

An impressionistic landscape painting featuring a dramatic sky with thick, textured brushstrokes in shades of blue, white, and grey. Below the sky is a dark, silhouetted treeline, and the foreground consists of dark green and yellowish-green fields with visible brushwork. The overall style is painterly and atmospheric.

ISLANDPORT PRESS

SPRING/SUMMER 2026



Working the Waterfront

Maine Stories, Through Time and Tide

Welcome to our first season of books from Islandport Press's new team. These fresh voices capture Maine's beauty and bounty—from apple orchards to blueberry barrens. We hope these books deepen your appreciation for this special place we call home.

KJ Grow, Publisher

ISLANDPORT PRESS

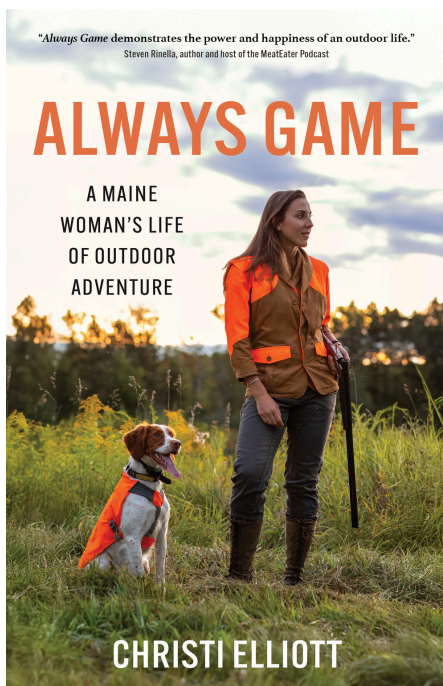
We are a dynamic, award-winning publisher dedicated to stories rooted in the essence and sensibilities of Maine and New England.

ORDERING INFORMATION

Effective January 2026, we are represented in North America by The Stable Distribution, with fulfillment through Hachette Book Group.
info@stabledistributiongroup.com

New England bookstores:
Maureen Karb, Como Sales
maureen@comosales.com
508-293-1503

Visit our resellers page at islandportpress.com/resellers or contact us directly at orders@islandportpress.com



Always Game

CHRISTI ELLIOTT

\$18.95

Paperback Original

Nonfiction | Memoir | Outdoors

ISBN: 978-1-952143-24-3

Pub. December 2, 2025

Christi Elliot's passion for hunting and fishing has made her one of the most influential outdoors women in Maine. Born an adventurer in Machias, Elliott's travelogue of

barrier-breaking will take you across Maine mudflats and blueberry fields, the glaciers of Montana, the tropical waters of the Virgin Islands, and the frigid, salmon-laden rivers of Alaska. Through Elliot's witty, buoyant voice, *Always Game* encourages adventure seekers of all stripes to get out and enjoy the wonder of nature's bounty.

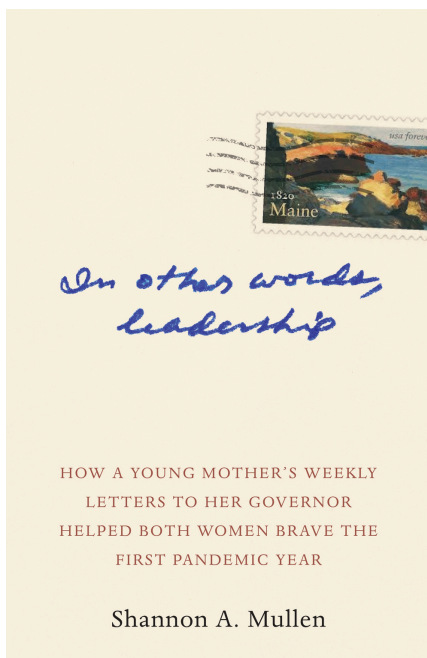
"*Always Game* demonstrates the power and happiness of an outdoor life."

— Steven Rinella, author and host of the MeatEater Podcast

ABOUT CHRISTI



Christi Elliott is a design engineer, Registered Maine Guide, columnist, and author. In 2017, she founded Maine Women Hunters, one of America's largest female hunting groups. She lives in Southern Maine with her family. *Always Game* is her first book.



