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CRWTH PRESS

FALL 2020 CATALOGUE



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ABOUT CRWTH PRESS

Crwth (pronounced crooth) Press is a small independent publisher based in British Columbia. A crwth is a Welsh stringed instrument that was commonly played in Wales until the mid-1800s, when it was replaced by the violin. We chose this word for the company name because we like the way music brings people together, and we want our press to do the same.

Crwth Press is committed to environmental and social sustainability and accessibility. Our books are printed in Canada on 100 percent post-consumer waste paper using only vegetable-based inks. Our business model includes a combination of royalties and profit sharing for creative contributors. To make our books accessible, we use fonts that individuals with dyslexia find easier to read.

Visit www.crwth.ca to learn more.

KAH-LAN AND THE STINK-INK

Karen Autio

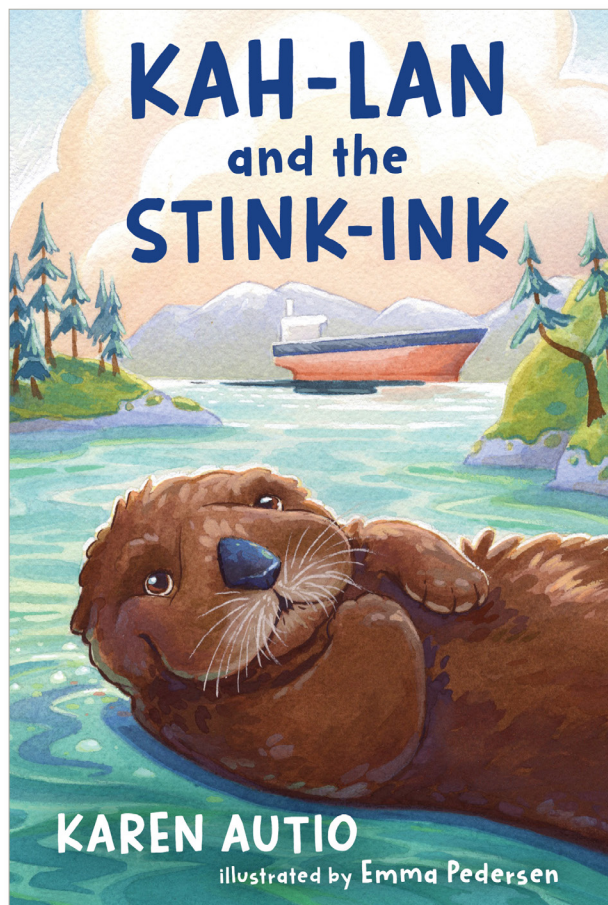
Illustrated by Emma Pedersen

Kah-Lan finds help in surprising places.

Kah-Lan is a young sea otter ready to leave the raft he grew up in. He sets off for adventure in an ocean filled with new sights and sounds and smells—among them humans and the sharp scent of fuel.

The ocean is a dangerous place for an otter on his own, and Kah-Lan must find other otters to raft with if he wants to survive.

Kah-Lan eventually makes new friends, two young male otters named Zid and Gula. After the three friends weather a storm together, they head off in search of new hunting grounds. But the storm brought new dangers, and Kah-Lan and his friends soon find themselves on a mysterious and dangerous journey. Along the way, Kah-Lan discovers that help can be found in some very surprising places.



Karen Autio grew up horse-crazy and book-loving, and she fell in love with sea otters on a visit to the Vancouver Aquarium in the 1980s. When she's not researching, writing, or working as a freelance editor, Karen enjoys canoeing, photographing wildlife, reading, and travelling. Karen lives in Kelowna, British Columbia. To learn more, visit www.karenautio.com.



Emma Pedersen is a graduate of the OCAD University drawing and painting program. Her playful style infuses character and story into each illustration. Emma lives with her husband in an apartment full of books in Toronto, Ontario. For more information, visit www.epillustration.com.

