their Scratch & Dent pricing of \$3 for soft cover and \$4 for hardcover. The only stipulation is that the lid of the box must be able to close flat.

This year, the Book Box Sale was held from Thursday, March 14th to Saturday, March 16th and I marked myself down to go on the 16th a lesson I learned from the year before. With Saturday being the last day, last year I went somewhat later in the afternoon and I was a little disappointed.

By the time I got there, it seemed like all the good books had already been taken even though staff were constantly refilling the tables. Not only that but a lot of the books I was finding were quite severely damaged; i.e. ripped or absent covers, bent pages, water damaged, etc.

Although I filled a box last year, a lot of them I took only because I didn't want the experience to feel like it was a waste. After all, I'd spent two hours scouring tables and bins for books. Presently, I'm planning to donate guite a few of those books.

The decision for going this year was to go earlier in the morning and I found the experience a lot more enjoyable. It was still fairly busy when I arrived and it steadily got busier and busier the longer I stayed. Though I still found a lot of books that were damaged, similarly to the year before, I was able to keep searching and find the same



book in better condition. Staff continued to keep restocking the tables with more and more books and in comparison, I would say that there were a lot more books this year than last, especially in the Young Adult section.

Unlike in 2018, I actually lost track of time while at the sale and only realized I'd been there for quite some time when my feet started to hurt.

This time, I filled my box and I'm ecstatic to say that they're all books I plan on reading (hopefully) this year. As of right now, I've already read two of the books I got and it's been less than a month since the sale!

On my commute to and from work, I've been listening to more audiobooks and thought the Book Box Sale would be a great place to

get a few more. Unfortunately, I was only able to find one audiobook in the whole sale. My thought was that they had already been all snatched up during the previous two days. If you're going looking for audiobooks, I would recommend you don't as you may be disappointed.

Overall, I had a great time and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. When I got home, I added up the retail value of everything I got and it was just under \$640! I'd say my \$35 was extremely well-spent. If you get the chance to attend the Book Box Sale next year, I would highly recommend it!

Follow Book Outlet Store on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with latest news and other bookish events!





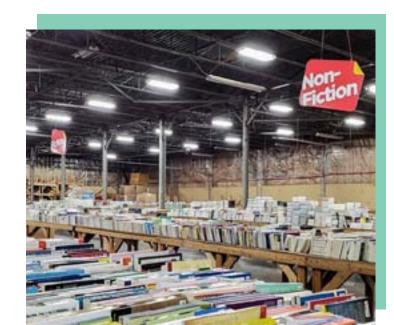


Image credit: Book Outlet Canada



credit: Ashley Macdonald

Shedding Light on Debut Author Karen Elizabeth Hann

Debut author Karen Elizabeth Hann took some time to answer a few questions for MANUSCRIPT readers about her first book and what's next.

MANUSCRIPT: As a newly published author, what have been some of your greatest challenges?

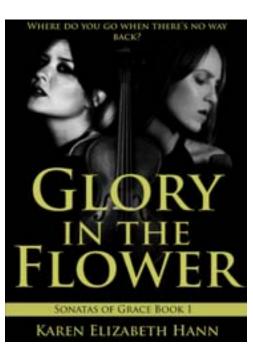
Hann: I didn't do much research ahead of time, beyond how to get your book up on the major retail platforms. I knew nothing about marketing or how to get the word out... I'm still learning that process. I just put it out and somehow hoped that it would magically become visible to the world. But it takes a little more than that.

MANUSCRIPT: Glory in the Flower is your first book. What was the writing process like for you?

Hann: For me, stories tend to come out of a few ideas or images. I get an image in my mind, people or objects, and I start to build something around it. Who is that person who would look like that and be doing that? What might their lives be like? What brought them to that place? From there, it builds. As I move along, I gather other ideas from what's happening in the news or my own life, until I have enough layers and angles for a story worth telling. I often stop and start... work on something for a while, then set it aside, then pick it up again. It's the joy of having ADHD. But the process works for me.

MANUSCRIPT: What was the hardest scene for you to write in Glory in the Flower?

Hann: Mia's suicide attempt. I actually had a friend remain with me as I wrote it because it was



too intense. I never worked on that scene alone, not in any of my revisions.

MANUSCRIPT: How did the story of Glory in the Flower come to be?

