

Selected NEW & NOTABLE

Spring 2016

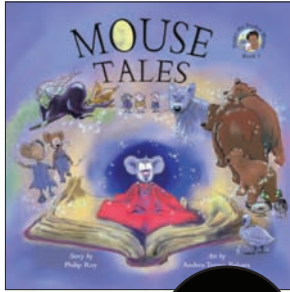
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of Canada
lpg.ca

Mouse Tales

Philip Roy &
Andrea Torrey Balsara
Ronsdale Press

January 2016
9781553804444
\$12.95 / Ages 3 - 6

Available from PGC



New,
Revised
Edition

Readers of all ages will identify with Happy's bedtime struggle after a long day, his request for a story to help him fall asleep, and his nighttime anxieties when he must come to grips with the wicked witch of Grimms' Hansel and Gretel, the big bad wolf, and his own imagined "Three Bears." Readers will be won over by the insatiably curious and determined little mouse, and his kind and endlessly patient friend, John. *Mouse Tales* humorously proves that best friends come in all sizes.

The Ferryland Visitor

Charis Cotter &
Gerald L. Squires
Brick Books

June 2016
9781927917053
\$21.95 / Ages 6 - 12

Available from Manda



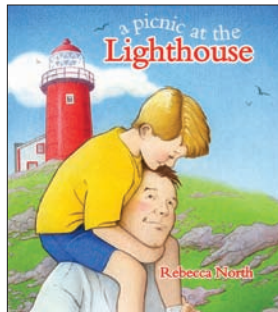
In the 1970s, artist Gerald Squires and his family move into the abandoned lighthouse-keeper's house in Ferryland, Newfoundland. Shortly after their arrival, they had a visitor—one who claimed to be the former constable of the area and who regaled them with stories of the place and its previous occupants. A visitor, they soon learned, who was more than he appeared to be. Told from the perspective of Esther, the youngest daughter, in well-crafted language, Cotter captures the delight of a curious young girl discovering her landscape and the haunting mystery of the visitor.

A Picnic at the Lighthouse

Rebecca North &
Nancy Keating
Creative Book Publishing

April 2016
9781771030823
\$12.95 / Ages 4 - 8

Available from Manda



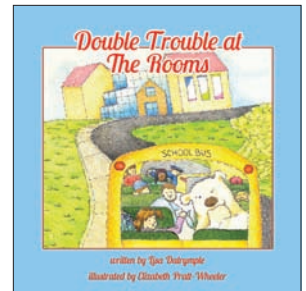
A Picnic at the Lighthouse is a heart-warming story of a young child, Patrick, and his dad who spend a fun-filled day at the Ferryland Lighthouse, a popular tourist destination in Newfoundland.

Double Trouble at the Rooms

Lisa Dalrymple &
Elizabeth Pratt-Wheeler
Creative Book Publishing

April 2016
9781771030793
\$12.95 / Ages 4 - 8

Available from Manda



The adventures of Nat and Bear continue in the third and final instalment of this delightful series from Lisa Dalrymple.

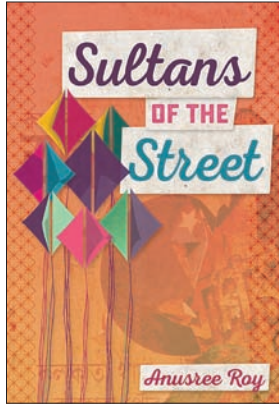
There's no room for Nat's polar bear in her house. It seems there's no space for him anywhere. On a class trip to The Rooms in St. John's, Newfoundland, Nat wonders if they'll let Bear in. But the museum has room for all sorts of fun and maybe even a bear— or two!

Sultans of the Street

Anusree Roy
Playwrights Canada Press

April 2016
9781770915237
\$15.95 / Ages 8 - 16

Available from Manda



When young orphans Mala and Chun Chun encounter brothers Prakash and Ojha on the busy streets of Calcutta, they are immediately at odds. The brothers come from a middle-class family and spend their time flying kites instead of attending class, while Mala and Chun Chun can only dream of going to school, a goal Auntie promises will be fulfilled if they beg for money from passersby. After a petty fruit-stall heist lands Ojha in Auntie's cunning path, the brothers are blackmailed into begging alongside Mala and Chun.

