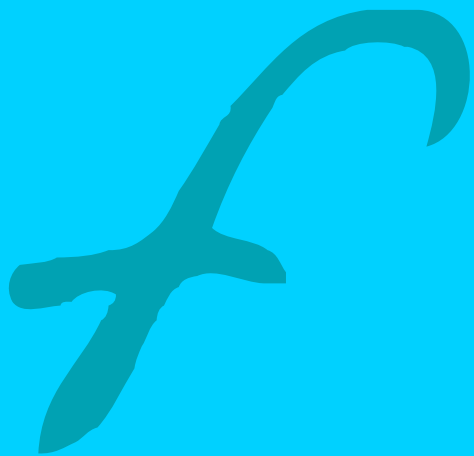


**FREEHAND  
BOOKS  
SPRING  
2018**



## Message from the publisher

In 2018, Freehand Books is turning 10! We started off with a bang in 2008 when our very first book, Marina Endicott's *Good to a Fault*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and selected for Canada Reads.

We've gone on to do exciting things since then. Karyn L. Freedman's brave memoir *One Hour in Paris: A True Story of Rape and Recovery* won the BC National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction. Sarah Leavitt's *Tangles: A Story about Alzheimer's, My Mother, and Me* was the first work of graphic literature to be shortlisted for the Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize. Ian Williams' *Personals* was a finalist for the Griffin Poetry Prize, and we've had books on the Amazon.ca First Novel Award shortlist for two consecutive years. Our innovative, beautiful book design has been honoured by the Alcuin Society. We're very proud to publish debut books by future literary stars like Saleema Nawaz and Clea Young, and the latest works from literary legends like Lorna Crozier.

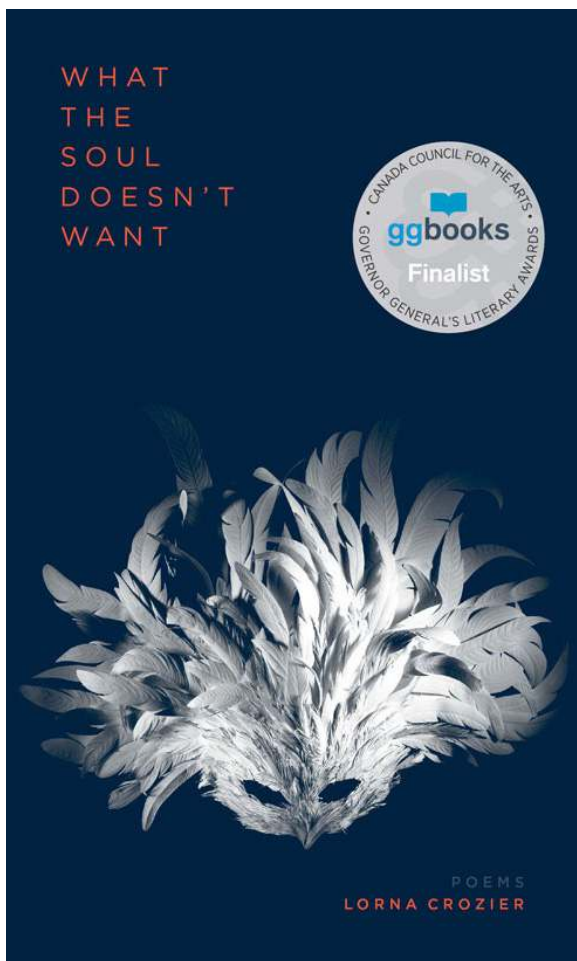
Over the years, we've been guided by the dual nature of the word *freehand*: drawing freehand may be expressive of both unfettered creativity and exquisite control.

This season, as we publish our fiftieth book from our little office in Calgary, we're celebrating our storied past. But more than anything, we're excited about our future. Here's to our next decade of punching above our weight!