\$9.95

978-1-989724-07-1

Pub date: October 1, 2020

Fiction | 5.25 x 7.5 | Paperback

128 Pages | Ages 7-9

Themes: Sea otters, animal rescues, environment

Crwth Press | www.crwth.ca



THE DRUID AND THE DRAGON

Kristin Butcher

Maeve must learn to accept her gifts and all that comes with them.

Maeve is a simple farm girl who daydreams when she should be doing chores. She gets lost in her wild imaginings so often that folks think there's something wrong with the girl who sells eggs in the village.

Maeve meets a Druid seer who tells her she has the gift of sight and offers to help her develop her gift, but Maeve has a hard time believing there is anything special about her. But when a dragon tells her she has a role to play in the future of the kingdom, she is almost ready to believe in herself.

With war on the horizon, Maeve must dig deep within herself and discover who she really is if she is to survive the dangers ahead.



Kristin Butcher never planned to be a writer, but she's been doing it professionally now for nearly 25 years, and she still loves it. Kristin has been a finalist for the Sheila E. Egoff Award, the IODE Violet Downey Award, the Silver Birch Award, CLA Book of the Year Award and many more. Her books have been OLA Best Bets and ALA Quick Picks selections, and she is a two-time winner of the Chocolate Lily Award. Kristin lives in Campbell River, British Columbia. For more information visit www.kristinbutcher.com.

\$10.95

978-1-989724-03-3

Pub date: October 15, 2020

Fantasy | 5 x 8 | Paperback

232 Pages | Ages 9-12

Themes: Fitting in, friendship, self-knowledge

Crwth Press | www.crwth.ca

THE FIFTH BEETHOVEN

Melanie Jackson

A mystery in the key of rock.

Piano-playing Nate loves to rock out Beethoven in a style characterized more by enthusiasm than training. Nate is gazing up at Vancouver's newest luxury building, the Keynote, when a thief in a Beethoven costume mugs him and two other victims.

But the day turns up-tempo when the Keynote's owner, Mike Dante, offers Nate a gig playing piano in the courtyard. This is big-time opportunity knocking for a self-taught musician.

Nate thinks there's no better way to thank his real-estate-tycoon boss than by sleuthing out the thief's identity. But Nate soon finds himself in a mystery that grows more discordant with each beat. In his search for the thief, Nate learns about the harsh realities of those facing renovations and about how thoughtless people in power can be.

Nate's big dreams and folly are sure to delight readers of *The Fifth Beethoven*. And his belief in standing up for what is right is sure to inspire them.



Melanie Jackson plays piano with a lot of enthusiasm and little training, just like Nate. Melanie modelled a character in *The Fifth Beethoven* who is on the autism spectrum after her brother. Melanie has written numerous popular books for young people, including several in the best-selling Orca Currents series, and plans to write many more. Melanie lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

\$10.95

978-1-989724-05-7

Pub date: September 15, 2020

Fiction | 5 x 8 | Paperback

192 pages | Ages 11-13

Themes: Mystery, Beethoven, housing

Crwth Press | www.crwth.ca



No Right Thing

Laura Langston

Sixteen-year-old Cate Sheridan always tries to do the right thing. When she sees a homeless man about to be hit by a truck, her instincts kick in. Cate and her friend Noah pull the man to safety.

Then things get crazy in Cate's world.

The rescued man is the famous musician Max Le Bould who disappeared years ago. Cate and Noah become instant heroes, and the media descends upon the town of Qualicum Beach. So does Cate's mother, journalist Cynthia Patrice who abandoned Cate when she was two.