My Family and Other Endangered Species

Ellen Close &
Braden Griffiths
Playwrights Canada Press

April 2016
9781770915190
\$17.95 / Ages 9 - 12

Available from Manda



Nine-year-old Phineas interprets the world through his encyclopedic knowledge of animals, but some human behaviour is just too puzzling. The constant news from his favourite TV station, the Green Channel, about how humans are ruining the environment, is making Phin increasingly anxious. So when his fourth-grade class gets a white tree frog as a pet, all of Phin's anxieties come to a boil. Adapted from the novel *Amphibian* by Carla Gunn.

Last Chance Island

Norma Charles
Ronsdale Press

February 2016
9781553804581
\$11.95 / Ages 10+

Available from PGC



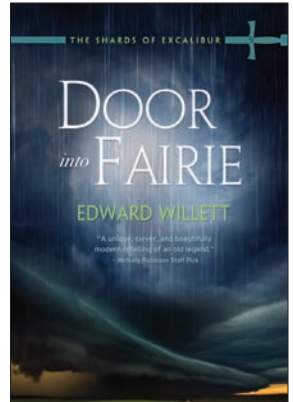
In this compelling tale, two very different stories intersect with surprising results. Two African children escape from their village after it's destroyed by rebel soldiers only to be abandoned with little food or water on Last Chance Island, off the coast of Ireland. Elsewhere, Spike, a Canadian teen is sent to live with a distant relative on the island after her father dies. Spike can't wait to escape but one day she discovers the two Africans in desperate need of help. Will she change her plans to try to save these children?

Door Into Faerie

Edward Willett
Coteau Books

July 2016
9781550506549
\$14.95 / Ages 13 - 15

Available from PGC

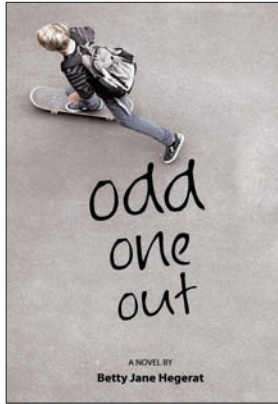


In the climactic 5th book of *The Shards of Excalibur* series, Ariane, Wally, Flish and Rex Major are on a collision course, converging on the resting place of the final piece of the sword: the hilt, long ago removed from its original hiding place by the descendants of King Arthur. When Wally uncovers its surprising location, far closer to hand than they'd ever guessed, it seems all Ariane and Wally have to do is claim it and reforge the sword to defeat Merlin forever. Except ... how, exactly, do you reforge a magical sword?

Odd One Out

Betty Jane Hegerat
Oolichan Books

March 2016
9780889823051
\$14.95 / Ages 12 - 16
Available from Manda

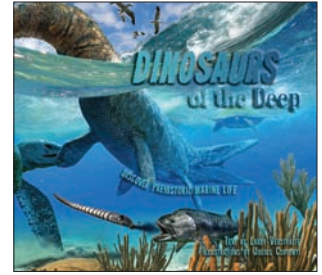


Teenager Rufus has a good sense of his family: he is the watcher; his twin sister is the sensible one; his younger sister is the funny one; and his younger brother is the quiet one. Rufus's parents are basically good people. Dad spends a lot of time travelling with his work, but family life tends to roll along smoothly. The comfortable—if imperfect—dynamic is upset one spring day when a young woman appears at their home. She is her father's daughter from a youthful romance. How will his “new” sister Amelia fit into Rufus' family?

“Dinosaurs” of the Deep

Larry Verstraete &
Julius Csotonyi
Turnstone Press

May 2016
9780888015730
\$25.00 / Ages 12+



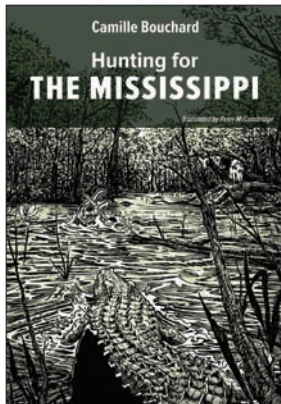
Available from Manda

Despite being discovered nearly 50 years before the first dinosaur fossils, prehistoric aquatic creatures like mosasurs and plesiosaurs have been largely overshadowed by triceratops, apatosaurus, and the fierce T-rex. Award-winning author, Larry Verstraete presents the fossils of the western interior seaway, with fascinating facts, full colour paleoart and illustrations, and inspiring discovery stories of amateurs teaming up with academics to make astonishing finds that change the way we understand our past.