**KELSEY ATTARD**

*Managing Editor, Freehand Books*

# RECENT AWARDS

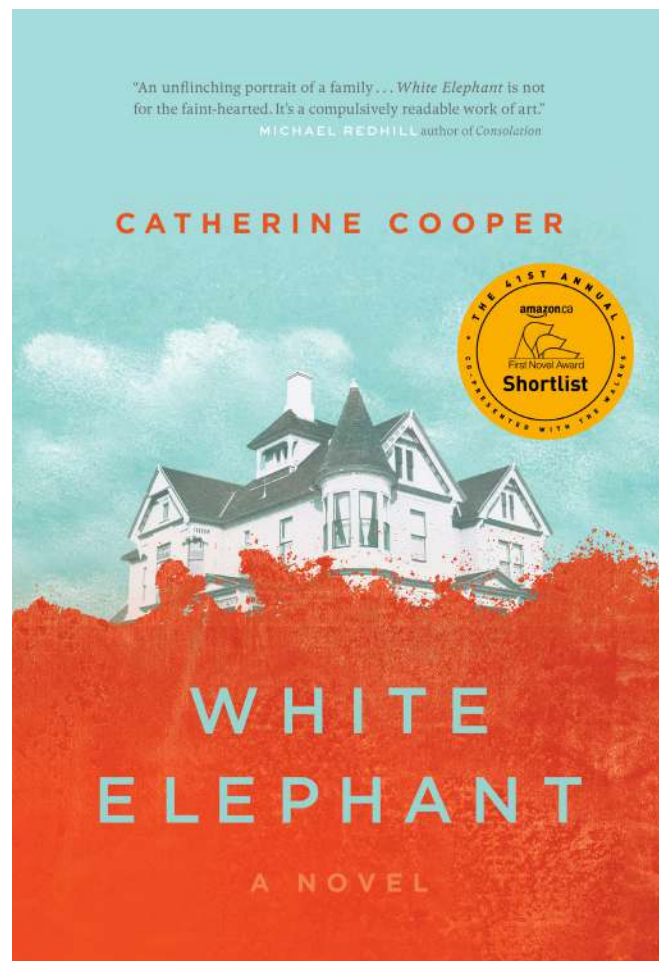


ISBN 978-1-988298-12-2 \$16.95 CDN/US

★ Finalist for the 2017 Governor General's Award for Poetry

"[A] late-career highlight... [Crozier] can speak for the inanimate with whimsy and empathy, knows when and how to conjure sensuality, and can sneak in an emotional payload." — *Quill and Quire*

"New poems by Lorna Crozier are always a reason for rejoicing." — *Globe and Mail*

