

## **Nova Scotia Author Elaine McCluskey Offers Short Story Workshop - Or How To Infuse Humour in Life When Crisis Strikes**

**Moncton, October 12, 2022** - Dartmouth author Elaine McCluskey's latest collection of short stories, *Rafael Has Pretty Eyes* (Goose Lane Editions, 2022), depicts characters dealing with crises, dilemmas, or who stand at a crossroads in life. On October 22, she will be at Moncton's Community Peace Centre to offer a short story writing workshop - providing participants with a humorous perspective to infuse stories (and life) with.

"Maritimers are real, they're resilient, and they're often funny", Elaine McCluskey told CBC journalist Colleen Kitts-Goguen at *The Shift* earlier this year. And so is she. After sending her "love to all of the folks in Atlantic Canada dealing with the aftermath of hurricane Fiona" on Twitter on September 25, she later tweeted and asked the crowd of Afterwords Literary Festival in Halifax for a "hurricane exemption" for her bad hair. The workshop she offers will enable participants to learn how to turn life events, such as crises, crossroads, and dilemmas, into compelling stories. Elaine McCluskey, whose writing is known to make you laugh and cry in the same paragraph, considers that her stories aren't successful "if they don't create a visceral reaction from the reader", she told CBC.

She will be sharing skills and tips on how to make short stories special, in a workshop titled *Short Story Love*, on October 22. Discussions will include topics such as character, dialogue, and setting. Participants will be encouraged to share their ideas, and Elaine McCluskey will provide writing exercises. This workshop, which is just one spot away from being sold out, is offered in partnership with Goose Lane Editions and the Writers' Federation of New Brunswick. Members of the public and WFNB members who would like to partake in the workshop can register on the Frye Festival's website or be placed on a waiting list by sending an email to [operations@frye.ca](mailto:operations@frye.ca).

A few days prior to the workshop, on October 18 at 7 p.m. at Moncton's Laundromat Espresso Bar, Elaine McCluskey will also be featured alongside *Some Hellish* author Nicholas Herring (also published by Goose Lane this year) for a book launch and in-conversation event hosted by Thomas Hodd.

More information regarding both events are available on the Frye Festival's website at [www.frye.ca](http://www.frye.ca).

PRESS RELEASE  
For immediate release



For more information:  
Noel Bourque, Programming and Operations Manager  
506-859-4389 | [operations@frye.ca](mailto:operations@frye.ca)

The Frye Festival acknowledges that the land upon which the organization is settled and offers events is the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

The Frye Festival is the largest literary event in Atlantic Canada and a bilingual celebration of books, ideas and the imagination. Amounting to ten days of festivities, the festival takes place at the end of April and unfolds in the Greater Moncton region, in neighbouring communities, and, in the case of school visits, all over the province. A yearly programming of workshops and masterclasses is offered each year outside of the festival's official programming.

Media kit available [here](#).

**Events:**

October 18: In-Conversation Event with Nicholas Herring and Elaine McCluskey  
7 p.m., Laundromat Espresso Bar

October 22: Short Story Love workshop with Elaine McCluskey  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Community Peace Centre