Hunting for the Mississippi

Camille Bouchard
Baraka Books

April 2016
9781771860727
\$19.95 / Ages 13+
Available from Manda



When a chance arises to board a ship headed for America, Eustache Bréman and his mother see it as a way to escape their miserable life in France. Thus begins a rough and tough but hopeful adventure. They find themselves of the Explorer Cavalier de La Salle who is surrounded by good men but also by villainous crooks. Eustache takes on the wild Louisiana bayou country. He also encounters the Indigenous peoples of the land, but above all he has to survive the evil hidden in the heart of the expedition.

Convictions

Judith Silverthorne
Coteau Books

April 2016
9781550506525
\$16.95 / Ages 14 - 18
Available from PGC



1842. 14-year-old Jennie Lawrence has been found guilty of stealing, and finds herself aboard one of the few women-only convict ships destined for Australia. Jennie had been desperate—and, as she gets to know the other women on the convict ship—she realizes she's not the only one. It's clear from the moment the ship sets sail that the conditions aboard are abhorrent. The only way for the women to survive the boat ride is if they band together.

Small Displays of Chaos

Breanna Fischer
Coteau Books

April 2016
9781550506617
\$12.95 / Ages 14 - 18
Available from PGC



17-year-old Rayanne is only a few months into her senior year of high school, and her biggest concern should be deciding on a university and career path. But nothing in her life seems to be going smoothly, and she finds herself struggling to overcome anorexia. She has a new friend: Ed—the seductive and demanding presence in her head who insists she be as skinny as possible. With Ed around, Rayanne is blind to nearly everyone else in her life. But soon Ray begins to suspect she may be losing more than weight.

Taking a Chance a Love

Mary Razzell
Ronsdale Press

February 2016
9781553804550
\$11.95 / Ages 14+
Available from PGC



Set on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia during WWII, emotions and the big band era are running high. For Meg, who is seventeen, it is a special, but lonely, time. She has only one other girl for company, and the highlight of the day is the boat with mail and supplies. A summer job at the local guesthouse introduces her to a number of boys with whom she strikes up a friendship. But it is Bruce, a young naval officer who has been badly burned in the Battle of the Atlantic, who most interests her.

Blackbird Calling

Laura Swart
Quattro Books

April 2016
9781927443859
\$18.00 / Ages 14+
Available from Manda



Blackbird Calling begins on Cape Breton Island, where the protagonist, unnamed, encounters the agonies and exploits of childhood—and the prejudices lodged against Aboriginal people. These prejudices form a solid line between pigments, and the protagonist understands this line, lives at its borders. But when her family moves to the Prairie Pothole Region in Alberta, she sees another reality in the people of the Blood: she sees a remnant of ancient civilizations pushing itself into the present.

Saints, Unexpected

Brent van Staalduin
Invisible Publishing

April 2016
9781926743721
\$19.95 / Ages 14+
Available from Manda



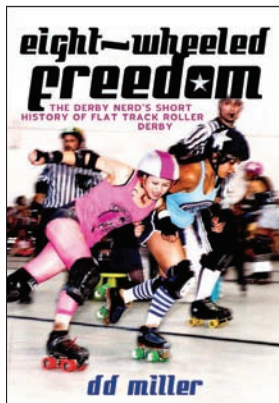
When fifteen-year-old Mutton is robbed at gunpoint while working in her mother's Hamilton thrift store, the thief makes off with an item that Mutton knows isn't meant for him, hurling Mutton and her family into a summer of remarkable and heartbreaking events. From fighting unscrupulous developers to first kisses to the anguish that comes from never knowing what your final words to a loved one might be, *Saints, Unexpected* reminds us of the magic that comes with each opportunity to begin again.

Eight-Wheeled Freedom

D. D. Miller
Wolsak & Wynn

June 2016
9781928088134
\$22.00 / Ages 14+

Available from Manda



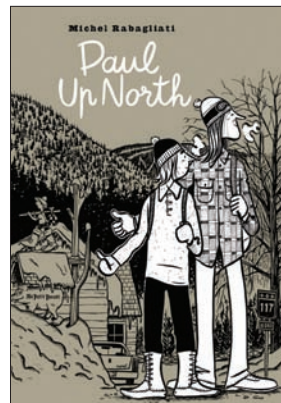
“The Derby Nerd” explains roller derby and charts the sport’s rise from small groups of women looking for people to skate with over the Internet to the world presence it is today. Along the way, he considers roller derby’s roots in Riot Grrrl and DIY culture, and the importance of the LGBTQ community both inside and outside of the sport. This is a warm, thoughtful look at a sport that Miller understands intimately, which takes us beyond the costumes and showmanship into the heart of the first truly feminist sport.