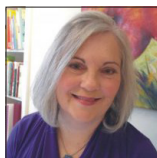
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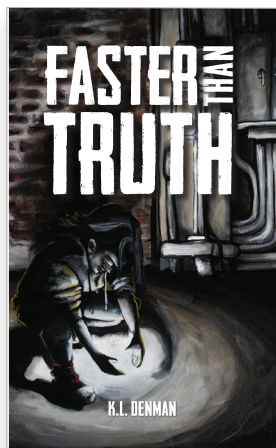
Fiction | Ages 13-16

Paperback | 256 pages

Dazzled by a mother she doesn't know and determined to help a man she does, Cate is caught in the middle of a moral dilemma. And when she makes a decision that leads to betrayal, tragedy and heartache, she learns a hard lesson: sometimes people have all the right reasons for doing a very wrong thing.



Laura Langston is the award-winning author of twenty books for young people including *Lesia's Dream* (HarperTrophy). By the time she hit Grade 4, Laura and her teachers knew she was destined to become a writer. Her persistent daydreaming and invisible friends were the tip-off. Her first word was cookie, her second word was book and her priorities haven't changed. A former journalist for the CBC, Laura currently lives in Qualicum Beach, British Columbia. For more information visit lauralangston.com.



Faster Than Truth

K.L. Denman

Sixteen-year-old Declan dreams of becoming an international correspondent who flies around the globe covering big stories. But Declan is still in high school, and as the editor of his school paper, he covers school dances—not exactly “news.”

Declan gets his chance for a big scoop when another student shows him part of an email written by the principal that discusses implanting students with microchips. Outraged, Declan publishes the story online without doing any additional research or fact checking.

The story goes viral. Unfortunately, it's wrong. Declan, suspended from school and forced to resign as editor of the paper, begins to question the role of the media and his prospects for the future. At the same time, he wants to find out what's going on with the kid who gave him the scoop. Smoke, as the kid is known, is surrounded by a curious aura—and odor. And Declan wants to find out why.

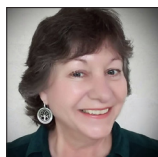
This thoughtful story will appeal to young people trying to navigate today's media landscape.

\$9.95

978-1-7753515-1-1

Fiction | Ages 13-15

Paperback, | 248 pages



K.L. Denman has written many novels for young readers. Whether serious or humorous, her stories have explored friendship, mental illness, family and identity. Her young adult novel, *Me, Myself and Ike* (Orca Book Publishers) was a finalist for the Governor General's General's Literary award. She lives in Delta, British Columbia. For more information, visit www.kldenman.com.

The Three Spartans

James McCann

Twelve-year-old Arthur loves his summers in Birch Bay, a quirky seaside village where he spends all of his time with his best friend Lea. They play video games together, hang out at the beach and explore on their bikes.

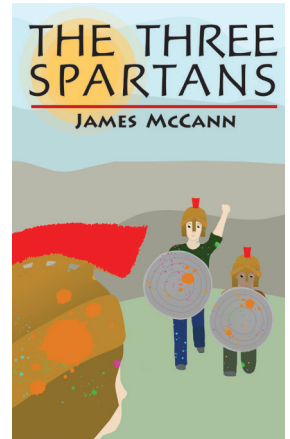
This year is different. First, Arthur learns it will be Lea's last summer in Birch Bay. Then their freedom is threatened by the Immortals, the swim team who torments all the local kids.

Lea and Arthur decide to take a stand. Using their video-game network, they gather a small army of kids who've had enough of the Immortals. Armed with paintball guns and shields made of garbage can lids, the Spartan army takes on the Immortals. Their goal is control of a treehouse, but the prize is knowing they stood up for themselves

A humorous retelling of the Greek battle of Thermopylae, *The Three Spartans* is a story of friendship and belonging and of standing up for what's right—even when the odds are against you.



