



# Bay Writers News

[www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org](http://www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org)

Volume XXIV • Issue 1

Chesapeake Bay Writers Chapter of the Virginia Writers Club

February 2017

## President's Message

The Chesapeake Bay Writers had a great response to our 2017 membership renewal efforts, and I thank each of you who have renewed your membership. For those who haven't replied yet because of holidays, weather events, or a stretched budget, we still want you back! Just fill out the renewal form and send your payment when your finances allow.

If you have a philosophical objection to filling out online forms, send me a note. I'll add your name, address, email and phone number to our database so we can keep in touch with you. If you'd like to include whether you're published or aspiring to publication, I'll include that too.

The Board of Directors met in January and agreed our goals for this year are to increase our membership and develop volunteer roles that will allow us to add more programs. We plan to complete our Board Manual, a compilation of instructions for every aspect of CBW's operations. Ellen Dugan, our Vice President, is in charge of this project and aims to complete it this year.

Our new interactive forms for reservations and activities can easily be duplicated and updated. These forms allow a direct link to PayPal and send acknowledgements. (We still accept checks for those who don't care to use the online service.) This year, we'll finish transferring our newsletter and podcast archives to new homes. We may decide to set up a CBW YouTube channel for our podcasts.

As always, we welcome your comments and thoughts. Feel free to contact any Board member. You're welcome to send any complaints to me. I can't always fix a situation, but knowing what's not working lets us acknowledge your concern and be mindful of issues for the future.

One thing I've recognized in my role as President is the enormous pool of talent in CBW. You are awesome! Take a look at this month's well-deserved Boasts and Gloats. Make sure to share your events and good news this year. Several members took advantage of adding a page about their books. Take a look at the end of the newsletter. You may find something you'll enjoy and can support a fellow member at the same time.

I look forward to seeing you at our February 15th meeting at the Center Street Grill in Williamsburg!

*Carol*

### ***SAVE THE DATES!***

**Feb. 15** Meeting - "Taxes for Writers"

Center Street Grill,  
Williamsburg

**Apr. 19:** Luncheon Meeting  
TBA

**Jun. 21:** Dinner Meeting  
TBA

**Sep. 20:** Luncheon Meeting  
TBA

**Nov. 16:** CBW All Stars Gala



## *NEWS TO USE*

### *Williamsburg First Saturday Poetry Series*

Room 127 of the Stryker Building,

209 N. Boundary Street, at 11:00 a.m.

Just across Boundary St. from the free parking garage.

Each of our poets presents 10-12 minutes of their poetry.

Contact: Ed Lull (757) 258-5582, (757) 258-6167 (cell).



**Aromas Coffeehouse** and Word4Word Poets present

### **Open Mic Poetry**

**Tuesday February 14th (Valentine's Day) 2017**

Sign-up @ 6:30 pm

Poetry @ 7:00 pm

Your poetry challenge is to write a poem that needs no explanation.

And/or share January's poetry challenge that begins with:

**You waking up on New Year's Day.**

The challenge is optional. Join us in this family friendly venue.

We love, support, and encourage First Time Readers.

Hosted by: Ann Shalaski / [ashalaski@msn.com](mailto:ashalaski@msn.com)

Aromas Coffeehouse

706 Town Center Dr





## *MORE NEWS TO USE*

### *Next CBW Meeting: Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

**Professor Howard Busbee**

of the William & Mary Mason School of Business will speak about

#### **"Tax Planning and Pitfalls for Writers"**

Writers and authors, whether employees or self-employed, are often faced with a myriad of opportunities for saving taxes, as well as potential tax traps and surprises. The discussion will focus on the principal ways that writers can minimize their tax burden, and will also refer to potential new tax legislation that could be relevant to writers.

Join us at the Center Street Grill, 5101 Center Street, Williamsburg.

*11 a.m. Social Hour \* Lunch at Noon.* \$21 Members, \$26 Nonmembers

Reservations by Feb. 12 at <http://chesapeakebaywriters.org>

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Questions? [CBWreply@gmail.com](mailto:CBWreply@gmail.com) or call 804-725-6163.

### **In Search of Writers in Style**

Members of CBW and associated critique groups are invited to contribute 500 word articles for this year's upcoming issues of Chesapeake Style magazine's column, Writers in Style.

