



12 Willows Press



Fall 2026

12WillowsPress.com

Welcome to *12 Willows Press*



Fall in Maine doesn't always announce itself. Some years it dabbles—a few changing leaves, some warm days thrown in, still mostly green. Then you step outside one morning and it's happened. The trees have turned. The color comes fast when it decides to come, and then it's gone just as fast, and what's left are woods that look dead—stark, bare, evergreens dotted throughout like punctuation. Rock walls appear. Blowdowns. Homes tucked back in the trees that were invisible all summer.

The contrast hits me every year. As a kid, fall meant summer was over, school was starting—dread and excitement in equal measure. Now, as a parent, it means watching my children age, year after year, faster than seems possible, while something in me still stirs at the change. New plans. Fresh energy. The crisp morning air that feels colder than it should, with snow and ice not far behind. It's a mixed bag. It always has been.

That feeling is why I love books. Both fall and a good story ask us to slow down and pay attention before something's gone.

I'm Steven Long, and I publish books I believe in—stories rooted in the natural world, for readers who want more than distraction. From picture books about Maine ducks to climate fiction set a century from now, every title in this catalog earned its place.

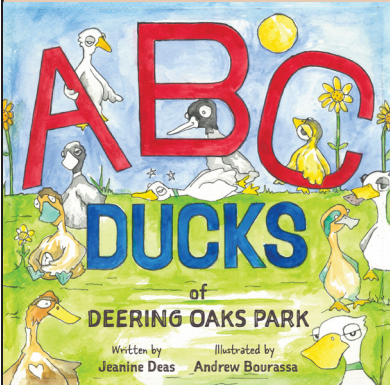
12 Willows is over three years old, based in Winterport, Maine, and small by design—which means I publish deliberately, take my authors seriously, and never put my name on something I don't stand behind.

What you'll find here are stories for readers of every age: a honeybee navigating wildfire, a geology student unraveling island secrets, a wolverine kit born at the edge of a glacier, a community that brought a rainforest back from bare savanna. All of them take the world seriously.

Find one that stays with you.



Early Readers



ABC Ducks of Deering Oaks Park

Jeanine Deas | Illustrated by Andrew Bourassa

Twenty-six lively ducks introduce young readers to the alphabet through their own quirky personalities—from Andy, who ambles, to Ziggy, who zigzags. Set in Deering Oaks Park, Portland, Maine.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-77-1 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-78-8 | \$4.99

Ages 4-7 | 34 pages | 2026

“Each letter cleverly matches the duck name in uppercase, and duck action in lowercase. The art is captivating! Simple, silly, and FUN! Children of all ages will love this book!”

—Angie Nightingale, early childhood educator

“An irresistible invitation to skip, roll, or run to the sea, the pond, the woods—where magic awaits.”

—Sy Montgomery, national bestselling author of *How to Be a Good Creature*

The Inside of ME

Jennifer Comeau | Illustrated by Suzi Linden

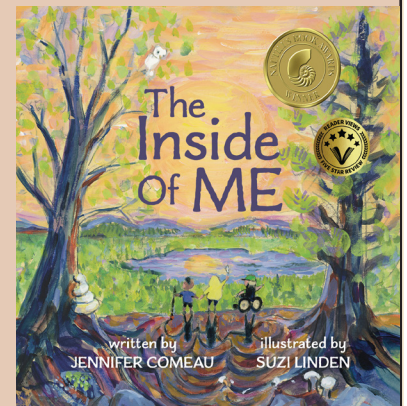
A lyrical picture book in gentle rhyme that invites children to discover their inner richness through the natural world. Each illustration features a real, child-friendly Maine location open to the public.

★ Gold Nautilus Book Award

Softcover: 978-1-961905-14-6 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-15-3 | \$4.99

Ages 4-7 | 40 pages | 2024



Following Sasquatch

Written and illustrated by Molly Leach

A gentle forest adventure that introduces young readers to the Leave No Trace philosophy—showing how to explore nature with curiosity, care, and a quiet step. For readers who love the outdoors and the creatures who call it home.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-24-5 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-90-0 | \$4.99

Ages 4-7 | 40 pages | 2024



“The lessons of resilience and growth shine through this delightful story—a timeless message.”