Paul Up North

Michel Rabagliati
Conundrum Press

May 2016
9781772620016
\$20.00 / Ages 14+

Available from Manda



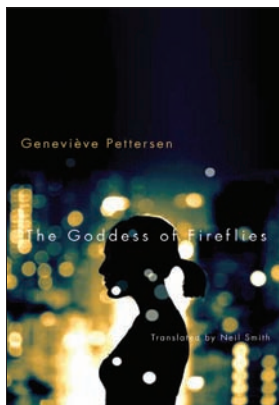
Paul Up North takes place in 1975-76 just before and during the summer Olympics in Montreal. Paul is now 16, a teenager, and he finds new experiences, changes schools, hitchhikes, falls deeply in love, gets dumped, smokes pot, and drinks beer. All of this over a Peter Frampton musical soundtrack. Paul travels “up north” to the Laurentian cottage country of Quebec where he gets to know himself better. Another epic graphic novel from a master of the form at the height of his powers.

The Goddess of Fireflies

Genevieve Pettersen &
Neil Smith, trans.
Véhicule Press

March 2016
9781550654370
\$19.95 / Ages 16+

Available from Manda



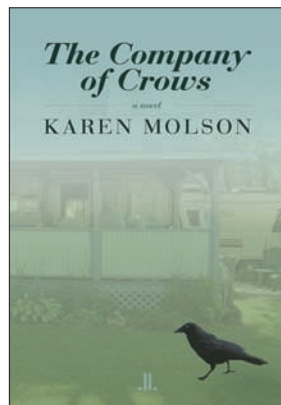
The year is 1996, and small-town life for 14-year-old Catherine is made up of punk rock, skaters, shoplifting, and the ghost of Kurt Cobain. Her parents are too busy divorcing to pay her headful of unspent angst much attention. But after she tries mess a PCP variant for the first time, her budding rebellion begins to spiral out of control.

The Company of Crows

Karen Molson
Linda Leith Publishing

April 2016
9781927535943
\$16.95 / Ages 16+

Available from Manda



At 13, bookish Veronica is about to spend a disastrous summer at a trailer park with her obnoxious younger brothers and unhappy mother. She can’t imagine anything worse. Lonely and bored, she begins to observe the activities of the local crows, even as she gradually finds a community among the odd denizens of Laughing Willows. When violence erupts, she finds unexpected strength both inside herself and in the people—and the crows—around her.

poemw

Anne Fleming
Pedlar Press

April 2016
9781897141762
\$20.00

Available from Manda



In *poemw*, the third finger on the left hand hits “w” instead of “s” and makes up a new kind of poem, the sort-of poem, the approxi-lyric, the poem that doesn’t want to claim poemness. Poemw are about daily things—graffitti, hair, sea gulls, second-hand clothes—and rarer things—dead crows, baked mice, ski accidents, Judith Butler. They’re jokes-and-not-jokes, cheeky, goofy. Tender.

The Resumption of Play

Gary Geddes
Quattro Books

April 2016
9781927443873
\$18.00

Available from Manda



The gripping title poem dramatizes the traumatic experience and enduring legacy of Canada’s Indian residential schools. The book is also about coming to terms with grief and loss, including a special elegiac sequence about the poet’s mother and another about Pound, Brodsky, Stravinsky, and Diaghilev. This exciting new cornucopia from one of Canada’s premier poets also includes two prison letters from Somalia and lyrics about Virginia Woolf, Bronwen Wallace, and the healing power of poetry.

How Festive the Ambulance

Kim Fu
Nightwood Editions

May 2016
9780889713215
\$18.95

Available from Harbour



In this debut poetry collection by award-winning author Kim Fu, incantations, mythical creatures, and extreme violence illuminate small scenes of domestic life and the banal tragedies of modern love and modern death. A sharp edge of humour slices through Fu’s poetry, drawing attention to the distance between contemporary existence and the basic facts of life. Alternating between incisive wit and dark beauty, Fu brings the rich symbolism of fairy tales to bear on our image-obsessed age.

The Red Files

Lisa Bird-Wilson
Nightwood Editions

May 2016
9780889713161
\$18.95

Available from Harbour



Inspired by family and archival sources, Bird-Wilson assembles scraps of a history torn apart by colonial violence. The collection takes its name from the federal government’s complex organizational structure of residential schools archives, which are divided into “black files” and “red files.” In vignettes as clear as glass beads, her poems offer affection to generations of children whose presence within the historic record is ghostlike, anonymous, and ephemeral.