The theme of the column is writing, and previous articles have been eclectic.

They can be viewed in the Chesapeake Style archives at [www.chesapeakestyle.com](http://www.chesapeakestyle.com).

Chesapeake Style is published eight times a year, and 10,000 copies are distributed in April, May, June, July, August, September, October, with 15,000 copies for the Winter issue in November at locations throughout the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck and at the Williamsburg General Store.

Please email submissions with a subject of Writers in Style to: Janet A Fast, [chestyle@hughes.net](mailto:chestyle@hughes.net)





# Daughter of the Mountains A Memoir

## About the Book

Daughter of the Mountains is a "dreams do come true" story, told with honesty and humor. It chronicles the journey of a coal miner's daughter through childhood in the Appalachian Mountains, marriage, divorce, single parenting, travel and adventure with a new love, and the sometimes humorous aspects of growing older in our technological era. Woven throughout is respect for her Native American roots, a belief in the importance of family, the strength of love, and the enlightenment of aging. At the end of the story, you will feel as if you have made a new friend.

The author commissioned artist, Vivien Mann, to create the cover, requesting that she combine the spirit of Sharon's Cherokee ancestors with the essence of the mountains ~ it's emerald green forests, sapphire skies, and crystal clear streams. The result was "Spirit Guide."

## About the Author

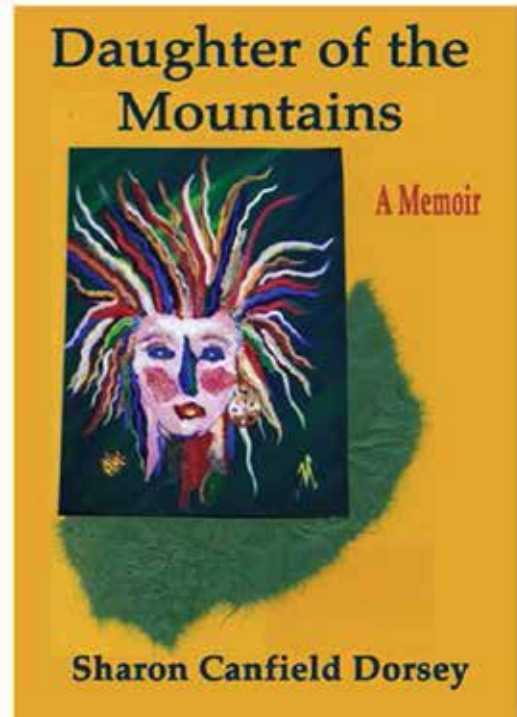
Sharon is a member of the James City Poets and has received awards from the Poetry Society of Virginia, Chesapeake Bay Writers and Christopher Newport University Writer's Conference. She is a member of Appalachian American Indians of West Virginia.

Her work has been published in magazines, journals, and anthologies. She has two children, Steven and Shannon, and three grandchildren, Adaline, Emma, and Zachary.

## About the Cover Artist

Vivien is a mixed media artist and has exhibited her work in Arizona and Virginia. She enjoys painting, jewelry making and recycling "found" objects into interesting new creations.

She is the mother of two children, Jenna and Matthew and several furry friends. She illustrated *Herman the Hermit Crab* and *the Mystery of the Big, Black, Shiny Thing* and created the cover for *Tapestry*.



**Paperback:** 198 pages

**Publisher:** High Tide Publications, Inc.  
(December 14, 2016)

**Language:** English

**ISBN:** 978-1945990069

**BISAC:** Biography & Autobiography /  
Cultural Heritage

**Dimensions:** 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches Shipping  
**Weight:** 13.3 ounces

**List Price:** \$14.99

**Available from:** Amazon.com, Barnes  
& Noble, and through Ingram.

**Other Books by Sharon Dorsey:**

*Herman the Hermit Crab and the  
Mystery of the Big, Black, Shiny Thing.*

*Tapestry - Poems*



## CBW Second Monday Radio Show with Neal Steele

### XTRA 99.1 FM, 8:05 a.m.

We are looking for the authors of recently published books to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to be interviewed by Neal on XTRA 99.1 FM. Neal is a skillful interviewer, and listeners will be delighted to hear the inside story of your most recent book.