—Diane D'Amour, art teacher

Lumpy's Gift

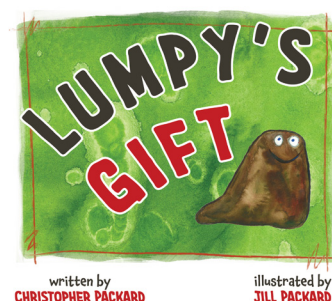
Christopher Packard | Illustrated by Jill Packard

As Lumpy is shaped into a cup, children learn how change, imagination, and purpose work together to create something meaningful. A story about creativity and trusting the process.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-01-6 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-00-9 | \$4.99

Ages 4–7 | 42 pages | 2023



Middle Readers

Nature & Wild Things



The Nectar Collector

Patti Sherlock

Alenya is a honeybee on a high-stakes mission—gathering nectar while navigating wildfire smoke, outmaneuvering predators, and helping her colony survive a season of change. Blending real bee science with adventure and humor.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-64-1 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-72-6 | \$5.99

Ages 8–12 | 246 pages | 2025

“A thoughtful, character-driven animal adventure, compelling allegorical fantasy, and a memorable and rewarding read. Highly recommended.”

—The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books



Harmony Among Neighbors: The Trumpeting Coyote's Quest for Coexistence

Stephanie Becker | Illustrated by Rosa Maria Garza

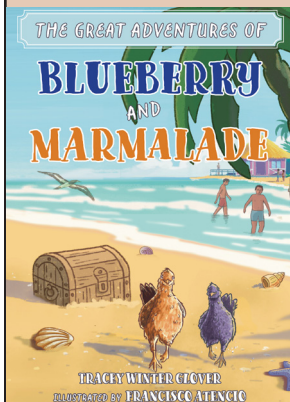
In Mystic, Harmony is a coyote with a gift for music. Local pets are disappearing, and everyone suspects him.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-17-7 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-16-0 | \$2.99

Ages 8–12 | 34 pages | 2024





The Great Adventures of Blueberry and Marmalade

Tracey Winter Glover | Illustrated by Francisco Atencio

When Blueberry hatches late and finds herself alone, survival feels uncertain—until she meets Marmalade. Together they explore their Caribbean island home, learning that courage is about standing up for one another.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-76-4 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-23-8 | \$4.99

Ages 8–12 | 40 pages | 2026

“Blueberry and Marmalade awaken empathy, encouraging readers to see chickens as unique individuals with their own personalities and dreams—a touching book that opens hearts.”

—Gene Baur, president and cofounder, Farm Sanctuary

“This healed a part of my heart. The illustrations are exquisite. I wish I had this story to read when I was in elementary school.”

—Shri A. Verrill, principal at Sunrise Ecological

My Earth Journey

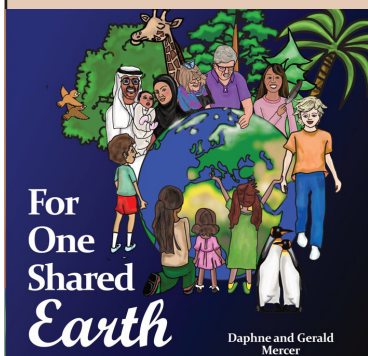
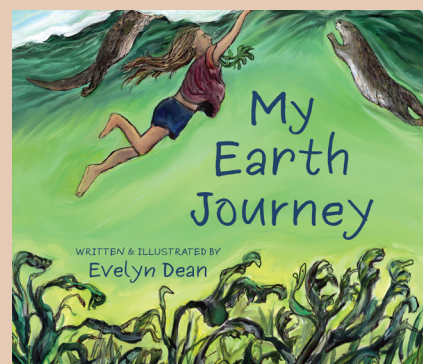
Written and Illustrated by Evelyn Dean

After a painful moment with a friend, a young girl enters a dreamlike world guided by otters, a hawk, and a hare—and discovers the steadying power of the natural world.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-40-5 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-41-2 | \$4.99

Ages 8–12 | 54 pages | 2025



For One Shared Earth

Daphne Mercer | Illustrated by Gerald Mercer

Lyrical verses and vibrant illustrations celebrate our planet’s wonders and invite young readers to discover how small actions can make a difference.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-42-9 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-44-3 | \$1.99

Ages 8–12 | 32 pages | 2025



“My students connected with the villa setting and loved the musical element with the oud.”