In Other Words, Leadership

SHANNON A. MULLEN

\$19.95

Paperback

Nonfiction | History

ISBN: 978-1-952143-94-6

Pub. January 6, 2026

March 2020. Recently-widowed Governor Janet Mills sits alone in Maine's executive mansion, facing an impossible choice. An hour

away in the remote Maine woods, young mother and homesteader Ashirah Knapp watches her family's world unravel. Through the strokes of both women's pens, history is written. Mills signs a lockdown order, and Knapp writes a letter, kicking off an extraordinary correspondence between two women from opposite ends of Maine's social spectrum. Shannon A. Mullen weaves this intimate, behind-the-scenes account into a powerful celebration of civility, compassion, and resilience.

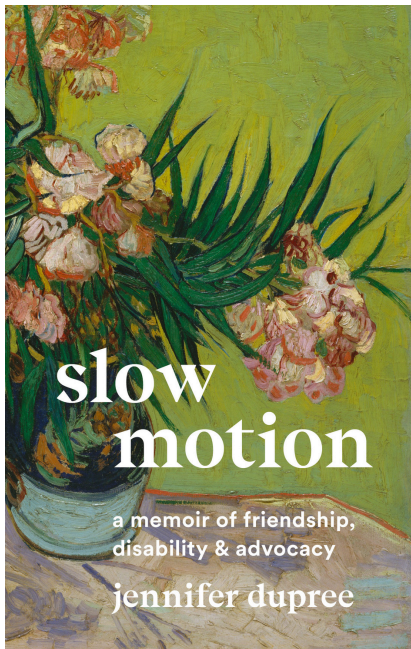
**"A remarkable story of work, worry, art, faith, community, life, and hope. An instant classic." — Heather Cox Richardson,
author of *Democracy Awakening***

ABOUT SHANNON

Shannon A. Mullen is a journalist, author, screenwriter, playwright, podcast host and film producer. She grew up in New Hampshire and now lives in Midcoast Maine. She has been reporting for national programs on public radio for over a decade.



This edition includes a new foreword from Dr. Nirav Shah and discussion questions for reading groups.



Slow Motion

JENNIFER DUPREE

\$18.95

Paperback Original

Nonfiction | Memoir

ISBN: 978-1-952143-46-5

Pub. March 3, 2026

A heartfelt homage to a life-changing friendship.

At twenty-one, Jen Dupree meets Marcel in a nursing home where she works—a man with cerebral

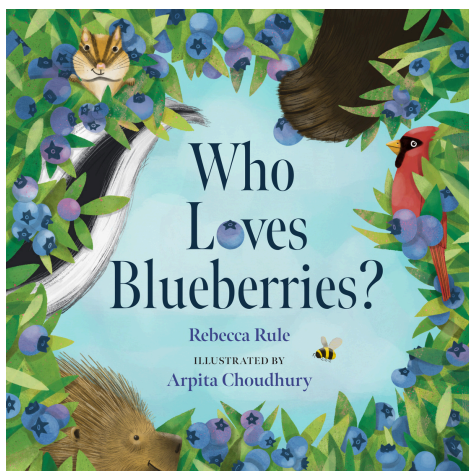
palsy whose endless curiosity and zest for life immediately captivate her. When a doctor tells Marcel to "get up and move around" despite knowing he's never walked, Jen asks if he brought his magic wand. It's the start of a three-decade friendship that will change both their lives.

By turns hilarious and heartbreaking, *Slow Motion* is a tribute to an extraordinary friendship and an awakening to disability rights. With humor and honesty, Dupree shows how Marcel navigates an ableist world—and how their bond reveals our shared humanity.

ABOUT JEN

Jen Dupree is the author of two novels, *The Miraculous Flight of Owen Leach* and *What Do You Want from Me?* She is an assistant editor for *The Masters Review*, a library director, and a former bookstore owner. She has an MFA in Creative Writing from USM's Stonecoast program. She is the winner of the Writer's Digest Fiction Contest for 2017, and a two-time winner of a Maine Literary Award (2006, 2022). She lives in the Lakes Region of Maine.





Who Loves Blueberries?

REBECCA RULE

illustrated by

ARPITA CHOUDHURY

\$17.95

Hardcover

Children's Picture Book (Ages 3 -7)

ISBN: 978-1-952143-97-7

Pub. June 30, 2026

**When summer sun ripens wild blueberries, every
critter comes out for a taste!**

From buzzing bees to slithery snakes, mischievous mice to graceful deer, a wide assortment of woodland creatures gather to enjoy nature's sweet-tart treasure. *But who loves blueberries most of all?*

With charming illustrations that bring the blueberry barrens to life, this scrumptious picture book follows a parade of animals as they discover there's plenty for everyone. Young readers will delight in spotting each new visitor while learning about the joyful rhythms of the natural world.