Wigford Remembrances

Kyp Harness
Nightwood Editions

May 2016
9780889713192
\$19.95

Available from Harbour



Wigford is a small town in rural Southwestern Ontario, home to a cast of recurring characters. *Wigford Remembrances* tells this community's stories through an impressionistic series of vignettes. The language is inventive, innovative, and exciting, and whether describing mucking out the pig barn or helping a drunk articulate how to manipulate God's forgiveness difference—Harness wields words with an eye for detail, musicality, and style.

Wrist

Nathan Adler
Kegedonce Press

May 2016
9781928120056
\$18.00

Available from Manda



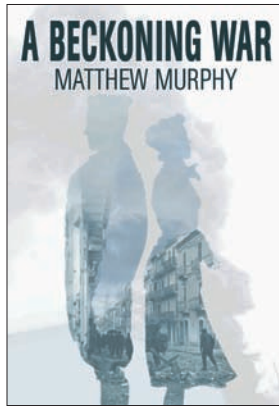
Set in the fictional town of Sterling and Ghost Lake Reserve, *Wrist* is Nathan Adler's debut novel that fuses traditional horror writing with Indigenous monsters.

A Beckoning War

Matthew Murphy
Baraka Books

April 2016
9781771860680
\$24.95

Available from Manda



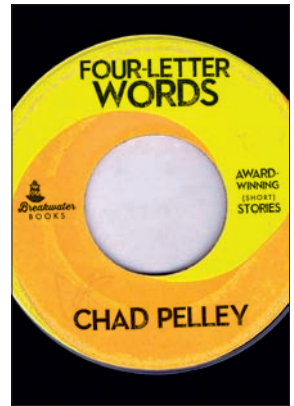
Captain Jim McFarlane, a Canadian infantry officer, is coming apart at the seams. It's September 1944, in Italy, and the allied armies are closing in on the retreating Axis powers. Exhausted and lost, he tries to command his combat company under fire, while waiting desperately for letters from his wife Marianne. This novel takes place in 1944, but the story is universal.

Four-Letter Words

Chad Pelley
Breakwater Books

March 2016
9781550816334
\$19.95

Available from Manda



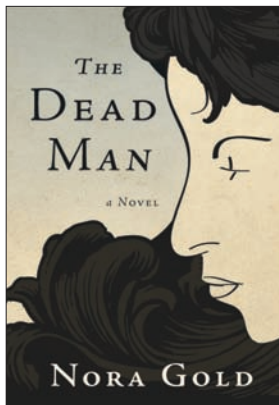
A father drives across the island hoping to find his missing son, a hitman considers the life of his female victim while watching her through his scope, a lonely man frequents hospital emergency rooms to diagnose the pain of others, and another clings to a buoy at sea. Whether documenting the ways in which we become obsessed with our current situation or our fascination with the lives we could have lived, these stories form unique portraits of how we are led astray and how we often find ourselves at a crossroads.

The Dead Man

Nora Gold
Inanna Publications

May 2016
9781771332613
\$22.95

Available from Manda



The Dead Man is a compelling novel about a woman who is obsessed.

For some unknown reason, Eve, a composer of sacred music—a sensible, intelligent professional—can't recover from a brief relationship she had five years ago with a world-famous music critic named Jake. In an attempt to solve this mystery, she “returns to the scene of the crime”: Israel, where Jake still lives, and where they first fell in love. Eve discovers the forgotten childhood memories, losses, and desires that are encapsulated in her connection to Jake.

All My Fallen Angelas

Gianna Patriarca
Inanna Publications

May 2016
9781771332774
\$22.95

Available from Manda



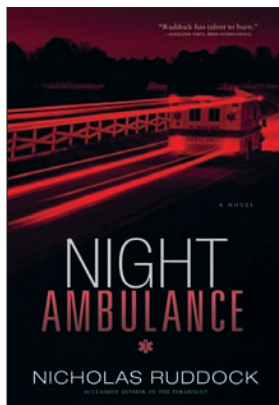
All My Fallen Angelas is a collection of stories inspired by the lives of Italian-Canadian women living in Toronto from the 1960s to the present. The stories document their strength and resilience, their power and vulnerability as the women move in community that allowed their presence in shops, factories, and churches, but offered them little else for entertainment and self-exploration outside of their families.