—Leila Haddad, ESL teacher, United Arab Emirates

Chuk

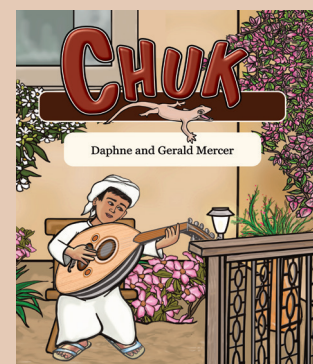
Daphne Mercer | Illustrated by Gerald Mercer

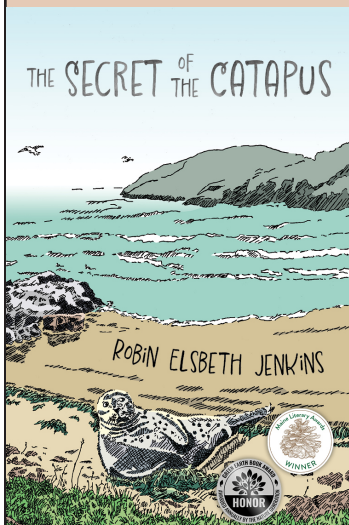
When young Abdullah discovers a gecko mimicking his oud, an unexpected friendship begins. A charming story about curiosity, empathy, and finding solutions that work for everyone—including the gecko.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-60-3 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-61-0 | \$2.99

Ages 8–12 | 32 pages | 2025





Secret of the Catapus

Robin Elsbeth Jenkins

Ellie moves to her grandmother's Maine homestead, uncovers unexpected family truths, and finds her voice as a young climate activist—guided by a mysterious seal.

- ★ Maine Literary Award
- ★ Green Earth Book Award—Honor Book
- ★ Lupine Award—Shortlist

Softcover: 978-1-961905-62-7 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-63-4 | \$5.99

Ages 10–14 | 202 pages | 2025

“Beautifully written, with a vivid sense of place that will connect readers with nature and make the environmental crisis real and personal.

Accessible, readable adventure with a true green heart.”

—Nicola Davies, author of
The Song That Sings Us

Adventure & Beyond

“Maybe this is how we save the world—through the eyes of children who can see the magic that fades in the years spent growing old.”

—Bill Kurtis, television journalist, author, and environmentalist

In the Heart of the Woods

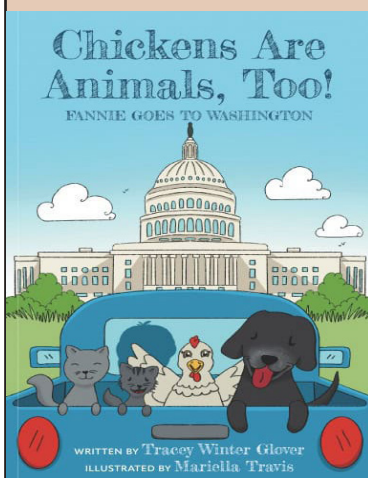
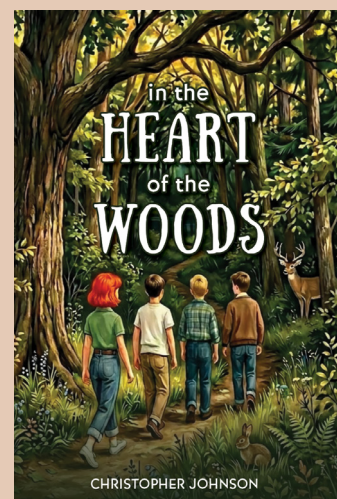
Christopher Johnson

It's 1957, and ten-year-old Herbie Hereford is afraid of the woods across the street—until he isn't. With three neighborhood kids, he wades into ponds, tracks deer, and learns to read a wild place that becomes as familiar as home.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-22-1 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-21-4 | \$5.99

Ages 10–14 | 256 pages | September 2026



Chickens Are Animals Too! Fannie Goes to Washington

Tracey Winter Glover | Illustrated by Mariella Travis

Rescued from a feed store, Fannie discovers that under the law, chickens aren't animals at all. So she organizes—and marches on Washington.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-09-2 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-08-5 | \$4.99

Ages 8–12 | 60 pages | 2024



“Reading this beautiful book feels like shaking the magic globe and returning to your childhood. Melody Horrill knows how to take children on a journey full of adventure and caring for nature and animals.”