ABOUT REBECCA

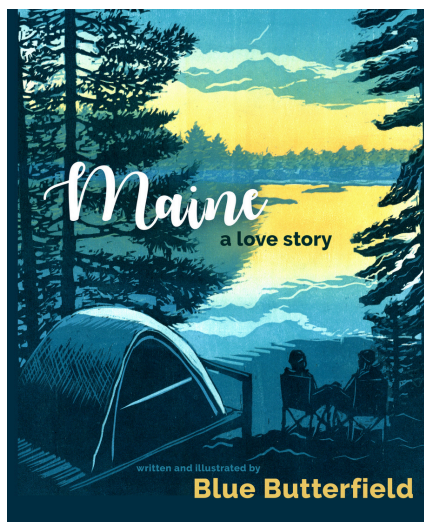


Rebecca Rule is a yankee humorist, storyteller, and author of many books for children and adults. For ten years she hosted the New Hampshire Authors Series for NHPBS. She lives in Northwood, NH.

ABOUT ARPITA



Arpita Choudhury is a self-taught artist and illustrator who lives in Pittsburgh, PA with her husband, daughter, two cats, one dog, and two hermit crabs. She is a lapsed marine biologist who loves nature, vintage picture books, miniatures, history, chocolate, and a good mystery.



Maine, A Love Story

BLUE BUTTERFIELD

\$24.95

Paperback with flaps

Memoir | Art

ISBN: 978-1-952143-95-3

Pub. May 12, 2026

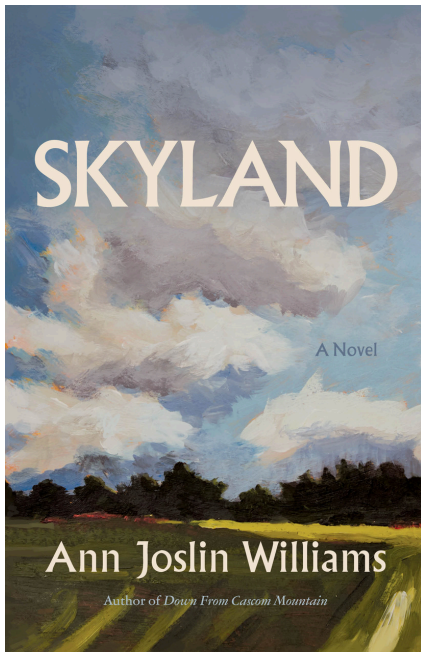
A gorgeously illustrated memoir
about an artist finding herself
and her craft in coastal Maine.

Portland printmaker Blue Butterfield's intimate illustrated memoir pairs personal history with her stunning woodcut prints, exploring how place shapes identity and art becomes a lifeline through loss. From her childhood on Mount Desert Island—raised by a resourceful single mother who painted paisley swirls on her car and grew their food—to her current life in Portland's West End, Butterfield reveals how Maine nurtured both her creativity and resilience. Her reflections navigate profound themes through specific landscapes: a father's abandonment after a devastating accident, finding solace in Acadia National Park, the search for control in an unpredictable world, and the discovery that "it's not loss that defines us—it's what we find."



ABOUT BLUE

Blue Butterfield is a Portland-based woodblock carver and printmaker. Blue grew up on Mount Desert Island and spent her high school weekends hiking and sketching her way through the park. Her work can be found in permanent collections around New England. *Maine, A Love Story*, is her first book.



Skyland

ANN JOSLIN WILLIAMS

\$18.95

Paperback Original
Fiction

ISBN: 978-1-952143-90-8

Pub. May 5, 2026

A deeply moving novel that
illuminates the complex ways we
survive the unthinkable and slowly,
painfully, learn to live again.

When Celia is murdered by a troubled young man from across the street, her husband Henry and daughters Nora and Lucy are left to navigate the unthinkable in their small town of Kittery, Maine. Desperate to help his daughters heal, Henry sends the girls to spend the summer at Skyland Farm, a remote artists' retreat in the New Hampshire mountains run by his beloved cousin Franny.

As the family struggles separately with their trauma, the buried details of that terrible day slowly surface. When Nora makes a desperate midnight drive home to confront her father, their journey becomes a reckoning that will either destroy what remains of their family or finally allow them to face their loss together.

Set against the rugged beauty of coastal Maine and the mountainous landscape of New Hampshire, *Skyland* reveals how art, nature, and unexpected friendships can slowly guide us back from the brink—and how families can find their way to one another even after the unthinkable.