James McCann, has written several books for young people including *Children of Ruin* (Iron Mask Press) and *Flying Feet* (Orca Book Publishers). James teaches creative writing workshops at schools and libraries. When James is not writing, he's playing Dungeons and Dragons or out on a road trip. James lives in Richmond, British Columbia. For more information, visit www.jamesmccann.info



\$9.95

978-1-7753515-4-2

Fiction | Ages 9-12

Paperback | 148 pages

Isobel's Stanley Cup

Kristin Butcher

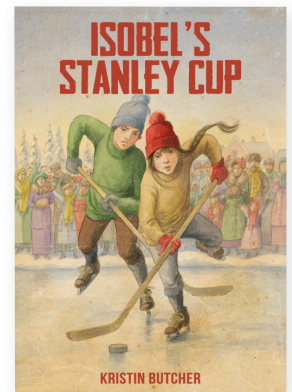
More than anything, Isobel Harkness wants to play hockey with her older brothers. But it's 1893, and a lot of people—including her father—think hockey is only for boys.

Ignoring her father's wishes, Isobel helps her brothers train for an upcoming game. And she begins to shine on the ice. When she meets Isobel Stanley, one of the first women to play hockey, young Isobel gets some great advice. When Isobel has a chance to skate in a big game with the best of the boys in her neighbourhood, she has to find a way around her father's rules.

Inspired by true accounts of Isobel Stanley's role in the history of hockey, *Isobel's Stanley Cup* proves that hockey has always been a game for girls.



Kristin Butcher has been writing books for children and young adults since 1997. Married to the Toronto Maple Leafs' biggest fan, Kristin started watching hockey in self-defence. Somewhere along the line she got hooked and is now often the first one to turn on the game. To learn more about Kristin's books, visit www.kristinbutcher.com.



\$8.95

978-1-7753319-6-4

Historical fiction |

Ages: 7-10

Paperback | 88 pages



\$8.95

978-1-7753319-3-3
Fiction | Ages 7-9
Paperback | 112 pages

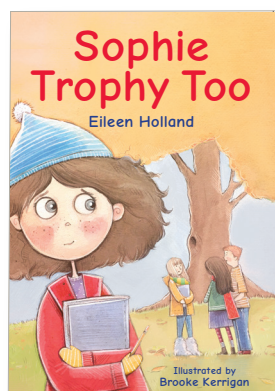
Sophie Trophy by Eileen Holland illustrated by Brooke Kerrigan

Sophie is thoughtful and funny and full of ideas. When her friend Brayden brings a spider to school in a jar, Sophie's excited to study it. But then a classmate frees the spider in the Grade 3 classroom.

Their teacher, Miss Ruby, is terrified of spiders. Sophie wants to save her teacher from the eight-legged intruder without getting Brayden into trouble for bringing it to school. That means getting the spider out of the classroom without letting Miss Ruby know what's going on.

This is no easy task, and soon Sophie's wacky plans and wild imagination land her in the principal's office—and hanging upside down outside his window.

Young readers will love Sophie's antics, her loyalty to her friends and her determination to do the right thing at any cost.



\$8.95

978-1-7753515-7-3
Fiction | Ages 7-9
Paperback | 112 pages

Sophie Trophy Too by Eileen Holland illustrated by Brooke Kerrigan

When a new student, Hailey, joins Sophie's Grade 3 class at Hilltop Elementary, Sophie wants to become her friend. Hailey seems confident and fun, and Sophie's sure they would have a good time.

But Sophie's efforts to prove she is a good friend go hilariously wrong. From attracting frowns from the principal to slapstick disaster on the classroom floor, Sophie makes one wrong move after another. To make matters worse, Hailey makes friends easily with Sophie's pals, Enoli and Brayden. Sophie feels left out, but does she give up? No! Sophie is determined to find a way to make Hailey feel welcome.