—Dr. Koen Margodt, ethicist and co-chair, Jane Goodall Institute Global Ethics Committee

A Cat Called Q & the Magic Globe

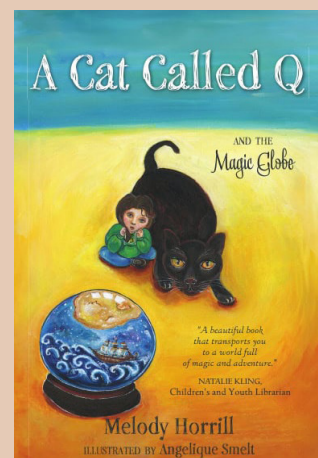
Melody Horrill

When Sheri discovers a snow globe, she and her best friend are swept into a world on the brink of collapse—guided by Q, a cat with strong opinions about sandwiches.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-05-4 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-04-7 | \$5.99

Ages 10–14 | 288 pages | 2024



Wind

Ellen Dee Davidson

When an earthquake hurls Katie into another world, she joins a sharp-tongued alien, a shape-shifting tree spirit, and nature beings who know more about belonging than she expected.

- ★ Gold Nautilus Award
- ★ Mom's Choice Gold Award
- ★ Independent Press Award
- ★ IAN Book of the Year
- ★ Readers' Favorite Gold Award

Softcover: 978-1-961905-28-3 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-27-6 | \$7.99

Ages 10–14 | 196 pages | 2024



“*Wind* holds an important message for middle-grade readers, couched in the guise of an adventure that adds food for thought about connections, support systems, courage, and the power of believing in oneself and the world.”

—Diane Donovan, senior reviewer, Midwest Book Review

Nonfiction

Timberrr! A History of Logging in New England

Mary Morton Cowan

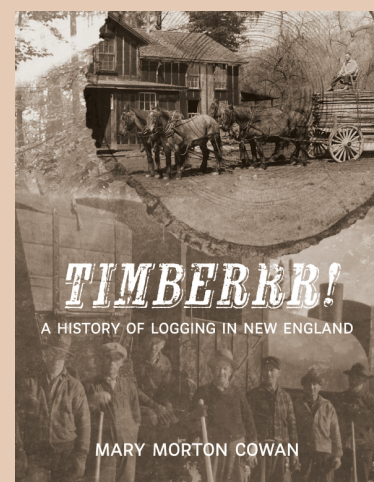
From colonial ox drivers to modern foresters, tells the story of four centuries through the tools, trees, and workers that shaped the landscape. Drawing on historical accounts and family archival photos.

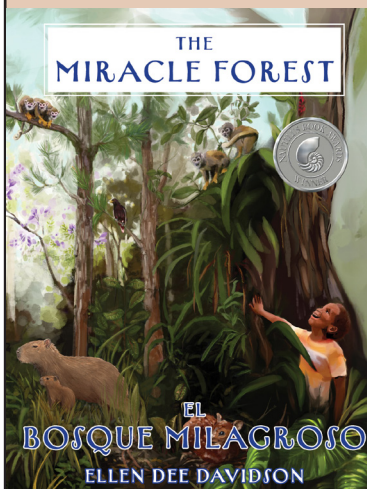
Softcover: 978-1-961905-67-2 | \$21.95

Hardcover: 978-1-961905-73-3 | \$26.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-68-9 | \$9.99

Ages 8–12 | 124 pages | Nonfiction | 2025





Miracle Forest: A True Story

Ellen Dee Davidson | Illustrated by Carolyn Raleigh-Halsing

In Colombia's Llanos—once a barren savanna—a community called Gaviotas planted trees and brought a rainforest back to life. Told in English and Spanish. One of the rare environmental books for young readers with a genuinely hopeful ending.

- ★ American Book Festival Best Book Award
- ★ Silver Nautilus Award
- ★ Moonbeam Silver Award
- ★ Green Earth Book Award

Softcover: 978-1-961905-13-9 | \$13.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-10-8 | \$6.99

Ages 8–12 | 52 pages | 2024

“An inspiring testament to the power of human ingenuity in restoring nature. This story offers readers a much-needed sense of hope and showcases the potential for environmental renewal even in the harshest conditions.”