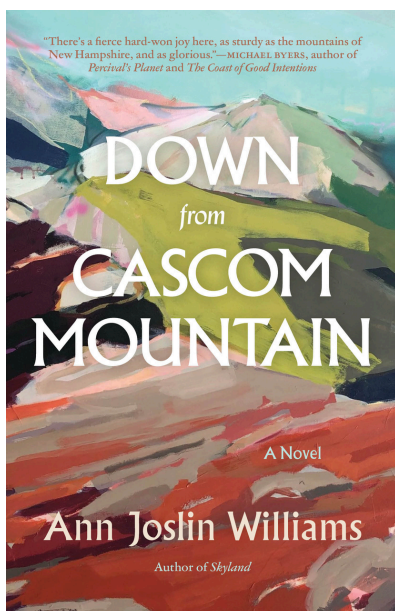
ABOUT ANN

Ann Joslin Williams is the author of the novel *Down From Cascom Mountain*, and a collection of linked short stories *The Woman in the Woods*. She is the recipient of awards from the National Endowment of the Arts, the Spokane Prize for Short Fiction, The New Hampshire Writers' Project Literary Awards, and the Stegner Program at Stanford University. She is an associate professor at the University of New Hampshire where she teaches writing and spends her time between Durham and her family cabin in Alexandria, New Hampshire.



“With the finely wrought prose of a poet, Williams gives us flesh and blood characters we can't help but care about... This is a haunting and lovely book!”

Andre Dubus, III, author of *House of Sand and Fog*



Down from Cascom Mountain

\$18.95

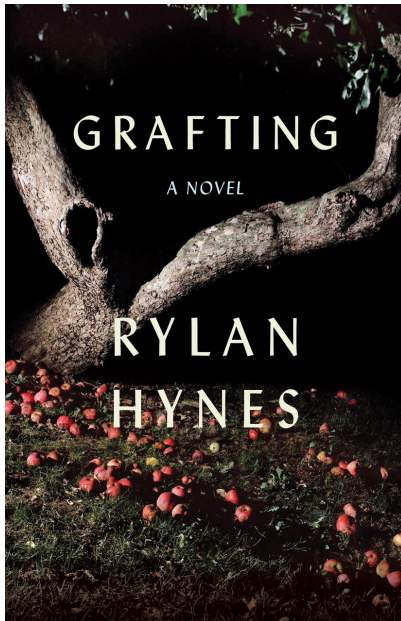
Paperback | Fiction

ISBN: 978-1-952143-98-4

Pub. May 5, 2026

A haunting debut novel about loss, healing, and the power of place to both wound and restore us. When Mary returns to New Hampshire, newly married and ready to rebuild her family's house

on Cascom Mountain, a hiking accident leaves her alone in the rugged wilderness. Struggling to let go of a future that will never be, Mary finds unexpected solace among the seasonal crew that maintains the mountain trails. When her husband's estranged father arrives seeking connection to his lost son, Mary must confront her grief and the complicated legacy of family wounds.



Grafting

RYLAN HYNES

\$18.95

Paperback Original
Fiction

ISBN: 978-1-952143-96-0

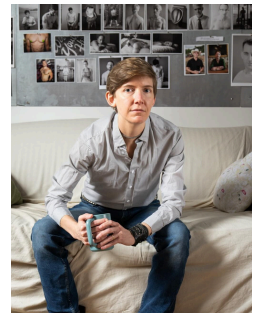
Pub. June 2, 2026

A luminous debut novel about second chances, forbidden love, and the courage to cultivate beauty in unforgiving soil. When Eben Turner returns to his family's apple orchard

in rural Maine after his parents' death, he confronts more than inheritance—he faces the love he left behind. A decade has passed since he and Chris Hartley, the Methodist minister's son, were torn apart in their final year of high school, their secret relationship severed by faith and small-town judgment. Set against the Edenic beauty of New England, *Grafting* unfolds through dual perspectives in a lyrical narrative that mirrors the art of joining two trees to create something stronger. A voice-driven and unforgettable tale of queer love and rural identity, this exquisite debut explores the cost of forbidden desire and the resilience required to claim one's authentic self.

ABOUT RYLAN

Rylan Hynes (they/them) is a trans author and artist. An alum of the Tin House Writers Workshop, their work has been supported by the Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance and Monson Arts. They live with their husband in central Maine with far too many heritage apple trees.





