

COMOX VALLEY WRITERS SOCIETY

LOCAL AUTHOR CATALOGUE

FANNY BAY
MARKET
EDITION

2025



www.cvwriterssociety.ca





AUTHORS IN THIS EDITION

Anna McCarthy

Gary H. Karlsen

Jacqueline McAdam

K.A. Wiggins

Lisa Johnston

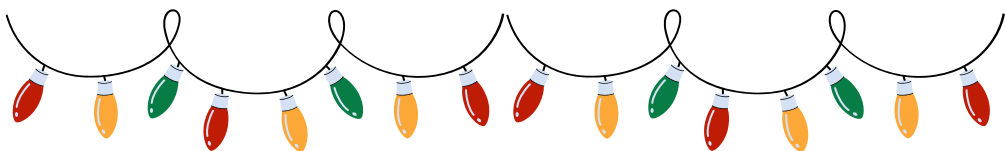
M.C. Rolston

Raymond St. Denis

Sylvia Bourgeois

Mark Lada

Marion Waters



You can purchase the books in this catalogue through a variety of sources, including one of the many **local bookshops** pictured. Look for the symbols listed below with each title under **Available At:**

- a** Amazon
- b** Local Independent Bookstores
- d** Direct from the Author or see website

ABOUT US

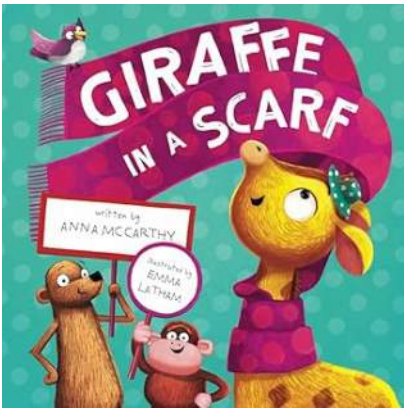
The Comox Valley Writers Society (CVWS) supports new, emerging, and established writers in the development of their craft. We provide educational and inspirational presentations, critique members' work, and offer encouragement and assistance to individuals in reaching their writing goals, including publication. Monthly meetings and special events are open to the public.

The CVWS has been in existence, with some gaps, since 1964. We have an annual membership of close to 140 members, from beginners to multi-book authors. The Comox Valley has a long history of writers across many genres.

This edition of the CVWS author catalogue highlights a selection of local writers with current releases. Each listing includes a legend indicating where their books can be found.

We hope this catalogue inspires readers to discover and support the rich literary talent of the Comox Valley.





PICTURE BOOK

GIRAFFE IN A SCARF

Anna McCarthy | August 2024

Giraffe in a Scarf is a heartwarming story about a giraffe who is different. Ostracised, he is torn between fitting in and staying true to himself. How will the others respond when a compassionate newcomer arrives in town? And will the giraffe find the courage to be himself?

Available At: [a](#) [b](#) [d](#)

www.annamccarthybooks.com

PICTURE BOOK

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Anna McCarthy | August 2025

A magical bottle drifts across oceans, witnessing nature's beauty and harm. When a boy discovers it, he learns how hope, care, and courage can transform the world for the better.



www.annamccarthybooks.com

Available At: [a](#) [b](#) [d](#)

COMPASS GALLERY + GIFTS

1250 Knight Road, Comox, BC at YQQ (Comox Valley Airport)



MEMOIR

NO ORDINARY SEAMAN: A MEMOIR

Gary H. Karlsen

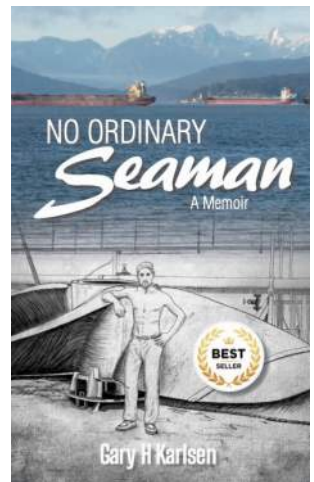
No Ordinary Seaman Series | 2019

BOOK 1 – In the 1960s, a daring Vancouver youth crews a deep-sea freighter. A witty yarn with vivid detail, Karlsen's seafaring memoir recounts unforgettable shipmates and ports of call, dangers at sea, and deep family roots.