—*Dr. Maria Gonzalez,*
ecologist and environmental
policy expert

Adult Titles

Literary & Historical Fiction

“Atmospheric and beguiling ... Comeau crafts an ethereal, fablelike narrative from the Irish setting and tales of the Otherworld. Morrigan and her village come alive, and her frustration with the imposed limits on her gender adds a fascinating dimension to the spooky tale.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

A Moon in All Things

Jennifer Elwell Comeau

Galway, 1820s. Morrigan Lane wants to captain boats on the wild Atlantic. Drawn into the Otherworld, she follows her great-grandmother's trail and learns the true cost of claiming her own path.

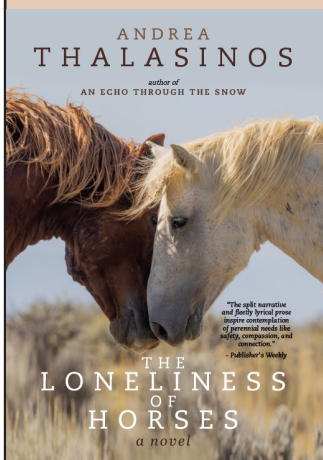
- ★ IAN Book of the Year, Finalist

Softcover: 978-1-961905-45-0 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-18-4 | \$5.99

372 pages | 2025





The Loneliness of Horses

Andrea Thalasinós

From Nova Scotia to the high deserts of Arizona, two women separated by centuries share a fierce love for horses and the courage to live on their own terms. A multigenerational story of displacement, resilience, and the quiet kinship between humans and animals.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-12-2 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-11-5 | \$8.99

“A beautiful love story told through the eyes of generations of displaced individuals connected with wild animals—a story of women, emigration, and the settling power of real companionship.”

—Joanne Berg, owner of
Mystery to Me Bookstore,
Madison, Wisconsin

Climate & Environmental Fiction



Inland

Kate Risse

When rising seas reshape the eastern seaboard, Juliet and Martin push northward along a drowned coastline toward Boston. Miles away, her son Billy navigates a reality where technology is equal parts lifeline and liability. A taut survival story about what people carry when everything familiar is swept away.

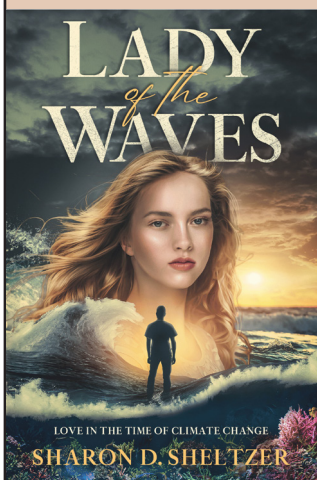
★Reader's Choice Awards—Bronze, 2024

Softcover: 978-1-961905-07-8 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-06-1 | \$8.99

Audiobook: 978-1-961905-29-0 | \$19.95

360 pages | 2024



Lady of the Waves: Love in the Time of Climate Change

Sharon D. Sheltzer

Beginning on December 26, 2004, this is the story of Aallotar—a Finnish girl who loses her entire family in the tsunami and must find her way back to life. Resilient even when she thinks she isn't, she carries her grief across continents until science, love, and purpose finally give her somewhere to land.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-79-5 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-80-1 | \$8.99

366 pages | 2026

“A moving story about love and compassion arising from disaster and loss—a real page-turner!”

—Rod Fujita, author of *Heal the Ocean*

“From glacier mining to water credits to secret missions, Reilly twists today’s climate crisis into a propulsive environmental thriller—deeply researched, suspenseful, and full of heart.”
—*Adrian Horton, arts writer, Guardian US*

Ice’s End

P. Finian Reilly

In 2123, StarCross corporation controls Antarctica, and keeps a dying planet alive. When Roscoe Slake uncovers a buried 19th-century polar record, what it reveals could break a global monopoly and restore hope.