Night Ambulance

Nicholas Ruddock
Breakwater Books

May 2016
9781550816358
\$19.95

Available from Manda



Following an awkward sexual encounter under a wharf in outport Newfoundland, sixteen-year-old Rowena Savoury travels to St. John's for a secret abortion. But in the early 1970s, the procedure is illegal, and after complications, Rowena finds herself in a hospital being questioned by a young constable who is uncertain of how to proceed. Though she doesn't know it, Rowena's decision will ripple through the lives of an entire cast of characters.

From Up River and for One Night Only

Brett Josef Grubisic
Now Or Never

April 2016
9781988098074
\$21.95

Available from Manda



Meet Dee, Gordyn, Em, and Jay, indecisive members of the greatest New Wave band to ever spring from River Bend City. Before they graduate from high school and flee a mill town that's seen better days, these ambitious friends (two sets of siblings) aim to make something from nothing as a test-run for planned careers of total glamour in New York City. Set between Labour Day 1980 and a Battle of the Bands contest in February 1981, Grubisic traces the unsure but determined steps of the gang's hopeful act of creation.

Flight Instructions for the Commitment Impaired

Nicola Harwood
Caitln Press

March 2016
9781987915143
\$22.95

Available from PGC

In the late 90s, Nicola Harwood and her girlfriend moved to San Francisco in order to be at the epicentre of queer culture. Shortly after arriving, they encountered an ad looking for lesbian foster parents. Impulsively, they offer to foster Antwan, an 11-year-old transgender child who had been living in group homes since the age of 6. Outrageous, sad, and very funny, the couple as they attempt to build a relationship with Antwan and his world. As the three start to connect across an abyss of trauma and abuse, a relationship develops that challenges each of them.



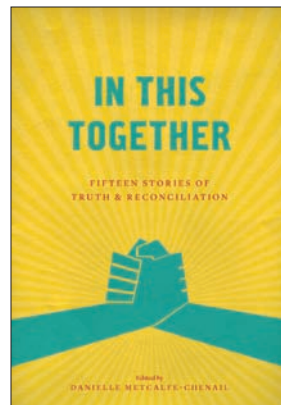
In This Together

Danielle Metcalfe-
Chenail, ed.
Brindle & Glass

April 2016
9781927366448
\$19.95

Available from Heritage

What is real reconciliation? This collection of essays from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous contributors across Canada welcomes readers into a timely, healing conversation—one we've longed for but, before now, have had a hard time approaching. These reflective and personal pieces look deeply and honestly at experiences and assumptions about race and racial divides in Canada in hopes that the rest of the country will do the same.



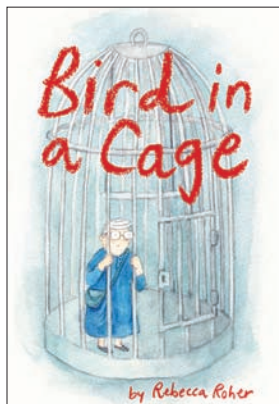
Bird in a Cage

Rebecca Roher
Conundrum Press

May 2016
9781772620054
\$12.00

Available from Manda

Once a sharp, strong-willed and independent woman, Roher's grandmother's life took an unexpected turn when an accident left her with a brain injury, leading to early onset dementia. This story illuminates the often overlooked narrative of a senior, her complicated history and inner life. Loveable and tragic, she is determined to get back to a familiar place, to be home again. Exploring memory, the idea of place, and the power of song to transcend dementia, this is the story of one woman's search for home and the strength of family.



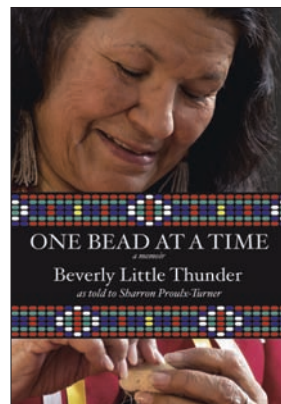
One Bead at a Time

Beverly Little
Thunder & Sharron
Proulx-Turner
Inanna Publications

June 2016
9781771332651
\$22.95

Available from Manda

One Bead at a Time is the oral memoir of Beverly Little Thunder, a two-spirit Lakota Elder from Standing Rock, who has lived most of her life in service to Indigenous and non-Indigenous women in vast areas of both the United States and Canada. Little Thunder established the first, and only, all-women's Sundance in the world, she was active in the a.i.m. movement, and continues to practice and promote political and spiritual awareness for Indigenous women around the world. A truly remarkable visionary.





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of Canada

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