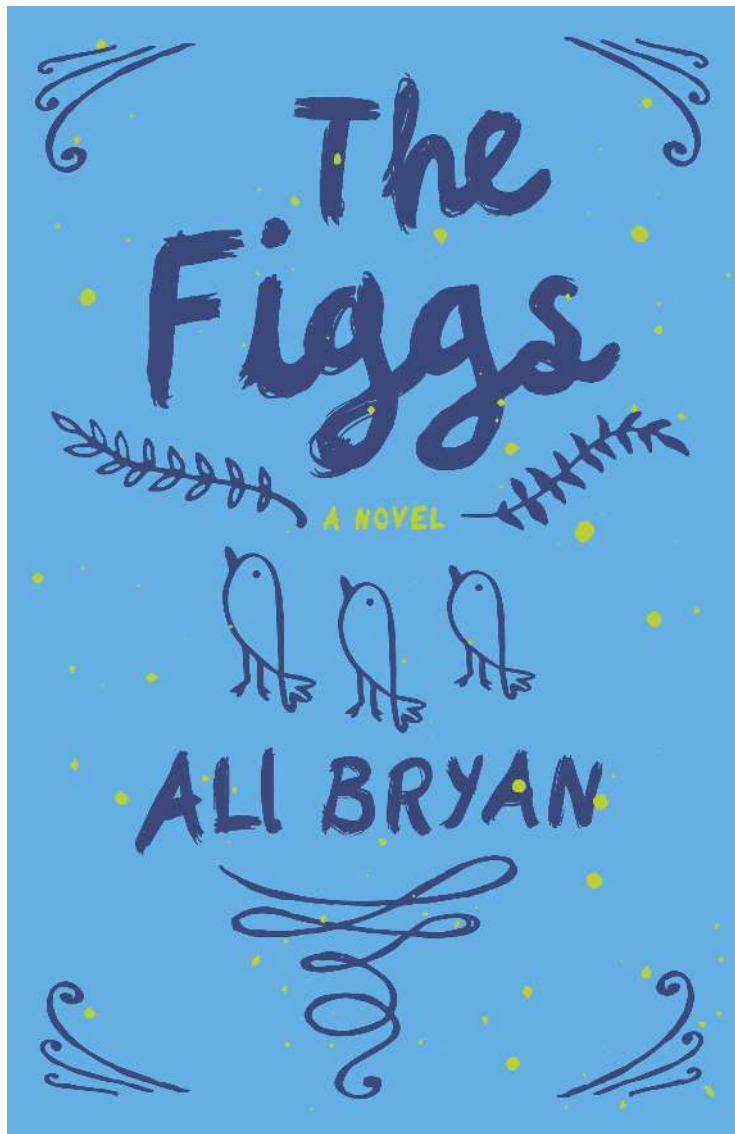


ISBN 978-1-55481-303-4 \$21.95 CDN

★ Finalist for the 2017 Amazon.ca First Novel Award

"A thrilling and soulful journey... Catherine Cooper springs to literary life bravely, with a huge novel, sure to become a classic." — Josip Novakovich

"An unflinching portrait of a family... *White Elephant* is not for the faint-hearted. It's a compulsively readable work of art." — Michael Redhill



MAY 2018

A hilarious portrait of a modern, mostly happy family, in all its glorious messiness.

Meet the Figgs. June, the family's matriarch, looks forward to a quiet retirement — if only she can get her three adult children to finally, *finally*, move out of the house. But her dreams are shattered when her son Derek unexpectedly becomes a single father. Now there's a newborn baby at home, and Derek's older siblings are showing no sign of going anywhere either. In the midst of the chaos, June's husband, Randy, has a shocking revelation — he has another son, who was given up for adoption.

*The Figgs* combines the quirkiness of Miriam Toews, the startling humour and fierce energy of Heather O'Neill, the heart of *Little Miss Sunshine*, and the unruly family dynamics of Jonathan Tropper's *This Is Where I Leave You* into one hilarious, immensely fun novel.

#### PRAISE FOR ALI BRYAN

"Roost is hilarious... The details — of setting, of interaction, of the endless tumult of family life — are spot-on."

— Sue Sinclair, *National Post*

"It's in subverting the myths of motherhood that Bryan delights... [an] edgy mingling of humour and pathos."

— Carol Bruneau, *Chronicle Herald*



**Ali Bryan's** first novel, *Roost*, won the Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction and was the official selection of One Book Nova Scotia. Her nonfiction has been shortlisted for the Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Prize and longlisted for the CBC Creative Nonfiction Prize. She is a certified personal trainer and lives with her family in Calgary.

ISBN 978-1-988298-25-2

\$21.95 CDN \$21.95 US

5.5 × 8.5 PAPERBACK

300 PAGES

(Canadian and US rights)

FIC045000 (FICTION/FAMILY LIFE)

FIC016000 (FICTION/HUMOROUS/GENERAL)

FIC019000 (FICTION/LITERARY)

ABU BAKR AL RABEEAH  
WITH WINNIE YEUNG

H

A  
REFUGEE  
STORY

M

E  
S

MAY 2018

One boy's true story, both heartbreaking and hopeful, of living through the Syrian civil war and immigrating to Canada.

In 2010, the al Rabeeah family left their home in Iraq in hope of a safer life. They moved to Homs, in Syria — just before the Syrian civil war broke out.

Abu Bakr, one of eight children, was ten years old when the violence began on the streets around him: car bombings, attacks on his mosque and school, firebombs late at night. *Homes* tells of the strange juxtapositions of growing up in a war zone: horrific, unimaginable events punctuated by normalcy — soccer, cousins, video games, friends.

*Homes* is the remarkable true story of how a young boy emerged from a war zone — and found safety in Edmonton — with a passion for sharing his story and telling the world what is truly happening in Syria. As told to her by Abu Bakr al Rabeeah, writer Winnie Yeung has crafted a heartbreaking, hopeful, and urgently necessary book that provides a window into understanding Syria.

IBSN 978-1-988298-28-3

\$19.95

5 × 8 PAPERBACK

180 PAGES

(World rights)

BIO000000 (BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY/GENERAL)