Please email me at <mailto:tracygl@cox.net> or call 804-815-9954, and I will forward the show guidelines to you. (This is the only way you can arrange to be on the show. Please do not call the station.)

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

**Tracy Lanum**

#### 2016 Second Monday Show Podcasts Are Online

If you missed any of these interviews, you can still hear them on our CBW website at

<https://chesapeakebaywriters.org/podcasts>.

**2017 January:** Gail Priest, *Annie Crow Knoll: Moonrise*

#### 2016

December:	Sharon Canfield Dorsey, <i>Herman the Hermit Crab and Tapestry</i>
November:	David Cariens, <i>A Handbook for Intelligence and Crime Analysis</i>
October:	Sharon Dillon, <i>Echoes of Your Choices</i>
September:	Feather Schwartz Foster: <i>Mary Lincoln's Flannel Pajamas</i>
August:	Crystal C. Coombes, <i>All Things Equal</i>
July:	M.J. Scott, <i>Power Steering</i>
May:	Dave Cariens, <i>The America We All Want</i>
April:	Mary Wakefield Buxton, <i>The Private War of William Styron</i>
March:	Imelda Cummins-DeMelkon, <i>Modern Irish Essays and Reflections</i> and <i>The Modern Voice of an Irish Immigrant</i>





## CRITIQUE GROUPS AND NETWORKING

The groups listed are all inclusive and meant for writers at every stage in their career. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the contact person listed. Come join our community of talent!

### *Williamsburg Groups*

**Williamsburg Writers Critique Group** - 2nd and 4th Thursdays 1 p.m.

The group meets at the home of Elizabeth Brown. Members email their work to all members around three or four days in advance to give others time to review it. The average length is six to ten pages. The other members review and critique the work and come prepared to give oral feedback to the writer. Some bring a hard copy to support their thoughts and others send emails with their remarks. Each writer has a turn getting feedback and critiquing all the others. The average time we meet is two and a half hours. If you don't have any work to submit that week, that is fine. We all have down times. All remarks are meant to be helpful and to support the writers in their quest to improve their art. If you have any questions or you would like to attend, please contact Elizabeth by email [ecomptonlee@yahoo.com](mailto:ecomptonlee@yahoo.com) or phone 804-654-1117.

**The Williamsburg Writers Gathering** - 3rd Tuesday, 10-noon

This group of writers--published and working to be published-- offers encouragement, support, and shares information in our rapidly changing world of writing. WWG meets the third Tuesday of each month from 10 to noon at the Williamsburg Regional Library in Room B. There is no sign up, membership, or dues. We get together to discuss the Art and Business of writing and are never quite sure what direction our conversation will take us. All are welcome. Contact: Lou Hamilton. [louhamwrites@gmail.com](mailto:louhamwrites@gmail.com)

### *Mathews Open Mic*

**Open Mic at the Mathews Memorial Library** - 2nd Sunday 1-3 p.m. (251 Main Street, Mathews, VA 23109)

Do you enjoy books on tape? Or, love a great short story or an inspiring or humorous poem? If so, come to Open Mic at the Library and hear local writers read their original work. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served. The events are free and open to the public. The Library invites all writers in the area to participate in the Open Mic. Arrive on time to sign up to be included on the program. Readers will be limited to one of the following: prose up to 2,500 words, five poems of no more than 50 lines each, or five haiku. No book chapters please, unless they stand alone as independent stories. Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy the works written by the many talented writers living in this community. (804) 725-5747.

### *Northern Neck*

**Rappatomac Writers Critique Group**

Lancaster Courthouse - 1st Thursday, eat at 11 a.m., share until 2 p.m. (Lancaster Tavern, Route 3 in Lancaster Courthouse)

Tappahannock - 3rd Thursday, eat at noon, meet 1-3 p.m. (Java Jacks Cafe, Route 360/17 in Tappahannock)

Do you have stories to share? Would you like to write your memories for your children and grandchildren? Does a spectacular sunset move you to poetry? Come, join the Rappatomac Writers Critique group where you will find enthusiastic support and gentle critiques to help you on your way—along with fun and laughter to make your journey a pleasant one. If you like to write or listen, have a song in your heart or a poem in your soul, join us once or twice a month, at either or both locations.