FINAL COVER TO COME

Oyster Society

VIRGINIA SHAFFER

\$26.95

Hardcover

Food & Cooking | Travel | Memoir

ISBN: 978-1-952143-99-1

Pub. August 4, 2026

Part culinary adventure, part personal awakening—one woman's story chasing oysters across North America to discover a hidden world and her own true path.

What started as a whimsical visit to an oyster farm became a life-changing journey across North America's hidden shellfish world. As Virginia Shaffer (“Lady Oyster”) traverses saltwater marshes and sticky mudflats, from bustling seafood parties to clamorous shucking competitions, readers take an immersive dive into the gritty, passionate community of people who live and breathe oysters. *Oyster Society* reveals the profound stories hiding beneath the surface of our food system. As the author sinks deeper into this briny underground, she discovers that oyster people aren't just growing shellfish—they're cultivating resilience, sustainability, and authentic connection to the coast.

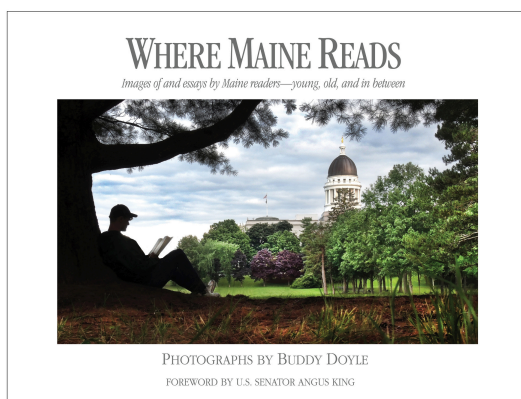
ABOUT VIRGINIA

Founder of Lady Oyster, Maine's first oyster culinary tour company and Oyster Master Guild Certified Oyster Specialist, Virginia has written about shellfish for 9+ years. She has been featured in *Edible*, *Good Grit*, *Post* and *Courier* magazine, and *Boston Chronicle*. She holds a certificate in Gastronomic Tourism by Le Cordon Bleu Paris. *Oyster Society* is her first book.



Where Maine Reads

BUDDY DOYLE



\$30.00

Paperback Original
Photography | Essays
ISBN: 979-8-218338-50-3
Pub. March 3, 2024

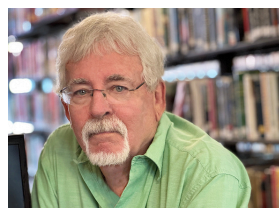
Discover Maine's most
enchanting reading spots
through the eyes of 50
fellow book lovers.

From Governor Janet Mills and Senator Angus King to teachers, firefighters, and college students, *Where Maine Reads* showcases Mainers of all ages and backgrounds in their perfect reading nooks—porches, boats, hammocks, bars, and yes, even bathtubs. Acclaimed authors like Richard Russo, Monica Wood, and Lily King appear alongside everyday readers, because the love of a cozy reading spot unites us all. Featuring photography and essays created by photographer Buddy Doyle in partnership with Maine Public, this joyful collection is more than a coffee table book—it's a love letter to the simple pleasure of getting lost in a good story, wherever you find your perfect spot.

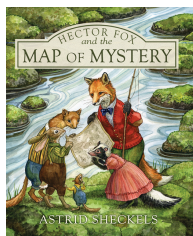
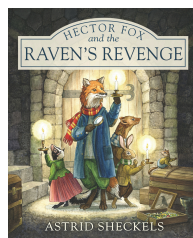
Proceeds support Maine Public's statewide literacy programs.

ABOUT BUDDY

Doyle has worked in advertising and design, copywriting, and photography. He lives in Gardiner with his wife Geri and their Golden doodle, Riley. He is the author of *Where Maine Reads*, published in 2024, with the sequel *Maine's Still Reading* forthcoming from Islandport Press in 2026.



HECTOR FOX



ASTRID SHECKELS

\$19.95

Hardcover
Children's Picture Books

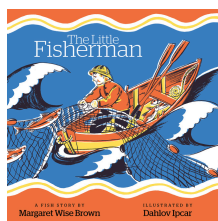
2021 Northern Lights Book Awards - Best Author/Illustrator
2022 Moonbeam Gold Medal Winner for Best Illustrator
2022 Moonbeam Gold Medal Winner for Best Picture Book
2023 IPPY Award Gold Medal - Children's Picture Book
2023 IPNE Book Award Children's Book Finalist
2025 IPPY Award Silver Medal - Children's Picture Book

"I wish fairy tales were real," sighed little Lucy Skunk. Lucy's wish was all it took for Hector Fox and his merry band of woodland friends to set out on an adventure beyond the friendly Green Wood. *Hector Fox and the Giant Quest* introduces the unforgettable series created by Astrid Sheckels, featuring Hector Fox, Lucy Skunk, Mo Marten, Charlie Chipmunk, Jeremiah Rabbit, and some surprise friends. Follow this wonderful cast of woodland critters as they continue to solve mysteries far and wide, high and low, in this illustrated series.