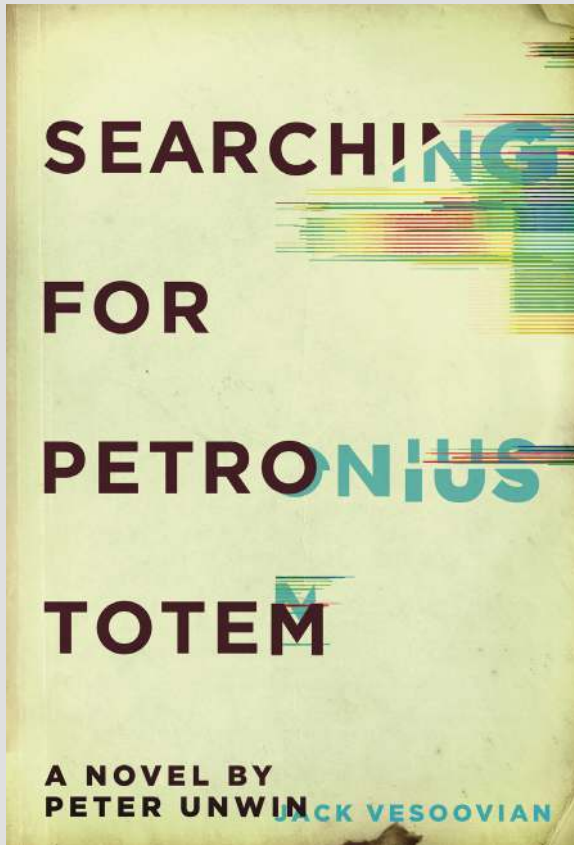
HIS026000 (HISTORY/MIDDLE EAST/GENERAL)



**Abu Bakr al Rabeeah** is a high school student in Edmonton.

**Winnie Yeung** is a teacher who lives in Edmonton with her black pug, Zoe. *Homes* is her first book.

FICTION

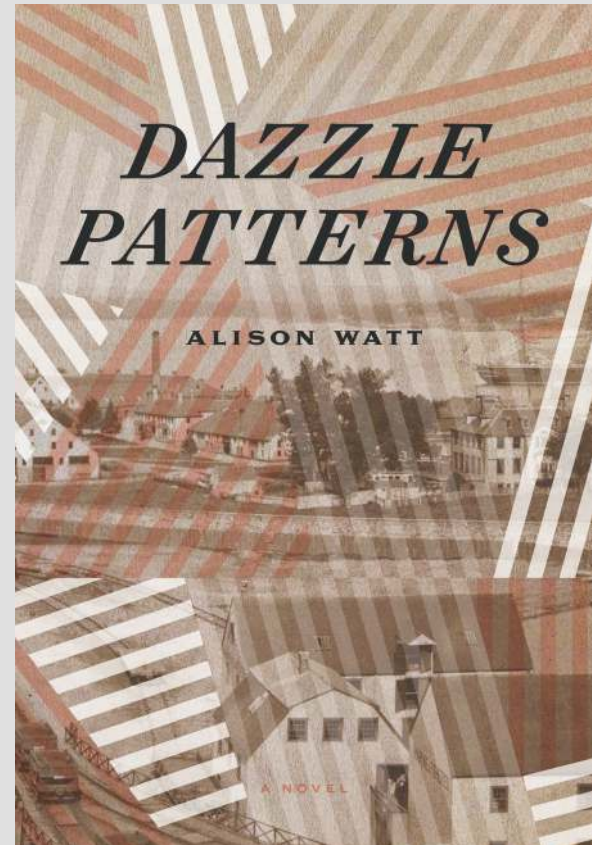


ISBN 978-1-988298-09-2 \$21.95 CDN/US

“Richly exhausting and loaded with linguistic trickery, Unwin’s latest is a love story for oddballs and an ode to the artistic spirit in all its exasperating beauty.”

— *Alberta Views*

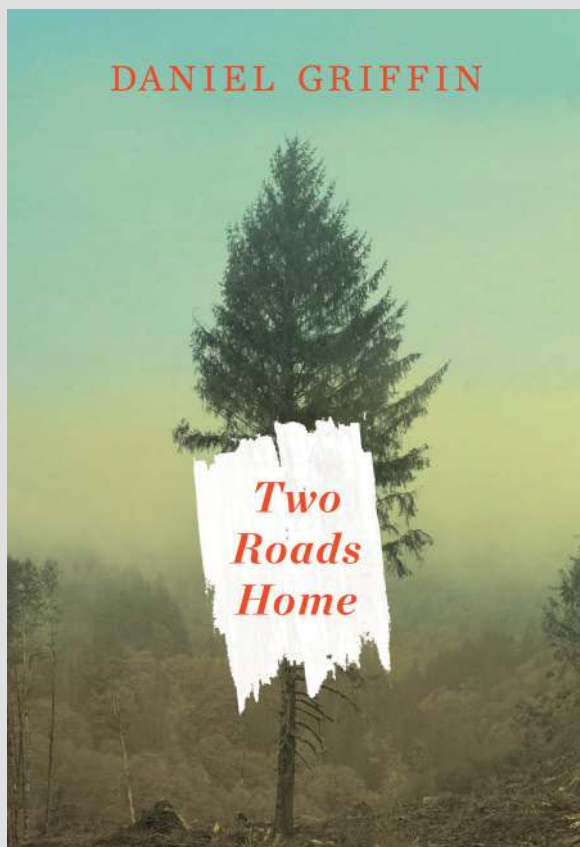
“[A] scabrous, gleefully offensive, high-energy ride across a landscape that looks oddly familiar, but is viewed at an oblique angle and through a purposefully distorted lens.” — *Quill and Quire*