**G**ail Priest interviewed on *So, What's Your Story?* podcast in January with Stephanie Fowler and Tony Russo.

Two small town writers sit down and talk with other writers about their work, the story behind the story, the writing process, and other writerly topics.

Stephanie Fowler, 2001 Sophie Kerr prize winner and owner of Salt Water Media, and Tony Russo, author of *Eastern Shore Beer* (History Press, 2014) co-host this podcast for word nerds, bookworms, and writer types. You can hear Gail's interview at <http://saltwatermedia.com/podcast/podcastgen-2/> or <https://twitter.com/SWYSpodcast>.

Chesapeake Bay Writers can promote their work on the program by contacting Stephanie and Tony at <http://www.sowhatyourstorypodcast.com/>.



## *2016-2018 Officers & Board Members*

Carol Bova, President  
PO Box 716, Mathews, Va 23109  
804-725-6163, [cjbova@mindspring.com](mailto:cjbova@mindspring.com)

Ellen Dugan, Vice President,  
901 Oak Hill Road, Lancaster Va 22503  
804-716-9824, [ellens.ink@comcast.net](mailto:ellens.ink@comcast.net)

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2821 Bennetts Pond Rd, Williamsburg, Va 23185  
757-903-2896, [ann.skelton39@gmail.com](mailto:ann.skelton39@gmail.com)

Jacqueline Ingram, Treasurer  
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804-357-3421, [jackieingram@mpwifi.com](mailto:jackieingram@mpwifi.com)

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Charlene Talcott, Director at Large  
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Joy Brenda Burch, Newsletter  
9310 Lyndonway Dr, Richmond, Va 23229  
804-935-8979, [cbwnews@gmail.com](mailto:cbwnews@gmail.com)

Frank Milligan—Past President



***Join us at the next Chesapeake Bay Writers Meeting  
Wednesday, February 15th, 2017***

***11:00 Social Hour with Cash Bar***

***Lunch at Noon followed by meeting and program with***

***Howard Busbee, Clinical Professor,***

***William & Mary Mason School of Business***

***Tax Planning and Pitfalls for Writers***

***\$21 Members, \$26 Nonmembers***

***Menu Choices are:***

***Colby Chicken Sandwich***

***Grilled chicken breast topped with Colby Jack cheese, bacon, arugula, tomatoes and a roasted red pepper aioli. Served on brioche with fries.***

***French Dip***

***Thinly sliced steak served on a baguette and topped with sautéed onions and provolone cheese. Served with French fries and a mushroom jus for dipping.***

***Portabella Sandwich***

***Grilled Portabella mushroom topped with caramelized onions, roasted red peppers, sauteed spinach and smoked Gouda cheese. Served on a toasted ciabatta and accompanied by sweet potato wedges.***

***House Smoked North Carolina BBQ***

***Slow smoked pork BBQ tossed in North Carolina style BBQ sauce. Served on a sesame Kaiser roll with sides of slaw and french fries.***