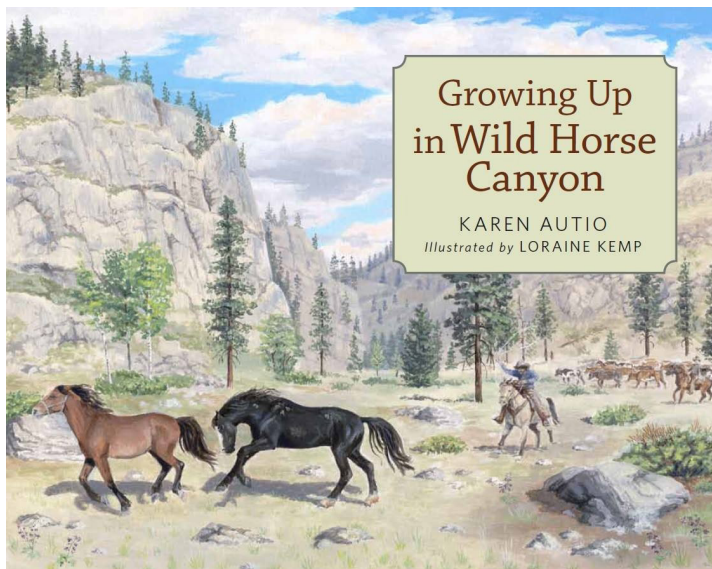
A humorous story loaded with heart, *Sophie Trophy Too* is sure to appeal to any kid who has had that left-out feeling.



Eileen Holland taught elementary school for many years and was often known as the funny teacher. Eileen has written dozens of magazine articles and served as Associate Western Editor of *The Landowner Magazine*. *Sophie Trophy* is Eileen's first novel. Eileen lives in Coquitlam, BC. For more information, visit www.eileenhollandchildrensauthor.com.



Brooke Kerrigan is the award-winning illustrator of more than a dozen books for young people. Brooke is a graduate of the Sheridan College Interpretive Illustration program, and her whimsical illustration style has earned critical acclaim. She lives with her husband in Chamonix, France. For more information, visit www.brookekerriganillustration.com



Growing Up in Wild Horse Canyon

by Karen Autio | illustrated by Loraine Kemp

A unique approach to history that will delight readers of all ages.

In a hidden canyon in British Columbia's Southern Interior, a ponderosa pine tree sprouts. Seasons pass as the tree grows, witness to generations of human history in the Okanagan Valley, from First Nations quests to fur brigades, horse wrangling, secret wartime commando training, to the firestorm of 2003. Richly illuminated by maps, illustrations, and historical images and informed by a timeline and historical notes, this fascinating book weaves First Nations history with European settlement and natural history. By following the thread of one tree growing in one sheltered and sacred space, award-winning author Karen Autio gently explores patterns of colonization that will resonate with readers all over North America.



Karen Autio has long been intrigued by Wild Horse Canyon. The tales of syilx/Okanagan people trapping wild horses there piqued her interest. She started researching the history of the canyon and got hooked on exploring what had happened in the area. When Karen imagined a ponderosa pine living in the canyon for more than two centuries, this book began to take shape. To learn more, visit www.karenautio.com.



Loraine Kemp has loved being an artist since she was barely old enough to hold a pencil. Living in the Okanagan Valley all her life and observing her equine friends have given Loraine an edge for creating realistic renderings of horses and her beloved home environment. To learn more about Loraine's artwork and writing, visit www.lorainekemp.com.

\$25.95

978-1-7753319-0-2

Narrative nonfiction | Hardcover | Ages 7-10

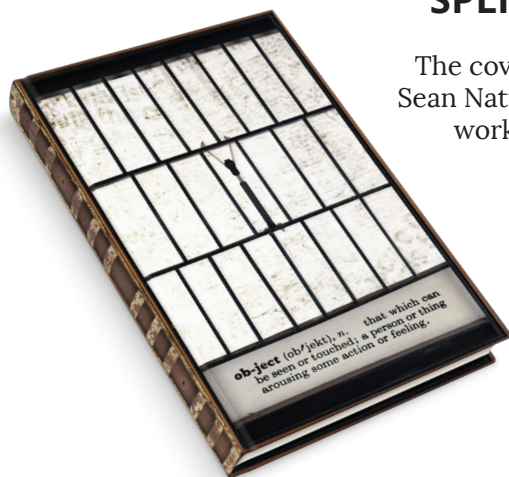
Themes: Colonialism, Okanagan history, First Nations

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Crwth journals are socially and environmentally sustainable. They are produced on a combination of post-consumer waste (PCW) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified paper and board and use only vegetable-based inks. Crwth supports the artists with a business model that combines royalty payments for each journal sold with profit sharing, ensuring that our success is always shared with our contributors.