- ★IBPA Book Award—Gold, Science Fiction & Fantasy
- ★INDIES Book of the Year Award—Finalist

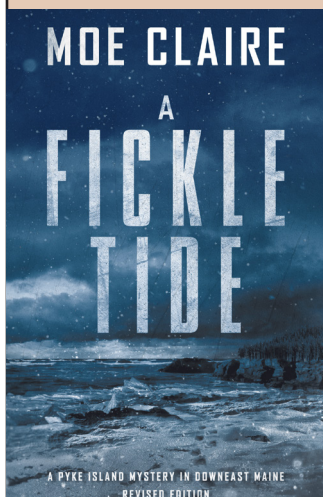
Softcover: 978-1-961905-47-4 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-48-1 | \$8.99

350 pages | 2025



Pyke Island Mysteries in Downeast Maine



A Fickle Tide—Book 1

Moe Claire

Del Corriveau wakes in a remote cabin—alone, bloodied, and without answers. Pyke Island holds its secrets the way granite holds cold. A missing Hollywood producer. A wildlife trafficking ring. A community that says nothing.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-56-6 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-30-6 | \$5.99

325 pages | 2025

“A mystery with as many twists and turns as a mountain road, populated by rich, complex characters, and infused with vivid knowledge of Maine’s geology, geography, and ocean lore.”
—*Kate Flora, award-winning author of Those Who Choose Evil*



Granite and Bones—Book 2

Moe Claire

When Del Corriveau discovers a skeleton in a hidden cave on Pyke Island, the identification opens wounds the island has spent years keeping closed. Ancient petroglyphs, contested land rights, a community still reckoning with what it chose to forget.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-50-4 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-51-1 | \$8.99

258 pages | 2025





MOE CLAIRE

**BLACK VEIL,
WHITE ROSE**

A PYKE ISLAND MYSTERY IN DOWNEAST MAINE
REVISED EDITION

Black Veil, White Rose—Book 3
Moe Claire

When Del Corriveau discovers a submerged truck camper off Pyke Island, what surfaces is decades of silence—a vanished commune, Vietnam-era trauma, and secrets small communities protect out of love.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-74-0 | \$14.95
E-book: 978-1-961905-75-7 | \$8.99
286 pages | 2026

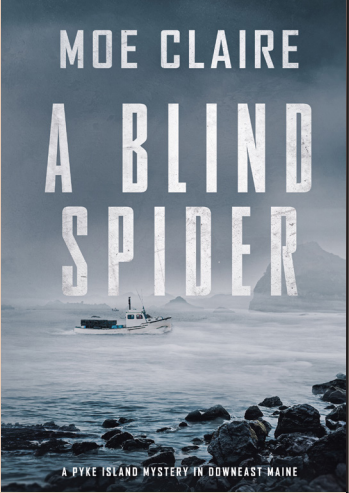


“As mystery readers and geologists, the Pyke Island Series hits all the right notes—real Downeast Maine scenery, authentic characters, a touch of geology, and plenty of small town secrets and suspense.”
—*Duane and Ruth Braun, authors of Guide to the Geology of Mount Desert Island, the Schoodic Peninsula, and Acadia National Park*

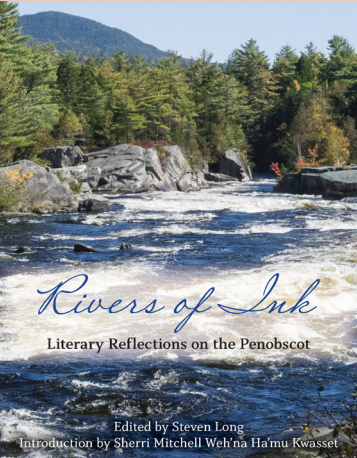
A Blind Spider—Book 4
Moe Claire

Three lobstermen drown and Pyke Island moves on. But Del Corriveau can't let it go, and the closer she gets to the truth, the more someone wants her to stop looking. In a place where silence is survival, questions can get you killed.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-83-2 | \$14.95
E-book: 978-1-961905-84-9 | \$8.99
256 pages | 2026



Literary Reflections On



Rivers of Ink: Literary Reflections on the Penobscot
Introduction by Sherri Mitchell Weh'na Ha'mu Kwasset

Sixty-one contributors examine the Penobscot River's influence on the region's history, culture, and daily life—blending essays, fiction, and poetry that trace the river's legacy. \$1 per sale supports Friends of Katahdin Woods & Waters.

★ Maine Literary Awards, Finalist

Softcover: 978-1-961905-03-0 | \$14.95
E-book: 978-1-961905-02-3 | \$5.99
208 pages | 2023



“As reverent as a prayer,
the poetry and prose in
North Woods at Night
transport readers to a
world of vernal pools and
moonglow, towering pines
and starshine.”