Hann: Since my teens, I've wanted to write something about power dynamics within the church and how easily corruption can grow. So that was at the back of my mind. I'd also had a few flashes of image that stuck with me... a pair of lovers lying in a field; an elaborate pipe organ; a beautiful woman with a malformed hand running through a darkened parking lot. As I examined these images and wondered who those people could be and what might happen around a pipe organ, the story began to build. I actually worked on this book on and off for over ten years, as I was going through grad school, going through my own crises of faith, and going through the process of being diagnosed with BPD and learning how to live with the condition. The book isn't autobiographical... I do

By Ashley Macdonald

have sisters, but the dynamic is nothing like that between Mia and Kate, and the family is very different in general. But I was able to draw on my own experiences and that of my family in the way that everyone dealt with Mia's mental illness. I chose the issue of HIV stigma because it was something that was very strong when I was growing up, and although it does seem to be easing as the AIDS pandemic settles, there is still a great deal of misinformation and prejudice. The advent of social media puts people's lives in the spotlight, and I wanted to examine how the notion of Internet celebrity affects how they cope with unexpected crises.

MANUSCRIPT: Impulses of Deeper Birth is a prequel to Glory in the Flower, how did this come about?

Hann: The character of Peter Wentworth was, initially, supposed to be minor, a little nod to two very dear friends of mine. There are some inside jokes with that character that only a few people will ever understand. I'd originally planned Glory in the Flower to be a standalone. But as soon as it was published, people started asking me about sequels. So I had to think more about the characters. It surprised me how many readers resonated with the character of Peter. I started thinking more about him, who he was, and how his and Ollie's relationship had developed, as well as how they had developed individually as human beings. There is obviously a rich history of adventure with the two of them. The actual incident around which Impulses of Deeper Birth is arranged may have some slight root in fact, but that's about as much as I'm

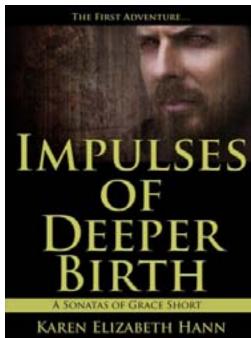
telling anyone about that.

MANUSCRIPT: What do you want readers to take away from your books?

Hann: For religious readers, I want them to think about why and how they follow their faith leaders. I want them to understand that what a faith leader says isn't necessarily what God says, and I want them to examine their long-held beliefs to understand precisely why they hold them. I want them to see that those we hold up as examples of faith are human and fallible. I also want people to look at the sociopolitical issues I bring up in my stories. Glory in the Flower deals with HIV stigma and mental illness, both of which are highly controversial in the church. I cannot count how many times a well-meaning Christian friend or relative has told me that if I had more faith I would not have the mis-wired brain I have. For my non-religious readers, I'd like them to see a hopefully realistic look at the world of faith and understand the complexities of obligation, love, family, fear, hope, and belief that we who live there must grapple.

MANUSCRIPT: What's your favourite part of the writing process?

Hann: Coming up with the characters and the initial plot



ideas... everything is new and fresh and fun. Then when the meat of it all must be built upon the bones, it turns into a lot more work.

MANUSCRIPT: For readers who are struggling with being HIV positive or have thoughts of suicide, what advice would you give them?

Hann: Seek proper medical attention. Mental illness is a disease, just like any physical illness. There should be no shame in seeking treatment. So far as HIV is concerned, I'm not a medical professional, but as far as one's daily life is concerned, my thoughts are similar. Cast aside shame. An illness is an illness. Having one doesn't make you dirty or bad. People should not be prejudiced against you for that. Of course, it's a person's responsibility to keep from spreading an illness, but nobody should be cast out from society or family just because there is a virus in their blood. And so far as I'm concerned, it's nobody's business how that virus came to be there.

MANUSCRIPT: What do you do when you're not writing?

Hann: I'm a community organizer and activist. I run protest marches and work on community-based initiatives like gathering blankets for those in need and raising money for self-defence classes for vulnerable women and girls. I also edit books for a local military history publishing company. And I hang out with my cat a lot, because he's awesome. His name is Severus Snape, and he was an abused little stray. He's now fat and sassy and endlessly displeased with his human-slave.

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I might one day publish a book of his journals.

> MANUSCRIPT: Is there another book currently in the works for the Sonatas of Grace series? Can you give readers a hint?

Hann: As most sonatas are in four parts, there will be four Sonatas of Grace books altogether, featuring

the same cast of characters with a few new additions. The second one is indeed in the works, and it picks up mere days after Glory in the Flower ends. Kate and Ollie are dealing with parenthood and where to go next in their lives. Mia continues to navigate life with a serious mental illness. One thing I like to do as a writer is toss my characters into a situation that seems absolutely impossible and then watch as they struggle to come to terms, so we're going to see some heavy tragedy.

MANUSCRIPT: One thing your readers and fans should know about you is...