ABOUT ASTRID

Astrid is an award-winning author and illustrator of *Nic and Nellie* (Islandport Press) and the *Hector Fox* series. She lives and maintains her studio in the rolling hills of Greenfield, Massachusetts.



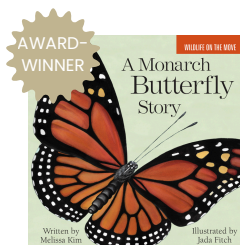
THE LITTLE FISHERMAN
Margaret Wise Brown
ill. Dahlov Ipcar
BOARDBOOK \$12.95



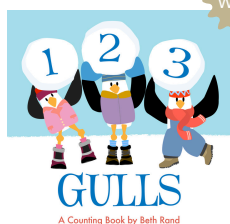
A SNOWY OWL STORY
Melissa Kim
ill. Jada Fitch
BOARDBOOK \$12.95



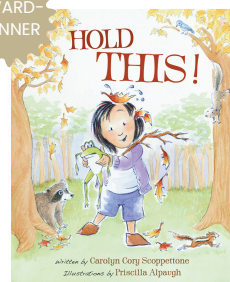
MUD, SAND, & SNOW
Written and Illustrated
by Charlotte Agell
BOARDBOOK \$10.95



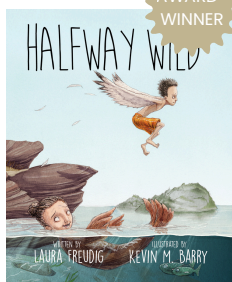
A MONARCH BUTTERFLY STORY
Melissa Kim
ill. Jada Fitch
BOARDBOOK \$12.95



123 GULLS
A counting book by
Beth Rand
HARDCOVER \$14.95



HOLD THIS!
Carolyn Cory
Scoppettone
ill. Priscilla Alpaugh
PAPERBACK \$12.95



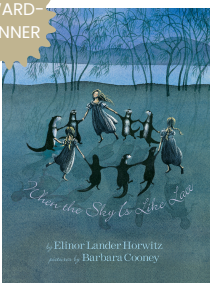
HALFWAY WILD
Laura Freudig
ill. Kevin M. Barry
HARDCOVER \$18.95



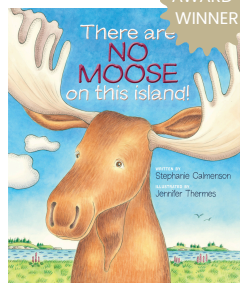
CHOWDER RULES
Anna Crowley Redding
ill. Vita Lane
HARDCOVER \$18.95



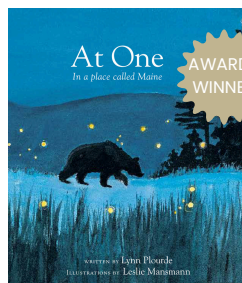
NIC AND NELLIE
Written and illustrated by
Astrid Sheckels
HARDCOVER \$17.95



**WHEN THE SKY
IS LIKE LACE**
Elinor Lander
Horwitz
ill. Barbara Cooney
HARDCOVER \$18.95



**THERE ARE NO
MOOSE ON THIS
ISLAND**
Stephanie Calmerson
ill. Jennifer Thermes
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AT ONE
Lynn Plourde
ill. Leslie Mansmann
HARDCOVER \$18.95



THE SPACE BETWEEN YOU AND ME

JULIE TRUE KINGSLEY

\$18.95

Gold medal winner: 2025 IPPY Award for Best First YA Book

"Julie True Kingsley's debut young-adult romance novel is a high-energy tale of young star-crossed teens awash in hormones, idealism, dreamy romantic images, and an age-old culture clash that threatens to upend everyone's hopes."

—Bill Bushnell, Kennebec Journal

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All Isabelle wants is to win the middle-school science fair with the wind machine she and her brother Julian, who has severe epilepsy, designed. But when Julian has a major seizure, everything changes.