—*Hollie Adams, author
of Things You’ve Inherited*

North Woods at Night: Literary Reflections on Maine’s Largest Woods

Introduction by Ret Talbot

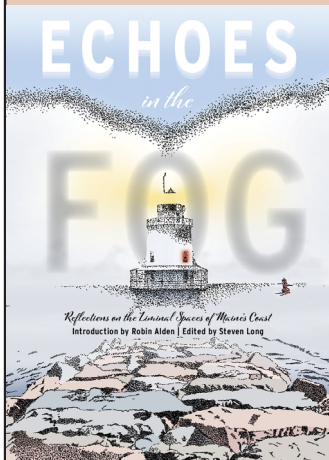
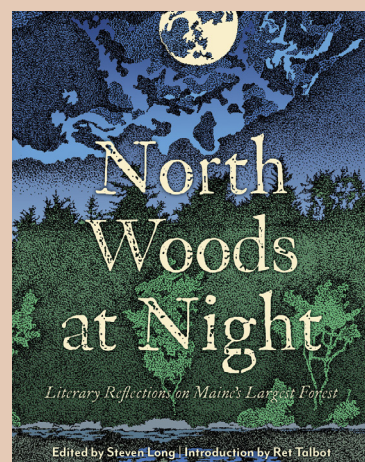
Thirty-eight contributors share poems and prose,
revealing the forest’s nocturnal magic—campfires, loons,
silence under the stars. \$1 per sale supports the Forest
Society of Maine.

★ Maine Literary Awards, Finalist

Softcover: 978-1-961905-38-2 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-39-9 | \$5.99

172 pages | 2024



Echoes in the Fog: Literary Reflections on the Liminal Spaces of Maine’s Coast

Introduction by Robin Alden

Fifty-eight contributors explore Maine’s coast—from
island harbors to fog-draped peninsulas—where tide,
weather, and light shape the lives of those who call it
home. \$1 per sale supports Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

★ Maine Literary Awards, Finalist

Softcover: 978-1-961905-70-2 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-71-9 | \$5.99

222 pages | 2025



Coming Soon

October 13

Clara and the Snowline: A Wolverine's Tale of Life in Glacier National Park

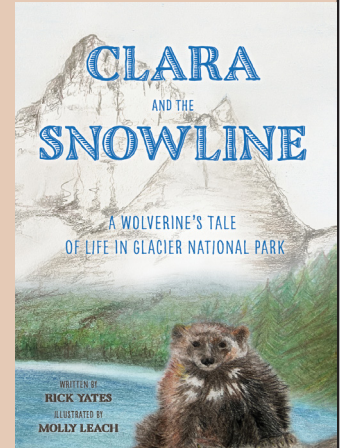
Rick Yates | Illustrated by Molly Leach

Born beneath deep winter snow at Glacier National Park's tree line, wolverine kit Clara enters a world of relentless cold and constant danger. Based on five years of field research, honest about wild survival, and generous with wonder.

Softcover: 978-1-961905-85-6 | \$12.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-86-3 | \$5.99

Ages 8–12 | 126 pages | October 2026



“Rick Yates spent years hiking and skiing Glacier National Park’s mountains to discover the secrets of these wildest of wild animals. Now all you have to do is open this book.”

—Douglas H.

*Chadwick, author of
The Wolverine Way*

December 1

Thinning Light: Literary Reflections on Fall's Transformation in Maine

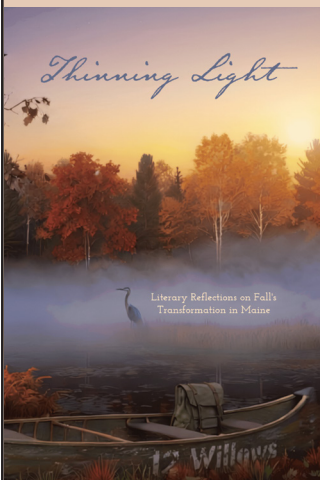
Introduction by Steven Long

Sixty-five contributors come together in a celebration of the season through poetry, prose, and black-and-white photography. One dollar from every sale goes to the Maine Organic Farmers and Growers Association (MOFGA).

Softcover: 978-1-961905-87-0 | \$14.95

E-book: 978-1-961905-88-7 | \$5.99

240 pages | 2026





12 Willows Press

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Schools receive a 10% discount on all purchases
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12WillowsPress.com



Maine Made. Books That Matter.