Hann: I am extremely political, and that comes out in my work. I know I don't write in a way that fits the conventional "Christian Fiction" mold, and that is deliberate on my part. The old paradigms are no longer working. We have to explore something new.

Get your digital copy of Impulses of Deeper Birth and Glory in the Flowers on Amazon.

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The Austen Playbook (London Celebrity #4) Lucy Parker Contemporary Romance

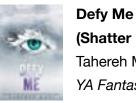
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The Girl He Used to Know Tracey Garvis-Graves Second Chance Romance



You'd Be Mine Erin Hahn YA Pop Star Romance



(Shatter Me #5) Tahereh Mafi YA Fantasy



Women Talking Miriam Toews Contemporary Fiction

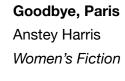


A Prom to Remember Sandy Hall YA Romance



Gimme Some Sugar (A Southern Eclectic novel) Molly Harper Contemporary Romance







The Devouring Gray (The Devouring Gray #1) Christine Lynn Herman YA Fantasy

The Savior (A Black Dagger Brotherhood novel) J.R. Ward Paranormal Romance



The Editor Steven Rowley Literary Fiction



The Magnolia Chronicles: **Adventures in Modern Dating** Kate Canterbary Contemporary Romance



All We Are (Ex Factor Duet #2) Elisabeth Grace and Michelle Lynn Contemporary Romance



The Peacock Emporium Jojo Moyes Women's Fiction



When Summer Ends Jessica Pennington YA Romance



This Book Is Not Yet Rated Peter Bognanni Contemporary YA



Meet Cute Helena Hunting Romantic Comedy



The Promise of Us (Sanctuary Sound #2) Jamie Beck Contemporary Romance



How to Make Friends with the Dark Kathleen Glasgow Contemporary YA



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Time (Law of Physics #3) Penny Reid Smart Romance



When We Left Cuba **Chanel Cleeton** Historical Women's Fiction



Piece of My Heart (Fostering Love #4) Nicole Jacquelyn Domestic Romance



In the Neighborhood of True Susan Kaplan Carlton Historical YA



The Hookup Handbook Kendall Ryan Best Friend's Sister Romance



Repeat Kylie Scott Contemporary Romance

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The Rose Tiffany Reisz Erotica



Serious Moonlight Jenn Bennett YA Romance



Under the Table Stephanie Evanovich Contemporary Romance

Stone Mothers

The Mother-in-Law

I Know Who You Are

Sally Hepworth

Women's Fiction

Alice Feeney

Dark Thriller

Erin Kelly

Thriller





Eric Jerome Dickey Romance

Cecelia Ahern

Story Collection

Roar



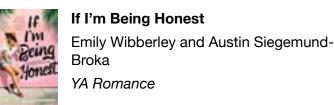


The Mister E L James Contemporary Romance

The First True Thing Claire Needell YA Mystery

Tif Marcelo

Romantic Comedy

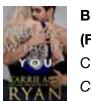






Junk Mail Kendall Ryan Contemporary Romance

The Key to Happily Ever After



Breaking Without You (Fractured Connections #1) Carrie Ann Ryan Contemporary Romance



Brief Chronicle of Another Stupid Heartbreak Adi Alsaid YA Romance



Hearts Are Made for Breaking Jen Klein YA Romance



A Good Enough Mother Bev Thomas Psychological Thriller



The Invited Jennifer McMahon Thriller



Under the Northern Lights SC Stephens Contemporary Romance



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OTHER-IN-LAW

ALLY HEPBERT

All We Could Have Been TE Carter Contemporary YA



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The Doll Factory Elizabeth Macneal Historical Fiction





Aurora Rising (The Aurora Cycle #1) Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff YA Sci-Fi



The Bride Test Helen Hoang Contemporary Romance



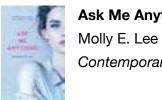
Tightrope Amanda Quick Historical Romance



Somewhere Only We Know Maurene Goo YA Romance

Ask Me Anything

Contemporary YA



Finale (Caraval #3) Stephanie Garber YA Fantasy



Drawing Home Jamie Brenner Women's Fiction



FRID

N= OTHEI

FLAVORS

Love from A to Z S. K. Ali YA Romance

Pride, Prejudice, and Other Flavors Sonali Dev Women's Fiction



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Her Royal Highness (Royals #2) **Rachel Hawkins** Contemporary YA



Then Came You (A Laws of Attraction Novel) Kate Meader Contemporary Romance



This Is Not a Love Scene Shea C. Megale YA Romance



That Second Chance (Getting Lucky #1) Meghan Quinn Contemporary Romance



You, Me, and the Sea Meg Donohue Contemporary Romance



The Last Time I Saw You Liv Constantine Mystery Thriller



Happy Messy Scary Love Leah Konen YA Romance



Testimony from Your Perfect Girl Kaui Hart Hemmings Contemporary YA



The Candle and the Flame Nafiza Azad YA Fantasy



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07 (CONT'D)