Available At:



www.noordinaryseaman.com



SAGA

BOSUN: THE MARINER'S JOURNALS

Gary H. Karlsen

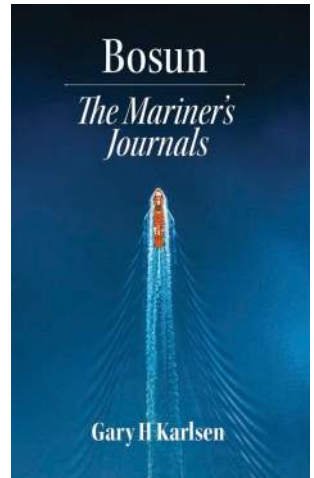
No Ordinary Seaman Series | 2023

BOOK 2 – From Antarctic whaling to the Battle of the Atlantic, Bosun Kleivik's daring life unfolds. A fearless mariner, he navigates danger, love, and moral complexities, leaving a lasting seafaring legacy for his family.

Available At:



www.noordinaryseaman.com



THRILLER

BOSUN: SHIP OF GHOSTS

Gary H. Karlsen

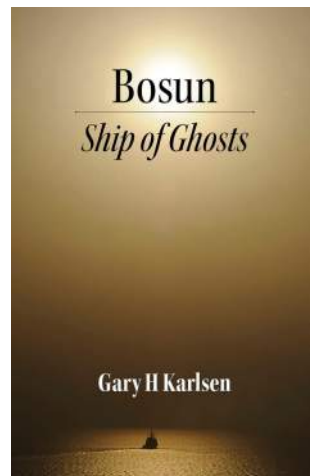
No Ordinary Seaman Series | 2024

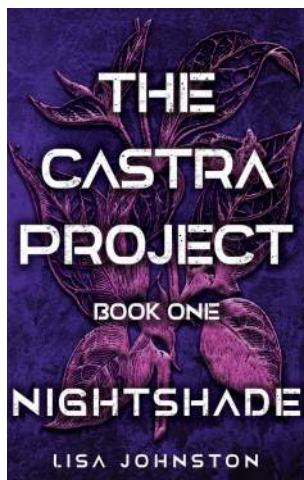
BOOK 3 – Bosun Kleivik goes undercover on a rogue captain's haunted tanker, confronting crime, death, and dark spirits. A gripping maritime thriller of deception and courage with the unexpected outcome of Bosun's redemption from long-held secrets.

Available At:



www.noordinaryseaman.com





ADULT DYSTOPIAN

NIGHTSHADE

Lisa Johnston

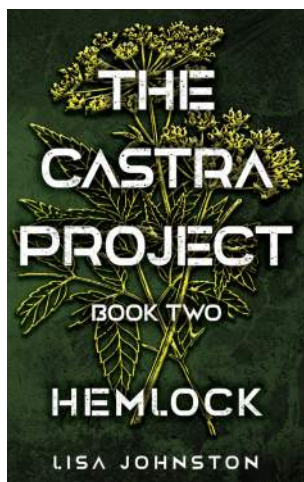
The Castra Project Series | March 2023

A dark dystopian series starter. North America has fractured. New nations must rely on each other for survival. Trade is essential. Even if it's human.

Available At:



www.lisajohnstonauthor.com



ADULT DYSTOPIAN

HEMLOCK

Lisa Johnston

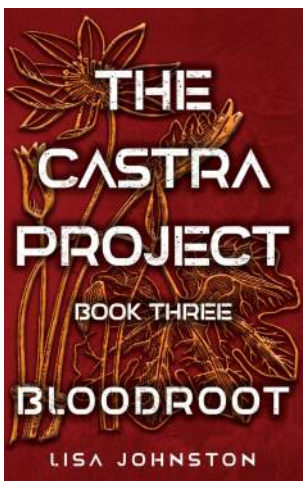
The Castra Project Series | May 2023

Weak, injured and desperate, Brie is forced into an underworld where nothing is as it seems. But instead of crossing paths with a friend, an enemy finds her first.

Available At:



www.lisajohnstonauthor.com



ADULT DYSTOPIAN

BLOODROOT

Lisa Johnston

The Castra Project Series | February 2024

From the high peaks of Hemlock to the back lanes of the Project, the divide between salvation and destruction has never been more perilous. A thrilling series conclusion.

Available At:



www.lisajohnstonauthor.com



PICTURE BOOKS

MC Rolston

MC Rolston a.k.a Dazzle, is a retired teacher devoted to writing vocabulary rich, alliterative and rhyming read alouds. She has published 17 picture books.

www.mcrolston.com

Available At: **b** **d**



BLUE HERON BOOKS
1775 Comox Avenue, Comox, BC





SMÖL STORE

2704 Dunsmuir Avenue, Cumberland, BC

YOUNG ADULT

TRUE MOXIE

Sylvia Bourgeois

Coastwerks Press | November 2022

In 1991, tragedy upends sixteen-year-old Maia's peaceful life. Amid British Columbia's wild beauty, she faces nature's fury, family silence, and a fight for survival in this gripping, heartfelt coming-of-age adventure.