***Dessert***

***Chocolate Mousse***

***Soft drinks, coffee and tea included.***



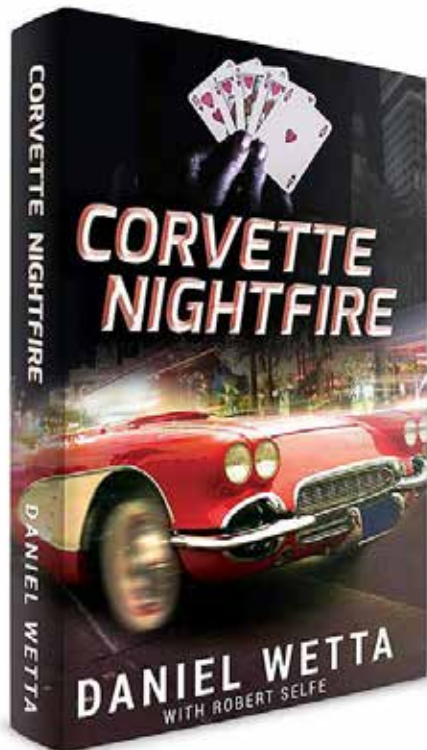
***5101 Center Street, Williamsburg***

***Reservations: <http://chesapeakebaywriters.org/meeting-announcement>***

***Questions? [CBWreply@gmail.com](mailto:CBWreply@gmail.com) or call 804-725-6163.***

***[www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org](http://www.ChesapeakeBayWriters.org)***





## Corvette Nightfire

He is hot, 27, a new World Series of Poker celebrity, and clueless that his destiny will pull him into a tsunami of danger fifty years in the making. The changes for him begin when a beautiful Mexican woman fleeing gunfire in a casino thrusts a bag loaded with cash into his arms and sprints away. His subsequent hunt for her turns desperate as he becomes the hunted and time runs out for her life to be saved. He has to disappear from public view into a complex underworld, where he encounters ordinary heroes and remorseless enemies who commit heinous evil.

Generations of family sins have forged Corvette's character. Now he must reconcile the past with the harsh realities of his present. Set in Las Vegas, Barbados and Mexico, Corvette Nightfire, this second book in the suspense series, The Z Redemption Trilogy, takes up where The Z Redemption leaves off and straps the reader into another bumpy, exhilarating ride!

**“Love is their Only Defense!”**

**Corvette and Valentina: Their one dance changes destiny in this cinematographic suspense novel that pits three men in a life or death fight for one woman!**

**E-book Just \$2.99**

**Print: Retail \$17.95**

**At Barnes and Noble, Apple, Amazon and all online book retailers! Visit [www.danielwetta.com](http://www.danielwetta.com) for your purchase choices!**



## Boasts, Blusters And Gloats

**Sharon Dorsey's** poetry book, *Tapestry*, launched on Amazon, August 14 and two days later, was #2 on their Hottest New Poetry Releases list. Her children's book, *Herman, the Hermit Crab*, launched September 15, and Sharon's memoir, *Daughter of the Mountains*, was released in December. All were published by High Tide Publications. Sharon's poem, *Labels*, was published in the Writer's Guild of Virginia's October 2016, edition of The Journal.

**Feather Schwartz Foster** and her latest book, *Mary Lincoln's Flannel Pajamas and Other Stories from the First Ladies' Closet*, will be featured at the Virginia Festival of the Book in Charlottesville, March 22-25.

**Tracy Lanum** will be interviewed on the CBW Second Monday radio show with Neal Steele on February 13 about her memoir, *An Awakening Soul*, published in December.

**Gail Priest** was interviewed January 14 about her book, *Annie Crow Knoll: Moonrise*, for the *So, What's Your Story?* podcast broadcast by NPR-affiliate, Delmarva Public Radio at Salisbury University on Saturdays at 1 p.m. on WSDL 90.7. You can hear her interview at <http://saltwatermedia.com/podcast/podcastgen-2/>. Co-hosts Stephanie Fowler and Tony Russo chat with guest writers about their work, the story behind the story, the writing process, and other writerly topics.

Gail was also interviewed by our own Neal Steele on

the CBW radio show on XTRA-99.1 FM, January 16. The podcast will be posted on [chesapeakebaywriters.org](http://chesapeakebaywriters.org).

An exhibition of large Maya Ruins paintings by artist/author **Mary Montague Sikes** will open at Gloucester Arts on Main with a reception and a talk by the artist, Friday, February 3. Sikes' novel, *Jungle Jeopardy*, features fictitious Mayan Ruins that she created using materials and events she encountered on visits to ruins sites at Palenque, Cozumel, and Chichen Itza in Mexico. Her book is set in Central America. She will discuss the connection between artist and writer in developing creative work. The art exhibition will continue until February 26.

### Congratulations!

**Gail Wilson Kenna** won five awards in the 25th Soul-Making Keats Literary Competition in San Francisco: 1st place in Humor, 1st place in Intercultural Essay, 2nd place in Short Story, and honorable mentions in Memoir Vignette and Novel Excerpt. <http://www.soulmakingcontest.us/home.html>

She will read from her winning essay in Humor at the awards ceremony at Civic Center Library in San Francisco on March 5. Winners were from 14 states, with one other writer besides Gail from Virginia. Beginning in 2017, Gail will be the judge/sponsor for Creative Nonfiction, with her own web page about this category of the Soul-Keats competition.