Unbroken (A Loveless novella) Jay Crownover Small Town Romance



Dream Sequence Adam Foulds Literary Fiction



We Hunt the Flame Hafsah Faizal YA Fantasy



If It Makes You Happy Claire Kann YA Romance



Don't Date Rosa Santos Nina Moreno YA Romance



There's Something About Sweetie Sandhya Menon YA Contemporary



The Unhoneymooners Christina Lauren Enemies to Lovers Romance

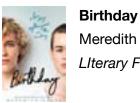
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The Favorite Daughter Kaira Rouda Psychological Suspense



Into the Jungle Erica Ferencik Thriller



Meredith Russo LIterary Fiction



Cliff's Edge (Solace Island #2) Meg Tilly Romantic Suspense



Again, But Better **Christine Riccio** YA Romance



A Love Like Yours (Love Story Duet #1) **Robin Huber** Contemporary Romance

Let Me Hear a Rhyme

Randy Susan Meyers

Women's Fiction

Tiffany D. Jackson



Contemporary YA Waisted 581





Twisted (Tangled Web #1) Aleatha Romig Contemporary



Shouldn't Have You (Fractured Connections #2) Carrie Ann Ryan Contemporary Romance



After Forever Ends Melodie Ramone Romance



These Witches Don't Burn Isabel Sterling YA Fantasy



The Kingdom Jess Rothenberg Sci-Fi YA



Passion on Park Avenue (Central Park Pact) Lauren Layne Contemporary Romance



Stepsister Jennifer Donnelly YA Fairytale Reimagining



The Seduction Expert (The Seduction Expert #1) Saya Lopez Ortega Women's Fiction

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The Flatshare Beth O'Leary Women's Fiction



How Not to Die Alone **Richard Roper** Women's Fiction



Million Dollar Devil Katy Evans Romance



Unsuitable Lavinia Kent Romance



Smooth Moves (Movin' On #2) Marie Harte Romance

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When the Light Went Out Bridget Morrissey Contemporary YA



04



City of Girls Elizabeth Gilbert Historical Fiction



The Beholder (The Beholder #1) Anna Bright YA Fantasy

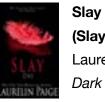


The Beyond (Devil's Isle #4) Chloe Neill Urban Fantasy



The Summer We Lost Her Tish Cohen Women's Fiction

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(Slay Trilogy #1) Laurelin Paige Dark Romance







Rebel Born (Secondborn #3) Amy A. Bartol YA Fantasy

The Two Week Arrangement

Wild and Crooked Leah Thomas YA Crime



Fix Her Up (Hot & Hammered #1) Tessa Bailey Romance



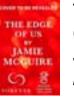
Rage (Stormheart #20) Cora Carmack YA Fantasy



Rise (Rule #2) Ellen Goodlett YA Fantasy



The Chai Factor Farah Heron Contemporary Romance



The Edge of Us (Crash and Burn) Jamie McGuire Love After Tragedy



The Summer Guests Mary Alice Monroe Women's Fiction



More Than Anything (The Broken Pieces #1) Natasha Anders Contemporary Romance



I'll Never Tell Abigail Haas YA Thriller

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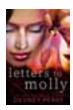
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A Story Like Ours (Love Story Duet #2) **Robin Huber** Contemporary Romance



Girl in the Rearview Mirror Kelsey Rae Dimberg Thriller



Letters to Molly **Devney Perry** Romance



One Night at the Lake **Bethany Chase** Women's Fiction



The Last House Guest Megan Miranda Suspense



The Lemon Sisters Jill Shalvis Romance



The Perfect Date Evelyn Lozada and Holly Lorincz Contemporary Romance

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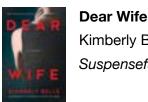
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After the End Clare Mackintosh Mystery Thriller



Better Than the Best Plan Lauren Morrill Contemporary YA



Kimberly Belle Suspenseful Thriller



Justified (Loveless, Texas #1) Jay Crownover Enemies to Lovers



Man of the Year Caroline Louise Walker Thriller



Mrs. Everything Jennifer Weiner Women's Fiction



Obsessed (Tangled Web #2) Aleatha Romig



The Orphan's Song Lauren Kate Historical Fiction

The Virtue of Sin Shannon Schuren





Contemporary YA



Call It What You Want Brigid Kemmerer Contemporary YA



Wicked Fox (Gumiho #1) Kat Cho YA Fantasy

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