ISBN 978-1-988298-18-4 \$21.95 CDN/US

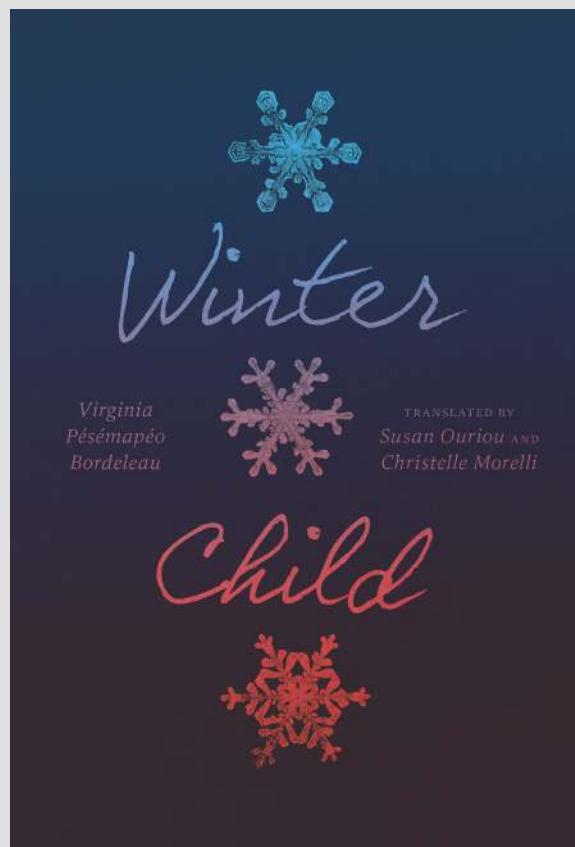
“*Dazzle Patterns* is a gorgeous and immersive read, the work of a great and generous talent. You must read this book.” — Kevin Patterson

“Unlike the tragic detonation that sets the story into motion, *Dazzle Patterns* does not attempt to blow the reader away. Instead it quietly seduces, drawing you into its world until you realize that there is nowhere else you would rather be.” — Ian Colford



ISBN 978-1-988298-21-4 \$21.95 CDN/US

“Daniel Griffin’s *Two Roads Home* is a blistering examination of modern-day radicalism, a society’s collective guilt, and the possibility of redemption. As propulsive as a thriller, with characters so real they draw blood, this is a powerful novel that never lets up.”  
— Steven Price, author of *By Gaslight*

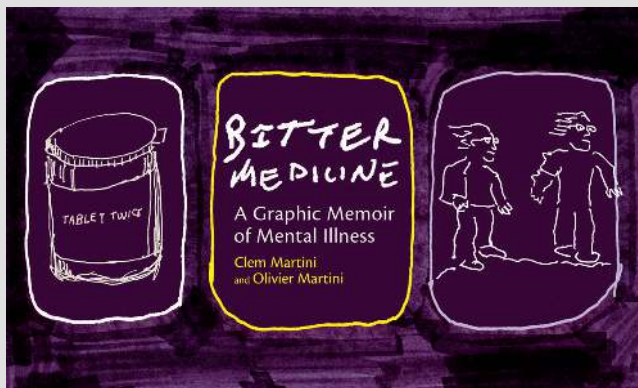


ISBN 978-1-988298-06-1 \$21.95 CDN

“[B]lends romantic turns of phrase with the transformative storytelling power of Pésémapéo Bordeleau’s Cree and Métis ancestors... *Winter Child* is a collection of narratives about complex relationality, death, loss, and moving through grief, despite it all.”  
— *Montreal Review of Books*

“Both raw and poetic, Pésémapéo Bordeleau’s novel is ultimately about healing and continuance, through dreams, ceremony and the partner who is meant for the time.” — *Globe and Mail*

NON-FICTION



ISBN 978-1-988298-15-3 \$23.95 CDN/US (The Unravelling)

ISBN 978-1-55111-928-1 \$23.95 CDN/US (Bitter Medicine)

"[A] candid, painful and, at times, comical account of what it's like to navigate a perplexing health-care system that fails to meet the needs of the patient."