Available At:



www.sylviabourgeois.com

YOUNG ADULT

HERE, NOW

Sylvia Bourgeois

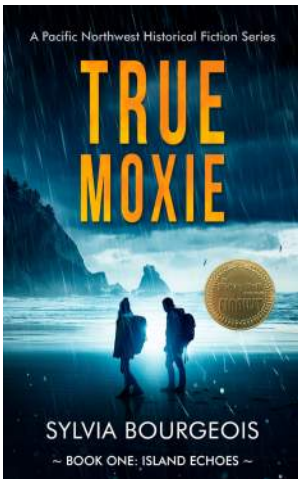
Coastwerks Press | November 2024

In the rugged wilderness of 1920s British Columbia, one woman's quest for independence collides with love, loss, and the unyielding forces of nature.

Available At:



www.sylviabourgeois.com



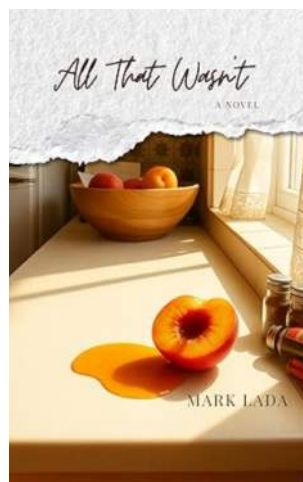
LITERARY FICTION

ALL THAT WASN'T

Mark Lada | July 2025

Witty, dark, and tender, *All That Wasn't* intertwines love lost and found with a devil's own reckoning. Across continents and heavens, every choice matters—and even the smallest may damn or save.

Available At:



SCIENCE FICTION

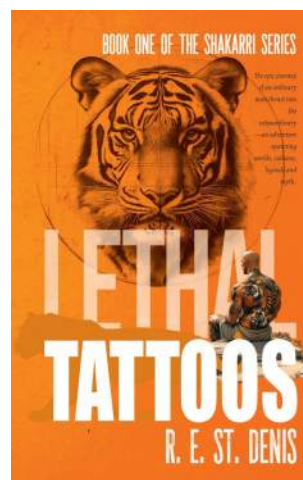
LETHAL TATTOOS

R. E. St. Denis

DieWell Publishing | May 2025

Lethal Tattoos follows the epic adventure of an ordinary man, a self-professed misanthrope, who is suddenly thrust on an unexpected journey spanning worlds, cultures, legends and myths.

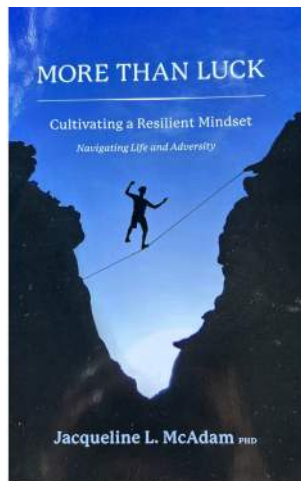
Available At:



LAUGHING OYSTER BOOK SHOP

286 Fifth Street, Courtenay, BC





SELF HELP

MORE THAN LUCK: CULTIVATING A RESILIENT MINDSET

Jacqueline L. McAdam, PHD | 2025

Discover how to navigate life's challenge with strength and insight. *More than Luck* offers a framework for cultivating a resilient mindset. This book provides practical tools and resources to not just survive, but thrive in the midst of psychological discomfort.

www.resilientgenerations.ca

Available At: **d**



YOUNG ADULT

RUBY'S SPRING

Marion Waters

Tellwell Talent | April 2023

Thirteen-year-old Ruby navigates a world of secrets, lies, and isolation. With her dog Socks, she uncovers hidden truths about friends, family, and herself, discovering courage amid confusion and betrayal.

www.marionwaters.ca

Available At: **a b d**

ROAM STORE + STUDIO

Unit 26B – 215, Port August Street, Comox, BC.





Books 4 Brains

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YA FANTASY

THREADS OF DREAMS – SERIES

K. A. Wiggins

Snowmelt & Stumps | May 2022

A neurospicy misfit unravels monster-infested, post-eco-apocalypse Vancouver in this more-blood-than-kissing, gothic-dystopian coming-of-age YA+ Dark Fantasy series by a Best Canadian Fantasy & Science Fiction and Best New Weird Horror-winning author.

www.kawiggins.com

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