THE LAST SUMMER BEFORE WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT

BEE BURKE

\$18.95

978-1-952143-82-3

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Bronze medal: 2025 IPPY Award for US Northeast - Best Regional Fiction

"Readers will root for Claire throughout, and a surprise twist at the end has a visceral impact...A beach read that explores enduring social themes."

—Kirkus Reviews

COOPER & PACKRAT by Tamra Wight (5 book series)

PAPERBACK

When Cooper's parents buy a lakeside campground, his life turns upside down. He meets Packrat, his new best friend, and the two embark on wild adventures in the Maine woods like rescuing fox pups and protecting loons. Inspired by Tamra Wight's career as a campground manager for 25 years.



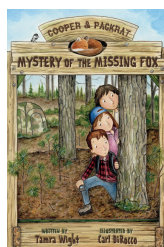
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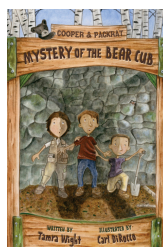
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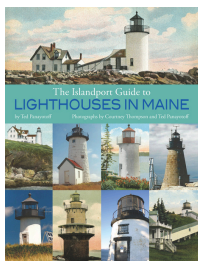
\$16.95



978-1-952143-36-6

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BESTSELLING NONFICTION



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LIGHTHOUSES
IN MAINE**
By Ted Panayoff
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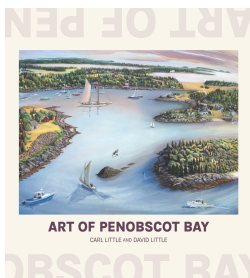
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By Dean Lunt
and John McDonald
PAPERBACK
\$18.95



**NEW HAMPSHIRE
TRIVIA**
By Rebecca Rule
PAPERBACK
\$18.95



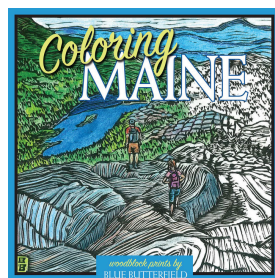
**WILD! WEIRD!
WONDERFUL!
MAINE.**
By Earl Brechlin
PAPERBACK
\$18.95



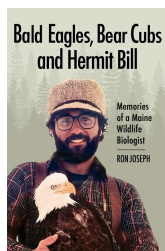
**ART OF
PENOBSCOT BAY**
By Carl Little
and David Little
PAPERBACK \$34.95



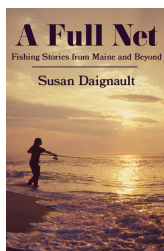
**TAKE IT EASY
Portland in the 1970s**
By John Duncan
PAPERBACK \$24.95



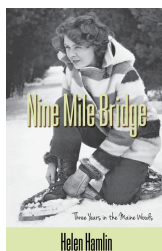
COLORING MAINE
Woodblock prints
By Blue Butterfield
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\$24.95



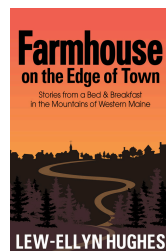
**BALD EAGLES,
BEAR CUBS, AND
HERMIT BILL**
*Memories of a Maine
Wildlife Biologist*
By Ron Joseph
PAPERBACK
\$18.95



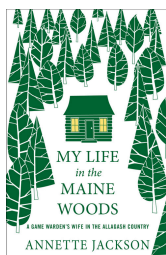
A FULL NET
*Fishing Stories from
Maine and Beyond*
By Susan Daignault
PAPERBACK
\$18.95



**NINE MILE
BRIDGE**
*Three Years in the
Maine Woods*
By Helen Hamlin
PAPERBACK
\$18.95

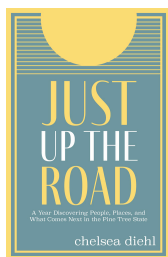


**FARMHOUSE
AT THE EDGE
OF TOWN**
*Stories from a B&B in
the Mountains of
Western Maine*
By Lew-Ellyn Hughes
PAPERBACK \$18.95

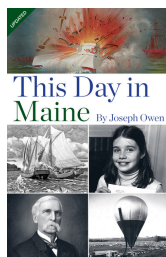


MY LIFE IN THE MAINE WOODS

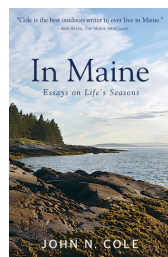
A Game Warden's Wife in the Allagash Country
by Annette Jackson
PAPERBACK \$18.95