New Pricing.
Crwth Journals are now \$15.00

SPLIT: WOUND THAT SEPARATES, Art by Sean Nattrass



The cover art on *Split: Wound That Separates* uses one part of a diptych that artist Sean Nattrass created for a show at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. The original work is a large-scale mixed-media piece that incorporates silkscreen work and found objects. Playing with themes such as art history dialogue and subtle social commentary, Sean Nattrass works primarily in mixed media and assemblage. He has participated in numerous group shows and his work can be found in private collections across the country and in the University of Victoria art collection. He lives on Gabriola Island, British Columbia.

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ISBN: 978-1-7753319-9-5

6 x 9 Hardcover, 192 pages

Lined journal with marker ribbon

NEW GENERATOR, Art by dea Kearns

The cover art on *New Generator* features an acrylic painting by dea Kearns. The distinct illustrative style of Kearns's work is bolstered by her use of vibrant colours and bold lines and her need to flout the rules of perspective and proportion. An artist of all sorts, Kearns's go-to media are acrylics and pencil-and-ink. When painting, Kearns unabashedly dances to music befitting the desired movement and emotion in her piece. She is keen on illustrating kids books, writing comics and painting murals or other large-scale images. She lives with her partner, two children, one dog and one cat in Esquimalt, British Columbia.

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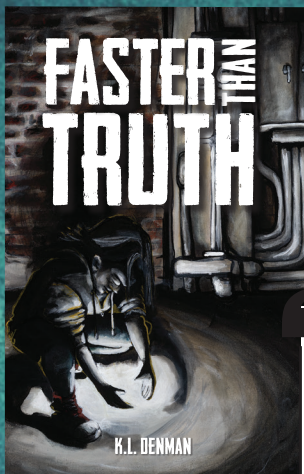
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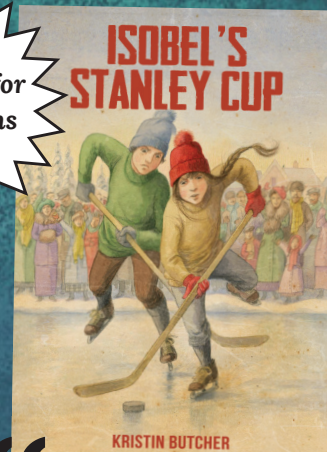
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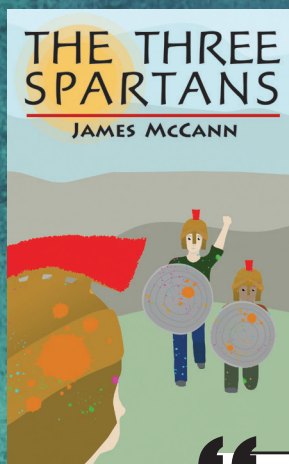


**A timely novel.
Highly recommended.**
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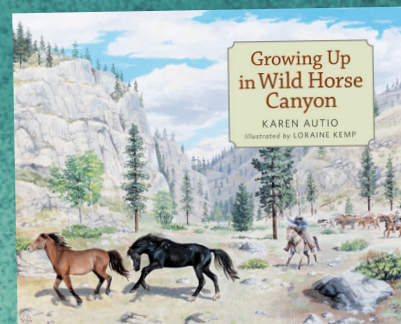
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– Resource Links



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like you're with them in
battle. Go Spartans go!**
– Eric Walters



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appealing.
Recommended.**
– CM Magazine



**An excellent resource for students
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