— *Globe and Mail*

"The book's greatest strength is its profound ability to humanize a frequently misunderstood condition, and to highlight mental illness as the 'orphan child' of the health care community." — *Quill & Quire*

ISBN 978-1-55481-195-3 \$21.95 CDN

★ Longlisted for *Canada Reads 2017*

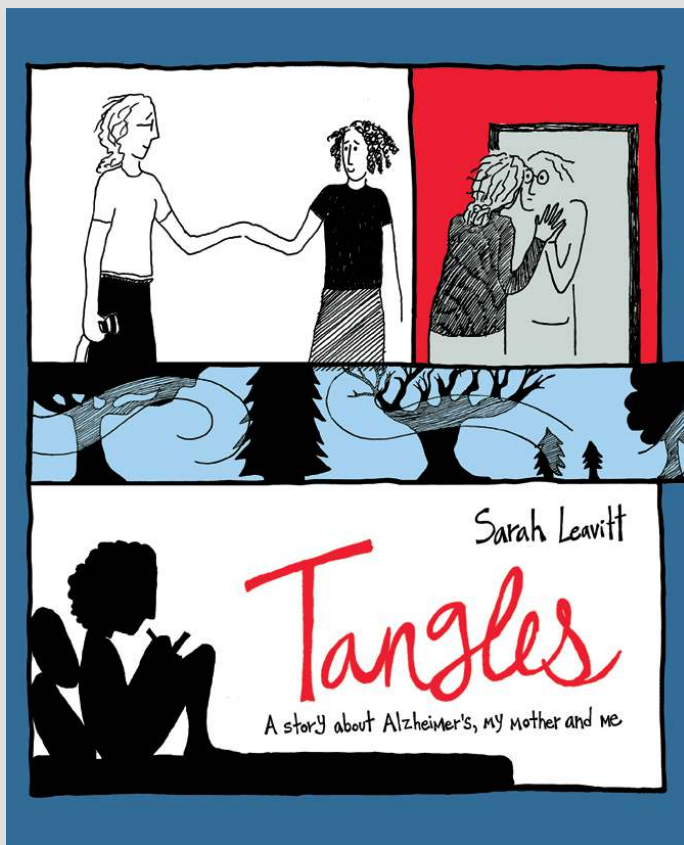
★ Winner of the *British Columbia National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction*

★ *A Globe and Mail Top 100 Book of 2014*

"*One Hour in Paris* is not only for survivors: it is a story of the audacity of courage in the face of trauma, a brave and moving book that deserves to be read by audiences at large."

— *Quill and Quire* starred review





ISBN 978-1-55111-117-9 \$23.95 CDN

- ★ Finalist for the Writers Trust Non-Fiction Prize
- ★ A Globe and Mail Top 100 Book of 2010
- ★ Winner of the 2011 CBC Bookie Award for Best Comic or Graphic Novel
- ★ Finalist for the Alberta Readers' Choice Award
- ★ Finalist for the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize

"Not only a spot-on portrait of the dark comedy and vast sadness that Alzheimer's contains, the book is a fitting tribute to Leavitt's mom." — *Vanity Fair*

ISBN 978-1-55111-930-4 \$21.95

- ★ On Amazon's "Top 100 Canadian Books to Read in a Lifetime"
- ★ Winner of the Creative Non-Fiction Collective Readers' Choice Award
- ★ Longlisted for the BC National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction
- ★ Longlisted for the Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction

"Susan Olding's work combines the visceral force of lived experience with the nuance and narrative drive of the best fiction. These essays are much more than essays, tracing the path from our pathologies to our deepest mysteries and fears and our most cherished hopes." — Nino Ricci

# THE COMPLETE LIST

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978-1-988298-28-3	Homes: A Refugee Story	Abu Bakr al Rabeeah with Winnie Yeung	2018	19.95	19.95	27.95
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