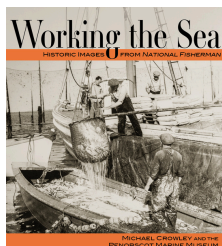
JUST UP THE ROAD
A Year of Discovering People, Places, and What Comes Next in the Pine Tree State
by Chelsea Diehl
PAPERBACK \$18.95



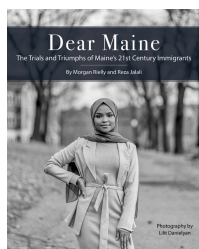
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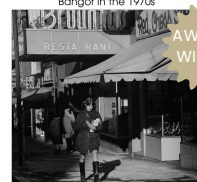


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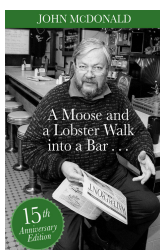


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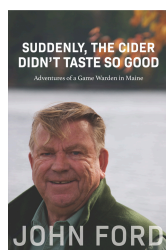
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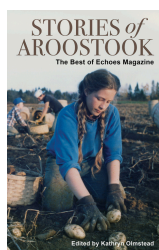
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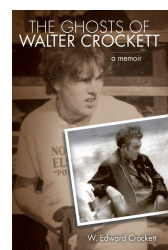
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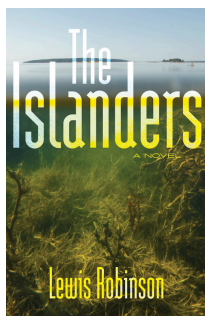
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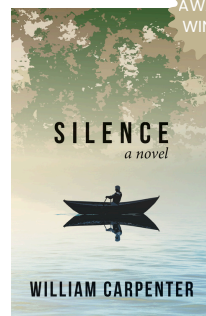
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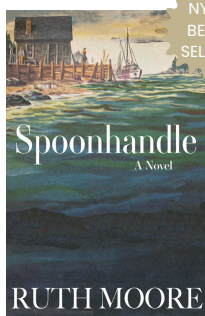
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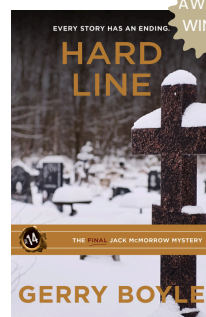
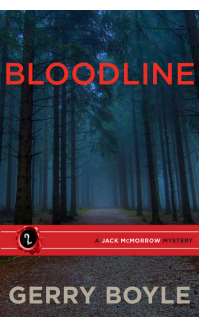
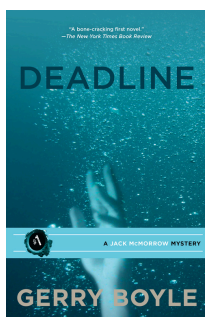
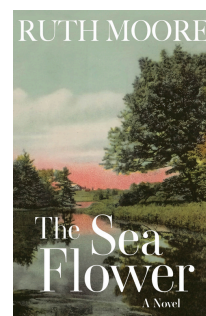
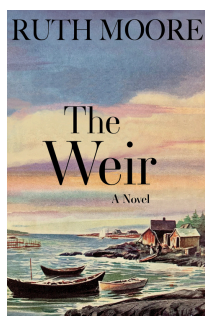
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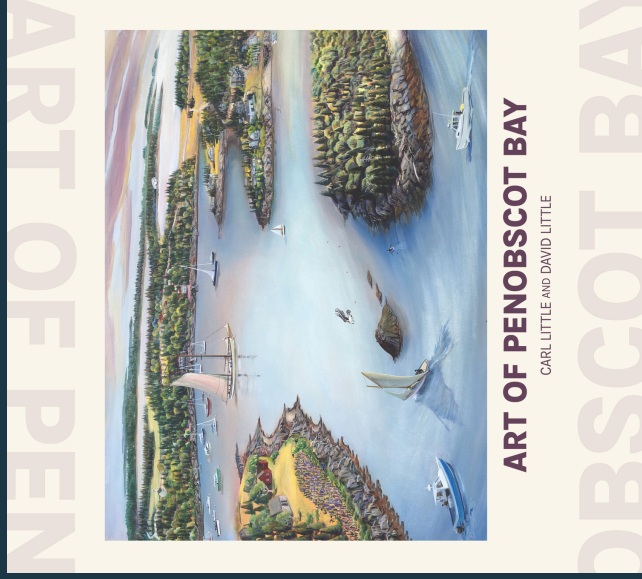
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