## Magazine

**W**ould you like to see a review of **your book** printed and distributed in 10,000 copies, to 300 locations in the Chesapeake Bay Region?

*Chesapeake Style* offers *Books in Style* reviews for members of CBW and related critique groups. Reviews are books by authors who are members of CBW or of the critique groups.

Now, **Email** [chestyle@hughes.net](mailto:chestyle@hughes.net) and ask for Guidelines and Deadlines.

*You will be glad you did!*

- You wrote a book.
- You want it reviewed.
- Ask someone to review your book.
- Send an email requesting Guidelines and Deadlines.

→ The person reviews the book and submits it (and a graphic of the cover) to *Chesapeake Style* for publication, according to Guidelines.

# An Awakening Soul

A Memoir

## About the Book

When local journalist and author Tracy Lanum was seven years old, she was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes. Her family never came to terms with the disease. She describes their sense of bereavement following her diagnosis. Her daily struggle to cope with their sense of loss carried through from her childhood to her adult years. She wanted very much to win their love and approval, but her life-altering diagnosis ended any chance of a normal life.

This inspiring story is Tracy's memoir of growing up "afflicted", and have the inner strength to cope. She has written a moving and personal testimony of the harsh reality and consequences of never feeling "quite right", and of her parents and their inability to accept her because of her diabetes. Tracy writes of her bewilderment, questions, pitfalls, explorations, shortcomings, mistakes, poor decisions and truthfulness throughout her lifetime as she searches for herself. She had the stamina, courage and honesty to make herself vulnerable by revealing her innermost questions of herself and others.

Anyone who grew up "less than perfect" will understand Tracy's struggle to fit in to the family hierarchy. By the end, we believe you will agree that her battle over a lifetime has indeed awakened her soul.

\$10.75

Paperback: 100 pages

(December 14, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-13: 978-1540506405

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces

Available on Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, and from the author at [tracygl@cox.net](mailto:tracygl@cox.net)



## About the Author

Tracy Lanum is a native of Warren, Ohio, now living in Gloucester, Virginia. She has lived in Illinois, Pennsylvania, Wyoming and California, where she was employed for 16 years as a social worker in Child Welfare and Adult Protective Services.

She recently won third place in the Chesapeake Bay Writers

2016 Golden Nib Contest in the non-fiction category. She serves on the board of The Writers Guild of Virginia.







# My Mother Grows Wallflowers

## About the Book

*Targeted by bullies, an overweight girl in home-made dresses discovers friendship, then love with an outspoken exotic boy. Her first adult act: to choose between the person she needs and the family who needs her.*

There isn't a heck of a lot that doesn't scream target about MINA MASON: her weight, her homemade dresses, even the hoarder's paradise loosely disguised as the Masons' home.

SAMUEL TWO BEARS MILLER reshapes Mina's understated existence with his arrival, his dark skin and long braid exotic next to the Puritan pallor of the local boys. All through high school, Mina conceals her odd home life behind the closed doors of her dilapidated house, even after discovering love with the outspoken boy. Mina must choose between the person who makes her feel alive and the family who relies on her.

## About the Author

C. L. Howland uses the Green Mountains of Vermont as the backdrop for *My Mother Grows Wallflowers*, her debut coming-of-age novel. She fills her quiet moments writing about the people of Northam and the challenges they will face in her next book.

## Praise from readers on Amazon.com

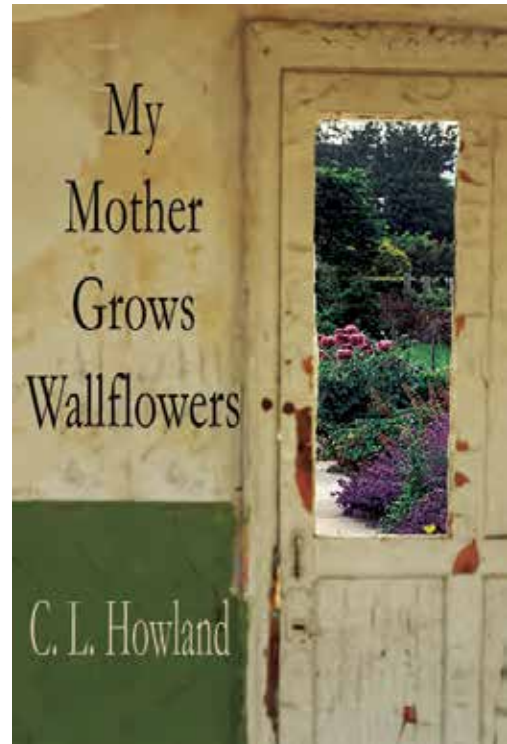
*This book is true HEART! A sweet heart centered look at youth, love, and a soul hardship sweet Mina carries.*

*I want to give it 10 stars times infinity! Well written it draws u in and the characters are so real and u genuinely care about them through the whole story.... Well written with heart, soul and kindness!*

*I soon started limiting myself to one chapter per morning so it would last longer... I found myself bummed that I was on my last Chapter this morning. CL Howland..... please release the next one!!!!LOVED it! This is long winded... but at 53 I haven't read a book in 20 years. I found myself so looking forward to my morning chapter. Wow!*

*The characters in this unique novel will grip you from the moment they lay eyes on each other and will bring you along as their journey unfolds as it must. The story plays out as a dynamic film strip being played out for the lucky reader. An enjoyable and engaging read, this novel will certainly leave you wanting more. Hopefully the talented author has continued to stay in contact with the characters of Northam!*

*One of the most beautiful books I have read in a long time. A love story with characters so real and raw they made me love them. A book I will read again and again, and I hope to see many more from this writer.*



Paperback: 210 pages

Publisher: High Tide Publications, Inc.

(November 2, 2016

Language: English

ISBN: 978-1945990205

Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.3 ounces

List Price: \$15.99

Available from:

Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and through Ingram.

Please visit her website at  
<http://www.clhowland.com>

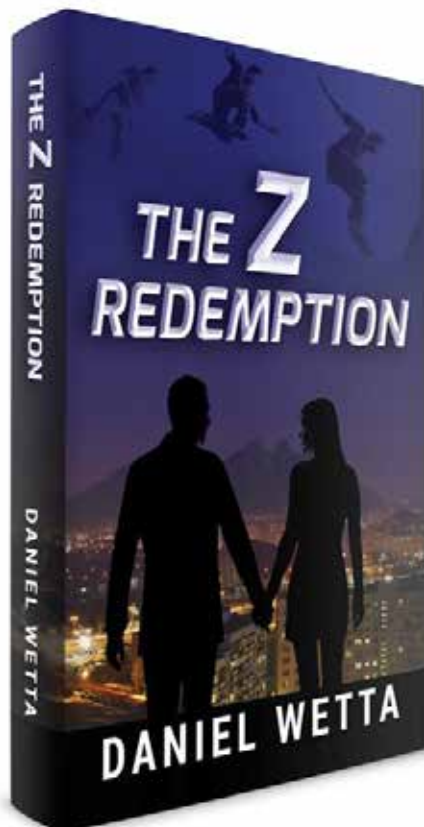
for additional information and up-to-date  
news about book  
signings and interviews.

**Keep on the run in this cinematographic suspense novel through Mexico, Texas, and Washington in a story of high stakes and stirring love!**

**E-book Just \$2.99**

**Print: Retail \$17.95**

**At Barnes and Noble, Apple, Amazon and all online book retailers! Visit [www.danielwetta.com](http://www.danielwetta.com) for your purchase choices!**



## **The Z Redemption**

**In this steamy and romantic suspense thriller based on true life events in Mexico, the author tells the story of ordinary heroes struggling to save lives in the midst of the drug cartel wars. With a military coup as backdrop, Ana Valdez, a Mexican homemaker and political opinion blogger, unwittingly becomes a celebrity of her nation. She and her gringo lover, ex-CIA agent David James, race time to prevent an American invasion and civil war in Mexico!**

**The country dissolves into chaos when its Army sequesters its President and government and the anxious USA readies an invading force at the border. In Monterrey, Ana and David rally Mexico's young people to form the paramilitary "Zs." Trained to fight with parkour skills and without firearms, the Zs assist the Army in preserving public safety from attacks by the drug cartels. But when the cartels succeed in taking Mexico's most strategic possession, bloodshed and invasion appear to be certain outcomes!**